

It's Our Turn Milwaukee Domestic Partnership Registry Hearing June 24

An Editorial Statement from "Wisconsin Light"

A vote for Milwaukee's proposed Domestic Partners Registry ordinance should be an easy one for Milwaukee's Aldermen to cast.

The Registry won't cost the City a penny. It will help hundreds of uninsured same-sex domestic partners to gain health insurance and other benefits from private employers. It will make it easier for the partners of hospitalized Gays and Lesbians to use Wisconsin's Hospital Visitation law. It will promote stability in LGBT relationships.

Common sense, indeed common decency and simple humanity, dictates support for the Registry. Yet, the vote on Alderman Mike D'Amato's proposal is too close to call.

We call for justice but the Aldermen have heard other voices too. The hate mongers are out in force. The Aldermen have heard the usual anti-Gay rhetoric accompanied by the normal threats of electoral retribution if they do the right thing.

One particularly odious piece of literature being circulated around the City argues against the Registry by claiming that Gay men caused the holocaust. What should be laughable isn't. This type of statement just becomes more fodder for violence.

The fact is that some people will believe that claim. Just as some people believe the many other falsehoods spread by these self-appointed arbiters of the word of God. Every time we call for justice, the attacks seem to grow more vicious.

Its warped view of homosexuality has become a mantra, and a powerful fund raising tool, for the Christian right. That mantra is repeated on radio stations, TV programs and in letters to the editor.

Many of us learn to ignore the hate filled venom directed at us. Unfortunately, as the suicide rate among LGBT teens shows, many of us are not immune.

The zealots have had their say. Now it's our turn.

We can either let others define how society views us or we can define that view ourselves.

The fight for a Domestic Partners Registry provides us with an excellent opportunity to do just that.

You can take advantage of that opportunity in several ways.

1) Come to the Judiciary & Legislation Committee hearing on the Domestic Partners Registry scheduled for 9am, Thursday, June 24 in Room 301b of Milwaukee's City Hall. Even if you don't want to testify, your presence is important. It will show support for those who do. Furthermore, you can register your support of the Registry with the Committee Clerk. Your presence can send a powerful message of hope to our LGBT youth.

2) Call your Alderman at 286-2221 to let him or her know that this issue is important to you.

3) Ask your friends, parents, grandparents and other family members to call too. It's time to talk about *our* "family values."

4) Write your Alderman at City Hall, 200 E. Wells Milwaukee, WI 53202.

No one will speak for us if we are not willing to speak for ourselves. Speaking out will not convince everyone that it's time to end the unequal treatment faced by LGBT citizens in Milwaukee but it will help. Passage of Alderman D'Amato's proposal won't end all of the inequities we face but it is a start.

It's time to end the silence. Let us begin.

Danny Glover to Chair AIDS Walk



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Milwaukee's "Home of Our Own"

Part 2 of a Wisconsin Light series on Building Centers

by Bill Meunier

Milwaukee - It is a cold day in November. Wind gusts of up to 40 miles per hour whip around a grayish building located in the Walker's Point area of Milwaukee. Despite the chilly weather, a constant stream of people walk into that building. They are there for the opening of what many hope will bring a renaissance to Milwaukee's LGBT community, a home of its own, its own Community Center.

Before the night is over, a crowd of 400 Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgendered individuals will tour the new Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist, Milwaukee County Executive Tom Ament and other political figures will join them.

There is a sense of exuberance. There's a feeling that Milwaukee's LGBT community has arrived. There's also recognition that its new "Home of Our Own" is still a work in progress.

Yet, the air is full of hope - hope for renewal of the LGBT community, re-energized to come together around this first floor facility at 170 S. Second Street.

That hope did not come about easily. It took more than two years of hard work to bring it about. That work included dozens of meetings, a feasibility study, a community survey and fundraisers.

It began in an upstairs meeting room at the BESTD Clinic. The Clinic's main engines, Ross Walker and Erv Uecker, told a small group of people that they were willing to put thousands of dollars into the establishment of an LGBT community center.

What followed that intimate meeting were hundreds of conversations, dozens of other meetings and a flurry of excitement. Two and a half years and a fire that destroyed a tentative site later, the doors were opened to a new LGBT Milwaukee.

What's happened since? According to the Center's only paid staff member, Executive Director Neil Albrecht, "Lots."

"We've brought in our nine subtenants," he says adding, "We actually have a tenth subtenant coming in."

Albrecht also says there's been a "huge surge" of activities at the Center. "An evening doesn't go by when there's not two or three functions or meetings taking place," he says.

Several visits made by this author to the Community Center confirm that statement. For example, on a recent Thursday night, a group of jovial people is meeting in one of the conference rooms. In the lounge area of the large community room, the Pink Writers Group, a group of LGBT authors, sits and discusses the topic of the day.

Volunteers are working in both Albrecht's office and at the reception desk. The Domestic Partnership Task force is putting together a mailing in another conference room. Meanwhile volunteers were at work in several of the offices rented by LGBT organizations.

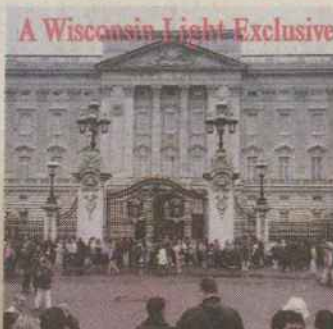
All of that activity generates music to Albrecht's ears. He sees the Center playing key roles

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ARCW

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HIV clinical drug trials through ARCW's Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium.

Public policy advocacy and community involvement through ARCW's AIDS Action Wisconsin.

WI Light

June 16-22, 1999

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Construction Season in LGBT Wisconsin

Dear Readers,

They say that summer is the construction season. Look around and you'll see buildings going up and lots of road construction. In our LGBT community, every season is construction season. For generations, we've been building a community. I've been reminded of that fact several times in recent weeks.

This issue and recent issues of *Wisconsin Light* show many examples of "build-ons."

The battle to establish a Milwaukee Domestic Partnership registry is coming to a head. Ten years ago, we wouldn't have dreamed of an idea like this one. After ten years of construction, it may become a reality.

Last November, the long held dream of a "home of our own," a Milwaukee LGBT community center, became a reality. That home is still under construction. Plans for new programs and services are being carefully designed.

I've seen the "carpenters," the "masons" and the "architects" at work.

In our last issue, we announced the news that Jerry Johnson and Terry Boughner will receive the PrideFest Lifetime Achievement Award for their work on the *Wisconsin Light*. It is a richly deserved recognition. At *Wisconsin Light*, we are building on their 11-year effort to keep this paper flourishing.

Last Wednesday, I went to Madison to visit the new OutReach Center. What I saw impressed me. The people at OutReach are building on the work of two organizations that merged to become one, the United and the Madison Gay Lesbian Bisexual Resource Center.

In Green Bay, the contestants in the Gay Guernsey contest are working hard to build on last year's record setting \$12,000 total.

Throughout Wisconsin, Action Wisconsin's Board and volunteers work to build a strong statewide network. Once that network is in place, it will become a strong force to build a fairer state for all of us.

The CAIR program has been officially notified that it will continue to be one of only three AIDS Prevention/Intervention Research Centers in the country. My congratulations to the CAIR staff. It has five more years to build on what it has accomplished in the last five.

If you look at the above examples (and numerous others), you'll see a rainbow river running through all of them. They are successes because we made them successes. They show that when we put aside petty concerns and jealousies, when we worry more about results than we do about who is on what turf, we build great things.

We should be more concerned about getting and holding the nails than we are about who is holding the hammer. Our concern should be finding new carpenters and masons so that the building will go on for generations to come.

No one can foretell what we will build in the future. Our needs now are not the same as they were ten years ago. They are different from what they will be ten years into the future. Something that won't change is the need to keep building.

And so we build. We tear down the old, unneeded structures and put up new ones. We blaze new trails to take us in directions undreamed of just a few years ago.

I have yet to meet anyone who can't play a part in the ongoing effort to build a community. We need "architects" to design new programs. We need "carpenters" who volunteer to make those programs work. We need "masons" to help lay solid financial foundations.

What we don't need are "sidewalk supervisors" trying to tell the rest of us that the wrong people using the wrong tools in the wrong way are in charge.

It's always construction season in LGBT Wisconsin. Grab a hammer, pick up some nails, lay some concrete. Whether it's the fight against AIDS, answering phones at OutReach, helping with a fundraiser at Milwaukee's LGBT Center, or staffing a booth at a Pride celebration, get involved, become a builder.

As for those "sidewalk supervisors," I repeat what I heard as I walked by a construction site last week, "Get busy or get out of the way."

Enjoy the Light,
Bill Meunier
Editor

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Milwaukee's "Home of Our Own" continued from cover in several aspects of LGBT life in Milwaukee.

One of those areas is fostering the growth of other organizations. Albrecht says, "It's not always about the Center and how we can grow the Center. It's about other LGBT organizations and how we can help them grow."

He cites PFLAG as a good example of that. "PFLAG is one of our latest tenants," he says. "They are doing more now than they ever have in their history, in terms of organizing, expanding their organization and increasing their visibility. It's because they know there's a place where they consistently meet. We provide an environment where they can get things done. It's conducive to getting things done. It's comfortable for people."

Eldon Murray, Founder of SAGE Milwaukee, agrees with Albrecht's assessment. He says his group's activities have seen increases in attendance since it moved them and its office to the Center.

One of those activities was the Village Elders exhibit. The 32-panel display profiling LGBT senior citizens in New York was at the Center for two weeks in early May. The night before the opening, 50 LGBT teens were present for a youth dance.

"The kids were fascinated by it. That's an amazing example of the diversity in our community and how the Center brings that diversity together," said Albrecht.

That type of cross-fertilization bringing diverse groups of people within the larger LGBT community into contact with each other's lives is one of the ways the Center can help foster community growth.

The cross-fertilization extends beyond that one exhibit. Albrecht says, "Not only do I provide assistance to the organizations, but they learn from each other."

The Center provides more than meeting space for its tenants and other groups. It provides office space at or below market value. That's unique among LGBT Community Centers. It also provides services for those tenants and other groups. They can use the fax and copy machines. Recently, PrideFest donated a "sort box" to the Center. The box allows organizations to save postage costs by distributing mail to up to 60 groups.

While the Center has provided a host of services to LGBT groups, it has not ignored those who are not involved in any organizations.

"It's great if you are a board member of HRL (The Human Rights League) or P-Flag or some organization," said Albrecht. "That certainly gives you a reason to come down. But maybe you don't want to be in an organization. Maybe you just want to come down and hang out and get involved in some type of activity."

The Center does offer some drop-in activities. Among these are the library, the Saturday Movie Series, an Entrepreneurs Group (Fourth Thursday of the month), a Spirituality Group (every Sunday), A Book Club (1st Thursday/Month), Writers Group — "Pink Ink" (2nd Thursday/Month), Rainbow U Lecture Series (4th Thursday/Month) and SAGE events for Seniors (every Friday).

A Diversity Discussion Group and Tai Chi lessons begin this month.

Just as it took time to open the Center, it will take time to develop more programs for it. The Center's Board and Committees are assessing how they can meet additional community needs. Among the possibilities are referral and information services, support groups and social activities. Anyone wishing to help with this process is welcome to join it.

While many observers are pleased with the progress the Center has made, not everyone agrees with the way it has conducted business. One business owner in particular has been critical of the Center's internal structure. He accuses the Center of being "politically correct" because of the racial and gender quotas it employs to fill its Board of Directors.

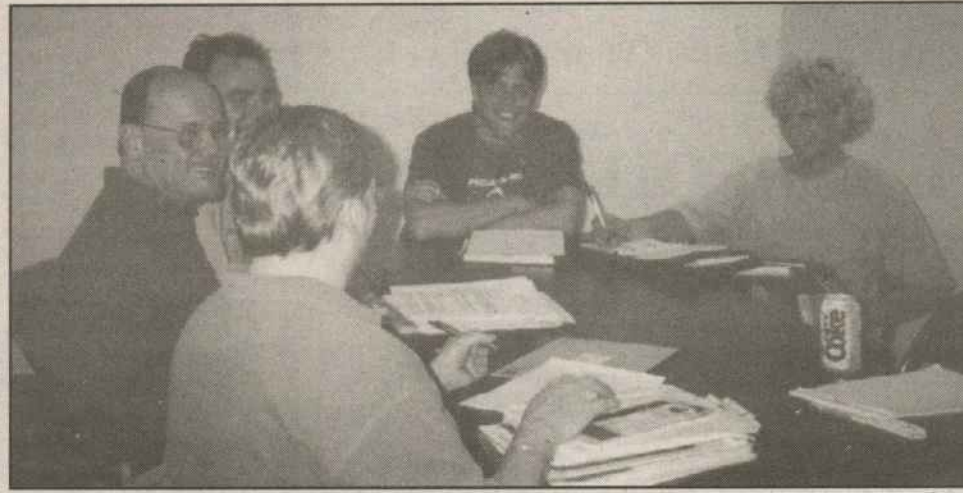
Section 2 of Article VII of the Center's bylaws reads in part, "The Directors shall be composed as nearly as possible of an equal number of women and men. No less than 25% of its members shall be people of color. 'People of Color' shall be defined throughout these Bylaws as those who identify themselves primarily as Native Americans, African-Americans, Latino/Latinas, Asian-Americans, or members of any other group which is subject to widespread discrimination in the United States."

The section also says that if the Board is unable to meet its affirmative action goals, it will have six months "to rectify the situation." If after six months, the Board is still not able to recruit enough people of color or women, it can't conduct any business other than:

1. Administrative and maintenance activities which are necessary for the organization's survival, the care of its employees, the protection of its assets, or for keeping the organization in compliance with applicable laws, and

2. Activities which are directly related to rectifying the discrepancy in the composition of the board."

When asked about these provisions, Albrecht defends them. He says,



The Center's Conference rooms are kept occupied by groups like this one.



Executive Director Neil Albrecht is a busy man.

public relations, membership, advertising and fundraising expenses.

Albrecht is confident that the money will be there. He says it will be garnered through special events, private donations and corporate sponsorships in addition to rent money provided by the Center's tenants.

The current fundraising plan calls for the Center to raise \$25,000 from Special events, \$40,000 from individual donors and \$20,000 in corporate sponsorships.

As of May, the Center had raised \$16,000 from special events and \$5,000 in individual donations. There were no corporate sponsorships. In June, the annual Challenge party put another \$11,000 into its bank account.

Albrecht says the fundraising goals are "very attainable." He points out that the individual donations the Center has received came in even before it launched its major donor campaign. That campaign is to begin next month. Corporate sponsorship proposals are in the process of being prepared as well.

Albrecht makes a compelling case for what he calls "a very reasonable price tag." A review of the programs and budgets of Community Centers in other cities indicates that Milwaukee's budget is not out of line for what it is trying to accomplish. In fact, it may be too low.

Albrecht says the price tag brings "an increased quality of life, which is the mission of the Center. Right now, our identity in the community is very rooted in the taverns. It provides an alternative, an additional component to our identity. It provides us with recognition, programs and services. Above all else, it says that we're strong enough to have our

own Community Center."

The activity observed on any given night at Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center seems to indicate that there are many who agree with Neil Albrecht. The Center has attracted a large, diverse group of supporters.

"The Community Center is about community," says Albrecht. "If you want to support your community, it provides a vehicle for doing that."

Walk through Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center and you may get a better understanding of the word "community." You'll find LGBT Seniors and teens, out and proud activists with busy agendas, people who stopped by with time on their hands, Gay jocks and couch potatoes, and everything in between, all of them rubbing elbows with each other.

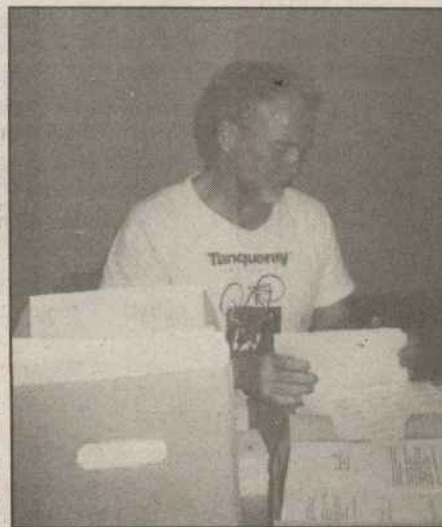
Their isolation ended, Milwaukee's LGBT groups are seeing each other, talking to each other and beginning to work together. Large and small groups of people who are not involved in any organization are coming together, too. Over 150 people were at a Town Hall meeting to discuss the City's proposed Domestic Partnership Registry. Six writers were present at a recent meeting of Pink Ink.

They share ideas. They share dreams. Talk to many of those people, and you will find that they are beginning to understand that for all the diversity that exists within the LGBT community, there are common bonds that tie us together.

There are only a few watershed events in the life of any community. Neil Albrecht, his Board and hundreds of others believe that one of those events occurred last November 10, when the LGBT Center opened its doors.

It was a cold day with a brisk wind. There are those who say the winds of change were blowing, ushering in a new era for LGBT Milwaukee. The LGBT Community Center is open now, but it's still a work in progress, and it probably always will be.

Seven months later, the winds of change continue to blow. They blow through the meeting rooms, the offices and the hallways. They blow through the lives of those who enter a grayish building at 170 S. Second Street in Milwaukee's Walker's Point neighborhood.



A Domestic Partnership Task Force Volunteer prepares a mailing in a meeting room at the LGBT Community Center.

