

V O L U M E II

N O . IV

*The  
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A



# The New Voice

JUNE 1985

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# Our Turn

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## Comments and Opinions from The New Voice staff

The New Voice, unlike the Lincoln Gay News, has survived. In the summer of 1979, Kate and R. S., editors of the Lincoln Gay News, announced that the publication was coming to an end after thirteen months of publication. The main reason was staffing problems. Their staff had gone from 6 to 7 to 3 to 5 to 2 to 7 to 5 with weekly fluctuations too numerous to remember. Apathy and poor community support also led to the demise. The classified section had been discontinued due to lack of interest. The magazine had pleaded for help for months, but the pleas had been disregarded by those who took the Lincoln Gay News and R. S. for granted.

Lincoln and Omaha would be empty without gay organizations, bars, and businesses. Recently two groups folded in Omaha for lack of interest, and as of now there is no Gay and Lesbian Pride Week Committee to schedule activities for this year's celebration. Many groups struggle financially. Recent concerts by the River City Mixed Chorus had poor responses in both Omaha and Lincoln even though both events were extensively publicized. The performances were tremendous and done very professionally.

Here at The New Voice, this magazine is put together by a dedicated group of volunteers who do what we do because we love to do it, because we want to serve the community.

The New Voice is, in our opinion, one of the finest gay and lesbian publications in the country and nobody is paid anything for

This month some of us will take part in Gay Pride Week activities. A part of this is a celebration of the anniversary of the Stonewall incident. Not everyone is into history, political events, or civil rights.

putting it out. The majority of gay and lesbian publications in this country are profit-making businesses. I recently returned from Denver, where I met with the staff of Out Front and The Guide. Both publications have paid staff who are fine people and concerned about the community, but the main goal of both papers is to make a profit.

We are proud to reverse that. Our number one goal is service to the gay and lesbian community. Our secondary goal is keeping our heads above water financially. We are still paying off legal fees from a lawsuit that we won last August. We will not fold, but at the same time, we need more volunteers. Too few people are doing too much work.

Rather than knock the positive gay efforts of The New Voice, why not give us and other gay and lesbian organizations a hand? It would be a tragedy if someday we found ourselves with no organized gay and lesbian community at all because of lack of interest.

Every gay and lesbian organization in Lincoln and Omaha, including The New Voice, is made up entirely of volunteers, all of whom have other full or part-time jobs. Many volunteers are involved in more than one organization. Sometimes things are late, sometimes mistakes are made, sometimes there are other problems. But on balance, our community is much better off for its organizations than it would be without them.

--Larry Wiseblood

So, why do we take part in these activities?

To my knowledge, there are no Gay Pride Parades scheduled for the streets of Nebraska.

continued...

No pennants, banners, bumper stickers or flags being sold. Our declaration of our pride will be more subdued, but not less sincere.

Hopefully, there will be several occasions for gay people to get together and hold their heads high with a smile on their faces and say by their presence that they are not ashamed of being gay. There is a difference from being ashamed and in the "closet," acceptance of one's gayiety, and proclaiming pride in one's self as a gay person.

I am gay and proud to be a part of the gay community. I am proud of my ability to cope with the bigotry that threatens to oppress me, my courage to seek out other gay people for support and friendship, and my willingness to support others. I am proud of my association with various gay organizations and the support that I am able to

provide through finances, attendance of gatherings, and offering whatever talents I may have. I am also proud of my knowledge that I am one of my God's creations--just as I am--and that my God and I can and do love one another. My God didn't make no junk, and I am not about to make junk out of His handiwork.

My lifestyle has been condemned by some fellow gays--along with my choice of clothing, my ideas, and even my deodorant. However, I have learned not only to live with myself, but to be proud of who and what I am. As I get older, I do get better.

My hope for each of you reading this is that as you see other proud people who are also gay, that you will join the Gay Pride Group. It does feel good!

--Jerry Peck

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# AN EVENING WITH LYNN LAVNER

"Four women at a table playing cards.

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Second Woman: 'My son's a lawyer, and he gives me \$1,000 a month; tells me to go out on the town and have a good time.'

Third Woman: 'My son's an accountant, and he sends me \$1,500.00 a month; tells me to take a trip.'

Then she turns to the fourth woman and asks: 'Sadie, your homosexual son, what does he give you?'

Sadie replies, 'My son gives me

\$2,000 a month.'

'Two Thousand dollars!' says the third woman, 'Sadie, what does your son do for a living?'

'Nothing,' replies Sadie, 'He has a doctor, lawyer, and accountant for lovers.'

This, along with more gay-oriented jokes, songs, and conversation were the makings of "An Evening with Lynn Lavner," April 24, at 8:30 pm in the UNL Nebraska Union Ballroom.

Lynn, a New York native, has entertained for the past 2 1/2 years in New York gay bars. Only recently has she taken the show on the road, playing mostly to college campuses. She stressed the need for gay  
continued ....

student groups and remarked she thought the UNL student group was very organized.

