

the GAYZETTE

Student Campaigns as "Queer Guy"

RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP) -- An openly gay student is fighting to campaign in his high school election with posters that read: "Gay Guys Know Everything!" and "Queer Guy for Hunt High."

Seventeen-year-old Jarred Gamwell has enlisted the help of the American Civil Liberties Union to reverse a principal's decision last week that stripped the posters from the halls of James B. Hunt Jr. High School in Wilson.

"The school administration's removal of these two campaign posters is a clear violation of Jarred's constitutional right to free expression," Leslie Cooper, an ACLU attorney, wrote in a letter to the school Monday. "The Supreme Court has made it clear that students do not shed their constitutional rights at the schoolhouse gate."

School officials say they have the right to control and censor candidates for student body president, especially when their speech could interfere with learning.

"The language in the two campaign posters in question was determined to be disruptive to the educational process and to have no relevance to the student's qualifications for office," said Robert E. Kendall Jr., school district spokesman in Wilson County, 40 miles east of Raleigh.

In a letter to the ACLU, a lawyer for the district, David Orcutt, also said the school would also seek to prevent Gamwell from making similar statements in a campaign speech set to be broadcast Tuesday over the school intercom. Students vote Wednesday.

School administrators "have in no way attempted to regulate Mr. Gamwell's right as a homosexual nor have we in any way attempted to regulate his freedom of speech on those issues off-campus," Orcutt wrote.

Gamwell said in a phone interview Monday he has long

Continued on Page 6 suffered verbal harassment at the school, both from students and some teachers. The junior became public about his sexual orientation in the ninth grade.

GOP'S (WEAK) ARGUMENTS FOR BANNING GAY MARRIAGE

The folks pushing for a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage are beginning to resemble those Japanese World War II soldiers stranded on remote Pacific Islands who continued to defend their positions because they didn't know the war was over. At least, that's the impression I got from reading a recent "talking points" memo put out by the Senate Republican Conference (SRC).

Polling results on the same-sex marriage issue were shared with GOP senators in a recent briefing and "messaging recommendations" were distributed for their press secretaries by the SRC. "I have included in our talking points two messages that polled extremely well," the recommendations state. "Bottom line is never say 'banning gay marriage' always say 'protecting' or 'defending' marriage - we lose on banning gay marriage and win on defending marriage."

Well, then. Game. Set. Match.

Because even the Scarecrow from the Wizard of Oz can clearly see that the Federal Marriage Amendment (FMA) language is purely about banning gay marriage, NOT protecting or defending heterosexual marriage.

Continued on Page 6

Nebraska Pride 2004 GLBT Pride Parade Grand Marshal Announcement

For the 4th year in a row, the GLBT and Ally communities of Nebraska and western Iowa have chosen an individual highly qualified and equaling deserving to honor during the annual Pride Celebration. During the Pride 2004 Reception on Friday, April 16, Rainbow Celebrations' 2004 Pride Committee announced the winner of the statewide vote for the 2004 GLBT Pride Parade Grand Marshal honor.

Continued on page 14 Continued from front page, Pride Parade Grand Marshall......

April 30, 2004—May 14, 2004

FOMBARIA)

THE FOAM RETURNS...





1516 Jones St. Omaha, NE 402-341-7337 www.omahajoy.com

Perspectives

By Jon Owens

Get Your Own Story to Tell

Have you often had someone talk to you on behalf of another person? Don't you find that quite annoying? It is all a result of "You know you get on Billy Bob's nerves."

Don't you ever wonder why "Billy Bob" doesn't answer for himself? This is a result of serious interpersonal communication problems and sometimes called gossip.

If you ever played the game telephone when you were little, you can remember that the story is only ten percent accurate by the time you are done. By then the story has grown to be such a big deal, someone is liable to get mad and has blown the story out of proportion.

My priest is a good person who catches me in this issue when I am telling her about someone. Her response is:

"That is not your story to tell."

Another common example is: "I asked John Doe if you did a good job on helping clean up. He said that you did not." Well if "John Doe" did not like the job then it is between him and I, and the third party has no business intervening unless asked.

We also have circles of friends where they think it is ok to share information between each other, because we are all friends. This is not true. It is important to let that person share what they want each individual to know.

Sharing what someone else did last weekend or perhaps who the person is seeing is not necessarily to be public knowledge.

Why is it that people feel it is their common job to stick their nose in something they are not involved in? Why

Imperial Court of Nebraska EMPEROR 24 OR EMPRESS 24 ??? INTERESTED ???

Application Deadline—May 3, 2004

Call Robert at 933-4809 Email Us at icon.impcourt.org do they feel they have to answer for someone else? Are people that lonely or starving for attention that they have to gossip to get attention? I know for me, my life is an open book and I will answer most questions thrown at me, but I prefer people to come to me.

At the church, I know there have been people who have asked the priest, "is our intern gay?" He knows I am, but his response is "I do

not know. Why don't you ask him. I am sure he will tell you."

It is important to stick to stories that only relate to you in personal life. When giving stories, the exception to sharing a story is if it is life threatening or when someone is sick and perhaps needs friends, unless you are asked to keep it confidential. If you do tell a story, keep it generic without using names. Some of my friends get frustrated, because I will tell them a story with my response being, "I was with a friend the other day..." never once mentioning the name.

If I do tell someone else's story, I try to be quick to remember to share it with them, so if someone should talk about the issue they will know where it came from and not be surprised.

There are times I have to bite my tongue before I want to tell my friends off. I could start doing the same thing to them. but vengeance is not the answer.

The truth is, it is better not to sink yourself down to that level. Just smile and nod. Try to level with your friends in love. It is ok to even remind them that it is not their story to tell and to have them speak for themselves and not others. When you speak of others and even use their name, you hurt people in the process and sometimes hurt yourself, by damaging friendships.



