

VOL III

NO. IV

*The  
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A



## Our Turn

### The Cover

This illustration depicts the notion of homophobic groups and individuals who want to identify gays by number. The hysteria of AIDS has allowed such individuals to crawl out of the woodwork in growing numbers. On this occasion of gay pride, we should be aware of growing problems of prejudice and discrimination. The artist, Chuck Shomaker, has contributed two previous covers for The New Voice. This includes the Gay Pride cover of 1984. Chuck can be contacted by calling 435-8393.

### Support Gay Pride Week

Both Omaha and Lincoln are sponsoring several activities during Gay Pride Week and need your support and attendance to make this year the best ever. In previous years, attendance was poorer than expected and this trend needs to stop. I was Chairman of Gay Pride week in Lincoln two years ago and was very disappointed in the amount of support lent by members of the community. How can we unify and stand together if we

don't take pride in ourselves and our sexuality? I as everyone to attend as many events as possible, and show our strength in numbers.

--Larry Wiseblood, Editor

### Students at U.C. Suffer Pain & Anguish

Reports have it that Union College officials have forced six more students to leave because of their sexual orientation. Apparently, inquiries by the Coalition for Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights, the Civil Liberties Union, and concerned others have not yet made an impression.

So where is the voice of the Gay/Lesbian community? Where is the voice of those who "support" us? How much longer will we tolerate this flagrant, immoral abuse of human/civil rights? How many more young men and womyn have to be persecuted and scarred by Union College administrators before we take action? Where is your sense of outrage? Do you even care?

As Gay/Lesbian Pride Week draws near, maybe we need to reevaluate our priorities and values and think about what it is that we, as a community, are proud of. I hope you will also think about the students who have suffered tremendous pain and anguish at the hands of Union College officials and the many Gay/Lesbian students who are still there -- closeted and fearful.

### DO YOU CARE?

-- afs

### The New Voice Announces Vacancies

The New Voice has recently been faced with a staff turnover that has created vacancies on the staff. Burn-out, moves, change of priorities, and job changes have affected the turnover. The New Voice needs your help and feedback so we can serve the gay community better. It is a good feeling to volunteer time and effort to benefit others. Pride and accomplishment is also achieved in seeing your name in print.

If you are interested in filling the following positions, call 475-7740 or write to P.O. Box 80819, Lincoln, 68501:

Associate Editor - Omaha  
Photographer  
Distribution - Lincoln  
Classified Ads  
Advertising - Lincoln  
Advertising - Omaha

The New Voice also needs artists, writers, and other interested people who would like to help with the magazine.

Contact the following staff of The New Voice for advertising, classifieds, subscriptions, and articles:

Jerry Peck, Omaha  
345-2181

Larry Wiseblood, Lincoln  
475-7740

## June 1986

### THE NEW VOICE STAFF

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*The New Voice* is published and distributed each month by a dedicated volunteer staff. The magazine is completely financed by donations and advertising.

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Subscriptions: 1 year—\$12.00

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**The New Voice of Nebraska**

P.O. Box 80819

P.O. Box 3512

Lincoln, NE 68501

Omaha, NE 68103

## Gay Pride Week— Nebraska Style

Gay Pride Week 1986 is a two-week event this year, bigger and better than ever before. Committees in Omaha and Lincoln have been working hard over the past few months to plan for many activities of interest to both gays and lesbians across the state.

Pride Activities begin on Saturday, June 14, when the River City Mixed Chorus sponsors an Art Show at the MCC from noon to 5 pm. The River City Mixed Chorus is also sponsoring a world premier play "Straight to the Point" which will be performed at the UNO Theatre beginning at 8 pm. Admission is \$9.00.

On Sunday, June 15, MCC will conduct a worship service at the MCC church beginning at 10:30 am. The River City Mixed Chorus will present a Pride Concert starting at 3 pm at the UNO Recital Hall.

A volleyball tournament is being sponsored by The Run starting at 6 pm on Monday, June 16. The tournament will continue on Tuesday and Wednesday. Organizations, bars, and groups are welcome to participate.

On Wednesday, June 18 the Metropolitan Club will hold its monthly meeting at The Lodge in Peony Park starting at 6 pm. Admission is \$4.00. Also on tap for Wednesday is a night of videos with gay themes sponsored by DIGNITY/Omaha. Films will be

shown at the Ms. Flowers Lounge at The Max, beginning at 7 pm.

The Nebraska AIDS Project is sponsoring an Awards Dinner on Thursday, June 19 at the Paxton Ballroom. Admission is \$20.00. Cocktails will start at 6 pm and dinner begins at 7 pm.

On Friday the Imperial Court Royalty is sponsoring a cocktail party for the gay community beginning at 6 pm at Mandina's Mansion. Admission is \$5.00. The Imperial Court is also sponsoring a welcome to out-of-towners show at The Chesterfield Bar beginning at 9 pm. The cost is \$2.00.

Another highlight of Omaha Pride Week takes place on Saturday, June 21, with the Imperial Court of Nebraska's Coronation. A new Emperor, Empress, and Athena will be crowned. Festivities begin at 6:30 pm at The Warehouse at Carter Lake, Iowa. Admission is \$7.50 in advance and \$10 at the door.

Another major event takes place on Sunday with the second annual Pride Parade, sponsored by representatives of Omaha bars and organizations. The parade starts at 9:30 pm. Sunday also features an MCC worship service at 10:30 am and "A Quiet Moment," sponsored by MCC, DIGNITY/Omaha, and Community of Grace beginning at 9 pm.

Sunday also features a Stepping Down Show at The Max. The show is sponsored by the Imperial Court and begins at 10 pm. A final

event is a Wet Jockey Short Contest held at The Run.

June 22 kicks off Gay Pride Week in Lincoln. A Book Fair will be held from 4 to 8 pm at Kelly's and The Boardwalk. On Friday, June 27, a Video Night will be held at The Club and Kelly's and will feature a new release called "The AIDS Show," produced by Rob Epstein. (He also produced "The Life and Times of Harvey Milk.") The films begin at 8 pm.

On Saturday, a country-style picnic will be held from 2 pm - 7 pm. (Obtain more information at Lincoln's bars.)

A Book Fair and Organizational Fair will end Gay Pride festivities in Lincoln on Sunday, June 29. The Fairs will be held from 4 pm to 8 pm at Kelly's and The Boardwalk. All proceeds from the Book Fair will go to the 1987 Pride Week Celebration. Several gay and lesbian titles will be featured at The Book Fair.

See Calendar of Events for more detailed information.

### A Correction

The New Voice regrets mistakes made in a display ad for The Stage Door lounge in the May issue. The correct spelling of the manager's name is Tom Deckard. Also, the hours for Beer Bust on Thursday and Sunday is 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

## Gay Pride



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## Coffeehouse Reunion Underway

Gays and lesbians from every region of the country are embarking on a reunion of great significance in their lives - The Coffeehouse Reunion slated for June 20-22 in Lincoln.

What makes this event special? Coffeehouse was the central social arena and gathering place for gays and lesbians in the late 60's and 70's. Many people came out during this period and started accepting their sexual lifestyles. Many friendships and relationships were formed during this period. But people go their separate ways, and many people moved out of Lincoln and Nebraska. It will be a very exciting experience to see friends again. Everyone is welcome to attend Coffeehouse activities so come on out and enjoy the fun and memories.

## Coffeehouse Reunion - Lincoln

Friday, June 20 Initial Meeting and Get Together, 9 pm, The Boardwalk, 20th & O Str.

Tentative:

Saturday, June 21 Beach Party at Linoma Beach

Sunday, June 22 Coffeehouse Reunion, 6 pm - 11 pm, The Boardwalk, 20th & O Str.

## When the Parade Passes By

The 2nd Annual Pride Parade promises to be a big event. Join the parade or spectators on Sunday, June 22, beginning at 9:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to start assembling for the parade beginning at 8:30 p.m. The following is the parade route:

18th & Jackson, east to 16th  
south to Leavenworth  
west to 18th  
north to Jackson

## Midwest Gay Arts Festival Plans Finalized

The River City Mixed Chorus, in cooperation with the Bars and Organizations Coordinating Committee of Omaha, announce final details for the First Annual Midwest Gay Arts Festival, the kick-off event for Omaha's 1986 Gay Pride Week celebration.

All Arts Festival events have been re-scheduled for the weekend of June 14-15, 1986. This change allows the greatest opportunities for a number of groups to schedule events throughout the week, into the following weekend, without conflicts.

The weekend begins with an Art Show and Sale, Saturday, June 14, from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 420 South 42nd Street. Artists interested in having their works exhibited may contact the Art Show Chairperson, c/o the River City Mixed Chorus (address below).

The events continue with a world premiere play, "Straight to the Point," written by Carlos Redman and directed by Gary Eilts, formerly of Omaha and currently doing theatre in Los Angeles. The play will be performed Saturday, June 14, at 8:00 p.m. in the University of Nebraska at Omaha Theatre, U.N.O. Arts & Sciences Hall, 63rd and Dodge, Omaha. Auditions for the play were held Sunday, June 1.

The Arts Festival concludes with the River City Mixed Chorus Pride Concert, Sunday, June 15, at 3:00 p.m., in the U.N.O. Recital Hall, Strauss Performing Arts Center, 64th and Dodge, Omaha.

A weekend package donation of \$10 in advance admits each person to all three events. Individual donation for the Saturday evening play is \$8 in advance or \$9.50 at the door; for the Sunday afternoon Chorus concert, \$4 in advance, \$5 at the door.

For more information, contact the River City Mixed Chorus, P.O. Box 315, Omaha, NE 68101-0315.

## Health Concerns Issue Available

The New Voice has additional copies of the April Health Concerns issue available upon request. Donations are appreciated but not required. Write to P.O. Box 80819, Lincoln 68501 for your copy of this issue. The information in this issue is very valuable. Get your copy now before it is too late.

## Dignity Sponsors Film festival

DIGNITY/Omaha will participate in Omaha's Gay Pride '86 Celebration by sponsoring a film festival to be held at the Upstairs Bar of The Max on Wednesday evening June 18th at 7 pm. The festival will present films with gay themes. Titles are uncertain now but include the possibilities of "Consenting Adults" which deals with the emotional aspects of coming out to one's parents, "The Life and Times of Harvey Milk" dealing with the life, political career, and assassination of supervisor Harvey Milk, the first openly gay elected official in San Francisco, "An Early Frost" a made-for-TV movie about a gay professional who develops AIDS, or "Mass Appeal" a film revolving around the Catholic Church, its clergy, and homosexuality. A cash bar will be available and snacks will be provided.



