

V O L I

N O. VI

*The
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A



The New Voice

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Comments and Opinions from The New Voice staff

Recently, The New Voice of Nebraska was hit with a great deal of media coverage. What started as a short interview with The Lincoln Star snowballed into a regional story as The Associated Press (AP) picked up the story from The Lincoln Star and put the story on its wire services. This led to coverage from The Lincoln Journal, the Omaha World Herald, and several radio stations. In a week's time, The New Voice received more mail than we normally receive in two months. Persons from all across the area asked about subscriptions, advertising, and membership on The New Voice staff. Very little of the mail was negative or homophobic. We appreciate this kind support as the entire staff are dedicated volunteers who value positive reinforcement. Your ideas are important to us, and we welcome feedback through letters and attendance of our meetings. Also contributions and support of our future fund-raisers are needed so we can continue to put out a first-class publication.

Larry Weiss, Editor

LINCOLN STAR
July 17, 1984
CE 3

Omaha World-Herald

• Wednesday, July 18, 1984 13

Gay community gets 'New Voice' from magazine

"The New Voice of Nebraska," a new publication for and about the gay and lesbian communities in the Lincoln and Omaha areas, is re-establishing a communication link that has been missing for about two years, according to Gary Weiss, editor of the Lincoln magazine.

The magazine-newsletter, staffed by volunteers and supported by advertising and donations, is the first gay/lesbian publication established since "The Capital Times" ended in 1982.

"The New Voice" has published five editions since it was created in March and has increased in size from a dozen pages to 36 pages or more. Circulation, which began at about 200, is now more than 1,000, Weiss said.

Persons interested in subscribing can write "The New Voice," P.O. Box 8823, Lincoln 68511.

Publication for Gays Begins in Lincoln

LINCOLN (AP) — A new publication for and about the gay and lesbian communities in the Lincoln and Omaha areas is re-establishing a communication link that has been missing for about two years, said Gary Weiss, editor of "The New Voice of Nebraska."

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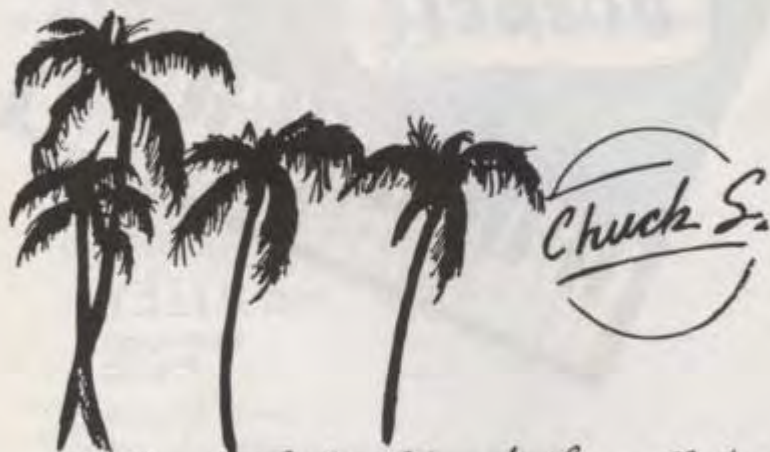
The Lincoln-based magazine has published five editions since it was created in March and has increased in size from a dozen pages to 36 pages or more. Circulation, which began at about 200, is now more than 1,000, Weiss said.

An open letter to the organizations of the gay/lesbian community of Nebraska:

We know you are out there, and we at The New Voice would like to know more about you. We want to share your knowledge with all of the community, but are not always able to do so. We need your help in getting out information about your events, meetings, and happenings.

If there is anything you want us to know, please contact us, or write The New Voice, P. O. Box 80819, Lincoln, NE, 68501.

Tom P.



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Teams are expected from Omaha, Lincoln, Kansas City, Denver, Des Moines, and Topeka. Inquiries should be sent to NRGL CBT, 1721 Leavenworth St., Omaha, Nebraska. The cost for the entire tournament will be \$25.00 per person with 5 people on each team.

The \$10,000.00 fund will make this tournament one of the largest gay tournaments in the nation. We hope you get some friends together and come join in the fun --maybe going home with big bucks!

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Miss Gay Nebraska Contest

The site of the 1984 official Miss Gay Nebraska pageant is Omaha, Nebraska. The Stagedoor Lounge, located at 1512 Howard, is the official host bar, scheduling the event on August 26, 1984.

The pageant is a statewide event in and for the gay community. It is open to female impersonators who have reached the age of 20 years or older and have continually lived in the state of Nebraska for the past six months.

The Miss Gay Nebraska Committee is proud to announce the special guest appearance of the reigning Miss Gay America--Tasha Kohl. Ms. Kohl will be present to aid in the presentation and crowning of the new Miss Gay Nebraska. She will also demonstrate the energy, enthusiasm, and beauty that won her the title of Miss Gay America.

Contestants are judged on a total point accumulation system. Categories for judging are: a personal interview (female and male), contemporary fashion, evening wear, and talent.

Applications may be obtained at your local bar or you may contact the following for further information:

Miss Gay Nebraska Contest
c/o Kim Meske
1512 Howard
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

This year's entry fee is \$15.00. Application deadline is August 18, 1984.

Be sure not to miss out on an evening of fun and excitement. Come and support your favorite contestant!

Women's Studies Program

This fall, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is again offering the Women's Studies Program. The courses are in Sociology, English, History, Health, Psychology, and Human Development and the Family. They deal with a wide range of subjects from women in society, history, and health care to sex roles. Also, there are topics dealing with the psychology of women and the family.

For more information, contact the Women's Studies Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Call 472-1197 or go by 723 Oldfather Hall (City Campus).

