

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



The Wisconsin Light

UWM Police Charged With Entrapment

[Milwaukee]- Over approximately the past 2 months, some 80 men have been arrested by UW-Milwaukee police for having sex in the men's rooms of UWM's Mitchell Hall. This, according to Shane Riester, Chair of the Gay and Lesbian Community at UWM.

According to a Queer Nation (QN) Milwaukee press release, those arrested have reported that they witnessed the undercover officer involved, masturbating in the bathroom stall before he made any arrests. Some men, QN said, noticed the officers "obscene behavior" because of the holes in the stall walls and were arrested.

A QN spokesman said that the University's rationale for this was to protect children during the summer months. The QN spokesperson condemned this reasoning as "playing on the worst stereotypes of Gay men." QN knows of no incidents of harassment of children, he said.

Both Riester and QN have said that they have received only third person accounts of the alleged entrapment. There are no first person accounts, Riester said.

Riester added UWM Police Chief Philip Clark "has been open with us." Riester said he and others are working with Dr. Eleanor Miller, Assistant Chancellor for Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity, who he said was "being cooperative" in the matter. "We're working well with her," he said. But, he added, "effectiveness is limited without first person accounts. Riester said he understood people's reluctance to speak, but "it doesn't help if they won't come forward."

QN said that it has attempted to contact UWM Chancellor John Schroeder regarding the issue, but has received no response. A QN spokesman said that, if that continues, they will "come to Schroeder wherever he may be and discuss the issue."

In a strongly worded statement, QN said that it intends "to hold Schroeder responsible for the actions of these officers." QN also charges that the alleged entrapment is in itself criminal behavior.

QN's Demands

QN has issued the following set of demands: 1) Immediately stop the use of undercover officers in the UW restrooms; 2) Conduct an investigation into the entrapment methods employed by the UWM Police Department which lead to these arrests; 3) Work with the Gay and Lesbian Community at UWM to develop alternative methods of deterring sexual behavior in its restrooms.

Riester said that avenues of dealing with the situation are being explored. A press release, he said, would be issued as things develop.

QN urges anyone involved in the situation to please come forward. Call either QN at (414) 964- 8423 or the Gay and Lesbian Community at UWM.

Firing of Employee Prompts Boycott Against UW Bookstore

[Madison]- The Ten Percent Society, UW-Madison's Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual student group, is organizing a boycott of the University Bookstore in response to a perceived policy of discrimination against Gay and Lesbian employees.

On May 29, 1992, Lois Corcoran was fired from her 4-year 8-month position as Executive Secretary, as was reported in the *Isthmus*. The firing was allegedly over the fact that she is an open Lesbian. Corcoran was told only that "the University Bookstore is trying to change its image." She was only four months away from vesting in the pension plan. Her case is being actively pursued with the help of the Madison Equal Opportunities Commission.

The University Bookstore has failed to cooperate in the investigation of their employment practices towards Gays and

Therapeutic Vaccine Testing To Begin For HIV Infected Persons



Milwaukee artist, Cass Magnuski is shown with one of her earlier paintings. (See Story on Page 6.)

Police Arrest Four in La Crosse Bar Raid for 'Pornographic' Act

By Darzen J. Foster

[La Crosse, WI]- In response to an anonymous La Crosse Crime Stoppers tip, La Crosse police arrested on July 19, 1992, three male dancers and the owner of Memories, a La Crosse Gay bar, for what police termed "a pornographic performance."

At 11:15 p.m. on Sunday, July 19, two undercover officers who had been in the bar since 10:30 p.m. observing the evening's performance, arrested dancers Jesse "Lance" Lewison of Appleton, John "Buck" Seidl of Two Rivers, and Marty "The Tazmanian Devil" Harper of Booneville, IN, for "offenses endangering public morals and decency."

In addition to the three dancers who, according to La Crosse Police reports, stripped down to "G-strings," city police also arrested David G. Groom, the owner of Memories bar, under the same ordinance that makes it unlawful "to advertise, produce or perform in any performance... that portrays sexual conduct... in any public place within the City."

All four were arrested without incident and shortly afterwards, were released.

Informants Known

Groom, 39, who has been in the bar business for 18 years — five of them at Memories — said, "We do know who the persons are who tipped the police. They are two bitchy dykes, and they will be barred from the bar since we've had trouble with them before." Groom

declined to name the two individuals. Groom maintains that the three dancers were not wearing G-strings, but were, in fact, wearing "nothing different than the straight bars down the street do when they have dancers. They (La Crosse Police) are just picking on us because we are a Gay bar," he said.

