

0110
DECEMBER

1992

The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



THE NAMES PROJECT
**See
& It
understand.**

NAMES PROJECT
**AIDS
MEMORIAL
QUILT**

Omaha Civic Auditorium
December 5, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
December 6, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

HOW CAN WE SPEAK OUT FOR COLORADO GAYS AND LESBIANS?

By Sharon Van Butsel

Are you feeling frustrated, angry, and perhaps a little bit scared by the result of Initiative 2 in Colorado? I know I am. It seems incredible that such a proposal could have passed, closing the closet door on gay and lesbian rights in Colorado.

Tennis great Martina Navratilova, who maintains a mountain home in Colorado, was quoted in the *Omaha World Herald* as saying that gay and lesbian organizers had been too nice in dealing with the hate campaign mounted by the Religious Fundamentalists. She said that they needed to be more aggressive in getting out the vote needed to repeal this measure.

A later article described the death of Marty Booker, a 26 year old Colorado Springs Person With AIDS, who committed suicide leaving behind a note that stated "I refuse to live in a state where a few people can, at will, make my life a living hell. Thanks to CFV [Colorado For Family Values] hell was delivered to my very front door! I suppose I'm weak but it took a lot of courage to get out before I would have to live through the 'Auschwitz' CFV has in mind for people like me! I love you all. I'm sorry my crime in life was LOVE—albeit to the same gender."

Colorado Springs therapist, Alan Cook, responded to the suicide by saying, "This kind of a law touches gay men and lesbians in the part of their lives they struggle with the most—the acceptance of their environment and the people around them." But he went on to say that many of his clients are showing a new determination and a number have not chosen to come out to family, friends and employers and to express their concerns about how this law will impact them.

It is my personal hope that we can reach out to our Colorado neighbors with the same determination. Since we do not live in Colorado,

we could not vote on Proposition 2 or on future issues, but we do have ways to make our voices heard.

For one thing, you can let Governor Roemer of Colorado know that as a gay or lesbian citizen you will not be spending your dollars in a state that forbids equal rights to all people. You can let the Colorado Department of Tourism know that your vacation this year, your skiing trip, your trip to the mountains will not be to the Colorado Rockies. Colorado's economy is heavily dependent upon the tourist trade and gays and lesbians make up a significant part of that tourist trade. Let gay/lesbian dollars speak louder than gay and lesbian voices did.

Call: Gov. Roemer 1-303-866-2471
Call: Dept. of Tourism 1-800-433-2656
Not all activists feel that boycotting Colorado is the best choice. Still another article in *The World Herald* (it's becoming a primary source for gay related news) reported that that about 1200 delegates to a gay rights conference (Creating Change sponsored by the National Gay Lesbian Task Force) were not able to reach consensus on whether or not to boycott Colorado. Some delegates were concerned that the boycott would hurt pro-gay and lesbian supporters in business and communities that opposed Proposition 2. I don't know the answer. You'll have to figure out for yourself how to speak out against the prejudice and homophobia that spawned Proposition 2. All I know is that maybe it's time that Nebraskans became more determined, more open and more assertive. Our future lives may depend on it.

People with more political knowledge than I say that measures similar to Proposition 2 will be introduced in 9 other states next year. Nebraska could be one of them.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH DC'93

Dear *New Voice* of Nebraska,

I would like to end some community discussion on the validity of our March on Washington fundraising. Enclosed is a copy of our current financial statement. It shows all expenses and income by category and amount.

I hope this will not only answer the questions of those who were asking "Well, where does this money go?" but also encourage others to donate more as we are still about \$1500 shy of where we need to be by March 1, 1993.

Our national office is trying desperately to raise funds, as the total bill for the March will run approximately 3/4 of a million dollars. It certainly does cost a lot to change history.

Thank you for this opportunity to address your readers on this issue and thanks always for your continued support of the March every month with your graciously donated ad space.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to call me at 451-7987.

Sincerely,
Amy Marie Meek
Director
DC'93- Nebraska

MARCH ON WASHINGTON '93 NEBRASKA CONTINGENCY

INCOME	
50/50 Raffles	\$267.00
Benefit Shows	\$1149.00
Cash Donations	\$300.00
DCTV	\$475.00
Item Donation	\$589.05
Trip Raffle	\$192.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$2972.00

EXPENSES	
Advertising	\$ 589.05
Bank Fees	\$18.00
Booth Space	\$10.00
Computer Time	\$22.08
Copies	\$207.43
Event Expenses	\$121.45
Fax	\$8.44
Long Distance	\$125.12
Merchandise	\$116.90
Mileage	\$113.60
NSC Meetings	\$668.25
Nt'l Committee	\$310.44
Office Supplies	\$188.37
PO Box Fees	\$35.00
Postage	\$189.45
Promo	\$85.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2808.58

TOTAL INCOME-EXPENSE \$163.47



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Subscriptions: 1 year \$19; Classified Ads \$3 for 20 words or less with 20¢ for each additional word. Display rates given upon request. Deadline is the 10th of the month prior to publication.

The *New Voice of Nebraska*
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

C.F.E.P.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Citizens for Equal Protection wishes to thank everyone who participated in the October 11 National Coming Out Day event at Elmwood Park. Thanks to each person who attended and to all of the organizations represented, the event was a smashing success.

Although there have been other events scheduled to celebrate National Coming Out Day in Omaha, this was the first such effort for C.F.E.P. Meanwhile, we are continuing to move forward with plans to re-introduce legislation in Nebraska to protect gays, lesbians, and bisexuals against discrimination in housing, employment and accommodations, as well as hate-crimes ordinances and/or statutes.

Citizens for Equal Protection is determined to accomplish these goals to continue working toward the inclusion of sexual orientation as a protected class whenever new legislation is introduced. The recent National Coming Out Day event was one way for us to thank the community for its ongoing support in our fight for "equal rights."

For the struggle,
The Exec. Steering Com.
and members of CFEP



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TRANSSEXUALS PRESENT AT MICHIGAN FESTIVAL

Dear New Voice:

Wally was correct in her assessment of the Seventeenth Annual Michigan Womyn's Music Festival as a truly wonderful experience (*NewVoice of Nebraska*, October 1992), even though not all of her reasons for saying so are accurate, in particular her contention that there were no transsexuals present at the festival.

Unlike last year, there were no transsexuals expelled from the festival, but not because there were none in attendance. I am a thirteen years post-operative transsexual lesbian who attended the festival for four days entirely without incident, all the while prepared for the possibility I could be expelled from the festival if my transsexuality became known to festival producers or staff. No time during my stay at the festival did anyone react to me as if I were any different from any of the other 7500 women, not even in the showers.

I attended the festival specifically to challenge its "woman-born womyn only" policy by demonstrating that it is not enforceable, and there is, in fact, no rational justification for the policy. I was part of a team of four individuals, of which I am the only actual transsexual, who attended the festival with the specific intention of raising awareness about and drawing attention to the issue of transsexual exclusion. During our stay we conducted workshops on the issue, gave away free buttons and literature, conducted a survey of festival participants' attitudes toward the exclusionary policy and asked women who were opposed to it to sign a petition to the festival producers asking that it be changed.

We talked to thousands of women about the festival's exclusionary policy. The overwhelming majority were resolutely opposed to it. Of over 600 responses to our survey, 73% expressed that post-operative MTF transsexuals should be allowed to attend the festival, 23% that they should not, and 4% were undecided. That is a better than 3-1 margin in favor of allowing post-operative MTF transsexuals to attend the festival, and a landslide approval rating by any measure. Many women were "shocked", "appalled" or "outraged" at the existence of the policy itself and the way it had been enforced last year. Many knew women who did not attend the festival, or had themselves considered not attending because of the policy. Some had transsexual friends who they wished could have been there.

After being in the closet about being

transsexual for three days, I came out at two different workshops on my final day at the festival. Of approximately forty women who attended the two workshops, only two expressed any discomfort at my presence, and one later stated she recognized her discomfort as a kind of prejudice she wished to overcome. All the other women at those two workshops expressed that they were glad I had attended the festival despite its exclusionary policy and they appreciated the consciousness raising around the issue. Some women stated they hope an even greater number of transsexuals attend the festival next year.

Transsexual lesbians will undoubtedly continue to defy the festival's exclusionary policy, and will continue to hold festival producers accountable for the fairness of their policy. Some will undoubtedly be expelled, but that will only draw more attention to the issue. We intend to follow the admonition that Alix Dobkin made in one of her workshops at the festival this year: "It's the responsibility of each of us to make a place for ourselves in the community. We have to show up and say, 'I'm here. Deal with me.' You declare yourself a part, and you are a part, and the only way to do that is keep coming back." We intend to do exactly that.

Wally also errs in her characterization of Nancy Burkholder's expulsion from the festival last year. In her article, Wally stated that Nancy, after talking to the festival producers, agreed her presence at the festival was inappropriate. Although I never met Nancy Burkholder personally, I have spoken to her by telephone on several occasions and correspond with her. We have several common friends, and I have read everything she has written about the incident that appeared in the media. Nancy most assuredly never agreed the festival is not the place for her, as Wally asserts, nor was Nancy given a plane ticket home following her expulsion. Nancy in no way supports the festival's exclusionary policy, and has continued to speak out against it. Like wise, Nancy was very supportive of the work done to raise consciousness regarding this issue this year.

Wally admits that she spoke to no one who was dissatisfied with the festival this year, demonstrating unequivocally that the presence of transsexuals in no way detracts from the festival.

Sincerely,
Davina Anne Gabriel

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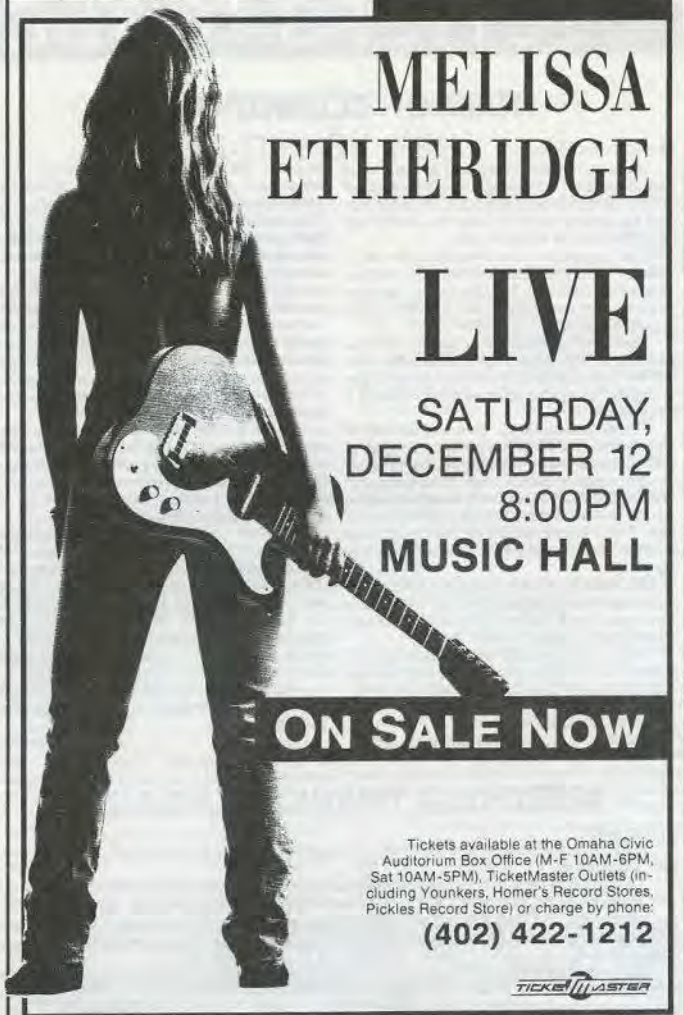
Melissa Etheridge's album, *Never Enough* goes further in emotional explorations than Melissa Etheridge (1988) and *Brave and Crazy* (1989) which earned her Grammy nominations (best female vocalist) and Canadian Juno Award as Best International Entertainer of The Year. Etheridge says "I wanted to come up with an album with my heart, soul, and more in it."

It's the same astounding voice that induced Island Records founder Chris Blackwell to sign Etheridge on the spot when he first heard her. Experience and confidence have made her better. After three years touring, she took a year to look at the world and at herself. The songs go beyond heartache, reflecting a mix of light and dark, hope and despair, never giving in or giving up.

Many songs are rooted in the uncertainties that face our world between now and 2001. Though she sings, "Wake me up when we hit 2001," Etheridge won't sleep through. The song is frisky, the lyrics fearful. She knows the style may shock long-time fans, and the wider emotional palette may take some getting used to. It's a risk she feels is necessary.

"If 2001 reaches people, that's great. I want to move up, move on. I need a challenge. When you don't have new goals you stop growing. I want to keep growing and that's possible only through change."

Melissa Etheridge will be performing at 8 p.m. on December 12 in the Music Hall. Tickets are available at Pickles, Homers, Younkens, and the Box Office or charged by phone by calling 402-422-1212.



MELISSA ETHERIDGE

LIVE

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 12
8:00PM
MUSIC HALL

ON SALE NOW

Tickets available at the Omaha Civic Auditorium Box Office (M-F 10AM-6PM, Sat 10AM-5PM), TicketMaster Outlets (including Younkens, Homer's Record Stores, Pickles Record Store) or charge by phone:

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goes,
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PAIN OF COMING OUT

Dear Miss VanButsel:

Hi, there! I hope everything is going well back in Omaha. I am writing to you from the land of short summers and long winters. It seems that God has blessed us with a few last warm and sunny days before the snow hits.

I had recognized your name from the MCC bulletin. With your church activities, as well as your involvement with *The New Voice*, I am sure you are a very busy person, so I will do my best to keep this as short as possible.

I had lived in Omaha since January and was attending college there. I had been in school this fall, but the inner conflict of my sexuality began to surface, my grades suffered, and eventually I dropped out.

I thank God for MCC. Reverend Howard is a wonderful man. He helped me in my struggle to find my true identity. Eventually, I worked up enough courage to attend church. It felt wonderful to be somewhere where I could be myself and be safe for awhile. After I attended for the second time, I got scared back into the closet after someone started calling me names as I walked to my car.

One week later I had to move out from where I was living because I couldn't pay my rent. While I was in college, I had to cut my work hours and wasn't making enough money.

I went to a homeless shelter because I had no place else to go. When I was there, I met a woman and we became friends. The article enclosed states what happened. (See Features, Kicked Out of Homeless Shelter.)

The pain I went through, I would not wish on

anyone, not even on the the people who condemned us. We both moved back to home environments we shouldn't have had to return to. The only thing that kept me going was the thought that I could help others by making them aware of what goes on, and let those who share the same experiences know that they are not alone.

My friend and I had both attended college at one time, and she also had financial difficulties and couldn't return yet. The only thing we are guilty of being are two young people working hard to make better lives for ourself, struggling to go to school and make a living. Nobody deserves to be treated the way we were treated. I could not and on but I'll stop here.

Thank you for taking time to read my letter and article. I apologize for the fact that the article is not type written, as I do not have access to a typewriter. I could not have someone I know up her proofread it without being shunned for its content, so I hope it is O.K.

This is very hard for me to write about because I am not used to sharing my experiences with others, especially painful ones as this was, but I felt this is too important to keep inside. If your decide to print the article, I would like to protect my friend's identity. If I used my real name, people might know who she is by association. I do not want anyone to get hurt. The name I would like to use is Deborah Ayres.

Again thank you for your time. I wish continued prosperity for you, MCC, and *The New Voice*.

Yours truly
Deb

AMETHYST THANKS COMMUNITY

Dear Friends:

As a group, Amethyst would like to thank the community for all of your love and support.

The last seven years has provided each woman a chance to grow and learn about themselves, not only individually, but as a group. We've met many wonderful people across the country and here in our community. We have fulfilled our goals as a group and it's time to move on to seek our own individual paths. We've had so much fun and have incredible memories—we're glad we've shared those with you.

Because of the faith you've show in us, we were given the chance to grow and give back to the community through our music. Thank you.

Amethyst

AFTER HOURS

Every Saturday

\$2.00 Admission

After 12p.m. \$5.00 please

TREMORS

1516 JONES STREET Omaha 346-6001

LETTER GETS RESPONSE

Dear *New Voice* of Nebraska,

Enclosed you will find a letter I received in response to my criticizing American Home Products about their advertising policy. I did this after I read about their pulling ads due to gay/lesbian characters in prime time TV in your publication and *Genre* magazine. I have been writing to corporations and television companies for the last couple years whenever I hear about anti-gay activities within the organization.

This is the first time that I have ever gotten any response from these companies. I felt this could be beneficial for your readers to see that a letter can make a difference. So the next time there is anti-gay activity your other readers will write to these companies also. By writing letters or calling TV stations we can make a difference in policies and attitudes in the straight community.

Thanks for your great publication and your continuing coverage of gay/lesbian stories.

Sincerely,
Joel G.

AMERICAN HOME PRODUCTS RESPONDS

Dear Mr. G.:

We have received your letter of October 6, 1992 with your references to our advertising policy that may have come from an article by Stephen H. Miller which appeared in the October/November issue of *Genre* magazine. The same issue carried an article on "Gay Money" by Bob Nelson which quoted the Overlooked Opinions, Inc. data included in your letter. We have taken note of the Nelson article. We would also like to provide you with information regarding the Miller article and our TV program sponsorship.

We recently met with Ms. Ellen Carton, Executive Director, and Mr. Donald Suggs, Director of Public Affairs, of GLAAD, to discuss of TV advertising policy. They now understand and are pleased with that policy. They agree that the following statement, which we provided to them, is an accurate statement of our policy:

Our advertising policy does not preclude our advertising on programs which include gay or lesbian characters. We have advertised and will continue to advertise, in conformity with our advertising budget, on TV programs that have gay or lesbian characters. However, we try not to place our ads on programs that, for example, show excessive use of violence or visual displays of sex, portray medical professionals in a negative light, contain extreme drug abuse or alcoholism themes or that deal confrontationally with socially or politically controversial issues. Sometimes programs with gay or lesbian characters in them may fall into one or more of these categories, just as programs with heterosexual or white or minority characters may fall into them.

