

Mad Kweer

B-Boys

B-Dykes

Where the fuck have you been?

It's Fucking Cold!!!!!! I do enjoy the snow. I think that as long as there is snow falling, I can deal with winter. Though it's messing up the floors in our house. If anyone would like to be our housekeeper (three straight boys and me), be prepared for a challenge.

It's been a few months since our last zine. Dealing with the family back in Pennsylvania during the holiday season and hibernating through the cold here has kept me from doing too much. But your in luck with this zine cause I only had to write a few pages. We have more people out there who want to get their shit in here to be publish. And I appreciate that. I really do. I think some of you out there are getting tired of reading my gay boy centered writings which tend to lean towards the preachy side. I am sad that I haven't gotten any lesbian writings or art. That just gives me more room to put pictures of wrestling guys. I did throw some dykes in here, but you have to look closely to find them.

Some important things to take notice in this zine. We all hate Bush. This is a given. He did say that the he wants to sanctify marriage by proclaiming it as being between only a man and a woman. Apparently this is what the "people" want. I guess we aren't people then. Thank Shiva that we got some smart judges in Massachusetts who have stated that separate but equal did not work before, and that it shouldn't be used to substitute gay marriages with civil unions. The gays should be able to go through the same process as the straights to be legally joined and have it recognized just the same. What is scary is that Wisconsin is one of the few states left that does not have a constitutional amendment banning gay marriages. But there are legislators who are fighting to change that. That's why we have to take to the streets. Apparently they don't know that we exist in critical mass numbers around here so maybe we should enlighten them to that fact. Check out the local events going on and be involve in your community.

Anyway, thanks for picking this up and I hope it makes for some good bathroom reading. If you want to submit anything, drop it off at Out-Reach (600 Williamson St.)

What's in this Rag?

Anything your interested in??

Page 2: Fiver & Me (a look at our
local hangout)

Page 3: The 3 D's (A look at what
gets us in trouble)

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(Queers around the World)

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(African American Queers)

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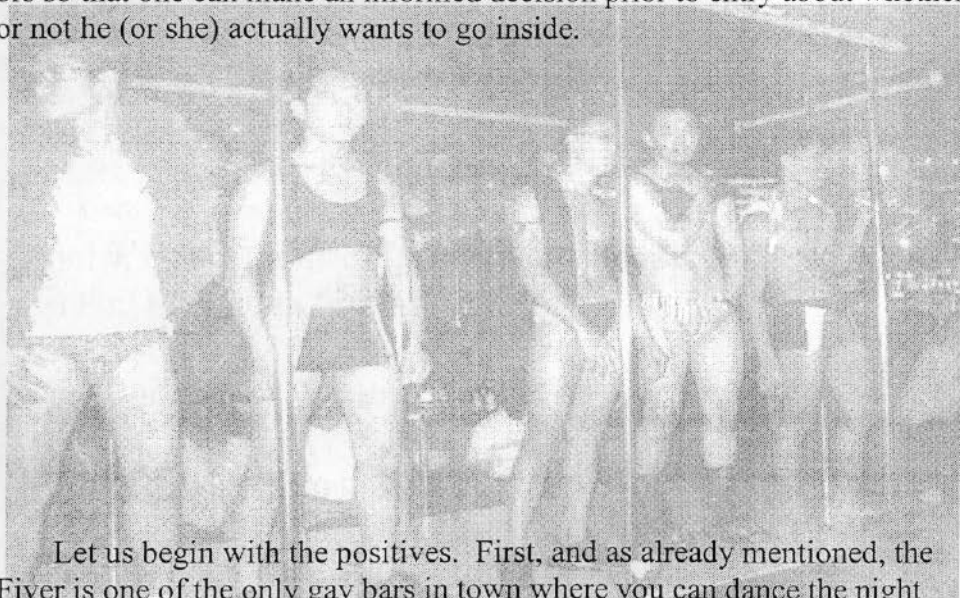
Page 10: Get Involved, or You Won't
Have a Future. (Queer Politics)

Page 11: Happy Medium (Indie/Emo
style)

Page 12: My Life So Far (a life story
we all can relate to)

