

blotcher on gay nudists - signorile on miss saigon

OUTWEEK

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NEWS
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S/M and the Test of Tolerance

The treatment of sexual minorities is a litmus test of social tolerance. And it's a litmus test most societies and individuals fail, even progressive and otherwise enlightened ones. In part, this is because sexual difference challenges not only people's irrational and deeply held aversion to nonconformity, but often their ethical, moral or religious beliefs as well.

People who wish to rid themselves of the curse of bias should therefore look long and hard at those prejudices which they feel are rational and "justified." It's important to determine whether one is basing one's bias on ethical, moral or political arguments, or merely using such claims to support bigotry which is, in reality, deeply emotional and irrational.

All this should seem patently obvious to queers, who as a people have endured centuries of irrational hatred based on supposedly "rational" arguments. But although it should seem obvious, it frequently is not. A case in point is the queer world's treatment of one of its primary sexual minorities, the S/M and leather community.

There are many arguments used by lesbians and gay men to deny validity or access to leather people. One is that S/M and its accoutrements are an affront to survivors—particularly, in our community, lesbian survivors—of incest, violence and sexual abuse. This objection has sometimes prompted the organizers of conferences and music festivals to deny or limit access to S/M practitioners.

Another argument, advanced forcefully in the reactionary book *After the Ball*, is that S/M gives all queers a bad image, and that for lesbians and gay men to achieve acceptance in society we must render S/M and its imagery invisible.

As with moral, ethical or political arguments against sexual difference generally, these contentions are not totally without basis. Some survivors of sexual violence are indeed made uncomfortable by S/M imagery, and straight America frequently equates S/M with queers. But to use such arguments to silence or repress S/M practitioners is no different than to use similar arguments to silence or repress lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transvestites or any other sexual nonconformists.

Like other such maverick movements, S/M is often a radical and liberating form of sexual self-discovery that's a positive force in many lives. People in the leather world are deeply integrated into both lesbian and gay male culture, and are often leaders in politics, service agencies and AIDS activism.

But even if S/M culture were permeated with apathy, escapism and negativity, even if there were nothing positive to say about it at all, that's still no excuse for its suppression within queer culture. It's easy to be tolerant of minor and superficial differences, or differences mitigated by acceptable traits. The true test of tolerance comes when there is indeed some rationale to bolster our bigotry, and we nonetheless rise above it to embrace even uncomfortable diversity.

This is what we, as queers, are asking from society in general. It's not too much to ask of ourselves.

OUTWEEK

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LETTERS

QUEEN AFFIRMATIVE

"We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars." —Oscar Wilde

In my opinion, James St. James and his "Diary of a Mad Queen" is a new star in *OutWeek's* galaxy of fabulosity. Debauched and proud of it, in the gutter but looking glamorous for it, James puts the high camp, hilarious irony and fun self-mockery back into being gay.

The Mad Queen's careening lifestyle may not be for everyone. A pretty sight? No. But a mad and fabulous spectacle? Yes! His "Diary" is about what comedienne Kate Clinton calls our Right to Laugh, including at our own outrageous selves. And just ignore all those offended by James' exploits. They're just grumpy gays—you know, "For love and for life, we're not going out."

Thanks to *OutWeek* for being so in your queen-affirmative face.

Robert Bray
Washington, D.C.

TIE A PINK RIBBON...

In a recent "Gaydar" article [no. 85, Feb. 13], Michael Goff asked where were the Pink Ribbons for the AIDS crisis? It got me thinking. Where, indeed?

Everybody at work is wearing a yellow ribbon for the soldiers in the Middle East. This past week I added a pink ribbon to my yellow ribbon. Once or twice a day someone asks me what the pink ribbon is for. I tell them that its for the over 100,000 Americans who have died of AIDS, as well as

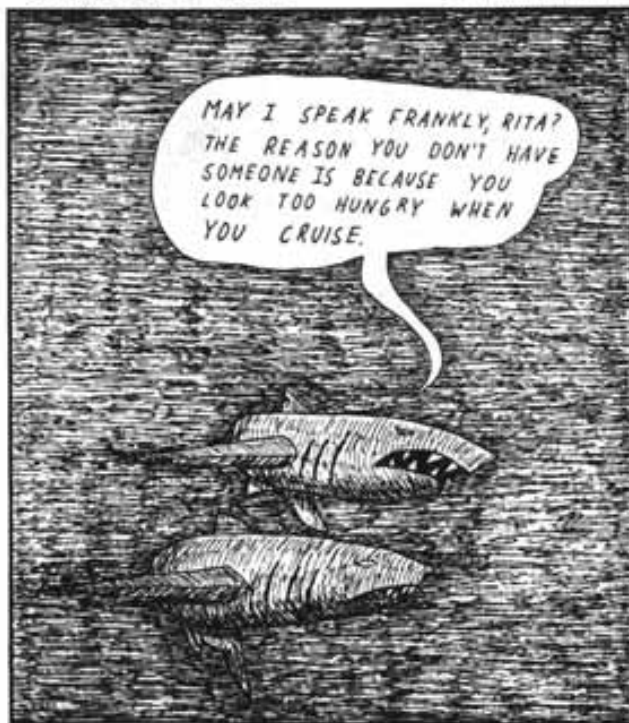
those men, women and children living with AIDS, and that I'm wearing it until a cure is found. They are impressed and sympathetic. Invariably, people have forgotten that this war is still being waged.

I think we should all remind the people we come in contact with each day that

Jan. 23]. Weight and image issues in the lesbian and gay communities could generate volumes of written material, and I think the pressure to "look good" is yet another form of oppression foisted upon us by the majority culture. Jay Blotcher's writing once again points out that

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



AIDS is still here, still killing.

I urge all my fellow *OutWeek* readers to start wearing a pink ribbon as they go through their day. We must not let others forget!

Michael Mondello
Middle Island, N.Y.

IMAGE ISSUE

Thank you for the article "A Matter of Gravity" [no. 82,

self-acceptance is a precious thing, and for many people hard to come by.

There are a few points I would like to have seen made more clear: 1) Being overweight does not imply the presence of an eating disorder. Most obese people eat no more than "normal" people. Nor is being fat a moral issue—the social projections

on fat people (that we're lazy, selfish, greedy and lack self-control) are unbelievably painful. It's been known for decades that people are fat for genetic reasons more than anything else (see Anne Beller's *Fat and Thin: A Natural History of Obesity*). 2) While it is possible for people who are prone to being fat to lose weight and look "normal" ("acceptable?"), it is hard work that takes a lifetime commitment. It is comparable to being a bodybuilder, professional dancer or artist: You always work or you lose your progress. What Jenny Craig, Nutri-System and Ultra Slim Fast won't talk about are the studies that consistently show 95 percent to 98 percent of dieters returning to their original weight within two years. Fat people are easy targets for judgement as negative social models of health and looks.

3) Ron, in the article, said it best: "I still have a fat person's personality." Fat or thin, the image issue is connected with growing up different and longing for the external acceptance of that difference. It's about wanting to feel OK about ourselves, yet still having that childhood fear of not seeing anyone like ourselves out there. How different would we feel if we'd had gay and lesbian role models and same-sex couples to look to growing up? How much more positive would we feel if we were encouraged in our uniqueness? Wouldn't it be nice to feel good about ourselves without needing to reinforce that feeling with negative judgements?

Thanks, *OutWeek*, for

BLURT OUT

A BOWERING WE WILL GO...

So much for mythologies that only the homosexual male species is zealous and finicky about colors, fabrics and home decoration. A recent article in *The New York Times* entitled "Designing Birds use Decor to Impress Mates," we learn of rabidly hetero bower birds who, aside from engaging in bullying mating rituals, "also drape trails of orchids over their bowers, daily replacing fading flowers with fresh ones." A scientist hot on the bower trail "offered bowerbirds poker chips of several different colors. He found that the birds have definite color preferences. They moved the chips around, placing certain colors inside their bowers and others in the courtyard outside. Some threw all the colors out."

—Sarah Pettit

helping us all toward the goals of loving and accepting ourselves and others.

Mark Moody
San Francisco

LAMB, BAM, THANK YOU, MA'AM

Having seen *The Silence of the Lambs*, I can appreciate the critical acclaim it is receiving even by your reviewer, Monica Dorenkamp [no. 88, March 13]. Her assessment is accurate but her conclusions are, in my opinion, way off. True, the queerness of the killers may seem "superfluous" and "inconsequential." But that is exactly the point so eloquently and rightfully argued by Michelangelo Signorile and others who have been schooled by the late, great Vito Russo.

The danger in this film is in the fact that it is so good. Laudable for the skill, talent and technique that went into it, it will definitely get someone an Oscar. And by those standards, it will deserve at least one award. And the fact that audiences, including Ms. Dorenkamp and her gay male friend, come away from the movie full of awe for its stars and director, only shows how potent and sinister are the forces of greed behind this movie. Those superfluous details that identify and mystify the queerness of the killers are, nonetheless, major contributors to the much-hyped eeriness. Absolutely unnecessary, as other details could have been used that would not betray any sexuality, but guaranteed to work on account of the sureness of mainstream America's unbridled homophobia.

Signorile is totally right-on! Keep it up.

Ted Paigle
Philadelphia

CROSBY, STILLS AND BASH?

Your editorial [no. 88, March 6] states, "Police and

their apologists claim that the current difficulties stem from a decision by activists to stop giving police advance information about the times and locations of demonstrations." Who's kidding whom here? The police in their "undercover" drag are at every ACT UP/NY meeting, we know it, they know it and you know it. The police had at least two hours notice regarding the Feb. 11 demo and I'm sure knew pretty much exactly what form that demo would take. There is no excuse whatsoever for the violent actions the NYPD took against a peaceful group of gay and AIDS activists that night, and no other minority group would put up with such bullshit. *Where is Mayor Dinkins?* When I saw the cops raise their billy clubs and charge us my first thought went to my own and my friends' safety. My second thought was to Kent State. Remember the Crosby, Stills and Nash song "Ohio"? Well, I sincerely hope I never have to hear Jimmy Somerville singing about "four dead in NYC."

Ron Parisi
Manhattan

MOM, I'M BI

With great personal interest I read the article on bisexuality ["Bisexual Revolution," no. 84, Feb. 6]. After all, bisexual articles (and especially books!) are generally few and far between. You see, I am a bisexual.

Hold on! I've been following the letters column since the article appeared. I know that many of you think I'm confused (after all, I'm young: 23) or copping out. In fact, I'm so far in the closet I wouldn't dare write an editorial letter to a gay magazine, let alone hold a subscription to one!

Sarcasm aside, let me offer yet another apology for

bisexuality. I am a Kinsey 3, which means I feel equal attraction for both sexes (actually, I am more physically attracted to men and more emotionally attracted to women, but that's just me). Before coming out I was every bit as sexually active with both sexes as I am today (though coming out has allowed me to form relationships). I have a girlfriend of six years, who I have always levelled with (even when I was in the closet). I have never "snuck out" on her, and, in fact, my lover moved in with us three years ago. As a family, we are open to practically everyone and we are active in the gay community here (although, we expect to increase our activism after we finish our degrees).

A writer recently spoke about the "growing acceptability" of bisexuality among college students and how easy it is for bisexuals to fit into the general straight society. Boy, have you got a lesson coming!

Sure, it's hard to come home and say, "Mom, I'm gay." But have you ever had to say, "Mom, not only am I breaking the 'gay taboo,' but I'm also breaking the 'bigamy taboo.'"? Have you ever been ostracized by straight society because you're "gay" while being ostracized by gay society for being "straight"? How about being the "token bisexual" everywhere you go? At every rally, every bar, every meeting? How about the thought that if gay marriage becomes legal you'll still be on the outside because of the afore-mentioned bigamy issue? How about being fag-bashed behind the local bar (last summer) and having no one in the gay community be sympathetic because "bis don't get bashed?"

And all this just for a *concurrent* bisexual. In fact, most bisexuals are serial, changing

back and forth between sexes over their lifetime.

Yes, people, we *do* exist. And yes, it's also true that some people adopt the bisexual title for concealment or confusion. But don't try to tell me how I feel. I swing back and forth in my general affections for him or her (or both) relatively quickly (a matter of weeks, days or even minutes) and not only is sexual desire a factor here: I'm talking about love, devotion—all those things that make a relationship work.

So go on ahead and feel your bigotry against bis like me. I'll still march in the marches, go to the meetings, petition for changes for your rights. But it would help if you would consider mine.

Chris Florence
Lexington, Ky.

POODLE POWER

I am frankly dismayed at how widely *OutWeek* missed the mark in its recent attack on the film *The Silence of the Lambs*. As far as the film's alleged homophobia, I must confess that I am of average intelligence, yet I experienced no confusion keeping the homicidal maniac, Buffalo Bill, distinct in my mind from gay people in general.

The bias in this film lies elsewhere and I am saddened that so astute a moral watchdog as *OutWeek* has missed the real outrage here.

What did appall me about this sickening film was its irresponsible depiction of french poodles.

The character of Precious, as played by the poodle Darla, was a complete and total lie. Another in a long and shameless line of yapping, brainless creatures with pom-poms for hair and no more sense than to jump down a well in pursuit of a chicken bone. I wonder if the producers of this film have ever lived in the same house with a poodle, or even looked

one in the eye and seen the lights that play there as it sits up and extends a paw. Doubtless, they have not. How else to explain the wanton and mean-spirited stereotype, Precious.

As someone who has loved—and yes, lost—a poodle, I would like to tell these callous moviemakers that the poodle—be he or she standard, miniature or toy—is a

noble breed, bred for hunting, meant to sack quail and help policemen track down fugitives with the aid, I always like to think, of psychics. An intensely spiritual dog, sensitive yet sprightly in movement, the poodle remains one of the most maligned creatures in fiction and film. We find no *Mimi*, *Come Home*, no *Allouette*; *Dog of the Yukon*. Instead, we are served up, even in these times

of censorious political correctness, with the same old soul-damaging characterization of the poodle as just some hand prop for one more cinematic dress designer.

I applaud *OutWeek* in its mission as moral arbiter. A thankless, never pleasant job, too easily mocked and dismissed with a deadly roll of the eyes, the job of critiquing fictional conceits and the dead

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seriousness they so obviously warrant is a labor you have courageously elected yourself to do. Thank you. Thank you for all of us in the community. But please, *OutWeek*, get your priorities in order. Poodles have feelings too.

John Calendo
North Bergen, NJ

CHRIST ALMIGHTY JESUS

I am not a Christian nor do I practice or believe in the Judaism in which I was raised. Yet I need to comment on "Stigmata Department," the lead item in Andrew Miller's "Rim Shots" [no. 88, Mar. 13]. I also have a list of gripes with the Catholic Church, St. Patrick's Cathedral and Cardinal O'Connor. However, to include "Christ Himself" on this list indicates that Mr. Miller, like Cardinal O'Connor, has no idea what

"Christ Himself" espoused.

Ross Jacobs
Manhattan

CALL ME

This is in response to the letter in the March 6, 1991 edition [no. 88] of *OutWeek* signed by Christopher Lynn. In his letter, Mr. Lynn purported to know the contents of an off-the-record conversation to which he was not privy. Instead of seeking an explanation, perhaps Mr. Lynn should provide information about the source of his knowledge.

As Mr. Lynn must be aware, I am the attorney he addresses as "the attorney for the ACT UP protestors." (Surely, if he had personal knowledge of the information he imparts he must be aware of my name.) On the day in question, the individuals arrested inside St. Patrick's

Cathedral were scheduled to make their final court appearance. Paul Scheckman, aka "chief honcho," and I were informed that Judge Kahn would like to meet with us, off the record and outside the presence of the defendants. Hence, the three of us and James Lin, the assigned prosecutor, retired to the Judge's robing room.

The conversation began with the judge informing us that she only agreed to preside over the cases because it was her understanding that the cases would be disposed of—that no legal arguments would be made, no legal rulings would be required. She indicated that she had previously advised her supervisor that she would be uncomfortable either actively participating in plea negotiations or rendering any legal decisions in

this matter. This was the first indication that Judge Kahn had some difficulty with the case.

After some discussion it became clear that Judge Kahn would need to take an active role in the plea-negotiation process. Since there were issues which both sides could not agree upon, the judge indicated that, although she felt she could be fair and impartial, "There were things in her life which may have bearing upon her decisions in this case." The prosecutor asked the judge to explain this cryptic comment and she refused. It was then that the prosecutor asked the judge to recuse herself.

This entire conversation took place in a room where only the four individuals mentioned previously were present. Mr. Lynn was certainly not among them. If Mr. Lynn had the courtesy to telephone

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SORMATOR



me and ask for an explanation of the off-the-record conversation, I certainly would have provided it.

Once we went back into the courtroom and on the record, the judge asked the prosecutor if he was proffering a motion for the judge to recuse herself. Mr. Lynn is correct about one thing—I had no position on her recusal. The judge had already admitted her reluctance to handle any legal questions and had indicated that she might be affected by some aspect of her personal life. Therefore, she was, in my opinion, obligated to recuse herself. Subsequently, in a separate but related case, Judge Kahn was asked to explain her reasons for recusal and she refused to offer any.

Judge Kahn, as presiding judge, certainly had the power to refuse to recuse herself if she felt she could preside over the proceedings. She chose not to do so. Any claim, by anyone, that the judge was "simply complying with a motion" is a complete distortion of reality. Judge Kahn, and Judge Kahn alone, knows the precise reasons for her recusal.

Next time, Mr. Lynn, instead of seeking a public explanation, call me...my number is in the book.

Lori Cohen
Manhattan

PLUCK OF THE IRISH

At the outset of reading Avril McDonald's article, "The Other Dublin," [no. 87, Feb. 27] I was very pleased. However, there are a few questions I would like the author to address, and also I have some points to make.

Without accepting, concerning or forgiving Ireland and the Irish for their homophobia, I think that it is far too easy to lash the system of social repression that is evi-

dent without any explanation. How about mentioning that, "Ireland's anachronistic legislation criminalizing homosexuality" was put on our statute books by the British. The state of the entire nation has profound historical and political roots. To address homophobia, or any repressive aspects of Irish society, one cannot ignore where those values came from.

The report was misleading when it stated that Ireland has never had a Gay Pride Day or march. I have been in several pride marches in Dublin. Having an Irish lesbian in New York tell me that they never happened is very disturbing. Also, Dublin is not Ireland and even though the article concentrates on Dublin, there are strong communities in Cork, Belfast, Galway and Derry where there have been marches always promoting visibility through fighting homophobia.

What annoyed me most is the notion that Irish lesbians and gays are being swept along by the tide of reform. If anything, I would find fault with the amount of energy that the gay community has always put into social reform issues because there has never been much positive feedback from straight activists.

For your readers' information there is an Irish lesbian and gay organization here in New York. For information call (212) 967-7711, ext. 3078. Or write to PO Box 4276, Rockefeller Station, New York, NY 10185.

Anne Maguire
Brooklyn

While it was certainly refreshing to hear a contemporary gay voice from Ireland, it would be doing many individuals and organizations a sad disservice to let many of Ms. McDonald's inaccuracies off the hook. "Ireland has never had a Gay Pride

Day or march" indeed! I, as a lapsed Dubliner, experienced no amount of *ruaille buaille agus reac sa tigh* on reading this. The absurdity of sentimentalizing the late '70s and early '80s we leave to the New World; nonetheless, I can recall many a lavender-tinged, Gay Pride Saturday afternoon in June in Baile Atha Cliath when many a straight Dubliner, Southern or at least South for the day, were also "gay for a day." The Powerscourt Center festooned with pink regalia, the green surrounded by queers of varying degrees of fabulousness—those were, in fact, the days, and it wasn't always as dire as she makes it sound.

Notwithstanding the current paltriness of turnouts for ACT UP/Dublin and candlelight vigils in honor of those who have died of AIDS, Dublin had at that time (the period of my recollection is from 1981, when I demurely shook off the dual confines of high school and the closet, until 1986, when the ongoing cultural strangulation supervised by the Roman Catholic church proved to be, in the end, too trying for me) a thriving if furtive gay culture, marked by highly visible resistance. Doesn't Ms. McDonald remember the Fairview Park murder and ensuing protests? Or the National Gay Federation's dogged efforts at media visibility, a tradition without which Senator Norris' admirable achievements would never have been realized as triumphantly (I hope) as they have?

Aside from its character as jeremiad, Ms. McDonald's account was very welcome. Much of the shameful truth of Irish small-mindedness is contained in her piece, and it is ruthless exposure of this sort that will one day, I hope

neutralize it.

Mark P. Ring
Brooklyn

Avril MacDonald responds: My essay was in no way intended as a history of gay politics in the Republic of Ireland since the time of British Occupation, but merely as a personal comment on the prevailing state of affairs based on my impressions formed during 22 years living in Dublin and a two-week visit home at Christmas.

If I failed to address the historical and political roots of Ireland's social repression or elaborate on the current church and government politics and was consequently misleading, I apologize.

However, to adequately explain why things are as they are would necessitate an inquiry into the Irish mind and its influences, and such a study was beyond my ambitions.

At any rate whatever the causative factors of the current social and political climate—and I take your point, Anne Maguire—the Republic has had ample time since independence to right the wrongs inherited from the British.

I did not suggest that Irish gays are being swept along by the tide of reform (which is still only in the pipeline), but expressed hope that this would not be the case. And I was not underestimating the achievements of Irish gay activists, but merely saying that homosexuality remains unacceptable in Ireland in spite of all their good work. I realize that it takes more than queer activism to change people's attitudes.

PECK/RUBENSTEIN

Can we have more of Ann Rubenstein and Dale Peck, please? I'm sure all readers have their fantasies about what we'd do if we

owned *OutWeek*, and mine is to give Rubenstein a cover story on the topic of her choice and to let Peck have a free rein in features. Rubenstein has a trenchant grip on topics ranging from foreign affairs to Saturday morning TV. She's also developing a true voice and her column has a strident, but even, sound. I know this past issue was Peck's first, but his psycho-social approach to music review makes real reading: He's nobody's press agent. The best writers are ones who address wide audiences, and both Rubenstein and Peck seem to have us all in mind. Unlike some *OutWeek* writers and columnists, they have references outside their own lives, an understanding of other worlds, and something to

say. These are the kind of writers you should be encouraging.

*Paul A.H. Babitts
Manhattan*

GWM BASHING

Just when I thought that gay direct-action groups had peaked in their ever-growing sport of bashing gay white men as convenient scapegoats for everything they dislike in this ugly, unfair world, I read more garbage that stuns me even more.

Both the Toronto chapter of Queer Nation and ACT UP/Seattle have passed new rules. As stated in no. 85 of *OutWeek* [Feb. 13] the rule in Toronto "gives any member of a 'traditionally oppressed minority' the right to interrupt discussion and point out to the facilitator any comment he or she

finds offensive. The facilitator is then obliged to halt discussion and move on to another topic. Questions about why the discussion is offensive are not entertained, and people with questions are encouraged to educate themselves, rather than actually asking a member of the offended group." In Toronto, the rule has apparently "driven away some of the group's most active members."

The definition of "traditionally oppressed minority" does not include gay men who are white. This is in spite of the fact that gay white men have suffered throughout history with being beaten up in school, in the home and on the streets, as have gays and lesbians of all backgrounds. This is in spite of the fact that hun-

dreds of thousands of gay white men were exterminated in Nazi concentration camps. This is in spite of the fact that many of us gay white men were brought up in poor families (myself included). This is in spite of the fact that many of us are suffering the terror and pain of HIV infection, the added discrimination it brings and the devastating loss of lovers and friends to AIDS for more than a decade.

The individuals in Toronto and Seattle responsible for allowing the new rules to pass are indeed pathetic characters. If they truly buy into these notions then they are remarkably stupid and narrow-minded. If they did it for pragmatic reasons, then they are fools and hypocrites. They have

THE NEW WORLD ORDER

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CAMPER



allowed themselves to be intimidated into codifying a form of double-standard morality even as they so zealously preach their opposition to such behavior when it is directed at other groups.

I have been to meetings in New York City of direct-action groups whose activities are so important and whose members have so much vital energy. I have seen lesbians and gay men and whites, Blacks, Latinos and Asians earnestly trying to work together to fight the injustices that plague us every day. But I have also witnessed a dark side to many of these same meetings: The manipulation of all that energy by knee-jerk ideologues; the know-nothing stereotyping that portrays gay white males as always power-hungry and financially comfortable; the irrational accusations and the tired left-wing rhetoric that renounces all evil in the world to one race (white) and one sex (male).

Last year, some members of San Francisco's ACT UP, when confronted with similar ideological in-fighting while thousands continued to die of AIDS, instead of limiting free speech and codifying a new double standard, chose an approach with more integrity. They started a separate group of ACT UP, which returned to the basics of what ACT UP was formed to do—fight AIDS by getting the government and other institutions to develop more and better treatments and by fighting all forms of discrimination against those who are HIV-positive or perceived to be.

One of the individuals who broke away is Daniel Sotomayor, a PWA of Puerto Rican background who is a frequent illustrator for *OutWeek*. Sotomayor has been particularly outspoken in exposing the new breed of

lunacy and hypocrisy. Although he may be the first to claim a large dose of self-interest in his actions (he wants to go on living), I admire him tremendously. He is especially courageous because, being a Latino, he was vulnerable to even more criticism for joining up with (perhaps leading) the new group which has so many of those villainous, power-hungry gay white males. He was particularly effective in responding in *OutWeek* to a very mean-spirited letter about his actions by two middle-class HIV-negative females, co-authored by Sue Hyde, formerly of NGLTF. As if they know what it's like to have AIDS. Hang in there, Daniel. You've got courage, common sense and you're nobody's tool. We need more like you.

Edward O'Toole
Manhattan

FUNGUS OR WHAT?

Just a note concerning the article, "PCP in Elderly has 'no Implications' for HIV Community" [no. 86, Feb. 20].

Paragraph one states that PCP is a "fungus."

PCP is not a fungus but a protozoa.

With so much incorrect information these days concerning AIDS and the opportunistic infections secondary to the disease, I just thought it necessary to point out the error.

Love your magazine!

Jim de Lacerda
San Francisco

BATTER UP

Cheers to *OutWeek* for including articles on lesbian battering in the two most recent issues [no. 87, Feb. 27 and no. 88, March 6]! It was refreshing to have media acknowledgement of such a closeted community issue.

Domestic violence or battering in lesbian, gay and

Corrections

* La Mama Theater's phone number is (212) 475-7710 and not 775-7710. We regret the error.

bisexual relationships occurs with probably the same level of incidence as in heterosexual relationships (which is estimated at around 40 percent). The actual incidence of domestic violence is most likely much higher than the current statistics indicate but, due to the isolation, shame and self-blame that accompanies and is caused by battering, survivors are less likely to report its occurrence. In addition to these factors, a further complication within the lesbian, gay and bisexual community regarding the underreporting of battering is that domestic violence is an atrocity that exists *within* the community and is perpetrated by community members; there is no external oppressor to point a finger at. Given the difficulties community members must already face at the hands and minds of homophobes, this reality can be an ugly one to meet.

It is the unfortunate reality that although our lesbian, gay and bisexual sisters and brothers suffer the same abuses that the battered women's movement has struggled against for the past ten years, there are still gaps in services to *our* community when it comes to shelters, adequate counseling services and appropriate responses from the criminal justice system. Given these factors, I would like to challenge the lesbian, gay and bisexual community to begin the painful process of acknowledging the incidence of battering within our community so that together we can provide assistance to those who are

being abused and require accountability from those who batter.

Lucy M. Notaro
Coordinator of Domestic
Violence Services
Gay and Lesbian
Anti-Violence Project
Manhattan

GO GLOBAL

Just a point of information on Duncan Osborne's article about the International Lesbian and Gay Association in issue no. 86, Feb. 20. Heritage of Pride, organizers of the Lesbian and Gay Pride Weekend Rally, March and Dance on the Pier, is, indeed, proud to add its name to your list as an active/paid-up member of ILGA for more than a year. This brings the count to five for *OutWeek's* documentation (NGLTF, Lambda Legal Defense, LGCS, GMSMA and HOP). If your organization is not a member, hopefully Mr. Osborne's informative and well-written article will urge you to join to further bridge any gap, bringing the US representation closer to the rest of the world in the constant struggle for all lesbian and gay rights.

Heritage of Pride
Manhattan

All letters to the editor must include a name, address and daytime phone, although names may be withheld at the author's request. *OutWeek* reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and space considerations.

NEWS

For Gay Jews, War Meant Divergent Political Choices



BOTH SIDES NOW—

Barrett Brick in Washington; Lesbian protestor in San Francisco.

by Duncan Osborne

NEW YORK—While U.S. involvement in the Persian Gulf conflict, which seemed last week to be winding down, gave both nationalists and peaceniks reason to take to the streets for a few months, the War-That-Was-Not-World-War III also provided lesbians and gay men with a rare view of the divergent, although deeply rooted, political con-

victions that exist in their community.

Nowhere was the sheer breadth of that political spectrum more apparent than among gay and lesbian Jews, who have been both some of the most zealous supporters of government policy and some of the most ardent anti-war activists.

"I am opposed to isolationism, I am opposed to appeasement of rapacious dictators and very much in sup-

port of Operation Desert Storm," states Brick. "The pink triangle is more than just rhetoric."

On Feb. 16, Brick led a contingent of gay and lesbian Desert Storm supporters, dubbed Gays Against Isolationism and Appeasement, to a rally in support of US involvement in the Middle East. The 20-member gay contingent, Brick said, was well received by the 500 other rally participants.

port of Operation Desert Storm," said Barrett Brick, executive director of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations, while the conflict was still raging last month.

Citing the course of events that led up to World War II, Brick stated that early appeasement of Hitler by Western powers allowed the murder of millions of Jews and tens of thousands of gay men and lesbians during the Holocaust. For Brick, President George Bush's analogy of Saddam Hussein with Hitler is quite real.

"It is both my experience as a Jew and a gay person

However, Brick is careful to distinguish between a pro-war stance and his support of Desert Storm. "Nobody in their right mind likes war," he told *OutWeek*.

The World Congress, the organization Brick directs, has not issued any statement on the conflict, despite Brick's position. "My sense is that support for Desert Storm ranges from grudging to enthusiastic," he noted.

The World Congress has 33 member organizations in six countries, with an additional 18 slated to join. Brick estimated individual membership between 8,000 and 10,000. The offices of one member group, the Israeli AIDS Task Force, sustained collateral damage in a SCUD attack on Tel Aviv.

But it is a Jewish lesbian who has led a coalition against American involvement in the war in the Persian

NEWS FOCUS

Gulf. Vehemently opposed to US intervention in the Persian Gulf is Leslie Cagan, coordinator for the National Campaign for Peace in the Middle East and a longtime New York gay politico. The Campaign organized the Jan. 26 rally opposing the war in Washington that drew 250,000 participants.

"I am completely appalled and horrified at the way our government executed policy in the Middle East," said Cagan. She dismissed the Hitler/Hussein analogy, and is even skeptical of the motives behind American government support for Israel.

"The alliance with Israel is strategic and not a part of ending anti-Semitism," she stated. In Cagan's view, the US is motivated by economic and political concerns, as it seeks to reassert superpower status.

Relating a nuanced stance typical of opinion on this war, Cagan rejects Hussein and the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, but added, "This is an example of a war that did not have to happen. When the US turned down the Soviet peace proposal, it was clear the US was hell-bent on a military victory."

She spoke for many gay and lesbian Jews across the country who involved themselves in one way or another in the anti-war movement as soon as the conflict erupted. Jewish gay men and lesbians marched in the streets of New York and San Francisco, wrote essays in the *Village Voice*, and focused the attention of groups like



"A WAR THAT DIDN'T HAVE TO HAPPEN"—
Leslie Cagan at an anti-war meeting in Washington

ACT UP and Queer Nation on the war.

They sometimes encountered anti-Semitism in the anti-war movement, brought to the surface by Israel's alliance with US foreign policy.

Those gay Jews on the other side of the issue found that anti-war stance incomprehensible. Another Desert Storm supporter is Miriam Ben-Shalom, a former US Army drill sergeant who

was released from the military when superiors learned she was a lesbian.

"As a Jew, I remember the six million, as a gay Jew I think of the 500,000 pink triangles who died at Dachau," says Shalom, who saw the US initiative to oust Saddam Hussein from Kuwait as a necessity, and expressed compassion for the Iraqi people.

See GAY JEWS on page 33

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How's He Doin'? Woody Myers' First Year at the DOH

by Duncan Osborne

NEW YORK—After his first year at the helm of the Department of Health, Dr. Woodrow Myers is drawing criticism from AIDS advocates and former department employees that his administration lacks leadership, fails to establish any cohesive policy and avoids debate on important issues. But high-level department appointees say the department's work has been constrained by significant budget cuts, and that Myers has opted for a style of low-key advocacy, keeping him available to all sides on controversial issues.

"I see no health policy, no direction, and no effective use of existing resources," said Richard Elovich, a member of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power and longtime advocate for needle exchange and drug treatment, who represented ACT UP on the city's HIV Planning Council.

Comparing Myers to Stephen Joseph, the health commissioner under former Mayor Ed Koch who was frequently at odds with ACT UP, Elovich added, "I did not agree with some of Stephen Joseph's ideas, but he was hands-on. Joseph enjoyed public debate. Myers is not interested in debate."

And the criticism comes from other quarters as well. "I sense some reluctance on Myers' part to come out publicly and strongly on public health issues," said David Hansell, deputy

NEWS FOCUS

executive director at the Gay Men's Health Crisis, whose organization backed Myers' appointment a year ago. While Hansell agrees that funding cuts equal to ten percent of the agency's total budget have hampered programs, he adds, "The dollars make it even

more important to be an advocate."

Recognizing that Myers has had to make a difficult transition from running Indiana's Department of Health to a far more complex agency in New York, Hansell nevertheless faults the commissioner for a lack of leadership, and says the department is possessed of an "ivory tower" quality.

"I don't have the sense that Myers is open to debate from outside the agency," said Hansell. "He is cut off from outside organizations."

Senior-level department appointees do see a subdued style on Myers' part, but insist he remains a successful advocate, despite the lower profile.

"I think the main difference is that the style of this health department is a little more subtle," said Ellen Lovitz, deputy commissioner for health support services, in contrasting Myers to his predecessor. "Dr. Myers chooses the behind-the-scenes, quiet, but nevertheless strong approach in lobbying for his positions."

Several advocates and former employees cited recent debate over the condom distribution plan put forth by Schools' Chancellor Joseph Fernandez when faulting Myers on advocacy. While Myers did testify before the Board of Education at public hearings, GMHC's Hansell wanted health department support for the plan to come earlier and more publicly. Health department officers say Myers' quiet advocacy was essential in passing the plan.

"Myers did speak publicly, but he also did other things," said Dr. Kenneth Ong, the health department's deputy commissioner for disease intervention. "Myers did speak to board members and I think he played a pivotal role in getting the swing vote."

Department appointees say Myers' low profile kept him accessible to all



HEALTHY LIVING—(left to right) General Counsel Ron Bogard, Deputy Commissioners Ellen Lovitz, Ken Ong, Rick Atkins, Peggy Hamburg, Asst. Dep. Comm. Jerry Flanders.

Photo: Ellen B. Neigra/OurWeek

board members during the condom debate and, according to published reports, it was a last minute phone call to Myers from school board member Westina Matthews, who held the swing vote, that convinced Matthews to vote in favor of the plan.

"I would have liked it if the commissioner had been more vocal," admitted Peggy Hamburg, deputy commissioner for family health services, who nevertheless approves of Myers' quiet profile. "Obviously his intervention with Westina Matthews was critical," she added.

"Myers gave the health underpinning for that plan," said Ron Bogard, the department's openly gay general counsel. "He consistently, throughout that process, put forward the public-health position."

But a similar complaint is made by advocates when discussing Myers' participation in the debate over proposed Centers for Disease Control guidelines that would have made HIV screening for healthcare workers mandatory. While numerous organizations, including the American Medical Association, the American Dental Association and the New York State Department of Health, weighed in with public statements, both pro and con, New York City's Department of Health did not appear to be in the fight.

Department appointees dispute this characterization. Both Ong and Myers travelled to the CDC to testify against such guidelines, and deputy commissioner Hamburg, a former employee of the National Institutes of Health under Anthony Fauci, claims that action by Myers in late December prevented the CDC guidelines from being published in the Federal Register, an initial step in making them law.

"Good politics is not always loud politics," said Dr. Richard Atkins, deputy commissioner for external affairs. "I think this commissioner is particularly sensitive to the nuances of politics, and able to use good political strategy often to its most effective end."

The harshest criticism of Myers' first year pertains to policy matters. Echoing ACT UP's Elovich, a number of former employees, admittedly bitter and angry about their departures from the department, say the department has failed to produce any unified policy for dealing

SWING OUT SISTER

CHICAGO—Mayor Richard Daley's choice to fill the long-vacant post of health commissioner is Sr. Sheila Lyne, a Roman Catholic nun from the Religious Sisters of Mercy.

But can a Catholic nun support the health department's pro-choice, pro-gay, pro-condom, pro-birth control policies?

Bishops, clergy and religious leaders worldwide have been silenced by the Vatican for deviating from the church line on these issues in recent years.

But Sr. Lyne says these apparent conflicts do not trouble her, and that people should forget about them and let her get to work. She has no plans to alter health department programs

in these areas, she said.

This response baffles ACT UP spokesman Tim Miller. "The conservative Catholics in Chicago can cause her a lot of trouble and the Daley administration is being naive if they think that that's not a possibility," Miller explained.

Lyne, whose appointment to the \$97,752 per year post must still be confirmed by the City Council, has been deputy director at the health department since last August.

