

*The
New Voice*

Lincoln

Nebraska



The New Voice

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Editor's Comments

Your vote does count. Gays and lesbians across the country have broadened their political influence in the past few years. In the presidential primary, all three democratic candidates have sought the gay and lesbian vote in varying degrees. This publication does not support any one candidate for the primary, but feels that we can influence the ballot box. We should support candidates who support us, including local candidates.

Larry Weiss

NEWS & FEATURES

NGTF Reaches Out to Lesbian/Gay Youth

The nationwide toll-free Crisis Line operated by the National Gay Task Force (NGTF) for victims of anti-lesbian/gay violence and AIDS information and referrals has expanded its services as of March 1, 1984 to take calls from lesbian and gay youth, their family members, and those interested in establishing local youth services.

The Crisis Line operates Monday through Friday from 2-8 p.m. at 800/221-7044 nationwide.

The Wimmie's Show

KZUM RADIO

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Police Harassment Increases in Lincoln

by Gail Thomas

Harassment of gays has long been an issue in just about every city in the United States. From bathrooms to bath houses to bars, reports surface of gays being unduly questioned, interrogated or simply harassed for no reason at all. Lincolnites have been somewhat lucky in this respect because, other than the great "Antelope Park Bust" in the summer of 1983, there hasn't been much undue harassment by law enforcement officials.

The trend has been changing in the last few months, however, with a rising number of Lincoln gays reporting being pursued and unjustly treated in shopping malls and other public places. This action doesn't seem to have been initiated by the Lincoln Police Department as a whole, but rather by a few officers, mostly those who patrol the shopping malls and other downtown public places.

Several cases of people being unjustly treated by being asked to move from benches in the malls, the only reason being that they fit a particular stereotype, coupled with officers soliciting information about people from known gays and taking license plate numbers of "suspected homosexuals" has caused several leaders in the gay community as well as the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union to become alert to the problem.

The Nebraska Civil Liberties Union wants to know about harassment in Lincoln. If you feel you have encountered such treatment or know of someone else who has, notify the NCLU at 633 South 9th, Lincoln, 68501. Your name will be kept confidential and the information you submit will be collected for a case study and determination of action.

Gays, as tax payers and citizens, have the same rights to access of public places as everyone else without suffering uncomfortable and irritating treatment. With the help of the gay community and the NCLU, Lincoln will be a happier, less stressful place to live.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

*The
New Voice*

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Just send \$6.00 for a year's subscription.

That's only 50¢ for each issue to be used for postage and handling.

MAILED DISCREETLY

In Good Company—Oscar Wilde

If you're wondering what to read this summer, you owe it to yourself to pick up one of Oscar Wilde's works--his novel, The Portrait of Dorian Gray, or one of his superbly witty plays, perhaps his best, The Importance of Being Earnest. And then you should turn to Hesketh Pearson's biography. It's very readable, unbiased, and contains generous servings of Wilde's famous wit.

Wilde, of course, was perhaps the best-known gay to take his cause to court. His lover's father, the Marquis of Queensberry (could fate or fiction have given him a more ironic name?) was furious that Wilde was romancing Queensberry's son, Lord Alfred Douglas, so he began spreading nasty insults about Wilde. Wilde was naturally furious. He was one of London's literary giants and certainly its most flamboyant personality--sort of a Liberace, Boy George, Joan Rivers, Gore Vidal combination--and he felt that he deserved to live his life as he pleased. So he rashly decided to sue Queensberry for libel. Wrong choice. Wilde was on his own turf at parties and in the theater, but the court proved to have laws as two-edged as Wilde's tongue.

Wilde's defense was that he was not a homosexual (in the "dirty" sense of the word). But, of course, Wilde was a homosexual. Period. And because he had never made a real secret of his lifestyle, he lost his case. He had flaunted his colorful image for years, and because he did, he was the toast of London society. No one knew exactly what Wilde did--in private, in detail--and thus gossip about him was all the more juicy. And Wilde loved it.

But when the printed facts about Wilde's homosexuality appeared in the newspapers, they read like deadly clinical indictments, and thus Wilde was sent to prison for two years. He could have fled to France, but he was stubborn (perhaps because he was Irish), and he refused to accept the court's edict that what he did with his private life was wrong.

People in Victorian England were not so different from people today; after Wilde was imprisoned, they turned on him. In our own time, at one time, Barbra Streisand could do no wrong; she was a Jewish genius songstress who looked like no one else and who had original style and chutzpah. Yet when she produced, directed, and wrote (in large part) Yentl, the critics and the public turned on her. A woman too big for her britches.

The public places their eccentrics and their geniuses on pedestals and then tears them down; if you don't believe it, steal a copy of the popular National Enquirer, or one of its sibling yellow sheets.

Fortunately for us, Wilde was clever enough to write his best work and lived life on his own terms for many years. While Wilde was in his prime, no one else in England could match his elegance and his style, and when he traveled across America on a lecture tour, Wilde proved to be immensely popular. Even the Colorado miners endorsed him, for he could out-drink them all. His American tour was one long whirlwind of balls, dinners, teas, and receptions. From the time he told the American Customs official, "I have nothing to declare but my genius," America belonged to Wilde.

continued on next page.....

When he lectured at Boston, sixty Harvard students dressed in knee britches and sat on the front row, holding lilies. Wilde anticipated something like this, and so he came from behind the curtains wearing beautiful evening clothes, the epitomy of conservative elegance. When he returned to England, he had given American audiences eighty lectures on aesthetics and, subliminally, a taste of his colorful zest for life. His fame was ablaze on both continents.

