



# The Resource Line

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE G/L/B/T COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS

## One of a kind friend & entertainer passes on

By Phil Nickerson,

*Saturday, October 7, 2000, I stand watching the show at Club Basix, still in shock over the call I had earlier in the day. The call concerning Andrea's ("Andre") death. My friends leave, and I take their place at the table in front of the stage area. I sit there alone in disbelief. Mac comes up to me and informs me that I will need to write a spectacular article/obituary on Clarissa. The chills take over and I start to cry. I walk up to Ms. Betty (Andrea's Mother, who was there to see where Andrea worked and to meet his friends and co-workers) and told her how much everyone, along with myself loved Andrea'.*

*Now, I find myself at a loss for words. I sit here at my computer reminiscing about Andrea', Clarissa, a friend, a lover, an artist, an entertainer, and his funeral, how I've just come out of the closet less than two years back, and this being my first gay friend to die, someone I cherished. Some of my friends tell me it will get easier in the future as more pass on, but I do not see how, so what do I write?*

Saturday, October 7, 2000, Andrea' Spencer, aka Clarissa Cavalier, passed away due to complications of respiratory arrest at Mercy Medical Center, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Andrea' was 29 years old.

Andrea' known to most as "Clarissa" was a class act. An artist and creator of

fashion, a legendary entertainer, a friend, and a no nonsense tell it like it is person. She leaves us with a legacy of excellence, determination, and hard work that will not be forgotten and will forever remain in our hearts.



Andrea's funeral was held on October 14, 2000, at the Higher Heights Missionary Baptist Church, in University City, Missouri. Many family members and friends from the St. Louis area attended, along with many of Andre's female impersonator colleagues, and many from Iowa attended. Andrea' is sur-

vived by his mother, Betty Spencer-King, a daughter, a brother, and many other family members.

*When I visited Andrea' in the hospital, he was more concerned about my well being than his was. He told me that he would be in attendance of his benefit at Club Basix on Saturday, September 30 no matter what. He asked me about my new house I had just purchased, and informed*

(Continued on Page 2)

## 2001 GLRC Board of Directors Elected

One Seat Still Open

Wednesday, October 18, 2000, the Cedar Rapids GLRC held its General Membership meeting along with the election of the 2001 Board of Directors.

The following are returning Board Members: Scott Alt, Tricia Kitzmann, Phil Nickerson, David Shafer, Chris Taylor, and Traci Taylor. Linda Davenport, Becky Reynolds, and Ken Ruzicka have been elected for the first time to the Board.

There is still one open seat left on the Board. A special election will be held to fill this seat on Wednesday, December 6, 2000. If you are interested in running or have questions, please do not hesitate to call the center. Thank you to those who attended the General Membership meeting and to everyone who supports the GLRC.

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## The RESOURCE LINE

is the monthly publication of the GLRC of Cedar Rapids, IA, a non profit organization under IRS code 5011. Articles and advertisements are welcome from anyone. They must be submitted by the date published in the prior month's issue and are subject to editing as needed. Mail or email to attention of Editorial Manager.

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## One of a Kind Friend & Entertainer Passes On (Continued from Page 1)

*me once he was out of the hospital that he would come over, take measurements of my unique shower stall and make a shower curtain for me (which I had asked him to do a few weeks earlier). He told me that he was concerned about his mother finding out he was in the hospital; since his cousin in St. Louis had already found out. He did not want to worry his Mother. He was afraid that she was too frail to be able to deal with it. Ms. Betty was made aware that Andrea was ill just a few days after I saw him. She was made aware of the severity a few days prior to his death, and she made it here to see him just the night before he passed. She in turn, ended up being the strongest person we could have had to survive this ordeal.*

Clarissa got her start in the art of female impersonation in her hometown of St. Louis at age 17. The art allowed her access to bars when she was underage and allowed her to win a \$500 prize in a "I want to be a girl" contest. Clarissa started to actively become involved in the art, so much so, that it became her profession.

From there, Clarissa started entering numerous female impersonation pageants. She won numerous titles in Missouri, Illinois, and in Iowa. Over all, Clarissa won nearly 30 crowns/pageants between preliminary, state, and national pageants. In late 1994, Clarissa moved from her hometown of St. Louis to Rock Island, IL to work as a regular cast member at JR's Nightclub and Disco. In November of 1997, David Thompson, former owner of Club Basix, brought Clarissa to Cedar Rapids, IA, where Clarissa made her permanent home until the time of her passing.

Clarissa performed regularly at Club Basix, and was a favorite of many of the patrons.