Groom continued, raising the possibility of an entrapment defense. "We did know that they (the police) were coming because we were tipped off ahead of time. And when they were asked if they were police, at the door, they said, 'no.' Isn't there a law that says that they must identify themselves as police if they are asked?" the bar owner wondered.

Groom vows to fight his \$265 fine without an attorney. The three dancers will be returning to La Crosse to contest the charges that carry a penalty of \$200-\$1,000 fine. A court date has been scheduled for August 12 before La Crosse Municipal Court Judge Edmund Nix.

Lesbians. The *Isthmus* also reported that there has been a history of Gay and Lesbian employees being dismissed without explanation. Employment discrimination based on sexual orientation is illegal in Wisconsin.

The proposed boycott is aimed at changing the store's policy and practices and encouraging the enforcement of state law by urging alternate sources to offer textbooks and supplies.

Charles Squires, acting President of the Ten Percent Society, said, "If they (the University Bookstore) think they can discriminate against us, they're doing business in the wrong town."

Attempts to get comment from the University Bookstore were unsuccessful.

The support of other student, faculty, and community organizations, is currently being sought.

[Amsterdam]- "It is the most promising news yet on what has been a very bleak decade for AIDS," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP). At the same time, Nelson warned, "This is not a time to celebrate, but it is a time to raise our hopes."

Nelson was speaking by phone from Amsterdam where he and Paul Millakovich, MAP's Deputy Director, are attending the International AIDS Conference. The Conference is being attended by over 11,000 people from over 100 countries.

"The promising news is of a therapeutic vaccine for people who are HIV infected," Nelson said.

News of the vaccine, Nelson said, was reported to the conference on Tuesday, July 21, 1992 by scientists from the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and the New York University Medical School. The reports were based on studies involving eight different therapeutic vaccines. The report showed that the new vaccine "does stimulate an immune system response which increases the neutralizing antibodies to HIV and decreases the HIV viral load," Nelson said.

Nelson went on to explain that trials show that for individuals with a T-cell count of 400 or more, after six months of being on the vaccine, the T-cell counts increased by 30%.

After 18 months of taking the vaccine, Nelson said, T-cell counts increased by 19%.

The therapeutic vaccine has completed Phase I and Phase II trials that are done to ascertain safety and non-toxicity. Now, the vaccine will move rapidly into Phase III, testing for efficacy.

Nelson said that these tests will be done in the U.S. in trials all around the country.

"They will need thousands of volunteers," he said. He noted that the location of the sites has not yet been established, but Wisconsin will be among them. "There will be rapid development of Phase III trials and they look promising," he said.

Prevention Vaccine

The second type of vaccine that has been reported to the conference, Nelson said, is a vaccine aimed at preventing people from catching HIV. There have been 12 candidate prevention vaccines, he said, that have been in Phase I trials over the past years. The initial findings reported to the conference are from Phase I.

According to the report, Nelson said, the prevention vaccine is "well-tolerated" by the volunteers. There are, he said, some "typical mild side effects," but "it is safe."

Phase I tests show that the prevention vaccine does produce neutralizing antibodies to HIV. However, he cautioned, a prevention vaccine is "more complicated. It's got to be 100 percent sure. It's got to be fail-safe in blocking infection." He predicted that "It will be a much longer process to develop the (prevention) vaccine."

Nelson further warned that conference attendees are being told that the first vaccine, when it comes, will not be perfect. "For some it will work, others not. One prevention vaccine will not be enough," he said. Eventually, there will be more than one.

However, he said, scientists who are conducting the Phase I trials on the prevention vaccine, are strongly urging a "rapid movement into Phase III." "It will take two to three years," he said, "to run the Phase III trials. They will need between two and five thousand volunteers who are not infected with HIV at multiple sites around the U.S."

Nelson was emphatic in his warning that though there is reason for optimism,

Women With AIDS Face Discrimination

[Amsterdam]- In his phone report on the International AIDS from Amsterdam, Doug Nelson noted that delegates have been told that the Atlanta Centers for Disease Control (CDC) "continues to have a definition of AIDS that does not take into account the manifestation of AIDS in women."

Nelson reported that there were many more women at the conference than ever. Women, he said, are making a "powerful statement" that they have been ignored by the CDC in "ways that are extremely harmful."

As an example, Nelson cited the fact that the CDC does not recognize pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) and it does not recognize cervical cancer as clinical manifestations of HIV.

As a result, women are being undercounted in the disease total. Further, they are not getting access to financial and other government benefits.

Nelson said, "What is clear is that women are dying from HIV without having been diagnosed with AIDS."

He went on to say that "The CDC continues to stall in changing its definition." He called this "unconscionable" and added, "I believe that this is a further example of the politicizing of the CDC by the Bush Administration."