The health department has been without an acting commissioner since last August and without a permanent commissioner since early 1989.

—Rex Wockner

with New York's health problems.

"Where is the policy?" said one former employee, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "What is Woody Myers' stance or policy? I don't think he has any policy, either macro or micro."

To an extent, even current departmental appointees concede this point, but insist that budget matters have drawn much of the agency's attention in its first year under Myers.

"It depends on what level you define policy at," said Hamburg, citing support for the condom plan as a

form of policymaking.

"There has not been a strategic plan that has come out of the department," Hamburg continued. "Our critical policy issues have been how to approach enormous budget cuts in a setting of problems that have always far outstripped resources."

Departmental appointees also insist that funding cuts notwithstanding, the department is moving ahead with programs and policies that are not receiving recognition.

see HEALTH on page 95

WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE?

WASHINGTON—Seven AIDS activists were arrested here Feb. 20 on charges of illegal entry, after occupying the office of the DC commissioner of public health for almost three hours. The demonstration was intended to call attention to what protestors called the "failure" of the DC Office of AIDS Activities to spend appropriated AIDS monies and launch HIV education programs.

With a small group of supporters and reporters in tow, the seven members of Oppression Under Target (OUT), a local gay and lesbian activist group, marched through the suite of offices comprising the DC Office of AIDS Activities and occupied the

vacant room of the office's chief.

The office, like the position, has been empty for two months. For one year prior, the post was filled by a temporary acting chief, who has since resigned.

DC Commissioner of Public Health Dr. Georges C. Benjamin explained to reporters that he has been unable to permanently fill the position due to a one-year hiring freeze and has only recently been authorized to begin searching for a new chief.

The protestors also criticized Mayor Sharon Dixon for not having appointed a new chief of AIDS activities in the two months she has been in office.

—Cliff O'Neill

US Hate Crimes Stats Grim: New York City Tops the List

by Nina Reyes

NEW YORK—The occurrence of hate crimes against lesbians and gay men rose drastically last year across the nation, prompting anti-violence activists to initiate a new strategy aimed at influencing national policy on the issue.

representatives and journalists, as he promised to personally deliver to state senators the forms documenting individual's testimony of anti-gay violence.

"We cannot bring back James Zapalorti, Julio Rivera, and the others who have been killed by acts of hate

increases in anti-gay violence throughout the country.

Last year's grim statistics, culled from reports made in six major cities, showed that violence against gay men and lesbians rose an average of 42 percent over incidents reported in 1989, while in Minneapolis/St. Paul, incidents leaped 133 percent over the previous year.

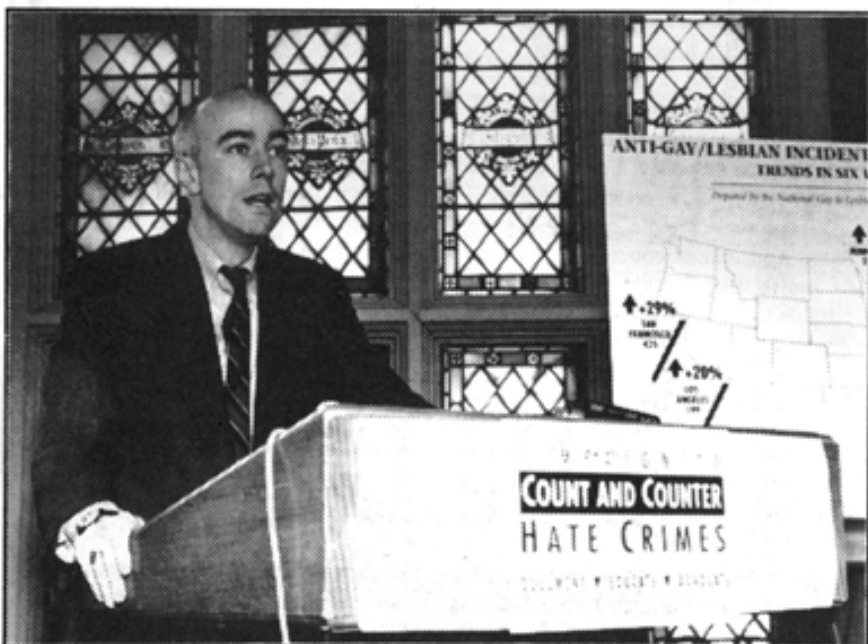
"The rise in documented anti-gay incidents reflects a variety of factors, including greater reporting by victims," observed Kevin Berrill, director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Anti-Violence Project. "However, such large increases, especially in the number of physical assaults, indicate that the severity of the problems has grown in these communities over the past year."

One potentially powerful tool that activists hope to utilize with the campaign is the Federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act, which was enacted with much fanfare last year. "We believe the FBI [which is charged with collecting and reporting crimes under the act] is making a vigorous and good-faith effort to implement the law," Berrill noted.

However, he warned, suggesting one area of advocacy that the Campaign to Count and Counter Hate Crimes would logically focus on, "This law will not be worth the paper it's printed on if it is not fully funded."

In New York City, which recorded the highest number of bias-motivated assaults in the study, anti-gay assaults rose 65 percent over 1989's figures. Altogether, 507 bias-motivated anti-gay assaults were reported here in 1990. The police department classified 102 crimes as anti-gay, a 108 percent increase over the previous year's total.

"We are saddened, but not surprised, to be leading the nation in anti-gay and anti-lesbian crime," says Matt



NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS—NGLTF's Kevin Berrill

On the local level, Mayor David Dinkins announced the launching of a bias-crime documentation project designed to sway Republican state senators, who have opposed state hate-crimes legislation that would increase penalties for perpetrators convicted of bias-motivated crimes. [The documentation form is reprinted on page 31.]

"It is essential that we secure this powerful new ammunition against all hate crimes," Dinkins said last week, before an audience of community-group

in our city," Dinkins stated. "But we can work together to prove the severity of this problem—and to put tough new laws on the books, to punish those who would deny us our right to be who we want to be, and to choose whom we love."

Both the mayor's documentation project, and the national campaign to encourage reporting of hate crimes and to advocate for more vigorous official intervention, titled the Campaign to Count and Counter Hate Crimes, were developed in response to sharp

Foreman, director of the city's Anti-Violence Project. "All of this was compounded by silence from civic leaders, community leaders and religious leaders."

One of the more chilling statistics that Foreman cited from last year's blotter revealed that at least once a week for 23 consecutive weeks, gang attacks on lesbians and gay men sent victims into the hospital. Foreman also disclosed that 80 percent of the hate-crime victims his agency dealt with required medical attention.

Altogether, 1,558 incidents were reported to anti-violence agencies in the six cities represented in NGLTF's study. San Francisco had the second highest number of recorded incidents, with 425, followed by Los Angeles which had 199, Chicago with 198, metropolitan Boston with 147, and 112 reports of anti-queer violence in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Activists emphasized that they believe the reported incidents reflect only a fraction of the episodes that actually occurred in the cities included in the study.

New York Attorney General Robert Abrams, surrounded by local and national gay anti-violence activists and victims of hate-motivated crimes, described hate crimes as "revolting, disgusting and intolerable."

Abrams also strongly urged his colleagues in the state legislature to pass the proposed hate-crimes bill in this legislative session. "It has been suggested that by dropping gays and lesbians from this legislation, the senate might pass it," Abrams related. "I reject this pernicious notion that we afford protection to some victims of prejudice while leaving others vulnerable. This is especially true of gays and lesbians, who are now the number one target of the merchants of hate in our society."

The Campaign to Count and Counter Hate Crimes, coordinated by the Task Force in conjunction with local gay and lesbian anti-violence agencies, and partially funded by a grant from the Public Welfare Foundation, was introduced last week simultaneously in cities across the country.

With the \$50,000 award to the Task Force's Anti-Violence Project, NGLTF became the first lesbian and gay organization to receive a grant from the Public Welfare Foundation. ▼

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OUTTAKES

CHURCH RAINS ON IRISH GAY'S PARADE

NEW YORK—The Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization has had its application to march in this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade, on March 16, turned down by the parade committee, on the grounds of "municipal and physical restrictions."

The parade committee, which is a sub-committee of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, told the Irish gays that there is a waiting list to march in the parade and that they will have to wait like anyone else.

"The group is not being discriminated against," said parade chairman Francis Beirne. "They are eligible to march. Who are we to say that they can't? But not this year. The parade is already too long, and it has been moved up half-an-hour this year."

ILGO is having talks with the parade committee to establish that there is in fact a waiting list, and that they are being treated fairly. Anne Maguire, a spokesperson for the group said that "if the waiting list is legitimate then that's fair enough. If not, then we will fight them all the way."

Judy Ann O'Riordan, deputy director of European-American Affairs at the mayor's office, which is trying to facilitate dialogue between the two parties, told *OutWeek* that she knew of other groups which had to wait to march in the parade, such as the Irish Immigration Reform Movement.

"If, however, they are being denied for no good reason then it will constitute unfair treatment. It's a sensitive issue," she concluded.

—Avril McDonald

CUOMO TRIES TO ASSURE INSURANCE FOR PWA'S—AGAIN

ALBANY—Governor Mario Cuomo has proposed a bill that would prohibit health insurance companies from denying premiums to HIV-positive people. It is an attempt to achieve legislatively what he tried and failed in past years to do administratively: shift the cost of health care for people with HIV and AIDS from the state to private industry.

In December, the Court of Appeals overturned a 1987 state regulation that would have prevented health insurers from denying coverage on the basis of HIV-test results. The court said that the state was not empowered to promulgate such a regulation.

The new bill, which in addition to compelling health insurers to insure people with HIV and AIDS, will also forbid them from testing applicants for HIV, or enquiring if they have already been tested. It is expected to meet fierce opposition from the health insurance industry and from within the Republican-controlled state senate.

Steve Guttenburg, acting executive director of the People with AIDS Coalition in New York City welcomed the bill, but cautioned that "Cuomo is not going to have any success until we have a responsive state senate. The bill is doomed before it begins, because the insurance lobby is incredibly strong and there is a lack of concern by the legislature."

Wayne Kawadler, a representative of ACT UP's Insurance and Access sub-committee also predicted that the bill stood a "slim to none" chance of being passed, and he expressed fear that Mario Cuomo was only paying lip service to PWAs in introducing the bill and would not put his political weight behind it.

The Health Association of America,

which represents commercial insurers, said that it would fight the bill tooth and nail, because it is in the business of underwriting risks. "In the case of AIDS" patients, there isn't a premium commensurate with their risks," according to Jude Payne, a senior policy analyst with HAA in Washington DC.

"The burden on the state is not going to lessen because AIDS patients can't get insurance," she told *OutWeek*. "Opening up private insurance won't make any difference to these people, because if they couldn't afford to get health insurance when they were healthy, they probably can't afford it now."

The insurance industry also argues that if it is forced to insure HIV-positive people, it would be a great drain on its resources, and it would consequently have to raise premiums so high that health insurance would become unaffordable for all.

It also points out that other high-risk diseases such as cancer, diabetes and heart disease are uninsurable and asks why AIDS should be treated differently.

But Guttenburg claims that if insurance companies are licensed to provide a service, then the state has a right to intervene if that service is not being provided. "Health insurance is a vital link to medical science and insurance companies have a duty to provide it," he said. And he disputes the industry's claim that it could not sustain the risk of insuring PWAs, pointing to Blue Cross/Blue Shield, which has an open enrollment, calling it a prototype that should be expanded.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield is given a 13 percent hospital differential by the state in return for ensuring everyone.

"The 13 percent does not cover [all costs], but we feel that we have a social responsibility to provide health insurance to everyone," said its spokesperson, John Kelly.

He believes that commercial insurers should also offer insurance to everyone.

The Cuomo bill raises again the question of who should provide health

care, said Kelly. He suggested that cooperative models between the state government, private industry and individuals such as Blue Cross should be emulated.

—Avril McDonald/New York

SHRINKS MUST OPPOSE ANTI- GAY BIAS

NEW YORK—The American Psychoanalytic Association, the largest and most influential organization of its kind in the nation will adopt a position statement setting out its "opposition to any public or private discrimination against any homosexually-oriented individuals," according to director Helen Fisher.

The Association is a professional organization of 3,000 psychoanalysts that sets and maintains standards for the profession and for affiliated societies and training colleges.

The statement will be published probably in the journal *Psychiatric News* in May, in response to negative comments published in the May 1989 issue of that journal concerning the Psychoanalytic Association's stance on homosexuality, she said.

There the Association's reluctance to adopt a position statement condemning discrimination against gay people on the grounds that it was not within its province to take a formal stand on social issues, was roundly criticized. Dr. Judd Marmor, a professor of psychiatry at UCLA Medical School, said that the APA's stance was "an example of a subtle, unjustified prejudice against homosexuals that has characterized the psychoanalytic profession for many years."

Although homosexuality was "depathologized" by the American Psychiatric Association in 1973, psychoanalytic literature and speakers at national meetings continue to refer to gay people as "deviants" and "perverts" and, in fact, contribute to the widespread discrimination against lesbians and gay men said Dr. Richard Isay, a professor of clinical psychiatry at Cornell University, and a veteran campaigner against the APA's stance.

"Within conventional psychoanalysis, there is still very much a feeling that homosexuality is a fixation at an early developmental level," he said.

As part of their training, psychoanalysts have themselves analyzed, but



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RIM SHOTS

NOT JUST THE FACTS

by ANDREW MILLER

efforts should be made to increase the media's presentation of lesbian and gay issues to the general public, I do not believe a boycott of WNET's fund-raising drive is the right course of action at this time."

Considering all the airtime Dinkins gets on Channel 13, it's hard to figure why the mayor would care one way or the other, really, but Rim Shots is glad to see City Hall is on top of all the important issues.

CAN YOU SAY CONDOM?: "By approving schools' chancellor Joseph A. Fernandez's HIV/AIDS initiative, the Board of Education has cast its vote for the lives of New York's young people," said the statement released by David Hansell, the deputy executive director for policy at the Gay Men's Health Crisis.

It continued: "In a city where the rate of HIV infection is the highest in the nation, teenagers represent the next wave of the AIDS epidemic. It is the responsibility of all New Yorkers to acknowledge that many of our adolescents have already begun to engage in sexual activities, and that we must recognize the potential consequences. The Board of Education has taken the first step, authorizing a plan that will provide teenagers with both the information and the means to safeguard their future."

Condom. C-O-N-D-O-M. Condom.

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE: This week's Dorothy Parker Memorial Quote of the Week award goes to Leather Daddy titleholder Don Thompson, who lamented the death of participants in recent leather contests in "This Week in Leather," the Feb. 28 installment of a regular column in the *San Francisco Sentinel*.

"Part of the problem may be confusion about what we really mean by 'being into leather,'" he deduced. "There are people for whom leather is a fashion statement. You know the type. Leather is black, therefore it goes with anything, especially pearls."

I GUESS THIS MEANS I HAVE TO STOP WRITING NASTY THINGS ABOUT GAY REPUBLICANS:

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force made history again last month, when it hired its first openly Republican staffer. Tim Drake, a longtime fixture in Chicago politics, is the

TRISKAIDEKAPHOBIA REVISITED: Nothing like a good boycott to make the mayor skittish. Channel 13 is starting up its beg-a-thon again and the city's gay community is tearing up its checkbooks. And the mayor?

"Channel 13 does a better job in covering these important issues than most other television stations," he quoth. "While strong

new director of NGLTF's Privacy and Civil Rights Project, which works on sodomy law reform, local gay rights legislation, and ending discrimination in the US military.

Drake is the former co-chair of the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force and a founder of the Chicago Area Republican Gay Organization, and a tireless AIDS lobbyist who fought repressive AIDS-related legislation in the Illinois state house last year.

And Sue Hyde, the Privacy Project's former director, told *Outlines Wire Service*, "I'm delighted this leftist lesbian activist has been succeeded by a Republican legislative whiz."

THREE PEOPLE WHO FOUND JOBS DURING A RECESSION:

Closer to home, the ACLU's national Lesbian and Gay Rights Project at last has a new attorney. Ruth Harlow, who has joined project director Bill Rubenstein's formidable staff from the ACLU of New Jersey, will also be working on AIDS' issues.

And Chris Babick has officially become the executive director of the People With AIDS Coalition, after serving variously as its deputy director, director of publication and acting ED since 1987.

Back in Washington, Jeff Levi, who preceded Urvashi Vaid as the executive director at the NGLTF, is the new director of government affairs at the AIDS Action Council, where he will lobby for federal AIDS appropriations and drug development.



RUTH HARLOW

WON'T YOU GO HOME, BILL DANNEMEYER, WON'T YOU GO HOME?:

So, Rep. William Dannemeyer was drooling over his copy of the *Federal Register* recently, when he discovered that the Department of Housing and Urban Development had recently awarded a \$2.25 million transitional housing grant to the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, which will use the money to provide shelter to homeless adolescents.

"Spending scarce federal tax dollars on such a program is debatable in and of itself, but giving federal dollars to an organization that derives its identity from a particular sex act is absurd," the gentleman from California opined in an angry letter he dashed off Feb. 19 to HUD Secretary Jack Kemp.

"Why would Gay and Lesbian Community Services be providing this housing absent any federal funding?" he wondered in print. "The Salvation Army does all the time. One can only guess what Gay and Lesbian Community Services does all the time."

Rim Shots found that the Secretary's office hadn't cared to hazard a guess. "HUD is prohibited from denying funds to any qualified grant applicant, and the Center met all of the requirements," a spokesperson for the agency told Rim Shots.

It's bad when people on the right-wing of your own party don't even want to listen to your gay-baiting.

AIDS THIS WEEK

edited by Paul Rykoff Coleman

PEPTIDE LICENSE MAY GO TO TWO FIRMS

SPRINGFIELD, Va.—The Department of Commerce is proposing that two firms get licenses to take over stalled government-sponsored clinical trials of Peptide T, an anti-HIV agent that its proponents say improves neuropsychiatric symptoms in people infected with the human immunodeficiency virus.

The firms, Integra Institute and Reed MacFadden, would assume clinical testing responsibilities from the National Institute of Mental Health, which holds the drug's patent. If uncontested, the proposed agreement will go into effect after a 60-day public comment period, which began with a notice in the Feb. 7 Federal Register.

Treatment activists say the NIMH and the Food and Drug Administration have hampered continuation of clinical trials and have made it virtually impossible for those who feel they need the drug to get it from the drug underground or on an FDA-approved, compassionate-use basis. Whether either of the potential licensees will make access outside of a clinical trial easier, they say, is still unknown. "One would hope so due to the fact that at least one party [Integra] is known to be a friend of PWAs," John Perry Ryan of the Provincetown Positive PWA Coalition told *OutWeek*. "But they're only one piece of the pie."

Peptide T and Integra have intertwining histories. The institute was formed by Peptide T's co-inventor Dr. Candace Pert and colleagues, after leaving positions at the NIMH. It conducted initial phase 1 clinical trials for safety until Bristol-Myers Co. dropped its sponsorship, leaving the institute without any funds to continue.

The synthetic peptide, a chain of eight amino acids, is believed to inhibit HIV-replication by blocking a receptor, CD4, on the viral envelope.

The proposed licenses are co-exclusive and limited to the "therapeutic

treatment of HIV infections," according to the public notice. The proposed agreement stipulates that ongoing phase 1 clinical safety trials, and initiating phase 2 and 3 trials for efficacy, are to be carried on separately by each firm toward the goal of commercial availability.

Meanwhile, treatment activists have been wrangling with NIMH officials over a delayed phase 2 trial at the University of Southern California. That trial will use a placebo and will be double-blind—neither the investigators nor the subjects will

*At least one party is
known to be a friend of
PWAs. But they're only
one piece of the pie.*

know who is getting the inhaled agent. The activists are objecting to a provision that the study participants receive the placebo for six months after the study ends, to allow a look at what happens when someone on the drug is taken off it.

Although the phase 1 trials have shown Peptide T to be safe, with no toxicity reported, the FDA has cut off the sources that allowed users to get it through buyers' clubs. It is available through Community Research Initiative/New England, but only to those continuing in a phase 1 study that began at the Fenway Clinic in Boston. And CRI's contract with NIMH, which supplies the drug, expires in September. A CRI spokesperson told *OutWeek* that she did not know whether the contract would be extended. "It would be nice to have a better handle on things," she said, "so our patients know what to expect."

A coalition of activists from ACT UP chapters along the East Coast are

scheduled to meet with NIMH officials in Washington on March 8.

—P.R.C./New York

DRUG FOR INTESTINAL ORGANISM AVAILABLE AGAIN

NEW YORK—A drug that people with HIV infection began taking recently to combat a difficult-to-treat diarrhea-causing organism is back in the pharmacies after supplies ran out this summer, according to its manufacturer.

The drug, paromomycin, marketed under the brand name Humatin, is a prescription antibiotic indicated for intestinal amebiasis. Last year, demand for the agent increased three-fold after people with HIV infection, a cryptosporidiosis diagnosis and a physician's prescription sought the drug, a spokesperson for the manufacturer, New Jersey-based Warner-Lambert Co., told *OutWeek*.

The drug is not indicated for cryptosporidiosis, but once approved by the Food and Drug Administration, it may be prescribed for any off-label use. "Here's a drug approved, available and anecdotally effective, and then the supplies dried up," said John Hatchett of the PWA Coalition in Manhattan.

Humatin's unavailability coincided with the US military's troop build-up in the Gulf last summer, prompting some in the HIV-infected community to speculate that all supplies were diverted to the Gulf.

The Warner-Lambert spokesperson, Peter Wolf, said that this was untrue. He was only aware of the demand by people with HIV infection in the past month. He explained that Humatin is an old drug; demand is so low that only one batch is made every year. When demand tripled, he said, the company made more. However, production was slowed when a batch failed to pass microbiologic testing.

Wolf said that the drug's price, \$19 to \$21 for a bottle of 16, is no different

See AIDS on page 62

DISTRICTING HEARINGS: THE PUBLIC IS INVITED

The New York City Districting Commission invites all New Yorkers to attend a series of hearings and to share their ideas and concerns with Commission members as the commission prepares to draw the lines for 51 new City Council districts.

The New York City Districting Commission is an independent body created for the purpose of drawing the boundaries of the City Council districts. The districting commission will do this on or before June 3, 1991 based on the 1990 census. The commission welcomes testimony on population changes and residency patterns.

The goal of redistricting is to provide fair and effective representation for all the people of the city.

In drawing council boundaries, the Districting Commission must meet requirements of federal, state, and city laws and regulations, and will seek to respect borough lines, neighborhoods, and communities as much as possible.

THE PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE AT:

March 13 - Boys and Girls High School, 1700 Fulton St., Brooklyn

March 21 - I.S. 237, 46-21 Colden St., Brooklyn

March 27 - P.S. 6, 45 East 81st St., Manhattan

April 3 - Herbert H. Lehman High School, 3000 E. Tremont Ave., Bronx

Each hearing will start at 7:00 pm. Members of the public can sign in to speak on the day of the hearing beginning at 6:30 pm. at the hearing site. A Spanish translator and a sign language interpreter will be available.

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(No Longer) Sleeping With the Enemy

by Robert Vazquez

After a long night at the club where I work the door, my friend Jose and I decided to go hang out at a Latino club on the West Side. While we were there checking out the cute Latino home boys and fierce Latina banjy girls, the only white (European-American) man in the entire club zeroed in on yours truly, and tried to pick my up. As we spoke, I realized that he was there because he wanted to sleep with a Latino man.

There was a time when I might not have cared, and would even have brought him home. But I shook my head and walked away.

A couple of weeks ago, I went away on a weekend retreat for gay men of color. A great weekend in upstate New York in a safe "white-free zone." It is difficult for me to articulate my feelings while being in that place. A feeling of safety. *Comunidad*. A sense of being home. That feeling of rightness, the confirmation of something that had been formulating itself in my mind for a long time.

As we talked about family and race and lovers, I knew that the weekend was the start of a new phase in my life: a change that would affect not only myself, but all of my friends and loved ones.

I had been in the white world for too long. My grandmother, Providencia, has an expression, "*Una mosca en un vaso de leche*." A fly in a glass of milk. For too long, I had lived surrounded by the white European and American culture, with Euro-American friends and lovers, the dark face in a sea of pale ones. It is now time to change that.



I grew up a skinny, dark-skinned, gay, New York Puerto Rican boy who was pushed into assimilation by my family's desire for the American Dream. Because I chose to move within the white world, racism in all of its insidious manifestations became a daily companion. Sometimes, I could ignore it and go about my business. Other times, it was up in my face and I had to smack it down.

But I have reached the point where I am tired of having to deal with racism. (No shit, honey.) My sero-positive status (a true reality check) makes me choose my battles these days. The more I experience and learn about racism in this country, in this city, in the lesbian and gay community, the angrier and more frustrated I get. And the angrier I get, the less patience I have.

There are some things I really don't want to put energy into anymore. I have no desire to sit down and educate white people—excuse me, European Americans—about racism anymore. I really don't have the time. But as I write this, I realize that I must continue doing anti-racism work publicly, because it has to be done. It is always the responsibility of the disenfranchised to work for their own liberation. Needless to say, my anger and frustration level keep increasing.

But you know something? I am not going to do it at home anymore. No more sleeping with white boys.

I talked with a friend about this decision, and he told me that my decision not to date or sleep with white men anymore was racist, that I had to come from a place of love and not of anger, that Latinos are the fierce ruling people and it is up to us to transform the world.

Well...world transformation begins at home, within one's own community. Empowerment is being part of your

own community. And I have made the decision to be in my community. To try to work, play, live and empower myself within my Latino community and other communities of color. Honey, I don't want to do the racism work at home anymore.

**SOLO
PARA LATINOS**
Si estas cansado
de tener que explicar que son alcapurrias, bacalaitos, pasteles, morcillas, mofongo, etc., reunamonos para hablar y "compartir" otras cosas. Yo: Puerto Rico, 25, 5'3" Box



I don't want to have to lie in my bed with some European-American man teaching Racism 101. Nor do I want to sit down with the cute white boy I've been dating and interpret what the comment, "I love sleeping with Puerto Ricans" really means. I

want to nix the grueling explanation between the movie and the restaurant about why I thought the movie was racist. I'm not being defensive, racist or overreacting. I consider the change self-empowerment. I can be prejudiced about the issue of race, but I don't have the power to enforce my prejudices. And prejudice plus power equals racism.

It's interesting. My therapist tells me that I just want to be understood. A lot of my white friends become very defensive when I explain this decision. Some of my friends who are Latinos, African Americans, Asians, Native Americans, said, "Robert, I made that decision years ago."

I don't want to be fetishized and exoticized any more because of my skin color. My culture, my language and my politics are things I would like to share with the men who share my life and my bed. I want that bond, the sense of home that I can only get from my people, from a brother, from my *barrio* or other communities of color.

Why? There are tense discussions and stomach-churning confrontations on racism that I don't want to have with boyfriends anymore. Not that that has happened with all of them. But there was always a moment when my stomach fell because of something he had said.

I am not saying that racism doesn't exist within the Latino community or other communities of color. I know a lot of brothers and sisters out there working that skin-color-privilege thang. I grew up among family members who, as dark as they are, were very proud to be Puerto Rican and not Black, thank you very much, and don't mistake us for Blacks because we are Spanish. That's the kind of bullshit I want to work on, both in the lesbian and gay community as well as among straight Latinos.

Now, don't get me wrong. I publicly support interracial relationships. Two people joining together and loving each other across the abyss of racial differences is a truly revolutionary act, and I support those brave individuals in that endeavor. But for myself, it's *basta la vista*, white boy. ▼

Robert Vazquez, a native of Fort Apache in the Bronx, is an artist living on the Lower East Side.

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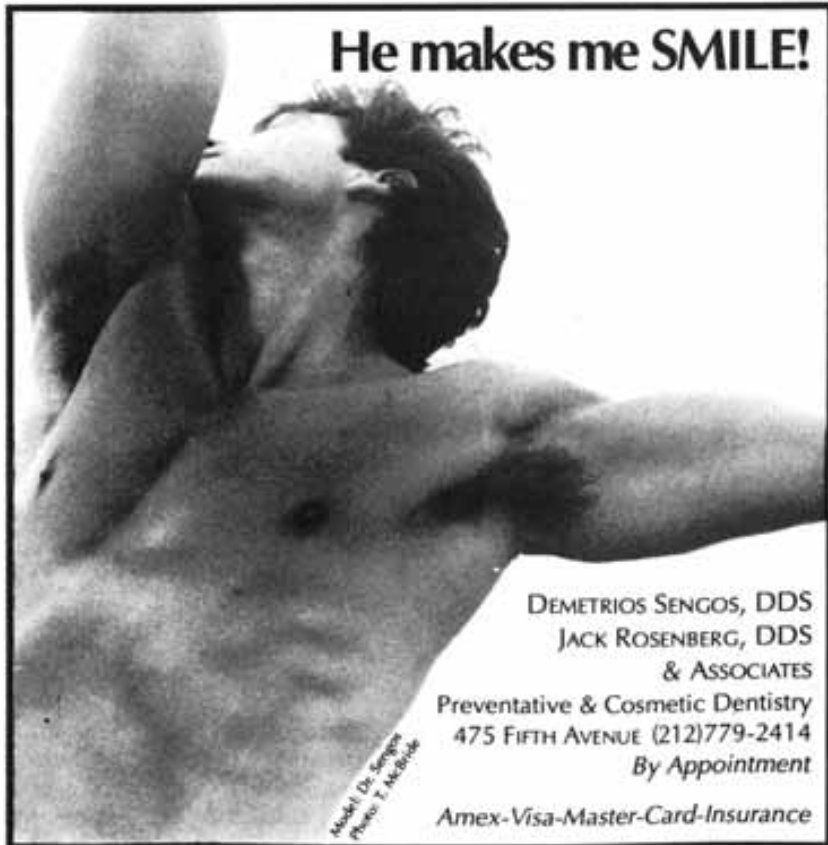
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Women, AIDS, Lesbians and Politics

by Risa Dennenberg

The National Institutes of Health, or NIH, and the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases, NIAID, hosted a National Conference on Women and HIV Infection on Dec. 13 and 14, 1990, at the Sheraton Hotel in Washington, DC. Everyone agreed that it was long overdue. But for women, AIDS activists and women with HIV illness it wasn't good enough. It left the bitter taste of being unacknowledged, exploited, ripped off and marginalized.

NIH, NIAID, the Centers for Disease Control and the AIDS Clinical Trial Groups have thoroughly ignored women throughout the decade of AIDS. In parallel fashion, the non-governmental AIDS establishment, service organizations and activist groups have ignored women with AIDS, and the work of women AIDS activists. Women have been exploited, called vectors and vessels of disease, tested without permission and against their wishes, refused or been forced to abort pregnancies and denied access to drug trials and health care. And women activists, in opposing this exploitation, have been advised to wait, to shut up, to take care of the people and let the men take care of the politics.

I have my own personal heroes in the AIDS crisis, and most of them are lesbians. I can't begin to recount all the work they've done, soundly proving the obvious: Women are at risk of contracting AIDS, and that risk has



been ignored in disastrous ways by the medical establishment and the government. Women are also at risk of dying without adequate diagnoses, health care or entitlements.

Women have done research on shoestring budgets and made sex workers, lesbians, housewives and teenagers visible. We have been talking, speaking in public forums, demonstrating, writing medical articles, political books, novels and poetry. We have exposed the health-care system stone by stone, and threatened to bring it to its knees. We've uncovered the lesbian issues, the drug issues for women, the lack

every newspaper and magazine carried stories on women and AIDS. ACT UP held successful, well-attended demonstrations last fall that focused on women and HIV—one against discriminatory practices in granting disability benefits by the Social Security Administration in October in Washington, and another at the CDC in Atlanta in December, protesting the archaic and male-biased definition of AIDS. And on Dec. 13 and 14, the government big boys sponsored a national conference on women and HIV infection. Shouldn't we be pleased? But, of course, everything has a context.



"CAUSE I'M A WOMAN, W-O-M-A-N, I'LL SAY IT AGAIN..."
—ACT UP at the San Francisco AIDS Conference last year.

of health care and clinical trials. We've filed lawsuits and challenged the CDC's definition of AIDS in women. We've created videos, films, photography and art. As usual, we have had almost no resources and little support for this work.

But it seems that lately our work is having an impact. Suddenly, in late 1990,

On July 27, 1990, seven lesbians from ACT UP/NY and /DC squared off with Anthony Fauci, director of NIAID, and Dan Hoth, director at NIAID's Division of AIDS, demanding a serious conference on women and AIDS. This meeting followed deliberate and well-planned demonstrations and daring

Photo: Jim Marks

actions around the country, to highlight the need to see women as at risk and to do something about it.

The gist of our meeting with Fauci and Hoth was to demand that a conference happen immediately, planned by women with HIV illness and women who work directly with them. We challenged their knowledge of the issues, and their willingness to learn. We left the meeting furious. Fauci told us that he preferred dealing with "gay-male ACT UP."

By the time the conference occurred, activists justifiably wondered whether it was worth attending. Linda Meredith of ACT UP/DC, who had been involved in every step of the struggle with NIAID, had resigned from the steering committee in dismay of the process. Terry McGovern, the activist lawyer who designed the lawsuit against the Social Security Administration, was barred from speaking on the panel about legal issues because of her role in a lawsuit against the government. Many grass-roots organizers and health-care workers who work daily with women with HIV illness were excluded. And women with HIV infection were marginalized into the panel on "Living with HIV," with a representative giving personal perspectives at the end of the second morning's plenary session. Meanwhile, a Public Health Service representative was placed on 28 of the 38 scheduled panel presentations, and Fauci and Hoth were featured prominently.

We then had to fight over every basic issue we have been working on for years. Women with HIV illness should get gynecological evaluations and Pap smears twice a year, no? Well, not according to Tedd Ellerbrook of the CDC. And AZT acts the same in women's bodies as it does in men's bodies, according to the representative from Burroughs Wellcome, the company which makes, and profits from, the drug. Cervical cancer and pelvic inflammatory disease in HIV-positive women are still not considered AIDS, and won't ever be if the CDC continues to call the shots. Woman-to-woman transmission? Lesbians with HIV illness? Totally marginalized topics. Research? Well, everyone agrees that there hasn't been enough. However, the government still seems to think of this as a justification for doing nothing. We were prepared to educate, but we were forced to debate.

In the most poignant and useful exchange, during the second morning's

plenary session, HIV-positive women and women working with them commanded the attention of the audience for about two hours, with riveting stories about how life really is, completely disrupting the planned schedule. And the feds gladly took credit for our work, looking good off the sweat of our bodies.

So imagine our fury, when, like ships in the night, three of the women who had met with Fauci and Hoth in July, collided in the lobby of the Sheraton at the close of the conference, with members of the Treatment and Data

Committee of ACT UP/NY, who were, unbeknownst to us, heading to a social event with these same dreaded government bureaucrats.

I don't expect the government or the American Medical Association to notice, support, validate or give a damn about women's lives or women's work. I do expect that they will steal our work, exploit us and discredit activists. But in the midst of this expected treachery, which is clearly an attack on all activists,

**See WOMEN'S HEALTH
on page 82**

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INSIDER TRADING *by Allen Roskoff*

Rubber Up for Safety

On Feb. 27, our community and New York City won a major victory in the fight against AIDS. That night the Board of Education passed the chancellor's school condom plan by a four to three vote. It followed an 11th hour statement of support from Mayor Dinkins. However, Dr. Westina Matthews, Dinkins' board appointee who cast the swing vote in favor of the plan, said that she would ask the board at a later time to amend the plan to allow parents to opt their children out of receiving condoms. This would gut the significance of the plan and must be prevented. Kudos to the chancellor for remaining firm, to the mayor for his endorsement, and to those who voted in the affirmative. This time right-wing zanyes lost to common sense. It was a great day for city students. Many lives will be saved.



Raising Madonna

Get out your checkbooks, we're going to dinner. On April 21 the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) will present its second-annual Media Awards with events in both New York and Los Angeles. International pop superstar Madonna and an episode of the Simpsons' cartoon program featuring Harvey Fierstein are among those slated to be honored at the event, which will recognize the best and worst of print and broadcast media representations of lesbian and gay issues and people. In addition, special notice will be made of the Empire State Building's lavender illumination last Gay Pride weekend, which was largely a result of GLAAD's efforts. The New York event will be held atop the World Trade Center and the LA event will be at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Ticket prices range from \$175 to \$500 and GLAAD wants your support. GLAAD/NY's Executive Director Stephen Beck promises an exciting and uplifting event. So write out your

check and be there. For information, or to join GLAAD and begin receiving their newsletter, call them at (212) 966-1700. Remember, the only way to defeat homophobia is to confront it.

Brooklyn's Gayest District

On Feb. 26, Kenneth Fisher, a 38-year-old lawyer, was elected City Council member in a special election in Brooklyn's "gayest" Council district. Fisher's victory over eight opponents did not bring much joy to the lesbian and gay community, which played a major role in supporting runner-up Joan Millman. Millman, 50, an educator and Brooklyn Heights district leader, was supported by Lambda Independent Democrats of Brooklyn, who showed their political muscle by delivering their constituency to her.

The district is significant to our community because of its representatives' historic support for gay rights legislation. Representing the district in the early '70s was Leonard Skulnick, who was one of the four original sponsors of the Gay Rights Bill when "friends" like the caustic Carol Greitzer weren't. Skulnick was followed by Fred Richmond, who later became a member of Congress, and then by Abe Gerges. All three were steadfast sponsors of our legislation. The new Council member does not promise to be so steadfast in his support.

