

VOL. V NO III

MAY 1988

The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



Our Turn

View and opinions by The New Voice staff.

In Memorium

Norman D. Luers
March 9, 1955 - March 15, 1988

In February 1987, Norm wrote his first and only article for The New Voice entitled, "I Haven't Cried Yet." Norm had been diagnosed with AIDS and his article told of the diagnosis and what had followed.

I had known Norm for just a few months prior to his diagnosis. However, I came to know him very well as a special friend in the time that followed.

In the months that followed I personally learnt that the words Norm wrote of his faith as his strength were not mere words; he lived by them.

Norm's faith remained firm despite many pains he endured, from past friends - family - church and AIDS itself. No matter what he encountered, his faith remained steadfast. Even as we shared our final conversation together, then as his partner, family and I got the final hour with him; he continued to live his faith. Norm Died peacefully during the early morning hours of March 15 with a smile on his face. He had won his victory over life, pain, AIDS and all else; he was now home where he wanted to be.

During the month struggle Norm endured, he was a continual source of strength and encouragement to me as well as others who encountered him.

I was honored by Norm by being asked to deliver the message at his funeral. His request, not a typical message but one about his faith and how it got him through and because of it; he did not fear death.

At the time of his funeral I honored his request, today I write of my personal feelings for my friend and what he meant and still means to me.

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"NORM"

Outside are the first signs of spring, daffodils blowing in the wind, flowering quince, the budding/greening of trees.

You are gone and your battle over. You fought it long, hard and valiantly.

Gone and yet still here in so many ways. We had so little time as friends, you and I. But in that time I learned so much from you.

About courage, faith and resiliency. I learned better to accept change. I learned that as the body may fail, a mind, a soul, a spirit can still grow and become purer and better. I saw you smile through your pain. Your spirit remains an inspiration. You gave all who knew you love and warmth. You gave far more than you asked.

You are gone, yet still here in the shimmer of the moonlight and the glow of the stars.

You are gone, but not forgotten. For in but a short time you gave me memories to last a lifetime.

You are gone, but remembered and still loved.

Thanks for the privilege of being amongst those you called friends.

Thanks for the strength, courage and faith you believed, lived, died and shared. Today I am a better man because our paths crossed.

Until we meet again, rest, enjoy your victory and know I'll always love you and call you friend.

-Larry Adams

Practice Safe Sex

It's a New Adventure



It's Fun

Welcome Back!

-by Sharon V.

I am thrilled and delighted to welcome back some old friends to the staff of The New Voice. Jean Mortensen has agreed to rejoin the staff as a feature writer. You'll find her first article in the regular feature "The Christian Gay." Amazonia is back with insightful book reviews and Rodney Bell will be providing articles and reports from the Lincoln scene. Look for his original science fiction story in this edition.

I'd also like to thank "Much Gay" for his poignant article "I Haven't Told My Parents Yet." Hopefully we'll see another article someday telling a successful coming out story.

Special thanks, also, to all the members of P-Flag who contributed articles this month. I feel that this group of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays are some of the strongest allies that we have in the long struggle to be truly free. Thank God for the continued support of our families and friends.

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The New Voice of Nebraska
PO Box 3512
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A Mother's Perspective

-by Elaine

I am glad that I was entrusted with the knowledge of my child's sexual orientation. We (my husband and I) were fortunate to have many "helps" along the way in meeting this new challenge. However, I feel those "helps" are there for everyone, when they trust enough to simply reach out to others.

A parent, if kept in the dark, does not have the opportunity to truly know their child. With the privilege of this new knowledge comes the parents' responsibility to learn, to reach out, and then in turn to be supportive of other parents, friends, and gay persons who are finding their way. There is risk, of course, in the sharing of information, but most parents are capable of this kind of growth. Love is the key, and has been returned to us ... tenfold.

Hindsight is always 20/20



The Coming Out Process: A Dad's View

-Dad, Lincoln

When our gay son's coming out process began a couple years ago, we all learned some valuable lessons about assuming how people will react to the news. Mike first told his two sisters, who were unanimous in their opinion that he should go ahead and tell his mother, but, "for God's sake, don't tell Dad!" When his mother joined the ranks of those who knew, she agreed. But, circumstances combined to present what might be viewed as a golden opportunity, and Dad was told. My reaction was the direct opposite of what the whole family had anticipated. In fact, my wife has since said she had never misjudged me so badly during our entire married life.

As we proceeded to discuss the situation as a family, we were unanimous in deciding there was no need to tell my then 91 year old grandmother, who was in a nursing home. But, as my wife and I were visiting her one day, she suddenly looked at me and said, "Is Mike gay?" There was no way I could look my grandmother in the eye and lie to her, so I answered, "Yes." She was silent for a few seconds, then sighed and said, "I thought so. Well, it makes me sad, but that's the way he's made." My wife and I, as well as Mike and his sisters, were flabbergasted at the equanimity with which she accepted the situation. Our concern for her, and what this revelation might do to her, was badly misplaced. It turned out that she was much wiser than we thought.

Another Mother's View

-M.O.M.

Fifteen years ago our son was struggling to communicate to us the feelings and emotions that were overwhelming him. These revolved around one basic and unyielding conviction that he was "different" sexually, felt different emotions about men and women and was SCARED. For us it was a roller coaster time of high emotion, low depression: Was he - wasn't he? What was he? What did it mean? Who could talk to him? Somehow from this turmoil of several years we came to the astounding revelation that really nothing had changed - he was still himself - volatile, loving, artistic, helpful. If there was any change it was in our understanding and acceptance that through all the turmoil this young man was still our son, to be loved and cherished without reservation.

Four years ago I met PFLAG and it has made all the difference. We have facts, figures, stories, conversations - all adding up to knowledge and total acceptance. In their own ways each of our children has enlarged and enriched our lives, and pushed and dragged us sometimes most unwillingly into the frontline of social concerns in the 1980's. What excitement to visit their homes, enjoy their mates, rejoice in grandchildren, and whenever possible share some of these blessings with other family and friends. Our gay son's lifestyle is remarkably like that of his siblings, stable and loving with a dash of volatility to keep us on our toes. Thank God for the wonderful diversities of life and thank God for the encompassing elasticity of love.

Another Perspective

I. The Mother

For thirty years I managed to keep my homosexuality to myself. I lived in a relationship I detested for twenty-three years until the day came I had always dreaded and had always desired. I met someone I really loved and who loved me in return - another woman.

I think the hardest thing I ever did was to tell my kids I was gay. They had been brought up to believe homosexuality was totally unacceptable. I didn't know if they would love me or turn completely away. No matter what they decided, I couldn't go back to living the way I had before. It has taken a lot of love and patience to build the good relationships we all share today. I think we have all survived and are better people for it because we loved each other to start with.

When I found out my youngest son was gay I felt it was my fault. I was scared for him to end up spending his life as I had. I didn't want him to be gay. I cried myself to sleep many nights just thinking about it. Even though I was gay myself I sure didn't wish it for my son.

As time passed I found I was able to help him in many ways to deal with his own feelings. We began to have long talks and really began to know each other. My being gay has given me a better insight into his problems. I feel he will have a much better life that I did and a much more honest one. I regret the fact that he will never have children, but I really believe God didn't intend for everyone to have them and my son was chosen to be one of those who don't.

I know it's taken some time for him to sort out his feelings and get his life going in the direction he wants it to go. I've tried to be as supportive as possible and yet let him make his own decisions about things.

II. And Her Son-

There are certain moments in life where memory is so clear that everything can be seen in perfect detail. I can still go to the spot where I first saw my mother in a car embracing another woman. I was fifteen years old at that time and had been out riding my motorcycle around the ranch. I remember buzzing down the road and everything seemed so perfect. Just a few off months before our family had been honored as the most outstanding contributor to the community. To me, we seemed solid and strong -- we were a model

family. As soon as I saw them in the car I stopped the motorcycle and stared for just a few seconds before I felt the need to hide so no one else would know what I had just seen.

After that I started paying a lot attention to my parents' relationship. I looked for signs of affection between them that would deny what I had seen. Instead, it became increasingly obvious that their relationship was deteriorating. I knew that it wouldn't be long before they were separated and I knew why.

The following April my mother sat down and told my brothers and sister and I that she was homosexual. I cried a lot that night because I didn't know what was going to happen - I felt so alone and confused. Mom moved out over the next few days and I didn't see much of her for about five months. I knew inside she was very much alone and that she missed us a great deal. It was a very confusing time for everyone. Mom was living in a trailer house in town trying to build a new relationship with her lover. Dad would disappear for three or four days at a time on drinking binges, and I escaped by partying with my friends throughout that summer. After school started in the fall I immersed myself in homework and other activities so I wouldn't

-continued next page

THE IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBRASKA

PRESENTS:

CORONATION VIII ACTIVITIES

MAY 19


INTRODUCTION OF CANDIDATES
THURSDAY 9:30 AT THE MAX

MAY 30

THE NEBRASKA GAY GAMES
MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC
MONDAY 12P-5P
CARTER LAKE WAREHOUSE GROUNDS

JUNE 17

MONARCH'S OUT OF TOWN SHOW
FRIDAY 9:00
RAMADA INN-AIRPORT OMNI ROOM



CORONATION VIII

JUNE 18

CORONATION VIII
MT. OLYMPUS- AN IMPERIAL EVENING WITH
THE GODS
SATURDAY 8P
CARTER LAKE WAREHOUSE BALLROOM
VOTING 6:00 - 7:45

JUNE 19

VICTORY BRUNCH SUNDAY 12P
RAMADA INN-AIRPORT OMNI ROOM
VICTORY SHOW SUNDAY 9:30
AT THE MAX

have to deal with what was happening to my family. I have to say that during this whole time it never bothered me that my mother was a lesbian. I never questioned it or was angry at her for it -- I just wanted to be there to support her and most of all I wanted her to be happy.

One learns to appreciate others for how much they've hurt and the effort they put forth in keeping a relationship solid. It couldn't have been easy for Mother to stay in her home town with others speculating on her lifestyle. Looking back, it's amazing how much my mother put up with living there. She was working nights doing a dangerous job at a plant and when she got off work she would fix a sack lunch for me to pick up on my way to high school. I didn't appreciate that then, but now I realize how special that was and how important it was for her to see me those ten or fifteen minutes a day. It wasn't until after I graduated and went to college that my mother moved away to a larger town with her lover.

Once I was in college, away from the problems at home, I finally had time to think about myself. Gradually I began to realize and admit to myself that I also had homosexual feelings. I was twenty-one when I came out to my mother. At first, she tried very hard to convince me I wasn't gay because she didn't want me to face that stigma. However, once Mother accepted my homosexuality we began to really get to know each other - there were no more secrets to keep. Our relationship has continued to strengthen and thrive ever since.

I recognize the courage and the risk it took for my mother to stand up and say she was a lesbian and to choose to express those feelings. I think it's beautiful that she and her lover will soon be celebrating ten years together and I know she's finally happy. Mom, I love you and I am very proud of you.

I Haven't Told My Parents, Yet

-by Much Gay

For each time I repeated that phrase to friends and peers, I've also wished that I could gather courage to tell my parents. I am in a self-imposed prison, for all the common sense reasons. You know what I mean... If I told you... I would lose you as a friend... I'd lose my job... I'd lose the respect I've worked so hard to gain from you.