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Here and There

The Houston City Council on June 19 narrowly approved two ordinances prohibiting discrimination against gay people in city employment. Mayor Kathy Whitmire voted for both amendments and as a result may be the subject of a recall drive. Over 400 people packed the council chambers and were engaged in boisterous shouting matches.

--ADVOCATE, San Mateo, CA

Unitarian ministers now have the backing of the Unitarian Universalist Association to perform ceremonies for the union of same-sex couples. The decision was made by delegates to the UUA's International General Assembly. This is the first major denomination to confirm religious celebrations for the union of gay and lesbian couples. M.C.C. also performs ceremonies.

--GAYLIFE, Chicago

Seattle's City Council recently held hearings for a proposed ordinance which could penalize a convicted person up to \$500 and up to six months in jail for threatening harm to gays.

--PATLAR GAZETTE,
Sacramento, CA

Momentum is building for the International March for Lesbian and Gay Freedom to be held on September 30 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, according to organizers from the New York-based Lesbian and Gay Organizing Committee (LGOC).

--THE GAY NEWS TELEGRAPH,
St. Louis

The ACLU of Southern California filed suit against the Los Angeles Police Department and Western Goals Foundation, a private right-wing organization for illegal storage and dissemination of LA police department intelligence records. The suit represents the first litigation linking local law enforcement agencies with the activities of ultra-conservative groups.

--GUIDE MAGAZINE,
Denver

Personal Profiles-Eric Youngberg

When many people hear the word "gay," they think of drag queens, of child molesters, of men who hang out in public washrooms, of Sister Boom Boom. It would never occur to some of them that many of us just go quietly about our business, trying to make the world a better place in the process.

Such an individual is Eric Youngberg. Reared in a conservative home in Iowa, he came to Lincoln as part of the VISTA program ten years ago. In the decade since, he has managed to build up an impressive resume of service to the community, including service as Coordinator of Lincoln Food Advocates, two terms on the Lincoln Community Development Task Force, the Lincolnfest Planning Committee, and a term on City Council.

In large part, his success has come from a sense of belonging to Lincoln first and Lincoln's gay community after that. "I wasn't a gay city council member so much as a city council member, representing all of Lincoln, who happened to be gay." Through the interview, he consistently and repeatedly stated that he does not consider his sexual orientation all that interesting, that gay people are members of the larger human community.

That preference, though, became interesting two years ago during the disastrous campaign for the proposed Gay Civil Rights Amendment to the Lincoln Municipal Code. Some of his political opponents tried to make an issue of Youngberg's sexual orientation, and during the public hearings on the amendment one witness asked him directly. (His response: That's not relevant to this debate.)

During a time of unusually high emotions for the gay community, Youngberg ran through the gamut of emotions with the rest of us, from anger to frustration to being deeply moved at the testimony of a European immigrant who survived the Nazi horrors, Elsie Thomas, who compared prejudice against gay people to prejudice against the Jews during the days of the Second World War.

In spite of the setback, Youngberg feels the gay civil rights movement, and the gay community in general continue to make progress.

A man who is constantly busy and involved, whether with the community, the theater, or bicycling, he nevertheless is jealous of his privacy, and is busily working on a big old house which he bought four years ago.

On the way out, your reporter asks him what he considers the most important thing in life. "Equity" is the immediate reply. That, better than anything else, is the story of Eric Youngberg's life: Seeking to bring true equality to all.

by John Mark Roberts

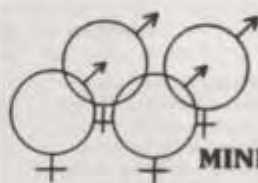
Gail's Hit List

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. When Doves Cry | Prince |
| 2. Self Control | Laura Branigan |
| 3. State of Shock | Jacksons |
| 4. Let's Hear It for the Boy | Deniece Williams |
| 5. Change of Heart | Change |
| 6. Black Stations, White Stations | M & M |
| 7. Infatuation | Rod Stewart |
| 8. Jump | Pointer Sisters |
| 9. She-Bop | Cyndi Lauper |
| 10. Hurt | Reflex |
| 11. Chemical Imbalance
(Crazed with Love) | Exit 16 |
| 12. Dancing in the Dark
(dub version) | Bruce Springstein |
| 13. In the Mix | Roger |
| 14. Ghost Busters | Ray Parker |
| 15. The Reflex | Duran Duran |

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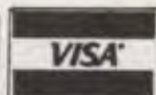
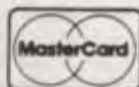


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A Pastoral Chat

I am very appreciative of the opportunity the editors of The New Voice have given me to share with you through what I hope will be a regular column. I know I want to share information about the Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha and the denomination of which we are a part, the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, but I hope also to share some personal insights, feelings, and opinions through this column as well.

I confess and am willing to claim that I am pretty middle-of-the-road in my feminism, liberal in my sociology and politics, and conservative in my theology. But as I share, I would like you to do the same--on other words, I invite your feedback.

As we strive for "Unity and More in '84" to become a reality, I believe one of the things at which we have to take a hard look is our own intolerance of the varying lifestyles within the gay/lesbian community and come to terms with our own bigotry. If we want to stand proudly and say, "I Am What I Am," then we must be willing to allow our sisters and brothers the freedom to do the same.

Human sexuality and our individualized expressions of it is as beautifully varied a part of God's creation as is any other part of nature. God has never proclaimed a "right way" and a "wrong way" to be sexual beings.

I cannot pretend to be completely free from some of these prejudices. I have learned a lot and still have a lot more to learn about varying lifestyles and sexual expression. Hopefully, through an increased openness and willingness to share with each other, all of us can grow into an acceptance and appreciation of each other. Then we can grow together as we realize the strength of being "diverse in our unity and unified in our diversity."