AROUND THE STATE

Center for AIDS Intervention Research Receives Funding Renewal until 2004

Milwaukee – Wisconsin will continue to be a leading research center in the global fight against AIDS. Citing what it calls a “highly innovative, forward looking” research program, the National Institutes of Health renewed the Medical College of Wisconsin’s Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) designation as a national HIV/AIDS prevention research center.

The CAIR program is one of only three such centers in the country and the only one that exists between the East and West coasts. The renewal means that CAIR’s researchers will receive a \$4.75 million grant to support their efforts for the next five years.

CAIR focuses its efforts on research into AIDS/HIV prevention and intervention strategies. The program shares its research results with AIDS groups around the country and around the world.

Over 5,000 women, men and adolescents have received HIV prevention services and care through CAIR research projects. Participants in these studies include Gay men and youths; women and teens living in low-income, inner-city housing developments; persons leaving incarceration; severely mentally ill adults; homeless men and women; and youth in high-risk situations.

“We are pleased that the NIMH has recognized CAIR’s work as worthy of continued investment,” said Jeffrey A. Kelly, Ph.D., director of CAIR and professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine. “By supporting the infrastructure of CAIR’s research program, this grant gives CAIR a solid foundation from which to continue its work to develop new HIV prevention approaches and to improve the health and quality of life of persons living with HIV disease.”

CAIR research has targeted many aspects of HIV prevention and intervention. Its programs have helped identify those most at risk for HIV and develop strategies for reducing the risk of HIV transmission. Its researchers evaluate strategies to help persons living with AIDS/HIV from new treatment advances. They also work to meet the mental health needs of persons living HIV/AIDS.



CAIR staff members

CAIR researchers have developed approaches for helping HIV-positive persons cope with bereavement due to the loss of loved ones to AIDS and determined the special needs of older adults who have the disease. CAIR has also pioneered new methods for providing mental health services for HIV-positive persons in rural areas of the country by connecting them in support groups through telephone conference calls.

A key objective of CAIR’s research program is the sharing of its research findings quickly with community-based organizations that provide AIDS services to clients. To ensure that its research benefits the community, CAIR has undertaken information exchange programs with the frontline staffs of 75 AIDS service organizations in 44 states. In this way, results of CAIR’s research in HIV prevention and care can rapidly reach organizations and agencies so that their programs directly benefit from new findings.

As part of its center renewal, CAIR articulated its planned research priority agenda for the next five years. CAIR’s plans for future research focus on meeting the demands of the evolving AIDS epidemic. High on its list of priorities is treatment-related research that can assist per-

sons living with HIV to maintain and improve their health.

Treatment advances, such as combination therapy drug “cocktails,” mean that HIV-positive persons can live longer. CAIR researchers are working to develop ways that will help persons using these treatments to adhere to the difficult regimens required by them. That research also aims to help these individuals regain a focus on healthy living.

Over the course of ten years, members of CAIR’s investigation team successfully developed community-level HIV prevention interventions to reach large numbers of Gay men, women, and adolescents. These interventions hold great promise as a means to reduce the number of persons contracting HIV infection.

CAIR’s research plans call for an expansion of projects evaluating the effectiveness of community-level interventions and for populations that remain at risk, including young men who have sex with men, heterosexual men, and injection drug users.

CAIR will also expand its international HIV prevention programs. Of the 47 million people worldwide living with HIV, 95% live outside the United States, primarily in developing countries.

In 1999, CAIR will provide HIV prevention research training for seven visiting scientists from Russia, a country poised at the brink of a major HIV epidemic. In addition to continuing its existing HIV prevention training program for Russian researchers, CAIR will pursue research opportunities to adapt the HIV prevention lessons learned in the United States to other world areas threatened by the AIDS epidemic.

As a multidisciplinary research center, CAIR brings together specialists from different scientific fields to collaborate on its research efforts. The Center currently employs 11 full-time faculty researchers and nearly 60 research staff.

CAIR’s funding comes from research grants provided by the National Institute of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other sources. Because CAIR is the only HIV prevention research center in Wisconsin, the Center brings to the state HIV/AIDS prevention funds that otherwise would not be available locally.

Wisconsin Light Web Site Wins Award

Milwaukee – *Wisconsin Light* is pleased to announce that its web site, www.wilight.com, has won a Rainbow Award. A committee formed by Gayamerica.com gives the Rainbow Awards to LGBT web sites.

A page on the Rainbow Award’s web site says that the committee looks for “excellence in content, design, creativity, presentation or overall concept of the site submitted/nominated.” Commercial and noncommercial LGBT sites are eligible to receive the honor.

Wisconsin Light’s Graphic Designer, Scott Deibel, is the webmaster for the paper’s web site, which has undergone several design changes over the last few months.

Publisher Greg Quindel said that he was pleased to know that others are recognizing the hard work and creative effort put forth by Deibel. “Just as we strive to be the best newspaper we can be, we work hard to have the best web site possible,” said Quindel. He added that *Wisconsin Light*’s web site is a “lifeline” for those who don’t have easy access to a newspaper. “For many people, our site is their main source of information about the LGBT community.”

“We are not going to rest on our laurels,” said Quindel. “Users are going to see some exciting changes in the coming months.”

Bashing Outside Madison LGBT Club

Madison – Madison’s *Capitol Times* reports that Madison police say an early morning beating outside a Madison Gay bar early Tuesday was a hate crime.

Police are seeking two men who attacked a customer outside of Club 5 at 2am on Tuesday, June 1. A man confronted a 26-year customer as he entered his car. The attacker shouted slurs while he punched him.

When the victim fought back, a second man emerged from the car and attacked him as well. The victim was able to escape his attackers and run back into the bar. He told police that he had seen the men in the bar earlier in the evening. His car was damaged during the fight.

One of the attackers was described as white, 6 feet tall, 165 pounds, with buzz cut blond hair. The second suspect was white, 5’10”, 155 pounds with medium length dark hair. The suspects were driving a maroon four-door car. The police had not arrested them as of press time.

Anyone with information about the two men is urged to call Madison police or Crime Stoppers at (608) 266-6014.

Village Elders Exhibit a Success

Milwaukee – The month long showing of the acclaimed Village Elders exhibit is being hailed as a success by SAGE-Milwaukee, the group that brought the exhibit to Milwaukee during Older Americans Month in May. The exhibit profiles the lives, attitudes and loves of elderly Gays and Lesbians in New York.

It was on display at Milwaukee’s LGBT Community Center, the offices of the Milwaukee County Council on Aging, and the Washington Park Senior Citizen Center. The Milwaukee displays marked only the second time Village Elders was exhibited outside of New York.

SAGE leader Eldon Murray told *Wisconsin Light* that he was very pleased with the response. “The opening night reception at the Community Center was very good,” said Murray. He added that a staff person at the County Council on Aging told him that the exhibit was among the best “she had ever seen.” Additional praise was garnered from the Washington Park center, which held three major events during the time Village Elders was on display there.

Village Elders created a stir among the LGBT teens attending a youth dance at the LGBT Community Center the night before its opening. “The kids were just fascinated by it,” said the Center’s Executive Director Neil Albrecht.

The exhibit’s Milwaukee sponsors included: SAGE, the Cream City Foundation, the Metropolitan Community Church, *Wisconsin Light*, the Milwaukee County Council on Aging, Milwaukee’s LGBT Community Center and an anonymous individual.

New York Photographer Penny Coleman created Village Elders. It was part of the inspiration behind *Wisconsin Light*’s “Our Village Elders” series.

Milwaukee Domestic Partners Registry Hearing June 24

by Bill Meunier

Milwaukee – Members of Milwaukee's LGBT Community, their families and friends are being urged in the strongest possible terms to attend a June 24 hearing on East Side Alderman Mike D'Amato's proposal to establish a Domestic Partners Registry in Milwaukee. D'Amato introduced an ordinance to establish the registry during the May 11 meeting of the Common Council. The ordinance is co-sponsored by Aldermen Paul Henningsen and George Butler.

The Milwaukee Common Council's Judicial and Legislative Committee will hold the hearing, which will take place at 9am in room 301B of Milwaukee's City Hall. During the hearing, City of Milwaukee residents will be able to testify and/or register either for or against the D'Amato proposal.

Supporters of the Registry are hoping that the majority of those testifying will speak in favor of the proposal. "Our community must mobilize to attend this hearing," said Patrick Flaherty, co-chair of the Domestic Partnership Task Force. "This is the best opportunity we have to show the widespread community support that exists for the registry."

A strong show of support at the hearing could be crucial to getting the Registry through the Common Council. Alderman D'Amato told *Wisconsin Light* "When the Council votes on the registry, it could go either way. It's going to come down to one or two votes. A big crowd of supporters at the hearing could make the difference."

Flaherty and others on the Task Force have been hard at work spreading the word that those favoring the proposal should call their Aldermen and voice their support. "We've been doing a good job so far," he says. "I think that's going to change because now there is a hearing date and the media is going to cover it more. The other side has a TV station (WVCY) and a radio station (WVCY AM). They are really good at scaring up a crowd."

The work may be paying off. Sources at City Hall say that every member of the Common Council has received calls and letters supporting the proposed registry. Nevertheless, every City Hall observer contacted by *Wisconsin Light* said they are expecting a close vote when the Common Council considers the issue.

Flaherty and Alderman D'Amato say its time for the LGBT community to step up the pressure. "We need mothers and fathers and grandparents to call their Alderman and come out to the hearing too," said D'Amato. "We have to make it clear that the Registry has widespread support in the City."

Those opposing the Registry are active as well. Conservative Christian activists are urging their followers to fight against the Registry.

The actions of some of those followers have some crying, "Foul." *Wisconsin Light* has learned that several cars parked outside of Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center were egged while the May 3 Town Hall meeting on the Domestic Partners Registry was being held there.

Last month, Wisconsin Christians United (WCU) a group of Fundamentalist Christians headquartered in Monroe, Wisconsin went door to door distributing literature in opposition to the proposal in at least one Aldermanic district.

The WCU flyer claimed that Domestic Partner benefits would be expensive for City of Milwaukee taxpayers. It read in part, "It is wrong for government to force hard-working taxpayers to subsidize destructive lifestyles which violate deeply held moral values. It is also expensive. If the City of Milwaukee grants benefits to domestic partners, your tax bill will go up considerably, just as it has in other cities which have taken such action."

D'Amato answered the WCU charge by pointing out that his proposal does not give Domestic Partners benefits to City employ-

ees or to anyone else. "This is about helping private employers who wish to provide those benefits for their employees," he said.

He added, "The proposed Registry would not be funded with tax dollars. It won't cost the taxpayers one cent." The only other registry in the State of Wisconsin is in Madison. Madison Alderman Mike Verveer told *Wisconsin Light* that couples in that city pay a \$25 fee to register. "The City actually makes money from it," he said. The Milwaukee Registry would charge a fee of \$30.

"When the Council votes on the registry, it could go either way. It's going to come down to one or two votes. A big crowd of supporters at the hearing could make the difference."

— Alderman Mike D'Amato

An article attached to the flyer urged employment and housing discrimination against Gays and Lesbians. It also accused Gays of being responsible for the Nazi holocaust. Local activists say that the article is typical of the "hate-filled rhetoric coming from the Christian right."

If established, the Registry would allow same sex couples to register their relationship. Its advocates say that this will help them to qualify for domestic partner benefits offered by many private companies to the domestic partners of their employees. These benefits can include health insurance, emergency family leave, and discounts on goods or services. Nearly every employer who offers domestic partner benefits requires documentation showing the relationship exists.

City Hall insiders say that Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist is in support of the Registry. During an interview with *Wisconsin Light*, Alderman D'Amato said the Mayor has promised to sign the Registry ordinance if it is passed by the Council.

Others are also lining up behind D'Amato's proposal. The Wisconsin Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union has endorsed it, as has AFSCME Local 1091. Earlier this month, 12 Milwaukee area religious leaders sent a letter in support of the Registry to members of the Common Council.

Mixed in with all of the arguments for and against the Registry are political considerations. Those considerations may favor the Registry. Several Aldermen say that the majority of calls opposing it are from outside the City. Furthermore, the Religious Right has a poor track record in Milwaukee electoral politics.

On the other hand, Gays and Lesbians and their families make up a sizeable voting block in the city. They are seen as likely to remember how their Alderman voted on the Registry when they go the polls in the next election and even beyond that. Politically active members of Milwaukee's LGBT community are virtually unanimous in saying they would not be able to forget or forgive a vote against the Registry.

An informed Common Council source told *Wisconsin Light* that despite the pressure from both sides, four Aldermen have not indicated which way they will vote on the proposal. Flaherty, D'Amato and thousands of Milwaukee Gays and Lesbians are hoping that more letters and phone calls and a strong show of support at the June 24 hearing will help those four Aldermen to decide in favor of the Registry.

Domestic Partnership Registry Hearing Questions and Answers

When is it?: Thursday June 24, 9am

Where is it?: Room 301B, Milwaukee City Hall

Who is holding the hearing?: The Common Council's Judicial and Legislative Committee

Why is it important?: The Judicial and Legislative Committee will hear testimony both in favor of and against the registry. It will then discuss the proposal and vote on whether to recommend its passage to the full Common Council.

A strong show of support for the registry could help convince the Committee to recommend passage. It would also send a strong signal to the Common Council that there is broad-based support for the Registry

Who should attend?: Advocates for the Registry say that everyone and anyone who supports the proposal should attend the hearing.

What if I don't wish to testify?: Even if you don't wish to testify, you can still show your support for the proposal by filling out a card and marking the box that reads "In Favor Not Testifying."

How long will it take?: It is hard to say how long the hearing will last. The Committee's Chair, Alderman Wayne Frank, has said that City of Milwaukee residents will be given preference. That means those living outside the City will be allowed to speak only after all City residents who have asked to testify have spoken.

What is the recommended dress?: There is none. Come as you are.

What's the best way to testify in favor of the Registry?: The supporters of The Registry offer a few tips for those who want to testify. These include:

- Speak from your heart – Simply tell the Committee what the Registry would mean to you and others you know.
- Be Positive – Try to avoid engaging in a running debate with those who oppose the registry.
- Say something new – Try to avoid repeating what others have said before you.

Anything else I should know?: Yes there is. The Religious Right will be at the hearing in force. Be emotionally prepared to hear some harsh words about Gays and Lesbians. Past experience has shown that arguments with religious activists can quickly escalate into shouting matches and worse. Therefore, it's probably best to avoid contact with them.

CommUNITY

'Dining Out For Life' June 17

Hungry? On Thursday, June 17th, diners in the cities of Milwaukee, Madison and Green Bay have the opportunity to help raise funds for the fight against AIDS. Participating restaurants donate 25% of their food revenues in the third annual 'Dining Out for Life.'

This is the first year the event includes cities beyond Milwaukee, where Camp Heartland is the traditional sole beneficiary. With the expansion to Madison and Green Bay, the money raised in those cities will be split between the Camp and the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) branch offices.

Diners can also enter to win a round trip airfare package for two anywhere Midwest Express airlines flies.

For a list of participating restaurants, check out the website at www.campheartland.org or call (888) 724-4673.

Special Guests for Dignity's Mass

Milwaukee - Father Rodney DeMartini, Executive Director of the National Catholic AIDS Network, will be the guest homilist at the Sunday, June 20 LGBT 6pm Mass at St. Pius X, 2506 N. Wauwatosa Avenue.

Father Stephen Braddock, Executive Director St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry, will be the celebrant. Dignity/Milwaukee, an organization of LGBT Catholics, encourages all people of faith that have an interest in the well being of people living with HIV to attend this service.

The National Catholic AIDS Network, "challenged by the example of Jesus and the mandates of the Gospel," is a non-profit organization responding to the AIDS pandemic. It provides education, technical assistance, and a support network for HIV/AIDS service providers as well as individuals and groups affected by HIV.

PrideFest Needs More Volunteers

Milwaukee - Nearly 1,000 volunteers are needed to assure PrideFest runs smoothly and safely during this year's festival, August 6-8. Shifts can be scheduled Friday night, or all day on Saturday and Sunday.

Those who volunteer serve 4 1/2-hour shifts. Volunteers receive free admission, a special badge, complimentary meal and a post-festival volunteer party. Anyone volunteering for pre or post festival work receives a complimentary ticket. Sign up with a friend and get assigned to the same shift and location.

Organizations can also volunteer in different areas of the festival and receive a donation from PrideFest to help further their work.

For more information and applications, contact PrideFest at (414) 272-FEST; write PO Box 511763, Milwaukee, WI 53203-0301; or e-mail Pridemilw@aol.com. You may also register by visiting the website at www.pridefest.com.

Applications should be mailed by July 24 to allow ample time for festival passes to be mailed.

Downtown Awash in Rainbow Flags

Milwaukee - Thanks to the Proud Crowd, a PrideFest fundraiser; for the fifth year in a row, 32 Rainbow Flags are proudly flying along Wisconsin Avenue, Water Street, and on S. 2nd Street in front of the LGBT Community Center.

Six more Rainbow Flags will soon fly downtown along with United Festival member groups flags. PrideFest is a member of the UF organization.

For information about the Proud Crowd campaign and its various levels and associated benefits, contact PrideFest at the numbers in the article above.

Shoppers Can Donate to SAGE

Milwaukee - Do you shop at Pick 'n Save for groceries or liquor? Do you have an Advantage Plus Savers Club Card? Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE) - Milwaukee is now qualified as a charitable non-profit organization to participate in the stores' WE CARE program.

After registering SAGE's number, a percentage of every dollar you spend will be donated by Pick 'n Save to SAGE.

