

The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

Economic Woes Encourage Rise of Hate Groups

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The number of hate groups in the United States is on the rise, a trend that some see as directly correlated to the failing economy. There are now at least 888 known hate groups in the country, according to a report by the Southern Poverty Law Center.



Jim Cavanaugh of the Anti-Defamation League told The Washington Post that "the Internet, immigration and the economic crisis -- that is the molten mixture for these guys."

As the world delves deeper into uncertain economic times, veteran investigators in the United States have started to pay more attention to supremacists and radicals who harm certain minority groups to make a point, the Post reported Monday. In addition to fiscal troubles, rising immigration and the reality of a black man in the White House may be enough to push some extremists over the edge.

As the number of hate groups increases, the number of hate crimes committed against gays and lesbians has also seen a rise in the past year. FBI figures show that such attacks increased by 6% from 2006 to 2007, while the number for all hate crimes had dropped slightly (1% in the same time period). Race-based incidents made up a majority of the 7,624 hate crimes reported in 2007.

While federal investigators have been able to intercept plans for violent acts, one infamous group is heading to Washington, D.C. to protest the inauguration of President Obama. The antigay Westboro Baptist Church, which the Southern Poverty Law Center deems a hate group, will no doubt make headlines during its protest of Obama, who supports many gay-related causes and is pro-choice. (Advocate.com)

COME & CELEBRATE

MCC-Omaha will celebrate its 35th Anniversary the weekend of January 23-25. We invite all of you to join us for this celebration of community! Over our 35 year history, many of you have spent time journeying with us---some for a few months; some for many years. Together we have made history! Together we have found God's healing power. Together we have served the greater GLBTA community.

Please join us Friday, January 23, as LifeSong (our Praise Band and singers), along with many special guests present a concert in the Sanctuary. The concert will be your first opportunity to pick up a free 35th Anniversary Program. There will be no admission charge for the concert; however, a love offering for MCC will be taken. Those attending will also have an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets at \$1.00

each for an afghan made in 1994 for our 20th Anniversary Celebration. You need not be present to win! The drawing will be on Sunday, January 25. If you enjoy contemporary Christian music and an evening full of old and new friends and lots of fellowship, then this is the activity for you!

MCCers will celebrate the 35th Anniversary on Saturday evening at 6 PM with a dinner in the Social Hall. To attend the dinner, you must RSVP the Church Office at 345-2563 no later than Monday, January 19. You will be asked to provide either a salad, dessert, or vegetable for the dinner. The main course is being provided by MCC. A short program will follow the dinner. Raffle tickets will also be on sale at the dinner, and 35th Anniversary Programs will be available at that time. Everyone is welcome, but we must have your RSVP to plan for a bountiful feast for the celebration!

Sunday, January 25, MCC will celebrate its anniversary at both



(Continued on page 4)

January 16, 2009 - January 30, 2009

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We do not discriminate against anyone! Persons of all races, religions, gender identities and sexual orientations are welcome.

Come as you are or however you would like to. Share ideas and information with no pressure to be something you're not.

Refreshments and snacks served at meetings. Come join us for information, fun and making new friends!

Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., Omaha NE. from 6PM to 9:30PM

We are looking to assemble our first Board of Directors. Interested parties should email to the address below.

For more info email flowerofhopeofomaha@yahoo.com



GAYZETTE AD RATES, PRINTED COPY AND ON THE WEB

Whole Page 7 1/2W X 10H \$100.00

Half Page 7 1/2W X 4 3/4H \$ 50.00

Fourth Page 3 3/4W X 4 3/4H \$ 25.00

Business Card \$ 15.00

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 68108 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.

Ad Deadlines: Friday, Jan 23th, for Publication Jan 30th Friday, Feb 6th for Publication Feb

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MCC Omaha is

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Join us during our Anniversary Weekend!
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MCC celebrate over three decades in the community.

Friday, January 23, 7:00 p.m. - CONCERT

LifeSong, MCC's contemporary Christian Band, will entertain you with an exciting and energizing concert. Donations collected from the love offering will support the accessibility fund.

Saturday, January 24, 6:00 p.m. - DINNER

The church will host an Anniversary Potluck Dinner. The main dish will be provided; please consider bringing a side dish or dessert. Please call 345-2563 to RSVP.

Sunday, January 25, 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. - SERVICES

We will conclude our anniversary weekend during our regular Sunday services. Our blended services feature Pastor Tom's refreshing and thoughtful sermons and our dynamic praise band.



MCC Omaha

Sunday- 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Wed.- 7:00 p.m.

819 S. 22nd St., Omaha, NE 68108

402/345-2563

Find out more at mccomaha.org

(MCCO Celebration, story Continued from page 1)

the 9 & 11 AM Worship Services. A reception in the social hall will follow each service. Drawing for the afghan will be during the reception following the 11AM Service. We hope you will come and help us to pack the Sanctuary for this special time of worship and celebration!

Annual Governor's Conference on LGBT Youth February 19

The GLBT Youth in Iowa Schools Task Force (Iowa Safe Schools) hosts the 4th Annual Governor's Conference on LGBT Youth February 19, 2009. The Conference is a statewide gathering of educators, parents, policy makers, and students, exploring multiple aspects affecting the safety of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students in Iowa.

The keynote presenter will be Tana Goertz. Ms Goertz gained national fame with being a runner up on Season 3 of the hit show *The Apprentice* and is a Des Moines area native. Her experiences in the business world and having an openly LGBT member of her family makes her address unique from the straight ally perspective.

This event is co-hosted by Drake University in Des Moines and is co-sponsored by several local and statewide organizations and corporations including Humanities Iowa, Iowa State Educa-

tion Association, and Episcopal Diocese of Iowa. Visit <http://www.iowasafeschools.org> to learn more and to register online.

