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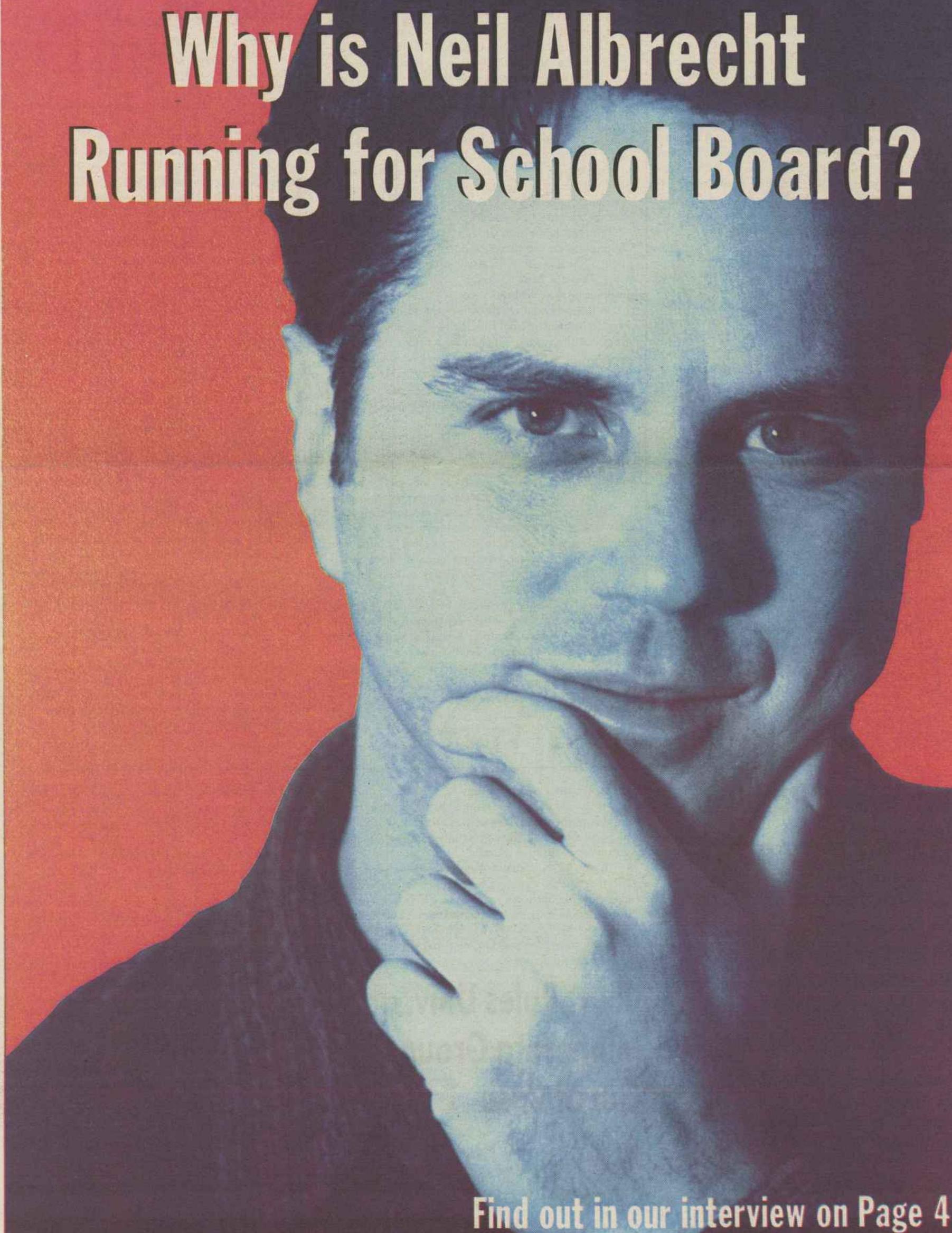
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IN
STEP

Why is Neil Albrecht Running for School Board?



Find out in our interview on Page 4

PrideFest Names Co-Directors

Milwaukee — The PrideFest Council elected two new co-directors for the 1999 festival season. Long-time PrideFest organizers, Michael Lisowski and Christine Klein, received unanimous support from the council.

Michael Lisowski has been involved with PrideFest since its inception in 1993, as well as its predecessor, the old Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee. He has served as Secretary for several years prior to being elected Vice President in 1997. Michael brings to the position a long history of community activism.

Christine Klein has served on the PrideFest Executive Board as Treasurer since 1995. For the past year, she has also taken on the role of Administrator, serving as the first point of contact for all PrideFest calls and inquiries.

Other members of the 1999 PrideFest Council include Jane Baudelaire: Secretary and Merchandise Coordinator; Ted Berg: Family Day Coordinator and Sunday Ecumenical Service Director; Jill Clark: Entertainment Coordinator; Susan Cook: Volunteer Coordinator and Marketing Director; Rick Finger: Parade Coordinator; John Prentice: Legal Advisor; Sheldon Schur: Security Coordinator; Jerry Spillner: Food Vendor Coordinator; Del Slowik: PrideFest Food Coordinator.

Council and Committee Position Openings

PrideFest is now recruiting to fill vacancies on the Pride Council and several committees. Vacant positions include the Treasurer, Beverage Coordinator, Operations Manager, Stonewall Stage Coordinator and Youth Activity Area Coordinator. Council positions require participation at all Council meetings and special committee meetings, pre-festival planning, as well as working the seven days on the festival grounds prior, during and after the festival (August 3 - August 9). PrideFest is looking for self-motivated people who have the skills and experience to accomplish tasks assigned to these positions, and who share the common goal of producing Wisconsin's largest Pride event through a team effort.

The following committee positions are open: Entertainment Assistants, Volunteer Coordinator Assistants, Booth Coordinator Assistant and Food Coordinator Assistants. Committee positions require participation at all special committee meetings, pre-festival planning, as well as working the three days at the festival. PrideFest is looking for people who have, or wish to develop, experience in these areas.

All positions are on a volunteer basis. For a position description on any of the Council or committee positions, contact PrideFest at 414-272-3378 or e-mail pride-milw@aol.com. Persons interested in a position are asked to submit a letter of interest, resume and a minimum of three references no later than March 1 to PrideFest Inc. PO Box 511763, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212-0301. Final selection of Council members will be through an interview process. Candidates will be notified of date, time and location:

British Euro-Parliament Member Resigns

London — Tom Spencer, a Tory Member of the European Parliament, has resigned after he was fined at a London customs check for having two marijuana cigarettes, a small quantity of cocaine and some gay pornographic magazines and video tapes.

Spencer, 50, said he only occasionally smoked marijuana and acknowledged that he is gay, although he is married and the father of two children. His wife, Liz, said she had always been aware of her husband's sexual orientation and wasn't a problem for her because they loved each other and had a "solid marriage and family life."

In an unusual show of support, Liz Spencer posed for new photographers with her husband, along with the couple's two daughters and a third daughter by Mrs. Spencer's previous marriage.

Even so, Spencer admitted that bringing the material into Britain was an "extraordinarily stupid" thing to do and resigned rather than embroil the Conservative Party

Researchers Say They've Identified Animal Origins of HIV

by Keith Clark
of the IN Step staff

Chicago — A team of scientists say they have discovered the origin of the main HIV virus that causes AIDS. The researchers say a chimpanzee named Marilyn has helped confirm that the virus first passed into people from chimpanzees.

Presenting their work in Chicago at the annual conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, the scientists said that genetic tests show the HIV virus is closely related to a virus that infects chimps but does not make them sick. It would have been first passed to humans in the first half of this century, when people butchered and ate chimps, as often happens in some African countries. A report also appears in the journal *Nature*.

Dr Beatrice Hahn of the University of Alabama at Birmingham and colleagues made the discovery when analyzing blood and tissue samples from the lab chimp after she died at the age of 26.

"She had never been used in AIDS research and had not received human blood products after 1969," said Dr Hahn. "She died in 1985 after giving birth to stillborn twins. We still need to know more about this whole group of primate viruses."

In the early days of AIDS research, dozens of chimps were deliberately infected with the HIV virus to see if they developed the disease. To the surprise of scientists, they did not. One of the questions that now has to be answered is why humans infected with HIV develop AIDS when chimps, which are genetically so similar to us, do not.

The scientists behind this latest study say chimps in the wild could provide the answer.

"This is an important finding with significant potential," said Dr Anthony Fauci of the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases, which helped fund the study.

"This virus infects a primate species that is 98 percent related to humans. This may allow us, if done carefully and in collaboration with primatologists to protect this endangered species, to study infected chimpanzees in the wild to find out why these animals don't get sick, information that may help us better protect humans from developing AIDS."

Many AIDS scientists already believed HIV originated in African primates, but the actual source of the virus has remained a mystery since the disease surfaced as an epidemic in humans nearly 20 years ago.

Earlier research had suggested that the particular strain of HIV that ignited the AIDS pandemic began to smolder in central Africa sometime in the 1940s. That work is based on the genetic analysis of a stored blood sample taken in 1959 from a man who lived in what is now the Democratic Republic of Congo.

in any appearance of impropriety.

Spencer said he was returning to Britain from a trip to Amsterdam where he had been spending time with American porn actor Cole Tucker, whom he has had a relationship for about nine months.

Tucker, 44, best known for his roles as a cigar-smoking leather "daddy" type in gay porn, said in a press statement following Spencer's resignation, "Mr. Tom Spencer is a wonderful, brilliant and loving man... I am so sorry that he and his family has to go through this. His wife and family have been real forces of strength and dignity in these hard times."

Court Rules Univ. of Minnesota Groups Out of Case

Minneapolis, Minn. — In a sharply worded opinion, the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that three

But that work couldn't tell the origin of AIDS.

Dr. Hahn and her colleagues say that the chimpanzees don't appear to get sick from the simian version of the virus, so studying the natural infection in wild chimps could reveal important clues to help in treatment. The scientists made a plea for the animals' preservation during the conference.

But perhaps the most interesting aspect of the study is the evidence that HIV may have transferred to humans several times, before becoming an epidemic in the 20th century.

Shepard's Parents Speak Out

Cheyenne, Wyo. (AP) — The parents of Matthew Shepard, the gay college student beaten to death last October, say they don't want his death used by activists to further any political agenda.

"It's a very frightening concept as a parent that your son now becomes a martyr, a public figure for the world," Judy Shepard told *Dateline NBC* for a story which aired last week. "He's just our son."

Some gay advocacy groups have invoked Shepard's case in seeking harsher sentences for people convicted of crimes that involve bias against the victim. A move to pass hate crimes legislation in Wyoming was defeated Wednesday by a committee.

The 21-year-old Shepard was found Oct. 7 beaten with a handgun and tied to a fence outside the University of Wyoming college town of Laramie, 40 miles west of Cheyenne. He died five days later in a Colorado hospital.

Police said he was chosen as a victim in part because he was gay.

Vanity Fair also reported in its March issue that Shepard tested HIV-positive at the Fort Collins, Colo., hospital where he died. The magazine said two men who fought with suspects Russell Henderson and Aaron McKinney following Shepard's attack may have come into contact with Shepard's blood and have been put on AIDS drugs. The article did not give a source.

Albany County Coroner Julie Heggie told The Associated Press that she had no information about whether Shepard was HIV-positive. "I know that's not in the autopsy report," Heggie said.

Officials at Poudre Valley Hospital did not return calls for comment. Mrs. Shepard told *Vanity Fair* that her son had previously tested negative for the virus.

The parents described their son as a sometimes naive young man who was often too trusting for his own good.

The NBC and *Vanity Fair* stories revealed that Shepard had been attacked and raped in Morocco while he was on a high school trip.

Henderson and McKinney, both of Laramie, have been charged with murder and are awaiting trial. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty against both.

"The anger really isn't there yet," Mrs. Shepard said. "I am sure it will come. ... They've done something horrible to my life, to my son, to my family, and I don't want to waste any of my feelings on them. I'm saving it all for Matt."

University of Minnesota student organizations, including the Queer Student Cultural Center, cannot join with the school in fighting a lawsuit against the university over student fees.

Five university students sued the school a year ago, charging that their First Amendment rights were hampered because they are required to subsidize campus groups that they are opposed to through their student fees. The five students in the case cited a campus women's organization, a Hispanic student group and the school's lesbian and gay organization.

But the court refused to let the named student groups join in defending the school's fee policies and ruled that while the student organizations may have an economic interest in the policy, they had not demonstrated they had a free speech interest in defending it.

The ruling is only one of several technical issues the federal appeals court has ruled on in the case, but the clear-cut language of the ruling may have a serious impact on how lower courts subsequently may rule in the case since it excludes one argument the student groups and the university itself might have used in defending the compulsory fee system.

ON OUR COVER: Neil Albrecht. Photo by Jorge Cabal

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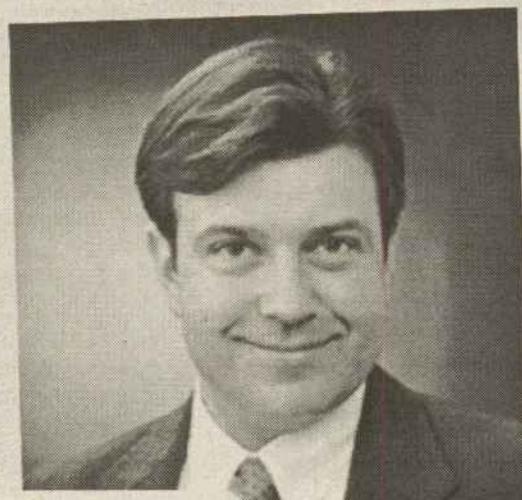
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Neil Albrecht is quickly becoming one of the most recognized names in Wisconsin's LGBT community. A former regional director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, he is now running for the 8th District Milwaukee School Board seat. If successful, Albrecht would be the only openly-gay, elected official in Milwaukee. The primary election will be held on Feb. 16.

Albrecht also serves as the co-president of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center and is considered by many to be a leading candidate for the executive director slot for the center. Recently, at the *IN Step* World Headquarters, I sat down with Albrecht to discuss politics, AIDS, our community and much more.

IN Step: You're running for the school board. How's that going?

NA: It's going great. I'm very fortunate that I have a couple of really seasoned political strategists on my campaign staff. I have Tim Carpenter and Rosemary Potter who both have not only endorsed my campaign, but are also participating on my campaign committee.

So, while I'm somewhat new to politics and need to further develop my political savvy, I have this group to rely on and they have given me some great strategies.

IN Step: Are you enjoying it?

NA: I am, but I'd have to say that the novelty of going door-to-door wears off pretty fast (laughter). At first I thought it was really a fun experience to get to meet all these people, and it still is, it's amazing what you will hear in terms of individual perspectives about the school board and public education. But being out in the cold for three or four hours and going to a hundred plus doors per day can wear you out a little bit. It's great exercise, though.

IN Step: What makes you think that you understand the system better than other candidates?

NA: I'm a product of public education, first of all. I went to all public schools in the Bay View area. I grew up in Bay View; I'm a homeowner in Bay View. I believe a lot of my understanding, when it comes to the school board, comes from my work experience and my perspective on populations. I believe that one of the things that's facing the school board right now, and the Milwaukee public school system, is focusing on becoming cost-effective and having good public relations.

It's very seldom that you see anything real positive in the media about the public school program, but yet there are tremendous success stories within Milwaukee Public Schools. I have an extensive background in public relations and cost management. But also, there's the fact that the children that are left in public education and public schools are kids that I believe that society just hasn't focused on. There are single parent families, that are low income, and there's no opportunity or option for them to move out to the suburbs and get into a different school system.

I believe from working, particularly in the HIV and AIDS arena, that I have an understanding of what types of social services, what types of infrastructure needs to exist to help parents overcome barriers to keep their kids in schools.

IN Step: Do you get afraid that people are going to make an issue out of the fact that you are a gay man?

NA: They will, and they could. The depth of my fear is pretty shallow. I believe that the South Side, and the Bay View area in particular, is progressive enough to realize that it's really the qualifications and the expertise that the person brings to the school board that should be the most relevant in terms of whether or not they're elected. I do believe that being a gay male can compliment my ability to bring appropriate issues to the school board.

I believe that not having kids, for an example, and not having allegiances to any particular school is an advantage to the school board.

WA: You're currently serving as the co-president of the Milwaukee LGBT community center. How's that going?

NA: The whole community center experience has been an incredibly positive. I just think it's history. I'm really happy that I was a part of it and that I was the first co-president to the board. I'm real excited about the search for the executive director.

IN Step: Did you apply for that job?

NA: I did. Yes, I am a candidate. I'm excited about that and I hope I get the opportunity to be the first Executive Director. If I don't, my commitment to the community center is still there one hundred percent. I believe it's a project that's so vital to our community and has been to date successful.

Even though it's still very much in its infancy, there still is a fork in the road where it could stagnate and not amount to as much as everyone's vision would like it to, or it can just grow in leaps and bounds. I believe that the investment in an executive director is the turn it needs to get it to go down that proper road.

IN Step: Why is that so important?

NA: For the Center to complete the type of fund raising and programs and services and outreach into the diverse communities that are captured in the Mission Statement, there needs to be a full-time staff person. I just think it's not possible for the Mission to be fully achieved with a volunteer board of directors. Everyone has additional obligations, they're involved in other stuff, and it takes one person to really focus on where the community center is going. Somebody with vision is leadership experience is needed for that.

IN Step: I've heard some people question where the money for an executive director is going to come

from. The community center doesn't have a lot of income right now...

NA: The community center has a very aggressive but well thought-out budget for next year. I say aggressive in that it presented to its members a fund raising, a revenue budget that's about four times what the Center raised this year. That will be achieved because of the efforts of the board of directors, itself, and a Fund-Raising Committee, which was not in place in 1998, and then there will be the executive director. By achieving that fund-raising goal, first of all the Center will be able to start and provide a lot of the programs and services such as Youth Services, that it has identified as essential. Also, it will be able to fund an executive director position.

IN Step: Could you tell me how you got to this point in your life or how you see your life's mission?

NA: My experience coming out in 1983 was the eve of the AIDS epidemic, locally. I can remember being in La Cage and seeing the signs posted about night sweats. That was my first information about HIV and AIDS. I think, like a lot of other people, what I experienced was the tremendous loss of many people, including people who had been my role-models.

The first person to say to me that I had really made a stupid mistake by dropping out of college ... and who inspired me to go back to college, died from AIDS. Because of that impact, I made the decision to go to work for an AIDS service organization. I guess a lot of who I am and a lot of what I do is based on people who have been influential role-models in my life.

To be out, period, is courageous. To be out, to allow your name to be in the press, to stand up and identify yourself as being gay in a crowded room is particularly courageous. While everyone would like to believe

differently, there's still tremendous stigma against being gay and there's tremendous discrimination and homophobia in society against gays. I believe if one more person stands up in the room and says, "I'm gay," it makes it that much more normal, perhaps, for everyone else in the room.

I am driven by that. I put myself in a School Board race and said, "I'm gay," and hopefully I'll be elected, and hopefully those School Board members the Eighth District will realize that the value of having diversity beyond racial diversity on the School board of directors.

IN Step: Do you think Milwaukee is ready for that?

NA: Yeah, I think Milwaukee is. If I didn't think Milwaukee wasn't ready for it, I wouldn't be spending my time or the even more valuable time of the people who are supporting my campaign. I believe I will win; I really do.

IN Step: Last fall you left your job at ARCW. Why?

NA: I was with ARCW for six years. It was an incredible six years, where I was first hired as the director of Volunteer Resources for a volunteer program that had about 250 active volunteers. By the time I left a year later it had 1,000 active volunteers. So I feel good about it. I was a volunteer and that was what drove my commitment to actually run the volunteer program. I could see what needed to be done. I thought, "If I get in that position, can do it." I did it and to this day I'm proud of the Volunteer Program.

From that I moved into a deputy Director position and from that to a Regional director position. It was a lot of work; it was often there from 60 to 80 hours a week. That's typical for any non-profit [organization]. The average longevity of a manager in a nonprofit setting is two years.

I think AIDS is particularly hard when you're working with people from your own community and watching the devastation, watching people continue to die. To do that for six years just wore me out. I really feel that after that period of time I was mentally exhausted. I did what I think everyone should do at any moment they can, and that's I assessed my job, and I thought, "Is this time for me to leave?"

IN Step: I imagine that every social engagement you attended for a period of time, people asked you about ARCW.

NA: They still do.

IN Step: How do you deal with that?

NA: I direct them to whom I believe is the appropriate person...

IN Step: I guess that this is uncomfortable for you.

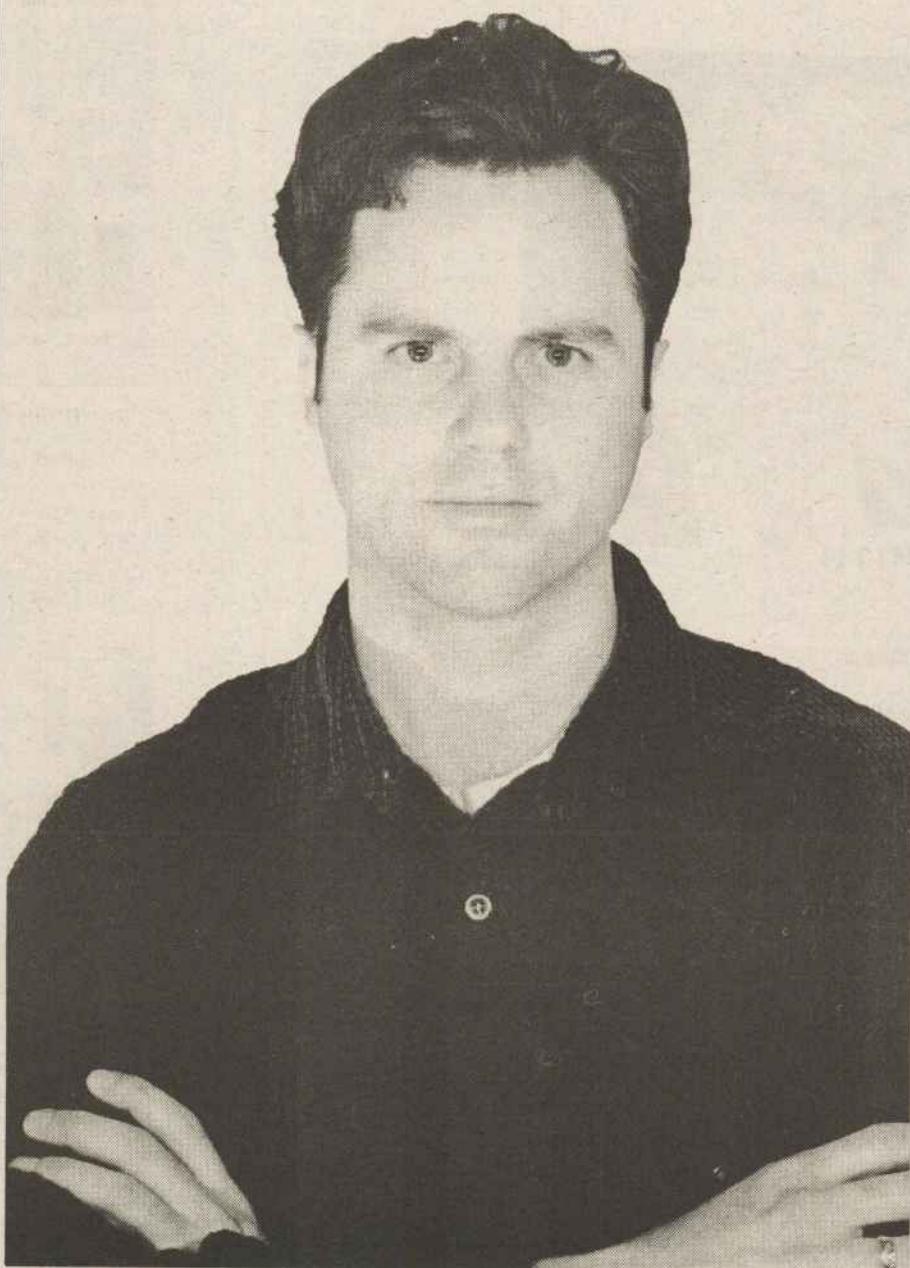
NA: It sure is. It's uncomfortable because I can't represent the agency. People want me to say what's going on within the organization, particularly as a former employee. I don't think it's appropriate for me to make that type of assessment or to comment on that. I believe that that's the role of the executive director and the executive management staff and chair of the board of directors to respond to community inquiries about what's happening in the organization. I don't believe that's the role of a former staff person.

