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*The
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A





About the Cover

Dave Hustak has rejoined the staff of *The New Voice* and provided the photograph for the cover of this month's issue. This untitled nude was selected to complement our feature article on Male Sexual Assault.

Dave is a 1984 graduate of Kearney State College. He earned a BFA with an emphasis on creative photography. Dave's work deals with the composition of the human figure and conveys the sensual quality it possesses. "My portraits not only convey a recording of surface, but also look at what that person is on the inside," relates Hustak.

Many of his fine prints are available in signed editions of 100. Dave has had his works displayed in several showings across the state. He can be contacted by calling 563-2084. His portfolio can be seen by appointment.

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The New Voice of Nebraska

PO Box 3512

Omaha, NE 68103

Winterscene a Success

Winterscene, the winter concert of the River City Mixed Chorus, played to a full house at Strauss Performing Arts Center on December 11.

The Chorus, under the direction of John Kelly, demonstrated a new depth, balance and precision as they presented a program that ranged from classical to show tunes to Christmas carols to comic parodies.

A performance such as this one leaves the listener wishing that the songs could go on and on.

Congratulations for a job well done.

For Jimmy

-by Bill S.

If you never had the opportunity to meet Jimmy Sechser, you've, for sure, missed a special person to know. Jimmy was a person for all people. He could be hard. He could be mellow. He could be compassionate. For we old-timers in the community he was a special friend.

He was there whenever anyone had a problem. Those problems could be monetary, or they could be legal or just plain looking for a little advice. The best thing was that the solver of the problem's name was never broadcast. After all, how many sets of teeth can you buy for Sammy? How many times can you bail the same person out of jail? The list could go on and on. Jimmy was always there for any worthy cause in the community. For instance, just ask Dr. Goldsmith at the Viral Syndrome Office.

To get off the heavy stuff, we can regale you with fun stories that would keep you in stitches for years. Sunday afternoons have never been the same without Jimmy holding court at the front of the Diamond. Since he's been ailing, we've sat and talked and reminisced about the old days. It was a wonderful era.

Jimmy left us on Sunday, December 11. To Cindy and family, to Rose, Madelyne and Bob; we offer our thoughts and prayers.

Hurry Back Jimmy



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Volunteers Needed!

The New Voice continues to need YOUR help in its day to day operations. Especially needed are persons to help with layout and production.



Sexual Assault Against Men

-by Sharon V.

Male rape? Nonsense!! Maybe a woman could be intimidated or forced to have sex, but not a man.

Like millions of others, I used to believe this myth. I now know better.

It's been several years since I met the young man as part of my job at the hospital. He wasn't one of society's finer citizens. He was just another transient who got in trouble while he was drinking, but this case was a little different than most.

Robert came in through the emergency room and went immediately to surgery. He had been raped repeatedly by three men who offered him a ride outside a bar. The wall of the rectum had a three inch tear that allowed fecal material to spill into the abdomen. The surgeons repaired the tear, washed out the abdomen, and did a "temporary" colostomy so the bowel would empty into a pouch worn on the outside of the abdomen while the lower part of the bowel healed.

I saw Robert several times over the next year as he came in and out of the hospital with first one infection and then another. During those visits we dealt with the constant frustration of having a colostomy and with his deep sense of personal violation.

Finally, after about 15 months, the surgeon thought it was safe to "take-down" the colostomy and allow normal bowel function. However, as he carefully explained to Robert, "I can't guarantee that you'll be able to control your bowels. Those muscles are damaged pretty badly." Robert went through with the surgery and did regain nearly normal bowel control. Then, as expected, he wandered on to some other town.

What happened to Robert's assailants? Nothing. The police never found them. Maybe they didn't look very hard. After all, it was just some transient who got what he was asking for.

I wish I could say this story is one made up but it isn't. Robert isn't the young man's name but otherwise it's pretty much as it happened. And it happens more often than we want to admit.

In the August issue of *Equal Time*, John Ritter wrote of male sexual assault in the Minneapolis area. After describing several incidents, Ritter identified the common threads. All the attacks were degrading and dehumanizing and all the assailants remain at large.

No one knows how often men are victims of sexual assault

No one knows how often men are victims of sexual assault because male rape is tremendously under-reported. Victims are afraid and often ashamed. They may feel that they will receive no help from the police. They, like most men, have been raised without any thought that they could be raped. Men think it's something that only happens to women.

Like women, gay men fight prejudice in the courtroom. Since women and gay men normally choose to have sex with males, the court may assume that they did something to invite the attack.

Kip, one victim of sexual assault, is working with Minnesota's Coalition for Rape Victims Rights to help change the state's justice system and to establish anti-discrimination laws so that gay men can feel more comfortable in bringing sexual assault to the attention of the authorities. With more openness, the public can realize that male rape is not just an isolated incident. It can happen anywhere, to anyone.

The key to recovering from a sexual assault is the willingness to talk about the incident and about the feelings related to the assault. According to Joyce Collier, coordinator of the Victim Recovery Project in Boston, "It's very difficult for men to come forward to report a rape but it is essential. People left alone with those feelings become more and more isolated."

What precautions can gay men take against sexual assault? Much the same as those recommended for women, though no precaution is 100 percent safe.

Stay away from dark and unprotected areas, especially at night. Use a loud whistle or noise maker to attract attention and deter an assailant. Be cautious. Don't open your door unless you know who is there.

Report sexual assault, even if nothing happens as a result of the investigation. Police and the courts need to be made aware of the scope of the problem. Just as it is with other areas of gay life, Silence is Death.

