



The Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center Presents

the

GAYZETTE

News and Events for the GLBTA Communities

"Brokeback Mountain" Wins Three Oscars



Tom Musbach, PlanetOut Network

Hollywood's biggest night this year was also one of its gayest, as "Brokeback Mountain" -- a film depicting a deep, longstanding love between two men -- won three Academy Awards, including one for director Ang Lee.

The 78th annual awards were presented Sunday by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Hollywood, Calif.

During his acceptance speech, Lee saluted the "Brokeback" writers for showing the importance of "the gay men and women whose love is denied by society."

"Brokeback Mountain," an epic about the love between two ranch hands that endures over two decades despite the men's respective marriages, also won awards for best adapted screenplay (Diana Ossana and Larry McMurtry) and best score (Gustavo Santaolalla).

The film was heavily favored to win the best picture Oscar, but "Crash" received the honor instead.

In a very strong field of best actor nominees, Philip Seymour

Hoffman of "Capote" won the Oscar for his multifaceted portrayal of gay author Truman Capote during the creation of his masterpiece, "In Cold Blood." Hoffman's win was no surprise, as his work in the film won universal acclaim and swept nearly all of the major acting awards.

"This has been a landmark year for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender-inclusive films," said Neil G. Giuliano, president of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). "These are films with an emotional authenticity that have clearly connected with both gay and straight audiences alike. By telling our stories, this year's Oscar nominees have helped raise the visibility of LGBT issues and have given millions of

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Come Have A Great Time

Once again that wacky bunch of folks known as the AA Gang is throwing a bang-up event. There will be a raffle for door prizes and Dianne has donated a diamond bracelet for the auction. Come down to the MAX for a truly different evening at the Max, Friday March 31st at 9:00PM. You know we all look good in diamonds. Maybe this time it will be YOU! Come have some fun and enjoy the show and auction. Proceeds go to the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center right here in downtown Omaha.

March 17, 2006 - March 31, 2006

Published every two weeks by the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center
P.O. Box 8583, Omaha, Nebraska 68108 (402) 341-0330
Web Site: www.rainbowoutreach.org email the GAYZETTE: news@rainbowoutreach.org

Jeremy & James
 Will be hosting Game Day at the Center
 1719 Leavenworth St
 Sundays: 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Come down and check out the games we have available or bring your favorite game and show us how to play.

Ages 5 – 105.

Parents bring the kids down and play or read some of the books in our Library while they play.



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2833 South 87th Avenue • Omaha, Nebraska 68124



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- Are you a man who has sex with other men?
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Check it out On-Line
<http://www.projectsamson.org>

Helping the Center is Easier than Ever!

The Center is now accepting donations of household items that can be sold on eBay to raise money!

We accept donations during regular Center hours or arrange for local pickup.

We are currently accepting the following types of items:

Clothing & Accessories
 Working Electronic Equipment



Houseware & Giftware
 Tools
 Jewelry
 Books
 Music CD's
 DVD's & VHS tapes
 Video Games
 And more.....

If you are not sure if we can accept an item, call (402) 341-0330 or email: auctions@rainbowoutreach.org and we will be happy to assist you!

Please Remember; All Donations to the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center are TAX DEDUCTIBLE!!!

GAYZETTE AD RATES, PRINTED COPY AND ON THE WEB

Whole Page	7 ½ X 10	\$100.00	Half Page	7 ½ X 4 ¾	\$ 50.00
Fourth Page	3 ¾ X 4 ¾	\$ 25.00	Business Card		\$ 15.00

All ads must be camera ready. Payment must accompany ad. Checks should be made payable to Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center. 10% Discount for on-going ads of any size. Payment and ads should be delivered to the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, P.O. Box 8583, Omaha NE 68102 on or before the deadline or emailed to news@RainbowOutreach.org. Please email or call ahead to reserve space. We reserve the right to refuse any ad which we deem to be inappropriate.

Ad Deadlines: Friday, Mar 24, for Publication Mar 31st Friday, Apr 7, for Publication Apr 14th

FLIXX VIDEO BAR

www.flixxvideobar.com

THE WHITE PARTY

3.25.2006

9PM-1PM

DON'T WAIT UNTIL MEMORIAL DAY
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FOOD, FESTIVITIES & LOTS OF GREEN BEER!



THE KINGSMEN!

MARCH 17TH DOORS OPEN @ 9PM
OLD MARKET EVENT CENTER

PIANO BAR HAPPY HOUR

TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS

6:30-8:30PM

FOOD, FRIENDS & COCKTAILS...