Fisher ran with the support of the Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden (no friend of our community) and anti-gay Council members Enoch Williams and Priscilla Wooten. Fisher has said that he would vote for the domestic partnership bill but that he would probably not sponsor it. He said, "I don't have a relationship over a long enough period of time to be able to take a full pulpit on the issue. I don't ideologically have a problem with the concept, but it's a question of how we can accommodate the interests of the largest number of people." Fisher won because of overwhelming support from the district's large Hasidic community, and their spokespeople are

against domestic partnership legislation.

And the Losers Please

In addition to the defeated candidates, there were several others who lost when Fisher won. They include several Millman supporters such as Assemblymember Eileen Dugan, Senator Martin Connor and Assembly Speaker Mel Miller. But perhaps the biggest loser was the all-but-declared mayoral candidate, Council President Andrew Stein. Stein played a high-profile role in the Millman campaign and supplied pivotal troops in the race. A Millman victory would have added significantly to his base in Brooklyn. Instead, not only did Stein's candidate lose, but in Fisher he faces the kind of player he doesn't want to have as his enemy. Fisher can now serve as a beachhead for Dinkins' reelection, or for another mayoral candidate. And Fisher has his own future to advance. He is expected to be a viable citywide candidate in either '93 or '97.

As a postscript, it should be noted that Millman lost some progressive votes as a result of her support from right-wing Council member Noach Dear and right-wing Assemblymember Dov Hikind, both of whom are notoriously anti-gay.

Queens Boulevard

There will be a special election for the 22nd Council district in Queens on April 16. However, one of the two major candidates has dropped out of the race and another one has popped up. Jack Chartier, an aide to Assembly member Alan Hevesi, told party leaders he had decided not to run. That left Karen Koslowitz in the race. Koslowitz is a Forest Hills District leader and an aide to City Council President Andrew Stein. Besides Stein, Koslowitz is supported by anti-gay Queens County leader and right-to-life Congressman Thomas Manton. Manton and his county organization are challenging the new city charter rule that says candidates in special elections can't run on regular party lines. This is interesting in that it was Manton and Vallone who quarterbacked the approval of the charter

change with this non-partisan provision in it. Manton is Vallone's county leader. Is Manton now trying to endorse Vallone? The purpose of the charter rules was to prevent the party "bosses" from "appointing" the new Council members. Manton is trying to destroy that reform. The new opponent is Seymour Friedman, who was a Queens civil court judge who won against the Queens County organization, and then resigned to go into a lucrative law practice. He then attempted to run for Manhattan borough president in 1985 with the backing of multi-millionaire and gadfly Abe Hirschfeld. Seymour Friedman is also a millionaire, and currently resides in the Queens' Council district. The situation is very fluid, but that is the way it is at this point in time. You will be kept posted.

The word around town is that both Manton and City Council Speaker Peter Vallone have already lined up in support of a Stein mayoralty in '93. Chartier resigned from running due to immense pressure from Manton to Hevesi. The Koslowitz candidacy is very important to the all but announced mayoralty of Andrew Stein. This really isn't a surprise as neither Manton or Vallone has shown much support for issues confronting tenants, the middle class, those overly concerned with civil rights and other such concerns. Don't look for progressive gays to support Stein. Although he advocates gay rights, he hasn't signed on to sponsor the domestic partnership bill, and his commitment is to landlords and developers rather than to the homeless and the poor. Queens is a powerful prize in a mayoralty and a lock on the borough would give Stein's mayoral run a leg up. Watch as death penalty advocate Stein brings in his troops.

The Chartier withdrawal is also a defeat for the labor unions who were behind his bid, including the Teamsters, the United Federation of Teachers and the Health and Hospital Workers' Union.

Meanwhile in the Village, the land of the free and the gay, it looks as though Bella Abzug's youngest daughter will in fact run for the City Council. The youngest one was looking at a bid for Fred Ohrenstein's senate seat, but with the Ohrenstein trial put off indefinitely (maybe to never happen) the Abzug eyes have wandered back to the City Council. This could pair her off against the openly-gay candidate Tom Duane. It's interesting because in the past, Abzug has been supportive of a Duane candidacy. ▼

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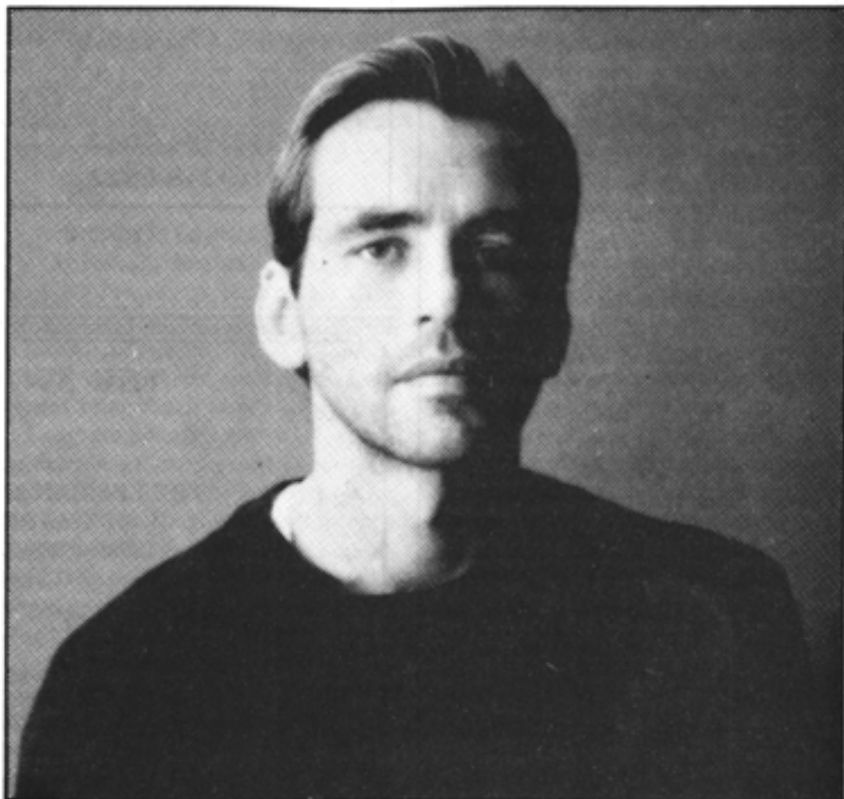
MILESTONES

TOM J. ARICK

Tom, also known as Yoko and Huh, born in the coal-mining region of Ohio (Barnesville, home of the annual Pumpkin Festival and Pumpkin Queen), first ventured forth after high school to Ft. Lauderdale, where he supported himself as a bag-boy at the local Kroger's grocery store and studied art. On a plane trip to New York to visit his brother (who also died of AIDS), Tom met Patrick and thus began a great friendship, which merely changed with Tom's recent death. Soon Tom moved to New York to be wild and fabulous—and was—and set out on a stage of his life that was to touch and inspire many people. To say that he was a brave and singular spirit is to recognize the limitations of language. He was an absolutely unique and unforgettable presence, forever enthralled by the beauty of life, love, art and the divine mysteries, forever *luxurious*.

Tom J. Arick was born on Aug. 25, 1959, and he died on Feb. 17, 1991.

—James Presley



GLAAD TIDINGS *Commentary*

Star Trek

by Kirk-Evan Billet

"What would you have us do, put pink triangles on them? Have them sashay down the corridors?" These insensitive comments were made at the February Star Trek convention. Richard Arnold of Paramount Studios was responding to complaints that *Star Trek: The Next Generation* doesn't include any openly lesbian or gay characters.

One of the premises of this TV show is that it's the 24th century and prejudice, bigotry and discrimination are all long forgotten. The diversity of the starship's crew is itself a subtle attack on the racism and sexism of the present. But even *Star Trek* still has one foot firmly planted in the 20th century, since everyone still answers to a white male captain, and since the point of bigotry being dead is made without any reference to sexual minorities.

Arnold's reference to characterizing gay starfleet officers by stereotypes is narrow, to say the least. Since this show already delves into the characters' personal lives to some degree or another, and has included some romantic storylines, it's not unreasonable to expect to see someone lesbian or gay among the crew. If you agree that this show is an obvious opportunity for introducing positive lesbian and gay characters, encourage the producer in this direction. Write to: Gene Roddenberry, Executive Producer, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, Paramount Television, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

GLAAD Tidings is a program of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. For more information about the material in this week's column, or about GLAAD, call (212) 966-1700.

ANTI-LESBIAN OR ANTI-GAY BIAS DOCUMENTATION FORM

Reprinted as a community service in conjunction with the Mayor's Liaison to the Lesbian and Gay Communities and the New York City Commission on Human Rights.

Dear New Yorker,

The New York State legislature is once again about to consider passing the New York State bias-related violence bill, which will provide stiff penalties for those convicted of hate crimes based on race, creed, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or sexual orientation. One obstacle to the bill's passage is the vocal opposition of those who believe gay men and lesbians do not deserve the protections afforded the other victims of hate crimes. The bill's opponents also state that gay men and lesbians do not suffer from bias and hate crimes in numbers similar to other groups. We know that this is not true. On the reverse side of this letter is a form designed to allow you to document the anti-gay or anti-lesbian bias you personally experienced or know of second-hand. Please take the time to document your experience(s) so that your voice can be included when I present these forms to state legislators as evidence of the compelling need to protect the gay and lesbian communities from violence. Thank you.

Mayor David N. Dinkins

Readers should return completed forms to:
Bias Documentation Project
NYC Commission on Human Rights
52 Duane Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Community Representative,

As the Commissioner/Chair for the City's Human Rights Commission, and the Mayor's Liaison to the Gay and Lesbian Communities, we urge you to participate in the Mayor's project to document violence against gay men and lesbians. Everyone in our community must come together to rid our city of the blight of hate crimes. As you'll see from the form, you need not include your name if you prefer anonymity. The information you supply will be a vital part of the presentation Mayor Dinkins makes in support of the New York State bias-related violence bill. As you may know, the NYS Senate has refused to enact the bill because it includes provisions directed at sexual-orientation-based violence. We hope this project will demonstrate the need for such broad-based legislation. Please lend us your whole-hearted support in the worthwhile project, so that each of us can benefit from this attempt to ensure an environment free from hate.

Marjorie Hill, Ph.D.
 Mayor's Liaison to the Gay
 and Lesbian Communities

Dennis deLeon, Esq.
 Commissioner/Chair
 NYC Commission on Human Rights

ANTI-GAY OR ANTI-LESBIAN BIAS DOCUMENTATION FORM

This form will be used to provide documentation of the need for legislative protection for gay men and lesbians who are the victims of bias crimes. For purposes of this form, a *bias incident* is described as an *unwanted incident of verbal or physical abuse directed at an individual because s/he is, or is perceived to be, a gay male, lesbian, or bisexual*. You may recount personal experiences on the form as well as incidents that you have witnessed or incidents that you are familiar with which affected a friend, lover, or family member.

1. Name (optional): _____
 However, your answers to the following are important!
2. Age: _____ 3. Race/Ethnicity/
 National Origin: _____
4. Sex: M F 5. Your Zip code: _____
 A, A, A

1. *Anti-Lesbian/Anti-Gay Bias incidents you personally experienced.*

3. Under Column 1 below, check off any incidents which have happened to you.
 7. For every incident you checked off under Column 1, write the number of times it has happened to you in Column 2.
 8. For every incident you checked off under Column 1, write the year of the last time it happened to you in Column 3.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Incidents Happened To You	Number of Incidents	Year of Last Incident

- Physical Violence
- Verbal Abuse
- Graffiti
- Destruction of Property
- Threats of Violence
- Sexual Harassment
- Other (specify): _____

Page 1 _____ Continue with Q.9 on page 2

9. Please describe the most serious incident you experienced (Please include location—street, work, subway, or the like.)

10. Date of the incident described in question 9: _____

11. Please check below any aftereffects you suffered from the incident described in question 9:

- Flashbacks, insomnia, weight loss, nightmares
- Anxiety/fear
- Hospitalization
- Had to take time off work
- Other (specify): _____
- Medical or other expenses
- Change in daily habits
- Physical injury
- Need for medical treatment

12. Did you notify the police about the incident?

Yes, I notified the police. No, I didn't notify them.

13. If you didn't notify the police, why didn't you notify them?

14. Did you notify any other organization(s) about the incident?

Yes, I did. No, I did not.

15. If you did notify any other organization(s) about the incident, which ones did you notify?

16. If you didn't notify any other organization(s) about the incident, why didn't you notify them?

17. Did the event occur in New York City?

Yes, it did. No, it did not.

18. If it occurred in NYC, in which borough did it occur?

- Manhattan
- Queens
- Bronx
- Staten Island
- Brooklyn

19. In what neighborhood did this incident occur?

20. If it did not occur in NYC, where did it occur?

21. Check off below any other factor(s) which may have contributed to your being chosen as a target of hate incidents:

- Race/color
- Gender
- National Origin
- Age
- Disability
- Religion
- Perception that you have AIDS
- Homelessness
- Other (specify): _____

18. This section is for anti-lesbian/anti-gay bias incidents you have witnessed or heard about, excluding events you heard about through the media.

22. How many anti-gay or anti-lesbian bias incidents have you witnessed or heard about?

23. Which of the following elements played a role in these bias incidents? Please check all that apply.

- Physical Violence
- Destruction of Property
- Graffiti
- Other (specify): _____
- Verbal Abuse
- Threats of Violence
- Sexual harassment

24. Please describe the most serious anti-gay or anti-lesbian bias incident you have witnessed or personally heard about. Don't include incidents you have only heard about through the media.

25. Approximate date of incident in question 24: _____

L.A.A.

Thank you for filling out this form. Your participation is an important part of the fight against anti-gay and anti-lesbian bias.

Please fold, tape, and mail this form by March 1. If you prefer, you can call your documentation in to the NYC Commission on Human Rights at (212) NO-2-BIAS, or you can fax form(s) to the Commission at (212) 571-7374. You may remain anonymous if you wish.

Both Brick and Shalom objected to a position paper issued by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the Washington based gay-rights group.

On Jan. 30, the Task Force put out a six-page document opposing the war. Predicting that the war would divert funds from many pressing domestic problems including AIDS, lesbian health issues and anti-gay violence, NGLTF's position paper found support for the war impossible, given the military's policy of discriminating against gay men and lesbians.

Brick dismissed the Task Force paper as "six pages of pacifist verbiage" and added, "The idea that you have to choose between guns and butter sounds very much like Ronald Reagan."

"I was very disappointed," said Shalom. "What distressed me is the peculiar, naive leftism that controls many of our national organizations."

Brick and Shalom rejected the view that gay men and lesbians must necessarily reject the military and military action due to a discriminatory policy.

"I care about the US," said Shalom. "But I am not happy about the discrimination gays and lesbians suffer."

Here in New York, Mel Rosen, chairman of the board at Congregation Beth Simchat Torah, the gay and lesbian synagogue, told *OutWeek* that his congregation largely, if not entirely, supported the US intervention.

"I have the sense that a lot of people were for the war. When Israel is being attacked we band together," said Rosen. The 18-year-old congregation, with a membership of 1,000, began the practice of singing the American and Israeli national anthems after the first Iraqi SCUD attacks on Israel. Many members were moved to support the war effort by close ties to Israel.

But the experience Rosen relates by no means holds true at gay synagogues across the country.

"I think it was fairly split between people who thought President Bush was right, and another half who thought this was an overreaction," said lesbian Rabbi Denise Eger, who serves the nation's oldest gay synagogue, Congregation Beth Chayim Chadashim, in Los Angeles.

Rabbi Eger states that many in her 19-year-old congregation felt ambivalent about the war as well. While some of the 400 congregants reportedly feel a connection to

Israel without supporting Israeli politics, others objected to spending billions on a war when funding for critical issues, such as AIDS, is never found.

The strongest feelings at the synagogue came with the Iraqi SCUD attacks on Tel Aviv.

"The first night that Israel was attacked, people were so horrified that we held an impromptu service," Rabbi Eger reported. "People wanted to be in temple. They felt the need to be in a community as Jews, and as gays and lesbians."

What was clear from interviews with Jews and Jewish religious leaders around the country was that opinions on the war ran deeper than facile patriotic demands that we must support our troops. And for many gay Jews, the war served to bring them together.

Lesbian Rabbi Stacy Ofner, who serves Congregation Shir Tikvah in St. Paul, told *OutWeek*, "My experience during the last month was obviously horrible, tragic and scary. And it served to unify my congregation." ▼

DR. T. W. FONVILLE

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Madonna. Is she the Queen of Queers, who's done more for fag and dyke visibility than any star since Stonewall? Or is she just milking us for shock value, and laughing all the way to the bank? Or both? Musto probes the tangled ties that bind lesbians and gays to pop's top icon.



She stands before the queer nation Madonna Louise Veronica Cicconne Penn—our mother confessor, mistress, master, virgin, whore, wiser sister, nastier daughter, siren, strumpet, couturier and material girl for those in the market for lace, chiffon and any other material that provocatively reveals bare flesh.

Photo: Patric Demarchelier

She writhes in our daymares, touches herself in our daydreams, shuns us in our nightmares, undulates and ovulates in the tabloids that we devour to get closer to this glittering enigma, knowing that even half-truths about her will inevitably be more compelling than irrevocable facts about, say, Pebbles or Sheena Easton.

She shimmies into our fag imagination, spreads her legs for our dyke approbation, grabs us by the pudenda and

by MICHAEL MUSTO



makes us face things we didn't think it was possible to learn from pop music. After an hour's private session with her, we're aroused but wearing condoms, mad at her for ripping us off, but somehow thanking her for noticing us, legitimizing us, pulling us by our bootstraps up out of hiding and into the public pleasuredome of scrutiny and success. As with no other star before her, we've ceased to be just an audience watching, like Bette Midler's higher being, from a distance (the distance Bette herself has studiously maintained since her baths' days). Deliriously, we imagine we're sitting *with* her in the arena—not cheering from the bleachers, but laughing alongside her onstage and sharing in the kudos from the throngs who recognize that we're a big part of her triumph—even if any real attempt to get near our lady of the poses would have a bouncer dragging us out by the neck as she sang “keep people together” with her usual twisted sense of irony.

But Madonna has nothing, and everything, to do with realness. Aloof, prepackaged and encased in the heavy artillery of superstar merchandising, she somehow pierces through the machinery to bare her intentions so frankly we feel intimate with her, breaking down barriers between audience and performer as she brings her deepest secrets into our homes with diary-like immediacy. She's both untouchable and alarmingly accessible—the icon next door, the best friend in a glass booth—and all the contradictions feed into our burgeoning interest, fueling the flames of fascination for someone who's brought crass exploitation to new levels of art, and art to new depths of entertaining debasement.

We don't even know this girl, but we spend more time talking about her than about our real friends, devote more hours to analyzing every cut of her gowns than to our own personal problems. She wears a man's suit and monocle and grabs her crotch in the “Express Yourself” video, and suddenly that becomes the most pressing issue of the week, surpassing any scheduled root-canal work, rent payments or international skirmish. She says (jokingly?) on national television that she goes to the lesbian bar The Cubby Hole, and that's all anyone of any age group or walk of life can talk about—for two years now! The obsession grows to scary, almost pathological heights, feeding on itself to become more and more ravenously consuming, and we don't try to curb it; this is the healthiest of our vices, after all. However seemingly trivial, it helps us confront religious guilt, purges us of libidinal inhibitions and forces us to rethink the limitations of gender, intercourse and responsibility—all with a good beat that you can dance to.

By now, we finally seem willing to release Judy Garland from her afterlife responsibility of being our quintessential icon. And in the land of the living, career stagnation has robbed Diana, Liza and Barbra of their chances, while Donna thumped the bible on our heads in a way that made it bounce back into her face. That leaves Madonna as Queer Queen, and she merits the title as someone who isn't afraid to offend straight America, if it does the rest of us some good. *She'd* never use the bible against queers, but she just might use queers against the bible. And unlike past icons, she's not a vulnerable toy, but a master of her own fate who's only chained to a bed when she chains herself, and who only cuts loose when some rich, powerful man decides to come up with a bauble to make it worth her while. She's not the lip-quivering, tragic and overpowered figure Marilyn Monroe was—now and then she just pretends to be before

Everything, admits Madonna, relates to sex—without it she wouldn't be here in the first place. With her, the sex is flagrant, shameless and constant. And a lot of times, thank God, it's gay.



tossing it off for the next fabulous guise.

It's all calculated, controlled, temporary and autoerotic. Madonna doesn't strip for anyone else, she uncorks herself for the sheer pleasure she takes in her own physicality, enjoying the nuances of her own body even more than we do. Her pride, flamboyance and glamour reach out to gay guys as much as her butch/fem dichotomy and her refusal to be victimized strikes a chord in lesbians. As a result, Madonna—the great leveller, a breath mint and a candy mint—is the first superstar to appeal equally to both camps. It's not the divisive old Judy story, with guys weeping along with the diva as she longs to go over the rainbow and track down the man that got away, while women cringe. We *all* cheer Madonna as she climbs barefoot over the rainbow, grabs the pot of gold and forces that man to trade it in for the world's largest diamond ring. The whole scenario is so appealing that, sick as it is, straights like it too.

Why do we all worship at this person's throne so devoutly, even when we're fed up and want her to leave us alone with all the old guilts and repressions? Because, like, you know, she's so articulate? Because, like, you know, she's so underexposed? Because she's the only singer/actress to juggle both nude centerfolds and Lincoln Center ("I'm not ashamed," she announced, presumably about both career moves)?

No, as with everything else in the transparent world of pop, it has to do with sex—the sex the star delivers, withholds and sells. Everything, admits Madonna, relates to sex—without it she wouldn't be here in the first place. And with her, the sex is right there on the surface, not in any withering, subliminal message that we can subtly pick up between the lines. It's flagrant, shameless and constant. And a lot of times, thank God—from a distance—it's gay.

She's unafraid to venture into gay territory—not only not fearing, but almost relishing the consequences the way no other straight star is daring enough to do. Performers who are insecure about their own sexuality notoriously steer clear of gay and lesbian associations because they're nervous about what those associations might say about themselves. But Madonna—who seems awesomely secure in her sexuality and all the forms that it may take—is as far from the valley of Richard Simmons (who won't allow gay humor on a talk show he's on because he has "an image problem") as you can get on the axis of *People* magazine celebs. Madonna *wants* an image problem. Blatantly rubbing her desires in the faces of the petit bourgeoisie, she plays with gender roles in ways that any middle-of-the-road performer would toss into the career-move trash heap (where Shelley Long's decision to leave *Cheers* festers).

But—irony of ironies—Madonna's refusals to conform

become career moves. With each controversy, she emerges more famous and salable, allusions to lesbianism (to name one "scandal") serving only to make her even more desirable to her fans. Reinventing herself constantly, in the way the rapidly aging MTV generation seemingly requires, she's elevated "What next?" to an art form. We collectively gasp over each new shock and brace ourselves for the next, slightly larger one (until snuff looms as the only remaining frontier). In her publicity-seeking quest for thrills, isn't she just using us to advance her own notoriety? Probably, but isn't that infinitely better than a star (Andrew Dice Clay, for example) who uses homophobia to the same end? And hasn't she accorded us our own share of good press, not just bilked us for her own good? With Madonna, you tend to answer a lot of questions with a lot of other questions.

Madonna's gay images exploit us, but it's an exploitation we enjoy. We *want* to be visible in videos, milked for eroticism, pandered to as an audience. We *want* representations of pop music to have same-sex stuff going on, at least as much as goes on in real life (Since David Geffen has admitted to being bisexual, shouldn't his company's videos be half-straight and half-gay?). To leave that element out of human experience has always been strangely unnatural, as though no thin people or children with blue eyes were allowed to penetrate the sanctum of music television.

Madonna makes everything permissible, and even if the censors knock her down, she ultimately beats them at their own game. In the sexist context of MTV, she's like a slap of



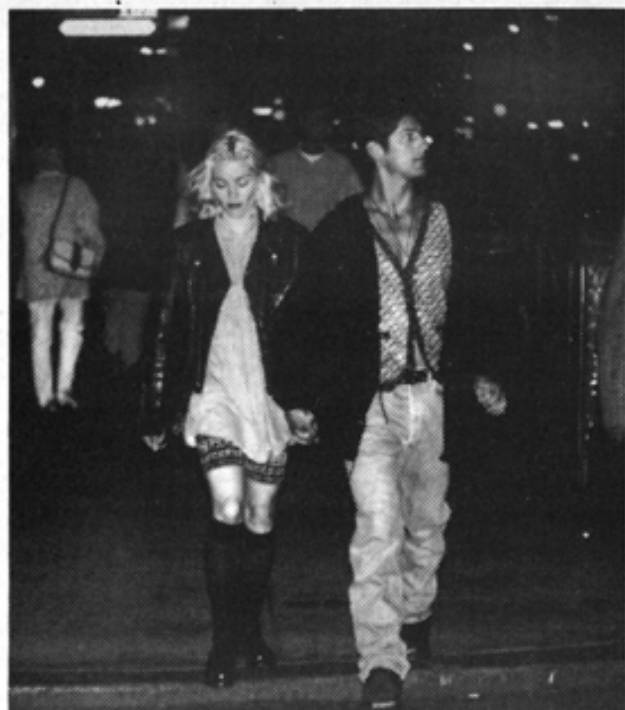


Photo: Greg Gostanian

realness from the next century. MTV, remember, is the land where *all* hard-rock videos have to include fast-motor vehicles and scantily clad girls jiggling around or striking dehumanized, zombiesque poses. Songs like "Cherry Pie" and "Simply Irresistible" render females as furniture-like objects, alluring accessories for the pubescent straight male audience to whack their puds over and dispose of. The format can hardly be described as a parade of feminism (even Madonna's brand). Yet our self-righteous queen of causes, Sinéad O'Connor—who recently boycotted the Grammys because she refuses to be part of a "sexist" and "materialistic" business—gleefully accepted several MTV awards last year, as if this were the highest accolade from a world where women, gays and people of color run free.

MTV, my dears, is a land that is just starting to wake up to gay issues (some of which were well-covered in their "Sex in the '90s" special). But it's got as far to go in that endeavor as it does in portraying women as independent of their bikinis. To this day, anyone who is too eccentric (i.e., gay) doesn't cut it as an on-air regular; an ACT UP "Read My Lips" T-shirt that shows same-sex kissing gets computer scrambled; and while 2 Live Crew's controversial utterances are discussed endlessly, no mention of the grossly homophobic rap group Audio Two manages to seep into airtime. Recently, a network rep wouldn't even consider placing a picture of me in drag (as Madonna, of course) on the air—though she desperately wanted to—as if cross-dressing were somehow against FCC regulations.

MTV's still so regimented in the way it clings to hoary, misguided values of decency and acceptability that anyone who challenges them seems revolutionary. While Sinéad did try to shake things up—with the boys dancing together in her video from *Red Hot and Blue*—more than anyone it's Madonna who's dissolved the network's prejudices, often by feeding right into them, then throwing them a whammy.

It's into this stagnant world that she's force-injected beef-

cake for equal time's sake—the frolicking mermen of "Cherish," the sinewy, *Metropolis*-like laborers of "Express Yourself," even (are we allowed to lust over him?) the hot, if brutally abusive, dad of "Oh, Father." The woman who introduced Herb Ritts to video is definitely someone doing gay men a favor. And for the ladies, at the center of it all is Madonna—twirling half-nakedly and writhing endlessly in gondolas, on dirt roads, on altars—but shrewdly, not "like a" zombie. Her message, projected while twirling, is for women to shamelessly use their wiles to get whatever respect and appliances they want from men. It's not exactly the most advanced brand of feminism, but it may be the most realistic; society puts women at a disadvantage, she's saying, and it's up to them to use every trick imaginable to overcome that and make men their slaves. Like gay activists who vow to get their point across "by any means necessary," Madonna will do anything to get an edge over her male counterparts. She's not fighting for equality within the system, but for superiority through deviousness and manipulation. You can almost see her taking over *Nightline* on the air *à la* ACT UP; her mission: to force Ted Koppel to bark (or, worse, recite this line: "*S Shanghai Surprise* was far and away the best movie of the '80s"). But of course, she *did* take over *Nightline* already.

There are problems with Madonna's somewhat stunted agenda—yes, she *chose* to lick milk out of a bowl, but couldn't she have chosen something else?—yet I'm pretty much sold. She explains "Express Yourself" by giggling, "Pussy rules the world," and if having a pussy can get that many greased muscle studs turning cartwheels around you, then I want one.

Beyond serving as a purveyor of fine *boef*, Madonna throws seemingly limitless other curves into the stasis of contemporary life. Several of the male suitors fawning over her in the "Material Girl" video looked a lot more interested in getting into her red dress than into her. The courtesans in her Marie Antoinette version of "Vogue" emitted enough gay resonances to make the excitable Arsenio Hall extremely nervous (he couldn't resist putting down their foppish outfits on his show, presumably forgetting that he himself has appeared in full drag). And her even more outlandish male backup dancers prancing around in full-figure Gaultier bras (on her "Blond Ambition" tour) were a busty touch that one probably wouldn't expect at a Mariah Carey show.

But then you wouldn't expect Mariah to anonymously coproduce drag-performer Lypsinka's show, or to hang out at the drag-rendezvous bar Edelweiss, either. The club—an atmospheric love-dive set in a German restaurant where all three genders compete for wiener schnitzel—was recently descended upon by Madonna, Liza Minnelli and Naomi Campbell—together—in a priceless meeting of queen bees and wannabes. Most of the transsexual regulars were atwitter, but not happy; they'd been upstaged in their own natural habitat by the very women they were trying to become. I hear the place hasn't been the same since.

The video equivalent of Edelweiss, "Justify My Love" shattered rules in the most self-aggrandizing—but ultimately liberating—way. With its scenes of voyeurism, lesbianism and cross-dressing, it may have been a typical night on the town for most of us, but to MTV, it was a visit from another planet bearing everything they find repugnant. Especially since a topless girl in suspenders wanders through the sexy murk, it was bound to be

Tony Ward is the perfect partner in Madonna's love crimes; she couldn't have auditioned a better boyfriend to serve her purposes of scandal and sensationalism.



banned by the network—only to end up for sale around the country amid a hailstorm of controversy, attention and money-money-money. It seemed Madonna deliberately played into MTV's homophobia, *hoping* the product would offend them enough to be blacklisted, so she could then serve it up, for a price, to a hungry public nursed on hype. And eventually, I've heard, MTV *will* show it (maybe with a few cuts)—so everybody ends up rich and happy, except for those who realize they didn't have to buy it after all.

But what a product. Clutching her throbbing head as she shuffles through a dank corridor, Madonna has so many fantasies to stop in and visit on the way to the nipples at the end that the video becomes a veritable shrimp-and-salad bar of taboo thrills. Suggestions of S/M, sapphism (Madonna kisses a male-looking female as boyfriend Tony Ward looks on intently), interracial sex (shades of "Like a Prayer") and androgyny pile up, and you wonder why she didn't have time to throw in a willing sheep or two, or at least a two-headed dildo. "I want to kiss you in Paris," she coos, but you know if she did, her boyfriend would be watching with one hand on his crotch.

The video was the clearest proof that Tony Ward is the perfect partner in Madonna's love crimes; she couldn't have auditioned a boyfriend to better serve her purposes of scandal and sensationalism. An alleged bisexual (the *Star's* Janet Charlton told a talk-show host that Tony will sleep with apparently anything that's put in front of him—now if I could only get in front of him), Tony's been both engaged and married to other women, but—not your typical spouse—was known to dress as Madonna, and also fantasize about the star watching him having sex. He's always been obsessed with Madonna just like she's always been obsessed with Madonna.

Supposedly, when they first combust at a party (he'd been in her "Like a Prayer" video, but she'd hardly noticed), Madonna put a cigarette out on Tony and it was love at first burn. She quickly found that the publicity he generated—he was a gay-porn magazine model, etc., etc.—created even more steam in ways that the highest paid publicist couldn't have dreamed up. The ultimate freewheeling, pansexual plaything, he's the ideal human brooch for Madonna, who apparently enjoys having a love slave a lot more than she enjoyed supposedly being tied to a chair by Sean Penn. Whether or not the relationship's still sizzling (we hear Tony's backing off a bit from her ego), he appeals to all our fascination with Madonna's gay-love, as we sit and wonder endlessly who straps-what-on and does-what-to-whom. And we should thank Madonna for giving us the chance to wonder. While most stars would have tried to suppress such a boyfriend's gay/drag associations or dumped

him completely, Madonna just basks in the bad-mouthing.

And the controversies keep coming. This May expect a concert documentary called *Truth or Dare*, which in bootleg versions making the rounds on both coasts has already caused more tongue-wagging than even the version of *Peter Pan* (with Julia Roberts as Tinkerbell) turdballing our way. This is not another *Bring on the Night*, where the biggest revelation is Sting being a little snippy to a musician. It's a sensationally private peek at a truly complex, outrageous creature who's always acting up in order to be the center of attention—a very real glimpse at the startling games she plays, made all the more delicious by her having approved every second of it. Out of control, doing things anyone else would have exercised their power to edit out (though she still might), Madonna once again questions our views of what is and isn't acceptable star, and human, behavior.

Growing up in a large family in which she competed for her father's attention, Madonna must have rehearsed her nasty-girl act for years, because in the film, as a bad seed trapped in a woman's body, she's got it down pat. The *Truth or Dare* Madonna is proud of her naughtiness, and exults in it so involuntarily that sometimes she even shocks herself (like when she explains how as a girl she'd crawl into bed with Dad to sleep better, which she did—she laughs—"after he fucked me"). At





one point, she's seen deep-throating an Evian bottle just because she can ("And honey, she swallows," her backup singer says). She also plays Truth or Dare with her male dancers, asking truths like "Have you ever gotten butt-fucked?" and dares like "Show me your dick." Has Whitney Houston ever made that demand of anyone?

As Warren Beatty skulks through the background of the film trying not to be noticed, Madonna takes center stage, horsing around with her dancers (all but one of whom are gay) trying to resolve the sexuality clashes that unexpectedly erupt. The token straight dancer, it seems, has never been exposed to gay people before, and he's a bit freaked, especially since they've been promising to nail his ass on the tour. A voguing fish out of water, he tells Madonna, "I'm not used to being around fags and stuff," and she tells him to get over it. Then, efficiently enough, she instructs the other backup dancers to lighten up because the guy hasn't been around long enough to build up the defense mechanisms they have. Her handling of the whole mess seems pretty intelligent for a superstar, though of course the ultimate gay-positive thing to do would have been to say, "Ah, let them nail you. Maybe you'll like it."

In a scene where she's performing at a benefit for the Keith Haring Foundation, Madonna frustratedly announces that she's trying to unite thousands against homophobia and bigotry—and I can't even unify seven dancers." Her willingness to even try is kind of touching. More crassly, Madonna says in the film, "I'd kill fags who hate women." (More likely, they'd kill her first.) But then she's lovable again, making the lesbian revelation we've all dreamed of, as she admits that an old girlfriend of hers—who's now married with children—used to finger-fuck her when they were kids (Justify my glove...). This isn't a joke, either. In a cross-cutting sequence, Madonna is shown describing the episode delightedly as the friend, who admits to having done a lot of drugs back then, tries to remember it, ultimately taking Madonna's word. No value judgement is made of the act—no fingers are pointed, as it were—it's just another cute admission served up to unnerve the complacent public and exacerbate Madonna's reputation for opening her heart, her mouth, and our eyes. In its nonchalance, it both shocks and satisfies.

Even Sandra Bernhard—who's not a dyke, yes she is, no she's not—talks openly on camera about her girlfriend, making one wonder if perhaps she's a dyke again. We also can't help thinking that she's now decided to be an acknowledged lesbian because she's been pressured to be, or if she's only pulling this as another filthy stunt to later deny. The sight of her brings back all that *Letterman* brouhaha, when Madonna and Sandra carried on like girlfriends and confessed to being Cubby Hole regulars, only to then spend two years trying to live it down—as if it were something they *bad* to live down (it only made them that much more famous and talked about). No one said, "I'm not going to see *Without You I'm Nothing* or *Dick Tracy* because those girls are lesbians." And if Sandra or Madonna have convinced themselves that people did say that, then they're using their own homophobia to rationalize their shortcomings.

Seemingly desperate to go from the fringe to mainstream—and her rambunctious talent merits the leap—Sandra hasn't been able to decide how to keep her gay audience while amassing a larger one. Instead, she spites gays, then still finds that doesn't help advance her career. Like Boy George, who cloaked himself in fake bisexuality and ended up becoming the

And yet, Madonna did let us down. She could have said, "Yes, Sandra and I dive on each other nightly," whether or not they really do. But she reneged, and for once we did feel like we'd been had.



kind of drug-abusing, hotel room-trashing rock star he so loathed, Sandra runs the risk of developing into what she once made fun of. Clothed in designer duds, lunching with Isaac Mizrahi, changing her sexuality every five minutes, she's treacherously close to being the climbing vine she's not supposed to respect. Hopefully, she's learned from Madonna that keeping your edge may be the best way to go forward.

The whole self-loathing *Letterman* episode continues to leave a foul taste, as if we'd been teased into thinking these were our friends, then repeatedly clubbed over the head by their alarm at being considered so. Still, it's important to remember that it was Sandra, not Madonna, who later said they'd been dragged into a "cesspool of degradation" by being labeled lesbians. It was Sandra, not Madonna, who told the inquisitive press to "kiss my fat butt." It was Sandra, not Madonna, who announced, "I'm not a lesbian and I'm sick of being called one."

