Mondays: Lucky Monday
10pm to Closing

Wednesdays: Levi-Leather Night
10pm to Closing

Thursdays: Pizza Night
10pm to Closing

Saturdays: Pitchers of Beer
2pm to 9pm

A Comfortable Cruise Experience

• Back Bar — Levi-Leather Men Only

March 22-April 4, 1984
Volume 1, Issue 4

DEVOTED TO THE HEARTLAND'S GAYS & LESBIANS

AIDS REFERENCE SHEET
A True Story
LIVING WITH AN AIDS PATIENT

spring
SUN • MON • TUES • THURS

THE GREAT
10¢ BEER BUST!*  
TAP BEER, WINE, SODA

FRI • SAT
$1.00 PER HOUR BEER BUST!
Tap Beer
FREE SLAMMERS
WITH EVERY MIXED DRINK

STOP IN & MEET OUR
NEW BARTENDERS!

Now Open For Cocktail Hour 4-7, Mon.-Fri.

* $3.00 cover, 10¢ tap
OPEN 8, Sat. & Sun.

First Street
157 S. 1st St.
278-0928
Graffiti

Donny: Is it really Houston where your heart is? J. W.

Tom (Gerp): You're too good to me too often. I miss you when we're not together. O. G.

Dennis: The next time you might put on a pot of coffee. Michael

Te Miss Trap: Looks is skin deep! All the rest is beneath. Candy

Dennis: The next time you might put on a pot of coffee. Michael

Sandy: Hold on — it's almost time to bring out your lawn chair. Tootie

Bobby: Chicago — July Mikey

K. A.: Where's the beef? Tootie, Joe & Blair

Jackie "Oh": Try telling how you feel. G. Man

Jilly Bean: Love ya, Love ya! Kiss, Kiss! Scotty

S. B. in MPLS.: I need a new picture — the old ones got a little too wet. I miss you too! J. H. in Milw.

Space Cow: Let's go out for a night on the town . . We gotta kick up our hooves. Earth Pig

Doris: It's Mr. Geiman in public. Say that "Mr." deep and loud. Ron

Y. P. Staff: I do not miss the headache!! X-Employ

Bunzzie: The hot pads were great. Puddy

Gary: I lost my hat! Tony

Whoever: Rumor has it Lulu is in town. Pooky

Kelly: This is going to be a good summer. J. M.

Jimmy W.: I heard you like to do it in rubber boots in t-rooms.

Mr. T.: Thank you for your friendship. I value it a lot.

God love ya, Jamie

Wayne (artist): We're have you been? Can't wait for a rematch. Rod

Wisconsin Step magazine is published bi-weekly, every other Thursday. Member of the Business Association of Milwaukee, member of Cream City Business Association, associate member of the National Gay Task Force, and associate of the Gay Rights National Lobby.

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Wisconsin Step reserves the right to refuse advertisements which are considered to be exploitive of the gay and lesbian community.

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Unsolicited materials are accepted for consideration; however, we will only return those that have return postage included. Publisher is not responsible for loss or damage to these materials.
A Perfect April Fool's Gag

If you can find the words, say it with flowers... DEAD ONES. So reads an advertisement for des Fleurs Mortes of Milwaukee.

"Now you can get even without sacrificing your dignity. For a nominal fee, you can arrange to have a formally attired messenger deliver a neatly wrapped box of decomposed foliage to the deserving person of your choice. Anonymously, if you wish," the ad reads.

No Evidence That White Lives in Luxury

Reports that parolee assassin Dan White is living in a Bel Air mansion and received $30,000 to write a book apparently are false according to investigators for the California Department of Justice.

The department said White was residing in the same Los Angeles County residence to which he was released upon his parole. "A search of his residence by his parole officer failed to uncover any evidence supporting these allegations," said assistant attorney general Wililam Stein.

Milwaukee Journal

Man Held For Murders

A 27 year old suspect remained in custody in Los Angeles where police arrested him Feb. 27 on a forgery warrant issued in Milwaukee. The warrant, issued Jan. 31 charged the suspect with signing a murder victim's name to a check four days after the murder.

Police said the man was a strong suspect in the murders of Michael Kirk Simmons on July 9, 1982, and James V. Brown on Sept. 6, 1982 — both from Milwaukee.

The medical examiner's report on Simmons' death said a relative told police that Simmons was gay and often had sex with strangers. A neighbor of Brown told authorities Brown had an "alternate lifestyle," the report on his death said.

Milwaukee Sentinel

Continued on page 6

Ban Poppers Sought

Rep. James Rutkowski (D-Hales Corner) has asked the State Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to restrict the use of isobutyl nitrite ("poppers"), which allegedly was involved in the bizarre death of a Mount foresbhor attorney recently.

Rutkowski asked the department to regulate the substance because the Controlled Substances Act, which regulates narcotic and illegal drugs, prohibits controls over substances that are marked over the counter under state and federal law.

The department could regulate the substance under the Hazardous Substances Act, which regulates unsafe toys and other potentially hazardous products.

Milwaukee Sentinel

AIDS Cases Seen Doubling In San Francisco

Doctors are predicting a doubling of AIDS cases in the Bay Area to 1,000 by year-end, increasing strain on the health care system as well as the toll in human suffering.

Nationally, AIDS cases have surged to 3,646 from 1,300 a year ago, said Harold Jeffe, an epidemiologist with the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

Despite recent reports from New York that the incidence of AIDS seems to be leveling off, this isn't the case nationally or in San Francisco, officials say.

Wall Street Journal

Ed's note: Please see AIDS reference sheet and story in this issue.

Milwaukee Sentinel

Continued on page 6

Graffiti

Send us your messages for our graffiti section. Keep them under 25 words and send them to Wisconsin In Step, 823 North Second St., Suite 509, Milwaukee, WI 53203. We'll run as many as we're able to in each issue. Join the fun!

---

Oxygen: Nothing will help.

---

Mr. Sequent (El Marko)

Love, Mike

---

Pookie: I love you — thanks just for being you.

---

Your Jane Jane

---

Mike (Factory): I'm still waiting for my "New Years" kiss.

---

Dean

---

Larry K: Give me a pen ... I want to paint the dots on you know who.

---

Sheba

---

D.: Gosh, it sure was great blowin the breeze with you the other day. Yeah, I miss you too!

---

Dave

---

Miss Trap: We know what you did last week!

---

Steve

---

Steve: I love you — 3 years March 28th.

---

Chad: It's been real, but I'm glad it's over.

---

Wobert

---

Michael: This is your last chance to dance with me.

---

Jamie

---

Greg: RSVP or roll over and let me know.

