

NOVEMBER

1996

The New Voice

O F N B R S K A



Don't ask ... Don't tell ...

OUR TURN: Opinions of New Voice Staff

COMING OUT IN LIVING COLOR!

by Carla

In the eight plus years I've lived in Omaha, I've had several moments which have stood out as "wonderful." First there was that actual moment when I realized that I truly had moved here and that I was beginning a whole new life with Sharon. Then there was our Holy Union. Wow! That was a moment. There have been others along the way. When Roxy gave me an Empress to Athena Award, when Sharon and I watched as our grandson Pierre was born, when I awoke and realized I had survived my back surgery and was moved out of the Bergan Mercy Recovery Room, when Sharon and I celebrated our fifth anniversary, when we celebrated our seventh anniversary and I had outlasted any of the earlier relationships in her life, when Gary and I received the Special Recognition Awards at ANGLE's Recognition Dinner last year. Yes, some truly wonderful experiences have been mine since moving here.

But you know the article in the *World Herald* last month went zooming right up there on my list. And it all came about because I couldn't find another couple that Kendrick could interview and photograph that day. It all began when he called MCC-O the afternoon following the passing of the Defense of Marriage Act in the Senate. He wanted to get a local couples response for a story the very next day. I tried all the couples I knew who might be available and interested. No one called him back, so at about 4:30 that day he

called me and asked if Sharon and I would do it. I, of course, was thrilled. Sharon is just a little shier about those things.

She gave in, of course, and Kendrick came by the house. We talked with him for an hour or so and he took a whole roll of pictures—actually Holly, Sharon's stray cat, was in most of them. Well, the next day, we bought a paper expecting

to see a picture and the story. They weren't there. We found out later that the Mayor's Engagement had taken our space—no comment.

A week later Kendrick called back to say they still wanted to do the story, but now it was going to take a different twist and it would end up in the Living Section. Over the next 10 days he called off and on with a question or two until he came up with what you saw. He did want to get a different picture—an action shot—but we played phone tag instead—I guess there was just too much action in our lives!

We were expecting the story first to appear in an afternoon edition of the paper—that's when Kendrick said it would appear, so I was surprised when I started getting calls at the church that morning saying, "Saw your picture and read the story—it's great!"

In fact all of you have made this one of those "wonderful" moments in my life. I can't tell you how many calls we've had saying "Great story! Thank you for doing that! You're so brave!" You have been wonderful, Omaha. We got calls, letters, faxes—everything but a telegram. A stranger saw us 10 days later in Ameristar and came over to our table to tell us he recognized us from the paper and the "great story." Even at NCOD people came up to tell us how much they liked the story. I confess we bought 10+ copies—I'm sending them to all my family—mom, brother, sister, niece, nephews, and saving them for the grandkids. Believe it or not, but we had a phone call just two days ago from a company called In the News. They wanted to sell us the story mounted on mahogany—only \$150.00. We passed on that—I figure Kinko's laminator will do a good job of preserving it for as long as I live.

Thanks, Omaha, and all of you who took the time to comment on the article. You made this a great moment. One I'll cherish for a long time. Hopefully the article reached out to the greater Omaha community as well. I loved having the opportunity to speak out and tell my story. We all have stories to tell, stories that need heard. I always heard that it's not over "till the fat lady sings," but in this case I think we've only just begun. Watch out, world; here we come!



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The New Voice of Nebraska

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COMMENTS ON WORLD-HERALD ARTICLE

Carla & Sharon:

GREAT article in the World-Herald! It was wonderful to see that picture of two sets of lovey dovey eyes looking at each other!

Kevin

Dear Sharon and Carla,

Just picked up a copy of *The New Voice* last night and the ad for NCOG inside the front cover looks great. Thanks!! And also for the several mentions throughout. I hope we have a good turnout.

Really enjoyed the OWH article earlier this week. Finally some positive press for us!! An overall good representation for the community.

Scott Winkler

Carla,

This is a copy of the letter I sent the World-Herald on Wednesday. They called me today to verify that I wrote it. Maybe it will be in the paper soon. Who knows.

Mike

From: Mike Orr
To: Omaha World Herald
Subject: Congratulations

This has got to be the happiest day of my life. Two lesbians featured in full color in the Omaha World-Herald. This is truly a day to remember. I don't know where to start.

First: Thank you for recognizing that gays and lesbians do exist in Omaha.

Second: Thank you for attempting to show that the O.W.H. does in fact have a heart.

And finally: I hope this isn't the last time anything positive will come from the Omaha World-Herald about gay people. You somehow touched on a lot of key issues. Job loss, marriage, commitment and family. All were included in the article. I hope that it was your intention to include these subjects.

Thank you,
Mike Orr

Men's Support Group-Omaha

"STAYING WITH CLINTON"

Dear New Voice,

I must take exception to the remarks made by Richard D. Mohr in his column "Voting Against Clinton" in your September issue.

Regardless of how some feel that President Clinton has not done enough for the gay/lesbian community, he is still better than the alternative.

For one thing, the Christian Coalition with Pat Robertson now has a great deal of influence in the Republican Party. The coalition, from past

statements, is certainly no friend of the gay/lesbian community.

One needs to ask in the event of a Dole win: How much influence with the Christian Coalition have in influencing policy?

Also in appointing federal judges and replacing any vacancies on the Supreme Court, President Clinton is more likely than not to appoint moderates to these positions.

"Staying with Clinton"

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YOU GO GIRL!

Dear Sharon,

Surprise! This is not a "Bitch Letter." In response to your response to former poetry editor Brian Bengtson and reader Wm. French, all I can say is you go girl!!

And how many times in the last 8 3/4 years have you told people if they want coverage of their event that they need to take responsibility to at least inform you that there was an event? Do people only write about statements you make that they don't personally agree with? Why can't they write about positive things that our people are doing? Or write to express their opinions without cutting down someone else.

Anyway, I am enjoying being a member of *The New Voice* subscription family again. I can only encourage you and your staff to keep up the great work.

Respectfully,
Kevin Hartford

Editor's Comment: Thanks so much for the support.

I must admit that I also need to take your advice and be sure that I don't respond to people without cutting them down.

*I'm working on that, but in the meantime support like yours means a whole lot to all of us at *The New Voice*.*

LETTER POLICY

The *New Voice* will publish only those letters to the editor which include full name and either address or phone number so we can verify authenticity. You can request that your name not be published but we must be able to contact you for verification.

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WHAT ABOUT BOB?

Dear Editor,

I hope you and the whole staff are in as much anticipation of the elections as I. One thing about BOB, his past reminds us that he WILL pass laws that allow him to "DOLE" out who gets this country's tax dollars.

As I read Jeffrey Swann's real life testament which was unfolded on your pages last month, I knew the information I have been given via professional doctors and the news media, had another chance to be shared. Congratulations, Jeffrey, the most important first steps have been taken by you, which if continued, YOU have a responsibility to protect others, and that YOU are not a better or worse person because of the disease. I feel that I can tell you like who you are. A positive mental attitude toward life in general assists in relieving stress, a major deterrent to the immune system.

Furthermore, I heard on CNN about a two-year study ongoing in the Boston area, dealing with people who are positive. (Really, this isn't a joke) Tufts University has been doing what they call "The Magic Johnson Study". Its basic goals were to see the direct differences people had when subjecting themselves to a more strenuous daily workout and added calories via protein and carbohydrates versus that person's regular diet.

The study reported that a high calorie, high protein diet combined with a larger amount of exercise than the person's normal daily routine, which would burn off the extra calories you consume, actually did more than help the patient's energy level. It upped the T-cell count of every patient, most said they were more rested, and the "wasting away" factor was averted.

Studies some seven or eight years ago at the University of California, Berkeley, proved that the HIV virus was weakened by the presence of protein, the type found in BEEF, and that HIV thrived in FAT.

Everyone should "digest" these facts, and two, remember that we live in the state where the BEEF is purchased for the finest and richest people in the entire world. Nebraska Beef is known worldwide. To me, this says I am near a natural resource and I should take advantage of that. Increasing a person's exercise level promotes an appetite which if you think about it creates its own upswing, just as drinking a lot and not eating a proper diet for a person who has any form of cancer creates a downswing.

Here's where I see a problem within our medical community and its relationship with government and the patient. These facts have been proven once again by a reputable university, therefore HIV doctors should prescribe this style of diet, easing the financial burden of such an endeavor. How, you may ask? Medical accounting on the Food Stamp form.

This would allow government and any needy patient the extra money in food stamps to fund this very necessary diet. You see, it's the diet that a very smart doctor started on me over 9 years ago. Doctor Goldstein now resides in Bend, Oregon (I think).

And the prescription diet that doctors of all cancer patients should be prescribing can now improve lives so that all of us can live longer and healthier. (Now everyone knows why I have a pot-gut).

Have a nice day, Sharon, and thanks so much for the community having an outlet to keep each other informed.

Sincerely,
"David Lee" Hall

PARAS GREAT AT NCOD

To the Editor:

At National Coming Out Day [in Omaha], I was leery of this new Executive Director for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). I have been a friend and member of NGLTF since 1985/86 and have gone through a few directors with them. Most impressive were Urvashi Vaid and Peri Jude Radicek. I consider Peri Jude a friend and the new director would have to do a lot to impress me.

She did! Melinda Paras is a person who can speak to anyone, anytime, and in a fashion that we all can hear and appreciate. Besides the basic political message delivered, I was appreciative of Ms. Paras' discussion of inclusion, in particular of those in our community on "the edge." Ms. Paras spoke to the "straight acting/appearing" members and directed all of us to include those with "piercings" and things that make each of us different. Ms. Paras directed us to accept those differences and to include those different (from us) people in all activities: parade, NCOD, recognition. Now that is almost acceptable to be homosexual (TV shows, movies, etc.) what we need to do as we are accepted is to be sure to ensure everyone's acceptability.

Someone, somewhere said not until the least of us are free shall all of us be free.

Thanks, NCOD committee for a great event and for broadening our scope with Melinda Paras' participation at NCOD!

Keep up the good work, Omaha, and we'll wait until next year when I'm sure you will "out"-do yourselves again.

Pat Phalen

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THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN BITCH FIGHTS AND THE COURT

Dear Ms. Van Butsel,

Whenever I move to a new part of the country, or in fact, the world, one of the more entertaining parts of the acculturation process is finding the Gay & Lesbian community and reading its community news organ. So much can be gleaned from the editorial content, the quality of writing, and the political awareness of the publication's staff, be it volunteer or otherwise. Even the advertising provides something of a view of what a city's G&L community is like. With that in mind, it is with some dismay that I am compelled to write this letter to you.

In Omaha, as it is worldwide, October is an important month news-wise for our people. National Coming Out Day was October 13th. The previous week the now 73,000-panel AIDS Quilt was displayed again in Washington, DC for perhaps the last time in its incredible entirety. Hundred of thousands of G&L people traveled there to witness, to commune, to protest and to fight for the rights of our community. This year October immediately precedes a national election which has a direct effect on all of us. As though normal, people are preaching hate against us nationwide, sometimes in the name of a God who created all of us but loves only them. The Family Research Council, a powerful lobbying group in Washington says it can "convert" us back... then everyone will be a lot happier, won't they? This and every month, our basicmost rights seem to be in Constitutional question daily. My smaller question to you is this: how can you, with any editorial self-respect, berate, vilify, and ignore month after month the readers concerned enough to write to you, while you ignore real G&L community news in favor of what seems to be a ceaseless hemorrhage of intro-"Society" drivel. I refer in part to the truly point-free "Our Turn: etc." and "Poetry with B.E.B." bitchfight in the October 1996 issue.

Was it not for an inside/front cover ad from conscientious UNO Students announcing their own event, National Coming Out Day was relegated in your pages to a strangely repeated paragraph or 2, one deeply buried beneath a column of "news" from Sheza Mann. Concurrently you devote nearly two pages to litter box cattiness regarding "poetry" and "the poet." This is but one case in point of many. On reading this issue cover-to-cover as I have monthly these past seven, it is difficult for me to imagine that you take your job so seriously when it pertains to such idiocy, particularly relative to the quality of what else is, or sometimes isn't, inside NVON. While the good people of the Imperial Court do perform a valuable function in this community, G&L "society" exists mostly outside of the caste system which is the shaky foundation of the autocracy you seem to use as editorial touchstone.

Even as Editor/Autocrat, can you not find it within yourself to take a higher road in addressing the community at large? Can you not address NVON management "issues" privately in favor of publishing real news or whole-community-related editorials? Perhaps when a more general readership realizes that a worthwhile goal exists, as I believe one does in producing a publication like yours, more contributors will come forth. As Editor, volunteer or otherwise, it seems your responsibility to show them that purposes outside of engrandisement and bar-culture promotion do exist... that is within your control. Fun is fun, but you know that is not all there is.

I do not write this letter out of any personal

venom, not for The Court, not for those others who at least make contributions. I truly do not question your motives in general. In fact, I admire the efforts required to mount such a publication every month. The fact that it exists at all speaks volumes, and for this you are to be congratulated. I truly love the G&L community here. It generally lacks so much of the jadedness of many larger cities' communities. The New Voice of Nebraska says a lot about us monthly. I ask you then, please, to examine how seriously you mean to be taken by your readership, and why. Or better still, consider the real importance of the community service you do as volunteer editor of the one document in the region which can unite us ALL, affects us ALL, and very importantly, informs us ALL when you determine editorial comment. My personal thanks to you for your efforts, and for your time.

RB Connelly

Editor's Note: Mr Connelly, you are entirely correct. The "editorial" in the October issue should never have been written. Such pettiness should never appear in print, and for that I sincerely apologize.

As regards coverage of truly "important" events, I agree that October is truly a news-worthy month and that National Coming Out Day and the Quilt's appearance in Washington are very important events. And we did publish articles about the Quilt in previous months in hopes that people would make plans and reservations so they could share in that experience. I hope to be able to publish personal accounts of a visit to this major event — but that will only be possible if someone cares enough to write about their experiences and/or to share photographs from The Quilt.

As for the coverage of National Coming Out Day, we printed what was submitted by the organizers (Citizens for Equal Protection, ANGLE, GALD, and the Women's Resource Center all combined in the effort). The organizers submitted other articles for the October issue, but nothing about National Coming Out Day.

As for including too much about the Imperial Court and local bar events, I suspect that is true and is a reflection of my current involvements. I have a great time being part of the Imperial Court and I like writing about things that I find to be fun. Just like I hope other people like to write about things that they think are fun.

And as for my need to examine how well I'm doing my job...well, I can tell you right now that I'm not doing it half as well as I could, but I'm doing it as well as I can with the resources available.

Mr. Connelly, I will give you a whole page to address important events such as World AIDS Day, the impact of the elections, issues of domestic violence in the gay community, etc., etc. All you have to do is submit the articles. We publish everything that is submitted, with only one exception. (We stopped publishing virulent letters from a writer whose personal anger and personal agenda became extreme. But since your well-thought out, well-written, and quite eloquent letter does not fall into that category I am sure we would publish anything you submit.) So, if it's not published, it's because we didn't get it. One parting comment, please do not confuse "Our Turn" with an editorial page. It does not pretend to be an editorial—just chatter about what's going on in my life and the lives of other members of the staff.

Thanks for your comments.

OBSESSED WITH SEX

Reader Challenges World Herald

—From the e-mail:

Remember the article on Omaha's Pride '96 in June? Not one participant or spectator was interviewed, the nationally-known activists and performers weren't even mentioned, attendance was underestimated, and most of the article was about flamboyant radicals in San Francisco and New York. That extremely short article was buried behind the obituaries with no photo.

This article [Wednesday, September 4, 1996, p. 15, front page of Midlands Section "Lewd Activities Bring Vice Officers to Elmwood Park"] is extremely long, with a photo. It's at the top, front page of the Midlands section. It is not articulated that most people who have public sex do not consider themselves gay. No investigation as to why this occurs is included in the article [by Angie Brunkow, World-Herald Staff Writer]. It is important for us to offer to help the police to help stomp out public sex and to educate the public that intolerance drives these poor souls to the parks. Please use this opportunity to write a letter to the editor and to the Omaha Police.

Andy

GAY YELLOW PAGES AMONG READERS

Dear Sharon Van Butsel,

Was just reading the October edition and Poetry Editor diatribe. My gums bleed for you! Not having to cope with writers is one of the few saving graces about editing Gay Yellow Pages.

And since we expend an inordinate amount of time and postage trying to get people to ok FREE listings, I also heartily admire your restrained response to Leslie Epstein. We have quite a few people listed who fill out details one month, forget about it, and do the same thing next month, ad infinitum. Preferable to those who never respond or assume we just KNOW...

We really value resource lists like yours, which at least give us something to refer to: if you listed it in May and don't in September, we can draw our own conclusions. (And, of course, there ARE the darlings who always update when asked, and thank us in the bargain, making us feel good.)

In case the following have not reached you: Heartland Gay Rodeo Association, Box 3354, zip is now 68103-0345 and they asked us to change the phone to 597-1689 (August 1996)

A Woman's Place: mail forwarded to XXXX, Lincoln NE from PO Box 67035, Lincoln, NE 68506 (we won't list them again without confirmation in case it's a private address)

Mail bounced: ICE BOWL, PO Box 3622, Omaha, NE 68103-622

Imperial Court of Nebraska, zip is now 68103-0772 (not 68102)

Metropolitan Club mail forwarded to PO Box 8603 Omaha NE 68108-0603

Any local feedback and corrections are more than welcome. We know the post office tends to bounce mail on its own whimsical basis, and when there is no phone or e-mail for a secondary check, one is left all of a dangle!

With very best wishes,

Frances Green, Gayyellow Pages

Editor's Note: Thanks for the updates! Now, organizations take note, when you get mail from Renaissance House, open it and take time to check the listing and return it because now you know someone actually reads it. ICE BOWL: What is your address?? Woman's Place: Do you exist? And I slap my own hands since I'm also the secretary for the Imperial Court and I didn't notice that the zip code listing was wrong. Oops!

NEBRASKA PRISONERS SEEK PEN PALS

Dear Editor,

I was talking to a buddy of mine here at HCC and he has been sharing his New Voice with me and he told me that you send the New Voice to prisoners free of charge. If that is the case I would like to receive it. He also told me that you place an ad one time for free so I would like you to place the following ad:

I am a 29 year old HIV- I am a gay mixed half black, half white male. I am looking for someone to laugh and be serious with. Also someone to cuddle with. I am a big teddy bear. I am looking for someone in the Hastings area between 18 and 29. I am tired of playing with kids so please only serious grown up men. Will answer all replies (sic).

Thanks for your time,
Gary Liseraby 47105
P O Box 2048
Hastings NE 68902

Dear Ms. VanButsel,

I would like to be placed on your prisoner project list. Since I am a young gay male who is currently incarcerated at Lincoln Correctional Center for a two to four year sentence. And if at all possible, could you please place a personal ad for me. It would be greatly appreciated on my part. It should read as such:

I am a 21 year old, 6 ft., 185 lbs, half white, half Native American male who is HIV negative and is in excellent shape. I am looking for correspondence with anyone who is looking for a long term relationship or just a good friendship. I can be contacted at: Darrin Edwards #47631, P O Box 22800, Lincoln, NE 68542-2800.

I thank you for your time and consideration in this matter

Very truly yours,
Darrin Edwards #47631

THANKS FOR PRINTING LETTER....KEEP UP GOOD WORK

Dear Sharon,

I was very surprised to see my letter in the October edition of *The New Voice*. I truly did not think that you would even print it. It even impressed me deeper to see it get in so quickly. I want to thank you for the favor....Before I go, I want to congratulate you for being a new part of the Imperial Court....Good luck and best wishes for all you do. I also want to thank you one million times for printing the first letter that I sent in for approval. I know that you support AIDS awareness and education and I am glad that the magazine is a part of our gay community...Keep up the good work that all of you do.

Sincerely Concerned,
Jeffrey Lee Swann

P.S. I am unable to pay for this letter to be printed....

Editor's Note: Jeffrey, thanks for the kind words. And please let me clear up one thing — you DO NOT have to pay to have anything published in The New Voice (except classified ads and display ads) but certainly not letters to the editor or any articles you choose to submit. We will print as many as we can and we sincerely appreciate the submissions.

BI GROUP BEGINS IN LINCOLN

Hi

My name is Wendy Naumann, and I am starting a new bi group in Lincoln. At this point, any of the old groups you have listed are defunct.

The new bi group will be meeting every 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Gathering Place on 15th and "E" in Lincoln. The group will meet at 7:30pm. It is meant to be a business/discussion meeting. This is not a support group. The contact person is Wendy at 476-0314.

Please let me know if you need more information.

Wendy

MORE VIDEO REVIEWS

Dear New Voice,

I really enjoyed Video Review by Dick in your September, 1996 issue.

And I was disappointed that your October 1996 issue did not have the video review by Dick. Please bring back your Video Review by Dick, and make it a permanent feature in your magazine. If Dick is not always available you might try getting someone else to review films.

I hope all the films you review are gay films.
New Voice Reader

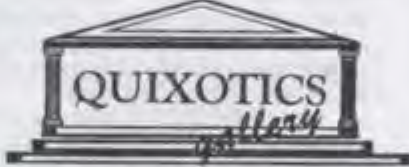
Editor's Note: Dick submits video reviews whenever he has had time. You'll be seeing more, but not every month. If anyone else wants to send in a review we'll be happy to consider it.



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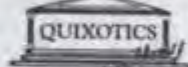


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RESOURCE CENTER NAME OFFENSIVE TO SOME

New Voice of Nebraska

I am writing in regards to the name choice of the new Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, and Transgender center, which has been named the "Berdache Center." First, I would like to congratulate the gay community for the center, which I hope will be a valuable resource for Omaha, as well as the entire state of Nebraska.

I would like, however, to express my concern for the Center's name. Since I am just one Indian gay guy (Oklahoma Creek-Cherokee) who teaches Native Studies at the University of Nebraska, I cannot speak for the Native community or anyone else for that matter. I can express some concerns and, to be honest, I have a feeling other Indian people are going to be unhappy.

