



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

The Wisconsin Light

The Miracle of the Thirteenth Chime

By Terry Boughner

"Why doesn't Santa come to our house?" Paul asked his father. The pleading longing in the six-year old's voice was obvious.

It was Christmas Eve. The Reverend Cantara was working on the message that he would deliver to his congregation that night. He did not like being disturbed. Besides, he'd heard all this a dozen times before. He turned on his son. "There isn't any Santa Claus. I've told you that." His voice was harsh and cold. "Christians don't believe in such things." He might have added that, in his mind, Christians didn't believe in tinsel-decked trees or presents for little boys either. "We have Jesus," he continued.

"Can't we have both?"

The minister was not a patient man. Up he got from his chair and taking his son roughly by the arm, dragged him off to his room. There, he ordered him to kneel and pray for forgiveness of his pagan thoughts. Paul did pray, but not as his father intended. He prayed for Santa to come and visit him too.

Paul's prayer was answered. Santa did visit him that night, but the gift the boy was given, though precious beyond price, was one that he could not see.

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Happy
Holidays



NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Quaker Group Calls for Legalized Gay Marriages

Brattleboro, VT-AP- A congregation of Quakers in the Brattleboro area is calling on Vermont lawmakers "to open the institution of legal marriage to all couples, same-sex and opposite sex, who apply for a state marriage license." In an open letter to legislators, the Quaker group decried "the injustice of Vermont law, which does not allow a same-sex couple to obtain a marriage license." The Quakers added that they may start refusing to sign the state license of any marriages they perform. State Sen. Peter Shumlin (D-Windham) said the law was not likely to be changed, at least not in the next legislative session.

Activists to Stand Trial for Exchanging Needles

Chicago-AP- His father stood trial in Chicago for demonstrating against the Vietnam War. Now Andrew Hoffman, Abbie's son, is headed to court in his fight against AIDS. Hoffman and his fellow activist Jon Stuen-Parker, meant to get arrested when they handed out clean hypodermic needles in exchange for dirty ones turned in by drug addicts. They're challenging a law barring possession of hypodermic needles without a prescription.

"The Illinois law is killing thousands, more than mowing down through the streets of Chicago with a shotgun," Stuen-Parker said. Some studies estimate that more than one in four AIDS victims contract HIV through drug use.

CDC Warns Against Anti-Gay E-Mail

Atlanta-AP- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has warned employees nationwide against using the in-house electronic mail system for Gay-bashing. It started after Michael Brown, president of the newly formed Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Employees, used electronic mail to announce the creation of the group to which about 80 employees belong. He said he received about 100 direct responses, most supportive, but others openly hostile. Dr. David Satcher, director of the CDC, sent out a memo informing all employees that "Discourteous, inconsiderate and insulting behaviors could result in disciplinary action."

ICA Leader Denounces World AIDS Day

Pocatello, ID-AP- When the Pocatello City Council invited Michael Christensen, a spokesman for the Southeast Idaho AIDS Coalition and a person living with AIDS to offer a prayer on World AIDS Day, the solons found themselves denounced by Kurtis Olson, a spokesman for the Idaho Citizens Alliance (ICA), the group which sponsored the anti-Gay initiative that was voted down.

Olson maintained that having AIDS was "proof" that the person had broken Idaho's sodomy law and that by asking Christensen to pray, the lawmakers were "sanctioning illegal behavior."

After the meeting, Olson said he wouldn't have been as vocal if Christensen were a "legitimate victim" of AIDS, such as "a hemophiliac or someone who contracted it from a woman." Olson added, "It's plain and simple. These people have brought this disease on themselves."

Debate at Hope College over Gays and Religion

Holland, MI-AP- The 12 students of the Hope College Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Union have spurred a debate in this Christian school over religion and being Gay. At the heart of the controversy is the bible's stance on homosexuality--and questions about whether it's appropriate to use Scripture to condemn Gays.

The debate erupted when fliers appeared around campus citing Leviticus 20:13 which condemns homosexuals and calls for their death.

These were answered with fliers citing Leviticus 25:44-46 which condones slavery. The fliers said the bible shouldn't be used to "justify institutionalized prejudice and other social evils."

At a debate held on December 5, Joel Perry, an openly Gay man, told the audience that "If you can't say God loves Gays, then you can't say God loves you." Homosexuality has been debated at Hope before, but never with a group of open Lesbians and Gay men. Jane Dickie, a Hope professor of psychology and women's studies, called the debate with people who were open, "good." She added, "They (the majority) realize that we're talking about human beings."

Melinda Paras Named to Head NGLTF

Washington, D.C.- The Board of Directors of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) announced on December 6, the appointment of San Francisco Health Commissioner Melinda Paras as NGLTF's new executive director. For the past four months, Paras has headed a transition team at NGLTF, assessing the organization's strengths, challenges and duties and developing a plan for the organization's next two years. The transition team was established in response to the departure of several key people and the altered political scene.

Paras looks forward to "a new vision for a new era" which will include the full activation of the NGLTF Policy Institute, which will become a think tank comprised of researchers, political analysts, writers and organizers throughout the country; a revamped field operation, attentive to the needs of local activists; expansion of the organization's technological infrastructure to quicken the dissemination of information, among other things.

Court Overturns Restrictions on Lesbian Mother

Indianapolis, IN-AP- Restrictions placed on a Lesbian mother as part of a child custody case are unjust because there is no evidence her behavior adversely affected the children, the Indiana Court of Appeals has ruled. Twila Teegarden, the mother, had been ordered to "refrain from engaging in homosexual activity in front of the children," last February. She was also ordered to avoid living with any woman with whom she might have a sexual relationship. But the Appeals Court ordered the restrictions lifted.

News Briefs are compiled by the Editor from mainstream newspapers and wire services, organizational press releases and Gay and Lesbian papers from across the U.S.



ACT UP Milwaukee member Yuri Keegstra spoke at a December 1, World AIDS Day demonstration in downtown Milwaukee. ACT UP Milwaukee members distributed information which stated a plan to more readily find a cure for AIDS. Dan Fons and Heather Sjolund held the banner.

The Wondrous Magic of Christmas Is for Everyone

Commentary by Thomas P. Heyl

It all begins right after Thanksgiving. There's not a second lost, the turkey's bearily cold--or so it seems.

Robby and I get a phone call from Miss Maud. The poor dear is all a-flutter, a veritable "attack of the vapors," she wails, what with her "at homes" about to start, everybody who is anybody expected and not a thing done, no cookies and little cakes baked, no decorations up, no lights. The big old house looks like bats lived in it.

Robby looks at me, his head cocked slightly to one side, a slightly cynical look in his eyes. We both know what's expected and we do it.

Over we trot to Miss Maud's, there to find piled up in the front parlor, boxes piled upon dusty boxes, all sizes, all colors, all fresh from the attic.

And there's Miss Maud herself collapsed in a wing chair, looking like she's about to expire.

But I'm used to it. As I've told Robby it happens every year. Miss Maud, dear as she is, knows what to do, but far be it from her to do any of it. That's what friends are for.

I can't help thinking that maybe she's right. Certainly we have a ball fixing up the old house, all of us. For soon, Robby and I are not alone. Quickly, there arrive other Gay couples, women, men, old and young, and oh, what a wonderful time we all have.

During the year, here in Dallas, we spend a lot of time, too much time, arguing over politics, Democrats vs. Republicans, politically correct types squabbling over language, Lesbians vs Gay men, those who like the bars vs those who don't--bicker-bicker, fight, fuss and fume.

But now, suddenly, it's different. We all set to with a will to get the Victorian house gussied up to the nines. There's lights to be strung inside and out, garlands of holly, magnolia and pine, to be hung and a towering tree (a real one) to be set up and dressed.

And over all, the old carols playing on the CD, fling gently their ancient sounds of peace, of magic and joy to us all.

No, we're not all Christians, not by any means, but that isn't necessary. As Robby said once, Christmas may have begun with the Christians, but it didn't stay there long. It's message of love, of quiet magic, mystery, miracles and beauty swelled up and out, escaping one faith to become something that all can find comfort in and share.

Perhaps he's right. The Puritans of old Boston outlawed it. Christmas wasn't legal in the Bay State until the 1820s.

Meanwhile, in 19th Century England, the old holiday languished and nearly died. But Charles Dickens understood its gift. He wrote and published *A Christmas Carol*. So many were touched by the tale of Christmas compassion reaching out to touch a stony heart that the holiday took on new life and has been growing strong ever since.

Yes, I think Robby's right. Christmas transcends its origins because it speaks to something warm and elemental in human hearts, Gay and straight.

It is magic, the wonder of memories, of childhood. For a few brief moments, it takes us out of ourselves to reach some higher, more beatific realm where bells jingle and angels sing over new-fallen snow.

It is the sudden realization that no matter our differences, we Gay and Lesbian people are family, a great, big extended family who are most ourselves when, as at Miss Maud's, we are at play.

The holiday belongs to us all. I think there is no greater proof of that than in Miss Maud's manger scene.

Every year, after the tree and everything is done and we're all sitting around over eggnog, she brings it out. And every year, she tells

where she got it--every year, a different place, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Rome, a little monastery in the South of France. We all listen, trying to look like we believe every word.

Then, piece by piece, she unwraps it. Those, like Robby, who have never seen it before, suddenly realize how different it is. Miss Maud calls it her Gay crèche and so it is.

It's hand-carved of olive wood--so Miss Maud says. Who knows? All the traditional figures are there, the Magi, the camels, the shepherds, angels and the rest, but with a difference.

The shepherds, six of them, are all young men. They look perplexed, yet curious, and two of them are holding hands. While the angels, five in number, are all women, young, old, two of them in a fond embrace.

But it's the Holy Family that really says it all. The figures of Mary and Joseph are so cunningly made that they look to be in their early teens--the way they probably were.

But that's not all. They, and the Babe, are swarthy of complexion and, while their clothes are nicely painted, they're not too clean.

As Miss Maud says, "Here is the myth, a sacred myth, of love, born unexpectedly, into a society where it wasn't welcome, or recognized as a holy thing except by a few."

She stops and looks around at us all, one delicately painted eyebrow raised slightly. "Doesn't that have something to say to Gay people?"

Perhaps it does.

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Our Stories Make The Difference: Humanity Triumphs in Madison

Commentary by John Quinlan

At a time when we find ourselves searching for complex strategies to combat the intolerant, regressive agenda of a newly resurgent Radical Right, it's vitally important to remember a simple and powerful truth. Our greatest advantage in the fight for our rights lies in the power inherent in telling our stories.

That really struck home in a big way last month for supporters of The United and the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN). For the first time in Dane County's history, a Gay and Lesbian organization received county funding, as The United was awarded a \$15,000 grant.

And years of hard work and community organizing paid off for MASN as the ground was broken for the Rodney Scheel House, where much-needed housing and support services will be provided for people with HIV and AIDS.

In recent years, name-calling and blatant partisanship have usually drowned out any hope for rational debate of the issues facing a sharply divided Dane County board. In the two and a half years since conservative supervisors became a majority, the ideologically predetermined outcome of such debates has almost always seemed a foregone conclusion.

And yet, on the night that the board debated funding for The United—south central Wisconsin's support agency for Lesbians, Gay men and Bisexuals—polarization along ideological lines took a back seat to the kind of human and thoughtful dialogue rarely seen in political bodies these days.

Supervisor Lyman Anderson, considered by many to be the dean of the conservative delegation, spoke simply, but eloquently, of his love for his Gay son who had died of AIDS.

Anderson made a plea for understanding of the struggle faced by Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual young people coming to terms with their sexual orientation. "Bear in mind that there are families who treat them as outcasts," he told his colleagues, in urging them to help fund the counseling and educational outreach programs at The United. "This is one place we can give them someplace to turn to."

Just as moving was the courageous testimony of Dane County's openly Gay supervisors.

Mark Pocan showed enormous inner strength in daring to reach deep down inside of himself to share with the board the brutally painful memory of being Gay-bashed by baseball bat-wielding thugs outside a Madison Gay bar several years ago.

And Scott McCormick spoke movingly of the anger he felt at an anonymous harasser's campaign of homophobic threats against him and his family since he chose last year to come out as an openly Gay politician.

Although there was opposition to funding The United, the debate was respectful and devoid of homophobic hyperbole. Supervisor Ruth Ann Schoer, in opposing the grant on the grounds that it represented segregated services, spoke of her respect for her Gay brother. "I want him to be treated in the same way I would be treated, in the same place," she said.

In the end, a number of prominent conservatives, including Board Chair Michael Blaska, were moved to support The United and the measure passed on a vote of 21 to 16.

After the vote, Sup. Blaska approached Sup. Pocan and invited him to provide a Gay and Lesbian perspective on the county's crimes subcommittee, which, up until that time, had done little to address the problem of Gay-bashing. That simple, humane, gesture, exchanged between two men who have often been bitter combatants of the floor of the board, epitomized an evening in which humanity won out over partisanship.

As the *Capitol Times* noted on its editorial page, "The often rigid lines had melted for a moment. Respect won out over prejudice. For that, in this season of gratitude, we can be thankful."

The Rodney Scheel House

One week later, there was great joy and celebration as ground was broken for the Rodney Scheel House. The staff and board of the Madison AIDS Support Network and countless

other dedicated volunteers, had managed to leap over seemingly endless bureaucratic hurdles and other obstacles on the road to this success. Only a handful of other projects have come this far this fast under a HUD program seeking to establish 500 units of housing for people with AIDS nationwide.

Only a year and a half before, project proponents were stunned by a hate-filled backlash from a group of residents in the east side neighborhood where the Scheel House was to be located. An introductory letter from MASN to neighborhood residents was met with telephoned threats of violence.

As we reported at the time, MASN responded with an extraordinary public meeting in which neighborhood residents learned more about the project and had a chance to meet some of the people who might, someday, reside there.

A potentially explosive situation got turned around because MASN created an environment in which understanding replaced fear. At the heart of MASN's efforts then and now: giving people a forum in which they can tell their stories.

Let's Tell Our Stories

One of the most frustrating things about the political season just passed, aside from the more obvious manifestations of its outcome, is the increasingly fractious and nasty nature of the nation's political dialogue.

As the debate becomes more and more narrowly defined and a hostile environment makes it harder and harder for disparate voices to be heard, it might seem as if the prospect for any forward movement in the fight for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual rights is distant at best.

Now, more than ever, it's important to remember the lesser shared by all civil rights struggles: telling our stories--and the stories of the people we care about--is truly the most powerful thing we can do.

This is a state rich in heritage of women and men who had the courage and strength of conviction to come forward and tell their stories. No one would argue that Madison, Dane County or Wisconsin are typical--it's a mark of pride that they are not. However, these two small, but significant steps forward in Madison in late November, may give us a look at the future of our struggle nationwide.

For beyond politics, our struggle is about connecting with people in our common humanity. It is a struggle that transcends ideology and the politics of the moment. And in that struggle, there is no question where the truth lies.

Become a Member of the Proud Crowd and Support PrideFest '95

(Milwaukee)- PrideFest is in the midst of its annual "Proud Crowd" fund raiser. The Proud Crowd is a group of supportive business, individuals, and organizations.

The group is listed in ads to be run in *Wisconsin Light*, *In Step*, and the 1995 *Pride Guide*. Members can be listed by name, initials or anonymously.

Membership starts at \$25.00. All Proud Crowd members receive an all new "Celebrate PrideFest" t-shirt or sweatshirt and a weekend pass to PrideFest '95.

This is PrideFest's major fund raiser of the year and the funds are used to pay the advance costs of next year's pride celebration. For more information on the Proud Crowd call the Pride Line at 272-FEST or send your contribution to: PrideFest, Box 93852, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

ORIENTATION

SELF-ESTEEM Group for Gay Men

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Nancy Gedney and Michael Lisowski from the Milwaukee AIDS Project passed out red ribbons and condoms to passersby in front of the Grand Avenue on World AIDS Day, December 1.

Gary Ray Bowles, Alleged Serial Killer of Gay Men, Captured in Florida

(Jacksonville, FL)- A confessed serial killer who preyed on Gay men in three states and was reported to have been in Wisconsin, was arrested on November 22 in Jacksonville, Florida. He will probably face trial there before being released to authorities elsewhere, a prosecutor has said.

Gary Ray Bowles, 32, had been featured on the front page of *Wisconsin Light* at the request of the FBI when it was reliably reported that he had come here after leaving Chicago.

Bowles was also featured five times on the TV show, "America's Most Wanted." He has admitted to three killings in Florida, two in Georgia and one in Maryland, all of Gay men.

Florida Attorney Harry Shorstein said that he expects to prosecute Bowles in the slayings of Walter Jammell Hinton, 43, a Jacksonville floral designer and Albert Alcie Morris, 37, a Nassau County convenience store owner, before allowing other states to pursue their cases.

Bowles waived his initial court appearance before a Duval County judge and is being held in a one-man cell for security and his own protection, said Sgt. Malcolm Adams, a spokesman for the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

Just eight days before his arrest, Bowles had been in custody in the Duval County Jail. He was held three days on a public intoxication charge under an alias.

Bowles has been arrested at least 14 times in

Florida since 1981, but the department's computerized fingerprint system failed to establish his true identity because he had never been arrested before in Duval County.

Bowles was arrested again on November 22, at a day labor office for questioning in Hinton's murder. Hinton's body was found on November 20, but he had been dead for several days. He and Bowles were briefly roommates.

When questioned about the slaying, the man admitted he was Bowles, who was on the FBI's "Most Wanted List."

Bowles, who says he is Bisexual, was known to frequent Gay bars, offering sex in exchange for lodging and household chores.

A federal warrant charges Bowles with fleeing prosecution in the murder of Milton Bradley, 72, a disabled World War II veteran, who was found strangled May 5, in Savannah, Georgia.

He also has been charged by Maryland authorities in the April 13 strangulation of David A. Jarman, 38, in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Bowles has also admitted killing John H. Roberts, 60, an insurance salesman with whom he shared a room in Daytona Beach, Florida and Alverson Carter, 47, of Atlanta, Georgia.

Police said that all of the victims were severely beaten, bludgeoned, shot and strangled.

ARCW's Nelson Selected to Lead National AIDS Policy Group Again

(Washington, D.C.)- The national AIDS Action Council, the country's most powerful AIDS lobby, has once again selected Doug Nelson, the Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW), to chair its Public Policy Committee which sets the national AIDS agenda.

Nelson was also re-elected to a two year term on the Board of Directors of the AIDS Action Council.

Nelson will continue to lead the Public Policy Committee during a time of political upheaval in Washington.

"There is great uncertainty about the commitment of this Congress to AIDS," Nelson said. "We have an enormous challenge to advance an AIDS agenda that meets the needs of a worsening national AIDS epidemic, yet is acceptable to a far more conservative Congress."



Doug Nelson

Nelson expressed great concern that the Republican commitment to a balanced budget amendment, lower domestic spending caps, restricting unfunded federal mandates and increasing defense spending would threaten the increased funding for critical AIDS programs such as the Ryan White CARE Act.

Nelson said the priority for the national AIDS agenda in 1995 would be reauthorization of the CARE Act, reauthorization of AIDS housing programs, advocating for a greater commitment by the Centers for Disease Control to empowering local communities to implement effective HIV prevention programs and working to increase Congressional appropriations for AIDS prevention, care and research.

Nelson said that he was surprised at his selection to lead the Council's Public Policy Committee for another year in light of the controversy that surrounded the leadership he gave to the national Campaign For Fairness in its struggle to change the Ryan White CARE Act formulas.

"While I am honored that my colleagues in the national AIDS community have once again asked me to lead this important AIDS policy committee, I have no doubt that this work will be very difficult and the outcome of our efforts are highly uncertain," Nelson said. "We will need to organize and mobilize and advocate like we have never done before."

AIDS Hotline

(Washington, D.C.)- The federal government has opened a toll-free telephone number to provide treatment information by phone or computer to people living with AIDS, their families and health care providers.

The HIV/AIDS Treatment Information Service began taking calls on October 31.

The number to call is 1-800-HIV-0440. The hours are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. CST Monday through Friday.

The service is staffed by health information specialists who are fluent in English and Spanish. Deaf access is included, and all calls are confidential.

The service's staff will not provide treatment advice. Staffers will, however, provide information on the latest research and treatment options to physicians and patients who call.

The service's data base, which is housed at the National Library of Medicine, will be updated to include all federally approved HIV and AIDS treatment information.

The data base can be accessed free via computer. Users can call 1-800-272-4787 for directions on how to access the system with their computer.



Xmas Break

As usual, *Wisconsin Light* is taking a break over Christmas. We will not be publishing a second issue this month. Our next issue will come out on January 5, 1995. The deadline for copy for that issue is January 2, 1995.

The editor will also be taking a break. The editorial office will be closed, starting December 9 and reopen on December 28.

The fax will, of course, be on as will the answering machine.

HAVE THE GAYEST OF HOLIDAYS

EDITORIAL

So That There May Be Liberty Throughout the Land and All May be Free

One of the most brilliant pieces of satire ever written is George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. For those of you not familiar with it, the story is about a farm run by a tyrannical farmer named Jones. The animals rise up, toss him out, and set up a community where everyone is equal. (The cat, of course, just doesn't get it, but all the rest do--supposedly) All too soon, the pigs take over and, in short order, adopt a new slogan which says that all are equal, "but some are more equal than others."

The message is too often disturbingly familiar to Americans today. There always seems to be some bunch who figure that equality is, most properly, a rationed commodity. Without the American Civil Liberties Union, it might well become just that.

Throughout its history, the ACLU in Wisconsin and nationwide, has fought to make sure that all enjoy the promise of America: liberty and equality for all. In our thinking, no group has a greater stake in their struggle and success than the LesBiGay community.

In so many, many places throughout this country, discrimination is out lot. We can be and often are, denied such elemental things as jobs and housing for being who we are. Neither can we enjoy the legal benefits of marriage. Here, as in other areas, "some are more equal than others."

Always, the ACLU has come to our aid. In the past and now, it carries on our battle for equality in the courts. And when we win (and we will), we will have much to be grateful for to the ACLU.

That is why we urge you to attend the ACLU of Wisconsin Foundation's annual Bill of Rights dinner on January 14. Go to support the ACLU and to applaud two of the strongest fighters in America's cause: Attorney Tom Zander and Rep. Tammy Baldwin.

That is why too, we urge you strongly to become a member of the ACLU.

Like the LesBiGay community, the ACLU wants what America has promised to all its children: liberty and equality. So that there may one day be liberty for everyone throughout all the land, we should give them our support.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

May this Holiday Season Be Filled With Peace, Joy and Great Love

By Terry Boughner

I have typed many Letters to the Editor over the years, but never have I typed one that that brought me so close to tears as the one I've titled "My Last Christmas." I'm not sure I can fathom what it must have cost the writer to send it, but I deeply appreciate his sharing his soul.

That letter could have been so very depressing, but it was not. To me, as I read and typed it, it was a beautiful statement of great faith, the kind that we seem to remember best this time of year.

His letter kind of put things into perspective for me. When all is said and done, political struggles and such like, pale in comparison to what John Quinlan has called "our common humanity."

What the writer believes and what I sense is that that one of the things we all have in common is not death, not the extinguishment of ourselves in some bleak void. Our common humanity is life, each one separate and distinct, and all on-going forevermore.

It is also love too, the longing for it, that I think the letter writer expresses so well. If he

LETTERS

Response to Cyril Crume

TO THE EDITOR:

I don't want to continue rehashing the results of last month's elections. However, Cyril Crume of Milwaukee had a letter published in the last issue of *Light* which includes quite a few half-truths and outright falsehoods about the race between State Rep. Barb Notestein and her Republican opponent Scott Evertz. As someone who volunteered for Rep. Notestein's campaign and serves on her staff, I'd like to respond.

First, Crume implies that the Democrats used unfair and intimidating tactics to try to prevent Evertz's name from appearing on the ballot in the November election. This is simply false.

As Crume should know, a candidate for State Assembly must submit nomination papers with at least 200 valid signatures and addresses in order to appear on the ballot. In order to guard against errors, nearly all candidates submit far more than the minimum number of signatures, usually 300.

Evertz, however, submitted nomination papers with barely more than 200 signatures; prior to reviewing the addresses of the signers, the State Elections Board initially counted 215 signatures. On closer review, Democrats found that 15 signatures were from people who lived outside the 19th Assembly District, making them invalid. Democrats also discovered that two people who signed Evertz's papers were foreign students from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Since non-citizens cannot vote in the United States, their signatures were also invalid.

