



Iowa: Say I Do!

By Chris Orr

On April 3rd the Iowa Supreme Court ruled on *Varnum v. Brien*. The Supreme Court had found on a UNANIMOUS (7-0) decision that "the Iowa statute limiting civil marriage to a union between a man and a woman violates the equal protection clause of the Iowa Constitution." The Court also reaffirmed "that a statute inconsistent with the Iowa Constitution must be declared void, even though it may be supported by strong and deep-seated beliefs and popular opinion." The ruling is from the court:



"Defendant appeals from district court summary judgment ruling holding state statute limiting civil marriage to a union between a man and a woman unconstitutional. AFFIRMED." With those words from the court, Iowa became the third state to legalize same-sex marriage. The Court had released a sixty nine page docket on the ruling. The Court had made some great points in its findings while hearing the case.

The Court addressed if sexual orientation is a suspect class entitled to a heightened level of scrutiny beyond rational basis. Here is what the Court considered: the history of invidious discrimination against the class burdened by the legislation, whether the characteristics that distinguish the class indicate a typical class member's ability to contribute to society, whether the distinguishing characteristics is immutable, or beyond the class members' control, the political power of the subject class. The Court did find that on each of these factors that sexual orientation did warrant a heightened scrutiny. It also found that sexual orientation is central to a person's identity and that altering this could be severe damage to that individual. This would then seem to eliminate the separate but equal stance.

The opposition of same-sex marriage gave five principles that were argued in Court. They are: tradition, promoting the optimal environment for children, promoting procreation, promoting stability in opposite-sex relationships, preservation of state resources. This is what the Court had to say to the oppositions principles in short. Tradition itself is not a reason and that the opposition gave no governmental reasoning of leaving

(Continued on page 4)

Same-Sex Marriage Legalized in Vermont

Click the byline to view more stories by this author. By Julie Bolcer

Following tense and emotional proceedings on the legislative floor, the Vermont house voted 100-49 at 11 a.m. on Tuesday to override Gov. Jim Douglas's veto of marriage-equality legislation. After an earlier morning vote by the senate, 23-5, to override the veto, the house vote makes Vermont the first state to recognize marriage equality through the legislative process without first being ordered to do so by the court.

The outcome of the highly anticipated house vote remained uncertain until it occurred. In the end, the 100 votes generated was the minimum needed to meet the two-thirds majority requirement for the veto override.

Marriage-equality advocates hailed the milestone in Vermont, which was the first state to create civil unions for same-sex couples in 2000.

"This historic vote in the Vermont legislature reminds us of the incredible progress being made toward equality," said Human Rights Campaign president Joe Solmonese in a statement. "Less than five years ago, lesbian and gay couples began marrying in Massachusetts. Now, with the Iowa court decision last Friday and today's vote in Vermont, there will be four states recognizing the right to marry for loving, committed lesbian and gay couples," he said.

House members who spoke on the floor before the vote cited the "stress and anger" that surrounded the same-sex marriage debate in Vermont, with one noting the "disrespectful comments on both sides." Another legislator, who voted not to override the veto, called it "the most emotional and passionate issue I've ever been involved in."

Gay and lesbian couples may begin to marry in Vermont on September 1.

**The New GLBT Business Guide
is Here! See Page 15**

April 10, 2009 - April 24, 2009

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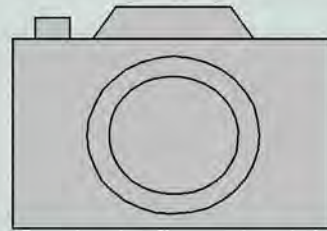
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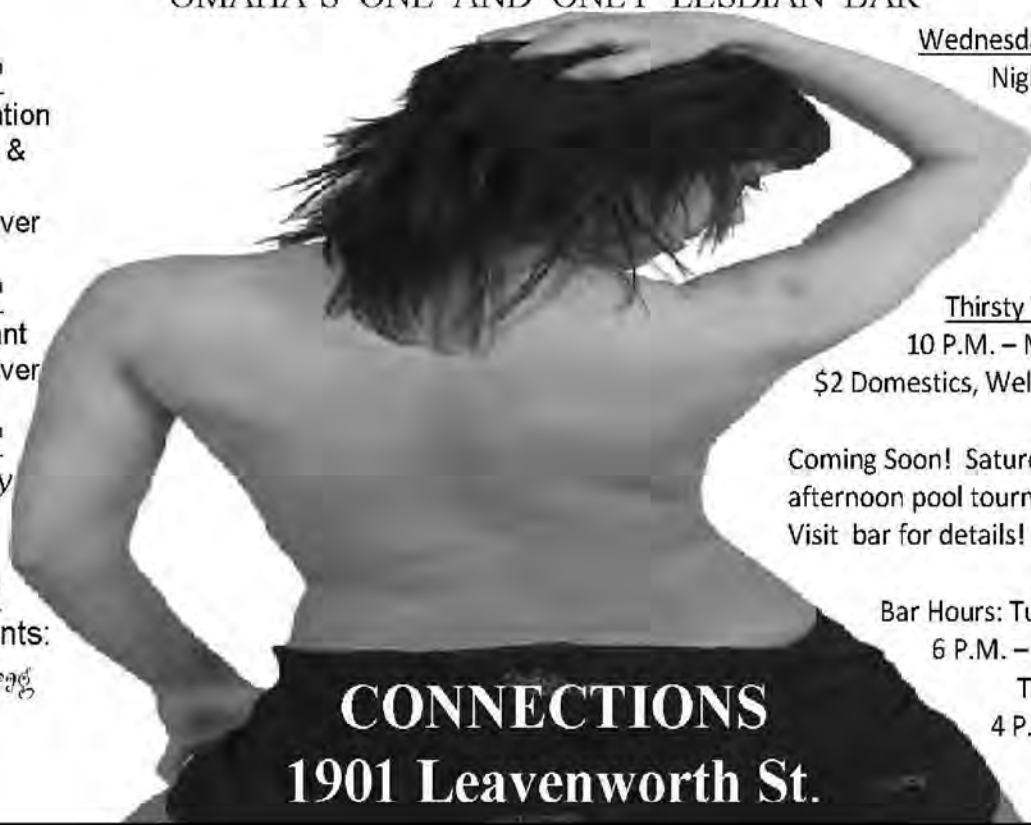
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(Continued from page 1)

tradition to limiting it between heterosexual couples. Marriage does not exclude other groups of parents such as child abusers, sexual predators, and violent felons from parenting. The Court found no argument supported that upholding traditional marriage will increase procreation because of excluding gays and lesbians from civil marriage. Excluding gays and lesbians from civil marriage did not show evidence that it would make opposite sex relationships more stable. The opposition claimed that the same-sex marriage ban helped the state's fiscal burden of civil marriage and it conserved some state resources. The Court acknowledged that but let the opposition know that it would be true for any group of people to be denied the right to a civil marriage.