David Thompson, Clarissa's former employer at Club Basix and promoter at the Miss USofA Pageant in Dallas, TX, said, "Clarissa was one of the brightest stars to grace the stage of Club Basix, bringing to it her high talent standards."



Clarissa's biggest accomplishment as a female impersonator was winning the Miss National at Large 1998-1999 pageant, in Atlanta Georgia. Considering most female impersonators have had to qualify more than one time for the same national pageant to win, Clarissa was just 26, and won Miss National at Large for her first time in the National Pageantry System. This accomplishment was a true reflection of her desire, talent, and professionalism. Clarissa did an awesome job representing the National Pageantry Systems during her reign. Clarissa's latest achievement was her title of Miss. Gay Iowa USofA 2000, a title she

won this past March at the Garden, in Des Moines, IA.

Chris Dunn and Martin Zbosnik, National Pageantry Systems producers, wrote the following to Clarissa in the Miss National at Large 1999-2000 program: "Clarissa Cavalier, I want to thank you for not only being a beautiful, talented, and incredibly professional person, but one of the most real and honest entertainers that I have ever had the pleasure to work with. I am a true believer that everything happens for a reason and I thank God everyday for bringing you into my life. Martin and I are honored and so very proud to have you as a part of our family. Thank you for an incredible year. We love you very much!"

Clarissa always set high goals for herself and strived to be the best at what she did. She took pride in making nearly all of her own gowns and costumes.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our purpose is to provide an information and referral center for the mutual support of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered persons, their families, friends, allies and the community at large.

(Continued on Page 3)

### Clarissa Cavalier (Continued from Page 2)

Clarissa was the upcoming Bob Mackey of drag fashion creating dresses, gowns, and costumes, not only for herself, but for many others too. Whether at a pageant or just at a show, Clarissa always was one to lend a helping hand to other female impersonators with wigs, makeup, costumes, and confidence. She was a professional!

David Choinski aka Miss India Black best sums it up about Clarissa, "I can't think of one person that had a bad thing to say or who didn't love her. She was loved by everyone, not only in Cedar Rapids, but across the country."

Rob Caraway aka Miss Autumn Knight, laughed as he recalled Clarissa telling him, "Girl, ya gotta be fishy!" Referring to Rob's inability to walk or dance like a woman in high heels!

Clarissa was not the stereotypical drag queen. She was an artist, a performer, an entertainer, a perfectionist and most of all, a wonderful person. Never was Clarissa controversial and she always told the truth. She was the type of friend that everyone desires.

Terry Stevenson, current co-owner of Club Basix, close friend and a gambling cohort of Andrea's said, "Andrea' always made everyone feel special and always lifted your spirits, even towards the end, when he was in the hospital. Andrea' always made you feel warm and important."

Andrea' Spencer/Clarissa Cavalier was loved by all and will be missed by all. She will be remembered by every person whose heart she touched. Thank you Andrea'/Clarissa for your life, talent, and the wonderful friendship that you brought into our lives and hearts here in Cedar Rapids.

A memorial fund has been established for the family of Andrea' Spencer. Checks can be made to Betty Spencer-King and sent to, c/o Club Basix, 3916 First Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 52402.

*A special thanks to David Thompson, Sharon "Mac" McMulin, Dan Davis, Scott Alt, Doug Davidson, Rita Wall, and Terry Stevenson who helped me with this article. I am still in shock over Andrea's death. Andrea'/Clarissa, we love you and miss you. We thank God for you, your life, and how you have touched all of our hearts!*

## Coe Alliance Hosts Fifth Annual Drag Show

### Pretty Belle joins Coe students, faculty and staff for winter event

By David Shafer

Coe College's Coe Alliance is hosting its Fifth Annual Coe Alliance Drag Show at 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 2, in Gage Memorial Union Dining Hall on the Coe College campus. Cedar Rapids' own Pretty Belle will be among the featured performers.

The theme for this year's show is still under tight wraps. Past themes have included "Solid Gold," "Sister Act," and last year's holiday theme, "Santa's Coming to Town", which included a sexy drag king Santa and the unforgettable lighted Christmas tree dress.

Featuring Coe College students, faculty and staff, in addition to professional performers from throughout Eastern Iowa, the annual drag show has become one of Coe Alliance's most successful and visible events. Coe senior Matthew Hemesath, chair of the drag show

committee, hopes this year's show will be the biggest yet: "We're very excited about this year's show. Few Coe events draw a crowd as large as the drag show.


We're really looking to pack the dining hall.

This event has been five years in the making-it's going to be crazy!"


Organized each winter by the members of Coe Alliance, the annual drag show is free and open to the public. Audience members will be encouraged to tip performers, and a cash bar will be available. Doors will open at 8:45 p.m.

