

Wisconsin

INStep

Wisconsin's LGBT Community Newspaper • Issue 17.18 • September 7, 2000



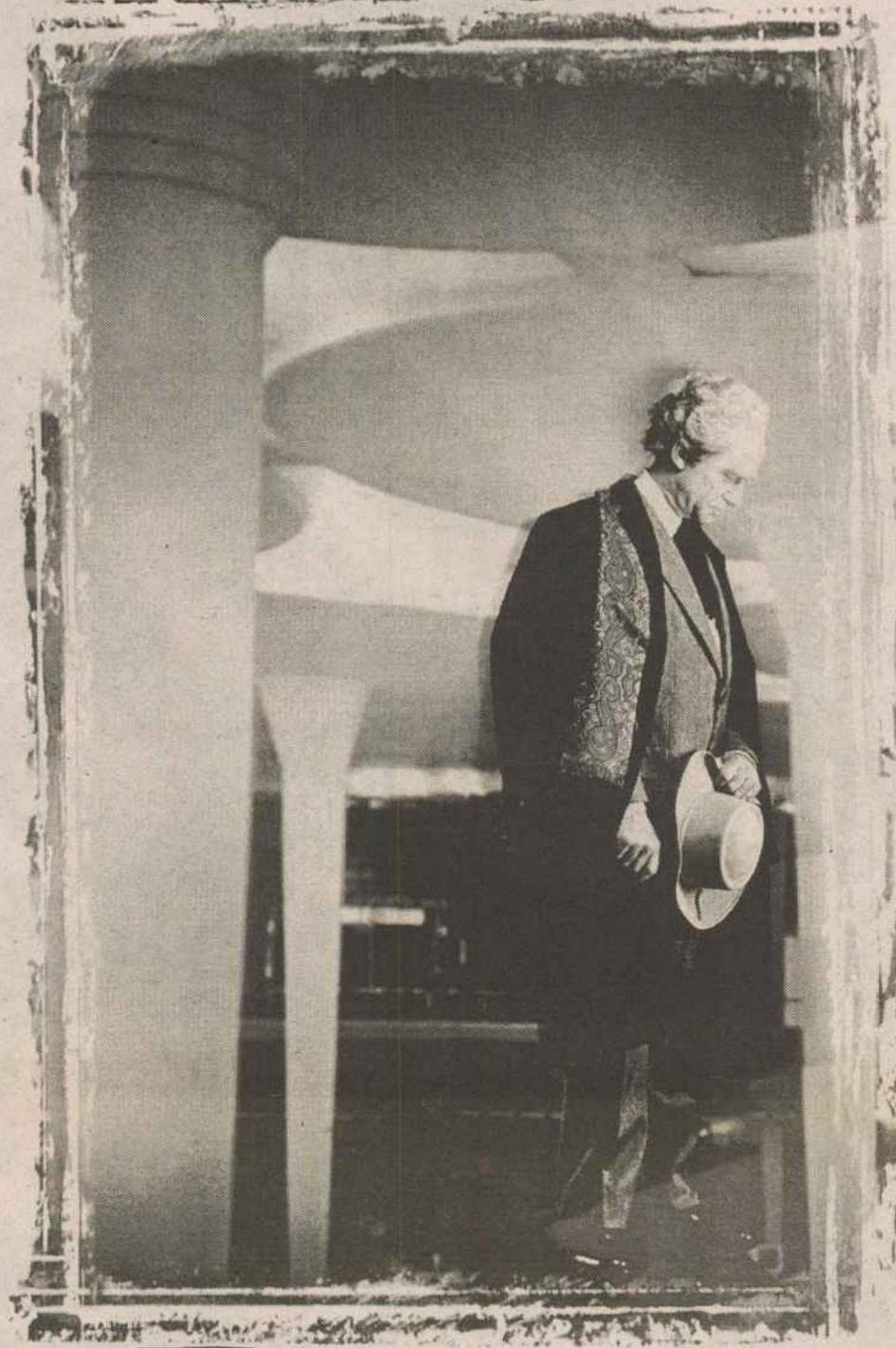
Wisconsin m4m: Internet Chatrooms and Gay Sex

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a Bean Counter • Pg. 15

Milwaukee Rep Opens
with "Work Song" Pg. 31

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By Eric Simonson and Jeffrey Hatcher

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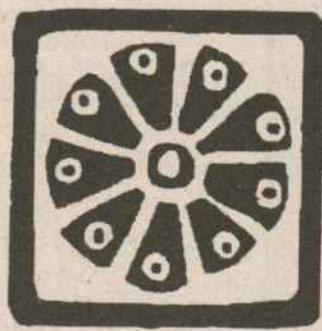
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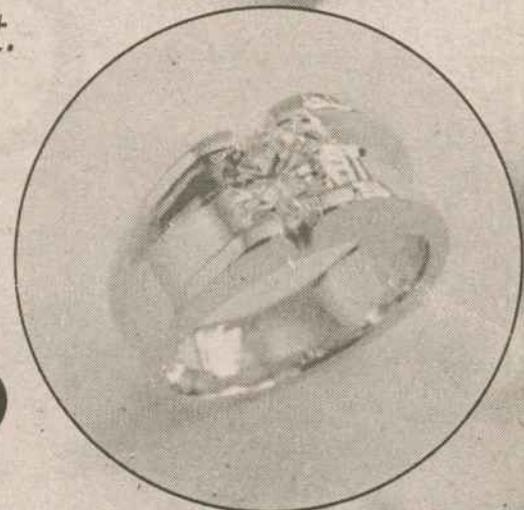
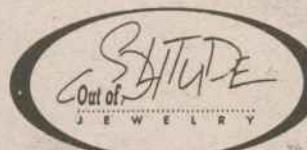


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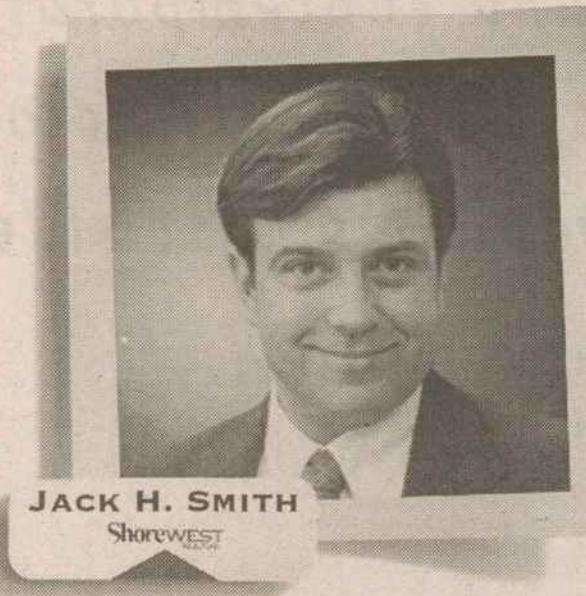


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Issue 17.18 • Richard Hatch for Pope
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www.instepnews.com
 ISSN# 1045-2435

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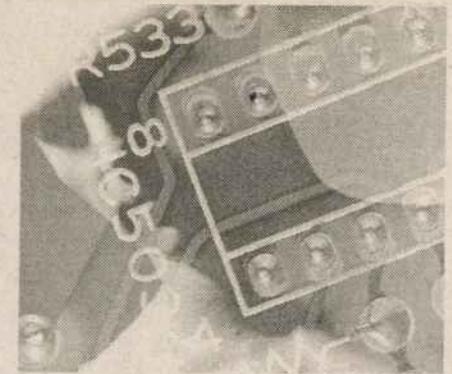
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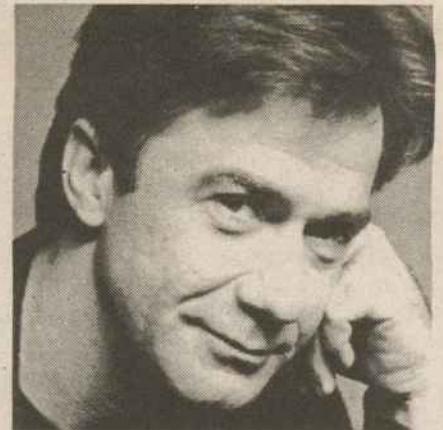
Wisconsin M4M: Internet Chat Rooms and Gay Sex • 18

By MIKE FITZPATRICK AND J.C. MICHALEK



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By JAMAKAYA



Milwaukee Rep Opens Season with "Work Song" • 31



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IN Step wants your coming out stories for our National Coming Out Day Edition.

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Robin Williams to Portray Liberace

HOLLYWOOD — "Variety" reports it's now official that comic actor Robin Williams will star in the title role of a bio-pic film "Liberace."

Williams had been the actor-of-choice to portray the ultra-campy but deeply-closeted glitz entertainer who died in 1987 of an AIDS-related illness. Liberace was born in West Allis, Wis.

Women Get Dodgers Apology After Kissing Incident

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. — Two lesbians, Danielle Goldey and Meredith Kott, who were ejected from Dodger Stadium for kissing at a baseball game, have gotten an apology.

The two women were watching a game between the Dodgers and the Chicago Cubs on Aug. 8 when they were ejected during the seventh inning. "The couple say they were behaving affectionately toward each other, as heterosexual couples around them were doing, by kissing," the couple's attorney, Bernie Bernheim, said.

Security guards pulled the women from their seats and ordered them to leave, telling them that there had been a report of lewd conduct, he said.

Bob Graziano, Dodgers president, said the incident troubled him "because of what it implied about the Dodgers organization."

Graziano told the two women, "It means a lot to me that you are Dodgers fans. We will continue to do the right thing."

The club also donated 5,000 tickets to three gay and lesbian groups and said they would increase sensitivity training for club employees.

Univ. of Minnesota Alum Gives \$500K for Gay Studies

MINNEAPOLIS — Steven Schochet, a computer software businessman, gave a half-million dollars to his alma mater, the University of Minnesota, to endow a gay & lesbian studies center.

The Steven J. Schochet Center for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Studies opened in July as a result of the gift and will focus on graduate studies, setting up an archive at the university and sponsoring lectures and forums at the school.

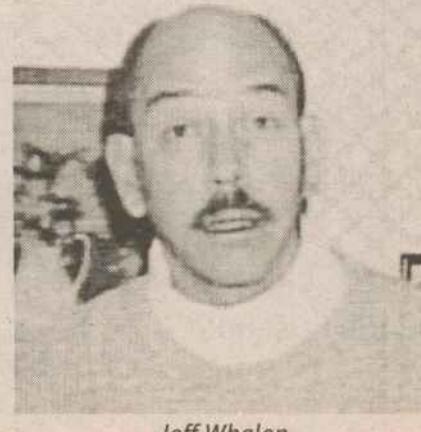
Chipman To Plead in Whalen Murder

Voss Declared Unfit For Trial

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Green Bay — Daniel R. Chipman will enter a plea on September 15 to the charge of murder in the first degree in the death of gay activist Jeff Whalen as a result of a preliminary hearing held here Tuesday in Branch I of the Brown County Circuit Court.

Chipman's preliminary hearing followed a ruling by Judge Donald Zuidmulder on August 24 that the suspect in Whalen's brutal 1997 stabbing death



Jeff Whalen

was competent to stand trial following a court-ordered mental health evaluation.

Paul D. Foss, the second suspect in the murder, was declared incompetent to assist in his own defense by Zuidmulder on September 1. Zuidmulder also ruled that Foss will remain in a state mental

Accordians for Pride in Superior



Duluth's gay polka group "Accordians for Pride" rolled out the barrel during Duluth-Superior's first ever pride march September 3. Neither cold nor rain could keep an estimated 600 people from attending this year's Twin Ports Pride picnic. Photo: Mike Fitzpatrick.

hospital for at least the next twelve months or until found competent by psychologists. Zuidmulder also ordered reevaluation of the suspect's competency every three months.

Although Foss claimed he did not understand the court proceedings occurring in front of him during the judge's questioning, he appeared quite clear in his desire to be transferred from Department of Corrections-run Wisconsin Resource Center in Oshkosh to the less restrictive environment of the Department of Health-run Mendota Mental Health Institute near Madison.

Zuidmulder noted he had no authority to assign the suspect to a specific treatment facility.

Despite ongoing police investigation the three year-old crime had remained unsolved until Foss mailed a written confession to the FBI in early June.

According to the criminal complaint, Whalen was stabbed more than fifty times in the neck, back and groin at the Motel 6 on the city's west side shortly after meeting Foss and Chipman outside an adult bookstore. The pair admitted to hanging around such venues to watch the gay patrons and have admitted that they attacked Whalen after looking at gay pornography and engaging in sexual banter with the victim. To date, hate crime enhancers have not been added to the murder charges by the Brown County district attorney's office.

'Priscilla' Drag Queens Ruffling Feathers at Olympics

By Keith Clark

Sydney — Anti-gay conservatives in Australia got their feathers ruffled when they learned through a leaked news report that the 2000 Olympic Games closing ceremonies would include drag queens replete with their own feather boas as part of a celebration of the country's recent cinematic rise to international prominence.

Films such as "Crocodile Dundee" and "Mad Max" are to be part of the Oct. 1 closing ceremonies, but when reports surfaced that organizers of the event had decided to include drag queens from the popular 1995 Oscar-winning film "The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert," anti-gay conservatives and church

leaders went through the rainbow-colored ceiling.

Fred Nile, a member of Parliament with the Christian Democrats and a staunch opponent of gay rights, denounced the planned ceremonies saying they would give the impression the country is "the homosexual capital of the world" which he said "is not a true representation of Australian culture and life."



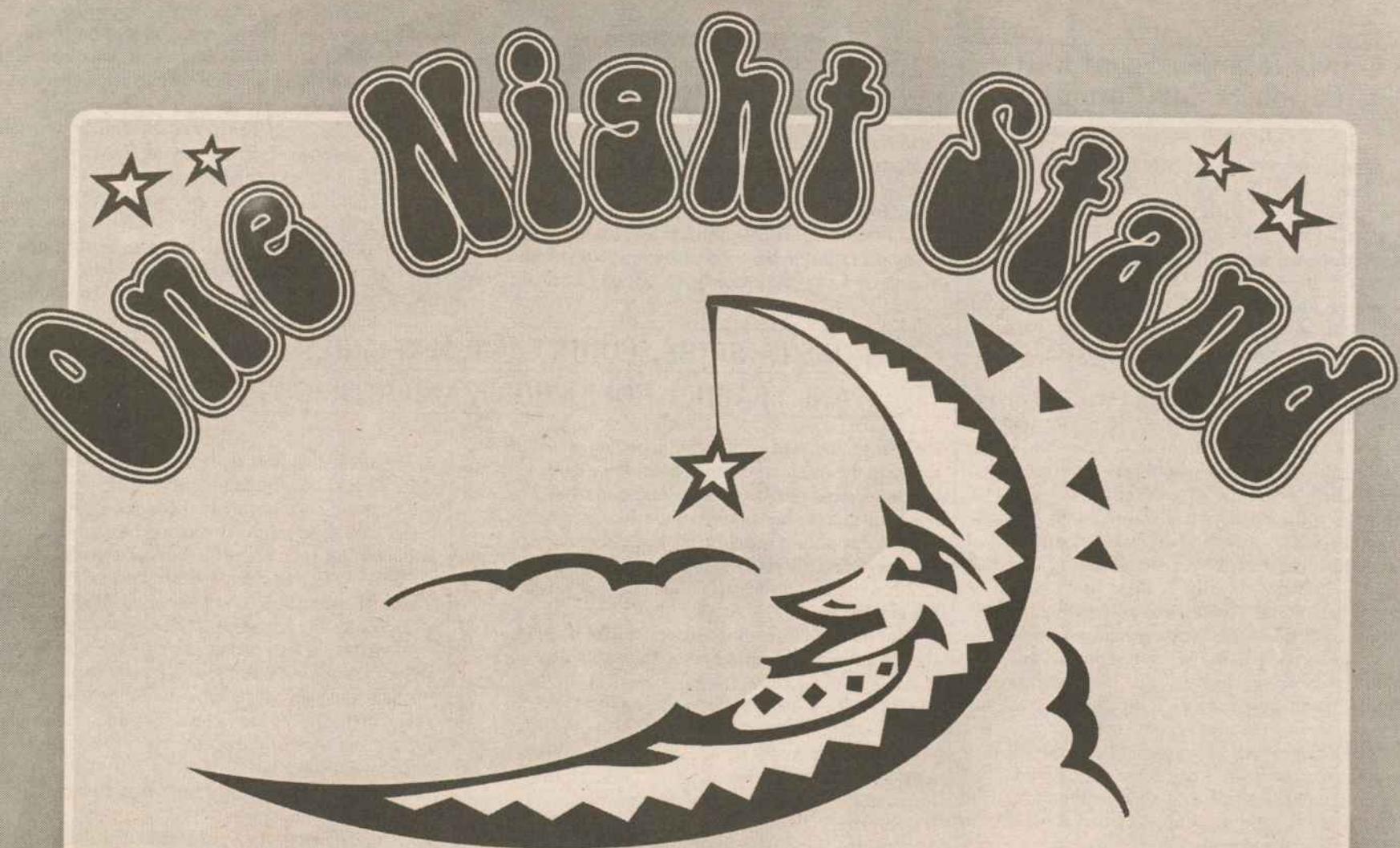
Adam (or Felicia, played by hunky Guy Pearce) and Mitzi, (played by Hugo Weaving) in "The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert"

Nile was quickly joined by Roman Catholic Church officials who said including the drag queens would not "reflect the values of the Olympic Games," the New South Wales Council of Church which warned that "deeply religious countries may be offended by a depiction of homosexuality and gender crossing." Even a member of Prime Minister John Howard's government said the event would make the world think Sydney is the "world sleaze capital."

But Ric Birch, organizer of the closing ceremonies, said "right-wing reactionaries" were blowing the "tiny part of a huge celebration" out of proportion and said, "Whatever part of a community is outraged about it, they're always going to be outraged."

Birch said, "I'm not sure if they've noticed there is a Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras parade that takes place in Sydney watched by hundreds of thousands of Sydneysiders and which attracts a huge international contingent. That's part of Sydney life whether they like it or not."

The celebration is expected to feature as many as 200 drag queens, some of whom will be decked out in original costumes from the acclaimed film, as well as Barry Humphries — better known as Dame Edna Everage, Australia's best-known female impersonator.



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Money, Parks & Presidential Politics

The Convoluted Boy Scout Battle Gets Curiouser and Curiouser

By Keith Clark

The battle over the Boy Scouts of America's anti-gay policy appears to be dividing into three areas now that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that the youth organization as a private concern can legally exclude anyone it finds doesn't meet its standards.

In one area, funding for the Scouts is being challenged by activists who are calling on corporations and charitable groups to discontinue their financial support of the Texas-based youth organization.

A handful of businesses and United Ways had already suspended their funding of the Scouts during the past few years because of the group's anti-gay policies, and in the wake of the court ruling dozens more are now reconsidering their funding commitments to the group.

While it's still early days in this campaign, corporations and charities appear to be extremely ambivalent about their financial contributions to an organization that so boldly — and now legally — discriminates. Chase Manhattan Bank initially said it was suspending its funding for the Scouts while it reconsidered the issue. But within a week, the banking giant flip flopped and said its decision had been "mischaracterized," that it was only reviewing the issue, and that it had now completed that task and would continue contributing to the Scouts.

And in Florida, a relatively new United Way chairman resigned because the board's debate over the funding had put him in the position of being a lightning rod for the issue and subjected him to intense criticism within the community the charity serves.

A second area of this struggle between gay rights advocates and the Scouts centers on the use of public facilities

by the Scouts. These range from simply giving the Scouts access to public schools for meetings, recruiting and teaching special classes, to fairly significant sweetheart leases that some cities have agreed to.

In San Diego, Calif., for example, the Scouts have a longterm lease for 18 acres at Balboa Park for the nominal fee of \$1 per year and the use of a city-owned aquatic facility rent free.

But the ACLU has now filed a federal lawsuit against San Diego in an effort to bar the Scouts from getting such a generous lease for public property. San Diego has an anti-bias

"ON THIS LAND THE SCOUTS CAMP, HIKE AND SWIM. THEY ALSO TEACH AND PRACTICE HOMOPHOBIA AND RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE."

law that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation, and the ACLU argues that, as attorney Linda Hills put it, "On this land the Scouts camp, hike and swim. They also teach and practice homophobia and religious intolerance."

Ted Cox of the Desert-Pacific Council of Boy Scouts in San Diego said the youth group has every right to the park facilities and that he doesn't understand "why people can't live and let live."

But the ACLU says the Scouts can't have it both ways. If they're a private organization as the Supreme Court has ruled and can legally discriminate, the San Diego anti-bias laws make them ineligible for any special deals for the park facilities.

But as with corporate and charitable financing, many local government officials may find it difficult to hold their own anti-bias laws up against the apple-pie image the Boy Scouts project.

And the potential political landmine of confronting the homophobic policies of an organization that also projects such a wholesome, all-American image has been illus-

trated by a reported incident at the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles in mid-August.

Far-right organizations and news sources have widely reported that delegates at the convention "booed and heckled" Boy Scouts participating in opening ceremonies at the convention. The alleged incident has been widely denounced by anti-gay activists who have spun it from dubious status into a full-blown attack by virtually the entire Democratic Party on America's young people.

The problem with the report itself is no one watching the Scouts at the opening ceremonies on television will recall it and people at the convention say it just plain didn't happen.

Jeri Dilno, a lesbian delegate from San Diego, disputed the report of the booing incident, which has been repeated a number of times by the Washington Times the Conservative News Service and Pat Robertson's "700 Club." But Dilno said gay and lesbian delegates had no intention to "embarrass the

young people that were up there [on the podium]" and said there was no booing. Mainstream dailies have also questioned the report, noting that the Scout troop and adult leader with them said they couldn't hear any booing in the noisy Staples Center where the Democrats had gathered.

But the alleged incident has now become a political reality for the far right who appear to be using it to bash Democrats — especially Vice President Al Gore — over the head.

And that's at least part of how the Boy Scouts' anti-gay policy has now also turned into an issue in the presidential race.

Just days before the Supreme Court handed down its ruling in the Scouts case, President Clinton signed an executive order that prohibits the executive departments of government from involvement in educational or training programs with any organization that discriminates based on sexual orientation.

The U.S. Interior Department cited that order in asking the Justice Department to help it determine its connections with the Boy Scouts.

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"YOU WOULD THINK THAT IF THE PRESIDENT HAD THE COURAGE OF HIS CONVICTIONS AND STOOD BEHIND HIS EXECUTIVE ORDER, HE WOULD RESIGN AS HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE BOY SCOUTS."

In light of the Clinton executive order, the Interior Department's move is probably fairly sensible and asking the Justice Department to help evaluate and develop guidelines under the circumstances is probably what any cautious bureaucrat would do to cover all the bases.

But anti-gay conservatives have had a field day with the reported assessment and turned it into an issue in the presidential race between Gore and Texas Gov. George Bush.

Bush said, "I am troubled by this [Interior Dept.] memo appearing to suggest that the Clinton-Gore administration might sever the federal government's long-standing relationship with the Boy Scouts of America. For many years, the Boy Scouts have conducted Jamborees and other events on public lands and provided thousands of volunteer hours to help maintain our national parks. I hope that President Clinton and Vice President [Al] Gore respect the role the Boy Scouts play in our society and will not allow them to be shut out of federal lands."

Republican congressional leaders were quick to cash in on the Boy Scout political bonanza. House Majority Whip Tom DeLay said, "The Clinton administration would do well to use its time and resources to affirm and practice, rather than assault and undermine, the values of the Boy Scouts."

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott's office said, "You would think that if the president had the courage of his convic-

tions and stood behind his executive order, he would resign as honorary president of the Boy Scouts."

And Rep. Dana Rohrabacher of California, one of the GOP's favorite attack-dogs, said Congress would deal with the issue when it reconvenes in September, calling the Interior Department review a "gratuitous attack on the Boy Scouts."

As a result of this sort of political rhetoric, a question that probably has less to do with the presidential election than where the two candidates stand on the gold standard has now become what Bush and his fellow Republicans no doubt hope is a "gotcha" for Gore.

And in a sense the issue could be an interesting test of Gore's skills both in politics and policy questions.

Gore could simply try to duck the issue entirely, but even money says Bush will force the question on him one way or another. So the vice president would probably be smart to give it a reasoned response instead of risk being caught off guard and possibly saying something he'd later regret — one way or the other.

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news briefs

Gore Campaign Names Gay/Lesbian Outreach Aide

Washington — Vice President Al Gore has named Campbell Spencer as his presidential campaign's gay and lesbian outreach coordinator.

Spencer is a lesbian activist who worked as a state lobbyist in Virginia before joining the Human Rights Campaign.

In a statement, Gore said, "I am very pleased to have Campbell Spencer on our team. Her leadership in the community and strong relationships with activists throughout the country will be important assets to this campaign. I look forward to working with her as we continue to fight to widen the circle of fairness and dignity to include our brothers, sisters, friends, and neighbors in the gay and lesbian community."

Anti-Gay Attack Ends in Auto Accident

Des Moines, Iowa — The Des Moines Register reports that what apparently started as an anti-gay attack aimed at two men dressed as women ended with several of the suspects seriously injured in an auto accident.

According to the paper Joshua Farrell and Casey Forrester told police they had been attacked by a group of people yelling

anti-gay epithets and throwing cans at their car and a man bashing their automobile with a baseball bat.

When police arrived, according to reports, they tried to pursue a jeep with the bat-wielding man in it but lost the vehicle in traffic.

But the paper reports that shortly after police gave up the chase, the jeep crashed into a van, seriously injuring two passengers and slightly injuring the driver and two other passengers.

Officials, Family in Custody Fight Over Transgender Child

Columbus, Ohio — The Franklin County Childrens Services (FCCS) has become embroiled in a custody dispute with Columbus, Ohio, parents Paul and Sherry Lipscomb over the gender identity of their 6 year old child, who was born male but who has for the past four years identified as a female.

Last year the child was diagnosed as having gender identity disorder. But when the parents tried to re-enroll their child in first grade as a girl at a school where the previous enrollment indicated the child was male, FCCS officials stepped in and have taken custody of the child.

They are concerned that the gender identity diagnosis may not be accurate and

that the parents are forcing the child into a girl's role rather than the birth role as a male.

But the parents say it is FCCS officials who are trying to impose their ideas of which gender role their child should adopt and they've filed an appeal against the order taking the child from their custody.

"They want us to change Aurora to be male," said Paul Lipscomb. "We are having conflict with physicians and childrens services in both Franklin and Hamilton counties in Ohio. They are talking about residential care, which removes us as the parents. They are beginning to say we are unfit parents, because we allow Aurora to exist."

Fla. AIDS Agency to Close Down

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. — Directors of Think Life, a Broward County, Fla., HIV/AIDS agency that got started from \$4,000 in lottery winnings a decade ago, say they are closing the agency down at the end of September due to continuing money and legal problems.

The directors said the agency has been irreparably disabled by \$700,000 in debts and credit, a series of expensive lawsuits, bookkeeping errors that cost more than \$150,000 and nearly a half-million dollars in repairs that would be required for the agency's housing units.

Because of ongoing problems from the past, the directors, who took over last year in a last-ditch effort to try to save Think Life, said they have been unable to raise any significant money from sources that have usually supported the agency in the past and see no alternative but shutting it down.