To register, go to the customer service window and fill out a new Savers Club Application, enter the SAGE number (649300) under the "Charity Code" and turn it in. You'll get a new card and key chain in the mail. SAGE's number will be entered into the Pick 'n Save computer system.

After that, every time you make a purchase and use your card, SAGE will be credited for a portion of your grocery bill. Pick 'n Save will send the group a quarterly check for the accumulated amount. A few minutes of your time thus translates into a continuing donation that costs you nothing.

H.I.T. Brewers Game Fundraiser

Milwaukee - The Holiday Invitational Tournament (H.I.T.) will host a Milwaukee Brewers Tailgate Party on Monday, July 19. The cost is \$15 per person. The fee includes a pre-game tailgate party with beer, soda, food and a lower grandstand ticket for the Brewers vs. Chicago White Sox game, which begins at 7:05pm.

A H.I.T. spokesman said, "Join the Board in cheering on the Brewers against their over-the-border rival on this 'Turn Back the Clock' night. This is a fundraiser for the Thanksgiving weekend bowling tournament."

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

Actor Auditions

Madison - Actors are needed for *Meeting Jerry Springer*. Based on a true story, the original comedy is about two young people who lie their way onto the show.

There are both male and female roles, with the following audition dates: Monday and Tuesday, June 21 and 22nd, and June 28 and 29th at the Broom Street Theater Building, 1119 Williamson St.

FMI call Playwright/Director Rob Matsushita at (608) 270-1795.

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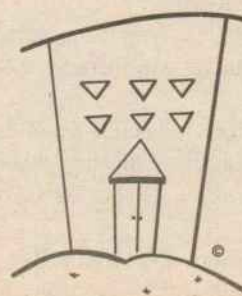
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Watch for more details in future issues.



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Danny Glover Named Chair of AIDS Walk

Milwaukee — Actor and social activist Danny Glover will lead this year's 10th Anniversary AIDS Walk Wisconsin, slated for Sunday, September 12 along Milwaukee's lakefront. The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) named Glover Honorary Chair of the Walk on Monday. He is expected to help recruit walkers throughout the summer and attend Wisconsin's largest AIDS fundraiser.

Glover is well known for his leading roles in the recent movie *Beloved* in which he co-starred with Oprah Winfrey, in Steven Spielberg's *The Color Purple*, the Academy Award-winning *Places in the Heart* and in the mega-hit *Lethal Weapon* film series in which he co-starred with Mel Gibson.

Throughout his career, Glover has been a strong advocate for human rights and helping youth.

"I come to the AIDS Walk for the serious purpose of intensifying the fight against AIDS in Wisconsin," Glover said. "I worry that a new generation of American youth are at high risk for HIV because of an unwarranted and dangerous complacency. I will challenge the people of Wisconsin to walk with me and to work harder to defeat AIDS."

Doug Nelson, ARCW's Executive Director, praised Glover's commitment. "He's a powerful advocate. He's serious about AIDS, he's correct that AIDS complacency is a big problem, and he will be a terrific motivator."

Nelson cautioned that HIV infection rates continue to rise in Wisconsin. He also expressed concern that protease inhibitor drug therapy — that was extending the lives of many — are now, regrettably, failing for up to one half of people with HIV/AIDS taking the drug treatments.

AIDS walkers help the organizations fighting AIDS to provide life sustaining services, and research and prevention activities. Because people with HIV/AIDS are living longer, AIDS service organizations face bigger caseloads than ever. The false impression that the pandemic is mostly behind us, or at least under control, has led some people to cut back on their giving.

"As a celebrity who is committed to AIDS, Danny Glover will inspire walkers for this phenomenal event," Nelson said. "He will bring a powerful message, especially for communities of color where the AIDS epidemic is intensifying."

Nelson added that with the African American State of AIDS Emergency — which was declared in 1998 by the Congressional Black Caucus — a portion of the AIDS Walk proceeds will be earmarked for minority community-based organizations providing AIDS services. In total, at least 17 Wisconsin benefiting agencies will be recipients of AIDS Walk funds.

Glover will speak at the AIDS Walk Breakfast and the Opening Ceremony and will speak to the expected 10,000 plus walkers during a kick off ceremony. He will also participate in a red ribbon cutting with other Wisconsin dignitaries. The Walk begins and ends at the Summerfest Grounds.

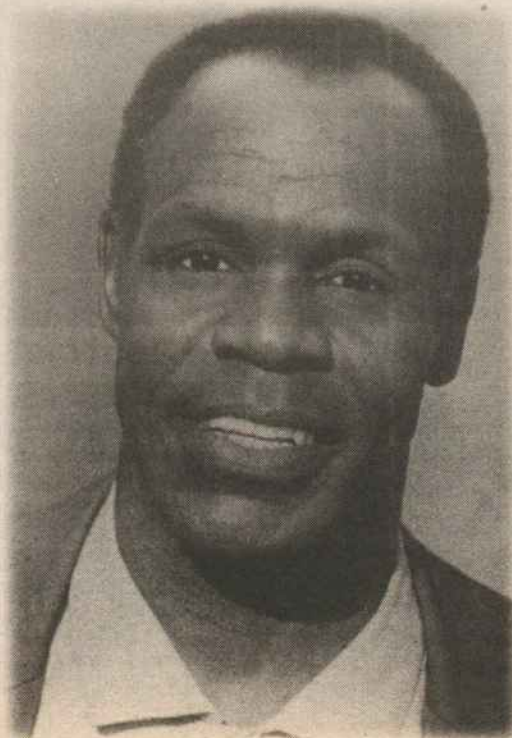
Last year, nearly 10,000 participated in the Walk when Chastity Bono was Honorary Chair. They raised \$632,888, which was distributed between 19 Wisconsin AIDS organizations. In 1996, Bette Midler helped the Walk raise over a million dollars.

Besides Midler and Bono, past Chairs include Vice President Al Gore and Tipper Gore, Ervin "Magic" Johnson and Gay Olympian Greg Louganis.

In addition to AIDS, Glover works with young people to help them overcome addictions and stay out of gangs and prisons. His efforts include increasing literacy, self-determination and education opportunities for youth.

Glover also supports worldwide humanitarian efforts in his role as a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Development Program focusing on eradicating poverty, saving the environment, creating jobs and advancing the rights of women. He has served on the boards of the Human Right Watch and Amnesty International.

To register for AIDS Walk Wisconsin, call (800) 348-WALK, or register online at www.arcw.org. Bus transportation to the AIDS Walk will be available from all parts of the state. Walkers will gain free admission to the Indian Summer festival, which is also being held on Summerfest grounds the day of the AIDS Walk.



AROUND THE NATION

ENDA, Hate Crimes Act Unlikely to Pass Say Dems

Atlanta — Openly Gay Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA) and Democratic Party National Committee Chairman Joe Andrew told *Southern Voice* that two key pieces of LGBT civil rights legislation are not likely to pass until after the next congressional election.

Frank and Andrew said ENDA, a bill to ban job discrimination against Gays and Lesbians and the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, HCPA, which would provide federal penalties for hate crimes committed against Gays and Lesbians, would never be passed by the current Republican controlled Congress.

"As long as Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) is the speaker of the House of Representatives, Republicans will do anything and everything they can to keep ENDA from passing and to keep federal hate crimes legislation from passing," Andrew said. "They're going to do it. They've said they are going to do it and they are proud they are going to do it, and yet we still have Gays and Lesbians across America who are supporting Republicans. There is a logical inconsistency there that it is part of my job to point out."

"It's one of the big differences between the parties: Gay and Lesbian rights," Frank said. He added, "The Republicans are just too tied in to the homophobes."

Kevin Ivers, a spokesman for the National office of the Log Cabin Republicans had a sharp response for Andrew and Frank. He told *Southern Voice*, "Their real goal is not to pass the bills — their goal is to take over the Congress," Ivers said. "As much as (Frank) says things like that, he is smart enough to know that it's not who controls the Congress that matters, it's who supports the bills, and that support has to be bipartisan. We'll pass [the legislation] by working together, not throwing bombs at each other."

Ivers pointed out that the only time ENDA was brought to a floor vote was in 1996, in the Republican controlled Senate. ENDA failed to pass by one vote when nearly every Republican voted against it and nearly every Democrat voted for it.

The 1996 vote was brought about as part of a compromise that tied DOMA, the anti-Gay marriage act to ENDA. Democrats threatened to filibuster DOMA unless the Republican leadership allowed a vote on ENDA. Eventually both sides agreed to a straight vote on both pieces of legislation without amendments being attached to them.

For its part, the Human Rights Campaign insists that there is a chance to pass both bills. David Smith of HRC says the group thinks there is a good chance to pass the Hate Crimes Act. Polls have consistently shown a healthy majority of the American public supports its passage.

HRC believes ENDA will be more difficult to push through. One reason may be the recent announcement that the National Gay Lesbian Task Force is withdrawing its support of the legislation. NGLTF says that while it won't work against the bill, it can't support it because Transgendered individuals are not specifically mentioned in the bill's wording.

HRC believes that mentioning Transgendered individuals in the bill would make it nearly impossible to get ENDA passed.

Last fall, the US Justice Department announced that it would prosecute employment discrimination based on Transgendered status in selected cases. That decision was based on a Supreme Court ruling that prohibited same-sex harassment on the job. During a March press Conference, Presidential Assistant Richard Socarides told *Wisconsin Light* that Transgendered individuals would be covered by the Hate Crimes Prevention Act because it includes penalties for hate crimes committed because of the victim's sexual orientation or gender.

Apuzzo Leaves White House, Rejoins NGLTF

Washington — Lesbian activist Virginia Apuzzo is leaving her position as Chief of the White House staff to take a position with the National Gay Lesbian Task Force think tank, the Policy Institute. Ms Apuzzo, who was the highest ranking openly LGBT official ever to serve in the government, will be holding the newly created Apuzzo Chair, at the Institute.

At the Policy Institute, Apuzzo will serve as a senior strategist, write and lecture on a wide range of issues and steer several specific projects to increase support for LGBT equality in both the public and private sectors.

Apuzzo helped shape NGLTF in the 1970's and 80's when she served on the organization's Board of Directors and as its Executive Director.

Porn Found in Anti-Gay Senator's Office Computers

Washington, D.C. — When President Clinton nominated openly Gay diplomat James Hormel to be the US Ambassador to Luxembourg, Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) helped lead the fight to keep the Senate from voting on the appointment. Inhofe used a courtesy hold to prevent a vote that would have confirmed Hormel's appointment.

Inhofe called Hormel "immoral." The Senator attacked Hormel because the philanthropist endowed the San Francisco



Gay Congressman Barney Frank



Senator James Inhofe

AROUND THE NATION

Library's Gay and Lesbian Center. According to Inhofe, the Center contained pornographic materials. Nearly all of the materials he cited are also available in the Library of Congress.

Now comes word that X-rated materials that are not available either in Hormel's center or the Library of Congress can be found in the office of United States Senator James Inhofe. *Roll Call*, the Capitol Hill newspaper, reports that a check of the computer system in Inhofe's office found such a large collection of lewd and lascivious materials that it "messed up the Senator's computer system."

A *Roll Call* source said that three male staffers were responsible for the pornography. A spokesman for the Senator acknowledged the scandal saying those staff members who were involved have been disciplined. There was no word on what action the Senator took.

Clinton Issues Gay Pride Proclamation

Washington, D.C. — Saying that Americans should "Remember throughout the year the Gay and Lesbian Americans whose many and varied contributions have enriched our national life," President Clinton issued his annual "Gay Pride Proclamation." The President's statement commemorates the 30th anniversary of the Stonewall riots that launched the modern LGBT civil rights movement.

The Proclamation notes that earlier this month the National Park Service included the Stonewall Inn and the adjacent neighborhood on the National Registry of Historic Places. It also renews Clinton's plea for Congress to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and the Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

President Clinton is the only American President ever to issue a Gay Pride proclamation.

Funeral Law Seen as LGBT Advance

Providence, RI — Rhode Island's Gays and Lesbian couples have been given a right that most married opposite couples take for granted, the right to plan their own funerals. A bill passed by the State Legislature allows its citizens to designate an individual who will be in charge of their funeral.

Sponsored by openly Gay Rep. Mike Pisaturo, the Funeral Designation Act passed the House with a unanimous vote. The Democratic legislator said that while working for AIDS Service agencies, he had seen the same sex domestic partners ignored and sometimes even barred from their partner's funeral.

During the debate in the State Senate, Republican State Senator Leo Blais offered an amendment that would have put the deceased's next of kin ahead of the designated agent on the list of authorized funeral planners.

Blais told the Senate, "People making a conscious choice to live this homosexual lifestyle have no right to usurp the rights of their family in this matter." The Blais amendment lost on a vote of 35 to 11. The Senate then passed the bill by a vote of 44 to 3. Governor Lincoln Almond is expected to sign the bill into law.

Anti Gay Marriage Bill Defeated

Portland, OR — Conservatives suffered a surprising setback when the State Assembly voted against a measure to put an anti-Gay marriage referendum on the ballot. Joint House resolution 29 was sponsored by 18 legislators with heavy backing from the Christian Coalition and other conservative groups. It was intended to reverse a state court decision that mandated the provision of domestic partners benefits to state employees.

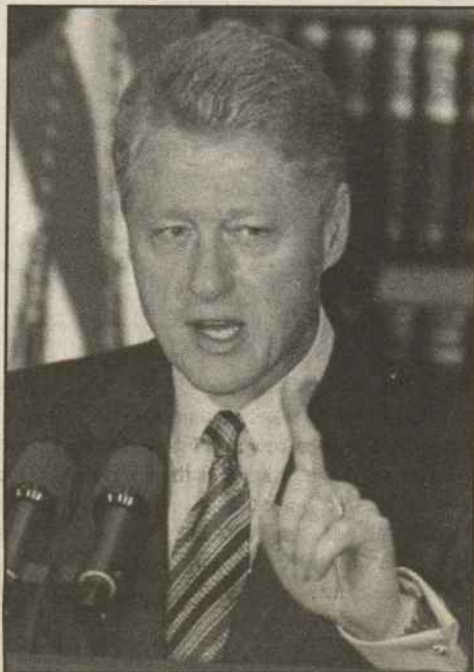
If passed and then approved by the voters, the measure would have amended the Oregon State constitution to define marriage as a union between a man and woman.

Lesbian Alleges Rape By Police Officer

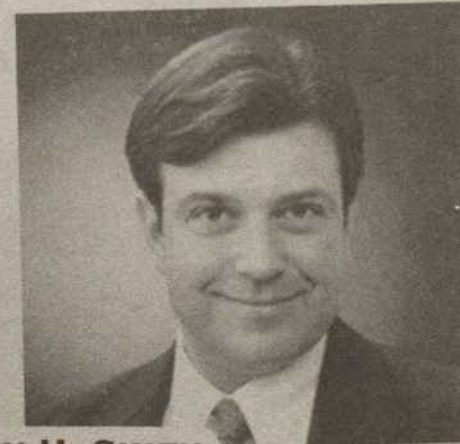
Norfolk, VA — *The Virginia Pilot* reports that Police Officer Roosevelt Henley is charged with raping a Lesbian after asking her if there was anything he could do to change her sexual orientation.

Officer Henley came to the woman's home to break up a fight between her ex-girl friend and a friend. The woman alleges that the officer put the woman in his squad car and ran a background check on her. He then told the woman that there was a warrant out for her arrest, but allowed her to return to her home to get identification.

The woman says that once they were inside, Officer Henley rechecked her social security number and told her that there had been a mistake and she was not the person who was being sought. The woman says the officer asked her if "there was anything he could do to change me." When she answered that there wasn't, he assaulted her. If convicted, Officer Henley faces a sentence of five years to life.



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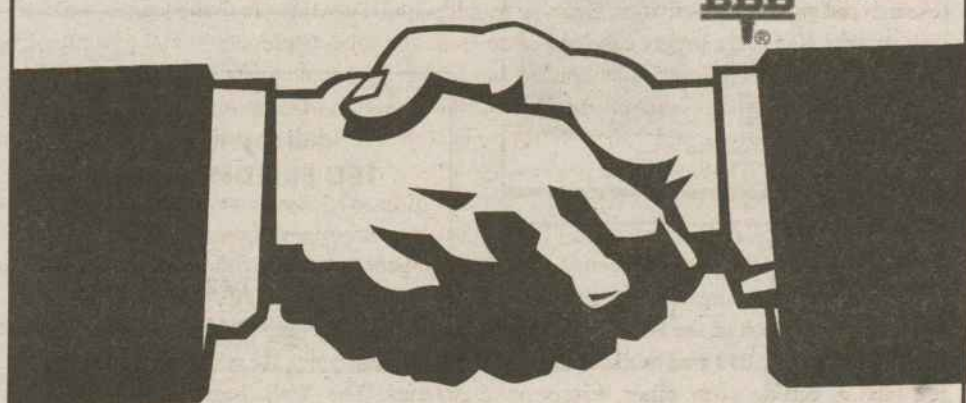
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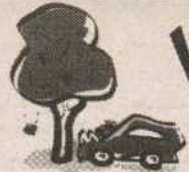
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FLOODLIGHT by Margaret Flood

Today I received some literature from a homosexual hating "Christian" group in the mail. This time they were bemoaning the fact that homosexuals might become foster parents somewhere. "Send money quick," they said.

I am sure we can expect them to show up at PrideFest again. There is nothing like being greeted by a 20-foot sign saying you are a sinner.

LGBTers are not the first nor will we be the last group to be the object of the wrath of these "Christian" groups. Change is hard.