---

Scot

---

Miss Mole (Larry): Is that you with the Astor Boys? I can't tell with your hand in the way.

---

Swazza

---

Betty H: Let's get together for another fiery con-coction, but next time lets have some cream!

---

Burned

---

Joel: You're such a fag.

---

Love, Scotty

---

Slick: Love is caring.

---

From One Who Cares?

---

Jennifer: Is that the correct way to spell your name? Auh!

---

Bowling Partner

---

O'Pooski-Pooch: Oh yes baby! Birdie bubbles are real in.

---

O'Pooski-Pooch
The official start of the 1984 gay softball season was signaled by the Spring meeting of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA). Sixteen member cities sent delegates to a four day conference on March 1-4 in Houston. NAGAAA represents thousands of gay men and women softball players from all around the United States and Canada. The Saturday softball league of Milwaukee was represented by Commissioner Ron Burbey and Assistant Commissioner Tom Salzsieder. This year in late August, Houston will play host to the Eighth Annual Gay Softball World Series. The series is a competition among the championship teams from each member city: Atlanta, Birmingham, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Kansas City, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Minneapolis/St. Paul, New York, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Seattle, Southern New England, and Toronto. Milwaukee will host Series Nine in August, 1985.

NAGAAA welcomed one new member city, Dallas, into the Alliance at the meeting. One highlight of the meeting, especially for Milwaukee, was the selection of United Air Lines as the official airline for the 1984 Gay Softball World Series. This means that the series is designated a national convention, with all players and fans who wish to attend qualifying for a free round trip, compared to a regular fare of up to $500. Bookings and cancellations can be made anytime prior to departure from Milwaukee.

Pairings for the first round of the 1984 series were announced. Milwaukee will meet Seattle on opening day, Sunday March 26th, at 7:00 p.m. Other first day games will feature host Houston versus Pittsburgh, San Francisco versus Southern New England, Minneapolis/St. Paul versus Los Angeles, Birmingham versus Chicago, Toronto versus Atlanta, New York versus Kansas City, Dallas versus Boston, and Long Beach versus the winner of the San Francisco/Southern New England game. The tournament is scheduled to conclude on Thursday, August 30.

Nine cities announced invitational tournaments to be held this summer. The earliest will be in Birmingham on May 5-6. Four cities will host tournaments over Memorial Day. In addition to Milwaukee, the Wreck Room Classic tournaments are being held in Pittsburgh, Seattle and San Francisco. The Canada Cup will be held again in Toronto over the Canadian holiday, June 30 - July 2. Boston and Atlanta will hold tournaments from July 4-8. The last tournament before the World Series will be in Kansas City on July 28-29.

Two officers of NAGAAA were elected at the meeting. Jerry DeSale of Houston was re-elected Assistant Commission, and former Milwaukeean Dennis Schwarten was elected Secretary. The other officers, Commissioner Bill Muldon of Minneapolis and Treasurer Tom Salzsieder of Milwaukee have one year remaining on their term.

The regular season will likely begin the last Saturday of April. Some teams are looking for players, so that anyone who is not on a team and would like to play should contact one of the team sponsors.

---

**Wisconsin's Emperor & Empress Masqued Ball**

**April 7 Sat. Evening A Charity Event**

**$500 IN CASH PRIZES**

**8:00 P.M.**

**9:00 P.M. Show**

**10:00 P.M. Coronation**

**THE BODY SHOP**

720 BODART GREEN BAY

**CRITERIA AND THEME:**

Royal court attire - prior to 1900

**JUDGING WILL BE BASED ON:**

Creativity and originality of the character you've chosen to represent.

Originality of costume (design and period) Overall appearance and presentation. This includes a 60-90 second prepared statement of the identity of your assumed character.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

Milwaukee Jackie Morgan 414/278-7987

Green Bay Joe Mallien 414/432-0469**
**California Gay Rights Bill Vetoed**

California Gov. George Deukmejian vetoed a controversial bill that would have banned employment discrimination against homosexuals and called the decision the most wrenching of his 14 months in office.

The bill's passage by the Legislature had followed an eight-year battle to make California the first state after Wisconsin to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation in hiring, firing, promotions and job training.

The Republican governor issued a 12-paragraph explanation.

"A person's sexual orientation should not be a basis for the establishment of a special protected class of individuals, especially in the absence of a compelling showing of need," Deukmejian said.

**Ohio Has Gay Rights**

Gov. Richard Celeste has issued an executive order barring discrimination in state employment on the basis of sexual orientation, making Ohio the fifth state to extend such civil rights protections to lesbians and gays.

The order, which went into effect Dec. 31 covers all state agencies, departments, boards and commissions within the executive branch.

**Equal Time**

"Gays and Marriage"

The recent Milwaukee Journal series "Gays in Marriage" has stirred much response on the part of Milwaukee's gay and lesbian community. The one-sided coverage of this issue prompted CCBA President Marc Haupert, along with other CCBA members, including Ralph Navarro and members of Milwaukee Area Gay Fathers, to write letters to the Journal.

Mardi Gras was celebrated at Club 219. B. J. Daniels, Miss 219 emceed along with Robert Uyvari, 219 designer.
Continued from page 41

Lost and Found (Wm, D) 618 N. 27th St., 931-9144
M&M Club (Mw, F) 124 N. Water St., 347-9662
Mint Bar (M, G/S) 422 W. State St., 278-9199
Phoenix (Mw, D) 359 S. Second St., 645-9490
This Is It (M) 418 E. Wells St., 278-9182
Tina’s RTI (MW, D) 219 E. Keefe St., 372-9885
Wreck Room (M, L/L) 266 E. Erie St., 273-6900
Your Place (Mw, D) 813 S. First St., 647-9335

BATH
Club Milwaukee (M) 704-A W. Wisconsin Ave. (rear), 276-0246

RETAIL
Antigua (antiques) 2233 S. Kinnickinnic, 482-4278
C. C. Conrad (Jewelers) 2239 N. Prospect Ave., 277-7707
Comitee (typewriter, resumes, word processing) 423 N. Second St., 278-0814
Dead Flowers (“get even” florist) 2616 N. Downer Ave., 272-0879
Eclectic I (gifts/decor) 2239 N. Prospect Ave., 272-7321
European Tan Spa 2239 N. Prospect Ave., 272-7321
Ludwig Van Eer (records) 813 S. Second St., 647-9335
Midwest Women’s Music (records) 207 E. Locust St., 332-0088
Noble Galleries (prints) Grand Avenue Mall, 276-3280
Novex Corporations (cards, prints) 2239 N. Prospect Ave., 272-1400
Outpost (natural foods) 3500 N. Holton, 961-2557
Progressive Prints (prints) 2809 N. Humboldt, 284-5345
Proctyl News 2103 N. Prospect Ave., 276-6110
Thinking Of You (cards, “gay things,” gift items) 147 N. Broadway, 273-5987
Tobacco Road (smoking supplies, gifts) 1701 N. Astor, 271-7473
Travel Coordinators (worldwide & learning tours) 232 N. Second St., 276-7870
Travis Hair Design 724 N. Milwaukee, 272-4477
Video Visions (video tapes, discs, music) 2239 N. Prospect Ave., 272-6855
Webster Books 2559 N. Downer Ave., 352-9560