Pastor Jan

T.J.'s Corner

The New Voice would, at this time, like to welcome aboard a new contributor with a new column. "T. J.'s Corner" is our new advice column. If you have a problem or a complaint, write to us. We'd really like to help. In fact, if we can't satisfy you, we'll go out and find someone who can. If you would like to write to us, address your letter to: T. J.'s Corner c/o The New Voice, P. O. Box 80819, Lincoln, NE 68501. All letters will be printed unless specified otherwise. "T. J.'s Corner" and the views expressed therein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor and/or the staff of The New Voice.

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Drag shows and female impersonators have been a part of the gay community for many years. Many opinions exist as to how entertaining these shows are and the reasons why men enjoy dressing and performing as women. The controversy echoed 10 years ago as the Gayly Nebraskan reported in their August 8, 1974 issue that the Miss Coffeehouse Competition might end after a three-year tradition. The event had been held as part of Anniversary Coffeehouse held every November.

Why are drag shows controversial? How do you feel about the topic? If you perform, what motivates you to impersonate women? Write to The New Voice with your opinions for the September issue.

by Larry Weiss

Recipe Talk

Carrot Cake

by Pat Chadd

2 cups all-purpose flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1 1/2 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt
2 tsp. cinnamon

1 1/2 cups salad oil
2 cups sugar

4 eggs
2 cups grated carrots
1 small can of crushed pineapple
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 1/2 cups of chopped walnuts/pecans (optional)

Sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and cinnamon in a small bowl. Set aside.

Combine oil and sugar, mixing well. Add eggs one at a time, beating well with mixer after each.

Sift flour mixture into egg mixture and beat thoroughly. Stir in remaining ingredients and pour into prepared pans. Bake at 350 F. for 1 hour. YIELD: 2 9 x 13 loaf pans.

Imperial Court News

I want to thank the gay and lesbian communities for their outstanding support of the Imperial Court of Nebraska's 2nd Annual Fourth of July Picnic, held at the Warehouse Grounds in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The Board of Governors, the Committee for the Fourth of July, and the untold many who helped in presenting an event that was attended by nearly 500 gays and lesbians from Omaha, Lincoln, Council Bluffs, and as far away as Grand Island, was our biggest so far.

We hope that each and everyone who attended the picnic party are planning to be part of this year's AIDS fundraiser on September 3, Labor Day.

We celebrated our nation's independence and our community's unity. We shall continue to strive to unite our community in 1984.

Respectfully,

Gary West,
Emperor IV

DID YOU KNOW:

--There is an impressive collection of trophies won by the TWO MC (motorcycle club) on display at the Diamond Bar.

--The Alley has contracted a lady to play piano on Thursdays through Sundays for us who think we can sing.

--The Run has a new distinguishable sign on the front of the building.

--that if you can't find the Stagedoor by following the sound, you can go between the Orpheum and the Hill town Inn and look for the ribbon of copper.

--The Sanctuary recently remodeled. During the day, sunlight appears. At night, it's radiant white. Come see the "new look."

--Lincoln's Board Walk is Nebraska's newest bar. Nice music, nice decor, nice people.

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Gay Book Services Vary

Good gay fiction is hard to come by--in Lincoln. Many times when friends are at the house, they ask, "Where do you get these books?" And I have to confess that I had to go to Minneapolis or Denver or Kansas City and seek out gay bookshops there. Of course, no one goes to those cities just to buy books, but I always make a swing through the bookstores as long as I'm already there.

But if you don't travel, you can still have access to gay fiction that is several notches above Circus Trick and Cum Get It. Just yesterday, I received a brochure through the mail from the Century Book Club, 1560 N. LaBrea Ave., Los Angeles, Ca 90028. Every month, they send a brochure and you won't be charged if you don't return a coupon and you don't have to pay a membership fee for joining and you don't have to buy x-number of books a year. There seems to be one drawback, however. All of their current selections were hardcover and were at least \$10.00. I'm a sucker for bookclub offers, though, so I ordered one in order to stay on their list.

Over the years, I've been very pleased with the books I've ordered from Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston, Mass., 02118. They send brochures and catalogues periodically. Many paperbacks, Gay Comix, Fiction, non-fiction, historical books about homosexuality, and often, they have bargain offers.

In addition, you should write to the Gay Men's Book Service, at PATHS UNTRODDEN, P. O. Box 459, Village Station, New York, N.Y. 10014. Their catalogue is \$2, but it is worth it and they also have fast service.

These places also offer gay greeting cards, gifts, and Christmas cards, plus novelties that you don't see in the area. Another good place to find quality gay books is at NEW AMSTERDAM DISCOUNT BOOKS. Most of their books are hardbacks that are at least a year old, and for that reason, they are discounted very reasonably, usually 50-75%. Their address is: Box 1278, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201.

The most complete gay book service that I've discovered is at LAMBDA RISING, 2012 S. S Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. Their catalogue is also \$2, but one could look for years and not find the quality or the variety of books that they have available. They offer at least 6 different gay guides, plus legal guides, health books, reference volumes, and, of course, hundreds of gay novels of all kinds.

Don't put off wondering what you're going to read this summer. If you don't have a stamp, LAMBDA RISING even has a toll-free number: 800-671-6769. Call up and talk sometime!

--Kerry

Thanks to the Community
for supporting me for
Miss Gay Midwest
District

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Dennis,

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Love,
Kenny

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VIRGO -- the Virgin

Aug. 22 -- Sept. 21

Ruling Planet: Mercury
Key Words: I Analyze

Element: Earth
Mode of Expression: Mutable

Life Task: To learn the lessons of humble service and patience and to turn from the earthbound to the greater Cosmic Picture.

The keys: Loving service to others; learning to be less critical and more loving; learning that as body must serve mind, mind must ultimately serve spirit.

Mercury here gives a thirst for knowledge and information, keen analytical ability, and capacity for great attention to detail. These characteristics along with the desire for themselves (and those around them) to reach perfection, give rise to the Virgo's tendency to be overly critical.