Luckily, literary critics have largely ignored Wilde's disastrous day in court. Today, he is considered to be one of Ireland's best playwrights, and he is also considered to be one of the masters of the "comedy of manners." Playwriting is not an easy task, and yet from the beginning, Wilde wrote hit after hit, using his matchless humor to point out the hypocrisies of society. His high-spirited love of the ridiculous made his plays unique during his era, and audiences could always count on one character being very much like Wilde himself, continually tossing off such Bette Davis-like quips as, "I can resist everything except temptation."

Alas, the temptation to perform in court proved to be Wilde's undoing, but he made gays strong and visible, noble even. And perhaps for that reason, England passed laws protecting "consenting sexual behavior between adults" long before American legislators began to timidly advocate gay rights.

Wilde laughed with life, and at life; he saw through its absurdities. Today, no one remembers the Marquis of Queensberry--except perhaps as an example of warped homophobia. In contrast, Wilde's classy intellectual originality has gained him a permanent notch in the lapel of Western literature.

--Kerry

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Consumer Watch Health Clubs

Lincoln has several Health Clubs which offer a variety of fitness programs and exercise equipment. In choosing a facility, it is important to compare price, location, hours of operation, equipment, space, and compatibility to other members. It is very important that you feel comfortable with your exercise routine and good instructors can provide a plan to fit individual needs. Before joining a club, take a tour of the facility. Also, don't be fooled by confusing sales pitches or great deals. It is also recommended that a person begin by taking a short-term membership rather than a lengthy period of time. Several Health Clubs have closed in the last couple of years, including the Lincoln Health Club, Little Bo's Health Club, Alpha Fitness Center, and Cosmopolitan.

The New Voice surveyed several Health Clubs on April 27, 1984. To ensure a fair and comparable survey, The New Voice asked all the establishments for the cost of a single adult membership for one year. Rates varied from \$145.00 a year from the Body Shoppe & Body Firm to \$535 charged by Mademoiselle.

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Dry Sauna Running Track
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1 year membership: \$269 Nautilus (Av. \$22.41 a month)
\$509 Nautilus & Karate (Av. \$42.41 a month)
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Whirlpool
Aerobic Classes

THE BODY FIRM

2301 Hwy 2, Suite 2 423-5944 Men
Hrs: M-F 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sat 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sun. closed
1 year membership: \$145 (Av. \$12 a month)
Membership includes: Free Weights Swimming Pool
Hydraulic Machines Running Track
Dry Sauna Nursery
Whirlpool

THE BODY SHOPPE

2301 Hwy. 2 423-1955 Women
Hrs. Starting June 1: M-F 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sat 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sun. closed
1 year membership: \$145 (Av. \$12 a month)
Membership includes: Dry Sauna Swimming Pool
Whirlpool Universal Weight Machines
Exercise Classes Running Track
Nursery

continued on next page.....

LINCOLN RACQUET CLUB

5300 Old Cheney Rd. 423-2511 Co-Ed

Hrs: Sun-Thur. 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Fri 6 a.m. to Sunrise
Sat 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.1 year membership: \$500 tennis & racquetball (Av. \$41.66 a month)
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(Court Fee: \$4.50-\$6.50 an hour)Membership includes: Swimming Pool Aerobic Classes
Universal Weight Machines Sauna
Track Whirlpool**MADEMOISELLE**

121 Cherry Hill Blvd. 483-7777 Women

Hrs: M-F 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sat 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sun 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

1 year membership: \$535 (Av. \$44.50 a month)

Pay cash & receive an extra 2 years membership

Membership includes: Aerobic Exercises Whirlpool
Slimnastics Dry Sauna
Dancercise Free Weights
Jazzerform Universal Weight Machines
Slim robics Hydraulic Machine
Swimnastics Indoor Running Track
Waterobics**SPORTS COURTS**

222 N. 44th 475-5686 Co-Ed

Hrs: M-F 6 a.m. to midnight Sat & Sun 7 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

1 year membership: \$417 (Av. \$34.75 per month)

Membership includes: Outdoor Swimming Pool--opening soon
Racquetball Nautilus Equipment
Sauna Free Weights
Whirlpool Aerobics Classes
Nursery Lounge**SWEEP LEFT HEALTH CLUB**

815 D 474-6444 Co-Ed

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1 year membership \$200 (Av. \$16.66 per month)

Membership includes Whirlpool Free Weights
Sauna Nautilus
Universal Weight Machines**WALL-BANKERS RACQUETBALL & FITNESS CENTER**

330 West P 475-3386 Co-Ed

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1 year membership: \$462 (Av. \$38.50 per month)

Membership includes: Unlimited Racquetball Sauna
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Whirlpool Nautilus
Exercises Classes Free Weights
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continued on next page.....

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1st Plan: 1 year membership: \$171 (Av. \$1525 per month)

Membership includes: Racquetball Courts
Free Weights
Aerobic Exercises
Indoor Track
Swimming Pool

2nd Plan: 1 year membership \$354 (Av. \$29.50 per month)

Membership also includes Sauna Personal Locker
Steam Room
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3rd Plan: 1 year membership: \$444 (Av. \$37.00 per month)

Membership also includes: Nautilus Equipment

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	4 times a week--4 weeks	\$28.00

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Sex Therapist Speaks at Forum

Carol Rogers, sex therapist and chemical dependency consultant in private practice in Lincoln, recently spoke at a forum on April 27, 1984, at Buffy's Buffet. The forum addressed Alcohol, Drugs, and the Gay/Lesbian community. Several counselors and students attended the lecture. The New Voice will cover the lecture in two segments, in the May and June issues.