All money raised by performers will benefit the Coe Alliance, a student organization dedicated to promoting the education, awareness, and respect of people of all sexual orientations. For more information, visit their web site at [www.public.coe.edu/organizations/Alliance](http://www.public.coe.edu/organizations/Alliance)





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*We proclaim that all persons are individuals of sacred worth in the sight of God. We proclaim Jesus' message of justice and love to all persons regardless of race, ethnic group, nationality, gender, sexual/affectional orientation, gender identity, age, physical abilities/qualities, social/economic situation, religious background or political persuasion.*



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## GLRC of Cedar Rapids General Membership Meeting

October 18, 2000

**Attending** were seven Board members and seven general members.

Dave S. called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Bob Redlinger presented the **financial report**. Current balance is approximately \$4000. Income was approximately \$15,000 and expenditures \$13,000.

Barb presented the **office/center attendance report**.

Dave reported on **organizational changes**, including increasing the Board term length to two years. The change is being phased in this year. Other operating policies were adopted to establish a procedure for committees to budget for planned expenses.

**Education/Outreach:** Traci reviewed the year's outreach events, including two open houses—one for others in the building, local officials, and the press. The second open house hosted representatives from five social service organizations. Education nights have included Women's Health and Transgender 101.

Dave summarized **technical updates**, including a new Web service provider, upgraded accounting software, and a new phone messaging system. Dick added that the Web site now has search capabilities.

Kris reviewed **grants** applied for this year—Gill Foundation \$4000 granted organizational support, which must be matched by new and increased donations from the community. We have requested \$4000 from Iowa

Community AIDS Partnership for social marketing of HIV prevention messages and \$3000 from Philanthrofund for the newsletter and Web site. The GLRC needs to continue to focus on community fundraising if we are to obtain grant funds. Grant writing requires a lot of volunteer time or, in the future perhaps, an executive director to write grants.

Tricia reviewed the GLRC's **programs**, including the Chix Chat women's group, facilitated by Lorma; Lives Worth Living men's group, facilitated by Roy Porterfield; and Youth Pride Alliance, led by Sara Conner. The men's and women's groups have been very successful and popular with those attending. YPA attendance has been sporadic. Various groups in the community are helping to meet youth needs. Planning

some events aimed at youth will be a focus in the next year.

Phil presented written reports (enclosed) on the Evening at Ausadie **fundraising** event and the Resource Line **newsletter**. Scott reported on the Pride Picnic, which set a new record for income. Scott and Phil hope to find new volunteers to help with fundraising and the newsletter.

Board Elections:

Chris Taylor, Becky Reynolds, Traci Taylor, David Shafer, and Linda Davenport were elected for two-year terms. Scott Alt, Phil Nickerson, Tricia Kitzmann and Ken Ruzicka were elected for one-year terms.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

## GLAMA Award-Winning Singer To Perform at CSPS

**Pop singer and songwriter Paxton, a multiple nominee in the GLAMA awards, will appear at CSPS in Cedar Rapids, Saturday, November 25, at 8 pm.**

In the 1999 Gay & Lesbian American Music Awards, Paxton was named Band of the Year. He was also nominated for outstanding debut for the CD "Paxton," and best pop recording for the song "John and Joe" — categories in which he lost to Rufus Wainwright and George Michael, respectively.

A unique new voice on the alt-pop scene, Paxton has been compared to Rod Stewart and Lou Reed, Ray Davies and John Mellencamp. The New York Blade describes him as a cross between the Monkees' Mickey Dolenz (with a sore throat!) and Ani DiFranco.



Tickets for the concert are \$8, and are now on sale at CSPS, 1103 Third Street SE, near downtown Cedar Rapids.

Born in Indiana, Paxton never knew his father, who abandoned the family before he was born. His mother shared with him her love of music, but died when he was 12. Paxton's music reflects the turbulent life he's led since then.

His songs bring a passionate honesty to bear on contemporary realities, from broken homes ("Fatherless Sons") and sexual identity ("Which Way Do You Go?") to love in the age of AIDS ("John and Joe") and society's obsession with celebrity ("What's It Like to Be You?").

(Continued on Page 5)

## Clare House Purchases Home

Jim Foxwell, Director of the Clare House has announced the kick off of the "Building Life" fundraising campaign for their newly purchased home.

The property is located at 1419 Washington Street SE, currently there are four apartments in the home. The Clare House facility plans to use two of the apartments by converting the areas into one living space. There will be a great deal of expense involved in converting the apartments.