Crume seems to find it offensive that the Democrats sought to remove the signatures of non-citizens from Evertz's nomination papers. Perhaps Crume should read the Constitution, where he will discover that only U.S. citizens are permitted to vote in our country. In fact, Evertz told Rep. Notestein in a telephone conversation that the person who circulated the nomination papers suspected that the two

does "go home" this Christmas, I believe strongly he will find waiting for him, loving arms, the kind that all of us seek.

The elementals that we all share, that are so often obscured, break through every once in awhile.

For example, I had occasion to meet Jan Parshall once. For those of you who don't know her, she was and is very active in ultra-conservative and Fundamentalist Christian causes. We had little in common, little indeed to talk about other than in angry words. But somehow, we managed to fling a bridge over that gap on which we could meet half way.

She sent me a cassette of Handel's "Messiah" once as a Christmas gift along with a gentle note wishing me well.

Sure, I know that she and I can never, ever see eye-to-eye on things. But I play that cassette and think of her fondly, especially at this time of year.

Between us there is a kind of peace, the kind the letter writer finds in his dreams, the kind that John Quinlan was talking about.

To the letter writer if, as you say, your body is telling you that time here is short, I wish you Merry Christmas.

To Jan Parshall who will never read this, and to the Right Wing Christians with whom I so fervently disagree, I wish you Merry Christmas too.

And to everyone, from all of us here at *Wisconsin Light*, we wish you the best of whichever of the holidays you are celebrating and the happiest of New Years.

students were not U.S. citizens. The circulator apparently failed to ask the students whether they were eligible to vote, despite the fact that state statutes require the circulator to swear that to the best of his or her knowledge, all signers are eligible voters.

It is true that Democrats asked the foreign students to sign affidavits certifying that they were not citizens of the United States, as required by the State Elections Board. However, the students were hardly "scared significantly" by this request, as Crume charges. Both were very pleasant and agreeable; in fact, one student was quite perturbed that Evertz's campaign had failed to inform him that only eligible voters could sign nomination papers.

Despite these errors, Evertz's name wound up on the ballot after the Republican-controlled State Elections Board, on a 4-3 vote, allowed two questionable signatures (not those of the foreign students) to be restored to Evertz's nomination papers. This gave Evertz exactly 200 "valid" signatures--the absolute minimum number required to get on the ballot.

Crume also charges that the Notestein campaign "relentlessly and tirelessly" informed Gay and Lesbian voters about Evertz's past work for the Wisconsin Right to Life. Although using the phrase "relentlessly and tirelessly" is an exaggeration, it is true that the Notestein campaign informed voters about Evertz's work as a fund-raiser for the anti-choice movement. This was necessary because the Notestein campaign received reports that Evertz had tried to lead a number of people to believe that he was pro-choice, including Planned Parenthood employees.

Finally, I am extremely puzzled by Crume's charge that the Notestein campaign "cut off" information to Evertz's supporters. This is a baffling accusation; what specific information does Crume believe the Notestein campaign was obliged to share with Evertz's supporters? Political candidates generally don't make a point of giving information about their campaign strategy to their opponent's supporters.

I'm sorry if Crume is unhappy about the outcome of the campaign. However, that's no excuse for de-

liberately or even inadvertently leveling inaccurate and senseless charges against your opponent's campaign. While it seems that Republicans delight in crying foul every time they lose an election, it's time to get over it and move on.

David Ward
Madison

You're Great!

TO THE EDITOR:

Your newspaper gives me a refreshing, lively, up-to-the-minute grip on Midwestern, national and world Gay news.

Thank you!

The layout is perfect, and your pages are practically perfumed with stuff we need to know.

Thanks also for combining the issues of homosexual men and women seamlessly in your publication.

Bennett Grehm
Milwaukee

His Last Christmas

TO THE EDITOR:

This will be my last Christmas. They tell you not to give up, not to lose hope, but there comes a time when your body tells you things that no one else can hear. It says it's doing the best that it can, it's trying, it really is, but the medicines aren't working much and it can't go on much longer.

When I first heard it say that, not too long ago, I was scared, really bad scared, like I imagine others like me are scared, like I imagine Pedro Zamora was scared.

(Thanks for printing the stories about him. It really helped. You don't hear too much about young people like me, people of color, like me, and AIDS, like me too.)

I'm not scared anymore--not too much, anyway. I hope, like Pedro, I'll just go to sleep and when I wake up, it'll be over.

I really think I will wake up. I've read it or maybe heard it on TV that after you die, there's this tunnel and then a nice, bright light, and you see people you knew who have died; family, friends, people like that. Maybe one of them will hold me once again. I hope.

My grandmother raised me. I called her "Nanny." She was tall and thin and she loved me. No matter what I did or who I was, she loved me. She died when I was 15, seven years ago now. I want to tell her everything that's happened to me since.

I'll tell her, "I kept up with school, Nanny, just like you said. I even went to college and graduated, just like you wanted me to do."

And I'll tell her how I've missed her, how much I've missed her. How much I love her. I don't think I told her that often enough.

I think Johnny will be there too. That's what I called him.

See, Johnny never really existed, not outside my mind, anyway. But when the going got rough, I'd dream about him. I'd see him as if he were actually there.

He's not too tall and very handsome, with big, kind, tender eyes.

I've met a lot of guys, some I liked a lot, but nothing ever clicked, you know. But Johnny was my dream lover. He would love me and hold me. Someday, he'd say, no matter what happened, we'd have a home together, a real home. We'd be a family, he and I.

They say that for everyone, there's someone, so maybe, if things had been different, I'd have found him--or he would have found me. I think we were looking for each other.

But now I think maybe he never lived at all, not here on earth anyway. But like I said, he's so real to me. I could even kind of feel him hold me when the pain got too bad. That's why I think I'll see him finally and he'll smile in that special way of his. His eyes will just dance and he'll take me in his arms and tell me "It's over now and I love you. I always have."

Then, the loneliness will go away.

I don't think much about religion, not Christianity anyway. Nanny wouldn't like that, but I think she'll understand. I just couldn't take all that meanness from Christians and they're judging me because I'm Gay. I just couldn't take it, but now that it's nearly over for me here, what the Christians think doesn't seem to matter much anymore.

Still, I've always loved Christmas. I like the lights and the music, especially the music. It's so beautiful. I've loved seeing Christmas trees and getting all excited about giving someone that special gift. It's always made me feel so good.

I think there'll be Christmas where I'm going. Nanny will be there and Johnny will be too. We'll have a home with a tree and presents and if there are angels (I think there are), we'll hear them sing.

I'm not sure why I'm writing this to you. Maybe it's to get it all off my chest and maybe too it's to say good-bye.

It's not the end. I don't believe that. I can't believe that. It's just the end here, that's all.

The people at the Brady Street Clinic and at MAP have really been good to me. Since, if you print this, I don't want you to use my name, they'll not know who I am, but that's okay. I think it's enough for them to know that they did a lot of good for someone like me. Kind, good people, you don't find too many like that.

I think I'll make it to Christmas. I want to, but I'm so tired and my body is saying "Maybe not."

I know your paper goes to the Brady Street Clinic and to MAP and they read it, so if you print this, then I want to tell them Merry Christmas.

Everyone has someone. I keep thinking about

that. I'm sad to go, but maybe, I think, I'll be happy again.

Name Withheld on Request
Milwaukee

Viva Republicans

TO THE EDITOR:

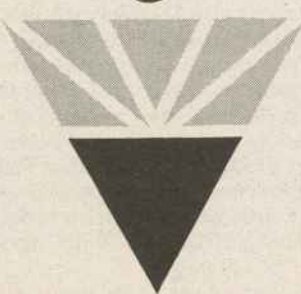
As a moderate-to-conservative Gay man and an unofficial Republican, I have to say I read your post-election issue with considerable dismay. I've been a regular reader of your paper for the last five years and never have I seen an issue so loaded with alarmist, radical, left-wing diatribes and totally unfair attacks upon the Republican Party. Just a few excerpts from articles by Bill Meunier and Terry Boughner should suffice to illustrate the point.

Election results were called "dismal," "a disaster" (twice) and "hideous." It was asserted that now, since the Democrats lost control of the Congress for the first time in 40 years, we should all prepare for "roll backs in the area of civil rights," that African Americans, women and other minorities will find themselves "under stronger attack than ever before," and "in great danger." Finally, that Gays and Lesbians "are going to get hurt badly;" that is, a lot more people "are going to get infected with HIV," people already afflicted with HIV/AIDS

Turn to Letters, Page 15

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

The Wisconsin Light



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A Note From Karen Lamb

Darling Friends,

At Terry's and Jerry's insistence, I am sending my greetings. "You can write as little or as much as you want," Terry says. "People are asking for you."

I know. I have received so many wonderful messages. Thank you for your calls, your letters. I am deeply moved. I treasure each and every one. I am trying to answer each one of you personally. Thank you for being with me. I miss you.

And I miss writing to you, but I thought that I would just skip Christmas this year, kinda take to my bed, have a bad hair day.

I lost someone very dear this Summer and my mother shortly before. I want you to know that you, who have dealt with death and dying so courageously, have given me strength. I draw strength from you.

I spend a lot of time writing. I write about you, how I have never seen one person, one single person in our community, complain.

Shortly before my husband died, he read an article to me. I think it was in the *Ladies Home Journal*. I want to find it. It was written by Maya Angelou and it was about not complaining. (Don't complain). I keep trying.

Jerry and Terry came and decorated my home, set up our children's little train around the tree, did all the things I just couldn't seem



DR. KAREN LAMB

to manage.

Maybe I just need a new hat. I hear from Terry that someone in this town does a perfect imitation of me...broad-brimmed hat, just sash-shaying in there! We are all laughing!

Do you know that you are my Christmas present? Every single day of the year.

Have a grand and glorious holiday season. I will too.

Love from your friend,
Karen Lamb

After the Elections of 1994, America Is In For a Brave New World

Commentary by Jay Hatheway

At last, American Civilization is about to be freed from the fetters of ungodliness and secularism to rise phoenix-like upon the ashes of the oppressive welfare state. Freedom and liberty will flow across the land and pervade the body politic. Honesty, integrity, "in God we trust" and civic responsibility will be unleashed upon the American people and the citizens of the World! The New World Order has arrived! Let the salvation of humanity commence with American Civilization uber alles!

Unfortunately, the "revolution" that the new Republican majority would thrust upon the body politic has more in common with Ronald Reagan and Pat Robertson than it does with freedom, integrity or civic responsibility. In their unyielding attempts to reconstruct the essence of what Newt Gingrich euphemistically calls "American Civilization," the Republican Party is prepared to sacrifice the Constitution in favor of statist intervention and thereby force Americans to swallow the bitter medicine of frustrated reactionaries drunk with power and obsessed with the urge to control.

Rather than debate the real causes of our political malaise, the new Republicans would have us believe that our troubles derive in large measure from ethnic barbarism, unrestrained immorality, godlessness, socialism, liberalism and a host of other behaviors inimical to the "proper" health of the Republic.

By disregarding the relationship between de-industrialization and hopelessness, and reducing the consequences of hopelessness to the effects of the "welfare state" and "bad character," Republicans blame the victims of economic concentration and rapid deregulation for their own sorry plight and insist that the socially and economically marginalized must pay for their impudent behaviors with more jails, reduced wages and obedience to the superior morality of those who claim to have God on their side.

Impatient with the legislative process, weary of compromise, and convinced of human wickedness, the New Revolutionaries seek remedy to their perceived assessment of social ills by a slough of Constitutional Amendments which, if ratified, would profoundly alter the very nature, not only of the Constitution itself, but of "lawmaking" as well.

If successful in their attempts to amend now or down the road, why resort to "temporary" legislation? Why not simply change the basic law of the land and leave it at that?

If the basic law is too "liberal," abolish it in the name of "truth" and "justice." This is in essence, the stuff of political revolutionaries and would truly constitute a political coup d'etat. Similar to numerous totalitarian regimes of the 20th Century, one simply uses the Constitution to undermine its very principles.

In particular, the New Revolutionaries are now floating no less than five amendments which they would like to have ratified before the 1996 election: 1) line item veto; 2) balanced budget; 3) term limits; 4) prayer in the schools; and 5) denial of citizenship to children undocumented workers.

And beyond this, we must add the much touted "Contract With America" as well as "illegal immigration," support for GATT, re-creating education through the destruction of the public school system and the possibility of two additional amendments, one to prohibit "flag burning" and the other to ban abortions.

Collectively, the New Revolutionaries' agenda is a call for intrusive governmental intervention that would put even the most "liberal" Democrat to shame.

And all of these "benign" changes, which are intended to "Save America," were initiated by a political party which was put into power by less than 15% of the entire voting population. The totalitarians of the past would no doubt have been pleased.

While it is true that the New Revolutionaries' chances of success are currently limited, both with respect to amendments and legislation, the critical point is their willingness to cynically toy with the Constitution which would, if successful, be tantamount to a radical reconstruction of the American Political System. The States, rather than the Federal Government, would have their pre-Civil War rights returned to them.

Reconstruction is dead! The rights of the Majority have too long been trampled upon by those of the Minority. So much for less government. But this, of course, is the point. Should 1994 not prove fruitful, how about 1996 or beyond? The Civil War was not fought overnight.

Of course, it is also true that the Republican Coalition might break apart, as is suggested by Arlan Specter of PA, and were this to happen, then the U.S. would, in essence, have a three party system of Christian Fundamentalists, Republicans and Democrats; and if Perot becomes active again, we would have four political parties vying for power and control, none of which places much value on truth.

To their shame, too many of our professional politicians have hypocritically framed political issues in such a manner as to not allow the public to understand the linkages be-

tween crime, drug abuse, violence, poverty, welfare and capital flight and disinvestment.

Indeed, President Clinton in his push for NAFTA and GATT is ironically the perfect handmaiden for the business concerns which fuel the New Revolutionaries' agenda, and for this many Republicans must be very pleased. All the while, we fail to address the real causes of social disintegration.

The sad part of this past election is in fact, less the low turnout or the perceived victory of the Republican Coalition, but rather the fragmentation, if not the conclusion, of the progressive's forty-year struggle for political pluralism and inclusion over and against the forces of reaction and state sponsored corporate welfare and terrorism.

In the wake of an election which cost almost \$500 million, progressives had virtually no chance to successfully rebut the insidious propaganda of a frightened reactionary minority who based their claims of righteousness on the manipulation of greed, prejudice and fear, all the while propounding a "new vision" for the future.

Absent from this vision are the struggles of people of color, Lesbians and Gays, women and others who have been consciously excluded from full political, economic and social participation.

Under the rubric of what Gingrich calls "American Civilization," multiculturalism and its supporters are condemned as un-American and destructive of the social fabric. "Join us," Gingrich lectures, "but only if you support our agenda and are prepared to accept our version of American exceptionalism."

Contrary to the opinions of the true believers, the economic and social policies of the new Republican majority and their unsavory allies will exacerbate rather than ameliorate social tensions and continue the process of marginalization of large sectors of the population who will be set adrift without recourse to any sort of safety net.

But then again, it would be irresponsible for the Government to help those who purposely choose to place themselves in abject poverty, even if such people are "natural dults." Barbarism, it would appear, is the inevitable consequence of the New Deal. If there is a bright side, it is to be found in the clear choices we now confront.

There is no doubt that our society is imperfect; there is equally no doubt that the political, economic and social control of this country is a prize highly valued, because with control comes the power necessary to initiate and perhaps complete agendas.

While progressive agendas have been messy at times, and seemingly shrill, they have never backed away from their demands for a more open, cooperative, humane, just and inclusive society.

In contrast, the new Republican majority, beholden to religious fundamentalists and dedicated to deregulation and capital flight, reject the values of the progressives as outdated, outmoded, muddleheaded and dangerous to "American Civilization."

Their proposed solution is to extol deregulation; dismantle social safety nets; provide tax payer subsidies to corporations; put God back into our lives; increase military expenditures; force citizens to conform to a rigid code of behavior imposed by Constitutional fiat; demolish the separation between church and state; build more prisons for those who do not conform; and marginalize dissent.

Instead of a recipe for success, the manufacture of the new "mandate" must result in increased tension, social instability and alienation, which in the twisted logic of the Republican agenda, provides proof-positive for the immorality and irrationality of the mass. If, as seems to be the case, Social Darwinism has been resurrected, then eugenics cannot be far behind.

Welcome to the Brave New World!

In the Aftermath of November's Elections, Gay Republicans Are on The Upswing

Commentary by Michael Colbruno

Quick quiz: Name the organization that works with Newt Gingrich and other Republicans who will soon control the Congress, that helped elect dozens of Republicans nationwide, is currently recruiting delegates for the 1996 GOP Convention in San Diego, and is setting up meetings with all the contenders for the GOP presidential nomination.

The Christian Coalition, perhaps?

No, it's the Gay Republican group, the Log Cabin Club and they're the new game in post-revolution Washington.

Gay Democratic Congressmen, Barney Frank and Gerry Studds are out as de facto leaders of our community--Wisconsin Republican Steve Gunderson is in.

With 42 chapters and 9,000 members, the oft-maligned Log Cabin Clubs are headed toward a resurgence. Their newest chapter was recently formed in Idaho, where Gay Republicans helped defeat an anti-Gay initiative.

In neighboring Oregon, Chuck Carpenter became the first openly Gay Republican elected to a state house with the help of Log Cabin.

Unlike other minorities, Gays and Lesbians seem to be following national trends and voting Republican. Several exit polls, taken across the country, maintain that 60% of Gays voted Republican in the last election.

Rich Tafel, who heads the Log Cabin Clubs, sees one reason for the Gay drift to the GOP.

"In this campaign, Republicans focused on fiscal issues and the Gay community is fiscally conservative," Tafel said. "And it helps that there was no focus on social issues--little Gay-bashing. It will be our responsibility to show the Republicans that Gay-bashing is not a smart strategy."

But Tafel believes there's a flip side to Gay-bashing and that's Republican-bashing.

Extremely critical of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), Tafel believes they have grossly mishandled Republicans in the past.

"They've been demonizing people, calling them religious right extremists and things like

that," he said. "There's been some self-fulfilling prophecy in this. If you call someone a jerk, they'll probably be a jerk to you."

Tafel dismisses GOP opposition to Gays in the military as a litmus test of GOP hostility toward Gays and Lesbians.

"Let's face it," he said. "Gays in the military was botched in every way by the White House and the Democrats. It's not a good measure of any support for us."

Tafel said that Log Cabin will have access to Gingrich, not HRCF and NGLTF.

"HRCF gave \$900,000 to the Democrats and just \$31,000 to the Republicans. Don't think the Republicans don't know that. Also, HRCF maxed out to Gingrich's opponent and, believe me, he knows that."

Chandler Burr, a freelance writer who interviewed Gingrich recently, said that there are many reasons to believe that Gingrich will not be a Gay nemesis.

First is his relationship with Gunderson. In fact, Gingrich made Gunderson his chief deputy whip when he led the Republicans in the minority. Burr contends that Gingrich dined regularly with Gunderson and Gunderson's lover.

Burr believes that Gunderson's role will extend beyond being the only openly Gay Republican in Congress.

"I believe that Gunderson will be one of the linchpins in what will happen, not only with civil rights for Gays, but the 104th Congress as a whole. Johnson and Gunderson help control approximately 40 votes on the Republican side...Those 40 votes will be what sustains or kills Republican votes. Newt Gingrich will live or die by those votes."

Tafel believes there are enough GOP moderates in leadership positions to ensure that the rights of Gay people aren't in great danger. He points to Jim Jeffords (R-VT) and John Chafee (R-RI), longtime Gay supporters who will soon chair key committees.

"There are also a lot of people in the middle like Alan Simpson (R-WY), who are neither friend nor foe," Tafel said. "It is the job of Log Cabin to move them over to the friend column."

Without Liberty for All, There is Liberty for None

Become a Card-Carrying Member of the A.C.L.U.

(Madison)- For many decades, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has been out there, providing a voice for people long deprived of a voice. And especially, in recent years, no mainstream civil rights organization has been as vocal and active in pursuing Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual rights as the ACLU.

In the 1950s, the Wisconsin ACLU was at the forefront of the efforts to discredit the demagogic and divisive political maneuverings of Wisconsin's own Senator Joseph McCarthy. At a time when modern-day demagogues seek to sow the seeds of distrust and divide Americans against each other, when politicians of the Radical Right seek to compromise civil rights and freedom of expression in fulfillment of their own selfish ends, the ACLU is out there again.

Through its advocacy of Wisconsin Lesbian and Gay parenting cases, its national Lesbian and Gay rights project, its fight against cen-

sorship and its role in building coalition in the struggle for the civil rights of all Wisconsinites, the ACLU has been there for you and your rights. Now, more than ever, it's important to become a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

The ACLU of Wisconsin Foundation's annual Bill of Rights Dinner will be held at Milwaukee's Pfister Hotel on Saturday, January 14. Among those being honored is State Representative Tammy Baldwin who will receive a Special Recognition Award for her numerous contributions to civil rights in Wisconsin.

A strong Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual presence at the dinner will send an important message of solidarity to our allies in the civil rights struggle in Wisconsin.

The cost of the dinner is \$50. Bus transportation is available from Madison.

If you are unable to attend, but would like to be a part of the important mission of the ACLU, your membership will also send an important message.

For more information, contact the ACLU's Milwaukee office at (414) 272-4032 or state board member John Quinlan in Madison at (608) 257-3744.

ACLU to Hold Annual Bill of Rights Dinner

(Milwaukee)- The American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin Foundation (ACLU/WIF) will be holding its 17th Annual Bill of Rights Dinner on Saturday, January 14, 1995 at the Pfister Hotel in downtown Milwaukee. The social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. with the dinner to follow at 7:00 p.m. There will be an awards ceremony and entertainment by humorist Will Durst following the dinner.

Award recipients include: Attorney Tom Zander and Wisconsin State Representative Tammy Baldwin.

Tickets are \$50 per person.

For reservations, call the ACLU/WIF at (414) 272-4032.

The ACLU/WIF is a non-profit citizens group dedicated to the defense of civil liberties.

SISTERNEWS AND VIEWS

Make the Yuletide Gay--Just Do It!

By Jamakaya

Well, it's that time of year again, the season to be Merry and Gay. We Queers have enough anxieties all year long, we might as well heed the Gay-friendly injunction and get into the spirit of things!

Let's start off with a rousing rendition of "My Favorite (Queer) Things," original lyrics by moi, with thanks to Rodgers and Hammerstein. My fondest desire is to hear Julie Andrews herself sing this version but, in her absence, let's give it a go!

MY FAVORITE QUEER THINGS

Dykes in tuxedos with lavender sashes,
Walks with our sweethearts where nobody bashes,
Drag queens with witty rejoinders that sting---
These are a few of our favorite things!

Gore Vidal writing with great erudition,
Louganis diving in perfect precision,
Swaying and swooning as k.d. lang sings---
These are a few of our favorite things!

When the 'phobes strike
and it feels like
the whole world is mad,
We simply remember our favorite things
and then we don't feel so bad!

Rainbow flags flying in brilliant profusion,
Coming out stories that end our confusion,
"Angels" on Broadway has given us wings---
These are a few of our favorite things!

When the 'phobes strike
and it feels like
the whole world is mad,
We simply remember our favorite things
and then we don't feel so bad!

Now, are you beginning to feel cheery?
There are a number of events with a holiday flair planned in the women's community that will also get you in the mood.

On Saturday, December 10, LOC/Women of Color will present its annual Mistletoe Dash at Milwaukee's Lake Park Pavilion. It features dancing to DJ-spun music from 8:00 p.m. 'till the reindeer come home. \$8 donation.

Both Madison and Milwaukee will host Women's Arts and Crafts Fairs where you, dear reader, can do your holiday shopping in a Queer-friendly atmosphere while helping to support women artists.

Apple Island will host the Madison event on Saturday and Sunday, December 10-11 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It's located at 849 E. Washington.

In Milwaukee, the Our Space Womyn's Holiday Craft Fair is Sunday, December 11 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Holy Rosary Church basement across the parking lot from the Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett.

I urge everyone to patronize women- and Gay-owned businesses this holiday season. Think of it as keeping your money in the family. The folks at AfterWords and People's Books in Milwaukee, A Room of One's Own in Madison, Rainbow Revolution in La Crosse

Away in a futon, a manger or bed,
The Lesbian Nation laid down her sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down as she dozed.
The Lesbian Nation in gentle repose.
Repose---Repose---
The Lesbian Nation collectively snoze.

Happy Solstice and New Year, 1995!

