

June

1991

*The
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A

*Pride Week Celebration
Omaha Nebraska
June 22-30th*



Together In Pride

OUR TURN

PROUD TO BE WHO WE ARE AT THE NEW VOICE

by Sharon Van Butsel



Dear Sharon,

Along with Gay and Lesbian people across the country, we will be celebrating Gay & Lesbian Pride this June here in West Hollywood. More than two decades after the Stonewall Rebellion changed our world, Christopher Street West/Los Angeles is staging West Hollywood's 21st Annual Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade.

Many of you have celebrated Gay/Lesbian Pride with us and have seen the parade in the past. Most all of you have surely heard about it. It is the third largest parade in California and the biggest Gay/Lesbian Pride parade in the world. The theme of this year's parade is TOGETHER IN PRIDE. It is a feeling millions of us across the country can share on June 23rd as we join via satellite the more than 300,000 people crowding the streets of West Hollywood to cheer and surge with Pride as the parade passes by. This year the massive spectacle will have more than 300 units, with marching bands, floats, equestrian units, motorcycles, and all the style and excitement that only the Gay/Lesbian Community can create.

For the fifth consecutive year, Christopher Street West is making the parade a celebration for everyone with a nationwide satellite broadcast. This means your local cable companies can broadcast this four hour tribute to Gay/Lesbian Pride absolutely free. The parade can become an enhancement to your area's own celebration, as well as a positive, exciting way to carry to your community the message that WE ARE HERE and WE ARE PROUD!

This is where we are asking for your help. Most cable companies in the country have already received a letter from CSW offering the broadcast in them free of charge. Now we need calls from you, your organizations, and your friends urging your cable companies to carry the parade. We want to flood them with the message that the parade is available, is free, and that you, as one of their subscribers, deserves the opportunity to see it.

The following are the cable companies in your area where the broadcast can be picked up along with the people to contact. We also ask that if your cable company is not listed, you contact them and ask that they call us to receive the wires.

Richard Hook, Vice President
Omaha Cox Cable
11505 West Dodge Road
Omaha, NE 68154

Please have as many people call as you can. Please give to a call if you have any questions. Then get dialing - across the nation TOGETHER IN PRIDE!

Sincerely,
Melinda Truong
Marketing Director Satellite Telecom
(213) 656-6553

The staff and steering committee of the *New Voice* are pleased to join in the celebration of Pride Week 1991, "Together in Pride." You have given us much to be proud about during the last year.

This year the *New Voice* increased its circulation to 1000 copies each month. Copies are sent in Kearney, Grand Island, and Lincoln for distribution in addition to Omaha.

The *New Voice* has added regular features from Greater Nebraska and a monthly column from Washington, DC. We've also added local feature writers and reporters. As a result of all this, the number of articles submitted has almost doubled.

Despite the increases in circulation and submissions, we've been able to hold the line on subscription and advertising rates, thanks to increased subscriptions, an increase in adver-

tisers, and by reduced postage expenses with bulk mailing.

During this last year, the *New Voice* began a printer project offering free subscriptions to individuals incarcerated in the various Nebraska facilities. We've shown support to other segments of our community through cash donations, donated subscriptions, donations of advertising space to the Human Rights Campaign Fund and National Coming Out Day, various public service announcements, and by publishing announcements of upcoming events from all sorts of organizations in the community.

We at the *New Voice* want to take this opportunity to say thank you to you, our readers. Without your support these things would just have been possible. Thanks to you we remain THE NEW VOICE OF NEBRASKA.

APOLOGIES ARE IN ORDER

We wish to apologize to OMEN and the Omaha Mr. Drummer Contest for the discrepancies in dates. We hope you all got the correct date from the advertisements in the magazine, and were able to attend the event.

We also wish to apologize to the Imperial Court of Nebraska for the incorrect date for coronation in the ICON News article. Coronation for the 11th Reign of the Imperial Court will be on Saturday, June 15, 1991, at the Airport Ramada Inn. Hope to see you there.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR THANK YOU

Dear New Voice Staff,

Thank you very much for your donation of two subscriptions to *The New Voice* for our Fruit Salad radio. We appreciate your support of the radio and our variety show advertisement. We feel we are lucky to have an organization such as yourselves in our community.

Thanks again for all your help.

Sincerely,

Stan Brown & The River City Mixed Chorus



The *New Voice* has been published and distributed each month by a dedicated volunteer staff since March, 1984. The magazine is financially sustained by donations, subscriptions, and advertising. Copyright 1991. All rights reserved.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CAN ANYONE HEAR ME?

Dear Lee,

Once again several weeks have passed and I still haven't had any reply from *New Voice*. Due to the present situation with the handling of income mail here it is somewhat of a concern.

I realize you can't make anyone write but I just wonder if you have or would publish my name as wanting pen pals. I would appreciate knowing one way or the other if you could do that.

If by chance you have never received my mail let me tell you a little about me. I'm 37 and divorced. I have lived and worked in the Omaha area for most of the past 20 years. I hope to return to the area sometime between July and September of this year. I have a wide range of interests and a fair amount of education so I have no problems with discussing almost any topic. I have an AA in both business and personal management if that helps.

I have been asked and intend to work with inmates upon my release in that area. The feelings and problems of being an inmate aren't something one can easily explain without having been in that situation. Even then most people just don't understand and even find it unbelievable.

I'm hoping to find some new friends before returning to Omaha. In this I ask once again for your help. It has been a long three years here and the thought of leaving here alone isn't a real thrilling idea either. Not that I would care to say.

The Iowa system as all others has it's problems. The sad part is little or nothing is being

done to correct any of it. It seems so unbelievable that most of the public may fail to grasp what is really going on. It is people like you that as *New Voice* that ease that give any of us a moment's relief and continued hope even for ourselves. Sincerely,

Vic Jackson, 809720 M.P.C.F.
Highway 218 South
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

WOW!!! WHAT A SHOW!

Dear Editor,

I went to the MEAT PACKERS SHOW for the very first time on April 7, 1991, and I do not plan on missing another one.

This show was absolutely marvelous. Each and every person who was in this show was great. I wish I could name each and everyone of them but I do not have a list of all who participated. I do however want to say that Don Flowers was absolutely sensational as Master of Ceremonies and as a emcee.

Each and everyone who did their part should be thanked for the job they did, starting with the performers, costume committee, make-up people, bartenders, waiters, doormen, and most of all, all who gave of their money to help with helping people with AIDS. A special thanks to Tom Clark for the lovely decorations.

YOU ALL WERE SUPERB! (SHOES OR NO SHOES...)

I do feel however they could have made a lot more money if we had all given up a drink and put more money in the fish bowl. There is another show on Labor Day; let's try to double or even triple what they made on this show. We have all had friends and relatives pass on because of AIDS, and we all know people right now who have AIDS. LET'S START WORKING REAL HARD SO THAT SOMEDAY MAYBE WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT AIDS ANY LONGER.

Love you all,
Alice Bellamy

NEW VOICE PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

PrideTime™ travel videos for the gay and lesbian community are available for viewing by your group or organization. Our current list includes:

1. Fort Lauderdale
2. Key West
3. Provincetown, Mass. #1
4. Provincetown, Mass. #2

Contact Lee at (402)573-1064.

YOU MAY BE AT RISK!



HIV \ AIDS

- KISKY BEHAVIORS ?
* UNPROTECTED SEX
* CASUAL SEX
* MULTIPLE SEX PARTNERS
* SHARING NEEDLES



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NEWS FROM NAP

Those of us involved on a day-to-day basis with AIDS tend to forget that a lot of you don't know the state of affairs in Nebraska regarding HIV/AIDS. Therefore the caseworkers of the Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP) have decided to write a monthly update for *The New Voice* to keep you informed.

First, let us introduce ourselves. Patrick Harrock is the case manager for NAP; he has been with the Project since 1989 when staff were first hired. Suzie Miller Schoon joined NAP in August 1990 as a half-time caseworker in Lincoln. Judith Venturini was hired in November 1990 to assist with cases in Omaha and greater Nebraska. It may be of interest for you to know that, in fact, we also handle several cases from western Iowa because of lack of services there.

In addition to paid staff, NAP clients receive invaluable assistance from a myriad of volunteers statewide. For client services, our volunteers fall into two categories: practical support volunteers, and buddies. The buddies are paired one-to-one with individual clients. The practical support volunteers provide transportation, help with cooking, shopping, laundry, and a variety of other tasks. The volunteers are critical in the operation of NAP, and the staff and clients are deeply grateful for the dedication of these folks.

NAP caseworkers help with a wide range of advocacy issues faced by clients at any stage of the HIV disease. This includes enabling clients to access appropriate resources and services avail-

able. Caseworkers also help clients with planning to assure as much independence and dignity as possible in moving their emotional, financial, and physical day-to-day needs. Planning for the future is important for clients and loved ones alike. All of these services are free.

With the help of Lutheran Family Services, NAP now has a professional counselor, Colleen Mittman, available two days a week for people who have concerns or issues related to HIV/AIDS. These services are available on a sliding fee scale, but no one is turned away for inability to pay.

We want to make it clear that NAP is open to people at any stage of HIV disease—and to families and friends of people diagnosed with HIV or AIDS. We handle many calls from folks who want to understand better what their friend or family member is experiencing. Some come in to visit with us at night.

Great support groups are available to persons who are HIV+ as well as those diagnosed with AIDS. Family members and friends can also attend some support groups. For more information about support groups, call the NAP office, 342-4233 (or 1-800-782-2473).

During April 1991, the State of Nebraska reported diagnosis of 11 new cases of AIDS, bringing the total to date to 212. NAP had begun the month with 109 clients. During April, two clients moved out of state, three died, and 22 new clients were added, bringing NAP's total to 126 at the end of the month.

NAP provided \$173, in emergency funds in

clients in April. Most of the money for this assistance comes from contributions to NAP by ICUN (ICUN also provides assistance for clients directly through its organizations).

Caseworkers and volunteers provided the following services for clients during April:

- 184 Advocacy Services
- 43 Transportation Services plus 21 Bus Tickets
- 134 Cooking, Laundry, Shopping, Miscellaneous Services

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

**Gay/Lesbian Information
and Referral Line:
558-5303**

**CHECK THE
PHONE BOOK!**

Have you gotten your new telephone book yet? Check them closely when they come. If you look in the community service listings of the Telephone Directory, you'll find listed (under the heading of support groups) ANGLE (Asthma New Gay/Lesbian Endeavors), MCC (Metropolitan Community Church), Gay and Lesbian Support Groups, and PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays). Just one more step out of the closet "Together in Pride."

The HUMAN RIGHTS
CAMPAIGN FUND salutes



ANGLE and the Lesbian/Gay Community of Omaha-Council Bluffs

on the occasion of Pride 1991.

Our mission: to end discrimination against lesbian and gay Americans, to validate our relationships and to ensure an effective national response to AIDS and other threats facing our community's health and safety.

The support of individual men and women who care about their rights and health is what makes the Campaign Fund a powerful political force. We invite you to join us, and to strengthen our fight for change in the '90s.

To learn more, write to us: The Human Rights Campaign Fund, Tim McFweeney, executive director, 1012 Fourteenth Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20005. Or call us at 202/628-4160

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LOCAL NEWS

NEWS FROM THE MAX

by Bob Ewing

Picture it. A warm-be heterosexual on a quiet drive through the countryside singing to himself. "Spring has sprung, the horses are hung, and my girlfriend is on vacation. I need a bad, I've got to be bad, I'll take anything I can get."

Well, home-boy, Closet Ball is calling you. Er, well, I mean the infomercial at Closet Ball Revisited on June 2. The Max is proud to welcome back those beautiful, beautiful, hedonistic babes for a second stroll down Macquary Lane.

So, when your latest boyfriend tells you there's a lesbian alert on the show bar side, tell him to chill out and get you another cocktail while you scope out the 'straight' man that you just know will be there for the California Striptease on June 6. And, were you right? Of course, even though you saw him checking out the private party sign at the front door wandering to himself "What does that really mean?"

And, was he really there again June 9? Yes. Yes. Yes, for the ICON Stripping Down Show. Even a 'straight' must be shown to myself. And he should. ICON has done, and continues to do, so many wonderful and important things for our community. This guy must have received a try as a cut, and with all ICON has done, I wouldn't be surprised. On June 16, all of Offutt AFB will be on hand for a joint Victory Show at the Max for the newest Royal Court.

Just kidding about Offutt. We all give thanks to a job well done by our Desert Storm troops.

Let's give thanks to a job well done by our gay community troops. Be there to support them. They support you.

Speaking of support, say it isn't so that the Max bartenders are going Drag. I've been told the 20th will be a sad day in history with all those cute bartenders in pantyhose. Where will they put their things? Will Scouty end up looking like Scouty? Will Wuzzy end up looking like Wuzzy? Toot, say it isn't so. You have got to check this out.

Speaking of checking things out, 'The Girls,' a.k.a. Probee Tan and Jennifer Jen, are doing an evening on the 23rd. Those girls are great. Dee Moines has never been the same since Phoenix... Well, think it out for yourself. Those girls have talent. But that's nothing new for Omaha. And it's always at the Max.

June 27 will feature a uniform night. Anyone care to see some hot men with attitude? How many days of the year can you walk around a bar calling every man you meet 'Sir'?

And you know what happens after that, don't you? You will be all set for June 28 & 29: Mr. Great Plains Drummer Workers!. This is the first time it has ever been done in Omaha. The Max will be holding... as the money will hot men from St. Louis, Kansas City, Des Moines, and everywhere in between.

Rainy night will feature the contest with men eligible from 8 different states to vie for the title that will lead him to San Francisco as the representative from our region.

And, on June 30 will be MGN - America In Review. Show up. You never know, that 'straight' man just might be there.

SUPPORT THE 1991 GAY & LESBIAN PRIDE PARADE

The Gay and Lesbian Pride Week Parade is held on Sunday, June 30, 1991, shows us as state pride in ourselves.