The Board of Directors of Clare House invites you to become a partner and build a future for the organization and for those living with HIV/AIDS. If you would like to make a donation to Clare House, please contact Jim Foxwell, at (319) 364-4101.

**Clare House Mission Statement:** Clare House is a group residential home that provides support, social contact and a safe place to deal with HIV/AIDS with the caring of others who face the same challenges.

## World AIDS Day Benefit Nov. 30

**"Follow your heart, give from the heart" is this year's slogan for the World AIDS Day Benefit to be held Thursday, November 30, 2000, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cedar Rapids.**

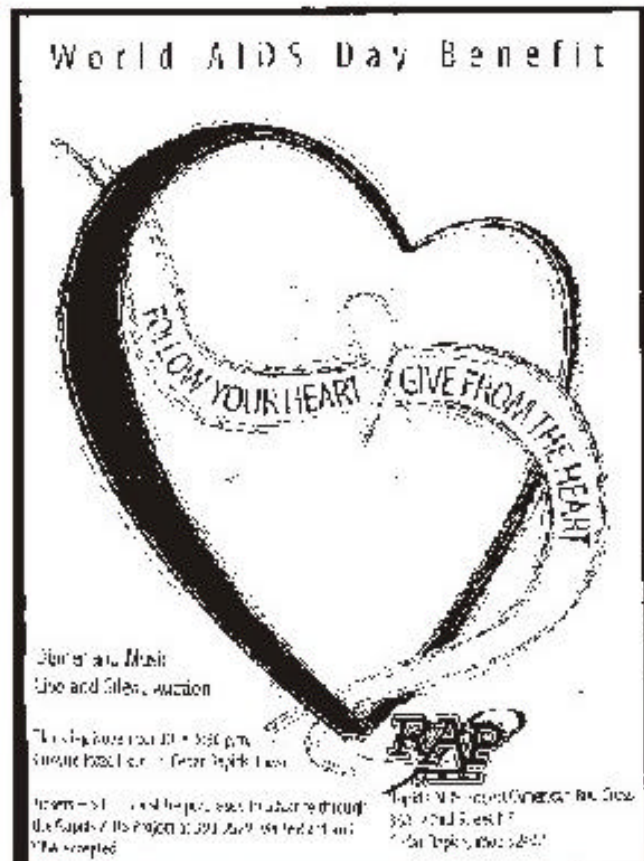
The annual fundraiser that benefits Rapids AIDS Project (RAP) will offer dinner, live music, and a silent and live auction with many fabulous items gener-

ously donated from individuals and businesses throughout the community. Auction items range from artwork donated by local artists to a

weekend use of a 2001 Mercedes Benz.

The benefit raises money to help with a variety of different services offered by RAP to individuals infected with the HIV virus. RAP also distributes one of the most current, comprehensive prevention and treatment information to the general public.

Ticket cost is \$30. For more information or to purchase a ticket, please call the Rapids AIDS Project at 393-9579. MasterCard and Visa are accepted.



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### Singer to Perform at CSPS (Continued from Page 4)

Romantic and tough, passionate and funny, Paxton describes a sexually ambiguous world of hustlers and dreamers, lovers and users, losers and survivors. In concert Paxton ranges from jangly rock to heart-rending ballads, investing his material with enough beguiling lyricism and convincing pop hooks to transcend easy categories. The result is a knock-out artist that's got a lot of people talking, from Rolling Stone and Billboard to the Advocate and NPR.

Opened in 1992, CSPS is a nonprofit arts center dedicated to living artists, community interaction, and cultural diversity. In the past, CSPS has presented such notable GLBT artists as Tim Miller, Holly Hughes and The Flirtations, as well as GLAMA Award-winners Tom Robinson, Ani DiFranco, Catie Curtis, and Laura Love. For ticket reservations or information, call CSPS at (319) 364-1580 or visit their Web site at [www.legionarts.org](http://www.legionarts.org).

## Possible Breakthrough with AIDS Vaccine, Researchers Say

by Paul Recer  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON**—An AIDS vaccine tested in monkeys fails to keep the animals from becoming infected but prompts their bodies to mount a powerful defense that keeps the disease in check, researchers report.

In a study appearing Friday in the journal *Science*, researchers report that rhesus monkeys inoculated with the vaccine, then injected with AIDS virus, developed a strong army of immune system cells that attacked and controlled the infection. The animals, in effect, did not become ill.

The results suggest, but do not prove, that a similar vaccine developed for humans and now in the early stages of testing might be effective in controlling HIV, said Dr. Norman Letvin, a Harvard Medical School professor and senior author of the study. The effectiveness in humans, however, may take years to determine, he said.

