## The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

#### New Dates Set for Nebraska Pride 2008!

Things are really picking up at planning committee meetings and there are a couple of very important announcements.

First, the dates for Nebraska Pride 2008 have changed! That's right, you read correctly. Nebraska Pride 2008 will be June 20 – 22. We are very excited about the change of dates because we think you will be excited about the NEW venue.

Second, you are still welcome to join the planning committee the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7pm at the Rainbow Outreach Center, 1719 Leavenworth St. We would love your input. After all, this year's theme is Pride Knows No Borders, so no opinion or creative suggestion is out of bounds.

If speaking at a meeting isn't your forte, then put ink to paper and enter our logo contest! There is a \$100 cash award for the winning entry. Contest details can be found at www.nebraskaprideevents.com or contact Vic Wagner (vic@rainbowcelebrations.org) or Johnnie Richards (johnnie@rainbowcelebrations.org), your Nebraska Pride 2008 Co-Chairs for more information.

Now for the third and final announcement, the community is what Pride is all about. Did you know that the money raised at Nebraska Pride 2007 is working its way right back into the community? We are proud to announce that NINE organizations will receive gifts this year at a special reception on March 28, 2008. You made it possible, Nebraska! Thank you for giving us even more reason to be proud!

#### Stopping Homelessness For Omaha Youth

By Nicole Higginbotham

"If you want to see how important families are, then look at homeless youth, because the family has a tremendous impact on their lives," said Ana Marie Cauce, Professor of Psychology at the University of Washington at Seattle. According to the CRS

#### Heath Ledger: More than a Gay Cowboy

By Miles Christian Daniels

It's funny how we remember famous people.

Tammy Faye Bakker will always be remembered for her eyelashes. Richard Nixon for Watergate. Luciano Pavarotti for his sprawling tenor voice. And, if headlines are any indication, Heath Ledger for his Academy-nominated performance in "Brokeback Mountain." Celebrities, for the most part, have little or no say in how they'll be remembered. They put themselves out there and whether it's baseball, singing, televangelism or acting, we – the public – decide their legacy.



Heath Ledger

I'll admit. I wasn't a huge fan of the "gay cowboy" film. Maybe it was the hype. I saw it late in its release and was expecting – I don't know – something more. Could be because I had come out of the closet years before and so much of the pain I had experienced through that process had been stacked away in my closet of now-fading memories.

Whatever the reason, I left thinking the film was just okay. What I did leave with, however, is an appreciation for the bravery of both Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal for accepting the role many of their counterparts had rejected for fear it just might ruin their respective careers.

And in spite of my disappointment for the film, Ledger and Gyllenhaal helped challenge a notion many of us in the gay

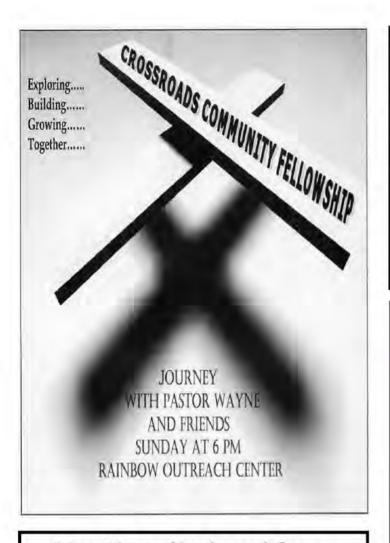
community have battled with since our coming out, that we're all effeminate, fashion gurus whose sexuality is defined entirely by stereotype – and even worse – by choice. Because of this, I had never been a fan of shows like "Will and Grace" or "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy."



(Continued on page 5)

(Continued on page 7)

February 1, 2008 - February 15, 2008



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All ads should be emailed to Gayzette@cox.net. Checks should be made payable to Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center. 10% Discount for on-going ads of any size. Payment and ads may also be delivered to the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, P.O. Box 8583, Omaha NE 68102 on or before the deadline or you may pay with credit card on our web site at

www.RainbowOutreach.org and email the ad. We reserve the right to refuse any ad which we deem to be inappropriate.

2

Ad Deadlines: Friday, Feb 8, for Publication Feb 15th Friday, Feb 22 for Publication Feb 29th



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(Heath Ledger Story, Continued from page 1)

These, in my opinion, only confirmed what many already assumed.

In a 2006 interview with Fordham University's The Observer, an unassuming Ledger said "... [we] wanted to tell a story of someone who transcends the label of straight or gay; he's a soul that falls in love with another soul within the vessel of a man." Ledger went on to say that his character, Ennis Del Mar, "was the most kind of complex and internal character I've been offered to play and it would take a very mature performance out of me to complete this character."

Ledger received a Golden Globe for his performance and was also nominated for an Academy Award. But, more than the accolades, Ledger – whether he meant to or not - helped folks like my father, three brothers, and friends I've known since grade school, come one step closer to understanding that being gay has nothing to with stereotype and everything to do with love. Because of this, my hope is that Heath Ledger be remembered as an individual who made life just a little bit easier for folks like me.

Miles Christian Daniels is the director of the documentary film, "Dixie Queen." His columns have appeared in more than one hundred newspapers and magazines. He can be reached at danielsm@hmrifken.com.