Virgo is perhaps the best worker in the Zodiac and particularly good in positions of service to others. Indeed, only in these positions can Virgo be truly happy. Virgo is a "Serve or Suffer" sign.

Deep within, Virgos dislike that which is crude or vulgar and they normally have a quiet and gentle manner.

Virgo is the sign of the birth of Spiritual Awareness, the beginning of the awareness of the higher (or inner) self.

Virgo also rules health, and Virgo's tend to be somewhat high-strung and nervous. Too great a concern with health can lead to hypochondria. (Some Virgos have medicine chests that look like pharmacies; some won't even take aspirin.)

Virgos can appear aloof, apart, almost emotionless (cold fish). This appearance is deceiving and springs often from the (necessary for them) effort to evaluate performances of both self and others with absolute objectivity and dispassion.

Negatives: overly critical; workaholic, unconscious selfishness, over-anxious, hypochondriac, very critical.

Positives: modest, industrious, dedicated, courteous, knowledgeable, thoughtful, and philosophical.

Happy Birthday, Virgo!

Health & Nutrition

Herpes

Herpes virus infections have plagued mankind for centuries. One herpes virus also causes genital herpes, which has been called the fastest growing sexually transmitted disease in the U.S. today. Over 20 million Americans have it, and, unfortunately, as many as half a million more men and women--mainly between the ages of 18 and 35--may be contracting the infection every year.

What Are Herpes Infections?

A lifelong disease that has a tendency to recur again and again, genital herpes causes blistering sores on and around the genital organs. It is highly contagious and may result from having sexual relations with someone who has an active infection. Once the virus enters the body, an active infection may develop. If it does, the virus may be passed to another person. Sometimes, though, a person can be contagious without having the blistering sores.

Herpes and Cancer

Some studies have shown that women with genital herpes may be more likely to develop cancer of the cervix than those who have not had the infection. Fortunately the Pap smear usually detects changes in the cervix at very early stages, and these changes can be dealt with effectively.

So it is very important for women with genital herpes to see their physicians or clinics for regular Pap smears.

Why It's Important to see the Doctor

Many people become so desperate when they discover they have genital herpes that they try one so-called "cure" after another. There are two problems with this approach.


First, other diseases besides herpes can cause symptoms similar to those described here, and the treatment for those diseases would be very different than for herpes. So guessing can be dangerous.

Second, a doctor can help patients in several different ways. New therapy has recently become available to doctors for the management of initial genital herpes. In addition, the doctor can give useful advice and information on how patients can care for themselves and avoid infecting others, which is a major concern to herpes victims.

So, if you think you have herpes, see a doctor--immediately.

--The Information Center on
Herpes Disease
New York, N.Y.

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Join us—
for Fun

1705 "O" St.
474-9298

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

Letters



July 4, 1984

Mel Dahl
c/o THE NEW VOICE
P. O. Box 80819
Lincoln, NE 68501

Mr. Dahl:

In regard to your editorial, "Different Points of View-- Pornography" (The New Voice, No. III), I don't want to respond at any great length, but I would like to share my own concerns about pornography.

I do not believe that women against pornography are trying to legislate morality any more than our local officials who enact prohibitions against public nudity. This is an issue of decency, more specifically, a matter of preserving personal respect in accordance with cultural standards of decency. I believe the majority of women who are against pornography are interested in legislating restrictions on the publication of material which demeans them socially and intimately.

I do not support any effort to alter the First Amendment, but I am concerned about the social ramifications of pornography. I don't think it is sophistry to consider pornography for what it is: propaganda that presents and legitimizes abusive sexual acts against women. There may be no clear-cut line between that which damages an identity, but the emphasis here is between erotica and pornography. Erotica is based on love and choice; pornography is based on degradation. Material that depicts dominance, bondage, and rape creates a demeaning, if not dangerous atmosphere for women for one reason: women are given an identity of inferiority--an identity based on sexual subservience which at least partially alludes to a desire for abuse.

Under this definition, I cannot condone every right to "freedom of speech," just as I would never condone any grotesque stereotype of blacks or hispanics. Racial stereotyping is more or less controlled within the media; unfortunately, grotesque stereotyping of women is not.

Sincerely,

Anita Freeman

Letters



Jerry and Sandy Irwin --

Judging from your letter to The New Voice, I would say you are pointing the finger of blame in the wrong direction. It seems to me that perhaps you have had a corner on the gay bar market in Lincoln for too long, and have forgotten how competitive the business world is. If you are experiencing a decline in your business, it's not because of any rumors that might be circulating. It's because the competition is obviously offering something that you're not.

I don't really care, myself, if a gay bar is owned by straights or gays. I don't care how many of your friends shun you or that your families think you've lost your senses. I don't care about the hassles you've had opening and running a gay bar. You made the decision to operate a gay bar, no one forced you, and obviously it was in your best interest or you wouldn't have gone to the trouble.

I do care about the environment I'm in. As a businessman, it's your responsibility to supply a good environment to me. I, as the customer, am not expected to please you. If you don't please me, I'll spend my money somewhere else.

I have been to the Office several times since the Board Walk has been open. I've never stayed for even one drink because nothing at the Office has changed. The only thing the Office ever had to offer was the fact that it was the only gay bar in town and there was no place else to go.

I don't want to see Lincoln become a one-bar town, but unless you stop looking for excuses and pity and start being competitive businesspeople, this may well happen. Maybe you should take a look at the competition in both Lincoln and Omaha and try to match or better what they have to offer.

I'm anxious to see some changes.

David Keech

Michael

Will you
marry me?

Terry



Boardwalk

20th '0' Lincoln, NE
PH. 474-9741

Not a man's bar, Not a woman's bar,
Lincoln's gay bar.