If you and your friends choose to walk in support of Gay and Lesbian Friends, then join us at 4pm on June 30. We will gather at the southeast corner of Turner Park, at Turner Boulevard and Douglas Street, and walk east up Douglas, south across 25th Street to Farnam, then west to return to Turner Park where a community picnic will be held.

Sometimes people that believe very strongly

in supporting Pride Week activities just cannot fit the Parade into their busy, hectic schedule, or are just not really *you* in making a public statement by joining the marchers. If you and your friends choose not to walk in the Pride Parade, you can still support those who do by your presence on the sidewalks and at the post Parade rally and picnic or by your financial support.

Everyone can support those who walk in the Pride Parade by their donations of \$5, \$10, \$20, or more. With your permission, we will list your first name (or a pseudonym) on posters to be carried in the Parade to show Omaha the extent of our support. Your donation will demonstrate that for every person walking in the Parade there are many others who support the effort.

To show your support for the Gay and Lesbian Pride Week Parade, sign a donation sheet for someone who will be walking in the Parade. They will collect your donation and turn in the donation on your behalf at the Pride Parade. The money collected will be split between NAP for PWA's and A.N.G.L.E. to support future Pride Week educational opportunities for Nebraska's and Iowa's gay and lesbian community.

In 1989, two marchers collected a total of \$264.00. If you would use your imagination and consider what we could raise if every marcher only collected \$20.00. Please be generous in your support for the marchers.

If you are going to join in in the parade, please consider participating in the sponsor program. Not everyone can or will be able to equal the magnificent job our two marchers did last year, but if everyone participates, then the results will be that much better.

Sponsor sheets will be available at several bars and from A.N.G.L.E. officers. These sheets will have a control number and the marchers must sign for the blank sheets. Completed forms and donations are to be brought to the Parade and turned in to Dave before the Parade steps off. This will allow the marcher to add the supporter's name or pseudonym in a position they carry during the parade.

All forms must be accounted for and returned to A.N.G.L.E. Organizations wishing to participate may sign for a block of forms. Pride Week buttons are also available for sale. If you are interested in selling the buttons for \$1.00 please contact Dave.

For additional information contact the ANGLE Information Line at 558-5303 or Dave at 291-6781.



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PANIC, BUT DON'T PANIC!

by Carla P.

My usual Wednesday activity was interrupted a week ago when I received a letter from a college roommate saying she would be in Lincoln with her mother May 1 - Would I be interested in driving down and going out for supper? It had been a couple years since I'd seen her and she had tried to arrange a similar meeting last summer but Gen the Volleyball Tournament for the Quilt kept me from meeting her, so I figured this time I ought to go.

Well, to make a long story short, Sharon and I met Maeri for a leisurely meal at Red Lobster after which I suggested we go by the Panic for a drink.

Things were pretty quiet when we arrived at the Panic, but it wasn't too long before the action began. Someone lured in with the news, "There's cops everywhere!" Sharon went to the door to look (She thought they were probably towing the Bronco since I had parked a few inches over the line into the NO PARKING area). When she returned to the table, she looked a little pale.

By then Kelly had arrived and was ushering people in off of the patio. The Panic was a buzzing!

"The SWAT team just arrived, and there's so many cops and rifles I can't count them all," Sharon told us.

"Oh, great!" I thought, "this is a wonderful way to entertain Maeri (leave it to me to be concerned with the really important details)."

Eventually someone came in and told us that there was a hostage situation across the street. I knew then we could be trapped in the Panic for hours - maybe even all night - we could even be there the next day. What would I find to talk about that long with this college roommate? The conversation had already begun to windle. And, of course, I was certain this would really impress Maeri that my gay life was just like her everyday life. Ha!

Well, it wasn't too long before we got the "All Clear!" and were free to leave. Our departure from the Panic was delayed only 30 minutes. We had had time for another drink, and time to make 3 or 4 trips to the door to check out what was happening.

We made our hasty exit - drinking all the time this time this could happen again at any moment. Of course, it didn't, and we safely returned Maeri

to her motel and said our goodbyes.

So if you're ever just sitting around and wondering what to do on a Wednesday, don't panic, go to the Panic. Kelly is sure to have some exciting entertainment for you.

FANTASY '91

A World In Leather will be in Omaha, NE, August 16 - 18, 1991, sponsored by Fantasy Productions/The Leather Journal, featuring Nebraska PFLAG and The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The weekend will begin with a Cocktail Registration Party with presentation of Club Cards (if you are a member of a club and will be attending, please bring your colors with you), and Introduction of Title Holders and Dignitaries. Saturday will see a Leather Fair with Sponsored Demonstrations by some of America's hottest Leather Men & Women as well as Leather, Rubber, Art, Game, and Informational Booths from around the U.S.

Sunday evening, it's Fantasy the show, produced this year by IIR Productions from Dallas, Texas, with all of the title holders and dignitaries present to speak, sing, dance, and perform their sexual fantasies live for you.

Afterwards will be an After Hours Party sponsored by the Omaha Meatpackers. And on Sunday, for the first time, there will be a Farewell Brunch open to the public.

In the last 2 years, Fantasy has given away over \$9,300 to its designated charities. Last year, over 40 title holders and dignitaries were present with spectators from over 30 different states, Australia, and Canada.

At the beginning of May, over 25 guests had confirmed attendance at this year's benefit gala. Tickets are on sale now @ \$25.00 per person (\$30.00 after August 1). For more information, please contact Fantasy Productions, P.O. Box 5362, Omaha, NE 68106-0262.

Special guests already confirmed include:
 Brian Dawson Mr. Drummer 1989
 Shari Cary IMSL '88
 Ericc Arndt "The Hair"
 Judy Yalving Mowbray IMSL '87
 Corey Davis Ms. San Francisco Leather '90
 Bill Costanzo TLJ Man of the Year '91
 Jeff Barnhart Mr. Ripcord Leather '89
 Chuck Rowland Director IMSL
 Jan Lyon Ms. NLA '89 '90
 TLJ Women of the Year '90

Patrick Sullivan Mr. Oklahoma Leather '90
 Stephen Scott Mr. Okla. City Leather '90/91
 Vance Regar Mr. Great Plains Drummer '90
 Howard Martin Mr. NLA '90/91
 Ruth Marks Ms. NLA '90/91
 Jim Richards Co-Chair NLA
 Shannon Kennedy Co-Chair NLA
 Randy Gray Mr. Sacramento Leather '90
 Dave Rivard Publisher The Leather Journal
 Isabelle Torrey Ms. Sacramento Leather '88/89

Pat Jude Reindler Legislative Director NGLTF
 M.P. Broulin Ms. Southtown Leather '91
 Tony Dufflan Publisher Drummer
 Bryan Smith Mr. Missouri Leather '91
 Alan Selby TLJ Man of the Year '89
 Dustin Logan TLJ Man of the Year '90
 Mark Frazer Golf Coast Drummer '91
 Larry Arbo Golf Coast Drummer '90
 Larry Kinsey Golf Coast Drummer '88
 Jim Morrow Southtown Drummer '87
 Mark Jimenez Mr. Ripcord '91

AIDS FUNDING CUT AT LOCAL LEVEL

Funding for HIV/AIDS education in the state by action of Congress was in jeopardy, that is, the news as last year. Somehow the translation of that at the state level in Nebraska has resulted in 10% CUT in grants in Nebraska to local health departments and Community Based Organizations which provide education.

Contact your state Senator and ask them to look into this! The Lincoln Lancaster County AIDS Task Force has written a letter to Dr. Greg Wright, Director of Nebraska Department of Health requesting this level funding be provided in line with the money that the state has received.

If this cut is allowed to stand it will have significant impact on the provision of HIV/AIDS education in Nebraska at the very time when we are seeing an increase in the incidence... just as was predicted a few years ago. HIV disease is moving into the less populated areas of the country. It is NOT time to become complacent or to think that the job of education is adequate. The age of the people coming across with AIDS is such that many were probably infected while still in their teens. Educators is our only hope for prevention!

P-FLAG Newsletter

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LOCAL NEWS

LINCOLN AIDS BENEFIT by Cheri Looft-Bavaard

Members of Nebraska's lesbian and gay community got together Sunday, May 12th at 11 o'clock at night and called in the cows. This year marks the third year in a row that the Lincoln community has held a cattle-call to benefit an AIDS-related event or project.

This year the Nebraska AIDS Project was chosen. NAP is a statewide organization that provides preventive education to the community at large and support to persons with AIDS.

Over 14 local entertainers pooled their talents for the cause. Among them were Sherza Mann, Frieda Lee, and members of Ladies Of The Evening, Brooke Owrta, the reigning 1991 Miss City Sweetheart was also in attendance.

Performers ran the gamut with their numbers. Everything from the traditional show songs, to R & B, to a cerebral appeal to come out of the closet appeared on stage.

Feelings about the show were varied, but sentiment and love seemed to dominate. "I can hardly say there is not a day that I haven't thought of the friends I have lost to AIDS and it saddens me to think of the current friends I am going to lose because of this disease," said Sherza Mann, Lincoln emcee. "I applaud these people (PWA's) for their courage and strength and offer my support in any way I can. But I have a problem with those who continue not to choose safe sex. (you know who you are) it affects us all. How many of your friends are going to have to die

before it affects you?"

Thanks to Kelly E. and staff for providing the place and space for the show. The Panic, at 18th and 'N' Streets has been the home for the last two years' worth of AIDS benefits.

Along with a packed house, Torte Miller-Schoon was in the audience as a NAP representative for the Lincoln office.

"NAP is always appreciative of fund raising events that contribute to our financial support," said Miller-Schoon, "and I am extremely pleased that my own community has joined in this effort. This allows us (NAP) to continue to provide services to persons living with AIDS. I want to thank Cheri and all the performers for the hard work in producing the show."

The Cattle Call raised \$188.00 at the door which was matched by a generous \$188.00 donation by Kelly E., owner of the Panic. Thanks, Kelly! All proceeds went to the Nebraska AIDS Project.

ICON NEWS

Well, Memorial Day has come and gone already... Summer has officially arrived. So, people, let's get the shorts, tank tops, and spandex out and PARTY!

ICON and the BOG's would like to thank everyone for their support by attending the Memorial Day Picnic. Remember, all the money raised by ICON and those picnics go directly back into the community. Don't forget the next one: JULY 6TH. Same place and same times. The tug-of-war and the pyramid contests will be carried

into to the 4th picnic also. HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE.

June brings coronation Weekend. We told you about it in the May issue of *The New Voice*, so here is a reminder.

Starting on Friday, June 14th, the out-of-town show will take place. A lot of the board members have traveled in out of town costumes this year, so this should prove to be interesting. Other courts have committed to attending ours. So come and join us in seeing some new entertainment and meeting some new people. Show starts at 9:30pm.

Then on Saturday, June 15th, is coronation. Voting starts at 5:45pm and stops at 7:45pm. Coronation will then start at 8pm. Come and enjoy the show and entertainment the noniards have planned for us.

Then on Sunday, June 16th, we have brunch. This is the best way to casually find out how everyone looks the day AFTER. A great breakfast has been planned, so be there. To close the weekend the Victory Show will be at the MAX. The show will start at 9:30pm. Most everyone at the MAX for the final party of the weekend.

The costs for the events are: Out-Of-Town Show, \$3.00; Coronation, \$13.00; Sunday Brunch, \$8.50. And the Victory Show is the usual \$3.00 cover at the MAX. All the activities will be held at the Kamada Inn at the Airport (excluding the Victory Show). So come out, get a room for the weekend, and party with us and our out of town guests the CORONATION 91. Hope to see everyone there.

Back Bar Now OPEN
8:30PM TO 1:00AM
Available For Private Parties

NOW OPEN
2:00 pm To 1:00 am

Happy Hour
Monday Thru Saturday
5:00PM to 9:00PM

NIGHTLY DRINK SPECIALS

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GREAT PLAINS MR. DRUMMER

The 4th Annual Mr. Great Plains Drummer Contest has moved north to Fantasyland this year. Brought to you by the same people that bring you Fantasy each year, you know it's sure to be a success.

Contestants from Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, North Dakota, and South Dakota are eligible to compete for this year's title. The winner will go on to San Francisco to compete in the International Mr. Drummer finale as the representative from our region. Contestants will be judged in leather image, jockstrap, judges' interview, personality and attitude, and presentation of their sexual fantasy.

Local contests have been held in Des Moines, Kansas City, Omaha, and St. Louis to bring you a great crop of men from around our region. Other contestants are eligible to compete. If interested, inquire from the address below.

Prizes for the winner include round trip airfare and lodging in San Francisco in September, a Mr. Great Plains Leather Van donated by Shades of Grey Leather in Dallas, a 1 year subscription to Drummer magazine, and more.

The weekend will begin on Friday evening with a Leather Dance and introduction of Contestants and Judges.

Daytime Saturday, enjoy a party at one of Omaha's bars, and on Saturday night, sit back and relax when the lights go down and the men come out to strut their stuff in vying for this year's top honor. Full weekend packages are available for \$100 in advance or \$125 at the door.

Fast Mr. Great Plains Drummer winners include:
1988: Walter Thompson III St. Louis
1989: Dustin Logan Omaha
1990: Vance Regier Memphis
Plan to be in Omaha on June 28 & 29 when this year's winner is selected to see who's name is added to the list.

For more information, contact: Fantasy Productions, P.O. Box 6262, Omaha, NE 68106-0262, or check your local bar for posters and registration forms.

MARCH ON DC SET FOR APRIL 1993

At a meeting in Washington on May 11-12, April 1993 was selected as the date for the next Gay/Lesbian March on the capitol. The next planning session will be in Chicago on August 3 and 4.



MCC-O NEWS

by Carla P.

After all the hustle and bustle of April with the movie night and the spaghetti dinner and just sale (which together made about \$1,100 for the Building Fund - thanks to all of you and your support), May started not pretty quiet.

