

charles busch wigs out

OUTWEEK

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NEWS
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Sex and the Single Reporter

The practice of creating women-only spaces has a long history and a valid place in lesbian and gay organizing. Women-only space is often considered necessary to offset the lack of openness which many women feel in the presence of men. But just as the women-only concept has a long history of acceptance, it also has a long history of controversy.

A recent manifestation of that controversy is the current debate over a decision by the organizers of the National Lesbian Conference in Atlanta to bar male reporters from covering that pivotal event. Reporters were not singled out by the NLC organizers; all men are barred from entering the conference. But the decision to include male reporters in that ban has generated anger and heated debate within queer journalistic circles because it seems to contradict another ethic, namely freedom of the lesbian and gay press. In this instance basic ethical assumptions are challenged by the seeming incompatibility of simultaneously preserving media freedom and women's autonomy at one of our community's most important gatherings.

On the one hand a strong case can be made that the queer press, always underfunded and vulnerable, should be afforded every opportunity to do its work unencumbered by restrictions. Lesbian and gay publications are hobbled by lack of advertising revenue, the hostility of distributors and a tremendous lack of respect by the straight world in general. It sometimes seems impossible for us to do an adequate job under the best of circumstances. But when we also have to negotiate through a maze of community-based restrictions, that impossible job can become impossibly discouraging as well.

On the other hand, no community organization has an inherent obligation to provide access to the press, straight or gay. Press coverage, by its nature, is often disruptive, and when organizers are forced to choose between publicity and disruption or privacy and peace, many choose the latter. They certainly have a right to do so. What they gain from such a policy is the measure of safety that comes with seclusion. What they, and the rest of the community, pay for such a policy is a certain measure of invisibility, with all its attendant powerlessness and frustration.

The obvious solution to this quandary is for queer news organizations to assign women reporters to cover women-only events, people of color reporters to cover POC-only events, and so forth. This is, in fact, often done, in the interests of getting the best story but it's not a workable solution for one-person wire services or tiny publications with one or two staff members.

In the final analysis, there is no perfect solution. Both courses have significant downsides that disempower large numbers of people. In such a situation, the least we can expect is a respectful lowering of rhetoric and a recognition of the legitimate concerns on both sides.

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LETTERS

FORWARD INTO THE PAST

It's sadly ironic that for the cover story on S/M [no. 89, March 13], which was occasioned by the tenth anniversary of New York's premier gay S/M organizations, GMSMA [Gay Male S/M Activists] and LSM [Lesbian Sex Mafia], *Out-Week* should run an essay by Michael Bronski complaining that a decade of openness about S/M has ruined the scene. Mr. Bronski dismisses the achievements of these organizations and others (without mentioning them by name) in less than a sentence. The rest of his engagingly written but incoherent piece is a diatribe against "the leather lifestyle," which he says "has taken the bite out of S/M."

While Mr. Bronski makes some valid points about the commercialism and superficiality of much of today's popular leather scene (which is much larger than the S/M scene as such), he misses the elementary point that defining yourself in terms of a lack of acceptance by the majority culture is as parasitic on that culture as redefining yourself in order to be accepted by it (which he falsely accuses S/M organizations of doing). "One of the reasons I have always been so drawn to S/M is that it didn't seem to have a positive side," he says. Well, excuse us for trying to present S/M—to our own community, as well as outsiders—as a positive, life-enhancing, self-actualizing form of human sexual expression. We thought that was the way to recover our sexual selves from the clutches of psychiatrists and politicians and religious fanatics

whose dogmas made so many of us feel torn in two as we tried to reconcile desire with conscience. Because Michael Bronski gets off on being an outcast, all the rest of us should just crawl back into the closet and let a sexophobic [sic], heterosexist culture that equates S/M with battery, rape and murder deter-

to practice S/M without risking their lives, health, sanity, careers or friendships, and most will probably prefer dressing up in brand-new designer leathers and cheering on their favorites at a Mr. Drummer contest.

Organizations like GMSMA and LSM have helped make S/M acceptable to much of the broad-

"old-guard." It's internalized homophobia—he thinks we don't deserve better. Well, he's wrong. For ten years, GMSMA and LSM have educated, explained, published, networked, caucused and marched to convey the message that safe, sane, consensual S/M is something to cherish and support, not fear. And to a great extent, we have succeeded. We have brought S/M out of the closet. A magazine called *Out-Week* should celebrate, not trash, such an achievement.