WET BOXER CONTEST

FRIDAY MARCH 31ST @ 11:00PM

\$100 FIRST PRIZE



OLD MARKET EVENT CENTER

SPRING BREAK BRUNCH

SUNDAY BRUNCH & BINGO

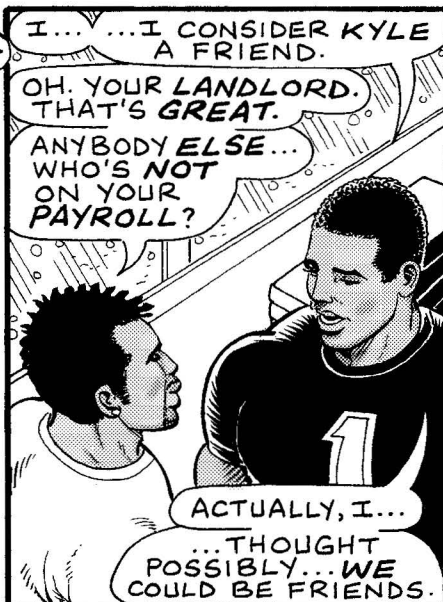
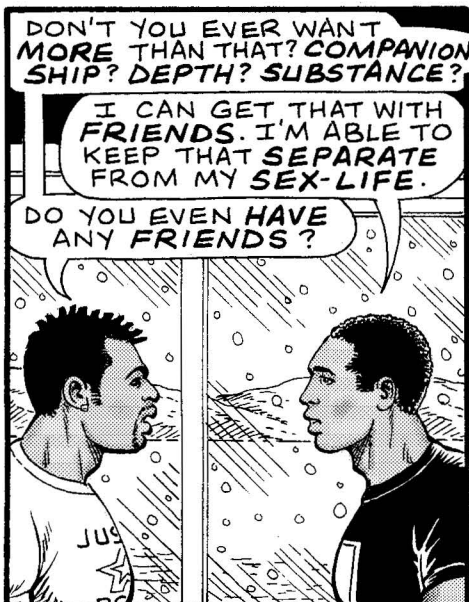
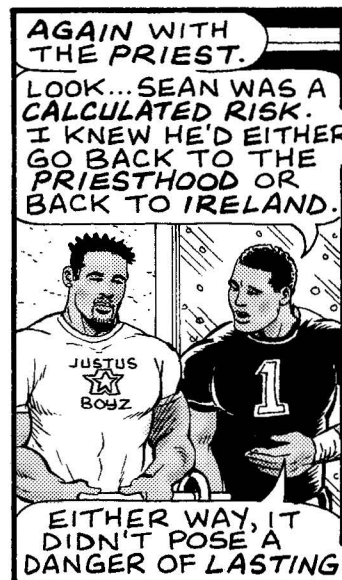
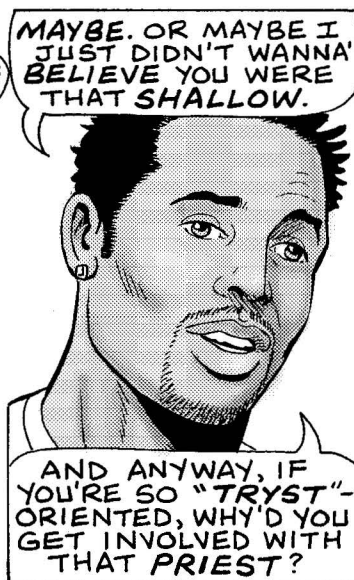
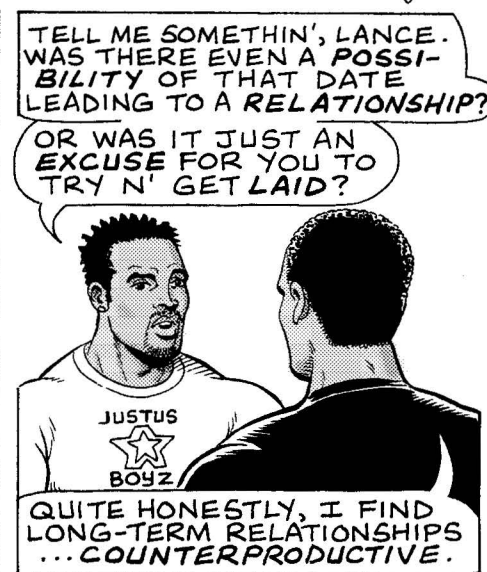
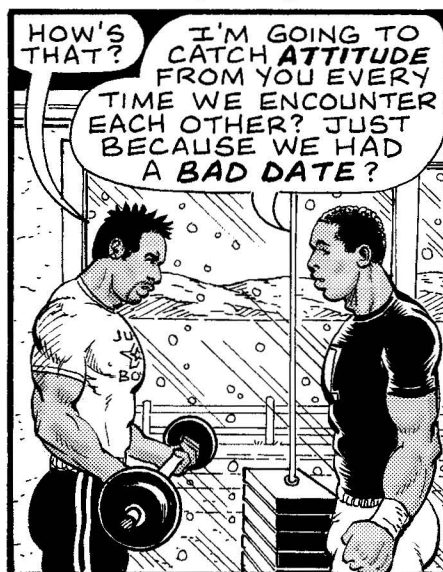
MARCH 26TH 12 PM \$10/ PERSON

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Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox



“Attention: Omaha area GLBT homeowners in trouble! There is a solution!”

Candice Zoucha - Omaha, NE

Many Omaha area gay and lesbian homeowners who have had trouble with credit cards and so on have found that there is *one* place in Omaha where they can be treated with respect.

No “better than you” attitude, no “b.s.,” no guilt just for being gay or lesbian.

At last, finding financial help doesn't have to be like a “coming out” at Thanksgiving dinner with everyone pointing fingers, and finding fault.

Mindy Hahne, of Service First Home Mortgage in Omaha's Midtown area works at a GLBT friendly outfit that *specializes* in helping Omaha area GLBT homeowners in need.

Hahne says she takes great pride in being gay and lesbian friendly. And treating the folks she helps like family.

“A lot of people in the GLBT community don't realize that even *without* gay marriage, or civil unions, there are already several equal protections in place for gay and lesbians as real property owners! Maybe because *no one else* wants to tell you about them!” Mindy says.

“Being gay or lesbian doesn't have to be a barrier to equal treatment anymore!” Hahne says.

Hahne has helped many gays and lesbians over the years, many personal friends.

“I am the one person in town that *specializes* in helping gay and lesbian folks with debt consolidation, cash out, credit repair and so on!” Hahne says.

“These are good people with damaged credit reports and/or hard to prove income! Not through any fault of their own! I *specialize* in helping the gay and lesbian community get a *fair shake* from the financial industry!” Hahne says.

Hahne says she has a lot of connections to Wall Street money, “I have personal relationships with investors *nationwide*, even *internationally*! Fair-minded people who want to fund loans for people with past credit problems!” she says.

“Many of them have a social conscience! And they take pride in helping gay and lesbians in particular! Just like I do! They use my *proprietary* system as their own little bit of “*social activism*!” Hahne says.

These investors are people who buy “pools” of mortgages of 50 million dollars at a whack! 50 million bucks! It's taken me 4 long years and it's been *really* hard to find these “fat cats!” People who are “like-minded” about what I do for the Omaha gay and lesbian community!” Mindy says.

“Not only is it *illegal* to discriminate against the GLBT community, it's just plain *wrong*!” Hahne says. “The self-limiting perceptions held by some in the community are just as much of a problem as the crooked people who perpetrate the discriminatory practices themselves!” she says.

Hahne says, “It's my *personal mission* to change the mindsets! And to *liberate everyone* from the restraints!”

“I grew up in a house where we didn't have much money! And my parents understood just how money *really* works even less! Nowadays, it's a lot of fun for me to help people get control over their money and their lives!” Mindy says.

Mindy Hahne can be reached at 934.9248 x1010. “I'm *really busy*, so those who don't get a live answer from me need to leave a detailed message and then give me at least 24 business hours to return the call!” **Or to learn more, you can call 800-223-6724...option 1...then ext 8619.** Just listen in to the free-recorded message.

SFHMI is a Nebraska Residential Mortgage Licensee, an Equal Opportunity Lender, an “Honor Roll” member of the Heartland Better Business Bureau and Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce.



Mindy Hahne with her dogs Piper and Emerson.

ROOMMATE WANTED

Share Large Full Furnished House

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- *Smokers okay
- *Nice Yard, On Street Parking, Laundry
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\$300.00/Month - Utilities Paid
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ICON Sets Date For Coronation 26

The Imperial Court of Nebraska has set the date for Coronation 26, From Fantasy to Reality...Dare to Dream, for Saturday, July 8, 2006. The weekend's festivities will begin Thursday, July 6 with the In-Town Show at The MAX where Emperor Dan and Empress Lana thank the members of the Royal Family, local and state titleholders and organizations who have helped them throughout the year. Friday, July 7 DC's Saloon will host ICON's Out-Of-Town Show for guest dignitaries followed by a Bus Tour. Coronation 26 will begin at 6:00 PM Saturday, July 8th at the DoubleTree Hotel Downtown Omaha. For more information regarding these and other ICON events, visit our website at www.icon.impcourt.org.