HAPPY
NEW
YEAR

The Second Most Important Room in the House

-by Hedda Lettuce

Hey, guys and girls! A couple of months ago I promised you a recipe for Egg Nogg Pie. But with all the holiday goings-on and parties and that wonderful weekend with Drew Blood...well it just slipped my little mind. So, with my apologies I present it to you now, and it's not a bad pie for your Epiphany Celebration.

EGG NOG PIE

Crust:

In a bowl, blend 2 1/2 cups ground pecans, 1/3 cup sugar, and 1/2 stick (1/4 cup) melted butter. Mix well and put into a 9 1/2 inch pie tin. Press the mixture to form a pie shell. Chill the shell for 30 minutes, then bake in a preheated oven at 375 degrees for 15 minutes, or until it is lightly browned. Cool completely.

Filling:

In a small bowl sprinkle 1 1/2 Tbl unflavored gelatin over 3 Tbl brandy to soften for 10 minutes. In another bowl beat 4 egg yolks with 1/3 cup sugar until they form a ribbon when the beater is lifted. Add 1 1/3 cups scalded milk in a stream, stirring while adding. Put this mixture into a sauce pan and cook over low to moderate heat stirring until it is thick enough to coat a spoon. Do not let it boil. Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the gelatin mixture, 1/4 cup dark rum, and 1 1/2 tsp vanilla. This is now called a custard. Transfer this custard

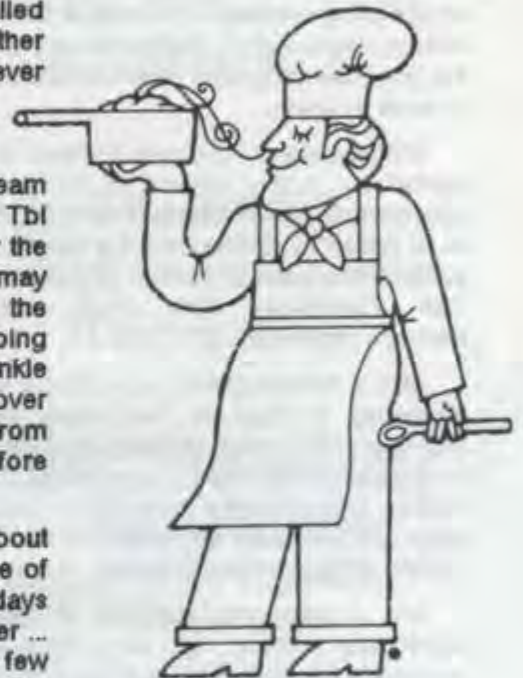
to a bowl set in a larger bowl of ice and let cool, stirring occasionally, but do not let it set.

In a large bowl beat 4 egg whites with a pinch of salt until they hold stiff peaks. Fold in 3/4 cup of heavy cream that has been lightly whipped and then fold in the cooled custard. Put enough of this pie filling into the prepared pie shell to fill it to the top. Chill the filled pie shell for 20 minutes or until the filling is set. Then put the remaining filling on top of the chilled pie, mounding it and chill for another 20 minutes (or until set, whichever comes first).

Topping:

In a bowl whip 1 cup heavy cream with 3 Tbl powdered sugar and 2 Tbl dark rum. Spread the cream over the pie, mounding it slightly. You may reserve a small amount of the whipped cream for decorative piping around the edge of the pie. Sprinkle bits of broken chocolate pieces over the pie and chill. Remove the pie from the refrigerator 30 minutes before serving.

Now that silly season is just about upon us ... silly season in that time of year between the end of the holidays and the arrival of spring and Easter ... it is a good time to gather a few friends and cuddle up around a fire or on a bear rug. If you want to cuddle up bare on a rug that sounds good, too. You probably won't need a fire in the fireplace. Cheers, dears, until next month.



MURPHY'S MANOR



Divided, We Fail

-by Craig Davidson

The Media Reporter

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith seems to think that anti-gay bias is a second class prejudice.

The ADL has launched a nationwide project to defeat prejudice using mass media and the schools. The project is called *A World of Difference*, and in each city where it is implemented a local television station agrees to incorporate material about minorities into its news and public affairs programming for a whole year. ADL produces study guides based on the programming and provides these to local schools.

Unfortunately, this good idea is tainted by ADL's refusal to include information about lesbians and gays in *A World of Difference*. So far, the project has been launched in Boston, San Francisco, New York and perhaps elsewhere.

ADL's intransigence is particularly appalling in light of the wave of anti-gay and lesbian violence that is sweeping the country, and the U.S. Justice Department's conclusion that gays are probably the most common victims of hate-related crimes.

We suggest you respond to this egregious case of institutional exclusion of gays and lesbians. Write to Abraham Foxman, ADL National Director, 823 U.N. Plaza, New York, NY 10017, to express your displeasure.

Submission Deadline

The New Voice has a submission deadline on the 10th of each month. Submissions received after the 10th will be held for publication at a later date. Thank you for your cooperation.

Is It Safe?

-By Pat Phalen

The argument. Canadian AIDS educators have revised the 'safe sex' guidelines used nationwide by community-based AIDS organizations, essentially giving a green light to oral sex, even to the point of ejaculation.

Leslie Wagman of AIDS Vancouver, "We don't encourage people to swallow semen, but if they do, it's minimal increase in risk."

David Winters of Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, "That's too liberal. Unprotected fellatio (oral sex) with ejaculation should be in the high risk category. Semen carries a high concentration of HIV and oral sex puts it in contact with mucous membrane in the mouth and esophagus. The back of the throat is

clinically who swear they never engaged in anal sex or the sharing of needles."