SERVICES
Art Services Associates (adv. agency) 374-0599
Hurricane Productions (women’s music) 2746 N. Bremen, 53212
Mandala Counseling Services 1240 E. Brady St., 291-9446
Metrotech (ERA real estate) 2240 E. Brady St., 291-9446
Nova Enterprises (mail order) 3734 S. 97th, 53226, 276-2101

RESTAURANTS
Chez Amies 2239 N. Prospect Ave., 272-1400
First St. Cafe 1106 S. First St., 347-9662
Glass Menagerie 716 W. Wisconsin Ave., 224-9065
Lobby Cafe 720 N. Third St., 278-8388
Shadows 814 S. Second St., 645-9480

EROTICA
Denmark 626 W. Wisconsin Ave., 278-9520
J&R News 831 N. 27th St., 344-9668
Lib 501 N. Fifth St., 278-5401
Libra 2945 S. 13th St., 647-9900
Paradise 225 N. Water St., 278-9261
Parkway Theatre 3417 W. Lisbon Ave., 342-4446

MEDICAL
Brady East STD Clinic (BEST) (V.D. center, health screenings) 1240 E. Brady St., 272-2144
Bread & Roses Women’s Clinic 238 W. Wisconsin Ave., 278-0280
Medical Professionals for Alternative Lifestyle P.O. Box 239, 53201, 277-7671
National Coalition STD Clinics & Services P.O. Box 239, 53201, 277-7671

RELIGIOUS
Christian Gay OK 201 N. First St., 272-9693
Dignity P.O. Box 997, 53201, 445-1490
Lutherans Concerned 201 N. First St., 272-9693

Continued on page 43
Breier Orders Felger's Car Out

Police Chief Breier has ordered David Felger, the city's chief prosecutor, to move his car out of the police garage because of a remark Felger made about an investigation involving a police officer.

Breier acknowledged that he ordered Felger's car out of the police garage once before, but declined to explain the details. One that occasion, Breier reportedly was upset with Felger's decision not prosecute certain cases involving actions of people who went into movie booths at adult bookstores.

Studds To Seek 7th Term

Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) who captured the imagination of the country's gays last year when he announced that he was gay, will seek re-election to his seventh term in Congress. Studds will face five opponents in the September primary.

He said that his homosexuality is not a cause of a remark Felger made about an investigation involving a police officer.

It features a young coed riding on the shoulders of a macho college buck. The man is wearing a "ruff t-shirt and bikini bathing suit with a large bulge that casts a shadow of his thighs.

The ad also contains a mailing address to purchase a large color poster of the Florida Photo Too Luring.

The Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce is spending $20,000 in advertising this year to lure snow belt students down for spring break. Their ad, however, has left some questions about the taste of the whole campaign.

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SUNDAYS

Rooms $6
Lockers $4
8 a.m. Sunday
till 8 a.m
Monday

Club Milwaukee
704A W. WISC. (REAR)
276-0246
24 hours a day

BONN RAMSAY
(414) 584-6780 After 6 p.m.

Brady East Sexually
Transmitted Diseases
Clinic
B.E.S.T.
Clinic
1240 E. Brady Street,
Milwaukee
272-2144
Testing: Tuesdays
7-10 p.m.
Saturdays
1-3 p.m.

THE GUIDE

Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Decks. We
can help design.

Milwaukee to Green Bay

THE GUIDE

Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Decks. We
can help design.

Milwaukee to Green Bay

Gay Events Planned

University of Wisconsin-Madison's
10% Society, the campus organization
for gay and lesbian students, in conjunc-
tion with the Ideas and Issues Committee
of Wisconsin Union Directorate, proudly
present the OUT & ABOUT Gay and Les-
bian Awareness Series.

This series of programs has been devel-
oped to address specific gay and lesbian
issues such as culture, health, and life-
styles. It is also designed to inform and
education the general public as well as
the gay community. Most events held in
Memorial Union (MU) on the Madison
Campus.

The Gay Community at UW-M and the
Cream City Association Foundation are
cosponsoring a Spring gay weekend on
the UW-M campus Friday, April 13th and
Saturday, April 14th. The weekend's ac-
tivities are being held in cooperation with
the Governor's Council on Lesbian and
Gay Issues.

All events will be presented in the Fire-
side Lounge located in the UW-M Student
Union. Special admission prices have
been set to make the weekend's activities
available to all. The informational and
entertaining weekend is for the benefit of
the entire Metropolitan Milwaukee gay
and lesbian community.

For more information, call CG-UWM at
963-6555.

For complete schedules of both these
worthwhile events, please refer to the
"Calendar" section in this issue.

Photo by Ron Gelman

THE NEW BAR
DANCE & VIDEO

636 W. Washington (Front)
Madison
(608) 256-8765
Dear People:

Here's to "In Step" magazine (and especially "Jackie 'Oh'" writing in her Vol. I, Issue 3 column) for perpetuating the myth (and was there ever a more repressive, misinformed and damaging myth?) that all gay men are:

1) Thin.
2) Preoccupied with the dictates of
3) Rich enough to afford a subscription to "G.Q."
4) Great cooks.
5) Willing to jump at the chance to help make hors d'oeuvres for 500.
6) Well versed on the ins and outs of "natural fabrics" as opposed to polyester.
7) Into watching "drag.
8) Into wearing it.

Once again, the gay community proves to be its own worst representative . . . and the best incentive in the world for so-called "closeted" gays to stay put until those in the "mainstream" are mature enough to accept them and all of their "un-gay" (read "non-conformist") foibles.

Bro. Kevin, O.F.M.
Fr. James, O.F.M.
Milwaukee

P.S. - And by the way, how in God's name does having a gay boyfriend solve the question of who's going to wash the dishes??

Ed's note: Thor, dear — we're looking forward to seeing you and your team at the Wreck Room Classic Softball Tournament. We just love the Twin Cities 'Nordic' types. Bring plenty of 'cheerleaders' along too — there's plenty to go around here!