Sanctuary

announces

a New Era!

Monday—80¢ Well Drinks 8-Close
Tuesday—\$1 Schnapps 8-Close
Wednesday—90¢ Can Beer 8-Close
Thursday—\$4 liters of Margaritas
8-Close
Friday—75¢ Well Drinks 7-Close
Saturday—Special Event Nights
Special Poster
Sunday—Movie Night
2 Movies from 7-11

EXTRA! EXTRA!
The floods are over
Ken's Daddy's Day Cruise
Rescheduled for



**Labor
Day
Weekend**

Sunday, September 2

Check Posters at your local bars

Capital Punishment

When the death penalty is discussed, there are two non-issues which frequently occupy an inordinate amount of time and energy in the place of what I consider to be the central issue in a relatively simple discussion. The two non-issues: Does the death penalty deter crime, and Is the death penalty moral.

It is foolish to debate deterrence since statistics can be quoted on both sides, and statistics can usually be used to "prove" darn near anything. (You really should read Paul Cameron's statistics sometime. By the way, did you know that 100% of people who drink milk eventually die?) One can cite abolitionist Great Britain which has a relatively low murder rate, but then one can equally well cite retentionist China which also has a relatively low murder rate. On the other side of the coin, abolitionist Ireland and retentionist South Africa both have relatively high murder rates. At best, this issue is murky and unresolvable; at worst, it complicates the real issue.

On the issue of morality, I do not pretend to be an expert logician in the field of morals and ethics. I do know enough about both to know that there are very few things which are objectively and universally recognized as being either moral or immoral. While I personally have what I consider a well-thought-out concept of morality, I would not pretend that my version of morality is applicable to everyone in every circumstance. The government is inherently unable to establish morality; the only thing we dare ask from the state is for it to understand its proper functions and limitations and act accordingly.

If the government has one proper function it is to keep the streets safe. I have an absolute right to walk from my apartment to Minky Dinky with \$20.00 in my wallet without being mugged en route. Further, no criminal has any rights whatsoever until my right to peace and safety has first been satisfied. It is not a question of rights in conflict; rather, the question is: Since the system will invariably deprive somebody of his/her rights, would we rather deprive peaceful, non-violent people of their rights, or muggers of their rights. The obvious answer, to anybody not touched, is that society's right to peace and quiet obviously outranks a murderer's right to anything.

I now quote a famous opponent of the death penalty, Truman Capote: "Of the five murderers I interviewed, all of whom were eventually executed, there is no doubt in my mind that every one of them, given the opportunity, would have killed again." Aside from the fact that that is a remarkable admission from somebody who has made a career of trying to get the death penalty abolished, that statement also goes right to the crux of the matter: What are we to do with killers who have utterly no respect for themselves or anybody else, who think nothing of taking the life of another human being, and who would predictably kill again?

So much of the discussion on capital punishment seemingly ignores the simple fact that peaceful people have rights too, and protection is one of those rights. Taxpayers have rights, too, and the right not to provide room and board for John Gacy forever is one of them. Remember that every person on death row put himself or herself there by committing the murder. People who don't wish to be executed should refrain from committing murder.

by Mel Dahl

Another Point of View—

I find it amazing in light of the facts that a reasonable, rational person could support something so barbaric as capital punishment. The notion of taking somebody and electrocuting him, or choking him to death with poisoned gas, or hanging him by his neck until he is dead, is not something that belongs in a civilized society.

It would be nice if this issue were as simple as the proponents of capital punishment would have us believe. This is not simply a case of removing a vicious criminal in an expeditious fashion.

There are a number of cases on record where an innocent man has been wrongfully convicted and, in some cases, executed. Maine and Rhode Island both abolished the death penalty following the hangings of men who later turned out to be innocent. If a man is wrongfully convicted of murder and sent to prison, that is bad enough. If he loses his life, it is an atrocity.

Even if somehow the pro-death-penalty people could promise that no innocent people would be executed, there is the problem of disproportionate sentencing. Why can Dan White walk out of prison a free man after only four years for shooting the Mayor and a City Council member in San Francisco, and the same day he is convicted, some poor schmuck named John Spenselink dies in the Florida electric chair for killing a fellow vagrant? Something is wrong with our sense of proportion.

The death penalty does not solve a thing, never has and never will. If the death penalty were a deterrent, there would have been no crime at all in England 200 years ago when 200 different offenses carried a sentence of death by hanging, including theft of anything over a shilling (24¢) in value. Yet, former Canadian Prime Minister John Diefenbaker tells of public hangings of pickpockets where pickpockets picked the pockets of the crowd that had assembled to watch the hanging. Incidentally, Diefenbaker became a staunch opponent of capital punishment after serving as prosecuting attorney for a man accused of murder who was subsequently hanged and later turned out to be innocent.

The death penalty is nothing more than nasty vengeance and revenge, usually a tool of the powerful to keep the poor and minorities in line; it is a legal farce and a deplorable miscarriage of justice. It does not belong in our society.

by John Mark Roberts

Boardwalk



Cocktail Hour 5 TO 7 MONDAY - SAT.

*Watch this
Space*

(NEW VOICE INC.)

Classifieds

KREIGLER SERVICE
COMPANY

Heating & Air Conditioning
Service and Installation
Commercial & Residential

455-5945

See Ad coming next issue!

Lesbian homeowner needs lesbian and/or feminist roommates.
Convenient location. MUST LOVE DOGS. \$210/mo. Call Chele--
474-0920 after 5:30 p.m.

NICE FEMALE MED STUDENT would like to meet nice female partner.
Write: Vickie Monday
4308 Plateau Tr
Sioux Falls, S.D.
57106

Love to sing? MID-CITY CHORUS in Omaha formal organization
coming this fall. Watch for flyers or call:
345-0939

Interested in an Astrology Class? For more information,
send name and phone number to "Astrology," c/o The New Voice,
Box 80819, Lincoln, NE, 68501

Good-by, ED and DARRELL
Best of luck. We'll miss you.

