

IN STEP

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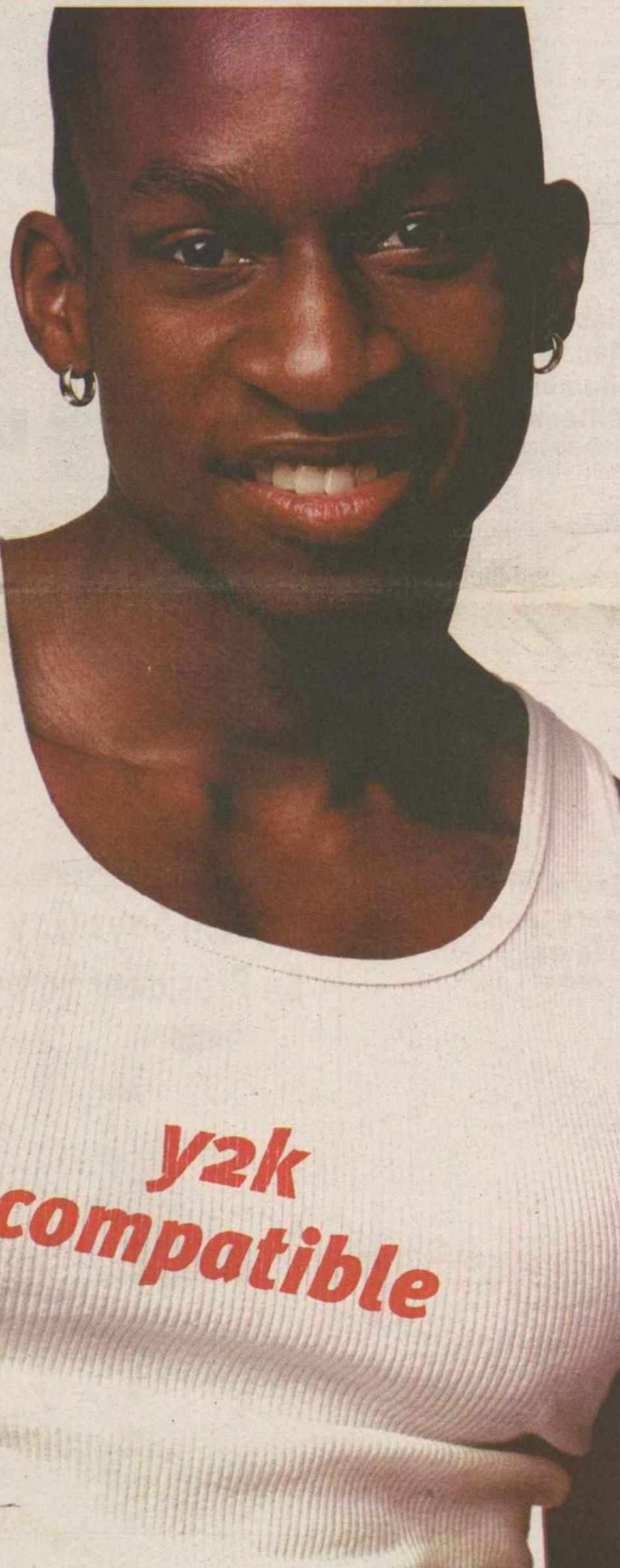
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Convicted Teena Brandon Killer Seeking New Trial

LINCOLN, Neb. — A Nebraska district court judge has set a May 2 hearing date to consider a motion by condemned killer John Lotter, who is asking for a new trial and new sentence in the 1993 killings of Teena Brandon and two others. Lotter was convicted of the killings in 1996 and sentence to death. But Lotter's attorneys say statements made by his former friend, Marvin Nissen, to a cellmate indicate that Nissen — not Lotter — was the actual killer of Brandon, Lisa Lambert and Philip DeVine.

Nissen was also convicted in the killings, but as part of a plea bargain agreement, Nissen was sentenced to three consecutive life sentences in exchange for testifying against Lotter. Jeff Haley, a cellmate of Nissen's, has told officials that Nissen told him he — Nissen — had shot the three to death in 1993 instead of Lotter.

Black & White Men Together Thumbs Down on Millennium March

WASHINGTON — The National Association of Black and White Men Together has voted unanimously not to endorse the Millennium March on Washington slated for April 2000. The group's board of directors took the action after reviewing the evolution of the march, charging that "it has become apparent that people of color have not been part of the process."

Underscoring its displeasure with the planned march, which has been struck by a number of controversies since its inception, the board also voted to move its spring meeting that had already been slated for the same weekend in Washington D.C. as the march to a date two weeks earlier.

Gay Men Smoke More than General Public

CHICAGO — According to a study by researchers at the University of California at San Francisco, gay men smoke at nearly twice the rate of the male population in the U.S. in general.

The study, published in the "American Journal of Public Health," was based on 1992 data and found that 48 percent of some 2,600 gay and bisexual men smoked cigarettes.

The researchers said that federal statistics for the male population at the same period indicated that only about 27 percent smoked cigarettes.

European Court Upholds Rights of Gay Dad

STRASBOURG, France — The European Court of Human Rights has unanimously ruled that being gay is no reason for parents to be

Rights, Yes — Licenses, No

Vermont High Court Declares (Near) Equality of Couples

by Keith Clark

Montpelier, Vt. — In a ringing 4-1 decision, the Vermont state supreme court has ruled that gay and lesbian couples have to be given the same benefits as married couples in the state, but tossed what will undoubtedly be a thorny task of how that will be done back into the lap of the state legislature.

The majority ruling, written by Chief Justice Jeffrey Amestoy, the court said, "Whatever system is chosen, however, must conform with the constitutional imperative to afford all Vermonters the common benefit, protection and security of the law. We conclude that none of the interests asserted by the state provides a reasonable and just basis for the continued exclusion of same-sex couples from the benefits incident to a civil marriage license under Vermont law."

But the high court ruling also made it clear that marriage licenses — which is what the plaintiffs in the case had sought — were not possible under current state law.

"The evidence demonstrates a clear legislative assumption that marriage under our statutory scheme consists of a union between a man and a woman," the court ruled. "Accordingly, we reject plaintiffs' claim that they were entitled to a license under the statutory scheme governing marriage."

The court decision has been long awaited by rights advocates who had hoped, after setbacks in Hawaii and Alaska, that Vermont would become the first state in the country to recognize same-sex marriages. Although the court's decision is seen as a ringing endorsement of equal benefits for same-sex couples, it was still short of what many activists had hoped for.

The justices, noting that the case went "beyond the imagining of the framers of our Constitution," declared that same-sex couples should have access to the common benefits and protections available to married couples in the state, including insurance coverage, hospital

visitation rights, and other decision-making privileges.

Justice Denise Johnson, the only dissenting vote, said in her minority opinion, that she supports same-sex marriages and disagreed with the majority because its remedy didn't go far enough.

"Denying same-sex couples the benefits of marriage on this ground is not only arbitrary but completely at odds with the stated government purpose," wrote Johnson, who has become known for her strong dissenting opinions on the court.

The case dates back more than two years, after three couples — Stan Baker and Peter Harrigan, Nina Beck and Stacy Jolles, and Lois Farnham and Holly Puterbaugh — sued after town clerks refused to grant them marriage licenses.

Attorneys representing the three couples in their lawsuit charged that denying the couples the licenses was a violation of both Vermont state law and the state's constitution, which they argued assured all citizens "have the same access to the legal protections and obligations of civil marriage."

The high court's ruling essentially agreed. But the state's attorney general's office had insisted that state law only allows marriage licenses to be issued to opposite sex couples, and that changing that law requires action by the state legis-

lature, not the courts.

A lower court had agreed that same-sex unions "simply fall outside the definition of marriage" as the state legislature had constructed it and dismissed the lawsuit. The plaintiffs appealed to the state supreme court.

Local reaction to the decision was largely positive, "It is great news for gay and lesbian couples everywhere because it shows we've entered an era where society is addressing the discrimination our relationships face," said Patrick Flaherty, co-chair of the Domestic Partnership Task Force. "Unfortunately, with the good news comes the right wing backlash. It is critical that everybody contact their Wisconsin legislators express their support of AB-608 our marriage rights domestic partnership bill."

Other rights advocates say the high court's majority decision effectively lays down a "separate but equal" rule in attempting to placate both sides in the dispute by rejecting the right of same-sex couples to legally marry in Vermont while ruling that they must have access to the same rights and benefits of married couples.

The high court's decision even declared that the state legislature should decide if gay and lesbian couples should be covered under existing marriage laws by changing them or through some other means, such as a "parallel 'domestic partnership' system or an equivalent statutory alternative."

Rights Activists to Counter Dr. Laura, Bauer

Radio personality, Dr. Laura Schlessinger is urging her millions of listeners to flood the Vermont Legislative Council and Governor's office with faxes and phone calls expressing their dismay over the Vermont Supreme Court's Baker v. Vermont decision. To counter Dr. Laura's campaign, rights activists are encouraging supporters of the Vermont decision to express support of the court's decision to the Vermont Legislative body.

Meanwhile, conservative GOP presidential hopeful Gary Bauer compared Vermont's Supreme Court decision recognizing gay couples to an act of terrorism.

"I think what the Vermont Supreme Court did last week was in some ways worse than terrorism," Bauer told reporters at his New Hampshire campaign headquarters on Dec. 27.

Bauer called the decision another example of "a judicial decision that attacks America's deeply held values."

Residents of all 50 states can send a message to the state of Vermont by calling and/or faxing Gov. Dean Howard to express your support of the Vermont Supreme Court's Baker v. Vermont decision.

Gov. Dean's office: (802) 828-3333; fax: (802) 828-3339. Call between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.

McCain Says Gay Could Be President Some Day



Sen. John McCain

Washington — Republican presidential candidate John McCain said recently there was no reason why a gay person could not serve as president some day, but he opposed openly gay people serving in the military.

In a telephone interview with Reuters, the Arizona senator said a candidate's religion or sexual orientation should not be a bar to the presidency.

He said there was no reason a Jew or a Muslim could not be president and the same applied to gays and lesbians.

"People make judgments based on a candidate's qualifications. I don't think that would rule anybody out," he said.

McCain has emerged as chief challenger to Texas Gov. George W. Bush for the Republican presidential nomination. A third candidate, publisher Steve Forbes said recently he did not approve of homosexuality.

"Homosexuality is a lifestyle that I personally do not approve of," Forbes said.

"I don't think the government should be in the business of making laws about it. But I do think, in terms of the military, the military should not have to take open gays," he said.

The issue of gays serving in the military has re-emerged as a hot political potato after first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said the current policy of "don't ask, don't tell" was not working.

Vice President Al Gore also came out against the policy, which the Clinton administration introduced in 1993, and said he would work to change it if he were elected president.

McCain said military officers had contacted him to complain about Gore's sudden change of heart, which the vice president announced without consulting with senior military advisers.

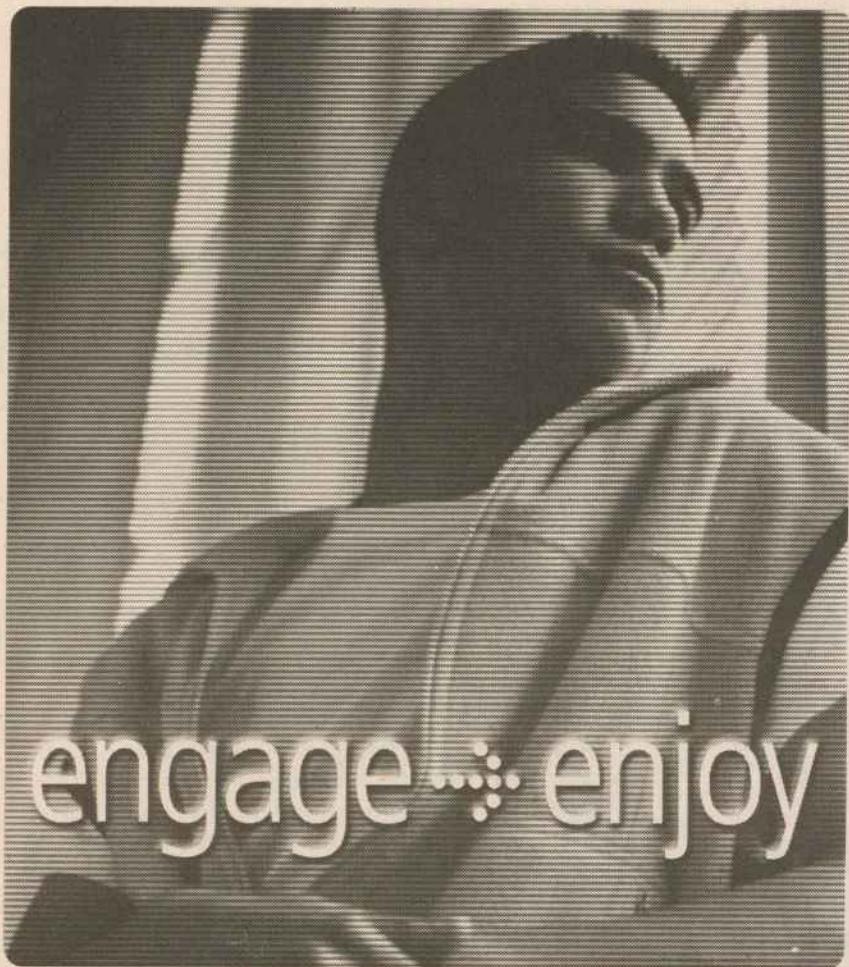
"I've already heard from some military commanders who feel they've been undercut by the vice president of the United States, and there's a lot of justification for their view," he said.

Asked how he could envisage a gay president, who would be commander-in-chief of all the armed forces, and yet oppose openly gay people serving in the ranks, McCain said the presence of gays in the ranks would hurt unit cohesion.

"The president doesn't have to serve in the military in a unit. This would be disruptive to unit cohesion and the current policy has worked," he said.

Bush recently said he would not meet with the Log Cabin Republicans, an organization of gay Republicans, because it would cause controversy. McCain, who has already met with the group, said he believed he had a duty to meet with any group, whether he agreed with its members or not.

Forbes said he was willing to meet members of the Log Cabin group. "People can meet with me, and if they wish to meet with me, they can do so as long as they understand that we're on the opposite side on a lot of issues such as same-sex marriage, such as gays in the military," he said.



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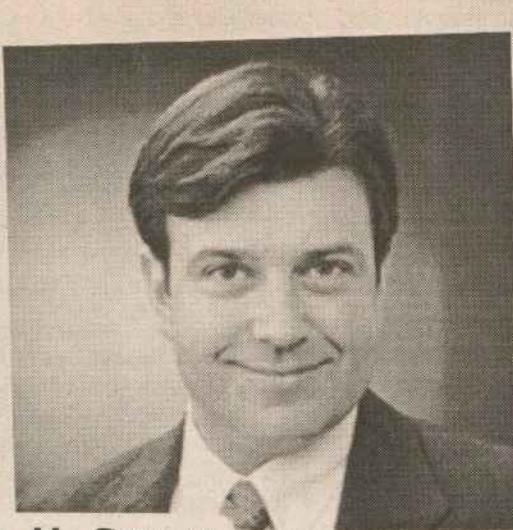
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barred from caring for their children.

The court's ruling came in a case involving Joao Manuel Salgueiro de Silva Mouta, a 38-year-old Portuguese divorced father, who had been stripped of his parental rights because officials said his openly gay relationship with another man made him ineligible to care for his 9-year-old daughter.

Bally's Gyms OKs Discounts for Partners

CHICAGO — Bally's Total Fitness centers has announced that its chain of some 360 gyms around the U.S. will now give spouse and family discounts to the domestic partners of its members.

Three of the chain's gyms — in New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. — already extend spousal and family discounts to the partners of its members, but when a woman in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., asked for a discount for her partner, the local Bally's gym refused her point-blank, sparking a controversy that the national chain stepped in to resolve.

"It seems to me the best policy was to honor domestic partner certificates when they are issued by a responsible government," said Dave Southern, a Bally's spokesperson.

Marine Officer's E-mail Under Investigation

WASHINGTON — According to a CNN television report, an e-mail message from a Marine Corps lieutenant colonel it obtained is now under investigation for homophobic comments about gays serving in the Marine Corps.

CNN reported that the e-mail from Lt. Col. Edward Melton referred to murdered Army Pfc. Barry Winchell as "a homo" and denigrated gays in the armed forces as "queer."

The e-mail said, in part: "Due to the 'hate crime' death of a homo in the Army, we now have to take extra steps to ensure the safety of the queer who has 'told.'"

Winchell was bludgeoned to death with a baseball bat at Fort Campbell, Ky., earlier this year. Two fellow soldiers have been charged in the killing.

Melton, stationed at the Marine Corps base in Twenty-nine Palms, Calif., included his comments in an email passing along a Pentagon document clarifying its policies on gays and lesbians in the armed forces.

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1999 Rewind: The Year in Review

by Keith Clark
of the IN Step staff

Crime & Punishment

The year, which seemed to many activists to be dominated by anti-gay killings, got started with an announcement that the two men charged with slaying University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard would face the death penalty if convicted.

The men — Aaron McKinney, 22, and Russell Henderson, 21 — were later convicted of various charges connected with the brutal 1998 murder as were Chasity Pasley and Kristen Price, the girlfriends of the killers who faced lesser accessory charges.

But neither McKinney nor Henderson were sentenced to be executed. Henderson was sentenced to two life prison terms after pleading guilty and agreeing to cooperate with authorities, and McKinney, whom prosecutors characterized as the main attacker, received the same sentence after the parents of Shepard told prosecutors they don't believe in the death penalty and asked him not to seek it in McKinney's case.

In perhaps the most startling anti-gay killing in the year, authorities in Redding, Calif., charged two brothers — Matthew and Tyler Williams — with murdering a popular local couple, Winfred Mowder and Gary Matson because of their sexual orientation. Prosecutors said they would seek the death penalty in the case. Federal and state investigators have indicated the two Williams brothers had been linked to white supremacist groups and religious extremist organizations and said the two men were also being investigated in connection with the firebombing of a women's medical clinic where abortions are performed as well as an arson attack of a synagogue in Northern California. In a taped interview and in a letter to a daily newspaper, Matthew Williams indicated he thought killing the gay couple was doing "God's will."

As the year was drawing to a close, Pvt. Calvin Glover, 18, who confessed earlier to killing fellow infantryman Pfc. Barry Winchell, partly at the urging of a soldier who hated homosexuals, was found guilty of the murder. Glover, however, was sentenced to live in prison with the possibility of parole at a future date even though he was convicted of premeditated murder and the court heard a good deal of evidence that hatred of homosexuals played a significant role in the motive.

Family Issues

Domestic partnerships also continued to be major political news around the country. Partnership registrations or benefits programs from rural Petaluma, Calif., to Tempe, Ariz., Broward County, Fla., Cook County, Ill., Ashland, Ore., Los Angeles, Denver and Milwaukee won approval during the year.

Another challenge, launched by United Airlines, FedEx and Pat Robertson, aimed to overturn a groundbreaking 1997 San Francisco measure that requires firms doing business with the city under contract to offer the same benefits to domestic partners of workers that it makes available to the married spouses.

While a federal court ruled that the health and pension benefits requirements could not be enforced, the court did uphold the measure itself and ordered other non-monetary benefits. United and FedEx both extended the more limited benefits.

Other employers also added benefits programs, including the Mayo Clinic, Vanderbilt University, Boeing Co. and NationsBank, which absorbed the Bank of America in 1998. Even the California state legislature added a domestic partner benefits program for its estimated 2,000 employees.

There were setbacks, however, and a Virginia court ruled that the Arlington County partners benefits program — the only one in the state — violated a 19th century state law that bars local governments from assuming any powers not explicitly given to them by the state.

In Massachusetts, the supreme judicial court voided an executive order by Boston Mayor Thomas Menino extending health benefits to the domestic partners of city workers, saying the order also violated state laws. Boston's city council had earlier approved a domestic partner law and asked the state legislature to authorize it, but state lawmakers failed to give the city the authority. So in 1999, Menino attempted to circumvent the problem by issuing an executive order.

The Campaign for Equal Rights at Chrysler said that after years of work, "sexual orientation" has now been included in the anti-bias section of the recently ratified contract between the Unit-

ed Auto Workers (UAW) union and auto manufacturer Daimler-Chrysler. Similar additions to contracts between the UAW and the Ford Motor Co. and General Motors are expected to follow soon, giving gays and lesbians working in the automobile industry greater protections in employment, firings and promotions.