Many MCCO's joined Peggy and Dawn in the celebration of their Holy Union the first weekend of May. Then the Fix-It, Clean-It Day at our current facility and the Potluck Dinner and Congregational Forum provided a mid-month treat. We repaired the front of the building and did jobs of touch-up jobs inside painting, adding trim, adding baseboards, cleaning the basement, and lots more. At the Forum, the Building Search Committee reported on two buildings they'd viewed, and they presented information on the costs of constructing a metal-sided building. Our Lay Delegates, Pat P., reported on issues/topics to be discussed at the district conference Memorial Day Weekend.

Several MCCO's traveled to Wichita, KS, to attend the Mid-Central District Conference of UPMCC. MCCO's conducted the Friday evening service.

Coming in June are these special activities:
June 23 Rev. Lew Kewer, guest speaker.
Field Director for Global Outreach.
June 25 Open Ecumenical Services for Pride Week.

We invite you to put on your new MCCO shirt or coat and buy one and join us Sunday, June 30 for the Pride Parade. Look for us near our bright blue banner hosting our new sign (thanks

to the printing expertise of Union Jack!).

Worship service at MCC-O is at 10:20am and the Prayer and Communion Service is at 7pm each Sunday. We invite you to join us at 420 South 24th Street for wider service. Remember, God loves you!

CLOSET BALL A BLAST by Sharon Van Buiest

Wondering what to do on a Sunday in April? Well, mark your calendars now, because if this year was any indication, you won't ever want to miss Closet Ball again.

The Max was shining, the spotlights were aimed on the glittering set, and there was standing room only when the show began (I don't know where they got that Queen who MC'd during the first part of the show. Thank goodness Deitra and Stephanie took over for her.)

I was fortunate enough to be able to help judge the event this year (they drew the names of their members of the audience out of a hat and asked them to help Darian Drake and Photo. Tom judge) and it was a blast.

The five contestants were superb, performing numbers that were unique, sparkling, and obviously selected to feature the talents of each contestant. I was delighted by each performer and found it hard to decide my personal favorite.

How well the contestants performed was summed up when Miss Phoebe Tate leaned over to me and whispered, "I think we might need to be worried - they're too good." No need for you to worry, Miss Tate, but you're right - they were really good.

Congratulations to all the contestants and their sponsors. I look forward to seeing you perform many, many more times.

HETEROSEXUAL GROUP LOSES RECOGNITION

Carol Crowell, student club coordinator at Iowa State University, at least temporarily withdrew official ISU recognition of the Heterosexual Society, an anti-gay campus group, because it required members to attend to their homosexuality.

The heterosexual pledge, Crowell said, violated ISU's anti-discrimination policy.

Group members will amend their constitution to meet the policy, society Chairwoman Dianne Hankins told the Iowa State Daily. She added the group will change its name to Allied Students Against Persecution.

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CORONATION XI

Coronation Week Calendar

Friday June 14th
Out Of Town Show
Ramada Inn
9:00 pm
\$5.00

Saturday June 15th
Protocol
Ramada Inn-Hospitality Suite
Noon - 4:00 pm
No Charge

Saturday June 15th
Voting for Candidates
Ramada Inn
5:45 pm - 7:45 pm
No Charge

Saturday June 15th

CORONATION XI

Ramada Inn
8:00 pm
\$15.00

"THE
CLASH OF
THE
TITANS"

A RENAISSANCE
OF UNITY

Sunday June 16th
Victory Brunch
Ramada Inn
11:00 am
\$8.50

Sunday June 16th
Victory Show
The Max
9:30 pm
\$3.00



CHORUS TO PRESENT 7TH ANNUAL PRIDE CONCERT

It's hard to believe the River City Mixed Chorus is celebrating seven years of music-making. This year's Gay Pride Concert is Saturday, June 22, 7:05pm, at Strauss Performing Arts Center at UNL.

The Chorus, under the direction of Jonathan D. Cole, will present a varied concert of American classics, highlighted by music from three great American composers - Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein, and George Gershwin. Special Pride music will include *I Am What I Am, That We Know*, and *Big Legged Woman*, among others.

The concert will include the World Premiere of an arrangement of Copland's *Fanfare For The Common Man* for organ and timpani. Guest organist and arranger is John J. Benson, Music Director of the Omaha Community Playhouse.

Since 1984, the Chorus has been supported by its audience, and this concert is being presented in appreciation of those and future members. This exceptional program will be an important Pride Week event. The Chorus objective is a full house - a capacity crowd - and all indications at this time are that goal will be fulfilled.

Tickets were mailed out Memorial Day weekend to everyone on the KCMC mailing list. Tickets are free, but you must have a ticket to attend. If you didn't receive your personal ticket to the concert, phone the special KCMC Concert Hotline, (402) 978-8766.

Because more tickets were mailed than the capacity of Strauss Hall, and tickets are general admission, the Chorus recommends that ticket holders arrive early. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. (PWA's are invited at contact KCMC for reserved seat tickets. Priority information should call the Hotline number listed above.)

The River City Mixed Chorus thanks everyone for their continuing support and contributions, and looks forward to seeing you June 22.

Gay/Lesbian Information
and Referral Line:
558-5303

A VISIT TO APOLLO'S by Sharon Van Butsel

It was a warm spring night and Carla and I were hot and sweaty from digging holes in our yard (for planting trees and plants for a fence). As we headed to the house, Carla asked, "How about a trip to the new bar for a drink? That would be a good way to cool off."

So, off we went. We headed down 20th and pulled into a parking place at the front door. Entering through a highly polished wood door, we found ourselves in a modern but, spottishly clean, with comfortable seating and a cheerful atmosphere.

Apollo's isn't a big bar but it shows real class. The walls are light and cheerful. There's a lot of natural wood in light colors. There's a jukebox, a dance floor with colored lights, dart boards, pinball, video games, and reasonable drink prices.

The night we were there the bartender was an old friend who was having a wonderful time, gaily prancing around, singing, and waving a news article for the *New Yorker* at us. He made extra points with me when I put a romantic song on the jukebox and he dimmed the lights for us. I guess it really doesn't take much to make the editor happy - just give me a romantic song on the jukebox, my swatches on my arm, and on before the magazine turned in three days before deadline.

POISON AT ROSS THEATER

Winner of the top prize in the dramatic competition at the 1991 Sundance Film Festival, Todd Haynes' *Poison*, which opened at the Mary Kayman Ross Film Theater on Thursday, May 25, is a correspondingly bold and stylistically audacious first feature completed and three separate but interrelated and inter-cut scenes inspired by the works of Jean Genet.

"Hanoi" gives a mother's odd account - in mock TV documentary style - of her seven-year-old son's disappearance after he has killed his father. In "Honor," a classic black-and-white "B" melodrama, a scientist's experiments to discover the source of the sex drive leads to his own coming-out story, and in "Homo," a prisoner falls in love with a fellow inmate and is shunned in isolation, fantasy, and violence. Although completely different in content and form, the stories gradually move toward a focus on the themes of

transgression and punishment with a shattering climax.

This program is made possible, in part, with the support of the Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, and the Media Arts Centers, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Poison is showing through Tuesday, June 2. Screenings are at 7 and 9pm daily. Matinees are on Saturdays at 1 and 3pm and on Sundays at 3 and 5pm. Admission is \$5.00 (\$3.00 for seniors, children, UNL, Lincoln Southeast students, and members of the Friends of the Sheldon Film Theater).

NEWS FLASH I

Kevin Moriarty of HRCF called *The New Yorker* to say that as of May 15, there are now 100 congressional co-sponsors of the Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights Bill. "This is the first time we've hit the 100 mark, and we've passed the 20% support mark in the House."

MY YEAR AS EMPRESS by Erica DeVain

It's hard to believe that this month I will be stepping down as *Empress X* and crowning a new one. It seems like just yesterday when you the public voted me as your *Empress*. A lot has happened in a year - some good, some bad - but, all in all, I can truthfully say that this year was the year for learning and growing for me.

I know before that the position of *Empress* was one of respect and dignity. I want to give you a year that I was worthy of that title but I survived. I donated a lot of time in AIDS fund raising. I worked hard at donating time in the Quilt in October. I traveled to Houston with Gerald to represent Nebraska at their coronation which was the highlight of my reign! I made so many new friends and lost some too, especially to AIDS which I will still donate my money and time to stop.

I close now to run again for this position for the reason of sanity plus *Empress X*'s future is still not certain (I think she needs a vacation!), but Scott will still be here and I take this time to say "Thank You, Nebraska and KCON for an experience I'll never forget."
Sincerely Yours,
Erica DeVain, *Empress X*

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LOCAL NEWS

KEARNEY NEWS

Discussion Group Expands

Just in the official month that the Empty Closet expands its Discussion/Support Night meeting locations to include Hastings and Grand Island, Nebraska. The meetings will alternate between the two cities every Wednesday night.

Up to now, Kearney has been the tri-city host for both the Discussion and Video Night groups. Kearney will continue its meetings every Thursday night.

The Discussion Nights are not therapy sessions but a time for "Family" members to get together and talk about whatever they like. The locations for all three city meeting places are not listed in print anywhere but can be gotten by calling Tom G. in Kearney at (308) 234-6500.

State Conference Plans

Plans continue for a statewide conference in late summer or early fall that will bring together all of the state's lesbian and gay organizations and other gay supportive groups. Letters have been sent out to all gay supportive organizations listed on the back page of *The New Voice of Nebraska* magazine. The letters included a questionnaire that will help the Empty Closet focus on the agenda for the conference. If your organization did not receive a letter, please write for one today.

The conference will be a showcase for

Nebraska's G & L supportive groups. It will also be a time to coordinate statewide activities through networking. There will be speakers that will encourage activism on several fronts.

The basic principle will be to keep it simple. Costs will be kept low enough so that all wishing to use take advantage of the day's events. Once the specifics are set, the Empty Closet will notify each group and let them know what's to take place. If you do not belong to any organization, please make sure to keep reading the *New Voice* for further announcements. Also, anyone wishing to help out can write the Empty Closet at P.O. BOX 2381, Kearney, NE 68848. Thanks!

Empty Closet

Adopts A Highway

The Empty Closet has applied to the state Department of roads to take part in the "Adopt a Highway" program. This is a program where groups clean up a 2 to 6 mile section of the highway system.

The state furnishes the group with warning signs to post while cleaning, orange safety vests for those doing the cleaning, and large trash bags.

When signing up, you agree to clean up your section of the roadway at least 3 times in the next two years. In return, everyone gets a cleaner roadway and your organization will have a sign posted on each end of the adopted road stating your group's name.

The stretch of road that we have asked for is between the Aids and Wood River exits on the interstate. We picked a location that we hope is

about an equal distance for all tri-city people to get to.

The hope is that we can get a total of 10 to 12 people to help. "Family" members or others that are supportive of our group that would like to have some fun and help do some community service at the same time, are asked to call and get specific info as to where we will meet. Maybe several from each town can car pool to the location. TALK IT UP!

The Empty Closet is trying to get higher visibility in the region by doing this and other good deeds. How about your group? Maybe we can find other community service activities that we can help with either visibly or in a semi-anonymous fashion.

Church Survey Done...

Back a couple of months ago the Empty Closet decided to find out what area churches thought about the "sin" of homosexuality. So, we sent out questionnaires. Out of the 66 surveys mailed out, 27 were sent back completed. Some questions asked were:

- Does your church welcome all types of people to its services including gays and lesbians?
- If your church believes homosexuality is a sin, is it considered just as bad or worse than other sins?
- Does your church feel that practicing homosexual men and women can be Christians?
- Can sexually abstaining homosexual men and women be Christians?

AIDS project

nebraska

SUPPORT GROUPS

HIV TESTING

BUDDY SYSTEMS

AIDS HOTLINE

N A P

3624 Leavenworth
Omaha, NE 68105

AIDS Hotline

9am—5pm & 6pm—11pm Monday—Friday; 6pm—11pm Weekends
Omaha 342-4233 Statewide 800/782-AIDS (2437)

HIV Testing

7pm—10pm Mondays and Thursdays

The results were a little more mixed than what we expected. Most of the ministers did say their church positions was that homosexuality was a sin but a few did not. Even some of the ones that said it was a sin say it is no better or worse than other sins in the Bible.

We know many G & L's that consider themselves Christians or spiritual. We hope that some dialog can take place so that those in our "family" that wish to go to a caring church in the area can.

The next step is for the E.C. to meet with the ministers on a one to one basis. We are not seeking to change their beliefs. But we would like them to try and concentrate on the 95% of what we all have in common and not the 5% we don't. Most people that consider themselves Christians have "sin(s)" of one type or another that they hold onto because the Lord has not shown them that they are wrong.

Vision interpretations of the Bible in the past and currently have been used to hold down blacks, women, gays, and other people that do not fit a certain church's view. The holder-than-thou attitude of some of the church leaders and flock makes one wonder where Christ fits into the picture.

The good news from the survey is that many ministers, though not all believing being gay is okay, feel that they want to make some sort of contact with lesbians and gays in order to celebrate the 95% they do have in common with them. We hope both sides are ready to meet for the benefit of all.

Watch for future articles on this subject. For

a complete set of results from the survey, send \$2.00 to *The Empty Closet*.

Who's Getting The Message...

We thought you might be interested in knowing how our efforts are paying off. Sometimes it's hard to tell who we are reaching but we can give you some numbers since starting.

PHONE CALLS: From January 21st to April 21st, we have received 284 calls. We have also made 360 calls. This number does not include referral calls taken by the KSC Counseling Center for the Empty Closet.

DISCUSSION GROUP/VIDEO NIGHTS: We have had 45 people take part in the Thursday night sessions.

SOCIALS: The tri-city socials included over 90 people. Many attending all three get-togethers.

NEWSLETTER: The newsletter is sent out now to 275 gay and non-gay supportive people and groups. Additional copies go to the Affiliates "Family" bar in Grand Island and the Panic "Family" bar in Lincoln.