Ms. Rogers addressed several reasons why gays and lesbians have turned to chemical abuse. Most gays and lesbians, she said, have self-identified themselves from ages 9 to 24. These years are tumultuous and a time when teens and young adults are not only trying to figure out who they are, but a time when alcohol and drug experimentation is quite significant. Social outlets for gays center around the bar scene, which, of course, is selling alcohol. In a research article which Rogers cited, she pointed out that 10% of the adult homosexual population in Los Angeles County is in the crisis or dangerous stages of alcohol consumption. There is also another 21% who drink excessively and are at a high risk for needing possible future treatment.

Several cultural factors influence people to seek such escape mechanisms as drugs and alcohol. One of them is homophobia, which is a negative moral value judgment and prejudice based on myths and stereotypes of the gay community. So many people have irrational fears about homosexuality that they are afraid to associate with someone gay or someone with a different sexual preference. As a result, homophobia leads to a conspiracy of silence about a gay identity. This conspiracy of silence not only involves interactions with one's family and friends, but it also involves jobs, housing and religion.

There are few places such as coffeehouses, where gays can go to socialize without chemicals. So it is logical that gays are forced to go to the traditional meeting places--bars. Bars provide that "safe" meeting place. Chemicals lower inhibitions and also make it easier to be comfortable in uncomfortable situations. It also helps gays to think that they can accept rejection.

continued on next page....

Interested in starting a summer sports group. Tennis, golf, track club? Let The New Voice know and we will promote your activity.

There are few role models for gays and lesbians. The public does not foster a positive image for gays to look forward to. In treatment facilities, gay counselors are asked not to reveal their own sexual identity. Thus, they can't be role models or persons who could say that they can relate to what the patient is going through. Isolation and loneliness could be breached if more people in the "helping professions" could be more open about themselves. Also, there is very little training that straight counselors can receive to help them understand the gay lifestyle. Treatment centers are geared towards the male, white middle-class person and tend to be homophobic. How is a client to feel if he or she faces hostility when they are trying to find honesty and trust in a group which is supposed to help the person remain sober? This problem needs to be corrected in treatment facilities if the objective is to help others. In addition, many centers don't allow partners in family therapy. This is unfortunate, for there are patients who are involved in bad partner relationships, and when these significant individuals are not involved in the process of healing, counselors are missing half of the patient's relationship and trouble.

(conclusion in next issue)

Gail's Hit List

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. "Coming Out of Hiding" | Pamala Stanley |
| 2. "Jump" | Pointer Sisters |
| 3. "Desire" | Paul Parker |
| 4. "Hey, You're Lookin' Hot" | Barry Manilow |
| 5. "I Want a New Drug" | Huey Lewis and the News |
| 6. "Footloose" | Kenny Loggins |
| 7. "White Horse" | Laid Back |
| 8. "Hold Me Now" | Thompson Twins |
| 9. "Miss Me Blind" | Culture Club |
| 10. "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" | Cyndi Lauper |
| 11. "One Night Only" | Sherri Payne |
| 12. "Dancin' in the Sheets" | Shalamar |
| 13. "Let's Hear it for the Boy" | Deniece Williams |
| 14. "Give Me Tonight" | Shannon |
| 15. "Let's Stay Together" | Tina Turner |

Ever hear a song at the bars that you just love to dance to and would just kill to have, but you can't quite figure out the title or who the artist is? Your troubles are over! Starting this month, The New Voice and Gail Thomas will be listing the 15 hottest dance singles for the month. These driving "12 inchers" may be found lurking in the Soul section at Dirt Cheap Records and Tapes at East Park Plaza. If they are out of your favorite tune or you want something they don't normally stock, just let them know and they'll order it for you.

GAY/LESBIAN INFORMATION
AND SUPPORT LINE

GLIS
L I N E

Thank you

For your generous support
of the
Premier GLIS-Line Fund Raiser

We appreciate
very much, your contribution.
Your involvement & support
made it a great evening.

Watch for details about upcoming
TALENT SHOW & BOOK FAIR

Pages from the Past

by Larry Weiss

10 YEARS AGO:

If you were looking for an organization to join or needed a social outlet, The Gayly Nebraskan listed several groups in May, 1974. The Lincoln Gay Action Group (Lin-Gag) and the University Gay Action Group (UN-Gag) sponsored several activities including the Gay Rap Line, rap groups, a coffeehouse, and The Gayly Nebraskan publication. Omaha groups included the MCC, which held religious services and social events such as a coffeehouse. Also, Lesbian Sisters met in Omaha. In 1974, there were no gay bars in Lincoln, and Omaha had three: The Diamond, The Cave, and The Stage Door.

5 YEARS AGO:

Organizations and Bars changed. A new Lincoln bar, The Office Lounge went to the City Council with a proposal to add a dance floor and make other modifications to the bar. Omaha had lost The Cave but added a new bar called The Hollywood, which at that time advertised as a mixed discotheque. The Stage Door expanded and added a large dance floor. The Lincoln Gay News was a monthly paper that celebrated its first year of operation. Other groups included the Gay Crisis and Referral Line, Every Womyn's Coffeehouse, the University Group, rap group, The Gay Christian Fellowship and worship group, and the Bisexual Rap Group. Omaha had GAIN (Gay Awareness in Iowa and Nebraska), which also published Omaha's first major publication, the MCC, and the Meatpackers Club. There was also the UNO student group.

TODAY:

Today, over 16 organizations are active in Lincoln and 9 are active in Omaha. There are 4 bars in Lincoln and 6 bars in Omaha. Religious groups, rap groups, womens groups, publications, referral and information lines, university groups, etc., have changed in direction and leadership, but they have been an important part of the community in the past decade.