GAYZETTE AD RATES

Whole Page 7 ½ X 10 Fourth Page 3 ¾ X 4 ¾

\$100.00 \$ 25.00 Half Page 7 ½ X 4 ¾ Business Card

\$ 50.00 \$ 15.00

All ads must be camera ready. Payment must accompany ad, Checks 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@rocc.org. Please call ahead to reserve space.

Ad Deadlines Friday, May 7 for Publication May 14

Friday, May 21 for Publication May 28

SATURDAY MAY 15 2004 8PM HOYT SHERMAN PLACE DES MOINES



A portion of proceeds donated to All Iowa Aids Benefit

MARGARET

"Brilliant"

"One of the funniest comedians in America."

CHO

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! \$28 - \$38 (515) 244-0507 or WWW.HOYTSHERMAN.ORG For event & hotel information visit www.grdn.com

Celebrating 20 Years of The Garden's Gay Entertainment, Pride and Community to Iowa





This
Space is
available
for your
ad.

Low rates and high visibility.

Email news@ rocc.org

Do you want to keep Kyle's Bed & Breakfast in this publication? We badly need a sponsor.

Only \$50 per issue. Please consider sponsoring one or more issues to keep it in the Gayzette.

Continued from front page, Student Campaigns as ...

The name-calling "rolls off my back," he said. "It's not something that's going to get me down. I have pride, and I have personal character."

Gamwell said he plans to speak Tuesday about what he will do for students as president of the student government. He said he wrote a second speech addressing censorship and the events of the last week, but said he will not deliver it.

By contacting the ACLU, Gamwell said he hoped to "raise awareness of what's going at the school, what administrators and teachers are trying to get away with. I want students to take their rights seriously."

Continued from front page, GOP'S (Weak) Arguments...

For if its true purpose was to protect and defend marriage, there'd be a clause in there to address quickie marriages, a al Britney Spears, or serial marriages, a la Elizabeth Taylor-Hilton-Wilding-Todd-Fisher-Burton-Burton-Warner-Fortensky.

The Federal Marriage Amendment does absolutely nothing to protect or defend marriage against divorce or adultery, nor unwed motherhood. The ONLY thing it does is, well...ban gays from getting married. Senate Republicans and their press secretaries can try to "spin" the FMA as protecting and defending marriage 'til the cows come home, but it is what it is and people will eventually see through the smokescreen.

Another talking point the SRC urges Republican senators and staffers to use is the argument that "decades of studies show children do best with a mother and a father."

Unless, say, the father is an abusive drunk and the mother is a drug addict. In that case, it really doesn't matter whether the two are married and of the opposite sex. If they have kids, those kids would be MUCH better off being raised in a safe, loving home in the suburbs by parents who happen to be, say, a doctor and a lawyer...even if of the same sex.

You see, just because a set of parents are of the opposite sex



doesn't automatically mean the kids in the home are in a good environment. The fact is, there are same-sex parents who are good...and some who aren't so good. There are also opposite-sex parents who are good...and some who aren't so good. And it could also be reasonably argued that a child raised by two parents of the same sex might be better off than a child raised by a single parent who works full-time and drops his or her kid off with strangers at day-care every day.

Now, most people would say that in ideal circumstances, kids should be raised by a married mother and father where daddy works and mommy stays home with the kids; where they live in the 'burbs with two SUVs and puppy on an annual income of \$85,000-plus; where the parents are both college-educated, alcohol-free and never eat medium-rare hamburgers. But just because that might be the "ideal," does it mean the rest of us can't and shouldn't play in their reindeer games?

Finally, the SRC instructs everyone to make sure the struggle over gay marriage is NOT compared to the civil rights movement.

Of course being gay and being black are two entirely different things. But again, even the intellectually-challenged readily recognize that the arguments and rhetoric in favor of banning opposite-race marriages decades ago are pretty much the same as those currently being used to ban same-sex marriages today. It is what it is...and the younger generation knows it, even if their elders are turning a blind eye.

One need not be a gay marriage supporter to realize the arguments against it are rather weak by comparison, especially in a nation which cherishes, above all else, individual liberty and equality under law. If SRC's talking points are the core of the arguments for FMA supporters, their battle is already lost. They just don't know it yet. Sayonara.

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Chuck Muth is president of Citizen Outreach, a non-profit public policy advocacy organization in Washington, D.C For more of Chuck Muth please visit www.citizenoutreach.com

HGRA Charity Partner Fund Raiser

We have a new fundraiser that is just starting. The Willy Wonka Golden Ticket event is based on the movie Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (Charlie and the Chocolate Factorybook) and should be a lot of fun for every one. We are selling candy bars at \$2.00 per bar. Inside the label of the bar is a golden ticket that allows the bearer and one guest into our chocolate extravaganza at Chalco Hills on July10th. On tap is a luncheon (the menu is going to be packed full of chocolate recipes from main course to dessert), door prizes, a silent auction, entertainment and more.

Continued on Page 13

Duplex For Rent



2 Second Floor Bedrooms, Formal Dining Room, Basement, Deck, 1 Off Street Parking Stall, Central Air, Newly Remodeled Kitchen, Washer and Dryer Included, 1 Block from Hanscom Park

Non-Smoker, No Pets Preferred but Not Excluded

Call Bob at 670-9119 for Information

QUESTIONS ABOUT HIV OR AIDS?

Call the Nebraska AIDS Hotline. 1-800-782-2437 (in Omaha, 552-9255) Sunday-Friday: 10 am-10 pm

Are you registered to Vote?

Make a difference in your life and the lives of your friends and loved ones, get registered.