Addressed to U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, "Do you know of any current studies that show if oral sex is an accurate or only transmission route for HIV?" The response: "There has never been a documented case to my knowledge of the transmission of AIDS virus by oral sex." James Brown, Koop's press secretary, stressed the fact that there must be the danger of HIV transmission by oral sex or deep kissing when one party has sores in the mouth and the other has the virus."

The question is... Is It Safe? Each of us will make our own decision. Do

Unprotected oral sex should be in the high risk category

also known to be a high density area for white blood cells, which is what HIV really likes to infect."

Dr. Ross Slotten, Medical Director of Howard Brown Memorial Clinic in Chicago, "While oral sex is probably a less likely route of infection than anal sex, I don't think one can really exclude it. It's always better to err on the side of caution."

Chuck Frutchey, Assistant Education Director, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, "[Many gay men] never gave up oral sex as a way of preventing every single case of AIDS. Somebody may get AIDS by engaging in oral sex, but its going to be extremely few people."

Dr. Robert Wood, Medical Director, The AIDS Prevention Project, "First although I agree that epidemiologic studies do not show evidence of transmission associated with oral sex...there are a number of case reports of persons who have become infected presumably from oral sex. I myself know of two HIV infected persons that I've seen

you risk your life because "condoms do not taste good", or because "he looks healthy"? Remember, the virus may be present and yet the person may have no symptoms.

Dr. Willy Rozenbaum, a French AIDS researcher, has been conducting a study since 1984 of gay men who have tested HIV antibody negative and claimed to be following safer sex guidelines. Early in 1987 one participant became HIV antibody positive, the only sexual activity being oral-passive sex. In the second half of 1987, five more men became HIV antibody positive. According to their testimony, none participated in anal sex or needle sharing.

The decision is yours. Finally, the Nebraska AIDS Project, spokesperson, Dr. Georgia Bichakas, "... one conclusion substantiated again and again is that HIV, the AIDS virus, is transmitted when semen-to-blood or blood-to-blood contact occurs. Therefore, any activity which is likely to permit such contacts would qualify as a 'high risk' activity ...

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS ▼

Omaha's Mayor Proclaims World AIDS Day

On Thursday, December 1, 1988, Omaha's Mayor Walter Calinger, proclaimed WORLD AIDS DAY in Omaha. Mayor Calinger read the proclamation at his regular weekly press conference at the Omaha/Douglas Civic Center. He then presented the proclamation to Dr. Georgia Bichekas, spokesperson for the Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP).

Dr. Bichekas expressed thanks for City Government's concern about AIDS in Nebraska. She spoke of NAP's commitment to prevent the spread of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, and to provide support services to people with AIDS concerns. The mayor invited Dr. Bichekas to detail Nebraska AIDS Project services before she left the podium. These include a statewide, toll-free Hotline; anonymous HIV antibody testing with pre- and post-test counseling; pastoral support groups, emotional support groups, and speakers' bureau; plus buddies and practical support volunteers for Persons with AIDS (PWAs), as well as emergency financial assistance and legal advocacy.

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**

Metropolitan Club News

-Garry Griffith

The November meeting of the Metro Club was very successful thanks to the lilting voices of the River City Mixed Chorus which entertained us with a sampler of their Christmas concert. Although only one third of the chorus members were present, the sound was great and they were well received by their audience.

The December meeting also has come and gone, and everyone had a fabulous time. The food which Sam served was magnificent and, of course, the atmosphere in the mansion always lends itself well to Christmas. There was a Christmas ornament exchange for those who participated, and raffle tickets were given at the door for some fun prizes.

Now that the holidays are over and done with, and we have it stuffed under our belts, we can get on with the rest of the year. The Metro Club board has their heads together planning another busy year for its members.

For January they are working on having a panel of their more experienced members talk about what it was like in our community 30 or 40 years ago - or so. Were there organizations? Were there many problems meeting others? How did one cope with the fears back then? What were the bars like? If you are willing to sit on this panel or know someone who would like to, please contact the Metropolitan Club. They have already lined up some very interesting people for this panel, and it promises to be an enlightening discussion from what we have heard so far.

Plans for the February meeting are still in the thinking stage at this moment in time, since submission deadlines for this publication are well in advance of the Metro Club's actual events. In February's article there should be a better idea of what is being planned for the next several months.

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm. For further information on membership to the Metropolitan Club, get in touch with a club member, or call 449-9377. This is a friendly answering service, so you will have no problem in leaving a message. A board member will return your call within a few days.

Fourth Annual Quiche Off

For the fourth consecutive year the River City Mixed Chorus will be holding its ever popular *Quiche Off*. The date for this event is February 18 and the location is again Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church.

You can enter your favorite quiche in the contest to be judged by our panel of judges, or you can enjoy one of the award winning pieces as a complete dinner. To top off the evening you are invited to treat your taste buds at the desert table or sit back and relax and enjoy the music provided by the chorus.

Entries and seating capacity are limited so make your reservations early. For more information contact any chorus member.

Love and quiches from the River City Mixed Chorus.

Buddy Training in Lincoln

The Nebraska AIDS Project, Lincoln chapter is planning to begin buddy training in Lincoln. A buddy is that special person to help a person with AIDS (PWA). This three day training will be January 28th, February 4th and February 11th. For more information about this training or about obtaining a buddy, please call Cindy McPherson 475-7368 (Lincoln) or the Nebraska AIDS Project 1-800-782-2437.

Remember, your help is needed.

MCC Fundraiser

The *Show of Shows* Benefit for MCC was held at the Max on December 11. The variety show featured a cast of well-known personalities as well as dynamic newcomers to the stage.

