

THE GOOD- The New Voice begins its third year With this publication. Our volunteer staff is still dedicated to providing the community with an artistic, creative magazine. We have grown from our initial 12 page, 500 circulation issue. Two months ago we changed to a larger format, which will enable us to grow even more. Our circulation is presently 1000 copies, and we are hopeful that we can expand in the near future. The staff is equal in representation between men and wimmin, which gives the magazine a more balanced look and provides for differing policical and social ideas. Financially, the magazine is in better shape. Advertising pays for the major costs of printing, which has remained stable over the past few months.

THE BAD- The New Voice needs more support if we are to expand and grow. We have less than 100 subscribers, far less than we expected at this point in our publication. Most subscribers are from Omaha and Lincoln, so we are not reaching people from other areas of the state.

The New Volce has several vacancies on the staff. We need an Associate Editor for Omaha, advertising representatives, writers, persons to cover local events, typlsts, photographers, artists, etc. As a volunteer group, we cannot always count on people to follow through on promises. Because of our small staff, we have been unable to cover some major events and this has created some hard feelings.

EVERYONE- If you don't aupport your inseltutions, don't complain when they're gone.

## -Larry Wiseblood

There's nothing quite like womyn's basketball; in fact, there is something rather inspirational about it. That may sound siliy, but think about it. When young womyn play basketball, they are the most "unLADYilike." This means, in essence, that they are unInhibited and compecitive; they exhibit the true physical strength and athletic skill that wonyn are capable of. More than anything, womyn playing basketball are something that most womyn (especially heterosexual women) aren't;
FREE... free from the constraints of male-defined/male-imposed "femininity."

Whether Lesbian, heterosexual, or b1sexual, together, they show us the true spirit of womyn-which is usually suppressed by a lot of patriarchal b.s. off the court.

So here's to the womyn who play b-bell. You remind all of us what we can and should be.

Sandy

> Contact the following scaff of The New Voice for advertising, classifteds, subscriptions, and articles:
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## Attorney Gives Advice on Legal Life Planning

Rhonda Rivera, an attorney and Dean of the Ohio State University College of Law spoke at a workshop on Legal Life Planning on October 20, 1985, at the Unitarian Church in Lincoln. The conference was sponsored by the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil rights. The Hew Voice thanks the Coalition and Marilyn McWabb for transcribing the talk given by Ms. Rivera, The following information is invaluable to gays and lesbians, especially those involved in relationships.
INTRODUCTION
One of the things I find most excruciatingly depressing in talking to gay and lesbian audiences is the lack of knowledge about our history and about our current lives. To know what's happening in the gay world, especially here in the center of the country

Continued on page $2 . .$.

The New Voice has 11 ttle equipment and we could use typewriters, bookcases, drafting cables, and art s layout supplies. (A typesetcing nachine for headlines and a computer are other expensive dreams.) Any donations are graciously accepted.

We need more support from organizations and businesses-supply us with your upcomlng events, provide press releases before and after events, and help us financially with advertising. Instead of faulting us, give us suggestions and ideas. We accept constructive cricicism.

AND THE UGLY- The New Volce had to cancel the 1 g LIp Sync Contest because of lack of interest. The first two contests had a cotal of three contestants. The New Vofce spent a great deal of time and energy to put together a fund-raiser. We started the publicity several months in advance. However, the response was very poor. Remember

## March 1986

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Rhonda Rivera Speaks at Forum
where we don't get much information, you need to read at least one of three national gay papers. My favorite is Gay Community Hews, and there is also The Washington Blade and the Rdvocate.

There are a number of wonderful books on our history. John D'Emilio's book sexual politics, Sexual Conmunities Univverbity of chicago paperback. $\$ 7.95$ ) is very good. There's also Jonathan Katz's book American History (Harper 6 Row paperback\}. Another truly wonderful book is by John Fortunato, a psychologist and Episcopalian monk, Embracing the Exile: Healing Journexs of Gay Christians, in paperback by Seabury Press for just \$7.95

The legal system is not set up for gay relationships; you may have noticed this. So there has been a lot of creative lavyering by attornays who represent gay people.

I'm a great believer in praventative law. Go to your lawyer before there's a problem. For example, soe an attorney before you sign a contract to buy a house--the Purchase Agreement. You can have him or her axplain the key provisions in a standard purchase agreement and you'11 be a much more intelligent homebuyer.

You must have a lavyer whom you can tell that you're gay. otherwise, they won't know what to protect you from. You need pratection from three thinge: from the government, from--sad to say-your biological family, and from one another. I'd like to say our
split-ups are better than everyone else's-thay're not. I had a case when we fought for six months over a Mickey Mouse phone. My client said it was the "sentiment of the thing."

Lavyers are bound by the Code of Ethics. It's a confidential relationship. You can aikays remind them of lt. Most lawyers aren't going to violate confidentiality. They may not want you as a client, but you need to find that out as soon as possible. You have to find a lawyer (and a doctor) whom you can tell you're gay in order for them to be able to do their job. Give them the information they need to help you.

## Wills

Wills are basically a protection against the government and against your biological family. If you die without a will ("Intestate"), then your property will devolve according to the laws of the state in which you live....which probably means that if you have parents alive or siblings, your property will go to your parents or siblings and not to the person with whom you live, If this is not what you want, I suggest that you have a will.

There are certain things that you must do to protect against the things that are likely to be attacked. If you leave things to your life partner, your family may say that you were overcome by "undue influ-ence"-that you were coerced by your partner.

One way to protect the effict $1-$ veness of a will giving your property to your ilfe partner is to specifically disinherit your other relatives. You can do this in a lovely vay. You can say, 'I specifically have not provided for my dear parents, for whom I have the greatest respect, who have aufficient funds to take care of themselves." That lets the judge know that you have thought about mom and dad.

Another thing that I suggest you do is that in your special bequests, look around for something that is a family heirloom that you have received. Leave that to someone in the family-say, a niece or a nephew. 'Aunt Tillis's silver tray to my favorite niece, sally." That shows the juage that you have thought about what is called "the natural objects of your affection"-hamely, your biological family.

I also like a olause that says that anybody who contests the
will gets nothing.
I suggest that you do not name your apouse-equivalent as executor. It puts incredible pressure on them. It looks ifke they have undue influence. And they have to be the ones to fight with your family. Try to find a friend to be the executor. Perhaps a minister. They can be a buffer with your family. If you absolutely must have your parther an executor, have co-ex-ecutors--get somebody else, too.

When you go to sign the will, make sure you are scrupulous in following all the rules. I always have an extra witness. Your lawyer should know that you want to make the will absolutely airtight.

In Ohio, because of statute, you can prove your will before you die, so it can't be contested after you die. (Editor's Note: a "self-proved" will under Nebraska law (Neb. Rev. Stat $\cdot 30-2329, * 30-2430$ (b) (1979) does not pravent someone from contesting it later for undue influence or many other reasons:

In re Estate of F11der, 213 Nieb 153, 328 kW2d 197 (1982). ohio statute also have a "designation of heir" provision that allows you to designate your heir--another adultwho inherits as if they ware your child if you die. If your parentn are dead and you don't have a spoune, the ohild gets averything. You can de-designate an heir at the end of the year. The beauty of it is that if you have a will and it should be conteated and overturned, it doesn't make any difference because the person is still your heiz.

## Guardianship of Children

If you are the custodial parent and you and your ilie partner have been living together and raising this child, your natural inclination, of course, in that you want the child to stay with your life partner. If you appoint your life partner the guardian of the child, unfortunately, most judges in most states will pay no attention to your appointment, but will regard the biological parent, if alive, as the natural guardian of the child.

How can you get around it? Usually, you can't. One way is by the same means I advised in family oustody issues: keep records on the other person and if you've got something that will show they are an unsuitable guardian, be sure you leave that evidence in a form that

Continued on page 3...

You can appoint your life partner as guardian of the child's estate-not guardian of the person, but guardian of their estate....which means that the biological parent must deal with your partner for every nickle. since most people prefer children who come with nickles, they will have to deal.

The other thing you can do, if you have a blood relative you trust, appoint them as guardian of the person and your intimate other as guardian of the estate. If there's doubt about the other spouse, then the judge has a person whom they can turn to whom they'11 like because they' re a blood relative. For example, in my will until my son was eighteen, my mother was guardian of the person, and my partner was guardian of his estate.

## Special Powers-Medical

One of the problems gay people have is in situations of illness. They show up at the hospital and say, "Hi, I hear you have Jane Doe here." And the hospital person says, "Who are you?" And if you're real brave, you say, "I'm her lover." And they say, "That's nice, her mother and father are here, and they're seeing her." And they come out and say, "You can't go in there." And the doctor comes out, and he doesn't talk to you; he talks to mom and dad. And there you are. You have no rights. If you're lucky, the parents won't act that way. But even if there are no parents or other persons around with whom you have to compete, you have no official status with the hospital. Notes some hospitals permit only family members to visit a patient in intensive care.

So what we do is "medical powers"--a form of the Power of Attorney. There are two forms of the Power of AttorneyGeneral Powers and Special Powers. This is a form of Special powers designed by gay lawyers for this use. I call it "oreation of next of kin." -which hospitals love because that's what's on their form: "Next of Kin $\qquad$ " And we make it look as legal as possible. We have witnesses, we have notaries, and I put it on the fanciest, thickest paper.

I advise my clients to have one copy placed in their doctor's folder for them. Some people carry them in their glove compartments.