Fortunately, a different, more positive view of the "mainstreaming" of S/M is provided by the article on "S/M Girls" by Wickie Stamps in the same issue, which very acutely credits S/M dykes with revitalizing lesbian sexuality and raising consciousness about safety and health issues for all their sisters. And the editorial "S/M and the Test of Tolerance" [no. 90, March 20] is another step in the right direction. Let Mr. Bronski march backward if he insists; we don't need him.

David Stein
GMSMA co-founder,
Manhattan

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



mine who we are and what we can do and wear and say?

Sorry, Michael, it won't wash. Liberation isn't just for the privileged few who can afford to play at being outlaws. Complaining that broader acceptance of S/M takes the fun out of it is like complaining that universal literacy debases literature or that democracy debases governance. Allow everyone who's interested

er gay and lesbian community not by changing it "to fit this year's fashions," as Mr. Bronski charges, but by being honest and open about it. We have shined light into places that many people, our enemies as well as friends like Mr. Bronski, would prefer to leave in a discreet darkness. His defence of the old equation of S/M with danger, sleaze and shadows isn't even

Michael Bronski responds: At no point did I suggest that S/M was better when it was more "closeted" or that people in the organizations should "crawl back into the closet and let a sexophobic [sic], heterosexist culture... tell [us] what we can do and wear and say." Nor do I accept the idea that "defining yourself in terms of lack of acceptance by the majority culture is as parasitic on that culture as redefining yourself in order to be accepted by it"—any "redefining" which occurs to promote acceptability

BLURT OUT

**ENQUIRING
MINDS WANT TO
KNOW...**

**Call me self-loathing, but I'm still made twitchy by items such as the *Enquirer's* recent exclusive, "Gay Lover Begs Martina, 'Please take me back.' She Pines Alone in Love Nest for Tennis Champ Navratilova." Perhaps this is liberation at a pace, and we should relish the routinization of queer trysts in the tabloids, but it has a certain freak-of-the-week quality when juxtaposed with "Miracle of Love Brings Little Piggy Back to Life" and "World's Tallest Man Meets the World's Smallest."
—Sarah Pettit**

to a mainstream culture that hates queers is going to diminish our sense of self.

The fact that this "acceptance" is inextricably bound up with the consumer aspects of the new leather scene is, to me, a sign that something else besides sexual liberation is going on. I don't think that, in the absence of all oppression, "most would probably prefer dressing up in brand-new designer leathers and cheering their favorites at a Mr. Drummer contest." I would rather imagine that we would spend our time discovering and inventing new ways of using and enjoying our bodies.

There is a big difference between "liberation"—gay, sexual or otherwise—and seeking acceptance as regular folk who just happen to like to beat one another up. I frankly am appalled that, after the genocidal AIDS policies of the past decade and the virulently anti-S/M stance of the Meese Commission and the more recent Thornberg "Justice" Department, the National Leather Association would play the national anthem at their Living in Leather Conference this past October. Is it "liberation" to be just like every other knee-jerk, unquestioning patriot except that we happen to be into S/M and leather?

I have learned, after 20 years' involvement in the gay movement, that there are as many politics as there are personal experiences. My piece was personal—not a prescription for political perfection or correctness. But part of responsible politics is making and listening to criticism.

NOT WOMEN, NOT MEN

Risa Denenberg's depiction of lesbians/women in AIDS activism ["Women, AIDS, Lesbians and Politics," no. 90, March 20] does not match my experience. As a lesbian who has been in ACT UP since June 1987 and

helped form the first Women's Caucus; as one of the people who helped organize both actions at the CDC, sat in at Dan Hoth's office to demand a Women's Committee at the ACTGs and a meeting with Fauci and Hoth sat in at Gary Noble's office; and as one of the seven lesbians who met with Fauci, Hoth et al., I find Denenberg's article misleading and her sense of "context" incomplete. Whichever way you cut her message, it says that it's women vs. men in AIDS activism. Sometimes she says it outright: "Women activists have been advised to wait, to shut up, to take care of people and let the men take care of politics." Other times, it's the juxtaposition of sentences that gets her message across. For example, when she says men should give women a place at the table and then uses "Countdown 18 Months" as an example of leaving women's issues out, implying that it was developed by men.

