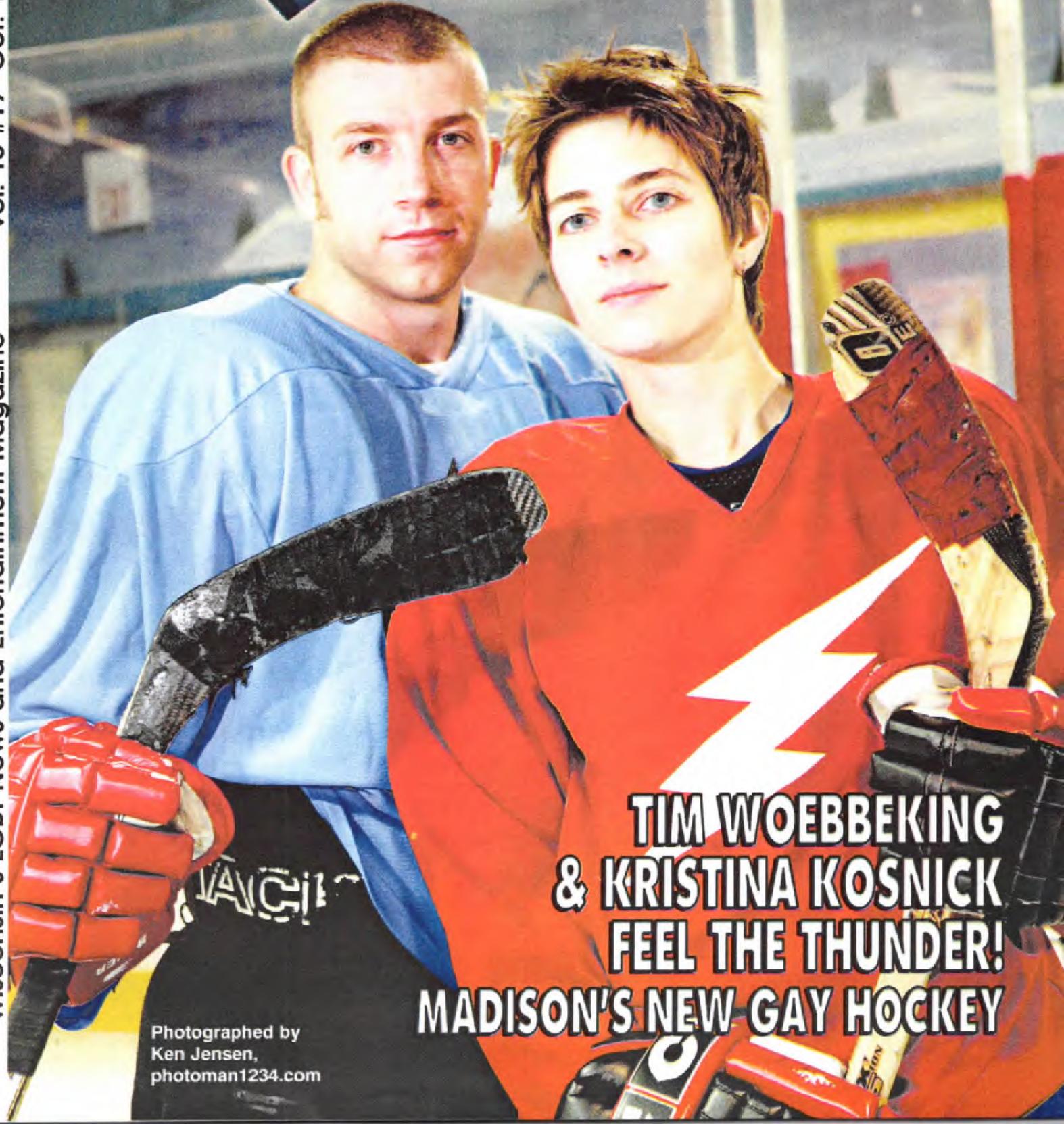


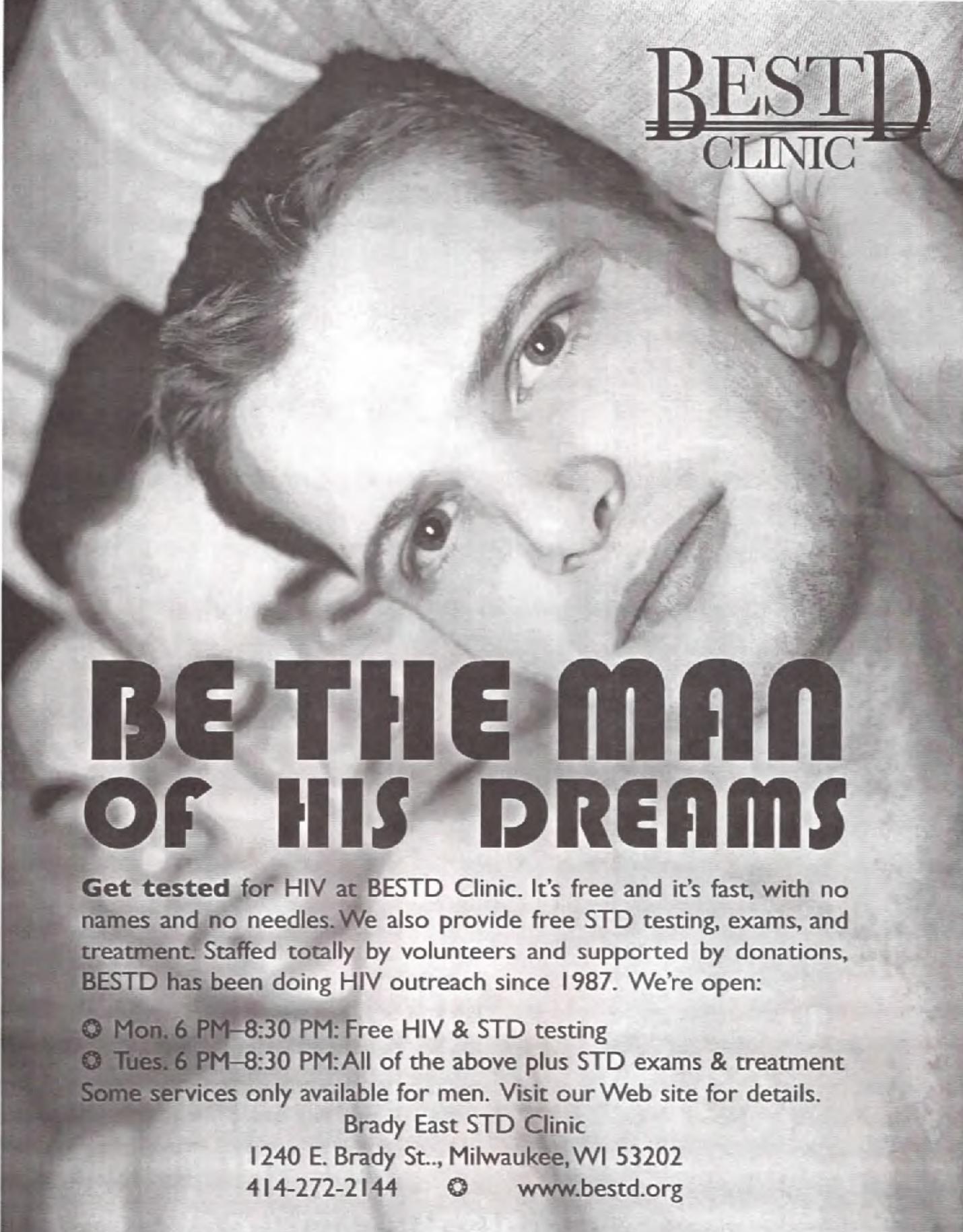
QUEST



**TIM WOEBBEKING
& KRISTINA KOSNICK
FEEL THE THUNDER!**

MADISON'S NEW GAY HOCKEY

Photographed by
Ken Jensen,
photoman1234.com



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A lot of thought went into naming the Madison Gay Hockey Association's developmental league the Thunder. "I wanted something that was distinctly regional, synonymous with force and because of this being a gay league I also needed it to announce that we expect to be heard," said founder and director Patrick Farabaugh. Well, consider it announced. On October 15 at the Madison Ice Arena another play on that name will be appropriate. In only a few days, an estimated 60 players come together for the first time and temporarily steal the thunder from other city gay hockey associations that came before it as Madison launches the largest inaugural season for a gay hockey league in the world. If this seems to have happened overnight, it's because it almost has.

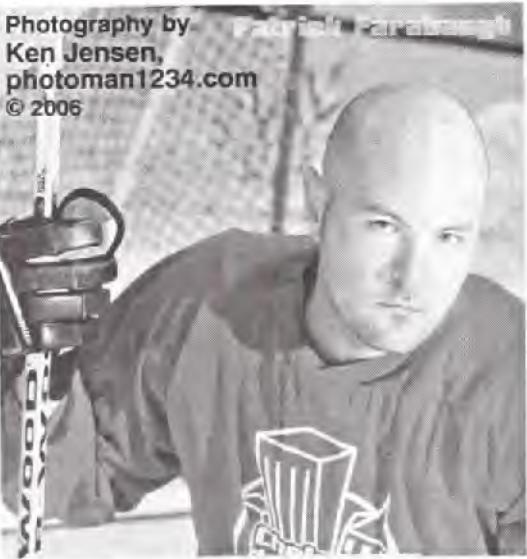
After returning from the Gay Games this past July in Chicago with friend and now teammate Tim Woebbeke, Farabaugh made the commitment to building a league here. "I'd played hockey for years with the gay league in New York and missed it when I moved to Wisconsin. After seeing Tim get as excited as I felt when he saw the teams at the games, I started to think that there was room for one in Madison."

But how does a team turn into a full league in its first season?