Coming to terms with my sexuality was a long hard fought battle. That cold, bright Minnesota winter morning I awoke from a wet dream that entailed the essence of being Gay... And I was all of fourteen years old. I remember lying in bed reliving the dream in my head, and repeating the statement, "I'm a homosexual." The words formed on my lips silently, in a bedroom I shared with three brothers.

I fought diligently for the next nine years to deny this truth. After my 23rd birthday, I gathered the courage to walk into the Office Lounge in Lincoln to finally explore the feelings I suppressed for so long. There I found a path to follow in a co-worker who became and still is a great friend. Then, AIDS was a distant echo from New York and San Francisco. Sex and death was not something I had even dreamed of associating with... But I did find a man to share my life with.

Five years have passed since that time. We're still together, but not out of fear of AIDS, but in love, discovering we can still accomplish goals and dreams together, more so than apart.

But, I still haven't told my parents. A dear friend from Denver who is not Gay figured out I wasn't the marrying kind. If I told her I was Gay, she would understand. After all, I thought she had figured out I

was Gay. I decided to confide in her. So, I picked out a park on a sunny day, in a small town in Nebraska. We talked about the weather, her new husband and the fact that I was Gay. I really thought she knew... was wrong. The tears began to flow. She asked, "Are you sure?" Well, I had been with my lover for over two years at that point, but she had doubts, curiosity and concern. I was devastated. Through time she has not offered the support I had expected from a person I cared so deeply about. But I saw myself reflected in her actions. I had not been honest with her, or myself from the beginning. I feel we no longer share the strong friendship we had years earlier.

If friends that I care deeply about have difficulty coming to terms with my homosexuality, I wonder how my family, my parents would react if I told them I was Gay? I still haven't told my parents... yet.



You Are Wanted!

-Larry Adams

The New Voice of Nebraska needs you. The current staff makes up but a small group of our community. You, our readership, are diverse, coming from varied backgrounds and having a wide range of interest. We want to hear from you. Write poetry, short stories, articles of being gay/lesbian, coming out or community events.

Please submit your articles limited to two pages double spaced typed or four pages double spaced printed or written. All articles must be received by the 15th of each month. If we have more material in any one month, we will hold for future issue consideration. Mail to:

The New Voice of Nebraska
P. O. Box 3512
Omaha, NE 68103

The New Voice is your magazine - become a part of it.



dignity
Omaha

Lesbian and Gay
Roman Catholics
and Friends

Mass 7 p.m. 2nd Sunday monthly
St. John's Church—lower level
Creighton University Campus

331-4919 PO BOX 31312
341-1460 OMAHA 68131

What Will We Tell the Children?

-by Sharon V.

The process of telling our families about our sexuality seems to always be filled with apprehension. "What will they think?" "Will I still be welcome?"

I did not discover my true sexual identity until after my children were grown. Telling them was simple since they already discussed it with one of my lesbian friends. After I had carefully rehearsed what I would say, it was somewhat of a let down to have my daughter say, "Oh, I know. Joan told me all about it. I wasn't sure at first but you seem happy so it must be okay."

Things went along smoothly for a couple years -- after all, the grandchildren were too young to understand. We would tell them when they started asking questions. Good plan, right?

It might have worked if I hadn't fallen in love. When Carla and I decided to have a "Rite of Blessing" my daughter figured out that she would somehow have to explain why we were having this ceremony.

My daughter and I both stewed and fussed for several days before she finally explained to the grandchildren that Carla and I were in love and this was sort of like a wedding.

I was really anxious to know how they reacted so I called my daughter and demanded to know what happened.

"Nothing" was her reply. "They think it's just fine."

They demonstrated how fine they thought it was a couple weeks later when they stayed overnight on a weekend when Carla wouldn't be coming to Omaha.

Kathy is 8 and Timmy is 6. Both are fascinated with the computer. When we fired up the word processor I asked, "What shall we write?" They both answered "Let's write letters to Carla."

They managed to convey in just a few words that they understand the love Carla and I share and that they accept us completely. As is so often the case, the fear of what to tell the children was a million times worse than the reality. Here are the letters they wrote, complete with misspelled words.

Dear Carla,
I like you Carla.
Your very very nice.
Timmy and me miss you alot.
I bet grandma does too.
The computer is real fun.
I wrote this letter for you all by my self.
Hope you come soon.
bye,bye
Kathy B.

Dear Carla,
I love you.
TIMothy

Visualization Can Increase Blood Cells

-UFMCC Alert

In a study conducted by Dr. Jeanne Achterberg of the U of Texas Health Science Center in Dallas and music therapist Mark Rider of Southern Methodist University, it was shown that mental imagery can trigger an increase in disease-fighting cells. It was also shown that music can enhance this effect.

Thirty volunteers listened on a regular basis to a 20 minute tape comprised of relaxation and visualization messages and music. After six weeks, their blood tests showed a uniform increase in the specific blood cells they were asked to visualize increasing.

Although there was no correlation reported between this study and AIDS or HIV infection, this study would suggest that relaxation and visualization could be a help to people with AIDS or ARC in increasing depleted T-Helper cells.

ARC to AIDS

-by Jerry Peck

On January 11, 1988 I was advised that I was a person with ARC. On March 21, 1988 I was admitted to UNO Med Center with pneumonia - AIDS! I heard it said that one in five never leave the hospital when they come down with this type of pneumonia. Well, I did leave the hospital on Easter Sunday. During my two week stay I lost 20 pounds. In one week since my release I have gained 15 pounds back.

My emotions have been the most difficult thing to deal with. If you have ever seen a whirlpool following a flood, you have some idea what my life has seemed to me. Debris from everywhere has been swirling, threatening to take me down the tubes. I have been declared "totally disabled" which is comparable to the ego damage done when I declared myself bankrupt several years ago. Forms had to be filled out to get disability from Social Security. They asked for information to help them contact my son, whom I have not seen for nine years. This brought up some hurts which I have worked to keep below the surface for some time. I have had to deal with the prospects of not working and wondering if I will vegetate, or can I be of value as a human being. I saw people that I considered dear friends turn from me. At the time of this writing I have grown weak to the point of being scared to drive and have become dependant on a number of volunteers.

Not all has been bad! I have attended the support group for those concerned about HIV, ARC & AIDS. I have received support from many there. I have met caring people through the volunteers, and people that I knew as acquaintances have proven to be real friends. One gentleman that I had not heard from in a year, came by, took me out to eat, insisted on stocking my shelves with canned goods, took out my trash, did up my dishes & dusted my furniture - without being asked.

I am learning new meanings to the idea of community, and am indeed proud to be a part of this community - even if much of it is made up of non-gays. Thank God for people that care.

We boil at different degrees.

WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!

THE
Chesterfield
OMAHA

MON-FRI 3 PM-1 AM
SAT-SUN Noon-1 AM
1951 ST. MARY'S



The Christian Gay

-by Jan D. Kross

I love the imagery of Psalm 139 in the Bible. It tells me how attentive God is to everything about me; how well God knows me, and, beginning with verse 13, it describes my early origins as the psalmist speaks to God:

"For thou didst form my inward parts, thou didst knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise thee for thou art fearful and wonderful. Wonderful are thy works!

Thou knowest me right well; my frame was not hidden from thee, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth."

-Revised Standard Version

That picture of God knitting me together sort of makes my heart giggle.

Since I believe God's hand of creation is still present and working in each of us, I believe that my sexuality is as much God-created and God ordained as the color of my eyes or the size of my feet.

history there has been a sizeable percentage of people with green, gray or hazel colored eyes, says to me that God enjoys variety. God hasn't used the same pattern without putting in some variations to make each of us unique.

For me, living life as a Christian gay is based on the premise that God created me as I am for a purpose. I may not have a clear understanding of God's total purpose for me, but from earliest childhood I have known and experienced God's love for me. I have never doubted that love. I have questioned and doubted other things in my relationship with God, but I have never questioned whether or not God loves me. I know God does.

I am also sadly aware that there are many, many people who do not have that same assurance in their lives. I know that for many people the circumstances of their lives have led them to doubt God's love for them. It's true that there are many things that we cannot explain about why bad things happen to us, especially when we are children. For too long people have been led to believe that God punishes us through misfortune. That is far too simplistic, and it is not true. It is because of God's love



and through God's love for each individual that we are able to overcome our misfortunes.

Once you just accept as fact that God loves you, with unconditional love, your whole emotional, mental and spiritual attitudes begin to change.



Because God knit the basic pattern together with a little variation each time, it also means that the fabrics of our lives are each going to be somewhat different. For instance, we may have similar experiences to those of someone else, but, for a variety of reasons we may respond to them differently, giving them a different outcome. Maybe if we could see that "norms" are humanity's creation not God's, we could more readily celebrate our differences and accept God's love for all that God created.

As a Christian gay not only do I know God loves me, I also know God loves every other person every bit as much as God loves me.

Sympathy -- your pain in my heart.



MCC OMAHA
**SUMMER
BOWLING
LEAGUE**
TUESDAY - JUNE 14, 1988
7:00 P.M.
**AMES BOWLING
CENTER**
4606 NO. 56TH



In Loving Memory

**Jonathan
Schneider**



This Was the Time - Art Deco

-by GCA

Art Deco is the term we use to describe the decorative style of 1915 through 1925. The term is the shortened French version for "L'Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes", held in Paris in 1925 or "Les Arts Decos" or more plainly 'Art Deco'. This style became popular following the floral styling of Art Nouveau period from around 1890 to 1905.

On November 1, 1922, the discovery of the Egyptian Pharaoh King Tutankhamun (those of us who were more familiar with him called him King Tut) created a new surge of interest in the straight lines and arrow designs of this young king's tomb, who was born in the year 1343 B.C., much like the lines of this new style called Art Deco. Here too, in this Art Deco style belong our great American Indians and their designs, who, like the Egyptians worshipped the infinite oneness of God through the sun. This was the time of Cubism; simplification and rejection of extraneous decoration.

This was the time of the artist Erte' who was of course one of the leading designers of women's clothes and fabrics. This was the time of the paintings and sculptures of Modigliani, Picasso, Matisse, Utrillo and others. This was the time of the sleek, aerodynamic hand built cars that we now see on reproduced posters of that period. This was the time that buildings took on a new look utilizing concrete, steel and glass with stark white interiors and simple furniture. This was the time of the great hollywood epic movies produced in black and white with the new look by the artists Erte' and Iribe, portraying the style and wealth of the ongoing European period of Art Deco.

This was the time of the Art Deco influence in the new designs of refrigerators, bridges, cars, airplanes, houses, sunken bathtubs and home bars. This was the time of great changes in women's clothes and jewelry; enameling became very popular in jewelry along with vases, boxes and



portraits. This was the time of beautiful front doors, radiator covers, grates, lamp shades and furniture.

The Art Deco period was a very creative period for glass not only in buildings but some of the most collectible art glass comes from this period of time. The use of multiple layers of glass with air bubbles, streams and washes of color trapped within the layers, some cut and deeply carved; much acid etched glass was the 'in' style if you could afford it. This was the time glass was being produced with ingenious designs, exceptional colors and brilliant luminosity. This was the time of Tiffany, Lalique, Daum, Sabino, Orrefors, Galle'...