Texas Couple to Get Marriage License

San Antonio, Tex. — Bexar County Clerk Gerry Rickhoff says it's entirely legal and that he will issue a marriage license to Jessica Wicks, 53, and Robin Manhart, 44, because Manhart is a woman and Wicks, as a male-to-female transsexual, is legally considered a male under Texas law.

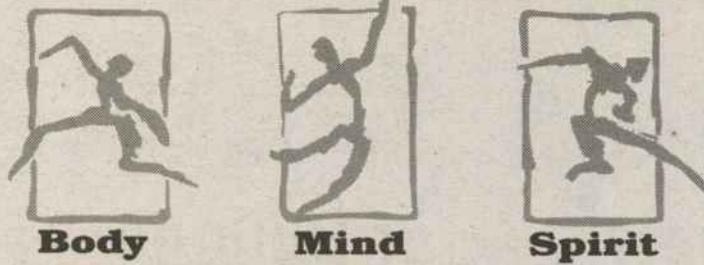
Phyllis Frye, the attorney representing the couple, said the state "can't have it both ways."

Frye was referring to a 1999 case in which a Texas appeal court rejected the wrongful death claim of a transsexual following the death of her husband. The court ruled that the transsexual couldn't sue because she was legally male and therefore couldn't legally have been married to another male under Texas law.

Frye said that before that appeals court ruling, the Wicks-Manhart marriage would have been illegal as a same-sex wedding but that ruling has changed things. "There are going to be more and more couples like Jessica and Robin getting married," Frye said.

Rickhoff said he had consulted the district attorney's office and had been told to issue the marriage license based on the appeals court ruling. "It's not up to me to deny them their marriage license," he said. "In this instance, I'll be presented certified copies of their birth certificates and will present them with their license."

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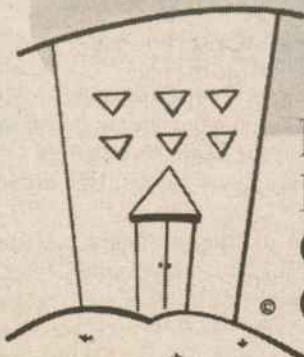
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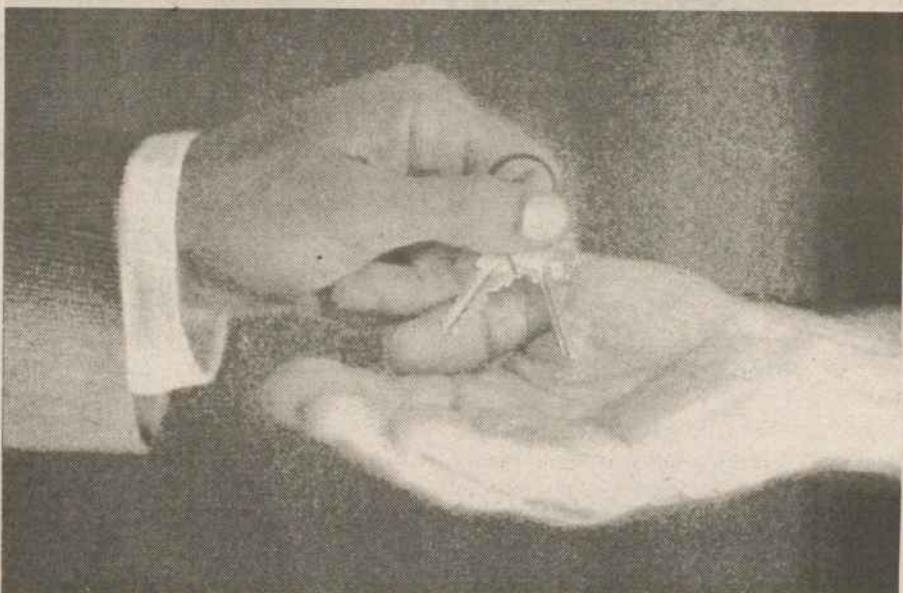
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group notes

AIDS Walk to Provide Free Transportation to Event From Around the State

Milwaukee — AIDS Walk Wisconsin, the state's largest AIDS fund-raising event, will benefit 15 AIDS service agencies, including two organizations that serve the gay community, the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center and the YWCA-Rainbow Alliance for Youth of Wisconsin.

Free bus transportation will bring registered Walkers to Milwaukee on Sunday, October 1 to join Honorary Chair Jackie-Joyner Kersee and show "The Power of One Day," the day's theme.

"Our mission is to provide community development, sensitive programming and advocacy for LGBT equality," said Neil Albrecht, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center executive director. "The dollars from AIDS Walk ensure that HIV prevention is involved in all aspects of our programming to reach at-risk individuals."

According to Marilyn Levin, YWCA-Rainbow Alliance for Youth of Wisconsin program director, "AIDS Walk funds will be used to increase the capacity of HIV prevention among GLBTQ groups at statewide gatherings."

Transportation, courtesy of Lamers Bus Lines and Van Galder Bus Company, will unite walkers statewide with 5,000 participants in Milwaukee.

Call (800) 348-WALK or visit arcw.org to register for the Walk and to reserve your seat on a bus. Buses will arrive in time for opening ceremony festivities and Jackie Joyner-Kersee's keynote speech.

"It is important to the future of our children that we do everything possible to defeat AIDS. Creating awareness while rallying people to defeat AIDS is a cause I wholeheartedly support," Joyner-Kersee said.

Walkers can join one of the benefiting agency teams or sign up as an individual to help improve the quality of life for over 7,000 people in Wisconsin living with HIV and increase needed HIV prevention programs, research and advocacy.

"The AIDS Walk and "The Power of One Day" will bring thousands of caring Wisconsin individuals together who will remember loved ones we have lost to the disease, celebrate progress being made toward HIV prevention and research," said Doug Nelson, executive director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, which produces the Walk.

Buses will come from Green Bay, Appleton, Neenah, Menasha, Oshkosh, Fond Du Lac, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Wausau, Stevens Point, La Crosse, Kenosha, Racine, Eau Claire, Madison, Janesville and Beloit.

"Lesbian Breast Health" Seminar Sept. 14

Milwaukee — The Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee Education Fund (LAMM-EF) invites all interested women to attend a "Lesbian Breast Health" seminar on Thursday, Sept. 14, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center, 170 S. Second Street.

The panel of licensed health practitioners will discuss

what women can do to maintain healthy breasts. Topics covered will include: 1) Common Breast Problems; 2) Breast Cancer Screening; 3) Risk Factors and Risk Reduction; and 4) Mammograms. Some of the time will be devoted to a question and answer session.

Please join LAMM-EF for this informative evening. And mark your calendars for a second health seminar on "Wellness and Stress Reduction" set for November 16.

For further information, call LAMM at (414) 272-9442 or email helper_bee@yahoo.com.

Positive Voice Dinner Meeting Set for Sept. 18

Green Bay — Positive Voice, the gay and lesbian support and social group in the Green Bay area, will hold its next Dinner Meeting on Monday, Sept. 18, at Liberty Hall, 800 Eisenhower Drive in Kimberly, Wis.

The evening, called "Sharing Our Stories in a Positive Voice," will begin with a Social Hour at 6 p.m. An optional Family Style Dinner follows at 6:30 p.m. for just \$5. The program meeting will begin at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call Positive Voice at (920) 435-4404.

Women's "Coming Out" Group Starts Sept. 21

Milwaukee — The Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM), in conjunction with the Counseling Center of Milwaukee and the LGBT Community Center, is launching a support group for women who are in the process of coming out.

The first group is scheduled to begin meeting on Thursday, Sept. 21, at the LGBT Community Center. The 8-week group, led by trained facilitators, will meet every Thursday through November 9. Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$10 per session. LAMM is committed to providing financial assistance to any woman who is unable to pay part or all of the fee.

"We're very excited to be able to offer this service," LAMM co-chair Fai DeMark said. "Many of the calls we receive at the office are from women who are just starting to come out. Many feel isolated and don't know who they can talk to about the way they are feeling. New women are always welcome at LAMM, of course. But we thought we needed a more formal support system."

The Counseling Center will provide administrative support and facilitators and the LGBT Center will provide the meeting space. "It's a fantastic partnership," said DeMark. "We anticipate that there will continue to be an interest and need for this type of support group, so we are planning to offer them on a regular basis."

To register for the Coming Out group, call Cheryl Orgas at (414) 271-2565.

Project Q Launches Youth of Color Group

Milwaukee — The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center's youth program, Project Q, has announced the opening of support groups for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth ages 24 and under. Through a collaboration with the Counseling Center of Milwaukee 12 Project Q youth completed a six-week Peer Support Group Facilitation Training.

"We have all been working really hard to get these support groups ready. It's a good compliment to the activities that Project Q already provides," said Stephanie Rodriguez a youth leader from Project Q.

Project Q will be offering three support groups for any LGBTQ youth age 24 and under. These support groups are Youth of Color, Youth Ages 17 & Under, and Youth Ages 18-24. Each support group will be facilitated by trained Project Q youth and will offer a safe space to talk and celebrate your life.

"Youth of Color are often faced with unique issues in challenging homophobia and racism," says Adam McKinney a trained facilitator of the YOC group. "This support group focuses on these issues and celebrating our uniqueness as beautiful people."

Project Q's support groups are free, confidential, and open to ALL LGBTQ youth. The YOC Support group meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All support groups will meet at Project Q, located at 170 South 2nd Street.

The other two support groups will be coming soon. Call (414) 223-3220 to request a schedule of support group dates. Call (414) 223-3220 or email projectqyouth@yahoo.com to register or with questions.

"Successful Investing" Seminar at M&M Club

Milwaukee — An educational seminar on "The Keys to Successful Investing" will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 6 p.m. at the M & M Club, 124 N. Water St. in Milwaukee.

The seminar is sponsored by S. Allen Broyles, Financial Advisor of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, and features Paul Blane, Assistant Vice President of Groupama Asset Management North America. It will focus on the advantages of professional investment management.

Admission and dinner are free, but seating is limited. Anyone who would like to attend this educational seminar should call Allen Broyles at (800) 669-9193 to make their reservation.

BESTD Clinic Feted at Fluid

Milwaukee — Fluid owners Bill Wardlow and Jim Balistreri sponsored a successful BESTD (Brady East STD) Clinic Night on Aug. 23. Over \$300 was raised on behalf of the clinic at the multi-talent event.

Stand-up comedy team Dave Hansel and Paul Jensen MC'd the event and kept the evening moving with their routines and audience participation. Door prizes, including gift certificates from other bars and restaurants, were given to raffle winners and those who participated in contests. Fluid staff members also offered kisses to patrons for a donation to the clinic. Illusionist Jackie Roberts entertained the crowd with her talents.

BESTD Clinic volunteers were on hand to thank the owners, staff and patrons of Fluid, to explain the clinic's work, and to encourage the crowd to avail themselves of the BESTD Clinic's free services both at its Brady St. location and at its outreach clinics at other bars and businesses.

The next outreach clinics are scheduled for Friday, Sept. 8 at Afterwards Bookstore, 2710 N. Murray Ave. from 7-10 p.m. and on Friday, Sept. 15 at C'est La Vie, 231 S. Second St. from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m. The BESTD Clinic is located at 1240 E. Brady St. For more information, call (414) 272-2144.

Counseling Center Offers Facilitator Training for Lesbians

Milwaukee — The Support/Therapy Group Program at the Counseling Center of Milwaukee is offering facilitator training for lesbians to prepare women to co-facilitate groups.

Training will include practicing communication skills, focusing on feelings, dealing with difficult group member behavior, addressing conflict resolution, and learning other pertinent group skills. The training will also look at the dynamics and concerns specific to lesbian groups.



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Training begins Monday, Sept. 11 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. and will last for eight weeks. After completing facilitator training, new facilitators are asked to co-facilitate two groups for the Counseling Center. The cost of the training is \$60.

For more information or to register for the training, call Cheryl Orgas at (414) 271-2565.

AIDS Walk Bar Competition Heats Up

Milwaukee — The gay and lesbian bar competition benefiting AIDS Walk Wisconsin is gaining momentum as last year's winner takes on Triangle Bar, the current leader.

But, look out Triangle! Fluid has gained speed by increasing its team from three members on August 4 to a whopping 26 at latest report. Triangle Bar remains in a slight lead with 27 team members, up from the 13 members reported on August 4.

"The competition is much stronger than the past years. There are 21 bars registered so far! Last year, a total of eight bars were registered, bringing in \$8,943 to the Walk. Imagine what 21 bars can bring to AIDS Walk," said Renee Kirnberger, ARCW associate director of development for special events.

The objective of the bar competition is to see which bar can get the most team members and raise the largest amount of money to win the AIDS Walk Wisconsin traveling trophy. Several bars have taken the initiative to hold fund-raisers, with the most popular being raffles. Many bars have scheduled beer busts, sign up parties and balloon raffles to be held throughout September.

South Water Street Docks is having a motorcycle run to raise money. La Cage and Sass are having drag shows to increase their team funds. Club Boom is raffling off several prizes, including a very unique one — the owner will serve the winner breakfast in bed.

"Between the raffles and various fundraisers, Fluid and Triangle Bar could be knocked out of the lead at any time — keeping the competition exciting. It is very encouraging to see the amount of effort the bars are putting into this competition," Kirnberger said.

As of August 31, four new bars, 219, Harbor Room, Sass, Ray's Bar and Grill join the 17 bars previously registered including Triangle Bar, Fluid, SouthWater Street Docks, 1100 Club, Switch, Club Boom, M&M, Boot Camp, Kathy's Nut Hut, Woody's, Ballgame, La Cage, C'est La Vie, This is It, JT's Bar and Grill of Superior, Rascal's Bar and Grill of Appleton and Za's Videobar of Green Bay.

For AIDS Walk information or to be added to a team roster, please call (800) 348-WALK or online at arcw.org.

ARCW's True Colors Offers Youth Programs

Milwaukee — True Colors is the GLB and Questioning Youth Program of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) that seeks to empower youth ages 15-25 and provides a sense of belonging and community in a safe and supportive environment.

Among the regular activities of True Colors are: Coffee Chat Group Night, every first and third Friday from 7-9 p.m., including open discussion and free beverages; Bar Condom Outreach Distribution Evening (Bar CODE), every first and third Friday and Saturday, in which volunteers distribute safer sex kits and materials; Drop-In Activity Nights, every second and fourth Wednesday at the ARCW offices, 820 N. Plankinton Ave.; Youth Dry Nights, a monthly dance and dry night; and HIV Counseling and Testing, either drop-in or by appointment at the ARCW offices.

For more information on True Colors and/or the times and locations of the events listed above, call (414) 225-1573.

Milwaukee to Host BWMT Regional

Milwaukee — The Black and White Men Together (BWMT) chapter in Milwaukee will host the Midland Regional meeting of BWMT the weekend of October 13-15, 2000. There are twelve cities throughout the Midwest affiliated with the Midland Region of BWMT. Men from as far away as Washington DC, Dallas, and San Jose as well as men from the Midwest are expected to attend the Midland Regional.

The host hotel for the weekend activities is the Best Western Inn Town Hotel. The weekend gathering begins with a Friday Night Reception. Saturday morning will be devoted to Midland Regional business meeting, while the afternoon will see two workshops, the first on Gay Men's Health Issues (other than HIV), the second on developing coalitions and building networks. Two meals will be provided on Saturday, lunch and a banquet dinner. Guests of the Best Western Inn Town Hotel will be provided a Continental Breakfast each morning. Sunday's activities are yet to be determined.

Black and White Men Together is a social support group for men in interracial relationships or individuals interested in interracial dating. For more information regarding the Midland Regional or BWMT-Milwaukee, call (414) 461-4586, voice box #3, or write to BWMT-Milwaukee, P.O. Box 100608, Milwaukee, WI 53210-0608.

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quips

Power Tool

"We actually met at Home Depot in the power-tools section. Mark is very friendly and very at ease with people. I was looking at a drill and he just started telling me 'you should get this' and 'look at this one.' I thought he was cute and we sort of hit it off and started talking. Gaydar activity was definitely going on there. We walked out of the store, and we exchanged numbers, and we've been together four years now."

—Guitarist Keith Strickland of the B-52's to San Diego's *Update*.



Bitchin'

"Some bitch stole the name www.rupaul.com and held it hostage and tried to bribe me into buying it. But I think I have that all straightened out and we'll be switching to dot-com later this summer."

—RuPaul, presently located at www.rupaul.net, to the Missouri gay magazine *EXP*.

Republican Queer Warrior

"I've always said the person I was before I came out is the same person I am now. ... I'm not a reluctant warrior. When the time comes, and the chips are down, I will speak out, and I have, to expand our party."

—Openly gay U.S. Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., to *Roll Call*, Aug. 10.

Pass the Bacon

"I don't think that I have any homophobia, or ever [did]. I came to New York city in the mid-seventies to be an actor when being gay was considered cool — bisexuality was looked at as something really great. I went to Studio 54 as a kid and a lot of the best partying was at gay clubs, [so] I just never really had too much of an issue with it."

—Actor Kevin Bacon to the AIDS magazine *A & U*, August issue.

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—Filmmaker John Waters to *Chicago's Outlines*.

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Richard Hatch for President

"In the year 2000, everyone marvels that a Jew is a candidate for vice president. ... If we are the democracy that we pretend to be, than we should have already had a president who is Jewish, black or gay."

—Actor Woody Allen to *France's Le Monde* newspaper.

Que Sera

"Right now, I'm on my three-drug combo, I'm doing great, I'm undetectable for the first time, I have more T cells than ever. And I don't believe for a minute that it's going to last. I'm on Sustiva, and for all we know, a year from now my dick is going to fall off or I'm going to have brain tumors. I'm pretty much assuming I'll get a two-year run. So, I'm healthy. I have a beautiful home. I have the possibility of a future, and I find it all quite incomprehensible. So who knows? A year from now, I might be a daddy. I might be running for mayor of Palm Springs. Or I might be dead. You just don't know. But bring it on, baby. Bring it on."

—Cleve Jones, founder of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt to *Poz* magazine, September issue. Jones is looking into the possibility of becoming a father thanks to a technique that removes HIV from sperm.



Tortured Sinead

"I can't really get a grasp on what she's up to or what she's doing. It doesn't seem to ever really make any sense. I just hope she finds a little bit of peace of mind. She seems like she's pretty tortured."

—Actress Sandra Bernhard on singer Sinead O'Connor to *San Diego's Gay & Lesbian Times*. In recent months O'Connor said she was a lesbian, then said she wasn't, then said she prefers sex with women but is celibate.

"The reality is that I don't believe in gay or straight and I am neither gay or straight. I prefer having sex with women, I prefer making love with women, I find that sexier. I'm more suited to going out with women. However, I'm celibate and choose to be celibate. I have gone out with men and find men sexy as well, but if it comes down to the bottom line, I prefer making love to women."

The latest from singer Sinead O'Connor, to the British lesbian magazine *Diva*, August issue.

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Dorothy Dean: More Than Just a Bean Counter

By Jamakaya

Milwaukee — Dorothy Dean, the long-time Milwaukee County Supervisor who was appointed County Treasurer earlier this year, is hoping for a vote of confidence by Milwaukeeans this fall, to ensure her first full two-year term in office. Dean was understandably eager to urge IN Step readers to vote in the primary election on Sept. 12 but she also spoke passionately about her job and the opportunity to impact economic development and justice issues in Milwaukee.

IN Step: Why should people vote for you?

Because I've been able to put to use all of my experience — when I worked for the Elder Care Line, when I worked for the

job, how can you then turn around and criticize them and say they're doing a crummy job? Especially when your own Legislative Audit Bureau is telling you that you're not providing enough resources. In Milwaukee County, we had the same problem when Tony Earl was governor and he was a Democrat, so it doesn't depend a whole lot on who's in the governor's mansion; it depends more on what's going on in the legislature. The other big challenge is the pressure to provide services that we know people need — and that we know we've got waiting lists for — and holding the line on property taxes. Those were always the really big issues.

IN Step: Can you describe the duties of the Treasurer?



Dorothy Dean

Department on Aging, when I worked for the Finance Committee of the County Board, plus all of the things I learned in 20 years as a Supervisor on the County Board. I've been able to put all that to use here in the Treasurer's office, and I think it's benefiting the taxpayers of the city.

When I first worked for Milwaukee County at the Dept. on Aging, I monitored contracts. For the last year there I kept all the books. Then I worked for the County Board Finance Committee for two years. I was the only fiscal analyst there, so I reviewed anything that pertained to money that came before the Board. I knew the county budget very well before I ran for Supervisor.

IN Step: What were your biggest challenges on the County Board?

The biggest problem, especially in the last 15 years, has been the relationship with the state. Counties statewide are hurting now. What used to be just dumping on Milwaukee County is wholesale dumping on all the counties. The Governor is talking about taking away shared revenue. The counties are specifically mandated by law to be the administrative arm of state government. Well, if you don't give your own administrators enough money to do the

We are like the county's banker. We issue all the payroll checks. We issue all the checks to the vendors. If we don't have proper authorization, we send it back and say, "We can't pay this. This is what we need..." We catch duplicate payments and watch for any improprieties. Six weeks after I got here, I caught an attorney who's been stealing money from the county. He's been charged with a felony.

One of the big functions of this office is collection of delinquent taxes. When I came in, there was \$9.5 million in outstanding taxes, interest and penalties. I've got it down to about \$7.3 million now. I'm estimating it's going to take three years to catch up to where we should be. We've now got 170 people on monthly payment plans, and it's bringing in over \$95,000 a month. I'm also stepping up the foreclosure process because we've got accounts that haven't been paid since 1991-92. For whatever reason, people think they can just slide and not pay their property taxes. What usually happens is most of the properties that we file a foreclosure on are redeemed by their owners before it ever goes to court.

On a related issue, I'm dealing a lot with seniors who owe two to four years of back taxes. It's become really clear in talk-

ing with them that they don't know anything about the older adult service system. They don't know about the elderly nutrition program and so many things that could make their lives easier. So I've been working out a referral process to the Dept. on Aging, and for those under 60 or who are handicapped, I've been referring them to the County's Office on the Disabled. It's a way to get them services that will make their lives a little more comfortable and help them stay in their homes as long as possible. We also work out ways for them to pay their taxes. Sometimes it's with a monthly payment plan, sometimes it's a reverse mortgage. Home equity loans are another possibility. So I'm taking a proactive approach to helping people find ways to pay their taxes.

I'm working with the county auditor and the county controller on tightening up some of the accounting controls and, as part of a strategic planning process, we want to find ways to make government more understandable to people so they know what they are paying for. I'm pursuing getting as much of our information as possible on the world wide web so that it's available to people 24 hours a day, seven days a week. I've instituted a survey people can fill out to tell us whether they got good service. We've been using that to determine whether or not we need to make changes.

IN Step: Do you have a role in economic development at all?

One of the long-range things I'm looking into is putting brownfields back into productive use. We've got some properties in West Allis, West Milwaukee and Greenfield where industry has left and con-

taminated properties remain. Depending on what kind of remediation is needed and what use they can put it to, there are developers who are interested in buying brownfields. If we could put some useful enterprise there, it would get those properties back on the tax rolls. If you can increase the tax base at the same time that you keep homeowners' taxes stable, that benefits everyone. It's an exciting time and place to be because there is so much going on and so much that I think the Treasurer can do.

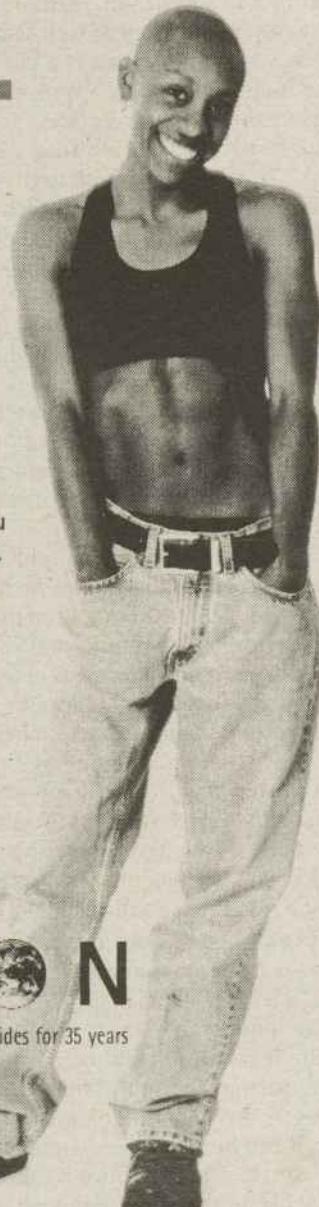
IN Step: You have the support of many in the gay community because of your strong stands on civil rights issues on the County Board. As Treasurer, will we miss your voice?

I negotiated a new banking contract for the county which will cost us \$34,000 less per year than what we've been paying. That new contract contains language citing sexual orientation as a protected class. I believe I have the authority to do things like that. Being Treasurer doesn't mean I'm going to completely stop advocacy. I may do it in a different way because, clearly, my focus is economic issues, but there's still a lot that the Treasurer can do. The whole issue about seniors, that gives me an opportunity to talk about poverty and the elderly, especially poverty among older women. I think we as a society need to take a look at that really closely.

IN Step: So you won't be just a numbers cruncher?

There's a part of me that is a bean counter. [laughter] I really do love working with data. But promoting the overall economic health of the county means promoting the health of every business and everybody. That's fundamental, and it's certainly consistent with promoting social justice.

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opinion

The AIGH! in Straight

By Chris Ott

So I go to the gym, and there's this flyer. It's devoted to a bunch of different health tips, but the largest section by far is titled: "Secrets to Keeping Your Man Healthy."

It's loaded with advice about how women can get their boyfriends and husbands to take better care of themselves.

"The right habits," the flyer starts, "can help protect him from heart disease, cancer, and stroke. Chances are he doesn't do a darn thing about it, but don't give up; try these tricks instead."

Want your man to eat better? "Instead of steak, buy salmon or tuna and challenge him to grill it to perfection."

Want him to exercise? "Men love to measure. So buy him a heart-rate monitor."

Want him to go to the doctor? Just say, "Honey, did you know that the human body is worth about \$1.6 million? That's the book value for your model. How about if I call the garage and schedule an appointment?"

And finally, if those little gambits don't work, the flyer suggests this: "Play the guilt card."

Now, I can't speak for everyone, but I'm assuming that most men — even straight men — don't want to be thought of or treated like grown-up babies who have to be henpecked and tricked. I'm also assuming that women don't particularly want to be housewifey manipulators. So what's going on here?

It helps to look at this from another perspective.