#### MCC-OMAHA HOSTS SERIES OF LENTEN FISH FRY EVENTS

During Lent, which begins on February 6th, MCC-Omaha will be offering a wonderful Fish Fry Meal on the following Fridays --- February 15, February 22, February 29, March 7 and March 14.

The menu will feature Catfish Nuggets, Cole Slaw, French Fries, Garlic Bread and coffee, tea or soda pop. The meal itself will cost only \$6.00. Desserts will also be available for an extra 50 cents. The meals will be served in the church Social Hall and will run from 5:30 p.m. --- 7:30 p.m.

An added bonus is that Take-Out Orders will be accepted. You may call the church telephone number --- 345-2563 beginning at 5:00 p.m. on any of these Fridays to reserve a take-out order.

The church is located at 819 South 22nd Street, just south of the corner of 22nd and Leavenworth Street. These meals have been organized and will be prepared by the MCC-Omaha Financial Development Committee.

Be sure to mark these Fridays on your calendar and plan to join us each Friday for these delicious meals. We would love to have you – and your friends! Don't miss out on these delicious meals – you will be glad you took the time to be with us. Tony Harris MCC-Omaha



## Reflections With Pastor Tom

#### Seeking & Finding

Generally, we will not find more than we seek. Our intentions and outlook on who we are and want to be guide our seeking. When we engage in seeking we enter into a process of becoming. Much in the same way that we are what we eat, we are also what we seek.

I believe that real and authentic seeking leads us, one way or another, to the Divine. Real and authentic seeking is the ongoing activity of asking questions like:

Who am I? What is the meaning of my life? What are my character defects and how do those hold me back?

The coming out process is a form of spiritual seeking. During our coming out process we asked questions like: Who am I? Why was I made this way? Why is the world like this? Can the establishment be challenged?

An old Rabbi once said: "When you play hide-and-seek with your friend, imagine his pain and disappointment if he hides and you stop looking for him." When we give up on seeking God, we resign ourselves from the game of life. Yet, this game is what gives life meaning.

When we seek we will find. The paradox, in fact, is this: to seek is to already have found. Our search for friendship, for justice, for love and for God is possible only because we have already found some part of these wonderful things. Seeking, then, is like opening a gift that is already ours. It is going deeper into what is already here. This is why Jesus said: "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you."

When we seek what we have already found we will find more. Our spiritual, emotional, physical and psychological well-being will blossom. Yet there is no growth without tension. Sometimes in our journey as seekers, we will stumble.

This week I encourage you to ask yourself what you are seeking and why. What is the payoff? The Universe, that is God, rewards the seeker. You want God's blessing? Then get to it: do the next best thing, be a blessing and God will reward you. Greatness is waiting for you, now seek it!

May God Bless & Keep You . . . Pastor Tom pastortom@mccomaha.org

Next Issue: Being Troubled and Upset

Pastor Tom Emmett is licensed and credentialed with the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC). MCC was the first church to fully include all people. Tom holds a Masters Degree in European history from the University of Colorado and a Masters of Divinity from the Iliff School of Theology. He is currently learning Spanish and studying the cello. You may contact Pastor Tom by telephone at 345-2563 or electronically at pastortom@mccomaha.org

(Y.E.S. Story, Continued from page 1)

Report for Congress, "gay and lesbian youth appear to be overrepresented in the homeless population, due often to experiencing negative reactions from their parents when they came out about their sexuality". In Omaha specifically, there is a shelter service that is trying to take homeless youth off of the streets. This is the Youth Emergency Services, and in an interview with Bob Storey, the Executive Director of YES, I had the opportunity to find out how this program services the Omaha area.

What is the mission of YES?

We're the only organization that deals with homeless, runaway youth in town. The organization has been around since 1974. When the organization was started it offered short, emergency shelter for teenagers 13 to 18. It stayed as a one program service until about late 1998. That's the time when we developed and implemented the street outreach program. The street outreach program deals more with the homeless, runaway youth than did the original shelter operation. The original shelter operation dealt with kids that were having trouble with their families and it grew across time where we also deal with the juvenile courts and the foster care system. It didn't particularly deal with the homeless, runaway kids until about 1998. That's when the street outreach program started, and we serve anywhere from 500 to 700 kids a year now.

What kind of services do you offer homeless kids?
Well, it depends on the program. If you are a kid that has been caught up in the juvenile court system, the court may rule that there's something going on in your family that precludes you from going home. They'll order you to be placed in out home

placement. That kid may stay with us for a short term of time until a more stable type of situation can be found. We'll probably have that kid for up to 30 to 45 days, and then, they'll move on to a longer term placement. If the kids is in the foster care system and has all of a sudden developed problems with the foster family and needs to be removed and placed into another foster family, they may be placed with us for a period of time until they can be placed in another foster care system. If you're talking about a kid that is not getting along with the parents and there is a lot of behavioral issues and the family is kind of at their wits end, we will have that child anywhere from seven to fourteen days in order to give the family the opportunity to get some services put in place in order to deal with that situation. When you talk about runaways and homeless youth, if they choose to, they can reside in our shelter for a short period of time until we can provide a stable housing situation for them. If they are on the run, then we will allow them to stay in the shelter building until we can make arrangements for them to be returned to where they need to be or negotiate their return to the family.

I understand that you have a drop-in center on Harney. What is that used for?