And besides, it somehow seems more acceptable for a woman who's not a lesbian (Madonna) to say, "We were just kidding. I'm not really," than a woman who is (Sandra) to do the same. And yet—ah, the tangled thoughts—while not as damagingly as Sandra, Madonna did let us down. She could have responded to queries with, "Well, maybe I do go to the Cubby Hole and maybe I don't," and continued to act as if there would be nothing wrong with that. She could have chosen that moment to bring up those misty finger-fucking memories. She

could have said, "Yes, Sandra and I dive on each other nightly," whether or not they really do (and I have my own thoughts on that subject). But she reneged, and for once we did feel like we'd been had.

The using issue came up again last year when Madonna released "Vogue"—at a time when we jaded New York folk were sure the trend was way over—and once again proved that her timing was impeccable. Middle America was all primped and ready for it, legs akimbo and arms in a formation. In accessorizing herself with a Black/Hispanic, gay/drag art form for mass success, Madonna was doing her usual shtick of taking something bubbling under the surface and putting it over in a big way. She was inviting public perception to a movement that seemed to have become slick enough to warrant a commercial venue. And she was, quite blatantly, ripping it off. What Madonna does best is exploit what she sees on the street, and since gay Blacks are at the forefront of so much of that, it was probably inevitable that they'd end up being the targets of her co-opting frenzy. Whether they should feel grateful or raped is another issue.

While most voguers struggle through their low-income lives, becoming powerful real men and women only in the contrived world of the voguing balls, Madonna approached the phenomenon from the opposite direction, as a well-off, pampered celebrity slumming up in Harlem for effect. She's that rare voguer who can both strike a pose and also strike a multi-million deal with a record and movie company. By saturating the airwaves with voguing, she certainly helped it, and voguers in general, become more visible, but that's like saying Vanilla Ice did Blacks a favor by making rap more visible.

Of course, another argument is that Madonna did employ gay people of color in her video and on her tour. But wasn't that just to add authenticity to her well-researched attempt at currency? The questions don't quit, especially in light of rumors that the song's lyrics—"It makes no difference if you're black or white, if you're a boy or a girl"—were supposed to include references to gays, but in the final whitewashed version, glaringly didn't. Ultimately, we won and lost on the "Voguing" issue; it was Madonna's nod to this creative underground and her subtle stab in its back. As with many of her exploitative choices, she ended up helping herself more than anybody.

Fortunately, she's proven herself to be a good friend to the gay and AIDS community, doing enough selfless things to perhaps ameliorate the memory of the debatable ones. Someone who has kids chanting along with her, "Hey you, don't be silly, put a rubber on your willy," is far more valuable an ally than say, a Sebastian Bach, who asks his audience to chirp along

See MADONNA on page 62



Photo: Greg Gostanian

LOST AND FOUND

*How to get
Some Piece of
Mind and
a Smaller
Waistline,
Both at
the Same
Time.*

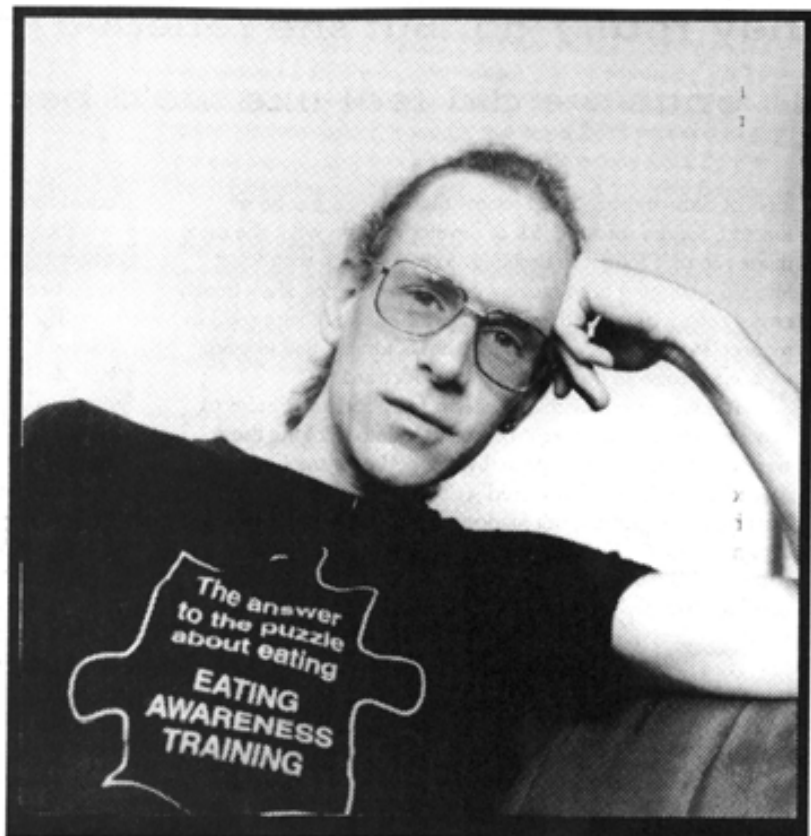


Photo: T.L. Litt

Fat. Skinny. Fat, skinny.

Fat-skinny-fat-skinny-fat-skinny-fat-skinny-fat-skinny.

The story of my life.

And yours too, maybe.

OK, we've been through a lot of this before. We've discussed queer self-abuse, queer obsession with a sickeningly perfect body image, queer internalized homophobia, queer rejection by our own kind, this you-can't-be-too-thin society, 12-step programs, rampant anorexia and clubs like Girth and Mirth.

But we haven't talked about Eating Awareness Training, or EAT, and a man named Ross Jacobs. Just as I was ballooning out of control last summer (once again), this wonderful, proud, gay man and his program shrunk me back down. How much weight did I lose? I have no idea. What can you eat? Anything you want. Can you keep the pounds off? So far, so good. How do I

BY MICHELANGELO SIGNORILE

feel? Marvelous, darling, just *marvelous!* Is it hard? Almost painless.

Eleven years ago, Ross Jacobs was just another closet case, married and living in the suburbs and eating his sorrows away. "I'd come home every night to a beautiful meal that was prepared for me," he recalls. "I sat down and ate it, regardless of how I felt. I was unhappy and frustrated, and I was very repressed in terms of my homosexuality. I put on somewhere between 30 and 40 pounds."

Jacobs' coming-out process made him more aware of his physical being. "I looked at myself and thought, I want to take care of myself," he says. It was in 1982, while contemplating the inevitable end of his marriage, that he discovered EAT, via the book by the same name, written by Molly Groger. Based in LA, Groger, now a consultant to Blue Cross in Southern California, had by then helped hundreds of people overcome weight problems. "I read the book straight through," he says. "It helped with other parts of my life too. It pushed me a little bit more out of the closet. A lot of the training was about getting in touch with yourself, trusting yourself."

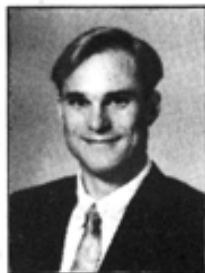
Having successfully lost weight, Jacobs eventually met Groger and, so impressed by the program, decided that he wanted to teach it. After spending some time with Groger, learning how to train people in EAT, Jacobs was awarded a license to be an EAT instructor in New York. He now has a very queer clientele (in addition to his more corporate customers like Citibank). He points out that, though he taught himself the program by using the book (which is now available in paperback for \$8 from Summit Books), most people "need somebody to take them through the process."

When I first received Jacobs' literature in the mail at *OutWeek*, I thought that the program must be some sort of cult. It all seemed so weird, and it certainly promised *too much*. "What if you could eat whatever you want, whenever you want and still keep your natural shape?" the brochure asked. "What if you could reclaim your right to eat without compulsion, obsession or suffering? What if you could stop watching your weight and stop dieting forever?" And all this in six weekly, one-hour meetings. Yeah, *right*.

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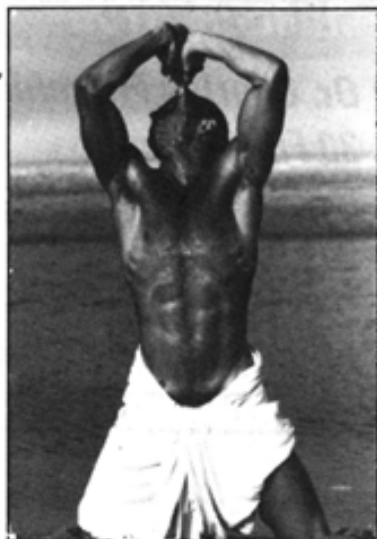
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WORKING OUT

But I was desperate. I just *bad* to try it. When you're at that point where you can see the splits in the armpits of that tired Williwear suit as you make your debut on *48 Hours*, it's time for drastic measures.

At my first session (one-on-one, although Jacobs does group training also), I learned all about "experiencing" my food, eating without *any* distractions, and "listening" to my body. At the end of that session, Jacobs handed me a plastic mallet. I was supposed to go home, take all of my clothes off and look at my body in the mirror. I was to simply observe it, feel it and accept it—not judge it, not feel guilty about it and not say to myself, "Ugh! You ugly piece of shit." If I did lapse into that typical behavior, I was to hit myself over the head with the mallet, which would make a hideous squeaking noise.

I told people about this at parties. They thought that I was crazy. (I thought that I was crazy.) It prompted Michael Musto to write in the *Village Voice* that "hitting yourself over the head with a plastic mallet after looking in the mirror" is one of the hot new trends, in addition to "Barbie house-hunting and co-dependency hospitals."

But the hammer thing is just one aspect (albeit a sensationalistic one) of a much more complex program that really makes a lot of sense. EAT teaches you how to free yourself of guilt regarding your body and food, and, through a series of behavioral exercises, *retrains* you to eat properly. EAT doesn't promise that you'll necessarily be *ultra-thin*—but, rather, that you'll melt into your natural body, whatever that is—and that you'll stay that way, more or less, because you've learned *how* to eat instead of dieting.

Over the six-week period, I learned that my whole way of looking at food had been problematic. I educated myself about hunger levels, expectations, "sabotage," fears, inner strength and various other concepts. And I reeducated myself about *when* to eat. Just as Jacobs found that coming out as gay and dealing with his eating problem were related, I also

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found that EAT addressed many other areas of my life beyond eating.

Most remarkable about the process is that I never had to willfully restrict my food intake or stop eating *any* kind of food. With EAT, *you* make all the decisions. You eat whatever you want, as much as you want. The difference is that you learn to listen to your body instead of your mind (which has, for years, been polluted with all the wrong habits), and you find that your body actually wants different foods sometimes, and usually a lot less of them.

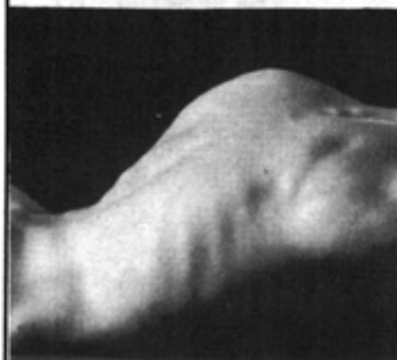
I lost a lot of weight. I don't know how much because, according to EAT principles, scales are a no-no; they only measure the *symptom* (pounds) and have no bearing on the *problem* (the way you eat). I soon felt great and found myself doing a lot more things—working out, walking to and from work, dancing all night. And this was all before the end of the program.

The big question everyone wants answered is, Can you keep the weight off? Well, seeing as EAT is not a diet but rather a way of life, the weight, theoretically, should stay off because you've realigned your eating habits. For the most part that has been true; since last August, when I finished the program I certainly haven't gained the weight back. And yet, there are times when I've seen myself slipping back to the old way of thinking, eating the way I used to. That can be frightening and frustrating. But I've found that it's easier to get back on track with EAT; it begins to become as much of a habit as the old way of eating once was.

Is EAT the magic bullet? Well, no. The complexities surrounding weight issues are such that nothing could ever possibly be. EAT takes work, as with everything else. It's just a lot easier than dieting. And it certainly doesn't make you feel as if the world is a hopeless place where all sorts of restrictions are placed upon you, as do many diets. To the contrary, EAT is empowering on so many levels. It makes you realize, for the first time perhaps, that you are in control. And, overall, it's a lot more sane—even if you have to hit yourself in the head with a plastic mallet once in while. ▼

For more information about Eating Awareness Training, contact Ross Jacobs at (212) 929-0661.

BACK



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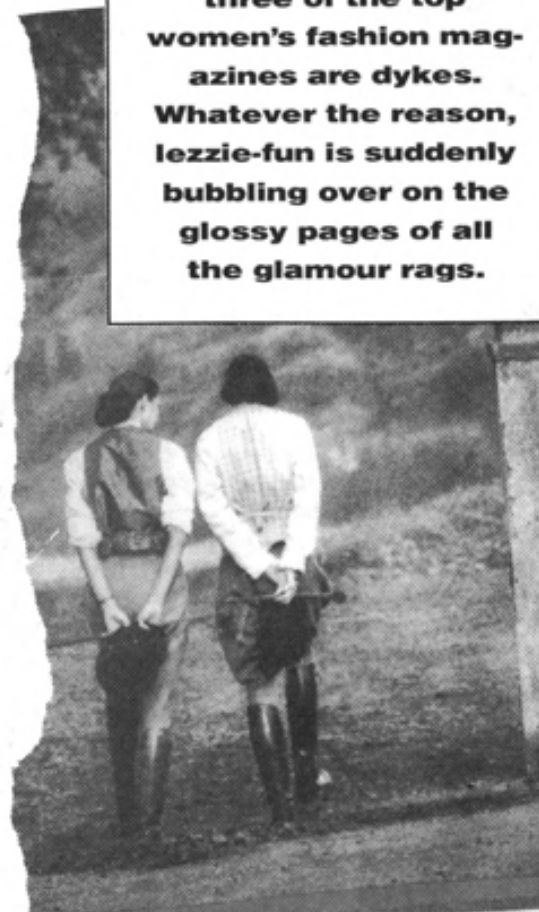
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Perhaps it's one of those lasting cultural effects of what's-her-name's scandalous video. Or maybe it has to do with the fact that the editors at three of the top women's fashion magazines are dykes. Whatever the reason, lezzie-fun is suddenly bubbling over on the glossy pages of all the glamour rags.



COGNAC. L'ART DE MARTELL.
SINCE 1765



Believe it or not, I have the Liz Smith Desk Calendar. (I didn't buy it myself—I swear!—a friend gave it to me for my birthday last December.) On each day, Liz gives you some piece of drivel, a tidbit of American gossip from the past that's bound to make you go "Ughh!" Oh, how I would love to create the Queer Scandal Desk Calendar. Each day would recount some past scenario in which we found ourselves spinning, panting, ranting and raving. And we'd find that, just as one scandal wound itself down, another would whirl into our existence from the horizon like some incredible tornado.

Take the current scene, for example. While a firestorm was raging around *The Silence of the Lambs*, the *Miss Saigon* controversy—actually, the second *Miss Saigon* controversy (or is it the third?)—was fast picking up steam. Now, it's past the boiling point. And Lambda Legal Defense and the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center are finding themselves embroiled in a hotter-than-hot brouhaha which they are sleazily trying to talk their way out of. Ultimately, this is a much more well-defined situation than that of *The Silence of the Lambs*, with the issues of racism and sexism clear-cut and undeniable. And it's causing an enormous amount of distress in an already overworked community.

For several months, Asian-American lesbian and gay groups have been pressuring Lambda and the Center not to use Cameron Mackintosh's *Miss Saigon* for fundraisers which those organizations had planned. Asian Lesbians of the East Coast and Gay Asian and Pacific Islander Men charged that, far beyond the Jonathan Pryce skirmish, there are lots of other problems with this show, including "racist and sexist content, a trivialization and romanticization of the Viet Nam War, and a tradition of white privilege to portray Asians."

A look at the script bears this out: The heroine is described as a "slit," who exists strictly for the pleasure of the white man who abandons her. But it really

GOSSIP WATCH

doesn't matter what the story is about and whether or not Lambda and/or the Center find it problematic. **THE TRUTH IS THAT MANY PEOPLE IN THE LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY ARE OFFENDED BY IT—PARTICULARLY**

LAMBDA AND THE CENTER WILL TOLER- ATE RACISM AND SEXISM FOR A PRICE.

ASIANS, WHO ARE THE VERY SUBJECT OF THE WORK. For that reason alone, Lambda and the Center should not be involved in fundraisers using this show.

Trying to soften the attacks made on the organization, Lambda is pinning the rap on the Asian gay groups for not pointing these problems out in

December, when Lambda originally bought blocks of tickets to sell for their event in April. But the Shubert Organization now says that the groups can sell the tickets—and get out of this mess—up until two weeks before the show. If they sold the tickets now, Lambda and the Center would lose none of the money they shelled out, but would forgo \$150,000 in net profits they stand to make. Lambda's head honcho, Tom Stoddard, says they just can't do that—they can't give up that kind of money. And the Center, we hear, is being pressured enormously by gay white male theater queens—who are also big donors to the Center—not to "cave in" to the Asian groups.

In other words, Lambda and the Center are saying that they will tolerate racism and sexism for a price. **THAT IS APPALLING! AND WE MUST NOT ALLOW IT TO HAPPEN. WE MUST DEMAND, AS A UNIFIED COMMUNITY TO WHICH LAMBDA AND THE CENTER MUST BE ACCOUNTABLE, THAT THE ORGANIZATIONS DROP THIS FUNDRAISER.** Stoddard, you're once again putting yourself in a major bind. Didn't you notice how quickly AmFAR dropped *Silence of the Lambs* as soon as they smelled controversy? Don't you see that this is only going to blow up into a bigger thing? And when the mainstream media gets a hold of it, well, forget about it! The idea of yet another scandal surrounding *Miss Saigon* is enough to make them salivate ten times over. Can't you just see those cameras swooping down on the protestors carrying the "Lambda is racist" signs in front of the show?

Of course, I know what we're being accused of by all this talk. We're being called "politically correct," a term that has now become one of the most negative labels one could possibly be branded with, all thanks to the mainstream media's incessant attacks on campus politics, and the leftie press' desire to just stick its head in the sand on this one (yes, I mean the *Village Voice*), rather than fight off the attackers.

It's now gotten to the point where—after *Newsweek* and

By Michelangelo Signorile

New York and a slew of other publications—the more-hIDEOUS-by-the-month *Details* magazine has jumped on the bandwagon. After we lambasted them incessantly, regarding their lack of queer coverage and their rampant heterosexism, *Details'* response seems to be this little ditty in their asinine "Eye-witness" column in the March issue: "Hello, I am politically correct. Have I mentioned yet how gay I am? In spirit, at least, if not in actual practice. Which is to say that my sympathy—no, my *empathy*—with gay and lesbian—or wait, my *solidarity*—with my gay and lesbian brothers and sisters is so profound as to make any distinction between me and them a matter of hairsplitting. I despise hairsplitting. that's why I make sure I mention my political position early and often." HOW DARE YOU MOCK US, YOU BASTARDS! Especially after you haven't done shit to serve this community on the pages of your downward-spiraling rag. (Yes, everyone knows how you lost Guess Jeans, your biggest advertiser—an eight pager—because they thought your editorial content was lame.)

Hopefully, Joe Dolce, a gay writer and editor who's got the right zing and who's recently been hired as a senior editor at *Details*, will be able to turn things around a bit. And at least keep the closet-case quotient down on the mag's pages.

Speaking of closets and such, I do have to tell everyone what the hell is going on with dearest Whitney. Ever since we spoke about Ms. Houston and her "personal assistant" Robin Crawford flying separately and eating at different tables at dinner parties, the calls from people who've worked with her and Arista Records' head Clive Davis (both in the past and presently), have come pouring in. Now we have lots of information to bargain with. And we know, Mr. Davis, all about the plans to have Whitney linked to four or five different men over the next six months, all for bearding purposes.

But it won't work, buster. And if I were you, I'd cool it. You see, we're coming closer and closer and closer. Yes, Mr. Davis. Things may even come popping out of *your own* storage space very shortly, if you know what I mean. ▼

GAYDAR

LA War Story

LOS ANGELES—So it's time for that cigarette. America finally got off. Was it good for you, too? Despite performance anxiety and fears of impotence, we stroked and posed and talked dirty, had six months of foreplay and finally came. What a fantasy—forcing a whole butch country down on their knees for our beautiful young men. All you had to do was watch report after report of Iraqi soldiers and our boys to know that, indeed, America wants to be a top.

I suppose Los Angeles was the best place to be when the war ended. Though the news was coming out of New York or Atlanta, the inspiration was here. If Spielberg hadn't done *Star Wars*, we wouldn't have been as awed by America's space-age weapons. Every tape released by the Pentagon became a direct hit, destroying the evil Death Star. We got the high score on

this Nintendo Gulf War toy, and no one is going to top it soon. But you know what happens to little boys who play with their joy sticks too much.

Everything is made easy in LA, though I know it's been said before. The *LA Times* distills each story to one sentence, so you don't really have to read the articles, leaving more time for the Calendar section.

The left coast Times did a great job on the Cracker Barrel controversy (as did *The New York Times*). It seems that a cheese shoppe, of all places, decided it would be inconsistent with the traditional American values "of our customer base to continue to employ individuals...whose sexual preferences fail to demonstrate normal heterosexual values which have been the foundation of families in our society." Always back to those mythic American families.

Though the company retracted the statement the next day, the Crackpot Barrel chairman said they still wouldn't

By Michael Goff



MEDIA VICTORY

IRAQIS KISS THEIR CAPTORS' HANDS

employ homosexuals if there was a potential for disruption in rural communities. Fags and dykes are always the ones causing disruptions. They just can't stop beating up on rednecks.

The key to the *LA Times* piece, however, was their discussion of how this kind of thing can and does continue even without a stated policy. **Robert Bray** of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force says companies regularly get rid of lesbians and gays. They simply "disguise the terminations."



But on to the Calendar section and a huge feature, "Soap Tackles the Ultimate Taboo: Father-son incest." It seems that a character on the daytime

pretty-boy soap *Bold and the Beautiful* has accused his father of sexual abuse, and it is doing wonderful things for the ratings. *LA Times* reporter **Irv Letofsky** quoted *B&B*'s co-creator/executive producer/writer, "Until we did this, we thought everything had been exploited." I guess this was his lucky day.

Not having seen the show, I don't know how responsibly they've dealt with the topic. But from the single line of dialogue Letofsky quotes, I'm not optimistic. "All these years I was tortured. Those nights, the darkness, your voice, your hands...In my little boy's mind I thought it was love..." Father-son incest is obviously

something that happens, and it is fair game for a soap opera. The problem is that it plays very nicely into all those great stereotypes of child-molesting homosexuals. The *LA Times* doesn't mention that this type of incest is no more prevalent than father/daughter, or the fact that child-molesting is not part-and-parcel of homosexual experiences.

Actually, the tone of the piece implies that father-son incest is the biggest problem since global warming. **Todd Mckee**, who plays the molested boy, says, "It's surprising how many people have these actual experiences," and then goes on to share excerpts from letters he's received.

While I'm sure the makers of *B&B* and the *LA Times* think they're doing a lot of good by bringing out this sensitive subject, as always, it must be done responsibly. And that would include some discussion and dismissal of popular misconceptions about male/male child abuse.



Actually, what passes for news in LA is often only so much dish. The cable channel of choice is not *C-Span*, as in DC, or *Public Access* in New York. Here it is the "**F**" *channel*—a low budget *Entertainment Tonight* which just goes on and on. Two queens host the show, and while the rest of the country tuned into *Stormin' Norman* this week, LA tuned into the **Marlon Brando** testimony at his son's murder trial. Such acting you have never seen. Following Brando, they did an in-depth story on **Bob Mackie** and his glamrags for girls. Backed with the predictable **Madonna** soundtrack, Bob waxed on disparagingly about young starlets like **Julia Roberts**, who prefer a spare, "arty" black dress to one of his glitzy gowns.

It's the fag channel—all the time.

Actually, it's quite a queer town, from West Hollywood to Burbank's executive offices. The universal response to an upcoming *Advocate* story on homophobia in Hollywood is "are there any straight people in the movie business at all?" **David Geffen** gave them some great quotes for the story, but they got one of those calls from his lawyers and couldn't use some of them. ▼

THREE DOTS...

LA Dish Edition—All the unconfirmed rumors that will fit . . . **Sly**

Stallone and **John Travolta** have rented a flat together in West Hollywood . . . In Travolta's next film he plays headmaster of a boy's school. The film editors, who have nicknamed the film "Gay is Good" in their funny straight-man way, had to cut a number of scenes where Travolta looks too "sympathetically" at the boys. There's also a great spanking scene...Meanwhile, **Frank Stallone** and **Dolf Lundren's** restaurant **Black and Bloo** is the home to a new queer club, **Trade**, on Tuesdays. *Advocate* editors, **Lance Loud**, wayward filmmakers, and activists galore make the scene . . . **Dolf** made a scene at the **Versace** fashion show to benefit AIDS Project LA when he came up to two (not one) beautiful male models at the end of the night. All he said was, "You're coming with me." And they did . . . **Michelle Pfeiffer** is working hard to set up an AIDS movie, in which she gets the disease from an IVDU boyfriend. The script includes many great gay characters—doctors and PWAs.

—M.G.

OUT ON THE TOWN WITH LIZ & SYDNEY

There are critical moments in one's life—meeting someone, or reading a book that changes your life (as if this were possible), or a sudden realization which reveals the true nature of something to you. James Joyce called these moments epiphanies—and very often these moments are caused by a particular person—in Liz's case, her mother. The occasion of her last phone call gave cause for a rather disturbing, yet small, epiphany—or an epiphanette, if you will.

LIZ: Sydney, I have to quit the column. My mother just started crying when she read the part about Madonna masturbating. She's afraid my grandmother will read it—since we're national. My aunt will buy it and leave it on a table just to get me in trouble. I can't write this column, I can't live this life...

SYDNEY: What? You told me your mother used to make breakfast for your overnight tricks, the ones you brought to your house, anyway. I don't see how she could be upset about Madonna masturbating and besides, I would think that if Madonna can hold her head high at family reunions, then you have little to be afraid of. Let's face it: You haven't grabbed your crotch on national TV lately, have you? Surely we can think of something other than Madonna to talk about. I'm getting really tired of her.

Liz: The breakfast thing was a private family matter. I wasn't writing about my loose morals for everyone and their high school English teacher to read about then. She just made me realize that we spend our nights watching people whip each other, and themselves, to house music and call it entertainment.

Sydney: Oh god, you mean the go-go boy at More¹? He's the new club star. After that bare-bottomed club kid spanked him during the Hunt Man competition, all anyone can talk about is how much he likes to be whipped. And to think I voted for him out of pity...



Liz: You fool, if he is such a masochist then he was probably happy to lose.

Sydney: OK, so I'm naive, but I certainly didn't ask Sal Piro² to enter the competition and take off his little Dr. Frankenfurter outfit.

Liz: I liked Shampoo³. There's a nice, wholesome club.

Sydney: Wholesome? The whole thing is like Pee Wee's Playhouse on Acid. You don't pack a bag for that kind of trip. I probably shouldn't admit this, but my idea of a good time is sitting on the swing lip-synching "Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves."

Liz: Yeah, but the problem with the club is simply that the rooms are small and intimate enough that if you get there before anyone else, no one will come in while you're in there. And then you get mad when somebody comes in and breaks the living room ambience you've created. Or else they just think you're hosting a

party and start hitting you up for drink tickets.

Sydney: I wish I was hosting the party. Then I could have walked through the door and into the library. Instead, I had to go all the way down and into the main club through all those hairsprayed big-hair types to get to Chauncey and Mykul Tronn's party⁴ that was just in the next room.

Liz: Oh, poor baby. I thought you liked those big-hair types, Sydney.

Sydney: Anyway...at least you know they're girls. The real scary part is that everyone was talking about how obnoxious that security guard was. In fact, it was all anyone could talk about. I mean, he's a total star now and for what? Being a nightmare.

Liz: How novel. But that's how people become "celebrities" on the club scene—the more people you annoy, the more they remember you. Some people actually coast for years on the skills they have developed for annoying people. You should actually last forever then.

Sydney: I'm not annoying, I'm just misunderstood. Besides, there are many more

See LIZ & SYDNEY on page 75



By LIZ TRACEY &
SYDNEY POKORNY

FIELD TRIPPING

The most puzzling aspect of this room of 75 naked men is that nobody is eating the mozzarella sticks. The finger food lies in a serving tray, untouched, growing cold. People seem to favor the fried chicken wings, tearing into them with gusto and wiping their greasy fingers on paper napkins, the closest thing to protective covering that anybody has.

Welcome to a social event by Males Au Naturel (MAN), the gay-male-nudist group.

It is a chilly Saturday evening on Christopher Street. The moon seems frozen in the clear, black sky. People rush from the streets to escape the cold. In this second-story space, the only hint of winter weather is a breeze that occasionally slips in at floor-level. There are variations on nudism here. Most are birthday-suit purists. Some adorn themselves with nipple rings or cockrings. Others, more pragmatic, wear white socks against the cool wooden floors.

The only *de rigueur* garment this evening is a white nametag, suspended on a pink ribbon around the neck. Measuring two-inches-by-four-inches, it offers little in the way of protection for the skittish. But it provides a delicious charade. By straining to read the nametag of your neighbor, you take in a generous view of his penis. Of course, most organs are flaccid. Some men tug furtively at their sluggish members, in order to coax a more impressive dangle.

The truth is oppressively evident: We are guilty of being victims of a prudish society. The men of MAN gather, in the words of co-founder Murray, "to puncture some myths....Everyone thinks that nudism equals lust equals sex," he says, his florid complexion growing redder with agitation. "The misconception is that everything that is done in the nude is sexual." As the room fills with people, and the chattering reaches a crescendo, the initial thrill of comparing tallywhackers and muscle tone pales. Even in the buff, talking about the weather becomes standard party conversation.

To join MAN's roster of 200 members is relatively easy if you've gotten over the dress



code. A steering committee approves referrals. Annual membership is \$25. Special events range from nude wrestling demonstrations to last month's Leather and Feathers costume party. For the Christmas party, gifts are donated to Bailey House, the Manhattan home for PWAs. Organization rules are few and simple. Excessive alcohol and drug use are forbidden. Sexual activity is also not tolerated. Murray intones, "You more or less keep it cool. If you wanna shake hands or hug, you can do that. But don't start grabbing someone's cock." Official policy aside, one member confided, summer events in the country often end with several people catching poison ivy in the damndest places.

After an hour, the room has filled with people. New members, identified by blue terrycloth armbands, have been coaxed into conversation by regulars. Flesh becomes the greatest common denominator. Stripped of

their clothes, people are shorn of social class, occupational trappings and the typical frosty barroom personae. The faces and bodies range, for the most part, from average to pleasing. Rick, 30, a regal Rastafarian with large dreadlocks, explains: "When people remove their clothing, you can't judge any trappings that would put them in one little corner. You're gonna have to start taking on everybody for just what they are, totally raw. Then you find out if there's a level of substance you're interested in socially or not. It's a good equalizer."

Al, an elegant silver-haired man, resembles Picasso's Don Quixote. A Cuban native, 67, he has visited naturist groups all over the country. He suggests that the lack of clothing is the dismissal of one final barrier between people. "Clothes make the man, and we don't have any clothes, so you can get to [their personality] quicker." John, a short, boyish clone, is an accountant from New Jersey and a naturist for six years. As an active member of MAN, he's gained a better sense of self, especially bare-assed. "I'm one of those who looks better without clothes."

By Jay Blotcher

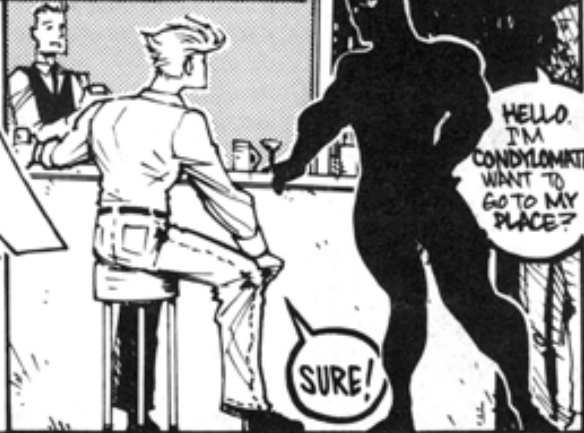
See FIELD TRIPPING on page 75

LASER MEDICAL ASSOCIATES PRESENTS

THE ADVENTURES OF:

LASERMAN

A BAR IN UPPER MANHATTAN...



HELLO. I'M CONDYLOMATA. WANT TO GO TO MY PLACE?

SURE!

AND, AT CONDYLOMATA'S...



LET'S GET BUSY!!

A WEEK LATER, CHUCK CALLS HIS FRIEND BOB IN A GREAT PANIC...



BOB, THIS IS TERRIBLE! LAST WEEK, I WENT TO BED WITH THIS THING CONDYLOMATA. IT WAS A LOT OF FUN, BUT NOW I'VE GOT THESE WARTS...

CHUCK, YOU FOOL! DON'T YOU KNOW THAT CONDYLOMATA IS KNOWN FOR ITS GENITAL WARTS? YOU BETTER CALL 1-800-MD-TUSCH! YOU NEED LASERMAN'S HELP!!

CHUCK TOOK BOB'S ADVICE AND CALLED 1-800-MD-TUSCH. LASERMAN, USING HIS TUSCHMOBILE, SPEEDS OFF TO 7 EAST 68TH STREET, ONE OF 7 DIFFERENT, CONVENIENT LOCATIONS. WITH NO BLEEDING, LASERMAN PAINLESSLY TOOK CARE OF CHUCK'S PROBLEM WITH LASERS!!



AND, AT LASERMAN'S OFFICE...

THANKS FOR SAVING ME FROM CONDYLOMATA, LASERMAN! AND FOR ACCEPTING MY INSURANCE PLAN!

NO PROBLEM, CHUCK! LASER MEDICAL ASSOCIATES AND I ACCEPT MOST INSURANCE PLANS, AND REMEMBER, I CAN TREAT HEMORRHOIDS, FISSURES, MOLES, FISTULAS AND SPIDER VEINS THE SAME WAY, FAST, SAFELY AND PAINLESSLY WITH LASERS!

AND CHUCK, REMEMBER, ALWAYS USE A CONDOM!



LASERMAN HAS SAVED YET ANOTHER PERSON FROM THE CLUTCHES OF CONDYLOMATA!



Laser Medical Associates

Jeffrey E. Lavigne, M.D.
Fellow International College of Surgeons

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THE ARTS

Pose, She Said

*An Interview
With Director
Jennie Livingston*

by Karl Soehnlein

"It's a miracle a film like this ever got made in the first place," says director Jennie Livingston about her film, *Paris Is Burning*, a documentary about the House Balls at the center of much of New York City's Black gay subculture. In addition to being a first-time filmmaker who had to raise a couple hundred thousand dollars, she had to surmount the challenges of capturing, in a fair and non-exploitative fashion, a world she came to as an outsider.

Livingston discovered the Ball world by chance, stumbling upon some Voguers in Washington Square Park in the summer of 1985. With their permission, she filmed them, conducted a few interviews about what they were doing and put it all together as an NYU Film School project. However, she realized that the subject called for a much larger exploration. She began going to Balls that year, talking to participants and

BURNING UP—Director Jennie Livingston



filming them vogueing on the floor and talking in their homes. The next winter, she edited a five-minute trailer which became her vehicle to raise funds for a feature film.

Through a series of government and foundation grants, some big money from WNYC and the BBC, as well as smaller contributions from family and friends, the film was funded. Having completed it last year, Livingston is finally reaping the rewards. The Los Angeles Film Critics named *Paris Is Burning* the best documentary of 1990, and she took home top honors in the documentary category last month at the prestigious Sundance Film Festival. This week, it opens for its first theatrical run at Film Forum.

Karl Soehnlein: You got into this as someone who's not part of the culture. How did you build up the kind of trust where people are so open to talking about their personal experiences?

Jennie Livingston: First of all, I went in as a photographer, and that was appreciated because it's clearly a culture that is about performance and being given credit. These are people with star quality who aren't treated like stars. The popping flashbulb is the ultimate entrée in a way. Then I was just there so much. When you spend hours sitting in people's houses and taking them out to meals and being at the balls you gain credibility. You're not just there for the quick interview. I also targeted people who were articulate, who had stuff they wanted to say and were very happy that anyone wanted to listen.

KS: But didn't the fact that you're a white lesbian going into a world of Black queens and street kids make that difficult?

JL: If you know someone over a period of two years, and they still remain their sex and their race, you've got to be a pretty sexist, racist person. I ceased to be "that white girl" and became "Miss Jennie." I certainly came of age as a gay person making this film. I don't think I felt particularly gay or particularly politicized when I started doing this film. Making the film really helped my process of coming to terms with who I am. It's been a great gift.

KS: What is the reaction to the film from people who are in it?

JL: When Ball people watch the



NOT SHADY JUST FIERCE—*The House of Labelija*

film, you can hardly even hear it over people commenting on it. It's a bit like home movies: "Look at Miss Octavia!" Pepper [mother of the House of Labelija] showed the film at her Ball. The feedback I have gotten is that people really liked it.

KS: With Madonna's *Vogue* and *In Living Color's* "Men on..." characters, it's clear that a crossover is happening, where this culture is being repackaged for the outside world. What do the people in your film think about all that?

JL: The reaction is mixed. People like Madonna's video and are happy that it's she who brought it to public attention. Some people have gotten jobs. José Extravaganza danced in *Vogue* and in Madonna's latest video. Willi Ninja is choreographing and dancing all over the world. The Balls themselves have come downtown, and that's likely how Madonna discovered it, 'cause I never saw Madonna in Harlem. A broader audience comes, people can charge more money, people make more money, and that's only good. You can still walk a Ball, you still belong to a House, and maybe there's the hope that someone will see you. I'm sure there are some people who resent it; Madonna's making a lot more money on vogueing than any of them ever did.