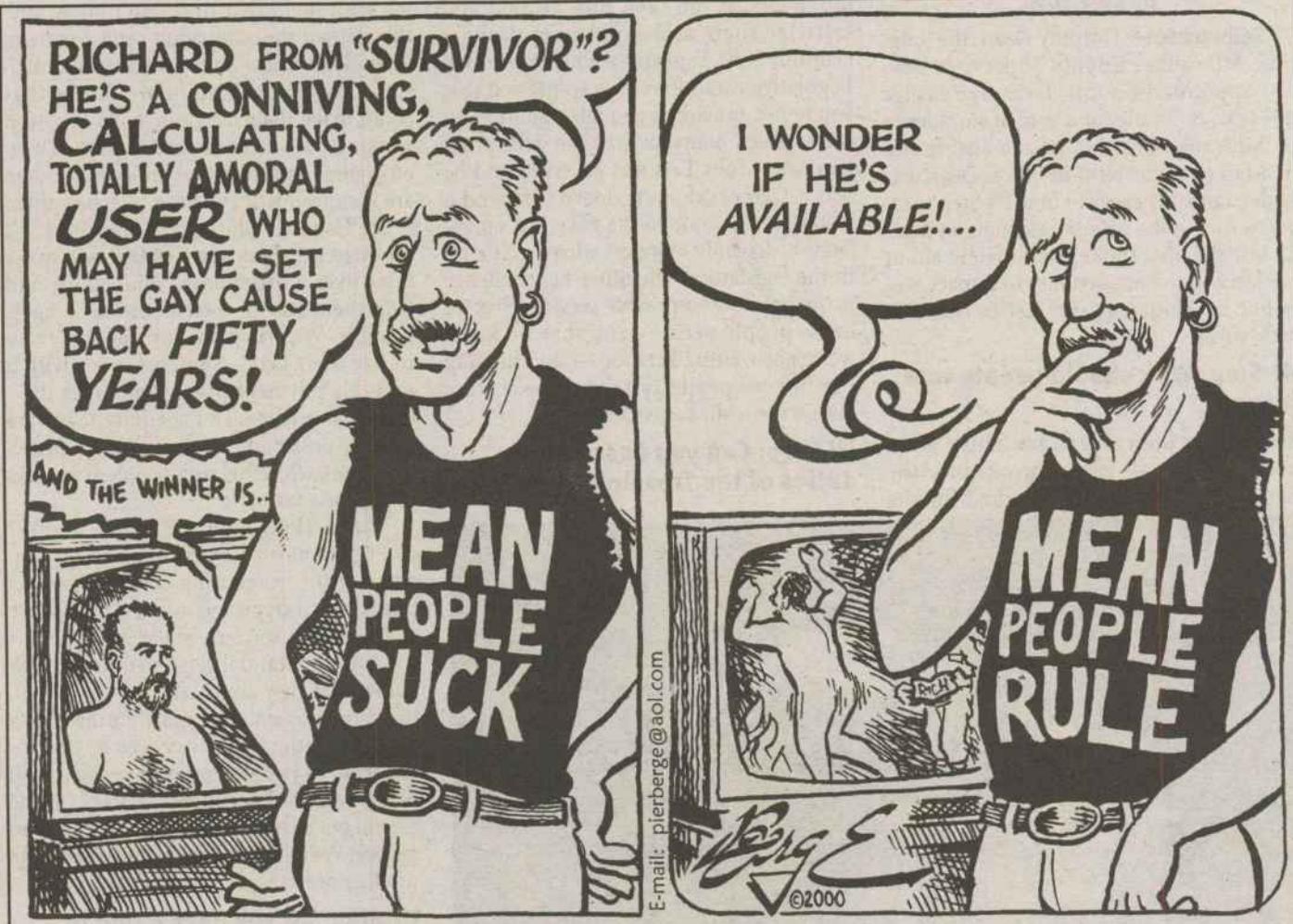
Something a lot like marriage is legal now for gay couples in Vermont, and in some other countries as well. Not everyone, however, thinks this is a big step forward. California voters approved a ballot measure this year that declares, "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid." Thirty-some U.S. states have enacted similar bans, and the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, which prohibits the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages too, passed in 1996.

The irony is that this was signed into law by Bill "I did not have sexual relations with that woman" Clinton, and it was supported by some of the most unscrupulous lawmakers in the country. Not only that, but this all took place in a country where there's about one heterosexual divorce for every heterosexual marriage.

It's not just hypocritical. The fuss over issues like gay marriage can be used as a way of not talking about something else: something closer to home, and something less easy than condemnations of us.

If there's any resemblance to married heterosexual reality in that dialogue from the flyer, then maybe one of the issues that's being avoided is the way that traditional ideas about sexual identity are becoming obsolete. If it ever was, maybe it's less and less possible now to talk about what's really just dysfunction — nagging wives and boneheaded husbands, neither able to really communicate with each other — as if it's some kind of ideal.

To those of us who are still denied most of the legal and social recognition that both married and unmarried straight couples get, this can all look kind of silly. In fact, it can be sad to see heterosexual couples stuck in ruts, mouthing absurd dialogue like in that flyer, seemingly still half-believing the stereotypes of what men and



women are, and trying to make them work: men complaining that "their" women shop too much; women complaining that men watch too much football; men who still expect women to serve them; women who phrase everything in the presence of men as a question. Honey, instead of your steak, I bought salmon -- would you like that? Would you go to the doctor if I schedule the appointment for you?

Don't they see what's going on? Is this why there's an AIGH! in "straight"?

There are, of course, a lot of straight people who are exploring relationships outside these stale identities. They're taking a fresh look at what makes a relationship, and what makes a relationship work. They're building relationships that last, without much institutional recognition or support, and sometimes in the face of outright hostility from the "traditional values" crowd.

This can be especially true, however, of gay people. There can be something good about having to improvise so many of the groundrules of a sexual identity, or having less of an option to fall back on traditional relationship roles.

Maybe sometimes this means making new mistakes — and some gay people end up in stereotyped roles too — but at least it gives everybody something to think about. It may even help find a way out of the ruts that have been carved by traditional ideas about Man and Woman.

Laws and attitudes that discriminate against same-sex couples — and unmarried het couples — are supposedly meant to "defend marriage" and "protect the family." But the real danger may be rejecting the experience of people who have already begun to see through, get over, and figure out the things that so many conventional relationships seem to need in order to make it.

Chris Ott is a writer in Madison and can be reached at sa@sipu.com.

letters

G/L Community Center Clarification Sought

Dear Editor:

Mr. Specht's lengthy letter in your August 24 edition of IN Step did little to enlighten me as to what the G/L Community Center and Trust fund is, or does.

Instead of innuendos, criticisms and a whiny defensiveness, perhaps Mr. Specht and Mr. Smits could tell us exactly what the G/L Community Center and Trust Fund has done, what it proposes to do (besides collect money, buy a building and call it a community center — we already know that), and who will it serve?

I am sure the LGBT Community Center would be very willing to provide the same information.

Susan Kraft

Possum Queen Pleads Ignorance

Dear Editor:

I'm writing to respond to questions asked by Papa Joe re: "Donations from the Possum Queen Campaign to the G/L Community Center." (Letters, Vol. 17, #16).

I was not aware that there was a difference between the G/L Community Center and the LGBT Community Center until a few weeks ago.

Last year I was told that money was earmarked to go to "the Community Center." I was told that Mr. Si Smits was going to match Bobbie's (Boot Camp's Possum Queen contestant) monies for the "Community Center."

I called the LGBT Center (thinking it was the only Center) and asked if they had any AIDS/HIV-related programs. I was told yes. I never gave it a second thought. Last year, Possum Queen Funds went to: PFLAG (Green Bay); Camp Heartland; Hunger Task Force; STD Specialties Clinic; BESTD Clinic; ARCW's Food Pantry; and the "Community Center."

The Possum Queen Campaign is an open book. If monies went to the wrong "Community Center," I plead ignorance.

Chuck Poulson, (aka Charlotte Lorraine)
Possum Queen Spokesperson

Editor's Note: The 1999 Annual Report of the G/L Community Center & G/L Community Center Trust Fund indicates that \$8,080.00 was received from the Possum Queen Campaign. Both the G/L Community Center and the LGBT Community Center said they will refund any donations which were given in error due to confusion between the two centers.

Dr. Laura and Jamie, Part 2

Dear Editor:

Here is why I think Jamie Taylor is dumb when it comes to Dr. Laura: The Supreme Court of Vermont recently ruled that committed homosexual relationships should have the same rights and privileges that married heterosexual couples receive (rights like hospital visitation, the right to make medical decisions, rights of survivorship, joint filing etc).

After this decision the Governor's office was deluged with anti-gay phonecalls.

Continues on following page

Why? How is it that so many people who believed that gay men and women shouldn't have these rights knew when and where to call? Why, Dr. Laura of course. One of many on-air initiatives instigated by Dr. Laura against gays and lesbians in her ongoing campaign.

The woman you are defending would see to it personally and is seeing to it personally that you don't have the same rights as other human beings in our society. Sure, defend civility if you must. Take people to task for their behavior if you must. But to go the extra step of singing the praises of a woman that regularly and rigorously uses her vast media resources to advocate the taking away of your rights is just flat-out stupid.

Some days I don't feel like a part of America in any real sense. I know that I could be fired from my job because I'm gay, could be evicted from my apartment because I'm gay, could get a brick in the face because I'm gay, am not allowed to marry because I'm gay, blah, blah, blah.

But these times they are a-changin', and when I read that advertisers are pulling out of the Dr. Laura television show because they don't agree with her rhetoric or they believe that the majority of their customers don't agree with her rhetoric, it makes me feel like maybe I am part of this country after all. And maybe, eventually, I will be an equal citizen, with the same rights and privileges as anyone else.

These people aren't changing their minds because of a few unkind words spoken from fringe newspapers like *IN Step* (no offense) or the Washington Blade that you quoted in your piece, the people in those publications who rail against Dr. Laura are preaching to the choir. These people are changing their minds because of what they hear coming out of the mouth of Dr. Laura herself. The words, sometimes hateful and, if you've at all ever heard the zeal with which she delivers one of her anti-gay tirades, frankly not always delivered with the helpful intentions you seem to want to prescribe her for god-knows-what reasons.

How I managed to hear these words, and all these countless other people (most of whom have probably never even heard of a gay newspaper) managed to hear these words and you (someone who writes a regular column for a gay paper) managed to miss them is beyond me.

So Jamie: You are dumb, but I like your column. I just wonder — after reading your Dr. Laura column — what exactly is it you feel you are "Keepin In Step" with?

Michael Doorman

Dear Editor:

Finally somebody (Jamie) raises a sensible voice in all this ridiculous persecution of Dr. Laura by people who feel so guilty that they can't rest as long as there is somebody in the world who refuses to condone their every whim.

I used to listen to Dr. Laura regularly and always heard her speak of homosexuals with compassion. However, she is just as hard on gay people as she is on everybody else when she criticizes the stupid, often cruel things, that people do.

The stuff I have been reading about Dr. Laura recently has been written by people who are not really familiar with her radio

program or are clearly acting in bad faith. Though I have little time to watch television, I am looking forward to Dr. Laura's new television show. Her "enemies" have promoted her show more than they will ever be willing to admit.

Melvin Hinton

Dear Editor:

I am writing to express my disappointment in Jamie Taylor's column defending "Dr." Laura. While I think we all agree "Dr." Laura and Jamie have a right to their opinions, no one has a right to a radio show or a TV show. What we do have is a right to protest peacefully.

Yes, I have listened to her radio show and read her column, and I have to say that 90% of the time she gives what seems to be good advice. My problem is with the 10% of the time she doesn't, and I think it is very hurtful to the gay community.

"Dr." Laura has repeatedly called gays "biological errors" and has defended that statement, and yes, it is a big deal. While I agree that from a biological standpoint that statement could be defended, why does she insist on singling gay people out? Many people have some kind of biological error, whether it be less than perfect vision, a genetic disease, hearing loss, cancer, or heart disease. These can all be considered biological errors, and yet being homosexual is the only biological error "Dr." Laura seems to concern herself with.

I'd like to finish by thanking all the activists out there for all they have done to send "Dr." Laura a strong message that we are not going to tolerate her brand of hate.

Ron Schmidt

More on Bar Noise

Dear Editor:

This is in response to a letter titled "Bar Noise" printed in the Aug. 10 issue of *IN Step*.

First, re: "Music too loud:" With eight or nine customers and half asking to turn the music down, all bartenders would turn it down a little to please half the crowd.

Second, there are different kinds of bars, dance clubs and lounges. There are cocktail hours and night time. All bars pay city, county, state and federal taxes, plus cleaning crews, insurance, worker's comp, payroll taxes, music taxes, telephone, electric, gas, air, water, heat, license fees, liquor taxes and many other expenses. Bars with strippers and impersonators pay out \$50-\$100 per night per performer.

Third, most bars have at least two bartenders on from 10 p.m. to close for the safety of the bar and customers.

Fourth, for bars with DJ, VJ, you must consider the cost incurred by videos, monitors, sound system, equipment, lights, music and many extras.

Fifth, to the letter writer: With \$40 in your pocket when you go out, you say you pay \$2.25-\$3.50 per drink. At \$2.25 per drink, you will have 17 drinks with \$1.75 left. At \$3.50 per drink, you will have 11 drinks with \$1.50 left. Have you checked the prices in Chicago?

We should thank bar owners for keeping the bars open. They are not taking advantage of you!

Bar Staff at Club 219

Letters Policy:

Letters submitted for publication should be on topics of general interest to the community and no more than 250 words in length. Anonymous or unsigned letters will not be published. Names withheld upon request. All material is subject to editing prior to publication. Letters exceeding 250 words may be edited for length and we reserve the right to withhold letters which are abusive, malicious or potentially libelous. Letters which are not sent via e-mail should be typed and legible.

Richard Hatch Should Be Running the Gay Movement

By Mubarak S. Dahir

He's been called conniving and manipulative and Machiavellian. The Washington Post dubbed him an "Evil Queen," capital E, capital Q.

Those who despise him have dedicated Web sites to denigrating his character and tactics and, just as often, his exposed, flabby midsection.

Even his closest cast-away "ally" — a 72-year-old former Navy seal who didn't even try to hide his dislike for gay people — has on national television referred to him without hesitation as "a queer."

But in all the ballyhooing, no one has ever called him a victim. And for that the rest of us owe this gay man a little thanks.

I'm talking, of course, about the man who may now be America's most famous homosexual: Richard Hatch, the 39-year-old corporate trainer from Rhode Island who walked away with a new car and a million dollars after beating out 15 other contestants in 39 days of taped drama (more of it psychological than physical) on the smash hit TV show, "Survivor."

Richard Hatch has shown an estimated 40 million American viewers a new side to gay people.

A lot of people in the gay and lesbian community are not so sure they like the new image Mr. Hatch has been flashing into living rooms across the country.

To judge from his character on the television show — which probably isn't the best way to judge the man in the first place, but I digress — he might not be the first choice of the people at the Human Rights Campaign or GLAAD to be America's gay poster-boy.

He's not sweet and gentle. He was definitely threatening. He could be ruthless and calculating. And yes, he turned easily at times into a nudist! (gasp)

He was not clean cut and buffed (well, not until after the show and the liposuction, anyway) and 20-something. He didn't want to help the girls do their hair, or stop world hunger or spread peace throughout the land. (That was never his plan!)

He didn't deliver long-winded political diatribes about how oppressed he felt as a gay man. He didn't get beat up or have his job taken away from him because he likes men. He wasn't weak or frail or, in the other extreme, hypermasculine and burdened with gym muscles.

He wasn't one of those dreadfully perky sit-com characters who somehow never gets laid (you get the distinct impression that, in real life, Richard gets what he wants, including sex). And he wasn't one of those saccharine movie character gays whose sexual orientation somehow bestows mythical wisdom and generosity and just plain niceness in sickening abundance. I think it's a fair bet that on that island, Richard was no one's best friend but his own.

In short, Richard wasn't anything most of straight America is used to seeing as a gay character in movies and on TV these days.

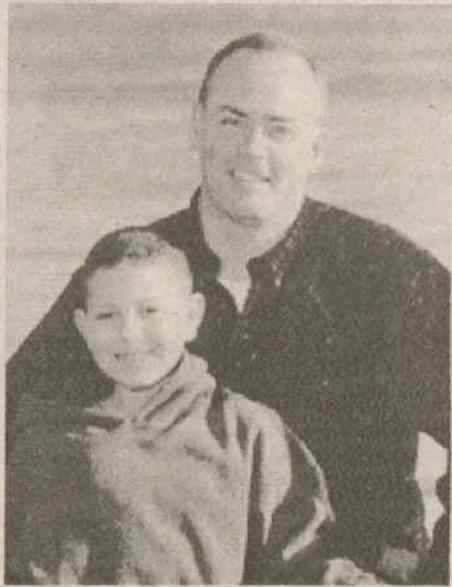
Most of all, Richard was not a victim. He was not apologetic, about being gay or anything else. He didn't make being gay an issue, but he wasn't embarrassed by it either. And we all know he didn't let it get in the way of letting him win.

Of course, Richard didn't go to the island with the intention of making a moral or political statement on behalf of gay people. Nooooooo! That wouldn't be

like Richard at all. He was simply there to win. And he did.

Not that the moral of this story should be the ends justify the means. To me, Richard would still be a hero even if he didn't win the million bucks.

Because whatever people thought of Richard — whether they feared him, admired him, detested him, protested him, whatever — most of them ended up



Rich Hatch and his son, Chris

respecting him. Several of his peers and former "tribe members" said so point blank as they cast their votes to give him the million dollars. And millions more felt that same respect through their television screens.

The gay and lesbian civil rights movement could take a pointer or two from Richard Hatch.

For years, our political leaders have focused relentlessly on putting forward a squeaky-clean, fresh-faced public image of who we are as lesbian and gay people. The belief has been that if we can get middle America to know us, they will then like us, feel compassion and understanding for us, believe we are just like them, and thus in the end fork over our full civil rights.

So we've gone on a collective political and social campaign to be liked. Sometimes, you see it in subtle ways, like who our national political groups (or local ones, for that matter) pick as spokespeople for public consumption. And sometimes you see it in more overt ways, when we try to down-play certain segments of our community for whom it is harder to convince middle America to "like" — such as the leather men or queens or bull dykes.

Looking at Mr. Hatch, I can't help but wonder if our political strategists don't have it all wrong.

Through a democratic process, a majority of tribe members voted to hand Richard Hatch the prize of a million bucks. It certainly wasn't because they "liked" him. But you better believe it was because they respected him.

The rest of us aren't asking Americans to vote to give us cash and gifts. But if we ever want to win over the majority that holds the balance of power on our prize — our civil rights — maybe we should focus less on worrying about whether or not people out there "like" us, and care more about if they are respecting us.

Maybe we can get Richard to take up a post at the Human Rights Campaign or the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

By Mike Fitzpatrick and J.C. Michalek

One constant in its three-decade transformation from a university-based strategic network to a pop culture-laden "information superhighway" is the Internet's almost intrinsic interconnection with the LGBT community. A gay professor invented what we know today as e-mail. Gay and lesbian CEO's litter the dot.com economy. In the late '90s the stereotypical gay man was more likely a web designer than a hair stylist.

The ongoing technological computing revolution has made accessing the World Wide Web simpler, faster and cheaper for all Americans. Latest statistics show about four in ten U.S. homes have Internet access — the overwhelming majority of the 1.7% of households wired worldwide. Yet on sexual matters, the Internet continues to be disproportionately gay.

Using Google.com, one of the most expansive and technically sophisticated search engines on the Web, a key-word search yielded over a half-million "homosexual" websites compared to a mere 233,000 "heterosexual" sites. The 5.6 million "gay" websites outnumber their "straight" counterparts by more than a half-million. Most interestingly, about 507,000 websites contained the homosexually-specific term "gays" while just 40,900 included the multi-defined word "straights."

LGBT people dominate much of the chat room and real-time "instant" messaging as well. At any time of the day on America Online (AOL), whose 24 million subscribers make it the world's largest Internet portal, over half the member-created chat rooms are gay themed.

Most of these "m4m" and "f4f" ("family friendly" AOL's acceptable terminology for gay and lesbian: "men

for men" and "female for female") rooms are geographically specific. At least one Wisconsin m4m room operates non-stop on AOL, with one or two additional statewide rooms and city-specific rooms operating at peak hours. Other national portals such as CompuServe and MSN have extensive but not as elaborate chat rooms for LGBT members.

Recent programming breakthroughs have made website-based chat more user friendly, although still slower than the real-time chats available on AOL and IRC.

Web? British Internet scholar Dr. David Gauntlett suggests the anonymity and identity play provided by the Internet closely parallels that of the gay "coming-out" process. "Men and women who have thought that they may be gay, but have been afraid to come out in the 'real world', have 'tested' this identity online. They have been so happy to be able to express their 'true' selves — and to receive such a supportive (and perhaps erotic) response — that this has given them the courage to come out in their everyday real-world lives as well." Gauntlett writes in his

"IT IS NOT UNCOMMON FOR ME TO HAVE 7 TO 10 DIFFERENT GUYS A WEEK THAT I MEET ON THE INTERNET COME OVER TO MY APARTMENT FOR A RENDEZVOUS."

Wisconsin-themed chat rooms now operate non-stop on Gay.com, which hosts the largest Internet-based chat site.

Thousands of other gay-oriented free and subscription sites operate as well. The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin inaugurated its 24-hour client chat site on August 24 with a chat moderated by Mike Johnson, ARCW's new client advocate.

Computer users also have access to Internet Relay Chat (IRC), the oldest form of real-time messaging extant on the web. After downloading and installing the free or inexpensive IRC shareware for their operating system, savvy users can check out the numerous gay-themed chat rooms on the IRC, Effenet and Undernet. IRC's "computer geek" factor has hampered its growth with those who simply want to "point and click" their way to real time chatting.

Why are LGBT people so drawn to the World Wide

textbook "Web Studies" (Oxford University Press) published September 1.

That sentiment is echoed by Steve Kuckuk, co-owner of Athenet.net, a regional Internet service provider in north-eastern Wisconsin. "It's been fascinating to watch the closet doors opening online these last few years," Kuckuk quipped. "I don't think even gay people realized how many of us there are until we got online."

Gauntlett also writes that Internet's gay connection appears to prove contemporary theories about the origin and essence of gender identity. "The Internet's scope for anonymous interaction, and therefore identity play, is significant for the way in which it fits in with contemporary queer theory (as proposed by sociologist Judith Butler). Queer theory suggests that people do not have a fixed 'essence,' and that identity is a performance. We may be so

"ON AOL EVERYONE IS 18 TO 30 WITH A SWIMMER'S BUILD AND HUNG LIKE A HORSE."

used to inhabiting one 'identity' that it seems to be 'natural' to us, but it's a kind of performance nonetheless. Because the Internet breaks the connection between outward expressions of identity and the physical body which (in the real world) makes those expressions, it can be seen as a space where queer theory's approach to identity can really come to life."

Identity as performance is the essence of the virtual interactive sexual behavior known as cybersex. Although cybersex can trace its development from the "900" chat phone sex lines of the '80s and '90s, the Internet has permitted the removal of all real-world cues from the sexual intercourse taking place. As one chat room devotee put it: "On AOL everyone is 18 to 30 with a swimmer's build and hung like a horse." Another quipped: "for the first time in human history, men can realistically fake orgasms."

Chat rooms are also used for cruising for r/t (real-time) sexual encounters. A quick look at the screen names in the Gay.com Wisconsin chat room appears to confirm assertions that the rooms have become more like virtual bath houses for individuals cruising for anonymous sex. Screen names like "lickmesuckme," "analmorning," "Hung-ry," and "bottom4unow" are just some of the names *IN Step* can publish.

Anonymity, explicitness and a touch of danger make real time cruising attractive insists Jerry, an AOL member who frequents the Wisconsin M4M chat room regularly. "That's part of the allure of chat rooms," Jerry said. "That's why gay men have historically engaged in sexual acts in parks and restrooms. Sex is much more exciting if there is a danger element to it. But the Internet gives you the danger without the possibility of arrest unless you're a pedophile."

"I am a sex addict," claims Steve (not his real name), a self-described "chat room junkie." "The Internet, particularly the chat rooms, has given me the opportunity to meet other addicts. It's so easy and anonymous." Steve said. "It is not uncommon for me to have 7 to 10 different guys a week that I meet on the Internet come over to my apartment for a rendezvous."

Michael, another chat room aficionado, cites the convenience of the Internet. "I can go online, get in a chat room, find what I want and be sexually satisfied faster than I can order a pizza and have it delivered," Michael said. "And, I never have to leave the comfort of my home. No bar or coffee shop gives me that luxury."

Interestingly, bars and coffeehouses catering to gay clientele around the state increasingly have added Internet connectivity to their array services and attractions.

Others disagree. Bill, 23 from Milwaukee says he doesn't use the chat rooms for sex, but instead is looking for his "prince charming."

"Not everyone is on here looking for ass," Bill said. "I think it just perpetuates the myth and stereotype that gay people are only interested in sex. People get stuck in their internalized oppressions and have no way to get out."

"I have met only one guy on line," Bill said. "I went over there for sex and I didn't do it. I felt it wasn't right for me."

John, from Shawano, Wis., believes that in rural areas such as Shawano the chat rooms have helped him — and others — feel like they are more part of the LGBT community as a whole.

"There are some who are (in the rooms) to speak freely and simply have a good time. But, there are the occasional ones

who are looking to just get off. Sometimes, I think that reflects badly on the community," John said.

Chat room devotees have more than image and stereotypes to contend with, however. The connection between chat rooms and death and the spread of disease are now well documented.

Gay Sheboygan native Richard Frederick DeMeuse was found slain in his Las Vegas apartment on January 19, 1999. DeMeuse, a novelist, free lance writer and massage therapist, had lived in the city a total of about six months and was known to be a regular participant in the "Las Vegas m4m" AOL chat room. According to friends DeMeuse regularly solicited mas-

sage clients through the room.

DeMeuse's murder remains unsolved. Police continue to speculate that DeMeuse likely met his killer online at one point, although AOL chat room records have yielded no suspects to date.

Jason, the "nom de Internet" identity for the webmaster of GayLasVegas.com, believes the crime will never be solved.

"Las Vegas is a city of more than one million people, a couple of whom are murdered nearly every day," Jason said. "Too many victims, too few detectives — who's got the time or the desire to track down some gay guy's killing, especially if he somehow participated in his own demise as some believe?"

As for disease, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA) has reported that the Internet may serve as a venue for the initiation of sexual contact with anonymous or multiple sex partners, thereby increasing one's risk for STDs. Two articles on the subject were published last July.

The first article detailed a study conducted between September, 1999 and April, 2000 which evaluated 856 anonymous clients, ages 18 and older, who sought HIV testing at the Denver Public Health HIV Counseling and Testing Site. The study sought to determine whether the use of the Internet to solicit sex partners

Whose Side Are You On? The Record on Gay and Lesbian Issues



HUMAN
RIGHTS
CAMPAIGN



Gore



Bush

Appointments

YES The Clinton/Gore administration has appointed over 150 openly gay men and lesbians to executive and judicial offices, and Gore indicates that he will continue this legacy.

YES Gore supports the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) and will continue the 1998 landmark executive order against discrimination in the federal civilian workforce.

YES Violence against gays and lesbians must end now. As president, I will continue to fight for enactment of a hate crimes law which includes sexual orientation.

YES Gore fought for expanded Medicaid coverage for people with HIV/AIDS, including supporting legislation to protect individuals who are able to return to work from losing their federal health benefits.

YES He believes that adoption decisions should be made in the best interest of the child and not based on prejudice. He supports leaving such decisions to adoption agencies, parents and professionals — not politicians.

YES While not supporting marriage in name, Gore "supports extending the legal and economic benefits that accrue to married couples to domestic partners..."

YES "It is time for all Americans to recognize that the issues that face gays and lesbians in this country are not narrow, special interests; they are matters of basic human and civil rights."

YES Gore supports elimination of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy in favor of allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly.

Ending Workplace Discrimination

Hate Crimes Prevention

Fighting HIV/AIDS

Gay Adoptions

Domestic Partners

Equality

Gays in the Military

NO "An openly known homosexual is somebody who probably wouldn't share my philosophy (*Time*, Feb. 28, 2000)."

NO Bush refused to adopt a non-discrimination policy inclusive of sexual orientation for his office as Governor of Texas. He also has not stated support for ENDA.

NO In 1999, Bush opposed adding "sexual orientation" to the hate crimes law of Texas.