Love,
The Board-Walk

FOR SALE: Missile Command Arcade machine.

MUST SELL!!!

Call after 6 p.m. 474-0886

Falwellitis?

What is Falwellitis?

Infectious falwellitis, also referred to as the Virginia Cuckoo Syndrome, is a disease that affects the brain and the heart, with occasional harm to the body's motor functions.

How is Falwellitis spread?

Parents frequently spread it to their children. It can also be transmitted through the airwaves, the pulpit, and by printed material.

What are the symptoms?

Guilt, anger, hostility to women and other minorities, an inability to reason, incoherence, misplaced priorities, and an insatiable desire to meddle in other peoples' lives.

Incubation period

Children born into homes with a history of infectious Falwellitis may carry the disease for life. Others may have it for a short period of time but respond to light.

How long is the patient contagious?

Unfortunately, the patient may continue to infect other people unless the last vestiges of the disease are removed, which in severe cases may be life.

What should be done for the patient?

The patient should be unconditionally loved, while at the same time prevented from harming other people. It is regrettable that sometimes the only way to keep the patient from afflicting society as a whole is to use rather ruthless methods. However, when the disease appears to be going, the patient should be welcomed back into society with open arms.

--New Voice Department of Health

Miss Gay Nebraska Contest

August 26, 1984

9:00 p.m. Omaha, Nebraska



WITH SPECIAL
GUEST

Tasha Kohl
Miss Gay America '83

The Energy and Excitement of a
Nebraska Pageant all evolves Sunday
August 26 at 9:00 p.m. at the Stagedoor,
1512 Howard St., Omaha, NE.

Applications are available at local bars.

For further information:

"Miss Gay Nebraska" Contest
c/o Kim Meske
1512 Howard St.
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

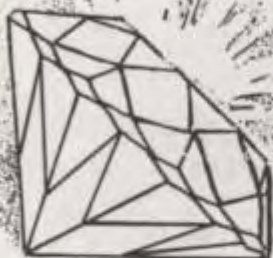
\$2.50 at the door

This is a non-bar function

DIAMOND BAR

Nebraska's
Oldest & Gayest

712 So. 16th
OMAHA



Wop,

Welcome home!
Hugs, kisses,
love ya bunches.

Mommie



Mystery's Advertisement: "Son of Mona Lisa",

Byron Burford

The tattooed man is making himself
rich and strange.
Like a cigar store Indian he is remote,
off-center, far from benign; self-contained, a sign.

In front of the tattoo place he places himself.
He sits inside circles of silver.
The TATTOOING sign behind his head is only to make you think
the bright sheet at his back is the shop's plate glass window
and not the flat metallic plane on which
Byzantine saints have their painted existence.
A gold aura tapes around him.

The torso grows huge, the arms swell--
as skin swells and breaks under the needle--
the hand filling the enormous red mitt
 grabs at the scissors.
His chest glows rust and green and amber.
The unfamiliar eagle screams on his breast.
Lower down a head--Medusa or Lori Beth, no one can say--
stares blankly...
Roses breathe, flags slap, and stars stop upon his body.
The tattooed man devotes his right shoulder to THLEEN
and the left he's still working on.

The eyes open flat and wide.
One side of his face stays in shadow...
the other reveals only the rightward glance and detachment,
the Mona Lisa lift of mouth.

--Eric Peterson

Edge Nearer

Swallow
 In a flurry,
 Almost resisting,
 Quiet by a lighted
 Neon sign.
 Discharge yourself from a
 Self-comforted numbness.
 Playfully,
 Submit to my sleepy,
 Tooth-eyed happiness.
 Hear: the oceans heave;
 The moon's gone
 Down, beyond the hall.
 Rupture this hour
 For me, a parting guest;
 In the morning, I've asked a call;
 Don't shiver:
 I'll be careful
 With our gluttonous,
 Chameleon secrets.

--Kerry

1st Annual

\$ 10,000.00

**Nebraska Regional Gay Lesbian
Classic**

Bowling Tournament

September 8th & 9th

King Louie Rose Bowl

1110 Northwest Radial Highway
Omaha, Nebraska

Mens — Women — Mixed

Teams — Doubles — Singles — All Events

\$25.00 Per Person For Complete Tournament

Handicap 75% From 200

Entries Open To All Gay & Lesbian Bowlers

Entries Close Midnight September 2, 1984

Teams

*Inquires for entry forms to N.R.G.L.C.B.T.
1721 Leavenworth Street, Omaha, NE 68102*

Late Night Love Poem

It's 12:16 a.m.
and I'm laying here
thinking lover-thoughts.

I can't sleep
all my senses saluting
to caffeine attenTION!
drinking too much Coke
to calm my flu-bitten stomach.

And so my thoughts reach to him
knowing he is missing me much more
than I him
I with my friends
he alone.

Trying to see his face
and then seeing it
in a photograph I took
wishing now I had brought it with me.

My hand gently resting against my thigh
pretending it is his
sweaty, strong, solid, tense in hot-heat
warm, gentle, pleasing in love-caress.

A spasm of coughing returns me
to 12:45 a.m. and sleep-thoughts
Corporal Caffeine marching away
my senses nodding off
into love-heat dreams.

--Dave Westman

Distribution Locations

Obtain a copy of The New Voice at the following distribution points:

Lincoln

The Board-Walk 104 N. 20th

Cherchez La Femme 200 S. 18th

Nebraska Bookstore--Lifestyle Section 1135 R

Office Lounge 1705 "O" St.