HELP GLBT TROOPS

Support GLBT Iowa family members in the military by helping secure freedom and justice for them. Sign the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network petition to tell the new Congress to support the important Military Readiness Enhancement Act, which gets rid of the discriminatory Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy. Visit <http://www.sldn.org/congress> to learn more and to sign the petition.

Council Bluffs Community Alliance Meeting January 18

The monthly meeting of the Council Bluffs Community Alliance will be 4:00 PM Sunday, January 18, 2009 at Broadway United Methodist Church, 11 South 1st Street, Council Bluffs. The guest speaker is Laural Ronk, Executive Director of Bluff's Arts Council, who will discuss all the arts projects going on in CB. Afterward there's a potluck. Bring a dish based on the first letter of your last name: A - K Meat or Hot Dish, L - Z Salad or Dessert. Beverages and table service are provided. Direct any questions to councilbluffscommunityalliance@yahoo.com

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To Everything, Change, Change..

By Royal D. Bush

I am told that when a friend was in high school, he loved playing football. It was, and still is, his favorite sport. But there was one part he hated...those first two weeks of practice in August, when the temperature often hit 100 degrees.

The coach, however, knew the importance of those two weeks and he "took no prisoners"... the agility drills, the grueling sprints, and finally the dreaded laps. I am sure that some still have nightmares about those five laps around the field in full pads following a three-hour workout!

Bodies after those first few days were so sore they could hardly get out of bed each morning. But as each day passed, the pain would lessen, and after three or four weeks, the transformation of being in "football shape" would happen.

Breaking bad habits is no different. The physical and mental pain can be grueling, whether you're trying to exercise, smoke less, drink less, eat healthier, have a positive outlook or work less...it's NEVER easy. But the benefits to your health and to your attitude can be priceless. Breaking a habit starts with courage, ends with discipline, and is fueled by desire.

I saw this recently, and would like to share it with you:

I am your constant companion.
I am your greatest asset or heaviest burden.
I will push you up to success or down to disappointment.
I am at your command.
Half the things you do might just as well be turned over to me,
For I can do them quickly, correctly, and profitably.
I am easily managed, just be firm with me.
Those who are great, I have made great.
Those who are failures, I have made failures.
I am not a machine, though I work with the precision of a machine and the intelligence of a person.
You can run me for profit, or you can run me for ruin.
Show me how you want it done. Educate me. Train me.
Lead me. Reward me.
And I will then...do it automatically.
I am your servant.
Who am I?
I am a habit.

I do not know who the author is, but the words are right on target. If you make good habits, they in turn will make you. But

(Continued on page 6)



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Diane's Story

"My partner and I had been together for 14 years when I received the worst phone call of my life. There had been a terrible accident, and she was being flown to the hospital by helicopter. The hospital staff wanted to know how to get in touch with her next of kin. Mine was the only phone number they could find in her wallet. I gave them her parents' phone number, got into the car and drove straight to the hospital.

When I arrived at the hospital, I couldn't get any information on Susan's condition. The hospital staff informed me that medical information could only be released to Susan's family. For them, family did not include live-in partners regardless of the length of the relationship. It took six hours for Susan's parents to arrive at the hospital. During that time, I sat in the hospital waiting room and wasn't allowed to see or comfort her.

Only after Susan's parents arrived was I able to see her. Thankfully, they were caring people who accepted our relationship. The doctors predicted that Susan would not make it through the night. She died within the next hour. All that time had been wasted as I sat in that dark waiting room. She had been slowly dying alone, when I should have been holding her hand and couldn't."

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(Everything, Change, Change, Continued from page 5)

like the weeds in the garden, bad habits can take over your life. Make a decision today to pull those weeds. Your life is what you make it. Make today the day that you are no longer a victim but powerful to overcome what burdens you. Make today the day that you free your garden of weeds and let everyone see the beauty that IS there!

Happy New Year!
Royal

Ugandan Judge Cites Rights for Lesbians

Two Ugandan women were awarded \$7,000 Monday after a judge ruled their rights were infringed upon when they were arrested for being suspected lesbians in 2005.

According to lesbian and bisexual rights organization Freedom and Roam Uganda, or FARUG, Yvonne Oyoo and Victor Juliet Mukasa had been waiting for 17 months for a verdict.

Oyoo was awarded \$5,000 by Uganda High Court justice Stella Arach-Amoko for "arbitrary torture." Police sexually assaulted Oyoo, who was a guest in Mukasa's home when police raided it in 2005. Mukasa, a leader in Ugandan human rights activism, was awarded \$2,000.

"It will be the first case of its kind in Uganda where LGBTs are the ones suing the government," Mukasa said to New Internationalist magazine in 2007. "I am suing because of the constant

human rights violations that are committed against LGBT people by the government and the public of Uganda without anyone raising a hand."

The case may be the first time that gays or lesbians took the police to court, according to BBC News. It is estimated that 500,000 gays live in Uganda, a nation of 31 million. The country's leaders are outspoken against homosexuality, and consensual sex between people of the same gender is illegal. (Michelle Garcia, Advocate.com)

27,000 Urge Mormons to Support Civil Unions in Utah

More than 27,000 letters have been sent to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints headquarters in Salt Lake City urging the church to publicly support gay rights bills Utah legislators are expected to consider in 2009.

The letters were sent from gays and their allies across the country, mostly through the Human Rights Campaign, according to KCPW radio in Salt Lake.

"I think it's important that we emphasize that this is a respectful request," Jerry Rapiere of HRC told KCPW. "We want to share people's concerns and feelings directly with the church and its leaders."