NO Bush is opposed to key HIV/AIDS prevention efforts, including efforts targeted toward providing information on safer sex to young Americans.

NO "I'm against gay adoptions. I believe children ought to be adopted in families with a woman and a man who are married."

NO Bush supported the Texas state sodomy law as a symbolic gesture of "traditional values," indicating his disbelief in the legitimacy of gay and lesbian relationships.

NO Bush has made little effort to reach out to the gay and lesbian community. He promises to abolish the White House post, established by Clinton, which serves as a liaison to the gay community.

NO Bush is opposed to gay and lesbian Americans serving openly in the military. He supports the current "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

Choose your side. Vote November 7.

Human Rights Campaign • 919 18th Street, N.W. Suite 800, Washington D.C. 20006 • web: www.hrc.org



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**"THERE IS CLEARLY A HIGHER RISK FOR HIV AND SECURITY ISSUES IN THESE CHAT ROOMS.
HOPEFULLY COMMON SENSE WILL INTERVENE."**

should be considered a potential risk factor for STDs/HIV.

The study sample largely consisted of white heterosexual men. Clients completed a risk-assessment questionnaire about previous sexual behavior and previously contracted STDs. Subjects then participated in face-to-face interviews about the degree of use and success of the Internet for solicitation of sex partners.

The study found that 15.8% of clients logged onto the Internet to seek sex partners and 65.2% of these individuals successfully initiated sexual contact. Of those successfully initiating contact, 38.7% had met more than three sex partners over the Internet, and only 44% used a condom during their last encounter with an "Internet partner."

When compared to survey subjects who did not use the Internet to seek sexual partners, "online seekers" were more likely to have had a previous STD, "thus increas-

ing their risk of acquiring future STDs such as HIV."

Although online seekers reported greater numbers of sexual partners, they were more likely than "offline clients" to have used a condom during their last sexual encounter. Online seekers more frequently reported oral and anal sex and "more sexual exposure to men and to men who have sex with men" than offline subjects.

The study concludes that the Internet "clearly has had a role in the solicitation of risky sex partners. ... Thus, seeking sex on the Internet may be a potential risk factor for STDs/HIV." The authors called for the "development of strategies to promote STDs/HIV prevention among online seekers."

The second JAMA article detailed a study that reinforces the idea of the Internet as a risk factor for STDs. The study described how the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) discovered a correlation between an Internet chat room and a syphilis outbreak that occurred among gay men in San Francisco during the summer of 1999.

Researchers were first tipped off when the city health department received two reports of gay men who had early-stage syphilis. Through interviews with these men, researchers found that within the past year, the men had met a majority of their sexual partners on an Internet chat room for gay, bisexual and transgender individuals.

The SFDPH then warned individuals visiting the chat room about the outbreak. Through efforts to raise community aware-

ness about the outbreak and notifying sexual partners of the two previously identified syphilis cases, researchers identified five additional syphilis cases that originated through meetings in the chat room.

The report concluded that "This outbreak indicates that the Internet is a technology that may facilitate transmission of syphilis but may also provide targeted awareness and enhance control of STDs."

Despite the genuine perils which may exist, there are a number of common sense tips for those who choose to play in the chat rooms. Most important to remember is that anyone can create a cyber identity which in no way matches their real life persona. America Online now allows up to seven screen names per account and recommends that people do not use their master account name to enter chat rooms as a way to avoid "spam" email. Other Internet service providers allow unlimited screen names for email and chat. Internet Relay Chat (IRC) even allows people to change their screen names in the middle of a conversation.

The tips to keep yourself safe when cyber-dating sound a lot like your mother's tips for old-fashioned dating: Avoid going "all the way" (i.e. meet in real time) on your first encounter with a new screen name. Take some time to get to know the person first. When you decide to meet choose a neutral, preferably public place. Lastly, tell real time friends before the real time meeting with your cyber date occurs.

As for avoiding sexually-transmitted disease, the two decade-old safer sex guide-

lines for avoidance of HIV not only continue to apply but also apply for most other STDs as well.

Dave Martin, AIDS Line Co-Ordinator at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin says that ARCW is currently in the planning stages of expanding its presence in high risk chat rooms.

"It is important to remember that we can't act as a referee in these situations," says Martin. "But, we may be a resource to anyone who is in a room and might want to ask a question about HIV."

"There is clearly a higher risk for HIV and security issues in these chat rooms," states Martin. "Hopefully common sense will intervene."

Jim Stodola is Director of Services at AIDS Network in Madison where he oversees the HIV prevention for gay men. He agrees that HIV prevention efforts will have to keep pace with advancing technology, but believes it is not so much where people are meeting as what happens when they agree to engage in sexual activity.

"The issue really comes down to choosing to be safe and careful," says Stodola. "Hopefully, frank safe sex discussions in chat rooms — laying down ground rules before you actually meet — might actually be easier than in a face to face discussion."

"Your approach to sex activity with people you might meet from a chat room should same approach that you would take with someone you met elsewhere," adds Stodola. "Simply be aware that the HIV/AIDS crisis is not over."



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Cast of "March of the Falsettos"

with themes of family, love, choices, consequences and acceptance in a fresh, non-traditional way.

Derek Cantafio Groves plays the lead role of Marvin. Beth Johnstone-Bush is his long-suffering wife, Trina. P.J. Berns plays their son, Jason, and Giovanni Belal Ortega has the role of Whizzer.

"Falsettos" won the New York Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Musical in 1981. The New York Times said of the musical: "The music in this show is a continuous flow of original, unpredictable melodies that run from melancholy ballads to eccentric comic riffs... The title song is a flat-out show stopper."

The Brumder Mansion is located at 31st St. and W. Wisconsin Ave. Tickets for the show are \$15, and dinner packages (catered by the Park East Hotel) are available Thursdays through Saturdays for \$39. Seating is limited, so call (414) 444-2316 for reservations soon.

Kissing Girls Pre-sents "Cavalcade of Lesbians"

Madison — For the past 12 years, Madison's Kissing Girls Productions (KGP) has presented an autumn weekend full of lesbian events, affectionately known as the Lesbian High Holy Days. The highlight for many has been the Lesbian Variety Show. Because of the clamor for more and more events to be packed into one weekend, KGP has instead expanded its calendar and will host lesbian-centered events from September through December.

The first event of the season is a "Motorcycle Poker Run" on Sept. 9 starting at 9 a.m. in Demetral Park on Madison's east side. Riders will have a list of questions to answer from information available at sites along a 75-mile course through Dane County. The first ones back to the park with correct answers will be eligible for prizes. A picnic lunch will be served at the end of the ride.

On Sept. 30, KGP will sponsor a "Five-a-Side Soccer Tournament" in Warner Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. After that, the cultural extravaganzas unfold. There will be a Poetry Reading on Oct. 7 and a Comedy Night on Oct. 28. The Lesbian Variety Show is scheduled for Saturday evening, Nov. 18 at the Barrymore Theatre. An Art Show and Craft Fair will be held on Dec. 9, with a Holiday Light Competition set for Dec. 16.

To learn more about the "Cavalcade of Lesbians," call KGP at (608) 251-DYKE, email KGPgirlz@aol.com, or set your browser to <http://kissing.girls.webjump.com>.

Skylight Opera Opens Season with "Floyd Collins"

Milwaukee — Milwaukee's Skylight Opera Theatre opens its new season with a production of "Floyd Collins," from Sept. 22 – Oct. 8 in the Cabot Theatre of the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway. Music and lyrics to "Floyd

Collins" are by Adam Guettel, who is Richard Rodgers' grandson. The book and additional lyrics are by Tina Landau.

So, who is Floyd Collins?

In 1925, veteran cave explorer Collins became trapped underground on his family's Kentucky farm while searching for a cavern to develop into a tourist attraction. Hundreds of newspaper stories followed the rescue attempt, resulting in America's first "media circus." The story illustrates the best and worst of human nature as thousands flock to the accident site. Landau's libretto contrasts the frenzy above ground with Collins' solitary struggle below. Guettel's exciting score contains bluegrass, folk, standard Broadway themes and evocative cave echoes that will reverberate from every corner of the intimate Cabot Theatre.

Skylight favorite Tony Clements performs the central role of Floyd Collins. Paul Barnes directs the production. Richard Carsey conducts.

Rebecca Spice and surprise guests perform a sparkling Richard Rodgers revue in free cabaret shows in the Skylight Bar following Friday and Saturday evening performances (with the exception of opening night, Sept. 22).

Tickets range in price from \$12-49, with discounts available for seniors, students and groups. For tickets and show times, call (414) 291-7800.

Steven Dietz Plays Open UW Theatre Season

Madison — The new season at the University Theatre at UW-Madison opens with two plays by award-winning playwright Steven Dietz. "Private Eyes" runs Sept. 15-16 and 21-23, and "Still Life with Iris" is set for Oct. 13-14, 22 and 29. Both are performed in Mitchell Theatre in Vilas Hall.

In "Private Eyes," Matthew's wife Lisa is having an affair with Adrian, a theatre director. Or, perhaps the affair is just part of the play they're rehearsing... Or, maybe Matthew has imagined all of it so he has something to report to his therapist... The

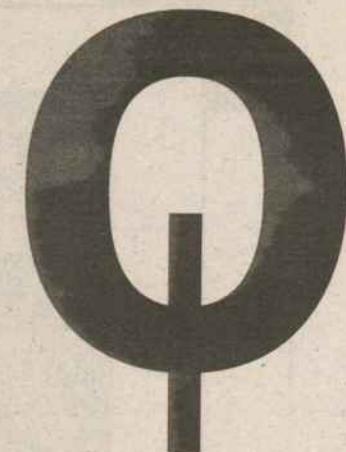
In Tandem Offers "March of the Falsettos"

Milwaukee — In Tandem Productions will present the gay-friendly, award-winning musical "March of the Falsettos" at the elegant Brumder Mansion Bed & Breakfast in Milwaukee from Sept. 21 to Oct. 15.

Sometimes poignant, often hilarious, and always honest, William Finn's thought-provoking musical centers on Marvin, a complex Jewish man who leaves his wife and child for a male lover, Whizzer. Marvin wants to be with Whizzer, but does not want to lose the affection of his wife and son. "Falsettos" deals with themes of family, love, choices, consequences and acceptance in a fresh, non-traditional way.

"Falsettos" won the New York Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Musical in 1981. The New York Times said of the musical: "The music in this show is a continuous flow of original, unpredictable melodies that run from melancholy ballads to eccentric comic riffs... The title song is a flat-out show stopper."

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"Jackalope," and has been a Grammy Award finalist twice for Best Traditional Folk Musician.

A pre-concert performance at 7 p.m. by Milwaukee's own Acoustic Warriors will take place in the Pabst Theater Lobby. Tickets for R. Carlos Nakai are \$23 (\$2 off for children) and may be purchased at the Pabst Theater Box Office, 144 E. Wells Street, or by phone charge at (414) 286-3663.

Gay Author of "Briefly Told Lives" at Afterwords

Milwaukee — Afterwords is pleased to announce an author appearance on Thursday, September 21st with C. Bard Cole whose debut collection of gay fiction, "Briefly Told Lives" (St. Martin's Press HC \$22.95) was published in August.

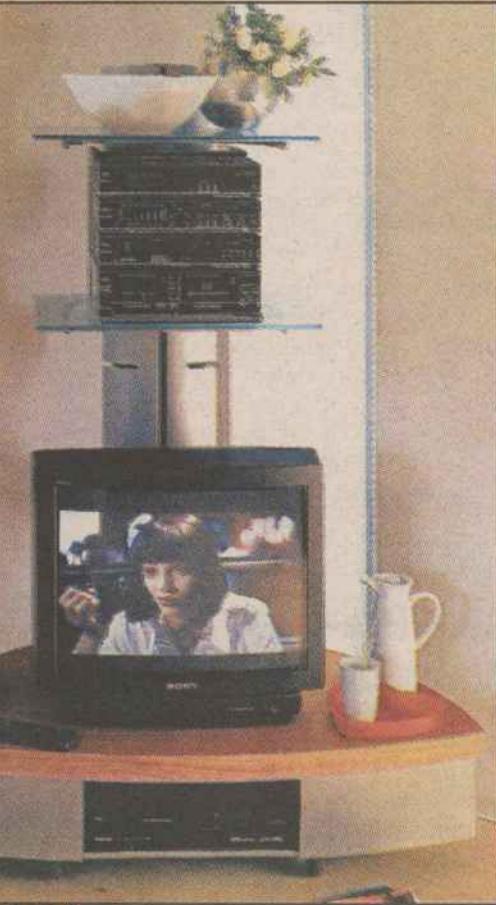
For those readers who have come to expect safe, comfortable collections of gay short fiction, "Briefly Told Lives" will come as something of a surprise. Sometimes revelatory, often disturbing, but always intense, Cole's writing offers an exploration of a very different, oftentimes hidden gay life. From the fringes of American society to the gay mainstream, Cole gives his readers a comprehensive and often chilling collection of stories.

Among the lives Cole chronicles are Lucky, a young man so nicknamed because he escaped a bullet but who finds himself unable to escape the ultimate reality of true love and Brock, who at an early age has engaged in prostitution. When he does eventually meets the right guy, he ends up dying from an accidental drug overdose.

C. Bard Cole has been a notable figure in underground publishing for nearly a decade. His fiction has appeared in such diverse publications as "zines" such as Holy Titclamps and Boy Trouble to such popular anthologies, "Men on Men" and Flesh and the Word."

C. Bard Cole will read from "Briefly Told Lives" beginning at 7:30pm on Thursday, September 21st, 2000 at Afterwords Bookstore. This is a free event and all are welcome.

Afterwords Bookstore is located at 2710 N. Murray Ave. in Milwaukee. For further information, please call (414) 963-9089.



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JT LeRoy

By Carl M. Szatmary

This has been a pretty amazing year for JT LeRoy. In March he graced the cover of Dennis Cooper's novel, "Period." Then a month later came the publication of "Sarah," JT LeRoy's own, debut novel, already highly acclaimed by both the gay and mainstream press. Faced with the usual sorts of demands on his time as any hot, young writer, JT LeRoy finds time to work with noted Hollywood director Gus van Sant on a screenplay of "Sarah."

What makes JT LeRoy's story even more extraordinary is that he is a mere 20 years old.

Writing since his mid-teens, JT LeRoy has had short fiction, articles and interviews published in such publications as Spin, Nerve, NY Press as well as in several anthologies, often under the pseudonym Terminator. In "Sarah," LeRoy delivers an unusually assured narrative, his protagonist an androgynous twelve-year-old boy who idolizes his mother Sarah, a 'lot lizard,' or truck-stop whore. He so idolizes her, he adopts her name and pretends to be a girl, stumbling into dangerous and fantastic worlds pocketed away in the West Virginia wilds.

Now living in San Francisco, JT LeRoy took time to talk about "Sarah" and what it is like to suddenly become a hot young writer.

IN Step: Would you call "Sarah" a gay novel?

No, I really wouldn't. Because I think that the characters just happen to have sexuality that is, everyone just happens to have their sexuality. I think it is a fiction book, some of the characters are gay and some of them aren't. I think that it is about exploring, about finding out who you are. Him, Sarah. He's not classically gay. He has sex with men because that's what he's learned. It is more that he's looking for love. If you asked him if he was gay or not, he just wouldn't know what you're talking about.

IN Step: What kind of a childhood did you have?

A: I guess it was idyllic — (laughs) I guess if you are a masochist. No, I'm joking. Until I was four it was really great. I was in a foster family. They were really wonderful. I think that without that I'd be a complete psychopath — like I'd have murdered millions of people or something. I was basically your regular spoiled kid. Then, when my mother turned 18, she got custody. Often, I ended up living with my Grandparents — either when my mother would lose custody or she'd take off — whenever we'd get separated, I'd live with my Grandparents in West Virginia. They are pretty religious,

he's a preacher, my Grandfather. I had a strict education of studying the Bible. So, I studied the Bible and street preached. Then I'd go with my mom, it would be pretty wild, living in a car, at truck stops — with truckers, wherever, just all over the place, all over the country.

IN Step: When you lived with your Grandparents, was that in the area that you set Sarah?

No, no, they are actually really wealthy, so it wasn't at all like Appalachia. The only way I was exposed to Appalachian culture was when I was with my mom and we traveled around. They were German - it was a strict German household. It was in West Virginia but they had a lot of disdain for local folklore. I read an article where it talked about me saying I was from the West Virginia backwoods — oh, I didn't know that — I never said that in an interview, didn't. I claim to be "Coal Miner's Daughter." When I was with my mom, we definitely lived in situations like that. But, when I was with Grandparent, they were pretty wealthy. I studied and it was very strict. If you didn't do what you were supposed to there were punishments. I wouldn't call it happy because I was definitely not happy at all. The only time my Grandfather ever touched me was when he hit me. Sometimes I did things just to get touched by him. It was a pretty sick background, that way.

IN Step: What was your inspiration for writing Sarah? How did the book come about?

I was just writing and it just happened. I wanted to write about raccoon penis bones and the next thing I know, it just kind of took off from there. It was pretty wild. It was like, I'd go down the road and the road would get further. I'd be, I don't know if I want to go that far and it's like, well, too bad, it's where we're taking you.

IN Step: Many readers of "Sarah" are going to be unfamiliar with raccoon penis bones. Could you explain their significance?

Raccoon Penis Bones are sexual amulets in folklore. They have a knob at the end of the bone and when they get inside, they don't let go. It clicks in and the woman can't get away. Also, the raccoon's female is as big as a bear's. The bone is purported to have powers, to enhance sexual luck and one's abilities.

IN Step: What is so impressive in "Sarah" is the sense of place. Is this a real place or a place in your imagination?

It's a combination of places that I've been to. I've been to a truck stop that served this gourmet food that was amazing but it wasn't in connection with transvestite truckers. The drawers of my mind of experiences opened up all at the same time and it all flew out together.

IN Step: Now that "Sarah" is out, is there anything that you wish you could change or add?

Yeah, there are some things I'd change. Sure. I read it all the time and I'm like, fuck. First, there's a big mistake. Le Loup's Trans-Am begins as purple and ends up black. I just tell people he's got two Trans-Ams. There's a few things, subtle things. I shouldn't have named him my mom's name but I did. That is my mom's name. That's my relationship with my mom. I'm still writing about that.

IN Step: What does your mother think about "Sarah"?

A: She ain't around no more. I don't know. She might be really flattered. She could

read the book and think it makes her a star.

IN Step: Since writing "Sarah," what sort of feedback have you had from gay youth?

I've had feedback from all kinds of folks. Some have been gay, but some haven't been. A lot of young folks, really all ages. It's been kind of amazing. A lot of people sharing with me some of the shit that they've been through in their lives. It's really powerful. Really intense.

IN Step: Since "Sarah" has come out, how has your life changed?

I never used to do interviews before, (laughs) or photo shoots. No one was ever interested in me before at all. Well, actually I did photo shoots with my clothes off, they were kiddie porn things. It is weird to be interviewed. My life is really the same except... well; no it's not. The thing about it, there's a way you think it is going to fix you, you think it's going to make you better. Or take away your pain. My book is doing really, really well in England and in Holland and doing well here and I'm having a film made of it. And you know what, it's like, when I look at myself in the mirror I hate myself most of the time. It doesn't fix me at all. It doesn't make one fucking bit of difference. Except sometimes I feel like I have this secret, it's almost like a sore in your mouth that you can run your tongue over again and again but it's not a painful thing. When I'm out on the street and I feel like people are thinking bad things about me, it's like, I wrote a really good book. Like I have this secret power. I wish I knew how everything will turn out, I hope I write more stuff that affects people and I get better as a writer but I'm scared that I won't. I really like writing this thing with Gus van Sant and as long as I'm writing, I feel a lot better.

IN Step: You mentioned that you'll be having a book of short stories coming out next year. What can readers expect from this collection?

It's really my first book. "Sarah" was my second book. The book that I signed for is the book coming out. When I wrote "Sarah," I thought I was just going to write another short story that would be for that collection. When I finished, they said, "You wrote a novel" and I said, "I did?" "This is not a short story, it is a novel that can stand on its own." It was a surprise. You'll definitely see a difference. It's not as clean, it's very different. Some people really like it. I have mixed feelings about it.

IN Step: Where do you go from here?

I'll take a blueprint of "Sarah" and write it for my new book and all the critics will say, "Ah, he wrote "Sarah" over again." I'll take the money and run. (laughs) I don't know — that's a good question. The only reason I'd write a sequel is that I'm not ready to let him go yet.

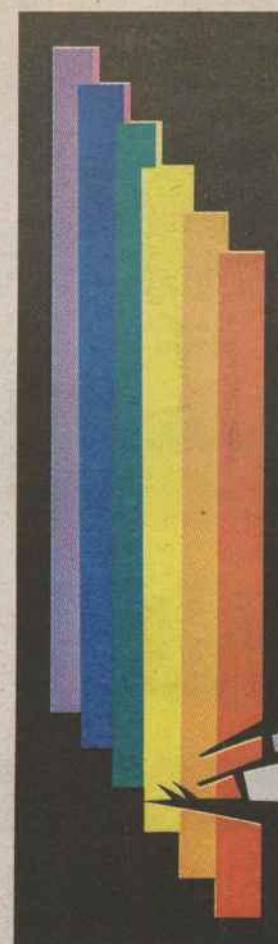
IN Step: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Hopefully alive. Hopefully healthy. Hopefully writing. Hopefully "Sarah" will be a movie that won many Academy Awards.

IN Step: Finally, what is something no one knows about you?

I suck my thumb. I've never told that in an interview.

As a special feature of the September Afterwords Book Club, author JT LeRoy will participate by phone in the discussion of his novel, "Sarah." The Afterwords Book Club will meet Monday, September 11 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.



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Serving Our Community with PRIDE!

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By Michael Johnston

The Summer winds of the new century have blown past. We know who the Survivor is (and he is gay). **Jerry Lewis** has done yet another Telethon, and the kids are back in school!

Dish, 235 S. Second St. in Milwaukee, is on the cutting edge once more with its new, exciting venture, "Flaunt: A Tea Dance," from 5-10 p.m. Phase 1 was Sunday, September 3, Phase 2 is Saturday, September 16. So if you missed the first Phase due to the Holiday weekend, you can catch up... A new way to start the party Saturday night — a little earlier!

South Water Street Docks will be doing an all-day party for **AIDS Walk Wisconsin** on Saturday, September 16. Starting at 10:30 a.m. A Motorcycle Rode Rally from Docks to the Madison area a charming, little town of Rio, talk about Carnival! Rest assured if you are motorcycle impaired (bikeless), you can still participate at the Party, back at Docks beginning at 11 p.m. Music will be spun by: D.J. **John Murges** of the now-defunct Eagle.

The **Milwaukee LGBT Community Center's Annual Family Reunion** took place on Saturday, August 26. A truly lovely event. With the term "Family Reunion" really being one. Not only a "family" of friends, but true biological unions. **David Todd** and his attractive beau were there with David's dedicated parents. **Stephanie Rodriguez** of **Project Q** (with her devoted parents) was a most touching, sensitive presenter discussing her personal account of coming to terms with her sexuality. Far wiser than her years. She gave **Davita Shanklin** an award for the support the **Wisconsin AIDS Fund** of the **Milwaukee Foundation** has given to Project Q.

It was great to see **Karen Gotzler** once again, as she presented **Erv Uecker** and **Ross Walker** with a plaque for their immeasurable contribution(s) to the LGBT Center. **Ed Carr** gave **Brian O'Malley** a tribute for helping to get the Center on its feet. Dan Riedl bestowed upon the Miller Brewing Company the Corporate award for Miller's continuing generosity to the community — the Center in particular. Henrik Christensen and **Tracy Kinneman** graciously accepted.

A ravishing **Dear Ruthie** was "The Hostess With The Mostess" and a most grateful **Neil Albrecht**, Executive Director, was every bit the proud (and rightfully so) patriarch. On a personal note, it was terrific seeing everyone out and about in their flattering Summer casuals as opposed to being all-buttoned-up.

"Getting To Know You..." the **Cream City Foundation**'s Celebration on Aug. 29 made for a delightful summer evening. **Mary Messerlie**, President of The Foundation, introduced **Patrick Milliren** (the new Executive Director of CCF) to the Community at large. Turn out was quite pleasing, as was the entertainment provided by **The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus, Ltd.**

Congresswoman **Tammy Baldwin** has been gracing our fair city as of late. Fund-raisers have been held in her honor at Dish, where she made herself accessible to a near capacity audience of supporters. **Ed Hashek** and **John Jors** generously opened their doors to raise awareness and monies for "The Pride Of Wisconsin" as well. Who knows? Someday Ms. Baldwin's address may be 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue!

My "Jock Friends" of **H.I.T.** (Holiday Invitational Tournament) have a hit of a fund-raiser coming soon: "A HIT Fall Fashion Preview & Drag Show," Saturday, September 9 at **Switch**, starting at 9 p.m. The bowlers are busy raising necessary capital to hold their **22nd Annual Thanksgiving Bowlathon**. So I

can't encourage you enough to encourage them on by attending their events. There will be a silent auction later on this fall!

The same evening you can cross the street and enjoy all the festivities at **Club Boom's** "AIDS Walk Benefit." I must tip my hat to Boom for the most original idea for a raffle prize: "Breakfast In Bed" prepared/presented by **David** and **Tim**. Bon Appetite! Boom will join the bandwagon of "Sunday Football" beginning September 3, opening at 2 p.m., serving up free beer and food...

"The Power Of One Day" — Crossover The Finish Line with six time Gold Medal Olympian **Jackie Joyner-Kersee** at this year's **AIDS Walk Wisconsin** on Sunday, October 1. Go the distance, Wisconsin and shine! **Paul Milakovich**, Deputy Director of ARCW, will be hosting his "3rd Annual Walk Party," unveiling



Jamie, Dear Ruthie and Michael Johnston.

two **Jim Buckels** surreal works, "Le Moulin" and "The Season Suite." For more info, please call Paul at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin: (414) 225-1518.

Save The Day! Friday, October 6 at 7:30 p.m. — Midnight: The Absolut Benefit presented by **Milwaukee Magazine** at the Historic Third Ward Firehouse at 150 N. Broadway. Truly, the most outrageously fun cocktail party of the year! Music will be provided by **Mr. Lucky Swing Orchestra**. Cocktails, buffet, dancing, people-watching, silent and voice celebrity art auctions. Proceeds will benefit the Wisconsin AIDS Fund, whose goal is to educate, prevent and protect.

I got a kick out of brunch at **The Knick!** Their new facelift is by far more successful than any of Joan's, the menu, staff, and food all excellent! The Breakfast Pasta is a must. Thanks for the suggestion, Lizzie.

Congratulations, **Prissy** on 25 "Silver" Years with Ron — impressive!

Happy New House — **Kerry and Michael!**

Singsational Productions was doing what they do best at **The M&M Club**, when quite by accident they got to "Meet The Press." "Dear Ruthie," Jamie of "Keepin' InStep" Taylor and "Cordially Yours," all convened. What a pow-wow! The Algonquin Table — Not!

Did You all hear/see about M's own **Trixi** wowing the State Fair Crowd with Miss **Patti LaBelle**? How did they ever coordinate their wardrobes?

Rona reports attending a real "Dynasty" wedding in Aspen. Seems **Pamela Levy**, one of cosmetic surgeon wizard **Dr. Levy**'s exes took another husband. It was such a grand affair that **Bruce of Bay Floral** and our Ms. Rona were flown out to create the fantasy-like flora ...