This was the time of the inter-war years which also gave great popularity to bronzes with carved and painted ivory to create stylish figures of dancers, nudes, animals... this was the time of extraordinary bookbinding using such materials of ivory, wood, mother-of-pearl in conjunction with the finest morocco leathers with colored inlays of gold and platinum.

This was the time that illustrators first felt the effect of the ever increasing popularity of the photographer. Art Deco styles, like all others, come and go and then once again come back into vogue.

Following the Art Deco period came the new style of Modernism or "Art Moderne." The following years brought the great depression.

I am an atheist. Thank God!

The dictionary defines Art as the human effort to imitate, supplement, alter or counteract the work of nature... human works of beauty... a specific skill in adept performance that cannot be learned solely by study.

This was the time of Art Deco - 1915 through 1925.

AIDS Art Wanted

The Wexner Center for the Visual Arts/University Gallery of Fine Art will present AIDS: The Artists' Response, an exhibition of artwork addressing AIDS. Curated by Jan Zita Grover, a critic and AIDS activist from San Francisco, the show will open in February 1989, and run through March 1989 in Columbus, Ohio.

Artists producing film, video, photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, performance, installations, or other AIDS-related visual/audio projects are encouraged to submit their work. Please send 35mm slides or VHS tapes with SASE mailers, resume and or cover letter to the University Gallery. Pamphlets, posters, and other materials from AIDS service organizations are also being solicited. The deadline for submissions is July 1, 1988.

For further information, please contact Lynette Molnar, University Gallery of Fine Art, 1880 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43201, (614) 292-0330.

The Book Report

-by Amazonia

The Well of Loneliness
by Radclyffe Hall

As I start this column, it is my intent to review books by, for, and about lesbians. Mostly I will deal with fiction stories, so that you readers can get an idea whether or not you'll want to find the book and read it too. However, this column will also be peppered with other books of interest for the ladies and maybe a couple for the men, too. It seems only appropriate that I begin with the book reputed to have started it all. When it first appeared in 1928, The Well of Loneliness outraged "decent folk" on two continents with its account of lesbian love, and was even banned from further publication on the basis that it was "obscene."

Set in England at the turn of the Twentieth Century, the Gordons await the birth of their baby. They've been expecting a boy and have even been calling the unborn child Stephen. They are surprised and disappointed when a girl is born. They call her Stephen anyway. While other girls speak of dolls and lacy petticoats, Stephen is more comfortable riding a horse in her breeches. She develops a crush on the housemaid. Her father indulges Stephen so much that he sees she's educated in reading, writing, languages, and arithmetic, something which "proper" girls find extraneous. Is it any wonder she grows up knowing she's different from the other girls.

Stephen reaches adulthood and Martin Hallam becomes her friend, which bring about her realization that it is men to whom she best relates intellectually. But when Martin proposes, she can react only with panic and outrage that he would so betray the friendship they had. Stephen wanted no part of being some man's wife, a mere possession. And when her father dies in an accident, she feels she's lost the only person who understands her. Stephen's feelings of being different and alone in the world intensify.

Then she meets Angela Crosby and falls madly in love. Angela leads her on. But wishy-washy Angela, being the femme fatale she is, still needs a man to protect her and

betrays Stephen with Roger Antrim, Stephen's childhood rival. Broken in spirit, Stephen writes a pleading love letter to Angela, which only finds its way back to Stephen's mother. After that, Stephen is banished from the home she loved so much as her private haven. She eventually ends up living in Paris. When World War I breaks out, she serves her mother country in the ambulance corps, which is where she meets Mary Llewellyn. An orphan barely into adulthood, Mary asks to stay with Stephen after the war ends.

The book then goes on to detail life in Paris for the gay men and lesbians living there in the 1920's. Stephen's weapon against the world's ridicule was her talent for writing. But she never saw any truly happy lesbians or gay men to hold as role models, a fact which forced her to alternately cling more closely to Mary, then push her away in fear for her happiness. Stephen had her writing, but Mary had nothing, as was typical with women of that age, and Stephen felt her writing was not enough to protect them both.

It's a thick book with tiny print, full of meaty descriptions and lengthy discussions which serve to make this a book of tone rather than plot. And the tone is quite dark, one of isolation and despair. Though Victorian England had passed, homosexuality was still the love that dared not speak its name at the time this book was written. The beginning of the gay liberation movement was still over 40 years away. In some ways, we've changed much in the last 60 years. Independent career women of the 80's would find certain sheepish female characters laughable if we fail to remember that women then were groomed to be utterly dependent on their fathers and husbands. In some other ways, people have hardly changed at all. Written in the omniscient third person voice, I quote Ms. Hall's narrative as she comments on society's view of inversion, as homosexuality was then called:

A gentleman is a person who never insults someone else by mistake.

The Best is the enemy of the Worst.

"The world hid its head in the sands of convention, so that seeing nothing it might avoid truth. It said to itself, 'If seeing's believing, then I don't want to see -- if silence is golden, it's also, in this case, very expedient.'"

Radclyffe Hall, known as "John" to her friends, was a woman ahead of her times.

Available from:
Pocket Books
1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020

From Onan To Dr. Ruth

From Onan to Dr. Ruth

-by Jean Mortensen

For centuries the Bible has been accepted as a code of guide for normal religious behavior. Parts of it specifically set forth laws and rules by which "good" people have been expected to live. Anyone not conforming to that specific behavior has ever since been called immoral, sacrilegious, indecent or "bad." And since the Bible seems to condemn homosexuality as immoral behavior in several scripture verses, it has for centuries been a thorn in the side of homosexuals worldwide.

For now, though, I would like to comment on a passage which on the surface doesn't seem to have much to do with condemning same-sex love. It is an important passage to understand fully, however, because it lies at the foundation of many of our present views of sexual behavior, and that's where the connection to homosexuality comes in.

The story is about a man named Onan, and it is found in Genesis 38:1-11. The most important thing to know about this passage is one of the customs native to the tribal people it involves. It was extremely important for families to have children; in fact, the more children, the better. The tribal people in this story had to struggle just to stay alive. They had to contend with elements of nature and with other tribes who would often make war against them over land boundaries. The mortality rate was high. Children were needed as a sort of insurance for the future of the tribe. One of their

customs, therefore, held that if a man died before he could beget any children, one of his brothers should take his widow and produce children with her in the name of the dead brother. This allowed for the carrying on of a family name as well as for the continuance of the people as a whole.

And this was exactly the case with Onan. His brother died before any children were born to his wife. To quote from the Revised Standard Version: "Then Judah (tribal leader and father to Onan) said to Onan, 'Go in to your brother's wife and perform the duty of a brother-in-law to her, and raise up offspring for your brother.' But Onan knew the offspring would not be his; so when he went in to his brother's wife, he spilled his semen on the ground, lest he should give offspring to his brother. And what he did was displeasing in the sight of the Lord, and He slew him."

From the wording of the text, it is not clear whether God caused Onan's death because he refused to obey the tribal law of impregnating his sister-in-law, or because he withdrew before ejaculation and spilled his seed on the ground. That question is troublesome and quite legitimate. Onan's "crime" may have been disobeying a law, or it may have been something more akin to murder, at least in the viewpoint of Moses, who authored the book of Genesis.

Okay, murder does sound a little bit out in left field, I'll admit. Allow me to explain. This part of the Bible was written long before there was any scientific understanding of biology. The people living thousands of years ago knew nothing of ovulation and eggs and sperm cells uniting to create human life. In a patriarchal society, it was naturally assumed the male held the seed of life in his semen. Women were viewed as nothing more than an incubating receptacle as far as procreation was concerned. Therefore, the deliberate and non-procreative spilling of semen was equivalent to the deliberate destruction of human life; that is, murder.

Similarly, any act that involved non-procreative spilling of semen was tantamount to wasting of life. Not only does this mean that coitus interruptus was condemned as immoral, but also condemned were acts of male masturbation and male homosexuality. It is interesting to note that lesbianism was largely ignored, as it has been throughout history. Lesbianism involved no wasting of the "seed of life" and was thus not really considered a sin since there was no "murder."

As the centuries passed, interpretations of the Bible began to diverge as knowledge of ancient customs faded. The story of Onan came more and more to be used as a supporting argument for the "be fruitful and multiply" concept. It is very true that God did command humans to fill the earth with their offspring, but even that command must be viewed in its historical context. That command came when the world was newly-created and relatively devoid of life. Thousands of years since then have seen a population explosion. Nonetheless, some religions of the world preach that we must still follow God's command to multiply and use the story of Onan as an example of God's possible displeasure should we not follow that command. These religions are the same ones that say abortion, contraception, masturbation and homosexuality are "bad" since none of those results in procreation.

Too bad Dr. Ruth can't get through to certain church leaders. The fact is that we no longer need every sex act to produce children. It is no longer vital for the continuance of the race. Sex, as Dr. Ruth says, can be just for plain old fun.

Nearly all of the references in the Bible dealing with sex promote it only when procreation is involved. Any other sex act was viewed as an act of lust, which was considered a weakness of the flesh. When we read the Bible, we must remember to consider the historical context in which it was written. Some of the Bible's "rules" no longer apply to us today. In our society, no man takes his brother's widow if the brother dies without children. That custom is not necessary today. In fact, we would look on such an act as something out of the ordinary for us. And with the development of scientific studies, we learned something about the real role women play in the bearing of children.

Unfortunately, many people today are still caught up in biases about sexual conduct based on outdated attitudes like those espoused by the Onan story. And one of those biases is that homosexuality is immoral.

Our sex drive is one of God's gifts to us. It is a natural part of being human. Sex is a very normal and healthy part of any loving relationship, be it heterosexual, bisexual or homosexual. Sex is one way we can express our intimate feelings to someone we care for. Sometimes, as with same-sex love, sex acts are intended only to make us feel good, and that's okay. Dr. Ruth has been trying to tell us that for years.

To Our Friend
- Dick

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MCC Benefit

-by Tony Z.

On April 16th, the Two-Wheelers of Omaha sponsored a benefit show for the Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha. The show was held at the Diamond Bar.

M.C. for the show (and doing a number) was Dick Brown, Mr. Gay Nebraska 1987 and Emperor VII of the Imperial Court. Omaha entertainers included Rev. Jan, I.W.O. President Tom, Marj D., Danelle Logan (filling in for Empress Velvet), Geraldine Scratch & Sniff, and Craig O.

Special guest performers from Des Moines were Margeaux Roberts (Miss LaCage) and Donna Spencer.

The benefit raised \$230.00 for MCC. The club thanks all of the entertainers for their performances, everyone who attended and gave so generously and special thanks to the contingent from Des Moines.

When the club was asked by a member of MCC to do the benefit, it was agreed to with the understanding that I.W.O. would coordinate the show, but would need Omaha community support for entertainers. As the show date grew close, Omaha support seemed to wane and the show was nearly cancelled. But, with the help of Des Moines, the benefit show went on.

Thanks to Cindy and the staff of the Diamond for their assistance.

Again, thanks from I.W.O. to those who attended and/or performed, giving their heart to help others in the Omaha community.