Senior 50+ Group Meeting

A new group has begun regular social meetings at the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center at 1719 Leavenworth Street. The next meeting is on Saturday, March 18th, from 7 until 10PM.

If you're 50 or older, or like to socialize with your older peers, share your experiences and viewpoints, then this group is for you. Not into the bar scene? Then stop in for a visit, enjoy some great conversation, and make some new friends. The event is free and open to everyone.

Don't be an old Scrooge, come on down and have some fun!



The preceding is a paid advertisement.

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Serving Our Community for 21 Years

*Did you know that you can see the entire **GAYZETTE** on our web site?*

Go to:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

*And click on the Publications link.
George W. Bush reads the Gayzette.
(Ok, he just looks at the pictures.)*

GLBT Travel Specialist

Whether you are attending a GLBT event or just want to get away, I can assist in planning a memorable vacation to any destination in the world!



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Phone: 397-1314 * Fax: 397-2817E
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OMAHA PFLAG

Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday 7:00 P.M.
Location: First United Methodist Church
7020 Cass, Omaha, Nebraska
Web Site: www.pflag-omaha.org

P.O. Box 390064
Omaha, NE 68139-0064

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Omaha's Leading Gay Realtor!

Tim Reeder

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Tim Reeder has been serving the Omaha metro area GLBT community since 1998. Licensed in Nebraska and Iowa, Tim has helped hundreds of people like you buy and sell their homes. Backed by the areas largest & best real estate firm CBS Home, Tim has the tools, resources and experience to make your next real estate transaction an easy one. Call Tim

Update with Mr Gay Pride Nebraska

"I can't believe my year is almost over I have less the 100 days as your title holder," declared Johnnie Richards, the current reigning Mr Gay Pride Nebraska, "What a great year it has been since I won the Nebraska Pride title last year at Pride. I have been privileged to perform with many organizations and area performers this year including HGRA, MCC, ICON, and even performing in Kansas City! To date I have raised over \$500 specifically toward various charities which I will announce later this spring."

"The year isn't over yet. . ." he added, "we still have several shows before I step down at Nebraska Pride 2006. A country show and several other shows are still upcoming on the calendar, but the one I'm most excited about is TURNABOUT on Broadway. . .where Pride Boys Become Pride Girls! coming up at The MAX."

Johnnie says he'll be donning a dress, heels, face and wig to raise money for Nebraska Pride. "Not only will I be in full tilt drag for this show," said the good-natured title holder, "but I have many of the Rainbow Celebrations Executive Board [the producers of pride] getting dressed up as well. This will be one show you don't want to miss as all of us boys (and a few girls) will be performing Broadway show numbers for the night. Pride TURNABOUT doesn't happen every year, so this is truly a special show when everyone involved actually shows up to strut their stuff as beautiful (or not so beautiful) ladies for the night! In fact, this may very well be the only chance you get to see a couple of these guys as girls.....EVER!" Proceeds from the show will benefit Nebraska Pride 2006 and Mr Gay Pride Nebraska's charity account.

Brokeback Mountain Wins 3 Oscars Continues.....

Americans a greater understanding of who we are."

Despite a groundbreaking lead performance as a transgender woman coming to terms with herself and her family, Felicity Huffman of "Transamerica" lost to Reese Witherspoon, who portrayed country music legend June Carter Cash in "Walk the Line."

Nonetheless, Huffman's performance remains a milestone for transgender visibility.

"The success of this film has created an opening for innumerable conversations about transgender issues," said Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality. "In addition to her knockout performance, Felicity's grace and generosity in interviews have helped to create an environment in which people are not scared to ask important questions about the lives of transgender people."

The prominence of gay themes in this year's Oscar nominations opened opportunities to make political points -- and jokes --

during the ceremony. Host Jon Stewart made several gay jokes in his opening monologue, including one about how "Brokeback Mountain" showed that "not all gay people are virile cowboys. Some are actually effete New York intellectuals."

On Saturday a group of marriage equality activists, including the Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Metropolitan Community Churches, called on nominees who accept Academy Awards for gay, transgender or progressive-themed movies to "come out publicly" in favor of same-sex marriage. The activists hoped to capitalize on the tradition of political commentary during acceptance speeches, but none of Sunday's winners mentioned the issue.

After stirring controversy with innuendo and outrageous behavior at the Golden Globes, gay designer Isaac Mizrahi toned down his act Sunday while interviewing celebrities on the red carpet for the E! channel. None of his antics were as surprising as when he fondled Scarlett Johansson's breasts and asked Eva Longoria about shaving her pubic hair.

Anti-gay Group to Curb Funeral Pickets

Kelly Kurt, Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. -- A small Kansas church known for its anti-gay protests said Wednesday it will stop picketing soldiers' funerals in states with new laws against the practice.

"We're not going to get arrested. We obey the law," said Shirley Phelps-Roper, an attorney and member of Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, a fundamentalist congregation headed by her father, the Rev. Fred Phelps.

Westboro Baptist has outraged mourning communities across the nation by showing up at soldiers' funerals with signs that read "God Hates Fags" or "God Made IEDs," a reference to roadside bombs. Members of the congregation contend soldiers are being struck down by God for defending a nation that tolerates homosexuality.

In response, several states have passed or considered legislation restricting when and where pickets may demonstrate at funerals. Violators can be fined or jailed.

Westboro Baptist canceled demonstrations at funerals this past week in Oklahoma, Indiana, Missouri and Wisconsin, which have new laws limiting such protests.

Shirley Phelps-Roper said the church is considering legal challenges to the new laws. "We're waiting until all the legislatures are over to see what tattered shreds they've left the Constitution in," she said.

Until we can all walk with our heads held high...
 Until we can all walk the hallways of education unafraid...
 Until we can all walk along the street holding hands safely...
 Until we can all walk down the wedding aisle as equals...



...we will walk to help create that world...



GLBT Center presents 2006 **PrideWalk**

Benefitting GLBT-allied Organizations

GLSEN Omaha - ICON Foundation - PFLAG Lincoln-Cornhusker - PFLAG Omaha
 Proud Horizons Youth Group - Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center - River City Mixed Chorus

When you collect pledges for this year's Walk, not only are you helping beneficiaries, you're also earning fantastic rewards!