Remember, you're not completely dressed without your "Blue Dress."

As the Autumn leaves begin to fall — I shall continue to remain, Cordially yours.

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>Thursdays 9pm to closeCocktail Hour Rail Drinks or
NEW! Pull Tabs ... Try Your Luck!**>Saturdays** 11am 'til 6pm

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>Sundays 'Til 6pm

\$2.60 Bloody's, Screw, Greyhound & \$1 mugs

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humor

This Old Gay House

By Kevin Isom

Move over, Bob Vila. Hasta la vista, HGTV. Take a hike back to K-Mart, Christopher Lowell. Welcome to the first episode of This Old Gay House.

Yes, today's show is dedicated to those tireless queer couple fixer-uppers — the ones who transform old, tired, run-down houses into hip, trendy, immaculately restored personal castles. You know, the ones with rainbow flags on the front steps and the kick-ass crown molding plainly visible in the foyer.

Until recently, when a sudden break-up intervened, I was planning to join the hordes of happy homo homeowners busily learning how to use caulk guns and tile grout. Even if my own entry into their illustrious number may have been delayed (I admit, I am a coward around a tool kit, and I just didn't want to do it alone — some things are a lot less fun solo), I thought I should at least prepare myself for the experience.

After all, though I may be a little biased, there seem to be more re-modelers per capita in the gay world than in the straight. And often, these old houses are the sometimes loving, sometimes acrimonious projects of long-term gay and lesbian couples. So I decided to talk with one of these couples, especially for today's show.

Keith and Doug are a particularly experienced couple of home boys. Partnered for seven years, they are in their second house together — both of which they have remodeled. Keith is a bit on the professorial but slightly manic side, while Doug is a laid-back engineer type who knows how to put hardwood in. In other words, they are well matched. But more importantly for today's show, you could say they've been around the block a few times — from the fixer upper house perspective, that is. (While some of us may have been around the block with fixer upper boyfriends. Hint: You have a better chance of fixing up a house.)

And in speaking with Keith and Doug, I learned a few useful rules about home renovations for the homo-alone couple. (That last pun hurt me as much as it hurt you.)

Rule Number One. Cover up well when painting. Backing into wet paint while naked (particularly if you're a hairy guy) is not as much fun as those Farah Fawcett nude body-painting videos would lead you to believe. But nothing says I love you like spending a Saturday evening stripping paint from your partner's backside. And if you let it dry, you



get the added bonus of saving money on a body waxing. Pull and play!

Rule Number Two. Buy your partner tools (and other related presents). Says Keith, "I bought Doug a leather tool belt for his birthday." And did he wear it? I asked. "First he wore it without the tools — or anything else," Keith replied. Hmmm, I thought, this puts kitchen remodeling in a whole new light, doesn't it?

Rule Number Three is perhaps the most important one: Decide who's in charge. It doesn't always have to be the same person, but as in the bedroom, it helps to have somebody lead the way — even if there is the occasional tongue-lashing involved (take that as you wish). As Doug explains, "You have to figure out who's really in charge, but you let the other person think that he is. I like to let Keith think he's in charge, but ultimately somebody's got to make the final decision, and that would be me." Adds Keith, "Usually, there's some level of screaming, but there's consensus at the end." Again, not unlike sex.

Rule Number Four. Try to realize where relationship issues are coming in — and ignore them. Keith and Doug's worst remodeling experience happened in their first house. They couldn't agree on room colors, so their compromise was to divvy up the rooms between them. This was a bad idea. Between Keith's muted tastes and Doug's bold color choices, it looked like Martha Stewart had just had a knock-down-drag-out with Andy Warhol. So they learned to separate their desires for personal identities from the painting of their rooms. They grew as a couple and as remodelers.

Rule Number Five. A little renovation is never enough. "Keith started with the bathroom wallpaper," Doug says with a grin. "Then he wanted to replace the moldings, then the fixtures, and then re-tile the floor. Changing wallpaper became a complete bathroom renovation." In other words, the wallpaper was just foreplay? Doug smiled and responded, "You gotta think big." I liked the sound of that.

On that note, we've reached the end of today's show. Tune in next time, when we'll be walking through a work-in-progress bungalow with a single lesbian owner, asking the important questions: Is it really as much fun solo? Can better tools replace a partner?

Until then, this is Kevin Isom, for This Old (Gay) House, saluting all the gay and lesbian HOMOwners out there painting and scraping and hammering away. We like the sound of that!

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OUT & ABOUT WITH

Covering: Sept. 7 - Sept. 21, 2000



ACTIVITIES:

Friday, September 8

Welcome Back Dance (Madison): For LGBTs at the UW, sponsored by the Ten Percent Society, 8 p.m. to 12:45 a.m. in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union, \$3, DJ and cash bar. FMI: (608) 262-7365.

Indian Summer! (Milw.): Pow-Wows, lacrosse demos, cultural exhibits, Indian food and crafts, through Sunday at Henry W. Maier Festival Park. FMI: (414) 774-7119.

Saturday, September 9

Fall Fashion Preview (Milw.): Fundraiser for the HIT Bowling Tournament, \$5, 9 p.m. at Switch, 124 W. National Ave.

Rural Dykes (Black Earth): Annual Fall Frolic: potluck, dancing, games, bonfire, 5 p.m. T328 Blue Mounds St. in Black Earth. FMI: (608) 767-3150.

Sunday, September 10

Perfect Harmony Chorus (Madison): Weekly rehearsal, 7 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, 116 W. Washington Ave. FMI: (608) 222-2987.

Tuesday, September 12

East Side Rainbow Group (Milw.): Organizing meeting for an east side Rainbow group. Come and be a Founding Father or Mother! 7 p.m., 3903 N. Farwell Ave. FMI: (414) 964-9865.

Wednesday, September 13

"Three Hour Tour" Cruise (Madison): Cruise on Lake Mendota with Madison's LGB Business Alliance, 6:30 p.m. For reservations, call (608) 245-1611.

Honeymooners Bowling (Madison): 3-person team format, 9:15 p.m., Village Lanes, 208 Owen Rd. FMI: (608) 271-8889.

Thursday, September 14

Breast Health Seminar (Milw.): All lesbians welcome! LAMM Education Fund event, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the LGBT Community Center, 170 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 272-9442.

Saturday, September 16

FrontRunners/FrontWalkers (Madison): 3K to 10K run or walk, 9 a.m., Lake Wingra Park, Knickerbocker and Arbor Dr. FMI: (608) 663-6463. Women's Rugby (Milw.): Come see the Milwaukee Mayhem play in the Wis. Ball Tournament at the McKinley Marina pitch. Call for time: (414) 871-3789.

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys (Madison): Dance review at 8 p.m., open dancing at 9 p.m. Sapphire Ballroom, Northgate Mall, 1133 N. Sherman Ave. FMI: (608) 255-9131.

Monday, September 18

Positive Voice Dinner Meeting (Kimberly): Positive Voice's Sept. Dinner Meeting, 7 p.m. at Liberty Hall, 800 Eisenhower Dr. in Kimberly. FMI: (920) 435-4404.

Sunday, September 17

Bette Davis Bowling League (Madison): 5-person team format, 3 p.m. at Bowl-A-Vard Lanes, 2121 E. Spring Dr. FMI: (608) 271-8889.

Wednesday, September 20

Leslie Feinberg (Milw.): Trans activist and author of "Transgender Warriors" speaks in the Wisconsin Room of the UW-Milwaukee Student Union, 7 p.m. FMI: (414) 229-6555.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

AND EVENTS:

(Please read carefully. Some meetings occur the same day weekly, others the same day bi-weekly or monthly.)

THURSDAYS:

AIDS Network (Madison): Meditation and Wellness, 6:30 p.m., 300 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 252-6540, ext. 26.

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LGBT Youth Group - Meeting (Kenosha): This group meets the first & third Fridays of the month from 7 to 10 p.m. at the ARCW Offices, 1212-57th St. FMI call 800-924-6601.

MGLD & MGLPO - Red Light Night (Marsfield): Every Friday night from 10:30 p.m. to 3:30 a.m., 130 S. Central Ave., above the Thimbleberry Bookstore. Meet local LGBT people, enjoy Videos and Dancing. Everyone is welcome. FMI: Jim (715) 384-6731 or Vic (715) 387-2068.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Weekly HIV/AIDS Social Group (Duluth, MN): The group meets from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple opera Block, Suite 309. An opportunity for men with HIV/AIDS to socialize and find support. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

Madison Transgender Group - Support Group (Madison): A support and advocacy group for Transsexuals (M-F and F-M), Cross Dressers and their Friends, Families and Significant Others. 7:30 p.m. at OutReach, 14 West Mifflin Street. FMI: (608) 255-4927.

True Colors LGBT Youth Coffee Chats (Milw.): 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7-9 p.m. Open discussion, free beverages. Call for location. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

SATURDAYS:

AIDS Network - HIV/AIDS Support Group (Madison): Meets from 10 a.m. to noon at UW Hospital, 600 Highland Ave. in K6/Rm. 280, 2nd floor, FMI: (608) 252-6540 or 1-800-486-6276.

BESTD Clinic - Positively Social (Milw.): Drop-in HIV+ men's gathering: no structure! No preaching! Videos and music, refreshments but no alcohol please. 8 p.m. to midnite, last Saturdays of the month, 1240 E. Brady St. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

GLB AA - Open Meeting (Madison): Every Saturday at 6 p.m. at Out-Reach, 14 W. Mifflin, Suite 103. FMI call (608) 255-8582.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Social Night (Duluth, MN): Meets every Saturday. Activities include games, videos and other social events from 6-9 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple opera Block, Suite 309. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

SUNDAYS:

Angels of Hope MCC - Religious Services (Allouez and Appleton): Services are held every Sunday at 11 a.m. at 3607 Libal St. in Allouez, and 5 p.m. at 815 N. Richmond St. in Appleton. FMI: (920) 991-0128.

LGBT Catholics (Milw.): Monthly discussion group for LGBT Catholics meets from 10:30 a.m. to Noon at Holy Trinity/Guadalupe School, 613 S. 4th St. FMI: (414) 481-8543.

Gay Men's Discussion Group - Monthly Meeting (Milw.): The group meets at the Counseling Center of Milw., 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., every second Sunday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. Topics range from relationships and dating to HIV/AIDS to spirituality and mental health. FMI: Bill Hanel at (414) 271-2565.

James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church - Worship Service (Madison): Services at 9 and 11 a.m. at 2146 E. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 242-8887.

Rainbow Friends - Quaker Worship Group (Madison): Meets on the third Thursday of each month at 11 a.m. Diversity is encouraged, feelings honored, and boundaries respected. FMI & location, call (608) 250-7989.

Seeking Sobriety - Non-Religious Recovery Group (Milw.): This recovery group meets at 6 p.m. every Sunday at BESTD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St. (use side door). FMI: Danny at (414) 540-0961 or Richard at (414) 442-1132.

Silver Space - Older Lesbian Discussion Group (Milw.): Meets on the third Sunday of the month at the Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett Ave., from 6 to 8 p.m. \$3 donation. FMI: (414) 271-2565.

University Congregational Church - Worship Service (Madison): Weekly services are at 10 a.m. at 1127 University Ave. FMI (608) 256-2353.

MONDAYS:

BGLASS - Weekly Meeting (Appleton): The Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Straight Society meets every Monday of 7:30 p.m. in Room 109 of Coleman Hall at Lawrence University Memorial Union, 615 E. College Ave. FMI: Irene (920) 722-7572 or Bernie (920) 982-0220.

Gay AA/Gay Al-Anon - 12-Step Meetings (Racine): These recovery groups meet every Monday at 625 College Ave. at 8 p.m. FMI: Art at (414) 694-0115.

Gay/Bi Men's AA - Closed Meeting (Madison): Meets at 8 p.m. at the University United Methodist Church, 1127 University Ave. FMI: (608) 222-8989.

LGBT Youth Pride Support Group - New Meeting (Green Bay): This group will be available to youth every Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Counseling Center, 311 Jefferson St. FMI: (920) 437-4325.

True Colors LGBT Youth Activity Nights (Milw.): 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at ARCW, 820 N. Plankinton Ave., 1st Floor Conference room. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

WISH - Generic AA 12-Step Meeting (Madison): Meets weekly at 6 p.m. at the Atwood Community Ctr., 2425 Atwood Ave. FMI: (608) 249-5096.

UWM Rainbow Group (Milw.): University LGBT group meets at 7:30 p.m. in Student Union Room E307. FMI: (414) 229-6555.

TUESDAYS:

HIV/AIDS Support Group - Fox Cities (Menasha): Free, confidential and open to any person living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Family Resource Assn. of Fox Valley, Midway Rd., 1488 Kenwood Drive. FMI: (920) 739-4226 or Sylvia at 1-800-675-9400.

LGBT Community Center - Lesbian 12-Step AA Group (Milw.): Meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism with a relative or friend. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Community Center - Project Q Youth Drop-In Night (Milw.): The group meets Tuesdays from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Fridays from 5 to 10 p.m. Drop-In nights provide a variety of youth activities in a space that is

welcoming, safe and accessible to LGBTQ (questioning) youth. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

Madison Community Health Ctr. - HIV Testing (Madison): Free, anonymous, walk-in HIV testing from 3 to 5:45 p.m. at 1133 Williamson St. FMI: (608) 255-0704.

Northland Gay Men's Center - Open Discussion Group (Duluth, MN): Meets weekly from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Center, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Temple opera Block, Suite 309. Topics include coming out issues, support & resources. No age limits. FMI: (218) 722-8585.

PFLAG - Milw. - Open Office (Milw.): A representative of Milw.'s PFLAG Chapter will be available to speak to parents, youth or anyone who wants to stop and say hello each Tuesday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. at the LGBT Community Center. FMI: (414) 271-2656.

Sober Seniors - AA Meeting (Milw.): This meeting is focused on the unique recovery needs of elders, and meets every Tuesday morning from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at 3200 W. Highland Blvd. FMI: ElderLink (414) 289-6874.

UHS Counseling & Consultation Services - Sex Out Loud (Madison): This discussion group for Gay/Bi students meets in the Memorial Union at 12 Noon every Tuesday. FMI: (608) 265-4901.

Womansong - Rehearsal (Madison): This women's chorale meets at the Beth Israel Center at 7 p.m. FMI: (608) 222-2987.

Yoga Spirit - Free Classes (Milw.): Every Tuesday there are free classes for all people living with HIV. Among other things you can reduce stress and ease neuropathy & joint pain. Classes are held at 301 N. Water St., Suite 410 at 3:30 p.m. FMI: (414) 289-9660.

WEDNESDAYS:

Diversity G/L Resource Ctr. - Coming Out Support Group (Rockford, IL): Meets every Wednesday at 610 E. State St. from 7 to 8 p.m. FMI: (815) 964-2639.

Gay/Bi Men's Al Anon Group (Madison): Meets at the University United Methodist Church, 1127 University Ave., every Wednesday at 6 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-4107 or (608) 846-2860.

HIV/AIDS Support Group (Milw.): Every Wednesday, 10 a.m. to noon and 7-8:30 p.m. at ARCW, 820 N. Plankinton Ave.

HIV/AIDS Support Group - (Green Bay): Free, confidential and open to any person living with or affected by HIV/AIDS on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. Meetings take place at Renaissance Healing Arts Ctr., 311 S. Jefferson from 7:30 to 9 p.m. FMI: (920) 437-4325 or Sylvia at 1-800-675-9400.

LGBT Campus Center - Les/Bi Curious Women's Group (Madison): This weekly group, open specifically to lesbian, bisexual and curious women who are UWM students, meets every Wednesday night, 8 p.m. at the LGBT Campus Center on the second floor of the UWM Memorial Union, 800 Landgon St.

Madison Vet Center - GLB Veterans Meeting (Madison): The group meets every Wednesday at 147 S. Butler at 5 p.m. FMI: (608) 262-7084 or (608) 264-5342.

Queer Chicks - Social Group (Madison): Meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at 219 N. Hamilton St. FMI: (608) 265-3344.

True Colors LGBT Youth (Milw.): ARCW's youth group holds drop-in activity nights every second and fourth Wednesday at 820 N. Plankinton Ave. FMI: (414) 225-1573.

BAR EVENTS:

Thursday, September 7

HIV Testing (Milw.): BESTD Clinic Traveling HIV Testing Clinic, 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. at LoCage, 801 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

Club Boom (Milw.): Video Show Tunes! Join the sing-a-long! 625 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 277-5040.

Friday, September 8

Shamrock Bar (Madison): Frontiers Gay/Bi Men's Group Happy Hour. The group meets at the Bar around 6 p.m. for cocktails every Friday night. Decides where to dine at 7 p.m. 117 W. Main St. FMI: (608) 274-5959.

HIV Testing (Milw.): BESTD Clinic Traveling HIV Testing Clinic, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Afterwords, 2710 N. Murray Ave. FMI: (414) 272-2144.

Friday & Saturday, September 8-9

Chip and Py's (Mequon): Live Jazz Fridays and Saturdays, 7-11 p.m. Reservations suggested. 1340 W. Towne Square Rd. (I-43 at Mequon Rd.) Call (414) 241-9589.

274-5959.

Saturday, September 16

Dish (Milw.): "Flaunt it!" Start the party early, 5-10 p.m. Giveaways all night! 235 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 271-DISH.

Wednesday, September 20

Chip and Py's (Mequon): Live Jazz Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m. Reservations. 1340 W. Towne Square Rd. (I-43 at Mequon Rd.) Call (414) 241-9589.

BAR SPECIALS:**Sundays:**

Ball Game (Milw.): Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds \$2.50 'til 6 p.m.

Boon (Milw.): Margarita Mania! Corona, \$2. Shots of Cuervo, \$2.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Sunday afternoon bottle beer special from 3 to 7 p.m.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Alvin and Tacos.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Closed

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): Brunch, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Beer Bash from 3 to 8 p.m. \$5.50 off all taps, 8 p.m. to close. Pitchers of Long Islands are \$10 from open to close. Live entertainment.

Club 219 (Milw.): \$1 tappers, \$2 rail drinks, \$2 bottled beer. Two shows: 8:30 p.m. - no cover - and 11:30 p.m.

Dish (Milw.): The new night spot for women! Rotating Events!

Emerald's (Milw.): Men's Night! Call drinks \$2.

Fluid (Milw.): \$6 Beer Bust, tops of Gen. Draft or Miller Lite, 5 to 9 p.m.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Mugs of Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers & Greyhounds - \$2.50 from 2-7 p.m. Cans of Schlitz - \$1, 7-11 p.m. Shirtless men drink for half price (rail & domestic).

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Noon to 4 p.m. Bloody Marys & Screw Drivers - \$2 a mug.

LaCage (Milw.): LaCage Showcase plus "Superbust" - no cover.

M&M Club (Milw.): Brunch from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Napolese Lounge (Green Bay): \$6 Beer Bust from 3 to 6 p.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Game Show Mania every Sunday at 8:30 p.m. \$1 Bloody Mary!

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): \$1.50 Bloody Marys hosted by the Gay Voice.



Furry Tuxedo. Photo by Jamie @ Harbor Room



All decked out. Photo by Jamie @ Harbor Room

Rainbow Room (Madison): Beer Bash, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Patio bar open at 2 p.m. Beer Bash from 2 to 8 p.m. Open volleyball. Food available from 2 to 6 p.m. 2/4/1 10 p.m. to close.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): \$1 off anything for anyone not wearing a shirt, 9 p.m. to close.

Station 2 (Milw.): Bloody Marys \$2. Mimosas \$2.

Switch (Milw.): Packer Parties! Join the Packer "Pint Club" and get 75¢ draft pints, free food and free shots for every Packer touchdown. Betty Ford Clinic/Contest at 8 p.m.

Woody's (Milw.): Beer Bust Trivia Day! Beer Bust, \$5 from 2-6 p.m.

Za's (Green Bay): Dry Dance Night! (16 & up in Za's). Alcohol served to over 21 in Java's.

Mondays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snacks served! Domestic beer \$1.50, rail drinks \$1.90 from 9 p.m. to close.

The Barracks (Madison): \$9 Megabust - all you can drink, 8 p.m. to close.

Boon (Milw.): Closed.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special. Bud Nite! All Buds, \$1.

Cell Block (Chicago): WWF/WCW Wrestling. \$2 specials on microbrews.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Beer Bust and Free Pizza!

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Closed.

Club 5/Planet Q (Milw.): \$9 Megabust - all you can drink, 8 p.m. to close. Pitchers of Long Islands are \$10.

Dish (Milw.): The new night spot for women! Happy Hour 2-4-1 from 5 to 7 p.m. Pool & Dart Leagues - sign up now.

Fluid (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m. 2-4-1, martinis included! \$2.50 Absolut mixers 8pm to close.

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour 4-7 p.m. all weekdays, Double Bubble. Any rail vodka drinks half price, 7-11 p.m. \$1 off all mixed drinks and bottled beer. Shirtless men drink for half price (rail & domestic).

Jo'Dees International (Rockine): \$6 Super Bust! by MGD and Miller Lite, all the MGD or Miller Lite you can drink - ALL NITE! (\$4 Packer Bust for televised Monday night Packer's games. Open 1 hour before televised games).

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): 4 to 6 p.m. Pull tabs!

LaCage (Milw.): "Shake-a-Drink" all nite - no cover.

M&M Club (Milw.): Mountain of BBQ Rib Special!

Napolese Lounge (Green Bay): Pull tabs from 3 to 7 p.m. (Drinks as low as 25¢). There is a \$6 Beer Bust from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Miller products - \$1.50.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): Melrose Mondays. Free pizza & shot specials.

Orbit (Milw.): Happy Hour 5-8 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks.

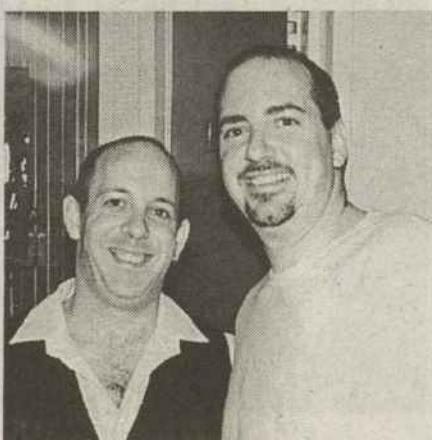
Rainbow Room (Madison): Rolling Rock, \$1.50

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): 2-4-1 Happy Hour 4 to 7 p.m. \$3.50 and under drinks over \$3.50 get \$1 off.

Scooter's (Eau Claire): \$3 pitchers - 9 p.m. to close.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Cocktail Hour! 3 to 8 p.m. \$1.50 domestic bottled beer and 50¢ tappers, 9 p.m. to close.

Switch (Milw.): 2-4-1 from 5-8 p.m. Girls Night Out! \$1 off all drinks, tops and shots for the ladies.



Grand Opening smiles. Photo by Jamie @ Harbor Room



Feelings ... whoa, whoa, whoa! Photo by Jamie @ M&M



Woof! Photo by Jamie @ M&M

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! 9 p.m. - Absolut and anything, \$2.

Woody's (Milw.): Cocktail Hour 4 to 9 p.m. Toppers \$7.50, rail drinks, \$1.50.

Za's (Green Bay): Free Pool & Darts. \$6 Super Bust at Java's.

Tuesdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snacks served! Cocktail Hour rail drinks or NEW! Pull tabs - try your luck! 9 p.m. to close.

The Barracks (Madison): \$9 Megabust - all you can drink, 8 p.m. to close.

Boon (Milw.): 2-4-1 from 5-8 p.m. \$1 off all drinks, 8 p.m. to close.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special. Vodka Nite! All vodka drinks, \$1.50 and Call Brands, \$2.50.

Cell Block (Chicago): SMUT Tuesdays! XXX Videos. Cheap Drinks. Free Games.

Chicago Eagle (Chicago): Leather/Levy Night. Well-drinks & draft beer \$1. Dress Code Enforced. Pit open.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Shoreline Dancers Practice, 6 p.m. to ?

Club 5/Planet Q (Milw.): \$9 Megabust - all you can drink, 8 p.m. to close. Pitchers of Long Islands are \$10.

Club 219 (Milw.): Amateur Strip Nite! No cover. \$1 top beer, \$2 rails and bottled beer.

Emeralds (Milw.): \$5 Beer Bust - 8 to midnight!

Fluid (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m. 2-4-1, martinis included!

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Nipple ring nite - gentle tug from bartender means 2nd beer free! Cans of Schlitz, \$1 from 7-11 p.m. Shirtless men drink for half price (rail & domestic).

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Mexican Night! 4 p.m. to ? Tacos \$1.70 to 10 p.m. 2-4-1 Tequila 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Corona \$1.75.

LaCage (Milw.): "Prize Nite" - no cover.

M&M Club (Milw.): Double Bubble with complimentary Hors D'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m.

Napolese Lounge (Green Bay): Shake a Drink! Aces free and sixes half-price - 3 to 7 p.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Bud Products \$1.50. The Trading Company (Eau Claire): 2 for \$2. Domestic bottles and rail mixes all night.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): All coffee drinks - \$2.

Orbit (Milw.): Happy Hour 5-8 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks.

Rainbow Room (Milw.): \$1 off rail and domestic

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour runs from 4 to 7 p.m. Free pool with drink purchase from 9 p.m. to close

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 3 to 8 p.m. Rail drinks \$1.50, 9 p.m. to close.

Station 2 (Milw.): Closed!

Switch (Milw.): 2-4-1, 5 - 8 p.m. Winning ticket nite, win prize \$, prizes!

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks!

Woody's (Milw.): Cocktail Hour 4 to 9 p.m. Free bountiful buffet.

Wednesdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 2-9 p.m. with snacks served! Special Export \$5 pitchers and \$1 mugs from 9 p.m. to close.

Barracks (Madison): 16oz. tops of Lite, \$2. All rails \$1.50 off, shots of Cuervo, \$1.50.

Boon (Milw.): 2-4-1 from 5-8 p.m. Ultra '80s music. \$2 buy in \$1 rail Miller and Bud.

Boot Camp Saloon: (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink specials: It's Leather & Western Night! Prizes throughout the night.

Cell Block (Chicago): Open Shawn's Treasure Chest for Great Prizes! Check your planner for more. \$2 Lite/MGD longnecks.

C'est La Vie (Milw.): Rail drinks only \$1.

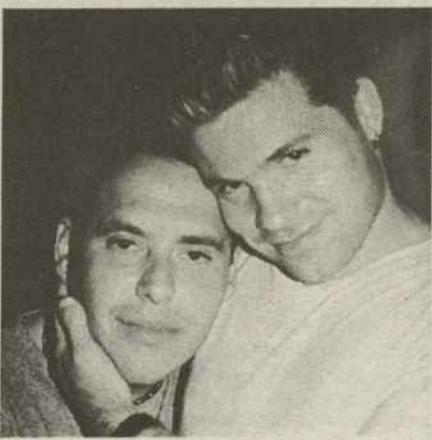
Chicago Eagle (Chicago): Free pool.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Starting Aug. 30 - Open at 6 p.m.

Club 5/Planet Q (Milw.): \$.50 off all Tops and Rails. \$1.75 Coronas, \$1.50 shots of Cuervo and Dr's. Karaoke from 8-11 p.m. Pitchers of Long Islands, \$10.

Club 219 (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Cocktails are 1/2 price from 5 to 8 p.m.

Dish (Milw.): It's Point Night! There are pints of Point for \$1. 2-4-1 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.



