

V O L . II

N O . IX

*The
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A



The New Voice

NOVEMBER 1985

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THE NEW VOICE OF NEBRASKA

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Wimmins Poster Coming

Okay, wimmin of the community, now it's our turn!!!

An artist from Topeka, Kansas, has agreed to use one of her many artistic talents by providing our community with a wimmin's poster.

Debbie Alejos, who has used various media to portray her views of wimmin in the community, also provided this issue's cover. Being a talented poet as well, she was (unfortunately!) unable to submit her work at this time. We look forward to making this poster available as soon as possible. The print is finish-

ed; however, certain production kinks must be worked out. As part of The New Voice staff, we are pleased as well as proud to have worked with Debbie on this endeavor. We feel that this work captures the intimacy between wimmin and has the ability to be a statement for all of us.

If you have a picture or a sketch you would like to see reproduced as print, please contact The New Voice. The more work Debbie does, the more recognition we as wimmin can receive.

Heidi and Cham

Our Turn

Comments and Opinions from The New Voice staff

Welcome to the Wimmin's Issue! Each year we devote one issue to wimmin writing about wimmin. I hope our gay male readers will read this issue with the same enthusiasm, as there is a lot that gay men and lesbians can learn from each other.

Why do we have a "wimmin's issue?" During the rest of the year, The New Voice tries to cover the concerns of gays and lesbians in our community. With the Wimmin's Issue, however, The New Voice is recognizing that while gays and lesbians share many common concerns, the lesbian life-style and reality is different. This issue gives us a chance to share something about being Woman and Lesbian.

I want to thank all of the wimmin who contributed to the Wimmin's Issue of The New Voice with their articles, artwork, poetry, and letters. Appreciation also goes to the other wimmin on The New Voice staff who worked hard to get this issue together despite their hectic schedules.

One final note: while we are grateful for the contributions, we wish to emphasize our desire to have more wimmin involved in the other eleven issues of The New Voice. We can't get the message across without communication!

Anita Freeman-Soltisyk

Happy
Thanksgiving

SHELDON FILM THEATER

Sheldon Art Gallery
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Film/Video Showcase:

ROBERT EPSTEIN

Thursday, November 14 through Sunday,
November 17



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"Passion-filled. A film of intelligence."
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—*Los Angeles Times*

Schedule:
Thursday, November 14 & Friday, November 15 at 7:30 p.m. only.
Saturday, November 16 at 3, 7 & 9 p.m. Sunday, November 17 at 3, 5, 7 & 9 p.m.
Admission \$3.75

Mr. Epstein will be present at the 7:30 p.m. screenings on Thursday & Friday, November 14 & 15 to discuss his work with the audience.

The Film/Video Showcase is funded, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, the Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, and the Friends of the Sheldon Film Theater.



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EVENTS

The Times of Harvey Milk to be Seen at Sheldon Film Theatre

The oscar-winning documentary film, The Times of Harvey Milk will be shown at The Sheldon Film Theatre in Lincoln (12th & R) from Thursday, November 14 to Sunday, November 17. The film's director, Robert Epstein, will attend 7:30 showings on November 14 and 15. The film stirred up some right-wing opposition when it

was shown in Omaha last winter. PBS plans to air the film nationally on November 13th.

The Times of Harvey Milk is the first in a series of films being shown at the Sheldon Film Theatre depicting the documentary tradition. This event should be marked on everyone's calendar.

Several Groups Attend Omaha Meeting

The October 3rd meeting of the Omaha Organization Coordinating Committee included representatives from 7 out of 13 known Omaha groups. They met in the Gold Crown Room of Stars Restaurant and Lounge. Each organization present gave a brief presentation:

M.C.C.: The Fall Harvest Social is scheduled for Saturday, November 2. They are having an Art Auction/Exhibition on November 12. This is a major fundraiser for the Church, presented at The Max by a professional art auctioning company. In response to a question, they stated their newsletter is a "church outreach; its major thrust is spiritual."

THE NEW VOICE: The magazine is looking for more pieces written by the general public; anyone may submit articles. Topics for upcoming issues are: December, Religion Issue; January, Legal Rights Issue.

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS: Two representatives attended the GALA Choruses national conference in Washington, D.C. The Chorus currently has 31 members, five of whom are women. The holiday concert schedule includes: 12/1, private "thank you" concert at church where the Chorus rehearses; 12/15, AIDS benefit concert at the Max; 12/20, caroling in Western Heri-

tage Museum, followed by caroling in Old Market; 12/22, major public performance in Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church.

IMPERIAL COURT: At Thanksgiving time, the Court will be operating its annual food pantry and Toys for Tots campaigns. They are planning to set up a book/tape library. There is no holiday show planned at this time.

MEATPACKERS: Private, by-invitation group, currently with 7 members.

STARS RESTAURANT & LOUNGE: Currently in transition from primarily "The Alley" to primarily "Stars Restaurant & Lounge." Planning "La Cage-like" performances, with heavy media advertising. Performances planned for November 8, 9, 22, 23 and December 5, 6, 19, 20. Stars will be open Thanksgiving Day.

METROPOLITAN CLUB: New organization. October meeting planned for 10/16, featuring presentation by a psychiatrist, social hour, and business meeting. New members by invitation only.