"The vaccine did not block infection, but it provides substantial containment of viral replication (spread)," said Letvin, a researcher on the staff of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston.

Letvin said the vaccine works by invigorating CD8 lymphocytes in the immune system. It is the job of CD8 cells, also called killer lymphocytes, to seek out and destroy cells in the body that have been infected with virus. The CD8 attack controls the population of virus, but does not eradicate it.

Researchers have long thought that to successfully combat the AIDS virus, the body would have to make a large number of CD8 cells that are primed to target the virus.

The tested vaccine caused a rapid rise in the number of CD8 cells and enabled the immune system to keep the AIDS virus

from causing serious illness in 12 inoculated monkeys, said Letvin.

In the seven of the eight control monkeys that received placebo injections and were then injected with the virus, symptoms of illness quickly developed. Half the control monkeys were dead within 140 days.

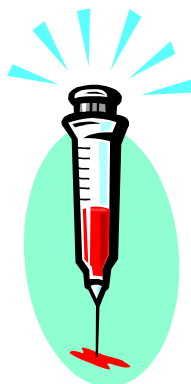
The special vaccine was made with a combination of DNA taken from HIV, which infects humans, and SIV, an AIDS virus that infects only monkeys.

The virus used to test the vaccine was also a laboratory-made combination of the two viruses.

Letvin said this combination was used to get results quickly. If natural viruses were used, he said, "the disease course would be so slow that it would be many years" before there were results.

A DNA vaccine made for humans, he said, would use only the DNA from HIV.

The researcher emphasized that although the monkey study is encouraging, it does not prove that a DNA-based AIDS vaccine will cause such a strong reaction in humans.



"Using DNA vaccines is a very good way to induce CD8 lymphocyte response in monkeys," said Letvin, "but it is may be a bad way to induce such a response in humans. We simply don't know yet. That remains to be determined."

Dr. Tony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said the study was "an important proof of concept" because it demonstrated that it is possible for a vaccine to prompt a powerful CD8 lymphocyte attack against the AIDS virus.

A vigorous CD8 defense, he said, is thought to be essential in controlling the AIDS virus in humans.

### Testimony from a satisfied customer.

Thank you Kathy Hall of Marian Arens and Associates Real Estate!

Clare House recently made a new home purchase and used the helpful knowledge of Kathy Hall. Clare House is a non-profit group living facility for those with HIV/AIDS. We had a very limited budget and were looking for a very large home, necessary for our needs. Kathy was able to preview available homes and find the best possibilities. From there, she lined up the appointments to view the homes.

Fortunately, we found the PERFECT home the first day. Kathy worked with the seller and seller's realtor, along with our lender to make this purchase easy for us. We would like to recommend Kathy for all of your real estate needs. The purchase and negotiation was painless, thanks to the expertise of Kathy Hall. Please call her for your real estate needs at 362-9111. Thanks Kathy

.Jim FoxwellHouse Director-Clare House

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## Men's & Women's Health

### Shigella infection rate triples among gay men in San Francisco

by Gregory Rowe  
Gay.com Network

New cases of shigella among gay men tripled in the last three months, the Department of Public Health of the City and County of San Francisco said.

Shigella is a bacteria that causes bloody diarrhea, fever and stomach cramps within one to three days. It passes through feces, mostly by mouth-to-anus contact. Sex toys, condoms and hands that come into contact with feces may also transmit the bacteria.

"In the past 2 months we have seen as many cases of shigella as there were for the entire 1999 year," said Dr. Gwen Hammer of the San Francisco City Clinic, a low-cost STD clinic known for its gay and lesbian clientele. "We want to get the word out so people are aware and can take the proper precautions."

Because so many gay people visit San Francisco, it's important they know they may be taking the bacteria home with them.

If you begin to feel symptoms and think you may have been in contact with the shigella bacteria, consult a physician quickly. A sample of feces will be taken and cultured. Unlike many bacteria, shigella can actually be curtailed through antibiotic therapy.

You should avoid any unprotected anal-oral sex for a

period of seven days after a bout with shigella.

Because the diarrhea, which can last four to seven days, can be extremely fatiguing, people with compromised immune systems should be especially careful.

If you want to avoid any contact with shigella in the future, the only way is to stop mouth-to-anus contact or use a dental dam. Remember to wash your hands, under your fingernails, sex toys and genitals with lots of hot soapy water after contact with feces. Also be careful when handling condoms after penetration.

### Lesbians slipping through cracks

by Kara Fox

Lesbians are less likely to have insurance coverage, seek health care regularly and take advantage of preventive services. They are also more apt to smoke and be overweight than their heterosexual counterparts, according to a recent report conducted by a coalition of groups.