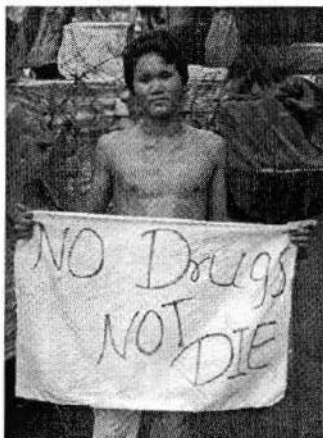
Fiver & Me

As accepting and liberal as the city of Madison is, the gay scene is ridiculously small. Besides a small strip of homo-affiliated bars up by the capital, really the only outlet for our sexual frustrations is that sparkling neon paradise known as Club 5. For all you boys out there gleefully awaiting your eighteenth birthday so that you too may grace the Fiver with your presence on the infamous Underage Night, first make sure that you understand exactly what you're getting yourselves into. The purpose of this article is not to deface this fine establishment, but rather to reveal its true colors so that one can make an informed decision prior to entry about whether or not he (or she) actually wants to go inside.



Let us begin with the positives. First, and as already mentioned, the Fiver is one of the only gay bars in town where you can dance the night away and engage in highly enlightening conversation (sometimes). Everyone and their gay uncle show their faces there at least once in a blue moon. Underage Tuesdays (or Chicken Night) is another perk offered by Club 5. As long as you have an ID that says you are eighteen years old and you agree to stay on your side of the plastic fence, you are free to enter. In addition to helping young homos enter safely into the gay scene, the Fiver also does a lot for the community in general. From hosting fundraisers for the Outreach organization and the AIDS Network to providing donations for PRIDE, this bar proves itself to be an open-minded and generous member of our friendly homo neighborhood.

The 3 D's: Drugs, Drama, Dick



The three D's that give us pleasure and pain. Yet if we look in the young gay male culture we find that these three D's have caused some to lose friends, money, housing and even their health. I'm not writing this to speak of the wrongs of each. I am writing this because I dealt with too many guys who are complaining excessively over one or more of these. Why are we so obsessively drawn to that which causes us grief? Why can't we seem to practice moderation or even abstinence for some of these damaging D's?

So what do you do when friends that you are hanging out with start snorting or smoking or shooting up? Would you join in? Think about what you are doing before you just do it. You hear from school all those messages about just say no. What you really should do is think about why you are doing it and why they want you to join in with them.

Drama is harder to get rid of because most times it comes and finds you. You will quickly learn that some people feel it's their duty to spread misinformation about you or tell you hateful stuff about someone else you know. Always go to the source and don't believe what someone else says. It's bad enough that others have to say shit about us. Why do we have to do the same with each other?

Though they may seem nice to you, it is better for you to stay clear those who seem to gab about others.

Awww...The third D. Well, this one isn't so bad. Just make sure you realize that you probably aren't the only person who has handle this guy's dick. Protect yourself all of the time and DON'Tt ASSUME anything. Fuck as if he's positive so you stay negative. Entiendo?



Queers are Everywhere!!!



Israel gay activist groups marched in solidarity against the occupation of the Gaza Strip by



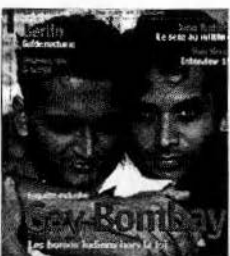
The "Beijaço" (Kiss-In) was organized by GBLT (Gays, lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgenderers) groups, and gathered 2000 people at 'Frei Caneca Shopping Mall', in downtown Sao Paulo, Brazil. The event was staged as a protest after a gay couple was reprehended by the mall security for kissing at a movie theater line.



Pride Parade in Japan.



Ecuador has just recently allowed gay marches. In 2000, a gay march was tear gassed by police. Ecuador still holds being gay as illegal.



India had it's first gay pride march 2 years ago. Now people are fighting for gay rights.



HOMO

Hoopla

There's a new queer group in town. Are you tired of the same old people you see night after night at the bars? Are you wondering why you can never find that cute gay boy at the co-op at any gay events? Well come on and join up with Homo Hoopla (I know, I know...I didn't pick the name Either :-).

We are a bunch of 18-24 yr old queers who are interested in hanging out with other queers who are interested in activities other than the bar scene. Some of us are into Indie/ Emo Punk. Some are into Brittany and Madonna. Some have piercings and tattoos. Some of us wear makeup and skirts (on occasion, purely ceremonial). But we all like to have fun and the more the merrier. Check us out every other Friday at OutReach where we plan what people want to do the rest of the month and talk about issues and other crap.