To Instep:

I like the magazine very much and feel good that Wisconsin has a magazine and appreciate your efforts to get it published. In the last issue, I thought the article by W. W. Wells III was funny, but it also showed some truth about some gays. All party, nothing else. It's too bad. I wonder what some people think?

Also, I'm upset that bars can give away prizes and cash, but I don't remember seeing a Milwaukee bar hold a benefit for AIDS. I remember a bar up north (Wausau?) and a Chicago bar did. Why not Milwaukee? And has there ever been a benefit for Brady Clinic? Couldn't you write an article about it?

Your news briefs are good and informative. Thank you.

T. M.
Waukesha

Continued on page 12
CLASSIFIED AD ORDER FORM

$5.00 for 25 words or less. Each additional word is 25c.

MAIL TO: Wisconsin Step
823 North Second Street, Suite 409
Milwaukee, WI 53203

NO PHONE ORDERS ACCEPTED. Call 289-0744 if you need assistance.

PLEASE PLACE MY CLASSIFIED AD UNDER THE FOLLOWING SECTION:

☐ ROOMMATES ☐ HOUSING
☐ EMPLOYMENT ☐ FOR SALE
☐ SERVICES ☐ MISCELLANEOUS
☐ MODELS/ESCORTS* ☐ MASSAGE*
☐ PEOPLE (Personals)* ☐ COUNSELLING

* These sections require your signature stating you are 18 years of age or older.

Signature X

All classified ads must be verified. Please fill in your name and daytime phone number:

Name: ___________________ Phone: ______________

AD:


25 WORDS OR LESS $5.00 FOR ONE ISSUE $ + 25c/WORD OVER 25 $ SUB TOTAL $ TIMES NUMBER ISSUES AD SHOULD RUN TOTAL ENCLOSED $ PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY AD.

MEN'S WET JOCKEY SHORTS CONTEST
THURSDAYS
Preliminaries: March 22, 29, April 5
Judging at 10:30 PM
Finals April 12
1st Place Prize: LAS VEGAS TRIP

SUNDAYS
LEATHER MALE DANCERS
No cover with VIP Card, 50c Tap, 75c rail
7pm-Midnight. Dancers at 7:30
FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL
7-closing
$2 cover, 25c Tap, 75c Rail
SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL
7-closing
$3 cover, Free Tap Beer

TUESDAY thru FRIDAY
Double Bubble 4-7pm
Continued from page 10

Dear Ron:

Here is a copy of the new AIDS card printed by the Southeastern Wisconsin Blood Center. I hope that it will be considered valuable information because we put a lot of time into it. I am very pleased with how things are going in Milwaukee with regards to AIDS — still no local cases.

Best wishes to you and your staff for a job well done. If you get criticism, consider the source. I think you're doing a great job. Damn the criticism, full steam ahead.

Roger Gremminger
Milwaukee

Ed's note: Look for the “AIDS Page” in this issue that contains the information contained on that card. Cut it out and save it for future reference. If you doubt the seriousness of AIDS, read the article about living with an AIDS patient also in this issue.

Dear Ron:

Just saw your third issue and it looks real good. I noticed that you list a guide in the back of the magazine and I was wondering if you would list OUT! under organizations or publications.

If you could just list the phone number OUT! (608) 256-7664 we'd greatly appreciate it. We intend to do a guide ourselves sometime in the future and will surely list Wisconsin In Step when we do it.

Thanks.

Looking forward to your visit when you come this way. Keep up the good work.

Peter Klehm
Publisher

Ed's note: Sorry Peter, it was a slip on our part — it was to have been listed.

JUICY BITS

Why, people sometimes ask me, do you grow your own fruits and vegetables? Why go to all of the trouble of weeding and tilling soil, when you could be out dancing and doing poppers? It seems that many gay people do not know the joys and multiple uses of freshly picked vegetables and fruits.

Consider the leek, a mild flavored relative of the onion. When eaten in the raw state, leeks can sometimes help relieve the often embarrassing symptoms of peevishness. A couple of leeks before a night out and the long periods spent at the urinal gazing at the wall (or other places), can be eliminated.

The common squash (chubbysquisghyis) is another vegetable often ignored in the gay world. In fact, the squash is often the favored vegetable among chubby chasers with a fetish for being sat upon, repeatedly.

Kumquats provide a wide spectrum of uses for gays. Although not widely known, kumquats are thought to be a cure of impotence among homosexual English pop-music artists. According to Boy George, “For two months you must refrain from sex and eat nothing but kumquats. Before engaging in sex, you must bathe your privates in a bowl of chicken noodle soup or quiche. Just before you begin, you must dip your privates into a dish containing the blood of a male porn star. Sounds a bit silly, but it works.” A tip for hopeful porn stars, as with vampires, garlic should ward off Boy George.

Cucumbers may be the preferred vegetable among gay males, and are often grown for uses other than a salad additive. In fact, a movement has begun to declare the cucumber the official gay vegetable. Cucumbers come in various lengths and widths, although size is not really important when selecting a cucumber for personal use. Cucumbers should be peeled with a bit of Wesson oil added for best results.

Gay women may prefer the zucchini or bumpy gourd over the cucumber. Their larger size and texture can provide multiple pleasures. In fact, some say they prefer a large bumpy gourd over their diesel vibrators. It eliminates the need for handling smelly fuel oil and are a lot less noisy.

As you can see, there are many uses for fruits and vegetables. So, in a sunny well-drained location, start your gay garden. Discover the joys of cucumbers and bumpy gourds — deep inside you'll be glad you did!

# # # # #

Poem of the Week —

This poem is dedicated to those of us who have not told our parents:

You can fool some of the people all of the time
And all of the people some of the time
But you can't fool Mom.
Tennessee Williams is one of America's greatest playwrights and Streetcar is considered by many to be his greatest work. He has described the play in this fashion, "Our illusions are all we have, any of us. That's what Streetcar is about." It was the first American play to win all three major drama awards: the Pulitzer Prize, the New York Critics Circle Award and the Donaldson Award.

It is not surprising that the television adaptation of this masterpiece was among his final projects before his untimely death in 1983. He wanted Ann-Margret for Blanche DuBois, the lead, one of the most demanding yet challenging of theatrical roles. Not a few had great reservations about her ability to carry it off. Superb casting Tennessee, she was a marvelous choice!