Call Toll Free 800-342-AIDS
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MON-FRI 4 til 1

SAT 4 til 1

SUN 6 til 1

Cornish Game Hen With Lemon-Garlic Sauce

by Pat Chadd

Serves 6

- 3 large fresh Rook Cornish game hens (1 1/4 lbs. each) or 6 smaller game hens (3/4 lb. each)
- Coarse (kosher) salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- 6 oz. large fresh garlic, about 1 packed cup of cloves (do not use elephant garlic)
- 3 large lemons, unpeeled, dipped in boiling water for 30 seconds to remove any foreign matter and drained dry
- 1/2 t. sugar
- 1 1/2 cups light cream or half and half
- 3 tbsp. unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1/4 cup of ruby or tawny port wine or dry Madeira wine
- 2 cups unsalted chicken stock, degreased and reduced to 1 cup.

Rub the hens with salt and pepper; refrigerate, loosely covered, until 30 minutes before cooking.

Separate garlic cloves. Blanch garlic in boiling water 2 minutes; drain and peel. Peel 1 1/2 of the lemons with a vegetable peeler and set peel aside. Remove inner white peel and cut the lemons into thin slices. Discard all seeds.

Blanch peel in boiling water 1 minute. Drain.

In a heavy 3-qt. enameled saucepan, combine peeled garlic cloves, lemon peel and slices, sugar, 1 t. salt and 1 quart fresh water. Bring to a boil; reheat and simmer, uncovered 1 to 2 hours, or until liquid in pan has almost entirely evaporated and garlic cloves are golden brown and meltingly tender. Stir from time to time to avoid burning.

Add cream or half and half and reduce by 1/2, stirring.

Strain through a fine sieve, pushing down on solids; discard solids. Sauce base will be thick and will taste slightly acrid. Set aside, uncovered. When cool, refrigerate until ready to use.

One and a quarter hours before serving, preheat oven to 350.F. Cut remaining lemons into quarters. Slip 1 or 2 quarters into the cavity of each hen. Truss birds and rub with butter.

Arrange hens on their sides in a greased roasting pan. Roast 45 minutes to 1 hour (depending upon size) turning and basting hens every 15 minutes to brown evenly. Hens are done when the thighs are pricked and the juices run clear. Remove trussing strings and lemon quarters; arrange hens on a heatproof serving dish. Cover loosely with foil and return to turned-off oven to keep warm.

Discard fat in roasting pan. Deglaze with port or Madeira, stirring to dissolve all the brown particles. Add stock and reduce quickly over high heat by 1/2. Pour into small saucepan. Halve the larger hens, if using; add any new juices from cooking to sauce. Let juices stand a few moments so that the fat will rise to the surface. Skim and discard fat. Stir in reserved garlic cream. Reduce to a creamy sauce, 1 1/3 cups. Adjust seasoning, adding a few drops of lemon juice to sweet and sour. Serve at once.

Here and There

by Larry Weiss

Tidbits of News from Publications Across the Country

The Colorado Gay Rodeo Association announced plans for the 2nd Annual Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo which is planned for June 1, 2, and 3rd at the Coal Creek Park Rodeo Arena in Aurora, Colorado. Many local events are also planned in Denver.

--Alternate News, Kansas City

The New Bar in Madison, Wisconsin's Washington Hotel Complex has started a series of cocktail parties at which 20% of all bar sales are donated to eight gay and lesbian organizations. The cocktail parties include complimentary hors d'oeuvres and entertainment.

--In Step, Milwaukee, WI

The Chicago Area AIDS Task Force reported an increase of AIDS in Chicago. It was felt that the increase would continue and that AIDS could no longer be viewed as a bi-coastal phenomenon.

CURRENT AIDS FIGURES (as of March 12, 1984):

National Cases	3,694
Deaths	1,601

Illinois Cases	69
Illinois Deaths	33

Overall Mortality 43%

--The Gay Chicago News

Many women have donated to a Computer Fund which will enable the Lesbian Connection to be a better communications network for lesbians across the country. The publication has raised nearly \$13,500. The computer will help sort thousands of additions to their mailing list, donations, and provide updated information for a popular feature, Contact Dykes.

--Lesbian Connection,
East Lansing, Michigan

Gay Games II will take place during the summer in 1986 in Kezar Stadium, San Francisco State University and other public sites. Gay Games I brought participants from about 40 nations to San Francisco in 1982.

--Patlar Gazette,
Sacramento, California

A federal judge has ordered the Army to reinstate a Maine lesbian who was ousted in 1981 from the Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) after telling her captain that she was a lesbian. U. S. Magistrate D. Brock Hornby has ruled that the Army violated Diane Matthews' constitutional rights to free speech when it dismissed her from the ROTC.

--The Advocate,
San Mateo, California

Astrology—Gemini the Twins



May 21st-June 22nd

Ruling Planet: Mercury

Element: Air / Mode of Expression: Mutable

Key words for Gemini: "I think"

Life Task: To achieve control and mastery over their own duality.

Mercury grants here a tendency to think and move quickly and a love of communication and learning. Because of the great number of things which interest them, often people with Gemini strong in their charts lack depth of interest or knowledge; the "Jack of all Trades" description fits many Geminis.

Gemini needs the stimulation of new information, multiple interests and many friends to be content. These people react to whatever stimuli is present at the time and can, due to the ability to see a person, place or thing from different perspectives, appear two-faced; although you will find a two-faced Gemini from time to time--usually it is that you are talking now to the "other" twin.

Variety is extremely important. Most Gemini's are far more mental than emotional in nature, reason will reach them far more readily than emotion. You cannot own a Gemini; they are not possessive nor can they be possessed.

Negatives: High-strung, nervous, often chatter, lack of depth and perseverance; dual nature can be disconcerting.

Positives: Quick-witted, adaptable, charming, usually sunny, sociable disposition; many interests often generate new ideas.

MESSAGE

LEGITIMATE \$15.00 HOUR 477-3222
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owner

manager

Jamie Miller

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EVENTS

GLIS Report — Fundraiser a Major Success

"An evening of elegance," is how one of the 108 people who attended the Nebraska Gay/Lesbian Information and Support Line's premiere fundraiser held at Desserts 222 on April 8th.