Landmark Israeli Supreme Court Decision Recognizes Rights of Gay Couples

(Tel Aviv)- The Israeli Supreme Court has handed Israel's Gay community a major victory in a landmark ruling recognizing same-sex couples.

The 50-page decision forces the national airline, El Al, to grant the partner of flight attendant, Jonathan Danielevitz, the same annual free tickets and other benefits given to spouses of heterosexual employees.

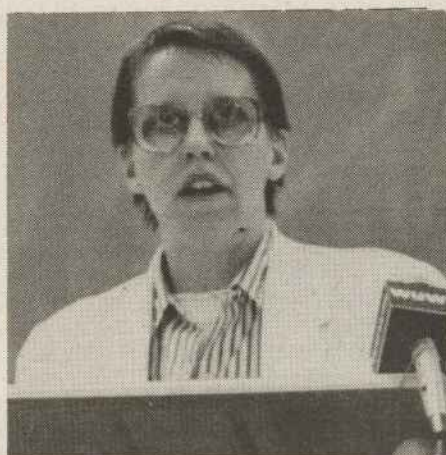
The case wound its way up Israel's court system for five years, reaching the Supreme Court after El Al appealed a regional labor court ruling in favor of Danielevitz.

El Al spokesman, Nachman Kleiman, said that the company would "honor and abide by the decision in its entirety."

No reaction was available from Danielevitz. Press reports say he has been together with his partner for 15 years.

Activists fighting for the civil rights of Gay people said that the ruling would have widespread significance in Israel, where Gays and Lesbians are allowed to serve in the armed forces.

"This will affect all walks of life. We will try to apply this decision to other areas," said



JAMAKAYA



and the dozens of other alternative establishments statewide will happily give you tips on last-minute gift-giving.

On Thursday, December 15, the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee will host its annual Holiday Feast and Bowling Party at Walker's Point Marble Arcade, 1101 S. 2nd Street, beginning at 6:00 p.m. LAMM promises good food and "all-around merry-making." Actually, it's a potluck, that universal Lesbian cultural practice, so bring a dish or snacks to share. Except for a minimal charge for those who choose to bowl, the party's free.

Apple Island is hosting a big New Year's Eve bash. From 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., there'll be "elegant edibles," soft music by Marge Jarrells, humor, candlelight, the works. Afterward, from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., there will be a dance with music spun by Milwaukee's Lu Shanti. The dance alone is \$6-10, sliding scale. The earlier party requires reservations and costs \$15-19, which includes the cost of the dance. To reserve a place, call Apple Island at (608) 258-9777.

Here's a reprise of a little lullaby to ease Lesbian sisters through the Holiday season. It goes to the tune of "Away in a Manger." We need more lullabies, sisters. Enjoy!

Navy Discharge Board Votes to Retain Lt. Zoe Dunning, an Open Lesbian

(Washington, D.C.)- On December 1, 1994, a Navy Discharge Board convened to decide the fate of Lt. Zoe Dunning, ruled that she should be retained in the Navy. The Board rebutted the presumption contained in the new military regulations on Lesbians and Gays that a statement of sexual orientation implies sexual activity.

Dunning, a board member of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, stated that she is a Lesbian in January, 1993, at a D.C. rally held to support President Clinton's pledge to lift the ban.

In his opening statement to the Discharge Board, Dunning's civilian attorney, Greg Bonfiglio, argued that the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" rule was unconstitutional and then reeled off a list of glowing evaluations, including one written after Dunning acknowledged that she is Gay.

His first witness, Lt. Melna Jones, one of Dunning's co-workers, said Dunning's unit supported her and had not been adversely affected by her being openly Lesbian.

"If anything, the evidence will show that her public announcement has actually drawn her unit together," Bonfiglio told the tribunal.

Bonfiglio further argued that the statement "I am a Lesbian" does not indicate conduct. Navy prosecutors, however, argued that the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is crystal clear: any service member who publicly acknowledges being Gay faces discharge unless it can be proven that he or she will not engage in sexual activity.

At the hearing which opened Tuesday, November 29, the three officers hearing the case promised to be fair in judging whether reservist Dunning, 31, should be discharged.

"The most important thing is to do a good job, and sexual orientation is as secondary as hair color and skin color," said tribunal member Lt. Comdr. Kimberly Shunk.

Bonfiglio argued that there "is no rational basis for singling out homosexuals. Homosexuals can serve in the military with distinc-

tion and have served with distinction," he said.

Dunning's lawyers said that the fact that she had recently been selected for promotion to lieutenant commander showed "the insanity" of the policy.

The Board's decision may have been affected by a development that came Monday, November 28, when the Clinton Administration said it would not ask the Supreme Court to overturn the reinstatement of openly Gay sailor Keith Meinhold.

Meinhold, a Navy sonar operator, revealed on national TV in 1992, that he is Gay. As a result, he was discharged from the Navy.

Meinhold waged a battle for reinstatement. In the meantime, the government changed its policy to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" rule, which means that service personnel can be Gay, but cannot engage in Gay sexual activity while in the service.

Service members who declare their homosexuality face discharge unless they can prove they will not engage in sexual activity.

Dunning's lawyers say that letting the Meinhold case stand had an impact on their case. They also say that the two decisions "knock out the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy."

Michelle M. Benecke, a Co-Executive Director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network cautioned servicemembers who want to come out in light of the Dunning case.

"The decision is not final," she said. "It still must proceed up the chain of command for final determination. In addition, different discharge boards may come to different conclusions based on the same facts."

"Any servicemember who decides to come out really needs to find a civilian attorney to help them at Lt. Dunning did."

Benecke added, "The truth of the matter is that Servicemembers Legal Defense Network is in touch with dozens of servicemembers who have made a statement that they are Gay and have subsequently faced harassment and discharge."

Court of Appeals Upholds Discharge of Lincoln Steffan, Gay Midshipman

(New York)- Supporters of a Gay man who was forced out of the Naval Academy say an appeals court ruling against his reinstatement is merely a temporary setback.

The 7-3 ruling on November 22, by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, known as one of the most conservative courts in the nation, said the Navy's decision to expel Joseph C. Steffan was not based on an "irrational bias" against Gays. The ruling reversed the finding of a three-judge panel.

Steffan, who went to law school after leaving the Academy, is now a clerk for a federal judge in Newark, New Jersey. He did not comment on the latest ruling, but his supporters said the judges would not have the last word.

"This is one inning in a long ball game,"

said Michelle Benecke, co-director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network. "Ultimately, the Supreme Court will decide the issue."

After acknowledging that he is Gay, Steffan was forced out of the Naval Academy in 1987, six weeks shy of graduation.

The former midshipman was honored for "constant dedication to superior performance" before his ouster. He was dismissed solely on the basis of his statement about his sexual orientation.

Judge Lawrence Silberman, writing for the majority, said that Gays and straights are treated differently in the service "because the means at the military's disposal for dealing with the natural phenomenon of sexual attraction differ for the two."

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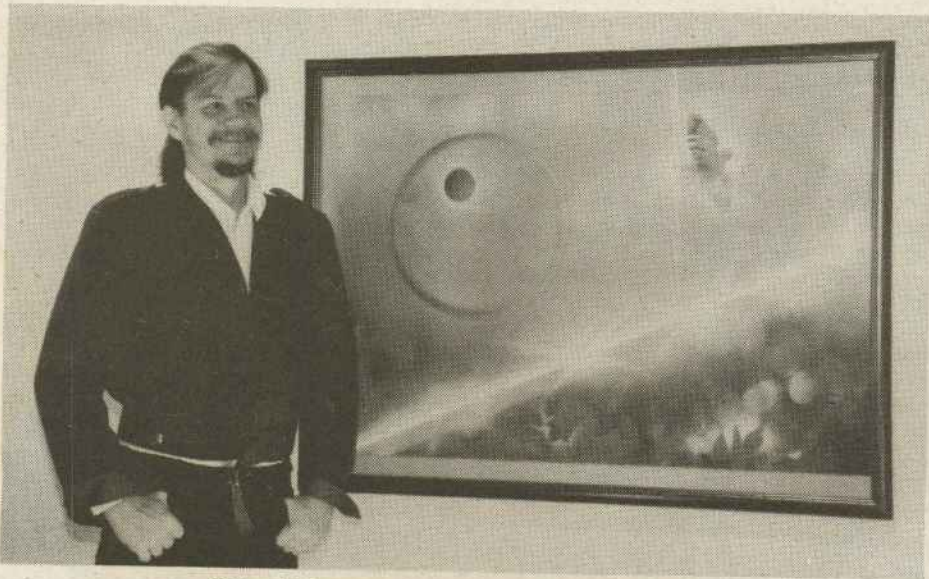
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Richard Waswo and the "Under the Rainbow" painting.

BestD Clinic Accepts New Painting to Mark the Clinic's 20th Anniversary

(Milwaukee)- BestD Clinic climaxed its 20th Anniversary by accepting the aerosol painting by Milwaukee Gay artist Richard Waswo, titled "Under the Rainbow." The work, now hanging in the Clinic's general waiting area, was commissioned for the anniversary and reopening of the remodeled facility.

The large work dominates the major wall of the area and was framed in two pieces by Grava Gallery. It was purchased and presented to the Clinic as a gift by two BestD volunteers.

Waswo reflected on the background of the work, remembering that in the Summer of

1993, he found himself traveling by rail across the Nullabor Plain of western Australia. It was there that he had his most memorable sighting of a rainbow--a glorious arc of color stretching from horizon to horizon over some of the most dry, flat and desolate land on earth. That rainbow seemed to him like a miraculous vision in the midst of such arid nothingness.

"When I was commissioned to do this painting for the BestD Clinic," Waswo said, "I immediately knew that I'd incorporate a rainbow. First, because the rainbow has come to represent diversity and tolerance and also because of its close association with Gays and Lesbians."

"When I heard 'Over the Rainbow' at the Yankee Stadium closing ceremony of the Gay Games, the song held a new meaning for me. It expressed a longing for a not always present, but attainable more perfect world."

The rainbow in Waswo's work makes a strong division between the ethereal utopia and our own real world. Male and female sex symbols, subtly hidden, bring to mind an innocent and uninhibited sexuality. The artist invites the viewer to remember that we inhabit our own earthly space, lush or as thorn-ridden as we choose to make it. We are all "Under the Rainbow," busily dreaming of ways to fly.

In addition to this new work, BestD continues to display the premier Milwaukee showing of Marion Storck Ambuel's art done in various media and celebrating the young of various racial and ethnic backgrounds.

The original and copies of the 20th anniversary rainbow poster, the joint effort of Sue Mac Arevey and Lisa Reichert are also shown at BestD, 1240 E. Brady Street. The Clinic is becoming part of the culturally diverse milieu of Brady Street.

BestD Clinic Receives Grants

BestD Clinic has recently been the recipient of two significant gifts. Sarah Dean, Executive Director of the Faye MC Beath Foundation of Milwaukee, announced the award of a \$21,000 grant to assist in the completion of the Clinic's renovation.

According to Ross Walker, BestD President, this generous gift will allow all of the planned facility renovation to be done without delay and without incurring debt.

A second gift of \$1,500 was received at the end of November from the Wisconsin Energy Corporation Foundation, Inc. This Milwaukee-based foundation is the charitable arm of Wisconsin Electric.

These two gifts represent the largest ever given to BestD Clinic in its 20 year history. As a result of these grants, the all-volunteer agency will be well-positioned to continue to serve the LesBiGay community as well as anyone who comes for care and treatment.

Clinton's New AIDS Chief, Patricia Fleming, Draws Praise from Many

(Washington, D.C.)- Veteran Washington aide Patricia S. Fleming won praise from major AIDS groups after President Clinton tapped her as his choice for national AIDS policy director.

Fleming, until recently, a special assistant to Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, said confidently, "I have power. I have authority. I have access. I can make things happen."

Her predecessor, Kristine Gebbie, a former Washington State health official, left under fire last Summer.

Although often dubbed a "czar," Gebbie denied the title, telling *Wisconsin Light* that her job was not to make things happen as would a czar, but to educate.

The Administration and the rest of the government seemingly paid little attention to Gebbie. Her office was over a McDonalds, well removed from the White House.

In truth, the AIDS policy director, no matter who it is, has virtually no authority over the government's \$2.5 billion AIDS research and treatment budget. Federal spending for AIDS has increased 30 percent under Clinton.

Fleming, 57, took the job temporarily three months ago. A veteran congressional aide and appointee in the Carter and Clinton Administrations, she prodded the Reagan and Bush Administrations over their response to the AIDS epidemic while working on a House oversight committee for the late Rep. Ted Weiss (D-NY).

"She'll have direct access to me, to members of the Cabinet," Clinton promised at a ceremony attended by leaders of a score of AIDS groups. He ordered a detailed report on the increase among adolescents.

Dan Bross, executive director of the AIDS Action Council said that he welcomed Fleming's appointment. "She understands the needs of the AIDS community," he said.

Bross added that he was pleased that Clinton had appointed an African American woman

whose "long dedication to minority concerns will only help to bolster efforts to stop the rapid spread of AIDS in communities of color."

Dr. Marvyn E. Silverman, president of the American Foundation for AIDS Research, said Fleming possesses the skills and savvy "to mobilize the nation's HIV effort."

Not everyone, however, was pleased with Fleming's appointment.

Wayne Turner, a spokesman for the Washington office of ACT UP dismissed Fleming as "a midlevel public health bureaucrat" and said that Clinton had failed to give the job Cabinet rank.

Clinton noted that a quarter-million Americans have died from AIDS. One million have been infected with the HIV virus, with 40,000 new infections each year, and more than 400,000 have developed the disease.

Fleming said half of all HIV infections occur before age 25 and one in four who become infected contract the virus before their 20th birthday.

"The trends are particularly troublesome among women, people of color and adolescents," Fleming said at the White House ceremony. "While the rate of increase among Gay men has lessened, AIDS still teafs at the core of that population, particularly young Gay men."

Fleming, who has three sons in their 30's, tiptoed around a question about teens and sex.

"I think kids today have to delay having sex as long as possible to protect themselves," she said.

She counsels safe sex and says women must be given the tools to protect themselves instead of relying on their partners.

Shalala, her mentor, said Fleming has "a sensitive ear, a quiet resolve and a backbone of steel, which is exactly what the AIDS issue needs in the years ahead."

Another Anti-Gay Initiative is in the Works

Seattle, WA-AP- Another initiative is in the works to make discrimination against Gays and Lesbians legal. Anti-Gay Religious Right groups failed to gather enough signatures to put two such measures on this year's ballot in Washington State, but they will try again next year, said Robert Larimer Jr., executive director of Washington for Traditional Values. Larimer's Vancouver-based group has joined forces with the Washington, D.C.-based Traditional Values Coalition led by Lou Sheldon of California. "One way or the other, we'll be addressing this issue in '95," Larimer said.



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POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Republicans Should Learn a Lesson From History and Not Go the Way of the Whigs

By Bill Meunier

One not so surprising statistic coming out of the recent election is that more Gays and Lesbians voted Republican than has been the case in the past. It wasn't surprising that many lesbians and gays were just as taken in by the GOP's tactics as every other segment of the electorate seemed to be.

Some Log Cabin leaders are convinced this will help them convince the GOP to be more moderate on Gay rights issues. If it does, good, but don't bet on that happening.

American political history does not indicate any examples of a major political party abandoning its basic principles in order to maintain or increase its share of voters from any given group.

In fact there are numerous examples of political parties choosing to do the opposite.

The solid Democratic South didn't dissuade the Democrats from pushing through the Civil Rights Act of 1964, or the Voting Rights Act in 1965.

Ronald Reagan got a near majority of labor union members in his runs for the Presidency.

That didn't prevent him and his party from pushing through union busting rules, firing the striking PATCO members, and taking other anti-union stands.

In fact the Republican party itself is a good example of this history. The GOP was formed by abolitionists who left the Whig Party.

Despite getting the support of most abolitionists, the Whigs, one of the two major parties in their day, refused to stand against slavery.

The frustrated abolitionists went off on their own. Within a few years, the Whigs were dead. The Republicans were in control and the country was at war.

The Republican Party, mindful of their its own history, is not likely to repeat the mistakes of the long forgotten Whigs. It is not going to clamp down on or moderate the Religious Right. To do so would risk losing the core of its party, its largest volunteer base and most (if not all) of its leaders.

The majority of the newly elected Republican Congressman and Senators are radically conservative.

Being conservative doesn't necessarily translate into trouble for advocates of equal treatment of Gays and Lesbians. Barry Goldwater for example has been an outspoken advocate of opening the military to Lesbians and Gays.

The problem is the type of conservatism practiced by these new Congresspersons and Senators.

Their brand of conservatism is not a doctrine of non-interference into people's private affairs. They believe the government should promote a return to the days when the military ruled the roost in federal budgeting, and men ruled a thoroughly heterosexual society.

The lesson of the Christian Right flexing its muscles to put these people in office will not

be lost on other Republicans.

Any Congressperson who wants to run for the Senate and any Senator who wants to run for President fully understands that they must satisfy the Right Wing of the Republican party in order to win.

No Republican hoping for higher office can stand with Gays and Lesbians and have any expectation that they will have the support of the Fundamentalist wing of the party. In many areas of the country and probably on a national basis, that support is key to winning.

The success of the Radical Fundamentalists strengthened their hold on the GOP. Anyone who thinks differently should take a look at who the Republicans put in leadership positions in both house of Congress and in many state parties.

In the House, we have Newt Gingrich and Richard Amery. Gingrich has consistently opposed anything that might even hint at being fair to Lesbians and Gays. Richard Amery is noted for his accusation that Hillary Clinton is a "Marxist."

In the Senate Bob Dole and Trent Lott hold the reins. Believe it or not, Dole is considered to be a moderate conservative compared to the other Republican senators.

Lott, a Mississippi throwback to the last century, will probably be running things most of the time as soon as Dole hits the campaign trail in his third try for the Presidency.

Even if the Gay and Lesbian Republican vote was undeniably equal to that of the religious right, it wouldn't matter. Many if not most of the GOP fire brands owe their election to the Fundamentalists and in many states the religious right has managed to get control of the party.

All of this means that the Log Cabin types might as well be talking to a brick wall when they try to convince Republican office holders to be more sympathetic to Gay rights.

That doesn't mean that they shouldn't try, they should. What it does mean is that they shouldn't be under any illusions about the chances for success.

It also means that if they are really going to have an impact they must do more than work to convince Gays and Lesbians to vote for the GOP. They are going to have to work for election of Republican moderates like Steve Gunderson.

Like others within the Republican party who oppose the Fundamentalists, the Log Cabin clubs must build their own campaign organization.

They must convince their followers to become actively involved in holding fund raisers, setting up phone banks, doing lit drops and the myriad of other tasks that make up electoral politics.

What faces the Log Cabin Club members is not an easy task. But if they are serious about working for change within the GOP, it is one they can not ignore.

Newt Gingrich, House Speaker-To-Be, Sorts Through Being Gay

By Pete Hodgdon

Newt Gingrich, the incoming Speaker of the House, is known for his support of conservative social legislation and his use of Christian rhetoric.

In a surprising interview with freelance journalist Chandler Burr, Gingrich illustrated that while he is fundamentally ignorant about homosexuality, he believes in tolerance for Gays.

Burr's interview with Gingrich was in preparation for an article about Wisconsin Congressman Steve Gunderson.

The following is an edited version of the interview, which was published in full in the *Washington Blade* and excerpted by *San Francisco Sentinel* from which this is taken.

Gingrich began by speaking of Gunderson, saying that he (Gunderson) "is not a guy of Greenwich Village and the bath houses of San Francisco. This is a guy who is Midwestern and has his own, totally personal, version of his sexuality."

Gingrich went on to describe Gunderson as a man of "deep commitment," one of "long, caring relationships," an example of "what a 1990's Norman Rockwell would paint...a very human, caring person."

Gingrich was asked what he thought homosexuality was; a disease?; a chosen lifestyle; a normal variant of human sexuality?

Gingrich responded, saying, that "I think our (the GOP) position should be tolerance. It should not be promotion and it should not be condemnation. Consenting adults can have private relations without in any way the political system being involved."

"I suspect, Steve (Gunderson) and I deeply disagree is that it is madness to pretend that families are anything other than heterosexual

couples."

"And yet," Burr asked, "you know Gay families--like Rob (Gunderson's partner) and Steve."

Gingrich: "Sure. But public policy is not made out of anecdotal exceptions. I believe it is possible for some 50-year-old men to fall in love with some 10-year-old girls and have wonderful Shakespearean moments. I think that as a matter of public policy, that should be called statutory rape. Because statistically, over time, it's a bad thing."

"The way I believe, it (homosexuality) is an orientation the way alcoholism is an orientation."

Burr asked, "So it's a pathology?"

To which Gingrich replied that being Gay was like being "nearsighted." He added further that he didn't believe many people were Gay and that being Gay was "a bias, just like there's a bias towards a lot of behaviors."

Gingrich went on to say that he was "in conflict with most of the Gay rights movement and the underlying social agenda which says that at age nine we have to identify where your biases are and help you cope with yourself. I'd say it is craziness, absolute craziness, to pick the one bias you want."

"My point is that there may be a propensity. I don't think there's a fixation except for a very tiny number of people."

"Any individual who is in broad agreement with our effort to renew American civilization, should be brought into the Republican Party. And I have yet to have a Republican homosexual activist walk up to me and say, 'I insist that you except my lifestyle in an open way.'"

"You remember the March On Washington when the transvestites were mad at the more straight Gays because the straight Gays didn't



Jerry Johnson

Survival/Revival is the name of the new resale store which opened December 1, 1994 at 246 E. Chicago St., in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward. Shown above cutting the red ribbon officially opening the store are (l-r): Ed Hashek, Chair of ARCW's Development Committee; Lisa Wolter, Director of Development; Thomas Ament, Milwaukee County Executive; and Doug Nelson, Executive Director of MAP which will receive the profits from the store.

want the transvestites representing them? The Democrats have a totally different problem. The Democrats have decided that they're the Party that's going to insist that homosexuality is normal and that therefore, virtually any behavior has to be explained.

"Look, I'm bourgeois! I think we need to re-establish the bourgeois sense that the work ethic, the home, the family, that these values are so important that we should actively encourage bourgeois behavior without suppressing others. You just have to say, 'You're tolerated. You're not going to be rewarded or subsidized, but you're tolerated.'"

"I think the numbers of those whose primary motivation is their Gayness is a very small percentage of Gays and it's all Democrat. If you go to people and say to them, 'Is the num-

ber one thing you're going to ask about a candidate Gay rights?' not 'I'm a Gay banker, but I want tolerance for Gay people,' or 'I'm a Gay farmer or in the military, but I want tolerance,' but people who say, 'My primary motivation is to make sure that the Gay lifestyle is at the center of America's being and co-equal with every other person,' that person is a Democrat and will stay one."

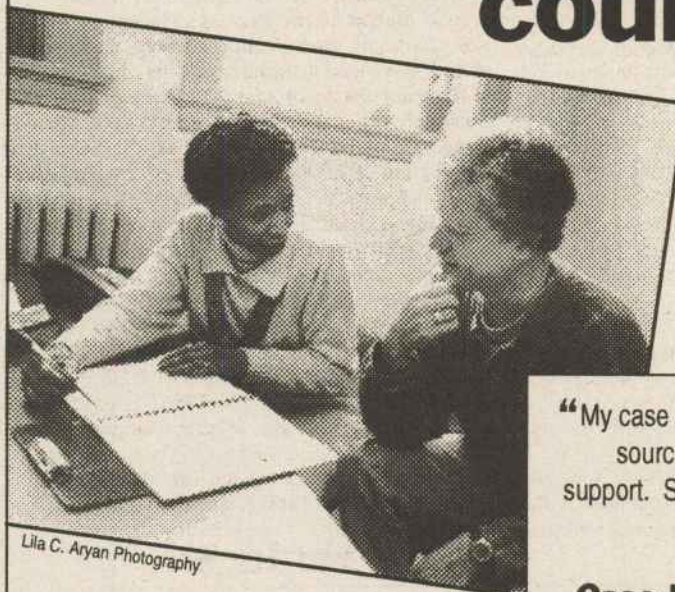
"And quite simply, I can't imagine, given the philosophical basis of the Republican Party, that it would be attractive to people who are so singly defined. It's almost a matter of temperament."

"But I absolutely think we can be a comfortable party for folks who share a lot of other beliefs with us, but happen to be homosexual."