In a boost in the fight against an anti-marriage ballot initiative in California, the state's attorney general said the ballot measure barring same-sex marriages has to be renamed to make it clearer what the initiative would actually do. The attorney general ordered the measure's title, "Definition of Marriage" changed to "Limit on Marriages" in the March 2000 election.

Meanwhile, activists in California began collecting some 670,000 signatures to put their own ballot measure before the voters in November that would legalize same-sex marriages in the state.

Internationally, domestic partnerships made significant gains. France gave final approval of a government-backed bill recognizing unmarried partners as couples under French law. The measure would give unmarried registered couples tax and inheritance benefits similar to those enjoyed by married couples in the country.

Canada's supreme court in May also ruled, in a historic decision, that same-sex partners must be regarded as having the same legal status in the country as heterosexual couples. The court declared that it was not changing the definition of family or spouse but that provinces must amend their laws to include same-sex couples wherever existing legislation deals with spouses. Canadian rights advocates said the court ruling would have sweeping impact and that hundreds of laws throughout the country would have to be changed as a result.

After more than a decade of barring gays and lesbians from adopting or serving as foster parents, New Hampshire lawmakers approved a measure that would repeal the 1987 law prohibiting homosexuals from state foster care and adoption programs. The only other state with laws barring gays and lesbians from adopting or fostering children is Florida.

State courts around the country, however, gave conflicting decisions about the visitation rights of former partners. In California a state court ruled a woman had no legal visitation rights to see two children born to her former partner, even though she helped raise the children.

But in New Jersey, a state court there ruled that an ex-partner does indeed have the right to visit the twins she helped rear from birth, even though state law recognizes child visitation rights only for biological or adoptive parents.

Politics

Politically, Wisconsin's Tammy Baldwin was sworn in as the first openly gay or lesbian non-incumbent person elected to Congress. The other openly gay members of Congress have come out — or been outed — after being elected, but Baldwin's election to represent her Madison district demonstrated that openly gay and lesbian politicians can win national election.

What still couldn't be demonstrated politically, however, was that the U.S. Senate could rise above a handful of homophobic members to confirm an openly gay person to serve as an ambassador. President Clinton twice nominated James Hormel as ambassador to the tiny European nation of Luxembourg, only to have anti-gay Republican leaders in the Senate refuse to schedule a vote to confirm. Finally, during a brief congressional recess, Clinton appointed Hormel as acting ambassador, a step that is allowed only when Congress is not in session.

Miffed at Clinton's interim appointment, Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.) got the agreement of Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott to let him place a "hold" on all nonmilitary Clinton nominees that need Senate confirmation in retaliation. Inhofe later dropped his blanket hold just days after a newspaper reported that some of the arch-conservative Oklahoma senator's staffers had been downloading so much pornography from the Internet that they had messed up the Senator's own congressional computer system.

Openly gay Judge Ray Warren in Mecklenburg County, N.C., quit the Republican Party after a proposed state hate crimes bill was rejected by the GOP majority in the state's legislature.

Although considered by some gays and lesbians a disappointment, President Clinton continued to chalk up firsts — this time by holding a 90-minute White House meeting with gay and lesbian elected officials from throughout the country.

A federal district court in Salt Lake City ruled against members of the East High Gay-Straight Alliance over the Salt Lake City

school district in a dispute over whether district policies barring non-curriculum clubs at public schools violated the club members' free speech rights. The ruling effectively halts the 4-year case unless the students can show new causes to appeal it.

Just as Republican congressional leaders were effectively killing a federal hate crimes bill that would have included sexual orientation in its protections, the FBI released its 7th annual report on hate crimes in the U.S. indicating that although such crimes appeared to be declining generally, hate crimes against homosexuals were rising. Such crimes in fact were the only major category to show an increase for 1998, the report indicates.

Culture

The Georgia Commission on the Holocaust purged two paragraphs from guides it distributes to school teachers about Nazi atrocities against homosexuals in World War II. The commission defended its decision, however, saying the material was "too graphic" for school children. The commission later apologized for the deletions.

Meanwhile, for the first time, Germany officially commemorated the thousands of gays and lesbians killed in the Holocaust by the Nazis during World War II at ceremonies marking the fourth annual Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration at the Nazi-era Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin.

Televangelist Jerry Falwell said in his "National Liberty Journal" that Tinky Winky of the BBC-TV's "Teletubbies" kiddie program is gay and is a bad influence on kids because of it. The popular and rather saccharine TV children's program is part of what Falwell said it's all part of some "subtle" effort by the program's producers to promote homosexuality among preschoolers.

Not to be outdone in the silliness ratings, the Christian Action Network wrote to FCC chairman William Kennard asking for a meeting to discuss expanding television's parental warnings to add a new warning about programs with "homosexual content" — and "HC" warning, according to CAN. The group said TV programs with gay or lesbian characters would have to carry the on-screen HC warnings.

Also in the literary world, openly gay Michael Cunningham and lesbian Mar-

garet Edson were awarded Pulitzer Prizes in literature and drama respectively, Cunningham for his novel "The Hours" and Edson for her play "Wit."

The Boy Scouts of America, claiming a constitutional right to decide who can and can't join its troops, has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to let it keep its ban on homosexuals as Scouts or leaders by overturning a New Jersey state supreme court ruling that declared the ban violates the civil rights of gays and lesbians.

In another national first, President Clinton issued a presidential proclamation declaring June as Gay and Lesbian Pride month in the nation. Recalling the founding principles of the Constitution, Clinton said: "We now have a rare opportunity to enter a new century and a new millennium as one country, living those principles, recognizing our common values, and building on our shared strengths."

Education

The University of Wisconsin-Madison was bequeathed at least \$5 million as a gift from the estate of George Mosse, a well known history professor, among other things to set up a teaching fellowship in gay and lesbian studies at the school. Mosse authored, among other books, "Images of Man: The Idea of Masculinity," a daring study of masculinity and male sexuality. He taught at the school for 33 years, retiring in 1988.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Supreme Court heard an appeal in a case involving student fees at the University of Wisconsin that has potentially widespread impact for public schools around the country and which student groups the schools can support. Conservative students at the school sued over the use of student fees to fund campus groups they objected to on political or moral grounds, including the university's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Campus Center. Two federal courts have already ruled that the school's fee policies violate the students' rights and the case is now awaiting a ruling by the Supreme Court. ▼

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New Year's Gay Gala Is Positively Fabulous

Appleton — Millennium and Y2K questions aside, LGBT revelers in northeastern Wisconsin will find New Year's Eve excitement at Positive Voice's 5th Annual New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance at the Liberty Hall Banquet and Conference Center in Kimberly, an Appleton suburb.

Cocktail hour with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres begins at 7 p.m. Dinner's at 8 p.m. The menu choices are Maple Encrusted Baked Orange Roughy, Prime Rib, Roasted Breast of Chicken with Door County Cherry Glaze or Roasted Winter Vegetables over Homemade Fettuccini. Chef Mike Van Asten historically has gone over the top for "his people" in recent years so revelers can almost expect little extra touches to the meal.

Dancing follows from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The music mix will run from Big Band to classic rock & roll, current club hits to disco classics — all with a gay twist. Plus there will be slow dancing for cuddling with that special someone. Historically, the ballad mix has run from the classic Garland, Cline and Streisand to an occasional obscure golden oldie that had a whole gay subtext that one never thought about years ago.

During the dance, complimentary beer and soda will be served all evening long and there will be a champagne toast at midnight. Noisemakers, party favors and hats are included. The dining and dance areas will be smoke-free. Smoking

is allowed in the adjacent bar.

The entire package costs \$25 per person. Positive Voice members receive a \$5 dollar discount. door. If you wish to attend the dance only the admission is \$10 that includes refreshments and party favors.

Advance reservations are requested. Call (920) 435-4404 and leave a message. Reservation deadline for dinner is Dec. 29. No reservations are needed for the dance.

CAIR to Study Mental Illness, Alcohol Use, and AIDS Prevention

Milwaukee — The Medical College of Wisconsin's Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) has received a \$2.1 million, four-year National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) grant to investigate whether alcohol treatment can boost the effectiveness of HIV-prevention programs for adults with severe mental illness.

"HIV-prevention interventions can reduce high-risk sexual behaviors among people with severe mental illness, but alcohol abuse appears to be a major factor that keeps them from maintaining those behavior changes," said Dr. Laura Otto-Salaj, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine and principal investigator of the study. Previous CAIR research has shown that a majority of adults with severe mental illness use alcohol and that drinking is closely related to HIV sexual risk.

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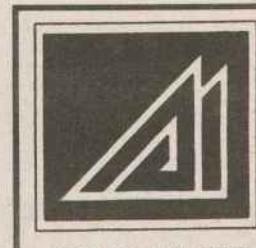
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AIDS Networks Awarded \$50k from AIDS Fund

Madison — On the heels of a recent burglary which claimed thousands of dollars in office equipment, AIDS Network ended their year on a up note after the Wisconsin AIDS Fund awarded AIDS Network a one-year, \$50,000 grant for prevention services.

The grant which will fund AIDS Network "Networks" program will expand the needle exchange prevention services in Madison, Beloit and Janesville.

Bob Power, AIDS Network Executive Director stated, "This comes as an affirmation of the outstanding efforts our employees have been making in the area of prevention and client services. As the state designated AIDS service organization for these thirteen counties, this grant award is a holiday message telling our community that AIDS Network is working hard and responsibility for all of us."

AIDS Network reports that 21 percent of all HIV infection in their service area have some link to injection drug use. Among women the percentage is even higher at 35 percent. The AIDS Network "Networks" project is one component of a complete set of prevention services which includes HIV antibody testing, prevention education and planning.

Bar Robbery Injures Two

Green Bay — An early morning armed robbery of a recently relocated gay bar in Green Bay resulted in minor injuries for two of the four victims but

little money for the robbers.

According to the victims' reports, two men wearing hooded sweatshirts and scarves entered the Napalese Lounge, 1531 Cedar Street, shortly after 1 AM December 22. The thieves entered the bar simultaneously through the front and side doors of the tavern, armed respectively with a wooden 2X4 and a semi-automatic weapon.

One struck the male patron, knocking him unconscious, while the other ordered two female customers and the bartender to lie on the floor. The thieves then collected wallets and ordered the bartender to open the cash register. After the bartender opened the register, he was struck on the hand.

The bartender then fled the building. One of the robbers chased the bartender and the other thief grabbed the cash in the register then fled. After the police arrived both the injured were treated and released. The male patron received ten stitches to close a head wound.

According to Napalese owners Ann and Nancy, the bartender's next move thwarted a more serious incident. "Instead of obeying the robbers, Jerry (the bartender) saw an opportunity to flee and call the police," Ann said. "He ran from the bar three blocks to a filling station pay phone and called."

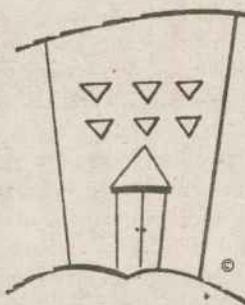
Ann believes that the bartender's action's prevented more injuries and caused the robbers to miss a lot of easily accessible money. "We had money being raised for Camp Heartland, Cerebral Palsy and AIDS which the crooks walked right past as they left," she said.

Ann also noted that security cameras in the bar recorded significant portions of the robbery. Police are reviewing the tapes.

According to Ann, there is absolutely no evidence to suggest that the robbers targeted the bar because it caters to Gay people. "None of the people involved reported any anti-Gay comments and from what I know of the robbers' behavior they just picked us at random."

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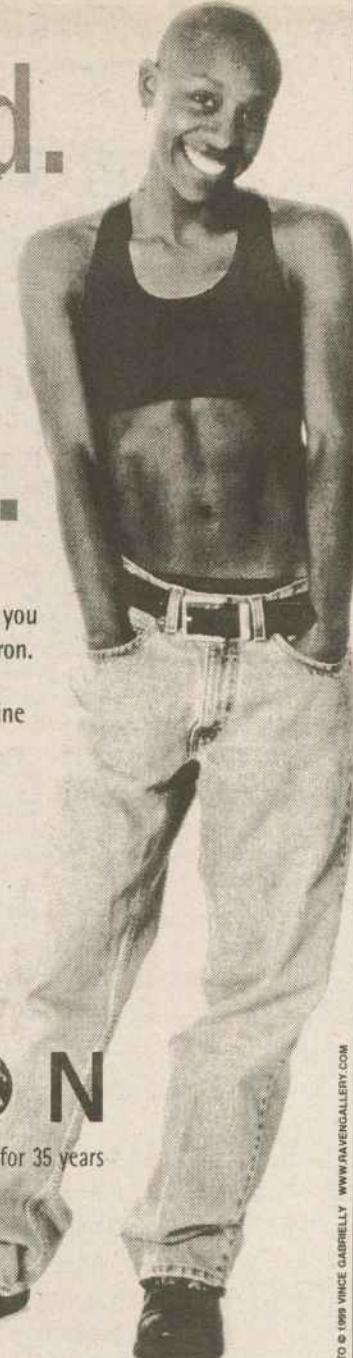


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To Be Young, Black, Gay and Marching

by Michael Crawford

As an African-American gay activist, it would be as difficult to separate my racial identity from my sexual identity as it would be to separate the left side of my brain from the right. And on April 30, 2000 it will be impossible for me to participate in the Millennium March on Washington as anything but an out and proud gay, African-American man.

I remember how empowered, how great I felt after the '93 March, and now I'm excited to have an opportunity to help create that emotional experience for other people. I am committed to the gay movement in general, and the Millennium March in particular, because I believe three things. One, I believe that no one has the right to tell me who I can and cannot love. Two, I believe that even more important than being fabulous is empowering other people to inhabit their own fabulousness. And three, I believe that queer kids have the right to a future free of homophobia, sexism and racism.

Too often, we leave it to white gay activists to fight for lesbian and gay equality and say, "That's their thing," while simultaneously criticizing those same white gay activists for not dealing with race-related issues. If we want to be taken seriously as gay and lesbian people of color, we have to be willing to put up or shut up. I think it's vitally important that people of color are involved in organizing at all levels of the queer movement.

For too long, the gay organizations that are predominantly white have not adequately addressed people of color issues. With the Millennium March, we have the opportunity to be present and make sure that all the colors of the rainbow are visible. The Millennium March board, which is composed of 50 percent people of color, has included in its vision a commitment to racial justice and the inclusion of — as well as support for — people of color individuals and organizations. For me, the commitments the Millennium March's board has made toward empowering people of color are tremendously affirming.

Understanding the breadth of that vision makes me feel valued as a total person — not just as a gay man, but also as a gay man who is African American. It's an acknowledgement of my queerness and my racial heritage, making sure it's not something I have to leave behind in order to join the gay community. When I am standing in the middle of thousands and thousands of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and supportive individuals in front of our nation's capitol, I will be black and gay, not forced into the trap of having to choose between being black or gay.

The March is important on another front. While converging in DC is an important and necessary step, the real work comes in what happens when the March is over. The real key to building the queer movement is to address the issues that are affecting people at the state and local level. State and local issues often have the most direct impact on our lives and offer opportunities for mass participation. I also believe it's a place we can have significant influence. It's important for all of us to make two commitments: to take part in the Millennium March, and then to go back home and get involved; to start taking the risks necessary to make the changes that are needed in our own communities.

If we really want to take a stand to create a better community of queer people of color, we need to be at this March. We need to make our voices heard. We have to show what we have to offer and let it be known what we expect in return.

The Millennium March is a tremendous opportunity for us to stand up, loudly and proudly, to proclaim both our queerness and our racial ethnicities.

Michael Crawford has been active in queer political and cultural organizing in Texas. He is the founder of Houston's Fabulous Boys Network, a community health project targeting younger gay men. Crawford is currently serving as a field organizer for the Millennium March.

Letter

To the Editor —

This is in response to the article on "Mazo Beach is not a gay issue, or is it?" by Scott Evertz (IN Step, Vol. #16, Issue 23).

Yes, this is a gay issue, Mr. Evertz, and you should also remember that it is a lesbian, bisexual, transgender and a heterosexual issue as well. The reasons being is that the beach and those attending it are of a diverse crowd. When one community is oppressed, we are all oppressed, and it is detrimental to all communities.

Mr. Evertz, you don't know much about the AIDS crisis to blame it on the gay community. So, why are you paralleling it with the Mazo Beach issue. Unless you want to talk about AIDS affecting us all. None of us are exempt from AIDS, Mr. Evertz, not even you. When you state that AIDS disproportionately affected gay men, people of color and IV drug users, you are taking a very heterosexual, white male, conservative Christian mainstream point of view.

What difference does it make to you or anyone else, what communities use the beach? It is open to all. The primary thinking is that clothing optional is the objective in all communities. The Mazo Beach area is a place of safety to meet people on common ground. Not only can heterosexual people meet people of like mind in a non-threatening manner but so can gay men, lesbian women, transgender people, Christian, non-Christian etc. This is a place that people can meet other people without the peer pressure of alcohol, bar games and classism. We approach each other on a common ground, even you, Mr. Evertz, can come to us on common ground.

It is everyone's issue, but Ralph Ovadal, being the homophobe that he is, wants to try to narrow this into a gay issue. The argument, plain and simple, is that we are trying to keep the Mazo Beach area open for everyone. So we all can enjoy nude sunbathing and recreation. Any illegal acts that take place should and will be prosecuted. All DNR-managed properties are patrolled for illegal acts. The reason Mazo Beach has gotten so much notoriety is because it is clothing optional. The same arrests are made at other state parks for the same reasons. It is your narrow mindedness that all arrests that are made, are only gay associated.

In summary, it is the "clothing optional" issue which seems to be a major problem here in the United States, unlike other countries. If we would just open our minds and hearts to those people are different, maybe we would understand a little more about them. Only then we can come together, instead of drawing lines of disapproval and judgment.

Michael Miller



Curing Reparative Therapy

Attempts to Change Sexual Orientation Damaging to Individuals and the Community

by Dr. Jeffrey Chernin

There has recently been a lot of controversy in the mental health community about what has become known as "reparative therapy." Originally known as conversion therapy, mental health providers who provide reparative therapy attempt to change a person's sexual orientation from lesbian, gay or bisexual to heterosexual.

Watching the debate unfold between adherents of reparative therapy and their opponents, I have observed that reparative therapists make several assumptions which they believe to be true.

The first assumption is related to attempts to prove their own credibility, in that reparative therapists have had successful "conversions," with clients expressing relief by changing from same-sex to heterosexual orientation. So, their first assumption is that if clients want to change their orientation, it should be available.

Another assumption reparative therapists make is that sexual orientation is a preference as opposed to an orientation. That is partly why reparative therapy has become an emotional issue; for those of us who have spent years coming to grips with our orientation, it's like a blow to the solar plexus for these practitioners to consider same-sex attraction to be a choice. In fact, as a therapist with experience in seeing lesbigay people since 1992, in addition to being acquainted with countless others in my 26 years of being out, I have come across only one gay person who claimed his sexual orientation was a choice.

I agreed with him that he made a good choice, which is counter to the last assumption of reparative therapists; that a heterosexual orientation is preferable to a bisexual or lesbian/gay orientation. Using out-of-context religious quotes and other rationale, reparative therapists believe that heterosexuality is the only appropriate model for sexual behavior.

Every major assumption which reparative therapists hold, however, is erroneous. Even worse, their assumptions are not only potentially harmful to clients, it is potentially damaging to the credibility of the practice of therapy.

Many of these practitioners are unintentionally preying upon people who are scared and vulnerable regarding their minority sexual orientation. Furthermore, these practitioners overlook the vast amount of psychological research which has shown that there is a period where most of us feel bad or uncomfort-

able about our sexual orientation, and at times fool ourselves into thinking we can change it.

On several occasions, I have listened to accounts from people who have undergone this type of "therapy." For those individuals who were sincerely trying to change their orientation, reparative therapy made it much more difficult to come to terms with their sexual orientation after the therapy ended. Several of them have talked about the additional torment they felt during the course of therapy, sometimes leading to suicide attempts.

There are also lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals who fool their therapists into thinking they are cured. I have spoken with "cured" individuals who had reasons to deceive their therapists. Some of them sought treatment to prove to their spouses that they are heterosexual so they could have partial or joint custody of their children. Other reasons for faking a cure include pressure from family of origin, family wills, and desiring acceptance from the therapist. As a major case in point about deception, the two men who started Exodus International, an ex-gay organization which is closely allied with reparative therapy, admitted to having a sexual relationship for several years while they were still part of the organization.

In the past, one extreme form of reparative therapy included giving male clients electric shocks when pictures of naked men appeared on a screen. Therapist suggestions to men included, "think of a naked woman right before ejaculating," and to women included, "if you would wear make up, you'd feel more womanly, and therefore, more attractive to men." These hilarious suggestions were being made in the past--and today. And, unfortunately, they are not seen as funny by the people who have been hurt by reparative therapy.