So when you go into the hospita1, take it with you. Be sure that it's put into the nursing records on your floor-talk to the head nurse and ask for it to be put into the nursing reoords there, so when a question oomes up about who can be seen, it's right there.

Is that legal? It's never been teated in court. I tell my clients, by the time thoy get around to testing it, you'll oither be batter, or dead. It works. It's going to be very difficult to get around $1 t$. If it looks offioial, hospitals will honor it. Hospitals are very bureaucratic inatitutions, and they're terrified of lawsuits.

## Special Powers-Parental

The other kind of medical powerI'll call it "parental power"is for the kind of situation that happened when my son had his arm broken. The hospital needed permission to set it. My partner was there, but had no authority, and they couldn't Eind me for chree hours.

The first part of the parental power is an affidavit by the mocher: "1 swear I am the mother of $\qquad$ born
and I swear I an the Iegal cuincodian." Then have it notarized. The next part says, "I hereby appoint so-and-so to stanid in my place as a parent for those parental duties which arime should I not be availableto wit: with regard to schoolt to witt with regard to medical emergencies. . ." Then it's signed and notarized like other powers.

What I suggest you do with that is to have a copy put in the kid's school records. And make Bure the other person has one. And be sure your tamily doctor as one. They work, too!

## Home Ownership

If you are going to purchase a home, 90 pay the money and sit down with a residential real estate lawyer, take the standard form far a purchase agreament and leard what it means. Real estate salen are different from other sales. There is this iittle line at the bottom that sayp, basically, "If it's not written on this piece of paper, it doesn't exist."

The difference between an abstract of $t i t l e$ and $t i t l e$ insurance is thist you'11 find that every standard agreement says that the seller must furnish either an abstract of tivie or owner's title inaurance. An
abstract is a history of the legal records of the land. And what they have to do under the contract is bring the abitract up-to-date--that is, to cend samebody down to the courthouse and make sure that anything that has been recorded against that property is in the abstract. Then they hand the abstract to you and you are supposed to hand it to your lawyer who is supposed to do an opinion letter.

An opinion letter states: "I have examined the abstract and the title is good in $X$ and therefore you can buy it from X." If the lawyer is wrong, you have to sue her. You have to prove she was nagligent. Who wants to sue a lawyer? We don't give up easily. And it's real difficult to prove negligence. And it takes time: meanwhile, you're wtuck with the house and the title is vrong which meana you can't sell it because there's a cloud on the title. Dr you can bring a suit to have the cloud ramoved-and that's more money.

If on the other hand, you have owher's title insurance, it's just like having insurance-*an Inzurance policy. It the title is sorewed up, they have to pay, or they have to clear up the eloud. It is more expenalve than an opinion letter, but it's worth it, every penny.

I no longer do abistracta. The citle insurance company can do it better and faster. That's my opinion.

You handle it this way: where the forms says, soller shall provide--and you scrateh out "abstract of titie" and you write in "owners" title ingurance." Now it may become a bargaining tsisue where they say, "I don't want to pay that." You can say, "OK, we"11 split it."

The other thing you need so know in buying real estate in the difference between tenants in common and joint temnants with the right of survivorship. If you are temants in common, and one of you afes, the property passes to the heirs of the person who died. If you have joint tenancy with the right of survivorship, and one dies, then the proporty automatically passes to the owner who ili allve. It doesn't go through probate. I'in not saying one is better, but you need to understand the difference and work it out.

Real estate agents shouldn't practice law. I've had lots of clienta pome to me having been told by real estate agenta that because they were of the same sex, they couldn't hold
property by joint tenancy with right of survivorship. Which is absolutely not so. Then they had to pay me money to correct the title.

The other thing you should know isf who is your real estate agent. If they are reprosenting the seller, they are not your agent. Don't belleve a thing they tell you. If you go out and hire a real estate agent, then their fiduclary duty is to you. But if they are the agent of the people seliing the house, they have no Elduciary duty to you. You can count on it; they want to eell the houner they want thelr commission.

My ollents don't buy a house until they take a contractor through the house. rou'd be surprised what you can discover when you aend a contractor through a house. This is not a place to get cheap. I pay my contractor $\$ 75$ to go through the house. It's one of those deals when being stingy up front will cost you later.

After you've signed the purchase agreement, basically what a lawyer does for you is to make sure, if you have title inaurance, that the title binder is correct, that there are no exceptions you should know about. The title binder is the document that binds the title company to insure you.

Your lawyer also examines the deed, for example, for the spectal words that are neceesary to create a joint tenancy With right of survivorahip. And in ohio, the third thing a lawyer oxamines is called "the seller's affidavit." The seller must make an affidavit that he has done nothing that if "off record"--that is, that was not found by the title people. And if he has, you can sue him on this affidavit.

I tell my clients I can examine the papers ahead of time, and then there's no real need for me to go to the olosing.解 some people want me thereit's a Irightening aituation to some people. Sometiftes it turns out to be real important to have an attorney there--if there's something that hadn't been resolved.

Having bought the house, if you were to get divorced, and you went down to the court as a nongay couple and said. "We have this house," then they would provide a mechanism for dividing it up. The court could force its sale. However, since we're not allowed to get marrled, Continued on page 5...
we have problems here. If we don't like each other anymore, what are we going to do? As far as I'm concerned, the only legal remedy--if you can't come up with an agreement iamcommon law partition. You have to go down and file some papera. There's a presumption that you own it half and half. If you don't, you have to prove contribution. How many of you keep reoords? None of my olients ever keep records. When it's all said and done, they'Il force the sale and nobody will have any equity left at all. Everybody will be unhappy. It's the worst possible solution.

Therefore, we're back to prevention. People who have me as their residential real estate attorney who closes for them have this nagging bitch, who says, "You're going to have an agreement, aren't you?* Basically, it talks about what you will do if you no longer want to live together. One things I provide in all my agreements is a community arbitration clause, in case there's an argument over the agreement. I want to keep out of the courts. Courts don't understand that this is a divorse.

## Now suppose one of you owns the

 home and somebody moves in--a sure fire way to put a strain on the relationship. The first thing you may decide to do is pay rent. of course, that rent is income to the owner and is caxable. I've always said the fastest way to get gay people is to use the Internal Revenue Service. It's impossible. We live in relationships that $--1 n$ terms of finances--mirror heterosexual marriage, but we have none of the protections on tax provisions that they do. One thing a lot of people don't know is that you can take your 11 fe partner as a dependent if they live in your home and you provide more than one half of their support. When my life partner was in college getting her Masters degree, I took her as a dependent. You don't have to be a blood relative to take somebody as a dependent.Back to the house in a gay divorce and hone ownership. You can sell half to the other party. The problem with that is you oreate a oapital gain. The other problem may be the other party doesn't have enough money to buy you out.

The next thing is, you can give them a gift. That's what I did for our second house. Margaret

Continued on page $6 \ldots$


## - Mike Fitzpatrick MSW, ACSW .

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 Dealing with your parents and problems swath children and step-parenting Individual Counseling (depression, coming out, etc.)

La femme
simply didn't have the money to buy the house with me, so I gave her half of my new house as a gift and registered it as a gift for the gift tax--that is why I have a tax lawyer, Therefore, it doesn't have tax consequences until I die--it affects my estate. So I gave her something like $\$ 50,000-1 t$ isn't just the down payment that you give--it's the whole value of the house, even though it's mortgaged. Whatever way you do it, you need to think about the tax consequences on all these kinds of transactions. Then when you set up an agreement, you noed to think about the tax consequences if you break up.

The best of all possible worlds is to be able to buy the house together with equal contribution. Then there is no argument about what people get in writing off on their taxes and those kinds of things. But you still need a way, subsequently, to split it up.

## Agreements-Relationships

> Let me tell you a little about agreements. You've all heard of Marvin VE. Marvin. It said literally nothing that was ever written in the public press. But Marvin did try to say you could have a co-habiting relationship and still make promises with regard to property that could be enforceable.

> It used to be that if you were living together in a meretricious" relationship-that means living in sin--and you drew up some sort of agreement that deals with your relationship and your property, in the past they were held to be unenforceable because they were "tainted with sin." So if you weren't married to each other, how could you come up with an agreement that would be enforceable? Even today, you need to be careful. You don't include in your agreement things that are of a personal nature-who takes care of the kids, who's going to wash the dishes. You make it as close as possible to a business agreement. You make the agreement based on money and property. Clients sometimes want to have another kind of agreement--hearts and flowers and promises to be faithful and loving--which you draw up separately. Then when they have their unions, they sign it, and it's very romantic. But that's not going to be the one you'11 use if there's ever a need for a contract. The agreement on property has to be made without the "taint of sin." Continued on page 7...

## Divorce

I represent maybe 500 gay couplen. Ethically, I cannot represent any of these people as individuals in a "divorce" because I have represented them as couples. If you're represonting a gay person in a divorce, one of the biggest problems can be the other lawyer. If you're lucky, they chose another person who is used to representing gay people. If they chose somebody who isn't gay or gay-supportive, you're going to have hell. They don't understand it's a divorce and they don't treat it that way.

Vengeance is very expennive. That's a good, practical way to look at it. It can drag out forever and cost a fortune. That should deter you.