NEXT COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING: Thursday, November 7, 6:30 p.m. Tentatively planned for The Stage Door. Phone Pastor Jan at 345-2563 for information. ALL OMAHA ORGANIZATIONS ARE URGED TO ATTEND!

G.L.S.A. November Activities

The UN-L Gay/Lesbian Student Association joined several members of the Young Democrats at the UN-L Student Union and protested Dr. Paul Cameron's speech on AIDS on October 17th. Cameron had been asked to speak by the Young Americans for Freedom. Chants from the protesters in front of the Student Union included, "We want truth, not lies," "Where's the Truth?" and "Oppression is a social disease." Twenty protesters carried picket signs and handed out leaflets. Rodney Bell, II, president of G.L.S.A., said of Paul Cameron and the demonstration, "The bigotry and distortions of Cameron are issues of homophobia and oppression. We are demonstrating because we believe that the world, Nebraska, and the gay community need not allow people to accept the rantings of Paul Cameron... ." Articles concerning the protest appeared in The Daily Nebraskan, The Omaha World Herald, The Journalist, and The Lincoln Journal.

G.L.S.A. events for November include several educational meetings: November 7- "What's it like to be Gay and Handicapped?" November 14- Sex Education for Gays and Lesbians, and November 21- Movie. These meetings are held in Andrews Hall, Room 228, at 8 p.m.-10 p.m. The Executive Council of G.L.S.A. will meet on November 17 and November 21 at 5 p.m. in Room 345 of the City Union. A special protest rally is being scheduled for November

8 from 12-2 p.m. entitled, "Oppression: Racism, Sexism, and Homophobia." This will take place at the Nebraska Union Memorial Plaza and several organizations will be asked to join for unity against oppression.

G.L.S.A.'s resource center is currently compiling a resource book for national, state, and local referrals. The installation of the UN-L Gay/Lesbian Student Association Hotline on August 1st necessitated a referral resource.

The Coming Out Support Group for students, faculty, and interested others is meeting off campus at 7 p.m. on Saturday evenings. Call 472-5644 for a confidential appointment.

The UN-L Gay/Lesbian Student Association needs the community's help to continue to operate. G.L.S.A. needs monetary donations, books, periodicals, office supplies and volunteers. These will help us to continue civil rights issues, our Gay/Lesbian Resource Center (which supplies counseling, referral, and information), the G.L.S.A. Hotline (472-5644), and special events such as Gay/Lesbian Film Festivals, Lesbian and Gay Education Week, and a possible Midwest Gay/Lesbian Student Conference. We are asking the gay/lesbian community to pull together to help.

Rodney Bell, II

Wimmin's Spirituality Gathering

SISTERCARE: Wimmin's Spirituality Gathering at the YWCA (1432 N Street) at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, November 16th to 11:00 a.m. Sunday, November 17th. (Yes, it's an overnighter!!!)

All kinds of wonderful things are planned:

Potluck
Affirmations
Silver Circle Book Display

Poetry Reading
Films
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Registration is \$15 (limited scholarships available upon request). Please register by November 14th. You will be contacted on what to bring. Call 476-2802 for more info. The YWCA hopes you can come!



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River City Chorus Announces Holiday Concerts

A benefit concert Sunday, December 15, at The Max, is one of two major concerts planned for the holiday season by the River City Mixed Chorus.

The Chorus has announced its 1985 Holiday schedule, which includes a "thank you" concert for the church in which the Chorus rehearses, a major public performance, and the AIDS benefit concert.

December 1, the Chorus privately thanks the congregation of Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church for the rehearsal time and space given. This concert is not open to the public.

December 15, in the afternoon, the Chorus presents its full holiday presentation, including planned accompaniment by harp, recorders, and piano. All proceeds beyond expenses will go to the Nebraska AIDS Project. Exact concert time has not yet been set.

December 20, at 6:30 p.m., the Chorus will be one of many area singing groups joining in the

holiday music at Omaha's Western Heritage Museum. The 30-minute program will be followed by the Chorus caroling through the Old Market area.

December 22, in the evening, at Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church, will be the "open to the public" holiday concert. At this time, plans are to advertise the concert in the World-Herald. This is the Chorus' first major public concert.

During October and November, the Chorus is holding its annual fund-raising. Donations may be sent to the River City Mixed Chorus, P.O. Box 315, Omaha, NE 68101-0315.

The Chorus is also inviting anyone interested in helping, whether or not you can sing a note, to join the "Friends" group. "Friends" help in publicity, setting up concerts, and giving a general boost to Chorus activities. For more information on joining "Friends," or on the Chorus in general, please phone: 455-2334.

Training Sessions Begin Soon for GLIS

The Gay/Lesbian Information & Support Line will be conducting a training session for those persons who are interested in being peer counselors on the Line. GLIS Line has been in operation for 1½ years, serving our community. Your help is needed. Peer counselors are asked to volunteer one or two evenings a month to answer the phone.

The training will be: Friday, November 15, 7:30-10:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 16, 9:00 a.m.-noon, 1:00-4:00 p.m. To sign up for the training session or for further information,

Call: GLIS Line
475-4697 (8:00-12:00 p.m.)