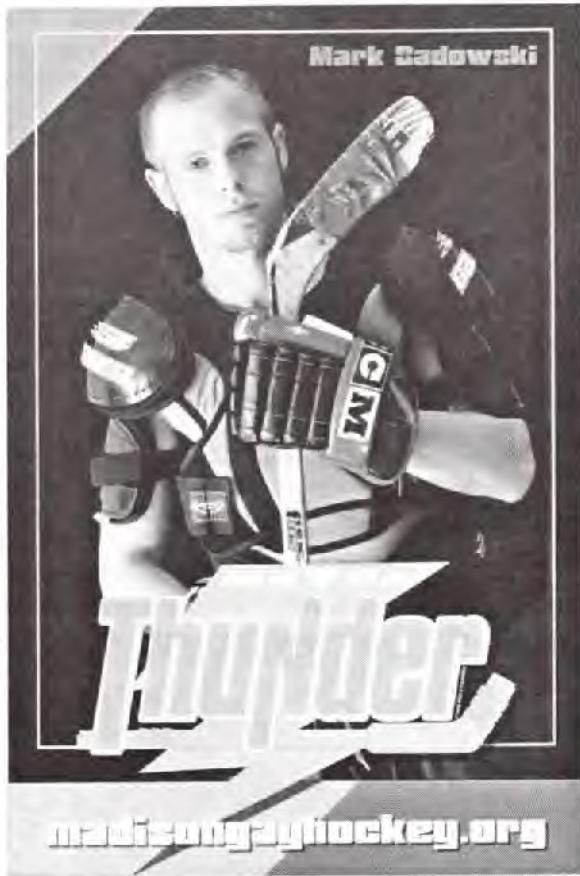
The key has been in the structure of the Thunder. Madison is setting a precedent of another kind when the MGHA opens its doors. This is also the first gay hockey association built from the ground up as a developmental league. Every preceding city has started by creating a competitive team and then branched out to recruit developmental players. Madison is instead starting with those developmental players and looking to have its competitive teams grow out of that group. The reasoning behind this reversal is unique. Explaining his logic and the background of one of his sponsors, Farabaugh said, "In New York I got a chance to work with Joe Patane who built a peer-mentoring non-profit group for kids to teach other kids different activities. I got to witness a kind of social interaction that seemed as positive and constructive as I could imagine. I admired the environment Joe built, and looked for a way to translate this into the gay community." Hockey, for multiple reasons, became the perfect vehicle.

Traditionally hockey has been a very exclusive sport. For most growing up it was left to kids from privileged families.

Photography by
Ken Jensen,
photoman1234.com
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on the cover



Watching the NHL or most college teams gives it a reputation for attracting aggressive players that usually wave strong caution flags for LGBT youth. Hockey has often fallen into the category of sports that gay people felt excluded from. The design of the MGHA is changing that though, and players are signing up in force to reclaim their right

to compete. In her online player bio, Bri Deyo wrote, "Three cheers for Madison's LGBT community, and the way we teach each other to play sports we never thought we'd get the chance to play! Seriously, if there's an organized sport out there, you can play it with gay people in Madison. I love this city."

As it stands, the roster breaks down to about a quarter of players that would be considered advanced. Another quarter have at least some hockey experience, with the remaining half being introduced to playing the sport for the first time. The season has been designed to facilitate peer-lead skills clinics run by a coaching staff that's overseen by Gary Shuchuk, a former Badger who's career lead to the NHL and has played for both the Detroit

Red Wings, and with Wayne Gretzky on the LA Kings. Bruce Irving, the head junior varsity coach and assistant varsity coach at Harvard (and brother of MGHA goalie Andrew Irving) has also expressed interest in leading a clinic.

As it progresses, the skills clinics evolve into games and the games last until the end of February when the league then starts accepting essays for its scholarship program.

Writing and submitting an introspective essay titled "What Gay Hockey Means to Me" gives players a chance to be awarded a paid trip to experience the community on a much larger scale each June when New York hosts the Chelsea Challenge, America's premier LGBT ice hockey tournament. Attending the tournament in New York offers a chance to see both the size and scope of the gay hockey community—New York attracts players and teams from all over Europe, Canada and America—and it helps the recipient retrace a significant piece of the MGHA's own history as it was the kinship and community that Farabaugh found there that helped create the initiative to bring this experience to Wisconsin.

If you're interested in catching the Thunder in action, or witnessing the first time they collect as a group to step on the ice, they will be kicking off Sunday night, October 15 and meeting every Sunday night after that through February at the Madison Ice Arena. Anyone interested in joining or sponsoring the efforts of the league can learn more about it on the web at www.madisongayhockey.org. The site has been built to be a comprehensive hockey index and has a list of resources, player bios, and events already.

Disclaimer: Although the author of this syndicated column holds a doctorate in clinical psychology, the tongue-in-cheek advice given is for entertainment only and is not a substitute for

Dear Barbie,

What is going on! Everyone I know has a cold. Is there some kind of bug going around? My friends say that there is nothing I can do to prevent a cold. Is that true? Do you know of any way to stop myself from getting a cold or flu?

Signed, Hate the Cold



Barbie is outstanding in his "field."

Hello Cold Hater,

As we go through the changing of the seasons, many of us will find ourselves in bed for days. But not in the sense of being with a warm partner enjoying a little horizontal refreshment. I am referring to being in bed with the flu or sick with a cold. But there is hope. You don't have to suffer quite so much. There is something you can do to boost your immune system right now, so you will not be as susceptible to illnesses. Drink the fairy's secret BREW!

In case you have not figured it out yet, I am not talking about beer. There is a special, magical mixture that can help you fight off sickness. This brew has been used by our Pagan ancestors throughout the ages. The simple recipe is as follows: mix one teaspoon of apple cider vinegar

Ask the Irreverent, Uncle Barbie

into a large glass of water; add two to four tablespoons of honey (depending on your taste); heat as you would tea; stir and drink. Do this first thing in the morning, as well as, just before bedtime and you will be sleeping with a strong body and good health instead of a flu bug and cold germs.

So what is it about apple cider vinegar that makes it so healthy? One of the many reasons is that cider vinegar has a 5% acidity content which can help kill the germs in your blood stream. It also contains 19 of the

22 minerals essential for human health. Cider vinegar is high in potassium which works to limit the damage done by the free radicals that are a major drain on our systems. So to put it simply, apple cider vinegar can give your immune system a jump-start! Hey, a brew that is as old as Paganism itself can't be wrong.

Where There's a Witch, There's a Way, Barbie

Dear Uncle Barbie,

I witnessed some of this year's gay pride events, and I do not understand why those people need to parade their sexuality around. The gays had flags, buttons, music, and banners to name just a few. Do they really need to show their pride on the streets?

Signed, Phyllis B.

Hello Phyllis B.,

Many people have different ways of showing their gay pride, and there is no one way is better than another. We each have our own individual style that is as diversified as the rainbow flag itself. Let me tell you the style that I like to see the best—gay pride bumper stickers! Why? It's because the stickers are seen by so many people that it raises awareness in our society. Dozens of people a day can see my pride when I simply drive a few miles down the highway. When I see another pride sticker, I am reminded that there are others out there like myself, and that I am not alone. In fact, there are millions of us out there in the world. We really are everywhere.

Not only am I reminded of our numbers, but all the other citizens who see the gay pride stickers are reminded, too. Remember, those are voting citizens, and it is good for people to be reminded that we are here, too. Our freedom needs to be supported by the laws as well in order to have a society that is truly free. Imagine the positive impact that confident gay and lesbian people have on the rest of our community and on the local politicians, too. The more political leaders see us, the more they will be aware of our issues and hopefully include us when it comes to passing laws regarding equality. We need to be seen because the sad truth is—invisible people have no liberties. So to answer your question, THAT is why we need to show our pride on the streets.

Let Your Rainbow Shine, Barbie



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Diversion of the Day

Quest's Events Calendar

Wednesday, October 11

Mona's (Milw) Cream City Squares presents a Fair Wisconsin fundraiser, raffle prizes

Thursday, October 12

Boom (Milwaukee) Flu Shots 6-9pm presented by Gay & Lesbian Nurses assoc & BESTD

Friday, October 13

Argonaut Club Night @ Napalese Lounge, Green Bay: 'Night of Terror' - prizes, beer bust & more!

City Lights Chill...(Milw) 1st Anniversary
\$2 Miller Longnecks \$2 Rail

Club Night Out (Stevens Point) Central Pride benefit show

Milton Kings presents *It's a Scary, Scary World* at the Miramar Theater. Doors open 9. Cover is \$6. (An 18+ show)

Saturday, October 14

Boom (Milw) Sparks Promo

City Lights Chill...(Milw) 1st Anniversary
FREE Champagne toast, 25 FREE CLC T-shirts, \$1 Miller taps \$2.50 Call Shots

Shelter Bar (Green Bay) Shelter and Quest Magazine present: Miss WI Classic USofA featuring Chelsea Pearl, Miss USofA Classic 2006. Show time 10:30pm

Sunday, October 15

City Lights Chill...(Milw) 1st Anniversary
2-4-1 plus FREE darts and pool

Shelter Bar (Green Bay) Sunday Brunch
11am-2pm \$11.50 over 30 items incl Omlet bar!