IN Step: I wonder how you see the gay community in Milwaukee evolving — even over the next couple of years?

NA: My experience with the bars, just from working at ARCW is that they are incredibly supportive of AIDS programs and service. I don't say "bars" derogatorily. I believe they will always have a very dominant place within the community. That type of social setting ... you know, where one guy can kiss another guy ... and I'm not sure you can do that in a bar on Brady Street or any integrated bar.

People want to feel comfortable. They want to feel safe and they want to feel comfortable and they feel that in the bars right now. Perhaps that's the only current venue where people can have that. The community center now provides another venue.

Neil Albrecht



"Nobody is going to emerge from the outside as an advocate for the gay and lesbian community. That person has to emerge from within."

My hope is that there are a lot of people who don't want to be in a bar for a multitude of reasons. Maybe they don't like the environment, maybe they don't like the drinking; there are any number of choices.

This opens a door for them to join the community. The bars are full of people, but there's also tremendous isolation within the gay and lesbian community of people who are out there on their own. They may be in relationships, but they're completely isolated from the community as a whole. My vision and hope for the community center is that it will find a way to bring these people in. That is only going to occur through some concentrated outreach efforts.

There has to be something that the Center does to entice them. They have to see a purpose for getting involved with the Center. We have a very long process ahead of us of identifying those populations, identifying what they need and want from a community center, and providing that so that they will come in and get involved. The community center could do no better good than to galvanize the community and to establish a sense of community that goes above and beyond the bars.

IN Step: Tell me about growing up in Bay View. Could I have a little bit about your family background?

NA: I actually grew up about nine blocks from where I now own a home. My parents are legally separated. My father lives up in northern Wisconsin, my mom still lives in the house that I grew up in. Actually my mom is a phenomenal person. Of anybody in my life, she has been the most significant role model. She's the first person I told that I was gay, and she was by far one of the most accepting of it.

My mom has watched me evolve and supported my evolution. I went from someone who blurted out in tears that I was gay, to somebody who will now be identified in the mainstream press as being a gay candidate for the school board, or who is willing to represent the gay community to the mainstream press as co-president of the LGBT community center Board.

My mother has never faltered in her support. In her head I can just imagine her saying, "Oh my God, is he ever gonna get down from this soap box and stop this crusade?" If it plays in her head it certainly doesn't play in her actions. My mom has an excellent sense of humor and I think I've picked that up from her. To me humor is a key to survival in life. If I can't laugh at some of the really horrendous things that I've experienced, then I don't know how I would survive without the ability to do that.

IN Step: What are the things that really make you angry?

NA: Homophobia makes me really angry. I hate it. You know it hurts me to my core. I was almost involved in a hate crime when I was driving home from the community center one night. I have a rainbow bumper sticker on my car and some kids pulled up along side of me and tried to get into my car, probably to kick my ass if they could. It really shook me up, and of course people who are concerned about my safety said, "You should take that off your car. You're putting yourself at jeopardy out there." I would never do that, because to do that would be to concede to homophobia, and I'm not gonna do that. I might go out, but I'm gonna go out fighting.

I just hate AIDS. The reason I hate AIDS is that I think that being gay is a struggle in itself. Particularly for people newly out, there are unjust challenges that come with being gay and unfair struggles. Then when AIDS emerged, and this is true for all populations that are impacted by AIDS. All right, you're already living in poverty and you're a single parent and you have four kids and now you have AIDS. What worse could happen to your community?

That's the same way I felt about AIDS in the gay community. All right, we've made all this progress and we've overcome all of these barriers and challenges and now we have to deal with AIDS. So, I hate that! I think I went from angry to hate, but I get angry when I see people attempting to be courageous, people who go out and carve new paths. A lot of what people do is to try to make it easier for the next generation; that certainly drives me. I get very angry at the people who stand at the sidelines and criticize.

It's like Mark Behar said at the annual meeting, "This is a board of directors of volunteers. These people are not getting paid to do what they're doing." There's nothing self-serving in what anyone is doing on that

board of directors. They're doing it out of the goodness of their hearts and to benefit the community.

It makes me angry when people sit back and say to Sheila Zelinsky, my co-president, "You're doing this because . . ." and they have some conspiracy theory or they think she has some hidden agenda in her decision making. That makes me angry. It disillusioned those courageous people, because they end up thinking, "Why am I doing this?" If you can't keep all that stuff in perspective, you think, "What in the hell am I involved with this for, so I can be criticized? I get enough of that at my job or at home or from my family. I don't need to do that on a volunteer basis!"

If I preach any one thing over and over again to the board, it's based on my experience at ARCW, is to keep your perspective and just realize that there will always be a couple of people standing on the sidelines. But by far the masses are either ahead of you, on the other side, or are behind you in terms of supporting you or just waiting to support you.

IN Step: How do you keep balance in the face of the things that bother you?

NA: I don't think I always do. I think I falter from time to time. I can go home from a Board Meeting and respond to a phone call, or somebody will come up to me in a bar and will say one of those things to me, or weigh-in with some kind of accusation or allegation, or say something critical about somebody I think is doing a phenomenal job, and I'll go home and I'll say, "I need to get out of this and I need to get out of this town" (laughter). I've been around this for too long and it's just ridiculous.

I guess I keep my balance by surrounding myself with people who are positive and appreciative and who are supportive and who remind me to keep a perspective as much as I remind other people to do just that. I get a lot of support from friends, particularly friends that I have a lot of respect for. I'll use Karen Gotzler as an example. I think the world of her in terms of what she and Jim Schleif and other people did to get the community center going; talk about being explorers and pioneers. When I feel like I'm losing my perspective and my head's going under the water, I can call Karen or see her in person and she can grab hold of my collar and pull me right back out of it. I think that's what's essential to survival.

IN Step: Is there a spiritual component to how you deal with things?

NA: Define spiritual.

IN Step: You define it.

NA: I think there is, but I can't define it in anyway. I have a spiritual belief, and I believe that I am supported by something greater than myself. I struggle with and try to identify what that is. It's interesting because there's a tremendous disillusionment within the gay and lesbian community about spirituality and religion. There's a struggle within that community. What do you do with all the misdirected "this is what I believed before, but now this condemns me and where can I redirect that" stuff? I guess I'm one of those people, as I continue to have a sense of spirituality but it hasn't really identified itself yet.

IN Step: Is there anything important that I missed that you'd like to add?

NA: Again, one of the reasons I did this school board thing is politics. I don't like to think of it as politics, I like to think of it as public education. But, it is politics, and I really hope that it does inspire others. I don't see myself as a community leader to be honest. Not that long ago I was working as a front-desk clerk at a hotel. Now, all of a sudden, I'm somewhat identified as a community leader. I hope that whatever I do, it will inspire others to get involved in the community.

Nobody is going to emerge from the outside as an advocate for the gay and lesbian community. That person has to emerge from within. I would encourage people to realize that and to take a risk. Sure, you'll get burned from time to time, and we all do and you would anyway, so take a risk and get involved and do something and make a difference.

News Wire

Students Charged in Posting Hate Literature

Oxford, Ohio — Police at Miami University in Ohio have charged two students — Nathaniel Snow and Brad Allen — with putting up racist and anti-gay pamphlets at the school's Center for Black Culture and Learning last year. Snow is president of Miami University's Black Student Action Association.

After the pamphlets were found at the center, the campus was hit with several student protests, including one in which Snow and Allen were both arrested.

Neither has commented on the pamphlets, and school officials and student leaders say they're unsure why either Snow or Allen would have been involved in such an incident.

But campus police said both men's fingerprints were found on the pamphlets.

They will face misdemeanor charges in connection with the racist and homophobic literature.

Writer Nominated for Top Democratic Position

Washington — Writer Andrew Tobias, better known by his pen name John Reid as author of *Best Little Boy in the World*, has been named by the Clinton White House as its choice for treasurer of the Democratic National Committee.

The Democrats will formally select their national officers in March, and the Clinton recommendations is expected to be approved.

Tobias, under his own name, is better known as a financial adviser and authored the best-selling *The Only Investment Guide You'll Ever Need*.

Military Discharges Being Checked

Washington — Few people were surprised to learn that the number of gays and lesbians being discharged by the nation's armed forces has continued to rise again this past year, but even Pentagon officials now seem concerned about the large number of gay-related discharges stemming from a single source — Lackland Air Force Base in Texas.

About 65 percent of the 414 Air Force's gay-related discharges last year came from Lackland, Pentagon officials said. In fact, the Air Force seems so worried about the large number of Lackland discharges that it has agreed to let the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, which represents military personnel facing discharges because they are believed to be gay or lesbian, investigate.

C. Dixon Osburn of the gay advocacy group said Air Force representatives had agreed to allow the organization to visit Lackland and interview service members, including military training instructors, recruits and military attorneys in an unprecedented move by a branch of the U.S. military.

The Air Force says it has reviewed the Lackland discharges and found that most were "unsolicited and voluntary." This, some have suggested, may mean that straight recruits may in fact be using the "don't ask, don't tell" policy as a way to get out of military service after they had enlisted.

The Defense Department reported that in 1998, there were 1,145 total gay-related discharges in all branches, an increase over the 997 discharges the year before. According to Pentagon figures, the Army recorded 310 such discharges, up from 197 the year before; 414 in the Air Force, up from 309 the previous year; 345 in the Navy, a decrease from 413 the year before; and 76 in the Marine Corps, down slightly from 78 in 1997.

Brits Again Struggle to Change Age of Consent

London — Britain's House of Commons has for the second time approved a bill lowering the age of consent for gay sex from 18 to 16 in the country by a vote of 313-130.

Last year, after the lower house of Parliament approved a similar change in the age of consent law, it was repeatedly and solidly rejected by the House of Lords, which normally doesn't block government-backed legislation. In fact, the confrontation last year was so bitter that Prime Minister Tony Blair threatened to enact legislation to strip the upper house of any power to block laws introduced by the elected government.

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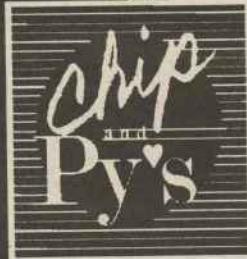
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'Barebacking' Upward Swing Continues

New York (AP) — Sexually transmitted diseases are reported up among some groups of gay men. Federal officials are worried about a survey in San Francisco showing dramatic increases in unsafe sex since 1994. And two weeks ago in Green-

"Simpleminded slogans — such as 'Use a condom every time' — have become invisible, like the surgeon general's warning on the cigarette pack."

wich Village, a standing-room-only crowd of 300 people attended a meeting on "barebacking" — a term that means sex between gay men without condoms.

Risky sexual behavior is on the rise in the gay community. It's casually described by gay men discussing their personal lives and increasingly documented by epidemiologists and gay organizations around the country. If the trend continues, HIV infection rates, now steady, could rise again.

The reasons are simple: AIDS is viewed differently now that new drugs are enabling people with HIV infections to live relatively normal lives. The safe-sex message is being ignored; young gay men who did not witness AIDS suffering firsthand are becoming cavalier, even defiant, about unprotected sex; and HIV-positive people are healthy enough to be sexually active, increasing the chance that they could spread the disease.

"There's a real sea change of attitude," said Mark King, education director for AID Atlanta, an AIDS testing site that reports a 50 percent increase in people testing positive for HIV since 1997.

"What we're getting from person after person in the post-test counseling office is that they slipped up (on using condoms) more in the last year than in all the previous years," King added. "Young men think the crisis is under control. They think the new HIV medicines are going to save their lives, although we have no assurances that that is true."

Some younger men feel they missed out on the 1970s, when gay men were coming out of the closet and into discos, bathhouses and parties for casual, and sometimes anonymous, sex. Others express a bleak nihilism — a sense that because they are gay, infection is inevitable.

Tony Valenzuela, a 30-year-old struggling writer from Los Angeles, is HIV-pos-

itive and makes no apologies for gay men who have unprotected sex without disclosing their HIV status.

"I come from a generation that has normalized the epidemic," Valenzuela said. "It's not my experience to lose half of my friends and feel the debilitating effects of the virus."

Valenzuela said he cannot help but feel that transmitting HIV to another is not that horrible of a thing to do.

"I don't have a reaction to it the way people who have had so much loss around it. ... I wish I could say that to people and not be heard as defiant, irresponsible, delusional."

Valenzuela says he never volunteers his HIV status unless a sex partner asks.

"I feel comfortable to assume that they have a body of knowledge," he said. "I feel like it's a consensual act."

But he says he avoids sex acts that involve transmitting his bodily fluids to others, decreasing the risk of spreading HIV.

Valenzuela spoke at the barebacking forum in January at the New York Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center. While he was publicly admonished by many in the audience of mostly older men, "there must have been 20 people who came up to me afterwards and said, 'I'm exactly where you're at,'" he said.

There are an estimated 40,000 new HIV infections annually, and there's no evidence that the number has gone either up or down in recent times, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

However the CDC recently cited what it called a significant survey by STOP AIDS, an advocacy group, of 21,857 gay men in San Francisco, of whom 39.2 percent reported having unprotected anal sex in 1997, up from 30.4 percent in 1994.

"It's happening a lot in the younger group, and the younger group hasn't grown up watching their partners and friends die of this disease," said Dr. Richard Steketee of the CDC's HIV/AIDS prevention branch.

Richard Elovich, director of prevention for the Gay Men's Health Crisis, told the audience at the barebacking forum that "simpleminded slogans — such as 'Use a condom every time' — have become invisible, like the surgeon general's warning on the cigarette pack."

Older gay men, he said, have "started a kind of finger-wagging, saying, 'You should do this because of what I've learned,'" while younger gay men are saying: "Get off me. Allow me to have my own experience."

Will, 38, a professional musician who lives in the New York area and who would not give his surname, has seen 68 friends die, takes 26 pills a day, suffers from fungus infections, nausea and diarrhea.

This does not stop him from having unprotected sex.

"It's not like we have a lot to lose," he said. "In my last days on this planet, I do not want celibacy." ▼

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Gays, Lesbians and Children: The Next Battleground?

by Gip Plaster
of the IN Step Staff

Taking away the right of gay and lesbian people to adopt and become foster parents is one of the latest tactics being used against the gay and lesbian community, and Texas and Arkansas are two of the current battlegrounds.

In Texas, bills have been introduced in the legislature that would take away both

"We feel like the board overlooked the evidence and voted in an unfair way against gays and lesbians as foster parents," said Bryan Goodman, a spokesperson for the Interfaith Coalition for Equality, a group of gay and straight people who support equal rights and oppose the ban. "We would have liked to have been heard."

Robin Woodruff, the board member who introduced the bill in June, said

"I want people to understand the seriousness of the adoption and foster care legislation. It's the first step to removing us from access to children."

of these rights. In Arkansas, a recently created Child Welfare Review Board has voted to make Arkansas the second state to ban gays and lesbians from being foster parents. The ban must pass more hurdles before it becomes effective.

"These are big pieces of legislation. They will be important to defeat and very difficult to defeat, but we're already working with meetings in every city in Texas," Dianne Hardy-Garcia, the executive director of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, said. She said stopping the bills in that state must be a top priority.

"I want people to understand the seriousness of the adoption and foster care legislation," she said. "It's the first step to removing us from access to children."

Arkansas is already farther along the road toward removing the right of gays and lesbians to be foster parents. The Arkansas board vote was 6-1 in favor of the ban with one new member abstaining.

Some who oppose the ban expressed concern that their opinions were not heard before the vote was taken. The board, however, said public comments had been heard over the past few months and that additional comments on the day of the vote were unnecessary.

there had already been enough time for public comments.

Her original proposal listed seven reasons why gays and lesbians do not make good foster parents. In her first point, she emphasized the importance of "a mom role model and a dad role model." She also noted that sodomy is illegal in Arkansas and cited the fact that there is no evidence of "positive long-term effects of homosexual parenting."

Woodruff said homosexuals have more sexual partners than straight people and are more susceptible to diseases, including HIV/AIDS, gonorrhea, hepatitis, anal carcinoma and "a rare group of intestinal diseases [that] have been grouped together under the title gay bowel syndrome."

The agency must now hold hearings for at least 30 days. After another vote, the board can then send the proposal to the Arkansas Legislative Council. The council can hold another hearing if the public requests it. The process will likely take several weeks.

If the measure passes, it will become an agency regulation but can be overridden by law either before or after it becomes a regulation. Arkansas State Rep. Jim Lendell, who is considered gay

friendly, said in an interview that he would consider introducing a bill to counteract the law if asked, but he said he had "mixed dealings" with the gay community in the past. He said gay supporters had turned away from him on another issue when he had not handled it exactly as they suggested. Even if introduced, a bill would not likely pass, according to Lendell.

Rita Sklar, the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Arkansas, said the organization will sue if the regulation passes. "This group is appointed by the Southern Baptist governor," Sklar said. "It just seems to be created to do this sort of thing."

While comments from those who opposed the ban were not heard at the meeting, Sklar provided to the board in September dozens of documents that support the ACLU's position in opposition to the ban. Those materials included reports by the American Psychological Association and reports from experts whose findings are in opposition to the sources Woodruff cited.

The ban still has two hurdles to clear before becoming a regulation, but Sklar said she "couldn't imagine it getting much opposition" in Arkansas. She has little hope the ACLU can stop passage, but she vowed to work to overturn it.

In the late 1980s, the New Hampshire legislature passed a law banning gays and lesbians from both adopting and serving as foster parents. This session, the New Hampshire State Legislature will consider whether to repeal the law. Florida banned gays and lesbians from adopting in 1977. In Oklahoma, people convicted under the state's sodomy law cannot adopt.

Last year, bills that would have prevented either foster parenting, adopting or both were defeated in Arizona, California, Oklahoma, Tennessee and here in Georgia. Similar measures will likely be introduced this year in Indiana and Michigan. The Utah Division of Child and Family Services has drafted a policy aimed at having the same effect in that state.

After the Arkansas vote, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) denounced the board's actions and pledged to stop that measure and similar ones in other states.

"This ban is not about the welfare of children, it's about attacking and demonizing gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people," said Kerry Lobel, the executive director of NGLTF. "We will face similar battles in a number of states this year, and we will do everything in our power to face down these lies, distortions and myths with the simple truth." ▼

Group Notes

HRL Annual Membership Meeting Announced

Milwaukee — The Human Rights League (HRL) for Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transgendered will hold their annual membership meeting at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd Street, on Monday, Feb. 15, 1999, at 7 p.m.

HRL will celebrate a decade of accomplishments, and among other things, new board members will be elected and past members will be honored. Refreshments will be provided. For more information regarding this event, please call HRL at (414) 769-7002.

Counseling Center Support Groups

Milwaukee — The Counseling Center of Milwaukee, Inc., announces its winter/spring sessions of support groups for gay men and lesbians and its other sessions of Support and Therapy Groups. Some groups are ongoing, while others are eight weeks and some are 10 weeks in length. All groups are held at The Counseling Center of Milwaukee, 2038 N. Bartlett Ave. on Milwaukee's East Side.

The Support Groups include Women's Self Esteem; Men's Self Esteem, Men and Women's Separation and Divorce, a Relationship Group for Older Women called "Why Me?", Male survivors of Sexual Abuse, Women With Physical Disabilities, and Creative Imagery.

The Counseling Center also runs a facilitator training group for those interested in becoming a support group facilitator. In the therapy groups, you will find the Anxiety Group, the Depression Group, and Women Survivors of Sexual Abuse. The Support Groups for Gays and Lesbians include the Free Space for Women Group, the More Space for Women Group, Breaking Up Is Hard To Do, Gay Men's General Issues, Silver Space Discussion Group, and Male Partnered Women.

All groups will be starting in February and March of 1999. There is a \$10 fee per group session, unless otherwise stated. For more information about these groups, call the Support Group Program at (414) 271-2565.

HIT To Host Two for One Casino Run

Milwaukee — The holiday Invitational Tournament (HIT) will be hosting a two for one casino run to the Empress Casino in Hammond, Indiana, all for one great price of \$30 per person. The price includes two trips, with the first trip scheduled for Feb. 20 and the second trip scheduled for May 1, 1999.

The price includes round-trip motor coach transportation, continental breakfasts, games on the bus, beer, cocktails and soda on the bus, three gambling sessions on each trip and a dinner buffet. Also included on the first trip only is \$5 worth of free chips. The bus will leave promptly at 9 a.m. from the College Ave. Park and Ride. The bus will return at 8 p.m. Sign up now as space is limited. For further information, please call Rick at (414) 463-9849, or Doug at (414) 291-0636.

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Where Are Our Gay and Lesbian Leaders?

by Christian Michael Grantham

For many gay and lesbian Americans, this century's struggle to gain civil rights has been an historic challenge. Many voices have articulated this struggle in a mosaic of brilliant people too few know or honor.

The causes of fairness and equality for other minorities have yielded extraordinary leaders in our American history. Martin Luther King, Susan B. Anthony and Cesar Chavez all elevated the idealism of their movements above politics. Their dedication helped institutionalize the cause of freedom as a struggle to be joined equally by all people. Their understanding cut across class and other differences converging in the heart of a mobilized consciousness. The visible presence of this consciousness defined a movement and empowered the essence of equality.

The demands made by these movements that the government reflect the people's value on equality and fairness could not have happened if people fully ceded their political actions and desires to financial contributions to these leader's campaigns.

In fact, the difficulty for our community to recognize national leadership continues to be a challenge for that very reason. Leaders who made an impression on history lead committed people, not committed dollars, in movements that swept through America. The pervasive apathy currently being perpetuated in our community is keeping literally millions of people from defining our movement. In a political culture increasingly dependent on financial contributions to Political Action Committees (PACs), the era of leadership and idealism is about to get a challenge of its own.

I'd be the first to argue that gay and lesbian PACs have accomplished a lot of good for our community. Gay and lesbian PACs helped to secure federal funds for local AIDS/HIV care providers, elected fair-minded congressional leaders and lobbied Congress for civil rights. While we're honest, they have also helped advance individual careers through an exchange of contributions in-kind, provided mechanisms for political payoffs and supportive business gestures to major donors and generally injected our movement into the epicenter of an ill American political system. In a majority of the later

cases, the will of the people came last.

In contrast, the historic leaders of past civil rights movements appealed directly to the people for social change. The spirit and actions of these leaders engaged the will of millions of individuals equally invested in the causes of fairness. Activists' money paid for buses and run down motels and created a visible presence that changed people's lives. Their movements were defined by people who modeled the leadership and ideals they sought for themselves. In these circumstances, a poor southern preacher was a vehicle for freedom shared by so many through simple and direct actions that



transformed the power of the people into a movement toward justice.

In our modern gay and lesbian movement, however, are we allowing for these possibilities? The modern industry of political contributions has done some damage to the values of fairness and idealism. It continues to do so by elevating contributors to a form of leadership representing a respective body of wealth rather than a body of real people. Under current campaign finance laws and laws governing PACs, a person's ideas are becoming less a commodity to our movement as well as other greater-good-advocate communities. This may seem discouraging, but it's also being disarmed on a daily basis by the dedicated work of faceless grassroots activists.

Thousands of activists across the country are currently operating on field budgets that are slowly decreasing in favor of fund-raising for PACs on a local and national level. The interest in providing the power of mobilized voters is being traded for the power of mobilized dollars. Gay and lesbian organizations now whip out their budgets in a locker room comparison rather than flexing their muscles in a field of mobilized activists. What's often left for our community is a field of lonely bat-

des abandoned by most for the sweeping power of big dollar donations, but tirelessly fought by the true leaders of our community.

While many local PACs are sensitive to the fund-raising needs of local communities, some national gay and lesbian organizations are not. National PAC fundraising often worsens the divide between grassroots activists and our movement's Washington lobby. A local community foundation's annual fund-raiser that once took in \$10,000 now takes in \$1000 as people prefer the big ticket event from national visitors and their magnetic "glitz-power." Who wants to see the real work of a Juanita Alvarez honored when they can honor the "pledged future work" of Rosie O'Donnell and schmooze around in money?

The divide between grassroots and national lobbies was created when the value of "people numbers" got mixed up with "dollar numbers." That usually means that the "activist" in the bunch took the back seat to Mr. Big Bucks. There are all kinds of ways that smart people fix these things. Some of the less plausible usually work best. A sacrifice of 1%-2% of development budget toward community reinvestment programs (i.e. the creation of locally managed grant making bodies) is a fair tax for happy soldiers, mobilized votes and a long-term investment return in both people and dollars. But this means the head cheese has to stick around long enough for the credit.