Now, in addition to the shelter services with the outreach program, we do have a drop-in center that is located at 2057 Harney. That building has a food pantry. It has an inventory of clothing, a shower facility, a laundry facility. We do have meals that we provide at that location. That building is open Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. We have a visiting nurse association and a public health nurse onsite, two nights a week to take care of their immediate health needs. We also have the

(Continued next page)



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If you think you are too young to do estate planning or have all of your estate planning done, consider this . . .

THIS YEAR YOU ARE SIX TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BECOME DISABLED THAN DIE! This alarming statistic shouldn't surprise you... you see it everyday. Unfortunately, the number of people becoming disabled will <u>double</u> in the next decade. Most estate planning was designed to deal with <u>death not disability</u>, but that can be corrected.

MOST POWERS OF ATTORNEY ARE OUTDATED WHEN PRESENTED (MANY ARE NOT EVEN AVAILABLE). Your Power of Attorney is used to allow someone to make financial or health care decisions on your behalf when you are unable to. Unfortunately, these documents keep becoming outdated. Assuming your document is current, will it be available in an emergency? Hospitals report in 3 out of 4 cases the Patient's Health Care Power of Attorney is not available when needed (they will always ask if you have one before you are admitted, regardless of your age). Our new program makes this document accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via the telephone.

WITHOUT A LIVING WILL YOU MAY BE KEPT ALIVE ON LIFE SUPPORT AGAINST YOUR WISHES IN CERTAIN INSTANCES. Remember Terri Schiavo? She was only 26 years old when she collapsed in her home due to respiratory and cardiac arrest. She spent the next 15 years of her life in a persistent vegetative state, kept alive on feeding tubes, until she died at age 41. We will never know whether those were her wishes since she did not have a Living Will. Don't let this happen to you. Make sure your wishes are known.

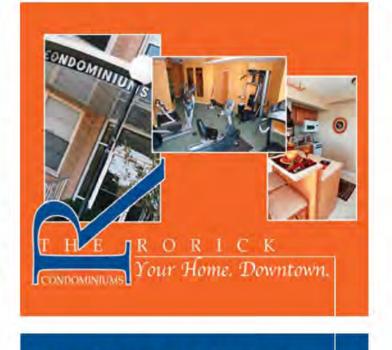
Don't wait until you actually have a problem before you deal with it. By waiting until the problem happens you typically can only minimize the damage, rather than prevent it. Let's prevent it! We have developed a solution for every problem.

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WITHOUT PROPER ESTATE PLANNING YOU ARE LEAVING YOUR FUTURE IN THE HANDS OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM WHICH WILL FOLLOW THE LAWS OF THE STATE YOU LIVE IN. TO MAKE MATTERS EVEN WORSE, THE INTESTACY LAWS OF NEBRASKA HAVE NO DEFAULT PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS SOME OF THE UNIQUE ESTATE PLANNING ISSUES FACING THE GLBT COMMUNITY. THERE IS A SOLUTION BUT YOU MUST HAVE THE PROPER PLANNING IN PLACE BEFORE THE NEED ARISES.

visiting nurses taking care of some parenting classes, because a lot of the young ladies that we deal with do have children. We also stock up on baby food, formula, and diapers at that location

How has the community gotten involved with the YES program? We do get donations of diapers, formula, clothing, and books on a regular basis. We also have some activities at that location that allow community organizations to come in and present their services so that kids know what's available to them. We maintain a resource manual. We're pretty familiar with about every service in town that these kids may need, and we have referral rights to those programs. The last thing about the program that makes it a little bit unique is a lot of people are familiar with the safe place signs around town, but they don't necessarily know what these signs mean. If you drive into a Kwik Trip for instance, you will see on their light pole a yellow sign that says "Safe Place". There are 50 of these places around town now, and the staff of those particular buildings understand that if a kid comes in and says, "I need help", they will call us and we will respond to it.



## Calling All Followers! Recognize the Leader in Your Life!

A leader is a dealer in hope -Napoleon

Do you know an outstanding leader in the LGBTQIA community? No time is better than the present to recognize that person for all of their hard work and dedication. Nominations for the Nebraska Pride 2008 Grand Marshall are currently being accepted. If your nominee is selected they will be honored at a special ceremony March 28, 2008. Additionally, their biography will be included in the 2008 Pride Guide. More details can be found at www.nebraskaprideevents.com. You can also find entry forms wherever Gayzette's are distributed.

#### HIV Advocates: This Volunteer Opportunity Might Just Be For You!

Have you ever wondered what you could do to help stop the spread of HIV? Do you already have some great ideas? The Nebraska HIV Care and Prevention Consortium (NHCPC) is looking for people with strong minds and big hearts. The NHCPC is on a continued mission to develop a comprehensive HIV CARE and Prevention Plan for the State of Nebraska. Please visit www.hhs.state.ne.us/dpc/nhcpc.htm for more details.

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Drop-in to Games Day!



#### Celebrate Valentine's Day With HGRA

The Heartland Gay Rodeo Association is hosting two Valentine Parties this year. Join us at DC's Saloon on Sunday Feb 10th at 9pm and see what kind of fun our Royalty has in store. We'll have a raffle and other goodies for you and your partner.