If you want more information, Email Shawn at:
Sneal@madisonaidsnetwork.org.

Our Mothers, Our Fathers

Every culture has a history. Within the queer community, that history is not always passed down generation to generation like other cultures. It is important to know that if someone questions your sexuality in reference to your race or ethnicity, to know that there have been many before you who have struggled with being black and gay.

Being gay and African American places you outside your normal support families. That is why there is a creation of family through friends and lovers. Here are only a few beautiful black LGBT folk who have fought discrimination and prejudice. To learn more about LGBT folk of color, visit <http://www.blackstripe.com/>.

Justin Fashanu



Justin was the first and last professional footballer to be open about his homosexuality. That took courage. Others have not shown similar honesty and bravery.

Although he later said that he "never once regretted" coming out, the hostile reaction from many in the black community hurt him deeply. He thought that his fellow black people - who know the pain of prejudice and discrimination - would be understanding and supportive. Some were, but many denounced him for bringing "shame" on their race. Still, to this day, Justin is the only prominent black person in Britain to come out as gay.

Ruth Ellis

Born July 23, 1899, in Springfield, Illinois, **Ruth C. Ellis** is the oldest "out" African American lesbian I know. She didn't meet her life companion of 34 years, Ceciline "Babe" Franklin, until 1936. In 1937, they moved Detroit. She passed away in 2000 at the age of 101.



Living With Pride:
Ruth Ellis @ 100



His first published poem was also one of his most famous, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers." Langston Hughes achieved fame as a poet during the burgeoning of the arts known as the Harlem Renaissance. The Harlem Renaissance arts movement occurred between 1919, when World War I ended, and 1929 or shortly thereafter. Speculations on his sexuality still circulate and many historians denounce the fact that Langston Hughes had close male relationships.

Langston Hughes

Audre Lorde

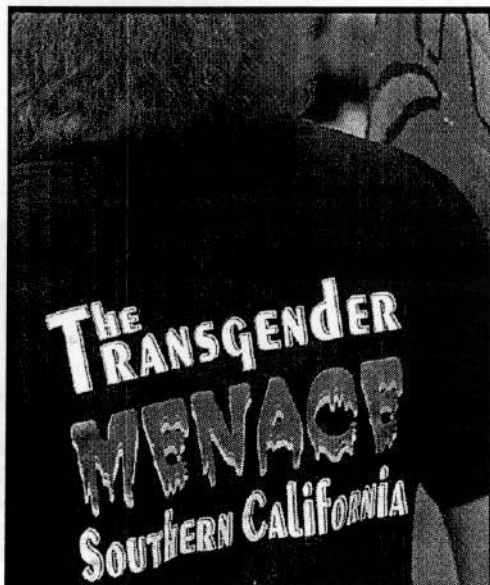


Audrey Geraldine Lorde was born on February 18, 1934 in New York City. Lorde was a self described "Black lesbian, mother, warrior, poet". Audre Lorde was given the African name Gamba Adisa, meaning "Warrior: She Who Makes Her Meaning Clear". She has fought for Women, African-American, and Lesbian rights using the line "Your Silence will not protect you!"

Transforming Trans Rights

There is a movement progressing in support for more rights and less discrimination for Transgender and Transsexual individuals. Even here in Madison there has been strides made by the Madison Area Transgender Association and GLSEN. Only recently, GLSEN and many other supporters showed up to get Gender Identity placed on the nondiscrimi-

Policy of the school District. gender identity order to ensure ryone who goes Most GLBT students confess that they and physically for exhibiting posite sex then attraction is for. students who gender classisitics will ex-sometime in he or she was a



nation Madison The addition of is important in safety for eve-to school. dents will con-are verbally harassed more traits of the op-for who their Even straight exhibit non-fied character-press an event their life where victim of har-

assment. One would think that diversity within schools would encompass all areas of diversion from the mainstream paradigm.

Drag Queens and Drag Kings brought this idea of changing genders and dubbed it "Gender Fuck". This applied to anyone who wished to express themselves through an opposite gender identity.

