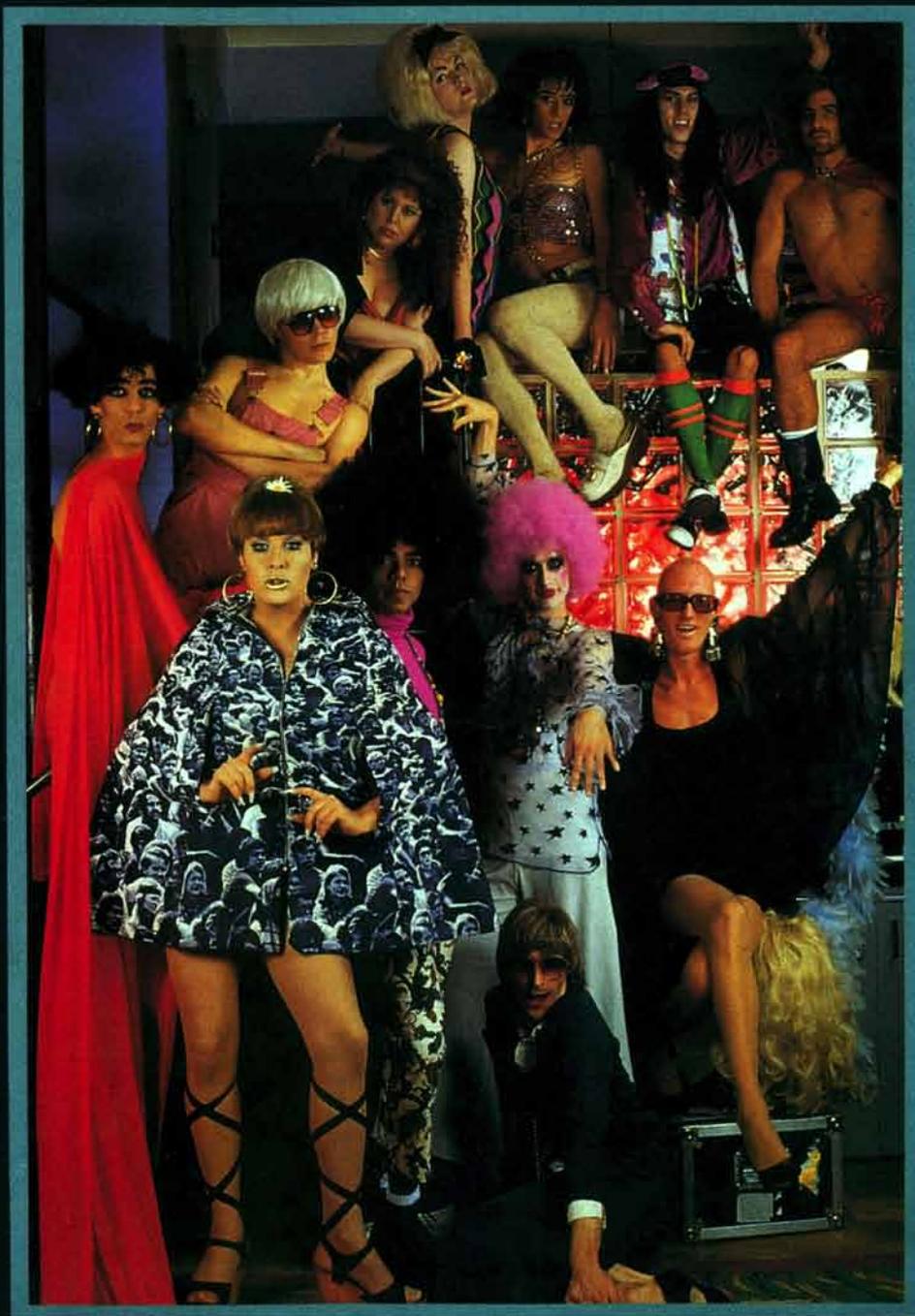


OUT WEEK

NEW YORK'S
LESBIAN
AND GAY
NEWS
MAGAZINE

WIGSTOCK
'89

LADY BUNNY'S
DRAG RIOT
ROCKS
TOMPKINS SQUARE



NEWS • SEXUAL POLITICS • HEALTH • THE ARTS

SUNDAYS // MARS NEEDS MEN!!

PERFIDIA CAMPS OUT! ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF MARS



DRAG DJ
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TOP 10

1. DAT'S LOVE / VERNON GIRLS
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3. VENUS / SHOCKING BLUE
4. VENUS / FRANKIE AVALON
5. PINAPPLE PRINCESS / ANNETTE FUNICELLO
6. TAINTED LOVE / GLORIA JONES
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8. AQUARIUS/ CELIA CRUZ
9. CRAZY / JOEY HEATHERTON
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OutWeek endorses Dave Taylor, Tom Duane (above) and others in the upcoming primary. See page 4.

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On The Cover: Some of the many wigs
and faces of Wigstock '89.
Photo by Scott Morgan.

OUTSPOKEN

OutWeek Endorsements

The following candidates for city office in the upcoming primary have earned the support of the lesbian and gay community. *OutWeek* therefore endorses them and urges lesbian and gay voters to seriously consider voting for them on September 12.

Mayor	David Dinkins
City Council, District 3	Tom Duane, openly gay candidate
City Council, District 4	Dave Taylor, openly gay candidate
Comptroller	Elizabeth Holtzman
Manhattan Borough President	Ruth Messinger
City Council, District 2	Miriam Friedlander
City Council, District 5	Hilton Clark
City Council, District 6	Stan Michaels
City Council, District 8	Carolyn Maloney
Village District Leaders:	
male	Tony Hoffman
female	Peggy Stuart
Chelsea District Leaders:	
male	Frank Clemmons, openly gay candidate
female	Doris Corrigan
City Council, District 26	Chris Owens
City Council, District 32	David Eichenenthal
City Council, District 33	Samuel Horwitz
City Council, District 29	Abraham Gerges

Readers should take note that two openly gay candidates are running for city office in New York. Both Tom Duane and Dave Taylor have proven themselves progressive, sensitive activists who would effectively address issues of concern to our community. For their many years of dedicated work on numerous issues of concern to all New Yorkers, they have proven themselves the best candidates in their districts. But they should be of particular interest to lesbians and gays. It is vitally important that we have representatives within the power structure at this time, because the new city charter and the redistricting that will follow are historic opportunities for lesbians and gays to institutionalize roles for ourselves in municipal government. If this opportunity is missed, it may be many years before we have such a chance again.

We feel that there is no substitute for having openly gay or lesbian members of the city council. No non-gay can ever be as effective an advocate of our community as one of our own, who by his or her very presence on the council would constitute a vivid and continuing argument for equal rights, and a powerful role model for lesbians and gays seeking political power. This lesson has already been absorbed by women and people of color. It's time that it was learned by lesbian and gay New Yorkers as well. We urge you to vote for Tom Duane and Dave Taylor on September 12. ▼

OutWeek

Publisher	Kendall Morrison
Editor in Chief	Gabriel Rotello
Associate Publisher	Gabriel Rotello
Art Director	dan keith williams
News Editor	Andrew Miller
Features Editor	Michelangelo Signorile

EDITORIAL

Contributing Editors

Music	Victoria Starr
Women's Health	Kim Christensen
Calendar	Rick X

Contributing Reporters

Victoria A. Brownworth, Chris Bull, Sue Burke, Mark Chesnut, Keith Clark, Sandy Dwyer, David Kirby, Rachel Lurie, Keith Miller, Jon David Nalley, Cliff O'Neill, Catherine Saalfield, Sarah Schulman, Jim Whelan, Rex Wockner, Phil Zwicker

Contributing Writers

Tim Allis, Bradley Ball, Marion Banzhaf, Charles Barber, Alison Bechdel, Jay Blotcher, Gregg Bordowitz, Peter Bowen, Gwen Braxton, Jennifer Camper, Jean Carlomusto, Susie Day, Risa Denenberg, Jeffrey Essmann, Mona Feigenbaum, David Feinberg, Ann Giudici Fettner, Gary Glickman, Mark Harrington, Sandor Katz, Larry Kramer, Bob Lederer, Robert Long, Maria Maggenti, Ray Navarro, Michael Paller, Sarah Pettit, Veneita Porter, Jim Provenzano, Patrick Rogers, Vito Russo, Rick Shur, Karl Soehnlein, Daniel Sotomayor, Wickie Stamps, Rick Sugden, Liz Tracey, John Umlaut, Jonn Wasser, Kathryn L. Williams, Eva Yaa Asantewaa

Editorial Assistant

James Conrad

Contributing Photographers

Erich Conrad, Desi Del Valle, Marilyn Humphries, Margot Kingon, Peter LeVasseur, Andrew Lichtenstein, T.L. Litt, Patsy Lynch, Barbara Maggiani, Jim Marks, Tom McKitterick, Scott Morgan, Ellen Moses, Ellen B. Neipris, Roberta Raeburn, Rink, Lizzerd Souffle, Ben Thornberry, Gerri Wells

PRODUCTION

Production Manager

Joseph D'Andrea

Production Assistants

Jeffrey Fennelly, Gary Stukes, Raul Vega

ADVERTISING

(212) 685-6398

Director of Sales

Kit Winter

Account Executive

Sidney Briscose

Classified Sales Representative

Tom Eubanks

BUSINESS

Assistant to the Publisher

Erich Conrad

Vice President

Peter Housos

Treasurer

Lawrence Basile

Of Counsel

Michael E. Carver, Steven Polakoff

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Q TIPS

In defense of Project Inform's Compound Q trials, this is what we should have been doing from the very start! Years and years have passed, billion dollars spent since the start of the epidemic and the Establishment still hasn't come up with a life sustaining treatment for AIDS. Especially when drugs used overseas for decades, centuries or thousands of years are to be tested, there is no point in starting with minuscule doses to determine toxicity—unless there is theoretical basis that this drug will have a particular, deadly side-effect on peo-

ple with AIDS or HIV. The point is that there is no time. As Vito Russo says, "the side Effect of AIDS is death," and fast. The informal data already accumulated for years for these drugs form enough basis for starting widespread efficacy trials while monitoring toxicity closely at the same time. Similarly, for licensed drugs in other countries (like fluconazole) with more or less well-established drug licensing procedures (like France), time spent in rigorous testing for toxicity is the same time killing many valuable people every day. In ideal situations it would be understandable

to use placebos and long-lasting toxicity and efficacy studies, but we are in an emergency. Enough people died already trying the Establishment way. The time to take charge has long come and passed. The call here is to act in the face of a national disaster, just like an earthquake, typhoon or mass fires. There is need for extraordinary measures. The government isn't taking these measures because the affected groups have traditionally been viewed as disposable. Therefore these groups have to do it themselves. In short, the tradeoff involved in immediate use of drugs is well worth the risks taken, in the case of AIDS.

En Bengul
Eatontown, NJ

BALL BUSTING

I received a copy of your magazine (7/3/89) from a friend and enjoyed it immensely with one major exception. The "advice" column penned by Bradley Ball, "Out of My Hands," was a horrible example of perpetuating ineffectual ways of dealing with conflict—keep your feelings secret and avoid conflict at all costs—rather than the "constructive guidelines" requested. I hoped at first that it was written in jest but soon realized that the author was serious!

Conflicts grow in proportion to the time and energy spent repressing them.

Silence is *not* golden, Mr. Ball. On the contrary, silence merely serves to exacerbate what might be an easily resolvable situation.

Dykes to Watch Out For

The Option

© 1989 BY ALISON DELHULL

AFTER A SURPRISE ENCOUNTER AT THE HAIR SALON, LOIS HAS ARRANGED TO MEET EMMA AFTER HER APPOINTMENT.

6+



And relationships are *not* about power or blame, they are about balance and equality and sharing and love and emotional support.

Editors, I feel you are doing your readers a grave disservice by allowing this kind of outmoded advice to grace the pages of your otherwise fine publication. The "advice" was inadequate at best and damaging at worst. You've probably heard much the same from other readers. Perhaps Mr. Ball will learn that some of the "old ways" have been discarded for good reason!

Ann McClintock
Eureka, CA

FUCK FUNK

Last Friday I made plans to meet some friends at Funk Inc., which *OutWeek* occa-

sionally features in its club photographs section. My friends never showed up and I called them the next day to see what had happened. I was told that when they arrived (in the pouring rain, I might add), the woman at the door turned them away, informing them that it was a private party.

As gays and lesbians, we have dealt with oppression and ostracism by the straight world our entire lives. It is an outrage to be similarly rejected and cast out by our own. The lesbian and gay community should boycott clubs like Funk, Inc. until they learn to embrace the spirit of diversity and togetherness and welcome *all* gay men and lesbians.

Thomas F. Hickey
Manhattan

PORN AGAIN

Your Aug. 10 editorial on sexual minorities makes me wonder about people who are into porn and porn only — gay male schizophrenics like myself who are spurned by others on both sexual likes and "undesirable" behavior.

Your cover porn articles were very excellent and made me wonder if we're really a sexual minority — somehow I get the feeling gay male pornophiles are perhaps a majority within the overall group of our community — delusion?

Maybe it's just us gay schizo's that don't fit in anywhere. If so, I'm starting a new group.

Anonymous

SUMMER BUMMER

I am marooned (okay, by my own choice, I admit it) in the cultural wasteland

called Fire Island Pines. I was so glad to receive a complimentary copy of your magazine delivered to my walkway. I add my voice to the chorus to wish you great success. An alternative to the *Native* was long overdue.

In the issue I received, I was very pleased that Donna Summer was named Freak (Geek?) of the Week. I couldn't agree more with the sentiments expressed. Unfortunately the axiom, "We can't play records we never buy. Or dance to songs we never listen to," is sadly not true out here in the Pines. All the dj's here (Jorba, Fierman, Iverson et. al.) love the "disco-evangelist." They all play *at least 4* of her songs every night—seven days a week. Are these dj's stupid? Merely cynical? Or just stuck in 1977? (There is

Nightmare of the Week

GIULIANI, IN BIZARRE SWITCH, MARRIES MAN WHO GIVES BIRTH

The *New York Times* reported today that mayoral candidate Rudolph Giuliani's husband, Donna Hanover, gave birth to a daughter. It seems that the gay-bashing, anti-domestic-partnership Republican has a few domestic partners rattling around in his closet. If you don't believe us, read the caption. Congrats, and pass the cigars.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1989



A Newcomer to the Giuliani Camp

Donna Hanover, an anchorwoman for WPIX-TV and husband of Rudolph W. Giuliani, a Republican mayoral candidate, gave birth at 9:26 A.M. yester-

day to a 9-pound, 7-ounce girl, Caroline Delores, in Lenox Hill Hospital. Mr. Giuliani introduced Caroline to her brother, Andrew, right.

Associated Press

long months. Nine more months of hatred between the Board and the Executive Director. Nine more months of hatred between the staff and the executive director (of the 140 men and women on staff, 139 have no respect for Richard Dunne, Tim Sweeney excepted). Nine more months of hatred between the staff and the board. Nine more months of do-nothingness. As the epidemic rages around us. As key personnel leave one by one. As morale sinks even lower and hits the skids. Nine more months of wonder: WHY IS IT TAKING SIXTEEN GROWN MEN AND WOMEN NINE MONTHS TO FIND SOMEBODY TO FILL MR. DUNNE'S TINY SHOES?

And you go cheerily on your merry way, ignoring, yet again, all the signs of rot, believing that—with so many millions of dollars in the bank and a pretty new building and such a huge mailing list and so many volunteers—you must be doing something right.

Do you not understand that while you diddle your agency is heading toward irrelevancy as the nature of this epidemic changes? Do you not understand that you are no longer on the cutting edge—no longer anywhere near the front line of advocating what we now need to survive? Do you not understand that for people who are already sick—except for providing support services—you are presently useless? Do you not understand that GMHC is now trailing far, far behind, and this whole pathetic episode of Mr. Levi's employment and Mr. Dunne's departure and replacement are symbolic examples of just how far, far behind and just how pathetic and just how low you have sunk?

Where are you going? Whom are you fighting for? What constituency are you

representing? I no longer know. You are suddenly for testing but yet you don't fight for treatments. Then you hire someone to fight for treatments who is against experimental treatments. For three years there have been promising drugs that you refused to fight for. What did you really do to fight for the release of pentamidine? (I am not talking about the heroic work of Dr. Barry Gingell, on whom you dumped all your own irresponsibilities while you looked the other way and said nothing to support him.)

A minimum of thirty to forty thousand people are going to need ddI immediately and we are promised enough for five thousand. What are you doing about that? You hop on the AZT bandwagon just as AZT could become obsolete.

You certainly have not led us into the Age of Treatment—and that is where we are now and that is where we must stay and fight with every ounce of energy until we are saved. But not only are you not with us on this fight, you have been historically *against* it (as you were historically against safe sex guidelines until it was too late to save millions of lives). Were it not for Project Inform and ACT UP the gay community would be even further decimated.

You are siphoning off huge amounts of the money given to fight AIDS. What are you doing with it? Indeed, what are any of our so-called gay and/or AIDS organizations doing with it? All our Washington organizations—AIDS Action Council, Human Rights Campaign Fund, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force—what have they accomplished for us? All they seem to do is go out to lunch with important people and think they've accomplished something. This is exactly what

destroyed the Civil Rights movement—the civil rights professionals went to lunch with the white men while their leaders died. You can't even learn from history!

ACT UP and Project Inform come along and, with no money, with only anger and energy, manage to achieve in six months what AIDS Action Council and all our D.C. presence has not been able to accomplish in nine years.

Lack of leadership has been one of the most important issues of this epidemic. You have been given millions of dollars to lead and you can't, won't and don't. You can't even find a new executive director! You don't even know what you're looking for: leader, adversary, advocate, politician, bureaucrat, fund-raiser, messiah, gay, lesbian, straight, white, black, hispanic, married, single??? Which community are you trying to serve? By your indecisiveness you are serving none of them.

But why am I surprised? Why should anybody in the world be surprised at bad management on the part of the board of Gay Men's Health Crisis? Not one of you has distinguished yourself as a successful public advocate or a successful executive of a major not-for-profit organization. You come from different generations. You come from different eras in GMHC's own history when conflicting attitudes of what constituted an acceptable board member were in evidence. Thus you don't have any cohesive world view. And you don't *like* or respect each other. You are supposed to be decisive, make policy, *define* the cutting edge, not react to it.

I now come to my last harrowing point. I refer to your attempt to rewrite the history of GMHC.

Increasingly I have noticed in the press that several present and past board members—most particularly Judge Failla—have taken to referring to themselves as a "founding board member of GMHC." And now Mr. Pepper's letter refers to a classroom "dedicated to the co-founding Board." I also understand that the new building is to be dedicated to the memory of Mr. Paul Popham, the board's first president.

For the sake of all future historians, and to protest against the sleazy posturings of Judge Failla and Mr. Pepper, I would like to state the following facts. Gay Men's Health Crisis was my idea. I called together five other friends to hear about it. I gave it its name. There was no co-founding board of GMHC. GMHC was officially founded by six men: Nathan Fain, Larry Kramer, Larry Mass, Paul Popham, Paul Rapoport, and Edmund White. This happened on January 4, 1982, although various groups had been meeting since the first get-together in my apartment on August 11, 1981. The first board of directors, which was eventually formed in May, 1982 (and did not include Judge Failla), was comprised of Paul Popham, Larry McDewitt, Brad Frandsen, Joe Paschek, Nathan Fain, Larry Kramer, Dr. Lawrence Mass, Harry Diaz and Joe Hernandez. On August 23, 1982, Harry Diaz and Joe Hernandez resigned and Robert Wachter, Enno Poersch and Richard Failla were elected. This does not make Judge Failla a founding board member. This makes Judge Failla an arriviste, which is perhaps nicer than an Uncle Tom, but not by much.

I resent Judge Failla's opportunism mightily just as I resent the dedication of

See XEROXED on page 72

evidence to suggest the latter.) Wake up! The 1990s are here. Those DJs who play Donna Summer are not only musically retrograde but politically bankrupt.

Bill Chafin
Manhattan

OVER AND OUT

Correction Miss Thing! Your explanation of the word "over" (issue #7) was wrong. The proper usage of the word "over" is... "Your pumps are OVER!" (fierce and ruling, if you know what that means). The word designates something as fabulous, not tired (if you know what that means).

Miss Glamamore

P.S. The correct pronunciation of "over" is, of course, "ovah."

Michelangelo Signorile Responds:

If your use of the word is truly the only current use, then you won't get upset if I say that you are truly over. Love you!

LES AND NO

I too am bewildered by the odd abbreviation for Lesbian (les) and was startled to see it was still being used even after complaints were made. What is your reasoning for this usage?

Also, thanks for Signorile's Gossip Watch. It is terrific and I particularly enjoyed his lambasting of Steven Saban and the disgusting, parasitical crew he waffles on about. Great too are the photos by Erich Conrad—but remember all the fabulous people in this city don't live south of 14th Street—it just seems like it.

Keep up the good work. Every issue gets better. A little more international news please.

A. Milton
Manhattan

Xeroxed

An Open Letter to the Board of Directors of Gay Men's Health Crisis

from: Larry Kramer

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In response to my letter to all of you of 10 August 1989, I am in receipt of a letter, dated August 16, 1989, from one of your number, Mr. James G. Pepper. Mr. Pepper's letter is so irresponsible, so non-responsive to the unfortunate and tragic issues I raised, and so condescendingly pompous, that I find it heartbreaking. Because his words so accurately reflect the head-in-the-sand attitude I have come to expect as the typical GMHC board response to life in the real world, I address you one and all again.

My original letter was motivated by the hiring by your acting executive director, Mr. Tim Sweeney, of Mr. Jeff Levi, as your Washington representative, charged with speeding the release of promising, lifesaving treatments for AIDS. As Mr. Levi has been historically against just this release of just these treatments, this appointment seemed to many of us a destructive act of huge proportions and possibly dire consequences. (Additionally, it was an act of arrogance on the part of Mr. Sweeney to hire Mr. Levi without in any way networking with ACT UP, Project Inform, AmFar, Community Research Initiative, or any other of the leading players dealing with treatment issues—all of whom Mr. Levi would be called upon to work with closely.)

It was our hope that you might sense some wisdom in my words (for I have not been all wrong in the past)

and cut your—and our—losses by immediately severing Mr. Levi from your payroll, a payroll you have promised your many generous donors to protect from dissipate profligacy and needless waste. You chose not to do so and we were left to circulate my letter as widely as possible in Washington circles. I was not surprised to discover that Mr. Levi has fewer friends in Washington than a potential lobbyist must have; I have had assurances that he will certainly never be included on any further committee dealing with treatment issues; he will henceforth be a powerless petitioner for your organization in Washington.

For the record, both Mr. Levi's performance and that

See GMHC's response, page 72.

of Ms. Jean McGuire (of the AIDS Action Council), another of your Washington representatives at the historic meeting of the Parallel Track Committee, were useless. Were it not for Mr. Paul Boneburg, of San Francisco's Mobilization Against AIDS, and Dr. Basil Vareldzis of Washington's Whitman-Walker Clinic, who gave superlative support to the pioneering presentations of Mr. Jim Eigo of ACT UP and Mr. Martin Delaney of Project Inform, we might not have walked away from this meeting with the triumphant rewards that we did.

I shall not go on with this petty squabbling over Mr. Levi. He has been silenced quickly and will shortly, no doubt, find some line of work more suited to his obvious talents. But the mess that is today's GMHC remains with us and not only does Mr.

Pepper not have the courtesy to respond to my raising of this issue, not only does your board's president, Ms. Joy Tomchin, not have the courtesy to respond to my raising of this issue (a total of five phone calls to her remain unanswered), but—as I shall describe in detail below—it is more than obvious that the rest of you have little interest in attending to it either.

That Mr. Sweeney, in his first time at bat as "acting" executive director, made a horrendous decision is not particularly remarkable. After all, he follows on the heels of Mr. Richard Dunne, who in his three years as "permanent" executive director, made horrendous decisions on a regular daily basis.

Indeed, the one act of courage and vision that you have ever accomplished has been the disposing of Richard Dunne. How you came to such a sensible decision and verifiably acted on it, and unanimously, will forever be a mystery, but nevertheless you did it, and you are to be congratulated for at last getting rid of a man who brought new meaning to "unimaginative," "unpopular," "cowardly," "retrograde" and "inept." By unanimously agreeing that he must resign or be fired, you gave momentary hope to those of us who wish your organization well, something impossible of achievement under Mr. Dunne's repellent reign.

But then, cagey Dick that he is, he pulled a fast one on you. In March, he told you he would not leave until September, and you, obviously exhausted from the over-exertion of the one act of energy in your repertoire, caved in and allowed it, instead of kicking him out on his incompetent ass.

And so you, and we, have been left with a lame duck in office for nine very

Levi to Lobby for GMHC in D.C.

Ex-NGLTF Head Is Praised and Attacked

by Chris Bull

NEW YORK—Even before the Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) had officially announced its appointment of Jeff Levi to the newly-created position of Washington AIDS lobbyist, AIDS



**"OVERLY CAUTIOUS' OR
"DETERMINED AND PROVEN"?**

GMHC'S Jeff Levi Photo: Tom DiMaria

activist and GMHC founder Larry Kramer had dashed off the first of two poison pen letters to GMHC's board criticizing the decision. Kramer and others have alleged that Levi represents an overly cautious or obstructionist approach to the early release of promising AIDS treatments.

GMHC's August 16 announcement, and Kramer's subsequent letter, which was reprinted in *OutWeek* and widely circulated among GMHC staffers, key Washington bureaucrats, and gay and lesbian organizations, led some in the community to line up in support of Levi, while ACT UP dis-

cussed a zap against GMHC, the country's largest community-based AIDS service organization.

Ironically, it was Kramer, seeking more direct influence in Washington for GMHC, who had originally agitated for the creation of the position now held by Levi.

"Articulate, Determined, Proven"

Levi, the recently-resigned executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), brings a long history of experience in the lesbian and gay community to the new position. He has worked in Washington on AIDS and lesbian/gay issues for the last seven years, and until recently, he was also co-chair of the Appropriations Task Force of the National Organizations Responding to AIDS. "GMHC is pleased to have such an articulate, determined and proven AIDS advocate working with us on issues critical to our clients and their families," said Richard Dunne, the outgoing executive director of GMHC.

However, several members of ACT UP, including Kramer, immediately expressed outrage at the appointment. Larry Kramer's letter likened Levi's appointment to hiring anti-gay Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) "to look out for the interests of Robert Mapplethorpe.... In hiring Mr. Levi, you have chosen one of the communities most reckless zealots in his condemnation of the early release of experimental drugs." Kramer added that the decision highlights GMHC's reluctance to change its focus from a service provider to a treatment advocate.

Charlie Franchino, also a member of ACT UP, characterized Levi as an

"FDA apologist." "Levi has worked against fast-tracking AIDS drugs. His public statements lead me to believe that Levi doesn't understand the drug approval process. GMHC should have appointed more of an advocate for PWAs [people with AIDS] and quick approval of AIDS drugs," he said.

Past Disagreements

In fact, Levi has not always agreed with AIDS activists about the early release of experimental drugs. In a Nov. 26, 1988 *New York Times* article, Levi was quoted opposing fast tracking some experimental AIDS drugs. And, in May 2 testimony before President George Bush's advisory committee on the FDA drug approval process, Levi advocated a moderate approach. "The 'consumer' perspective on access to drugs for AIDS is often simplified as one of demanding immediate access to drugs in early stages of trials no matter how small the promise they many offer," he said. "In fact, my organization [NGLTF] is quite aware that a much more difficult balancing act is needed. As consumers we are painfully aware of why there is a thorough regulatory process, that there are compelling reasons for drugs to go through extensive, and sometimes lengthy, testing before being released on the market. We have all seen, whether in the limited example, of the AIDS crisis or other diseases, too many examples of the 'drug of the month' that offered so much hope but after more study turned out not only to be ineffective, but sometimes unsafe as well. It is this overall need to provide long-term protection for the larger body of potential consumers that must be balanced against the emotionally compelling case of the individual who needs help today—and may not be alive to take advantage of the drug that must make its way through a lengthy approval process."

Strong Position on Treatments?