Nearly every professional mental health association, which is responsible for proper code of conduct, endorses affirmative therapy for lesbigay clients and proscribes against reparative therapy. In spite of these proscriptions, many therapists provide reparative therapy.

Ironically, it is not being lesbian, gay, or bisexual that causes lesbigay people to attempt reparative therapy. Rather, the motivation to seek this type of therapy is a response to societal prejudice and intolerance. To settle the current controversy among mental health practitioners, it will most likely take lawsuits by traumatized victims of reparative therapy that will compel reparative therapists to reconsider this practice.

Jeffrey Chernin, Ph.D. is an author and psychotherapist located in Los Angeles, California



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DP Bill Update

by Representative Mark Pocan

As many of you are aware Senator Risser (D-Madison), Representative Boyle (D-Superior) and I introduced two domestic partnership bills in October. The response for co-sponsors has been very good. The domestic partnership registry bill has 10 sponsors (Pocan, Boyle, Carpenter, Berceau, Mark Miller, Young, Bock, Black and Travis and Senator Risser). The opening of the State insurance pool to domestic partnership bill has 14 sponsors (Pocan, Boyle, Carpenter, Berceau, John Lehman, Mark Miller, Sinicki, Pedro Colon, Bock, Black, Jon Richards, Young, and Travis and Senator Risser).

The first bill, the Domestic Partnership Registry, provides requirements for forming a legal relationship of domestic partnership. It stipulates that a domestic partnership may be formed by two individuals who are at least 18 years old and who are not married or in another domestic partnership, are not related by blood, and who consider themselves to be members of each other's immediate family.

The bill makes domestic partnership requirements very similar to current marriage statutes. Further, all benefits recognized by the state for spouses in marriage would be afforded to domestic partnerships, including adoption, inheritance, tax filing benefits, insurance benefits, property rights and more, as well as all responsibilities associated with marriage.

The second bill opens the state insurance pool to domestic partnerships. This bill would allow any governmental entity that utilizes the pool to offer health insurance cov-

erage to their employee's domestic partners.

The bills have been assigned numbers and been forwarded to committees. The registry bill is Assembly Bill 608 (AB 608) and has been referred to the Family Law Committee. The insurance bill is Assembly Bill (609) and has been referred to the Committee on Insurance. Hearings have been not scheduled.

Representative Nass has indicated that he would like the bills pulled from committee and taken up on the floor. However, I believe that these bills must go through the normal legislative process. A public hearing is very important because it provides an avenue to express our concerns and a means of educating the public on these issues.

Nass's Anti-Domestic DP Bills Flounder

Last month I mentioned that Representative Stephen Nass (R-Whitewater) has introduced two anti-equity bills dealing with domestic partners. Here is a quick look at the two proposals:

AB 499 creates a new permissive subject of collective bargaining under the Municipal Employment Relations Act. Under this bill a municipal employer is not required to bargain over the provision of employee benefits to any adult who resides with a municipal employee and who is not related to that employee by blood, marriage or adoption.

AB 500 prohibits the state from pro-

viding any health and long-term care insurance coverage to an adult who resides with a state employee and who is not related to the state employee or the state employee's spouse by blood, marriage or adoption and also makes this a prohibited subject of bargaining under the State Employee Labor Relations Act.

The fall legislative session ended without the full Assembly taking up either of these bills. My hope is that we will not have to address them at all but I would not be surprised to see them on the agenda next year.

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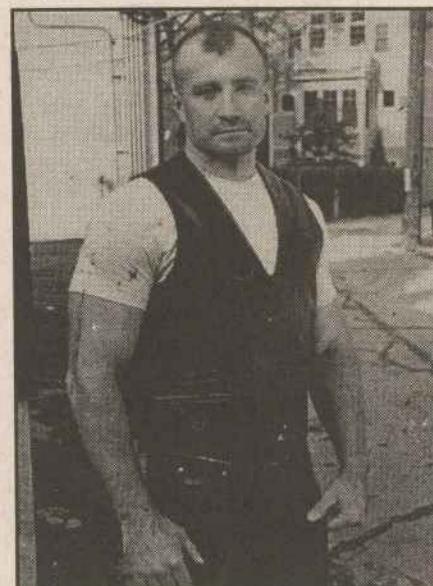
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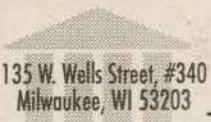
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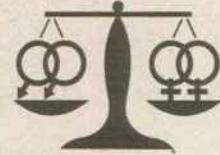
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—Filmmaker Pedro Almodóvar to the Los Angeles Times.

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—Disco singer Erin Hamilton, Carol Burnett's daughter, to the Advocate.

Flaming Closet!

"I think I behaved gayer — if that's even a word — when I was closeted than I do now. I feel more masculine now. ... I think that I was so uptight [in high school] about trying to seem straight that in the process I seemed gay. It becomes

such a facade that you can completely deconstruct it. Other people see through it so easily. And I see it in other people sometimes. I have a couple of friends who are struggling with their sexuality. And when they are out with their straight friends they're going, 'Oh, du-u-ude!' And it looks so incredibly false."

—Screenwriter Christopher Landon, son of the late actor Michael Landon, to the Advocate.

Heche to Defect?

"There will come a day when Anne Heche will be straight again. Gay men are different. If they've been straight and turn gay, they're gay, honey. But for chicks it's different, especially if they're in show business. Even when they're eating your pussy, they're still straight. I'm just looking out



for Ellen. Believe me, I'm concerned for her. Because when the shit goes down, it's not gonna be pretty."

—Actress and comedian Sandra Bernhard as quoted in Los Angeles' *Fab*.

Picking on the Wrong Lesbian

"I was terrified but I didn't let it show. I screamed at them to go away but they surrounded us and moved in. One pulled out a knife, so I used my elbows to knock two of them to the ground, then punched the third one as hard as I could in the face."

—Lesbian French tennis pro Amelie Mauresmo who decked three muggers on the Caribbean island of Guadeloupe in early December, to London's *The Mirror*.

Bi-Bi

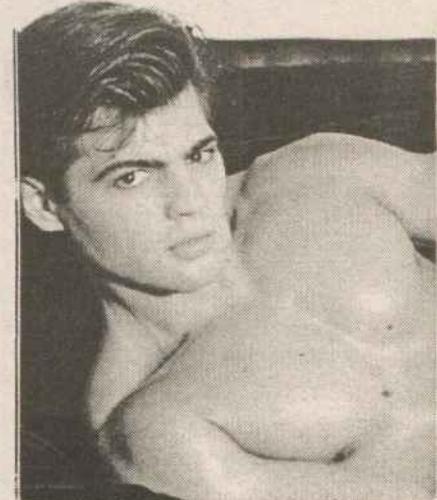
"Most bisexual men are going to be with another man — period. Get used to it. ... Men who have both male and female partners rarely wind up in a successful monogamous relationship with a woman. That's cold truth. ... Ask at the beginning of a dating excursion if the man is or has been sleeping with other men. If the answer is yes, step out of the way."

—Rhona Raskin in her Chicago Sun-Times advice column.

Very Scary

"It just seemed like the thing to do. I didn't think he needed to live any longer. ... It didn't seem any different than waking up and saying, 'I'm going to the grocery store this afternoon."

—Steve Mullins who was convicted of the anti-gay murder of Billy Jack Gaither in Sylacauga, Ala., to ABC's *20/20*.



Stryker's Asset

"He's just one of those people that thinks all he has to offer is his schlong. If he gives himself a chance then he might discover something more about himself. ... There is a saying 'you can't teach an old dog new tricks.' But I wish him nothing but the best."

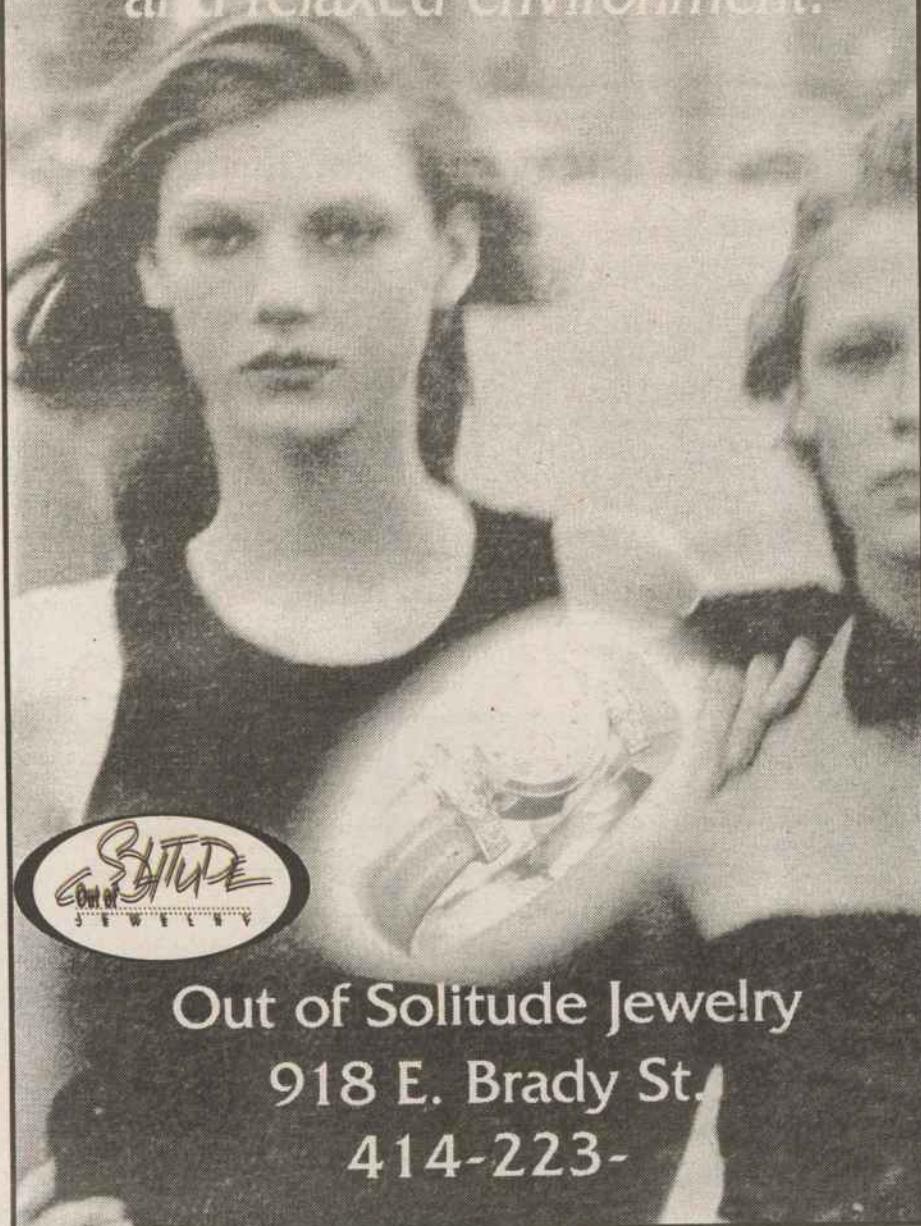
—Former gay porn star Ryan Idol on gay porn star Jeff Stryker to Los Angeles' *Fab*.

Acceptance

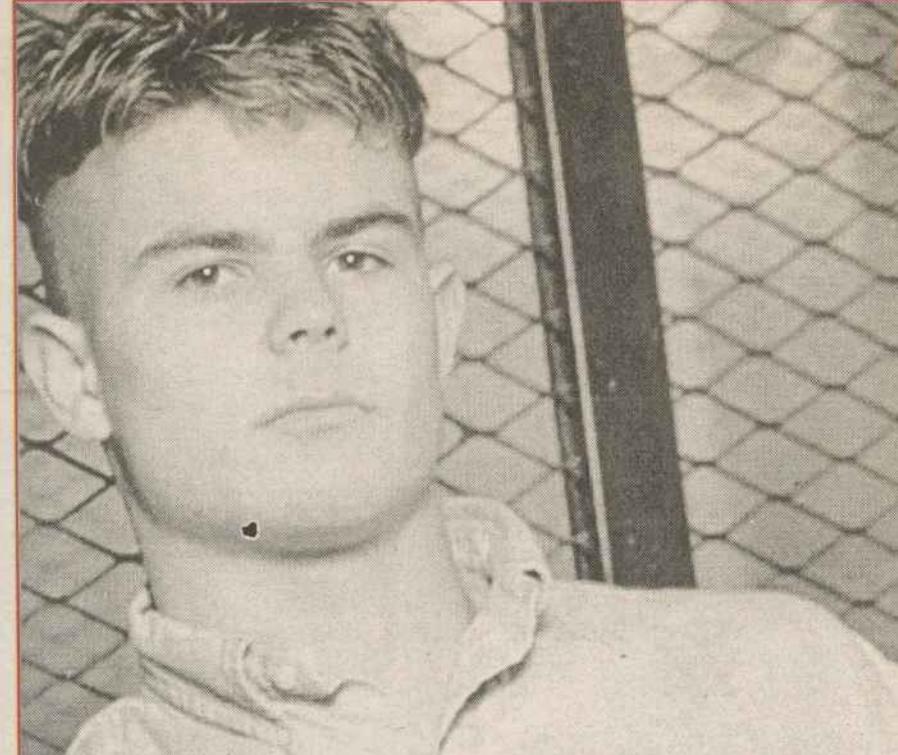
"The fact that I've been accepted by the lesbian community is a huge thing to me because that is my mother's world and it was the world I grew up in."

—Actress Ally Sheedy (High Art) to the Advocate.

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INSIDE Q:

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Bob is BACK

Interview by Jorge Cabal
of the IN Step staff

Bob Smith's rare and refreshing brand of humor — in his comedy appearance and writings has been described as more wicked than Garrison Keillor, and more optimistic than Spaulding Gray. Paul Rudnick called him "that rare phenomenon: a hilarious gentile."

Smith was the first openly gay comic to appear on the Tonight Show and the first to have his own HBO half-hour comedy special. He has just begun a new job, as a writer for Fox's *MadTV*.

I first spoke to Smith nearly two years ago at the Pfister Hotel after the release of his first book, a collection of essays titled, *Openly Bob*. That book won him the coveted 1998 Lambda Literary Award.

His new book, *Way to Go Smith!* offers another fun and moving read. In it, Smith casts his disarmingly funny eye on himself, his family and friends. He explores events in his recent life including the breakup with his longtime boyfriend and his rocky readjustment to dating. He also shared moments of ignominy and bliss from his child and teen years in Buffalo.

Recently, I spoke with Smith about his new book, his new job and more.

IN Step: How are you doing?

BS: I'm doing good. I ended the book tour and I got this job writing for *MadTV* and once you're there, you're like . . .

IN Step: A prisoner?

BS: Yeah, a prisoner of television.

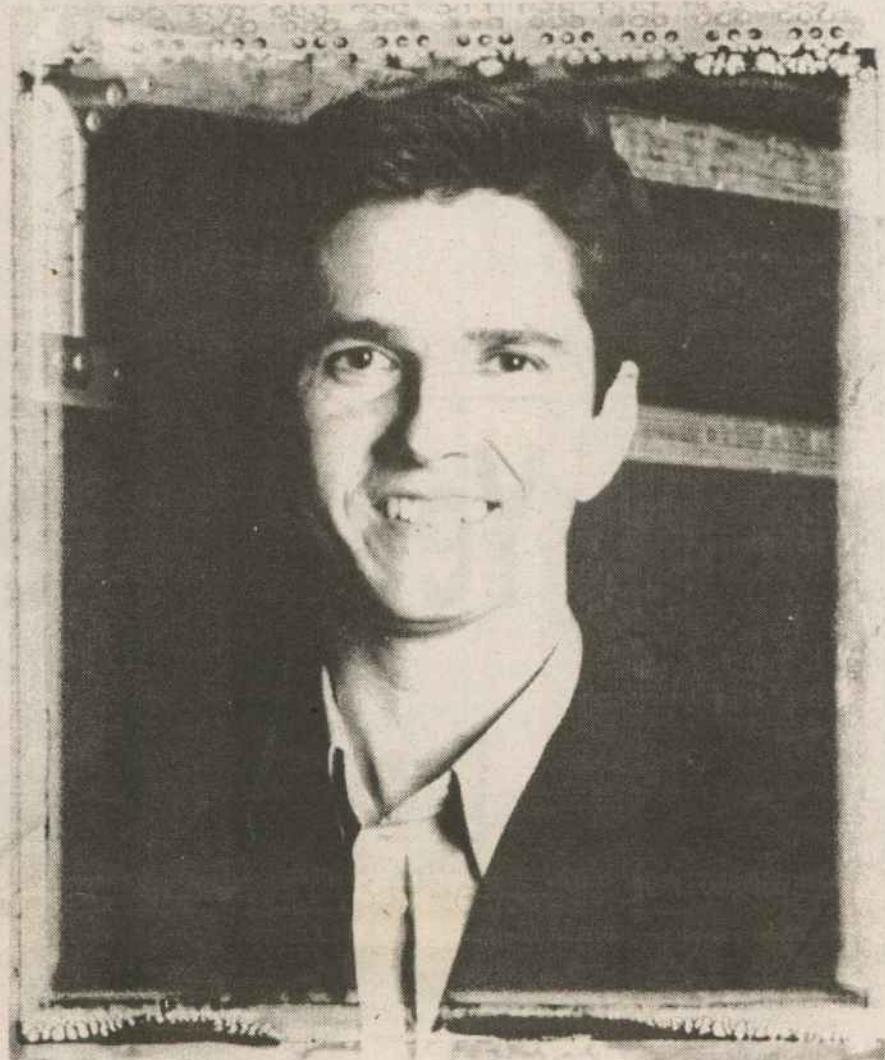
IN Step: How do you like it?

BS: Well, this was my first full week this week. Everyone's really nice there and I wrote a couple sketches, and they got a good response. It's a little overwhelming right away. It's sort of like starting school. You know when you start school, and you want everyone to like you. There are people who have been working on the show for a while, so you have to learn the ways of the show.

IN Step: Do you work with a group of other writers?

BS: There are 13 other writers, but you write by yourself. You can also write with other writers. You might be talking to someone and you come up with an idea and you go like, "Hey, do you want to write that together?"

IN Step: You were promoting *Openly Bob*, I read the book and I found it was a more uplifting book than *Way To Go*, Smith. Do you find that to be true? Do you find there's a more serious tone to it, or I am I putting too much thought into this?



BS: No, your response is completely valid.

IN Step: I mean, the humor is still there.

BS: Right.

IN Step: It just seemed a little bit more serious.

BS: Probably. Well, the breakup with Tom is definitely serious; serious with humor in it. The essay with my father is kinda serious, too. Some of the others are goofier; you know, the one about my teacher, so it's a mix. The last one or two are, I think, very funny.

IN Step: Was it easier to write this book for you than the last book?

BS: No, you get into it and it seems like the same amount of work. The one thing that I didn't want to do was repeat *Openly Bob*, I wanted people to like this book the same way, but I wanted to see if I could tell stories in a different way. It was more like that. I definitely wanted to be funny and make people laugh.

IN Step: In the new book, you talk a lot about dating... I'm wondering, if you had to write like a personal ad, what would yours read?

BS: Hmmmm! I just wrote a personal ad. It's the entire book. It would be very long. In fact that's my new dating thing, I'm just going to give people highlighted versions of both books. Here, read this and let me know what you think. I don't know, you know. I mean, single, funny gay male seeks other, you know.

IN Step: Are you picky about the men you date?

continues on page 21

Woody's Launches Interactive Games

Milwaukee — Fans of interactive entertainment, which has become a popular phenomenon in restaurants and bars throughout the nation, can now play their favorite sports and trivia games at Woody's at 1579 S. Second St.

With NTN Digital Interactive Network, patrons can compete in live play-along sports games, exciting trivia quizzes and even opinion polling through this unique, two-way interactive television network that reaches more than 17 million players a month.

Participants utilizing hand-held devices to input their answers compete simultaneously with players in other sites across the nation for points and prizes.

Adambomb to Hold Psychic Faire 2000

Milwaukee — Fortune tellers and psychics experienced in astrology, tarot, numerology, palmistry and handwriting analysis will be available at adambomb gallerie, 524 S. 2nd St., on Sunday, Jan 23 from 2 to 7 p.m. to tell you what's in your future for the year 2000! Eleven-page birth charts will be printed on the spot for \$8.