Then we are having another Valentine cele-

bration at Connections on Friday Feb 15th at 9pm. Shelley will be the DJ that night and we will have your favorite entertainers and presents for you and your honey.

#### Sensible Observations.....

"Oh, you hate your job? Why didn't you say so? There's a support group for that. It's called EVERYBODY, and they meet at the bar."

-- Drew Carey



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#### Simple Rules on Dating

(check it out there are eight of them)

1. Never get mad at someone you hang out with for not asking you

out. Ask them out if you like them. It might be they are just as scared as you are to ask the question or possibly they just aren't that into you for anything more than a friend. What's the worse that can happen they say "no" and the two of you remain friends? How bad is that?

Never ask someone to date you through a letter, e-mail, or text message... dude, that's just lame,

3. Never break-up with someone through a letter, e-mail, or text message... not lame just immature.

4. If you're young don't date anyone 20 years older than you. Often times this leads to them controlling you and sometimes becoming more like a dad than a partner. Only do date someone this much older if you are mature enough to keep the relationship normal and healthy. Don't do this if you have issues, and trust me if the older guy wants to date you knowing you have issues he too has issues. Avoid him.

5. If you're older don't date anyone 20 years younger than you. The maturity level difference will be obvious to others and the two of you. You just have to accept that it's not always in the best interest of the younger person to do this. Love them enough to not date them. Only date someone this much younger if they are without issues and mature enough to be with someone their dad's age (this is rare so don't quickly think you are the exception!). Don't always think of your wants, but think of what's best. How long could it last anyway?

6. If you just lost your partner either through a break-up, job relocation, or death don't date right away give it a few months. Try not to become dependent on always having someone with you. This could lead to issues (I like that word). Plus if you become needy to have someone with you all the time you'll often get into many bad relationships by taking the first person to come along and hang out with you.

7. Never say anything behind someone's back that you would not say in front of them. Often times what you say will get heard by them and you will have to say it in front of them anyway.

8. Be honest with friends and family about who you date. Their input should never be tossed aside. If they don't like the person you're dating think about your relationship and consider their words about it. Either they need to see what you see or you need to see what they see.

If this statement is true or relates to you, you should not date anyone until you deal with your problems:

"How come when it is a man we're looking at we are blind to all his faults and when it ourselves we look at all we see are faults?" Do you think this way? That you are not worth it? That if you meet someone who is a great guy you won't date them because you think you are not a good person or that you would end up hurting them then don't date anyone. You'll only get into worthless/bad relationships. You'll only date losers and you could end up in a self-destructive lifestyle. I suggest talking to the person you think is great and see yourself as they see you. I didn't say date them... yet. Deal with your issues first or allow them to help you.

Just remember we all have issues/problems it's how we deal with them that makes us dateable to someone else and we should not force our issues on someone else creating issues in that person. We also shouldn't take advantage of someone who has issue/problems just because of our own lust. Let's help each other out the best we can out of love and stop putting our wants before others needs.

Just remember if you are staying with a jerk you aren't out meeting wonderful men, and they are out there.

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#### **GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS**

Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha (mail address: PO Box 8583 Omaha NE 68108)

#### WALK-IN HOURS

Sundays 2:00PM - 8:00PM Tuesdays 7:00PM - 9:00PM Thursdays 7:30PM - 9:00PM Fridays 6:00PM - 11:00PM

\*Closed Most Major Holidays (402) 341-0330 www.rainbowoutreach.org

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.

SATURDAY APRIL 26th NEBRASKA GLBT SUMMIT. Mahoney State Park, more info later

#### WEEKLY EVENTS

**Every Sunday** WORSHIP SERVICES: AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA, 3647 LaFayette Ave., Omaha GLBT friendly, www.augustanalutheran.com

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY FEL-LOWSHIP, Now meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., Fellowship starts at 6PM, services begin at 6:30PM, Everyone Welcome! Doors open at 6PM.

DIETZ METHODIST 1423 S.10, Coffeehouse casual downstairs at 9am. Traditional Worship at 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

services

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40 10am service

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

ONE PROMISE GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Tamara B, at 714-

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

GAMES DAY AT THE GLBT CENTER, 1719 Leavenworth, 2PM to 4PM

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

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

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

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

**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

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

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP Confidential, meeting at the MCCO Church, 819 S. 22nd St, call 345-2563 for meeting times, all women are welcome

**Every Tuesday** HASTINGS COLLEGE ALLIANCE, meet Tuesdays at 7PM (when college is in session). Please contact Dr Antje Anderson at aanderson@hastings.edu or Judy Sandeen at isandeen@hastings.edu for further information.

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

**Every Wednesday** AA FOURTH DIMENSION, 7pm, Open to men and women, 219 North 48th Street

WORSHIP SERVICES MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

HIV TESTING, 1:30pm to 4 pm walk-in NAP, 139 S. 40 St., results in 20 minutes, call 402-552-9260 for info

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, results in 20 minutes, 2147 South 15th, 402-476-7000

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

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

KARAOKE W/STACY 9:00 pm DC's

**Every Thursday** DANCE LESSONS WITH GORDON 7-9pm, DC's Saloon

GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7-8:30pm. Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476-9668, held at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, Lin-

HIV TESTING 7- 9pm walk-in, NAP, 139 S. 40th Same day results.