The sudden focus on Utah's politics comes after LDS, or Mormon, leaders became ardent proponents of passing California's ban on same-sex marriage in November. A church elder said



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The Sacramento Bee is reporting that a coalition of labor unions will file a brief with the California supreme court in support of overturning Prop. 8, the ballot measure that banned same-sex marriage in the state.

The Sacramento Bee is reporting that a coalition of labor unions will file a brief with the California supreme court in support of overturning Prop. 8, the ballot measure that banned same-sex marriage in the state.

More than 50 labor unions signed onto the brief, including heavy hitters like the California Federation of Teachers, the California Nurses Association, and the Screen Actors Guild.

The labor unions say they represent a combined 2 million people.

"If a simple majority of voters can take away one fundamental right, it can take away another," the unions argue in the brief. "If it can deprive one class of citizens of their rights, it can deprive another class too. Today it is gays and lesbians who are singled out. Tomorrow it could be trade unionists."

The labor unions are arguing that Prop. 8 is not a "constitutional amendment" but rather a "constitutional revision." A revision would require a two-thirds vote of the legislature to get on the ballot. (Advocate.com)

the LDS does not support marriage equality but instead would be fine with domestic partnerships or civil unions.



Rapier said the letter-writing campaign was not an "attack," but instead an attempt for the church to make good on that statement. "It's simply an invitation to be a little more clear with the language," he said, adding. "Really, the first step is just asking for a direct statement from the church -- something clear, concise, and to the point, that leaves no room for misinterpretation."

The letters were hand-delivered to Temple Square on Monday, he said, because thousands of e-mails don't make it through the church's filter. Church spokesman Scott Trotter said the LDS did not filter the e-mails, but the volume caused its e-mail filter to label them as spam. (Michelle Garcia, Advocate.com)

Big Labor Unions Back Overturn of Prop. 8

Gay Man to Direct the Office of Personnel Management

John Berry is to be named director of the Office of Personnel Management by President-elect Barack Obama, making a gay man the president's top adviser on personnel matters for federal employees.

John Berry will be named director of the Office of Personnel Management by President-elect Barack Obama, according to The Washington Post. Berry served as assistant secretary of the Interior during the Clinton administration and has been director of the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park since 2005.



Berry served as assistant secretary of the Interior during the Clinton administration and has been director of the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park since 2005.

LGBT leaders had hoped Berry would be tapped as secretary of the Interior, but D.C. insiders say his duties at the Office of Personnel Management will directly affect LGBT people because it has jurisdiction over the treatment of millions of federal employees.

"OPM is the federal government's human resources department," said Denis Dison, spokesman for the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, which has been presenting qualified LGBT candidates to the Obama transition team. "Its director is the president's top adviser on personnel matters. Having an out gay man in that position is more than symbolic, it's a statement about how important workplace equality is to this president."

The office is generally responsible for recruiting job applicants, filling vacancies at federal agencies, developing performance review processes, administering benefits, and overseeing non-discrimination policies.

Though Beltway LGBT leaders had been pushing for an openly gay cabinet appointee, they were enthusiastic about Berry's appointment and said it was the most prominent position to be held by an openly gay person in the federal government. "The selection of John Berry to head the Office of Personnel Management, making him the highest-ranking openly gay official ever, is a meaningful step forward for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community," said Human Rights Campaign president Joe Solmonese.

Before becoming director of the National Zoological Park, Berry was executive director of the National Fish and Wildlife Association from 2000 to 2005. He is also no stranger to Capitol Hill, having served as legislative director for Rep. Steny Hoyer, a Maryland Democrat, from 1985 until 1994. (Kerry Eleveld, Advocate.com)

Indiana Conservatives Revisit Anti-Gay Marriage Amendment

Indiana lawmakers who oppose same-sex marriage said Monday they would launch another effort to ban such unions with a constitutional amendment, reports The Indianapolis Star.

Dave Cheatham, a Democrat, and Rep. Eric Turner, a Republican, said they would both sponsor measures with identical language in the house, and GOP senator Marlin Stutzman said he would sponsor legislation in the senate.

But prospects of the initiative passing both chambers this session seemed dismal. Democratic house speaker Patrick Bauer suggested that a constitutional ban was not necessary since Indiana already has a law prohibiting gay marriage.

Bauer said judges had been upholding that law and that proponents of the amendment "must have living proof that that law's not being followed ... we certainly don't want to waste the public's time when we have the critical duties that we have."

Though both chambers of the state legislature passed a constitutional ban in 2005 while under Republican control, state rules dictate that an amendment must pass two separately elected legislatures before being put to a statewide referendum. The measure stalled when Democrats took control of the House in 2006.

According to the Star, the proposed amendment reads: "Only a marriage between one (1) man and one (1) woman shall be valid or recognized as marriage in Indiana. A legal status identical or substantially similar to that of marriage for unmarried individuals shall not be valid or recognized." (Advocate.com)

Obama Once Supported Same-Sex Marriage

Through Barack Obama's 2008 presidential campaign, the now-president-elect has been vocal about his support for civil unions instead of same-sex marriage.

However, Obama went on the record during his 1996 run for the Illinois senate as being in support of such unions. On a candidate questionnaire for the Chicago gay newspaper Outlines, he said, "I favor legalizing same-sex marriages, and would fight efforts to prohibit such marriages."

According to the Windy City Times (which Outlines bought and merged with in 2000, taking over the name), Obama did not use of the phrase "civil unions" in the questionnaire. Obama also said he would favor a civil rights bill for gays and lesbians, a hike in funding for AIDS services, and adoption by gay and lesbian parents.

Though Obama did not campaign in California to defeat Proposition 8, which banned marriage equality in the state, he did come out against the referendum before the election in November.