There will also be a massage therapist and reiki master available for 15 minute treatments. Readings and treatments are \$15 each. Metaphysical, magical jewelry by Simone de la Luna will be on sale. For more information call (414) 276-BOMB.

‘True to Desire’ Auditions Set

Milwaukee — On Jan. 15 at 1 p.m. Brandon Marsh Entertainment will hold auditions for *True to Desire* — The Movie will be held at 316 N. Milwaukee St., Room 444 in Milwaukee.

True to Desire — The Movie is the continuation of the 1995 cable series, bringing back some of the

old characters and adding a few new ones.

This unique return, a two-hour, made for television project, has been in development for over two years. Producers are seeking nine main characters which include, seven men ages 20-50, and two women ages 30-45. Secondary cast members include 12 persons and numerous extras.

Pre-production starts in late January with principal photography starting in March. For more information call, (414) 617-9598.

Interventions: MAM's First Y2K Exhibit

Milwaukee — The Milwaukee Art Museum's first Y2K exhibit, titled "Interventions: Art in Unconventional Spaces," will open Jan. 21. The exhibition will consist of recent work by about 12 leading international artists, and run through April 23. However, instead of presenting these artist's work in one large gallery, the art will be dispersed to discrete exhibition locations throughout the museum.

In this way, the artist's will "intervene" existing permanent collection galleries, entrances, lobby, auditorium, sculpture courtyard and grounds. To view the exhibition, visitors will navigate the entire facility, aware that this is one of the last times they will experience the museum in its present state, a configuration that has remained essentially unchanged since 1975.

The works by artists in the exhibition will represent a range of media, nationalities and working methods. Since Interven-

tions also is the first exhibition of the year 2000, it will feature artists who may lay the framework for the art of the next century and explore the range of artistic possibilities at the dawn of the new millennium.

Among the artists planned for the exhibition are U.S. artists Robert Gober, Cheonae Kim, Sharon Lockhart, Inigo Manglano-Ovalle and Elizabeth Peyton, plus Martin Honert (Germany), Cornelia Parker (Great Britain) and Ilya Kabakov (Russia/U.S.). For more information on the exhibition, call MAM at (414) 224-3200.

'Teddykins' Premiere at Chamber Theater

Milwaukee — The Milwaukee Chamber Theatre is proud to present the world premiere of Milwaukee playwright Wayne Frank's "Teddykins: An American Hero" playing Jan. 15 through Feb. 6 in the Broadway Theater Center's Studio Theater.

The play takes the audience on a ride through the amazing and adventurous life of Theodore Roosevelt using his own

words. Roosevelt underwent a self-motivated metamorphosis during his childhood from sickly, house-bound boy to outdoorsman and Rough Rider. He endured the death of his first wife and one of his children. President Roosevelt crusaded for Progressive politics, won the Nobel Peace Prize and implemented the most aggressive international policy in American history up to that time.

An assassination attempt on Theodore Roosevelt's life took place in 1912 at the Gilpatrick Hotel in Milwaukee (at what is now 3rd and State Streets) serves as a focal point for the play. Although the bullet penetrated his chest, Roosevelt proceeded to deliver a speech to the crowd as planned. Utilizing Roosevelt's memoirs, speeches and letters, Frank has created an historically accurate play. Roosevelt the character delivers dialogue that is 90 percent the former president's own words.

James Tasse will stage the production which features an all-Wisconsin cast. Robert Brian Mani will play the role of our nation's 26th president, Theodore Roosevelt, with support from Mary MacDonald Kerr and Tony Clements. Talk-backs will be held following performances on Jan. 19 at 1 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 26 at 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. and Thursday, Feb. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

A free lecture program titled "Theodore Roosevelt: A Strenuous Life in Body and Mind," is the third installment of View-Points, by Dr. John Cooper, Professor of History at UW-Madison will be presented at Centennial Hall in the Central Library on Monday, Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. For information on this event, call (414) 276-8842.

Tickets are priced at \$14.50 to \$29 for Friday and Saturday performances, and \$13 to \$26 for Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday performances. Tickets are available at the Broadway Theater Center or by calling (414) 291-7800. Student and senior discounts are available. For group information, call (414) 276-8842 or (414) 258-5140.

MIAD Presents Three Views of Social Awareness

Milwaukee — The Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design (MIAD) will present Three Views of Social Awareness in Art, Jan. 18 through Feb. 19, with an opening reception on Jan. 21 from 6 to 9 p.m. A talk by internationally known illustrator Sue Coe will be held Thursday, Feb. 3, at 7 p.m. in conjunction with the exhibition. Admission is free, but seating is limited.

The exhibition features illustrator Sue Coe's compelling and challenging images that focus on specific social issues. Coe, a New York-based artist, has produced narrative illustration series and books on such topics as animal rights and apartheid in South Africa. Through text and images, photographer Paul Calhoun documents how the lives of diverse individuals are affected by violence. Curator Barbara Cervenka traveled throughout Peru to research the violence of a lengthy civil war in Peru that transformed the colorful popular art with dark reflections of violence surrounding the artist's lives.

MIAD is located at 273 E. Erie St. in Milwaukee's historic Third Ward. The galleries are open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. MIAD is currently offering fine art and design classes for adult students at all levels. Students can choose from nearly 50 evening, weekend and workshop sessions. For more information please call (414) 276-7889.

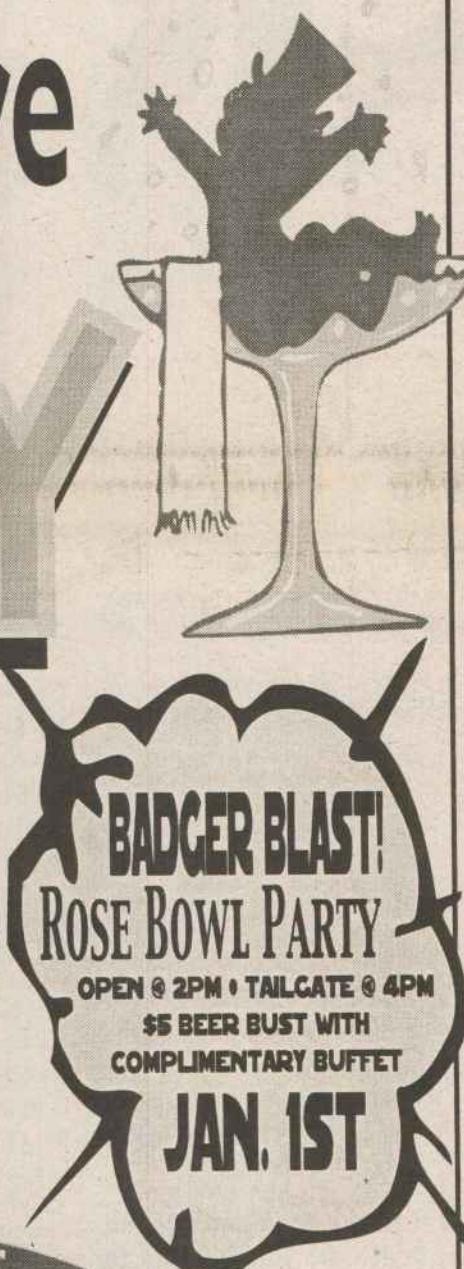
73rd Scholastic Art Awards at MAM

Milwaukee — Outstanding works by Wisconsin junior and senior high school students will compromise the 73rd annual Scholastic Art Awards exhibition to be held in the Koss Gallery of the Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM) from Sunday, Jan. 29 through Feb. 26. The major competition for students in grades 7-12, the Scholastic competition and exhibition is the regional section of the national Scholastic Art and Writing Awards program conducted nationally by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers Inc.

The MAM exhibition includes works in 14 media categories, selected by a jury of 22 artists, educators and administrators. Student artists whose work is selected for the exhibition will be awarded Gold Key (first place) and Silver Key (second place) awards. The regional Gold Key-winning artworks will advance to the National Scholastic Art Awards competition to be held at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. For more information call MAM information at (414) 224-3200.

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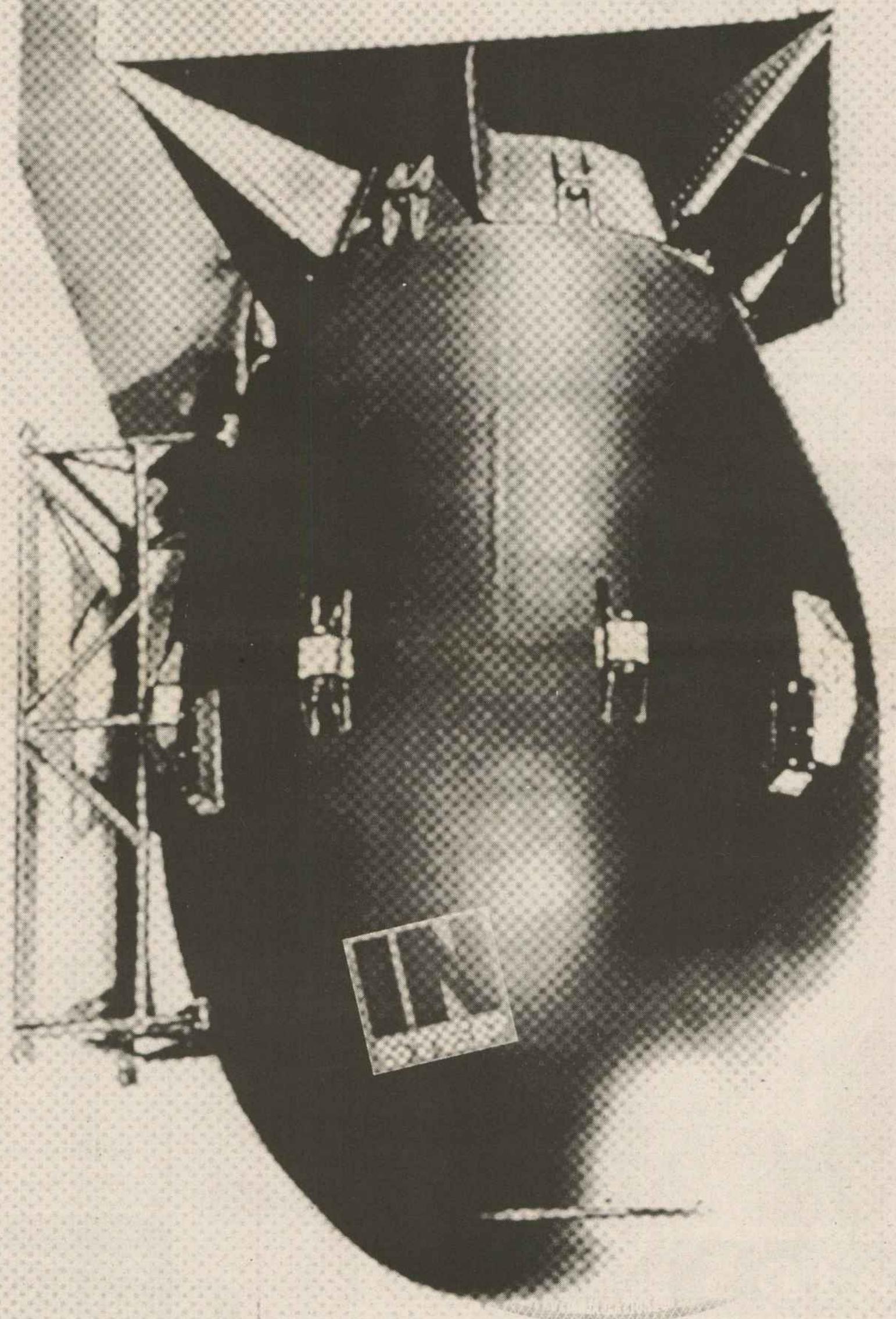
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The Talented Mr. Ripley

In the hands of Anthony Minghella, the cinematic adaptation of Patricia Highsmith's *The Talented Mr. Ripley* is an extraordinary and extravagant gift this holiday season. How rare but wonderful to find a big budget big screen film with a gay male character at the center.

Lushly filmed in scenic Italian locales,

Ripley features a wonderful jazzy soundtrack and an absolutely gorgeous cast including Matt Damon, Jude Law and Gwyneth Paltrow.

Sadly, *The Talented Mr. Ripley* proves to be more concerned with its beautiful wrapping than with the content inside, dazzling and seductive but ultimately rather unsatisfying.

Highsmith's protagonist, Tom Ripley is a decidedly enigmatic character. Highsmith is fascinated with the notion that anyone, given just the right set of circumstances, might be capable of murder.

Likewise, Damon's Ripley seems a rather ordinary young man, at least initially, eyeglasses askew on his nose. A fill-in piano player at a chic rooftop luncheon, Ripley has a chance meeting with shipbuilding tycoon Herbert Greenleaf (James Rebhorn). Greenleaf recognizes the Princeton jacket Ripley is wearing and assumes that he knows Greenleaf's wayward son, Dickie (Jude Law).

Never mind that he borrowed the jacket and has never met Dickie, Ripley accepts Greenleaf's intriguing charge of bringing Dickie back home to America.

Ripley is off to Italy and he quickly insinuates himself into Dickie's charmed circle, which includes Dickie's beautiful girlfriend Marge (Gwyneth Paltrow). Dazzled by the decadent lifestyle Dickie leads and by Dickie himself, for Ripley it is a summer of love and luxury.

When this idyllic summer ends, as summers must, Dickie decides that the time has come for Ripley to move on. What the charismatic Dickie doesn't realize is that Ripley has fallen in love not just with his lifestyle but with him as well and worse, that Ripley thinks that the feeling is mutual. When confronted with this knowledge, Dickie becomes cruel and the scene quickly deteriorates into violence.

Less the cold, calculating murderer of Highsmith's novel, Damon's Ripley is a man who has killed in the heat of passion.

Later Ripley will take on Dickie's persona (as well as his bank account), this impersonation of Dickie becoming something of an eerie act of penance.

Damon, so effective as Tom Ripley makes for an absurdly bland Dickie Greenleaf. Also, for a man whose self-proclaimed talents are "forging signatures, telling lies and impersonating almost anyone", Ripley very quickly becomes entangled within the web of deceit and murder of his own making.

Here *The Talented Mr. Ripley* becomes something of a cautionary tale, transforming itself into a rather second-rate erotic thriller.

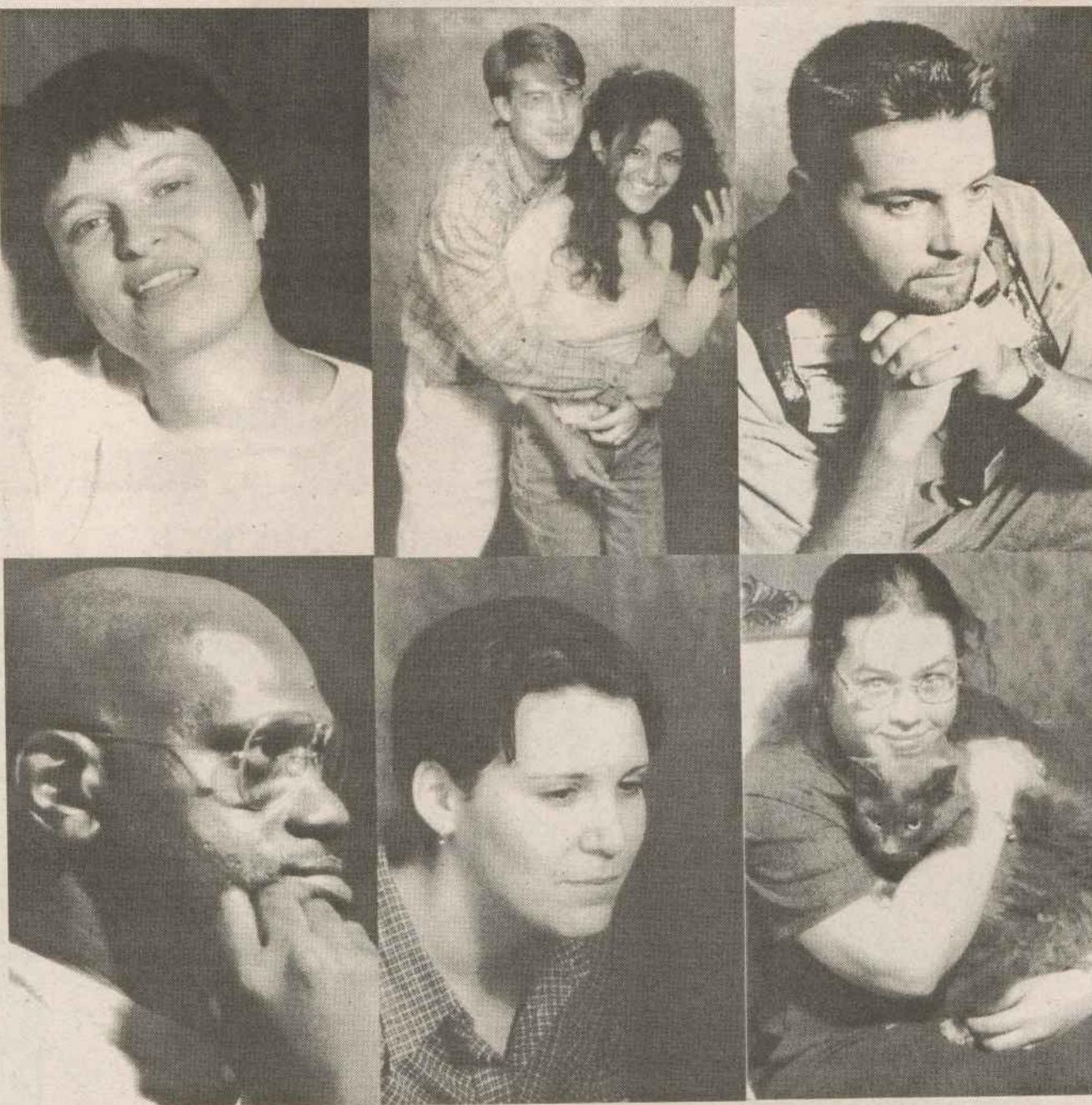
Minghella makes two highly curious choices. First, Damon's Ripley is clearly homosexual, not the highly ambiguous bisexual of Highsmith's novel. If Ripley's obsession with Dickie weren't evidence enough, Minghella feels obligated to burden Ripley with an unnecessary gay relationship late in the film with Peter. Nor do any of Ripley's scenes with Marge or Meredith (Cate Blanchett) generate any sexual heat — although this perhaps was inadvertent.

Second, and far more perplexing, Minghella turns Tom Ripley into an oddly sympathetic murderer. One speculation is that Minghella wanted Ripley to be a character with whom mainstream audiences could identify. Yet even Ripley's final, twisted murder of his lover Peter, which brings the film to its perverse conclusion, becomes very nearly justified, psychologically.

Matt Damon notwithstanding, Minghella's attractive cast shines throughout the lengthy film. Jude Law, so deliciously insolent as Bosie in *Wilde* wonderfully captures Dickie, a sexy and charismatic if ultimately quite shallow young man. Gwyneth Paltrow is equally effective as Marge, foolish perhaps to be taken in by Dickie but shrewd enough to see Tom Ripley for the counterfeit man he is. In supporting roles Cate Blanchett and Philip Seymour Hoffman particularly standout as other affluent American expatriates.

Quibbles aside, *The Talented Mr. Ripley* is enormous fun, a marvelous, romantic epic that aspires to but never quite manages greatness.

—Carl M. Szatmary



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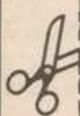
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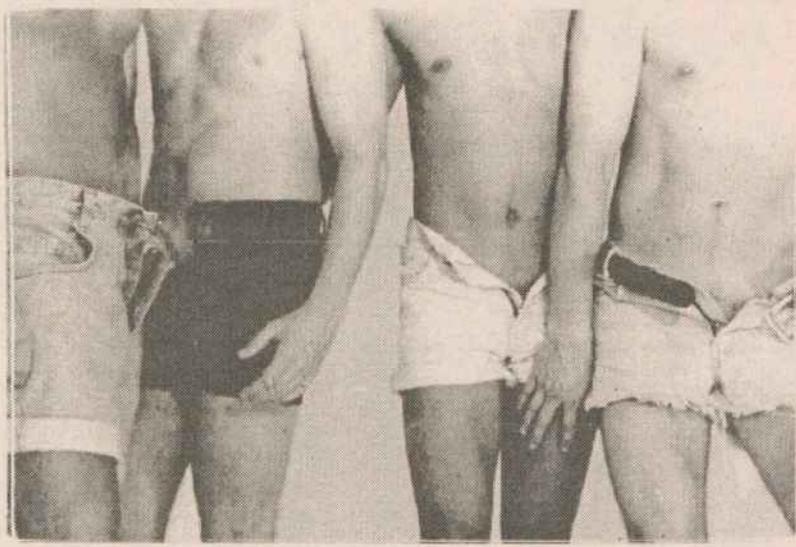


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TRUE to Desire - The Movie

TRUE to Desire - The Movie is two-hour made for television sequel to the popular television series of the same name. Brandon Marsh Entertainment is now seeking actors to join the cast which includes nine main characters and twelve secondary characters as well as numerous extras.