Was it ever this complicated? Did Rosa Parks first think, "I've got it! I'm sitting in the front of the bus this time. That should get me kicked off at the next stop and save my liberation army the cost of bus fare?" Well, not quite, and I realize we can't very well expect to pay other's way on this ride toward freedom. But we can and should expect to "give back where we take" and to become "equal partners in the well-being of our community."

If we're looking for national gay and lesbian leaders to merge with the burden of history, we should look no further than our own efforts to manifest the well-being of our communities. Through idealism, grassroots activists across the country have the power to change our movement inside-out and to refocus our values on ideals of fairness and equality. Our actions and demands that national organizations become mindful of local communities is the first step in empowering our communities and creating the environment from which a mindful national leader can have a magical rendezvous with history. ▼



OUT Right

I Like Tons of People

Opinion by Scott Evertz



After my last column in which I assail the mainstream LGBT community for not really doing much of anything to include transgendered individuals in our movement, a friend of mine reported that his roommate asked him, "Does this guy like anyone?" Well, roommate, the answer is an unequivocal YES. There are many people that I like, but writing about the people that I like is not the kind of writing I assumed the editor of this paper would want me to do. Nevertheless, I am going to give you and other readers just a mere sampling of some of the people that I like. Read it thoroughly, however, because it's probably the last time I'll do so.

Here are just a few of the people that I like. (Please note: They are listed alphabetically and not in order of how much I like them.)

Father Stephen Braddock — A priest in the Order of St. Camillus and founder of the St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry, this tell-it-like-it-is priest is not afraid of controversy, having been the only clergy member to recently testify in favor of Milwaukee County funding needle exchange to protect IV drug users from contracting HIV.

Hundreds of people have been served by his ministry because he is also a savvy businessman who recognizes that the church must exercise sound business principles to succeed. Father Steve, as he is affectionately known by the nearly 1,000 residents of St. Camillus Campus in Wauwatosa, now serves as Chairman of the Board of the St. Camillus Health System, overseeing all of the Order's health care facilities in its North American province.

He is also one of the founders of the St. Camillus Foundation and recently secured significant major gifts to help his brother Camillians at the St. Camillus Mission Hospital in Kenya as they struggle to address the AIDS pandemic in one of the poorest regions of that country. Many think he was crazy to "throw it all away" (he was a successful New York businessman) and dedicate his life to serving God. Many more are glad he did.

Jim McFarland — An attorney with a large Milwaukee-based insurance company and one of the founders of the Log Cabin Republicans in Wisconsin, Jim is one of the real heroes of the gay and lesbian movement in our state.

Elected to the Madison City Council when he was in law school, he was the first openly gay Republican to serve in an elected capacity in the state and he worked tirelessly on the council to pass pro-gay initiatives despite opposition from supposed "progressive" members in that body. Since then, he has dedicated literally thousands of hours to making Wisconsin a better place for its gay and lesbian citizens usually without any recognition for his work.

Margaret McMurray — A Madison lesbian activist, die-hard Democrat and former state president of the National Organization of Women, Margaret is a woman of enor-

mous strength and is probably my favorite Madison liberal.

While I don't get to see nearly enough of this genuinely kind woman, I have always felt that Margaret really does respect my opinions on the variety of issues on which we disagree and truly does value the work of the Log Cabin Republicans.

A member of Tammy Baldwin's "kitchen cabinet," Margaret, like Jim McFarland, doesn't look for credit or recognition. What's important to her is that she does the right thing. Her selflessness has benefited us all.

Doug Nelson — The executive director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) and, depending upon who you talk to, either a saint or the devil himself.

In the highly charged position as director of one of the country's largest AIDS service organization, Doug has truly weathered the storm well while developing an efficient organization dedicated to serving an ever-changing group of clients.

The recent lay-offs at ARCW are testimony to the fact that he and his staff are not afraid to confront the difficult issues they must to ensure the agency's survival into the 21st century. As one who used to think of Doug as more of a devil than a saint, I must confess that I had come to that conclusion because I bought into the untruths and malicious gossip which circulate through the community about this man and the agency he heads. In my experience, none of it is true.

Jacqueline Richter — A transgendered individual who lives in the Fox Valley area in her own home (with her Chesapeake Bay retriever) and works at a very large printing company, Jacqueline is probably one of the most courageous people I know.

As you might imagine, many of Jacqueline's friends and family members wanted nothing to do with her as she made the transition, but this did not deter her from doing what she knew was the right thing to do.

Rather than retreating from the mistreatment that she encounters just about everywhere she goes, Jacqueline demands that she be treated with respect. She is always willing to address community groups and organizations that want to know more about the "T" in LGBT and the impact she has personally had on individuals' understanding of transgender issues is far and wide.

Jacqueline immediately puts any audience she is addressing at ease with a charming smile and is never afraid to entertain the "dumb questions," recognizing this is the only way people will ever learn anything. She is as disarming as she is charming and recently told an audience member at a presentation she was making who asked why she wouldn't live in a more accepting city, "I don't want to live in a big city. I'm a country dyke."

Joe Zopp — A chaplain at St. Camillus Campus and a real liberal, Joe is a man of strong convictions which he is never afraid to share. He and I agree on virtually nothing politically, but I can acknowledge that he is a man of enormous integrity.

You probably won't see Joe at many chic East Side gatherings of the "liberal" gay and lesbian elite, but you can find him living his convictions in his work with the sick and dying at St. Camillus and with the gay Catholic group Dignity as he works to make our Roman Catholic church more welcoming to the LGBT community. Hell, Joe even refuses to eat Campbell's Soup.

There they are. Just a few of the people that I like. I really could go on and on but the editor wouldn't like it if I rambled on and on. If you're not on the list, it certainly doesn't mean that I don't like you. Perhaps I'll include you in a future column if I'm allowed to be nice again.▼

Letters

DP Benefits

Dear Editor—

I was excited to see Dorothy Austin's thorough coverage of the city of Milwaukee employees' meeting on domestic partner (DP) benefits. I wanted to make one correction and provide some background.

The article mentioned that Madison has adopted domestic partner insurance coverage for city employees. This is not quite correct: Madison passed legislation several years ago stating that it would provide DP health insurance when its insurer began providing it. Its insurance coverage is dictated by the Group Insurance Board of the State of Wisconsin's Department of Employee Trust Funds, which manages an insurance pool in which many municipalities participate. That coverage does not include DP health insurance.

Madison could split away from the state pool and form its own group at higher cost, or it could purchase individual policies for insurable DPs, but it doesn't.

Sick and bereavement leave usage are another benefit for which DPs ought to qualify in the same way as a spouse. For example, the City of Madison does allow, for its employees, use of sick leave to care for a domestic partner (just as for a spouse or child), as well as bereavement leave.

The Madison Metropolitan School District provides DP health insurance for school employees, as of last summer. There are other businesses with employees in Wisconsin that provide DP health insurance. With a few exceptions, they are headquartered out of state.

Readers interested in more information on DP health insurance and other domestic partner benefits and policies in Wisconsin are invited to view the following web site: <http://www.execpc.com/~dross/pol/>

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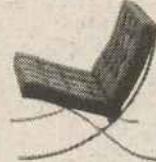
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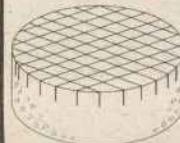
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STEP

Pardon Me MAM, But Your Slips Are Showing

by Ed Grover

The opening of the latest exhibition at the Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM) was one swell affair. For me, however, there were just a few minor annoyances. Nothing earth-shaking, mind you, but these things detracted from an otherwise excellent exhibit that I would recommend to anyone who is interested in seeing these 17th-century Old Masters paintings.

As I entered, I was handed a ticket to fill out for a drawing for a trip for two to Amsterdam; obviously a tie-in with *Sinners & Saints, Darkness & Light: Caravaggio and His Dutch and Flemish Followers*. The museum's garden club had scattered some baskets of tulips and daffodils around; a few dozen of these were lined up like soldiers at attention, right at the bottom of the stairs leading to the lower level. The flowers were a nice breath of spring, but couldn't someone have used a little imagination? A piece of furniture and a mirror (not necessarily their precious antiques), with an arrangement would have looked wonderful.

Instead of arriving at the Journal Sentinel Lubar Galleries through a proper opening, you pass some phone booths and go through a low, characterless entrance. I understand the effect of going through a tunnel into a large, open gallery; it's liberating. But this series of rooms is neither that large nor that open. I hope the museum is remedying this kind of thing in their new building that's scheduled to open sometime in the year 2000. It will feature a set of retractable metal wings (or sails?),

and it should be interesting to see how they stand up to the gale-force winds we get off of Lake Michigan.

Inside the galleries, the walls, were freshly painted in shades of taupe and dull gray-green. Spotlights were focused on the 35 paintings that had been gathered from various museums in the United States. The Art Museum's own painting, "Mars, God of War," by Gerrit van Honhorst, was on exhibit along with several of his other striking works. There was one genuine Caravaggio, borrowed from the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, for everyone to use as a comparison piece. "St. John the Baptist in the Wilderness" shows Caravaggio's realism right down to the saint's dirty toenails.

During his lecture, Dennis P. Weller, exhibit organizer and curator of European art at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, told us that this exhibit examines how Dutch and Flemish artists responded to the powerful works of Caravaggio. His influence came from the fact that he showed a new confidence in reality and the power of life itself. There was also his striking use of dark and light. Speaking of realism, someone's cell phone went off while Weller was speaking; those are nasty things.

Near the exit of the exhibit was what appeared to be a hastily arranged grouping of four beat-up wooden chairs placed in front of a non-functioning video screen. After leaving the exhibit, you end up right back where you started, in a large room outside the galleries. It's a wasted space holding a few pieces of uninteresting modern art and people who seem to be waiting to use the bathrooms.

I wondered what ever happened to those wonderful black leather and stainless steel Barcelona chairs that were once to be found on the main level. I found out

why they were removed some time ago — street people were spending their days sleeping on them. It seems that the powers that be eliminated the seating and set up some hideous folding tables in an attempt to make a half-assed USO for visiting Great Lakes service personnel.

They should have used that wonderful furniture in the museum. The whereabouts of the missing Barcelona chairs is as mysterious to me as what happened to that exquisite bronze clock that used to stand outside of the old Public Museum and Central Library on Wisconsin Avenue? I hope these treasures are in storage somewhere and have not just disappeared!

As I left the exhibit, I noticed people at a table at the far end of the gallery. It held a nice attempt at a Flemish arrangement and, if the hors d'oeuvres weren't all dried up like they were at the Gordon Parks exhibit, they should have been enjoyable. This group was much smaller than the Parks reception, which was quite diverse. The most noticeable thing here was the number of older WASP couples (a few women with furs) and single middle-aged females (a few wearing skimpy black outfits and artsy jewelry), all of whom sipped white wine from plastic cups.

Due to the construction of the new building to the south, the Museum's interior entrance is closed to anyone arriving from Wells St. You must find your way down to the lake level by poorly lighted stairs on the outside of the building. My friend Tom, who came with me, said he thought the lecture had a little too much of that "dry, technical stuff." He liked the off-color remarks that Weller made about the Sinners, not to mention the Saints." Weller, however, (conveniently) forgot to mention Caravaggio's rumored homosexuality.

I'll be going back to see Derek Jarman's 1986 movie, which deals with that subject on a more immediate level. The film will be shown at the museum at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20, and at the same time on Sunday, March 28. Check out *IN Step's* Calendar for more *Saints & Sinners* functions, like the "lighthearted and bawdy" Dutch Tavern Party scheduled for 7 p.m. on Feb. 20. I can almost hear the heavy breathing and visualize the ripped bodices of Milwaukee matrons.

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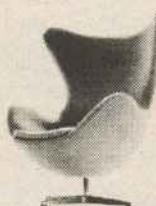
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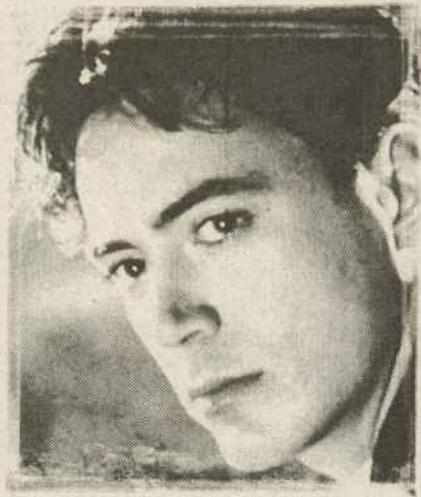
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Livin' the Bi-Life

"I think everybody is bisexual. ... When no girls were around, my [male] best friend in high school and I would make out with each other as a last resort. ... My last foray [into homosexuality] was when one of my best friends came to Italy."



I wanted to get [cocaine], and so we were heading to a gay bar to look for some, and I kissed him out on the street. I was drunk, and it just felt right."

—Actor Robert Downey Jr. to *Detour* magazine, February issue.

Bi-Mania

"It can be pretty sexy [when women come on to me]. I mean, c'mon — everyone is sort of bisexual. It's not a big deal. I've thought about it, when relationships don't work out with guys and you think, 'God, this woman friend is so wonderful. It would be so much easier.' But really, it's going to be the same damn problems."

—Actress Lucy Liu, the ice queen Ling on *Ally McBeal*, to *Details* magazine.

**Life-Changing Experience**

"Every morning she would read the paper and go absolutely nuts. One day I said to her, 'Why don't you read it later in the day?' And she said, 'Could I?' And she did, and it changed her completely."

—Comedian Kate Clinton on her lover Urvashi Vaid to *Curve* magazine.

Nathan's Gay? I'm Shocked!!!

"I've never hidden anything [re: being gay], but that apparently is not enough. I'm really not political, and I worry that if I set myself up as some sort of model that I can't live up to it, or am not well-enough informed to live up to that position, whatever position they apply to you. But then this whole thing with Matthew Shepard happened, and it was like somebody slapped me awake. At this point it's selfish not to do whatever you can. People seem to like me. I get a warmth from them. I make them laugh. If I do this story and say I'm a gay person, it might make it easier for somebody else. So it seems stupid not to."

—Actor Nathan Lane (*The Birdcage*, *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Encore! Encore!*) to *The Advocate*.

Keep Your Dirty Hands Off My Beanie Babies!

"Can they be sure the attackers were straight? Lord knows, I've been tempted to set fire to rainbow teddy bear displays."

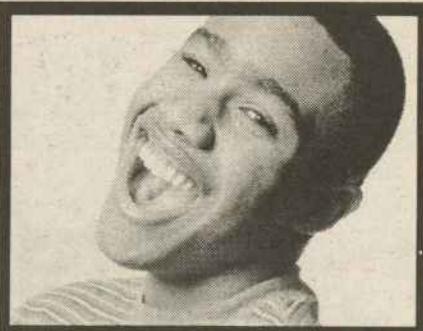
—Sex-advice columnist Dan Savage after beer bottles hurled through the window of Lambda Rising Bookstore in Norfolk, Va., by suspected gay-bashers broke a neon sign, which set fire to a display of rainbow teddy bears.

Lesbian Stereotype?

"There's still all kinds of speculation about my sexuality, and quite frankly, I'm

getting a little tired of it. My ploy to get the media off track didn't work. It seems that in this country, sexuality is never a non-issue. Rather, it is always the issue. ... But it's insulting when someone asks, 'Are you gay?' A woman cannot be strong, outspoken, competent at running her own business, handle herself physically, play a very convincing role in a movie, know what she wants — and go for it — without being gay? Come on."

—Queen Latifah in her new book, *Ladies First: Revelations of a Strong Woman*.



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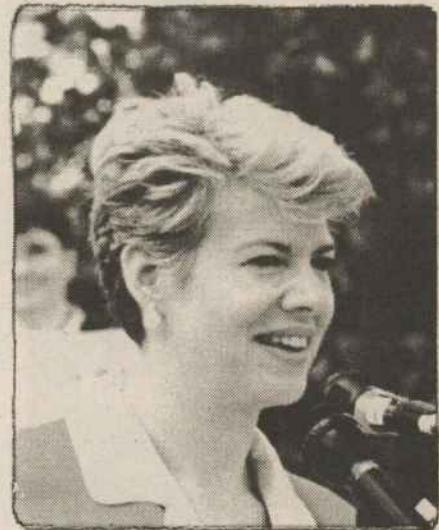
TBT is a privately held California-based company, providing a global consumer market with human pheromone products designed to create a better living in business, personal and especially romantic relationships. The United States and Canada represent approximately 55 percent of annual sales, while the international markets make up the remaining 45 percent of revenue.

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In addition, TBT offers the only gay pheromone eau de toilettes and concentrates in existence which stimulate homosexual attraction; both male and female versions available. For more information, check out their Web site at: www.thebodytemple.com

Hit me?

Letter-to-the-editor fixture **Al Geiersbach** reports that the web site of Wisconsin Christians United, the Wisconsin anti-gay organization headed by



Shock! Horror! Tammy Dyes Her Hair

Democrat Rep. **Tammy Baldwin**, the first openly gay person elected to Congress and Wisconsin's first woman representative in Washington, figured out why she had received an invitation to speak to last week's annual dinner for congressional correspondents.

She was chosen because she represents a group that historically has suffered discrimination, stereotyping and unfair treatment in the workplace, she said.

"Of course, I'm talking about blondes," punned the fair-haired Baldwin, who then ticked off a list of blonde jokes. She quickly distinguished that while being a lesbian is not a choice, being a blonde is: "I choose every other week."

"Pastor" and former beer truck driver **Ralph Ovadal**, shows that it has had just 747 hits since March 1, 1998. The site is: <http://www.wcu.net/>

By comparison, The Annotated Pink Swastika Web site at <http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Village/1360/> which refutes many of the scurrilous lies being propagated by Ovadal, shows over 11,500 hits since March 15, 1998.

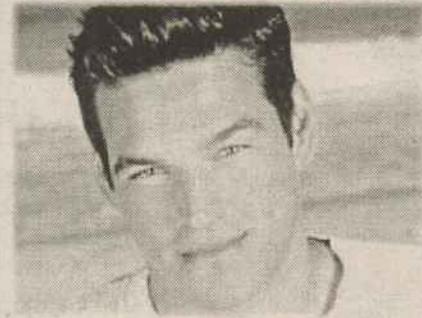
Is there something to that old saw that justice will triumph in the end?

Lesbian Cheerleader?

Dawson Creek star **Michelle Williams** and **Eddie Cibrian** (who played Holly Hunter's masseur in *Living Out Loud*) have joined the cast of Ignite Entertainment's satirical comedy *But I Am A Cheerleader*.

The film, which also stars **Natasha Lyonne**, **Clea DuVall**, **RuPaul**, **Mink Stole** and **Cathy Moriarty**, tells the story of a 17-year-old high school cheerleader (Lyonne) whose straight-laced parents and cliquish friends suspect she is a burgeoning lesbian and conspire to send her to a homosexual rehab camp.

Williams plays the captain of the cheerleading team who spearheads the



Eddie Cibrian

investigation. Cibrian plays Rock, son of camp owner Moriarty, who everyone assumes is straight but actually turns out to be gay.

Based on an original idea by Jamie Babbit, who directs from a script by Brian Wayne Peterson, *Cheerleader* is produced by Andrea Sperling and Ignite's Leanna Creel. Michael Burns and Marc Butan of Ignite are executive producing. Williams is repped by Endeavor and manager Jason Weinberg. Her feature credits include *Halloween: H2O*, *Species* and upcoming *Dick*.

Gay Germs

The February issue of *Atlantic Monthly* features an odd, highly speculative article about **Paul Ewald**, an Amherst College biology professor, who suggests that instead of genes or environment, homosexuality may in fact be (groan!) caused by an infectious pathogen. That's right: a gay germ.

While Ewald concedes that genetics may play some role in homosexuality, he says if it there were a "gay gene" responsible for homosexuality it would have been eliminated from the human race long ago because most homosexuals don't pass along their genes to offspring.

Instead, Ewald suggests a virus or bacterium may be behind homosexuality, heart disease, cancer, and several mental illnesses.

Ewald says, "I don't want to be accused of gay-bashing. But I think the idea is viable. What scientists are supposed to do is evaluate an idea on the soundness of the logic and the testing of the predictions it can generate."

Ewald also admits that no one has ever identified anything even remotely like a "gay germ" that might be the pathogen.

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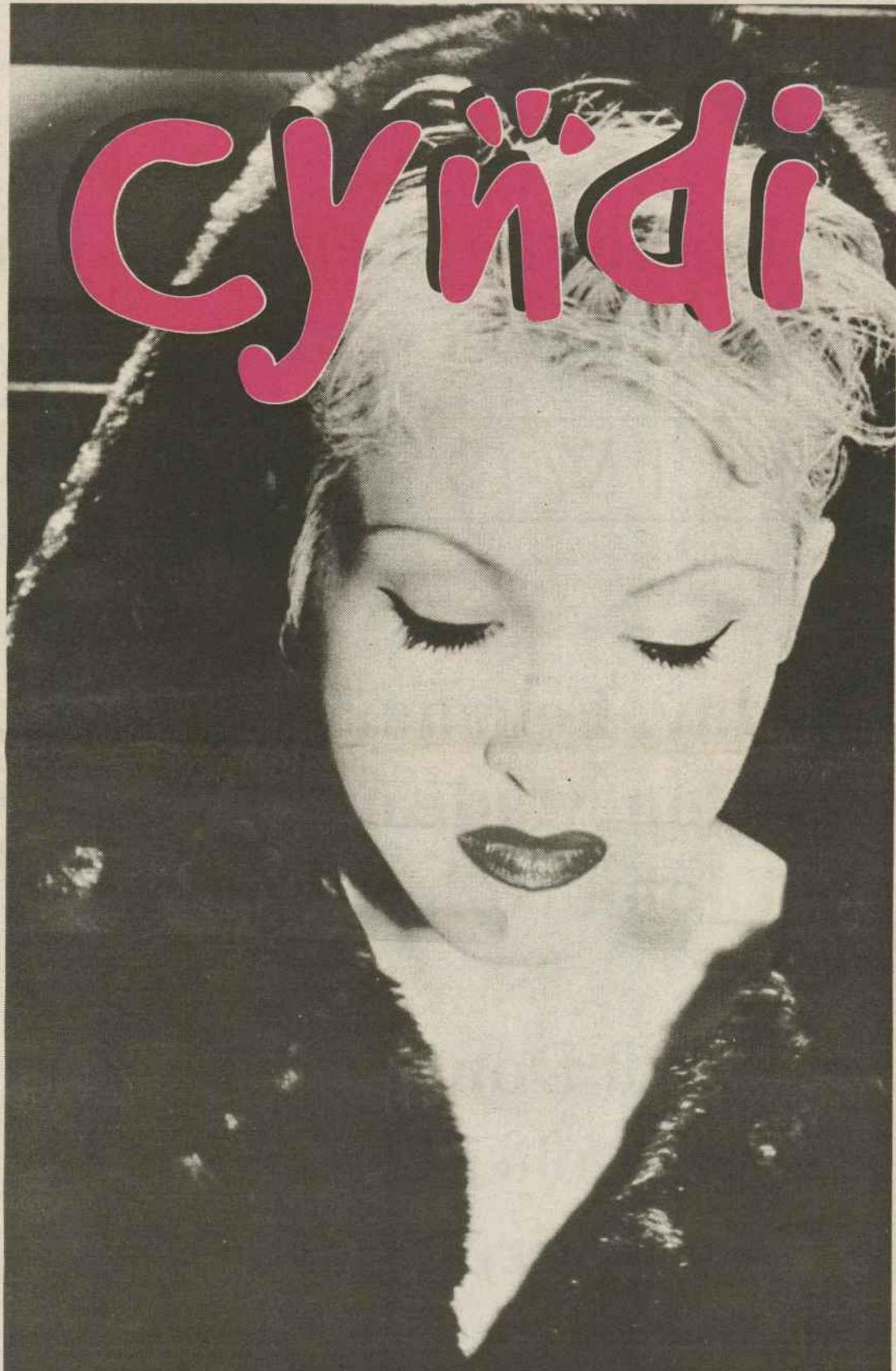
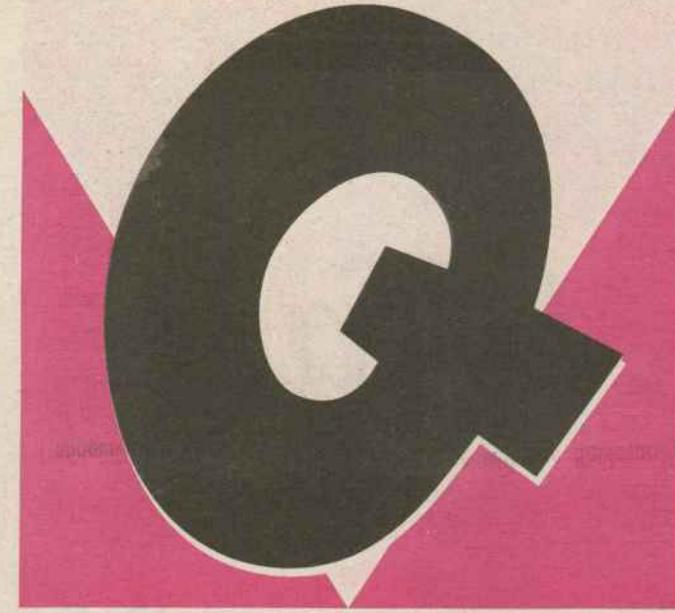
INSIDE Q:

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Interview by Jorge Cabal
 of the IN Step staff

Cynthia Ann Stephanie Thornton was raised in Ozone Park, Queens. Cyndi Lauper burst onto the music scene in 1984 with her album *She's So Unusual*, the first debut record by a solo artist to spin off four Top Five singles, including *Girls Just Want to Have Fun* and *Time after Time*. Now a mother, Lauper has worked hard to shed her image as the red-haired, squeaky-voiced gal in the glad-rag getup. Some people can't seem to get past Lauper's first incarnation that they missed an entire decade of her career, including such albums as 1993's "Hatful of Stars" and last year's excellent "Sisters of Avalon" not to mention her Emmy-winning appearance as a contessa on the sitcom *Mad About You*.