MISC.: We have had commercials run on the local cable TV; college and town newspaper listings for the group meetings; interviews for the college paper, radio, and television; taken part in one health fair, two workshops, and five speaking engagements; our services are listed in various HELP LINES across Nebraska and the nation; and we have monthly articles in *The New Voice* of Nebraska magazine.

The Future!??

First, it is important to say that the *Empty Closet* will be around for at least a total of one year. At that time, depending on the needs of the area, the support given the group (emotional, monetary, etc.), and the leadership, the group may make changes.

Up until December, the new year mark, we will continue to try and push back the envelope, and make a better climate for all of the "family," and its supporters. The amount that we can do depends on the financial support we receive from you. We either scale up or scale back our efforts to reach people.

Looking back on what we have done so far, the head facilitator says he's both happy and disappointed. The high points have been the enthusiasm from the people that have come in contact with us. People have offered to help or have helped with several important areas. Money wise, a few people have made a solid commitment in helping the group get off the ground. If we could, we would list their names for all to thank.

The low points have been the lack in numbers we had hoped to reach. We use the statistic of 10% as an indication of the number of exclusive lesbians and gays in the overall population. In looking at the greater tri-city area there should be some 12,000 people. Even considering that 80 to 90 percent of the 12,000 are in the closet, we should still be seeing a larger group than we have. Plus, the 10% does not reflect bisexual family members.



THE DIAMOND BAR

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SPAGHETTI DINNER A SUCCESS

The dinner served on April 14th at Gilligan's turned out to be a great success. This dinner was a fundraiser for the MCC building fund.

A total of \$550.00 was raised. This comes to approximately 100 people served. The waiters contributed all tips back to the building fund.

Many Thank You's go out to:
* Dale Krausmark for sponsoring and creating this event, buying most of the food, "serving" items, and gas.
* Ken (owner of Gilligan's) for donating space to have the fundraiser, donation of food and wine, purchase of utensils, time, and gas.
* Gary Ward for donating utensils, time, and gas.

* M.S. for one serving and covering all the people of spaghetti, and assisting where possible.
* J.N. for assisting in cooking, contributing money to eat the cost of food, writing an everyone who attended, and time.
* Jack for lending bar and helping out with time.

* Inish A. for waiting on everyone who attended, donation of tickets in PWA's, time, and gas.
* Collins for donating tickets to PWA's.
* And every BJJ Thank You to the community for attending and contributing to the MCC building fund drive. Look for the next fundraiser. It will be just as delicious!

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PLGC MEETS by RJ

Presbyterian for Lesbian/Gay Concerns (PLGC) met early in April. The issue discussed was the Presbyterian Report on Human Sexuality which is causing so upset. Personally, I think it is high time for a mainline church to get all this out in the open and openly talk about damn issues, instead of whispering behind closed doors.

This report is available for \$5.00 (which consists of the short report as well as the long report). Two orders should be enclosed for postage and handling. Just send to: Office of the General Assembly, Presbyterian Church (USA), 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202-C096.

From what I've read, reports usually run 500 copies sent out. So far 27,000 orders have been sent out and more orders are flooding in.

All in all, a great meeting and a good time for fellowship. Stay tuned for future meetings. Call for where to meet.

NEWS FROM THE NEW BAR

APOLLO'S is here and ready to serve your every whim (well, almost every whim). If you missed our grand opening then you're probably the only one who did. Hope each and every one of you had a blast. I know mine did - Michael, Tony (Margie), Jay, Chris, Connie, Scott (Erica), and last but certainly not least, Steve (Stella). Thank you for your patronage. Here's what's coming up in June.

June 2nd is Empress X, Erica Devaux's, Farewell To Reign X show. Help celebrate with Erica as her reign comes to an end. Guests include Fioche Tate, Dina Snow, and some special entertainers as well.

Personal note: Thank you to all the entertainers that opened Apollo's in Stella's Show. See You Soon!

MIDWESTERN WINS DIGNITY/USA SWEEPS

Tom F., a resident of Covington, KY, was the thrilled and lucky person whose stub was drawn in the DIGNITY/USA sweepstakes offering a Hawaiian or Caribbean vacation for two, winner's choice.

Tom is a member of DIGNITY/USA, Cincinnati, just across the Ohio River from Covington - a situation similar to that of Council Bluffs and Omaha.

Omaha area residents provided support to DIGNITY/USA through their donations in late March for sweepstakes tickets offered by members of the former DIGNITY/Omaha. The Omaha group had distributed when members received tickets, but former members distributed tickets as well, shifting proceeds intended for the local group, half the total, to Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns (PLGC), Nebraska - western Iowa chapter.

Congratulations for a successful year to the monarchs of the 10th Reign of the Imperial Court of Nebraska.

**The New Voice congratulates
Two Wheelers of Omaha as
they celebrate their anniversary.**

QUEER NATION by Cheri Looie-Bavaard

Queer Nation Nebraska was chartered in December, 1990. It is a loosely organized branch of the national group, who's main purpose is to promote queer visibility. Although meetings are held in Lincoln, it is a statewide organization.

QNN is not a student group and does, in fact, welcome persons of all ages, races, and gender identification.

QNN is not a support group. Although if any queer has a legitimate complaint regarding hetero-queer treatment or policy, QNN would be more than happy to remedy the situation with an action.

Actions are kiss-ins, protests, pickets, phone/letter tags and rallies designed to let participating lets know that queers are pissed off at their homophobia.

QNN does not support violence, but if pushed, will back back and forth better!

QNN is not worried about a bad reputation (queers already have a bad name anyway, so almost anything we do would simply be considered as negative by the lot world).

QNN's focus is visibility, and any member of the group can do any action as long as it revolutionarily achieves that focus.

If interested in QNN, meetings happen every Monday (usually) at the Ronald Martin Public Library, 14th & N' Streets, Lincoln, or call the Queer Line: (402) 489-3126. Leave a message and someone will get back to you.

GOV'T STUDY ON AZT AND PEOPLE OF COLOR QUESTIONED

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has seriously questioned the conclusions of a government antiviral drug study that suggests people of color are significantly less likely than others to be affected by AZT, the only government-financed treatment for fighting AIDS.

The four-year study, conducted by the Veterans Administration, compares different HIV/AIDS risk groups' response to antiviral drugs. The report suggests AZT is less effective in minority HIV-infected individuals.

"This may send a dangerous message of hopelessness to communities that are just beginning to focus on prevention and early intervention," said NGLTF lobbyist Belinda Rochelle. "We believe the data in this study is inconclusive and points out the need for more detailed reports on AIDS and minorities."

The four-year study involved participants whose average age was 40 years and who self-identified as homosexual or bisexual. NGLTF questioned several aspects of the study and called attention to issues that may have affected the data's integrity, including:

- A large percentage of the participants in the study were IV drug users;

- Only 338 people were enrolled, two-thirds white and one-third black and Hispanic;

- By combining blacks and Hispanics together, ethnic-specific conclusions are rendered inaccurate;

- A large number of deaths of participants - such as heart attacks, suicide, and others - were not CDC-defined AIDS deaths;

- Participants received 1500 milligrams of AZT, instead of the current average dosage of 750 milligrams, pointing out the need for another study with updated parameters.

In addition, said Rochelle, the study gives an incomplete picture because it does not address the lack of access of many people of color and the poor to proper health care, nutrition, insurance, preventative treatment, and education.

"We are concerned that misinterpretation of this study will add yet another potential for discrimination against people of color with HIV and AIDS, not to mention discourage them from seeking AIDS drugs," said Rochelle. "The truth is, minorities and women are still grossly under-represented in AIDS trials, funding, and education. There is a serious need for more information on the effect of HIV on minorities."

"We caution against jumping to any erroneous conclusions based on this report, especially people of color considering early intervention treatments," said Rochelle.

AIDS INFECTION POSSIBLE FROM GAY BASHING

NEW YORK - Doctors say it is possible that a heterosexual man was infected with the AIDS virus through cuts on his hands when he beat up 297 men.

The case, reported in the British medical journal *Lancet*, concerned around a 49-year-old man who was referred to the University of Nebraska Medical Center after he was found to be infected with HIV. He denied having had sex with another person since he married 25 years ago. He said he had been impotent for about 10 years; his wife was not infected. He said he had never received blood, but acknowledged having used intravenous drugs once with a sterile needle.

The man later recognized that he and coworkers had sought out and beat gay men in the New York area, where he worked as a truck driver from 1982 to 1988. He reportedly told doctors he engaged in gay bashing "two many times to remember in the neighborhood of several times a week during the period."

The man said he often got small cuts on his hands and large amounts of victims' blood on himself during these beatings.

New York Times

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AIDS NEWS

COMPANIES MISREPRESENT PRODUCT AS AIDS CURE

NEW YORK CITY—Commissioner Mark Green charged two companies with violating the New York City Consumer Protection Law by misleading people with AIDS and HIV infection in ads that promise a cure for the disease.

Advertisements for "Immune-Plus" claimed that the "balanced vitamin, mineral, and protein product" would reverse the immune systems of persons who have AIDS or HIV infections. The ads also stated that at the end of a 180 day study, none of the patients who took the product "remained in the AIDS category," and that results from its use are "nothing short of miraculous."

"In fact, this ad is nothing short of cruel and fraudulent," said Commissioner Mark Green on filing the unprecedented legal action. "There is no known substance or medication that can reverse the immune system or cure AIDS. The ads for Immune-Plus clearly exploit people who are either sick with AIDS or at risk of getting the disease."

"And if people who are HIV positive decide to take Immune-Plus rather than approved medical treatment, the advertisements are potentially life threatening."

The Department of Consumer Affairs issued "Notions of Voodoo" in True Health, Inc. of Dallas, Texas, and the Hospital Enterprises of Hoopland, California, which are respectively the manufacturer and distributor of Immune-Plus.

KAPOSI'S SARCOMA: TREATMENT OVERVIEW NOW AVAILABLE

The twice-monthly publication *AIDS Treatment News* has just released a special issue devoted entirely to the treatment of Kaposi's sarcoma (KS). KS is characterized by tumors composed of abnormally growing blood vessels, although it is unclear if KS is a cancer. The issue (number 112, dated March 1, 1991) covers treatments available now, plus an update on research that could have far-reaching implications for future anti-HIV and anti-cancer work. This special issue is one of the most thorough and up-to-date analyses in print today on KS treatments.

As people with AIDS live longer, increasing numbers are having to cope with complications of KS and lymphomas," according to assistant Medical Director, who prepared this special report for *AIDS Treatment News*. According to a recent study in the *British Medical Journal*, KS and lymphomas are an increasing cause of death for persons with AIDS. This vital new report is available at no cost by writing *AIDS Treatment News*, P. O. Box 411256, San Francisco, CA 94141, or by calling (800) TREAT-1-2 (1-800-873-2812) or (415) 255-0588.

PROJECT FACT TO FACE

The Smithsonian Institution's Arts and Industry Building sweeps away some of its Victorian clutter and inaugurates a new exhibition space, the Experimental Gallery, with an exhibit on contemporary as possible. Spartan, almost abstract, "Project Face to Face" consists of 20 life masks in two rows facing each other. Stark white plaster on black velvet surfaces, a large mirror

firmly in place below each row, the masks are mysterious. Eyes closed in repose, they seem indifferent to the viewer.

But pick up the telephone, press the recorder's play button, and the faces acquire personality. "I loved my life as other people would me in," Doug Bass says. "Now I say 'fuck it' and I'm enjoying my life at last."

"By the time I was 16," Leslie C. relates, "I'd used enough heroin to cause permanent damage to my body." In his tiny piping voice 7-year-old Brennan O'Rourke tells how he hugged the Pope's car. Key Franklin says that for "one stinky penis in six weeks," and Ron Yachait marvels how his "social life has gotten busy" two years after learning he has AIDS.

One of the odd, serendipitous, yet instantly fascinating responses provoked by the AIDS epidemic, "Project Face to Face" came about because a single person was moved. That person is Jason Dilley. A native of northern California, Dilley attended college in Santa Cruz where he then taught drama at a junior college. There followed a ten year period whose colorfulness must be inferred from his reluctance to talk. In 1988, he found himself at a friend's house in Santa Cruz. The friend handed him Randy Shilts' *The Band Played On*. "I did not leave the couch. That weekend I read the entire book and then said, 'My God, I've got to do something.'"

"One of my friends and my volunteer ability," Dilley volunteered one day a week at San Francisco General Hospital. He couldn't square the same he witnessed with the public's indifference. "Why doesn't America understand? I wondered. 'How can I fight this tyranny? How can I bring America into this 12-by-12 hospital room?'" His answer: "Take the person who AIDS is them."

Dilley went to AIDS support groups, looking for people willing to have a life mask made of their faces and to talk for 30 minutes about themselves. Although the idea was born in a hospital, all the people whose faces he cast were outside of that setting. "The philosophy of the project is that those are people living with AIDS. It is not a memorial, not the quilt. It's here to celebrate lives." Of the 20 cast over two years, 18 remain alive.

The exhibit's first showing was at a San Francisco gallery of 250 Luchino boutiques and clergy. Dilley also set it up in other San Francisco locations: on the street, in a restaurant, at City Hall, and at Kaiser Permanente Hospital. Prior to its current staging, its one gallery space showing came last summer at the Ansel Adams Photography Gallery.

An experimental gallery is a good place for *The Project*, since Dilley says he's looking for "what works."

He's tinkering with details like the color of the spotlights ("I'd like something a little warmer," he says), and looking forward to a visit from a fourth grade class to see how they react. The exhibit will travel across the country.

In Washington, the critical response has been mixed. Dilley thanks those who find the exhibit disgusting "maybe you don't get it" and aren't really looking "at the faces, but at each of the masks; you can see the pores on the skin." He rejects another critic's notion that the exhibit skirts the edge of exploitation in not for his pain, nor a sensitive eye's expense. The three-minute tapes seem too brief to get to know someone, the

total of twenty takes a bit daunting.