Andrew Rust, fundraising chairman for GLIS said that 135 tickets were pre-sold and that about eight more were bought at the door. "Overall, it was a good turnout. Over \$1000.00 was raised for the line," he added. A donation of \$150.00 by the Imperial Court of Nebraska was given to GLIS that evening--"which we greatly appreciate," said Maggie Roe, Administrator of GLIS.

It was a class night all around. Almost every gay/lesbian organization was represented. Live music was donated by Nancy Marshall, of a local jazz group. Said Roe, "It the music added a great deal to the evening."

Desserts 222 did a lot to make the night a success. "Desserts provided a nice atmosphere," added Rust, and "this was the first catering that Desserts did at their establishment." He went on to say that Desserts was pleased with the event and overwhelmed with the response.

Upcoming events for the GLIS line will be a talent show in September and an Alternative Lifestyle Book Fair in October. Anyone interested in these may call Andrew Rust at 475-1378 days and 435-8393 in the evenings.

Roe added that the next training series for new peer counselors will begin the evening of Friday, May 18th and the following Saturday, May 19th. Anyone interested in the training series or the upcoming events may call the line (402) 475-4697, Sunday thru Thursday 8 pm to 12 midnight, and from 8 pm to 1 am on Fridays and Saturdays. Or you may write to GLIS at P.O. Box 94882, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509.

Take Back the Night Rally

The Omaha NOW Task Force on Violence Against Women is sponsoring a Take Back the Night rally and march in conjunction with the Nebraska NOW State Conference, Saturday, May 12th.

The rally will begin at 7:30 pm at Peter Kiewit Center, 13th and Farnam, Omaha. For more information call 449-6782 days and 345-5264 evenings, or 346-0906.

Imperial Court News

Applications are at every bar in Lincoln and Omaha for those individuals interested in applying for the titles of Emperor IV and Empress IV of The Imperial Court of Nebraska.

Applications must be submitted in person to the Board of Governors on May 14th at the MCC Church, 420 So. 24th St., Omaha, at 7 p.m. Announcements of candidates will be made at the Candidates Night Show at the Alley in Omaha on May 20, 1984.

Coronation this year will be at the Joslyn Museum on June 23, 1984, in conjunction with Gay Pride Week. This year's theme will be "Unity and More in '84."

Rumors are flying around like mad about who the candidates will be. From what I've heard there's going to be several to choose from. Bring your pride, your spirit, and enthusiasm and join in the excitement June 23rd at the Joslyn Museum. You must be present to cast your vote for your favorite candidates. Posters and further details will be out soon. Check The New Voice in the June issue for complete details.

Warm Regards,

Emperor III
Ken Dillard

Full Circle to Start Alcohol/Drug Group

The Lincoln-Lancaster Drug Projects (Full Circle) is in the process of forming an out-patient group comprised of gay men and lesbian women. The group will focus upon issues of alcohol/drug abuse and sexual identity.

The group will meet on Monday evenings from 6-7:30 p.m. for twelve consecutive weeks. The group will be limited to twelve participants. A fee will be charged on a sliding scale basis. This group is planned to begin the first week in June.

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Randy Todd at 475-8748.

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ORGANIZATIONS

Omaha MCC

MCC Omaha is affiliated with the Fellowship of Metropolitan Communities Churches, which is headquartered in California. FMCC was begun by Rev. Troy Perry thirteen years ago and has grown into an international church, with an outreach to minorities, especially those of the gay/lesbian community.

FMCC is a denomination, and as such, has sought membership in the National Council of Churches, which has "tabled" the request. Each church is congregationally governed, using the guidelines of the Fellowship. MCC Omaha, like all other congregations, is made up of a wide variety of theological backgrounds. The worship services attempt to incorporate as many of these backgrounds as possible with the main emphasis being on providing a Christian experience for all that attend.

In addition to the Christian Ministry of MCC Omaha, the church provides a base for organizations such as a Men's Rap Group, Mid-City Chorus, Aware, and other organizations that need a place to meet. MCC Omaha has existed for ten years now, and in the last year has purchased their own building which continues to undergo changes to make it more of a worship and social center and less of a bar which the building served as previously.

Worship services are held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Bible Study/Prayer Praise and Healing is held each Wednesday at 7 p.m. All who recognize Christ as Lord are welcome to become a part of our fellowship by contacting the church at 420 South 24th Street, or contact Pastor Jan Kross at (402) 345-2563. The church is growing and hopes to continue striving to better service the Christian community, regardless of the individual's minority status.

--Jerry P.

Mid-City Chorus Forms in Omaha

Recently, a number of people from Omaha attended a concert of the Twin-Cities Men's Chorus from Minneapolis. When they returned to Omaha, plans were made to organize a singing group for this area. A group of twelve initially performed at the Chesterfield Bar in March as part of a benefit for the MCC, Omaha. Response was favorable, and with some changes in people, the group sang at the MCC Omaha for Good Friday Services. The next performance will be at the Chesterfield Bar on May 20th in an Encore Performance.

continued on next page.....

The group has decided to call themselves the Mid-City Chorus. Membership is open to anyone with a commitment to performance and a desire to sing. The group meets each Tuesday evening at the MCC, 420 South 24th Street to rehearse with the church organ at 7 p.m. A sub-group hopes to perform special music at the church; however, the main purpose is to provide an opportunity for the gay/lesbian and friends who love to sing, an opportunity to unite their voices. The more voices the better the sound, and better the chances of being able to perform more often. The group would like to be ready to perform during Gay Pride Week, but they need more committed voices. If you are interested, leave a message on the MCC recorder for Clark, or ask Pastor Kross, or just stop by for a rehearsal.