## Artificial Insemination

There are some important advantages to not having the father know who he is--if you don't want him in the picture later. based on Supreme Court cases. there is no way that if a natural father decides to assert his rightn you really can get Iad of him. If I were going to do it, I'd go through a center where nobody knows who the father is. A man at 25 may say, "If you want to have a kid, great, but I'm not interested." But, at 35, he may show up on your doorstep, saying, "Hi, son!"

In California, they ${ }^{\prime}$ ve dealt with this situation in the courtroum. In three cases, the court has treated the nonbiological mother as a prychological parent. She has had to pay child support, but also has visitation righta. They seem to have been rational decisions so far.

The expert on this is Donna Hitchins, now with the American Civil Liberties Union of San Francisco.

Most of this lawyering is creative lawyering. We are oreating our own system and manipulating the system to protect our lives. otherwise, there's nothing in the system that protects us.

## Lesbian Mothers: Planning for Child Custody

The New Voice thanki Laura Petovello and Woman's JournalAdvocate for allowing us to reprint the following artielet

During the Annual Conference of the Coalition for Gay and Laubian Civil Rights, fhonda Rivera, an attorney and a Dean of the Ohfo State University College of Law offered a workshop on child eustody and homosexualiky. Rivera is the foremost authority in the country on gay and lesbian law, and is herself a lesbien activist and parent. She has extensive experience in child oustody, experience gained primarily from consulting with attorneys across the country who are representing lesblan mothers or gay fathers in custody cases or in divorce cases where child custody is likely to be an issue. She focused the workshop on prevention and pre-trial and negotiation issues.

According to Rivera, prevention is the best policy. She described prevention as creating an image and taking steps to make it less likely that the other parent could gain custody. She emphasized that many of the steps are unpleasant at best, but they are better than losing the child, a likely outcome in cases where the parent seeking eustody is gay.

The place to begin with prevention is to NOT tell the truth. to resist the impulee to be honest with your moon-to-be ex-spouse about why you are leaving the marriage. If the child's father does not know that the mother has become a lesbian, then it can't be used during the trial. If confronted by the father, deny the truth. Don't leave love letters lying around.

The prohibition against honesty does not necessarily extend throughout the course of the custody battle. At parent should not take ANY action before consulting with her attorney, but after that, the mother should deal with her family, her children, and her employer. Families need to know and accept their daughter's lesbianise. Rivera talked about several instances where the mother's mother the child's grandmother) testified on behalf of the father. This is devastating testimony in court, and the mother should take whatever steps possible to forestall this. The children also need to know so that they can respond honestly to questions about who they would prefer to live with. And if possible, the mother ${ }^{1}$ a employer should know, so that she cannot be economically blackmailed by the child's father.

While these decisions are being made and acted on, the mother
needs to create herself in the image of the A1L American Mother --join a church, enroll your child in lots of activities (girl scouts, piano lessons, etc.), join the PTA, have a good relationship vith your child's teacher, be asexual in front of the children, DO NOT have your lover move in. Judges tend to be middle class, old white then, and their values inçredibly intluence their decisions. If the mother does not present herself as a middle-class supermom, the juage is unlikely to give her custody.

The mother should keep a detailed journal of family life-how often Dad sees the children, if he smokes dope or drinks, who takes the ohildren to the doctor and to activities (and who pays for them) -- everything that might have a bearing on who would be the better parent. The fournal should be handwritten, every entry should be dated, and any receipts for services, expenses, etc., should be stapled in.

The mother should find a counselor who is not homophobic and who is used to dealing with divorce. A therapist can be a powerful vitness. and can tersify that most of the problems that the child might experience are typical adjustment problems to divorce and have nothing to do with lesbian mothers. Rivera reforred to a study by Mandel1 and Green that indicates that there is no difference in the adjustanent. happiness, success, etc. of children between those who grow up with heterosexual parents and those who grow up with homosexual ones.

Finally, the mother needs to choose the right lawyer, one with whom the nother can be totally honest. During the first consultation, ask how much the lavyer charges. Remind the lawyer about confidentiality, tell her that you are a lesbian, and ask her if she can represent you vigorously or if she has problems with gay people. Ask the lawyer to be honest about this, and if she does have a problem, ifnd another lavyer. AIso check out if the lavyer's secretary is going to have problems with a lesbian cllent.

The lawyer should be able to clearly explain the legal process and what the mother is likely to face in her community. If the lawyer can't do this during the first meeting, It's again time to find another one-

Another important consideration is to find a lawyer whose ego will not interfere with the use of consultants. Child custody involving homosexuality is NOT iike other custody cases, and if the lawyer sees this as just another custody case, one that does not require special preparation, then the mother is going to be in trouble. Rivera said that, although she likes to be paid for consultation, she will also consult for free. Some resources for locating an attorney are the Lawyer's Guild, NCLU, and Now.

The next stage is pre-trial activities and negotiation with the father, Although this is hard, the mother should be prepared to trade money for the child. Sometimes, the father will not contest custody if the nother agrees to less or no child support. Rivera said that if the mother is not prepared to face the fact that she may lose her financial status and her child, she is not ready to be divorced. In this case, Rivera suggests trongly that the nother should see a counselor to help her clarify what she wants to do.

A good pre-trial strategy is to let the other side know just how well-prepared and serious this is going to be, One way to do this is to have your attorney file interrogatories along with the complaint. Interrogatories are written questions that the other side must answer in writing. They are one of the diacovery techniques available in all cases.) The attorney can also arrange for depositions. Depositions are done in person with the attorney asking questions and the person being doponed answering under oath. The questions and answers are recorded, and are usually admissable at trial. It is a good iden to line up your character 0 itnesses and depose them before the other side gets to them. The witnesses then can't (and usually don't want to) change their testimony about the mother'I good parenting.

Next, you and your attorney should find your expert witnesses. The purpose of having experts is to educate the judge and demystify homosexuality. A elergyperson of the same denomination as the judge can also be a useful witness. Any expert witnesses should not be gay.

Finelly, the attorney should carefully prapare and be willing to become an expert. she needs to know the studias
about parenting and homosexuality, and also about the nuts who publish and how to discredit them. She must also really know child custody law. If it's obvious that homosexuality is going to be an issue at trial, it's a good idea to subnit a trial brief to the eourt to begin the education process and to deal with the myths from the beginning. The attorney should also be prepared from the beginning to create a thorough record in case the case is appealed.

If you and your attorney are tremendously prepared and the other side has efigured out how much a contested case is going to cost, you will often get a settlament and the case will not go to trial.

One of the problems with child eustody law, however, is that custody can be challenged at any time. It is better to deal with gay isaues up front because in order to challenge custody, the non-custodial parent must show that there has been a change in circumstances. Unfortunately, all cases to date have agreed that having a lover move in is a change in ofrcumstances.

Rivera closed the workshop by mentioning two excellent resources. The Lesbian Mothers Litigation Manual, published by the Lesbian Rights Project in San Francisco, is a must. Sexual orientation and the Law is also a good zeference manual. it's avallable from the National Lawyer's Guild.

## -laura Petovello

## John Taylor Named New Director of NCLU

John Taylor is the first openiy gay Person to hold the position of executive director of the Nebraske Civil Liberties Union. He was appointed to the posicion of executive director on January 1 after DiAnna Schimek resigned to run for state treasurer.
John Taylor moved to Lincoln in 1971. He spent 8 yeara as a part-time student at UNL while he worked full-E1me. He graduated from UNL in 1978, where he earned a BA in Business Administration. John started working for the Lincoln Action Program in 1978 and continued employment rhere uncil he acquired his current position. He held the position of Fiscal Director when he left the Lincoln Action Program.
John has been an active nember of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union, as well as the Coalition for Gay and

Lesbian Civil Rights. He continues to be active in the Coalition and is also Involved with the Health Concerns Committee. John vas recently appointed to the Red Cross AIDS Education Coalition and serves in the postition of Vice Chalrman.

John expressed interest in many oivil rights issues, especially those invoiving prisoner rights, prisom conditions, censorsh1p, gay rights and and women's rights. He is also apening up dialog with the minority community and sees the NCLU as having a more active role with minority concerns. John sees gay rights as being a major rights issue for the next decade. The American Civil Liberties Union recently established a gay rights project and is currently searching for an actorney to staff the project.

At the present time the NCLU is a watchdog in the wake of the AIDS erisis; and will pursue any action involving discrimination. The NCLU is also selll involved in a lawsult against The Daily Nebraskan soncerning self-1dentifier ads. The case should be heard in the next $2-3$ months.

The SCLU always tries to negotiate before going to court. The NCLU helps protect che community when chere is an infringement on civil liberties by a governiental entity. They also handle issues of gross discrimination, after other appropriate channels, such as the Equal Opporunity Cominission, have been used up.

The NCLU is sponsoring a conference in October 1986. The conference will be held in Omaha, but a location has not been selected yet. Last year the conference was abruptly brought to a close after a fire damaged the Omaha Inn. Gay and Lesbian Issues was on the conference agenda last year and is 11 kely to be on the agenda again thls year. John stated the focus of a workshop may involve public policy on AIDS. There is no charge for attending workshops held by the NCLU. The only costs is for lunch. Nonmembers of the NCLU are also velcome to attend the conference.
Baste membership to the NCLU is $\$ 20$ a year. John would like to see more gay people involved in the NCLU as it would provide a better volice for the commity. Currently, there ire 800 members. The two offices of the NCLU are located at 3528 Dodge, Suite 10 in Omaha and 633 South 9 th (basement) in Lincoln. The malling address is P.O. Box B1455, Iincoln, 68501.