Fluid (Milw) Drag Queen Bingo 3pm

Wednesday, October 18

Boom (Milw) Rocky Horror Picture Show w/ \$5 cosmos

Saturday, October 21 (Sweetest Day)
Boom (Milw) FRESHMEN Party with All Worlds Video Adult star Chad Savage

C'est La Vie (Milw) Miss C'est La Vie Debra Fox Birthday bash and show

La Cage (Milw) Sweetest Day Complimentary glass of wine with dinner in ETC

Tazzbah (Milw) Danny's Birthday Party 11pm
\$2 rails

Wednesday, October 25

BESTD Clinic (Milw) HIV Testing @ Midtowne Spa 6-9 pm

Friday, October 27

Boom (Milw) Octoberfest Party

La Cage (Milw) Brittany Morgan's Retirement Roast 9:30 pm

Friday, October 28

Art Bar (Milw) \$100.00 Pumpkin Carving Contest

C'est La vie (Milw) Halloween Show @ 11pm

Club 1226 (Oshkosh) Halloween Show

Sage (Milw) Halloween Costume Party @ Mona's Out N About 2 pm

Tazzbah (Milw) Halloween Mask Party 11pm
Prizes for best mask

Shelter (Green Bay) Halloween Bash

Tuesday, October 31 Halloween

Boom (Milw) Tim's Haloween Birthday Party
Free Miller Lite, MGD or High Life
Sage, (Milw) Canasta Night 7pm

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SWITCH 9:30 - 11 PM

FLUID 11 PM - 12:30 PM

LA CAGE 12:30 PM - FINALS @ 1AM

Friday, November 3

Movie Night for SAGE/Milwaukee at 6:30 pm;
My Fellow Americans

Monday, November 6

BESTD Clinic (Milw) HIV Testing @ Midtowne Spa 6-9 pm

Thursday, November 9

Margaret Cho in concert @ The Orpheum Theatre, Madison. Tickets on line
www.frankproductions.com

Saturday, November 11

Woody's (Milw) CASTAWAYS MC
27th Anniversary Party. 9 pm-1 am
\$7Beer/Soda Bust Prize give-a-ways \$1 doantion or \$5 crotch to the floor! Also a swap meet same night. If you have something to sell email zakstockton@sbcglobal.net

Majestic Theatre (Madison) *Thunder from Down Under* Internationally acclaimed all male review. Tickets on sale now. Call 608-255-4646 www.frankproductions.com

Saturday, November 18

Christopher Allan's Club 1226 (Oshkosh)
Club 1226 Pageant

Tuesday, November 21

BESTD Clinic (Milw) HIV Testing @ Midtowne Spa 6-9 pm

Friday, November 24

Skylight Opera Theatre (Milw.) Rodgers & Hammerstein's Tony Award-winning musical, *South Pacific*, opens this evening and runs through Dec. 23. Tickets: (414) 291-7800 or online www.skylightopera.com

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FOLEY SCANDAL MAY COST GOP CONTROL OF CONGRESS

LATEST REVELATIONS SUGGEST INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR DATES BACK TO MID-1990'S

Washington, DC - Republicans, already nervous over the prospect of losing control of the House, now may be looking at a Senate takeover as well. Several new polls have the GOP concerned about widespread fallout from the ever-expanding Capitol Hill sex scandal involving former Representative Mark Foley (R-Florida) and teenage pages.

A Rasmussen Reports survey released October 6 found 61% of Americans believe Republicans have been "protecting Foley for several years." Only 21% believed the GOP leaders learned about Foley's problems last week.

A *Time* magazine poll showed that two-thirds of Americans who knew about the scandal believed the Republican leadership tried to cover it up. Just 16% approved of the way Republicans have handled it.

An Associated Press-Ipsos poll found that about half of likely voters said recent disclosures of corruption and scandal in Congress would be "very or extremely important" as they decide how to vote next month. By an almost two-to-one margin, they said Democrats would be better at fighting corruption.

Even more disturbing to the GOP may be the recent news that the race for Senate control is tightening. A *USA Today* poll with the Gallup organization showed the Democrats making competitive races in six key states: Tennessee, Virginia, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Missouri and Maryland. Democrats need to gain six seats to take control of the Senate.

The bad polling news comes as the depth and length of the disgraced Congressman's predatory behavior continue to be revealed. An Atlanta man told a local television station and newspaper that Foley sent him sexually suggestive messages after he served as a congressional page 10 years ago.

Tyson Vivyan told WAGA-TV in an October 4 interview that Foley began sending him instant messages about a month or two after his nine-month stint as a page ended in June 1997. Vivyan told the station that when he was a congressional page in 1996 and 1997 he barely spoke to Foley. But after he left the program - when he was 17 years old - Vivian says they had contact via e-mail about things he says were inappropriate.

"He somehow got ahold of my online identity on AOL and began sending me sexually illicit ims," Vivyan said in the TV interview. Vivyan also told WAGA he received messages from someone with the screen name "Maf54", which has been widely reported as belonging to Foley.

Vivyan said he became upset when he learned that the messages were from Foley. "The fact that here is a member of Congress soliciting some type of a sexual relationship from a minor," he said.

Vivyan said the contact continued for years but that he never felt threatened. "Absolutely not. No, to me, it was simply a very lonely, very sick, very desperate man seeking attention from someone



Florida Republican Mark Foley & Speaker Dennis Hastert

he apparently found attractive," he told the TV station.

Vivyan added that he kept the matter to himself, "because I was under the impression at least initially that it was an isolated incident."

Now that Foley's contact with other pages has blown into a scandal, Vivyan told the TV station he should have broken his silence earlier. "I'm very disappointed in myself for not having the courage to do it back in 96-97. I was hoping and praying it was an isolated incident - myself, maybe one or two others, Vivyan said. "Now it seems this has been progressive manipulative and wide-ranging abuse of adult authority on mark's part and it's affected more people than I ever hoped it would. I consider myself a victim but I don't consider myself traumatized. The behavior that he perpetrated was wrong."

"The conversations he started were almost sexual in nature," Vivyan said in a separate interview with *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. "I would try to steer it to things he was doing on (Capitol) Hill."

Foley's attorney, David Roth, declined to comment October 5 on the allegations from the former Georgia page or about three other pages who claimed that they had received emails from Foley.

Three more former congressional pages also came forward that day to reveal what they call "sexual approaches" over the Internet from former Congressman Foley. The pages served in the classes of 1998, 2000 and 2002. They independently approached ABC News after the Foley resignation through a tip line set up by the network. None wanted their names used because of the sensitive nature of the communications.

"I was seventeen years old and just returned to [my home state] when Foley began to e-mail me, asking if I had ever seen my page roommates naked and how big their penises were," said the page in the 2002 class. The former page also said Foley told him that if he happened to be in Washington, D.C., he could stay at Foley's home if he "would engage in oral sex" with Foley. The page told ABC News he was interviewed this week by FBI agents who had a six-page list of questions about Foley and the exchanges.

The second page who talked with ABC News, a graduate of the 2000 page class, said Foley actu-

ally visited the old page dorm and offered rides to events in his BMW. "His e-mails developed into sexually explicit conversations, and he asked me for photographs of my erect penis," the former page said. The page said Foley maintained e-mail contact with him even after he started college and arranged a sexual liaison after the page had turned 18.

The third page interviewed by ABC News, a graduate of the 1998 page class, said Foley's instant messages began while he was a senior in high school. "Foley would say he was sitting in his boxers and ask what I was wearing," the page said. "It became more weird, and I stopped responding."

All three pages described similar instant message and e-mail patterns, with remarkably similar escalations of provocative questions. "He didn't want to talk about politics," the page said. "He wanted to talk about sex or my penis," the page said. The three new verbal accounts are in addition to two sets of sexually explicit instant messages previously provided to ABC News by former pages.

In response to the widening scandal, the House ethics committee approved nearly four dozen subpoenas October 5 as its investigation of a page sex scandal sprang to life with a promise by its leaders to go "wherever the evidence leads us." Speaker Dennis Hastert said he accepted responsibility for any earlier failures to investigate former Rep. Foley's sexually explicit computer messages to teenage pages. But he resisted pressure to step down.

"Ultimately ... the buck stops here," the Republican speaker said, borrowing the famous phrase of a Democratic president, Harry Truman.

Hastert held to his assertion that he did not know about Foley's e-mails and instant messages to former pages until the scandal broke last week. In the past several days, several Republican lawmakers and staff members said they were aware of the messages. Democrats reportedly were not notified.

Hastert's renewed denial came a day after a senior congressional aide said that he told the office of the Republican leader of the House of Representatives about worrisome conduct by Foley, his former boss, toward teenage pages more than three years ago, long before officials have acknowledged becoming aware of the issue.

Kirk Fordham told The Associated Press that when he learned about Foley's inappropriate behavior toward pages, he had "more than one conversation with senior staff at the highest level of the House of Representatives asking them to intervene," alluding to House Speaker Dennis Hastert. The conversations took place long before the e-mail scandal broke, Fordham said, and at least a year earlier than members of the House Republican leadership have acknowledged.

Fordham, once Foley's top aide, is also widely known to be gay. Fordham resigned October 4 as

chief of staff to Rep. Thomas Reynolds, a member of that leadership. Shortly after the resignation CBS News reported that several other top Republican staffers who handled the Foley matter are also gay. Their role in this controversy has caused a firestorm among GOP conservatives, who charge that a group of high-level gay Republican staffers had been protecting the recently self-admittedly gay Republican congressman.

Fordham spoke to the Associated Press after ABC News quoted unidentified Republican sources as insinuating that he had intervened on behalf of Foley, his former boss, to prevent an inquiry into Foley's conduct. "This is categorically false," Fordham said. "At no point ever did I ask anyone to block any inquiries into Foley's actions or behavior."

The Foley scandal also has impacted at least two Wisconsin Republicans. Gubernatorial candidate Mark Green donated at \$1,000 donation received from Foley to charity and incumbent Rep. Paul Ryan returned a \$3,000 donation. Green also noted that he believed that Foley might face criminal charges based on what Green knew, suggesting the former 8th District Congressman may have been one of the many on the GOP side of the aisle who were aware of Foley's activities but remained silent for partisan reasons.

CONTROVERSIAL MILWAUKEE ALDERMAN MCGEE OPPOSES AMENDMENT



Milwaukee - Alderman Mike McGee, who angered many in the city's LGBT community a year ago, has come out to formally oppose the pending Wisconsin ballot measure that would ban civil unions and gay marriage. McGee

was among the thirty Madison and Milwaukee African American leaders who signed statements opposing the proposed constitutional amendment, according to an October 4 press release issued by Fair Wisconsin.

The Milwaukee group signed the following statement: "We the undersigned are opposed to the constitutional amendment that would write discrimination into the constitution by making domestic partnerships and civil unions permanently illegal in our state. If enacted this would be the first time that the Wisconsin Constitution has been used to limit people's freedoms. It would establish a very dangerous precedent. As African American leaders who have participated in and benefited from the historic struggle for civil rights we are opposed to discrimination in any and all forms."