KARAOKE 9pm. Connections Bar

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30 to 4:30pm. University Health Center Room 164 (next to Pharmacy on the first floor). Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln NE, results in one week

Every Friday AA ALTERNATIVE MEETING, 7pm. open to men and women, at Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church in the basement, 1023 North 40th Street

AA LIVE & LET LIVE, 8:15pm, Open to men and women, at Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 6PM to 10PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street

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

HIV TESTING 5-7PM walk-in, NAP, 139 S. 40th Same day results

NAP OUTREACH CENTER HIV TEST-ING 7 TO 10PM, walk-in, 2202 St. Marys Ave. Same day results

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30 to 4:30pm, University Health Center Room 164 (next to Pharmacy on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln NE, results in one week

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

**Every Saturday AA SATURDAY AFTERNOON**, 1:30pm,
Open to men and women, 219 North 48th
Street, call 402-558-0733 for more info

GLBT SEXUAL COMPULSIVE ANONY-MOUS, (SCA), A program of recovery, 12pm to 1pm, meeting at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St, (beginning on January 19th, 2008)

**OLDER ADULT DROP-IN**, 4 TO 6PM, at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., for older adults age 50+, single or partnered, Free

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

#### **MONTHLY EVENTS**

1st Tuesday LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

1st Thursday
GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT
AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7 to 8:30pm,
Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of
the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.

<u>GLBT PROFESSIONALS</u>, meeting at 6PM. Email at: omahaglbtprofessionals@cox.net

1st Friday FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE 8pm, Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

1st Saturday OR Sunday HEARTLAND GAY RODEO ASSOCIA-

TION, Meeting days and times may vary, call 402-505-3331 for info or see www.hgra.net for meeting schedules etc.

**1st Sunday**<u>GAY GUYS SPAGHETTI NIGHT</u>, at a Lincoln restaurant, call 402-483-6183 to reserve a seat up until the day before

TRANSGENDER DROP-IN, 2 to 4pm at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday ACTS II WORSHIP SERVICE**, 7pm, MCC Omaha, 819 S. 22nd Street

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday PFLAG- OMAHA**, 7pm, First United Methodist Church

2nd Saturday <u>LEARNING TO EXCHANGE</u> <u>POWER</u> <u>L2EP@aol.com</u> 2pm; DC's

Saloon **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday INTEGRITY** 6-7:30pm, St. Marks,

Lincoln NE

OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREEN-ING (glbt film shown at 7pm followed by discussion) First Unitarian, 3114 Harney

3rd Monday PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL (HASTINGS, NE), Meeting on 3rd Mondays at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7th and Marian St., 7PM, email jsandeen@inebraska.com or call 402.462.2961 or 402.460.8696

**3rd Tuesday IMPERIAL COURT OF NE**, Board of Governors meeting, 7:15pm, meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

HIV TESTING AT THE PANIC, Lincoln NE, 7-10PM walk-in, same day results, 200 South 18th Street

3rd Thursday
GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT
AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7-

8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.

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

3rd Saturday
GAY/BI SUPPORT GRP FOR HIV+
MEN 6-8pm NAP, 220 S. 17,
Lincoln, 476-7000.

**3rd Sunday TRANSGENDER DROP-IN**, 2 to 4pm at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

**4<sup>th</sup> 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 Friday
<u>LEO LEATHER ENGINEERS</u>

**OMAHA** 

Not currently meeting.

Email Your Event to: GAYZETTE@COX.NET

#### **Quotes We Love**

Why can't they have gay people in the army? Personally, I think they are just afraid of a thousand guys with M16s going, "Who'd you call a faggot?"

-- Jon Stewart

The Bible contains six admonishments to homosexuals and 362 admonishments to heterosexuals. That doesn't mean that God doesn't love heterosexuals. It's just that they need more supervision.

--Lynn Lavner

Jesse Helms and Newt Gingrich were shaking hands congratulating themselves on the introduction of an antigay bill in Congress. If it passes, they won't be able to shake hands, because it will then be illegal for a prick to touch an asshole.

--Judy Carter

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 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 1105 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to: Michael@cfep-ne.org
- Diamond Foundation, GLBT Scholar ships, Mentoring and Leadership, call 877-87-DIAMOND or see www.diamond-foundation.org
- Family Foundations Therapy for individuals, couples or families, for info call 558-3856
- First Central Congregational Church UCC, 421 South 36th St., 402-345-1533, www.firstcentral.org, GLBT-affirming
- First Lutheran Church, 542 So. 31st St., 402-345-7506, GLBT Friendly www.firstlutheranomaha.org
- First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St., 402-556-6262, www.fumcomaha.org, GLBT-affirming
- Flat Water Bears, (group disbanded)
  Front Runners/Walkers, Wednesdays at
  6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by
  softball field, Omaha
- Alphabet (ABC) Soup at UNO,
- http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uno\_abcsoup, Phone 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, see www.hgra.net for information
- 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, Doubletree Hotel Downtown, 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, for more Info email linomabares@yahoo.com or mail to P.O. Box 24547, Omaha NE 68124
- Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1023 No. 40th St., fully open to GLBT's,
- 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 Wed from 1:30-4PM by appointment only, Thurs 7PM-9PM results in a week, Fri 5PM-10PM with 20 minute results Call 402-552-9255 info
- NebraskaEquality.org, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community
- Nebraska GLBT Events, Community Events Calendar web site, see www.NebraskaGLBTEvents.com
- Nebraska Zen Center, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, www.prairiewindzen.org GLBT inclusive
- The 'Ohana Group, (GLBT / Nontraditional Family group), email to: Theohanagroup@msn.com
- Omaha Bi Married Men Yahoo Group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ OmahaBiMarriedMen
- Omaha NE Gay Pride WebPage http://ONGP.com; email to: omahanegaypride@cox.net or ongp1@cox.net
- Omaha GLBT Professionals, Contact omahaglbtprofessionals@cox.net for more info.
- Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, See www.omahaglbtsports.net for info
- 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@yahoo.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 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs, 1st United Meth, 7020 Cass
- Proud Horizons Youth Group, Sat Afternoon, info: (402) 291-6781 or email proudhorizons@yahoo.com
- **Prairie Bares**, nudist group, no further info available, ask Dino A. or David F.
- 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, PO Box 8488, Omaha, 68108, 402-212-6302 locally, 866-NE-PRIDE toll free, sponsors of annual Gay Pride & National Coming Out Day, for complete information see www.rainbowcelebrations.org
- River City Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 4083