TWO-WHEELERS
OF OMAHA

MCC

MCC

Local Organizations & Events

Absolutely The MAX

-by Vince/Velvet
Show director

Well here at the MAX was another unique show experience, yes you guessed it, Paul (Buddy Starr) from Lincoln brought us a new creation called "Just Deserts." The only really unusual thing about the show was it wasn't too unusual! Now I'm not saying that the show was at all usual, just that the unusual things about the show that are usual weren't too unusual. The show was quite good! That's what I am trying to say! One of the many special guests was the one and only love of my life - Beth (or as so many of you know her) "Bridget" of Bridget and Friends." She along with the other talented entertainers in this production made the show along with the rest of the Buddy Starr Creations, a winner! By the way watch for the month of October when this group will be bringing a new "Creation" to the MAX. I'm sure, as usual, it will be a fantastic show!

On March 27 the Miss Gay Nebraska America Pageant took place and turned out to be quite the evening for Doris, sorry gurrl, I meant to say Miss Gay Nebraska America, Dorian Drake. Yes, Dorian won the crown along with the support of the audience that night. We're proud of ya' gurrl! Some other people deserve a great deal of thanks also for making the pageant one of the most successful contests in the state, that goes to the franchise owners Mr. Jim Gau (Gloria Revile) Mr. Chris Janousek (Mona) and Mr. Jim Hilyard (Page). These three men put a lot of hard work in making this pageant the success that it was. You should pat yourselves on the back for a job well done!

April 3rd brought to the stage the newly crowned Miss Gay Nebraska U.S.A. Ann Marlow. As Ann took the stage she once again showed us why she was the one to carry one of Nebraska's highest state titles. From her illusion of Tina Turner, to Liza Minelle and all of the talent inbetween, she kept the

audience in a "wowed" state the entire time. We all here at the Max wish her good luck at the national competition! (It was nice to see you again "D")

April 10th brought a fundraiser to the MAX sponsored by Ms. Danelle Logan for the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and the Helping Hands Project. With the varied talents that Danelle had for the evening, the evening could not have been more complete. Special mention goes to Ms. Logan for her rendition of the one and only Mae West. After doing such a wonderful job, I'm sure that we will be seeing more of Ms. Logan's diverse talents. Over \$500.00 was raised that evening through private donations and the hard work and contributions of the entertainers - a job well done!

Until next month--

Lesbian Film Fest

by Rodney A Bell, II

The Gay/Lesbian Programming Committee and the Women's Words and Music Committee sponsored two films, "Domestic Bliss", a lesbian sit-com, and "We Aim to Plesse". Both films were held in the Nebraska Union on the UNL Campus. The event was attended by an estimated 60 - 75 people.

The G.L.P.C. and the W.W.& M.C. are two committees which are a functional part of the University Program Council. The U.P.C. is funded by student fees each school year.

Submission Deadline

The New Voice has a submission deadline on the 15th of each month. Submissions received after the 15th will be held for publication at a later date. Thank you for your cooperation.

Eggs for AIDS

The Blazing Saddle in Des Moines, IA, raised almost \$500.00 over the Easter Holiday by selling paper Easter Eggs. The contributors name went on these Easter Eggs and then the Easter Eggs were hung as decorations around the bar.

The proceeds of this festive campaign were donated to an AIDS hospice located in the Des Moines Metro Area. The proceeds purchased a freezer and a vacuum cleaner.

We would like to congratulate the staff for a great idea and also the patrons for giving much needed assistance.

Thank you all.

Lee H.

A MIDLANDS THANKSGIVING

See a member of T.W.O. or the Cornhaulers for tickets to the dinner & show, including cocktails - only \$25.00

G. L. I. S. Line Update

-by Rodney A Bell, II

The Gay/Lesbian Information and Support Line held an outstanding fundraiser february 29th at the Boardwalk. The event was entitled, "Cattle Call for G.L.I.S." According to Tim Francis, the event netted \$150 in funds needed to keep the support line going.

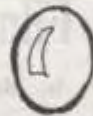
The G.L.I.S. Line wishes to thank Mark W., Sheza Mann, Michael Francis and the Boardwalk for their support.

Volunteers to staff the line are absolutely needed. Contact Tim Francis if you can volunteer. Volunteers go through excellent training and staff the line 4-5 hours one or two nights a month. G.L.I.S. Line is an exciting opportunity to assist our community with persons experiencing difficulty coming out, family concerns, social needs or simply needing someone to listen to them.



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the closet girl



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Coronation VIII

Coronation VIII plans are now in full gear and we are hoping your schedule will permit you to attend the following scheduled activities;

Thursday, May 19th, Introduction of candidates for Emperor Empress VIII. The MAX, 9:30pm \$3.00

Monday, May 30th, The Nebraska Gay Games, Memorial Day Picnic, Carter Lake Warehouse Grounds, 12:00-5:00pm. \$5.00 (free pop and beer) food sold by MCC-O and Dignity of Omaha.

Friday, June 17th, Monarch's Out of Town Show. Airport Ramada Inn, Omni Room. 9pm \$5.00 at the door.

Saturday June 18th - Coronation VIII - Carter Lake Warehouse

Ballroom. Voting 6:00 -7:45pm, Coronation VIII 8:00pm. \$10.00 open seating. Note: Voting for Emperor and Empress VIII is open to the Community and you need not attend to vote.

Sunday, June 19th, Victory Brunch, Airport Ramada Inn, 12:00 noon, \$8.00 -- Victory Show, The MAX, 9:30pm \$3.00

Other activities will be announced by each Candidate for Emperor and Empress VIII. Be sure and get out to support your favorite Candidate during their campaign.

Applications for two positions on the Board of Governors, Empress and Emperor VIII, are now available at all the bars or contact Emperor VII, Mr. Dick Brown at (402) 453-6688 or 451-4737.

Imperial Court News

This year's Memorial Day Picnic will be held Monday May 30th at the Carter Lake Warehouse Grounds from 12:00 - 5:00. The cost will be \$5.00 and pop and beer will be free. MCC Omaha and Dignity of Omaha will be selling food for the occasion.

This year's picnic will prove to be an extra good time

with the addition of "Nebraska Gay Games." Included in the games will be; "Drag Racing," relay races, three-legged races, and egg toss and much more. Bring your tennies and plan on getting involved in the Games. We truly hope to see you there.

Emperor VII
Dick Brown



Thanksgiving Update

-by Tom W.

The Two-Wheelers of Omaha, MC and the Cornhaulers L & L Club of Des Moines met recently to further plans for their joint club run A MIDLANDS THANKSGIVING. The run will be held the weekend of June 10-12, 1988 approximately 20 miles east of Omaha.

Site preparation is underway, the menu is in the planning stages, refreshment arrangements are nearly complete, games are being organized and the show numbers are being chosen. A fun-filled weekend is planned.

Ample supplies of applications are being maintained at the Diamond Bar in Omaha and the Blazing Saddle in Des Moines. Donation for the complete weekend is \$70.00 through May 15th. Consult an application for applicable late fees after that date. The clubs advise getting applications in early as space is limited.

Tickets will also be available for cocktails, dinner and show only on Saturday, June 11th. Cost is \$25.00. See a member of Two-Wheelers or Cornhaulers for tickets.

With the combined talents and resources of the two clubs, the run should be a weekend to remember.

May your life have just enough shadow to temper the glare of the sun.

Pride Week Countdown

Plans are being finalized for Pride Week. This year's logo will be unveiled in the June issue of The New Voice along with a detailed calendar of Pride Week activities.

Pride Week will begin with ICON Coronation on June 19, continue through the Parade and Community Picnic on Saturday, June 26, and end on Sunday, June 27, with a memorial service for persons who have died of AIDS. The activities will close with a community dance at the Warehouse, sponsored by Metropolitan Club.

AIDS Interfaith Network Services

-by Eileen

When I asked how to become involved with the AIDS effort in Omaha, one of the first things suggested was the AIDS Interfaith Network Prayer Service. I first attended in November.

What do you say about a prayer experience that deepens in meaning each time you attend? First, I was impressed with WHO present: black and white, older and young, gay and straight, clergy and laity, professional and non-professional, AIDS patients and families of AIDS patients - some I recognized, most I didn't.

Secondly, I was struck by the WHAT - the whole place resounded with the song and everyone participated in prayer. At the anointing, everybody went up and experienced the power of the laying on of hands.

Each month since November, as I've become more involved, learned names, and started to recognize faces, I come away

more deeply impressed. Words like dedicated, selfless, hopefilled, loving, courageous describe the people I have seen and met. I feel a sense of awe at the level of caring and the networks of mutual support that find expression in the prayer of this community.

The second Monday of the month has become a regular commitment in my calendar. Thanks for this chance to know you and to grow.

Video Available

A comprehensive 2-hour video, "AIDS in the Black Community," (ABC), is available without cost, through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

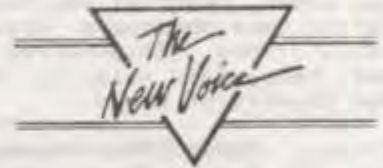
The video, Hosted by Paul Berry, discusses being black and gay. Black PWA's tell their stories and members of the black community discuss issues surrounding AIDS. The video also demonstrated condom use.

Copies of the video can be obtained by writing Madeline Lawson, 200 Independence Ave. SW, Room 640D, Washington, D.C. 20201.

Al-Anon Meets Here

Al-Anon is for you if someone you care about is drinking more than he or she should. Al-Anon will help you learn how to take care of yourself and maintain peace of mind despite the other person's behavior. You may not be able to stop the other person from drinking but you can learn to help yourself.

An Al-Anon group formed to meet the needs of the Gay and Lesbian Community meets weekly at Metropolitan Community Church on Friday evenings at 8:15. For more information on this group or for other meetings, call the Al-Anon Information Service at 345-2414.



AIDS

Counseling - Antibody Testing - Information is available in Omaha by calling:

DOUGLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(402) 444-7214

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday

For other testing sites call:

Grand Island-Hall County	(308) 381-5175
Lincoln-Lancaster County	(402) 471-7800
North Platte	(308) 534-6780 ext 134
Scottsbluff	(308) 632-1299

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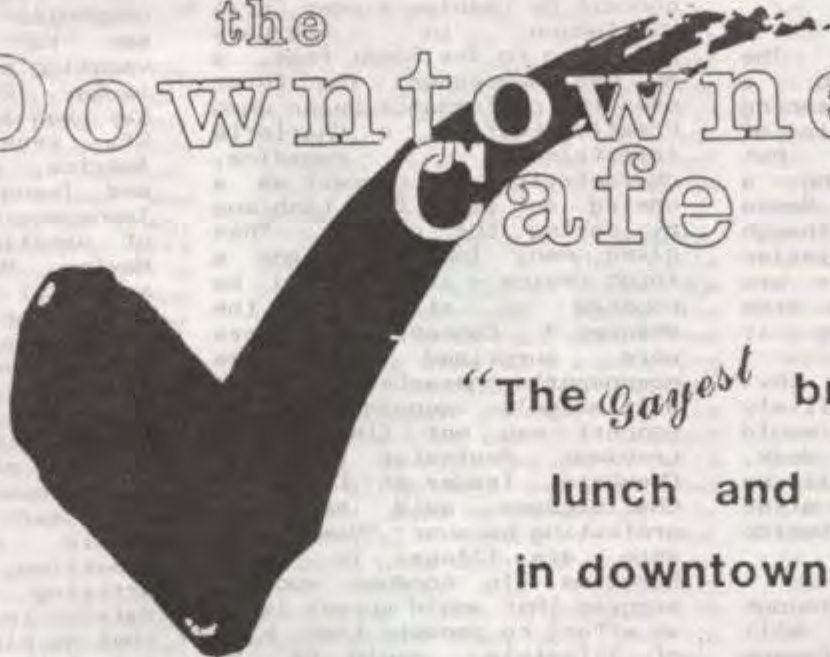


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Go On Admit It - Single Life is Fun!

