



Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

The Wisconsin Light



Berlin's first openly Gay Mayor Klaus Wowereit of the Social Democrats left, and Gregor Gysi, candidate of the Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS), during a television interview after the first results for the Berlin state parliament elections in Berlin Sunday, Oct. 21, 2001.

Berlin elects Gay mayor

Berlin, Germany (AP) – Berlin politicians met for strategy sessions Monday to weigh election results that confirmed the capital's first openly Gay mayor, made the Social Democrats the strongest force and gave the former East German communists a strong claim to power.

The focus is on whether Mayor Klaus Wowereit, whose Social Democrats fell far short of a majority with 29.7 percent of the vote Sunday, will join forces with the ex-communist Party of Democratic Socialism.

Wowereit, 48, has said he will sound out all possible coalition partners before making a decision. In office since June, Wowereit now is set for a five-year term.

He has pledged to tackle the capital's staggering 78 billion mark (\$36 billion U.S.) debt and to build bridges across the lingering east-west gap in the city once divided by the Berlin Wall.

Many members of the Social Democrats, led nationally by Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, oppose a coalition with the Democratic Socialists, who won citywide support of 22.6 percent but gathered nearly every second vote in formerly communist east.

The ex-communists have been the only party to oppose U.S. attacks on Afghanistan, which analysts and leaders of other parties said brought them extra support at the polls.

Wowereit has said he would talk first with the Greens, his coalition partner in a minority government since June when the Social Democrats, Greens and ex-communists in the city legislature voted out a long-serving conservative mayor and installed Wowereit. All parties subsequently agreed to call early elections.

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It's 'da bomb! Navy apologizes for "spontaneous acts of penmanship"



A Navy officer signs a bomb with the anti-Gay slur attached to the wing of an aircraft on the flight deck of the USS Enterprise in the Arabian Sea, Thursday, Oct. 11. The USS Enterprise is one of the ships involved in the attacks in Afghanistan.

by Ron Geiman

Washington, DC – After being alerted by the Human Rights Campaign and Servicemembers Legal Defense Network as well as several media outlets, a top Navy officer said an anti-Gay slur written on one of the bombs used in the strikes on Afghanistan was inappropriate and commanders have been directed to prevent similar incidents.

Last week an Associated Press photographer photographed a bomb on the USS Enterprise that had the words "High Jack [sic] this Fags" scrawled on it.

HRC's Birch telephoned the Navy to

express her concerns and quickly received a letter from the Navy condemning what they called an "isolated incident."

"We immediately notified Navy commanders involved with Operation Enduring Freedom to ensure steps were taken to prevent a recurrence of this unfortunate incident. They have done so," Rear Admiral S.R. Pietropaoli wrote in the Navy's letter to Birch.

"I sincerely hope this isolated incident will not detract from the hard work and dedication of thousands of sailors and marines serving our nation in this war on terrorism."

"The letter was a welcome clarification and we are pleased the Navy has stated that this type of anti-Gay behavior has no place in our armed forces," said HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch.

"We are appreciative they have actively taken steps to end anti-Gay episodes, such as this, at a time our nation needs to be united against the new and dangerous threats we face."

"Harassment in any form detracts from mission readiness," said C. Dixon Osburn, Executive Director of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network. "We appreciate the Navy's pledge to curb harassment, especially at a time when it needs all service members to focus on our fight against terrorism."

Admiral S.R. Pietropaoli's letter continued, "Your concern about the photograph of an inappropriate comment scrawled on a piece of ordnance aboard USS Enterprise is both understood and shared by Navy leadership."

"As I told you on the phone, there is no written Defense Department guidance governing spontaneous acts of penmanship by our fighting forces. We do, however, expect oversight and leadership on the scene to ensure such actions are appropriate."

"Clearly the photograph in question failed to meet our standards, and I assure you that had it been a Defense Department photo, it would never have been released. In this case our commitment to media access to our aircraft carriers meant the AP photographer was free to shoot and file what he or she chose."

Community Equality Awards part of NCOD Public Officials Reception

Milwaukee's new LGBT Center 'Comes Out' with big crowd

by Ron Geiman

Milwaukee – Politicians, union leaders and non-Gay allies joined nearly 150 GLBT's on National Coming Out Day, October 11th, to usher in a new era for the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center.

The traditional annual Public Officials Reception served as a forum to present Community Equality Awards, acknowledging those whose contributions support the LGBT community.

The after work Public reception event began with self conducted tours of the new Court Street facility as participants socialized, networked and enjoyed light refreshments to the accompaniment of pianist Matt Luther.



L-R: Mayor John Norquist, MCLC President John Goldstein, Brenda Coley, AFSCME48 Director Rich Abelson, Alderman Mike D'Amato and Rep. Tim Carpenter. All recieved Community Equality Awards.

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Community Equality Awards

Continued from Cover Page

The new Center was the unintended star of the evening, but the scheduled highlight of the NCOD event was the program of awards and speeches.

After an introduction by emcee Bjorn "BJ" Nessett, Community Center Executive Director Neil Albrecht reflected upon a dream many invoked during a meeting three years ago, to establish a community center. By happenstance, that meeting had been scheduled the day after the death of Matthew Shephard, providing a sense of urgency to those gathered.

'Community Equality Awards' are given to a group on an individual who in the last year really stepped forward, many as allies to the LGBT community and helped us in the LGBT movement.'

--Neil Albrecht

"We made comments on the importance of the establishment of a community center, and what a huge and significant role it would play for Milwaukee's LGBT community. I think that three years later, our predictions have truly come true," Albrecht noted.

"We should all be very proud of the fact that we have this space. It's a great space. We are a non-profit leader in the city of Milwaukee."

Center is a Home

"This isn't just a community center. We are also a home to 12 very vibrant organizations serving the LGBT community, and also 30 plus other groups that use the center for meeting space."

Albrecht concluded his remarks by thanking "everybody involved in community leadership in improving the quality of life for LGBT people living in Milwaukee."

Nesett pointed out Kurt Dwyer and his Project Q staff for their work, as well as all the other volunteers who did a great job renovating the new Center. "This place didn't look like this about a month ago, it really didn't."

Patrick Flaherty, Center Director of Public Relations, was next on the agenda. Flaherty is responsible for fundraising, membership and community advocacy. He emphasized that the Center relies on memberships to keep the doors open.

The evening was co-sponsored by a National Coming Out Day informal Steering Committee and the Alliance for Equality, the Center's new public policy network. Flaherty urged the crowd to become a Center member and sign up for the Alliance. The Alliance keeps abreast of political developments and mobilizes around issues of concern to the LGBT community, and issues action alerts.

Community Equality Awards

Albrecht explained the Alliance for Equality "developed the 'Community Equality Awards' to be given to a group on an individual who in the last year really stepped forward, many as allies to the LGBT community and helped us in the LGBT movement."

The first Equality Award to Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist, was introduced by

Albrecht, who asked to much applause, "Who in this room does not know that *Girlfriends* magazine picked Milwaukee to be the best place to live if you're a Lesbian?"

Albrecht continued, "Who also doesn't know that Milwaukee was selected as the host committee of the 2001 NGLTF Creating Change Conference which will bring over 2,500 LGBT people into our community next month?"

"To me, many, many of those accomplishments – and just our overall increased visibility in the media – is set by the tone that public officials set around LGBT issues in our community... I think we can be very grateful that we have a mayor here who has been such an ally and came forward back in 1997 in support of domestic partner benefits... so for his exceptional leadership, and making Milwaukee a safe home for LGBT's, I'd like to present this award."

Community Equality Award to Mayor Norquist

Mayor Norquist's un-rehearsed comments included parts of his 'stump speech' about the revival of cities – the much discussed 'New Urbanism,' a subject near and dear to him about which he was penned a book.

However, his remarks, although often rambling, wove in the value the GLBT community brings to Milwaukee.

His casualness, and his comfort level were obvious, and within his remarks there were pearls of wisdom about what we, as a community, bring to this city we inhabit.

(Please see the 'Mayor Norquist Thanks LGBT Community for our Contributions to Milwaukee' sidebar article which is a painfully created transcription of his acceptance speech. His remarks really did have some good insight, and are worthwhile reading.)



Milwaukee County Labor Council President, John Goldstein

AFSCME District Council 48's Rich Abelson Receives Award

One of our allies in the city's labor union also received a nod and an Equality Award. Rich Abelson, director of AFSCME District Council 48 was the union man behind the effort to get domestic partner health benefits added to the city workers contract.

John Goldstein, President of the Milwaukee County Labor Council, in his introduction, praised the linking of Milwaukee's LGBT community, the Labor Community, local politicians and activists and their work. It was through that joint effort that Domestic Partner health care options for city workers became part of their contract.

"I don't ever recall contract negotiations that went quite this way."

-- Rich Abelson,

Director AFSCME Local 48



Mayor Norquist Thanks LGBT Community for our Contributions to Milwaukee

After gratefully accepting a Community Equality Award from the Alliance for Equality, the political arm of the new Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, Mayor John Norquist said with a smile, "I'm very pleased the city received the #1 ranking [*Girlfriends* magazine selected Milwaukee

the #1 city for Lesbians]... I actually think it is really more significant than people realize.

The awards were given to allies of the LGBT community during the annual Public Officials Reception, the traditional kick off of National Coming Out Day events in Milwaukee. The event also was the public premiere of the new Center.

"The way the economy is right now," the Mayor continued, "the city is a place that has diversity. A place that has a complicated and interesting culture... where people enjoy interacting with each other. Where different lifestyles are appreciated. The contributions people make are appreciated.

"All that makes the community more attractive to, for example the 'new economy'... Biotech, high tech. Author Richard Florida, the futurist who came to Milwaukee, uses Gay and Lesbian acceptance in the community, appreciation of Gay and Lesbian culture, contributions economically and otherwise to the community; as one of the key indicators.

"Indicators of whether or not the community is the kind of place that entrepreneurs – people that are interested in improving the economy, investors, venture capitalists – people like that, will feel comfortable.

"If you look at the epicenter of Silicon Valley's economy... it really wouldn't be there if it wasn't for San Francisco. San Francisco's rich culture is very attractive to people on the high tech economy side.

"So actually, just in that one area – the fact that Milwaukee is a place where Gays and Lesbians can feel comfortable, and make your contributions – is a big, big asset.

"There are a lot of people in this room who have contributed to the economy through activities in business, investing in homes, investments in capital; plus members of labor unions, people who are active in politics – all those things you do are making a difference in the community.

"Over the last 50 years, until recently, urban was not necessarily something good in the United States. There was this idea that everybody had to flee the city with their kids.

"The fact that Milwaukee is a place where Gays and Lesbians can feel comfortable, and make your contributions – is a big, big asset."

--Mayor John Norquist

"In America, one population that was always faithful to the city, others were as well, was the Gay and Lesbian population. Gays and Lesbians have always found virtue in the city... good things that enrich the community.

"So the contributions you all have made to Milwaukee are really important – if you don't understand that.

"When I look around I see Len [Leonard Sozczak], I appointed him to the Fire and Police Commission – with the approval of the Common Council (Mayor nods with a smile, to several Alderman, including Council President Marvin Pratt, audience laughs) – I've known about Len for years!

"I'm very happy we were able to have our part in legislation [DP Registry] to allow people to express their love and devotion to their partner in a way that is similar to what it is for other people. *That's important.* And society should respect that, and appreciate that. So we do that in Milwaukee.

"We have our health care legislation[for DP's of city employees], which AFSCME played a key, key role in backing that, even though it wasn't a unanimous push for it, among all the rank and file. Rich [Abelson] will be getting an award for that later. He deserves credit for being a leader – being someone who was willing to explain things to some of his members, who had doubts about what they were doing, although there were also some members of the union who pushed him hard to do it.

"I really appreciate the award, and look forward to working with you. Thank you for all of your contributions to Milwaukee and helping in so many different ways. You should all be proud of it.

Rich Abelson, accepting the award, spoke of how hard fought the changes were, and after 27 years in labor, "I don't ever recall contract negotiations that went quite this way.

Abelson continued, "I hope this is the beginning of a very long and prosperous relationship between the labor community and the LGBT community. I think it's

important that groups of similar interests who are concerned about social justice come together on all fronts.

(Please see the sidebar article, 'Labor Union Representatives Provided Insight Into Negotiations' The transcript of both gentlemen's remarks were educational and enlightening.)

Rep. Carpenter's 'Coming Out' Allows Him to Relax with LGBT 'Family'



"I never really hid my private life, my orientation," Rep. Tim Carpenter explained as he accepted his Community Alliance Award at the recent Public Officials Reception. The evening was the unofficial grand opening of Milwaukee's new LGBT Community Center, and the kick off of Milwaukee's National Coming Out Day activities.

"Whenever I went door to door to my constituents over 17-18 years, no one really asked me about my orientation.

"They knew me as a Southsider, a Catholic boy, working class family, German - Polish, they knew all that about me. But they didn't know about my sexual orientation.

And once they got to know me, it really didn't matter.

"And that's the important message that I had to have. I never really talked about it. And anybody who really wanted to talk to me, personally - and didn't want to use sexual orientation as a weapon - I would be glad to talk to them.

"And many times amongst my colleagues [in Madison], whether Democrats or Republicans, and I told them - whether it be the Speaker, former Governors, like Governor Thompson - that this [issue] is very important to me, they followed through because they knew me, and knew of me.

"We needed an elected official on that council who would've stood up and simply said 'that wasn't about economics, it was about bigotry and discrimination and hatred of homosexuals'"

-Rep. Tim Carpenter

"We have such strong allies with these individuals [other award recipients at the reception], and other people in the legislature, who really didn't have to enter into this struggle - much like the Civil Rights Movement of the 50's, 60s and 70s, the people who weren't black or members of an offended group - who weren't discriminated against and became allies and really helped the movement.

Carpenter Seeks a New Role in the LGBT Community

"I felt it was really important for me to take a new role in the LGBT community.

"I'm ecstatic about being here, it's great to see this growing group and overflow crowd. I really like being amongst my own again, today. Because it's really an interesting culture, and we should be proud of ourselves.

"I mean, where else can you come to a meeting like this and you didn't even know that Neil would have it set up having piano music playing, and when the music stops, you got to your chairs!

"I felt it was really important for me to take a new role in the LGBT community."

-Rep. Tim Carpenter

"It's a great life.

"And, it's really great to be among friends, and I pledge to you - just as I have in the past, never dodged a fight on Gay and Lesbian issues - to not dodge any fight for civil rights.

"I was watching a tape of Harvey Milk, the first openly Gay elected official in San Francisco, in 1978. He was elected to the Board of Supervisors. He basically set an example for individuals to move forward, join a cause, to progress mankind, womankind, humankind and that is our goal.

Carpenter Offers to Mentor Political Neophytes

"Not only do we have the responsibility to one another and to reach out to other folks... If we want other people to respect us, we have the responsibility to help all other human beings, and their issues.

"I look forward to being in elective office - I've been in office for 17 years, and look forward to being in office for a long time.

I hope many of you out there - like Neil or Patrick, who have done one hell of a job organizing the victories they have had in terms of the United Way, Domestic Partner benefits - I mean we needed someone on that [Common] Council, when that first went down [the DP benefit vote]. An elected official who would've stood up and simply said 'that wasn't about economics, it was about bigotry and discrimination and hatred of homosexuals'.

"So I hope someone else in this room can run for elective office, on all different levels. Be allies of humankind.

If any of you have any idea about running for office, or working for a campaign, or being active, call me, we'll work it out, we'll get you set up, we'll get you doing whatever we can to advance the cause politically.

"I guarantee you, when Mayor Norquist, Alderman Pratt or Alderman D'Amato talk to their constituents, they are going to hear about this turn out here. They know that you have friends, and that you are willing to commit your time on a Thursday night.

"I want to thank each and every one of you for coming out. Even though you're not getting the award, you're actually sharing the award for all the sacrifices and all the dedication, all the suffering and discrimination you feel you've been dealt over the years.

"It's all made us stronger people, better people."

Three Components to DP Benefits

Patrick Flaherty, prior to introducing the next Award, commented, "I just want to recognize Common Council President Marvin Pratt [in the audience], but also point out he was very supportive on the Domestic Partner benefits as well as the DP Registry in '99.

Flaherty explained, "We've heard from two of the three components in crafting a collective bargaining agreement. We've heard from the Mayor, the Union and the other player is the Common Council.

"The person who was out front, and very vocal and didn't flinch was Alderman Mike D'Amato.

"He was actually the sponsor of the Domestic Partnership Registry and the loudest and most eloquent spokesperson for the labor contract that included DP benefits."

Equality Award to Ald. Mike D'Amato

D'Amato was "Humbled and honored to receive the Equality Award... it's a fitting name for a fitting effort," and also thanked Alderman Pratt for his leadership.

He quoted something he heard said one time at ESHAC: "Organizing is not a sprint, it's a marathon" and commented "this effort was certainly a marathon.

"It's a tribute to Patrick and the Domestic Partnership Task Force. After 1997, when we only had three votes on the Council, it's a tribute to them and their efforts.

"Organizing is not a sprint, it's a marathon... this effort was certainly a marathon."

- Ald. Mike D'Amato

"We could have folded up the tent and left, just given it up, but we went forward, and got the Registry in 1999.

"After this effort came up [DP health benefits for city employees], and "All the negative media, the first Common Council vote we could have folded up the tent, put it all away.

"Patrick was calling me every day, the DP Task Force was after me, every day.

"The Task Force kept at it, calling every Alderman, even those Aldermen I think everyone knew wouldn't support it.

"The invisible hand of the Mayor was especially helpful.

"The union showed just great leadership and Rich and I had many a heart to heart talk about what it meant to his union and I knew his heart was in it.

"Although Milwaukee was not the first - certainly not the first employer to provide these benefits - I can promise you now that we have them, we will *not* be the last."

Problem: Discrimination by the Scouts

Albrecht, in his introduction to the next award, spoke of the growing national movement last Fall against the Boy Scouts of America policy - to discriminate against the participation of Gay men and youth - and it's accelerating interest on the local level.

Because there was no movement perceived on the part of the Milwaukee Council of the BSA to address the issue of discrimination, "It became evident that Milwaukee activists and advocates were going to need to take an advocacy stand with an organization that was very influential with the BSA," according to Albrecht.

"And that organization would be the United Way of Greater Milwaukee. An organization that provides the Boy Scouts with \$650,000 in funding on an annual



Alderman Mike D'Amato

Photo by Gary Hawkins

basis." "We realized we were going to need to work with the United Way to help them in understanding that this was, in fact, the practice of discrimination.

Source of Funds: the United Way

Albrecht and organizers realized for the advocacy effort to be successful, it would take more than the Community Center - it would take a coalition. A coalition of LGBT organizations and allied organizations.

"Our United Way of Greater Milwaukee, is in fact, a national community leader, in that earlier this year, they did implement a non discrimination policy that does include sexual orientation, and said they will stand strong in the allocation of funds to organizations that do not adhere to the non-discrimination policy.

"It was a tremendous victory that resonated throughout the social justice community in the city of Milwaukee."

Albrecht continued, "When we talked about organizing the coalition to make that happen, we were fortunate to have an exceptional community leader.



Neil Albrecht

"Someone with outstanding diplomacy skills, and organizing skills.

"Someone who could keep the temperament of the group very professional. The only voice

the United Way was going to respond to."

He then presented the award to Brenda Coley, who chaired the Committee for a Fair United Way with the other dozen individuals "who worked with the United Way aggressively and persistently over a six month period," according to Albrecht.