Here are some other nuggets that the Court had in the judgment. Religious beliefs for and against same sex marriage both make valid points. The case at hand though does not deal with a marriage definition at religious institutions. The statute of the gay marriage ban leaves these contrasting opinions absent of any religious based rationale to test the constitutionality. "Our constitution does not permit any branch of government to resolve these types of religious debates and entrusts to courts the task of ensuring government AVOIDS them; the statute at issue in this case does not prescribe a defini-

tion of marriage for religious institutions. Instead, the statute declares 'Marriage is a civil contract' and then regulates that civil contract, we proceed as civil judges, far removed from the theological debate of religious clerics." The Supreme Court also had this to say "We are firmly convinced the exclusion of gay and lesbian people from the institution of civil marriage does not substantially further any important governmental objective. The legislature has excluded a historically disfavored class of persons from a supremely important civil institution

without a constitutionally sufficient justification. There is no material fact, genuinely in dispute, that can affect this determination. We have a constitutional duty to ensure equal protection of the law. Iowa Code section 595.2 denies gay and lesbian people the equal protection of the law promised by the Iowa Constitution."

The ruling will take around twenty-one days for it to be official. This gives time to the County for a rehearing but according to Polk County Attorney John Sarcone, the County Attorney's Office will not ask for a rehearing. Sarcone "Our Supreme Court has decided it, and they make the decision as to what the law is and we follow Supreme Court decisions. This is not a personal thing. We have an obligation to the law to defend the recorder, and that's what we do." If political opposi-

tion tries to ban marriage again, it won't be heard, debated, or voted on until 2012. One Iowa has grassroots activists working



right now with letting Iowa legislators know legislation should not attempt to interfere with the ruling. With that said then the wedding bells will start ringing and marriage licenses will be granted around April 24th after the twenty-one day period.

As the court ruling was waiting to be heard, One Iowa and gay and lesbians across Iowa were preparing for a rally of either joy or being ready to battle further on. The rallies turned into celebrations across the state. One Iowa had a rally in Council Bluffs joined with Council Bluffs Community Alliance at five thirty at Playland Park that day. The celebration featured speakers from both groups as well as gay and lesbian partners who live in Iowa and couples who moved to Iowa from Nebraska. The celebration had a special guest from the Lambda Legal team to speak to the energized crowd. Council Bluffs Councilman Matt Walsh addressed the group too. Council Bluffs Police Officers ensured safety of attendees if any protesters had appeared; there were no protesters in sight. Iowa Senate Majority Leader Mike Gronstal looked on to the crowd that he had fought for. Council Bluffs lawyers also addressed the group giving some key legal ramifications of the ruling and how it affects gay and lesbian couples personally. News cameras flooded the scene as the celebration unfolded. The celebration had about a couple hundred attendees from both sides of the river. One Iowa had volunteers gathering signatures to send cards to legislators that the signed person wants the Supreme Court's decision upheld. It was noted that the river was not flowing backyards or that it was about to start flooding when crossing the Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge.

The attendees of the celebration shared their opinions. Senate Majority Leader, Mike Gronstal (D) – You just said this is one of your proudest moments in 27 years? “Yes, it is. A great decision by the court, it was less than 10 years ago when

the house passed the constitutional ban on gay marriage. It was a tie vote and we lost to the ban. Because of the court's decision today, it is a great day that people who love each other, now have Iowa laws that respect them.” Andrea Gaylord – How does it feel being an Iowan and knowing you are fully equal? “It is amazing, it's just nice to know that we can do what everybody else can, not saying I'm going to jump out and get married tomorrow. My partner and I have been together for seven months now and we wouldn't dream of getting married yet but knowing that we can when that time comes, makes a difference.” Angel Harry – Would you ever move to Iowa someday if you found your partner? “Sure, actually my partner lives over here, so on moving day I'd be moving over here to

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Diane's Story

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When I arrived at the hospital, I couldn't get any information on Susan's condition. The hospital staff informed me that medical information could only be released to Susan's family. For them, family did not include live-in partners regardless of the length of the relationship. It took six hours for Susan's parents to arrive at the hospital. During that time, I sat in the hospital waiting room and wasn't allowed to see or comfort her.

Only after Susan's parents arrived was I able to see her. Thankfully, they were caring people who accepted our relationship. The doctors predicted that Susan would not make it through the night. She died within the next hour. All that time had been wasted as I sat in that dark waiting room. She had been slowly dying alone, when I should have been holding her hand and couldn't.”

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Iowa." Brady Hodge – What are your feelings being a Nebraska resident and over here celebrating with Iowa? "Well you know I wish it was us in Nebraska I've been helping over there (Nebraska) for quite some time and I'm so happy it happened over here (Iowa) it's just right over the river, Iowa rocks." Rick Shever – Months ago you were married in California (August) now with that situation in CA are you going to move Iowa and marry in Iowa, what are you thinking? "I don't know if they automatically recognize us here in Iowa so we'll see, if not, we may have to do it again." And move to Iowa? "It's a possibility." Sophia Montanez – You're not an Iowa resident but in the future do you think you will become one or remain in Nebraska? "I don't know yet, if I find a partner I maybe, maybe not though I know Nebraska won't recognize my marriage." Other states may legally recognize the civil marriages of gay and lesbian couples performed in Iowa in the same way they recognize out-of-state marriages by heterosexual couples. The ruling did also state that there are no residency laws in effect. Republican Congressman from the 5th District of Iowa (including Council Bluffs) Steve King, wants to include a residency law so that Iowa does not become a "gay mecca." Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning makes certain that Nebraska won't recognize civil marriages performed in Iowa of gay couples because of the state's (Nebraska's) constitutional amendment banning gay marriage. That has a stronger hold for the state of Nebraska because Nebraska doesn't have laws to protect all of its citizens fully, unlike Iowa. Iowa welcomes you though where Iowans do stay true to our state slogan "Fields of Opportunities" and it doesn't exclude a person living accordingly to the state's laws.

Culver Says He's Reluctant to Amend Constitution

By Mike Glover, Associated Press Writer

Iowa Gov. Chet Culver said Tuesday he opposes gay marriage but is reluctant to amend the state constitution to overrule an Iowa Supreme Court decision that paved the way for same-sex unions.

Culver had said little about Friday's unanimous ruling, but in a lengthy statement released Tuesday the governor said he hadn't changed his mind that marriage is between a man and a woman.

"This is a tenet of my personal faith," Culver said.

However, Culver said the issue before the court involved only civil marriage, which he said is separate from religious marriage that occurs in places of worship.

"The court also concluded that the denial of this right constitutes discrimination," Culver said. "Therefore, after careful consideration and a thorough reading of the court's decision, I am reluctant to support amending the Iowa Constitution to add a provision that our Supreme Court has said is unlawful and discriminatory."