1) The most disturbing aspect of all this is the absolute neglect in terms of asking any Native people what they thought about the Center's name. The Center's response, when I talked to them at their display at National Coming Out Day on October 13, 1996, that "we didn't know how to find any of 'them'" is inexcusable. In addition to critiquing the idea that we are a "them" rather than human beings, I would like to make the gay community more aware of some facts: Several thousand Indian people live here in Omaha. Six hundred Indian kids attend public school here. The Native American Community Development Corporation downtown (which, unlike the GLBT Center, had to close last week due to lack of funds) is but a few blocks from the GLBT Center, and is listed in the telephone directory. There is also an Inter-tribal Treatment Program with a phone listing, as well as an Indian Education Office in the Omaha Public School system and Native American Studies Programs at UNO and Lincoln. Finally, there are five federally recognized tribes in Nebraska, all of whom have administrative offices. How hard did the GLBT Center try to find any of "them"?

Indian people, historically, have always had to deal with, and continue to have to deal with, being spoken for by outsiders, so the choice of the Center's name without the consent of the Native community is particularly problematic, it seems to me. Although the gay community has developed a rhetoric of inclusivity, its actions continue to be those of a "whites only" club as witnessed here by the absolute refusal to bring any Indian people to the table when naming the center, even when the name is so centrally related to Native culture.

2) This brings me to my next point—the GLBT Center has appropriated a name that refers to Indian people when the center does not primarily provide services for the Native community, nor is it run by Indian people. Why is this?

3) The third problem is the nature of the term "berdache" which many Native gays and lesbians find offensive because of its meaning, its historical use, and the way in which it is an externally imposed definition that comes from white anthropologists, rather than the ways Indian gays and lesbians refer to themselves or are referred to by their tribes. For some reason in dominant culture, it continues to be the trend, if not the fashion, to name sports teams, cars, and other sacred American objects, using Indian names, when it would be intolerable and offensive to use similar racial epithets against African Americans, Jewish Americans or Mexican Americans.

To the end of providing one alternative viewpoint, I am quoting an article, which appeared in the June 26, 1996 issue of the *Village Voice*, featuring Wesley Thomas, a member of the Navajo

Nation and anthropologist at the University of Washington, and other gay Native men:

"Berdache was never used in any Native communities!!" says Wesley Thomas (Diné)...I get irate when I hear Native Americans use the "B" word to describe themselves. The "berdache" concept is not of the Native cultures. It gives no meaning to our own histories." *Berdache* derives from an Arabic word, *bardadj*, which was used to describe male slaves who serves as [anally receptive] prostitutes. Anthropologists popularized "berdache" to represent a transvestite Native American man who functioned in a feminine role.

This role was uniquely named within most of the Native American cultures. For example, *Wé wha* (1849-1896) lived his life as a female member of the Zuni Nation and was accepted by his people as *Ihamana*. Thomas describes himself as *nádleeh*-like which is *Diné* (AKA Navajo) for "being in a constant state of change." Furthermore, Thomas identifies himself as Two-Spirit when he is in the greater Native American circle, while in western American culture he identifies himself, in order to be understood, as being gay, but momentarily.

Contemporary Natives gathering around issues of sexuality coined the term Two-Spirit. It refers to a Native American who is of two spirits, both male and female. It was a name that we were able to define for ourselves—distancing us from colonial words from "berdache." Based on histories that we could unravel from anthropologists and elders, we were able to gather together stories of our roles in the indigenous cultures; as healers, teachers, and leaders.

The [Two-Spirit Gathering held at Olympia, Washington this year] was restricted to Native Americans due to the infiltration of non-natives who latched on to the concept of Two-Spirit—possibly in a new age effort to become "Native" due to this cultural theft. Angakusar (Yupik) issues a warning in the upcoming book called *Two Spirit People: Perspectives on the Intersection of Native American Gender, Identity, Sexuality, and Spirituality* (University of Illinois Press, 1997). "This is said in the confidence, in the trust, that we are taking a risk in letting you know about our many diverse cultures. While we hope that you can benefit from our knowledge, we are wary of cultural appropriation and we expect you to respect our place, as this continent is our home. This is your responsibility."

In my work dealing with AIDS prevention in Indian country, I have heard similar opinions voiced by Native gays and lesbians all across the United States. The GLBT Center would have heard some of these voices had they called the National Native American AIDS Project in Minneapolis, or the American Indian Chapter House in New York City, just to name a few places among many possibilities.

These comments are not meant in a mean-spirited way but in the hopes that, in the future, the Indian community would be consulted in regards to events that directly involve our nations and cultures.

Craig S. Wornack

RESOURCE CENTER RESPONDS (LATE BREAKING NEWS RESOURCE CENTER HAS VOTED TO SELECT NEW NAME)

Dear Mr. Wornack:

Thank you for your letter and the accompanying article. I will share your concerns with the Steering Committee, and you are welcome to meet with us if you like. You raised a number of issues, and I will address them in turn.

First, you questioned why the Resource Center did not consult representatives of the Native American community when selecting a name. You quoted a representative of the Resource Center as saying "we didn't know how to find any [Native Americans]." I agree such a response to your question would indeed be inexcusable.

However, I am the individual with whom you spoke, and you have misinterpreted my response. First of all, I never referred to Native Americans as "them." Moreover, what I said was that we did not know *who* to contact. Because there are many tribes/nations, we were unsure as to who could legitimately speak on their behalf. Even in your letter you acknowledge that you yourself are not in a position to speak for the Native community.

At one point, it was suggested we contact the Bureau of Indian Affairs. I personally opposed this proposal (vigorously), because I doubted if many of the nations would accept the Bureau as spokesperson, given its early history of insensitivity to Native American culture and beliefs.

Since our conversation, I have been reminded that the Chair of the Steering Committee did indeed contact a representative of the Native American Community Development Corporation. This individual (a Caucasian) was not even aware of the term *Berdache*. When we gave him details, his response was that he saw no problems with our proposed use.

We attempted to research the issue on the Net, and did find some information of value. We were aware the term *Berdache* originated with Europeans. We knew many Native American prefer the term "Two-Spirit." We also saw there is not unanimity on this issue, and that many Native Americans accept and use the term "Berdache" freely.

We also contacted the *Berdache Archives*, a well-known library of gay related material. They advised us they have used this name for several years and have never received any adverse comments or complaints.

Your second point deals with the resource center's "appropriation" of a name that refers to Native Americans. It is logically inconsistent to disassociate the Native community from the term on the grounds that it is "an externally imposed definition" and to then claim that we have appropriated it. If you disclaim ownership of the name, how can you claim the right to grant or deny permission to use it? Either it belongs to you or it does not.

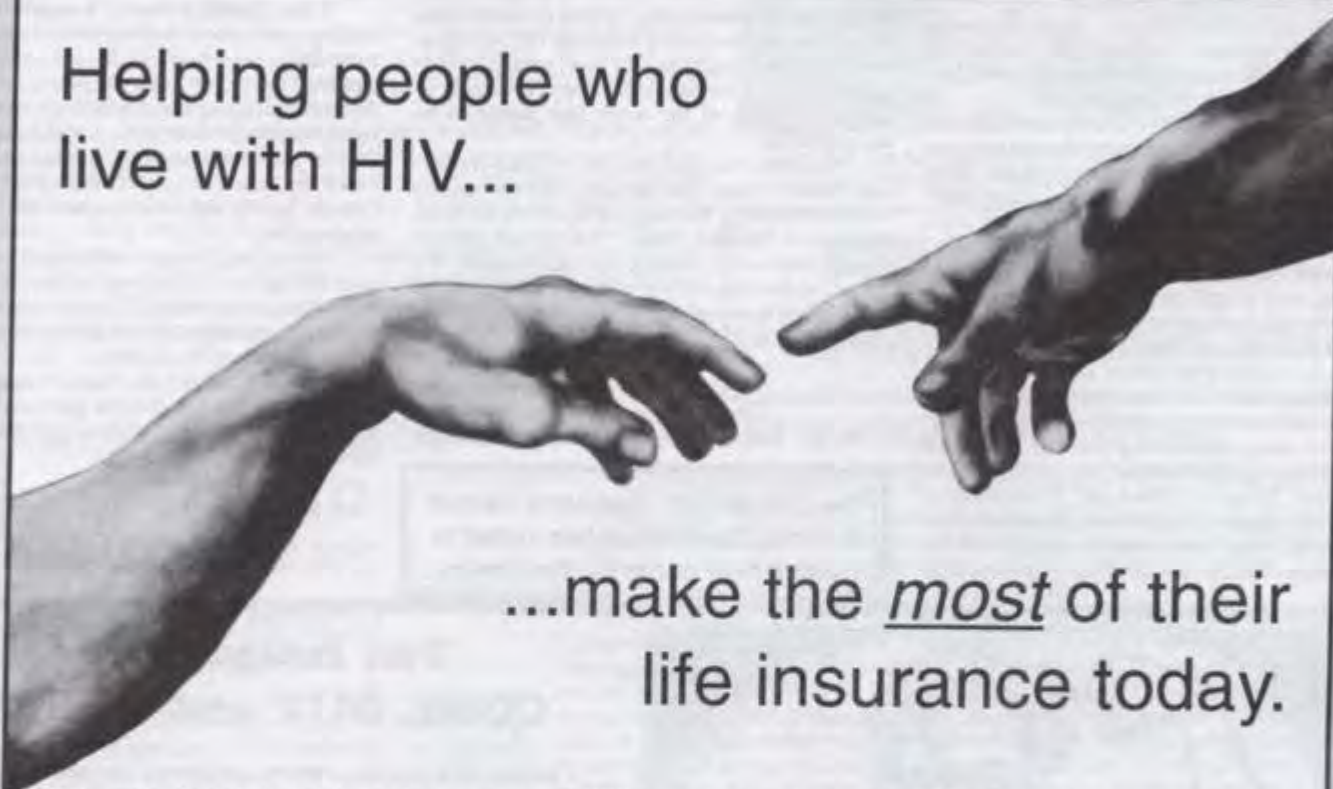
Your third point concerns the issue of offense — you even imply that we have used the term as an epithet. When discussing such issues, I believe one needs to consider intent. It was certainly not our intent to offend. Indeed, we wanted

(Continued on Page 8)

In Memoriam Of Our Founders, David Scott Reed (1946-1996) and Cecil Ray deLoach (1952-1991)

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(Continued from page 6)

to acknowledge the Native American history of tolerating, accepting, and even honoring of diversity within the cultures. We wanted a distinctive name which reflected alternative lifestyles, which had roots in our midwestern heritage, and which would provide opportunities to educate and interact with others.

During NCOD, many people inquired as to the meaning of the name Berdache. I explained to them that Berdache was a word of European origin used to designate Native Americans who lived as members of the opposite gender, that these people were often accorded positions of honor, that many Native Americans preferred the term Two Spirit, and that we chose the name because it transcended the terms gay/lesbian/bi/transgender. The response, admittedly from Caucasians, was universally favorable.

We are not insensitive to your concerns; as gay people, we too have endured the epithets and the misunderstanding of a dominant culture. With all due respect, I believe the Native community has much larger issues to deal with than what amounts to an argument over semantics. Hayakawa states that words have no intrinsic meaning, only people have meanings and words mean only what we agree they agree they mean. I would hope you can look beyond the word itself and see the meaning we intend to place behind it.

I believe that words lose their sting when we appropriate them to our own use. Our community has taken many steps along this line. Witness such groups/organizations as Queer Nation, Radical Faeries, Dykes on Bikes, etc. If Berdache is a term with negative connotations to some Native Americans, what better way to smooth off the rough edges than to use the term in a respectful

way for a project whose stated goal is to be all inclusive? I cite our mission statement:

The mission of the resource center is to provide education, information, and services in a neutral and safe environment. It will strive to foster understanding, personal growth, and development for all people, but primarily those who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender.

You mentioned that the gay community tends to be a "whites only" club. As it happens, the Resource Center's Steering Committee is predominantly white. This is not by design; the Steering committee has repeatedly sought volunteers from the community. There is much work to be done, and we would welcome the participation of anyone, regardless of race, gender, orientation, etc. All we ask is that they be willing to assume a share of the work that needs to be accomplished.

Presently, we include one African-American, three women, one straight, and one person with a disability. We range in age from the mid-twenties to the mid-fifties. We include professionals, blue collar, retired, and unemployed. We are not as diverse as we would like, but we are far from being homogeneous. Perhaps you would care to join us?

Respectfully yours,
(Name Withheld)

Chair, Public Relations Committee
GLBT Resource Center Steering Committee

**The Community Resource Center
Steering Committee has voted to
select a new name for the Center.**

STAY OFF MY CASE!

**Don't Let Another One of Us Die
Without Having Their Story
Recorded for the Future**

Dear Editor,

For the past 18 months, I have been taking care of myself and with this some people believe I am no longer working on my research of Aging in the Midwest. Well, I am and with the loss of a friend of mine and many others, Joan Gibson, I really learned a hard lesson. Though Joanie would not want me to beat myself up, others might.

I am choosing Joanie's way with no self beating. I am also going to put the time needed to work hard on my research, because with Joanie's passing I have now lost a chapter for my book of the stories of aging lesbians and gay men. So, like I said, some of you out there would love to use this time to get on my case, but you are not going to. I took the time and space I needed to be with my friends, family and to start a new and wonderful relationship.

I am taking this time to invite all l/g/b/t that are over 50 and in the Midwest to take this opportunity to keep your story/life alive! I am no longer under a department of the University and I am actively looking for funding.

Though I did not get Joanie's chapter down, I will be asking her friends and family to help keep her life alive within all of us who know and love her.

Sincerely,
Sandy Vopalka
Box 22043
Lincoln, NE 68542



Flex Your Political Muscle!

Ten Reasons to COME OUT and VOTE!!!

- We lost the Employment Non-Discrimination Act in the U.S. Senate by just one vote.
- Only nine states have passed laws ensuring equal rights for gays and lesbians.
- We need to elect fair-minded judges who will guarantee us equal treatment under the law.
- Bills banning same-sex marriage have been introduced in 40 state legislatures.
- We need to elect qualified school board members who will speak out for the inclusion and safety of gay and lesbian youth and teachers.
- Jesse Helms, Bob Dornan, Phyllis Schlafly, James Dobson, et al.
- Only 115 of the 511,039 elected officials currently serving in this country are openly gay or lesbian.
- You'll cancel out the vote of a bigot.
- AIDS.
- Political Power is like muscle mass: *If you don't use it, you lose it.*

A message from
The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund
1012 14th Street, NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005
(202-VICTORY/Victory@aol.com)



GAY AND
LESBIAN



VICTORY FUND

NO SYMPATHY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PUBLIC SEX IN THE PARKS

To Whom It May Concern:

I just must know if I am the only one that thinks the way that I do. I am really having a problem feeling bad for anyone who gets a ticket for lewd conduct in a public park.

I have been to several parks all over the United States of America and it is always the same scene, no matter where I go. Men will go out to these hot cruising spots and search for a sexual partner. That is not wrong at all. I believe that we do need a place to meet other people who have the same interests we have, but I draw the line at doing the nasty right out there in a public setting. I respect myself and whoever I choose for sex ore than that! Besides, there is the general public that we have to think about.

It was not long ago that my parents were in a lovely park here in Lincoln. They were hand in hand, walking through this park, when they came upon two men, one of which was performing oral sex on the other! They were appalled by the sight of such behavior in a public place. It would not have been any less offensive to them had it been a girl going down on her man. It was offensive because it was a sexual act in public.

I read what attorney Thomas Petersen had to say about the police trying to deter sex in the park. Why should we defend anyone who has that lack of respect for the general public? It would be awful if is people got a ticket for kissing or holding hands, whether they were straight or gay, but we are not talking about simple affection here. We are talking about explicit sexual acts in a public place.

I wonder how Mr. Petersen would feel if his mother happened upon a couple of guys having sex in the park? Would he defend his mother's right to enjoy the park without having sexual acts shoved in her face or would he defend the horny perverts that could not take their sex into a private place?

Some of you have expressed anger that your name was put in the paper for your offense. You say that it could cost your career if the wrong people read it. Some say it with cause family problems if the family reads it. But the way I see it, you really do not care who knows about it. You have the nerve to engage in a sexual act in a public place and have the audacity to get upset if it gets put in the paper that you were caught!

Would it be less of a problem if your family went to the park and caught you there? Do you think that your boss would be less upset if he went to the park and saw you instead of reading about it in the paper? If you were so worried about anyone's reaction to your actions out in a public place, you would not have done it in the first place. Why is it too much to ask of you to take your personal sex acts into a private and appropriate place? Or will you be found in a grocery store going down on your boyfriend? What is the difference? It is a public place just like the parks are.

The homosexual community gets enough bad publicity and degrading by society without a bunch of horny men making it worse! They are not just lonely — they are filling sexual lusts and if they are not using protection, they are helping to spread HIV.

If they are lonely, let them meet someone to share themselves with, but after they meet they should respect each other as well as the general public enough to take their sexual activity into a private place!

I want to know if others feel the same way that I do. Am I right for not defending the gay men who cannot control their sexual acts while they are in a public place? I know that I have never had sex in a park. I always take my partners to my home or to their home or a motel or a friend's place, but the key word here is that we take our private moments into a private setting. We do not shove our sexual acts down the public's throat!

I will be anxious to hear whether I am the only one who thinks the way I do. If you agree [or if you don't], write the editor and tell her so! I think she will print any letters that react to my letter here. If you are reading my letter, then she obviously would like others to voice opinions on the topic of sex in the parks.

Sincerely & Respectfully,
Jeffrey Lee Swann

MEMPHIS "TWINKIE MUSEUM" EXPERIMENTAL VIDEO FESTIVAL

The Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center, and MSU's Students for Bisexual, Gay, and Lesbian Awareness will present "Twinkie Museum," their first annual experimental video festival in March, 1997. The festival takes its name from the infamous "twinkie defense," an absurd bit of history in which Dan White, Harvey Milk's assassin, got away with murder under justification of having recently consumed too much junk food.

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BARNEY FRANK TO ANALYZE ELECTION AT 9TH ANNUAL CREATING CHANGE CONFERENCE

Barney Frank, the openly gay Congressman from Massachusetts, will kick off the 9th annual Creating Change Conference with his views of the 1996 Presidential election as he opens the conference on Thursday, November 7.

The preeminent national gathering of gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender activists returns to Washington, D.C. with pre-conference institutes and the core conference running November 7-10. All events during this gathering sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Alexandria, Virginia.

The conference features the Vito Russo Memorial Lecture on Art and Politics, delivered by author and poet June Jordan, a prolific writer and social critic whose greatest strength is her ability to live what she believes. Veteran organizer Carmen Vasquez, director of public policy at New York City Gay/Lesbian Community Center, delivers a keynote address on Saturday. Vasquez, a self-described Butch-Puerto Rican-Socialist, is

co-director of Promote the Vote, a national voter registration and mobilization project. Five all-day pre-conference institutes are scheduled. Two all-day tutorials are offered: Fundraising Training on Thursday and Board/Leadership Development on Friday. Strategy Meeting for Statewide Organizations will be held on Thursday. This gathering is by, for, and about those that toil in state legislatures, building networks across their state, county by county, town by town. A panel will lead a pithy discussion of The Next Presidential Administration. Same-gender marriage, ENDA, hate crimes law and Colorado's Amendment 2 provide grist for this mill.

Conference-goers choose from workshops, panels, caucuses, and small group sessions about activists' work. Digital Queers returns with computer, on-line, and web trainings for everyone, from weak-fingered rookies to veteran cyberjocks.

For more information call 202-332-6483 ext. 3329. It is also available on the world wide web at <http://www.nglftf.org/cc96>.

IS SENDING NAP STAFF TO WASHINGTON TO VIEW QUILT WISE USE OF FUNDS?

To the Editor:

While listening to the speakers at National Coming Out Day (NCOD), I was struck by something Joe from Nebraska AIDS Project spoke about. He mentioned that a benefactor had provided some of the staff at NAP with a trip to Washington, D.C. to see the Quilt. I agree it must have been an extraordinary experience for all, however, I question the validity of the expense. I don't know what the costs were, but I can imagine it to be between 5 and 10 thousand dollars. (10 people x \$300 [airfare] = \$3000, 10 people x \$100 [hotel] = \$1,000, etc.) My question has to do with the idea of spending that kind of money in that manner as opposed to service for Persons Living With AIDS.

I know several individuals with HIV/AIDS, some who are/were truly committed and spent their own dollars to participate in this experience.

I am not condemning, only questioning. How do we justify these expenses and then solicit monies from the community(s).

Pat Phalen

NAP RESPONDS

Dear Sharon,

Thank you for forwarding this to me for response. I am truly sorry if I created any confusion for Mr. Phalen.

The entire statewide staff of the Nebraska AIDS Project was invited to attend the national display of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt as the guests of Terry Watanabe, a local businessman whose generosity and commitment to AIDS causes is legendary. Mr. Watanabe's invitation to our staff was made because he is well aware that such a trip is well beyond the means of the average person. He also recognizes the enormous value such an opportunity would have for people who serve people with AIDS.

Although Mr. Phalen raises the issue of costs associated with his trip, I'm afraid I don't have answers. How Mr. Watanabe chooses to use his personal resources is not my business and I would never ask for details. What is a matter of public record, however, is the fact that Mr. Watanabe gives in excess of \$1 million dollars annually to AIDS causes around the United States. I would certainly say he is doing his share for Nebraska and for the country.

I hope this response answers Mr. Phalen's questions about this particular issue. The only way for us to hold our community accountable is to ask tough questions and I would applaud Mr. Phalen for taking the risk.

As most of you know, I am new to Nebraska and I am still learning about the community. I would hope Mr. Phalen (or anyone else for that matter) feels free to call me anytime there is a question.

Sincerely,
Joseph Hall
Executive Director

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FEATURES

TO ALL PRISONERS: AN OPEN LETTER ABOUT SEX & HIV

Dear Fellas,

I am sure that you would remember my name and the awful reputation I acquired while serving my sentence at the Lincoln Correctional Center. It is for that reason that I will remain nameless, but I will be heard. Now whether or not you listen, that is up to you.

I am sure that all of you have heard that HIV is on the loose, now seeking all it can infect. So why are you still having sex? You will learn the hard way if you do not listen to my warnings. The system does not keep you safe from this killer. You cannot even get a condom in there! And the ole rubber glove trick just does not work well at all.