It's quick, painless, free and best of all YOU will have made a difference!! So stop by any Post Office or you can also download and print the form from http://www.sos.state.ne.us/forms/pdf/vr.pdf

Imperial Court of Nebraska Offers Booth Space at Picnics

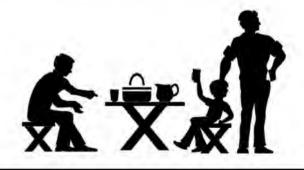
Summer is quickly approaching and we are preparing for some of our biggest events of the year: the Memorial Day and Labor Day Picnics and Coronation 24. Because Coronation 24 falls on Independence Day weekend, the Imperial Court will not be doing a picnic on Independence Day this year. Instead we are working to offer the community an event unique to the Omaha community. Further details on this will be coming soon.

As in previous years, the Memorial Day and Labor Day Picnics will be held at Vennelyst Park, 9100 North 31 Ave. from 1pm to 6pm. Admission will be \$10 per person which will again include beer and soft drinks as well as a plate of food. The menu for the Memorial Day picnic will feature grilled hamburgers and traditional side dishes.

We are inviting area groups and business to participate in the Memorial Day Picnic by having a table or booth where they can display information about their group or business. There is no charge for the booth but if the group is selling products of any kind, ICON will ask that they make a donation at the end of the day. Sales and distribution of information must be limited to the booth area – representatives are not allowed to walk around selling products or distributing information. Please be aware that each person staffing the booth must pay the \$10 admission fee.

You do not need to register your booth ahead of time. Space is allocated on a first come, first served basis. Please remember that this is a family picnic and there will be children present.

Feel free to contact ICON at 556-9907 at if you have any questions. We look forward to sharing this time with you.



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SHARP SF 2035
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Call MCC-Omaha
402.345.2563
Available Now

PRAISE GOD, ALL YE PEOPLE!

Have there been wonderful things happening in your life? In the face of trials and challenges, have you found moments of joy? As you look around you, does it seem that the very earth is bursting forth with praise for our God?

As we consider our lives we are surrounded by the evidence of God's love and God's grace. And we are admonished to praise God for all these wonderful blessings. Indeed, how could we not praise God for the blessings that surround us each day.

All around us we see more evidence of God's hand at work and we see blessing after blessing poured out upon us. Everywhere we look we see God at work in someone's life, bringing healing and wholeness to those who feel broken.

Doesn't your heart just sing with praise? Come join the members of Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha on Wednesday nights at 7pm during the month of May. We will share our praises and share the stories of God at work in our lives. We will spend time in prayer and praise, lifting each other up. We will pray for the church and our community asking God to guide our leaders. We will thank God for keeping us strong. We will sing songs of praise and we will gather around the communion table.

Throughout May the Wednesday night service will be a time of prayer and praise as we share the joy of God's love. The service will begin at 7pm and will end by 8pm every Wednesday night. Come and join us and bring a friend.

Are You Interested in Food, Friends and Good Books?

A local GLBT book club is looking for you. We usually meet the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm at Village Inn at 78th & Dodge. This is a fun and diverse book club. The books are chosen by the members at each meeting and we read a wide variety of books from classics to current best sellers. from non-fiction to fantasy. The emphasis is on GLBT books and authors, but we read just about anything that sounds interesting. Our next meeting is Thursday May 20th at 7:00 and we are reading Sarah Water's "Fingersmith". This is our second book by this British lesbian author and the first become a favorite of many of us. As said by a critic-"Like everybody else who has picked it up, I got lost in Sarah Waters' ingenious Fingersmith ... " Nick Hornby, The Guardian Review Books of the Year. We'd love to see you there! Please contact Sarah at omahabookclub@cox.net for more information or to confirm the date and book for future meetings.

Some people tread slowly through life,
Avoiding the closeness risk brings,
Sidestepping the things they can't understand,
Turning away from those who care too much,
Those who care too long,
and Those who hold too tightly.
There is never an easy way to love,
But for the way you feel in your Heart.

Author 's Name Unavailable

Riverdance Coming To Omaha

Riverdance The Original International Phenomenon Triumphantly Returns to Omaha Tickets Now on Sale for This Celebration of Irish Music, Song and Dance, May 11-16

OMAHA, NE, April 19 – Few shows have touched audiences like RIVERDANCE, the original international phenomenon. Now this thunderous celebration of joyful music, song and dance that has thrilled over 16 million people around the world returns to Omaha and the Orpheum Theater, Tuesday, May 11 through Sunday, May 16. Tickets for RIVERDANCE, presented by BROADWAY IN OMAHA, are now on sale by calling 402-422-1212 in Omaha or 402-475-1212 in Lincoln, at the Omaha Auditorium box office, and all TicketMaster outlets. Tickets also are available on line at www.ticketmaster.com Groups of 20 or more can call 888-255-2200 for discounted group tickets. Tickets range from \$27 to \$57, depending on date and time of performance and seat location. Composed by Bill Whelan, produced by Moya Doherty, and directed by John McColgan, RIVERDANCE features an international company of brilliant performers who have touched the hearts of millions around the world. "An explosion of sight and sound that simply takes your breath away," cheers the Chicago Tribune. "A family evening unlike anything else!" raves The London Times. RIVERDANCE is a celebration of Irish music, song and dance, which focuses on the evolution of Irish dance, as well as its similarities with, and influences on, other cultures. Mr. Whelan won the 1997 Grammy Award for "Best Musical Show Album" for his original music and lyrics for RIVERDANCE. This extraordinarily unique show features an international company that has taken the world by storm. RIVERDANCE had its world premiere at the Point Theatre, Dublin, in February, 1995. where it opened to unanimous critical acclaim. There are presently two productions of RIVERDANCE touring the world. To date, in addition to over 16 million people worldwide who have seen RIVERDANCE, some 6.5 million people have purchased the video versions of the show. RIVERDANCE - The Album, on Celtic Heartbeat/Universal Records, has sold more than two million CDs, worldwide and is certified Platinum in the United States. For more information visit the Riverdance website www.riverdance.com.