Key Democratic legislative leaders have ruled out efforts to start the process of amending the constitution, and Culver's position likely ends that debate for all practical purposes. Social conservatives have been clamoring for the amendment.

The court ruling means same-sex couples can get married in Iowa as soon as April 30 after a series of waiting periods are completed.

In his statement Culver conceded that "the issue of same-gender civil marriage is one that evokes strongly held beliefs and strong emotions both for and against."

But as governor, Culver said he must respect the authority of the Iowa Supreme Court and uphold the state constitution.

He said the court decision doesn't force churches to do anything.

"The Supreme Court's decision does not require that churches recognize marriages between persons of the same gender or officiate over such unions," Culver said. "Our churches and places of worship are free to decide for themselves, as they were before, who may enter the sacred covenant of marriage."

Culver urged both sides in the emotional debate "to exhibit respect and good will" and said he would focus his attention elsewhere.

"We are in the midst of a serious economic recession," said Culver, pointing to rising unemployment and last summer's record flooding. "That is where, I believe, my focus and energies should lie."

Culver made his statement hours after a Republican candidate for governor, Bob Vander Plaats, criticized the governor for not being more clear about where he stood on the gay marriage ruling.

"There's an old saying that silence is golden, but it doesn't apply when people need to know where their elected officials stand," said Vander Plaats, a Sioux City businessman.

Iowa doesn't have residency requirements for marriage licenses, so same-sex couples from elsewhere could come to Iowa to be married. Vander Plaats said at the least, lawmakers should put residency requirements in place to head off such visits.

"It is wrong to allow people whose states do not allow same-sex marriages to rush into Iowa, get a quickie marriage and rush home to undermine the laws and values of another state," he said.

Senate Minority Leader Paul McKinley criticized Culver after the governor released his statement.

McKinley, R-Chariton, said Culver had broken an earlier promise to oppose gay marriage.

"Gov. Culver has chosen to stand with seven elite justices and deny the 3 million people of Iowa the right to vote on this significant issue," McKinley said in a statement. "This marriage flip-flop is just the latest example of Gov. Culver not providing the leadership that every Iowan deserves."

Washington D.C. Will Recognize Your Marriage

The Washington, D.C., city council voted unanimously on Tuesday to recognize same-sex marriages conducted in the growing number of states where marriage equality is now legal.

Tuesday's 12-0 vote on the contentious issue is expected to bring the council in direct conflict with the U.S. Congress, which approves of the city's laws under Home Rule.

"It's high time we send a clear, unequivocal message to those persons of the same sex and married in another jurisdiction that their marriage is valid in D.C.," openly gay council member

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Jim Graham said, according to The Washington Post. He added, "I hope this city recognizes this is a human rights struggle."

Openly gay council member David Catania said that it's only a matter of time before the District of Columbia grants marriage equality to all of its residents. "It's no secret that I have been working on legislation that would take us further," he said. "This is the march toward human rights and equality. This is not the march toward special rights. This is the equal march and that march is coming here."

Brenner-Beckstead Ministries 3rd Annual Benefit Concert at The Max

Come join Susie Brenner and Linda Beckstead for their third annual benefit concert at The Max on Saturday, April 25th. The concert will feature a live band with special guest performers.

Appetizers will be available at 6 p.m. and the concert begins at 6:45 p.m. There will be a \$3 cover at the door. Susie and Linda are local Omaha women who formed a traveling ministry in January 2005. They share their stories about their struggles and triumphs and their relationship with God with people all over the country.

This contemporary Christian concert marks the upcoming release of their new CD, Part of the Plan. CD preorders and new merchandise will be on sale. Please join them in this fun-filled event at The Max!

(see ad below)

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THE MAX Welcomes our First Mister Max M.I. (Mail Illusionist)

My name is Sebastian Savage, but most of you may know me as Kim. I was born in Joliet, IL. in 1981 and have been living in Omaha since 2003.

I started performing as Sebastian Kane, and performed in my first show at Club Olis with Royal Elegance in 2004. In Dec 2005 I joined The Omaha Kingsmen and have been a member since then. You may have seen me perform at a variety of different clubs in Nebraska including The Max, Flixx, Club Joy, Q Cabaret, as well as Omaha and Lincoln's Gay Pride.



Becoming the first Mister Max MI is not only an honor, but also a privilege. This is the first exclusive Male Illusionist title in Nebraska and hopefully not the last.

I want to thank The Max for this opportunity and would also like to thank everyone who helped me during the pageant. Libby I know I was a hott mess that week, so thanks for putting up with me.

With this title I want to try to bring more Kings to stage. This is a Drag King revolution...are you ready?

The Max is definitely ready; we have huge plans for The Max Titleholders! Just wait and see what we have in store for Nebraska!!!

Sebastian Savage
Mister Max MI I

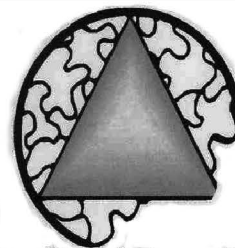
22nd Annual Heartland Roundup

The Heartland Roundup is a weekend of recovery. This year it will be held on April 24th, 25th and 26th at the Regency Lodge Hotel. The Heartland Roundup is sponsored by members of the Omaha Gay and Lesbian AA and Al-Anon community. Members of these groups and any interested parties are welcome to attend. All meetings and workshops are open and smoke free.

The Heartland Roundup's mission is to provide a forum for alcohol and drug dependent individuals. Events throughout the weekend include speakers, workshops, karaoke, a banquet, raffles, fun and fellowship. The dinner banquet will be held at 6pm Saturday evening.

The Regency Lodge is located at 909 South 107th Avenue.

Discounts are available when received before April 10th. A few scholarships will also be available. For more information call Chuck at 558-3589 or email cvrana@levi.com or you can also register online at www.HeartlandRoundup.org



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Omaha, Nebraska

The 22nd Annual Heartland Roundup
April 24th—26th, 2009

**"The Three Legacies of AA -
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Regency Lodge
909 S. 107th Avenue

Friday, April 24th: 5pm to 11:30pm

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Contact: Chuck V. (402) 558-3589, cvrana@levi.com
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or visit our website @ www.heartlandroundup.org

Sponsored by members of the gay and lesbian AA and Al-Anon community. All AA & Al-Anon members are welcome.

Your Caring Doctor

By Chris Orr

A lot of the community may know Dr. Mark Goodman. He has contributed to the community in many various ways and has been generous in doing service work. Dr. Goodman gives us a glimpse into what it's like being a gay doctor here in Omaha and advice to gay men about having a doctor that understands you.

Dr. Goodman went for his undergrad at UNL, attended the University of Nebraska College of Medicine for four years. His residency training took him to Chicago at Rush University for three years. He has spent two years in San Francisco and two years overseas in Kenya and Sudan working in refugee camps. After all that was done, he returned to Omaha.