The film under the brilliant direction of Elia Kazan, is a cinematic jewel. It won for Vivien Leigh, as Blanche, her second Oscar and also contained the now famous performance by Marlon Brando as Stanley Kowalski. To risk a television production after the film was a tremendous gamble, but one that certainly paid off. A 1984 presentation allowed for much more artistic freedom than was allowed Williams and Kazan in 1951. In fact, the Code of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) demanded that the reference to the homosexuality of Allan Grey (Blanche's husband) must be clouded if not totally eliminated and Stanley's brutal rape of Blanche must be struck as well. The gay issue was obscured, but the rape remained. So much for the times but how far we've come in 33 years.

As against this background, we were treated to a spectacular production of this classic. Ann-Margret brought a new and expanded interpretation to the role and gave what I consider to be the best acting performance of her career. She almost lost her mind doing Blanche as she describes herself as an emotional actress and she became that involved with the character. It was certainly evident in her performance.

Brando has said of Stanley, "This guy is a big lusty animal with so sensitivity," Treat Williams supplied him many new dimensions of character so that he came more to the fore in this violent work with yet a fragile quality.

Marvin Hamlisch composed a haunting score which worked quite well with the effective staging. The lighting was phenomenal and among the best technical work I've seen on television in a long time. The work has a multiplicity of light/dark imagery and these were ever so tastefully underscored by the exquisite use of light and shadow.

Blanche tells us, "I don't want a realism — I want magic" and that she gave us. To anyone who missed the presentation, find a copy of the video and see it. This is one offering not to be missed. The gifted Anthony Quinn says it best, "I'd rather be in a flop by Tennessee Williams, whom I consider to be the world's greatest living playwright, than in a hit by shit." Enough said.

WHAT'S HAPPENING
Not I, That Time, and Footfalls, Theatre X, Lincoln Center for the Arts, 272-2787, through March 31st.
Zones of the Spirit: Outlanders and Wormwood, Court Street Theatre, 273-7121, ext. 239, through March 29th.
We Were One Man and You Are Not Alone, Oriental Theatre, 276-7111, March 29th.
The Rules Of The Game, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, PAC, 273-7206, through April 8th.

Twyla Tharp Dance, PAC, 273-7206, March 27th and 28th.

Some Like It Hot and Guys And Dolls, UWM Union Cinema, April 3rd.

Evita, Spotlight Series, PAC, 273-7206, March 10th through the 15th.


Duquesne University Tamburitzans, PAC, 273-7206, March 27th.


Tintypes, Skylight Comic Opera, 271-8815, March 28th through April 22nd.

Brave New 1984, Friends Mime Theatre, Lincoln Center for the Arts, 272-2787, March 30th through April 14th.

A Thurber Carnival, Experience Theatre, ETCI-Lite, Noodles Restaurant, 277-0187, Wednesday through Sunday beginning March 14th.

Coming April 20th

BLACK FLAG

LIVE IN CONCERT

THE MEAT PUPPETS

LUDWIG VAN EAR

Brought to you by Ludwig Van Ear

1813 E. Locust St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

414/332-0088

For more information call: Ludwig Van Ear

Tom Rezza

The Gay Side

...Well, dinner is ready!

Ludwig Van Ear Records

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Wisconsin's Largest Selection of:
• Imports
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For more information call: Ludwig Van Ear
1813 E. Locust St. 332-0088

• Tomorrow's Music Today •
by Peabo Bryson also shipped this week in a remix. As we wait for the other remixes that are said to be scheduled, let's hope that all this worthy music does surface, one way or the other.

Taking a definite step further in the pop direction to follow the number one Holiday/Lucky Star, Madonna's remixed Borderline (Sire promo 12-inch) adds drum and keyboard tracks to the original and remains a lovely, floating dance track. Remix/post-production was done by John "Jellybean" Benitez, who now shares co-production credit with composer Reggie Lucas. A young star on the move!

If high energy is your taste, Dorothy Moore (of 1976's grand ballad Misty Blue) is back on Streetking with a 12-inch titled Just Another Broken Heart. Look for this to break in first with the high energy devotees of Vinja Wells, Miquel Brown, etc. (You know all those "gay" songs — 132-134 beats per minute (BPM's))!!

As reviewed in an earlier column, Hold Me Now by The Thompson Twins is off to a running start. The techno-pop trio releases their second album this week titled Into The Gap (Arista). Solid production by Alex Sadkin and Tom Bailey along with rich arranging details should help clinch the album's reception — after all, they do deserve a place in America's music — excellent! (If you want a longer version of Hold Me Now, be sure and pick up the 12-inch when it becomes available — HOT!

And lastly, the go-Go's are back! Returning with new producer Martin Rushent (used to produce The Human League), their new single Head Over Heals (IRS 12-inch) has a surprisingly heavy sound with "beefy" baselines. A new direction for what used to be cute-popsters.4

by Ron Geiman

Spring! It even sounds warm. All Fools Day is April 1st, and the coronation of Wisconsin's Emperor and Empress at Green Bay's Body Shop is April 7th.

The Emperor and Empress are judged on Costume, Era/Period Style, and Presentation. Doors to the showroom open at 8, show at 9 and coronation at 10 p.m. There is a $3 spectator fee and a $10 entry fee for contest participants. All money raised will be donated to the Howard Brown Memorial Clinic, keeping the Emperor and Empress title in the field of charitable fundraising.

Congrats to Gus and staff at the Unicorn, his opening party was well attendeed, and he himself bared almost all during his Sunday night male dancers. He's good people — stop in and meet him, and tell him Ronnie sent you. Too bad the weather was so typical Milwaukee yeck last Thursday for the first preliminary wet jockey short contest — not enough entrants signed up. Thursday, March 22nd will be the next contest. Who knows? You could win a trip to Las Vegas. 219's Mardi Gras was real festive. Lyvari glittered the place from ceiling to sidewalk, and 11 costumes paraded their creations before the partying crowd. The winning costume, depicting a marionette won $1,000 cash prize for designer John

Continued on page 16
Steppin' Out

Continued from page 15
Rogge, constructor Ray and Todd who wore it.

The Parkway has been searing the eyeballs with their bi-weekly Monday all-gay film days. There's nothing like a bit of erotika to lessen the tensions from a long weekend or a Monday after work.

The Milwaukee Area Lambda League recently elected Boyd McGranahan as President and Sue Burke as Vice-President. Good luck to these vital, new leaders of a very important organization involved in getting gay issues before our local politicians. See the Guide/Directory for address information — they can always use some $.

I do hope you all survived St. Pat's Day, and weren't too green around the gills from a weekend of partying. How come everyone's Irish at St. Pat's? Congratulations to the Ballgame's owner Gene O'Brien — it was also their 10 Year Anniversary. How many of you remember when the Ballgame was called Castaways, or even further back when it was the Nightbeat? That was before my time, I didn't come out and move here until Aug. '72.