Now Lauper, along with her co-producers Bobby Guy and Ernie Lake, who make up the powerful creative partnership known as Soul Solution, have received a Grammy nomination for "Disco Inferno" from *The Night at the Roxbury* soundtrack. Recently, I spoke with Lauper about babies, women in the record industry and her perfect day.

JC: Last time I saw you perform, you were here in Milwaukee and you wore a blueberry-colored jumpsuit — you were very pregnant.

CL: (Laugh) Yeah. It was actually purple, but yes.

IN Step: Were you performing pretty much throughout your pregnancy?

CL: Pretty much, yeah, since the very beginning. Then I was trying to hide it because you're worried about what the record company's gonna do or not do 'cause you're pregnant.

IN Step: Could you tell me how you feel about being nominated for another Grammy?

CL: I think it's wonderful. I think that ... I've done a lot of other work, but any ... the fact that they like that is great. I think the dance music is a whole world which is a wonderful place because it's a lot less confining than the other, you know. It seems to me that in the dance market, they don't really care who is singing it.

When you go to a club, and there's a lot of room to sing, you can stand on your head and sing if you want to. That's what makes it fun. It's also innovative, it's still an innovative place. So, I think it's really great to be nominated in the dance category. Dance music is to me very viable and will eventually even come up even bigger in this country. Although all over the world it is huge, huge, huge.

IN Step: How did you get involved with this project?

CL: It just came up out of the blue, and it was one of my birthing songs. It turned out to be really fun to do. So, I did it, I did it really quick. I didn't think much about it after I did it. I always thought it had great energy and it was fun. I think it's great. And, it's great for Bobby and Ernie. I think Bobby and Ernie are really talented.

IN Step: How did you enjoy collaborating with them?

CL: Well, I have before and I thought it was a lotta fun. It's easy. I like when things are ... when the atmosphere is easy and very collaborative, I tend to try more and do more and work very hard. I think that's a human nature kind o' thing. If people around you are easy to be with — these guys have fun together — then the music

continues on page 17

Artists in the Square Spring Art Fair

The eighth bi-annual "Artists in the Square" art fair will be held at Bay Shore Mall, 5900 N. Port Washington Rd. (located at I-43 and Silver Spring Road). The fair will run on Saturday, March 13, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, March 14, from 12 noon to 6 p.m.

There will be a variety of art for sale by individual artists, including painting, photography, jewelry, sculpture, textiles, and much more. Artists in the Square is a fund-raising event sponsored by Corrigan Properties, Inc. for the Riverwest Artists Association, a nonprofit organization run by member artists.

Boulevard Ensemble Auditions For Upcoming Comedy

The Boulevard Ensemble announces auditions for its final production of its Mainstage Boulevard Season, Pierre Marivaux's romantic classical comedy *The Double Infidelity*. Director Timothy Troy is seeking four men and three women (early 20s to late 40s) to appear in this 17th century period comedy, which runs Apr. 16 to May 16.

Those auditioning should prepare a one-minute classical monologue, preferable comic. Monologues must be memorized and those auditioning should bring a resume and a current picture. Readings from the script may also

be featured. Auditions will be held on Saturday, Feb. 20, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at the Boulevard Theater, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. Please call (414) 744-5757 to schedule an appointment. Actors performing with the Boulevard receive a stipend.

Farrell Included in 'Who's Who in American Art'

Wisconsin painter Patrick Farrell has been chosen to be included in the 1999-2000, 23rd edition of **Who's Who In American Art* due for arrival in August. Also on the east coast - Aaron Ashley, Inc. of New York City, publishers of fine art prints since 1928, has selected two additional still-

life works by Farrell for publication this spring.

Both works, 12 x 16 inches, incorporate a motif of white and blue British pottery with fruit. Ashley published two oversized prints of Farrell's work. From that release, the print "Laurel and Silver" is currently offered for purchase in the new 1999 *Spiegel Spring & Summer Catalogue* in a full-page layout on page 291. All four of the Ashley/Farrell prints can be seen or ordered at galleries worldwide. They are also available on the Internet on Farrell's new Web site, www.patrickfarrellstudio.com. This new online site was created by Milwaukee's design firm Wells Ink.

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BJ Daniels Gala to Benefit LGBT Community Center

Named Milwaukee's premiere female impersonator in 1995 by the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, BJ Daniels has inspired numerous photographers and filmmakers in the city. More than 25 of these photographs and two films will be included in the exhibition *Dreaming Big: The Legendary BJ Daniels* opening at Gallery H2O, 221 N. Water St. on Feb. 19 and continuing through March 28, 1999.

A gala reception on Friday, Feb. 19 from 7 to 11 p.m. will feature films, performances and refreshments. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. A donation of \$10 at the door is suggested.

BJ Daniels has been working with photographers and filmmakers since the early 1980s to explore the constructs of glamour and fame. When viewed together, these photographs document the evolution of a persona. Prints by Jorge Cabal, Francis Ford, Stanley Ryan Jones, Tom Miller, and J. Shimon and J. Lindemann will be grouped together throughout the gallery space. BJ's own wigs, a favorite gown, childhood snapshots, and related memorabilia will be interspersed throughout.

The show is at once a visual biography and mid-career retrospective mirroring BJ Daniels' professional experiments and accomplishments. The photographers are diverse in their approach to capturing BJ on film. From full-on glamour close-ups to mysterious tableaux, stark black-and-white images to sumptuous color, miniature prints to grand enlargements, the subject provides the cohesion. The films "American House Pets" and "androgyny in Three Easy Steps, starring a very young BJ Daniels, and directed by Jerome Caolfi, will be screened opening night.

Boulevard Alley Season Stages Works By John O'Hara

The Boulevard Ensemble will stage *Irish Alleys: The Works of John O'Hara*, as the third production of its new and experimental Boulevard alley Season. Irish-American author and playwright, John



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O'Hara is best known for "Pal Joey," his series of stories that ultimately became the basis for the popular 1940's musical of the same name.

Local Irish-American actor and director Bill Finn adapts O'Hara's bitterly humorous short story "It's Mental Work" for the Boulevard. This story of an ambitious bartender, a jaded hat check girl, and a bar owner with a bad heart combine to form a tale with a surprising twist. Irish-American actor and director Patrick Holland makes his directing debut with the Boulevard Theater with this project. Additional neglected O'Hara works will also be featured.

Irish Alleys is part of Milwaukee's International Arts Festival. This exciting project runs Feb 28 through Mar. 15 at 7:30 p.m. on Sundays and Mondays only at the Boulevard Theater, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. Ticket prices are \$10 and

reservations are highly recommended. For more information, call (414) 744-5757.

Dufay Collective Makes Debut

Early Music Now is proud to announce the Midwest debut performance of the world-acclaimed ensemble *The Dufay Collective*. This brilliantly inventive quartet will perform "Miracles," at the Humphrey Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 790 N. Van Buren St. on Saturday, Feb. 13 at 4:30 p.m. The concert will be preceded by Early Music Now's popular annual Silent Auction and Chocolate Reception at 3 p.m.

The program for the evening offers Spanish music from two unique collec-

tions compiled at the end of the 13th century, both relating to the various wonders and miracles performed by the Virgin Mary. The "Cantigas de Santa Maria, intended as court and chapel entertainment, came from the court of Alfonso X (1252-1284), of Castile and Leon. The "Llibre Vermell" came from the monastery of Montserrat and includes songs written for pilgrimages to the monastery's shrine of the Black Virgin.

The Dufay Collective, comprised of Paul Bevan, Giles Lewis, Peter Skuce, William Lyons and Susanna Peil, was formed in 1987 to explore the rich and varied repertoire of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. Tickets for the performance are \$22, which includes the auction and chocolate reception. For more information, please call (414) 225-3113.

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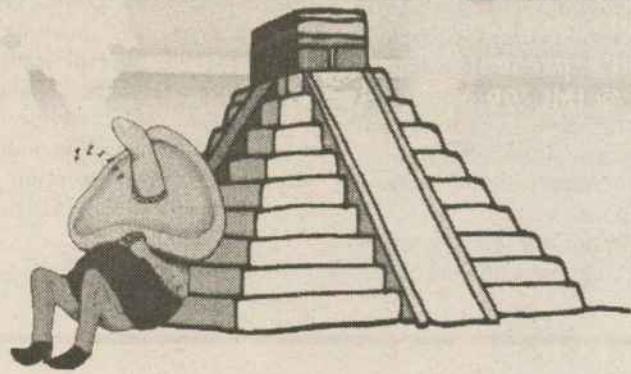
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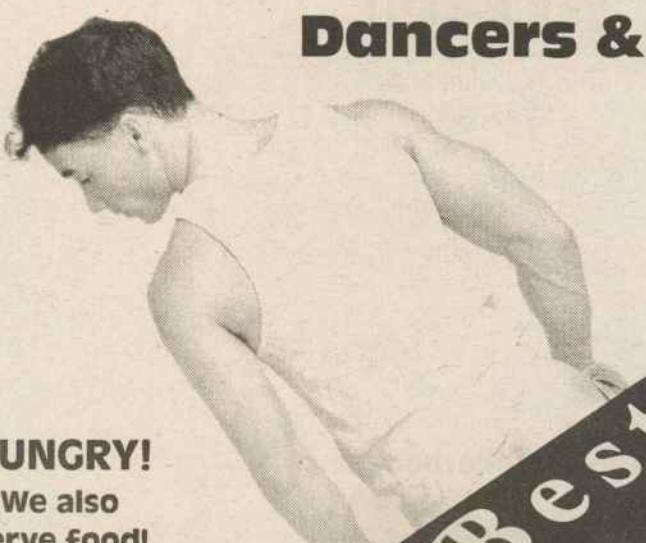
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comes out fun, you know. 'Cause you can always hear what goes on behind the music and in the music. For me, anyway, I can.

IN Step: Are you going to the Grammys?

CL: That's a possibility, yes.

IN Step: What will you wear?

CL: I don't know. I don't know. I'm going on the 16th to shoot an episode of *Mad About You*. I'm also going on the week of the 8th to talk to my partner ... I'm developing a pilot for NBC. By the 16th I will know what the hell is goin' on and what was picked up and what wasn't and all that stuff. At least that's what they say, so I'll keep my fingers crossed.

IN Step: How has motherhood changed your life?

CL: Well, I don't know. It certainly makes you busier. I love the kid more than anybody I've ever loved before. It's interesting to have somebody love you like that. Nobody will ever love ya like a kid. It's a real heart-opener. For me I just go day by day. I read pamphlets, booklets, and books to figure out what to do and how to do it, how to feed 'em and what to eat. My diet is so bad, so I don't want him to have a bad diet.

IN Step: Is he crying in pitch?

CL: I did say that. I wanted to see if he'd cry on pitch. You know, he sings and he loves music. He sings and goes to music class. He really likes music, and right now, actually, he likes the beat of the new Cher songs. He stands in front of the beat box and starts to dance. It's funny.

IN Step: How has the music industry changed over the years?

CL: I saw the corporate world take over and that was a little bit of a heartbreak because ... I'm talkin' about all over the world; they take over creative venues and outlets. In a way that kinda like *threw* me.

Then I went through different changes in myself. I had to learn and deal with no matter what goes on on the outside, the insides gotta be ok. I gotta just keep working and keep writing and keep growing. You should never waste [talent] because each one of us has a very unique voice.

If you don't use your voice, or keep the channel open, that viewpoint will always be lost. Actually it's not even my own thought; it's from a letter that Martha Graham was writing to Cecil B. DeMille. I always go back to that letter when I feel discouraged or I'm really crazy.

Now I'm a better singer than I ever was. I'm a better producer than I ever was and — I hope — a better writer. I still feel like Vinny van Gough tryin' to paint his paintin's. But it's always worth it and you have small victories and that's what's really important. My life is very full and I'm very grateful for that.

IN Step: You mentioned that the music industry has become more corporate. Has it become a better place for women to work?

CL: I don't know, hon' ... I don't think so. But who knows? I really don't know. I'm glad to see other women doing well. But has this become a nicer place? No! They're racist, ageist, sexist, and I think I hit 'em all. Have I hit 'em all?

JC: I think you have.

CL: Narrow-minded and fearful. Other than that it's pretty cool. You have to fit, whether you're round or square, into that mold. Along with that, I guess my problem was that I was a personality and I could sing really well. So they could never figure out what the hell I was supposed to be. I never conform.

A lotta times they have people in the companies who don't know anything about music, so your communication about music is not about music. You ask someone, "Well, I'm havin' trouble with this track, it's not quite fitting right. Could you listen to it; what do you think?" Instead of being articulate, they can't be articulate because they don't understand music.

I found myself, for years and years, tryin' to decipher what they heard from what they said. Maybe there was a clue in there that I could ... what was bothering me, mighta been bothering them, ya know what I mean. Music is very collaborative and it's also ... what'd they used to say before CDs? "It ain't vinyl till it's final." Now vinyl's comin' back and it's really great.

IN Step: How much control do you have in your projects? Do you have ...

CL: Well in my projects, I get involved because I enjoy the process.

IN Step: Do they think you are crazy because when you put something out that they don't expect Cyndi Lauper to come out with? Like 'Sisters of Avalon' for example.

CL: Basically I was told, "Why do I have to dress the way I'm dressing? Why can't I be like everybody else, why do I have to be so different?" When I did "Hat Full of Stars" I was just looking for who I was.

I found myself at adult contemporary stations sitting there with pink hair and wearing clothes that maybe weren't the right clothes to wear for that particular venue. You know, like a duck outta water. That's why dance is such a home to me.

The people who go to the clubs are more like people I know. It's a place where there's still innovative things. I know all my hits went underground like, "You Don't Know," which kept comin' back and comin' back. "Cleo and Joe," which had promise was burnin' up in Miami. But then we never even surfaced to radio, so ... it was like oil and vinegar.

IN Step: Who inspires you?

CL: My kid inspires me. Joni Mitchell was always a big inspiration because she painted, because she wrote; she played her own guitar. At one point she made her clothes. To me, who was going to art high school and a fashion high school and playing guitar and writing, who else would you look up to but somebody who did it all.

IN Step: Out the many new talents that are out there, are there any females in particular that just blow your socks off?

CL: Yeah! I really like the Dixie Chicks. I think Alannis Morisset, but then I always will have a bit of a sore spot because when her CD first came out it kind of validated me a little. She took the loop and the pop thing and some of the formulas were the same things that I worked on and have worked hard on. I felt very validated like, "Okay, I was definitely right! I'm not crazy!"

IN Step: Some new female singers borrow, or they have taken what was already there from, let's say Carly Simon and yourself...

CL: If you listen to Kate Bush you'll hear a lotta people. If you listen to Joni Mitchell you'll hear a lot of people, but I know a lot of these women ... Cheryl Crow always talks about her different influences. I must say I kinda like her stuff, too. I get inspired by everyone. I saw Jewel once doing a hard rock thing and she was playing guitar and singing. She played and sang really, really well. I have a good rhythm hand but I'm not really great with my left hand.

IN Step: What would be a perfect day for you?

CL: Funny you should mention that. A perfect day would be to live in the present and be aware of just right now. Then you wouldn't miss anything. ▼

The Grammys will be held in Los Angeles on Wednesday, February 24. An expanded version of this interview is available on IN Step's Website at www.instepnews.com

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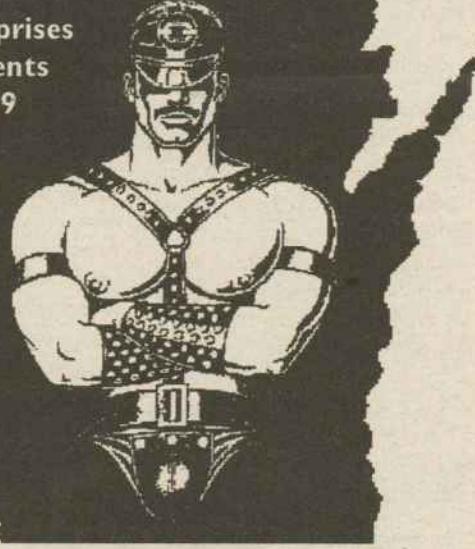
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Eight Videos to Warm Lesbian Hearts This Winter

by Jamakaya

As a confirmed couch potato, I never quite fit in with the rigorous, athletic gals of Wisconsin Outdoor Women. So a few years back, I established Wisconsin Indoor Women, a group dedicated to indulging in the comfort of controlled environments. We have fun with a minimum of effort: Workouts consist of changing channels on the TV/VCR remote — and occasionally fighting over it.

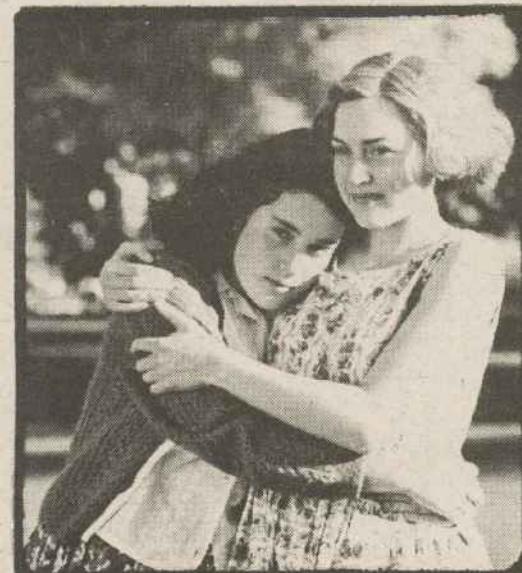
As WIW's founder and a longtime movie buff, I feel eminently qualified to suggest some indoor relief from the chill and slop of February. Stop fighting cabin

fever! Succumb to it! Here are 10 videos lesbians (and discriminating gay men) can enjoy all snug and warm inside.

Forbidden Love — In recent years, a whole lot of really bad movies have been made by and about lesbians. *Forbidden Love* is simply the best lesbian movie ever made. It combines compelling interviews with lesbians who came of age in the 1950s with a dramatization of the lesbian pulp novels popular at that time. The result is a moving document about what life was like in the bad old days of police raids and brutal bashings, leavened by a campy tribute to the books that sensationalized "Love in the Shadows."

In the fictional story, butchy Mitch (Lynn Adams) gradually seduces the naive Laura (Stephanie Morgenstern). Several corny episodes culminate in one of the sexiest, most explicit lesbian love scenes ever filmed. And the entire enterprise was funded by the National Film Board of Canada! Oh, Canada, indeed! *Forbidden Love* is as sexy as it is wise.

Strangers in Good Company — This is another outstanding women's feature from Canada's Film Board. It was a sleeper hit of 1991 and reveals many pleasures for those who are patient with its deliberately slow pacing.



Melanie Lynskey (left) And Kate Winslet (right) in "Heavenly Creatures."

The story centers on a diverse group of (mostly) older women who find themselves stranded in the Canadian countryside after their bus breaks down. From this simple premise, writer Gloria Demers, director Cynthia Scott and a cast of extraordinary actresses create many memorable moments, some funny, some heartbreaking. Character and relationships are the focus of this movie, which is so good, it makes you long for other filmmakers to fulfill the possibilities of the medium.

Little Women — The newest version of Louisa May Alcott's classic tale of girls growing into women is, as critic Leonard Maltin declared in 1994, "exquisite." Outstanding writing, direction, acting and cinematography make this the best version ever. It is deeply moral, sentimental and unapologetically schmaltzy.

And the cast! Omigod! Bathed in warm light, Winona Ryder, Trini Alvarado, Claire Danes, Samantha Mathis and even little Kirsten Dunst, are absolutely radiant. All of them PLUS Susan Sarandon! Hey, this one's a no brainer. Add it to your collection.

Antonia's Line — This film, by lesbian writer/director Marleen Gorris, won the Oscar for Best Foreign Film of 1995. It's a must-see, but unless you speak Dutch be prepared to read subtitles.

Antonia's Line tells the stories of the strong-willed Antonia, her lesbian daughter, and her granddaughter and great-granddaughter who live in a small village in Holland. The time frame is post-World War II to the present. It's a story about life, time, the changing of seasons, the good and bad things that happen to people, the choices we make and, ultimately, how we endure. If that sounds preachy, it is and it isn't. The movie has lots of earthy humor, moments of terror, and one of the rowdiest, most celebratory sex scenes (involving multiple couples) in recent memory. It's very special.

And now for something completely different...

Set It Off — I didn't see it in theatres, so *Set It Off* knocked my socks off when I saw it on video. Whew! Sisters doing it for themselves — toting guns and robbing banks! And led by Queen Latifah in her daring, star-making performance as a big, lovable, dangerous bulldagger. The rest of the gorgeous gang of misfits includes Jada Pinkett, Kimberly Elise and Vivica A. Fox.

The women's initial elation at successfully pulling off a heist quickly fades. As they dig deeper and deeper holes for themselves, an air of doom pervades the film. Latifah goes out in a blaze of gunfire that would make James Cagney queasy. Everything in *Set It Off* is overdone, especially the violence, but the scenes of female solidarity and assertiveness are still awesome.

I Shot Andy Warhol — The fabulous Lili Taylor plays the pistol-packing lesbian misfit Valerie Solanas in this bio pic about

the woman who shot Warhol. Writer/director Mary Harron does an excellent job of depicting Valerie's troubled life and the far-out, drugs/sex/rock 'n roll milieu of Warhol's Factory in the late 1960s. Astute queers should note the different takes on women's roles and appearances expressed by the drag queen Candy Darling and the radical feminist Valerie. That chasm persists. But the movie is all Taylor's, and what a fierce performance she delivers! Lili Taylor is dynamite in everything she does. All I want to know is, when the heck is she going to come out?

Heavenly Creatures —

Haven't had enough of homicidal lesbians? *Heavenly Creatures* is the true story of an intense friendship between two schoolgirls in New Zealand in the 1950s, an obsessive attachment that ultimately leads to the murder of one girl's mother. Director Peter Jackson creates some startling, exhilarating special effects to bring the girls' bizarre fantasies to life. Trust me, it's like nothing you've ever seen in movies before. It will sweep you away.

One of the girls is played by the pudgy, fresh-faced teen Kate Winslet. The promise shown here was borne out by her subsequent roles in *Sense and Sensibility*, *Hamlet*, and *Titanic*. What a pleasure to watch this beautiful young woman grow as an actress.

And for your funny bone...

The Women — My final pick of women's videos is one of the most hilarious movies ever made. Totally politically incorrect by today's standards. Pretty insulting to women, really. Except that it's funnier than hell and one of the campiest movies ever made. It was shot in the great moviemaking year of 1939 by director George Cukor, a gay man.

Rosalind Russell, Norma Shearer, Joan Crawford, Paulette Goddard, Joan Fontaine, Marjorie Main and Mary Boland head a huge all-woman cast in the movie version of Clare Boothe Luce's play. They are all aggressively heterosexual women intent on either keeping their husbands or searching for a new man — preferably one with lots of money. The conniving of the Crawford and Russell characters wreaks havoc on the women's friendships, leading to much cattiness and several outright cat fights. Witty and lightning quick dialogue along with major chewing of the proverbial scenery by the best actresses of their generation make *The Women* an absolute delight.