The entire congregation of Metropolitan Community Church wishes to say "Thank You" for your support of this show and other fundraising efforts.



MCC Omaha to Celebrate 15th Anniversary

A Spiritual Renewal Weekend with the Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey will highlight Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha's celebration of our 15th Anniversary as a chartered church in the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). Founded in Los Angeles, CA, in October of 1968, the UFMCC has been an affirming Christian outreach to gay men and lesbian women throughout the world.

MCC Omaha was among the first MCC's established in the Midwest.

The weekend of January 20-22, Rev. Elder Harvey will be preaching at 7:30 pm Friday and Saturday night services, as well as at both Sunday services (10:30 am and 7:00 pm).

Rev. Harvey is renowned throughout the UFMCC as one of our most dynamic, inspirational and sought after preachers. Having served on the Board of Elders of the UFMCC for eight years, Rev. Harvey is now traveling as a full-time evangelist.

You won't want to miss this exciting time as we celebrate together! Everyone is welcome!

Around the Milkrun

with Belinda Loveless

Time really stood still at the Diamond Bar recently. It seems a cabby stopped by to pick up a fare and rather than come into the den of iniquity he opened up the door and hollered "Taxi!" When he let the door slam shut, the clock that's been above the door for all these many years crashed to the floor. If he'd taken a step inside the damn thing would have cold-cocked him (no pun intended).

All the Christmas decorations at the Max really made the place look like a fairyland. But I guess that's what it was supposed to look like. Everything was utterly gorgeous.

Now that "The Happy Return of the Season" days are upon us, all those hideous things you wouldn't be caught dead in can be returned for lovely pink and mauve sweaters. The After-Christmas sales are fun, too. If the old woman with the furled umbrella and the guy with the number twelve shoes don't get you, you'll live to see another holiday season.

Anyway, Happy New Year to one and all.

Chorus Announces Second Concert

The River City Mixed Chorus began rehearsals on December 19 in preparation for their second concert for the 1988-89 season. This concert, titled *Family*, will be a joint concert with the Des Moines Men's Chorus.

The River City Mixed Chorus will travel to Des Moines to perform the first joint concert on March 11. The following weekend the Des Moines Men's Chorus will come to Omaha. The Omaha concert will be performed March 18 at 7:35 pm in the Strauss Recital Hall.

Most of the men from the Des Moines Chorus will be in Omaha the entire weekend giving us the opportunity to showcase our city. Show your support by attending this concert -- you won't be disappointed!



Toni Pastory, M.S., C.P.C.

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Community Calendar

Jan. 1 - Feb 1, 1989

Weekly Events

Sundays

Metropolitan Community Church,
420 S. 24th St., Omaha Worship
Services 10:20 am, 7 pm

Lesbian Parenting Group, Lincoln,
435-6309, 3pm Call for location

The Max, 1417 Jackson, Omaha,
Shows at 9pm

Mondays

Adult Children of Alcoholics,
MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th, 346-0561,
7pm

Womyn Together, Dale Clark
Library, 15th & Douglas, Omaha,
Meeting Rooms 2 & 3, 7-9 pm

Tuesdays

Gay/Lesbian Support Group,
MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th, 7pm

Fridays

Gay AA, Lutheran Medical Center,
345-9916, 8:15 pm

Monthly Calendar

Sunday, January 1, 1989

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Monday, January 2

UNO Gay/Lesbian Student
Organization, Call for location 554-
0320

Tuesday, January 3

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

Thursday, January 5

Bars and Organizations of Omaha
(BOO), Call for location, 345-2563,
6:30 pm

Sunday, January 8

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

Monday, January 9

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

Tuesday, January 10

Submission Deadline!! All articles,
classifieds, art work, poetry and
letters must be received by this date
for consideration for the February
issue of the *New Voice*.

Friday, January 20

MCC-Omaha 15th Anniversary
Spiritual Renewal with Rev. Jeri Ann
Harvey. 420 S. 24th, 345-2563, 7:30
pm

Saturday, January 21

New Voice Lay-Out, Volunteers
Welcome!! MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th,
12-5 pm

MCC-Omaha 15th Anniversary
Spiritual Renewal with Rev. Jeri Ann
Harvey. 420 S. 24th, 345-2563, 7:30
pm

Sunday, January 22

Dignity "Gathering", Call for
location, 331-4919, 7pm

MCC-Omaha 15th Anniversary
Spiritual Renewal with Rev. Jeri Ann
Harvey. 420 S. 24th, 345-2563, 10:20
am; 7:00 pm

Tuesday, January 24

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

Saturday, January 27

Nebraska AIDS Project "Buddy"
training in Lincoln. Call for
information, 475-7368

Yale Goes Pink

Yale Law School's annual ritual of on-campus interviews is a little more colorful this year as hundreds of law students wear pink triangles to their job interviews to show their opposition to discrimination against lesbians and gay men. The pink triangle campaign was organized by Yale's Lesbian/Gay Law Students' Association (L.G.L.S.A.) to express students' concern that discrimination against lesbians and gay men in hiring and promotion exists despite the law school's policy of prohibiting on-campus recruitment by firms or organizations that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

The campaign has been remarkably successful. Estimates for the number of students wearing pink triangles to job interviews range from 30 to 50 percent. Stephen Liacouras, a second year law student and member of L.G.L.S.A., said "Even more students than we expected are wearing triangles. We're particularly pleased to see a good number of interviewers wearing them."

The law school administration has been extremely supportive of the campaign. In a letter to interviewing students and law firms and organizations, Yale Law School Dean Guido Calabresi pointed out that students wearing pink triangles "are self-consciously doing something they believe to be risky -- to demonstrate their opposition to discrimination." Dean Calabresi also observed that "Courage at any age and in any circumstances is rare; courage among the young seeking jobs is rarer still."