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.

Hey You!

YOUR classified ad could be HERE !!

The Metro Omaha GLBT Center A Vision for the Future! Feasibility

Study Survey-www.rainbowoutreach.org

For those of you who do not know, ROC has been our GLBT Resource Center for 6 years now, located at 1719 Leavenworth Street in Omaha. The Board of Directors of ROC have authorized this feasibility study to help determine whether the GLBT and supportive Communities would need and use a new Center in metro Omaha. We encourage you to take a moment to complete the survey with your honest opinions. It only takes a few minutes and can be taken at the web site above or you can stop in at the Resource Center and pick up a paper copy. If you have already received the survey and filled it out, the ROC Board thanks you for your time. If you haven't already done so, please take the survey. Your answers do MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Sunday: 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Wednesday: 7:00 PM
Saturday: Alternative Worship 7:00 PM (starts 9/27/03)
819 South 22nd Street (Just south of Leavenworth Street)
Omaha, Nebraska 68103 Phone: 402-345-2563
Web site: www.mccomaha.org

CHURCH OF OMAHA

HGRA PRESENTS BOOTS AND BOXERS

HGRA would like to invite everyone to our 3rd annual Boots and Boxers night on Saturday, May 8th at DC's Saloon. If you are interested in entering the contest, registration is \$5.00 and will begin at 9:30; the contest starts at 10:00. Grand prizes will be awarded to the top point cowboy and cowgirl. Bring your boots-we will provide the hats and boxers.

We will also be auctioning off prizes including:

An Elbow grease basket valued at \$300

A Finals Rodeo weekend package including rodeo tickets, dinner, hotel room at the Marriott,

drink coupon from DC's, and an autographed and numbered Finals poster.

An autumn moon hayrack ride for 16 with private campfire.

A championship rodeo belt buckle minimum bid \$200.



Come on out and join the fun. All net proceeds will benefit the 2004 Finals Rodeo Fund.

New Group for Military Partners

Are you the same tary person? Are like you but don't find them? Do you support straight ceive or just want who understands am trying to orus. A place where friendship, fun and ing the private Everyone is welyoung, old. E-



sex partner of a miliyou looking for others know where to safely long for the kind of military spouses reto hang with someone your life? You can. I ganize a group just for we can safely find support while respectnature of our lives. come-women, men, mail secthea-

tre@cox.net for more information. All correspondence will be kept completely private and any anonymity you wish to maintain will be respected.



GAYZETTE EVENTS

SATURDAY MAY 1

LINOMA BARES POTLUCK, 3 to 6pm, at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, 1719 Leavenworth, see article next page

SUNDAY MAY 2

OMAHA PEACE AND JUSTICE EXPO, UNO Student Center from 1pm to 6pm

WEDNESDAY MAY 5

HEALING SERVICE, St. Gabriel Eastern Orthodox Church, 3219 R Street, 7pm, see article on page 7

SATURDAY MAY 8

HGRA BOOTS & BOXERS, DC's Saloon, 9:30PM, see ad on page 9 for more info

SUNDAY MAY 16

IT'S MY PARTY, Nebraska Pride Benefit, Miss Gay Pride NE 2002 Annastasia, Club JOY, 9:30pm

SATURDAY MAY 22ND

NEBRASKA PRIDE BENEFIT AND AUCTION, Miss Gay Pride NE 2003 Aspen Brooks, at The MAX, 6:30 pm

SUNDAY MAY 30

PRIDE IDOL - LIVE VOCAL COMPETITION, Club JOY, 9:30pm, Audience vote=50%, hosted by Rainbow Celebrations

SATURDAY JUNE 5

OMAHA WOMYN'S RIVERBOAT
CRUISE 3RD ANNUAL DINNER/
CONCERT CRUISE, featuring Laura
Love in concert. For more information
call Tauni or Sheryl at 467-5737

SUNDAY JUNE 30

<u>8TH ANNUAL NEBRASKA PRIDE</u>
<u>PAGEANT</u>, at The MAX, 8pm, contestant info pride@rainbowcelebrations.org
or call 402-208-2951

FRJDAY JUNE 18TH

MR./MS. LEATHER NEBRASKA CONTEST, DC's Saloon, for info email omahajoe@hotmail.com

FRJDAY JUNE 18—SUNDAY., JUNE 20 NEBRASKA PRIDE CELEBRATION

SAT. JUNE 19 & SUN., JUNE 20RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS SUM-MER PRIDE CONCERT & REUNION
WEEKEND, 7:05PM, Strauss Performing Arts Ctr., UNO Campus, For ticket information, call our Singline 341-SING (7464)

SATURDAY, JULY 3

IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBRASKA CORO-NATION 24. Doubletree Hotel

FRJ., OCTOBER 14—SUN., OCT.17

IGRA FINALS RODEO, Chance Ridge Equine, Omaha; info: www.hgra.net or call 402-203-4680

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

WORSHIP SERVICES:

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

1ST METHODIST 7020 Cass, 8:30 & 10:45am

EPISCOPAL GLBT FELLOWSHIP, St. Andrews Church, 84th & Pacific, 6-7PM, email: Jon@standrewsomaha.org

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

 OF OMAHA
 819 S. 22, 345-2563 Worship:

 9am & 11am
 Sunday School: 11am

 FIRST UNITARIAN
 3114 Harney, 11am

 LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN
 1023 N 40

 10am

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA,

3424 N. 90, Omaha, 9am, 11am

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

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,

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

Every Monday

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

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

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

Every Tuesday
OMAHA MEN'S SUPPORT G

OMAHA MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 7:30pm

<u>UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUP-PORT GROUP</u>, 7-8:30PM, Women's Center, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 472-5644

Every WednesdayWORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

HIV TESTS, 1-4 pm NAP, 139 S. 40

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK 6:30pm AkSarBen Lot 5, 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

AA MEETING, NON SMOKING, 7PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 So. 22nd St.