Lavner interacted humorous conversation and song, with one particular song on a serious note about some friends who had contracted AIDS and died. Lynn said, "There's not one song or story I do on the stage that isn't true." Lynn also commented she usually plays to predominantly male audiences, and was pleased to see so many women in the crowd. An estimated head count from this reporter was 100

to 150 attendees.

Lynn said that after this show, she would head back to New York, only to leave again. When asked what she does to relax, Lynn replied, "I love opera, to play and watch tennis, and read the newspaper."

Simply said for such an enthusiastic person onstage. We hope to see Lynn again in the future. "An Evening with Lynn Lavner" left you feeling like you'd want to spend many more.

--Heidi

## Imperial Court News

Coronation V, "A Night on the Nile," took place Saturday, June 1, at the Carter Lake Warehouse grounds. The turnout was moderate. A few out-of-state courts attended. At this time, the Board of Governors wishes to extend congratulations to the new Emperor and Empress, and wish them success during their reign.

Some time this month, Emperor Gay and Empress Velvet will hold an inner tubing excursion down the Elkhorn River. Be on the lookout for more information as to time and date. Also during June, Investiture will be held. Date and location have not yet

been set.

The first function of the newly elected monarchs will be the 4th of July picnic held at the Carter Lake Warehouse grounds. This, as last year, should prove to be a great time.

Until next month,

Gary West, Emperor IV  
Vince Percy, Empress IV  
Scott Rezek, Sec. BoG

WANTED: People to contribute articles for consideration for publication in The New Voice. If it is in good taste and tastefully done it has a chance. Contact The New Voice, P. O. Box 80819, Lincoln, NE 68501

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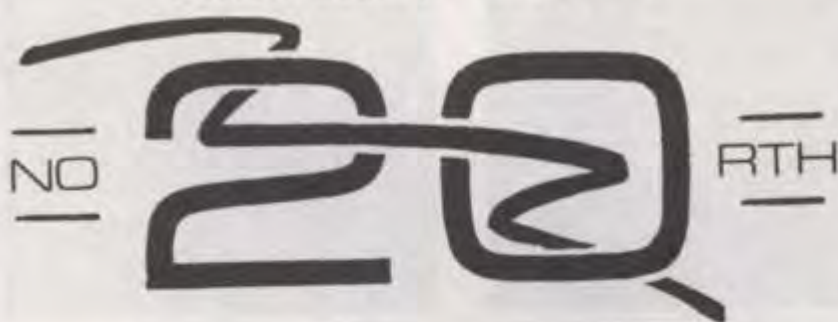
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## The River City Chorus Applauded

The River City Mixed Chorus received standing ovations and praise for their recent Spring Concerts, held in Omaha at the Unitarian Church, and in Lincoln on May 5 at the Wesley House Chapel. Although the audiences were small, the production and quality of the performances were maintained at a high level.

The Omaha concert included music from members of the Omaha symphony. A catered reception was held after the concert.

The Lincoln concert included an Awards Presentation, sponsored by The New Voice and a brief reception followed the concert.

The Lincoln concert began with the Cole Porter song "Another Openin', Another Show," and then was followed by three classical numbers--"Prisoner's Chorus" from Fidelio, "Salvation is Created," and "Four Waltzes from the Neue Liebeslieder." Selections from Oliver ended the first part of the show.

The second part of the program included popular music--"Now Is the Month of Maying," "Come Again, Sweet Love," "They Call the Wind Maria," "Do You Fear the Force of the Wind?" "April Showers," "Raindrops Keep Falling on my Head," "It's Raining Men," "Stormy Weather," and "Old Man Noah." John Seigler was music director for the performance. The New Voice magazine was co-sponsor for the Lincoln concert.

The River City Mixed Chorus presently has over 20 members. Contact the River City Chorus, P.O. Box 315, Omaha, NE 68101-0315 if you are interested in rehearsing for the Chorus or would like to help in some way.

--Larry Wisblood

The Alan Ayckbourn comedy, Table Manners, will be the next presentation at the Nebraska Directors' Theatre. The show will open on Friday, June 14, and run through Sunday, June 16. All performances will be at 8:00 p.m.

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Liesa Durant

## A Blizzard of Awards given at Screaming Mimi's

Performers rained with enthusiasm, and later it snowed as a vibrant, charismatic personality took six trophies at the 2nd Annual Screaming Mimi's Awards Presentation held May 19, at the Stage Door. Screaming Mimi's is an annual awards show dedicated to honoring female illusion.

Dietra Snow was the big vote getter as she received trophies for Best Dressed, Best Video, Best Solo, Best Personality, Best Character Impersonator, and Entertainer of the Year.

Liesa Durant was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Liesa has worked for 13 years advancing the art of female illusion in the Midwest. She has lived in Des Moines, Iowa City, Chicago, Mankato, Minneapolis, Omaha, and Lincoln. She has left a permanent impression of class, realism, and caring with everyone she has come in contact with. Her titles have included Miss Iowa City, Miss

Mankato, Miss Iowa, Miss City Sweetheart--Des Moines, Miss Stage Door 1980, Princess of the Imperial Court of Nebraska, and Princess Royal II & IV.