KS: Are there lesbians in the Ball world? They're not shown in your film.

JL: There definitely are, but the women really are peripheral. There were so

many aspects of the Ball life I wish I could have left in. Jonathan [Oppenheim, Livingston's editor] and I were constantly joking about the mini-series we could make with the outtakes.

KS: What was your experience at the Sundance Festival?

JL: It was up and down, being in a place with industry people who are talking about big money but treating you not very nicely because you're a female filmmaker. A man can come in with a five-minute film he's made that someone thinks is hot, and everyone's like "Yeah son, let's get you a job," and a woman comes in with a feature, and at every level they're finding excuses not to give her money. On the other hand, it was also a place where I could talk to more women filmmakers than I had in my life. I can't stress enough how valuable it was to meet other filmmakers who've gone through the same struggles. It felt like a real rite of passage.

KS: The press coverage completely marginalized your film. You split the jury prize with Barbara Kopple's *American Dream*, which was described very admirably by *The New York Times* as a film "about labor struggles," whereas *Paris Is Burning* was described as "highly wrought drag queens at their sewing machines."

JL: And the only person at a sewing machine is not a drag queen! *Paris* is about racism, gender, American greed in the '80s. The reviewers just showed no respect....The coverage in

FILM

The *NY Times* and *LA Times* is unabashedly homophobic.

KS: Do you think there's more of that ahead, the marginalization?

JL: I hope not. Tons of people who are straight have seen the film and have liked it. The films I'm working on now aren't gay films—not like I'll never make a gay film again, but just because the particular stories I'm obsessed with are not. But they very much have a gay sensibility, inspired by Fassbinder or Waters. There are four projects, and whichever one gets off the ground first will be the one I do...

KS: In the context of this interview, is there anything you'd say to the gay and lesbian community?

JL: I just hope that people who are in a position of power to support gay filmmakers and to support films about gay subjects are *more* supportive. In funding *Paris*, I felt very angered by some of the restrictions that the gay community places on people who represent it, like from the Chicago Resource Center [a gay and lesbian foundation]. What hurt me was not so much that they didn't fund the film—because you can never assume you'll be funded by anyone—[but] I believe that they didn't like the idea of supporting a film about gay people that were Black drag queens. Some mainstream gay people

See **LIVINGSTON** on page 62

It's Only A Video

by Joe Clark

Consume, consume, consume. Isn't everything a commodity nowadays— even music? And what better place to advertise these canned goods than on television? That, I guess, is why we have music videos. But even if they're no more than brazen commercials for the latest trend in pre-digested sound, music videos still merit scrutiny, if for nothing other than their imagery's sheer power.

New Kids on the Block, *Games* (Paris Barclay and Lynn Goldsmith, directors): Don't sell these guys short. With their earlier single "The Right Stuff," NKOTB showed that they actually *are* capable of creating a recherché pop tune that doesn't insult their intelligence or ours. "Games" and its video are a crash course in hiphop—and that may be just what the quintet's shrieking teenage audience needs. Donnie "Deep-Down-I'm-Actually-Black" Wahlberg opens the vid in a Malcolm X jacket and gold chains (ahhh, nostalgia) then raps about positivity. Lyrics are punctuated by a host of sung-and-sampled keywords (no sellout, word, sucker, and that Flavor fave, boyee) that lived fast and died hard in the brief

history of rap. Thus brought up to date, formerly clueless Blockheads can start listening to *real* rap.

LL Cool J, *Around the Way Girl* (Paris Barclay, director): If this guy had talent to match his looks, there wouldn't be room in the public consciousness for an MC Hammer, and think of how better off we'd be then. It's a shame LL's video imagery has leaned consistently toward the sexist and exploitative, a trend this tepid single can only prolong. The meta-story line is LL's search for an "around the way girl" for his video. But his handlers don't bring him what he wants: "All you give me is stuck-up tuna," complains the man whose acronyms mean Ladies Love Cool James. Hmm. If they're so stuck up, LL, why so many chest-level closeups of dancing babes? Why the roving-camera shots of "chicks" sucking lollipops? And if you're such a natural stud, LL, why do you need to dance with your shirt off so much? You may be attracting a crowd that you can't handle—guys, that is. "Stuck-up tuna," indeed.

George Michael, *Freedom '90* (David Fincher, director): George becomes king and queen of the hill for this concentrated

MUSIC

sit
and
SPIN

DJ: *Craig Spencer*
and *Victor Anonymous?*

CITY: *New York*

CLUB: *FUCK! (The Pyramid)*

1. "I Don't Want to Lose Your Love" by The Emotions
2. "Where Has Love Gone" (GTO Remix) by Holly Johnson
3. "Situation" (Remix) by Yazoo
4. "Boogie on Reggae Woman" by Stevie Wonder
5. "Bow Down Mister"/"Love's Gonna Let You Down" by Boy George
6. "Back in Love Again" by LTD
7. "Don't Go Away" by Bone Breakers
8. "Chile of the Bass Generation" by Mental Cube
9. "Feel the Bass" by Sydney Fresh
10. "Suck it Deep" by Raw Sex (Bootleg)

dollop of homoeroticism for the craving masses. Let's give him a round of applause, first of all, for staying out of his videos, which I hope will pound another nail into the coffin of that tired old paradigm of musicians ineptly mouthing their songs on camera. Instead, startlingly beautiful women do the lip-synching for him. The women largely sing alone, but all sing the same tune, an allegory of queer existence if ever I saw one. And despite appearances, the two women who prick their fingers end up sucking their own, not each other's, distinguishing this as the first video to feature safer blood-sister rituals. (Welcome to the '90s.) Meanwhile, a stud in a leather jacket, a long-haired boy in a tank top and a largely naked man swinging from gravity boots add up to more than a few raised eyebrows in the Land of the Fag. If that weren't dreamy enough, the word "ass" is embodied by a boy in boxer shorts. Ooooh.

The Simpsons, *Do the Bartman* (Matt Groening, director): Much less horrible than you may think, this video contains surprisingly good musicianship and the same concentration of sly, surreal

gems of detail you'll find in the series. Two guys dance together here, you'll note, and one of them likes it. A dog runs by, its yelps calling *bart/bart/bart!* as it retreats. While civilization crumbles

before our very eyes for lack of Itchy and Scratchy T-shirts, those lovers or bat-terers or both blow each other up in a cameo. Fun for the whole family—just don't buy the album.▼



PLAYIN' THEIR GAME—New Kids on the Block

Good Grief?

AN UNFINISHED SONG. Book, music and lyrics by James J. Mellon. The Provincetown Playhouse. 133 MacDougal Street. (212) 477-5048.

by Michael Paller

Mort is one of the few gay characters in recent plays who is dying, but not of AIDS. He has bone cancer. It upsets him that, nevertheless, people will assume he has AIDS. "Gay plus any illness," he says with some annoyance, "equals AIDS." This may be true, but one wonders why, in his situation, he's so disturbed that people might think he has AIDS rather than bone cancer. As if to prove his point, even Mort's father believes his son died of AIDS—and skips the funeral. "What does it matter what he died of?" Mort's friends angrily ask. "His son died. Isn't that the point?"

In a perfect world, it wouldn't matter what disease kills us. In this one, however, where a person with AIDS is treated rather differently than one with bone cancer (not to mention

insured differently, if at all), it matters a great deal. For starters, parents of bone cancer victims come to the funeral, don't mind knowing the friends and probably don't dispute wills. And then, of course, there is the range of ingenious horrors society inflicts on PWAs while they're still alive.

However, one assumes that in his new musical, *An Unfinished Song*, James J. Mellon, who wrote the book, music and lyrics, wants to concentrate not on dying, but on grieving, growing—and living. The point, after all, should be not merely that Mort died, but that Mort lived.

Mort (Ken Land) is a free-spirited composer who loves life and encourages his friends to explore it ever more

fearlessly. He speaks in aphorisms. The smell of the night air, he says, "is pregnant with tomorrow." Upon presenting a musical gift to Worth (Aloysius Gigl), the conservative law student who becomes his lover, Mort says, "For tomorrow. So you never forget today."

He and Worth come to New York from New Hampshire, along with Mort's friend Beth (Beth Leavel). Beth loves Mort—but learns to accept his being gay. Completing the circle of friends are Brad, an actor (Robert Lambert), and his ditzy girlfriend, Debbie (Joanna Glushak). Why she must be ditzy is another good question—apparently for comic relief.

Worth has a severe case of closetitis. Beth is his date at all his law firm's functions. Eventually, he accepts a transfer to Chicago; Mort remains in New York. When Mort is diagnosed with cancer, he refuses to tell Worth. The ever-faithful Beth cares for him, informing Worth only after Mort dies. The survivors gather, first

THEATER

in the New York apartment, later on the beach where the lovers met, to recall Mort and scatter his ashes—and move on.

The performers are energetic, bright-eyed and eager to please. They all acquit themselves as well as the material allows; the reality they represent is, however, of a very narrow scope. Mellon employs the most conventional musical comedy forms to shape his material. The

adds pace and an uncluttered look to whatever real feeling can be found in the script.

Most of the smart lines belong to Beth. Besides having the best dialogue, Leavel's engaging, dominating presence makes her the evening's most memorable performer. Indeed, the women generally have the better material—perhaps because the very safe form of *An Unfinished Song* is more suitable for comic relief than for the

tain and distill even a part of the emotional ravages unleashed by this epidemic.

It should be stated, however, that the opening-night audience seemed very moved and appreciative for the chance to grieve for their own losses. Is providing such an opportunity, even in a rather shopworn form, a bad thing? Gathering an audience to publicly share a painful experience, and to help purge its pain, is one of



CONTEMPLATING THE CLOSET—Actors Ken Land and Aloysius Gigl

script is smart in the way that snappy television sitcoms are smart; and, just as those shows do, Mellon's script also includes a large dose of sentimentality. (His portrayal of Worth, however, contains an interesting twist. In order to make the trip to scatter Mort's ashes, he has told his bosses he is attending a wedding. He is not changed at all by Mort's death.) Mellon is abetted in this by Simon Levy's direction, which

exploration of authentic feeling.

Mellon's purpose—giving comfort and meaning to events which seem meaningless—is important. But the form he has chosen sacrifices too many of the ineffable qualities that lend such a fate whatever significance it may possess. His meanings are more banal than authentic, less truly moving than simply familiar. Perhaps some form other than a conventional musical is required to effectively con-

the theater's great purposes (and one reason why a gay theater needs to exist now in New York). On the other hand, to claim that it doesn't matter what one dies of, and then to exploit—however gently or unintentionally—the grief of men and women who have lost friends and lovers to AIDS, seems to be having it both ways. While others in the audience were greatly moved, this musical gave me not a little pause. ▼

The Prowling Beast

"AIDS IN AMERICA," *Long Shot* (vol. 10). Edited by Danny Shot and Mary Shanley. Long Shot Productions, Inc. \$7.50 pb. 94 pp.

by David Trinidad

"AIDS in America," a special issue of *Long Shot* magazine, adds a number of valuable writings to the constantly expanding body of AIDS literature. Co-editors Danny Shot and Mary Shanley have put together an effective collection of poems, essays, stories and lyrics (including Lou Reed's "Halloween Parade") dealing with the devastating impact that AIDS has had, and continues to have, on all of our lives. The issue also contains paintings and photos by such artists as Lisa Genet, David Johnson and Denis O'Sullivan. There's anger in these pieces, of course, and sadness, and sometimes joy (albeit the joy of relief after much suffering).

What's lacking, primarily, is a sense of hope, which serves to remind us that there's not very much to hope for, especially now, in the midst of a needless war. A feeling of helplessness, of finality, permeates this issue—emotions expressed in a dark, dead-end alley. Yet the need to express these powerful emotions becomes a kind of hope, in and of itself. As Jim Fouratt writes in his introduction, "You can, like I attempt to do, release your grief and anger by putting your creativity into the fight for life against the homophobia, racism and sexism that keeps the government playing politics with the health of each and every one of us."

Shortly before his death last December, Tim Dlugos contributed one of his poems, "Parachute," to Shot and Shanley's project. "Parachute" shines here; it is a direct, impeccably crafted statement of a person with AIDS' concerns and fears. Jane DeLynn, in her obituary of Dlugos (*OutWeek* no. 79-80, Jan. 9, 1991), points out that "before Tim's sickness he was a good poet, but it may have been AIDS that made him a great one." This greatness is evident in "Parachute," which begins with an amazing depiction of AIDS as "an insatiable and prowling beast/with razor teeth and a persistent/stink that sticks to every/living branch or flower/its rank fur brushes/as it stalks its prey." The poem ends on an equally amazing

note, conveying, in just a few expert lines, Dlugos' progression from hope to survivor's guilt to a brave, unflinching acceptance of the inevitable.

Though none is as stunning as "Parachute," there are other impressive poems in the magazine and, as one might expect, many of them are elegies. Denise Duhamel's "Beauties Who Live Only for an Afternoon" is a fan's tribute to actress/writer Cookie Mueller: "You read your stories in the dankness/of the Lower East Side's ABC No Rio/ and I talked about you for weeks." Mary Shanley's "for j.j. mitchell" paints a more intimate picture of the pain of loss:

days before he died i was trying
to comfort him with inspirational
words about how it helps to try
and accept the things we can't change.
"BULLSHIT," he barked...
I DON'T ACCEPT THIS...
WHY SHOULD I ACCEPT THIS?

*i'm sorry i said that j.j.
i don't accept it either...*

In "Richard," an elegy to a co-worker, Ronna Levy captures the initial shock of encountering the disease, a memory that

Buy It

POSSESSION: A ROMANCE by A. S. Byatt. Random House. \$22.95 cl. 555 pp.

by Anne Rubenstein

The enthusiastic reviews for *Possession* from mainstream papers like *The New York Times* made the novel sound homophobic. Critics saw *Possession* as a snide commentary on academic dykes, in particular, and they loved it. What a relief to discover that the *Times* was wrong again. Yes, *Possession* is a fine novel. No, *Possession* is not a fictionalized repudiation of the last 20 years of lesbian-feminist scholarship. Quite the reverse. It is, on one of its many levels, a lesbian-feminist schol-

lingers in her mind like a dim, bad dream:

I called him in July. He didn't know
who I was,
couldn't finish a sentence, slurred
his words, apologized.
It was 1985. I didn't understand AIDS,
how you got it, what it did.

In "Elegy for the Old Stud," David West envisions "mostly dead" friends moving like ghosts through a now-straight, now-hip San Francisco bar. West's poem haunts in more ways than one: An entire lifestyle—one which was based on compulsiveness, perhaps, or naiveté—trails behind many like a lost soul crying for eternal rest.

Overall, the quality of the poems in "AIDS in America" is uneven, yet all of them, due to the subject matter, are moving. Even the seven poems by Raymond Roy LaRose, a cycle chronicling the death of a beloved friend, which may seem weak individually, have a cumulative and, ultimately, stirring effect. Kevin Hayes' high-pressured "Dream Boy Dream," Richard Treitner's "Lament," Joseph Hargraves' Ginsberg-like litany and Michael Klein's "After the Disease Concept" are all fine poems. Among the prose pieces, Stuart Timmons' memoir of a friend's funeral is particularly memorable. The editors are to be commended for compiling this collection. It affirms that many of us are giving a voice to, and trying to make sense of, our pain. Reason enough for hope—of sorts. ▼

ar's wish-fulfillment fantasy.

Possession tells two tales. It begins with a literary detective story, in which two British scholars help each other figure out the precise nature of a relationship between two 19th-century poets. They begin as reluctant partners—each studies one of the poets—and end as lovers. Meanwhile, their colleagues (including an American lesbian) aid or

hinder their work,
motivated variously
by national pride,
feminist solidarity,
academic jealousy,
scholarly curiosity,

BOOKS

JESUS! CHRIST! SUPER-

STAR!...Don't walk. Run, skip, mince or ascend fabulously from the L train stop on First Avenue, but get your heinie to the newly renovated Village East Cinemas on Second Avenue and East Twelfth Street for a viewing of *Superstar: The Life and Times of Andy Warhol*. Chuck Workman's masterful paean to the man "who made fame more famous" presents Warhol faithfuls like Fran Lebowitz, Ultra Violet, Dennis Hopper, Sylvia "we were the beautiful people" Miles, Bobby Short and Viva, having their own 15 minutes all over again. At times hilariously funny and shockingly grim (Gerard Malanga's recitation of the cause of death of half a dozen of his Factorymates comes to mind) the film is in the end a fine tribute to Warhol's undeniable, if resisted, influence on Art with a capital A.

Playing on a double bill with Workman's award-win-

LIP
SERVICE
RUMORS, ODDITIES
AND THE PLAIN TRUTH

ning short tribute to the movies, *Superstar* is a must see. (And sneak upstairs to see the stunning restoration job in the main theater.)

HOLLYWOOD AREA, SUNNY, CELLULOID SCREEN, LOTS OF CLOSET SPACE...

We are very, very confused by the ad we saw in this morn-

ing's *Times*. It advertises a film entitled *Closet Land*. In copy superimposed over very mellifluous graphics, we read: "It could be about helplessness. It's about power. It could be about imprisonment. It's about freedom. It could be about them. It could also be about you." Then again, it could be a somebody's idea of a sick joke. The film, while "it deals with artistic freedom, political intolerance and abuse" (so say the press materials), ain't about the closet you and I know.

—compiled by Andrew Miller, Sarah Pettit

That reviewers
managed to read
the novel's
lesbians as
ridiculous only
shows how badly
their homophobia
interferes with
their critical
abilities.

kindness and greed. Byatt, a respectable literary theorist, understands the weird blend of emotions that intersect to produce dry, academic fact, and portrays it as well as Dorothy Sayers, Umberto Eco, or Randell Jarrell ever did. But she also gives us a second story, the story hidden at the heart of the 20th-century detective work.

Through their love letters, their poetry and the letters and diaries of their friends we track the unfolding affair of Randolph Henry Ash, a Robert Browning type, and Christabel LaMotte, who is much more Christina Rossetti than Elizabeth Barrett Browning. This story requires Byatt to invent the voices of various imaginary eminent Victorians. In an inspired bit of literary ventriloquism, she gives us the poetry and prose, public and private, of Ash and LaMotte. (Byatt's best joke is to invent a biography of Ash called *The Great Ventriloquist*, a title that suits Robert Browning and Byatt equally.) But Byatt also imagines the diary of Mrs. Ash, a perfect Victorian Angel of the House in all her maddening omissions, as well as a precisely typical memoir of a London spiritualist and the journal of a French teenager (who will grow up to be a novelist herself) with a crush on her cousin, LaMotte. LaMotte's first lover, a painter named Blanche Glover, gets her say as well, in letters

and a diary.

Byatt well knows the limits of what such documents can tell us after a century. Women's lack of words to describe their sexual feelings and behavior, our ignorance of what people meant when they wrote words which were perfectly clear to them, the pointlessness of writing down what "everyone knew" then, reticences, falsehoods and the tendency of unimportant pieces of paper to disappear over time: These mark the edges of what we know for sure about the past, especially the lesbian past. The improbable way that *Possessions'* long-hidden letters, diaries and fortuitous relics reappear just as they are needed—even in chronological order!—hints at Byatt's construction of a scholar's daydream, the fantasy that *everything could be known*. As she says, "There are things that happen and leave no discernible trace, are not spoken or written of, though it would be very wrong to say that subsequent events go on indifferently, all the same, as though such things had never been." Byatt goes on to demonstrate that fiction satisfies us better than fact could, by writing three chapters which straightforwardly tell the "truth" of crucial passages in the 19th-century story. So, unlike any story that real historians have been able to tell, *Possession* imagines crucial details of

19th-century lesbian lives.

A.S. Byatt has written a generous story, one which carefully does not highlight the two heterosexual couples at its double-center by ridiculing the other characters. Instead, Byatt—in the great tradition of 19th-century novelists—sets these couples among other characters, gay and straight, to whom they have serious and conflicting responsibilities. That reviewers managed to read the novel's lesbians as ridiculous only shows how badly their homophobia interferes with their critical abilities. Byatt plays games with readers' prejudices: First we hear of Lenora Stern, the American lesbian character, as a potential danger to the investigation, then we read the cloyingly sentimental note Stern has left on LaMotte's grave, so we are primed to dislike her. When she finally appears on the scene, though, her devotion to truth, her sense of humor and her capacity to forgive surprise us. Best of all, her love of women makes her a better scholar, because Byatt sees feminism as a serious critical practice.

Furthermore, because we glimpse Blanche Glover only at her worst moments, as Ash is breaking up her happy home with LaMotte, we miss the depth of the women's bond. It is only in the last pages, when we read a letter LaMotte sent to Ash at the end of their lives, that we realize that much as LaMotte pined for Ash all her life, she also yearned for Glover. (The new information makes us reread LaMotte's poems in earlier chapters, just as the 20th-century scholars have had to reread them.) The novelist forces us to face our expectation—formed by reading too many romantic novels—that LaMotte's heterosexual affair was the "serious" one, and our tendency to forget the discarded lesbian relationship in the rush to find out what happened next.

In describing the lesbian-positive aspects of *Possession*, I have neglected its other virtues. If you have ever wondered how academics can bear to spend so much time in libraries, this novel answers the question. If you need a quick review of post-post-structuralist literary theory, it's here. *Possession* is troubling funny, and deeply pleasurable. With any luck, it will be out in paperback just in time for beach reading. ▼

Letter to an Alcoholic

by Michael Klein

I could see through my lover
each night until I poured beer into me

and he poured beer into him
and I drank his drunkenness in.

We were rounds of blanks in the false bed.
I used to be like you.

I used to be like you, could see
through the beer on the kitchen table

because I was on an earlier beer
trying to break the line

that connected me to you, or earth
and its waves.

There used to be a ritual life had
when I used to be like you

of never moving into me
and all I could imagine was bemoaning life

or the crime-line of chalk
around the ravaged body

so that what tried to leave
the wound through a gun or a knife

would stay in. And when I used
to be like you

I couldn't think. The drone
I thought was thinking clicked

to the next empty barrel and never flew until I
stopped being like you

and became someone the risk, the stopped drink,
saved.

All I can tell you is what comes back.
The waves—

billowed by their dream of waves—
come back.

Michael Klein is a current fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown and the editor of Poets For Life: Seventy-Six Poets Respond to AIDS (Crown, 1989), which won the 1990 Lambda Book Award in Poetry. ▼

POETRY

LIVINGSTON

Continued from page 56

just can't take that we're not all "nice," and we don't all want to be portrayed as "nice."

There are also people in the straight minority community, like this Latino guy who said, "Why do you want to make us look so bad?" And I said, "I don't think that showing that gay people exist in the community is making you look bad, and I don't think that by enforcing homophobia in a minority community you're going to stave off racism." I don't want to be at odds; I want us to be a coalition.

KS: In terms of the gay community, it seems more time is spent yelling at straight filmmakers who are making homophobic films than in putting our energy toward those in our community who are making their own films.

JL: I also feel, like: Leave people alone who are in the closet, and let them do their work, because they may decide to come out. Why trash Jodie Foster? It would be great if she came out, but I don't want to expend my energy worrying about people who are out and people who are in, because I just don't think you're ever going to drag those people out.

If you look at a lot of women performers who are in the closet, they have it much harder than men. It's harder for me to be open than for Gus Van Sant [*Drugstore Cowboy* and *Mala Noche*] because, frankly, it's harder for me to be a director than for him. This friend told me she had a meeting with Brian De Palma, and he told her, "Male directors get three films, women directors get one." So I can understand somebody like Jodie or whomever, they already have these strikes against them. I'm not willing to say, "Give up your career for the sake of a political agenda." That is a decision I don't want to make for someone else's life. I don't think you should *never* express frustration about it, but I think it's more appropriate to express frustration at the system.

KS: I have a lot of problems with the hypocrisy of it. Jodie Foster has it a lot better than most people I know, even someone like yourself who is taking much greater risks.

JL: But on the other hand, I'm in a different position because I don't think there's a movie I want to make that fits into that system. Once you say, "I just want to make these weird movies, and if

I can't do them, then I don't want to make movies at all," then you're freer, because you don't have to conform to a system that never wanted your vision in the first place. That's the big hope we have for the future of queer film.▼

Paris Is Burning *opens March 13 at New York's Film Forum and in cities nationwide in April.*

MADONNA

Continued from page 41

with "AIDS Kills Fags Dead." Madonna's assumed more than her share of responsibility in the AIDS crisis, a crisis that's divided the entertainment world into moralists (Axl Rose), self-aggrandizers (Dionne Warwick), people who'd like to help but feel it wouldn't be good for the career (fill in the blank) and a handful of outspoken leaders. Madonna has a personal stake in the crisis; her old New York roommate Martin Burgoyne died of AIDS (and she quietly assumed a lot of his expenses), and so did her dance teacher and mentor Christopher Flynn, prompting the tabs to report, "Madonna Heartbroken as Her First Love Dies of AIDS." Propelled by these losses (and Keith Haring's), she determined to make it in vogue to fight an otherwise unpopular, unfabulous battle. Recently, she told the BBC, "I have such a youthful following and a very large gay following that since I have that ear, it's very important for me to be a spokesperson."

And for someone who clawed her way to the top half-naked and made a career eking glamour out of cold, grasping greed, she's been very generous. While the organizers of one recent AIDS drag ball complained that she withdrew participation, it's hard to argue with what she has done, and ridiculous to expect her to put her name on every charity opportunity offered. To her credit, she was the first star to put safer-sex information in her records, she's talked openly against the church's AIDS policies and in favor of condoms and she's donated large sums to AIDS charities, always keeping the subject in the public eye despite the government's attempts to render it invisible. Fortunately, as a role model and evocator of change, Madonna is right now more powerful than the government.

One wants her, of course, to go farther—to break down even more boundaries and help us to become more visible, accepted, appreciated. We want to find chinks in her armor, pierce her steely determination and uncover larger parts of warmth and vulnerability, in the same way she longed for a pat on the back from her father as a child. We want her to pull us higher as she goes higher, make us as universally loved and talked about as herself. But it's possible to expect too much from a star who, after all, doesn't just exist as a forum for our own political aspirations.

So this might be a good point at which to stop analyzing and just enjoy the applause. Beauty's where you find it. ▼


AIDS

Continued from page 22

than before the additional demand. He said that price gouging, a practice used by some other pharmaceutical companies that raise prices when there is added demand by people with HIV infection, would be "inhumane" and "unthinkable."

Before Warner-Lambert said that supplies would be available, the PWA Health Group, a buyer's club in Manhattan, was securing its own supplies. The group's director, Derek Hodel, told *OutWeek* the group would sell the drug if there was a large demand, which he doesn't believe there is. "This is not a big-selling drug," he said. "I suspect a three-fold increase is not much." ▼

—P.R.C.



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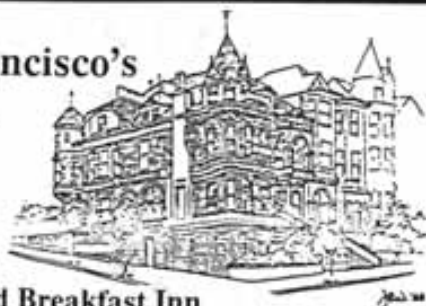
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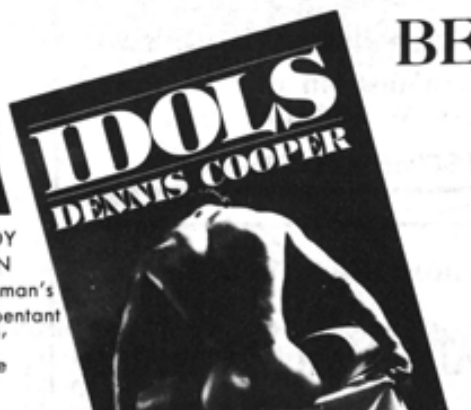
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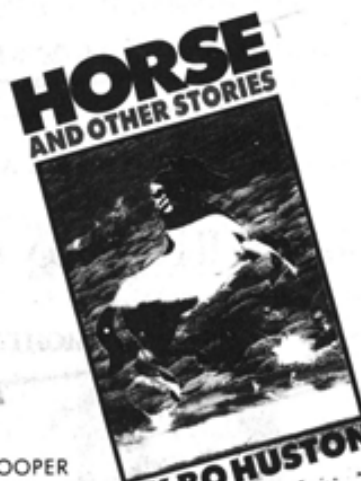
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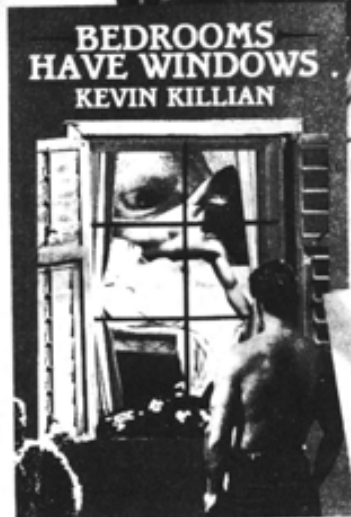


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ADVANCE LISTINGS

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH presents *The State of the City: A Gay and Lesbian Perspective*, given in conjunction with *OutWeek* magazine. "Gay men and lesbians are vital participants in the life of New York City," says the class description. "Despite this, many believe that the popular media and mainstream arts communities either fail to represent or actually misrepresent gay and lesbian concerns." Given in three sessions which focus on the arts, the media and politics, respectively, the classes will be led by Arts Editor Sarah Pettit, Features Editor Michelangelo Signorile and News Editor Andrew Miller. \$15 for the course, \$8 for a single session. The first session is April 25. For more info, contact the New School at (212) 741-5600.

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH presents *Gay and Lesbian Writing: From World War II to Stonewall*. Instructor: Joseph Cady. "The years after World War II witnessed a significant body of gay and lesbian literature that has tended to become overshadowed by the more open homosexual expression of the post-Stonewall years of the '70s and '80s. But the relative burst in gay and lesbian writing from the mid-1940s through the 1960s contributed to the change in cultural atmosphere that helped make possible the contemporary gay and lesbian liberation movement and is an integral part of the background of the present gay and lesbian situation. Among the authors we may consider are: Tennessee Williams, Carson McCullers, Allen Ginsberg, Sylvia Townsend Warner, James Baldwin and Janet Flanner." The six sessions begin on April 4. \$130. Info: Jim O'Connor at the New School at (212) 741-8778.

THE ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT offers a Support Group for gay men and lesbians who are now or have been involved in abusive relationships. The 12-week groups, which start in March, have professional leaders and are completely confidential. Info: (212) 807-0197.

LIVELY ARTS

Also see the daily listings for showings of one or two days.

NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS presents *You're Gonna Love Tomorrow*, a Stephen Sondheim revue. The revue features material spanning the length of Sondheim's career. \$20. The Harold Clurman Theatre, 412 W. 42nd St., between Ninth and Tenth avenues. March 6-8 and 13-15 at 8 pm, March 9 and 16 at 2 pm, March 10 and 17 at 3 pm. Tickets: (212) 279-4200.

BAD NEIGHBORS presents

GOING OUT

an events calendar

Send announcements and listings to: 159 W. 25th St., 7th floor, New York, NY 10001. Next deadline: Monday, March 11, for issue #91, which hits the stands on Monday, March 17.



OUTSTANDINGS

the best of this queer week

Join the LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES and the CENTER in celebrating Women's History Month with *Keepin' On: Images of African-American Lesbians*. This photography exhibition is wheelchair accessible, and can be seen at the Center daily from 4-6 pm. 208 W. 13th St. For more info, contact the Archives at (212) 874-7232.

"For all of you who like to bend over and take it like a man" (they said that, not me), CELLBLOCK 28 helps the New York Strap and Paddle Association throw a party. It's at the Cellblock, 28 Ninth Ave., between 13th and 14th streets. March 11. Doors open 8 pm. (212) 733-3144.

Don't miss this: The PYRAMID presents *Not Yet Censored*, a forty-woman, multimedia "forum on big brother, women and sex." The show was put together by DARE, a newly formed four-woman collective. From 6-8 pm, it's open viewing of the installed pieces and videos, as well as the piercing and tattoo clinics. From 8-11 pm, live performances are highlighted. After 11, it's regular Clit Club East action. \$1 before 8/55 after. The Pyramid, 101 Ave. A, between 6th and 7th streets. March 12 from 6-11 pm. Info: (212) 807-8050.

Three great performers that go great together: COOPER UNION presents Jessica Hagedorn, Holly Hughes and Karin Finley in *Women Against AIDS*, a benefit for the Women and AIDS Resource Network. It's only 5 bucks and it's for a good cause, so go. Cooper Union Great Hall, March 12 at 8 pm. (212) 353-4158.

In yet another exciting team-up, the PUBLISHING TRIANGLE presents *Queer Moments in Great Literature—Great Moments in Queer Literature*, a fundraiser for the gay and lesbian library at the Community Center. Featuring performances by

For additional information, call: The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard of New York daily, noon to midnight. (212) 777-1800

Madeleine Olnek's *Three Stories High*, a humorous play about the afterlife. Directed by Deb Margolin. The play tells the stories of those who were not able to "fully inhabit" their lives and are now forced to relive their experiences, detail by excruciating detail, in a group situation. In particular, the play focuses on Francine, a young woman who was never able to face her sexuality. \$10. Feb. 21 through March 21. Cooper Square Theatre, 50 E. Seventh St. Info: (212) 989-0788.

STAGE WORKS presents *Bent*, by Martin Sherman. Directed by Thomas D. Sentell. With John Blaylock, Jerry Ferris, Bob Fucaloro, Paul Montagna, Chris Quaranta and Hal Smith. \$7 or TDF. The Brownstone Gallery, 76 Seventh Ave. Brooklyn. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm through March 23. Reservations: (718) 636-8736.

PS 122 presents *Connecting Lives*, documents from the AIDS crisis. Photographs by Karen Crumley, Tomas Gaspar, Steve Hart, Tom McGovern, Jane Rosett, Scott Thode and Charles Wemple. Curated by Nan Goldin and Allen Frame. Opening Feb. 28 at 6 pm. PS 122, 150 First Ave. Gallery hours: Th-Su, 12-6 pm. (212) 228-4240. Through March 24.

JUDY'S RESTAURANT AND CABARET presents Evan Matthews, performing a blend of popular tunes, jazz, blues and theater music. \$8 cover/\$10 minimum. 49 W. 44th St. Wednesdays at 9 and 11 pm. Reservations: (212) 764-8930. March 6-27.

PS 122 presents Penny Arcade's *La Misericordia...The Misery*, an emotionally charged look at growing up Italian in America, which uses, among other things, nearly 40 minutes of a filmed ongoing argument between Penny Arcade and her immigrant mother. PS 122, 150 First Ave. Thursdays through Sundays at 9:30 pm. Reservations: (212) 477-5288. Through March 31.

MOSAIC BOOKS presents Priny Alavi. The photographer's work, mostly nudes, will be on display at the bookstore, 167 Ave. B, at 10th Street. 2-10 pm daily. (212) 475-8623. Through April 6.

PS 122 presents Mabou Mines' *The Bribe*, a poetic musical work in progress which traces a day in the life of Gill Clout. Written by Terry O'Reilly. Directed by Ruth Maleczech. Music by John Zorn. Performed by O'Reilly and Black-Eyed Susan. \$6. PS 122, 150 First Ave. March 13, 20, 27 and April 24 at 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 477-5288.

THE LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES and THE CENTER present *Keepin' On: Images of African-American Lesbians*. Opening Feb. 28. Wheelchair

accessible. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. Hours: daily, 4-6 pm. For more info, contact the Archives at (212) 874-7232..

55 GROVE STREET presents Cam Brainard and Bob Koherr's *Brickface & Stucco*, performers who both appeared in *Parting Glances*, their original comedy material includes two jocks who learn they can vogue, retired Solid Gold Dancers, Amish rappers who put the "men back in Mennonite," an early Simon & Garfunkel, and the Rocky Mountain Butt Boys who open at a gay rodeo in West Hollywood; videos serve as transitions between live routines; at 55 Grove St (west of 7th Ave South); \$8 + 2-drink minimum; FRI at 8 pm; 366-5438

AMERICAN PLACE THEATER presents *I Stand Before You Naked* by Joyce Carol Oates, about ten women dealing with life in today's America; with Elizabeth Alley, Penny Templeton, Nancy Barrett, Annie McGreevey, Marguerite Kuhn, Bronwen Booth; 111 W 46 St; \$20; Wed-Sat at 8 pm, Wed & Sat at 2 pm, SUN at 3 pm; 840-3074

CHARLES LUDLAM THEATRE presents Ludlam's *Camille*, starring and directed by Everett Quinton, with Cheryl Reeves, Ken Scullin, Georg Osterman, Eureka, Bobb Reed, Jim Lamb, Carl Claybourne, H.M. Kououkas, Jean-Claude Vasseux, Steven Pell, 1 Sheridan Square; \$25; TUE-FRI at 8 pm, SAT & SUN at 7 pm; 691-2271

CHERRY LANE THEATRE presents David Stevens' *The Sum of Us*, by the writer of *Breaker Morant*; starring Tony Goldwyn and Richard Venture, directed by Kevin Dowling, about a father who tries to help with his son's gay relationships while he looks for a new wife; 38 Commerce St; \$27.50-\$32.50; TUE-FRI at 8 pm, SAT at 7 & 10 pm, SUN at 3 & 7:30 pm; 989-2020

LUCILLE LORTEL THEATRE presents *Falsettoland*, the William Finn/James Lapine musical. The third in Finn's *Marvin Trilogy*, *Falsettoland* examines the impact of AIDS on a gay male couple, a lesbian couple, a heterosexual couple and a child. 121 Christopher St. \$27.50-\$35. Tu-F at 8 pm. Sa at 7 and 10 pm. Su at 3 pm. (212) 924-8782.