Among the elected leaders signing the statement besides McGee were former Secretary of State Vel Phillips, Congresswoman Gwen Moore, State Senators Lena Taylor and Spencer Coggs, Assembly Representatives Jason Fields, Leon Young, Tamara Grigsby, Robert Turner and Barbara Toles, Milwaukee County Supervisors

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James G. White, Willie Johnson Jr. and Elizabeth Coggs-Jones, and fellow alder Willie C. Wade. A dozen of the city's black religious figures also signed the document.

The group of Madison African-American elected officials and community members opposing the ban included Dane County Supervisors Richard Brown and Sheila Stubbs, Madison Common Council Aldermen Brian Benford and Isadore Knox, Jr., and Madison School Board President Johnny Winston, Jr.

McGee caused the blood pressure of many in Milwaukee to surge in 2005, but none more so than the city's LGBT community. McGee's initial volley at a February 10 rally in defense of Frank Jude Jr.'s October, 2004 beating by off-duty Milwaukee policemen equated the Fox Valley resident's assailants as "hate mongers and KKK killers" but then McGee singled out one of the dozen attackers as "a straight-up sick faggot."

Subsequent response focused the city's attention on the anti-gay slur. The Milwaukee LGBT Center, which sits in McGee's district, later chimed in admonishment but it was Senator Tim Carpenter's on-camera confrontation with McGee at another of the alder's staged protests two weeks later that showed McGee up.

"Why are you disrespectful? Why don't you return phone calls?" Carpenter shouted. "When will you apologize for using the term 'faggot' when referring to police officers? You're an embarrassment."

McGee refused to acknowledge Carpenter, and instead ran off down the hall and into his office, trailed by Carpenter, TV cameras and reporters eager to capture the confrontation. Carpenter continued shouting to McGee after he went into his office "Why are you hiding?" The senator later explained that he had attempted to call McGee numerous times without success.

McGee also caught the anger of Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and Common Council President Willie Hines not only for his anti-gay slurs but his use of derogatory terms for black women on the city's talk radio.

Later in the year, McGee was back on the city's gaydar after two teenaged girls accused him of making anti-gay comments while showing a video of the February 23 confrontation during a bus trip the alder sponsored to the Millions More March in Washington, DC.

SPARKS FLY AT SECOND WISPOLITICS MARRIAGE BAN DEBATE HARSH RHYTHM DOMINATES AS WIDER RANGING ISSUES DISCUSSED

Waukesha - Perhaps it was the weather, as spectacular lightning flashes cracked across the skies surrounding the UW-Waukesha campus. Perhaps it was the setting: Fair Wisconsin's Mike Tate, dressed in a "liberal" blue power suit, and the Family Research Institute's Julaine Appling, in a striking, "conservative" red matching blouse and skirt and seated at separate tables. Or perhaps it was the poll issued earlier in the day by debate sponsor WisPolitics.com, suggesting 53% of likely voters will approve the proposed amendment to the Wisconsin constitution banning all legal recognition of unmarried couples November 7, a statistic neither side openly acknowledged during the hour-long debate. For whatever reason, both sides came out swinging hard in the second debate on the proposed ban on gay marriage and civil unions here October 2.

Unlike the first debate (see story in State News section), WisPolitics editor and debate moderator J. R. Ross, Wisconsin Public Radio's Milwaukee correspondent Chuck Quirmbach and former WTMJ-TV political reporter Wayne Youngquist offered questions that centered less on the language and possible impact of the amendment and more on the larger issues of domestic partner benefits, the support behind ban backers and opponents, and homophobia. Both Appling and Tate worked to respond in ways that brought them back to their key talking points for the evening. And their words were sharper: "arrogant," "dirty money," "scare tactics," "hoodwink," "political correctness" - even the name of Karl Rove was invoked at one point.

Responding to a question as to why gay marriage or civil union legislation had not been considered on the floor of the legislature, Tate was able to weave his two key arguments of the evening - the "bait and switch" tactics of ban supporters and "don't change the status quo" - into his answer. "I think that there hasn't been a big push for gay marriage or domestic partnership benefits

is because, despite what you will hear from the other side, there is not some sort of rush... some sort of big organization that's trying to push for these benefits. (Gay marriage and civil unions) are illegal today because the will of the people deems them such," Tate said.

Tate then ripped ban supporters' "activist judge" argument. "She's (Appling) going to use a lot of those scare tactics that they've been using for a couple of years now - talking about why we need this, talking about judges. If they didn't want judges involved, they wouldn't write the amendment this way. This amendment guarantees judicial involvement (if passed). If you want things to say exactly as they are right now, if you want gay marriage to remain illegal but you don't want to see all these legal protections ripped away from these families... then you're gonna vote no. They're trying to hoodwink the Wisconsin voters just like they did in all those other states, where people with Miss Appling's position kept saying 'one man-one woman marriage.' The reality is that it's a lot more."

Perhaps hinting at the most recent poll results in Wisconsin, Appling responded by pointing out that all twenty of the amendments passed to date received an average of 71% support at the ballot box, with the Mississippi vote tally being as high as 86%. "Mike must think most of the people in this country are stupid," Appling shot back. "I think it's a pretty arrogant statement to say that up to 86% of the people in any given state are absolutely buffoons and can't figure out what is what on an amendment, that they can understand that marriage is between a man and a woman."

Responding to the question "who are your political friends, who are your supporters?" Appling noted her Family Research Institute of Wisconsin organization was affiliated with the out-of-state groups such as Jane Dobson's Focus On The Family, the DC-based Family Research Institute and the Dobson-founded Alliance Defense Fund. "We are not apologetic at all for associating with



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those organizations," Appling said. "They stand for what we believe in."

Tate pointed out ban opponents' local ties. "Fair Wisconsin is a Wisconsin-based group, unlike Miss Appling's," Tate noted, ticking off a state half dozen religious, labor, professional and senior citizens' groups in addition to the organization's more than 8,000 donors. "It's a vast left wing conspiracy." "Over 90% of our donors live inside Wisconsin," Tate said. "In the last (state Elections Board required) financial report that Miss Appling filed, (FRI-WI) they hadn't taken one dollar from a citizen of Wisconsin."

"Who's really behind this?" Tate then asked. "It's these organizations that she just ticked off. Organizations that say it's about 'one man, one woman marriage' but once they get into these states and once they pass these amendments, they go round and round and they force through to take away domestic partner benefits because they don't like gay people."

Tate then praised his own coalition. "I am so proud of the organizations and the people we work with at Fair Wisconsin... Whether it's because they're people of deep faith, whether they're concerned about the practical effects it would have on the senior citizen community or whether it's because they're just an average Wisconsin family that wants to take a few of their hard-earned dollars... and help us defeat this horrible amendment that's being pushed by these national organizations..."

A follow-up question brought up a complaint filed earlier in the day with IRS against Focus On The Family for allegedly violating its tax-exempt status for engaging in political activity. "This is another example of national, dirty right-wing money being brought into Wisconsin," Tate said.

Tate then challenged Appling. "Why are you bringing that into Wisconsin?" Tate asked. "This should be a debate about Wisconsin, funded by Wisconsin residents with Wisconsin organizations that are leading the charge."

Tate then pointed out ban supporters' lack of support from other state organizations. "You don't really have any organizations that are supporting you because this amendment is so far reaching, and so extreme, that groups like the Wisconsin Medical Society get involved (with Fair Wisconsin)... groups like the Wisconsin Coalition of Aging Groups which isn't concerned at all about gay rights, but concerned about senior citizens."

Appling said that she was not aware of the IRS complaint, and corrected Tate about her group. "The Family Research Institute of Wisconsin, which for a matter of record, is a completely Wisconsin-based organization, incorporated here in the state of Wisconsin."

Appling then dismissed ban opponent's allies as "a politically correct thing to do." "It is very politically correct to come out in support of things that are seemingly supporting homosexuality," Appling said. "It is not politically correct to come out and say anything negative about - or even neutral - about homosexuality."

WisPolitics offers a webcast of the entire debate on its website. To access both the Green Bay and Waukesha debates, go to www.wispolitics.com.

CALIFORNIA JUDGE: NO CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO GAY MARRIAGE

San Francisco - Gays and lesbian couples have no constitutional right to marry in California, and any change giving them that right must come from state lawmakers or the voters rather than the legal system, a state appeals court declared October 5.

The 2-1 decision reversed a lower-court ruling in favor of plaintiffs who were among the thousands of gays and lesbians who married at San Francisco City Hall in 2004. It cleared the way for both sides to argue their case before the state Supreme Court, which will have the final say on whether the courts can give same-sex couples the right to marry.

San Francisco Superior Court Judge Richard Kramer ruled last year that a 1977 state law defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman violated the state Constitution by denying gays and lesbians the right to marry the partners of their choice. Kramer also found that the law discriminated on the basis of sex.

By contrast, the October 5 ruling by the First District Court of Appeal in San Francisco focused on the law's roots in the traditional definition of marriage, the prerogatives of state legislators and voters to make social policy and the limits of judicial authority.

The central issue is "who gets to define marriage in our democratic society," Presiding Justice William McGuiness said in the majority opinion, which was joined by Justice Joanne Parrilli. "We believe this power rests in the people and their elected representatives."

He said there were major differences between this case and the California Supreme Court's landmark 1948 ruling that struck down the state's ban on interracial marriage. That ruling did not purport to change the traditional defini-

tion of marriage, McGuiness said. Instead, it took aim at the law's perpetuation of racial discrimination, which -- unlike discrimination based on sexual orientation -- is condemned in the U.S. Constitution, McGuiness said.

"We believe it is rational for the Legislature to preserve the opposite-sex definition of marriage, which has existed throughout history and which continues to represent the common understanding of marriage in most other countries and states of our union," McGuiness said.

He also pointed to recent steps by the state, giving registered domestic partners the same rights as spouses under California law, as evidence that the state is not discriminating against same-sex couples. Those laws are not recognized by the federal government, however, and do not entitle same-sex partners to benefits in such areas as Social Security, income taxes and immigration.

McGuiness said the fundamental right to marry applied only to traditional opposite-sex unions. "That such a right is irrelevant to a lesbian or gay person does not mean the definition of the fundamental right can be expanded by the judicial branch beyond its traditional moorings," he said.