Liesa was happy and surprised when she received her award. Earlier in the show, she won Most Times Retired and took the award with humor and finesse.

Other award winners included Anne Marlow--Best Costume; Veronica O'Rouke--New Performer of the Year, and Best Comedy--Stella Dallas.

Stage performances were conducted by Jessica Tyler, Chantelle Lace, Dietra Snow, Rachel Dennison, Dorian Drake, Laura Lee, Liesa Durant, Veronica O'Rouke, Marsha Mess, Velvet, and Mysti Leigh. I was particularly impressed by Chantelle Lace's impersonation of Joan Rivers, and Jessica Tyler's wonderful rendition of Judy Garland and a series of impersonations from

continued....

award winners of a year ago.

Special thanks go to the MC's, Jessica Tyler and Kim Meske, who blended humor and professionalism in making the program go smoothly and keeping the interest of the audience. Other

acknowledgments go to Roger for lights and the bartender and waiters who worked that evening. Also, thanks to Mr. B, owner of the State Door, for the support he provided.

--Larry Wiseblood

## People of the Year Recognized

At an Awards Presentation held on May 5, at the Wesley Chapel, 5 Lincoln men and women were presented People of the Year Awards. The New Voice presented the awards at the intermission of the River City Mixed Chorus concert. The six people recognized for their hard work and dedication in the past year were:

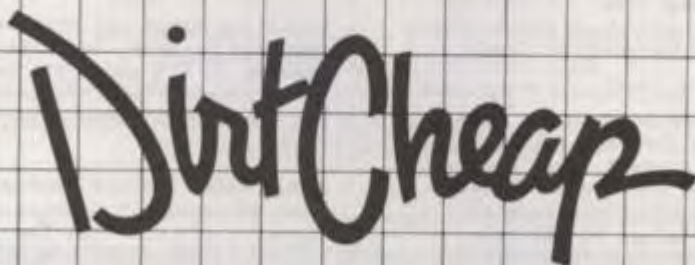
Fat Wall  
Dave Michael  
Ben Roe  
Father David Glaze

Dick Kurtenbach, and  
Maggie Roe.

A special Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Louis Crompton. The New Voice will feature the People of the Year in upcoming issues.

Omaha awards will also be presented in the near future, so look for announcements.

--Larry Wiseblood



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## Show Notes

The past month and a half, the illusionists here in Omaha have definitely been working overtime, perfecting their art, entertaining crowds, and having a great time--working and playing through it all.

"Screaming Mimi's" was definitely one of "THE" show events of the season--Congrats to Liesa Durant and Dietra Snow on all their special awards. Omaha met all the "new baby girls"--- Sabrina and Veronica, two who were especially stunning--and got reacquainted with its favorite established performers-- Velvet, Jessica, Mysti and Marsha Mess, in particular. Thanks, Kim, for a great show!

Foolish Follies brought out the outrageous in everybody. The Meat Packers hosted a riotous evening, poking fun at everyone and everything (in a dress) and had a special treat for the crowd--a male stripper, "Golden Boy," who definitely rates that stage name--Mercy! What a

hunk!

"Art or Bust," Anne Marlow's first show as Miss Stage Door, brought down her house. The Door is in for one madcap year if this show is any indication of what's to come.

On the road again, Miss Gay Nebraska's show at The Alley opened to a small, intimate, but warm crowd in spite of the tornado warnings. Jessica Tyler stole the show with her live comedy monologue, poking fun at all "the girls"; in fact, it was so successful, she was requested to repeat it at "Screaming Mimi's." A dynamite performer and an exquisite M.C., Jessica can really get a house shakin' and moving--4 hot shows and summer in Omaha hasn't even arrived yet.

For any reader who missed any of these "GEMS"--my condolences and better luck next time.

--C. Lace, M.G.N. 84/85

## FEATURES

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### Consumer Watch

Recently, the 24-Hour Nautilus Health Club went bankrupt in eight states and closed down facilities in Omaha, Lincoln, and in Bellevue. In Lincoln, The Iron Works, which was formerly called The Body Firm, abruptly closed its doors and did not notify its employees or customers.

I have belonged to both of these fitness centers in the past year and I was shocked and surprised by the closings. I lost a small sum of money, but since I was paying on a monthly contracted basis, I didn't lose a great deal. Other members who signed for long memberships and paid in cash were not so fortunate.

How can a person avoid this kind of a situation? That is hard to answer, as several health clubs have closed over the past few years. Does everyone remember The Cosmopolitan Lady, Little Bo's Health Club, and The Lincoln Health Club? The consumer's best bet is to go with a stable club which has long-term standing and a good reputation. I would recommend the YMCA, YWCA for those with tight budgets. For individuals with a little more to spend, try Wallbankers, The Prairie Life Center, or the Lincoln Racquet Club. The Alpha Fitness Centers and Sports Courts have also been around for awhile.