- Omaha, NE 68104, for info call 402.813.1842 or Email: info@rivercitygenderalliance.org
- 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
- **Temple Israel Synagogue,** 7023 Cass St., 402-556-6536, member of the Union for Reform Judaism, GLBT inclusive
- Unity Church of Omaha 3424 N. 90, Omaha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday meditation service 7pm; 571-1344; www.unityomaha.org
- WomenSpace, no current info is available

#### LINCOLN BASED

- GLBT and Ally Programs and Services at UNL, Pat Tetreault, Ph.D. Sexuality Education Coordinator University Health Center Health ED Dept. 402.472.7447 for info see http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality
- Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Straight Alliance 2229 J St., Lincoln 68510 (402) 436-1301 ext. 232 Ruth Kupfer
- Gay & Bi Men's Discussion & Support Group, Tim, P.O. Box 6341, Lincoln 68506-0341 483-6183
- 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, 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. 73rd, Lincoln, 68507 467-5737
- Parents, Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Cornhusker Chapter; Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4<sup>th</sup> 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
- SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee House 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat, 6 – 9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46
- 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-glbt.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: ptetreau@unlnotes.unl.edu
- Women In Trades/YWCA, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494,

Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

#### **Iowa Based**

Council Bluffs Pride, www.councilbluffspride.org
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

#### Community Announcements

#### #######

If you have a life event, birth, death, adoption, anniversary, wedding, graduation, memorial or other special announcement that you would like to see in the Gayzette, send it to Gayzette@cox.net and we'll be happy to publish it here for free.



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.)

## Nebraska Pride 2008 Date Change:

June 20-22, 2008

Nebraska Pride has moved to a week later this year. The logistics and cost of Pride being so high has caused the change in dates. Keep on the look out for advertising dates and announcements next month on Nebraska Pride's great new location.

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ever wanted to be involved in a great event like Nebraska Pride?

Here's your chance to be apart of something BIG and Exciting!

Please Contact us at: volunteer@rainbowcelebrations.org

Thanks,

Dan Knobbe
President of Rainbow Celebrations



Contact Information:

PO Box 8488, Omaha, NE 68108-0488 Phone: 866-NE-PRIDE





Over \$2000 in cash & prizes

Celebrating our 5th Anniversary

Prelim #1 - Season 5 Kick Off

Sunday February 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:30 pm - The MAX





enter now at www.nebraskaprideidol.com

#### **Fitness Corner**

By Ron Blake Certified Personal Trainer

I hear it all the time...I wish I was more like you. I wish I had the discipline and the genetics and the time and the metabolism and the body that you have. Wow! Maybe some

strapping verdant genie will show up and grant you some freakin' wishes and you'll be on your gay way. Or maybe you'll just
have to put a sock in your piehole, stop making excuses, and
start creating your own streak of good luck, I have your attention. That's a good start. Get out the pad of paper and take some
notes.

I know many people think that it is so easy for me to exercise because that is what I do every day. It is a habit, so it has to easy. The majority of people would thus be wrong in that assessment of little old me. I have made it a routine and a priority in my life to engage in physical activity frequently. It requires schedule adjustments, sacrifices, and planning. It requires waking at 5AM to run six miles. It requires sweating while lifting dumbbells. It requires that I exert energy and keep a commitment to good health. It certainly is not easy, but it can be very rewarding.

I know it is the mindset of some that I am able to exercise because I do not have the physical impairments that they have. This is another in a series of cop-outs for these folks pleading their cases in poppycock. You can always find a way to accommodate whatever condition or disability you have. There are people who have no legs that are able to run. There are people who have severe asthma that competitively swim. There are people who have AIDS that bicycle ten miles per day. You can do it if you dream it.

I know many people think that good ole God gave me the best darn set of genes this side of Pope Benedict's capacious bungalow in Vatican City. There are some Lance Armstrongs out there but I am not one of them. That means that we have to do the best we can with what we have at the time we have it. That means now. Stop blaming your overactive thyroid for your three chins. Stop blaming your bequeathed low metabolism for your cottage cheese legs. Stop blaming your spare tires around the midsection on great-grandpa Grover's family curse. Get out there and make the best of your genetic code.