Obama is currently meeting resistance from some over his choice in allowing evangelical pastor Rick Warren to perform his inauguration's invocation. Warren, whose Saddleback Church is based in Lake Forest, Calif., was a staunch supporter of Proposition 8. (Advocate.com)

Nine Men Convicted of Homosexual Acts in Senegal

Nine men in Senegal, including a prominent gay rights activist, have been convicted of homosexual acts and sentenced to eight years in prison.

Nine men in Senegal, including a prominent gay rights activist, have been convicted of homosexual acts and sentenced to eight years in prison, the Associated Press reports.

Diadji Diuof, a well-known Senegalese activist who heads an organization providing HIV prevention and other services, was among the nine men arrested in December during a raid on his apartment. Just weeks before, Senegal played host to an international AIDS conference -- LGBT participants were visible throughout the conference.

Senegal is one of 38 African countries that criminalize homosexual acts. Joel Nana, Africa research and policy coordinator with the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission in Cape Town, notes that South Africa caused a stir in 2006 when it became the first African country to legalize same-sex marriage.

The nine men were convicted of and sentenced for unnatural acts and criminal conspiracy, Nana told AP.

"This is the first case that we've heard of in Senegal where people actually got sentenced," he said, calling the punishment long and harsh.

"It is a strong message of hatred, a strong message of division when we know it is critical at this point to address HIV in these communities," he said. (Advocate.com)

Obama Press Secretary Pledges Repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"

Press secretary Robert Gibbs has given the clearest indication yet that President-elect Barack Obama intends to repeal "don't ask, don't tell."

In a video on the campaign's transition website, Gibbs answers a question posed by a constituent about whether the Obama administration will scrap the ban on gays serving openly in military with a single word: "Yes."

More specifically, about 4:20 into the 5-minute video, Gibbs repeats the question. "Thaddeus from Lansing, Mich., asks, 'Is the new administration going to get rid of the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy?'"

Then Gibbs responds. "Thaddeus, you don't hear a politician give a one-word answer much, but it's 'yes.'" (Kerry Eleveld, Advocate.com).

Bishop Gene Robinson to Deliver Prayer at Inauguration's Opening Ceremony

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The Right Reverend Gene Robinson, the first openly gay person to be ordained a bishop in the Episcopal Church, has been asked by President-elect Barack Obama's inaugural committee to deliver the invocation at the inauguration's opening ceremony, which is being held at the Lincoln Memorial on Sunday, January 18, and will be the first event attended by the president-elect.

Robinson, whose endorsement of Obama before the New Hampshire primary was considered a big coup for the campaign, has been critical of the controversial selection of Reverend Rick Warren to deliver the invocation at the president-elect's swearing-in ceremony on the National Mall on January 20. When Robinson heard the news about Warren, who has likened being gay to incest and statutory rape, he said "it was like a slap in the face."

But after the invitation was extended to him, Robinson told New Hampshire's Concord Monitor that his inclusion in the opening event would be incredibly affirming to gay people.

"It's important for any minority to see themselves represented in some way," Robinson said. "Whether it be a racial minority, an ethnic minority, or, in our case, a sexual minority -- just seeing someone like you up front matters."



A spokesman for the inaugural committee told the Monitor that Robinson was given the opportunity to participate in the opening ceremony because of his contribution to the religious community and his efforts on behalf of Obama during the campaign. Robinson also revealed recently that President-elect Obama sought out his counsel and reflections on what it was like to be "a first."

LGBT leaders were quick to trumpet the addition to the ceremony. "Bishop Robinson models what prayer should be -- spiritual reflection put into action for justice," said Human Rights Campaign president Joe Solmonese. "It is encouraging that the president-elect has chosen this spiritual hero for all Americans to lead the nation in prayer at the Lincoln Memorial inaugural concert." (Kerry Eleveld, Advocate.com)

Gay-Supportive Politicians Routinely Reelected

Conventional wisdom has long posited that if a politician supports gay rights, he or she will face a tough reelection battle. But according to a new study, officeholders who support same-

sex marriage and oppose homophobic bills often keep their jobs.

Conventional wisdom has long posited that if a politician supports gay rights, he or she will face a tough reelection battle. But according to a new study, officeholders who support same-sex marriage and oppose homophobic bills often keep their jobs.

The marriage equality group Freedom to Marry sponsored the study, which included election results from 21 states since 2005. A review of all these votes shows that politicians supporting marriage equality and opposing constitutional amendments banning gay marriage are often reelected.

Freedom to Marry says more than 1,100 state legislators who voted to support the freedom to marry were reelected, regardless of their political party or if they changed their vote from opposing to supporting marriage equality.

"The American people deserve leaders who aren't afraid to lead," Evan Wolfson, Freedom to Marry's executive director, said in a release. "For politicians, standing up for marriage equality is not touching a third rail; rather, it is a track to reelection -- and, happily, the path toward inclusion that America is traveling."

Wolfson said this study should prove to legislators that they need not back down on supporting the freedom to marry and opposing antigay measures like California's Proposition 8. (Neal Broverman, Advocate.com)

Fred Hochberg to Be Named Head of Export-Import Bank

Fred Hochberg will be named by incoming president Barack Obama as the director of the Export-Import Bank. Fred Hochberg, the gay man who headed the Small Business Administration under President Bill Clinton, will be named by incoming President Barack Obama as the director of the Export-Import Bank. ABC News reports. Hochberg, a longtime figure in both Democratic and gay politics, had been buzzed about as a possible replacement for Bill Richardson at the Commerce Department, but his appointment to the bank means that Obama's cabinet will remain without a single gay member.

Hochberg was deputy administrator and then acting administrator of the SBA. More recently he was the dean of the Milano School of Management at the New School in New York City.

He supported Hillary Clinton in last year's Democratic primary.