**AUDITION DATE: January 15 • 1 pm
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For more information about True to Desire - The Movie or about Brandon Marsh Entertainment, Inc. Call (414) 617-9598.

QINK

Gore Vidal: A Biography

by Fred Kaplan

This end-of-century biography about one of the most important gay authors and personalities of our century sums up the life and creative output of Gore Vidal. Finding enough words to describe this multifaceted man has never been difficult. One can use novelist, cultural critic, essayist, comic satirist, image maker, provocateur, actor, homosexual, bisexual, controversial, brilliant, and confrontational.

Kaplan worked from 2000 pages of notes taken at 250 interviews with Vidal. He interviewed another 150 individuals including Vidal's companion of 50 years, Howard Austen, so we get some input that's not directly from the master. Kaplan also worked from 2000 of Vidal's letters — mostly unpublished — which he used to create a backbone for this story of this story. The book is packed with photos, a large section of Endnotes and a huge index that allows you to pinpoint anyone GV ever dealt with.

Among the stories described fully and accurately for the first time are Vidal's bisexuality. Three famous women are named: Anais Nin (her age, his interest in men), Joanne Woodward (he proposed in the mid-1950s while she was waiting for Paul Newman to marry her) and Claire Bloom (who might have married him if he had asked her).

In a chapter titled "The Same Sinking Boat," the author tells of Truman Capote and Norman Mailer coming back into

Vidal's life in the mid-1970s. In 1971, Mailer and Vidal had appeared together on the *Dick Cavett Show*. Mailer verbally attacked him on the show. Truman told a "naughty" story about GV to an interviewer for *Playgirl* magazine, and Vidal sued him for slander. Capote's apology is printed in the book for the first time.

Vidal did a number on both these authors in "Myron." He made a caricature of TC as "a giggling, inept gossip named Maud, a snobbish hairdresser with a damp-looking face." Capote's behavior revolted Vidal. He felt it was one thing to be a queen, but it was altogether "another thing to be a malicious sissy whose fantasy life damaged others."

Mailer appears as "a drunken, semiviolent cook named Whitaker Kaiser, a small fat old man of fifty or so with a full head of wiry gray hair." This characterization showed Vidal's resentment of "Mailer's attack on him ... and what it represented, especially his homophobia." Later Mailer attacked him physically at a New York party in what Vidal referred to as "The Night of the Small Fists."

Other people discussed in this chapter are Bobby Kennedy, George Plimpton, William Buckley and there are some comments about Vidal's perceived anti-Semitism. In the book we also get more on the role of GV's writing portions of the screenplay for the film classic *Ben Hur*. Vidal thought Charlton Heston had all the talent of a lumber yard. Let me say that this book is full of the telling of delicious insults and retorts. For me, Vidal's own memoir *Palimpsest*, covered it all better and Vidal cut no corners when he dished the dirt. He is simply one of the best raconteurs (gay or otherwise) this country has ever produced.

If you missed that book which only covers the first half of Gore Vidal's life. This one is a well-written tome that will take you up to the current date with assurance. One reviewer said "Rather than analyzing Vidal's body of work, Kaplan provides an intensive look at the man himself ..." It's quite a look, so if you like Gore Vidal you should get this book. Kaplan lives in Brooklyn, New York, and is currently working on a biography of Mark Twain. (Doubleday, ISBN:0-385-47703-1, HC, \$35 USA, \$55 Canada).

—Ed Grover

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UW Press Series Features Queer Lives

by Will Fellows

Of course you know that Baderland's Tammy Baldwin is the first avowed lesbian to be elected to the U.S. Congress. You probably know that America's Dairyland was the first state to implement a gay rights law (ancient history, yeah). But did you know that Wisconsin is home to the first ever gay and lesbian autobiography series?

The Living Out series was launched just this year by the University of Wisconsin Press, and already it has published more than half a dozen books. Editor Raphael Kadushin, who conceived and oversees the series, says that it is intended to reach a wide audience, way beyond the academic world. Like many university presses, UW Press has been looking for ways to expand its range and improve its finances by publishing books that are of interest to the general public. He points out that a few years ago many of the books in the series would have been done by larger, commercial publishers, but their interest in gay books has fallen off in favor of blockbusters.

"Autobiography is very much about revealing secrets and telling the truth," says Kadushin, "and that, of course, is at the heart of a lot of gay literature." But he points out that the memoirs in the series encompass far more than the usual coming-out stories or accounts of sexual adventures. "The series represents a range of gay lives — a historical range and a range of experience," he says.

In addition to the three books reviewed below, the Living Out: Gay and Lesbian Autobiographies series includes: the Other Mother: A Lesbian's Fight for Her Daughter, Nancy Abrams; The Hurry-Up Song: A Memoir of Losing My Brother, Clifford Chase; Midlife Queer, Martin Duberman; Widescreen Dreams: Growing Up Gay at the Movies, Patrick E. Horrigan; and Taboo, Boyer Rickel.

In My Father's Arms:

A True Story of Incest

by Walter de Milly III

University of Wisconsin Press

This unflinching and beautifully written book is a memoir of de Milly's terrible journey from a Florida childhood filled with sexual abuse, perpetrated by his father, to a middle-adulthood of some resolution. There is a persistent sadness about his story, but anger and bitterness do not dominate. His writing is more a product of his difficult healing process than of his deep hurting. It is apparent that de Milly is motivated by a desire to understand the events of his childhood and early adulthood, not simply to vent his rage about them.

There is an elegance and eloquence to de Milly's writing that sets it apart from much autobiography. Even in reminiscing about his father, who agreed to be surgically castrated, there is a lovely poignance.

De Milly is richly inventive in his descriptions, and a delightful sense of humor comes through. His candor extends even to things he doesn't/won't/can't understand: Toward the end of his story, in describing a walk in the beach with his widowed mother, de Milly tells of her searching his face for some sign of happiness. "I wonder if it's there," he thinks. "I wonder if I'm happy or if something's still wrong with me."

An Underground Life:
Memoirs of a Gay Jew in Nazi Berlin
by Gad Beck
University of Wisconsin Press

Gad Beck grew up in a Christian-Jewish household in Berlin in the 1920s and 30s. Because he wasn't a "full Jew" in the Nazi scheme, he was not sent to a concentration camp. Constantly on the move and putting his own life at risk, he worked with a Zionist group to provide Jews living underground with food, housing, money, forged documents, and escape plans. This astonishing memoir of his twenty-two years, a tumultuous time that ends in 1945 with his liberation by Russian soldiers from a Gestapo prison.

How is it that he can tell this story with so much love and humor? "Later I often asked myself why I didn't feel more vindictive," Beck writes. "Maybe my religious faith played a role in the situation. Only God can take vengeance and punish, not a human being. Feelings of hatred are an expression of powerlessness, and I always concentrated on being as strong as possible, for myself and for others."

It is Beck's lack of malice that gives his observations about Germans, both "Aryan" and Jewish, more punch. He recalls his Jewish father's naïve belief in 1933 that if you didn't cause any trouble, if you were a "good Jew," you wouldn't suffer any consequences. He remembers a Zionist newspaper exhorting Jews to "wear it with pride — the yellow star!"

In an interview about the book, Beck observed that German Jews tended to believe that as long as their families stayed together they would survive. Except for one cousin, an entire family of Beck's relatives was murdered in concentration camps. "No one in the family had even made the slightest attempt to leave the country," Beck writes.

"All my [Christian] cousins became staunch Nazi women [but] made a gracious exception for us. 'Well if all Jews were like you...'" Beck recalls. "There were loads of Nazis like that. They nurtured their anti-Semitic prejudice, totally unimpressed by the fact that their concrete experiences with Jews were totally different from all the clichés."

Beck scoffs at the large number of Christians who told him after the war that they had secretly helped the Jews: "Many had their exceptional 'good Jew,' a good and pitiable person whom they treated

nicely to make it all the more easy to close their eyes to the mass crimes going on against humanity."

In observations scattered throughout this unsettling book, Beck sketches a portrait of "Germans" that could be seen as anti-Gentile stereotype if one didn't realize that it applies to both Jews and Gentiles. Beck observes that Germans have it ingrained in them to avoid getting involved and to obey authority unconditionally, even to the point of absurdity. He finds that Germans are impressed by official letterheads (A trait he makes good use of), and that as long as you're wearing a uniform Germans are not suspicious of you. This deference to uniform was useful to Beck: at 19, he got his Jewish lover out of a deportation camp by disguising himself in a Hitler youth uniform several sizes too large, marching in, and demanding the young man's release.

Gad Beck shakes his head at the relentless optimism of his father and other Jews, who were always looking on the bright side and reminding themselves not to worry. But it's clear that he has absorbed their influence. "I keep away from people with turned-down mouths," Beck writes. "Much too much trouble to get them turned up."

petent and worthless kind of person."

In this moving and richly revealing memoir, Manrique explores his own queer life and key periods in the lives of three of contemporary literature's most important Hispanic Writers, all maricóns: Manuel Puig, Reinaldo Arenas, and Federico García Lorca. Eminent faggots? Manrique chose the bilingual title Eminent Maricónes because it reflects his own bicultural life and because of the oxymoronic effect of putting those two words together.

Manrique grew up in Columbia and now lives in New York City. The first chapter is a candid and witty chronicle of his childhood and adolescence, mostly in South America; he moved to the U.S. with his mother when he was in high school. "From my earliest childhood to today ... my life has been a struggle to find dignity in being a maricón," he writes. "It is to Lorca and Puig and Arenas that I must give thanks. Their examples have made my path less uncertain." Manrique knew Puig and Arenas intimately, and his accounts of the conflicted, tragic lives of all three men are at the heart of this volume. The book ends with an incisive snapshot of Manrique's own life in his fifth decade.

Eminent Maricónes:
Arena, Lorca, Puig and Me
by Jaime Manrique
University of Wisconsin Press

Maricón is a Spanish term for a homosexual man, a faggot. "A maricón is a person taken seriously, as an object of derision," writes poet and novelist Jaime Manrique. "Without exception, maricón is used as a way to dismiss a gay man as an incom-

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

Dec. 29 through Jan. 12, 2000

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, December 31

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys - New Year's Eve Pink Party (Madison, WI): DCC will be dancing at the New Years Eve Pink Party at the Madison Civic Center starting at 9:30 p.m. FMI call (608) 245-0627.

Flaming Dykasaurus - Lesbian Revue (Madison): The show will take place at James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 2146 E. Johnson Street, at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the door and are priced \$6-\$10 sliding scale. Everyone is welcome. Wheelchair accessible and the show will be ASL interpreted. For more information about the show, call 608-241-7020 or visit them on the web at: <http://flamingd.webjump.com/>

Gay Y2K - New Year's Eve Dance Party (Chicago): Dance 'till dawn at the Midwest's largest gay millennium party at the Congress Theater. Tickets are \$95 per person and you might be able to purchase one at the door. FMI call (312) 409-1947 or visit www.GAY-Y2K.com.

PINK PARTY - New Year's Eve OutReach Fund-Raiser (Madison): This is so popular there may not be tickets at the door, so plan ahead. It will be at the Civic Center on State Street. The dancing-only part is \$12, but the bigger picture of comedians and food plus dancing is \$35. Because it is our umbrella organization and one of Madison's major advocacy agencies, OutReach provides meeting space and gives support to all LGBT endeavors. FMI & tickets, (608) 255-8582.

Saturday, January 1

Frontiers Gay/Bi Men's Group - New Year's Open House (Madison): Spend 1 to 5 p.m. on the first afternoon of the new year socializing with friends. There will be music, conversation and card games. FMI call host Larry J. at (608) 233-9008.

FrontRunners Milwaukee - Weekly Run/Walk (Milwaukee): This weekly run/walk starts at 9 a.m. from St. Mary's Water-tower. Join the group for brunch afterwards. Everyone is welcome. FMI contact Bill Morley (414) 278-0787 or wmorley@pitnet.net.

Sunday, January 2

Perfect Harmony Chorus - Weekly Rehearsal (Madison, WI): Meet and sing every Sunday at Grace Episcopal Church on Capitol Square from 7 to 9 p.m. Enter from the West Washington side of the court yard. FMI (608) 232-0528.

Wednesday, January 5

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys - Dancing (Madison, WI): At 7 p.m. there will be Swing Dance lessons led by Kris. At 8 p.m. there will be Line Dance lessons led by Bill. From 9 p.m. to close there will be Open Dancing at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N Sherman Ave. in the Northgate Mall. Smoke-free & a cash bar. There is a \$3 suggested donation. Everyone is welcome & Western Gear is not necessary. FMI call (608) 245-0627.

Wisconsin Cream City Chorus - Weekly Practice (Milwaukee): Practice takes place at 7 p.m. at the LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St. FMI call (414) 276-8787 or (414) 271-2656.

Friday, January 7

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys - Dancing (Madison, WI): At 8 p.m. there will be General Dance lessons led by Sharon or Bill. From 9 p.m. to close there will be Open Dancing at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N Sherman Ave. in the Northgate Mall. Smoke-free & a cash bar. There is a \$3 suggested donation. Everyone is welcome & Western

Gear is not necessary. FMI call (608) 245-0627.

Wednesday, January 12

Dairyland Cowgirls & Cowboys - Dancing (Madison, WI): At 7 p.m. there will be Beginning Line Dance lessons led by John C. At 8 p.m. there will be Couple Two Step lessons led by Kris. From 9 p.m. to close there will be Open Dancing at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N Sherman Ave. in the Northgate Mall. Smoke-free & a cash bar. There is a \$3 suggested donation. Everyone is welcome & Western Gear is not necessary. FMI call (608) 245-0627.

BAR SPECIALS:

Sundays:

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

Club 5/Planet Q/The Barracks (Madison): Sunday Miller Lite Beer Bash from 3 to 8 p.m. Power Hour from 8 to 9 p.m. Doubles for \$1 more up to \$3.25 regular drinks. Pitchers of Long Islands are \$10 from open to close. Live Drag & Male Strippers. Patio opens in June.

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

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

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

Fannies (Milwaukee): Open at 3 p.m. \$1 off all Miller products. \$4 pitchers of beer.

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): Underwear Night! \$1 off all alcoholic beverages for those in their underwear. DJ Eddie.

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

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

Ray's Bar & Grill (Madison): Patio bar open at 2 p.m. Beer Bash from 2 to 8 p.m. Open volleyball. Food available from 2 to 6 p.m. 2/4/110 p.m. to close.

South Water St. Docks (Milwaukee): During the day there is a \$1 beer sale from 3 to 9 p.m. on selected varieties. Shirtless Sunday Nights with Jake and Steve M. Half-price tap & rail if your shirt is off. 9 p.m. to close.

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

Switch (Milwaukee): SIN Night

The Ballgame (Milwaukee): Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds \$2.50. Tap beer 90¢ from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Rail drinks \$1.80 6 p.m. to closing.

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

Woody's (Milwaukee): \$5 Beer Bust. Packer Bashes. Be Part of the Cheese Head Club!

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

Mondays:

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

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

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

Fluid (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 to 8 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

South Water St. Docks (Milwaukee): Cocktail Hour! 3 to 8 p.m. Tickets good until 9 p.m. \$1 off top and rail 9 p.m. to midnight.

Switch (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 6 to 9 p.m. Girl's Night Out! 2-4-1 rails and tops for the girls from 9 p.m. to close.

The Ballgame (Milwaukee): Domestic beer \$1.50, rail drinks \$1.90. 9 p.m. to close.

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

Triangle (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 9 p.m. 2-4-1 drinks! \$4 pitchers of beer. Melrose Place Mondays.

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

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

Tuesdays:

Barracks - Levi/Leather (Madison): 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 4 to 8 p.m. 2-4-1 on all drinks under \$3.50 plus the Happy Hour Wheel. From 8 p.m. to close pints of Lite \$2. Rail drinks 50¢ off. Shots of Cuervo or Doctor's \$1.50

Boot Camp Saloon: (Milwaukee): Cocktail Hour - 4 to 8 p.m. It's Leather Night! Prizes throughout the night.

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

Chicago Eagle (Chicago): Free pool.

Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): 2-4-1 Happy Hour from 4 to 8 p.m. on drinks up to \$3.25. 50¢ off all tops & rails. Cuervo & Dr. \$1.50 Karaoke from 8 to 11 p.m. Power Hour from 8 to 9 p.m. Doubles for \$1 more up to \$3.25 regular drinks. Shots of Hot Sex or Pucker are \$1.50. Pitchers of Long Islands are \$10 from open to close. Patio open in June.

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

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

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

Fannies (Milwaukee): Karaoke Night! Pull tabs. Drinks as low as 25¢. Dart leagues starting the 2nd week of January. Sign up now!

Fluid (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 to 8 p.m. Bottles of Corona & shots of Cuervo \$2 from 8 p.m. to close.

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

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

The Kloset (Beloit): 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.

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

Kathy's Nut Hut (Milwaukee): Mexican Night! 4 p.m. to ?

Clip & Save New Year's '99 Party Guide

Flaming Dykasaurus - Lesbian Revue (Madison): The show will take place at James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 2146 E. Johnson Street, at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the door and are priced \$6-\$10 sliding scale. Everyone is welcome. Wheelchair accessible and the show will be ASL interpreted. For more information about the show, call 608-241-7020 or visit them on the web at: <http://flamingd.webjump.com/>

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of Madison's major advocacy agencies, OutReach provides meeting space and gives support to all LGBT endeavors. FMI & tickets, (608) 255-8582.

Club 5 - Y2K Madness (Madison): Party with them from 11 a.m. to 6 a.m. Free Buffet & champagne. Shots by Desiree. Party hats & favors. DJ John live at 10 p.m. FMI call (608) 277-9700.

Dish - New Year's Eve Bash (Milwaukee): Two floors of Millennium Madness from 8 p.m. at 235 S. 2nd Street. There will be a Dance Club Party on the first floor and a Disco Party on the second floor. There will be champagne and party favors. FMI call (414) 273-DISH.

Fluid - Y2Gay Party (Milwaukee): This will be their last party of the century and they will be open 33 1/2 hours! There will be a Midnight Buffet & a Service Industry Party with a DJ at 3 a.m. 819 S. 2nd St. FMI call (414) 645-8330.

Park Bar - New Year's Eve (Milwaukee): There are three party packages for this new bar at 788 N. Jackson St. (Day of prices are: PB1 \$25, PB2 \$100, includes VIP card for free admission during 2000 & PB3 \$175 includes VIP card) Don't miss your

chance to win \$2000. Doors open at 7 p.m. and close at 5 a.m. or later FMI call (414) 272-7550.

Ray's - New Year's Eve (Madison): Join in and celebrate the new Millennium. Party all night long. There will be hats, horns & champagne. 3054 E. Washington Ave. FMI call (608) 241-9335.

Triangle - New Year's Eve (Milwaukee): Celebrate their spectacular New Years Eve event. Meet the future at 135 E. National Ave. FMI call (414) 383-9412.

Switch - New Year's Eve '99 (Milwaukee): Switch into the new Millennium. \$50 package includes open bar from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. with top shelf and rail drinks, tap and bottled beer, wine and soda. Champagne and party favors at midnight and a buffet. Reserve your spot now by calling (414) 220-4340.

Woody's - New Year's Party (Milwaukee): Open from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. with no cover charge. Midnight balloon drop with over \$500 in prizes. Party favors, champagne and buffet. For more information call (414) 672-0806.

BS: Yeah, but it's weird. Sometimes I think I'm attracted to one type of guy and I'll meet someone who's different and not that type. It's not even picky, there's certain things you sort of respond to and you don't know it until you meet that person, unless you have like, this one specific type, you know: he has to be blonde and have one green eye and one blue eye.

IN Step: What are some of the positive things that came out of the breakup?

BS: I feel like I know a little bit more about myself and how my life is. That I can go on with your life and work, and you know, survive it. It made me closer to my family. My friends certainly proved themselves again and again how they were there for me. Those are good things. The sad part is that it's still always gonna be sad, you know.

The reason I wrote about it, too, was that the first book was so much about me and Tom. I really didn't want to write about it. It's the first essay in the book, the last essay I wrote. I started writing a version of it and what made me want to write about it, too, was that it wasn't just about me breaking up with Tom, it was about me becoming closer to my mother. I also think that we've seen a lot of things about heterosexual couples breaking up, but I don't think there's many things that I've certainly read or even in movies and stuff about the gay relationships that go wrong.