Saturday, May 13, 2006

Register and collect pledges online for the 2006 Pride Walk at
www.PrideWalk.org

or visit the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth.
 All beneficiaries are nonprofit 501c3 organizations and programs serving the GLBT-allied community.
 Pledges are tax-deductible.

Fantastic Rewards! Great Prizes!

Spain: Over 1,000 Gay Couples Wed

PlanetOut Network

More than 1,000 same-sex couples have been married in Spain since last summer when the marriage equality law took effect, according to international news reports.

A high-ranking official in Spain's ruling Socialist Party, Pedro Zerolo, made the announcement Thursday.

Zerolo, who is gay and married, said that 800 same-sex marriage ceremonies have been performed, but the number only accounts for the country's civil registries that are computerized, which is about half.

"As of today, there should be more than 1,000 same-sex couples married and about the same number of applications going through," he said.

He added that since the law took effect in June, more than 10 percent of the marriages taking place each month have involved same-sex couples.

Spain was the third country to grant civil marriage rights to same-sex couples, after the Netherlands and Belgium. A few weeks later Canada became the fourth country to do so.

High Court O.K.'s Campus Military Recruiting

Ann Rostow, PlanetOut Network

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday unanimously upheld the federal law obliging public universities to treat military recruiters the same as other employers, despite schools' objections to "don't ask, don't tell."

The law, called the Solomon Act, forced many schools to make an exception to their nondiscrimination regulations or forego federal funds that could add up to as much as \$300 million. A group of law schools challenged the act, arguing that the measure compelled them to endorse the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, thus violating their First Amendment rights to free speech and freedom of expressive association. Justice Samuel Alito did not participate in the 8-0 ruling.

Writing for the court, Chief Justice John Roberts issued a terse 21-page opinion that combined two main points. First, Roberts wrote, Congress has the constitutional power to simply force schools to give access to military recruiters; hence there is no doubt that Congress can tie federal funds to recruiting practices.

"As we recognized in *Rostker v. Goldberg*," wrote the chief justice, "judicial deference . . . is at its apogee" when Congress legislates under its authority to raise and support armies." Second, Roberts dismissed the notion that the occasional presence of recruiters on campus somehow threatened the campuses' speech or association rights. The mere obligation to post

notices about military visits did not amount to compelled speech or endorsement of military views, he wrote. Nor did the recruiting activities somehow undermine a core message that the schools sought to convey. Indeed, as both sides agreed during oral arguments, the schools remain free to disassociate themselves with "don't ask, don't tell" through protests, flyers, banners or other means.

The law schools, wrote Roberts, "attempted to stretch a number of First Amendment doctrines well beyond the sort of activities these doctrines protect." The effort, he went on, "plainly overstates the expressive nature of [the law schools'] activity and the impact of the Solomon Amendment on it, while exaggerating the reach of our First Amendment precedents." The decision, which reversed a Third Circuit ruling, was a disappointment but no surprise to gay rights advocates.

Jon Davidson, legal director of Lambda Legal, said in a written statement that the decision virtually invited campus dissent. He made clear that "there are numerous actions that students and law schools can take to show their abhorrence of the military's policy." Lambda plans to issue a short suggestion list of such actions in the near future.

Both the Human Rights Campaign and the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network used the opportunity to urge Congress to repeal "don't ask, don't tell," while noting that the military ban itself was not at issue in the case. Indeed, Roberts mentioned homosexuality only in passing, and never referred to the "don't ask, don't tell" policy itself.

A different case that takes direct aim at the military's gay ban is awaiting a decision before a federal court in Boston.

TEAM HEARTLAND TRAVELS TO TEXAS

Members of the Heartland Gay Rodeo competed in Texas this past weekend. Even though we only had 4 members competing, we placed 5th out of 16 teams. These are the final results:

Teeny C. won the buckle in chute dogging, 3rd over all in wild drag, 4th overall in goat dressing and 3rd runner-up to all around cowgirl.

Roger P placed 8th in 2nd go of steer deco.

Tim K 6th overall in calf roping, 5th in 1st go of flag racing, 4th overall in steer deco, 4th in 1st go of goat dressing.

Rich P. 3rd in 3rd go of calf roping, 4th overall in steer deco, 4th in 1st go of goat dressing.

The next rodeo of the 2006 IGRA rodeo season will be the Sunshine Stampede in Ft Lauderdale FL on April 7-9. For more information go to: <http://www.fgra.org>.

Remember to mark your calendars for the 8th Heartland Rodeo on May 20-21 in Springfield NE. For more information go to www.hgra.net. Hope to see you out on the circuit

Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Connections, 1901 Leavenworth
The Diamond, 712 South 16th Street
DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street
Dixie Quick's, Restaurant 20th Leavenworth
Flix 1019 South 10th Street Omaha
Gilligan's Pub, 1407 Harney Street
The Max, 1417 Jackson
The Reading Grounds, 3928 Farnam Street
Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth
Mystery Bookstore, 1422 South 13th St
Nebraska AIDS Project, 139 South 40th St
Next Millennium, 2308 North 72nd Street
Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

Lincoln:

Panic Bar, 200 South 18th Street (as available)
Q Bar, 226 South 9th Street (as available)

Iowa:

Adult Emporium, 1 blk. So. of 32nd & Broadway, Council Bluffs
Wilson Resource Center, Arnolds Park, IA



MCC

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY
CHURCH OF OMAHA

Sunday Services at 11AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

819 South 22nd Street (Just south of Leavenworth Street)

Omaha, Nebraska 68103 Phone: 402-345-2563

Web site: www.mccomaha.org

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1823 Harney St. Suite 201
Omaha Nebraska, 68102

Phone: 402-346-0874



GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS

The GLBT Center welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and allied persons; we encourage all to attend GLBT Center events and activities. We celebrate unity and diversity - sexual orientation, gender identity, sex, race, religion, age, ability, ethnic and national origin.