Cuties of the week. Photo by Jamie @ Switch

Emeralds (Milw.): Lady's Night! Call drinks \$2.

Fluid (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m. 2-4-1, martinis included!

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Double Bubble, 7 p.m. - close for men in leather vest, pants, harness, chaps. Dart leagues, 7-10 p.m. Shirtless men drink for half price (rail & domestic).

Jo'Dees International (Rockine): Free Pool & \$6 Super Bust! MGD and Miller Lite!

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Hump Day! Everything's a buck. Open to close.

The Closet (Beloit): Happy Hour Drink Specials 4 through 7 p.m. \$5 Beer Bash! DJ spinning the hits starting at 9 p.m.

LaCage (Milw.): "Super Bust" - no cover for card holders.

M&M Club (Milw.): Double Bubble with complimentary Hors D'oeuvres 5 to 7 p.m.

Man's Country (Chicago): 7-5-7. Special: Rooms and Lockers \$7 for 5 hours.

Napolese Lounge (Green Bay): Rail drinks \$1.50. Soda & juice are 50¢ from 3 to 7 p.m. \$6 Beer Bust from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The Office (Rockford, IL): \$2.50 pitchers/50¢ drafts. Retro party with DJ Cris.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): Karaoke! \$1.50 MGD and Michelob-Goldens.

Orbit (Milw.): Happy Hour 5-8 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks.

Rainbow Room (Milw.): Shots of Doctors - \$2

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 4 to 7 p.m. \$1.50 Dr. or Schnapps with drink 9 p.m. to close.

Scooter's (Eau Claire): 2 for \$2 domestic bottles and rail mixers. 9 p.m. to closing.

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Cocktail Hour, 3 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 open to close (3 p.m.-2 a.m.).

dear ruthie



Hello, Pearl? It's Ruthie. I just got back from the convention. I know it ended weeks ago, but that was just the crap on TV. The

real party began when the cameras went off. What's that? Oh, I don't know. Some guy who wants to become president of some club or something. I think it was a union thing.

"Was I invited? Hell no! I crashed it! I ran alongside Liza's limo for 13 blocks. When she got out, I put my arm around her and walked right in. Was she upset? A little. But I told her that it had been ages since that oatmeal-in-the-pantyhose thing at Studio 54 and that her restraining order against me expired a long time ago. I also warned her that I still had those Polaroids of her, Andy Warhol and Miss Piggy so she'd better keep her yap shut.

"Say, remember that Kennedy I slept with? No, not that one — the other one. No, not that one. No, not that one, either. Anyway, the Kennedy I'm talking about was at the convention, and he was with that guy that he introduced us to years ago. Remember that guy? Bubba from Little Rock? Yeah well, Bubba was there, too. I didn't spend much time with him, but he slipped me his phone number. I think he's some hot shot in Washington. He gave a speech — something about the future. I'm not sure 'cause I was in back makin' out with this cute little Jewish guy.

"Listen Pearl, I gotta go and read a letter. I'll see you tomorrow at the monster truck rally. Bye-bye, Sugar Booger!"

Dear Ruthie,

I want to get some piercings. I won't say where because that doesn't matter. My lover says that if I do, he'll bow out of the relationship. Isn't that stupid? Should I do it anyway?

—Born To Be Pierced

Dear Pierced,

This is like the time my fourth husband, Lou, shaved his body hair and used it for a homemade toupee. It took me awhile to get used to his smooth back, but I got over it. While you, as an adult, have complete control of your body, you should try to understand his request. Don't do this out of spite. Continue to talk about the piercing party, see what develops and then make your decision.

Have you got a problem that only Dear Ruthie can fix?
Write to her at:
dearruthie
@instepnews.com



Happy Hour wheel.

Boom (Milw.): 2-4-1 from 5-8 p.m. Live DJ.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milw.): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drink special.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Double Bubble until 7 p.m. DJ starts at 10 p.m.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): 2-4-1 Happy Hour on all drinks up to \$3.25 from 4 to 8 p.m. Patio open in June.

Club 219 (Milw.): Open at 5 p.m. Cocktails are 1/2 price from 5 to 8 p.m.

Dish (Milw.): The new night spot for women! Happy Hour 2-4-1 5 to 7 p.m. Join DJ Amber for dancin' & romancin'.

Emeralds (Milw.): Friday Night Dance Party with DJ Bonge. No cover before 9 p.m.

Fluid (Milw.): Happy Hour, 5-8 p.m. 2-4-1, martinis included!

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Happy Hour, 4-7, Double Bubble. Rail Manhattans, Old Fashioneds, Martinis - \$2.75, 7-11 p.m. Shirtless men drink for half price (rail & domestic).

Jo'Dees International (Racine): Bring on the Bears and Bikers! \$1.25 Top MGD & Miller Lite, \$1.75 Pints of Leinie's Red, \$2.50 Pints of Hocke-Pschorr Weisse. \$2.50 Vanilla & Original Doctor's, Cherry Cheesecake, Cherry LifeSaver's and Viagra shots.

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Pull tabs! 5 to 7 p.m.

LaCage (Milw.): LaCage Showcase

M&M Club (Milw.): All you can eat Fish Fry and other great specials.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Best Dance Party! DJ Cris.

Orbit (Milw.): Happy Hour 5-8 p.m., 2-4-1 drinks. Friday Nite Beer Bust!

South Water St. Docks (Milw.): Cocktail Hour! 3 to 8 p.m. Tickets good until 9 p.m.

Station 2 (Milw.): Margarita Madness \$2. Corona \$2.

Switch (Milw.): 2-4-1, 5 to 8 p.m. DJ and videos at nite, outdoor patio bar open.

The Trading Company (Eau Claire): All chilled shots \$1.50 - 9 to 11 p.m.

Triangle (Milw.): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! \$3 Margaritas from open to close.

Woody's (Milw.): Cocktail Hour 4 to 9 p.m. Toppers \$2.75, rail drinks, \$1.50.

Saturdays:

Ball Game (Milw.): Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds \$2.50, and \$1 mugs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Barocks - Levi/Leather (Madison): Levi/Leather/Uniform Night! 50¢ off all drinks if dressed in L/L/U. Bartenders discretion.

Boom (Milw.): 2-4-1 from 5-8 p.m. Live DJ.

The Club/Fannies (Milw.): Open at 6 p.m. DJ starts at 10 p.m.

Dish (Milw.): The new night spot for women! Join DJ Amber for dancin' & romancin'.

Fluid (Milw.):

The Harbor Room (Milw.): Beer Bust from 2-6 p.m. - \$5. Shirtless men drink for half price (rail & domestic).

Jo'Dees International (Racine): Vanilla & Original Doctor's, Cherry Cheesecake, Cherry LifeSaver's and Viagra shots - \$2.50. \$1.25 Top MGD & Miller Lite, \$1.75 Pints of Leinie's Red, \$2.50 Pints of Hocke-Pschorr Weisse.

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milw.): Short beers 2 for \$1.50.

LaCage (Milw.): Where Milwaukee Dances!

Man's Country (Chicago): Male Strippers and Porn Stars. Show at Midnight. Free Continental Breakfast Sunday Morning.

The Office (Rockford, IL): Rockford's Best Dance Party! DJ's Jerry & Jess One.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): \$1.50 shot specials. DJ/Dancing.

Rainbow Room (Madison): Beer Bash, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Live DJ 9 p.m. to close. Men's Room (Levi/Leather) 7 p.m. to close: 50¢ off all drinks with card. Progressive Happy Hour from 7 to 10 p.m.

Scooter's (Eau Claire): All chilled shots only \$1.50 - 9 to 11 p.m. DJ & dancing starting at 11 p.m.

Station 2 (Milw.): Dirty Cocktails Specials (ask bartender). Hot Sex \$1. Slammers \$1.

Switch (Milw.): Opens at 5 p.m. 70s and 80s DJ spin, outdoor patio bar

September 7 - September 21, 2000 • www.instepnews.com

open.

Woody's (Milw.): Softball Doggy Day, open at 2 p.m.

THEATRE/MUSIC/DANCE:

NOW PLAYING:

American Players Theatre (Spring Green): Outdoor amphitheater performances of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "A Winter's Tale," Shaw's "The Devil's Disciple," Gogol's "Government Inspector" and Racine's "Phaedra" in repertory through Oct. 8. Spring Green is 40 miles west of Madison. FMI: (608) 588-2361.

"A Brief History of White Music" (Milw.): Musical satire in the Milwaukee Rep's Stockner Cabaret, opens Sept. 8-Nov. 18, 108 E. Wells St. FMI: (414) 224-9490.

"The Dying Gaul" (Milw.): Windfall Theatre's production of Craig Lucas' gripping drama opens Sept. 8, runs through Sept. 23, 8 p.m. Village Church, 130 E. Juneau Ave. FMI: (414) 332-3963.

"Festival of Ten Minute Plays" (Milw.): Eighth annual festival produced by Playwrights Theater, Sept. 14-23, Miramar Theatre, 2844 N. Oakland Ave. FMI: (414) 476-8984.

"The House of Blue Leaves" (Milw.): John Guare's absurdist play produced by Bialystock & Bloom Co. through Sept. 10, Off-Broadway Theatre, 342 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 221-7055.

"Irish Lesbian Vampires 2K" (Madison): Another zany production of the Broom Street Theater, opens Sept. 15 runs through Oct. 22, Fridays-Sundays at 8 p.m. at 1119 Williamson St. All tickets \$7. FMI: (608) 244-8338.

"Once Upon a Mattress" (Fort Atkinson): At the Fireside Dinner Theatre through Oct. 8, Business Highway 26 South, Fort Atkinson. FMI: (800) 477-9505.

"Private Eyes" (Madison): Relationship whodunit by Steven Dietz, Sept. 15-16, 21-23, 7:30 p.m. in Mitchell Theatre of Vilas Hall, 821 University Ave. FMI: (608) 262-1500.

"The Sensuous Senator" (Elm Grove): Comedy at the Sunset Playhouse through Sept. 30. 800 Elm Grove Rd. FMI: (262) 782-4430.

"Wit" (Madison): Margaret Edson's Pulitzer Prize winning drama plays through Sept. 24 at the Madison Rep, Isthmus Playhouse of the Civic Center. FMI: (608) 256-0029.

"Work Song" (Milw.): Milwaukee Rep production of play about Frank Lloyd Wright, through Oct. 8 in the Quadracci Powerhouse Theatre, 108 E. Wells St. FMI: (414) 224-9490.

AND:

September 9

Tracy Chapman (Madison): 8 p.m. at the Madison Civic center, 211 State Street. FMI: (608) 266-9055.

Present Music (Milw.): Season opening concert and party in Vogel Hall of the Marcus Center, 7 p.m., 123 E. State St. FMI: (414) 271-0711.

September 13

Sleater-Kinney (Madison): With White Stripes and Coco, 9 p.m. at The Annex. FMI: (608) 663-2095.

September 14

Alton (Oshkosh): Traditional Irish music by the renowned quintet at the Grand Opera House, 7:30 p.m., 100 High Avenue. FMI: (920) 424-2350.

Yo-Yo Ma (Milw.): The esteemed cellist plays with the Milwaukee Sym-

phony Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. FMI: (414) 291-7605.

September 17

Fine Arts Quarter (Milw.): UW-Milwaukee's chamber music season begins with selections from Haydn, Shostakovich and Mendelssohn, 8 p.m. Fine Arts Recital Hall, 2400 E. Kenwood Blvd. FMI: (414) 229-4308.

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES:

Adam Bomb Gallerie (Milw.): "Conscious Experience," paintings, drawings and mixed media by Jason Aumann, through Sept. 16. 524 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 276-8080.

Appleton Art Center (Appleton): "The Art of the Motorcycle," through Sept. 22, 130 N. Morrison St.

America's Black Holocaust Museum (Milw.): "Reflections in Black: Smithsonian African American Photography," through Oct. 15, 2233 N. 4th St. FMI: (414) 264-2500.

Cedarburg Cultural Center (Cedarburg): "Art for Living," W62N546 Washington Ave. FMI: (262) 375-3676.

Charles Allis Art Museum (Milw.): Wisconsin Watercolor Society Exhibition opens Sept. 17. 1801 N. Prospect Ave. FMI: (414) 278-8295.

Charles Lyons Paint Box Gallery (Ephraim, WI): Miniature show: paintings, pots, lithographs, sculptures. 10426 Highway 42 in Door County. FMI: (920) 854-4435.

Elvehjem Museum (Madison): "The American School" at the Universal Exhibition, opens Sept. 17. 800 University Ave. FMI: (608) 263-2246.

Gallery Cora Dora (Milw.): "Mindscapes," expressionist paintings by Brian D.A. Tolbert and abstract drawings by Cheryl Klein through Oct. 15. Pier 221 Cafe, 211 N. Water St. FMI: (414) 283-9244.

Grava Gallery (Milw.): "Family Affair," photography by W. Peter Scotland and Karen Gauger and pastel/prismcolors by Sally Gauger Jensen, through Sept. 29. 1209 E. Brady St. FMI: (414) 277-8228.

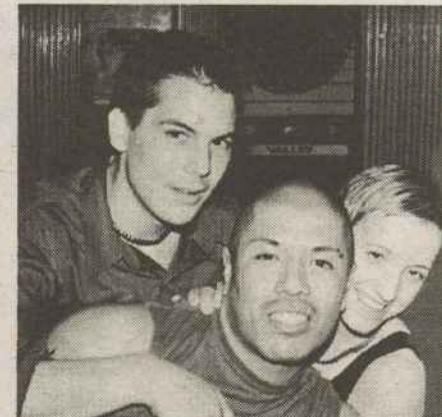
Hogerty Museum of Art (Milw.): "Timeless Visions: Contemporary Art of India," through Sept. 17. Marquette University, N. 13th and Clybourn Sts. FMI: (414) 288-1669.

John Michael Kohler Arts Center (Sheboygan): "From the Garden: Mixed Media" through Sept. 17; "Katurah Hutchison: Accumulating Vision," through Nov. 12. 608 New York Ave. FMI: (920) 458-6144.

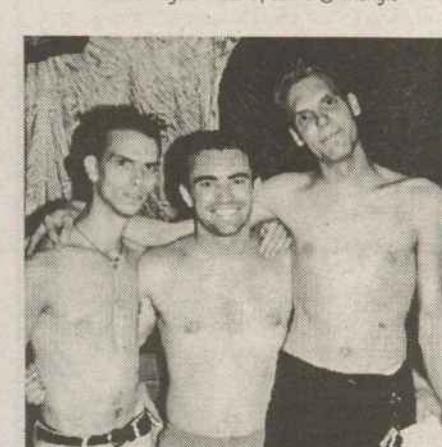
Katie Gingras Gallery (Milw.): North gallery: contemporary wood carvings of New Guinea's Asmat culture. 241 N. Broadway. FMI: (414) 289-0855.



Tongue. Photo by Jamie @ Triangle



Charlie's Angels Photo by Jamie @ Triangle



Skinny Boyz Club! Photo by Jamie @ Switch



Sweeties! Photo by Jamie @ Switch



Switch smiles! Photo by Jamie @ Switch

Madison Arts Center (Madison): "Donald Lipski: A Brief History of Twine," opens Sept. 10, runs through Nov. 12. 211 State Street. FMI: (608) 257-0158.

Milwaukee Art Museum (Milw.): "Pop Impact! From Johns to Warhol," through Dec. 31. 750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive. FMI: (414) 224-3200.

Milwaukee County Historical Society (Milw.): "Snapshots from the Family Album: Milwaukee Labor After World War II," b/w photos of workplaces and CIO union activities, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game: A History of Baseball in Milwaukee," and "Ethnicity: Milwaukee's Multicultural Heritage," all through Sept. 910 Old World Third St. FMI: (414) 273-8288.

Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design (Milw.): "Vision, Technology and Commerce: 100 Years of Industrial Design," through March, 2001. 273 E. Erie St. FMI: (414) 276-7889.

Neville Public Museum (Green Bay): "Mysteries of Egypt" through Oct. 29. 210 Museum Place. FMI: (920) 448-4460.

Paine Art Center (Oshkosh): Works of Jeff Lipschutz through Oct. 15. 1410 Algoma Blvd.

Ozaukee Art Center (Ozaukee): Fine Art Printmakers to Nov. 30. W62N718 Riveredge Drive.

Ville Terrace (Milw.): Decorative arts from the 15th through the 20th century. 2220 N. Terrace Ave. FMI: (414) 271-3656.

Walker's Point Center for the Arts (Milw.): "Masks, Monoliths and Miniatures," new works by Dara Larson, opens Sept. 15-Oct. 14. 911 W. National Ave. FMI: (414) 672-2787.

Wustum Museum of Fine Arts (Racine): Basket and craft shows, Sept. 10-Nov. 12. 2519 Northwestern Ave. FMI: (262) 636-9177.

BOOK READINGS/CLASSES:

Thursday, September 7

Gail Tsukiyama (Mequon): Author of "The Language of Threads" reads at 7 p.m., Schwartz Bookshop, 10976 N. Port Washington Rd. FMI: (262) 241-6220.

Saturday, September 9

Wendell Berry Reading (Milw.): The prolific poet, essayist and fiction writer reads at 8 p.m. at St. Casimir Church, corner of N. Bremen and E. Clarke Sts. A Woodland Pattern event. \$6 general, \$5 members. FMI: (414) 263-5001.

Monday, September 11

Afterwords Book Club (Milw.): Discussion of JT Leroy's "Sarah," 7:30 p.m. All welcome. 2710 N. Murray Ave. FMI: (414) 963-9089.

Phillip Margolin Reading (Mequon): Author of "Wild Justice" and "The Lost Innocent Man" reads at 7 p.m., Schwartz Bookshop, 10976 N. Port Washington Rd. FMI: (262) 241-6220.

Wednesday, September 13

Greg Nagan Reading (Milw.): Sohrist and author of "The Five-Minute Illud" reads at 7 p.m., Schwartz Bookshop, 2559 N. Downer Ave. FMI: (414) 332-1181.

Saturday, September 16

Tenaya Darlington Reading (Madison): The Madison poet reads from her new collection, "Madame Deluxe," 6:30 p.m. at A Room of One's Own, 307 W. Johnson St. FMI: (608) 257-7888.

Shareen Blair Bryson Talk (Shorewood): Author of "Resisting Hitler" gives a talk at 3 p.m., Schwartz Bookshop, 4093 N. Oakland Ave. FMI: (414) 963-3111.



Smiles for Tammy Baldwin. Photo by Jamie @ Dish

Monday, September 18

Erik Larson Talk (Shorewood): Author of the best-selling "Isaac's Storm" talks at 7 p.m., Schwartz Bookshop, 4093 N. Oakland Ave. FMI: (414) 963-3111.

Wednesday, September 20

Christina Schwartz Reading (Shorewood): Schwartz reads from her acclaimed novel, "Drowning Ruth," 7 p.m., Schwartz Bookshop, 4093 N. Oakland Ave. FMI: (414) 963-3111.

FILM, TV AND RADIO:

Sun., Sept. 10 & Every Sun.

Women's Music Radio (Milw.): WMSE-91.7FM. 10:30 p.m. to Midnight. Variety of women's music genres, announcements of events in Milwaukee's women's community. Request Line: (414) 799-1917.

"Her Turn," Womyn's Radio (Madison): WORT Radio 89.9 FM - A weekly show featuring news and information by and about women, 11 to 11:30 a.m. Followed by "Her Infinite Variety" - Women in music - all genres and styles - interviews, live guests and announcements for the women's community, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-2001 or <http://www.netphoria.com/wort>.

"Better Living Through Show Tunes" (Madison): WORT Radio 89.9 FM. Hosts Bruce Wheeler and Earl Bricker, 2-3 p.m. (608) 256-2001 or bwheeler@cuna.com.

"Nothing to Hide" (Madison): WYOU, Public access cable channel 4, LGBT programming from 2-3 p.m. FMI: dkr@mailbag.com.

Monday, September 11

Frontiers Film Circle (Madison): "Maurice" with Hugh Grant and James Wilby, 7:30 p.m. FMI: (608) 244-0894.

Tues., Sept. 12 & Every Tues.

"The Queer Program" (Milw.): Live weekly telecast on MATA public access cable channel 47 (96 in some areas) at 7 p.m. Hosts: Michael Lisowski and Charles Daniels. Re-broadcast Saturday at 12:30 a.m. and Sundays at 10 p.m. FMI: (414) 265-8500.

Wednesday, September 13 & Every Wednesday

"Queery" (Madison): WORT, 89.9 FM - Madison's GLBTQ radio show, 7 p.m., followed by "This Way Out," the international news magazine, from 7:30-8 p.m. FMI: (608) 256-2001.

"Nothing to Hide" (Madison): WYOU, Public access cable channel 4, LGBT programming from 9-11 p.m. FMI: dkr@mailbag.com.

Wed-Thur, September 13-14

"Spartacus" on the Big Screen (Milw.): See Kirk Douglas seethe and flex his abs! 8 p.m. at UW-Milwaukee Union Theatre, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. \$3.50 general, \$2.50 students. FMI: (414) 229-4758.

Friday, September 15

SAGE Movie Night (Milw.): Screening of murder mystery "Blind Faith," 6:30 p.m. at the LGBT Center, 170 S. Second St. FMI: (414) 271-0278 after 4 p.m.

Saturday, September 16

Gay Video Club (Madison): "Green Plaid Shirt" and Bel Ami triple feature "Summer Camp," "Lucky Lukas," "Cherries," 8 p.m. Call for location: (608) 244-8675 evenings.



Activist Fever. Photo by Jamie @ Dish

Milwaukee Rep Opens Season with Premiere of "Work Song"

Milwaukee — Milwaukee Repertory Theater opens its 2000/2001 season with a world premiere entitled "Work Song" about the life and work of famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Written by Jeffrey Hatcher and Eric Simonson, this inaugural production takes place in the Patty and Jay Baker Theater Complex — Quadracci Powerhouse Theater. Tickets can be purchased in person at The Rep Ticket Office at 108 East Wells Street or by phone at (414) 224-9490.

"Work Song" consists of three short one-act plays performed together. The three pieces intertwine in a collage-like style to make up one complete story. Audiences will see three objective looks at the same man in an effort to get closer to the truth of Frank Lloyd Wright's life. The play is set at three different times in Wright's life and explores the relationship between his personal life and his creative work. Wright has always had a passion for Wisconsin, so it is fitting that this play is created and produced by The Rep.

In keeping with its subject, the play uses visual and architectural elements to animate the spirit and sense of Wright's architecture on stage. Interesting staging will evoke the spirit of Frank Lloyd Wright and tell the story of his journey from an upstart apprentice draftsman to an icon of American architecture.

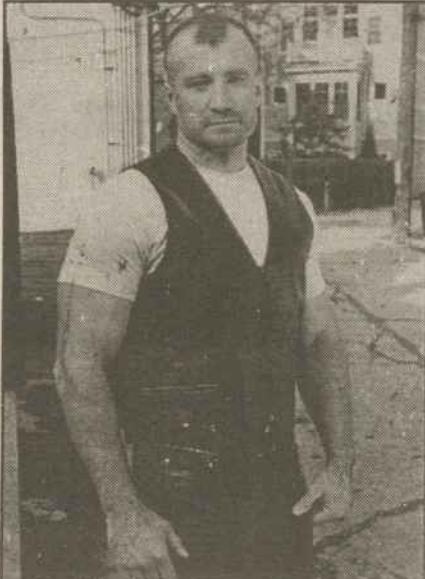
Lee E. Ernst plays the role of Frank Lloyd Wright. Ernst has had a distinguished career as a member of The Rep acting company as well as the company at American Players Theatre in Spring Green. Challenging dramatic roles are no stranger to Ernst. He has played Hamlet and King Lear, jugged and somersaulted his way through "Servant of Two Masters" as the hapless servant Truffaldino and even tackled Alan Ayckbourn's marathon farce-triptych, "The Norman Conquests."

Jeffrey Hatcher and Eric Simonson collaborated on writing this important piece of work. Hatcher has written and adapted many plays including: "The Servant of Two Masters" (produced by The Rep during the 1998-99 season), "The Turn Of The Screw" (produced by The Rep during the 1997-98 season), "Three Viewings," "Scotland Road," "Neddy," "Fellow Travelers," "All The Way With LBJ," "No Strings," "Comfort and Joy," "Vandals," "Downtown," "Smash," "Sail Away," "One Foot On The Floor," "Miss Nelson is Missing!" and "Pierre."

In addition to his writing, Simonson directs this production. He recently finished directing the documentary film "On Tip Toe" featuring Ladysmith Black Mambazo. Current directing projects include "Topa Topa Bluff" and "Hamlet" for Hallmark Hall of Fame. Other directing credits include "Danny Bouncing at Victory Gardens," "Angels in America" (produced by The Rep during the 1997-98 season), "Hamlet at the Huntington Theatre" and "La Boheme" for Minnesota Opera.

Tickets to "Work Song" range from \$5 to \$40. Students and senior citizens with proper identification may purchase half-price RUSH TICKETS 30 minutes prior to curtain for all Quadracci Powerhouse Theater performances at The Rep Ticket Office. For more information, or to charge tickets, call (414) 224-9490. For Group Sales of 20 or more, call Milwaukee Group Connection at (414) 258-5140.

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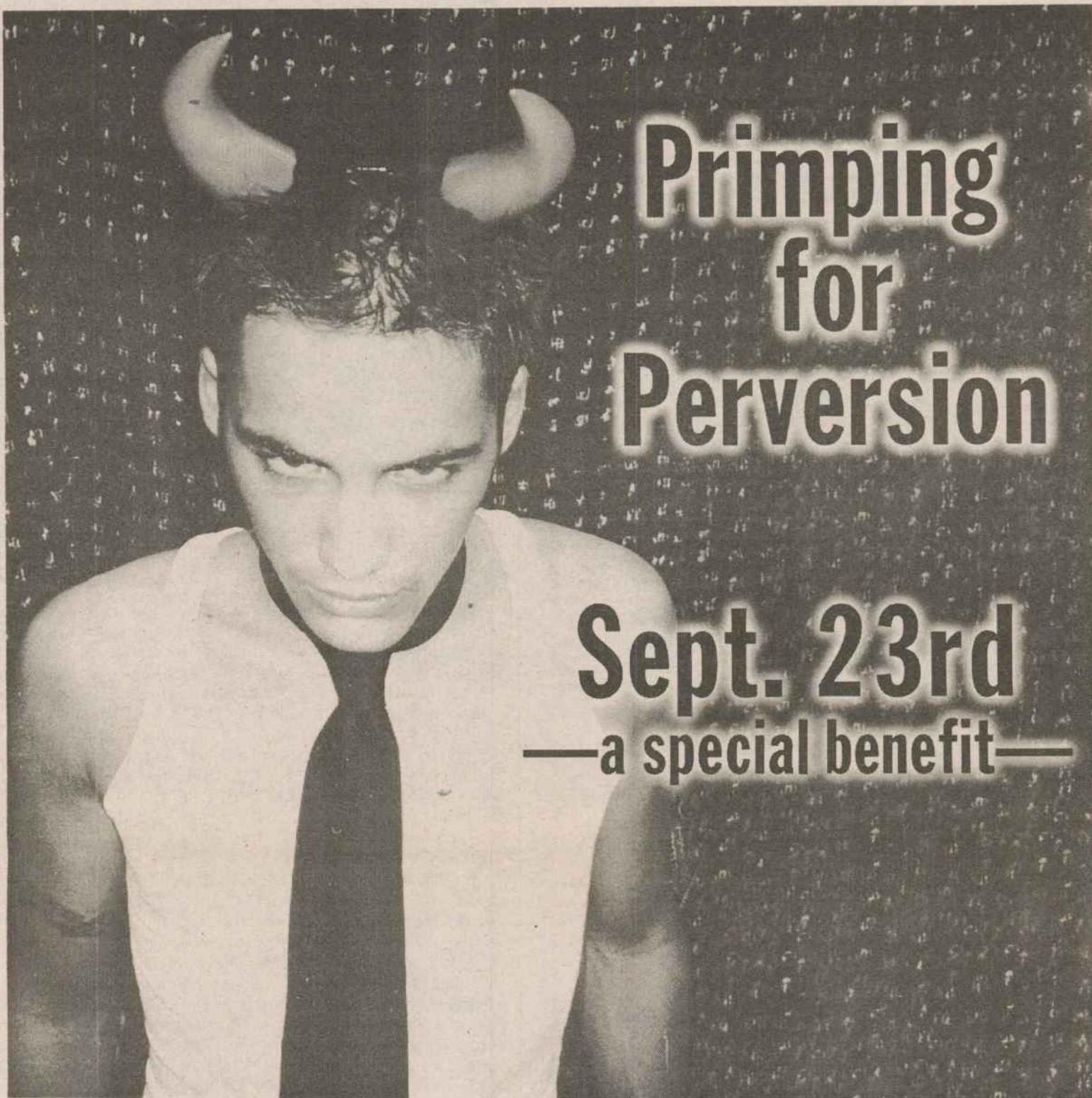


Go Tammy Go! Photo by Jamie @ Dish



Fish Shirts for Tammy. Photo by Jamie @ Dish

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gotcha!