The Export-Import Bank, according to ABC News, is the federal government's export credit arm and finances sales of goods exported from the U.S. Hochberg will be the bank's first openly gay director.

The Human Rights Campaign, where Hochberg has been on the board and is currently a member of the group's public policy committee, hailed the expected appointment.



"Fred is one of the most highly qualified and experienced public servants in our community, and the fact that President-elect Obama has tapped him for such an important economic position speaks well for the LGBT community," HRC president Joe Solmonese said in a statement. (Advocate.com)

Regent Media Assumes Majority Interest in PlanetOut

Publisher of The Advocate and Out magazines and owner of here! TV buys controlling interest in PlanetOut Inc., including Gay.com, to form Here Media Inc.

Regent Entertainment Media, publishers of The Advocate and Out magazines and owner of the here! TV network announced Thursday that it has signed a merger agreement with PlanetOut Inc. The combined company will be known as Here Media Inc, 80% of which will be owned by the owners of Regent Entertainment Media.

In addition owning here! TV, The Advocate, and Out, Regent Entertainment Media also publishes HIV Plus magazine and Alyson Books. Its online presence includes Advocate.com, Out.com, HIVPlusMag.com, OutTraveler.com, and SheWired.com. PlanetOut runs two of the longest-established gay sites on the Web, PlanetOut.com and Gay.com. "This business combination will unite a powerful broadband video solution with an iconic brand and a leading URL in the LGBT community," said Paul Colichman, CEO of Regent Entertainment Media. "We are extremely excited about the opportunity to leverage this exceptional collection of assets to expand our audience, grow our revenues, and increase stockholder value." (Advocate.com)

Pepsi Targeted for AFA Boycott

The American Family Association has identified yet another target in its waging of the culture war -- PepsiCo.

The American Family Association has identified yet another target in its waging of the culture war -- PepsiCo. The right-wing organization has asked members to boycott PepsiCo after the company donated a combined \$1 million to the Human Rights Campaign and Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

The AFA says it sent two letters to PepsiCo after the donations were made public in October.

"We were indeed surprised by PepsiCo's support of the homosexual group," the AFA's Donald E. Wildmon wrote in October

about the \$500,000 donation to PFLAG. "It would appear to us that PepsiCo would not involve itself in a political and culture war, especially supporting an organization seeking to redefine marriage and family."

The letter went on to ask PepsiCo chair Indra K. Nooyi to "remain neutral in this culture war, neither supporting nor opposing the homosexual agenda."

PepsiCo responded in November that the donation made to PFLAG focuses on designing supportive workplace environments. "The initiative seeks to promote further understanding and equality in the places where people spend much of their time at work," PepsiCo spokesman Paul Boykas wrote in a letter the AFA deemed "condescending."

"Among the values promoted by the PepsiCo Foundation is ensuring a work environment that is respectful where associates are valued for their contributions," the letter went on to say. "I hope this clarifies this grant by the PepsiCo Foundation."

AFA wrote in a letter to its members that PepsiCo "refuses to give money to any pro-family organization that opposes the homosexual agenda."

Further adding fuel to the fire, the AFA adds that "most every homosexual organization we know of is overwhelmingly pro-abortion." (Michelle Garcia, Advocate.com)



GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS

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

WALK-IN HOURS

Sundays	4:00PM - 6:00PM
Tuesdays	closed temporarily
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.

FRIDAY JANUARY 23RD

MCCO CONCERT, 7PM, LifeSong Christian Band to perform, donations will go towards the Accessibility Fund

SATURDAY JANUARY 24TH

MCCO ANNIVERSARY POTLUCK DINNER, 6PM, main dish will be provided, bring a side dish or dessert, please RSVP to 345-2563

SUNDAY JANUARY 25TH

MCCO ANNIVERSARY SERVICES, 9AM and 11AM, praise band will perform

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14TH

HGRA BOARD MEETING, 3PM, DC's Saloon in the basement

SATURDAY MARCH 14TH

HGRA BOARD MEETING, 5PM, DC's Saloon in the basement

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP, Meeting at the Rainbow Out-

reach GLBT Community Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., Fellowship starts at 6PM, services begin at 6:30PM, Everyone Welcome!

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

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

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

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

HIV+ SUPPORT GROUP 7-8:30 pm at the NAP office located at 1921 South 17th Street in Lincoln, NE.

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40
 10am service

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563 Sunday Worship 9am and 11am & Wednesday Worship at 7pm

ONE PROMISE GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Tamara B. at 714-8552

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

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

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

Every Monday

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

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 jsandeen@hastings.edu for further information.

UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUPPORT 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

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

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, results in 20 minutes, 1921 So. 17th St. 402-476-7000

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm DC's

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

NAP HIV TESTING, 1:30pm to 4 pm by appt. ONLY, 139 S. 40 St., same day results, call 402-552-9260 for info

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

WORSHIP SERVICES

MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

Every Thursday

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

NAP HIV TESTING 5pm- 9pm walk-in, 139 S. 40th Same day results,

Every Friday

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

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

CAN WE TALK SUPPORT GROUP

Open to everyone, every Friday 6:30pm to 8pm, MCCO, 819 South 22nd St., Omaha

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

NAP HIV TESTING 5pm-9PM walk-in, NAP,
139 S. 40th Same day results

NAP OUTREACH CENTER HIV TESTING
7 TO 10PM, walk-in, **2202 St. Marv's Ave.**,
Same day results

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

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 loca-
tion and information.

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 6PM.
Email at: glbtprofessionals@cfep-ne.org or see
www.omahaglbtprofessionals.org for info

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

GAY GUYS SPAGHETTI NIGHT, at a Lin-
coln 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 Leaven-
worth St.