So where do you come in? If you see any violence geared towards someone because of their mannerisms or dress, step up for them. On the local level, contact OutReach about more information related to the trans movement here in Madison. On the national level, become acquainted yourself with GenderPAC; an organization that has been fighting against gender discrimination at the Federal level. You can reach them at www.gpac.org/.

Fiver & Me

Continued.....

So what is there to be worried about? Nothing really. Just beware that many men who frequent the Fiver are looking for something more than just a sampling of the newest dance remixes. The interactions that take place are largely sex-based, and one can start to feel like a piece of meat. This warning is heightened for the young men who attend Underage Tuesdays. **YOU WILL BE HIT ON BY MEN YOUR FATHER'S AGE.** That's just how it is. If you feel that you can handle that in an effective, non-violent fashion then you, my friend, should already be inside... except if you listen to softer music that doesn't give you heart palpitations. It's true, I am very opinionated and I have my own taste in music, but the tunes blasted in the Fiver can be absolutely awful at times. On the same note, it is incredibly loud, which probably contributes to the fact that most conversations tend to drift far from the intel-



I happen to be very in to unity, especially in this smaller gay community. Club 5 is literally sectioned off into different bars where specific types of queers can mingle. There's the lesbian Fox Hole, the "average" gay man's Planet Q, and the shadowy hole in the back of the establishment specifically for creepy people called "The Barracks." Another warning: **IT'S SCARY IN THERE.** That is also a personal opinion, but the porn and dark corners of this sub-bar can make one uneasy. And I don't mean to sound corny, but can't we all just get along? Would it be so awful if the dykes, fags, and grizzly bears hung out together? I think it would add a much-needed element of harmony to this shopping mall of gay bars.

After this rant of negativity, I must reiterate that I am not anti-Fiver. I go there myself from time to time and, don't tell anyone, but I usually enjoy myself. All I wanted to do was voice my crazy opinions and provide some information to those who are unfamiliar with this establishment. So please, go to Club 5, hit up Underage Tuesday, and by all means, have a

Get Involved or You Won't have a Future!!!

Upset about attacks by George W. Bush and other right-wing leaders on same-sex couples and our families? Want to find out how you can help fend off these attacks and build support for civil marriage equality in Wisconsin?

Come to a town hall meeting on civil marriage equality on **Thursday, February 12th** from 7-9pm in Madison at the **Orpheum Theatre (216 State Street)**.

Please contact your state representative and senator today and urge them not to cosponsor a drastic anti-gay state constitutional amendment.

To amend the state constitution, the proposal must be passed by a simple majority of two consecutive sessions of the Legislature and then a majority of Wisconsin voters. Conservative legislators could send this to a statewide referendum as early as April 2005.

For more info go to: <http://www.actionwisconsin.org/takeaction.htm>

Next march, the United Nations will vote on an historical treaty which states that sexual orientation is a human right.

Visit <http://www.brazilianresolution.com> to get more information on how you can save homos all over the world.



HAPPY MEDIUM

I'm starting to see a trend here, boys, and I can't say that I like it very much. It seems to me that every homo has to be either a member of the Fab 5 (Queer Eye for the Straight Guy) or a Mohawk sporting punk with "negativity" tattooed on his forehead. What if you don't fit either of these extreme molds? True, I don't dress myself quite as well as Carson does, but I do shower. There is an interesting faction on the rise known to some as the "thrift shop boys." With a laid back approach to their sexual identity, these placid beauties are starting to represent a sort of happy medium in the gay world. Their clothing may be inexpensive and second-hand, but their style is first rate. The phrase "break me off a piece of that" readily comes to mind.

The whole point of coming out is that you no longer have to pretend that you're something you're not. So why pigeonhole yourself into a subgroup with which you don't truly identify? As a minority, gay men have to start unifying and stop cliquifying (not a real word, but who's checking?). Being in touch with our sexualities must lead into being more in touch with our selves, and knowing who we are outside of the word "gay." Something exciting and scary is happening here, folks. We are in the process of creating a culture. What we make of it is our choice alone, but changes are already occurring everyday. How much of this culture is already solidified in American society? Can we constantly add and subtract from this mass of media attention and preconceived notions, or are we stuck with what we've got?