**Safe Sex is for Your Life**

# Pride Week-Omaha

- Saturday June 14** **Art Show and Sale** Sponsored by R.C.M.C. Noon to 5 pm, M.C.C. Omaha, 420 So. 24th (No Charge)
- World Premier Play "Straight to the Point"** Sponsored by R.C.M.C. 8 pm, UNO Theatre, UNO Arts & Sci Hall, 63rd & Dodge (\$9.00)
- Sunday June 15** **Worship Service** 10:30 am, M.C.C. Omaha, 420 So. 24th
- River city Mixed Chorus Pride Concert,** Sponsored by R.C.M.C. 3 pm, UNO Recital Hall, Strauss Perf.Arts Ct. 64th & Dodge (\$5.00)
- Monday Tuesday Wednesday** **Volleyball Tournament,** Sponsored by The Run 6 pm 'til . . . , The Run, 18th & Leavenworth (No Charge)  
Teams from any and all organizations and bars are welcome
- Wednesday June 18th** **Metro Club's Monthly Meeting,** Sponsored by Metro Club. 6 pm 'til . . . , The Lodge, Peony Park (\$4.00)
- Video of Gay Films,** Sponsored by Dignity of Omaha, 7 pm 'til . . . , Ms. Flower's Lounge, The Max, 14th & Jackson
- Thursday June 19th** **Nebraska AIDS Project Awards Dinner,** Sponsored by Neb AIDS Project. 6 pm cocktails, 7 pm dinner, Payton Ballroom (\$20.00)
- Friday June 20** **Cocktail Party for th Gay Community,** Sponsored by ICON Royalty 6 pm 'til . . . , Mandina's Mansion, 401 So. 39th St. (\$5.00)
- "Welcome Out-of-Towners" Show,** Sponsored by ICON, 9 pm, The Chesterfield Bar, 19th & St. Mary's (\$2.00)
- Saturday June 21st** **Imperial Court of Nebraska's Coronation,** Sponsored by ICON, 6:30 pm to 9 pm. Social Hour and casting of votes. 9 pm show and crowning of winners
- Sunday June 22nd** **Worship Service,** 10:30 am, M.C.C. Omaha, 420 So. 24th
- A Quiet Moment,** Sponsored by MCC Omaha, Dignity, Comm of Grace, 9 pm, 18th & Jackson
- Pride Parade,** Sponsored by Representatives of the Omaha Bars and Organizations, 9:30 pm
- "Stepping Down" Show,** Sponsored by ICON, 10 pm, The Max, 14th & Jackson (\$2.00)
- Wet Jockey Short Contest,** Sponsored by The Run, 18th & Leavenworth
- Thursday June 26th** **Hosting the "Cycle for AIDS" Caravan,** Sponsored by ICON and The Patients with Aids Fund. A group of people are expected to be "wheeling" into Omaha on their way to the West Coast from the East Coast. More information later.

# GAY PRIDE NEBRASKA



## Coffeehouse Reunion- Lincoln

- |          |            |                                |
|----------|------------|--------------------------------|
| Friday   | June 20    | Initial Meeting & Get Together |
|          | 9 pm       | The Broadwalk, 20th & O        |
|          |            | Tentative                      |
| Saturday | June 21    | Beach Party at Linoma Beach    |
| Sunday   | June 22    | Coffeehouse Reunion            |
|          | 6 pm-11 pm | The Broadwalk, 20th & O        |

## Pride Week Celebration- Lincoln

- |          |              |   |
|----------|--------------|---|
| Sunday   | June 22      | BOOK FAIR   |
|          | 4 pm to 8 pm | Kelly's, 200 So. 18th and<br>The Broadwalk, 20th and O            |
| Friday   | June 27th    | VIDEO NIGHT featuring "The AIDS Show,"<br>directed by Rob Epstein |
|          | 8 pm         | Kelly's, 200 So. 18th and<br>The Club, 20th & O                   |
| Saturday | June 28      | PICNIC in the country   |
|          | 2 pm to 7 pm | (Check Bars for Details)  |
| Sunday   | June 29      | BOOK FAIR & ORGANIZATIONAL FAIR                                   |
|          | 4 pm to 8 pm | Kelly's, 200 So. 18th and<br>The Broadwalk, 20th & O              |

The Book Fair will include several gay and lesbian titles and profits will go towards the 87 Pride Week Celebration in Lincoln.



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## Bicyclists to Raise Money for AIDS

Cycle-for-Life '86, a cross-country bicycle rally that will raise money for the national toll-free AIDS 800 crisis line and local AIDS organizations, is scheduled to depart New York on May 26, reaching San Francisco August 3. Educational material about AIDS and related issues will be distributed along the route. The cyclists are expected to pass through Omaha on Thursday, June 26. Support this important fund-raising event!

## Iowa City Pride Week Activities

Greetings!

On behalf of the Gay & Lesbian Pride Week Committee of Iowa City, I would like to welcome you to participate in the 2nd Annual Gay & Lesbian Pride Week '86! Even though last year's parade and rally was our first attempt, it was well attended by over 250 people. This year we have planned a full week of activities.

Our week will be a full and exciting week of events, beginning on Saturday, June 22, 1986, with "An Evening With Quentin Crisp," followed by activities, programs and cultural events that demonstrate intellect and talents of gays and lesbians in today's society.

The week will end on Saturday evening, June 28, 1986, with a candlelight vigil for victims of AIDS.

For more information, contact Joel Gray, UI Student Senate, (319)353-5461 or (319)354-0702.

Friend,  
Joel Gray

### Sunday, June 22

**An Evening With Quentin Crisp**  
Quentin Crisp is the author of "The Naked Civil Servant," "How to Become a Virgin," and "Manners from Heaven." His one-man show has been presented throughout the United States, and a television special

based on his life aired on PBS. Free Admission.

**Monday, June 23**  
film "By Design"  
Admission \$2.50

**Tuesday, June 24**  
Benefit Chili Supper and Workshop Series

Chili Supper to benefit gays and lesbians who are victims of abuse. \$2.50 donation.

The workshop titles are: Legal Issues for Gays and Lesbians; Social and Emotional Consequences of AIDS; Domestic Violence; Stress Management; Gays and Religion; Bridging the Differences Between Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals.

**Wednesday, June 25**  
Culture Show

The Culture Show will be an evening of poetry and fiction reading, art on display, film, video and music by and for gay men and lesbians.

**Thursday, June 26**  
Jonathan Ned Katz

Jonathan Ned Katz is the author of "Gay American History." His talk is titled "The Invention of Heterosexuality: 1892-1982."

**Friday, June 27**  
Pat Bond

Pat Bond will give her performance as Eleanor Roosevelt's lover, "Hickcock." \$3 admission.

**Dance**  
Following Pat Bond. \$2 at the door.

**Saturday, June 28**

**Pride Rally and Parade**  
The Rally is held and the parade begins from the Pentacrest (in front of Old Capitol). Begins at noon.

**Picnic**  
Begins immediately following the parade at Happy Hollow Park.

**Candlelight Vigil**  
A Candlelight Vigil for victims of AIDS.

The final schedule of events, including exact times and locations, will be available June 5. All events are in the downtown Iowa City/University of Iowa campus area. Housing may be provided in Iowa City. For more information

call the Gay People's Union, 319-353-7162, or call Joel Gray at 319-353-5461. Sponsored by the U of I Gay People's Union and the U of I Lesbian Alliance.

## Sheldon's Summer Cinema Series Includes Films by Women

Sheldon's Summer Cinema series, opening on Thursday, June 5, offers programming on a wide variety of topics, styles, genres and techniques all with a common thread: they are recent American independent features. Produced outside of the Hollywood industry, American independent film is one of the most vital aspects of this country's film production and has been one of the prime concerns of the Sheldon's film exhibition program.

A major feature of the summer series is that the majority of the films are directed by women. That is unique and represents a new trend in film-making. Although women have always played a prominent role in the art of film, the director's job has traditionally been the bailiwick of men. There have always been women directors, but their numbers are steadily increasing, and they are taking the art form in new directions which reflect their own concerns.

Two women directors will visit Sheldon this summer to discuss their work with the audiences. Pamela Roberts, co-director of

...Continued on page 8





"Contrary Warrior: A Film of the Crow Tribe," is appearing with her film on Sunday, July 20. Faith Hubley, who with her late husband John Hubley has produced many award-winning films, is presenting her new feature-length animation, "The Cosmic Eye," on Saturday, June 21 and Sunday, June 22.

**Early Summer Schedule**

*Thursday, June 19 through Sunday, June 22.* Film/Video Showcase: Faith Hubley, "The Cosmic Eye" by Faith Hubley. Hubley's

master work of animation is an imaginative feast for the eyes. "Cosmic Eye" is lively, inventive, playful and thought-provoking. Ms. Hubley will be present to discuss her work with the audiences.

*Thursday, June 26 through Sunday, June 29.* "Desert Hearts" by Donna Deitch. Starring Helen Shaver and Patricia Charbonneau. "Desert Hearts" is a tender and passionate portrait of two very different women as they develop a mutual understanding and friendship, culmi-

nating in a liberating experience together. Also showing - "Cowgirls" by Nancy Kelly. This delightful 27-minute film focuses on three different modern-day cowgirls, ranging in ages from 8 to 68. These strong women show what it takes to be home on the range.

*Thursday, July 3 through Sunday, July 6.* "Hotel New York" by Jackie Raynal. Starring Jackie Raynal and Sid Geffen. "A funny, low-budget 16mm featurette about a French femme filmmaker and her misadventures in Manhattan." -- Variety. Also showing - "Jazz Dance" by Doris Chase, "Quasi at the Quackadero" by Sally Cruikshank, "Seed Reel" by Mary Beams, and "Meshes of the Afternoon" by Maya Deren.



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**ACLU of Colorado Sponsor Conference**

The American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado will sponsor a Conference on Lesbian and Gay Issues on Saturday, June 21, 1986 at Auraria College Campus in Denver.

The conference will feature nationally and locally recognized advocates for lesbians and gay men, and will offer over 20 workshops addressing issues of critical legal and civil significance to Colorado's homosexual citizens during Gay Pride Month.

Keynote speaker Susan McGrievy, Staff Attorney in charge of Lesbian and Gay Rights for the Southern California ACLU, will launch the day-long event with observations on "Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights: What Does the Future Hold?"

Workshops will examine issues dealing with:

- Artificial Insemination
- Alternative Families
- Gays in the Military
- Legal Issues of AIDS
- Gay Youth
- Rights of Lesbian and Gay Parents
- Housing Rights
- AIDS Antibody Testing
- Gay Lobbies

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Brown Bag "mini" workshops over the lunch hour will also be provided.

Roberta Achtenberg, Directing Attorney of the Lesbian Rights Project, will present "Creating and Strengthening Our Families" in a closing address.

Tickets are \$10.00 in advance or \$15.00 at the door the day of the conference, and individuals of any sexual orientation are welcome. Co-sponsors of the event are UCD Center for Women's Resources, and the Metro State College Lesbian and Gay Alliance, Off Campus Programs and Women's Institute.