Others defended Levi's appointment. Tim Sweeney, acting executive

See LEVI on page 78

News

Army Lesbian Denied Re-Enlistment Again

Ben-Shalom's 15-year Court Battle Drags On

by Sue Burke

MILWAUKEE—A federal court has ruled that lesbians and gay men can be banned from the military, but one lesbian is continuing her active duty in the U.S. Army Reserves while she appeals that ruling. Miriam Ben-Shalom, a 41-year-old drill sergeant, has been battling the Army for more than 14 years for the right to remain a soldier.

In a 22-page decision issued Aug. 7, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago overturned an earlier ruling that declared the decision to bar Ben-Shalom from re-enlisting unconstitutional. The appeals court also declined to "second-guess" the rationality of the Army's rules barring gay men and lesbians from the service.

Ben-Shalom has appealed that ruling by a three-judge panel, asking that all the judges of the 7th Circuit rehear the case. If that fails, she said, she will likely go to the Supreme Court.

She learned about the loss while she was at the Michigan Women's Music Festival, where she was conducting workshops on women in the military.

"I felt bad. It hurt so bad I wanted to cry. People were counting on me," she said. Ben-Shalom has hoped her legal victory would help other lesbians and gay men. "Once the military changes so will the rest of society," she said.

"We lost a skirmish," she said of one of the few losses in an almost 15-year-long court battle. "The war's not over."

Freedom of Speech

In 1976, the Army gave Ben-Shalom an honorable discharge a year after she had announced at a press conference that she is a lesbian. After administrative appeals, she filed suit in federal court, claiming her First

Amendment right of free speech had been violated.

Federal Judge Terence T. Evans in Milwaukee ruled in her favor in 1980, but seven years later she still had not been reinstated. Ben-Shalom went to the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals. In August 1987 the judges ruled that they were "baffled" by the Army's failure to understand the word "reinstatement." They ordered the Army to let her back in.

But a year later, when Ben-Shalom's term of enlistment was up, the Army refused to allow her to re-enlist, claiming that it had changed the regulation the court had found unconstitutional.

Ben-Shalom went back to court, and in January 1989 Milwaukee Federal Judge Myron L. Gordon ruled that the regulations were still unconstitutional and in strong terms criticized the arguments raised by the Army on a number of points.

The Army appealed to the 7th Circuit Court, which reversed much of Gordon's decision.

Bowers v. Hardwick Cited

The appeals court decided that



"THE WAR'S NOT OVER."

Miriam Ben-Shalom at the 1987 March on Washington

Photo: Tracy Baim/Outlines

Ben-Shalom had been discharged because of her status as a lesbian and not because she spoke about being a lesbian. Her freedom of speech, according to the court, and therefore not been violated. It added that by entering the military she had "voluntarily sacrificed" some of her rights anyway.

It said that gays and lesbians were not entitled to special consideration against discrimination under the 5th Amendment, which guarantees equal protection, because the

ARMY LESBIAN continued on page 71

Feds Push AZT for HIV+

Study Finds Drug May Delay Onset of AIDS Symptoms

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—Federal health officials are now urging the use of AZT by as many as 650,000 Americans with HIV infection, based on the preliminary results of a massive drug study. [The conclusions were immediately challenged by AIDS experts who questioned the manner in which the study was terminated and the results released. The usual procedure for releasing test results, requiring scrutiny by independent experts followed by publication of results in a scientific journal, was bypassed in this case (see Political Science, page 32).]

Top officials from the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration joined Health and Human Services Secretary Louis W. Sullivan Aug. 17 in announcing the preliminary results of the largest AIDS drug study ever, which found that the anti-HIV treatment may delay the onset of AIDS symptoms in people who are infected with HIV, but who do not yet have symptoms of the disease. HIV is the virus thought by many to be the cause of AIDS.

"Today we are witnessing an additional significant milestone in the battle to change AIDS from a fatal disease to a treatable one," stated Sullivan. "These results provide real hope for the millions of people worldwide who are infected with HIV."

The study, sponsored by the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and funded in part by Burroughs Wellcome, the monopoly manufacturer of AZT, found that seropositive individuals with T-4 cell counts under 500 taking a placebo developed AIDS

symptoms twice as often as those who were given AZT.

(T-4 cell counts are an indicator of human immune system function. A healthy immune system has between 800-1,200 T-4 cells per cubic milliliter.)

The study also found that AZT at lower doses is as effective as at higher doses, and that the toxic side effects among those taking the lower dose AZT were comparable with those taking the placebo, except for mild nausea among a handful of participants on the low dose AZT.

Protocol 019

More than 3,200 HIV-infected

(defined as two systemic symptoms of HIV infection and a T-4 cell count less than 200), the occurrence of AIDS-defining opportunistic infection, or death.

The study began July 12, 1987 and was conducted by Dr. Paul A. Volberding of the University of California, San Francisco, and San Francisco General Hospital. Neither the doctors nor the patients involved in the study knew who was receiving a placebo, and who was taking AZT.

On announcing the study's preliminary findings at a quickly-called press conference Aug. 17, just hours after the Data and Safety Monitoring Board counted the final numbers, Sul-

livan stated that all those in the study with T-4 cell counts below 500 would now be placed on low dose AZT. Those taking the higher dose AZT will now be dropped to the lower dose.

Those with T-4 cell counts over 500 will continue in the study as there is not yet any conclusive evidence that AZT slows the onset of symptoms. Those with T-4 cell counts over 500 who are on the placebo will be placed on low dose AZT when their counts drop below 500.



Photo: Rink

WINDFALL FOR BURROUGHS? AZT

individuals in 32 centers nationwide participated in the drug study, called Protocol 019. Of the 1,300 participants with T-4 counts below 500, nine percent of those on the placebo developed AIDS symptoms, while only four percent of those on AZT developed symptoms.

For the purposes of the study, disease progression was defined as development of AIDS-related complex

Funding Dilemma

The financial implications of placing the nearly 650,000 HIV-infected Americans with T-4 cell counts below 500 on AZT are staggering, considering that the drug, manufactured by the Burroughs Wellcome Corp., can cost up to \$8,000 a year. AIDS already affects a disproportionate number of low-income people and people of color, who, along with women, have traditionally had little or no access to quality health care. Many people with AIDS

who rely on public hospitals, or Medicaid and Medicare for health care have no access to treatment options at all.

"It is now all the more important to provide resources to assist people with HIV," stated Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA), a lead sponsor of several health care financing measures, at the press conference. "Science has given us the tools to help hundreds of thousands of people fight for life. What is lacking is an equitable formula for delivering those tools to Americans in need."

"I think the federal government has more than an obligation to step in and assure that people have access to these drugs," said Jeff Levi, the new Washington lobbyist for New York's Gay Men's Health Crisis.

Sullivan stated that his office would be examining federal subsidies like Medicare and Medicaid programs, for AIDS treatment and services.

But Levi said that AIDS could not be treated like other catastrophic illnesses. "Few comparable diseases have medications that can stave off disease," Levi said. "In a sense we're now charting new waters. And that will certainly require creativity from all those concerned. That means the government and third party payers and, yes, even Burroughs Wellcome." ▼

Corrections

In *OutWeek* No. 10 (August 28) an unfortunate production error omitted the last three lines of Jean Carlomusto's and Gregg Bordowitz's feature story titled *Do It! Safer Sex Porn For Girls and Boys Comes of Age*. The last sentence should have read: "In the face of increasing censorship amidst a morally conservative climate, we militantly advocate sex — in beds, kitchens, bars, restrooms, taxis, anywhere you want. If it's safer sex, do it! That's the message."

In the same issue, the credit for a photograph of Tim Drake on page 23 was inadvertently omitted. The picture was provided by *Chicago Outlines*. ▼

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FDA Panel OKs New AIDS Drug Access

Activists Demands Met at Tense D.C. Meetings

by Cliff O'Neill

BETHESDA, MD—A new AIDS drug distribution program, long touted by AIDS activists, was given a shot in the arm recently when a Food and Drug Administration advisory panel agreed

to support the plan, and to form a committee to implement it.

Meeting at a Bethesda, MD hotel Aug. 18, the Anti-Infective Drugs Advisory Committee of the FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

heard testimony and debated the merits and potential dangers of the program, known as parallel track, during a lengthy, often tense meeting.

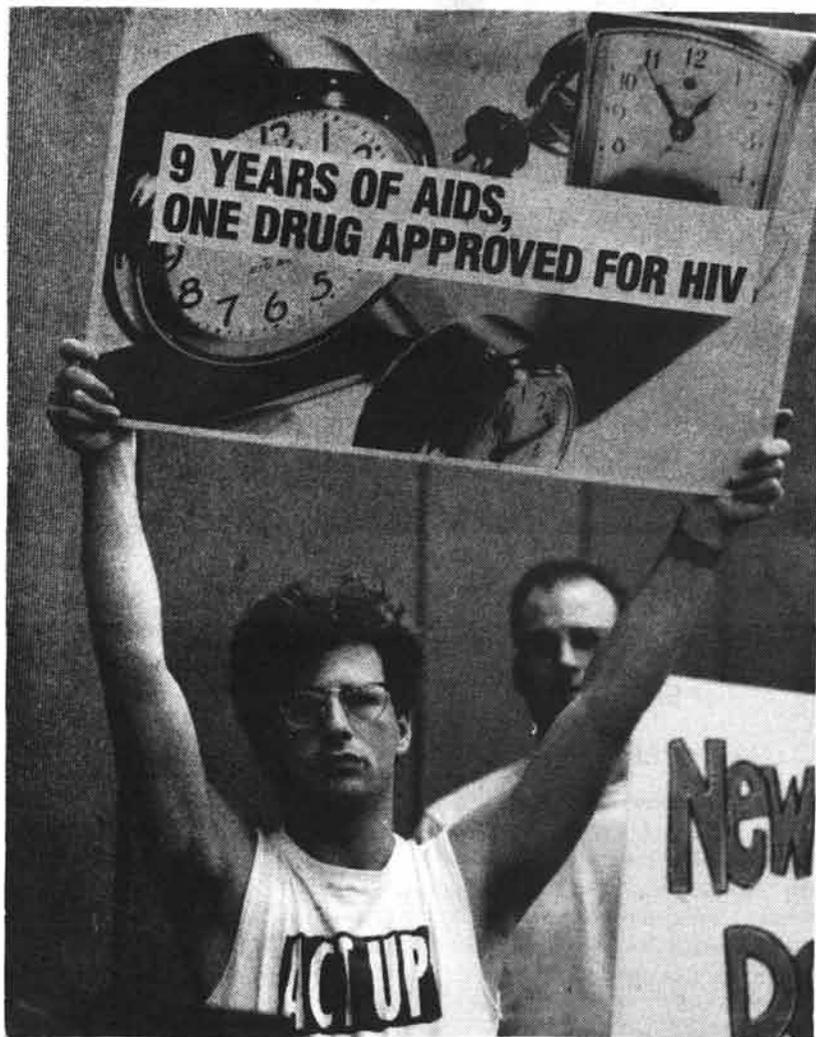
Initially devised by AIDS activists, the parallel track would give people with AIDS who do not qualify for standard clinical drug trials access to experimental AIDS drugs. The treatments would be available on a broad scale after the drug's toxicity levels are established, but before its effectiveness is actually proven.

The testimony and discussion were marked alternately by cheers and hisses from the nearly 50 members of ACT UP/NY present. Eight hours later, the panel quietly approved the concept of the parallel track, without specifically defining it. The committee also recommended that the Department of Health and Human Services appoint a panel of Public Health Service representatives, AIDS patients and AIDS activists to implement the program.

Most, if not all of the items agreed upon by the panel were directly lifted from a consensus statement crafted by ACT UP and signed by 17 lesbian/gay activist and AIDS service groups.

Still, a myriad of questions remain about who would qualify for the parallel track; what kind of data would be collected from people taking the drugs; what legal precautions would need to be taken; and how the program would be financed.

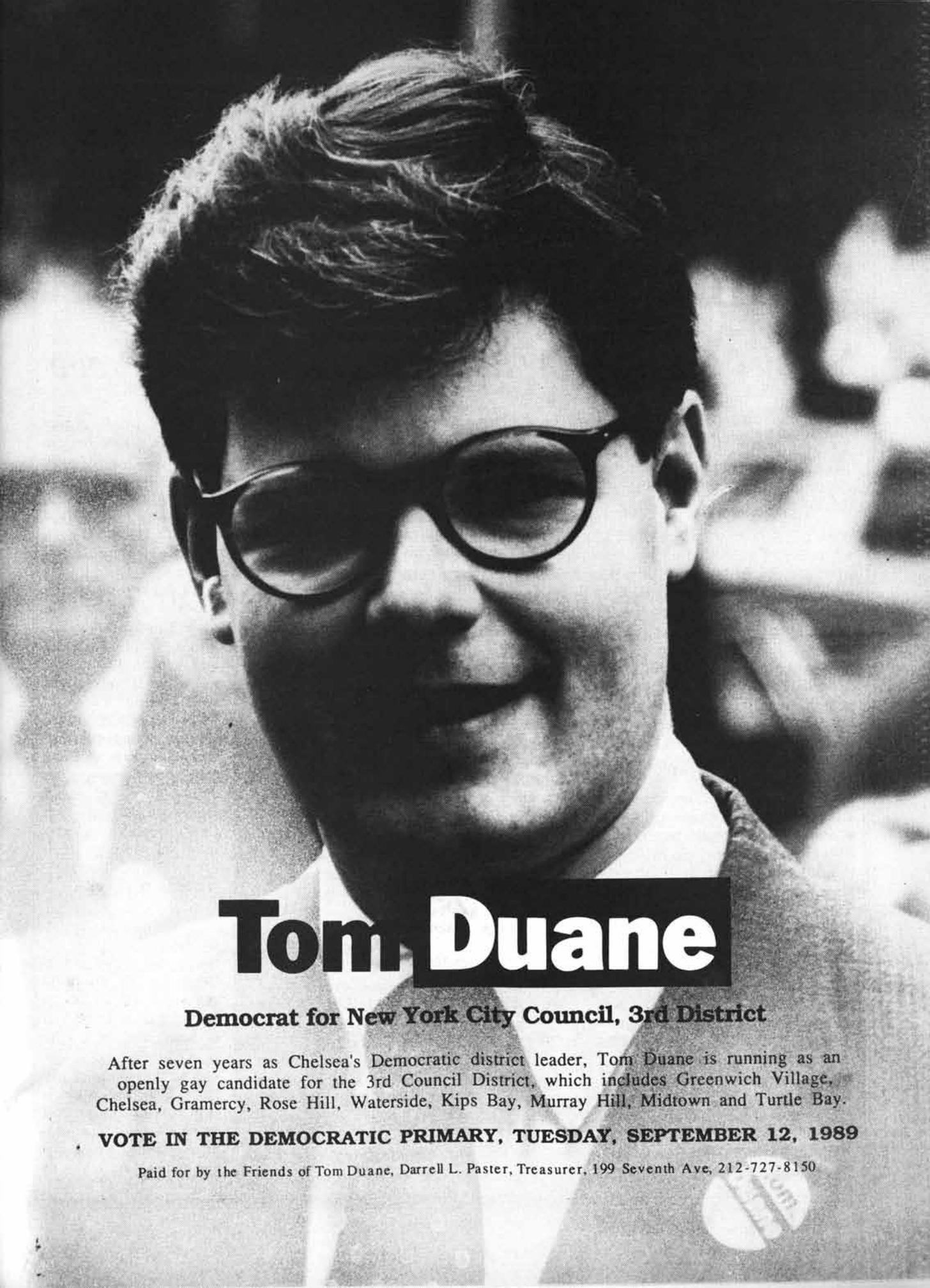
The panel's motion for consensus on parallel track came almost immediately after Aldyn McKeane of ACT UP stood up and vocally expressed the frustration of the audience. Echoing statements made earlier by panel



KEEPING WATCH

Activists during silent protest at FDA drug hearings in Bethesda

Photo: Patsy Lynch



Tom Duane

Democrat for New York City Council, 3rd District

After seven years as Chelsea's Democratic district leader, Tom Duane is running as an openly gay candidate for the 3rd Council District, which includes Greenwich Village, Chelsea, Gramercy, Rose Hill, Waterside, Kips Bay, Murray Hill, Midtown and Turtle Bay.

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DESIGNING TRIALS WITH PEOPLE IN MIND
ACT UP's Jim Eigo Photo: Patsy Lynch

guest Dr. Basil Varelzdis of Washington D.C.'s Whitman Walker Clinic, the ACT UP member, interrupting the proceedings, urged the panel to finally take action on the program.

AIDS activists had recently criticized the delays of federal AIDS policy makers, including Assistant Secretary for Health and Acting Surgeon General James O. Mason, who endorsed the parallel track proposal at a July U.S. House Committee hearing, but referred the program to the FDA advisory committee.

The same committee refused to grant final FDA approval to ganciclovir, a drug that can prevent blindness in PWAs, despite great support for the drug from the panel's two ophthalmologists—a decision it eventually reversed last June, after extensive research and lobbying from AIDS activists.

"Lives Are at Stake"

At the opening of Thursday's meeting, however, Mason praised the advisory committee for its votes to approve ganciclovir and aerosol pentamidine, an AIDS-related pneumonia preventative, adding that the committee was particularly well suited to give recommendations on specifics of the new program.

"Our interest is not just in moving forward," stated Mason, "but mov-

ing rapidly forward, because lives are at stake."

Early in the meeting, National AIDS Program Director Dr. Anthony Fauci defended the parallel track program, which in the past two months has become his pet project, against the sharp questions of panel members. His comments garnered singular applause from one unusual source.

At the end of Fauci's presentation, AIDS activist and playwright Larry Kramer, who in a widely published open letter last year compared Fauci to Nazi war criminal Adolph Eichmann, yelled out as the federal AIDS researcher took his seat.

"President Bush was right!" shouted Kramer. "You

are our hero, Dr. Fauci!"

Fauci has led a chorus of federal bureaucrats, AIDS activists and medical researchers in saying that the new system should maintain the integrity of the current clinical trials process, so as not to inadvertently slow the drug approval process by having more people choose to take a drug as part of the parallel track than as part of a standard drug trial.

Program Defined

Jim Eigo of ACT UP/NY and Martin Delaney of San Francisco's Project Inform, two of several invited guests at the front table, took exception with the hypothesis put forth by drug companies that the program would deplete the pool of potential participants for standard drug trials, however.

"Trials are [only] under-enrolled when they're not designed with people in mind," stated Eigo.

Other detractors expressed concern that the program would allow the release of unsafe drugs into the marketplace, which also set off a firestorm of criticism from activists.

"We're not talking about a crash here," stated Delaney. "We're not asking for the release of any drug that scrapes by Phase I [toxicity] trials. We're not asking for the floodgates to be opened. Nobody wants that."

The first drug being looked at for the parallel track is ddI, an experimental anti-HIV drug which will enter standard Phase II effectiveness trials in September. Drug manufacturer Bristol Myers has already announced that it will distribute the drug outside of clinical trials, although only to 5,000 people nationwide.

In Eigo's testimony, however, he claimed that the drug company has already received 40,000 requests for the drug.

Tense Silence

Also at the meeting, a self-described representative from the investment industry was heckled loudly when, after the heartfelt testimony of several people living with AIDS, he took the stand to tell the panel that his company is now telling their clients that good financial investments may be made in companies that manufacture HIV antibody tests.

"What about companies that manufacture tombstones?" shouted one ACT UP member.

Another highly charged moment in the meeting came when, closing the public testimony, Kramer took the podium and loudly tongue-lashed the panel, opening with, "I am going to threaten you, and I'm not making jokes. What does it take to get this fucking country to take its thumb out of its ass?" Kramer shouted at the panel.

After listing a series of demands of the panel to an unusually and uncomfortably silent room, Kramer threatened the advisory panel that if they did not "approve these drugs now," AIDS patients would rise up, sabotage standard drug trials and copy promising therapies in underground laboratories.

"Revolutions don't occur when there is no hope," bellowed Kramer. "Revolutions occur when there is hope....I beg of you, make fucking history."

After his speech, the room was silent, save for the applause of a number of ACT UP/NY members. Later, one panel member angrily explained his commitment to people with AIDS, adding that the committee is advisory in nature and was not to be approving any drugs at the meeting. ▼

Pro-Gay Candidates Challenge Brooklyn Homophobe

Noach Dear, in 3-Way Race, Faces Grand Jury Probe

The second in a series of articles on New York City's municipal elections.

by Sandor Katz

BROOKLYN—Noach Dear, the notoriously homophobic Brooklyn Councilman, is facing challenges in the

upcoming Democrat primary election by David Eichenenthal and Robert Evans, two progressive, pro-gay candidates.

Dear led the opposition to the gay and lesbian rights legislation since his election in

1981, and attempted to initiate a voter referendum to repeal that human rights law in 1986 after it passed the Council. He also

vocally supported the Supreme Court's Hardwick decision, which empowers states to prohibit sodomy.

CAMPAIGN SPOTLIGHT

Dear represents the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Borough Park, Midwood, Ocean Parkway and Bensonhurst, but is most closely identified with Borough Park and its politically conservative Hasidic population. Eichenenthal says of Dear, "His position on gay rights does not stand alone." He cites Democrat Dear's quotable endorsement of George Bush over Michael Dukakis: "Liberals don't believe in God."

Eichenenthal, a 26-year-old lawyer, has lived virtually his entire life in Brooklyn. He supports gay rights and the extension of spousal benefits to domestic partners. But he is not running in his district on a platform of gay rights. Eichenenthal is focusing his campaign on crime, mass transit, affordable housing, senior citizen issues, and ethics in



THE HAPPY HOMOPHOBE
Councilman Noach Dear

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris



DEAR SEASON?

Noah Dear's opponent David Eichenthal

Photo: Andrew Lichtenstein

Oh, dear

OutWeek's attempts to reach Dear were unsuccessful. However, the phone numbers for Dear's campaign and for his district office were answered by the same person when called within two minutes of each other, giving the appearance that he is operating his campaign from his taxpayer-financed district office, which experts say would be illegal.

According to Jerry Taub, a volunteer with the Dear campaign to whom the district office refers election inquiries, Dear "doesn't have a set campaign headquarters. And this is not the campaign number."

But when asked for the address of Dear's campaign headquarters, one district office staffer replied, "I don't have that here. You'll have to call Jerry Taub and ask him."

Asked whether Dear's campaign is being run out of his district office, Taub categorically stated, "There is no campaigning being done out of the district office." He continued, "*Run* means funds, *run* means people, *run*

means meetings, *run* means campaign strategy meetings, none of these things are happening out of the campaign headquarters." He then corrected himself to say "out of the district office."

Taub said he sometimes visited Dear's district office, but would not disclose the location of his own office, or its proximity to Dear's.

Taub said he would "give specific answers to any particular question," but would not answer questions about who might be answering the phones at his office and the district office, located at 1373 Coney Island Avenue. Jerry Milstein, another Dear campaign worker, could not be reached for comment. Taub would not answer questions about the current grand jury investigation of Dear.

"He's run his fundraisers out of there. This wouldn't be anything new," commented Dear foe Eichenthal. "You wouldn't think he'd be stupid enough to do this again."

Eichenthal's allegations of past improprieties could not be confirmed by press time. — **Andrew Miller**

government. Regarding Dear's traditional base of support, he says, "People in the Orthodox community are concerned about all of these issues."

Another candidate, attorney Robert Evans, is also challenging Dear. Evans says she is "in favor of all human rights" as well as "gay partnership." However, Lambda Independent Democrats, Brooklyn's lesbian and gay Democratic club, has endorsed Eichenthal in the race. "The Brooklyn machine obviously ran Evans to split the vote and safe-

guard Noach Dear's seat," says Lambda president Alan Fleishman. "I see him as a big problem."

"Absolutely not so," responded Evans, who called the charges propaganda started by Mr. Eichenthal.

What's the Issue?

Dear supporters are doing what they can to make gay rights *the* issue. "We have heard rumors that I am gay," reports Eichenthal, who is not. "We have also heard that I am being

put up by the gay community to do this to him." This is not true, although he has attracted city-wide gay support, and the endorsement of Manhattan's Stonewall Democratic Club. He has also received the blessings of non-gay progressive figures such as Manhattan Borough President candidate Ruth Messinger and former U.S. Senate candidate Mark Green.

Will the rumors hurt Eichenthal? "There is a certain segment of the population for whom our positions



BED-STUY GUY
Brooklyn's Own Chris Owen

Photo: Andrew Lichtenstein

Enoch is Enoch

BROOKLYN—Another anti-gay Brooklyn Councilman, Enoch Williams, also faces strong opposition this year. Chris Owens, the son of Congressman Major Owens, is making his first run for public office.

Williams was elected to the City Council in 1978 and has consistently opposed gay civil rights legislation. Owens accuses Williams of being a machine politician, responsive to the "conservative elements of the Black community" and dependent on patronage for his support.

Williams currently represents Council District 26, which includes parts of Bedford-Stuyvesant, Crown Heights, East Flatbush and Brownville.

According to Owens, "Gay and lesbian rights are not

of major concern to people in the district." But Owens sees himself as a progressive, and pledges to support our civil rights. "I'm willing to take that chance because philosophically speaking, it's all one big picture."

Owens, 30 years old, says he is "a musician by love and a paralegal by necessity."

Williams is also being challenged by Jim Sullivan, an attorney who was formerly the district director for Rep. Ed Towns (D-Brooklyn). Sullivan, like Owens, says he favors lesbian and gay civil rights, domestic partnership benefits, and increased funding for AIDS. "All minorities have to be protected," he told *OutWeek*.

—Sandor Katz

on gay rights are the decisive issues," he says. His attitude is that those people will cast their votes on the basis of the candidates' stated positions. But for the most part, "I don't think it is the crucial issue facing voters here."

Dear Fraud Alleged

One issue he thinks is crucial is government ethics. Noah Dear is currently being investigated by a Federal grand jury for defrauding a number of small businesses within his district. Apparently he was a one-third partner in a restaurant, and personally solicited credit from area merchants, who extended him credit without routine credit checks. According to Eichenthal's campaign manager, Winston Von Engel, "The implication is that he used his position to gain credit." The restaurant then went bankrupt, in debt more than \$500,000, much of it owed to local merchants.

The scandal is further complicated by the involvement of Eugene Hollander, who was recently convicted of felonious activities in connection with the operation of his New York City nursing homes. According to Evans, Dear's investment in the restaurant venture consisted of money provided by Hollander. Dear's office did not return *OutWeek's* phone calls.

Dear initially tried to cover up his interest in the restaurant, but the scandal was uncovered and received considerable media attention. The result, according to Eichenthal, is that many area voters "say it's an embarrassment to have him on the city council."

"Ripe and Ready"

Eichenthal's polling reveals high voter dissatisfaction with Dear, and a tremendous undecided vote, "ripe and ready for the picking." He is planning major mailings, phone canvassing, and a large primary day operation to make sure voters know his name as the alternative.

Both camps are bracing for a smear campaign as the primary approaches. Predicts Von Engel: "They'll say that David will be responsible for gays walking hand in hand in Borough Park and kissing in front of our children." ▼

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Out Takes

FDA: Don't do Q

SAN FRANCISCO—The Food and Drug Administration has formally asked the San Francisco-based Project Inform to stop its unauthorized tests of the experimental new AIDS drug, Compound Q.

In a letter to Project Inform's Martin Delaney, Dr. Carl C. Peck, director of the FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research in Bethesda, MD, asked the group to discontinue its community-based testing of the drug trichosanthin, a derivative of the Chinese cucumber plant, also known as GLQ-223. The letter comes about six weeks after reports of the Project Inform tests broke in the national media, following the death of one patient involved in the trials.

The Project Inform tests, involving some 60 volunteer patients with AIDS in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Ft. Lauderdale/Miami and New York, are still under a formal inquiry by FDA investigators.

Peck's letter is the first formal reaction from the FDA to the Project Inform trials of the drug, which has been shown in test tubes to selectively kill cells infected with HIV, the virus generally believed to cause AIDS. Project Inform began its own Compound Q testing program in April because it said the FDA-approved trials would take too long.

Delaney said the letter represented "a victory" for the group because it was not an FDA "order" to stop the tests. Patients are no longer receiving the drug and physicians involved in the trials are currently trying to determine whether the drug has helped them, according to Delaney.

Peck's letter to Project Inform also held out the possibility of the AIDS advocacy group being involved in future FDA-approved community-based testing programs of the drug.