Write: GLIS Line
P.O. Box 94882, Lincoln
68509

On November 24, there will be a benefit show for the Gay/Lesbian Student Association (UN-L) put on by Female Illusionists of Lincoln at 9:00 p.m. at the Boardwalk. There is a \$2.00 cover. The theme of the show is "We are what we are." All proceeds go to GLSA.

Coalition Sponsors "The AIDS Show" Preview

It's a fact that hasn't quite hit us in Lincoln yet--some of us will die of AIDS. And all of us are affected by another disease, AIDS Hysteria, which threatens to shatter our struggle for civil rights. We can sit quietly and wait to see just how bad things will get. Or we can give of our time, money and courage to fight and WIN the battle against AIDS.

A few weeks ago, the Coordinating Council of the Coalition for Gay & Lesbian Civil Rights had an opportunity to view an advance reel from The A.I.D.S. Show, a documentary film being produced by award-winning filmmakers Peter Adair (Word is Out) and Robert Epstein (The Times of Harvey Milk). It was clear to us, despite our tears, that The A.I.D.S. Show will be a profoundly moving film and a powerful resource in the fight against AIDS.

But Adair and Epstein must raise \$75,000 in order to have "The A.I.D.S. Show" ready for PBS broadcast and national distribution by January. We can help them. On November 15th, Epstein will visit Lincoln when Sheldon Film Theatre shows his Academy Award-winning film, "The Times of Harvey Milk." He has asked for an opportunity to personally show "The A.I.D.S. Show" work-in-progress to the Gay/Lesbian community and ask for our support.

So the Coalition invites you to a special reception with Mr. Epstein on Friday, November 15th, from 5:30 to 7:30. Call Larry Seeman at 782-8939 for more details. WE ALSO INVITE YOU TO SEND DONATIONS TO SUPPORT "THE A.I.D.S. SHOW." Make your checks payable to "Film Arts Foundation" (tax deductible) and mail to: Coalition, Box 94882, Lincoln, NE 68509. We will present all contributions to Mr. Epstein on the 15th.

Partying with Dignity

A "dignified" party? No. In this case, DIGNITY is an organization which is introducing itself with an open party at Stars Restaurant and Lounge, Omaha. The free hors d'oeuvres and drink event will be 4-6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24 at Stars.

"DIGNITY is an international organization for lesbian and gay Catholics and their friends," said Russ, DIGNITY/Omaha's coordinator, "although we welcome all persons."

The Sunday event is to allow persons to learn more about DIGNITY and possibly to become members, Russ said. The nat-

ional organization just recently made DIGNITY/Omaha an official "chapter-in-formation" so the group is now looking to expand and become more involved in the community and is seeking persons who want to become involved, also.

DIGNITY/Omaha celebrates Mass the second Sunday of each month and has a social meeting called "The Gathering" the fourth Sunday of each month. Further information is available by attending the party at Stars or by phoning in Omaha to Russ at 341-1460, or Dan at 345-9426.

Heaven



conceived by V. Jedlicka

Violence Against Wimmin

(The following is PART 1 of a two-part editorial written by H. Moore and the counselors at the Rape-Spouse Abuse Crisis Center. PART 2 will appear in the December Issue of The New Voice.)

The past few months have been a time of violence and assault against wimmin in the Lincoln community. Once again, statistics remind us that while other violent crimes may rise and fall, sexual assault, domestic violence and assaults against wimmin are on a consistent increase. Our newspapers have covered stories of wimmin's lives and deaths which reveal the linkages in violence against wimmin. The revocation of Robert Hunt Junior's sentence provided us with a clear statement of judicial opinion. "The purpose of the killing in this case was to fulfill a sexual desire" and was therefore not an aggravating circumstance of murder. The gang rape of two (and more) young wimmin has produced considerable public discussion of the "troubled young men" who perpetrated the assaults. And the death of a woman at the hands of a white, privileged, Republican male has been named "manslaughter" by the District Attorney's office. We

must add to this the unreported harassment and psychological violence against lesbian and heterosexual wimmin on our jobs and in our streets.

We will watch carefully the legal arguments presented by the state and by the defense attorneys in the bludgeoning death of one woman. The initial response of the accused male was that the victim had fallen and cut her chin on a lamp. Later descriptions of the victim's beaten body and crushed skull was obvious counter-evidence. However, the courts and defendants will present their interpretation of these "pieces of evidence." As other cases suggest, the death or assault of a woman must often be "explained" to us.

What actions are the high schools and junior highs taking to expose the violent attitudes and behaviors which victimize young wimmin? Why are convicted rapists enrolled in school and being considered for positions (as role models and heroes) on their high school basketball teams? How can we confront the verbal abuse which is being heaped on the two brave wimmin who were willing to testify to these assaults? Our community must work in whatever ways possible

Continued...

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to challenge and support our public school teachers and administrators. While some efforts are being made, these must be continued, strengthened and expanded. High school wimmin are denied access to support, counseling, or health care because they are sexually active or because they are choosing a lesbian identity. We start the scripts of sexism and heterosexism within the

family and build on them in our public schools. The linkages among these have been made clear in our theories - now they are illustrated in the press, the schools, and the legal system. [An earlier version of this editorial was printed in the Women's Journal Advocate.]

To contact the Rape-Spouse Abuse Crisis Center, call 475-7273.