RAPP THEATRE COMPANY revives Thomas M. Disch's *The Cardinal Defoxes*, "a chilling look inside the hierarchy of the modern Catholic Church exploring such issues as AIDS, abortion, ties to organized crime and homosexuality"; directed by R. Jeffrey Cohen, starring George McGrath as the Cardinal; 220 E 4 St; \$10 (TDK ok); FRI & SAT at 10 & 11:30 pm, SUN at 2 pm (RT= 35 min.); 529-6160.

MEN WITH WIGS, INC., presents *It's a Man's World: Ladies Sing the Blues*, a fun-filled, gender-bender

Olympia, Ivory, John Kelly, Lisa Kron, Quentin Crisp, Claire Mowed. Again, it's just 5 bucks. The *Limelight*. Sixth Avenue at 21st Street. March 13 at 7:30 pm. Info: Michele Karlsberg at (212) 629-8140 or Robin Hardy at (212) 254-4709.

CAVE CANEM asks, "Haven't You Always Been a Slave to the Cave?" Here's a chance—for women only—to pay obeisance to Cave Canem one last time. DJ Moaning Lisa. \$5. Cave Canem. 24 First Ave., between 1st and 2nd streets. March 14 at 8 pm.

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE presents The Scouts, a queer-led rock and roll band. Third Avenue at St. Marks Place. March 14 at 10 pm. Info: (212) 929-6924.

Big men, express yourselves! It's the GIRTH AND MIRTH CLUB's always well-attended Leather Men's Party, and it's happening at The Center. 208 W. 13th St. March 16. Call for complete details: (914) 699-7735.

Sing, sing a song....COOPER UNION presents The Stonewall Chorale with their guests, The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington, DC. Each chorus will perform their own program, and join together in a combined ensemble of over 125 queer voices. The program includes Samuel Barber, Johannes Brahms and Ralph Vaughn Williams. \$13.50. The Great Hall at Cooper Union. 7 East 7th St. March 16. Info: (212) 608-4504.

You've got to live a little, laugh a little....THEATER NADA gives you a chance with Shelly Mars in *A Day in Hollywood, a Night of Sodom*, "being an evening of commentary on male impersonation, AIDS, dyke-drama and a little S/M." \$8. Theater Nada (formerly Theater Funambules). 167 Ludlow St. March 16 at 10 pm. (212) 420-1466.

Finally, for those of you who like to dress up, it's The IMPERIAL COURT OF NEW YORK's fifth annual Night of a Thousand Gowns Charity Ball. The \$100 ticket benefits the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center. The Roosevelt Hotel. March 16. For complete information, contact Ben Freeman at (212) 673-7633.

fantasy, from the Cotton to Motown. Men, with wigs, examine incandescent images of the blues' queers and their descendants. \$10. The Producers Club. 358 W. 44th St., 2nd floor, suite 7. Fridays at 11 pm. (212) 971-9021.

MONDAY, MARCH 11

SAGE presents Adult Survivors of Sexual Abuse, an experiential therapy group for women ages 21 and up to support the recover process and free you from the pain and silence of sexual abuse. Psychotherapists: Joyce Z. Meyers, CSW and Robbye Stuart-Russell, MA. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 7-8:30 pm. (212) 741-2247.

GAY ACTIVIST ALLIANCE IN MORRIS COUNTY presents Womyn's Network and Men's Rap Group at 7:30 pm, before their General Meeting at 8:30 pm. Tonight's topic "If Love is the Answer, I Want a Second Opinion." Phil McCabe will lead an experiential workshop designed to explore sexuality, interpersonal communications, and how to get what you want. Morristown Unitarian Fellowship.

21 Normandy Heights Rd. Morristown, NJ. Info: GAAMC Gay Helpline: (201) 285-1595.

ACT UP General Meeting. Cooper Union. Fourth Avenue at 7th Street. 7:30 pm. Info: 564-AIDS.

CELLBLOCK 28 presents the New York Strap and Paddle Association Party. "For all of you who like to bend over and take it like a man." Cellblock 28. 28 Ninth Ave., between 13th and 14th streets. Doors open 8 pm. (212) 733-3144.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

LONG ISLAND GAY MEN'S GROUP presents Gay Rage. No more Mr. Nicegay. For complete details on this bi-monthly discussion group, contact LIGMG at (516) 694-2407.

GAY MEN OF THE BRONX General Meeting. 1 Fordham Plaza, 8th floor. 6-8 pm. Info: Chris (212) 0806 (English) or Robert (212) 882-3404. Meetings are 2nd and 4th Tuesdays; next is Feb. 26.

THE PYRAMID presents Not Yet

Censored, a forty-woman, multimedia "forum on big brother, women and sex" put on by DARE, a newly formed four-woman collective. From 6-8 pm, it's open viewing of the installed pieces and videos, as well as the piercing and tattoo clinics. From 8-11 pm, live performances are highlighted. After 11, it's regular Cliff Club East action. \$1 before 8/55 after. The Pyramid. 101 Ave. A, between 6th and 7th streets. 6-11 pm. Info: (212) 807-8050.

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S GROUP General Meeting. Meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 6:30-8 pm.

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS presents a Health Seminar: Insurance Information. 129 W. 20th St., third floor. 7 pm. For more information, call the GMHC hotline at (212) 807-6655. TDD (212) 645-7470 for the hearing impaired.

LESBIANS AND GAY MEN OF NEW BRUNSWICK presents Deb Guston, attorney, discussing legal issues that concern gay men and lesbians, including survivor benefits, joint ownership and living wills. Friends Meeting House. 109 Nichol Ave. New Brunswick, NJ. 8 pm. (908) 247-0515.

COOPER UNION presents Women Against AIDS, a benefit for the Women and AIDS Resource Network. This benefit features performance artists Jessica Hagedorn, Holly Hughes and Karen Finley. \$5. Cooper Union Great Hall. 8 pm. (212) 353-4158.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER NY Political Action/Media Outreach Meeting. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 6:30 pm. (212) 222-9794.

THE NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK presents an Open House at John Dowdell's post-production facility, the first in New York to use Rank Cintel's totally digital URSA. 218 E. 45th St. 6:30-8:30 pm.

STEVE MCGRAW'S SUPPER CLUB presents Jamie De Roy and Friends, an evening of cabaret featuring Ms. De Roy and La Vern Baker (star of *Black and Blue*), Mario Cantone, Dolores Gray, Rhonda Hansome, Jay Leonhart, Harold Rand and Bill Scheft. \$15 cover/\$8 minimum. Steve McGraw's. 158 W. 72nd St. 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 595-7400.

THE NINTH STREET CENTER presents *Queer Questions, Queer Answers*, a series of rap groups whose focus is defining homosexuality for the 1990s. Tonight's facilitator: Rich Kamencik. 319 E. 9th St., basement. 8-10 pm. (212) 228-5153.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

BRONX AIDS SERVICES offers a

Support Group for HIV-Positive Women. Share your concerns, ideas and feelings. Free and confidential. The morning program is in Spanish, the afternoon program is in English. One Fordham Plaza, 8th floor. Bronx. 10-11 am and 1:30-2:30 pm. Info: Edith Gutierrez at (212) 933-2400 or Isa Martinez at (212) 295-5605.

AIDS AND ADOLESCENTS NETWORK OF NEW YORK Network Monthly Meeting. 121 Sixth Ave., 6th floor. 3-5 pm. (212) 925-8675.

THE GAY AND LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT Peer Counseling for survivors of bias assault, domestic violence and sexual assault. Held every Wednesday and Thursday from 6-8 pm. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. (212) 807-0197.

BRONX LESBIANS UNITED IN SISTERHOOD General Meeting. Tonight's topic: "Invisibility of Lesbian Mothers in the Lesbian and Gay Community." One Fordham Plaza, suite 800. Bronx. 6:30-8 pm. Info: Miriam at (212) 409-2692 in Spanish, and Lisa at (212) 829-9817 in English.

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP Discussion and Workshop. Tonight's topic: "Why Are We So Shy? How to Come on to Women." Women only. \$3. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 6:30-8 pm. (212) 459-4784.

JUDITH'S ROOM presents Joy Harjo reading with Nancy Kricorian, one of four winners of the 1990 Judith's Room Emerging Talent Competition. Judith's Room. 681 Washington St. 7 pm. (212) 727-7330.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents Pool Night. Featuring free pool, ping pong, billiards, air hockey and shooting hoops at Brownstone Billiard, Seventh Ave. at Flatbush. Afterwards, relax at the Roost at 9 pm. Seventh Avenue at 8th Street. The evening begins at 7 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

INTEGRAL YOGA INSTITUTE presents **PATH Seminars: The Body-Mind Connection.** Tonight's topic: Visualization. Seminar leader: Peter Hendrickson, PhD, psychologist. \$7 per class (scholarships available). IYI. 227 W. 13th St. 7:30-9 pm. (212) 929-0586.

THE PUBLISHING TRIANGLE presents a **Queer Moments in Great Literature—Great Moments in Queer Literature**, a fund-raiser for the gay and lesbian library at the Community Center. Featuring performances by Olympia, Ivory, John Kelly, Lisa Kron, Quentin Crips, Claire Mowed. \$5. The Limelight. Sixth Avenue at 21st Street. 7:30 pm. Info: Michele Karlsberg at (212) 629-8140 or Robin Hardy at (212) 254-4709.

GAY AND LESBIAN INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS present a Symposium: "Police Violence, Past and Present, Against the Lesbian and Gay Community: What We Can Do." Speakers include, Margarita Lopez, Dr. Mini Lu, Bruce Bentley and Bill Dobbs, among others. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm.

A DIFFERENT LIGHT presents Sarah Schulman, reading from her book, *People in Trouble*. 548 Hudson St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 989-4850.

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS presents **End Games: Concluding an S/M Scene.** Ray Matienzo, a past chair of GMSMA, will lead the discussion. \$4 for members/\$6 for non-members. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. (212) 727-9878.

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS presents **Men Meeting Men.** No registration required. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8-10:30 pm.

THE EAGLE presents **Movie Night: Die Hard 2: Die Harder.** Talk about deadly deja vu! Everyone's favorite beleaguered cop, John McClane (Bruce Willis), returns in last summer's action-packed blockbuster. The Eagle. 142 Eleventh Ave., at 21st Street. 11 pm. 691-8451.

CELLBLOCK 28 Hot Ash Party. It's the Cellblock's own version of Operation Desert Smoke. Uniforms and fatigues are the order of the night. Free cigars at the bar. Cellblock 28. 28 Ninth Ave., between 13th and 14th streets. Doors open 8 pm. (212) 733-3144.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

BRONX AIDS SERVICES offers a **Support Group for HIV-Positive Women.** This is an ongoing, closed group. Individual consultations are required before admittance. Free. 349 E. 149th St., room 609. Bronx. 11 am to 12:30 pm. Info: Donna Bersch at (212) 585-5001.

THE GAY AND LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT Peer Counseling for survivors of bias assault, domestic violence and sexual assault. Held every Wednesday and Thursday from 6-8 pm. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. (212) 807-0197.

BRONX LESBIANS UNITED IN SISTERHOOD General Meeting. Tonight's topic: "Happy Women's History Month Social." Bring food and drink to share. One Fordham Plaza, suite 800. Bronx. 6:30-8 pm. Info: Miriam at (212) 409-2692 in Spanish, and Lisa at (212) 829-9817 in English.

THE LESBIAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE OF NOW-NYC and the **SERVICE FUND OF NOW-NYC** present a **Panel Discussion and Forum.** With Susan T. Chasin, *Visibilities*, the lesbian magazine; Dr. Marjorie Hill, the mayor's office for the les-

bian and gay community; Anne Mackay, East End Women for the Arts; and Nan DuBols, NOW-NYC. NOW-NYC Offices. 15 W. 18th St., 9th floor. 6:30 pm. (212) 807-0721.

JUDITH'S ROOM presents **Jay Gardner**, reading from her book, *Sounding the Inner Landscape: Music as Medicine*. Judith's Room. 681 Washington St. 7 pm. (212) 727-7330.

THE CENTER presents **Orientation** for women only, in celebration of women's history month. The program is wheelchair-accessible and will be ASL interpreted. Spanish interpretation is also available. \$3. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 7 pm. (212) 620-7310.

DIXON PLACE presents **Oliver Wadsworth**, in *Struggles in Daddy's Dress*, a solo performance where "Oscar Wilde, Marilyn Monroe and a pack of red wolves struggle against their adversaries." Also on the bill: Dan Hurlin and Victoria Marks, saying "No equals yes. Yes equals no. What are we girls to do?" \$6 or TDF. Dixon Place. 37 E. 1st St., between First and Second avenues. 8 pm. (212) 673-6752.

CAVE CANEM presents **Slave to the Cave**, a chance for women only to say goodbye to Cave Canem in style. DJ Moaning Lisa. \$5. Cave Canem. 24 First Ave., between 1st and 2nd streets. 8 pm.

WEBO SPACE presents **Matthew Courtney** and **Alchemy Poetry Hour**, featuring Robin Goldsmith, Kari Holmquist, David Huberman, Seth King, Tsaurah Litzky and Gavin Moses. \$4. Webo Space. 317 E. Houston St., at Attorney St. 9 pm.

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE presents **The Scouts**, a queer-led rock and roll band. Third Avenue at St. Marks Place. 10 pm. Info: (212) 929-6924.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

THE NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK presents a **Career Workshop With Kate Wendleton.** Wendleton is the director of the New School's Sunday Career Center and the author of *Job Changing Workbook for Executives, Managers and Professionals* (you'll need a copy of the book for the program). The morning session deals with resume writing, obtaining interviews and killing off your competition. The afternoon session deals with preparing for interviews, handling tough questions and salary negotiation. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 10 am and 2 pm. For pricing and registration info: (212) 517-0380.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS takes a **Field Trip: Thirty-Plus Potluck and Game Night.** Join them in the East Village for fun, food and games. Tonight's featured

game: **Dyke Dilemma.** 7 pm. Call 24 hours in advance for confirmation, address, directions and car-pooling. (718) 965-7678.

GAY MEN OF THE BRONX presents **Drinks and Dinner** at **Montezuma** Mexican restaurant. 119 W. Kingsbridge Rd. 7:30 pm. Please RSVP by March 13 to Ron at (212) 519-8746.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER presents a **Panel Discussion: "Women and HIV and AIDS."** David Housel and Joe Franco are the co-chairs. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 7:45 pm. (212) 222-9794.

THE ANSWER IS LOVING Women Talking Women's Talk: Women and Success. "How do we view ourselves? What is our frame of reference. What is our lot, our job, what is expected of us, what do we expect, what is our sense of accomplishment?" 1964 E 35 St. Bklyn; 7:45-10 pm; \$10; Ruth Berman & Connie Kurtz. 718/998-2305.

BODY POSITIVE Friday Night Social, for all HIV-positive individuals and their friends. Fra. Middle Collegiate Church. 50 E. 7th St., off Second Ave. 8-10 pm. (212) 721-1346.

PS 122 presents **Scratch 'n' Sniff Avant-Garde-Arama**, with host Ken Bullock. Featuring Uzi Parnes (performance), Nuria Olive-Belles (dance), Brain Dewan (music), Hapl Pace (performance), Alvin Eng (performance), Jim Browne (film), Maestro Subgum and the Whole (music). Part two of the program concludes tomorrow. \$10 or TDF plus \$5. PS 122 150 First Ave. 8 pm. (212) 477-5288.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

INTEGRAL YOGA INSTITUTE presents **Hatha Yoga Class.** Hatha Yoga refers to the physical postures, deep relaxation and breathing practices which revitalize and strengthen the body and calm the mind. This class is especially for those who are HIV-positive. IYI. 227 W. 13th St. 12-1:30 pm. (212) 929-0586.

THE GIRTH AND MIRTH CLUB Leather Men's Party. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. Call for time and other details: (914) 699-7735.

COOPER UNION presents **The Stonewall Chorale** with their guests, **The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington, D.C.** Each chorus will perform their own program, and join together in a combined ensemble of over 125 voices. The program includes Samuel Barber, Johannes Brahms and Ralph Vaughn Williams. \$13.50. The Great Hall at Cooper Union. 7 East 7th St. Info: (212) 608-4504.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS takes a **Field Trip: Women's Theater/Dinner/Etc. Night** at 7 pm-

Tuning In: A TV/Radio Guide for *OutWeek* Readers

Information must be received by Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Send items to *OutWeek* Listings, 159 W. 25th St., NY, NY 10001.

A&E (Arts & Ent, 555 Fifth Ave., 10th Fl, NYC 10017; 661-4500)
CCTV (Rick X, Box 790, NYC 10108)
GBS (Gay Broadcasting System, Butch Peaston, 178 7th Ave., Ste. A-3, NYC 10011; 243-1570)
GCN (Gay Cable Network, Lou Maletta, 32 Union Square East, Suite 1217; 477-4220)
GMHC (Gay Men's Health Crisis, Jean Carlomusto, 129 W 20 St, NYC 10011; 807-7517)
RB PROD (Robin Byrd Prod., Box 305, NYC 10021; 988-2973)
WABC-TV (77 W 63 St, NYC 10023; 456-7777)
WBAI-FM (505 8th Ave., 19th Fl, NYC 10018; 279-0707)
WCBS-TV (51 W 52 St St, NYC 10019; 975-4321)
WNBC-TV (30 Rockefeller Plaza, NYC 10112; 664-4444)
WNET-TV (356 W 58 St, NYC 10019; 960-3000)
WNYW-TV (Fox, 1211 AV/AM, NYC 10036; 556-2400)
WPIX-TV (220 E 42 St, NYC 10017; 949-1100)

MONDAY, MARCH 11

7:00 AM MAX *Mommie Dearest* Wholesome family entertainment.
9:00 AM WCBS-TV *Geraldo* Scheduled topic: rape. CH 2.
10:00 AM WCBS-TV *Sally Jessy Raphael* Scheduled topic: seeking retribution after being physically or sexually abused. Make sure the G-man and SJR know that there are queer aspects to these issues as well. CH 2.
11:00 AM MAX *Nuns on the Run* As I recall, this is a movie about unattractive men in bad drag. Repeated at 11 pm and Friday at 2:40 am.
1:30 PM WUSB 90.1 FM *The Word Is Out* Marc Gunning hosts a weekly lesbian, gay and bisexual variety show.
2:00 PM WUSB 90.1 FM *Lavender Wimmen* News, songs and music produced by women for women.
2:30 PM WUSB 90.1 FM *This Way Out* More queer news.
8:30 PM Manhattan Cable *The Brenda and Glenda Show* CH 17
9:00 PM GBS *Out in the 90's*: community news, discussion, interviews. BQ Cable, CH 56 (1:00)
11:30 PM *Tomorrow/Tonight Live*: entertainment; Manhattan and Paragon Cable, CH D/17 (1:00)
Midnight CCTV *The Closet Case Show*: Closet Klips; Manhattan /Paragon Cable, CH C/16 (:30)

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

9:00 AM WCBS-TV *Geraldo* Scheduled topic: medical experimentation. CH 2
11:35 AM TNT *The Gorgeous Hussy* Joan Crawford is the title character.
8:00 PM WNET-TV *Andre's Mother* The mother of a man who died of AIDS and his lover "deal differently with their grief." CH 13.
8:00 PM HBO *Dangerous Liaisons* With Uma and Glenn and John and Keanu, you don't need a plot, but this movie's got one to knock the false eyelashes off even the most jaded queen. Repeated Monday at 3:40 am.
10:00 PM *Desde Hollywood* Invitada: la actriz Jodie Foster. CH 41.
10:00 PM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male and female strippers; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)
11:00 PM *Alf* The show I'm most looking forward to this week: Alf dreams of becoming a *Gilligan's Island* castaway. Mary Ann, The Professor, Gilligan and the Skipper have cameos. CH 20.
11:00 PM GBS *Out in the 90's*: news, information and interviews; Manhattan/Paragon Cable, CH C/16 (1:00)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

1:30 AM ESPN *Star Shot* Scheduled: Celebrity clay-target shooting. Gee, I can think of lots of stars with feet of clay whom I'd like to see shot.
9:00 AM WCBS-TV *Geraldo* Scheduled topic: sexual harassment. CH 2.
1:00 PM AMC *The Gay Divorcee* A gay title does not a gay movie make, but this one has Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers at least. Repeated at 5 pm.
4:00 PM WNBC-TV *Phil Donahue* Scheduled topic: sexually explicit home videos. CH 4.
8:00 PM WNET-TV *Big Bird's Birthday* At press time, it was unknown if Bert and Ernie would be appearing, or if they were at home in the bedroom they've publically shared for years. CH 13.
9:00 PM WNET-TV *The Rocky and Bullwinkle Story* yet another faous pair of cartoon characters carrying on together CH 13.

Midnight RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male and female strippers, live call-in show; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

1:00 PM WBAI-FM *This Way Out*, the international gay/lesbian news magazine; 99.5 FM (:30)
1:30 PM WBAI-FM *An Afternoon Outing*: local news and information about the gay and lesbian community with **Larry Gutenberg**; 99.5 FM (:30)
6:00 PM WFOX-TV *Golden Girls* A female friend of Dorothy's falls for Rose, in what *TV Guide* calls "an apisode about lesbianism." CH 5.
10:00 PM GCN *Be Our Guest*: entertainment for and about the lesbian/gay community; Manhattan Cable, CH D/17 (:30)
10:30 PM GMHC *Living With AIDS*: health and politics; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (:30)
11:00 PM GCN *Gay U.S.A.*: news and entertainment from around the country; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)
Midnight GCN *Men in Films*: male erotica, interviews with adult filmstars; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (:30)
12:30 AM RB PROD *Men For Men*: **Robin Byrd** presents gay male porno stars; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (:30)

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

1:30 AM WNBC-TV *Bob Costas* Scheduled: Harry Connick, Jr. I confess, I don't know if he has any talent, but...those eyes, that face! CH 4.
1:30 PM SHO *Cry-Baby* John Waters does—I mean, directs—Johnny Depp. For those of us who work, it's repeated at 11 pm.
2:30 PM WBAI-FM *Rompiendo el Silencio*: todos los viernes, **Gonzalo Aburto** con temas y noticias para la comunidad latina gay y lesbiana; 99.5 FM (:15)
3:00 PM WNBC-TV *Joan Rivers* Joan hosts the Imperial Court of New York. They promise a "fashion show format," and plan to "tell the world that we are not just a bunch of men in drag, but are concerned, aware and contributing members of the community." Say it, sister. CH 4.
4:00 PM WABC-TV *Oprah Winfrey* Scheduled: hairstylists. The fur will be flying, I'm sure. CH 7.
6:00 PM WFOX-TV *21 Jump Street* McCann becomes involved with a cheerleader who has AIDS. CH 11.
6:00 PM TMC *Torch Song Trilogy* You're gonna have to tape *21 Jump Street*, because here's your chance to see Harvey, our hero.
7:00 PM WBAI-FM *AIDS In Focus*, **Michael Alcalay**, produc
1:00 AM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male and female strippers; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

4:00 AM USA *The Outing* How could I resist listing that? (It is, by the way, a thriller about a genie released from his bottle after 3,000 years.)
8:30 AM WBAI-FM *Any Saturday* with **David Rothenberg**: live call-in; 99.5 FM (2:00)
7:00 PM GCN *Gay U.S.A.*: news and entertainment from around the country; BQ, Unity, ACV Cable, CH 56 (1:00) (For Manhattan Cable, see THURSDAY)
8:00 PM WNET-TV *Bernstein at 70* A salute to the late, gay conductor. CH 13.
11:00 PM *Gay TV*: male porn; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35
1:30 AM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male & female strippers; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

7:30 PM WBAI-FM *The Gay Show* Bob Storm, Larry Gutenberg, Allan Ross and Marle Becker host (tentatively): Dick Dadey, executive director of the Empire State Pride Agenda; Sam Ciccone and Peter Guardino of GOAL; and Dan Martin and Michael Biello, creators of *Homo Love Song*. Alternates with *Outlooks*. 99.5 FM (1:00).
10:30 PM RB PROD *Men For Men*: **Robin Byrd** presents gay male porno stars; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (:30)
11:00 PM GBS *Way Out!* Mark Chesnut and Michelle VanVoorhies host part two of Ann Northrup's recent lecture at the Center. Rich Volo is the producer. CH C/16 (:30)

ish. For non-smoking lesbians over age 35. Also tonight, at 7:30, it's **Diversity Night**, SAL's first official multicultural night. SAL encourages women of all colors to come. Bring snacks, beverages, games and cassettes. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL events: (718) 965-7578.

LESBIANS AND GAY MEN OF NEW BRUNSWICK present a Potluck Dinner. Join them at Ray's in New Brunswick. Please call ahead to let them what you're bringing. 7 pm. For complete info: (908) 247-0515.

PS 122 presents *Scratch 'n' Sniff Avant-Garde-Arama*, with host Ken Bullock. Featuring Brendan de Vallance (performance), Naaz Hosseini (dance/performance), Dudley (monologue/music), Richard "Pookie" Winberg (performance), Theresa Haney (dance/performance), Rudy Burckhardt (film) and Maestro Subgum and the Whole (music.) \$10 or TDF plus \$5. PS 122 150 First Ave. 8 pm. (212) 477-5288. [See March 15 for the first half of this program.]

KMTM presents *Fall Down, Spring Up*, a movement concert featuring the choreography of Carol Dilley, Michael Foley, Joy Kellman, Michele Miller, Amy Pivar, Sarah Pogostin and Sabatino Verlezza. \$10. Dance Space Inc. 622 Broadway, 6th floor, between Bleecker and Houston streets. 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 777-8067. [See March 17.]

THE NINTH STREET CENTER presents *Queer Questions, Queer Answers*, a series of rap groups whose focus is defining homosexuality for the 1990s. Tonight's facilitator: Bob Fink. 319 E. 9th St., basement. 8-10 pm. (212) 228-5153.

THEATER NADA presents Shelly Mars in *A Day in Hollywood*, a Night of Sodom, "being an evening of commentary on male impersonation, AIDS, dyke-drama and a little S/M." \$8. Theater Nada (formerly Theater Funambules), 167 Ludlow St. 10 pm. (212) 420-1466. [See March 23.]

JOCELYN AND JULIE present Cilt Club Saturdays. Now you can "satisfy your urges all weekend." Their flyer says "Coming soon. Maybe March 16," so I call to make sure this is opening weekend. The Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 406-1114.

THE IMPERIAL COURT OF NEW YORK presents the fifth annual Night of a Thousand Gowns Charity Ball, benefitting The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center. \$100. The Roosevelt Hotel. For tickets and complete information, contact Ben Freeman at (212) 673-7633.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

TOD'S WOMEN'S CLUB AND CAFE presents a St. Patrick's Day Party, featuring hot buffet, \$2 house drinks,

\$1.50 green beers. \$6 general admission. Tod's. 2 Georges Rd. New Brunswick, NJ. (201) 545-8990.

GAY FATHER'S FORUM March Social. Join them for brunch at the Townhouse restaurant. 2 pm. Call for complete details: (212) 288-3236.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER present Rhythm Nation 3 Tea Dance. \$5 in advance and for members/\$7 at door. 135 W. 14th St., 2nd floor, between Sixth and Seventh avenues. 2-5 pm. (212) 222-9794.

LESBIAN FEMINIST LIBERATION presents *Lesbians in Latin America*, featuring Mariana Romo-Carmona of Las Buenas Amigas. \$4 donation includes refreshments. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 3 pm. Info: (212) 627-1398.

JUDITH'S ROOM presents bell hooks, reading from her book, yearning: race, gender and cultural politics. Judith's Room. 681 Washington St. 3 pm. (212) 727-7330.

IN YOUR FACE PRODUCTIONS presents *Insignificant Other*, a comedy by Lon Lowry about breaking up. Starring Vincent Caruso and Rod C. Hayes III of the Freelance Acting Group (yes, that's FAG for short). \$5. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 5 and 8 pm. (212) 924-7602.

LAVENDER HEIGHTS presents its Monthly Third-Sunday Potluck. Celebrate the third birthday of the lesbian and gay neighbors association of Washington Heights and Inwood. Bring a dish and enjoy socializing, networking, games and volleyball. \$2 suggested donation. Cornerstone Center. 178 Bennett Ave., one block west of Broadway at 189th Street. 6 pm. Info: (212) 569-2023.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION presents a Sunday Evening Weekly Social for gay men and lesbians who are HIV-positive or have AIDS, and their friends. PWAC Living room. 6:30-9:30 pm. (212) 889-2334.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents St. Patrick's Day Potluck. Wear green and bring green food, but please, no alcohol tonight. 7:30 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL events: (718) 965-7578.

KMTM presents *Fall Down, Spring Up*, a movement concert featuring the choreography of Carol Dilley, Michael Foley, Joy Kellman, Michele Miller, Amy Pivar, Sarah Pogostin and Sabatino Verlezza. \$10. Dance Space Inc. 622 Broadway, 6th floor, between Bleecker and Houston streets. 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 777-8067. [See March 16.]

MONDAY, MARCH 18

THE ADOLESCENT THEATRE

NETWORK in cooperation with the **ADOLESCENT AIDS NETWORK OF NEW YORK** presents its Annual Adolescent Theatre Festival. The three day program includes, today, the STAR Theatre, Family Life Theatre and Dandelion Productions. Free. Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center. 111 Amsterdam Ave., at 66th Street. 4-5:30 pm each day. For reservations, contact Ken Hornbeck at (212) 794-3315. [See March 19 and 20.]

THE NEW YORK BAR ASSOCIATION presents *Doctors and Other Medical Workers With HIV: A Policy Review*. Speakers: Michael Greco, MD, JD, Chief, Division of Allergy and Clinical Immunology-Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center; Kathryn C. Meyer, Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs, Beth Israel Medical Center; David Rogers, MD, Walsh McDermott Professor of Medicine, Cornell Medical School and Vice-Chairman, National Commission on AIDS; Lani Sanjcek, Associate Executive Director, New York StateWide Senior Actoin Council, New York City Patient's Rights Hotline; Harvey F. Wachsmann, MD, JD. Co-sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee on AIDS. NYC Bar Association, 42 W. 44th St. 7 pm.

SAGE presents *Adult Survivors of Sexual Abuse*, an experiential therapy group for women ages 21 and up to support the recover process and free you from the pain and silence of sexual abuse. Psychotherapists: Joyce Z. Meyers, CSW and Robbye Stuart-Russell, MA. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 7-8:30 pm. (212) 741-2247.

GAY ACTIVIST ALLIANCE OF MORRIS COUNTY presents *Womyn's Network and Men's Rap Group* at 7:30 pm, before their *General Meeting* at 8:30 pm. Tonight's topic "Play Safe—Batteries Not Included." Sex educator Steve Brown facilitates a workshop on safe sex fun and games. Morristown Unitarian Fellowship. 21 Normandy Heights Rd. Morristown, NJ. Info: GAAMC Gay Helpline: (201) 285-1595.

ACT UP General Meeting. Cooper Union. Fourth Avenue at 7th Street. 7:30 pm. Info: 564-AIDS.

IN OUR OWN WRITE Writer's Workshop for lesbian and gay writers. Workshops are held on the first and third Mondays of the month. Please bring work. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8-10 pm. (212) 620-7310.

THE INTERNATIONAL LESBIAN AND GAY ASSOCIATION Center Liaison Committee Meeting. Topics: upcoming world conference in Guadalajara, Mexico; continuing United Nations efforts; meeting with Amnesty International regarding their "mandate" being changed to include oppression of lesbians and gay men;

ILGA fund-raiser in April. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm.

SOUTHERNERS presents a Potluck Dinner. If you attend, please bring food according to the following categories: Last names beginning with A-E, bring deserts and appetizers; F-J bring entrees; K-O bring vegetables or salads; and P-Z bring potatoes, starches or breads. Southerners will provide lead tea and soda. \$5 members/\$8 non-members. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. (212) 674-8073.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

THE BRONX AIDS EDUCATORS NETWORK General Meeting. Lincoln Hospital, conference room 3. 234 E. 149th St. Bronx. 9:30-11 am. Info: Janet Goldberg at (212) 293-2658 or Rosaline Morales at (212) 259-5605.

THE ADOLESCENT THEATRE NETWORK in cooperation with the **ADOLESCENT AIDS NETWORK OF NEW YORK** presents its Annual Adolescent Theatre Festival. The three day program includes, today, Teatro Vida, the Greater Brownsville Youth Council, SPARK Players and Reflections. Free. Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center. 111 Amsterdam Ave., at 66th Street. 4-5:30 pm each day. For reservations, contact Ken Hornbeck at (212) 794-3315. [See March 18 and 20.]

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS presents a Health Seminar: *Benefits Information and Nutritional Issues*. 129 W. 20th St., third and sixth floors. 7 pm. For more information, call the GMHC hotline at (212) 807-6655. TDD (212) 645-7470 for the hearing impaired.

TWENTYSOMETHING presents a Rap Group, addressing "Homophobia: Internal and External." \$3. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8:30 pm. Info: Perry at (212) 242-3038.

THE COALITION FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS General Meeting. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. (212) 627-1398.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER Newsletter Editing. 225 W. 34th St., #1500. 8 pm. Call Lidell before attending: (212) 736-5295.

STEVE MCGRAW'S SUPPER CLUB presents Jamie De Roy and Friends, an evening of cabaret featuring Ms. De Roy and Doug Bernstein, Denis Markel and the cast of *Showing Off*, Ellen Foley; Caroline Rhea; Jonathan Solomon; Stiller and Ash; and K.T. Sullivan. \$15 cover/\$8 minimum. Steve McGraw's. 158 W. 72nd St. 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 595-7400.

MORE LISTINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday

Private Eyes (Marc Berkley's *Kool Komrads*; strippers; downtown crowd, students, professionals. 2-4-1 drinks till midnight. \$7) 12 W 21 St. (212) 206-7772.

Pyramid (Ivory presents "Gentle on My Mind." Opening March 4. No cover, no hassles, no kidding.) 101 Avenue A. (212) 473-7184.

Tuesday

◆ **Clit Club** (Drink specials till midnight. Lesbian erotic videos and slides. \$3 before midnight/\$5 after.) Pyramid. 101 Avenue A. (212) 473-7184.

◆ **Club Edelweiss** (TVs, TSs, gays, bi's, singles, couples); TUES especially for lesbians; but open to all TUE-SUN night) 167 W 29; 868-6989

Danceteria (Coming soon: Chip Duckett's gay Tuesdays. Keep your eyes on this space for opening.) 29 E. 29th St.

◆ **Grand Central** (Women's night tonight. Mixed We-Su.) 210 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, Lj; (516) 536-4800.

Jack Officer's Club (Cruising, Bruising, Drinking and Carousing. Audio, Video and Manual Manipulation by DJ Craig. \$3) 505 E. 8th St. 1

◆ **Roxy** (John Blair's "Muscle on Wheels." Gay rollerskating. Doors open at 8 pm. Varied cover.) 515 W 18 St; 645-5156.

Wednesday

◆ **Channel 69** (*Drag Extravaganza*, with Tabboo! Go-go stars, DJ Dany Johnson. Sexy, upbeat, East Village fag and dyke crowd. \$5.) Pyramid. 101 Avenue A. (212) 473-7184.

The Building (Dallas' *The Boys' Room*; House music, downtown crowd, go-go boys and a 60-foot ceiling; \$10/\$7 with invite) 51 W 26 St; 576-1890

◆ **Excalibur** (*Ladies Night*, \$1 drinks) corner 10th/Jefferson behind football stadium, Hoboken, NJ; 201-795-1161

◆ **Limelight** ("Queer U." DJs Andy Anderson and Keoki. \$5/\$10) Sixth Avenue at 20 Street. (212) 807-7850.

◆ **Cadillac Bar** (Gini DeSantis presents *Pure Party Production Dances for Women*, every Wed., \$5, Free buffet 6-8 pm, Renee Cooke, Bartender.) (Entrance on W. 22nd) 16W. 22 between 5/6

◆ **Private Eyes** (*Shescape Afterwork Party*, 5-10 pm; \$5 before 7 pm/\$7 after; 2-4-1 drinks before 7) 12 W 21 St; info 645-6479, club 206-7772

Private Eyes (YMVA Night; students, prof's, women; performers; \$7; door often benefits a gay/lesbian organization) 12 W 21 St; 206-7772

Silver Lining (2-4-1 drinks, also open Tues-Sun, women SAT) 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Pk, Lj; 516/354-9641

Stutz (2-4-1 drinks, also open daily) 202 Westchester Ave, White Plains; 914/761-3100

Thursday

Bleacleme (Celebrating gay men and women of color. Bi-monthly; next is Feb. 28.) Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 473-7184.

◆ **Copacabana** (last Thu. of the month Susanne Bartsch party; iffy door) 10 E 60 St, at Fifth Ave; 755-6010

Excalibur (\$1 drinks, also open Tues-Sun,

DANCING OUT

Send information, corrections, and complaints to **OutWeek Listings**, 159 W 25 St, NY, NY 10001. You may also fax the listings editor at (212) 337-1220.

◆ [new info] ◆ [women] ☆ [attracts TVs]



women WED) corner 10th/Jefferson behind football stadium, Hoboken, NJ; 201-795-1161

Hatfield's (2-4-1 drinks, female impersonators; also open nightly, women on TUE & FRI) 126-10 Queens Blvd, Kew Gardens, Queens; 718/261-8484

More Men (Tony, Keith and Dominic present DJ Tommy Richardson, go-go boys, videos, billiards. \$10/\$7 with invite.) 239 Eleventh Ave. (212) 633-0701.