--Larry Wiseblood

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# Here and There Across the Nation

Gay Democratic activists reacted angrily to a statement by national party chairman Paul Kirk, Jr., calling gay rights a "fringe" issue that should not be a top priority of the party.

\* \* \*

Roman Catholic Archbishop John Quinn agreed to pay an out-of-court settlement of \$2,250 to the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale for his breach of contract with the Chorus.

\* \* \*

A second San Francisco police officer, Niall Philpott, was sentenced to serve eight months in county jail for beating two gay men in August 1984.

## --The Advocata

After being threatened with a lawsuit, a chain of health food restaurants in Honolulu, Hawaii, has agreed not to discriminate in the hiring of gay men and women. Healthy's Natural Fast Foods job application form warned people not to apply if they engaged in "homosexual activity or knowingly associate with people who do."

## --Out Front, Denver

Joining governors of four other states, New Mexico Governor Toney Anaya signed an executive order prohibiting employment discrimination by the state or by those who contract with the state on the basis of sexual preference. Other states with executive orders are New York, Ohio, California, and Pennsylvania.

## --Philadelphia Gay News

The Baltimore gay rights bill was defeated by the Baltimore City Council by a vote of 11-7. This marked the second time that the Council has considered legislation protecting gays and lesbians; in 1980, the Council

rejected a similar measure by a 12-6 vote.

## --Gay Paper, Baltimore

No Bad News, St. Louis' gay newspaper, announced that it will no longer use the Granite City Press Record-Journal as its printer after the printer refused to print the April edition unless the paper agreed to censor drawings promoting safe sex that depicted naked men touching one another.

\* \* \*

The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) wants civilian blood banks which collect blood at military installations to provide military health service agencies with the names of all service members who test positive for the HTLV-III antibody.

## --The Washington Blade

Gay activist Leonard Matlovich announced that he has submitted two proposed election initiatives to the Washington, D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics banning sex in D.C.'s gay bath houses. In 1975, Matlovich, a former Air Force sergeant, became the first person to challenge the military's ban on gay service members.

## --Bay Windows, Boston

Paul Cameron who spoke to the United Students Association (USA) in Fayetteville, Arkansas, was picketed by over forty lesbians and gay men from the campus of the University of Arkansas and the community. USA was formed to oppose the funding of the gay and lesbian student association. Cameron, a Lincoln, NE resident called for a quarantine of all "homosexual males" to curb the spread of AIDS.

## --Gay Community News, Boston

--Larry Wiselblood

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## Interview with Daniel Ondov

A former roommate of mine was raised by alcoholic parents. To this day the scent of alcohol makes him physically ill. Fundamentalist churches affect me in much the same way and for basically the same reason.

The Reverend Daniel Ondov, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church and member of the Board of Directors of ISIS, Paul Cameron's "research" organization, visited with me in his office not long ago. He told me that he really doesn't have much perspective on where ISIS is going because he has not been to any recent meetings due to time constraints. Mr. Ondov was also unwilling to speculate on the final outcome of what one newspaper columnist refers to as "the running feud between the fairies and the fundies." He also was not willing to say if he thought God would destroy America, saying he cannot read the mind of God.

He has no bashfulness about discussing the mind of God as it relates to homosexuality, though. "I am opposed to the evil of lesbianism and homosexuality based on the Scriptures and on common sense. God created two sexes, male and female. I pray God the homosexuals are not winning." He also said that America was becoming like Sodom and Gomorrah and suggested that if ever homosexuality becomes socially acceptable there is a possibility that this society may cease to exist.

When Jesus was on earth he spent a great deal of time with social outcasts such as prostitutes and Samaritans and much of his time castigating the religious leadership which condemned such. Jesus never mentioned homosexuality, yet Reverend Ondov suggested that the Scriptures are plain that Jesus opposed homosexuality. When I asked him if he thought

Jesus would serve on the board of ISIS, he laughed and said he did not know. It was one of two occasions during the interview that he laughed.

Pastor Ondov said that if he had a gay parishoner he would be "gentle but firm" though he was reluctant to speculate on how his church would respond to the individual. "I am a minister of the Gospel. I would be compelled to tell them they are breaking the laws of God but at the same time offer them the forgiveness of Christ, contingent on repentance." He did admit, though, that it would be difficult for him to continue a friendship if he found out a friend were gay because "I know how homosexuals are perverting the country." Of course, from a statistical standpoint, it is highly unlikely that Daniel Ondov has no homosexual parishoners.

The fundamentalist approach to homosexuality leaves a number of unanswered questions. For example, if homosexuals choose their sexual orientation, when does this choice take place? Your reporter cannot imagine someone being heterosexual up until one certain moment and then choosing to be gay. Is it a gradual process? I asked Reverend Ondov about this, and he said he didn't know but would guess it happens when a person first started practicing homosexuality. And if, as Ondov asserts, it is impossible to be a Christian and a practicing homosexual at the same time, how does fundamentalism account for the large number of Christians down through the ages who have been "practicing homosexuals" (whatever that is) including Charles Wesley, Bernard of Clairvaux, St. Augustine, and Corrie ten Boom?