We hope this information clarifies the matter for you.

Sincerely,
Carol G. Emerling
Corporate Secretary

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BEWARE OF WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

Dear Editor:

Recently, a lot of media coverage has been given to "mainstream" companies who are now turning to gay publications to market the gay community. At first I thought this was absolutely terrific. They are recognizing us for our importance as a viable group. My second thought though was are they just recognizing us for our money? Many large corporations are scrambling to stay afloat during severe economic times and are branching out to market any group with spending power. The national gay community is a logical direction. But remember the age old adage—Beware of wolves in sheep's clothing.

Do these companies actually support our lifestyle and should we get excited that they are turning to gay oriented media to attract us? Several considerations come to mind. Do these "mainstream" companies recognize domestic partnerships and do they extend benefits to the partners of homosexual employees? Do these "mainstream" companies support, financially or otherwise, legislation that would prohibit discrimination based upon sexual orientation?

It's one thing to market the gay community but it's another to actually support it. I'm certainly NOT suggesting that gay media refuse advertising for this reason. The fact does remain that by placing ads in gay oriented publications, "mainstream" companies have taken a huge step forward. What I am saying is that we, the gay community, should be cautious of who is vying for our dollars. When economic conditions improve, will the "mainstream" companies remain with the gay community?

Sincerely

Randall R. Heinitz

1-800-4-GAY-SPOTS

The National Gay Referral Network

THANKS, NVN

Dear Sir or Madam,

Would you please print this ad for November and December issue of *The New Voice*. Enclosed is \$8.00 for both months.

Thank you.

And also you are doing such a super job with *The New Voice*. I enjoy reading the magazine every month. Thanks for the super work.

"Special"

1993
FAMILY CALENDARS
FOR SALE BY
RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

\$12.00 each

To Purchase:
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WANT RCMC TO PERFORM? NOTIFY BY FEB. 1

Dear Community Organization:

River City Mixed Chorus members are well into our Ninth Concert Year, and we are already thinking about what we'll be doing for our Tenth Season next year. (Can you believe it? I remember visiting another organization's meeting in 1984 as we were just getting started and being asked "What's your group's name again and what do you do?")

This letter is not asking for money! We are asking our community organizations to consider early any plans to invite RCMC to sing for you during 1993-94.

We have lots of hopes of our own next year. We're planning our Tenth Annual Winter and Pride Concerts. We may be attending (and inviting you to) a regional gay/lesbian choral festival. We've already heard rumors of some local events where we'll be invited, and there are some annual events where it's almost a "tradition" for us to sing.

Our members—like your members—are volunteers. Our director and accompanist are professionals who have other full-time jobs. We'd love to sing at every event for every organization, but, frankly, we cannot.

RCMC has always taken each invitation to sing on a case-by-case basis, and we will continue to do so. But the popularity of RCMC and the expectations for our Tenth Season demand advance planning. Towards that end, we welcome your invitation for RCMC to sing during our 1993-1994 season, up to a request cut-off date of February 1, 1993. This request is for all organizations, whether we've sung for you before or not.

If you have questions or if you want us to sing for your event, please contact me at 551-0510, our president Roger Bennett at 453-8884, or write us at P.O. Box 3267, Omaha, NE 68103.

RCMC is proud to be part of Omaha's and Nebraska's gay community, and looks forward to

singing for our community for many years to come.

Sincerely

Gary

Performance Committee Chair, 1992-93

River City Mixed Chorus
Policy Statement of Performance Spaces
Adopted by Board of Directors on Sept. 13, 1992
1. The River City Mixed Chorus has a stated mission of "musical excellence in performance". Towards that end, the Chorus will agree to perform in spaces meeting the following minimal standards:

- (a) Ample space for the entire singing membership to comfortably and appropriately stand.
- (b) A piano, space to set a rented piano, and/or electrical outlets for a keyboard.
- (c) Adequate lighting for membership to see their music and to be seen by their audience.
- (d) A smoke-free environment (see #2 below)
- (e) Acoustically correct environment as approved by Artistic Staff.

2. As a vocal performance organization, it is essential that we sing in an environment conducive to proper vocal technique. Breath control, use of vocal chords, and other variables depend on this environment. Second-hand smoke does not contribute to good singing. RCMC recognizes that some community organizations hold events in a smoking environment, and we ask that these organizations recognize that we prefer to sing in a smoke-free environment. If an adequate smoke-free condition cannot be achieved, RCMC regrets that it will not be able to perform in a given space.

3. In regards to accepting or rejecting a given performance space, the opinions of the Music Director and the Performance Committee will be given to the Board of Directors, and the decision by the Board will be final.

OUT OF THE DARKNESS © 1991
L.S. WELCH

PEOPLE WITH AIDS (PWAS) ARE FIGHTING THEIR OWN WAR WITHOUT GOING OVERSEAS. IT IS THE BUREAUCRACY AND DISINTEREST THAT ARE KILLING THESE INDIVIDUALS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LETTER POLICY

The *New Voice* will publish only those letters to the editor which include full name and either address or phone number so we can verify authenticity. A pen name may be used in print but since situations have arisen in which writers have used fictitious names or initials and or written using someone else's name, we will consider your letters only if they are signed and if we are able to contact you to verify that you did write the letter and that the contents are what you intended.

YOU DID IT AGAIN!

Dear *New Voice* of Nebraska.

Once again your publication has instilled pride in me. The November issue was put together wonderfully. I sincerely hope everyone gets as much as I do out of this magazine. When I read the articles, I feel inspired to just go out and help the gay community. I know that when I get released in 1994, I am going to put all the effort possible into the gay movement. I like the title of your publication, but after I read it, I feel as if it should be called "Pride" because I feel so proud to be associated with people who publish so much truth in one issue. Wes Ziegler #42258

WELCOME, MR. PRESIDENT (WE HOPE)

Congratulations!!!

I guess it's hard to express what I feel. How does one talk to the leader of a nation? According to the constitution, the government works for me. Therefore, is the president my employee, my subordinate?

Tell us how you feel, Mr. President. Does the responsibility overwhelm you? Are you really prepared for what must be done? Are you willing to stand up and do what is right, what we've all waited years to enjoy?

What's it like, Mr. President? Do you worry that the check you wrote to the grocery store the other day will get to the bank before next payday? Or, do you have to wait until after you've paid the rent and utilities before you know what groceries you can afford this time?

Tell us, Mr. President, when was the last time you had to lead a double life so you could keep your job? When was the last time, you hoped and prayed that someone didn't yell out, "faggot" or "dyke" around your family or co-workers? This is reality, Mr. President. Please don't turn away.

Tell me the truth, Mr. President, When will things get better? You have the power to help. We've put our trust, if not our lives, in your hands. The question is, Mr. President, will you welcome us?

RUSS
-The Source

TOWARD HOME

Rhiannon, featured soloist of Bobby McFerrin's innovative and acclaimed acapella group "Voicestra" presents her renowned vocal talents on a solo recording titled *Toward Home*.

Toward Home highlights songs taken from Rhiannon's one woman show of the same name, in which she explores the theme of "home" through a unique performance style that blends the formal arts of the singer, the storyteller, the actress and the healer with the unexpected magic of improvisation. The recording continues with the same approach and offers up a rich diversity of musical styles including jazz, folk, scat singing, improvisation, ballads and much of the vocal magic that Rhiannon has made her trademark during her musical lifetime. Through it all, Rhiannon paints a uniquely personal yet universal story of her journey towards "Home".

"Voicestra" of which Rhiannon is a founding member, has appeared on the PBS series "Boston Pops" and is currently recording an album with Mr. McFerrin. She also founded and performed with the successful women's jazz quintet, "Alive" which toured internationally and released three record albums during their ten years together.

Rhiannon is currently touring with her one woman show *Towards Home* throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe, as well as continuing her performances with "Voicestra." She also offers private classes and workshops in vocal techniques, improvisation and the creative process and has created two self-teaching tapes, *Finding Your Voice* and *Loosen Up and Improvise*.

All of Rhiannon's recordings are available through Ladyslipper Music, PO Box 3124-R, Durham, NC 27715 Tel: 1-919-683-1570 or to order directly please call 1-800-634-6044.



FEATURES

KICKED OUT OF HOMELESS SHELTER

Three weeks ago, a friend and I were kicked out of a homeless shelter. I thought to myself, "How could someone do this to us, and how could this organization allow this to happen?" Then I realized that to single out one person or one place would only narrow the spectrum of prejudice, for this type of behavior and judgment by others is occurring all over the place in our society. I am sure many of us understand it all too well.

I am trying to grasp the rationale of someone who would see fit to throw two young women out into the street. On second thought, I do not want to be able to understand that kind of thinking. If two heterosexual women had been kicked out, I suspect a majority of citizens would have been in an uproar, especially with all of the violence which has been occurring against women lately in and around the Omaha area. Now, simply because we are not sexually attracted to men, the situation suddenly becomes different somehow. Does the fact that we're lesbians make the streets any less dark at night, any less cold, or any less dangerous? If anything, it makes it more dangerous with all the gay bashing going on.

When people think of gay bashing, they may think of physical violence, such as getting attacked on the street. Indeed, this does occur. However, there is another type of gay bashing that is occurring. It is the type where a gay person is denied a job or a place to live. Picture this scenario: A woman and a man are looking at an apartment. After they leave, the person in charge

says, "I don't want to rent to them, they're a couple of heterosexuals!" Take into consideration the many other rights which are denied us that never come into play for heterosexuals. One being the right to be able to walk down the street without being verbally abused. If a heterosexual is walking down the street, chances are people will not look at them and yell, "heterosexual!!!", followed by a few colorful expletives.

One thing I know is that my tax dollars, my friend's tax dollars, and the tax dollars of many gay and lesbian people help to pay for the funding of that organization. Yet somehow we are not entitled to use the facility if we are in need. This got me to thinking: maybe we, as gays and lesbians, could use this to our advantage. On next year's tax forms, maybe the government will set aside a section where we can specify if we are gay or lesbian. If we are, then perhaps we can accumulate several tax breaks by not having deductions for organizations we are not entitled to use, or for housing which we are not allowed to live in. My guess is that this would leave many of us a lot more money in our pockets come paycheck time.

Three weeks ago I was ready to bow my head and hide from society. I asked myself, how could I change in order to accommodate society? But a very brave and wise person awakened in me a courage and voice I was not aware I had. Now I know it is time that society changes in order to accommodate me, as well as all my sisters and brothers out there.

HOMOSEXUALITY

by Wes Ziegler

The Manifestation and Holding of Sexual Desires Toward a Member of One's Own Sex. Erotic Activity with a Member of One's Own Sex. 'This is the definition from the dictionary but it does not define the personality or the depth of the individual. The beauty is not portrayed in this word. The love and emotion is deeper than any picture this word can conjure up. Homosexuality is more than a sexual act. I wish there was a word that meant the same without being harsh in its meaning. Individuals with feelings involved in homosexuality. Let me venture deeper.

Homosexual: relating to, or exhibiting sexual desires toward a member of one's own sex. One who is inclined or practices homosexuality. This definition is even more barren of feeling. It does not even give hint to the individualism of the individuals—a person with emotions. It says one's own sex in the definition but does not mention anything of the sexual roles of the people involved. So much is left out. The intimacy is absent in this formality. I hurt for the people excluded in this vast subheading. There is no tenderness in the stereotypes, "fags" and "dykes." These are very cruel slang terms for my brothers and sisters, but it cannot equal the cruelty in the stare of ignorance. But one day we'll overcome this prejudice and maybe look at you as the trampled on minority. And until then you may call me fag, punk, or whatever you wish, but do not turn your back on this beautiful homosexual!!!

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FEATURES

REAL LIFE HOSPITALIZATION ADVENTURES OF TWO LESBIANS PART II: SURGERY

by Carla

I can without hesitation tell you that surgery was a breeze, but let's backtrack just a little and fill in a few of the pre-surgery and post-surgery details.

Knowing that I would be nervous the night before surgery, I had allowed myself to be scheduled into a meeting until about 8:00 p.m. Then it was off to have a nice dinner—well the meeting lasted late, so we hit the Leavenworth. It was nice enough. Then we headed for The MAX for a couple drinks—diet coke, of course. We put a few dollars in the Pickle machines, but that Tuesday just wasn't our lucky night. After a couple hours of visiting with the staff and patrons of The MAX, we headed for home—after all I had to report in at the hospital at 6:30 a.m., and we didn't want to be late.

Wednesday morning I got up and fixed Sharon some breakfast—I knew she was in for a long day. I debated briefly with myself whether or not to wear underwear (since they were going to make me change immediately anyway) and I put my bag of things to do after surgery into the car. Then we headed for Bergen Mercy.

Sharon let me off at the front door while she parked (I'm sure gonna hate giving up that part of our adjustments), and I checked in at the first desk. They immediately sent me back to another desk where they had to take "just one more sample of my blood" (you know, I really do think there must be a black market for blood—everywhere I went they just needed to check my blood and I can't imagine that it had changed or that any error could be possible).

Moments later someone came with a wheelchair to take me to get ready for surgery. Sharon meanwhile had caught up with me and followed me down to the surgery prep area. Again we were separated while I disrobed and put on my gown. Then they brought me into a room where there were bunches of other people awaiting surgery. It seemed to take forever for them to ask me the questions and do the things they needed to do before they would let Sharon join me. I finally asked when she could come in; I was getting pretty scared and everybody else seemed to get their companions a whole lot faster.

It was sure good to see her for those few minutes before they wheeled me into the surgery room. I got to the surgery room, my doctor introduced me to someone and they gave me an injection. I remember looking quickly around the room. It sure didn't look like what you see on TV. It seemed to me like a room of small tables and cabinets. Everything seemed clean, but there seemed to be an awful lot of stuff lying around—I suppose those were the tools they'd be using. About then I was out of it. The next thing I remember is someone saying, "Your surgery is over, and everything went fine." As I said before "SURGERY WAS A BREEZE!" And it only took 6 1/2 hours! Now Sharon can tell you those 6 1/2 hours were a whole lot different for her sitting/pacing in the surgery waiting room.

I don't know where I was then, but at some point I remember having some difficulty breathing—everything got kind of black and then staccato. I remember hearing people talk

around me and cramming something into my mouth and then I could breathe again. I heard them say I was in the Recovery Room and I opened my eyes and looked around as much as I could with that thing crammed in my mouth. Above my head and behind me I spied a clock and it said three-forty-something. I wondered what had taken so long (I knew my doctor only had the surgery room reserved until 1:30 and I'd been there a couple hours longer.) Then I thought about Sharon—I wondered if she was okay. I wondered how soon I'd get to see her. I sure missed her then. It would have been real nice to have her there then.

Then since everyone seemed to be ignoring me I closed my eyes and sort of vegetated. Later I heard people discussing me and questioning why I was still in recovery—after all I'd been there a lot longer than normal. I wondered the same thing. Why weren't they getting me to my room and to Sharon? The clock said 4:20. That thing was still in my mouth. A shift change occurred in the recovery room and the next shift was asking the same questions. The phone rang, and I could tell from the side of the conversation I heard that Sharon must have been making some inquiries. Of course, no one talked to me. The clock said five something.

As the time wore on it became clear that I was there because of some political posturing within the hospital staff. Finally I heard someone say "She's been 1 1/2 hours longer than we normally keep people after they stabilize. I'm gonna call and see if we can't send her upstairs." By now I was cheering inside because it was after 6 and I was really worried that Sharon would be worried about me. By now my major ailment was that I was real tired of people talking around me and no one talking to me. And I was felt like I was a pawn that someone was using to show that they were the boss in the recovery room. The brave person who finally dared call about sending me upstairs was met with lots of warning from everyone else in the room, so she waited another 15 to 20 minutes, but then she called and hallelujah—they got the go sign to ship me upstairs to my room.

I vaguely remember the ride and the transfer to my bed. I don't remember if Sharon was there waiting, but I know she was there. I think we played 20 questions after that. I wanted to know if she was okay. I had been so worried. I wanted to know what had happened that I had been in surgery so long and in the recovery room so long. She filled in the details as best she could. I remember begging her not to leave that night, and then moments later telling her it was okay for her to go. I remember checking to see if she'd be back the next day before she went to a meeting she needed to attend for work.

Exactly what they did in surgery; well, in my terms, they made two incisions: one six inches long right down my spine to my butt and the other about four inches long over on my right cheek. Then they drilled some holes, put in four screws and a plate, used another screw to pull the piece of the spine that was causing all the problems back into place, removed some pieces that were in the way, scraped bone from both hips and put

it over near the screwed pieces to create a fusion, slapped the fat and muscles back into place and sewed me up. Seems to me that 80-85 minutes should have been plenty of time—then again I'm the one who ALWAYS sliced my worm in two in Biology and then said, "What next, Teach?" Guess that's why I never became a doctor! Now the journey to recovery begins. Watch for PART 3: Hospitalization and Recovery (Stage 1) soon! *Editor's Notes:*

Everything Carla has described is pretty accurate. What she didn't describe was the fear before surgery, the worry about money, the process of getting a durable power of attorney form signed and notarized—but those aren't essential to the story. She didn't really need to worry about me in the waiting room—I was well taken care of. Our Pastor, Matthew Howard from MCC-Omaha, stayed with me in the surgery waiting room for the first couple hours and left when Judy Treinen (a friend who is a social worker for a home health agency) brought her briefcase full of paper work and sat with me for a couple hours. Then Matthew came back for another hour or so and then passed me back to Judy for the next couple hours. I sort of felt like a baton in a relay race. Every couple hours a nurse would come out of the surgery area and tell me that Carla was doing fine but that they didn't know how much longer it would be. I didn't start to get worried until after 2:00. Then, finally, at 3:00 her doctor came out, said that his assistants were closing and that she was doing fine. She'd be in recovery about 1 1/2 to 2 hours. Judy left then and I spent the next hour or so calling people and working on my paperwork I'd brought from the hospital. Then I found out her room assignment and went upstairs to wait. I did paperwork and watched the clock. About 5:00 my daughter showed up to keep me company. Finally, about 5:30, I asked the nurses to check on what the delay was. I was starting to get worried. They called down and found out that they had had trouble getting her off the ventilator and had to reintubate her. For those who are not medically inclined, that means Carla had had trouble breathing after surgery and they had to put a tube down her throat and let the machine breathe for her for a while. (Pretty much as she described it.)