All these films are available on video. Enjoy! ▼

(clockwise) Trini Alvarado, Susan Sarandon, Claire Danes, Kirsten Dunst and Winona Ryder star in the Louisa May Alcott classic, "Little Women."

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March 14 — DJ Steven Kaye from WMSE

March 21 — DJ Michael Carrera
from LOVE Network L.A.

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Q CALENDAR

IN Step's Calendar Listings are FREE! FAX Listings to 414.278.5868. E-Mail Listings to calendar@insteplnews.com

Feb. 11 through February 24, 1999

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, February 12

SAGE/Milwaukee - Women's Cards & Games - (Milwaukee): SAGE women will meet for an evening of card & board games in the small meeting room of the LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St., at 6:30 p.m. If you have board games that you like, bring them with you. FMI call (414) 271-2656

Sweetheart Ball - Valentine's Dance (Madison): This dance, sponsored by James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation, is Madison's only Valentine's dance open to the LGBT community & their allies. The event will be held at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman Ave. in the Northgate Shopping Center, from 8 p.m. until midnight. FMI & tickets (\$10) call Tammy at (608) 244-7075.

Saturday, February 13

2nd Annual Valentines Dance - A Women's Only Event (Milwaukee): Full Moon Productions presents a Dance at the Harbor Lights Room of the Transit Center, 909 E Michigan Ave. at the corner of Lake Dr. Look for the red & pink balloons. Admission is \$8 at the door. Professional DJ with the hits of yesterday & today. Alcoholic & non-alcoholic drinks will be available.

GAMMA - Social Volleyball (Milwaukee): Every Saturday at UW Engleman Gym, 2033 E. Hartford Ave., from 1 to 3 p.m. \$2 GAMMA members, \$3 non-members. FMI call John (414) 540-1202.

Gay Men's Singles Club - Monthly Party (Madison, WI): This new group is for single men who are seeking LTR. There is a potluck supper at 8 p.m. Bring a dish to pass. FMI call (608) 244-8675 (evenings).

Have A Heart 99 - Dinner & Auction (Kimberly, WI): This benefit starts at 6:30 p.m. and lasts until 10 p.m. at Liberty Hall, in Kimberly. \$40 per person. FMI call Positive Voice at (920) 435-4404

Monona Terrace Convention Center - Kites on Ice (Madison, WI): On Saturday & Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. professional and amateur kite enthusiasts from the USA, England and Canada will showcase their kites and skills through a variety of special event and exhibits. Candy drop for kids. Stunts-kites, a night kite and laser show on Saturday. Warming tent on the ice is provided. Kite building workshops inside the Convention Center with exhibits and lectures on the history and varieties of kiteing. FMI (608) 831-1725 or www.madfest.org

Sunday, February 14

The Pageant - Mr/Miss Gay Wisconsin (Milwaukee): The Pageant will take place at the Milwaukee Hilton's Crystal Ballroom. Cocktails at 5 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the Pageant at 8 p.m. Pageant only tickets are \$25. Pageant & Dinner tickets are \$50. FMI for tickets, call (414) 344-2460.

SAGE/Milwaukee - Hearts & Flowers Potluck - (Milwaukee): This annual event will take place from 1 to 5 p.m. in the large meeting room of the LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd Street. Please bring a dish to pass. SAGE will provide paper plates, flatware, soda & coffee. There will be door prizes. Bring a friend. FMI call (414) 271-2656

Monday, February 15

LGBT Community Center - Human Rights League Annual Membership Meeting (Milwaukee): The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at 170 S. 2nd Street, to celebrate a decade of accomplishments. The meeting will include electing new board members and honoring past board members. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact HRL at (414) 769-7002.

Wednesday, February 17

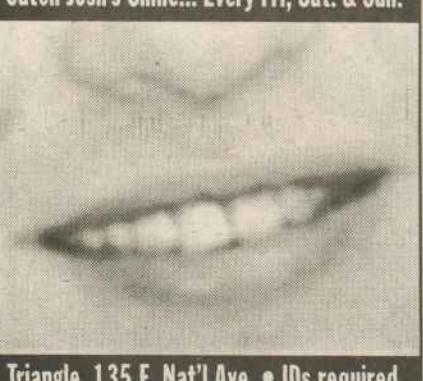
Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys - Two-Step Lessons. (Madison, WI): Lessons are taught from 7 to 9 p.m. The teacher is Gary T. There is an open dance from 9 p.m. to close. It all happens at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman Ave. Smoke Free, with a \$3 suggested donation. FMI call Richard (608) 255-9131.

Friday, February 19

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys - Line-Dance Lessons (Madison, WI): Lessons are taught from 8 to 9 p.m. The teacher is Sharon H. There is an open dance from 9 p.m. to close. It all happens at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman Ave. Smoke Free, with a \$3 suggested donation. FMI call Richard (608) 255-9131.

Ten Percent Society - Midwest LGBT College Conference (Madison, WI): MOVING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK will be held at the Monona Terrace Convention Center through 2/21. Speakers: Virginie Apuzzo, Larry Kramer, Rebecca Walker, Kevin Jennings, Robyn Ochs, Donna Red Wing, Alexis Sainz, Rike Anne Wilkins. There will be performances, 60 workshops, art/design exhibits, book signings, etc. Registration before Feb. 19 is \$35. Registration at the door is \$45. FMI: (608) 262-7365, FAX: (608) 265-4495, E-mail: mblgccc@ps.sdbd.wisc.edu.

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Ten Percent Society - Dance (Madison, WI): A dance for the Midwest LGBT College Conference will be held at 8 p.m. at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center. The dance is open to University of Wisconsin LGBT students, staff, faculty, and their friends. DJ's and a cash bar. Admission is \$3 at the door.

Saturday, February 20

H.I.T. - 2/4/1 Casino Run (Milwaukee/Hammond, IN): Holiday Invitational Tournament will be hosting a 2/4/1 casino run to the Empress Casino in Hammond, Indiana. The price (\$30) includes a second trip May 1, 1999. Price included round-trip on bus, beer, cocktails, sodas and games on the bus, 3 gambling sessions on each trip and a buffet dinner. On this trip there will be \$5 in free chips. Bus leave promptly at 9 a.m. from the College Ave. East Park and Ride, and returns at 8:30 p.m. FMI and reservations, call Rick at (414) 463-9849 or Doug at (414) 291-0636.

Wednesday, February 24

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys - Advanced Line-Dance Lessons (Madison, WI): Lessons are taught from 7 to 9 p.m. The teacher is Ron C. There is an open dance from 9 p.m. to close. It all happens at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman Ave. Smoke Free, with a \$3 suggested donation. FMI call Richard (608) 255-9131.

BAR SPECIALS:

Sundays:

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

Cell Block (Chicago): Beer Busts hosted each week by various groups. Check your monthly planner. \$4.25 pitchers all night. Holding Cell opens at 6 p.m. Dominick DJ.

Chicago Eagle (Chicago): Pizza Night!

Club 5/Planet Q/The Barracks (Madison, WI): Open 1/2 hour before Packer games! \$5 Miller Lite Beer Bash in Club 5 & the Barracks from 3 to 8 p.m. Sunday Drag shows or Karaoke in Club 5/Planet Q at 10 p.m. with DJ & dancing to follow.

Club 219 (Milwaukee): \$1 tappers & \$1.50 rail drinks from 4 to 8 p.m.

Dish (Milwaukee): The new night spot for women! Happy Hour!

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

Fannies (Milwaukee): Open 1 hour prior to game. Regular opening is at 3 p.m. \$1 off all Miller products. \$4 pitchers of beer. Free shot for every Packer Touch down.

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

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

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): Levi/Leather Dance Bar. Bartender's Specials from 8 p.m. to close.

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

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

South Water St. Docks (Milwaukee): Shirtless Sundays. Half-price tap & rail if your shirt is off. 9 p.m. to close.

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

The Ballgame (Milwaukee): Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds \$2.30. Tap beer \$8 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Rail drinks \$1.80 6 p.m. to closing.

The Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): 8 p.m. to close - Bartender's Special! DJ Eddie.

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

Woody's (Milwaukee): \$5 Beer Bust! Bloody Marys & Screw Drivers are \$2 from 4 to 7 p.m.

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

Mondays:

Boot Camp Saloon (Milwaukee): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m.

Club 5/Planet Q/The Barracks (Madison, WI): 2-4-1 Happy Hour on all drinks up to \$3.50 and under. Plus Spin the Happy Hour Wheel to win beer, free drinks, fish fry & more. Customer Appreciation Day. Free taps of Lite from 8 to 9 p.m., plus all rail drinks & domestic bottles are only \$1. 9 p.m. taps of Lite, domestic bottles of beer - 8 rail drinks are \$1.25. Price goes up 25 cents every half hour until 11 p.m. From then to close taps of Lite, rails & domestic bottles are \$2. Shots of Pucker & Hot Sex are \$1 from 8 p.m. to close. Dancing & DJ at 10 p.m.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milwaukee): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m.

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.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison, WI): 2-4-1 Happy Hour on all drinks up to \$3.50 and under. Plus Spin the Happy Hour Wheel to win beer, free drinks, fish fry & more. Customer Appreciation Day. Free taps of Lite from 8 to 9 p.m., plus all rail drinks & domestic bottles are only \$1. 9 p.m. taps of Lite, domestic bottles of beer - 8 rail drinks are \$1.25. Price goes up 25 cents every half hour until 11 p.m. From then to close taps of Lite, rails & domestic bottles are \$2. Shots of Pucker & Hot Sex are \$1 from 8 p.m. to close. Dancing & DJ at 10 p.m.

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

Dish (Milwaukee): Closed

Emerald's (Milwaukee): \$5 Beer Bust - 8 to midnight!

Fannies (Milwaukee): Closed.

Fluid (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m.

Jo'Dees (Racine, WI): \$6 SUPER BUST! MGD and Miller Lite.

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

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

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

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): Open 8 p.m. Levi/Leather. Miller Time! \$1 taps, \$1.25 bottles of Miller brands. DJ Eddie.

Naples Lounge (Green Bay, WI): 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.

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

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison, WI): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 4 to 7 p.m. Pints of Lite are \$2 from 9 p.m. to close. Free Pizza. Every other pool game is free with drink purchase.

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

South Water St. Docks (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 cocktails open to close.

Station 2 (Milwaukee): Mini Pitchers \$2.50. Rail drinks \$1.50.

The Ballgame (Milwaukee): Tap beer Special Export 80¢ a glass... 9 p.m. to closing.

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): 8 p.m. to close - Bartender's Special!

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

Triangle (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 9 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! South Park Wednesdays. \$5 All-U-Can-Drink Superbust (beer, wine & soda).

Woody's (Milwaukee): Dart Night Cocktail Hour - 4 to 9 p.m.

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

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

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

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison, WI): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour runs from 4 to 7 p.m. \$1 Lite taps from 9 p.m. to close Karaoke from 8:30 p.m. to close.

Scooter's (Eau Claire, WI): Progressive Night! 9 p.m. through close. \$1 rail mixers, 50¢ mugs of beer. Price goes up 25¢ every half-hour to closing.

South Water St. Docks (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 cocktails 3 to 7 p.m.

Station 2 (Milwaukee): Closed!

The Ballgame (Milwaukee): \$2.90 top-shelf, \$1.80 rail drinks from 9 p.m. to close.

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): 8 p.m. to close - Bartender's Special!

The Office (Rockford, IL): Bud Products \$1.50.

The Trading Company (Eau Claire, WI): 2 for \$2. Domestic bottles and rail mixes all night.

Triangle (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 9 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks!

Woody's (Milwaukee): Appetizers! Cocktail Hour - 4 to 9 p.m.

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

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

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison, WI): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 4 to 7 p.m. \$1 Lite taps from 9 p.m. to close. Free Pizza. Every other pool game is free with drink purchase.

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

South Water St. Docks (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 cocktails open to close.

Station 2 (Milwaukee): Mini Pitchers \$2.50. Rail drinks \$1.50.

The Ballgame (Milwaukee): Tap beer Special Export 80¢ a glass... 9 p.m. to closing.

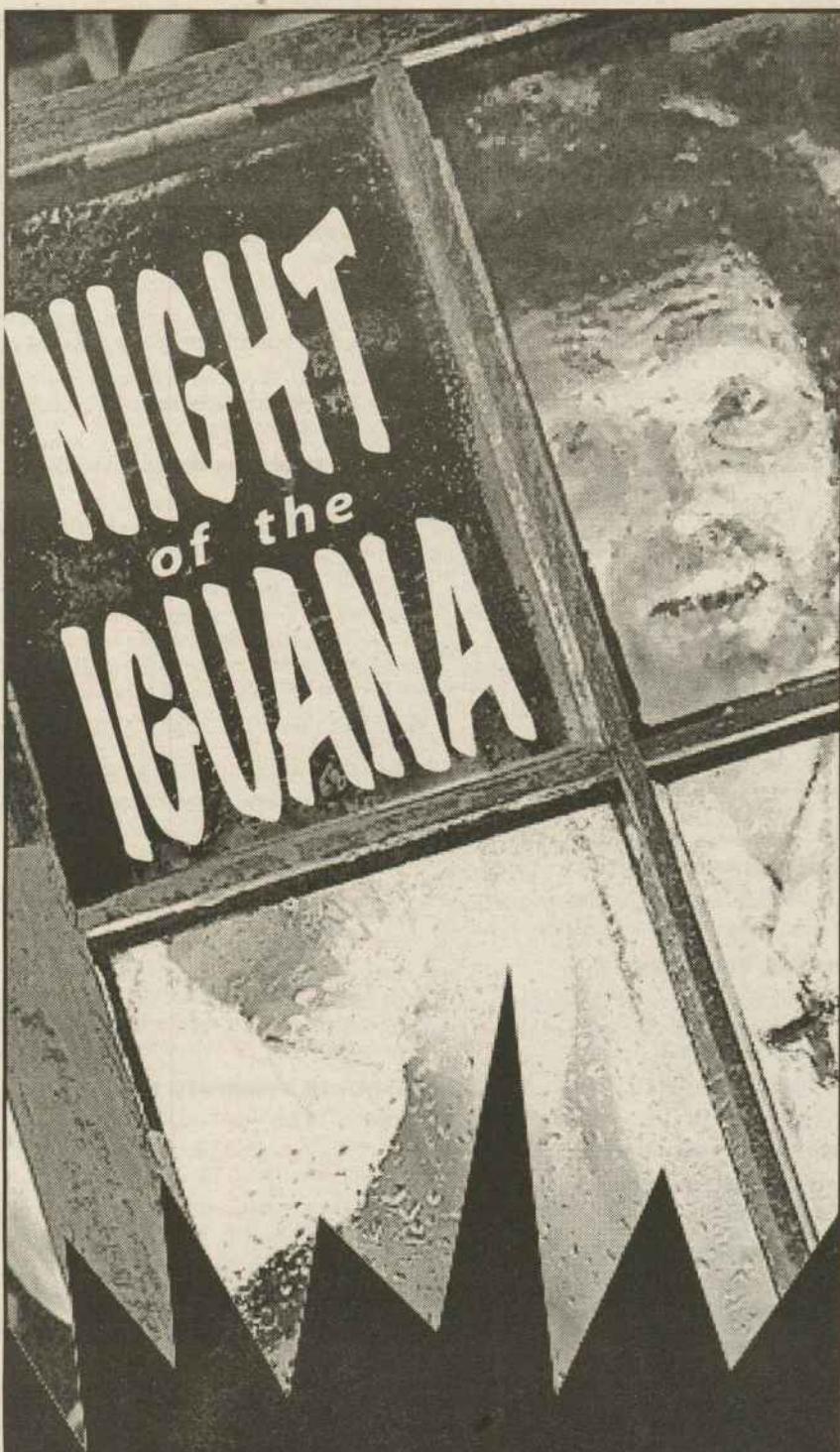
Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): 8 p.m. to close - Bartender's Special!

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

Triangle (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 9 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! South Park Wednesdays. \$5 All-U-Can-Drink Superbust (beer, wine & soda).

Woody's (Milwaukee): Dart Night Cocktail Hour - 4 to 9 p.m.

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



February 20 - March 7, 1999
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The Night Dreams Become Legend.

Za's (Green Bay, WI): \$6 Super Bust. Sean spins requests.

Thursdays:

Barracks - Levi/Leather (Madison, WI): 2-4-1 Happy Hour plus the Happy Hour wheel from 4 to 8 p.m. After 8 p.m. All whiskey drinks (rail, Jim Beam, Jack Daniels etc) are 50¢ off. Pitchers of Lite \$4 for small & \$5 for large. Shots of Doctor \$2.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milwaukee): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison, WI): 2-4-1 Happy Hour on all drinks \$3.50 & under. \$1 off all other drinks from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. All whiskey drinks (rail, Jim Beam, Jack Daniels etc) are 50¢ off. Pitchers of Lite \$4 for small & \$5 for large. Shots of Doctor \$2. DJ & dancing at 10 p.m.

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

Dish (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Groove with Amy! Amy entertains!

Emeralds (Milwaukee): Tea Thursday! Ice Tea \$2.50.

Fannies (Milwaukee): \$1 off almost everything including top shelf.

Fluid (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m.

Jo'Dees International (Racine, WI): \$6 SUPER BUST! MGD and Miller Lite, Cherry LifeSaver's and Viagra Shots - \$2.50

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milwaukee): Slammers! \$1 - 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Kirby's Klub (Madison, WI): Every Thursday Night is 20's Night! Party to the hottest rock all night. \$1 rail, \$1 shots, 50¢ tabs. Listen to our new DJs Todd & Shawn.

M&M Club (Milwaukee): Happy Hour from 5 p.m. to close!

Man's Country (Chicago): Half-Price Night. Rooms \$10, Lockers \$7.

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): Open 8 p.m. Levi/Leather. Tex-Mex Night! \$1.50 bottles of Corona.

Naples Lounge (Green Bay, WI): Pull tabs! drinks as low as 25¢ 3 to 7 p.m.

OH ZONE (Rockford, IL): \$1 bottle beer. 50¢ drafts.

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison, WI): Grill open! 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 4 to 7 p.m. Blue Moon steins are \$2 from 9 p.m. to close.

Scooter's (Eau Claire, WI): Free Pool & Darts. 2-4-1 tap beer 9 p.m. to close.

South Water St. Docks (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 cocktails 3 to 8 p.m. 75¢ tabs from 9 p.m. to close.

Station 2 (Milwaukee): Bottle and Can beers, 50¢ off. \$1 shots of cold Schnapps.

The Ballgame (Milwaukee): \$1.80 rail drinks 9 p.m. to close.

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): 8 p.m. to close - Bartender's Special!

The Office (Rockford, IL): Beer \$1. Well drinks \$1.50.

The Trading Company (Eau Claire, WI): Super Bust! 9 p.m. to close. \$8 rail, \$10 call mixers, \$12 top-shelf mixers.



Trio. Photo by Jamie @ Triangle



Happy Couple. Photo by Jamie @ La Cage

Triangle (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 9 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! \$6 All-U-Can Drink Rail Bust!

Woody's (Milwaukee): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 9 p.m. Specialty Beer Night \$1.50 per bottle from 8 p.m. to close (Sam Adams, Corona, Becks, Rolling Rock & More).

Za's (Green Bay, WI): \$6 Super Bust. DJ Mark spins.

Fridays:

Barracks - Levi/Leather (Madison, WI): 2-4-1 Happy Hour on all drinks \$3.50 and under. \$1 off all other drinks. From 4 to 8 p.m. plus the Happy Hour wheel.

Boot Camp Saloon (Milwaukee): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m.

Cell Block (Chicago): Fetish Night! Check your Monthly Planner. \$100 drawings. Holding Cell opens at 10 p.m.

Chicago Eagle (Chicago): Club Night. Chicago's Leather and S&M Clubs welcome. Pit open.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison, WI): 2-4-1 Happy Hour on all drinks \$3.50 and under. All other drinks are \$1 off from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. DJ & dancing at 10 p.m.

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

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

Fannies (Milwaukee): Envelope Night! WIN \$\$\$Cash & prizes. DJ at 10 p.m. with the best of the 70s, 80s & 90s.

Fluid (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 8 p.m.

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

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

The Closet (Beloit, WI): Happy Hour Drink Specials 4 through 7 p.m. DJ spinning the hits starting at 8 p.m. \$1.50 bottles and \$1 shots (Liquor and Schnapps).

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

Man's Country (Chicago): Male Strippers and Porn Stars. Show at Midnight.

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): Open 8 p.m. Levi/Leather. 2-4-1 mixed drinks from 8 to 10 p.m. The Shaft Bar opens at 10 p.m. Dress Code enforced.

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

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison, WI): 2-4-1 Happy Hour! Fish Fry \$6.95. DJ (p.m. to close. Men's Room Bar on 2nd floor open at 9 p.m. Movies - Pool - Darts!

Scooter's (Eau Claire, WI): \$1 domestic bottles 9 p.m. to close.

South Water Street Docks (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 cocktails 3 to 7 p.m.

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

Ballgame (Milwaukee): Cocktail hour from 2 to 9 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres.

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): 8 p.m. to close - Bartender's Special!

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

Triangle (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 9 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks!

Woody's (Milwaukee): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 9 p.m.

Saturdays:

Barracks - Levi/Leather (Madison, WI): Levi/Leather/Uniform Night! 50¢ off every drink for proper L/L/Uniform attire. 2-4-1 Happy Hour on all drinks \$3.50 and under. \$1 off all drinks over \$3.50, plus spin the Happy Hour Wheel from 4 to 8 p.m.

Cell Block (Chicago, IL): Open at 2 p.m. Saturday Night Riot 'till 3 a.m. Holding Cell opens at 10 p.m. Freddie Bone DJ.

Chicago Eagle (Chicago): Drawings for Eagle Leather all night. Pit open.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison, WI): 2-4-1 Happy Hour on all drinks \$3.50 and under. \$1 off all other drinks from 4 to 8 p.m.

Club 219 (Milwaukee): \$1 tappers & \$1.50 rail drinks 4 to 8 p.m.

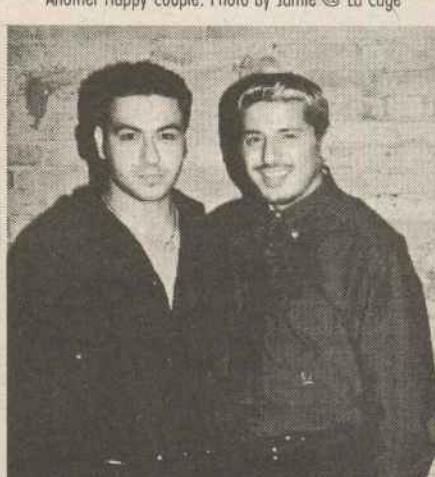
Dish (Milwaukee): The new night spot for women! Join DJ Amber for



Another Happy Couple. Photo by Jamie @ La Cage



Shoulder Rest. Photo by Jamie @ La Cage



Love is in the air. Photo by Jamie @ La Cage

dancin' & romancin'.

Fannies (Milwaukee): Hot Music to dance to. Two new DJs playing top 40, booty, house, funk, oldies etc.

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

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

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

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): Open 8 p.m. Levi/Leather. Bartender's Special from 8 p.m. to close. The Shaft Bar opens at 10 p.m. Dress Code enforced.

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

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison, WI): \$2 Lite pints from 4 to 8 p.m. Men's Room Bar on 2nd floor 9 p.m. to close. Movies - Pool - Darts!

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

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

The Ball Game (Milwaukee): Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds \$2.30. Tap beer 80¢ from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): 8 p.m. to close - Bartender's Special!

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

Woody's (Milwaukee): Bash with Chris from 4 to 9 p.m.

BAR EVENTS:

Friday, February 12

In Between - HIV Testing (Milwaukee): The BESTD Traveling HIV Clinic will be there from 9 p.m. until 12 Midnight. FMI call (414) 272-2144.

Saturday, February 13

Club 5 - Valentine's Day Show (Madison, WI): Free Champagne to with each dinner order tonight and Sunday. There will be a Valentine's Show on 2/14 hosted by Desiree Matthews. FMI call (608) 277-9700.

The Office - HEART-ON Party! (Rockford, IL): Come and get a Heart-On with your Sweetie and us.

Sunday, February 14

The Office - Valentine's Day (Rockford, IL): Bloody Mary & Champagne Specials!

Tuesday, February 16

Club 5 - Mardi Gras (Madison, WI): \$50 cash for best costume! \$50 bar tab for person with the most beads! FMI call (608) 277-9700.