--Mel Dahl

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## Gay Couples Stages IV & V

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in this article, I will move into stage four and five. These stages are taken from McWhirter and Mattison's book The Male Couple. These stages span from five to ten years in stage four and eleven to twenty years in stage five.

Each stage builds on the past stages. The growth toward independence in stage three continues to grow in stage four. They have worked through the problems of monogamy in some way and have learned to deal with conflict in their relationship. There is usually increased collaboration on projects, and this can mean increased financial security and a more comfortable life-style.

The trust level continues to grow. The realization that the other partner is going to be there begins to feel more secure. Couples also have more options here. One partner can change jobs or go back to school easier because he or she knows that the other partner will be there if things get rough.

The intensity of the first few years is less. This means more energy for other things. The intense romantic times are still there, but not as often. Sometimes when looking at couples in this stage from an outsider's viewpoint, they can look boring or dull. This is misleading because the intensity one sees in the earlier stages takes a lot of energy and does not leave much time for individual growth and development of new friends.

The next stage again builds on the last one. For men, this stage brings a greater sense of trust. Many couples will now merge their financial resources if they have not already done so. This may be something that women have already accomplished. It is also a time of

change for each individual. Gail Shesky, in her book Passages, talks about adult stages of development, and she identifies a stage in the middle thirties and forties as being part of the midlife passage. This time period for men and women affects their intimate relationships. Men begin dealing with the reality of where their careers will go before they retire. Many times women are just beginning their careers if they have been raising children up to this point and have much more need for independence and autonomy. Gay couples have some advantages in that each partner knows what the other partner is going through during this stage.

What McWhirter and Mattison found in male couples was increased monotony and taking each other for granted. The men had been together for so long that they lost that sense of the other person being special. This, along with their own developmental stage or passage, caused problems in the relationship.

In the later part of stage five is where I have seen male couples living parallel lives. I have not seen women couples in my practice at this stage and cannot compare. Many couples complain that the romance has gone out of their relationship and sometimes talk about dating each other again. Couples, once they are able to identify what is going on in the relationship, can be very creative at this point to bring back some of the earlier feelings.

It may sound pessimistic or depressing to talk about some of the problems in stage five, but couples also have more resources to deal with the problems too. In the straight community, couples have been using "Marriage Encounters"

continued ...



*Thanks! Board-Walk!*

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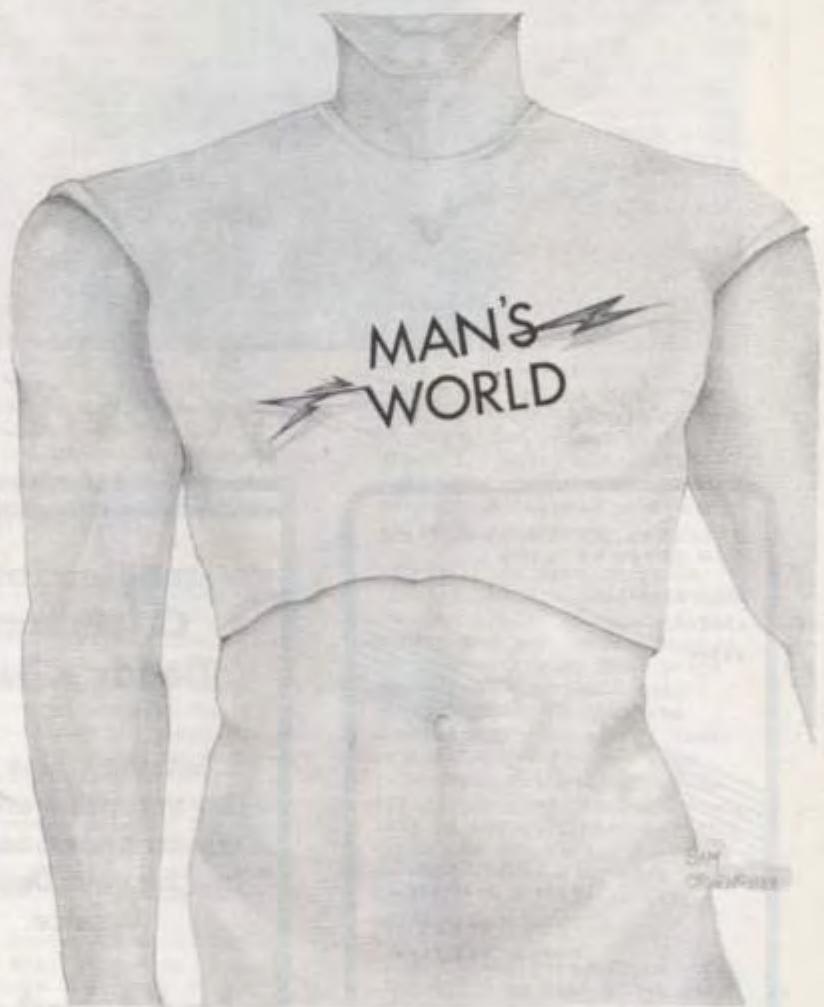
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to help deal with some of these problems. Couples do not necessarily need intensive therapy here, but for the most part, they need to learn to talk to each other again. Working through the problems in this stage usually means being able to move into the next stage and staying together

er until one of the partners dies. Maybe it is time that we started gay "Couple Encounters" weekends to help each other communicate better with our partners. Keep in touch with your partner. So long until next time.