## Insurance Companies

 Look at High Risk GroupsIf you are a hemophiliac, IV drug user, or a bisexual or homonexual male, you fal2 under what an inmurance company considers a "high riak" for developing ARC (AIDS-related Complex) or AIDS itself.

Continued on page 9...

When an individual is suspected of ARC or AIDS, they may be requested to take one of several blood tests to detect the AIDS antibodies.

In the state of California, laws provide confidentiality for individuals receiving blood tests for AIDS. The law also provides that the resuits of a blood test to detect AIDS cannot be used in any instance for the determination of insurability or sultability for employment.

Wisconsin laws contain similar prohibition, but is more restrictive. It provides inquiry into whether a permon has taken the antibody test, forbids conditioning the availabilitty of coverage on whether the person obtains the teat and prevents an insurer from using the test results in ratemaking.

Gay Activist groupa favor the restrictive provisions as onacted in Wisconsin, and they use for their argument two major reasons: namely, that the teste now available are imperfect (false positive occur) and that even if someone does have the antibody, this does not mean that he or she will necessarily get AIDS.

So far, California and Wisconeln are the only two states that have enacted laws. Lawnakers are certain many other states will soon follow, eapecially in "high-risk" areal. We, as the gay community, should support our gay lobbyists in their efforts to fight for our rights. It's taken a long time to get this far; let's not give up now.
---fielai

## EVENTS \& ORGANIZATIONS

## Nostalgia Night at the Chesterfield

Attention, Baby Boomers! On Saturday, January 25, while taking break from that ohore we all know and love--known as housacleaning--my spouse started brainstorming. We had been listening to cassettes of the 50 s and 60 s while oleaning the homestead, and ahe said, "Alma (at the Chesterfield) should have a 50 s and 60 s Nostalgia Night! People could dress like they did in the 50s and 60 m ."
of thing on Wednesdays, but how many of us Baby Boomers can get there on Wednesday night, at a decent time, to enjoy it? Well, one thing led to another, and my spouse's enthusiasm was contagious. She was practicing the jitterbug and was promising to teach me too! I sure couldn't refuse a deal like that--even if I do
have two left feet. So we got in touch with Alma and laid the brainstorm on her. She agreed to it with one stipulation--we had to help her promote it.

Well, the only way we know of is word-of-mouth and a writton artiolo. So here we are, letting you know well in adyance of the planned Nostalgia Night, of what plans have been made so far-which aren't many at this point.

Right now, Alma is going ta have a "trial" before March. When will it be? I don't know--sometime in February. But you can call Alma at the Chesterfield to find out the exact date. And after all, Alma hall been doing for us, we surely can support her for this.
res, it's for us--to enjoy, have fun and reminisce--but it's also for Alma. And the chesterfield. The lady has a lot of competition out there, and she
needs our support. So, come on, Baby Boomers: Get into the swing of things: Brush up on the jitterbug (if I can do it, anyone can!), dress for the era and let's show the "young 'uns" that we still have what it takes!

How about a "bobby-socker" or a "greaser"? There will be a door prize. Don't know what yet, but does it really matter? I don't think so. Let's enjoy ourselves and "turn back the clock" for a night. My spouse and I are game. How about yoU?

See you March 15-at the Chesterfield.

-     - C. L.A.


## Spring Concert Planned by River City Mixed Chorus

plan to spend your Easter Sunday evening with the piver sity Mixed Chorus, as they present their 1986 spring Concert.

The Concert will be held Sundey, March 30 , at $7: 30 \mathrm{pm}$, in the Unitarian First Church of Omaha, 3114 Harney Street. SuqContinued on page $10 \ldots$
gested donation is $\$ 4.50$ for adults, $\$ 3.00$ for children 12 5 under and seniors. Tickets are available at Brandeis, TIX, from any chorus member, or at the door.

The concert will feature "Gloria" by Vivaldi, with members of the Omaha symphony, and the premiere of an original Dianey medley by John Zeigler.

This is the second Spring concert by the Chorus, returning to the beautiful Unitarian Church sanctuary after the many positive comments received there last year.

# Chorus to Host Roller Skating Party 

You say there's never anything to do? That's just not true: Here's another example of something fun to do in our commanity:

Sunday, March 16, is a Roller Skating Party, sponsored by the River City Mixed Chorus. The fundraiser will be from 9 pm to 10 pm at Cheap Skate, 9006 Maple Street in Onaha. $\$ 2.50$ at the door includes admission and skate rontal. It's being promoted only to the gay and lesbian community, so bring a date!


The event is being held to help raise money for the chorus's trip to the GALA Choruses Festival in the Twin Cities.

Come on down, have a night of fun, and support your Chorus:!

## RCMC Will

## Participate in GALA Chorus Festival

The River City Mixed Chorus is participating in the GALA Choruses Festival, July 2 through 6 in Minneapolis-st. Paul. GALA Choruses (Gay $s$ Lesbian Association of Choruses) is a nationwide network of 40 gay, lesbian, and mixed choruses. Eighteen (18) choruses will be performing, individually and together, in this once-avery-three-years event.

There are seats available for you to ride in the transportation from Omaha to the Twin cities, and there are spaces available for you to be housed with the Chorus (along with some 1500 other singers) in Minneapolis.

For information on joining the Chorus in this five-day adventure, leaving the morning of July 2 and returning early July 7, please phone 455-2334.

## Chorus to Hold Auditions

If you've been wanting to sing with the River City Mixad Chorus, this is your chance to try out.

The Chorus is holding auditions saturday, March 22, by appointment only. Interested singers may schedule an appointment or get more information by calling 455-2334.

## These auditions are for the

 Chorus performance period of April 1, 1986 through August 31. 1986. Permons interested in performing in the summer concert in Omaha on June 21, or the GALA Choruses Fostival in the Twin cities July $2-6$, must audition on March 22.The Chorus is also looking for non-singers to belp. Pleame call the above number for nore information.

## Planning Underway for Women's Week

In April, UwL, and Nebraska Wesleyan will each sponsor a Women's Week-with workshops and guest panels on issues about women (including lesbianism, non-sexist parenting, and violence against women).

Women's Weok at UNL is scheduled for April 7-11 and for April 14-18 at Nebraska Wesleyan. A lot of hard work and careful planning has already been invested in both weeks, so do plan to attend:

Watch for updates and schedules in The New Voice.

For more information, contact the Women's Resource Center, 472-2597 (UNL) and student Affairs, 465-2224 (NWU).
--Sandy

## Out \& About in Omaha

MCC Omaha was the gathering place on February 6th for representatives from The Diamond, The Chesterfield, The Stagedoor, The Imperial Court of Nebraska, the River City Mixed Chorus, Dignity, PFLAG, and MCC Omaha.

Among the upcoming events discussed were:

The Miss stagedoor Contest March 16,
Chesterfield's Nostalgia Night,
Another AIDS Seminar, A Closet Ball (open to women for the first time), ICON Coronation in June, ICON representatives going to Denver for their coronation in April, Easter Sunrise Service, A Newsletter begun by Dignity, MCC District Conference in wichita in April.
River City Mixed Chorus aponsored roller skating party on March 16,
The Chorus' travel to Des Moines over Memorial Day weekend and to the Twin Cities over the 4th of July,
An Arts Festival at the Canticleer Theatre the weekend of June 20 th , and
The Metropolitan Club ia sponsoring a "Best of Friends" tea dance with special entertainment at The Warehouse on April 6.
ade was tabled due to a lack of authorative information from the ICON as to their plans.
The gay/lesbian community of Omaha does have a great deal going for it. It is doubtful that anyone can be a part of everything, but effort is being made to make a wide range of activities avaflable for you to choose from. Perhaps the greatest danger to these activities is a lack of participation. Our meatings are not attended by representatives of several organizations. Imagine how long the list would be if it had been! Being gay can be difficult enough with help from support groups, but for me--being gay in isolation would be unbearable. Support
your gay community--and you will be the better for it.
--Jerxy Peck

## Out \& About in Lincoln

Lincoln has a new spirit of cooperation and togetherness. This was very apparent recently when the Boardwalk advertised a Kelly's event on its marquee. The bars are now working together and have set up weekly meetings to resolve differences and work on common goals. I hope the new spirit passes on to other factions of the community.
continued on page $12 \ldots$.

# NOTICE 



> Prices increase effective March 1st for Happy Hour at all four Lincoln Bars due to the wholesale increase on beer and alcohol.

Happy Hours are from 5 to 7 p.m. Mon-Fri at the Boardwalk, Kelly's, the Club, and Cherchez La Femme, Lincoln

The UNL Coming-Out Support Group meets Saturdays at 7 pm. Call 472-5644 for details. UNLGLSA meets every Thursday at 8 pm in Andrews Hall, Room 338. Everyone is velcome to attend.

The San Francisco-based singers/ songwriters Romanovsky b Phillips will perform in Lincoln on April 18, 1986, at 7:30 pm at the Nebraska Union. Romanovsky 5 Phillips have been performing their original out-of-thecloset music for over chree years. known for their soaring harmonies, uproarious lyrics and magnetic stage presence, Romanovsky if Phillips have won praise from critics and have established themselves as exciting new voices in the world of Gay Men's music. For ticket information, Call UNLGLSA at 472-5644.