There is also a worrisome gap between what Dilley says about these people and what the viewer learns. For instance, Billy Haines seems like a figure paraly of pain: a canaway street kid, a hoodler, a speed freak, and a very sick young man: "I use a cane and I'm 23 years old. It sucks," Billy says. Yet in conversation, Dilley is upfront about Billy, asking that he no longer needs his cane to walk.

But the key problem of the exhibit is the difficulty of coming to grips with the epidemic. It is one thing to condense the suffering and the hope that AIDS has brought to individuals, yet in the exhibit, those individuals are simply there. There's no "story," no common except what Leslie C. calls "a stark view."

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GROUP FORMS TO HELP GET MEDICAL MARIJUANA

The DC-based Alliance for Cannabis Therapeutics (ACT) and Chicago philanthropist Wachs and J. Dennis have established the Marijuana AIDS Research Service (MARS), a non-profit venture to assist people with AIDS in obtaining marijuana legally for medicinal use.

Marijuana has been helpful in alleviating the weight loss and appetite suppression effects of AIDS and its treatment therapies.

Under current law, marijuana for medicinal use can be obtained only through the Compassionate Investigational New Drug (IND) program, which permits physicians to access the drug for treatment of life-threatening illnesses. However, ACT President Robert Randall said the system is complicated and "designed to fail" because of entrenched government opposition to any use of marijuana. MARS will provide physicians of people with AIDS with the IND forms "with all the trick questions answered."

The MARS program can be reached at (202) 328-6391, or by writing in P.O. Box 21210, Kalorama Station, Washington, DC 20069.

—Washington Blade

MADONNA FILM BENEFIT FOR AIDS ACTION FOUNDATION

The West Coast premiere of Madonna's new film, *Truth or Dare*, benefited AIDS Project Los Angeles and AIDS Action Foundation.

Truth or Dare, a Madonna film release of a Propaganda Films production, is a revealing and intimate portrait of Madonna filmed during her 1990 Illinois Acropolis Tour. *Truth or Dare* is directed by Alak Koshidze.

"We're extremely grateful to AIDS Project Los Angeles and Madonna for their generous support in making the Foundation a beneficiary of this exciting event," said Foundation Director Don Rosen. "The proceeds will enable us to continue to provide a voice in Washington for people with AIDS and the organizations that serve them."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, June 1

Coalition for Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights, 1st Saturday event, 7:00pm, Cornerstone, 640 N. 16th, Lincoln.

SUNDAY, June 2

New Voice Steering Committee, MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th Street, 1pm.

Nebraska Organizations Cook-Out, The Max, 1417 Jackson, Omaha. Hosts: The Max & The Imperial Court of Nebraska, 4-7pm.

"Farewell To Reign X" by Erica DeValin, 9pm, Apollo's, 515 S. 20th St., 346-8242.

MONDAY, June 3

ICCN Board of Governors Meeting, The Max, 1417 Jackson St., Omaha, 6:30pm.

Support Group for Biotrans: Open to all sexes, 7:30pm, Cornerstone (Upstairs), 640 N. 16th Street, Lincoln.

TUESDAY, June 4

A.N.G.L.E. (Achieving New Gay/Lesbian Endeavors), 7pm, UNL Religious Center, 101 N. Happy Hollow, Omaha.

FRIDAY, June 7 - SUNDAY, June 9

Two Wheelers of Omaha, M.C. Anniversary Run Celebration. For details/registration information write: Box 5216, Omaha, 68103.

SATURDAY, June 8

River City Gender Alliance meeting for cross-dressers, transgenderists, & others. Write: RCGA, Box 688, Council Bluffs, IA 51502.

SUNDAY, June 9

Omaha Men (OMEN) meeting, 1:30pm. Write: Box 3706, Omaha, NE 68103.

Parents-FLAG/Omaha, 3pm, 1st Methodist Church, 7020 Cass Street, 291-6781.

"Stepping Down Show," 9-10pm, Imperial Court of Nebraska, The Max, 1417 Jackson, Omaha.

MONDAY, June 10

AIDS Interfaith Network Service, St. Cecilia, 7pm, 40th & Webster, Omaha.

FRIDAY, June 14

"Out Of Tossers" Show," 9pm, Imperial Court of Nebraska, Airport Ramada Inn, Omaha.

SATURDAY, June 15

"CORONATION XL" 8pm, Imperial Court of Nebraska, Airport Ramada Inn, Omaha. Voting at 5:45 to 7:45pm.

SUNDAY, June 16

Parents-FLAG/Kearney, 3pm, St. John, 2nd Ave. at 23rd St. Call for info: (308) 237-3870.

"Victory Branch," 11am, Imperial Court of Nebraska, Airport Ramada Inn, Omaha.

Brunch at the Diamond, \$6.99, 12:30 to 3:30pm, Call 342-6565. Reservation required by 4/5. Proceeds to MCC Building Fund.

"Victory Show," 9-10pm, Imperial Court of Nebraska, The Max, 1417 Jackson, Omaha.

TUESDAY, June 18

Gay/Lesbian Coalition, 7:30pm, St. Marks, 13th & R, Lincoln.

SATURDAY, June 22 GAY/LESBIAN PRIDE DAYS BEGIN!

Gay Pride Concert, 7:00pm: River City Mixed Chorus, UNO Symph Performing Arts, 66th & Dodge, Omaha.

SUNDAY, June 23

Economical Worship Service, Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church, 4pm.

MONDAY, June 24

Lincoln AIDS Interfaith Service, St. Marks, UNL, 13th & R, 7pm.

TUESDAY, June 25

P-FLAG/Omaha, Open Meeting, 7pm, 1st Methodist Church, 6600 Cass Street.

P-FLAG/Lincoln, 7pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A St. Park Lock Support/Celebration of Gay/Lesbian Pride Week.

FRIDAY, June 28

Great Plains Mr. Drummer Leader Dance/Introduction of Judges & Contestants, The Max, 1417 Jackson St., Omaha.

SATURDAY, June 29

Recognition Luncheon Honoring Outstanding Community Members. Sponsor: ANGL E Inc., 558-5303, 11:30am, Anthony, 72nd & F St. Pre-organization required. Speaker: Kevin Moriarty, Human Rights Campaign Fund.

Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns. For info: 733-1360.

Great Plains Mr. Drummer Contest, The Max, 1417 Jackson St., Omaha.

SUNDAY, June 30

GAY/LESBIAN PRIDE PARADE
Assembly: Turner Park 3:30pm
Step-Off 4:00pm
Route: Douglas trail to 25th, south to Parkson, west to Turner Park.

PRIDE RALLY, 5pm, Turner Park, Turner Blvd. & Farnam. Speaker: Kevin Moriarty, HRCF.

COMMUNITY PICNIC, 4-8pm. Enjoy a picnic with friends! Hot dogs and pop will be sold.

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 620 S. 24th St., 345-2563. Worship 10:20am, Communion/Prayer Service 7pm.

Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers Running/Walk-in Club, 10am.

The Max, 1417 Jackson St., Omaha. Shows at 9:30pm.

MONDAY

Queer Nation/Nebraska, Lincoln Boyton Martin Library, 14th & N St., Call Queer Line at 489-3326 for details & meeting time.

Alternate Test Site, 7-10pm, NAP, 3624 Leavenworth St., Omaha.

River City Mixed Chorus Rehearsal, Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40th, 7:15pm.

TUESDAY

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

Gay/Lesbian Support Group, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th St., 345-2563.

WEDNESDAY

Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers, Ford Birthplace, 6:30pm, 32nd & Woodworth St., Omaha.

P-FLAG AIDS Support Group, 7pm, Lincoln Info Line, 475-2437.

Empty Closet Discussion/Support Group, Grand Island/Findings alternating. Call for details (308) 234-6300.

Lesbian Discussion Group, 7:30pm, Lincoln, UNL, Nebraska Union, Women's Resource Center, 14th & R St.

THURSDAY

Alternate Test Site, 7-10pm, NAP, 3624 Leavenworth St., Omaha.

UNL Gay/Lesbian Student Organization, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 8pm.

Empty Closet Support Group Kearney meetings (308) 234-8248.

FRIDAY

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous, Pella Lutheran Church, 303 S. 41st, Omaha, 8:15pm, 343-9916.

SATURDAY

Women's Support Group, 11am, MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th St., 345-2563.

PRIVATE LIVES AND PUBLIC LIES by Nancy Lyn Define

We all realize that being homosexual is not the same as being gay. That the first is merely a sexual preference, the second, a complete lifestyle.

There are a whole lot of homosexuals out there who have nothing in common with those of us who are proudly, openly, socially, politically, personally GAY. They are among our biggest detractors. And they strongly disapprove of our openness, our visibility, and our political aspirations.

These homosexuals feel no sense of loss for the two thousand year history that has been denied us. They feel no sense of pride for the amazing gains the gay rights movement has achieved in little more than two decades. They feel no hope that future generations may have a little bit easier time of it because of what we are accomplishing.

But then, a most homosexual has no guilt. Well, unless you count the closet. A more homosexual has no prides. Well, unless you count pretending to have a sexual interest in the opposite sex while secretly craving some sweet young thing at a wedding (the fact that the wedding is your own just makes it worse, honey). And I really don't think that more homosexuals will have any more to be proud of. The parade is over and they are home. Time has passed them by. As this point, even Cardinal O'Connor has passed them by.

More homosexuals desire us. As a community, we are weakened because of their inclination among us. As a gay rights movement, we are paralyzed. As people, we are involved.

Frankly, I'm sick of hearing those people complain about the harm WE are doing to THEM by coming out. I'm sick of watching those areas those of us who are openly gay as if we are not quite so good or successful or smart as they are. Mostly I'm sick of hearing how gay groups demanding what should be ours inherently are an embarrassment. It is NOT gay groups who are the embarrassment.

These homosexuals want a lot about their right to privacy. And about appearance. And about how it would just break their poor old mothers' hearts if their poor old mothers ever knew.

Obviously, their mothers are not only gone and old, they must be pretty stupid, too (unless I miss my mark and there is absolutely nothing odd about a forty-five-year-old child who hasn't mentioned having a date in twenty-five years).

Unfortunately, these people are EXACTLY what they appear to be. Some filled individuals who deny their heritage, and consequently, deny themselves. Ultimately, the entire gay community foots the bill for their self-hatred.

Frankly, I don't understand them. I don't understand how living with lies is better than living openly. I don't understand how being lied for what you are not is better than being accepted for what you are. And I don't understand how an independent adult can justify not coming out to their family on the basis of being afraid. Afraid of what?

Homosexuals who are ashamed of gay people have to have an elaborate system for denying their own. One common behavior told me who was basically a heterosexual who just likes doing it with someone of the same sex. In's that doing

like a vegetarian who just happens to eat meat?

It seems to me that homosexuals who aren't gay aren't really much of anything else either. Well, they ARE an embarrassment. They ARE the main reason that the committee at St. Patrick's Day Parade could safely ignore their lack as a few minutes of an (I think what would have happened if every homosexual who marched in the parade had walked with the gay Irish group). They ARE the impetus for the fundamentalist cranks who will work so hard again this year to knock down bills to protect our civil rights (how much of that money comes from homophobic homosexuals?). And finally, they are sometimes the assets to critics of the lawmakers who commit anti-gay hate crimes.

But then, these homosexuals embrace the homophobia that exists. After all, it is a validation of their decision to remain in the closet. And they have a greater tolerance for religious cranks and right-wing fanatics than they do for people of their same orientation. They even sincerely understand the REASON for gay bashing. As one closed gay remarked, "if you people INSIST on flaunting it, what do you expect?"

Know gay-bating homosexuals are unhappy, insecure people who should be pitied but how much compassion can we, gripped by the terror of AIDS, have for a bunch of cowardly, self-centered jerks? How much energy should we, fighting for our right not to lose our jobs because of prejudice, devote to the successful anomaly who just "takes faggots"? How many tears should we shed because a closed woman is simply going out of her mind with worry that her husband may find out about her girlfriends?

Should we shake our heads in despair when they lament about how an AIDS house will bring their property values down? Should we sympathize with them when they have to bear the cost of their families suing dykes and queers protesting on the news? Should we follow through on our impulses to kick them in their dead beat, sorry asses? Now THAT works for us.

I'VE GOT HALF A MIND

by Jean Mortensen

"I've got half a mind to..." You fill in the blank, and maybe you can even hear your mother's angry voice saying it. Whenever I heard my mother say it (which, thank fully, wasn't often), I always wondered what happened to the other half of her mind. Where did it go?

I wonder exactly the same thing sometimes about straight women. It can be having a perfectly intelligent conversation with a straight woman at the office and then to chat, instantly, this previously bright and witty woman goes all fish-face-bored. Her voice rises an octave. She sits far behind to keep you all through her massive costumed lashes. She starts to giggle a lot. And it's that stupid high-pitched giggle that straight girls reserve strictly for me in the presence of the opposite sex.

It sounds like, "Teeth-tooths." It makes my eyes roll. Generally, the gay's not even funny enough to warrant much more than a chuckle.

Let's get real. I mean, who really laughs like that? I simply shake it up to laughing into some bathroom or preliminary room or stall. It's a helluva lot of energy expended that they can't lose it even when nothing is not supposed to be funny at all. Straight girls just can't seem to stop

flirting. Boy walks in, flirting same, tooth-tooths same. It's like Pavlov's dogs being conditioned to start salivating at the sound of a dinner bell.

One integral ingredient of a straight woman's flirting, I have theorized, is the shutting down of a least half her brain. They walk in, and "poo," but her brain goes on vacation. She may have just been talking with me and using polyphyletic words common with her college education, but after the male walk in, she seems capable of saying only, "Oh, David, you're so funny," with explicit fluttering in time to the accompanying, "Teeth-tooths."

At about that time, I'm headed for the bathroom down the hall to drop up. Usually on my way back, I try to search for the last intelligent half of my so-called brain, but it's a very chaotic thing. When David (or Mr. Whiteman) goes back to his own office, the missing gay matter amazingly reverts of its own accord and the woman becomes her normal intellectual self again.