Friday, February 19

The Annex Café - HIV Testing (Milwaukee): The Café is located at 1106 S. First St. The BESTD Traveling HIV Clinic will be there from 9 p.m. until 12 Midnight. FMI call (414) 272-2144.

Saturday, February 20

The Office - Mardi Gras Party! (Rockford, IL): No cover for those wearing costumes or masks!

Sunday, February 21

1100 Club - Castaways M.C. Beer Bust (Milwaukee): There will be an afternoon beer & soda bust from 2 to 6 p.m. at the 1100 Club, 1100 S. 1st Street. The cost is \$5.00. Food will be available for purchase. Everyone is welcome to come and meet the Castaways.

C'est La Vie - HIV Testing (Milwaukee): The Café is located at 1106 S. First St. The BESTD Traveling HIV Clinic will be there from 7 p.m. until 10 Midnight. FMI call (414) 272-2144.

BOOK READINGS, CLASSES & CLUBS:

Tuesday, February 16

The Third Tuesday GLBTQ Book Discussion Group (Madison, WI): Meet at Borders Bookstore East at 7 p.m. A fiction novel and a non-fiction book that ties in with the fiction novel will be discussed. FMI call (608) 240-0080

Thursday, February 18

Harry W. Schwartz Bookshop - Author Appearance (Sharewood, WI): Green Bay native Jim Knipfel shares his dark memoir of life with a rare disease. He will discuss SLACKAW at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to all. FMI call (414) 963-3111.

Friday, February 19

Harry W. Schwartz Bookshop - Author Appearance (Sharewood, WI): British gardening writer Anna Pavord visits to celebrate her book THE TULIP. There will be a talk & slide presentation at 1 p.m. The event is free and open to all. FMI call (414) 963-3111.

Wednesday, February 24

Harry W. Schwartz Bookshop - Author Appearance (Sharewood, WI): Frederick Reuss will read from his debut novel HORACE AFOOT at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to all. FMI call (414) 963-3111.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Thursday, February 11

Diversity G/L Resource Center (Rockford, IL): Located at 610 E State St. Open from 4 to 9 p.m. Teen Drop-in Hours. FMI call (815) 964-2639.

Gay AA - Open Meetings (Appleton & Green Bay, WI): There are five open meetings for the gay and lesbian community each week in Appleton and Green Bay. FMI & Locations call (920) 336-2868 or (920) 954-9169.

Gay AA/Gay Al-anon - 12-Step Meetings (Kenosha): These recovery groups meet every Thursday at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 5810 8th Ave., at 7:30 p.m. FMI call Bill or Art at (414) 694-0115

Gay/ Lesbian AA Closed Meeting (Madison, WI): Meets weekly at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 1609 University Ave. FMI call (608) 222-8989. South Madison Health & Family Ctr. (Madison, WI): Free, anonymous walk-in HIV testing from 5 to 7:45 p.m. Located at 2202 South Park St. FMI call (608) 261-9270.

South Madison Health & Family Ctr. (Madison, WI): Free, anonymous walk-in HIV testing from 5 to 7:45 p.m. Located at 2202 South Park St. FMI call (608) 261-9270.

Third Thursdays - HIV Self-Help Group (Baraboo, WI): This group sponsored by persons living with HIV, Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital & the AIDS Network meets every 3rd Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. in Baraboo. Refreshments are served & transportation assistance is available. FMI & location call (608) 643-

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

LGB Campus Center - Boy-Oh-Boy Men's Social Group (Madison, WI): This social group for ages 18 to 25 meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at 406 W. Gilman St. FMI call (608) 265-3344.

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

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

Womansong - Rehearsal (Madison) This singing group meets at Beth Israel Ctr. at 7 p.m. FMI call (608) 222-2987.

Wednesday, February 17

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

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

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

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

Quer Chicks - Social Group (Madison, WI): This group meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at 219 N. Hamilton St. FMI call (608) 265-3344.

Friday, February 19

Frontiers Gay/Bi Men's Club - Dinning Out (Madison, WI): Meet at PORTA BELLA on Francis St. across from the parking ramp at 7:30 p.m.

Latino Arts Presents - Friday Night Peñas (Milwaukee): These gatherings take place in the Café El Sol at the United Community Center, 1028 S. 9th St. from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and include presentations of dance, music and an accompanying fish fry for \$7.95. Tonight: IBERIAN MUSIC & DANCE. FMI call (414) 384-3100.

Saturday, February 20

Integrity/Dignity - Board Meeting (Madison, WI): All are welcome to attend the meeting, held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Bill & Jim's. Go out to eat afterward. FMI call (608) 836-8886.

Sunday, February 21

PFLAG/Dane - Meeting (Madison, WI): The meeting is at 2 p.m. at the Friends Society (Quakers), 1704 Roberts Court, behind the Associated Bank on Monroe Street. Topic: Medical issues related to the LGBTQ community, AIDS, and Educating ourselves and our families.

FILM, TV, VIDEO & RADIO:

Thursday, February 11

Milwaukee Public Museum - IMAX Theater (Milwaukee): THE ROLLING STONES Steel Wheels/Urban Jungle Tour, in 89 minutes of IMAX photography shows Thursday, Friday & Saturday evenings at 8:30 p.m. Also showing: AFRICA'S ELEPHANT KINGDOM runs through 6/30/99. FMI show, times & availability, call (414) 319-IMAX (4629).

Sunday, February 14

Cable Channel 4, Public Access TV, WYOU - Worship (Madison, WI): Cathedral of Hope, (Dallas, TX) part of the Federated MCC, will regularly air a 30 minute worship service at 8 p.m.

WORT Radio 89.9 FM - Lesbian Radio (Madison, WI): A weekly show titled HER TURN: Women's news and information by and about women, airs from 11 to 11:30 a.m. Followed by HER INFINITE VARIETY: Women in Music from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. All genres and styles. Interviews, live guests and announcements for the Womyn's community. FMI call (608) 256-2001.

Monday, February 15

MIAD - Free Film (Milwaukee): As part of The Future in Film series, TWILIGHT ZONE & OUTER LIMITS will be screened at 7 p.m. in the Todd Wehr Auditorium. FMI call (414) 276-7889.

Tuesday, February 16

Cable Channel 4, Public Access TV, WYOU - LGBT Programming (Madison, WI): NOTHING TO HIDE, presents THERE IS NO NAME FOR THIS, young Chinese adults coming out & BOTH MY MOM'S NAMES ARE JUDY, at 4 p.m. There are re-runs on 2/17 at 10 a.m. & from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

WORT, 89.9 FM - G/L Radio (Madison): This is a weekly lineup: QUERY, from 7 to 7:30 p.m. and THIS WAY OUT from 7:30 to 8 p.m.

Friday, February 19

SAGE/Milwaukee - Film (Milwaukee): AS GOOD AS IT GETS with Academy Award-winners Helen Hunt & Jack Nicholson, will be screened in the small meeting room of the LGBT Community Center at 7 p.m. The film has a small gay role. FMI call (414) 271-2659.

Saturday, February 20

Milwaukee Art Museum - Art Film (Milwaukee): Caravaggio, Derek Jarman's 1986 movie about the eccentric bad-boy (possible homo) artist shows at 2 p.m. Museum admission (\$5) covers everything. Members are free. Also showing on 3/28 at 2 p.m. FMI call (414) 224-3200.

Monday, February 22

Frontier's Gay/Bi Men's Club - Film Circle (Madison, WI): The film IN & OUT will be screened at 7:30 p.m. FMI call (608) 274-5876.

MIAD - Free Film (Milwaukee): As part of The Future in Film series, A CLOCKWORK ORANGE will be screened at 7 p.m. in the Todd Wehr Auditorium. FMI call (414) 276-7889.

Tuesday, February 23

Cable Channel 4, Public Access TV, WYOU - LGBT Programming (Madison, WI): NOTHING TO HIDE, presents TAMMY BALDWIN: From October 19, 1998, to January 6, 1999 at 4 p.m. There are re-runs on 2/24 at 10 a.m. & from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. with the addition of GAY LIVES & CULTURE WARS & THE GALVANIZE RALLY IN MADISON, SUMMER OF 1998.

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Thursday, February 11

Milwaukee Art Museum - Slide Lecture (Milwaukee): Well-known historian Betty Ring will present a slide lecture on AMERICAN NEEDLEWORK TREASURES at 6:15 p.m. A 5:30 p.m. reception will be held before the lecture. General admission \$5, Students & Seniors \$3. FMI call (414) 224-3200.

Friday, February 12

John Michael Kohler Arts Center - Performing Arts (Sheboygan, WI): DOUG VARONE & DANCERS, an award-winning contemporary dance troupe from New York will perform at 7:30 p.m. FMI and tickets call (920) 459-6144.

Sunday, February 14

John Michael Kohler Arts Center - Oil Paintings (Sheboygan, WI): PHILEMONA WILLIAMSON draws on memories of adolescence in a series of large-scale paintings to be exhibited through 5/23/99. Admission is free. FMI call (920) 458-6144.

Tuesday, February 16

Milwaukee Art Museum - Music in the Museum (Milwaukee): OLD BLUE EYES AND JUDY will be featured in the piano concerts of Jeffrey Hollander at 5:30 p.m. Each concert is followed by a Museum tour. \$15 general, \$12 members & seniors 65 and older. FMI call (414) 224-3200.

Friday, February 19

Gallery H2O - Opening Night Benefit/Reception (Milwaukee): DREAMING BIG, a show of photographs of the legendary BJ Daniels by Jorge Cobal, Francis Ford, Stanley Ryan Jones, Tom Miller, and J. Shimon & J. Lindemann. Films by Jerome Carolli. There is a \$10 suggested donation, and the evening benefits the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. FMI call (414) 271-8032.

John Michael Kohler Arts Center - Festival Fridays (Sheboygan, WI): Enjoy Mardi Gras JMKAC-style with Big Nick and the Cydecos. There will be food & beer. FMI & admission call (920) 458-6144.

Saturday, February 20

Milwaukee Art Museum - Dutch Tavern Party (Milwaukee): As a tie-in to the Sinners & Saints exhibit, MAM is throwing a lighthearted and bawdy 17th century Dutch Tavern Party. There will also be traditional Dutch music and dancing. Paul Cebar will supply the modern music for dancing. Hors D'oeuvres and beverages will be available. \$15 non-members, \$10 members. FMI call (414) 224-3200.

Sunday, February 21

John Michael Kohler Arts Center - Performing Arts (Sheboygan, WI): An afternoon of German choral music, featuring GESANVEREIN at 2 p.m. FMI & admission call (920) 458-6144.

THEATER ARTS:

Thursday, February 11 Broadway Theater Center - Master Class (Milwaukee): A Master Class with Marni Nixon will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 11 in the Dorothea Mayer Salon at the Broadway Theater Center. Eight singers will participate. A reception for Ms. Nixon will follow. Tickets for Nixon's Master Class will be \$10 at the door, but free for voice students. For additional information, call (414) 291-7811.

Floating Repertory Company - Premiere Production (Milwaukee): This new theater company will give its first production, THE REVENGER'S TRAGEDY, at Summerfield Methodist Church at 7:30 p.m. The production runs through 2/14. FMI, times & tickets (\$10) call (414) 962-3053.

Shiemke Theater - Playwrights' Studio (Milwaukee): The 7th FESTIVAL OF TEN-MINUTE PLAYS will run March 11 through 21 at the Shiemke Theater of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells St. Tonight's show is at 8 p.m. and is pay-what-you-can night. FMI call (414) 224-9490.

Friday, February 12

Alverno College - East Indian Music & Dance (Milwaukee): A one-night performance of RAGAMALA MUSIC AND DANCE THEATER will take place at 8 p.m. at the Pitman Theater, 39th & Morgan Ave. FMI call the Alverno Presents Box Office at (414) 382-6044.

The Boulevard Ensemble - Opening Night (Milwaukee): SHIRLEY VALENTINE, a play by Willy Russell, about a downtrodden housewife who sets sail for a far-off forgotten land; herself! Opens at 8 p.m. FMI call (414) 744-5757.

Latino Arts, UCC - Carnaval (Milwaukee): A celebration of Carnaval, featuring ROOTS OF BRAZIL, a New York-based dance group, will be held at the Latino Arts Auditorium of the United Community Center, 1028 S. 9th St. at 7 p.m. FMI & tickets (\$10 general, \$5 seniors and children under age 16), call (414) 384-3100.

Saturday, February 13

Pabst Theater - Family Concert (Milwaukee): As a part of Milwaukee's International Arts Festival featuring the Arts of Ireland. Jeffrey Siegel will perform a 45-minute concert featuring Irish piano pieces and a selection of short pieces. FMI call (414) 286-3663.

Early Music Now - The Dufay Collective (Milwaukee): This medieval ensemble will perform at the Humphrey Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 790 N. Van Buren at 4:30 p.m. The concert is preceded by EMN's Chocolate Reception and auction. FMI call (414) 286-8777.

Sunday, February 14

Wisconsin Conservatory of Music - Faculty Artists (Milwaukee): A salute to the Irish featuring folk music with Johnnes Anthoiny Finlayson, Brett Lipshutz, Sheila Lark & Mario Torres at 3 p.m. in the Recital hall. \$10 general, \$7 seniors & students. FMI call (414) 276-5760.

Thursday, February 18

Theater X - World Premiere Play (Milwaukee): With a live combo and singers on stage, John Schneider brings us his newest work, A HISTORY OF JAZZ IN MILWAUKEE. FMI, times & tickets, call (414) 278-0555.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra - Classics (Milwaukee): ANDREAS HAEFLIGER at the piano at Uihlein Hall playing Hayden & Brahms at 7:30 p.m. Also on 2/19 at 11:15 a.m. & 2/20 at 8 p.m. FMI call (414) 291-7605.

Friday, February 19

Milwaukee Chamber Theater - Special Benefit Performance (Milwaukee): A special performance of Tennessee Williams' THE NIGHT OF THE IGUANA will be performed at 8 p.m. on the stage of the Cabot Theater of the Broadway Theater Center. The benefit is for STD Specialties Clinic, 3215 N. Holton Ave. There will be a silent auction and a dessert buffet after the performance. FMI call (414) 264-8800 or (414) 291-7811.

Saturday, February 20

Th. 14 Butter Pecan

Fri. 15 Cookies 'n Cream

Sat. 16 Cookie Dough

Sun. 17 Strawberry Cheesecake

Mon. 18 Turtle Swirl

Tues. 19 Candy Explosion

Wed. 20 Banana Nut

Th. 21 Blue Moon Spinkle

Fri. 22 Apple Cinnamon

Sat. 23 Rocky Road

Sun. 24 Toffee Cashew

Mon. 25 Burgundy Cherry

Tues. 26 Chocolate Raspberry Torte

Wed. 27 Mint Chocolate Chip

Thur. 28 Creamy Butterfinger

Fri. 29 Cherry Cheesecake

Sat. 30 French Silk

Sun. 31 Praline 'n Cream



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February 1999

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Sun. 17 Strawberry Cheesecake

Mon. 18 Turtle Swirl

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Q ROBERT'S RULES

The Sad Disappearance Of Me

by Shelly Roberts

Did I tell you my father died of Alzheimer's? Well, not exactly died of it, of course. He died long before his body gave out. Leaving me with a terminal fear, he ghosted with it years before, for a long time afterward, showing me by horrible example, precisely which biology is destiny, when your body can outwit your mind.

Mother was way too ornery to depart from something so humble as Dad, and, naturally, had to have her own variety, which they named "Dementia," with a Latin beat, though it looked just as absent-minded. And though they claimed her particular check came due with a side of anger, I found a certain mellow buried serendipitously in her forget. As though she lost the edges of the understanding of what it always was that made her so mad. Or should I say, "angry" because "mad" was what she, technically, later became, when she couldn't remember any more to hate so hard.

This morning I woke from dreaming that I had, after all these years, magically mastered American Sign Language. As though I was beginning to invent it. For myself. It's been my good intention for years, to conquer the lyrical sway and flow of body as substitute for sound, such beautiful expression. But...

It runs in families. Did I tell you that already? The big A. Genetics is destiny!

Now that's a cry I've already vanquished, coming to such public terms with my decisions to saddle and ride my orientation like a tethered pony. High in the saddle, singing "Yippee tie-yie-yay, I'm a nat-u-ral-homo!" Something I've never found enough space to be appropriately ashamed of. So I've worked to change what is, hereafter, deemed appropriate. And I got to watch it happen. Collecting the memories in my own lifetime, as cheap souvenirs, for the social security years when I can't afford movies.

It runs in families. Did I tell you that before? But Mother didn't have it. She left us by some demented Latin name, acting as though she hadn't boiled all those Thursday potatoes into submission in the Mirro Aluminum that could have been serving us up minds as mashed with the butter and the salt and the gravy. And everyone did. Every Thursday night because it was easy. And every Sunday evening, because it was Chicken. I remember.

Not that I — gosh, I hope I'm not boring you with a story I've told before. I haven't, have I?

It's just that in the middle of the work of dreaming, I saw myself explaining sunrise, opening wide hands, spread like elevator doors over my face. Arcing to the ends of my arms, then together, a double water scoop, lifting heavenward.

Oh, I remembered the word for sunrise. "Sunrise." Then I waltzed odd corridors that dreaming takes you down. And woke with residue of the terrible terror that destiny is carrying a soft, sad surprise I fortunately won't remember at the time.

Oh, I know, I'm way too young. Thanks. And the folks left thirty years

beyond the hash marks I've managed to scratch on the door edge of my life.

But feeling the color of the daybreak from my dream, and seeing the inadvertent ballet I am beginning subconsciously to accomplish, I'm struck by the irony, and thought I'd share, if I haven't already.

There is a place in seniority, where memory moves. Some compare it analgesically to a cranial filing chest in an antiquated office, not quite yet full, but accessed less, consigned to a storeroom. How you thumb the catch and pull the drawer is altered, having to walk to the back of your brain to find the file. It's worse, at first, continually walking somewhere, wondering why you went. Different, although natural, as though that somehow made it better, or were an excuse. But at least you're not alone in the enterprise. It's a phenomenon, like needing more lenses to see. Everybody does it. Beauty queens, and nelly queens. At that point. Natural. Like that makes it better. Misery loving company, and all. But it does get better, over time. If that's all that ails you.

So it's hard to tell now, if it's everybody's, or a gift from my folks. Or something mom stewed up as a late surprise, subconsciously, in her shiny metal, all-the-rage, super moderne, aluminum boil.

Nah, no, really. It isn't a problem. Just a pantomime whisper I awoke with. I, who lives by her wits. A shadow alarm, I'm sure. A future fear, I dread, will somehow, somehow, come to take me to its dance.

Just a dream. A forward reminder, if you will. Now, while images of daybreaks can still trigger the connected sounds, I saw a helpful pantomime for sometime

future else I hope. And fear. That's all. It's just — I wanted you to know. To share with you the scare, and beautiful adaptation while I could still recall.

A remembrance of things ahead.

Oh, my, was I supposed to be amusing? Sorry. I guess I just forgot. ▼



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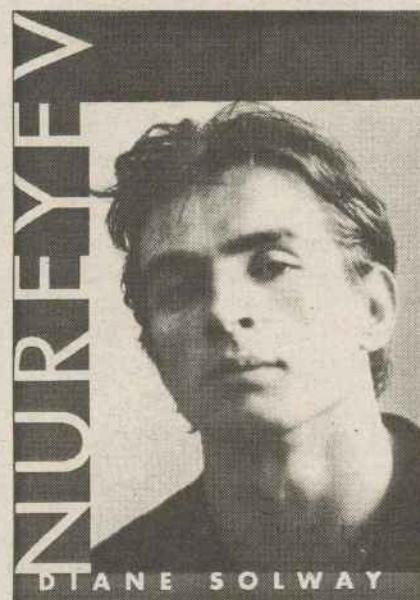
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NUREYEV: HIS LIFE

by Diane Solway

This 625-page book, with many unpublished pictures and a copious index, will fill you in on every fascinating detail of the Russian dancer's Tartar and Muslim family background. Among



Diane Solway

other things, you will learn about Nureyev's defection at the Paris airport in 1961, his famous collaboration with dancer Margot Fonteyn, his lifelong love affair and friendship with Danish dancer Erik Bruhn, his return to Russia to visit his family after 26 years, and his final drawn-out battle with AIDS.

Diane Solway interviewed more than 200 people, including Nureyev's family, friends, colleagues, and lovers. "For the first time, those in Russia were able to speak openly about Nureyev without fear of reprisal." Writer Edmund White says, "The Great Russian dancer emerges from this volume in all his satanic, willful grandeur."

The description of his meeting and eventual partnership with Dame Margot Fonteyn, still stands as the most celebrated partnership the world of ballet has ever known. This book goes into Rudy's transformations of the tradition-bound Royal Ballet and Paris opera Ballet. It includes his grooming of future stars and his clashes with others. We find out about his impact on ballet companies throughout the world, and his role in bridging ballet and modern dance through his work with Martha Graham and Paul Taylor.

Aside from getting an in-depth look at Nureyev's childhood and youth, we get to know about his paranoia after leaving the USSR. He hoarded money, antiques, ori-

ental rugs and other possessions. He rarely paid for anything when he could get someone else to pay for it. His lifelong love affair and friendship with bisexual Danish ballet star Erik Bruhn is well documented. "Whether Bruhn was his first male lover is unknown, but he was unquestionably his first and greatest love ... the most influential male figure in his life." Bruhn was someone that Rudy looked up to; he said he was "the only dancer who has anything to show me I don't already know."

There are intimate portraits of Rudy's other lovers, including his first love when he was a teenager, which was discovered during the writing of this book. There's the untold story of his infatuation with a young protégé during his last years. Also included are extensive interviews with his doctors, healthcare providers, friends and family during his final days.

About his life, Rudy felt "... Dancing, art, food, sex, every experience had to be crammed in, because at any moment, on any given day, it could all be snatched away." He said, "Things were ... taken from me, rather than given to me. So the moment I had a chance on an equal footing, I didn't ever let go." He was constantly afraid that the KGB was after him and was going to kidnap him and take him back to Russia. One time at a stopover at the Cairo Airport, the plane was emptied of passengers—except for Rudy who, with the help of the stewardess, hid in the airplane's bathroom until the KGB gave up and left.

The book "reads like a novel and reaches well beyond the world of dance." It gives us the first behind-the-scenes accounts of the greatest moments of the dancer's life and the trials and tribulations he overcame. "It paints an unusually detailed portrait of a complex man, providing insights into the artist's magical creativity and seductive personality."

Anyone who loves the world of the theater and dance will treasure this book as a great addition to their library. Of the pictures, Nureyev's spectacularly ornate tombstone in the shape of a travel trunk covered by an Oriental carpet fashioned from Murano glass mosaic is worth looking at. It's a powerful statement in itself. What a way to be remembered. (William Morrow, ISBN: 0-668-12873-4, \$27.50 HC).

—Ed Grover

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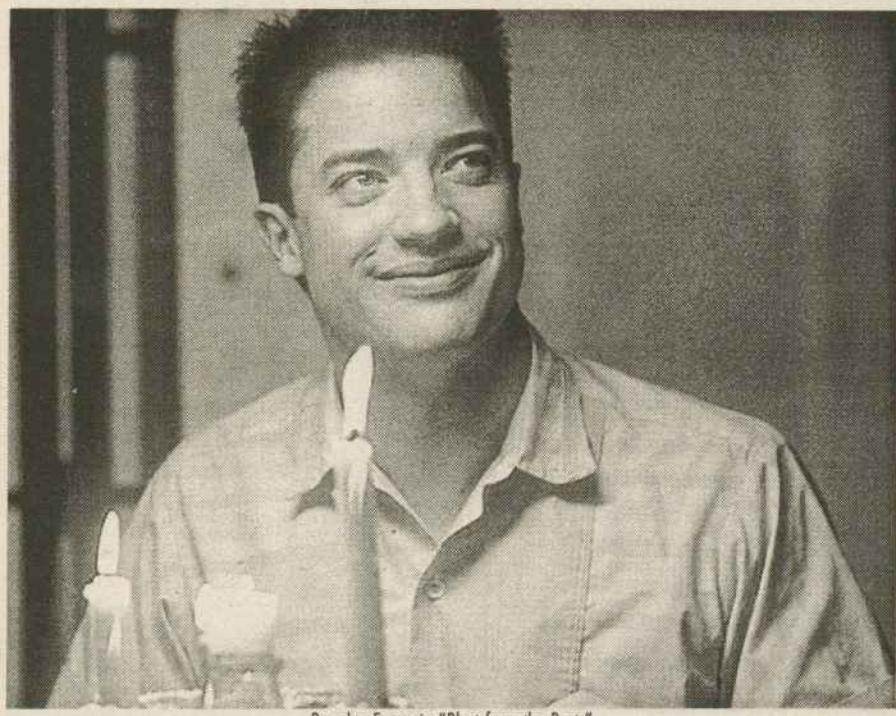
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Brendan Fraser in "Blast from the Past."