Here is where Dr. Goodman is today after all the training. "I am a family physician working at Creighton Family

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*Tania, Jeanette
and family;
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Healthcare in the Old Market. I also have an academic appointment at Creighton as Associate Professor in Family Medicine and enjoy teaching and research. I have the best patients on the planet: newborn to 100 years old, gay, straight, black, white, Hispanic, rich, poor, the full mix. I am pleased to say perhaps 25% of the practice is gay, lesbian, transgendered, and bi.”

What gives you the greatest satisfaction about the community service work you do and what resources do you use? “The greatest satisfaction comes from solving a medical mystery, from helping somebody get through something really scary, and from giving ideas to patients that result in them living a fuller life. I Google everything and from there, I go to WebMD or the AAFP websites. There is a Gay and Lesbian Medical Association that puts out a very nice journal and hundreds of HIV info sources of course.”

Why, based on your experience Dr. Goodman, would gay men seek out a gay doctor versus a heterosexual doctor? What about gay adolescents? “It all depends on how safe you feel. Some folks can be self-confident enough to tell their doc everything that others need to know and that their doc understands. The same goes for gay adolescents: it can be a very scary time, and sometimes another positive role model can help.”

Are most of the patients experiencing the same things or do gay men experience some conditions more than their straight counterparts? “Gay men have sometimes higher rates of tobacco use, alcohol overuse, substance use, and I suspect depressions and anxiety concerns. I believe that most of this starts as “self-medicating” because of shame or fear. Certainly HIV impacts the gay community more as well, though that is

changing.”

Dr. Goodman goes over discrimination and the workplace in his profession personally. What type of feelings do you have toward being a gay doctor in a quite conservative state such as Nebraska? “I have found very little prejudice in my work. It seems to me that if you put your full heart into what you do, your co-workers, patients, bosses, and colleagues will all respect the work you are doing.” Discrimination personally? “No. The only time I can remember feeling discriminated against was by another doctor now working in Lincoln, who suggested gay people were less moral and a bunch of other nonsense. I’ll stay vigilant and won’t let anyone get away with that nonsense without a loud challenge.”

You recently have been married to your partner Rick. I remember you considered approaching Creighton University to seek same sex benefits, which they don’t offer. How did that go and what are you going to do about it Dr. Goodman? “Rick and I were married in California this summer. It was a wonderful way to express how we care about one another, and is absolutely above any judgment that anyone cares to make. I doubt my superiors at the University give it much thought at all, but in general I have found amazing support for me personally, for Rick and I as a couple, and for the work we are doing here at Creighton.”

GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS

Rainbow Outreach
Metro Omaha GLBT Center
1719 Leavenworth, Omaha
 (mail address: PO Box 8583 Omaha NE 68108)

WALK-IN HOURS

Sundays 4:00PM - 6:00PM
 Tuesdays closed temporarily
 Thursdays 7:30PM - 9:00PM
 Fridays 6:00PM - 11:00PM

*Closed Most Major Holidays
 (402) 341-0330
www.rainbowoutreach.org

The GLBT Center welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and allied persons; we encourage all to attend GLBT Center events and activities. We celebrate unity and diversity - sexual orientation, gender identity, sex, race, religion, age, ability, ethnic and national origin.

FRIDAY APRIL 10TH
GOOD FRIDAY AT MCCO CHURCH,
 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563, 7pm

SATURDAY APRIL 11TH
HGRA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, Blazing Saddle in Des Moines at 3pm.

FRIDAY APRIL 10TH
EASTER SERVICES AT MCCO CHURCH, 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563, 9am and 11am

SATURDAY APRIL 25TH
PART OF THE PLAN CONCERT, at The Max, 6pm appetizers served, 6:45pm show, \$3 cover, featuring Susie Brenner and "The Boys in the Band"

SUNDAY APRIL 26TH
INDOOR RODEO, DC's Saloon, Miss HGRA 2009, Jazmine will be hosting, chili feed for contestants, We need teams of 4 people and each team will have to compete in the indoor versions of: The Wild Drag Race, Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, etc., benefit the MCC Food Pantry and our Heartland Regional Rodeo 2010

SATURDAY MAY 2ND
EATS, ENTERTAINMENT & EXCITEMENT, 5:30-7pm cookout, show at 7pm, A plate of food with choice of hamburger or hot dog for \$5.00, and extras or dessert for \$1.00. This is a joint event for MCC and

ICON and is hosted by Lord 28, Scott Miller and Grand Czar 28, Stan Brown.

SATURDAY MAY 9TH
HGRA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, at DC's Saloon at 4pm

JUNE 19TH THRU 21ST
NEBRASKA PRIDE CELEBRATION, in Omaha, more details coming soon

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday
WORSHIP SERVICES:
AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA, 3647 LaFayette Ave., Omaha GLBT friendly, www.augustanalutheran.com

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP, Meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., Fellowship starts at 6PM, services begin at 6:30PM. Everyone Welcome!

DIETZ METHODIST 1423 S.10, Coffeehouse casual downstairs at 9am, Traditional Worship at 11am

EPISCOPAL GLBT FELLOWSHIP, St. Andrews Church, 84th & Pacific, 6-7PM, email: EpiscopalGLBT@yahoo.com

FIRST CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST, info at: www.firstcentral.org

FIRST UNITED METHODIST 7020 Cass, 8:30 & 10:45am services

FIRST UNITARIAN 3114 Harney, 11am services

GAMES DAY AT THE GLBT CENTER, 1719 Leavenworth, 2PM to 4PM

GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 4pm Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St Info call Mark 639-3055

HASTINGS COLLEGE GSA 8PM
 FF: Judy Sandeen (402) 461-7372

HIV+ SUPPORT GROUP 7-8:30 pm at the NAP office located at 1921 South 17th Street in Lincoln, NE.

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40 10am service

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563 Sunday Worship 9am and 11am & Wednesday Worship at 7pm

ONE PROMISE GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Tamara B. at 714-8552

RIVER CITY II MIXED BOWLING, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes,

SECOND UNITARIAN, 10:30am Sunday service, 3012 South 119th St., Omaha NE

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 3424 N. 90, Omaha, 10:30am service and Wednesday meditation service at 7pm

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

Every Monday
A A GLBT "RAINBOW GROUP"
 Meeting Place, 28 & S, Lincoln, 7:30 pm

GAY/BI/STRAIGHT SUPPORT GROUP HIV+ MEN 7pm every Monday, NAP, 2147 S. 15th St., Lincoln NE, contact Nick or Rick at 402-476-3144

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS REHEARSALS, 6:45PM—9:15PM, First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

Every Tuesday
HASTINGS COLLEGE ALLIANCE, meet Tuesdays at 7PM (when college is in session). Please contact Dr Antje Anderson at aanderson@hastings.edu or Judy Sandeen at jsandeen@hastings.edu for further information.

UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUPPORT GROUP, 7-8:30PM, Women's Center, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 472-5644

Every Wednesday
AA FOURTH DIMENSION, 7pm, Open to men and women, 219 North 48th Street

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, results in 20 minutes, 1921 So. 17th St. 402-476-7000

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm, at DC's Saloon

LGBT A A 7:30pm, Alcohol Ctrl., 2116 W. Faidley, Grand Island, Peggy (308) 226-8286, Center (308) 398-5427

NAP HIV TESTING, 1:30pm to 4 pm by appt. ONLY, 139 S. 40 St., same day results, call 402-552-9260 for info

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

WORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

Every Thursday
KARAOKE W/STACY 9:30pm, Connections Bar

NAP HIV TESTING 5pm- 9pm walk-in, 139 S. 40th Same day results,

Every Friday
DANCE LESSONS WITH GORDON 7-9pm, DC's Saloon

AA ALTERNATIVE MEETING, 7pm, open to men and women, at Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church in the basement, 1023 North 40th Street

AA LIVE & LET LIVE, 8:15pm, Open to men and women, at Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

CAN WE TALK SUPPORT GROUP
Open to everyone, every Friday 6:30pm to 8pm, MCCC, 819 South 22nd St., Omaha

DJ MUSIC AND DANCING 10PM, Connections Bar

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 6PM to 11PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street, snacks, soda's provided

GLBT AA 7PM to 8PM, Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, Call 556-8364, ask for Sanford

NAP HIV TESTING 5pm-9PM walk-in, NAP, 139 S. 40th Same day results

NAP OUTREACH CENTER HIV TESTING
7 TO 10PM, walk-in, **2202 St. Marv's Ave.**, Same day results

RAINBOW BIBLE STUDY, 6 to 7:30PM, Lowe Ave. Presbyterian, 1023 No. 40th St.

Every Saturday

AA SATURDAY AFTERNOON, 1:30pm, Open to men and women, 219 North 48th Street, call 402-558-0733 for more info

DJ MUSIC AND DANCING 10PM, Connections Bar

PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP 4-6pm, First United Methodist Church, 291-6781 proudhorizons@yahoo.com

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday

LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

1st Thursday

GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7 to 8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 6PM. Email at: glbtprofessionals@cfep-ne.org or see www.omahaglbtprofessionals.org for info

1st Friday

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE 8pm, Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

1st Saturday OR Sunday

HEARTLAND GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, Meeting days and times may vary, call 402-505-3331 for info or see www.hgra.net for meeting schedules etc.

1st Sunday

GAY GUYS SPAGHETTI NIGHT, at a Lincoln restaurant, call 402-483-6183 to reserve a seat up until the day before

TRANSGENDER DROP-IN, 2 to 4pm at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

2nd Thursday

PFLAG-OMAHA, 7pm, First United Methodist Church

2nd Saturday

LEARNING TO EXCHANGE POWER L2EP@aol.com 2pm; DC's Saloon

2nd Sunday

INTEGRITY 6-7:30pm, St. Marks, Lincoln NE

OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREENING (glbt film shown at 7pm followed by discussion) First Unitarian, 3114 Harney

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 6pm, meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org
PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL (HASTINGS, NE), Meeting on 3rd Mondays at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7th and Marian St., 7PM, email to jsandeen@inebraska.com or call 402.462.2961 or 402.460.8696

3rd Thursday

GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP
7- 8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln on the third Thursday of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668, held at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, Lincoln NE
LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln
COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

3rd Saturday

FLOWER OF HOPE Transgender Group, Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., Omaha NE. from 6PM to 9:30PM

3rd Sunday

TRANSGENDER DROP-IN, 2 to 4pm at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

4th Tuesday

PFLAG-CORNHUSKER Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln, 7 p.m.
YOUTH HIV TEST Lighthouse, 2530 N, Lincoln, ages 13 to 18, FFI: 475-3220. 3-5:30 pm

4th Friday

LEO LEATHER ENGINEERS- OMAHA
Not currently meeting.

Last Saturday of the Month

NAP HIV TESTING, 11AM-3PM, WALK-IN, 139 SOUTH 40TH ST.

Email Your Event to:
GAYZETTE@COX.NET

See, I have open space
Here for your
Event! Send it to me!

The Nun in Hooters

A nun, badly needing to use the restroom, walked into a local Hooters. The place was hopping with music and loud conversation and every once in a while "the lights would turn off." Each time the lights would go out, the place would erupt into cheers.

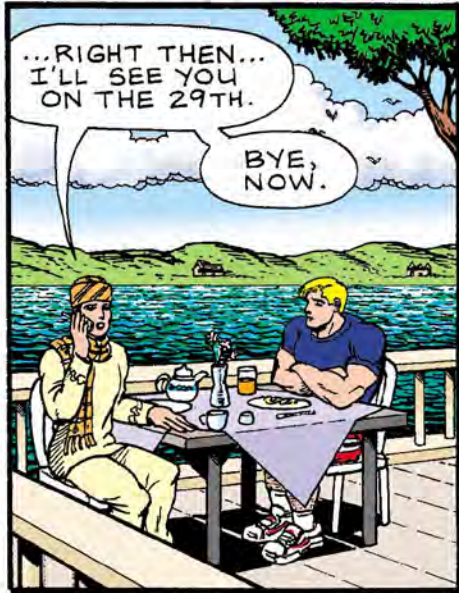
However, when the revelers saw the nun, the room went dead silent. She walked up to the bartender, and asked, "May I please use the restroom?" The bartender replied, "OK, but I should warn you that there is a statue of a naked man in there wearing only a fig leaf." "Well, in that case, I'll just look the other way," said the nun.

So the bartender showed the nun to the back of the restaurant. After a few minutes, she came back out, and the whole place stopped just long enough to give the nun a loud round of applause. She went to the bartender and said, "Sir, I don't understand. Why did they applaud for me just because I went to the restroom?"

"Well, now they know you're one of us," said the bartender, "Would you like a drink?" "No thank you, but, I still don't understand," said the puzzled nun.

"You see," laughed the bartender, "every time someone lifts the fig leaf on that statue, the lights go out. Now, how about that drink?"

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox



...RIGHT THEN... I'LL SEE YOU ON THE 29TH.