The pink triangle campaign is meant to heighten the sensitivity of law firms and organizations to the reality of homophobia in the work place and hiring process.



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"Non-Heterosexually Owned"

Wisconsin -- A Law-enforcement magazine that refuses to accept a gay bar's ad because it included the words *gay owned and operated* agreed to accept the ad with a substitute phrase, *non-heterosexually owned*.

According to *Among Friends*, a Wisconsin gay magazine, the *Wisconsin Trooper* said it would accept the altered ad, which was placed by Bob Janson, owner of the Main Club in Superior.

After Janson's original ad was rejected by the Wisconsin State Troopers Association, which publishes the magazine, Janson complained to the state equal rights division that the rejection violated Wisconsin's gay-rights law. The agency ruled that newspaper advertising was not covered by the legislation.

(*The Advocate*)

HIV High on Campus

Atlanta -- The Centers for Disease Control has released preliminary results of a survey of universities across the nation that indicates as many as 1 in 300 college students is HIV positive. About half of 20,000 blood samples (1,000 from each of 20 universities) have been tested for the rate obtained so far. The blood samples come from the student health centers at the universities and are discarded blood drawn from students using the health center for illness, routine physical exams, etc. This was judged the closest to "random" that could be approached. All identification, except age, race and sex, was removed from the samples before they were sent away to be tested. (*The Paper*)

KKK Fined \$1 Million

Atlanta -- On January 17, 1987 a group of civil rights activists marched into virtually all-white Forsythe County. They were met by the Ku Klux Klan who pelted them with rocks and bottles. A lawsuit was filed, and on October 5 the jury reached its verdict. As a result two local Klan organizations were each assessed \$400,000. In addition, other fines were levied against individuals involved in the incident. The total award amounted to just less than \$1 million. (*The Paper*)

Anti-gay Laws Violate Human Rights

Strasbourg, France -- Though it has no power to enforce its decision, the European Court of Human Rights has ruled that long-standing Irish laws against homosexuality violate human rights. (*The Paper*)

That Close Family Feeling

During a pre-election town meeting in California, Sallie Dornan who is married to ultra-conservative Rep. Robert Dornan (R-CA), exploded at gay activist Jeff LeTourneau, calling him a "fag."

She later apologized and said she was angry and upset because her brother has AIDS, according to *Bravo!*, a San Diego paper.

The revelation was a surprise to Rep. Dornan - and apparently also to Douglas R. Hansen of San Diego, Dornan's brother-in-law. Hansen has since taken an HIV antibody test, arranged by the *Los Angeles Times*, which was negative.

In an interview with the *L.A. Times*, Hansen said he has been tested for HIV antibodies four or five times in the past two years because he has many gay friends and believed that HIV could be spread by casual contact. He also said he has seen his sister only once since their father's funeral in 1983 and called his brother-in-law "a turkey." (*Equal Time*)

50 Arrested in Rumania

The *International Lesbian and Gay Association Bulletin* reports that 50 men have been arrested on the grounds of homosexuality in the city of Arad, Rumania. If convicted, the men could be sentenced to five years in prison.

According to ILGA, the men have been beaten and tortured by police in efforts to have them reveal the names of other gay men; two men have been killed and one has committed suicide. It is unclear if the arrests and persecution are limited to Arad or are taking place in other parts of the country as information from Rumania is difficult to obtain.

ILGA has issued a "call to action" asking groups and individuals worldwide to send protests to their Rumanian embassies, or to protest directly to the president of Rumania, Nicolae Ceausescu, Government Palace, Bucharest, Rumania. Copies may be sent to ILGA, Hose Wein, Novaragassa 40 A-1020, Wein, Austria. (*Equal Time*)

Employees Fired for Harassing Lesbian

Houston - After an internal investigation, six members of the Montgomery County sheriff's department were fired for allegedly harassing a lesbian inmate. Glenda Almond said she was harassed and intimidated by the jailers and was given sedatives and muscle relaxants almost every day of her jail term. (*The Paper*)

Lesbian Couple to Adopt

The Lesbian Community Project of Portland, Oregon reports that a Portland lesbian couple has received a Decree of Adoption for an infant. This is reportedly only the third time that such a decree has been granted to a lesbian couple in Oregon.

The case is also unusual in that it is an "open" adoption which means that the birth mother knows the adoptive parents and will be allowed to continue to have contact with the child. (*Equal Time*)

Congressional Ratings Released

Washington, DC -- The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has distributed report cards evaluating the records of all 535 members of the 100th Congress to activists around the country. Each Congressperson's voting record was tracked on a variety of issues important to the Lesbian and Gay community, such as civil rights legislation, anti-Lesbian and Gay violence, federally funded programs and educational materials on AIDS, and anti-discrimination provisions for handicapped people including PWAs, PWARCs and those with HIV infection.

"The report cards are our way of holding members of Congress accountable to the Lesbian and Gay constituents," said Jeffrey Levi, executive director of NGLTF. "We want to make sure that the promises politicians make are reflected by their voting records."

The report cards reveal that while many members support Gay and Lesbian issues, a great deal of educational work remains to be done. NGLTF found that over half of the House of Representatives (56%) earned a grade of A or B, and almost three quarters (72%) earned a passing grade by voting with the NGLTF position at least 60% of the time. By contrast, only 34% of the Senators passed and a full 68 received an F.