Amanda Fox, Liesa Durant, and Muffy Rosenberg represented Nebraska in the "Miss Heart of America" pageant held in Kansas City the week of Valentine's Day. The pageant is a Norma Kristie, Inc. franchise and wes held at the Starz On Broadway. Even though the Nebraska contescants didn't win, they faired very well in overall competition.

The coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights has presented Special Achievement Awards to two active founding members, Scott Stebelman and paychologist Natalie Porter, Stebelman and Porter have both recently moved from Lincoln, and we will miss them greatly, both for their friendehip and for the energy and leadership they have provided. As we explained in the news release announcing the avards, these two individuals, one gay and none non-gay, exemplify the courage, ooncern, and commitment which have moved the Lesbian/Gay righte movement forvard."

## The 2nd Miss Max is Veronica O'Rourke

Veronica $0^{\prime}$ Rourke took top honors in The Miss Max pageant held on January 26 at The Max. Other finalists were Dorian Drake and Jessica Tyler. The pageant was a close affair as only seven points seperated lst place from 2nd place.

Ocher contestants included Tiffany
Trade, Mysti Leigh and Viktoria Towne.

Categories included male interview, female interview, lst talent, 2nd
talent, costume, swimwear, quescion a answer, and evening-wear.

Kim Meske was the M.C. for the show Stella Dallas promoted the contest. Dan Osterguard was the pageant coordinator. Dick Brown and Vince Percy helped tabulate the results.
Muffy Rosenberg, last years winner performed during the pageant.

## Quiche-Off a Success!

The River City Mixed Chorus came up with a new--and tasty-event for the community. On February , the Chorus held a Quiche-0\&f quiche making contest and dinner. And by all indications, it won't be the lant!

Celebrity judges Donald-Bryan Johnson from Lite 96-FM and Steve Millburg from the Omaha World-Herald tasted their way through 19 quiches entered in the contest. And when they made their selections, third place was won by Clark T., second place by Tim I., and first-place quiche was created by Don C.

Hungry diners feasted on a number of different styles of quiches, including dessert quiches, "standard cheese and mushroom" quiches, and the notorious "Cajun Quiche."

# WOMEN'S WEEK 1986 Sun. April 6 - Sat. April 12 FEATURING <br> Margaret Randall Keynote Speaker Mon. April 7 Judy Sloan 

Character Actress Fri. April 11 8:00 p.m. Madonna Thunderhawk Native American Speaker Wed. April 10 3:00 p.m.

The most common comment was When are you going to do this again?" but the Chorus plans a lot of other events before again taking to the kitchen.

The event was the first in a series of fundraisers for the Chorius, which needs to raise some $\$ 2000$ towards its expenses in attending the GALA Choruses Festival in the Twin Cities.

## Lincoln Show Notes

On February 9 th , the Boardwalk dance floor, usually crowded with bouncing and twisting bodies, was transformed into a cozy nightclub, complete with romantic lighting and flowers on the tables. The air was filled with excitement as everyone anticipated the "celebrity-packed" show.

The show featured Lisa Durant Empress Laura Lee, Veronica $0^{\prime}$ Rourke-Miss Max, and Deitra Snow, as well as Lindsey Heart-Miss Gay Capicol City, Miss Jamie, Jennifer and Newcomer Nicole.

Miss Jamie charmed everyone with her witty style as M.C. and thrilled the crowd when she took the stage.

The word that comes to $m 1$ nd when decribing Miss Veronica $0^{\prime}$ Rourke and Empress Laura Lee is "class." They both performed with flawless professionalism and style.

Deftra Snow gave a sizzling performance of two upbeat, country numbers as the audience stomped and hollered. There was a respectful silence, on the other hand, as Jennifer gave an intense performance of "Don't Cry Out Loud."

Personally, I'm a dance buff, so for me, one of the highlights of the show was Lindsey Heart's Chorus Line medloy. The newly-crowned Miss Gay Capicol City did a fantastic job, thrilling us with an energy-filled number complete with choreography (on high heels, mind you).

The star of che evening, however, stole the show with "Somewhere," Miss Lisa Durant received a standing ovation after her stunning performance.

So come on Lincoln, if glamour and glitter is your thing-take in a show. If you're looking for a place to go with a date-take in a show. If you want to escape from reality for awhile-take in a show. I bet you'11 enjoy it!
$--A . C . S$.

## Coalition Meetings Open to All

The 14 -member Coordinating Council elected by the members of the Coalition for Gay 6 Lesbian Civil Rights meets on the third Tuesday of every month in Lincoln. After some low turnContinued on page 14,..

"If you haven't seen us lately, you haven't seen us?"
Sunday Worship Services - 10:30am and 7:00pm Monday: Men's Rap Group - 7:30pm
Wednesday: Bible Study - 7:00pm and Praise \& Healing - 7:45pm

This is my commandment, that you love one another."

- Jobn 15:12

Rev. Jan D. Krass, Pastorl 420 Sa. 24th - P.O. Bax 3173
Omaba, NE 68103/ Ph. (402) 345-2563


north 20
104 N. 20th Lincoln NE (Between the Board-Walk and The Club)

Tues., Wed. \& Thurs.

$$
8 \mathrm{pm}-11 \mathrm{pm}
$$

Fri. and Sat. 8 pm-Midnight

## Video Movies Available Over 30 Titles <br> New Cards and Magazines Arriving Soon!

outs at our last couple of meetings, the Council pooled its members, and it appears that our best meeting time is atill the third Tuesday of the month. You, as Coalition members, are welcome to attend the meetings and to join any of the project groups. We have active groups working on publicity, health concerns, countering Paul Cameron's hate propaganda, truth and beauty (the Speakers' gureau), and membership. We would love to have you working with us on these issues and could really use the support of new blood. Please try to attend!

Puture meeting dates are listed below: if you have any questions about the agenda, call Cheryl at 435-7397:

18 March
22 April
20 May
17 June

## Health Concerns Committee Needs Volunteers

The Coalition Health Concerns Comnittee is looking for persons interested in serving on subcammittees in the following areas of interest:
(1) AIDS
(2) Lesbian Health Concerns
(3) Gay/Lesbian Mental Health
(4) Aleohol 6 Drug Abuse

If you are able to give time and energy to any of these, call 474-1205. Your help is needed.

## NEWS \& FEATURES

## It Can Be

Dangerous to Walk Alone

[^0]that it can be dangerous to walk alone in Lincoln-especially if someone sees you leaving one of the gay bars. Last sumer, I wrote an article about two gay men who were assaulted by a gang of boys right on "D" street. That particular incident reminds me of a sumer night two years ago when I found myself in a potentially violent situation.

That night, two gay male friends of ours had a lovers spat at the Boardwalk and left the bar on foot. Because alcohol was involved, Sandy and I followed them, and we ended up near the corner of 18 th and "p" streets. While the two of them argued, a carload of young boys pulled up. When they started to get out of the car, I knew violence was likely.
at this point, Sandy and I had two cholces: we could run like hell, or we could stay and hope our presence prevented a "queer-bashing," Naturally, the first instinct is to panic and bolt, but we both remalned remarkably calm. The boys hesitated as we approached our friends, who were still arguing and oblivious to the situation. Just then, an unmarked police car pulled up and the officers ordered all of us to disperse. I am sure violence had only nearly been averted.

With warmer weather around the corner, I want to remind everyone in the Gay/ lesbian community to exercise caution when walking alone (or aven in small groupsi especially to and from the bors. Lincoln is a nice town, but it's not immune to violent crime. Once you're in a dangerous situation, it is too late to consider precautions.

## Union College Officials Harrass \& <br> Remove Gay Students

The following article appeared in the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights NewsletterFebruary issue. The views expressed are not necessarily the views of The New Voice staff. However, some students from Union College have stated that this story is agcurate.

The Coalition has recontly become aware of an appalling pattern of harassment and invasion of privacy of students at Union College here in Lincoln. We have received first-hand accounts from several former students, describing the way in which they were treated after Union College deans suspected they had "sexual problems." We have specific knowledge of at least a dozen students who were forced to leave the college in the last few years. How many more were also forced to go through similar experiences, we can only
guess. But the scoounts we do have show the following:

* The deans call in studenta for questioning if they "aurpect" the atudent might be gay because of thoir "manneriams, style of dress and/or associating with the 'wrong' kind of people";
- Studenta are encouraged and even rewarded for spying and reporting on other students.
* Students called in by the deans for questioning are asked to name other students whom they think may be gay;
* The deans use threatr ("We'11 vrite and tell your parents" or "We may have to ank you to leave the college"), and they une outright lies (telling one atudent that another student has already confessed to being gay) to pressure students to undergo "treatment" to "rehabilitate" (cure) them:
* Students are told they will be expelled unless they accept "rehabilitation" counseling.
* When the students are uitioately forced to leave, their parents are often told why. And they may lose much of the acaclemic aredit they have earned at Union, because many other colleges won't give them transfer crealt for many of the plasses they have taken.

Neediess to say, this type of appalling harassment and invasion of privacy infliets great pain upon these students. At least one atudent was driven into such a deep depression, he had to be hospitalized. Left unchallenged, it is only a matter of time before the deans' behavior will be the direct cause of a suicide. And the students who are brave enough to want to form a support group must meet in secrecy, with little way to reach out to others and with the constant fear that the coiloge adminintrators may send someone in "undercover" to spy on the group.

The Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights asks the community to CONSIDER WRITING LETTERS to the

Acting President at Union College, Robert Manley 3800 S. 48th Street
and protest the deans ${ }^{\text {a }}$ activities. And if you are a supportor of KucV Fine Arts Badio, you might also want to urite to then.