Blast from the Past

Directed by Hugh Wilson, *Blast From The Past* starts out in the early 60's when a model suburbanite couple (played by Sissy Spacek and Christopher Walken) take cover in a bomb shelter after an explosion. Unbeknownst to them down below, the explosion turns out to be a plane crash rather than the Cuban Missile Crisis insuring that World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones. So they're doomed to wait thirty years for the radiation to clear or whatever.

Up above, their house gets plowed

over to make way for a caf and through its workaday existence, we see the next thirty years pass. The 60's are great - the owner and her son enjoy a very *Leave It To Beaver*, aw-gee-and-swell relationship. But mom doesn't understand the 70's and even professes to have preferred the flower children. The decade is played out with a begrudging historicism more redolent of the 90's with the son first hating and then slowly grooving to Barry White. The 80's are punk (and increasingly cynical) and 1991 is...well, grunge is too specific here; downright apocalyptic is more the flava.

If you smell a rat in this confused trajectory (or, to be more precise so as not to mimic the film's faults, if you have doubts

about master narratives that couch the history of the world after 1969 solely in the negative), then be forewarned - it's merely the first of *Blast From The Past's* many full-of-shitisms. Spacek gives birth to a boy shortly after their descent underground and names him Adam, (Brendan Fraser). In "present day," he finally gets to brave the upstairs world to replenish supplies (and find a wife) and his naivete quickly clashes with his surroundings. And thus the fusion of *Forrest Gump* and *Pleasantville* (two ideologically suspect box office champs) is put into motion.

Adam meets Eve (Alicia Silverstone, mph!), a suitably cynical twenty-something who tells him that he's stupid for wanting to get married. So, given the film's reactionary underpinnings, we know the goal of the film will be to domesticate her. And not only does it achieve that goal but it hips Eve to the horrors of a society such as ours today that would repel a woman away from marriage. Adam's geeky "innocence" eventually gets her to see the vagaries of post-modernity in one slow-motion sigh: drunks being tossed out of bars, bums and even (sniff) a transvestite hooker. The shock horror!

Me, I'm so much a horrible post-modernist that all I care about at the end of the film is getting to know the gay male friend/eternal foil better (David Foley who at least gets reverse shots unlike Greg Kinnear in *As Good As It Gets*). And all I can think when I see the "pure," bucolic splendor that will facilitate in sheltering Ma and Pa from horrible post-modernity after their eventual resurfacing is Stupid Is As Stupid Is.

—Kevin John

Affliction

Paul Schrader's *Affliction* traces the descent of small-town cop Wade Whitehouse (Nick Nolte) into alcoholism and destruction. It's the feel-bad movie of the year. Even the scenery evokes malaise. By eschewing the eerie, hyperreal aestheticism of, say, *Blue Velvet*, Schrader makes us feel naughty about feeling warmth and protection in the New Hampshire simply by fixing the camera's gaze unrelentingly upon it. So whether we come across a dead mother in a freezing farmhouse or a French real estate lord or a wheelchair-bound divorce lawyer or an explosion raging matter-of-factly in the background we know that these are natural occurrences that chip away at the town's foreboding sense of supremacy as well as Whitehouse's inability to accept the changes that these images imply. Also striking is the film's unique sense of voice with most of the characters putting their two cents in on Whitehouse's condition and an incredible, deliciously discursive voice-over from Whitehouse's brother (Willem Defoe) for a finale. Still, the film does teeter uneasily between narcissism and humility, especially after the hokey Jesus symbolism towards the beginning. So with male archetypal melodrama at the fulcrum, it'll never be a favorite of mine. But, overall, *Affliction* is a fine effort with flawless performances from Sissy Spacek and a brilliantly understated Jim True. And if you think *American History X* topped *The Marathon Man* for dentistry horrors, think again.

—Kevin John

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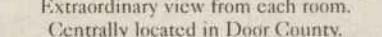
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by Jamie

When I was a

young teenager, my mother told my father it was either her or the television

(this is when they started getting overboard on the religion thing). My father got rid of the television! At first I freaked out but soon got over it. I found other things to keep myself entertained. (Hmm, young teenager, no TV, a very active imagination hmm, you tell me).

Anyway, I discovered that one of the TV stations was on the lower end of the FM band on the radio. I used to listen to Alice, The Rockford Files and One Day at a Time. I couldn't see the images but hey, it was all I could get.

After a couple years of that, I bought a 19-inch black and white TV for \$10 at a garage sale. I snuck it in the house and hid it in my room. I liked watching TV as I fell asleep at night but had a hard time hearing it so I took a stereo jack out of an old tape player and installed it on the TV. A set of headphones later and I was all set. It didn't take long for my parent to find out about it but apparently didn't care too much.

We did have a television when I was a pre-teen. Every Saturday we would turn to Channel 32 out of Chicago to catch "Creature Feature." It was fun watching all those old black and white scary flicks. You know, Frankenstein, The Werewolf, The Mummy and those old Godzilla movies. Ok they weren't all that scary, but they were entertaining.

Today I have a 27-inch color TV and a satellite dish. (so do my parents) I used to have a bunch of shows that I couldn't miss. If I couldn't be home, I would set the VCR to record whatever it was I was missing.

Lately I don't much care if I miss something. Yes, I do have my favorite shows but won't loose any sleep if I miss them. It kinda bugs me if I miss Ally McBeal and ER but that's about it. If I'm home on Saturday afternoon, I will flip the channel to Comedy Central to catch Absolutely Fabulous. I have seen every episode over and over again, but can't get enough of that show.

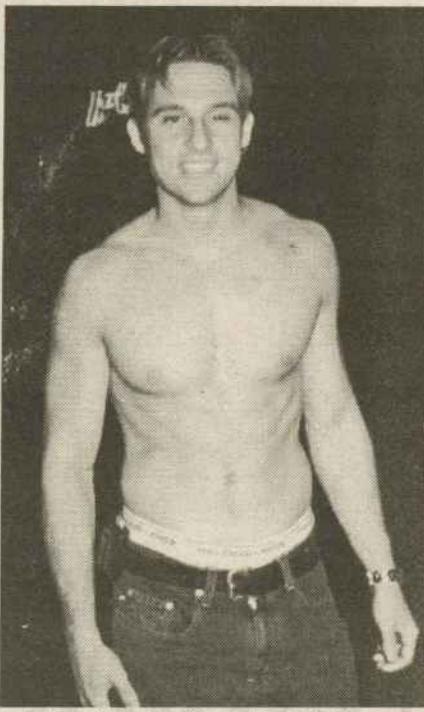
What was the point of all this? I don't know, I guess it just amazes me that no matter how many times I've seen any particular show, I can watch it over and over again. What would we do without VCRs and Nick at Night?

Speaking of TV, the Superbowl packed in tons of sports enthusiasts to all the clubs around town. Even if you aren't into sports, it was fun to be out. Triangle

had a pretty nice crowd. Rob brought out some munchies and gave away shots.

Over at the Ballgame it was standing room only. Rick put out his home cooked food that everybody loves. Over at In Between there was also a big crowd. Owner Curt had his goofy Packer hat on. That thing weighs more than he does. Yup, there was a crowd at Woody's as well. Where do all these people come from?

There was a big birthday party at La Cage for Alonso and Storm this past Wednesday. A year older but are you a



Cutie of the week. Photo by Jamie @ La Cage

year wiser? If you were at La Cage Thursday, the BESTD Traveling Clinic was there. If you haven't been tested in awhile, watch the ads for their next stop.

Friday nights are still a blast over at the Eagle. If you lookin' for a great time and great music and like the smell of leather, hit the Eagle. If you like hot sweaty near-naked guys, Club 219 is where you should be. Chuck makes sure he has the best dancers this side of the Mississippi. DISH continues to draw a huge weekend crowd. Hmmm, great music, a dance floor and a great staff. Go figure.

That's about it for this issue. Gotta get this column to the office before work this morning... can't wait until I get a digital camera. It's gonna make this whole process much easier. As you can see at the end of this column, you can e-mail me. If you do make sure you put Jamie in the subject box or it will probably get deleted without me reading it. So much junk e-mail. Until next issue, think spring and as always, slower traffic keep right.

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Wisconsin Personals

WISCONSIN

LET'S CONNECT GWM, 22, 5'10", 170 lbs, dark/green, goatee. just moved to Sun Prairie about two weeks ago. Looking for Guys, 18-30-ish, to hang with. (Sun Prairie) **211563**

32-YEAR-OLD GWM, blonde/blue, HIV+, ISO a clean-shaven W/HM, with a sense of humor. Must be drug-free. (Milwaukee) **210822**

I'LL MAKE YOU SILKY SMOOTH Extremely versatile GM looking for fit, open-minded Men who are into body shaving or who want to be shaved or trimmed by me. I'm extremely oral with a foot fetish, into watersports and really into nipple play. (Milwaukee) **210828**

TALK TO YOU LATER 27-year-old M, enjoys sports, movies and having fun. Looking for a masculine bottom, 18-27, with similar interests, for friendship and maybe more. (Milwaukee) **212976**

21-YEAR-OLD GUY, 6'3", 200 lbs, auburn/brown, likes the art, kissing, cuddling and entertaining. Leave me a message. (Eau Claire) **21563**

ALOHA FROM HAWAII This GM is new to Wisconsin and would like to have fun with you. (Hudson) **21344**

SMOOTH, SLENDER GUY GWM, brown/hazel, short, slender and clean-shaven, likes reading dining out, conversation, animals, music and movies. Looking for friendship leading to a long-term relationship. (Madison) **21105**

GREETINGS FRIENDS GWM, 6'2", 225 lbs, shoulder length blonde hair, into classical music, jazz, writing and current events. I'm a bottom looking for a long-term relationship with a well-hung top. New to Milwaukee and need companionship. If this sounds interesting, give me a call. (Milwaukee) **21066**

CALL ME SOON! WM, 24, 5'10", 130 lbs, black/brown, clean-shaven, looking for someone who's honest, romantic, fun-loving and a top. (Eau Claire) **212090**

SECOND SHIFT WORKER GWM, early 30s, 5'8", 170 lbs, brown/blue, looking for Men, 21-40, who are available in the mornings or early afternoon for some hot and spicy fun. (Milwaukee) **210671**

I'LL BE WAITING GBM, 27, 6'3", 250 lbs, likes having fun. Looking for a SWM, 25-35, for possible relationship. (Madison) **210679**

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Petite WM, 5'4", 115 lbs, muscular body, likes going out to party and have a good time. Looking for a tall, brunette, stable WM, for a relationship. (Madison) **212067**

THE ROUGHER, THE BETTER Smooth WM, 6'2", 185 lbs, blonde, looking for a real top who will tell me what to do. (Madison) **210144**

DO WHAT I SAY Bi-curious WM, looking for a very oral Man who loves giving pleasure, being spanked and receiving discipline. (Waukesha) **216399**

LONELY IN RACINE Looking for someone to hang out with. If this is you and you're interested, leave me a message. (Racine) **219435**

MAKE ME SERVE Horny bottom looking for a master to train me and make me service him. Help me define my limits and give me a good working over. (Milwaukee) **210116**

COME MEET ME BM, 25, 6', 170 lbs, good shape, looking to meet some people in the area. (Madison) **218826**

WEEKEND GETAWAYS Married BiWM, 48, loves the outdoors, fishing, camping and nude beaches. Looking for someone who wants to get together for some fun times. (Wisconsin Dells) **218583**

AGE AND RACE OPEN GWM, 40s, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, walks, nature trails, moonlit walks, movies and dining out. Seeking Male for friendship and possible relationship. (Wausau) **218675**

ALL RACES WELCOME Adventurous, thick BiBM, 5'9", 195 lbs, bodybuilder. Seeking Male, under 5'10", 160-200 lbs, to show me around and so that we can enjoy each other. (Racine) **218633**

VERY SUBMISSIVE BOTTOM 5'10, 180 lbs, blonde/blueish-green, looking for that hot top who can satisfy me. If you're my type of Guy, leave me a message. All calls returned. (Dunnsville) **218482**

ACTIVE SMALL TOWN MAN Discreet, straight-acting WM, 5'10", 155 lbs, slim, trim, n/s, homeowner, looking for other Guys to hang out with in the area. (Stevens Point) **218503**

DRESS UP FUN BiM seeking BiM, crossdressers and transsexuals to come to my place for dress up fun. If interested, leave me a message. (Ellsworth) **218512**

HOT HUNGRY BOTTOM WM, looking for some hot Guys, to have some good times and party with. (Milwaukee) **218386**

NEED A CHOCOLATE TREAT? Clean cut, hot bottom Black Male, 6', seeks hot Men in the area who enjoys chocolate sundaes. (Milwaukee) **216661**

ABLE AND WILLING Very attractive Gay White Male, 30s, 190 lbs, medium build, into cooking, clubbing and dancing. Seeks Black Men, 30-40, for a good relationship with no games. (Milwaukee) **216671**

DO YOU HAVE A LINEBACKERS BUILD? Good-looking, clean shaven Gay Male, 25, 5'8", 160 lbs. Seeks tall Men, under 36, 200 lbs, for fun and friendship. (Milwaukee) **216549**

WHAT'S ON YOUR LIST? 23-year-old Gay Male, 5'8", 180 lbs, seeks someone over 23, not into the bar scene, for some discreet get togethers. (Madison) **216313**

MILWAUKEE STUD Attractive GWM, 20, 5'8", 150 lbs, blonde/blue, into festivals and the movies. Seeks attractive, straight-acting GW or HM, 18-28, for friendship, possible relationship. (Milwaukee) **215380**

LET ME DO IT FOR YOU 21-year-old SGM, 5'9", 250 lbs, brown/blue, seeks SGM, 18-35, for friends and possibly more. (Madison) **215345**

CALL FOR MORE 34-year-old Man, 140 lbs. Seeks dominant, submissive, hot Male, 18-21, for very hot, sexual times (Eau Claire) **215285**

DRINK COFFEE? 20-year-old GM, 5'11", 155 lbs, blonde/blue, new to the area. Looking to meet some new people to go out and have some coffee. (Madison) **215180**

JUST DO IT 23-year-old GWM, seeks other GWM, 18-35, to hang out with. (Racine) **214929**

WANT A MAN TO DOMINATE AND CONTROL YOU? Dominant, aggressive, attractive GM, 5'11", 190 lbs, well endowed, fit. Seeks attractive, fit, trustworthy, submissive M, 18-30, with the right attitude for training. (Milwaukee) **214468**

LETS GET KINKY Submissive, bottom M, 24, 5'10", 175 lbs. Seeks a dominant top M, in the area. (Milwaukee) **214260**

TRAIN ME THE RIGHT WAY Virgin M, 30, 6', 250 lbs, seeking someone to have fun with and spend quality time with. (Milwaukee) **213990**

HOT 3-WAY FUN Very attractive, discreet GW Couple, 37, 5'9", 140 lbs, 25, 6', 165 lbs, blonde/blue. Seeking hot, smooth, fit, submissive, GWM, for hot 3 way fun. (Milwaukee) **214168**

LOVES THE NIGHT LIFE Fun GWM, 31, enjoys going out at night. Seeking younger GWM, under 24. (Green Bay) **213421**

NEW TO THE AREA Responsible, fun-loving M, 43, enjoys biking, camping, movies and the beach. Seeking G or Bi M, with the same interests. (Stevens Point) **214007**

ARE YOU THE SAME? Hope you have a strong boot and foot fetish like I do. (Milwaukee) **213746**

GOOD TIMES AHEAD GWM, 24, 5'10", 150 lbs, enjoys dinners, movies and the outdoors. Seeks fun-loving M, 21-37, for good times together and a possible LTR. (Milwaukee) **212201**

WANT MORE? GM, 18 years old, looking for someone who is down to earth and knows what he wants out of life and wants even more. You should be around 18-25 years of age and ready to kick it. (Milwaukee) **211751**

NEED TO KNOW Attractive, slim, young Guy looking for friendship and more with people who are 20 years old and older. You must be outgoing and ready to have fun. (Madison) **211661**

NEW TO THE AREA I'm looking to meet Men of all ages and races, who can show me a good time in the area. (Milwaukee) **211039**

COLLEGE GRAD I'm a 22 year old, GBM, 5'8", 130 lbs, non-smoker and drinker, not into the bar scene, is looking for a young, attractive, masculine, GB, Hispanic or Italian Male who are 18-33. You must be a non-smoker, HWP, slim. I'm a bottom and you should be a top. (Milwaukee) **210900**

VERY SMOOTH AND SUBMISSIVE I'm 22, 5'8", 150 lbs, clean shaven, smooth body and looking for people who are into domination. I like Men who are well endowed and I love to be spanked. (Milwaukee) **210575**

WELL HUNG ITALIAN I'm a good looking Italian, well hung Man who likes to talk to Guys on the phone and get off. (Milwaukee) **210434**

ORAL SERVICE Good looking Pro Latin M, 36, 5'8", 150, slender, fit, is looking to get together with M who are lean, tall, 18-38 and who enjoy being orally serviced. (Madison) **210112**

RELATIONSHIP MINDED WM, 31, very attractive, down to earth and looking for someone who is the same. Relationship minded and very caring. (Milwaukee) **21283**

WELL BUILT, NICE looking, BM, 5'7", 180, bottom M is looking for a hard B or Latin M who is well hung. (Milwaukee) **210038**

FOOT WORSHIP AND SLAVE TRAINING I'm looking for younger WM, under 28, and who is into foot worship/slave training. I'm a dominate master in my 20s. I'm good looking, 6', and looking for young slave boys to serve me for fun and games. (Milwaukee) **210289**

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PHYSICAL ABUSE I'm looking for other Guys 20-40, who want to wrestle and work each other over. You must be in shape and have done this before. (Milwaukee) **213476**

I WANT TO HANG OUT I'm new to the area and I want to find someone to hang out with and do things together. (Racine) **21304**

MAGIC TOUCH I'm a tall, masculine, 44 year old, White Man, who looks younger. I'm very financially secure and a social drinker. I like water skiing, dinner parties and I am looking for a sincere, in shape Man for friendship and a possible relationship. (LaCrosse) **21703**

I DO WHAT I'M TOLD I'm a Gay Male who has black hair and blue eyes. I'm looking for a top Man who can do things to me. I'm very obedient and I listen very well, so please box me. (Milwaukee) **219637**

NEW IN TOWN Attractive GWM, 30s, 6', 185 lbs, fit and trim, looking for a handsome, masculine BM, for possible long-term relationship. I love sculpted bodies. (Chicago) **219316**

WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE? Hairy, stocky BiWM, early 30s, looking to explore and experience. Seeking other hairy, masculine Guys, 25-30, into feeling good. (Chicago) **210120**

HEY SEXY BOY! GM, 20, 5'9", 155 lbs, looking for sexy Boy who's know to have a good time. Interested? Give me a call. (Great Lakes) **218934**

NEW TO THIS 32-year-old WM, 5'10", 180 lbs, well-endowed, likes going out, having a good time and partying. Looking for slim Men who can teach me. (Chicago) **217016**

FATHER FIGURE AVAILABLE WM seeking slim Guy, 20s, to be a teacher and more. (Bremerton) **216936**

SHOW ME EVERYTHING 20-year-old Gay Male, 155 lbs, seeks some cute, respectful hunks to show me around the area. (Great Lakes) **215115**



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STATEWIDE

Action Wisconsin (Congress for Human Rights)
PO Box 342, Madison 53701 (608) 283-3251
E-mail: dross@execpc.com
Web page: <http://www.execpc.com/~dross/aw/>

AIDS Action Wisconsin
820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202 (414) 225-1597
marks@execpc.com (800) 359-9272

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202 (414) 273-1991
www.arcw.org (800) 359-9272

BiNet USA (Nat'l bisexual political organization)
(<http://norn.org/pub/other-orgs/brc/binet.html>) (202) 882-4384

Gay Youth Wisconsin Hotline
Fri/Sat Eves 7pm-11pm (1888) GAYTEEN
Milwaukee Metro (414) 272-TEEN

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

IN Step (Wisconsin's LesBiGay Community Newspaper)
1661 N. Water St., Suite 411
Milwaukee, 53202 (414) 278-7840
FAX only (414) 278-5868
E-Mail: insteppnews@aol.com

Log Cabin Republicans/Wisconsin
P.O. Box 199, Milwaukee, 53201
New Beginnings PENPALS (Mo. newsletter)
Box 25, Westby 54667

Pride in Wisconsin Government (LGBT public employees)
c/o The United, 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-Usa Pageants) (414) 432-2517

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

Wisconsin AIDS Library
arcwib@execpc.com (414) 225-1539
Wisconsin AIDSline (free/anonymous) (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 (A 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 AREA (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
120 N Morrison, #201, Appleton 54911 733-2068
(800) 773-2068
Angel of Hope (MCC Church)
110 S. Locust Street, 54914 991-0128
Men's HIV+ Support Group Appleton 733-2068
Family HIV Support Group Appleton 733-2068
PFLAG Fox Cities
Box 75, Little Chute, 54140 749-1629

GREEN BAY AREA (920)

BARS

3 Brandy's II (Mw, L/L)
1126 Main Street, Green Bay, 54304 1-800-311-3197
1 Napolese Lounge (MW, DJ)
515 S. Broadway 54303 432-9646
2 Javas (MW, V)
1106 Main 54301 435-5476
2 Zas (MW, DJ, V)
1106 Main 54301 435-5476
4 Sass (WM)
840 S. Broadway 54304 437-7277

ORGANIZATIONS

AA Hotline (for gay meeting referrals) 731-4331
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
824 S. Broadway, Green Bay 54304 920-437-7400
800-675-9400
Angel of Hope (MCC Church)
3607 Libal Street, 54301 432-0830
Argonauts of Wisconsin (L/L Social Club)
PO Box 22096, Green Bay 54305
Bay City Chorus
PO Box 1901, Green Bay 54305 497-8882
Gay/Lesbian Support at UW-GB 465-2343
G/L Guide to N.E. Wisconsin
P.O. Box 1381, Green Bay 54305
Men's HIV+ Support

Green Bay 437-7400
Women's HIV+ Support
Green Bay 437-7400
Parents & Friends of G/L Green Bay 499-7080
Positive Voice (Gay and Lesbian Support)
P. O. Box 1381, Green Bay 54305 499-5533
Mens HIV Support Group
Sturgeon Bay 733-2068

ACCOMMODATIONS

Chanticleer Guest House
4072 Cherry Rd Sturgeon Bay, 54234 746-0334
BlackSmith Inn (Bed & Breakfast)
Box 220, Baileys Harbor, 54202 839-9222

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
Blue Bus STD Clinic (Monday, Thursday)
1552 University Avenue 53705 262-7330
Souk Prairie Memorial Hospital (HIV Counseling/Testing)
80 1st St., Prairie du Sac, 53578 643-7151

BARS

Club 5 (MW, Food)
5 Applegate Court, 53713 277-9700
3 Shamrock (GS, MW, F, D)
117 W. Main St. 53703 255-5029
5 Ray's (MW, DJ, V)
3052 E Washington, 53704 241-9335
Greenbush (G/S, M/W, F)
914 Regent, 53715 257-BUSH
3 Kirby's Klub (MW)
121 West Main St., 53703 251-1030
Planet Q (MW, DJ, V)
5 Applegate Court, 53713 277-9700
The Barracks (Mw, L/L)
5 Applegate Court, 53713 277-8700