I know that you're all dying to hear the real scoop behind the **Anne Heche** and **Ellen** breakup that I alluded to previously. So, no pleasant discussions of Billy's personal life (what personal life?) or musings on the summer coming to an abrupt end. We're interested in the dirt on Anne and Ellen!

Here's the scoop — don't believe a word you hear anywhere else that Anne dumped Ellen. Hardly! Our dear Ellen did the dumping. You see, Anne's always been the jealous type, and why wouldn't she be? Ellen had higher visibility, was more successful in several areas, and basically had a career before this romantic liaison. Anne, on the other hand, was at best a B-level actress who did lots of things that no one really paid attention to (see **Sharon Stone**'s career before "Basic Instinct"). Suddenly, she's a lesbian, but not only that — the first woman she's attracted to is the most famous lesbian at the time. Funny how that happened!

Rumors of problems have been circulating as far back as when Anne filmed "Return To Paradise" and was romantically linked to **Vince Vaughn**. The next rumors I heard occurred when Anne was directing Ellen and Sharon Stone in "If These Walls Could Talk 2". After Ellen and Sharon did a particularly passionate take of their love scene, the real-life couple had a huge blowout, and Anne reportedly screamed, "Don't tell me you weren't into it — you're not that good an actress!" Not pretty! More recently, Anne was following Ellen around the country filming her return to stand-up for a documentary. In several comedy clubs, tempers flared when Anne tried to give Ellen notes before the show, and Ellen would dismiss her, saying, "I don't need you to tell me what's funny!" In light of all of that, I suppose it was only a matter of time.

Once Anne cast adrift, the vulnerable actress met with the producer of her now-shooting film, "John Q", and fell in love with him — one **Nick Cassavetes** (yes, son of **John Cassavetes** and **Gena Rowlands**). I'm told that a few comforting meetings in Los Angeles led to a full-scale affair on the Toronto set. Nick, for his part, has been quite forthcoming about the affair, admitting matter-of-factly to my sources, "Yes, we're dating — and by the way, she really did have sun stroke." This last part refers to the stories that Anne was wandering aimlessly around a residential



Ellen

area in Fresno, California. Reports indicated that she was disoriented, possibly on Ecstasy, and in her underwear. Change Fresno to Philadelphia where I just appeared in "Making Porn", and that could have been me!

Bruce Vilanch tells me that four of the "Survivors" just taped a week of shows for "Hollywood Squares". The lucky four were **Richard, Gervase, Jenna** and **Sue**. These shows will air the week of September 25th. My other sources on the set revealed that Richard was quite a horny dude and was hitting on anyone with a penis. Of course, this revelation didn't come from Bruce — he was probably busy fighting Richard off!!

Someone who would have to fight me off is the delectable **Victor Webster**. The former "Days of Our Lives" hunk is finishing up filming "The Chippendale Murders". Yes, this means exactly what you're praying for - Victor will be playing a male stripper! In his role as "The Bitchmaster" (I don't make these things up), Victor spends a significant amount of time shirtless - often in a G-string. Look for the made-for-TV flick to be shown on the USA Network November 7th.

In other inspired casting news, my sources tell me that **Aaron Spelling** is looking for a vixen to add some heat to the upcoming NBC suds "Titans". Spelling didn't have to think twice when he decided to offer the role to **Joan Collins**. Of course, we know that Spelling and Collins worked together on "Dynasty". They even reunited briefly for several episodes of the ill-fated "Pacific Palisades". Spelling knows



Bruce

what the audience wants to see, so he has quite a special idea for Collins — he wants her to join the "Titans" cast as her "Dynasty" character, Alexis Morell Carrington Colby Dexter Rowan. Since Spelling owns the rights to "Dynasty", there is nothing blocking the use of the name or the character. Stay tuned.

Intriguing casting is not limited to television — producers of the West End stage hit "The Graduate" are eyeing a Broadway production. The first choice to play Mrs. Robinson domestically is **Kathleen Turner**, who generated major heat at the UK box office. However, Turner is slated to bring her one-woman show, "Tallulah," to Broadway later this year. "The Graduate" producers are waiting to see how "Tallulah" fares — hoping that if it doesn't do well, Turner will be thrilled to reprise her role. However, should Turner be unavailable, the producers have their first choice lined up — **Cher**! This news comes hot on the heels of word that **Jerry Herman** is pursuing the Half Breed to play "Mame" in the made-for-TV version of the musical (a role thus far turned down by **Bette Midler**, **Angela Lansbury** and **Barbra Streisand**). Cher hasn't regained consciousness long enough to make a decision on either project.

Could it be that a certain has-been hunk heartthrob has hit hard times? Yup, and he's taken his plight to the Internet. The poor boy no longer has his high-profile sugar daddy, but he still looks damn good and is exploring various ways to make ends meet — or meat! You know that I'd be the last one to accuse anyone of something



Babs

unseemly, but the fact of the matter is that our survivor needs cash. What to do? Go online and sell, sell, sell. Our hero has a unique product — his body! Yes, if you've lusted after this Grade B bit of beefcake in his many heart-stopping roles from the '80s and '90s, you will be thrilled to know that you can have that body in your own bed — but it will cost ya significantly more than somewhere in the 80s or 90s. How much? Depends on how hard he has to work, and I'm told that you'd need a mighty big ruler if he works REALLY hard!

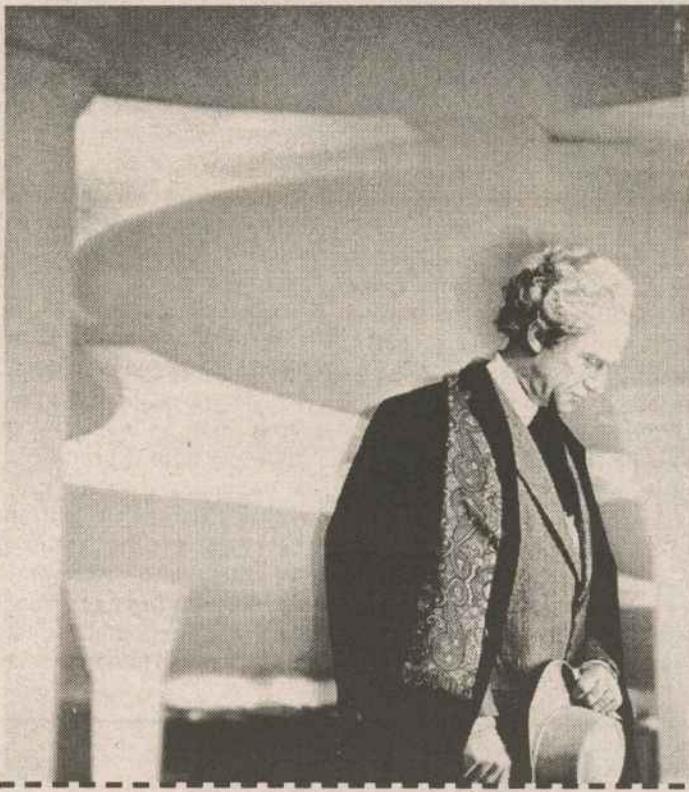
Could it be that an oft-rumored member of the family is biting the bullet and settling down...with a woman? So say reports — which, I must say, were surprising to me. Not that I've ever known for sure if he's gay, but he certainly plays a gay role in that high-profile project with satisfaction. He's so good, I'd swear that he's a sister.

When I get so cryptic in a blind item that I'm having trouble finding the clues, then we've definitely come to the end of yet another column. In the past, I may have given you ways to decipher my blind items, but that doesn't mean I'm above breaking the rules. I know that I promised you another "Ask Billy" column around Labor Day. However, there was far too much gossip to share with you this week. I'll get to your questions, I promise. In the interim, you can always e-mail me at Billy@filth2go.com and I promise to get back to you before Victor Webster turns me into his bitch (yeah, that'll happen)! As I pack up my summer belongings and head back to sunny Southern California, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



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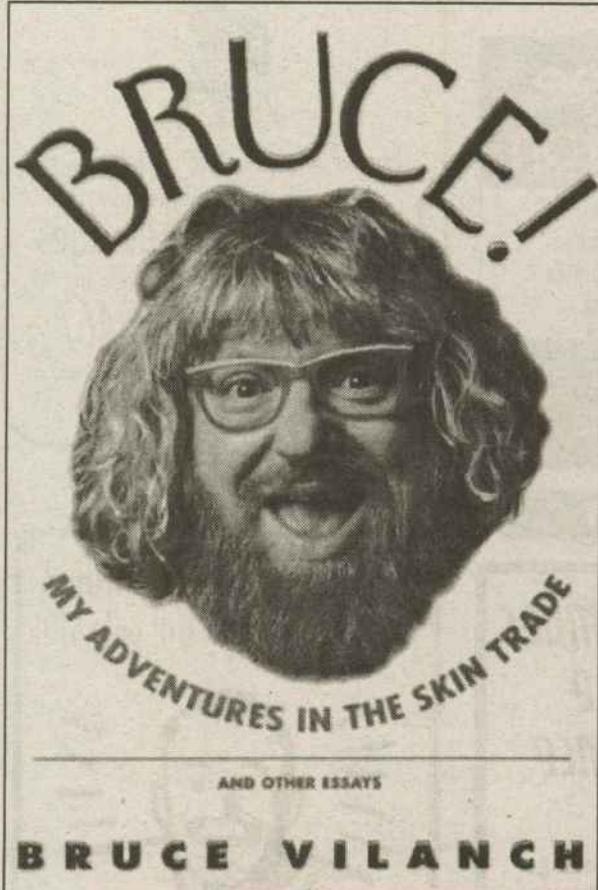
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BRUCE!

BY BRUCE VILANCH

By Ed Grover

In this funny little book, Bruce Vilanch has pulled together his most wicked essays, stories and gags. We all know who he is and what he looks like from seeing and hearing him on "Hollywood Squares." His patter and retorts are legendary. Bruce said the idea for the essays started when a former editor of the Advocate thought it might be fun to let him wail publicly once a month. His successor persisted and now the fiendish idea has turned into a book.

Bruce also explains why he called the book "My Adventures in the Skin Trade." I thought he called it Bruce! Oh well, whatever. He said that "first of all it sounds dirty and seems to attract a lot of readers." The other reason is that "getting under someone's skin is pretty much what he does, but not in the Ralph Nader pesky-gadfly way." He writes words for a lot of other people to say. People like Billy Crystal, Whoopi Goldberg, Robin Williams, Nathan Lane and Bette Midler. Sometimes in the quiet of his lonely room he has to *Become Them*. But not for long.

He opens by explaining what being on TV every night has done for his reputation. He says, "People mistake you for a cousin who disappeared in the '60s, or a member of the Grateful Dead (which could be the same thing), or either Ben or Jerry, or somebody who is in some way associated with food they met at a dinner party six months ago whose name they can't quite place, or a serial killer, or a Smack-down wrestler, ..." and on and on and on. Here are a few snippets from some of the funnier essays.



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CONFESIONS OF AN OSCAR WRITER: Bruce says there is a small group of people that thinks the Oscars are spontaneous and witty — or stupefyingly dull. "A few gifted actors — are also solo performers, so they know who they are when they're alone on stage. Shirley MacLaine not only knows who she is; she knows who she was." Most of these people depend on the character the writer has given them to play, and Oscar night is no exception.

AMERICA'S FAVORITE FRUIT: This is about the first day of taping of "Hollywood Squares," Bruce told Whoopi: "It's ours to screw up!" Early on when Bruce was asked, "You are the most popular fruit in the United States. What are you?" He answered, "Humble," and got a huge laugh. He gives us the correct answer (banana). But you knew that already.

ROCKIN' ROBIN: This is a tour through San Francisco with Robin Williams. "Like his bandit namesake, Robin left the pleasures of the palace for the fertile fields of home. Unlike Robin H., he doesn't steal from the rich—he takes their money and makes them richer." As they walk through the Castro, Robin starts talking about Beaver Street, and he's off. Need I say more?

SURE BETTE: Bruce asks how to be very, very popular? Answer: Walk into any gay bar with a fistful of free Bette Midler tickets. "When Miss M. and her three circus rings pulls into Dodge and set up tent in whatever hockey rink they have inherited for the night, Irving Average American gets a lovely view of the full rainbow of our community. Shockingly, so do we."

MAGIC MOMENTS: Bruce says nice things about Elizabeth Montgomery and Bewitched — and some not so nice ones about Eddie Murphy, until he recants for the anti-gay remarks he made on HBO in 1981. In 1985 Murphy says he's sorry and makes a high five-figure donation to New York's major AIDS benefit. Bruce says, "Now we can stop wrinkling our noses at him."

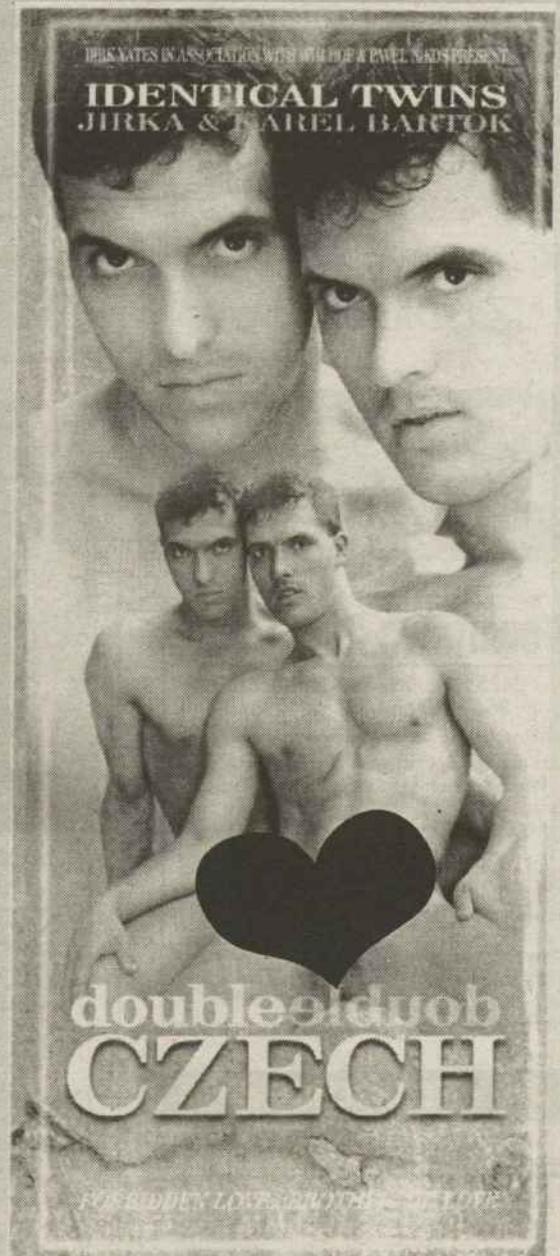
SWELL MEL: Bruce has a few words for Mel Gibson and "Braveheart." He ends by saying he's trying to be a better person and to work up a fantasy in which he's Piper Laurie and he meets Terrance McNally on a beach. You don't get it? Read the piece and you will.

Some of the other funny essays are "ANDY WILLIAMS AND ME," "PARTYING FOR PRIDE," "LANA AND HUGH," and a very funny bit about writing an early Donnie and Marie show with Paul Lynde as the Wicked Witch of the West. Their favorite game was getting a suggestive lyric past the Mormon elders who scrutinized every script. Paul Lynde — for the younger crowd — is the guy who put Hollywood Squares on the map the first time around!

Many of these essays were written for The Advocate. Bruce says that "a lot of them have a gay perspective — but then so do I lately, as I have come to realize that one of the several minorities of which I'm a member (male, Jewish, home-owner) has decided to shed its thin protective coating and become visible."

They're all funny, but some of them are definitely dated. When you're reading jokes about Newt Gingrich or getting married in Hawaii, you know it's OLD! One more thing: he recommends a bathrobe and some Chinese food while reading. That's always a good idea. (Tarcher/Putnam, ISBN: 1-58542-046-8, \$18.95 USA, \$26.99 Canada).

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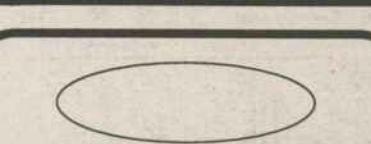
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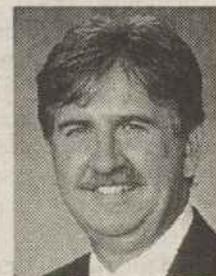
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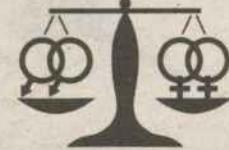


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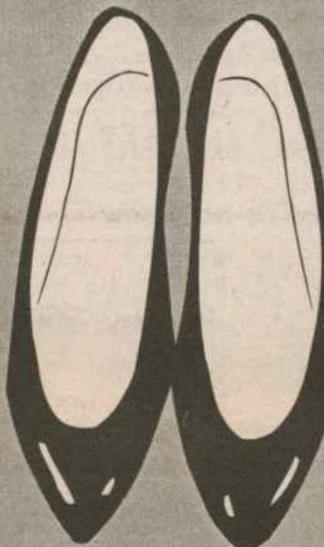




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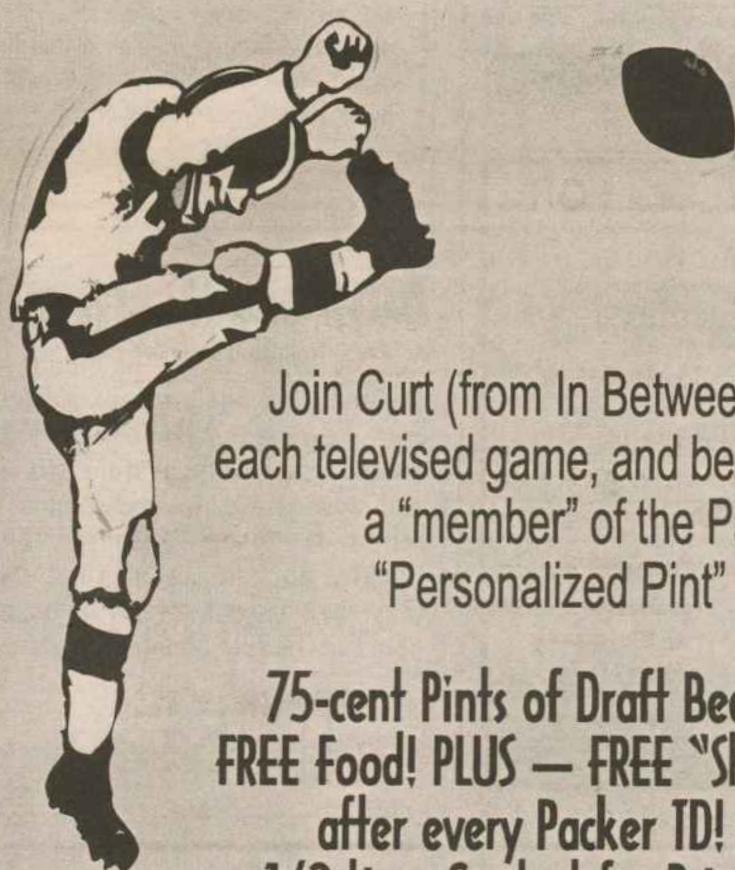
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Sam Balistreri
Enrolled Agent (Independent)

Changes...

By Jamie

These past few weeks have brought a few changes around here. Last month I received notice that my tenant was moving on. She was a great tenant but she couldn't deal with the old memories she created in this old house with her former fiancé so she decided to move on. Fair enough.

Fortunately a couple of guys caught the ad in the IN Step and we now have new tenants. I promise to keep you apprised of every detail of their personal life, not leaving out any details... Yea right! I also bought Curt Peck's old Suburban. Yes, that big old beat up truck that used to have the IN BTWN plates on it. I was asking what he was gonna do with the old girl and he mentioned that he wanted to sell it. My jaw hit the ground when he said how much he wanted for and within minutes, we had a deal. The following day I picked up the keys and drove 'er home. During the ride home, I realized why I got such a great deal. The front tire was just about to fall off and the back tires were in pretty bad shape. Not a problem though, I went to the auto parts store and \$12 later, the front tire was secured with new lug bolts and another \$50 I had some good tires on the back. That old truck sure isn't much to look at but I couldn't pass up the great deal he gave me. This however, created a parking problem at the house.

Remember last year's birthday? Chris Hammerbeck gave me his old station wagon so I had something to haul stuff around in. When I brought the Suburban home, I realized I had to make room. A few days later I was talking to Corky who said his niece was in need of a cheap dependable car. If she could handle the absence of power steering, the beat up front end and a warped rotor, this car was for her. I never had a problem starting it, even in the coldest weather. When Corky and Nicki showed up to pick the car up, I was heartbroken. I threw myself on the car and said, "No, you can't have my baby." They got a good chuckle out of it all and Nicki promised she would take care of the car so I was ok. This past week I passed up a deal I shouldn't have. Two free pick-up trucks that if I would have stuck just a few dollars into them could have made a nice little profit on them. Oh well, who knows when I would have had time to fix them. The biggest change in my life is my new business, JME Services. No, it doesn't have anything to do with cars. Next issue I will tell you all about it.

Moving on to the club stuff. First of all I would like to Dusty Sass who is now writing for Quest. (By the way Mark, I am still waiting for that photo.) He was with the Wisconsin Light for some years and has found a new home with Quest. To my better half, Josh's delight, Dusty mentioned the good time everyone had over at the Triangle one night in his last column. Josh showed them all how to "walk through a cue stick" amazing everyone. You'll have to ask Josh for a demonstration. The only catch is that will have to donate to the Triangle AIDS Walk Fund. Speaking of AIDS Walk benefits, Club Boom will be giving away lots of goodies and prizes including a TV and

night at a bed and breakfast. The benefit show will be September 9.

I see that September 9 is gonna be a busy night. Over at Switch they are throwing a H.I.T. Bowling Fall Fashion Preview Drag Show Fundraiser. Wow! Say that 3 times fast. Club 94 will be hosting the annual Auction & Show featuring the Follie Girls and other special guests. The night is a fundraiser for the STD Clinic of Milwaukee and Women's Cancer Research Clinic. Up in Green Bay at Za's, there will be a Dee Dee Winters benefit show. September 10 at Za's will be the Mr. & Miss Teen Emerald City Pageant. This is the first of it's kind and should be a lot of fun.

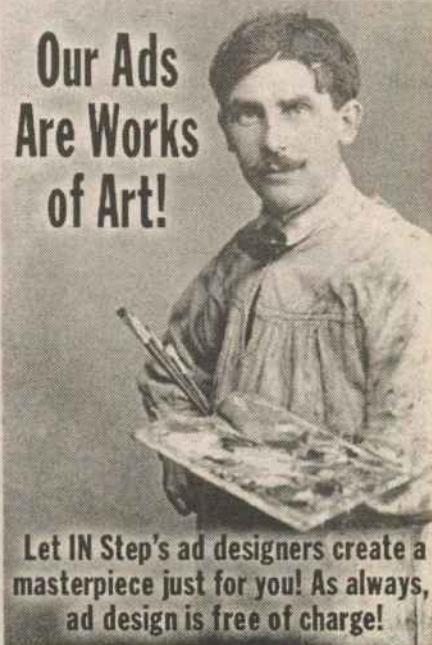
Labor Day weekend has been a weekend to remember. Out in Mad Town, the CC Rae Show filled Club 5 to capacity. Rumor has it that the Rainbow Room was also a great place to spend Labor Day. Madison is gearing up for the return of UW Madison students to I'm sure things are very exciting.

Back in Milwaukee, Orbit threw a 2-day White Party. I'm tellin ya, it looked like the Marine base in San Diego. Hotties in white, all over the place. Dish launched a new way to "start a party" with the debut of Flaunt during Labor Day weekend. Phase I began Sunday, September 3 with the Grand Opening Party. Phase II, Permanent Night, will be held September 16th, so clear your calendar and head over to Dish. Triangle celebrated Labor Day Weekend with a weekend long Beach Party. The patio was transformed into a huge sandbox and the bar was decorated with a fish net that looked as if it was taken right out of Lake Michigan... you gotta see this net. It is true to form with fish, crabs and fake hypodermic needles. That was Lana's idea.

Let's talk football... Here is a list of Milwaukee's best spots for kickin' back to watch the Packers do their stuff. The Ball Game is without a doubt, the longest running gay sports club in the city. Woody's is also a fav spot with their big screen, lounge atmosphere and of course one of the biggest sports nut, owner, Steve. Also boasting a big screen TV is Boom. They will have it fired up for you along with shot giveaways and as always, a good time.

That will do it for this issue. I want to thank those of you who offered words of encouragement and support for the last couple of columns. I was quite surprised by the amount of people who feel as I do on that subject. Once again, thanks for reading and as always, slower traffic keep right.