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EDITORIALS

An Open Letter to Senator J.J. Exon

Dear Senator Exon:

Thank you for your letter of April 2 clarifying your position on homosexuality in the military.

I hope the military has explained to you why homosexuality is a problem in our armed forces but not in the armed forces of France, Germany, the Scandinavian countries, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, most of Africa and the Middle East. In fact, Senator, I did a study and learned that the only countries in the world which exclude gay people are the United States, the Communist world, fascist South Africa and a few British Commonwealth nations. Perhaps our allies know something we don't. (By the way, the British have an interesting regulation. It allows homosexual acts on ships at sea but not in port.)

Did the Navy also tell you how it managed to survive until 1944, which is when the first anti-gay regulation was promulgated?

No doubt you also asked them about the reasoning (if it may be called that) used to justify the exclusion of gay people from the military and the reasoning (if it may be called that) used to justify the exclusion of black people from the military in the 1940's. I quote:

. . . an absence of individual cooperation, a lack of pride, no combat spirit, no sense of shame, an evidence of lack of character, disposition to panic, and lack of motivation to fight. Enlisted personnel will not respect them as officers . . . will not accept them in a position of authority . . . will not accept them as equals . . . will refuse to associate with them in the barracks and messhalls . . . might sexually impose on their shipmates . . . more sensual . . . the decent, self-respecting people of this country are getting sick of all this kowtowing to a minority group . . . armed forces will be ineffective if we change this policy . . . will remove our armed forces from the ranks of history's greatest and relegate them to the ranks of listless mediocrity . . . a conscript army of bitter malcontents . . .

Now, Senator, does that sound like something the Pentagon would say about gay people? It isn't. It is what the Pentagon said about black people in 1946 when they were fighting racial integration.

Now, Senator, I am not for a moment suggesting that the gay experience is like the black experience. I'm sorry you resent my inference that because you support the military on this issue you are a bigot. What I mean to imply is that when the Pentagon dredges up the same tired arguments for use against a group of people that they used against another group of people, it smells fishy to me. Today, saying such things about blacks would be considered slanderous canard. I believe the day will come when saying them about gay people will be held in the same light.

continued on next page.....

Your statement that your position is confirmed by your World War II combat experience is a suggestion that you are either naive or think I am. You are asking me to believe that society has not changed in its attitudes toward gay people since World War II. My experience as an openly gay member of the military, from March, 1981 when my sexual orientation was first publicly revealed in an interview in the local paper until January, 1982 when I was finally discharged confirmed in my mind that the military is ready for change. I lived as an openly gay member of my company for ten months. During that time I received a meritorious promotion. At my hearing, four members of my company, including the company commander, testified that I should be permitted to stay. Another 22 submitted written affidavits on my behalf. Two men in my unit bought me a T-shirt that said, "Token Minority Group Member." Senator, we don't have to guess how the enlisted people feel about this regulation, because they told us. They marched into that hearing room and testified that they think prejudice, discrimination and bigotry of this sort smell. The Navy says exclusion of fairies is necessary for the morale of the unit. Well, you couldn't prove it by my unit.

The question is not, Will the Navy accept gay people. Rather, the question is, How soon will the Navy accept gay people. You, Senator, have a choice. You can either join those of us fighting to bring the Navy into the 1980's, or you can go down in history as the spiritual heir of Governor Wallace, standing at the Pentagon door to keep those people out.

Very truly yours,

Mel Dahl

The New Voice
C L A S S I F I E D S

Are you looking for a roommate, have a personal message? Then place a classified ad in THE NEW VOICE. The cost is only \$2.00 for 20 words or less.

Send ad to THE NEW VOICE,
P.O. Box 80819,
Lincoln, Nebraska, 68501.

Different Points of View—Pornography

by Mel Dahl

I think I could find the move to ban pornography somewhat more palatable if it did not so closely resemble the moral puritanism of Jerry Falwell. Indeed, the Falwell people and the women against pornography are on the same side of this issue for basically the same reason: they feel they have the right to legislate morality for the rest of us.

One element necessary to violence is coercion. Hitting somebody on the head with a sledgehammer is not violent if it was a consensual act. Or, to use a more realistic example, those who enjoy S & M practice acts which would bring time in the slammer if they were not consensual. Acts are, for the most part, amoral and become moral or immoral by the context in which they occur, including consent.

When I pick up a piece of violent pornography, I assume that every model appearing is there by his or her own free will. Nobody dragged them, kicking and screaming, in front of the camera. In fact, there is a long line of would-be porn stars waiting for a break. Perhaps those who oppose pornography would do better to picket the models since without them, pornography would not be possible.

The only exception to the above is child pornography, in which case the child was coerced. However, a more effective method of dealing with that is to use the existing laws against assault, kidnapping, and rape.

The argument that pornography creates violence against women is sophistry for three reasons. First, less than 2% of people who read pornography commit rape. This is akin to an imaginary study which would show that 95% of murders are committed by people who drink coffee. This study would not justify a ban on coffee, because only a handful of coffee-drinkers are murderers and there is no cause-and-effect relationship. Studies of this sort should examine characteristics common only to violent people, not characteristics common to violent and non-violent.

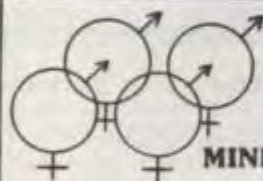
Second, there is no evidence that rape is any more common in places where pornography is widely available than in places where it is not. Sweden, where pornography of almost any variety is there for the asking, has much fewer rapes than Georgia, the censorship capital of the world. There are ways to reduce the number of rapes in our society--great tolerance for consensual sex acts coupled with a policy of hanging rapists, and not necessarily by the neck, would be a start--but banning pornography is not among them.

continued on next page....