People magazine recently had "Chatter" from a Linda Sawford, 40, who remembers that there were a few drawbacks to living with a guy named Reg Dwight for nine months in the late 60's — he made too many calls to Mom, worried too much about losing his hair, asked her to help pay for her own engagement ring, and then called off their wedding ten days before the big day. So, when she heard about the marriage of her dearly un-beloved, who now calls himself Elton John, Linda spoke up. "I'm not a bitter woman and I really hope he makes a success of marriage. But, if Renate is expecting romance, she has picked the wrong guy. He was lousy in bed."

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Dance Steps

The D. C. Cab soundtrack (MCA LP) is an album to rave over, and has been overlooked by many. With Giorgio Moroder and Pete Bellotte at the helm, it's fascinating to see how much study this team has put into new American production styles since creating the music for Flashdance. Containing songs by DeBarge, Stephanie Mills and Karen Karmon, Shalamar's Deadline U.S.A. is the standout (a remix was just shipped) while Champagne's Knocks Me On My Feet is in the very voguish vocal group/electronics fu-

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Persistent diarrhea unexplained by other causes.

Weight loss of more than 10 lbs. within 2 or less months for unknown reason.

Personality changes, memory loss, confusion, or depression unexplained by other causes.

What Is The Incubation Time?
The time between contracting the alleged agent to onset of symptoms is thought to be long — probably 6-9 months to 2-3 years.

How Can Risk Be Reduced?
- Maintain good health — Take good care of yourself — get adequate rest, good nutrition, and physical exercise; reduce toxic substance use (alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, inhalants, and recreational drugs); reduce stress, maintain good friendships, etc.
- Avoid large numbers of sexual partners. Get to know your partners, date, work on relationships.
- Avoid exchange of body secretions from large numbers of sexual partners, especially semen, stool, and urine. Use condoms to minimize such exposure.
- Delay contact with a new sexual partner if that person is not well; but, be supportive.
- Be a good friend — Be supportive to someone having physical or emotional problems. And talk about your own worries and concerns.
- Avoid sharing needles.
- Get and maintain health insurance.
- See a doctor if you are at risk or if you develop any symptoms.
- Be generous to volunteer agencies working on the AIDS problem.

Your Friends
Ask your friends where they get good health care services and tell your friends about these agencies and individuals.

How Can Blood Products Be Kept Safe?
Because of the possibility of spreading AIDS, if you are at risk for AIDS — because of symptoms or because of your lifestyle, or if you have sexual contact with someone at risk — please do not donate blood until a specific test to identify AIDS is developed. Altruistic donations of blood represent a substantial contribution to the total supply of vitally needed blood products. In order to help prevent shortages, if you are unable to donate, please urge a family member, friend or colleague without the above constraints, to donate in your place. Because of our current incomplete state of knowledge and due to the seriousness of the disease, we believe that it is better to be overly cautious now, than to find out later that we have not been cautious enough. However, if you are embarrassed and decide to have blood drawn, please call the Blood Center to have your blood withdrawn.

Is There Assistance Available?
Yes. We suggest that persons at risk for AIDS contact one of the following Wisconsin organizations:

NATIONAL: National Gay Task Force's AIDS Crisisline, (800) 221-7044 (open weekdays 3-9 p.m. Eastern Time)
STATEWIDE: State Medical Society of Wisconsin, (800) 362-9080, (608) 257-6781 (Madison)
STATEWIDE: Wisconsin Gay/Lesbian Network, P.O. Box 851, Stevens Point, WI 54481
APPLETON: Acceptance, Inc., P.O. Box 291, Appleton, WI 54912, (414) 731-4632
MADISON: Blue Bus STD Clinic, 1552 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706, (608) 262-7440
MENOMONIE: Gay and Lesbian Community at Stout, 1526 Stout St., Menomonie, WI 54751, (715) 235-4589
MILWAUKEE: Brady East STD Clinic, Mandala Hotline, 1240 E. Brady St., Milwaukee, WI 53202, (414) 272-2144, (414) 277-7671, (414) 291-9463
MILWAUKEE: Milwaukee County Medical Society, (414) 271-4136
RACINE: Gay/Lesbian Union of Racine and Kenosha Counties, 625 College Ave., Racine, WI 53403, (414) 634-7778
STEVEN POINT: Gay Peoples' Unions, UW-Stevens Point, P.O. Box 49, Stevens Point, WI 54481, (715) 346-3693

FREE TAP BEER
$1 RAIL

VIP Card Sign Up Available
Members Pick Up Temporary Cards
Steppin' Out

Continued from page 16

And keeping up with In Touch magazine, we find an update on Divine’s sidekick, Edith Massey. Baltimore’s beloved Edie the Egg Lady has moved to the West Coast, where she plans to relocate her store (Edith’s Shopping Bag), and crash the studios. Already Tab Hunter has been nabbed to co-star with Divine in the comedy Western Lust In The Dust.

The Business Association of Milwaukee (BAM) bar crawl to Chicago happens Tuesday, March 27th. We’ll be taking three bus loads of Milwaukeeans (plus 5 from 1101 W.) down to Chicago and we’re gonna hit Halstead Street, starting off with the newest dance bar — Trianon and working our way north on Halstead to all the bars (about 13 of them) — there are also two bookstores and the Unicorn baths along the route. We’ll arrive at Trianon about 9:15 p.m. and depart the northern end — load up the buses at the Loading Dock — at 2:45 a.m. That’s over 5-1/2 hours to cavort. Tickets are going fast — at $12 fare — and you can pick them up at: Club 219, Ballgame, 1st Street, M&M, Wreck Room or Your Place, and Factory II. Do it now — it’s guaranteed fun.

Ludwig Van Ear has just signed up Black Flag and the Meat Puppets for a Milwaukee concert, on April 20th. We’ll have more information in the April 5th issue about location, etc. It so happened that I was reading In Touch magazine for men, March issue, and saw that Black Flag’s lead vocalist Henry Rollins is In Touch’s “mascot.” It seems that Henry has a habit of almost totally disrobing on stage, so I called In Touch’s offices and talked to Editor Jim Yousling for more information. Jim said “Black Flag is loud, angry and fast . . . and Henry is really magnetic!” So I ended up calling Black Flag’s label — SST Records — and they are sending us a bunch of photos— and hopefully a revealing one of Henry Rollins (he’s known for stripping to a jock on stage). Look for it in the next issue. Kim will also review their album.