Open Harvest Food Cooperative 2637 Randolph

Women's Resource Center Rm. 116 Nebraska Student Union 140R

Omaha

The Alley 1113 Howard (rear entrance)

The Antiquarium Bookstore 1215 Harney

Chesterfields 1951 St. Mary's

The Diamond 712 S. 16th

The Max 1417 Jackson St.

M.C.C. 420 S. 24th St.

Stage Door 1512 Howard St.

The Run 1715 Leavenworth St.

Council Bluffs, Iowa

Mans World

You had disguised yourself as a garden in the desert night,
 So I was sliding along the smooth sheet-white sandy trail
 between the succulents,
 Wriggling on my belly,
 Delighting in my snakiness,
 Leaking sperm;
 While your voice,
 Black-tied like a wedding reception,
 Apologized for inviting me, made excuses,
 Complained of loneliness and the little time we have
 to know each other.
 I kissed the sand, and at last your moaning song
 Became the chiming of a brook,
 And I found my legs
 And kicked through into a brick fountain;
 Emerging from which
 I saw with human eyes the savages:
 White, bored, suburban teenagers
 Seeking in their restless envy
 To kill us both.

--Joel Brodsky

LINCOLN BARS

BOARD WALK 104 N. 20th	474-9741
CHERCHEZ la FEMME 200 S. 18th	474-9162
THE OFFICE LOUNGE 1705 "O" St.	474-9298
THE SANCTUARY 200S. 18th	474-9142

OMAHA BARS

THE ALLEY 1113 Howard St. (rear)	346-6624
THE CHESTERFIELD 1951 St. Marys	342-1244
THE DIAMOND BAR 712 S. 16th	342-9595
THE RUN 1715 Leavenworth st.	342-9356
THE STAGE DOOR 1512 Howard St.	342-8715
SWINGTIME LOUNGE 2820 Cuming St.	341-3406

LESBIAN/GAY RESOURCES

LINCOLN

GAY/LESBIAN ALCOHOL ANONYMOUS Groups meet weekly. Call 466-5214
LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP, 472-2597.

Informal discussion group for lesbians; all women welcome. Meets weekly. For more information, contact the Womens Resource Center, Room 117 Nebraska Union, Lincoln NE 68588, 472-2597

LINCOLN COALITION FOR GAY & LESBIAN CIVIL RIGHTS, Box 94882, Lincoln 68509

An advocacy group which lobbies for lesbian/gay civil rights, provides education presentations, publishes a newsletter and sponsors cultural and political programs.

LINCOLN LEGION OF LESBIANS, Box 30137, Lincoln, NE 68503

A lesbian-feminist collective founded in 1978. Provides a newsletter, confidential referral and support groups for lesbians and sponsors cultural and social programs.

MINISTRY IN HUMAN SEXUALITY, INC., Box 80122, Lincoln, NE 68501, 476-9913

A non-profit agency which provides counseling, education and supportive action for those seeking growth and understanding in the areas of sexuality and relationships. Contact J. Benjamin Roe, Executive Director.

THE NEW VOICE, Box 80819, Lincoln, NE 68501

Monthly magazine with emphasis on creative literature and promotion of local organizations and activities. Meets the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month at Commonsplace UMHE, 333 No. 14th st., Lincoln.

OPEN DOOR MINISTRY, 535 F St., Lincoln, NE 68508, 474-3390

A project of Holy Archangels Monastery to minister specifically to Lincoln's gay and lesbian communities. Weekly Mass on Saturdays at 6:30pm and prayer service on Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Father David, O.D.

PARENTS/FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS—CORNHUSKER, Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504

A support group for parents, friends and relatives of lesbians and gay men. Meets in the evenings on the forth Tues. 466-1151

SUPPORT GROUP FOR GAY/LESBIAN STUDENTS at Nebr. Wesleyan Univ.

Contact Dr Mary Smith, NWU, 50th & St. Paul, Lincoln, NE 68504, 466-2371

UNL GAY/LESBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION Meets Thurs. 8 pm, 228 Andrews Hall, UNL

PHOENIX RISING, Box 30694, Lincoln, NE 68503

Provide recreational, educational and social services to the homophile community. Opportunities for self improvement of the individual and positive community growth is emphasized.

GAY/LESBIAN RESOURCES

OMAHA

BLACK & WHITE MEN TOGETHER (Need contact person, contact NEW VOICE)

DIGNITY OF OMAHA, 345-5637

Providing common experience through Mass and meetings for Catholics who are Lesbian & Gay or their friends. Regular Liturgy each second Sunday of the Month at 7 PM; regular gathering each fourth Sunday of the Month. Call for location.

GAY AND LESBIAN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 345-9916 WEEKLY MEETINGS:

Fridays, 8:15 pm, Lutheran Medical Center, 3rd floor, open to all

Saturdays, 1:30 pm, Omaha Chapter House, 216 N. 48th, open to all

Sundays, 4:00 pm, Lowe Ave. Presbyterian Church, 1023 N. 40th, men only—please

GAY AND LESBIAN BOWLERS (need contact person, contact NEW VOICE)

GAY MEN'S RAP GROUP 345-2975, MCC Omaha, 420 South 24th St.

Community rap group, combining planned format with general discussion. Other activities planned. Meetings every Monday at 7:30 pm, at MCC Omaha.

GAY PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP 553-2308

Support group for gay persons who have children. Please phone for meeting times and locations.

IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBRASKA 455-3701

Omaha meeting first Monday of each month, except when falling on holiday. Phone for location.

MEAT PACKERS (need contact person—contact NEW VOICE)

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 420 So. 24th

Chartered church with Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Sunday worship, 10:30 am and 7:00 pm. Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 pm. Wednesday Praise, Prayer, and Healing, 7:45 pm. Rev. Jan D. Kross, Pastor.

MID CITY CHORUS 345-0939 420 S. 24th

Gays and Lesbians singing together in a social environment. Future performances are possible. Meetings Tues., 7:30 pm at MCC.