Ceremonies Celebrating Women

In the early weeks of my first lesbian relationship, I read everything I could that would tell me about my new life and about other wimmin loving wimmin. Though I had cherished special woman friendships all my life, it was as if I began to celebrate their beauty and peacefulness in a fuller way.

I also noticed how truly absent wimmin had been from my first thirty years--absent in that they were the exception rather than the norm in the heroes, language, and structures of my world--religion.

This was a special pain for me because of my lifelong commitment to God; I had been a missionary for seven years and then studied for ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist church. Incredibly, I hadn't deeply personalized the absence of wimmin in the church. Like Virginia Ramey Mollenkott, "I always knew I was a son of God."

Suddenly, reading about wimmin, looking at pictures of wimmin, I discovered something I'd been missing all my life. And when I frequented my favorite haunts, the church, the Bible, the language of prayer, wimmin were virtually invisible, except as perpetrators of their own anonymity.

I've been looking for better forms and truer religion since then. I have experimented with other spiritual seekers, trying some spirituality celebrations both foreign and familiar to my conservative Christian upbringing.

Now I'm participating in a group that seems quite promising. If it doesn't succeed in creating a new dynamic of inclusive religion, it at least has already succeeded in creating a powerful social outlet for wimmin's exceptionally creative spiritual energy.

Religion can be re-invented. Editors Gloria Kaufman and Dora J. Reynolds (Indiana University English and Women's Studies Professor, and South Bend, IN YWCA Director, respectively) are proving that. They are pulling together a collective to create all aspects of wimmin's lives--birth, love of birth, menses, mother/child relationship, friendship, love of other wimmin, menopause, death, self-blessing--in fact, everything important to wimmin. And joy, lots of joy, ceremonies that produce joy.

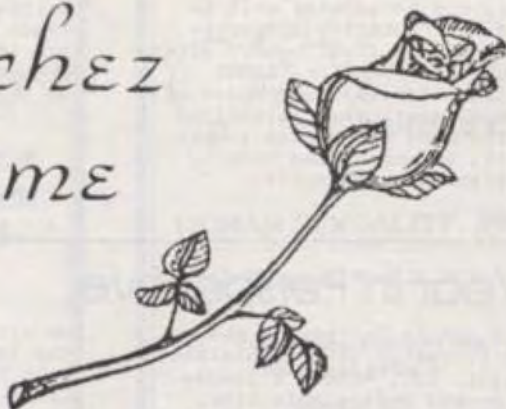
"For a long time I've been feeling that wimmin really need to have their own ceremonies," says Kaufman. Then at the National Women's Studies Association meeting in Seattle, she got just the nudge she needed from an editor at a London publishing house. A book is born, a book of wimmin's birthing.

There are three stages in producing this book to facilitate development of a wimmin's ceremony subculture. Ceremonies are being gathered from all over, some perhaps already in use, some written especially for initial celebration by the collective. Beautiful music to accompany the ceremonies is also being sought.

continued...

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Sectarian and non-sectarian rituals will appear, variety providing something to please everyone. When a pattern emerges, the ceremonies will be sorted for tentative appropriateness in the first book. After the publisher proffers final guidelines for size and shape of the book, conclusive selections from the many ceremonies submitted will accompany the book to facilitate sharing music.

Kaufman's hope for the book? She would like it to invade traditional patriarchal religions and transform them into inclusive positive institutions in which women can feel comfortable and into institutions that no longer support violence as most churches now do.

Lin Shepherd
(Indiana)

A Year in Perspective

A year ago in October, I was ready to resign from my position as Assoc. Ed., *Wimmin's Issues*. Some months before this time, the first woman on the staff left her position because of an editorial denying the harmful effects of pornography. I agreed with her action and decided to follow suit if an editorial of the same nature (pro-pornography) were ever published in *The New Voice* again. So far, that situation has not come up.

What had me so discouraged last year was a conflict between the magazine and certain women in the community. I had called on several women to contribute to the *Wimmin's Issue* and received a poor response (due, in part, to the pro-pornography editorial).

One article that was promised (The letter was never published because it was very long, and the woman who wrote it would not allow us to publish it in segments.) turned out to be a statement of valid criticisms about *The New Voice*. Although I agreed with what was said, it was clearly not the article I was promised. As a result, I was thrown into the middle of the conflict. I was torn between my beliefs as a feminist and my commitment as an associate editor. I thought my only choice was to resign.

Then my lover convinced me that more good would come if I stayed on and worked to encourage communication. It hasn't been easy.

continued...

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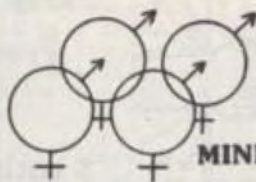
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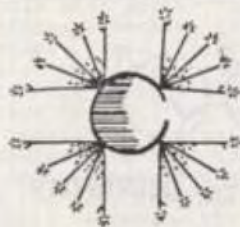


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It has taken time to develop an awareness, a consciousness, in the men on the staff about lesbian issues. Even so, they are not all as conscious as I hope they'll be in time.