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

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections

Every Friday

LAMBDA TV, Lincoln Cable Ch 13. 9pm

<u>HIV TESTING</u>, 5 - 10 pm, NAP Outreach Center, 1723 Leavenworth

LGBT AA 8pm, Boys & Girls Home Sioux City, IA (712) 252-4272,

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

Every Saturday

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

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE, 7PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22nd St

LAMBDA TV Lincoln Cable Ch 13. 3 pm

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

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, 9918845 or email: rcga@tgforum.com

GAY/BI SUPPORT GROUP HIV+ MEN. 6 -8pm, NAP, 220 S. 17, Lincoln FFI: Mark Giesler 476-7000.

SINGLE LESBIANS, Social and Networking Group, generally meets first Saturdays at 7PM, Call 614-6145 for information

2nd Thursday

PFLAG-OMAHA, 7pm, 1st Methodist

2nd Friday

SUDS RAPID HIV TEST, (2 hr results) 5

- 10 pm, NAP Outreach, 1723 Leavenworth

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS
HIV TEST, UN-L 476-0355, 1-3:30pm

2nd Saturday

LEATHER ENGINEERS—OMAHA Meeting 7pm, Gilligan's

HIV TESTING UNL campus. Cornerstone, 16th & U, Lincoln, 476-0355 or 472-7447. 1:30-3:30pm

L2EP@aol.com 2pm; DC's Saloon

2rd 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., icon.impcourt.org

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, 4767000.

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

COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

3rd Saturday

FLAT WATER BEARS 7:30pm, at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center

4th Tuesday

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 Saturday

HIV TESTING Cornerstone, 16th & U, Lincoln, 476-0355 or 472-7447. 1:00-3:00pm

LAST Sunday

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

Flatwater Bears Cleaning Up

The Flatwater Bears will be heading to Van Meter IA (near Des Moines) on Saturday May 8, 2004, to do a Spring clean-up at the Raccoon River Retreat. And if you are interested, you are invited to come and help out. The Bears are going over in the morning on Saturday to help clean the flower beds, mow, trim, cut tree branches, rake and do a general cleanup for the upcoming season. And you get to spend the night there at the lodge free for helping out. So if you have never been there, enjoy the rustic outdoors and would enjoy a soak in the wood fired hot tub, then bring your yard tools and give it a try. It's always a fun time.



LINOMABARES INFORMATIONAL MEETING and POTLUCK

Ever want to know what the organization LOB is? Well now is the time to find out. On May 1st from 3-6pm at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, the Linomabares will be on hand to answer any questions about the club and the functions they provide. The Linomabares will be hosting a potluck event at the center from 3-6pm. This event will be open to the public (bi/gay men only please). This will be a fun event for our community and you will get to meet some cool bares.



Chris from the Outreach Center will be on hand to assist with any questions about the center. We hope to see a good turn out and meet some new people in the community. Just bring a friend and yourself down to the Resource Center at 1719 Leavenworth on May 1st and enjoy some good food, company and conversation. And feel free to bring a favorite side dish yourself if you like.

OMAHA BARS

CONNECTIONS 1901 Leavenworth 933-3033 THE DIAMOND 712 S. 16th St 342-9595 DC'S SALOON 610 S. 14th Street 344-3103 FLIXX 1019 S. 10th St 408-1020 **GILLIGAN'S PUB** 1407 Harney 449-9147 JOY 1516 Jones, 341-7337 The MAX 1417 Jackson 346-4110 OMAHA MINING CO 1715 Leavenworth 449-8703

LINCOLN BARS

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

SIOUX CITY BAR

JONES STREET STATION

412 JONES ST, SIOUX CITY 712-258-6922

RAINBOW OUTREACH 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
- Flat Water Bears, Box 3751, Omaha 68103 flatwaterbears@yahoo.com Hirsute men and admirers, 2nd Wed, The MAX, 7:30pm Front Runners/Walkers, Box 4583, Oma-
- Front Runners/Walkers, Box 4583, Omaha 68104 (402) 496-3658 Fun Run/Walks 10am Sun, 6pm Wed
- 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, 596-2549 http://www.glsenomaha.org GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources
- GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources Heartland Gay Rodeo Association Box 3354, Omaha 68103 402-203-4680
- 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, Mt 2nd Sat Gilligan's 7pm
- LinOma Bares, Box 24547, Omaha 68124 Nudist/ Naturist Club for gay/bi men Info: Eric (402) 553-5944; Jerry (402) 553-6626
- 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
- Men's Support Group-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563; Tuesday 7:30pm http://mike2tom.home.radiks.net/msgomaha/
- Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@radiks.net Website:www.mccomaha.org Sunday Worship 9 & 11am, Sunday School 11am, Wed Evening Service 7pm
- Nebraska AIDS Project, 552-9260 Watanabe Wellness Ctr, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131, Testing Mon, Thurs Eve, Wed aft
- NAP Outreach Center, 1723 Leavenworth, Testing & Counseling: Fri Nights
- Nebraska Advocates for Justice & Equality, 1102 Howard, Suite 2, Omaha 68102, 402.346-5960 naje now@hotmail.com
- Nebraska Gay Dads group list exchange emails posted to group list for discussion http://mike2tom.home.radiks.net/ nebraskagaydads/
- Omaha Bi Married Men Yahoo Group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ OmahaBiMarriedMen
- Omaha Nebr Gay Pride WebPage http://ONGP.com; email to: omahanegay-