Brenda Coley gets Community Equality Award

"I'm accepting this award, not for my own individual efforts, but for the efforts of the Committee. We came together thinking that maybe this was going to be a hard fight, a difficult fight, and that we might not win.

"I want to tell you that this was something that we actually brought to the United Way 8 or 9 years ago. It was a long struggle, a long conversation we had.

'And through efforts - much beyond myself or any individuals - as a group, we came together and we presented our case to the United Way. And they responded.

"I want to thank the United Way for taking to heart, for making a hard decision, for leading the fight for social justice, and for telling young Gay men and boys who they are is okay, and to be respected."



Brenda Coley

Photo by Gary Hawkins

Commentary

GUEST EDITORIAL



The full story includes us

by Joan M. Garry, GLAAD

Like many of you, I spent much of September 11 glued to one of several television sets – first in my office and then, after our evacuation, in my den with my family. It was a day of horrifying images.

Any sense of security evaporated and was replaced by fear of what could happen next. Amid the chaos in New York, my identity as a Lesbian for a moment seemed

unimportant. What mattered was my family and my country's safety.

The attacks and their aftermath left most of us with a profound sense of solidarity – a unity reflected in, and nurtured by, the media. Around-the-clock newscasts erased our differences and brought us together with universal, homogenized reports that seemed calculated to give us comfort and catharsis.

The picture looks different now. Many of us have settled back into familiar, if wary, routines. We've returned to work, to school, to dinner out with friends, to the movies, to television.

And, in their coverage of our nation's mourning, media have returned to the routine of marginalizing Gay identity. In the days immediately following the Sept. 11 attacks, other matters seemed trivial and inconsequential. We wanted to identify as Americans, feeling an unprecedented – at least in many of our lifetimes – sense of community.

Against the backdrop of a terrible tragedy, many of us recognized glimmers of the kind of society we yearned for: one where we are connected and part of a common, united equality. Then, as familiar patterns re-emerged, so did our identities as Gays and Lesbians.

Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson blamed us for the attacks. Following a failed attempt by some House Republicans to stall domestic partner benefits in Washington, D.C., the Family Research Council blasted President Bush for "advancing the radical homosexual agenda." And Rev. Lou Sheldon of the Traditional Values Coalition told *The Washington Post* that Gay survivors who lost partners in the attacks ought not be eligible for relief.

Clearly, the anti-Gay industry wasted no time getting back to its business.

But in the wake of the tragedy, heroes have emerged from within our community. Mark Bingham participated in a revolt that crashed the hijacked United Flight 93 into a remote field outside Pittsburgh.

Father Mychal Judge was killed while ministering to a fallen firefighter at ground zero.

And Graham Berkeley, Daniel Brandhorst and Ronald Gamboa, David Charlebois, Carol Flyzik, Jack Keohane, Sheila Hein and many others who had lived brave, openly Gay lives were among those lost to the terrorist attacks.

Media coverage of these Gay and Lesbian heroes and victims of the Sept. 11 attacks has been and continues to be a primary focus for GLAAD, because our community has been uniquely impacted by these events.

Our relationships are not afforded basic, equal protections

under the law. As a result, some surviving partners will find themselves unable to qualify for state aid and Social Security benefits, and may find themselves unable to obtain bereavement leave, inheritance rights, or even access to the memorial of a partner. And these exclusionary definitions of family have been used by some media to render our lives and identities invisible.

The Courier-Journal in Louisville initially reported that Ronald Gamboa, partner of Daniel Brandhorst and adoptive father of David Gamboa-Brandhorst, was single and childless.

NBC's Oct. 2 *Dateline* report on the downing of United Flight 93 identified Bingham as a rugby player, yet made no mention that it was a Gay rugby team. Bingham's mother, who was interviewed for the piece, has stated publicly that Bingham's Gay identity was a crucial part of his life – a facet of Bingham's character and heroism that NBC had a responsibility to report.

Likewise, the centrality of Father Mychal Judge's identity as a Gay man – especially in the context of his longtime ministries to the LGBT and AIDS communities – has been shamefully overlooked by all in the mainstream but *The Village Voice*.

Some have argued that there were no Gay or Lesbian victims of the Sept. 11 attacks – there were only American victims. I say they can be both. By idealizing definitions of family and identity that exclude Gay and Lesbian Americans, our national culture sends the confounding message that what is Gay and what is good cannot co-exist.

Take that message and couple it with our status as second-class citizens under the law. Add our military's senseless discrimination against and persecution of Gay soldiers.

This troublesome mix highlights the unique impact of our national crisis on Gays and Lesbians – and the need to have our heroes known.

Fair, accurate and inclusive media images shatter stereotypes. When Americans learn that the people they respect, admire and hold up as heroes are Gay, it goes a long way toward dispelling anti-Gay zealots' attempts to demonize our lives.

A nation that prizes its diversity and its unity cannot simultaneously abide discrimination. The media cannot choose heroes to polish and promote when real bravery knows no limitations. Media have an obligation to truth.

And we are a part of that.

– Ms. Garry is Executive Director of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)

(The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) is dedicated to promoting and ensuring fair, accurate and inclusive representation of individuals and events in all media as a means of eliminating homophobia and discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation.)

Our Apologies

The following names were, regretfully, omitted from the "Friends of Wisconsin Light" donor list that appeared in the first issue:

Silver Level

Ted Berg

Tom Salzsieder

In Memory of Jenean Sharp

Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

The Wisconsin Light



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- Letters should be signed and include address and phone number for confirmation purposes.
- Anonymous Letters will not be accepted.
- Names withheld upon request.
- We will not publish letters copied to other papers.
- Letters can be mailed to: Editor, Wisconsin Light, 135 West Court Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212.
- We prefer letters to be emailed to: editor@wilight.com



Featured Speaker Rep. Tim Carpenter gets final Equality Award

South side Milwaukee State Rep. Tim Carpenter came out earlier this year as one of the only openly Gay state elected officials. "It's great to be with this group of people in a different capacity, an official capacity, yet amongst good friends," claimed Carpenter.

"Particularly my two bosses I see here, constituents of mine, those are my official bosses."

"I feel very close to many of you, I look around the room and I see many people I've had friendships and associations with over many years."

Carpenter went on to thank our allies, talked about his less-than-covert sexual orientation, that just "wasn't ever asked about" and how he would like to play a role helping aspiring politicians get started.

He also vowed to continue to never back down over Gay and Lesbian issues before the legislature.

He said, "I particularly want to thank the people who are allies here, like Mayor Norquist, Rich Abelson, Alderman D'Amato, Alderman Pratt. The people who are allies, who are straight, who didn't

really have to enter into this struggle, and do the things they are doing for us.

"I really appreciate your efforts and what you do for us, because you didn't have to do it. It's really important to me, and that's one of the reasons I decided to take a different capacity and tell people."

(For a complete transcription of Tim's comments, explanations and his offer to aid any LGBT's who want to run for office, please see the sidebar article entitled: 'Rep. Carpenter's Coming Out Allows Him to Relax with LGBT Family' Carpenter's remarks are a peak into the process he went through and the comfort it brought.)

After the awards, as LGBT's in attendance mingled with the award winners and chatted amongst one another, this writer had the perception that we have come to a new point in the history of Milwaukee's GLBT community. The new Center is exciting, and the pulse of the community is quickening as it becomes more self aware.

Gautama Buddha is quoted as saying: "You are what you think... having become what you thought."

The potential of our community is awesome.

tions that are able to engage and mobilize their members, and obviously, we can see that here tonight.

"The Milwaukee Gay and Lesbian community is really far ahead of the rest of us in organizing and in winning. So tonight we're happy to recognize an effort to draw together the labor movement, the Gay and Lesbian community, local elected officials and many community activists in the fight for social justice.

"None of us can win these fights alone, and when we join together we can make Milwaukee a great place to live, to work, to raise a family and retire.

"So like many of these struggles, victory didn't come on a straight line. There were times when we thought all was lost. In the end, the victory was much greater than any of us had anticipated. It really was a win, win, win situation."

Win, Win, Win Situation

"A win for workers - who want coverage for all domestic partners.

"A win for the city of Milwaukee - showing enlightened leadership.

"And, a win for the community - making this a better place to live.

"Despite talk radio and the right wing extremists - most who don't even live in the city of Milwaukee - when they tried to undermine this agreement, AFSCME stood their ground. Under the principled leadership of Rich Abelson, and the help of staff like Patti Young, and rank and file members who are here tonight, AFSCME withstood the attack and won a truly great victory for all workers in our community."

Rich Abelson, Director of AFSCME District Council 48, taking the stand to accept is award, promised brief remarks, and gave them. "Our union is a very diverse union... Neil and Patrick, and others, came to see me before we even started organizing, along with a group of members of District Council 48.

"They asked me if this was something that I thought was doable at the bargaining table. I told them yes, and I also told them I would support them, and I would not - in any way shape or form - deviate from that support.

"It was hard fought negotiations. I've been in labor for 27 years, and don't ever recall contract negotiations that went quite this way.

"When I talked to Alderman Pratt, and others after the rejection of the contract by the Common Council the first go around, Marvin was looking for a way to resolve this issue. I told him I thought there were ways to get this done and we could get it done very quickly.

"It opened up some opportunities for both of us to do some things that we had not previously done before and together, we got his done.

"I hope this is the beginning of a very long and prosperous relationship between the labor community and the LGBT community. I think it's important that groups of similar interests who are concerned about social justice come together on all fronts.



Rich Abelson, Director of AFSCME District Council 48.

Photo by Gary Hawkins

Labor Union Representatives Provide Insight Into DP Benefits Negotiations

John Goldstein, President of the Milwaukee County Labor Council, in his introductory remarks during the NCOD event featuring Community Equality Awards, praised the new relationship between labor and Milwaukee's LGBT community.

"It's good to be here tonight and it's an especially good opportunity for us in the labor movement to express our appreciation to the LGBT community for your efforts for justice in our community... with a special appreciation for good organizers.

"That's a lot of what we do... and we also have a great appreciation for organiza-

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National NEWS

Prospect of war puts more focus on military's 'don't ask, don't tell'

San Francisco, CA (AP) - At military bases across the country, troops mobilized for America's new war are saying goodbye to spouses and sweethearts with lingering embraces and teary kisses. Unless they're Gay.

Gays reporting for possible combat are bound by the "don't ask, don't tell" mandate to keep their sexual orientation to themselves.

"There are moments that bring this policy into sharper focus. This is one of those moments," says Dixon Osburn, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, formed to help Gays in the military.

Following the Sept. 11 attacks, the Pentagon suspended certain types of administrative discharges, but not the ban on serving as an openly Gay member of the armed forces.

Historically, discharges for homosexuality have decreased during times of war, according to the Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military based at



Richard Watson, a former Navy submarine officer

the University of California at Santa Barbara.

For instance, in the three years before 1966, the Navy discharged more than 1,600 sailors each year for homosexuality, says center director Aaron Belkin, quoting figures researched by Randy Shilts, who wrote *Conduct Unbecoming*, and Alan Berube, author of *Coming Out Under Fire*. But as military involvement in Vietnam

increased, the number dropped to as low as 461 in 1970.

A Pentagon spokesman did not respond to calls and e-mails requesting comment.

"You can bleed, die and fight for your country when there's an external enemy. It seems unfortunate that America tends to feed on itself and harm itself when there's no external threat," says Richard Watson, a former Navy submarine officer who was discharged after he told his commanding officer he was Gay.

Several countries allow openly homosexual troops to serve, including Canada, Israel, Australia and Britain.

Supporters of "don't ask, don't tell" say allowing Gays to serve openly would undercut morale and unit cohesion. A heterosexual soldier, for example, might not want to share a foxhole with a Gay man.

Charles Moskos, a Northwestern University sociology professor who studies the armed forces and helped draft "don't ask, don't tell" for the Clinton administration, says the policy tried to steer a middle course.

"If you let open Gays in then you do have problems of personal privacy violations - You will have to live with this Gay guy" - and if you go back to the old order,

which was the true witch-hunting, well that was just repressive and they got stigmatized," Moskos says. "It's a compromise and that's why Congress passed it."

The policy allows Gays to serve provided they keep quiet about their sexual orientation. Supervisors are not supposed to ask about their sex lives.

Steve May, an Arizona lawmaker and Army reservist who drew national attention when the Army tried to force him out for being Gay, says any large use of troops is likely to undermine support for the policy.

"I think this is the death knell for 'don't ask, don't tell,'" May says. "It doesn't make any sense. I think most Americans want every American who is able to serve, to serve."

May, who was called up in 1999, came under investigation for speaking openly about his homosexuality. He fought his discharge, and the Army ultimately allowed him to serve out his tour, which ended in April.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, a number of Gays who had been kicked out of the armed forces got in touch with the Servicemembers Legal Defense League to see if there was any chance of re-enlisting, Osburn says. There wasn't.

But Watson, the former submarine officer, understands.

"Would I go back to defend this country and to serve? You bet," he says. "Even with all its pitfalls and all of its social ills, this is still the greatest place in the world."

California "historic" DP law is "stellar advance" for Gay couples

Sacramento, CA (AP) - California's governor signed legislation giving Gay couples some of the rights enjoyed by heterosexual married couples.

The bill lets partners who register with the secretary of state's office make medical decisions for incapacitated partners, sue for wrongful death, adopt a partner's child and leave property in a will to a partner.

"This bill is about responsibility, respect, and most of all about family - and it's about time," Gov. Gray Davis said after signing the bill close to a legislative deadline.

Supporters called Davis' decision the biggest expansion of domestic partner rights in the country, putting the state alongside Vermont and Hawaii for acceptance of same-sex couples.

"This bill marks a stellar advance for Lesbians and Gays in California," said Democratic Assemblywoman Carole Migden, the bill's author.

"This is a pivotal moment in California's relationship to same-sex couples and their families," said Christopher Calhoun, Deputy Director of Public Policy at the American Civil Liberties Union (IACLU) of Southern California. "The state is clearly on the path to equality for same-sex couples, and there's no turning back."

"No other state in America has made these kinds of strides in recognition of same-sex couples without being forced to do so by a lawsuit," said Calhoun.

"That makes California a political leader in recognizing same-sex couples and their families - and that makes this new law truly historic."

Opponents label it an assault on traditional marriage and family values. In March 2000, more than 60 percent of California voters said marriage should be between a man and a woman.

"In one fell swoop, Gray Davis has cheapened every marriage in the state, undermined the vote of the people, pandered to the special interests, frivolously spent taxpayer money and broken his written promise to the citizens of California," said Randy Thomasson, director of the Campaign for California Families.

The group rallied in six California cities the week before he signed it, asking Davis to veto the bill.

The victory on AB 25 was hard-won. Civil rights organizations and LGBT community groups throughout the state, led by the ACLU, the California Alliance for Pride and Equality (CAPE), and People For the American Way, put together a grassroots campaign to demonstrate the breadth of support in California for expanding domestic partners' rights.

Jean Harris, Executive Director of CAPE, praised the Governor's approval of AB 25 saying, "Poll after poll reveals that a majority of Californians support basic rights for Gay and Lesbian couples under domestic partnership. Passage of AB 25 is a swift and fair response to strong support, which is demonstrated widely throughout the state."

"While this is the largest expansion of domestic partners rights in the country - only a handful of protections the state and federal government offers to married spouses are included in AB 25, over 1,700 are not."

"For the first time in California's history," said Calhoun, "there were more letters, phone calls, e-mails, and faxes in support of an LGBT civil rights bill than in opposition. That's not because the right suddenly stopped opposing equality for LGBT people, but because the LGBT community and its allies mobilized an unprecedented campaign to communicate to legislators and to the Governor their support for AB 25."

The bill puts California, the nation's largest state, in the forefront of a growing trend to treat Lesbian and Gay families with the dignity and respect they deserve, according to Human Rights Campaign (HRC). HRC is the largest national Lesbian and Gay political organization, with members throughout the country.

"This is a significant leap forward and puts California behind only Vermont in offering equality and fair treatment to same-sex couples," said HRC National Field Director Seth Klbourm. "There are thousands of domestic partners in California and many more to come who will be helped tremendously by the wisdom and vision of Davis, Migden, and CAPE's Harris."

"It was moving to see California, my home state, take the lead in affording equality to Lesbian and Gay families," said HRC Communications Director David M. Smith who attended the Sacramento signing ceremony. "I was honored to be there and participate in this unforgettable event. Today, I am enormously proud to be a Californian."

Pro-AB 25 activists attended pride festivals, book festivals, concerts, flea markets, and shopping districts throughout the spring and summer and also organized online. Corporate allies Working Assets and PlanetOut helped organize letter and e-mail campaigns.

AB 25 adds numerous rights to California's domestic partner registry, among them:

- the right to sue for wrongful death
- the right to make medical decisions on behalf of an incapacitated partner
- the right to make financial decisions on behalf of an incapacitated partner
- the right to adopt a partner's children using the same process stepparents use
- the right to relocate with a domestic partner and receive unemployment benefits
- the right to use the state's statutory will form

- the right of a surviving partner of a state employee to continued health coverage

- the right to use dependent health coverage without a state income tax penalty

- the right to use sick leave to care for a partner

- the right to file for disability benefits on behalf of a partner who is unable to do so

AB 25 also requires insurance companies that make dependent coverage available to include domestic partners and changes the age from 65 to 62 for opposite-sex couples who wish to register.

Survey showing us affluent, 'flawed' and 'harmful' Gay economic Think Tank sites poor methodology

Amherst, MA - Results released in mid October from an online marketing survey of LGBT people present a biased and distorted view of the economic position of gay people, according to researchers at the Institute for Gay and Lesbian Strategic Studies (IGLSS).

The survey, conducted by OpusComm Group, Inc., and two collaborating organizations, reproduces the problems with the surveys conducted in the early 1990's purporting to show that Gay people are unusually affluent.

This survey focuses on a self-selected subgroup of LGBT consumers that is skewed towards Gay people who have high incomes and high levels of education.

"The Gay people that OpusComm surveyed are not representative of Gay people as a whole. As a result of using this biased sample of people who are online and use Gay websites, the companies conducting the study have found what they were looking for - Gay people with unusually high incomes and spending," points out Dr. Lee Badgett, research direc-



tor of IGLSS and author of *Money, Myths, and Change: The Economic Lives of Lesbians and Gay Men*.

"But a number of credible scientific studies that used data from random samples of LGBT people find the opposite result. Gay people and Gay couples do not have higher average incomes than heterosexual people," according to Badgett.

"Even other online samples reach these same conclusions about lower income levels," Badgett added. "The method used in this new survey to recruit participants does not allow for proper weighting compared to offline population samples."

"It's disappointing that the presentation of the OpusComm survey results ignores the credible research that already exists," argues Stacy Roth, executive director of IGLSS. "Even more disturbing is the fact that the opponents of Gay civil rights protections will likely seize on these new numbers to further their false claim that Gay people do not need civil rights protections."

In 1998 IGLSS and the NGLTF Policy Institute published *Income Inflation*, which presented the findings from a number of random samples of the U.S. population showing that Gay people's incomes are either comparable, or in some cases, even lower than heterosexual people's incomes.

Dr. Badgett, an economist who teaches at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, presented updated information in her book that reaches the same conclusion.

Dr. Gary Gates, a Research Associate at the Urban Institute in Washington, DC, who studies demographics of the Gay and Lesbian population states that, "Internet users are likely more educated and have higher incomes than the general population. Finding that Gay Internet users share these traits provides no insights into the purchasing power or any other aspect of the whole Gay and Lesbian community."