◆ **Roxy** (*Disco Interruptus*. Dugwah's 30th birthday (again). Performances by Throbbers and Shelly Mars. Decor by Hildebrando de Castro. DJ Sister Dimension. Featuring Lady Bunny and Zaldy. \$10) 515 W 18th St. 645-5156.

Stingray's (New club, new sound system, everything else is a surprise. No cover tonight.) 641 W. 51st St. (212) 664-8668

Friday

ABC (Chip Duckett's *ABC Fridays*, DJ Merritt; ballroom, balcony, boogying; \$10/\$7 w. invite; opened Nov. 16) 17 Irving Place at 15 St

◆ **Clit Club** (Jocelyn & Julie, *Every Friday Party*; go-go girls, lesbo videos; opens 8 pm, billiards & \$1 drinks between 8 and 9 pm; \$5) 432 W 14 St; 406-1114

Columbia Dances (1st Friday of every month, Earl Hall, 10 pm-2 am.) 116th St & Broadway; 854-3574 days

◆ **Hatfield's** (women's nights are TUE & FRI) 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, Queens; 718/261-8484

The Limelight ("Mea Culpa," for men, with video and live entertainment. \$7/\$10.) 47 W. 20th St. (212) 807-7840.

Meat on Friday (Xclusive performances at 1:30 am. DJ Nobody's Pussy. \$5.) Pyramid. 101 Avenue A. (212) 473-7184.

◆ **Millennium** (*Ladies' Night*) 1770 NY Ave (Rte 110), Huntington, Lj; 516/351-1402

Private Eyes (YMVA Night; students, professionals, men) 12 W 21 St. 206-7772

Stingray's (New club, new sound system. Free before 10 pm. \$7 after.) 641 W. 51st St. (212) 664-8668

◆ **Visions** (women's party) 56-01 Queens Blvd, Woodside, Queens; info 718/846-7131, club 718/899-9031

Saturday

Barfoot Boogie (2nd & 4th SAT; adults/kids, smoke & alcohol free; 8:30 pm - 12:30 am, \$4; next is Dec 8) 434 6th Ave (btwn 9/10 Sts), 4th Floor; 832-6759

Center (2nd & 4th Sat, 9 pm to 1 am, \$8. DJ Peter Arden.) 208 W 13 St; 620-7310

◆ **Center** ("Women & Friends." Every first Saturday. Next is April 6. DJ Gini DeSantis. 9 pm to 1 am.) 208 W 13 St. (212) 620-7210.

◆ **Clit Club** (Jocelyn and Julie expand to both weekend nights. Look for opening night on March 16.) The Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 406-1114.

Club West End (Michael Fesco's Saturdays; midnight - 9 am) 547 W 21 St

Columbia Dances (*Same But Different*. Third Saturday dances. DJ Karin Ward, 10 pm - 3 am; \$5) Earl Hall, 116 St/B'way; 629-1989

◆ **Controversy** (Drinking, dancing and scandal with your host LaHome Van Zandt. DJ's Patrick Butts and Tennessee. \$5.) Pyramid. 101 Avenue A. (212) 473-7184.

419 419 N. Highway, Southampton, Lj; 516/283-5001

Love Zone (dancing & performers) 70 Beach St, Staten Island; 718/442-5692

House House Girls (All new. \$7.) Speed Limit 55. 154 W. 28th St. (212) 505-0232.

◆ **Girl Saturdays/Cheep Thrills** (Shescape and Girlgate host. DJ Dany Johnson. Go-go girls, billiards. \$5 before 11.) Irving Plaza. Irving Place at 15th Street. (212) 645-6479.

Meat (DJ Aldo Hernandez, every Saturday; go-go boys, videos; opens 10 pm; \$5) 432 W 14 St.

◆ **Roxy** (*Locomotion*; gay boys, guys, men; non-gay women, some lesbians; mix depends on party) 515 W 18 St (btwn 10/11 Aves); 645-5156

◆ **Silver Lining** (women's Sat) 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Park, Lj; 516/354-9641

Sound Factory (mostly gay; serious House/Club dancing, no alcohol, opens 11 pm) 530 W 27 St (10th/11th Aves); 643-0728

Stingray's (Brand new club, brand new sound system, everything else is a surprise. \$8.) 641 W. 51st St. (212) 664-8668

Sunday

The Building (Dallas' *The Men's Room*, students, professionals, men; go-go boys & 60-ft. ceiling) 51 W 26 St; 576-1890

◆ **FUCK!** (DJs Craig and Victor spin industrial, house, bass, soul and twirly disco. Downstairs, the Lesbian Luv Lounge with DJ Lori E. Seid and guest DJs. \$5.) Pyramid. 101 Avenue A. (212) 473-7184.

Kelly's (DJ Moaning Lisa spins the records for dancing dykes. Doors open at 8 pm. \$3.) 46 Bedford St. (212) 929-9322.

Monster (Sunday Tea Dance at 4 pm; dancing also on other nights from 10 pm) 80 Grove St at Sheridan Sq.; 924-3557

More (James St. James, Bella Bolski present.)

239 Eleventh Ave. 633-0701.

Safe Sundays (Kool Komrads' party at the Cadillac Bar; go-go boys, \$2 shots, \$5 beer blas from 5-8 pm.) 15 W. 21st St. (212) 645-7220

20/20 (Michael Fesco's Tea Dance, opens 4 pm; \$6; free Mimosas & BMs from 4-6, buffet at 7:30) 20 W 20 St; 727-8841.

The World (Christina Vista and Junior Vazquez present an after-hours party. Doors open at midnight.) 254 E. 2nd St., at Avenue C.

Every Night (or almost)

◆ **Bedrock** (lesbian club, closed MON & TUE) 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

♣ **Club Edelweiss** (TVs, TSs, gays, bi's, singles, couples all welcome; TUE for lesbians, but open to all TUE-SUN night) 167 W 29; 868-6989

419 (nightly Gay House Party, opens 6 pm) 419 N. Highway (Rte 27), Southampton, LI; 516/283-5001

Grand Central (closed Mon, 2-4-1 drinks Thursday) 210 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, LI; 516/536-4800

Magic Touch (ethnic mix: Anglo/Latin/Asian) 73-13 37th Rd, Jackson Heights, Queens; 718/429-8605

Monster (West Village) 80 Grove St at Sheridan Sq.; 924-3557

◆ **Pandora's Box** (formerly the Duchess) Sheridan Square & 7th Avenue. (212) 242-1408.

The Pyramid (Look under daily listings for individual parties and themes. Also check Going Out for special events.) 101 Ave. A. (212) 473-7184.

Spectrum (good mix of gay men & lesbians; closed Mon-Tue, WED free, THU free & 2-4-1 drinks, FRI male/female strippers, SAT recording stars, SUN variety show & free admission 9-10 pm; *Coors served*) 802 64th St @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, Bklyn; 718/238-8213.

◆ **Tod's** (Night club and restaurant. Mostly women, but men are OK.) 2 Georges Rd. New Brunswick, NJ. (201) 545-8990.

From the people who brought you the all-new, all-queer Pyramid, it's:

The Bank

225 E. Houston St., at Essex Street
(212) 505-5033

March 13: Grand opening night.

Performances by John Kelly and Joey Arias. DJs Craig Spencer, Patrick Butts, Aldo Hernandez and Tennessee. \$10/\$7.

March 14: Upstairs it's Sperm Bank for Fags, with your hostess, Hapi Phace, DJs Craig Spencer and Victor Anonymous? and hot and sleazy Boy Action. Downstairs, Egg Bank for Dykes features guest DJs and hot and sleazy Girl Action. \$10/\$7.

March 15: Alternative Music Night, hosted by Lee Chappell, David Leigh and Michael T. DJ Ralph Duncan. Live bands, promo parties and give-aways. Mixed crowd. \$10/\$7.

March 16: Controversy. This week the theme is Holy Chaos 2. "See what Patrick Buchanan called 'a smash...a sacrilegious nightmare.'" DJ Patrick Butts. Drag queens, drinking, dancing and scandal. \$15/\$10/\$7.

THE BAR GUIDE

Chelsea

Barbary Coast, 84 Seventh Ave. (14th St.) 675-0385

The Break, 232 Eighth Ave. (22nd St.) 627-0072

Cellblock 28, 28 Ninth Ave., 733-3144 (M-W)

Chelsea Transfer, 131 Eighth Ave. (bet 16th and 17th) 929-7183

Eagle's Nest, 142 Eleventh Ave. (21st St.) 691-8451

Private Eyes, 12 W. 21st St. (bet Fifth and Sixth Avenues) 206-7770

Rawhide, 212 Eighth Ave., (21st St.), unlisted

Spike, 120 Eleventh Ave., 243-9688

The Vault, 28 Ninth Ave., 733-3144 (F, 7-11 pm, women) 255-6758

West Village

Bedlands, Christopher and West streets, 741-9236

Boots & Saddle, 76 Christopher St., 929-9684

Crazy Nanny's 21 Seventh Ave. South 366312 (women)

D.T.'s Fat Cat 281 W. 12th St., 243-9041

Pandora's Box, 70 Grove St. (Seventh Ave.) 242-1408 (women)

Dugout, 185 Christopher St., 242-9113 (formerly the Ramrod)

Eighty-Eights, 228 W. 10th St., 924-0088

The Hangout (J's) 679 Hudson St., 242-9272

Julius, 159 W. 10th St., 929-9672

Keller's, 384 West St/Christopher, 243-1907

Kelly's Village West, 46 Bedford St., 929-9322

Marie's Crisis, 59 Grove St., (Seventh Ave.) 243-9323

The Monster, 80 Grove St. (Seventh Ave.) 924-3558

New Jimmy's 53 Christopher St., 463-0950

Ninth Circle, 139 W. 10th St., 243-9204

Sneakers, 392 West St., 242-9830

Two Potato, 145 Christopher St., 242-9340

Ty's, 114 Christopher St., 741-9641

Uncle Charlie's, 56 Greenwich Ave., 255-8787

West Side

Candle Bar, 309 Amsterdam Ave., 874-9155

Cat's, 730 Eighth Ave., 221-7559

Don't Tell Mama, 343 W. 46th St., 757-0788

Gents, 360 W. 42nd St., (Ninth Ave.) 967-0659

Sally's Hideaway, 264 W. 43rd St., 221-9152

Town & Country, Ninth Ave. at 45th St., 307-1503

continued next page

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664-8331

The Works, 428 Columbus Ave. (at 81st), 799-7365

East Side

Bogart's, 320 E. 59th St., 688-8534

Brandy's Piano Bar, 235 E. 84th St., 650-1944

G.H. Club, 353 E. 53rd St., 223-9752

Johnny's Pub, 123 E. 47th St., 355-8714

NY Confidential, 306 E. 49th St., 308-8390

Rounds, 303 E. 53rd St., 593-0807

South Dakota, 405 3rd Ave., (29th St.) 684-8376

Star Sapphire, 400 E. 59th St., 688-4710

The Townhouse, 236 E. 58th St., 754-4649

Twenty-Nine Palms, 129 Lexington Ave., 686-8299

East Village

The Bar, 68 2nd Ave., (4th St.) 674-9714

101 Avenue A, (formerly the Pyramid), 101 Avenue
A, 420-1590

Tunnel Bar, 116 1st Ave., (7th St.) 777-9232

Brooklyn

(area code 718)

After Five Plus, 5 Front St., 852-0139

Spectrum, 802 64th St., (Eighth Ave.), 745-9611

Sweet Sensations, 6322 20th St., 435-2580

Queens

(area code 718)

Breadstix, 113-24 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills,
236-0300

Friend's Tavern, 78-11 Roosevelt Ave., Jackson
Heights, 397-7256

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

Hideaway, 87-36 Parsons Blvd., Jamaica, 657-4885

Love Boat, 77-02 Broadway, Elmhurst, 29-8670

Magic Touch, 73-13 37th Rd., Jackson Heights,
429-8605

Staten Island

(area code 718)

Sandcastle, 86 Mills Ave., 447-9365

Westchester

(area code 914)

Playroom, 590 Nepperhan Ave., Yonkers, 965-6900

Stutz, 202 Westchester Ave., White Plains,
761-3100

Long Island—Nassau

(area code 516)

Bedrock, 121 Woodfield Rd., West Hempstead,
486-9516 (women)

Bianche, 47-2 Boundary Ave., Farmingdale, 694-
6906

Grand Central, 210 Merrick Rd., Rockville Centre,
536-4800

Pal Joey's, 2457 Jerusalem Ave., North Bellmore,
785-9301

Silver Lining, 175 Cherry Lane, New Hyde Park,
354-9641

Station House Pub, 3547 Merrick Rd., Seaford, 785-
9806

Long Island—Suffolk

area code 516)

419, 419 North Highway (Rt. 27), Southampton,
263-5001

Bunkhouse, 192 N. Main St., Sayville, 567-2865

Cherry's, Bayview Walk, Cherry Grove, Fire Island,
597-6820

Club Swamp, Disco/Annex Restaurant, Montauk
Hwy, Wainscott, 537-3332

Ice Palace, Cherry Grove Beach Club, Fire Island,
597-6600

Kiss, 161 Farmardie Dr., Lake Ronkonkoma, 467-9273

Club 608, 608 Sunrise Highway, W. Babylon,
661-9580

Millennium, 1770 New York Ave., Huntington,
351-1402

Starz, 836 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, 242-3857

Thunders, 894 Jericho Turnpike, Smithtown, 864-1410

New Jersey

(area code 201)

Charlie's West, 536 Main St., E. Orange, 678-5002

Feather's, 77 Kinderkamack Rd., River Edge,
342-6410

Friendly's Bar, 6310 Park Ave., West New York,
854-9895

Excalibur, 10th and Jefferson, Hoboken, 795-1023

Nite Lite, 509 22nd St., Union City, 863-9515

Vibrations, 165 Cedar Lane, Teaneck, 836-5518

Yacht Club, 366 Berkshire Valley Rd., Jefferson,
697-9780

IHI

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COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

A.C.Q.C. AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES EDUCATION • BUDDIES-COUNSELING • SUPPORT GROUPS Volunteer Opportunities (718) 896-2500(voice) (718) 896-2985(TDD)

ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power)

486A Hudson Street, Suite 64 NYC 10014 (212) 564-2437 A diverse, non-partisan group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action to end the AIDS crisis. Gen. meetings Mon. nights 7-9:30, in The Great Hall, Cooper Union, on Cooper Square between Astor and St. Marks Place's.

AIDS RESOURCE CENTER (ARC) Supportive housing for homeless PWAs (Bailey House and apartment). Non-judgemental pastoral care for PWAs and loved ones. Volunteer opportunities. (212) 481-1270, 24 West 30th St., NYC 10001

ALDECA/PLN-NY (Asian Lesbians of the East Coast/Asian Pacific Lesbian Network-New York) We are a political, social and supportive network of Asian Pacific lesbians. Planning meetings on the 1st Sunday and social events on the last Friday of each month. Call (212) 517-5598 for more information.

AMERICAN GAY/LESBIAN ATHLETS AGA, Inc./701 7th Avenue, Suite 8W/New York, New York 10038 A non-profit, educational organization dedicated to preserving separation between state and church and upholding the civil rights of Lesbian and Gay Athletes. Meetings the firsts Sunday Community Center, 1 to 3 PM. Dial a Gay Athlete (718)899-1737, 24 hours.

ARCS (AIDS-Related Community Services) for Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. AIDS education, client services, crisis intervention, support groups, case management, buddy and hospital visitor program, 214 Central Ave., White Plains, NY 10606 (914) 993-0606 838 Broadway, Newburgh, NY 12250 (914) 562-5005 AIDSline (914) 993-0607

ASIANS & FRIENDS- NEW YORK A not-for-profit organization which promotes friendships with Asian/Pacific Islander, Asian-American, and non-Asian gay men through social, cultural, educational, and service activities and programs. Call our Hotline:

212-674-5064, or write to: P.O. Box 6628, NY, NY 10163-6023.

ATR (AIDS TREATMENT RESOURCES, INC.)

Publishes a quarterly Directory of clinical trials of experimental AIDS/HIV treatments in NY/NJ, and Philadelphia, and has educational materials/seminars for trial participants. ATR also advocates for improvements in the trial system. 259 W. 30th St., 9th fl., NYC, 10001. (212) 268-4196. Publications free/donation requested.

BAR ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Lawyers Referral Service for the Lesbian and Gay Community Full Range of Legal Services (212) 459-4873 Free Walk-in Legal Clinic. Tuesday 6-8 pm. Lesbian & Gay Community Center, Ground Floor

BIDS (BISEXUAL DOMINANCE & SUBMISSION GROUP)

Share S/M experiences and fantasies with others in a positive, non-judgemental atmosphere. First Sunday of the month, 4:45pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BISEXUAL INFORMATION & COUNSELING SERVICE, INC.

A professionally staffed, non-profit organization for bisexuals, their families and partners, facing problems of a psychological or medical kind. We also work with those in doubt about their sexuality. Confidentiality is protected by law. For information phone: (212) 496-9500

BISEXUAL PRIDE DISCUSSION GROUP

Topical discussions on issues of interest to the community in a congenial atmosphere, followed by an informal dinner at a friendly local restaurant. Every Sunday, 3:00- 4:30pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BIWAYS NEW YORK

Monthly social events for the Bisexual community and friends. Call NYABN for details of upcoming events. (212) 459-4794

BIPAC (BISEXUAL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE)

Political action on issues of importance to the Bisexual/Lesbian/Gay community. Monthly meeting/potluck held 8:00pm on fourth Thursday of the month at members homes. Call NYABN for this month's location. ((212) 459-4794

BISEXUAL YOUTH

Informal social & support group for Bisexual kids/youth. Monthly meeting/potluck lunch held 1:00pm on fourth Sunday of the month at members homes. Call NY ABN for this month's location. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BLUS-BRONX LESBIANS UNITED IN SISTERHOOD

Social, political and support networking group for women and their friends. Regular social events and meetings on the first and third Fridays of every month. At The Community Center, 208 W. 13 Street, from 8:30-9pm. For more info call Lisa at (212) 829-9817.

BODY POSITIVE

If you or your lover has tested HIV+, we offer support groups, seminars, public forums, reference library, referrals, social activities and up-to-date national monthly, "THE BODY POSITIVE" (\$25/year). (212) 721-1346. 2095 Broadway, Suite 306, NY, 10023

BROOKLYN'S LESBIAN AND GAY POLITICAL CLUB LAMBDA INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS

L.I.D. endorses and works for candidates in local, state and national elections, lobbies for legislation, and conducts community outreach through street fairs and meetings on special topics. Join us. 336 Ninth St., Suite 135 Brooklyn, NY 11215 (718) 985-8482

CIRCLE OF MORE LIGHT

Spiritual support and sharing in a gay/lesbian affirmative group. West-Park Presbyterian Church 165 West 86th Street Wed: worship service 8:30 pm, program 7:30. Marsha (212) 304-4373 Charlie (212) 691-7118.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

208 West 13th Street, NYC, New York 10011 For Appointments and Information (212) 675-3559 (TTY/Voice)PROVIDING CARING, SENSITIVE AND LOW COST HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT'S HEALTH INFORMATION LINE FOR TEENS

Do you have questions about your health? Your Body? Coming Out? Safer Sex? Feel like you have no one to talk to? Not any more! Now you can call the HOT-LINE. 212-255-1517 The Teen HOT-LINE for Health! Call Monday to Thursday, 7pm to 9pm. At other times, leave a message and we'll call you back!

COMMUNITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

CRI tests experimental drugs and treatments for AIDS and HIV related illnesses. Monthly treatment and research group for HIV+ individuals. Treatment and research newsletter, forums and public seminars. Call Alice Spears or Ken Formisano at (212) 481-1050 for info and mailing list.

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHATORAH

NY's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue Services Friday at 8:30pm 57 Bethune Street For info. call: (212) 929-9498.

CONGREGATION BT'NAJ JESHURUN

Monthly Spiritual Gatherings and free catered festive luncheons for all People With AIDS, their lovers and families. Program includes music and discussion led by our Rabbi. Call (212) 767-7600

DIGNITY

BIG APPLE

A community of Lesbian and Gay Catholics. Activities include Liturgies and socials every Sat., 8:00 pm, at the Center, 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Call (212) 818-1309.

DIGNITY NEW YORK

Lesbian and gay Catholics and friends AIDS Ministry, Spiritual Development. The Cathedral Project. Worship Services & Social-Sun. Even. 7:30pm-St. John's Episcopal Church 218 West 11th Street @ Waverly-675-2179

EDGE Education in a Disabled Gay Environment

For the physically disabled Lesbian and Gay Community. P.O. Box 305 Village Station, New York, NY 10014

FRONT RUNNERS

A running club for lesbian and gay athletes of all abilities. Fun Runs of 1-8 miles held every Sat. at 10am and Weds. at 7pm in Central Park and every Tues. at 7pm in Prospect Park. For information: call (212) 724-9700.

THE GAY AFRICAN AMERICANS OF WESTCHESTER(The G.A.A.)

is a community based support group formed in Westchester County. Various activities are planned for the coming months. Call 914-376-0727 for more info.

GAY FATHER'S FORUM

A support organization for gay fathers, their lovers, and others in child-nurturing situations. Monthly meetings include a potluck supper, support groups on varied specialized topics, speakers, and socializing. Meetings: 1st

Friday each month, 7pm, at The Center, 208 W. 13th St., West of 7th Ave. Contribution: \$6. Bring a main course for 4 people (or pay a \$5 food charge.) For information call: 212-679-7541 or 212-285-3236

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 grassroots response to anti-gay bigotry. Do you have 30 minutes a month to fight homophobia? Join the GLAAD PhoneTree! Call (212) 966-1700 for information.

GLIB

Gay and Lesbian Independent Broadcasters invites you to tune into OUTLOOKS on WBAI-NY, 99.5 FM every other Sunday, 7:30-8:30pm and join us every Tuesday at 7:00pm to 8:00pm to become a member of GLIB. No experience needed. 505 Eighth Avenue, NY, NY 10018 Attn: Outlooks or call (212) 245-8306- ask for GLIB.

GAY & LESBIAN HEALTH CONCERNS

An office of the NYC Dept. of Health, provides linkages between NYC Health & Human Svcs. and the Lesbian & Gay community, focusing in ALL health concerns; resource information for health services consumers and providers. 125 West Street, Box 67, New York, NY 10013. For info call (212) 566-4905.

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS

Dedicated to safe and responsible S/M since 1981. Open meetings w/programs on S/M techniques, lifestyle issues, political and social concerns. Also special events, speakers bureau, workshops, demos, affinity groups, newsletter, more. GMSMA - Dept. O, 406A Hudson Street, Suite D23 NYC 10014.(212) 727-9878.

GMAD (GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT)

80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 a support group of Gay Men of African Descent dedicated to consciousness-raising and the development of the Lesbian and Gay Community. GMAD is inclusive of African, African-American, Caribbean and Hispanic/Latino men of color. Meetings are held, weekly, on Fridays. For information, call 718-802-0162.

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE

FOR INFORMATION ON SAFER SEX AND HIV-RELATED HEALTH SERVICES, AND FOR INFORMATION ON ONE-TIME, WALK-IN

AIDS COUNSELING SERVICES
212-867-6655 212-645-7470 TDD
(For the Hearing Impaired) Mon-Fri. 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. 12:00 to 3:00

GIRTH & MIRTH CLUB OF NEW YORK
Social club for heavy, chubby gay men & their admirers. Monthly socials at the "Center", weekly bar nights Thursdays at the "Chelsea Transfer", monthly Fat Apple Review, bi-monthly F.A.R. pen-pals. For more information call Ernie at 914-899-7735 or write: G&M/NY, Dept. O, P.O. Box 10, Palham, NY 10903.

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 W. 13th St. (212)874-HOPE.

HERITAGE OF PRIDE, INC.
Organizers of New York's Lesbian and Gay Pride events: the March, the Rally and the Dance on the Pier. Call (212) 691-1774 for meeting schedule or more information. 208 West 13th Street, NY, NY 10011.

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 information, referrals, professional education. (212) 633-8920 (voice) (212) 633-8926 TTY for deaf.

HISPANIC UNITED GAYS & LESBIANS
Educational services, political action, counseling and social activities in Spanish and English by and for the Latino Lesbian and Gay Community. General meetings 8:00 pm 4th Thursday of every month at 208 West 13th Street. Call 201-653-7624 or write H.U.G.L., P.O. Box 226 Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10018.

IDENTITY HOUSE
Now in our 20th year, we provide peer counseling, therapy referrals and groups for the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. Call us at (212) 243-8181. Visit us at 544 8th Ave., bet.ween 14th-15th Streets, Manhattan.

INTERNATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
works to focus the spotlight of world opinion on the oppression of gays and lesbians throughout the world. Currently organizing an Intl symposium on Gay and Lesbian issues to be held in Moscow and Leningrad in July 1991, in addition to many other exciting projects. For more info write IGLHRC, 2978 Folsom St., SF CA 94110, or call (415)847-0453.

INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN IDENTITY INC.
New York's non-profit lesbian and gay psychotherapy center. Licensed psychologists, psychiatrists, and clinical social workers. Sliding scale fees. Insurance accepted. Individual, couple, and family therapy. Variety of Men's and women's groups forming continuously. 118 W. 72nd Street. 212-799-9432

INTEGRITY/NY
Lesbian and Gay Episcopalians and friends. Eucharist and program every Thursday, 7:30pm. St. Luke's Church, Hudson and Christopher Sts. INFO: P.O. Box 5202, NY NY 10185 (718) 720-3054

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND
Precedent-setting litigation nationwide for lesbians, gay men and people with AIDS. Membership (\$40 and up) inc. newsletter and invitations to special events. Volunteer night on Thursdays. Intake calls: 2-4pm Mon thru Fri (212) 995-8585.

LAVA — (LESBIANS ABOUT VISUAL ART)
Call for slides for Lesbian Artists' Exhibition, Gay & Lesbian Community Center, NYC. For more information, send SASE to: Miriam Fougers, 118 Fort Greene Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217.

LESBIAN AND GAY ADULT EDUCATORS
Meet with other lesbians and gays who work in adult education as teachers, administrators, counselors, tutors, etc., to discuss issues such as coming out to staff and students, materials and curriculum, workshop and conference participation. We meet the first Friday of every month at 8:00 pm at the Lesbian and Gay Community Center 208 West 13th Street. Call Bryna Diamond at (212) 932-7902 (days) for information

THE LESBIAN AND GAY BIG APPLE CORPS
Get your instrument out of the closet and come play with us. Symphonic, Marching, Jazz, Dixieland, Rock, Flute Ensembles and Woodwinds. 123 West 44th St. Suite 12L New York, NY 10036 (212) 889-2922.

LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER
208 West 13th Street New York, NY 10011 (212) 620-7310 9am-11pm everyday. A place for community organizing and networking, social services, cultural programs, and social events sponsored by the Center and more than 150 community organizations.

LESBIAN AND GAY LABOR NETWORK
An organization of Lesbians and Gays who are active in their labor

unions working on domestic partnership benefits and AIDS issues. For more information call (212)923-8880.

LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS PROJECT
of the American Civil Liberties Union **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS/WE'RE EXPANDING THEM** (212) 944-9800, ext. 545

LESBIANS AND GAYS OF FLATBUSH
Brooklyn's social organization for both gay men and lesbians. P.O. Box 108, Midwood Station Brooklyn, NY 11230 • (718) 859-9437

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES
P.O. Box 1258 New York, New York 10116(212)874-7232 Since 1974, the Archives has inspired, shaped and reflected Lesbian lives everywhere. Call to arrange a visit or to volunteer for Thursday worknights.

LONG ISLAND ACT-UP
Meets Tuesdays at 8pm at 181 Post Ave. in Westbury, NY. Support us for change on Long Island. Mailing address: PO Box 514, Westbury, NY 11590. 516-338-4062.

LSM
is a support and information group for lesbians and bisexual women interested in fantasy, role-playing, bondage, discipline, S/M, fetishes, alternate gender identities, costumes and so forth. Membership is available only to women 18 years and older. Actual experience is not required but genuine interest and an open mind are. For information please write: P.O. Box 983, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10158

MARANATHA: RIVERSIDERS FOR LESBIAN/GAY CONCERNS
Monthly program meeting on second Sunday for gay/lesbian Christians and friends. Educational, political, and social activities scheduled, 12:30 p.m. Riverside Church, 490 Riverside Drive, Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.. For info, call (212) 222-5900 (ext. 290)

MARANATHA: RIVERSIDERS FOR LESBIAN/GAY CONCERNS
is a dues supported group within the Riverside Church. We are unable to afford you standard rate of \$400.00 per year at this time, but will be increasing our dues in the next fiscal year to include more advertising funds.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER NY
A multi-racial group of gay men against racism. Meetings every Friday night at 7:45 at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th Street. For more info, call: (212) 245-6386 or (212) 222-9794.

METROPOLITAN TENNIS GROUP(MTG)
Our 200 member lesbian and

gay tennis club includes players from beginning to tournament level. Monthly tennis parties. Winter indoor league. Come play with us! For information: MTG, Suite K63, 496-A Hudson St., New York, NY 10025. (718) 852-8562.

MOCA (Men of Color AIDS Prevention Program.)
Provides safer sex and AIDS education information to gay and bisexual Men of Color; coordinates a network of peer-support groups for gay and bisexual Men of Color in all 5 boroughs of New York City 303 Ninth Ave, New York, NY 10001 or call (212) 239-1798.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE
is the national grassroots political organization for lesbians and gay men. Membership is \$30/year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing and direct action. NGLTF 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20008. (202)332-6483.

NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
NYACN is the community's largest gay and lesbian professional group, welcoming all in communications—and their friends. Monthly meetings, 3rd Wed 6:30pm at the Community Center. Members' newsletter, job hotline, annual directory. Phone (212) 517-0380 for more info. Mention OutWeek for one free newsletter.

N.Y. FEMMES
Support and discussion group for lesbians who self identify as Femme and are primarily attracted to butch women. For membership information call Lisa (212) 829-9817.

N.Y. WOMEN'S SOFTBALL GUILD
For experienced, serious Softball Players, Coaches and Managers. We play mod/fest pitch weekends in Manhattan and Queens. Try-outs begin Feb. 11 thru April or until filled. (212) 255-1379 Janet.

NINTH STREET CENTER
Since 1973, a community dedicated to demonstrating that a homosexual lifestyle is a rational, desirable choice for individuals dissatisfied with the rewards of conventional living. Psychologically - focussed rap groups, Tues., Sat., 8 to 10 pm. peer counselling available. 319 E. 9 Street, New York, NY 10003, for info call (212) 228-5153.

NORTH AMERICAN MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOCIATION (NAMBLA)
Dedicated to sexual freedom and especially interested in gay intergenerational relationships. Monthly Bulletin and regular chapter meetings on the first Saturday of each month. Yearly membership is \$20; write NAM-

BLA, PO Box 174, Midtown Station, New York, NY 10018 or call (212) 807-8578 for information.

NORTHERN LIGHTS ALTERNATIVES
Improving Quality of Life for People with AIDS/HIV. THE AIDS MASTERY WORKSHOP: Exploring the possibilities of a powerful and creative life in the face of AIDS. Call (212) 255-8554

NYC GAY & LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT
Counseling, advocacy, and information for survivors of anti-gay and anti-lesbian violence, sexual assault, domestic violence, and other types of victimization. All services free and confidential. 24 hour hotline (212) 807-0197

PARENTS/FRIENDS OF LESBIAN AND GAYS
Let PFLAG help you and your family deal with the upheaval of your coming out. Our meetings are free: monthly on the 4th Sunday, at 3:00 pm, in Duane Church, 201 West 13th. Info? call Jeanne, 212-483-0629

PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION
(212) 532-0290/1-800-828-3280/ Hotline (212) 532-0588 Monday thru Friday 10am-6pm Meal programs, support groups, educational and referral services for PWA's and PWAr's.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS HEALTH GROUP
Underground buyer's club importing not-yet-approved medications and nutritional supplements. 31 West 26th St. 4th Floor (212) 532-0280

PINK PANTHER PATROL
Community street patrol in East and West Village dedicated to deterring violent crime against gays and lesbians. For info and meeting time for West Village, call 212-475-4383, for East Village Patrol info, call 212-246-6586. 70 A Greenwich Ave., Box 107, NYC 10011

PROFESSIONALS IN FILM/VIDEO
336 Canal Street, 8th Floor, NYC 10013 212-645-3351

QUEER NATION
Queer Nation is a multi-cultural direct action group dedicated to fighting homophobia, queer invisibility, and all forms of oppression that any queers might face. Anyone can suggest an action and should come to meetings prepared to organize and implement it. QN, Box 1524, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10003. Call 212-483-7208 for meeting info.

SAGE — (Senior Action in a Gay Environment)
Social Service Agency, providing care, activities, & educational services for gay & lesbian senior citizens. Also serves over 160 homebound seniors & older

**SETHIAN GAYS,
LESBIANS AND BISEXUALS**

For all of us interested in reaching out to each other in exuberance to spontaneously explore and expand upon the Seth/Jane Roberts "Philosophy" as it relates to our lives, personally, sexually and politically. Call AJ (212) 979-5104

**SUNDANCE OUTDOOR
ADVENTURE SOCIETY**

A non-profit club offering outdoor activities for every season including hiking, biking, skiing, water activities and other outdoor activities for the Gay/Lesbian community. For information or complimentary Newsletter call (212) 598-4728.

TASK FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The legal Action Center located at 153 Waverly Place, NY, NY 10014, has begun two new programs. All their services are free. The HIV/AIDS Legal Service Project provides free legal services to people with HIV/AIDS. Their scope of service is wide, encompassing child care and custody, discrimination, housing, health care and health planning, confidentiality and employment. The HIV/AIDS Agency Training and Assistance Project provides technical assistance to public and private agencies about legal and policy issues on HIV/AIDS and drug abuse. They provide training, individual consultations, and model policy guidelines, among other items. If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Catherine O'Neil at (212)243-1313. The Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) just received Chapter Charter for the local Greater New York Chapter. They have monthly meetings with speakers and networking opportunities. Their next meeting is scheduled for January 8, 1991, 6-8 pm, at the AIDS Institute, 5 Penn Plaza, 4th floor, NY, NY. If you have any further questions, please contact Janet Vaccariello at (212)340-8724

THE OUTREACH USING COMMUNAL HEALING (TOUCH)

Community volunteers providing a weekly buffet supper for the Brooklyn AIDS community. TOUCH meets Monday eves, 5pm to 8:30pm - at downtown Brooklyn Friends Meeting House (110 Schermerhorn St. near Boerum Place). Limited transportation may be arranged. Info: (718) 822-2756. TOUCH welcomes contributions of funds, food and volunteers.

ULSTER COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE

Meets first and third Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Unitarian Church on Sawkill Road in Kingston. For information, call 914-628-3203

UNITY '94

NEEDS YOU to become a part of it! Organizers for Gay Games IV, to be held in New York in 1994. Olympic-style sports and cultural event is largest in world. Theme is INCLUSION, everyone is needed. SUPPORT THE GAMES by volunteering, joining or making a donation. Call 212-732-3812 or write UNITY '94, PO Box 202, NY, NY 10036.

WHAMI—Women's Health Action And Mobilization.

A direct action group committed to demanding, securing and defending absolute reproductive freedom and quality health care for all women. We meet every Wed. at 6:30pm at 105, E 22nd Street, 4th floor. 212-713-5966 Mailing address: WHAMI, PO Box 733, NYC 10009

WOMENS ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY CENTER (WACC)

A non-profit, Lesbian community center serving Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Thurs. night weekly discussion groups, 8:30 pm, for other activities please contact us at 516-483-2050.

WRESTLING FOR GAYS & LESBIANS

Watch the men of the knights wrestling club in action every Sunday at 7:30 PM at the GAY CENTER. The club also conduct training classes on alternate Saturdays afternoon (1st & 3rd Saturdays for men 2nd & 4th Saturdays for women) for more information please call: 718-639-5141

LIZ & SYDNEY

Continued from page 51

people heading that list—can you believe that Michael Alig and Keoki celebrated their fifth anniversary as a couple.

Liz: A couple of what?

Sydney: Now, now....I mean five years on the club scene is like a 50th wedding anniversary in real life.

Liz: One club year is equal to seven human years. No, wait, that's dog years. Silly me. I hope if I am ever blessed enough, I will choose to spend my fifth anniversary as they did.

Sydney: You mean an intimate dinner for 200 where social graces means that its OK to throw your lukewarm french fries on the person sitting next to you and a boy in five-inch heels walks down the middle of the table pouring wine into your glass and onto your plate?

Liz: Something like that. Maybe without the boy. But all of this forces me to ask a question: When was the moment that made you know that you belonged in nightlife? That this was where you were happy?

Sydney: When Kitty Boots⁵, patent-leather stilettos and all, walked on top of a go-go boy, and I saw that the other dancer was jealously flogging himself with his studded leather belt, just waiting for his turn with Miss Kitty.

Liz: That's Mistress Boots, if you're nasty. I'm sure Doris Kloster⁶ was very happy with her birthday performance, don't you think?

Sydney: Yes, but did her mother make breakfast for them? ▼

Notes:

1. One of two gay nights—Thursday's "More Men" is beefcake night, where even the drag show has muscle; Sunday's includes more lesbians, svelte drag queens and the It Twins.