--Mike Fitzpatrick

## Restaurant Review

Ever get tired of the same old hamburger routine from fast food restaurants? How about a fresh change in a nice atmosphere? A large hamburger on a freshly baked sesame seed bun. And over 20 condiments to add to your burger, including cheese sauces and plenty of vegetables. I know this sounds like a commercial, but I was quite pleased and pleasantly surprised when I first went to Flakey Jake's.

Flakey Jake's recently open to large crowds, but even the wait was enjoyable, as I watched the bakery make buns and fix brownies and cookies, which are also sold for take-out.

Flakey Jake's features a bar and an ice cream parlor that offers shakes, malts, sundaes, cones, and a freshly baked brownie a la mode.

Flakey Jake's also offers other items besides hamburgers. You can choose from 25 items at the create-your-own-salad bar. These items include a taco salad, giant taco, baked potato with your selection of toppings,

## Flakey Jake's

chili, hot dog, and a steak, fish, or chicken sandwich.

Prices are also reasonable. I found I didn't pay much more than if I went to Wendys or Burger King. You can also refill your tea, coffee, or soft drinks at no extra charge.

Flakey Jake's only drawback, for me, was a family atmosphere with lots of children. I give Flakey Jake's an excellent rating of 9.

I know I'll be back. Flakey Jake's is located near Gateway Shopping Center in Lincoln and one recently opened in Omaha near 72nd and Dodge.

--Larry Wiseblood

### CORRECTION

The New Voice magazine regrets not mentioning the author of Walkin' Matilda, a book reviewed in our April 1985 issue. The author, Clayton R. Graham, is a Lincoln resident and his latest book is set in the city of Lincoln.

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## Police Attitude towards Lincoln's Gays

When Burt Neuborne, Legal Director of the American Civil Liberties Union, was in town a few months back, he told an audience that one of the differences between American police departments and European police departments is that American police do not automatically instill terror into all citizens, the criminal as well as the law abiding.

Chief Dean Leitner told me that the Lincoln Police Department considers itself a professional law enforcement agency that bends over backward to provide the same protection to all, regardless of sexual orientation or other minority status. He pointed out that last year every officer in the department was required to attend a sensitivity training session, at a cost to the city of \$6,000, in an effort to correct attitudes within the department about the values, feelings, and experiences of different people.

What then of conflicting signals we receive from the police department? On the one hand, there was an incident known as Antelope Park, a time that will live in infamy. A source from inside the mayor's office told me that Antelope Park happened in large part because of bad advice from the City Legal Department. Two sources within the police department told me that there will be police presence within Antelope Park, but not to the extent of another full scale operation. You, dear reader, are advised to use the greatest of caution if you are planning to go to the park this summer. Chief Leitner is of the opinion that sex in Antelope Park is indecent and said the police take a dim view of it. At the same time, there are other signals that the police department is becoming more progressive.

Last summer, we all had an opportunity to witness this first

hand when a delegation from the First Church of the Vinegar Baptism decided to leaflet outside the Boardwalk. When the police were called, they arrived within minutes and dealt with the situation as one would have expected them to deal with it at any other bar: the harassers were instructed to keep their distance, and the police were polite to all parties concerned. Not that many years ago, the police would have arrived three hours later and raided the bar. Two years ago, the police department helped bring to justice some drunk teenagers harassing people outside the Sanctuary.

The police department's attitude toward gay people is changing, just as its attitude toward blacks and other minorities is changing. Chief Leitner told me that he well remembered days of racism which are not over but certainly lessened. Gay people have not yet begun to make the strides toward social acceptance that are crucial, but at the same time, some progress has been made.

One of the biggest problems that any large department has in changing the attitudes of its members is not so much with the recruits as the old guard. It is much more difficult to unteach bigotry to an old bigot than a young bigot. I spoke with five people who have regular dealing with the police department and the unanimous feeling was that the vestiges of anti-gay bigotry that remain are mainly in the older officers.

I asked Chief Leitner in parting if he had anything special he wanted to tell the gay community. His response was that gay people who have been victimized by criminals should not hesitate to contact the police department and that the police will investigate crimes against gay people just as vigorously

continued ...

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as against anyone else. He also said that the Internal Affairs Division wants to know about any instances of harassment and police misconduct that may occur. Police officers, of course, have the same human nature the rest of us do. That means that offic-

ers do occasionally treat people in a less than fair manner. Chief Leitner believes such instances to be isolated aberrations, however, and told me such aberrations will not be tolerated.