I know that some people have sex in there against their will, but if they value their life, they should check into protective custody. The virus is loose in the system. First of all, the system cannot segregate anyone just because they have the virus. It would be a civil suit for them if they did, so do not think that all the infected ones are segregated. They are not. The ones that are have either been caught having sex or have shown clear threat of being violent and capable of trying to spread the virus. Like one fella who bit his lip and then bit an officer one time — he can be legally segregated. But if a person has not given the system reason to segregate them, they are in the system, free to spread the killer at will.

I was sexually active while in the system. I thought that I was in a safer environment in there than out here. Boy, was I ever dumb! Consider the crowd there! The ones that have shared needles, the ones that have been very sexually active in the free world and in there! These people are high risks of being HIV carriers. I left the system and less than a year later I was told that I turned up positive on an "Elisa" test. My Western Blot came back inconclusive. So for some weird reason I never got tested again. I just assumed that I was okay. But in no time at all, I got ill and when I retested I was, in fact, infected with this killer. If one knows the window pane for this virus, they know that I had the virus while I was in the system. I got the virus while I was in the system, but I did not know that I had it at the time. So I cannot tell you when or from who I got HIV, but I can assure you that I both got it in the system and I spread it around in the system.

I am not proud of this! I am very ashamed that I was so ignorant toward the facts! I am also guilt ridden for being so promiscuous while was in the system. I am responsible for helping spread this killer! That is a very heavy burden to carry, but even more heavy is the burden of carrying the killer within me now. It is not a very pleasant infection. I am just now at the start of developing AIDS. It is ugly and miserable. I cannot imagine what it would be like to have to deal with it in there!

You have now been told a confession from a former inmate that has been infected with the virus that causes AIDS. You know that it is in there. You will have no one to blame except yourself if you have sex and get the virus. The State will not take any responsibility! You're not even supposed to have sex. They will ignore you!

If you are being pressured from other inmates to give up sexual favors, then you would be better

off in protective custody. It is no shame to try and preserve your own life! Trust me, you do not want this virus! You would be a lot better off avoiding sex at all costs while you are in the prison system where you cannot get condoms.

I've spoken and shared a real and true confession from an infected person. What you will do with this knowledge that I have given you is all up to you now. I hope that I have convinced you to avoid all sexual activity while you are in the system. That is my goal in writing this letter to all of you in there. Convinced?

A Sincerely Concerned
"Nameless Confessor"

HUMAN GENE PROTECTS AGAINST HIV-1 INFECTION

An alteration in a human gene can protect people from the most common strain of HIV-1, report scientists from the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center. "Our study has revealed an altered form of an immune cell gene in some who do not easily become infected with HIV-1 spread by sexual contact," explains coauthor Nathaniel R. Landau, Ph.D. Everyone, even people who have the altered CKR-5 gene, should continue to exercise precautions to guard against HIV-1 transmission during sexual or other activities in which they may be exposed to blood, semen or other body fluids.

Join the Imperial Court of Nebraska
in November for the following events:

Food 4 Thought

Benefit Shows to provide Thanksgiving Dinner for 100+
PWAs and food for the MCC-O Food Pantry.

In Lincoln at the Q -- 9 PM, Sun., Nov. 3

In Omaha at The MAX
8:30 PM, Sun., Nov. 10

CHILI COOKOFF

Sat., Nov. 30

4 - 8 PM at The MAX

A Benefit for the Proud Horizons
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and The MAX. CASH PRIZES!
Entry forms available in
Omaha bars.



ROBERTS' RULES: Lesbians Are From Vegan, Gay Men Are From Another Planet

(FAIR WARNING: STEREOTYPES AHEAD. NOT FOR THE HUMOR-IMPAIRED)

by Shelly Roberts

It has long been my contention that though we may share organizations and same colors of the rainbow, the reality is that, while gay men and lesbians are of the same *ilk*, they are NOT of the same species. For examples:

- *Lesbians usually marry slightly before the first date.
- *Gay men marry only after an extensive interviewing and denial process.
- *Lesbians have sex immediately after meeting all the other woman's animals, children, relatives, reviewing all her books, and interrogating the person with whom she would have to break up.
- *Gay men used to have sex immediately after just about anything. Sometimes before. (Not quite as immediately as they used to, any more, they would if they could. And will when they can.)
- *Lesbians use love to get to sex.
- *With gay men, the vice is versa.
- *When lesbians buy a house, they rehab. And refurbish.
- *Gay men, on the other hand, redecorate.
- *Lesbians can easily fix an ailing refrigerator.
- *Gay men can easily fill it from the cheese and imported mushroom section of the deli.
- *Lesbians are more likely to be vegetarian.
- *Gay men will most likely eat anything.
- *It took lesbians to rediscover Hush Puppies.
- *It took gay men to redesign them in Easter egg colors.
- *Lesbians process. Endlessly.
- *Gay men rationally debate ramifications and consequences slightly longer.
- *Lesbians are politically correct to everyone.
- *Gay men are politically correct to everyone they know.
- *Lesbians don't eat things that used to have faces.
- *Gay men categorically reject tofu as pointless wall-paper paste with calories.
- *Lesbians envy Martha Stewart.
- *Gay men channel her.
- *Lesbians fix sink leaks themselves.
- *Gay men call plumbers. Cute ones.
- *Lesbians pay internal penance for haphazard eye contact.
- *In the right circumstances, gay men's heads have been known to revolve a full 360 degrees.
- *Lesbians love looking at Playboy Magazine.
- *Gay men just read the articles

- *To a lesbian, chintz is your partner buying your birthday present at a yard sale.
 - *To a gay man, it's a fabulous furnishing possibility.
 - *Two lesbians might refer to each other as "my wife."
 - *Two gay men wouldn't.
 - *Lesbians drive off-road vehicles, carry self-folding maps, and blaze trails.
 - *Gay men eventually stop at a service station and ask for directions. But only if they really have to go.
 - *Lesbians think of gerbils as huggable, fuzzy little pets that like to tunnel.
 - *Gay men...oh, never mind.
 - *Lesbians bring the chairs, the newspapers, all the flyers, the minutes, and the coffee pot.
 - *Gay men bring checkbooks.
 - *Lesbians have potlucks with dishes made of lentils or chocolate. Or both.
 - *Gay men have intimate little dinners for two with homemade pate.
 - *Lesbians love camp.
 - *Gay men love Camp.
 - *Lesbians cook out by the pond.
 - *Gay men cook in, then sit out by the pool.
 - *Lesbian Couples have hyphenated last names.
 - *Gay men arm wrestle each other to the ground and use the winner's name.
 - *Lesbians go to the gym to get fit.
 - *Gay men go to the gym to get their jeans to fit.
 - *Lesbians think of New Year's Eve as something they might have to confess later.
 - *Gay men see it as a perfect opportunity to get out the horns... and blow.
 - *Lesbians would rather give up sex than food.
 - *Gay men whip up a little something with caviar and toast points for after.
 - *Lesbians truly believe that communes work.
 - *Gay men think they can be Republicans.
 - *Lesbians turn everyone within hugging range into "family."
 - *Gay men have a tendency to run around in PACs.
- ©1996. Shelly Roberts. All Rights Reserved. Shelly Roberts is a nationally syndicated columnist, speaker, and author of *Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living*. (May '96) *Spinners Ink*

FERRON

Occasionally I hear an artist of such stature that I think "how have I come this far in life without knowing this work?" The extraordinary singer-songwriter Ferron is such an artist.

I heard her music for the first time a few weeks ago, and in that time have become immersed in a reflective world.

Ferron's songs are autobiographical in the purest sense — she writes about things that have really happened in her life.

And the experiences are rendered with such emotional and artistic perfection that her songs become mirrors to the soul.

While the outer events may unfold as a story, it is the inner, deeper landscape, the realm where feelings reflect fate, choice and paradox that beckons.

Ferron sings her poems in a style that combines the hard edge of life with the tenderness of unbounded love.

It's a kind of chant to reality. And the words are drawn from the real.

No pretentious prettiness here. These words seem chiseled from everyday hard stone. Somehow in that revealing, as the single chips fall upon your ear, a powerful form emerges.

Considering the themes of Ferron's songs (an output that spans six albums), the power of sensuality is central in her work.

Her ability to convey a range of experience, from the comfortable to the raw, within or without a relationship, and the many places in-between, is extraordinary.

I think that one reason for this richness is an over-lapping energy drawn from another vital issue in her work — the juxtapositions of isolation and relationship, of loneliness and togetherness, of solitude and community.

Still Riot, Ferron's newest release, is especially interesting when considered in relationship to her work as a whole.

Although *Still Riot* is not the first time Ferron has produced her own music, it is the first time she has had full support from a major record company.

While collaboration with other musicians has been an ongoing process — especially on her last two albums — with *Still Riot* Ferron has had the artistic control that permits more experimentation with the styles and ideas of others.

The result demonstrates an eclectic but informed sense of new found freedom and artistic possibilities.

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LEGISLATION VERSUS JUDICIAL REVIEW

By Gary L. Beck

Defense of Marriage Act, Employment Non-Discrimination Act—These are just two of the hundreds of thousands of pieces of legislation passed or rejected by Congress each year. There are also numerous state and local laws ratified each year on top of increasing numbers generated in Washington, D.C. According to World Book Encyclopedia, by the late 1980's regulations issued by the federal government already filled approximately 110,000 pages. With recent votes on the aforementioned bills, discussion has arisen regarding whether passing laws is more effective in the fight for civil rights in the gay community. Or, is relying on the court to rule in our favor a better method? It is my opinion that legislation should be our first step in obtaining equal rights.

This country was founded on a constitution which guarantees certain rights. However, with states and local governments passing their own laws, rights designated by the federal government were not adhered to on state and local levels. Much changed with ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment. With the passage of this amendment in 1869 the Supreme Court's role in legislative review increased on state and local levels. Until that time, they had next to no role in the legislative process. The Fourteenth Amendment is the beginning of civil rights. Under this provision, all United States citizens are guaranteed equal protection under the law. Due to the ambiguous working of this law, there is room for interpretation as to the extent this law encompasses. Since passage of this amendment, cities, states, and the federal government have passed

many civil rights laws. The strongest, most powerfully worded was the Civil Rights Act of 1964. When these laws are challenged, it has been up to the courts to decide how they are defined. In fact, courts have done more to define civil rights than any legislation passed to date.

This sounds like I am advocating litigation rather than legislation in pursuit of civil rights for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgender individuals. I am not. If you have read carefully, you will notice in the examples legislation or policy has come into existence prior to judicial involvement. That is how our country works. Most litigation transpires when an individual is denied a right due to a policy or legislation. The courts spend more time not on the constitutionality of a law, but the interpretation of legislation. Therefore, it is crucial that we get legislation favoring G/L/B/T issues so if a situation arose, we would have legislation in place to achieve success.

With recent court battles regarding the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" military policy, I think it is fairly evident that with this policy in place, the courts view that and also view the different regulations and requirements for the military when deciding against individuals in the service. I do not think that this policy is right nor do I like the court rulings, but I can respect and understand the reasoning behind these decisions. The looming battle in the courts in Hawaii is a direct result of their law on equal rights. Therefore, we need and must work to encourage progressive legislation. It is only at that time we will have a leg to stand on when a courtroom challenge arises.

MAN FIRED FOR USING AIDS LIST

TO SCREEN DATES

A Florida man has been fired after admitting to obtaining confidential lists of AIDS and HIV patients for his own personal use.

William Calvert, an employee at the Pinellas County Health Department, obtained a computer disk which contained the names of 4,000 AIDS and HIV patients.

The *Tampa Tribune* reported that Calvert used the disk in a laptop computer to look up names for customers at a gay bar.

He'd advise friends whether certain persons were HIV positive.

Calvert denies the allegations that he looked up names for customers at the bar.

He did, however, tell investigators that he would screen his own potential dates that way.

He denies any wrongdoing.

Florida's Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement have been investigating the break in security at the county health department.

The state has implemented stronger security measures, prohibiting health workers from taking disks with confidential information away from work.

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WE ALSO WALK DOGS...

FROM THE POOP SHEET

by Ace London

Nationally Syndicated Columnist



Well kiss ma' grits and butter ma' buns! What our gay and lesbian community has gone through nationally these past fifteen years has really been beyond belief when it comes to coping with grief. And this might be an understatement!

Many of us have not only lost our lifemate but we've also lost good friends and acquaintances; I have now gone way beyond the number 30, as I stopped counting then, and that was a few years back.

THE SCENARIO: You've just been told by the Doctor that your lifemate /wife/husband has an incurable disease which may allow you to have a year or two left together, possibly less.

You bear up to this devastating news and become brave because you know it won't help for your love to see you crying.

You have no one to really turn to; no children and no close friends yet in this new town to which

you've recently moved.

You're absolutely alone in your grief, and, when you return home from the hospital and you're absolutely sure no one can hear, you cry, and the anguish within turns your cries to primal screams, groans and moans until you lie in a pool of exhaustion.

Morning arrives. You know you should go to your job but you call and say you're not feeling well.

You innately know that if you went to work at this point, you'd probably break down in tears in front of everyone, which would require an explanation of logic or they would have to assume you were having a nervous breakdown. You have no seeming control of the flow of tears at this moment and you know you can't tell anyone **WHY** they are flowing.

To add more fuel to the fire within you; before you left the hospital the night before, your love told you you **CANNOT** tell either his or your immediate families of his "death sentence." He doesn't want them to know, as it ruin the holidays. Christmas is still two weeks away!

Unfortunately, the illness killing the love of your life is the modern-day leprosy, so you certainly are not going to be able to tell any of your new neighbors or townsfolk.

It's entirely possible if the news leaked out that you or your business could be harmed; it's happened before with such "plagues." This hor-

rible news will have to be kept a secret within yourself, at least for three weeks for the sake of your loves' request.

You know you **MUST**, though you have no idea how you'll ever get through this time, little knowing at that moment you will be brought to the brink of your own sanity or that you might become a walking time-bomb simply clinging to every ounce of self-control you can before it will be lifted.

It all sounds a little dramatic, doesn't it? But it happened to me. How sad by true that the realities of life seem to be more dramatic than the movies at times and the "little nobodies" like us have to daily act our way through the dramas!

You secretly hope that "blood is thicker than water," and the families will understand and stand by. You **think** most of your friends will, but if they don't, you psychologically begin to prepare by telling yourself: "This will just be another separation process of the wheat from the chaff."

God how you hope there won't be any separations, though; friendships haven't grown on trees and any loss would provide added agony. It runs through your mind that maybe you shouldn't let any friends know, and yet, what are friends for? Only to share the joys of life? That would make them no different than strangers.

And yes, you do also think about strangers at times like this; society at large, and it frightens you.

You seriously doubt society has come far enough along in the evolutionary process to be kept from repeating the sines of the past.

The "time bomb" ticking within you not only could be defused if society would understand, but in all probability, the "bomb" would probably never exist, since it only exists in your because of the refusal of society to recognize and accept reality - **YOUR REALITY!**

So we learn to cope with our grief, don't we! We absolutely must make up our minds to not let the bastards get us down, even though I'm sure you, like me, have gone through many a day when we've really felt like a turd floating alone on the open ocean, and depression has knocked, rather loudly at times, on our front and back doors. We've learned as any minority has had to learn to cope, cope and then cope some more.

Like many of you, I've not only lost my lifemate, but also lost well over thirty close friends and acquaintances over the past fifteen years. No one ever said it would be easy, did they!

CHANNEL CHANGE: Just wondering: Why isn't phonetic spelled the way it sounds? Why do they put Braille dots on the keypad of the driveup ATM?

Why is brassier singular and panties plural? What would really happen if we all exited our closets?

And that's the straight poop from the Poop Sheet!

Mr. London is former Mg. Editor of Zipper Magazine and The Coast to Coast Times. His autobiographical legacy: The Closets Are Empty... The Dining Room's Full is in hardcover by Ponderosa Publishing House. Visa/MC orders: 800-356-9315.

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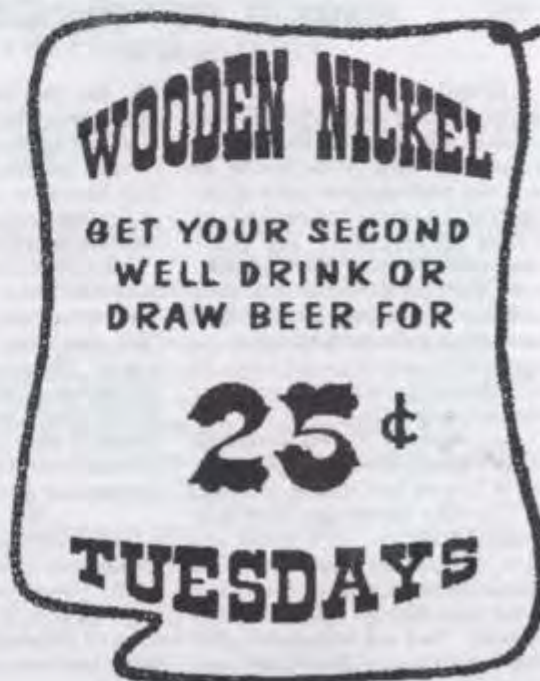
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"OUT IN THE STARS"

Astrological Forecast for November 1996

by C. Lichtenstein

For Entertainment Purposes Only

This presidential November sees the usual array of personal planets clustering in the autumnal signs of Scorpio and Sagittarius. However, we can also find some senior members entrenched in challenging Capricorn. (I always vote for term limits.) Let's recount November for each sign.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20) Paging Dr. Freud: Proud Rams need a consult. Up until the 15th, give your mind free reign to explore difficult psychological issues preventing you from true affirmation and pride. The results will be gratifying; by the end of the month, you'll hanker for grand scale adventure and deep conversations with exotic strangers. That's conversation dear...

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) Proud Bulls may be more focused than usual on partnership issues through mid month. Seek other opinion and ye shall find. It's good and refreshing to put your cards on the table and see how points add up. By the 24th you can lustily trump your partners ace and win the trick. (Don't be a dummy, I suggest that some Taureans should go for the rubber.)

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Gay Twins can prepare for Thanksgiving by talking turkey on the job. Until the 15th, you can pretty much say what's on your mind to both superiors and subordinates and clear the air. (Of course, you'll be diplomatic and fair...) After the 24th, if handled properly, you'll have greater control over day-to-day jobs and may be able to institute that chignon dress code.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) If great minds think alike, try to align yourself with the greatest creative minds available. Up until the 15th, gay Crabs should make use of the personal mental freedom that the planets now release. Of course, if you stoop to ridiculous party pranks instead, you'll only have yourself to blame when, on the 24th, all those lovely, artistic ideas evaporate. Don't be a nasty Crab.

LEO (July 24 - August 23) Weeks up until the 15th should be a time of quiet introspection and discussion between you and family members. There are obvious problems in the past which are chaffing under the surface and need to be expressed. Good thing too: proud Lions needn't be repressed or closeted any longer. Live your proud life, friend, and don't kowtow to anyone. (As if you ever could!)

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) Mercury is well placed in your horoscope now which means you can gather knowledge easily and your mind is focused and sharp. My advice to queer Virgins is to get those delightful buns in motion to meet, greet, travel and seek information. There will be plenty of time to fit the puzzle together after the 24th, but first you find all the pieces.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 21) All other things being equal, you will be inordinately concerned and focused on finances for the first half of the month. Gay Libras can use their immense powers of persuasion to negotiate a very beneficial monetary or business package for themselves now so strike while the planetary energy is hot. After the 24th you'll gleeful reap what you've sown.

SCORPIO (October 22 - November 22) Think pink, at least until mid-month, when fabulous thoughts and insights come fast and furious. (Some of us like it that way...) Queer Scorps may have trouble focusing on one particular topic for an extended period, but who cares? The idea is to get ideas. By the 24th you can build on these shards with diplomacy and aptitude. Create a belvedere.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 22) Gay Archers will love what I have to say. In fact, they will love what they have to say. Up until the 15th you might as well shoot from the mouth (what a concept) since anything you can't clearly

say could be held against you. While there are many things you may enjoy having held against you (like that dream by the bar), unspoken Sag words are not among them.

CAPRICORN (December 23 - January 20) Queer Goats fell like a chameleon trying on different personal styles to see which one fits just right. Take heart, dear queer soul, you crawl before you walk; this regeneration takes several months before we see the true lavender you. In the meantime, seek affirming social groups and test some options. Don't go for total agreement, go for fireworks for the true answer.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) What is the best way to harness career success? Don't ask me, but if you ask and listen round the corporate shark tank, you may just get a clue. Aquorians do their best sleuthing before mid-month and best application of knowledge after the 24th. Who knows? By Thanksgiving you could be corporate queen bee. Either that or sleeping with the corporate queen bee.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) If you're planning a vacation, do so before the 15th when your innate curiosity makes travel particularly interesting and zestful. Pink Fish also have the entire month to energize partnerships, deal with potential conflict and forge compromise. We are not talking battle lines. We are talking love, respect, pride and all those things that make our relationships perfect.

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SMOKIN' HOT REVIEWS

By Al S.

ECHO FARM

For a moment I thought I was at a grunge-fest: lots of baggy clothes, ball caps, and lumber-jack shirts. Then I realized these were mostly all womyn. It was the post-Melissa party at the Capitol on October 4th. A couple hundred showed up hoping to meet Ms Etheridge. She didn't show, but we were treated to a fun show by home-girls *Echo Farm*. They played music from their first tape (which they sell for only \$2.00 at their shows) and many more well-received songs.

Echo Farm, which rose from the ashes of *Lavender Couch* about a year and a half ago, have 25 or 30 original songs including "Split Second" and "Behind You." Guitarist Allison Ravnholdt writes the music. Vocalist Rebecca Rotert, who holds a Master's Degree in Creative Writing, does the lyrics. The other Farmers are Mary Jane on drums, Arianne Andersen, co-vocalist and new bass-player, and the only member of the male gender, Brad Deinstere, who is definitely a focal point for the guys with his long blond hair and surfer-boy looks. They not only played good music, including rap featuring J. Ray, Rob P., and Rebecca's brother Big Wil, but gave away Melissa tapes, CD's, and posters courtesy of Homers.

GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS

The Ranch Bowl has recently been a paradise for girls starting with *Speed Queen* on September

30. No, they are not named after a premature ejaculator. They are four wild looking women who play hard-core punk music. On October 3, *Beebe* returned, followed by *Tina and the B-Side Movement*, and *Echo Farm* on the 7th, *Babes in Toyland* on the 10th, and *Poe* on the 14th. Pure estrogen heaven!

In addition to all this modern music, I saw the *New Chordettes* at Bluffs Run on October 6th. The original girl group had hits 40 years ago with "Mr. Sandman," "Lollipop," and "Eddie, My Love." The present group, consisting of Kathy Wilderson, Kathy Quistad, Judy Duncan, and Robin Whitmore, keep the tradition going. They recorded their latest album of big band hits in Omaha with John Gomez, son of local legend Johnny Ray Gomez.

RICHARD SIMMONS

Richard Simmons, the Liberatee of the aerobics movement, appeared October 9th at Oak View Mall. I was really surprised at how good of a show he puts on. He really seems sincere in his love of all people. He had girls, children, old folks, and men come up on stage and work out with him to some really good music. He did not try to sell anything and, in fact, stayed around to sign photos that he gave away. I really had a good time at this show and so did hundreds of other people. Thanks for caring, Richard.

KC AREA SCHOOLS GET GAY-POSITIVE BOOKS

by GLAAD

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation's Project 21 donated nearly 200 gay-positive young adult books to area school districts in Kansas City, Missouri. Within days, the event received coverage in the *Kansas City Star* and on several local television stations. The September 25 *Star* contained an article by columnist Barbara Shelly entitled "Warning: Books Can Spark Ideas." She wrote, "To challenge a book is to compliment the author. It shows the writer is raising issues, presenting ideas and giving voice to conflicts that rage inside human beings. The day will come, perhaps when (the donated books) are as acceptable as Alice in Wonderland." Television coverage was not as solid. WDAF-TV provided interviews with GLAAD and talked to students and parents, but KSHB-TV included homophobic comments by anti-gay book burner Rev. John Birmingham. John Corbaley of GLAAD noted, "When Jesse Jackson comes to town, are representatives of the Ku Klux Klan sought out for 'balance'?" By airing the views of Rev. Birmingham, you perpetuate the climate of fear and hatred in which gay and lesbian teens must live. The inclusion of such an anachronistic fringe (individual) is offensive."

RUN TO THE BORDERS

By Diane Moore

Borders at 72 & Dodge to Open on November 23

AH! The date is finally upon us. The new Borders store at 72nd & Dodge has an opening date of November 23. This will be a beautiful day in the kingdom...a day when all who live Downtown and Mid-town may easily join us in our quest for book/music/cafe joy. OK, agreed, perhaps that's overstating the reality just a bit. However, we here at Borders have no doubt that the new store will be a great place to play!

Five Minutes in Heaven

by Lisa Alther

I recently read the new book by Lisa Alther (author of "Kinflicks," "Original Sins," "Other Women," and "Bedrock"). Alther's new book is titled "Five Minutes in Heaven." Those who have reviewed the book see it in different ways. It has been described as a "love story," as "exploring the complexities of lesbianism with an extraordinary sexual and emotional maturity," and as a "coming of age and coming out" story.

All of the reviewers are right on the money, each viewing the book through their own filter. In my opinion, the theme of this book is its main character's struggle with loss. No doubt affecting my perception has been the death of three family members this summer. There is nothing like the passing of a loved one to instruct us that the daily "stuff" we all deal with is really of little consequence in the grand scheme.

As a child, Jude must find her way through the death of her mother and the loss of her father's emotional availability. As a teen, Jude loses Molly, her best friend and first love to a man, and eventually to death. As a young adult, Jude loses a lover, who is a homosexual man, to gay bashing and then her married female lover to alcoholism.

The striking manner in which Jude deals with love, life, and death is soul-stirring. The reader will see through the eyes of a child, an adolescent, and an adult, the pains to discover and then extricate true love from passion. The *San Francisco Chronicle* says Alther's genius as a novelist is her ability to "capture and juxtapose the odd combinations of personality, gender, and family life that shape human destinies." The characters created in this novel find a place in your thoughts, thus the joys and heartbreak will find their way to your heart.

As we experience these losses with Jude, we must ask ourselves, were any of these people ever actually available to her? Is five minutes in heaven worth all of the pain of attachment? Do humans fall in love or do we simply follow our animal instinct to find fire and protection? Alther asks and answers these questions. The answer is that we can find desire, refuge and authentic love if we look in the right place. Alther brings to light truth we all know. When one is wise and honest, passion, safety and true love will come, bound together in the perfect package.

DOLE & CLINTON ADS PANDER TO RELIGIOUS EXTREMISTS

In a radio campaign ad entitled "Moral Crisis," Bob Dole has again resorted to scapegoating gay people and groveling for the votes of extremists, according to the Human Rights Campaign. "This is clearly a case of the Christian Coalition saying, 'Jump,' and Bob Dole responding, 'How low do you want me to go?'" said Daniel Zingale, HRC's political director. "Once again, Bob Dole is pandering to the religious political extreme elements of his party." The one minute ad, aired on right-wing radio stations in the midwest, attempted to paint President Clinton as a liberal for seeking to end anti-gay discrimination in the military and for policies on women's health, and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and teen pregnancy. "This is another sign that Dole's campaign is floundering," Zingale added. "When all else fails, he demagogues against gays and kowtows to anti-abortion extremists. Bob Dole's bridge to the past would be a disaster for gay and lesbian Americans."

Also using gays as political scapegoats, the Republican National Committee helped pay for a gay-bashing television ad for Sen. Jesse Helms, running for re-election in North Carolina. The ad attacks his opponent, Harvey Gantt, for support of the gay and lesbian community.

The Clinton campaign went anti-gay too. In a radio ad, the campaign boasts Clinton supported the Defense of Marriage Act. The ad concludes, "President Clinton has fought for our values and America is better for it."

Before the DOMA was passed, Clinton promised to sign it to "strengthen the American family". At the same time, the White House labeled the bill an example of gay baiting of the worst kind. Rich Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans said, "When the President signed DOMA in the middle of the night, he gained the dubious distinction of signing the most anti-gay piece of legislation in history. Today, he took that one step further by boasting about signing anti-gay legislation. Gay voters are learning that trust is an issue in this campaign and we simply can't trust Bill Clinton."

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BRIAN'S PAGE

"THAT WHICH DOES NOT KILL US JUST TENDS TO GET ON OUR NERVES"

(Brian E. Bengtson stealing from someone else.)

Good afternoon, my wee little bairns of meter and stanza! I probably should respond to last month's disagreement between myself and my editor (but I do want to thank Sharon for the dramatic increase in my readership thanks to her directions on the front page!!) Sharon even offered to give me one of her own poems and permission to tear it to pieces as a method of atonement and apology. What I think it all boiled down to was a lack of communication on my part.

Let me break this all down:

1.) I am a poet (I know, I know, "DUH!"), and that means I write poetry and hope that someone will publish it, maybe give me a book deal, I will get famous, and get to be on talk shows.

2.) When I sent poems out to other magazines, I usually mentioned my past publishing credits, and the fact that I edited a poetry section of my own (and maybe they will be so impressed with this that they will print my poetry.)

3.) Some editors check out a potential submitter's credits (like some employers check out a resume) to see if they are true. When an editor looks at my page, chances are more than likely they will see mostly my stuff (one critic has referred to this as **vanity publishing**, which is really a type of business that will print any manuscript, as long as the author pays for all the expenses, but I am splitting hairs) and will think that I have too huge an ego for them to publish me.

4.) Most poets really don't "make it" until they are dead (which means we tend to try to get our work out as much as possible while we are still alive.); therefore, if more people have the chance to read our work, we stand a better chance of sticking around in people's memories after we have left this mortal coil.

5.) Once I have printed something of my

own, I really in good conscience can't send it somewhere else (the term is **spontaneous submissions**, and is a big no-no in the literary world.)

I had hoped that by removing the title of Editor, I could solve at least one of my problems (any maybe by offering sexual favors to others, I could solve my shortage of good contributors, but saying, "If you write poetry, I will sleep with you," is not one of the best opening lines. My best opening line is "are you drunk enough to like me?"), but I neglected to talk with Sharon before I wrote last month's page, and I think that started the whole mess, and for that I do apologize.

Using my page for my own self-serving needs department: The Book Stations (1913 Leavenworth Street, right by Visions and The Chesterfield) will be featuring a two-day series of poetry readings on November 1st and 2nd at 8:00 p.m. both nights. Kelly Connor and Ryan Hinderaker (who have never sent me anything, but maybe now they will — **hint!**) will be reading on the first, and yours truly (along with another poet yet to be announced) will be featured on the second. So come out and show your support on both nights, and be sure to ask for your official Brian E. Bengtson "Living on Park Avenue"-series trading cards, (complete with a hologram card showing the interior of my inner-city studio apartment/secret headquarters!)

Well, with all that over and done with, this month I am including two of my newer pieces as a way of tempting you all to come out and see me read (plus, I didn't really get any submissions that I liked this month. Maybe I am too picky, but you all know my fear of poetry that rhymes!). Have a good Thanksgiving everyone, and save some cranberry sauce for me!

Brian

I-80 GOING WEST, 1996

By Brian E. Bengtson

These afternoon skies
across western Nebraska
aren't steel-grey anymore.

I can now see small wisps
of burnt violet
like an old lace cress
snatched up in the storm.

I drive past the rural road
that leads to Grandma's grave
Maybe this is her spirit
letting me know I am home.

REGRETS

By Brian E. Bengtson

I hate the memories.
The past creates its own life
when you move
through the seasons

like a petal
riding the harsh wind
in a summer storm.
Yesterday doesn't ask

if the time is right
for a sudden flashback.
It gives pleasure
and pain like a cards shark,

who deals a hand
that makes you lose
to the irony around you.
Memory is not random.

It can close on you
like a vise,
rusted and worn
from nights in the rain.

I'M HAVING TROUBLE GETTING MY FOOT OUT OF MY MOUTH

By Sharon Van Butsel

Okay, okay. I know I did it again. I let my fingers type away without engaging my brain. And several of you were kind enough to point it out to me. Some were gentle (You must have been tired when you wrote that) and others more direct (how could you write something like that?). But I got the message loud and clear — my responses to Brian and to Mr. French were much stronger than they should have been.

Now, before I go any further, I should explain that Brian and I have made up and are friends again. I explained to him as I will explain to you that I was trying to write a response that was a parody of his writing style and that was done as tongue-in-cheek teasing. Well, the parody part went pretty well but it sure didn't come out as being tongue-in-cheek nor as teasing. I have apologized to Brian and we have cleared the air. I promised to never again attack his book (no, my cat did not use it as a litter box — my personally autographed copy of Brian's book is carefully stored behind glass doors where no varmint will bother it.) I really am proud of having had a part in it coming to be. And I will not take pot-shots at his choice of poems. And I will not go on tirades at his expense. All of which could be summed up by saying, **I'm sorry, Brian. Please forgive me.**

Brian has also agreed to not take pot-shots at people, and is going to work on getting things in on time. (This month his stuff was in just like clockwork.) So, please, take my comments last month with a grain of salt and check out Brian's newest work.

As for Mr. French, please understand I'm really tired of hearing how we should have reported on various things — none of us at *The New Voice* have any desire to be investigative reporters but so far no one has come forward to volunteer to be a reporter for us. And until they do, we'll probably keep right on doing what we're doing and live with the consequences.

**"IF A MAN DOES NOT
KEEP PACE WITH HIS
COMPANIONS,
PERHAPS HE IS JUST
RUNNING A BIT LATE."
BRIAN E. BENGTSON,
NOW STEALING FROM
THOREAU**

- 1.) Send **typed** poems of 30 lines or less.
- 2.) Send SASE if you want 'em back, or want a comment/critique.
- 3.) Will try to respond within a reasonable amount of time.
- 4.) If you haven't bought my book by now, trying to sell the trading cards would just be a waste of time, huh?

**MCC MINISTER
PRESSES
GAY RIGHTS
ISSUE DURING
DOLE/CLINTON
DEBATE**

President Clinton and Republican nominee for President Bob Dole were faced with questions about gay rights during their second and final debate on October 15.

During the 90-minute session, a man identifying himself as a travel agent, asked the two candidates what their positions were on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act which would have protected American workers from being fired from their jobs simply for being gay or lesbian.

Congress failed to pass the measure in September.

President Clinton said, "I'm for it. I believe any law abiding, tax paying citizen that shows up in the morning, doesn't break the law, and doesn't interfere with his or her neighbors ought to have the ability to work in our country."

Bob Dole said, "I'm opposed to discrimination of any form, but I'm not in favor of creating special rights for any group. I don't have any policy against hiring anyone — whether it's lifestyle or whatever, we don't have any policy of that kind and never had in my office or will we in the future. But as far as special rights, I'm opposed to same-sex marriage which the President signed well after midnight one morning. Dark of night."

While both candidates answered the question, they gave the appearance of kissing off the issue.

That is until later, when a woman identifying herself as a minister with the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches stood to press the issue.

She objected to Dole's misunderstanding that the issue is about equal rights, not special rights. Her question was the last to be thrown to the candidates before their closing statements.

Bob Dole said, "Well, I hope I made my answer clear. I said I'm opposed to discrimination. We've suffered discrimination with the disability community. There are 43 million of us. I can recall cases where people would cross the street rather than meet somebody in a wheel chair. So, we want to end discrimination."

"I think that answers it. No discrimination in America. We've made that clear. I would just say that's the way it ought to be. We shouldn't discriminate — race, color, whatever. Lifestyle. Disability. This is America."

Dole never mentioned special rights again.

President Clinton answered by saying, "There is no more responsibility for the President than to say if you believe in the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the Declaration of Independence, that's all we need to know. And you can be a part of our America and you can cross that bridge to the 21st century with us. And we are not well served when we attack each other. It doesn't create jobs. It doesn't educate children. It doesn't solve problems. We need to be agreeing on ideas honestly and talking about the future. The future can be one of the greatest times in this country's history if we can beat this division that is bedeviling the whole rest of the world."

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EUROPE BODY RE-AFFIRMS COMMITMENT

The European Parliament has adopted a resolution on human rights in the European Union that includes a call to banish discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The resolution includes the following statement, "In accordance with the terms of the February 8, 1994 Resolution on the Equality of Rights for Homosexuals and Lesbians in the Community, the Parliament asks that all discrimination and/or inequality of treatment must be abolished concerning homosexuals, especially referring to differences that persist on the age of consent for homosexuals, and discrimination concerning the right to work, and in penal, civil, contractual, social and economic law."

The eight-page resolution covers issues as diverse as prisoners, torture, respect of the family and more. The resolution on homosexuality refers to the motion of the commune of Verone of July 14, 1995, which condemned the European Parliament's earlier resolution, and replies to other petitions from Germany, Spain and Italy.

IBM EXTENDS FAMILY BENEFITS TO GAY EMPLOYEES

The IBM Corporation has flexed its muscle in the diversity department and given green to the gay and lesbian community. The Fortune Top 10 giant announced it is extending domestic partnership benefits to its gay and lesbian employees and has made a financial contribution to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force for its coalition building efforts.

IBM is extending health-care coverage to the same gender partners of its employees. This makes IBM the largest U.S. business to offer domestic partnership benefits. An IBM spokesperson said the company made the decision to remain competitive and attract gay and lesbian workers — not to mention to continue its long-standing tradition of providing benefits plans for all employees.

NEW GAY MOVIE IN PRODUCTION

Shooting has begun on "In and Out," a film starring Kevin Kline as a teacher who is outed by a former student (played by Matt Dillon) when the student receives an Oscar for a gay role. Tom Selleck plays a gay reporter for Entertainment Tonight who is attracted to Kline. Debbie Reynolds plays Kline's mother. Once Kline's character is outed, he breaks off the engagement to his fiancee, played by Joan Cusack. Openly gay screenwriter Paul Rudnick penned the screenplay. Frank Oz directs and Scott Rudin produces. No word on a release date.

HGRA ELECTS NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Saturday, November 2, the Heartland Gay Rodeo Association will meet at Angie's Restaurant in Omaha for our 2nd Annual Awards Banquet and Elections. Cocktails will be served from 6pm with a brief meeting and voting at 7pm. Then dinner and the awards presentations will follow. Contact Jim Bohrer at 556-2952 to make reservations. You will have your choice of Steak, Chicken, or Fish.

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NAP COLLABORATES WITH CENTER FOR AIDS INTERVENTION RESEARCH

By Larry Bierce, NAP Education Coordinator

The Nebraska AIDS Project has begun collaborations with the Center for AIDS Intervention Education Research (CAIR) in Milwaukee to study HIV prevention models based on behavioral science research. CAIR is a division of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin; it is one of three federally-funded AIDS research centers in the U.S., and specializes in gender-based, community-level HIV intervention program studies.

As part of the collaboration, NAP has agreed to identify and recruit persons from agencies interested in AIDS prevention, as well as individuals from at-risk communities willing to participate in outreach programs. Participants will attend a two-day behavioral change training led by the CAIR staff. One day of the training will focus on prevention for women, and the second day on prevention for men.

AIDS 101 Not Enough

A decade and a half into the AIDS epidemic, research is only now beginning to inform us of the effectiveness of HIV prevention programs. Research suggests, for example, that the tried-and-true "AIDS 101" speech does very little to facilitate actual risk-reduction through behavior change. What the "AIDS 101" speech does accomplish is the raising of audience awareness of the disease, and the increasing of audience sensitivity toward people living with HIV. But increased awareness and sensitivity are not enough to drive actual behavior change in most people. HIV testing and counseling are also well-known components of AIDS prevention. Research findings on HIV testing suggest that testing and counseling are important agents of change for persons who test HIV positive, but testing and counseling seem to produce little or no reduction in risk behaviors among people who test negative.

While "AIDS 101" talks and HIV testing and counseling are clearly not the end-all, beat-all of AIDS prevention, they do serve important purposes. They are necessary steps toward life-long HIV risk reduction.

In order to produce real, long-term reductions in risk, people must alter behavior that puts them at high risk for HIV, and maintain behavior change over the long run. Behavioral science is beginning to shed light on strategies that may help produce and maintain such change.

Seven Principles for

Long Term Behavior Change

The intervention model proposed by CAIR hinges on seven principles of effective prevention programs. First, individuals must have a "practical understanding" of risk factors, and an understanding of behavior changes that will minimize those risks (basically people must know "AIDS 101" material). Second, people must be assisted in personalizing the threat of HIV by realistically appraising one's own behavior and one's own risks. The third guiding principle is to nurture the belief that one can successfully make the needed behavior changes, and that implementing the changes will actually work to reduce HIV risk. Fourth, people must commit to changing risky behavior. Fifth, people must

acquire behavioral and interpersonal skills needed to reduce risk. Such skills include condom use, assertiveness, refusing coercion, and self-management. Next, individuals must have a plan for implementing change and practicing newly acquired skills. People must also plan a course of action if obstacles arise, or if lapses occur in less-risky behaviors. The final ingredients identified by CAIR are learning self-reinforcement and seeking social support to maintain behavioral changes over time.

While these seven principles of effective prevention are supported by research, we have yet to learn what particular forms these principles will take when applied to specific communities and populations. We should not expect these principles to work exactly the same in Omaha as they do in New York or Miami.

NAP's role in this research process is to facilitate a community dialog that will result in these principles being applied in unique ways to populations at-risk here in Nebraska and to guide collaborative, community-driven intervention processes in our area.

NO TURKEYS AT Q — JUST ENTERTAINMENT

The "Q" in Lincoln fills every Sunday in November and into December with top notch entertainment, beginning with the Imperial Court of Nebraska's Food 4 Thought on November 3 which brings together the best of Omaha and Lincoln performers to help meet the needs of PWA's across the state of Nebraska. The focus shifts to special needs of women on Nov. 10 with the "Every Woman Matters" benefit for breast cancer. Men and women join together to support this event. November 17 is "Hairaid IV," a Fashion show and benefit for Pediatric AIDS, hosted by the Pink Flamingo. Nov. 24 brings the production of "Your Mother's Butt" and "The Pansy" directed by Channing Roos, and "Bodyshop — A Movement Illusion" by Renay Kushner. Focus returns to those living with HIV/AIDS as Mr. Q 1996 Troy Haas hosts "World AIDS Day Benefit" on World AIDS Day, December 1. Proceeds will go to NAP's major fundraiser "Night of a Thousand Stars."

Then...it may be time to run for cover (at the Q) because THEY'RE BACK! The Kinsey Sicks, America's favorite Drag-apella Beauty Shop Quartet returns to the stage of the Q for 4 performances, December 5 - 8. So mark your calendars, because you won't want to miss out on any of the fun at Q.

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MCC-O and WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NOVEMBER

Game Night

Want to have a whole lot of fun? Please take the time to plan to be in the Social Hall at Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 9th. All sorts of board games will be available so bring a friend and prepare to relax and enjoy the evening. If you have a favorite game, bring it along!

Congregational Meeting and Potluck

This is important stuff! On Sunday, November 17th, following the 10:30 a.m. Service, a Congregational meeting will be held. Several very important topics will be voted on by Church members such as: Who will fill the four Board positions about to be vacated? Should the times for Worship Services be changed?

MCC-O is your Church. If you are a member, please plan on attending. The Church needs and respects your input.

Also, don't forget the food. If you are able, please bring a dish!

Gobbie, Gobbie

Yes, that's right. On Thursday, November 28th, MCC-O will be cooking up a very special Thanksgiving Day dinner for PWA's, MCCers and anyone else who would like to join in this culinary delight.

Dinner, with all the fixin's, will begin at 1:00 p.m. (Doors open at 11:00 for anyone who wants to come early) and run until the last turkey leg hits the floor. Tickets are FREE and all you have to do is contact the church to get one. If anyone would like to bring a dish, feel free to do so (please let the church office know what you plan to bring so we can make sure all the fixin's are covered.)

Celestial Voices

The MCC-O Choir has once again started its season. Practice has been scheduled on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. and the Choir will be singing every other Sunday at the 10:30 Service. New voices are encouraged to join. If you think you sound half-way decent in the shower, then you're a candidate!

Also, a hearty welcome to Rick, our new accompanist.

A Big Round of Applause!