I know many people will insist that it must be easier for me to exercise and stay in Chippendales shape since I do not have the four kids, the nagging significant other, the three hour commute, or the sixty hour workweek. We all have our cross to bear and I will spare you the horror of hearing mine. I struggle every day with adversity. There is always a way to make it work if you want to make it work.

Write down all your best excuses and then affix this compilation to your stainless steel refrigerator with that magnet from Guido's Pizza Palace. Check this list each day and each time that you feel an urge to excuse yourself from exercise and good health. You can make life happen for you if you want. Close your eyes, click your heels and repeat after me: God helps those who help themselves. This health and fitness prattle is brought to you by that guy who knows he'd make a swell alternative lifestyle President in 2032. That guy is Ron Blake and you can send campaign contributions to www.goblakefitness.com.



#### Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

#### Omaha:

Connections, 1901 Leavenworth 933-3033 DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street 344-3103 Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 1915 Leavenworth 346-3549 Flixx, 1015 South 10th Street Omaha 408-1020 Gnome's Bar, 1951 Saint Marys Ave 991-6470 1417 Jackson St. 346-4110 The Max, Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth Mystery Bookstore, 1422 South 13th St 449-8703 342-7343 Nebraska AIDS Project, 139 South 40th St 552-9260 Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center. 1719 Leavenworth St. (home of The Gayzette) 341-0330

#### Lincoln:

Panic Bar, 200 South 18th Street (as available) 435-8764 Q Bar, 226 South 9th Street (as available) 475-2269

Would you like to have the Gayzette at your Place of business? Email your request to: Gayzette@cox.net



#### I SPY.....

Hello there reader. My name is Chris Orr and I am doing an opinion column of just whatever. Sometimes I'll be expressing views or giving a heads up on persons, places, or things that need to be mentioned at all



or more of. Remember this is an opinion column and does not reflect the opinions of those who are responsible (staff, owners, persons etc.).

You know sometimes everyone needs a little reminder that discrimination is alive and well today in the community. It may be in the form of business or organization and it can be in the form of authority. First and foremost, what the hell is happening over there at Joslyn Museum? If you haven't heard from anyone I'll make this public knowledge now. Joslyn had made a mistake of pissing on our community. They had booked the Latin@s group to have a gala at the museum. Joslyn gave an agreeable \$800 quote also letting the group subcontract caterers, bar, etc. NAP is full force behind them helping boost the group and helping them out with the event too. Well after Joslyn had figured out who they had booked, which was a gay group, and what would be there, which was GLBT community members and female impersonators, "Joslyn was not comfortable" with the situation and told the group that there will be no subcontracting, meaning they would have to use Joslyn caterers, bar, etc and the fee now is \$5,000. This of course was brought to light to the Latin@s and NAP after they had printed tickets, made agreements with other companies, and have begun advertising. I was really speechless after hearing of this information. Is the art of stupidity on display over there? Apparently so and it's disgusting. Some of the best artists and displays they have had over at Joslyn were by us along with some huge charitable contributions. I am ashamed that I used Joslyn in Instinct magazine as a point of interest for those in Omaha and who may be visiting. Those who ask me of Joslyn, I will no longer endorse and always make reference to Joslyn's action in this matter. If this goes undetected this just opens the door even more for businesses and organizations to say um okay. well we will take your money and since you're a GLBT organization and don't have as many rights as heterosexuals, well we can charge whatever we want and also put a censor on you as well because we are not comfortable. I sense a good old fashioned boycott of a few things to Joslyn by not going to see displays, not making donations to Joslyn, and rewriting wills excluding them if you have left them anything. The two groups themselves should shed light of this in any form of public information as possible too. Isn't female impersonation a form of art? I thought that's what Joslyn displayed.

The parking authority over at Eppley Airport is just discriminating anyone on four wheels and parking ability. These guys are just yelling and knocking on windows with sticks like it's going out of style. After touring a few airports and not behaving like Larry Craig, Eppley is just not a winner for welcoming those who come back home or who are here visiting. Going to some of the biggest airports, even they cut some slack and allow a few minutes to gather family, luggage, and finding what airline terminal to pick up or drop off by stopping or parking. Eppley however is just the opposite. First of all when you get to Eppley it looks like a ghost town to anywhere you previously have been. You're also either in a new area and don't know the

surroundings very well or don't feel like lugging everything to the parking garage thinking a quick stop and pick up would be great. Well it's not and it can actually upset a person. You get some officer who is taller horizontally than vertically making a smart ass comment saying "HEY!, do you want a ticket" to someone who has no clue as to what is going on. You sit in your driver's seat as your companion puts items in the vehicle only to be startled by a guard knocking on your window with a stick saving you have thirty seconds to move before you get a ticket, while you and three other cars are along the terminal. This is just silly. Eppley, you need to calm the guards down because it's not as chaotic there as other airports, they have some of the worst attitudes and crap coming out of their mouth. and it's not a good way to start off in Omaha when you first get here or when you prepare to leave. Makes you wonder sometimes why you should come back.