Chicago chapter of S.D.A. ICinship met With Union College officiala. Even though the meeting did not lead to the changing of polidy, it did lead to opening up dialogue for the first time, which is a positive step. Further action is planned with Union College officials.

Look for upiates in upeaming issues of The New Voice.

## Restaurant ReviewEl Sitio

Imagine a Mexican restaurant that serves good Mexlcan food at reasonable prices-without the nauseating fingles and "MeFast-Food" atmosphere. Interested? EL Sitio (The Place), 321 North Cotner, 15 the place to go.

El Sitio offers gufte a variety of Mexican foods as dinners or as single items. Thefr prices are reasonable and the porcions plentiful. Here are a few of the dinners:

Chimfehanges (Flauta): a flour tortilla stuffed with beef and refried beans, deep fried and topped w/sour cream and cheese sauce. $\quad 33.95$

El Sitio Dinmer: 1 beef/bean tostada, 1 beeई enchilada covered w/chili, 1 beef taco served w/beans of rice. \$4.25

Mexican Dinner: 1 beef taco, 1 beef/bean coscada served $w /$ refried beans \& rice; Guesadilias as an appecizer and a basket of Bunuelos for dessert. $\$ 5.25$

Acapulon Dinner for 2: 1 beef taco and 1 beet enchilada covered w/chill plus refried beans \& rice; nachos supreme (w/blended cheeses; refried beans, sour cream and black olives on crisp cortilla) as the appetizer and Sopapillas (w/honey or of ninamon) for dessert. $\$ 8.95$

Moat dinners are $\$ 3.95-\$ 4.95$ and are very filling. If you aren't interested in a complete dinner, cacos, enchiladas, burritos or tobcadas alone (each less than 51.95 ) are fust as sacisfylng. For the vegetarian, El Sitio's has a vegetarlan dfriner: quaemmole costada, cheese enchilada w/cheese sause served w/refrled beans os rice- 83,95 .

Amerfican dinners and Tralian pasta are alao available, but I haven' C given them a Ery. After all, you go to a Mexican restaurant for Mexican food, rfght?

E1 Sitio serves standerd spectalty drinks: margaritas, dacquiri, pins colada, sangria, and various cocktails. For the most part, the prices are reasonable. One complaint, however-cthe margaritas taste 11 ke 11 quid sweet-tarts.

E1 Sitio's atmosphere is very simple: authentic to a point and unpretentious. it's a great place to meet. With friends for quiet conversacion and pretcy good Mexican food.

Tomi

On February 19, Larry
Hallock, a represontative of the
never dressed in drag. Nor have I entered any bodybuilding contests. I have an androgynous nature that lets me live iffe to its fullest.

## How I got My Name

Aunt Izzle received his roots in college. I could only be described as the preppie version of a Cestro Street clone. I was one of the first students to wear 501's. I had short hadr, always wore tennis shoes, and of course all my shirts had that funny little alligator on 15 . I was given the name Izod but later this changed to Izzie. The Aunt was added by my closest friends who were amazed at how much 1 knew about their sexual activities and local gossip. I was alvays giving advice and liked to help those who were discovering their sexual orfentation. Aunt Izzle has


## The Man Without a Fantasy

One night, at a local private party, several acquaintances started a discussion about sexual fantasies. Fantasies included having hopes and aspirations of having sex with athletes, truck drivers, policemen , motorcycle gangs, military men, forest rangers, and one man vanted to have sex under water with a scuba-diver. Locations vere just as interesting as men described fantasies of having sex in laundrymats, airplanes, movie theaters, caves, beaches, locker rooms, cars, and on a disco dance floor. One man, hovever, sat quietly and later acknowledged that he had no sexual dreams or fantasies. The group couldn't believe that Mike this real name won't be used to protect the innocent, I also refuse to call him Herb) had no fantasies and kept prodding his to come up with one. Mike, however, stood firm and said his closest thing to a fantasy was having a wonderful man enter his life and then ilving happily ever after (Gag me with a spoon). Mike never recalled having had any fantasies and felt he was normal in his thoughts and feelings. Sope suggested that Mike see a shrink or said that Mike couldn't be a gay man but instead, was possibly a eunuch. Since Mike wht such a gorgeous hunk, I suggested we make up some fantasies for him and then act them out with props and costumes in my basement. Oh well, another one of my fantasies that will probably remain unfulfilled.

## Who Designed the Penis of the Plains

I have been curfous for a long time as to the identity of the architect who designed the Nebraska State Capital. I have always suspected that the architect was gay, as I have never seen a more symbolic representation of the penis anywhere. Note the high columns close to the top with its small dome. Meanwhile a red 14 ghe blinks on top as a sower throws seeds acrois the fertile plains.

1 went to the Itbrary to research the topic (Yes, Aunt izzie does occasionally readl and discovered that the Capitol was designed by Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue of New York. The third and present Nebraska Capitol was constructed by a Capitol Comilasfon created by an act of the Legislature in 1919. The Commission completed the building in 2932 . The Capitol is described in a book, called The Nebraska Capltol, as follows: "The Caplitol symbolizes the inherent power of the state of Nebraska and the purpose of its citlzens. The base, in the form of a rectangle, four hundred and thirty-seven feet square and two storles high, typlfies the wfde-spread openness of the plains. The central tower, serving as che chief architectural feature of che building, and rising triumphantly to a height of four hundred feet, expresses the aspirations and ideals of the citizens, reaching upward to the highest and noblest in civilization. The vertical lines of the tower with lts semi-classical dome harmonize with the more lofty dome formed by the skies, which seems to descend and
touch the prarie land on every side."
By the way, Christopher Street reported that Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, had a "special male companion," and even though he was married, may have been gay or bisexual.

Next month discover the agonies and frustrations of being a gay, married (to the opposite sex) male in Nebraska and what one man purchased after he sold his wedding ring. Also Aunt Izzie will share some of his mail with everyone. Until next month... Toot-a-100.


## Here \& There

Across the Country

## Australian Army Purchases Condoms

The Australian aray recently purchased 500,000 condoms. On the surface that sounds admirable, a real decent way of getting down under, so to speak. But the condoms weren't bought for you-know-what. They were actually bought to provide waterproofing for gun barrels. Sen. Gareth Evans, the Minister of Resources and Energy, said that "The contract for the purchase of these condoms was placed after independent leak-and-burat tests in which the condoms were inflated to a volune of more than 12 11ters. or $51 / 2$ gallons."
--Gay Community News-Masachusetes

## Homosexual Anonymous

There is Alcoholics Anonymous. There is Overeaters Anonymous. And now, there is Homosexuals Anonymoue (HA). Homosexuals Anonymous olaims to help gay people take the 12 steps necessary to "un-gay" themselves. According to Colin Cook, a "recovered" homosexual, there will be a "large and dramatic" decrease in the number of gay people in the next decade. HA has expanded in five years from one chapter in reading, PA to 25 chapters, some of which are located in Canada and New Zealand.

## -The Tulsa WorId--Oklahoma

Continued on page $18 \ldots$


## Sanitary Kits Issued

Ft. Wayne, Indiana, police are being issued sanitary kits that include surgical gloves, antiseptic towlelettes and disinfectant spray to protect thenselves from siok priaonors with cormunicable aiseases, including AIDS. Ft. Wayne Police Sargeant Keith Butts said that he devised the program several weeks ago when he found several boxes of surgical gloves while he was cleaning out the department's old orime laboratory.
--The Works--Indiana

## Gay Life Ends Operation

Gaylife Newspaper, which Rev. Grant Ford and Abe olivo began

publishing 11 years ago 348 s prior to Gay Pride Week, suspended publication on Pebruary 7 eiting "an untenable financial condition." Gaylife was the Midwest's oldest newspaper directed to the gay and lesbian commanity.
--Gay Chicago--111inois

## Texas Health Official Backs Off


#### Abstract

Responding to public presaure exerted by medical experts and leaders of the Texas Gay Community at a public hearing held 'in dustin on January 13, Texas Comissioner of Kealth, Dr. Bobert Bernstein announced on Jandary 16 that he has asked the Texas Department of Health to drop consideration of an order


which would have placed AIDS on the state's list of quarantinable diseases.

## --The Calendar--Texas

## Man Killed for Acting Like a "Fag"

A 22-year-old man in Riatland, Vermont, was killed by a total stranger for "acting ilke a fag." Ronald Amadon was stabbed by John Kugler, 25, who said in a police affidavit, "I killed somebody last night. I stabbed him. He was walking by, acting like a fag." According to ofticlals, Kugler has previpusly undergone treatment for mental problems in New York state, where he lived until recently.

## --Out Front--Colorado

## Gays Outraged at Governor Dukakis

Gays and Lesblans in Boston are outraged again at Gov. Michael Dukakis and the Massachusetts Department of Social Services. New evidence shows the state's attitudes toward homosexuals may have led to extreme child abuse against two litcle boys by heterosexuals. According to the Boston Herald, the two Iittle boys were abused in their new home in New Bedford, Mass. The abuse was allegedly committed by the foster mother, her 31-year -old son and a woman who was a former foster placement in the same home. There are allegations that the man had a history of child molestation.