2nd Thursday

PFLAG- OMAHA, 7pm, First United Meth-
odist Church

2nd Saturday

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

2nd Sunday

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

OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREENING

(glt film shown at 7pm followed by discus-
sion) First Unitarian, 3114 Harney

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Gov-
ernors meeting, 6pm, meeting at the Rainbow
Outreach GLBT Community Center,

www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL

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

3rd Thursday

GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP

7- 8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln on the
third Thursday of the month. Call 434-
9880 / 476 9668, held at the Unitarian
Church, 6300 A Street, Lincoln NE

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

COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church,
6300 A, Lincoln

3rd Saturday

FLOWER OF HOPE Transgender
Group, Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of
each month at the Rainbow Outreach
GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.,
Omaha NE. from 6PM to 9:30PM

3rd Sunday

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

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 Friday

**LEO LEATHER ENGINEERS—
OMAHA**
Not currently meeting.

Last Saturday of the Month

NAP HIV TESTING, 11AM-3PM,
WALK-IN, 139 SOUTH 40TH ST.

**Email Your Event to:
GAYZETTE@COX.NET**

**See, I have open space
Here for your
Event! Send it to me!**

Nebraska in the Winter

A poem by I. P. Icewater

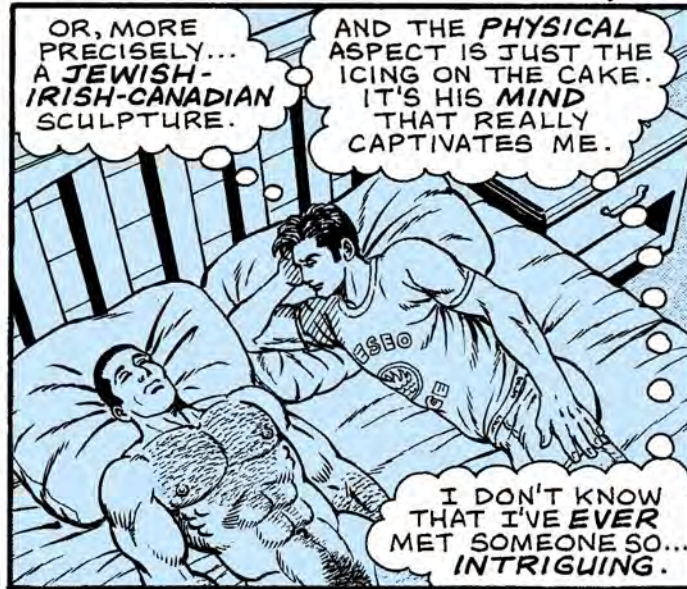
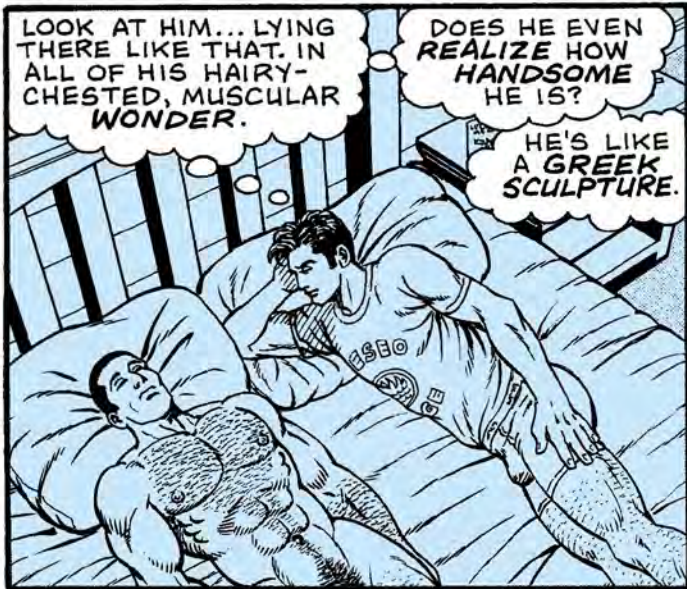
It's winter in Nebraska
And the gentle breezes blow
seventy miles an hour
at twenty-five below.

Oh, how I love Nebraska
When the snow's up to your butt
You take a breath of winter
And your nose gets frozen shut.

Yes, the weather here is wonderful
So I guess I'll hang around
I could never leave Nebraska
'Cause I'm frozen to the ground!

Redneck Pick Up Lines

- 1) Did you fart?
cuz you just blew me away.
- 2) Are yer parents retarded?
cuz ya sure are special.
- 3) My Love fer you is like diarrhea .
I can't hold it in.
- 4) Do you have a library card?
cuz I'd like to sign you out
- 5) Is there a mirror in yer pants?
cuz I can see myself in em.
- 6) If you was a tree & I was a Squirrel,
I'd store my nuts in yer hole.
- 7) You might not be the best lookin girl
here,
but beauty's only a light switch away.
- 8) I know I'm not no Fred Flintstone,
but I bet I can make yer bed-rock.
- 9) Yer eyes are as blue as window clean-
er.
- 10) If yer gunna regret this in the mornin,
we kin sleep til afternoon..
- 11) Yer face reminds me of a wrench;
every time I think of it, my nuts tighten
up



GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

Alphabet (ABC) Soup at UNO,
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uno_abcoup,
Phone Student Organizations at 554-2711.