"We stand ready," Peck's letter says, "to meet immediately with Project Inform trichosanthin investigators

and possibly representatives from the manufacturer." The drug is being synthetically developed by Genelabs Inc. of Redwood City, California, and is now undergoing FDA-approved toxicity testing at San Francisco General Hospital.

"We're pleased about the FDA suggestion," Delaney said. "It gives us an opportunity to have contact with Genelabs. The solution is for us all to come to the table together."

Delaney said he would be meeting with FDA officials in early September at which time Project Inform will present the agency with the results of its findings in the controversial testing program.

—Keith Clark

Who's zoomin' who?

SAN FRANCISCO—While representatives of the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) and Community United Against Violence (CUAV) were attending an August 10 press conference at police headquarters here about the possibility that two reported assaults on former MCC assistant pastor Lynn Griffis were fab-



MCC

Photo: Rink



CUAV

Photo: Rink

rications, someone was making threatening phone calls to the Castro district locations of CUAV, MCC and the newspaper *Bay Times*.

Editor Kim Corsaro of *Bay Times*, a lesbian and gay monthly, said while she and one of the paper's reporters were attending the press conference, the newspaper received "several death-threat calls." Similar death-threats were reportedly made at the same time to MCC and CUAV by phone as well.

The following Saturday morning, August 12, Corsaro said she discovered the newspaper's sign in the building's entrance-way had been obliterated with spraypaint. Shortly thereafter it was discovered that the front of MCC/SF had also been defaced with a series of crosses sprayed on its front. The offices of CUAV were also vandalized, apparently at about the same time with a similar colored paint.

The incidents were all reported to CUAV, which gathers information on anti-lesbian/gay incidents in the city, and the threatening phone calls and vandalism were also reported to police, largely because of the recent increase in hate-related crimes aimed at lesbians and gay men in the Castro district.

Police officials say they are investigating both the threatening calls and vandalism but have no leads. There

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Out Takes

was no evidence the calls and vandalism were directly connected with the recent Griffis case, but those involved are not overlooking some connection—either on the part of those who are alleged to have assaulted Griffis, or by partisans who might be striking out at organizations connected with suggestions the Griffis case was a hoax.

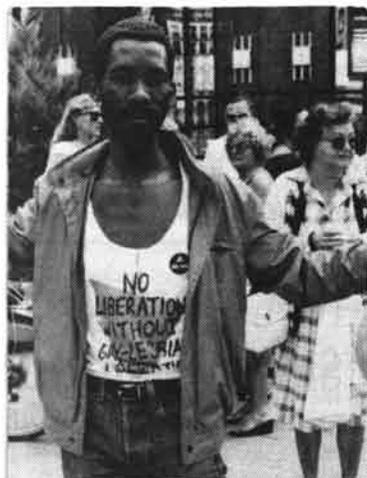
While MCC and CUAV were closely involved in the confusing and still-unresolved Griffis case, *Bay Times* has no particular connection with the case other than its reportage. The city's two other community newspapers, neither of which are located in the Castro, reported no similar incidents.

—Keith Clark

“Simon Nkoli Day”

SAN FRANCISCO — Anti-apartheid and gay rights activist Simon Nkoli arrived here Wednesday, August 23 on the first leg of a fundraising tour of the United States, and was welcomed with the news that Supervisor and Acting Mayor Richard Hongisto had proclaimed August 24 “Simon Nkoli Day” in San Francisco.

Nkoli, who has never before been outside the Republic of South Africa, began his tour in July as a guest of the 11th Annual International



SIMON NKOLI Photo: Rex Wockner

Lesbian and Gay Association Convention in Vienna, and continued on through Canada before coming to the West Coast.

Nkoli was one of 22 defendants in the Delmas treason case that stretched from 1984 through November 1988, during which he spent four years in detention. Nkoli and nine other defendants were finally acquitted of all charges.

Funds raised from Nkoli's tour, coordinated by the national association of Black and White Men Together, will go to the Zulu AIDS Project to help provide AIDS education and prevention materials in the main languages spoken by Black South Africans. The South African government makes no AIDS information available in any non-white languages there, according to Nkoli.

While in the U.S. he will also be visiting Los Angeles, Chicago, Minneapolis, Cincinnati, Louisville, Atlanta, Memphis, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Hartford, Boston and New York City before returning to Johannesburg in late September.

—Keith Clark

Just say Nancy

DENVER — According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the state health department in Denver “has received reports that scores of men named Nancy Reagan are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus.”

An August 14 article by AIDS reporter Randy Shilts made public the phenomenon, which is directly related to Colorado legislation which makes anonymous HIV testing illegal.

Because the names of anyone testing positive for the virus—thought by many to be the cause of AIDS—are automatically reported to government health authorities, many gay men are giving fake names to avoid ending up on a master list. By far the most popular name is Nancy

Reagan.

Colorado is one of 28 states that currently require name reporting of HIV positives. —Andrew Miller

I need a man (or woman)



JOSEPH STEFFAN Photo: Jim Marks

NEW YORK — Former Naval Academy Midshipman Joseph Steffan and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund are looking for one good man or woman.

A retired, high-ranking Naval officer is needed to submit an affidavit testifying to the feasibility and effective service of lesbians and gay men in the military.

Navy regulations, like those of all branches of the armed services, declare homosexuality incompatible with military service, and were used to discharge Steffan from the Academy six weeks before his graduation.

In response to the discharge, Lambda filed suit against the Navy, charging it with unconstitutional discrimination. Lambda recently won the first round of its challenge when Judge Oliver Gasch of the Federal District Court in Washington, D.C. denied the government's motion to dismiss the case.

on-going legal attempt to overturn Section 21.06. "Even though it's not enforced," said Thomas, "we can at least show that they use it."

Many other major American cities recruit gay men and lesbians for police jobs by going into the gay community. In Philadelphia last month, police officials set up a recruitment table inside Giovanni's room, the city's gay/lesbian bookstore. —*Rex Wockner*

Out of doors? Out of luck.

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA—A San Jose municipal court judge ruled here August 18 that a police crackdown on gay men engaging in public sex near the downtown area of the city was not "in any way motivated by anti-gay bias" on the part of police.

Judge Douglas Southard rejected defense arguments on behalf of 18 gay men that, excluding heterosexual prostitution charges, a statistical analysis of sexual arrests over an 18-month period showed 78 citations of gay men for late-night sexual conduct but none against heterosexuals for similar public sexual behavior.

Attorney Bruce Nickerson, who handled the defense for the 18 gay men, told the court the gay sex offenses did not involve money and should therefore not be included with prostitution in the comparison of police arrests.

Southard wrote in his decision, "There is no reason homosexual offenders should expect preferential treatment for similar conduct. Prostitutes and their 'dates' are given no special consideration because they are heterosexual, male or female."

His decision continued, "Thoughtful supporters of homosexual rights should be embarrassed...by the implication of such behavior,



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Out Takes

The court has set a timetable for deciding the constitutionality of the Navy's regulations, and the affidavit, declaring that lesbians and gay men have served and are serving effectively in the military, and that they are accepted by their peers, must be filed by this fall.

Anyone in a position to provide such testimony can contact Sandra Lowe, Lambda staff attorney, at (212) 995-8585.

—Andrew Miller

No more mystery

MUSCATINE, IOWA—Time ran out August 18 for the Muscatine, Iowa city council to override Mayor Don LeMar's July 19 veto of this small city's gay rights ordinance. The ordinance had passed the council July 6 on a 4-3 vote.

But according to city council member Jerry Amerine, the ordinance may well make a return appearance following November's mayoral election.

Amerine and others say LeMar actually favors the ordinance and only vetoed it for fear of losing his post. LeMar won the last election by only 36 votes.

Twelve hundred people wrote LeMar letters and another 300 called him at home to help him make up his mind. Muscatine has a population of 23,000.

According to city councillor Larry Kemp, "No one called saying that they were gay and that they supported the ordinance...from any place in the world."

The Muscatine ordinance was highly unusual because it was initiated by the city's Human Rights Commission without any lobbying from gay or lesbian citizens.

In fact, there are no openly gay or lesbian citizens in Muscatine, according to LeMar, Amerine, *The Muscatine Journal* and the *Quad City Times*, in nearby Davenport.

The Human Rights Commission

studied the bill for a year before recommending that the city council pass it. In the beginning, all seven councillors supported the measure. But later, after the Christian fundamentalist group Concerned Citizens of Muscatine (CCM) got involved, three councillors turned against the bill.

CCM made extensive use of the local media to warn residents that the law would force churches, schools and youth organizations "to hire a person who practices and promotes homosexuality, incest, adultery, sadism or prostitution."

The ordinance would have banned discrimination in housing, employment, credit and the offering of services. Statewide, only the university town of Iowa City legally protects homosexuals from discrimination.

"I guess people just weren't ready for a change," Amerine said, looking back on the battle. "They think, 'If it ain't broke don't fix it.' They made it a moral issue instead of a human rights issue."

—Rex Wockner

Fowl is fair

DALLAS—If you want to be a police officer in Dallas, Texas, you "must not admit [to] nor have engaged in deviate sexual intercourse [or] sexual contact with a member of the same sex since age 15."

If, however, your particular youthful indiscretion was bestiality rather than homosexuality, then that's a different matter. In this case, you "must not admit [to] nor have engaged in deviate sexual intercourse [or] sexual contact...with any animal or fowl since age 17."

A copy of the Dallas Police Department hiring policies found its way into the hands of the Dallas Gay Alliance (DGA) last week. DGA officers were livid.

"Texas is predominantly a rural state and Texans are predominantly ignorant about sexual relationships,"



DGA's JOHN THOMAS

Photo: Rex Wockner

said DGA activist John Thomas. "So, they really are more comfortable with the idea of sex with animals and fowl than with their own sexual desires for someone of the same sex."

Thomas and three other local activists—angered by the guidelines, which came to light after the police recently rejected an open lesbian applicant—have decided to go head-to-head with the Dallas P.D.

They recently realized, they say, that their life's ambition is to serve their fellow citizens as officers of the peace. They have filled out applications to work as cops.

If it weren't for the homosexual exclusion, the Dallas Police Department would probably be happy about this. They desperately need 83 new officers by September 1.

But police say their anti-gay policy will stand as long as Thomas, B.J. Anderson, Don Hervey, Dan Sopko and all other practicing homosexuals in Texas continue breaking the law.

Law-breakers, of course, are prohibited from being police officers. And Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code defines homosexual sex as "deviate sexual behavior, a Class C misdemeanor punishable by fines up to \$200."

DGA officers hope the new publicity surrounding the "better-a-chicken-than-a-cock" policy will bolster an

week, the commission also fined John and Agnes Donahue \$8,260 for refusing to rent an apartment to Verna Terry and Robert Wilder in Downey, California, in 1987. The Donahues, who are Roman Catholics, told the commission they believe sex outside marriage is a sin and that helping anyone to commit a sin also violates their religious beliefs.

"As Christians we are being persecuted," Smith said following the decision.

Beverly LaHaye, founder and president of the conservative group, Concerned Women of America, announced from her Washington, D.C. headquarters that her organization hoped to appeal the Smith case eventually to the U.S. Supreme Court. Concerned Women of America has been paying the legal fees so far in the Smith case.

Smith told an administrative judge at the initial hearing that renting to unwed couples would make her a "wimp Christian" and that she would not be able "to join my husband in the hereafter" as a result. During the hearing, Smith also said she still refuses to rent to unmarried couples.

—Keith Clark

AC/D.C.?

WESTPORT, CT—A man claiming to have been the lover of Rep. Stewart B. McKinney (R-CT) has announced he will challenge the late congressman's will and a physician's report that McKinney contracted AIDS through a blood transfusion.

Arnold R. Denson, a real estate agent now living in Whitesburg, GA, claims that he was McKinney's lover for five years and that the two shared a house in Washington while McKinney's wife remained in Connecticut.

McKinney, a liberal Republican and vocal supporter of homeless and gay/lesbian rights, died May 9, 1989 of AIDS-related complications shortly after spending the night on the cold streets of Washington as part of a homeless rights demonstration.

Lucie McKinney has continued to deny widespread reports of her hus-

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Out Takes

which so unfortunately tends to reinforce the negative stereotypes which the gay community has fought so hard to destroy."

Most of the 18 men had been cited for public sex acts that took place in parked cars, parking garages or park areas near downtown San Jose.

Defense attorney Nickerson was not available for comment on whether his clients would appeal the ruling.

—*Kelth Clark*

Quilt calls it quits

SAN FRANCISCO — As the AIDS epidemic surpassed the 100,000 mark in July, one additional victim in the almost relentless toll was the Names Project's massive quilt.

Although Names Project spokesperson Dan Sauro said that the organization will continue to collect panels and to display portions of the quilt around the country and in Canada, the October 6 through 8 display in Washington, D.C. will be the last full showing of the quilt. The magnitude of the epidemic, with over 56,000 women and men dead from AIDS in this country alone, makes the finan-

cial and logistical problems of full displays in the future impossible, according to Sauro.

The display this fall, titled "Keep the Love Alive," will follow on the heels of a conference of the National Association of People With AIDS. The quilt will be unfolded and refolded every day for three days at the Ellipse, on the south side of the White House.

Some 2,500 volunteers will be required for the three-day showing, which will cost about \$165,000, \$90,000 of which will come directly from the Names Project.

During the Columbus Day/Yom Kippur display, organizers will conduct seminars on AIDS, a federal legislation update, and a candlelight march to the Lincoln Memorial October 7. First Lady Barbara Bush has been invited to make a special visit to the display as well, according to organizers.

—*Kelth Clark*

Tossed out, cashed in

CHICAGO—Forty-five gay men who were harassed by agents of the

Northeastern Illinois Metropolitan Enforcement Group (NIMEG) during the 1985 raid at Carol's Speakeasy, a Chicago gay bar, have been offered more than \$5,000 compensation each under an agreement hammered out in a class action lawsuit brought by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

The money was offered by attorneys for the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago August 17 before Judge Suzanne Conlon in U.S. District Court. Conlon will decide this week whether to accept the settlement.

According to ACLU Illinois legal director Harvey Grossman, the tentative class-action settlement would be the first ever to result from alleged improper action by law enforcement officials during a gay bar raid.

The lawsuit charged that 15 NIMEG agents went to Carol's on Sept. 12, 1985 with arrest warrants for two employees and then forced all the customers to lie on the floor for two hours while photographing them and hurling anti-gay insults.

—*Rex Wockner*

Unwed? No bed.

CHICO, CALIFORNIA—In 1987 Evelyn Smith advertised to rent part of a duplex she owns and Gail Randall, a California State University student here, and Ken Phillips, a landscaper, answered the ad. But when they admitted to Smith that they weren't married, the landlady refused to rent to them or any other unmarried couples whom she considers "fornicators."

The California fair employment and housing commission on August 17, however, ordered Smith to pay the couple, who are no longer a couple, \$1,000 in damages for her refusal to rent to them. The devoutly religious fundamentalist Presbyterian Smith vowed immediately to fight the ruling in the courts.

In a similar case earlier in the



NAMES PROJECT'S QUILT IN ALBANY

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

Out Takes

band's homosexuality and insisted that he contracted AIDS through a 1979 blood transfusion.

In his will, Rep. McKinney left a 40 percent share of the Washington house, all personal effects in the house and his car to Denson, all worth a total of \$59,200. Denson, however, has not received any of his inheritance and is now challenging the will in Probate Court.

In an Aug. 21 press conference here, Denson made public personal records and photographs of him and McKinney to back up his claim. Denson has told the press that the McKinney family was informed of the two men's relationship while McKinney was on his deathbed and was told that if he kept the relationship secret he would receive his share of the inheritance.

Since then, Denson has reportedly returned to Georgia where calls to his home number have gone unreturned.

—Cliff O'Neill

Movin' on up

LOS ANGELES — National Gay Rights Advocates, the nation's largest public interest law firm representing gay men and lesbians in civil rights

See OUT TAKES on page 78



NGRA'S ANN BRADLEY

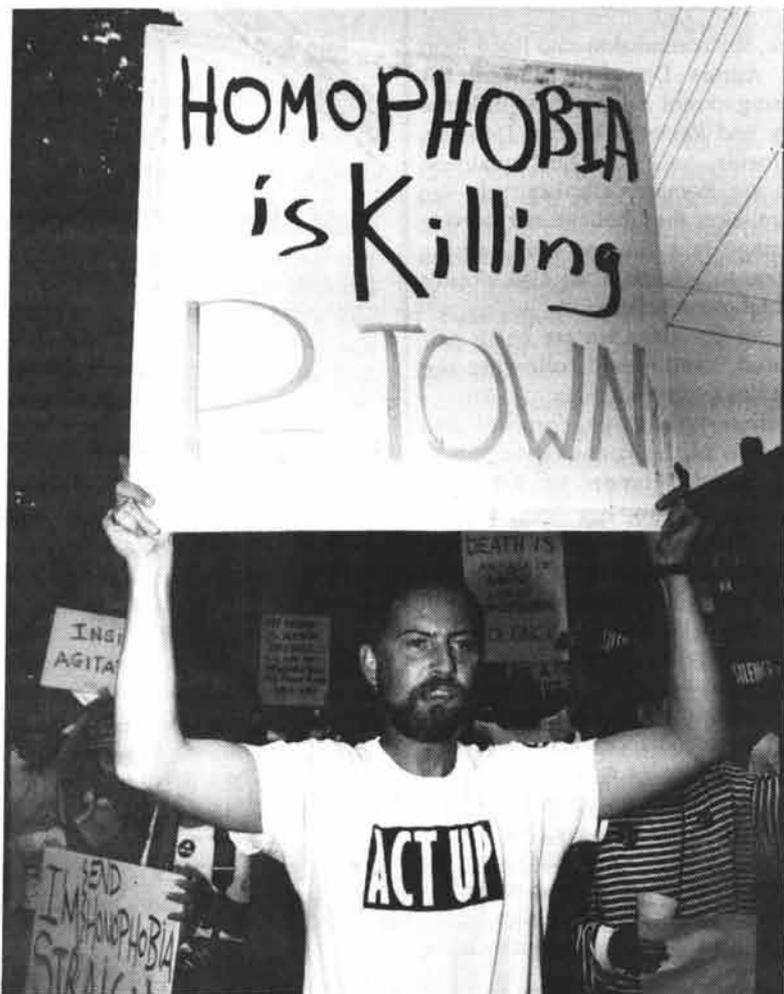


Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

PROVINCETOWN — Instead of a parade of glittering floats bearing the names of businesses, a loud activist march on August 16 signalled the beginning of Carnival Week in Provincetown this year. The parade, designed to encourage tourism, is sponsored by the predominantly gay Provincetown Business Guild, which said it cancelled this year's festivities for safety reasons.

The Guild said it received anonymous threats of violence against parade participants. Many felt the alleged threats, and the subsequent cancellation, were directed at ACT UP/Provincetown's participation in the parade. Together with members of ACT UP/New York, the group led its own "March Against Homophobia" down Commercial Street.

A sign that read "legalize butt fucking" and "legalize clit licking," carried by a member of ACT UP in Provincetown's gay and lesbian pride march last month sparked a huge, ongoing controversy. Gay and straight residents alike, and particularly members of the PBG, lined up to condemn the sign, and the group which accompanied it.

Reverend Keith Boyles (pictured above), a gay minister who organized the July 4 march, was publicly denounced, and fired by the coalition of churches that sponsors the yearly event. He returned last week to take part in ACT UP's demonstration, originally planned to be part of the carnival festivities.

ACT UP has charged that despite its reputation as a lesbian and gay vacation mecca, Provincetown is rife with homophobic attitudes and anti-gay violence.

—Masha Gessen and Andrew Miller

In Our Own Hands

How to Avoid Being a Handicap to the Disabled

Hints for the Temporarily Able-Bodied

by Kim Christensen

1. Realize that ableism (anti-disabled attitudes) and lack of access to all of the major institutions in this society (education, transportation, etc.) are at least as "disabling" to us as our physical differences or conditions. My joint disease makes me different. But the stairs in the subway stations, the lack of curb cuts and the lack of an accessible women's room at the Lesbian/Gay Community Center make me disabled; i.e., unable to participate fully in this community.

2. One out of six people in the U.S. today is disabled (these figures are even higher among African-American and Latino communities). But where are we? Shut away in the institutions and isolated in homes, unwelcome in a society that was literally not built for us.

A commitment to access for all disabled people (including PWAs) means holding all of our events in wheelchair accessible spaces, with accessible bathrooms for both men and women (and if the events absolutely can't be made accessible, they should be advertised as inaccessible). Access means hiring American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters (or at least making it clear that one will be provided if needed).

3. Disabled people's bodies (especially disabled women's bodies) are often perceived to be, and treated like, public property. While using a wheelchair, a cane or braces, I've had total strangers come up to me on the street and ask, "What's *wrong* with you?" (Correct answer, "What's wrong with your manners?") or "What did you *do* to yourself?" (Correct answer,

"Oh, I was bored last week, and decided to try skydiving without a parachute.") Don't presume that you have the right to ask personal questions like this to a disabled person you don't know. As a general rule, if you don't know somebody well enough to ask them about their sex life, don't ask them about their disability.

4. When arguing a pro-choice position, avoid ableist and eugenicist arguments about needing to abort "defective" fetuses. (This applies whether the "defect" is HIV positivity,



or a genetic or other difference.) Women, of course, have the right to choose to terminate a pregnancy. But the "defective fetus" argument makes disability into a "personal tragedy" rather than the political problem (of the lack of social, medical and other supports for disabled children) that it actually is.

5. Don't presume that any person you meet is able-bodied. Many disabilities aren't "obvious."

6. Realize that the support systems, medical and otherwise, for dis-

abled and ill people in this country are terrible (this is especially true for lesbian/gay/bisexual people, who are often alienated from our families of origin, and for poor people, who can't afford those services which do exist). We have begun to build some of these support services for PWAs—from being "on call" for medical emergencies, to advocating for a disabled/ill person who has to deal with the medical establishment, to food shopping and filling prescriptions. It is wonderful that we are beginning to do this for each other around AIDS. Now we have to expand these commitments to each other, and begin to provide these services for each other whether it is AIDS or something else which is causing our illness/disability.

7. Would you consider being lovers with someone in a wheelchair? (If not, why not?) Don't assume that disabled people are asexual. The prevailing definitions of "attractive," in the lesbian/gay/bi, as well as the straight community, are profoundly anti-disabled (as well as ageist, racist and anti-fat).

8. When interacting with a wheelchair user (Not wheelchair-bound, please!): (1) Don't lean on the back of the chair; they're often unstable. (2) If you are talking to the person for any length of time, sit or squat to get to his/her level. (3) In general: Don't assume that you know what the person needs. Ask.

9. Learn about the history of the disability rights movement in this country—including the accessibility sit-ins by the Disabled People's Liberation Front, the protests at Galludet University for the Deaf, and

See HANDICAP on page 68

AZT and the Diversionary "Track"

by Mark Harrington

Early on Thursday, August 17, Federal AIDS Program Director Dr. Anthony Fauci called 10 prominent AIDS reporters to give them a scoop: a press conference would be held that afternoon announcing that people with HIV who had no symptoms could delay the onset of AIDS by taking AZT.

The announcement of any results, promising or not, from a Federal AIDS trial was long overdue. For three years now, these trials have been limping along, slowly accruing patients, rapidly losing many because of bad trial design, testing mediocre treatments and denying people access to promising ones.

It is not generally considered responsible scientific behavior to announce research results at a press conference.

Scientific practice calls for results to be submitted to outside experts for peer review. Then an article is published in a medical journal.

Thus it was highly unusual when Dr. Fauci stood with Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan, Assistant Secretary for Health James Mason, and Commissioner of Food and Drugs Frank Young announcing the premature termination of part of Federal AIDS trial 019.

This single trial accounted for over half the 7,046 Americans enrolled in Federally-sponsored AIDS studies. It was a two-year study of

AZT in asymptomatic HIV-infected persons—people who had no clinical signs of disease, but who tested positive for HIV antibodies. The trial divided subjects into three groups of equal size. One third got full-dose AZT (1500 milligrams daily). One third got a lower dose (500 mg/day). The last third got a placebo. They had to take three small capsules five times a day, but the capsules were physiologically inert.

The trial was stopped in the 1,300 subjects who entered the trial with fewer than 500 T4-cells. This was because twice as many placebo recipients progressed to ARC or AIDS than those receiving *either* dose of AZT: 38

The research establishment has one set of standards for the unfortunate outsiders who want *their* drugs tested, and another, less stringent standard for *itself*, waiving all the rules for political gain.

This was the second time in two weeks that major new information about AZT was released at a press conference. The first press conference was called to announce the end of trial 916, of AZT in people with early ARC. According to that press release, AZT delayed progression from early to late ARC or AIDS by at least 50 percent. Again, no hard data were released.

What are the medical implications?

It is not generally considered responsible scientific behavior to announce research results at a press conference. Scientific practice calls for results to be submitted to outside experts for peer review.

First of all, it stands to reason that if AZT is at all active in people with *advanced* HIV infection, that it would work as well or better in people with earlier stages. Drugs operate in blissful ignorance of the Centers for Disease Control

placebo takers progressed, versus 19 on high dose AZT and 17 on low dose AZT. Few of the subjects experienced any of AZT's well-known blood toxicities. All of those in the trial with fewer than 500 T4 cells may now receive AZT if they choose to.

Or so we are to believe. No data were released to support these claims. It was science by press release. Only last year, Federal AIDS officials bitterly attacked sponsors of other drugs, such as IMREG-1 and Peptide T, for releasing preliminary results at the Stockholm AIDS conference before submitting them for peer review.

(CDC) and its outdated definition of "AIDS," which ignores some fatal HIV complications and lumps others indiscriminately together.

Henceforth, we shall have to insist that when treatments prove effective against HIV in people with AIDS, that they be tested concurrently in people with earlier stages of disease.

Second, AZT appears to be less toxic in people with early ARC or asymptomatics. At least the press release said so. But how do we *know*? We don't. Some AZT toxicity develops only after long-term use. In Montreal, Florida researcher Dr. Margaret Fischl

reported that about 20 percent of long-term (40 weeks or more) AZT users developed muscle degeneration (myopathy). This applied to AZT users who had ARC, not just AIDS. What evidence, if any, is there about this condition from the new studies?

Third, what will be the impact of early AZT use on the much-feared "resistant viral isolates"? If HIV is much less active in early infection, then it replicates less frequently. Hence the virus has less chance to mutate into a resistant form. What, if anything, do the new results tell us about this possibility?

Fourth, what is the impact on the finding that 500 mg/day is just as good as 1500? (In a study reported in July, Dr. Fischl reported that 600 mg was just as good as 1200 mg, and caused less white blood cell deficiency). First of all, it strongly implies that the original dosage was *far too high*. Thousands of PWAs became transfusion dependent or developed infections because AZT suppressed their bone marrow. The original dose was too high, too toxic, and medically unjustifiable.

We will have to be vigilant in the future to demand dose-comparison studies early in the testing of new antiviral drugs. There is a very real danger that such mistakes could recur if AIDS advocates do not insist upon careful safety monitoring in both controlled trials and the Parallel Track.

Fifth, how will the wider use of AZT which the NIH, the FDA and Burroughs-Wellcome are about to recommend change the natural history of HIV infection?

It will *not* change it at all unless people can afford AZT. Even with low dose, the cost will be over \$3,000 annually. The Federal subsidy for AZT is scheduled to run out in September. Senators with covertly genocidal instincts are beginning to chorus "why



FAUCI: Media extravaganza

should we treat AIDS differently from other diseases?" (There are two answers: 1) AIDS is an *infectious*, rapidly spreading *epidemic*, which strikes people down in their prime; 2) we can *save* the lives of most HIV-infected people, and not doing so would condemn to death over one million Americans who are gay, people of color, or both.)