My daughter went home to her family about 7:00 when I finally heard Carla was on her way up to the room. It was still another half an hour later when Carla finally arrived—looking like she had been run over by a steam roller. Since they'd been operating on her back, she had lain on her face for over six hours. Her face was now twice its normal width and her eyes were swollen shut. When I first saw her in the hall, I asked if she was awake. Carla answered me from the stretcher "Yes, I am. Come here where I can see you." Her voice sounded like she'd been breathing helium. After all, she'd had a breathing tube stuck down her throat, pinching her vocal cords for six hours.

The story of her hospital stay and her initial recovery at home will come next time. But let me tell you she is doing just fine. In fact she typed the first half of the story herself, lying on her back in bed with the Computer on a tray next to the bed and the keyboard propped up on her stomach.

WHY COMING OUT MEANS SOMETHING SPECIAL

By Stan Balderson

Twenty years ago I was hyperactive and not the person you see today. You can't understand what it's like not to be able to concentrate on anything for more than a few minutes. That condition affects every part of a person's life. I've heard people say that most grow out of it by age 20, but I didn't. It's hard to work a job when you don't understand or can't comprehend what you're doing. What everybody takes for granted, I couldn't do — I couldn't think, concentrate, or solve problems. I thought I was abnormal mentally and physically. My parents loved me but didn't know what to do.

The best thing that happened to me was to become a Nichiren Shoshu Buddhist because in Buddhism everyone is equal and everyone has the same chance to become happy and solve problems. They told me I could chant for anything that I want and for me that was to overcome my hyperactive condition.

How did this condition affect my sexual life? I didn't have one. I didn't have any childhood experiences like other males my age did. In high school I became frightened about females. I couldn't relate to either sex at the time. I avoided

any sexual contact.

Since I had a time concentrating I couldn't concentrate on a relationship. I set myself up for unhappiness even with friends. I thought that I didn't deserve to be happy. I'd always say the wrong things and people treated me like an outcast. My parents loved me but at the same time began to doubt that I would ever function alone. However, I felt that my parents had dumped me out in society to fend for myself and I felt discouraged. If it hadn't been for Buddhism and the people who stuck by me to encourage me and help me struggle, I would have given up totally. By the time I was 30 years old I had overcome the hyperactive condition.

A lot of years have gone by. I felt angry at society for treating me so badly when I was in that condition. I couldn't fight back and people abused me mentally, including those who loved me very much.

By 1980 I felt my sexuality had become confused because when I couldn't start a relationship with a woman, I would dress up like one. I did this to abuse myself — not because it felt good. At one time I felt I should change my

sex to that of a female. I couldn't relate sexually to women at all. I related to females as if I was a female. That still can be seen in my body language and sometimes how I speak. I felt real frustrated. With all the other problems I had with my life, I felt depressed about my sexuality, too. I couldn't relate to females as a male like other men did. I could relate to them as a female in a man's body. Having a sex change operation doesn't change the way you feel about yourself. You must deal with "you" the person. What coming out has done for me is to unlock both sexes within myself.

I changed myself mentally and the way in which I see people in my life. Buddhism says that everyone is equal. Color or status in life doesn't matter as long as you are a human being. Your right to like men or women is up to you as a person. Buddhism won't judge you if you're gay or lesbian because that is your choice.

Leadership in the S.G.I. movement or Value Creation Society, our lay Buddhist movement is not authoritarian but life to life in humble fashion. You naturally care about people as a result of Buddhism and the practice of Buddhism. The leaders in my faith said that I am responsible to no one but myself. That is, my life is mine and I must decide what kind of person I am to be in society. If I choose to like men sexually that is my choice. You're not treated as a homosexual just as a human being. Buddhism won't discriminate against gender orientation because that is each person's own choice and it would be slander to say that you have no right to be homosexual.

I realized that I am who I am. Once I did that, I was able to come out because I don't worry about being what I choose to be. If straight people don't like me being homosexual, that is their problem. I also use good common sense and good judgement in all dealings with the public.

I believe that as a Buddhist I must realize that the people who don't like homosexuals still have a right not to like homosexuals. I believe in respect for individual differences. When I am violated, I have a right to stand up for my rights and disagree with a slanderous statement made to me, as in someone calling me a "faggot." I might try using bullshit when a straight guy is trying to harass me. If not, I use good sense and good judgement and not fear and run away.

My parents today trust me very much. They know the kind of person I used to be and the kind of person I am today because of my practice of Buddhism. I never went to gay support group but that's because of with Buddhism I have always had the support I needed in anything I was doing in my life. I chanted about it and talked with my leaders in faith and the support was there for me.

My parents don't practice Buddhism but they respect me and my practice of Buddhism. If I choose to be homosexual, my parents must be happy for me even though they know they may not accept it. This is my life we're talking about and not anyone else's. All of my Buddhist friends know that I'm gay and accept it and even have wished me well. My eldest sister knows and has given me her blessing. My twin sister will accept my homosexuality because of who she is.

I got tired of hiding who I am as a homosexual. When you come out that weight you carry around is lifted from you. Though it sometimes is a little frightening, it's still better to be out.

GARTH BROOKS TAKES BRAVE STAND

FFLAG-OMAHA NEWSLETTER:

The October 12, 1992 issue of *Newsweek* featured country super star Garth Brooks whose new album *The Chase* includes a song "We Shall Be Free." The song lyrics say "when we are free to love anyone we choose, then we shall be free." Explaining the song, Garth said, "The way I remember it, traditional family values was encouraging children to be the best they can be. If your parents are black and white, if your parents are of the same sex, that's still traditional family values to me."

Garth had expected a lot of anger from the religious community, but he has not received it. He did receive angry letters, and his response was that "they always say, [Gays] should be granted some rights" — and it seems to be [only] the rights these people writing in think they should be allowed. Damn. I don't know where someone gets off telling human beings they can have some rights and not others."

An article in the *Los Angeles Times* recently reported that the song was not getting the airplay that other songs of Garth's had, and so the song had not broken into the top ten of country-western music. Despite this, Jay Orr, a reporter for the *Nashville Banner* newspaper said the fact that it received airplay at all shows a growth in country audiences' willingness to accept more socially themed lyrics. "I think it is a very positive thing for country music...that it can take in different point of view. Other artists have made overt statements, but they tended to be more right wing...Five years ago, this song would have sounded radical."

Newsweek said "this kind of progressive, topical songwriting coming from a rock or rap act would be no big deal. But from Brooks, it is a revolution."

GAY SCOUT

"All I know is that no admitted homosexual may register with the Boy Scouts of America" —

BSA National Camping School Instructor
Twelve years I've been included in your brotherhood. From early childhood I have sworn *On my honor*, an honor never taken lightly (I refused Catholic Confirmation. Mother, furious, refused to believe I believed a different frame of God). Lying is still for me the ultimate sin. Yet, for you, I promised *I will do my best* in spite of the odds against, *to do my duty* as your prescribed it, *to God and my country*. My god! Ejected from this circle for who He decided I should love, my fellow man.

I have kept myself physically strong, fighting for my right to life, learning survival through a heterosexual language, hiding from my enemies, becoming one of you and laughing at the gag jokes, waving the flag in rigid semiferre. I learned to never relax, to never let anyone come too close.

Yes, this gay man has kept himself morally straight while the Boy Scouts taught me *motherfucker*, described how to hump a babe's face, tie a Shit Knot so crude it must be burned from the tree. I watched squirrels pegged by wrist rockets, gasoline firebombs, trash tossed downstream. The snuck beer, the smokes, the centerfold spreads. I have stood my ground, enduring "I'd do her doggie-style." "What a cunt!" The painful boners they complained about. In all the troops of boys and men a desire to touch you never arose. My friends, I have stayed mentally awake searching the campground at midnight, dragging the dark lake in rows, each of us fearing the face of a body. He turned up drunk. Or on the mountain hike, fogged in, eight kids wet and one losing body heat. I broke camp in time. Yet it is I who am broken. Teacher, Brother, Old Scout, I stand before your council fire, your faces are shadows, your wisdom silent. Here is my honor. Tell me, how have I failed you?
Jeff Crandall, *The Source*


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FEELINGS OF A TRANSGENDERIST: Part 5 by Cheryl W.

In May of 1969, we were married. It was great. I had a good job and was near graduation, and she was a little over a year from graduating from nurses' training. I couldn't believe my good fortune when for my birthday she gave me a lovely pale blue half slip. I knew I was in heaven. Everything was rosy up until I graduated from UNO in the spring of 1970.

I was called in for my draft physical and was fortunate enough to be classified 1A. I was worried because I had had the same dream a few times about being captured in Southeast Asia. I joined the Nebraska National Guard to become a medic in June. I got my draft notice three days later. In October I reported to Fort Polk, LA for basic training with a brand new underwear wardrobe, yuck! The military was just like a job. I quickly became gung ho. I was a South Omaha kid and use to people not much different from me or my family. In the army I met people from the East, South, and West. I got to know people who were black, poor, and/or abused. The army didn't discriminate—or did it? About this time blacks figured out who was fighting and dying. In my training company there were three types of trainees, NG or national guard, RA or those who enlisted, and US the draftees. The NG's were the college grads, anxious to get to work and stay out of harms way. The RA's were mostly poor people hoping to find a way to escape abuse, poverty or a jail term. US's were mostly black or brown and unable to go to college. Color or status didn't matter to me. I had all kinds of friends and loved the competition. I was good and proud of it. I was also pretty nearsighted. I knew we had a discipline problem but thought it was just because our acting platoon leaders were all mouth--no ability. Before long I had the job.

Our platoon was half black. Four weeks into our cycle, the races polarized. The blacks decided they didn't want to be there and weren't going to work. The whites decided they would do anything to get their six months of training done and get home. I didn't realize this till one day I got into the face of a soldier who wouldn't keep his area clean. After I had grabbed his shirt and backed him up against the wall to instruct him on the benefits of helping keep our barracks ship-shape, I heard a grumble and turned around to find us surrounded by about eight threatening soldiers--black soldiers. They never touched me. I hope it was because until that day I never had thought blacks were any different from me. I guess they knew I had a job to do, and I was just trying to do it. That day I started to listen and began to understand what being black was about. We not only had different backgrounds, we were worlds apart. While I was concerned about who would be number one in the post season football polls and getting home to the better things in life, they were worried about their families and whether they would have their asses shot off or otherwise buried due to some F--war for the entertainment and benefit of the white establishment.

By the time I got home for good, I had replenished my supply of fine underwear. I was probably at the zenith of my confusion over gender. One of the worst things I ever heard one black call another was "an Oreo." That meant that he was only black on the outside and his heart was in the white man's world. I was just as much an Oreo—John Wayne on the outside, but longing to show my feminine caring inside. In the 6+ years I was in the guard, I learned a lot about other people, but not enough to let people know who I really was.

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NATIONAL NEWS

AROUND THE NATION AND THE WORLD

LESBIAN PASTOR BARRED

The highest court of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) said the Rev. Jane Spahr could not lead the congregation of the Downtown United Presbyterian Church in Rochester, New York because she is "a self-affirmed, practicing homosexual." Rev. Spahr had been chosen by the church in November 1991, but her appointment was challenged by 10 upstate New York churches. The Presbytery and a regional judicial commission upheld the selection but the other churches continued their appeal to the highest court in the church. Rev. Spahr has returned to her duties at a special ministry serving homosexuals and persons with AIDS in San Anselmo, California. Rev. Spahr stated that she will continue working to change the church's policy toward homosexuals.

DALLAS POLICE STOP TAKING NAMES OF GAYS

City police in Dallas, Texas no longer will approach people in parks in predominantly gay sections of Dallas and record their names and other information. The Chief of Police had ordered increased police action in the parks after a rash of violent crimes and complaints about open sexual activity in the parks, but taking down personal information was not part of the initial plan.

CATHOLICS PROTEST VATICAN STATEMENT ON GAYS

New Ways Ministry, an activist group for gay and lesbian Catholics, published a four page ad in the November 13 issue of the *National Catholic Reporter*. The ad criticizes a recent Vatican statement that would allow discrimination against gays. More than 1500 people have signed the ad, including Bishop Walter Sullivan of Richmond, VA; Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of Detroit, MI, and retired Bishop Charles Buswell of Pueblo, Colorado.

MINNEAPOLIS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO MURDER

After writing letters to the media in which he claimed to be sending a message to the "promiscuous, filthy gay community", Jay Johnson pleaded guilty to the 1991 murder of Joel Larson who was shot to death in a park frequented by gay men. Johnson also pleaded guilty to the murder of former Minnesota State Senator John Chenoweth and the attempted murder of Cord Draszty who were shot while together on a gay beach area. Johnson had also told the media that he was killing gays to stop the spread of AIDS. Johnson also carries the virus.

SEX IS OKAY ; GAY SEX IS NOT

The printer of Madonna's new book *Sex* has been accused of hypocrisy and homophobia by two publishers whose gay-themed books it had refused to handle.

R. R. Donnelly, one of the country's largest book manufacturers, defended its involvement in the steamy Madonna book. "We can't reject work just because people might find it controversial," spokesperson Jim Ratcliffe told a reporter as the metal-jacketed book clanked off press.

"That's a smug, self-serving lie," retorted Sasha Alyson of Alyson Publications, the country's largest gay publisher. "In 1984, Donnelly refused to print a novel we sent, and flatly told me they would not print any new books from us that had gay subject matter."

A year ago, when Alyson had trouble finding a printer for *Gay Sex: A Manual for Men Who Love Men*, they re-approached Donnelly, hoping the policy might have changed. "We were turned down again," said Alyson. "So naturally, when I learned they were printing Madonna's *Sex*, I was astounded. Even by election-year standards, this is a startling level of hypocrisy."

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NATIONAL NEWS

ELECTIONS MAJOR STEP FORWARD

NOT ALL RESULTS POSITIVE: WHILE OREGON MEASURE WAS DEFEATED, COLORADO ANTI-GAY MEASURE PASSED

One week before election day, the headline in *USA TODAY* said it all: "Millions of Gays mobilizing for 'vote of our lives.'" Energized by contests for the U.S. House and Senate, by major anti-gay ballot initiatives, and by the opportunity to elect a President who included them in his vision of America, lesbian and gay voters organized throughout the country to win major advances.

"This is a great day for lesbian and gay American's, and a great victory for all Americans," said Tim McFeeley, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. "The election of our lives is over. Governor Clinton's victory, and those of a record number of pro-lesbian and gay candidates for Congress, indicate that we have taken a major step forward in the fight for fairness. Now the hard part begins."

Gay leaders pointed to several indicators of gay political progress: the election of Bill Clinton who supported gay civil rights measures; the defeat of anti-gay initiatives in Oregon (57-43 percent) and Portland, Maine (57-43 percent); the election of pro-gay candidates to the U.S. Congress, such as Carol Moseley Braun of Illinois and Barbara Boxer of California, and the victory of several openly gay candidates, including U.S. Reps. Gerry Studds (62-38 percent) and Barney Frank, and state legislators Karen Clark and Allan Spear (MN) and Glen Maxey (TX) among others.

At the same time troublesome losses pointed out the long road that gay Americans must still travel. In Colorado, an initiative sponsored by the Evangelical Far Right passed 54 to 46 percent, prohibiting protections against anti-gay discrimination. In Tampa, Florida, a one-year-old gay rights law was overturned by referendum (58-42).

"On the whole this election marks a rite of passage for our civil rights movement," said Urvashi Vaid, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) executive director. "It is a passage from the margin to the center, from social pariah to political partner, from public intolerance to broader understanding."

"We formed a crucial voting bloc and helped

elect a new president," said Vaid. "We defeated the extremist Right attempt to use anti-gay bigotry to hijack a national election. For the first time in history, gay men and lesbians will serve as full and equal partners in the governing of our country."

Gay activists immediately drew three major assessments from the election results:

—Gay and lesbian involvement and visibility was unparalleled and pervasive;

—The public rejected the "traditional family values" anti-gay rhetoric of the Republican campaign;

—Gays and lesbians have become part of the governing coalition of this country, with the real work for change yet to come.

A Cable News Network exit poll showed 71 percent of gay voters chose Clinton, 17 percent Bush, and 12 percent Perot. Gay leaders estimated that 10 million gay and lesbian Americans voted this year, or 10 percent of the more than 100 million reported voters.

The Victory Fund reported that 27 of the 52 openly gay/lesbian candidates were elected; 16 reelected, 11 for the first time, bringing the number of elected officials to a record 75 — up from 64. Because of the number of pro-gay candidates that won Congressional races, the Human Rights Campaign Fund predicts a record 140 cosponsors for the Federal Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill when introduced in the new Congress.

Activists noted gay and lesbian issues occupied an unprecedented prominence in media coverage and political attention. Bill Clinton aggressively courted the gay and lesbian vote. Ross Perot found himself in the political hotseat after stating he would not hire openly gay members to his Cabinet. And George Bush, Dan Quale and a host of speakers at the Republican Convention attacked gays and championed "family values."

"The people of America resoundingly rejected the narrow and exclusive vision offered by Far Right forces that dominated the GOP," said Urvashi Vaid. "History will recall this year of change as one in which the lesbian and gay community achieved political victories in

mobilization of the gay vote, political respectability and political power."

At the same time the NGLTF released a Transition Document recalling promises made by Clinton during the campaign and stressing the necessity for the gay community to hold President-elect Clinton to them.

The document urged Clinton to make good within his first 100 days in office his promise to overturn the Department of Defense's anti-gay policy. It urged Clinton to appoint an AIDS "czar," implement the AIDS commission recommendations on research, care, and education, and provide leadership in combating the HIV crisis.