Mary and I recently watched the movie *Inherit the Wind*. It was the latest remake of the 1950's era movie based on the trial that made Clarence Darrow famous. Creation vs. Evolution. During the movie, there was a scene outside the courthouse. It reminded me of the scene outside of PrideFest. People carrying big signs that say you are a sinner for not following the Bible to a "T".

I have tried to reason with these sign carrying folks, but there really is no point to doing that. They are in their own world. It is amazing that people get along as well as they do in this world. I guess we can be thankful for civilization. Madeleine Albright has her work cut out for her.

An acquaintance traveled to Washington D.C. to the Gay and Lesbian March on Washington back in 1993. He shared a funny story. He said he had been on an elevator in a fairly nice Washington hotel with friends.

A very well groomed woman in her late 60's, early 70's stepped on to the elevator. She glanced over at them. Their wild march clothing made who and what they were obvious. The woman, chin high, caught my friend's eye and simply said, "When worlds collide." It said a lot and encapsulated the moment.

Even amongst us LGBTers there is a pretty wide swath from which we are cut. We are united by our common oppression. All other similarity is an illusion. Nevertheless, we often manage to get along.

We still have our male-female issues, our class issues, our race issues and our age issues. We have our sense of humor and our personalities to "rise above" these other issues, which at times tear at us. It amazes me that we all have our own individual spiritual expression. All different. Catholicism to Mother Earth. Agnostics and Atheists. United we stand.

Community.
 I am inspired by the generosity that we exhibit toward each other. I recently attended a fundraising event where over \$26,000 was raised for ARCW, PFLAG, The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center and The Cream City Foundation. This will help to fund educational activities and programs, which will touch many segments of our community.

The "Christian" Right seems to think we have some huge evil "agenda," some colossal plan to undermine the nuclear family. Most of us probably feel that those that wish to form a nuclear family should have that right. Just as we think that we should have the right to have our families look the way we wish them to.

It is a challenge to our society to make room for people who are different. Not bad, just different. My dad always used to say to me, "You're different." I didn't know what he meant by that. But hey, we are all different.

The only "agenda" that we could ever agree on is that people who are different should not be shunned by society, excluded from the military and made to feel as outcasts. We have little control over straight people and no one can make another person change.

Sometimes here in Milwaukee, though, I feel that some segments of the straight population believe that if they ignore us, we'll just go away. There doesn't seem to be many straight people rushing out to support our cause.

Those that do are very much appreciated. Most probably have family or other loved ones who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender in their lives. There are a rare few who just intuitively or intellectually know that we are just human beings trying to live our lives as we see fit. And they love us.

The Domestic Partnership Registry is the next step on our so-called "agenda" here in Milwaukee. We would like to make it possible to register our relationships at City Hall. This would allow us to publicly acknowledge and show that despite the lack of societal support, often our relationships are quite stable.

If you are reading this, I challenge you out there, whoever you are. You can help. Volunteer somewhere. Write out a check. Sign a petition. Talk to your neighbors, your Alderperson. The only people we can change are ourselves. Once we do that, can the rest of society be far behind?



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EDITORIAL

In our last issue, we reported that President Clinton made James Hormel America's first Gay Ambassador. Clinton gave up on his 18-month effort to get a Senate confirmation vote for James Hormel, his openly Gay nominee to be Ambassador to Luxembourg. With the backing of Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, Conservative Republican Senators placed "holds" on the nomination, blocking a vote on it.

The President gave Hormel a recess appointment. Clinton's move bypassed the Senate.

In the aftermath, Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) said he would put a hold on every presidential appointment to block votes on them as well. Below is sampling of what America's press is saying about the appointment and Inhofe.

The Chicago Tribune: "Blocking the Hormel nomination has made the GOP seem like a party of petty prejudice. To allow it to hold up other critical business — such as the confirmation of Lawrence Summers as Treasury Secretary — would make it appear bone headed too."

San Jose Mercury News: "The Constitution permits the President to make appointments when Congress is in recess. Clinton has been somewhat reticent in doing so — but he's right to shove this one into the face of the Senate opposition, lest anti-Gay hysteria carry the day."

"If the GOP leadership permits Inhofe to block the nominations of Lawrence Summers as Secretary of the Treasury and Richard Holbrooke as Ambassador to the United Nations, as he vows to do, it will demonstrate the political depths to which it has sunk."

Miami Herald: "Sure, politics can be mean-spirited and unpleasant at times, but the game that Sen. James M. Inhofe (R-OK) is playing goes too far. He confuses politics with bigotry..."

"The Senator says Mr. Clinton's action was a 'flagrant abuse of the recess appointment power. Of the appointment, the Senator describes Mr. Hormel as a 'Gay activist who puts his agenda ahead of the agenda of America.'"

"The senator is wrong on both counts. During his time in office, Mr. Clinton has made 57 recess appointments. Yet President Ronald Reagan made 239 such appointments and President Bush made 78. And it is Sen. Inhofe who attempts to hold the nation's agenda hostage with his anti-Gay crusade."

The Arizona Star: "For his part, Clinton made the recess appointment only after two attempts to get the Senate to confirm Hormel, once in 1997 and again this January. Republican leaders, however, would not let the appointment come to a vote."

"Despite Hormel's qualifications, Inhofe is outspoken in his opposition. In truth, Inhofe is the one who is putting a personal agenda ahead of America's agenda."

Tulsa World: "Actually, if anyone has made a mockery of the confirmation process, it is Inhofe. The courtesy hold is intended to temporarily delay consideration of a presidential nomination when questions arise. It is not a ploy to block an appointment favored by the president and a majority of the Senate."

"The Constitution says that ambassadorial and other appointments are made 'with the Advice and Consent of the Senate.' Nowhere does it say, 'with the Advice and Consent of Jim Inhofe.'"

OUR VIEW: Clinton Made the Right Choice

For 18 months, President Clinton tried to get a Senate vote on his nomination of James Hormel to the post of Ambassador to Luxembourg. There is only one reason why that vote never occurred: James Hormel is Gay.

Hormel and his backers played by the rules. He has a record of outstanding service to his country. His supporters lined up well over 60 votes for his confirmation.

Unfortunately, the rules mean nothing when bigotry rears its ugly head. Three Republican Senators, aided by their Majority Leader Trent Lott, decided that the will of the American people as expressed through its elected representatives and President was not as important as their petty prejudice. They placed holds on a vote to confirm Clinton's choice.

Make no mistake about it. This battle was about more than James Hormel. It was about whether any of us can stand up for equality without fear of retribution.

The gang of three never questioned Hormel's qualifications. Their complaints centered on his support of LGBT causes.

The conservative cabal's refusal to allow the democratic process to take place left the President with a hard choice. He could allow this intolerable situation to continue, or he could bypass the Senate, angering its Republican leadership. The President chose justice over political expediency.

In so doing, President Clinton sent another message of support for the right of LGBT Americans to receive fair consideration. Moreover, he pointed out to LGBT America that who sits in the White House really does matter.

Now the same people who refused to let the Senate do its constitutional duty say the President betrayed the constitution by making the appointment. One of them, Senator James Inhofe, is threatening to block all of Clinton's nominations with holds.

Inhofe's complaints smack of hypocrisy. For over a year, he refused to allow the appointment process laid out in the Constitution to proceed. Now he complains that Clinton used that document to get around him.

The constitution lays out a framework for the people to express their will. It was not designed to be a tool for thwarting that will. Furthermore, while recess appointments are mentioned in the Constitution, Senate holds are not.

Inhofe, and Lott should still allow a vote on this nomination, even if it is only a symbolic one. Then they should get on with the business they were elected to conduct.

LETTERS

Dear Friend,

As a City of Kenosha police officer for more than 14 years and part of the bike patrol for 2, I felt compelled to participate in AIDS Ride — 4. This is a very special and powerful event to help fight the battle against AIDS.

On July 12, 1999, the bicycle ride, totaling 500 miles with over 2000 other people, will start in the Twin Cities and six days later end in Chicago. I am riding to raise more than 5 million dollars needed for individuals living with AIDS and prevention programs in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Wisconsin and Chicago.

I have agreed to raise at least \$2,300 in pledges between now and the beginning of the Ride. I need your help. Would you please make a pledge to help me meet my goal? Please keep in mind how far I am riding, the commitment I've made, and how long I will have to train for this event!

AIDS has affected nearly all of us, having taken more than 390,000 of our loved ones. In addition, it's estimated that over 1,000,000 Americans are infected with HIV right now. Those that have died in the last 17 years from AIDS amount to 6 times the fatalities of the Vietnam War. With your support, I hope to avert any further deaths caused by this epidemic, and to help those who are ill and in desperate need of care and intervention.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. It means a lot to all of us that will ride and volunteer as crew. Please call me to make your pledge.

Sincerely,

Chris Flahive
(414) 904-9880

Dear Alderman Kalwitz,

I worked for Federal Distributing, the Old Style beer distributor, for seven years, then with Miller Brands distributor for seven more as a delivery salesman. My lover is Jan Hill, who has worked at the Boulevard Inn for nine years. He recently sold his nightclub in West Allis, Busby's, which had been in the family for over 40 years.

We both have large family ties in Metro Milwaukee. Jan is godfather to my niece. My father has moved into our home. He is 86-years-old and has been a resident of Milwaukee for almost 60 years. Jan's mother, Ginger Hershinger Smith, has ties to the founding families of West Allis. She is living in Milwaukee Protestant Home and is dependent on us for the extra care a nursing home cannot give.

We love the seasons here and the architecture of the houses. The arts and entertainment of Milwaukee offer us a very rich life. We look forward to retirement here, as our parents have chosen to do.

We have never asked for special rights. We have never even asked for equal rights. We do ask for, and need, basic human rights, protection from hate, the ability to visit seriously ill loved ones in the hospital and to bury them in peace.

The state of Wisconsin and City of Milwaukee have been good to their Gay and Lesbian Communities. They have led the nation in Gay rights issues. I hope the City will recognize my relationship of 21 years with Jan Hill, and embrace my family here in Milwaukee.

Paul Toonen

Dykesville

by Tami Friday



Lyn became very popular in the lesbian community after winning the National Tongue Twister Championship.



Spotlight

Liam Neeson — A Gentle, Macho Irishman

by Tim Nasson

New York City — Liam. It sounds like such a unique name. A stage name, one who had high hopes to make it big in the movie industry and may have created to keep himself separated from all the Johns and Joes.

Liam Neeson, this year's most recognizable face on screen — *Phantom Menace* and the upcoming summer film *The Haunting* — does have an unforgettable name.

It is not, however, as conjured up as one may think. All he did was take the last four letters of his given name instead of the first four, W-I-L-L, as most in the world do, as a nickname. "I like the way it sounds," says the striking yet gentle giant and former boxing champion.

It isn't hard to picture Neeson in a boxing ring. His 6'4" frame still supports the impressively muscled physique that made him Northern Ireland's teenage boxing champ. The image of pugilist toughness is allayed agreeably by Neeson's face.

His handsomeness, while undeniably rooted in the ruggedness of his features, is tempered by a distinctly sensitive cast to the eyes and mouth as well as a once broken nose. One's overall impression of Neeson is that of a man who could throw a solid punch if need be, but who would then likely help the recipient of the blow up off the floor, and probably buy him a pint.

Neeson's Catholic family was a distinct minority in the predominantly Protestant town of Ballymena. His recollections of his upbringing in the bucolic burgh paint a picture of a hardworking community that witnessed little of the sectarian prejudice that plagues much of Northern Ireland.

"At the age of nine, I began taking boxing lessons at the All Saints Social Club," he recalls out loud, seated in a suite at the Regency Hotel in the middle of Manhattan on a recent warm spring afternoon. "It wasn't long before I sustained a broken nose in the ring. I never even went to a doctor to have it fixed. The trainer reset it there, right on the spot."

The accident, if you will, did not deter the young, lean, Irish boy. He had soon bested the

lot of challengers All Saints could muster, at which point Neeson began boxing on the amateur competitive level. At 46, Neeson is no longer throwing punches in the ring. He is, nonetheless, throwing more than a few in George Lucas's smash box-office success *Phantom Menace*.

In the prequel to the first three *Star Wars* films, Neeson plays the larger-than-life maverick Qui-Gon Jinn in the tradition of every mythical hero from Hercules to John Wayne. He is strong and tough when necessary but gentle and soulful when circumstances permit.

Neeson is quick to point out that he has consciously borrowed from the Hollywood archetype of the lone cowboy. "I draw on another great mythmaker, (the first being *Star Wars* creator George Lucas) the director John Ford," he says. "I loved his films. I guess at a very early age, you want to emulate these people. Stoic figures like John Wayne, Gary Cooper, and those people who had a presence and just commanded attention."

When the first *Star Wars* was released back in the late 1970's, Neeson was a 24-year-old actor in Northern Ireland's Lyric Players repertory theater, performing in productions such as *Juno and the Paycock*. "It was an especially violent time with the IRA, the Protestant Unionist militias and the British occupying forces battling in one bloody skirmish after another. Quite a bit of bombing had gone on, if memory serves me right, the day before *Star Wars* was released," he says.

"I remember thinking, 'I'd like to go see this film if it's still showing with all the trouble.'" Neeson did make it to a showing of the film at a theater smack dab in the middle of the fighting. "It was very crowded. The film transported me into another world," he adds.

"I totally believed that world. I totally identified with the story. It's a deceptively simple story of good and evil, and discovering the good and evil within yourself. It's one of those classic Arthurian tales. You know — where the hero has to confront a nemesis and overcome it. Then there is a trial of strength or an ordeal he has to go through and come out the other end having learned something about himself

and about society in general. And to use that to hopefully advance civilization."

"That's basically what the Arthurian legend is. What *Star Wars* is. And probably what every mythological story in the

history of the world is."

By Liam's late teens, fisticuffs no longer held the appeal they once had. He forsook a professional boxing career in favor of attending the University of Belfast to study physics and computer science. As it turned out, his heart just wasn't in his studies and he flunked out.

"For a time," he says, "I worked as a forklift driver at the Guinness brewery, but feeling obliged to get a college diploma to please my parents, I again enrolled in school, thinking I wanted to pursue a career in teaching. It was too much. My heart was just not in it and I quit."

Amidst the two years he continued in school, however, Neeson took some drama classes. He had found his calling. He began to appear in local productions all around the country.

While appearing in a production of John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*, Neeson was discovered by film Director John Boorman. Somehow, Boorman saw a mediaeval knight yearning to be set free in the actor's lumbering half-wit Lennie. Boorman cast Neeson as a secondary character in his widely hailed yet bizarre *Excalibur* in 1981. That was Neeson's first film and set him on the course he has not yet strayed.

I say "yet" because there was talk recently, in many newspapers, that Neeson would be retiring from film.

"Nonsense," he says to me, when I ask him point blank about all of the stories about his imminent retirement. "You know what?" he rhetorically asks, in a soft spoken, not annoyed tone. "I had just finished a play on Broadway. I had not seen my family for quite a long time and I was sort of burnt out. That comment stemmed from a sudden burst of anger. I don't think I'll give up acting for a long time."

Up until now, Neeson has starred in 31 films. Among the many are his two favorites, *Schindler's List*, for which he was nominated for a Best Actor Academy Award, and *Michael Collins*, Neil Jordon's tribute to the Irish rebel. Other films included in his resume are last



year's *Les Miserables* and 1987's *Suspect* opposite Cher, in which he played a homeless mute falsely charged with murder.

Until five years ago, Neeson was very comfortable being a ladies man. He courted quite a number of Hollywood's leading ladies. Among the many: Julia Roberts, Barbra Streisand and Helen Mirren. The lady's man days are over now, though. Ever since he began seeing Natasha Richardson, daughter of Vanessa Redgrave, he has become more of the family man type of guy.

Neeson married Richardson. The happily married couple has two young sons, Michael and Daniel. There is no little Liam Jr. running around. Yet!

Now that *Phantom Menace* is in theaters and Neeson gets a reprieve for the time being, at least, from playing Qui-Gon Jinn, he is anticipating the release of *The Haunting* later this summer.

In *The Haunting* Neeson plays a professor who conducts a mysterious psychological experiment on three test subjects — one of them being Catherine Zeta Jones (*Entrapment*, *The Mask of Zorro*) in Jan DeBont's (*Twister*) latest.

The Haunting is a remake of the 1963 film of the same name, which was directed by Robert Wise (*The Sound of Music*). Both films are based on Shirley Jackson's novel, *The Haunting of Hill House*. "I never wanted to be caught dead in that house after dark," says Neeson.

Chances are, millions of moviegoers will be caught with the lights on in many movie houses when *The Haunting* is released, and scared nearly to death.

Tim Nasson, whose celebrity profiles appear regularly in *Wisconsin Light*, can be reached at TimNasson1@aol.com.

DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD

by Romeo San Vicente

Gus to Whip de Sade Into Shape

Queer talent **Gus Van Sant**, who garnered an Oscar nomination for his work on *Good Will Hunting*, is hammering out a deal to direct a film about that most famous of sexual deviants, the **Marquis de Sade**. USA Films tied up the movie rights to **Francine Du Plessix Gray**'s biography *At Home with the Marquis de*



John Travolta

Sade. The book draws on thousands of letters de Sade wrote to his wife, many of which have never been translated into English. *At Home* may be Van Sant's next endeavor, since no start date has been scheduled on his other high-profile project, *Standing Room Only*, starring **John Travolta** as a **Sinatra**-esque lounge singer.

If the Van Sant deal is finalized, this would be the second de Sade film in the works. *Quills*, based on **Doug Wright**'s play about the Marquis's last days in a Parisian insane asylum, is in pre-production with **Geoffrey Rush** and **Kate Winslet** attached to star for *Henry & June* Director and soft-core expert **Philip Kaufman**.