For further information and registration forms contact ACLU of Colorado at (303) 861-2258, Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm.

## Amethyst—Newly Formed Lincoln Band

*AMETHYST* is a newly formed band in the Lincoln area. Their sound varies from Jazz, Blues, Pop, Reggae, and Old Motown, to a taste of country.

The group's first appearance was at Nebraska Wesleyan Women's Week, and more recently, they were featured at the Women's Cultural Salon at the YWCA. Amethyst also performed on June 1st at the Boardwalk.

The band members are: Kathy Tejcka - keyboards and vocals; Deb Anderson - percussion; Jaci Augustin - soprano, alto, and tenor sax; Kara Kugler - drums and vocals; Deb Cirksena - bass and vocals; Maria Carpenter - guitar and vocals.

Take Care of Yourself  
Nobody Else Will  
Practice Safe Sex



## Erotic Safe Sex Workshop Informative & Fun

Dr. Clark Taylor, sexologist and anthropologist from San Francisco, captivated audiences in Lincoln and Omaha on April 26 and 27 at the UNE Student Union and at The Max. Dr. Taylor's presentation focused on eroticizing safe sex and included a lecture, multi-video showing, and demonstration of

products used to help make sex fun. The seminar was sponsored by the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights and by the Imperial Court.

Dr. Taylor provided evidence that safe sex could be innovative, erotic, and very pleasurable. He suggested that each individual make his own choices and decisions regarding safe sex. The main object of safe sex is not to exchange bodily fluid, especially semen. Many gay men have had trouble changing their sexual lifestyles because they feel it is important to swallow semen. It is also a new experience for gay men to use latex and condoms. But many new methods of sexual exploration have occurred because of safe sex. Couples are discovering foreplay, touch, and massage and are finding sex to be even more enjoyable. "Given enough variety of things to do, we can create our own safe sex lifestyle," related Dr. Clark.

Just like an onion there are layers of risk reduction and each additional layer offers more protection against the possibility of contacting AIDS. For example, using condoms during oral and anal sex

...Continued on page 10



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is one layer of protection. Taking a bath before sex can add another layer. Using a latex glove during anal play is an additional layer.

Dr. Clark suggested better communication between sex partners. Expressing feelings is very important, especially when you first start using condoms and make other changes in your sexual practices. Dr. Clark advises each gay male to develop a safe sex plan, one that involves each person writing down specifically what safe sex practices they are willing to do, might do, and won't do. He also stressed the importance

of practicing safe sex techniques and suggested that each person set aside an hour a day to play with safe sex.

A poor method of safe sex is to avoid people who may look sick or pale. Dr. Taylor pointed out that healthy looking people can have the virus or be carriers.

Safe sex can be a long, stimulating experience. Spend an afternoon massaging a foot or give someone a bath.

Dr. Taylor ended his presentation by showing and demonstrating items used in safe sex. For example, feathers, fur gloves, and pom-poms can add to sexual enjoyment. He explained the differences in condoms and passed out samples of rubbers as well as water-soluble lubricant.

His talk was very well received by small audiences in the two cities. It is clear that more people need to learn and practice safe sex techniques.

-- Larry Wiseblood

## Lincoln Show Notes —New Faces

As a debuting writer for The New Voice of Nebraska I am delighted to report how content and privileged I was to have attended the "New Faces" show on May 15, presented by Ms. Barbra Love. Barbra (Andrew) was joined by an array of special guests featuring Vanity, who was among eight guests who helped Ms. Love celebrate her Festive Birthday night.

As entertainment goers arrived in Kelly's, I knew smoke and spirits would soon dim the glaring view of the New and not-so-New Female Impersonators. Hmmm. . . let me take that back. "Billy," the only male-male performer who projected "Send Me an Angel" (real life), appeared to lipsync this song like another Howard Jones without the European look.

The sixth performer of Act I was "Ms. Gidget Starr," who was joined by "Cleo: The Egyptian Queen." While sitting on wooden stools, Pat (Cleo) and Monty (Gidget) dueted "Meeting in the Ladies' Room" (Klymaxx).

To this writer's amazement, Cleo the Egyptian Queen rose progressively from "just appealing" into an actual singer-star. Her audience applauded in high-esteemed agreement as well. But let's not forget "Ms. Starr," who in her second act soloed the famous Madonna in "Live to Tell." Hang in there, Monty; more tips are on the way.

According to the "New Faces" ros-  
...Continued on page 12

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ter, m.c. Mike Rader then announced "Sissy," whose off-stage name is, yes, Mike (another Mike). Anyway, Sissy was the only performer whose fans took several pictures (three in all), when he lipsynced "Nasty," the follow-up hit to Janet Jackson's "What Have You Done for Me Lately." You know, a cheerleader in red and white is very American. . . . Girl!

Then, there was "Vanity," whose act was the longest performance of the night. "Vanity" (Eizal's stage name) meant "nothing profound" when he tossed every earned dollar on the stage floor. Now, anyone spending the last of his money at the show that night would've appreciated a buck or two. Not-to-worry, "Vanity." Get booked into an upcoming show!

Out of the Top Ten performers in Lincoln's very own Kelly's comes "not so new" Carmen Rose. Ms. Rose (Tony) lipsynced "I Am Love," and during her shiny, studded performance, Carmen was among three performers who did their second act in a much more upbeat style. However, Ms. Rose, your glow-in-the-dark finger nails were most impressive. Really!

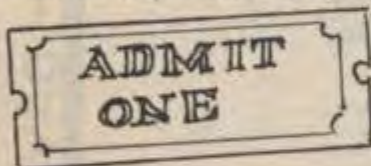
Stage performers: "Echo Lee Ann" (Richard), and "Page Carrington" (Jim) gave us a touch of Omaha, as well as Bubba (oops), rather, Barbra Love, who made a very strong comeback in "Through the Fire" (Chaka Khan) after literally slipping on her opening performance of the night. But these mistakes are forgivable.

The only New Face who did not make an appearance was "Ms. Maggie Branigan," which made no difference to the approximately 75 people who attended the "New Faces" performance.

In closing, my personal thanks go out to: Joe C. (bartender), Jerry D. (lights), Paul P. (doorman), and Mike R. (m.c.), who also helped to make "New Faces" a night to talk about and remember.

-- Groan & Bare It

Starting June 1 . . . a cover charge of \$1 will be required from 10 pm to 1 am at The Broadwalk only. You will receive a drink ticket worth \$1 off of any drink. Tickets must be presented the same evening received for your \$1 off. Different tickets will be used each night.



Thanks  
The Management



**KEEP COOL!**

# Imperial Court News

The business for the last few months has been the Coronation, ads, brochures and our programs.

Dr. Clark Taylor Jr., anthropologist and sexologist, who is on the faculty at San Francisco State University, was presented by the AIDS committee (PWA) on April 27, 1986 at The Max. At this time, we wish to thank everyone who was involved with it for their help.

The Red Cross had booths for AIDS at the Health Fair; educational and informational pamphlets were on hand.

Don Flowers attended a workshop seminar on AIDS in Washington, D.C.

The trip to the Denver coronation was rewarding as well as educational. Thirty-two courts were present, and their dresses and headbands were beautifully done and quite elaborate. You could readily see a great deal of time, effort and money invested in them. Emperor Gary West, Empress Laura Lee and the Board of Governors had a protocol that night, with all of us walking down a runway. When our names and titles were announced, we were presented to the reigning Emperor, Empress, Prince Royal and Princess Royal. Imperial Court of Nebraska, Inc. presented to them our gifts, which were living room clocks made of edge glass and trimmed in gold.

The candidates' interviews will be at the Stars Restaurant on May 19, 1986 at 8:00 p.m.

Introduction of candidates will be at The Max on May 22, 1986 at 8:00 p.m.

Campaigning will start after May 22, 1986 until 24 hours before coronation, which would be June 19, 1986.

The show for reigning monarchs and out-of-town guests will be held at the Chesterfield, June 20, 1986 at 9:30 p.m.

The victory show will be at The Max on June 22, 1986, starring Empress Laura Lee and the new Emperor and Empress and guests.

Posters and flyers are posted at the bars on our coming events, with

more to come.

Secretary - Board of Governors  
JoJo Morrison

## Coronation VI Candidates Seek Crown

Five previous Imperial Coronations have come and gone. But the most challenging and exciting race for the crown of Emperor, Empress, and Athena is occurring this year. On Saturday, June 21 new leaders will be announced in the three categories. What makes this year's race so interesting is the fact that women are running for all three positions. Never in the history of the Imperial Court of Nebraska has a woman run for Emperor or Empress. A new category of Athena is for women only. The following people are vying for the crown:

Emperor  
David Hansen  
Connie Henke  
Pat Phalen

Empress  
Steve Lucart  
Echo LeAnne  
Toadie Lee Marvelous  
Jo Jo Morrison

Athena  
Barb Hook

Board of Governors  
Gary West  
Jeff (Laura-Lee) Johnson

## Athena

The title of Athena has been instituted in the Imperial Court to provide counseling to groups and individuals, as well as needed information and recommendations and the establishment of a good rapport and effective communication among the women of the gay community.

The Athena will be on the same status level as the Emperor and Empress. She will be a woman who, in representing the gay community, will also be able to offer advice wisely and prudently.

The Athena will also strive to in-

volve the women of the gay community in a variety of interests, many of which would create an incentive to participate.

Mother Athena will be appointed by the Board of Governors and will be crowned at Coronation VI, the Athena (I) will be put into office by public vote. That qualifications for the Athena are as follows:

- She must be of legal drinking age.
- She must be a resident of the State of Nebraska or Metropolitan area, including Council Bluffs, Iowa.
- She must not have any criminal actions pending at the time of application or during her reign.
- She must be recognized in the community and maintain a good image as well as be influential.
- She must be gainfully employed, stable, and in good standing with her job.

Secretary -- Jo Jo Morrison  
President -- Steve Lucart  
Vice-President  
& Treasurer -- Dick Brown

## Capitol City Couples Form Group

To: Gay/Lesbian organizations and businesses  
From: Capitol City Couples

We would like to introduce you to a new group for gay/lesbian couples.

CCC is an organization to promote the positive aspect of Alternative Lifestyle relationships, create stability in those relationships, to share and socialize with other gay couples, and develop new friendships.

We follow our Statement of Purpose for CCC:

CCC is an organization for self-identified Gay/Lesbian couples. We hold no specific religious or political affiliation. We support the positive aspects of a relationship and the sense of stability that it represents for our community and lifestyle.

Please inform your membership of this new group. For more information, contact Jim Ehrlich or Rod Moyer at 423-1277.

## P Flag Grows . . . But

One in four families has a gay man or lesbian member, be they sister, brother, child, aunt or uncle, or even a grandparent. Think of the impact we could have if we all came together! Pride in self cannot be denied, and if any of you doubt that, you need to know that parents in P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) love their gay and lesbian children.