The NGLTF also called on Clinton to: implement Health and Human Services recommendations on gay and lesbian youth suicide, which have been shelved for three years; meet with representatives of the gay and lesbian community, preferably to coincide with the National March on Washington for Gay, Lesbian, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation in April 1993; sign an Executive Order barring discrimination based on sexual orientation in federal employment and contracts; support and work for passage of the Federal Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Act; seek out and appoint qualified openly gay and lesbian personnel in the Administration.

CANADIAN REVERSAL OF GAY MILITARY BAN

Congressman Gerry Studds (D-MA), who has led the charge to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians in the military, today praised a Canadian court ruling that struck down Canada's ban on gay and lesbian military service.

"This is a powerful example for the United States," Studds said. "Our closest cultural neighbor and ally can find no reason to restrict military service because of sexual orientation—and the United States should follow suit. We don't have a person to waste."

Canada joins the vast majority of other NATO countries in permitting military service by lesbians and gay men.

In the past, the Pentagon has defended the U.S. policy barring lesbians and gays by claiming their military service would prove "incompatible with discipline, good order and morale." Studds contended the Canadian decision removes that last argument against service by American gays and lesbians as well.

The new Canadian government policy comes as the result of a decision by the Federal Court of Canada that awarded legal fees and \$100,000 in damages to a lesbian forced out of the Canadian Air Force in 1989. The Canadian military has agreed to fully comply with the court ruling.

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AIDS NEWS

THE STORIES BEHIND THE RED RIBBONS

Artist Services, Inc. and Onanon Productions proudly announce an original documentary video program, *The Stories Behind the Red Ribbons*, debuted at the 1992 Lifesongs AIDS benefit concert starring Kenny Rogers on September 20, 1992. This 9 minute film program profiles four separate lives that have been affected by HIV/AIDS and presents their efforts to call attention to this growing pandemic by the wearing of the red ribbon.

The Stories Behind the Red Ribbons begins with a synopsis of recently televised awards shows, including the Emmys, the Grammys, and Golden Globe Awards where the red ribbon has been seen by millions of viewers. The program then focuses on the personal stories of a suburban family who recently lost a son to HIV/AIDS. It then spotlights the lives of a black gay man, a white heterosexual woman and a recovering black female addict who are all living with HIV/AIDS. Their stories are touching and hopeful as they each describe how important the wearing of the red ribbon has become in making people aware of the crisis of HIV/AIDS.

This educational video is available for rental with proceeds going to AIDS providers. *The Stories Behind the Red Ribbons* is a pilot for a documentary intended for national release in the spring of 1993. This program will explore in greater detail, the history of the ribbon awareness campaign that began in May of 1991. The full length documentary will introduce the primary leaders in Hollywood and New York who have successfully introduced the red ribbon on countless theater stages and television awards shows.

WORLD AIDS DAY DECEMBER 1, 1992

The fourth annual World AIDS Day will be observed on December 1st of this year. The theme of this year's World AIDS Day - *Community Commitment* - is designed to emphasize the pivotal role communities can and must play in taking up the global AIDS challenge. The NAMES Project has made available a simple Quilt display package to facilitate inclusion of the Quilt in World AIDS Day observances in a variety of facilities. In 1991, over 60 communities across the U.S. incorporated a Quilt display in their activities.

"WE BRING A QUILT"

By Dave Hays

Access Line—Waterloo, IA

The call went out and they came. From large cities, small towns, foreign lands and Hollywood. People of all walks in life felt the magnetic pull of The Quilt and traveled to Washington, D.C. October 9-11.

It was the first time the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt was displayed in one location since 1989 and only the fourth time for the entire Quilt since its debut in 1987 with 1,920 panels covering 15 acres of land at the base of the Washington Monument.

Friday's opening ceremonies were delayed due to wet grounds, then postponed until Saturday as rain dampened spirits and plans. Still the continual reading of names memorialized in The Quilt began on schedule Friday because the list was too long to wait a day and still be finished by the end of the weekend.

The 100+ ceremonial unfolding teams returned to The Quilt Saturday morning but the opening was once again delayed while hoping the sun could dry out the soggy soil. By noon the opening ceremonies were canceled and a quicker unfolding took place while thousands of viewers waited, eager to see the colorful spectacle of memories.

Sunday's opening was also delayed until noon to allow the ground more drying time but by 3 p.m. clouds returned and wary, tear-stained eyes watched for the first rain drops. A few minutes later the announcement was made to conduct an emergency rain fold. Quilt volunteers, dressed in white, were assisted by the thousands of people on the walkways and the entire 15 acres of Quilt squares were folded into bundles and covered with plastic in less than one minute. The downpour that followed brought volunteers out of the protection of trees, umbrellas and sheets of plastic to carry the folded Quilt sections to nearby streets to be loaded onto trucks. Closing ceremonies were canceled as rains continued.

Personal Observations

Yes, it was frustrating and disappointing to have so much viewing time shut down by rains and wet grounds, but the few hours on sunny viewing made it all worthwhile. The overwhelming size, the unbelievable range of emotions, the colors, the people. I worked briefly with Judith ("Who's the Boss") Light on Quilt unfolding! Susan Sarandon, Tipper Gore, Lily Tomlin, and other celebrities and leaders stood in line with mothers and lovers and people with AIDS to read names all weekend.

Heartbreaking stories were softened by comical moments and glowing memories. Tears from the Quilt viewers and Mother Nature were blotted by warm hugs and friendly smiles.

A highlight for all who participated was the AIDS Memorial Candlelight March on Saturday night. A crowd gathered at The Ellipse of the Capitol for opening statements and special music, then grew to over 200,000 candle-holding walkers as the throng entered the streets.

The murmur of small-talk and greetings, as the streams of candlelight filled the streets, turned to shouts of protest as we passed the White House. "Shame, Shame, Shame" was soon replaced by "Four More Weeks" to protest the Bush Administration's lack of commitment and compassionate response to AIDS.

As the long line of lights neared the grounds of the Lincoln Memorial, a quick glance down a side street showed a glimmer of candlelight blocks away as the last of the marchers were leaving the Ellipse. Fun moments occurred when marchers near the end of the line started a wave that would quickly surge throughout the streets of Washington with participants raising candles with a "whoop!"

As the miles of candlelight gather along the Lincoln Memorial reflecting pools, another great moment unfolded. Giant video screens and stereo speakers relayed stage performances to the far reaches of the crowd. Speakers like Lisa Manelli and Quilt founder Cleve Jones were joined on stage with performances by gay vocalist Michael Callan, Broadway star Joel Grey, and singer Patti Austin. Powerful music, strong words, and emotion-filled pleas for action filled the air and brought candle lit tears to many eyes. It was heavy and exciting and magic.

See the Quilt Display in the
Omaha Civic Auditorium Dec. 5 & 6

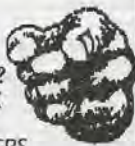
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HIV/AIDS

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- *SHARING NEEDLES



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(402) 471 - 8065

FOR OTHER TESTING SITES, CALL:

DOUGLAS COUNTY	402 444-6875
GRAND ISLAND/HALL COUNTY	308 381-5175
NEMAHA COUNTY	402 274-4549
NORTH PLATTE	308 535-8133
SCOTTSBLUFF	308 635-3866
KEARNEY	308 234-8709

AIDS/HIV RESOURCES

INFORMATION & REFERRAL*

*More info call Neb AIDS Project 342-4233

AIDS Educ Project, UNL G/L Resource Cntr,
Rm 342, Neb Union, Lincoln 68588, 472-5644

American Red Cross,
1701 'E', Lincoln, 68501, (402) 471-7997.
3838 Dewey, Omaha, 68131, (402) 341-2723.

Community Prescription Service, AIDS Info,
medicine, supplies by mail, 1-800-677-4323.

Douglas County Health Department,
1201 S. 42, Omaha, 68105, (402) 444-6875.

Grand Island/Hall Co. Health Dept.,
105 E. 1st, Grand Island, (308) 381-5175.

HAIRCARES, Hairdressers helping PWA's,
1-800-HAIRCARES, Omaha: Judy 333-3329.

Lincoln Cancer Cntr, 4600 Valley, 483-1872.

Lincoln-Lancaster Health Dept 2200 St Mary
Lincoln 68502, 471-8065, Testing, counseling.

Neb AIDS Educ./Training Center, UNMC,
600 S 42, Omaha, 68198, (402) 559-6681.

Nebraska AIDS Project, 3624 Leavenworth,
Omaha 68105, 342-4233 or (statewide) (800)
782-AIDS [2437] AIDS Hotline. HIV testing,
practical support, counseling, AIDS awareness.

Neb Dept of Health, 3423 2nd Ave, Kearney
68847, Call Sharon (308) 234-8709.

NE Dept of Health, Craft St. Office Bldg, 200
So. Silber, NorthPlatte 69101 (308) 535-8133.

Neb. Regional Hemophilia Center, UNMC,
600 S. 42nd St., Omaha, (402) 559-4227.

People of Color Consortium Against AIDS
2226 Leavenworth, Omaha, (402) 341-8471.

Scottsbluff Co. Health Dept., County Admin.
Bldg., Gering, NE 69341, (308) 635-3866.

Veterans Admin Medical Center, 42 & Wool-
worth, Omaha, 346-8800: Dean Pierce, x 4119

Viral Syndrome Clinic, Univ. of NE Medical
Center, 600 S. 42nd, Omaha, (402) 559-6202.

LEGAL

Mowbray, Chapin, & Walker, P.C., 201 N.
8th, Ste 242, Lincoln 68508, 476-3882: Jim.

Neb Bar Assoc, 635 S 14, Lincoln, 475-7091

Nebraska Civil Liberties Union, Box 81455,
Lincoln 68501, (402) 476-8091.

PASTORAL CARE

AIDS Interfaith Network, 100 N 62, Omaha
Br Wm Woeger 558-3100 (Chancery) 7pm,
Service: 2nd Mon, St Cecelias 40th & Webster.

AIDS Interfaith Network, 215 Centennial
Mall So., Rm 411, Lincoln 68508, 474-3017,
Services: 7pm, 4th Mon, St Marks, 14th & R.

HIV TESTING*

*We urge you to inquire about
anonymity & confidentiality before
testing.

Charles Drew Health Center,
2201 N. 30, Omaha, 68111, (402) 453-1433.

Douglas County Health Department,
1201 S. 42, Omaha, 68105, (402) 444-6875.

Equilibria Medical Center, 544 S. 24,
Omaha, (402) 345-2252.

Grand Island-Hall County Health Dept.,
105 East 1st St., Grand Island,
Mary: (308) 381-5175.

HIV testing & Counseling, 5-7pm on 2nd
Tuesday, The Panic, 200 S. 18, Lincoln.

Lincoln-Lancaster Health Dept., 2200 St
Marys Ave, Lincoln, 68502. (402) 471-8065.

Native American Community Development
Corp., 2226 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-8471.

Nebraska AIDS Project, 3624 Leavenworth,
Omaha. 342-4233 or (800) 782-AIDS [2437].

Nebraska Association of Farm Workers,
4939 S. 24th, Omaha, 68107. (402) 734-4100.

Nebraska Department of Health, Norfolk
Regional Center, Administration Building #16,
(402) 370-3395.

Nemaha County Health Department,
1824 N St., Auburn, 68305. (402) 274-4549.

COUNSELING & SUPPORT GROUPS

Grand Island Area HIV/AIDS Support
Group, Meets 3rd Tuesday, (308) 381-5175.

Kearney Area HIV/AIDS Support Group,
1st Tues at 6:30pm, 3rd Tues at 7:30pm.
(308) 234-6500 or Sharon (308) 234-8709.

Lincoln Caseworker, (402) 474-4243.

Nebraska AIDS Project, 3624 Leavenworth,
Omaha. Individual counseling, support groups
in confidential locations. (402) 342-4233.

North Platte Area Support Group
Call: (308) 535-8133.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays-Lincoln
(P-FLAG) AIDS Support Group, Box 4374,
Lincoln 68504. Wednesdays at 7pm.
AIDS info/support line: (402) 475-2437.

Western Nebraska HIV/AIDS Support
Group, Scottsbluff. Call (308) 635-3606.

AIDS ACTION LEADERSHIP AWARDS

The AIDS Action Foundation presented its 1992 AIDS Action Leadership Awards to Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-CA), the *USA TODAY* editorial board, and volunteers Gary Barton and Rob Hershman at a reception at the Corcoran Gallery of Arts on Sept. 16.

"Now, more than 10 years after the crisis began, heroes in the battle against AIDS continue to emerge," said Daniel T. Bross, Administrator of the AIDS Action Foundation. "These honorees confirm that courage and action remain our ultimate weapons to win the war against AIDS."

Congresswoman Maxine Waters has provided extraordinary leadership in the fight against AIDS. Almost singlehandedly, she mobilized support to stave off cuts in federal AIDS prevention programs for people of color. Her leadership resulted in the restoration of over \$1 million in AIDS funding to minority community-based organizations. Congresswoman Waters was also instrumental in organizing the first briefing on AIDS for members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

The *USA Today* editorial board has never wavered from tackling the most controversial issues surrounding AIDS with wisdom and common sense. From needle exchange programs to sexually-explicit materials, condom distribution in schools to the testing of health care workers, *USA Today's* editorial policy has demonstrated that enlightened views and compassion can be twin companions in settling public policy to battle AIDS.

Volunteers Rob Hershman and Gary Barton

came to realize that highly-specialized advocacy skills were critical, if the hard-fought legislative victories for AIDS were to be duplicated in the areas of research and treatment. They took this insight and launched a successful fundraising effort to create a full-time advocacy effort dedicated solely to research and treatment issues. As a result of their fundraising efforts, a Treatment Issues Director, focused solely on the issues of drug development, treatment access, and research funding, was hired in July. Derek Hodel, formerly executive director of the People with AIDS Health Group, fills this position.

Hershman, a person living with AIDS, is a CBS-News Producer, who most recently produced *48 Hours: The Killer Next Door*. Barton, HIV positive, an independent producer and formerly Senior Vice President for Production at Disney, will be producing a film based on Paul Monette's highly acclaimed book *Halfway Home*.

The AIDS Action Leadership Awards were initiated in 1991 to recognize leadership in the media, public policy arena, and the volunteer community.

The AIDS Action Foundation, founded in 1987, works in partnership with its sister organization, the AIDS Action Council, a coalition of over 750 community based organizations. The Foundation supports the development and dissemination of HIV and AIDS public policy research, education and training of community advocates and the promotion of effective federal AIDS Programs.

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LOCAL NEWS

MCC-O DEDICATES NEW CHURCH BUILDING

Reverend Elder Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, was the featured speaker on Sunday, October 25, as Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha (MCC-O) dedicated its new church home at 819 South 22 in Omaha. Rev. Perry was honored at a reception at The MAX on Saturday afternoon, October 24, and gave the message at services held that evening. Special guests during the weekend were Rev. Perry's son and his family, who live in Central Nebraska.

The Sunday service featured the formal dedication of the building to God's service, including the dedication of an oak pulpit created and constructed by Mr. Craig Stoops for MCC-O. During the dedication service, Rev. Perry challenged the standing room only audience of over 225 to live boldly, overcoming the fears common to us all: the fear of the unknown, the fear of failure, and the fear of loss.

Rev. Perry recalled the days in October 1968 when the Fellowship first began with a small gathering of gay Christians in Rev. Perry's home in Los Angeles, CA. The Fellowship grew and met repeated challenges until it reached its present standing as the fastest growing international

denomination with over 200 churches in 15 countries and over 30,000 adherents.

The Omaha church was begun just five years later when Rev. Fred Zydek and a handful of evangelists came to the Midwest to set up an outreach to the gay and lesbian community. The Church was originally chartered as The First Metropolitan Community Church of Nebraska in January, 1974, but by 1975 the name was changed to Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha.

The church first met in private homes, and then in the Unitarian Church. MCC-O's first meeting place of its own was in a storefront building at 20th and Burt, under the leadership of the Rev. Bob Darst. This building housed the congregation into the 1980's, at which time it was condemned because of code violations. The congregation under the leadership of Rev. Jan Kross then purchased a storefront at 420 S. 24th which had previously housed the Stable Bar. This little building was home to MCC for almost 10 years, before the Rev. Matthew Howard led the growing congregation in the search for a new church home.

The church building that is now home to MCC-O was originally constructed in 1887 by the

Danish Lutheran Church, and housed that congregation until the 1960's when the congregation moved and took the name "Shepherd of the Hills". Most recently the building had housed Grace Apostolic Temple.

MCC-O purchased the building in July and held its first church service there on July 12. Since moving into this new church home, the congregation has grown by 35% in average attendance. Plans are underway to expand the church's ministries in several areas, including Sunday School for the increasing numbers of children attending with their parents.

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LOCAL NEWS

GAY FAMILY AMONG THOSE NOMINATED FOR FAMILY SERVICES "SALUTE TO FAMILIES" AWARD

Each year Family Services across the country select certain families to be honored during National Family Week. Four area families were honored by Family Services of Metro Omaha at a ceremony held November 19. Organizations and individuals were asked to nominate families in four categories: Challenged and Successful Families, Community Service Families, Leadership Families, and Exemplary Families. Family Services has been at the forefront of organizations recognizing and working with the variety of American family life and invited nominations of "any family structure; including two parents or single parents, blended or extended families, foster or adoptive families. They may be of any ancestry, of any socioeconomic status, and of any religious belief."

In response to this invitation, Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha nominated the family of Tom Bertino and Michael Taylor-Stewart, Tommy and Julia Bertino, in the category of challenged and successful families. The nomination outlined the challenges faced by Tom and Michael who live as an openly gay couple and parents to Tommy and Julia who are with them every other weekend. Tommy and Julia attend church with Tom and Michael and rode on the MCC-O float in the 1992 Pride Parade. The nomination took special notice of Tom and Michael's activities in the Theater and their volunteer work with the Church and the production of *Nonsense* earlier this year. The nomination closed as follows:

"Tom, Michael, Tommy, and Julia are successfully facing the challenge of being a family following divorce and remarriage. What makes their success noteworthy is that Tom and Michael are an openly gay couple who have chosen to accept their responsibility to provide Tommy and Julia with love, discipline, commitment, honesty, and to serve as role models of how parents can meet the needs of their children, their community, and themselves."