The process of losing half of one's brain intrigues me. Don't they notice it's gone? Can't their women tell that suddenly they're sounding like tooth-lopers? Do they not mind (oh, but you) perpetually stubbing half their brain in a back pocket or something?

I have theorized a logical reason for this behavior. Straight women have been conditioned for countless generations to downplay their own intelligence and make their men, their superiors, and thus superior to them. The Women's Lib cause went some along and diminished the perceived need for this behavior, but that's apparently beside the point. Somehow the behavior pattern persists. I wonder if it is ingrained into the genetic code of straight women.

Another thing I've wondered about is the amount of time, effort, and money straight girls spend trying to make themselves prettier in order to "catch a man." Some women spend an enormous amount of money on cosmetics and maybe an hour every morning in front of the mirror hoping to make some member of the opposite sex look twice at them. Then at night they must can cold-cream and cleansers to take all the carefully-applied gunk off again. And if they manage to "catch a man," then they have to deal with the fact that somebody early in the evening her's going to actually see what the really looks like. And he might even get a glimpse of how smart she really is if she's careless and lets the façade slip. Sorry, but it all seems like an enormous waste to achieve such gratification.

I find, pleasantly, a great variety of "types" in the lesbian community. Granted, there are some lesbians who wouldn't be caught dead without their make-up. And I don't make my complaint because I certainly enjoy looking at a pretty woman. But in my experience, lesbians in general are more honest about who they are. They don't seem to invest as much if the world sees how they really look; in fact, lesbians seem to insist that the world accept them just the way they are, intelligent and, with lesbian, there is less artificiality, less contrived behavior that girls in the way of getting to know their inside. And a woman's mind, after all, is usually the most fascinating thing about her.

Why would straight women continue to pursue such artificiality in flirtation year after year, persistence after persistence? My only conclusion is they must have had half their minds.

CAPITOL VIEW

by Kevin Moriarty

May was a busy month in Washington, with activity on a number of issues of interest to lesbian and gay Americans.

More than 80% of Americans oppose the Pentagon's policy of discharging lesbians and gays from the military, according to a poll commissioned by the Human Rights Campaign Fund. The results, released at a Washington press conference last month, showed that virtually every segment of American society—every age, income, religion, political party and sex—overwhelmingly supports the rights of lesbians and gays in the armed forces to remain in their jobs. An estimated 1,000 to 2,000 lesbian and gay personnel are discharged every year.

The Pentagon's policy can be changed by Executive Order, as the policy of racial discrimination was changed by President Truman in 1948. Action needed: write to President George Bush and ask him to end this policy of irrational prejudice. Remind him that tens of thousands of lesbians and gay men served in Desert Storm. And point out that this poll proves that he would have the support of the American people in ending the policy.

The poll indicated also that 8 in 10 Americans support equal rights for lesbians and gays in the workplace outside the military, showing a dramatic surge of support compared with the last

time Americans were polled on this question; in 1989, 71% responded favorably on the question of employment fairness for lesbians and gays.

The Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights Bill (H.R. 1430/S. 574) continues to gain co-sponsors in the U.S. Congress. In early May, two more Members of Congress added their names to the bill, bringing the total in both chambers to 99. In the House, slightly more than 20% of Representatives are co-sponsors. In recent weeks, staffers from a number of Congressional offices indicated interest in the issue. Still, no Members from the Nebraska and Iowa delegations have signed the bill.

Civil Rights acts for gays and lesbians have been enacted in Wisconsin, the District of Columbia, Massachusetts, Hawaii and, most recently, Connecticut. Votes are expected soon in Rhode Island and California. As this movement grows and the number of state bills increases, Members of Congress might respond to these obvious signs of support for outlawing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Portions of the Women's Health Equity Act (a package of 22 separate bills) have been included in the House version of the National Institutes of Health Reauthorization bill. It is encouraging that these proposals have come out of subcommittee intact and will continue to move

in the House. Action on these women's health proposals is expected to begin in the Senate this summer.

AIDS funding (and funding for health programs in general) continues to be a real concern as the Appropriations Committees begin to determine restrictions on spending for specific programs (this is known as the Section 302(b) allocation). More information about this will be forthcoming next month.

The months of June and July should prove to be hectic ones on Capitol Hill, as Congress works to resolve Appropriations and Budget issues before breaking late in the summer.

KEVIN MORIARTY is a communications specialist at the

Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest political organization for lesbian and gay Americans. Moriarty is an Iowa native who now resides in Washington, DC's historic Capitol Hill neighborhood.



Photo by Vicky Lynn

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WHO RUNS THE CHURCH?

By Rev. Matthew Howard,
MCC-Omaha

Recently I saw Pat Robertson on TV and was both amazed and somewhat frightened by some of the things that he was teaching people in "God's Name." The image I was confronted with - of Robertson telling people that God was going to cause America to be invaded by a foreign power and cause all U.S. citizens to be made slaves because of homosexuals - that image remained with me this week, particularly as I contemplated a reading from the book of Deuteronomy which talks about God raising up prophets and putting in their mouths the words to speak. Robertson certainly presents himself as speaking in a prophetic role and many people believe him and honor him as one of God's spokespersons.

Now, I want to clarify that a prophet, as I'm using that term, is *not* one who predicts the future; rather, a prophet is one who proclaims what God's will is for us now. "Thus saith the Lord..." And so, I'd like to explore a little bit about the nature of prophetic and spiritual authority.

Perhaps an appropriate starting place for this exploration is to look at the claims for authority generally made by the prophets of God. Typically, these are of two varieties (which include the prophetic role) - lay claim to two primary sources of authority. There are 1) the insights gained from a personal relationship with God; 2) biblical authority. There is a third area, the area of tradition, but scripture and tradition have been so closely related that at this point I will treat them separately. I do, however, want to take a critical look at the other two sources of authority.

The first source of authority I mentioned was "insights gained from a personal relationship with God." I find this source of authority very seriously believed that God, through the Holy Spirit, does work through people in both word and deed. There have been occasions when I have known that the words someone spoke to me were sent by God, that God was speaking to me through the person standing in front of me - even though that person may not have been aware of it. Every week I pray for insight and ask God to bless the words I will speak on Sunday morning so that they might be "God's word." (I take this source of authority very seriously. And yes, I know that it can also be very easily abused.)

I have had, on quite a few occasions, people come up to me saying, "God gave me a message for you," and almost invariably something within me rebels and doubts the authority of the message they have. I have heard people claim an insight with the authority of the Spirit when it was clear that greed or ambition was motivating them. Jim and Tammy Bakke were rather tragic examples of this.

And, during the primary campaign that preceded the last presidential election, there was a wonderful political cartoon I saw which alluded to this kind of abuse of "God's word." The bar of this political cartoon was more or less this... you guessed it - Pat Robertson (some of you are going to think I really have it in for this guy - but I just happen to remember having seen this car-

toon). Anyway, in the first frame of this cartoon you see Pat Robertson running around saying, "God told me to run for president! God told me to run for president!" In the second frame of the cartoon you see God looking down from heaven saying, "What's he doing? I told you. Don't go around saying a president," not, "Run for president!"

You see, God can and does speak through religious leaders but, unfortunately, sometimes we listen to ourselves (hearing what we want to hear) rather than listening to God. You and I both need to be aware of that and to be cautious of that.

The second area of authority is perhaps the most controversial and thus is biblical authority. Now, some of you may disagree with my view point on Scriptural authority and I want you to know that I respect and honor that - I ask only that you give consideration to what I have to say.

What concerns me is that on the basis of how some people present Scripture, you would assume that God had dictated the entire Bible to a scribe in the King James English or better yet that the Bible had just dropped fully written out of heaven. And even though we know that is not true, even though we know that the Bible began as stories of faith and tribal tradition told around the campfires of a nomadic people (more than a thousand years before Christ) - even though we know that the Bible reflects the biases and prejudices and cultural mores of the men who literally wrote the stories down - even though we know that the first Gospel (the Gospel of Mark) was not written until at least 30 years after Jesus' death - even though we know all of that, we still act as if you can pick up a Bible, read passages at random such as Leviticus 18:17-20 *Do not lie with a man as you lie with a woman; it is an abomination; or 1 Timothy 2:11 & 12 A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent; or 1 Thim 2:9 & 10 Teach slaves as you subject to their masters in everything; as if by the Lord's command, not to the Lord, and not to man from them, but to the Lord; that they can be fully trained; so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Father attractive (Is God who wants people to remain slaves really attractive?); or Romans 13: 1 & 2 *Everyone must submit to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, those who rebel against the authority are rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgments on themselves (Do we really believe that God establishes all authorities? Hilar? Sadden? Horrified?)**

Many of us still act as if you can just pick up a Bible, read any of those passages and proclaim, "This is the word of God. This is what God says. It's right there in black and white - read it for yourself!" This kind of a literalistic approach is very dangerous. Not only does it fail to take account the historical context in which the words were written and the biases/assumptions of the

men who wrote the words - but, because it fails to take those things into account, it distorts the truth of God rather than helping us to find that truth.

The result is that many women and men have turned away from the Christian faith because the rigidly literalistic words that they have heard preached have been oppressive, morally/ethically heavy-handed, and irrelevant to their lives. And, so, they have either abandoned their spiritual journey altogether or sought out alternatives such as the new age movements and various religions. So much has been done because of the sense of security and stability it gives us to be able to say, "This is the inerrant Word of God and cannot be challenged."

Irony however, we are very afraid of change and so we clutch ourselves in that which is comfortable and secure. We're afraid that the alternative to seeing every word of the Bible as having equal weight and authority is chaos. At least, that's what I have been afraid of in the past - perhaps you're struggling with that too now - "Am I heading toward chaos?"

Am I saying we should just throw the Bible out? This answer is *absolutely not*! I love the Bible. Scripture is very, very important to me. It contains spiritual truths which have changed my life, it contains the recorded account of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *No one* is going to take the Bible away; you can be sure of that! But, rather than approaching the Bible as if God dictated the words, I believe that it is appropriate to approach the Bible for what it is - an account of our ancestors' evolving understanding of, and relationship with, God.

The fact is, our understanding of "what God is" and how God is in relationship with human beings did not happen from us in time when the Bible was translated. Just as our ancestors' understanding of God and of themselves evolved over time, so our understanding has evolved as well, and will continue to evolve. Attempts to keep this process by labeling as heresy or abominations anything or anyone that calls into question the assumptions of the past, those attempts are futile and destructive.

So, if the two primary sources of authority that prophets claim ("God speaking to them" and "the Bible") - if these two sources of authority can be trusted only partially because their potential for abuse is so great, then what is a legitimate/trustworthy source of authority for God's people? As I thought about that, it became increasingly clear to me that the bottom line source of authority for prophets is the affirmation of the community.

You are the source of authority. God speaks to each one of us (all of us), blessing us with the gift of discernment and giving us innate spiritual authority. We, in turn, are that authority (either occasionally or continuously) to set apart prophets. And, the reason that it is imperative that we recognize that the locus of contextualized sources of authority is from God - through us - as the prophet, is because too often the people of God have abdicated their spiritual authority - some-

IMAGES OF PRIDE

comes with tragic results. History is full of examples of standstill or worse leading people astray.

I tell you, Pat Robertson, and Matthew Howard, and Ian Kross, and Trey Perry (founder of Metropolitan Community Church), and John Paul II, and all other pastors/prophets - we have the innate spiritual authority common to all of God's children - and beyond that, we have only the authority that the community invests in with.

You must understand that because men often act out of fear or laziness, God's children have abdicated their authority and knowledgment to anyone who cried out, "God speaks to me!", or who opened a Bible and bawled a fat proclamation. "It says right here in God's Word...". It is good for God to speak to us; it is good to look at the Word conscientiously and objectively and to preach our faith. But, that is not enough, ultimately, the people must say, "Yes," or "No." This is a man or woman of God and we are willing to listen - or not.

Historically, much good and much evil have been done in the name of religion. In fact, it has been said, "People never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from religious conviction." And, those two forces continue to do battle today. But I tell you, I am full of hope because I believe that in numbers not soon before, the empowered people of God are going to exercise their spiritual authority and dismantle the hierarchical, patriarchal, rigidly literalistic religious structures that bind people to the oppression of the past rather than proclaiming the liberating power of a living/growing relationship with God in the now.

The future course of the Christian church (and of MCC as a part of the church universal) - that future is not in the hands of the religious leaders; it is (as it has always been) in the hands of God and from God into the hands of the community - each member of which God has given spiritual authority.

The question is, "Will we create good with this power God has given us or will we ignore the implications of our gift and allow evil to be done in our name?" I'd like to leave you with a parable that illustrates that question and its implications:

Once there was a wise old woman, a prophetess, who lived in a small village. The children of the village were puzzled by her - her wisdom, her gentleness, her strength, and her magic. One day several of the children decided to fool the old woman. They believed that no one could be as wise as everyone said she was, and they were determined to prove it. So, the children found a baby bird and one of the little boys cupped it in his hands and said to his playmates, "We'll ask her whether the bird I have in my hands is dead or alive. If she says it's dead, I'll open my hands and let it fly away. If she says it's alive, I'll crush it in my hands and she'll see that it's dead." And the children went to the old prophetess and presented her with this puzzle. "Old woman," the little boy asked, "this bird in my hands - is it dead or alive?" The old woman became very still, studied the boy's hands, and then looked carefully into his eyes. "It's in your hands," she said.

Here are a few of the designs submitted for the 1991 Gay/Lesbian Pride Week logo. We salute all the artists who submitted designs. The winning logo, created by Mr. Terry Sweeney, appears on this month's cover.



Sharon Van Buren



L.J. Bohrer



Sharon Van Buren



Arthur D. Jones



Sharon Van Buren



Russ Werry



R.J.R.



Nebraska & Western Iowa
Randy J.