IN Step: It was like a slice-of-life kinda thing. But, near the end of the first chapter (I don't want to get too specific for those people who haven't read the book, yet) you mentioned that you realized that your relationship was over at the last therapy session you had together. You asked Tom when he realized that the relationship was over. He never gave you an answer. There was never an answer in the book; did you ever get an answer?

BS: I never got an answer. You know, he made a joke out of it, which I think is very funny and that was sort of my answer: "Well, I'm not gonna tell you, and if you can't think of something make up your own thing."

IN Step: Another interesting thing about when you were talking about the breakup is that it appears that you and Tom didn't break up because of another individual.

BS: I don't know if it is always true that gay couples

breakup because of someone else. I've met some people who broke up that way, but I'm not saying that all couples do. I think that gay people need to know more about how our relationships work.

When you said the book was more serious, part of it is that I think I was a little bit more ambitious in this book. I wanted the writing to be really clear, and I wanted the jokes to come out of the story and the descriptions and stuff like that.

IN Step: It appears that the women in your family are very funny...

BS: Yeah, my mother's funny. Definitely. Part of my sense of humor is developed in response to that.

IN Step: What do your family and friends think about being in the book?

BS: They've been good about it. I usually let people know what I'm doing and stuff. I mean, my grandmother's dead, so I don't think she'll complain from beyond the grave although I'm sure she's tempted to.

IN Step: Was writing this book therapeutic for you?

BS: In a broad sense, yes. The thing about writing for me is that it sometimes clarifies what I really think about something because you go through so many versions of it and you really have to get to the heart of what you think about a subject. It may be just an interesting story or a character.

IN Step: Do you consider yourself to be a writer or a comedian ... or both?

BS: Both! But I feel like the comedy is always come out of the writing anyway, because I always wrote jokes and told jokes and stuff like that. So, I would definitely be a writer/comedian. When I write a book, I want it to read like a book. I don't want it to read like, jokes in a book because that doesn't interest me, really.

IN Step: Do you ever visualize any of the books written in the form of a film?

BS: No, I really don't to be honest. But sometimes when I'm telling a story I want them to be visual; I want you to be able to imagine the situation. To me that's part of the fun of writing.

IN Step: How would you judge the state of gays on television? How do you think Will and Grace stacks up to Ellen?

BS: Well, I feel there would be no "Will and Grace" without "Ellen." Without a doubt she paved the way for them. It's not a show about one gay person, it's a show about two gay people.

I think "Ellen" was really funny and I disagreed with a lot of people who said, "Oh she doesn't act funny and she harped on things." I thought there were some hilarious episodes on that show. I haven't seen every episode of "Will and Grace," but I have seen some episodes that I thought were really, really funny.

There were others that were not as funny, but that's on any sitcom; they're not all gonna hit 100. I do feel that they have a very wonderful cast on Will and Grace. They're very lucky to have picked the right performers. The thing about Will being the "asexual gay" is a little ... you want him to get laid. Finally, I think they're working their way toward that, or at least that's what I hear.

IN Step: Do you think we'll see more gay characters on television? Do you think that the industry is becoming less homophobic?

BS: I do. I do in the long run, yeah. The writing on "Ellen" was brilliant. "Will and Grace" are trying to do a different thing; they're trying to make it more sitcom, I think.

IN Step: They are sticking to more of a formula?

BS: What's interesting is that Will and Grace is getting more viewers. It's hard to make changes in a formula. The formula works by Hollywood standards, not artistic standards. It's all about ratings.

IN Step: Do you consider yourself to be political?

BS: Definitely. Yeah. I've always had material about homophobia, and the Catholic church in my standup acts. And then, in the sense that I've always performed at straight comedy clubs, and just getting up on a stage and saying, "Hello, I'm a gay man and this is my life," in front of 300 straight people who don't know you takes some nerve, I think.

IN Step: Are you making a statement?

BS: Yeah, and like, you're communicating with people, hopefully with humor.

IN Step: Let's say that your book is going to be made into a film. Who would star in the movie version of your book? Who do you see playing yourself?

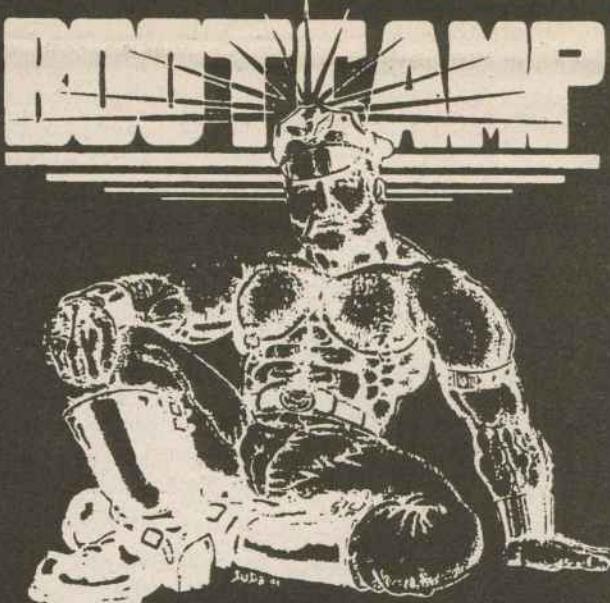
BS: Maybe Bill Campbell from Once and Again. (Laughter). Of course, you want to always cast someone really handsome. ▼

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Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): Open 8 p.m. Levi/Leather. Miller Time! Miller Lite, \$1.50 taps and \$2.00 bottles.

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

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

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

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

South Water St. Docks (Milwaukee): Cocktail Hour! 3 to 8 p.m. Tickets good until 9 p.m. 2/4/1 all day, all night (open to close).

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

Switch (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 5 to 9 p.m. Boyz Night! 2-4-1 top shelf and rail mixed drink and taps for the guys.

The Ballgame (Milwaukee): Special Export \$5 pitchers and 90-cent mugs from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

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 (beerm & soda).

Woody's (Milwaukee): Double bubble, all day, all night.

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

Thursdays:

Barracks - Levi/Leather (Madison): 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.

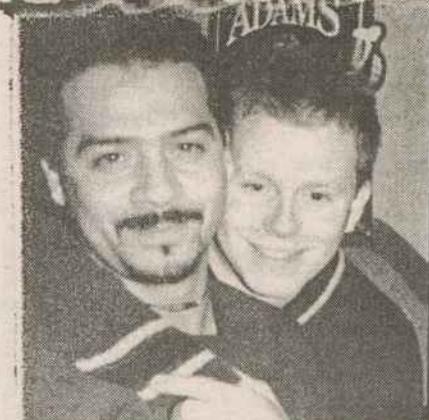
Club 5/Planet Q (Madison): 2-4-1 Happy Hour on all drinks up to \$3.25. Frozen cocktails \$3. Pitchers of Lite \$5. Will & Grace Night: \$1 off Martinis during the show. Power Hour from 8 to 9 p.m. Doubles for \$1 more up to \$3.25 regular drinks. Shots of Hot Sex or Pucker are \$1.50. Pitchers of Long Islands are \$10 from open to close.



More Beautiful people. Photo by Josh @ Park Bar



Leon on me. Photo by Jamie @ Fluid



Holiday hug. Photo by Jamie @ Fluid



Jonah fan club. Photo by Jamie @ Woody's

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): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 to 8 p.m. Cosmopolitan Martinis \$3 from 8 p.m. to close.

Jo'Dees International (Racine): \$6 SUPER BUST! MGD and Miller Lite. 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): 2-4-1 on all mixed drinks from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. DJ Eddie!

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

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

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

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

Switch (Milwaukee): Full Service Patio Bar open. Cocktail Lounge and DJ 9 p.m. to close.

The Ball Game (Milwaukee): Bloody Marys, Screw Drivers, Grey Hounds \$2.30. Tap beer \$0.50 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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

Woody's (Milwaukee): Interactive TV Trivia Day!

Fridays:

Barracks - Levi/Leather (Madison): 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.

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

Club 219 (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'.

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

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

Fluid (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 to 8 p.m.

Jo'Dees International (Racine): 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.

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

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

Milwaukee Eagle (Milwaukee): Open 8 p.m. Fetish Nite! 50¢ off all beverages for those who are Fetish dressed from 10 p.m. to close. 2-4-1 on all mixed drinks from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Shaft Bar opens at 10 p.m. Dress Code enforced. DJ Eddie.

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

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

Switch (Milwaukee): Happy Hour - 6 to 9 p.m. Full Service Patio Bar open. Cocktail Lounge and DJ 9 p.m. to close.

The Ballgame (Milwaukee): \$2.50 bloody screw and greyhound & 90-cent taps... 11am to 6pm.

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

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

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): 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.

Fluid (Milwaukee): 2-4-1 drinks from 5 to 8 p.m.

Jo'Dees International (Racine): Vanilla & Original Doctor's, Cherry Cheesecake, Cherry LifeSaver's and Viagra shots.

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

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

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

Bar Events:

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

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

Jo'Dees International (Racine): 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.

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

Woody's (Milwaukee): Interactive TV Trivia Day!

Bar Events:

Friday, December 31

Club 5 - Y2K Madness (Madison): Party with them from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free Buffet & champagne. Shots by Desirée. Party hats & favors. DJ John live at 10 p.m. FMI call (608) 277-9700.

Dish - New Year's Eve Bash (Milwaukee): Two floors of Millennium Madness from 8 p.m. at 235 S. 2nd Street. There will be a Dance Club Party on the first floor and a Disco Party on the second floor. There will be champagne and party favors. FMI call (414) 273-DISH.

Fluid - Y2Gay Party (Milwaukee): This will be their last party of the century and they will be open 33 1/2 hours! There will be a Midnight Buffet & a Service Industry Party with a DJ at 2 a.m. 819 S. 2nd St. FMI call (414) 645-8330.</p



Still more beautiful people. Photo by Josh @ Woody's

spot at 130 S. Central Ave., above the Thimbleberry Bookstore. Come and meet local LGBT people, enjoy Videos and Dancing. Everyone is welcome to attend. Carry-in Alcohol accepted. FMI call Jim (715) 384-6731 or Vic (715) 387-2068.

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

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

Saturday, January 1

Planet Earth: World comes to an end after a millennium maltdown. **AIDS Network - HIV/AIDS Support Group (Madison, WI):** This group meets from 10 a.m. to noon at UW Hospital, 600 Highland Ave. in K6/Rm. 280, 2nd floor. FMI call (608) 252-6540 or 1-800-486-6276.

GLB AA - Open Meeting (Madison, WI): This meeting takes place every Saturday at 6 p.m. at OutReach, 14 W. Mifflin, Suite 103. FMI call (608) 255-8582.

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

Sunday, January 2

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

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

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

LGBT Community Center - Meditation Circle (Milwaukee): The Circle will begin with centering and grounding exercises followed by guided meditation. It will evolve as the group desires, and meets from 10 a.m. to noon on the 1st Sunday of the month at the Center, 170 S. 2nd Street. FMI call (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Community Center - Conversations With God (Milwaukee): The group meets from 10 a.m. to noon on the 3rd Sunday of the month at the Center, 170 S. 2nd Street. FMI call (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Community Center - Drumming Circle (Milwaukee): The group meets from 10 a.m. to noon on the 4th Sunday of the month at the Center, 170 S. 2nd Street. FMI call (414) 271-2656. **Rainbow Friends - Quaker Worship Group (Madison, WI):** This group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 11 a.m. Diversity is encouraged, feelings are honored, and boundaries are respected. FMI & location, call (608) 250-7989.

Rebuilding Faith - LGBT Catholics (Milwaukee): The group meets monthly from 10:30 to noon at Holy Trinity/Guadalupe, 613 S. 4th St. The month's topic will be Advent: Waiting in Hope. FMI call (414) 481-8543.

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

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

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

Monday, January 3

BGLASS - Weekly Meeting (Appleton, WI): The Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Straight Society meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 109 of Coleman Hall at Lawrence University Memorial Union, 615 E. College Ave. FMI call Irene (920) 722-7572, Bernie (920) 982-0220, or Harriet (920) 749-1629.

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

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

LGBT Community Center - Membership Drop In Nights (Milwaukee): These are low-key, casual nights on the first Monday of the month. Board games, pool and Ping-Pong are available, along with



Bartender School Photo by Jamie @ Woody's

snacks and coffee. Not a member? Stop by and see about the benefits. Free for members, \$2 for non-members. FMI call (414) 271-2656.

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

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

Tuesday, January 4

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.

LGBT Community Center - Lesbian 12-Step Al-Anon Group (Milwaukee): Al-Anon is a 12-step recovery program for relatives or friends of alcoholics. This group meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism with a relative or friend. FMI call (414) 271-2656.

LGBT Community Center - Project Q Youth Drop In Night (Milwaukee): The group meets Tuesdays from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Fridays from 5 to 10 p.m. Drop In nights provide a variety of youth activities in a space that is welcoming, safe and accessible to LGBTQ (questioning) youth. FMI call (414) 271-2656.

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.

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

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

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

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.

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

Wednesday, January 5

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.

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

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.

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

Saturday, January 8

Integrity/Dignity - LGBT Religious (Madison): There will be a liturgy held at 6 p.m. at St. Francis House, 1001 University Ave. FMI call (608) 836-8886.

LGBT Community Center - Membership Drop In Nights (Milwaukee): These are low-key, casual nights on the first Monday of the month. Board games, pool and Ping-Pong are available, along with



Joshin' around. Photo by Jamie @ Triangle



Giggle club. Photo by Jamie @ M&M

main gallery currently is showing a selection of paintings, prints and sculptures by artists who have exhibited during the past year. The lobby gallery features painting by Jason Rohlf. FMI call Wm Budelman at (414) 272-1007.

THEATER ARTS:

Friday, January 7

Madison Rep - New Play Opening (Madison): WHAT CORBETT KNEW by Jeffrey Hatcher opens at the Isthmus Playhouse of the Madison Civic Center, 211 State St., and runs through 1/30/2000 FMI & tickets call (608) 266-9055.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra - Classicsa (Milwaukee): The MSO begins the new millennium with the music of BRAHMS & COPLAND at 7:30 p.m. in Uline Hall. Also on 1/8 at 8 p.m. FMI & tickets (\$17 to \$57) call (414) 291-7605 or 1-800-291-7605.

Monday, January 10

MSO Chorus - Auditions (Milwaukee): New singers will be auditioned from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. Singers are asked to call (414) 967-1905 or send e-mail to sacrament@execpc.com for information or to schedule an audition time.

UWM Fine Arts - Lab/Works PTP (Milwaukee): USA HARROW will perform one-woman show of SHAKESPEARE'S WOMEN at 7:30 p.m. Also at 7:30 p.m. 1/11 to 13 & 9 p.m. on 1/14/2000 Lab/Works at 7:30 p.m. 1/14 & 15. FMI call UWM Box Office (414) 229-4308.

Wednesday, January 12

Milwaukee Rep - Theater Previews (Milwaukee): John Steinbeck's OF MICE AND MEN is in preview through 1/13/2000. The production will run through 2/13/2000 in the Quadracci Powerhouse Theater. FMI call (414) 224-9490.

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Thursday, December 30

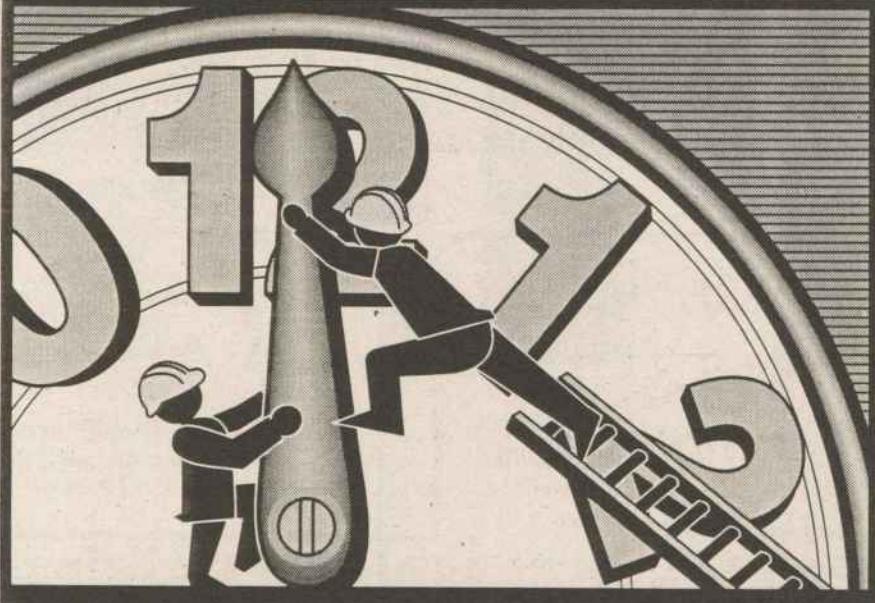
Michael H. Lord Gallery - Current Exhibit (Milwaukee): The

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Keepin' In Step

Y2K

by Jamie



Yeah I know, you're tired of hearing about Y2K but I gotta tell you about a few things you may not have heard about.

For instance. Did you know that most D-size batteries have a microchip in them. Yup, this is one of the chips that engineers forgot about. From what I understand, at the stroke of midnight 2000, this chip will send a surge of power to whatever gadget you have them in, either making that gadget go berserk or overload the circuits and burn it out. Why am I telling you about this you ask? This is just a warning for you to forgo your vibrator until you've had a chance to purchase Y2K-compliant batteries. I wouldn't want to hear of some unfortunate mishap while pleasuring yourself with defective batteries.

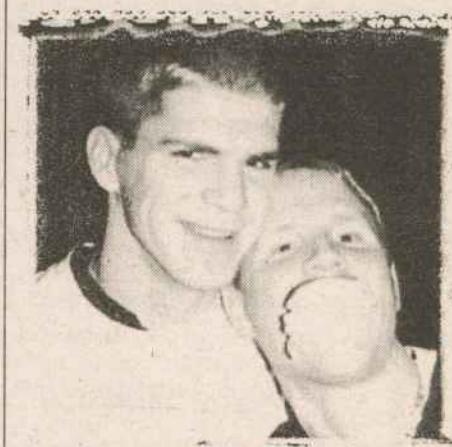
The other thing you may not have heard about has to do with all of your Jeff Stryker videos. I was talking to an insider of the porn industry who told me that while they were filming all of his videos, somehow a "bug" was encoded into the video data. That bug is going to do some strange things to your video. After the first of the year, Jeff Stryker's wang is going to shrink to an unbelievable 3-inches long and a pitiful 1-inch circumference. Instead of him saying, "lick those balls" and "eat that ass" it will sound like "lick those heals" and "eat that snatch." The insider told me there is no known fix. It's all pretty sad.

Yup, those are just a couple of things I've heard and wanted to pass them along to you. Josh and I have decided to avoid any Y2K disasters by sitting in the basement with a 55 gallon drum of fresh water, 12 cans of Spaghettios, 2 gallons of Wet, a big comforter and an 8-pack of fresh Y2K D-size batteries. Oh yeah... and a copy of EuroBoy.

Well, Christmas has come and gone. There were parties galore all over Wisconsin. The first one for me was over at **Woody's**. Lots of the Woody's gang was there celebrating the cumming of Santa. **Triangle's** party was just as fun. Only I got a bit more sloshed at Triangle drinking all of those nasty Tequila shots. **Dusty Sass** kept buying for me. Okay, he didn't buy me a bunch but he did have one with me. The staff at Triangle was great, making the whole night lots of fun. Speaking of that night, I did get a friendly reminder from the staff at **La Cage** that I had probably had enough and sent me on my way. Back over at Triangle, **Josh** got the keys away from me so I couldn't drive anywhere.



Camera Shy. Photo by Jamie at Woody's



What would Miss Manners say? Photo by Jamie @ Triangle

The holiday party over at **Switch** was a blast as well. Lots of yummy food and plenty of great people to dish with. **Craig** was on hand to make sure everyone had a great time. His mother and grandmother were there also celebrating ... Atta girl. Over at **Club 219** the party consisted of plenty of **Chuck's** Italian cooking, lots of drinks and of course, hottie strippers. The other great cook in this city is **Rick** at the **Ball Game**. Their Christmas party boasted more of his great cooking and as always, lots of friendly folks. Fluid threw a fabulous Holiday party with prizes, surprises and yummy Christmas martinis.