--Mel Dahl

## Gail's Hit List

- \* 1. ANGEL  
Madonna
- \* 2. DO YOU WANNA GET AWAY  
Shannon
- \* 3. I FEEL LOVE/JOHNNY  
Bronski Beat
- \* 4. WALKING ON SUNSHINE  
Katrina and the Waves
- \* 5. BABY COME AND GET IT  
Pointer Sisters
- 6. THINGS CAN ONLY GET  
BETTER  
Howard Jones
- 7. IN MY HOUSE  
Mary Jane Girls
- \* 8. GIVE ME YOUR LOVE  
Fun Fun
- \* 9. PLAY ME  
Rebbie Jackson
- \* 10. SHOUT  
Alex Brown
- \* 11. TOUCH  
Secession
- \* 12. INVISIBLE  
Alison Moyet
- \* 13. IF LOOKS COULD KILL  
Pamala Stanley
- \* 14. INTO THE GROOVE  
Madonna
- \* 15. THE NATURE OF LOVE  
Ministry
- \* New Entry

## Nate & Eric— fiction

### COUNTRY COUSIN

"Hi. I'm Frannie! Eric's cousin." Nate's eye blinked a few times, focused and beheld a young Jessica Lange in the doorway.

"Come in. Forgive the mess. We sort of had a party last night."

The smart coming out cocktail party for Sarah's mother had turned into one of the biggest bashes west of the mighty Missouri. Frannie had Nate made their way through glasses of wine in various degrees of fullness, overflowing ashtrays, half-eaten festive party snacks, and tasteful decorations.

"You two are gay, right?"

Nate was taken aback. "How did you know? Is the pink flamingos by the palm? Or the Bette Davis blow up?"

"I think it was the Gay Pride Week print." Nate felt relieved. He was going through a butch

stage.

"It doesn't matter to me," Frannie added, "I'm a has been."

"You are not a has been. I think you're quite attractive."

"I didn't say 'has been.' I said 'lesbian.'"

Nate and Eric decided to take Frannie to the bar that night. Once at the bar, the mix of last night's party and tonight's first cocktail had Nate feeling festive. It wasn't long before he was up on the speakers dancing. He saw Frannie talking with an attractive middle-aged woman. It was Kate Lovins, Sarah's mother. He caught their eye and waved them over.

Frannie jumped up beside him and gave him a kiss.

"Did you know she is your room-mate's mother?"

continued....

"But of course," Nate replied and bent over to help Mrs. Lovins up.

Instead of Mrs. Lovins coming up, Nate came down in the arms of a big, big, big heterosexual.

"Hi, big boy. Let me down gently." Nate fell with a thud.

"Homo!"

"Breeder!"

And with this witty exchange, Lurch threw the first punch.

"Get him, Girls!" yelled a Drag Queen. Seven beaded bags

descended on Lurch until he was well out of the bar.

"You were wonderful, Nate," Frannie cooed as she tended to his cut eye.

"It was nothing. Does this make me butch? Where is Eric? Have I disgraced the family?"

"Are you kidding! He was laughing so hard that he split his pants and went home to change."

With that, she gave him a hug.

"Welcome to the club," Nate smiled.

--Tom Pasco

## SUMMER MADNESS

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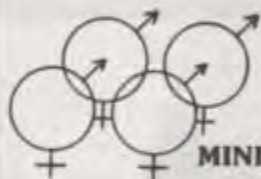
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# Astrology— Cancer

CANCER  
The Insistent  
June 21 - July 21

Ruling Planet: the Moon  
Element: Water  
Key Words: I Feel  
Mode of Expression: Cardinal

Fourth sign of the Zodiac and the first of the Summer Triad, Cancer is the second Cardinal, or Active, sign and the first of the Water signs. The Water signs are the feeling signs: they deal with emotions, feelings, sensitivity, and the spiritual/psychic aspects of life or being.

As a Cardinal sign, Cancer can act directly and decisively on situations. Cancer is less direct and impulsive than Aries and is more impelled through/by feelings and is more subjective and assertive on an emotional level. Often action may lack a rational base. Cancer is emotionally based, not rationally based.

Cancer represents the great Cosmic mother--protective,

nurturing, sustaining, active and vital. Cancer is the sign that most feels feelings, especially in connection with the home and family (by blood or by affection).

As Cancer represents the "inside of things," it is not surprising that much that goes on with Cancer, before action is taken (either verbal or physical) is also internal. There is an underlying drive to achieve security, physical and emotional, which may or may not be recognized by the native. Cancer is the most subconscious of the signs, as well as the most feeling, and much is always hidden.