Parents-FLAG will be represented in the Gay Pride parade in Omaha in June. Do you have parents who would like to join with me?

P-FLAG's primary purpose is to be a support group for parents who have just found out that they have a child who is a gay man or a lesbian. Beyond that, however, there are many parents who are not in need of obvious "support" but would like to talk with other parents of gays and lesbians. These are the parents whom we (in P-FLAG) do not often see, because their children have been accepted as they are, and so there is little need for them to tell their parents about P-FLAG -- if indeed they know about it themselves. Other purposes of P-FLAG are to provide education and to combat homophobia. To accomplish these other purposes we need parents who are "beyond acceptance" (which, by the way, is a new book title).

I am appealing to all of you who come from loving and accepting



families to learn about P-FLAG, tell your parents about us, whether they live here or in other states, and encourage them to locate and join the chapter nearest to them. In Nebraska, there only the Lincoln and Omaha groups, but there are chapters or contacts all over the country. A call to the Lincoln contact number can provide you with information about others across the nation.

All of us are needed if we expect to make a difference.

Jean Durgin-Clinchard  
President, Parents FLAG  
Cornhusker Chapter  
435-4688 or 466-1151

## Good News at M.C.C.



June is 'Good News' month at MCC Omaha. It will be a time of celebrating the 'Good News' and all the gifts God has given us. Not only do we celebrate the gift of life through Jesus Christ but we also celebrate all that we are and have since they too are gifts of God. All is from God and ultimately all belongs to God. We are entrusted by God with only one life in which to be responsible. As responsible stewards or managers of God's gifts, we are expected to use and invest wisely and faithfully. It will be during this time that we remind each of you, our members, friends, and associates, to rekindle your stewardship to God. Whether our stewardship capabilities lie within time, talents, money, or all three, we should rededicate ourselves to giving back that portion which be-

longs to God, as was instructed by Jesus.

Certainly, at a time when MCC Omaha is growing and in need of a new sanctuary, your commitment of financial support is very important. However, equally as important are both your time and talents that we are able to share the 'Good News' to every one and to prepare each other for our daily lives and the life to come. No matter how small the commitment may seem to you, in the eyes of God and MCC Omaha, the gift will be great and will pay dividends to both you and your fellow Christians.

We invite each of you to come and join us in June for our 'Good News' Stewardship celebration. Our celebration will occur June 1, 8, 15, and 22. The respective themes for each of these Sunday services will be: 'Good News To Me,' 'Good News To Our Church,' 'Good News To Our World,' and 'Our Response To The Good News.' After each 'Good News' service, there will be a time of fellowship where we can all get acquainted, renew old acquaintances, and share in Christian love.

Come! Join us in our celebration of the 'Good News.'

In Christian Love,

Stewardship Facilitator  
Stewardship Committee

## Pride Week Overcomes Obstacles

The representatives from the Omaha Bars and Organizations Committee have continued to meet to determine the various activities to be held in Omaha during the month of June, 1986. Coordination to avoid conflicts has presented problems, along with the illness of a leader in one area and changes of dates.

The logo contest had, shall we say, a less than overwhelming response. However, we do thank those who submitted entries. The choices of those representatives present was a small but blatant design which I submitted. The large conservative

design was submitted by Danny. These designs will be placed on T-shirts by Sweet Shirts of Omaha and sold at various locations in Omaha.

All of us who have met monthly, and more often, have one common goal, and that is to help the gay/lesbian community enjoy their celebration of their community and all that it has to offer. Enjoy!

-- Jerry Peck

## The New Voice Starts Library

The New Voice is developing a periodical library. Newspapers and magazines may be checked out for one week. The following periodicals are available:

- Alabama Forum* (Birmingham, AL) starting Mar. 1986
- Bay Area Reporter* (San Francisco, CA) starting May 1985
- The Calendar* (San Antonio, TX) starting Feb. 1986
- The Coalition Together* (Sioux Falls, SD) starting Nov. 1985
- Equal Time* (Minneapolis, MN) starting Apr. 1985
- GLA Newsletter* (Ames, IA) starting Oct. 1984
- Just Out* (Portland, OR) starting Apr. 1986
- Lesbian Connection* (East Lansing, MI) starting Feb. 1984
- MCC Newsletter* (Omaha, NE) starting Jan. 1984
- The New Voice* (Lincoln, NE) all past issues beginning Mar. 1984
- Out Front* (Denver, CO) starting Apr. 1985
- Out in Montana* (Missoula, MT) starting Nov. 1985
- The Paper* (Boise, ID) starting Apr. 1986
- The Sentinel* (San Francisco, CA) starting Dec. 1985
- Women's Journal-Advocate* (Lincoln, NE) starting April 1984

The New Voice also has an archive of former Nebraska publications. These can be viewed but cannot be checked out:

Starting in the early 1970's:

- The Gayly Nebraskan*
- The Lincoln Gay News*
- GAIN Newsletter (Gay Awareness in Iowa/Nebraska)*
- Capital Times*

The New Voice is seeking donations of other periodicals to enlarge the collection. Also bookcases are needed. For example, we are seeking old issues of *The Advocate*, *Philadelphia Gay News*, *Christopher Street*, *The Gay News-Telegraph*, *The Washington Blade*, *The Western Express*, *The Alternative News*, *Gay Community News*, *New York Native*, etc.

To check out materials, call 475-7740 after 5 p.m. Appointments will then be scheduled. Also call this number for donations.

--Larry Wiseblood

## Letters

### Health Concerns Issue Appreciated

Dear Mr. Wiseblood:

I was very pleased to see all the well-written articles in the "Health Concerns" section of the April 1986 issue of *The New Voice*. We at the State Health Department found them to be both informative and well researched. As you are aware, public education is one of the most important aspects in any effort to promote the general health and well being of any population. Your articles will help further our goals of educating everyone concerning sexually transmitted disease transmission and prevention. Nationwide, gay groups and organization have significantly participated in the education of their representative populations regarding current health issues. Your magazine is to be commended for its efforts in this regard. The "Health Concerns" articles should have a measurable effect in raising the consciousness and knowledge level of your readers.

It has been said that public spiritedness has its own reward; however, we would like to add our own congratulations for a job well done to both you and your staff.

Sincerely,

Gregg F. Wright, M.D., M.Ed.  
Director of Health

Paul A. Stoesz, M.D.  
Director, Disease Control Division

Thanks I.C.!

Dear Members of the Imperial Court,

I am writing on behalf of the Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays Cornhusker to thank you for your purchase of the complete set of Shanti Project video tapes. I had seen the "sampler" tape, and visited the Shanti Project in San Francisco, so I was familiar with the tapes and believed that they were a necessity to help us in "Buddy" training projects here in Nebraska. Since they have been placed with the Red Cross, I have checked out a number of them to preview, so that I will know which ones are appropriate for which purpose. While working with PWA's and their loved ones is the primary focus of these training tapes, the messages are universal.

Thank you as well for all of your other fund-raising efforts on behalf of AIDS causes. And once again, your decision to purchase the Shanti video tapes was a Godsend. We, the parents of gay and lesbian people, thank you.

Sincerely,

Jean Durgin-Clinchard, President  
Parents & Friends of Lesbians  
and Gays Cornhusker  
P.O. Box 4374  
Lincoln, NE 68504

Contact numbers:  
Lincoln - Jean, 435-4688 and  
Helen, 466-1151  
Omaha - Ruth, 556-7481 and Jan,  
345-2563

Condoms are Erotic  
and Fun!

474-1205



- Support Groups
- Counseling
- AIDS, Alcohol & Drug Education

Support Group

every Monday - 7p.m.



## Somes Changes Are for Good

Five years ago I was a member of the Board of Governors on the Imperial Court and came to learn all the work and sometimes frustration of helping others in the gay communities of Nebraska. Later, I sat back with others and no longer helped. I sometimes complained but did nothing to help alleviate those complaints. After long and careful consideration, I know sitting back is not the answer, so I applied to the Court to run for Emperor this year.

I know that there will be a lot of work to bring about some of the changes that need to happen to join all gay communities into some unity as it is meant to be. We are all one; separate we may fail, together we are invincible.

To do this alone is impossible, so I ask for help in reaching this goal with my friends and strangers I meet to assist me with their time and votes. I thank all who have helped and who consider me a candidate in advance.

--Connie Henke

## Features

### Gay/Lesbian Pride Proud?

There are a number of reasons to be proud. As Americans, we feel the surge of patriotism when we hear "The Star Spangled Banner" or see Old Glory unfurled in the wind. If you are a football fan, you may get excited when UNL's Big Red runs onto the field. If you graduated from a school where you were involved, your pride rises whenever anyone makes fun of that school. If you are a parent, have someone just try to not look at the latest photos.

Our nation has done some things we are not real proud of, Big Red has not always been a winner, every school has had its scandals, and every family has a skeleton somewhere in its closet.

During June, the gay/lesbian communities throughout the U.S. are celebrating the anniversary of Stonewall with Gay Pride parades and other activities. It is a time to show our pride in what it means to be gays and lesbians. Perhaps the first step in the celebration is to put aside our complaints and gripes about our community. We need to remember that the social order of the gay/lesbian community is very new -- particularly in the Midwest. MCC Omaha has a history of thirteen years, Imperial Court of Nebraska crowns Emperor and Empress VI this year, River City Mixed Chorus is just over one year old. The Diamond Bar has over 45 years of operating as a gay bar, and The Max is just over a year old. New organizations are coming into being all the time, and maturing is a time-consuming process of falling down, bruising, and getting back up. If we can find fault with the U.S. government that has been



EMPEROR VI

Connie Henke

SOME CHANGES ARE FOR GOOD

WATCH FOR MY SPECIAL EVENTS IN MAY & JUNE



Congratulations  
and Thanks  
to  
The New Voice staff

for the April  
Health Concerns  
Issue

from the Coalition  
for Gay & Lesbian Civil Rights

working "for the people" for over 200 years, it is not surprising that our community is subject to some fault finding.

Each of us who participates in the community experience -- be it going to the bars, attending support groups, or associating with other gays and lesbians -- is a part of the total success or failure of the gay/lesbian community of Nebraska. We are not where the communities of New York or San Francisco are at, but we don't have to travel far to see what life is like where there is no "community." Most of us left those towns to move to Omaha or Lincoln.

Having a "homosexual" preference is but a small part of the gay/lesbian experience as a total lifestyle within the community. We have come a long way in a short time, and, with pride, we can go a lot farther. This is a time to declare to one another that we are not ashamed, but rather proud to be gays and lesbians. Let us celebrate who we are and hope to be in community!

## Walking Tall

By now, most Americans either have forgotten that we ever bombed Libya, or have filed the incident in their scrapbooks, right by Grenada and other heroic clippings of Rambopolitik. This latest example of Ronald Reagan's view of the world as a horse opera has many Americans "walking tall" once again. One hopes (probably in vain) that they will bang their heads against some cold semblance of reality.