New Russian Law Would Require HIV Test

Moscow-AP- The Russian Duma's (parliament) lower chamber has approved a measure that would make foreigners seeking Russian visas present proof they do not have the AIDS virus. Foreigners found to be infected with HIV while already in the country would be deported. The law, which must be approved by the upper house would also give authorities broad powers to conduct mandatory testing. As of the first half of 1994, 740 people in Russia have reportedly tested HIV positive. Of those, 105 have died.

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Lesbian Avengers Defeat the Christian Right in Rural Idaho in Battle Against Prop. 1

Analysis by Sara Pursley

Northern Idaho, Fall of 1994: a right-wing land in a right-wing time. Once the home of hundreds of radical Wobblies, the region has been strongly conservative for almost a century and is infamous for housing the national headquarters of the Aryan Nations. It is also one of the most rural areas in the country, with hundreds of logging, mining and farming towns scattered on small highways and dirt roads throughout ten counties.

Enter Proposition One.

Put forth by a Christian Right group called the Idaho Citizens Alliance, Prop. One as it is called, was a multi-pronged attack on Lesbian and Gay lives modeled after Colorado's Amendment 2. Among these mountain lakes and rolling wheatfields, it is an attack viscous enough to spark a Lesbian and Gay movement.

In Latah County, forty Lesbians and Gay men gather at the Fair for a Lesbian and Gay Freedom Picnic and hand out Hershey's kisses with a card that says, "How about a kiss instead?" and on the reverse side, "For the last 12 years, Lesbians and Gay men have been threatened, harassed and beaten at the Latah County Fair. STOP THE VIOLENCE, STOP THE HATE!"

In Lewiston, a working class timber town of 28,000, five Lesbians and Gay men hold a town forum to speak about living and growing up Queer in Lewiston--the first time that Lesbians and Gay men in this town have ever gotten together publicly to come out.

In Moscow, a town of 18,000 in the wheatfields of the Palouse region, forty Queers descend on XENON, a traditionally homophobic and violent nightclub, to dance together and take back the night.

In Coeur d'Alene, ten miles from the national headquarters of the Aryan Nations, the newly formed Lesbian Avengers speak out about their lives at a candlelight vigil.

In Genesee, a tiny farming town of 725, a Lesbian organizes a door-to-door literature drop with a statement she has written about her life as the townspeople's "Lesbian neighbor."

These are just a few of the grassroots, Lesbian and Gay-led efforts that the Lesbian Avengers Civil Rights Organizing Project (LACROP) did in northern Idaho.

LACROP is a working group of the New York Lesbian Avengers and was formed to support Lesbian and Gay activists in communities under siege from the Christian Right.

LACROP was invited to Idaho by the newly formed Palouse Lesbian Avengers and sent eight full-time Lesbian organizers to work in Idaho from August through November. "Their little purple house on Jefferson Street in Moscow became a de-facto community center," said local Palouse Avenger Natalie Shapiro. "As another Avenger recently said to me, 'They have given us our community back.'"

LACROP organizers traveled around the small mining, timber and farming towns of northern Idaho, adding new meaning to the Avengers' motto "We Recruit." They attended labor and human rights meetings, wandered through food co-ops, interrupted high school theater rehearsals, visited Native American reservations, scanned the yellow pages for promising hints and asked every dyke they met for more names and phone numbers.

It was a challenging job in a region that only had a couple of Gay groups and almost no infrastructure for progressive organizing of any kind (as an example, the entire 250-mile region houses only one domestic violence center and absolutely no abortion services).

On one recruiting trip to Lewiston, Channele Mathews and Michele Kelley of LACROP were hanging out in a straight bar (the only kind there is in northern Idaho) and their Gaydar suddenly went off. They knew what to do.

One week later, Anne Ersland and Ty Dela Cruz were helping other local Lesbians and Gay men plan a town-wide literature drop and the forum in which Anne, Ty and three others would come out to their town. Anne, one of the dykes Channele and Michele met in the bar, said of this experience, "I was just totally amazed to find out that there were people who really care about other Lesbian and Gay people. I had never been political before. They set fire underneath my ass to get me up and moving. And I feel great. I feel like I'm alive, like I'm more real than I ever have been in my entire life. I feel like I could just go out and kick butt today, tomorrow, the rest of my life--like I'm Superman."

That's the essence of LACROP--win or lose the initiative campaign, Lesbians and Gay men got involved, came out, and became visible. "It's what empowerment is all about," said Channele Mathews.

One of LACROP's purposes was to provide an alternative to the volunteerist, one-message, highly centralized model of traditional campaigns. As LACROP's Eileen Clancy explained, "People don't 'volunteer' to save their own lives. And when Lesbians and Gay men get involved in this movement, they need to be empowered by the work they do. Successful, long-term political movements are not formed by gathering a thousand recruits to lick postage stamps."

"LACROP's strategy is to bring Lesbians

and Gay men into the movement to share their ideas about what direction that movement should take. Hierarchical, centralized campaigns with a single 'message' do not provide room for individuals' political growth."

At a time when most national Gay organizations provide assistance only to a single, centralized anti-initiative campaign, LACROP offered invaluable resources to Lesbian and Gay people on a grassroots level.

In addition to the local, grassroots aspect of LACROP's work, the focus on Lesbian and Gay visibility is another crucial difference the group has with traditional campaigns.

LACROP believes that polling data has been greatly misused in these campaigns to show that visibility hurts. Christina McKnight of LACROP points out that, "People get really intimidated by polls and by self-proclaimed campaign 'professionals.' Polls always show that most people don't like Queers, which we know anyway, but this doesn't prove to us that campaigns shouldn't discuss Lesbian and Gay lives."

"What polls don't recognize is the fact that the Christian Right is talking about Lesbian and Gay people during the campaign. And what creates a bigger emotional response among voters--high taxpayer costs or protecting their children from Queers?"

"Whenever the Christian Right is the only group talking about Lesbians and Gays, we're in trouble. Whenever we stay in the closet, people believe we are ashamed--the Christian Right in Idaho even used this as a campaign message. Voters will not stand up for people who are ashamed."

County returns on Prop One indicate that LACROP's strategy worked. The three northern counties that LACROP targeted with Lesbian and Gay visibility actions and grassroots campaign efforts such as the door-to-door canvassing and out literature drops, defeated Prop One by considerably higher percentages than the average Idaho vote.

The three counties are very different. Latah is traditionally more progressive than the rest of northern Idaho, but not by much--the county elected a full slate of conservative Republicans to almost every town and county office this year.

Bonner and Nez Perce counties are historically quite conservative. Nez Perce is a predominantly working class logging and manufacturing county.

Bonner County is very rural and has a strong right-wing presence--neo-Nazis in swastikas routinely show up at Human Rights Task Force meetings.

Bonner and Nez Perce both received an unexpected 54% "No" vote. This was significantly higher than the state capital of Boise and the Idaho over-all vote, both of which slipped by with 51% of the vote.

Latah County received 61% "No" votes, the second highest in the state (second only to the ski resort of Sun Valley, whose economy would have been devastated by a boycott).

The entire state of Idaho (population 1 million) defeated Prop. One by 3,000 votes. The three counties targeted by LACROP (population 85,000) defeated it by almost 5,000 votes.

As Michele Kelley says, "These percentages indicate that Lesbian and Gay visibility and a multi-message, grassroots approach, may increase votes in our favor. And they certainly prove that these efforts do not decrease votes, as many 'campaign professionals' and pollsters claim."

And what about 1995 and 1996? LACROP's Maxine Wolte says, "We're watching the Christian Right and we'll go wherever our support is needed to wage an all-out battle alongside Lesbians and Gay men in their own communities."

'Meet Me In St.

Louis' House to be Demolished

(St. Louis, MO)- A new life just wasn't in the stars for the house immortalized in the movie *Meet Me in St. Louis*. But officials are saving parts of it for posterity.

Author Sally Smith Benson put her childhood memories of growing up in the red brick house into a book. Filmmakers turned it into a classic movie that made its debut in St. Louis 50 years ago.

But in the movie, the character Tootie Smith, played by Margaret O'Brien, romped through a rambling Victorian-style mansion. A far cry from the more modest, two-and-a-half story, 11-room structure.

The now-decaying house at 5135 Kensington Avenue is scheduled to be demolished this month. But the city has decided to save 500 bricks for special events.

"We'll store them and use them as occasions come up, for heritage and preservation awards and things like that," said Michele Duffe, director of real estate for the city. "Or, if a non-profit group wants to have an auction to raise money, we might give it some of the bricks."

The city got the house through a tax sale in 1989, nearly 80 years after Benson and her family moved away.

Jeffrey Dahmer's Death Brings a Bloody Period to a Sad Trail of Events

Commentary by Terry Boughner

I imagine that by this time, everyone has heard the news that, on November 28, 1994, convicted serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer was beaten to death in the maximum security prison in Portage, Wisconsin. His death punctuates a sad trail of events that became public in the Summer of 1991.

Reactions among the people I talked to were more or less predictable. Most voiced surprise, a few were shocked, some thought he got just what he deserved, and so it went. Many voiced sympathy for the families of the victims, a feeling in which I join.

I was more or less ready to hear a collective sigh of relief. It was over, wasn't it? The man who had perpetrated those grisly murders of 17 young men, was dead.

But then someone wondered aloud, "But is it over? Doesn't his death just mean the beginning, the start of all the books and made-for-TV movies and all the rest? Will Milwaukee ever be able to forget him and what he did?"

I honestly don't know. I suppose that there'll always be a time when people will talk about Jeffrey Dahmer. People like him retain a certain fascination for some.

In all the furor over his death, two things disappoint me.

One is the fact that I think this city had a chance to come together, a chance to transcend the differences that separate us and seek understanding. A beginning was made, but it was not kept up. Things seem "back to normal" now. Sad.

The second thing is that with the exception of Channel 10, not one of the major media, electronic or print, mentioned the Gay community.

Let's not get into comparative sufferings here, but if this whole bloody mess can be likened to a cross, then part of it was ours to bear.

Dahmer was Gay (no one will ever convince me that he was not) and he stalked his victims in Gay bars. At the time that the murders became known, I remember hearing Mark Belling going on--and on--about how Dahmer was some kind of logical extension of what it was to be Gay.

But Belling was far from being alone. It took a lot of talk to try and convince some reporters that Gay though he was, Gay people were no more to be judged by Jeffrey Dahmer than straights were to be judged by Ted Bundy.

So, somehow, it seemed to me that maybe the major media should have at least mentioned us.

I regret Dahmer's murder. Among other reasons is the fact that a lot might have been learned from him. Unfortunately, in the two interviews with him that I saw, the two reporters seemed to have no idea what questions to ask. I only wish a Gay reporter could have questioned him. It might have made a difference in what we learned.

I remain convinced that there was an awful lot of self-hatred in Jeffrey Dahmer, homophobia, I call it. So, I wonder if he'd been raised in a world where being Gay was accepted instead of being covered with scorn and hate, things with him might not have been different.

Again, I don't know.

As I did back in 1991 and 1992, I offer the families of the victims my most sincere sympathy.

I hope that there can be healing. I hope that there can now be peace.

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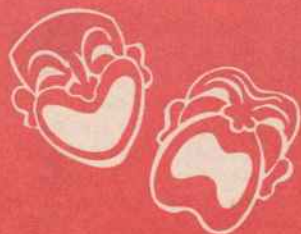
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The Light



LIVELY ARTS



Melanie Lynskey (left) and Kate Winslet in Peter Jackson's film "Heavenly Creatures" which opens December 16 at Milwaukee's Oriental theatre.

'Heavenly Creatures' is a Terrific Movie that Focuses on Teen Sexuality

By Steve Warren

The bad news is, then Lezzies are killing people again. The good news is that **Heavenly Creatures** is a terrific movie that focuses on the relationship, not the murder.

Being about teen sexuality, homo division, **Heavenly Creatures**, could not have been made in the U.S., where the watered-down **Times Square** dealt vaguely with girls who may have been more than friends and **Fried Green Tomatoes** was no more honest than their older sisters.

Since writing this review, I've learned that even **Heavenly Creatures** is subject to other interpretations, but I call 'em as I see 'em.

New Zealanders are familiar with the true story behind this film; of Pauline Rieper and Juliet Hulme, two 15-year-old friends in the 1950's, upon threat of being parted by their rigidly up-tight parents, decide to commit matricide. But even New Zealanders must be dazzled by the style director and co-writer Peter Jackson has brought to the film.

Jackson not only visualizes but draws us into the medieval fantasy world of Borovnia created by his protagonists, as John Schlesinger did with **Ambrosia** in **Billy Liar**. Compare this to the linear docudramas that recreate crimes on American TV.

Betraying his background in horror films (e.g., **Dead Alive**), Jackson makes frequent use of a subjective camera that not only stalks, but runs and dances exuberantly with the energy of a teenager. How else to keep up with two 14-year-old girls?

The setting is established with an excerpt from an exquisitely corny old travelogue that describes Christchurch, New Zealand as "gay and colorful." If they only knew! This segues into the aftermath of the June 22, 1954 murder, and then the flashback that makes up the rest of the film.

Hulme (Kate Winslet) and Rieper (Melanie Lynskey) meet in 1952 in Christchurch Girls High School. Pauline, from a local working-class family, is a grim Rieper, repressed in

Different Drummer Theatre To Hold One-Act Festival

(Milwaukee)- Different Drummer Theatre, Milwaukee's Gay/Lesbian theatre company, announces their second annual one-act festival. Titled **Our Way: Another Queer Evening**, the event will play off the success of their festival last year.

There will be three one-act plays dealing with issues that are of interest to our community. Sometimes scary, sometimes funny, but always mind-opening, it will be an evening of unusual entertainment.

The festival will be performed at the Studio Theater (Theatre X building), 158 N. Broadway in the Historic Third Ward. Performance dates are March 2-5, 1995.

If you are interested in assisting Different Drummer in making this a truly Queer evening, watch for audition dates and other information in upcoming issues, or call Jim at (414) 276-2596.

every way. (History would remember her as Pauline Parker, an epilogue tells us, after it was discovered her parents never married.)

Pauline is immediately attracted to the intellectually and economically superior Juliet when Juliet makes a fool of their French teacher in class. Soon they're comparing scars (Pauline's is on her leg where Juliet can touch it; Juliet's is on her lung), giggling and screaming together. They run through the forest, stripping to their underwear as they go, and exchange their first kiss.

Soon, they're doing everything together (well, almost everything; that comes later), including expanding on Juliet's medieval fantasies which they flesh out with clay figures.

Juliet becomes the Empress Deborah, while Pauline—or Paul as Juliet calls her—is Charles, her king.

Pauline receives a diary for Christmas and snippets of narration are taken from it. "How sad it is for other people that they're unable to appreciate our genius," she writes in the line that qualifies **Heavenly Creatures** as a female **Swoon**. Right behind it is "Compare with these two, every man is a fool."

When Juliet is hospitalized with tuberculosis, Pauline writes, "It would be wonderful if I could have tuberculosis too."

They stay in touch by letter until Juliet is no longer contagious. When she returns home,

Turn to "Heavenly", Page 15



FEST CITY SINGERS

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Ticket Information 263•SING



The Fest City Singers performed selections from their December 11 Christmas Concert at the opening of MAP's Survival/Revival resale store on December 1.

Fest City Singers Get Head Start on Their Holiday Concert

(Milwaukee)- The Fest City Singers (FCS), presented highlights from their Christmas concert, "The Secret of Christmas," at the Grand Opening of the Milwaukee AIDS Project's (MAP) resale shop, Survival, Revival, on Thursday, December 1. If the warm reception they received at the shop is any indication, the show is a real heart-warmer.

"The Secret of Christmas" is about friendship, remembrance and family. It has been written by Tim Kraetsch whose quirky sense of humor has added a lighter side to the evening's performance.

According to music director Peggy Lozier, novelty songs and the music of the Muppets will be performed and Frosty the Snowman and Suzy Snowflake will be on hand to do their thing.

In addition, familiar carols and less well-known holiday music will be heard, but the elements of parody and satire will also be in the air.

Diane Bloom has written and will perform a hilarious, gentle take-off of "Santa, Baby" from a Lesbian point of view and Kraetsch's critical eye delivers a new twist on Dickens' **A Christmas Carol**. And the appearance of a Santa who needs no padding is always a welcome surprise. Children are especially invited to the Christmas fest.

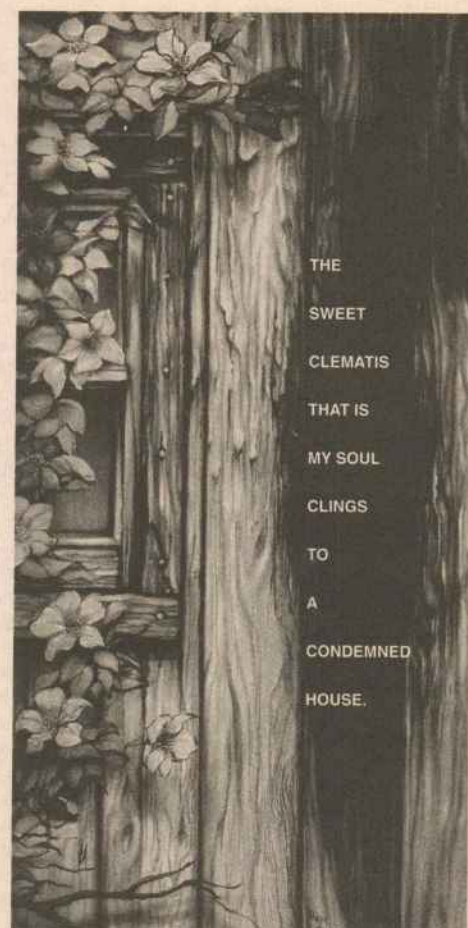
In what has become a Fest City Singers

tradition, after the performance, guests of FCS are invited to partake of mulled cider, coffees, and toothsome holiday treats. Children are especially welcomed.

"The Secret of Christmas" will be presented at the South Shore Pavilion, 2900 South Shore Drive at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, December 11. Tickets are available at the door, from members of the chorus or by calling the Festline at (414) 263-SING.

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Many Songs Written Specifically for Movies Have Become Holiday Favorites

By Dale E. Kuntz

Once again it is the joyous season of Christmas. Along with all the thoughts of shopping, tree-trimming, card-sending and all the other wonderful attributes of the Season, we'll be watching numerous films which have become Holiday classics.

Over the years, Hollywood has produced some films--A Christmas Carol, Miracle on 34th Street, It's a Wonderful Life and, of course, Holiday Inn--which have become as much a part of our life as Christmas cookies.

And the music...do you know that many songs written especially for a specific film have become part of the traditional music that we sing every Christmas?

Bishop's Wife has become a Holiday perennial.

With all of the Holiday films out there...here are some recommended videos to make your Holidays just a bit more pleasurable: **Christmas in Connecticut** (Barbara Stanwyck and Dennis Morgan), the original and still one of the best Christmas comedies.

The Lemon Drop Kid (Bob Hope). Hope and his scruffy Santas are a joy to behold--and it does have "Silver Bells."

Since You Went Away (Claudette Colbert, Jennifer Jones, Shirley Temple). If you don't



Donald Woods (left) and Ronald Colman share a Christmas in David O. Selznick's "A Tale of Two Cities" (1935).

Topping the list is Bing Crosby's "White Christmas." He first introduced it in Paramount's **Holiday Inn**, 1942. Twelve years later, in 1954, he sang it again as the centerpiece in **White Christmas**.

Trivia question: It seems that everyone knows Bing sang "White Christmas" in these two films. But, he sang it in still a third film. Do you know which one?

In 1944, Judy Garland first introduced "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas" in **Meet Me In St. Louis**. It since has become a Christmas standard with many popular artists recording it.

Even Bing's pal, Bob Hope, got into the act. In 1951, he and Marilyn Maxwell introduced "Silver Bells."

Going back to the 1930s, 20th Century Fox tackled on a Christmas ending to Shirley Temple's film **Stowaway**. In the finale, Shirley sang "That's What I Want For Christmas." The song became an instant hit and was very popular throughout the '30s and '40s. Sad to say, it isn't heard much today.

Even Roy Rogers got his chance... "Winter Wonderland" was first sung by him in Republic's 1944 film, **Lake Placid Serenade**...starring, who else...but Vera Hruba Ralston.

But, the song most used by Hollywood in connection with Christmas, was "Silent Night." Maybe because it is the most popular of all Christmas songs and is recognized throughout the world--but whenever Hollywood didn't have an original song for Christmas...out came "Silent Night."

Among the many stars who sang it were Shirley Temple, Deanna Durbin, Judy Garland, Betty Grable, Margaret O'Brien, Dennis Morgan and even Mickey Mouse and Pluto. Nelson Eddy got to sing it in German and, of course, Bing sang it...twice!

One of the most interesting aspects of film history is that the three men who could produce the best Christmas scenes on the screen were Louis B. Mayer, David O. Selznick and Samuel Goldwyn--all Orthodox Jews. It is a credit to these men that they understood their audiences and gave them their best, no matter what their own beliefs.

Mayer, as head of M.G.M., gave us wonderful Christmas moments in such films as **A Christmas Carol**, **Our Vines Have Tender Grapes**, **Broadway Serenade**, **In The Good Old Summertime** and many, many more.

Selznick gave us that wonderful Christmas scene in Ronald Colman's **A Tale of Two Cities** and his **Since You Went Away** and I'll Be Seeing You--Hollywood's two best World War II tear-jerkers--were centered around the Holidays. He even managed to get a Christmas scene in **Gone With The Wind**.

Goldwyn too, produced many good Christmas images in his films. And, his **The**

cry at the ending...bah, humbug on you!

Beyond Tomorrow (Richard Carlson), just out on video--a charming story of three ghosts helping out a newly married couple.

Of all the versions of **A Christmas Carol**, don't overlook the 1938 M.G.M. version. It is the most elaborate and, I think, the best. It was planned as a film for Lionel Barrymore--so it has all the best M.G.M. could offer.

'Til next month, a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Oh yes, the other film Bing Crosby sang "White Christmas" in...**Blue Skies** (1946). In a montage sequence, he played an entertainer in World War II, entertaining the troops and sang his now famous hit.

Editor's Note: We welcome Dale Kuntz to the pages of **Wisconsin Light**. Dale is a nationally renowned film historian of vintage films. His lectures before screenings at the Performing Arts Center, the Milwaukee Art Museum and the Charles Allis Art Museum, among other places, on films are justly famous.

In addition, he is the co-author of a book on film star Jeanette MacDonald.

Judy Garland's Childhood Home to be Restored

(Grand Rapids, MN)- Dorothy's house is getting picked up and moved again, but it's not going all the way to Oz.

Judy Garland's childhood home was moved on November 10 to a site where there's room to build a museum next to it. The new location is two and a half miles from the spot where the house was moved in 1938. The trip took several hours.

Garland's parents, vaudeville entertainers Frank and Ethel Gumm, bought the two-story frame house in 1919. The actress, born three years later, lived there until the family moved to California when she was 4.

Restoration is expected to be complete in time for the 1995 Judy Garland Festival, which begins June 22, said John Kelsch, executive director of the Judy Garland Birthplace-Rainbow Children's Museum.

Garland's children, Liza Minnelli and Joe and Lorna Luft, are involved as well, Kelsch said. "The family is putting together a photo album for us that shows the family here with the house," he said.

One of the blue-and-white-gingham dresses Garland wore in **The Wizard of Oz** acquired for \$11,000 at auction last year, is among the memorabilia to go on display.



Bing Crosby and Marjorie Reynolds first introduce the song "White Christmas" in "Holiday Inn" (1942).



Reginald Owen (left) and "Christmas Present" in M.G.M.'s classic version of "A Christmas Carol" (1938).

The Cream City Chorus' Christmas Concert Will be a Mixture of the Classics and Fun

(Milwaukee)- The Cream City Chorus' annual Holiday concert is one of the highlights of the Gay and Lesbian Holiday season. For seven years, the Chorus has provided a Christmas concert that combines traditional carols, renditions of classical Christmas music and holiday music with a distinctive Gay and Lesbian twist.

This year will be no exception. Fresh from their stellar performance at Milwaukee's Municipal Christmas Tree Lighting, the Cream City Chorus takes to the Vogel Hall stage at 3:00, Sunday December 11th. It will be the culmination of three months of grueling rehearsals under the sure direction of Chorus Director Scott Stewart.

Stewart promises that this year's concert will be the best yet. "The chorus now has a top notch musical staff in place. With the able assistance of Bahtya Jones and David Carroll our assistant conductors, the chorus is in the best form it has ever been in," he said.