There was another reason for the sudden press conference August 17. The Federal AIDS establishment was on the verge of ceding significant power to AIDS advocates. At the very moment Drs. Sullivan, Mason, Young and Fauci held their press conference, an FDA advisory committee meeting in Bethesda was on the verge of recommending that ACT UP and Project Inform have full voting membership on the Parallel Track Advisory Committee. Staging a media extravaganza to announce the latest findings on that tired pharmaceutical warhorse, AZT, was an effective way to guarantee that the historic Parallel Track meeting would go unrecorded in the major media. It was a sleazy tactic, but it worked. Nonetheless, the AIDS community had forced the FDA to give up a massive chunk of its power. The monolithic bureaucracy is fast crumbling. Stay tuned. ▼

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After Woodstock

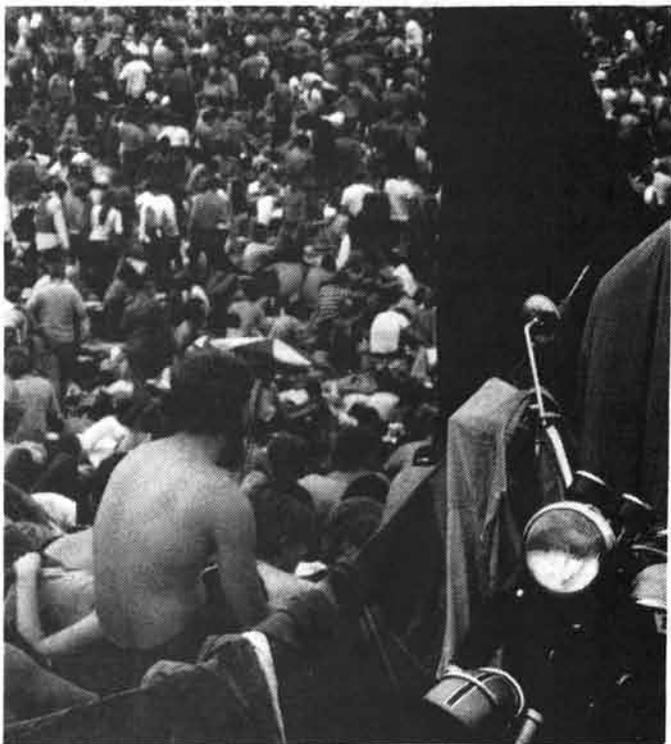
I went back to Yasgur's Farm. But it wasn't the same without Joe. We were a typical late 60s couple who met at the Jersey Shore during the summer of love. As my guide into the radical 60s, Joe led me from the repressive climate of a small Catholic women's college and into the exciting world of alternative culture. Since Joe was a music reviewer who got free tickets, we were regulars at the Capitol Theater in Passaic and the Fillmore East in Manhattan. Nothing could have kept us two rockers from the now-legendary Woodstock Festival. We even had tickets.

Twenty years ago this month, Joe and I wandered through the rain and mud looking for Tom, the friend who'd introduced us. Tom had been drafted into the army, (which meant going to Vietnam) and was scheduled to leave that Monday. What a bummer! We had to find him to say goodbye. By some small miracle, we bumped into him amidst the thousands of other long-haired, scraggly, wet people (by a miracle, he got a last minute deferment). Tom is now happily married, owns a condo in New Jersey and works in municipal government.

Joe's story is different. About three years after Woodstock, he came out to me. I remember being confused because he wanted men—not me. I wasn't prejudiced against gays, just upset about losing my boyfriend. Yet we remained friends. We were attracted to each other's personalities, interests, tastes, politics and sense of humor. Several years later, I came out.

Having gay male friends made it easier to come out as a lesbian.

I moved to the East Village and began freelancing. Joe moved to the Upper West Side and became a trade magazine editor. I'd hoped we'd see each other after we both moved to Manhattan, but Joe was involved with his Fire Island friends and I got "married." Although we didn't see each other



that much, we stayed in touch over the years, encouraging each other's careers and relationships. We'd shared such a long, involved history—no question my life would have been different if we hadn't met. Joe encouraged me to become a rock reviewer—and that launched my writing career.

Joe died of AIDS this past May. Whenever I hear certain songs from the Rolling Stones or The Who (his two favorite 60s groups), I think about him. Whenever my teenage

nieces ask me about Woodstock, I tell them about us—wet, cold, tired, but too wired to fall asleep. Whenever I flash back to that weekend of sex, drugs, rock 'n roll, youthful idealism, no one would have believed it if someone told us that 20 years from now, a terrible sexually-transmitted virus would kill off thousands of young people, and scientists couldn't find a cure. No one would have believed that. We thought we could change the world.

As I look back, it's ironic. At Woodstock we were worried about our friends getting killed in some rice paddy in a foreign country, yet today I know lots more people who've died from AIDS than who died in the Vietnam War. But just like with Vietnam, it took too long for people to wake up about AIDS. If people had been more responsive at the beginning of the epidemic, maybe Joe and I would be swapping Woodstock stories.

I bet we'd be laughing about how goofy I looked coming home in his brother's bell bottoms (everything else I'd brought got soaked). Or we'd be laughing about eating the Hog Farm's goopy gruel (we couldn't get out to reach a store). Or we'd be amazed at how we stayed alert for so many hours with almost no sleep (we couldn't possibly miss the next super group). But mostly, I think we'd recall the natural high of spending three days with thousands of other people committed to changing government policies. Today whenever I march for women's rights or lesbian and gay rights or demonstrate for AIDS action, it's that part of Woodstock I still carry with me. ▼

OUT OF CONTROL

Commentary by Susie Day

"You're much too hostile," my therapist said. "Why don't you—in your own words—try to *thank* the people who cause you momentary grief and annoyance? After all, they are the agents of your own personal growth."

"OK," I retorted. I spent all last Thursday being grateful.

Dear Jesse Helms,

Thank you for proposing that innovative amendment slashing the NEA's budget because you didn't like Robert Mapplethorpe's or Andres Serrano's photography. I was just saying the other day how unresponsive the Senate was to art, but then you go and prove me wrong. Your sensitive use of the words "vulgar" and "sick" in describing Mapplethorpe's work and the astute phraseology in your amendment, says to me that you, Jesse Helms, are a *ne plus ultra* of art criticism. And I should know, too.

I am a recent recipient of the "Draw Binky" Art Scholarship. This prestigious award is given to select magazine readers who demonstrate artistic promise in copying the duckie wearing the rainhat, then enrolling in

the Apex Correspondence School of Art. I suspect that I was one of the lucky few chosen for a scholarship because I wrote on my entry form that my work "sought to promote moral uplift and eschew filth." The trouble is that, being a lesbian, I can't always tell the difference. That's where I need your help.

I am enclosing slides of some of my work for you to impartially criti-



cize. What, for instance, do you think of my full-color painting entitled "Bunny in Meat Grinder"? It was my first serious work, so I worry that the religious symbology of Bunny/Christ; Meat Grinder/World is a little too vague. Do you think it would have

more moral uplift if I had the little fellow rolling a giant, painted egg away from the tomb?

The one of the two cervixes mud-wrestling amidst a crowd of cheering condoms is from my "mauve" period, when I was trying to mix social change with surrealism. In it, I attempt to depict the debasement of Woman by an oppressive secular humanist cadre of non-church-going males. I admit I borrowed the idea of the melting stopwatch from a Dali painting, in order to ask the visual question, "When will it all end?"

The next picture, called "Food Chain," is the only painting I've done without using actual models. The nuns slamming colostomy bags over one another's heads might therefore seem disproportionately larger than the kindergartners who are eating rotten meat in light-hearted abandon. Oh—see the woman in the lower left corner, wearing the leather jumpsuit and pressing her spiked heel into Oliver North's navel? That's me! I wanted to convey, in a deeply personal manner, North's subjugation at the hands [and feet] of self-indulgent, power-hungry liberals.

Do you think I have any talent, Jesse? I know you're busy, but if you could take a minute to tell me how to achieve that winning blend of art and politics, I'd be so grateful. I intend to follow your recommendations to the letter! Then, after I've improved enough, maybe you could use your artistic pull with Congress and get me a nice, fat NEA grant.

—Yours in Art

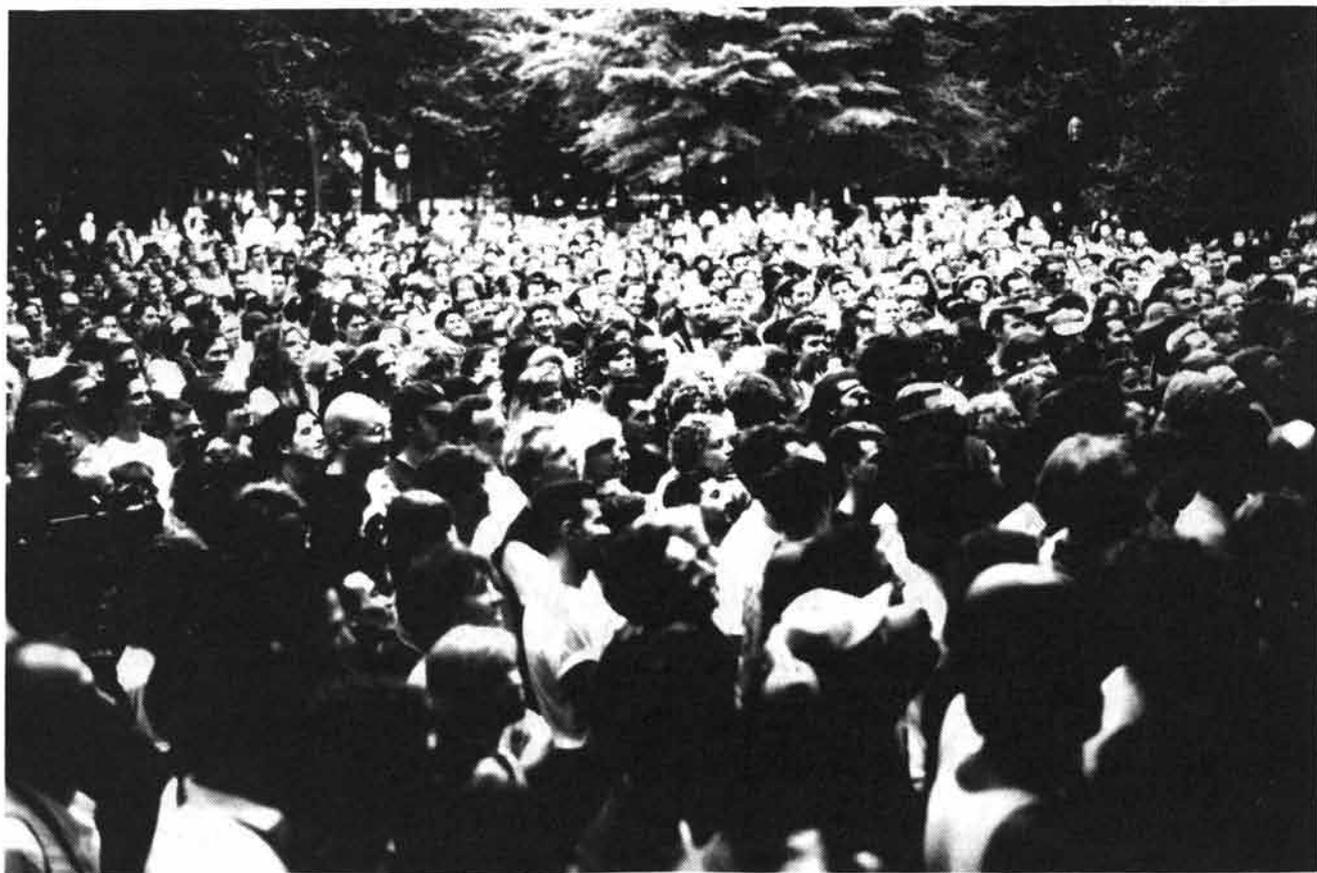
A Consenting Adult

in *Wigstock*, it's second nature.

One night in the spring of 1984, Bunny, Brian Butterick, Wendy Wild, Michael "Kitty" Ullman and members of the as-yet unformed *Love Delegation* were in the park when a drunken conversation turned to the idea of having a daytime rock concert in the band shell. Since these people were involved with the Pyramid Club (started by Butterick, Sister Dimension and Bobby Bradley in 1981, and for years headquarters to the East Village queen scene), it had to have drag queens. Butterick, Ullman and Peter Zaremba, being rock queens from way back, hit on the idea of Woodstock (after all, what period better mixed rock with flamboyant fashions suited for drag queens?). But it was Bunny who took up the idea, got the needed permits from the Department of Parks and the police and organized the event. Now, in 1989, she's presenting the fifth annual Wigstock with "every East Village performance-art type queen" in the downtown scene. A partial list of the over 40 acts includes Bunny herself, Hapi Phace, TABOO!, Sister Dimension (all queens who made the Pyramid scene), Ethyl Eichelberger (the Grand Dame of performing queens), those Gallic grove-makers French Twist, Wendy Wild as the amphetamine "Joey Heatherock," Phoebe Legere, dancer Michael Clark, the rocking psychedelic soul of Peter Zaremba and the Love Delegation, Joey Arias, the Boy Bar Beauties, comedian Barbara Patterson Lloyd and the wildly entertaining Suhkreet Gable.

Born in Chattanooga, Bunny came to New York in 1983 as a traveling companion for Ru Paul and Larry Tee's band from Atlanta, the *Now Explosion*. They had met in college in Atlanta and knew each other when Bunny, who did a baton twirling act, was crowned "Miss 688" at a local "alternative rock" bar. Although Bunny had been in drag before, it wasn't until she came to New York and found the Pyramid on Avenue A that she became the performer she is today.

She started dancing on the bar ("To think that someone wanted to pay me to dress up and dance for them was so thrilling!"). Then came bit parts in Pyramid productions like "Charlie's Angels." Her first solo performance was a lip-synch to "I Will Survive." In the middle of the song, she was blinded by the lights and fell into the audience. Having had her first taste of audience response as the crowd roared, she bounced back on stage, the song personified. She became known for her energetic renditions of Patti Labelle songs. For a long time no other drag queen dared attempt a lip-synch to her tour de force, "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." Unlike most drag queens, the Lady Bunny also sings, usually to backing tracks of famous songs. (She does the most credi-



WIGGIN' OUT
The crowd at Wigstock '88

Photo: Todd Eberle

Bunny's Obsession!

Rick Sugden Talks to Wigstock's Lady in Question About Her Annual East Village Ritual

"By the time we got to WIGSTOCK we were several thousand falls... And I dreamed I saw the drag queens spraying hair spray in the sky and it made all the yuppies die"
—John Kelly's variation on the song "Woodstock"



The crowd at Tompkins Square Park—numbering in the thousands—is silent and focused on the beautiful singer on stage. When she throws her head back her long, straight, brown fall sweeps off her shoulders revealing a finely sculpted profile. The octave swoop and the giggles are so artfully done they send chills down your spine. You'd swear that Joni had decided to bless us with her presence. Behind her are the musical instruments that the more than 50 performers scheduled for today will use. On the back wall of the band shell is a mural with caricatures of some of the drag queens that will perform: Lypsynka, Hapi Phace, the Connie Girl, and the curlicue trademark letters of the artist TABOO!—"Wigstock."

Just three weeks after the summer of 1988 Tompkins Square Riots, the park is alive with drag queens and their friends celebrating Peace, Love and Wigs! Flyers advertising the event read, "Have a riot in Tompkins Square Park." As "Joni" (performed by "Dagmar Onasis," as performed by John Kelly) finishes her variation on the song "Woodstock," the crowd rips open with applause and screams. People are flashing peace

signs and I feel a bit embarrassed at being on the verge of tears.

The "Lady" Bunny dashes up to the mike, "Let's hear it for Joni! She's so sweet! I don't know what *Wigstock* would be like without her. Isn't she special?" The crowd roars with approval as much for Bunny as for "Joni." Bunny has on a caftan number that resembles a table cloth from an Indian restaurant on 6th Street, worn so that the corners just barely cover her crotch and butt. Her glamour-nails are glittering and her make-up is, as always, the most understated of the overdone of the LES drag queens. Her wig (or is it wigs, it looks so big) is a blonde cascade with a bubble in the back that looks like a late-sixties Ann Margaret with a serious hairdo. She is waving a copy of the *Wigstock* program which, in a standard agreement with the Parks Department, she is forbidden to sell. "The suggested donation is one dollar and I suggest you pay it or you won't get one." After the next introduction, she heads to the side of the stage to watch the act, check her make-up and hair, make sure the next act is somewhere near prepared, and keep various rowdy types from mounting the stage. She does all this without panic because after four years of organizing and performing

THE LADY BUNNY
Photo: Ande Whylande

I put on has got to have a strong dose of the nutty and the ill-prepared," squeaks Bunny in her southern accent. *Wigstock*, and the entire mentality that personifies it, is something that requires a thinking audience. "I think sophisticated people have always enjoyed [drag queens]." Bunny thinks of her self-creation as a twisted Up-With-People kind of person. When I asked her who she thought personified the spirit of *Wigstock*, she said Carol Channing. "She's such a fool I can't believe she's made it this far."

After getting the permits, Bunny starts rounding up the performers. Scott Lifschutz does an equal amount of work designing posters, t-shirts, putting the program together, etc. Tom Rubinitz, the auteur of the video *Wigstock—The Movie* also greatly helps in the production. To raise money for the sound system and other expenses, Bunny sponsors fund raising events around town (this year she tried getting corporate sponsors from the "hip" liquor companies, but no luck). Of course, the madness and running around takes its toll on a drag queen.

"I have to make sure I eat lots of pork," she says. "Pork is the meat that makes you mean, it makes you aggressive and I'm such a sweet little country girl that in this dog-eat-dog world I need it to give myself that aggressive edge that a 'professional female impersonator' in New York has to have dealing with these shyster promoters." She giggles at her own outrageousness and ponders some of the problems of *Wigstock*. "It is difficult to use the bathroom. I'm glad that the paparazzi weren't around the year I was forced to go to the bathroom behind a tree in the park."

That was a lucky break for Bunny, as not only the paparazzi, but TV cameras too are now *Wigstock* staples, adding to the event's *glamour*. The performers at *Wigstock*, in fact, work for free, their pay-off being the honor—and publicity—of being a part of a LES tradition. Last year the networks CNN and MTV covered the event for reports that were shown repeatedly over the weekend. *Interview* had a full-page photo of a little girl wearing a wig. Reports have popped up on "Midnight Blue," the Manhattan Cable porn show, in *Details*, and the Italian magazine *Per Lui*. Al Goldstein's *Screw* said, in the year of the harmonic convergence, that *Wigstock* was "the hormonal convergence that ushered in the Age of Asparagus."

What exactly makes *Wigstock* such a popular event? The nostalgic homage to the 1969 concert is tangential—rock bands, beads, flowers and performers belting out a "peace and love" at the end of their set. Jesse Hultberg performs as *Peter, Paul and a Big Mary*, a one-person trio singing *Poof*, *the Magic Drag Queen* and *I'm Weaving on a Hair Piece*



PROUD MARY
Taboo!, Wigstock '88

Photo: Todd Eberle

(sung to the tune of *Leaving on a Jet Plane*). But the appeal is not limited to the 60s. For example, Lypsynka, the Russian Defectress, does routines from her off-Broadway show. The Boy Bar Beauties' 1988 crowd-pleasing rendition of *Afternoon Delight*, while nostalgic, has nothing to do with the generation of peace and love.

Wigstock is quintessential contemporary entertainment in its references to a past. It's an 80s post-modern nostalgia for authenticity and innocence. But what makes it so popular is that it is the only annual community event of its kind that takes place in the park. It is a celebration not so much of the 60s as a celebration of the renaissance of the gay sensibility that has taken place in the Lower East Side. Since the opening of the Pyramid, Avenue A and its environs have been a refuge for the rebellious funsters of the Queer Nation. Bunny speaks for a lot of us when she says she likes *Wigstock* because "it is such a sick treat to see these tramps out in broad daylight." ▼

Wigstock '89 takes place on Labor Day, September 4, in Tompkins Square Park (Avenue A between 7th Street and 10th Street). Shows are scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. and to continue until 10:00 p.m. Admission is free.



FLOWER VASE
Ming Vauze, Wigstock '88

Photo: Todd Eberle

ble cover of Bobbi Gentry's "Fancy" I have ever seen.) With ex-main squeeze Dimitri (currently with "Delite") and Sister Dimension, Bunny also had a band, "Shazork!" which made a stab at disco with a Pyramid in-house live recording of an original song, "Is It Up to Me?" Disco survived, but the song didn't and neither did the band.

Though the Lady Bunny is one of the most sought-after entertainers in the city, she supplements her theatrical income working on the 550-9999/Chicks with Dicks phone line. "It gives me an independence from relying on the shyster promoters in this city." She quickly adds, "Not that they are *all* shysters." The appeal of working the phone lines is that it is more relaxed, you don't have to dress up, and it is an easy way to get dates. "The guys [that call] are gay but it is just pushed so far back in their minds that they don't want to suck a dick unless it pops out from under a skirt." Is that what made a sweet southern boy with a sharp tongue a drag queen? "Maybe the pressures of being a sissy in the south pushed me into being a drag queen, I don't know. But I think it was the theatrical part that attracted me. I mean, when I saw my first queen my eyes popped out of my head and I knew I wanted to do that. It wasn't a sexual thing at all."

Although Bunny's performing passion is for the Black disco diva, especially her alter ego Patti LaBelle, she is quick to point out that she is not a "female impersonator" of the Judy-Barbara-Diana school; she's a drag queen. Female impersonators try to present a picture-perfect copy of their idols whereas performers like Bunny, Hapi and TABOO! create a spectacle that often relies on the deception being *deceived* by showing the cracks in the artifice. "My show that



PSYCHADELIC FUR?
Revelers at Wigstock '88

Photo: Todd Eberle

Inside the Gay Slave Trade



Champagne Activism, A-List Aryans and Pleasing the Ruling Class



by Jim Provenzano

"I'm thinking of starting a club for straight cater waiters," said my friend Ray. "Really?" I responded. "Where will you both meet?"

Of course the ratio of gays to straights isn't that unbalanced in the catering business, but it might be close. There are just too many great haircuts topping off those tuxes. Unfortunately, as two years in formal food service have shown, catering is one of the most hypocritical gay industries in New York City. It is one in which gay men and lesbians are exploited—many times by their "own kind"—and tossed off like the uneaten crudité scraped off Milton Petrie's gold-edged plate.

Most catering companies have

decidedly sexist and racist hiring policies. Few women are ever hired and people of all colors are predominantly excluded from the ranks, except Caucasian males with varying degrees of tanning bed tint. Among the hundreds of successful companies in the area, several have large and profitable accounts with the wealthiest people and corporations in the country. Each night in Metropolis thousands of young men and women, most of them gays and lesbians, converge on museums and meeting halls with a garment bag slung over a shoulder, a full black tuxedo inside. Ranging from the enormous top two, Glorious Food and Abigail Kirsch, to the small yet posh Food Lovers, the city is served by a variety of companies, each employing a discreet army of queer men and women in black.

Very few of these companies have

anything resembling a union policy. Except for a core group of captains and longtime employees, most waiters are paid about fifteen dollars an hour and hired only a few times a week by one company. This makes it easier to avoid employee benefits plans for such large crews, since most are part-time. It also leaves the waiters to find other kinds of work or alternate nights with other caterers.

It's not easy to describe the tenuous relationship between the overdressed, usually wealthy guests and the dapper gay men who serve them. (I will be speaking mostly of men since, due to the sexism, women cater waiters are very rare.) Unlike restaurant work, tipping is discouraged. Sometimes guests seem tolerant and even charmed to be served by so many handsome men, gay or not. More often, we're

just ignored. It's an odd chemistry. People can be quite rude as well as flirtatious. It's at the dinners where we're required to wear white gloves that the most insults can be overheard. Chat among diners occasionally becomes preoccupied with cleanliness, as if disease were transmitted by French service.

Most of the waiters I work with claim to be actors. Occasionally while we dress, flyers are passed about for someone's upcoming showcase, but most rely on catering to pay the rent. As the co-owner of a successful company stated in our training session, "You may call yourselves actors or singers, but you have chosen catering to make money. If you don't feel comfortable with that, you should get out of the business."

A lot of people I've talked with don't feel comfortable with that fact. Some have suffered such a mind bend, they turn down performing opportunities to do catering jobs. "What did you come to New York to do? Perform or fold napkins?" I ask them. Of course I know the value of a good paycheck, but the mental drain flares up in odd ways. "I want

to behead this creep," my friend Chet whispered to me one night, while we both stood directly behind the man, wine bottles poised in deceptive control. It seemed the man had put his cigar out in a votive candle at Chet's table. The cigar didn't piss Chet off so much as the decadent disregard for the table setting. To Chet, it symbolized the man's hatred for service people in general and toward him for being a handsome and threateningly gay man.

Though there are many like Chet and myself, catering seems to meet the

needs of gay men with a streak of the snob (I have a serious problem working under these conditions and have made the shift to other work). For thousands of handsome gay white men, catering is the preferred means of income. They have no qualms about serving medallions of veal to the CEO of Coors. They haven't a second thought about getting another scotch for William F. Buckley, who would rather see us all tattooed than tuxed. These gay waiters balance out their hypocrisy with the amusement of dishing Estee Lauder's latest luncheon outfit while slapping down her steak.

Some of the really cute guys are

through the ranks, while most are fed poorly, rushed through short breaks in nine to ten hour shifts.

The simple act of getting hired by a better paying company involves a stereotypically gay challenge: Who do you know in the company? Who have you slept with? Are you cute? In order to get an interview or the privilege of attending a tedious training session, most companies demand a mailed 8" X 10" headshot and a food service resumé. As in all cattle calls, good looks are tantamount. Short hair is essential and earrings a no-no. One uptown company supposedly has a computer file of waiters sorted by race

and hair color so the help can be distributed according to the bias of the client. The "A" list consists of squarejawed Aryan crewcut blonds with nary a straight boy among them.

What makes a gay man work under such conditions? I certainly can't speak for all cater waiters but, for me, it was greed and sloth. What other job offers as few as ten people to serve in a posh home or museum plus the opportunity

to glance at the Glamorous and Global for about a hundred bucks a night? Some waiters go so far as to delight in seeing the next days' "reviews" in the society columns. Perchance the *Times* will feature oneself or a friend, standing penguinlike in the background and slightly out of focus behind Ivana or Jackie O.

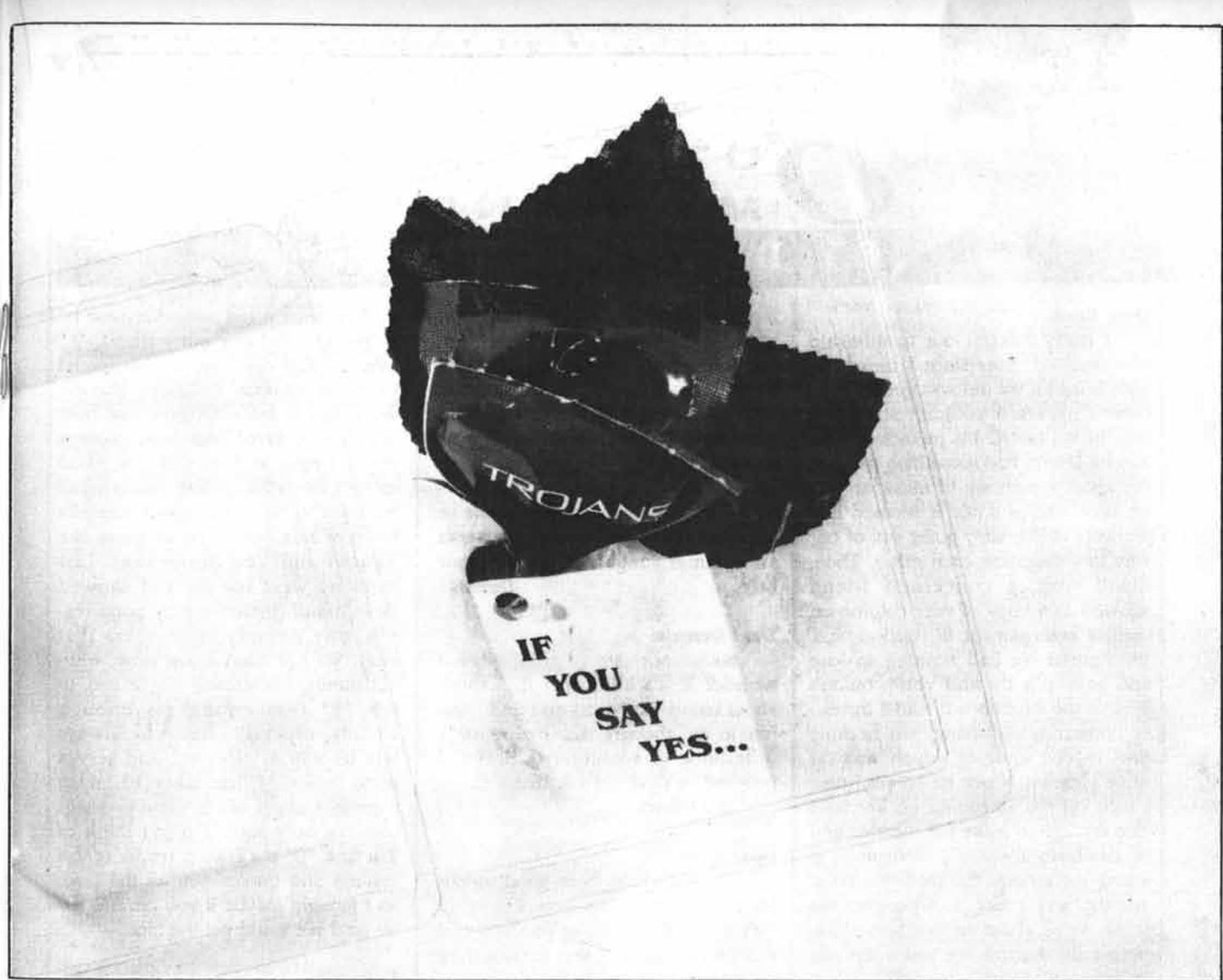
A prevalent shared fantasy among cater waiters, and one that perpetuates the industry's success, is the belief that through the business a lucky guy or gal

SLAVE TRADE continued on page 70



distinctly apathetic about lesbian and gay rights. One muscled hunk, fresh from the Midwest, told me he was gay but wasn't really interested in Stonewall and "all that stuff."