And now that there are three other wimmin on the staff, we can implement this "awareness" with voting power. Our moment of truth came in September when the staff adopted an advertising policy. Here it is:

"We will not accept any advertising that graphically or linguistically depicts, directly or implied, the following:

- A. Dehumanization (S&M, etc.)
- B. Superiority over any section of society (racism, sexism, etc.)
- C. Degradation of any group
- D. Any sexual usage of children
- E. Poppers ads that are blatantly graphic
- F. Frontal nudity which exposes the genitals "

The immediate result of our new

policy was the decision not to renew the "Man's World" ad under section B (the slogan has been deemed "sexist"). I know there will be a lot more to struggle over in the future, but to me these policies are really an awareness statement from the staff.

At the same time, however, there has been a change in previous advertising policy; adult bookstore advertising will be accepted if it meets the criteria outlined above. I see this as a case of two paces forward and one back. I have been against taking any advertising at all from adult bookstores, but we function democratically and the vote went the other way. We'll see where we go from here--there is a lot more work to do.

I want to credit and thank the wimmin who risked their popularity to join the staff of The New Voice. Rather than sitting back and complaining, they are working to make a difference.

AF-S

Lesbian Dispels Myths about Motherhood

Some time ago, there was a gay man who went to a Lincoln high school to speak as an "expert" on the gay/lesbian community. This same man has suggested, more than once, that lesbian mothers often vent their hostility for men on their sons, abusing them verbally and physically. This self-proclaimed expert, it seems, knows even less about lesbians than the heterosexual "experts."

My lover and I have been raising my son for six years now. We are ardent feminists, and we tend to be somewhat selective about our gay male friends. But we never treat our son as a scapegoat for the sexist behavior of men. We love him very much and our lives would have an emptiness without him.

We treat our son no differently than we would a daughter, except we are trying to prepare him for a world in which he will be expected to be sexist by other men. Just as a young woman needs to develop awareness about misogyny, so does a young man. We point out the subtle and the not so subtle, and we discuss what that certain something means about womyn. We encourage him to ask questions and to think about the possible answers.

In short, we respect our son and feel very proud of him. He is our hope for a better future for womyn and men, because both are the victims of sexism.

Sharon

λ
*open door
ministry*

Counseling

PHONE: 474-3390

Lincoln, Nebraska

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AND SUPPORT LINE

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A Woman Joins the Royal Family

Having had the the exclusive privilege of talking with JoJo Morrison, the only woman in the Imperial Court, I would describe her as vivacious, energetic and very strong. These are the very qualities which have made JoJo such an asset to the gay community.

JoJo was born in Avon, Illinois and raised in Bushnell. She is the oldest child and only daughter of her parents. She has five brothers, four of whom are still living. She has a son, a daughter-in-law, two grandsons, and one granddaughter. JoJo's family is very important to her, and in seeing the exchange of love between them I can certainly understand why. JoJo's family has been her source of strength and support in many hard times. Presently, JoJo resides in Omaha and works as a supervisor optician.

With the dissolving of a 15-year relationship, JoJo felt a strong need to get involved in the gay community. She has been an active member of the Metropolitan Community Church since 1983. It was through M.C.C. (fundraisers and shows) that JoJo was introduced to the Imperial Court of Nebraska. It was in July of 1984 that Velvet Empress IV and current Miss Gay Nebraska asked her to hold the title of Duchess IV and be a member of his royal family. JoJo credits Velvet and a well-known choreographer for her



success. She says, "I learned a lot from Velvet about opening myself up to others...being able to give with an open heart and an open mind."

I was touched by Ms. Morrison's dedication to her family, the gay community, and to her God. She says it best when she says, "Knowing God is in my life is important to me and with God in my life I have found many new doors opening for me all the time."

Tamy

Wimmin and AIDS

When the AIDS scare finally (and I do say finally since the government preferred to ignore the disease until this summer) became headline news, one of my first reactions was "how does this affect me?"

Being a Lesbian, I assumed I was safe, and for the most part I was right. An article in the August 12, 1985, issue of *Time* contained statistics concerning AIDS and

females. Please see below:

AS OF JULY 1985	# of cases	makes a percentage of
Homosexual, Bisexual	0	0%
Intravenous Drug Users	418	33%
Transfusion Recipients	75	9%
Hemophiliacs	4	1%

continued

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Heterosexuals*	104	13%
Others**	186	24%
TOTALS	787	100%

*contact with an AIDS infected person

**Includes 332 born in places where AIDS is endemic, e.g., Africa and Haiti, and those with medical records inadequate to determine source of infection.

To quote the August 12, 1985, Newsweek article, "AIDS " "The disease is virtually unknown among Lesbians."

However, this is not a good reason to ignore and be ignorant about AIDS. AIDS cannot be contracted from toilet seats, door-knobs, handling money touched by

an AIDS victim, etc. because once the virus is dry, it is dead. Even in a wet state, it doesn't live long when exposed to air. The virus has been found in saliva and tears at very low concentrations. Most researchers believe that exposure to much higher levels of the virus is necessary for infection, so even kissing in which saliva is exchanged is an unlikely way to acquire AIDS, although not impossible, especially if there are any cuts or sores in the mouth. "Dry" social kissing is recommended.

I would highly suggest that when you see a pamphlet concerning AIDS, pick it up, read it, and educate yourself. Let's all support fundraisers for AIDS too. After all, it may be a good friend who needs help next.

Heidi

Book Review — Martina

Martina by Martina Navratilova, with George Vecsey.