-By Allia Zobel
-The Hartford Courant

Being single had gotten bad press. It's not terrible. It's hardly unbearable. And in fact, it's rather fun.

To prove my point, I set out to pinpoint 10 solid reasons to substantiate my claim. I got carried away.

*You can bring home Sara Lee Cake for two and eat both portions.

*If you win the lottery, you don't have to share it.

*You can rip out anything you want from the newspaper.

*Your cat or dog can sleep with you in bed.

*You don't have to be nice to anybody's mother but your own.

*You don't have to make up excuses if you get a dent in your car.

*You don't have to worry about anyone drinking your contact lenses when you leave them in a glass overnight.

*You'll never have to watch Monday Night Football.

*You can vacuum whenever you want - or not at all.

*You don't have to whisper if an old flame telephones you.

*You can eat out every other night.

*You can use all the hot water.

*You can flirt with everyone at a party.

*Friends can drop in at your apartment anytime they want.

*You can put cream on your face, petroleum jelly and gloves on your hands and wear an old T-shirt to bed.

*You can rearrange the furniture in your apartment in the middle of the night.

*You can talk to yourself.

*There's never a wait for the bathroom.

*You can make as much noise as you want when you eat.

*When you get a box of candy, you can stick your fingers in all the pieces to see which is best.

*You can drink the last cold beer.

*It doesn't matter which way the toilet tissue goes on the roll.

*You can play the same record over and over again.

*You don't have to worry about earning more money than anyone else





*You can switch television channels without asking anyone.

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National Spotlight

National Notebook

MONTPELIER, VT. - The Vermont Senate passed a controversial bill banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, but supporters are predicting a tougher battle in the House Judiciary Committee. Although earlier attempts at similar bills failed, activists are hoping that the momentum from the Senate will carry it further.

Although Vermont Gov. Madeleine Kunin is not actively backing the bill, she would sign it if it crosses her desk.

If passed, Vermont will be the second state after Wisconsin to have a statewide gay rights law.

CHICAGO, IL - Although voting against a similar bill as an alderman, Mayor Eugene Sawyer said he now supports a proposed human rights bill that would ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. In addition, Sawyer said that he will also throw his support behind a proposal to require police to keep track of violence directed at gays, and will push for increased AIDS funding.

LOS ANGELES, CA - National Gay Rights Advocates filed a discrimination suit against an LA developer who questioned a job applicant about his marital status and sexual orientation, saying that he did not "work well with Gays." NGRA's legal director said the suit charges that Indian Wells Estates violated the California Labor Code and the LA Human Rights Ordinance by discriminating because of one's sexual orientation or marital status.

PROVINCETOWN, MA - 'Gaylaxicon', the first science fiction and fantasy convention for Gays and their friends, will take place June 3-5. The convention sponsored by the Gaylaxicon Science Fiction Society, a Gay science fiction group, will feature J.F. Rivkin, author of the novels 'Silverglass' and 'Web of Wind'. All participants must register in advance. For more info, write Gaylaxicon, PO Box 1051, BackBay Annex, Boston, MA 02117.

CHARLOTTE, NC - About a dozen members of a local fundamentalist group picketed a concert by lesbian singer Chris Williamson in February according to The Front Page, a NC Gay Newspaper. The furor over the performance began when Creative Loafing, a Charlotte entertainment magazine, characterized the concert as a coming out rally for lesbians by saying the concert "has given many local lesbians a tough choice - stand up and be counted or stay in the shadows." Concert promoters were surprised at the newspaper's characterization as Williamson's popularity and concert was not limited to lesbians. Protestor Rev. Joe Chambers, leader of Concerned Charlotteans said he was protesting because "homosexual acts are illegal in North Carolina. To conduct such a program that would appear to be an effort to promote that kind of lifestyle, would be an affront to everything decent in our community." Williamson said the Charlotte concert was the first time in more than 17 years of performing that she has been picketed.

Despite the protesters and the presence of a man snapping pictures of concertgoers as they arrived, the concert attracted 600 people, requiring more the 170 folding chairs to be set up in the rear of the hall to accommodate everyone who came to see the show.

ANAHEIM, CA - Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund filed a lawsuit in Orange County Superior Court against Disneyland on behalf of 3 men who said that the amusement park discriminated against them when it barred them from dancing together.

Disneyland, the lawsuit alleges, is blatantly disregarding an earlier court ruling in a similar lawsuit that ordered the park not to discriminate against Gays. In that suit, filed by a Gay couple in 1984, the park was found to be in violation of California's Unruh Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. "It's not Disneyland's business to determine with whom its patrons can dance," said Lambda attorney Leroy Walker. "You would think that Disneyland would have learned its lesson after losing the 1984 suit."

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - National Gay Rights Advocates filed suit in district court in San Francisco against 2 companies for not allowing a man to participate in a vacation sweepstakes because he is Gay. Ed Patrick, an openly Gay man living in Sebastapol, CA, received from Vacation America, a Florida-based firm, and Trans-World Vacations, a Tennessee-based firm, an offer of vacationing in Florida or Mexico. He accepted the offer and after listening to a sales pitch for real estate from Trans World, agreed to pay a \$90 service charge in order to take the trip. Upon receiving the confirmation of the trip, he was surprised to find that he was not eligible for the offer because it was open only to "married or co-habiting hetero couples or two unmarried, unrelated women arriving together." When Patrick told Vacation America that he planned to travel with his lover of 7 years, they informed him that it was against the rules of the offer and that they could not refund his money. "Vacation America's policy is homophobic and irrational," said NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary. "While they have attempted to exclude our entire community from this program, it's plainly open to lesbians, as 2 unmarried, unrelated women are eligible. When a company is this inept at discrimination, it makes our job fighting them that much easier." Leonard Graff, NGRA legal director said that the terms of the offer clearly violate the Federal Housing Act, as well as California's Unruh Act.

SEATTLE, WA - Get out your running shoes! The 2nd Northwest Gay/Lesbian Sports Festival; has been scheduled to be held this year in Seattle, July 2-4. Team Seattle, which also hosted last year's festival, expects more than 1500 Gay athletes to participate in this year's competition. Ten sports are already slated including swimming, diving, soccer, volleyball, water polo, tennis, bowling, softball, running and croquet. Other sports are expected to be added before the competition. Deadline for entering events in the festival is June 15. For more info write: Team Seattle, 600 East Pine St. Seattle, WA 98122.

Grassroots Merger

Two grassroots gay and lesbian rights groups have joined forces in a merger which one activist says "gives added visibility, clout, and resources to grassroots initiatives.

The two groups are the Fairness Fund, a 2-year old gay/lesbian grassroots mobilization group, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a political action committee working to secure full human rights for gay men and lesbians and responsible policies to fight AIDS.

Fairness Fund is able to mobilize thousands of constituents in the form of letters, mailgrams, and calls. It is believed that such mobilization will dramatically enhance the Campaign Fund's lobbying on Capitol Hill and improve chances of making legislative gains on AIDS and fairness issues.

Victor Basile, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, said of the merger, "We have smart, articulate lobbyists and generous donors who make our sizable political campaign contributions possible. But we need the strong grassroots mobilization initiative the Fairness Fund provides. Now we can maximize our program efforts."

Los Angeles 1988 Pride Parade

West Hollywood, CA - Christopher Street West/Los Angeles, the producer and host of the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade held each year in West Hollywood, has issued an invitation to gay and lesbian organizations, and the gay and lesbian communities in general, in cities across the country to join in the 1988 Parade and Celebration weekend.

Groups need not be part of any organization, but may register to march as representatives of their city. According to Gary Jonker, President of CSW, "The Parade represents an expression of pride in our community, and our community isn't limited geographically. It extends to all gays and lesbians everywhere."

The 1988 Parade will be held on Sunday, June 26. It is part of the 2-day Gay & Lesbian pride celebration that draws more than 250,000 people and starts on Saturday, June 25, and includes entertainment and information, food and crafts booths. For more information on the Parade, and a packet about the West Hollywood area, contact CSW at (213) 656-6553 or write to:

Christopher Street West
7985 Santa Monica Blvd.
Suite 109 - 24
West Hollywood, CA 90046

1988 Women's Festivals

SISTERFIRE, D.C.'s annual women's music festival, is scheduled for the fourth of July weekend at the Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, Md. Roadwork, a locally based women's cultural production company, describes the celebration as "an open air festival in celebration of women artists." The 6th annual 2-day celebration offers a long list of entertainers, in addition there will be a market place for vendors, such as weavers, artists, and jewelry makers. Camping is available, and the festival is open to all who are interested.

Tickets for the weekend \$35.00. Tickets can be purchased at the gate for \$22.00/day. Work exchange is available, and volunteers are welcome. Wheelchair accessible. For more info, call Roadwork at 234-9308.

CAMPFEST, this women's music festival, in its 5th year, is scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend, in Oxford, Penn.

Entertainment, workshops and camping are all available. For more info, call (609) 694-2037, or write Womongathering, RR3, Box 185, Franklinville, NJ 08322.

THE SOUTHERN WOMEN'S MUSIC AND COMEDY FESTIVAL. This 5th annual celebration is taking place 80 miles north of Atlanta in Cleveland, GA, and set on Memorial Day weekend, May 26-30. The festival includes entertainers, crafts, sports, dancing, and workshops. Costs range from \$85 to \$135 for campers. For more info, call (818) 893-4975 or send SASE to: SWMCF, 15842 Chast St., Sepulveda, CA 91343.

THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL will be held June 2-5 in Bloomington, IN, and will include workshops, speakers, and entertainers. For more info, write: NWMF, PO Box 5217, Bloomington, IN 47407-5217.

IRIS GLEN FEMINIST CAMP's 8th annual camp will occur on July 22-31 on the South River in Annapolis. Sports, camping, and a variety of workshops will be offered for women. This event is sponsored by the Feminist Institute, a non-profit organization in Bethesda which promotes social justice and equality for women. Early registration fees are \$25/day and \$60/weekend. For info, send your name and address to Iris Glen Feminist Camp, PO Box 265, Edgewater, MD. 21037 or call (301)951-9040.

WOMONGATHERING, produced by Campfest organizer, Lee Glanton. This first annual spirituality festival is slated to take place in Oxford, PENN, June 10-12. The festival consists mostly of intensive workshops and meetings and offers many presenters. For more info, call (609)694-2037, or write Womongathering, RR3, Box 185, Franklinville, NJ 08322.

THE MICHIGAN WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL - The oldest and best known of the women's festivals, will take place Aug 10-14, in a rural Michigan setting. write PO Box 22, Walhalla, MI 49458.