"In order to provide such insights, Internet surveys must be statistically adjusted to reflect characteristics of the broader Gay population. I and other economists have conducted research that finds that Gay men actually tend to earn less than other men of similar age and educational background."

"Researchers have a responsibility to offer the public credible information based on solid sampling methodologies. It would be a shame to have people hear only this skewed information," Stacy Roth concluded.

In addition to the flawed methods used in this survey, the press release from OpusComm inaccurately calls the survey a Gay "census," a term that means a complete count of a group. The press release also mistakenly calls the survey "a first-of-its-kind," when many other surveys of the Gay market already exist, some of which suffer from the same methodological flaws as this one.

IGLSS plans further research on the economic status of LGBT people.

House increases funding for HIV/AIDS programs *Still falling short of need, funds will provide more with treatment*

Washington, DC - The Human Rights Campaign praised the House of Representatives for a bipartisan effort to increase funds for critical HIV/AIDS programs that will extend the lives of people living with the disease.

"While the increase continues to lag behind the true need that exists, it is a welcome improvement and shows a continued commitment in Congress to battling against the global epidemic," says HRC.

"In this time of national crisis Congress could have lost sight of other key priorities, so we applaud the House for keeping in focus the crucial battle against HIV and AIDS," said HRC Political Director Winnie Stachelberg. "While more funds are needed, these increases will undoubtedly save lives and help stem the spread of this disease."

With an estimated 40,000 new HIV infections each year, prevention of new infections is still critically necessary. Early this year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention unveiled an aggressive plan to halve new infections by 2005. The increase of \$41 million for domestic prevention and the increase of \$33 million for global prevention in the legislation passed by the House will help towards reaching the CDC's goal.

CARE funds, Minority Initiative increased

"We are also appreciative of the increases in appropriations for the Ryan White CARE Act," said Stachelberg. "Flat funding for CARE Act programs would have caused many for whom care and treatment is critical to their survival to fall between the cracks. We applaud the increase of \$112 million for these vital programs."

Minority communities represent over 62 percent of people living with HIV and 54 percent of new HIV infections. HRC is pleased with the investments the House made to battle against the HIV/AIDS epidemic in communities of color by increasing appropriations for the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative. HRC will now work with the Senate and the administration to make sure the vital increases in the House are part of the final budget.

Senate also takes action

In separate action, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved their bill funding many federal HIV/AIDS programs, including research at the National Institutes of Health, care and treatment through the Ryan White CARE Act and prevention activities at the CDC.

The measure, approved by the committee, does not provide the same level of funding for the Ryan White CARE Act or for prevention activities at the CDC that was passed by the House.

For example, funding in the Senate bill for the CARE Act is \$75 million over last year compared to the House bill that increases funding for the CARE Act by \$112 million. Conversely, research activities at the NIH received approximately \$700 million more in the Senate bill than in the House-approved bill.

HRC acquires 'GLVIndex' Rating System

Expands HRC's work for GLBT workers and consumers

Washington, DC - The Human Rights Campaign Foundation announced Monday it has acquired the former Gay and Lesbian Values INDEX (glvINDEX), a 10-point system that rates corporate policies and actions toward the GLBT community.

The HRC Foundation has renamed it the HRC Corporate Equality Index, to clarify and better describe what it measures, according to Kim I. Mills, HRC's education director.

"The HRC Corporate Equality Index

gives us a simple and effective tool to evaluate whether America's biggest employers are treating their Gay, Lesbian, bisexual and transgender employees and consumers equitably, or falling down on the job," said Mills, who oversees HRC WorkNet, the organization's workplace advocacy project. "This index will augment the information HRC WorkNet has been collecting and disseminating for the last six years."

The HRC Foundation acquired the index from Grant Lukenbill, an author and pioneer in GLBT consumer advocacy who developed the scale in conjunction with leading financial adviser Howard Tharsing, president of V-Management of San Francisco. The HRC Corporate Equality Index will become a permanent part of HRC WorkNet: www.hrc.org/worknet.

Lukenbill said he was pleased that HRC would include the index in its "critical advocacy work within corporate America."

"HRC is currently the most appropriately positioned organization, with the best resources, contacts and technology to carry on the sophisticated work that is required to keep the GLV updated, accurate and relevant to the changing needs of our time," Lukenbill said.

The index will rate several hundred of the country's largest corporations on a range of criteria that closely parallel the Equality Principles as defined by the Equality Project, a non-profit GLBT investor advocacy group in which HRC plays an advisory role:

- They have adopted a written non-discrimination policy that includes the words "sexual orientation"

- They have adopted a written non-discrimination policy that includes the words

"gender identity" or "gender expression"

- They offer domestic partner health insurance benefits

- They support an LGBT employee group or offer diversity training that includes discussion of sexual orientation and/or gender expression in the workplace

- They advertise to the LGBT community, sponsor LGBT event(s) or make charitable gifts to an LGBT community organization

- They do not actively engage in actions that would undermine the dignity and worth of Lesbian, Gay, bisexual and transgender employees.

In the coming months as HRC WorkNet integrates the HRC Corporate Equality Index into its already extensive database of corporate information, HRC will further refine the rating system before it administers a new survey of corporate policies and practices in 2002.

Commission hears personal views on impact of historic civil unions

Monpelier, VT (AP) - Four Vermont couples out of 531 who have been joined in civil unions told a commission last week of the ways large and small that their lives have changed since the law was enacted.

Their insurance rates have plummeted because they're viewed as legal spouses. They've found it easier to get health care as a couple because doctors have to recognize their legal relationship. Their friends and families even interact with them differently, affording their relationship greater emotional recognition.

Continued on Page 8




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4 Vermont Couples

Continued from Page 7

"I am very grateful for the opportunity to have a civil union," Elizabeth Novotny told the Civil Unions Review Commission.

That panel is reviewing the law that grants most of the rights, benefits and responsibilities of marriage to Gay and Lesbian couples. It is charged with reporting back to the Legislature how well the law is working and particularly whether a separate section that grants some limited marital benefits to blood relatives should be expanded.

House Judiciary Committee Chairwoman Peg Flory, R-Pittsford, told the commission that the House chose earlier this year not just to expand that part of the law but to get rid of civil unions and offer marital benefits to any couple who otherwise cannot legally marry.

The so-called reciprocal beneficiaries provisions included in the civil unions law, she said, did not go far enough. "That was progress but I think it still has a lot of inequities," Flory said.

The four couples who testified said they appreciated civil unions but believed there were inequities in it, too, because only full marriage would give them the possibility of obtaining the federal benefits that flow to married couples.

Nonetheless, they said they had been pleased over the past year and a half to have their relationships recognized as they'd never been before.

Holly Puterbaugh said her colleagues had known for 27 years that she and Lois Farnham were a couple. But she felt a broader acceptance of her relationship after she and Farnham were among the first couples to enter a civil union on July 1, 2000.

"There's a difference about how they talk about Lois and Holly that I couldn't explain," Puterbaugh said. "There is a difference in the way they treat us, the way they view us."

Novotny said she and her partner were pleasantly surprised when their insurance agent helped them get lower rates on home, auto and other insurance.

And Tom Robinson and Brian Moore said they felt greater security when Moore needed medical care and they had a civil union certificate to show the hospital, proving their relationship.

"The symbolism of marriage is so strong and the symbolism of civil unions is so strong," Robinson said.

Civil unions have not worked out so well for all couples, though. Family Court Administrator Sally Fox told the commission that nine couples had filed for dissolutions since July 1, 2000.

Same-sex benefits in Minnesota contracts could become an issue for Legislature

St. Paul, MN (AP) - Labor contracts, forged after a two-week strike, could come under more scrutiny than usual in the Legislature because of provisions that give same-sex partners of state workers access to insurance benefits.

Besides rank-and-file union members, state legislators must ratify the contracts with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and the Minnesota Association of Professional Employees. The Legislature, which convenes in late January, can vote them up or down but not amend them.

Last session, the Republican-led House

voted 78-54 in favor of an amendment to a state budget bill that blocked Gov. Jesse Ventura's administration from offering the benefits in contract talks. The prohibition was never enacted because the DFL-controlled Senate wouldn't go along.

Rep. Scott Dibble, a Minneapolis DFLer who is openly Gay, said any attempt to strike down the contracts over the provision would be foolish and a sign of intolerance.

"Most people are people of good will and good sense in the Legislature," Dibble said. "Hopefully, they won't let an extremist minority dictate the direction the Legislature takes in respect to the contracts."

Rep. Phil Krinkie, who is chairman of the State Government Finance Committee, said he's concerned about the benefit extension because it probably will cost the state more money, be hard to enforce and put pressure on private businesses to expand their offerings to keep up.

But Krinkie, R-Shoreview, is withholding a final judgment until he reviews the precise language and questions Ventura administration officials about the benefits.

"If they are too broad and if they are not easily enforceable, you bet it's going to run into some rocky road as far as I'm concerned," Krinkie said.

Krinkie said other lawmakers have expressed reservations to him.

The domestic partner provisions extend health and dental coverage to same-sex partners of state employees as long as they provide evidence of a committed relationship, such as a signed affidavit or proof of joint home ownership.

Children of same-sex partners would be covered dependents if the state employee establishes custody, said Peter Benner, executive director of AFSCME Council 6.

Benner said the contract also includes funeral leave to opposite-sex unmarried partners.

When Ventura first proposed the same-sex benefits last year, Department of Employee Relations Commissioner Julien Carter said they likely would cost about \$1 million annually and be accessed by fewer than 1 percent of the state's 52,000-member work force.

Tom Prichard, president of the Minnesota Family Council, worked to stop Ventura from being able to offer the benefits last year. He argues that offering coverage to homosexual couples is morally wrong and it cheapens marriage.

Prichard said he'll continue to push for a law banning such benefits for public employees. But he was skeptical about getting the Legislature to block the state from providing the benefits now that they're in the contract.

"I don't know if they'll reject the whole contract based on this," he said.

Gay on-line bank may close

~Pensacola, FL (AP) - The nation's only Internet-based bank that markets primarily to LGBTs is going out of business, but its founder is trying to buy it and keep it going without interrupting services.

G&L Bank, whose initials stand for Gay and Lesbian, announced plans to close by Jan. 3 after liquidating, selling its assets or being acquired.

The bank was founded two years ago by Steven Dunlap, who was ousted from its management last year.

Dunlap, a successful businessman but not a trained banker, said recently that he has formed a new company, Gay Community Bancshares Inc., and has contacted the federal Office of Thrift

Supervision to find out what steps must be taken to purchase G&L.

"We think this is a safe and sound bank, and we're looking forward to acquiring and operating it," Dunlap said.

The Pensacola-based bank issued a statement earlier this month saying the decision to go out of business was in response to the nation's faltering economy and the challenges of Internet banking. Bank managers said deposits are safe and federally insured.

David Richbourg, one of the original investors, said he and other shareholders were working with Dunlap to buy G&L or start a rival bank before the closure was announced.

Majority stockholders last year fired Dunlap after disputes with bank president Kay Griffith. He has since sued Griffith, the bank and another employee alleging his business concept was stolen, he was forced out and that the concept, bank's name and trade mark belong to him.

G&L has been losing money but that is not unusual for a new bank, Dunlap said.

"The bank is successful," he said. "It just may not be as successful as these people wanted it to be."

The bank's latest report to regulators shows a net loss of \$926,000 for the second quarter, assets of \$100.9 million, mainly deposits, and equity capital of \$18.6 million.

Dunlap said attracting \$100 million in deposits in two years is phenomenal growth.

A proposed merger with Bancorp.com Bank of Wilmington, Delaware, that was announced last year never took place.

Dunlap said G&L needs to open small branches around the country to serve Gays and Lesbians and was never intended to be strictly in cyberspace.

"The Internet piece was just to connect the dots," he said.

Ad It Up

In a competitive market, some Gay publications go after exclusive deals

by Claudia Miller

When there is more than one Gay publication in a city or region, local Gay papers and magazines may find themselves going after the same advertisers and nonprofit sponsorships. Healthy competition can be positive for everyone, but what happens when one publication in a local market starts seeking out exclusive advertising and sponsorship deals?

This past summer, when *Ambush Magazine*, a New Orleans-based Gay biweekly, secured an exclusive media sponsorship deal with New Orleans Pride 2001, its main competition, *Southern Voice*, cried foul.

The deal shut out *Southern Voice's* New Orleans edition (formerly *Impact News*) and its sister publication *Eclipse* from playing any official role in the annual Pride celebration, which took place in late September.

Chris Crain, executive editor of *Southern Voice*, said that, in general, he thinks media competition is good. "We're all bigger and better for it because the coverage is better, advertising rates are lower and circulation is bigger."

But when it comes to sponsorships, "The whole goal ... for an event like Pride," said Crain, "is to get the word out to as many people as possible about the event. And you do that through advertising. So I don't understand how it could possibly benefit the organization to only award the sponsorship to one publication."

Rip Naquin-Delain, publisher and editor of *Ambush*, defended exclusive sponsorships as "the way things have always worked" with New Orleans Pride. "From 1996 to 1999, we had the top bid [for Pride sponsorship]. *Impact* had it before that, but we got it then because our paper had grown and because we had developed a network of Web sites."

Naquin-Delain noted proudly that 1999 was the most successful Pride celebration that ever took place in the city, thanks, in part, to the extensive publicity provided by his paper. It made sense for New Orleans Pride to choose *Ambush* again, he said, because his "party rag" is more geared toward the people who will attend Pride events.

In areas like South Florida, a glut of Gay and Lesbian publications can also make for squabbles. According to Bill Watson, publisher of *The Weekly News*, which has served Miami and Ft. Lauderdale for more than 25 years, "There are only so many people to go after, and I assume that we're all tripping over the same people."

Jason Bell, publisher of *Hotspots*, a glossy bar guide published weekly in Miami and Ft. Lauderdale, said he believes that it is good business to seek exclusive deals, both with nonprofits and advertisers.

He offered an example to back up his reasoning: "We purchase all of our paper that we print the books on from the same company, and we get a much lower price. *Hotspots* always offers discounts for exclusive deals, and almost all sponsorships that my publication is involved with are always exclusive or we don't participate."

But Norm Kent, publisher of *Express Gay News*, a biweekly newspaper also covering Miami and Ft. Lauderdale, said he disapproves of exclusive deals. "I'm not involved in those petty childish media wars," said Kent, adding that he would, however, "write articles about the fact that other papers do that."

Chicago, too, has seen its share of Gay media fights for sponsorships and advertisers. Tracy Baim, publisher of *Windy City Times*, said she thinks it is not in the best interest of nonprofits to agree to exclusive deals. "There's no benefit to the organization, in my mind," she said. "In fact, when I've volunteered for a nonprofit - from the Chicago 2006 Gay Games to the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce - we've sought sponsorships from all the media."

Todd Evans, president and CEO of Rivendell Marketing, which represents 230 Gay and Lesbian publications to agencies looking to buy advertising space, noted that exclusive deals happen primarily on the local level.

"I tend to recommend against it," Evans, who is also publisher of Press Pass Q, said. "On a national level, it's a rare occurrence."

Crain noted that he thinks many business practices like these are "personal as to the publication." He said, "I think that happens in the business world sometimes, and within a small community like ours, it can happen more frequently, although it's totally unnecessary and unfortunate. Maybe [some publishers are] concerned for their economic survival or it can just be their personal style."

Baim said she thinks it could "make business sense" from an advertiser's point of view to cut exclusive deals in order to secure a better rate. "We don't do that here," she said, "but I don't deny that it can be a positive business approach for [advertisers]." She added, however, that she thinks it is "a sign of weakness" if a



National BRIEFS

publication gives a better deal to an advertiser in order to shut out competition.

Indeed, the message a publication sends out when it seeks exclusive agreements may not always be a positive one.

"Once you start compromising your rate card," Evans pointed out, "you compromise everything about your publication... It's basically saying to an advertiser or an agency that everything's up for grabs."

- Claudia Miller, editor in chief of Lesbianation.com.

Scout leader doesn't want scouts 'used' by anti-Gay group

Traverse City, MI (AP) - A Boy Scout leader is objecting to a campaign postcard being distributed locally that urges people to "protect" the Scouts by voting to prohibit Gay-rights ordinances.

The postcard is sponsored by supporters of Proposal 1, a ballot initiative that would amend the city charter to bar local officials from granting non-discrimination protection based on sexual orientation. The issue will be on the Nov. 6 ballot in Traverse City.

"We are very strongly opposed to the idea of using children - in this case a particular group of children - to make a political point," Peter Magoun, president of the Scenic Trails Council of the Boy Scouts of America, told the Traverse City Record-Eagle in an October 17 story.

The postcard shows an image of three Scouts saluting the American flag under a heading of, "Protect our Boy Scouts. Support American values." It then urges a "yes" vote on Proposal 1.

Magoun said area Scout leaders and the Scenic Trails Council, which takes in 13 counties in the northern Lower Peninsula, had received dozens of calls from people inquiring about the organization's position on the ballot initiative.

"We are very much a nonpolitical organization," Magoun said. "We do not endorse political parties. We do not take stands on political issues... To have this show up was a complete shock to us and a very unwelcome surprise."

He said Scenic Trails would publicly disassociate itself from the campaign literature.

The council also wants the national Scouts organization to respond because the anti-Gay group is helping distribute similar postcards in other Michigan cities that will be voting on Gay-rights issues next month, Magoun said.

Blame it on the 'homosexual activists'

Gary Glenn, president of the American Family Association of Michigan, which is

assisting Proposal 1 supporters, said the Boy Scouts have drawn attacks in other Michigan cities because of their policy against Gay scoutmasters.

It's unrealistic to think the same debate will not happen eventually in Traverse City, he said.

"It's not like this is a new issue," Glenn said. "It's the homosexual activists who have made the Boy Scouts part of their agenda."

Glenn said he is an Eagle Scout and the father of two Scouts, and that he respects the organization's neutrality on Proposal 1. But he said the Scouts "deserve to have somebody stick up for them in the public arena."

Editor's Note: There goes those damned ol' homosexual activists and their agenda again. Oh, wait a minute... no Gays are involved in this case at all. Must be that Eagle scout Dad and his two scout sons who are stirring the pot. Or should we blame the AFA for affectively yelling Fire! when there aren't even any embers?

Coalition Formed to End Discrimination at ExxonMobil

Cincinnati, OH - A coalition to convince ExxonMobil to provide protections and benefits to its LGBT employees was launched Oct. 7 at the Out & Equal Leadership Summit in the Cincinnati suburb of Erlanger, KY.

The Coalition to Promote Equality at Exxon Mobil consolidates the independent efforts of seven groups that have been employing a variety of means to convince the giant oil company to include sexual orientation and gender identity in its written non-discrimination policy and to provide domestic partnership benefits for its employees.

ExxonMobil has repeatedly thwarted efforts by employees to establish the protections and benefits, which were available to employees at Mobil until its merger with the larger Exxon corporation in 1999.

The seven members of the coalition are The Equality Project, Human Rights Campaign, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), National Transgender Advocacy Coalition (NTAC), Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), Pride at Work, and Out & Equal Workplace Advocates, which hosted the annual conference at which formation of the coalition was announced.

"No single tactic can be as effective as employing a variety of means in a well-coordinated campaign," said Julian Potter, a Lesbian activist who announced the formation of the coalition during a panel at the conference.