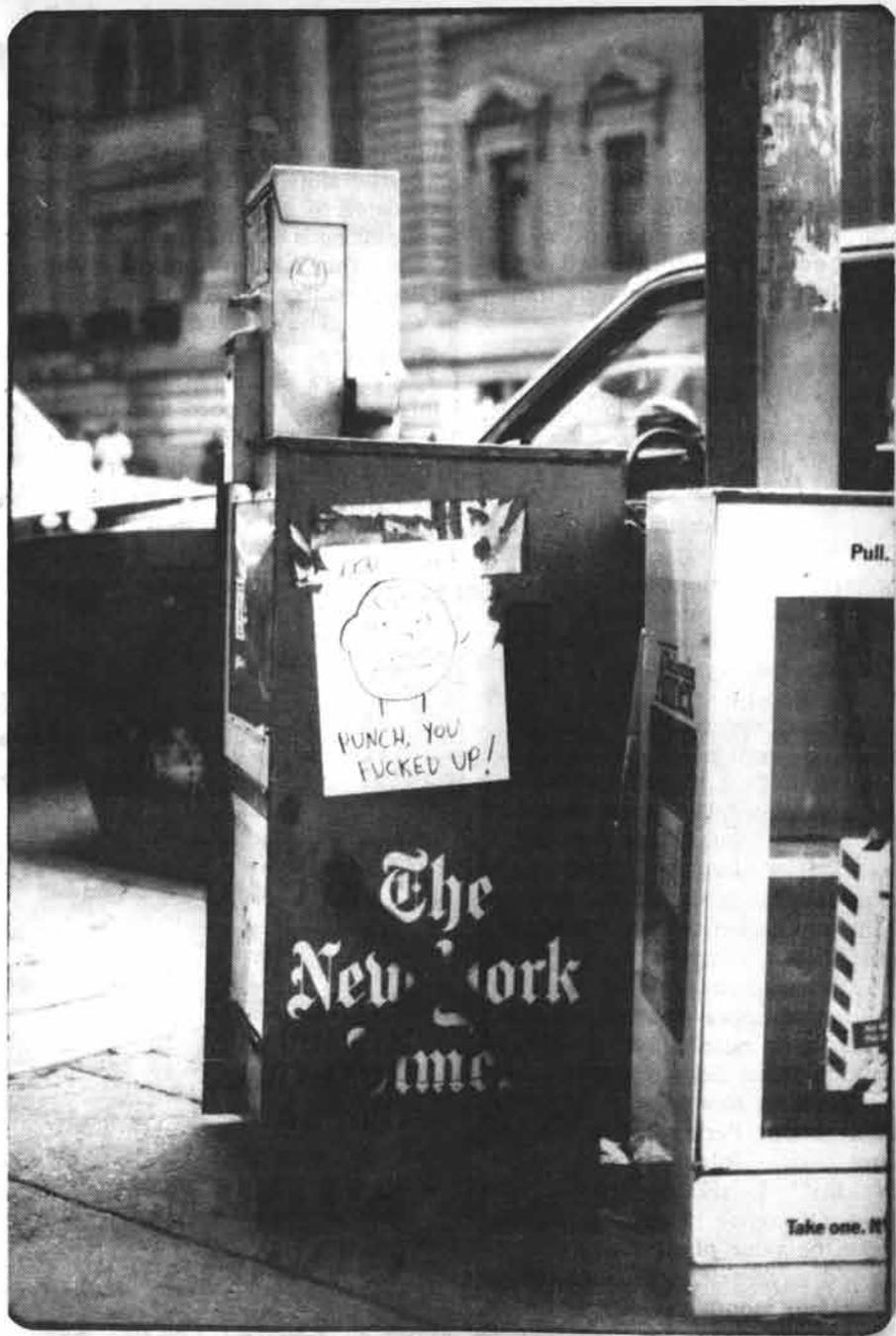
Gays and lesbians are also among the ranks of owners and managers in many companies. Some donate leftovers to AIDS hospices or God's Love We Deliver. However, the only place I've seen leftovers go after a big event is in the trash or in the bags of waiters. Along with rampant waste, inside elitism is high. The prettier workers rise



Someday soon we expect — and hope — condoms will fall out of Hallmark greeting cards when we open them up. 'Cause let's face it: rubbers are fast entering into that familiar Hall of Fame with baseball, apple pie and Chevrolet. And so it's only appropriate that the Fashion Institute of Technology will be housing a small display called *The Conspicuous Condom* (September 5-12), which, according to the press release, "is an unexpected, unpretentious, undogmatic, irreverent and witty

inquiry into contemporary culture." The display features condom packaging, advertising, specialties, T-shirts and gift items such as *Bed Rose* (pictured here), which can be found at card stores and specialty shops around Manhattan. Says curator Richard Martin: "In the past five years the condom has achieved visibility as an artifact and in polite discussion. An icon is being created in our own time out of an age-old secret; this exhibition studies the emergence of a new imagery."

—M.S.
Photo: Irving Solero



We rather like the all-new and improved design of the *New York Times* street vending machines which are making their debut all over town.

—M.S.

LOOKOUT

Photography by: T.L. Litt



By: Michelangelo Signorile

The *Daily News* put it on page two. ABC sent a slew of reporters. And *Newsday* listed the names of all 600 or so guests who were flown to Morocco. Of course we're speaking of that megalomaniacal, vicious show of American excess and waste: Malcolm Forbes' three million dollar (!) 70th birthday doo in Tangier.

As far as we're concerned the most fun and revealing item that came out of the whole gluttonous mess was the one headlined WHO WAS WITH WHOM IN TANGIER, in which Richard Johnson at Page Six (*New York Post*) printed the names of some of the more curious guests who shared rooms at Tangier's Hotel Solazur. And though Johnson could be accused of lesbian-baiting (since he's heterosexual, he's not allowed to say the things that we — or at least I — say about ourselves), one of his observations was most interesting: "Room 213 was listed to archeologist Iris Love and *Daily News* columnist Liz Smith." (FINGER SNAP!)

The big, fat Forbes bash was in fact the food for the gossips last week, especially the ones who kissed Malcolm's ass long enough so as to get themselves flown over to Morocco. When it was over, Liz Smith, Robin Leach and Richard Cohen (*Washington Post*) joined Ted Koppel for a "discussion" on *Nightline*. Only days before, Liz had defended the comparatively smaller Gayfryd Steinberg one-million-dollar party, writing, "it cost considerably less than the \$1 million everybody loves to guess at. My own educated reasoning is that it cost more like \$250,000 —

still a tidy sum, but hardly the national debt" (Oh, gee Liz, that makes me feel better).

On *Nightline*, Koppel framed the Forbes party as "excessive" and "extravagant" and then asked Liz, who kept reiterating that she was there "working," what she thought. "It was horrible," she answered, as I thought that finally Liz was gaining a conscience. But then she continued, "I mean, there was no air conditioning and the lines were too long."



An angry Cohen, who did not attend and who attacked Liz for her defense of Steinberg, lashed out at Forbes, saying the party was a nightmare simply because it happened "while people in the world are starving." Leach chuckled, pontificating

that the rich "have the right to spend their money the way they want." Koppel agreed, saying something grotesque about capitalism, while Liz jumped in calling Cohen a "moralist," and adding that "in these times of excess, these [million dollar or more] parties are just a drop in the bucket." Not my bucket, Liz baby!

Of course Cindy Adams (*New York Post*) wasn't invited on to *Nightline* for the "discussion," but did go to Tangier — and gave us daily reports in the *Post*, nauseatingly going on and on about Forbes and his "date" Elizabeth Taylor. Her homophobia even surfaced in her discussion of guest Walter Cronkite who "knows lots of queens — and not the Greenwich Village kind." Right Cindy. It's your friend Malcolm Forbes who knows that kind.

Which leads us to Billy (Goldberg) Norwich (*Daily News*), who also knows his share of that kind. And yet, he keeps on printing things like "Forbes' on-again, off-again sweetheart, Liz Taylor," while doing the Monaco thing with William F. Buckley, Henry Kissinger and the rest of the homophobic, murderous bunch. How glamorous! ▼

Things That Fucking Piss Me Off...

- telephone strikes (even though I support the union, I can't get a new princess phone)
- nasty letter carriers who won't give you your mail unless you show your key
- skinny people who eat like pigs
- apartment buildings in which the first floor is called "Ground" and the second floor is called "One"
- social climbers who sleep with your boyfriend
- dialing 11 digits and getting the wrong number
- co-workers who eat crunchy, nutty food
- roaches that don't respond to Combat
- gay men who say they're bisexual but identify gay and who like to get it from men but would rather sleep with women who are not so identified as heterosexual and who are ultimately, actually lesbians and therefore don't identify as straight but rather as lesbian-identified, bisexually-active women, all, of course, in which there is absolutely no penal penetration and no recognition of a sexual relationship in a public context

—M.S.



OUT OF MY HANDS

BY BRADLEY BALL

Dear Brad:

I really thought our relationship was doomed. Ever since I moved in with Brian all we did was get on each other's nerves. I couldn't stand the way he organized his medicine chest and he always had something nasty to say about my choice of music and so on until after a while it seemed like we were deliberately going out of our way to antagonize each other. Then, thank God, a concerned friend showed us a copy of your column on conflict management in relationships. We figured we had nothing to lose and gave it a try and you wouldn't believe the difference it made! Instead of constantly bickering, we became civil to one another which was far more pleasant. When he comes home I turn off the stereo so he knows I care enough to make the sacrifice and he has been absolutely meticulous in letting me arrange the medicine chest just the way I like it. Whenever we think we're about to say something potentially hurtful we just keep our

mouths shut and wait until that uneasy moment has passed. Sometimes we'll go for days without exchanging a harsh word. Everyone who predicted that our relationship wouldn't last the weekend is now amazed at the transformation. As an added bonus, because of our new-found reputation for quietness, we've been much in demand as houseguests all summer long! Thanks for your help.

-Dennis

Dear Dennis:

Sometimes, late at night, when I wonder if it's all worth it, I think about letters like yours and find comfort in the thought that I've made a difference in somebody's life. If I believed in God, I'd ask him to bless you. But I don't.

Dear Brad:

"B" and I have been good friends for nearly nine years now but lately he's really been testing the limits of that friendship. You see, he bought a

VCR in January and now everytime he invites me and our other friend, "J," over to play cards we're also forced to watch Vanessa Redgrave movies. We didn't know until now just how vast her body of film work was. It was all right at first with the good movies like *Blowup* and *Isadora* and we tried to be polite about *Camelot* but now he's moved on to things like *Agatha* and *The Bostonians*. Last night he went too far and showed *Bear Island* (there's a very good reason why nobody remembers that one). We just don't know how, without hurting his already fragile ego, to tell "B" that enough is enough already, especially since he always lets us win at "Hearts" and serves good liquor. "J" has taken to faking migraines to get out of these evenings and I'm only sorry I didn't think of that first. "B" is a faithful reader of this column and quotes you all the time, so I thought maybe if you ran this letter he'd see it and get the hint. -"G"

Dear "G":

To be quite honest, I don't exactly see what the problem is since Ms. Redgrave is undoubtedly the greatest living actress and brings an extraordinary luminescence even to the most dismal film. If, however, you and "J" are such philistines that you can't pleasantly participate in an elevating experience which obviously means a great deal to "B" then I suggest the you tell "B" to his face and not rely on this column to do your dirty work (and what could be dirtier than denying your "good friend" the simple pleasure of quality entertainment in his own home?). As I have recently been informed, conflicts can only be resolved by open and honest communication. Don't be surprised, however, if you and "J" have to recruit another patsy for your card games.

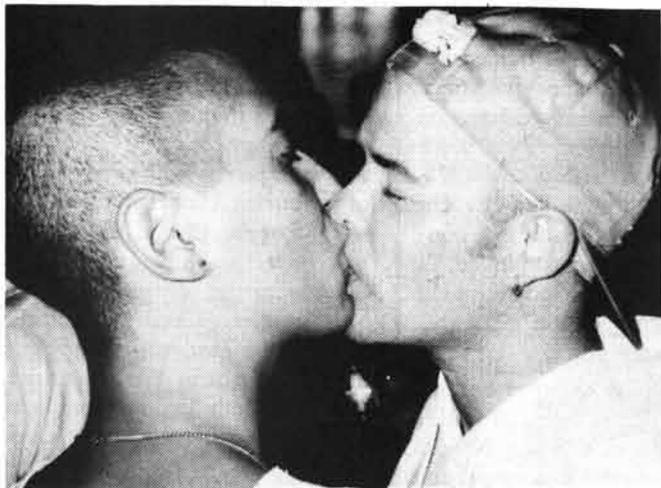
Numbers...

- Number of times a certain person in my life has broken up with and gotten back together with his lover 6
- Number of times he said "this time it's for real" 6
- Number of lesbians who own houses in the Pines 6
- Number of lesbians voting for Rudy Giuliani 4
- Number of times I've threatened to move to San Francisco in the past five years 36
- Number of times I've threatened to move to San Francisco in the past five months 32
- Number of openly gay Democrats in Congress 2
- Number of openly gay Republicans in Congress 0
- Number of gay Republican political club members who will give their names to the press 0
- Number of gay bars on the Upper West Side today 3
- Number of gay bars on the Upper West Side in 1983 9

-Andrew Miller

Social Terrorism

Photos by Erich Conrad



A KISS IS STILL A KISS
Lovers at Pyramid



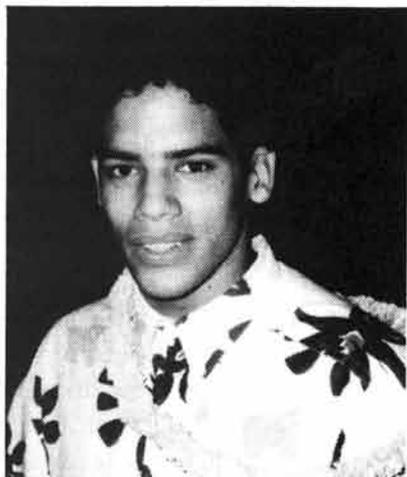
EVERYBODY DOESN'T LIKE SOMETHING
Sarah Lee of the B-52S and Betty's Bitzi at Jones Beach



WILL IDAHO LISCENCE PLATE 69410 PLEASE REPORT TO...
B-52s' Fred Schneider at Jones Beach party



BEVY OF BEAUTEE
Beverly Johnson at Sound Factory



LAY YOUR LOVIN' ON ME
Gil at ACT UP's benefit



DAMN, FORGOT THAT DENTAL DAM
Natalie at Sound Factory



THE PAUSE OF MS CLAWS
Grampa Hoofpynpoiers at Love Machine



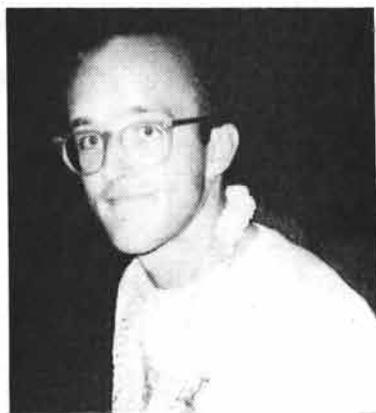
I DREAMT I WAS QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS IN MY MAIDENFORM...
Yolanda at ACT UP's benefit, Sound Factory



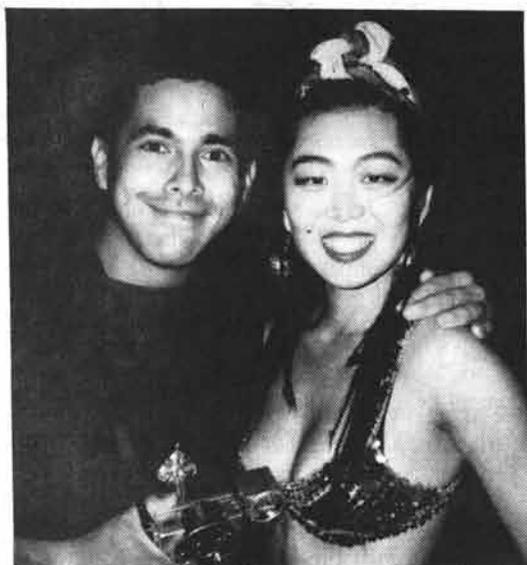
THAT'S RIGHT, 10 HOURS TO PUT ON THIS DAMN MAKEUP
Blane Mosley at Act Up's benefit at Sound Factory



SUCK IT TO ME, BUBBY
B-52s' Kate after the show at Jones Beach



ALOHA!
Keith Haring at Sound Factory



EDDIE LUVS ASIA LOVE
Asia Love and Eddie at the Act Up benefit at Sound Factory



TAKE ME, SHAKE ME, ANYWAY YOU WANT ME
Bruce of the B-52s opens up

not meeting. So after all that lingering eye contact and smiling, speak up! Favorite topics of conversation are site specific:

Cubby Hole: How good/bad the videos are, how little space there is...

Cave Canem: How many cute/obnoxious girls there are, why the door woman gives such attitude, how that *voluptuous* girl ever got the nerve to go in the pool with a white t-shirt and no bra...

Love Machine, Mars on Sunday, any gay men's club/bar: Where are the girls, why do boys have all the fun, isn't the deejay great/terrible, I hear Madonna's in town...

ACT UP meeting: What is going on?, where's the next demonstration?, are you going?, who's that girl with the hair?

Anywhere: News, politics, straight men, Madonna, the state of lesbian nightlife...

(Small talk is hard enough when you *have* to do it. Don't overextend yourself. Besides, important conversations are one way to tell the dykes/gay women from the girls/wimmin.)

Once You've Spoken:

Is it going well? Do you have *anything* in common (that includes lusting after one another)? Has one of you bought drinks for the other? Has anyone asked if it mattered?

If you've answered yes, then you are well on your way to cruising success. You have some options:

Keep talking. It will eventually get late, and you can get each other's phone numbers, plan to meet again wherever you are, meet somewhere else, or even go somewhere else now (for those girls with avant-garde employment). This is usually safe, and the anticipation of seeing them again makes for a week of exciting fantasizing. If you do go somewhere else, or leave together, keep reading:

You're both leaving. The best strategy is to live downtown and hope they live in Brooklyn. If it's late, they can always spare themselves that *long, dangerous* ride home by staying at your house. If you live near each other, share a cab, and agree to get out at one person's house. This way the only polite thing to do is to ask them up to see that issue of *On Our Backs* you were talking about earlier. Or have another drink.

If you just know that the two of you are not going to work out for even one night (you're both butch, you're both femme, she's radical, you're fifteen...), do not give up on the lesbian nation! Remember, we are diverse and you weren't standing alone in the corner all night either. In addition, since this is the smallest of small towns, you'll run into each other again (the odds increase the more you didn't get along), and it will be nice not to stand alone, again.

Notes For Special Situations:

1) This is fairly tame advice for the more adventurous of you. But one can assume if you're that adventurous, you've worked on your own strategies anyway. Suffice it to say that there are women who can look you up and down for a little while, walk up to you, whisper in your ear that there's an ice cube with your name on it in their kitchens, and you'll be so aroused you'll awaken three days later somewhere in New York with hickies like leech bites. If you are one of them, please exercise the talent much more frequently, thank you.

2) There are some girls who don't know they're being cruised. You have to hit them over the head with their own libido (confess, you know who you are). They are usually the sweetest girls you'll ever meet, and are worth the effort. Just make sure you're not mistaking them for someone with a "wife" who happens to be watching the two of you out of the corner of her eye. What you think is shyness could be fear.

3) Cruising with friends: Cruising is for all intents and purposes a one-woman operation, unless of course you're seeking a third for an orgy. Observe proper etiquette, tell the object of your affections, "she's my friend, not my girlfriend," and lay out the ground rules before you go out: Should you make a date for later, or can you go home with her now? Can your friend get home alone? Can you get home alone? Are you and your friend just avoiding the fact that it's each other you want? All this and more is what makes lesbian friendship the festival of female bonding that lights up our lives.

Have fun, be safe and don't say you weren't warned. ▼

**“Aren't
you
tired of
going to
dyke
parties,
dances,
bars and
safer
sex
forums
and
coming
home
with no
one to
try your
dental
dam
on???”**

How to Cruise Girls

by Liz Tracey



Photo: T.L. Litt

If cruising were music, then lesbian cruising would be Muzak. Due to our parents, high school and the culture-at-large, we girls have been taught that we don't cruise—we *get cruised*. Well, that's fabulous. But if your preferences run toward other girls, especially cute blondes in leather jackets, then honey, you'll all be waiting a long, long time for some action.

With this in mind, the time has come for some helpful hints for the cruising-impaired. Aren't you tired of going to dyke parties, dances, bars and safer sex forums and coming home with no one to try your dental dam out with??? Let's seize control of our sexuality, get out there and have some fun. Here we go...

Before We Get Started:

The first prerequisite for cruising a girl is knowing if

she's a dyke/lesbian/gay woman. So, this article is issuing a challenge (certainly not for the first or last time in this city): a lesbian visibility campaign. Numerous kiss-ins, brunches in straight havens and grinding on dance floors seem to be called for. They won't know who to go for if they think you have Michael J. Fox on your wall.

After We Are All Visible:

Be friendly. As Michael Musto has written, "friendly is *in*." If you're giving out bad attitude like an unwashed sock, you're asking for nothing but heartache and a lot of that act which no one need look their best for. If someone smiles at you, smile back. What's the worst that can happen, you get invited to a spaghetti potluck...

Communication is *essential*. If you're not talking, you're

Film

Dressed to Pillage

Casualties of War. Directed by Brian De Palma. Written by David Rabe from the book by Daniel Lang. Produced by Art Linson. Released by Columbia.

by Peter Bowen

If war is hell, then war films are the special hell of film goers. And for my generation, the Vietnam War has become that particular hell which we are continually forced to remember, even as govern-

mental foreign policy seems hell-bent on forgetting it. For myself, the specific hell of war films is never that they are too horrible to witness, but rather that they are never—and never could be—horrible enough. For the horror that is necessarily omitted in the us-against-them scenario of war films is the specific horror of the other side. Whether Hollywood cinematically dreams Vietnam as a machine-gunning fantasy (*Rambo*) or as literary nightmare (*Apocalypse Now*), its dream inevitably takes Vietnam out of its own historical reality and transforms it into a hellish backlot of the American psyche. Here, the sweltering, tangled jungle and the local people and their language are blurred together into a

continuously dangerous and utterly incomprehensible background—a background through which American soldiers must trudge as each grapples with his own conscience and national identity. But does Vietnam have a geographical place, a national history, a culture, or a political future? Not really, for as we are reassured at the end of Brian De Palma's military slasher film, *Casualties of War*, Vietnam was after all only a "bad dream."

In *Casualties of War*, it is Private Eriksson's (Michael J. Fox) remembrance of his experience in Vietnam that functions as the narrative's structuring device. Eriksson's dream/memory of Vietnam is sparked off by the presence of a Vietnamese woman on a San Francisco bus who bears an uncanny resemblance to the woman his squad kidnapped, then brutally raped and murdered in Vietnam years before. And while this woman's pres-



A SPECIAL KIND OF HELL
Sean Penn and Michael J. Fox

ence recreates, and finally pardons, his personal involvement in the crime, the public and allegorical dimensions of his private nightmare are made ridiculously clear by the day's newspaper's headlines announcing Nixon's resignation. Taken from an actual incident—originally told in a 1969 *New Yorker* article by Daniel Lang—De Palma and screenwriter David Rabe have taken poetic justice into their own hands by creating a wartime version of *The Accused* which, according to De Palma, "encapsules our involvement in Vietnam in a simple, dramatic story" with "all the elements of a classical tragedy."

What is most classical about this wartime tragedy is less the artfully tilted shots or stylishly edited combat scenes than the fact that the final conflict is ultimately a moral debate between straight, white men. As with Charlie Sheen's realization as he rises far above the maddening crowds of war in the last few minutes of *Platoon* that America was really at war with itself—a conclusion that obviously forgets the entire Vietnamese population—*Casualties of War* transforms the rape of the Vietnamese woman, Oahn (Thuy Thu Le), into a fight between Eriksson and his grunting sergeant, Meserve (Sean Penn).

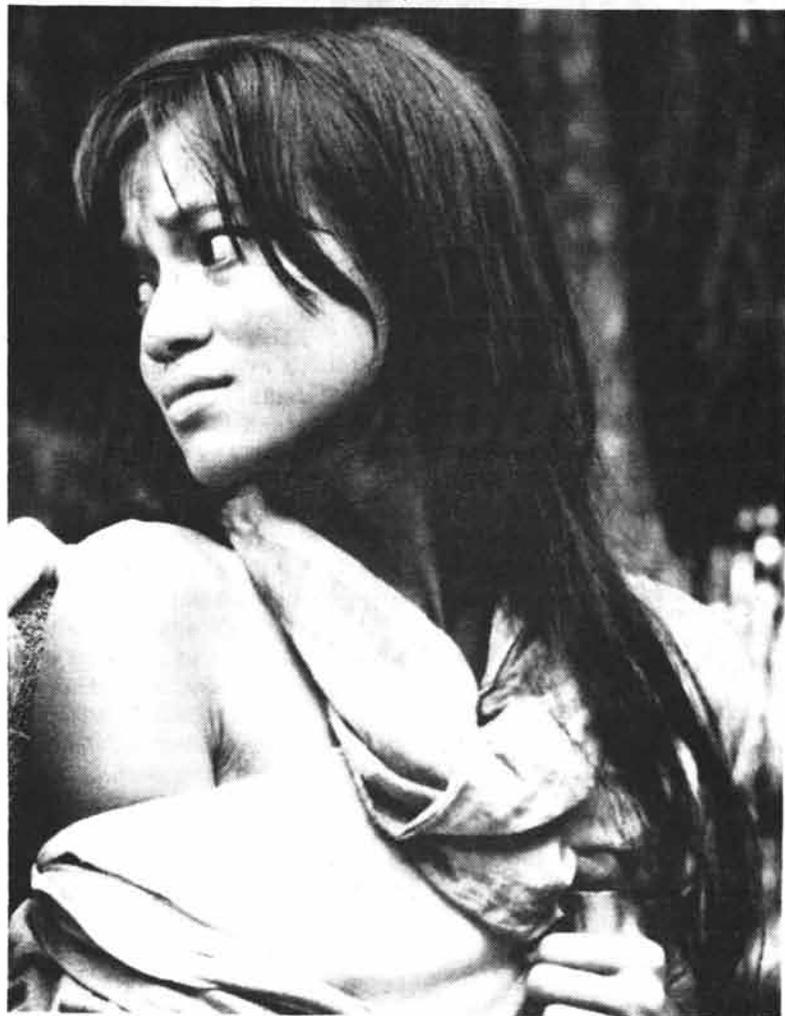
Barred from Saigon's whorehouses, Meserve angrily turns Vietnam into his personal brothel by requisitioning a local woman as his squad's "portable R&R." As Meserve's troop drags Oahn through the mountainous jungle with Ennio Morricone's forbidding soundtrack hounding them like the classical furies, Eriksson finds himself caught between his American sense of decency ("Sarge, I don't think this is right") and the army's code of male bonding. After all, Meserve had saved Eriksson's life earlier by dragging him out of a collapsed Viet Cong tunnel and keeping, within a knife-swipe of time, his masculinity intact. And it is precisely this "masculinity" that Eriksson won't share with the other boys during the gang rape.