In May of 1985, two brothers, aged two and one-half and four were takon from the home of David Jean and Don Roberts after a Boston Globe article pointed out that the children were living with two gay men.
-Bonton Globe--Massachusetts

## First Gay Rights Organization

Did you know that the first U.S. gay publication, Friendship and Freedon was printed around 1924 by the first gay rights organization, the Chicago Society for Human Rights? Henry M. Gerber, inspired by the active gay fights movement in Germany in the 1920 s , founded this shortifved organization whose filea and equipment were destroyed in a raid by Chicago police.
--Gay Chicago Magazine--I11.

## Gay Married Couple Leave Country

After 10 years of battling the U.S. courts, America's most Eamous married couple have given up this country for iife in Europe. Anthony Sullivan, an Australian, and his Amorican lover, Richard Adams, left the country. The pair was married by a Colorado elergyman in 1975, but the Immigration and Naturalization Service refured to recognize the marriage.
--Bay Area Reporter--Cal.

## Gail's Hit List

GAIL'S HIT LIST--MARCH 1986

1. ROCK ME AMADEUS
-Falco
*2. NO PRILLS LOVE
--Jennifer Holiday
2. ANOTHER NIGHT (remix)
--Aretha Franklin
3. HIT THAT PERPECT BEAT
--Bronski Beat
4. BOTH SIDES NOW
--Viola Wille
5. WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR ME LATELY
--Janet Jackson
6. YOU LOOK GOOD TO ME --Cherelle
B. IF YOU SHOULD EVER BE LONELY

- Val Young

9. AFTER THE LOVE IS GONE --Princess
10. GOOD TO THE LAST DROP -C Bank
11. RUNNING AROUND IN CIRCLES
--Pamela Stanley/ Paul Parker
12. I'D DO IT ALL AGAIN
--San Harris
13. LEGION
--Mark Shreeve
14. POWERDRILL
15. --Goon Squad
16. SECRETS
-Natalie Cole
..... * = No. 1 last month
Gail's Hit List is a monthly courtesy of the Boardwalk/ The Club, Lincoln

## Letters

Exploitation of Children?
Dear Editor:
Having read Larry Wiaeblood's editorial and Bill Brygger'a reply ooncerning ohild pornography, I feel constrained to write. I, coo objected to Larry Wiaeblood's edítorial, not because he didn't check his facts, but because it was based on emotion father than reason.

Reason telle us that, while it would be nice if every teenager came equipped with two loving
parents and no financial
worries, that is not reality tor large numbers of teenagers. Many teenagers are out on the street with nobody except themselves, for a variety of reasons. I speak from experience; I myself was forced to become self-sufficient at age 15. Further, there are no measures that we as a society can take to eliminate all of the factors that produce independent teenagers! There are too many factors and not all of them are subject to control.

Now then, shall wo please stop talking about the "exploitation" of "children." These poor, exploited children were in Continued on page 20...

## 

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A dIVISION OF DISCO RECORDS

reality teenagers who had volunteered to have their pictures taken and who were being paid betweon $\$ 1,000$ and $\$ 3,000$ per month for their trouble. "Exploitation" is hardly the fight word for a condition that allows its "victims" to enjoy a higher standard of living than most adults I know. Further, none of them was being held involuntarily: anyone who felt exploited was free to go.

When I found myself independent at age 15 I discovered that I was exploited by a government that does everything in ite power to keep teenagers impovezished, mainly by means of the Child Labor Act. This legislation, passed with the best of intentions, shuts minors out of the job market and given independent minors a choice between obeying the law and starving, or disobeying the law and keeping themselves in groceries. If Larry Wiseblood never had to make that choice I am happy for him. I did, and I chose to disobey the law. It should come as no surprise to anybody that teenagers who cannot legally hold "respectable" jobs must support themselves by means of drugs, prostitution and pornography. If Larry Wiseblood were truly concerned with the exploitation of teonagers he could begin by calling for the inmediate repeal of the child tabor Act. Then, teenagers would at least have the option of holding "respectable" jobs.
sincerely.
Mel Dahl

The womyn of The New Voice Steering Comittee wish to clearly state that we in no way support or condone the sexual exploitation of minors. We belleve that child pornography is an abuse of sexuality and is particularly damaging to the reputation of the Gay/Lesbian community.

Anita
Cham
Meids
Sandy
Vicki
I also believe in the rightil of teenagers and children. I feel they have the right not to be rubjected to sexual pressuring and manipulation by adults. Pederasts are sexually attracted to children and our laws are designea to stop this type of behavior. In ty editorial, I warned adults about the present laws and possible coneequences for violating the law.
--Larry Wiseblood, Editor

## In Deep Gratitude

## Dear Larry:

The Coordinating Committee of the Community of Grace would Ike to extend Its deep gratitude to you and The New Voice of Nebraska for your support of the Community of Grace. Our appreciation for the fine work you have put into The New Voice is seldon mentioned but heartfelt, nonetheless. The New Voice has always been a highquality publication serving a very vital function for itncoln's gay/lesbian community.

## The New Voice

Order your subscription today by filling out this form and mailing it to: New Voice of Nebraska/P.O. Box 80819/Lincoln, NE 68508.


Mailed discreetly in a plain brown envelope.

Unfortunately, being in the public's eye all the time, you are more likely to get oriticimm than praise, although both are important and rewarding in their own separate ways. The Coordinating Committee would like to give you some well-deserved praise at this time and would encourage you to contimue your fine work.

Sincarely,
Mark M.
Secretary
Community of Grace

## Working Together on Mailings

Dear Omaha Fellow Community Nembers:

In an effort to increase awareness of our various organizations, the River City Mixed chorus proposes that we make our groups ${ }^{\prime}$ mailinge avallable to each othor.

We are not suggesting that our confidential liats be made avallable: rather, that if one group has an item it wishes to distribute, other groups will send the item out with their next mailing. The group planning the avent would be responsible for providing the proper number of flyers to the group doing the mailing. twe" re talking only in terms of scheduled sailings; obviously, if "Group A" would want "Group B" to do a special mailing, something would have to be worked out in terns of postage, envelopes, etc.)

In this way, we will all benefit from increased awareness and distribution, yet no confidentiality will be broken.

The Chorus has a mailing planned to announce our March 30 concert, to be mailed on or about March 19, and we welcome Your flyers. Please contact clark at $455-2334$ or Gary at 551-0510 if you have something to be mailed at that time. And we would like to include flyers announging the March 30 concert in any mailing you have scheduled in March. Please let us know how many flyers you need, and by what date. Plaase use the above phone numbera, or our post office box (325-Omaha--68101-0315) to contact ull.

Thanks for your eime, and here's hoping we can all work together!

Sincerely,
RIVEA CITY MIXED CHORUS

## Financial Reality

Letter to the Editor:
I heard a lot about the "Spirituality and Homosexual Persons" dialog conference featuring Bishop Wheatley, a retired Methodist minister.

Unfortunately, most of what I heard were remarks that the fee ( $\$ 20.00$ $\$ 10.00$ for students) was too high for many people to attend, especfally couples. Even ac a lesser fee, not many student couples can afford to pay out $\$ 20.00$. I am also concerned about non-student Lesbian couples, whose combined income is still very 11 ml ted.

Although some "scholarships" were made avallable to those who qualified, constantly needing to ask for financial help is embarrassing and, no doubt, prevents some persons from participating at all.

In the future, I would hope chat eniightened persons in our community fand those who honor us with a quest appearance) keep in mind the financial realicies of Lesblans and college students. My lover and I couldn't afford to attend this conference; I hope we won't be financially excluded next time.
--Concerned Lesbian Scudent

## Visual Images

Prints Charming, a California based greeting card 6 calendar company, is currently looking for new faces and tight bodies to adorn the pages of a unique line of greeting cards, which include fun-pun poetry and picture perfect ploture presentation: Male Pin-Up Photography at its very best! -Guaranteed Good by the Good Housekeeper's Squeal of Approval!"

Primarily seeking an uncomplieated and natural mid-western look. we are also open for pictures of the 'cowboy type,' those who would fit the billy "Good looking Boys from Texas are sometimes Austin-tatious." (Remember, we are looking for models, that is to say, "actors," so it doesn"t matter if the cowboys reside in New York City... or Tucumearl. New Mexico...

Those who may be interested in receiving further information, are invited, nay, --encouraged to send a by 5 inch snapshot photo (shirtless if possible 5 shortless if probably) (or even in swimsuits) and $\$ 1.00$ for return postage is handling to:

PRINTS CHARMING
Box 747
Solvang, CA 93463
Reminder: We are a professional organization and send
much of our material to the overall media at large; and therefore, even though we are a risque business, we are not in the buniness of selling anything that is valgar, sleazy, or pornographic.