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

Camp Kindle, Nebraska based summer camp for kids affected by HIV/AIDS, 877.800.CAMP, www.CampKindle.org

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, making a difference through music and education, 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

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

GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 6PM. Email at: glbtprofessionals@cfep-ne.org or see www.omahaglbtprofessionals.org for info

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 3rd Monday, Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 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

Low 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 9am and 11am, Wed. Worship 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 Pride IDOL, PO Box 241733, Omaha NE 68124, 866-4-NE-IDOL, www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com

Nebraska Zen Center, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, www.prairiewindzen.org GLBT inclusive

Northside Christian Church 5555 Larimore, Sunday worship 9:30am, Contemporary service at 11:00am

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

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

Omaha NE Gay Pride Web Page <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.omahaglbtsportsleague.org for more information

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 2nd Thurs, 1st United Meth, 7020 Cass

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

Prairie Bares, male nudist group, no

further info available

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

Youth Emergency Services, Inc. (Y.E.S.) Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, email to info@yesomaha.org

Y.E.S. Drop-in Center, 2057 Harney Street Omaha, NE 68102, 402-505-6922

LINCOLN BASED

LGBTQ and Ally Programs and Services Resource Center, Pat Tetreault, LGBTQ Resource Center Director, <http://involved.unl.edu/lgbtqa> - 402.472.1752 or 402-472-1652 <http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality>

Queer Student Alliance, UNL, contact unlqsa@yahoo.com for info

GLBT and Allies coffee house, 3rd Fridays, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, 7:30 to 10:30pm

Lincoln Women's Center, Lincoln 402/472-2597.

Nebraska AIDS Project, Lincoln, 1921 S. 17th St. (402) 476-7000

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

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

Planned Parenthood, F2M and Questioning Support group & Partners of FTM Support Group, meet monthly at 10am Saturday, for info call Ryan Sallans at 441-3321 or email sindu.s@gmail.com

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

Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094
 TriCity GLBT, serving Central Nebraska, web site at <http://www.tri-city-glbtc.com/>
 UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Contact Pat Tetreault, (402) 472-1752 or email: ptetreault1@unl.edu / www.unl.edu/cglbtc
 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

Nationally Based

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

Omaha GLBT Sports

by Chris Orr

The teams resumed play on January 4th after the holiday break. On January 4th Flixx played against the Black team. The first two sets had Flixx with a low score at the end of the sets but it was just a warm up for them for the third set. Black began to sweat a little in the third set as the game did go into overtime. Both teams had a solid game plan and had a great consistency of placing the ball where it needed to go. Though Flixx was close it didn't get the game won.



The January 11th games had Purple versus Dixie Quicks. Dixie Quicks was off to a solid start with their routine with some digs that saved a point. Purple was doing the same but not at the equal rate of speed. Purple did turn the court in the last set and had Dixie Quicks scrambling to stay in the game but Purple exceeded.

Dodgeball will be played on Saturday March 14th. This is a one day only sporting event. It is a fundraiser tournament for Omaha Rainbow Outreach Center. The games will be played at Christie Heights Gym from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. The cost per player is \$10. Free will donation per spectator. Dodgeball teams will have 5 players. Registration will be online only www.omahaglbtsportsleague.org and registration is open January 19th – March 10th 5 p.m. You can create a full team or register as groups and individuals to be formed into teams.

January 4th

Flixx 14 13 20	VS.	Black 21 21 22
Louie M's 18 21 21	VS.	Blue 21 19 17
Gray 15 3 4	VS.	White 21 21 21
Dixie Quicks 21 21 21	VS.	Yellow 11 12 20
Orange 8 14 15	VS.	Red 21 21 21
Chixx 20 21 21	VS.	Purple 22 14 11
Green 14 20 18	VS.	Brown 21 22 21

Community Announcements

Post your announcement here!



It's FREE!

Send it to gayzette@cox.net

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.)

January 11th

Purple 10 13 21
 Brown 21 21 21
 Chix 17 21 15
 Blue 17 6 21
 Yellow 21 9 12
 White 10 19 13
 Red 21 21 21

VS.
 VS.
 VS.
 VS.
 VS.
 VS.
 VS.

Dixie Quicks 21 21 15
 Gray 5 7 10
 Flixx 21 7 21
 Orange 21 21 16
 Louie M's 18 21 21
 Black 21 21 21
 Green 17 4 14

**Business is Brisk at Seattle
 Gay Bars Threatened With Ricin**

Business was brisk this weekend at gay bars in Seattle despite the ricin threat that surfaced last week. Eleven bars in the city's Capitol Hill neighborhood received letters warning of attacks with the poison, but instead of keeping people away, the threat turned them out, CNN reports.

On Friday night hundreds of people joined a pub crawl organized to support the targeted bars, which posted signs advising patrons to not leave their drinks unattended. "We are not going to be terrorized," one of the crawl's organizers, Alison Luying told CNN. Added Chris Daw, a bartender at C.C. Attle's: "People are like, 'Come on out. If you don't drink, a terrorist wins.'"

Police are investigating the letters but have no evidence that the person behind them can actually deliver on the threat, according to CNN. (Advocate.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
- The Max, 1417 Jackson St. 346-4110
- Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
- Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 449-8703
- Mystery Bookstore, 1422 South 13th St 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**

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake
Certified Personal Trainer



A smile is worth a thousand friends! In the last column I talked about how a smile should be one of those things you really aim to use this year to help keep you healthy. I shall spend all of this week's ink elaborating on the great healthy effects of a fantastic smile.

Your smile can relax others around you. People like to be near people that are pleasant and positive. No one wants to be near a grumpy and grouchy individual. You might not even be grumpy or grouchy but that is exactly what you'll portray when you wear that frown. You will also find that people will gravitate toward you when you are a smiler. This creates a synergy of positivity and that has all the effects of an apple a day!

Your smile can relax you. Next time you are in a bad mood go to a mirror and start smiling. It is hard to stay in a bad mood when you are smiling. That toothy grin can even help lower your blood pressure and relieve stress you might be harboring. Your muscles will ease from their tension and you will begin to feel a calming sensation. I am already smiling and feeling good about the thought of that!