Websites of the bi-week: www.omahaglbtsports.net // www.almp.com // www.villagetv.com. So any gripes, comments, or having me check something out? Email me at orrthumper83@yahoo.com

#### Announcing a one time event

Presented by Omaha GLBT Sports

## Dodgeball



February 16, 2007

Christie Heights Gym 5105 South 37th Street
2:00pm to 5:00pm

\$5/per player

You can sign up with a team of 4 or you can sign up individually to be lottered to a team of 4 players.

Registration will be held every Sunday through Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Volleyball Center 102nd & California 7:00pm to 8:00pm if you are unable to make it please email <u>committee@omahaglbtsports.net</u> for information regarding alternative registration!

Get your organization involved with other GLBT organizations in thearea to make our entire community stronger!

Visit our website today www.omahaglbtsports.net

#### Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

















O.K., BREYER ...

PROBLEM HERE?







Website - www.kylecomics.com

E-Mail - KylesBnB@aol.com

#### OMAHA GLBT SPORTS

By Chris Orr

Volleyball has resumed for the sports league after its holiday break. One team unfortunately has dropped out of the league. The nine remaining teams will be starting their tournament on Feb 10th. Many teams are trying to get wins in and vie for number one so they get a bye in round one of tournament play. You can track how they are doing as well at

www.omahaglbtsports.net. A dodgeball tournament will be happening on February 16th to benefit the sports league. This will help the league file a 501c3, keep enrollment fees down, and upgrade sports equipment and facilities. The tournament will be at Christie Heights Gym at 5105 S. 37th Street. More info is on our website at www.omahaglbtsports.net where you can also email the league on how to participate in our activities.

1/13/08								
Yellow	14	15	15	VS.	Brown	21	21 3	21
White	18	21	14	VS.	Orange	21	19 2	21
Purple	21	21	21	VS.	Grey	13	13	8
Black	21	11	15	VS.	Red	19	21 2	21
1/20/08								
Yellow	7	17	9	VS.	Purple	21	21	21
Blue	17	17	16	VS.	Brown	21	21 :	21
Grey	21	19	23	VS.	Orange	16	21 2	21
White	21	21	14	VS.	Black	11	15	21





#### **Governor's Conference** On LGBT Youth

Iowa Safe Schools' 3rd Annual Governor's Conference is planned for February 21, 2008. Reaching its third year, the Governor's Conference on LGBT Youth has become a major gathering of those concerned about making Iowa a more welcome climate for those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT).

The conference began under Governor Tom Vilsack and Lt. Governor Sally Pederson's administration which made creating a more welcoming Iowa a priority. Current Governor Chet Culver and Lt. Governor Patty Judge have continued the work in making Iowa a safe and welcoming place even if you are

The first annual Governor's Conference on LGBT Youth was attended by over 500 participants from 80 different communities in Iowa. In addition to Governor Vilsack and Lt. Governor Pederson, keynote presenters included Judy Shepard (mother of Matthew Shepard), Kevin Jennings (Executive Director of GLSEN), and James Howe (Author of The Misfists).

Last year's 2nd Annual Governor's Conference on LGBT Youth was once again sold out at nearly 500 participants from all across Iowa. Governor Culver, Former First Lady Christie Vilsack, and Congressman Leonard Boswell made remarks to those in attendance. The major presenters of the day were Moises Kaufman (author of The Laramie Project), and Brent Hartinger (Author of The Geography Club).

The event for the past two years has been hosted by Drake University, and co-sponsored by several statewide organizations. including Iowa Association of School Boards, Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Iowa Department of Education, Iowa Department of Public Health, Iowa State Education Association. and School Administrators of Iowa.

The 3rd Annual Governor's Conference is planned for February 21, 2008. The keynote speaker will be former NBA star John Amaechi. John made headlines at the beginning of 2007 for being the first openly gay NBA player. Coming out for John created international attention with fellow NBA stars denouncing him for keeping it a secret. John's story of having multiple identities as well as treatment of athletes concerning their sexual orientation is a perfect discussion for the 2008 Governor's Conference.

Last year Iowa enacted a statewide Safe Schools law that helps explicitly protect glbt students from bullying and harrassment. as well as a ban on discrimination in education based on sexual orientation and gender identity as part of a comprehensive update to the statewide Civil Rights law. Visit www.lgbtgovernorsconference.org for more information on the conference or to register. Free internet access is available at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center.

#### FRIDAY FEB 1ST

#### MEN'S NIGHT

AMATEUR STRIP CONTEST
\$100 CASH PRIZE
7PM
UNDERWEAR PARTY
9PM

#### SATURDAY FEB 2ND

Miss Divine Diva Marti Gras' Step-down 6pm Doors Open 7pm Show

#### SUNDAY FEB 3RD

Superbowl Party 4-9pm

#### SUNDAY FEB 3RD

Pride Idol Kick-off Season 5 Prelim 1 9:30pm

#### TUESDAY FEB 5TH

Crystal DeLight's Fat Tuesday Pot Luck Party 5-8pm

#### SATURDAY FEB 9TH

"FROM SKATING RINKS
TO ICE CASTLES"
ICON's SnoBall
6pm Doors open
7pm Show

#### SUNDAY FEB 10TH

Mr Max 12 Matt Finken's Annual Black Hearts Bash 10pm

#### THURSDAY FEB 14TH

Empress XXIV Crystal & Emperor Dan's Annual Valentine's Dinner & Concert 6pm & 8:30pm

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61