Selections for this year's holiday treat include, A sixth century Christmas chant, a piece by Franz Liszt, Chanukah music, and French carols.

Of course no Cream City Chorus Holiday concert would be complete with a full measure of Gay and Lesbian holiday cheer.

The entire second half of the performance will be devoted to the high camp mixture of music and humor for which the chorus' many fans have come to expect.

"They won't be disappointed," says Stewart. "Let's just say the second half is a tribute to the many sides of Christmas. In fact there are more sides to Christmas than there are to say nine or ten pink triangles weirdly put together. We intend to give our audience the best possible holiday present, the gift of laughter."

The concert's theme is "Ring In, Ring Out." The audience will be given bells as they come in so they can participate (at the appropriate times) during the second half of the performance.

For the fourth consecutive year the event will be held in the eloquent surroundings of Vogel Hall at the Milwaukee Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$8.00 in advance, \$10.00 at the door. Tickets may be purchased at the PAC Box Office or from any chorus member.

Wilde Times Await Theater-Goers at the Milwaukee Rep

(Milwaukee)- The Milwaukee Repertory Theater presents **The Importance of Being Earnest**, Oscar Wilde's "trivial comedy for serious people." The play opened December 4 and will run through January 8, 1995 on the Powerhouse Theater stage.

Considered one of the most perfect plays in the English language, **The Importance of Being Earnest** is Wilde's hilariously funny satire of English upper crust manners and morals in which two socially-uptight young men find they will stoop to anything to win the hands of their female sweethearts--even if it means changing their names.

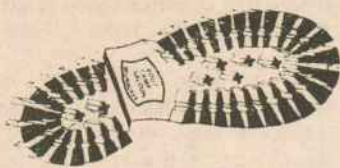
Birth, love, marriage, death and respectability are all laughable in this brilliant farce.

The play is being directed by Milwaukee Rep Artistic Director Joseph Hanreddy. Returning to the Powerhouse stage for this performance are Laura Gordon, Stephen Hemming, Bob Kirsh, Michael LaGue, Rose Pickering and Kellie Waymire.

Talkbacks for the play will take place on Wednesdays, December 14, 21, 28 and January 4. The "Pay What You Can" performance will be on Wednesday, December 28 at 7:30 p.m. There will be a sign language interpreted

performance on Sunday, January 8 at 2:00 p.m. Patrons who need to sit in the interpreted area for this performance are asked to notify the Rep box office by December 11.

For ticket and other information, contact the Rep Box Office, 108 E. Wells Street or call (414) 224-9490.



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Tim Grair Primiers 'prostitutes in sensible shoes' at Y-Not II

(Milwaukee)- Bring your stilettos and be prepared for chocolate when Tim Grair brings "prostitutes in sensible shoes" to Y-Not II on Wednesday, December 14, at 9:00 p.m.

Fresh from his performance as the game show host in *Bluestockings* at Theatre X, Grair is in a theatrical mood for his first solo performance in a year and a half. "Prostitutes in sensible shoes" will take you places you've been and places you've never dreamed of going--from Lollapalooza to Shangrila.



Tim Grair

The show will feature live music by Bill Dempsey (from MOOK) and David Besag (from Disciples of Confusion) as well as taped music and found sounds to amplify Grair's monologues and street poems.

Grair's new chapbook, also titled *prostitutes in sensible shoes*, will be released to coincide with the show.

Best known in the Queer community as a political activist, Grair is becoming increasingly well-known as one of a burgeoning field of Queer poets. He works at Triangle Tire during the day and is fascinated by the rhythm of air hammers on lug nuts and weight hammers on rust.

His biggest influences are rock and roll and television.

Grair believes that poetry is the art of mis-

hearing. He was amused to witness Marty Burns declare, "Wildflowers rampage in California," during that state's last round of brush fires.

"Prostitutes in sensible shoes" will be preceded by an open mic. Milwaukee's Poetry Slam will close out the evening.

Y-Not II is located at Van Buren and Lyons on the East Side. 21 and over, please. Call (414) 347-9972 for more information.

Holiday Open House at AfterWords Helps Bring in the New Year

(Milwaukee)- It's Sunday, New Year's Day and there's only football on TV. What to do?

For those recovered from the New Year's Eve revels and looking for something to do on New Year's Day, AfterWords announces its Annual Holiday Open House on Sunday, New Year's Day from Noon to 6:00 p.m.

There will be champagne, various snacks and some end of the season specials including a one-day only 33% off all calendars in stock.

Also at the Open House, AfterWords will announce the Customer Choice Best Book of 1995, which will also be featured, one-day only at 25% off.

For food, fun and more, stop at AfterWords on New Year's Day from Noon to 6:00 p.m.

Holiday Hours

AfterWords would like to inform all of its customers of its special holiday hours. AfterWords Bookstore and Espresso Bar will be open on Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve, for early shoppers from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and closed all day on Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day.

On New Year's Eve day, December 31, AfterWords will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and be open New Year's Day from Noon to 6:00 p.m. for the Open House.

Political Activist, Tim Grair, Becoming Known as a Poet and Writer

Tim Grair is known to most people as an activist in the causes of civil rights for the LesbianGay community, for Choice and as a member of ACT UP. He has participated in uncounted numbers of committees and projects, such as the Pride Committee, each one upholding the pride and seeking the community's betterment.

But perhaps he is not as well-known as a poet and writer. Recently, Tim sat down to discuss his life as a creator in those fields.

John Kusch: How long have you been in Milwaukee?

Tim Grair: Ten years.

JK: Coming from Delavan, how did childhood affect your work?

TG: I seem to be in a statistical minority in that I didn't come from a dysfunctional family. My parents are still together after almost thirty years. There were no serious problems when I came out. It did feel very restricting. I think I'm just too curious to spend my entire life in a small town.

JK: Your work focuses on justice or a lack of justice. When did you start to see signs of injustice around you?

TG: I've always been a political animal. In my writing, I like to focus more on a personal level. I'm more interested in specific people or characters--there's also more room for feeling.

JK: Would you say that your work focuses on people/characters outside yourself, rather than on your personal life?

TG: One of the beautiful things about writing fiction is that I never have to answer that question with the truth. Anyone who knows me knows what came from my life and what I made up.

JK: Sounds like a great way to tell your story without having to literally tell your story.

TG: It gives me room to make my work more interesting than I am. There's more than enough confessional writing out there. I'm more interested in possibilities than whining about things gone wrong in my life.

JK: Agreed. It is a difficult step to elevate writing, especially poetry, from self-therapy to art.

TG: But art is therapy. The whole purpose of art is to open the mind, to make you see or feel things that can break you free.

JK: True. All art is therapy--in a sense--though not all therapy is art. What drives you to perform your work rather than just write?

TG: If I could answer that I could be cured. Seriously, it's communication. I never thought of reading my own work until I saw Jen Benka. She had so much power, so much fire, and she gave that to the crowd. That's when I realized that poetry was not a dead art.

A few months later, Doug Radtke got me going to Poet's Monday at Cafe Melange. I

was hooked. I did my first chapbook with Doug.

JK: And in the spirit of keeping poetry alive, how is "prostitutes in sensible shoes" a next step for you in its resurrection?

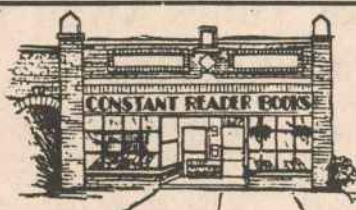
TG: I have no illusions that I'm keeping this dead horse alive. I'm just a writer. I write what my muse sends me--sometimes it's pretty, sometimes stories, other times, plays.

This time around it happens to be poetry with a theatrical bent. One of the reasons I'm in a theatrical mode is that I just made my professional acting debut in *Bluestockings* at Theater X.

JK: "Bluestockings" is about women's suffrage. Is this a relevant theme to a show and a book titled "prostitutes in sensible shoes"? Is this a natural progression for Milwaukee's Barbie poet?

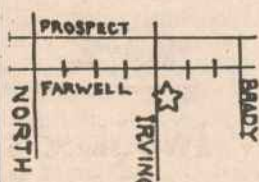
TG: As a man who loves his mother, his sister and more women than I can count, I've always been concerned about women's issues. I was unemployed during most of the women's health clinic crisis in Milwaukee, so I spent a lot of time doing clinic defense work, listening, watching and getting to know women's issues on a more personal level.

My Barbie series was a breakthrough of sorts for me in attempting to write from a Feminist perspective. The prostitutes in the current title are from a poem I wrote about living on Wisconsin Avenue in the mid-'80s.



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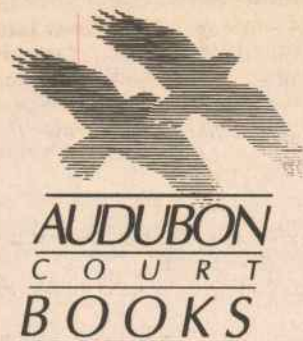
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THE SCIENCE OF DESIRE The Search for the Gay Gene and the Biology of Behavior

by Dean Hamer &
Peter Copeland

Headlines last July touted findings of a gene marker for male homosexuality. Is there a "gay gene" that predisposes certain people to be homosexual? Dean Hamer reveals the science behind his discovery.



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THE MIRACLE OF THE THIRTEENTH CHIME

By Terry Boughner

Continued from Page 1

How he got himself into these things, Paul didn't know. One moment, he was your average 23-year-old trying to finish his Masters' work in Boston. And the next, . . .

There was the sound of a chime, soft yet compelling, followed by the voice of the stewardess coming over the speaker system announcing that the plane would be landing in Milwaukee in approximately 15 minutes.

What else she said, Paul didn't hear. He was too busy praying to whatever gods there were that given good fortune, this thing he was in, this metal tube with wings, would soon be on the ground.

The engines made, what to Paul was an ominous sound and he felt the plane begin to sink. He stiffened and closed his eyes. Let happen what must be.

It really was an uneventful landing, normal in all respects. Paul was quickly in the terminal hunting for someplace to buy a pack of cigarettes. Normally, he carried them with him, but since you weren't allowed to smoke on planes anymore, he had left his at home. There was no sense having them and not be able to enjoy them. Now, he wanted one badly.

He made his way through the late afternoon crowd, paying no attention to any of them. Had any looked, and there were those who did, they saw a young man of medium height and trim physique, with thick, straight, dark brown hair and deep, soft, jade green eyes.

Paul wasn't surprised that the line at the counter was long. It was, after all, the Sunday after Thanksgiving, one of the busiest travel times of the year. A little ahead of him, he noticed a young man who was maybe half a head shorter than Paul was himself, more small-boned, with thick, straight hair the color of honey glistening in the sun.

The line inched forward and came to a stop. The young man made a half turn, looking out into the store so that Paul could see how fine featured he was, not delicate, not by any means, but beautifully masculine, like an angel, Paul thought.

Bobby, for such, was the young man's name, turned a little more. He saw Paul. Their eyes met and locked, just for a second, no more, until the line moved again and the young man turned away.

In that second, Paul knew, knew with a great certainty, that he had seen the one man meant for him. But his heart sank as he watched Bobby buy cigarettes and, with head down, hurriedly leave the store.

Well, that's it, Paul thought miserably. I'll never see him again. But when Paul had made his purchase and left the store, he saw the young man smoking a cigarette and leaning with his back against a far wall. Paul hesitated. The crowds swirled between them, but Bobby's soft, campus brown eyes, met Paul's again and held.

Paul would learn only later how shy Bobby was and how nervous, how much it had cost him to wait there. Paul was the man of all his dreams. Everything in him told Bobby that. But for Bobby, dreams brought hurt and monumental pain.

It was Christmas Eve. As was his custom every year, Bobby left his house about midnight to go out into the yard. There, he would stand and look up. He was 15 and knew, as he had for years, that it wouldn't be there, but it was his dream and he followed it, hoping to see Santa and the sleigh with its eight reindeer pulling hard.

His two brothers and their friends, college men all, came out, bringing their beers. They laughed at him, pointing to the "little faggot" who still believed in Santa Claus. Bobby tried to ignore them, but one of his brothers scooped up some snow, packed it down hard and hurled it at him with all of his might.

The snowball hit him on the back of the head. He half turned and another hit him and then more, until he crumpled, bleeding in the snow.

His suffering only made his attackers laugh the more. They called him "queer" and "fairy" and all the names he'd heard for years. How they knew he was Gay, he didn't know, but they did. Everyone did, it seemed.

When finally, they tired of tormenting him, they went away. Through tear-streaked eyes, Bobby looked up. "If only there were a sleigh," he thought. "If only it would come and take me away. Maybe there, someone would want me." But he wasn't sure at all where "there" was. Perhaps it didn't exist.

But at that moment, an unseen hand reached out. Only much later would Bobby discover that he'd received that night the gift of all his dreams.

Ordinarily, Paul would have had no difficulty approaching another man, but this one was different. For the first time, he feared rejection, as unfounded as that thought was.

Introductions were quickly made and they both relaxed, each feeling as if he'd known the other for a thousand years and more.

They went off and found a lounge. There, in the dim-lit interior, they sat smoking, talking freely, getting to know one another, their hearts chiming in unison. Paul had once heard that when you find the one meant for you, designed by heaven for you alone, bells ring and angels sang. In this case, it wasn't just bells and angelic music that they both heard. It was the Hallelujah Chorus being played on a mighty organ with the sounds swelling to the clouds.

Slowly, however, a sadness fell over them--until they found out that they were both taking the same flight out and going to the same place: Fairbanks, Alaska. There, Paul was to do research at a small college for his thesis while Bobby was to teach.

"Why there?" Paul couldn't help wondering. The place was remote, to say the least.

"Teaching jobs are scarce--if you're just out of college--and Gay."

Paul sighed. He knew exactly what Bobby meant.

"What I really want," Bobby continued, "is to get married, be with my spouse helping others, the oppressed like ourselves. He paused, looking at Paul from beneath long, silken lashes. "Not too many guys want someone like me."

"I do," Paul replied quietly, and in all sincerity. He'd never believed in love at first sight; didn't think that he'd ever find love at all, but here, now, he knew he'd been wrong on both counts. His right hand slipped across the table to play with Bobby's fingers.

For a long time, they sat, holding hands, lost in each other and in the sweet, angelic music that filled their joining souls.

From Milwaukee, they took a jumbo jet to Fairbanks. They had managed to get seats next to each other, where they sat talking and laughing quietly. For the first time in his life, Paul forgot his fear of flying.

They landed with no problem, but found to their dismay that the connecting flight had been canceled due to the fact that the pilot was sick. The only way to get where they were going was to rent a jeep and drive the 200 miles. There was an inn, so they were told, about half way along.

All of this did not exactly make Paul unhappy and they started off.

For awhile, the going was exciting, a kind of adventure together, traveling into the trackless wilderness all draped in snow. Suddenly, however, the jeep's engine started making "funny noises." These only grew louder until finally, the thing died.

"You know anything about cars?" Bobby asked.

"No."

"Me either. So whata we do?"

"Somebody'll come along?" Paul suggested hopefully, even though in the hour they'd been on the road, they hadn't seen another vehicle of any kind.

They waited--and waited, cuddling together to give each other what warmth they could.

"Maybe we won't make it," Bobby said.

Paul put his arms about him and held him close. "Sure we will, sure we will. C'mon. We can't just find each other and then, bang, it's all over. No way." He tried to sound as determined as possible, but in his heart he had begun to be afraid.

Bobby was the first to hear it above the sounds of the creaking joints of the jeep and the howling wind. He sat up, listening. Was his mind playing tricks on him? But no, after a few moments, he knew that there could be no mistake.

Paul had heard it too. "Bells?" he wondered, unwilling to believe his ears. "Sleigh bells? We're delirious, maybe?"

They tried to see out of a window, but snow covered the glass.

The jingling of the bells grew louder until the sounds seemed to be coming from right out-

side the jeep. There were other sounds too; hooves crunching in the snow, someone shouting, "Whoa, there!" and then boots slogging toward the jeep.

There, before their amazed eyes, was a large sleigh, its form nearly lost in the lengthening shadows and the swirling snow. Attached to it, were four reindeer. There were also four little men, each no more than two feet tall, each dressed in fur hats and long, dark fur coats whose hems swept the snow. One of them carried a flashlight that he shined on Bobby and Paul.

"Are you alright?" he asked in a deep and husky voice. Paul assured him that they were not hurt. "Then come, come, quickly now. No time to waste, none at all."

They made their way to the sleigh, climbed in, and bundled themselves into a thick, warm fur robe. The little men got in as well and, with a crack of a whip and a "Giddiup," they were off as if going on some merry holiday.

Sandwiches were produced from a commodious bag. There was hot coffee rich with brandy poured from an ample thermos. Paul and Bobby settled back content. They had many questions, but both figured those could wait.

They drove on for about an hour until they crested a small hill. Below, in a shallow valley, Paul and Bobby saw a long, low, log house with many gables and nestled among some pines with the windows all aglow. Smoke curled from tall chimneys, while nestled around it, they could make out a barn and numerous out-buildings.

They arrived quickly enough. While the sleigh was driven away, Bobby and Paul were ushered inside by three little men, each clad in tight-fitting outfits of Lincoln green. As he had before, Paul thought they looked like elves, but again he dismissed that idea. Still, if Santa Claus had been there to greet them, he didn't think he would have been surprised.

The elves (which is exactly what they were. Paul was right about that.), took their coats and hats and led them into a large, warm and comfortably appointed room. There was a blazing fire on the wide stone hearth fed by enormous logs, while over-stuffed chairs sat all about.

Soon, they were joined by a little jelly jar of a man, dressed as were all the others and wearing a chest-length white beard. His eyes were bright as polished buttons and his cheeks were round and red.

"Don't tell me you're Santa Claus." Paul didn't mean to sound cynical, but his normally rational mind was having trouble absorbing all this.

The little man chuckled deeply, a gentle sound rolling up from his ample gut, and with a snifter full of brandy, sat down in a chair by the fire. He invited Paul and Bobby to do the same as he took out a long-stemmed pipe and lit it.

"No, I'm not Santa," he said in a kind, somewhat sad voice. "My name is Maaki. I'm the head elf, may I say. Santa died ten years ago this Christmas Eve."

"Died?" Paul frowned in question. "You mean he was ever alive?"

"He really existed, then," Bobby said in wonder, remembering all the Christmas Eves he had looked up for the sleigh.

"Oh yes," Maaki replied. "Santa was very much alive and lived for a thousand years and more, bringing happiness and joy to millions." He paused to sip some brandy. "But even Santa must meet his end and for ten years now, there's been no one to take his place. But enough of this sadness, may I say. You two must be exhausted. There's a bedroom prepared. Go, get some sleep. We can talk later."

Neither Bobby nor Paul was prepared to resist the offer. They got up to leave, but stopped at the door as Paul asked, "By the way, where exactly are we?"

"Why the North Pole," Maaki replied easily as if that were the most obvious thing in the world.

"Figures," Paul said half to himself, and went off with Bobby to go to bed.

The next morning, after a hearty breakfast, Maaki took Paul and Bobby to show them

Continued on Page 14



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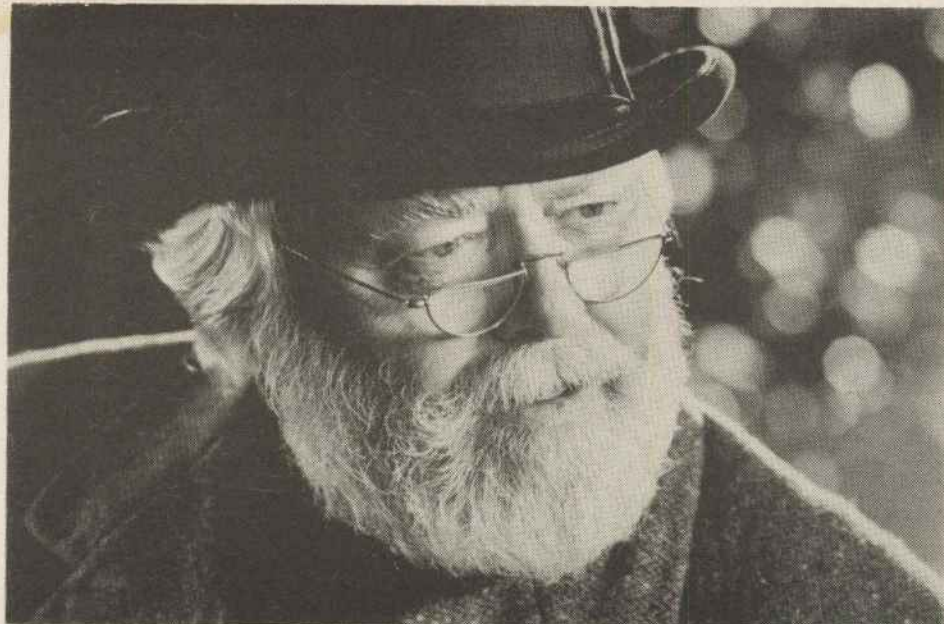
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Richard Attenborough plays Kris Kringle in the re-make of the film "The Miracle on 34th Street."

Continued from Page 13

around. Their first stop was the barn, a long building redolent of the aromas of hay, oats and bales of straw. Along one side were eight ample stalls and, in each, a reindeer, each contentedly munching dried grass.

"Donner, Blitzen and the rest?" Paul asked.

"The same," Maaki replied as Bobby went over to offer Comet an apple.

"And they all fly?" Paul pressed, unable to hide the apprehension in his voice.

"Fly, fly, fly," Maaki said, making a swooping motion with his arm. "Why of course, but, I must say, they're a little out of condition now. It's been ten years after all. But, may I add, they're eager to go. Look at them."

And indeed, all the reindeer had stopped eating and were looking at Bobby and Paul, expectantly it seemed.

They went on. At the rear of the stable, in a large room, they saw the sleigh, all painted red with golden runners.

"It's beautiful," Bobby said. "It's just like I always imagined it would be. Paul, look!"

Bobby's enthusiasm was infectious and besides, no matter how skeptical Paul was, he loved Bobby more than heaven could ever tell or earth often knew. He went to him and together, as Maaki watched approvingly, they explored the sleigh, the harnesses with silver bells on them hanging on one wall, everything.

"It's all like I dreamed it would be," Bobby said quietly and in wonder.

Paul, who knew Bobby's story, smiled gently as he slipped his arm about Bobby's waist.

The tour continued. In the great workshop, they watched as uncounted numbers of elves went about their appointed tasks. Some made toys, others stitched clothes, and still others stuffed great wicker baskets full of food.

"Who's going to deliver all this?" Bobby asked.

"No one now," Maaki answered as sadly as before. "No one has in ten years."

"But did any of it ever get distributed?" Paul wondered. "I mean if it did, then how did it hap . . . ?" He stopped.

Maaki understood. "Did you ever hear of the 13th chime?" Paul shook his head. "Well, may I say, that when the clock strikes 12 on Christmas Eve, there is a second, the briefest bit of time as humans understand it, that comes between today and tomorrow when eternity steps in. That's when, where and how Santa did his work. That's what they call 'Santa Claus Lane,' hummm? That's why, may I add, he could get all over the world, hummm?"

"And he brought gifts?" Paul asked, letting his skepticism show.

"Material things, sometimes," Maaki replied. "A lot of toys, other presents too, may I say. But sometimes he brought things more precious, like, for example, visiting two hurting, loveless Gay boys and writing each other's names on their hearts so that one day, in a Milwaukee airport, when they saw each other everything would click right into place? Did either of you really think all that was an accident, hummm?"

Paul and Bobby could only look at each other, feeling shivers travel up and down their spines at what had happened to them; that this love of theirs really wasn't a thing of the moment, but something that was truly meant to be.

"Okay," Bobby yielded, "but did anyone ever see him, really see him, sleigh, reindeer, the whole bit? I used to look."

"Yes, yes," Maaki answered. "Oh my, yes. You have both read 'The Night Before Christmas,' I presume." Both Paul and Bobby said that they had. "Well, may I ask if you think that was just a pretty piece of fiction, hummm? No," he said with a decided shake of his head. "No, I may say, it was not. The good Mr. Moore was only writing about what he'd seen. But he wasn't alone, may I add. Others, a lot of others, have seen the same thing, but they kept quiet about it."

The days flew by like snowflakes driven by the wind until by and by it was Christmas Eve.

"So what now?" Paul asked Maaki. "With Santa gone, who takes the sleigh and . . ."

The old elf interrupted. "You do. Both of you."

"Us?!" Bobby burst out excitedly.

"Fly?!" Paul exclaimed.