While De Palma made his name

in earlier slasher films by psychotically confusing violence for sex, the articulation of sex as violence in this film makes it psychotically clear the real conflict is over the definition of heterosexual masculinity. In the penultimate moment when Eriksson abstains from participating in the gang rape, his fellow soldiers bring out that crushing insult of "faggot." In this man's army, the only thing worse than a rapist is a faggot, and the penalty for those who fail to rape is rape itself. "Maybe when I'm done with her, I'll come after you," Meserve threatens Eriksson. And in case we have misunderstood the nature of this threat or the reason for the rape, Meserve, dropping his rifle and grabbing his crotch, explains, "*this* is a weapon." Thus, while certain gay men fetishize the military as erotic, the military, at

least in this case, evokes homosexuality as a reason for violence and rape. And the woman, who is never even granted the decency of subtitles to express her pain, is killed off in a fight between straight, white men.

In the end, Eriksson brings his squad to trial for their crimes. But while the trial—whose actual sentences were much more lenient than those fictional sentences meted out in this film—seems able to differentiate between murder and war, no one in the film seems willing to bring the war to trial. And years later when the mysterious Vietnamese woman on a San Francisco bus tells Eriksson that his "bad dream" is over, I can only echo the sentiments of the disgruntled soldier in the film who, after surveying the landscape he is able to destroy, says, "This is all bullshit!"



"PORTABLE R&R"
Thuy Thu Le

Girl From Impanema

by Victoria Starr

Nothing inspires a music column like an approaching deadline. Unless, of course, the deadline is so near that each tick of the clock induces another droplet of sweat. Just what I need on a hot August

in my "natural air" living room in Brooklyn. The only solution is to get into the groove by heading for the turntable. And the surest way to relax and cool off is to reach for Marisa Monte.

"She's the hottest thing on the radio over there," explained my friend Lorry, who had just returned to Lima after passing a month in his old Brazilian haunts. "Since you're returning to New York before me, you should take this album with you." Now, as I listen again to Monte's self-titled new album, I'm swept back in time, perhaps to another life, to a sultry, balmy evening in a smoky Bahian night club. Or maybe it was just a movie I saw once. Either way, the album is sure to evoke every hedonistic fantasy ever conjured up about this most sensual of South American paradises. All without Monte ever breaking into a Samba. Well, maybe just once.

The unusually spontaneous temporal reference (above) must surely be attributed to an image of the *chanteuse*, a tradition to which Monte is viscerally attached. Yet her versatility goes a step beyond, as she moves from torchy ballads to near rock, while never straying too far from her Afro/Latin influences. Her band's line-up, which varies from the "live" cuts to the more highly polished studio work, offers a creative blend of strings and brass to round out the wide array of percussive sounds

that are the backbone of most Brazilian music. In addition, the strength of her voice allows her to muster a throaty edge, but only when it's most appropriate, opting for a smoother, more soothing style for cuts like her closing cover of Kurt Weill's "Speak Low."

Now that I've wet your appetite, I must also tell you that you might have to go to Brazil to pick up this record (finally, the excuse you've been waiting for!). Or you could try Tower, since EMI seems to have had something to do with the album's distribution south of the border. But in case you don't find this gem in NY, try writing *Fonobras, Distribuidora Fonografica Brasileira Ltd., Estrada Do Gabinal, 1521, Brazil*. And while at Tower pick up Maria Bethania (another Brazilian singer, not a Tower clerk).

In fact, since this is the first issue in which we at *Outweek* have had an official music column, there may be a number of music choices which were overlooked in your summer shopping sprees. First off is Neneh Cherry's *Raw Like Sushi*, where a cut like "Next Generation," addressing the joys of *planned* parenthood, proves her durability beyond the top 40/dance rotation. True to rap's real roots, this woman can teach. Other summer faves have included Cindy Lee Berryhill's *Naked Movie Star*, EU's *Live'n' Large*, and Shelley Thunder's Reggae Dancehall single *Kuff*.

Newsflash: MTV says that if they could turn back time they would have asked Cher to wear more clothes for her latest video *If We Could Turn Back Time*. And if I could leap into my television I would show those leering sailor boys just what to do with those canons they're riding. ▼



Performance

Making America Safe for Song

by Joe E. Jeffreys

Musical comedy isn't noted for its high mortality rate. The W.P.A. Theater's current production of Doug Wright and Michael John LaChiusa's *Buzzsaw Berkeley* whirs through this convention with a bloody vengeance while joyously sending up all the others.

A musical meeting of 1930s Mickey Rooney/Judy Garland "I've got a barn, let's put on a show" musicals, and 1980s low budget slasher films, the premise is simple and delivered with exposition—as intentionally bald as Ethyl Eichelberger's second act title character's pate.

It seems that Grove Hollow, U.S.A. circa 1939 is being terrorized by a series of horrendous murders. The one connecting factor—the victims were all rapturously engaged in song at the time of death. Mickey Looney (Keith Reddin) and Judy Gorgon (Shauna Hicks) meet at the local soda shop, a la *Our Town*, and plot to capture the murderer by staging a simple revue, *The History of Human Civilization*, thus making America once again safe for song. Yet they lack the requisite barn.

Judy energetically sets out to rectify the situation by meeting with the proprietress of the local barn and serendipitously former vaudeville star Miss Chroma Soames (Ethyl Eichelberger). The course of their chat reveals that old Miss Soames conceived a demon child out of wedlock by the flamboyant producer Buzzsaw Berkeley (Eichelberger). The love child was shamefully locked in a trunk full of old vaudeville skits and sheet music and has consequently evolved with a vocabulary entirely constituted by these genres. Upon compulsively killing his mother engaged in a song—"That Demon Baby of Mine"—he bemoans the act with



BUZZING THROUGH HOLLYWOOD HISTORY
Ethyl Eichelberger and John Hickok in Buzzsaw Berkeley

Photo: Martha Swope

Jolsonesque flair, "Mammy, Mammy!" The child is now roaming the streets with vengeance in his eyes and buzzsaw in hand.

The premise established, we are set for a series of murders and musical numbers as horrific as they are humorous. By the end of the evening the body count rivals any Jacobean tragedy or for that matter current slasher film. The cause of death by song catalogue includes: falling chandelier, piranha and hanging vine attack and sundry others too silly for mention lest the fun be spoiled.

Original producer of *Little Shop of Horrors*, the W.P.A. theater has on their hands what appears to be a calculated attempt to reproduce the former's success. The show is designed for a single set and seven actors double and triple cast into thirteen roles by means of over fifty costume changes. It is currently scored for a single musician on piano and percussion.

The music, though apt, falls short.

The show's original concept called for only "source" music. Perhaps the creators should have stayed with this notion. Only one number proves memorable—"You'll Never Possess a Queen"—and is milked for all its worth.

The book, however, is a delight. Aficionados of stage and screen will be stringently tested to follow the plethora of allusions which keep the mind spinning as fiercely as Berkeley's well-greased chainsaw blades. Little Miss Prudy Doody (Vicki Lewis) claims to have "snorted better lines than these." If true, the price must have been exorbitant and the product extremely pure. From *Long Day's Journey into Night* to *The Bad Seed* to *The Wizard of Oz* to Ester Williams' films and even a shot at *Little Shop of Horrors* no source is too venerable for this jumbalaya.

Christopher Ashley's imaginative direction is laudable. No part of the theater space, including the audience and

See BUZZSAW on page 68

The Importance of Not Being Ernest

The Boys in the Bars by Christopher Davis, Knights Press, \$9.50.

by David Feinberg

I have always hated Hemingway. His macho posturing offends my homo sensibility. With his concise style and flat prose, I blame him for being the father of the minimalists. But it is his endless sentences that really get to me, those endless sentences made up of short words that start slow and gentle and keep on pounding away at me like a man who had too much to drink pounding his head away at a wall until it begins to bleed and not stopping for rest, continually pounding away until he loses all consciousness, and the next morning when I wake up I find out that I have bruises on my skull, and my hair is matted with dried blood.

Christopher Davis writes well, but he should cast off the mantle of Hemingway and stick to his own voice. It's always unfair to quote a few sentences out of context from a story; yet lines like:

I did not know then that his name was Tommy and that he would be important to our story. If I had known what he was going to do I would have punched him.

stick out like a sore thumb. They strike me as inappropriate for the character about which he writes, both in tone and action.

Davis' first novel, *Joseph and the Old Man* (and the Sea?), was full of the monotonous Hemingway style. His second novel, *The Valley of the Shadow*, displayed substantial growth as a writer. Davis wrote skillfully and movingly of two men with AIDS in

Manhattan, using the device of the unreliable narrator to strong effect. *The Boys in the Bars* is a collection of thirteen short stories that take place for the most part in gay Manhattan, with a few side trips to gay resorts (Fire Island, the Caribbean). Several of these stories appeared in *Christopher Street*. The stories, with the exception of *History*, appear in the order in which they were written.

Davis writes about gay professionals in their thirties, Latino hustlers,



TIGHT AS A DRUM
Christopher Davis

alcoholics in the tropics, married latent homosexuals in their fifties fascinated with tearoom trade, men with obsessive desires, quarreling lovers, Puerto Rican studs and men addicted to seducing straights, among others. His stories are full of desire, longing and sex. They generally end on sad notes: drunks pass out, narrators reveal they are ill, lovers break up and friends die. Throughout Davis writes clearly and directly.

I can't think of a single collection of short stories towards which I haven't had mixed responses. The title story, which also appears in *Men on Men*, v. 2 (New American Library),

is excellent: funny, dishy and trashy, yet with a strong dark undercurrent. A group of gay men meet nightly in a bar that resembles the Monster, exchanging confidences, flirting, falling in and out of relationships, against the backdrop of AIDS. The close comradeship of this group reminded me of the best of Ethan Morrden's stories. On first reading I felt cheated by what seemed to me an unmotivated ending; yet, rereading, I appreciated how seamlessly it read, and how inexorably it progressed toward its conclusion.

Davis' [untitled] story about a writer and a young homeless runaway who pursues him was creepy and unsettling. Their bizarre relationship gradually develops into a compulsive dependency. I was drawn into their tangled web against my will. By the end of this involuted story I was once again impressed at how well everything fit together.

Fireflies is a poignant reminiscence of Eddie, an innocent young man with a magical quality about him, who shared his unique perceptions of light, color and love with the married narrator. Eddie's lyrical grace lies at the center of this tale. The story has a wonderful symmetric structure, moving from the aftermath of one funeral to another one.

A few of the stories in this collection are slight throwaways. I have a general aversion towards "lite" fiction. *Watercolors*, about a man who leaves his wife for a former professional football player, compresses so much information in a few brief impressions that finally it's merely an exercise: the story is missing. *Reunion*, where two army buddies meet at the Plaza for drinks, is another trifle without much substance: it reads like a gay version of some minor Hemingway or Fitzgerald story. There are two drunk

See BOYS on page 68

Books

Rythmic Urgency

Poets For Life: Seventy-Six Poets Respond to AIDS, Edited by Michael Klein. Crown Publishers, Inc. 255 pages, \$18.95 (hardcover).

by Robert Long

Poet Michael Klein decided in 1988 that it was time to assemble the best poems on AIDS—from gay people and straight people, those without AIDS and those with it, those who have tested HIV positive and those who haven't, from those who have lost loved ones, who are losing them, who fear losing them.

Seventy-six poets are included in the anthology, ranging from the long-established (Philip Booth, Robert Creeley, Edward Field, Thom Gunn, Allen Ginsberg, June Jordan, James Merrill, Adrienne Rich, Jean Valentine) through the middle generation (Marilyn Hacker, J.D. McClatchy, Heather McHugh, and others) to the youngest contemporaries, whose voices are already imprinting themselves on our culture (Henri Cole, Tim Dlugos, Mark Doty, Brad Gooch, Ed Hirsch, Lynda Hull, Robert Louthan, Molly Peacock, David Trinidad and more).

What is most stirring, most affecting about the anthology is the urgency of utterance, the insistent profundity of almost every poem. In looking critically at contemporary poetry, one usually becomes aware of stylistic affinities between one poet and another, and one can often trace the descent of a group of younger poets from one or two senior figures (the "New York School," for example, largely grows out of

Frank O'Hara and John Ashbery).

There are those who write more formally than others (James Merrill is the obvious example), and those who prefer a poem that looks as if it simply fell onto the page in an unrestricted outpouring of inspiration, an overflowing that may be Romantic or simply journalistic. Some poets' lines are determined by measured syllables or accents; some rhyme and some don't. This poet's music is that poet's din. Some write skinny lines (one to three words long) and some write in great fat stanzas. Some poems are elegantly cooked; some are raw.

At bottom, though, in this writer's

Retrovir

Turn
back oh man
and see how where you've come from
looks from here: the light-
filled leak of sunrise, drone
of morning's clarity and fleeting sense
of firm direction, lunch with wine
siesta and the afternoon you're part of.
Here the sky is always blue
and white, the colors of the pills
that poison you while they extend your life,
inoculating you with time
and draws you back with fingers
curved around the bowstring.
You are not the target, you're the arrow
and the dirty wind that hits
your face on summer streets these
too-long evenings means you're moving
faster than you know, a shrill
projectile through the neutral air
above a world war, headed for the flesh
of someone's notion of croquet
at twilight on the lawn. The thickening
damp crowds out the light, as green
of grass and fountain separates
to blue and white.

—Tim Dlugos

view, poetry has to *swing*—it should utilize the natural pulse of language, rhythm, stress: the organic correlative is the heartbeat. The impulses in lines of poetry may be regularly or irregularly organized, consistent or not, but without a pulse of sound or stress the poem is dead: it don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing. And although it would seem impossible to write poems without that underlying living breathing, it's amazing how many bad poems appear in magazines and books, reams of trash, poems whose blood has been drained in the voyage from mind or heart to the flat white page.

There's not a bad poem in *Poets for Life*, and there are a truly astonishing number of very good poems. Often when reading anthologies one will tend to pick out recognizable names and go to them first; many anthologies are organized according to stylistic affinities or geographical clustering, age groupings: anthologies which are partially about the way to make an anthology. *Poets for Life* runs A to Z and is organized by virtue of a straight line of urgency and beauty, cutting across concerns of generation and gender. The book's focus is clear and unwavering, and the reader becomes immediately, deeply engaged in it. The quality of writing is superior, and the poems—many of them written specifically for this project—are often the very best work these poets have done.

Poets for Life reads like a novel, an unflinching testimonial, a diary of pain and rage, of grief, of elation and affirmation. It is impossible to put down, it demands to be re-read, and is unforgettable.

Michael Klein has done an extraordinary job of editing—one can only wonder how many good poems he was forced to leave out due to space restrictions. There's not a wasted word in the book, a measure both of the quality of these poems and the degree of each writer's honesty and passion. ▼

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For information on listing
your
non-profit organization, call
Tom Eubanks at 685-5277.

A.C.C.C.

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(AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power)
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(212)989-1114

A diverse, non-partisan group of individuals united
in anger and committed to direct action to end the
AIDS crisis. General meetings Mon. nights 7:30 at
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208 W. 13th St., NYC, NY 10011.

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NY's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue Services
Friday at 8:30pm 57 Bethune Street
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EDGE

For the physically disabled Lesbian
and Gay Community.
P.O. Box 305 Village Station
New York, NY 10014
(212) 989-1921

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Ruth Messinger for Manhattan Borough President.
Volunteer meeting and mailing
Tuesday, Aug. 29th 6:30-8:30 pm
at DC 37, 125 Barclay Street
Call 268-5033 to RSVP and for more details.

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A running club for lesbian and gay athletes of all
abilities.
Fun Runs of 1-6 miles held every Sat. at 10
am and Weds. at 7pm in Central Park and every
Tues. at 7pm in Prospect Park.
For information: call (212) 724-9700.

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National Gay and Lesbian Crisis Line
"AIDS 800"---1-800-SOS-GAYS
Educational Resource Center; Positive Images
Media Center; NY State Arts Program
666 Broadway Suite 410 NYC, NY 10012
(212) 529-1600

GLAAD

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation
80 Varick Street, NYC 10013
(212) 966-1700 GLAAD
combats homophobia in the media and elsewhere
by promoting visibility of the lesbian and gay
community and organizing grass roots response to
public anti-gay bigotry.

HEAL

Health Education AIDS Liaison
Weekly info and support group for treatments for
AIDS which do not compromise the immune system
further, including alternative and holistic
approaches.
Wed 8pm. 208 West 13th Street
(212)674-HOPE.

HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

for lesbian and gay youth. Counseling, drop-in
center (M-F, 3-6pm), rap groups, Harvey Milk High
School, AIDS and safer sex infor-
mation, referrals, professional education.
(212) 633-8920(voice)
(212) 633-8926 TTY for deaf

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A place for community organizing and networking,
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LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS PROJECT

of the
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(202)332-6483.

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77 Lexington Ave, Suite 200
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ATT: Mr. Scott (EOE)

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OutWeek is hiring a circulation/distribution manager. Experience in marketing and promotions a plus. Salary + benefits. Please send resume to:

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CLASSIFIEDS

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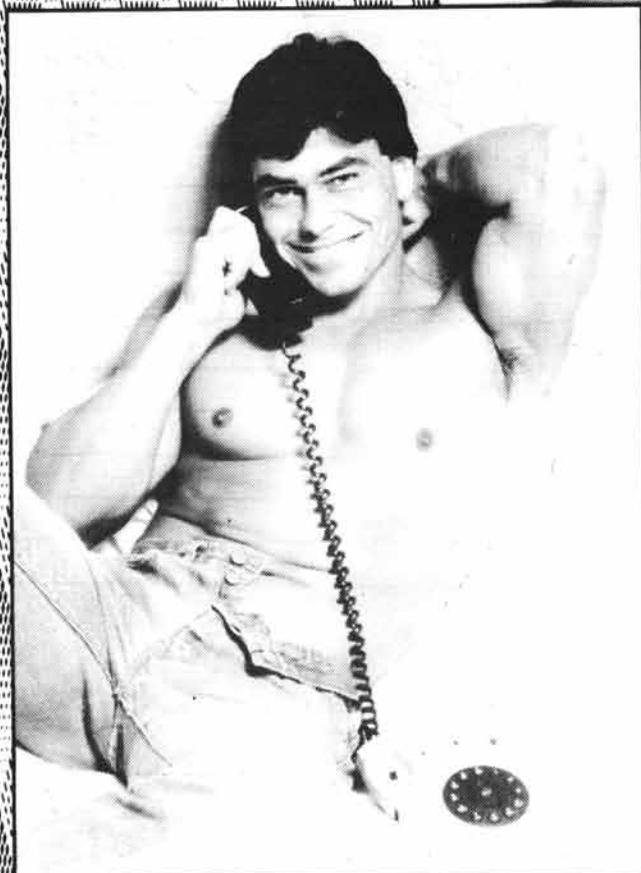
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PERSONALS

GWF, 28, BARBARIAN

Romantic Rocker, Pagan, Slim, 5'3 1/2", with wild sense of humor and deep blue eyes seeks feminine GWF, slim 18-25, intelligent & sensitive, under 5'2" who likes rock, NYC, Bugs Bunny and Meta-physics. I like to lead but I don't like to push. Foto optional. *OutWeek Box 1013*

LOOKS & BRAINS

GWM, 30, 6'1", 170. Good-looking and intelligent. Baseball, politics, arts, books, pubs, safe sex. Interested? P.O. Box 1005 Stuyvesant Station, NY 10009.

24 YEAR OLD GRAD STUDENT

into Shakespeare, music, and politics-seeks friend for weekend bike trips. Send letter and phone # to *OutWeek Box 1133*.

MUSCLEMANIA

Horny WM BB, 34, 5'7", 155#, 44c.,33w., 16a.,hndsm, hilly & built like a brick seeks BB buddies for s/s, ti-play and body worship. Ph/ph to Box 1165, Chelsea Station, 10011.

GREAT FRENCH

6'4", 215 lbs., loves to suck cock and please in shape guys. Write to MACK P.O. Box 1170, Brooklyn, NY 11240.

COUPLES?

GBM 27 editor/PhD student/actor, GWM 28 admin./dean/landscaper together 3 years w/dog sk a couple for friendship. We enjoy opera, dance, theatre, cinema, barbecues, cooking, fine dining, travel, board games, cards, dancing and even bar-hopping occasionally. Our friends are single. We're looking to build a friendship w/a couple(s) to share lifetime partner stories. Interesting letter *OutWeek Box 1089*

BODYBUILDER

5'10", 195, 42, 49c.,33w.,17a., seeks other muscle studs built like me or better for hot muscle action. Photo appreciated. Rick, 496A Hudson #H24, NYC 10014.

GWM, ITALIAN, 25

Good-looking, nice guy looking to make friends. Live on L.I., work on Wall St. Want to meet other nice guys who are interested in a sincere, discreet and caring friendship, lunches, dinners, movies, walks, hanging out, or just doing nothing together. Would like to hear from all-any age, race. Married, bi o.k. too. Write with photo and phone- you've got nothing to lose-pen-pals o.k. P.O. Box 483 Wall St. Station, New York, NY 10268.

TWO HOT GUYS!

Good-looking white top, 33, big cut tool & bottom, 29, smooth wild ass. Looking for 2 or more guys for hot sex in various combinations. Short on words, long on action. State your preference and lets get it on. Photo, phone a must. Tom, Box 950, NY, NY 10021.

SUMO

37 year old, muscular white male seeks to start a relationship with older GWM over 50 with sumo build, large nipples, and tits(not hairy). Send photo and description of self to Box 123, exec. suite, 330 West 42nd St., NY, NY 10036.

CULTURED TRADE

I love to be tied up with operas and whipped into a Broadway play, or even lashed into a good movie. I must be forced to drink Margaritas and submit to fine cuisine. I need someone to discipline me with love and friendship and bring out the best in me. I will willingly reciprocate. I'm a goodlook-

ing GWM, 38,6', 190 lbs., brown/ brown, moustache, seeking a similar GWM. Send me your photo, phone number and a letter telling me about yourself-and outlining your master plan to make me really sing! Reply to JNP, P.O. Box 39, Planetarium Station, NY, NY 10024.

WM JEWISH

38, 5'6", 140, bright, warm, stable, health-conscious, firm body from weights & bicycling seeks contact with conservative, decent built M for a relationship that we can share our interests together Box 1730, Old Chelsea Station, NYC, NY .

TEDDY BEAR WANTED:

Chunky, hairy, funny, affectionate. GWM, 6', 185, 34, beard, hairy, herpes. I like film, theatre, dining and comedy. Looking for someone with a sense of humor and romance. No smokers/drugs. Photo/letter and phone: P.O. Box 2605, Fairlawn, NJ 07410.

BORED OR BORING

Me: 45 y.o. GWM, 6'2", 190 lbs., looking for friendship &/or safe sex buddy. You:GWM, 25-35, short with small endowment a plus. Photo & phone to : Box 8172, FDR Station, New York, NY 10019

ARE YOU JUICY?

Seek creative, joyous, spunky, intelligent man of any race. I am 35, 5'10 1/2", long brown hair. I like perf. arts, ideas, talking, books, gym. Write with ph/ph to David, POB 291, NYC, 10011.

BRIGHT, BLUE-EYED

Healthy, affectionate GM, 47, 5'10 1/2", 160, anxious to meet other trim GM interested in committed relationship. Enjoy music, books, performing arts. Prefer serious men with a sense of

humor. Balding, o.k. Send letter, phone and photo (if possible). *Outweek Box 1100*

EVERY INCH A MAN

with extra inches where it counts... plus hunky, hairy chest, magic nips, solid 6', 185 lbs., very young 44. Hot, hds m big brother/ top pal/ protector/ defender/ rescuer/ teacher/ lover & more. Seek special guy 20-38 to share life, laughs, hugs, NYC fantasies plus waterfront dream-house. Go 4 it w/both letter & picture: POB 1164 NYC, 10159. (OK--so I'm choosy, but SO ARE YOU!)

SLAVE TRAINING

Seeking novice slave eager to submit to training. Slave will undergo 24-36 hour uninterrupted, intense (but safe) sessions (CBT,VA,shaving,TT,leather, boots,obedience training). Cock & balls kept in tight leather bondage for long periods. Jerking off and cumming will be gradually but severely limited. Apply with full particulars to training master Box 8079 FDR Station NY, NY 10150 Express your eagerness to serve and desire to become a good slave.

GWM, 26, 5'10", 160

Fairly handsome, brown hair, green eyes, buzz-cut, moustache, very thin beard, slender build. I'm interested in computers, tennis, work-outs, the arts, travel, politics. A little shy, quiet, I'd like to meet men 22-40, mature and straight-acting, fairly or very handsome, moustaches/beards a plus, for safe sex relationship. Letter and phone to: *Outweek Box 1104*

ONE DATE AT A TIME

GWM, 30 years old and look 30 years old, 5'5", 130 lbs., good face and body, brown hair-balding, brown eyes, HIV+, creative bright healthy sex.

Have usually been a bottom but don't have to be. Drug and alcohol free-except cigarettes and coffee. I am looking for an intelligent, masculine man-30 to whatever-for dating and romance. No drugs or heavy drinkers. Photo or honest. *Outweek Box 1105*

LIGHT IN AUGUST

Humor, values, brains. Handsome in an Our Town kind of way. Seeks open, committed, personable fellow who reads in bed and sings in the shower. For the long haul. *Outweek Box 1107*

GAY BLACK MALE

35, 5'11" seeks GM for possible relationship. Seeking honesty, sincerity and commitment. Interests are varied. Please only serious replies. Write to *OutWeek Box 1111*

TOP QUALITY

Handsome, healthy, safe, secure, successful, fun-loving, generous, bi-coastal GWM, 40, 5'9", 155 lbs., in shape, seeks relationship with a smooth, sexy younger guy (18-33), blondes and great buns a +). I'm ready to share life's great adventures with someone who likes travel, the arts, the gym, whatever life has to offer and wants to give it. Photo and phone a must. *Outweek Box 1112*

EXHIBITIONISTS

GWM, photographer seeking men who like to show off and pose for nude photos. Fees paid. Send nude snapshots and don't be shy. NATIONWIDE. I'm well-hung and gorgeous. Box 294, Franklin Park, NJ 08823.

FEMME OF CENTER

GWF, 47: Guinevere seeks Lesbian Lancelot to bring me dragons to play with. Are you butch of center non-smoker/drugs?

Love animals? I will answer all responses. *OutWeek* Box 1114

COMPANIONSHIP
GWM, 34, 5'11", 180, brown hair, eyes, moust., good lkg. I'm sincere and passionate, seeking same. Enjoy movies, museums, shows, prof. sports, music, nature, massage, sex. No time for egotistical people. Don't care if you're muscular or in shape. Prefer moust., 30-60, but not nec. Reply ltr/photo. Please don't respond if not sending photo. P.O. Box 269, 70-A Greenwich Ave. New York, NY 10011.

MANHATTANITE,
B/W/M, 21. I'm clean-shaven, sensual, w/fuller hair, interests still basic 4 now (punk/R&B/rock, the Village, occas. x-dress) seeking very similar guys (mainly white/Oriental) from

16-23 w/natural looks not so male-ish. Non-smoker/non-addict helps. A letter and photo from you could spark a good friendship for starters. *OutWeek* Box 1126

FRIENDS WANTED
We are two German boyfriends in the late 20's, with many interests, handsome, smart and uncomplicated. We are looking for new friends in the age between 25-35 years. New York area preferred. We live in the southern part of West Germany. Please reply with photo to: Peter K. Siebold, P.O. Box 1503, D-7012 Fellbach, West Germany.