Arthur D. Jones



NEW YORK
'94
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE ETC.

GAY GAMES IV ANNOUNCES LOGO COMPETITION

Gay Games IV announces an open competition for a new logo. The Games, with the theme of Unity '94, is an international event uniting athletes, cultural participants, and spectators in New York City during the summer of 1994. Gay Games IV will be the largest amateur athletic event on earth in 1994 and will coincide with the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, the beginning of the modern gay movement.

The logo must include the words "Unity '94" and work with or without the words "Gay Games IV." The design should reflect the theme of unity and may also include references to gay and lesbian athletes, gay and lesbian symbology, or the location, New York City. The overall look should be clean and contemporary, work large or small, and in color or black and white.

The winning design will be used on all Games promotional materials, merchandise, exhibits, and event venues. Winners will receive a "Lifetime" membership to Gay Games IV, including tickets to special events, and samples of all Games merchandise using the logo. The panel of judges will include celebrity judges as well as design professionals, and the winner will be announced at a special kick-off party in the fall.

The deadline is July 4, 1991, and there is a limit of 5 designs per entrant. For more information and an entry form, please write to Logo Competition, NY in '94, P.O. Box 202, Times Square Station, New York, NY 10036. Everyone is encouraged to participate and good luck!

POLITICAL GATHERING TO BE HELD

Lesbian and gay organizers from around the nation will convene on Alexandria, VA, in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, this November 9-12 for the 4th Annual CREATING CHANGE conference of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). CREATING CHANGE is the country's largest skills-building symposium for gay and lesbian political activists and organizations.

The conference, sponsored annually by NGLTF, will feature more than 60 workshops, as

well as cultural events, caucuses, networking sessions, leading activists from the national and grassroots scenes, and some of the most electrifying, provocative speakers in the lesbian and gay movement. The 3-day conference will also feature two pre-conference and one post-conference luncheon.

Last year's conference, held in Minneapolis, MN, attracted more than 700 participants. "Creating Change has evolved into a major political event," said NGLTF conference coordinator Brian Albert. "The conference provides a unique opportunity for lesbian and gay activists from across the country to share knowledge, compare strategies and create a collective vision of the future of our movements."

Slated to deliver the opening plenary address is Mario Solis-Merck, Director of the Public Policy Division of the AIDS Project-Los Angeles and co-chair of LLEGO, the national Latino(a) Lesbian and Gay Organization. The second day will include a major focus on AIDS issues, with an AIDS plenary panel featuring Larry Krass, author, playwright, and a founder of Gay Men's Health Crisis and ACT-UP New York; Jean McGuire, former executive director of the AIDS Action Council, and recently voted one of "Washington's 100 most powerful people" by *Regard's* Magazine; and Reggie Williams, Executive Director of the National AIDS Task Force of the National Association of Black and White Men Together. The closing plenary will be a dialogue between Minnie Bruce Young, distinguished professor at the University of Maryland, award-winning poet,

and openly lesbian recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts; and Jewelle Gomez, noted writer, fiction writer, poet, and lesbian activist.

Conference workshops will cover a variety of issues important to the lesbian and gay family leaders, AIDS activism, sodomy law repeal, lesbian and gay rights referenda, international organizing, and media advocacy. The conference will also feature a special fund-raising track that will present experts on the field of development, direct mail, and grants.

This year, Creating Change will be sponsored by three extra-conference institutes. On November 8, NGLTF will present the People of Color Organizing Institute to address such topics as networking, straight, women of color issues, and coalition building among Black, Latin, Native American, and

Asian communities. Also on November 8, the Diversity Training Institute will explore the broad spectrum of the gay and lesbian community and investigate ways of building a more inclusive movement. Following the conference, on November 12, the Campus Organizing Institute will provide an opportunity for students to reinforce their organizing skills and learn more about the range of issues facing lesbians and gay men in college communities.

CREATING CHANGE '91 will be held at the Old Colony Inn in Alexandria, VA, just minutes from metro Washington. The Alexandria Gay and Lesbian Community Association will serve as the local host organization. Interested individuals should contact NGLTF for registration information. Write or call Brian Albert, Creating Change Coordinator, NGLTF, 1734 14th St., NW, Washington, DC 20009, (202) 332-6481.

NGLTF, the nation's oldest and foremost lesbian and gay civil rights organization, lobbies, organizes, educates and demonstrates for full rights for lesbians and gay men.

Join in the 1991
Gay/Lesbian
Pride Celebration,
TOGETHER IN PRIDE.

Sunday Brunch at
The Diamond
June 16 from 12:30 to 3:30
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Choice of:

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- *Vegetable Quiche with cheeses & bacon
served with Potatoes, Fruit Salad, and Fresh Muffin

By Reservations Only
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Proceeds to the MCC Building Fund

WOMEN VETERANS SUPPORT NETWORK FORMED

Throughout the history of our nation, women have served in our Armed Forces.

During World War I, a unit of Women Marines was formed to assist with clerical work in Defense offices; when the war ended, the women were immediately discharged. By the end of World War II, the women's contributions and proven ability to work well under adverse conditions led to the continuation of women's branches of each service.

To date, approximately 1.2 million American women have served in our Armed Forces. These women have donned military uniforms and survived the rigors of training designed to mold individual personalities into soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. While immersed in the military sub-culture women have served proudly and with distinction in peace time and in times of conflict.

No matter what era, branch of service, or the length of time spent in the service, every woman who has served in the military has been changed by the experience. When women veterans re-enter the main stream they are drawn from a highly structured environment into a world of endless possibilities and options.

We are aware of a lack of resources specifically designed for women veterans. To help fill the void, we have created the Pallas Athena Network, named after the Greek Goddess of Wisdom, Craft and War, whose likeness served as the branch insignia for the Women's Army Corps.

Through our publication, *Pallas Athena*, we provide an open, supportive environment through which women veterans can discuss issues and thoughts with other women who share the common experience of military service. We will provide articles of interest to women veterans and resource information as well as fiction and creative works by women veterans. Our first issue was published April 15, 1991.

We encourage ALL women veterans to participate, regardless of race, creed, religion or sexual orientation. A special, discreet supplement will be published for lesbian veterans. For further information, contact: The Pallas Athena Network, P. O. Box 1171, New Market, VA 22844.

STUDENT FAMILY HOUSING OPENS IN WISCONSIN

MADISON, WI - Homosexual and unmarried heterosexual couples received a green light to compete for student family housing at the University of Wisconsin's Madison campus.

Norman Sunstad, director of housing at the university, said the move was in keeping with state laws and university policies that bar discrimination based on sexual orientation.

It will affect 1,122 married student apartment units on the campus, for which the waiting list time can run from one year to 18 months, Sunstad said.

Graduate student families with children will continue to have priority. But the definition of "families" will now include single parents, homosexual couples, and unmarried heterosexual couples with children.

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NATIONAL NEWS



COMING OUT DAY A PAID HOLIDAY FOR VAN NESS

On March 18, 1991, the Board of Directors of the Van Ness House (the first gay-owned and operated alcohol and drug Recovery House in the U.S.) voted unanimously to honor October 11 - National Coming Out Day as a paid holiday for all staff members of the treatment center.

Art Fleiss, Secretary of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Professional Policies and Personnel Committee stated, "We on the Board wanted to make a positive, affirmative, pro-active statement about our support of the National Coming Out Day campaign and our belief that the lifting of sexual orientation seals away the opportunity to grow up with dignity, role models, and access to differing viewpoints." The Board hopes its actions might start a trend or movement in other gay/lesbian organizations to recognize and encourage their staff to take their staff step.

When Lynn Sheppard, Executive Director of National Coming Out Day was informed about this development she was "delighted with such an innovative approach to supporting gay men and lesbians in taking their next step."

Michael Kerr, who for 5 1/2 years has held the post of Executive Director at Van Ness House, told Lynn he applauded the Board's decision and felt it was in keeping with the philosophy of recovery long held by the organization.

Kerr stated, "Telling the truth about yourself is a fundamental step in the recovery process whether you are talking about alcoholism, drug addiction, or interstitial homophobia. Without the truth, close relationships with family and friends are impossible. I am amazed at the reasons gay people and gay-funded agencies find not to discuss homosexuality. It has happened at the Van Ness House in the past but I am sure this action by my Board will make certain it never happens again. As an agency we are free to engage actively and constructively in this healing process."

Van Ness Recovery House is located at 1916 N. Beachwood Drive, Hollywood, CA 90028; (711) 463-4266.

National Coming Out Day headquarters is at P.O. Box 8349, Santa Fe, NM 87504(505) 982-2358.

'FAMILY' RESTAURANT CHAIN FIRES GAY EMPLOYEES

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Cracker Barrel Restaurant, a major chain of family-style eateries, has fired gay employees after announcing its corporate policy to ban workers "whose sexual preferences fail to demonstrate normal heterosexual values."

In response, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Policy Institute, Queen National/Atlanta, and the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance (T.GALA) have established a mainframe hotline to pressure the policy and have launched demonstrations and other actions against the strategy.

Gays, lesbians and their supporters are urged to call 1-800-323-6000, Hotline ID# 9823, to send a prepared message to Dan Evin, president of Cracker Barrel Company. Company executives have refused to talk to the media or gay and lesbian activists.

GAY HOSPITALITY EXCHANGE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDED

Basically, the GHEI idea is that members are prepared to offer a couple of nights hospitality to other members in exchange for the right to receive hospitality themselves when they travel. It is in no way meant to be a "dating set-up."

Upon payment of their annual membership fee (\$20, U.S.) member's names will be included in the annual directory (or one of the updates if they join late in the year) along with all the information necessary to other members including a bit of a description of hospitality offered, languages spoken, and interests. Members wishing to travel can then contact each other directly using the directory which will be available to members who can thereby also find out a bit about their prospective guests.

In the spring of 1990, a number of gay men from Europe and New America, who like to travel as well as to receive guests, discussed the need for some sort of organization whereby we could offer hospitality to others who were prepared to do the same thing. Set, borrowing some ideas from a straight club which already existed, we formed GHEI (Gay Hospitality Exchange International) as a non-profit organization to promote international travel and friendship among gay men.

After three months of active promotion of this idea, with tremendous support from numerous gay publications, it was very clear that its time had come. Enthusiastic letters offering assistance arrived from all over and we now have contact with people in the USA and Canada, in Trinidad, Mexico, Brazil, Australia, South Africa, and numerous countries of Europe, enabling us to carry out our original plan of having the club functioning with the first membership directory published by spring of 1991.

For more information (brochure and membership form), contact us at P.O. Box 612, Station 'C', Montreal, Quebec, H2L 4K5.

NCOD URGES UNIV. OF COLORADO TO PROTECT ALL STUDENTS

Enclosing a packet of information about the importance of addressing gay and lesbian concerns, National Coming Out Day (NCOD) encouraged the Board of Regents to make a "re-responsible and courageous" decision on the matter of adding "sexual orientation" to the university non-discrimination policy.

"Despite regular educational information, a Student Senate and a Student Body which both

endorsed adding the sexual orientation clause to the school policy, the Regents have yet to respond favorably to this civil rights matter. Clearly, the gay and lesbian people who know the Regents have yet to convince it them," said Lynn Sheppard, Executive Director of NCOD. "The sort of unavailability to information as evidenced once again by this predicament."

NCOD encourages all gay and lesbian students, faculty, and staff to take their next step and make their thoughts known on this matter.

National Coming Out Day - October 11, is a campaign about truth and visibility working your group to encourage gay and lesbian people to tell the truth about who they are.

GAY PAPER DROPS REPORTER FOR USING "HOMOSEXUAL"

MINNEAPOLIS - The G.L.C. Voice, a Minnesota gay newspaper has dropped syndicated gay journalist Rex Winkler because he used the word "homosexual" in a recent article.

According to Winkler, G.L.C. Vice President Tim Campbell had previously insisted that Winkler refer to homosexuals as "gays" or "gay and lesbian" or "queers." Winkler said Campbell insisted that these words be used not only in stories sent to Campbell's paper but in all the stories Winkler sent to other papers as well. Winkler considered that even sensitive activist groups such as Queer Nation and ACT-UP/New York have no problem with the word "homosexual." When Winkler used it in a February 26 news story Campbell discontinued using Winkler's news service.

Connolly with *Wash. City Times*, Campbell said that activists cannot demand that mainstream papers cease using "homosexual" if gay papers use the word.

Campbell said, "I thought we had an agreement that he would not use the word. He said, 'Fine.' I think Winkler just cannot be trusted."

Defending his preference for the word "queer," Campbell said he approves of the word and sees a value in "the reintroduction of the word." He said he was never called "queer" and has no negative associations with the word.

Campbell also asked WTCT to avoid using the word "homosexual" and urged this newspaper's reporter to take up the issue with his editors.

-Windy City Times

ADOPTION LAW UNCONSTITUTIONAL

MONROE COUNTY, FL. - In a landmark ruling, a circuit court judge in Florida has struck down a Florida law that prohibited lesbian and gay men from adopting children in that state.

Judge M. Jennings Lester, of Monroe County (Key West) ruled on March 15 that the law violated the state constitution's rights to privacy, equal protection, and due process of law. The law, he said "suffers from the vice nations of homosexuality," constitutionality as fit parents and evidences discrimination through archaic stereotypes associated with homosexuality.

Only one other state, New Hampshire, specifically prohibits lesbian and gay men from adopting children. The New Hampshire law was upheld by that state's highest court in 1987.

-Evelyn Trow

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VISA/MC _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

For more information, please write or call: National Coming Out Day,
P.O. Box 8340, Santa Fe, NM 87504, 505-982-2558 or 1-800-445-NCOD

CLASSIFIEDS

Massage by C.N.A. Phone 392-0796 for appointment.

Attention LADIES: I am interested in meeting sincere gay women. Special Delivery, P.O. Box 6055, Omaha, NE 68106.