Continued on Page 10

Transylvanians Reject Gay Clergy

Lexington, KY (AP) - The Transylvania Presbytery voted October 13 to reject a proposal to permit the ordination of Gay and Lesbian clergy in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

One delegate abstained from the 83 to 50 vote, said the Rev. Cheryl Ann Elfond, executive presbyter of the Lexington-based group that represents 99 congregations in Central and Eastern Kentucky.

The measure was approved by the denomination's General Assembly in June. To become church policy, it must be approved by a majority of the church's 173 presbyteries before the General Assembly meets in June 2002.

The Transylvania Presbytery was among the first to vote on the proposal.

Delaware Gay couple get adoption OK

Wilmington, DE (AP) - For the first time in Delaware, a Gay couple will be allowed to adopt children together.

Family Court Chief Judge Vincent Poppiti ruled that the men will provide a loving, stable and financially secure home for two brothers, 1- and 6-years-old.

"The fact that the men are Gay men in and of itself is of no concern to the court," Poppiti wrote of the couple, who have been together since 1979.

One of the men adopted the boys in 1999 and 2000. The man's partner sought to adopt the boys as a second parent, similar to a stepparent, to give them legal protection.

Twenty-one other states have allowed similar adoptions, said Ruth Harlow, an attorney who worked on the case for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

"This kind of ruling doesn't make a statement about the relationship of the couple," she said. "It says these two people are functioning as parents, so it's in the children's best interest to get that relationship solidified."

Adoption law experts said such a case is new in Delaware and rare elsewhere.

Swift to run for full term as governor

Gardner, MA (AP) - Ending months of speculation, Acting Gov. Jane Swift said last week that she will run for governor next year.

Swift - the state's first woman governor and the first governor in the nation to give birth while in office - made the announcement after a send-off ceremony for 100 National Guard troops headed to Fort Dix, N.J.

Swift, 36, is the only Republican to announce a bid so far. She had been weighing public life with the responsibilities of being the mother of three young children.

Swift took over the job after Gov. Paul Cellucci left to become U.S. ambassador to Canada. In the past six months, she has overcome public doubts about her ability to run the state, care for her children and make the three-hour commute to her home in Williamstown, which is closer to Albany, N.Y., than to Boston.

She also overcame questions about her judgment after several embarrassing incidents while she was lieutenant governor in 2000.

An ethics panel found she created an "appearance of impropriety" by allowing aides to baby-sit her daughter, and fined her \$1,250. She also apologized for using a state police helicopter to fly to her family farm.

Giving birth to twins in May helped her popularity and earned her national attention.

Gay stepson criticized her

Swift's personal life came under scrutiny again in August when her Gay stepson criticized her opposition to Gay marriage and revealed that she was her husband's fourth wife, not second, as they had said on their marriage certificate application.

Brian Hunt, 25, is the son of Swift's husband, Chuck Hunt, 47, and his second wife, Andrea. Swift immediately acknowledged the marriage certificate lie and agreed to pay a \$100 fine.

89yr old Queen for AIDS benefit Fantasy Fest

Key West, FL (AP) - The queen of this year's Fantasy Fest, this city's zany costuming and masking festival, is an 89-year-old former mayor of the Florida Keys.

Wilhelmina Harvey enjoyed her first day as queen Saturday after being crowned at the festival's opening event, a Friday night ball at a Key West hotel. She and King Tom Wheaton, owner of a local health club, are presiding over the 10-day extravaganza that continues through Oct. 28.

"I've been a lot of things and been called a lot of things, but I've never been a queen," said Harvey, a Key West native.

The royal campaign is more than a popularity contest. Winners are crowned by raising more money than competitors to benefit Key West's AIDS Help Inc. The organization provides support services for people with AIDS and community education to reduce the spread of HIV.

This year, candidates raised \$148,650, pushing the grand total amassed since 1989 to more than \$1.2 million.

Harvey is well known for her role as ambassador for the Keys, entertaining visiting dignitaries and bestowing thousands of Honorary Conch certificates. Key West Aloe, a local perfume manufacturer, created a special scent in her honor in 1994 dubbed Wild Willie.

Fantasy Fest features masquerade galas, costume competitions, street fairs and parades. There was even a pet masquerade party set for Wednesday.

The lavish Fantasy Fest parade is scheduled to roll down Duval Street Oct. 27.

Fantasy Fest: <http://www.fantasyfest.net>

Firefighter may loses certification over Gay bashing

Tucson, AZ (AP) - An administrative judge will decide whether a Tucson firefighter should lose his certification as an emergency medical technician for assaulting a gay man at a nightclub last year.

Continued on Page 10

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Firefighter

Continued from Page 9

Franchot Opela, 27, was convicted of misdemeanor assault in July in what prosecutors called a hate crime, beating 21-year-old Fabian Padilla bloody and unconscious on Feb. 9, 2000.

The state Department of Health Services has scheduled a hearing for Nov. 26 in downtown Phoenix.

If the judge decides to revoke his EMT certification, Opela will also lose his job as a firefighter, said Capt. Joe Gulotta, a Tucson Fire Department spokesman.

Leaders of Tucson's gay and lesbian community are calling for strong disciplinary action against Opela, who is the son-in-law of former Tucson Fire Chief Fred Shipman, who retired in January.

HIV-Poz Priest arrested again for solicitation

Dayton, OH (AP) - An Episcopal priest who was removed from his congregation after a July prostitution conviction has been arrested again on new sex charges.

The Rev. John C. Cochrane has been charged with soliciting for prostitution after a positive HIV test, a third-degree felony, and loitering to engage in solicitation after a positive HIV test, a fifth-degree felony.

Municipal Court Judge John S. Pickrel set a \$35,000 bond for Cochrane and ordered a hearing to consider revoking Cochrane's probation from the July conviction.

"It's very sad," said Andy Figueroa, director of communications for the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio. "It's surprising and it grieves us."

Cochrane was arrested July 1 at an adult bookstore after he offered a male undercover police officer \$10 for a sex act. Cochrane pleaded no contest and was fined \$150.

He was arrested again October 15 after agreeing to pay another undercover officer \$40 to have sex, police said.

Gay group to sue over banner law

Oklahoma City, OK (AP) - A new law that restricts the type of banners that can be flown from city light poles will be tested in federal court, says an attorney for a Gay rights group whose banners were rejected.

The Cimarron Alliance Foundation applied for approval to display Gay and Lesbian History Month banners this month. The banners were rejected by City Manager Jim Couch under a new law that says such banners should "promote or celebrate the city, its civic institutions, or public activities or events in the city."

The law does not allow banners promoting any political, religious or social advocacy organizations or their messages.

Attorney Mark Henriksen, an attorney for the Cimarron Alliance, said the group intends to challenge the law in federal court.

"We think the First Amendment is more important than anything else in our Constitution, and that is what this dispute is about," he said.

Tina Hughes, an assistant city attorney, said people believe pole banners are city-advocated messages.

"This is not an open, traditional public forum," she said. "The city wants to make sure that what goes on the poles are for the good of and promote the city."

"We wanted to stay out of the middle of these arguments."

"That's the policy's whole point."

The new law replaces an older policy that ran into trouble earlier this year when officials took down banners promoting Gay and Lesbian pride. The city then put the banners back up after attorneys from the Cimarron Alliance objected.

State adoption law revisions

Harrisburg, PA (AP) - Pennsylvania adoption law needs an overhaul that includes giving adoptees greater access to birth records and allowing third-party adoption by non-spouses, same sex partners among them, an advisory panel told state lawmakers October 15.

The head of the 35-member panel that spent three years re-examining the state's adoption law submitted a proposed bill to members of the Senate Judiciary Committee but conceded that the compromise proposal did not have unanimous support from interest groups on several issues.

One of those issues is a provision in the bill that would allow a child to be adopted by a parent's unmarried partner, regardless of sexual orientation, if the other parent's custody rights have been terminated.

In two cases involving Gay couples who sought joint custody of children, the state Superior Court ruled last year that the state's adoption law allows someone to jointly adopt a partner's children only if the parent and partner are married. Gay marriages are not recognized by Pennsylvania law.

Sen. Stewart J. Greenleaf, R-Montgomery, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, said he was "very optimistic" about the bill, although he said sections like the provision on adoption by unmarried partners could change.

"It will be up to the Legislature to decide whether they want to have that," Greenleaf said.

New Mexico teen pleads innocent in Gay murder

Durango, CO (AP) - A New Mexico teen-ager accused in the fatal beating of a 16-year-old Cortez boy has pleaded innocent to first- and second-degree murder charges.

Shaun Murphy of Farmington entered the plea last Thursday in Montezuma County District Court. His trial was scheduled for March 4.

Murphy is accused of beating Fred Martinez Jr., whose body was found June 21 south of Cortez.

ExxonMobil

Continued from Page 9

Potter is coordinating a boycott launched by HRC in June that asks consumers to stop patronizing Exxon and Mobil stations and to cut up their ExxonMobil credit cards, sending half to ExxonMobil and half to the HRC.

Consumers are also being asked to send HRC a month's worth of receipts for gasoline purchased at companies with LGBT-friendly policies and practices. HRC is also reaching out to ExxonMobil Board members and corporate purchasers of the oil company's products.

The 11th annual Out & Equal Leadership Summit drew more than 300 workplace advocates to a variety of workshops and panel discussions.

At the conference, Procter & Gamble, one of the largest employers in the Cincinnati area, made its first public announcement of the inclusion of domestic partnership in its employee benefits package.

Out & Equal also awarded the second annual "Outies" to individuals, groups and companies that have worked to create safe and equitable workplaces.

Honorees were Motorola, IBM, transgender activist Mary Ann Horton, straight allies Kathy Brill and Lisa Vitale at Kodak, and PRIDE, the employee resource group at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, where the 2002 Out & Equal conference will be held Sept. 13-15.

More information about the Coalition to Promote Equality at ExxonMobil is available at www.equalityatexxon.org. More information about Out & Equal is available at www.outandequal.org

Phelps' anti-Gay protest spawns protest

Missoula, MT (AP) - Just as they said they would, members of the Kansas-based Westboro Baptist Church staged a protest against Gay and Lesbian people here recently, trying to paint [us] as a blight on America.

The protest was met with a peaceful counter-protest by about 200 people, from children to retirees.

The Westboro members maintain God hates America because Americans support homosexuality.

Missoula was one of the church's chosen spots to "celebrate" the third anniversary of the day Matthew Shepard, a University of Wyoming student, was beaten and killed for being a Gay.

Church spokeswoman Shirley Phelps-Roper said the University of Montana landed on the church's itinerary because it is a public university that supports a Gay, Lesbian and transgender group called the Lambda Alliance.

UM rally organizers said they were overwhelmed and amazed by the support from the Missoula community, and from

countless other Montanans who drove from other places to mute the Westboro Church's message.

"It's just been amazing," said Ty Watkins, a UM student and Lambda's public relations officer. "You don't get this kind of turnout just anywhere. It's comforting to know that the greater community knows you can't let this kind of hatred go unchecked."

In a morning chill just after dawn, the church's seven street ministers made their appearance known by standing at an intersection holding neon-colored signs, one of which said, "Fags Die, God Laughs."

Across the street, in front of a UM building, counter demonstrators for peace and tolerance stood their ground for the entire hour that the Westboro Church representatives preached. They sang, played games, embraced one another, and held up signs of love, acceptance and joy.

Parishioners from Missoula's First United Methodist Church held their message high and steady: "Open hearts, open minds, open doors."

"The Christian message is, God created everyone in God's image, and the message is one of love," said Rosalie Robson, who came to the "United Against Hate" rally with members from University Congregational Church.

"Our church is an open and affirming church," Robson said. "We love and advocate for all people, especially Gays and Lesbians."

Mary and Lou Bryant, a retired couple in their 70s, drove from their home in Great Falls to add their presence to the UM rally.

"We believe in the rights of people to be who they are," said Mary Bryant. "It's kind of outrageous using these kinds of tactics - to claim to know God's mind is unthinkable. Who are they to say Matthew Shepard is in hell?"

Phelps-Roper said her church, which her father, Fred Phelps, began in 1955, "are here because of this school's institutionalized perversion," Phelps-Roper told the *Missoulian* during the demonstration.

"Desperate times call for desperate measures, and they made Matthew Shepard an icon," said her sister, Margie Phelps. "We have to be hard-hitting about that icon."

As planned, the Westboro Church ministers gathered up their signs and hopped into their two rental cars after an hour, heading to Great Falls for another rally.

Editor's Note: *The infamous Fred Phelps and his family of street preachers were shunned in their most recent appearances in Milwaukee and Madison. Both city's used his appearances to raise money, asking for a certain pledge amount per minute that his group spoke. The Milwaukee Police Department corralled the group well along the Pride Parade route, negating their impact. Poor Phelps can't even get a decent hearing in Montana!*

Martinez' death has gained the attention of Gay-rights groups because he sometimes dressed as a girl and was considered transgendered. Advocates have raised the question of whether he was killed because of his sexual orientation.

Authorities, however, have declined to call his death a hate crime.

During a preliminary hearing in September, Murphy's defense lawyer, Pamela Brown, said her client did not deny fighting with Martinez and striking him in the head with a rock the night of June 16. But she contended Murphy was fighting in self defense, and Martinez was alive when the two parted.

Martinez was last seen by family members at his home June 16, when he left to attend a carnival at the Ute Mountain Roundup Rodeo.

Brown said that potential trial witnesses present a conflict of interest for the public defender's office, and a new lawyer might have to be assigned to Murphy's case. District Judge Sharon Hansen set a hearing on the issue for Dec. 5.

World NEWS

Berlin's Gay Mayor

Continued from Cover Page

If Wowereit wants to shut out the ex-communists, his third partner likely would be the pro-business Free Democrats, who polled nearly 10 percent.

"I still have the choice," Wowereit told ZDF television. "We'll sound out the parties calmly."

Leaders of the conservative Christian Democrats, who had controlled the city since German reunification in 1990, suffered a crushing defeat in the wake of a sleaze scandal at a Berlin bank involving a local party leader.

The result further weakened national party head Angela Merkel, less than a year before federal elections. Yet party leaders insisted Monday the results in no way reflected their standing on a national level.

"The consequences are in Berlin and nowhere else," said Saarland state governor Peter Mueller, a Christian Democrat, adding that there was no reason to consider changes in the party's leadership.

On Sunday, the Christian Democrats slumped to 23.7 percent from 40.8 percent two years ago - their worst loss in a state election and their worst showing in Berlin since 1948.



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Court ok's conjugal visits for Columbian same-sex couples

Bogota, Columbia (AP) - The Supreme Court recently ordered prison authorities to make the necessary accommodations to allow same sex prisoners to have conjugal visits.

"An intimate visit for people in custody is not limited to heterosexual couples," the court wrote in its ruling.

The ruling came as the result of a lawsuit filed by a female prisoner serving a 17-year sentence in the Pereira prison, 175 miles (280 kilometers) west of Bogota. The prisoner's partner was recently released from the same prison. Greens party fields first "intersex" candidate

Greens Party fields first 'intersex' candidate

Canberra, Australia (AP) - The Greens, the first Australian political party to have openly Gay and Lesbian lawmakers, said in mid October it will field the nation's first known "intersex" candidate at the Nov. 10 federal election.

Tony Briffa, a 31-year-old airline maintenance engineer, will contest the electorate of Lalor in the southern city of Melbourne which is held by the opposition Labor Party. He is not expected to win.

Born with a mix of male and female sexual organs, Briffa was surgically castrated as a baby and raised as a girl.

As a teen-ager he felt uncomfortable living as a woman and has recently recog-

nized his true gender by living as a man, he said.

The Greens said in a statement that the party already had the distinction of electing Australia's first openly Gay lawmaker, federal Sen. Bob Brown, and Australia's first openly Lesbian politician, Giz Watson, a legislator in the Western Australia state parliament.

Briffa said the Greens were not exploiting his condition to gain attention and he was a legitimate candidate.

"I would like to think it is promoting awareness," he said.

Briffa said he hoped to present to the electorate alternative policies on health, education, the environment, human rights and industrial relations.

He conceded his chances of winning were slim and he would be happy if he attracted four percent of the vote.

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SpotLight



Arts and Entertainment Section

Film

PREVIEW

Documentary on NE Minn. Rural GLBT's Premieres October 28

St. Paul, MN – The world premier of *Treading Water*, a 90-minute documentary on GLBT communities of rural northeastern Minnesota, will be held 7pm, Sunday, October 28 at the Minnesota History Center.

The Minneapolis *Star Tribune* commented recently, "No state appears to have a wider gulf between city and country than Minnesota when it comes to same-sex partners... Rural Minnesota looks

just like Kansas or Nebraska, while Minneapolis looks like Berkeley, California... Is there a connection, perhaps? Does Minneapolis rank as high as it does precisely because gays and lesbians choose to leave rural Midwestern areas?"

Treading Water is a living snapshot of GLBT life in rural northeastern Minnesota at the beginning of the 21st Century. In a region that revels in its Scandinavian culture, complete with polkas, snowmobiles, hot dish, and stoicism, the stories of the queer northland could easily get lost. Quirky and often poignant, rural Minnesota has a story to tell that creates a new view of what it is to be GLBT in America today.

The ninety-minute film takes an in-depth look at three very different communities in northeastern Minnesota: tracing the history of the northern gay hub, Duluth/Superior; driving up the scenic Highway 61 to the small tourist town of

Grand Marais; and then cutting into Iron Ore country.

From the first openly gay bar started by funds won in a lawsuit against the Catholic Church, to the discovery of a fragmented group of Iron Range men who find each other over the internet, *Treading Water* shows a side of rural America that has been hidden from the mainstream. Ultimately, *Treading Water* redefines life in rural America and also broadens the definition of what it is to be GLBT.

Lots of Wisconsin connections

The film is directed by Jamie Lee, co-owner of Aquaries Media, a multimedia production company in St. Paul. Jamie grew up in Osceola, Wisconsin, and was an English and Mass Communications major at the University of Wisconsin in Superior. she continues to write short stories and sketch comedies.

Dawn Mikkelsen, Producer, is the other co-owner of Aquaries, is a former television news reporter at the ABC affiliate (WDIO-TV) in Duluth.

Dawn comments, "Although it is primarily about the GLBT communities of rural NE Minnesota, it features a mother and son from Superior, WI as well as the history of the Main Club in Superior.

Tickets and more info: 651-296-6126 (TTY: 651-282-6073)



Films

REVIEWS



Adventures of Felix back in town

A road movie by Olivier Ducastel & Jacques Martineau that follows an unemployed ferry worker as he hitchhikes across France from the Normandy coast to Marseilles, creating a family along the way.

The film is a collection of anecdotes about the people Felix encounters – a desparately randy young man, an alert and inquisitive elderly woman, a handsome man who knows how to handle a kite, and a put-upon single mom – a collection that accumulates into an unexpectedly touch-

ing and resonant tale.

With its asides on racism, right-wing politics, aging, and HIV, it succeeds as a portrait of the changing nature of contemporary France and the changing nature of family. The film is a charmer, gliding along with the buoyant good cheer of the winning central performance of Sami Bouajila as Felix.

A true, not-to-missed delight!

Dr. Bob's Take: The getting there is all; the arrival insignificant. Nice job. Recommended. (French w/English subtitles)

Felix was a such a hit at the recent Milwaukee LGBT Film Festival, that Landmark brought it back for a run at Milwaukee's Downer Theatre beginning October 26. If you missed it before, now's your chance.