Dissenting Justice J. Anthony Kline said the ruling condones the same kind of bias that the state's high court outlawed in 1948. He said the majority's conclusion that laws that discriminate against gays and lesbians are more tolerable than racist laws "requires us to deny as judges what we know as people."

Kline also said the definition of marriage accepted by the appeals court - excluding a class of people based on their sexual orientation - "demeans the institution of marriage and dimin-

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ishes the humanity of the gay men and lesbians who wish to marry a loved one of their choice."

Advocates of same-sex marriage joined Kline's criticism, saying the court had offered no rationale for the law other than a discriminatory tradition. "If other courts had followed this line of reasoning, we would still have segregation," San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera said. Herrera's office joined groups of same-sex couples in suits challenging the marriage law.

But the tone of the October 5 ruling, deferring to the judgments of elected officials and voters and prescribing a modest role for the courts, could appeal to the state Supreme Court. The court has issued several pro-gay-rights rulings, including decisions last year upholding parental status for lesbian partners, but seldom overturns state laws or executive decisions.

"What's significant is the level of review" in McGuiness' ruling, Liberty Counsel chairman Mathew Staver said. Liberty Counsel was the

conservative organization that represented opponents of gay rights and same-sex marriage in the case.

In the appeals court's view, he noted, "it doesn't matter whether judges disagree with the policy. What matters is whether the Legislature has a rational and legitimate basis to restrict marriage to one man and one woman."

Shannon Minter, legal director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights and a lawyer for 12 same-sex couples in the case, said he was confident that the state's high court would at least subject the law to closer scrutiny. "Under (the October 5) ruling, the fact that lesbians and gays have never been allowed to marry "is a reason enough to exclude them from marriage," Minter said. "We may lose (at the Supreme Court), but if we do, they won't rely on reasoning like that. I think we'll win."

The plaintiffs plan to file their appeals next month, and the Supreme Court would then have

up to 90 days to decide whether to let Thursday's ruling stand or -- as generally expected -- accept the case for review. A hearing could take place in late 2007, with a ruling due 90 days later.

The high court already weighed in on an aspect of the case in August 2004, when it overturned nearly 4,000 same-sex marriages performed at San Francisco City Hall in February and March of that year on the authority of Mayor Gavin Newsom. The court said Newsom had exceeded his authority by defying the marriage law, but it did not rule on the validity of the law.

While the earlier case was pending, the Legislature passed a bill that would have legalized same-sex marriage. But Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed it, saying voter approval was needed because of a 2000 ballot initiative reaffirming the 1977 marriage statute and denying recognition of same-sex marriages performed in other states. Schwarzenegger said the issue should be decided in the courts.

AIDS WALK WISCONSIN TOPS \$400K

Milwaukee - The 17th Annual AIDS Walk Wisconsin here raised \$402,833 and drew 2,666 registered walkers, according to preliminary estimates provided by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. Morning showers ended just in time for the kick-off held on the Miller Stage at the Henry B. Maier "Summerfest" grounds September 30.

Among the speakers at the kick-off ceremony were *Law & Order: SVU* star BD Wong, Governor Jim Doyle, Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, Attorney General Candidate Kathleen Falk and Fair Wisconsin campaign manager Mike Tate. A total of nearly 4000 walkers, volunteers, vendors and other spectators were estimated to be at the rally.

Barrett began the welcoming speeches by noting the weather conditions, then looking at the bigger issue. "It is great to see so many people out here on a day when we got up, looked out the window and said 'Uh-oh, this could be trouble!'" Barrett said. "This battle has been going on for many years. You're being here today not only raises money, but it sends a message to the entire state about how important it is that this fight continue."

ARCW's Mike Gifford then introduced Governor Doyle, who combined the Walk's mission with the upcoming November ballot measure that would ban civil unions and gay marriage. "This Walk today has a very added intensity because we are walking to support people who desperately need help," Doyle said. "But we're also walking for Wisconsin's future. It is essential that Wisconsin does not write discrimination into the Constitution of this state."

"We in this state live by some pretty basic values," Doyle continued. "One of those values is that you should be able to go as far in this state as your hard work and talent will take you. And that we are not going to judge people by who they are, but how they work and the goodness of their deeds. Wisconsin is at its best when we are an open state, when we are a tolerant state... and not a state that shuts its doors, points fingers and tries to scapegoat people - We have to defeat this amendment."

Fair Wisconsin's Mike Tate also urged defeat of the amendment. "In 38 days Wisconsin has a chance to make history. We have the chance to become the first state in the nation to stand up to the right wing... We're going to tell them that's



**Honorary Chair:
BD Wong**

not how we do business here in Wisconsin," Tate said, who then encouraged walkers to take time at his organization's sponsored rest stop to learn more about how they can help in the ballot battle.

Attorney General candidate Kathleen Falk echoed Doyle and Tate's remarks about the amendment fight before sharing her personal connection with HIV/AIDS. "Wisconsin is

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going to make history this year being the first state to roll back a very evil, discriminatory amendment," Falk said. "I met my husband about 17 years ago, at the time of the first AIDS Walk. His brother had just died of AIDS. My husband had nowhere to go. He called a small group then called MAP (Milwaukee AIDS Project) and a guy named Doug Nelson answered the phone... That small group is now what we know and love as the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. Think of the thousands of families like my husband and you - and the others who are still to come - that now... there is hope. We will cure this disease."

ARCW Development Director Dan Mueller introduced Honorary Chair BD Wong. "For 25 years we have been living with this terribly disruptive couple, HIV and AIDS," Wong said. "Someday there will be an eviction notice for HIV and AIDS and we will all be there... Until then we work and walk as good neighbors."

"AIDS Walk Wisconsin is one of the most successful AIDS Walks in this entire United States," Wong noted. "The energy of the people of Wisconsin makes it possible."

The 2006 Walk improved over last year's event by about \$20,000. The 2005 Walk, marred by severe thunderstorms that forced many to abandon the 10K route along the city's Lakefront, brought in \$383,025.

This year's Walk also offered a 5K route. More than half the participants elected to take the shorter route.

AIDS WALK, ROLL AND STROLL TALLY TICKLES \$30,000

Madison - With its largest walker turnout in its brief history, AID Network's 4th Annual AIDS Walk, Roll and Stroll here September 23 netted "between \$27 and \$30,000," according to Executive Director Bob Power. Walker numbers were close to 300, a nearly 50% increase over the 2005 event.

"We were very happy with the event," Power told *Quest* in an exclusive preview interview. "It was a great day weather-wise and the tally was close to 300."

Power noted the Walk was also successful because of the variety of communities supporting the event. "This both our most culturally diverse event and our youngest demographic event," he said.

AN Development Director Dan Kurt told *Quest* the largest contingent of walkers this year came from the University of Wisconsin chapter of the national federation of African American fraternities. "The UW contingent of the National Panhellenic Organization had the greatest number of participants at this year's walk," Kurt said.

Kurt noted the Madison Walk was still devel-

oping and evolving. "By comparison to our largest fundraiser, the AIDS Ride, this event is still new," Kurt noted. "We're looking at was to expand and re-shape it."

Among the changes under consideration are moving the event until later in the year and adding a 5K run. "Currently we are holding the Walk just weeks after students get back to campus, and those young people made up the largest group of people walking this year," Kurt said. "Moving (the Walk) later on the calendar, perhaps tying it in with World AIDS Day in some way is something we're thinking about."

"We're also thinking of giving our athletes who participate in our AIDS ride and other runners another way to get involved," Kurt said of the 5K run idea.

Power also noted that the agency, which serves southern and southwest Wisconsin living with HIV/AIDS, has not issued a formal press release due to a delay in finalizing the tally caused by the large number of online donations this year. "It's the first year we've relied primarily on this (Internet-based) method, and donations are still trickling in," Power said.

UW REGENTS LATEST GROUP TO OPPOSE MARRIAGE BAN

Madison - The University of Wisconsin Board of Regents has joined a growing list of organizations opposing the civil unions and marriage ban in Wisconsin. The board voted to oppose the ban because it would potentially outlaw domestic partner benefits and inhibit the UW's ability to attract and retain the best faculty.

Meeting in Platteville on October 5, the Business, Finance, and Audit Committee determined the amendment could jeopardize UW's ability to retain faculty members. The proposal went before the full board October 6.

Regent Charles Pruitt, who chairs the committee, said a gay marriage amendment would hurt the UW System's ability to offer benefits to same-sex partners. "To the committee, it came down to competitiveness," Pruitt said in a phone interview with the *Badger Herald*. "I'm concerned this amendment might restrict that and make it more difficult to provide domestic-partner benefits."

UW-Madison is currently the only university in the Big Ten that does not provide domestic-partner benefits to faculty members, as current state law prohibits it from doing so.

The regents are among many leaders and organizations in Wisconsin that are actively opposing the civil unions and marriage ban. "Throughout the past several months, we've seen a broad consensus emerging among diverse groups and leaders that this ban is bad for Wisconsin," Fair Wisconsin Campaign Manager Mike Tate said.

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COMMUNITY LEADERS URGE HATE CRIME CHARGES IN MARRIAGE BAN BRAWL

Milwaukee - Nearly three weeks after the event, community leaders here continue to call for hate crime charges to be filed in the bizarre early morning attack at a suburban restaurant on opponents of the proposed Wisconsin constitutional amendment that would ban civil unions and gay marriage.



On September 27 the Antiviolence Project of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center initially announced that it "is closely monitoring the response by authorities to the physical assault on a transgender man and a gay man early Sunday, September 24, 2006, at the George Webb restaurant at 6108 W Blue Mound Rd."

First-person witness accounts obtained by the LGBT Center and media reports showing the entire attack have described how a group of three lesbian, gay, and transgender friends came under physical assault after an unknown man at the restaurant joined their discussion about Wisconsin's proposed constitutional ban on civil unions and gay marriage and grew irate.