- pride@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: NeOutAboout@vahoo.com
- OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists for Tolerance) First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, 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 8583, Omaha, 68108 402.502.1577 Pride Parade & Festival, National Coming Out Day (NCOD) Event info@rainbowcelebrations.org
 - Nebraska Pride Box 8583, Omaha, 68108 pride@rainbowcelebrations.org
 - National Coming Out Day P.O. Box 8583, Omaha, 68108 NCOD@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 MargauxPolo@aol.com
- River City Gender Alliance, Box 8076, Omaha 68108, 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: 9am, 11am Wednesday evening worship 7pm; 57 -1344; www.unityomaha.org
- Women's Support Group, Saturday 10am, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563
- 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 QuestioningWomen's Discussion Group, University of Nebraska, Lincoln Women's Center (sponsor), Room 340, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588-0446. 402/472-5644.
- **Nebraska AIDS Project,** 220 S. 17th St. Lincoln, NE 68508. (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, Barbara Kimberly jbkimber@msn.com, Website: http:// pflag.ineb.org/
- Plainsmen, Support FtM's (Female to Male)
 Drag Kings TV Butches, 402-820-1267
- 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 483-5592 Women In Trades/YWCA, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494,
- 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
- Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880 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-glbt.com/

Iowa Based

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

ACLU to Honor 416 Plaintiffs

The public is invited to attend the annual dinner meeting for ACLU Nebraska, to be held on Saturday, May 22nd, at the Clarion Hotel, 120th and L Streets in Omaha. The dinner speaker will be Raneta Lawson Mack, co-author of Equal Justice in the Balance: America's Legal Responses to the Emerging Terrorist Threat, who will speak on the USA Patriot Act.

ACLU Nebraska will honor the following individuals for their work in defense of civil liberties:

Roger Baldwin Civil Libertarian of the Year: The five couples who are named in our lawsuit against Initiative 416, for their courage and willingness to represent the interests of those opposed to Initiative 416. These couples are David Gilsdorf and Robb Crouch; Judy Gibson and Barbara DiBernard; Nancy Brink and Maria Perez; Jim Kieffer and Gary Lopez; Donna Colley and Margaux Towne Colley.

Defender of the Bill of Rights Award: Ben Gray, photo-journalist and community activist for his commitment to open discussion of critical civil liberties issues on his weekly show Kaleidoscope.

Robert Spire Founders Award: Robert Broom, a partner in Broom, Johnson Clarkson and Lanphier, for his lengthy support of the ACLU Nebraska Omaha Lawyers Panel and his litigation work as an ACLU Nebraska Cooperating attorney.

Tickets to the dinner are \$35 each, with advance reservations required. When making reservations, please indicate your meal preference. The choices are Prime Rib of Beef, Salmon Steak, or Vegetarian Lasagna.

Additional information is available by calling the ACLU Nebraska office at 402-476-8091 or e-mailing info@aclunebraska.org.

FRANK & GRYVA, P.C.

CRIMINAL/DUI SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS/SSI

Julie A Frank

Mary C Gryva

1823 Harney St. Suite 201 Omaha Nebraska, 68102

Phone: 402-346-0874

Continued from Page 6, Merlins Refuge Fund Raiser

If you would like to sell candy bars, purchase candy bars or help out with the luncheon please email me (KyleFrye@aol.com).

Also, still in need of foster care for older cats, if you can handle one or two let me know! Thanks again for your support!!

Merlin's Refuge's mission is to provide long-term care and adoption services for domestic animals in need of a good home. To prevent unnecessary euthanasia of non-terminally ill animals and to provide an alternative to traditional shelters through a no-kill policy, which specifies that animals never be euthanized except when compassion for a suffering animal demands it and no reasonable alternative, exists. They also work to rehabilitate improperly socialized animals that are usually victims of neglect and abuse. More information is available at www.merlinsrefuge.com

Are You Listed?

If your group or organization is not listed on the Resources Page, or if the information listed is out of date, please send us an email at news@rocc.org so we can include you or update your information.



Support, dedication and devotion! Three words which many of the GLBT organizations in eastern Nebraska use to describe Eric Anderson, owner of Club JOY in Omaha, Nebraska. Eric has time and time again proven his dedication and commitment to the GLBT community by sponsoring many events within our community. Eric, in his capacity as owner of Club JOY has helped sponsor Ice Bowl, the Nebraska AIDS Walk and Project, MPower, Rainbow Celebrations, Nebraska Pride 2003 and 2004, National Coming Out Day Celebrations, Heartland Gay Rodeo Association, Miss Gay Nebraska National, Miss Gay Nebraska National at Large, International Ms. Leather and the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center.

Eric has even taken to the stage at Club JOY to host his own fundraising benefits for numerous charities close to his heart. With live skits, numerous costume characters and a cast of many, his benefits continue to be sold out/standing room only benefits! Always out and active within the walls of the club, he is respected by many patrons who see his generous and devoted support of these needy organizations.

With an open door, Eric has always provided a listening ear to many within the community and a safe place to be yourself at Club JOY. Whenever called upon to help, Eric has always come to the rescue. For these reasons and many more, Eric Anderson was announced as the 2004 GLBT Pride Parade Grand Marshal honor.

Eric will help promote Nebraska Pride's 19th annual Celebration this June with appearances at upcoming Pride benefits in Lincoln and Omaha! The Grand Marshal will also ride at the front of the parade and take part in the parade entry judging by awarding the Grand Marshal's Choice Award with a \$50 cash prize. He will then help open the Festival with comments during the opening ceremony which will begin at Noon on Saturday, June 19 in downtown Omaha.

Rainbow Celebrations congratulates all the nominees this year - with a field of 5 nominees to chose from, the GLBT and supportive community had a very extensive and qualified field to

choose from. The Grand Marshal honor is one of the highest honors awarded by the community and is currently chosen by a statewide vote. Past Grand Marshals have included Scott Winkler, The MAX, and Bob & Betty Dorr. For more information about the Grand Marshals, Nebraska Pride and Rainbow Celebrations, please visit www.rainbowcelebrations.org. You may also contact Rainbow Celebrations by phone at 866-NE-PRIDE or by email at info@rainbowcelebrations.org.