Third, I don't hear any of the puritans directing any of their energy at Playgirl, Blueboy, Drummer, or Honcho. If Hustler is degrading to women, surely the above magazines are degrading to men. Fair is fair.

Not only does pornography not cause rape, it doesn't even create an anti-female atmosphere. I think the censors give the morons who degrade women through porn far too much credit in terms of influencing society. Most men will either respect or degrade women for reasons that have nothing to do with the availability of pornography. I find it insulting that some people think I will think less of women because I happen to see a naughty book.

I also detect a certain hypocrisy in a voice that calls for free abortions because "I have the right to my body" but who will not grant porn models the same right to their own bodies. As a Christian, I find abortion morally objectionable, yet I will not support a human life amendment because I simply do not believe in drafting my concept of morality into civil law. I would appreciate it if the anti-porno crowd would not draft their version of morality into civil law either.



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Health & Nutrition

Aids Awareness Campaign Underway

At present, Lincoln is relatively free of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). This situation could change with the introduction of AIDS and other STDs which can spread rapidly from a single contact. With increased tourist travel engendered by the Democratic Convention in San Francisco, the Republican Convention in Houston, the Olympics in Los Angeles and the World's Fair in New Orleans, (all centers of incidence of AIDS) the danger of introduction of AIDS and the increase of other STDs increases sharply during the summer of 1984.

During the summer months promiscuous sexual activity tends to move into more public areas such as parks, public restrooms and other known areas of casual sexual contact.

For these reasons, Phoenix Rising, Inc. is engaging in a three-fold campaign of public awareness outlined as follows:

1. To increase the public awareness of danger in promiscuous sexual activity and the manner of transmission of AIDS and STDs.
2. To provide information through published materials and programs to concerned groups and organizations about AIDS and STDs, as well as to the general public through stickers and leaflets placed in areas where sexual activities are known to occur.
3. To assist persons desirous of finding assistance or answers to specific questions to find services and evaluation, or if needed, medical assistance.

Any assistance or support from groups, individuals, or businesses will be greatly appreciated. For additional information, contact Phoenix Rising, Inc., 477-1691 or 474-2213, or write to P.O. Box 30694, Lincoln, NE 68503



Focus on Nutrition

by Larry Weiss

Americans have little regard for such basic foods as rice and potatoes. Along with such foods as bread and pasta, people commonly consider these foods long on calories and short on nutrition. Contrary to what most people think, carbohydrates are not "fattening." Ounce for ounce, they have the same number of calories as pure protein and less than half the calories of fat. And carbohydrate foods can be a rich source of vital nutrients. Some unrefined kinds found in whole grains, beans, fruits, and vegetables--are the only major dietary constituent not linked to any adverse health consequences. Also an important non-nutrient, dietary fiber contains bulk that helps to satisfy the appetite and keep the digestive system running smoothly.

Don't be afraid to put more grains, beans, fruits, and vegetables in your diet. It is healthier to decrease your meat intake and add carbohydrates. Not only will you be eating better, you will actually reduce calories.

Aids Update

by Rodney

Researchers in France and the United States announced in April that they had discovered the probable cause of AIDS, which has caused havoc in the gay community and they predicted that they might be within two years of developing a cure.

Quotes from the Lincoln Journal and the Daily Nebraskan confirm the good news. In an April 24th article in the Journal, it was reported that "Scientists at the National Institutes of Health, led by Dr. Robert Gallo of the National Cancer Institute, were credited with isolating the virus they call HTLV-3 and devising a process to routinely detect and grow it."

The Daily Nebraskan reports that "Margaret Heckler, Secretary of Health and Human Services, told a news conference, 'Today's discovery represents the triumph of science over a dreaded disease.'"

HTLV stands for Human T-Cell Leukemia Virus. HTLV attacks human T-cells, which are an important element of the immune system.

POETRY

Fantasy

by Randall Barron

Visual thoughts
transcend motion
Fleeing thoughts flow
 into Utopia
Ebbing tides of impulses
 elicit response
Lacteal fluid spurts hills
Curvatures of skin
 embrace a rod
Motion and lubrication
 form a projectile
Aqueous lips melt together
Unconnected thoughts
 produce a pattern
I awake from a dream.

we know your house

inside and outside

*Let us help make
your house or
apartment feel
like a home with
our complete
design services.*

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Fighting the Lobsters Alone

by Terry Hopper

Chivalrous, we were
To fight those creatures.
Scratching and pinching
With red, ugly claws.
They opened our skin,
Creating deep cuts
Which allowed us to bleed.
Yet we healed easily
Because of our victories.
And then, it was then
Our hunger was satisfied.

Two and one half years
It has been thought of.
Those red beasts we fought.
Those meals we shared.
But here I am, again
With just another,
Complaining he's hungry
But refusing the attack.
And I'm left to scream.
There are these lobsters
Which need to be fought.



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Distribution Coordinator

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in my life J."

"If I had a million dollars
I'd give it all to you.
But all I've got is this flower,
So please don't make me blue.
And take it- it's free.
And hold me right now,
'Cause now can turn to hours
If love is there with flowers."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MY WOP.
LOVE,
MOMMIE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO STEVIE.
YOUR NOT GETTING OLDER,
YOUR GETTING BETTER!

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DON, PAUL G.(PAULETTE), KEN B., PAT C.,
KELLY E.(DORKY), BIFF, SKIP, PETIE, BROOK,
EILEEN, HUGO, RICK M.(MAVIS), ED F.,
BUZZ, and LANNY I.