For years there have been many accusations and speculations about Martina and her various relationships with women. Sometimes called the "bisexual defector," she has struggled to keep her highly public life separate from her private life. Now, though, she tells her story in the autobiography, Martina.

She tells her story in a frank, no-nonsense style beginning with her early life in Czechoslovakia and continuing through her struggles to become the champion tennis star she is today. She doesn't hesitate to present herself as she is with strengths and weaknesses, nor does she pull any punches when she comments on Czechoslovakian life, American standards, and the sheltered life of a tennis star.

Her commentary on her life is basically chronological, although she often stops and comments on things that happen to her later. This gives the reader the feeling of being in-

involved in conversation with her and even the sense of being in her mind as she puzzles over the course of events that brought her to her current standing as a world champion. Yet, this can at times be frustrating to the reader because Martina sometimes jumps ahead several years and then returns to where she left off--which gives one a momentary sense of disorientation.

For those readers, however, with an interest in her life and what it's like on the tennis circuit, Martina is open refreshing insight. Of particular interest are her relationships with Rita Mae Brown, Nancy Lieberman, and Judy Nelson.

Her experiences are ones that strike us as very familiar and yet unique in their own special way.

Overall, Martina is engaging and honest about the woman who is Martina Navratilova, and it is well worth reading if only to discover what has gone into the making of the highly unique woman.

J.W. & Sandy V.

*Molleno's
200 S. 18th*



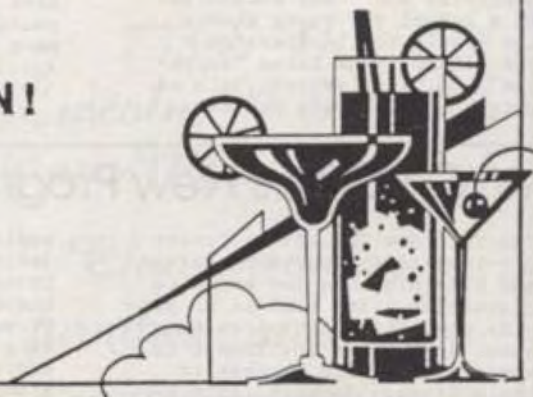
Molleno's

The staff and management of Molleno's and Cherchez la femme would like to thank the community for their help and patience during another, yes another remodeling. Slowly but surely we are making headway.

To show our appreciation, come in during the month of November and get a well drink or a bottle of beer for a buck, or a shot of schnapps for 50¢.

**THANKS
LINCOLN!**

200 S. 18th
Lincoln, Ne. 68508



Cheaper Eats for Lesbians

(a restaurant review for the money-conscious)

Women, as women already know, make on the average only 59¢ to the man's \$1.00. Lesbians, as lesbians already know, tend to be in worse economic condition than heterosexual women, because even when "married," two lesbians make only the minimum that one man can make. The point is, we need to make the very most of every dollar that we slave for (that is, until we overthrow the Patriarchy).

The F-Street Diner, located in the old Runza building, is a sensible place to eat for the money conscious lesbian. The food, boasted as "homecooking,"

is fast and hot--and very good. If you've only got 30 minutes for lunch, you can make it. What's more, you'll get a plate full for your money.

Unfortunately, the F-Street Diner is very much a diner: busy and sometimes a little noisy. But then lesbians have had to learn to improvise in life, and it is possible that your own candle and your imagination could make the F-Street Diner rather romantic. The place is clean and efficient, so give it a try for lunch sometime. The hot turkey sandwich is m-m-m-m good!

Toni

Did You Know . . .

that there was a woman whose rites included both heterosexual and homosexual intercourse? The first recorded writing on homosexual themes in the Western World came from the poetress, Sappho. Sappho lived on Lesbos, an island off the coast of Greece, in the late sixth and early seventh centuries B.C. She established a school for young women and a cult for Lesbians on the island. The terms "sapphism" and "lesbianism", both of which denote female homosexu-

ality, are derived from Sappho's name and birthplace.

Did you know...

that Lincoln, with approximately 90,000 women, has 18 gynecologists and ONLY ONE is a woman? (The Women's Clinic, by the way, has no women on staff.) If you want to see Dr. Deanna Hutchins, you'll have to make an appointment now in order to see her in April!

Heidi

YWCA Offers New Programs

The YWCA New Directions Center provides assistance with career and life planning for women in transition. Its goal is to provide diversified services in a warm, supportive environment to women coping with changes in their lives. Through participation in New Directions, women can become more aware of their strengths and gain confidence by setting short- and long-range goals. Issues involved in lifestyle changes, aging, parenting,

ending/beginning relationships, job/career changes and other transitions can be addressed through participation in New Directions programs. Programming includes: Short-term individual counseling, support groups, and classes and workshops designed to provide personal development opportunities and coping skills. Fall offerings include affirmations, basic budgeting, coming-out workshops, job search and women's support

Continued on page 30...

Gail's Hit List

1. Who's Zoomin' Who (remix)
Aretha Franklin
2. Dress You Up
Madonna
3. Perfect Way
Scritti Politti
4. Be Near Me
ABC
5. Hard Times for Lovers
Jennifer Holiday
6. You and Me
The Flirts
7. Krush Groove
Chaka Kahn
8. All of Me for All of You
9.9
9. You Wear It Well
El DeBarge/DeBarge
10. Urgent
Shannon
11. Fall Down
Tremaine
12. Seduction
Val Young
13. Honey for the Bees
Patti Austin
14. Big Daddy of the Rhythm
Dead or Alive
15. Alive and Kicking
Simple Minds

Gail's Hit List is a monthly courtesy of the DJs at The Board-Walk.