Your smile can make you look younger. Would you rather focus on someone smiling or someone frowning? Most folks will opt for that teenage face of sunshine before they spend any time with that four score and seven years face of scowl. There is just something youthful about a happy face! The smile reflects a sense of vibrancy, vivaciousness, and maybe even virility!

Your smile can convey a sense of self-confidence. You appear ready to tackle the world's problems with a superhero attitude. That glowing grin tells the populace that you are a force to be reckoned with! That glowing grin says give me your best shot! That glowing grin says I've only just begun! Plug it in and start glowing!

Your smile can attract people to you. You can build relationships for work or pleasure. That happy smile invites people through your white picket fence gate and up to your front door. Everyone wants to be with that guy or gal with that down on the farm grin. There is nothing scary or intimidating when you spot someone casting a smile in your direction. That smile can get you more business, more social contacts and more happiness from the combination of the two.

Start making a habit of this whole smiling thing and watch your health improve each day. Some guy named Les Giblin once said "If you're not using your smile, you're like a man with a million dollars in the bank and no checkbook." Start writing some checks!

This column is brought to you by the guy who has never bounced a smile check yet. That guy is Ron Blake and you can request your smile dollars at blake.fitness@yahoo.com.

Grandpa and the IRS

The IRS decides to audit Grandpa, and summons him to the IRS office. The IRS auditor was not surprised when Grandpa showed up with his attorney.

The auditor said, 'Well, sir, you have an extravagant lifestyle and no full-time employment, which you explain by saying that you win money gambling. I'm not sure the IRS finds that believable.'

'I'm a great gambler, and I can prove it,' says Grandpa.
'How about a demonstration?'

The auditor thinks for a moment and said, 'Okay. Go ahead.'

Grandpa says, 'I'll bet you a thousand dollars that I can bite my own eye.'

The auditor thinks a moment and says, 'It's a bet.' Grandpa removes his glass eye and bites it. The auditor's jaw drops.

Grandpa says, 'Now, I'll bet you two thousand dollars that I can bite my other eye.'

Now the auditor can tell Grandpa isn't blind, so he takes the bet. Grandpa removes his dentures and bites his good eye. The stunned auditor now realizes he has wagered and lost three grand, with Grandpa's attorney as a witness. He starts to get nervous.

'Want to go double or nothing?' Grandpa asks 'I'll bet you six thousand dollars that I can stand on one side of your desk, and pee into that wastebasket on the other side, and never get a drop anywhere in between.'

The auditor, twice burned, is cautious now, but he looks carefully and decides there's no way this old guy could possibly manage that stunt, so he agrees again. Grandpa stands beside the desk and unzips his pants, but although he strains mightily, he can't make the stream reach the wastebasket on the other side, so he pretty much urinates all over the auditor's desk.

The auditor leaps with joy, realizing that he has just turned a major loss into a huge win. But Grandpa's attorney moans and puts his head in his hands.

'Are you okay?' the auditor asks.

'Not really,' says the attorney. 'This morning, when Grandpa told me he'd been summoned for an audit, he bet me twenty-five thousand dollars that he could come in here and pee all over your desk and that you'd be happy about it.'



I Spy.....



Hello there reader. My name is Chris Orr and I am doing an opinion column of just whatever. I'll be expressing views or sometimes 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.)

Everyone seems to be going somewhere these days. According to the television, everyone is going to D.C. The new congress, Rick Warren, Roland Burris, and the porn industry all have made (well porn is making their way) their way to Washington. Instead of Rick Warren going to Washington, it should be read that Rick Warren goes to hell. He could get a lot of frequent flyer miles out of that deal. So the question to ask is that if these people are going places, where are you going? Will you be at the capital to be a part of history on January 20th?

A report was released that so many civilians are going to Washington to be part of this that crowd control is an issue. It's only weeks into the new year and during this cold non eventful time (for the most part), people day dream and think about where to go during the year. Don't think local destinations either; think about the big picture, the globe or at least other parts of the U.S.

People go places to experience whatever it is they want to experience. Gay life outside of Omaha. People go to D.C., Chicago, South Beach, to see a real GLBT civilian hub. Lots move there and sometimes come back because they couldn't make it.

There are many different reasons that person couldn't

make it but from some personal experiences and stories from others as they reflected back it was too much for them to handle mentally and being part of a GLBT community that really had it together.

Travel destination gay town may be a place to go venture this year. Everyone is traveling physically to some place beyond personal goals. It may be all fun and games until the ride is over and you realize you go back to the blah time clock punching position you hold. It never hurts to work hard to go up the ladder at your place of employment. So go to Washington, or outside of your comfort zone a little bit. It could bring some rewards, life lessons, or who knows what. But you did get to experience something outside of the regular routine.

Back to routines, the fun ones that is, Bingo will be held at Flixx on January 25th from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. You will get to see Wendy and Courtney but this time a new co-whore in crime will be ball calling, calling balls. The duo will be joined by Aphelia Butts. They will be raising money for Nebraska Pride 2009. Flixx will have the drink specials to go with Bingo and the prizes too.

Check out Omaha's Roller Girls. The team's website is www.omaharollergirls.org and so much information about them! You can see who is on the Lowdown Lucy and Victoria's Secret Service teams. The ladies even have merchandise for those who want some of their propaganda. Wrist bracelets, calendars, and shirts are just a few items that are available. On the website you will also keep posted on bouts and future bouts the ladies will be having. Currently they are seeking some volunteers to help them out. Go to the website and see what they are looking for and if it's something fun for you to do.

Any gripes, comments, or having something checked out? Email me orrthumper83@yahoo.com

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*Miss Max Meet and Greet
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Saturday 24th

*Miss Max In Review Show
7pm*

Sunday 25th

*The Miss Max Pageant
25 Years of Excellence*

"A Night On The Runway"

9pm

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