SUBSCRIBE TO THE GAYZETTE NOW ONLY \$35 PER YEAR

FOR YOUR \$35 SUBSCRIPTION YOU RECEIVE THE GAYZETTE MAILED DIRECTLY TO YOUR HOME EVERY TWO WEEKS

Please complete this form and return it with the \$35 subscription fee to:

Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, P.O.Box 8583, Omaha, NE 68102

(Please Print ALL Information) Name	:	
Mailing Address:		
City, State, Zip:		
Telephone (optional) :	Email (optional) :	

Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance - UNO Interfaith Immigration Services of Nebraska Metro Omaha Tobacco Action Coalition Omaha Friends Meeting - Quakers Central Nebraska Peace Workers Peacemakers Potluck and Vigil School of the Americas Watch Nebraska Young Democrats Theatre of the Oppressed Nebraska AIDS Project Nebraskans For Peace The Grove - UNO Prairie Breakers



Humanity International for Peace and Prosperity
American Association of University Women
Creighton Center for Service and Justice
Immigrant Rights Network of IA & NE
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Friends and Families of Inmates
UNO School of Social Work
Second Unitarian Church
Omaha Baha'i Faith
Free the Innocent
Food Not Bombs
ACLU Nebraska
Concord Center

Omaha

Peace & Justice

No Admission Fee No Admission Fee Donations are appreciated! No Pre-registration

Expo

Www.progressiveomaha.com
Schedules Soon!

Sunday May 2nd 1:00 - 6:00 pm UNO Student Center

For more info or to volunteer 593-1810

NFP - UNO
Peaces of Omaha
Prairie Peace Park
Nebraska Green Party
Anti-Defamation League
United Nations Association
Nebraska Coalition for Peace
Alternatives to Violence Project
Nebraska Criminal Justice Review
Nebraskans Against the Death Penalty
Des Moines Catholic Worker Communi-

Nebraska International-language Association Social Ministry Commission of the Archdiocese National Conference for Community and Justice

60 BOOTHS
30 WORKSHOPS
SPEAKERS, MUSIC & POETRY
INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
RALLY

Let's create a more peaceful and just world!

RATION

PULSE
REASON
Earth Day Omaha
Dignity Cooperative
Latina Resource Center
Act to Stop War Coalition
Nebraska Libertarian Party
Citizens For Equal Protection
Nebraskans for Justice in Palestine
New Covenant Justice & Peace Center
United Methodists for Mission and Justice
Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center
Amnesty International – UNO & Creighton
Al-Awda - Palestine Right to Return Coalition

An Interview with RAVEN

By Chris Sowards

Everyone knows your stage name, but what is your boy name?

No comment!

Most people already know that you are from Atlanta, but where are you originally from?

I am from a small farm in Oklahoma. I grew up there till I was about 19 and then moved to Atlanta to experience the city life.

How long have you lived in Atlanta?

I have lived in Atlanta since 1988.

Most drag performers have drag mothers that teach them, who taught you drag?

The female impersonator that taught me everything that I know was Amber Richards. Who has passed on since then.

Do you consider yourself a drag queen, female impersonator, or a performance artist?

I would consider myself to be a performance artist, just for the simple fact that I do a bit of theater when I perform. And plus, when people call me a drag queen or a female impersonator, it really doesn't bother me. Except for when someone calls me a drag queen and I can hear it in their voice, so, really it's not the term, it's the tone.

What inspired you to do a fire act in your routines?

When I started the fire act in my routines, I was looking for something that would just knock people off of their chairs, and it worked. What I try to do is improve my routines so that the audience doesn't get bored with my performances.

Who is your mentor or mentors? (drag or in life)

I am really a big history buff. People that have inspired me are Leonardo DaVinci and Franklin Roosevelt, people that have made a difference in our life.

Who inspired you to drag?

No one really inspired me to do drag. I started when I was a child. I would put on my mothers make-up, dresses, and such and walk around the house when no one was home. But when they would come home, I would have to hurry and get everything off. Which is why I am so quick with costume changes today.

Now that you have performed in Omaha twice, do you see a difference in performers from Atlanta and Omaha?

There really are not any BIG differences between Omaha and Atlanta. If there is and was, it is a really small difference. It's like a big sister hood with all of us female impersonators and Atlanta has a small edge over Omaha, but not really that big of a one.

Most people that I have talked to here in Omaha didn't know that you where a female impersonator, how does that make you feel that people think that you are a real woman?

Wow, people do...haha. But no really, that makes me feel good, because that is what I am supposed to do. I am supposed to make myself look as close as to a women that I can for the audience. I don't feel any remorse for people that think that. Oh and by the way, I have no surgical alterations...haha.

When were you born?

I was born on July 3, 1968.

Where you nervous the first time that you performed?

Of course I was, weren't we all our first time? But yet in the same respect I don't think that every female impersonator is slapped and then given 4 shots of Jagermeister and then pushed on stage, so I really wasn't that nervous at all, hehe.

Where was your first performance?

My first performance was a at dive bar in Atlanta, I would perform there every weekend. If I remember correctly the fist show I did was called "Boys in Dresses".



Most female impersonators think that because they dress in women's clothing that a lot of guys would not want to be in a relationship with them. What are your thoughts on that?

It's almost like a catch 22. I have been very fortunate to find many men that don't mind me being a female impersonator, Why, is it a problem here in Nebraska? hehe

Are you involved with anyone?

No, I am not involved with anyone at this moment, but I did just get out a 3 year relationship.

Does your family know that you perform as Raven and if so, do they support you?