While Tom and Michael were not chosen to be the family given special recognition, their nomination was accepted and treated with the same consideration as other nominations. The congratulatory letter sent by Family Service to notify Tom and Michael of their nomination included the following paragraph:

"Our community is extremely fortunate to have families such as your who exhibit exemplary family life and community service. The staff and board of directors of Family Service commend you and your family for being nominated for this honor."

The *New Voice* staff would also like to congratulate Tom, Michael, Tommy, and Julia on being nominated for this honor.

RIVER CITY MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE

There continues to be major changes in the rankings in the River City Mixed Bowling League. After 11 weeks of bowling Ernie's Bookstore has taken first place, City Lickers is in second, and Eight Balls has dropped back into third place. Delivery Boys dropped from 2nd to 10th place and Gilligan's Pub 2 moved from 3rd to 12th. Wild Boys had moved from 19th to 4th but have now dropped back to 11th place.

The men's high scratch game is still held by Dan Cooper with a sizzling 287, followed by Bill Boren with a 275 and Dwight Wages with a 263. Dan Cooper also has high series for the men with a 687 and the high average with a 209. Darwyn Buechler still has the second high series (673). Dwight Wages takes third high series with a 663. The second high men's average is held by Terry Finck with a 196.1 and the third high men's average is held by Charley Wade with a 195.1.

Norma Nelson has improved her high scratch game to 218, holds second high women's series with 556, and third high average with 166.6. E. Mueller continues to show her high scoring ways with the second high women's game (211), high women's series with 575, and second high average with 169.7. The third high women's game is held by Gloria Sheer with a 209, who has the third high women's series with a 531 and the high women's average with a 177.

The high handicap team game is still 827 bowled by the Church Ladies. The second high team game is a 785 bowled by Gilligan's Pub 2. There is a three way tie for the third high team game with City Lickers, Stosh's Saloon and Eight Balls all having bowled a 776 game.

The team series standings remain the same. The Eight Balls hold the high team series with a 2172 series. DC's holds the second high team series with a 2166 and City Lickers takes third with a 2150.

Outstanding individual performances during week eleven included Michael Rice's 2236 game (he bowled 112 pins over average) and Norma Nelson's 218 game. Darwin Buechler had a 593 series and Joe Bloemer had a 557. Cheryl Christensen bowled 101 pins over average to score a 497 series. Della Carlson bowled 78 pins over average and bowled a 197 game. The high scorers for the week were rounded out by Michael Hall's outstanding performance as he bowled 126 pins over his average.

Full League Standings are as follows:

1. Ernie's Bookstore	31	11
2. City Lickers	29	13
3. Eight Balls	28	14
4. Gilligan's 1	28	14
5. Running Rebels	28	14
6. Stosh's Saloon Outlaws	25	17
7. Stosh's Saloon	25	17
8. 3 Guys & A Babe	25	17
9. DC's	25	17
10. Delivery Boys	23	19
11. Wild Boys	23	19
12. Gilligan's Pub 2	22	20
13. Enterprise Rent a Car	22	20
14. DC's Babes	21	21
15. Church Ladies	19	23
16. Maximum Force One	18	24
17. Team 6	16	26
18. Gay Caballeros	16	26
19. Dorothy's Friends	13	29
20. Jokers	11	31
21. Vacancy	10	32
22. DC's II	3	38

OMAHA MEN - OMEN AIDS AWARENESS RIBBON FUND

We are still promoting the AIDS Awareness Ribbons in the local bars. The contributions have declined some in the past months, but the ribbons keep disappearing. That means people are wearing them and that was always our goal. Keep the awareness alive.

Collected donations have been divided up between organizations that support AIDS and/or HIV positive people. Distribution of the funds has been as follows:

Mercy Care AIDS Support	\$ 46.00
Nebraska AIDS Project	165.00
P-FLAG PWA	89.00
ICON PWA	75.00

Another group has been added to the list of organizations to receive collections. Money collected in November went to help bring the Qsuit to Nebraska. On behalf of the people and organizations that benefit from the AIDS Awareness Ribbon Fund, thank you for your support.

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LOCAL NEWS

SPECIAL ORDERS FROM ARBOR MOON

Yes, we have gift certificates. If you can't make it on Saturday, give me a call and we'll work something out. "By ordering through us, you'll save shipping charges and help us acquire a space of our own. 1993 alternative calendars are in. We carry best selling alternative books, magazines, and jewelry. Our areas include spirituality, lesbian and gay, multicultural, recovery and holistic health.

The search is on for a space of our own. The plan is to find a historic building where we can combine apartments and bookstore space. The income from the apartments will help offset the cost of getting through the startup period and help us maintain the business when the economy has a downward slide.

We're making great progress on the nonprofit. We envision combining the resources of the bookstore with a nonprofit Women's Empowerment Center to further the goals of both — namely nurturing women's culture, healing ourselves, our planet and our politics and providing support for alternative families, economics, and alternative political and spiritual groups.

The nonprofit has a name, a board, and some seed money. The necessary forms are in hand and we're applying for our nonprofit status. For now, the Center will run its business out of the home of the three board members. When the bookstore acquires a space of its own, the Center will likely begin to run its business from there.

The Goddess provides,
Wally

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ASK FOR SUSAN!

Now, is the time to make your reservations for the March on Washington. If you wait until the first of April, you will be plain out of luck unless you have friends in the D.C. area. Susan from Prestige Travel has gotten fifty airline seats already reserved for only \$280 a piece. That is quite a deal with all of the trouble in the airline industry right now. The hotel rooms are varied in rates, but you can block your's for only fifty dollars down. The catch to all of these great deals is that you need to take advantage of them, as soon as possible. The agency is trying to get all of the monies in by January 31 and no one is sending in their deposits, even when they are making the reservations. You will lose your room if the deposit is not sent within two weeks of making the call. Please put out the fifty to save yourself a room for the largest civil rights demonstration in the nation's history.

It is to our advantage to use this one agent, as will be getting possible free tickets for scholarships in this area with a certain required number of purchases. If you have any questions on this travel information or anything else regarding the March, please feel free to call Amy at 451-7987.

OMAHA PLAYERS CLUB

School's In Session!

by Amy Marie Meek

Our first two workshops have gone well! O.P.C. is the local group providing S/M, leather, fetish education and support. We had a basic introduction workshop in October and a Bondage 101 workshop in November. Twelve people got together and discussed the ins and outs of how and why bondage is performed. Several participants had Gary and Amy show them what it is like to experience ropes and chains and such.

The next few months will provide an even better opportunity for the community to learn more about this alternative lifestyle. December's topic will be "Fantasy/Fetish Role Playing Part 1." The workshop will be at the Days Inn at 30th and Dodge Streets in Room 600. We will start around 2 P.M. on Saturday, December 12. We hope to have the same room for all of our future workshops as well, so everyone can participate without being too public. We do try to be as discreet as possible while encouraging the public to attend. For some, it is hard enough to make the choice to attend one of our functions, let alone having obstacles. January will bring "Pervertibles" (it's not what you think), February will be "Clothing for Sex" (it is what you think), March will be "Floggers and Whips," and March will be "Role Playing Part 2."

We encourage those who want to learn or those with questions to attend. If you have any questions about the club, you can write or call (see the Resource Directory for our number).

GILLIGAN'S

OPEN 2p.m. to 1a.m.

HAPPY HOUR

5p.m. to 9p.m.

NOW KAROKE

IN BACK BAR

Thursday Thru Sunday
9p.m. to 1a.m.

DRINK SPECIALS



GILLIGAN'S PUB

1823 Leavenworth
Proper ID Required

LOCAL NEWS

NEWS FROM THE NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT

Walk-a-thon Raises \$15,000

The Nebraska AIDS Project Walk-a-thon which was held October 18 was a very big success. By the end of the month, NAP had received over \$15,000 from the event, and pledges are still trickling in. 120 participants warmed up with Upbeat Aerobics, and then hit the path for a 10K walk, beginning at the Omaha Community Playhouse. Special thanks go to all those who walked, those who pledged money, the volunteers who helped throughout the morning, and the following prize donors: Ahmad's Persian Restaurant, Buster's Workshop, Centre Court, Delta Airlines, DiCoppia Restaurant, Emmy Gifford Children's Theater, Firehouse Dinner Theater, Howard's Charro Cafe, Omaha Marriott Hotel, Red Lion Hotel, the Athlete's Foot, Upbeat Aerobics Center. We hope to have a bigger and better "Next Step Together," in 1993. Hope you will join us.

ICON-PWA Assistance Fund contributes over \$14,000

As the year comes to an end, so does preparation for a new year and new budgets. As of October 30, ICON-PWA Emergency Assistance has allocated over \$14,000 in financial assistance to Nebraskans diagnosed with AIDS or HIV infection. ICON-PWA has guaranteed to cover expenditures for the remaining calendar

year, and is committed in supporting the PWA fund for the 1993 budget. The financial assistance program can be accessed for emergency situations, and has been a very important program of the Nebraska AIDS Project and ICON-PWA.

PWA Speaks In Lodgepole, NE

On October 26 in a small town in Western Nebraska Debbie Bond beat fear and isolation by telling her community that she has AIDS. Debbie is a member of the Southern Panhandle AIDS Awareness Team (SPAAT) and with the support of the task force, Debbie made the decision to tell Lodgepole, Nebraska about her illness. The Nebraska AIDS Project commends Debbie and her family for their honesty and bravery in telling her story. As Debbie spoke in the Lodgepole High School gym her words really moved the crowd. "I want people to know that AIDS is a disease that means dying alone to hundreds of young men and women. No matter how people become infected, they need support. As long as we [AIDS Patients] remain silent, Nebraskans will continue to believe it can't happen to them." Western Nebraska can now put a face to the disease.

The Quilt is Coming

The NAMES Project Memorial Quilt will be displayed at the Civic Auditorium December 4 through the 6th. Over 1000 panels will be brought

to Omaha for the purpose of education and awareness. The display will be open to the public on Saturday, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., with opening ceremonies taking place at 9:00 a.m. Sunday display hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with closing ceremonies at 5:00 p.m. PWA's/PWHIV's, friends and family members who have lost someone to AIDS complications are invited to a closed viewing on December 4. For more information please call the Nebraska AIDS Project (800-782-2437) or the Quilt Committee (291-6781). We truly appreciate the volunteers who have put their time and effort into bringing the Quilt to Nebraska.

Case Management Clients Now Over 200

NAP Case Management Census October 1992	
Open Cases as of 10/1/92	195
New Cases	15
Clients Deceased	2
Cases Closed	2
End Total as of 10/31/92	206
Client Services Provided in October	
Advocacy	211
Transportation	108
Shopping, Cooking, Sitting, etc	97

If you know someone who is HIV+ or has AIDS, feel free to refer them to the Nebraska AIDS Project. If you would like to volunteer, call Audrey for an application: 800-782-2437.

THE DIAMOND BAR

Where it all began
in
Omaha, Nebraska

712 South 16th Street 342-9595

Please
Drink In
Moderation



STILL THE FRIENDLIEST BAR IN TOWN



DC's

1019 South 10th Street
Omaha, NE 68108
344-3103

*Plenty of Free Parking
- North Entrance

**HAPPY HOUR
EVERYDAY
4 P.M. - 9 P.M.**

SUNDAY DEC. 13

DC's proudly presents an evening of live country music with Ron Walters, Denise, special guest Willie from Kansas City & other guests!

SUNDAY DEC. 20

Miss Gay Nebraska America
Dietra Snow & special guests!

SUNDAY DEC. 27

Mr. DC's Leather & Western Contest
hosted by Mr. DC's Western
David Brady!

See any DC bartender for entry forms

**COUNTRY WESTERN
DANCE LESSONS
NOW ON
WED. & FRI. NIGHTS
AT 9:00 P.M.**

**NEW YEARS EVE PARTY!
COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE
& PARTY FAVORS**

NIGHTLY SPECIALS

MONDAY

Ouzo
\$1.50

Draws
75¢

TUESDAY

Jack
Daniels
\$1.25

Beer Bust
8pm-1am

WEDNESDAY

Schnapps
Shots
\$1.00

Margaritas
\$1.50

THURSDAY

Jagermeister
\$1.50

Cactus
Juice
\$1.00

FRIDAY

Cowboy
Cocksuckers
\$1.25

Draws
75¢

SATURDAY

Bacardi
\$1.50

Schnapps
Shots
\$1.25

SUNDAY

Bloody
Mary's
\$1.50

*Bowler's
Special
Beer Bust
5pm-9pm*

LOCAL NEWS

DC's HOSTS SUCCESSFUL BENEFIT FOR THE QUILT

by Stan (Inga) Brown

The audience at DC's on Sunday, October 25 really dug deep in their pockets for the Names Quilt and \$767.00 was raised during the benefit show from door money, raffles, and tips. Dan and Charlie, owners of DC's, made a generous donation of \$100.00 and helped to make the evening a big success. I send my thanks to all who attended the benefit and supported this event.

I really enjoyed putting together benefit shows like this, but it takes a lot of people to really make them successful. First, a thank you to Jim Knight from Bellevue International Minute press for the typesetting of the flyer and Bob Ewing for printing them. These two men do a lot of work for the community, so please support their businesses. Without my friends, the performers, the show would not have been possible, and I appreciate their giving of their time, talent, and money. Thank you to Joel, Viktoria, Jasmin, Sammi, Jodi, Melissa, Madame X, R.N., Ron, David, Phil, Michael, Todd, Blake, Pat (our emcee), and my lover Brandon.

A special thank you to Jeff and Ron who worked the doors and Dave and Kathy England for their help and support. Please make sure to see the Names Quilt while it is in Omaha on December 5 and 6 at the Omaha Civic Auditorium.

COFFEEHOUSE OPENS IN OMAHA

New Realities' owner announces the opening of Downtown Grounds Coffee House, located at 1117 Jackson (across the street south of the Firehouse Dinner Theater). Downtown Grounds features a variety of gourmet coffees, capucino, Italian soda and fresh juice to compliment an extensive selection of desserts, pastries, and gourmet sandwiches. Downtown Grounds displays artwork from upcoming local artists on consignment from the White Crane Gallery. Completing the atmosphere will be "acoustical" music, including blues, jazz, folk, and women's vocals. Performers are encouraged to contact Diane at 571-7908 to audition and discuss possible performance nights. Downtown Grounds is open Tuesday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. til 9:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. til 11:00 p.m. and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. til 6:00 p.m. The coffee house is closed on Mondays for private meetings. Downtown Grounds is a place where gays can feel comfortable.

ANGLE SELECTS EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR 1993

ANGLE is pleased to announce its officers and executive board for 1993. Dave England will be serving his second term as moderator. He will be supported by Rebecca Weitzel as vice-moderator, and according to ANGLE By-Laws, Rebecca will be moderator in 1994. Carla Petersen will be serving as treasurer. Currently the position of secretary is open. Also serving on the executive board are three members at large: Joe Phillips, Brandon Shukis, and Michael Berry.

The executive board met early in November to draw up goals for 1993. ANGLE invites interested individuals to join in the discussion of these goals at the next meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 1, 7:00 p.m. at the Religious Center for UNO. Call the phone line for directions 558-5303.

Any individual in the community, any business in the community, and/or any organization in the community is invited to become an active participant in the pride and consciousness-raising activities of ANGLE. ANGLE meets the first Tuesday of every month.

CHESTERFIELD TO HOST HIV PREVENTION CLASSES

On Saturday, December 19, at 3:00 p.m. the Chesterfield, 1951 St. Mary's Avenue, will host a Free class designed to increase women's awareness of issues related to HIV among women. The class will include HIV prevention and the prevention of other sexually transmitted diseases. The classes are open to all women.

**BECAUSE OF U....
WE HAVE SEEN
THE QUILT
AND HAVE BEEN
TOUCHED**

**ALL VOLUNTEERS
WILL BE HONORED
AT A SPECIAL
THANK YOU EVENT
IN JANUARY....**



**BE WATCHING FOR
DETAILS!**

**THRIFT CITY
SEEKING YOUR
USABLE DONATED
ITEMS**

WILL PICK UP

**HOURS:
MONDAY - FRIDAY 10 - 6PM
SATURDAY
10 - 5PM**

2425 LEAVENWORTH

344-7867

% of Proceeds donated to NAP

LOCAL NEWS

KATE CLINTON IN OMAHA — A DREAM COME TRUE

By J.K.

Kate Clinton's appearance October 30 on the stage of the Witherspoon Auditorium in Omaha is testimony to the power of having a dream. After hearing her perform in Kansas City in April and interviewing her for WomenSpace, there was no doubt that we had to bring Kate to Omaha to share with our friends. As we dreamed and schemed on the way home, I developed a clear vision of an event that would kickoff a renewed unity in the women's community. I saw the evening in a classy auditorium filled with everyone from both Omaha and Lincoln. As I watched the picture form in my mind, the excitement and energy that I knew would be present was almost tangible.

Yet as exciting as this dream was, it also seemed that it would take a miracle to make it happen. Although I had had some production experience, this concert was going to require some money up front which we did not have. Nevertheless, we felt that it was a dream whose time had come so I contacted Kate and was referred to her booking agent in Berkeley. At about the same time that all this was happening, another woman in the community contacted us about joining a "let's see if we can do this" meeting of a group that was considering producing Cris Williamson. Within that group were the resources, enthusiasm and experience needed for a production company. By the time we left that night, Women of the Plains was born and we decided to look into producing both Cris Williamson and Kate Clinton. Kate's agent gave us a date and contract for a performance. Five of us put up \$100 each for the deposit, and with a hand that only shook a little, I signed the contract to produce a major artist.

As the time grew closer, excitement was running high with Women of the Plains. From transportation in a Lincoln Town Car (owned by one of the hostesses) to a night at the Red Lion, our vision was to treat Kate - and her manager Trudy - with only the best. Ticket sales boomed

during the last two weeks and we were delighted to find that we had pre-sold over 500 tickets.

The night arrived and if you were there, you know that it was everything we had dreamed of. Although the majority of the group was women, there was a great representation from the men's community. Attire was as varied as the people in attendance, but the smiles on all the faces spoke the same language—it was our night and it was great to be gay in Omaha!