Attractive male transvestite wants friendship and safe fun with attractive TV, transsexual, drag queen, or woman. Photo and phone desired, but not required. Write: L., Box 81401, Lincoln, NE 68501.

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

ROOMIES? Roommates. We match Lookers with Haves in Omaha, Lincoln, and all major cities nationwide! 1-800-272-8372, 1pm-9pm.

Attractive male transvestite wants friendship and safe fun with attractive TV, transsexual, drag queen, or woman. Photo and phone desired, but not required. Write: L., Box 81401, Lincoln, NE 68501.

HELP WANTED. Fun and Easy Money! X-Citing Opportunities for talented gays! Needed: writers of erotica,按摩, escorts, photographers, video actors. Talent more important than looks. Call Scott: 1-900-234-6660 (53¢/min), 18+

Would like to meet sincere, mature gay women like myself, age 25-35. Write: P.O. Box 6053, Omaha, NE 68106.

FOOT VIDEO. Five hot Chicago guys show you their shoes, socks, bare feet, and more-plus action. 2 hour VHS, \$25.95 for E. Krimer, P.O. Box 74784, Chicago, IL 60614

Have you been the victim of discrimination because you're gay or lesbian? Citizens For Equal Protection need your help in determining the extent of prejudice and discrimination in Nebraska. Send your story in Confidential Citizens For Equal Protection, C/O ANGLE, P.O. Box 31375, Omaha, NE 68131-0375.

Brunch At The Diamond To Benefit MCC-Omaha Building Fund

On June 16, there will be a Sunday brunch at the Diamond Bar. All proceeds will go to the building fund of Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha. Reservations are required. Cost is \$8.95 per person with choice of Eggs Benedict or Vegetable Omelette. To Reserve your space, call 342-9595.

Can't march in the parade? Sponsor someone who will be marching and help support Nebraska AIDS Project and Future Pride activities.

Thanks to River City Mixed Chorus for their generous gift back to the community.

SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE FOR OTHER COUNTRIES JOURNAL EXTENDED

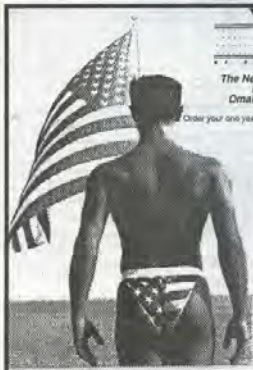
Other Countries, the New York-based organization of writers and artists of African descent, has announced that the deadline for submissions to their second journal, *Other Countries*, has been extended to June 15, 1991.

The second volume will focus on AIDS and will be the first collective response to the crisis ever published by gay men of African descent. As with the organization's first journal, *Other Countries: Black Gay Voices*, the emphasis will be on diversity. Poetry, short stories, interviews, essays, art, and graphics will all be included. In addition, both beginning and established authors will be represented.

"There has already been a tremendous response to our call by men in the large cities like New York and Los Angeles," said Robert Reid-Pratt, managing editor of *The Journal*. "We need to solicit works from outside the 'Black Gay Mecca'; however, if *The Journal* is going to have a truly national focus," he added.

Submissions should be sent along with self-addressed, stamped envelope to Other Countries Journal, P.O. Box 3142, Church Street Station, New York, NY 10008-3142.

Congratulations to Omaha Mr. Drummer and all the candidates in the Great Plains Mr. Drummer Contest, June 28 and 29. Want to know what's happening? Call the Gay/Lesbian Information Line: 538-5303.



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Omaha, NE 68103

LINCOLN

Gay/Lesbian Academic Association

402-475-4124 or A.A. website only for location.

Gay Men's Support Group

1755 Cuyler Avenue, NE, Lincoln, NE 68502 (402) 473-2960. Confidential support group for gay men.

Lesbian Support Group

Women's Resource Center, Room 217, Nebraska Union, UNL, Lincoln, NE 68583 (402) 473-2917. Informal weekly discussion group.

Lutheran League of Lincoln

628 N. 13th St., Lincoln, NE 68503. Lesbian-gay discussion, services, support, educational referral, & social programs.

Safe Scholarship Fund for Gay/Lesbian Students

Box 50307, Lincoln, NE 68505. (402) 468-8700. Non-profit scholarship fund with University of Nebraska Foundation.

Gay Straight Center

1022 E. 17th, 2002. Support team counseling, support groups, classes, workshops leading with coming out, parenting, and relationships.

New Frontiers

Self-esteem enhancement & support. Call (402) 468-4027.

Open Mind Ministry

(402) 473-8026. Outcomes spiritual counseling available to all in need. No charge.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)

164 Putnam Street NE, 68502.

Nebraska Community College Gay/Lesbian Student Association. P.O. Box 3048, Lincoln, NE 68503, 684-0273. Student organization. The UNL students and PFLAG groups interested in advancement, social, and political activities.

Support Group For Women

P.O. Box 48911, Lincoln, NE 68589-0811. Open to all women. Meets for Women's 7:30pm. Openness at Community, 604 N. 17th Street, Lincoln, NE 68502.

UNL Gay and Lesbian Student Association

17th Street, Lincoln, NE 68583-0423, 473-3444. Social and support organization for Lesbian and Gay students, meets every Thursday night at 8pm.

UNL Gay and Lesbian Student Association, Inc.

164 Putnam Street, Lincoln, NE 68504-0423, 473-3444. Social and political network for UNL's Gay/Lesbian students, alumni, staff, & faculty.

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center

164 Putnam Street, Lincoln, NE 68504-0423, 473-3444. Social and support organization for Lesbian and Gay students, alumni, staff, & faculty.

The Weekend's Hours

Meets to spend every Thursday on KJZZ-M radio at 9:15 PM every

Women's Book and Study Group

Box 4128, Lincoln, NE 68502.

OMAHA

Atheist/Secular Group

234-7770. United Methodists for psychological concerns. Meets monthly.

A.S.L.E.E. Inc. (Advancing New Gay/Lesbian Educators)

P.O. Box 31073, Omaha, NE 68131-0733. Networking, consultation, support, and PR/CR assistance to its membership.

SAGE - Omaha

546 Lincoln, 1314 Douglas St. on 16th, 2nd Floor Omaha, NE 68102.

Fellowship of Friends

P.O. Box 6781, Omaha, NE 68133-0678. (402) 473-2600. Meet Wednesday, 8:00am at Park Inn, 15th & Woodmen.

Gay/Lesbian Information and Referral Line

(402) 538-5333.

Gay/Lesbian Support Group

MCC-Omaha, 620 E. 24th St., 345-2361. Support group for gay and lesbian. Meets Tuesdays & Fridays.

Heterosexual Club

Box 31111, Omaha, NE 68131-0111. Networking organization of heterosexuals.

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha (MCCC) Meeting address: Box 1217, Omaha, NE 68102. Services at 8:30 & 10:30. St. Charles, 918 West 13th. Sunday morning 10:00am, Tues. 9:45-10:45.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)

164 Putnam Street NE, 68502.

Queer Musicmakers

Call 402-4675 for information. A teacher and choir choir with special emphasis on introducing the AIDS prevention program.

Omaha Youth (OYHS) - Omaha - Women's AFFIRMED

Box 7106, Omaha, NE 68131-0710. Non-experimental in orientation and structure. Meets weekly. Women's organization related to OYHS.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)

See Nebraska Statewide listing.

Production/Info for Lesbians/Gays Centered (PILIG) 1111 13th Street, Omaha, NE 68102. Info of events, lists, Straight/Gay and Gay list of Org. on Web, mailing.

Ever City Bowling League

(402) 249-4111 (Sunday) or (402) 493-4118 (Tuesdays)

New City Gender Alliance

P.O. Box 960, Omaha, NE 68104, 344-5102. Support group for transsexuals, transgendering, cross-dressing, and others dealing with gender-identity issues. Meets 1st Saturday of every month/second floor.

Silver City Support Center

Box 311, Omaha, NE 68131-0311. 1100 W. Vanhook Street for Gay/Lesbian/Transsexuals.

Women's Day Advancement Society, Inc.

Box 11352, Omaha, NE 68112-1135, (402) 473-3621. Meetings, information, & support for Lesbian/Gay.

The Weekend's Hours (TWHS) Heterosexual Club

Box 3104, Omaha, NE 68130.

WMAA Women's Group

Box 1700, Omaha, NE 68130-0700. Call Susan 402-513-8124 or Heidi 402-7076. Lesbian and Gay studies curriculum program group.

Women's Support Group

MCC-Omaha, 620 E. 24th St., 345-2360. Support group for women. Meets Saturdays at 11am.

AIDS/HIV RESOURCES
INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

AnneMarie Red Cross

1701 N. 7th St., Lincoln, NE 68501. Call (402) 477-7827. 3633 Omaha Ave., Omaha, NE 68131. Call (402) 347-7772.

Douglas County Health Department

1221 S. 42nd St., Omaha, NE 68105. (402) 464-6275.

Linn County Health Center

1000 W. 16th, York, Nebraska, NE 68576. (402) 483-1872. Open Monday.

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

AIDS Program, 2200 S. Mary Ave., Lincoln, NE 68502. HIV testing, information, & support. (402) 471-6100.

Nebraska AIDS Program

3024 Leavenworth St., Omaha, NE 68108. Call (402) 344-4273 or (402) 344-4282 (24hrs) (weekends). AIDS hotline, HIV testing, information, medical referrals. AIDS awareness programs, etc.

Veterans Administration Medical Center

404 & 24th Street, Omaha, NE 68104. (402) 349-1800. Open: Monday - Fri. 4:15.

West Syndrome Clinic

Omaha's only Hepatitis Medical Center. 602 S. 42nd St., Omaha, NE 68108. (402) 534-6202.

NEBRASKA STATEWIDE

AIDS Clinics in Omaha (Nebraska)

P.O. Box 30481, Lincoln, NE 68503. (402) 468-0777. Statewide group open to all organizations/individuals for AIDS information, prevention, and formal counseling. Locations: Berkeley St., 3rd St.

Advocates of Nebraska

Box 610, Lincoln, NE 68502. (402) 346-7700. United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian concerns. Meet monthly in Omaha and Lincoln.

Coalition for Gay & Lesbian Self-Help

Box 9492, Lincoln, NE 68509. Advocates/Support for Gay/Lesbian self-help, educational programs, prevention, educational events. Meet 1st Saturday of month, 7:00pm, 3401 S. 134th St.

Gay/Lesbian Support Group

Box 201, Kearney, NE 68849. Call (308) 234-8308. Meets 1st Monday at 7:00pm.

Imperial Court of Nebraska

Box 271, Omaha, NE 68102. Social organization for advancement of gay men.

The New York of Nebraska

Box 2511, Omaha, NE 68105. Monthly meetings for the Lesbian/Gay community.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)

402 17th Ave., Kearney, NE 68849. Lincoln, NE 68502. 425 13th St., Omaha, Call for a Book Store 199-127-8070.

Box 4778, Lincoln, NE 68504

(402) 473-6488. Meets 1st Monday, Tues. 7pm at Community Church, 47th & 15th. Open group for the safety and health of people who have been raped. Call 402-473-6488.

UNL 24/7

(402) 473-2600. 1111 13th Street, Omaha, NE 68102. Hours: 24/7. Meets 2nd Tuesday at Lincoln Community, 4934 S. 16th.

Queer Parties

Meets every other Monday. (402) 482-1236. Social organization dedicated to celebrating heterosexuality and bisexuality.

Bars & Restaurants

Omaha

Address: 515 S. 20th St., 340-8242
17th & Clay, Omaha, NE 68102. Call 402-473-3444
The Clubhouse, 712 N. 10th St., 342-0505
Café/Restaurant, 473 S. 10th St., 267-0101
MIDWEST, 1101 Leavenworth St., 449-6147
The Max, 1417 Jackson St., 344-4110
The Star, 1716 Leavenworth St., 449-6707

Lincoln

Phone: 205 S. 16th St., 438-0704

Grand Island

Address: 4th & Lincoln, 248-362-8663

HIV TESTING*

*We encourage you to inquire about anonymity and confidentiality before testing.

Charles Deery Health Center

201 N. 20th St., Omaha, NE 68111. Monday 4:30 to 7:30pm. Appointment or walk in. (402) 453-1423.

Douglas County Health Department

1221 S. 42nd St., Omaha, NE 68105. Tues-Fri 9am-5pm. Sat 9-12 for appointment. (402) 464-6275.

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

AIDS Program, 2200 S. Mary Ave., Lincoln, NE 68502. HIV testing, information, & support. (402) 471-6100.

Nebraska AIDS Program

3024 Leavenworth St., Omaha, NE 68108. (402) 344-4273 or (402) 344-4282 (24hrs) (weekends). Anonymous test only. Anonymous testing Monday and Thursday. Tues to Friday.

LEGAL

Mothers: Chappin & Watta, P.C.
221 S. 26th St., Suite 202, Omaha, NE 68106. (402) 478-3002.
301.

Nebraska Civil Liberties Union

513 S. 24th Street, 473-3444
1101 Leavenworth St., 449-6147
1417 Jackson St., 344-4110

COUNSELING AND SUPPORT

AIDS Outreach Network

174 N. 24th St., Omaha, NE 68104.

Brother Michael's Ministry

305 N. 16th St., Omaha, NE 68104.

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

AIDS Program, 2200 S. Mary Ave.

Open Door Ministry/Line

402-473-2800 - Ft. Omaha.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG), Lincoln. AIDS Support Group, P.O. Box 4778, Lincoln, NE 68504. Meet weekly at Westview in York, 473-4101. HIV info & support line.

JUNE



THE MAX

1417 JACKSON
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

- June 2 — Closet Ball Revisited
- June 6 — California Strippers
- June 9 — ICON Stepping Down Show
- June 16 — ICON Victory Show
- June 20 — Max Bartenders in Drag

- June 23 — Phoebe Tate & Jennifer Jett
- June 27 — Uniform Night
- June 28 & 29 — Mr. Great Plains Drummer Weekend
- June 30 — MGN - America in Review

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