Films

REVIEWS

Life as a House

It's amazing what 6" can do

Reviewed by Dr. Bob

But for an odious denouement, *Life as a House* would have won more stars as well as Dr. Bob's Fuzzy Feelgood Award for 2001. (Bias up front: I'm a sap for father/son relationship pictures because my own rapport, under the best of circumstances, might be described as wretched.)

George (Kevin Kline) learns his life is now numbered in terms of half years at best, months more likely. He demands custody of his son from his ex- for the entire summer so that they may build the boy (Hayden Christensen) a house.

Replacement structure, a lifelong but unaccomplished ambition, will be sited at the end of a tony cul-de-sac overlooking the ocean out to Catalina on a clear day.

The petulant 16-year-old has been on drugs for four years, has his summer plans of loafing ruined and is allergic to physical labor, for which his dad'll pay him but no



Hayden Christensen co-stars in *Life as a House*.

and, yeah, "Bring on the sheriff. Got something I want to tell him." Trapped, the guy backs off.

"After all," Junior yells at the retreating figure, "all we're talking

about is 6 inches." The audience members who get the double meaning howl, of course.



Kevin Kline and Hayden Christensen co-star in New Line Cinema film *Life as a House*.

allowance. In order to get grass, the boy relents to a clandestine sexual rendezvous in a car and which is interrupted by the cops but everyone gets away except the teenage pimp who set up the encounter.

The upscale neighbors are delighted to see George's old, disgraceful shanty being torn down and replaced. His next neighbor, Coleen (Mary Steenbergen), with whom he's had an affair, is sympathetic to the whole situation. Her neighbor on the other hand, David (Sam Robards), is the persnickety, uptight, conservative type and George's dog delights in pissing on the guy's morning paper, chewing holes in his garden hose and being a general nuisance. The man aches for retribution.

With the whole house frame finally in place, Mr. Persnickety shows up with the building inspector. George has exceeded the building's height by 6" and the roof must come down. Persnickety is adamant. He announces all forward activity must stop at once and he's going for the sheriff to enforce compliance. Whereupon Junior steps forward, ascertains that the black Lexus belongs to (closeted) Persnickety

The ability to blackmail has always been the number one excuse used why Gays won't knowingly be hired in strategic positions dealing with confidential or top secret materials. Those individuals can be compromised. But here in this film we have a situation that is the turning point, the final obstacle to be overcome, the crucial *coup de gras* before the grand Hollywood ending but it does not deal with top secret or confidential material. It deals with a blackmailing invasion of privacy.

Exposure. The man chooses not to come out of the closet. Foolish, perhaps, on his part but that is his prerogative, his right. The fact that the boy's age is pointedly set out as 16 doesn't help endear the community to a straight audience, no matter the kid's street smarts and the absence of any real harm.

So the Gay dragon is gored (if not exactly slain by the Son of St. George), and held up to ridicule. The house gets built, George dies and the audience goes home teary-eyed but happy. Fade to black.

Haiku Tunnel An Office Comedy

Reviewed by Dr. Bob

I have no problem with low-budget flicks. But when they're low-originality as well, then their sickly thrift irritates me no end because I've just wasted a healthy eight bucks on them.

Haiku Tunnel unfolds the story of an office temporary in a legal firm. Josh Kornbluth, temp Josh Kornbluth actor/co-director/co-writer) opens the flick with an elaborate disclaimer to having any particular law firm or attorney in mind (that limits the blame, doesn't it?) and then goes nowhere with what could have been a quirky, tongue-in-cheek comedy / farce / parody, take your pick.

Instead the script creeps along, the plot developing outlandish "excuses" for not getting 17 Very Important Letters into the mail on the first day (that's a plot?); and relationships among and with the perma-



L-Wareen as Bob Shelby, R-Josh Kornbluth as "Josh Kornbluth"

Photo by haiku tunnel LLC

nent employees ("perms") is explored.

There's a Gay perm, Clifford Brian Thorstenson. His worst sin is having a hissy-fit with some very shallow and banal dialogue typical of office bitching in a cocktail lounge setting. We've all heard it

before the second round of drinks. The speech goes in repetitive circles leading nowhere. It's there to show how dull and colorless these office perms are in contrast to adventure-some temps who view each new assignment as a bracing challenge... to recognize and swipe the better office supplies. Ha ha.

Dr. Bob's take: Spend no more than \$2 at Blockbusters if you absolutely must see this one. You won't have a long wait before it hits the shelves.

Mulholland Drive

Reviewed by Dr. Bob

The following paragraph in its entirety is quoted from the press kit of Universal Pictures:

"Along *Mulholland Drive* nothing is what it seems. In this complex tale of suspense, set in the unreal universe of Los Angeles, writer/director David Lynch explores the city's schizophrenic nature, an uneasy blend of innocence and corruption, love and loneliness, beauty and depravity. Lynch skillfully constructs a mesmerizing puzzle, propelling us through a mysterious labyrinth of sensual experiences until we arrive at the intersection where dreams and nightmares meet."

Translation: Universal doesn't know what the picture's about either. They just peddle it.

Also they left out, "One does not 'see' a David Lynch film; one 'experiences' it."

So, "Does it hurt to see *Mulholland Drive*?" Yes. The educated brain seeks always to make logical that which is incoherent. When it can't do so, the possessor gets irritable, cranky. Finally goes mad.

"Does it matter if you can't make sense



Naomi Watts (Betty) and David Lynch. A Universal Pictures release.

Photo by Melissa Moseley

out of *Mulholland Drive*?" Not really. The screen is filled with lush images, intriguing situations, fine performances. Kick back and let it wash over you.

If backlot gossip has any basis of truth, then the *Drive* started out as another *Twin Peaks*, failed to impress TV moguls, and represents a valiant effort to recoup the investment by editing together sequences from several different stories. *Voila!*

Dr. Bob's take: For myself, I'm satisfied believing that the character we know as Betty (Naomi Watts) is really the missing Diane, wallowing in an ideal fantasy in lala land where even her Lesbian encounters are mere wish fulfillments.

Performing Art REVIEW

Fire burns with hot performances

Reviewed by Dr. Bob

Milwaukee - *The Magic Fire*, the current offering by Milwaukee Repertory Theater, is a memory play of the finest sort and an opera lover's delight.

The memoirist, Lise (Kandis Chappell) addresses the audience, then graces the Buenos Aires apartment of her childhood recollection (a handsome set designed by Michael Ganio) offering "editorial" comments.

A child of six, Young Lise (Lillian Cummings) is the apple of the doting eyes of parents, relatives and the next-door neighbor, Fontannes (Lee E. Ernst), a native Argentinian.

Everyone in Young Lise's extended family is an emigrant from fascist Austria and Italy, or in musical parlance, Wagner and Verdi lands. (Piled luggage remains in

constant view as a subtle reminder of the impermanence, the transitory nature, of the group.)

Music, as both a curse and a blessing, is central to the drama. The title refers to the protective fire in Wagner's Ring cycle. (A subtle bit of ironic, discriminatory humor is found in references to "that Greek singer" [Maria Callas], whose name is never mentioned because it's neither a Schwartzkopf nor a Tebaldi.)

Disdaining political activism, Young Lise's family leaves fascistic Europe only to be later present in the regime of Gen. Peron in Argentina. (In the course of the play, Eva "Evita" Peron dies.) Once again disdaining politics, they discover there is no magic ring of protection from the outside.

In addition to the splendid work of the



Photo by Milwaukee Rep

The Magic Fire now in performance at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater's Quadracci Powerhouse Theater.

actors mentioned, director/playwright Lillian Groag elicits especially fine performances from Marcelo Tubert and Sharon Lockwood as Lise's parents, Laura Gordon as her actress/aunt as well as other family members and friends

Chesapeake: witty and sharp

Reviewed by Dr. Bob

Milwaukee - You gotta see this one, trust me.

In this corner, at c. 97 lbs., a grant-supported, Bisexual, performance artist Kerr (who publicly reads from the Bible in the nude); and in that corner, Senator Thurm ("55% of the votes") Pully, Southern fundamentalist and chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.



Shake hands...no, you. GOTTA shake hands...now come out fighting!

Chesapeake (a breed of dog) is witty and sharp (would you have expected less from playwright Lee Blessing); it's got a second act that pretty well beats prediction; and one of the groaningest puns of the season (having to do with expected dog behavior and computer action). It also boasts the talents of visiting actress Holly Twyford, who assumes all roles.

Successful one-performer shows can be counted on the left hand of three-fingered McGinty. (With the exception of Hal Holbrooks' *Mark Twain* and Julie Harris' *Belle of Amherst*, they tend to run to High Art: Gielgud's *Seven Ages of Man* (Shakespeare); Anthony Hopkins reading from St. Mark, etc.)

On the other hand, it is difficult to imagine another actress assuming the *Chesapeake* role; that's one reason why Twyford and her director, Joe Banno, are guest artists of Renaissance Theaterworks at the Off-Broadway Theatre with 10 remaining performances through November 4th.

Recommend you see it.

Performing Arts

REVIEWS

The First Lulu Proves Editing's Worth

Review by John Jahn

Milwaukee - German playwright Frank Wedekind's story about a turn-of-the-century woman's life and loves has undergone many transformations and permutations since its completion in 1894.

It was divided into two plays, *Earth Spirit* and *Pandora's Box* (the latter also a film by G. W. Pabst, with Louise Brooks in the Lulu role), and Alban Berg turned it into an opera in 1934. Each version in some way has been heavily edited, toned down, translated and retranslated.

The currently running Theatre-X production, called *The First Lulu*, represents a rare attempt to present the story as closely as possible to Wedekind's original manuscript, minimizing the editing process to brief snips only to keep the running time down.

This story of a young, beautiful girl, obviously sexualized before her adulthood and a product of a dysfunctional upbringing, who manipulates and in return is manipulated by many men in her brief, tragic life, is no longer scandalous as it was a hundred years ago. In fact, by modern standards it's downright ho-hum. Thus, the dramatic and tragic punch of *The First Lulu* (no doubt Wedekind's intention was to give a hard strike to the solar plexus of his conservative society) is almost totally annihilated. So, what's left?

As the play enters its third hour, we become increasingly convinced that judicious editing is not necessarily a bad thing. As it exists in its current, John Schneider-directed production, *The First Lulu* feels perhaps 30-50 minutes too long. It lacks a dramatic arch embracing and connecting its five sprawling acts, which appear as something more like loosely associated vignettes than a cohesive, narrative life story.

Still, *The First Lulu* is interesting from a historical perspective. The fine acting of the large cast, as well as the superb use of historic films and newspapers projected on a tattered white sheet between each act, combine to convince us we are witnessing actual events of a time and place long ago.

Katherine Taylor is appropriately youthful, attractive, flirtatious yet vulnerable as Lulu; John Kishline is a scene-stealer as her dirty, disheveled father/ex-lover Schigolch; and Jane Kramer gives a powerful performance as the obsessed Countess Martha, Lulu's eternally frustrated, would-be Lesbian lover. Theatre-X deserves credit for attempting such an ambitious work in a studio-theater setting and limited budget.

The First Lulu runs through November 11th at the Studio Theatre of the Broadway Theater Center. For tickets and further information, call 414-278-0555.

Another Review Appears on Page 15

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HIV patients with case managers fare better

Philadelphia, PA (AP) - HIV-infected adults with case managers who help coordinate their health care had fewer unmet needs and higher use of HIV medications, according to a study in last Tuesday's issue of *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

The study looked at 2,437 HIV-infected adults who visited inpatient and outpatient medical facilities in 52 urban and rural areas in 1996 and 1997. After looking at the patients at the start of the study and again six months later, researchers found that nearly 66 percent of those without case managers had needs that were not met - nearly 10 percentage points higher than patients who had case managers.

Patients with case managers were more likely to get income assistance, health insurance, emotional counseling, substance abuse treatment and other care. They also were more likely to get lifesaving medicines like drug-combination therapy and protease inhibitors, a factor that the study's lead author Dr. Mitchell H. Katz said he found "startling."

"This shows that the benefits of case management are much greater than just connecting people with services," said Katz, director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health. "It's a key to lifesaving treatment."

A case manager was defined for the study as a social worker, nurse, a member of an AIDS or other service organization, or "anyone else who is assigned to help you get and coordinate care." Participants were considered to have contact with a case manager if they reported seeing or talking to one at least once in the six months before their initial interview for the study.

The study noted that an increasing number of people with HIV are living in poverty and need both support services and medical care, making the role of case managers particularly valuable for doctors and patients. Still, the study noted that just 56 percent of HIV patients had case managers and that more funding is needed to get assistance - and medications - to where they're needed.

"Unless funds increase, we'll have to put new clients on a waiting list or discharge existing clients," said Kevin R. Conare, executive director of Action AIDS, Philadelphia's largest provider of HIV case management services.

"Either option will cut the number of people who access stable medical care and appropriate drug treatment," he said. "Either option will add financial burden to both patients and the Philadelphia health care system."

In a related editorial in Tuesday's *Annals*, Conare and Dr. William C. Holmes of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine said that case management services for HIV-infected people are at risk if federal funding is not increased.

Most money now comes from the federal Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act. The Bush administration's fiscal 2002 budget froze the program's funding at \$1.8 billion - the same amount as 2001. Holmes said the program needs \$300 million more.

"HIV is also a public health problem," he said. "If people do not get appropriate treatment, we add to that health problem. Case managers help guide financially needy HIV-infected people through our fragmented health system."

First AIDS drug genetic test ok'd Docs will know which drugs will fail

Washington, DC (AP) - The government has approved the first gene-based test to tell quickly whether an HIV patient's virus is mutating to make a particular drug therapy fail, important to know so the person can switch AIDS medications.

Visible Genetics Inc.'s Trugene™ is one of the most complex genetic test systems to clear the Food and Drug Administration. FDA officials described it as an important tool in helping doctors select the medications most likely to fight each patient's HIV.

The AIDS virus naturally grows resistant to medications through evolution. Experts estimate 60 percent of patients have a virus that is resistant to at least one drug.

Until now, most HIV patients have kept tabs on how well their treatment is working by undergoing tests to see how much of the AIDS virus is in the bloodstream. A spike can mean that HIV is growing resistant to one or more drugs, and it's time to try to a different medicine.

But to specifically check a patient's blood for genetic mutations that mean one of the 15 anti-AIDS drugs won't work has required additional laboratory testing not routinely available.

With Trugene™ a doctor sends a patient's blood sample to one of 130 labs where Visible Genetics so far has trained personnel. A computer decodes the HIV genes in that blood, identifying all the genetic mutations present. Then a software program matches those mutations to a list of more than 70 mutations currently linked to resistance in specific drugs.

The lab mails the doctor a report listing the likelihood that each AIDS drug would work according to the viral mutations currently coursing through that patient's blood, said Visible Genetics president Richard Daly.

The test is 98 percent accurate, said FDA medical reviewer Dr. Andrew Dayton. Better, as scientists discover additional mutations that cause drug resistance - a rapidly changing field - the new information can be added to the software promptly so that the test remains useful in real-world practice, he said.

The test takes three days to complete and will cost between \$300 and \$500 per patient, Daly said.

"It's a major step forward in HIV treatment," said Dr. R. Scott Hitt, president of the American Academy of HIV Medicine.

But "it is only one piece of the puzzle" in picking the best therapy, Hitt cautioned, urging patients to seek treatment from HIV specialists who can properly interpret test results.

FDA researchers set up the computer gene sequencer in an agency lab to understand the novel test fully and approved its after a year of review, record review time for such a complex new science, Daly said. Testing is now available.

-By Lauren Neergaard, AP
Medical Writer

Health Fed Panel Backs new anti-HIV Drug FDA could approve addition to drug arsenal by Nov. 1

by Ron Geiman

Silver Spring, MD - The Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Antiviral Drugs Advisory Committee October 3 recommended FDA approval of Gilead's promising anti-HIV drug, Viread™. Viread™ works by blocking an enzyme crucial to the replication of HIV. It was tested for six months in patients who failed to respond to other drugs, otherwise known as treatment failure. The FDA usually follows its panels' advice, and a final decision should come by November 1.

Generically known as Tenofovir (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate, or TDF), its previous formula, PMPA, had been studied in simians since 1995. The animals were given twice daily sub cut injections. The drug proved its effectiveness, and research resulted in the present product. Viread™, as approved in its current form, is provided in once a day tablets.

Many Persons With AIDS (PWAs) - especially those of us who have fought HIV long-term - have out-lived the usefulness of current therapies. Quick FDA approval of its committee's recommendation could offer new hope for many. Adding TDF to the approved anti-HIV arsenal comes as the government reports an increase in the AIDS death rate.

"Committee members were divided over whether to recommend approving Viread™ for treating any adult with HIV or to restrict it to those who have tried other drugs first," according to Reuters.

Gilead conducted two major clinical trials, with most participating PWAs evidencing treatment failure on their current regimen.

Those studies caused the committee members to split. Nine wanted the drug approved only for patients with treatment failure, whereas seven did not want to limit approval to specific patient profiles. Some members were presuming that the drug would work just as well for treatment-naive patients.

Reuters News quoted Dr. Jonathan Schapiro, a panel member from Stanford University's Center for AIDS Research saying "I strongly think we should get this into the hands of physicians right away."

According to FDA rules, the decision on which patients could be prescribed the drug, would affect how Gilead Sciences Inc. markets the drug. However, doctors could legally prescribe "off-label" use for any PWA.

The advent of HAART

The first anti-HIV drugs approved were a number of Nucleosides. Protease Inhibitors arrived in January 1996, then Non Nucleosides. The dawn of the vaunted "Drug Cocktail", officially known as Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART).

Euphoria eventually led to signs of failure by '99, as evidence built that the HIV virus continuously mutated, lending current regimens ineffective.

Viread™ (TDF) would be the first Nucleotide approved. Nucleotide Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor are chemically similar to Nucleosides, the best-selling antiretroviral drugs. Both types block reverse transcriptase, an enzyme HIV needs to reproduce.

TDF, if approved, would come on the heels of the FDA's recent approval of the first genetic resistance drug assay test, Trugene™. There is a separate article

about that test, in this issue of the *Wisconsin Light*. The test will play an important role in joint Doctor -Patient decisions regarding which HIV drugs to take, with TDF as part of the process.

In clinical trials, Gilead claims Viread™ played a significant part in reducing viral levels through 48 weeks, in combination with two other antiretrovirals. Side effects, including headaches and nausea, were similar between Viread patients and those given a placebo.

The scientists urged Gilead to conduct further studies on long term use by people, and evaluate the risk of bone damage. Animals tested with the drug had shown some problems with bone density, but Gilead claims no such results were seen in humans.

DEA raids medi-pot dispensary Seizes patient records

Cool, CA - Federal agents raided the offices of the California Medical Research Center in El Dorado County last Friday, seizing 32 marijuana plants and thousands of medical records from club members. Club proprietors Dr. Marion Fry and her husband, attorney Dale Schafer, were not arrested in the raid.

The bust marks the first time federal agents have targeted a state medical marijuana facility since voters legalized the possession and cultivation of medicinal cannabis in 1996, and comes only weeks after newly-appointed DEA Director Asa Hutchinson announced that any use of marijuana as a medicine "is a violation of federal law ... [and we're] not going to tolerate a violation of the law."

National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) Foundation Legal Director Donna Shea strongly criticized the raid. "In addition to violating the rights of Californians to set their own public health policy, the DEA has seized records that are protected by attorney/client and doctor/patient privilege," she said.