The Libya blitz shouldn't have come as a great surprise. Reagan has tipped his hand repeatedly to reveal his masturbatory fantasies of whipping the Commies and nasty A-rabs, and the hair on his palm is all too visible. But before he wakes up from his wet dream of power, he will have succeeded in inducing another orgasm of intolerance for too many Americans.

What will happen if, for example, a West German terrorist group strikes at American installations or personnel, as has happened before? Will Reagan sic the Air Force on Bonn or Munich? Will the CIA or Jerry Falwell go after Helmut Kohl?

Probably not; most Germans, after all, are white Europeans. We kill them only in declared wars.

The frightening aspect of all this has been the reaction of an apparent majority of Americans: war frenzy, and satisfaction at killing innocent citizens. Terrorism of any sort should not be condoned, whether it be Libyan- or American-sanctioned. But the bloodlust of some American people, as evidenced in newspapers and on TV, revealed close kinship to genocide.

So what has all this to do with being gay, and with gay issues? Intolerance, especially when sanctioned by an authoritarian government which cloaks itself in morality, is something that we must keep constantly in mind. In the thinking of many Americans, gays and lesbians are not really part of this country. We are a fear, a perversion, a plague. We are different. We are, in a sense, Libyans.

So what are we to do? We must also walk tall: with our own dignity and pride, in the knowledge that we are entitled to the rights of all people in a free society. Our rights -- including those not fully won -- should be nothing more or less than the constitutional guarantees of all Americans. This includes the right to fight for those guarantees. This includes the right to dissent.

By living as lesbians and gays, we are dissenting. However, by supporting Reagan's policies of "might makes right," we encourage intolerance and oppression. By taking politically safe views, we cut our own throats with a safety razor. It is not too extreme to imagine the American fever of annihilation directed at a group of people here in the United States. It has happened before. It takes little imagination to guess who the next targets might be.

Too many of us spend our lives bemoaning our fate, or paying no attention to ways in which we can better our lives. As the anarchist leader Joe Hill said before he was shot by the state of Utah, "Don't mourn. Organize!" It's still good advice.

-- Stefan Tysk



## Here & There Across the Country

### Pet Orientation Amendment Considered in Ames, Iowa

An amendment to the Ames, Iowa Human Rights Ordinance has been proposed to include domestic animal preference as a protected category in employment, housing, and public accommodations. If approved, a landlord who likes cats, for example, would not be able to evict a tenant who likes dogs. The Ames Pet Rights Task Force stated, "Owners of all kinds of pets should be treated equally - cats, dogs, ferrets, whatever."

Rick Yearling, pastor of a local church, denounced the amendment. "The next thing you know, they'll demand 'rights' for cockroach lovers and bank robbers," he said. Rev. Yearling has no pets.

-- GLA, Iowa

### World Wide Movement of Prayer

A world-wide moment of prayer and meditation is being held for five minutes each day at 7 p.m. for persons with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions. All over the world, people are joining together each in their own way, wherever they may happen to be at 7 p.m. Whether the method is prayer, visualization, meditation, positive thinking, or just lots of love, everyone is welcome to join.

-- Bay Area Reporter, Calif.

## D.C. May Get Gay 24 hr. Radio Station


WASHINGTON, DC - Attorney Nick Addams plans to have the nation's first 24-hour gay radio station operating in the nation's capital by fall. Addams and his partner, Casey DeMinice, say they think the FCC will approve their request. They also said the business prospects for such a station are promising. "In terms of gay issues and openness," Addams said, "we have a large, strong, sophisticated, economically productive community."  
-- Dallas Voice, Texas

## Record Earns Proceeds for AIDS Research


The proceeds from the hit single "That's What Friends Are For" by Dionne Warwick with friends Elton John, Gladys Knight and Stevie Wonder are being donated to AIDS research. Recently over \$500,000 was presented to the American Foundation for AIDS Research, a group headed by Elizabeth Taylor.  
-- Alabama Forum

## Women Receive Compensation in Sioux Falls Case

Two women were awarded \$1,500 each after a federal jury found that their civil rights had been violated when they were arrested at a Sioux Falls nightclub for dancing together. While an anti-gay/lesbian policy wasn't openly discussed in the five-day trial, the owner of the club testified that he didn't want "that kind of people" in his establishment. Both women claimed they had been subjected to public humiliation, embarrassment, and mental and emotional distress when they were arrested, handcuffed, booked, and charged with failure to vacate (a misdemeanor). The charges were later dropped.  
-- Lesbian Connection, Minn.



# LEO—GEM CLUB



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**Private Membership Club**  
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**Omaha, NE**

A Simple Country Place . . . nothing dirty is going on  
. . . maybe a simple thrill now and then.

*Specializing in*

*Body Wraps*  
*and Sauna*

**SUMMER HOURS: (June, July, August)**  
**Open: 7 p.m. on. Tuesday-Saturday**  
**Closed: Sun. and Mon.**

## Texas May Open AIDS Hospital

HOUSTON - The first hospital in the nation devoted to AIDS research and diagnosis may be opened in Houston, if a plan to convert a for-profit hospital is worked out. The University of Texas Board of Regents recently approved the plans for Citizen's Hospital. The 150-bed hospital would continue to be operated by AMI Corporation. The university would provide clinical direction and research.  
-- New York Native, New York

## Plans Started for Lesbian Retirement Center

NEW YORK - In a few years, there may be a lesbian retirement center for women of all ages. Volunteers are being sought with skills in policy and planning, grant proposal writing, law, health care, and public relations to bring this dream to life. The center, which will be called "Matrix," will be a non-profit, tax-exempt foundation, which will function as a retreat, resort, and healing center. For more information, write: Matrix; c/o Eve's Garden's; 119 W. 58th St; Suite 1406; New York, NY 10019, or call (212) 757-8651.  
-- The Works, Indiana

## Affirmation to Hold Conference

SAN FRANCISCO - Affirmation will hold its 6th annual Affirmation International Conference in San Francisco on June 27, 28, and 29. Each year, members of Affirmation from around the world gather to discuss issues of importance to the Lesbian and Gay Mormons. The chosen theme of the conference "One in Ten - A Family Matter," will focus on the reality that one in ten people in America is gay or lesbian, and, therefore, part of most American families.

For further information, contact conference chairperson Ron Kershaw at (415) 641-4554, or write to the San Francisco Chapter of Affirmation at P.O. Box 26302, San Francisco, CA 94126.  
-- Just Out, Oregon

## Methodists Drop Case Against Rev. Rush

The Board of Ministry of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church has voted to drop charges against Rev. Julian Rush, associate pastor of St. Paul UMC in Denver.

Two ministers in the Rocky Mountain Conference brought charges against Rush after newspaper articles appeared a year ago in which Rush disclosed facts about his relationship with his lover.

In a closed door session, a vote described as "close" exonerated Rush from fitting the definition of "self-avowed practicing homosexual." While Rush has said that he is gay, he has never disclosed that he's engaged in genital sexual behavior. Said Rush in a statement to the board:

"Am I a self-avowed practicing homosexual? I decline to answer that question because I believe that I am a worthy person who deserves the same rights of privacy as anyone else. We so easily give lip service to human justice, reconciliation, and unconditional love. But I and thousands of other gay men and lesbians hope for a day when those words will apply to us."

-- Out Front, Colorado

## Court Orders Gay Father to Take Blood Test

CHICAGO - The National Gay Rights Advocates have appealed a Chicago court order requiring a gay father to take an HTLV-III antibody test in order to visit his children. NGRA attorneys have informed the court that the father will refuse to comply with the order. As a result, the judge has agreed to reconsider the order and hear further evidence from both sides.

"The judge's original decision was clearly wrong," declared Benjamin Schatz, Director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project. "The HTLV-III antibody test does not tell us whether a person has or will develop AIDS. Moreover, even if the father did have AIDS--which he does not--there would be no reason to keep him from visiting his children. AIDS cannot be casually transmitted, and it is time for the courts to recognize this fact."

-- Out Front, Colorado

## NGLTF Closes NY Office

NEW YORK - In a cost-cutting move, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) board of directors voted to shut down its New York office. At the emergency board meeting, called to save the financially floundering organization, the board also named co-director Jeff Levi as the sole executive director, replaced two officers on the board, and approved new financial controls and further program reductions.

The country's oldest national gay organization, with a membership of 7,000 and a debt said to be over \$82,000, will now be headquartered in Washington, DC.

-- Equal Time, Minnesota

## Gay French Author Dies

PARIS - Gay French author Jean Genet died of throat cancer on April 15. Genet's work included: *Our Lady of the Flowers*, *Miracle of the Rose*, *Funeral Rites*, *Querelle of Brest*, and *The Thief's Journal*. Several of his books were made into films. Rainer Werner Fassbinder based his film *Querelle* on Genet's novel about a bisexual sailor.

-- Gay Community News, Massachusetts

## Landlord Must Offer Lease to Surviving Lover

NEW YORK - A state judge has ruled that a landlord must offer a lease to a surviving lover in a gay relationship. Landlord Bruce Kafenbaum has started eviction proceedings against Michael Brown, whose lover, Robert Hayes, died of AIDS. Brown's name was not on the lease for the Manhattan apartment where he and Hayes had lived together for eight years. On April 21, Judge Freedman ruled that Brown must be treated the same as a close family member. Kafenbaum is also obliged to offer Brown a vacancy lease and is allowed to increase his rent by no more than seven-and-a-half percent.  
-- Gay Community News, Massachusetts

## Gay Videotapes Seized

ROCKVILLE, MD - Because X-rated gay videotapes went "beyond normal X-rated tapes," a video store in this Washington suburb was forced by police to remove nearly 300 gay and lesbian movies from its shelves. Only one heterosexual X-rated tape was requested to be removed.

Assistant Maryland State's Attorney Louis Lear refused to comment on what classes of films might be considered obscene. He said his office uses the U.S. Supreme Court view of obscenity. When asked if a film depicting sex between two men was considered obscene, Lear said, "I'm not going to go into that."

-- The Washington Blade, Washington, DC





### Bath Houses Close in Denver

DENVER - In surprising and totally coincidental developments, two of Denver's major bathhouses are closing. The Empire Baths closed May 25 due to their inability to obtain affordable liability insurance on their swimming pools. The Ballpark Health Club will close June 16 because of lease problems with their landlord. At a time when bathhouses are under intense pressure and scrutiny from the health department, it is ironic that the two clubs should close for reasons totally unrelated to AIDS.

-- Out Front, Colorado

### Diocese Ordered to Pay Damages

LAFAYETTE, LA - An 11-year-old has been awarded \$1.25 million in damages as the result of a lawsuit brought against the Catholic Church. A jury ordered the Lafayette diocese to pay the boy and his parents the sum on the grounds that the boy's sexual abuse at the hands of a priest robbed him of his religious faith.