He's a Big Wick-Tease

Actor **Craig Ferguson**, best known as Drew Carey's British wanker of a boss Mr. Wick, will be on the big screen this September. He plays a Gay Scottish hairdresser in *The Big Tease*, a film he co-wrote. The story takes place at the World Hairdressing Championships, where a young stylist is devastated to learn he was invited to watch, not to compete.

The Scottish-born Ferguson recently told *The Hollywood Reporter*, "After *Braveheart* we need to see a Scotsman who's less butch."

Tease promises to be high on camp, with **David Hasselhoff**, **Sara Gilbert**, and **John Waters** regular **Mink Stole** filling out the cast.

Condon Takes on Miss America

Writer **Bill Condon**, whose serious look at Gay *Frankenstein* Director **James Whale** in *Gods & Monsters* earned him an Academy Award, is readying a film on another scary camp classic — Miss America. Condon is hard at work on an untitled drama based on the life of **Bess Myerson**, the first Jewish woman to be crowned Miss America.

Myerson's crown and scepter didn't live up to their promise of a perfect life, as she suffered life-long prejudice, multiple failed marriages, and a shoplifting arrest before running (and losing) a race for the U.S. Senate. The film budget is around \$15 million. It should go before cameras by year's end.

Simon Says "WB"

Apparently porn can be great way to launch a career in show biz, just ask "solo flyer" and former MTV Veejay **Simon Rex**. While Rex's video work continues to be a top-seller at video outlets in West Hollywood, he's beginning to be noticed for his PG-rated stuff as well. Rex was on the WB this year deflowering everyone's favorite freshman on *Felicity*. His good looks have ingratiated him with the Warner Bros. casting department.

He'll star in the one-hour drama *Jack and Jill*, which will focus on the lives of

good-looking twentysomethings (remember, this is the WB) looking for love in New York City. The show will follow *Felicity* on the fall schedule. Its scrumptious cast includes **Ivan Sergei** (who played the Gay hunk in *The Opposite of Sex*) and *Love! Valour! Compassion!* cutie **Justin Kirk**.

Romeo San Vicente would love to make a video with Simon Rex. 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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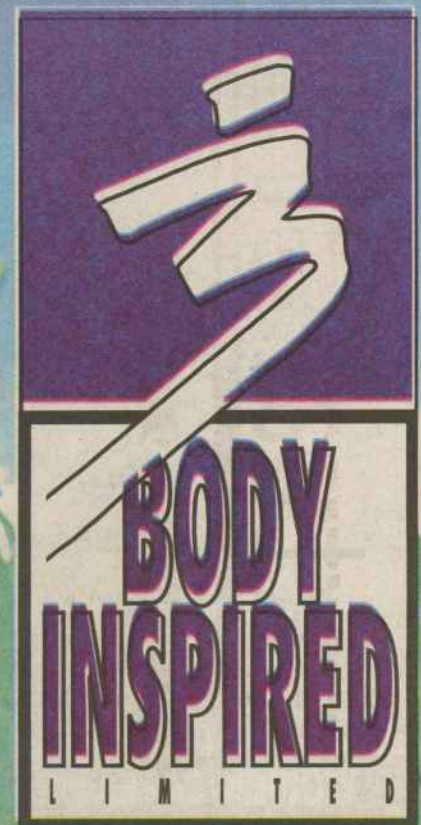
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OUT ON FILM

Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me

Review by John Jahn

Sequels are faced with having to surpass – or at least maintain – the freshness and spontaneity of the original, and Mike Myers certainly adds a great deal of both to his sequel to 1997's *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*. Nevertheless, the film is also strongly derivative. Punch lines that were uproarious in the first film are frequently attempted again, always with unfunny results.

While the first *Austin Powers* had its flaws, it also possessed a breezy



charm that made for a welcome (if sophomoric) movie. *The Spy Who Shagged Me* attempts to recapture its predecessor's "mojo," as it were, and succeeds... partly.

In this film, Powers (Myers) finds himself newly single and playing the field again, but his plans are interrupted by the return of Dr. Evil (Myers). Evil's son, Scott (Seth Green) returns, as do Number Two (Robert Wagner) and leather-clad Lesbian, Frau Farbissina (Mindy Sterling). New bad guys include a dwarf clone of Dr. Evil, Mini-Me (Verne Troyer), and an obese Scottish henchman named Fat Bastard (Myers again).

The plot revolves around Dr. Evil's attempt to steal Powers' "mojo" (sexual stamina). Teamed with sexy CIA agent Felicity Shagwell (Heather Graham), Powers must not only reclaim his virility but disable Dr. Evil's Moon-based laser.

There's no use analyzing the supporting roles. Once you're beyond Myers' creative and energetic performances, none are particularly noteworthy. Despite loads of low-brow, bathroom and body function humor, *The Spy Who Shagged Me* does have its high points.

Its best laughs involve silhouettes of Powers and Shagwell in a tent which appear from outside to be extraordinarily kinky sexual acts. There's also a cleverly-edited sequence

that has various bit players and star cameos coming up with different ways to describe a spaceship that resembles male genitalia. It's juvenile but amusing.

Come to think of it, "juvenile but amusing" is an excellent way to sum up *The Spy Who Shagged Me*. It's certainly watchable, but that's far from a ringing endorsement.

2 1/2 Stars

Limbo

Review by John Jahn

The final moments before the credits roll of Writer-Director John Sayles' *Limbo* will outrage some viewers, as unconventional and unexpected as they are. But the important thing is that Sayles chose a resolution that is in keeping with the tone and title of the picture.

Expect the unexpected from John Sayles, a director who never stops taking risks or seeking new sources of inspiration. He has set films in many varied places: New Jersey during the '60s (*Baby, It's You*); the Tex-Mex border (*Lone Star*); Ireland (*The Secret of Roan Inish*); the bayous of Louisiana (*Passion Fish*); and Central America (*Men with Guns*). *Limbo* takes us to Alaska, the "last, great American frontier."

Limbo follows three characters trapped in an emotional paralysis from which, it seems, only death will free them. Joe Gastineau (David Strathairn) is an introverted, lonely man haunted by a past that includes a tragic fishing accident. Donna De Angelo (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio) is a second-rate lounge singer whose life consists of one-night-stands, professionally and personally. Her daughter, Noelle (Vanessa Martinez), is a disturbed, suicidal teenager lapsing into acts of self-mutilation.

As it slowly unfolds, *Limbo* plays like a simmering romance and tale of redemption, but then Sayles takes us in unexpected directions. Joe's half-brother, Bobby (Casey Siemaszko), shows up looking for help (he's being hunted by drug dealers). This complication in the lives of Joe, Donna and Noelle is nothing short of disastrous.

Sayles gradually, deftly builds his characters, continually exposing new facets of their personalities. Nearly every scene offers a unique disclosure about them. Often, these are not sudden or shocking, but they're always substantial. The film is also populated by a gallery of rich, supporting players. Even the most inconsequential individuals have an interesting trait or two.

Limbo possesses great cinematography that makes the sense of cold and gloom palpable. Alaska has a certain grandeur but also a cold, cruel side that is illustrated here. The acting is appropriately toned-down and restrained. As thrillers go, it is a sedate film, but that's the point.

3 1/2 Stars

OUT in the Theatre

Gutzman Productions Presents...

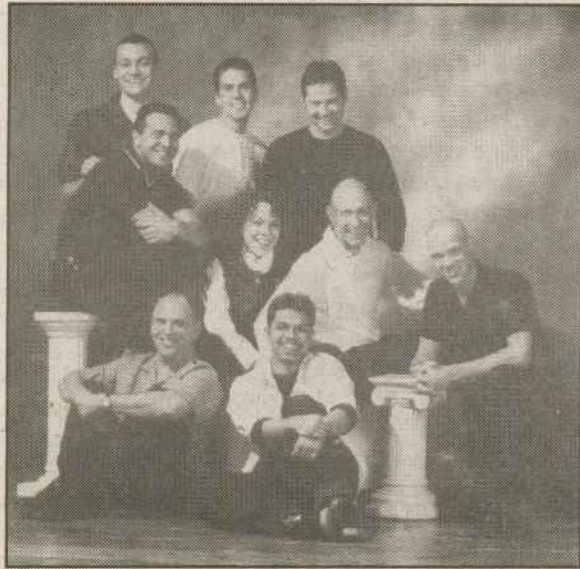
by John Jahn

Milwaukee – Milwaukee's Gay theater impresario, Dale Gutzman, who recently won critical acclaim for his own, new comedy *Harry and Al*, is not taking the summer off. Not by a long shot.

In July (exact dates yet to be announced), Gutzman will be directing a full-scale production of Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*. The production will involve a full orchestra, a cast of 40, and will take place at Carroll College, 100 North East Avenue, in Waukesha.

In August, Gutzman will present the Midwest's premiere of Gay horror author Clive Barker's *Frankenstein in Love*. This horror-comedy, penned by the author of *Candyman* and *Lord of Illusions*, is a deliciously droll nightmare journey into love, death, mayhem, madness and monsters. *Frankenstein in Love*, a dark comedy of vivisection and virtue, will be staged at the Brumder Mansion Bed & Breakfast, 3046 West Wisconsin Avenue, in Milwaukee.

Gutzman has also announced the shows for his 1999-2000 season, all of which will be staged at Centennial Hall of the Milwaukee Public Library, 733 North 8th Street. The productions will be *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Holiday Punch*, *In the Movies* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Dale is currently seeking actors for his upcoming season, as well as backstage workers. For further information concerning the summer schedule or next season, call (414) 873-1962.



Madison's Mercury Players will present "Jeffrey"

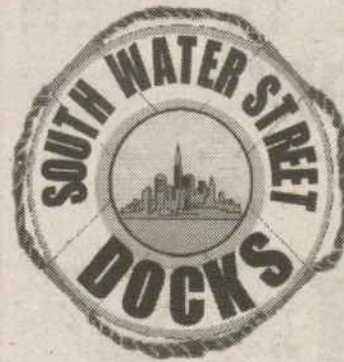
Jeffrey

Preview by John Jahn

Madison – Paul Rudnick's play *Jeffrey* will be presented by Mercury Players Theatre at the Esquire Theater in Madison this July. "Jeffrey is a tribute to people who battle disease and fear with passion, humor and style," according to Rudnick. The play concerns itself with a man who copes with the AIDS epidemic by completely swearing off sex — only to then meet the man of his dreams!

This Mercury Players Theatre production, running July 1-17, has been timed to end on Madison's Pride Weekend. All the principal actors are Gay, themselves, and wanted to give something fun to the city for Pride Weekend. Co-Producer and actor Shonn Northam is the reigning Mr. Capitol City and First Runner-Up to Mr. Gay Wisconsin, U.S.A. Three of the actors previously appeared in the Mercury Players Theatre production of *Bent*, a play which reminds us all of the price we have had to pay to obtain such things as pride festivals.

Show dates for Paul Rudnick's *Jeffrey* are July 1 through 17. A portion of the ticket proceeds will go to Madison's AIDS Network. For tickets and further information, call The Esquire Theater at (608) 294-0740 or the Mercury Players Theatre at (608) 242-0150.



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Events CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

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

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

Dining Out for Life (Milwaukee), Dine at any of the participating restaurants and 25% of your food bill will go to benefit Camp Heartland. For participating (888) 724-HOPE.

Dining Out for Life (Madison), Dine at any of the participating restaurants and 25% of your food bill will go to benefit Camp Heartland. & ARCW. For listing of participating restaurants, call (888)724-HOPE.

Dining Out for Life (Green Bay), Dine at any of the participating restaurants and 25% of your food bill will go to benefit Camp Heartland. & ARCW. For listing of participating area restaurants, call (888) 724-HOPE.

MCOW's Center for AIDS Intervention Research (Milwaukee), (CAIR) Research Conference: Twelve Years of Prison HIV Prevention Programs, The Evolution of Programs. 3pm, Conference Room at 2071 N. Summit Avenue. FMI (414) 456-7731. Refreshments reception immediately following.

Woodland Pattern Book Center (Milwaukee), Alternating Currents, 7pm, Derek Bailey, guitarist will perform. \$6/\$5 members, 720 E. Locust.

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

AIDS Resource Center of WI (Madison), Must RSVP by today for the Madison office Open House scheduled for June 21. RSVP via voice mail (608) 258-9103, ext. 15. (See June 21 Events Calendar for details).

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

Michael H. Lord Gallery (Milwaukee), Poetry Reading in the Gallery by 4 Wisconsin poets selected by artist Richard Knight in conjunction with his on-going *Object Paintings* exhibition, 7pm. 420 E. Wisconsin Ave., FMI (414) 272-1007.

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. Grobschmidt Senior Center, 2424 15th Ave., So. Milw. 1:30pm.

Milw. Symphony Orchestra (Milwaukee), Concert Season Finale: *Mahler's Symphony No. 5* conducted by Andreas Delfs, continues tomorrow night. Marcus Center's Uihlein Hall, tickets \$12-48; (414) 291-7605 or (800) 291-7605.

SAGE (Milwaukee), SAGE Film screening: *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, 6:30pm, small meeting room of the Milw. LGBT Community Center (170 S. 2nd St.).

Woodland Pattern Book Center (Milwaukee), The Sparks, urban voices reading by poetry writing group, Sparks. Local writers encouraged to read during the open mic portion. 7pm, 720 E. Locust. \$3/\$2 for readers.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Frontiers (Madison), Gay and Bi Men's group hosts Understanding How Our Minds Work, Is There Really a Gay Brain? presentation and discussion facilitated by Prof. Deric Bownds. 7:30pm, FMI call Gene, (608) 831-4711.

Juneteenth Day Celebration (Milwaukee), Day long festival located along Martin Luther King Drive. Parade, food, vendors, music and performances. Celebrates the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

OutGiving InCommunity Workshops (Milwaukee), For doers and donors, growing financial resources today and for the future of Milwaukee LGBT Community groups. 170 S. 2nd St., For details and registration information, call Neil Albrecht at (414) 271-2656.

Wisconsin for Mumia (Milwaukee), March with the Mumia contingent in the Juneteenth Day Parade. Gather 9:30am at the corner of 19th and Atkinson, group will be lead by Pam Africa, spokesman Intl. Concerned Friends and Family of Mumia Abu-Jamal. Then at 6:30pm, Africa will speak at a Public Meeting at the Milw. Enterprise Center., 2821 N. 4th St., Rm. 300. Meeting is free.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

LGBT Mass at St. Pius X (Milwaukee), Father Rodney DeMartini, Exec. Dir. of the National Catholic AIDS Network, guest homilist. 6pm, 2506 N. Wauwatosa Avenue. Father Stephen Braddock, Exec. Dir. of St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry will be the celebrant.

MONDAY, JUNE 21

AIDS Resource Center of WI (Madison), Madison office Open House, 4-7:30pm. Brief program at 6pm, refreshments. 222 State Street.

Frontiers (Madison), Gay and Bi Men's group hosts: Rap Group, open discussion, 7:30pm, OutReach center, 600 Williamson St. (Gateway Mall). FMI call (608) 255-4297.

Theater Auditions (Madison), Actors are needed for *Meeting Jerry Springer*, an original comedy about a couple of young people who lie their way onto the show. Men and women roles. Try out at 7pm, at the Broom St. Theater, 1119 Williamson St. FMI call (608) 270-1795.

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

Theater Auditions (Madison), Actors are needed for *Meeting Jerry Springer*, an original comedy about a couple of young people who lie their way onto the show. Men and women roles. Try out at 7pm, at the Broom St. Theater, 1119 Williamson St. FMI call (608) 270-1795.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

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 Two Step lessons; 9pm Open dancing.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

Domestic Partnership Registry Hearing (Milwaukee), Milw. Common Council's Judiciary and Legislative Committee meets to vote on the proposed Domestic Partnership Registry ordinance. All LGBT and supportive Milwaukee residents urged to attend. 9am, Room 301-B, Milwaukee City Hall. Reduced parking rates at the Milwaukee Center, SW corner of E. Kilbourn and N. Water (have ticket validated at City Clerk's Office, room 205, City Hall). If you can't make it call your Alderperson at 286-2221.

MCOW's Center for AIDS Intervention Research (Milwaukee), (CAIR) Research Conference: Global Health Priorities, Influences and a Look at the Future. 3pm, Conference Room at 2071 N. Summit Avenue. FMI (414) 456-7731. Refreshment reception immediately follows.

Rainbow Lecture Series (Milwaukee), *Marginalizing Your Same Sex Union* with Attorney Christopher Krimmer. Free, informative, legal seminar. Free legal consultation and referrals for other legal topics after the conclusion of the seminar. 6:30-8:30pm, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St., (414) 271-2656.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Art Framing Workshop (Milwaukee), As part of the monthly art lecture series Art off Oakland will present *Words of Advice for Creating and Proper Framing*. 12:15pm, 1 hour, lobby of North Shore Presbyterian Church, 4048 N. Bartlett. Led by consultant Catherine Davidson.

SAGE (Milwaukee), Co-ed discussion group: presentation and discussion of the second half of the film of the best of the Gay TV series, *In the Life*. 6:30pm, small meeting room of the Milw. LGBT Community Center (170 S. 2nd St.).