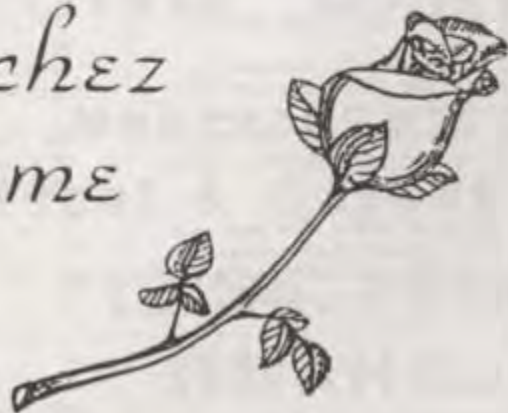
By sun sign, Cancer is least compatible with Libra and Aries (signs in square aspect) and Sagittarius (fire) and Aquarius (air).

Cancer is most compatible with Scorpio and Pisces (the other water signs) and Taurus and Virgo (earth signs).

continued on next page....

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A relationship with Capricorn (the third earth sign and opposed to Cancer in the Zodiac) can be satisfying to both if a balance is attained.

A Cancer/Cancer relationship,

## Letters

Dear Editor,

I wanted to say hello to all of you Nebraskans I didn't get to meet during my recent trip to Lincoln.

A friend and I from Northwestern University in Illinois went to check out a university we had never seen before: we had heard Nebraska would bore us. On the contrary, it angered us.

We were at "The Lucky Lady" Saturday night and bored with girls who wouldn't dance (my friend is straight). I convinced him to dance with me. A good song came on, and we went out and had a blast for about four songs. Then the management asked us to leave, took our names, and said we'd never be allowed in the bar again.

Unfortunately, Lincoln has no

---

Dear Larry & New Voice Staff:

It is hard to express my appreciation for the award received Sunday. It is a great honor to be accepted and recognized in the gay/lesbian community.

The goals we share are many and our frustrations are great, but our strength and confidence are growing. Our achievements,

---

New Voice:

Julie Morgan's article, "Building a Good Relationship," is a touching narrative about two women in a loving, beautiful relationship, and I appreciate the sensitivity with which it was written. I question, how-

as with all same sign combinations can be very good or impossible to deal with, rarely in between.

--Phoenix

protection laws as does my native Los Angeles, and we have no recourse in this incident. But I can ask why.

I can say that I didn't know this sort of thing really happened to people. I can sympathize with the struggle of you Nebraskans and wish you support. I think Nebraska can retain its midwestern charm and still air more liberal attitudes about gays. I hope the Journal-Star publishes my letter to them regarding this incident and I hope you all will think twice before patronizing "The Lucky Lady." If I'm ever in Lincoln again, I'll go to some of the bars!

Sincerely,

Karl Rosenquist  
Evanston, Illinois

---

though they may sometimes seem small, are exciting and build a sound foundation for the future.

May God be with all of us and cradle our efforts in his strength.

Love,

Pat Wall, Co-Chair  
Community of Grace

---

ever, the assertions that "many gay young women get bored quickly with a relationship, moving continually from one lover to the next." This is just not true among the women that I know personally; in fact, most lesbians (and straight women) seek long-lasting,

continued ....

committed relationships--and struggle to develop and maintain their relationships. Some don't work out in the long run, but not very many lesbian wimmin intentionally skip from one lover to another. I suspect that Julie Morgan is still thinking in terms of her past in the male community where a lot of gay and heterosexual men do move in and out of relationships (the very nature of these relationships being fairly different from ours).

Also, I know there are not a lot of gay (or straight) men who understand why lesbians choose to spell "women" without the m-e-n. For us, it is a conscious usage recognizing our autonomy--we are saying that wimmin need not base their gender, sexuality, and total identity on men or male standard. We no longer accept the idea that woman is the opposite of everything male. While I do not expect any woman to inheritantly share our consciousness, I wonder if Julie Morgan understands this ideology considering the origin of her perspective (as male).

--Sandy Vopalka

May 22, 1985

To point out that many young gay women get bored quickly with a relationship, moving continually from one lover to the next, is not to deny there are long lasting relationships.

We all know of relationships which are not short-lived, including the one featured in the article. And in fact, that was the reason for the article, to offer an example and give hope and inspiration to gay couples working to achieve a lasting and meaningful relationship. It can work! Again, that is precisely the point!

Whether I understand the ideology behind spelling women/wimmin or woman/womon is one thing.

Whether I choose to embrace the concept in my writing is another. Obviously in the May New Voice article, I chose not to.

--Julie Morgan

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Femme changed as Priscilla  
Mueller became main stockholder,  
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other owners of the two bars  
include Steve Ward, Mike Rater,  
Kelly Erisman, and Barb

Screibner. Under the new  
ownership, the complex now  
claims to be completely owned  
and operated by gays/lesbians.

Mike Rater, who manages Imag-  
inations, would like to welcome  
the community to the bar and  
hopes he can work with gay or-  
ganizations and business to  
unite the lesbian/gay community  
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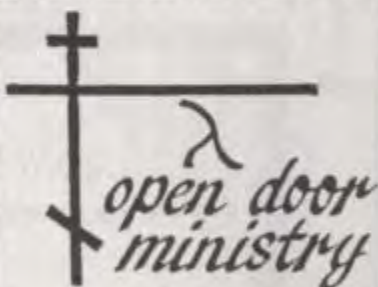
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