The Rev. Gilbert Gauthé, a catholic priest, was convicted last year of having sex with three dozen boys at St. John Parish. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison. Another priest from the same parish, Rev. Ronald Fonterot, was charged in Spokane, Washington, with molesting boys in a substance abuse clinic there. He had been suspended from the Lafayette diocese in 1983 for having sex with some of the same boys involved in the Gauthé cases.

-- Bay Windows, Massachusetts

## Aunt Izzie Ponders S & M

Show and Modeling has gained in popularity lately in some of Lincoln's and Omaha's bars. It seems to be a game of who can impress whom without making it too obvious that you are trying to impress others. A major part of modeling involves wearing the latest fashions and hair-styles. You also are required to look sexy without appearing to be in lust. Your eyes travel but don't target on any particular point. Don't try talking to someone near you because it may seem that you are being friendly and someone may get the wrong idea. It's ok to dance with friends, but don't ask a stranger to dance. If you're on the dance floor too long, someone may take your favorite modeling spot.

Aunt Izzie tried S&M the other day and completely blundered. I found a spot I liked, but it was too close to the restroom and I kept getting bumped as people came in and out like an assembly line. When I moved, the next spot was even worse when a group of men talked in front of me.

An even worse problem was deciding how to stand. If I put my hands in my pocket, someone might think I was playing pocket pool. If I crossed my arms, others might assume I was angry or bitter. If I held my hands limply at my side, it may look like I was wimpy and passive. I finally took a stance that I observed in other parts of the room. I held a Bud in one hand and stood with one foot slightly in front of the other. But after a while my foot fell asleep and my hand was wet and cold from the drink. I kept staring at the same hunk most of the evening and almost slipped and asked someone to dance.

I'm giving up S&M and will try something very old-fashioned, like being myself. If I don't fit in or meet other people's standards, so be it. I can't handle being pretentious and boring. Maybe I can start a new trend of getting to know new people and being friendly. Also, I won't fear rejection by talking to strangers or asking people to dance. Come join me and celebrate Gay

Pride.

Love and Kisses from  
-- Auntie Dearest

## Aunt Izzie Answers Letter

### Cheekbone for GQ

Dear Izzy,

Recently I read this article in the Sunday Journal & Star where Gentleman's Quarterly is running a national contest to find the official "Face of the 80's," that special, perfect, right kind of guy who reflects what everybody thinks is a "10" today. (It's sort of like Bo Derek in the 70's except that she was female.) First prize, Izzy, is \$50,000 and a modeling contract with GQ.

Among other things, Izzy, some of the qualifications for the "Face of the 80's" are age: mid-20's. Physical condition: Perfect. Face: Elegantly handsome with high cheekbones. Well, now we come to my problem. You see, I've always had this problem with low cheekbones. There's no use denying it, Izzy, the old cheekbones just aren't up there. In fact, a couple of my friends have expressed amazement in that my eyes appear to be at about the same level as my nostrils.

Oh, the rest of me is fine. I'm 6 feet, 1 inch tall, 25 years old and have a 31-inch waist, 44-inch chest and can press 285 on the bench. I have a dynamite tan that'd turn the Calvin Klein guy green with envy, and I'd like nothing more than to be in an 8 x 10 glossy for Giorgio Armani or Polo. Believe me, Izzy, I could use that 50 grand. But Izzy, you see, my cheekbones just aren't high enough. What I mean is that my eyes are so low that if I grew a moustache I couldn't see. Get the picture? And I've tried everything to raise them. Lately I've been hanging upside down in gravity boots, hoping this would somehow stretch my face out, but all it did was make my knees sore and give me a migraine. Porcelana fade cream only makes my eyebrows disappear, and last week I had Mary Kay do a facial on me, but all that did was turn everything pink. Any suggestions?

Low Brow in South Lincoln

Dear Low,

All this talk about high cheekbones

is nothing but myth. Go ahead and enter that contest. If they don't select you, maybe you'll get a part in an espionage movie. With those low-set eyes, you'd look great in a "Bogie-style" overcoat with turned-up collar and pulled-down hat. Wow! Just think how far down you could pull that hat, and it still couldn't be over your eyes. Sure, you might not be able to breathe, but you could still see! Far out! Hang in there, guy!

Izzy



P.S. How much did you say you could bench-press? 285? Ooooo!

## Gay Rights Battle in Northern California

Opponents of equal rights for gay men and lesbians have launched initiative campaigns to repeal recently enacted human rights ordinances in two Northern California cities. Local activists, predicting a bitter and expensive battle, have established a united campaign support fund to defend the anti-discrimination laws.

Ordinances extending housing and employment rights to gay people were passed this Spring by the city councils of Davis and Sacramento following extensive public debate and lobbying by Sacramentans for Justice (SFJ) and the Davis-based Citizens and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (CFLAG).

Anti-gay forces are currently circulating initiative petitions in Davis, where proponents of the ordinance have been subjected threats, verbal abuse, and physical attacks. Davis activists expect the repeal initiatives to qualify for a special election in August, when much of the large student population will be away on vacation.

The Davis City Council passed a similar law in 1979 which was repealed by voters following an initiative campaign in 1980. CFLAG believes that public education efforts over the past six years make victory possible in 1986.

In Sacramento, a coalition of conservative religious and business leaders have joined forces with tax foe Paul Gann to force a public vote on the November ballot. The City of Sacramento is heavily Democratic in voter registration and generally liberal, but local organizers are concerned that the Sacramento ordinance may be on the same ballot as the LaRouche AIDS Initiative and a heated local race for State Senate, both of which are likely to bring out conservative voters.

Leaders of the Davis and Sacramento campaigns established the Northern California Human

Rights Fund to encourage financial contributions from throughout California and the United States. According to Kevin Braaten-Moen, Executive Director of SFJ, outside support is critical.

"We in Sacramento simply do not have the resources available in San Francisco or Los Angeles. We desperately need assistance now if we hope to run a credible campaign," said Braaten-Moen.

Contributions to defend human rights ordinances of Davis and Sacramento should be sent to: Northern California Human Rights Fund, P.O. Box 161958, Sacramento, CA 95816.

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## Beat Briefs

Featured release for June:  
Culture Club, "From Luxury to Heartache." Virgin/Epic Records.

Following the creative and commercial failure of The Culture Club's last album, "Waking Up With the House on Fire," Boy George took a two-year leave of absence from the pop charts to be glamorous. Instead of making music, Boy cavorted at chic New York nightspots, like Palladium, and appeared on an episode of "The A Team." (Yes, Mr. T's gold chains are glamorous, boys and girls.) Now, Boy and his Club cohorts have bounced back with danceable conviction on this fourth LP, proving that they are more than some gender-blending novelty item.

Working with Aretha Franklin's former producer, Arif Marin, they experiment with a provocative potpourri of old styles ranging from Motown to early '70s funk.

"Move Away," side one's opener and the first single, has the innocuous simplicity and airy verve of their first LP, "Kissing to be Clever." "I Pray," the following cut, sets the mood for the rest of "Luxury": infectious, funk-filled fun.

"Gusto Blusto," which is by far the finest track, features a painfully hypnotic synthesizer backdrop and backup vocals by soul songstress Jocelyn Brown. And Boy's voice is at its flamboyant best, too, adding harmonic fire to an arsenal of electronic sounds that have "hit" written all over them.

Side two's "God Thank You, Woman," is Boy's affirmative statement about his heterosexual tendencies, in which he drones on with such trite lyrical tripe as "I could give you my heart/ You're the air that I breathe." But he redeems himself on "Sexuality," an upbeat parody of gay bar pick-up pretensions: "All you pretty people staring at the wall/ When I say I don't dance/ I mean not like you/ Say it with your body/ your sexuality..."

"Luxury" is proof that dance music can be catchy and calculating. The

Club has often reached back in musical retrospect to vintage sounds and styles, and on their latest effort they add modern social awareness and technopop effervescence to the best beats from the past. Now it's time for the Club to make up for all those number one songs they've missed out on the past two years. Boy, go get 'em, girl!

*In Brief...*

*The Art of Noise, "In Visible Silence." Chrysalis Records.*

If surrealist shock artist Salvador Dali had ever been a musician, his work would have sounded a lot like these British studio musicians' second effort. Noise is exactly what this experimental disc contains, for such tunes as "Paranoia," "Backbeat," and "Eye of the Needle" are nothing but eerie synthesizer sounds blended with bizarre grunting patterns and chants that all sound like a drum machine on a bad acid trip. A danceable re-make of Henry Mancini's campy 1960 "Peter Gunn" theme is freaky, outer spaced-out *kitsch* that will thrill B-52s fans. The dance extend of this one is already doing well on the charts. All in all, however, "In Visible Silence" concentrates more on sound effects than substance, making it an album solely for those with quirky musical taste buds.

*Ministry, "Twitch." Sire Records.*

Dismal fervor flows through this "death rock" dance band's latest. Tracks like "We Believe" and "Just Like You" contain political protest lyrics fused with grating beats and the creepy vocals of Patty J. Most of their angst-ridden lyrics are drowned by overproduced, monotonous electronic rhythms, but they display enough hooks to get people on the dance floor and keep them there.

*Patti LaBelle, "Winner in You." MCA Records.*

Patti's last opus delivered such tunes like "New Attitude" and "Stir It Up," gay disco classics guaranteed to send even the most butch dancer into fits of frantic lip-synching and camping. This LP,



however, lacks the insistent punch of "New Attitude" and contained a mawkish mess of hokey lyrics penned by such middle-of-the-roaders as Burt Bacharach. In the opening cut, "Oh, People," Patti sings, "If we are on big family/ No one will have to beg to eat." Boo-hoo....

One of the most sappy yawners is "On My Own," a ludicrous duet with former DooBee Brother Michael McDonald. Only the jaunty "Beat My Heart Like a Drum" and the beautiful torch ballad "There's a Winner in You" appropriately fit her enormous vocal range and talent. Patti, there is a winner in you--your voice. Please stop wasting it on pablum like this.

*Siouxsie and the Banshees, "Tinderbox." Geffen Records.*

Although Siouxsie's been around since the birth of punk and has matured into a fine vocalist, she remains one of the most underrated and misunderstood geniuses of the music scene. On her ninth effort, she manages to maintain her trademark blend of gloom, doom, and glam with her sound like a rock 'n' roll Sylvia Plath. Throughout the album, she plays the sardonic social observer, commenting on the pain of childhood on "Candyman" to the tragic motives of nightclub socialites on "Party's Fall." The single "Cities in Dust," which is doing well on national dance charts, is Siouxsie at her wailing and angry best. "Tinderbox" doesn't contain the drama of the band's early works or the surreal elegance of 1984's "Hyaena," but it still has Siouxsie's sincere passion that's always thought-provoking and melodic.