• Mike Fitzpatrick MSW, ACSW •

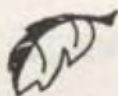
Couple Counseling — Family Counseling
Dealing with your parents and
problems with children and step-parenting
Individual Counseling (depression, coming out, etc.)
Omaha Phone: 397-0330



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Poetry by Wimmin



Lost in Life



Why does this happen?
Is it really necessary?
Do they really want to hurt me?

Haven't I learned?
Do they need to hurt me more?

Listen to me!
I feel.
I care.
I love.

Is it so easy to forget?
I have feelings;
I have a self-image;
I have needs.

What have I done to deserve
this?
Am I that awful?
Shouldn't I feel it?

Why can't they accept me?
Why must I be used?

Will someone love me for who
I am
and return the things I give?

Lea



tears

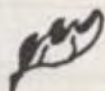
capturing candlelight
in rainbow reflections;

the colors of joy
in a drop of sorrow.

afs

Life is a turmoil of tattered
nerves,
lonely hours in front of a
television,
or sitting out on a busy street.
Lights blinking, people walking,
lonely faces looking up through
the dead and dying trees,
hoping the falling leaves
will give a golden answer to
their problems.

K.J. Troock
(Canada)



I dream of you

On those lonely nights
when I cry myself to sleep
I close my eyes
and I dream of you

On cold winter mornings
when the world holds no
promise
I close my eyes
and I dream of you

When the fear pounds in my
heart
and I feel overwhelmed
I close my eyes
and I dream of you

When life has lost its light
and I am feeling alone
I close my eyes
and I dream of you

Anytime I need a friend
anytime I need love
I just close my eyes
and I dream of you

Sidney





to have the fulfillment
 (never offered
 but through minds
 of endless
 commodities.
 form the meanings
 and mold the sense
 that knows no wrong.
 the image blend;
 moaning Allelujahs!
 climb the heights
 and cling
 to gossamer white)
 of a woman.

*lizzie



To a Gay Man:

"Lesbian"
 my word-
 my reality.
 I am not a "gay female"
 any more than you are a
 "lesbian male."
 I am a woman
 and profoundly different
 from a man.
 I am Lesbian
 and profoundly different
 than Gay.
 Don't rob me of my identity!
 I claim Sappho's legacy,
 and I am one
 of the daughters of Lesbos.
 Call us LESBIAN
 (a word rich in herstory!)
 and we'll call you GAY.
 our words-
 our realities.
 Difference and unity
 are possible...
 and necessary.

Anonymous



First Love

I burst from my shell
 of self-deception...
 Eager to discover
 learn,
 live,
 love.



And you were there...
 Intriguing,
 Beautiful,
 Mysterious,
 and oh so calm and
 collected.
 And I fell in love...
 with being in love.



We talked and danced
 And I knew the joy
 of openly caring for
 another woman.

Ecstasy and four days of bliss,
 And then...
 "I think we should just be
 friends...
 not lovers."

Confusion
 Fear,
 Pain,
 And desire,
 Clinging desperately to the
 last pieces of hope.

Then finally...
 Resignation,
 Understanding,
 And peace.



The wound is still tender
 (it hurts when I touch it)
 But it's slowly healing...

And I still love to dance!!

T.D.I



groups, assertion training and career exploration classes. All New Directions services are available on a sliding fee scale; YWCA membership is not required.

The YWCA Transcend program is a primary prevention program for women funded by the Nebraska Division on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Based on a wholistic

philosophy, Transcend helps women at high risk for substance abuse identify their emotional, intellectual, spiritual, and physical needs, and then provides programming to help women meet those needs.

For more information on these programs or to schedule an appointment, call 476-2802.

Pam

ORGANIZATIONS

Bowling League Begins Fifth Year

On September 29, the Imperial Court of Nebraska Bowling League begins their fifth year with 10 teams of gays, lesbians and even a few straights--for a total of 65 bowlers bowling every Sunday at 4:00 p.m. at the Rose Bowl in Omaha. According to the President of the I.C.O.N. Bowling League, this year's turn out was so great that some bowlers could

not be placed on teams.

The I.C.O.N. Bowling League has promised to keep The New Voice informed about special events as their season progresses. (note: I.C.O.N. represents Imperial Court of Nebraska but has no organizational ties to that organization.)

Sandy

Metropolitan Club Formed in Omaha

A new organization has been formed in the metro Omaha area. Called "The Metropolitan Club," the stated objective is:

"To promote the mutual awareness and advancement of the social, professional, cultural, educational, and business resources available in an organized association of like-oriented individuals."

The group will meet monthly to

share ideas, concerns, issues, and needs important to them for which a forum does not currently exist in the area. The Club will bring together a variety of resources in the form of speakers, seminars, workshops, audio-visual aids, and tours in all fields for the purpose of personal awareness and growth.

Membership is by invitation only. For more information about The Metropolitan Club, please contact Gloria Sinnett at 391-6253.