Enjoy the Spring, and don’t be a fool.
LIPSTICK

Jackie Goes To The Movies

by Jackie "Oh"

After a year of movies, and with the awards coming up, I'd like to share a few of my favorites. So — JACKIE "OH" GOES TO THE MOVIES.

JUST LOOSE (R) — The award-winning documentary of a young man's journeys through the nation's gay bars.

MOMENT TO MOMENT (PG) — A fascinating analogy by gay couples on their relationships with their lovers.

BATH OWNERS DAUGHTER (R) — The heart-breaking account of a gay bath owners daughter trying to make a life for herself after cleaning the orgy room.

AGAINST ALL ODDS (X) — The story of a straight bartender who is hired, full-time, in a leather bar.

CLOSED ENCOUNTERS (XX) — The true story of what really happens at Wesson Oil parties.

DINER (R) — The story of a small town greasy spoon run by an aging bag lady (Dirty Helen) whose vocabulary only includes the phrase "Cheap Fucker."

STAYING AWAKE (PG) — A Barbara Walters special report on cocaine use in the United States.

THE BIG CHILL (R) — The ultimate horror story. The cold and stormy night the furnace broke down at the Club Baths.

HOTEL WISCONSIN (X) — A gay couple open a transient hotel for AWOL sailors.

"10" (G) — An educational film produced by the Boy Scouts of America detailing the fact that it is performance and not size that counts.

DRESSED TO KILL (R) — Phil Donahue's secretary mistakenly invites Bill Blass, Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren, Norma Kamali and Cyndi Lauper to appear on his talk show at the same time.

Note to W. W. Wells III: What is a gay etiquette article without an explanation of a proper table setting?

International Mr. Leather

The world leather community reads itself for the sixth annual International Mr. Leather Contest and Show scheduled for May 27th in Chicago. Sponsored each year by the Gold Coast Leather Bar, the contest brings over a thousand leathermen together. Drummer Magazine has called the event "the Academy Awards of Leatherdom."

This year, a weekend package is being offered for $50. The package includes a reserved seat at the contest and show; private bar parties at the Gold Coast Leather Bar, the contest brings over a thousand leathermen together. Drummer Magazine has called the event "the Academy Awards of Leatherdom."

Give a gift that lasts all year... Wisconsin Step

Both entry forms and weekend package reservations are available to be picked up at the Gold Coast, 501 N. Clark St., Chicago; by mail from International Mr. Leather, 5025 N. Clark St., Chicago, Illinois 60640; or by calling (312) 878-6360. Deadline for purchasing weekend packages is May 20, 1984.

Wisconsin Step

636 W. Washington (Rear)
Madison
(608) 255-0609
Special Events
March 22 - April 4, 1984

Wednesday, March 21st
Beer Garden — Leg’s “Hot Box Review”, Showtime 9 p.m., $3 cover.

Thursday, March 22nd
Unicorn — Wet Jockey Shorts Preliminary Contest (minimum of 4 contestants), Judging at 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 25th
Sam’s — Sunday Night Satin Show, Entertainment by Lips, Inc. at 9 p.m.

Tuesday, March 27th
Business Association (BAM) — Annual Bar Crawl, 3 buses, Milwaukee to Chicago, back to Milwaukee. Departs 7:30 p.m. behind the Wreck Room. Get tickets from any BAM member organization (if you can). There may be some tickets for sale at boarding time.

Wednesday, March 28th
Factory II — VIP Members Only, pick up cards tonight or sign up tonight. VIP Special 8-11 p.m. — Free tap beer & $1 rail.

Thursday, March 29th
Unicorn — Wet Jockey Shorts Preliminary Contest (minimum of 4 contestants), Judging at 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 1st
April Fools Day

Fannies — April Fools Party — 5 p.m. — Stop in and be foolish.


Monday, April 2nd
Parkway Theatre — All male films, all day. Featuring “Class Reunion” Continued on page 21

B.L.T. Club
Turkey Mini-Sub
Rib-Meat Beefburgers
Ham & Cheese Cheesburgers

Sandwiches (served with cole slaw & fries)

Dining Room Open 11am-2pm, 5pm-10pm Everyday

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CITY/STATE/ZIP: ________________________________

PHONE: (______) ________________________________

MAIL TO: Wisconsin Step
823 North Second Street, Suite 409
Milwaukee, WI 53203
Calendar
Continued from page 20
& "Class of '84 - Part 1."

TUESDAY, APRIL 3rd
UW-MADISON — Gay Film Night, 7 p.m., Historical Society Auditorium. "We Were One Man," won Hugo award at Chicago International Film Festival.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5th
UNICORN — Wet Jockey Shorts Preliminary Contest (minimum of 4 contestants), Judging at 10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, April 6th
UW-MADISON — 10%, Society "Out & About Series", Dan J. Bradley, speaker 8:00-8:15, Memorial Union Theatre, reception following. Bradley was President of the Legal Services Corporation in Washington, DC under the Carter Administration. He is also the Committee Chairman with the American Bar Association's Committee on the rights of gay people and serves on the Board of the Gay Rights National Lobby. Topic: 1984 — Law, politics, and the gay and lesbian community.

SATURDAY, April 7th
BODY SHOP — Wisconsin's Emperor & Empress Masquerade Ball, A charity event for Howard Brown Clinic. $10 contestant entry fee, $3 spectator fee. Judges on costume, era & presentation. Open 8 p.m., 9 p.m. show, 10 p.m. coronation.

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Barbies Beach Blanket Party
April 13th
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April 15th
Register at the Bar.
It's been almost a year since Scott died. It seems like a bad dream when I think about it all today, but it wasn't.

I'll never forget the July afternoon when Scott entered the room where David (my lover) and I were watching television. He had a somber look on his face and quietly looked at us and said, "I've been to the doctor today." There was was seemed like an incredibly long pause followed by a burst of tears and "I've been diagnosed as having AIDS."

We had a large flat in the Castro district of San Francisco. Scott shared the flat with David and I for about two years. God, I remember what that place looked like when we first moved into it. We even had Evan White (a newscaster on KRON-TV in San Francisco) living directly across the street. That building was, very nice, a certain charm to the entire block. It had a certain charm to it, though. Over the last couple of years the three of us had turned that ugly duckling into a home we were all proud of. Our friendship had elevated to that of three brothers, not just roommates and lovers. Scott was 29 years old, unemployed and receiving unemployment benefits which were about to run out. His entire family lived back in Minnesota.