Absolutely!! When my parents found out that I was performing as Raven, they where not really mad or anything. If anything else I would have to say that they were and are really proud of me. When my father shows pictures of his children, he tells people that this is my son the football star and this is my other son the most fabulous drag queen in the country. So, yes everyone knows and they support me in what I do.

What are some of the important titles that you have won?

I was the National Entertainer of the Year 2002 – 2003 and Universal Show Queen 2001 – 2002. Which I was the first non-transgender person, in other words the first REAL male, to win the Universal Show Queen title.

Who is Raven from Atlanta?

Raven is a theater queen, someone that is strong, pretty, and someone that people can look up to.

Do you have any words of wisdom to give anyone that wants to do drag?

I would have to say do not listen to the bitter queens. Only listen to people that you know their advice is trust worthy and that they are trying to make you a better performer. Also, just be yourself, be what you want your female impersonator to be. It's a business of entertainment, don't take it lightly. We are out there to entertain people, so just do your best.

What has been your biggest accomplishment?

Oh wow, there is so many. I have almost accomplished all of my goals. I would have to say I am proud of being so close to my family, because not everyone is so lucky in that department. As well as, I am proud to be someone that others can look up to, that just makes me feel good all around.

And finally, do you have a final statement to make to our readers?

If it would not have been for the fearless crew, the minnow would be lost...hehe. Just come say hi to me, I wont bite you if you don't want me to. Please send me some email about you or just to say hi, you can send them to raven@goddessraven.com. Come by and check out the website if you want to at www.goddessraven.com.

(Raven was at The Max on April 18th. She sends all of her love to everyone that was there that night, but yet she understands if someone was not able to make it. If you missed her act at The Max, Raven is the kind of drag queen that you don't want to miss the next time she is in town. So, next time she is in town don't miss her, come see her at The Max.)



Editors Rants

Why do they Lie?

I was watching a movie on TV the other night and when it ended, the 700 Club News came on. I was appalled to watch the stories unfolding in support of the Federal Marriage Amendment. With each story came a commentary by Pat Robertson who was stretching the truth at the very least and most times distorting it completely out of existence. And of course an appeal to send him money always followed.

It made my blood boil to listen to this man spewing forth bigotry and hatred towards his fellow man and woman-kind. Why does the religious right feel the need to lie, distort and change the real facts about gay people? What are they so afraid of about the GLBT community? They never give any valid reasons, just the same disturbing rhetoric over and over again. Are we just a cash cow for them?

The GLBT community doesn't go on TV and spread lies and half truths about any of them. I used to give money to organizations like this in the past but I no longer will since they seem to have found an easy target, the GLBT community, to stir up emotions and raise cash to keep their churches and organizations running smoothly. And they are working to write bigotry and discrimination into the Constitution of the United States and those of the individual states. My bucks stop here.

George B, Gayzette Editor

Famous Quotes

"Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves, and, under a just God, cannot retain it." -Abraham Lincoln (he knew this 140 years ago... smart man –Ed.)

"Corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the Republic is Destroyed" -Abraham Lincoln in an 1864 letter (not much has changed; the Good Ole Boy network is alive and well -Ed.)



Monthly Meetings: 2nd Thursday 7:00 P.M.

4th Sunday 2:00 P.M.

Location: First United Methodist Church 7020 Cass, Omaha, Nebraska

P.O. Box 390064 Omaha, NE 68139-0064 HELPLINE (402) 291-6781

Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Aces Bar. 1263 South 16th Street Body Mods, 61st and Military Connections, 1901 Leavenworth The Diamond. 712 South 16th Street DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street Dixie Ouix. Restaurant 20th Leavenworth First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney Flixx 1019 South 10th Street Omaha Gilligan's Pub, 1407 Harney Street The Joy, 1516 Jones Street Liquid Courage Custom Tattoo, 2936 South 84th Street The Max, 1417 Jackson 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 GLBT Resource Center, 1719 Leaven-

Stage Right Coffee and Tea House, 16th and Harney

Youth Emergency Services, 3910 Harney

Lincoln:

Panic Bar, 200 South 18th Street Q Bar, 226 South 9th Street

Iowa:

Adult Emporium, Council Bluffs & Glenwood Wilson Resource Center, Arnolds Park, IA

One Liners

"It does not require a majority	to prevail, but rather an irate,
tireless minority keen to set br	ushfires in people's minds."

— Sam Adams

One of the greatest tragedies in human history was the hijacking of morality by religion.

--- Arthur C. Clarke

"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."

--- Dr. Seuss

"I just returned from Washington D.C. I noticed that the squirrels have bushy tails and Bush has squirrelly tales. Who knew? Only in America."

— Tamara

May Day CABARST

featuring

Soloist Bryon Heinrich & Dianist Kevin Smith

Saturday May 1^{st} from 7-9 p.m.



Come listen as Bryon belts out Broadway hits.

Stage & Screen Sunday

Showing Your Favorite
Movies & Musicals
With Drink Specials
All Night Long!

Movie Monday

Showing Your Favorite Gay Themed Movies 7-9 p.m. & 9-11 p.m.

Topless Tuesday

Jerret leads the gang of Omaha's Hottest Shirtless Men Shed Your Shirt = \$1 Off your Drink Grab Your Buddy and Come On Down.



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Open 7 Days a week for your partying pleasure

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MEN! ARE YOU READY? Underwear Night Is Back Friday, May 7

Only In Omaha Only At THE MAX

Also Coming In May Saturday May 8 - ICON's PR Ball, 5 pm In Stosh's Saloon Sunday May 9 - That's Entertainment With Michelle Michaels

Sunday May 16

Join Our Diva, Miss Max 20 Chandler As She Hosts Her "DIVAS SHOW CASE" With Special Guests Roxy Marquis and Monica West

For More Information Visit Us At www.themaxomaha.com Or Call 402-3464110