Thanks goes out to the Men's Support Group and all of their friends for the fantastic work done on the Church grounds. A lot of hard work went into making the property look just super! If you haven't taken a stroll around the property, do it. You'll be truly impressed! Thanks again to all those involved.

EXCEL

The Excel International Executive Board will be holding a meeting on Nov. 7th-10th here in Omaha. For more information you may contact Becky (a member of the Executive Board) through MCC-O.

An Invitation

There are many new and exciting things going on with MCC-O these days. This is an invitation to ALL to join us for Worship, Fellowship, and, quite frankly, a lot of fun. We are blessed with new members and visitors weekly. Won't you be one of them?

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha is located 1/2 block south of Leavenworth at 819 South 22nd St. Services are held on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

The doors are wide open... See you next Sunday!

CFEP MEETING SET NOVEMBER 7

At its next meeting, Citizens for Equal Protection will be showing the video "When Democracy Works". The 30-minute video examines the radical right wing in the United States and also illustrates effective grassroots resistance to the Right's anti-democratic agenda.

"When Democracy Works" features several cases studies on the Right: David Duke's campaigns for political office in Louisiana, the conservative drive to pass anti-gay Amendment 2 in Colorado, and the anti-immigrant Proposition 187 and anti-Affirmative Action initiatives in California.

Following the video, Joe Hall, co-chair of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and locally, the Director of the Nebraska AIDS Project will lead a discussion about the issues and events presented in the video.

The meeting will be Thursday, November 7 at 7PM at the First Unitarian Church, 31st and Harney. Popcorn and pop provided.



Imperial Court of Iowa has Crowned New Monarchs:
Emperor 4, Brian, and Empress 4, Aramis

THINGS HEAT UP AT THE MAX

It may be getting cold outside, but things at The MAX are definitely HOT! There's no better way to warm up than to dance, dance, dance to the hottest dance music in town! Why not join those who know that winter cold just can't compete with The MAX. The MAX will put on her finest holiday attire, but you won't lose any of the energy or the fun.

The hottest new titleholder in Omaha. Mr. MAX Jeff McKenzie hosts a special show on Nov. 3 that features the best and funniest entertainment around. You'll even be treated to a bit of Rocky Horror with a new twist.

November 10 is the first BIG fundraisers for the holiday season as the Imperial Court of Nebraska presents Food For Thought. Royal and Phoenix headline this star-studded event to buy Thanksgiving groceries for clients of the Nebraska AIDS Project and fund a Thanksgiving Day Dinner for PWA's and others at MCC and help stock the MCC Food Pantry. ICON has committed to purchasing 100 grocery certificates for PWA's across the state. YOU can make the holiday brighter for PWA's and their families by turning out for this show.

The MAX takes on a Leather Look for the weekend of Nebraska 16 & 17. Jim Gau will present the Mr. and Ms. Leather Nebraska Pageant, followed by his very special "Red Hot Winter" Show on Sunday. Check the poster at the bar for details.

It's a Sioux City Invasion on Nov. 24 as Aramis takes Omaha by storm. The talent of this performer won her a place in the all-star category, while her warm, loving personality won her a place in our hearts. She's the newly crowned Empress of the Imperial Court of Iowa and she will delight and amaze you.

November winds down with an Imperial Chili Cook-off as Prince Royale Jim Gau hosts a chili competition on Saturday afternoon, November 30, from 4 - 8pm. All cooks are encouraged to enter your very best chili and compete for the \$50 cash prize. This event will help the Proud Horizons Youth Group, and youth are encouraged to attend.

December brings Snow as Miss MAX Dietra Snow headlines a sparkling show on December 1. And on December 8 the Imperial Court presents Toys 4 Totz, the second big fundraiser of the season. ICON will be providing toys for children of PWA's across the state — last year they bought toys for 85 kids. Some of those kids are no longer with us and some have lost one or both parents. Let's make Christmas a little brighter for the kids and their families. This is what Christmas is really about — the sparkle in a kid's eye as they unwrap a present when they weren't even sure there would be a Christmas. Thanks for all your support throughout the years. You've really made it The MAX.



MR. DESERT PLAINS DRUMMER, RICK NOSS, 5TH IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

San Francisco's International Mr. Drummer proved to be "trial by fire" for one of Omaha's most popular title holders. Mr. Desert Plains Drummer, Rick Noss, and his partner, Mr. Nebraska Fantasy Rick Strub, spent several grueling days competing for the title of Mr. International Drummer.

Eleven regional winners competed for the Drummer title while others competed for the companion title of Drummer Boy. At the end of the competition porn star Kyle Brandon, Mr. Southern California Drummer, took the title with a total score of 5115 points out of a possible 6400. Ken Rosetti from New York took second place and Jerry Leigh from Columbus Ohio took third. Mike DeNisco from Denver took the title of International Drummer Boy.

The 4-day competition included a "Basket Auction" (each contestant brings a basket of donated items from his region which is auctioned to raise money for a travel fund for the titleholders) which raised almost \$2600. Rick Noss donated a basket of items unique to the Midwest region. Thanks to all who donated to his basket, including Bob Ewing & Dustin Logan, Amy Marie Meek and Bare Images Productions, Rick Strub, Jim Gau, Will Fellows, Royal Bush, Kevin Watson, Chuck Wilson, Jeff Wilson, MCC-Omaha, Heartland Gay Rodeo Association, EXCEL of the Midlands, *The New Voice of Nebraska*, Carla Petersen (ICON's Emperor from Oz), and the Imperial Court of Nebraska. There was a Photo Night, Press Party, and VIP Party. The Fetish and Fantasy Ball included fantasies by our own Amy Marie Meek, Willow, Cindy Bookout, and the newly crowned International Mr. Fantasy, Kevin Watson. There was a hilarious Roast for the Outgoing International Mr. Drummer, WW Walker, at the popular "Last Supper" produced by the deaf leather community. Both Rick Noss and partner Rick Strub described the event as exhausting. Mr. Desert Plains Drummer Rick Noss told me he had hoped to place within the top 3 but was satisfied with a 5th place finish in his first International title competition. His final ranking was pulled down in the "physique" category because of a look which at least one judge considered "vanilla." However, Rick placed a very strong 3rd in the Speech and Interview categories and his exceptionally creative fantasy placed 3rd among all the fantasies. Other fantasies included a presentation of *Forrest Gump*—Leather Style and a fantasy which ended up being an actual wedding on stage.

Congratulations to Rick Noss on a strong finish in his initial competition.

THE NEW VOICE

WARNING!

Who should decide what happens to your property when you die ???

DID YOU KNOW

In Nebraska, if you are "unmarried" and die without a will, any personal property, cash, bank accounts, investments and real estate not protected through proper estate planning will be distributed in the following order:

- 1st To your children...but, the COURT decides who controls these assets and your children's guardian!
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- 4th To your *grandparents*.
- 5th To your *aunts and uncles*.

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NAP AIDS WALK IN LINCOLN

Pam Render of Lincoln (on the right above) raised the most money for the Omaha, Lincoln, and Kearney AIDS Walk. She raised \$2002.11 by contacting friends, co-workers, and gathering pledges at local bars. For her efforts, Render won two round-trip tickets on United Airlines.

INTERIM PASTOR HIRED AT MCC-OMAHA

The Board of Directors of Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha announced following its October 13 monthly meeting that Rev. Sharon Sloat of Des Moines, Iowa, has been hired to serve as Interim Pastor for a period of six to twelve months. Rev. Sloat will assume the pastoral duties, which were previously assumed by Rev. Dr. C. Earle Lewis who resigned September 24.

Rev. Sloat served as Student Clergy under Rev. Matthew Howard in 1993 and 1994. Since then she has been a part of the clergy staff at Church of the Holy Spirit in Des Moines.

The search for a senior pastor will begin following the November 17 Congregational Meeting.

MCC-Omaha invites you to come for Worship. We have a 9:00 a.m. service and a 10:30 a.m. service every Sunday.

MCC WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM TAKES FIRST PLACE

Great news! The women's softball team representing Metropolitan Community Church took first place in the Omaha Softball Association's fall league with only two losses and so much fun. Congratulations to MCC-O Crusaders! See you next spring when we will really show how mysterious God's workings are!

Sue B. is the fall coach and certainly outperformed the summer league coach [who just happens to be the author of this article]. So what's going to happen in 1997? Stay tuned, or better yet, join the team! All women are welcome.

SHIFT IN HGRA MEETINGS

The December meeting for the Heartland Gay Rodeo Association will be held on the 14th of December instead of the first Saturday of the month as usual.

This change is to allow our members time to be able to attend Night of 1000 Stars.

The December meeting is also being held in Des Moines as we alternate between there and Omaha every other month.

The January meeting will be held in Omaha on the 4th as scheduled, but due to our Gay Roller Skating Party at 5pm, the meetings have been moved to an earlier time; 1pm for the entertainment/fundraising committee, 2pm for the rodeo committee meeting, and 3pm for the general meeting.

HGRA GOES ROLLER SKATING IN JANUARY

Everyone is invited to a **Gay Roller Skating Party** at Cheap Skate on 90th and Maple in Omaha on Saturday, January 4, from 5-7pm.

The Heartland Gay Rodeo Association will be sponsoring a fundraiser with the monies going towards the 1st Annual Heartland Regional Rodeo. We will skate to "YMCA" and the Macarena, do the Limbo and the Hokie Pokie!

There will be couples skates and balloon races. Tickets will go on sale November 1st for \$4.00 per person, in advance, with skate rental at \$1.00 for regular skates and \$4.00 for inline roller blades.

All tickets must be purchased by December 31st to get the advance price.

To purchase tickets, call Shelley at 325-0434 in the Omaha area or Patrick at 515-255-3842 in the Des Moines area.

NOVEMBER AT THE OMAHA MINING COMPANY

The old Run Bar is no more — it has been replaced with the renovated, restored, and remodeled **Omaha Mining Company**. And with the facelift and the new name comes a renewed commitment to provide the best for their patrons and for the community.

November features a drink special every Friday during happy hour. From 4pm - 7pm on every Friday in November, if you bring in 4 cans of food for the MCC Food Pantry, you can get your first well drink for 1¢. Please bring non-perishable food items — they will all be donated to the food pantry at Metropolitan Community Church.

On November 23, Muffy Rosenberg will appear in *Coal Miner's Daughter*. There will be a \$2 cover for this special show which begins at 9pm.

And on Thanksgiving Day, there will be free turkey and dressing with all the trimmings served from 6pm - 8pm. Come join us to celebrate the holiday!

HGRA INVITES ALL TO INDOOR RODEO AT DC'S

Saturday, November 16, we will once again be gathering at DC's Saloon in Omaha, NE for another afternoon of making fools of ourselves!! Last year the Imperial Court of Nebraska sent 3 teams to challenge HGRA in Barrel Racing, the Wild Drag Race, and several other events. These are all takeoffs of the real events held at International Gay Rodeos across the country. The fun will get underway at 3pm and go until we finish. Trophies will be awarded to the winners. If I remember correctly, the employees of DC's won the overall contest last year.

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY



BINGO GAME TO SUPPORT PGLSS

The Panhandle Gay & Lesbian Support Services will be holding its biggest fundraiser of the year on November 30. Bingo Night will take place at the West Nebraska Arts Center, 106 East 18th Street, in Scottsbluff, Nebraska.

Bingo sheets will be 50 cents each and there are 3 bingo cards per sheet. Coffee, tea and cookies will be sold for 25 cents each. The event is open to family and friends of our community. Kids welcome too!

BINGO AT MCC-OMAHA

November 23 you will have the chance to join the members and friends of MCC-Omaha to play a few games of that all-time favorite, B-I-N-G-O. This is not a big dollar game but you can leave with a few dollars in your pocket along with some interesting prizes. Bingo starts around 6:30 but there will be goodies and snacks to tempt you ahead of time, so plan to come early to get the best seat and the best card in the house.

TOOLS AND TURKEYS: WHAT A TWO-SOME!

Emperor 12 Steve Koeller will host a Benefit Show for the G/L/B/T Community Resource Center Sunday, November 24, at DC's Saloon. Showtime will be at 9:00 p.m., and the show promises to top the Sept. show with tools and turkeys to delight everyone.

Bring your checkbook and a friend and come out and support Omaha's effort to provide the community with a much-needed resource center.

Become a part of the CRC Work Crew! Get in the spirit—wear your toolbelt and hard hat or carry a lunch pail.

The show will feature live and lip-sync entertainment—something for everyone. Cover is only \$2.

For a donation of \$5 you can choose your very own tool (keychain) from our tool box. The Resource Center is a "work in progress," and we invite you to join the crew.

Watch for details about "Tools and Turkeys and Toys: What a Three-Some!" coming your way in December at the all-new Omaha Mining Company!



Photos: Top Left, Crowd filled ballroom at Milo Bail Student Center with laughter and conversation. Center Left, New Voice's Dick Brown, NGLTF Melinda Paras, and New Voice's Pat Phalen. Bottom Left: Comedian Wayne G. entertains crowd from under the rainbow made of balloons for National Coming Out Day. Top Right: Keynote speaker Melinda Paras

BARN DANCE AND HAYRACK RIDE A SUCCESS

By Shelley Foster

Saturday, September 28, the Heartland Gay Rodeo Association and Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers got together to host a Barn Dance, Hayrack Rides, and dinner at Lakota Stables in Ashland, NE. About 80 people showed up for the event, making it a profitable adventure for both organizations.

My group went on the first hayrack ride about 7:30, while Jo Jo and Char started the Bar-B-Que. The ride lasted about 45 minutes and we had fun getting to know some of the guys from Frontrunners.

I learned there was at least one other person at the party who was willing to admit that he was as old as I am! We astounded the "children" on the hayrack with tales of Bonanza (not the restaurant) before it was shown in color!

We had hamburgers and hot dogs with chips upon our return to the stable. Later we had hot chocolate, hot apple cider and S'Mores over the campfire. Twelve people signed up for the "Calf Roping" contest — the lesbians challenged the guys. Unfortunately the women lost out.

HGRA's own Bill G. took first place and Fred took second place. Bryn, one of the owners of Lakota Stables, had some baseball caps made up with the HGRA logo on them. One of these very nice caps was awarded the winner, with a bottle of Cactus Juice (left over from our Beer Bust at Babe's) going to second place.

As I was putting my DJ equipment into the van at 1:00 a.m., a few of the last guests talked Bryn and Jennifer into one last Hayrack Ride. Many thanks to all the workers at Lakota for getting everything set up, making the dance floor, mowing the pasture so we could park our cars, and shoveling several tons of gravel to fill in the muddy spots in the road.

I'd also like to thank Scott and Keith of Frontrunners for all their help in selling tickets and getting volunteers to help out all evening. And, of course, lots of thanks to the HGRA members who chowed up and helped out — even a former member and her lover who relieved Jo Jo and Char at the Bar-B-Que.

I can't wait to do this again next fall. I hope this becomes a yearly event for HGRA and Frontrunners.

Keep your eyes peeled for a summer party at Lakota Stables to be co-sponsored by the Pride Parade Committee.

RAINBOW PAC ENDORSES CANDIDATES

Candidates Survey Returns show GLBT Support

The Rainbow Political Action Committee sent surveys to 366 candidates for public office in Sarpy, Douglas, and Lancaster Counties and all of the Candidates for the Nebraska Unicameral. Sixty two returned the surveys and their answers were evaluated by the committee. The questions were about attitudes towards sexual orientation and legal protection from discrimination in employment as well as other progressive issues.

From the recipients, the committee was able to endorse 36 candidates for public office. This included 5 people for local school boards who asked the committee not to publicize the endorsement for fear their opponents will utilize this for a negative attack. Those endorsed are felt to be supportive of the GLBT Community or at least open to consider legislation to protect people from discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Not all positions would have direct access to promoting or passing legislation. Many candidates enter the political field through local office. Their now stated opinions can be helpful in determining their positions at that time. The Rainbow Political Action Committee intends to be active after the election to remind the winners of their positions, to monitor their actions, and to keep records for the next election.

Persons wanting more information about the Rainbow Political Action Committee should write to the PAC at 1138 N. 66th, Omaha, NE 68132.

The following candidates are endorsed by the Rainbow Political Action Committee

State & Local:

Nebraska Unicameral:

John M. Stalder, District 1
 Craig Christiansen, District 7
 Shelley Kiel, District 9
 Ernie Chambers, District 11
 Lowen Kruse, District 13
 Carol M. Yoakum, District 21
 Mimi Heintzman, District 31
 Dianna R. Schimek, District 27

Douglas Country

Carole Woods Harris
 for Douglas County Commissioner, District 3
 Mary Barrett for Register of Deeds

Nebraska Cities & Villages

Theresa S. Hatcher for Bellevue City Council Ward 1
 Jim Armstrong for LaVista City Council Ward IV
 Harold Gottlieb for Ralston City Council Ward IV
 Maureen Konwinski for Ralston City Council Ward 1
 Steven G. Bode for Ralston Library Board
 Patrick O. Bartek in village of Denton
 Nancy K. Baehr in village of Hallam
 Loren Beck in village of Hallam
 Mickey Lee Tucker for Board of Trustees in village of Waterloo

Board of Regents:

Nancy L. O'Brien for University Board of Regents District 2

Community Colleges:

Lynda K. Thorpe for Metropolitan Technical College District 5
 Mary A. Harding for Southeast Community College District 3
 Richard O. Scott for Southeast Community College At Large

Offices of Public Services:

Linda S. Vescio for Lower Platte South
 Natural Resources District 1
 Dick Powell for Lower Platte South Natural Resources District 5
 Anne H. Smith for Lower Platte
 South Natural Resources District 5
 Danny L. Ladely for Lower Platte
 South Natural Resources District 10
 Thomas F. Dowd for Metropolitan Utilities District
 Outside Member
 Joseph P. Stroesser for Papio Missouri River
 Natural Resources District 3
 Ken Jansen for Papio Missouri River
 Natural Resources District 9
 Anne Boyle for Public Service Commission District 2

Federal-

President of the United States
 Bill Clinton
 US House of Representatives
 Patrick Combs for US Congress District 1



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ANGLE RECOGNITION AWARDS

ANGLE (Achieving New Gay and Lesbian Endeavors) announces those individuals, businesses, and organizations nominated by the community to be recognized for community service or personal achievement. In each of four categories, one nominee was selected to receive Special Recognition at the annual Recognition Dinner held October 26. Those names will be announced in the next issue of *The New Voice*.

The nominees in each category are:

Personal Achievement:

Joni Joyce
Pat Phalen
Terri Tippet
Sandy Vopalka

Community Service —

Organization:

Fantasy Productions
River City Gender Alliance
WomenSpace

Individual/Couple:

Rich Ketter
Phillip McGuire
aka Phoenix Fallentino
Michael Orr
Jonathan Stephen Raymond
Scott Winkler
Stef and Doris

Business:

Gilligan's
The Q

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

Reconciling Services Held at Dietz Methodist

By RJ

A new kid on the block — who, or what, is this new kid? I really don't know. Sunday morning I went to my usual church at 9am. No church — the early service had been canceled. So I went to services at Dietz Methodist at 9:30. They have a new pastor and I haven't been able to make it to Dietz in a long time.

During announcements I noticed this in the bulletin, "The Downtown Ministry has formed a Reconciling Worship Community, offering an alternative time of worship. This Community meets at 7:30pm, Sunday evenings, here at Dietz Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome." Reconciling? That got my attention, as did the announcement from the pulpit. So at 7:30pm I was back at Dietz.

So what is this new kid? Well, I can tell you what it is not. As I understand it, Dietz is not a "Reconciling Congregation" as in the term used by Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns and the "More Light Churches," nor by Lutherans Concerned and their "Enlightened Churches." It is not in competition with MCC. It is not Affirmation, the Methodist equivalent of Dignity, PLGC, Lutherans Concerned, etc.

So what is, or who is, this "new kid on the block?" Let me quote from the evening bulletin. "Welcome. This time of worship is intended to be sanctuary for you, a place of safety and intimacy in the Spirit. In this place, we recognize each other as children of God and extend the embrace of Christ's Shalom to everyone, regardless of gender, race, class or sexual orientation."

So there! The first evening I was there, the second gathering of the group, there were about 15 people gathered for the service. I can only speak for myself, so there was at least one gay person there. Others were from the Dietz congregation, some from Pearl Methodist, and some who go to PFLAG. We were quite a variety of Methodists, meeting on common ground and under a common roof — and in one Spirit.

On Labor Day, the third gathering made the Pastor's heart leap for joy. About 15 of us showed up, and this was Labor Day weekend. This is an informal church service which kind of reminds me of the ministries of the Wesley Brothers, when they used to meet in the homes.

So hark! All ye Methodists, lend me your ears. Does this sound like something you would like to check out? Then check it out!

This "Reconciling Worship Community," part of "Pathways Alternative Ministry," led by Pastor Doyle Burbank-Williams, is a step in the right direction. This ministry, to be successful, needs you in attendance — parents, relatives, teachers, friends, everyone who believes God created all equally and wish to see the Methodist Church include everyone in its ministry, not just a select few. But everyone.

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RESOURCE CENTER "A FALL THING" IS A VERY GOOD THING

On Sunday, September 29, Metropolitan Omaha's Gay Lesbian Bi Transgender Community Resource Center, took a giant step toward opening its doors. This was the night for "It's a Fall Thing," the Center's second fundraiser, a show held at DC's. The event raised over \$1000.

The crowd, which included 8 members of the Center's Steering Committee, was royally entertained by a show assembled and emceed by Steve Koeller (Emperor 12) who also performed two numbers. The presentations included both lip-synch and live singers and ranged from High Drag through (you'll pardon the expression) Straight Forward Presentation on to wildly comic gender bending. The Quality of the performances was uniformly excellent.

Entertainers included Isabella Borsheim, Niecey Braxton, Barbra Love (RCGA Board Member), Jeff McKenzie (Mr. MAX), Theresa Robinson, Ashley Simone, Sharon Van Butsel (Princess Royale 16), Annie Welty (Emperor 15), Felice Whitney (Empress 9), and Josephine Williams (Empress 15).

The Steering Committee is grateful to each of these performers. The show would not have been possible without the donation of their time and talents. In addition, the performers donated their tips to the Resource Center, accounting for well over half of the total amount raised.