Released Aug. 22, "Making the Grade on Women's Health: A National State-by-State Report Card" is being billed as the first-ever assessment of the overall health of women at

the national and state levels. It measures key indicators on women's health status and related public policy. In the report, authors say that individual states and the nation as a whole are failing women at nearly every turn. The authors cite gaps in health-care access, health

promotion and education, funding for research and income.

The report, which is one of the first to include a section on lesbians, states that there are "significant health disparities

based on race, ethnicity, income, disability and sexual orientation throughout the nation."

"The lack of attention to health issues facing lesbians presents a significant barrier to their health and well-being—adversely affecting access to health care, health research and data collection," the report said.

According to the report, more research needs to be done on lesbian health.

The report said that because lesbians do not usually need prescription contraception, which requires a medical examination to obtain, they also miss the benefit of medical checkups and other preventive services, such as breast and cervical cancer screenings, cholesterol tests and blood-pressure monitoring, which often take place during

visits to family planning programs.

The report showed that there is little information about alcohol and drug use among lesbians, because such studies have failed to inquire about sexual orientation.

It also stated that domestic violence among lesbians is a neglected topic, as well as mental health issues among lesbians.

Studies indicate a lower prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases among lesbians, the report said. It also stated that HIV among lesbians—especially the risks of transmission between women—is another area where research is needed.

Authors of the report used studies from the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association and others to compile information on lesbians.

The report gave individual grades to each state, and no single state received a satisfactory grade when it came to women's health issues. Hawaii ranked first overall, however it was still rated as unsatisfactory.

In the report, Maryland ranked 25th, Virginia ranked 28th and New York ranked 34th, all with unsatisfactory ratings. The District of Columbia ranked 41st, with a failed rating.

Sponsors of the report included the National Women's Law Center, the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and the Lewin Group, a health-care consulting firm.



## National News

Excerpts taken from Datalounge.com

**AOL's Case Gives Millions in Far Right School**

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fl. — Jean Case, wife of America Online president Steve Case and CEO of the Case foundation, is being pressed to explain her \$8.3 million donation to a Florida school with ties to far right leader Dr. James Kennedy and an "ex gay" ministry within his church, the Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel reports.

The gift was given to Westminster Academy, Mrs. Case's alma mater, which revealed the identity of the donor recently at an annual parent meeting. The Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, headed by Dr. Kennedy founded the school, and counts an "ex-gay" ministry called "Worthy Creations" among its programs.

The donation has alarmed many members of the community given AOL's close financial ties to heavy hitters in gay media and its past support of gay rights organizations. The Human Rights Campaign has long benefited from AOL corporate sponsorship and AOL also has a large financial stake in PlanetOut, which recently negotiated the purchase of

Liberation Publications, publishers of The Advocate, Out and other gay and lesbian magazine titles.

Mrs. Case responded to the outcry by insisting the \$8 million gift was in no way "intended to send a message of intolerance." The gift, she said, "was not given to benefit Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church or its programs. Steve and I strongly oppose discrimination in any form. We have worked to ensure that the Internet medium has given a voice to all communities — including the gay community. Our gift is specifically directed to benefit children in South Florida including those from disadvantage communities," she said.

**Civil Union Fight Threatens Vermont Governor**

MONTPELIER, Vt — The controversy over the adoption of civil unions in Vermont is taking a steady toll on state politicians, making it difficult for them to talk about anything else in the run-up to November elections, the Rutland Herald reports.

Gov. Howard Dean regularly faces down protesters who are fond of shouting out statements questioning his sexual

orientation. As Dean seeks a fifth two-year term, civil unions dominate Vermont's political landscape no matter how hard the Democratic governor and his two chief rivals try to focus on other issues.

Recent polls show that more than half the voters in the state remain opposed to civil unions, despite the fact that none of the dire predictions made before their adoption have come to pass. Dean's favorable ratings have nevertheless crashed from 63 percent in February, before the civil unions were signed into law, to around 40 percent today.

**AIDS Protesters Demonstrate at GOP Headquarters**

WASHINGTON — A group of seven AIDS protestors were arrested outside Republican National Headquarters in Washington on Friday, demonstrating against Texas Gov. George W. Bush's record on AIDS issues.

The activists charged that Bush's HIV and AIDS policies in Texas are among the worst in the country. Jen Cohn of ACT-UP told Reuters that Gov. Bush not only "cut money to HIV programs in Texas, Texas is one of only two states in which AIDS deaths did not go down last year."