ORGANIZATIONS

Bi? Shy? Why?
(Bisexual Support Group) 257-5534
PO Box 321, 53701
Brew City Bears
P.O. Box 8815, 53708-8815 (414) 299-0401
e-mail: bcbeers@aol.com
Campus Womens Center
710 University Ave, #202, 53715 262-8093
Delta Lambda Phi (Gay Frat)
Box 513, Mem. Union, 800 Langdon, Madison 53706
Different Spokes G/L/B Cycling Club 241-8184
18-21 Yr Old Social Group 256-2667
Frontiers (Gay/Bi Mens Activities Orgn.)
14 W. Mifflin, Ste 103, 53703 274-5959
Gay/Lesbian Information Recording
(ask for tape #3333) 263-3100
Gay/Lesbian Resource Center
PO Box 1722, 5370
Gay Fathers c/o United 255-8582
Gay Mens Video Club
PO Box 8234, 53708 244-8675
GALVANize (Madison LesBiGay Pride)
PO Box 1403, 53701 256-4289
GLBT Phone Line (United's Out-line) 255-4297
Kissing Girls Productions (Lesbian Cultural Events)
PO Box 6091, 53716
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 Mall, Madison 53706
Madison Volleyball Group (leff) 251-8716
Madison Wrestling Club
PO Box 8234, 53708 244-8675
MAGIC Picnic Committee
c/o The United 255-8582
Men Alanon 255-8582
New Harvest Foundation (G/L Foundation)
PO Box 1786, 53701
Nothing to Hide (gay cable) 241-2500
Parents & Friends of Gays & Lesbians
PO Box 1722, 53701
Rainbow Community Collective (L/G/B/T Social Org)
Wil-Mor Neighborhood Ctr. 2nd & 4th Thursdays
953 Jenifer Street (Lira) 608/238-9150
Shake It Up! (L/G/B/T Social Org)
<http://www.mailbox.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.storg.wisc.edu
P.O. Box 260394, 53726 262-7365
Unicorns of Madison (L/L club)
PO Box 536, 53701
The United (Education, Counseling, Advocacy)
14 W. Mifflin St., Ste 103, 53703 255-8582
UW LesBiGay Alumni Council (Russell Betts) 262-2551
Womansong (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
214 E Johnson, 53704 242-8887

Services

KMA Systems of Madison (Computer Consultants)
4702 Dutch Mill Road #14 222-9128

RETAIL

Pride Gallery and Gifts
229 North Street, 53704 245-9229

MILWAUKEE (414)

ORGANIZATIONS

Aeon Group (Interactive Fiction Gaming)
P.O. Box 93953, 53203-0953 291-0530
AIDS Awareness Group
(Sun Hall, Carroll College) 524-7764
Alcoholics Anonymous
(Request gay meetings) 771-9119
Beer Town Badgers
PO Box 840, 53201
Bi Definition (Bisexual Community Events)
PO Box 07541, 53207
Steve 483-5046
Black Gay Consciousness Raising 933-2136
Castaways M.C. (Levi/Leather club)
PO Box 1697, 53202-1697
Community Elections Coalition
P.O. Box 92722, 53202
Counseling Center (LesBiGay support & discussion groups)
2038 N. Bartlett, 53202 271-2565
Cream City Chorus
P.O. Box 1488, 53201 344-9222
Cream City Foundation (CCF)
2821 N. 4th St. #210, or, Box 204, 53201 265-0880
Cream City Squares (G/L Square Dancing Club) 445-8080
DAMES (Dykes Against Minority Erotic Suppression)
PO Box 1272, Milwaukee, 53201
Delta Lambda Phi (Gay Frat)
PO Box 413, Union Box 51, 53201 229-4054
Different Drummer Theatre Alliance (G/L Theatre Co)
PO Box 92756, 53202 347-0673
Fest City Singers (Gay choral group)
PO Box 11428, 53211 263-SING
Firebirds (L/L group)
PO Box 159, 53201-0159 53202
Front Runners (Running Group)
<http://execpc.com/~blackj/j/fracrun.html> 332-1527
Galano Club (chemical free recovery club)
2408 N. Farwell 276-6936
GAMMA (sports/outdoors/recreation/social)
P.O. Box 1900, 53201 365-3453
Membership Information
<http://www.execpc.com/~mkegamma>
Gay Father's Group 1240 E. Brady St., 53204 372-8008
Gay/Lesbian/Bi Community at UW
Box 251, 2200 E. Kenwood 53201 229-6555
Gay Lesbian Education Employees of Metro Milwaukee
(GLEMM), Larry 462-8404
Gay/Lesbian Studies UWM 229-6402
Gay & Lesbian Tavern Guild 209 East National, 53204
Gay People's Union P.O. Box 208, 53201 562-7010
Gay Youth Milwaukee (regular peer group meetings)
PO Box 09441, 53209 265-8500
Gay Men's Discussion/Support Group (Bill) 276-7626
Gemini Gender Group (TV/TS/TG Support/Social)
PO Box 44211, 53214 voice mail 297-9328
Girth & Mirth/Milwaukee P.O. Box 862, 53201-0862
G/L Community Center Trust Fund P.O. Box 1686, 53201 643-1652
Great Lakes Harley Riders P.O. Box 341611, 53234-1611
Human Rights League (HRL) P.O. Box 92674, 53202 228-1921
Holiday Invitational Tournament (G/L bowling event)
PO Box 899, 53201 831-4038
Insight (young women 17-21 support) 271-2565
Imani (Support/Social Group for Black Lesbians)
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LAMM (Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee)

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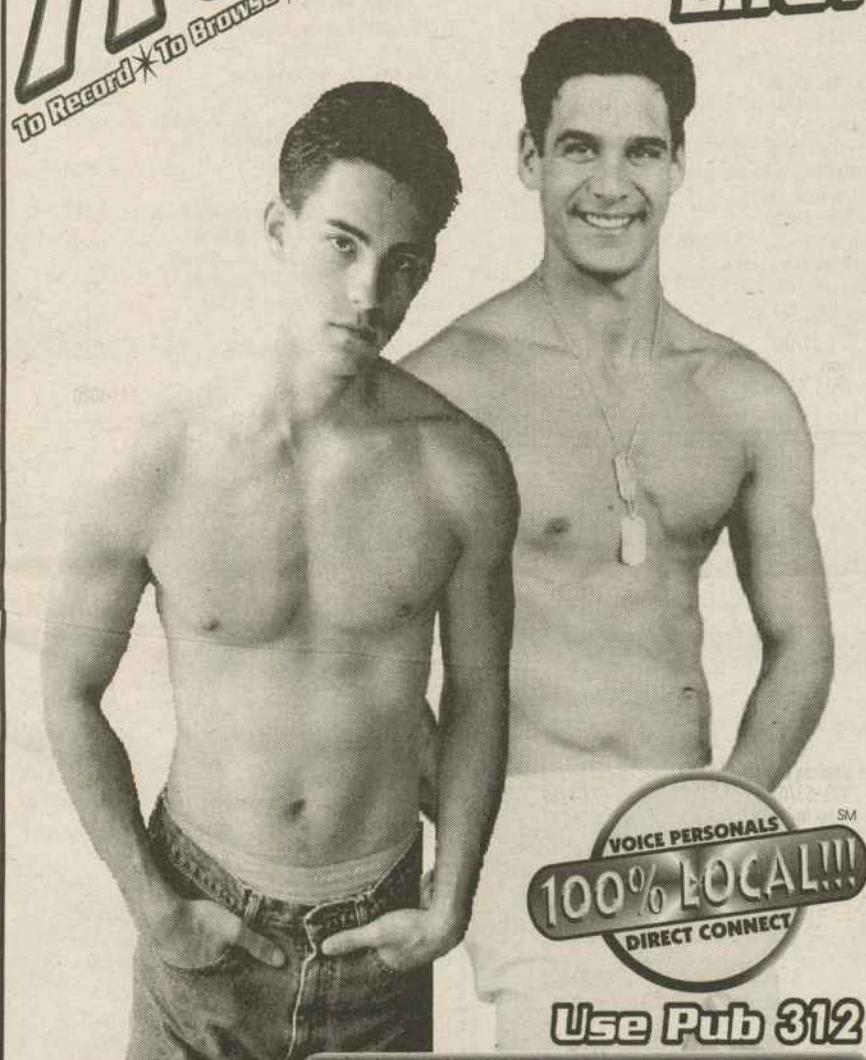
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PO Box 93323, 53203 264-2600
 Lesbian Gay Bisexual Awareness Alliance (LGBAA)
 Stephanie King, Carroll College 524-6966
 LOC/Women of Color
 PO Box 93594, 53203-454-9300
 Log Cabin Republicans (Gay Republicans)
 PO Box 199, 53201 299-9443
 MGALA (MU Graduates)
 PO Box 92722, 53202
 Marquette LesBiGay Student Group
 Campus Ministry, 617 N 14th St, 53233 288-6873
 Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club (Scott) 962-6124
 Milwaukee LGBT Community Center (www.mkelgbt.com)
 PO Box 93278, 53203 483-4710
 Narcotics Anonymous (request Gay mtgs.) 543-4850
 Orgullo Latino/a Latin Pride
 1532 N. Astor (c/o Murguia) 963-9833
 Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group 963-9833
 Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
 PO Box 21853, 53221 299-9198
 Pathfinders (Youth counseling, shelter)
 1614 East Kame Place, 53202 271-1560
 PrideFest (Pride Committee)
 PO Box 93852, 53203 272-FEST
 The Queer Program (Cable TV Show)
 PO Box 09441, 53209 265-8500
 Riverwest Rainbow Association
 1001 E. Keefe Ave., 53212 225-1645
 SAGE Milwaukee (For older LesBiGays)
 PO Box 510492, 53202 after 4pm 271-0378
 Saturday SoftBall League (SSBL)

PO Box 92605, 53203-0091 454-9204
 Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA) 299-0755
 Sherman Park Rainbow Assoc.
 PO Box 76115, 53216 777-3982
 Sister Acts (Lesbian Social Group)
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 ARCW Spiritual Care
 PO Box 92487, 53202 225-1565
 Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church
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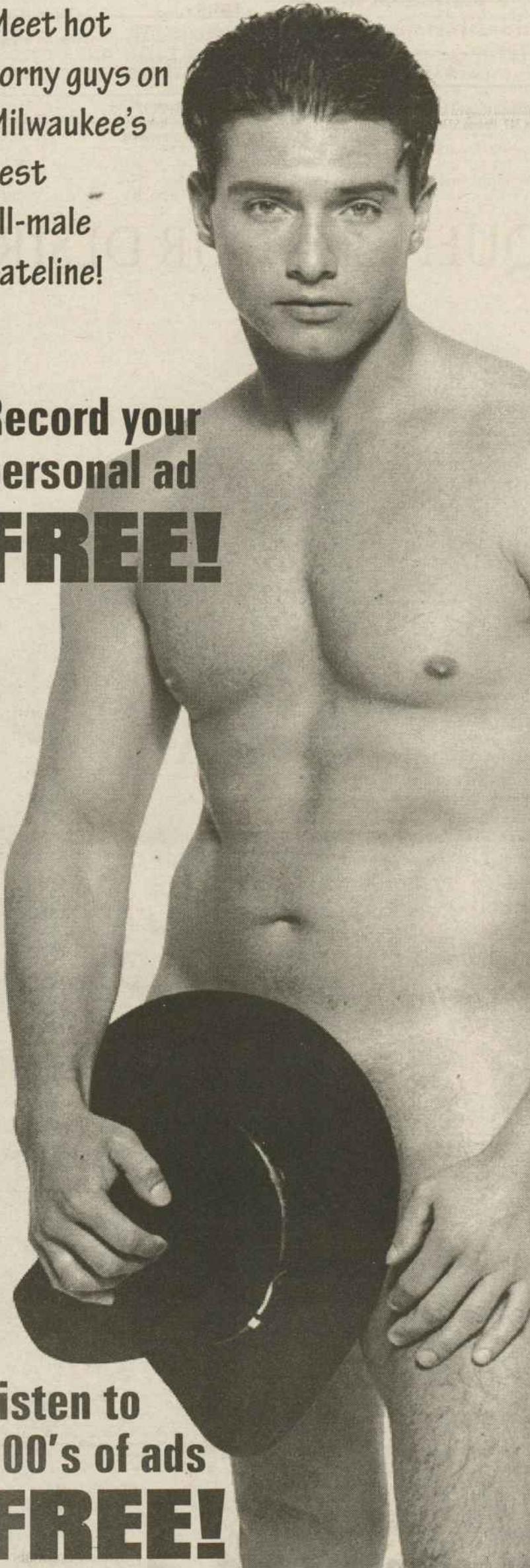
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 St. James Episcopal Church
 833 W. Wisconsin Ave. 271-1340
 First Unitarian Society (Unitarian Universalist Church)
 1342 N Astor 273-5257
 Village Church (Reconciled in Christ)
 130 E. Juneau Ave. 273-7617

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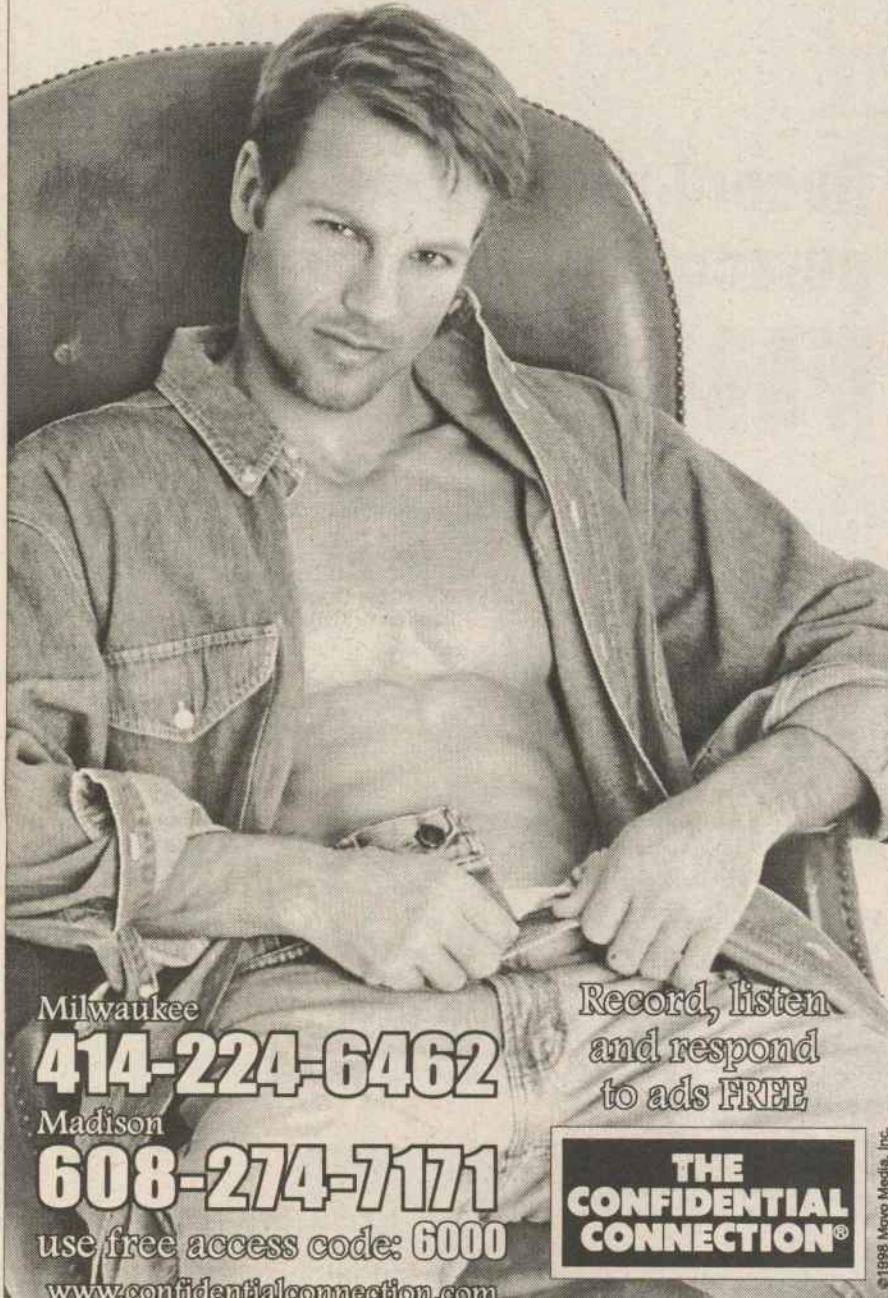
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
 820 Plankinton Ave. 273-1991
 www.orcw.org (800) 359-9272
 Mark Behar, PA-C (Family/ Primary Care)
 Family Care Center, 1834 W WI, 53233 933-3600
 BESTD (Brody East STD) Clinic (STD diagnosis and treatment; HIV tests) 1240 E Brody 53202 272-2144
 BESTD Womens Clinic
 1240 E Brody, 53202 272-2144
 Gay Mens HIV+ Support Group
 BESTD Clinic 272-2144
 Gay Men's Support Group for Partners of HIV+ Men
 BESTD Clinic 272-2144

Health Options (Holistic Health Services)
 823 N. 2nd Street, #811, 53202 225-9303
 Dennis C. Hill Outreach Center (HIV testing, condoms)
 4311 W Viet, 53208 342-4333
 Positive Health Clinic
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 945 N 12, 53233 219-7908
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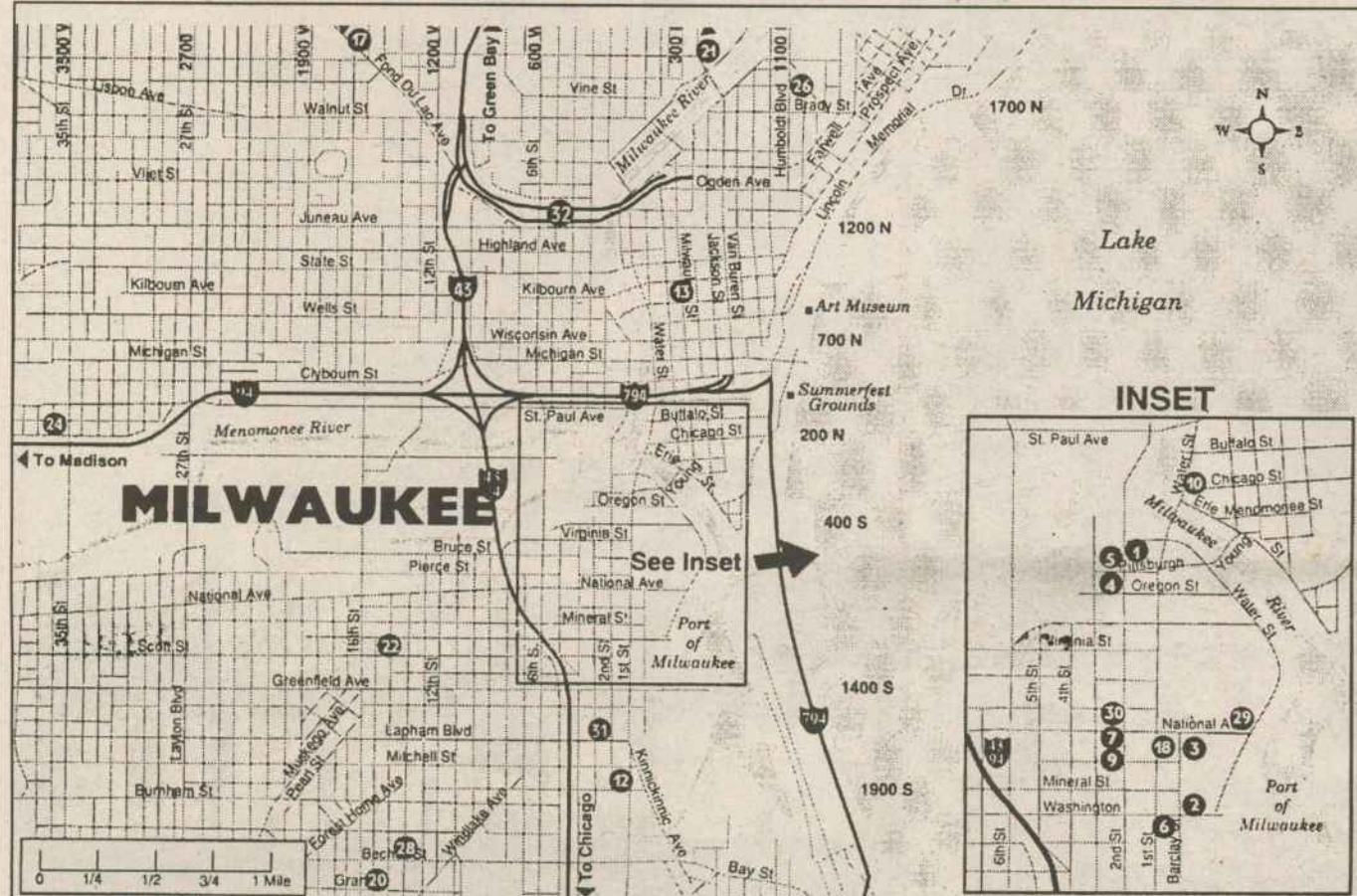


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 Wisconsin AIDSLine (free/anonymous) (414) 273-AIDS
 (800) 334-AIDS 286-2200

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 207 E Buffalo, 53202 964-9799

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 Central Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance
 P.O. Box 390, Stevens Point, 54481
 (715) 592-6245, extension 5920200
 Joseph T. Chojnacki, PH.D. (Psychologist)
 Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, 54449 387-5442
 The Edgewater — Inn & Resort
 Eagle River, 54521 1-888-334-3987
 http://www.edgeinn.com

Empowerment/PAWS (Newsletter for PWAs)
 1932 Strong Ave
 Stevens Point, 54481 342-0576
 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
 Mad Hatter (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. (MGLO)
 c/o 130 S. Central Ave., #3 Marshfield, 54449
 Vic: (715) 387-2068 Jim: (715) 384-6731
 Platwood Club (MW, D)
 701 Highway 10W, St. Pt., 54481 341-8862
 Prince Edward B&B
 203 W 5th, Shawano 54166 526-2805
 Wausau Narcotics Anonymous
 (ask for Gay meetings) 536-LIFE
 Women's Resource Center UWSP
 336 Nelson Hall, Stevens Pt, 54481 346-4851

NORTH CENTRAL (715)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
 Oneida County Health Dept. (715) 369-6228
 P.O. Box 400, Courthouse, Rhinelander, 54501
 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/Bisexuals 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
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 (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)
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 309 McCutchen Hall, Whitewater 53190 472-5738
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 Wychwolde (Jewelry & Gifts)
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 Chase on the Hill (Bed and Breakfast)
 11624 St. Rd 26, Milton, 53563 868-6646
 Cothen House (B&B)
 Mineral Point 987-2612
 CrossRoads Bar (G/S/M/W)
 W6642 Hwy B, Lake Mills 53551 648-8457
 The Klosel (MW, DJ)
 232 Shirland Ave., Beloit 54991 363-8764

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AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin—Eau Claire
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 (800) 750-2437
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 1507 Tower Ave., Suite 230, Superior 54880 394-4009
 (877) 242-0282

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 Eagle Cove B&B (egcove@comcast.net)
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 GLOBE (Campus LesBiGay group)
 105 Gorfield, 132 Davies Ctr, Eau Claire 54701
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 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)
 PO. 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
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 La Crosse, WI 54601, FAX (800) 947-3353
 The Alliance (LesBiGay Social Group)
 PO Box 131, Platteville 53818 348-5596
 e-mail: ALLIANCE@uwplatt.edu

Cavalier Lounge (MW, DJ)
 114 N. 5th St., La Crosse 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

LaCrosse L/G Support Group
 c/o Campus Ministry Center 784-7600
 Leaping La Crosse News
 Box 932, La Crosse 54602

LaCrosse Parents & Friends of Gays 782-6082
 Rainbow's End (G/S, WM), 417 Jay St., La Crosse 54601

Rainbow Revolution (Alternative Books)
 122 5th Ave S, La Crosse 54601 796-0383
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Crossroads (LesBiGay Real Estate National Referral) (800) 442-9735

Douglas Dunes Resort, Blue Star Hwy, Douglas, MI 49406 (616) 857-1401

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February 27

Other hosts:

Alverno College

The Boulevard Ensemble

Captain Frederick Pabst Mansion

Cardinal Stritch University

Celtic Women International

Charles Allis Art Museum

The Haggerty Museum

Irish Cultural & Heritage Center

Marquette University

Milwaukee Art Museum

Milwaukee Irish Arts

Milwaukee Public Library

Milwaukee Irish Fest Foundation, Inc.

Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design

Milwaukee Public Theatre

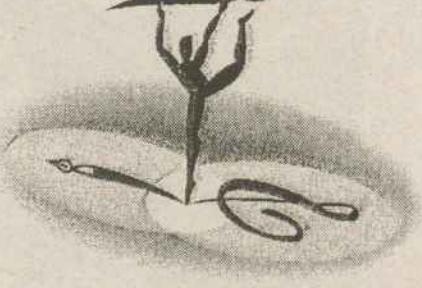
Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra

Shamrock Club of Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Windfall Theatre

Wisconsin Conservatory of Music



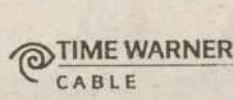
This year the accent's on Ireland.

For more information about scheduling

call our hotline at 273-FEST

or log on at www.artsfest.com.

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