The man, who fled the scene, began punching first one man in the group, and then another, Michael Lopez. Before leaving, the anti-gay assailant threw chairs and other objects and threatened to shoot someone. A security camera at the restaurant recorded the mayhem. Lopez's wounds required five stitches.

The attack occurred shortly after bar closing. Victims also jotted down the attacker's vehicle license number.

Police report they have a suspect. However, the man accused of the attack is still at large. Investigators are urging anyone with information to call the Wauwatosa Police Department.

Danielle Davino, girlfriend of one of the men attacked, was present at the assault and told the LGBT Center "This man's verbal and physical violence was clearly based on his intolerance, ignorance and hatred of homosexual and transgender issues. This makes it a hate crime."

Center staff have expressed their concerns to both the Milwaukee County District Attorney's office and the Wauwatosa Police Department,

asking that both examine the appropriateness of using Wisconsin's hate crime penalty enhancer in the case when a suspect is apprehended. Wisconsin's hate crime penalty enhancer (\$939.645) provides for stiffer penalties for crimes where a perpetrator "intentionally selects the person ... in whole or in part because of the ... race, religion, color, disability, sexual orientation, national origin or ancestry" of the victim.

Milwaukee County has never prosecuted a hate crime using the penalty enhancer, unlike many other Wisconsin counties. According to the FBI, in 2004 there were 37 hate crimes in Wisconsin, including 10 involving bias against gay people.

As of Quest's deadline, despite having a license number and a clear video capture of the attacker's face, Wauwatosa police have failed to make an arrest in the case. "From what we've been told by the police department in Wauwatosa is they've had a lot of dead end leads. It is somewhat surprising that it's been almost, what, 9-10 days at this point?" Milwaukee LGBT Center Director James Pennington told WTMJ-TV in an October 3 report.

The Center's Antiviolence Project works to address violence against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people by providing supportive services and referrals to victims, advocacy, and training for mainstream responders. Those who might have tips about the attacker's identity or whereabouts are asked to call Wauwatosa police at 414-471-8430.

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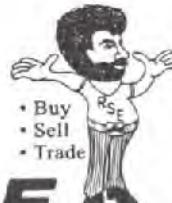
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TWO POLLS SUGGEST SLIM MAJORITY WILL APPROVE MARRIAGE BAN

Madison - Two polls released the first week of October show Wisconsin voters may approve the proposed Constitutional ban on civil unions and gay by just over half.

51% of those in the statewide survey said that back the amendment according to a WISC-TV poll released October 5. 42% said that they oppose the measure. 7% said that they're undecided. The poll's margin of error is plus or minus 4%. The telephone poll of 600 likely voters was conducted by Research 2000 from October 2 to October 4.

earlier in the week, an automated poll of 600 likely voters suggests that 53% will vote for the proposed amendment. The WisPolitics.com sponsored poll was conducted by Diversified Research

on September 20-21. Nearly 39% opposed the ban and 8% were undecided. The poll has a likely margin of error of 4%.

Poll watchers noted that the WisPolitics survey was taken by an automated telephone program, rather than through making live calls as had an earlier June poll sponsored by the website. The earlier poll showed voters equally divided in support and opposition to the ban by less than one percent. An August poll sponsored by WISC-TV and conducted by Research 2000 suggested a 48-40% split, with the plurality supporting the proposed ban.

A review of the latest WisPolitics poll demographics also revealed that senior citizens - the demographic most likely to support the amend-

ment according to numerous previous polls - were surveyed at a rate higher than their historic voting percentage in actual election numbers. Automated polling programs historically have had difficulty in obtaining accurate sampling percentages according to some statisticians.

The WisPolitics poll also suggests voters in Waukesha County, which historically has one of the most conservative voting records in the state, would oppose the amendment. However, Dane and Milwaukee Counties, typically liberal voting bastions, would support the amendment according to the new WisPolitics poll.

The WISC-TV poll showed amendment opponents winning in Dane County, losing in Waukesha County and evenly split in Milwaukee County. The three counties make up nearly half the state's electorate.

GREEN BAY MARRIAGE AMENDMENT DEBATE HEATED BUT CIVIL

Green Bay - In an animated but civil exchange, the leaders of the factions supporting and opposing the proposed constitutional ban of civil unions and gay marriage argued the impact of the amendment's passage in the Executive Dining Room at the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College here September 25. Fair Wisconsin's campaign manager Mike Tate and the Family Research Institute of Wisconsin CEO Julaine Appling disagreed on all but two points throughout the hour-long exchange sponsored by WisPolitics.com.

Appling and Tate agreed that the amendment was "not about gay rights." "It's about whether

the state of Wisconsin values marriage," Appling claimed, while Tate saw the amendment battle as "a debate about how we treat people here in Wisconsin." The pair also agreed that there is no one definition of civil unions, citing various versions available in the states of Vermont and Connecticut.

Though Appling tried to characterize the amendment as a means to protect the institution of marriage, questions throughout the evening focused on the ballot measure's second sentence and its impact on unmarried couples of all sexual orientations. Tate characterized the second sentence as "punitive."



"I think it's punitive," Tate began. "It was written to be punitive because it was designed to prevent any sort of legal protection or benefit being offered to anybody that's not married, whether they're gay or straight. I think it's trying to legis-

late a very rigid form of morality. They're trying to put in behind a first sentence that has a lot of public support behind it."

"It is not punitive," Appling countered, characterizing the amendment language as a "package deal" to "make sure the institution of marriage has the best legal protections possible." "It's about preserving the institution of marriage for future generations," she said. "It's about preserving that institution for our children."

Perhaps the most shocking statement of the evening came when Appling appeared to suggest that gay marriage might be somehow already be legal in Wisconsin. Responding to Tate's repeated assertions that gay marriage was already illegal Appling said: "I just want to reiterate that Mike keeps talking about Wisconsin state statutes that marriage is between a man and a woman and - quote - gay marriage is already illegal, that is absolutely, patently false." Tate had referred to the "husband-wife" language in Wisconsin law, words that Appling also claimed had "unclear" definitions.

Appling also claimed that failure to pass the amendment would lead to less health care coverage for Wisconsin families. "If the amendment were not to pass, and at some point marriage was redefined, businesses in this state would be told 'if you give any benefits to people who are married, you must give them to people who are in homo-

sexual marriages or in heterosexual marriages,'" Appling said. "I've had business owners tell me... they would probably only give single coverage - they would no longer give married couples policies... They might all together quit giving benefits because they do not want to have to extend them to people who are in other types of marriages."

Appling's referral to anonymous sources throughout the debate contrasted sharply to Tate's citing of groups such as the Wisconsin Coalition Of Aging Groups, the Wisconsin Physician's Association, former state bar presidents and others to support his arguments.

In closing arguments, Appling scolded ban opponents, saying the amendment issue was about the "redefinition of marriage." "It's not about benefits and opponents know that," Appling said. "Their efforts to confuse people are simply because they want marriage left vulnerable. Proponents of homosexual marriage - those opposing this amendment - want marriage left unprotected so that they can ultimately redefine this institution."

Tate concluded in part by challenging the "activist judge" rhetoric of ban supporters. "I think it's about families," Tate said. "It's not an abstract debate about four guys in black robes. It's a debate about who we are in Wisconsin and how we treat the people who live here."

Despite the limited seating in the Executive

Dining room, there were a number of open seats available. Several prospective attendees who had read about the debate but had not arranged for the required free tickets available through Fair Wisconsin and FRI-WI were initially turned away, but later admitted to the debate. "You mean to tell me that I drove twenty miles and you're not going to let me in with all those open seats?" one irritated attendee complained before being admitted after a number of ticket holders failed to show.

Though the pair have appeared together repeatedly on radio talk shows and as part of forum panels, the WisPolitics.com-sponsored face-off between Appling and Tate marked the first time the two have engaged in a formal debate on the amendment issue. In terms negotiated prior to the debate a coin toss determined the order of opening and closing arguments. Appling won the toss and elected to speak first. Each had two minute opening and closing statements. Appling and Tate also had two minutes to respond to questions from a three member panel, with the order of response alternating with each question. Direct rebuttal was not permitted.

WisPolitics' Jeff Mayers hosted the debate and offered questions to Appling and Tate, along with Wisconsin Public Radio correspondent Patty Murray and *Green Bay Press Gazette* reporter Joanne Zipperer.

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To apply for the position, please send a letter of interest, with resume & salary parameters to Leading Transitions LLC, Search LG9, 544 East Ogden Avenue, Suite 700-350, Milwaukee, WI 53202 or emailed to LGBT@leadingtransitions.com. Electronic submissions are preferred.

LOVE MAKES A FAMILY EXHIBITION AT CAPITOL ROTUNDA

Madison - An exhibition of *Love Makes A Family: Portraits of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People and their Families*, the touring photo-text display created by the award-winning Family Diversity Projects of Amherst, Massachusetts has been scheduled at rotunda of the State Capitol Building here from October 9-21. OutReach, Madison and southeast Wisconsin's LGBT center is sponsoring the exhibit.

At a time in history when LGBT people continue to fight for basic human rights such as the right to legally marry, the right to lead a Boy Scout troop, the right to have access to partner health benefits, or the right to be adoptive and foster parents, *Love Makes A Family* cuts through all the

GENDER WELLNESS WEBSITE OPENED BY OUTREACH

Madison - The OutReach LGBT community center here has opened a new website devoted to the discussion and dissemination of information to OutReach promote healthy attitudes about gender and sexuality.

Genderwellness.org has been designed to be an evolving, interactive resource on sexual health issues for the transgender and gender queer community. The site offers opportunities for user input, forum participation, and feedback. Developers hope to craft a web space that will be a "source point for dialogue and knowledge on gender wellness issues," according to a center press release. Samples from the site's home page include a number of statements. "Your gender is your own and we wish you happiness in your gender and understanding about other peoples' gender. Your physical and mental health are important parts of your gender and sexuality. It is here we endeavor to promote a healthful lifestyle for you and the ones you love."

Part of the site's focus is HIV prevention. "HIV/AIDS is still a growing world epidemic and it is our aim to keep you informed about HIV/AIDS and how gender gifted persons can keep themselves safe from a global killer. Please use the information and resources provided here to promote your gender wellness."