In a similar event, DEA agents recently seized more than 200 plants from a medicinal pot farm outside of Los Angeles, the *L.A. Times* reported. No arrests were made. The marijuana was destined for patients at the Los Angeles Cannabis Resource Cooperative, the paper said.

In a separate case, the director of the Salmon Creek Cannabis Cooperative in Humboldt County is facing federal charges after police seized the club's 200 plants. "We can only hope these actions do not represent a new federal initiative to override the will of the voters in California," NORML Director Keith Stroup said.

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Community

OutReach Launches Major Donor Campaign

Madison - OutReach, Madison's GLBT community center, has kicked off its fourth annual Major Donors Campaign.

According to Debra Weill, executive director of Outreach, the group is hoping to top last year's campaign, which netted \$19,000 for the organization. "We're looking to raise \$25,000," Weill said.

"The money will be used to improve OutReach's community services."

OutReach services include a lending library, support groups, community advocacy, a GLBT information referral service, and a volunteer program.

Weill added that the Major Donors Campaign is just one of four fundraising drives the group is organizing this fall. The initial stage of the campaign was to recruit "askers" to seek out potential donors and solicit contributions. Weill

reported that the organization has now identified its askers, and direct contributions began coming into the organization the week of October 14.

The group's other three autumn fundraisers all consist of direct mail solicitations.

Founded in 1998 by the merger of two Madison GLBT groups, OutReach has received major financial support in the past from New Harvest, the Gill Foundation, the city of Madison, Dane County, and Community Shares of Wisconsin.

Those interested in assisting with the campaign can contact OutReach at 600 Williamson Street, Madison, 53703-3588, or on the Web at www.outreachinc.com.

Performing Arts

REVIEW

This Baby should be thrown out

Reviewed by Dr. Bob

Milwaukee - Some things in life require an acquired taste, things such as Scotch, anchovy, limburger cheese and plays by Christopher Durang. Well, three out of four isn't bad.

The image comes to mind that somewhere along the educational line one of the influential Roberts (Brustein or Corrigan) put an A+ on Durang's class project, patted him on the head, and voila! Instant American College Moliere. (Or so he's led to believe.)

To be fair it must be reported that the majority of the few stalwarts who braved Monday night's drenching rain to reach the bone-dry intimacy of South KK's Boulevard Theatre laughed - one even roared - at the current Alley offering of Durang's *Baby With the Bathwater* (as in that old admonition, "Don't throw out the baby with the bathwater," no one could be that worthless.)

And "Alley," by the way refers to a schedule of Sun. & Mon for the first three weeks and Thurs.-Sun. for the fourth and final week; (no other implication).

But laugh they did, probably because the play resembles something you'd see on TV whose sit coms have so effectively

destroyed real comedy.

Director Jim Gallagher has paced this *non sequitor* laugh riot pell mell and gets the performances he deserves from his blameless comedians (in order of appearance): Stacey Fox, Jake Blomquist, Carol Hirschi, Lisa Schnell-Hanel and Justin Bonlender.

Yech.



Photo by Maureen Kilnurry

Carol Hirschi appears as "Nanny" and Jacob Blomquist appears as "John" in the Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre Production of Christopher Durang's "Baby with the Bathwater"

Register Now for Creating Change

Milwaukee - Mark your calendars! It's almost time for the largest, nationwide skills building conference of its kind for the LGBT community!

Nearly 2,500 activists, organizers, students, elected and appointed officials, leaders of GLBT groups and GLBT allies will attend.

Milwaukee was selected as this year's host city. U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin and Anthony D. Romero, the newly appointed executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, will be among the keynote speakers at this year's conference. There is still time to register.

To successfully host the conference, the local organizers need 300 volunteers to help at the conference, and 100 volunteers to provide host housing. If you have already submitted a host housing or a volunteer form or have already received an email, they thank you and ask that you to forward this information to anyone who may be interested.

Conference Highlights

- Plenaries featuring a number of keynote speakers including Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin and ACLU executive director Anthony Romero.

- A number of pre-conference institutes examining racism, ageism, youth activism, transgender issues and building/strengthening community centers on Wednesday, November 7 and Thursday, November 8.

- Over 150 workshops, seminars, caucuses and networking meeting from Friday, November 9 to Sunday, November 11.

Entertainment

- Latin pop star Jade Esteban Estrada (<http://www.getjaded.com>) who also performed at the 2001 Milwaukee PrideFest, Wisconsin's largest LGBT pride festival.

- Spoken work performer Alix Olson <http://www.alixolson.com>

- Singer/songwriter Doria Roberts <http://www.doriaroberts.com>

- Everyone is invited to attend to the Saturday night concert featuring the above performers. Tickets are \$20 in advance, and \$25 and at the door. Limited income tickets will be available in the conference exhibit area. The concert will be held at the downtown Hyatt Regency Ballroom at 9:30pm.

Volunteer Opportunities

Organizers are presently in need of at least 50 more hosts to provide no-cost community housing for out-of-town guests not staying in a hotel. Print or download the housing form from: <http://www.ngltf.org/downloads/cc01househost.pdf>.

They also still need volunteers to fill a variety of shifts every day at conference. If you can volunteer for as little as four hours or as much as four days, print or download the volunteer form from: <http://www.ngltf.org/downloads/cc01volunteer.pdf>.

In exchange for a four hour work shift, you will be able to attend that day's workshops for free! You will also receive a volunteer t-shirt.

Special assistance is needed in the conference office during the day from Monday through Friday all week.

For more information on the Creating Change Conference or to register, please visit: <http://www.creatingchange.org>.

For more information on volunteer and host housing opportunities, visit : <http://www.ngltf.org/cc/volunteer.htm> or contact the 2001 Creating Change Milwaukee Host Committee by phone, 414-271-2656, or by email: mailto:mkecc@hotmail.com.

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Community

A stylish new home for the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

by Ron Geiman

The Center's new facility at 315 W. Court Street is freshly painted in creams, yellows and pleasant accent colors, replacing the dull original gray. Furnishings are, understandably, dated, but a creative approach rehabbed the look of the reception area.

A strip of molding installed a foot down from the ceiling in all the public areas will serve as a way to exhibit art by LGBT artists.

Center Gallery

The new Center Gallery made its debut on October 19, as an official new stop on the popular Gallery Night circuit. The popular exhibit, entitled *Vernissage* - featuring works by LGBT artists including Ricky Heldt, Naureen

Kane, Vala Mohr, Jef Raasch, Joe Simon and Steve Slaske - runs through November 30.

After this exhibit, the Center Gallery will continue to provide a place to showcase the city's LGBT visual artists, who have long lacked a central facility to focus on their work.

It's an excellent idea, and a long time coming.

Convenient layout

The Court Street location is approximately the same square footage as the previous 2nd Street space, but the layout and flow are much more conducive to Center operations. There is also room for expansion

to the basement and second floor areas. The first floor is handicap accessible, a necessity unavailable at the old location which the landlord promised to address, but never did.

Off the reception area is a Library/Resource center, several small



Neil Albrcht, Community Center Benefactor Jack Smith and Stephanie Hume of ARCW during the Equality Awards.

organization offices, Center offices and the large community room where the reception was held. Down the hall are more organization offices and rest rooms, before you reach Project Q space. That area includes the Coffee Bar, a large youth lounge, a small meeting room, and offices for organizations designed to serve LGBT youth.

Surely, some benefactor could provide the Center with new amenities for the public areas: couches, chairs, occasional tables, etc. Give Neil a call if you would like to help furnish "our" new home.

'Elements' to benefit Grand Reopening

As part of Milwaukee's hosting of the NGLTF Creating Change Conference, *Elements* will celebrate the Center with style, music and attitude Friday night, November 9.

Organizers will show our out of town guests that Milwaukee is on the edge of the latest fashions and dance music. It will demonstrate why *Girlfriends* ranked Milwaukee #1 for Lesbians (and it's just

pants will be primed to go out and hit Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian bars and clubs.

Fashions by Yellow Jacket, Hot Topic, Gadzooks, Black Canyon Leather, Boston Store, Mount Mary School of Fashion Design and more.

Hair and make-up styling by hipsters at Beauty, Aveda and Acteaworks Ltd. Dance to the latest clubs sounds with DJ Surface and enjoy the buzz of a cash bar.

Hundreds of out of town guests from Creating Change are expected, with free shuttle service from the Hyatt Hotel, conference HQ's.

Everything for *Elements* is donated, so the entire \$10 advance ticket price will go to benefit the Center.

It will be interesting to see how *Elements* organizer Daniel Klingler and the volunteer from First Stage Milwaukee (sets/ lighting) transform the large community room where the Public Officials Reception was held into a so-called "dicso" for *Elements*. Like BJ said to me, "It's amazing what some lighting and sets will do to a plain space. Just wait, you'll love it."

Not so suprised, BJ, I've been to similar such productions and they are always edgy, with video and still projections as well as the fashion, hair and music. Always a senses-ational overload.

Tickets are on sale at Outwards, M&M Club and the Center. For charge by phone, call 414-271-2656. Tickets may be available at the door of the Center, located at 315 W. Court Street. (Location is between Old World Third St./ Martin Luther King Drive and 4th Street. Court is several

blocks north of Juneau, across from the Schlitz complex.)



Brenda Coley and Edward Carr



Common Council President Marvin Pratt and Sherri Goldberg of Pride Fest at the Community Center.

fine for us Gay men, too).

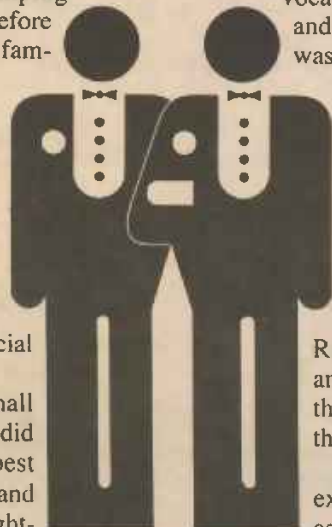
Gonna' get the party started... at 7pm. *Elements* reigns until 11pm, so partici-

Kotke and Rabehl Wedding

David Paul (B.B. Rogers) Kotke and Ronald Arthur Rabehl tied the proverbial not October 13 at a lovely ceremony at David's long term stomping grounds, the M&M Club before a large crowd of friends and family.

The parking lot was festooned with a large white tent to contain the overflow crowd and protect them from the inclement clime. All the associated revelry was a private affair as the M&M Club closed its doors to the public for the special occasion.

Not content with a small wedding party, the boys did things grand with two best women (Rochelle Ciucci and Angela Youngstrom), delightfully hunky Markus Barrington as ring bearer and dragocious flower girls: Sasha Mitchell, Rudy D'Angelo, Joey Black, Jackie Roberts, Christina Chase and Nova Divine. (Sounds like a cast for a drag show!)



Revered Terry did the honors, and the ceremony was heart-felt and glowed with warmth. The lighting of the unity candle and community blessing preceded the announcement of their union to those assembled, as well as to the world.

Music was provided by a variety of vocalists including Connie Blake and Terri Wedner at the piano, as was James Barnes.

Flowers were from Bay Floral, with decor by Randy Frank. Joey Black reportedly was elbow deep in batter when preparing the scrumptious cake.

Both B.B.'s parents, Roger and Judith Kotk and Ron's mother, Patricia Rabehl, were in attendance and glowing just as parents of the groom(s) should during their child's wedding.

Bob Schmidt returned from exile and looked on with pride as Boo Boo, John and the rest of the staff proved they could carry on his traditions with finesse and good food, and of course, lots of cheer.

It gives us all hope when we see "one of our boys" get married off, and especially to such a nice 'catch'...

Annular AIDS Awareness Event to be held at Weidner Center

Green Bay - The 4th annual World AIDS Day Celebration of Remembrance and Hope is scheduled for Thursday evening, November 29th, from 7:30-9:30pm at Green Bay's Weidner Center for the Performing Arts, located on the UWGB campus.

The event is produced by *Entertainers Against AIDS*. Anyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Emceeding the event will be television news anchor Erin Davisson, Wisconsin Public Radio talk show host Jean Feraca, and AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin Executive Director Doug Nelson.

The variety show will include the talents of Miss Green Bay, the Union Congregational Church Chancel Choir, Glamarama, a Polynesian Dance Troupe and many other performances.

In addition to the entertainment, members of the community will speak about living with HIV and will share AIDS-related information. A portion of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be dis-

played during the event, on loan from the NAMES Project/Atlanta Chapter.

Admission is free, courtesy of event sponsorship support from Oneida Bingo and Casino. All of the participants are donating their time and talents to raise awareness around HIV/AIDS issues, and to honor those who have lost their battle with the disease.

Doors will open at 6:30. For more information call Paul "Cricket" Jacob at 920-437-7400.

UWM's Library exhibiting GLBT resources

Milwaukee - The Golda Meir Library at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee now has on display examples of resources on LGBT subjects from its collections.

The exhibit includes books, dissertations, journals, magazines, and newspapers in four areas: Women's and Multicultural Studies, Periodicals, Milwaukee, and Local and Global Studies.

The exhibit can be viewed in the first floor, east wing display cases during regular library hours until November 30.

SING-A-LONG SOUND OF MUSIC



Photo by Gary Hawkins

Wouldn't ya' know it ... Gay men trying break thoir habits!



Photo by Gary Hawkins

Is he ... or isn't he? Channel 6's Meteorologist, Scott Steele and dog pal Spunky!



Photo by Gary Hawkins

Off the Tracks Grand Opening Party Staff ... L to R Mike Ehlman, Bar Manager, Lola Witecha, Co-Owner and Sara Depies, Co-Owner. \$600 of Off the Tracks Grand Opening profits was donated to the Red Cross 9-11 Fund.



Photo by Gary Hawkins

A good time was had by all who attended the Grand Opening Celebration at the newest Milwaukee Club "off the Tracks" formerly the Station II.



Photo by Gary Hawkins

Charmian Carr, who played "Liesl" in the original film was on hand to sign autographs during the ARCW Benefit "Sing-A-Long Sound of Music" at the Landmark's Oriental Theatre.

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Dance Music CD's Reviewed

Out on CD

You could be dancing

By Gregg Shapiro

There's no escaping the influence of dance music on the current music scene. Whether it's DJ culture rearing its egotistical head or actual musicians creating music with an insistence dance beat, if you don't have your dancing shoes on, your liable to get trampled.

Does *A Funk Odyssey* (Epic), the eagerly anticipated new album by funky favorites **Jamiroquai** live up to its name? "Feels So Good," the opening track, offers a nod to the filtered funk of the French DJ scene. The first single, "Little L," is as nostalgic as it is new with its stringy keyboards, programmed handclaps, and guitar licks, not to mention the punctual beat. The daring "Corner Of The Earth," combines Middle Eastern, Brazilian and sixties pop influences for a unique delicacy. The dance party resumes with "Love Foolosophy," and the chukka-chukka guitar of "Stop! Don't Panic" and "Main Vein." The acoustic "Black Crow" doesn't hold a candle to the Joni Mitchell song of the same title, although it almost takes flight. Less an funk odyssey than it is a funk oddity, I remain grateful to Jay Kay of Jamiroquai for doing his part to fight the good fight and keep the funk alive.

With their 1999 debut disc, *Vertigo*, distinguished dance duo **Groove Armada** showed us how to get our groove on with their breakthrough track "I See You Baby." The song was so popular, yet unique, that it made the transition for use in a television commercial. If that isn't a statement about pop culture, I don't know what it is. *On Goodbye Country (Hello Nightclub)* (Jive Electro), their highly anticipated follow-up album, Groove Armada simmers before they slash through your speakers. The slow jam of "Suntoucher," acts like an aphrodisiac, warming you up your pelvis and hips for the beats lurking under the surface of reggae/house of "Superstylin'." "Fogma's" vintage disco rhythms, the funky thump of "Raising The Stakes," and the galloping gait of "Healing." The album's centerpiece, the soulful slip and slide of "My Friend," stands out for its timeless, yet futuristic R&B vibe.

When you're dancing at a club, at a party or in the privacy of your own home (you wallflower, you), you want the music to be persuasive. You want it to offer you encouragement to start moving and to keep moving. The trio known as **Fluke** produced music, over the course of ten years, that lifted you up and set you to bumping and grinding and waving your hands in the air. Subtitled *Ten Years of Fluke, Progressive History X* (Astralwerks) is an eleven track collection, culled from six albums, that sounds like the freshest flashback around. Time has been kind to techno tracks such as "Thumper," "Philly," "Electric Guitar," and "Tosh." If this is what yesterday sounds like, I can hardly wait to hear tomorrow.

Duich duo **Arling & Cameron** have been making the rounds for the last few years, popping up on movie soundtracks and in TV commercials. *On We Are A&C* (Emperor Norton), their addictive new disc they blur time lines to make one of the best albums of forward-thinking retro electronic music to date. Beginning with the trippy and transcendent "5th Dimension" and moving on to the faux-horns of "B.B. Electro," Arling &

Cameron make the kind of good first impression you hope your boyfriend makes when you take him home to meet your parents. They want us to like them and throughout the fourteen tracks on this disc, they hardly give us a reason not to. They get Air-y on "Up" and "We Are A & C," but that just shows what good musical taste they have. "Dirty Robot" is a hip-shaking good time, while "Coconut Conga" is a massive Moog attack. "Sunday" is a loving tribute to buh-buh-buh-Bacharach, and I must confess to having a soft spot for the dreamy ballad "Born In June," with guest vocals by Kim Haworth and Ferdinand Bakker, because I was born in June.

The good thing about being a Gemini is that you are always looking at things through two set of eyes (or listening with two sets of ears). That's how I approached *Electro Lounge: Volume Two* (The Right Stuff). I loved the first volume, released in 1999, on which a host of remixers and DJs (including **Utah Saints**, **gusgus**, **Q-Burns**, **Abstract Message** and others) reinvented an assortment of sixties lounge classics. Never ones to leave well enough alone (after all, they do listen to other people's work with the idea of improving on or finishing a finished piece) another crew of remixers messes with thirteen more songs from the sixties lounge period and the results are mixed, to say the least. The Mocean Worker remix of Keely Smith's "What Is This Thing Called Love?" deconstructs the original to arrive at a new question. The same holds true for Lunatic Calm's remix of the "I Spy" theme, Plaid's remix of Dickie Harrell's "Drivin' Around The Block," and The Light remix of Les Baxter's "Voodoo Dreams." What Volume Two lacks is the spark and sizzle of the original, an idea that was, apparently, too clever for its own good.

When most people think of dance music from Chicago, they probably think of Frankie Knuckles and house music. But, they shouldn't forget that before **Ministry** became a heavy duty industrial dance/metal unit, they made also made accessible dance music. Pointy Teeth appears to be intent on picking up that long extinguished torch and setting it ablaze on *Cinema-Tech* (Diva Nation). This duo (Preston Klik and DJ Carbon Star a.k.a. Desiree) has enough beats, synthesizers and turntable to keep the rave going until the cows come home. Less goth than I expected, Pointy Teeth is considerate enough to let you know how many beats per minute each song has (they range between 115 and 130) and they do a respectable job of making those beats count, especially on "Sorry (It Doesn't Matter What I Say)," "Heavy (Go Back Home)," "Baby (I Don't Mean To Be So Confusing)," and the Eastern-influenced "India (Don't Know What To Do With You)."