Out in Madison, **Club 5** put together a great Holiday show with the famous **Simply Divine** and **Ms. Caroline**. The show raised lots of cash that Ed donated to the areas homeless shelters. Way to go Ed. They also celebrated a fantastic 5 years in business. Hats off to the staff at Club 5 for making it one of Madison's best night clubs.

That's gonna do it for now. I still have 40 gallons of water to filter before December 31st. Make sure you check out the ads in this issue (I hope you saved your last issue as well) for plenty of things to do for the turn of the Century. I'm gonna hit Triangle, Dish and probably LaCage. If the world doesn't come to a crashing hault by next deadline, I'll fill you in on how things went in our basement. Until then be safe and as always, slower traffic keep right.

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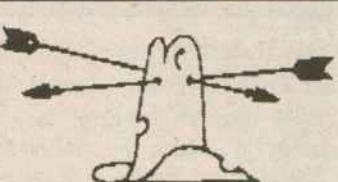
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IN Step's Classics are only \$10 for up to 30 words. Next DEADLINE: Jan. 7 @ 5pm.

ADVERTISING

DEADLINE: Don't miss the next issue of IN Step. Display ad deadline is Fri., Jan 7, 1999 for the issue appearing, Jan. 13. Make your ad reservation today! IN Step's offices are located at 1661 N. Water Street, Suite 411. We are open every week day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call our advertising Hotline at (414) 278-7840, Extension #2 to reserve your ad.

AUTOMOTIVE



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EMPLOYMENT

Human Resources/Screener Part-time: Do you love talking to people? Are you a good judge of character? If so, we have a unique opportunity in our downtown service firm for a part-time professional to phone screen applicants. Work Mon. & Thur. 1:30 p.m.-7 p.m. and Tues., Wed., and Fri., 3 p.m.-7 p.m.; occasional Saturdays. Some prior phone work desired. Please fax resume to Chris @ (414) 278-5991.

Help Wanted: Bar staff wanted for new dance bar. DJ, bartenders, bar backs and doormen. Apply in person. January 6-8. Noon to 6 p.m. at 625 South Second Street, or call (414) 277-5040.

Reward: Models needed for local and national gay advertising. No experience required, positive attitude healthy appearance a must. For a confidential interview call (414) 272-2116 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

IN Step is the leader in LGBT publications in Wisconsin, and this is your opportunity to join the staff of one of the most dynamic gay publications in the Midwest. IN Step is currently accepting resumes for:

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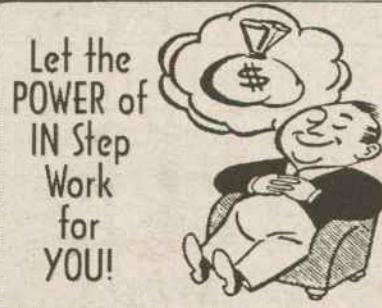
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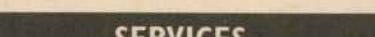
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Average looking husky, funny bearded Polish-Italian gentle warm cuddly, top gwm bear. 47, 5-10, 240 lbs, br/blu, HIV-, ISO adventures with young orally bottom buddys of any race, gay or bi, under 35. Serious only need apply. Detailed letter with photo answered first, all will be answered, ASAP. Rob, P.O. Box 2215, Kenosha, WI 53414-2216

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daledwin@hotmail.com

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CITY TOP

GWPM, great shape mid 40s seeking insatiable for no strings attached after work "workouts." You: 25-45, good shape thirsty btm. ataman99@hotmail.com

LEATHER GUY

GWM 6' 190 lbs smoker. Looking for it leather-loving guy 30-45 for friendship and fun times. Milw area.

Call (262) 253-0267 7-9PM

or e-mail rjohn_wi@hotmail.com

YOUNG NATIVE STUD

My name is Ian, I'm a healthy HIV+ for the last 8ys, my age: 29, ht: 5'9, wt: 165lb, body hair only where it belongs, soft olive skin, love to do all kinds of "cute" things theater, traveling, art openings, film fest and about sex: "versatile." Looking for a gentlemen with good heart and mind. PS: no hangups, sonwolf@home.com or icq#34408029

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I am 28 br/br gwm, 160lbs 5'6" workout 2 to 3 times a week looking to meet so one around my own age to enjoy the cold winter nights with enjoying wine great food, shows, movies, live music, or just staying home my haven or your ixxam@webtv.com

NEEDS A MAN!

Young, gay white male (24) needs a MAN! looking for someone to kick it with, anyone under 30 considered, must be adventurous and open minded. want to know more email to MqqnPuppY@email.com

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Attractive/Single GWM, 6', 166#, brown hair/hazel eyes/muscular. Is ISO of GWM, GAM, or GHM, for friendship/LTR. Person must be honest, caring, stable, str8acting, and no attitude. E-mail to milwaukeeagemale@yahoo.com

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SERIOUS MINDED

GWM, 22 years old looking for serious minded people. If you are looking for sex... skip this. Clean fun and serious. 6'4", 250lbs. ddlboy@hotmail.com

BATHHOUSE BUDDIES

Buff, hung GWM, 48 NS brown, brown, 5'11", 175, top/versatile... seeks similar. Maxiline fantasies/kink OK. Your looks/body OK. HIV+ preferred. P.O. Box 3171, Madison, WI 53704-3171

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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 (www.orcw.org)
820 Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee 53202 (414) 273-1991
(800) 359-9272

BiNet USA (Nat'l bisexual political organization)
(<http://norn.org/pub/other-orgs/brc/binet.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, Milwaukee 53234-1611
<http://homepage.interaccess.com/~hdriider/home.shtml>

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

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

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-Us of A Pageants) (414) 432-2517

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

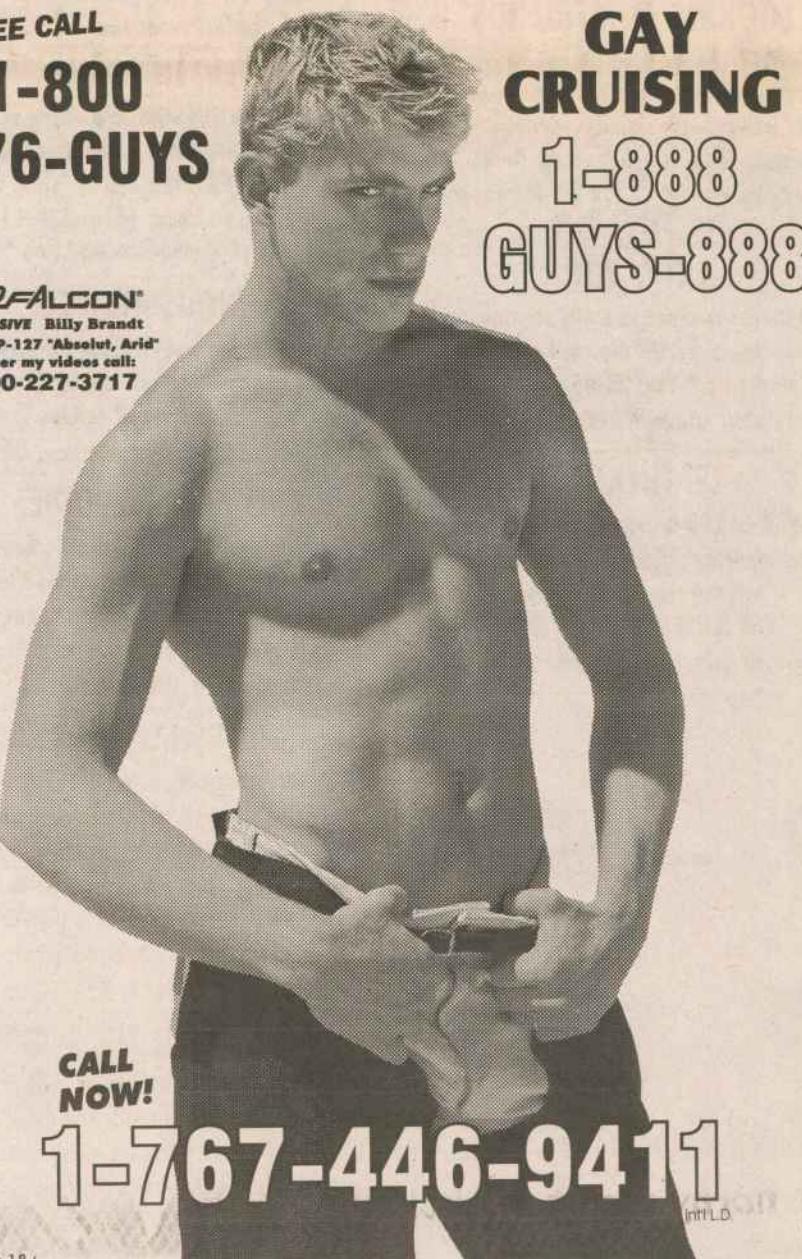
Wisconsin AIDS Library
arcwib@execpc.com (800) 359-9272

Wisconsin AIDSline (free/anonymous) (414) 273-AIDS
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Wisconsin Boot Men (A contact service for men into boots)
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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 (www.orcw.org)
120 N. Morrison St., Suite 201, 54911 (920-773-2048)
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 Brandys II (Mw, L/L)
1126 Main Street, Green Bay, 54304 (1-800-311-3197)

Buddies (MW) (437-9256)

1264 Main Street, Green Bay, 54304

1 Napalese Lounge (MW, DJ)
515 S. Broadway 54303 (432-9646)

2 Javas (MW, V)
1106 Main 54301 (435-5476)

2 Zos (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 (www.orcw.org)
824 S. Broadway, 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)

Men's 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)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.orcw.org)
222 State St., 53701 (258-9103)

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

Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital (HIV Counseling/Testing)
80 1st St., Prairie du Sac, 53578 (643-7151)

BARS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ORGANIZATIONS

Bi? Shy? Why?
(Bisexual Support Group) (257-5534)

PO Box 321, 53701

Brew City Bears
PO Box 8815, 53708-8815 (414) 299-0401

e-mail: bcbears@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 Bicycling Club (241-8184)

18-21 Yr Old Social Group (256-2667)

Frontiers (Gay/B Mens Activities Orgn.)

14 W Mifflin, Ste 103, 53703 (274-5959)

Gay/Lesbian Information Recording (ask for tape #333) (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 (Outreach's Out-line) (255-4297)

Kissing Girls Production (Lesbian Cultural Events)
PO Box 6091, 53716

Lavender (Lesbian Domestic Violence Support Group) (255-7447)

LesBiGay Issues Committee (UW Advisory Comm.)

Dean of Student 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 & Picoda) or (246-7606)

Lesbian, Gay and Bi Law Student Union (UW Law School, Bascom Hall, Madison 53706)

Madison Volleyball Group (Jeff) (251-8716)

Madison Wrestling Club (PO Box 8234, 53708) (244-8675)

MAGIC Picnic Committee (c/o Outreach) (255-8582)

Mens Alanon (255-8582)

New Harvest Foundation (G/L Foundation) (PO Box 1786, 53701)

Nothing to Hide (gay cable) (241-2500)

OutReach, Inc. (600 Williamson St, 53703) (225-8582)

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 (Liro)) (608/238-9150)

Rainbow Friends (Quaker Worship Group) (250-9789)

Shake It Up! (L/G/B/T Social Org) (http://www.mailbag.com/users/dkr/shake.html)

4701 Judy Lane, 53704-1723 (241-2500)

10% Society (student organization) (http://tps.storg.wisc.edu, e-mail: execs@tps.storg.wisc.edu)

P.O. Box 260394, 53726 (262-7365)

Unicorns of Madison (L/L club) (PO Box 536, 53701)

UW LesBiGay Alumni Council (Russell Betts) (262-2551)

Womonsong (Woman's Choral Group) (246-2681)

RELIGIOUS

Integrity/Dignity (Box 730, 53701) (836-8886)

Affirmation (L/G United Methodists) (University Church, 1127 Univ. Ave, 53705) (256-2353)

James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church (2146 E Johnson, 53704) (242-8887)

Services

Victoria Hewelt Cazel (Attorney) (6701 Seybold Rd., Suite 103) (270-1709)

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

RETAIL

Border's Books (3416 University Ave., 53705) (232-2600)

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 (Sue 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)

Nikki (774-5055)

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) (271-25

PO Box 11428, 53211 263-SING
 Firebirds (L/L group) 53202
 Front Runners (Running Group) 332-1527
 http://execpc.com/~blockjn/frontrun.html
 Galano Club (chemical free recovery club) 276-6936
 2408 N. Farwell 276-6936
 GAMMA (sports/outdoors/recreation/social) 365-3453
 P.O. Box 1900, 53201 264-9180
 Membership Information 264-9180
 http://www.execpc.com/~mkegamma
 Gay Father's Group 372-8008
 Gay/lesbian/Bi Community at UWM 229-6555
 Gay Lesbian Education Employees of Metro Milw. (GLEEMM), Larry 462-8404
 Gay/lesbian Studies UWM 229-6402
 Gay & Lesbian Tavern Guild 209 East National, 53204
 Gay People's Union 562-7010
 PO Box 208, 53201 562-7010
 Gay Youth Milwaukee (regular peer group meetings) 265-8500
 PO Box 09441, 53209 276-7626
 Gemini Gender Group (TV/TS/TG Support/Social) 297-9328
 PO Box 44211, 53214 voice mail 297-9328
 Girth & Mirth/Milwaukee 482-4310
 P.O. Box 862, 53201-0862
 GLEAM (GLBT Employees of Amrich) 235 S. 2nd St., 53204 297-9328
 P.O. Box 254, 53201 297-9328
 G/L Community Center Trust Fund 643-1652
 P.O. Box 1686, 53201 643-1652
 Great Lakes Harley Riders 228-1921
 PO Box 341611, 53234-1611
 Human Rights League (HRL) 228-1921
 PO Box 92674, 53202 228-1921
 Holiday Invitational Tournament (G/L bowling event) 381-4038
 PO Box 899, 53201 228-1921
 Imani (Support/Social Group for Black Lesbians) 521-4565
 Keep Hope Alive (HIV Holistic Support) 548-4344
 PO Box 27041, West Allis, 53227 548-4344
 LAMM (Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee) 264-2600
 PO Box 93323, 53203 264-2600
 Lesbian Gay Bisexual Awareness Alliance (LGBAA) 264-2600
 Stephanie King, Carroll College 524-6966
 LOC/Women of Color 299-9443
 PO Box 93594, 53203-454-9300
 Log Cabin Republicans (Gay Republicans) 299-9443
 PO Box 199, 53201 299-9443
 MGALA (MU Graduates) 963-9833
 PO Box 92722, 53202 963-9833
 Marquette LesBiGay Student Group 288-6873
 Campus Ministry, 617 N 14th St, 53233 288-6873
 Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club (Scott) 543-9643
 Milwaukee LGBT Community Center (www.mkelight.org) 170 S. 2nd St., 53204 271-2656
 Narcotics Anonymous (request gay mtgs.) 543-4850
 Orgullo Latino/a Latin Pride 1532 N. Astor (c/o Murguia) 271-2656
 Outdoors Cooperative Sports Group 963-9833
 Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) 299-9198
 PO Box 21853, 53221 299-9198
 Pathfinders (Youth counseling, shelter) 271-1560
 1614 East Kone Place, 53202 271-1560
 PrideFest (Pride Committee) 272-FEST
 PO Box 93852, 53203 272-FEST
 The Queer Program (Cable TV Show) 265-8500
 PO Box 09441, 53209 265-8500
 Riverwest Rainbow Association 225-1645
 1001 E. Keefer Ave., 53212 225-1645
 SAGE Milwaukee (For older LesBiGays) 271-0378
 PO Box 510492, 53203 after 4pm 271-0378
 Saturday SoftBall League (SSBL) 454-9204
 PO Box 92605, 53203-0091 454-9204
 Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA) 299-0755
 Sherman Park Rainbow Assoc. 777-3986
 PO Box 76115, 53216 777-3986
 Shoreline (Country Dancing, Instruction) 962-9822
 PO Box 510283, 53203-0051 962-9822
 Silver Space (Group for Older Lesbians) 271-2565
 c/o Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett 271-2565
 S.O.S. (Alcohol/Addiction Recovery) 442-1132
 UJIMA, Inc. (African Am. Support/Social) 263-5330
 2821 N. 4th Street, 53212 263-5330
 FAX 263-5530
 WI. Leather Mens Assoc. Inc. 263-5530
 PO Box 897, 53201-0897

RELIGIOUS

ARCW Spiritual Care 225-1565
 PO Box 92487, 53202 225-1565
 Cross Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ) 344-1746
 1821 N. 16th St. 344-1746
 Dignity (G/L Catholic Church) 444-7177
 PO Box 597, 53201 444-7177
 Lake Park Lutheran Church 962-9190
 2647 N. Stowell Ave., 53211 962-9190
 Lutherans Concerned 372-9663
 PO Box 1676, 53201 372-9663
 Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church (UMCC) 332-9995
 PO Box 1421, 53201-1421 332-9995
 Pentecost Lutheran Church (Reconciled in Christ) 445-2696
 5226 W. Burleigh St. 445-2696
 Plymouth Church-UCC (Open & Affirming) 964-1513
 2717 E. Hampshire 964-1513
 The Sanctuary (Ecumenical, nondenominational) 1636 W. National 647-9199
 St. Ann's Church 259-1229
 5933 W. National Ave., 53214 259-1229
 St. Camillus (Interfaith AIDS Ministry) 259-4664
 10101 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53226 259-4664
 St. James Episcopal Church 271-1340
 833 W. Wisconsin Ave. 271-1340
 First Unitarian Society (Unitarian Universalist Church) 1342 N. Astor 273-5257
 Village Church (Reconciled in Christ) 273-7617
 130 E. Juneau Ave. 273-7617

MEDICAL

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.arcw.org) 273-1991
 820 Plankinton Ave., 53203 273-1991
 (800) 359-9272
 Mark Behar, PA-C (Family / Primary Care) 933-3600
 Family Care Center, 1834 W. WI, 53233 933-3600
 BESTO (Brady East STD) Clinic (STD diagnosis and treatment, HIV tests) 1240 E. Brady 53202 272-2144
 BESTO Womens Clinic 272-2144
 1240 E. Brady, 53202 272-2144

Gay Mens HIV+ Support Group 272-2144
 BESTO Clinic 272-2144
 Gay Men's Support Group for Partners of HIV+ Men 272-2144
 Health Options (Holistic Health Services) 225-9303
 823 N. 2nd Street, #811, 53202 225-9303
 Dennis C. Hill Outreach Center (HIV testing, condoms) 342-4333
 4311 W. Vliet, 53208 342-4333
 Positive Health Clinic 219-7908
 Medical Center Specialties Clinic 219-7908
 945 N. 12, 53233 219-7908
 St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry (Nursing Care) 259-4664
 10101 W. Wisconsin Ave., 53226 259-4664
 STD Specialties Clinic 264-8800
BARS

1 Ballgame (Mw, V, D, F) 273-7474
 196 S. 2nd St., 53204 273-7474
 Barbie's Playhouse (Wm) 700 E. Meinecke, 53212 374-7441
 3 Boot Camp (M, L/L) 209 E. National Ave., 53204 643-6900
 4 C'est La Vie (Mw, D) 231 S. 2nd St., 53204 291-9600
 5 Club 219 (Mw, DJ, V) 219 S. 2nd St., 53204 271-3732
 4 Dish (Wm, DJ) 235 S. 2nd St., 53204 273-DISH
 Emeralds 801 E. Hadley, 53206 265-7325
 6 1100 Club (Mw, L/L, DJ, F) 1100 S. 1st St., 53204 647-9950
 2 Fannie's (Wm, D, F) 200 E. Washington St., 53204 649-9003
 9 Fluid (Mw) 819 S. 2nd St., 53204 645-8330
 22 Kathy's Nut Hut (WM, G/S, F, D) 1500 W. Scott 53201 647-2673
 7 La Cage (Mw, DJ, V) 801 S. 2nd St., 53204 383-8330
 21 Milwaukee Eagle (Mw, DJ, D) 300 W. Juneau Ave., 53203 273-6900
 10 M&M Club (MW, F) 124 N. Water 53202 347-1962
 29 South Water Street Docks 354 E. National Ave., 53204 225-9676
 20 Station 2 (Wm, D) 1534 W. Grant 53215 383-5755
 30 Switch (Mw) 124 W. National Ave., 53204 220-4340
 13 This Is It (M) 418 E. Wells 53202 278-9192
 18 Triangle (M, V) 135 E. National 53204 383-9412
 31 Woody's (Mw, D) 1579 S. 2nd St., 53204 672-0806