The congressional delegation from Massachusetts scored the only cumulative A with a combined score of 90%. Other states who scored well included Connecticut (88%), Vermont (86%), Rhode Island (85%), Washington (84%), Hawaii (79%) and Michigan (76%). The worst states were Wyoming (25%), Idaho (27%) and New Hampshire (35%).

NGLTF took special note of the excellent voting records of Senators Alan Cranston (D-CA), Patrick Moynihan (D-NY), Paul Simon (D-IL) and Lowell Weicker (R-CT). Each of these senators earned an A.

"The monitoring of the voting records of all members of Congress augments our lobbying efforts," said Peri Jude Radeclie, a lobbyist with the Task Force. "We plan to issue report cards for each session of Congress as a method of both letting members know how they have done on our issues and informing our community how well we are being served." (*The Lesbian and Gay News-Telegraph*)

Gay Tales from the Campaign Trail

Washington, D.C. -- Lesbian Sheryl Harris could hardly believe her ears when Esther, a Jewish retiree from New Jersey, popped the question: "Honey, are you the 'L' word?"

Harris, operations director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), was "on loan" to the congressional campaign of Harry Johnston in Palm Beach, Fla., working with local volunteers -- most of them white, heterosexual and retired, like Esther and her husband, Sid.

"It's not too often a black lesbian activist from the nation's capital visits the conservative Florida Gold Coast to help get out the vote," said Harris. "Before I arrived the volunteers had been briefed that gays and lesbians were coming, which created a stir among some of them. So the first thing that went through my mind when Esther asked the 'L' questions was ... oh, oh, here it comes ... Lesbian."

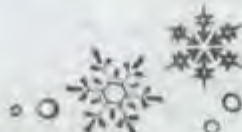
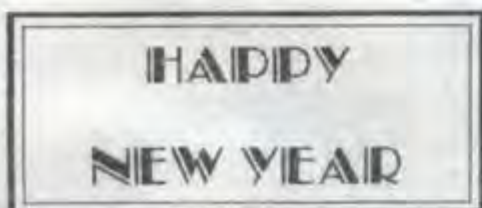
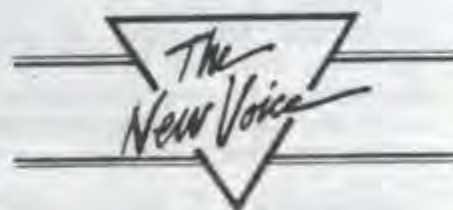
Harris said she took a deep breath, pushed back her shoulders and answered, "Yes, ma'am, I am."

To which Esther leaned over and surreptitiously replied, "That's okay, dear, so am I. And so's my husband, Sid."

Confusing liberals with lesbians was just one of the many tales from the political hinterlands told by HRCF staff members recently back from working on key political campaigns around the country. HRCF, the nation's largest lesbian and gay political action committee (PAC) and lobbying group, contributed more than \$400,000 in money and staff time in 1987-88 to pro-gay candidates for U.S. Congress and progressive groups.

This year, in addition to direct contributions, the PAC tried a different strategy by sending its professional employees on the road to work in several congressional races.

"You could say we put our man and womanpower where our money is" said Vic Basile, HRCF executive director. "By loaning some of our top staff we took another important step in demonstrating the wide and deep range of support lesbians and gays can give candidates who support our issues."



NGRA NEWS

Defending Our Rights...

Creating New Law

Lawsuit Filed Against LAPD

National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) and Mitchell Grobeson are plaintiffs in a landmark lawsuit filed against the Los Angeles Police Department. Grobeson, a former police sergeant accused fellow officers and their superiors of conspiring to force his resignation through threats and intimidation because he is gay.

In addition to seeking \$5 million in damages for Grobeson, NGRA is also asking the Los Angeles Superior Court to issue an order barring the police department from continuing to discriminate against gay officers.

Grobeson served on the force to nearly seven years before resigning June 13. He finished first in his class at the Police Academy, has been honored for his police work and promoted several times.

Superiors identified Grobeson as a "faggot" at police roll calls, and participated with other officers in harassing him. The lawsuit lists 22 separate causes of action against the LAPD, the City of Los Angeles and the individual officers.

Permanent Partners

Former NGRA Board member Betty Berzon, Ph.D has published a new book, *Permanent Partners*, that offers a model for same sex relationships. The book is a breakthrough that offers new hope and guidance for those seeking to create healthy, lasting partnerships. It is written with tremendous compassion and understanding.

Betty Berzon is a psychotherapist who specializes in working with gay and lesbian couples. She was an NGRA Board member for 5 years and resides now in Los Angeles with her own "permanent partner" of 15 years.

Illinois Man Nears Settlement in Suit for College Degree

Lincoln Christian College (LCC) has entered into settlement negotiations to end four years of litigation over a college degree it refused to issue based on homosexuality. LCC has withheld Greg Johnson's degree since June of 1981 even though he completed all of his course work and paid all required fees. When a fellow student told the Dean that Greg was gay, the Dean sent Greg to a religious counselor, who attempted to "convert" him. NGRA has sued LCC and the counselor, Kent Paris.

Gay Boy Scouts

For more than five years, Timothy Curran has been fighting to be reinstated in the Boy Scouts in Mt. Diablo, California. In 1983 the Court of Appeals rejected the Boy Scouts' effort to have the case dismissed and sent back to the trial court.

As the case proceeds to trial, the Boy Scouts have tried to make Tim give them a detailed account of his sexual history. NGRA has filed an *amicus curiae* brief in Los Angeles Superior Court to stop this harassment.