Kate can take the most mundane things (like tampons) and make them outrageous and hilarious. Her passion for the need to change the leadership of the country was evident in her voice. (How fortunate that Dan Quayle had chosen that same night to visit Omaha!) From the moment that Kate Clinton walked onto the stage, she won the audience over and the crowd laughed until its collective sides hurt. She ended the evening by inviting herself back, to the delight of her audience. Our vision for her next appearance in Omaha is to completely fill all 1000-1200 seats in Witherspoon Auditorium.

It probably was nearly an hour after the concert was over before the entire crowd left. Kate autographed tapes, CD's and programs in the lobby. People just milled around, catching up with people they hadn't seen in years or talking with people they were surprised to see at a gay-oriented event! The Women of the Plains were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and gratitude of the community for the event. Kate was wonderful to produce as she was easy to get along with, and treated all of us like old friends. Her manager, Trudy, was very helpful in teaching us the nitty gritty pieces of production.

Perhaps the best way to sum up the evening is this: It wasn't just a concert — it was a premier event for the gay community! The energy and enthusiasm generated that night was as important as the laughter. Stay tuned for more from Women of the Plains!!

LUTHERANS CONCERNED UP AND RUNNING

By RJ

This last Sunday of October saw me heading for the First Lutheran Church on about 30th, one block north of St. Mary's. Meeting time was seven, so I didn't want to be late.

When I got there, already 10 people were there. A good gathering I thought, yet they keep coming and coming and coming. All told there were twenty there this evening. How's that for the "newest kid" on the block!

And from what I heard, there are now three reconciling Lutheran Churches in Omaha. Way to go!

First Lutheran is not the original meeting place. So make sure you go to the right meeting place when you go for your first time.

As with any new organization, there are problems of getting everything going in the right direction. This meeting dealt with electing officers and getting the next meeting set up. But from what I could see, Lutherans Concerned is off to a flying start. I hope and pray that with the grace of God, they will stay strong and go on and increase their numbers.

A most thought provoking video was shown. Brian McNaught was the moderator. The title was *On Being Gay*. This is a long video though and only half was shown. I enjoyed the video and would like to see all of it sometime. Upon showing half of the video, the recorder was shut off and the floor was opened to discussion. The flow of discussion was most interesting.

So, if any of you Lutherans out there want to see GL people get a fair shake in the Lutheran Church, this is a good group to go to. From what I have seen, there is a good mix of gender in the group and from what I understand, a good mix of both communities. This is truly great to see so many Lutherans working towards the common good of all of God's children.

Way to go Lutherans! Keep up the good work you've so diligently started. And may God be with you.

***** QUILT DISPLAY NEWS *****

By Kathy England

If you are like me, at times I let things go until the very last minute. By then it becomes such a rush that I wonder if it can possibly come together. And it usually does, in spite of my panic and moments of doubt. Just in case you may have joined me in procrastination, there is hope yet for both of us.

If you are reading this before December 3, there is still time to help with the QUILT display, and/or just come and experience it during the public display on Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6. The display will open at 8:00 a.m. each day. The traditional unfolding ceremony will be at 9:00 a.m. Saturday—it will include some extras. The closing will be at 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Come and see the QUILT and the many organizations who provide both education and services in our community during the weekend. The Civic Auditorium will close at 10:00 p.m. on Saturday and 6:00 p.m. on Sunday.

A special time has been set aside for families, partners, buddies, and panel makers to bring new

panels and visit the QUILT without the hubbub and great numbers of visitors that we anticipate during the open display times cited earlier. If you would like more information about this family time or any other activities surrounding the QUILT, please call 291-6781.

It is not too late to volunteer if you can attend a training meeting at Trinity.

Episcopal Cathedral (on Capitol St. at 18th "across from the Auditorium) on Thursday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m.; not too late to visit during the family time if you call the host committee immediately; not too late to visit the QUILT if you come to the Auditorium from 8:00 a.m. til 10:00 p.m. on Saturday the fifth or from 8:00 a.m. til 6:00 p.m. on the sixth; not too late to volunteer for NAP or any other service provider if you visit the educational area during the display; not too late to make some positive decisions about your own behaviors that will keep you from becoming another name on the QUILT in the future.

Join me and thousands of others and STOP PUTTING OFF UNTIL TOMORROW WHAT WE CAN DO TODAY.....COME SEE THE QUILT.....AND UNDERSTAND. See you at the QUILT December 5 and 6.

JOIN THE LIGHT FOR LIFE & REMEMBRANCE CAMPAIGN

LINK-ON is sponsoring a light for life and remembrance campaign. You may donate \$5 or more to LINK-ON in someone's name, yours, someone that is close to you, or someone who has passed on. On December 20 a Christmas Tree will be lit with all donated lights, each light will bear a label specifying the name it was donated in. Location of lighting ceremony will be announced at a later date. For more information contact Rick Swaink at 435-0574, Doug Bos at 483-1120 or Linda Mauk at 476-0310.

LOCAL NEWS

THE SCOOP FROM ICON

by Alice Bellamy

The big news is Toys for Tots—Sunday night, December 6, 9:30 p.m. at The MAX, cover charge \$3.00. This year's profits will be split between 1) toys for the children of PWA's, 2) baskets of personal items for PWA's, and 3) toys, etc. for the Children's Crisis Center. We hope each of you will come out and support Toys for Tots the way you supported Food for Thought in November. Toys for Tots promises to be a warm and wonderful evening, and you can help to make Christmas warm and wonderful for a number of our community's children and PWA's by joining us December 6.

Many thanks to all who helped with the Food for Thought Show. You all made the show a GREAT SUCCESS! Over \$1,300 was raised. As you know that helped provide Thanksgiving baskets for 30 PWA's and their families, as well as made a substantial contribution to the Food Pantry at Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha. Thanks!

FUTURE EVENTS: The December meeting promises to be an important one for ICON members as election of officers for 1993 takes place at that time. As always ICON meetings are open to the community and we invite any of you to join us the first Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at The MAX. The bar tours will start after the first of the year. Times, places, and dates will be announced in the January issue of the *New Voice*. Coming sometime in February—Snowball! Coronation 1993 will be at the Ramada Inn, 72 and Grover on June 18, 19, and 20. More details will be forthcoming. In 1993 ICON will sponsor only ONE picnic, and it will be sometime in July—but not July 4. Date, place and time will be announced later. You can bet this will be one of the best picnics ever.

In November the Board of Governors accepted Royal Bush, Christopher Stowers, Antonio Mack and Marie Hazel as new members of the Board. A warm welcome goes out to all of you. Marie Hazel has been promoted to Lady Royale. Congratulations, Marie! Plans are underway for some ICON members to attend Houston's Coronation in January.

OUTWEEK AT UNL

By Stan Balderson

Outweek began Sunday, October 11, as the Banner was raised at the UNL Campus. Students and other gays and lesbians attended. The Gay/Lesbian Resource Center male and female co-chairs, David Bolkovac and Lise Johnston, spoke and, along with Carl Fatig of Love Library, gave Coming Out experiences.

The Resource Center has moved to a new location, Room 234 of the Nebraska Union. With a new staff, the Resource Center desires to make everything work this year.

Outweek continued on Monday, October 12, with Wes sharing Coming Out stories at an event coordinated by Paul Moore. Tuesday night was titled "The Art of Literature" and featured poetry reading with Barbara DiBernard.

Wednesday's party at the Panic was packed as lots of people showed up for the party. Many of them came to the Thursday night activity as

well for the "2 for 1" video, *Battling Homophobia and Lesbian Battering*.

Friday's workshop on Spirituality and Well Being had to be canceled because the presenter developed complications following surgery.

The week ended with Saturday's talent show which came off real well. Susan Lynch did her juggling act. She juggled Halloween items, knives, and even panties from what she said was her laundry. She is a very humorous juggler and puts on one good show. Jamis Hickey sang *Can't Help Loving That Man of Mine* from *Showboat*. Leslie (Rusty) Young and backup guitarist John Tobler performed songs on intolerance including such things as *Larry Trapp* and how he changed his life after leaving the Klan. *Johnny Was A Different Kind of Man*, *Whatever Can I Do About Intolerance* and the really funny *I Don't Want To Be A Grown Up*.

DECEMBER AT THE MAX

By Gloria Revelle

The holiday's are in full gear this year. We have a month that had everything for everyone.

Our holiday season starts off with a down home, country style tree trimmin' party over in Stosh's Saloon on Friday, December 4. All the cowboys and cowgirls will be there givin' the ol' saloon their own special touch. Come join 'em.

On Sunday, December 6, THE MAX is pleased to once again be the host for I.C.O.N.'s annual holiday extravaganza. Toys for Tots is always one of the best shows of the year. This year it's sure to be the same.

Dorian Drake has held every major title in Nebraska. Dorian recently added the title Miss Gay Omaha to her list. Join Dorian and her friends as she wows us on Sunday, December 13.

Thursday, December 17, look out for those party lights. Wayne presents his annual Holiday Max Out Party. Who knows what will happen. With all the special surprises and drink specials he has planned. I know you won't want to miss it.

He's HOT and he's the biggest star in adult films. He's our gift to Omaha. Welcome back to THE MAX, Ryan Idol. Ryan will be showing off his special Christmas gifts on Sunday, December 20. Don't miss him again.

The newest star in Omaha is St. Louis transplant Kathy Kline, a former Miss Gay Midwest. On Sunday, December 27, Kathy will host her first show at THE MAX featuring all her girlfriends from St. Louis. Those girls from the Show Me State really put on a show.

The end of another year is upon us and there is only one place to go to celebrate, THE MAX. Every year we end the year in style and begin our new year with a bang. Make sure you join us!

Our Ninth Annual Miss Max Pageant is only one month away. It's the longest running pageant in the Midwest. So get ready for another great contest.

We at THE MAX extend our best wishes to all of our friends, customers, entertainers, out of town guests, and everyone who helps to make us the best club in the country. We hope you have a safe and healthy holiday season.

MCC-OMAHA NEWS

by Carla

Catch all the details of the Dedication Weekend in a separate story, but for December keep reading!

December starts with the beginning of a new Christian education program. The first three Thursdays in December, Rev. Brian Hanlon will lead an Advent Study. There is no cost to participate—even the materials are free. Call the church office (345-2563) if you wish to join in this study. Everyone is welcome. Starting time for the study is 6:30 p.m. Dec. 3.

Many of our members and friends are participating as volunteers at the NAMES Project Quilt Display at the Civic Auditorium December 4-6. In fact several of our members and friends have been involved with the coming of the Quilt since the first meeting. We encourage all of you to take time to visit the Quilt Display, regardless of whether or not you have seen it before. And bring a friend with you. That same weekend we will be decorating our Christmas tree and the church. The decorating takes place Saturday, Dec. 5. Call the church office for details regarding time.

Christmas Eve we invite all of you to join for a special Christmas Eve Service starting at 10:00 p.m. December 24. Each year this service has grown and now that we have moved into our new church home, some very special touches will be added to make this service meaningful. Please join us!

Mid-November saw one of our two yearly congregational meetings. At this meeting three Board Members retired and the congregation elected three more. Our thanks go out to Linda, Dean, and Garrett for their faithful service. We welcome Peggy, Harry, and Becky as the newly elected Board Members. They join Rev. Howard, Sharon, Virgil, and Jeff in conducting the business affairs of the church.

We hope you took time to attend the Nebraska United Fundraiser for the Quilt. We enjoyed participating, and we thank Wayne Tietsoy at THE MAX for initiating this community-wide fundraiser. Together we can make things happen!

Many of us gathered to celebrate and give thanks Thanksgiving Day at a Potluck Thanksgiving Dinner at the church. Some came early and stayed late as together we thanked God for our many blessings!

As Christmas approaches, we invite each of you to pause and reflect on the true spirit of Christmas. We invite you to join us this Christmas in "Celebrating Life In Christ." Worship each Sunday is at 10:20 a.m. and on the second and fourth Sundays, we have an evening service at 7:00 p.m. You are welcome in the house of God. MCC-O is located at 819 S. 22nd St. For this month, that's it from my pew! See you in church.

1-800-4-FAMILY

The National Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has a new nationwide, toll-free "helpline" where parents and others can call for information on local chapters and other issues. The new national "helpline" number is 1-800-4-FAMILY.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TUESDAY, December 1
Ice Bowl Fundraising Meeting, 7pm, Omaha

A.N.G.L.E. Meeting, 7pm, UNO Religious Center, 101 N. Happy Hollow, Omaha

WEDNESDAY, December 2
Kearney Gay/Lesbian Assoc of Greater Nebraska, 8pm, Call 236-8610 for location

THURSDAY, December 3
Citizens for Equal Protection, 7pm, 558-5303

FRIDAY, December 4
Down home country style tree trimming party, Stosh's Saloon, 1417 Jackson, Omaha

SATURDAY, December 5
NAMES Project Memorial Quilt Display, Omaha Civic Auditorium, 18th & Capitol, 8am-10pm, Opening Ceremonies at 9am

Coalition 1st Sat Event, Snowball, 7-10pm, Cornerstone, 640 N. 16, Lincoln

SUNDAY, December 6
NAMES Project Memorial Quilt Display, Omaha Civic Auditorium, 18th & Capitol, 8am-6pm, Closing Ceremonies at 5pm

Gay/Lesbian Student Org, 7pm, Downtown Grounds Coffee House, 1117 Jackson, Omaha

Ecumenical Worship, Lutherans Concerned, 7pm, 1st Lutheran, 31 & Jackson, Omaha

ICON's "Toys for Tots", The MAX, Omaha

MONDAY, December 7
Imperial Court of Nebraska Board of Directors 6:30pm, The MAX, 1415 Jackson, Omaha

Bi-PALS, (BiSexual People, Alternate Life Styles), Open to all sexes, Meet at the Cornerstone, 640 N. 16, Lincoln, 7:30pm

TUESDAY, December 8
Candle Light Dinner, 5-10:30pm, \$30 per couple, Club 2001, 500 Sun Valley, Lincoln

Free & Confidential HIV Testing, 5 - 7 p.m. The Panic, 18th & N Streets, Lincoln

Ice Bowl Fundraising Meeting, 7pm, Omaha

WEDNESDAY, December 9
Omaha Player's Club, 7:30 P.M.DC'S Bar, Call 451-7987 for more info-Omaha

THURSDAY, December 10
Deadline for January *New Voice*

Parent-Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Omaha, 291-6781, 7pm, First Methodist, 6900 Cass,

SATURDAY, December 12
River City Gender Alliance, For Trans-gender and Crossdresser. All welcome. No sexual encounters, Box 680, Council Bluffs 51502

Omaha Players Club, Workshop, Room 600, Days Inn, 2pm, Call 451-7987

Presbyterians for L/G Concerns, call 733-1360

Melissa Etheridge Concert, Music Hall, 8pm
Grand Opening, Tremors, 1516 Jones, Omaha

SUNDAY, December 13
New Voice Steering Comm, 1pm, MCC-O

Gay/Lesbian Assoc of Greater Nebraska Board of Directors, 1-5pm, 236-8610

MCC-Omaha, Evening Worship Service, 7pm

Miss Gay Omaha Dorian Drake and friends, The MAX, 1417 Jackson, Omaha, 9:30pm

MONDAY, December 14
AIDS Interfaith Service, 7pm, St Cecelias, Nebraska Chapel, 701 N. 40, Omaha

TUESDAY, December 15
Lincoln PFLAG, 7pm, Program: "Holiday Stress", "Under 21" group, Unitarian Church, 6300 'A', 435-4688 (Change this month only)

Ice Bowl Fundraising Meeting, 7pm, Omaha

Grand Island HIV/AIDS Support Group, Call for time, location: (308) 381-5175

Coalition for G/L Civil Rights Board Mtg, St. Marks, 13th & R, Lincoln, 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, December 16
DC'93 Nebraska Contingency Planning Meeting, 7:30p.m., Omaha, 451-7987

THURSDAY, December 17
Wayne's Max Out Party, The MAX, Omaha

Kearney Gay/Lesbian Assoc of Greater Nebraska, 8pm, Call 236-8610 for location

SATURDAY, December 19
HIV Awareness Classes for Women, 3pm, The Chesterfield, 1951 St. Mary's, Omaha

Second Annual White Party, 6-8pm, Auction, Karaoke, entertainment, The Precinct, Lincoln

SUNDAY, December 20
Omaha Men (OMEN), 3pm, Usually Gilligans, Write: OMEN, Box 3706, Omaha 68103

P-FLAG/Kearney, St Luke Episcopal 2304 2nd Ave, (308) 237-3870 or 995-5490, 3pm

Gay/Lesbian Student Org, 7pm, Omaha

Ryan Idol at The MAX, 1417 Jackson, Omaha

TUESDAY, December 22
Ice Bowl Fundraising Meeting, 7pm, Omaha

THURSDAY, December 24
MCC-Omaha Christmas Eve Service, 10pm

FRIDAY, December 25—Christmas

SUNDAY, December 27
MCC-Omaha Evening Worship Service, 7pm,

Kathy Kline, former Miss Gay Midwest, at The MAX, 1417 Jackson, Omaha, 9:30pm

MONDAY, December 28
Lincoln AIDS Interfaith Service, St. Marks, UNL Campus, 13th & R, 7pm

THURSDAY, December 31—New Year's Eve

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY
Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha 819 S. 22, 345-2563, Worship 10:20am

Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers, 10am.

Grand Island Alcoholics Anonymous, Open Meeting 12noon (308)236-8610 or 382-0240.