When it comes to UK garage and British two-step, I prefer MJ Cole to Craig David. I like the fact that Cole shares the wealth, while young Mr. David only seems interested in keeping the wealth to himself (as he was "born to do"). However, in small doses, Craig David can be mesmerizing. Earlier this year, on the domestic release of the Artful Dodger's Re-Rewind disc, Mr. David could be heard on the title track. You can hear him a few more times on the *Artful Dodger's It's All About The Stragglers* (Sire/London), performing "Re-Rewind" again, as well as "What You

Gonna Do" and Robbie Craig's "Woman Trouble." I also realized that my preference runs toward female vocalists with this style of music which is gaining in popularity by the minute in the States. With that in mind, may I suggest the cuts "Think About Me," "Twentyfourseven," "Movin' Too Fast," and "I Can't Give It Up."

The French dance music revolution continues. Those left wanting more after the release of Air's 10,000 Hz Legend and Daft Punk's Discovery will probably be amply pleased with *Bosco's Action* (Atlantic), an active disc of nearly relentless dance-floor action. This fittingly named eleven-track disc launches with the spaced-out "Satellite" and progresses through such wacky wiggling tunes as "Mr. Fresh," the country-funk of "Hey! Hey! Hey!," the electrified "Electric," and the subversive house of "Distotheque." B-52 **Fred Schneider** sounds like he's having as much fun on "Nonstop Nonsense," as he had on his own eighties solo dance floor sensation "Monster." Bosco goes down like a mouthful of chocolate syrup, leaving the listener sweetly satisfied and a little buzzed.

The problem that I have with sampling is that most artists have the technology but not the inventiveness to put the samples to good use. I'd like to introduce you to the exception to the rule. **The Avalanches** are an Australian five-piece unit that has created one of the most blissful albums of the year - *Since I Left You* (Modular/Sire). From inspirational and insistent dance tracks such as the title track, "Stay Another Season" (with its subtle Madonna sample), "Avalanche Rock" and "Flight Tonight" (with their hip-hop hearts) "Radio," "A Different Feeling," and "Live At Dominoes" (with its nod to the French DJ scene), to more uncategorizable cuts such as "Frontier Psychiatrist" (which borrows from a multitude of sources including a John Waters movie), "Two Hearts In 3/4 Time," "Electricity," "Tonight," "Summer Crane," and "Extra Kings," The Avalanches know how to pile it on without inundating the listener. This is the kind of disc that you return to time and time again to discover something you missed on the previous listen. Look out below!

Often imitated, never duplicated, **Orbital** ranks among the original pioneering and groundbreaking techno/electronic units. On their latest disc, *The Altogether* (FFRR), the Hartnoll brothers (Paul and Phil) show no signs of slowing down, retiring or recycling their shtick, as so many others in the same genre are prone to do. "Doctor?," their interpretation of the Doctor Who theme is sci-fi fiery. "Tension," featuring Lux Interior and the Cramps, is appropriately tense, while the soothing (and apparently amusing) "Funny Break (One Is Enough)," with ethereal vocals supplied by Naomi Bedford, is hypnotic and addictive. Music industry phoenix David Gray lends his vocals to the luminous "Illuminate." Whether you listen to this varied and vivid disc in your club gear or in the altogether, it sounds just as good.

When it comes to creating a trancelike state on a night club dance-floor or in the streets at the Love Parade, **Dave Ralph** is a natural. Beginning with his own "Islands Of Light" and segueing into Moonwatcher's "This Is..." (in which the phrase "This is the beginning" is repeated), you know you are in for a listening experience that will move you in more

ways than one with his two-disc mix set *Naturalized* (Kinetic). The "naturalized" DJ (a Liverpool native now living in America), seamlessly blends a variety of sounds into an ever shifting mood-scape. For instance, listen, while you are moving to the beat, to the way that the repetitive "Topfschlagen" by Microwave Prince spills over into the Giorgio Moroder-esque beat of "My Mind Is Going" by Piece Process. Feel for yourself, the way that the locomotive rhythm of Jurgen Dreissen's "Counter Culture" transports you to elastic beats of Oliver Klein's "Rheinkraft." And all of this happens on the first disc alone. High points of the second disc include the filtered disco of Graham Camp's "Stabilizer," the Euro energy of Laurent Garnier's "The Man With The Red Face," and the addictive thump of Junkie XL's "Simycho."

Now that they've released *Rooty*, one of

the best albums of 2001, Felix Buxton and Simon Ratcliffe must have felt confident enough in their achievements to allow their always growing fan-base a view of how they got to be who and what they are today. The songs on the collection *Atlantic Jaxx Recordings - A Compilation* (XL) were recorded between 1994 and 1997 and are a history lesson unto themselves. Even if you hate studying, you'd be wise to take a listen to songs such as the Latin-tinged "Samba Magic," "Live Your Life With Me," "Lonely," the house-influenced "Belo Horizonti," "Set Yo Body Free," "Missing You," and "Undaground," and the Jamiroquai-like "Fly Life," so that you can achieve a greater appreciation for the bountiful gifts that the **Basement Jaxx** have to offer. But, be careful. You might learn something.



Gay Agenda

Calendar

Editor's Gay Agenda POLICY: Our calendar is for GLBT EVENTS ONLY. The only A&E EVENTS listed will be premieres of GLBT shows. The only ORGANIZATION events listed will be GLBT one time or special events. Halloween Bar events listed as a courtesy to the community.

Tuesday, October 30

Groovy Ghoully Halloween; Orbit (Milw.): costume party

Wednesday, Oct. 31

Costume Contest; Boot Camp (Milw.): costume contest at 12pm, midnight.

Halloween Costume Party/Tim's Monster Birthday Bash; Club Boom (Milw.): Free beer and 2-4-1 rail from 8-11.

Halloween Costume Party; Woody's (Milw.): prizes.

Halloween Costume Bar Crawl; Milwaukee Bars: Starts at Triangle at 8:30pm, then Switch at 9:45pm, Fluid at 11pm, finale at La Cage follows after Midnight.

Pumpkin Carving Contest; Harbor Room (Milw.): 10pm

Ssssscaroke; Walker's Pint (Milw.):

Saturday, November 3

Traveling HIV Testing; Midtowne Spa (Milw.): Free, anonymous testing and counseling by the BESTD Clinic from 10pm-1am.

22nd Anniversary Dinner; Castaways MC (Milw.): Italian Community Center. Application deadline Oct. 28, see info at 1100 Club for details.

Tuesday, November 6

How Safe are Our Schools?; GLSEN (Milw.): Forum with guest speaker Kevin Jennings, a leader in both the education and civil right communities and founder of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), 7-8:30pm. 1st Unitarian Church, 1342 N. Astor St., info: GLSEN_SEW@hotmail.com

Traveling HIV Testing; LaCage (Milw.): Free, anonymous testing and counseling by the BESTD Clinic from 10pm-1am.

NGLTF Conference Specials; Orbit (Milw.): Extra happy hour specials for all conference attendees. Today thru November 11th.

Wed., Nov. 7 - thru Sun., Nov. 11

14th Annual Creating Change Conference; NGLTF (Milwaukee Hosts): The national conference of the GLBT movement presented by the Milwaukee chapter of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Foundation. More than 150 workshops, networking session and trainings. Hyatt Regency downtown, for more information: 202-332-6483 x 3301; creatingchange@nlgf.org For more info see Page 15.

Friday, November 9

Elements; LGBT Community Center (Milw.): Benefit Fashion/Hair/Make-up Show & Dance Extravaganza. See Community Center's 'Elements' article on Page 16 for details.

Miss Emerald City USofA 2002; West Theatre (Green Bay): 8pm registration, 9pm interview, 10:30pm pageant. Starring Miss Gay WI-USofA 2001, C.C. Domino.

Saturday, November 10

Creating Change Concert/Performance; NGLTF (Milw.): Open to all, featuring Folk rock artist Daria Roberts, Slam Poet Alix Olson and Latin Pop Star Jade Esteban Estrada, 9:30pm, Hyatt Regency Ballroom, downtown. \$20 advance, \$25 at the door.

Gay and Lesbian Artists' Exhibition; Midwest Express Center (Milw.): through Nov. 11, right next door to the Creating Change Conference.

Traveling HIV Testing; Ces't La Vie (Milw.): Free, anonymous testing and counseling by the BESTD Clinic from 10pm-1am.

Miss Chili Pepper; Rainbow Room (Madison): Direct from Chicago's Baton Show Lounge, the incomparable Chili Pepper.

Friday, October 26

Halloween Party; Positive Voice (Appleton): annual all ages party at Harmony Cafe at Foxley's. 6-11pm, Kathy 920-751-8497.

Scream, A Halloween Party; House of Infinity (Milw.): complementary food and drink, ID required, Lincoln Park Pavilion, 1301 W. Hampton Ave., 8pm-Midnight. \$5 with costume, \$10 without. 414-265-7887.

Saturday, October 27

14th Annual Womyn's Halloween Dance; Full Moon Productions (Milw.): Harbor Lights Ballroom, Transit Center. DJ with old/new dance music, Alcohol/and non-alcohol serves, prizes for best costumes; costumes optional. \$10 at the door, a womyn only event.

Annual Halloween Party; Positive Voice (Appleton): 21 and over, Liberty Hall in Kimberly. \$10 cover, free soda hors d'oeuvres and dancing with DJ Schelli. Bet costume contest and door prizes. Kathy 920-751-8497.

Halloween Party; Rainbow Families Wisconsin (Madison): For GLBT families and friends, James Reeb Unitarian Church, 3-5pm, 2146 E. Johnson St. FMI: naturehrt@aol.com

Costume Cruise; HIT (Milwaukee): The Holiday Invitational Tournament costume cruise on the Edelweiss, 10pm-midnight. \$25 cost benefits the annual bowling event. 414-453-1868; hitmilw@execpc.com

Traveling HIV Testing; South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Free, anonymous testing and counseling by the BESTD Clinic from 10pm-1am.

Closing Party; CJ's Great Escape (LaCrosse): Come in and help drink the place dry, this is their last night open!

Halloween Monster Mash; Sass (Green Bay): costume judging after midnight.

Halloween Costume Party; My Place (La Crosse): call for information.

Annual Costume Ball; Historic West Theatre (Green Bay): judging after midnight.

Club Night/Halloween Costume Contest; Brew City Bears, Boot Camp (Milw.): club night, includes costume contest along with raffle prizes.

Halloween Costume Contest; Ballgame (Milw.): contest at 10pm.

Halloween Costume Contest; C'est La Vie (Milw.): contest at 11:30pm

Halloween Contest/Party; Off the Tracks (Milw.): prizes for best costumes.

Halloween Show; Rainbow Room (Madison): featuring Nova D'Vine, Angelica and many others.

Sunday, October 28

Gospel Singer Marsha Stevens; Angel of Hope MCC (Green Bay and Appleton): Marsha will sing at the 11am service in Green Bay and at the Appleton 7pm service.

Groovy, Ghoully Halloween Contest; Orbit (Milw.): Costume contest, spooktacular soiree.

Mr. Gay WI At-Large 2002; Club 5 (Madison): Badger Productions presents this official preliminary to Mr. Gay USA At-Large 2002 in North Carolina. Entry fee \$75. Registration and info, call: Michael K at 608-256-6126

Deadline for the 22nd Anniversary Dinner; Castaways MC (Milw.): at the Italian Community Center on Nov. 3rd. Application deadline today, see info at 1100 Club for details.

The Wisconsin Light

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12/18: All Over the Guy



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Sports
NEWS

NCAA finally confronting homophobia & Gay athletes within its' midst

By Jason Alan

Recently the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics recognized homophobia for the first time as an issue of student welfare.

The NCAA is confronting homophobia on many levels and in all forms. Michael S. Muska, an openly Gay athletics director at Oberlin College has been quoted in news services reprinting the NCAA article about homophobia as saying "The reality is that Gay student-athletes are out there, but they are afraid to come out. Athletics has been the last bastion of homophobia. It is one of the few places left where homophobia is tolerated... And the reality is that for many of our Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual athletes, it is not safe in intercollegiate athletics."

Terrifyingly, recent studies that have been obtained by the NCAA as well as public and governmental sources show that violence against athletes based on homophobia has increased every year since the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) began keeping records some years back.

These incidents range from fans and other athletes degrading GLBT student-athletes verbally to physical violence and often property damage. Recruitment offices have been on occasion known to tell athletes not to go to a school based on the number of GLBT people/athletes there. Homophobia is rampant in college sports.

The NCAA started waking up to the issue in the past several years. For years the NCAA has been talking about the need to create a safer and supportive environment. The problem is, that is all it has been... just talk

Recently the first known study on Gay athletes has been conducted by Eric

Anderson, a lecturer on sociology and sport psychology at California State University.

According to his research, homophobia has existed throughout the known history of sport. However, in more recent periods of history homosexuality was demonized, and so homophobia then became a big motivator for boys to increase their athletic performance. The issue affects women just as much, but it is better known among Gay men in terms of public perception.

The cold reality of the situation is that homophobia also is rampant in women's sports as well. Observers and researchers believe that the fear of being labeled a Lesbian is just as prevalent and as strong as the male counterpart.

This probably comes from an era in which any women seeking gender equity (i.e. the right to vote) could be stopped dead by being labeled as a Lesbian. However, the after-effects of that in American psychology still linger, and the modern equivalent can still be found in sports; and found often, researchers say.

The NCAA is now slowly implementing an action plan to confront the problem.

- at the 2002 NCAA Convention there will be an association wide session on homophobia.

- news sources indicate that the NCAA diversity seminars are currently being overhauled; with sexual orientation finally being incorporated as one of 3 core modules.

- the NCAA has planned educational sessions on the topic in 2002 for all of its' management councils and Student Advisory Committees.

- in July 2002 there is a session planned at its' Annual NCAA Foundation Leadership Conference.

Gay Games VI records highest number of early registrants

Sydney, Australia - Organisers of Gay Games VI, Sport and Cultural Festival, to be held 2-9 November 2002 in Sydney, Australia, announced that more than 3,000 athletes have registered.

This marks the highest number of registrations more than 12 months in advance of any Gay Games. The early registration period features a reduced entry fee and will close on 31 October. Standard registration will remain open until 31 July 2002.

"We are confident that registration numbers will grow quickly as the early registration deadline approaches," said Peter Bailey, co-chair of the 2002 Gay Games. "We know that many team sports are now encouraging individual members to complete the process. This should result in a surge in total numbers."

Volleyball, track and field, marathon, swimming, bowling and tennis are proving to be as popular as ever among the 31 offi-

cial sports at Gay Games VI. Sailing, which will take place on the renowned Sydney Harbour, has reached its maximum number of registrations.

The attacks on the U.S. of 9-11 resulted in only a brief dip in registrations that quickly returned to previous levels. Most of the registrations have come from the USA (38%), Australia (20%), the Netherlands (9.2%), Germany (7.5%), Canada (5.7%), the UK (4.1%) and New Zealand (3.1%).

"Given these Games are the first in the southern hemisphere and the first in our region, it is important to ensure lesbians, gay men, transgender and bisexual people in the region are well represented," said Peter Bailey, expressing the Sydney Gay Games' devotion to reaching out to participants from the Asia and Pacific regions.

Editor's Note: Interested participants can register by going to www.syd-ney2002.org.au/frameset.asp.



HBO Real Sports scores with Bingham

By Jason Alan

Wisconsin Light readers will remember the story published in our kickoff edition earlier this year about Mark Bingham, the Gay rugby player who died fighting terrorists in the cockpit of United Airlines Flight 93 over rural Pennsylvania. HBO's Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel ran an in depth story on him earlier this month, and replayed it over seven times.

Reported by Mary Carillo and produced by Nicholas Dolin, the story was entitled *Good Sports, Good Men* which was taken from an e-mail Bingham sent earlier this year to his team members. Alice Hogland, Bingham's mother, is quoted in the piece as saying "The last game Mark played; it wasn't played on a grassy field. It was in the narrow cockpit cabin of a Boeing 757 hurtling over the Pennsylvania countryside. And his teammates were not particularly practiced. They were a pickup team. The threw themselves together. I hope they had some strategy and they stood shoulder to shoulder and did what they had to do."

The story focused on Bingham's relationship to the San Francisco Fog, Gay rugby team. In his writings to the team Bingham said "We need to work harder. We need to get better. We have the chance to be role models for other Gay folks who wanted to play sports but never felt good enough or strong enough. More importantly, we have the chance to show other teams in the leagues that we are as good as they are."

When teammates are asked to describe how Bingham would have felt about all the attention he is getting for being a Gay American hero, they said it would be about 9th or 10th on the list. One teammate added "being behind a pickup basketball player." Levity is introduced in the piece when the interviewer asked the teams if there were any hidden sexual benefits from being in sports. One team member said "There are a lot less painful ways to meet guys."

Bingham has received national attention. Senator John McCain spoke at his memorial service and praised him for helping save the White House and many lives. National television shows and news services have run in-depth stories of him, but only time will tell if he indeed gets the place in the history books that he deserves; always a concern with GLBT heroes and historical figures.

Real Sports has with pieces like this provided some of the very finest in depth coverage of sports in America. The show is watched by millions of people, and at the risk of editorializing, the show has brought itself to a new level by running this story. *Good Sports, Good Men* has been one of the biggest in depth stories on Mark Bingham to date, and their coverage is an honor to his memory.

Sports
BRIEFS

By Jason Alan

Time passes by the National Pastime

Well, it is no secret that not as many people watch baseball as they used to. But, it would seem as though time has passed up ML Baseball. News reports indicate that Monday night's horrible game between the NFL Cowboys (0-4 this year) and NFL Redskins (also 0-4 this year) drew more viewers than the deciding game of the Yankees-A's baseball playoffs. The NFL has outrun the MLB in ratings the past five years straight.

The "Big Unit" finally lives up to his reputation

Seven and Seven would be a good way of putting it. Recently MLB Diamondbacks pitcher Randy Johnson managed to beat ace Greg Maddux on the mound in a 2-0 victory in game 1 of the NLCS. Johnson and Maddux are two of the very finest pitchers in the world, with seven Cy Young awards between them. However, Johnson has somehow managed to lose his previous seven playoff starts. I guess he was due for a win.

The rainbow has left Hawaii

Earlier this year the University of Hawaii confirmed that they were going to put the nix on the 77-year-old rainbow logo of their football team due to concerns about being mistaken for a GLBT friendly team. The logo and name (formerly Rainbow Warriors) was originally meant to reference the fantastic rainbows which grace the islands every day. But, the school was afraid of appearing Gay, according to officials. "Being called the Rainbows, especially for men's teams, left them open to ridicule," said an official earlier this year. "Warriors has a much stronger connotation." Any more information on the story will be published in future editions of *The Light*.

Sports Sex by Tim Miller released

SportsSex is a new book by internationally recognized author Tim Miller. The book explores sexuality and sports; and how they influence Gay people's sexuality and culture. The book focuses on the role sports and athletes themselves play in the GLBT community. Contact your local Gay bookstore for specifics. (Outwards store in Milwaukee.)

Where or where will the Gay Games be?

At the end of the month the Gay Games VII will announce the host city for their 2006 event, which is unofficially known as the Gay Olympics (Shhh... don't tell the Intl. Olympics Committee, who threatened to sue the Gay Games for calling it such). The four cities are listed below. Just for fun, why not circle a city you think would be best, and then see the next issue of *The Light* to see who got picked.