2. President of the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* Fan Club and gets more press for no reason.

3. Renovated back of Limelight consisting of nine rooms organized loosely on an "Alice in Wonderland" theme. Home to gay Friday night party "Mea Culpa" and a Thursday party called "The Altered States of Consciousness." Aldous Huxley would be proud.

4. "Funk, Inc."

5. Member of the House of Domination. Need we say more?

6. Editrix of *Fad* magazine.

FIELD TRIPPING

from page 52

Danny, a broad-shouldered go-go dancer, 27, with a boy's cartoonish face, is more succinct about the merits of naturism. "You get to see the goods up front." Six months ago, he met his lover, Anthony, at a MAN event. Next week, they're flying to Brussels for a honeymoon.

Every party has its wisecracks. Given the absence of a lampshade, Bruce has festooned himself with nametags. Messages range from the titillating "Easy to Be Hard" to the up-front "Touch My Balls." Bruce, a short, dark-haired man with mischievous eyes, explains that the latter billboard receives divergent reactions. Either people oblige him right away, or they walk away quickly.

A little after 11 pm, innuendo hangs heavily in the air. Both the ever-flowing beer and the dance music have relaxed people. Members have huddled in small circles, leaning against each other and even stroking faces, shoulders, chests. Soon, erections are blooming. But intimacy goes no further.

Nudism for a cause is a relatively new phenomenon. It originated in the early part of this century in Germany and was dubbed *Nacktkultur* (naked culture) or *Freikorperkultur* (free body culture). Its tenets were grounded in a fierce sense of nationalism and a back-to-nature crusade. It spread to the United States during the '30s. Nudists argue that clothing fosters body-loathing and deprives the human form of air and sunlight. Nudism, they say, promotes good health.

Bill, 33, an advertising account executive with a ready smile and hyena laugh, surveys the room. Regarding health and nudity, he assures me: "You'll find no correlation. We have our share of meat-eaters and alcoholics and smokers and drug-abusers. We're just like normal people, but we like to take our clothes off."

Nude idealism goes only so far. At midnight, the lights come up, and people don their clothes again. With the clothes come the extra baggage: body-shyness and image-deception. In our lifetime, it appears, naturism is restricted to private parties or tropical islands. In a perfect world, would Murray be walking the streets freely, his gonads to the wind? "I don't know," he falters. "I would like to, but I know it's not gonna happen." ▼

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CLASSES IF EEDS

WOMEN'S HEALTH

Continued from page 27

I am always most disappointed when activists can't provide support and validation for each other.

If the political debate is the theory, how we actually treat each other is the practice. Lack of validation and support are the types of behavior that cause lasting schisms within groups.

Women's AIDS' projects have failed or foundered due to this lack of support. Terry McGovern started the HIV Project to provide legal assistance to poor people with AIDS. This project can't get adequate funding to hire staff or rent equipment. The lawsuit against the Social Security Administration is being waged under these conditions. *The New York Times* asked the Gay Men's Health Crisis to write an editorial about the issue of discrimination against women and poor people trying to receive disability, and it ran without mention of McGovern's project or its dire need for funds.

In fact, we often hear of men attempting to address the issues of women and AIDS, and doing so inadequately. Why can't they demand a place for women to speak about our issues in important public forums? ACT UP's Treatment and Data committee recently began an impressive treatment campaign, "Countdown 18 Months," but did not place a single woman-specific opportunistic infection on its agenda. The lack of priority in incorporating the agendas of women, people of color and IVDUs into the work is all too apparent.

These are the kinds of experiences that allow mistrust to fester. Clearly there should be room on our agendas for all of our issues. A selective, single-issue focus creates discord among us, while giving the establishment the ability to pit us against each other and undermine our movement. I believe that the rhetoric that urgency alone must guide our agendas and tactics fails us repeatedly. I am not opposed to heeding our own sense of urgency. Far from it. But urgency alone, acted upon by single-minded activists using even the most radical of tactics, is simply not a viable strategy for the long-haul struggle of building meaningful, respectful coalitions that will, in turn, benefit all of us and radically change the way in which we live. ▼

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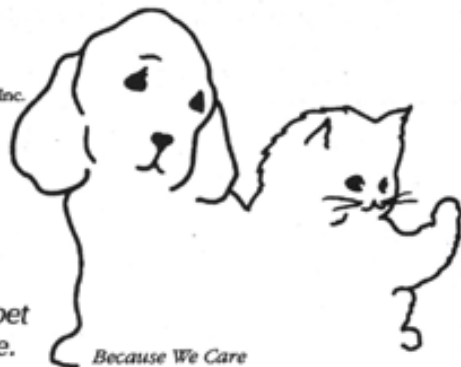
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Scenes from \$100 IN/135 Out.

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MASSAGE/MODELS

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ISRAELI STUDS

2 Hunky, horny BB's very masculine, x-handsome watch or join in. Will travel Visa/MC, Amr. accepted Kobi or Tomer (212)356-7212



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LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY FORUM

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- Saturday, March 16, from 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center
208 W. 13th St., NY
- Refreshments will be served
- It's free, and all are welcome.



Men of All Colors Together are men united in struggle, refusing to be divided, celebrating our diversity.

Join us! We meet every Friday at the
Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 208 West 13th St., at 7:45 pm

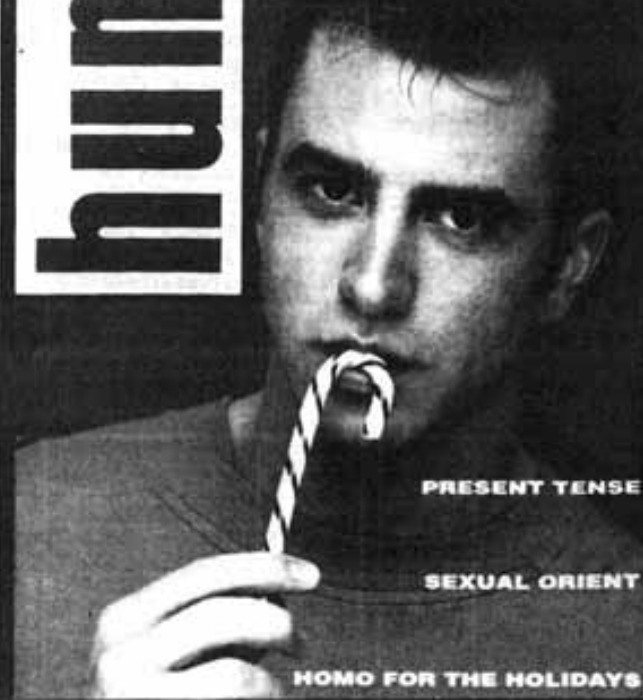
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THE PERSONALS MAGAZINE

hunt

#14



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PERSONALS

Hunt, the personals magazine, has expanded and left *OutWeek*. With new articles on sex, humor, plus personals and phone-line ads, *Hunt* is available in gay bars and community centers nationwide.

women's personals

ANDROGYNOUS, GWF, 27
Healthy body &

psyche, fascinated by "Ishmael" from "Fanny & Alexander. Seeking similar w/Similar Fascinations for romantic friendship relationship. Must be honest, able to communicate, & slightly academic. Send letter, Outweek Box 3776. Photo helpful.

ARTSY BUT NOT FLAKEY, yuppie but not square...but definitely artistic-looking, so not really yuppie, but could pass at the country club and **JUST LOVES MONEY!** **AMBITIOUS!** But spiritual...vegetarian...

kind, sweet, sensitive, youngish, pretty, long-haired, yet strong! Iconoclastic and absolutely original. Very smart (both in the way you'd describe a hand bag and a scholar). All you have to be is wildly clever, as tomboy as they come, over 30 and not too terminally cynical or chicken to for heaven's sake write instead of guessing. Outweek Box 3659

CHINA PATTERN AT BLOOMIE'S
GF, 35, 5'6", 135, Bl/gr, alcohol/drug free SF native/Manhattan dweller seeks to end years of serial monogamy. Softball, Diane Kurys films, Fer-

ron, gardening, politics and cruising the page of Elle and Mirabella. Sweep me off my feet and into a domestic partnership. Photo/Phone gets mine. Outweek Box 3771

CHINESE SAPPHO WANTED

For marriage in China. Help your friend and mine make life easier in difficult environment. GCM, 37, intel, Prof, seeks PTR for social arrangement. Discretion ASRD. Outweek Box #3847

D.K. - WE WORKED TOGETHER ALL TOO BRIEFLY at that ridiculous excuse for a publishing company. I had a major crush on you, but couldn't quite figure you out. It was always fun talking to you - write back, willst du? E.L. Outweek Box 3315

DAWN! HEY, YOU FIERCE
Strong smart, able woman! I want to see how far love can go. I want to go there with you. Hand in hand. What do ya say? To our strength...oosh. XO, Yvette.

HAPPILY MARRIED LESBIAN COUPLE
Seeks nice boy for our newly unattached best friend. He is 28,

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That
Special
Man!



Let the Gay Connection help you find that special man from right here in the New York area.

Speak privately one-on-one with other gay men, and with our rematch feature, you control who you speak with while maintaining your privacy.

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Must be 18 years or older. ©Jartel, Inc., 1991
Try our Gay Connection demo #: (212) 967-8809

trim, has sexy dark eyes, and a sweet smile. He is into Art Deco, depression glass, historic photos, great old movies, brunch, friendship, & sex. If you have someone similar in mind, maybe we can make a match. Send note & photo (if

available) to "Yentas," c/o Sap, RM 8, Milbank 3009 B'way, NYC 10027

HELP! I'M STARTING TO LOOK AT MEN. 33, 5'3", br hair seeks sporty-fem women for relationship. Into humor honesty

romance and treating you right. Enjoy cozy evenings by a fire place. Take a chance on someone nice. Your photo will get mine. No drugs non-smoker preferred. Outweek Box 3707

HEY THERE I'm a nice, cute,

100% lesbian who needs to meet more fun dykes to hang out with. No specifications-just like to have one hell of a good time. Outweek Box 3945

HOT DYKE SEEKS SAME Baby I'm an inferno--will you

be my fuel? I can burn even the most inflammables. 5' 6" 23y.o. GWF short brown hair-eye glasses make my vision pierce your soul to depths you never knew it had. A photo/phone # will get you the same--if you have the courage to see in your self what I can show you. Outweek Box 3719

I AM A MATURE 19 YR OLD

Slim, attractive black lesbian at 5'7" 120 lbs seeking a lesbian or bisexual who is white, Hispanic or mixture of races. Any age under 19 up to 30 for friendship or relationship. Please respond, all will be answered Photo Optional! Please send respond to Outweek Box 3889

LITTLE MISS ZACHARY

If you have taken the car out, please return it. Valentine's Day is fast approaching and we want to be on our best behaviour. Fourteen months and Fourteen Days. All my love, the Aupair.

MY PUSSY IS A SHRINE

Followers of my new religious order practice unspeakably delectable rituals. Devotional worship and human sacrifice. I love all God's children. Out-

week Box 3769

OK SO I SMOKE & DRINK

These are not my worst habits. (I also bite my nails, but lesbians should not have long nails anyway) this-26 GWF is looking for someone to play with on Tue & Wed (the worst days off possible) or after midnight (how did I get this job?) If you still eat meat & cook with butter drop me a line we'll see a movie or I'll cook you dinner, we'll do snow bongs on the roof. Outweek Box 3722

ONE DATE AT A TIME

GWF, 29, Attractive, sincere, funny, insightful, stable, attentive, somewhat spiritual and politically aware seeks these qualities in an "out" woman who is emotionally articulate, sensually spiritual, dynamic yet grounded, willing to listen and learn and allow for a possible relationship. Old enough to know better; young enough to take risks? Send photo and letter to: Outweek Box 3804

RENAISSANCE WOMAN

seeks same in SSF Bay Area.41, les not bi. Classics illustr. Comics, Atlantic Mo. Zen Oriented Christian. Oh

Local New York

CALL TODAY MEAT TONITE

9 regional bulletin boards to chose from including special boards for body builders, atheletes and wrestlers.

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REAL GUYS FOR ONE
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men fantasies.**

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**Real Connections
with real guys**

yes-Sex maniac.
Outweek
Box 3718

STREAMLINED

GBF 32 cmprtr
artist advtsg; at-
tractive athletic
sensuous; advtsg
student; enjoys
sports travel mu-
seums movies
dining out; seeks
GWF 30-40 at-
tractive athletic
career-oriented
educated humor-
ous out-going
confident honest
sincere affection-
ate sensitive sup-
portive and like
cats. No
roles/head trips.
Outweek Box
4026

TIRED OF QUEENS

The borough, that
is. I've left all my
girl friends in
Long Island City.
Just moved to
Park Slope, look-
ing for fun and
fantasy between
Fourth Avenue
and Prospect
Park West. Out-
week Box 3770

VENICE IN THE SPRING

The Bridge of
sighns... Water
lapping the quays
of Murano...

Sweet kisses in
the dark. Sensu-
ous, exceptionally
pretty, zaftig (diet-
ing), much pub-
lished author,
femme, 40+,
seeks accom-
plished, attrac-
tive, (preferably
vegetarian), soul-
mate/traveling
companion. Pho-
tograph appreci-
ated. Outweek
Box 3824

VOLUPTUOUS QUEER

Bisexual woman,
43, seeks per-
sons interested in
both activism &
SM. Open to mu-

tual/Switch/Top/B
ottom. Looking
for friends to play
with, hot exclusiv-
ity, so I'm not
concerned that
any 1 person
share all my inter-
ests-some are:
caning old
movies, group
play, clinic escort,
large numbers of
tiny, nasty
clothespins, pub-
lic places. Leave
message at 459-
4811 or write
POB 497, Times
Sq. Stn. NY
10108 Sorry, no
tobacco/perfume

WARM, SENSITIVE, HONEST,

androgynous,
5'5", 30, blonde,
blue eyed, Virgo
wants to get to
know you. I like to
sit in a cafe and
sip cappuccinos,
go to the movies
or just stay home
and cuddle by
candlelight. Let's
keep it simple
and slow. Tell me
about yourself.
Honesty, non-
smoker, sober
and drug free a
must. Send photo
and letter. Out-
week Box 3662

men's personals

GOM, 42, 155,
5'6",
avg looks, se-
cure, with sense
of humor, in
shape seeks sim-
ilar guys 35-50,
for fdshp & safe
sex. Likes music,
reading, & gym
excs, quiet eves
at home. No
drugs, smokers, 1
nite. Hairy a +.
Let's talk. Out-
week Box 3699

18 YEAR OLD
GWM, 6'2", 170#
dark blond hair,

blue eyes, some-
what hairy. Seeks
18+ lover. Very
submissive and
eager to please
you in any way
possible. Into
anything you like.
Write to S.U., Box
1729, Kingsland,
GA 31548.

ARE YOU A YOUNG MALE

Latin or oriental
preferred but not
a must who
would like a Euro-
pean Man early
60th than answer
this ad quiet life
style no drugs
P.O. Box 524
New York, NY
10268

ASPIRING ACTOR

Hisp Male, 22,
5'8" 135, BL. BR
seeking to meet
WM in the movie
industry both in
New York and

Los Angels Out-
week Box 3729

BLOND TOPMAN

6' 175, uncut, late
40' Body - Builder
and Runner digs
jocks, jockey
shorts, leather, Hi
- Top sneakers,
etc. Looking for
good bottom men
into servicing.
Box 1077 Anso-
nia Stn. NYC
10023

CAN YOU TOP THIS?

Habitual top
seeks stronger,
taller man to put
me in my place.
Me: 5'11", 160,
Br/Gr, stache,
gym bod, 26.
You: 25-45, built,
tough yet mus-
tache a plus. Not
tender. Leather a
must. Photo/
phone to Out-
week Box 3696

CATCH SEEKS A HERO

GWM good look-
ing smooth 155
5'11" dark hair
green eyes Ivy
Ed. seeks manly
fellow ardent and
true to be my
hero enjoy full
range of urban
activities love
dogs books being
a stalwart stand
up guy and taking
a protective male
stance and can
adore a smart
(aleck) funny guy
who will lean on
your shoulder
and treat you like
a king I'm HIV
negative a photo
letter to Outweek
Box 3618

D.C./VA SUBURBS

Gdlk Ex-Marine,
Blue eyes
salt/pepper
beard, 51, 5'7"
130# tight smooth

body, hairy legs
and ass, healthy
HIV+. I want a
hairy strong top
man to ride me in
a permanent man
to man relation-
ship. must be
HIV+ and hungry
for a totally erotic
and caring life
style. Obviously a
photo is neces-
sary, Rick, P.O.
Box 6044 Arling-
ton, Virginia
22206

DOMINANT TOP

Handsome
healthy jock 40,
6'2", 190, bn /
blue, hairy chest,
musc, hung, ag-
gres, prof, fun
seeks intelligent
hot buddy with
clean cut All
American gd lks
to enjoy winter wi-
th. Photo and
phone a must for
reply! Outweek
Box #4009

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WAITING TO
MEET YOU...



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Gay "TALKING PERSONALS" to meet
Nice Guys for Dating and Friendship
and meet Hot Guys that like to
get WILD! Categories for your lifestyle!
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FAT IS WHERE IT'S AT!

Heavy bisexual man, 38, is seeking to correspond with heavy bisexual/gay men and bisexual/lesbian women. Does anyone share my conviction that an "abundant" body is beautiful and that being termed "obese" is an accolade... Not a mark of shame? Let's be friends, perhaps more! Write: Bill, PO Box 62 Little Genesee, NY, 14754. Phone: 716-928-2692

GAY AND INTERRACIAL GJM

40, 5'10" 155lbs, cute, blue eyes and wise desires masculine BI or Gay Black man sensitive and

mature to explore who we are. Foto/Phone if possible to P.O. Box 20, NYC, NY 10012

GAY BLOND SEEKS FUN

GWM 25-35 to enjoy life, hot safe-sex & monogamous relationship. I'm 30, 5'11", 175#. NO fats, fems, fakes. Send photo/phone/letter & fantasy. Outweek Box 3808

GWF, 28, CAREER-ORIENTED

Cute, feminine, seeks same 28-43. If you like Etheridge, Gloria Estefan, 70s hits + Crayola green-blue, Write me Box 27 Manht, NY 11030

GWM 30 5'10" 165 BR/BR

Hairy chest Italian born speaks Ital + French looking for friendly attractive and masc. same for friendship + fun Photo + Phone write to Paul P.O. Box 828 NYC NY 10023

GWM, 40, 190 LBS, 6'1" HEALTHY

Uncut, NYC Artist type who is interesting, tolerant and open-minded. Seeks encounter with slim young boy 19-26 with smooth bottom and likes to tease Daddy in bed with slutty behavior, a little bit fem OK. PABT Box 20982, NYC 10129

HOPELESS ROMANTIC?

Love to cuddle,

make love by candlelight, take long walks in the park? I'm 22, 5'6", 150#, Italian, attractive and REAL. Try me on, I might be the lover that fits. Ph/Ph.Outweek Box 3688

HOT SPANKING GIVEN

On rare bottom over the knee of handsome GWM 6'3" 195# 35 with strong arms and muscular legs will use my hand, hair brush or wooden or leather paddle- whatever is needed to get your ass red hot and squirming also into GR and toys answer this ad and only your ass will be sorry! P.O. Box 1467 Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10011

HOT SPANKING GIVEN

On bare bottom over the knee of handsome GWM 6'3" 195# with strong arms and muscular legs age 35 will use my hand, hair brush or wooden or leather paddle whatever is needed to get your ass red hot and squirming also top into GR/Toys. Answer this ad and only your ass will be sorry! P.O. Box 1467 Old Chelsea Stn. New York, NY 10011

I HAVE GREAT TASTE...

and so do you. That's why we'll get along. Our first date, you'll say how much you'd like to kiss me...and of course, we'll kiss, etc. I'm a 23y.o. queer, just back in NY, great tight body, fine face, mind, humor. Send a picture and 3 reasons why I should respond. Outweek Box 3493

ITALIAN OR LATIN GUY

All American regular guy - 6' 175, 30, blue eyes, handsome straight - acting, fun & horny seeks good looking Latin or Italian boy to explore NYC & each other. Your Photo and Phone gets mine. CIAO / Adios. Outweek Box #3994

LATIN STRIPPER

25 Body builder hung Big Nuts Seeks Men 50 up if you get off on Strippers! Get off Stripping This

show 4 u Send letter & #What U want to see. Outweek Box 3797 Outweek Box 3797

LEAN SEXY SANE CUTE!

160 lbs Indiana bred, not white bread in bed! 40 and looking 32. You could be 20, let's see Photo Outweek Box 3970

NEED A GENTLE PUSH

GWM 25 looking for a man to help me get my life in order. I'm not a loser in search of a daddy. I just want to meet someone who has the power to help me end my perpetual struggles. Even if only advise and moral support. I'm kind, int gd lknng, sincere. Just need push in rt direction. Outweek Box 3737

NEW FRIENDS

WM, 35, 6'1", 185, handsome, masculine, works out, and sincere. Career-oriented business professional, but hot & creative; humorous, probing, and supportive. Seeks similar very tall guy for explosive action, intense friendship, and/or caring, long-term relationship. Call Art, btwn 8pm-12mid, at (212) 675-7352.

NJ SINGLE

GWM, 36, 5'11", 175 has Christmas wish to be half of a couple. Seeking intell, romantic, sincere, attract, GWM to share music, films, books, cuddling, hugs, kiss-



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es, love, life. A furry chest to snuggle against would be nice. if honest, caring, monogamy are in your vocabulary, send descriptive ltr/ph/ph. Outweek Box 3736

**S.I.
GBM
WANTED**
St. George WM,

39, looks 39, in shape (but not body beautiful) wants BM for friendly, regular sexual meetings (friends not lovers). Not looking for any special "type" or age. Send letter. Outweek Box 3680

**SCIENCE,
SCI-FI
GYM, film, big**

questions. Bright, down-to-earth, midwestern GWM, 31, 5'8", 145, bl/br, seeks attractive unpretentious guy of similar build and age, into some of the above for friendship, dating and ...? Send to Outweek Box 3790 Outweek Box 3790

**TALL
ATTRACTIVE
GBM**
6'5", 225 lbs, 30 yrs. Seeks a style conscious 25-35 black male of similar build who interests include: Movie, theater, arts, books. For companionship or possible relationship. Must have a good sense of humor. Photo /

Phone get prompt response. To Outweek Box 3971 **THINKING SERIOUSLY?** GWM, 26, 5'11" 175lbs, handsome, successful health professional, interest: music, theater, travels, dining out, intelligent discussions, good books, is seeking similar for honest relationship. No drugs. Please write about your interests and hobbies! Include telephone number and photo (only if you want). Outweek Box 4022

**VERY
ATTRACTIVE
MAN**
Mslcr, dk hair/eyes, smth skin, c/n shvn 6Ft 170# sane n2 dark-haired men, humor, movies, gyms, reading, writing, walking, flea markets, sex, politics, commitment, kinky sex, long conversations, commitment, cooking, fixing broken things, big dicks, kissing, commitment, hugging, arguing, laughing, camping, computers and commitment. Reply 245 8th Avenue, #174, NY, NY 10011

**WANTS TO
FALL IN LOVE**
Down-to-earth redhead actor dancer looking for some one to share my life with. Mysterious eyes and an unforgettable smile are definite requirements -also a sens eof who you are, fun, adventure, witty, able to laugh, in-

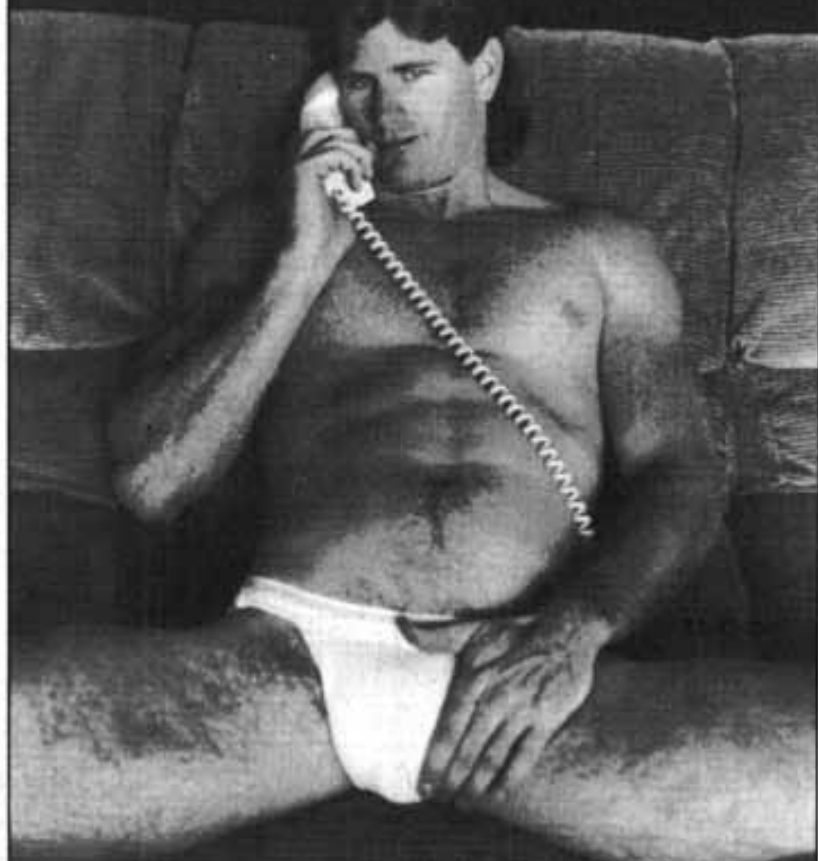
shape body, romantic, spontaneous, sta. acting, no drugs. NS. I'm 5'10" 145 lbs., 30 yrs. old and want to date some one who will be both a best friend and a lover. send photo & letter to Outweek Box 3684

**WISE MEN
STOP HERE**
GWM, 38 5'9" 150 br / br moustache and trim beard, hairy, defined, muscular build, handsome, masc., intell., unpretentious. Enjoys movies theater photg., cooking bicycling nature. Seeking other rare find who is good looking, masc., very health-conscious, intell., well-built w / musc., arms & peds, sense of humor, enjoys the arts, mature, honest, affectionate, non-cig. smoker. Let's exchange letter and photo. Outweek Box 3623

WRESTLE
Ex-college jock lacks opponents and floor space. Slow and easy or rough and sweaty. Ring, mat, or mattress. Or do you just like to watch? Photo, phone, and fantasy to Outweek Box 3687

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Handsome, sexy GWM 30's needs space with piano to teach 8HRS/ Wk in exchange for piano lessons or other musical services Queens/ Nassau Border Area Scott 718-392-0520 serious only.

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adults over 18 only, \$2 per minute



IT'S HARD

**FOR HOT GAY
ACTION CALL**

1-900-535-3200

ADULTS OVER 18 ONLY,
\$2 PER MINUTE

1-900-468-5400

**TO MEET GUYS WHO
WANT YOU NOW**

ADULTS OVER 18 ONLY,
\$2 PER MINUTE

HEALTH
from page 15

"In a compromised fiscal climate you can't often create sensational programs," said deputy commissioner Atkins. "You can create good programs, you can create useful programs, but you may not make the papers."

Atkins cites the department's Reality House program in Harlem as an example. That program provides numerous health services, among them HIV education and substance-abuse treatment to pregnant women. The Reality House project has received little play in the media.

Recently, the department fired up initiatives dealing with gay men and lesbians. The health department's City Health Information, a monthly newsletter, devoted its entire January issue to bias violence against gay men and lesbians. That newsletter, originating in deputy commissioner Ong's office, was distributed to 24,000 physicians and 9,000 health-related institutions citywide.

Following the initial brouhaha in the press over Myers' appointment, which created the first high-level conflict for the newly-elected mayor, advocates and former employees alike assert that Myers is isolated and avoids debate on critical issues.

Contrasting Myers with former health commissioner Stephen Joseph, one former employee said, "Joseph made a lot of enemies, but at least he was in the fight. Myers is just standing on the sidelines."

Responding to charges that Myers avoids debate, department appointees claim that that complaint arises more from the sharply contrasting styles of Myers and his predecessor, Stephen Joseph.

That difference couldn't be greater. "For 12 years prior to this administration, New Yorkers became used to a bully-pulpit way of dealing with issues often spearheaded by the mayor," said deputy commissioner Atkins.

Joseph ignited several controversies during his tenure, often by introducing major initiatives or policy changes in the press first, infuriating advocates and drawing loud protests from several communities.

It is also true, however, that



**THE COMMISSIONER IN QUESTION—
Dr. Woodrow Myers**

deputy commissioners, especially Ong, more frequently represent the department when dealing with community groups. Myers is reported to have attended only one meeting of the HIV Planning Council, the body charged with writing the city's application for funds made available under the Ryan White Act.

"Myers' belief and his management style is to hire the best people he can find as deputy, associate and assistant commissioners," counters deputy commissioner Atkins. "It is appropriate to use his executive staff to represent him."

In fact, citing scheduling conflicts, Myers declined, through a spokesperson, an opportunity to be interviewed for this article, preferring to arrange interviews with department representatives.

While it is clear that Myers' distant style and his department's budget constraints have not won him many friends in a community that opposed his appointment, his management style is unlikely to embroil him in further controversies.

But will it win him friends among a community devastated by AIDS and plagued by bias-related physical attacks? That, say activists, will happen when the gay and lesbian community, long alienated from the city's health department, once again feels that the DOH has its best interests in mind, and the resources to follow through. ▼

MEA CULPA



I'm guilty

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at

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(between 5th & 6th)

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90	Mar. 1	Mar. 11
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92	Mar. 15	Mar. 25
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- * Full payment must accompany ad order form and must be paid by in-dividual placing ad.**
- * All corrections and changes are \$10.00**



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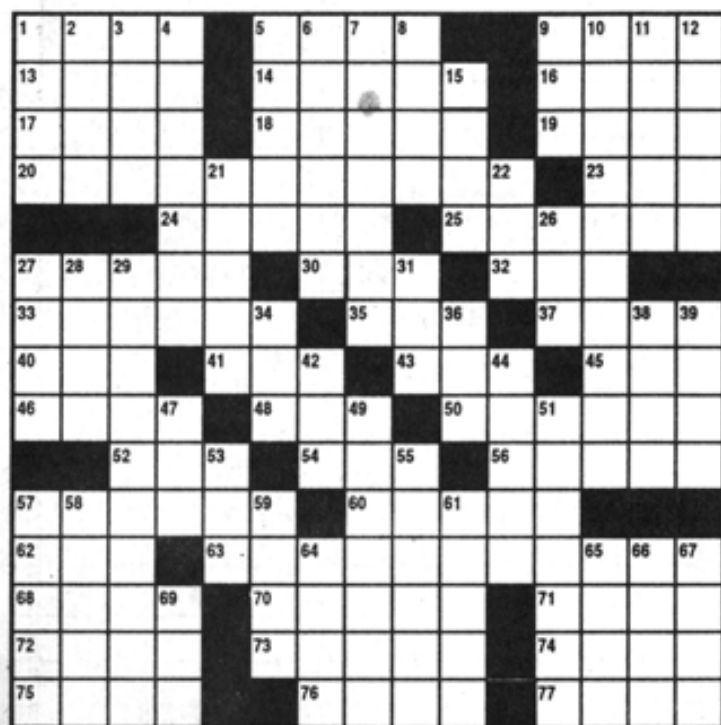
Personal Mail forwarding charges not included.

One Ad per customer



OutWeek Crossword

by Greg Baysans
Edited by Gerard Mackey



7. Wall St. figures
8. Scream
9. AA stop
10. Famed Irish exile
11. Some humor
12. Cornered
15. Dross
21. Church official
22. D.C. figure
26. DOE's opponent
27. Tax
28. Kind of school: abbr.
29. Anagram of 10 down
31. Bite for dobbin
34. ___ Moines
36. Obscure
38. "Whatever ___ wants..."
39. Wallet fillers
42. Sine ___ non
44. Tropical vine
47. Ratite bird
49. Changed
51. Practiced
53. French friend
55. Farm
57. Della or Peewee
58. Stage direction
59. This: Sp.
61. Ingrid in *Casablanca*, et al.
64. ___ Shanter
65. Olive and peanut
66. ___ San lucas, Mexican resort
67. Area in NW Yugoslavia
69. Vane letters

SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S *OUTWEEK*—ON SALE MONDAY

Across

1. Type of lettuce
5. "Dear ___"
9. Word with ball or drink
13. Maple genus
14. Some horses
16. Peter or Nicholas
17. With 3 down, vitamin deficiency
18. Bikini, for one
19. "God's Little ___"
20. Famed expatriate
23. King topper
24. Actor Kevin
25. ___ up (got ready)
27. Yielded
30. Sell-out letters
32. Novel
33. In seventh heaven
35. Opposite of 33 across
37. Sight at 55 down
40. Sun. speech
41. Need: abbr.
43. Sesame
45. ___ Nol, of Cambodia
46. Pirate in *Peter Pan*
48. ___ *sponte* (of itself)

50. ___ East
52. "___ a lumberjack..."
54. Some math
56. Vicinities
57. Begin again
60. Singer Lopez
62. Business letter abbr.
63. Anagram of 20 across
68. Harrow's rival
70. Mountain pools
71. Prevaricator
72. Stitched
73. "... are I saw ___"
75. A Gardner
76. Lyric works
77. Brit. service awards

Down

1. Ali ___
2. Reykjavik's country: abbr.
3. See 17 across
4. B-B-Q item: var.
5. Valuable violin
6. Conductors' needs

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



HOT SWEATY BODIES NEED ATTENTION

REAL MEN WANT YOU RIGHT NOW.
FOR HOT ONE ON ONE CONNECTIONS CALL

1-900-230-JACK
(5 2 2 5)

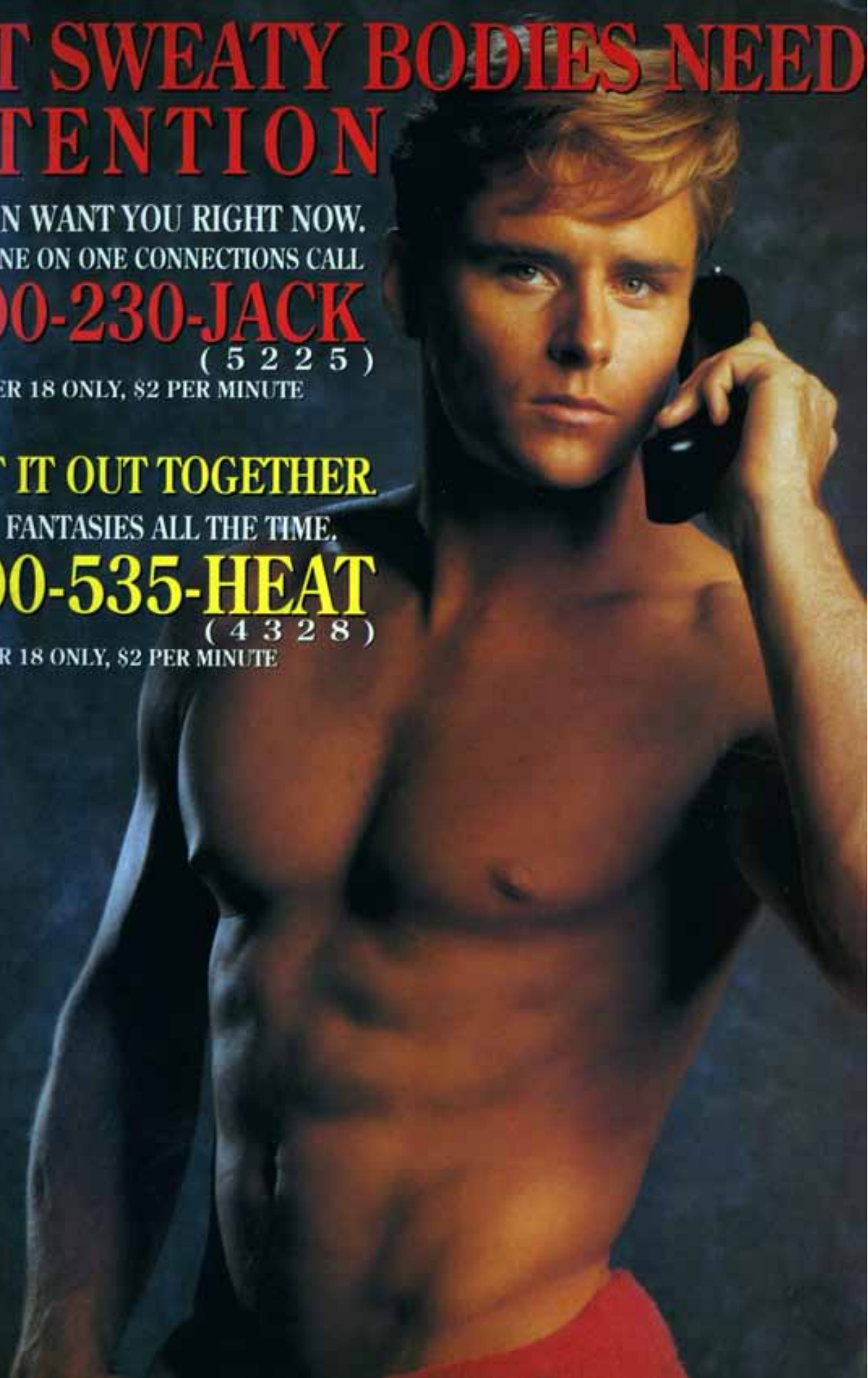
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SWEAT IT OUT TOGETHER.

ALL MALE FANTASIES ALL THE TIME.

1-900-535-HEAT
(4 3 2 8)

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