Once again, she shows that she is the one musician who deserves a wider audience on this side of the Atlantic.

-- Scott Harrah

## Gail's Hit List

June

1. *War Boys*  
Annabella
2. *Sexuality/Move Away (remix)*  
Culture Club
3. *I Wanna Be A Cowboy*  
Boys Don't Cry
4. *Don Quixote*  
Magazine 60
5. *On The Move*  
Jamaica Girls
6. *Vienna Calling*  
Falco
7. *Restless*  
Starpoint
8. *Say It, Say It*  
E.G. Daily
9. *Hey Boy*  
Tammy Lucas
10. *What I Like*  
Anthony and The Camp
11. *The Heat of Heat*  
Patti Austin
12. *Ain't Nobody Ever Loved You*  
Aretha Franklin
13. *Don't Waste My Time*  
Paul Hardcastle
14. *Don't You Want My Love*  
Nicole
15. *Starlight*  
Lauren Grey

The Boardwalk brings you the latest in "variable dance music" every Sunday and Thursday night. Hear it here first--check it out!!!

The Hit List is a monthly courtesy of The Boardwalk/The Club, Lincoln.

## Poems by Ernest Glenn

### FROM MARCH TO MAY

The March wind is coming

to blow winter away  
and as a year ago May  
you became my kinetic  
superbly eccentric  
friend

Let's spring  
in the forever-green  
we are the sudden-slow  
surge of warming earth  
my ever-friend

let us Spring

we are the (our way is)  
the dancing air

### TONIGHT AND TIME

Tonight has become  
a streetlight shimmering through  
the trees  
its incandescence the moon  
hovering over a sleepless walk  
in the early morning

Time has taught me  
that it cannot teach me  
for I am a string of sentences  
beyond its words  
silent after midnight

Tonight everything is two blocks  
home  
One when you are near  
None when you are here

### YOU, THE NIGHT, AND THE CRESCENT MOON

Why you could not be on this train  
I do not wish to accept.  
You are for me suspended in time,  
caught in a glimpse at the level of  
the eye,  
splitting an eastern horizon  
wafting in the cooling night  
between blackest sky and ice blue  
stars,  
You are vermilion in the night.  
You are the crescent moon.

Why does the August prairie  
sing a silent song for you?  
The brilliance of your light  
is subdued by day.  
You are the iridescence of the night,  
the essence, a glow never subdued  
but made ever more brilliant  
by the darkness.

A vision comes at the end of my  
train ride.  
I sleep near you on a cabin porch.  
A stream faintly trickles in the distance.  
There is power in the gleaming intensity  
of your presence. mystery

in the shining solemnity of your  
absence.

A lustre disrupts the blackness.  
It is you, the night, and the crescent  
moon.

### QUESTIONS ALONE, WHILE WATCHING THE LATE MOVIE

I am pensive tonight without your  
presence,  
as the black and white of the old  
movie  
scatters its images on the  
luminescent screen.  
Howling winds of Texas now, and  
one feels  
both heat of summer and cold of  
winter  
at the same time, in an instant. An  
old truck  
passes slowly through the lonely  
town. I am like  
the whine of its transmission  
without you. I clatter about and  
whimper.  
Like the sleepy little town, I am  
fraught  
with unasked and hidden questions.

Will you pass by on the screen?  
What scene will suggest your presence?  
Will you be hero, villain, or lover?  
Years from now, will I watch you  
with  
the same intensity?  
What are the extremes of the lives  
we lead and live?

Pensive without your presence,  
tense without your intention.

### SENTENCES IN THE MIND, WITH QUESTIONS BEHIND

It is night.  
You are not here.  
I have forgotten the radio.  
The outside is dark.  
There is too much silence.  
Crickets chirp.  
Frogs croak.  
An air conditioner vibrates in the  
next room.  
Mine does not work.  
There is more irrigation than meditation.  
The end of August is hot.  
School starts too soon.  
This town is small and boring.

...Continued on page 26



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Frustration sets in.  
Doubt is near.  
I write funny.  
I cannot wait to return to you.

## Affirmation Challenges United Methodists on AIDS

*...Spring Gathering Elects New Coordinators, Makes Plans for Expansion*

United Methodist responses to AIDS have been "slow and still inadequate" and "have reinforced a preference for judgment over compassion toward those most at risk for this disease," according to Affirmation: United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian Concerns.

In a statement approved at its annual spring national meeting, held April 4-6, 1986, in Seattle, Affirmation noted that AIDS has already claimed two of its earliest leaders, Michael Collins and Richard Cash, as well as numerous friends, lovers, and family members. The organization declared that it has "experienced firsthand not only the grief of these losses but also the violence of homophobia fueled by AIDS hysteria."

While acknowledging the preliminary efforts of some congregations, agencies, and conferences of the United Methodist Church, Affirmation called for greatly increased action at all levels of the church. In its statement, Affirmation requested that:

- church leaders, both clergy and lay, reject claims that AIDS is God's revenge on gays and publicly oppose "proposed policies, such as quarantine and employment, insurance, or other discrimination, that ... reflect society's blaming of those infected by a deadly virus";
- the United Methodist Council of Bishops prepare a pastoral letter on the subject of AIDS;
- congregations and conferences of the church develop resources for pastoral support for

persons with AIDS and their loved ones; provide training events to prepare persons for providing that support; make available buildings and other resources to assist AIDS education, patient-support, and advocacy efforts; and use portions of funds set aside for health-care services to help meet AIDS-related medical, spiritual, and physical needs;

- church members everywhere "support effective and explicit risk-reduction efforts" for gay and bisexual men, for intravenous drug abusers, and others at risk for the disease; and
- all United Methodists pray for persons with AIDS and for all others affected by this disease.

"Making a statement to the church about AIDS is important to both the gay men and lesbians in Affirmation," explained Mary Gaddis, one of Affirmation's co-spokespersons. "We lesbians are concerned for our gay brothers who have AIDS, and, because of the lack of knowledge that the general public has about the disease, lesbians are confronted with the homophobia that is directly related to AIDS. Lesbians in some places are being tested for insurance, for example, even though we are the one group that has been shown not to be at risk for the disease. One of my favorite lines is that, if AIDS is God's punishment, then lesbians must be God's chosen people."

In other action at the meeting, Affirmation members selected co-spokespersons and coordinating committee members to serve through the next General Conference of the United Methodist Church, to be held in April 1988. Morris Floyd, of Minneapolis, and Gaddis, of Holy City, California, were reelected as the organization's two co-spokespersons. Named to the coordinating committee were Judy Cayot, of Albany, California; Gaddis; Lyle Loder, of West Hollywood, California; D.J. Porter, of New Hope, Pennsylvania; Beth Richardson, of Nashville; Maggie Roe, of Lincoln, Nebraska; Bradley Ruhmph, of Washington, D.C.; Mike Underhill, of Chicago; and one lesbian and one gay man who,

because of discriminatory denominational and societal policies, cannot be publicly named.

Affirmation members also decided to continue to strengthen the Reconciling Congregation Program by planning a consultation, tentatively set for spring 1987, of representatives of all Reconciling Congregations across the United States. Reconciling Congregations are local United Methodist churches that publicly welcome gay men and lesbians as equal members of their church families. Fifteen churches now belong to the program, which was begun in 1984. Affirmation also made plans to expand promotion of the Reconciling Congregation Program's quarterly journal, *Manna for the Journey*, which provides materials for congregations to use in improving ministry to and with lesbians and gay men.

Future plans for local and regional organizing by Affirmation members were also discussed in Seattle. It was noted that local Affirmation bodies now exist in 18 areas across the nation, up from 7 in April 1985. Gatherings for Affirmation members from broader geographic regions of the United States are being planned, beginning later in 1986. A national "Family Reunion" retreat is tentatively scheduled for July 1-5, 1987.

National Affirmation meets twice annually, once in the spring and once in the fall, for its business meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for September 19-21, 1986 in Washington, D.C. For further information about any Affirmation program, the organization can be contacted at P.O. Box 1021, Evanston, IL, 60204.





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## AIDS Survey

### *AIDS Survival Study*

Statistics on AIDS show that more than 80% of people diagnosed two years ago have died. Yet little attention is paid to the 20% of cases who survive longer. In particular, there has been no systematic study of people who continue to live in a stable state of health for much longer periods.

The Boston AIDS Action Committee is planning a study of long-term survivors of AIDS to try to identify factors which may have contributed to their long survival. We hope that this information will be useful to other people with AIDS and to our scientific understanding of AIDS.

The Boston AIDS Action Committee study is divided into two phases. In Phase I, we hope to establish informal contacts with large numbers of long-term survivors of AIDS to gather impressions regarding the aspects of medical care, nutrition, lifestyle, medication, and coping styles which may have contributed to their success in battling the disease. In Phase II, we will use the information gathered in Phase I to prepare a more systematic questionnaire for distribution.

If you have AIDS which was diagnosed more than two years ago, we would appreciate hearing from you. The following information would be most helpful:

- Name, address, and telephone number and date of diagnosis.
- Particular AIDS-related condition you have had (for example, KS, PCP, or other infections).
- Any experimental treatment protocols in which you have participated.
- Any special modification in diet, drugs, lifestyle, non-traditional medications which you believe may have contributed to your survival.

All information will be kept strictly confidential. We will contact some respondents for further information. Please mail your responses to:

Survival Study

c/o John Whyte M.D., PhD.  
Boston AIDS Action Committee  
661 Boylston Street  
Boston, MA 02116

If you would like more information before deciding to participate, please call Larry Kessler at (617) 437-6200.

## S.I.R. Plans Reunion in San Francisco

Former members of the Society for Individual Rights (SIR) are planning for a reunion in San Francisco on June 24 - during that city's Gay/Lesbian Pride Week. SIR was the nation's first large multi-service gay organization. During its 1964-74 existence it had over 2,000 members.

SIR was an umbrella for numerous activities - many of them "firsts." It published the first slick gay magazine (*Vector*), circulated numerous professional gay legal and educational pamphlets, introduced city and state politicians to the needs of gay people, staged elabo-

rate stage productions, ran VD campaigns, and held the city's first same-sex dances. The group dissolved in 1974 when its most active members went on to form other gay organizations.

Fifteen former members, including form SIR officials, have been meeting to plan the event. They promise an informal, memorable evening with photographic and publication displays on that period with ample food and drink available. The event will be at Chez Mollet (527 Club).

Those wishing to be on the SIR Reunion mailing list, write to "Great Reunion," 501 Teresita Blvd, San Francisco, 94127.