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guide

Listings in IN Step's Guide are free of charge. e-mail them to: guide@insteppnews.com

STATEWIDE

Action Wisconsin (Congress for Human Rights)
PO Box 342, Madison 53701 (608) 283-3251
E-mail: actionwi@execpc.com
Web Site: www.actionwi.org
AIDS Action Wisconsin
820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202 (414) 225-1597
marks@execpc.com (800) 359-9272
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202 (414) 273-1991
(800) 359-9272
BiNet USA (Nat'l bisexual political organization)
(<http://norn.org/pub/other-orgs/brc/binet.htm>)
(202) 882-4384

Division of Public Health, HIV/AIDS Program
1 W. Wilson St., Rm. 318
P.O. Box 2659, Madison 53701-2659 (608) 267-5287
Drug Reimbursement Program (800) 991-5532
Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline (Fri/Sat Eves 7pm-11pm) (888) GAYTEEN

Milwaukee Metro (414) 272-TEEN
Great Lakes Harley Riders
(International contact for gay and bi Harley men)
PO Box 341611, Milw, 53234-1611
<http://homepage.interaccess.com/~hdriider/home.sht>

IN Step (Wisconsin's LGBT Community Newspaper)
1661 N. Water St., Suite 411, Milwaukee, 53202
Phone: (414) 278-7840
FAX only (414) 278-5868
Web: www.insteppnews.com

Log Cabin Republicans/Wisconsin (414) 299-9443
P.O. Box 199, Milwaukee, 53201

New Beginnings PEPALS (Mo. newsletter)
Box 25, Westby 54667

Pride in Wisconsin Government (LGBT public employees)
c/o OutReach, P.O. Box 310

Madison, WI 53701 (608) 255-8582

Prince Edward B&B
203 West 5th Street, Shawano 54166 (715) 526-2805

Quest (bi-weekly G/L Bar/Entertainment publication)
PO Box 1961, Green Bay, 54301 (414) 433-9821

TAG Team Productions
(WI-USofA Pageants) (414) 432-2517

Top HAT Productions
(Continental System) (414) 671-6711

Wisconsin AIDS Library (414) 225-1539
arcwlib@execpc.com (800) 359-9272

Wisconsin AIDSLine (free/anonymous) (414) 273-AIDS
(800) 334-AIDS

WI Conference of Churches
(AIDS Caring Community) (608) 244-0894

Wisconsin Boot Men (contact service for men into boots)
P.O. Box 94, Francis Creek, 54214

E-mail: Boot4Sale@aol.com
WI. Legislative Hotline (800) 362-WISC

APPLETON (920)**BARS**

Rascals Bar & Grill (MW, F)
702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton 54911 (954)-9262

ORGANIZATIONS

AA Hotline (for gay meeting referrals) 731-4331

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)

120 N. Morrison St., Suite 201, 54911 920-733-2068

800-733-2068

Angel of Hope (MCC Church)

110 S. Locust Street, 54914 (991)-0128

HIV+ Support Group Appleton 739-4226

PFLAG Fox Cities

Box 75, Little Chute, 54140 (749)-1629

GREEN BAY (920)**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Chanticleer Guest House
4072 Cherry Rd Sturgeon Bay, 54234
746-0334

BlackSmith Inn (Bed & Breakfast)
Box 220, Baileys Harbor, 54202
839-9222

BARS

Brandy's II (MW, L/L)
1126 Main Street, Green Bay, 54304 (1-800-311-3197)

Buddies (MW) (437-9256)

1264 Main Street, Green Bay, 54304 (263-5700)

Napalese Lounge (MW, DJ)

515 S. Broadway 54303 (432-9646)

Javas (MW, V) (251-1126)

1106 Main 54301 (435-5476)
ZA's (MW, DJ, V)
1106 Main 54301 (435-5476)
Sass (WM)
840 S. Broadway 54304 (437-7277)

MEDICAL

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
824 S. Broadway, 54304 (920-437-7400)
(800-675-9400)

HIV+ Support Support
Green Bay (437-4325)

Independent Assessment & Counseling (Kenneth Sahn)
130 E. Walnut, #406 54301 (438-8141)

HIV+ Support Support
Green Bay (437-4325)

Marriage and Family Therapy Center (Gerald Wellens)
130 E. Walnut, #406, 54301 (432-8777)

ORGANIZATIONS

AA Hotline (for gay meeting referrals) 731-4331
Angel of Hope (MCC Church)
3607 Libal Street, 54301 (432-0830)

Argonauts of Wisconsin (L/L Social Club)
PO Box 22096, Green Bay 54305 (465-2343)

Parents & Friends of G/L Green Bay (499-7080)
Positive Voice (Gay and Lesbian Support)
P. O. Box 1381, Green Bay 54305 (435-4404)

MADISON (608)**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Prairie Garden B&B
W13172 Hwy 188, Lodi, 53555 (800) 380-8427

MEDICAL

AIDS Network
HIV/AIDS Service Organization
600 Williamson St, 53701 (252-6540)
FAX (252-6559)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
222 State St., 53701 (258-9103)
(800) 518-9910

Blue Bus STD Clinic (Monday, Thursday)
1552 University Avenue 53705 (262-7330)

Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital (HIV Counseling/Testing)
80 1st St., Prairie du Sac, 53578 (643-7583)

BARS

CE's (Wm)
2415 Winnebago St., 53704 (241-5042)

Club 5 (MW, Food)
5 Applegate Court, 53713 (277-9700)

Fox Hole (W)
5 Applegate Ct., 53713 (277-9700)

3 Shamrock (GS, MW, F, D)
117 W. Main St. 53703 (255-5029)

5 Ray's (MW,D)
3052 E Washington, 53704 (241-9335)

Greenbush (G/S, M/W, F)
914 Regent, 53715 (257-BUSH)

3 Rainbow Room (MW)
121 West Main St., 53703 (251-1030)

Planet Q (MW, D, V)
5 Applegate Court, 53713 (277-9700)

The Barracks (Mw, L/L)
5 Applegate Court, 53713 (277-8700)

ORGANIZATIONS

Brew City Bears
P.O. Box 8815, 53708-8815, Milw. (299-0401)
E-mail: bcbears@aol.com

Campus Womens Center
710 University Ave., #202, 53715 (262-8093)

Different Spokes G/L Bicycling Club (241-8184)
18-21 Yr Old Social Group (256-2667)

Frontiers (Gay/Bi Mens Activities Organ.)
600 Williamson St, 53703 (255-8582)

Gay/Bi Father's Group
600 Williamson St, 53703 (255-8582)

Gay/Lesbian Information Recording
(ask for tape #3333) (263-3100)

Gay Mens Video Club
PO Box 8234, 53708 (244-8675)

GALVAnize (Madison LesBiGay Pride)
PO Box 1403, 53701 (256-4289)

GLBT Phone Line (Outreach's Out-line) (255-4297)

Kissing Girls Productions (Lesbian Cultural Events)
PO Box 6091, 53716 (251-1126)

Lavender (Lesbian Domestic Violence Support Group) (255-7447)

LesBiGay Issues Committee (UW Advisory Comm.)
Dean of Students Office, 75 Bascom Hall, Madison 53706 (263-5700)

LesBiGay Campus Center (Office, Lounge, Resource Center) UW Union (265-3344)

LesBiGay Teen Support Group (251-1126)

(Briarpatch & Picada) or (246-7606)
Lesbian, Gay and Bi Law Student Union

UW Law School, Bascom Hall, Madison 53706 (251-8716)

Madison Volleyball Group (Jeff) (251-8716)

Madison Wrestling Club

PO Box 8234, 53708 (244-8675)

MAGIC Picnic Committee c/o Outreach (255-8582)

Mens Alanon (255-8582)

New Harvest Foundation (G/L Foundation)

PO Box 1786, 53701 (255-8582)

Nothing to Hide (gay cable) (241-2500)

OutReach, Inc.

600 Williamson St, 53703 (255-8582)

email: outreachinc.com, web: www.outreachinc.com

Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians

PO Box 1722, 53701

Rainbow Community Collective (L/G/B/T Social Org)

Wil-Mar Neighborhood Ctr. 2nd & 4th Thursdays

953 Jenifer Street (Lira) (608) 238-9150

Rainbow Friends (Quaker Worship Group) (250-9789)

Shake It Up! (L/G/B/T Social Org)

<http://www.mailbag.com/users/dkr/shake.html>

4701 Judy Lane, 53704-1723 (241-2500)

10% Society (student organization)

<http://tps.storg.wisc.edu>, e-mail: execs@tps.stdorg.wisc.edu

P.O. Box 260394, 53726 (262-7365)

Unicorns of Madison (L/L club)

PO Box 536, 53701

UW LesBiGay Alumni Council (262-2551)

Womonsong (Woman's Choral Group) (246-2681)

RELIGIOUS

Integrity/Dignity

Box 730, 53701 (836-8886)

Affirmation (L/G United Methodists)

University Church, 1127 Univ. Ave., 53705 (256-2353)

James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church

2146 E Johnson, 53

Gay Youth Milwaukee (peer group meetings)

P.O. Box 090441, 53209 265-8500

Gay Men's Discussion/Support Group

(Bill) 276-7626

Gemini Gender Group (TV/TS/TG support/social)

P.O. Box 44211, 53214 297-9328

Girth & Mirth/Milwaukee

P.O. Box 862, 53201-0862

GLEAM/SPECTRUM (GLBT Employees of Ameritech)

P.O. Box 254, 53201 482-4310

G/L Community Center Trust Fund

P.O. Box 1686, 53201 643-1652

Great Lakes Harley Riders, P.O. Box 341611, 53234-1611

Holiday Invitational Tournament (G/L bowling event)

P.O. Box 899, 53201

Keep Hope Alive (HIV Holistic Support)

P.O. Box 27041, West Allis, 53227 548-4344

LAMM (Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee)

170 S. 2nd St., 53204 272-9442

LOC/Women of Color

P.O. Box 93594, 53203 263-1631

Log Cabin Republicans (Gay Republicans)

P.O. Box 199, 53201 299-9443

MGALA (Marquette U. GL Alumni)

P.O. Box 92722, 53202

Marquette Gay/Straight Alliance

Campus Ministry, 617 N 14th St, 53233 288-6873

Metra Milwaukee Tennis Club (Scott) 543-9643

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

170 S. 2nd St., 53204

Web: www.mkelgbt.org 271-2656

Narcotics Anonymous (request gay mtgs.) 800-711-6375

Orgullo Latino/a Latin Pride

(c/o Murguia) 1532 N. Astor St., 53202 276-8546

Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group 963-9833

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)

170 S. 2nd St., 53204 299-9198

Pathfinders (youth counseling, shelter)

1614 E. Kane Place, 53202 271-1560

PrideFest (annual Pride festival)

907 S. 1st St., 53204

Web: www.pridefest.com 645-FEST

The Queer Program (Cable TV Show)

PO Box 090441, 53209 265-8500

Rainbow Alliance at UWM

Box 251, 2200 E. Kenwood, 53201 229-6555

Riverwest Rainbow Association

1001 E. Keefe Ave., 53212 225-1645

SAGE Milwaukee (for older LGBTs)

170 S. 2nd St., 53204 after 4pm 271-0378

Saturday SoftBall League (SSBL)

P.O. Box 92605, 53203-0091 454-9204

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA) 299-0755

Sherman Park Rainbow Assoc.

P.O. Box 76115, 53216 873-1849

Shoreline (country dancing, instruction)

P.O. Box 510283, 53203-0051 747-0388

Silver Space (for older lesbians)

c/o Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett 271-2565

Wisconsin Leather Men's Assoc. Inc.

P.O. Box 897, 53201-0897

Wisconsin Outdoor Women (outdoor sporting events)

P.O. Box 94, Hales Corners, 53130 427-2082

RELIGIOUS

ARCW Spiritual Care

P.O. Box 92487, 53202 225-1565

Central United Methodist Church

639 N. 25th St., 53233

Cross Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)

1821 N. 16th St., 53205 344-1746

Dignity (G/L Catholic Church)

P.O. Box 597, 53201 444-7177

First Unitarian Society (Unitarian Universalist)

1342 N. Astor St., 53202 273-5257

Lake Park Lutheran Church

2647 N. Stowell Ave., 53211 962-9190

Lutherans Concerned

P.O. Box 1676, 53201 372-9663

Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church (UMC)

1239 W. Mineral St., 53204

Adm. Office: 170 S. 2nd St., 53204 383-1100

Pentecost Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ)

5226 W. Burleigh St., 53210 445-2696

Plymouth Church-UCC (Open & Affirming)

2717 E. Hampshire St., 53211 964-1513

The Sanctuary (Ecumenical, nondenominational)

1636 W. National Ave., 53204 647-9199

St. Ann's Church

5933 W. National Ave., 53214 259-1229

St. James Episcopal Church

833 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53233 271-1340

Village Church (Reconciled in Christ)

130 E. Juneau Ave., 53202 273-7617

MEDICAL

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)

820 Plankinton Ave., 53203 273-1991

(800) 359-9272

Mark Behar, PA-C (Family/Primary Care)

Family Care Center, 1834 W. WI, 53233 933-3600

BESTD (Brady East STD Clinic) (STD/HIV diagnosis/treatment)

www.bestd.org; bestd@execpc.org

1240 E. Brady St., 53202 272-2144

Mark Huffman, M.D. (Holistic Health Services)

2414 N. Farwell Ave., 53211 332-6900

Health Options (Holistic Health Services)

823 N. 2nd Street, #811, 53202 225-9303

Dennis C. Hill Outreach Center (HIV testing, condoms)

4311 W. Vliet, 53208 342-4333

Positive Health Clinic

Medical Center Specialties Clinic

945 N. 12, 53233 219-7908

STD Specialties Clinic

3251 N. Holton, 53212 264-8800

BARS

1 Ballgame (Mw, V, D, F)

196 S. 2nd St., 53204 273-7474

Barbie's Playhouse (Wm)

700 E. Meinecke, 53212 374-7441

2 Boot Camp (M, L/L)

209 E. National Ave., 53204 643-6900

3 C'est La Vie (Mw, D)

231 S. 2nd St., 53204 291-9600

4 Club Boom (Mw, D, V)

625 S. 2nd St., 53204 277-5040

3 Club 219 (Mw, Dj, V)

219 S. 2nd St., 53204 271-3732

3 Dish (Wm, Dj)

235 S. 2nd St., 53204 273-DISH

Emeralds

801 E. Hadley, 53206 265-7325

17 1100 Club (Mw, L/L, Dj, F)

1100 S. 1st St., 53204 647-9950

5 Fannie's (Wm, D, F)

200 E. Washington St., 53204 649-9003

6 Fluid (Mw)

819 S. 2nd St., 53204 645-8330

6 Harbor Room (L/L, Mw)

117 E. Greenfield Ave., 53204 672-7988

22 Kathy's Nut Hut (WM, G/S, F, D)

1500 W. Scott, 53201 647-2673

7 La Cage (Mw, Dj, V)

801 S. 2nd St., 53204 383-8330

10 MetM Club (MW, F)

124 N. Water, 53202 347-1962

13 South Water Street Docks

354 E. National Ave., 53204 225-9676

20 Station 2 (Wm, D)

1534 W. Grant, 53215 383-5755

14 Switch (Mw)

124 W. National Ave., 53204 220-4340

15 This Is It (M)

418 E. Wells, 53202 278-9192

16 Triangle (M, V)

135 E. National, 53204 383-9412

31 Woody's (Mw, D)

1579 S. 2nd St., 53204 672-0806

COFFEE HOUSES and RESTAURANTS

Annex (10am-after hours)

1106 S. 1st St., 53204 384-7999

Azteca

816 South 5th St., 53204 383-8816

Bear Brew (Coffee House)

708 N. Milwaukee St., 53202 224-8877

Cafe Knickerbocker

1030 East Juneau, 53202 272-0011

Cempazuchi

1205 E. Brady St., 53202 291-5233

Chip and Pys

1340 W. Towne Square Rd., Mequon, 241-9589

Cielito Lindo

733 South 2nd St., 53204 649-0401

Harry's Bar and Grill

3539 N. Oakland Ave., 53211 694-680

Changin' Times
932 E. Brady St., 53202 281-7473
Constant Reader Bookshop
1627 E Irving Pl., 53202 291-0452
Designing Men & Womyn (t-shirts, jewelry, leather, etc.)
1200 S 1st St., 53204 389-1200
Eclectic i (art/gifts)
411 E. Silver Spring, Whitefish Bay, 53217, 906-0665
Forever Yours (flowers, fresh cut, dried)
2201 E Capitol Dr., 53211 963-1006
Grava Gallery (framing)
1209 E. Brady St., 53202 277-8228
Mega Discount Nursey
1901 E. Rawson Ave., Oak Creek 53154 571-6565
Miss Groove (gifts)
1225 E. Brady St., 53202 298-9185
Out of Solitude Jewelry
918 E. Brady St., 53202 223-3101
Outpost Natural Foods
100 E. Capitol Dr., 53212 964-7789
exchange@execpc.com
Popular News (adult books, videos)
225 N. Water St., 53202 278-0636
Rainbow Pets
1928 N. Farwell Ave., 53202 270-9552
Red Wheelbarrow Bookshop
1213 E. Brady St., 53202 223-5941
Rosebud Cinema and Drafthouse
6833 W. North Ave. 607-9672
Rubin's
224 E. Chicago St., 53202 278-8100
Video Adventures (video/dvd sales/rentals)
1418 E. Brady St., 53202 272-6768
Wishful Things (Antiques)
207 E Buffalo, 53202 964-9799

Spa/Health Clubs

Midtowne Spa (Gay Health and Recreational Facility)
315 S. Water St., 53204 278-8989

CENTRAL (715)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
1105 Grand Ave., #3, Schofield, 54476 (800) 551-3311
Central Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance
P.O. Box 390, Stevens Point, 54481
(715) 592-6245, ext. 5920200
Joseph T. Chojnicki, PH.D. (Psychologist)
Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, 54449 387-5442
The Edgewater — Inn & Resort
Eagle River, 54521 1-888-334-3987
http://www.edgeinn.com
G&L Society/Wausau 848-0608
UWSP 10% Society

Campus Activities Complex, Box 68
UWSP, Stevens Point, 54481 346-4366
LDS Brotherhood (Gay Mormons)
PO Box 152, Wausau, 54402 848-0343
Oz (MW, DJ, V)
320 Washington, Wausau 54401 842-3225
HIV/AIDS Spiritual Support & Education
2108 4th Ave., Stevens Point 54481 345-6500
Marshfield Gay Lesbian Organ. (MGL)
c/o 130 S. Central Ave., #3 Marshfield, 54449
Vic: (715) 387-2068 Jim: (715) 384-6731
Prince Edward B&B
203 W 5th, Shawano 54166 526-2805
Wausau Narcotics Anonymous
(ask for Gay meetings) 536-UFE
Women's Resource Center UWSP
336 Nelson Hall, Stevens Pt. 54481 346-4851

NORTH CENT. (715)

Gay/Lesbian Support Group
Box 247A, 1411 Ellis Ave. Ashland 54806
Northern WI Lambda Society
PO Box 802, Rhinelander 54501 362-4242
SHEM (Support, Heal, Educate) for Parents, Family, Friends of
Gays/Lesbians/Bis 359-7432
Out Up North (G/L Social/Info/Network)
PO Box 695, Washburn, 54891 682-2890

SHEBOYGAN (414)

Blue Lite (Mw) 1029 N. 8th, 53081 457-1636
Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians
Shirley: 458-2506 Carolyn: 467-0422
Sheboygan Antiques
336 Superior Avenue 53081 452-6757
Wesley United Methodist Church (Reconciling Congregation)
823 Union Avenue, Sheboygan 458-4889

RACINE/KENOSHA

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
1212 57th St., Kenosha, 53140 657-6644
(800) 924-6601
Clubhouse Filling Station (Mw)
6325 120th Ave., Kenosha 53140 857-3744
Club 94 (MW, DJ)
9001 120th Ave. (Hwy C & I-94)
Kenosha 53140 857-9958
Doggie Style (Pet Grooming)
6828 Sheridan Road, Kenosha 53143 657-5667

Frank Gentile (Auto Dealer)
Hwy 20 Racine 53403 886-5111
JoDee's (MW, DJ)
2139 Racine St. (Hwy 32) Racine 53403 634-9804
What About Me? (WM)
600 6th St. Racine 53403 632-0171
Gay AA (Group 294 Meeting) 554-6611
Gay/Lesbian Union of Racine
625 College, Racine 53403 634-0659
UW-Parkside G/L Organization
900 Wood Rd., Box 200, Kenosha 53141 595-2244
PFLAG Kenosha/Racine (c/o St. Mary's Lutheran Church)
2001 80th St., Kenosha 53143 658-3555
UW-Whitewater G/L Student Union
309 McCutchen Hall, Whitewater 53190 472-5738
Diamond Hill Inn B&B
W1375 Hwy 11, Spring Prairie 63-4421
Wychwold's (Jewelry & Gifts)
8321 Antioch Rd (Hwy 83), Salem 53168 843-4209

SOUTH CENT. ()

AIDS Network Satellite Office (AIDS Info)
P.O. Box 8486, Janesville 53545 756-2550
Chase on the Hill (Bed and Breakfast)
11624 St. Rd 26, Milton, 53563 868-6646
Colhren House (B&B)
Mineral Point 987-2612
CrossRoads Bar (G/S/M/W)
W6642 Hwy B, Lake Mills 53551 648-8457
The Closet (MW, DJ)
232 Shirland Ave., Beloit 54991 363-8764

NORTHWEST (715)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin—Eau Claire (www.arcw.org)
505 Dewey Street S., Suite 107 Eau Claire 54701 836-7710
(800) 750-2437
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin—Superior (www.arcw.org)
1507 Tower Ave., Suite 230, Superior 54880 394-4009
(877) 242-0282
Backwoods Bears (Far Bear Men)
PO Box 264, Superior 54880
Different Strokes BBS (Computer Bulletin Board)
PO Box 152, Wausau 54402 842-1377
Do-Ri-Chi (Bed & Breakfast)
33 E. Spruce St., Chippewa Falls 723-0943
Eagle Love B&B (egicove@comcast.net)
W4387 120th Avenue, Maiden Rock, 54750 448-4302
GLOBE (Campus LesBiGay group)
105 Garfield, 132 Davies Cr, Eau Claire 54701
JP Creations (WEB Design) 477-8802
The Trading Company (MW, DJ)
304 Eau Claire Street, Eau Claire 54701 838-9494

The Main Club (MW, DJ)
1217 Tower Ave, Superior 54880 392-1756
Northland Gay Men's Center
8 N. 2nd Ave. E., Ste. 309 Duluth, MN 55802 (218) 722-8585
Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
Greater Chippewa Valley
PO Box 11, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0011
Rainbow Club (social/support for LGBT youth)
P.O. Box 11, Eau Claire, WI 54702 836-7710
Scooter's (MW)
411 Galloway St., Eau Claire, 54703 835-9959
Trio (Wm)
820 Tower, Superior, 54880 392-5373
Twin Ports Pride
P.O. Box 3198, Duluth, MN 55803 (218) 728-5825
UW Stout 10% Society
c/o 153 C Harvey Hall, UW-S
Menomonie, 54751 UW Eau Claire
Variations on Spring (Gifts, Collectibles)
22 West Spring Chippewa Falls 54729 723-8490

S. WEST & CENTRAL

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org)
Grandview Center, 1707 Main St., #420 (608) 785-9866
La Crosse, WI 54601 (800) 947-3353
The Alliance (LesBiGay Social Group)
P.O. Box 131, Platteville 53818 348-5596
e-mail: ALLIANCE@uwplatt.edu
Cavalier Lounge (MW, DJ)
114 N. 5th St., LaCrosse 54601 782-9061
Chela and Rose's B&B and Forest Retreat 735-4829
GALAXY (Gay Alliance of La Crosse Area Youth)
P.O. Box 602, Onalaska, 54650-0602 791-1963
Gay & Lesbian Alliance
Box 131, Platteville, 53818
My Place (MW J)
3201 South Ave., LaCrosse 54601 788-9073
LaCrosse L/G Support Group
c/o Campus Ministry Center 784-7600
Leaping La Crosse News
Box 932, LaCrosse 54602
LaCrosse Parents & Friends of Gays 782-6082
Rainbow's End (G/S, WM), 417 Jay St., La Crosse 54601 782-9802
Under the Rainbow (Alternative Books)
122 5th Ave S, LaCrosse 54601 796-0383
Rainbow Ridge Farms Bed & Breakfast 783-8181
Pioneers (Southwest WI Rural G/L Alliance) 800-484-8131
Code 4419, e-mail to pioneersswi@aol.com
PO Box 53, Richland Center, 53581
Players (MW DJ)
214 Main Street, LaCrosse 54601 782-9279

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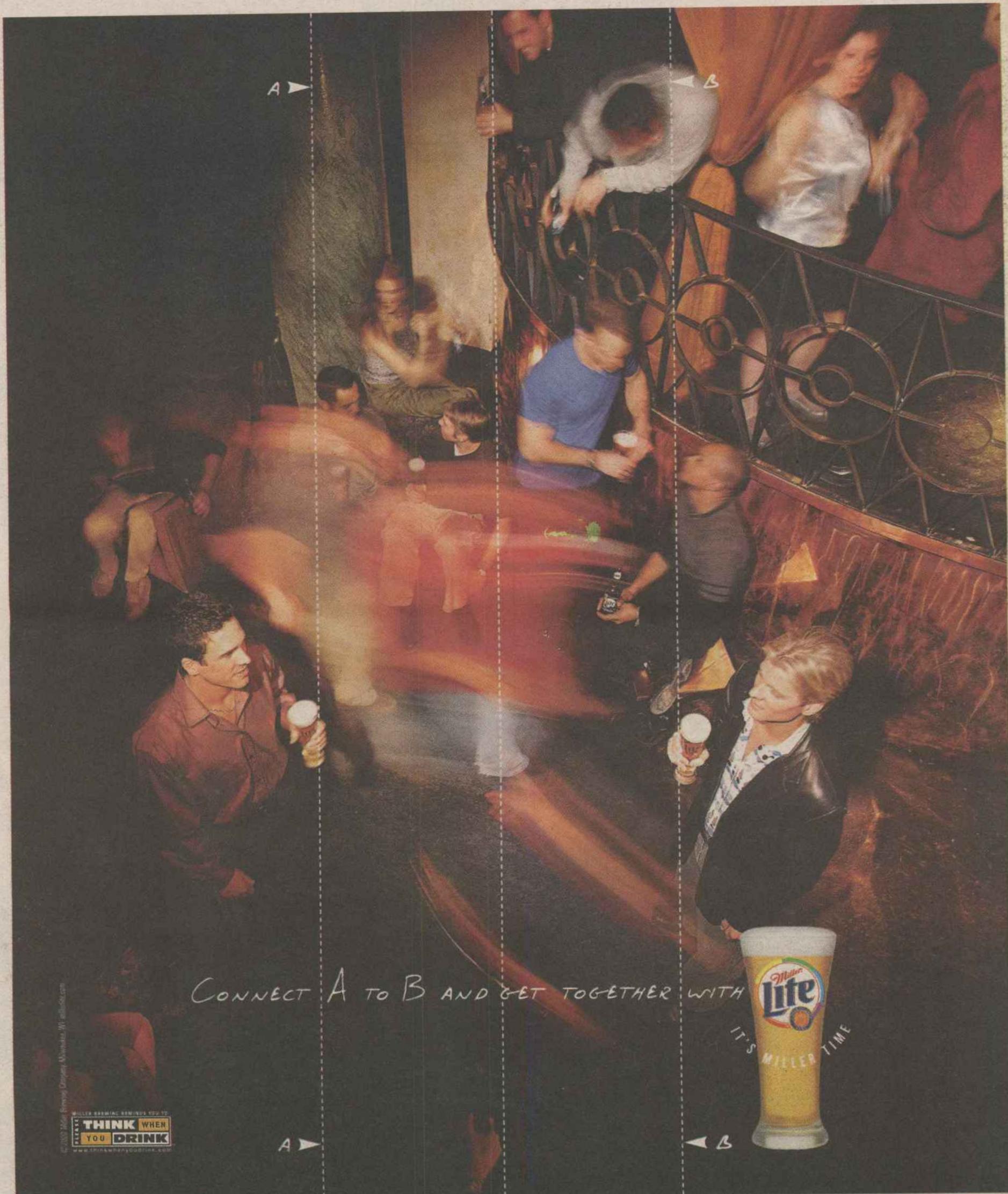
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