Companies Capitulate in Gay Couple Victory

National Gay Rights Advocates settled a lawsuit against a Florida and Tennessee company promoting a vacation sweepstakes open only to "married or co-habiting heterosexual couples." In the summer of 1987, Vacation America and Trans World Vacations notified a gay man, Ed Patrick, that he won his choice of a Florida or Mexico vacation. But then they refused to let Patrick and his family partner of seven years participate. NGRA filed suit in US District Court, charging the two companies with discrimination and fraudulent advertising.

The settlement was a total victory. The companies agreed to give Patrick a vacation, \$2500 in cash, and have agreed to not discriminate against lesbians and gay men in any of their programs.

"...Our entertainment was provided by the Andrew Sisters (Blair Thornbloom, Howard Christensen and Arthur Wall). It was very funny. Ron Rath gave a talk on 'So You Think You are Normal!'"

(The American Dandy)



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Cave, Topeka, Kan-
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Sunday Buffet - 11am to 2pm



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Celebration and
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January 20-22, 1989
420 South 24th St.

Special Guest
**Rev. Elder Jeri Ann
Harvey**

Join Our Celebration

Friday January 20th
7:30p Worship Service

*

Saturday January 21st

5:30p Pot Luck

Meet Rev. Elder Jeri Ann

Bring A Covered Dish

7:30p Worship Service

*

Sunday January 22nd

10:20a Worship Service

and

7:00p Worship Service

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Victory for Chicago Father

A Chicago gay father once denied visitation with his four children because of his ex-wife's fear of AIDS is now able to visit his family again. Judge Richard Kelly had earlier ruled that the father, known in court as Leslie Roe, could not visit his children because of his "failure to take an AIDS test, Leslie being an admitted homosexual." Leslie had not taken the HIV (AIDS) antibody test and had no signs of AIDS. After vigorous representation by NGRA, the children's mother agreed to withdraw her demand, and allow Leslie normal visitation privileges.

Roe v. Roe is the second AIDS-related child visitation case which NGRA has successfully fought in Chicago. In *Doe v. Doe*, NGRA convinced a woman to drop her demands that her former husband, a gay man, take an HIV (AIDS) antibody test as a prerequisite for overnight visitation with his children. A Chicago judge had agreed to her request for forced testing in 1986.

THE DIAMOND BAR

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STILL THE FRIENDLIEST BAR IN TOWN
NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SERVED



"TELL'EM WHERE YOU GOT IT"

Rate of HIV Infection Declines in San Francisco

The latest analysis of a major AIDS study shows new AIDS infections in San Francisco have continued to decline substantially, mostly because of a decrease in high-risk sexual behaviors.

The rate of new infections per year among previously uninfected persons in the San Francisco Men's Health Study dropped from 5.9 percent to 0.7 percent between the first half of 1985 and the second half of 1987. The Study has been monitoring the spread of AIDS among a representative sample of homosexual and bisexual men since 1984.

The findings were reported in the current issue of the *American Journal on Public Health*.

The reason for the decline, according to Warren Winkelstein, M.D., director of the study and a professor of epidemiology at Univ. of California - Berkeley, is that more and more homosexuals and bisexual men have abandoned or greatly reduced the practice of unprotected anal-genital intercourse and decreased the number of sexual partners.

Winkelstein said the new findings reinforce the conclusion that current public education strategies, supported by effective community organization and public health department efforts, can control the spread of HIV infection. (*Equal Time*)

Dental Clinic Sued

San Francisco -- National Gay Rights Advocates filed suit against a San Francisco dental clinic for allegedly refusing to treat patients infected with the HIV (AIDS) virus. Plaintiff Doug Bearden charges that Sutter Dental Clinic required him to declare on a standard health questionnaire whether he had tested positive for HIV antibodies. Mr. Bearden indicated that he had tested positive, and proceeded to go to an examination room where he was x-rayed. In the middle of his examination, Mr. Bearden was summoned to the front office and told he would not be provided dental care because he had tested positive.

Benjamin Schatz, Director of NGRA's Civil Rights Project, said "it is illegal under California and San Francisco law for dentists and physicians to deny care to patients because they test HIV positive. The American Dental Association and the American Medical Association both oppose such discrimination as unethical. Doctors and dentists would protect themselves far better by following universal infection control procedures, than by discriminating against their patients."

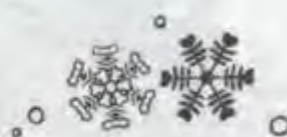
"In the wake of a national medical crisis, it is unconscionable for medical professionals to shirk their responsibility to help out," said NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary. "This case sends a strong message to doctors and dentists that discrimination against patients with AIDS or HIV infection may well carry a price."

Army Sergeant Wins *Sammy*

San Francisco -- Federal Lesbians and Gays (FLAG) has presented its third annual *Sammy* award to former Army sergeant Perry Watkins. The *Sammy* award honors those individuals who have contributed to the federal Lesbian and Gay community. Attending the event in San Francisco were California state senator Milton Marks, San Francisco supervisor Harry Britt and representatives of various Gay and Lesbian veterans organizations.

Sgt. Watkins is plaintiff in *Watkins v. United States Army*. In a February 1988 decision, the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit invalidated Army enlistment regulations which discriminate against Lesbians and Gays. That decision was withdrawn and the Court reheard the case by an en banc panel of eleven judges on October 12.