METAPHYSICS?
Seth material? GWM, 6'2", 165, cute, br/bl, 29, seeks fair-haired peer int. in same, plus art, politics, fun, E. Vill. Let's create a reality together, w/music.

Ph/ph, please. Bruce-all answered. *OutWeek* Box 1128

UNCUT DOCKERS
GWM 39, 5'8", looking for large overhang to accept my fat 8" tool. I am not a body builder and you need not be one either. If you want your foreskin worshipped this ad is for you. Please reply to *OutWeek* Box 1129

OCTOGENARIAN
In excellent physical condition, seeks company of GWM (18 to 30). Reasonably secure financially and psychologically, political activist who is interested in sincere, loving relationship (platonic or otherwise) with GWM well-versed in the arts, world traveler who has been an active participant in the joys and sorrows *OutWeek* Box 1130 bio and optional photo would be real nice. Cheerio.

HIV+ BOTTOM
Attractive GWM, 33, Br/Br, slim, glasses. Seeks: Dominant, handsome GWM, 28-40, who can satisfy the fantasies I have alone at night. Must be smart, financially secure and not uptight about his or my antibody status. Companionship and more desired. Let's explore together. *OutWeek* Box 1131

ORANGE COUNTY, NY
GWM, 31 yr., 5'7", chunky, brown/green, Italian/German bottom, tired of all B/S, bars, games, etc....likes outdoors, quiet nights and good conversation--seeks intelligent, affectionate, goodlooking man between 25 & 35 yrs. with same interests for friendship & possible relationship. Serious please only reply- Call John (914) 986-1523. Sunday-Thursdays. After 6p.m. only.

WORK MY BOTTOM OVER WITH ME
in long slow sessions. He's hot Italian BB, 30's. I'm 30's, lanky and hung. If you're attractive, hung, verbal and ready, send photo/phone to P.O. Box 150, Prince Station, NYC 10012.

SERIOUS MOONLIGHT
GM, 36, 6', 145, in shape, attractive, creative, monog. radical seeks non-smoker for wild romance. Let's howl. P.O. Box 1251, Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10013.

NEED A SPANKING?
Attractive guy, 43, 6', 160 lbs., will put you across his knee, pull down your pants--and underpants--and spank your bare bottom till you promise to behave. Am into fantasy--not pain. Good with beginners. Box 1316 FDR Station, NYC 10150. Seek trim

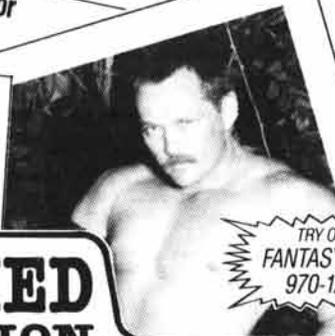
guys only.
SUBMISSIVE, HEALTHY
GWM, 170 lbs., 6 ft. I want to be your pussy. Especially big, musc. men. Age and looks unimportant. P.O. Box 1075 Cooper Station, NYC 10276.

NIPPLES AND PECS
GWM, 40, 5'8", 200 lbs., extremely oral loves to suck on nips, pecs, and tits. I worship the male chest. Send photo and phone: Box 20446 London Terrace Station, New York, NY 10011. My hot, wet mouth is waiting for you.

Personals Continued on Next Page

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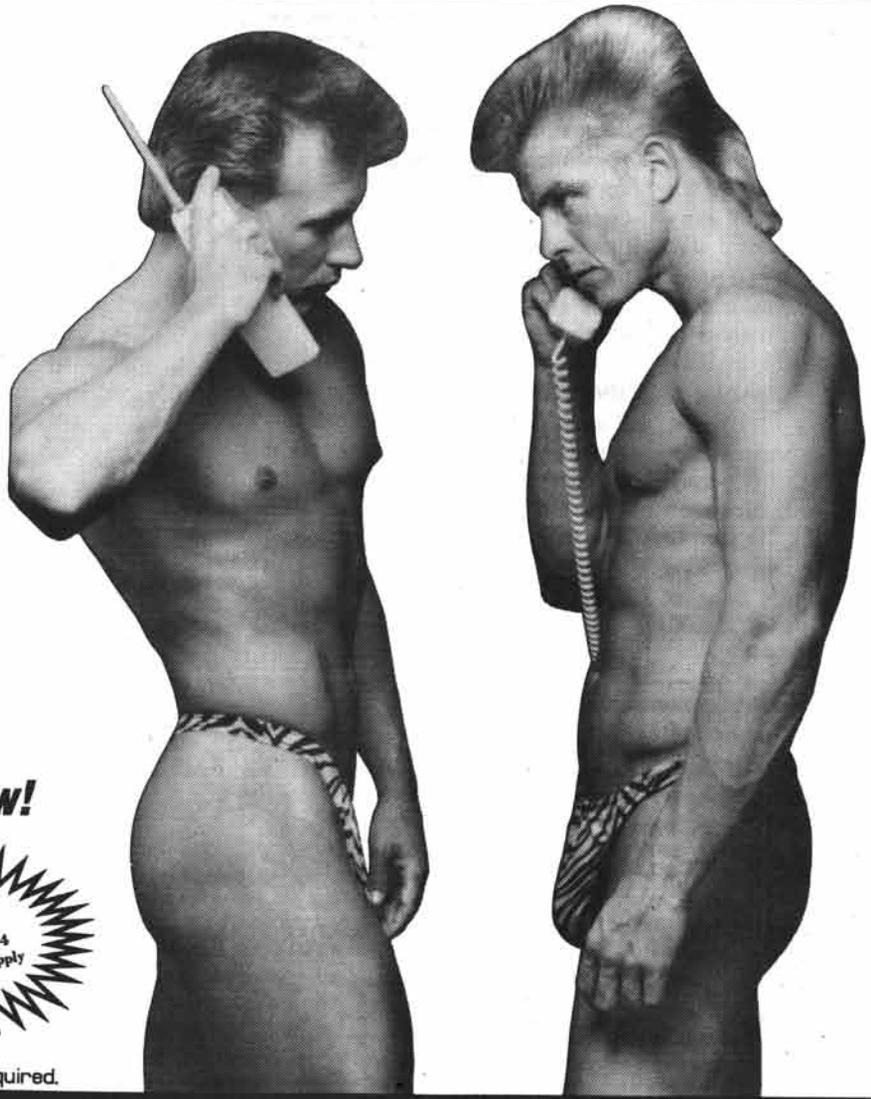
For a limited time, **OutWeek** will run your personal ad **FREE** (except for mail forwarding charges). Simply fill out the order form on page 62 and return it to **OutWeek** classifieds, 77 Lexington Avenue, Suite 200, New York, NY 10010.

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(8 7 2)

* Only 75¢/min.

PERSONALS

A FINE CATCH
and still not hooked. Clean-cut GWM, 32, 5'10", 145, developed mind and body, lusty and lustful yet warm and caring, masculine not closeted, seeks lasting companionship. Photo/phone to *OutWeek* Box 1134.

GWM, WASP, 26
180 lbs., 5'11", Bl/Bl, healthy, masculine, well-built, looking for young, muscular (18-28) guys for hot safe-sex (condoms). I like to be both dominant and submissive. Face-fucking, role-playing, butt-fucking, let's get it on! Also into threesomes, light bondage, trying new things. No drugs, no pain. Send note about yourself: photo appreciated. In-shape and young necessary. *OutWeek* Box 1135

EYES OF A POET
Build of a dancer, heart in the lines, GWM, 34, 5'8", 135, HIV+, brown hair and eyes, glasses, seeks GWM dance/theatre/arts/poetry aware and himself arts driven. *OutWeek* Box 1009

TEN GAY/BI MALES
seek like, trim, masculine, health-conscious, gregarious for monthly meetings in midtown hotel suite. Send note and SASE: P.O. Box 6653 FDR, NY, NY 10150

TOP GUN
Boy wanted 18-25 by GWM-170 lbs., 5'11", Br/Br, clean-shaven, smooth, Italian. I have most everything I could want except you. Enjoy NYC, travel, gym, dining out and fun times. If you are young and hot, write to Joey, P.O. Box 1040, Bloomfield, NJ 07003. Photo and phone please. No games and noone over 30

CIGARS!
Cigar-smoking men

who love leather, uniforms, s/m write H. Ash P.O. Box 20147 London Terrace Station NYC 10011.

PLAYMATES WANTED

Butch-fem couple in Manhattan, ages 40 & 35, seeks lesbian singles or couples for wild fun and adventure. Join us for fantasies, erotic games, light bondage. No drugs, no pain. *OutWeek* Box 1020

MUST HAVE MAN!
W/M, 5'11", 180, 40's, sensuous, healthy, stache, masculine, muscular, well-built. Need hot sex, physical affection, fun, friendship/lover w/man 35-55. Hurry, get satisfied and much, much more! *OutWeek* Box 1010

GWF, 28, BARBARIAN
Romantic Rocker, Pagan, Slim, 5'3 1/2", with wild sense of humor and deep blue eyes seeks feminine GWF, slim 18-25, intelligent & sensitive, under 5'2" who likes rock, NYC, Bugs Bunny and Metaphysics. I like to lead but I don't like to push. Photo optional. *OutWeek* Box 1013

KEEP ME
23 year old NYU student is looking to be sponsored by well-built, well-hung, well-financed Daddy in exchange for a hungry mind with an insatiable appetite for new sexual experiences. Send photo. *OutWeek* Box 1014

DEFINITION
Progressive hunk (34, 8', 175) with post-modern affectations seeks supple articulations of body and thought--or at least former--with brawny friend(s). I enjoy dancing, activism, safe hot sex, cycling, sun, beauty, grace & all the

usual stuff. Send photo and the rest to P.O. Box 1366, NY, NY 10025. Photo returned, if requested.

MILDLY KINKY
GWM, 52, attractive, 5'10", 145, versatile, seeks hot sex, fun, relationship, friends, enjoys politics, activism, conversation, walks, travel, movies, much more. P.O. Box 173, NYC 10023.

SEEKING GREAT TOP
Tall(6'4"), goodlooking bottom seeking tall top for fun times, definite adventure and passion! Me:30's, clean-shaven, brown hair-green eyes, 185, gym shape, prof. You:30's-40's, in shape, attractive, non-smoker, and passionate! Zip your letter, photo, phone to: *OutWeek* Box 1045

GWM, ITALIAN, 25
Good-looking, nice guy looking to make friends. Live on L.I., work on Wall St. Want to meet other nice guys who are interested in a sincere, discreet and caring friendship, lunches, dinners, movies, walks, hanging out, or just doing nothing together. Would like to hear from all-any age,

race. Married, bi, o.k. too. Write with photo and phone-- you've got nothing to lose--(penpals o.k.) P.O. Box 483 Wall St. Station, New York, NY 10268.

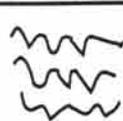
CULTURED TRADE
I love to be tied up with operas and whipped into a Broadway play, or even lashed into a good movie. I must be forced to drink Margaritas and submit to fine cuisine. I need someone to discipline me with love and friendship and bring out the best in me. I will willingly reciprocate. I'm a goodlooking GWM, 38, 6', 190 lbs., brown/ brown, moustache, seeking a similar GWM. Send me your photo, phone number and a letter telling me about yourself--and outlining your master plan to make me really sing! Reply to JNP, P.O. Box 39, Planetarium Station, NY, NY 10024.

BODYBUILDER
5'10", 195, 42, 49c, 33w, 17a., seeks other muscle studs built like me or better for hot muscle action. Photo appreciated. Rick, 496A Hudson #H24, NYC 10014.

STUDENT NEEDS HELP!
Ivy League student, gay activist, writer, really nice guy--may not be able to afford tuition. Ideas, patrons, suggestions...write soon to: AMR, 76 Undercliff, Millburn, NJ 07041.

DADDY ENEMAS!!
Ass-play tool Safe, gentle, sensual and erotic! I cater to shy, curious guys & beginners too. Get ready for the red, bulging bag, hose and nozzle-briefs down, bottoms up! All questions answered! Ph/ph. Rick P.O. Box 45 Caldwell, NJ 07006. Cum on, try one soon!

COUPLES?
GBM, 27, editor/Ph.D. student/actor, GWM, 28, admin./dean/landscaper together 3 years w/dog sk a couple for friendship. We enjoy opera, dance, theatre, cinema, barbecues, cooking, fine dining, travel, board games, cards, dancing and even bar-hopping, occasionally. Our friends are single. We're looking to build a friendship w/a couple(s) to share lifetime partner stories, interesting letters get reply. *OutWeek* Box 1089



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BUZZSAW continued from page 53

lobby, is left unexplored. The numerous murders are executed with a humor and style befitting the zany book.

The acting is entirely competent yet skewed in tone. All turn in fine performances yet no actor is able to truly capture the style of script and character, making it uniquely theirs. The closest contender is Vicki Lewis as Little Miss Prudy Doody and her little dog too (a puppet). Granted, the characters are broad stereotypes but the Ridiculous Theater Company bears witness to the dignity and skill involved in portraying such figures. This collection of performers, including Eichelberger, a former member of the Ridiculous, are too self-conscious of the burlesque they are creating and thus negate the tone so valiantly strived for. Moments of sheer abandon to style do occur yet infrequently.

The production will close on August 27. Before it does, be sure to catch it and do your part in making America once again safe for song, or suffer the consequences—buzzzzz! ▼

BOYS continued from page 54

stories, *Oeufs a la Neige* and *Rope Trick*, where characters demonstrate their capacities to get totally smashed. I enjoyed an amusing snippet called *The Art of Criticizing Writers*, where an author runs into another author in a bar and learns that some writers do not take to criticism.

History, perhaps the most ambitious story, a chronicle of the AIDS epidemic in three parts, before, during and afterwards, is disjointed, and doesn't quite cohere: although the first section has several well-drawn portraits, the second and third sections are too oblique in relationship to the first.

All in all, it's a mixed collection. The later stories are generally better than the earlier ones. Davis can write a story as tight as a drum: his lean style suits him well. With a little pruning, one hopes he will get rid of a few stylistic excesses that characterize him as a student of a master and come into his own voice. I look forward to reading his next novel. ▼

HANDICAP continued from page 31

political actions in support of the Section 504 and other legislation. Disabled people have fought long and hard for national health care, for accessibility, and for our basic civil rights.

10. Last, if you pity disabled people, think about why (you don't pity a peer; you pity a person or group of people who are so powerless that you consider them to be non-threatening). Pity denies us our anger—and we have a right to be angry—about our physical conditions/problems, but also about the rude and discriminatory treatment we receive on a daily basis. We don't need pity—we need solidarity—and your help in fighting to make this city and this community accessible to *everyone*. ▼

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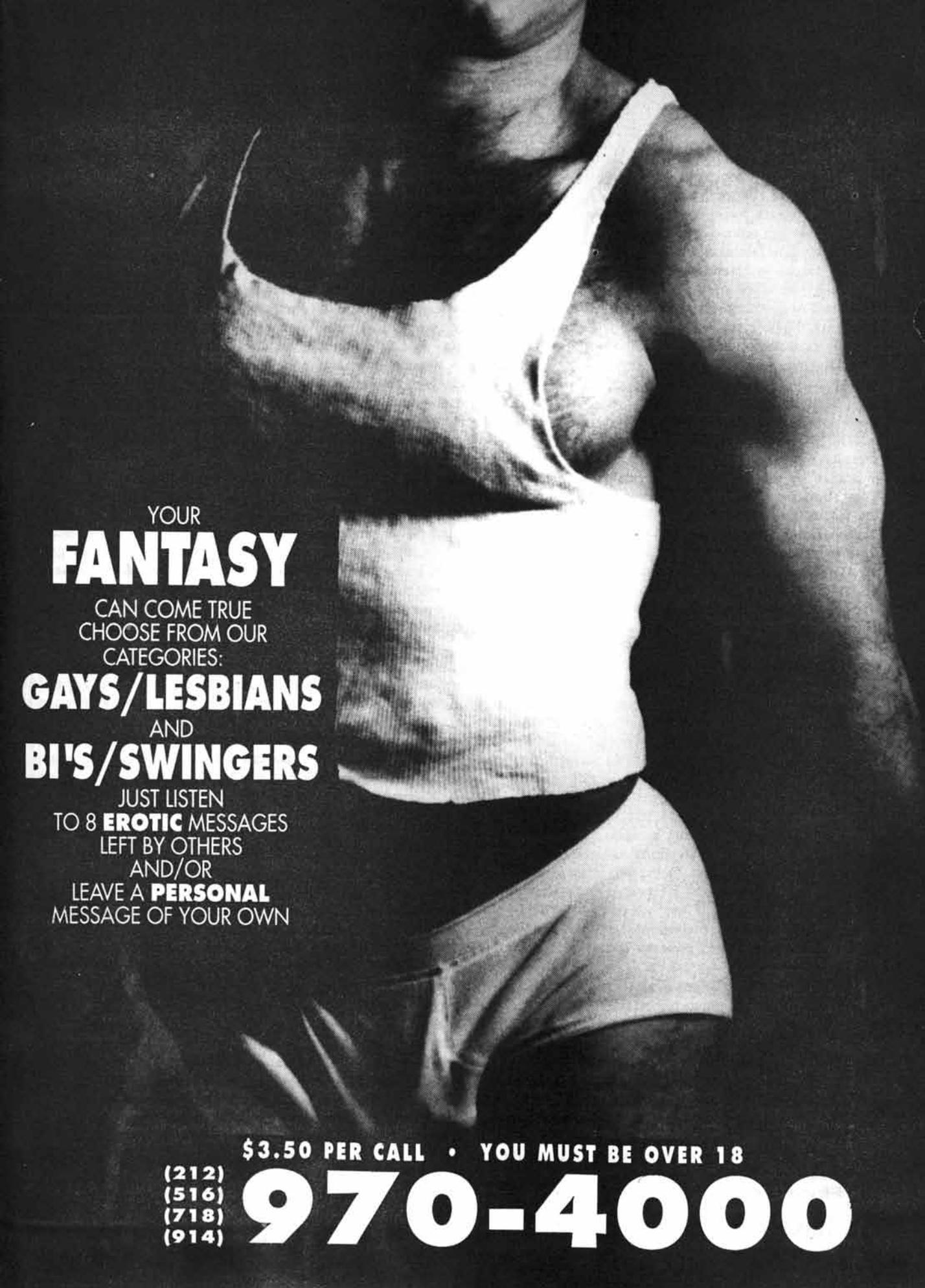
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might find a Sugar Daddy or Mommy who will sweep him or her off his or her feet to become a sort of protégé. Rumors persist of the cute, tuxed number who served a cocktail with the right amount of charm and is now living it up on Park Avenue as the kept boy of some gay millionaire. Thus persists the myth of "social climbing."

My career in catering reached its crescendo the week of the Stonewall Twentieth Anniversary. My boss for this company, Debbie, called to ask if I wanted to work for the Centennial of the *Wall Street Journal* and serve President Bush.

"Well, I don't know if George minds being served by a 'known homosexual,'" I joked. I gave her my social security number and presumably got clearance by the S.S. (Secret Service). That Thursday I was passing bread at the Winter Garden, inches from George himself. Here I was tuxed up and with a fresh haircut, when only days before at an ACT UP meeting I had recommended and supported a protest in honor of the Prez. That week I had also participated in a demonstration targeting millionaire publisher Malcolm Forbes about some horrific, homophobic remarks made in his *Forbes* magazine. I was elated that I would be filling my time with such a diverse range of activities—militant activist fag on Tuesday, formal food lackey to the arch-conservatives on Thursday. The S.S. was either more inept or more tolerant in its investigations.

As it turned out, I didn't actually serve Babs or George. They don't eat at these shindigs. Whether they aren't allowed food tasters or fear a bomb in the pate isn't clear. But if you've ever seen how the grub at these massive fetes is prepared, you'd pass on the entree as well.

While the media swarmed around the Prez, getting their photo opportunity, a handsome S.S. man with the ubiquitous earphone asked me if I'd like to serve champagne to the President of the United States.

"Sure," I responded without a moment's hesitation. I had stopped by the Office of Creative Time that morning specifically to pick up some Gran Fury (an activist group) postcards hoping to foist a few on King George, the Kindest

and Gentlest. The cards read "Kissing Doesn't Kill: Greed and Indifference Do," and feature three gay and straight couples kissing. A rather ironic and personal protest, I thought. Serve dinner to some of the top corporate heads and then slip this little piece of positive propaganda to the highest elected official of our most greedy and indifferent.

My palms grew sweaty as I fingered the two remaining cards in my tux breast pocket. Could I get this harmless yet pointed card to George or Babs before being wrestled to the ground? Would I erupt in a fit of leftist rage, take the microphone onstage and shout to the stuffy crowd, "More AIDS funding NOW, you greedy dogs!?" But most important, would I still get my paycheck even if I got arrested?

My S.S. man escorted me to the backstage area behind a huge stage set built to resemble a gargantuan white birthday cake. While I waited to be given the Presidential bottle, another S.S. man sidled up to me. I grew nervous. Did they secretly know I was an activist? Was I to be pegged as a fake Oswald? Would a bogus weapon be slipped in my tux pocket beside my service napkin?

"Just a minute," my first S.S. man said. He pressed his hand to his earphone and said to me, "We gotta guy already, but stay here."

I felt simultaneously disappointed and relieved as Rob, the "A" waiter at George's table, approached the back stairs to the stage, escorted by yet another S.S. agent.

"So sorry, dear," Rob sneered. "But since I'm the 'A' tonight, it seems I get to serve the President." Rob smiled a reptilian grin as the media floodlights haloed his blond crewcut. He served the champagne with ease and was featured in the background video footage of several news services that night, while Bush, Babs and the *Journal's* chairman clinked glasses in a glow of conspiring, greedy elation.

My bold moment was stolen by a waiter with absolutely no political convictions, a dashing yet spineless guy with more interest in celebrity and summer shares than AIDS treatment or gay rights. He later begged my forgiveness, telling me he simply HAD to serve the big two and get a note to them inviting them to a horseshoe tour-

nament on behalf of his mother, a Georgia State champion. "She'll be so thrilled," Rob cooed, having succeeded in passing his note to Babs, while mine remained in my pocket. Had I been fed an actual meal that night I would have bopped the queen right there. But I merely wrote it off as yet another night of political incorrectness.

Hours after George and Barbara went on their Presidential way, S.S. entourage with them, fifty of the cutest waiters (myself included, thank you!) emerged from the enormous cake atop the stairs of the Winter Garden, each of us carrying a tray of tiny candlelit cakes. My musical theater training came in handy as I stepped down the platform without looking down. Out there in the dark were corporate heads who daily slighted gay and lesbian rights, and the hundred and fifty other waiters who did little to stop them. I marched down with the other men, a somber black chorus line. We served dessert with tired and artificial grins. Happy Birthday, *Wall Street Journal*, Happy Birthday to You!

At two am, after the departure of the last and most drunken guests, I changed in a dusty back room with other waiters. My remaining Gran Fury cards were distributed among friends. As we changed, I recalled other waiters with whom I'd flirted, exchanged phone numbers, slept with. Catering may not reinforce political convictions, but it's great for dating. This night, however, I didn't feel up to pursuing anyone. My moment for a bold and dangerous political statement had come and gone. I was a weenie, a closet liberal like all the other waiters. On the night that has since become my last as a cater waiter, I had the opportunity to enact the fantasy of many repressed cater waiters: obvious and pointed revenge. But the moment was extinguished.

Regardless of gay and lesbian political convictions, the industry of pleasing the ruling class lurches on in grand proportions. Every night another gala fundraiser makes a few hundred thousand and costs almost as much to produce. Every night gay men, who don't realize that gay rights don't come served in a fluted glass, graciously serve those who would prefer them dead. ▼

ARMY LESBIAN continued from page 11

Supreme Court decision of "Bowers v. Hardwick" found that homosexual acts are illegal.

The court said that if such laws were wrong, gay men and lesbians had the growing political power to change those laws, citing a *Time* magazine report that "one congressman is an avowed homosexual." (There are actually two: Barney Frank and Gary Studds, both Massachusetts Democrats.)

Finally, it declined to question the rationality of the Army's ban on gays, agreeing that gays are more prone to commit sexual crimes than heterosexuals, and that there are compelling reasons, such as morale, for keeping out gays and lesbians.

Ben-Shalom called the court's reasoning "dumb, dumb, dumb." She said, "I'm not asking for the privilege to commit misconduct. I'm asking for the privilege to serve my country."

"Traditionally, one of the ways of showing citizenship is serving in the military. America stands for fair play. Let us have a chance to show what we can do."

Ben-Shalom, a mother and a public school teacher, is studying to be certified to teach emotionally disturbed children. She said that if she had not been discharged she might have joined the regular Army as a career.

Ben-Shalom is a drill sergeant with an Army Reserves reception battalion, which prepares newly-enlisted soldiers for boot camp. She was one of the first women to become a drill sergeant. Her superiors have consistently praised her as an excellent soldier.

She has never been accused of committing a homosexual act in the service. The Army has argued, she explained with sarcasm, that because she is a lesbian, "I have an inherently criminal nature."

But, she said, the regulation banning gays and lesbians is only an administrative rule, and can be changed. She said that if each U.S. senator and representative received 100 individual letters from constituents, the rule could be changed.

Willy-Nilly Spending

Citing Department of Defense figures, she said the military spends \$100 million each year to ferret out 2,000 lesbians and gay men. She called that "outrageous, willy-nilly spending of the taxpayers' money" and wondered what her own 14-year case has cost.

Although Judge Gordon's order included a provision for the government to pay for her legal fees for a portion of the case, the decision by the 7th Circuit overturned that, too. Ben-Shalom said she does not know how she will get the \$75,000 that will probably be needed to get to the Supreme Court.

Donations to Miriam Ben-Shalom can be sent to the Angermeier and Rogers Trust Account, 625 N. Milwaukee St., Milwaukee, WI 53202, with a note that the donation is for her case. She said that if her court costs are eventually paid by the government, any extra money would go to a defense fund for other gays and lesbians.

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XEROXED continued from page 9

your building to Mr. Popham—not because it is to him and not to me, but because he was a closeted gay man who used every wile in his arsenal to prevent GMHC from issuing sex guidelines and thus, to my mind, had as much blood on his hands as Charles Ortleb and the *New York Native* have on theirs for convincing so many people not to take AZT and just as there is blood on the hands of Mr. Jeff Levi for preventing release of promising drugs two years ago and just as there is blood on my hands for trying to strangle some life into you—child of my youth that has turned against me and made me scream out in so much anguish for your awful failings, your ineptitudes, your all too tragic frailties at a time when there is no time to be weak and cowards.

I do not wish to be commemorated in your building. I am ashamed of the organization that bears the name I gave it. I certainly don't want to be acknowledged by the current cast of characters who deem themselves the keepers of the "honor" roll. No, please leave my picture down in that classroom. You don't teach any lessons that I want to be associated with.

And, in dedicating your new building to Paul Popham, you are not only kicking me in the balls, and kicking the other co-founders as well, but you are ignoring the valiant deaths of every PWA who ever walked through your doorways — and to whom the building *should* be rightfully dedicated.

In case I have not made it clear—because of all that I have written above, I think you are despicable. And I want the world to know it, too.

GMHC Responds:

Dear Larry,

In response to your let-

ters of August 10 and 21, 1989 to GMHC's Board of Directors, I must first express my deep dismay at your gross misstatements of fact. We all understand the frustration engendered by the AIDS crisis, but your goals are our goals—GMHC is not the enemy. GMHC's board, staff and volunteers fight the epidemic with passion, intelligence and a commitment that has not faltered in eight years. We currently serve 2,500 clients and have provided services to over 8,100 persons with AIDS, ARC or HIV infection; every year the Hotline answers over 50,000 calls and we distribute some 725,000 pieces of up-to-date AIDS education literature. This year we helped stop 58 repressive bills in the State legislature. We have built a coalition of 150 agencies that presses the AIDS community's funding agenda in Albany. We fought along side other community-based groups and public health experts to stop mandatory reporting dead in its tracks. We also coordinate an army of 1,800 volunteers that give over 10,000 hours a month to help fight AIDS. All these efforts are housed in a building that is always full of life, whose doors open early and close late. I recount all this because you seem to have forgotten that the work we do is on your agenda as well as ours. Your personal attacks on the Board, your assessment of GMHC, and your presuming to speak for and about the staff of GMHC make absolutely no sense in the light of what GMHC accomplishes day in and day out.