"Our aim at genderwellness.org is to promote healthy attitudes about gender and sexuality," OutReach program coordinator Harry Straetz said. "Please be sure to visit our comments page to submit ideas and opinions of the resources on this site. We want to hear your ideas and utilize them to promote gender wellness".

PENNINGTON RESIGNS, MILWAUKEE LGBT CENTER SEEKS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Milwaukee - James Pennington, the Executive Director of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, has announced that he will resign his position effective November 10, 2006.

As Executive Director and a former minister, Pennington has been actively speaking as a guest preacher in various churches in opposition to the Wisconsin constitutional amendment to ban civil unions and same sex marriage. Those experiences caused him to re-connect with the faith community. As a result, Pennington has decided to re-enter the field of pastoral ministry. Several opportunities have become available.

Pennington will remain at the helm of the Community Center because of the pending ballot measure. "I believe it is important for me to remain with the Center until we defeat the referendum on November," Pennington said.

The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center is seeking Pennington's replacement. According to board co-presidents Melissa Beaström and Sheldon Walker, the center is looking for an energetic, self-directed person to partner with the dedicated and skilled staff, to provide vision along with the Board of Directors, to oversee the public policy and community relation, and to procure increased funding to grow the center.

The Milwaukee LGBT is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization, and is dedicated to improving the quality of life for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people living in the Metro Milwaukee area. To accomplish this mission, the Center encourages the growth and development of groups serving the LGBT community, offers programs and services that respond to community needs, and challenges the practice of

political arguments right to the heart of the issue by showing the love, caring, and connection that are so basic to all families. By allowing viewers to come face-to-face with LGBT people, *Love Makes a Family* makes visible in a positive way, the love and caring in these families. This exhibit contributes to the process of dismantling the destructive power of prejudice and intolerance, thus making the world a safer place for all people.

Photographs by Gigi Kaeser depict a variety of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people and their families of all races in familiar family settings. The photos are accompanied by text edited by Peggy Gillespie from in-depth interviews she conducted with each family member including children like Lizav who speak candidly about their lives, their relationships, and the ways in which they cope with the realities of prejudice, bias, and intolerance on a day-to-day basis.

Family Diversity Projects of Amherst, MA, a non-profit educational organization, created *Love Makes a Family* as a way of helping to combat homophobia. Since it began touring in 1996, the exhibit has traveled to over 1000 communities. Ten copies of *Love Makes a Family* tour nationwide throughout the year to universities, schools, public libraries, corporate headquarters, statehouses, and houses of worship, supporting the grassroots efforts of activists, friends, and allies who are working in their communities to combat the cycle of ignorance and bigotry toward LGBT people. It serves as a divining rod for informed dialogue in communities where LGBT issues are emerging onto the public agenda.

According to OutReach Development Director Nikki Baumblatt, the community Center and safe space is proud to bring the show to Madison with the financial assistance of The New Harvest Foundation.



The Boys & The Girls @ Club 5

WISCONSIN AMENDMENT GOES ON TV TRIAL OCTOBER 25

Madison - The proposed Constitutional amendment to ban civil unions and gay marriage is about to meet the PBS version of "Judge Judy." Wisconsin Public Television will air a televised "trial" of the amendment beginning Wednesday, October 25 at 8 PM. In a mock courtroom setting, lawyers and witnesses square off on both sides of Wisconsin's marriage amendment debate. UW Law School professor Michele Lavigne will square off with Marquette's Rick Esenberg in the hour-long program.

Additional airings of the program will be on October 26 at 11 PM and on election eve, November 6 at 10 PM.

ANGELS OF HOPE SETS HAYRIDE & BONFIRE

Green Bay - Angels of Hope MCC Church will sponsor a hayride and bonfire at the Rock-K Ranch in Greenleaf on Saturday, October 21. Attendees will gather at the ranch, located on Hwy 96 (2372 Day Street) at 7:30 PM, with the hayride beginning at 8.

The horse-drawn hayride wagon travels through the woods, stopping for some fun and fellowship around a huge bonfire midway through the ride. The church filled up the wagon last year and encourages early reservations.

Cost for the family-friendly event is \$6 per person over 18, and \$5 per person under 18.

The \$25 wagon fee to be divided up amongst all those attending. Reservations are required. To reserve a spot on the hayride, please RSVP before October 14. For more information, reservations and driving directions contact Laurie Beauchamp at 920-445-0115. Additional information about the ranch is available online at: www.rock-k-ranch.com.

7 RIVERS LGBT CENTER EXPANDS HOURS, HOSTS NEW GENDER QUEER GROUP

LaCrosse - Thanks to the generosity of the center's AmeriCorp volunteer, the LGBT Resource Center For The Seven Rivers Region is now open on weekends. The new hours are 1:30 to 6 PM on Mondays and Thursdays, Friday from 5 - 8 PM and Saturday from 11 AM to 5 PM. The center encourages members and friends to take advantage of these new hours to drop by the Center and find out what it has to offer or volunteer to organize a card night or other social event during our expanded hours.

The Center also is hosting a new Gender Queer/Transgender Gathering group. Do you identify as gender queer? How about Transgender? Do you ever feel like you don't fit in because of your gender identity or expression? Then join the for a monthly discussion group at the 7 Rivers LGBT Center. The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 PM. The next meeting will be November 1. For more information contact: vanroose.kath@uwlax.edu.



NEW ON DVD

by Glenn Bishop

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green



Based on the popular, long running comic strip by Eric Orner, "The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green," starring adorable Daniel Letterle, is a mostly fabulous light & frothy gay date-night film.

Ethan has spent most of his 26 years playing the gay dating game in much the same way he played the classic 60s board game, "Mystery Date" as a little boy. Then, as now, Ethan keeps searching for his elusive "Dream Date." Sadly, what he has found most often, is the Dud. His old boyfriend Leo (David Monahan) might have been his real life "Dream Date" but when their relationship had gotten too cozy, Ethan broke things off. Ethan's mom (Meredith Baxter) calls this the "Ethan reflex." When Ethan and Leo couple again unexpectedly, Ethan becomes convinced that they can get back together. This, despite Leo's upcoming wedding to gay Republican Chester (Scott Atkinson). But Leo knows better. No one is ever going to be good enough, Leo tells Ethan, that Ethan even dumped, "that Cirque du Soleil guy, because he wasn't flexible enough."

Then Ethan begins dating hot, newly out baseball player Kyle (Diego Serrano), whose curious predilections in the bedroom give a whole new meaning to the phrase, "sliding into home" Kyle seems to be Ethan's perfect man, the mandatory catcher's mitt wore during sex, notwithstanding. Or at least he is for the first 4 months, 12 days, 7 hours and 25 minutes during which Ethan hopes against hope that Kyle will

ask him to move in with him.

So what happens? Just as Ethan is certain that Kyle is going to break up with him, Kyle



does the unexpected: he asks Ethan to move in with him. Sounds perfect, right? And Ethan's response? He breaks up with Kyle. Go figure.

Unfortunately, Ethan's comic strip origins too often emerge, as David Vernon's screenplay rarely takes the time to reveal the characters beneath Ethan & company's good looks and fit & trim bodies. Fortunately Daniel Letterle, the boy everyone wanted in the movie musical "Camp," has natural charm in spades which makes Ethan always engaging, no matter what silly situations he finds himself in, thanks to David Vernon's screenplay. Meredith Baxter effectively short-hands the role as Ethan's mom, while

Buy It, Rent It or Forget It

For fans of Daniel Letterle, "The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green," offering the young actor scantily-clad throughout, is a definite must have. Most everyone else, other than the most bitter and jaded, are likely to find "Ethan" a fun and sexy diversion and a perfect anecdote to the upcoming cold and stormy nights.

Just the facts...

"The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green" runs approx. 88 minutes and is in English.

All about "Ethan," including a fabulous photo gallery, at www.ethangreen-themovie.com

The DVD is available with a SRP: \$24.95 DVD extras include the deleted opening scene featuring the always fabulous Reichen Lehmkuhl.



veteran character actors Joel Brooks and Richard Riehle as the wacky "Hat Sisters" provide the film with some much needed heart.

Others in the cast fare less well, particularly the horrible miscast Dean Shelton as prissy young real estate agent and Ethan's would-be boyfriend Punch.

Can Ethan win Punch's affections? Will he steal Leo back before Leo and Chester's wedding? Or will the last reel find Ethan still looking for his very own "Dream Date?"



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Wanted! 3rd person to share 3-BR apt. on Milwaukee's south side. Must be d/d free & reliable. Rent = 1/3 utilities/cable. (414) 217-0044 for more info. Available Now!