Maaki laughed, his deep rolling laughter. "Paul, Paul, Paul, even if the sleigh wasn't magic, which, may I add, it is, Bobby will be right beside you all the way. And, now, may I say, let's have you try on the suits."

When they had done that, they went to Maaki for inspection. He stood, hands on his hips, looking them over. "Well," he said finally, "may I say that the beards aren't bad, and the weight . . ." He paused and shook his head. "Santa had more of it, but you'll do, more than do, may I say." He beamed in satisfaction.

That night, with the moon bright on the breast of the snow, all the elves gathered to watch, as Paul and Bobby clambered into the loaded sleigh. With one hand, Bobby took the reins, slipped his arm about Paul's waist, and gently kissed him on the temple. "You okay?"

Paul nodded feebly and then firmly said, "Yeah, no sweat. Just be careful is all."

With a snap of the reins, and a merry jingling of bells, the sleigh whooshed up into the night. A cloud of ice crystals sparkled all around them, while overhead, the stars twinkled happily to see, once more, the ancient sight.

"There it is!" Paul called out, pointing ahead to a shimmering aura the color of blue Christmas lights glowing softly on snow. "The entrance to the 13th Chime."

They entered it in a whoosh and there was peace, the hushed stillness of a great cathedral just at dawn. Suddenly, the entire world lay all round them, like a carpet, like a dazzling galaxy of lights, like a Christmas carol materialized and shimmering in the night. It was so unbelievably beautiful that Paul lost his fear of flying and would never recover it.

Neither would either of them ever recover the pain of the pasts. That too was gone, never to return, whisked away and obliterated by a love that now, from its limitless abundance, gave to others as true love must do.

The whole world over they went that night, to Christians and non-Christians alike, going in and out of walls as if they did not exist. People never saw them, but the animals did. Dogs wagged their tales, cats purred in a happy, heavenly jubilee.

Bobby and Paul returned to the North Pole to love and live. But next Christmas Eve, at the time of the 13 chime, they would be on their way again, giving to those who had lost all hope no matter who they were or where they lived and so it would be with them for over a millennia hence.

In all their trips, they adhered closely to all the traditions that Santa had established long ago. But one thing changed.

Each time they left a home, flying away like the down of a thistle, as Dr. Moore had written, there was not one voice, but two wishing the old and weary world the happiest of holidays.

"Merry Christmas," Paul would call out.

"And to all, a good night," Bobby would add.

So it was, and so it would always be.

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Dykes To Watch Out For



Rex Loehe Announces Candidacy for Madison City Council's 2nd District

(Madison)- Rex Loehe announced his candidacy on December 6 for Madison's Second District City Council seat to succeed Alderman David Wallner, who announced his retirement earlier this year.

"The Second District has been fortunate to have the kind of representation that David Wallner has brought to the City Council on their behalf. It is my intention to maintain the high level of integrity and effectiveness the District has come to expect and deserves," Loehe said.

Loehe, who is a long-time community activist, believes it is vital to bring the public into the formation of city policy in order to advance progressive solutions to the myriad of

issues that effect Madison and, in particular, the isthmus.

"Whether it's the issue of parking, our environment or the city budget, we need to find ways to get more people involved in the decision-making process," Loehe said.

Loehe believes that his history of activism, his involvement in government at the state, county and local levels, puts him in the best position to benefit all of the residents of the Second District and of Madison.

Loehe, 34, lives at 1341 E. Dayton Street, received his Bachelor's degree from UW and currently works as a legislative aide in the State Assembly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Potluck

(Milwaukee)- People of All Colors Together and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church invites everyone to join them for their second Holiday Potluck. Their celebration includes Channukah, Day of Enlightenment, Solstice, Christmas, Kwanzaa and any other holiday that is celebrated this time of year. This year's celebration is on December 29 beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the Center Street Library at 2727 W. Fond du Lac Avenue. Please bring a dish to pass. For more information, call (414) 527-4296.

Holiday Fine Arts Fair

(Milwaukee)- Roses in December Fine Arts Fair will feature a silent auction booth with proceeds to go to benefit the programs and services of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. The Fair will be held at Renaissance Place, 1451 N. Prospect Ave., from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday, December 11. Over thirty booths will exhibit fine arts by recognized artists; included are prints, photographs, oils and watercolors, jewelry, wood sculpture and bronze castings. Live entertainment will be furnished by Ben Woolman and Cathy Bolton. Refreshments will also be available.

ACT UP Benefit at Linneman's Riverwest Inn

(Milwaukee)- VOX Productions presents live music and spoken word at Linneman's Riverwest Inn on Sunday, December 18, at 9:00 p.m. to benefit ACT UP Milwaukee. The lineup includes the performance art/rock band MOOK fresh from their showstopping performances at the Lesbian Variety Show and their opening for Holly Hughes. Also on stage will be Scott McGlasson, Dan Hanrahan, Tim Grair, Gretchen Hoffman, Will Branch and special guests.

Linneman's Riverwest Inn is located at 1001E. Locust St., one block west of Humboldt and the #10 bus line. For more information, call (414) 374-3737.

P-FLAG December Meeting and Holiday Party

(Milwaukee)- On Sunday, December 18, 1994, at 6:45 p.m., P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) will hold their monthly meeting at Martin Luther Lutheran Church, 9235 W. Bluemound Road, Wauwatosa. The meetings are a time to share and care in a safe and supportive setting.

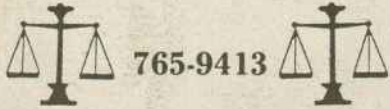
Plans for the December meeting include a holiday party. P-FLAG members are aware that the holiday season may be a time of loneliness and sadness for those separated from families for any reason. So, they welcome those who wish to "party" and meet new friends. Perhaps you will meet a new friend or family and the holidays will seem lonely no longer.

Oberons Christmas Club for Children with AIDS

(Milwaukee)- The Oberons' last fund-raiser of the season for the X-mas Club will be on Saturday, December 10 at 9:30 p.m. at the Wreck Room, 266 E. Erie Street. There will be a \$5 all-you-can-drink beer/soda bust, a raffle of holiday and other prizes. A leather lifestyle jeweler will be present who has pledged 20% of the evening's sales to the Xmas Fund. The Oberons hold a strong and on-going commitment to the new Children's Care Area at MAP.

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Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer's Life to be the Subject of Made-for-TV Movie

(Washington, D.C.)- She is the highest ranking soldier ever to challenge the ban on Gays in the military. Barbra Streisand just finished shooting a TV movie about her life, starring Glenn Close and Judy Davis. Strangers walk up to her on the street, hug her and say thanks.

But Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer wants the world to know she is not unique.

"Of the hundreds of people I've talked to in the last two years, there are so many similarities between my journey and theirs," Cammermeyer said. "And the letters that I've received from people wanting to share that they've walked in my shoes—they're glad to hear there's someone else who has been there with them and would, perhaps, understand the difficulties they've been through."

Cammermeyer-Greta, to her friends—changed the course of that journey in April, 1989, when she spoke the words, "I am a Lesbian" to a military investigator at a security clearance interview. Suddenly, the exemplary 26-year Army career, which included a Bronze Star earned in Vietnam, meant nothing.

Cammermeyer, who thought she was on her way to becoming chief nurse for the National Guard, was instead called up before investigative boards that stripped her of her rank, her uniform, her very identity.

She challenged the Army in federal court and won. Currently, the Justice Department is deciding whether to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Cammermeyer has just published a book

about her life, titled *Serving in Silence*. She is well aware that the book and now the movie, which is slated to air early next year, have expanded her opportunities to tell her story and fight the ban.

"It seems so important to take advantage of the moment, especially when you believe that your job is supposed to be what mine has become right now and that is trying to change the stereotype that has been promoted through others' defining us," she said. "And I don't know how else to do it other than through example, through talking, through education and trying to provide a different image."

She continued, "I'm back in, I'm doing my thing, the military didn't fall apart, despite the perceived threat that my re-entry would have."

Asked what she would like from the government, Cammermeyer said quietly, "I want the law changed. That's not very much. It's unconstitutional, it's untenable, and it's un-American."

She is no longer on the same career track and has given up her goal of becoming chief nurse.

"I lost two years of time in the military, which cost me the opportunity to apply and go to the War College," she said. "But that's not so important anymore. My priorities have changed somewhat. I'm perfectly comfortable to finish off my 30 years in the National Guard, doing what I'm doing now and continuing to challenge the policy through the courts and hoping that perhaps I made a little difference."

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Interview with John Catania and Chuck Ignacio

John Catania is a bundle of nervous energy. Though he lives now in New York City, he is "from Milwaukee" as he firmly and proudly says. Here and in New Berlin, he went to school. After college, he lived on Brady Street and did theatre in the area until he left for the East four years ago.

Chuck Ignacio, the more quiet of the two, has a soft serenity about him. He has, he says, "lived in a lot of different places, including Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where he lived during his growing up years. He went to high school in Indiana and to Notre Dame and moved to New York ten years ago."

Now, they collaborate on getting out what has been called the most popular TV show for Gays and Lesbian "In The Life," which is seen here and around the country on PBS.

Wisconsin Light: John, what's your position with the program?

John Catania: I recently was made producer—I'm actually co-producing it with Katherine Linton, who, last season, was our host. Producing it used to be Chuck's job, but he is now Series Producer so he overlooks the whole thing now, producing each episode.

Chuck Ignacio: I was hired by the Executive Producer, John Scagliotti, who came up with the idea for "In The Life," who also produced the documentary "Before Stonewall" that shows the Lesbian/Gay movement before '69 and he actually hired to co-produce the pilot for the first show two years ago.

WL: The show is extremely popular. I'm sure you know that. It's seen both in Madison and here in Milwaukee, though at various times.

JC: It's seen all over the state. It's important to Chuck and I that "In The Life" is on the coasts, but it's very important to us both that it's seen here in the Midwest. We're trying to get the show aired earlier here in Milwaukee, earlier than around midnight. It's very good that Channel 10 airs it. We're very happy about that—and WHA in Madison—but now the point is to try and get it on earlier so it's a little easier to watch.

CI: For me it's important that the show be seen here because I went to high school in Indiana and learning that I was Gay, there wasn't anything I could turn to, no positive role models to look up to. The show is something that I wish had been available to me growing up.

JC: "In The Life," is in North Dakota and a lot of states like that. A lot of the mail we get is from teens and young people who see "In The Life" as their only outlet at this point in their lives. It's really nice.

WL: A couple of issues ago, we carried a rather lengthy article on the Hetrick-Martin Institute and its work with teens. The situation, for our youth, is really desperate.

JC: Yes. Katherine Linton is one of the instructors there at the Harvey Milk High School. In fact, we're going to do a segment very soon about the Institute and show Katherine in her environment, teaching the kids there.

We did a show on the Institute last year, but now they've moved, and with our co-producer there, it's going to be a great segment in our February show.

CI: So, look for it.

WL: Many people didn't know, don't know the Milk School even exists.

JC: It's a great school, very important. That's why it's important for "In The Life" to let people know about it.

WL: You've worked with a lot of stars. Which ones have left a lasting impression?

JC: We call people stars for different reasons. We have stars that are just wonderful personalities and then we have people on the show who are very important to the Gay and Lesbian movement.

My segments recently have been Terrance McNally, Joe Mantella and Steve Spinella. They're both from *Angels in America*. Joan Rivers was on our show for a brief cameo appearance. She is fun. Kate Clinton is always wonderful.

CI: Kate Clinton was our host for the very first three shows. She's a marvelous person to work with, funny and very warm.

And there's Lea DeLaria. People think of her, I think, as kind of raunchy, in-your-face. But when we sat down with her to have dinner and talk about the show, she was very shy, very polite, the nicest person you'd ever meet.

It's just so funny that so many of the "stars" have personas that are so different from who they are in private. A lot of times, they're just the opposite of who you see on TV or in the movies.

One time, I went over to the Plaza to talk to Lily Tomlin about her appearance on the show. She was so nice, so eager to be on the show.

JC: We find that, for the most part, the stars are eager to be on the show if they can, if they can fit it in. There's very little money for them to do the show, of course. But they want to do it.

I could mention Tony Kushner. There's Melissa Etheridge too. She's very, very warm.

WL: How long does it take for you to produce a show?

JC: I'd say about six weeks, but we've been able to turn a show around in as short a time as three weeks. Sometimes the money's short and we have to be quick. But I'd say that a month to six weeks is average.

CI: That's about right.

JC: That includes a week of editing time before we put it on the satellite for stations around the country to download. That also includes writing time, staffing, hiring segment producers. Each show probably has a core staff of 3-4, 5 people and then we hire in, including camera people, segment producers, all the way down to the makeup.

CI: We are very bare-bones, a shoe-string operation.

JC: Every show is really different. We started out as a studio audience kind of thing, a variety show.

CI: But we couldn't afford to do that anymore. So, then we started shooting in a much smaller space and finally, we're shooting all the host segments outdoors. We shoot all over New York. It'll be more fun.

JC: We're also trying to give the show a more national feel. For example, we have a segment coming up that was produced in Los Angeles. Some segments were produced in Minnesota and Canada. Now, we're starting to solicit for segments outside of New York.

If we can get the money together, we want to go out to San Francisco next year for their Gay Pride Celebration.

And our real hope is that to get to San Francisco, we'll get in a van and drive and stop in places like Milwaukee and Madison. That's my hope, my hope that we can raise enough money for a cross-country trip.

I'm already starting to put out feelers for stopping in Milwaukee because it's a very important city. Your Gay Pride celebration, we hear, is one of the finest and biggest anywhere.

WL: Maybe I shouldn't say this, but there is a chance that our Pride Celebration will be at the Summerfest grounds next year, Maier Festival Park. You know what that is?

JC: Oh, yes. And I think that's wonderful! We'd love to stop, film it, put it on TV nationwide. If only we can get the money to do it.

CI: One of the things that's interesting is that none of us who do this ever had any TV experience. We watched a lot of TV. We watched how "60 Minutes," for example, was aired. My background is in film. "In The Life" is more of a news program, so none of us on the staff had any experience with that kind of thing. We've been learning by making mistakes and going on. In fact, a lot of your readers who watch the show, will probably see a progression from the first shows until now.

JC: And my background is all theatre, so that's a lesson to anyone. If they want to do something, to fill a vacuum, and they have an idea and they're committed to it, they can do it. It'll be hard, but they can do it.

The show has grown from 5 cities initially to—we're now in 60 stations. Now, we need to take the next step, which is greater visibility. We're having better contacts with the press and we're breaking it open.

CI: We'd like your readers to call the station, urge them to put it on earlier, tell them what they think.

JC: A station program manager gets a lot of flack. If you like something, tell them.

CI: Most of these program managers around the country are straight. They may sympathize with us, they may see a need for a quality program like ours, but they get complaints from people who are used to watching animal shows and "Masterpiece Theatre." They need to hear differently.

JC: The American Family Association has attacked "In The Life"—the Donald Wildmon bunch.

CI: The show was attacked on the floor of the Senate by Robert Dole even before it ever aired. Actually, his doing that was the best publicity for the show that we could have gotten.

JC: Because Bob Dole opened his mouth in the Senate about us, we got in *USA Today* and all over the place and got some really nice coverage.

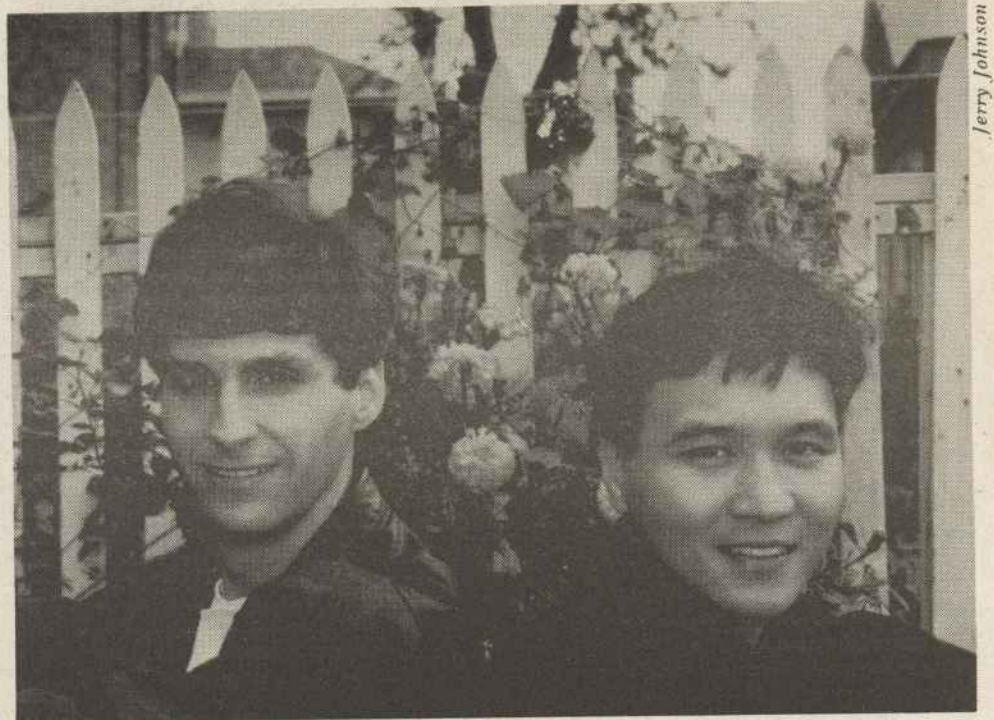
WL: Where does the money come from? How is it paid for?

JC: "In The Life" is unique among TV shows in that it's supported by viewers. You can become a member of "In The Life."

To do that, you dial 1-800-627-ONTV. So we have this large membership base of maybe 10,000 or more, who each give maybe \$50 per year. That's about half of our money and they keep us on the air. No other PBS show is funded like that. We have our own membership.

If you join, you get our newsletter which has interviews, stories about segments, a lot of good stuff.

Then, the balance of our budget comes from



John Catania and Chuck Ignacio

individual donors, companies which includes all the major Gay magazines. But, I'll tell you, it's still a constant battle. So much of our money is tapped out for AIDS.

Some people think we're a cable show. We are not. We are the first and only Gay and

Lesbian show on PBS. And that means we are held to certain standards of quality that PBS maintains.

CI: This show shows Gays and Lesbians in a positive light—and we need that.

Human Rights League Brings Back Cream City Brick Awards

(Milwaukee)—The Human Rights League for Lesbians and Gays (HRL) is soliciting suggestions for nominations for the Cream City Brick Awards.

Originally created by the Cream City Business Association (CCBA) in the early 1980's, these awards were given annually. When CCBA became inactive, the Lambda Rights Network continued the Awards until 1992. Now the Awards have been transferred to the Human Rights League for Lesbians and Gays.

The aim of HRL is to advance the political interests of Lesbians, Gay men and Bisexuals in the metropolitan Milwaukee area by influencing local, state and national politics, legislation and public policy.

The organization has been actively promoting the interests of the Lesbian and Gay community through a variety of public activities and considers the Cream City Brick Awards as another way to carry out its mission.

For 1994, there are six award categories and suggestions for nominations are invited and welcomed in all categories:

Torch Bearer Award—given to a non-Gay/Lesbian person or group who has advanced the understanding and acceptance of the Lesbian and Gay community;

Pace Setter Award—given to a Gay or Les-

bian person or persons who have promoted our community in a positive fashion;

Group Spirit Award—given to a Gay or Lesbian group or organization whose efforts establish or promote our community in a positive fashion;

Spotlight Award—given to a media person or persons, department, station or newspaper whose coverage best promotes understanding and/or acceptance of our community;

President's Award—given to a person or persons whose service to our community has been above and beyond the call of duty;

and a new award:
Groundwork Award—given to a business which has made a significant contribution to the Gay and Lesbian community.

Deadline for suggestions is January 5, 1995, and should be mailed to: HRL, P.O. Box 92674, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Please include a description of the reasons for your recommendations of the person or group, specifying for which award you wish to nominate her/him or them.

Awards will be presented on February 8, 1995, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Human Rights League. For more information or if you have any questions, call (414) 228-1921.

At the Holidays, Remember a Little Boy with AIDS, Who Saw Angels When he Died

By Hilary Groutage

When his best friend died of complications due to AIDS, 8-year-old Tyler Spriggs of Salt Lake City, Utah, decided he'd had enough too. Enough nausea. Enough exhaustion.

All his short life, Tyler had been a fighter, determined to keep the vicious disease at bay. His parents, Mick and Carolyn Spriggs, could see he was just as determined now to die.

For a week, Mick and Carolyn fought their little boy on his change of heart. They consulted doctors and psychologists.

Tyler was asked pointed questions: Did he know what would happen if he stopped taking his pills for his liver disorder?

He said he'd get sick and go to the hospital. The doctor said it would be worse than that and in a small voice, one quiet with determination, Tyler answered, "I know. I'm going to die."

This holiday season, Mick and Carolyn will remember their resolute little son. They and others will remember too Tyler's friends, three of them, who went before him, victims of the same disease to which he finally yielded and gave up his life.

In Utah, 1,000 people are either living with AIDS or have succumbed to it. They are part of the growing number in the U.S., a country that has the highest number of reported cases in the world, though the World Health Organization says the disease is spreading most rapidly in Asia and is ravaging Africa.

A great many Americans care very little about these places. Many seem to care even less about those who have the disease; Gay and Lesbian people, IV drug users, those the majority consider to be "marginal," hence unimportant, disposable people.

Tyler was the son of Carolyn's half-sister, an intravenous drug user who had passed the disease on to her son. He came to live with Carolyn, Mick and their three children when he was 14 months old.

In the U.S., the AIDS virus is spreading most quickly among IV drug users. Babies of

infected mothers have a strong chance of being infected in the womb.

Tyler was diagnosed with the HIV virus at the age of 2. The Spriggs family never legally adopted him, but considered him their own.

Tyler's decision shocked the couple. It seemed so out of character. Tyler was fun-loving, a giggler. He and Carolyn had traveled the state educating people about AIDS. At school assemblies, Tyler always said the same thing:

"My name is Tyler and I have AIDS. I have bad bugs in my blood. I can't hurt you, but if I start to bleed, you better get your gloves on."

Throughout his illness, he refused pain medication and tubes for feeding or breathing, even though many of his friends relied on them. Even in the last weeks of his life, Tyler took charge. He stopped talking about setting goals and wouldn't talk about the future.

When she thought the end was close, Carolyn sat him down to talk. He cut her off.

"I know, Mom," he said, "and I don't want to talk about it."

Soon after that, he started losing blood volume and transfusions could no longer keep up with the loss. The family celebrated his 9th birthday on September 23, a week and a half early, with the ice cream cake he'd asked for.

The evening of September 25, they tucked him into bed to watch a video and his brother made him a peanut butter sandwich. Within minutes, he had a seizure, mumbled to Carolyn that he was dying.

"I can see angels," he murmured and slipped away.

More than 500 people attended his funeral.

The Spriggs family briefly considered giving up their AIDS activism. "We used to say that when Tyler died, that would be it. But we can't stop," Carolyn said. "Tyler wouldn't like it if we stopped."

Their Christmas tree this year will be decorated with angels, lots of angels, like the kind who came to receive Tyler to themselves.