MONDAY
River City Mixed Chorus Rehearsals, Lowe Ave Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40, Omaha

Alternate Test Site, Nebraska AIDS Project, 3624 Leavenworth St., Omaha, 7-10pm

TUESDAY
"Out In The 90's" Gay Broadcast News Service, Cable Channel 14, Lincoln, 7pm

Gay/Lesbian Support Group, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., 345-2563

WEDNESDAY
Lesbian Discussion Group Lincoln 6pm, UNL, Nehr Union, Room 338

G/L Alcoholics Anonymous, MCC-Omaha

Omaha Frontrunners, 6:30pm, Ford Birthsite

P-FLAG AIDS Support Group, Lincoln, 7pm
Call AIDS Information Line: 475-2437

Lambda Plush Overeaters Anon, 7:30pm, Family & Friends, 3040 N. 102, Omaha

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center Lincoln, 7:30pm, Nehr Union, Room 234

THURSDAY
Test Site, 3624 Leavenworth Omaha 7-10pm

FRIDAY
Youth Talkline, 7pm-12m, Support/ Info for callers up to age 23, 473-7932, Lincoln

Lincoln G/L Alcoholics Anonymous, 8pm, Plymouth Cong, 20th & D, 438-5214

Omaha Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:15pm, Pella Lutheran, 303 S. 41, 345-9916
Al-Anon Meets Same Time, Same Place

SATURDAY
Womens Support Grp, 11am, MCC-Omaha,

Alcoholics Anonymous, Kearney, Open Meeting 12noon Saturdays, (308)236-8610.

Arbor Moon Alt. Bookstore, Gathering Place, 1448 "E", Lincoln, 489-4634, Open 1-4pm

P-FLAG Youth Group, 13- 21, gay, lesbian, those questioning sexuality, Omaha, 291-6781

Youth Talkline, 7pm - 12m, 473-7932, Lincoln

LOCAL NEWS

CHORUS NOTES

By David Brady

The River City Mixed Chorus is well over halfway through the first concert preparation of this season. The Chorus currently has 47 singing members, the largest in its nine year history, and we have a great program planned for you. Please join us at our concert on Saturday, January 16. Tickets are \$7.00 in advance and \$9.00 at the door.

The Chorus has two events scheduled for this month. We are singing at the opening ceremony of the Quilt on Saturday, December 5, and we will be caroling in the bars and in the Old Market on December 11.

A reminder that the Chorus is raising money by selling calendars that depict gay and lesbian families. \$2.00 from each sale goes to NAP. Calendars are available at New Realities or from any chorus member.

RCCMC will be accepting auditions for new singing members after the January concert, so get it on your minds. If you've ever wanted to sing in a chorus, this is the one!

We have a great director - John Bennett - and a wonderful group of people in the singing membership and in the friends group. Hope to see you at the concert!

NAP CASE MANAGER TO KEARNEY

The Nebraska AIDS Project established a Case Manager/Care Coordinator position in a Kearney Office recently.

GLAGN would like to WELCOME Barbara Hansen to her new position. The counties she will be serving are: Adams, Buffalo, Clay, Hall, Hamilton, Howard, Kearney, Merrick, and Sherman.

Barb will be focusing on establishing health care for the Kearney, Hastings, and Grand Island areas.

She will be obtaining a list of doctors, dentists, therapist, etc... who are willing to provide services to persons with HIV and AIDS.

You may reach her office at 308-234-8183.

If you need to visit the Kearney NAP office, the location is at Nebraska State Health Department, 3423 2nd Avenue, Kearney, NE.

-GLAGN NEWSLETTER

NY SAGE CONFERENCE

By Sandy Vopalka

SAGE (Senior Action in a Gay Environment, Inc.) held it's first National/International Conference on September 17-20, 1992 in New York City. There were 15 participants, from 7 different states (some states had up to 3 people) and 2 provinces of Canada were represented.

Most of the conference was to provide us with the history of SAGE and panels of speakers explaining to us the different activities and services that are offered by and through SAGE. There was good rapport and interaction between the Board of Directors (the panel speakers) and the participants.

When SAGE wasn't sharing its experiences with us, we were sharing about our own communities. Some of these communities have already begun working with their older members. We all gained new information and insights about the different communities.

SAGE was founded in 1977 by a small group of people who felt that a large part of their community was being overlooked. The general purpose of SAGE focused upon the particular population of older gay men and lesbians living in isolation.

SAGE's executive director, Arlene Kochman (1991) stated that SAGE has become, "a multi-service social service organization committed to the needs and issues of gay and lesbian seniors in New York City."

With my participation at this conference, Nebraska has now been given the opportunity to become an affiliate of SAGE/NY.

We are not being told that we must become exact replications of SAGE/NY, but each city/state/province is being asked to explore with our existing groups, organizations and services and see how we need to examine and learn about our older community's needs and ideas.

How can we implement some of the ideas and services of SAGE into what we already have in Nebraska? At this time my focus will be in Lincoln. I have met with some organizations and will continue to do so. But before we can accomplish anything, I believe there are a few issues which need to be addressed.

Remember we are all getting older. If anyone has any questions, ideas, or wants to be part of developing a local SAGE type group, please contact me. My mailing address is P.O. Box 22043, Lincoln NE 68502-2043.

Bars & Restaurants

Des Moines (A.C. 515)

Blazing Saddle 416 E 5th St.,
246-1299
The Brass Garden 112 SE 4th St.,
243-3965
Club 508 508 Clifton Ave., 288-8508
The D & M 424 E Locust St.,
243-9629

Omaha (A.C. 402)

The Chesterfield 1951 St. Marys,
342-1244
DC's 1019 S. 10th, 344-3103
The Diamond 712 S. 16th, 342-9595
Gilligan's 1823 Leavenworth,
449-9147
The Max 1417 Jackson, 346-4110
The Run 1715 Leavenworth,
449-8703
Tremors 1516 Jones, 346-8001
Lincoln (A.C. 402)
Panic 200 S. 18th St., 435-8764
Club 2001 500 Sun Valley Road,
476-2001

WHERE CAN I GET A COPY OF THE NEW VOICE?

We've listed many of the regular distribution points below. If your group or business would like to be included on our distribution list, please contact us.

Omaha:

The Chesterfield
D.C.'s
The Diamond
Gilligan's Pub
THE MAX
Metropolitan Community Church
Nebraska AIDS Project
New Realities
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
The Run
Tremors

Council Bluffs:

Adult Emporium
Ernie's
Bookstore

Lincoln:

Arbor Moon
Club 2001
Nebraska Book Store
The Panic
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center
Women's Resource Center

Kearney:

GLAGN
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays

Des Moines:

Blazing Saddle
Brass Garden
Club 508
D & M's

Sioux City:

Metropolitan Community Church
Three Cheers

Of course, you can subscribe for only \$19 per year and have *The New Voice* delivered directly to your door (in a plain, brown envelope, of course).

AFTER HOURS

Every Saturday

\$2.00 Admission

After 12p.m. \$5.00 please

TREMORS

1516 JONES STREET

Omaha

346-6001

LOCAL NEWS

LINK-ON TO OPEN JANUARY 1993

The Board of Directors of LINK-ON continue to work toward their anticipated opening date of January 1993. Policy and procedures on agency operation and nursing care are currently being written to facilitate the client and community needs. Manuals have been completed and are being reviewed. These manuals will be used for staff orientation of agency operations and client care.

August 24, 1992 LINK-ON filed Articles of Incorporation as a nonprofit corporation with the

Secretary of State and the County Clerk's Office. Listed were Rick Swaink and Douglas P. Bos Incorporators.

LINK-ON is currently accepting applications and resumes for employees. In order to facilitate client and community needs, staff applications must be on file prior to LINK-ON's application to the State Health Dept. for licensing to provide home health care to the community. Positions available are HHA II, RN (Supervisor), LPN, CSM, Clerical Staff (i.e. Medical Records

Coordinator, Staff Scheduling Coordinator, Payroll Clerk/Bookkeeper). LINK-ON will offer around the clock care with shifts varying from 2-12 hours, pending the needs of the individual client. Clerical Staff hours will be 8-4:30, Monday through Friday. If you would like to fill out an application for employment, please call 435-0574 Monday-Friday, 8-5.

See related LINK-ON story p. 24!

2ND
ANNUAL

WHITE
PARTY

to benefit the Nebraska AIDS Project

at the Pre Cinct

226 s. 9th ▽ Lincoln

SATURDAY ^ DECEMBER 19TH

- <> Complimentary Hors D'oeuvres 6 to 8
- <> Lots of Entertainment **KAROKE**
- <> Tons!! of Prizes from local Merchants to be given away through raffle sales
- <> Auction
- <> Dancing & Drink Specials

A **GREAT** TIME FOR A **GREAT** CAUSE

IN KEEPING WITH TRADITION, WE ASK THAT EVERYONE WEAR 'WHITE'-If possible

LOCAL NEWS

LUTHERANS CONCERNED TO HOST WORSHIP SERVICE

Lutherans Concerned, a support group for Lutheran gays and lesbians, will host a Worship Service with communion at their December meeting on Sunday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. The group will have an Ecumenical worship service after the Quilt display.

Everyone is welcome to come to the service which will be held at First Lutheran Church 542 South 31 Street (the corner of 31st and Jackson). There will be a reception and fellowship following the service.

Lutherans Concerned meets the first Sunday evening of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the First Lutheran Church. For more information about the service or the group call (402) 345-4080 or (402) 453-7137.

Lutherans Concerned is an organization for gays, lesbians, and their friends. It is a ministry of refuge and support for gays and lesbians, and acts as an advocate for them to the Lutheran Church promoting education, dialogue and reconciliation.

PFLAG LINCOLN YOUTH GROUP

Our PFLAG Youth Group "graduated" a strong cadre of participants who aging process pushed them over our hill (age 21), so, like the Marines, we are looking for a few good replacements.

We meet twice a month, with the group deciding what to go - programs, speakers, play games, or talk. If you know of anyone who would like to join us, invite them to a PFLAG monthly meeting so the can experience the group, or have them call Lois of Alan Hansen at 488-0630.

High school or college, if you are under 21, this is your social club.

Lincoln PFLAG meets at the Lincoln Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street. Meetings are usually on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. The December meeting will be held on the third Tuesday. This change is for this month only.

BRIDGE, ANYONE?

A bridge group meets every month (usually the second or third Saturday evening). If you know how to play bridge, but don't get to play as often as you would like, this group can provide you with the opportunity to play more.

If you do not know how to play or have not played in a long time, we have a table for you to learn or review. If you have played other card games, but never learned how to play bridge, we provide a table for you and people to help you learn. There are several teachers or ex-teachers in the bridge group who know how to teach people a particular skill.

Our bridge group is PARTY BRIDGE—NOT CUT-THROAT BRIDGE. If you are looking for a chance to meet new people (men or women) and/or learn a new game, then call and arrange to join our group. Call Allen at 553-1860 most any evening or leave a message on the machine any other time!

TREMORS: WE'LL ROCK YOUR WORLD!

by Kevin Jones, Mr. Gay NE '92

We're hot, new and here to stay! Tremors, Omaha's newest gay/lesbian night club, is open and pumping away. So why don't you come in and see what's happening! We open at 6:00 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. There's no cover Thursday or Sunday and only \$2 on Fridays and Saturdays.

Start off your weekend by joining us for happy hour every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Thursday is Jagermeister night. Just \$1 shots. Then stay and become a star, by joining Todd for Karaoke every night from 7-9. Wait! There's no reason to leave. The heat is just beginning with the hottest dance music around and nightly shot specials.

If that isn't enough, join us every Saturday night for After Hours. Cover is only \$2 before midnight and after that it's \$5, so get here early and party 'til 4:00 a.m. Sorry, no one under 21. The excitement continues on Sunday with our "Customer Appreciation Night." There's no cover and all drinks are only \$1.75.

Our Grand Opening Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, December 12. There's no cover 'til midnight (\$5 after midnight), FREE Schnapps, \$1 Jagermeister and \$1 wine coolers all night long! The party continues 'til 4:00 a.m. with after hours.

Tremors says, "Merry Christmas" on Friday, December 25 by offering you no cover 'til midnight (\$5 after midnight), FREE schnapps, \$1 Jagermeister and wine coolers, and a special after hours. Make sure you start your New Year off right by joining us for the best New Year's Eve Party in town. Only \$2 cover (\$5 after 11:00), and enjoy \$1 Jagermeister, wine coolers, and FREE Schnapps all night long. There's FREE champagne at midnight. The fun won't stop until 4:00 a.m. with the hottest afterhours around!

Come spend your holidays with the staff of TREMORS, Omaha's newest and hottest gay night club!

THE MILK RUN

By RJ

The Tuesday night Support Group, which meets at 7:30 p.m. at MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, has picked up. Most nights, now, see over ten people in attendance. Some nights it has gone over 15. And for several times now, in recent sessions, it has truly been a mixed group, with some of the ladies attending. Way to go! Support has been going for over six years, now, maybe longer. It was started when Rev. Jan Kross was pastor. It has gone through several leaders, and many, many, people have come and gone. All now are new faces. One, though, has been with MCC for many years, and it's good to see him in Support Group. He has a lot of insight, has done a lot of living, and can really give some of the younger crowd a lot of good advice. It's good to see the support group picking up with new life again. There have been times when it looked like it would fold, then a new spark regenerates it. I know, having been in support group for so many years, it has helped many, many people—those just coming out of the closet and those out of the closet but not sure what to do now.

In the August PFLAG newsletter, it sounded like PFLAG was going to quit having monthly meetings and a monthly newsletter. But now I see when PFLAG is going to keep on, at least for the present, having a monthly newsletter, as well as monthly meetings. Same place, but the day has changed to Thursday evenings. I hope they can make it. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays does perform a very valuable service to both communities.

It would be nice to see some other Presbyterians at the meetings of Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns (PLGC) — at least some other Presbyterians besides me. Come on now, ALL Presbyterians can't be straight, can they?

I saw where a new place has opened up in Lincoln. Of course, I stopped by 2001 to see how they were doing. The place was really jumping. People readily find 2001. It's really neat, watching the sun set on the skyline of Lincoln, with its prominent "phallus of the plains."

So, stay tuned to the *New Voice* and catch the latest.

*** Have a Happy New Year, but play safe and drive safely! ***

TREMORS FUN CARD

\$25⁰⁰

Your Yearly VIP Pass

TREMORS

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LOCAL NEWS

BUILDING A LENDING LIBRARY

Nita Danklesen, of Grand Island, is wanting to start a lending library so that the gays and lesbians of greater Nebraska will have a source to obtain G&L literature. She is an HIV/AIDS educator and presenter, works with addictions, and 12 step work for adolescents, families and partners. This is also to provide a safe place to look at the books without someone looking over your shoulder.

If anyone has any books they don't use anymore, whether they are sitting somewhere on an empty shelf drawing dust, or new ones they would like to donate as a memorial to a friend, or something you think that would be of help to another gay or lesbian, please get them gathered up.

These books can be of the fictional type, addressing coming out issues or works done by G&L authors of interesting reading. Please no smut!

Let's get them gathered up so we can get the lending library set up for the gay and lesbian community of Greater Nebraska.

If you have any books you would care to donate, you may contact Nita Danklesen at the following numbers: 308-384-8217 or 308-384-0869. You may also take them to any Board Member and GLAGN will personally deliver them to Nita.

DEGAYING "IDAHO"

Wonder why the video box for Gus Van Sant's *My Own Private Idaho* shows River Phoenix (gay in the film) and Keanu Reeves (who was sexually ambivalent) each with a woman? This movie was not about picking up girls!

Instead of courting gay consumers, the marketers chose to render the movie's gay theme invisible. Write Stephen Einhorn, President, New Line Home Video, 888 7th Ave., New York, NY 1016.

-GLAAD Bulletin

POOR LITTLE ANDY

Poor little Andy's
Got just a ball
Poor little Andy's
Got a Teddy Bear too.
Poor little Andy's
Sick with it
Poor little Andy's
got HIV
I know he's just a little boy
I asked you
Higher Power - God
Yahweh, Jehovah
Buddah, Jesus, Mohammed
Please let Andy live
But poor little Andy's
one of many
little boy with a ball 'n' bear
Poor little Andy
has the pneumonia
Poor little Andy
died last night
Poor little Andy
walked to heavenly light
Poor little Andy
Poor little Andy
Poor little Andy
Just 12 years old
We all loved him
The maker too.

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A NEW VOICE subscription makes a
perfect holiday gift--only \$19!

POOR LITTLE ANNE

Andy's sister Anne
They called her Raggedy Anne
She was Andy's twin
Born with the plague
She might die, too.
Poor little Anne's an orphan
So was Andy too.
She asked for nothing
Only a hug or two.
Tears rolled down my face as I
held her in my
arms the day
Andy died.
Poor little Anne outlived the plague
She's now 22.
The virus left her body
by the grace and power
of the maker, too.
Why Andy and not Anne?
We don't really know
The pain of one twin dying
equals more than
if two died
Poor little Andy
Kissed his sister on the cheek
As he saw the light
To walk toward
And died in our arms.
We loved
them both.
Enough when
Andy died
to cry for two.

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THE NEW CLUB CARDS HAVE ARRIVED!!!

every-
THURSDAY

the Pre Cinct
226 s. 9th
LINCOLN

CLUBnite '93

If you have not already done so, it is time to renew your '92 Club Cards. New cardholders are welcome-just bring this ad to receive 1993 'Club Nite' Cards for \$5.00 on December 3rd or 10th. After which time, cards will be \$10.00.

LOCAL NEWS

ALG DANCE PLANNED

The Alternative Lifestyle Group, i.e. ALG of Salina, Kansas had a banquet on September 19, 1992, in order to pay tribute of the staff of Center for Self Discovery. ALG did this in recognition for the love and support that the center has shown to ALG over the past eight years.

Rod and Morris took a road trip to attend their banquet for the celebration; which was followed by a dance for fellowship. We stayed the next day for their support group meeting, which we both enjoyed very much. We brought back, to the board, a copy of their constitution and bylaws, to help guild our organization.

ALG members, a group of about twenty men and women, came to the GLAGN Halloween Dance.

The ALG is having a Christmas Dance on the 19th of December, in which they plan to extend the same courtesy to GLAGN members.

-GLAGN NEWSLETTER

FALSE INTERPRETATIONS

False Interpretations
False Expectations
Unclaimed emotions, tell me what you think
Tell me how you feel
So I will not misinterpretate
Or expect any unclaimed emotions.
I feel a fool now
But at least, now you know what it is I feel.
I've expressed myself to you
Express yourself to me.
If these feelings are not mutual,
At least I will know
These unclaimed emotions were just not so.