PARENTS & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS 345-2563, P.O. Box 2173, Omaha 68103

No formal organization at this point. Support group for parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians and gay men.

UNO GAY SUPPORT GROUP 556-2355

Constructive, supportive environment for gays & lesbians. Open to everyone. Monthly meetings on or near UNO Campus. Please call for time and location.

Finally

T H E

M A X

coming soon — omaha

For your personal invitation
to the opening night of The Max,
drop us a line.

The Max • 1417 Jackson St. Omaha, Ne. 68102

The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A

SPECIAL INSERT VOL. VI
NO. VI

THE NEW VOICE FIGHTS LAWSUIT

Homophobia, harassment, and bigotry are but a few words to describe a recent suit brought against The New Voice magazine by Bryant News, Inc. Bryant News, Inc., owner of a Hickman newspaper called The Voice--News of Southern Lancaster County has requested an injunction to try to stop The New Voice from using its name. A hearing is scheduled for Monday, August 6, at 3:30 p.m.

Judge Jeffre Chevront refused to order a temporary restraining order on July 24, 1984, to stop The New Voice from using its name. This allowed our publication to complete work on this August issue without interruption.

The New Voice staff met during an emergency meeting on July 26 and unanimously decided to continue to fight the lawsuit to the end. The group also decided to ask for the support of the community, and a fund-drive for legal defense was begun.

The New Voice strongly contends that the suit was initiated for either publicity or because of outright prejudice against gays and lesbians. Several reasons point to this conclusion:

In the first place, The Voice News is a newspaper; The New Voice is a magazine. It would be extremely difficult to confuse the two publications.

Secondly, we serve different communities, contrary to the contention of Bryant News. The circulation of The New Voice is almost entirely limited to the gay and lesbian communities of Lincoln and Omaha; we have no circulation in Hickman whatsoever. They, on the other hand, have a circulation restricted mainly to southern Lancaster County. Few people in Lincoln, including The New Voice staff, had ever heard of The Voice News until its owners filed this lawsuit. Also, the two publications have absolutely no advertisers in common.

In the third place, the term "voice" is such a common name for journals that no one can claim exclusive use. For example, several publications using the word "voice" in their title include: Village Voice, Dallas Voice, Christian Voice, and Catholic Voice, to name but a few. Hundreds of publications nationally use the name. Several newspapers even have a "Voice" section.

Lastly, we feel that if another group such as the American Legion used The New Voice for their organization's magazine, Bryant News would not have been so quick to file suit. This anti-gay bigotry is similar to the harassment that black publications endured a few years ago.

Historically, this is the first time that a Nebraska gay organization has been sued. But common sense will rule over fear and hate. Help support The New Voice in their efforts by providing moral support at the court hearing on August 6th and by giving donations to the fund for legal defense.

MASS APPEAL HAS GAY APPEAL

See **MASS APPEAL** at Howell Theatre, with Rex McGraw and David Landis

Subject Matter: Homosexuality and the Catholic Church
Dates: August 31, September 1, 6, 7, and 8
Price: \$4.00 (Benefit for Graduate Students)

Call 472-2073 for reservations

FUNDS FOR LEGAL DEFENSE
HELP US IN OUR BATTLE
WRITE TO-

THE NEW VOICE
P.O. BOX 80819 LINCOLN, NE 68501

COALITION HAS NEW DIRECTION

Dear Friends of the Community,

Many of you know of the Coalition from the 1981-1982 campaign for the proposed Gay/Lesbian rights amendment and the 1983 Regional Conference. The year of 1984 has now brought some changes. In March of this year, the Coalition nearly folded; but with help and energy from the community, a Task Force was formed and goals were set.

The Coalition's Organization and Goals Task Force met several times during the past few months. During this time, a survey was developed and mailed out to the community with good success. The survey is now being tallied, and a report will be available in the near future. The Coalition will incorporate as a non-profit corporation and apply for 501(c)3 Federal tax exempt status. By-laws have been drafted and will be reviewed and approved at the Membership Meeting this fall.

TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Statement of Purpose in By-laws

The purposes of the Lincoln Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights are:

- a. To work to eliminate prejudice and discrimination based on sexual orientation;
- b. To defend the civil rights of Gay and Lesbian people;
- c. To educate the public regarding homosexuality and the concerns of Gay and Lesbian people;
- d. To work closely with individuals and other groups which share these goals.

The Coalition encourages all interested individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation, to work actively within the organization. We also urge persons who may not be able to be active in the organization to nevertheless become a Member and thus provide essential financial support through their Annual Dues.

The Coalition is governed by a Coordinating Council elected by the Individual Members, and the Board of Directors elected by the Council.

In addition to Individual Memberships, Organizational Memberships are also available to groups which meet criteria established by the Council. Organizational Member representatives will serve on the Nominating Committee which will prepare the slate of candidates for election to the Coordinating Council at each annual Membership Meeting.

The Coalition Task Force will be conducting an open work session on August 14th to plan the Membership Drive set for October. Everyone is invited; for more information: 476-9913.

S.L.V.,
Task Force Coordinator
LINCOLN COALITION FOR GAY AND LESBIAN CIVIL RIGHTS

GAY/LESBIAN INFORMATION
AND SUPPORT LINE

P.O. BOX 94882
LINCOLN, NE 68509

GLIS
L I N E

SUN. - THUR.
8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

FRI. & SAT.
8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

(402) 475-4697

CLASSIFIEDS

The New Voice

Are you looking for a roommate,
have a personal message? Then place a
classified ad in THE NEW VOICE. The
cost is only \$2.00 for 20 words or less.

Send ad to THE NEW VOICE,
P.O. Box 80819,
Lincoln, Nebraska, 68501.