WISCONSIN LIGHT PERSONALS

WISCONSIN

Adams **PARTY TIME!** Chuck, iso yng men to get together w/ 4 fun times, my partner & I new to area, 6'2 salt & pepper, blu, beard, & 245 husky tend to vers, my partner 6'3, brn/blu must hairy 195 iso younger 20-45 #15794

Blanchville **TODD**, lkg 4 GWM 18-24, masc hard worker, camping, fishing, 4 wheeling quiet times, movies, bowling, getting a little wild @ parties, not into bars, must be well end'd, lkg 2 meet right person, companionship in my area blnds a +++ #10976

Fond Du Lac **GWM** 26, 5'11 160 brn/green not athl, not out of shape, seeks sim in my area outdoors, talking and going out- #17101

Milwaukee **MUTUAL MESSAGE:** Jerry 28 attr GWM iso other males pref hisp, anyone ok, nice toned bodies, very attr, love massages, rec and give- #14044

Milwaukee **MILITARY MEN:** Jake, East Side 23 6' 185, brn/brn built, iso leather or military man 25-35 to take care of me- #16375

Madison **DADDY'S BOY:** James, 18, iso older men in the leather scene, 5'10, dkbrn/brn looking for a leather daddy, vers, looking to get together with some people #15805

Madison **LOOKING FOR DADDY:** Jenon, iso some daddies and masters looking to get into the leather scene 5'10 short dk, brn eyes, smooth- iso some people want to get into it- #15805

Madison **NEW TO AREA:** Jeff GWM 26 5'2 125 lb brn/blu just moved to area iso GWM 21-32 enjoy working out, sports, and a var of other activities, lv me the best time to call ya- #16554

Madison **ATHLETIC GUY:** Eric, int include, athletics, running, wrestling, swimming, 20, 135, 5'6, iso a very sincere honest person for friendship poss rel- #16987

Madison **INTO 70'S MUSIC:** Dave, 32, blnd/grn 180, iso someone likes outdoors 70s music, just want to have a good time get to know someone #17392

Menominee **OUTDOORS GUY:** Kevin, like to play softball football sports outdoors type of guy, looking for a strong dependable man to be by my side- #16459

Milwaukee **CUDDLE AND WATCH TV, ROBERT:** waiting 4 that special someone 2 enter my life-I can hve it all, a loving man 28-45 2 be there 4 me 31 61 brn/hazl 190 theatre, country, work out, many other things, just spend a quiet eve- #13343

Milwaukee **SEXY BI WM 19**, into spandex and swim suits, iso any cute sensitive athletic young studs that like to wear them for me- #15572

Milwaukee **HOT, BIG, MEN:** Tarver GWM 230 brn/blu iso other GWM over 200 for hot good times- #13159

Milwaukee **SEXY STUDS:** Carney, 5'11 160 brn/blnd looking for a sexy stud 18-25 who can satisfy a romance - #16218

Milwaukee **HEALTHY LIFESTYLE:** Albert, 31, prof'l WM like romance, something missing in most men-iso someone 4 a rel, to share life, not a bar person- if U like eves alone, long walks in the moonlight, I'm 190 6', like to work out, iso 28-40, #16274

Milwaukee **EAST SIDE:** looking for happiness Greg 31, 5'5, 150, GH/BM iso hisp WM 25-40 for friendship and hopefully happiness, quiet eves at home and taking walks- #16726

Milwaukee **I WANT SECONDS!** Anthony, WM new to this looking for BM or AM to teach me everything I need to know, did it once before wld like to know more, enjoy alot of diff aspects iso someone 18-25 basically, a tp man- int lv me ur name #16572

Milwaukee **ADULT FLUCKS:** South side GWM 40s 5'4 134, hairy, into movies, videos, looking for someone to have fun with- #16749

Milwaukee **LEATHER MAN:** Tom, 32, 5'11 brn/blu 185, leather man, if that sounds int give me a call- #16885

Milwaukee **CD SEEKING DATE:** Steve, GWM like to find a guy that I find attr, likes to be with me like to go out and show me what it's all about, just enjoy looking, like CD, like to see an attr male beside me- #11250

Milwaukee **TONY 18 Y/O** senior in high school, iso 18-24, like sports, singing dancing, going out and spend some time with my loved ones, like to spend time with me - #17312

Milwaukee **GM 19, Y/O** iso a man 18-24, int are sports, dancing, singing, having fun iso tall dark skinned, brn eyed guy, med bld, understanding loving, like to spend time with me #17324

Milwaukee **FEM CD:** BIWM fem CD lkg for passionate, romantic, affectionate man, who will treat me like my fem self must be able to make me feel like the lady I am-interests politics, sports, concerts, plays, music, theatre, dining at home #17398

Racine **EXPERIENCED CD:** looking for an experienced female CD to cuddle and caress tall

well built WM willing to dress for you, share warm eves this winter, well have alot of fun together give me a call, give it a try- #15996

Stevens Point **COMIX MAN:** Darren, like drawing, comic books, give me a call- #12674

Superior **STUDENT SKIER:** Destry, full time college student int in meeting anyone in the area, like to ski go to dinner, dance and sports and things like that easy going, people with goals educated and have the same int that I do- #16164

Milwaukee **LIKE TO CROSS DRESS?** Steve, GWM get into cross dressing and others that also CD like to meet me new to scene- #11250

Green Bay **ROMANTIC EVENINGS,** Alan, prof'l GWM 41 5'11 175, int include skiing, travel, dining out, reading, sitting in front of the fireplace, watching a movie, lkg for a GM, 30's-40's for a poss rel- #12009

Kenosha **JERRY,** 29: int in someone honest, good looking, and likes to have fun, lv your # #12348

Milwaukee **YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND,** Eddie 6'3 brn/green 300+ subm looking for right person to do anything-I follow orders well- #10032

Milwaukee **ON TOP OF THINGS,** Brian, tp 6', 28w, 32, 173, gdg looking for btm male- #13012

Milwaukee **LEATHER JACKETS AND BOOTS,** East side Rick GWM 35 5'8 130 blond gdg, need slim levi top 18-33 phys dom, for good times leather jackets and boots a plus- #13439

Milwaukee **FRESHMAN FUN, GWM** 18: student looking for fun with W or hisp male with good sense of humor- #13259

Milwaukee **CLASS ATHLETE, JOHN:** 35 5'7, 140, grad student like opera, classical music and sports, looking for WM for long term rel- #13494

Madison **TRI ME,** Grad student 6' 190 active, triathlete, looking for a friend that is as active- #13509

Milwaukee **PULL MY RIBBON,** 33, WM 5'10, 165, hzl, very int package, top, - give me a call- #13570

Madison **OUTDOOR SPORTS, JEFF** GWM 26: 5'2 125 brn/blu new to area, and looking to meet another GWM who enjoys outdoors and sports- #27707

Neenah **VERSATILE TOP, TOM:** vers btm WM 42 lkg for a vers top, race not impt, sports and other int- #13505

Milwaukee **NIGHT OWL, GM** 6'4 215, brn/hzl, 35, moved to milwaukee 18-30 shorter slender build, pref smooth, I'm up late- #14118

Milwaukee **50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY,** Jamie, 18, college stndt/architecture 5'11, 130 green/blnd ISO monog rel, one person, want 2 fall in love-hopelessly roman, humor sensitivity & creativity, non smoker/drinker, round my age-want a 50th annivl #13753

Milwaukee **MUSTACHED MENTOR,** first timer 20 beginner seeks discreet masc older man pref hairy with 'stache versatile- #13802

Southern **WI FRIENDSHIP AND LOVE,** Jeffrey GWM 28, blnd/blu new to area, well built, looking for a petite man for friendship and love- #13972

Milwaukee **PASS THE REMOTE,** Joe, 32, south side int in hisp men in their 20s to early 30's to party and watch movies with- #14040

Wausau **JERRY,** 28 5'7, 140, blonde, looking for GM for fun times, attr give me a call- #14044

Waupun **WILLING AND ABLE,** Mark, looking for someone 22-30 open to just about anything- #14171

Milwaukee **TAKE CHARGE TOP,** WM 42 5'8 160, brn/blu beard iso masc males up to age 55 to please, like to meet a take charge top for my first time btm experience- #14299

Milwaukee **FETISH EXPLORER, GWM** 21 East Side, lkg for a guy int in exploring fetishes, leather, bondage feet, whatever comes to mind, inexp looking for the same-give me a call- #14300

Milwaukee **TIE ME DOWN, GWM** 21 inexp 5'11, blue grey punk red, looking 4 someone inexp and wants a W/Boy slave, worship your body, obey your commands, kiss & lick your feet, dress me up/tie me down-like stocky beefy jocks, BM punkers, grunge guys a

Milwaukee **SHOW IT TO ME,** Steve GWM being with a man that is CD, like to meet someone that wants to show me the ropes, im new take care of me help me to adapt, show me gay lifestyle- #11250

Madison **HEY BIG GUYS-**, Michael, 5'6 blnd blu, love big men- call me- #14506

Milwaukee **UNTIE MY RIBBON, 33** male 5'10 hazel/brn, interesting package open mind like to get to know other males, basically a tp but can be a btm- #13570

Franklin **QUALITY TIME,** Bruce, 35 GWM 6' 200 athletic musc brn/hzl var of int iso GWM 24-30 int in friendship and spending time with a quality man- #14671

Kenosha **BLACK TOP,** Gdglg BM 6'1 240 iso cute white btm 19-27 #15015

Milwaukee **ITALIAN GUYS,** Tennis, 5'6 170, strberry blnd/blu, like all kinds of things, vers like outdoors, like to meet 18-40, long hair and Italian is a plus but not that impt- #15056

Milwaukee **SLIM AND SENSUAL,** Todd GWM 24, blnd/green 145 cute, slim, sensual, romanti iso down to earth handsome male, lead to a rel, honest affectionate, and tired of games and bars- #15230

Milwaukee **NEW TO GAY LIFE-**, AL, 6' 180, med buld, blnd hair, never been with a man before, looking for someone to show me the way- #15366

Milwaukee **IF IT FEELS GOOD-** Eddie, 6'3, blnd/green 300+ white, bi, into everything willing to do it with the right person- lv me a message- #10032

Milwaukee **LIKE FINE WINE, AGE IMPROVES:** Chris, 39 Bi WM into older men because the way they treat & appreciate a little younger body 50-70 will share this built toned body w/ the right man or men- new 2 the life, gentle caring a must West suburbs- #10

Milwaukee **CHRISTMAS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER...** I'm 32 GWM 5'10 150 blnd/brn clean shaven seeking romance this fall, many interests, never boring- #10595

Madison **LET'S GET PHYSICAL-22,** 5'7 140, Korean, runner, no prior sexual exp, like massage, wrestling, anything physical-looking for a WM musc, masc, 20-35, pls call- #10734

Racine **JOE** 22, 5'11, 214, lkg for someone mature, age not impt, never had this before and would like to - give me a call, like to hear from you- #10772

Milwaukee **WHAT'S UP?**, JOE, 25 BM seeking other BM I'm a top, looking for a buddy, or maybe more- #10809

Milwaukee **THIS KIND WON'T ROT YOUR TEETH!** Candy, TV, like men 40+ I'm a real lady, and like to meet you, for dates and stuff-bye, honey- #10915

Milwaukee **I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYONE OUT THERE-** Gary, 29 SBM looking for other SBM age 24-50, masc, athletic, BM only-give me a call- has to be other men out there- be the first to call and prove me wrong- #10027

Madison **WE'LL SAVE THE REST FOR LATER:** CJ, 20, int meeting someone 18-22, like, dancing, partying, not too into bar scene, movies, dinners, lkg 4 spontaneous sincere guy, I'm thin built, hobbies, sports volley ball, I'm a student- #10938

Milwaukee **BI WM** looking for str bi or gay men to get together and have a little fun- #10962

Blanchville **TODD**, looking 4 GWM 18-24, masc hard worker, camping, fishing, 4 wheeling quiet times, movies, bowling, getting a little wild @ parties, not into bars, must be well end'd, lkg 2 meet right person, companionship in my area blnds a +++ #109

Madison **WORK OUT PARTNER:** Emmanuel, BM, 6' 170, grey eyes, attr, looking for someone to have fun and work out with weights- #11271

Milwaukee **WITH A RIBBON ON IT:** 33, male, 165, 5'10, hazel/brn into safe fun, have interesting package- give me a call- #9720

Milwaukee **OPEN ALL NIGHT:** Eddie, 6'3 brn/green 300+ willing to do anything with the right person, like to get together and have lot's of fun- anytime at night-bye- #10032

Milwaukee **THE YOUNG AND THE... RESTLESS:** John looking for other hot guys, end'd young only pls #11225

Milwaukee **BOB SEEKS ROD:** Brent, brn/blu hairy, 41, 5'10 180, must, into bodybuilding, looking for bodybuilders in my area-looking for guys musc, to hang out with, int in the leather scene also- #11299

Milwaukee **NO BUTTS, PLS:** non smoker caring prof'l 40's looking for a life partner blk/brn musc humor pets cooking, looking for ser only- #11323

Milwaukee **CAN I HAVE THE USED ONE?** 30 Bi wm 5'8 155 brn/brn on the jock side, looking for bi or gay males- #11353

Milwaukee **ANY TAKERS?** I'm a 35 bi male, looking for a man in the area not picky, I'm willing to pls, am married, #11354

Milwaukee **JASON, 20,** 5'10 145, blnd/blu athletic, easygoing, college student, wide var of interests looking for guys 18-23, #11557

Wopaca **CABLE READY:** Sam, 38, 5'5, 150 long brn hair/blu eyes gay TV and pass well-like to meet masc quiet and intelligent- #11632

Milwaukee **NON-SMOKING GWM** 40's, blk/brn seeking a ser rel, life partner 6'2 football players build, must lkg 4 a healthy pos attitude, comfortable in a rel looking 4 Mr. Right, metal, country, jazz good sense of humor, movies, pets pol active- #1132

Milwaukee **LARRY,** 5'6 130, discreet, WM open to almost anything in regard to having fun, try me, give me a call- #11719

Madison **DENNIS,** just moved here from Chicago 21 5'8 155 lkg for any male that is gay, race not impt, slim, like to have a good time- #11741

Milwaukee **VAL,** 25, dkbrn/brn 5'7, many int music going out, meeting new people, give me a call- hope to hear from you- #11751

Waukesha **ALL BI MYSELF- BI WM** 34, looking for Bi WM around the same age, who likes movies, camping, and talking for a poss rel, or just friendship- #11817

Appleton **GWM** 23, 6'1, blk/brn lkg to meet in my area 18-23 to go out with have fun dance movies, spend quiet times @ home, call me- #11908

Green Bay **FIRE IN MY HEART:** Alan, prof'l GWM 41, 5'11, 175, eves at home, fireplace, travel, seeking 35-45 pot rel, give me a call- #12009

Milwaukee **GENTLE BM** looking for someone romantic, quiet eves and not into bar scene, if this is you give me a call, end'd top, sometimes btm- #12021

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Reedsburg **LASTING RELATIONSHIP:** Troy, 21, blk, brn, hairy chest 6'2, 185, like to swim, tennis, pool, ping pong, smoke, mustache, lkg for someone who wants a commitment, 21-35, and if that's you, lv a message- #12043

Madison **STEVEN,** 19 6'1 blnd int in water skiing, swimming, snuggling and watching movies, #12129

Kenosha **DIRTY DEEDS DONE DIRT CHEAP:** Bi WM 40 BI WM 21, seeking other bi or gay under 25 for fun and friendship, like heavy metal music concerts-not really into bars, social drinkers #12162

Milwaukee **ITS ALL GREEK TO HIM:** Wayne, 34, 5'5, 130, red/swimmers build, looking for a greek top, i'm a greek bottom- #12202

Milwaukee **LOWER EAST SIDE,** Rob, 23 6'2, 200 blk/blu, lkg to meet to go out and party- #12206

Eau Claire **ROB** 21 college student looking to meet some guys in the area-if int, pls lv a message, thanks alot! #12231

Milwaukee **DAN,** 35, lkg for a younger guy 18-25 for a good time, want to meet younger, own my own business looking for a partner to have a fun time with 6' 195 green eyes, brn hair, German/Polish, like to meet masc guys only- #12284

Milwaukee **LATIN LOVERS:** Jerry looking for a hisp male no taller than 5'10 160, someone who has a goal in life, movies, going out to eat, sports movies, like dancing, really looking for a rel- #12348

Milwaukee **JASON,** 6'3, blnd/blu looking for a nice guy- #12391

Fon du Lac **ISN'T THERE ANYONE OUT THERE FOR ME?** yng 40's 5'9 165, blu/brn dn shaven phys fit, seeking area male betw 20-35 non smoker int in outdoors, camping, hiking, rock climbing, caves & mines, travelling, racquetball & swimming- #12553

Milwaukee **THE FORK IN THE ROAD:** Mickey, 34, 5'7 175 brn/green looking for a CD or TV need to know more about the direction of my life-call me- #12579

Milwaukee **ANDREW** 5'6, 21, stocky, blu/brn int in 18-25 for friendship poss rel sports movies outdoors and having fun- #12584

Omro **JOHN,** 5'11, blk/blu, lkg for a companion to have some fun with, and whatever, 39 GWM hoping to find a partner- like music, dance, rollerskate and talk to people- #12647

Plover **JURN,** 24, 5'10, 155, lkg for someone 18-25, to have fun with poss rel- #12674

Madison **BRUCE,** new to area, GWM 35 tall attr, looking to find GWM sincere, var of interests, open minded for friendship, like to hike, go to movies, let's get together- give me a call- #8589

Milwaukee **COREY,** looking for a really built, clean shaven man, really like to get to know you! #8852

Madison **ORIENTAL PLEASURES:** GAM inexp, 22, 5'7 140, seeking WM for wrestling, exotic massages, and companionship- #9222

Milwaukee **18 GWM,** brn/brn 5'10 160, lkg for GWM built, smooth, clean shaven-18-24, #9298

Milwaukee **I'LL SAY A LITTLE PRAYER FOR YOU:** looking for a bodybuilder, like to worship your body, do what you want me to do-like to be next to a big beely guy-want someone to worship you? give me a call- #9300

Milwaukee **SURF,** 23 looking for GHM 18-24, 5'5-5'8 nice toned body, dev friendship, rel give me a call- #9358

Oshkosh **JEREMY,** 21, blk/brn 6'1 230 like camping, hiking, cars, music, dancing, movies- #9405

Milwaukee **FREE REFILLS:** 5'10 brn/brn btm looking for a built tp, lv a message, and I'll ret your call- #444

E. Milwaukee **ME ON THE LOOKOUT:** voyeur, 6'1 170, 30, tell me where I can watch you- #9468

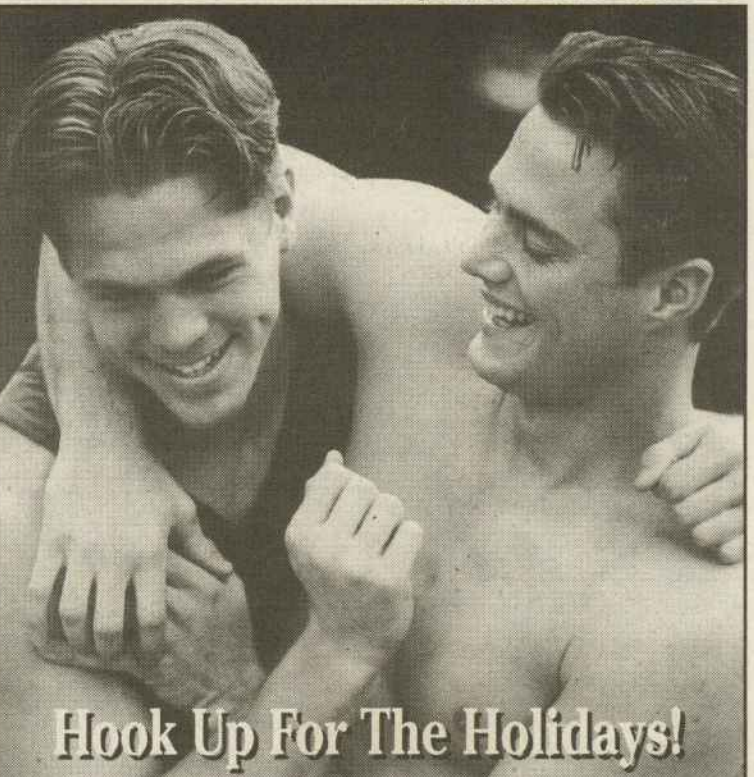
Madison **GRIZZLY SEEKS BARE CUB-** Jay, very hairy GWM 42, 5'10, 175, lkg for slim/smooth/frisky 18-24, for fun/ discreet/safe time, have a great sense of humor #9518

Milwaukee **DYNAMIC TENSION?** Middle aged WM med bld 6'3, int in finding someone to work out with, like to improve my physique- #9554

Milwaukee **BEAR LEGS:** looking for Cubans, Arabs, Greeks, really hairy guys, love hairy legs- #9616

Milwaukee **I'LL STAY HOME AND WATCH TV:** Seth, looking for Hispanic, PR male, 18-24, gdgk toned body, monog- not into the party scene- #9627

Milwaukee **LOOKING FOR CLASSY AND NAUGHTY:** basically Bi WM inexp, brn/blu, seeking dom masc gdgk 30-55, getting to know first, then more, later, like music, literature, int in being adventurous in the future- #9645



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Oh, and you can join our system yourself, by simply pressing the star (*) key when you reach the "Main

Dave, 26, 5'9, bottom, 160, ISO a cute guy. **Box# 7571**
Dave, 26, bottom, long blond hair, 5'8, 160, great job, ISO a top to live with. **(Call Thru) Box# 5547**

M, 5'6, 150, 18, muscular, blond, blue eyes, 9's, ISO an experienced top to show me everything. **(Call Thru) Box# 8427**

Jenni, 6'1, 190, ISO teddy bear, 37-47, hairy, dark hair, muscular and intimate. **(Call Thru) Box# 3315**

GWM, 5'7, blond, blue eyes, 38, goodlooking, well-endowed, muscular, thin, ISO top, HIV-, goodlooking man to love. **(Call Thru) Box# 8547**

GM, John, 22, college student, ISO someone out-going for good times. **Box# 5093**

GM, Mike, looking for people to party with. **(Call Thru) Box# 1595**

Alex, 28, ISO BM, 20-35, for working out, skiing and good times. **Box# 7971**

John, ISO a fine, sexy Italian guy. **(Call Thru) Box# 9138**

Paul, professional, fun, ISO professional, well-groomed, hairy, aggressive male. **(Call Thru) Box# 3752**

Bill, 5'5, 150, leave message or call thru. **(Call Thru) Box# 3027**

JT, 28, law student, ISO my first bi-experience with someone who is. **(Call Thru) Box# 5899**

GWM, 5'10, 170, good-looking, well-built, versatile, ISO other hot guys for good times. You won't be disappointed. **(Call Thru) Box# 3502**

Duane, GWM, poet, likes theatre, movies, art, working out, ISO intelligent men who live to enjoy life. **Box# 4145**

GM, student, trim, blond hair, bottom, nice body, ISO hairy hot top who's into sex. **Box# 5640**

BiM, 26, 5'10, 190, athletic, bodybuilder, ISO other bodybuilders, any race, discretion assured. **Box# 3474**

Attractive, quiet GWM, 58, 5'8, brn hair/eyes, HIV-, NS, like golf, country life, travel, dining, theatre, ISO a compatible GM with same interest for friendship. **(Call Thru) Box# 7686**

M, 24, 5'9, 165, long brown hair, blue eyes, mustache, I'm easy-going, ISO similar dudes. **Box# 3216**

WM, 30's, ISO a Bi or GWM for goodtimes, I'll be open to your ideas. **Box# 1977**

Bill, 32, 5'8, 160, prof., not into glitter, self-absorb, bitchy or stereo-types, ISO someone who is truthful, warm, gentle, in-touch, with a quiet strength for mutual honest friendship, no sex right away calls please. **(Call Thru) Box# 8684**

Mike, good-looking, GWM, 35, 220, 6', HIV-, physically fit, NS, ISO M 25 and under, long-term friendship, casual sex. **(Call Thru) Box# 1817**

Bill, GWM, ISO BM, well-endowed, your satisfaction is my only concern. No reciprocation necessary. **(Call Thru) Box# 3231**

Alex, 25, 5'11, 175, ISO relationship. **Box# 2885**

Mike, 32, versatile, 5'6, 165, brn hr, gm eyes, ISO compatible M's to share my house I just purchased. **(Call Thru) Box# 9644**

Tyrone, GM, 23, call. **Box# 6310**

Terry, 35, WM, brn hair/eyes, thin build, ISO M 18-35, any race for good times, movies, concerts, clubs, feds okay. **(Call Thru) Box# 7583**

DJ, 37, bi-WM, very oral, ISO afternoon or evening encounters. **Box# 8718**

GWM, 22, 6'5, 180, sandy blond, mustache, thin beard, hairy chest, ISO guys 22-35, friends, poss. rel. **(Call Thru) Box# 9782**

Daddy Tony, top, GWM, ISO GWM bottoms who can service. I aim to please. **(Call Thru) Box# 2967**

Bill, 32, 5'5, 150, ISO slim, smooth, GWM's for good times. **(Call Thru) Box# 1713**

John, young, very handsome, runway model, likes art, music, dancing, skiing, ISO special man to show me good times. **Box# 1719**

GM, John, 21, long blk hr, love dining, dancing and movies, call. **Box# 2110**

Craig, 5'9, 150, smooth, in shape, well trained bottom, ISO aggressive in shape top men for hot action. **(Call Thru) Box# 3503**

Peter, looking for a friend for hot times, someone who is fit, likes to workout, bottom, hairy, loves to be licked. **(Call Thru) Box# 5782**

Richard, 25, WM, I like dancing, sports, ISO someone who's comfortable with themselves. **(Call Thru) Box# 9370**