Others who deserve recognition include the staff and management of DC's - Dan, Charley, David, Ashley, Joe, and Doug. Behind the scenes were Joe on lights and Pat on sound. Sharon and Carla created the set. Michele and Dan worked the door and sold raffle tickets.

Special thanks to Terry Tippet, owner of the Omaha Mining Company, who twice donated \$100. His second donation was in the form of a challenge which was promptly met —twice! Both the River City Gender Alliance and Onyx Images pledged \$100 in response. The Steering Committee is pleased to see other community organizations step forward in support of the effort to establish the Center. In addition, three individuals expressed interest in becoming involved with the Steering Committee. Although much has already been accomplished, there is much yet to be done — their participation is welcomed. The community is invited and encouraged to join in the effort. Steering Committee meetings in November will be the first Friday at 8 p.m. and the third Sunday at Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22, Omaha.



Photos: Above: Jeff McKenzie, Mr. MAX performs in "It's A Fall Thing"
Below: The Cast and the Steering Committee of the Community Resource Center

PLEASURE PAC'S

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Watch for Pleasure Pac sales displays or contact the church office at 345-2563.



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WISHING JOHN & RACHEL ALL LIFE'S HAPPINESS TOGETHER

By Stef Matthews

On Saturday, September 14, 1996 at 2:00 p.m. at the MCC Church in Omaha the weather was perfect, the bride glowing and the love was in evidence as John and Rachel Chapin reaffirmed their wedding vows after 27 years of marriage.

Maggie and Zac, two of John and Rachel's children, were the maid-of-honor and best-man for their parents. Their oldest son, Rick, is stationed in Hawaii and could not be here for the wedding. Rachel's mother, Elsie, gave the bride away as many of their friends, family and coworker's looked on. Many RCGA members were in the wedding party and in the audience as the Reverend Lewis of the MCC Church performed the ceremony. There was hardly a dry eye in the house as John and Rachel professed their undying love for each other and promised, again, to stay with each other until the end of time.

Photos were taken after the wedding in the courtyard of the church along with the traditional tossing of the wedding bouquet. Joni caught the flowers in deep center field and was a little surprised that she caught them (I think she was trying to hide in the back behind all of the fielders).

After the photos, John and Rachel entered a car covered with "shaving cream good wishes" and the procession left the church for the reception at their house, honking horns all the way. At the reception the best-man, Zac, toasted his parents and got a little tongue-tied and said, "I'm proud to call you my parents!" But everyone knew exactly what he meant.

The partying went on at John and Rachel's until the wee hours of the morning (I was told, because I didn't make it that long). Everyone had a great time helping the happy couple celebrate their love for each other with their family and friends.

Next month look for a special insert with many more photos of the wedding and reception. Until then, join with me and wish John and Rachel the best in life together.

All of our love! - Your friends of the RCGA.



John and Rachel enjoy a night out with their friends from The River City Gender Alliance

CONGRATULATIONS, JOHN AND RACHEL

ANNE MARIE AITA SPEAKS TO LUTHERANS CONCERNED

By RJ

Key speaker at the October gathering of Lutherans Concerned was Anne Marie Aita. Under the title of "Here Come the Twilight Years" aging among gay and lesbian persons was discussed. Some good points were brought up, such as a Living Will, which is very important. This goes hand in hand with the aging process and, yes, everyone should look into a Living Will regardless of age. Among the doctors participating in a study, only 30 per cent were keyed in to the patient's wishes. Among relatives this dropped to only 25 per cent. So if the patient wants their wishes followed, a living will is important.

Even more important is the Power of Attorney which should be entrusted to a trusted friend, relative, or special companion. Otherwise, without the Power of Attorney, the Living Will is useless, and the person with the Power of Attorney must be keyed in to the person's wishes.

Control of pain is also a very important point, especially in the patient is terminal. What difference does a possible addiction make? The control of pain in this particular circumstance is the most important and overrules the possibility of addiction.

Also discussed was the issue of "When I'm old, who will take care of me? Will I have any say in this?" This needs to be looked into before hand. Retirement was also discussed, especially as working gives us a place in life, a meaning. Suddenly, there is no more work. Then what? What to do? That is a difficult question for some, as well as the cut in finances.

Does a person have the right to end their life if the outlook is hopeless. Dr. Kvorkian was discussed as well as the spirituality of the situation. There are no easy or simple answers, and then too, each person is an individual and so the aging process will vary from person to person. Funerals were discussed. Not many people want to plan their own funeral, but this issue should be faced and planned ahead of time.

This was a good evening for us. Many of us are now in our twilight years. For some of us, the end is just around the corner — at least of this life as we know it.

The December gathering will be the Advent worship for Lutherans Concerned. Plan to attend.

ATTENTION SOUPSTERS: CHILI COOKOFF COMING YOUR WAY!!

That's right! The Imperial Court of Nebraska, led by Prince Royale 16 Jim Gau, will be hosting a Chili Cookoff at The MAX on Saturday, November 30. Get those recipes perfected! A \$50 cash prize will be awarded to the winning chili-maker. Entry forms are available at The MAX and in Omaha bars. Entry Fee is only \$5.

So, title holders, groups, businesses — get out those secret recipes and get cooking! You could walk out with \$50 cash or perhaps a trophy or who knows what else. HGRA, you ought to know about chili cooked over a campfire. Frontrunners, how about a special low fat, high fiber chili? Miss River City, can you cook a chili as creative as your costumes? MCC, how about a chili fit for the angels to eat? Let's see who can walk away with the title of the number one chili maker in the city! In addition to the chili, there will be scrumptious accessories such as hot dogs, cheese, etc. Chili and all the trimmings will be available from 4:00pm until 8:00pm at a cost of \$3 per bowl of chili, \$5 for all you care to eat, and an extra charge for the dessert of your choice.

Oh, I hear Jim has some special prizes for those very special chilis. Proceeds from the Cookoff will be split between Proud Horizons (PFLAG's G/L Youth Group) and ICON. And since this event is in the afternoon, the young people of the community are welcome to join us — so bring along the family, the kids, your friends, or even strangers that you just want to get to know better, and join ICON at The MAX on November 30.

What a great way to get warm on a cold and windy November afternoon—anyway, you'll be real tired of turkey by then!



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MISS LINCOLN SUICIDE

What is Miss Lincoln Suicide? It is a Drag Race Pageant where each contestant has fun running hurdles for drag apparel and doing shots in-between.

Back in April '95, Sheza Mann had the first drag races in which six contestants had to run across stage for grab bags of outfits, hair pieces, and run back stage to change within three minutes. Before and between each hurdle they did a shot of schnapps and then came out and performed a song of Sheza's/DJ's choice. And the fun did not stop. In September '96 Sheza did it again where six more contestants ran — only difference was the total of six (6) shots and goofy performances this time. Great job to all who entered.

In October '95 Helin Bedd hosted a Suicide Show starring five Omaha and Lincoln Drag Queens who each got two songs to perform that were Sheza's choice. The night ended with double kamikazes and the hokie pokie. Thank again Roxy, Brooke, Inga, and Miss B. Ocean.

Well, the laughs and good times are here again, because Helin Bedd has put them together in a pageant. It promises to be a night of committing entertainment (hokie pokie optional). This time each contestant will grab a dress, grab a wig, then a tape (pass to DJ), do some shots in-between and 30 minutes later you're on stage "signing" your heart out! (after applying foundation, blush, lipstick, and eye shadow) They will be judged on On-Stage Question and Overall Performance.

Also come Sheza, Roxy, Mercedes, Tasha, and more to entertain you during the competition, with celebrity judges of Mr. & Miss Q and Miss City Sweetheart, Barbie Que.

Watch for more details in December's issue. For more information, contact Helin BedD, PO Box 23125, Lincoln, NE 68542.

See ya!

****Note: For your comfort and convenience, please bring pantyhose and shoes. Everything else will be provided the night of the pageant. If you are a professional drag queen/female impersonator you will have to be a boy that night. This is not for the serious drag queen. It's a get wild and have fun with it pageant.

PLGC MEETS

By RJ

Presbyterians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns held their September meeting at the home of one of the members of the Presbyterian church. Six members attended the meeting.

This was another potluck get together and, as usual, the food was really delicious, especially the tuna and noodle and chicken and rice casseroles. The desserts were equally as good.

A discussion of PLGC business and concerns followed. Several people dropped in for dessert and coffee.

The next meeting will be a pizza and movie session.

Movies discussed to possibly be shown were: Priest, Language of the Cranes, and The Sum of Us. Call Presbyterians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns, 733-1360, for time and location.

It promises to be an interesting get together.

LOOKING AHEAD: A Calendar of Events for the Coming Year

November

Check the Community Calendar

December

- 1 - Lutherans Concerned
- 1 - PFLAG Holiday Gathering
- 1 - Miss MAX Dietra Snow at MAX
- 5-8 - Kinsey Sicks - Lincoln
- 7 - Night of 1000 Stars
- 8 - ICON Toyz 4 Totz - Omaha
- 14 - HGRA Mtg, Des Moines
- 14 - MCC Caroling
- 15 - Dorian Drake at The MAX
- 15 - ICON Toyz 4 Totz - Lincoln
- 22 - Mr MAX Christmas Show
- 22 - Miss Lincoln Suicide at Q
- 29 - Winter White Nite at The MAX
- 24 - Christmas Eve Service-MCC
- 31 - New Years Eve Parties

January 97

- TBA - River City Mixed Chorus Winter Concert
- 4 - HGRA General Mtg - 3pm-Om
- 4 - HGRA Roller Skating Party
- 5 - ICON "Bob & Inga's Show"
- 12 - Miss MAX Stepping Down

January 97 (Continued)

- 19 - ICON Live Extravaganza
- 26 - MCC 23 Anniversary
- 26 - Miss MAX
- TBA - GLAGN Las Vegas Night
- TBA - Womyn Winterfest - Racoon River

February 97

- 2 - MCC Anniversary Show at MAX
- 9 - Miss ICE Bowl at MAX
- 15-16 - ICE Bowl Bowling Tourney
- 16 - ICON Sweet 16 Prom
- 22 "Hearts of Fire" Hastings

March 97

- 28 - Good Friday Services - MCCO
- 30 - Easter Services at MCC-O
- 30 - ICON Easter Bonnet Contest

April 97

- TBA -GLAGN Barn Dance

May 97

- 26 -ICON Memorial Day Picnic
- TBA - GLAGN Gay Prom

June 97

- TBA - HGRA/Pride Party
- TBA - Womyn's Supertubing Valentine
- TBA - RCMC Pride Concert
- TBA - Desert Plains Drummer

June 97 (Continued)

- 15 - ICON Stepping Down
- 22 - Pride Parade & Festival
- 27-29 - Gay Rodeo - Fremont

July 97

- 4, 5, 6 ICON Picnic & Coronation
- TBA - Mr. Nebraska Fantasy Contest

August 97

- TBA - Womyn's Summerfest Racoon River
- TBA - Int'l Mr. Fantasy Contest

Let Us Know About YOUR Events so we can include them in the calendar!!

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We've listed many of the regular distribution points below. If your group or business would like to be included on our distribution list, please contact us.

Omaha:

- Borders (Books-Music-Cafe)
- The Chesterfield
- CR Babes
- D.C.'s
- The Diamond
- Downtown Grounds
- Gilligan's Pub
- The MAX
- Metropolitan Community Church
- Nebraska AIDS Project
- New Realities
- Omaha Mining Company
- Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
- Retro
- The Infield
- The Mystery Bookstore
- St. Mary's Tan
- Visions (Custom Framing)

Council Bluffs:

- Adult Emporium

Lincoln:

- The Panic
- Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
- Q
- UNI Gay/Lesbian Resource Center
- Women's Resource Center

Kearney:

- GLAGN
- Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays

Des Moines:

- Blazing Saddle
- Faces
- The Garden
- Tacky's
- Chat Noir Cafe

Sioux City:

- Kings & Queens
- Three Cheers

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Des Moines (A.C. 515)

- Blazing Saddles 416 E. 5th St.
- Faces 416 E Walnut, 280-5463
- The Garden 112 SE 4th St. 243-3965
- Tacky's 515 E 6th 245-9126
- Chat Noir Cafe 644 18th 244-1353

Omaha (A.C. 402)

- The Chesterfield 1901 Leavenworth 345-6889
- CR Babes 1951 St. Mary's 344-2310
- DC's 610 S. 14th, 344-3103
- The Diamond 712 S. 18th, 342-9595
- Gilligan's 1823 Leavenworth, 449-9147
- The Max 1417 Jackson, 346-4110
- Omaha Mining Company 1715 Leavenworth, 449-8703

Lincoln (A.C. 402)

- Panic 200 S. 18th St., 435-8764
- Q 226 S. 9th St. 475-2269

Sioux City, IA (A.C. 712)

- Kings & Queens 417 Nebr. 252-4167
- 3 Cheers 414 20th St, 255-8005

Sioux Falls, SD (A.C. 605)

- Touchez 323 S. Phillips Ave., 335-9874

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2201 N. 30, Omaha 68111 (402) 453-1433

Douglas County Health Department,
1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-7750

Outreach Center, 1723 Leavenworth Omaha,
NE 68102, Open every Friday 1-4pm, Every
other Friday from 10pm - 2am. HIV testing,
education, support.

Equilibria Medical Center, 544 S. 24,
Omaha, 68102 Call (402) 345-2252

Lincoln-Lancaster Co. Health Dept 3140 'N'
Lincoln 68510, 441-8065 Testing, counseling
Walk-in tests: The Panic, 200 S. 18, 2nd Tues.
Urban Indian Health Ctr, 140 S. 27, 434-7177

Grand Island-Hall Co Health Dept, 105 East
1st St, Grand Island, Mary (308) 385-5175

Hastings College Health Center, Hastings,
NE 68901 402-461-7372 Ask for Judy

McCook Family Planning, 111 West "C" St,
McCook, 69001, (308) 345-3626

Nebraska AIDS Project, 3610 Dodge, Suite
110, Omaha 342-6367; AIDS Hotline 402-
342-4233 or (800) 782-AIDS [2437] or
info@nap.org <http://www.nap.org/>

Nebraska Dept of Health,
Kearney, 3423 2nd Ave, 68847, 308/865-5609
Norfolk, Norfolk Regional Ctr, Adm Bldg #16,
(402) 370-3395

NorthPlatte, Craft St. Office Bldg,
200 So. Silber, 69101 (308) 535-8133

Nemaha County Health Department,
1824 N, Auburn, 68305 (402) 274-4549

LEGAL

Petersen Law Offices, Thomas M. Petersen
Attorney & Counselor, 2712 S. 87th Ave.,
Omaha, 68124 (402) 393-8080

Sean McFarlin, Omaha, 333-6000

Taylor & Wild, Suite 25, Gold's Galleria,
1033 "O" St., Lincoln, (402) 434-9482

Nebr Bar Assoc, 635 S 14, Lincoln, 475-7091

Nebraska Civil Liberties Union, Box 81455,
Lincoln 68501, (402) 476-8091

AIDS ADVOCACY

Art/AIDS Awareness Foundation, P.O. Box
461033, Papillion, 68046-1033, (402) 592-
7812, e-mail ezgoing@ix.netcom.com Group
of HIV+ visual artists educating public about
realities of AIDS through art.

PASTORAL CARE

AIDS Interfaith Network, 100 N 62, Omaha
Br Wm Woeger 558-3100 (Chancery)
Service: 2nd Monday, 7pm, St Cecilia's,
Nebraska Chapel, 40th & Webster

Lincoln Interfaith Council, 140 S. 27th St.,
Lincoln 68510, 474-3017, AIDS/HIV Healing
Service: 1st Tues, 7pm, St Francis Chapel,
1145 South Street, Lincoln, Public is invited

INFORMATION & REFERRAL*

*More info call Neb AIDS Project 342-6367

AIDS Educ Project, UNL G/L Resource Cntr,
Rm 342, Neb Union, Lincoln 68588, 472-5644

American Red Cross,
2245 Heather Dr, Crete 68333 (402) 826-3785
1701 'E', Lincoln 68501 (402) 471-7997
2515 St Marys Ave, Omaha 68105 431-4447

Community Prescription Service AIDS Info,
medicine, supplies by mail. 1-800-677-4323

Douglas County Health Department,
1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-7750

Grand Island/Hall Co. Health Dept,
105 E. 1st, Grand Island (308) 385-5175

HIV Clinic, Univ of NE Medical Center,
600 S. 42nd, Omaha, (402) 559-6681

Lincoln Cancer Cntr, 4600 Valley, 483-1872

Lincoln-Lancaster Co Health Dept 3145 'N',
Lincoln 68510, 441-8065 Testing, counseling

Nebr AIDS Educ/Training Center, AIDS
education to health care professionals. UNMC,
600 S 42 Omaha 68198, (402) 559-6681

Nebraska AIDS Project
(statewide) (800) 782-AIDS [2437] or
info@nap.org <http://www.nap.org/>
Omaha Office: 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, 68131
Volunteer Services, Administration 342-6367;
AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233, HIV testing,
AIDS awareness, practical support, counseling
Lincoln Office: 2123 Winthrop, 484-8100
Central Nebraska Office: 3423 2nd Ave
Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 865-5610
Northeast Nebr Office: 304 N. 5 St., Ste C,
Norfolk, NE 68701, (402) 370-3807
Western Nebraska Office: 3707 Ave. D,
Scottsbluff, NE 69361, (308) 635-3807

Nebraska Dept of Health,
Kearney, 3423 2nd Ave, 68847,
(308) 234-8183
Norfolk, Norfolk Regional Ctr, Adm
Bldg #16, (402) 370-3395
NorthPlatte, Craft St. Office Bldg,
200 So. Silber, 69101 (308) 535-8133

Nebr Regional Hemophilia Center,
UNMC, 600 S. 42, Omaha (402) 559-4227.

Nemaha County Health Department,
1824 N, Auburn, 68305 (402) 274-4549

ScottsBluff Co Health Dept,
Gering, NE 69341 (308) 635-3866

Siouxland AIDS Coalition, meets 2nd Tuesdy
at 12 noon at Siouxland Chapter of American
Red Cross, 1512 Pierce St., Sioux City, Iowa.
Call (712) 252-0722

Veterans Admin Medical Center, 42 & Wool-
worth, Omaha 346-8800; Dean Pierce, x 4119

**To Be Listed on Either Resource Page,
send info to:
New Voice of Nebraska, Box 3512,
Omaha, NE 68103-0512**

COUNSELING & SUPPORT

AIDS Care, The Mercy Center, 427 E.
Kanesville Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503, att:
Colleen Kibbe-Vest (712) 328-2609

AIDS Support Group: Sponsored by PFLAG,
Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504, 7pm, 475-2437

Calico II HIV-AIDS Support Group, Meets
1st & 3rd Tues, 7pm, Alliance For info call:
(308) 762-8259

**Douglas County Mental Health -- Outpatient
Program,** 4102 Woolworth, Omaha, 68105
Att: Leslie A. Epstein (402) 444-7930

Family AIDS Support Group: Sponsored by
PFLAG-Omaha, Meet 1st Sunday, 2p.m. First
United Methodist, 7020 Cass, Omaha

**Grand Island Area HIV/AIDS Support
Group,** Meets 3rd Tuesday, (308) 385-5175

HIV/AIDS Support Group for Women, 7-9pm,
NAP Office, 2123 Winthrop, Lincoln

HIV/AIDS Support Group for Men, Lincoln,
Every Other Sunday, 5-7pm, Call Greg 438-
3425 or 441-3324

Harambee Mental Health Services, Business
& Technical Center, 2505 N. 24, Omaha, NE
68110, (402) 451-3913. Mental Health Services
to people of color who are infected with HIV,
their partners, and their families. A program
developed by Charles Drew Health Center.

Kearney Area HIV/AIDS Support Group, 1st
Monday, info, phone Barb (308) 865-5610

Nebraska AIDS Project
(statewide) (800) 782-AIDS [2437] or
info@nap.org <http://www.nap.org/>
Omaha Office: 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, 68131
Volunteer Services & Administration 402-342-
6367; AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233, HIV tests,
AIDS awareness, practical support, counseling
Lincoln Office: 2123 Winthrop, 484-8100
Central Nebraska Office: 3423 2nd Ave
Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 865-5610
Northeast Nebr Office: 304 N. 5 St., Ste C,
Norfolk, NE 68701, (402) 370-3807
Western Nebraska Office: 3707 Ave. D,
Scottsbluff, NE 69361, (308) 635-3807

North Platte Area Support Grp,
Call: (308) 535-8133

**Western Nebraska HIV/AIDS Support
Group,** Scottsbluff, Call (308) 635-3606



*****LINCOLN*****

Alcoholics Anonymous, Meetings.
****Mon. 7:30pm, Rainbow AA, 3rd Floor,**
"Meeting Place" 28 & S. Lincoln
****Thurs. 7:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A",**
Lincoln, Info contact V.J. at 477-3526
****Fri. 8pm, 1st Plymouth Church, 20 & D,**
Lincoln, 438-5214
BI Discussion Group, 2nd Tuesday, Gathering
Place, 15 & E, Lincoln, Wendy 476-0314
Gay Men's Support Group, c/o Counseling &
Psych Services, Rm 213, Univ. Health Ctr,
UNL, Lincoln, 68588-0618, 472-7450,
Confidential
Lambda Business Assoc, Box 6341, Lincoln
68506-4214-483-6183, Mtg 4th Sun, 3pm
Lesbian Discussion Group, Womens Resource
Ctr, Room 340 Neb Union, UNL, Lincoln,
68588, 472-2597, Call for meeting information
Lincoln Women for Sobriety Mtg, Saturdays,
10am, YWCA, Lincoln, Contact Judith at 472-
2598 for information
National Org. for Women (NOW) Lincoln-
activist org. issues of full equality for women,
Box 80172, Lincoln, NE 68501, 477-1226
Parents-Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-
FLAG), Box 30128, Lincoln 68503, 434-9880
4th Tues, 7pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A",
HIV Family Grp, Under 21 Grp same time/plc
SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542-2043, For
older Gay people, Intergenerational Coffee
House 2nd Saturday, 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos at
7:15pm, 3319 S. 46th, Lincoln, All welcome.
Straight Spouse Support Group -- Lincoln,
Call 489-9088 for info

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Ctr, Rm 234 Nebr
Union, 14 & R, Lincoln 68588-0455, 472-
5644, Social, info, referral, library, General
meetings Tuesdays, 7pm, during school year
The Wimmie's Show, 12-3pm Sunday, KZUM,
89.3 FM stereo, Lincoln

A Woman's Place, Lincoln, nonprofit org
dedicated to empowering women.