For almost two hours on Wednesday, members of ACT-UP chanted anti-Bush slogans and carried posters denouncing the candidate's ties to large pharmaceutical companies. "Bush: Drug company puppet," read one

sign typical of those carried by protestors.

Bush has refused to disclose his position on allowing third world countries to manufacture generic versions of patented pharmaceuticals. Because of Bush's silence on the issue, protestors believe that, if elected, he will repeal a new trade policy enacted last year that allows third world countries that cannot afford AIDS medications to manufacture generic versions of the drugs.

Bush's Democratic opponent Al Gore has expressed his support for allowing countries to manufacture their own AIDS drugs below cost. A spokeswoman for ACT-UP added the vice president has pushed for the trade policy to be worked into new legislation.

**Schlessinger May Come Out Swinging in TV Return**

LOS ANGELES — Is Laura Schlessinger being given the go ahead to take off her gloves?

The New York Post reports the somewhat subdued version of "Dr. Laura" trotted out by nervous Paramount Television executives this fall has been such a disastrous ratings failure, the show's producers have decided to let the embattled Laura Schlessinger be Schlessinger, unleashing her harshly judgmental personality that is part of her appeal on the radio.

Schlessinger took to the nation's television airwaves on

(Continued on Page 9)

## ICON PERSONALS

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## National News (Continued from Page 8)

September 11. The show made its nationwide premiere over the fierce objections of activists and volunteers associated with StopDrLaura.com and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

### Public Support Behind Boy Scouts, Says Poll

CHICAGO — A poll conducted last week by the Chicago Tribune and WGN-TV finds an overwhelming majority of voters in Illinois support the Boy Scout ban on gay members and leaders and strongly opposes efforts to ban the scouts from municipal buildings and public schools.

"The role model [of a gay Scout leader] is not what the Boy Scouts want, and it's certainly not what I want," Don Oomens, 62, told the Tribune. Oomens told the newspaper eight of his 17 children have gone through the Scouting program. He serves as finance chairman for the Boy Scouts' Chicago-Area Council.

Gay civil rights activists, their supporters and many parents of Scouts have called on schools, park districts and other publicly funded bodies to withdraw their support from the Scouts in protest of the discriminatory ban. The activists have also called on the United Way and corporate benefactors to eliminate funding for the Boy Scouts.

But the poll, which surveyed 900 registered voters across the state Oct. 6 through Oct. 9, found that a full 82 percent of those surveyed said the Scouts should be allowed to continue meeting in schools and other public buildings. Ten percent disagreed, 7 percent voiced no opinion.

### Nebraska DOMA May Stir High Court Challenge

OMAHA, Ne. — Nebraska's proposed constitutional amendment which seeks to ban the recognition of gay marriage could provide an important test case for gay rights and states' rights, if voters adopt the amendment (known as Initiative 416) on Nov. 7.

Nebraska's gay marriage amendment is worded in a way that all but invites a court challenge, the Omaha World-Herald reports — a point fully understood by Jan LaRue, senior director of legal studies at the Family Research Council. "If it passes, that may be the first test case," said LaRue, whose organization backs its adoption.

Evan Wolfson of the New York-based Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund confirmed the organization would take the state to court if the ban is adopted. "Your measure will be challenged," he said.

Wolfson told The Herald such a challenge could lead to a landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling, either dealing a major setback to gay rights or resulting in a sweeping victory like what Roe vs. Wade brought for abortion rights or Brown vs. Board of Education provided for school desegregation.

### Gay Ad in Student Paper Angers Notre Dame

SOUTH BEND, In. — An advertisement for a gay alumni organization that ran University of Notre Dame's student newspaper, the Observer, last year is turning into a heated confrontation

between student editors and the Catholic leadership of the University, the Associated Press reports.

Students on the paper argue the newspaper is independent and that it is their decision alone to decide what ads can run. "They want to set advertising guidelines. What's next, editorial guidelines? I don't want to come anywhere near that fine line," says The Observer's editor-in-chief Mike Connolly.

The Rev. Edward A. Malloy, president of the church-related university, wrote the student editors last year that they should not run ads from outside groups that "espouse positions contrary to the moral teaching of the Catholic Church."

### Transsexual Student Wins Court's Support

BROCKTON, Ma. — A Superior Court judge has ruled

that school officials in the Boston suburb of Brockton may not prohibit a 15-year-old student who is biologically male but identifies as a female from attending school in women's clothing, including wigs, dresses, and padded bras.

The judge ruled that to do so would constitute a violation of the eighth-grader's right to free expression and constitute sex discrimination. The decision was harshly condemned by school administrators.