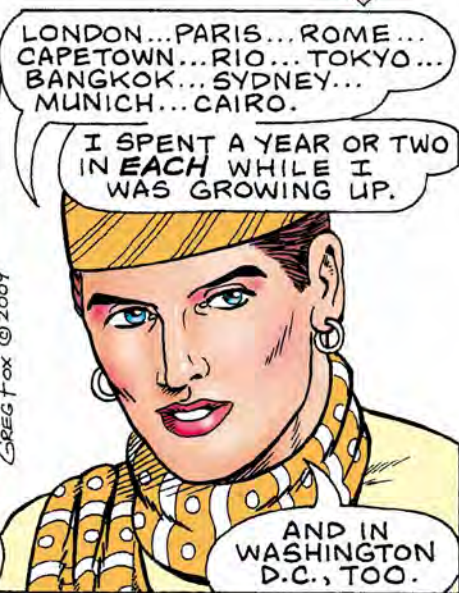
BYE, NOW.



SOMETHING WRONG?

YOUR ACCENT. I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHERE YOU'RE FROM.

MY FATHER WAS A TRAVELING CORRESPONDENT FOR THE BBC. WE LIVED ALL OVER.



LONDON...PARIS...ROME... CAPETOWN...RIO... TOKYO... BANGKOK... SYDNEY... MUNICH...CAIRO.

I SPENT A YEAR OR TWO IN EACH WHILE I WAS GROWING UP.

AND IN WASHINGTON D.C., TOO.



WOW. THAT MUST'VE BEEN **CONFUSING**.

I LOVED IT.

I FEEL LIKE I'M A TRUE CHILD OF THE **WORLD**.



AND THAT MULTI-CULTURAL VANTAGE-POINT **INFORMS** MY WORK TO THIS DAY.

HOW'D YOU GET INTO **ADVERTISING**?

IT CERTAINLY WASN'T MY INTENTION.



I DIRECTED SEVERAL **ROCK VIDEOS** THAT GOT A LOT OF ATTENTION.

SOON I WAS DOING **SOFT-DRINK** COMMERCIALS. THE REST IS **HISTORY**.

DIDN'T YOU HAVE A **HARD TIME**, BEIN'...



TRANSGENDERED?

MY WORK SPOKE FOR ITSELF. **CORPORATIONS** WERE SO EAGER TO UTILIZE MY **CREATIVE VISION** THAT...

...MY **GENDER IDENTITY** DIDN'T MATTER.



UNLIKE **OTHER TIMES** IN MY LIFE.

SO...WHAT ABOUT YOU, BRAD? HAVE YOU DONE MUCH **WORLD TRAVEL**?

NOT REALLY.

I **DID LIVE** IN **BRAZIL** FOR A FEW MONTHS, THOUGH...WHEN I PLAYED **WINTER-LEAGUE** BALL.



MMM...**BRAZILIAN MEN** ARE **SCRUMPTIOUS**.

UH, YEAH... I **GUESS**. **JEFF OLSEN** WAS ON MY TEAM THEN, TOO.

THE **NURSE**? HE USED TO PLAY **BASEBALL**? WELL... HE'S **SCRUMPTIOUS**, ALSO. HAVE YOU TWO EVER...?



OLSEN N'ME? EEESH... THAT'S A **COMPLICATED** STORY, MORGAN.

I **LOVE** **COMPLICATED**. CARE FOR SOME **GREEN TEA**?

I **AIN'T** REALLY A "TEA" PERSON, BUT...
...YEAH, WHY NOT...

Omaha Metro GLBT & Friendly Business Directory

A/C & Heating

Burton (402) 343 - 0011
www.justcallburton.com

Air Duct Cleaning

Breathe Easy (402) 813 - 3193

Antiques

Jim's Seek & Save 4679
Leavenworth St. (402) 660-0778

Attorneys

Dwornik Law 17445 Arbor St.
Suite 310. (402) 578-6480
Frank & Gryva, P.C. 1823
Harney St. Suite 201. 346-0874
Koenig & Tiritilli P.C., L.L.O.
1266 South 13th St. 346-1132

Bakery

Sweet Magnolias 813 N. 40th St.
(402) - 934 - 6427

Bars

Connections 1901 Leavenworth
St. (402) - 933 - 3033

Bookstores/Comics

Capes Comic Book Lounge
6208 Maple St. 558-0212
Mystery Bookstore 1414 South
13th St. 342-7343

Bowling

Maplewood Lanes 3030 N.
101st St. 402 - 572 - 9393

Candy Shops

Old Market Candy Shop 1007
Howard Street, (402) 344-8846

Catering

Wonderful World Foods (712) -
242-5330

Carpet Cleaning

Breathe Easy (402) 813 - 3193

Coffee Shop

Caffeine Dreams 4524 Farnum
St. (402) - 932 - 2803

Decks & Patio

Deck Pros 690-2195
www.deckprosinc.com

Doggy Day Care

Camp Bow Wow 11819
Stonegate Cr. (402) 991 - 7297

Grocery

Whole Foods Market 10020
Regency Cr. (402) - 393 - 1200

Funeral Services

Christopherson Funeral 8806 N.
30th St. 402 - 614 - 9151

Hair Salon

One Drake Place 12100 West
Center Rd. (402) - 933 - 7253

Home Remodeling

Michael Gordon 402-714-3810
jmg@cox.net

Insurance

American Family Insurance
Wes Mock. 3606 N. 163rd Plaza
(402) - 884 - 1488

Lawn Care

Duff's Lawn & Landscape
(402) - 350 - 1215
Green Pride Lawn Care 1629
Bowie Drive. (402) 301-4564

Massage Therapy

Master of Healing Arts
John Valentine 321-2333

Photography

J. Kueffner Photography
(402) - 214 - 7590
jkueffnerphotography@cox.net

Printing

Printing Plus Inc. 333-5935
"For all your printing needs"

Plumbing

Burton (402) 343-0011
www.justcallburton.com

Real Estate

CBS Home Real Estate
Charlie Sutton 968-4287
NP Dodge Real Estate
Pride Real Estate Group
Tim Reeder 612-3833
Carole Souze 871-9817
Brian Adams 250-5256

Restaurants

Dixie Quicks Magnolia Room
1915 Leavenworth 346-3549
Gerda's Bakery & Restaurant
5180 Leavenworth 553-6774
Louie M's Burger Lust 1718
Vinton St. 402 - 449 - 9112
Mark's Bistro 4916 Underwood
Avenue (402) - 502 - 2203
Taxi's Grill & Bar 1822 North
120th St. 898-1882

Tattoo

Grinn & Barrett 5002 Center St.
(402) 553 - 7714

Theater - Movie

Film Streams Ruth Sokolof
Theater. 1340 Webster St.
402 - 933 - 0259

Theatre - Stage

Blue Barn Theatre 345 - 1576
www.bluebarn.org

Omaha Community Playhouse
6915 Cass St. Box: 553-0800
Admin: 553-4890

Therapy

James Poppert LIMHP, LADC.
8021 Chicago St (402) 502 -
1024 x 106
John R. Campbell LCSW, CPG
8021 Chicago St. (402) 502-
1024 x 292
Positive Beginnings Therapy
Cindy Ridgway 680-3346

BE LISTED FOR FREE

Own, work, shop at a
GLBT & Friendly
business?