Youth Support Group--Lincoln, Every Other
Saturday 4-6pm, Call 434-9880

Youth Talkline 473-7932, Friday & Saturday
7pm-Midnite, Lincoln. Emotional support,
referrals, AIDS info for callers Age 23 and
under. Project of Coalition for G/L Civil Rts

YWCA Counseling & Education Department,
476-2802, Lincoln. Information and Referral.

*****OMAHA*****

Alcoholics Anonymous,
****Lambda Stag, Sun, 4pm, Lowe Ave Prsbytn**
****Stonewall Grp, Wed, 7:30pm, Mercy High**
****Gay Mens Stag "An Alternative", Fri, 7pm,**
****Live & Let Live Group, Friday 8:15pm,**
Underwood Hills Presbyterian, 851 N. 74

A.N.G.L.E. (Achieving New Gay/Lesbian Endeav-
ors), Box 8343, Omaha 68108, 558-5303,
Network, raise consciousness, PRIDE activities,
Meeting 1st Tues 7pm Internet www.angle.org

Citizens For Equal Protection, Box 55548,
Omaha, 68155 (402) 398-3027, Legislative
action- eliminate discrimination for g/l/b 1st
Thursday, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney

Community Resource Development Center,
Box 8343, Omaha, 68108, Meet 3rd Sunday,
2-5pm, Call 558-5303, ask for Darrin

EAGLE-Omaha, Employee Assoc. of Gays &
Lesbians, US WEST, Pat Phalen, 1299 Farnam,
11th Flr, Omaha 68102 (402) 348-8569

Frontrunners/walkers, Box 4583, Omaha
68104, HOTLINE 496-3658, Running/
Walking Club (SASE for info)

Gay & Lesbian Org of UNO (GaLo), UNO
Students - Wednesdays, 4-6pm, Jenkins Rm,
Milo Bail Student Ctr, Talk Group 2nd Wed
3pm, Info: Jonathan Raymond 571-8518

Gay And Lesbian Parents Group (G.A.L.P.),
1st Thurs, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22,
345-2563 Emphasis on Gay/Lesbian Parent &
significant other. Mtgs open to anyone.

Gay/Lesbian Information & Referral Line,
A service of A.N.G.L.E., Inc., (402) 558-5303

Gay Lesbian & Affirming Disciples (GLAD)
G/L/B/Affirming Disciples of Christ 553-2386

ICE BOWL Invitational Bowling Tournament,
Tournament held President's Day Weekend

L.E.O.(Leather Engineers of Omaha) educa-
tional-social grp, Gay Men interested in Leather
Lifestyle, Write, Box 8181, Omaha, 68108

Lutherans Concerned, 453-7137, 7pm, Mar. 3,
June 2, Oct. 6, Dec. 1, 1st Lutheran Omaha

Metropolitan Club, Box 8603, Omaha 68108-
0603, 3rd Thursdays, Neon Goose, 7pm, gay/
lesbian professionals to meet, socialize, network

Men's Support Group, Meet Tuesdays 7:30pm,
MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22 St. Call 345-2563

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha,
819 S. 22, 345-2563, Mail: Box 3173, 68103,
E-mail address: MCCOMAHA@radiks.net.
Sunday Worship at 9 & 10:30am

New Realities, Books, Tapes, Gifts, Old Market
Passageway, 1026 Howard, 68102, 342-1863

AREA RESOURCES

National Org. for Women (NOW) Omaha -
political/grassroots activist org. issues of full
equality for women- Omaha NOW, Box 3325,
Omaha 68103-0325, (402) 391-7303, Meets
3rd Tuesday, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney

Novice BD/SM Support Grp, Back Room,
Wooden Apple, 22nd & Martha, 2-4pm,

Omaha Mentpackers, AIDS fundraising
organization. Call (712) 366-1791

Omaha Players Club (OPC), Pansexual
education/ support group Meeting/parties
monthly. Send \$5 and an age statement to OPC,
Box 34463 Omaha 68134

Omaha Women for Sobriety meet Tuesdays,
5:30pm, Omaha YWCA, 222 S. 29 St, Contact
Judith at 472-2598 for more info.

ONYX IMAGES, Box 31026, Omaha, NE
68132-9998, Fraternity for African American
men. Age restriction for membership. Support
for brothers of all ages.

Parents-Friends of Lesbians And Gays
PFLAG Box 390064, Omaha, 68139-0064,
291-6781 Meet 1st Methodist, 7020 Cass, Mead
Hall, West End, 2nd Thurs, 7 pm, "Program &
Sharing", 4th Sunday, 2pm, "Sharing"

Presbyterians for Lesbian & Gay Concerns,
733-1360 Cleve, Omaha

Proud Horizons Youth Support Group,
sponsor: PFLAG. For gay, lesbian youth &
those questioning sexuality, age 13-21. Meets
Sat., Omaha, Call 291-6781

River City Mixed Bowling League, Sundays,
3pm, Skylanes, Center Mall, Omaha

River City Gender Alliance, Box 3112, Omaha
68103-3122 MessageHotline 398-1255, Email:
sgibbous@synergy.net. For cross-dressers,
transsexuals, those wishing to know more. All
orientations. Newsletter. Meet 1st Saturday

River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267, Omaha,
68103-0267. 341-SING (341-7464) Volunteer
chorus for Gay/Lesbian/Sensitive people.

Straight Spouse Support Grp 7-9pm, 2nd
Thursday, 1st Methodist, Room 209, 291-6781

Women of the Plains, Box 24355, Omaha,
68124, Bring women's culture back to Omaha

Women's Support Group, MCC-Omaha, 819
S. 22nd, 345-2563. Meets Saturdays 11am

WomenSpace, Box 24712, Omaha 68124-0712,
Quarterly newsletter for lesbian voices & events

REGIONAL/STATEWIDE

American Business & Professional Guild,
Box 142, Sioux City, IA 51102, Network of
gay business/professional men from IA, MN,
SD, NE, Meet last Sat., Write for info.

Chadron State College Alliance of Lesbian,
Gay, Bisexual Students, Faculty & Staff, PO
Box 924, Chadron, NE 69337, 308-432-4047

Coalition for Gay/Lesbian Civil Rts, Box
94882, Lincoln 68509 Advocacy, newsletter
Community Alliance, 1301 Villa Ave, Sioux
City, IA 51103 (712) 258-4704

Fellowship of Believers, 812 North 10th, #7,
Norfolk 68701, 402-379-9935 Home-based
church meets Wed 7pm, Sun 10am Open to all.

GLB Alliance, c/o leath Ctr, Hastings, College,
Hastings 68901 Judy 402-461-7372 (Health
Ctr) 402-462-2961 (home). For G/L/B Students
& Friends - safe place to meet, discuss & learn.

Gay/Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebr, Box
2401, Kearney, NE 68847 Support, socials,
newsletter. Info: Todd at (308) 382-5419, Rod
at (402) 879-4650 or e-mail rdeul@hcc.net.

Heartland Gay Rodeo Assoc (HGRA), Box
3354, Omaha, 68103-0354. Dan 597-1689
Enjoy/support rodeos, country activities. Meets
1st Saturday Omaha/Des Moines

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772,
Omaha 68103 Advancement of G/L/B/T
society, Board Meets 1st Monday each month

Integrity Prayer Service, Wed, 6:30pm, St.
Thomas Episcopal, 12 & Douglas, Sioux City,
IA AI (712) 276-8369 or Rev. Kerr 258-0141

Iowa Coalition for Human Rights Box 1222,
Iowa City, IA 52244, or call Richard Shannon
319/337-5870, rshanno@sprynet.com

Lincoln/Lancaster Drug Projects, 610 "J",
Lincoln, 475-5161, Dennis Hoffman, Case
Mgr. O/P chemical dependency treatment while
affirming sexuality, Sliding Fee

LinOma Bares, Box 8493, Omaha 68106
Nudist Naturalist Club for gay/bi men

Morningside College Student Group, Support/
social, contact Tim Orwig, Advisor, Student
Services, (712) 274-5426

Nebraska Zen Center for all persons, 3625
Lafayette Ave, Omaha 68131, 551-9035

The New Voice of Nebraska, Box 3512, Omaha
68103, 556-9907 or tjr05c@prodigy.com

Panhandle Gay/Lesbian Support Service Box
1046, Scottsbluff 69363, (308) 635-8488

PFLAG-Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
***Kearney: meet 3pm, 3rd Sun, St Luke's Epis.**
(308) 382-0752 or 995-5490, Mail: PFLAG,
1320 8th Ave., Holdrege, NE 68949

***Sioux City, IA PO Box 1311, Sioux City,**
51102 Meet 2nd Sun, 2pm, Mayflower
Congregational Church, 1407 W. 18

***Sioux Falls, SD 4th Sat (605) 334-5508**

PRIDE Group, c/o Counseling Ctr, Wayne State,
Wayne, NE 68787. Karen or Virginia (402)
375-7321. G/L/B Students Meet, discuss,
community service, educate, raise awareness

7th Day Adventist Kinship Inc, Support/Info
Les/Gay College Student 800-4-GAY-SDA

Sioux Falls Support Group for Men, PO Box
1602, Sioux Falls, SD 57101

U of N-Kearney GLBT Support Grp, Thurs,
4pm, Student Affairs Bldg, Ronnie 308-865-
8488-236-5312, e-mail reid@platte.unk.edu.

W.E.L.T. (Women of Educated Leather
Tactics) Box 7083, Omaha, 68107-7083
Educational/social group for women of leather.
Omaha/Lincoln 402-477-7741

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

EVERY SUNDAY

EVERY MONDAY

EVERY TUESDAY

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Worship Services, 9 & 10:30a.m.
MCC- Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563

Gay /Lesbian Walking Club, 10am,
38th & South, Lincoln, by tennis courts

HIV Tests, NAP, 3610 Dodge,
Suite 110, Omaha 7-9:30pm

River City Mixed Chorus
Rehearsals, 1st Methodist,
7020 Cass, Omaha, 7:15pm

Women for Sobriety 5:30pm
YWCA, 222 S. 29, Omaha,
Call Judith 472-2598

Mens Support Group 7:30pm
MCC, 819 S. 22, Omaha

Gay Men Disc Grp, Lincoln 6pm,
Contact Luis 472-7450

Frontrunners, 6:30pm, Brownell-
Talbot

PFLAG-Lincoln AIDS Support
Grp, 7pm, 475-2437

AA, 7:30pm, Mercy High, Omaha
Integrity Prayer Svc, 6pm, St.
Thomas Episc, Sioux City, IA
UNO GaLO 4-6pm, Jenkins Rm,
Milo Bail Student Ctr, Call 571-8518

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

November 3 (1st Sunday)

Frontrunners, 10am, NP Dodge Park, Omaha
Family AIDS Support, 2-4pm, 1st Meth, Om
Lutherans Concerned, Advent Service,
ICON "Food 4 Thought" 9pm, Q, Lincoln
Thanksgiving Benefit for PWA's & MCC
Food Pantry
Mr. MAX Jeff McKenzie, The MAX, Omaha

November 10 (2nd Sunday)

Creating Change Conf, Washington D.C.
Frontrunners, Keystone Park, 10am, Omaha
EXCEL Int'l Worship at MCC-Omaha
Novice BD/SM Support Grp, Back Room,
Wooden Apple, 22nd & Martha, 2-4pm,
PFLAG, Mayflower Congregational Church,
1407 W 18, Sioux City, IA, 2-4pm
"Every Woman Matters" Benefit for Breast
Cancer, the Q, 226 S. 9, Lincoln
ICON Food 4 Thought at The MAX, Omaha
All-Iowa AIDS Benefit, Des Moines

November 17 (3rd Sunday)

Frontrunner 10am Gene Leahy Mall Omaha
MCC-O Congregational Mtg approx 12:30
Community Resource Center Steering
Committee, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22
PFLAG/Kearney, St Luke Episcopal, 3pm,
2304 2nd Ave, (308) 382-0752/995-5490
Panhandle Mens Group (308)635-8488
"Hairaid IV" Fashion Show/Benefit for
Pediatric AIDS, hosted by Pink Flamingo
Red Hot Winter Show at The MAX, Omaha

November 24 (4th Sunday)

Frontrunners, 10am, Keystone Trail. Meet at
Aksarben, Lot 5, Omaha
PFLAG-Omaha, 2-4pm, Mead Hall, 1st Meth
Lambda Business Association, 3pm, Lincoln
483-6183
Prebyterians for L/G Concerns, Movie Nite
UN- Omaha Religious Center, 733-1360
MCC Lincoln Fellowship Grp 6pm, 477-3215
"Your Mother's Butt" & "The Pansy" Dir:
Channing Roos, "Bodyshop-A Movment
Illusion" by Renay Kushner, 9pm, Q, Lincln
Aramis at The MAX, Omaha
"Turkeys & Tools" Benefit for Resource Cntr,
Omaha Mining Co, 1713 Leavenwrth, 9pm

December 1 (1st Sunday)

Frontrunners, 10am, Omaha
World AIDS Day Benefit host: Mr. Q Troy
Haasis, proceeds to "Night of 1000 Stars"
Miss MAX Dietra Snow at The MAX, Omaha

Nov. 4 (1st Monday)

ICON Board Mtg, 7pm,
The Omaha Mining
Company, 1715
Leavenworth

Nov 11 (2nd Monday)

AIDS Interfaith Service,
7pm, St Cecelias, Omaha

Nov 18 (3rd Monday)

Nov 25 (4th Monday)

Dec 2 (1st Mon)

ICON Board Mtg, 7pm,
The Omaha Mining

Nov. 5 (1st Tuesday)

Election Day --Vote, Vote!

AIDS Healing Service, 7pm, St.
Francis Chapel, South & 11th
St., Lincoln

Nov 12 (2nd Tuesday)

Siouxland AIDS Coalition, 12n,
Red Cross, Sioux City, IA
Free/Confidential HIV Tests by
Lancaster Co Health Dept 5-
7pm The Panic, Lincoln
ANGLE Meeting, 7pm, UNO
Religious Center, 110 N. Happy
Hollow, Omaha
HIV/AIDS Support Group for
Women, 7-9pm, NAP Office, 2123
Winthrop, Lincoln
BI Discussion Group, 7:30pm
Gathering Place, 15 & E, Lincoln,
Wendy 476-0314

Nov 19 (3rd Tuesday)

NOW-Nat'l Org for Women
Lincoln 7pm, YWCA, 477-
1226
Omaha: 7pm, 1st Unitarian,
3114 Harney, 391-7303
Grand Island HIV Support
Grp, 7pm, (308) 385-5175

Nov 26 (4th Tuesday)

PFLAG, 7pm Unitarian Church,
6300 A, Topic "Gay Marriage"
Lincoln, 467-4599
Straight Spouse Support Group
7pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A,
Lincoln
Frontrunners Monthly Mtg,
6:30pm, Omaha, 496-3658

Dec. 3 (1st Tuesday)

ANGLE Meeting, 7pm, 3923
Farnam, Omaha
AIDS Healing Service, 7pm, St.
Francis Chapel, South & 11th
St., Lincoln

Nov 6 (1st Wed)

Creating Change Conf,
Washington D.C

Nov 13 (2nd Wed)

GALO Talk Group, 3pm,
Q's call Jonathan 571-
8518 for info

Nov 20 (3rd Wed)

Nov 27 4th Wed)

GALO Talk Group,
3pm, Q's call Jonathan
571-8518 for info

Dec. 4 (1st Wed)

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

EVERY THURSDAY

EVERY FRIDAY

EVERY SATURDAY

HIV Test Site, NAP, 3610 Dodge, Ste 110, **Omaha** 7-9:30pm
G/L Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A" **Lincoln**, Call V.J. 477-3526
Univ. of Nebr-Kearney GLBT Support Grp, 4pm, Student Affairs Bldg. info Call Ronnie at 308-865-8488 or 236-5312

Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**
Lesbian Discussion Grp **Lincoln** 7pm 488-2043
Youth Talkline, 7pm-12m, Support/ Info for callers up to age 23, 473-7932, **Lincoln**

Network Q, 9pm, Cable Channel 20, **Lincoln**
Alcoholics Anonymous Omaha: "An Alternative"
 Mens Stag 7pm, Lowe Ave
 "Live & Let Live" 8:15pm
 Underwood Hills
 Presbyterian, 851 N. 74th
Lincoln: 8pm, Plymouth Congregational, 438-5214

Lincoln Women for Sobriety, 10am, Gathering Place, **Lincoln**, Judith 472-2598
Womens Support Grp, 11am, MCC-**Omaha**
Youth Support Grp, 291-6781, age 13-21, gay, lesbian, or questioning sexuality, **Omaha**
Youth Talkline, 7p-12m, 473-7932, **Lincoln**

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Nov 7 (1st Thursday)
Creating Change Conference, Washington D.C.
Gay & Lesbian Parents Support Group, 7:30pm, MCC-**Omaha**
Citizens for Equal Protection, 7pm
 Video "When Democracy Works"
 1st Unitarian, **Omaha**
EXCEL International Board of Directors meets at MCC-**Omaha**

Nov. 14 (2nd Thursday)
P-FLAG 1st Methodist-Mead Hall, 7020 Cass **Omaha** 291-6781 7pm
Straight Spouse Suppt Grp 7-9pm, Mead Hall, 1st Methodist 7020 Cass, Room 209, 291-6781

Nov. 21 (3rd Thursday)
Metropolitan Club, 6:30pm, Neon Goose, 10 & Pacific, **Omaha**
GLAGN Support Group, Grand Island, (308) 384-7235

Nov. 28 (4th Thursday)
Thanksgiving Dinners
 *MCC-O, 1pm,
 *DC's, 5-8pm,
 ***Omaha Mining Co**, 6-8pm.

Dec 5 (1st Thursday)
CFEP, 7pm, **Omaha**
G/L Parents, 7:30pm, **Omaha**
Kinsey Sicks, Drag-apella Quartet at the Q, **Lincoln**

November 1 (1st Friday)
Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**
Poetry Reading, Kelly Connor & Ryan Hinderaker, at The Book Station, 1913 Leavenworth, 8pm
Community Resource Center Development Committee, 8pm, MCC-**Omaha**, 819 S. 22
Donate 4 cans of food for MCC-O Food Pantry & your first well-drink is 1¢ during Happy Hour, 4-7pm, Fridays during November, **Omaha Mining Company**, 1715 Leavenworth
Transgender Fall Harvest, Cedar Rapids, IA

November 8 (2nd Friday)
Frontrunners Friday Afternoon Club, The Diamond, **Omaha**, 6:30pm
EXCEL Int'l Board of Directors meets at MCC-**Omaha**
Bring 4 cans of food for MCC Food-Pantry & first well-drink is 1¢ during Happy Hour, 4-7pm, **Omaha Mining Co**, 1715 Leavenworth
Creating Change Conference, Washington D.C

November 15 (3rd Friday)
Womyn's Book Discussion Group, Call Laurie 556-0937 or Beth 435-2418
Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**
Bring 4 cans of food for MCC Food-Pantry & your first well-drink is 1¢ during Happy Hour, 4-7pm, Fridays in November, **Omaha Mining Co**, 1715 Leavenworth

November 22 (4th Friday)
Bring 4 cans of food for MCC Food-Pantry & your first well-drink is 1¢ during Happy Hour, 4-7pm, Fridays in November, **Omaha Mining Co**, 1715 Leavenworth

November 29 (5th Friday)
Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**
Bring 4 cans of food for MCC Food-Pantry & your first well-drink is 1¢ during Happy Hour, 4-7pm, Fridays in November, **Omaha Mining Co**, 1715 Leavenworth

December 6 (1st Friday)
Kinsey Sicks, Drag-apella Quartet at the Q, **Lincoln**

November 2 (1st Saturday)
River City Gender Alliance, for Transgender community. (402) 398-1255
Youth Support Grp--Lincoln 4-6pm 434-9880
Heartland Gay Rodeo Assoc, Elections and Awards Dinner, **Omaha**
Poetry Reading, Brian E. Bengtson, at The Book Station, 1913 Leavenworth, 8pm
Transgender Fall Harvest, Cedar Rapids, IA

November 9 (2nd Saturday)
Creating Change Conference, Washington D.C
EXCEL International Board at MCC-**Omaha**
Omaha Players Club, 2pm, Workshop
 "Genotorture": 8pm, Play Party
SAGE Coffee House 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos, 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46, **Lincoln**, 488-4178
Game Night at MCC-O, 7pm. Bring favorite card or table game, MCC-**Omaha**, 819 S. 22
Kings & Queens Pageant, 417 Nebraska St, **Sioux City, IA**
All-Iowa AIDS Benefit, Des Moines

November 16 (3rd Saturday)
Frontrunners, 9am, Ford Birthsite, **Omaha**
HGRA Indoor Rodeo, 3pm, DC's, **Omaha**
Youth Support Grp--Lincoln 4-6pm 434-9880
Mr & Ms Leather Nebraska at The MAX, **Omaha**
Kings & Queens 3rd Anniversary Show, 417 Nebraska St., **Sioux City, IA** 51102

November 23 (4th Saturday)
PFLAG-Sioux Falls, SD, 1pm (605)334-5508
Muffy Rosenburg in "Coal Miner's Daughter", 9pm, **Omaha Mining Company**
Borders at 72nd & Dodge, **Omaha** Opens
Bingo @ MCC-Omaha****, 6:30pm, 819 S. 22

November 30 (5th Saturday)
Frontrunners, 9am, Ford Birthsite, **Omaha**
American Professional & Business Guild, **Sioux City, IA**, For Information, write: ABFG, Box 142, **Sioux City, Iowa** 51102
Youth Support Grp--Lincoln 4-6pm 434-9880
Chili Cook-off, The MAX, 4-8pm, Benefit
ICON & Proud Horizons Youth Group
PGLSS Bingo at Western Nebr. Arts Center, **Scottsbluff**

December 7 (1st Saturday)
River City Gender Alliance, for Transgender community. (402) 398-1255
Night of 1000 Stars Benefit for NAP
Kinsey Sicks, Drag-apella Quartet at the Q, **Lincoln**

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L & B MAINTENANCE Painting, hauling, Drywall, Clean Gutters, Plumbing, Carpentry, Install Glass. Reasonable Rates, Free Estimates. Lloyd 453-4127 (Nv96)

Don't get so pale this winter that you fade out of sight during the first snow fall. Keep that healthy summer tan with just 10 minutes at **St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Ave., 341-3740.**

Go Online locally with TrianGLe BBS, a Gay and Lesbian computer system. 24 hours. Call (402) 597-2908 with your modem now! (Ju97)

LEATHER JACKETS, VESTS, CHAPS, PANTS, CAPS, GLOVES, BOOTS, ETC. PHIL'S FUN STUFF, BOX 431, DECORAH, IOWA 52101-0431 (Catalog \$5.00, Refundable) (Ja97)

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ORGANIZATIONS EVERYONE WELCOME!
Attend the Imperial Court of Nebraska (ICON) Board Meeting **Monday, November 9,** at **The Omaha Mining Company, 1712 Leavenworth, Omaha, 7:00 p.m.**

"New members welcome for the gay and lesbian organization at UNO (GALO). Join the fun at the Milo Bail Student Center, Jenkins Room. We meet every Wednesday from 4 - 6 p.m. Fun activities planned every month such as gay and lesbian creative night, movie nights, coffee talk and the creation of a speaker's bureau. If you have any questions contact Jonathan Raymond - President of GALO - at 571-8518" (Nv96)

"New members welcome for the gay and lesbian confidential talk group - a part of GALO. Meet new people over a cup of conversation. Call Jonathan at 571-8518 to receive more details."