SISTERSPACE - This Philadelphia women's organization is sponsoring a weekend for lesbian feminists, Sept. 9-11 at Camp Akiba in the Pennsylvania Poconos. Music, art, workshops, sports, entertainment and camping are all being offered. This festival offers sliding-scale fees. For more info, leave your name and address at (215) 476-2424 or send a postcard with your name and address to Sisterspace of Philadelphia, Inc., 351 S 47th St. B101, Philadelphia, Penn, 19143.



March Photo Book

Couples, Inc. has decided to co-sponsor the publication of a book of photos and a poster from the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The Executive Committee for the March has endorsed the book and poster project.

The 96-page book has color and black and white panoramic photos and is titled MARCH FOR LIFE. The unique 8 x 10 format makes it possible to present full-page panorama photos and dramatic double page spreads. It includes the work of 6 photographers, quotes from key speeches and excerpts from news reports. The book will be released in its first printing when enough advance orders have been received.

The book covers the events of the week including The Wedding, Names Project Quilt, March, Rally and the Civil Disobedience action at the Supreme Court.

For a First Edition copy of the book send \$16 plus \$2 for postage and handling for each copy. The poster costs \$10, plus \$1 P/H. Make checks payable to Couples, Inc. and send them to P. O. Box 13323, Los Angeles, CA 90013-0323.

We Were There

"The memory and fact of last October's MARCH ON WASHINGTON must live on" with those words from Edward Maloney, Executive Director of Out Of The Closet Foundation, the Board of Directors of this non-profit organization benefitting the national community of gay men and women with AIDS concerns, voted unanimously to undertake the production of a photographic book of THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON. Even with the enthusiastic coverage of the gay press, and some honest coverage by The Washington Post and New York's Village Voice, the mainstream media either distorted the size and purpose of the March (most television coverage) or totally ignored the second largest demonstration in this country's history (Time, Life, Newsweek).

With the working title "We Were There," this book will provide a factual record of the March weekend as well as capturing some of the excitement, joy and dedication of the hundreds of thousands of gay demonstrators in Washington. All profits from the sale of this book will go to projects benefitting the gay

and lesbian community and AIDS concerns.

BUT, in order to make this photographic book as great as the combined talents of the thousands of photographers who took pictures during the March on Washington Weekend -- professional and amateur, Out Of The Closet Foundation needs your help. If you took some great pictures and feel you captured the spirit of any of the many special events, please contribute your photograph to this effort by contacting: OUT OF THE CLOSET FOUNDATION, POB 20084 Cherokee Station, New York, New York 10028. Tel: (212) 288-4351. (Especially needed are special events besides the March itself, lesbian and people-of-color pictures, and Supreme Court closeups. Anyone with aerial shots?)



MCC OMAHA SPRING YARD SALE



Saturday, May-14, 1988

8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

4519 NICHOLAS

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REFRESHMENTS

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SPECIAL DRINK PRICES

Home of:


CORN HAULERS
L & L CLUB

Same club; different logo

Georgetown Gays Reach Agreement

Washington, DC - Georgetown University and homosexual student groups have formalized an agreement giving the groups the same benefits other student organizations receive, yet affirming the Jesuit-run school's right to refuse them official recognition. The March 29 signing of a consent order by District of Columbia Superior Court Judge Sylvia Bacon ended an 8-year battle between the university and the homosexual student groups, which had charged Georgetown with discrimination. The university had argued that as a Roman Catholic institution it could not recognize a group whose positions violated church teachings. In November 1987, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals ruled that under anti-discrimination statutes the school was required to offer the same "tangible benefits" to the homosexual student groups that other student organizations receive. Under the consent order, the groups will have the right to meet on campus, use campus facilities and apply for student government funds. "But the university will not recognize or endorse these student groups and will be able to continue to make clear that it does not share their views," a March 29 statement said.

One who has a clear conscience - has a foggy memory.

American Indian Conference

-Equal Time

A conference entitled "The Basket and the Bow: A Gathering for American Indian Gays and Lesbians" is scheduled for June 18-19, 1988 in Minneapolis, MN.

The timeliness and necessity for this conference was the consensus of American Indians who participated in the National March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights. As individuals from many tribes/nations, we decided that it is time to celebrate our identities as gays and lesbians; it is through our sexual identities that we are strengthened and able to provide leadership individually and collectively.

UCLA Recognizes Lesbian Sorority

-Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles-In what is described as a national precedent, the University of California, Los Angeles has given official recognition to a sorority formed by lesbians.

As a result, the nine-member Lambda Delta Lambda sorority can meet on campus, use the university's name and apply for student activities funds.

According to university rules, however, Lambda Delta Lambda cannot exclude heterosexual women who apply for membership. The group's leaders said that they welcome any women to what they stressed is a social and philanthropic - not a sexual - organization.

Members concede that some of them are couples and that there is a possibility members could meet new lovers in the sorority. Yet they strongly maintain the club is not designed for matchmaking.

Brown U. Adopts Gay Rights

Providence, RI (AP) - Brown University has joined the rest of the Ivy League in barring discrimination against homosexual students, faculty and staff, according to a university spokesman.

IGBO Bowling Tournament

Over 1300 bowlers of IGBO Inc. (the International Gay Bowling Organization, Inc.), from the United States and Canada, will gather in Washington, D.C. during the Memorial Day Weekend to participate in the World's largest Gay & Lesbian Sports Event outside of the Gay Games.

IGBO Inc. began in 1980 with 6 cities and a few hundred bowlers represented. Today, it encompasses over 60 cities and communities in the United States and Canada. The membership has grown to between 15,00 and 20,000.

Each year, IGBO Inc., through a bid process selects a different city for its annual tournament. This year, excitement runs very high as we meet in Washington, D.C. at our largest tournament ever. Next year, 1989 will see us in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The 1300 bowlers will spend four exciting days in registration, special events, tours, special seminars and competing in bowling for a prize fund in excess of \$40,000.00. The weekend will be capped by a huge banquet at the newly opened Grand Hyatt Hotel in central Washington. The IGBO '88 Tournament Committee, headed by Steve Muha and Hal Jones as Co-Directors, has spent 2 years organizing an event that will be the capstone of IGBO Inc's success so far: and will serve as a standard for the future.

The Annual General Meeting of IGBO Inc. will also meet in Washington during the weekend. Amongst the normal business enacted, the site of the 1990 tournament will be selected. Cities contending are Houston and Los Angeles.

This event, a celebration of our sport and lifestyle by the men and women of IGBO Inc., excites us all with it's prospects and the future it points to.

For further information, contact:
Steve Muha 1-703-522-3824
Hal Jones 1-513-241-7373
Ron Keel 1-212-831-0533
Daryl Carter 1-604-689-5146



USOC Knocks San Francisco Out of Running to Host Olympics

-by David Israels
Washington Blade

San Francisco- The U.S. Olympic Committee has eliminated San Francisco as a possible host city for the 1996 Olympic Games. Supporters and opponents of a pro-Gay resolution that attached conditions to the city's bid for the games blamed each other for the bid failure.

The U.S. Olympic Committee's Site Selection Committee picked Atlanta and Minneapolis-St. Paul as the two finalists, saying, in a statement, that those two cities presented "superior bids." Nashville was also eliminated. The U. S. nominee will compete worldwide.

State Senator Quentin Kopp, who spearheaded the Bay Area bid to attract the Olympics, blamed the shutout on the condition-filled resolution sponsored by Gay Supervisor Harry Britt, passed by the Board of Supervisors in March, and signed by Mayor Agnos.

"The resolution precluded us from being selected," Kopp said through his aide Steve Heminger. "The word right now is that San Francisco is some kind of kooky city that doesn't want the Olympics."

The resolution asked, among other things, that the USOC put a Gay man or lesbian on its executive committee and help change immigration laws that prohibit open Gays from immigrating to the U.S.

Agnos denied that the resolution doomed the city's chances. He blamed Kopp's handling of the bid process and, in a slap at Kopp, promised that "future Olympic bids will be handled more professionally with full involvement of the mayor's office."

The whole confrontation might have been avoided, the Gay Games organizer said, if Britt had limited himself to protesting the city's bid. "If through the wildest possible chance the city was chosen as host city," said the Gay Games organizer "Harry could use the threat of protests during the games to extract concessions from the Olympics. Now Gay people are being blamed for the failure of San Francisco to get the bid."

Britt admitted in an earlier interview that the June referendum could have been avoided if he had delayed the Board of Supervisor's resolution vote by one week. The delay would have made it impossible to place the measure on the June 7 ballot. Kopp would then have had to wait until the November election.

Britt said supporters of his resolution did not consider "as seriously as we should have" the likelihood that Kopp would use the ballot measure approach.

Pabich said Britt knew there might be a political price to pay but that he "felt very deeply on a personal level that this issue was an important statement of principle."

Members of the USOC Site Selection Committee said local political wrangling contributed to the city's failure to get the site committee's nod, but committee members said the five Gay conditions were not specifically discussed.

Committee member Richard Harkin of Missouri said that the attachment of any conditions, including the Gay-related ones, meant that "an unqualified endorsement was not forthcoming from San Francisco, and that's why we couldn't send the bid forward."

Gay community leaders, meanwhile, are still faced with a Kopp-led ballot measure, Proposition M, that would repeal Britt's resolution and invite the Olympics to San Francisco in future years free of conditions.

Initially many Gay leaders feared Proposition M would turn into a referendum on San Francisco Gays. But now some hope to undercut possible anti-Gay feelings by ignoring the June 7 measure.

"Its going to pass, and there's no point in making an issue of it," said Dick Pabich, a key advisor to Britt and well-known campaign consultant. Pabich said he thinks the local Gay community will suffer some "short-term damage" from the Olympics controversy.

There was also grumbling among some activists that Britt could have handled the matter better, so that the issue did not pit Gays against the popular Olympic Games.

An organizer of the Gay Games, who spoke on the condition that he not be identified, called Britt's handling of the issue "maladroit."

A 'Green Thumb' - is a lot of manure!

It is better to be rich and healthy - than poor and sick.
-Oscar Wilde

THE IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBRASKA
PRESENTS:

**THE NEBRASKA
GAY
GAMES**



MEMORIAL DAY
MONDAY MAY 30TH
12:00-5:00
CARTER LAKE W.H.S.E. GROUNDS

Alpha Original

-by Rodney A. Bell, II

The world was in a state of flux. Earth had gone through a cataclysm of nuclear explosions that would forever change it. The year is 2025 A.D. The rest of the universe has kept watch over the events of the past month that brought Earth to its present state. The state of Earth, at the moment, is its state originally.

Zigmund Zalo is sitting in his bomb shelter listening to his satellite television and radio. The nuclear holocaust had only obliterated half of the Earth's population. The other half still survived. Zigmund had been prepared for the inevitable. He had purchased a special atomic explosion detector similar to its sister, the radar detector.

Zigmund's shelter is nicely furnished with art deco furniture, futuristic bullet proof encasement, appliances and all of the conveniences of home. The electricity runs on solar and atomic power. His companion, Stephoid Sunchild, has been his lover for the past 10 years. They had met in one of the new solar disco bars on Sunset Strip. They became soulmates from the beginning. Neither left the other's side for a long period of time.