Email:

orrthumper83@yahoo.com

With business information

View this guide online:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

www.glbtohaha.com

glbt Greater Omaha
GLBT Professionals
Conference

Greater Omaha GLBT Professionals

April 25, 2009
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
RSVP TODAY!

Join us for the Greater Omaha GLBT Professionals Conference on April 25th. This year's event will take place in Downtown Omaha at ConAgra Foods and is only \$25 per person. In addition to great breakout panels and discussions, we will be featuring keynote, Bill Stewart, who made headlines across the country last summer when he resigned his position as Chief Marketing Officer at Kmart, to take a job as a fulltime volunteer on the No on Prop 8 Campaign to keep marriage legal for gays and lesbians in California.



Agenda

- 10:00 - 10:30 AM Registration
- 10:30 - 11:45 AM Panel #1: "Where are we at?"
- 12:00 - 1:30 PM Lunch & Keynote featuring Bill Stewart
- 1:45 - 3:00 PM Panel #2: "Where do we need to go?"
- 3:30 PM Reception at Dixie Quicks

Registration is available online at www.omahaglbtprofessionals.org
or at www.cfep-ne.org. RSVP today to secure your spot!

Presented by:



Sponsored by:



**Where Can You Find
The Gayzette?**

Omaha:

- Connections, 1901 Leavenworth 933-3033
- DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street 344-3103
- Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 1915 Leavenworth 346-3549
- Flixo, 1015 South 10th Street Omaha 408-1020
- Gnome's Bar, 1951 Saint Marys Ave 991-6470
- The Max, 1417 Jackson St. 346-4110
- Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
- Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 449-8703
- Mystery Bookstore, 1422 South 13th St 342-7343
- Nebraska AIDS Project, 139 South 40th St 552-9260
- Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center,
1719 Leavenworth St. (home of The Gayzette) 341-0330

Lincoln:

- Panic Bar, 200 South 18th Street (as available) 435-8764
- Q Bar, 226 South 9th Street (as available) 475-2269

**Would you like to have the Gayzette at your
Place of business? Email your request to:
Gayzette@cox.net**

**Greater Omaha GLBT Conference
April 25, 2009 – 10:00am to 3:00 PM**

Join us for the Greater Omaha GLBT Professionals Conference on April 25th. This year's event will take place in Downtown Omaha at ConAgra Foods and is only \$25 per person. In addition to great breakout panels and discussions, we will be featuring keynote, Bill Stewart, who made headlines across the country last summer when he resigned his position as Chief Marketing Officer at Kmart, to take a job as a fulltime volunteer on the No on Prop 8 Campaign to keep marriage legal for gays and lesbians in California.

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Registration is available online at

www.omahaglbtprofessionals.org or at www.cfep-ne.org.
RSVP today to secure your spot! (see ad on this page at left)

RCMC goes Silver!

The River City Mixed Chorus presents its next concert in June, continuing our celebration of 25 years of great choral music! "Silver!", the name of the show and the theme throughout the concert, will bring RCMC up to a classy new level of singing. They'll be re-creating a moment from the first concert 25 years ago, as well as singing moments from the silver screen. This time, the River City Mixed Chorus will reflect silver in many musical ways!

Selections will be far and wide, from movies like Mamma Mia, Beauty and the Beast, Evita, Chicago, The Lion King, Footloose, Working Girl, and many more. They'll also be performing other "silver" related songs such as an original composition by Director Mark Kurtz titled "The Silver Swan", and an extraordinary version of the William Tell Overture that's sure to be a highlight of the show. (The Lone Ranger's horse was named "Silver"- get it?)

The finale of the concert is sure to be very emotional, as the chorus invites all past alumni of the River City Mixed Chorus to come up on stage and perform "Singing for Our Lives", a signature song of the chorus for many years. It's sure to be one of the most memorable concerts of RCMC's illustrious 25 years!

"Silver!" will be performed Sat. June 13th, and Sunday June 14th at First United Methodist Church, 70th and Cass. Ticket prices are: \$15-adult

\$13-students/seniors/groups

\$10-children

\$18-day of show

Go to RCMC.org to order tickets online.

The River City Mixed Chorus is now on Facebook! Type "River City Mixed Chorus" in the search box and you can become an RCMC Facebook member.

Omaha GLBT Sports

by Chris Orr

The deadline for softball registration is quickly approaching! You can register now thru April 19th. Softball will be played Thursday nights 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. Games will be played at Churchich Park 50th & “C” Street. The cost of the softball season is \$30 per player. The softball season will run April 23rd – July 16th.

Rainout games will be played on Friday nights if enough players available. Register as an individual, group, or a team of 10 – 13 players. Individuals and groups will be combined into teams of 10 – 13 players. Players of all experience and level of play welcomed. Players must be



able to commit and play most of the season unless prior arrangements have been made with league officials or team. Online registration is the only way to register, registration deadline is April 19th. Full details and online registration at www.omahaglbtsportsleague.org.

The season will be slow pitch softball and recreational fun. The league is expecting five or six teams this season. A few teams have already registered as well as many individuals or small groups too. The league is looking for volunteer umpires.

Email us at Omaha.glbtsports@yahoo.com for information and if interested. There will be no admission charge to this season's games. Come watch and cheer the players on with a friend or by yourself and make new friends. The league is working on having a few new things at the games for those who come to watch but details aren't being released yet.

Omaha GLBT Sports SOFTBALL SEASON

REGISTRATION: NOW - April 19th

Cost: \$30 per player

**Field: 50th & “C”
Churchich Park**



Games: Thursday Nights
April 23rd – July 16th

Games run one hour
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Last game 9 p.m. if needed.
Rainouts Friday depending upon player
availability.

REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.OMAHAGLBTSPTSLEAGUE.ORG

Register as an individual, group, or team of 10 – 13 players. Individuals and groups will be combined into teams of 10 – 13 players. Players of all experience and level of play welcomed. Players must be able to commit and play most of the season unless prior arrangements have been made.

Online registration is the only way to register, registration ends April 19th

Fitness Corner

I have gone to the archives for this week's column. I wrote this poem a couple of years ago but have brought it out of the closet for an encore. I thought it might be a good idea to re-introduce "You Could" just before summertime when people are threatening to get in shape and are battling all those objections. Cut this poem out of the paper or magazine you are reading and put this in a place where you will see it. Let this be your light-hearted reminder that "you could" do it if you wanted to do it.



YOU COULD!

You could run or bike on the sidewalk or street;
I'll relax instead and just put up my feet.

You could break a sweat from exercise and smell really bad;
No way! Not me! Do you fancy me for mad?

You could embrace cardio training until you're out of breath;
I know that's crazy and would be my death.

You could take the stairs and forget about the elevator;
That would require time and effort you meddling instigator.