Thank you, Sincerely,

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# Gay/Lesbian Resource Directory- 

## Nebraska

## Lincoln

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous. Groups meet weekly. Phone 466-5214. American Foundation for the Fine Arts. A non-profil foundation committed to making positive contributions on the behalf of gays/lesbians fo Lincoln's cultural life.
Community of Grace. Box 6881, Lincoln 68506. Interdenominational worshipping community of gay/lesbion, \& those associated. Meets Sunday $7: 00 \mathrm{pm}$;
Gay/Lesbian Awareness at Lincoln High School. Meets every other week. Phone Elis 475-4697.
Gay/Lesbian Information $\$$ Support Line. Meets third Wednesday of the month. Phone 475-4697
Gay/Lesbian Student Group at Nebraska Wesleyan. Contact Dr. Mary 5 mith, NWU, 50th \& St. Paul, Lincoln 68504. Phone 465-2351.
Kinship (Adventist support group). For information phone 464-0902.
Lambda Resource Center-Meeting rooms, outpatient counseling, group activities. 2845 " R" St. Call 474-1205 for information.
Lesbian Support Group. Informal discussion group for lesbians, all women welcome. Meets weekly. Contact Women's Resource Center, Room 117, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588, Phone 472-2597.
Lincoln Legion of Lesbians. Box 30137 , Lincoln 68503 . Lesbian-Feminist colleclive providing a newsletter, confidential referral, \& support groups for lesbians. Sponsors cultural \& social programs.
Ministry in Human Sexuality, Inc. Box 80122, Lincoln 68501. Non-profit agency providing counseling, education, \& supportive action for those seeking growth $\&$ understanding in the areas of sexuality $\&$ relationships. I. Benjamin Roe, Executive Director. Phone 476-9913.
New Directions Conter-Short term individual counseling, support groups,
classes and workshops dealing with coming out, relationship issues, parenting.
Sliding Fee Scale. Call 476-2802
Open Door Ministry. To provide traditional orthodox spiritual counsel to all people in need at no charge. Phone 474-3390.
Porents/Friends of Lesbians \& Gays. Box 4374, Lincoln 68501. Support group for parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians/gays. Meets fourth Tuesday of the month. Phone 466-1151.
Presbyterians for Gay/Lesbian Concerns. For information phone 464-5286, Third Culture. Non-residential subculture dealing with issues such as coming out, social behavior, the gay lIfestyle, suicide, \& drug/alcohol abuse. Contact Pat at 474-1205.
UN-L Gay/Lesbian Association. Room 222, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588 Political, social and educational organization for students \& interested others, meets Thursdays, 8:00 pm. Phone 472-5644.

## Omaha

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous. Groups Meet weekly. Phone 345-9916. Dignity of Omaha. Providing common experience through Mass \& meetings for gays and lesbians and their friends. Regular Mass second Sunday of the month, $7: 00 \mathrm{pm}$. St. John's Lower Level. Phone 341-1460 or 345.9426.
Gay Parents Support Group. Support group for gay parents who hove childran. Phone 553-2308 for times and locations.
Lutherans Concerned of Omaha. Society of goy Christians and friends together to foster within a church climate of understanding, justice, \& reconciliatimon among all women \& men. Phone 592-1209.
Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha. Sunday worship 10:30 am \& 7.00 pm, Tuesday Evening Bible Study 7:30 pm, Wednesday Evening Praise! Prayer/Healing 7:30.
Metropolitan Club of Omaha. Professional business persons organization. Meets third Wednesday of the month. Phone for information 391-6253.
Parents/Friends of Lesbians \& Gays (P-FLAG). Box 3173, Omaha 68103. Support group for the parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians/gays. Phone 345-2563,
River City Mixed Chorus, Box 315, Omaha 68101 , Volunteer community chorus for gay/lesbian \& gay/lesbian-sensitive men \& women, with the goal of musical excellence in performance. Rehearsals Monday evenings:
Sexual Minorities in the Health Professions. Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Health Professionals or students in the Health Professions. Phone 345-5637.
T.W.O. Motorcycle Club. 712 South 16th St., Omaha 68102. Meets second Sunday of the month. Phone 342-9595
Volleyball Team. 2599 Ellison Ave., Omaha 68111. Phone 451-6464
The Page- The Publication of Gay Events in Omaha. A monthly calendar of events. To have events listed, please call 330-3690, after 6:00 pm evenings.

## Nebroska Statewide

Affirmation of Nebraska. Box 80122, Lincoln 68501. United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian Concerns. Meets alternately in Omaha \& Lincoln, second Friday of the month. Phone $476-9913$ or $474-1205$.
Coalition for Gay $\mathbf{2}$ Lesbian Civil Rights. Box 94882 , Lincoln 68509. Advocacy group which lobbies for lesbian/gay civil rights, provides educational presentotions, publishes a newsletter \& sponsors cultural \& political programs.
Imperial Court of Nebraska. Social organization for the advancement of the gay society. Omaho meeting first Monday of every month, except holidays. Phone 342-5710.
Nebraska A.I.D.S. Project. Box 3512, Omaha 68103. Center for information, support, and coordination of A.I.D.S.related community efforts. Phone Omaho 342-4233 or toll-free statewide 1-800-782-A1DS.
The New Voice of Nebraska. Box 80819, Lincoln 68501. Staff meets in Omaho \& Lincoln. Phone for times \& locotions. Phone $475-7740$ or 345-2181.
Viral Syndrome Clinic. Jerry Copeland, A5CW, 559-4420, Jan Hopp, RN, 559-7331, Dr. Jonathan Goldsmith, Physician.

Omaha Bars, Clubs, and Lounges

| The Chesterfield | 1951 St. Mary's Ave. | 342.1244 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The Diamond | 712 South 16th 5 t. | 342-9595 |
| The Max | 1417 Jockson | 346.4110 |
| The Run | 1715 Leavenworth | 449-8703 |
| The Stage Door | 1512 Howard St. | 342.8715 |
| Stars Restourant | 11131/2 Howard St. | 346-6624 |
| Lincoln Bars, Clubs, and Lounges |  |  |
| The Board-Walk | 20th 80 | 474-9741 |
| Cherchez la femme | 200 So. 18th (lower level) | 474.9162 |
| The Club | 116 No. 20th St. | 474.5692 |
| Kelly's | 200 So. 18th St. | 474.9962 |



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## 1124 'L'St.

 476-8554Normal \& South 488-4217

21 st \& ' $G$ ' St. 435-3217

Gateway North 464-4090

## Classifieds

## Lincoln

Pool tournament to be held at Kelly's and The Boardwalk. Open to men and wimin. Check details at each bar. Tournament starts in March. Sign-ups must be turned in by the first part of the month. Cash prizes :

I need odd jobs: I'm dependsble and cheap. I like to paint, clean, walk your dog, watch your house, etc. Contact Chris at 435-3935.

Pickle games available at The Club. Sponsored by the M,C.C. of Omaha.

WARNING: Check Writers. There will be a $\$ 15.00$ service charge on all recurned checks from all four Lincoln bars beginning immediately.

Sh-h-h-h-h. .Don't tell anyone, but. There's a new art gallery in Lincoln at 340 N .27 th St. $476-8487$

> Amanda, Liesa, and Muffy say Thank You to our sponsors for sending us to "Heart of Anerica." Special best ulshes to Vicki Vincent 198687 Miss Heart of Aperica.

Stop supporting straight bars. We need the support of our community to keep our own bars open. He fly our $f 1 a g 365$ days a year to the straight community. We are here for vou. Thank You, The Boardwalk, Kelly ${ }^{\text {s }}$, The Club, Cherchez la femme.


## Omaha

Roomate wanted to share apartment or house in Omaha with male, 27. Prefer professional, age $25-35$, financially responsible, scraight acting. Please reply to P.O. Box 241089, Omaha, NE 68124 .
"

## Other Cities

--HEY NEARASKA: "Report Cards" by
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UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE BARS
Lincoln
The Boardwalk
March 9- Ann Marlow in "Your Personal Touch" Also featuring Jamie \& Liesa. $\$ 1.00$ cover, $8: 30 \mathrm{pm}$

March 16-Jennifer Bevington Show $\$ 2.00$ cover. $8: 30 \mathrm{pm}$

March 23- Show featuring the new "Miss City Sweetheart" $\$ 2.00$ cover, $8: 30 \mathrm{pm}$

April 6- Sheeza Mann $\$ 2.00$ cover, 8:30pm

## Cherchez la femme

March 17-St. Patricks Day Celebration
Merch 27-Gong Shows 8:00pa


## March 30-Easter Egg Hunt 6:30-8:00pm

Kelly's
March 13- MMiss Capitol City" Lindsay Hart in "A Touch of Magic" 9:30 pm

March 17-St. Patricks Day Celebration March 20-Tara Micheels Shov 9:30pm

March 27- Return of the "Rite Club" 9:30pm

## Omaha

The Chesterfield
March 15- Spectacular 50's Night
March 17- St. Patriciks Day Celebration

The Max
March 9- Male Dancers

The Run
March 9- "Bring in the Spring" Show with Dietra Snow No Cover

March $10,11,17,24,25$ - Pool Tournament 9:00pm

March 17- Sc, Patricks Day Party
Merch 23- Mele Strippers "Starfite Revue" 10:30-12;30pm

March 30- Double Fun Sunday Pot Luck Easter Dinner 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Stage Door
March 16- The Miss Stage Door Pageant

## Stars Rescaurant

March 17 St. Patricks Day Party Corned Beef and Cabbage or Irish Stew \$4.95 A11 Day

The cover enticled Juscice? was designed by VickI Jedilcka. It symbolizes the injustice being done to gays and lesbians in our present law system. Legal Concerns is the theme of this month's issue.



Open 4 p.m. Daily • 1417 Jackson • Omaha • 402/346-4110




[^0]:    A few weeks ago, a young gay male friend of mine hitched a ride with me to the Boardwalk, When Sandy and I were ready to leave, we offered to take him to hls car (parked at Kelly's). He declined the offer, insisting he would walk. When we expressed concern about this, he laughed and remarked, "I've walked alone in Nepal:"

    I am afraid our friend did not reallze Continued on page $15 \ldots$.