Woodland Pattern Book Center (Milwaukee), *Urban Voice*, open mic at 7pm followed by readings by poets Marilyn Taylor and Sue Blaustein. \$3 admission, \$2 open mic readers. 720 E. Locust St. FMI call (414) 263-5001.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Garfield Avenue Blues, Gospel and Arts Festival (Milwaukee), Noon to sunset, Garfield Avenue between 4th and 7th Streets. Features the Nefertari Dance Co and City Ballet, Tappin' Out Rhythm, gospel choirs and continuous live blues music. Soul food BBQ's, Louisiana Seafood Boil. Admission is free except for the Slave Ship Exhibit offered by America's Black Holocaust Museum (\$2).

Woodland Pattern Book Center (Milwaukee), Oneida poet, fiction writer and scholar Roberta Hill will read from her work, along with Milwaukee writer and educator Jackie Reid Dettloff. 8pm, advance tickets \$5. 720 E. Locust St. FMI call (414) 263-5001.

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.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

WYOU Cable Channel 4 (Madison), *Nothing To Hide* at 9pm.

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.

OUT ON TV.

A Gay Fall on TV

Preview by John Jahn

Last week, the major broadcast television networks previewed their 1999-2000 prime-time seasons for advertisers. Several with existing LGBT characters will be returning this fall. There will also be some new series, which will have LGBT characters in them. But what's up with UPN? This network is the only one that, unfortunately, will feature no Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered or Gay characters this fall. No big change, though. They didn't have any last season, either.

While disappointing, of course, there was a time when no television networks had any regular LGBT characters. Occasionally, a hairdresser, salesman or butch female would show up for an episode or two, mostly so straight America could have a laugh. But the days when LGBT characters were embarrassingly stereotypical are, seemingly, long over. Yes, the times they are a changin', and not a moment too soon!

Here is a brief run down of both new and returning TV series for this fall that will feature at least one recurring character representing the LGBT community.

ABC

Oh, Grow Up is an ensemble comedy featuring Ford (John Ducey), the youngest of three friends who separates from his wife when he realizes he's Gay.

Wasteland is a one-hour drama from *Dawson's Creek* creator Kevin Williamson. The story of six 20-somethings right out of college. *Wasteland* features Brad Rowe who starred opposite *Will & Grace's* Sean Hayes in the feature film *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss*. The Gay character, Russell (Dan Montgomery), is a closeted soap opera star who is eventually outed by the tabloids.

The ABC network will be welcoming a Lesbian character this fall to **Then Came You**, a sitcom about a newly-single woman in her 30's who has a romance with a 24-year-old woman.

Drew Carey is back, including Drew's heterosexual, cross-dressing brother, Steve (John Carroll Lynch), who is currently dating Drew's nemesis, the "voluptuous" Mimi.

NYPD Blue will be back with Gay receptionist John Irvin (Bill Brochtrup).

Spin City's Carter Heywood (Michael Boatman), the Gay Director of Minority Affairs, will be back for the show's next season.

CBS

Of the six new shows premiering this fall on CBS, none are scheduled to include even a single Lesbian or Gay character.

Of the network's existing shows, **Nash Bridges**, starring newlywed Don Johnson, will be back. The show includes a recurring Lesbian character, Nash's sister, Stacey (Angela Dorhmann).

Chicago Hope, which remains on the network's fall schedule, will no longer feature Gay Dr. Dennis Hancock, since actor Vondie Curtis Hall is departing. That's the bad news. The good news, however, is that we will see more of Gay, anal-retentive assistant, Andy (Todd Louiso).

NBC

Of the six new shows premiering this fall on NBC, none are scheduled to include even a single Lesbian or Gay character.

Nevertheless, of existing shows, **Will & Grace**, American primetime's first show to premier with an openly Gay character, returns to Tuesday nights this fall with attorney Will Truman (Eric McCormack) and the fabulous Jack McFarland (Sean Hayes) in tow.

ER returns without Lesbian Dr. Maggie Doyle (Jorja Fox), alas, but with recurring Gay nurse Yosh Takata (Gedde Watanabe).

Friends returns with the recurring roles of Ross' Lesbian ex-wife, Carol Wylick (Jane Sibbett), and her spouse, Susan Bunch (Jessica Hecht).

Suddenly Susan is back with the Gay mail-room guy, Pete (Bill Stevenson), and his husband, Hank.

The Profiler will be back fighting crime with Gay computer pro, George Fraley (Peter Frechette).

On the minus side, **Homicide: Life on the Streets**, primetime's only show with a Bisexual character, Detective Tim Bayliss (Kyle Secor), has been cancelled. **Mad About You** leaves the network after seven successful seasons, which often featured Lesbian couple Debbie (Robin Bartlett) and Joan (Suzie Plakson).

Fox

Of the eight new shows the network will premier this fall, one will include Lesbian or Gay characters. **Action**, the Jay Mohr sitcom, will feature one "ambiguous" character and another, a closeted, married television executive named Bobby who will be Gay.

Of the network's returning shows, **Beverly Hills, 90210** will be back this fall with more from Samantha Sanders (Christina Belford), Steve's Lesbian mom, and **The Simpsons'** Waylon Smithers (voice of Harry Shearer) will return to kiss up to Mr. Burns.

Warner Brothers

The youth-oriented WB network will feature Gay characters on two series aimed at teenagers. **Popular**, a new high school drama, will welcome a Gay, Asian-American character. **Dawson's Creek** returns with the Gay character, Jack (Kerr Smith), who will join the Capeside High School football team on the teen drama.

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Life Style

OUTside America - A Look At Gay London

by Chuck Grosz

A Wisconsin Light Exclusive

London - Summer is upon us, gentle readers. Some of us will stake our claim at Bradford or Mazo Beach. Others will prefer the bucolic serenity of Cudahy. (Charge resuscitation paddles, stat!) However, for those of you with at least one week vacation and a sense of adventure, may I suggest an overseas destination? Whether you are a seasoned traveler, or the holder of a virgin passport, London should be on your short list.

Getting There:

London has several advantages as a foreign destination. Every major airline services Britain, and the resulting competition keeps the airfares reasonable. Check for weekly specials through your travel agent, or online through your preferred airline's web site. Don't forget charter flights — some round trip seats from Chicago can go as low as \$329!

Additionally, the flights to the UK are the shortest to Europe. (After a plastic meal and a screening of *The Waterboy*, every minute counts!) Another benefit for choosing London is the common language, except when speaking with taxi drivers, of course!

Upon arrival, you'll find that both major airports, Heathrow and Gatwick, are connected to the city center with trains. Unless you have more dollars than Jesse Helms has latent issues, take to the rails and save 75% on the taxi fare. As a Gay or Lesbian traveler, you might be a tad anxious when passing through customs. Britain's archaic views on sexual freedoms are among the most conservative in Europe.

Entering the UK with poppers is not against the law. Items such as dildos, whips, hand-

cuffs and other nocturnal accouterment aren't illegal, but in light of recent court cases, you may be questioned as to their intent. Customs will take special interest in videos, books or magazines, which show anal or oral penetration or S&M.

Daytime Diversions:

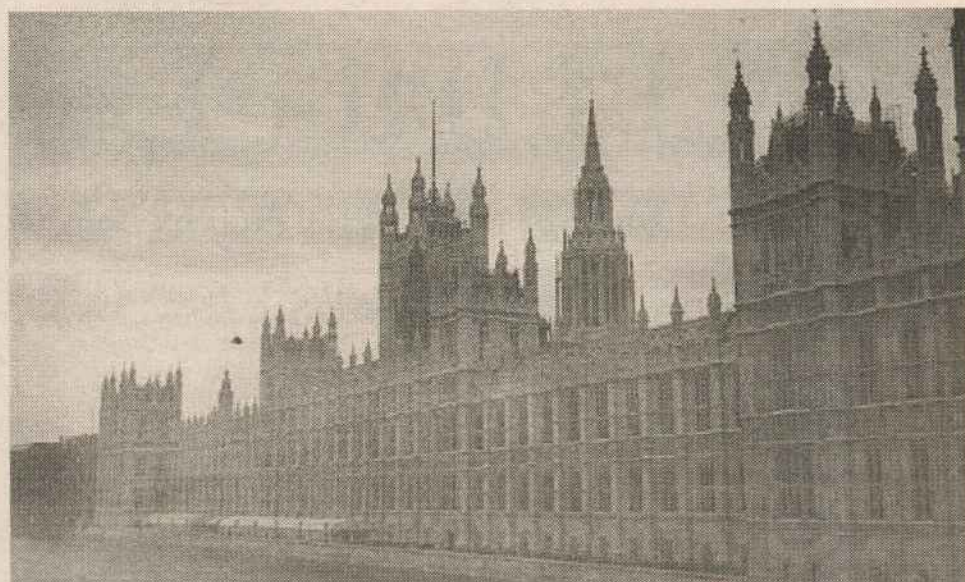
London is a tourist-friendly destination, a vast network of buses and underground trains serve all sights and hotels. Travel passes, good for one, three or seven days, are available at underground stations or at over 2,000 newsagents. A seven-day pass requires a passport size photo. Do keep all tube ride tickets, as you will need to produce them at the end of your journey.



Whatever your tastes, you will face an amazing selection of excursions in the city. The National Gallery, located on Trafalgar Square is one of the world's best art museums, and it's free. Other worthwhile sights include Houses of Parliament, St. Paul's Cathedral, Tower of London (to see a REAL Queen's family jewels!) and Buckingham Palace (though pass at the inside tour — expensive and patronizing).

For lunch or an afternoon coffee, check out Old Compton Street, the Gay epicenter for daytime cruising. Located in the tourist center, just a few blocks north of Leicester Square, you will find several fine Gay owned restaurants, coffeehouses, pubs and shops.

Here you will discover the Admiral Duncan Pub (most recently the sight of a homophobic bombing) which is being refurbished for an early summer reopening. In any Gay establishment, pick up the two free Gay publications — *The Pink Paper*



and *Boyz*.

Both provide complete information about Gay life in the city, including maps, articles of interest and classifieds. Be prepared — London prices are quite high. Lunch can easily climb to \$20, and bottled beer sells for \$5, though night bar staff expects no tipping.

In the afternoon you may want to dive into the huge Harrods department store, stroll leisurely among the royal residences in the beautiful St. James park, or just sit in Leicester or Trafalgar squares, watching the boys and girls. Try to schedule your vacation so that you can be part of the "London Mardi Gras '99" celebration on July 3rd. Britain's largest Gay and Lesbian celebration will feature a major parade, main stage entertainment, as well as dancing 'til dawn and much more.

Evening Events

London is second to none in its offering of quality entertainment. If you are an arts buff, you will revel in the city's four world class orchestras, several major dance companies, and the two opera houses. (Covent Garden is currently closed for renovations, and the English National Opera singing all of its productions in English.)

For lighter entertainment, there are many comedy clubs, as well as rock, folk and jazz venues, and many "art" cinema houses, showing avant-garde films. For a complete weekly listing of all events in the city, purchase the magazine *Time Out* at any newsstand — truly the best two pounds you will spend.

Of course, no visit to London would be complete (or believed!) without spending at least one night at the theater. Whether your tastes extend from comedy, gripping drama or musicals, almost anything offered by West End theaters should be uniformly excellent.

Only a fool who would pay full price for any theater or opera ticket. In Leicester Square stands the official Half Price Ticket Booth, which from noon on the day of the performance sells only the high priced main floor seats at half price, plus service charge. The downside is they accept cash only and do not offer a choice of seats. Other ticket booths in Leicester Square offer a choice of discounted seats, but depending on demand, prices and seat location will vary.

Nighttime Nasty

So the sun is down, and it is time for a bit 'o trolling. London hosts well over 100 Gay pubs and clubs in all shapes and sizes — much like the clientele! The publication *Boyz*

offers a short description of all establishments, including hours of operation.

Plan your itinerary carefully; some places close at 11pm, others close between 2am and infinity. Though location may dictate which club you might visit, Londoners do provide a few recommendations.

For the footloose, dance with the masses at Trade Or G.A.Y., which features live entertainment such as Boy George and Sister Sledge. Also highly recommended is Saturday night at the Vauxhall Tavern for "Duckie", a throbbing dance battle royale.

For those toughs who prefer more slap than tickle, the Hoist should be your first stop, then follow the crowd to the late night Backstreet. Both enforce a strict leather/rubber/uniform dress code. Women may be more comfortable with "Girls Night" at Used.

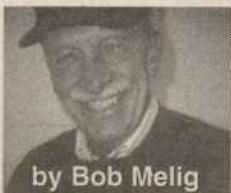
For drag, both on stage and off, Saturday night at the Wayout Club is the place to be. Wherever you go, be prepared for a body and bag search. Following the recent bombings, Gay establishments are taking no chances with the safety of their patrons. Trains run until midnight, and afterwards there are night buses or private car services — about half the prices of taxicabs. Any questions or problems, call the Gay help line at 0171-242-1010.

And off you go! Make reservations, pack up a few pounds (Sterling, that is!) and prepare for an unforgettable trip. London will provide you with campfire stories for years to come.

Editor's Note: *Wisconsin Light* is pleased to welcome Chuck Grosz to its staff. Chuck's work as a musician takes him around the world. We are proud to present this Milwaukee native's observations of his Gay travels.



Sports



by Bob Melig

Innovative Tennis League Leads Gay Sports into Y2k

by Bob Melig, Sports Editor

It wasn't enough just to hold a season. The Metro Milwaukee Tennis League (MRTL) is trying to make THIS season into a cutting edge for the future and innovating new ideas for the next and more seasons to come. The League Coordinators have come up with a format that now encompasses:

1) A Sunday sports agenda. Many of the older organized sports still have to recognize that this is a viable sports day. They, like the FrontRunners, Gamma, and bowling are proving that if you put on a good event, people will become involved — no matter what day you choose.

2) Team Competition. The MRTL now has six active teams playing each week at Lake Park from 3 to 5pm. They are M&M, Fluid, 219, La Cage, Switch, and the Chancery of Wauwatosa.

3) Add Challenge Ladder Tennis to the above, and the urge to participate increases many-fold. Any lower rated player can challenge a higher player to a match. The winner can move up in the ratings as a result of a Challenge Ladder match.

Each Sunday the League plays one doubles and two singles matches. Teams are composed of both genders. The standings have been so close, it looks like rush hour gridlock. Leading with a one-match advantage is M&M, followed by three teams packed in the wings waiting their turn to grab the lead — Fluid, 219 and La Cage. Both Switch and the Chancery were rained out in their last match and either could be the fourth of the pack.

In Challenge Ladder competition, #5 Gary O. beat #2 Paul L.; #7 Tony B. beat #2 Paul L.; #6 Mark J. beat #1 Bill W.; and here's hats off to Robert J. who took on #11 Kim F. and soundly moved up in the ratings. What a great concept to encourage more tennis and to help players sharpen their game against the best. No wonder more and more fans are showing up each Sunday afternoon to see tennis. Give MRTL a call at either (414)228-1975 (Gary); or 645-8330 (Bill).

HIT SPRING LEAGUE: The misnamed Spring Bowling League also does its thing on Sundays. For ten weeks each summer, it gathers at Landmark Lanes to pit the dedicated year-round bowlers against themselves. Fans can get to see the high-jinx and strikes by stopping by.

GAMMA: Each Month they are sponsoring Social Volleyball outdoors. We just missed one at Brown Deer Park last weekend. The Biggie for July is the 17th Annual Minoqua trip July 23-25, a biking, hiking and camping trip for all. Contact them at (414) 264-9180.

SOFTBALL: The race is still really tight after one-fourth the season. Next weekend is "Position Week." 219 is in the lead with Balisteri's in 2nd by one game and the Ballgame and Woody's tied for 3rd one game

behind them. The top of the ladder could dramatically change as number one plays number two, and number three plays number one and two, throughout the rankings. Fans, if you haven't been out to Sijan (California and KK), this is the weekend to do so. You'll see exciting games as the teams play against their equal.

Gay Games 2002 Dates Change

Montreal, Canada — If you are thinking about going to the next Gay Games, be aware of a change in the schedule. New dates for Gay Games VI and a change in Federation of Gay Games leadership highlighted the Federation's mid-year meeting held in Montreal at the end of April.

The date change means that the "Gay Games VI and Cultural Festival — Under New Skies" will take place in Sydney, Australia from November 2-9 in 2002. The games were originally scheduled for September of 2002. Although the original September dates were to coincide with the end of the Northern Hemisphere summer, Sydney organizers cited warmer local weather and longer daylight hours as the deciding factors in changing the schedule.

"At the Gay Games last summer in Amsterdam, the streets were filled with people having a great time late into the evening," said Tom Seddon, Sydney 2002 board member. "In September the sun goes down in Sydney around 5:30pm, but by November there are an extra two hours of daylight. We're convinced this change is the right thing to do, and we're happy the Federation Board has approved it enthusiastically."

Sydney 2002's representatives announced ambitious outreach goals for the Asia/Pacific region, an area of the world that's been under-represented at previous Gay Games. They also described their staffing structure, with many volunteers already in place, and their plans for obtaining government support and corporate sponsorships.

Sports competitions will be clustered in two main zones, one at the Olympic Park in Homebush and the other downtown at Sydney Harbor. Organizers say this will make it easy for participants to attend a variety of different events held in close proximity to each other. Sydney 2002 also plans to bring some cultural events directly to the athletic sites.

In a separate development, the Federation of Gay Games Board of Directors replaced its Executive Committee when the officers stepped down to permit a change of leadership.

"The Federation is a very different organization now than when it was founded 10 years ago," said Acting President Gene Dermody. "We have more and more sports and cultural groups joining the Federation Board and fewer individuals. The groups have taken an increasingly active interest in the day-to-day business

of the Federation, and that's requiring us to examine our internal management structure."