GWM, 39, 5'7, 175, top, jock type, ISO fun, affable, younger guy for fun, etc. Madison. **(Call Thru) Box# 2777**

Matt, WM, 22, 6', 180, ISO buddy, 25-40, very hairy, hung, top. **(Call Thru) Box# 8933**

WM, Shawn, 26, 6'1, 150, strawberry blonde, blue eyes, cute, clean shaven, smooth. **Box# 2400**

Bill, HIV+, bottom, 5'9, 220, butch bear, ISO a tough man who's interested in falling in love. **(Call Thru) Box# 8774**

John, 5'9, red hair, blue eyes, good shape, bottom, college jock, ISO well-built, top, 30+, well-hung. **Box# 6513**

Jim, 29, ISO BM, 18-35. **(Call Thru) Box# 9922**

Sebastian, 18, have body piercing, ISO dominate, handsome, intellectual male, 18-21, respectable, having body piercings and tattoos in exotic places is a big plus. **(Call Thru) Box# 1705**

Steve, 44, bottom ISO tops. **Box# 7381**

GWM, Garrett, 27, ISO young, GWM. **(Call Thru) Box# 3295**

Chip, 41, 6', 220, blonde hair, brown eyes, clean-shaven, versatile, football player build, likes mild to wild things. **(Call Thru) Box# 1186**

Jack, 36, ISO M, same age, open-minded, friendship, poss. rel. **(Call Thru) Box# 3143**

Shawn, 19, BM, fun-loving, ISO dominant, masculine, muscular, intimate tops. **(Call Thru) Box# 7280**

Peter, ISO bottoms for good times. I'm very sexy and sensual **(Call Thru) Box# 2347**

Mike, 28, 5'11, 200, handsome, ISO handsome man for fun. **Box# 4679**

Spanish guy, 148, ISO males 20 +. **Box# 6226**

Chris, bi-BM, very straight-looking/acting, enjoys skiing, movies, travel. ISO someone with similar interests who is straight-acting and looking as well. **Box# 1778**

GWM, bottom, 53, 250, masculine, clean, discreet, ISO top guy, beard and mustache a plus, attr., 35-50, any race, no bums/feds/alcoholics. Bi's welcome also. **(Call Thru) Box# 6450**

Dave, very attr., 30, prof., 6'4, 190, brn. hr., blue eyes, affectionate, down to earth, enjoys photography, sci-fi, theatre, music, dancing, dining, outdoors. I'm intelligent, non-feminine, not into drugs or games, ISO similar guys. **(Call Thru) Box# 4928**

Devoch, I believe in taking live easy and having good times. **Box# 9994**

Steve, looking for good times. Believe me, you will not regret meeting me. **(Call Thru) Box# 8470**

I'm what you've been looking for. Artic, African-American, 5'8, 160, bearded, good-looking, healthy, clean, ISO blue-collar, down to earth types, into giving oral services to, no reciprocation necessary. **(Call Thru) Box# 6631**

Rob, ISO younger brother type for partying, hanging out, I'm a fun-loving bottom willing to travel. **(Call Thru) Box# 5262**

Scott, 21, 6'3, 165, light brn. hr., longer in the back, blue eyes, ISO SWM, 18-25, for friendship, poss. long-term rel. To me life is too short. **(Call Thru) Box# 3339**

Kevin, 27, 5'9 1/2, 163, well-built, dark brn. hair, green eyes, likes sports, good times. ISO M with same interests. **(Call Thru) Box# 3501**

Tom, 33, GWM, 5'6, versatile bottom, ISO young, hung, versatile tops, especially boyish guys. I have a need I want you to fill. **(Call Thru) Box# 5881**

Jim, 28, WM, 6'2, I'm outgoing, very personable, like music, movies, socializing, ISO BM, for one-on-one relationship, large gatherings possible also. **Box# 3733**

Paul, 27, bottom, very lonely, masculine GWM. ISO masculine GWM, 27-48, 6' +, mustache a plus, top, for friends and a monogamous relationship. **Box# 2867**

WM, 28, enjoys the company of black males. I have great communicating oral skills. Remember, I won't be able to talk with my mouth full. **Box# 6656**

Frank, GWM, ISO romantic fun guy, 18-25, to enjoy dinners, movies, etc. **(Call Thru) Box# 1142**

Mike, 5'7, 135, muscular, well-built, ISO male to have fun with. **Box# 8815**

GWM, 21, 6', 140, good-looking, ISO GBM, 20-30 for friendship and relationship. **Box# 2429**

GM, ISO very discreet guy who has 10 inches or more and loves to have a very good time. **Box# 9501**

Michael, 25, 6'3, 220, blond/blue, hairy, ISO another guy to have some fun. **(Call Thru) Box# 4526**

Bob, I like to meet other males. Call, let's see what we can do together. **(Call Thru) Box# 5303**

GM, 26, 5'11, 165, brn. hair/eyes, very good-looking, clean shaven, work out, ISO guys around my age. **(Call Thru) Box# 1583**

Todd, BM, ISO GBM or GWM, I'm very handsome and ready to go. **(Call Thru) Box# 1326**

Dominick, 21, GWM, 5'9, blk. hr., hzl. eyes, Italian and Hispanic. ISO GWM, 21-25, down-to-earth, financially secure, for friendship, poss. rel., no phonies. **(Call Thru) Box# 5433**

Adam, GWM, 32, 5'8, 190, shoulder length hair, beard, ISO dominant big brother daddy type, black or white, to take charge. **(Call Thru) Box# 8556**

Steve, 6'2, 220, GBM, likes sports, long walks, quiet times, getting wild sometimes, ISO DWM with similar interests, sense of humor, financially and emotionally stable, for rel. **(Call Thru) Box# 2644**

GM, 23, extremely cute, like to have fun, ISO a normal guy. **Box# 8604**

Doug, GWM, smoker, a true metal head, Libra, 30, have tattoos, long hair, tone body, smooth, 145, 6'2, touchie-feelie type, wild sense of humor, ISO other guys 25-35, dark haired, hairy body, sensuality is top priority. **Box# 8205**

James, attr., 8 inch cut, aggressive, mustache, all American, blonde and blue, early 30's, 5'8, 150, 40-inch chest, 30-inch waist, ISO no-nonsense men, singles, couples or groups, who are intense and want safe and sane liaisons. **(Call Thru) Box# 9451**

Peter, athletic, 6'1, 165, brn. hr., glasses, fit, five-day growth, ISO friends to hang out, go to movies, play tennis, dining, laughing, and walks. **(Call Thru) Box# 3811**

Caribbean GBM, 20, ISO GM 18-24 for friendship, poss. rel., serious only. **Box# 1627**

Bob, 47, WM, ISO BM, well-endowed for fun. **Box# 8710**

Sarah, 34, 5'10, somewhat stocky build, beard, mustache, like classical theater, cooking, travel, walks, ISO GM for friendship and love. **(Call Thru) Box# 5751**

Thomas, 5'8, 150, ISO BM, to enjoy music, late nights. **(Call Thru) Box# 5575**

Billy, good-looking, WM, 30, 6'2, 195, good shape, ISO GM for friendship, possibly more. **(Call Thru) Box# 2539**

Bi-WM, 30, ISO straight-acting bi-WM or straight WM, no gays, fats or feds. **Box# 4265**

SWM, really hot, ISO slim, straight, bi or GM, 19-26, for fun and more. **Box# 2533**

Pete, bi-WM, 40's, 5'11, 210, smooth, chubby bottom, ISO mature male, 50+, for long-term relationship. **Box# 3610**

Terry, ISO a guy for fun, getting to know each other and exploring. **Box# 8634**

Todd, 30, honest, sincere and open, ISO a straight-acting guy who is masculine, honest, sincere, open also, likes to party, enjoys movies, heavy metal to dance music, for dating, poss. serious rel., no game players or sex-only callers. **Box# 7205**

Willy, you can call me Bill, 25, ISO another guy 19-28, any race for hot fun. **(Call Thru) Box# 9549**

Jeff, 19, blonde hair, green eyes, ISO guy to hang out with. **(Call Thru) Box# 8161**

Charles, ISO good stable relationship and friendship, any race, age, and color. What's on the inside is important to me. **(Call Thru) Box# 3443**

Lonely? Call me...



1-900-344-6020 ext 23
24 hrs/day, 7 days, touch tone required, must be 18 \$3.99/min

GBM, light complexion, 5'8 1/2, 155, 30, boy next door type, ISO GM's. My name is Quinton, you can call me Q. **(Call Thru) Box# 1762**

Danny, 32, 5'10, 155, long blonde hair, green eyes, clean shave, mother says I'm too cute to be gay, enjoys sports, biking, ISO another male. **Box# 4532**

Todd, 25, 6', 180, ready to have good times. Mark and his partner. Please call me. **Box# 6649**

Billy, new to area, good-looking WM ISO fun guys to have good times. **(Call Thru) Box# 6757**

WM, 37, 5'7, brn. hair, blue eyes, easy-going, discreet, ISO younger guy 20-30, for friendship, poss. rel., I like sports, movies, music, honesty a must, no games. **(Call Thru) Box# 5122**

David, 20, American Indian, 5'11, brown eyes, black hair, ND, not into the bar scene, clean shaven, mustache, enjoy music, walks, ISO guy 18-25, smokers okay. **Box# 1635**

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PLUS, we are offering an 800 number as a special introductory offer to join at NO COST. So call the 800 number, record your greeting and then SAY "yes" TO **(Call Thru)**!

Men Seeking Men

BM, 24, like sports, movies, quiet nights and driving people crazy, ISO someone 19-24, black, white or hispanic, for love, companionship and relationship. **Box# 7484**

Bi white teddy bear, 37, looking for male companionship. I aim to please. **Box# 1104**

Bob, super personality, If you are lonely, call me. **(Call Thru) Box# 7934**

Walter, into leather, ISO other leather men. **Box# 7107**

Mike, 32, well-built, masculine, ISO a WM around 6'2, very hairy, for fun hot times. **Box# 9287**

Paul, call me on call thru. **(Call Thru) Box# 6537**

Carl, 29, GWM, 180, 5'9, ISO a sincere open minded man, any race. **(Call Thru) Box# 3779**

GM, 21, blond hair, blue eyes, like bars, ISO a male companion. **(Call Thru) Box# 4266**

TV, 5'11, 140, 30, blond hair, ISO a big black man. **Box# 1451**

Jeff, 35, WM, 195, brown hair/eyes, good body/looks, looking to have fun with other men. **(Call Thru) Box# 4558**

Michael, BM, 23, ISO guys my age for football, movies, etc. **Box# 6919**

Kevin, masculine, ISO Gay or BiWM, 20-35 who is built and masculine also. **(Call Thru) Box# 3560**

Randy, GWM, 32, 5'9, stocky, submissive, ISO a long hair biker type to show me the ropes. **(Call Thru) Box# 8713**

Mark, 30, 5'8, 150, dark hair, my partner- 29, 5'6, 142, light brown hair, ISO men under 40 for goodtime. **(Call Thru) Box# 4245**

Stanely, born in 69, like walks, tennis, volleyball. **Box# 6162**

Curt, over-weight GWM, ISO nice, hairy, funloving top men. **(Call Thru) Box# 2875**

WM, 6', 190, athletic, well-built, very submissive bottom, ISO a large well-endowed top, you won't be sorry. **(Call Thru) Box# 7197**

Jason, 24, 5'9, 165, well-built, ISO guy around the same age. **(Call Thru) Box# 6510**

John, 6'1, 240, top, aggressive, ISO a passive, very feminine male, any age/race. **(Call Thru) Box# 1862**

DAVE, if you want goodtimes and long fun, call me. **(Call Thru) Box# 9590**

Don, BiWM, 33, 5'8, 165, brown hair, hazel eyes, mustache, ISO guy, 18-35 who likes conversation and making love. **(Call Thru) Box# 4501**

Juston, BM, 25, ISO other males 25 or younger. **(Call Thru) Box# 4147**

Chip, like long walks, volleyball, ISO someone to build a relationship. **(Call Thru) Box# 9352**

Adam, 20, college student, ISO someone 18-25 for dancing, clubs, etc. **(Call Thru) Box# 8936**

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David, nice, very hairy, 5'9, I am looking for a honest, loyal, respectable relationship with the right man. **Box# 2700**

Michael, 32, GWM, ISO guy for relationship, no games. **(Call Thru) Box# 8812**

Joe, GWM, 41, 6'1, 185, nice body, well-hung, like 69, hot oral sex. **Box# 8561**

Mark, short, stocky, Hispanic bottom boy, ISO hot mid-western top boy. **(Call Thru) Box# 2146**

Joe, BM, 29, ISO other BM, I like the outdoors and I am down to earth. **(Call Thru) Box# 4522**

Joe, GWM, 41, 6'1, 185, nice body, well-hung. **(Call Thru) Box# 9750**

Dave, ISO someone for a good time. **(Call Thru) Box# 2200**

GM, Chip, 5'10, 160, athletic, 28, light brown hair, blue eyes, ex-military man, business student, like weightlifting, outdoors, ISO a muscular M, 22-35. **(Call Thru) Box# 5135**

GM, Gordon, ISO guys for hot fun. **(Call Thru) Box# 8176**

GM, Bob, 35, 6'1, 195, dark hair/eyes, masculine, working-out, ISO someone for some male bonding. **(Call Thru) Box# 3440**

GWM, 32, independent, financially secure, ISO someone fun for relationship and hot times. **Box# 4506**

GM, body-builder, 54-inch chest, 36-inch waist, 210, 40's, ISO someone younger, in good shape like myself. **(Call Thru) Box# 4684**

Tim, ISO dominant, masculine, very mature M, if you have these qualifications, please call me. **(Call Thru) Box# 5304**

GBM, James, 34, 5'8, 160, ISO friends any

Outreach Milwaukee Puts Fishbowls of Condoms in all the Bars

By Jeffrey Fillion

(Milwaukee)—It's the middle of the week. You've just finished your eight hours of work for not enough money. Now, you're out celebrating a friend's birthday. Suddenly, across the crowded barroom, you see . . . HIM. That gorgeous hunk you met last Friday and had a really, really, I mean REALLY, good time with. The two of you spent Friday night, all day Saturday and Sunday morning using up your supply of condoms as well as the chocolate syrup and whipped cream.

He sees you and waves. He comes over. The electricity is building between you again. With an incredible certainty that you have never felt before, you know last weekend's ecstasy is going to be repeated tonight.

Then it hits you. You're out of condoms. You meant to get some yesterday when you went shopping for your friend's birthday card. But the search for the perfect card took you to five stores before you found the one with the five bare chested firemen saying something about the only fire they would put out for him is the one on his birthday cake.

You even put condoms on your grocery list Sunday night after the hunk left. But you still forgot (which should be yet another clue to you that your obsessive list making does little to improve your memory).

Now, here you are, with your hormone levels rising, among other things. And the hunk with no name is nibbling on your ear and other

parts of your anatomy.

(OK, so YOU know his name. I don't but if you have his phone number, let me get a pen.)

But you have no condoms at home. What are two guys overflowing with testosterone to do?

Then, out of the corner of your eye, you see it. . . the fishbowl!

Not just any fishbowl, but a fishbowl full of . . . CONDOMS!

And a sign that says, "Compliments of the Milwaukee AIDS Project and _____." (Fill in the name of your favorite bar.)

Best of all, they're free.

All right, so the above scenario may not be anything more than a fantasy (and a pretty good one at that). But the fishbowls of condoms are real.

By now, most Gay bars (and other establishments) will have received them. Their distribution is part of a new program at the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) called Outreach Milwaukee. This exciting program distributes the fishbowls and keeps them filled. The condoms are free and they hope you take advantage of them when you need to.

Focusing on AIDS prevention, Outreach Milwaukee aims its efforts at the Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay male communities. In addition to the fishbowls, there are plans to distribute other safer sex materials.

Coming soon are Safer Sex posters that will hang in ten area bars. New posters will be displayed every couple of months. Their message is that hot sex is safer sex.

The Outreach Milwaukee volunteers will

Health

Penis-Nipple Enlargement—Professional vacuum pumps with instructions. Gain 1"-3". Permanent—Safe. Enhance erection, ejaculation. For FREE brochures: Call: Dr. Joel Kaplan (708) 579-7600.

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Out Lesbian looking for roommate to share spacious Bay View upper. Two blocks from lake; safe neighborhood. Non-smoker, no drugs, one cat okay. \$255 plus 1/2 utilities. (414) 482-2788.

Organizations

Volunteers & Ideas Needed Hurricane Productions Womyn's Music & Culture, P.O. Box 71268, Milwaukee, WI 53211.

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December 8, 1994—January 4, 1995—WISCONSIN LIGHT-19

Remedies) have both been winners, from a critical standpoint, while America has batted .500 with Go Fish (yeah!) and Even Cowgirls Get the Blues (boo!).

If there's a Dyke Heaven, at least one screen of the multiplex there will be showing Heavenly Creatures.

Editor's Note: The real Parker and Hulme haven't been heard from since the film opened in New Zealand in October, 1994. Parker hasn't been heard from at all since she was released from prison in 1959, a but a New Zealand tabloid recently discovered that Hulme has become best-selling mystery writer, Anne Perry.

Letters

Continued from Page 4

"are going to suffer and die," and Gay teens "are going to think about taking their lives—and many will do it." Oh yes, I'm sure these things are the reasons American voters voted Republican. Give me a break!

First of all, Americans voted for a change in Congressional leadership for three basic reasons: 1) crime; 2) declining living standards/pocketbook issues; 3) Washington's seeming inability to do anything substantive about those other issues. They did NOT—as the radicals in The Light would have us believe—vote to have all of America's minorities thrown into gas chambers.

Despite some economic progress, increasing numbers of middle class workers have been seeing colleagues laid off, have themselves been laid off, or been forced to settle for temporary jobs. They've suffered an actual decline in disposable income. They want government to lighten the tax burden by shrinking itself. The Democrats controlled the House for the past 40 years, the Senate for 33 of those years, and the Presidency for 14. They voted for change just as they did in '92 and I'm one Gay man who's glad they did!

It was simply amazing to see how The Light down-played the fact that ALL of the nation's Gay or Lesbian incumbents won reelection and that the anti-Gay referenda in Oregon and Idaho were defeated. These successes were mentioned only in passing, while all the real time and attention went to bashing Republicans as a bunch of "Radical Right Wing Christian Fundamentalists."

You fail to recognize the many prominent Republicans of the moderate, pragmatic breed out there such as Senators Chafee (RI) and Hatfield (OR), Rep. Leach (IA), and Governors Wilson (CA), Thompson (WI) and Weld (MA). Weld and our own governor represent Republicans of the libertarian, problem-solving sort who control much more power in the GOP than you give them credit for.

William Weld, who won reelection by the widest of all margins in the governors' races with 71%, is a blend of fiscal conservative with libertarian positions on abortion and Gay rights. On these issues, he's not only where the majority of the country is, but also the majority of Republicans. Yes, the "Christian Coalition" types are vocal and energized, but they do NOT control the GOP nor represent its' mainstream views.

I also have one note of correction. Governor Thompson did not, as Meunier asserts, win "an unprecedented third term as Governor." Past governors have won third terms, just not by 67% of the vote. It was Thompson's margin that was unprecedented.

It would be nice if, in the future, the political coverage in your paper was a little less indiscriminate in its attacks upon Republicans. After all, where has 40 years of Democratic domination gotten the Gay rights movement? It's important to remember that the Gay and Lesbian community does not—and should not—vote on the basis of a single issue or for a single political party. We are as diverse as America.

John A. Jahn
Milwaukee



talk one-on-one to individuals about everyone's favorite subject, sex, and how to enjoy it safely. Ooooh, sounds like fun! You can identify them by their T-shirts.

MAP prevention specialist, Rod Johnson, is the man behind the scenes as well as the man behind the bowls of condoms. He has recruited a handful of dedicated volunteers to work with him (and yes, I'm one of them). Rod and his team will be filling fishbowls, changing posters, staffing tables at fine arts and fundraising events and "cruising" the bars to spread awareness of AIDS and safer sex.

Anyone interested in joining the volunteer team of Outreach Milwaukee may contact Rod at (414) 273-1991, ext. 263, for more information.

Among the qualifications that are recommended are: comfort approaching LesBiGay people and talking about HIV, AIDS and safer sex; familiarity with bars and other Gay businesses; sensitivity to the diversity of the LesBiGay community, availability for meetings (two nights a month); and access to transportation.

Most importantly, is the desire to fight AIDS.

"Heavenly"

Continued from Page 10

the girls get closer than before, sharing a bathtub and a bed.

Juliet's father (Clive Merrison) is disturbed and tells Pauline's mother (Sarah Peirse), "My wife and I feel that the friendship is—unhealthy. . . Your daughter appears to have formed a rather unwholesome affection for Juliet."

Concerned about "the intensity of the friendship," he suggests she send Pauline to a psychologist, to "set her back on the track." This section suggests a slightly more enlightened version of Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit.

"Ho-mo-sex-u-al-i-ty," Dr. Bennett intones. "It's not a pretty word. . . This condition is often a passing phase for girls of Yvonne's age." (Her family calls Pauline by her middle name.) If she doesn't outgrow it, he says comfortingly, "Medical science is progressing by leaps and bounds. There could be a breakthrough at any time."

The parents keep the girls from spending so much time together, which has a bad effect on them, especially Pauline.

Juliet's parents divorce and plan to send her to South Africa with her father. Pauline wants to go along, but can't obtain a passport without parental consent. As a compromise, the girls are allowed to be together again before they're parted for good.

"We have now learned the peace of the thing called bliss," Pauline writes after what appears to be their first real sexual encounter; "the joy of the thing called sin." And she starts planning "the happy event" that will eliminate the obstacle to their bliss, though in reality it separated them forever.

A female Leopold and Loeb, a young Thelma and Louise—however you think of them, you won't soon forget Pauline and Juliet. The actresses handle their complex roles flawlessly, holding our sympathy right up to the moment of the murder (and perhaps beyond, for some viewers).

As noted, the direction—and Alun Bollinger's cinematography—are top-notch. There are a number of anachronisms in the period setting, including record albums and movie posters anywhere from a year to a decade premature. I question whether Scrabble was being played in New Zealand in 1953, as well as the obvious contact lenses on an incidental player; but these are only problems for detail freaks, and don't make the film any less delightously entertaining.

When you consider the relative output of the U.S. and New Zealand film industries, it's significant that each country has given us two films about Lesbians in 1994.

New Zealand's (including Desperate

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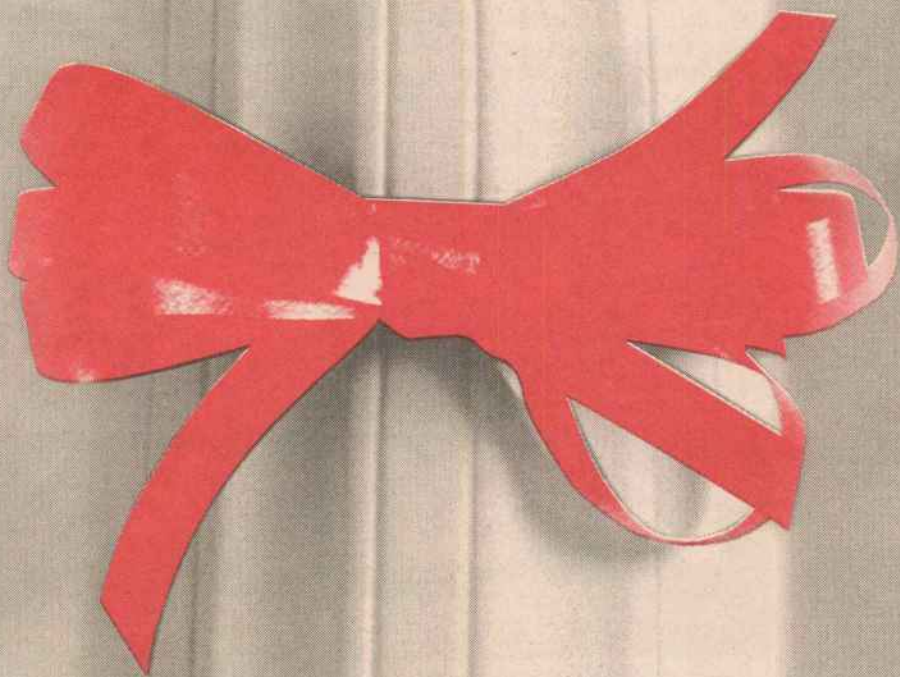
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