The first *Sammy* winner was Hal Freeman, former Western Regional Director of the Office of Civil Rights, who resigned in protest against the administration's AIDS policies. The late Leonard Matlovich, another Gay army veteran, received the second *Sammy*. (*The Lesbian and Gay News-Telegraph*)






dignity
Omaha

Lesbian and Gay
Roman Catholics
and Friends

Mass 1 p.m. 2nd Sunday monthly
M 10:00 am church - Inverness
2:00 pm - University Campus

361-4719 PO BOX 31312
341-1160 OMAHA 68131



AIDS project

3624 Leavenworth
Omaha, NE 68105

Support Groups
Buddy Systems

AIDS Hotline
9 am - 5 pm & 6 pm - 11 pm
Monday-Friday
6 pm - 11 pm
Weekends
Omaha (402) 342-4233
Outstate 1-800-782-AIDS

Statewide V/TDD
1-800-782-AIDS

HIV Testing
7 - 10 p.m.
Mondays/Thursdays

CLASSIFIEDS



Women! Meet other women in a safe setting to network and discuss topics important to you! November's focus is on women's spirituality. Womyn Together, Mondays 7:00 pm Dale Clark Library, 15th and Douglas, Omaha

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

Lincoln Bisexual desires married white female, 30, non-smoker. Seeks genuine "feminine" friend age 24-40 for friendship and sexual sharings. I value sincerity, romance, understanding & squeaky-clean bodies. First ad. personal contact and correspondence desired from those outstate too. Respond with letter/phone to Lynne, POB 84007, Lincoln, 68501. Anxious, hurry!

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

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

Would like to meet Lesbians. I am a big woman but have heart full of LOVE for Ms. Right. Please call: 1-402-551-0080, ask for Vickie, or write 403 N. 40th St. #3, Omaha, NE 68131

LUBE!!!!-ForPlay Sensual Lubricant, contains "Nonoxonyl-9" (Spermicide). Long-lasting, non-staining, water soluble, 8oz. hygienic dispenser. Send \$8.00 to: Mid-America Mall Order, Dept. V11, 413 Keystone Drive, Blue Springs, MO 64015. **SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.**

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

ALL TIED UP? Would you like to be? Virgin white male, 38, wants healthy white, Asian, or Native American males, 19-30, who want to be bound and gagged for fun. No pain, no sex. Novices, couples, OK. Safe, sane, discreet. Phone gets quickest response. GFLH, PO Box 3671, Omaha, NE 68103

Needed Immediately!! Enthusiastic, energetic sales people to sell advertising in *The New Voice of Nebraska*. If you would like to help *The New Voice*, the best publication of its kind in the country, contact Sharon Van Butsel, 556-9907, for an interview.



**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

RESOURCE DIRECTORY ▼

NEBRASKA STATEWIDE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LINCOLN LINCOLN

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

Lesbian Support Group
(402) 472-2597
Women's Resource Center (Room) 17,
Nebraska Union, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE
68588. Informal weekly discussion
group for Lesbians

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

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

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

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

Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)
(402) 435-4686
Box 4374, Lincoln, NE 68504
Support group, parents, friends,
relatives of Lesbians/Gays. Meets
4th Tues.

The Common Woman
(402) 464-8309 1065 N. 33rd
(33 & Apple), Lincoln, NE 68503
Bookstore-Coffeehouse
(Women's social) Fri. 7pm-mid

The Wommin's Show
12 Noon-3pm every Sunday
KZUM Radio 89.3 FM Stereo.

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

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

OMAHA OMAHA

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

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

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

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

River City Bowling League
(402) 345-5118 Scott or
(402) 493-6118 Charlie

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

Two Wheelers of Omaha Motorcycle Club (TWO)
PO Box 3216 OMA, NE. 68103

UNO Student Group
WOMEN: Heidi (402) 554-0320
Box 134, UNO, 68162-0320
MEN: Wes or Rick
(402) 558-1186
P.O. Box 31351 Omaha, 68131
Lesbian and gay student
social/support group.

AIDS AIDS AIDS

INFORMATION & REFERRAL:

Nebraska AIDS Project
(402) 342-4233
1-800-782-AIDS
3624 Leavenworth St.
Omaha NE 68131
Support Groups, Buddy's,
Aids info & education

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

Lincoln Cancer Center
Barb Morton (402) 483-1827
4600 Valley Rd., Lincoln, NE 68510

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

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

CONFIDENTIAL TESTING:

Nebraska AIDS Project
Alternate test site, anonymous
testing Thurs. 7pm to 10pm
3624 Leavenworth Omaha, NE.

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

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Dept.
2200 St. Marys Ave., Lincoln, NE
(402) 471-7800

COUNSELING AND SUPPORT:

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

Parents/friends of Lesbian and Gays (PFLAG)
(402) 556-7481 Ruth
Box 3173, Omaha, NE 68103
Support for parents, friends,
relatives of lesbians/gays.

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

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

FINANCIAL:

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

LEGAL:

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

Mowbray, Chapin & Waite, P.C.
201 N. 8th St., Suite 242,
Lincoln, NE 68508
Jim (402) 476-3682

Omaha Bars, Clubs & Lounges

The Chesterfield, 1951 St. Mary's Ave.

The Diamond, 712 So. 16th St., 342-9695

The Max, 1417 Jackson, 346-4110

The Run, 1715 Leavenworth, 449-8703

Lincoln Bars, Clubs & Lounges

The Boardwalk, 20th & O Sts., 474-9741

The Club, 116 No. 20th St., 474-5692

Panic, 200 So. 18th St., 435-8784

Grand Island Bars, Clubs & Lounges

Chasin's, 4th & Walnut,



CELEBRATION
'89

SUNDAY, JAN. 8th
"TEXAS HEADLINERS"
Male Dancers
10:00 PM

SUNDAY, JAN 15th
"KATRINA KANE"
"Miss Max" Stepping-Down Show
9:30 PM

SUNDAY, JAN. 29th
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PAGEANT
9:00 PM

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556-7212**

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