"Over the next several months we're going to look at improving communication between the Acting Executive Committee officers, the other directors and the Federation's various committees," Dermody said. "It's a tribute to the commitment of our former officers that they have remained on the Board to help us go forward with the Federation's work."

The Acting Executive Committee consists of Dermody (San Francisco, California; International Wrestling Alliance), Vice President Derek Liecny (Oakland, California; Individual Federation Director), Treasurer Joseph E. Pasquarella Smith (Seattle, Washington; Team Seattle), Recording Secretary Charles Carson (New York, New

York; International Gay & Lesbian Aquatics), and Corresponding Secretary Roy Vestal (Denver, Colorado; Lesbian & Gay Bands of America).

The acting officers will serve until an election can take place at the Federation's Annual Meeting in Berlin next October. Team Berlin, which had one of the largest contingents at Gay Games V in Amsterdam will host that meeting.

"Our transition team has a lot of work to do over the next six months," said Dermody. "We got a good start in Canada last week thanks to our host, Equipe Montreal. It will be great to take the Federation back to Europe for its next meeting."

For information about the Federation of Gay Games and its ongoing committee projects, go to its website at <http://www.gaygames.org>.

Afterwords Gives Back

Milwaukee — Afterwords Bookstore & Espresso Bar announced the second annual cash disbursement from the Afterwords 10% Club. Members of the Club pay a \$10 annual fee. Members receive a 5% discount on the purchase of all non-sale items. Afterwords donates an additional 5% of their purchase prices to the LGBT organization of the member's choice.

Club members also receive special mailings access to "member only sales" and other perks. The disbursements take place during National Lesbian and Gay Book Month, which is celebrated each June. This year, 12 local LGBT groups and AIDS-related organizations will receive a total of \$743.81.

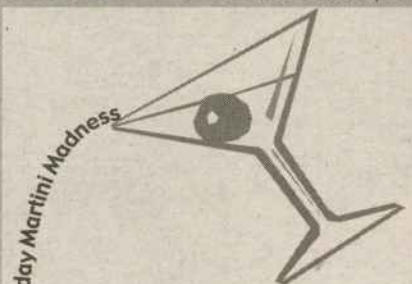
The recipients of this year's funds are: the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, the BESTD Clinic, the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee, the Oberons, the Gemini Gender Group, St. Camillus AIDS Ministry, the Cream City Foundation, the Cream City Chorus, Bi-Definition, PFLAG and Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE).

Afterwords owner Carl Szatmary says that the percentage of sales donated by his store is much higher than that donated by other bookstores with similar programs. "It's Afterwords' way of thanking our customers for their patronage and thanking the community organizations for their ongoing support," he said.

Since the Afterwords 10% Club began, over one hundred individuals and couples have joined. The amount of money that Afterwords returned to the local LGBT community in the first, annual disbursement amounted to \$466.68 in 1998.

FLUID'S GREAT WEEKLY SPECIALS!

MONDAY 2-4-1 Drinks, 5-8pm
TUESDAY 2-4-1 Drinks, 5-8pm
WEDNESDAY 2-4-1 Drinks, 5-8pm
Corona and shots of Cuervo
 \$2 8pm-close
THURSDAY 2-4-1 Drinks, 5-8pm



THURSDAY Martini Madness
\$3 COSMO'S 8PM TO CLOSE

FRIDAY 2-4-1 Drinks, 5-8pm
SAT & SUN Open at 5pm

fluid
 Id's required

Join us . . .
Sunday, June 20

5-9pm for



BIKE-A-PALOOZA
 to benefit the

AIDS Ride

\$6 Beer Bust

All U-Can-Drink
 tappers of Miller Lite or
 Genuine Draft.

Watch for the Divine
MS. BUZZ

Our Possum Queen Candidate

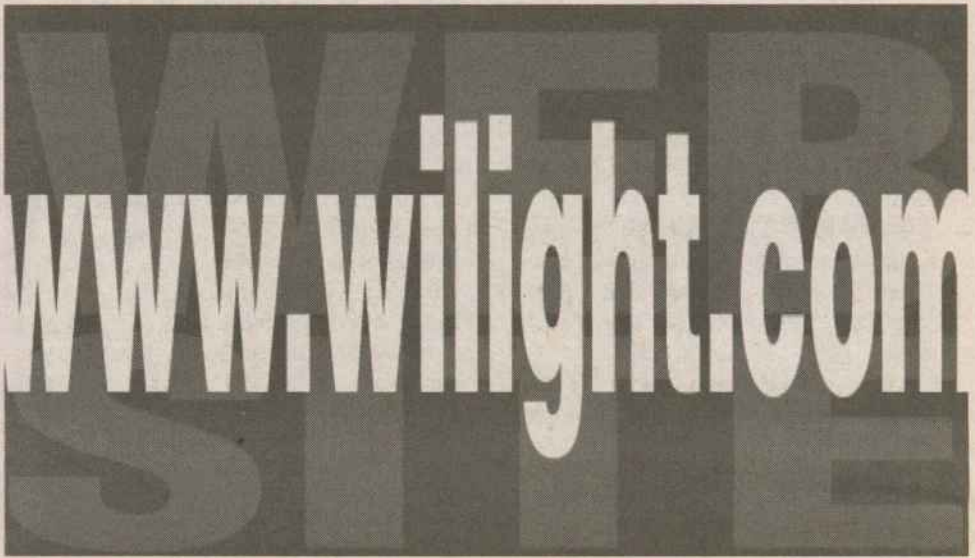
819 S. Second St • (414) 645-8330

THIS IS IT!



THIS IS IT!

418 East Wells Street ▼ Milwaukee, WI
414-278-9192



Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

Taskmistress
©1999 BY ALISON BECHDEL

315
MULTITASK ALONG WITH GINGER!

HAVING TROUBLE FINDING ROOM IN YOUR INSANE SCHEDULE FOR ALL THE ELEMENTS OF A FULL, BALANCED LIFE?

WHILE KNOCKING OFF HER RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DUTIFUL DAUGHTER, A CARING PET OWNER, AND A CONSCIENTIOUS NEIGHBOR, SHE KEEPS UP WITH THE LATEST NEWS!

ADAM SWAPPED THE SPERM AT THE CLINIC? BUT WHAT ABOUT THE DNA TEST?... MOM? MOM, CALM DOWN! IT'S ONLY "GENERAL HOSPITAL."

ABOUT TIME. I WAS GONNA CALL THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT TOMORROW!

AND WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY BREAKFASTING AND COMMUTING TO WORK, SHE DOES HER POLITICAL ACTIVISM!

THANK YOU FOR CALLING THE BIPWEISER HOTLINE. YOUR VOTE IN FAVOR OF OUR GAY-THEMED ADS HAS BEEN DULY COUNTED.

IT'S SO NICE TO FEEL I'VE MADE A CONTRIBUTION!

TEACHING COLLEGE ENGLISH IS ALL CONSUMING, BUT GINGER REMINDS HERSELF ON THE JOB WITH SPIRITUALLY CENTERING VISUALIZATION EXERCISES!

MS. JORDAN? ABOUT THIS C-MINUS ON MY FINGER? I MEAN, DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A LITTLE HARSH?

JESSICA, IT READ LIKE IT WAS RANDOMLY TYPED BY CHIMPS.

HEY, I GOT THIS FROM A VERY REPUTABLE SOURCE! COME ON, LET'S SPILT THE DIFFERENCE AND CALL IT A 'B.' I'M PAYING YOUR SALARY HERE.

AT HOME, SHE SUCCESSFULLY JUGGLERS HER OBLIGATIONS AS A COLLECTIVE HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AND HER COMMITMENT TO A NURTURING DIET OF WHOLE, UNPROCESSED FOODS.

IEMME, GUESS IT'S GINGER'S NIGHT TO MAKE DINNER.

MMM. CARROTS, SUNFLOWER SEEDS, AND RAW TOFU.

HEY, COOKING DESTROYS ENZYMES AND LEADS TO PREMATURE AGING. YOU'LL THANK ME ONE DAY.

MANY OF US END UP PUTTING EXERCISE AND INTIMATE TIME WITH FRIENDS ON THE BACK BURNER BUT NOT GINGER!

SO THEN SYDNEY TRIES TO STOP ME FROM OPENING THE FOLDER AND WE KNOCK A CAN OF SODA ALL OVER THE COMPUTER!

WHOA! DID SHE LOSE ALL THE GRADES SHE'D JUST INPUT?

NOT THE POINT, GINGER. WILL YOU PAY ATTENTION? I THINK SHE'S HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME!

COULD YOU MOVE YOUR HEAD? LOOK - COFF! JUST BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T WANT YOU? PANTS FOKING AROUND IN HER FILES DOESN'T MEAN SHE'S HAVING A HUFF. TORRID ONLINE AFFAIR!

WHAT? WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT AN ONLINE AFFAIR? WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

UH... NOTHING! I SWEAR! I GUESS I JUST, UH... GOT YOU CONFUSED FOR A SECOND WITH ONE OF MY MOM'S SOAP OPERA YEAH, THAT'S IT.

WHILE STAYING CURRENT IN HER FIELD, OUR WELL-ROUNDED GAL CHECKS ONE LAST TASK OFF THE LIST!

GOOD THING I'M NOT IN A RELATIONSHIP! I'D NEVER GET ANYTHING DONE.

10-MINUTE GIRLFRIEND

BIFF 'N BUNKY by KEITH N ANDERSON



©KAnderson 113

NIGHTS OUT

News...

Dish is becoming quite the hotspot on Fridays. **Dish** has alternative nights on Fridays and Sundays. Normally that would mean that some straight bar has set aside a night that they think it's okay for us to go in and spend our money, while ignoring the Gay bars that are there for us all the time. In this case, it means **Dish** welcomes Lesbians, Gay Men AND straights on Fridays and Sundays.



Some of you are running your little mouths off about this. I've heard the "**Dish** is straight on Friday's and Sunday's" stuff. Just get over that line. A couple of dozen cute well-behaved straight boys does NOT convert **Dish** from a predominantly Lesbian bar into a straight one.

Besides even straights should have some rights. The poor things never get to have fun or experience any real culture. I think the idea of one of our bars welcoming a few of them in every now and then is cutting edge. Some of them might even learn how to dance or at least how to dress better.

Recaps... Speaking of crowds, **C'est La Vie** had a nice one for its Saturday show. The girls on the stage were working it all to keep the crowd entertained.

Speaking of working it all, the staff at **M&M** was certainly doing that last Thursday. There

was a big crowd on hand for its 2 for 1 night. Not only was the bar crowded but the restaurant was too.

Speaking of crowds, we expect one for the special advance screening of Spike Lee's *Summer of Sam* on Monday, June 28. Now, why would I mention this here? Because *Wisconsin Light* is a co-sponsor of the screening and YOU can get a pass for two at either our office (225 S 2nd St on the Gay South Side) during the day, or Barbie Doll's Playhouse (on the North Side) after

3pm.

The passes will be available on and after Wednesday, June 23.

Speaking of crowds and working it, **Switch** had all three of its bars working it last weekend. The front bar was very crowded and so was the garage bar off the patio. Michael Johnson of Landmark Enterprises was there to celebrate his B-Day on Saturday. He was wearing an awesome blue boa. Honey you look fabulous and so color coordinated too! Many happy returns.

Speaking of patios, the rain last weekend put a little damper on **Boot Camp's**, but not much of one. Saturday night still saw a big crowd out on the slab, enjoying the summer.

Speaking of knowing things, Dale Gutzman let me and *Light* Publisher Greg Quindel in on a secret during a stop at **This Is It** last

Thursday. We were having a nice time chatting with the crowd and owner Joe when along came Dale. Dale says thanks to everyone for the response to his latest production, *Harry and Al*. It did very well.

Come August, Dale may have a nice surprise for his many fans. Well, except for Greg and me. We can't tell you about it until the ink is dry, but this sounds like one very special Gutzman production.

Of course, it's no secret that **Fluid** is another Milwaukee hot spot. Co-owner Bill is keeping extra busy these days. Besides the bar, he is very involved in the Metro Milwaukee Tennis League. I guess that means now you can see him serve at **Fluid** and on the court. I wonder what his forehand is like.

Speaking of being a fan, I am a big fan of Rick Fores from Grayline Tours. Rick is such a sweetheart. He put together a trip to the Lucky Horseshoe in Chicago as a benefit for the SSBL. I wasn't able to make it, but my spies tell me it was fabulous! Thanks, Rick!

I am also a big fan of Mark Za of **Za's**. Poor Mark. He's been trying to shake the flu for weeks. He said he's been so busy that he hasn't even had time to shop for clothes for his upcoming trip to Italy. He should call Kelli Jo Klein. She has lots of extra stuff in her wardrobe. Course, she's taller than Mark, so he might have to take up a few hemlines. Just kidding, Mark. Have a good trip.

Speaking of taking things up, it's time to take this column up to our Editor. Hope to see you out and about soon. Meanwhile stay safe and be proud!

Going Out

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

Fluid (Milwaukee), Beach Party, 8pm-on; \$1 shots of Sex on the Beach, \$2 bottles of Corona or shots of Cuervo, and \$1.50 Rail for anyone in beach attire.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

Fluid (Milwaukee), BESTD Traveling HIV antibody testing and counseling clinic, 7-10pm.

LaCage (Milwaukee), Possum Queen Benefit: Miss Ugly Pageant featuring Adora Mann, live in her debut. \$2 cover proceeds to ARCW, 10:45pm.

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

M&M Club (Milwaukee), The Big Show, a Possum Queen fund raiser for Miss Ross (David Howser), 10:30pm.

Oberons (Milwaukee), Run Weekend: ACORN 12, A Midsummer Night's Murder.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Club House Filling Station (Kenosha), AIDS Ride participant benefit. Volleyball, darts, pool, dancing, fun, free food and prizes, 8pm-1am, \$10 suggested donation to help bike rider Chris raise her pledge amount.

Oz (Wausau), Katrina K Productions presents the 1999 Miss Central Gay WI USofA Pageant, featuring Dee Dee Winters, 1998 Miss Central and Kelli Jo Klein, Miss Gay WI-USofA, 10:30pm.

South Water St. Docks (Milwaukee), Battle of the Possum Queens! 6-10pm, 2-4-1 drinks, raffles.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

1100 Club (Milwaukee), Michael & Grandma's Anniversary Celebration, 2pm-? Also Papa Smurf's birthday!

Fluid (Milwaukee), Bike-a-Palooza, to benefit the AIDS Ride, 5-9pm, \$6 Beer Bust (all u-can-drink tappers of Miller Lite or Genuine Draft).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

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

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Boot Camp (Milwaukee), Mexican Fiesta Patio Party, 4-8pm, Raffle, prizes, Margarita specials all week. A Ms. Aint' B Gotton Possum Queen Fund-raiser.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Platwood Club (Stevens Point), Drag Show.

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.

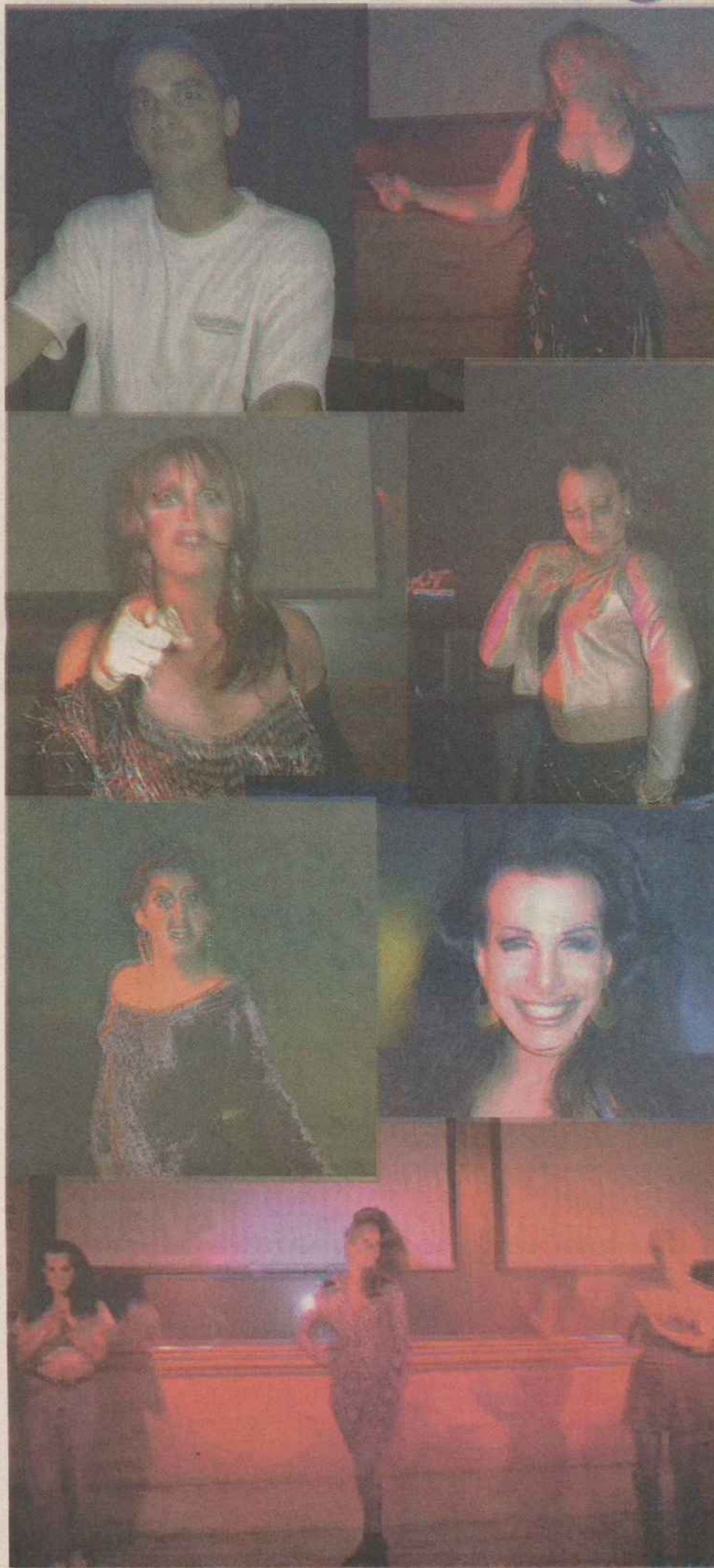
Kirby's Klub (Madison), Female Impersonators on Sat., 10pm.