Dinner Stirs Controversy

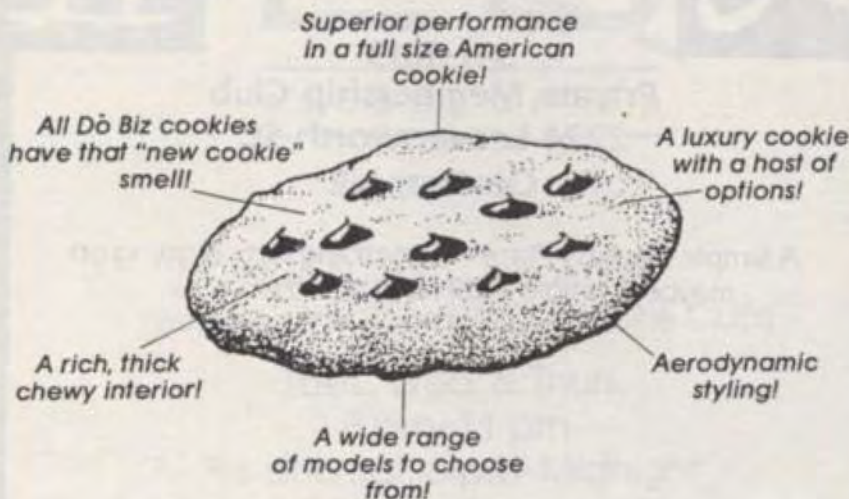
Congratulations, Coalition for Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights, on a last minute decision to alter the price of the Annual Meeting dinner. Originally, the meal (catered by Valentino's) was priced at \$5.00 with no sliding scale allowed. Annual Meeting Committee member, Sandy, persisted in her effort to have the fee altered "to make the dinner more accessible to economically disadvantaged lesbians and students, who are seldom considered," she says. "There are lesbians who don't have the extra money and neither do the students. We need to think of them, too."

One committee member had insisted that anyone unable to pay for the dinner could bring a sack lunch. The committee then voted unanimously to change the price to "\$5.00, more if you can, less if you can't." It should be noted that prior to the decision, several persons had already paid more than five dollars to help out others unable to pay the fee.

"Those people who might not have been able to pay the meal price were able to share in the dinner and buy books because we changed it," Sandy adds.

af-s

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- All Gas and Shop locations
- Tommy's—12th & "R" St.
- Wallbanker's—West "P" St.
- Sports Courts—44th & "O" St.
- Dō Biz East—Ames, Iowa
- The Original Korn Popper—14th & "N" St. and East View Shopping Center
- Holiday Skate World—48th & "O" St. and 56th & Hwy. 2
- Snack Shoppe—Lincoln Benefit Life Building 13th & "N" St.
- Yellow Submarine—11th & Arapahoe, West "O" St., 46th & "O" St., and Beatrice



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LINCOLN

Coming Out Support Group, meets Saturdays 7 p.m. off UNL campus. dial 472-5644 UNL Gay/Lesbian Student Association Hotline. Confidentiality assured.

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Need a place to get away from all the noise. We invite all the wimmin of the community to check out The Club.

Help! Unpaid volunteers (student and non-student) needed for resource center for gays/Lesbians. UNL Gay/Lesbian Student Association 472-5644

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Donations of money, gay/Lesbian educational materials, periodicals, and office supplies are needed for UNL Gay/Lesbian Student Association's resource center. 472-5644. Get a fundraiser for us, call!

Something new at the Board-Walk. Female Impersonation on Sunday nights. Check for times and details. Call 474-9741 after 9pm.

Counseling: Individual, Couple, Group.
Jodi Leslie, Ph.D., feminist therapist, 488-6120.

Gay Movies- VHS & BETA Movie Rentals at North 20, many titles also available for rent VHS/VCR

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OMAHA

Professional woman wishes to share home for financial reasons. Private bedroom. Must like dogs. Bus line. Near UNO. 558-9726- please leave message. Exchange references.

One positive, sensitive, exercised basically terrific person looking for another 30-40 soulmate/softcore BB send pic and phone today. P.O. Box 31284, Omaha, NE, 68131

CAN'T SING A NOTE?
The River City Mixed Chorus still needs you as a "Friend"!!! There are lots of non-singing things to do! Phone 455-2334 or write Box 315, Omaha, 68101

Male housemate wanted to share house in Mutual of Omaha area. Private room, full house benefits. Cable TV, laundry, etc. Call after 5:00 p.m. 345-8743

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3. AERO "B D F G L M H," Kerkstraat 49, "22-T28," Amsterdam
4. THE SAINT "B D M L YC," 105 Second Ave., 212-473-7929, New York
5. CERVANTEZ "B D G YC," Rue Miguel lemos 51, "255-64-49," Rio de Janeiro
6. THE MAX "B D G YC", 1417 Jackson, "402-346-4110, Omaha
7. SPAT-S "B D G WE," 37 Oxford St., "01-437-9446," London
8. BANJO "B D M MA," Via Nieva da Tolentino, "48-5680," Rome
9. TROCADERO "B D YC" 520 4th St., "415-392-3582" San Francisco
10. DISCO 9 "B D E F G YC," Londres 156 Mezanine, Col Juearez "21-36-73" Mexico City

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