The Board of Directors and staff of GMHC have nothing to apologize for. Board members devote enormous amounts of time, energy and skill to help GMHC do what it does well. Your personal attacks on

Board members are inappropriate. Our record number of 118 staff and 1,800 volunteers are completely committed to the welfare of GMHC. We have attracted over 100,000 donors and make sure that the money donated to GMHC is used wisely and well. Your attacks would be better aimed at apathetic leaders in government and private industry who refuse to face the facts of this epidemic.

GMHC shares your goals on early access to drugs and treatments. The AIDS Action Council and our Medical Information Program continually press for this mutual agenda. Dr. Barry Gingell was an extraordinary individual who did the work of two people, effectively lobbying in Washington, D.C. while heading up GMHC's Medical Information Program in New York. GMHC continues to fund that fight for early access to drugs. After his death in May, we immediately began interviewing candidates for two positions, an advocate in Washington and a new Medical Information Consultant. Jeff Levi was hired to carry out GMHC's policy in Washington and Dr. Gabriel Torres will serve as medical consultant to the Medical Information Program.

GMHC is committed to going anywhere at anytime to work with any group to fight on the critical issues of early access to drug therapies. Anyone hired to carry out this policy will be judged fairly on his or her ability to be effective in accomplishing our goals. Two days after being hired, Mr. Levi attended the Parallel Track Committee meeting where he worked with organizations such as ACT UP and Project Inform in putting together a consensus statement that presented a unified voice of the AIDS community. Mr. Levi advocated on behalf of the

statement's principles at the meeting and GMHC wholeheartedly endorsed the consensus statement, joining with 17 other organizations to reflect a unanimity of opinion on how to proceed with earlier access. The spirit of that statement and its show of coalition strength is a prime example of how GMHC has worked and will continue to work with other organizations in the political arena.

GMHC is on a steady course that allows us to constantly evaluate and change our programs and policy when appropriate in light of evolving political situations and scientific progress. We are open to constructive criticism and we often survey the people we serve to find out how we can do more. The services we provide and the advocacy work we do are designed to accomplish the same goals for which you strive.

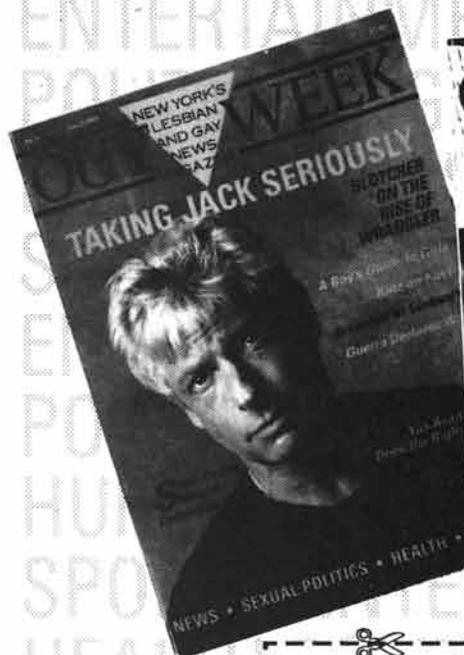
No one can disagree with your anger and frustration at the impossibly slow pace of our government's response to the epidemic. ACT UP has been successful and is making a vital contribution to the fight against AIDS. GMHC believes diverse groups need to exist within the AIDS community to meet the needs of diverse populations. We also believe that by working together each individual group can become stronger. Our funding to over 21 other organizations is proof of our commitment to helping and joining other groups in a coalition that can speak with a united voice. That is the voice our government needs to hear, so that it realizes it must deal not only with our different strategies, but respond to our common demands for access to drugs, treatments, research and services. Together we can fight the real enemies—bigotry, apathy and AIDS.

Joy Tomchin, President
Board of Directors

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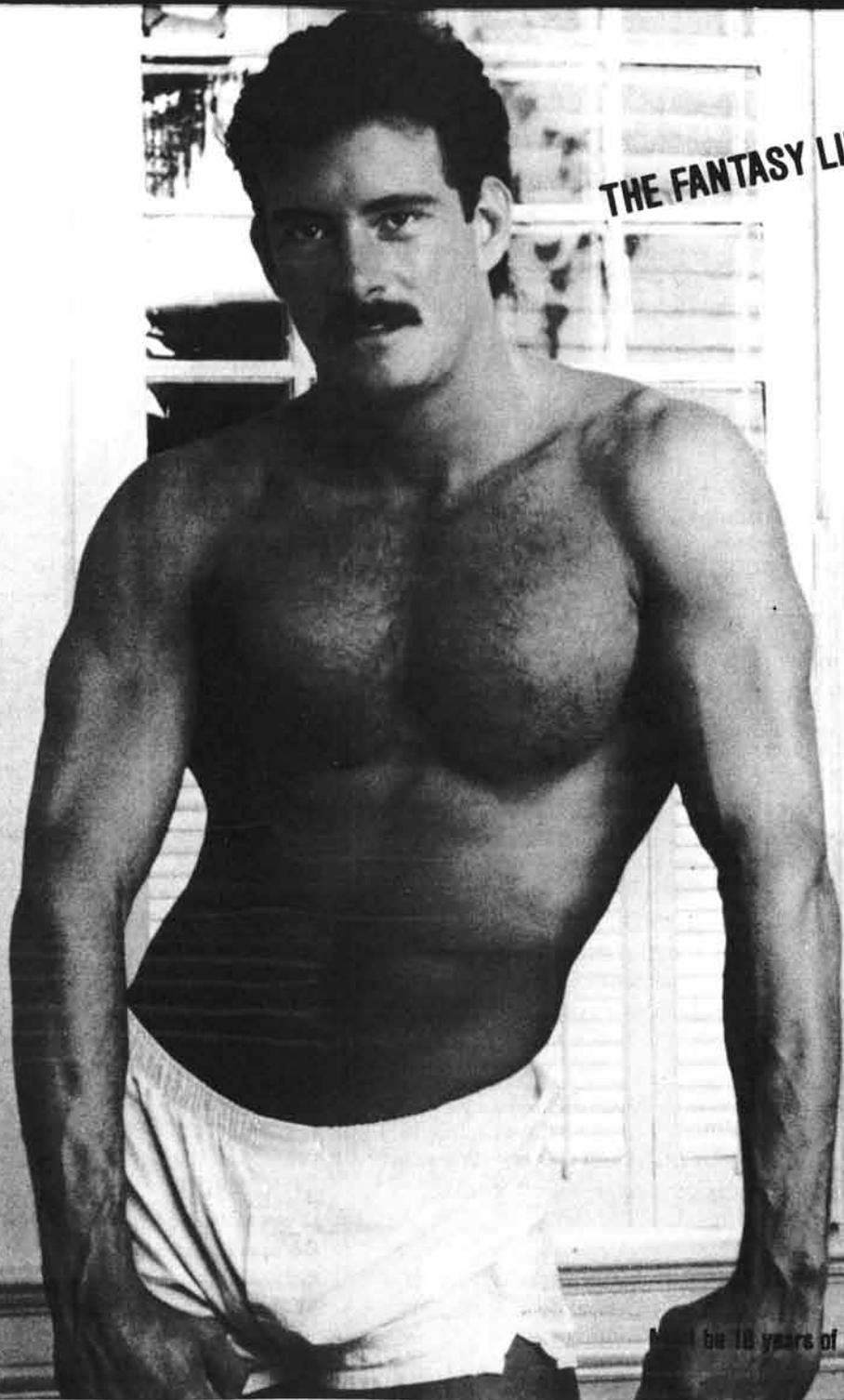
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TUESDAY

AUGUST 29

CENTER SPORTS goes to **Yankees vs. Oakland Athletics**; 7:30 pm; \$16 & \$21; 620-7310 for membership

FRIENDS OF RUTH MESSINGER **Mass Meeting and Mailing**, with appearances by Ruth and David Dinkins; at DC 37, 125 Barclay St, Room 1 (A,C,E to Chambers St; 2,3 to Park Place); 6-8:30 pm (come at 6 to meet Ruth); RSVP 268-1746

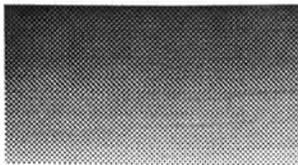
WEDNESDAY

AUGUST 30

NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS **Auditions**, in preparation for its 10th anniversary season; openings in tenor, baritone and bass sections; 7-10 pm; 691-7590

STEPHEN HOLT SHOW presents **Scott de Freitas**, young blond hunk Andy Dixon on *As the World Turns*, romping at the beach in Connecticut; Manhattan Cable Channel 17D, 9 pm

EAGLE BAR **Movie Night: Dangerous Liaisons**; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451



THURSDAY

AUGUST 31

INTEGRITY/NEW YORK **Episcopal service and program**, with **Officer Vanessa Ferro**, NYC Police Department Liaison to the Lesbian and Gay Community, talking about her work; at St. Luke in the Fields, 497 Hudson St (btwn Christopher and Grove); 7:30 pm; 718/720-3054

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 1

FIRST ANNUAL EAST COAST LESBIANS' FESTIVAL at a "beautiful private camp in Western Massachusetts," through Labor Day Monday, Sept. 4; info 718/643-3284

ASIAN PACIFIC LESBIAN NETWORK **First National Asian Pacific Lesbian Retreat**, through Labor Day Monday, Sept. 4; in Santa Cruz, CA; 415/221-7922

WOMEN ABOUT **Weis Ecology Center camping trip**; through Sept. 4; 353/0073, 201/481-0440

GAY FATHERS FORUM **Monthly Meeting**, with potluck supper and program; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7 pm; 473-9046

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER **Consciousness-Raising Session: NYC Racial Relations—How I Live and Survive**; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7:45 pm; 222-9794, 245-6366

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT **Law, Love, Wills and Desire: Legal Workshop and Clinic**; discussing gay parenting, partnership agreements, estate planning, wills, health and life insurance, power of attorney,

joint finances; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; 718/802-0162, 718/756-1548

COLUMBIA GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE **First Friday Dance**, open to all; free refreshments in social lounge downstairs, dancing upstairs; Earl Hall, Columbia U. (#1 train to 116 St & Bway); 10 pm - 2 am; photo IDs to drink; 854-1488, 854-3574

CONGREGATION BETH SIM-CHAT TORAH **Last day to enter names in the Yiskor Book of Remembrance**, to express love for those who have died but remain fresh in memory; 929-9498

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 2

STEPHEN HOLT SHOW presents **Scott de Freitas**, young blond hunk on *As the World Turns*, romping at a beach in Connecticut; on Manhattan and Paragon Cable Channel 16C; 11 am

CREATIVE FAIRES, LTD. **New York Renaissance Festival**, open every Saturday and Sunday (plus Labor Day Monday) through Sept. 17; in Sterling Forest, reachable via Short Line Bus from Port Authority (736-4700), lv NYC 10:15 am, lv Sterling Forest 6:15 pm; \$12 adults/\$10 seniors/\$5 kids age 6-12; info 914/351-5171

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 3

CREATIVE FAIRES, LTD. **New York Renaissance Festival**, see Saturday, Sept. 3



MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 4

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CREATIVE FAIRES, LTD. **New York Renaissance Festival**, see Saturday, Sept. 3

LADY BUNNY AND FRIENDS present the **5th Annual Wigstock**, the nation's leading wig and drag extravaganza, in Tompkin's Square Park, all day and night; 7th St and Ave B

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 6

GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION **Monthly Meeting**; today and every first Wednesday; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; 966-1700

GAY AND LESBIAN INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS **Pre-Victory Celebration** with openly-gay City Council candidates Tom Duane and David Taylor; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; 475-0271

A DIFFERENT LIGHT BOOKSTORE presents **Ken Mandelbaum** and his video tribute to the work of Michael Bennett, coinciding with the publication of his *A Chorus Line and the Musicals of Michael Bennett*; 548 Hudson St (btwn Charles and Perry); 8 pm; free (limited seating); 989-4850

EAGLE BAR **Movie Night: Last Temptation of Christ**; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451



Best Bets

DANCING FOR MEN & WOMEN MONDAY

Private Eyes 12 W 21 St. 212/206-7770 (preppie; male strippers, 2-4-1 till midnight)

***Mars** Westside Highway at 13 St. 212/691-6262 (mixed crowd, Monday nights began this summer)

TUESDAY

***Love Machine** Broadway at 17 St. 212/254-4005 (at the Underground)

WEDNESDAY

Club Lafayette 428 Lafayette St. 645-6479 (Scott Currie & R. Couri Hay)

Private Eyes 12 W 21 St 206-7770 (Dallas and Sanker's CLUB BAD)

Spectrum 802 64 St. Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (free admission all night)

THURSDAY

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl 212/674-7959 (has a new wave drag show)

***Copacabana** 10 E 60 St 212/755-0610 (last Thu. of the month has Susanne Bartsch party)

***Mars** Westside Highway at 13 St. 212/691-6262 (mixed gay/straight; Thursdays gayer than Fri & Sat)

Spectrum 802 64 St Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (free admission all night)

FRIDAY

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl. 212/674-7959

Columbia Dances Earl Hall, 116 St & B'way 212/854-3574 (1st Friday of every month)

Funk, Inc. 428 Lafayette St. 645-6479

***Mars** Westside Highway at 13 st. 212/691-6262 (mixed gay/straight)

Private Eyes 12 W 21 st. 206-7770 (preppies and young professionals)

Spectrum 802 64 St Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (m/f strippers)

SATURDAY

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl. 212/674-7959

***Mars** Westside Highway at 13 St. 212/691-6262 (mixed gay/straight)

Private Eyes 12W 21 St. 206-7770 (Club Chicago for Men, preppies)

Sound Factory 530 W. 27 St. 643-0728 (non-alcohol, House music)

Spectrum 802 64 St. Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (guest performer night)

SUNDAY

***Mars** Westside Highway at 13 St. 212/691-6262 (Chip Duckett's "Mars Needs Men" night)

***Pyramid** 101 Ave A 420-1590 (Hapi Phace and Drag + Variety Show)

Spectrum 802 64 St. 718/238-8213 (show; free admission)

EVERY NIGHT

Monster 80 Grove St. at Sheridan Square 212/924-3557

Tracks 531 W. 19th 212/627-2333 (exc. MON)

* (TVs welcome)

WOMEN-PREFERRED DANCING

NOTE:

Party events are subject to change.

TUESDAY

Hatfield's 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, Queens
718/261-8484

WEDNESDAY

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Road, West Hempstead, LI 516/486-9516

Bedrox 316 W 49 St. 212/410-5887

THURSDAY

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Road, West Hempstead, LI 516/486-9516

Club Lafayette 428 Lafayette St. 212/645-6479 (Shescape, "Downtown Girls")

FRIDAY

Bedrock (West Hempstead, LI)

Tracks 531 W 19 St. 212/627-2333 (last Friday of month)

Cheeks 2000 Long Beach Rd. Island Park, LI 516-431-5700

Octagon 555 W 33 St 212/947-0400 (Shescape)

Visions 56-01 Queens Blvd. Woodside 718/846-7131

SATURDAY

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd., West Hempstead 516-486-9516

The Center 208 W 13 St 212/620-7310 (2nd and 4th Saturdays, & special events)

Club Lafayette 428 Lafayette St. 212/645-6479 (Shescape event, "Summer Saturdays")

Silver Lining 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Pk, LI 516-354-9641 (a.k.a. "The Lining")

Starz (836 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, L.I. 516/242-3857)

West 610 610 W 56 St. 212/410-5887

SUNDAY

Bedrock (West Hempstead, LI)

"**Hers & Hers**" at Downtown 666 Broadway at Bond St 212/979-1500 (every other Sunday only)

Lads 130 West Pond Rd. (Rt 22) White Plains 914-683-5353

Paradise 15 Waverly Pl 212/696-5555 (a.k.a. "Club Paradise")

EVERY NIGHT

Cubby Hole, 438 Hudson Street 212/243-9079

Duchess II, Sheridan Square

All Phone numbers are area code 212 unless otherwise indicated.

Adults only. 10¢/Min. 20¢ Post.



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LEVI continued from page 10

director of GMHC, told *OutWeek* that Levi is "an effective and articulate strategist who knows D.C. He may not be an expert on the drug approval process, but he is certainly an expert on AIDS in general. GMHC has always had a strong position on treatments. I take what Larry says seriously, but I must say I don't understand this one. Jeff has always been a team player who will continue to be on this issue. He knows financing and access issues as well as anyone," he said. Kramer responded "that's ridiculous. Levi is tempered by no one. He is a loose cannon."

Urvashi Vaid, who replaced Levi at NGLTF reacted angrily to criticism of Levi. "I believe Jeff will do a super job representing the lesbian and gay community in the fight for access to experimental treatments. He knows the business inside and out. Having worked with Jeff for over six years, I think it is completely unfair to characterize his work as cow-towing to any government agency. It's particularly outrageous for Larry to compare him to Jesse Helms. He's on the same side as ACT UP, Project Inform and Larry on this issue." Vaid pointed out that Levi, as executive director of NGLTF, gave his blessings to her and fellow NGLTF employee Sue Hyde's participation in the October 1988 ACT UP demonstration at the FDA headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. One of the protest's demands was a speedier drug approval process.

GMHC and ACT UP

Others took a wait-and-see approach to the appointment. Mark Harrington, a member of ACT UP's Treatment and Data Subcommittee, said Levi should be given a chance to prove himself. "Although he opposed treatment IND [investigational new drug—the FDA's first attempt to shorten its approval process] at the start, the most important thing is that he will now have GMHC's position. He will do things in their interest," said Harrington. He added that at the FDA advisory committee hearing Levi was "loyal" to the parallel track consensus statement. "I just hope we can all work together as we did on the paral-

lel track statement.... Of course GMHC is going to take a different tack than we do. We send people down in buses on an ad hoc basis, they work with insiders. Both approaches are necessary. We would never have a D.C. person like they do."

Levi, for his part, told *OutWeek*, "My record speaks for itself.... I have always supported fast tracking. In this position I will be representing GMHC, which I will do with pride and confidence.... I have asked them to find in my record any evidence that I am not supportive of fast tracking. I'm not even sure my position is much different than ACT UP's."

Levi will work two days a week lobbying the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health to hurry the development and accessibility of promising AIDS treatments. According to GMHC he will push for implementation of the parallel track system for access to promising AIDS-related drugs and therapies. (Parallel tracking permits the use of promising experimental drugs for life threatening illnesses while scientific clinical trials are ongoing, offering earlier access to treatments for people with AIDS and HIV-related conditions.)

In addition, Levi will work in conjunction with the Washington-based AIDS Action Council, (AAC), which is also funded in part by GMHC. He will also continue consulting work for other AIDS and lesbian/gay organizations. Both GMHC and Levi declined to disclose how much he will be paid. ▼

OUT TAKES continued from page 30

cases, has appointed Ann Bradley as its Director of Public Affairs.

Previously, Bradley was the Public Information Officer with the Los Angeles County Public Library, one of the five largest library systems in the nation, and, more recently, a public affairs manager at the California State University in Los Angeles.

"Silence does equal death," Bradley said. "Public information at NGRA will keep the human rights achievements of lesbians and gay men prominent in the media and, ultimately, the conscience of this country."
— Andrew Miller



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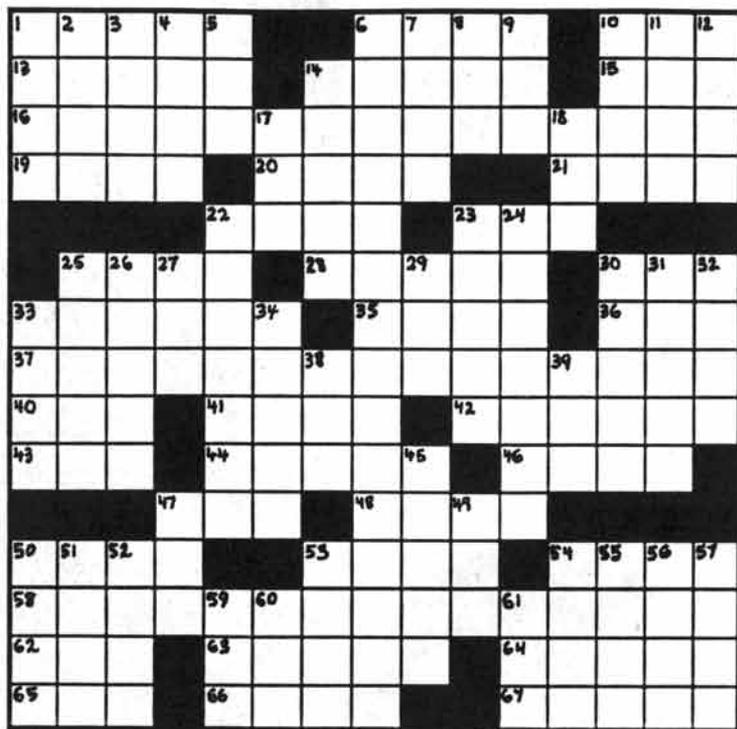
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YOU MUST BE OVER 18 • 5 MINUTES \$1

OutWeek Crossword

by Phil Greco

Edited by Gabriel Rotello



7. Priestly garments
8. Sailor
9. Cuckoo
10. Pro _____
11. Heed
12. Film with Sting
14. Persian coin
17. Spoil
18. Prefix: three
22. Gay genius Leonardo
23. Darts
24. Gay artist Rosa
25. Escape
26. _____ bear
27. Fresh
29. _____ Ryder
30. Star of *Querelle*
31. Rocket
32. _____ of the *Loon*
33. Boor
34. Actress Samantha
38. Borough (abbr.)
39. Poetic contraction
45. Egypt's Anwar
47. Cigarette
49. NY Native
50. _____ of Lesbos
51. Gay actor James
52. God of love
53. Jewish month
54. Flintstones' pet
55. _____ Ray
56. Dannemeyer
57. Arden and Harrington
59. Echelon (abbr.)
60. _____ Gershwin
61. Word with 47 Down

SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK ON SALE TUESDAY

ACROSS

1. She played Queen Christina
6. _____ *Hari*
10. Bisexual poet McKuen
13. Utopian
14. Gay Republican Terry
15. Gay Persian poet _____
Nuwas
16. Gay composer
19. This: Spanish
20. Insects
21. Martha _____
22. _____ show
23. Org. headed by Hoover
25. Sicily mt.
28. Author May
30. _____ *Boot*
33. Gay in China: a cut _____
35. _____ Kampf
36. Bygone
37. Composer who may have
been gay
40. *The _____ Couple*
41. Haing S. _____

42. Viewing
43. Actor Turhan
44. Grant and Elwes
46. Constellation
47. Pine
48. Singer Vicki
50. Thought
53. Robert or Alan
54. Porn's Ford
58. Gay choreographer
62. _____ Tze
63. Skill
64. Gay writer Gide
65. Essence
66. Poet Crane
67. Wares

DOWN

1. Rub
2. Summer drinks
3. Torn
4. _____ California
5. Palm leaf
6. Gay actor

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

ISSUE # 10



HardCore To
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 HANDcuffs B&D L
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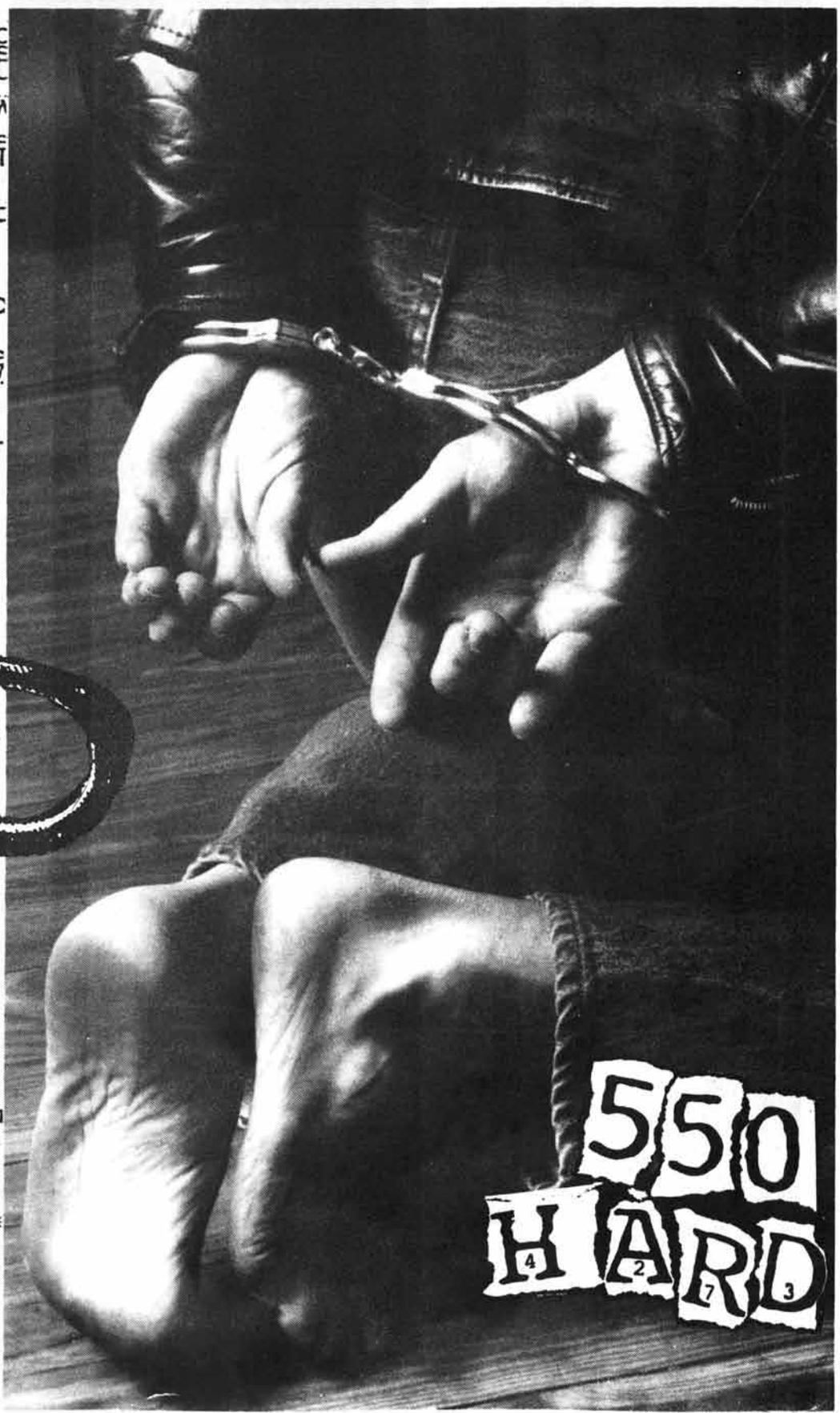
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KENNY KENNY, visually visual doorperson extraordinaire, guards the ropes at some of Manhattan's kinkiest, kookiest, kraziest klubs. He can frequently be found doing sentry duty at Suzanne Barstch's monthly megabash at the Copa, as well as Red Zone and Larry Tee's Love Machine.

Once dubbed by Dali as "moving lipstick," this native Irishman claims

he's twice removed from royalty (or thrice removed from reality, whatever). In a city that adores to adore doorpeople and then murders them brutally for being such snobs, Kenny is planning an early retirement into the film business, which requires more talent but is easier on the feet.

Catch Kenny Kenny at a velvet rope near you.

GCN

Gay Cable Network

Thursdays

10:30 pm

Pride & Progress

- Gay Week in Review
- Act-Up
- GCN Close-Up
- Sports
- Lavender Health

11:00 pm

The Right Stuff

- Naming Names
- All About Women
- Media Watch
- Staying Out
- Around the Country

August 31

Richard Dunne's Farewell Party

The AIDS Establishment Speaks Out

Larry Kramer Speaks Up

Gay Sports from LA

Razor Sharp

Sundays

11:30 pm

Men & Films

Reviews of male erotica along with interviews behind the scenes with film stars

September 3

Beau Beaumont Shows It All

Mondays

10:00 pm

Be My Guest

Sybil Bruncheon hosts a panel game show with surprise guests.

Frankie Loves Johnny An original gay soap opera.

September 4

Sybil Bruncheon Meets The Joker

Episode #12
Fantasize With Me



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