MASSAGE
Full Body Swedish Massage. Healing, Nurturing (in a Peaceful Environment) Downtown Omaha. Juan-Carlos, C.M.T. (402) 342-1017. (Ja97)

The aroma of candles. The feel of a skilled massage therapist's hands on your back. And the troubles of the day just melt away. You'll be glad you don't have any tan lines thanks to **St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Ave., 341-3740**

Full body massage: Quiet, safe atmosphere and location, very confidential and **FREE** to those who write. Will call you (or write if desired) to give phone number, etc. Describe yourself briefly. Gary, Box 34126, Omaha 68134-0126 (Nv96)

You work HARD and work-out even HARDER! *FULL-BODY MASSAGE will take the EDGE OFF and provide BALANCE* Serving Gay, Lesbian, Trans, Bi, & Hetero Communities. Gift Certificates Available. Hours: 6pm-6am. Weekend hours vary. OM/LIN APPT./INFO 342-1964 (Mr97)

OVERWORKED? UNDERPAID? STRESSED OUT? RELAX! Pamper yourself with Swedish Massage *in the privacy of your home.* Nationally/state licensed. Call 553-8657. Available Evenings / Weekends. (Please, no calls after 10 p.m.) (De96)

Full Body Rub - "Your Hour" with warm oils & massage vibrator, soft music and candlelight. Physically and Spiritually nurturing. Appointments 6-10 & Weekends. Call 491-3176 Evenings/Weekends (no calls after 10:00 PM Please) (De96)

FOR RENT
Male wants to share house. Norfolk area. \$250 and 1/2 utilities. Seeks non-smoker guy. 402-379-1295. May leave message. (Nv96)

PERSONALS for Womyn
ISO Wise Witty Soul who is spiritual, intellectual and well educated professional to share movies, walks, theater, books, and other meaningful moments. N/S N/D. I am a petite 29 y.o. G.W.F. Respond "To Shy" P.O. Box 24342, Omaha, NE 68124-0342 (Nv96)

SWM, 30, 5'10", 180 lbs, seeks bl female for friendship/relationship. Open-minded, honest. R.E., P.O. Box 37812, Omaha, NE 68137-0812 (Nv96)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PRINCESS SPARKY
Love ya...Mean it!
Big Hug, Katz & Miss Putt-Putt

Professional Sane Stable SW Lesbian looking for same. S Central Nebr. Enjoy outdoors, the Arts, Animals, ready. Write: Sane, PO Box 67, LA, NE 68957 or call 402-756-7337 (Ja96)

Attractive, GWF, 40's, enjoys photography, nature walks, music, movies, sports. I'm honest, loyal, caring, seeking G.F. Never a dull moment. Write: Occupant, P.O. Box 6591, Omaha, NE 68106-0591 (De96)

Artsy Fartsy Les Bean seeks others to pal around with. My passions are: Foreign Films, Lectures of Inquisitive Nature, Travel when I can afford it, music, art, dancing & lively conversation. Age & Race makes life more interesting. Respond "Artsy" P.O. Box 24342, Omaha, NE 68124-0342 (Nv96)

PERSONALS for Men
TV's - Crossdressers - Transgenders - Bi. White Male, 5' 10" wants social and emotional relationship - loves all aspects of the best of both worlds - must be very passable. Well-endowed a plus. Bob 308-384-9927 (Nv96)

GWM, 43, physically fit looking for fit GWM 35-55. Winter's coming. Let's get acquainted. Let's cuddle. Let's..... Tell me about yourself. P.O. Box 22203, Lincoln, NE 68542 (De96)

GWM 30 looking to meet friends who are serious about working out. Membership at the YMCA a plus. Serious replies only. Call Rob 325-9835

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Personal Growth Group has new openings for serious-minded men interested in self/spiritual growth. Discreet, selective. Phone 330-2162 after 8:30 p.m. Ask for Mark (Nv96)

GBM-HIV-45-280#-stocky build-ISO GW (Polar) Bear 46 to 52. Baldness A Plus. For get together during the winter months. No exercise fanatics, smoke & drink OK. Photo appreciated. Write LK-PO 8471-Omaha, NE 68108-0471 Must be HIV - also. (Nv96)

25 Gay Asian Male wants 25-45 GWM for friendship & relationship. Photo appreciated. Drug & Disease Free. Write to S.N., P.O. Box 7070, Omaha, NE 68107 (Nv96)

2 Wild and Crazy Guys, HIV-, looking for GWM HIV- 20-40 for safe sex. Ask for Dizzy or Pat or Double Your Pleasure, Double Your Fun. 457-4271 (Nv96)

Allen
"Thanks" I said that Friday.
It doesn't say enough. Flat-Top,
P.O. Box 23034, Lincoln, NE 68542

GWM, 6', 175#, looking for men for friendship, discreet activities and get-togethers, and mutual, safe, fun times. Young? Middle aged? White? Black? - not an issue; someone to have fun with, is. No replies ignored. P.O. Box 34126, Omaha, NE 68124-0126 (Nv96)

GWM, HIV pos 15 years, one of the lucky ones, very healthy with no medication, good looking muscular build, 6', 195lbs, Dk Brown hair, Green eyes, versatile, mid 40's look 30's. Seeks Gay or Bi Male any race, 18 - 38 with good body for no strings attached F- Buddy in the aks. area. For more INFO call Gray any time. (402) 689-1871 (De96)

Starting to get just too busy as the holidays approach? You still need to look your best. Do it in less time with a 10-minute tan at **St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Ave. 341-3740**

Drug + Disease Free Bi-Curious W/M, -45, 5' 9", 160lbs, uncut. Seeks same, 18 years plus. Photo appreciated. Bill, P.O. Box 4034, Omaha 68104 (De96)

S&M/Leather
COLLEGE BOYS: Been naughty? Out too late? Bad grades? Need a spanking to keep you in line? Daddy available to warm up your bare butt. Box 12094, Omaha, NE 68112 (Nv96)

WANTED: LEATHER WOMEN INTERESTED IN EDUCATING YOURSELVES AND OTHERS ABOUT LEATHER AND S/M. Find out what W.E.L.T. is all about! Contact 402-477-7741 (Nv96)

The holidays are fast approaching - make sure that your skin has that healthy, golden glow that will reflect the light of the candles during your special parties. **St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Avenue, 341-3740**

NEBRASKA PERSONALS

TALKING PERSONALS! HUNDREDS OF GUYS TO CHOOSE FROM! CALL NOW!

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Call The 900 number to respond to ads, browse unlisted ads, or retrieve messages. Only \$1.99 per minute. 18+ Customer Service: 415-281-3183

Nebraska

KEEP IT UP I'm 5ft tall and I'm looking for guys in my area who are interested in fishing, hiking, reading, movies, romance and life. Let's get to know each other. (Ashland) #10866

MARRIED BI GUY I'm a 37 year old married Bi White male, 5'11, 170lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I'm looking for guys close to the Columbus area. Call me. (Columbus) #30307

MASCULINE MAN I'm 27 years old, 6'4, 200lbs, dark hair, dark eyes, very attractive, very masculine. I'm seeking guys in central Nebraska to get together with. Call me. (Grand Island) #42438

YOUNG PUP I'm 6'1, Black hair, Brown eyes, 165lbs, 18 years old, college student. I'm looking for other guys 18 to 25 who are good looking and in shape. (Lincoln) #14046

MAYBE MORE I'm a 25 year old Gay White male looking for a guy my age or older. I like fun times and possible relationship. Call me. (Lincoln) #8656

BALD MEN A PLUS I'm a Black male, 44 years old, large build. I'm seeking guys 44 or older for fun. If you are bald that's a plus. Call me. (Lincoln) #6216

LOOKING FOR A DADDY I'm looking for a Gay or Bi male who can be a daddy to me. I like dining out, TV, reading, talking on the phone, movies, giving massage, etc. Please call me. (Lincoln) #6307

BUTCH BOTTOM I'm 6'2, Brown hair, Green eyes, total butch bottom. Call me. (Lincoln) #4674

BIG GUYS WANTED I'm looking to have some fun. I'm 45 years old, 190lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I'm looking for well endowed men of any race for good times. Call me. (Lincoln) #3975

LOOKING FOR BOTTOMS I'm a 28 year old total top looking for bottom men. I got blond hair and blue eyes. I run 5 miles a day and I'm in great shape. I'm looking for young bottoms. Call me. (Lincoln) #3395

LOOKING FOR FRIENDS I'm a Gay White male, 32 years old, 165lbs, Brown hair, Green eyes, average build. I'm looking to meet people for friendship, maybe more. I like to do most things. Call me. (Lincoln) #32320

NO STRINGS I'm a Black male, 5'11, 240lbs, good looking. I seek no strings fun from other attractive or well endowed guys. I'm looking for fun and good conversation. I prefer older men. (Lincoln) #31817

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND? I'm looking for friends in my area. I'm a Bi White male looking for singles and couples. I like to try new things and new ideas. Call me. (Lincoln) #22624

SAFE AND SANE I'm looking for people in Eastern Nebraska. I'm 23 years old, 5'9, 200lbs. I like camping, reading, entertainment, safe partying, and more. I'm versatile. (Lincoln) #22765



SADDLE UP I'm a Gay White male bottom, 6'1, Blue eyes, Brown hair. I'm looking for top men in my area. If you would like to top me please call. (Lincoln) #20295

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? I'm 33 years old, 6'1, 190lbs, Blue eyes, Brown hair. I like football, volleyball, tennis, etc. Call me. (Lincoln) #20291

CLEAN AND SAFE I'm 5'11, 170lbs, 34 years old, dark blonde hair, Blue eyes, 34" waist, moderately hairy. I would like to meet some guys for clean and safe fun. Call me. (Lincoln) #20411

JUICY JOCK I'm 22 years old, 5'9, 160lbs, short crew cut, blonde hair, Green eyes, good gymnastic build, work out every other day. I'm looking for other guys who are 18 to 25. Call me. (Lincoln) #19288

READY FOR SOMETHING NEW? I'm a Bi White male looking for exciting married or single guys to try new things with. Call me. (Lincoln) #16972

BUSINESS BEARS WANTED I'm a White male, 6ft, 240lbs, looking for a 30 to 50 year old business man, bear type. I like bigger men. (Lincoln) #15595

LET'S TALK OVER COFFEE I'm 27 years old, 5'7, 120lbs, nice muscular body, drug and alcohol free. I do smoke and drink coffee. I like dancing, movies, reading, etc. I'm looking to meet White men around my age for fun and more. Call me. (Lincoln) #15190

LOOK NO FURTHER I'm 35 years old, 5'8, 155lbs. I'm looking for guys in the Omaha area to have fun with. (Omaha) #31249

FOREVER YOURS I'm a 25 year old Gay White male giving ownership to my body to people who know what I want. Please call. (Omaha) #14064

SAFE S&M I'm looking for hot tops. I'm a 35 year old Gay White male, 5'11, 170lbs. I'm seeking tops for safe, hot sex. I'm into S&M. (Omaha) #13629

CATCH MY DRIFT I'm a Black male, 5'11, 175lbs, nice build, 35 years old, I'm into alot of things. I'm looking for guys who want to connect and have a good time. (Omaha) #49851

SIT BACK AND RELAX I'm 26 years old, 5'9, 170lbs, submissive bottom into oral sex. I'm looking for someone who wants to have some clean safe fun. (Omaha) #13193

WORK HARD PLAY HARDER I'm a Gay White male, 30 years old, Blond hair, Blue eyes, 6'5, 220lbs. I'm looking to find some new friends and companionship. I like the outdoors, hiking, biking, camping, romance, etc. I'm a country boy now living in the big city. Interested? (Omaha) #12542

CUM AS YOU ARE I'm a White male, 26 years old, 6'4, Blond hair, Blue eyes, 170lbs, bottom. I'm looking for top men around my age to have some fun with. (Omaha) #12320

AM I BISEXUAL? I'M NOT SURE! I'm a White male, 49 years old, 180lbs. I'm having strange thoughts and feelings. I would like to meet other White Bi men 20 to 30 with similar feelings. Discretion is an absolute must. (Omaha) #12507

ALL IN THE NAME OF FUN I'm looking for guys to go out and have fun with. I like movies, dancing, and friends. I'm 5'7, 175lbs, Black hair, Brown eyes. I'm looking for Gay men 19 to 37 for a possible relationship. (Omaha) #7390

ON THE LOOKOUT I'm a 28 year old Black male looking for Black, Latino or Asian males 20 to 28. I would like to get to know you. Leave me a message. (Omaha) #10052

TAKE ALL OF ME I'm a Bi White male looking for men in my area. I'm a submissive bottom looking to explore more adventures. I would love to meet you. Call me today. (Omaha) #10110

SUBMISSIVE HISPANIC I'm a bottom person, Gay Hispanic male, 37 years old, Black hair, Brown eyes, submissive. I'm looking for other Gay men to have fun with. Call me. (Omaha) #9668

ON THE MAKE I'm a 27 year old Gay White male, 6'1, 180lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I like movies, camping, dancing, etc. I'm looking for a Gay White male 24 to 30 with similar interests for friendship and a possible relationship. Call me. (Omaha) #10180

DISCRETION ASSURED I'm looking for clean cut White males 45 to 60 to service on a regular basis at my place. If you are interested please leave a message. (Omaha) #8054

ENERGIZER BUDDY I'm 26 years old, 5'11, 150lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes. I'm looking for submissive tops who like to party and have fun. I'm very energetic. Call me. (Omaha) #7645

TIRED OF THE GAMES I'm 5'9, 180lbs, good build, good looking, Blond hair, Blue eyes, mustache. I'm looking for people into S&M and anything new and different. I'm a bottom looking for a top. (Omaha) #3099



ARE YOU MAN ENOUGH? LEATHERLINK
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18+ \$1.99/MIN. CA 415-281-3183



HUSH
HUSH I'm a 31 year old Bi male, 6'8, 155lbs, Brown hair, Hazel eyes, soft skin. I'm looking for other men in my area to have discreet fun with. (Lincoln) #14195

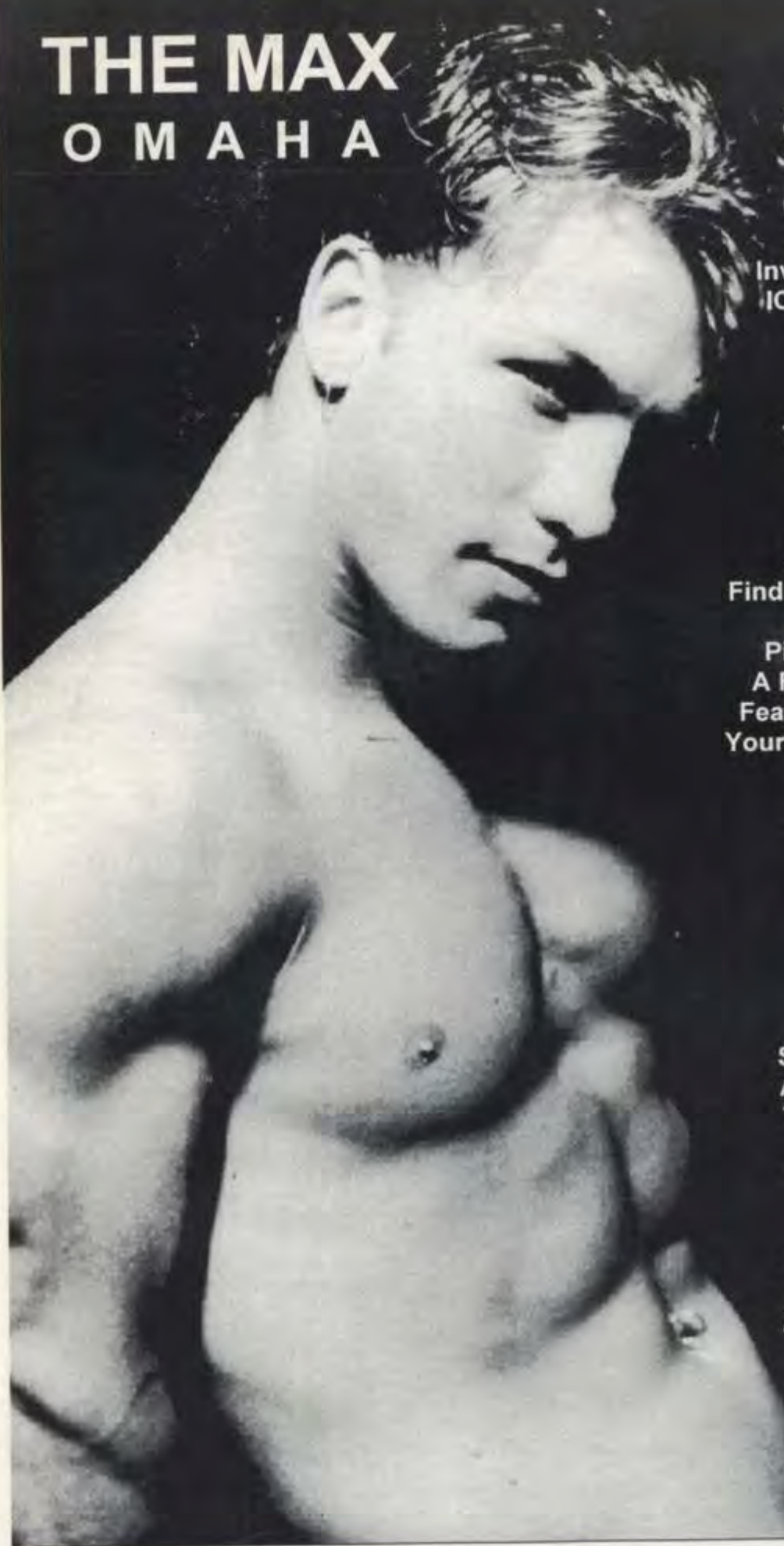
ARE YOU GETTING IT AT HOME? I'm 6'1, 165lbs, Blond hair, Blue eyes, mustache, nice smile. I enjoy romantic evenings with very masculine men, preferably Bi or Straight. I love to satisfy my partner. (Lincoln) #13359

EVERYTHING BUT THE GIRL I'm 30 years old, into anything safe. I'm interested in meeting top men in my area who want to get down. Safe and sane men only. (Lincoln) #12272

ANYTHING GOES I'm 5'11, 26 years old, versatile. I'm looking for men in the Omaha area who want to go out and do things. Call me. (Lincoln) #12456

FOR YOUR FREE AD CALL 1-800-546-6366. THE SYSTEM WILL DO THE REST!

THE MAX O M A H A



Sunday, November 3
Are You Ready For
MALE HOUSE ROCK?
Join Mr. Max, Jeff For Hot Men
Who'll Show You A Good Time

Sunday, November 10
Where Phoenix & Royal Are
Involved, You Know There's Food
ICON'S Food For Thought Show
Makes The Holidays Better

Friday, November 15
The Saloon Will Be Hot Tonight
For The 1996 Mr. & Ms.
Leather Nebraska Contest

Saturday, November 16
Find A New **SALVATION** At **THE MAX**
Leather, Tattoos, Body Art,
Piercing & Fetish Ware Vendors
A Fetish & Leather Fashion Show
Featuring A Our Fetish Dance Party
Your Senses Will Never Be The Same

Sunday, November 17
It's A Red Hot Winter
With The Hottest Talents
In The Midwest
For Our November
Super Star Show

Sunday, November 24
She's The Grand Diva Of Iowa
Aramis Brings Her Talents To
THE MAX and She's Bringing
With Her, Some Of Iowa's
Top Talents Don't Miss It

Saturday, November 30
Sick Of Turkey? We've Got
A Change Of Pace You'll Like
Prince Royal XVI Hosts
ICON'S First Chili Cook Off
A Benefit For **PFLAG's**
Proud Horizons Youth Group

NO TURKEYS HERE!

SUNDAY, NOV. 3--I.C.O.N. "Food For Thought"

SUNDAY, NOV. 10--"Every Woman Matters" Benefit for breast cancer.

SUNDAY, NOV. 17--"Hairaid IV" Fashion Show/Benefit for Pediatric AIDS. Hosted by The Pink Flamingo

SUNDAY, NOV. 24-- "Your Mother's Butt" and "The Pansy" Directed by Channing Roos. "Bodyshop--A Movement Illusion" by Renay Kushner

SUNDAY, DEC. 1--"World AIDS Day Benefit" Hosted by Mr. Q 1996, Troy Haasis. Proceeds go to Night of a Thousand Stars.

THEY'RE COMING BACK!!

DEC. 5-8.

Don't miss **THE KINSEY SICKS**, America's favorite Drag-apella Beauty Shop Quartet from San Francisco.

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