FRIDAY MARCH 17TH
KINGSMEN ST. PATTYS DAY SHOW
9:00 p.m., \$5 Cover. Flixx Video Bar

SUNDAY MARCH 26TH
NEBRASKA PRIDE BENEFIT hosted by Mr. Pride Johnnie Richards, The Max, 9:30pm

WEDNESDAY MARCH 29TH
ERIC HIMAN & LEVI KREIS IN CONCERT 8PM at MCC Omaha

SATURDAY APRIL 1ST
NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #4, The Reading Grounds, 8pm

SUNDAY APRIL 2ND
TURNABOUT ON BROADWAY Where the Pride Bois become Pride Girls, benefit for NE Pride, The Max, 9:30pm

FRIDAY APRIL 7TH
FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY MCC Omaha, 7:30pm

TUESDAY APRIL 18TH
DINING OUT FOR LIFE 2006, Eat out to raise funds for the Nebraska AIDS Project, details later

SATURDAY APRIL 22ND
MADELINE FEINSTEIN'S ONE WOMAN SHOW For the Diamond Foundation's GLBT Scholarship Fund, The Max, 7pm

GLBT SUMMIT PLANNING MEETING
Mahoney State Park, 11am, lunch and meeting

SUNDAY APRIL 23RD
NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #5, DC's Saloon, 9pm

FRIDAY APRIL 28TH
MCCO BENEFIT SHOW DC's Saloon, 7pm

SATURDAY APRIL 29TH
NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #6, MCC Omaha, 8pm

SUNDAY APRIL 30TH

DIAMOND FOUNDATION GLBT SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT The Q, 9:30pm

SATURDAY MAY 6TH
MCC SPAGHETTI DINNER, 4:30PM—8PM at the MCCO Church

NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #7, 9pm at The Q, in Lincoln NE

SATURDAY MAY 13TH
GLBT CENTER ANNUAL PRIDE WALK, Have fun, get exercise, and earn great prizes while you raise funds for the Center and your favorite qualifying nonprofit GLBT group(s). Register at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth, or online at www.PrideWalk.org

NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #8, 9pm, location TBA

FRIDAY MAY 19TH
NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL WILDCARD NIGHT Old Market Event Center, 7PM

SATURDAY SUNDAY MAY 20TH & 21ST
HGRA RODEO, Sarpy County Fairgrounds, Springfield NE

SUNDAY MAY 28TH
NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL FINALS at the MAX, 8PM, over \$1000 in Prize money

WEDNESDAY MAY 31ST
NEBRASKA PRIDE VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION MEETING MCCO Social Hall, 7PM

FRI SAT SUN, JUNE 9TH TO 11TH
2006 NEBRASKA GAY PRIDE

SATURDAY JUNE 17TH AND SUNDAY JUNE 18TH
SPIRIT AND SOUL, presented by the River City Mixed Chorus at the Strauss Performing Arts Center—UNO Campus at 7:05pm. Call 341-7464 for tickets or online at www.rcmc.org

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday
WORSHIP SERVICES:
DIETZ METHODIST 1423 S.10, Heartland Casual Coffeehouse 9:30am, Traditional Worship 11am

EPISCOPAL GLBT FELLOWSHIP, St. Andrews Church, 84th & Pacific, 6-7PM, email: EpiscopalGLBT@yahoo.com

FIRST CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, info at: www.firstcentral.org

FIRST UNITED METHODIST 7020 Cass, 8:30 & 10:45am services

FIRST UNITARIAN 3114 Harney, 11am ser-

vices

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40 10am service

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22, 345 -2563 Sunday Worship: 11am

NA RAINBOW GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Kip K. at 612-4648

SECOND UNITARIAN, 10:30am Sunday service, 3012 South 119th St., Omaha NE

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 3424 N. 90, Omaha, 10:30am service and Wednesday meditation service at 7pm

HASTINGS COLLEGE GSA 8PM FFI: Judy Sandeen (402) 461-7372

LINCOLN WOMYN'S POTLUCK Cheryl 474-1937 11:30am-4pm

WIMMIN'S SHOW KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

RIVER CITY II MIXED BOWLING, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes,

GAMES DAY AT THE GLBT CENTER, 1719 Leavenworth, 1PM to 3PM

GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 4pm Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St Info call Mark 639-3055

Every Monday
A A RAINBOW RECOVERY, an AA group meeting at the MCCO Church at 6pm. Call 612-4648 for more info. Starting April 10th 2006

A A GLBT "RAINBOW GROUP" Meeting Place, 28 & S, Lincoln, 7:30 pm

GAY/BI/STRAIGHT SUPPORT GROUP HIV+ MEN, 7pm every Monday, NAP, 2147 S. 15th St., Lincoln NE, contact Nick or Rick at 402-476-3144

HIV TESTING, 7- 9:30pm, 139 S. 40th

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS REHEARSALS, 6:45PM—9:15PM, First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

Every Tuesday
UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUPPORT GROUP, 7-8:30PM, Women's Center, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 472-5644

Every Wednesday
WORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

READING GROUNDS OPEN MIC

NIGHTS, Music, poetry, comedy or whatever. 40th & Farnam St.,

HIV TESTING, 1-4 pm NAP, 139 S. 40 St.

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, using Orasure, results in one week; results in 20 minutes on the last Wednesday of the month. 2147 South 15th #476-7000

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK

6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

LGBT A A 7:30pm, Alcohol Ctr 2116 W. Faidley, Grand Island. Peggy (308) 226-8286, Center (308) 398-5427

KARAOKE W/ STACY 8:30pm DC's

Every Thursday

GILLIGAN'S PUB OPEN MIC NIGHT, sing to your hearts content, be a comedian for a night, it's an open mic night

HIV TESTING 7- 9:30 pm, NAP, 139 S. 40th

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 3-5:00pm, University Health Center Room 158D (in Radiology on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln

Every Friday

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 5PM to 9PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30-4pm, University Health Center Room 158D (in Radiology on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln

GLBT AA 7PM to 8PM, Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, Call 556-8364, ask for Sanford

GLBT SEXUAL COMPULSIVE ANONYMOUS, (SCA), A program of recovery, 8pm to 9pm, call Tony at 933-1318

GILLIGAN'S PUB KARAOKE NIGHT, have fun from 9 pm to 1 am

READING GROUNDS GAYME NIGHT, Music, laughter & board games. 23yrs. Old & up, 40th & Farnam St., 502-2008

RAINBOW BIBLE STUDY, 6 to 7:30PM, Lowe Ave. Presbyterian, 1023 No. 40th St.

Every Saturday

GILLIGAN'S PUB KARAOKE NIGHT, have fun from 9 pm to 1 am

GLBT BICYCLING CLUB OMAHA, For details call Jeri at 614-6145

PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP 4-6pm, 291-6781 proudhorizons@yahoo.com

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday

CENTER LIBRARY FAIRIES, 7PM. Bookworms become butterflies. Stretch your wings helping the Center library. No experience necessary to volunteer. Drop-in to the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth.

VOLUNQUEER DROP-IN, at the GLBT Center. Be a "VolunQueer" and help out. Spend an hour or two volunteering at the Center - 6PM or 7PM, your choice, whenever it fits your schedule. No special skills or ongoing commitment required. VolunQueers have fun and make a difference.