The past 25 years of psycho-sexual and historical research had revealed some interesting findings. The origin of Earth began with a set of gay men and a pair of lesbian women. The fundamentalist and radical religious leaders opposed the revelation of these facts. Politicians and the establishment squelched this information until the past year. None of the people in power wanted to admit that gayness was originally the "norm" from which heterosexuals had evolved. The scientific truth was considered too heretical for the world to accept.

At all of the major universities in America, professors began teaching the truth about the origin of the species. The new wave in Academia was to study why people are heterosexual. Discussions in classes included such questions as, "What causes heterosexuality?" "Is heterosexuality an illness?" and people began to ask, "How do you know you're heterosexual?"

The atomic battle that brought the Earth to its present state was precipitated by a political clash. The leader of the Federated Soviet Socialist Republics (FSSR) and the president of the Great States of America (GSA) had fought it out on the nuclear playground. Unfortunately, their antics brought the deaths to 300 billion people.

The fight between Zikri Zorkev of the FSSR and Zealous Raygun was over Raygun's wife. While in Washington D.C., leader Zorkev had a one night stand with Raygun's wife. Zorkev found Pansy Raygun ravishing and exciting to behold. He wined and dined her in the secrecy of fine dining only money can buy.

After Zorkev went back to the FSSR, zealous Raygun found out. He immediately threatened Zorkev with destruction. Within a matter of hours, both sides had pressed the buttons to destroy half of the world.

A new government evolved from a collaboration of all of the peoples of the world. Because of the cause of the war and the new research, heterosexuality was outlawed. Persons who engaged in abnormal sex were shot and hung. The people of the world recognized that the patriarchal, sexist, racist and homophobic Earth of the past had only brought them to destruction and an early Armageddon.

Earth became a nice world for gays and lesbians to live in. Child abuse, unwanted pregnancies, incest and vicious jealousy decreased. Zigmund and Stephoid were proud of their

new world. It has become a world where everyone could love as the maker or evolution had intended originally. Babies were born, but only through artificial insemination.

The most horrible aspect of the Earth was the destruction due to the atomic bursts. No green vegetation would grow on certain area of the Earth. The world's climate is harsh and cold.

The survivors of the Earth live under special bubble in climate controlled environments and eat special foods preserved before the blast.

The living room of Zigmund and Stephoid is a nice place to be. Stephoid and Zigmund enjoy the company of their lesbian neighbors who live in the next bomb shelter pod. Seriphanie and Salise are long time neighbors and cohorts in the battle to restore Earth back to its original state. They campaigned and organized the people of the Earth towards peace. The two couples often put in 16 hours days.

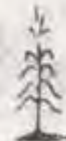
Tonight at Zigmund and Stephoid's was special. They drank a toast with Salise and Seriphanie to celebrate one month since Earth was brought back to its original state.

Don't miss A Midlands Thanksgiving.

A Diplomat is someone who can tell you to go to hell in such a way - that you will look forward to the trip.



Stop by en route to
Brownville, Indian
Cave, Topeka, Kan-
sas City and all
points south on
Route 75.



Jiny's CAFE

Auburn, Nebraska

"The New York of The Midwest"

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Sunday Buffet - 11am to 2pm

P W A Shares Courage

-Omaha World Herald

Pat, 41, has AIDS. It isn't apparent to strangers. He is tall and thin, with graying hair and glasses but he does not look sick.

Tell him that, and he breaks into a smile because, he says, he does not want to look sick. He is sick and tired of people thinking AIDS victims all look bone tired and near death's door, he said.

News stories overlay that aspect of the disease, he said, and he has seen too many photographs of AIDS patients covered with purplish lesions, the result of a cancer called Kaposi's Sarcoma.

200 Attended

Pat spoke to about 200 Nebraska youths at an information session at Immanuel Medical Center, sponsored by the Holling Education Center and Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries.

Lutheran students in grades 7 thru 12 representing about 25 congregations across Nebraska came to hear facts on AIDS from the Red Cross, Douglas County Health Dept. and Pat.

The conference was the result of a request by the Lutheran Youth of Nebraska to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to provide more AIDS education for young people. Teenagers at a recent convention voiced their concern about how AIDS will change their lives.

Pat stood behind a microphone, answering questions from teens who wanted to learn about Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. It was his first public speaking engagement, he said.

'I'm Not Angry'

Students, pastors and teachers were straightforward in their questions.

"Are you afraid of dying?" was on question.

"No," he said. "What is there to be afraid of? I just don't dwell on it all the time."

"Are you angry?" another audience member asked.

"No, I'm not angry. What is there to be angry about? What good would it do?" Pat asked.

Pat said he was ill with

successive infections from January 1982 until he was diagnosed as having AIDS last October.

He said he lost 45 pounds - his weight dropped from 195 to 150 in a few months - when the disease was first diagnosed.

When one student asked Pat how he contracted AIDS, Pat faltered for a moment.

"I do not know how I got AIDS" he said.

His message to young people was this: Stay away from drugs and alcohol. He said these substances lower the body's immunity to disease, and they lead people into doing things they normally would not do.

"They can make you do something wild," he said, adding that young people need to be in control of their behaviour.

He said the free-love atmosphere of the '60's, when he was a young adult, influenced his lifestyle. He blames the behavior of that era for getting him into trouble with drugs and alcohol and for helping to spread AIDS in the United States, he said.

Pat said his friends and family have been supportive after learning of his disease. He said he thanks his mother and sister for helping him make it through each day.

Little Energy

The disease is a drain on his energy.

"I get up in the morning, put on my clothes eat breakfast and do what I can. Then, I'm a couch potato for the rest of the day," he said.

He quit his job in October, when AIDS was diagnosed.

"Are you afraid of the pain of your disease?"

"I fortunately haven't had that much pain yet, and I seem to have a high threshold of pain," he said.

He later confided, "I'm scared to death."

This is not the first time he has faced death, Pat said, telling the teens that he faced it every day when he served in the Vietnam War.

Pat did not balk at the session's blunt questioning. "I demand honesty about it," he told listeners.

He said he does not think about AIDS all the time.

"I'm trying to live with - not die with - it," he said.

Work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion.

-Northcote Parkinson

S.C. House Approves Sex- Education Plan

Columbia, SC (AP)-The House gave preliminary approval to a mandatory sex-education program.

The legislation, which would separate birth-control classes by sex and prohibit discussion of homosexuality except in negative terms, is expected to receive final approval.

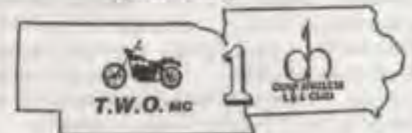
The legislation was approved after a long floor fight.

An earlier version, without the amendments on homosexuality, birth control classes and some other matters, passed the Senate and was endorsed by Gov. Carroll Campbell. The amendments will send the measure back to the Senate.

If your cow doesn't give milk - sell him!



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An Outdoor Run

For more information
and application write:
A. McFadden Thanksgiving
PO Box 326 Omaha, NE 68102

JUNE 10-12, 1988

Community Calendar

Sunday, May 8 - MOTHER'S DAY

Metropolitan Community Church
420 South 24th Street, Omaha
Worship Services 10:20am, 7pm

Dignity
St. John's (lower level)
Creighton Campus, Omaha
Mass - 7pm

The Max
1417 Jackson, Omaha
"Katrina Kane Show" 9:30pm

Monday, May 9

AIDS Interfaith Network
Prayer Service
St. Cecelia's
701 N. 40th St., Omaha - 7pm

Lesbian Rap Group
Dale Clark Library, Omaha
Meeting rooms 2&3, 7-9pm

Saturday, May 14

MCC Yard Sale
4519 Nicholas, Omaha
8am - 4pm

Metropolitan Community Church
420 South 24th St., Omaha
"Prom Night" 7:30-10:30 pm

Sunday, May 15

Metropolitan Community Church
420 South 24th Street, Omaha
Worship Services 10:20am, 7pm

The Max
1417 Jackson, Omaha
"Bowling Benefit" - 9:30pm

Thursday, May 19

The Max
1417 Jackson, Omaha
"Introduction of ICON Candi-
dates - 9:30pm

Sunday, May 22

Metropolitan Community Church
420 South 24th Street, Omaha
Worship Services 10:20am, 7pm

The Max
1417 Jackson, Omaha
"Closet Ball" - 9:30pm

Monday, May 23

Lesbian Rap Group
Dale Clark Library, Omaha
Meeting rooms 2&3, 7-9pm

Tuesday, May 24

P-FLAG/Lincoln
Call for location
(402) 435-4688

Sunday, May 29

Metropolitan Community Church
420 South 24th Street, Omaha
Worship Services 10:20am, 7pm

Monday, May 30 - MEMORIAL DAY

Imperial Court of Nebraska
Memorial Day Picnic/Nebraska
Gay Games, Carter Lake
Warehouse Grounds, Noon-5pm

Wednesday, June 1

"Coming Out" Group
Metropolitan Community Church
420 South 24th Street, Omaha
7:00-8:30 pm

Sunday, June 5

Metropolitan Community Church
420 South 24th Street, Omaha
Worship Services 10:20am, 7pm

Tuesday, June 7

P-FLAG/Omaha
First Methodist Church (North-
east entrance) 69th & Cass,
Omaha. 6:30pm

Friday, June 10

- Sunday, June 12

A Midlands Thanksgiving
Outdoor run sponsored by Two-
Wheelers of Omaha & Cornhaulers
of Des Moines.

Remember the Primary Election
May 10!

A Fall Love, Lost

A FALL LOVE, LOST

The rustle of the leaves below
one's feet,
Buries the sound of a lonely
heart beat.
Walking thru the part with the
stream running below,
Listening to the whistling
sound of the wind below.

When trees and flowers look so
dead
Only thoughts of you dance
thru my head.
A love once found has now been
lost,
With a fall rain leaving a
heavy frost.

- Karen L.

(This poem was written for all
those people who at one time or
another have been in love and
then that love was lost.)



NAMES Project

TOUR SCHEDULE

Houston	May	6-10
New Orleans	May	10-16
Atlanta	May	25-31
Cleveland	June	1-6
Baltimore	June	6-13
Boston	June	15-20
New York	June	20-28
Philadelphia	June	28-July 4
Detroit	July	5-8
Chicago	July	8-12
Minneapolis	July	13-18
Seattle	July	22-26
Portland	July	26-31

Question for the Month

SHOULD LESBIANS AND GAYS BE ALLOWED TO ADOPT CHILDREN?

• Howard Sachs: "Yes, children need good homes and role models and loving parent(s) and anyone who wants to be a parent should be allowed to raise children."

• Doug Lane: "Yes, first and foremost, people are people. They have emotions and feelings like everyone (else). Qualifications for adoption (or

child raising) are not, in any way negated because you are Gay (or Lesbian)."

• Donna L.: "Yes - I think the criteria for adoption should be based on personal ability and attributes which would provide a stable home life - not sexual orientation. The fallacy (or prejudice) exists that sexual

orientation represents stability or instability in and of itself - That notion needs to be discarded. Period."

• Jan D. Kross: "Yes! If they want to."

• Howard Gunn: "Of course. Why not?"