Ryan R.
-The Source

SQUARE DANCERS HOLD 9th CONVENTION

A record breaking 1,103 gay and lesbian square dancers (along with many straight friends and supporters) attended the International Association of Gay Square Dance Club's 9th annual convention. "Diamonds in the Desert", was held in Albuquerque, NM and was attended by dancers from all across the United States and Canada—with one dancer arriving from Japan!

Adding to the 46 member clubs already a part of the IAGSDC, the Board also voted to allow into membership six new clubs: (Cotton Pickin' Squares, Memphis, TN; Cream City Squares, Milwaukee, WI; Neon Squares, Las Vegas, NV; Minnesota Wild Roses, Minneapolis, MN; Sun Coast Wranglers, Tampa, FL; and Mountain Laurel Squares, Hartford, CT).

The first gay and lesbian square dance club was the South Florida Mustangs, founded in Miami in the late 1970's. Currently, clubs can be found in 23 states and three Canadian provinces. California, with ten extremely active clubs, boasts the largest number of clubs in one state. The largest single club is the Times Squares in New York City with 297 members.

For information about square dance clubs in your area, please call the IAGSDC at 800-835-6462.

FLIRTATIONS TO BE AT LIED CENTER IN LINCOLN

Tickets on Sale Now for Two Performances on April 18, 1993

The fabulous Flirtations will perform at Lincoln's Lied Center as part of the Carson Theater Ventures Series, continuing the series' emphasis on performers who are working at the outer limits of the contemporary arts scene. The five member a capella group from San Francisco celebrates the joys of life as they mourn the devastation caused by the AIDS epidemic.

The April 18, 1993, performances will take place at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. in the Johnny Carson Theater, a flexible, black-box theater space that seats about 200 people. Tickets are \$15 for the general public and half-price for students. For information call (402) 472-4747 or (800) 432-3231.

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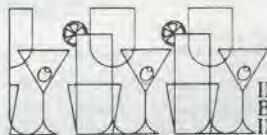
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CLASSIFIEDS

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558-5303

For all the news in the community, call A.N.G.L.E.'s Information and Referral line at (402) 558-5303 (Mr93)

BRIDGE

Want to play? Whether you've played for years or just want to learn how. For more information call 553-1860 (Ja93)

THANK YOU, Thank You, THANK YOU—to all of you for **THE CARDS**, visits, **PHONE CALLS**, flowers, **PRAYERS AND KIND DEEDS** towards Sharon and I during my surgery and recovery! Hopefully I'll be able to be out and about a little this month! I'll look forward to thanking each of you in person—Carla.

NATURE SUNSHINE: Encapsulated herbs, extracts, vitamins, and minerals. Independent Distributor: D.K. Sterling Phone: 402-345-4717 (Mr93)

NON SMOKING MALE HOUSEMATE wanted, Country acreage 45 min north of Omaha. \$150 a month, half utilities. Must be straight in appearance. 1-374-1932. Ask for Butch.

You work **HARD** and work-out even **HARDER!** ***FULL-BODY MASSAGE** will take the **EDGE OFF** and provide **BALANCE*** Serving Gay; Lesbian; Trans; Bi; & Hetero Communities. Gift Certificates Available. OMLIN APPT./NO 342-1935 (—92)

OUR EYES MET AT.....

Buffy's Buffet, Sat. 10-17; me: beard, brown hair with two friends; you: earring with friends, let's talk. Chance, POB 524, Beatrice, NE 68310 (Ja93)

LONELY?

Looking for a friend/lover? Call Infinity, a nationwide matching service, video club and more for gay men and women. 602-848-6780. (Ja93)

Enjoy Gay San Francisco! Stay in the homes of lesbians, gays, and bisexuals. Accommodations, some meals, gay events/resources fun! Western Exposure (510) 869-4395. P.O. Box 2116 Berkeley, CA 94702. (De92)

COUNSELING—Individual and relationship-lesbian/gay issues, life changes, identity, decision making, disability, abuse. Judith M. Gibson, M.A. (402) 477-6985 (De92)

SAFE, DISCREET, WM, 42. Wants to help healthy males, 30 and under, Experience the excitement of being bound and gagged. GFLH, P.O. Box 19037, Omaha NE 68119 (Fe93)

Are there any single gay women out there?? If you're lonely, need someone in your life, please drop me a line. Picture and phone number welcomed. I'm a lonely single woman. Please write: Special, P.O. box 6055, Omaha, NE 68106-0055 (De92)

LOOKING FOR LOVE? Make sure that's all you find. Use a latex condom every time. DCHD at 444-6875. (Ap93)

A 27 year old GWW looking for a GWW over 25 for friendship and relationship. My hobbies are movies, bowling and dancing. I am petite, cute, and very lovable. Please write: CHERYL, P.O. Box 925, Bellevue, NE 68005 (De92)

GWM Late 40's - Good Looking - Good Health - Intelligent - Easy Going - Lots of Fun - New to Omaha - Seeks friends and possible relationship - Chris, Box 6404, Omaha, NE 68106 (De92)

MATURE SOPHISTICATED GWM to share luxury Apartment in the OLD MARKET AREA of Omaha—Box 31054, Omaha NE 68131-0054

COUPLE NEW TO OMAHA, Professional, late 30's & early 40's, **SEEK FRIENDSHIPS,** we enjoy cards, music, dining, and homelife. Not into Bars. If similar interests Contact 344-8674

Mature GWM wishes to meet young mature GWM for friendship. Write Boxholder #228, 2730 S. 123rd Ct., Omaha, NE 68144 (Ja93)



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P.O. Box 3512
Omaha, NE 68103



LINCOLN

Alcoholics Anonymous, Open Mtg Friday, 8pm, 1st Plymouth Congregational, 20 & D, 438-5214

Arbor Moon Alternative Bookstore, Gathering Place, 1448 "E", Lincoln 68502. Open Saturday 1-4pm. Call Wally at 476-7389 or 489-4634.

BiPALS (Bisexual People / Alternative Life Styles), Box 80913, Lincoln, 68501, 1st Monday 7:30pm, Cornerstone, (upstairs) 640 N 16th

Gay Mens Support Grp, Counseling Ctr, 1234 Admin Bld, UNL, 68508. 472-3461. Confidential

Lesbian Support Group, Womens Resource Ctr, Rm 117, Neb Union, UNL, 68588. 472-2597

Lincoln Legion of Lesbians, Box 84245, 68501-4245- Feminist collective, newsletter, support

Nebraska Bookstore, 14th & R Streets, Lincoln, Alternative Lifestyle Section carries The Advocate

Open Door Ministry (402) 423-8070. Orthodox spiritual counseling. No charge.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG), See Nebraska Statewide listing.

Star City Lines, Box 21903, Lincoln, NE 68502, (402) 483-5251, Leather club, Educational

University Bookstore, 14th & R Streets, Lincoln, Gay Studies Section carries Books on G/L Life.

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center, Rm 342 Nbr Union, Lincoln 68588-0455, 472-5644 Social activities, info & referrals, library, support.

The Wimmie's Show, 12-3pm Sunday, KZUM, 89.3 FM stereo.

Womens Journal Advocate, P.O. Box 81226, Lincoln, NE 68501 Feminist Monthly Newspaper.

Youth Talkline (402) 473-7932, Friday & Saturday 7pm-Midnight. Emotional support, referrals, and AIDS info for callers Age 23 and under. Project of Coalition for G/L Civil Rights

YWCA Counseling & Education Department, 476-2802. Information and Referral.

OMAHA

Alcoholics Anonymous, Live & Let Live Grp, Pella Luth 303 S. 41., Omaha, Open 8:15pm, Friday, 345-9916 **Al-Anon Meets** Also

A.N.G.L.E., Inc. (Achieving New Gay & Lesbian Endeavors) Box 31375, Omaha 68131. 558-5303, Networking, Coming Out & PRIDE activities.

Citizens For Equal Protection, Box 55548, Omaha, 68155-0548. Legislative action group working for Human Rights ordinance.

EAGLE-Omaha, Employee Association of Gays and Lesbians. Resource group of US WEST. For more information: Contact S. McCartney, 1314 Douglas on Mall, 8th Floor, Omaha 68102.

Frontrunners/walkers, Box 4583, Omaha 68104 Running/Walking Club (Send SASE for info)

Gay/Lesbian Information & Referral Line, A service of A.N.G.L.E., Inc., (402) 558-5303

Gay/Lesbian Student Organization (GLSO), Box 8171, Omaha, NE 68108. Meet 1st & 3rd Sundays, 7 p.m., Downtown Grounds Coffee House, 1117 Jackson, Omaha. All are welcome!

Gay/Lesbian Support Group, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22nd, 345-2563. Tuesdays 7:30pm.

HAIR CARES, Nat'l Foundation hair-dressers helping other hairdressers living with AIDS. 1-800-HAIRCARES Omaha, July 333-3329

Lutherans Concerned, Meet First Sunday 7-8:30pm, Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church Lounge, 2650 Farnam, Omaha, 345-4080 or 453-7137.

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, Mailing Address: Box 3173, Omaha, NE 68103 Services held at 819 S. 22 St., Omaha, NE Worship Services at 10:20am

Omaha Meatpackers, Leather/Levi Club with focus on AIDS fundraising. Call: 455-6876

Omaha Men OMEN, Box 3706 Omaha 68103 Men interested in masculinity /masculine image Meets 3rd Sunday, 3pm, Usually at Gilligan's

Omaha Players Club (OPC), PO Box 34463 Omaha, Ne 68134, (402) 451-7987, (402) 342-3512. Leather/SM education and play group. This is a men's and women's group. Call for more information.

OLIS (Our Love Is Special), Box 11335, Omaha 68111 Support/social grp for women of all colors

Overeaters Anonymous Lambda Plush Grp, Wednesdays at 7:30pm, *Family and Friends* Building, 3040 N. 102, Omaha

Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG), See Nebraska Statewide listing.

Presbyterians for Lesbian & Gay Concerns, (402) 733-1360. Cleve. Meets last Saturday January-October, 2nd Saturday in December, No November meeting

River City Mixed Bowling League, President - E. Mueller (1) 466-1789, V.P. - Cheryl Christensen 346-7699, Treasurer - Mike Shearer 346-4110. Bowling Sunday, 3pm, Sky Lanes, 42 & Center, Omaha

River City Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 680, Council Bluffs, IA 51502 For all who enjoy cross-gender community. All orientations welcome. No sexual encounters. Meets monthly.

River City Mixed Chorus, P.O. Box 3267, Omaha, 68103-0267. 453-8884. Volunteer chorus for Gay/Lesbian/Sensitive people.

Seventh Day Adventist Kinship, Inc., Meetings, information, support for Lesbians & Gays (402) 451-5631 or 1-800-4-GAY-SDA.

Two Wheelers of Omaha (TWO) Motorcycle Club, Box 3216, Omaha, 68103. Not active

Women of the Plains, PO Box 24712, Omaha, NE 68124, Dedicated to womens culture in Omaha

Women's Support Group, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22nd, 345-2563. Meets Saturdays 11am

WomenSpace, Box 24712, Omaha, NE 68124-0712, Quarterly Magazine offers place for lesbian women's voices to be heard. \$5 for 4 issues.

Youth Support Group, sponsored by Parents & Friends of Lesbians/Gays Omaha Chapter. For gay, lesbian youth and those questioning sexuality issues, ages 13 to 21. For Info: call 291-6781.

STATEWIDE

Alcoholics Anonymous, Grand Island, Open Meeting 12noon Sundays, (308)236-8610.

Alcoholics Anonymous, Kearney, Open Meeting 12noon Saturdays, (308)236-8610.

Coalition for Gay /Lesbian Civil-Rights, Box 94882, Lincoln 68509 Advocacy, lobby for G/L civil rights, newsletter, socials. Bus Mtg, 3rd Tues, 7:30pm, St Marks, 13 & R; 1st Sat Social Event, Cornerstone, 640 N. 16, Lincoln, 7-10pm

DC In '93, Box 34463, Omaha 68134-0463, Org for Nebraska Contingency in 1993 March on Washington. Amy Marie Meek (402) 451-7987.

Gay & Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebraska, For info send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: GLAGN, Box 1546, Kearney, NE 68848

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68102. Social org for advancement of gay society, Business Meeting 1st Monday

Lincoln/Lancaster Drug Projects, 610 "J", Lincoln, (402) 475-5161, Dennis Hoffman, Case Mgr. O/P chemical dependency treatment while affirming sexuality, Sliding Fee Scale

MATCHALL MATCHMAKERS, P.O. Box 82281, Lincoln, NE 68501-2281, Write for info. Also publish G.L.B. Date Book, personal ad: \$5 for 30 words or less, 25 cents each add'l word. Cashier's check or money order.

The New Voice of Nebraska, Box 3512, Omaha 68103. Monthly magazine for the Lesbian and Gay community. Deadline for submissions is 10th of the month. Subscriptions \$19/year.

Parents, Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG) *Kearney, NE 68847: meets 3pm, 3rd Sunday at St Luke's Episcopal. Call (308) 382-0752 or (308) 995-5490. Direct correspondence to: PFLAG, 1320 8th Ave., Holdrege, NE 68949

*Box 4374, Lincoln, NE 68504, (402) 435-4688. 4th Tues, 7pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 'A'. Groups for family of people with HIV, & G/L Youth Group meet same time & place.

*2912 Lynnwood Dr., Omaha, NE 68123, 291-6781. Meets 2nd Thursday at 7 p.m., 1st United Methodist, 7020 Cass Street.

We're *THE MAX* For The Holidays

Friday, December 4

It's a down home, country style
Tree Trimmin' Party in *Stosb's Saloon*

Sunday, December 6

It's I.C.O.N.'s Holiday Spectacular
Toys For Tots

Sunday, December 13

An Omaha Original, *Dorian Drake*
It's the first show for the new Miss Gay Omaha

Thursday, December 17

It's our own holiday tradition,
The Holiday MAX OUT
It's the best way to start your celebrating

Sunday, December 20

Only *THE MAX* can give a
gift this big-Welcome back
Ryan Idol

Friday, December 25

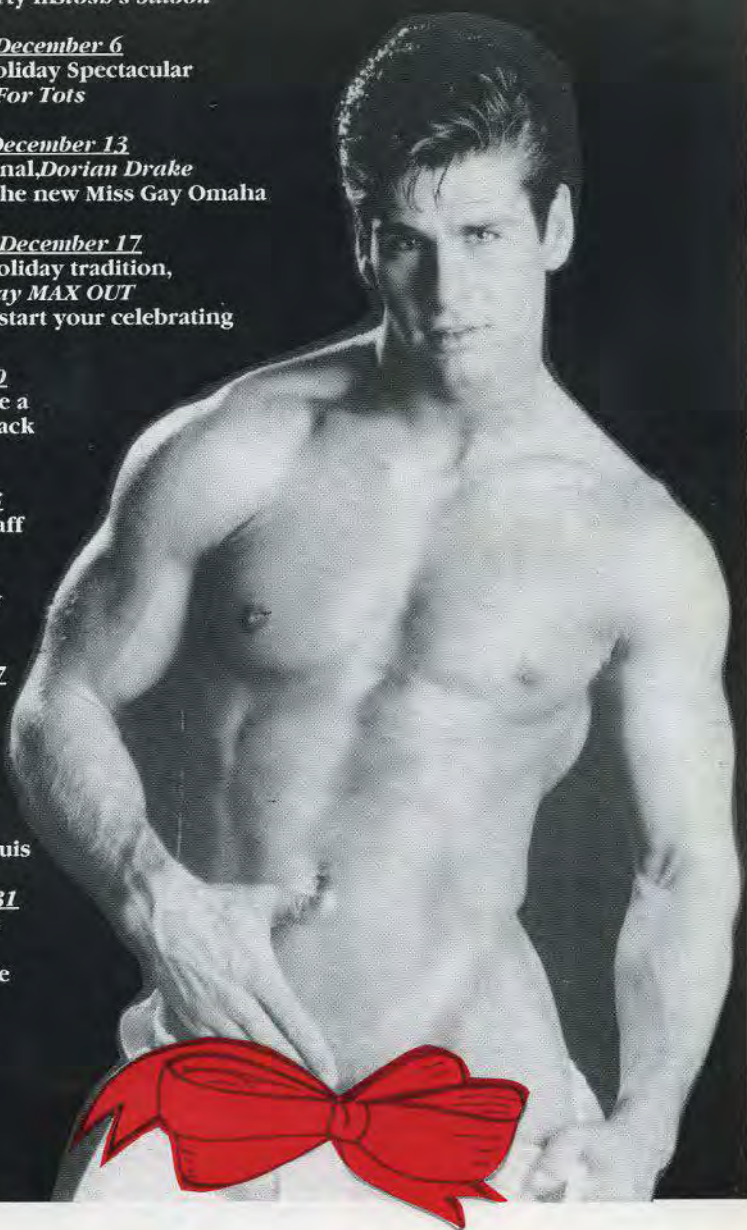
The Management & Staff
of *THE MAX*
extend their wishes
for a safe and happy
holiday season

Sunday, December 27

They're a long way
from St. Louis
and they're at
THE MAX
Miss Gay Midwest
Kathy Kline
and the Ladies of St. Louis

Thursday, December 31

The biggest and best
New Years Party
anywhere can only be
found right here
in Omaha at
THE MAX



Ryan Idol

TREMORS

**WERE HOT! NEW!
AND HERE TO
STAY!**

THURSDAY-

**6-8 Happy Hour
W/Free Snacks
7-9 Karaoke W/Todd
9-1 Dance Dance**

FRIDAY-

**6-8 Happy Hour
W/Free Snacks
7-9 Karaoke W/Todd
9-1 Dance Dance**

SATURDAY-

**Open @ 6 W/Free
Snacks
7-9 Karaoke W/Todd
9-1 Dance
Dance**

SUNDAY-

**Open @ 6 W/Free
Snacks
Any Cocktail \$1.75
7-9 Karaoke W/Todd
9-1 Dance Dance**

TREMORS • 1516 Jones • Omaha • 346-6001