1st Friday

LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE

8pm, Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

1st Saturday

RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE
Room Open: 4pm Meeting at 7pm,
991-8845 or email: rcga@tgforum.com

1st Sunday

GAY GUYS SPAGHETTI NIGHT, at a Lincoln restaurant, call 402-483-6183 to reserve a seat up until the day before

2nd Tuesday

CENTER WESTERN IOWA COMMITTEE, 6PM at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha. For details, visit rainbowoutreach.org

FREE MOVIE NIGHT, for fans of GLBT cinema, 7PM, at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth. Snacks and beverages provided. Check www.RainbowOutreach.org for movie selection or show up and be surprised.

2nd Thursday

PFLAG- OMAHA, 7pm, First United Methodist Church

2nd Saturday

LEARNING TO EXCHANGE POWER L2EP@aol.com 2pm; DC's Saloon

2nd Sunday

INTEGRITY 6-7:30pm, St. Marks, Lincoln

OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREENING

(glbt film shown at 6:30pm followed by discussion) First Unitarian, 3114 Harney

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBR
6:30pm, MCC-O, 819 S. 22 St.,
www.icon.impcourt.org

3rd Tuesday

VOLUNQUEER DROP-IN, at the GLBT Center. Be a "VolunQueer" and help out. Spend an hour or two volunteering at the Center - 6PM or 7PM, your choice, whenever it fits your schedule. No special skills or ongoing commitment required. VolunQueers have fun and make a difference.

3rd Thursday

LES/BI/GAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Village Inn, 78th & Dodge, 7 PM

3rd Friday

GAY/BI SUPPORT GRP FOR HIV+ MEN
6-8pm NAP, 220 S. 17, Lincoln, 476-7000.

LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

4th Tuesday

CENTER POTLUCK, 6:30PM, 1719 Leavenworth. Everyone welcome. Table service and drinks provided. Bring a dish and a smile to share.

PFLAG-CORNHUSKER Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln, 7 p.m.

YOUTH HIV TEST Lighthouse, 2530 N, Lincoln, ages 13 to 18, FFI: 475-3220. 3-5:30 pm

4th Friday

LEATHER ENGINEERS—OMAHA
Not currently meeting anymore.

4th Saturday

FREE MATINEE MOVIE, at the GLBT Center, 1:30PM, Bring a snack to share, everyone is welcome, 2nd and 4th Saturdays every month

LAST Sunday

REAL FAMILIES Omaha-area families headed by gay/lesbian parents, Margaux at 561-6738 or email MargauxPolo@aol.com

Email Your Event to:
news@rainbowoutreach.org

GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

BiMenNebraska, Social Support for Bi and BiCurious Men <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BiMenNebraska> and <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Bi-MEN-MIDWEST>

Citizens for Equal Protection 1102 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to: Michael@cfep-ne.org

Family Foundations Therapy for individuals, couples or families, for info call 558-3856

Flat Water Bears, Box 3751, Omaha 68103 flatwaterbears@yahoo.com Hirsute men and admirers group

Front Runners/Walkers, 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

GALO (Gay & Lesbian Org at UNO) www.angelfire.com/home/GALO contact: unogalo@hotmail.com or SPO (Student Organizations) at 554-2711.

Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network - Omaha, Box 641676, Omaha 68164, 712-325-0117 <http://www.glsenomaha.org>

GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources

Heartland Gay Rodeo Association Box 3354, Omaha 68103

Ice Bowl Invitational Bowling Tournament (IBIT) P.O. Box 31838, Omaha, 68131 R. Hollendieck (402) 556-5556

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103 556-9907, Board Meets 3rd Monday, 819 S. 22 www.icon.impcourt.org

Learning to Exchange Power, L2EP@aol.com; Social, educational group novices in Leather, S/M, B/D Lifestyle

Leather Engineers of Omaha (LEO) Box 8101, Omaha, 68108-8101 Gay men in leather lifestyle, not currently meeting

LinOma Bares, Box 24547, Omaha 68124 Nudist/ Naturist Club for gay/bi men Info: Linomabares@yahoo.com or call Eric at (402) 553-5944 or Tim S (712) 527-5887

Mpower Program, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131 email: mpower@nap.org website: www.mpower-nap.org phone: 402.552.9260x20, Holistic Gay Men's Health Program

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org Website: www.mccomaha.org Sunday Worship 11am, Wed Evening Bible Study at 7pm

NA Rainbow Group, Narcotics Anonymous, meets every Sunday at 6pm, MCC-Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St

Nebraska AIDS Project, 552-9260 Watanabe Wellness Ctr, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131, Testing Mon, Thurs Eve, Wed aft

NebraskaEquality.org, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community

Nebraska GLBT Events, Community Events Calendar web site, see www.NebraskaGLBTEvents.com

The 'Ohana Group, (GLBT / Non-traditional Family group), email to: Theohana-group@msn.com

Omaha Bi Married Men Yahoo Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OmahaBiMarriedMen>

Omaha Nebr Gay Pride WebPage <http://ONGP.com>; email to: omahanebrgaypride@cox.net or ongp@cox.net

Onyx Images, Box 31026, 68131-0026 Social/Support Organization for African American Males age 21 and over

Out and About in Nebraska, website: www.travel.to/outabout Email: NeOutAbout@yahoo.com

OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists for Tolerance) First Unitarian Church, 3114 Hamer, 68131, 345-3039, www.ouut.org

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter Box 390064, Omaha, 68139-0064 291-6781 Website: www.pflag-omaha.org, email info@pflag-omaha.org Meet 2nd Thurs, 1st United Meth, 7020 Cass

Proud Horizons Youth Group, Sat Afternoon, info: (402) 291-6781 or email proudhorizons@yahoo.com

Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Ctr, 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-0330

Rainbow Bible Study, Fridays, 6-7:30pm, Lowe Ave Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St.

Rainbow Celebrations, Box 241733, Omaha, 68124, 402-212-6302 locally, 866-NE-PRIDE toll free, sponsors of annual Gay Pride & National Coming Out Day, see www.rainbowcelebrations.org

Real Families, Omaha-area families headed by gay/lesbian parents, meet last Sunday of every month. Info: Margaux at 561-6738 or email MargauxPo-lo@aol.com

River City Gender Alliance, www.genderalliance.com Social/Support Group for transgender/transsexual/cross-dressers and supporters

River City Mixed Bowling II 3pm, Sundays, Maplewood Lanes, Omaha Norma Harrison (402) 731-5706

River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267, Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING Website: www.rcmc.org

SNAP Productions, Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 www.snapproductions.com

Unity Church of Omaha 3424 N. 90, Omaha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday meditation service 7pm; 571-1344; www.unityomaha.org

WomenSpace, Box 24712, Omaha 68124 Newsletter, Concerts

LINCOLN BASED

GLBT and Ally Programs and Services at UNL, D. Moritz, Assistant Director, 402-472-1752 email: dmoritz2@unl.edu Located in Student Involvement Office of the Nebraska Union, Room 200.

Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Straight Alliance 2229 J St., Lincoln 68510 (402) 436-1301 ext. 232 Ruth Kupfer

Gay Men's Support Group, UNL Health Center, Counseling & Psychology, Rm. 214, Lincoln 68588-0618 472-7450

Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Women's Discussion Group, University of Nebraska, Lincoln Women's Center

(sponsor), Room 340, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588-0446. 402/472-5644.

Nebraska AIDS Project, 2147 S. 15th St. Lincoln, NE 68502. (402) 476-7000

Mixed Chorus, Rehearse 1st & 3rd Fridays, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, No auditions, Just a desire to sing, info contact Scott at sdorchid@neb.rr.com

Omaha Women's Riverboat Cruise, 4949 N. 73, Lincoln, 68507 467-5737

Parents, Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Cornhusker Chapter, Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4th Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, jbkiber@hotmail.com. Website: <http://pflag.ineb.org/>

Plainsmen, Support FtM's (Female to Male) Drag Kings TV Butches, 402-820-1267

RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE, Room Open: 4pm Meeting at 7pm, 991-8845 or email: rcga@tgforum.com

SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee House 2nd Sat, 6 - 9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46

Sexuality Education eXchange, University Health Ctr, 15th & U, Rm. 12h, 472-7447 or email: ptetreault1@unl.edu Comprehensive, inclusive sexuality/sexual health info, resources/referrals including sexual orientation, ally and diversity training.

Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094

Trevor-24-hour National Suicide Hotline for GLBT and Questioning Youth 1-800-850-8078 or email: <http://www.thetrevorproject.org/helpline.html>

TriCity GLBT, serving Central Nebraska, web site at <http://www.tri-city-glb.com/>

UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Contact Pat Tetreault, c/o University Health Center, 15th & U Streets, Rm. 12h Lincoln, NE 68588-0618, (402) 472-7447 or email: ptetreault1@unl.edu

Women In Trades/YWCA, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494,

Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

Iowa Based

Iowa Equality, GLBT -allied against change to the state and federal Constitutions, <http://www.IowaEquality.org>

Sioux City, Iowa Resource Web Site: www.siouxlandpride.net

CLASSIFIED ADS

Your Classified Ad Could be HERE!
20 WORDS/\$5 20¢ each additional word

Ads and Payment May Be Taken to the Resource Center, 1719 Leavenworth or emailed to news@rocc.org. No ad will be published until payment is received in full. Personal Ads Accepted for Those Seeking Relationships, Friendships, etc. NO ADS FOR SEX OR ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES. THE GAYZETTE Reserves the Right to Accept or Reject ANY Ad. Ads may be edited for spelling, grammar, or content.

Rainbow Outreach™



GLBT Resource Center

ALERT!

The latest scam. This one is real, so be careful.

I am a victim of the latest scam which is happening in shopping mall parking lots here in Omaha, and the same may be occurring in other states. Two good looking young women come up to your car as you are parking, one starts wiping your windshield with a rag and the other comes to your window and bends over so far her breasts just about fall out of her blouse. While you're distracted, the other one lets herself in the backseat.

At that point, both are begging you for a ride home. Be very wary, because as soon as you start driving, one of them will take off her shirt and rub her breasts on you while the other climbs over the seat and unzips your pants. This is when they steal your wallet!!!! I was robbed last Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. I couldn't find them on Saturday.

George W. Bush, President

ICE BOWL 2006 A SUCCESS

On February 17 – 19, 280 bowlers from 15 states made the trip to Omaha's Maplewood Lanes for the 14th annual Ice Bowl Tournament competing for \$15,000 in prize money. The host hotel and site of the hospitality room was the Sheraton Omaha.

Results:

Team Event

Low score to cash: 2760

1st Place	Team #48 'Man Candy'	Liberty & Kansas City, MO	2915
2nd Place	Team #26 'Jen & Her Men'	Gumee & Chicago, IL	2873
3rd Place	Team #25	Prairie Village & Olathe, KS	2863

Doubles Event

Low score to cash: 1387

1st Place	Jennifer Rogers & Nicole Rogers	Omaha, NE	1614
2nd Place	Kraig Carter & Kyle Hibschie	Kansas City, MO	1523
3rd Place	David Fredericks & Paul Nosal	Chicago, IL	1515

Singles Event

Low score to cash: 711

1st Place	Adrian Abramshuk	St. Louis Park, MN	834
2nd Place	Jennifer Rogers	Omaha, NE	789
3rd Place	Claude Sloan	Milwaukee, WI	786

All Events

Low score to cash: 2070

1st Place	Jennifer Rogers	Omaha, NE	2352
2nd Place	John Hansen	Minneapolis, MN	2338
3rd Place	John Kobza	Denver, CO	2318

In addition to the above events, special events were held including Scratch Masters; Optional Scratch; Best 3 of 6; and Bedroom Buddies. Also, over \$4,000 in cash and prizes was given out in raffle drawings.

Special thanks go to Maplewood Lanes, our community bars and bar owners, Old Market Candy Shop, and the all of the volunteers who helped make this weekend a roaring success.

GOP Anti-gay CD Also Collects Voter Data

PlanetOut Network

The Republican Party of Minnesota is under fire for distributing a CD that aims to drum up support for a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage while collecting digital information about the CD viewer.

In order to see the video portion on their computers, viewers must first go to a Web site and punch in an ID code that lets the Republican Party know who is viewing the disk. Once the video begins, viewers are also asked to type responses to questions about abortion, gun control and party preference.

Advance copies of the disk, which contains clips of Gov. Tim Pawlenty and other state officials discussing the "dangers of gay marriage," were sent to reporters on Monday, and they contained no disclaimers about how the viewers' data would be used.

GOP officials reportedly said the final version of the CD, soon to be mailed to Minnesota voters, will display a notice that the information may be used by the party.

The anti-gay CD and data-collection tactics were criticized Thursday by the National Stonewall Democrats (NSD).

"The only institution that Minnesota Republicans are truly interested in preserving is their slipping grasp on statewide offices," Eric Stern, NSD executive director, said in a statement. "Minnesota Republicans have spent the past month barnstorming the state in an attempt to build support against Democrats in the state Senate who have repeatedly kept this amendment off the ballot in favor of focusing on real issues facing Minnesotan families."

Lillie Coney, associate director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center, raised privacy concerns, saying the GOP CD should clearly indicate that the packet is not only a video on gay marriage but a tool to collect voter data.

"Anytime the consumer is providing information to an entity and they're not aware of how that information is being used or what purpose the information may be put to, they're at a disadvantage," she said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

China Sociologist Pushes for Gay Marriage

Christopher Curtis, PlanetOut Network

Li Yinhe, a famous sociologist in China, told reporters she

plans to submit a proposal for same-sex marriage to the country's top political advisory body as it begins its 10-day meeting Friday in Beijing.