COFFEE HOUSES/RESTAURANTS

Annex (10pm-after hours) 1106 S. 1st St. 53204 384-7999
 Azteca 816 South 5th St., 53204 383-8816
 Bear Brew (Coffee House) 708 N. Milwaukee St., 53202 224-8877
 Cafe Knickerbocker 1030 East Juneau, 53202 272-0011
 Campzuchi 1205 E. Brady St., 53202 291-5233
 Chip and Pys 1340 W. Towne Square Rd., Mequon, 241-9589
 Gielito Lindo 733 South 2nd St., 53204 649-0401
 Fitzpatrick's W2596 Hwy E.S., East Troy, 53120 642-7999
 Harry's Bar and Grill 3539 N. Oakland Ave., 53211 694-6800
 La Fuente 625 South 5th St., 53204 271-8595
 10 M&M/Glass Menagerie (lunch, dinner, Sunday brunch) 124 N. Water 53202 347-1962
 North Shore Bistro 272-0111
 Riverpoint Village, I-43 & Brown Deer 351-6100
 Silver Dollar Cafe 831 South 16th Street, 53204 645-8860

HELP LINES

The Force (referrals to GLBT counselors) 276-8487
 Gay Information Svcs. (referrals) 444-7331
 Gay Bash Hotline (confidential) 444-7331
 Gay Youth WI Hotline 272-TEEN 888-GAY-TEEN
 Helpline (Crisis Counseling) 271-3123
 Pathfinders (24-hour youth counseling/referrals) 271-1560
 Wisconsin AIDSLine (free/anonymous) (414) 273-AIDS (800) 334-AIDS
 Milw. Mayor's Office LesBiGay Problem Resolution 286-2200

SERVICES

Able Amazon (Home Repair, Remodeling) 447-0251
 Affiliated Mortgage 453-6700
 1233 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa, 53218 536-7575
 Barney H. Moore Agency (Insurance) 7655 W. Luschke Ave., 53218 332-9584
 Bay Tax Service, Paul Rathjen 405-7843
 Sean Buckley (Individual Psychotherapy) 562-2403
 Carlo's (Hair Styling) 604-0713
 Creative Home Concepts (Home/Remodel) 964-5945
 Downtown Autobody (Car Repair) 3425 N. Holton Ave. 964-7170
 Roland E. Daneau, CPA (Accounting/Tax Service) 962-1400
 Discovery & Recovery Clinic (Counseling) 6510 W. Layton Ave., 53215 282-6160
 Financial Planning Services (Investments/Insurance) 445-5552
 Theodore I. Friedman, PhD (Psychotherapist) 2266 N. Prospect, Suite 206 53202 272-2427
 Full Moon Productions (Women's Music Promoters) N235 Co Hwy W, Campbellsport, 53010
 Gay/Lesbian International News Network (GLINN) PO Box 93626, 53203 (Fax 289-0789) 289-8640
 GLINN Voice Mail 289-8780
 Rod Gilbert (Prudential Real Estate) 784-9360
 Voice Mail 797-7600
 GLINN Network One (Internet Access, www.gn1.net)

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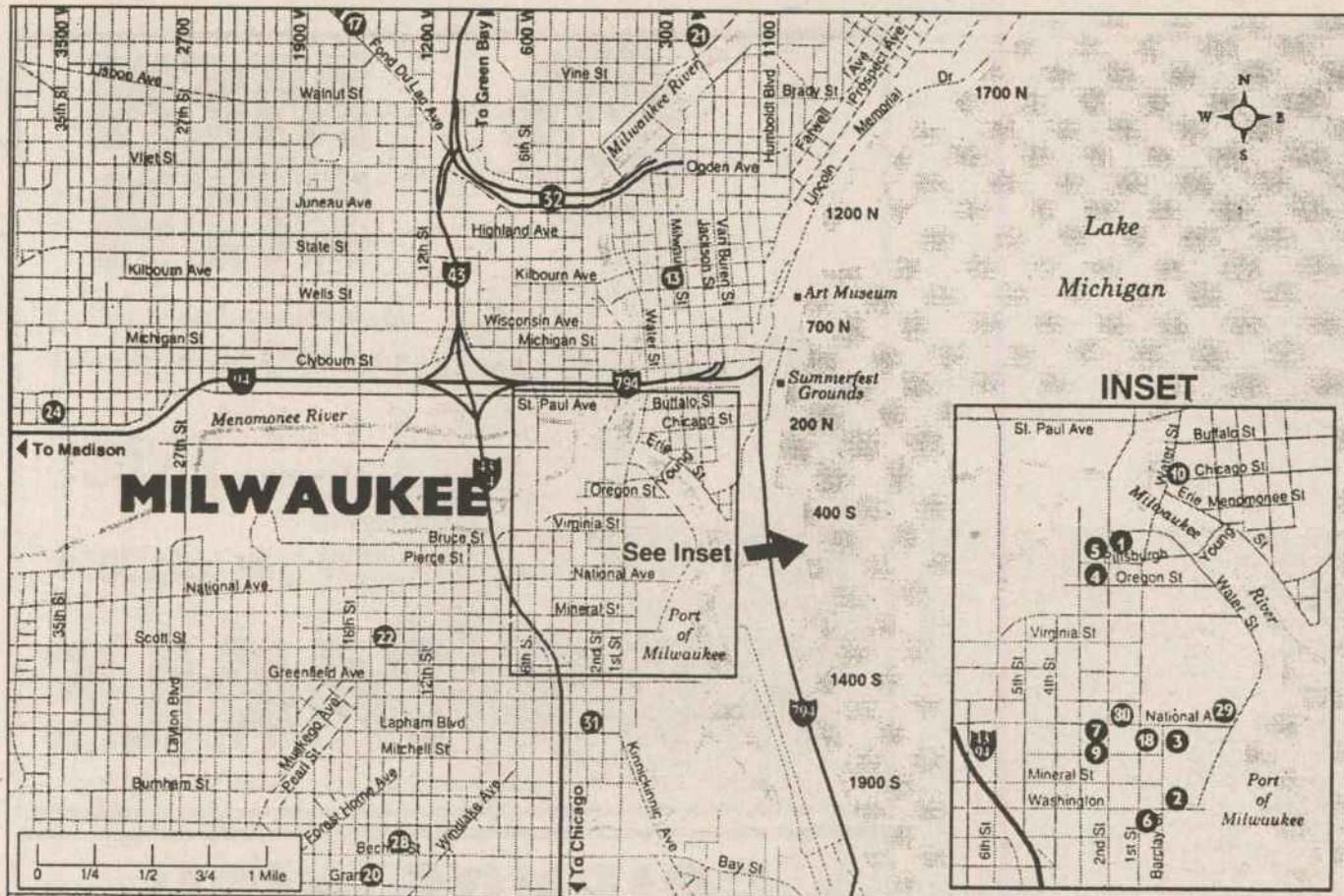
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Horizon Travel (Member IGTA) N81 W15028 Appleton, Men. Falls 53051 255-0704

Hume, Attorney Kathleen 5665 S 108th, Hales Corners, 53130 529-2129

Bill Hanel, MSW (Counseling, Psychotherapy) 276-7626

Denis Jackson, PhD. (Relational training, hypnosis, HIV & Vocational Counseling) 276-8669

Klaus & Meyers (attorneys) 5665 S. 108th, Hales Corners 53130 529-2800

C.A. Klein (Accounting Services) 384-1640

Landmark Plumbing 224-8008

Makin' Tracks Travel 1233 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa 53226 302-1290

Millennium Hair Design 8007 N. Port Washington Rd., #103, 53217 228-0391

Milwaukee Financial Planning Service (money management, retirement planning) 175 N Corporate Dr #110 Brookfield 53045 792-1690

Milwaukee Restoration (construction) 771-2917

Mortgage Concepts 447-6170

Mortgage Market 513-1863

Realty Executives, (real estate sales) Gene Anderson 264-6460

Red Tail Painting & Restoration 607-1180
e-mail: redtail@execpc.com

Reiki Master/Wm Jacobs (energy balancing) 668-8860

Side by Side (performers) 961-2135

Diane Bloom/Sandy Lewis 282-6160

Jeannie Simpkins, (MS), (counseling) 962-4413

Jack Smith (Realtor) home/voice mail 224-1452

Special Touch Massage 536-8232

Steff Advertising/Sandy Lewis 771-8300

7600 Harwood Ave., Wauwatosa, 53213

Travel Directions (Travel Agency) 515 Glenview, Wauwatosa, 53213 774-2174

Travel Experience (Travel Agency) 744-6020

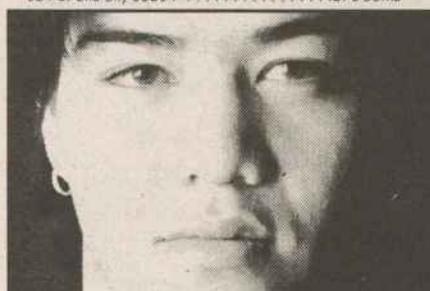
Wauker Photography (Portraits, Commitments, Advertising) by appointment only 383-0740

Wells Ink, Advertising & Design (Advertising, PR) 1667 N. Water St., Suite 411, 53202 272-2116

RETAIL

2Burn (Ventless Fireplaces, Gifts) 11708 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa 607-7000

Adam Bomb Gallerie (tattoos, jewelry) 524 S. 2nd St., 53204 276-80MB



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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

SOUTH CENTRAL (608)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin 1105 Grand Ave., #3, Scholfield, 54476 (800) 551-3311

Central Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance P.O. Box 390, Stevens Point, 54411 (715) 592-6245, extension 5920200

Joseph T. Chojnicki, PH.D. (Psychologist) Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, 54449 387-5442

The Edgewater — Inn & Resort Eagle River, 54521 1-888-334-3987

http://www.edgernn.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

NORTHWEST (715)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin — Eau Claire (www.orcw.org) 505 Dewey Street S., Suite 107 Eau Claire 54701 (800) 750-2437

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin — Superior (www.orcw.org) 1507 Tower Ave., Suite 230, Superior 54880 (877) 242-0282

Backwoods Bears (For Bear Men) PO Box 264, Superior 54880

Different Strokes BBS (Computer Bulletin Board) PO Box 152, Wausau 54402-842-1377

Do-Ri-Chi (Bed & Breakfast) 33 E. Spruce St., Chippewa Falls 723-0943

Eagle Cove B&B (egalcove@riconet.net) W4387 120th Avenue, Maiden Rock, 54750 448-4302

GLOBE (Campus LesBiGay group) 105 Garfield, 132 Davies Ct., Eau Claire 54701

JP Creations (WEB Design) 304 Eau Claire Street, Eau Claire 54701 477-8802

The Trading Company (MW, DJ) 1217 Tower Ave, Superior 54880 392-1756

The Main Club (MW, DJ) 8 N. 2nd Ave. E., Ste. 309 Duluth, MN 55802 (218) 722-8585

Northland Gay Men's Center 8 N. 2nd Ave. E., Ste. 309 Duluth, MN 55802 (218) 722-8585

Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) Greater Chippewa Valley

PO Box 11, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0011

Rainbow Club (social/support for LGBT youth) P.O. Box 11, Eau Claire, WI 54702 836-7710

Scooter's (MW) 411 Galloway St., Eau Claire, 54703 835-9959

Trio (Wm) 820 Tower, Superior, 54880 392-5373

Twin Ports Pride
P.O. Box 3198, Duluth, MN 55803 (218) 728-5825

UW St. 10% Society
c/o 153 C Harvey Hall, UW-S
Menomonie, 54751 UW Eau Claire

Variations on Spring (Gifts, Collectibles)
22 West Spring Chippewa Falls 54729 723-8490

SOUTHWEST AND WEST CENTRAL (608)

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (www.orcw.org)
Grandview Center, 1707 Main St., #420 (608) 785-9866
La Crosse, WI 54601 (800) 947-3353

The Alliance (LesBiGay Social Group)
PO Box 131, Platteville 53818 348-5596
e-mail: ALLIANCE@owplatt.edu

Cavalier Lounge (MW, D)
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 784-7600

Leaping La Crosse News
Box 932, La Crosse 54602

La Crosse 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

Rainbow Ridge Farms Bed and Breakfast 783-8181

Pioneers (Southwest WI Rural G/L Alliance)
Code 4419, e-mail to pioneerswi@aol.com
PO Box 53, Richland Center, 53581

OUT OF STATE

A Brother's Touch Books (Books/Gifts) www.brotherstouch.com
2327 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55405 (612) 377-5411

CDC National AIDS Hotline (800) 342-2437

Gay & Lesbian Americans
PO Box 77533, Wash., DC 20003 (800) 889-5111

Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) (202) 628-4160

National G&L Task Force (NLGTF) (202) 332-6483

Crossroads (LesBiGay Real Estate National Referral) (800) 442-9735

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

Club Xpress (MW,D), 904 Ludington, Escanaba, MI 49829 (906) 789-0140

Little Jim's (M,V), 3501 N Holsted, Chicago, IL 60657 (312) 871-6116

Lambda Car Club Int'l, PO Box 268534, Chicago, IL 60626 (312) 465-5307

Male Hide Leathers (Leather Shop)
2816 N Lincoln, Chicago, IL 60657 (312) 929-0069

The Office (Mw,D,L/L), 513 E State, Rockford, IL 61104 (815) 965-0344

OH Zone (MW), 1014 Charles St., Rockford, IL 61104 (815) 964-9663

Triangle Coalition (Social/Support Group) iowa2@wmcvi.net
513 E State, Rockford, IL 61104 (319) 593-1834

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HUNGRY BOTTOM LIKES to play. Doug loves to play with Singles or groups. Let's take it from there. You will be pleased. (Milwaukee) **15255**

BIG GUY VERY discreet BiWM, 210 lbs, seeking someone to have fun with and pass the time with. There are a number of possibilities and you can use your imagination for new experiences. Should be very open-minded. (Green Bay) **15395**

BIG MAN TOYS Jake is a BiWM, 37, 6'2", 185 lbs., enjoys playing with hot toys. Seeking hot, masculine WM, with similar interests. **20790**

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PLEASE MASTER Very submissive WM, early-40s, 6'0", 190 lbs., drug/disease-free, lives alone enjoys humiliation, oral servitude, foot worship. Seeking dominant Male 40+, chubby is a plus. **16640**

YOUNG WPM Ryan is a young WPM. Seeking Male under 25, for dating. (Milwaukee) **13704**

LEAVE A MESSAGE 26-year-old WM, 6'1", 175 lbs., stable, secure with myself, great sense of humor. Seeking Male with same qualities, for friendship, possible relationship. (Eau Claire) **13247**

FIRST TIME 36-year-old BiWM seeking hot Male, for first Bi experience. **12894**

NICE FEET? BM mid-40s, top, foot fetish. Seeking submissive bottom with nice feet. (Milwaukee) **12926**

SAFE SEX Mike is a 48-year-old Male, 6'2", 190 lbs., enjoys the outdoors, nature. Seeking Male, not overweight or into drugs, for fun times and safe sex. **10956**

BROWN HANKY MAN Robert is a 45-year-old, well-endowed, White, macho dude, 6'2", 180 lbs., clean-shaven. Seeking other experienced WM into unusual, hot brown hanky action. (Milwaukee) **11039**

LEAVE ME A MESSAGE Dwayne is a 26-year-old BPM, 5'9", 200 lbs., medium build, short curly black/brown, brown-skinned, low mustache, goatee, enjoys dining out, shopping, quiet times. Seeking an attractive GPM 26+, with similar interests, for friendship, possible relationship. (Milwaukee) **10706**

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BAD BOY Brandon is a 19-year-old WM, brown/blue, smoker, drinker, enjoys going out late, doing bad things. Seeking Male with similar interests. (Milwaukee) **14736**

GOOD TO GO Marcus is a 21-year-old African-American Male, 5'2", 202 lbs., brown-skinned, cute, down-to-earth, fun-loving, social drinker, enjoys hanging out with friends. If this sounds interesting, leave a message. **13857**

IN SHAPE? Nice-looking, 36-year-old WM, in shape. Seeking in shape BM, for fun, possible relationship. (Milwaukee) **13277**

LEAVE A DESCRIPTION Masculine WM, 33, 5'7", 150 lbs. Seeking smooth, bottom Male muscular, if interested, leave a message. (Milwaukee) **12716**

GIMME A CALL Andy is 5'10", 180 lbs., brown/brown, hairy all over, very oral. Seeking well-endowed Male 30-45, if you're interested, leave a message. **11440**

ILLINOIS

HEAVY SET HIV- GWM 49, 240 lbs, 6', ball player build, drinks responsibly, no drugs, employed, seeking partner, 21-35, who has similar qualities. We can be friends and enjoy each other's companionship. (Chicago) **15449**

AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE 37-year-old BPM, 5'11", 172 lbs., shaved head, brown eyes, salt/pepper goatee, active, out-going, enjoys movies. Seeking Male who is fun, for friendship, possible relationship. (Oak Park) **17198**

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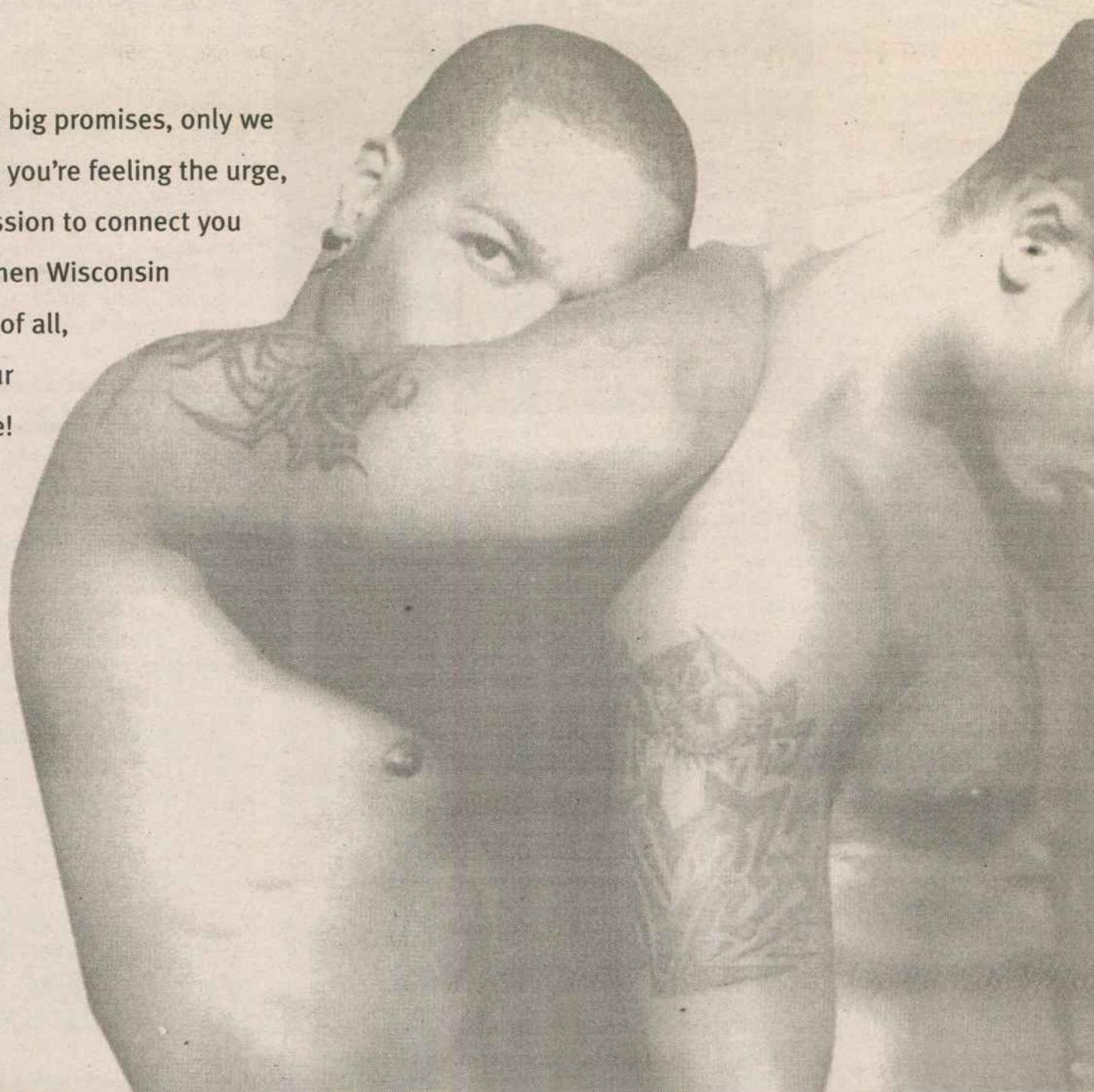
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