Classifieds

WANTED- Enthusiastic people willing to volunteer several hours one weekend per month. The New Voice needs people to help with layout and production. You needn't be experienced as we will teach you, however, you must be dependable and willing to work. If you are interested in volunteering for the layout staff please call 455-3701 and ask for Pat or Terry, or leave a message.

2 Bedroom house near downtown - carpeted - fenced yard - garage - washer & dryer hookup. \$250.00 + deposit + references. 551-2164

HANDSOME, HAIRY AND HARDBODIED OMAHA GUY still looking for you. No preconceived ideal. You can be tall/short, blond/dark, hairy/smooth but must be emotionally and physically solid, built with equal strength and sensitivity. A young looking 40, I'm 6', 166, brown/brown, warm and direct. Waiting for the right guy to form a healthy relationship and celebrate masculinity. Letter, photo, phone please. PO Box 27231, Omaha, NE 68127

GAY WRESTLING CONTACTS! 500+ men (all 50 states). Fun/fantasy/hot action. Infopixpak \$3.00: NYWC, 59 West 10th, NYC 10011

HAIRY MEN/ADMIRERS! Bears, fur-lovers, trappers. Hot, uncensored nationwide adlistings. Infopixpak \$3.00: MAN-HAIR, 59 West 10th, NYC 10011

Women's art exhibition to be held in June. All medias wanted. For details call Carmen, UNO Women's Resource Center 554-2730

*** C A N C E L L E D ***

Support group formed for Cross-dressers, Transsexuals, and significant others: for education, mutual support, and social purposes. Non-sexual. Security conscious. Contact: Rivercity, P.O. Box 24060, Omaha, NE 68124-0060

MCC Yard Sale

It's spring cleaning time everywhere, including Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha. We've cleaned out the storage room in the basement and helped several members clean out their garages. Now we have to do something with all that stuff.

Help support MCC's ministry by participating in the Spring Yard Sale on Saturday, May 14th, 8am to 4pm at 4519 Nicholas.

Bette & Dee, Tiny and Jimmy: Omaha loves you and so do we. We miss you all very much. Sam & Herald

The New Voice is now publishing a calendar of events for the Gay and Lesbian Community. We are happy to list events taking place in your organization or business. Remember that the publication date of The New Voice is the 10th of the month and listings for the calendar must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication. You'll need to plan well in advance for events taking place in the first 10 days of the following month. The New Voice reserves the right to edit material submitted for length and appropriateness.

Join the Cornhaulers and T.W.O. in a celebration of friendship - June 10-12, 1988.

Organization Alert!

The July issue will be devoted to our local organizations. We want and need a brief description of your organization to include in a resource information section which will describe the various groups and organizations which are available to the Gay and Lesbian Community. Please submit information by the June 15 deadline.

Meet the "First Ladies" at A Midlands Thanksgiving.

Classified ads in The New Voice are a good, inexpensive way for individuals to advertise (Only \$2 for 20 words).

You could find homes for the 11 puppies belonging to your roommate's female Great Dane, or find a new roommate. You could sell that lime green lamp Aunt Lillie gave you for Christmas or the purple doily that Cousin Millie crocheted for you. You could let folks know about your lawn mowing service or about your garage sale. Or you could take a few words and tell your sweetheart how special you think he (or she) is. The uses are endless - we just ask that the classifieds be used by individuals and that no sexually explicit material be used. (Don't worry, if your ad doesn't make it past our proofreader we'll send it back to you with a "please rewrite" note attached. They do that to some of the articles I write, too).

-Sharon V.

Thanks to T.W.O.

The congregation at Metropolitan Community Church wants to say a special "thank you" to all the members of the Two-Wheelers of Omaha and the Auxiliary for their support and for the benefit held at the Diamond on April 16th.

Summer Bowlers

Bowlers, does fall seem far away? Are you afraid your hook shot will lose it's zip? The answer is here!

Metropolitan Community Church will sponsor a summer bowling league at 7pm on Tuesday evenings at the Ames Bowl. The 10 week league begins with a bowling party on May 31. Regular bowling begins June 7.

For more information call Sharon V. at 956-9907.

The Two-Wheelers of Omaha, MC and Cornhaulers L & L Club of Des Moines present A Midlands Thanksgiving, in celebration of friendship, June 10-12, 1988.

Gay/Lesbian Resource Directory

NEBRASKA STATEWIDE

Affirmation of Nebraska
(402) 477-1158
Box 80122, Lincoln, NE 68501
United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian Concerns. Meets alternately in Omaha and Lincoln, second Friday.

Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights
Box 94882, Lincoln NE 68509
Advocacy/Lobbies for Gay/Lesbian civil right educational presentations, newsletter, cultural programs.

Imperial Court of Nebraska
Box 3772, Omaha, NE 68102. Social organization for advancement of gay society. Omaha meeting first Monday each month, except holidays.

The New Voice of Nebraska
Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103
Monthly magazine serving Lesbian/Gay community.

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center
(402) 472-5644
Nebraska Union, Room 342-Meetings, (Mail Room 222)
UNL Campus, Lincoln, NE 68588
Social activities, AIDS education, roommate referral, groups, library

Presbyterians For Lesbian/Gay Concerns
(402) 733-1360-Cleve

Seventh Day Adventist Kinship, Inc.
PO Box 31351 Omaha, NE 68131
(402) 558-1186, Meetings, information, understanding & support for Lesbians/Gays and friends.

LINCOLN

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous
Call (402) 466-5214
AA Central Office for location

Gay/Lesbian Information & Support Line (GLIS)
Box 94882, Lincoln, NE 68509
(402) 472-4697 evens. Referral, support phone line staffed by peer counselors.

Lambda Resource Center
(402) 474-1205
2845 "R" Street, Lincoln, NE 68503

Lesbian Support Group
(402) 472-2597
Women's Resource Center, Room 117, Nebraska Union, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588 Informal weekly discussion group for Lesbians.

Lincoln Legion of Lesbians
Box 30317, Lincoln, NE 68503
Lesbian-feminist collective. Newsletter, support, confidential referral, cultural and social programs.

Nebraska Wesleyan Student Group
(402) 465-2351 (Dr. Mary Smith)
Meets weekly and confidentially

New Directions Center (402) 476-2802 Short term counseling, support groups, classes, workshops dealing with coming out, parenting and relationships. Sliding scale fee.

Open Door Ministry
(402) 474-3390
Orthodox spiritual counseling to all in need. No charge.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gay (PFLAG) (402) 435-4688
Box 4375, Lincoln, NE 68501
Support group, parents, friends, relatives of Lesbians/Gays. Meets 4th Tues.

The Common Women
(402) 464-6309 1065 N. 33rd (33 & Apple), Lincoln, NE 68503
Bookstore/Coffeehouse
(Women's social Fri. 7pm-mid.)

The Wimmin's Show
12 Noon-3pm every Sunday,
KZUM Radio 99.3 FM Stereo.

Women's Journal-Advocate
Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

Women's Assistance Emergency Fund
Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

OMAHA

Dignity of Omaha
(402) 331-4919 or 341-1460
St. John's (lower level)
Common bonds thru Mass, meetings for Lesbians/Gays their friends, 2nd Sun., 7pm

Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon
Meeting weekly, Fri. 8:15pm
MCC-O, 420 S. 24th., Omaha, NE 68103 (402) 345-2414

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous
Meeting weekly, Fri. 8:15pm
(402) 345-9916

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha (MCC-O)
420 S. 24th St., Omaha, NE 68103 (402) 345-2563
Sun. worship 10:20am and 7pm

Metropolitan Club
Box 3124, Omaha, NE 68103
(402) 449-9377
Networking organization of business and professional persons. Meets third Wednesday monthly.

Omaha Meatpackers
2116 N. 16th St. #8, Omaha, NE 68110
(402) 341-4233 Scott Grues; Soc.

River City Bowling League
(402) 344-3821 Dean Vanderpool; Sec.

River City Mixed Chorus
(402) 342-4775
Box 315, Omaha, NE 68101
Volunteer community chorus for gay/lesbian, gay/lesbian sensitive men and women. Goal of musical excellence in performance. Rehearsals Monday evenings.

Two Wheelers of Omaha Motorcycle Club (TWO)
305 Turner #8, Omaha, NE 68131

UNO Student Group

For men: Box 31351, Omaha, NE 68131
For women: Box 34463, Omaha, NE 68134 Lesbian and gay student social/support group.

AIDS

INFORMATION & REFERRAL:

Nebraska AIDS Project
1-800-782-AIDS
Box 31118, Omaha NE 68131
Info/support. Coordinates AIDS related community efforts

Project CONCERN
(402) 455-3701
Box 3772, Omaha, NE 68102
AIDS info., speakers, brochures, posters and VCR tapes.

Viral Syndrome Clinic
University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE
(402) 559-6202 Dr. Jonathan Goldsmith, MD

Lincoln Cancer Center
Barb Morton (402) 483-1827
4800 Valley Rd., Lincoln, NE 68510

Lambda Resource Center
2845 "R" St., Lincoln, NE 68510

American Red Cross
1701 "E" St., Lincoln, NE 68501
(402) 471-7997

American Red Cross
3838 Dewey Av. Omaha, NE. 68131
(402) 341-2723

CONFIDENTIAL TESTING:

Nebraska AIDS Project
Alternate test site, anonymous testing Thurs. 7pm to 10pm
MCCO 420 S 24 St Omaha, NE.

Douglas County Health Dept.
4th Floor Civic Center, Omaha,
NE 68102 (402) 444-7214

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Dept.
2200 St. Marys Ave., Lincoln, NE

COUNSELING AND SUPPORT:

Open Door Ministry-Lincoln
Fr. David (402) 474-3390

Parents/Friends of Lesbian and Gays (PFLAG)
(402) 558-7481 Ruth
Box 3173, Omaha, NE 68103
Support for parents, friends, relatives of lesbians/gays.

Brother William Woeger
c/o Omaha Archdiocese
100 N. 62nd, Omaha, NE 68123

AIDS Interfaith Network
1106 N. 36th, Omaha, NE 68131

Project CONCERN-HELPING HANDS
Box 3772, Omaha, NE 68102
(402) 455-3701

FINANCIAL:

Mary Caudy
Director of Social Services
Lincoln General Hospital
(402) 475-1011

Ann Lamb, CMSW
Viral Syndrome Clinic
University of Nebraska Medical Center (402) 559-4673

LEGAL:

Nebraska Civil Liberties Union
633 S. 9th St., Lincoln, NE 68508
John Taylor (402) 476-8091
Omaha Telephone # (402) 346-5025

Mowbray, Chapin & Waika, P.C.
201 N. 8th St., Suite 242,
Lincoln, NE 68508
Jim (402) 476-3882

Omaha Bars, Clubs & Lounges

The Chesterfield, 1951 St. Mary's Ave., 342-1244
The Diamond, 712 So. 16th St., 342-9595
The Max, 1417 Jackson, 346-4110
The Run, 1715 Leavenworth, 449-8703

Lincoln Bars, Clubs & Lounges

The Boardwalk, 20th & O Sts., 474-9741
Cherchez la femme, 200 So. 18th, 474-9162
The Club, 116 No. 20th St., 474-5692
Panicle, 200 So. 18th St., 435-8764

Grand Island Bars, Clubs & Lounges

Chancy's Pub, 4th & Walnut, (308) 381-0991

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