Li, a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, said legalizing same-sex marriage will help eliminate anti-gay discrimination, the Xinhua news agency reported.

Li explained same-sex marriage would create stable relations and ensure safe sex, helping rein in the spread of HIV/AIDS.

A gay activist in Guangzhou who identifies himself as A'nan told reporters that gay men and lesbians in China have difficulty finding partners, with options limited to bars, parks and saunas.

Li has proposed same-sex marriage twice before, but the proposals were shelved because she failed to get the minimum support of 30 fellow members.

The Information Times, a Guangzhou newspaper, reported that Li's proposal got support from more than 600 people in China's Internet community.

The sociologist said the country is not yet "prepared" for such a proposal and admitted it is unlikely that it will win approval, but Li believes it is her duty to help the country's gay men and lesbians find a favorable living environment.

Scott Long, director of the LGBT rights program at Human Rights Watch, agreed it would be an "uphill battle."

Long noted that despite the explosion of LGBT networking, the Chinese government is still repressive. "All of this does have an effect on HIV. The government is preventing people from knowing the truth," he said.

A government-sponsored survey at the end of 2004 claimed China, the world's most populous country, had 5 to 10 million gay men. Experts believe the number is much higher.

The survey did not have a clear estimate of the country's lesbians.

China took homosexuality off its list of psychoses in 2001.

Gay Protesters Rally In European Cities

Gay.com U.K.

Activists from across Europe protested Thursday against the decision to ban Moscow's Gay Pride celebrations.

Demonstrators took to the streets in London, Paris, Warsaw, Stockholm and Vienna to call for action against Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov, who barred the event, scheduled for May, last

month.

He did so after receiving threats of disruption and violence from religious leaders in the city, who said they found the idea of a Pride celebration in Moscow offensive. Since making the ban, Luzhkov has faced criticism from gay campaigners and civil rights groups across the globe, as well as from members of the European parliament.

Additionally, in February his mayoral counterparts in London, Berlin and Paris called on him to lift the ban. London's mayor Ken Livingstone said he would "urge" the Mayor to lift the ban and ensure human rights were respected in Russia. So far there has been no movement on the issue.

Other politicians have come forward to back the London protest on Thursday. Jean Lambert, London's Green MEP and a member of the European parliament Intergroup on Gay and Lesbian rights said her party backed the demonstration.

"I am outraged that anyone in an elected position would even consider such oppressive actions," she said on Thursday. "The mayor of Moscow's decision must be reversed immediately as part of Russia's progress towards a modern and democratic country."

Derek Lennard, U.K. correspondent for the International Day Against Homophobia, said the Pride is of "enormous importance." "The first Pride in Moscow is of enormous importance particularly to the LGBT communities in the Baltic and Eastern European Countries," he said. "All those who are able to take the freedom to organize Pride for granted will surely want show their support for the LGBT community in Moscow."

The Gay Pride festival would be the first in Moscow, but Mayor Luzhkov has announced that the city government will not allow a gay parade "in any form," and any attempt to hold a gay event will be "resolutely quashed."

Barbie: Don't Let Her Boobs Fool You **How Typical**

By Michael McManus

Mattel's Popular doll, Barbie, has seen its fair share of criticism. The blond bombshell often gets ripped apart for her bountiful breasts, flawless physique and her unique sense of style. I mean how many other girls can pull off the Malibu look, Gothic glam and mermaid attire with as much ease as her. Although these criticisms seem to be the most well known, it seems I have forgotten to list one. One that came up recently and caught myself and many others by surprise. Apparently Barbie is now considered a tool and a threat in encouraging the "transgender movement."

The Concerned Women of America (a group promoting biblical values) recently released this statement on Dec. 30 after discovering some shattering information on the Barbie Web site. Allegedly, there was a questionnaire that asked the visitor one simple question. "Are you a boy, girl, or I don't know."

According to the group, the toy's manufacturer has "overstepped a line," by joining forces with the transgender movement. The group is now encouraging its members and other religious groups to boycott Mattel and all Barbie products.

When Mattel was contacted about the issue they quickly gave a response stating that it was an error and was intended to say "I don't want to say." The Concerned Women of America still don't find this option acceptable and continue to urge the boycott.

First of all, let's clarify something. I may be gay, but I never played with Barbies, thank you. With that said I think this whole situation including the group accusing Mattel is absolutely out of line. Then again, should we be surprised? It was a similar group who boycotted Mattel when they began creating the American Girl doll line, and supported Girls Inc., an organization that has pro-life views and openly supports lesbian couples.

I think that having a neutral answer similar to "not sure," or "I don't want to say," is extremely important in situations like these. Some individuals, as you may know, just don't fit into the cookie cutter stereotypes of these two genders. Choosing male or female isn't as simple as we might assume.

To fully understand this situation it is extremely important to remember that Gender identity is totally different from sexual identity. I am gay, but not confused on my gender. Then again a transgendered individual may be unsure of their gender but not their sexuality.

I do believe that Barbie puts false images and hopes into the minds of young children, but I am going to have to disagree with the idea of it being a tool in the transgendered movement. I think it's important for everyone to remember that these dolls are meant for children, and shouldn't be taken so literally.

Last year James Dobson, founder of Focus on the Family, suggested that the cartoon character SpongeBob Squarepants was gay. Dobson brought up the subject in a speech pre-inauguration dinner in Washington. He based his view on Spongebob because the character played a role in a "pro-homosexual video." The character was one of several that appeared in a pro-tolerance music video for kids produced by the Anti-Defamation League. Do you think any of the kids watching thought Spongebob was gay? I highly doubt it, just as children aren't being encouraged to become transgendered by being asked "boy, girl, or not sure."

Encouragement and acceptance are two totally different things. You can encourage a child to do or be whatever YOU want, but they will never feel whole and truly loved until they are accepted for who THEY are.

Send questions and comments to mmcmanus@Mail.unomaha.edu.
This article was reprinted from The Gateway
Site URL: <http://www.unogateway.com>

There's Always Something New To Discover At THE MAX

**Sunday, March 26
A Golden Throat
And A Lot Of Talent
It's Nebraska's
Pride Idol, Jonnie
Live At THE MAX**

**Join Us Every Friday
For Our Jazz Club
With Your Hostess
Miss Annie Welty
In The ARENA Bar**

**Attention Men
Friday April 7
Is THE MAX Men's Night
With Our Happy Hour
Amateur Strip Off
And Underwear Night
Upstairs**

**Giving The Midwest
What It Wants!
THE MAX**

**For More Information On Our
Great Max Events
Visit Us At
www.themaxomaha.com**