The Boston Globe reports students at South Junior High School split along gender lines about the student and the court decision. Female classmates said they liked and interacted with the student, while male classmates held up the eighth grader as an object of ridicule.



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 7-9 pm

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Club Basix

3916 1st Ave NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402  
319-363-3194

### Club Champs

1548 A Street SW  
Cedar Rapids, IA  
www.crclubchamps.com

### CSPS (Community Arts Center)

1103 3rd St SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA  
319-364-1580

### The AlleyCat

GLBT Bar  
13 S. Linn St (in the alley between  
Linn and Dubuque)  
Iowa City, IA

### One Flight Up

44-48 Main St  
Dubuque, IA  
319-582-8357

## HEALTH

### AIDS Interfaith Network of Eastern IA

1621 E 4th St.  
Waterloo, IA 50703

### Iowa Center for AIDS Resources & Education

c/o Laura Hill, Executive Director  
321 E. First St.  
Iowa City, IA 52244  
(319) 356-338-2135 voice  
ICAREIC@aol.com

### Linn County Health Dept.

Free Anonymous HIV Testing  
501 13th St. NW  
319-398-3551

### Iowa City Free Medical Clinic

Free Anonymous HIV Testing  
120 N. Dubuque  
Iowa City, IA  
319-377-4459

### Rapid AIDS Project

### Lives Worth Living Program Women's Voices Program

3601 42nd St. NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402  
319-393-9579  
E-mail: rap@crossnet.org  
www.redcross.org/ia/cedarrap/rap.html

## PUBLICATIONS

### ACCESSLine

Iowa's Newspaper for LGBT  
c/o ACCESS in Northeast Iowa  
PO Box 1282  
Waterloo, IA 50704  
319-232-5805  
access@forbin.com

## Resource Line

GLRC Monthly Newsletter  
PO Box 1643  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1463  
319-366-2055  
crglrc@crglrc.org

## BUSINESS SERVICES

### Happy Chef North

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1906 Blairs Ferry Rd NE  
319-395-7793

### Hanna B. Weston (Atty-at-Law)

305 2nd St. SE, Suite 420  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
319-366-7796

## SOCIAL

### OWL's

Older & Wiser Lesbians  
Monthly Potluck & Social  
319-366-2055

### GLRC Open House

Every Monday Night  
305 2nd St SE, Suite 324  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
319-366-2055

### Women's Book Discussion Grp

Meets every 3 Weds at 7 p.m.  
Barnes & Noble Book Store in Cedar  
Rapids

### Women's Family Brunch

Meets every 2nd Sunday at 1:30 p.m.  
Bishops Cafeteria at Lindale Mall in  
Cedar Rapids

## SOCIAL/SUPPORT

### Coe Alliance

Weekly Meetings & Events  
www.coe.edu/organizations/alliance  
jchaimov@coe.edu  
319-399-8594

### GLRC of Cedar Rapids

305 2nd St SE, Suite 324  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
319-366-2055  
crglrc@crglrc.org  
www.crglrc.org

### SpiritHill Women's Retreat

Info, counseling, Women's Dance on  
1st Sat each month  
319-643-2613

### Youth Pride Alliance

Info, education  
305 2nd St SE, Suite 324  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403  
319-366-2055

### GraDykes

Iowa City, IA  
For bi/les/queer/dyke identified  
women in Grad School  
319-337-7661

## SUPPORT

### Clare House Catholic Worker

A Community offering roommate  
services to people living with  
HIV/AIDS  
514 McKinley St. SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403  
319-364-4101

### PFLAG

Parents & Friends of Lesbians &  
Gays  
4th Tuesday of every month  
Faith United Methodist Church  
1000 30th St NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402  
PFlager@yahoo.com  
319-363-5647

### Men's Support Group

2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
GLRC Resource Center  
305 2nd St SE, Suite 324  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
319-366-2055

### Iowa Artistry

Transgender Support  
PO Box 11093  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52410  
iowaArtistry@tgforum.com  
http://www.transgender.org/ioar/index.html

### Chix Chat "Women's Group"

1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
GLRC Resource Center  
305 2nd St SE, Suite 324  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
319-366-2055

## SPIRITUAL / WORSHIP

### Faith United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation  
Worship Service at 10:30 am  
1000 30th St NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402  
Pastor Tom Mohan  
319-363-8454  
http://soli.inav.net/~faithumc

### Pathways of Light Spiritual College

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### Peoples Church Unitarian

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Worship Service at 11 am  
600 3rd Ave. SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403  
319-362-9827

Please visit our "Rainbow Pages Directory" at [www.crglrc.org/rainbow](http://www.crglrc.org/rainbow) for a more complete listing