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

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



SHOWTIME at La Cage



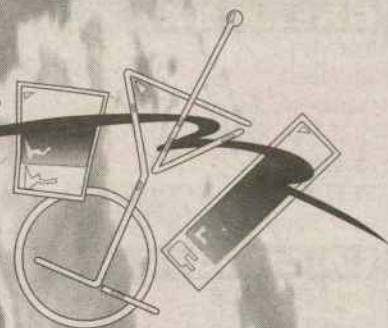
BAR GUIDE

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
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
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
JT's Bar & Grill	MW, DJ	1506 N. 3rd St, 55880	394-2580
Main Club	MW	1217 Tower Ave., 55880	392-1756

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5-8p.m.



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25¢ Beers
Mon, Tue & Wed Nights

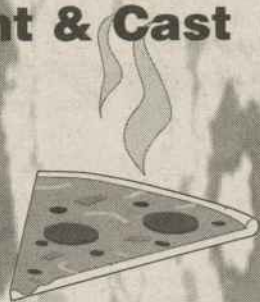


BEER BUST-
Sunday thru Thursday
50¢ Taps



**SUNDAYS w/
ALVIN TACOS**
10:30pm- Miss Aaja
Night & Cast

**THURSDAYS
PIZZA**



SATURDAYS
Brittany Morgan &
the Saturday Night Sirens
10:30p.m.



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PLUS DRINK SPECIALS, MON-THUR, 9-2

MONDAYS	9pm to Close • \$1.25 Domestic Beer, \$1.80 Rail
TUESDAYS	9pm to Close • NEW! Pull Tabs - <i>Try Your Luck!</i>
WEDNESDAYS	9pm to 1 a.m. • Special Export - \$5.00 pitchers & 80¢ Mugs
THURSDAYS	9pm to Close • NEW! Pull Tabs - <i>Try Your Luck!</i>
SATURDAYS	11am to 6pm • \$2.30 Bloodys, Screws, Greyhounds & 80¢ Tap Beer
SUNDAYS	11am to 6pm • \$2.30 Bloodys, Screws, Greyhounds & 80¢ Tap Beer

SPECIAL EXPORT ON TAP
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Pool Table • Video Machines • Darts • Juke Box

NOW **2** FLOORS



HAPPY
HOUR

2-4-1

**6:30-8:30
EVERY DAY**

GOOD LUCK
to the DISH

ALL-STARS

Football Team



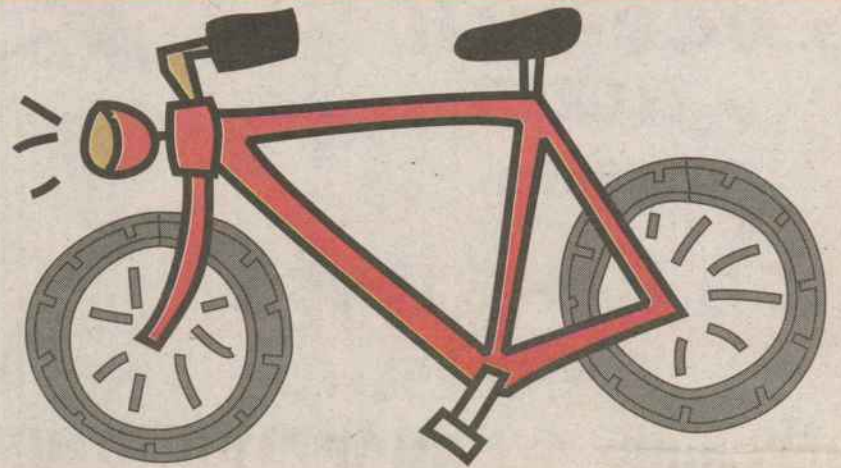
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Suggested Donation - \$10

FREE FOOD & PRIZES

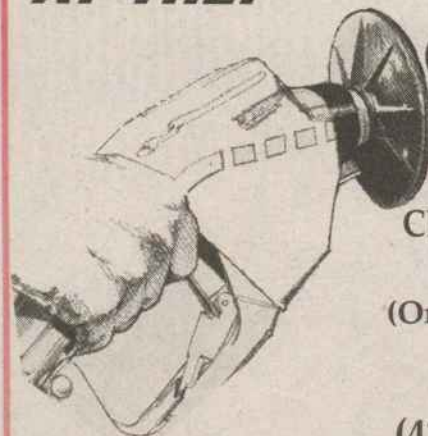
**KISSING
BOOT H**

PRIZES

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**VOLUNTEERS
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Filling Station**

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Kenosha, WI 53142
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WI Light

June 16-22, 1999

Section

WI's Gay Adult Guide

ADULT TALK • PERSONALS • BOOKS & VIDEOS • INTIMATE ADVICE

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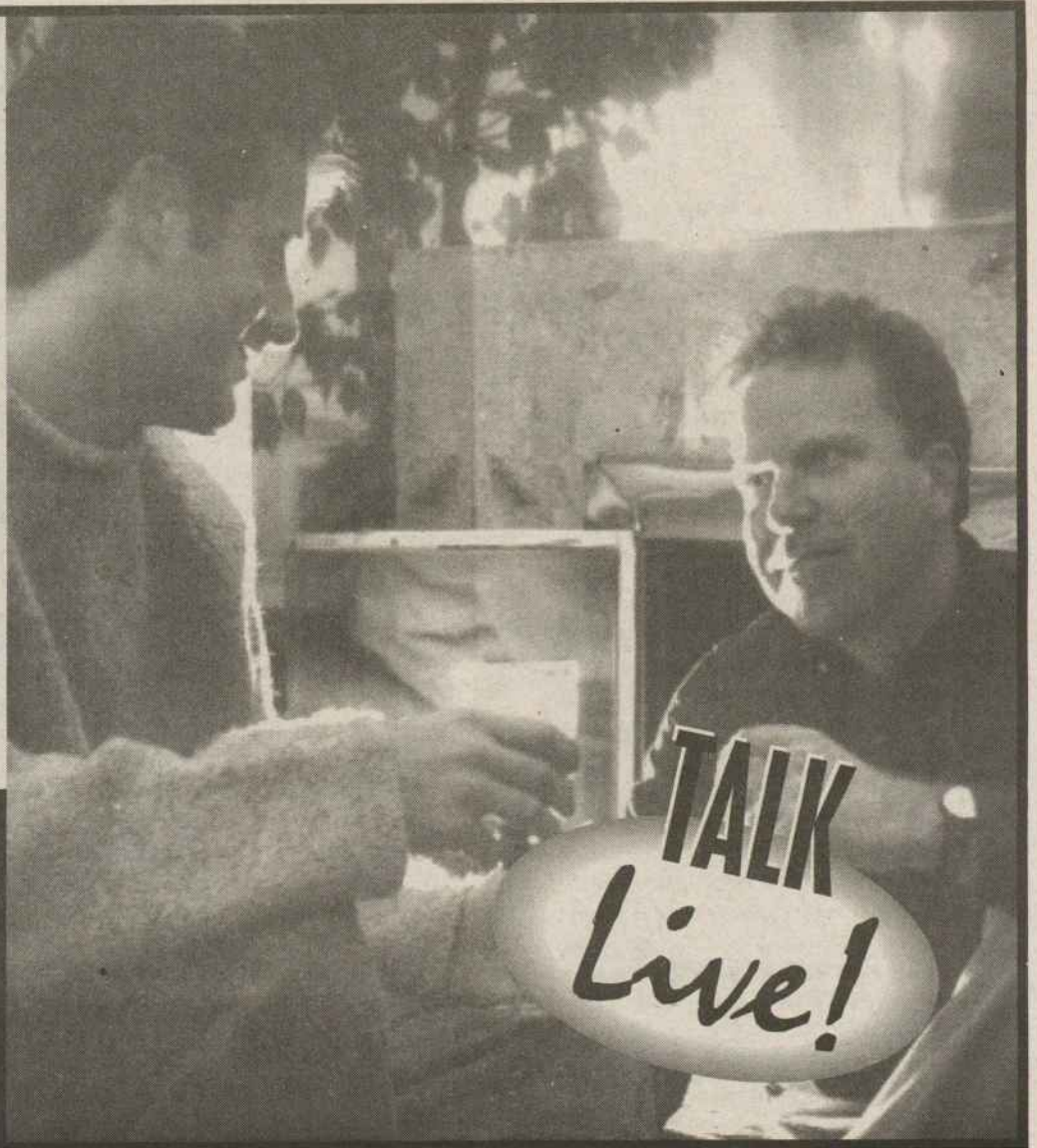
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In BED with ED

Dear Ed,

My friends and I thought it would be fun to hit our local leather bar for kicks the other night. We showed up and the place was kind of dead, but I did have my eye on this beefy leather daddy all night. He was older (my type) and he had a gorgeous smile that would make steel melt.

His furry, muscular chest and Buddha-belly were tight in his shirt. He approached me and we started this cool conversation. This guy was hot and nice. I was not about to let him go for the night. So... we danced a little and kissed, and then he asked me to go home with him.

I was like, "Oh my gawd!" I thought about it and it sucked thinking about it. For one, my friends were still there and their Bitch Faces were on high that night. Anyway, I walked over and explained to them that it had been several months since Eric and I broke up. They were like, "Yeah, okay."

And I was like "cool." So, they left and it was me, Big Daddy and a couple of

Rolling Rocks. Anyway, he asked me what I was into and I said I was a bottom. Oh please! Like you're shocked? I'm from Minnesota where our state motto is "Land of 10,000 Bottoms."

Anyway, you should have seen the twinkle in his eye grow into a fire when I said this. So we get to his place and start making out like dogs in heat. At some point between all the kissing, biting, scratching, spitting, growling and woofing, I told him that I only have protected sex and that he would have to wear a condom.

He said that would be okay but that he'd have to take his Prince Albert out. I was like, "Why do we need to walk your dog now?" I was not amused (yet still hard as a rock) as he rolled on the floor laughing in hysterics with tears streaming down his face.

Once he calmed down, he stood up, unbuckled his belt, unbuttoned his fly, hooked his jock with his thumbs and pushed down his jeans in one fell swoop to expose the hardest, longest, fattest cock

I've ever seen.

But wait... (insert McBealesque record scratch here)...is that an earring? "Meet Prince Albert" he said, as he tugged on this large piece of jewelry I never thought could be put there. It was huge! He said it was a 4 gauge.

He could see the lights in my head flickering but not on yet. He explained that gauges start as low as 50 (which is tiny like a needle) and go up to 00, which would leave a hole in your cock big enough to park a Cadillac. A Prince Albert usually starts anywhere between 22-18.

He also explained that numbers go in reverse when describing gauges. Anyway, I was like; "Can we skip the lesson and get to the fucking?" I didn't need to say anything else. He removed his PA, pulled on a condom and fucked me *stupid* the entire night.

Okay, so finally, here's my question. Because he has an extra hole in his cock, does that make him more susceptible to getting or passing HIV? He said he was negative. I'm just curious, just because.

Sincerely,
Looped

Dear Looped,

I enjoyed your question and the hot images it provoked in my mind. I think my readers will like it. In response, let me say that "Big Daddy" is not more susceptible to HIV if his piercing has healed. However, if it's a fresh hole (ahem), he will be susceptible to HIV and possibly a host of other infections. Just keep in mind, that extra hole poses the same low risk as your piss slit.

Piercing requires a commitment to keep the area clean for many months as it's healing. Dr. Stephen E. Goldstone, author of *The Ins and Outs of Gay Sex*, states that there are two stages in a piercing's healing.

The first stage is the most critical. Your tissues are open as skin is growing down the tunnel from each end. The second stage begins once the skin has fully lined the tract but is not strong enough to withstand injury. Rough play must be avoided at this stage also.

It was great that your friend took his PA off before rolling the condom on, but some people say you can leave it on. Some words of advice though. If you do leave it on, get a larger sized condom to accommodate the ring (fold it to the side) and be sensitive to your partner's needs if it begins to hurt.

Sleep Well,
Ed

Write me at "In Bed with Ed" PO Box 510498 Milwaukee, WI 53203.

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

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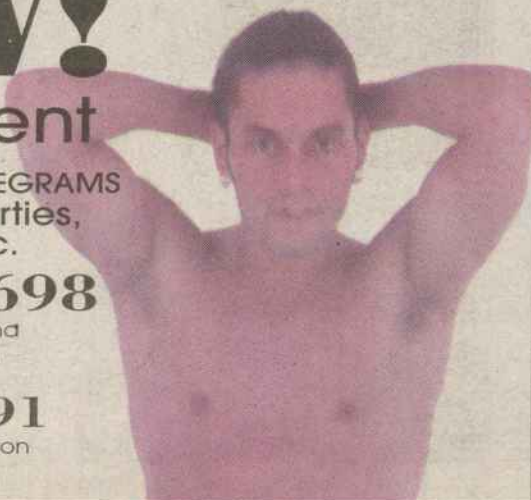
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The VIDEO BOOTH



Private Passions

Jet Set Productions, with Cole Tucker, Vince Rockland, Tommy Cruise, Winston Love, Hawk McAllister, Paul "the Geyser" Morgan, Emilio Sands, Reed Parker, and introducing Chip Noll. Written, produced and directed by Paul Barresi.
Reviewed by Sam Edwards

Another Marine fantasy film. Of course it's fantasy, because if the action happened in this manner to real marines, they would be kicked out of the service under the "don't ask, don't tell" rules very quickly.

The film opens as the burly, heavily tattooed drill sergeant, Cole Tucker, berates a blond, baby-faced recruit for goofing off. He chases him back to the barracks, but stop, another scene is interjected at this point. Paul Morgan, as an officer, is trying to find out why his black recruit has a problem. The

recruit admits that he is homosexual and mad for Morgan. Morgan, tries to make the recruit get over it by having wild sex with him, working him over both orally and anally.

The next scene is in the bathroom where a small, cute oriental is mopping the floor. In comes a tall, handsome guy in his shorts who tells the oriental that he doesn't know how to be a "grunt" and he will give him lessons. The little oriental is putty in the big guy's hands. After putting his mouth almost everywhere on the kid, he brings out a dildo and brings him to climax that way.

Back to sergeant Tucker and his little blond. The blond admits that he can't even think straight when drill sergeant is around, and Tucker jumps his bod in about every way possible. The kid looks like he is a little bored, but performs well as a bottom. As they are dressing, Cruise enters and Tucker tells him his superior officer wants to see him "on the double." Cruise is nervous because he's had the hots for the officer for a long time.

Which brings us to the big scene with Cruise and straight porn star Vince Rockland, who hasn't even bothered to shave and looks a bit hung over. He is trade, as usual, but Tommy doesn't seem to mind and gives very good head before turning over as bottom. This scene would be a bummer except for Tommy.

In general, the film has some good butch sex between masculine men coupled with boyish types.

This video is available at Video Adventures.

Classic Porn Tyger Tales

Reviewed by Andy James

This Ronnie Shark film from 1986 ties together five sexcapdes in a nice little package. Hunky blonde Steven Wright, who tells the tale of sexual escapades taking place around the apartment complex, narrates the five vignettes.

The movie has a nice looking cast but it also has some problems. Simply put this Tyger may not roar but it doesn't "meow" either.

Things start with Pierce Daniels and Chad Douglas. This is the weakest scene in the video. Douglas is mechanical and at times appears almost bored with the attention being lavished on him. Someone should have told him that his enormous attitude is not supposed to match the size of his cock.

Next up is a three way featuring Jon King and a newcomer Billy Bonner. King looks as good as ever. Bonner has a cock that's so large you wonder if it's going to reach the remote control. It is a nice scene full of hot action. But (and it's a big but) Bonner doesn't provide the money shot. Poor Jon, all that work and no payoff.

The following scene has a big surprise; Michael Rahm fucks Cole Carpenter. Talk about your role reversals. Carpenter had never been poked in a Gay porno before and

to my knowledge he hasn't been poked in one since. Rahm, who is truly versatile but has shown that he prefers looking at life while on his back, gives the hairy chested blonde stud all he can handle.

In the middle of the scene, Cole and Mike revert back to form and Carpenter rams Mr. Rahm to within an inch of his life.

The fourth scene is also hot. It features Scott Avery (Okay he was kind of worn and tired out even back then but he was really good in this scene) and another newcomer, Dan Lundgren. The two neighbors get it on in a steamy encounter that includes a shower sequence that leave you dripping wet. This is the most romantic scene of the video.

The final scene sees our narrator jerking himself off while engaged in phone sex with his boy friend. It's a nice touch to what otherwise would have been a routine solo scene.

While *Tyger Tales* isn't one of the best of its era, an attractive cast, a good and effective sound track and some hot action make it worth a look.

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