You could watch a Richard Simmons video and perform an
aerobics routine;
I'm not into exertion and certainly not with that queen.

You could play Frisbee or volleyball down at the beach;
I'm sorry could you hand me my beer; it's just out of reach.

You could watch what you eat and start losing a few pounds;
Just want to enjoy my cheeseburgers in paradise with Jimmy
Buffet sounds.

You could take a walk on your lunch break and enjoy the
weather;
I'm partial to kibitzing in the lounge with my best friend
Heather.

You could burn calories in the gym while lifting those heavy
weights;
If it were up to me that would be illegal in all fifty states.

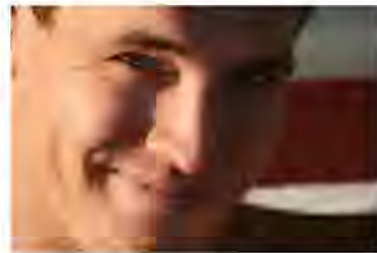
You could begin stretching your muscles daily and make it a
habit;
I've got a better chance of finding a hat and pulling out a rabbit.

You could find yourself a sports league and play adult soccer;
Not interested. I think I'll watch Meet the Parents with that
adorable Focker.

You could! You could! You could!

This health and fitness column is brought to you by that guy who builds his biceps by juggling would, could, and should. That rhyming raconteur is Ron Blake and he is only a stanza away at blake.fitness@yahoo.com.

I Spy.....



Hello there reader.
My name is Chris Orr and I am doing an opinion column of just whatever. I'll be expressing views or sometimes giving a heads up on persons, places, or things that need to be mentioned at all or more of. Remember this is an opinion column and does not reflect the opinions of those who are responsible (staff, owners, persons, etc.)

I am grateful that the state I was born and raised in recognizes all of its citizens. The unanimous decision did actually shock me a bit. My partner is just as shocked but so very pleased that he now lives in a state that includes everyone. He made the right judgment moving across the river years ago as Iowa became more and more progressive, inclusive, equal, and a leader in many areas versus Nebraska. There are some thoughts triggering my mind to think about, what is going to change or happen now? Will Iowa see itself in a few years in a situation like California is in now? Will the Omaha World Herald and Council Bluffs Daily Nonpareil start running marriage announcements? OWH has already taken a stance on that but as pressure may come from the ruling Friday, will it change its mind? It was a laughable story that Elizabeth Ahlin wrote in the OWH on April 4th because it was factually incorrect. Can we say it was really an incorrect story since the OWH has repeatedly fudged and painted GLBT stories as a negative? This is why the OWH is a great source for cat pan liners and window cleaning, because in the end it's garbage. In regards to seeing the situation in California, it won't happen until 2012 which gives enough time to educate and build a supporting base on civil marriage being granted to all Iowa citizens. Iowa has an equal protection clause in its State Constitution; this contradicts the gay marriage ban. This was one of many factors in the State Supreme Court's decision.

If you had attended the rally on Friday April 3rd at Playland Park you heard some great speakers with valuable information. Council Bluffs Community Alliance along with One Iowa did a great job of organizing the event and lining up the speakers. The rally was a last minute ordeal because the two groups knew that the decision was going to be announced on a Friday, but didn't know which one; so it was a shoot from the hip and be on stand-by for the rally. The attendees of the rally ranged from youth to old, single people to couples of months to years, and media. All conducted themselves as citizens and left silly behavior and attitudes behind.

I do get a chuckle out of reading about how the marriage license offices are a little nervous. It's not because of oh my god here come those bad bad gays, it's because they may not have enough staff available to keep up with the long lines of couples. The other chuckles came from reading the sixty-nine page judgment from the Justices. The County had no legs to stand on nor a pot to piss in or a window to throw it out of when arguing the case. They used the same old tired narrow minded assumptions. The other chuckles come from couples now shopping for pastors, preachers, and other leaders of churches. They are shopping because they have to find the person that is okay with marrying them (in Iowa), then finding a church that will accept them to have their ceremony (in Iowa), possibly bringing their own pastor from Nebraska over here to Iowa but leaving the church behind because it's not on wheels. We should turn this into a new game show called "Whose God

is it anyway?" because on this wheel of marriage fortune just how many gods are there and WHICH ONE is running this marriage show? It's funny because the Court threw out those tired arguments denying and ruled AVOIDING the issue of religion because it's irrelevant. The Court ruled and Iowa Constitution has written that civil marriage is a contract between two adults and the state. Some GLBT Nebraskans now realize that the grass is greener on the other side, Iowa, since making all citizens equal like it should be. Take your anger and frustration out on your state legislators and fellow Nebraskans because they are the ones that put you in your lawful predicament by voting for 416; which bans gay marriage in the state of Nebraska AND not lawfully adopting an equal protection clause.

Any gripes, comments, or having something checked out? Email me orrthumper83@yahoo.com

HGRA Hosts Indoor Rodeo and Chili Tasting Contest at DC's Saloon

Saturday April 25, 2009 at 2:00 pm we will host another Indoor Rodeo. For those of you not familiar with this type rodeo, let me explain. The events will be: barrel racing, pole bending, Wild Drag Race, and roping. Entry fee will be \$5 per contestant and we are looking for teams of 4 contestants. Four friends could enter, four church members, or four bowlers. If you can't get a team, just show up and we will partner you with 3 others.

HGRA will have a team of four members, and DC's will have four employees and/ or customers. And we are trying to get other bars to send a team. Hopefully we will get some people from Sidekicks in K.C., or members of the Missouri Gay Rodeo Association.

We will supply the "horses" and tackle for the events. A tricycle will be the horse for pole bending and flag racing; a bouncy ball will be the horse for barrel racing, a rope and rocking horse for roping. We will also supply the wig, high heels, and

clothes for the Wild Drag Race!

We are asking different people to bring in a crock-pot filled with their special brand of chili. It can be hot, it can be mild, my particular chili contains pasta! Metropolitan Community Church has already offered to make a pot of chili. We will charge everyone \$1.00 for a cup of chili, and you can get a fresh cup to go back and sample as many different chilis as you like. But no repeats, just new samples. When we determine which chili is best liked, we will ask that cook if they would like to put their recipe in our upcoming cookbook.

For more info contact me: shellehgra@wmconnect.com or go to our website www.hgra.net and look under "calendar" when you get to April click on the 25th and more info will be displayed.

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SATURDAY APRIL 11TH

**FEATHERS, PLUMAGE
& FALDERAL
Mamma Barry's MCC-O
Benefit**

**5:30pm Doors Open
6pm Show**

SUNDAY APRIL 12TH

**A RAZZLE DAZZLE EASTER
10pm**

SATURDAY APRIL 18TH

**Momma Jan's All
Star Revue**

**6pm Doors Open
7pm Show**

SUNDAY APRIL 19TH

**ICON's Closet Ball
9pm**

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