## Girth and Mirth Tell All

Long before May 1976 there was a loosely unorganized group of gay friends who kept contact with each other between San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York. These were heavy gay fellows and those gay fellows who found them sexually attractive because they

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were big, fat, and available. In New York, they congregated at a gay bar called The Beaded Bag, owned by a chubbette by the name of Frenchy. In Los Angeles, they met at a gay bar on Western and 2nd Street called Joly's, which still exists today. In Chicago, they met at the New Flight, and in San Francisco, they met at the Old Crow on Market Street. These were called Chubby/Chase bars. And these were the days that all a chubby or chaser had to do was spend an hour or two (long before AIDS) and pick up a chubby or chaser at one of these bars and spend a sexually exciting evening together.

In May, 1976, a young chase, living in San Francisco, called Charlie Brown, along with his then big lover, Dick, just for the fun of it decided to run an ad in an underground paper, The Berkely Barb. The response to this ad was phenomenal. The initial group of about eight people included Reed Wilgoren, Tony Di Genova, Ed Pardee, Rick Hansen, John Kelly, and Sergio Sarzo. This group grew to 20 to 30 to 50 in a very short time. The first meeting was at Charlie Brown's apartment and then to the 527 Bryant Club and the rest is history.

After changing meeting places about every year or two, they presently meet at 176 Page Street in San Francisco. They call themselves the Girth and Mirth Club of San Francisco, and this club pioneered the beginnings of Girth and Mirth clubs in Los Angeles in 1977, in New York in 1978, and in Chicago in 1980. San Francisco was incorporated as a non-profit club in 1980. Other clubs started lately in Boston, Denver, and San Diego.

Not all of the clubs adopted the names of Girth and Mirth and not all of them survived, but they were all gay big men's clubs. Like all new movements, the clubs sometimes put their efforts in the wrong direction. The original concept of providing a place for chubbies to meet chasers in their own town or helping clubs to form in other cities was lost in non-productive political pursuits.

Four wonderful conventions were held in San Francisco in 1980, in New York in 1983, in Chicago in 1984, and in Seattle in 1985. ABC, the Affiliated BigMen's Club, was formed at the Seattle convention, Convergence 85. San Francisco joined ABC but resigned shortly after. San Francisco, the city that

started the whole chubby scene was forced to go back to basics and return to the non-political club it was meant to be. This is now a club that serves gay chubbies and their admirers from the Greater San Francisco Bay and now to the far corners of the world. San Francisco has widened its visions and is now going international.

They are now *San Francisco, International Girth and Mirth Club Inc.* and is the only national incorporated non-profit, tax-exempt club that concerns itself solely with social and educational efforts. The club is designed to present the myriad ways of offering fun for its members - fun, and only fun. We may sometime become educational but never political. Political issues take all of the fun out of the scene. GM/SF is proud to serve the local, national, and international commu-

nities of gay big men and their admirers. Since taking this new posture, the GM/SF has been attracting more and more members.

The GM/SF publishes a newsletter called *Fat City by the Bay* with an extensive Pen-Pal section called the "Meet Rack." They are presently making plans to expand the newsletter into a national magazine with many pictures of beautiful gay nude chubbies and their admirers proving the adages that fat can be beautiful and fat men have more to offer. The club helps gay fat men develop a positive image of themselves by providing an atmosphere of total acceptance. They accept the adage that it is not only OK to be a fat gay but it can be desirable to be a fat gay. Many are now joining this vibrant and dynamic club and are

...Continued on page 32



The Broadwalk/The Club  
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# Gay/Lesbian Resource Directory- Nebraska

## Lincoln

**Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous.** Groups meet weekly. Phone 466-5214.  
**American Foundation for the Fine Arts.** A non-profit foundation committed to making positive contributions on the behalf of gays/lesbians to Lincoln's cultural life.

**Community of Grace.** Box 6881, Lincoln 68506. Interdenominational worshipping community of gay/lesbian, & those associated. Meets Sunday 7:00 pm.

**Gay/Lesbian Awareness at Lincoln High School.** Meets every other week. Phone GLis 475-4697.

**Gay/Lesbian Information & Support Line.** Meets third Wednesday of the month. Phone 475-4697

**Gay/Lesbian Student Group at Nebraska Wesleyan.** Contact Dr. Mary Smith, NWU, 50th & St. Paul, Lincoln 68504. Phone 465-2351.

**Kinship (Adventist support group).** For information phone 464-0902,

**Lambda Resource Center**—Meeting rooms, outpatient counseling, group activities. 2845 "R" St. Call 474-1205 for information.

**Lesbian Support Group.** Informal discussion group for lesbians, all women welcome. Meets weekly. Contact Women's Resource Center, Room 117, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588. Phone 472-2597.

**Lincoln Legion of Lesbians.** Box 30137, Lincoln 68503. Lesbian-Feminist collective providing a newsletter, confidential referral, & support groups for lesbians. Sponsors cultural & social programs.

**Ministry in Human Sexuality, Inc.** Box 80122, Lincoln 68501. Non-profit agency providing counseling, education, & supportive action for those seeking growth & understanding in the areas of sexuality & relationships. J. Benjamin Roe, Executive Director. Phone 476-9913.

**New Directions Center**—Short term individual counseling, support groups, classes and workshops dealing with coming out, relationship issues, parenting. Sliding Fee Scale. Call 476-2802

**Open Door Ministry.** To provide traditional orthodox spiritual counsel to all people in need at no charge. Phone 474-3390.

**Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays.** Box 4374, Lincoln 68501. Support group for parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians/gays. Meets fourth Tuesday of the month. Phone 466-1151.

**Presbyterians for Gay/Lesbian Concerns.** For information phone 464-5286.

**Third Culture.** Non-residential subculture dealing with issues such as coming out, social behavior, the gay lifestyle, suicide, & drug/alcohol abuse. Contact Pat at 474-1205.

**UN-L Gay/Lesbian Association.** Room 222, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588. Political, social and educational organization for students & interested others, meets Thursdays, 8:00 pm. Phone 472-5644.

## Omaha

**Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous.** Groups Meet weekly. Phone 345-9916.

**Dignity of Omaha.** Providing common experience through Mass & meetings for gays and lesbians and their friends. Regular Mass second Sunday of the month, 7:00 pm. St. John's Lower Level. Phone 341-1460 or 345-9426.

**Gay Parents Support Group.** Support group for gay parents who have children. Phone 553-2308 for times and locations.

**Lutherans Concerned of Omaha.** Society of gay Christians and friends together to foster within a church climate of understanding, justice, & reconciliation among all women & men. Phone 592-1209.

**Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha.** Sunday worship 10:30 am & 7:00 pm, Tuesday Evening Bible Study 7:30 pm, Wednesday Evening Praise/Prayer/Healing 7:30.

**Metropolitan Club of Omaha.** Professional business persons' organization. Meets third Wednesday of the month. Phone for information 391-6253.

**Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG).** Box 3173, Omaha 68103. Support group for the parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians/gays. Phone 345-2563.

**River City Mixed Chorus.** Box 315, Omaha 68101. Volunteer community chorus for gay/lesbian & gay/lesbian-sensitive men & women, with the goal of musical excellence in performance. Rehearsals Monday evenings.


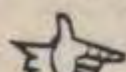
**Sexual Minorities in the Health Professions.** Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Health Professionals or students in the Health Professions. Phone 345-5637.

**T.W.O. Motorcycle Club.** 712 South 16th St., Omaha 68102. Meets second Sunday of the month. Phone 342-9595

**Volleyball Team.** 2599 Ellison Ave., Omaha 68111. Phone 451-6464

**The Page—The Publication of Gay Events in Omaha.** A monthly calendar of events. To have events listed, please call 330-3690, after 6:00 pm evenings.

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### Nebraska Statewide

**Affirmation of Nebraska.** Box 80122, Lincoln 68501. United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian Concerns. Meets alternately in Omaha & Lincoln, second Friday of the month. Phone 476-9913 or 474-1205.

**Coalition for Gay & Lesbian Civil Rights.** Box 94882, Lincoln 68509. Advocacy group which lobbies for lesbian/gay civil rights, provides educational presentations, publishes a newsletter & sponsors cultural & political programs.

**Imperial Court of Nebraska.** Social organization for the advancement of the gay society. Omaha meeting first Monday of every month, except holidays. Phone 342-5710. P.O. Box 3772, Omaha 68102

**Nebraska A.I.D.S. Project.** Box 3512, Omaha 68103. Center for information, support, and coordination of A.I.D.S.-related community efforts. Phone Omaha 342-4233 or toll-free statewide 1-800-782-AIDS.

**The New Voice of Nebraska.** Box 80819, Lincoln 68501. Staff meets in Omaha & Lincoln. Phone for times & locations. Phone 475-7740 or 345-2181

**Viral Syndrome Clinic.** Dr. Jonathan Goldsmith, Physician. Jan Hopp, RN, 559-7331

### Omaha Bars, Clubs, and Lounges

The Chesterfield	1951 St. Mary's Ave.	342-1244
The Diamond	712 South 16th St.	342-9595
The Max	1417 Jackson	346-4110
The Run	1715 Leavenworth	449-8703
The Stage Door	1512 Howard St.	342-8715
Stars Restaurant	1113 1/2 Howard St.	346-6624

### Lincoln Bars, Clubs, and Lounges

The Board-Walk	20th & O	474-9741
Cherchez la femme	200 So. 18th (lower level)	474-9162
The Club	116 No. 20th St.	474-5692
Kelly's	200 So. 18th St.	474-9962

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helping to spread this beautiful message to gay fat men throughout the western world.

The Girth and Mirth club of San Francisco just recently had a big men's Western national conference in March, and they are presently preparing for CONVERGENCE 86, the fifth national big men's convention. Publicity for this event will cover the gay national and international communities. This national convention will be held in the "City that knows how," San Francisco, during the long Labor Day Weekend, Friday, August 29th through Monday, September 1, 1985. Since GM/SF has been a small but effective gay cubby-chaser club since 1976, this national big men's convention, CONVERGENCE 86, will be their ten-year celebration and also the year that GM/SF will be going BIG. We are encouraging all members of all the affiliated clubs to join us in having the fun of their lives by meeting cubbies and chasers from all over the world. The best program ever is being planned for this four-day weekend.

## Jewelry Reported Stolen

A 25-year-old man reported the theft of jewelry and other items from his home in central Lincoln Saturday, police said.

The man said someone removed a wooden jewelry box filled with antique and costume jewelry worth \$3,000, a "Miss Capitol City" trophy worth \$30, a 6-inch-tall rhinestone tiara worth \$50, and a black sequined evening gown worth \$300, police reports said.

--reprinted from May 25  
Lincoln Journal & Star

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## Classifieds

### Cross People Poetry

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### A Salute to Gay Pride Week

From the staff and management of The Boardwalk/The Club. We salute Gay Pride Week and strongly encourage you to support gay owned and operated businesses.

### Special Prices Offered

The Club Bar is offering special prices from 7 pm to close every night of the week. Check The Club menu starting June 1 for any specials of the week.



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