For some odd reason, neither David nor I were particularly shocked by the news. I can't explain why. Possibly it was the look in his eyes when he walked into the room that afternoon. It was the most helpless look I'd ever seen in someone's eyes — it was obvious that Scott knew a lot more than we did.

After we quieted him down, my first reaction was to pull him into the kitchen and start talking about financial aid from various local and federal groups. Everything I had heard about AIDS up until then said the same thing: "It gets real expensive, real quick." (I was just reading in the paper recently that the average medical bills for an AIDS patient are exceeding $80,000.) Common sense told me that if we at least got the paperwork rolling before he became severely ill, it would be to his benefit. There weren't enough success stories on treating the disease. That probably was the smartest move we made.

Simply put, the months that followed were pure hell — for all three of us.

Scott did go to every possible agency he could think of. In having AIDS, his doctors verified that he was incapacitated and therefore was eligible for social security disability payments. That was great for getting him some cash to live on, but what about the medicals?

Shortly after he was diagnosed, I read an article in the San Francisco Chronicle about an experimental interferon program at U.C. San Francisco Medical Center. At that point, there really weren't (and still aren't) any other alternatives. Scott went to the university the following day to see if he could get in that program. The three of us talked about the alternatives available and we figured his level of medical care would be better getting involved in this kind of program. I found out later that it was the drug manufacturer who made interferon and some grant money that made the program possible. As it were, they had already selected the ten participants in the program, but one dropped out that morning and they needed just one more person. Scott happened to be in the right place at the right time.

The group of ten were divided into two. One group would receive mega-doses of the drug, and the other a lesser amount and/or placebo. Scott was in the high dosage group. The after effects of the treatment were about to run out. His mother decided that the doctors had done all they were going to do for Scott and demanded his release. The hospital complied and while driving back to their country home, he went into respiratory arrest and died. He was 30. That was last May, only ten months after he was originally diagnosed. It wasn't so much Scott's death that bothered me much — we all knew he was going to die. Feelings of deep pity for his mother were all that I could feel when I learned of Scott's death. I shed no tears over his death. David and I both knew that his quality of life was next to nothing and both knew that there is an afterlife. Scott was much better off dead than alive with AIDS.

Yeah, it sure changed my outlook on living a healthy gay lifestyle. Throughout his illness, I always had a point to be well educated on the subject as possible. The research teams really are no closer to a solution today than they were two years ago. The medical community generally is ecstatic about AIDS because they think that if they can find the cause of the disease that it would lead to an almost certain cure for cancer. I knew quite a few people in the medical community personally, and it was awful hard to share that enthusiasm while a close friend was wasting away right in front of my eyes.

Thinking back, Scott was a partier. He loved to go out until all hours and then work on two or three hours sleep, participated in a lot of anal sex (receiving end), did a lot of drugs, and didn't eat right — everything that they've been saying are high risk factors.

I lost a good friend to AIDS. If just one person changes his habits to try and give themselves a better quality of life and possibly avoid the AIDS scene, then the purpose of this article has been accomplished.

It is apparent to me that Wisconsin — not only the gay community, but the community at large — is trying very hard to ignore this menace. Don't worry, though, the price will be paid later. The threat of AIDS is much worse today than it was two years ago, although the media has not given much attention to the ongoing problem lately. When Scott was first diagnosed in July of 1982, there were only about 500 cases known. Today that number is well over 3,600.

Within this issue, you will find some important facts about the disease provided to us by the BEST Clinic here in Milwaukee. When a disease as powerful and deadly as AIDS strikes our community, the best defense is often a good offense. Clip that page so at least you can identify this problem. Take it out of your wallet once in a while and look at it. Remind yourselves that AIDS is not going to go away unless some dramatic breakthrough in a lab is accomplished. You can turn your back to it, but you're only fooling yourself.

I hope you live to a healthy old age as I intend on doing.
LIFE WITH AIDS

Continued from page 23

work great for a week or two until he would come down with another whole series of infections. Some of them were so bizarre.

The one infection that really made me take considerable notice was one he had in his mouth — a yeast infection growing on his tongue. The treatment of this required him to suck on a woman's vaginal suppository. It used to make me sick to watch him taking these suppositories. Try and imagine how Scott felt — I couldn't.

By now the entire medicine cabinet was stuffed with various medications for all these different infections. The spots had grown to around 50 — and the ones he had for some time were getting much larger, about the size of a quarter and much darker in color. Instead of just noticing spots, I thought of them as real tumors now.

David and I both had the same medical coverage in an excellent health plan. Regular visits to our doctors to get ourselves checked over were the only way to have any kind of peace of mind. We had been taking certain biohazard precautions since the day Scott was diagnosed, but you just have no way of assuring yourself that you're healthy unless you pay your own doctor a visit.

Somehow we did manage to keep a pretty cool head about it all, and took necessary precautions around Scott. It probably wouldn't have bothered me too much to move out at this point, but David's friends with Scott went back considerably further than mine and David was reluctant to just throw in the towel and walk away from it. We had never thought of asking Scott to move out until one Sunday afternoon.

We were eating and watching the TV when I heard David turn around to see Scott having what I first thought was a heart attack. I grabbed him, and knew then that he was having a seizure — and a real bad one. David had worked that night and I literally screamed at him to get his ass in the living room. Waking someone up out of a sound sleep to assist in the control of a seizure is probably not the wisest thing to do. When David just froze, I yelled at him to call an ambulance, which he did. Scott was just totally out of it. He didn't know who David nor I were, where he was, what day of the week it was. Nothing! It wasn't until several hours later in the emergency room that he even recognized who I was. (That was the only time the hospital allowed me in the emergency room because they needed me to play forty questions with the emergency room staff to find out all the neat little diseases Scott had.) They never did find out what the actual cause of the seizure was. We were told it could have been from any one of a number of things like his medications, the disease, an infection, etc.

That was when David and I started thinking about alternative arrangements for Scott.

The last thing we wanted to do was purposely ask Scott to move out. After the seizure we realized that with our working hours we couldn't possibly be there with him all the time and certainly could not afford an attendant for him. If he were to have another attack, it would probably be hours before Scott could even realize what had happened to him. I was convinced that if another seizure would happen that he would seriously hurt himself by hitting the piano or some other piece of furniture, or the floor. We decided that the best approach was to announce that David and I were going to take an apartment on our own and move out.

That painful decision was made a little easier by Scott's announcement that he wanted to move into a hospice that was being set up. It was truly an odd scene as we both made our announcements almost simultaneously. The date was unsure, but it seemed to coincide with our moving plans. All three of us realized that our friendship was coming to a slow end and there was nothing any of us could do about it. It had to be done.

Continued on page 27
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