Roommate wanted to share large West Allis home with 2 other men. Formal dining area, garage parking, washer/dryer, dishwasher. \$350 mo., utilities incl. Avail. Oct. 1. Chris (414) 507-3229 [2]

Near UW-M (Milwaukee). GWM non-smoker wanted to share our beautiful home. A quiet, private place with great people to live with. Tom (414) 963-1315 or leave message. Rent \$390 mo., includes utilities [2]

For Rent Appleton North: Spacious 2 BR upper...blinds, ceiling fans, appliances & water incl. Cat OK. 1/2 of garage. \$375 + sec. - 1819 N. Oneida St. (920) 915-1103 [2]

Room for Rent in Brookfield, near Pilgrim/North. Non-smoker preferred. Own room & bathroom w/ shared kitchen & living space. Must like dogs. \$400 per mo. (414) 763-1309 & leave name & number. Serious calls only, please [2]

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Spacious 1 BR apt in 1889 Victorian home on **near south side of Milwaukee**; \$591/mo., includes appliances, utilities & off street parking. Beautifully landscaped, private yard; owner occupied, security deposit required. (414) 671-6216 [2]

Looking for person to share small West Allis home. Must be neat/clean, must have job/car (no free rides). On bus line #18. \$350 + half utilities. Tim (414) 788-8096 [2]

Roommate Wanted for large Victorian home, all the best amenities, close to downtown Milw. \$400 includes everything. Avail. Sept. 21. jfrancis@rr.com or (414) 232-5838 [2]

FOR SALE or PURCHASE WANTED Lovers of fetish, B&D & furniture, leather, rubber, cross dress clothing, silicone breasts, corsets, boots, erotic movies... add to my collection & enjoyment. Let's talk, can share experience, trade or buy. Lyle (Milw) (414)321-8005 7am to 10pm

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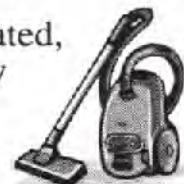
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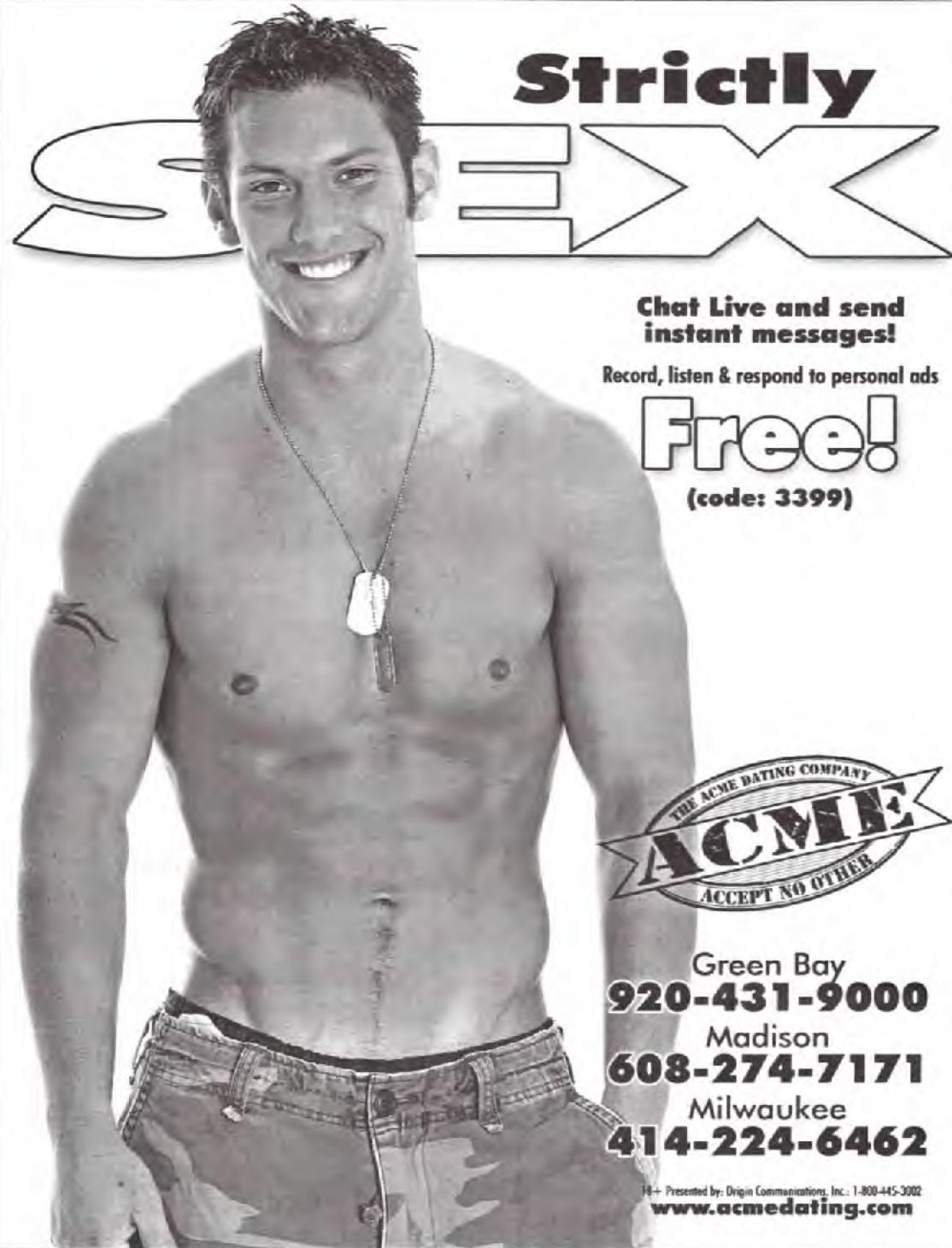
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Homeowners Helper! GWM does windows, ceiling fans, interior design, yard work, interior/exterior painting,

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HELP WANTED at Milwaukee's Midtowne Spa, 315 So. Water St. Now accepting applications. (414) 278-8989

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BiWM, 50, 5'10", 250 ISO other Bi 4 fun times. Love giving & receiving oral, toys & more. Must be discreet/disease free. Green Bay-Lakeshore (920)242-8001 If no answer lv mesg. All calls returned.

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meet a GWM Top slim to ave. 30's-50's Friendship & dating (414)578-1657 Jim [1 only]

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56 single WM 6'1" 200# br hair bl eyes ISO 45to60 st8 acting man free of any addictions. Should have very hairy chest, hairy back & like the outdoors life. I live 50 miles North of Green Bay. Call Ron (920)897-2468 [1]

36 yo handsome black male seeks other handsome males 4 friendship & possible relationship. Me: 5'5" 130# br eyes, very smooth skin, small frame w/good tone, glasses, short naturally wavy hair, professional appearance/attitude. Seeks to meet someone very close to my own stats. Not too heavy/tall, should be confident in your own skin. (In other words, please be handsome in your own right.) I am a very professional male & looking for same. Race is no issue, just be yourself. Call Greg (414)640-0755 lv message. [1]

White mature Bi couple, female & male searching for a Bi female, can be curious, single, married, discretion assured. Female is slightly handicapped, male partner can join, we are open minded, adventurous, sane, drug free, open to all ages, race & love sensuous erotic times. Call Rick Milw (414)788-4908 [1]

Friend or someone special wanted, or penpal, travel partner, love beaches, camping, vegas, fishing, hiking! 3658 W 79pl., Chicago 773-569-6333 Tom. or any new or 2nd job wanted /considered! [1]

50 YO guy who loves to wear women's panties, bras etc. If you have same interests please put on your silk panties and call (920)553-1914. Best time after 4:30pm. Also like to play with toys. [1]

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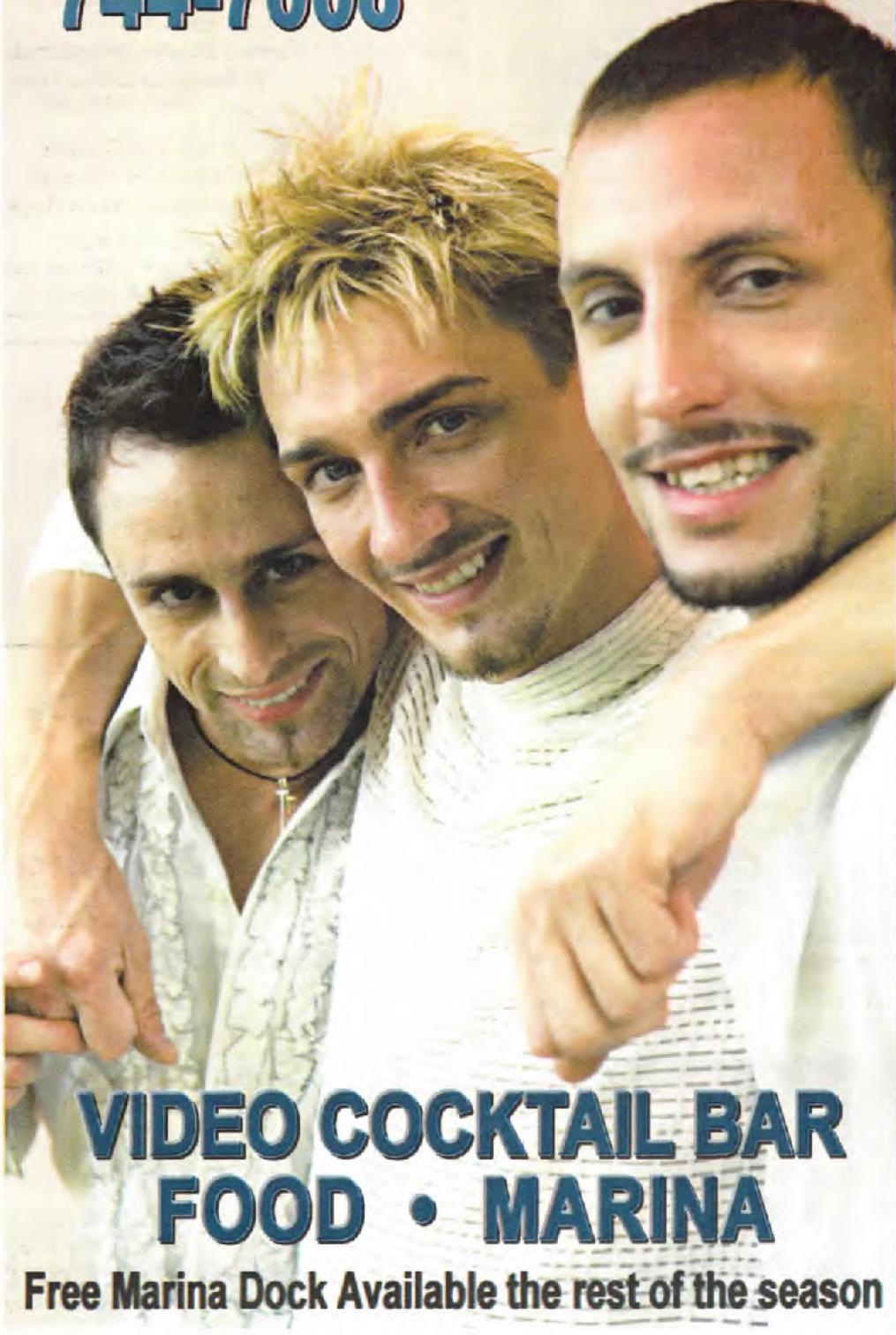
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