I firmly believe that we will continue to change, but to make this a positive change we must do it together. So whether your clothes are from Sax or Savers, whether you have a wavy yet tamed quaff or a razor sharp and out of control Mohawk, you must do your part to accept each homo you meet as an equal. To look down upon another queer is to rip the very fabric that holds us together and gives us strength. If we want rights, let's fight for them together. Coming up from one extreme and down from another, we can all meet in a happy medium.

Yeah, you, with your known-er's a music thing, not a child, love, gay, hill, all heemo kid, spear by:

My Life So Far

Edited for Space.....Not Content.....

By Pat

When I started high school my grades did nothing but take a major shit. I started to learn more about homosexuals, but it was mostly negative and hateful. This only made me feel worse and suppress my feeling even more. I was starting to get depressed and more alone. I talked to my friends and parents as if nothing was wrong, so they wouldn't suspect anything. This is the point at which I started to skip school. At first it was just a little, but then it became whole days and even a week at one point.

When I was in my third year of high school, things seem to get harder. I was suppressing more feelings and falling into a deeper more severe depression. I started to have suicidal thoughts. Thankfully I expressed this through poetry and not a knife. Poetry was my escape, it help me vent the feelings that I had about killing my self, without the pain. This is also the point in which I stopped going to school all together. I was seventeen and a drop out with absolutely nothing going for me.

Finally I was eighteen with nothing going for myself. In retaliation to all of the hurt and pain I started to use drugs and alcohol as my escape. This did not help. I was starting to smoke weed all of the time and drinking almost every night. At this point I had already told people of my sexuality. One of those people was my mom. She was everything that I needed her to be.

When I was nineteen I met a new friend, who later became my Boyfriend. A lot changed in my life when I met this kid (I say kid because we were still young and naive.) He taught me how to kiss and we started to make out a lot which progressed to my first really good sexual relationship. We then decided that we wanted to be a couple. With him he would not let me drink. He also made me give up my pot which was very hard. We eventually broke up.

I am now twenty years old and things have not gotten any easier, I am just a stronger person. A new part of my life is OutReach. It is a community place for the glbtq. I feel very safe there and had signed up for their men's coming out group. I am still in the process [of coming out] in small steps. I hope things get easier for people questioning their sexuality

Where the fuck are you going?

What? Your done already? Just looked at the pictures or did you actually read what we got in here? The purpose of this zine is to bring more of a unity within the gay youth. There seems to be a very large generation gap missing in which we aren't taught the gay way of life. So many of us have to go through the same mistakes and take the same unnecessary risk that had caused so much grief in the last generation.

So let's wise up. I'd rather have us be a community then the isolated bickering individuals that we seem to be. I'd rather have us be friendly around each other and feel safe then worry about what others will judge us for. Come out of your rooms, turn off the computers, and get your asses out and meet us.



If your under 18, check out Teens Like Us at Briarpatch. You can Email Craig at TLUPride@yahoo.com.

If your between the ages of 18 & 24, then check out HomoHoopla. We just started up in the hope that we can get a lot of queers together from different walks of life to hang out. Contact OutReach for more details or email me (Shawn..sneal@madisonaidsnetwork.org).

If you're a Latino guy and you speak Spanish (and hopefully English or you won't understand what the hell this thing is) then check out a social group starting up later this month. You can Email me for details of that too.

And if you're a dyke or in love with one, then check out the group starting up at OutReach that gets together informally to play cards, games and watch movies. It's like those slumber parties you use to go to when you were a kid except now you know that the wandering hands from the girl next to you are indeed intentional.

Want More??



****** Mama Mark wants me to clarify that these organizations do not support nor condone this awesome zine



Start a GSA or learn more about one near you.
<http://www.glsenscw.org/>

2dyke...
Just Do Her

AIDS NETWORK

Talk to Shawn, he likes you
252-6540 ext 22
Sneal@madisonaidsnetwork.com

THE BLACKSTRIPE

A list of Famous GLBT African-Americans
<http://www.blackstripe.com/>

קשת גאווה

For more Gay Jewish info
<http://www.glbtejews.org/>



A great GLBT youth site from UK
<https://mogenic.com/>



OutReach
MADISON'S LESBIAN,
GAY, BISEXUAL AND
TRANSGENDER CENTER

For all that is gay in Madison
Coming out groups, 18-24 yr old groups,
Gay men circles...
<http://www.outreachinc.com>

**queer
boy**

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