1. Atlanta
2. L.A.
3. Chicago
4. Montreal



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Off the
Tracks

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DJ (Disk Jockey) • V (Video) • L/L (Levi/Leather)
F (Food) • E (Entertainment)
Sp (Sports) • J (Jukebox)

WISCONSIN Resource Guide

STATEWIDE

ORGANIZATIONS

- Action Wisconsin • (GLBT Legislation Advocates) • PO Box 342, Mad., 53701
AIDS Action WI • (Legislation Advocates) • 820 N. Plankinton Ave, Milw., 53202
Gay/Lesbian Straight Education Network • (GLSEN) • PO Box 259502, Mad., 53725
Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline • (888)429-TEEN; (Milw)272-8336
Log Cabin Republicans of WI • (GLGBT Republicans) • PO Box 199, Milw., 53201
Pride in WI Government • (GLBT Public Employees) • c/o OutReach, Box 310, Mad., 53701
Rainbow Families Group • http://rainbowfamilieswisconsin.org
WI Community Fund • (Social Justice Fund) • 122 State St #507A, Mad., 53703
WI Research Center • (Right Wing Watchdogs) • PO Box 92041, Milw, 53202

MEDICAL/HIV

- AIDS Resource Center of WI • Offices Statewide
Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) MCW • 2071 N. Summit Ave., Milw., 53202
Wisconsin AIDS Line

PHONE LINES

- Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline
Wisconsin AIDS Line

APPLETON (920)

BARS

- Rascal's Bar & Grill • Mw,F • 702 E. Wisconsin Ave., 54991

ORGANIZATIONS

- AIDS Resource Center of WI (ARCW) • (AIDS Services) • 120 N. Morrison, Suite 201, 54911
Alcoholics Anonymous • (GLBT Meetings)
Angel of Hope MCC • (GLBT Affirming Church) • 815 N. Richmond, 54914
Fox Valley Womyn's Group (Potlucks/Social Events) bauershimek@powernetonline.com
Rainbow Over WI (ROW) • (GLBT Charitable Group) • 702 E. WI. Ave.

EAU CLAIRE (715)

BARS

- CJ's Great Escap • MW, DJ, V • 304 Eau Claire St., 54701
Scooter's • MW, DJ • 411 Galloway St., 54701
Wolfe's Den • MW, G/S • 302 E. Madison St., 54703

ORGANIZATIONS

- AIDS Resource Center of WI (ARCW) • (AIDS Services) • 505 Dewey St. S, #107, 54701
PFLAG-GCV • PO Box 0011, 54702
Q2 • GLBTQ Youth Social/Support group • q2hotline@hotmail.com
UW-EC LGBT Straight Alliance • 132 Davies Center, 54701
UW-EC Equality • (For LGBT Staff) • 104 Garfield Avenue, 54701

CENTER

- LGBT Center of the Chippewa Valley • 510 S. Farwell St., 54701

GREEN BAY (920)

BARS

- Brandy's II/Boogie Nights • Mw, DJ, L/L, Sp • 1126 Main St., 54302
Buddie's • Mw, L/L, Sp • 1264 N Main
Napalese Lounge • Wm, J, E • 1361 Cedar St., 54302
Sass • Wm, DJ, Sp • 840 S. Broadway, 54304
West Theater • Mw, DJ, V, FE • 405 W. Walnut St., 54304

ORGANIZATIONS

- AIDS Resource Center of WI (ARCW) • (AIDS Services) • 824 S. Broadway, 54304
Alcoholics Anonymous • (GLBT Meetings)
Angel of Hope MCC • (GLBT Affirming Church) • 3607 Libar, Alloeux, 54301
Entertainers Against AIDS • (Local supporters) • PO Box 2040, 54306
Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network (GLSEN) • ATBOBIAS@greenbay.k12.wi.us
Positive Voice Inc. • Box 1381, Green Bay 54305
Rainbow Alliance@ St. Norbert College • Danielle Horenet, c/o SNC, PAC 106, DePere, 54115
UW-GB 10% Society • (Social, Support, Education) • 2420 Nicolet Dr., 54311

KENOSHA (262)

BARS

- 94 North • (Mw, DJ, E) • 6305 120th Ave., 857-3240

ORGANIZATIONS

- AIDS Resource Center of WI (ARCW) • AIDS Services • 1212 57th St., 53141
UW-Parkside GL Organ. • 900 Wood Rd., Box 200, 53144
LGBT Youth Group • ARCW Office, 1212 57th St., 53141

LA CROSSE (608)

BARS

- Player's • MW, DJ • 214 Main St., 54601
Rainbow's End • Wm, J, E • 417 Jay St., 54601

ORGANIZATIONS

- AIDS Resource Center of WI (ARCW) • (AIDS Services) • 1707 Main St. #420, 54601
Galaxy • PO Box 602, Onalaska, 54650

MADISON (608)

BARS

- Cardinal • MW, G/S, DJ • 418 E. Wilson St., 53703
Club 5 Complex: Barracks (M, L/L); Fox Hole (W); Planet Q (Mw, DJ, E)
Rainbow Room • Mw, DJ, E • 121 W. Main St., 53703
Ray's Complex: Main (Mw, DJ, F); Men's Room (M, L/L) • 3052-54 E. Washington Ave., 53704
Shamrock • (Mw, J, F) • 117 W. Main St., 53703

CENTER

- OutReach Inc. • 600 Williamson (Gateway Mall) 53703
Campus Women's Center • 4th Floor, Mem. Union, 800 Langdon 53706

- UW-LGBT Campus Center • 2nd Floor, Memorial Union, 800 Langdon, 53706

ORGANIZATIONS

- Frontiers Men's Club • (Social, Issues Group) • PO Box 310, 53703
LGBT Business Alliance • c/o PO Box 1722, 53701
LGBT Law Student Assoc. • Box 17, Rm 208, 500 Lincoln Dr. 975 Bascom Hall 53706
Lesbian Parents Network • PO Box 8423, 53708
Mad City Bears • Big, Hairy Men & Admirers
New Harvest Foundation • PO Box 1786, 53701-1786
PFLAG (Parents, Friends LGBTs) • 1112 Grant St., 53711
UW Ten Percent Society • PO Box 260394, 53726
UW-LGBT Alumni Council • 650 N. Lake St., 53706
Unicorns • leviileather club a PO Box 536, 53701

SPORTS GROUPS

- Bette Davis Bowlers • (Year-round leagues)
Different Spokes • (GLBT Biking Group) • PO Box 168, 53701
Front Runners • (GLBT Joggers/Walkers) • t.mcclurg@yahoo.com
Honeymooners Bowling League • (weeknights)
Mad. Gay Volleyball Group • www.mvbg.org
Mad. Gay Wrestling Club • PO Box 168, 53701

MEDICAL/HIV

- AIDS Network • (AIDS Services) • 600 Williamson St., 53703
AIDS Resource Center of WI (ARCW) • (AIDS Services) • 222 State St., 53701
Blue Bus STD Clinic • 1552 University Ave, 53705

RELIGION

- Affirmation (GLBT United Methodists) • 1127 University Ave., 53705
First COngregational UCC Church • 1609 University Ave., 53705

RETAIL / SHOPPING

- Community Pharmacy • 341 State St., 53703
A Room of One's Own • Feminist Bookstore • 307 W. Johnson, 53703

MARSHFIELD (715)

- Gay and Lesbian Assoc. (MGLO) • c/o 130 S. Central Ave., #3, 54449

MILWAUKEE (414)

BARS

- TI00 Club • M, L/L, F, J • 1100 S. 1st St., 53204
Ballgame • Mw, Sp, J, F • 196 S. 2nd St., 53204
Boot Camp • M, L/L • 209 E. National Ave., 53204
Club Boom • Mw, DJ • 625 S. 2nd St., 53204
Club 219 • Mw, DJ, V, E • 219 S. 2nd St., 53204
Dish • G/S, MW, DJ • 235 S. 2nd St., 53204
Fannies • Wm, DJ • 200 E. Washington, 53204
Fluid • Mw • 819 S. 2nd St., 53204
Harbor Room • Mw, L/L • 117 E. Greenfield Ave., 53204
Kathy's Nut Hut • Wm, Sp, J • 1500 W. Scott St., 53204
LaCage • Mw, DJ, V • 801 S. 2nd St., 53204
M&M Club • MW, F, E • 124 N. Water St., 53202
Off the Tracks • Wm, Sp, J • 1534 W. Grant, 53204
Orbit Room • MW, G/S, DJ • 739 S. 2nd St., 53202
So. Water St. Docks • Mw, L/L, J • 354 E. National Ave., 53204
Switch • Mw, Sp, DJ • 124 W. National Ave., 53204
This Is It • M, J • 418 E. Wells St., 53202
Triangle • Mw, V, Sp, J • 135 E. National Ave., 53204
Woody's • M, J • 1579 S. 2nd St., 53204

CENTERS

- Milwaukee LGBT Community Center • (new location!) 315 W. Court St., 3212
Galano Club • Alcohol Free Recovery Club • 2408 N Farwell, 53211

HEALTH CLUB

- Midtowne Spa • (Gay Men's Health Club) • 315 S. Water St., 53204

ORGANIZATIONS

- Adult Allies (LGBT Adults support LGBT youth)
Bi Definition • PO Box 07541, 53207
Castaways MC • PO Box 1697, 53201-1697
Counseling Center • (GLBT Discussion Groups) • 2038 N. Bartlett, 53202
Cream City Chorus, Ltd • 315 W. Court St., Suite 101 • www.creamcitychorus.org
Cream City Foundation • PO Box 204, 53212
Fest City Singers • PO Box 11428, 53211
Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network (GLSEN) • info: www.glsen.org
Gay Men's Discussion Group • 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., 53211
Gay Youth Milwaukee • PO Box 090441, 53209
Gemini Gender Group • PO Box 44214, 53214
G/L Center Trust Fund • PO Box 1686, 53201
Human Rights League • PO Box 510684, 53203
Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM) • 315 W. Court St., 53212
Milwaukee NOW (Nat'l. Organ. for Women) • 611 N. Broadway, Ste 505, 53202
MU GLB Student Group • AMU236, PO Box 1881, 53201
PFLAG-Milwaukee Chapter • PO Box 210853, 53221
PrideFest Inc. • (Pride Festival) • 907 S. 1st St., 53204
The Queer Program • PO Box 090441, 53209
Rainbow Alliance at UWM • Box 413 (Union 122), 53201 • Office Union E381E
SAGE-Milwaukee • Box 510492, 53203-0091
Sherman Park Rainbow Assoc. • PO Box 76115, 53216
WI Cream City Chorus • 315 W. Court St., 53212

PHONE LINES

- Gay People's Union
Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline
HelpLine (24 hour crisis counseling)
Pathfinders (24 hour youth support/housing)
Wisconsin AIDS Line

SPORTS GROUPS

- Cream City Squares • (GLBT Square Dancing)

Front Runners • (GLBT Jogging/ Running Group) 332-1527
 GAMMA • Social/Recreational • PO Box 1900, 53201 358-2111
 Great Lakes Harley Riders • PO Box 341611, 53234-1611
 Holiday Invitational Bowling Tournament • PO Box 899, 53201 871-4172
 Metro Milw. Tennis Club 543-9643
 Saturday Soft Ball League (SSBL) • PO Box 510615, 53203 454-9204
 Shoreline • (Country/Line Dance Group) • PO Box 510283, 53203
 WI Outdoor Women • (Sports Events Group) • PO Box 94, Hales Corners, 53130 427-2082

MEDICAL/HIV

AIDS Resource Center of WI •
 (AIDS Service Organ, case mgmt., health care, pantry) • 820 N. Plankinton, 53203 273-1991
 Brady East STD Clinic (BESTD) • (HIV testing/STD treatment) • 1240 E. Brady St, 53202 272-2144
 Dennis Hill Outreach Center • (HIV testing) • 4311 W. Vliet St., 53208 342-4333
 STD Specialties Clinic • (STD testing) • 3251 N. Holton St., 53212 264-8800

PROFESSIONALS / SERVICES

Graphic Images • (Graphic & Web Design, Photography) 382-1999

RELIGION

Cross Lutheran • (Reconciled in Christ Church) • 1821 N. 16th St, 53205 344-1746
 Dignity • (GLBT Catholic Group) • PO Box 597, 53201 444-7177
 First Unitarian Society • (Unitarian Universalist) • 1342 N. Astor St., 53202 273-5237
 Lutherans Concerned • (GLBT Lutherans) • PO Box 1676, 53201 372-9663
 Milw. Metropolitan Community Church • (U/MCC) • 1239 W Mineral, 53204 332-9995
 Milwaukee Two Spirit Society • (LGBT Indigenous Americans) • 1186 N Glenview Ave. 53213 607-1182
 Pentacost Lutheran • (Reconciled in Christ) • 5226 W. Burleigh St., 53219 445-2696
 Plymouth United Church in Christ • (Open & Affirming) • 2717 E. Hampshire St., 53211 964-1513
 Village Lutheran Church • (Reconciled in Christ) • 130 E. Juneau St., 53202 273-7617

RETAIL / SHOPPING

OutWords Bookstore/Cafe • 2710 N. Murray, 53211 963-9089
 Video Adventures • video sales, rentals • 1418 E. Brady, 53202 272-6768

MENOMONEE (715)

UW-Stout 10% Society • c/o 153 C Harvey Hall, UW-S, Menomonee, 54751

NEENAH (920)

PFLAG (Parents, Friends of Lesbians and Gays) • (Support, Meetings) • PO Box 195, 54957-0195 735-1025

OSHKOSH (920)

UW-O HOPE • (GLBTS Alliance) • Reeve Union, UWM, 748 Algoma Blvd., 54901 960-2249

PLATTEVILLE (608)

G/L Alliance • (GLBT alliance) • Box 131, 53818 782-9061

PRARIE DU SAC (608)

Sauk Prairie Mem. Hosp. HIV Program • 80 First St., 53578 643-7583

RACINE (262)

BARs

Jo'Dee's • MW, DJ • 2139 Racine St., 53403 634-9804
 What About Me? • MW, G/S • 600 6th St., 53403 632-0171

RHINELANDER (715)

AIDS Resource Center of WI (ARCW) • (AIDS Services) • Oneida C. Health Dept., Courthouse, 54501 369-6228

Northern Lambda Society • (GLBT group) • PO Box 802, 54501

RICHLAND CENTER (608)

Pioneers • (Rural WI GLBT Alliance) • PO Box 53, 53581 (800) 484-8131 Code 4419

SCHOFIELD (715)

AIDS Resource Center of WI (ARCW) • AIDS Services • 1105 Grand Ave. # 3, 54476 (800)551-3311

SHEBOYGAN (920)

BAR

Blue Lite • MW • 1029 N. 8th St., 53081 457-1636

ORGANIZATION

PinesppLE • (GL Social/Activity Group) • PO Box 834, 53082 451-8722

STEVENS POINT (715)

ORGANIZATION

Rainbow Alliance Inc • Box 390, 54481 592-6245 X 5920200

STURGEON BAY (920)

PFLAG (Parents Friends of Lesbians and Gays) • (Support, Meetings) • PO Box 213, 54325 743-8663

SUPERIOR (715)

BARs

Bev's Jook Joint • Wm, J • 820 Tower Ave., 55880 392-5373
 JT's Bar & Grill • MW, DJ • 1506 N. 3rd St., 55880 394-2580
 The Main • MW, L/L, DJ, V • 1217 Tower Ave., 55880 392-1756

ORGANIZATION

AIDS Resource Center of WI (ARCW) • AIDS Services • 1507 Tower Ave., Ste 230, 54880 394-4009

WASHBURN (715)

Out Up North • PO Box 695, Washburn, WI 54891 682-2890

WAUSAU (715)

BARs

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

ORGANIZATION

UW-SP 10% Society • Box 68, Campus Activities Office, U-C, 54481 346-4366

WHITEWATER (262)

UW-W G/L Student Union • 309 McClutchen Hall, 53190

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Send us current information: corrections, deletions, additions, new groups, etc.

Mail to: Wisconsin Light
 315 W. Court St.
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The Wisconsin Light



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Final Thoughts

by Ron Geiman

Usually Fall finds things slowing down in preparation for the Holiday Season. Not this year. Not in Gay Wisconsin.

First, we have to get through **Halloween**, "thee" Gay holiday of the year. Every bar and many organizations have a costume contest, dance or other special spooktacular event on their agenda for this coming week.

Be sure to check out our 'Gay Agenda' for the most comprehensive list of Halloween events we were able to compile from all the resources available.

- Congratulations to the **Castaways MC** who are preparing to celebrate their 22nd Anniversary on November 3. It must be the durability of all that leather that has allowed the group to last that long!

- Milwaukee is the proud host city of the **14th Annual Creating Change Conference**, the largest and most important yearly gathering for GLBT activists. Sponsored by the **National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Foundation** in a different city each year, Milwaukee was up against stiff competition when it was awarded the honor nearly two years ago.

With workshops, networking sessions, training's, institutes and speakers the likes of **Rep. Tammy Baldwin**, **ACLU Exec. Dir. Anthony Romero** and **NGLTF Exec. Dir. Lorri Jean**. The annual event is expected to draw over 2,500 GLBT's to our city.

After being selected the #1 city for Lesbians in the U.S. by *Girlfriends* magazine, Milwaukee's GLBT community is having its time in the spotlight.

The conference is taking over the downtown Hyatt, and a Saturday night Concert/Performance featuring Folk Rock artist **Doria Roberts** and Slam poet **Alix Olson**. Out Latin Pop star **Jade Estaban Estrada** makes a triumphant return to Milwaukee after his performance at this year's PrideFest. The 9:30pm Hyatt Ballroom concert is open to the public at the cost of \$20 advance, \$25 door. For details see the article 'Register Now for Creating Change' on Page 15.

- The **Milwaukee LGBT Community Center** gets in on the weekend events, with shuttle bus service from the Hyatt to **Elements**, Friday night from 7-11pm.

Elements will be a combination fashion, hair and make-up show with music by **DJ Surface**. Read the details on page 16 of this issue, but suffice it to say, the \$10 advance ticket price all goes to the Center, with all services donated by the *tragically hip* organizers.

Not your usual fashion show set to music, promoters will transform the Center's community room with special sets, lighting and projections.

All those events will show those out-of-town guests just how *cool* Milwaukee can be.

It's up to *each and every one of us* to reach out and welcome them. Milwaukee's 'coolness' can only be enhanced by our warmth and friendliness.

Attend the conference, and when you see our guests out and about, welcome them and make them feel comfortable. And be sure they get to see our beautiful lakefront and especially the new Calatrava addition to the Milwaukee Art Museum.

That should impress even the most jaded 'big city attitude queen'.

- *G street*, the glossy small format magazine that has done an excellent job covering Western Wisconsin for the past several years under the tutelage of **Brett**, with the help of **Judy** in La Crosse and **Gary** in Superior/Duluth, is ceasing publication.

According to Brett, the magazine has never made money (we have empathy) and his investor decided to pull the plug. Brett said he may eventually do strictly a Bar Guide, but for now... we are talking

- By the way, if you are a member of an organization serving Wisconsin's GLBT community, please remind your secretary or public relations person to add the *Wisconsin Light* to their email or snail mail list. This is our third issue, and we still are not receiving information from many of the groups throughout the state.

The only way we can truly be a Statewide GLBT newspaper is if groups all over the state provide us with information.

News releases, Resource Guide updates, photos etc. should be sent to me (preferably via email, at: editor@wilight.com). Calendar listings should go to: calen-



Castaways M.C. of Milwaukee 22nd Anniversary Dinner

at the
Italian Conference Center
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Saturday, November 3rd, 2001

(See application at 1100 Club for Details • Application Deadline: October 28th, 2001)

or write: P.O. Box 1697, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1697

The Gay Side Cartoon



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