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ACTIVES- JAMIE, ROD, ANDREW & MUFF
OUT OF HOUSE ACTIVES- BILLY & SONNY

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LESBIAN/GAY RESOURCES IN LINCOLN

GAY/LESBIAN INFORMATION AND SUPPORT LINE, (402) 475-4697

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE FINE ARTS, Box 81645, Lincoln, NE 68501

A non-profit foundation committed to making a positive contribution on behalf of gay men and lesbians to Lincoln's cultural life. Sponsors arts events.

COMMUNITY OF GRACE, Box 81645, Lincoln, NE 68501; 476-9913

An interdenominational worshipping community of Lesbians, gays and those associated with us. Meets weekly on Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm.

GAY/LESBIAN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Groups meet weekly. Call 466-5214 for details.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP, 472-2597.

Informal discussion group for lesbians; all women welcome. Meets weekly. For more information, contact the Women's Resource Center, Room 117 Nebraska Union, Lincoln NE 68588. 472-2597

LINCOLN COALITION FOR GAY & LESBIAN CIVIL RIGHTS, Box 94882, Lincoln, NE 68509

An advocacy group which lobbies for lesbian/gay civil rights, provides education presentations, publishes a newsletter and sponsors cultural and political programs.

LINCOLN LEGION OF LESBIANS, Box 30137, Lincoln, NE 68503

A lesbian-feminist collective founded in 1978. Provides a newsletter, confidential referral and support groups for lesbians, and sponsors cultural and social programs.

MINISTRY IN HUMAN SEXUALITY, INC., Box 80122, Lincoln, NE 68501; 476-9913

A non-profit agency which provides counseling, education and supportive action for those seeking growth and understanding in the areas of sexuality and relationships. Contact J. Benjamin Row, Executive Director.

THE NEW VOICE, Box 80819, Lincoln, NE 68501

Monthly magazine with emphasis on creative literature and promotion of local organizations and activities. Meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Commonplace UMHE, 333 No. 14th St.

OPEN DOOR MINISTRY, 535 F St., Lincoln, NE 68508; 476-0287 or 435-3161

A project of Holy Archangels Monastery to minister specifically to Lincoln's gay and lesbian communities. Weekly Mass on Sundays at 7:00 pm and prayer service on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.

PARENTS/FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS—CORNHUSKER, Box 4374, Lincoln, NE 68504

A support group for parents, friends and relatives of lesbians and gay men. Meets in the evenings on the fourth Tuesday of each month; 466-1151.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR GAY AND LESBIAN STUDENTS AT NEBR. WESLEYAN UNIV.

Contact Chaplain Jim Stillman, NWU, 50th & St. Paul, Lincoln, NE 68504. 466-2371

UNL GAY/LESBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Meets every Thursday at 8:00 pm, 228 Andrews Hall, UNL. Contact Jeff Woods, Co-chair. 435-6300.

OMAHA BARS

THE ALLEY	Old Market Area
CHESTERFIELDS (W)	1951 St. Marys
THE DIAMOND BAR	712 S. 16th
THE RUN	1715 Leavenworth St.
THE STAGE DOOR	1512 Howard St.

LINCOLN BARS

ALTERNATIVE BAR 104 N. 20th

- May 10 Mens Nite 9pm to 11pm
16 Angel & Robbin's Show
17 Wimmins Nite 9pm to 11pm
26 New Years Party
20 Beer Bust & Barbecue 6pm to 8pm
\$.6.00

- Pool Tournament every Wednesday 8pm
- Sunday Beer Bust 6pm to 8pm
- Blue Monday 9pm to 11pm

CHERCHEZ la FEMME 200 S. 18thlower level

- May 13 Cycle-Rama 16 Shuffleboard Tournament 7pm
Bring Motorcycle Key 19 Softball Barbecue Patio Party
15 Triple Play softball team 22 Triple Play Softball team
9:20pm Lewis Field #1 6:30pm Lewis Field #1
Specials for players in
uniform

- Mondays -- Coupon night 8-11 pm
- Wednesdays -- Flip night 8-11 pm
- Thursdays -- Flush night 8-11 pm

THE OFFICE LOUNGE 1705 "O" St.

- May 10 Lafeyettes Show
16 Preppie Night
17 Jamie's Show 9pm
31 Robin Presents-
The Return of the Office Runaways
9pm

- 2-fers Mon.-Fri. 5pm to 7pm
- Monday Beer Bust 8pm to 10pm
- Tuesdays- Specials on well drinks
8pm to 11pm

THE SANCTUARY 200 S. 18th

- May 13 Mommie Dearest- Movie 7:30pm • Attitude Adjustment-
19 Patio Party Mon.-Sat. 2-fers 5pm to 7pm
20 War Games- Movie 7:30pm • Wednesdays- Dynasty Night
27 Star 80- Movie 7:30pm • Friday Nights- Specials on
28 Wet T-Shirt Contest 6pm well drinks 7pm th 9pm
Anyone can enter- all welcome

EVENTS—May 1984

- May 11 Gay/Lesbian AA 8pm First Plymouth Church
20th and D
- 12 Take Back The Night Rally- Omaha
Nebraska NOW State Conference
(See Article)
- 15 Nebraska Primary- VOTE!
- 15 The New Voice Magazine meeting
Commonplace UMHE 333 No. 14th 7:30 pm
- 18 GLIS Line Training Call 475-4697
- 18 Gay/Lesbian AA
- 19 GLIS Line Training
- 25 Gay/ Lesbian AA
- 29 Parents/ Friends of Lesbians and Gays
8pm Call 466-1151
- 20 M.C.C. Benefit Show- Omaha
at Chesterfields
Encore on Demand
Mid-City Chorus

Many
Thanks—
to the
Community,
Performers, &
Jamie/Muffy for
making our 1st Benefit
Show a Success.
The April 12 Show
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The
New Voice