For the record: Women and men organized the CDC actions and contributed money to make the last one happen; women and men sat in at Dan Hoth's and Gary Noble's offices; women and men met with Fauci the evening of the women's conference; women and men developed "Countdown 18 Months." These differences are about strategy and tactics; they are not about differences between women and men. These differences have been in ACT UP since the beginning. That's why our blurb reads: "We meet with government and public health officials; we research and distribute the latest medical information; we protest and demonstrate."

ACT UP is not a "disciplined party"; ACT UP is a coalition. "Women" don't need "men" to give us a place at the table. When Fauci said he had an agreement with the gay men in ACT UP about the way in which meetings would proceed, we responded that he did not have that agreement with us. And, we

got the Women and HIV Conference (distorted as it was) and a Women's Committee at the ACTGs as a result of the work we did. "Support and validation" doesn't mean other people having to do what you want. And, manufacturing a male/female split to explain differences about strategy and tactics is a simplification and makes a lot of women and men invisible on both sides of the issue, something Denenberg accuses men of doing to women. So, to Risa, I say, do what you need to do to end the AIDS crisis, but putting out your message this way does not support or validate my experience.

*Maxine Wolfe
Brooklyn*

As I read Risa Denenberg's article, "Women, AIDS, Lesbians and Politics," it became clear that I'd have to engage in an activity I utterly loathe—writing a self-disclosing letter to the media taking heated exception to—how do I say this without adding fuel to the fire?—Denenberg's inaccurate statements. It's not the inaccuracies I'm trying to address—Denenberg herself could have avoided [them] with a ridiculously small amount of effort—it's the fact that Denenberg didn't bother to try to avoid them.

I have been an ACT UP member for over two years. My focus has been treatment activism. I do a lot of work with the Treatment and Data (T&D) committee. I am a woman. I've managed to continue producing despite the extremely sexist climate in ACT UP in general, and in T&D in particular. I'm too busy trying to change the way AIDS research is done in this country to spend a lot of time doing PR within ACT UP about the work I do, apart from concise verbal and, sometimes, written reports to T&D and to the Floor of ACT UP. Things are still fucked for women with HIV and with women's health care in general. Not enough is being done—by ACT UP, by anyone.

Our gains with women and HIV, which we've worked so hard for, are modest. In the face of AIDS, any of ACT UP's gains are modest. Still, I take exception to Denenberg's pointed ignorance of the work of T&D women around women and HIV. Some (not all) of the work that I and others I work with in T&D have done with respect to women and HIV includes:

- Getting access for women to an HIV drug trial of a drug developed for women, from which women [had been] excluded.

- Getting copies of ACTG data collection forms for a number of trials. Finding out that gynecological exams were *not* included. Alerting the Floor of ACT UP and diverse committees that this was the case. Repeatedly demanding that GYN exams be included.

- Getting information about ACTG trial 076. The factsheets used in the recent 076 demo relied heavily on information gathered by T&D members.

- Finding out exactly how many (actually, how few) women were enrolled in ACTG clinical trials. Finding out that most of them were asymptomatic. Making this information widely available—including through co-authorship of an abstract presented in San Francisco in June '90.

- Hounding numerous researchers to develop a trial of prophylaxis for vaginal candidiasis. The trial was finally developed!

This work has been hard. We did not get a lot of support from *anyone* when we reported each of these things to the Floor. However, even the most misogynist among us did little more than ignore our work—we were not attacked or belittled directly, until now, for doing it.

Until recently, I'd depended on the good faith of fellow ACT UP members, such as Risa Denenberg, to speak with [me] or with another highly visible woman in T&D about our activities, should there ever be questions or

concerns about what we were doing with respect to women and HIV, or what our experiences with sexism as an obstacle to getting our work done were. Even if somebody is stupid enough to construct other committees in ACT UP as "the enemy" or "the opposition," nobody has anything to lose by hearing what "the opposition" has to say.

I would certainly never attack another ACT UP mem-

ber's work either in the media or in public without speaking with them and making an effort to see that I had heard what they had to say first. Even when I've confirmed that something fucked up is going on, I'm careful about how I criticize other people's work. I'm not that good at it; I can be unnecessarily harsh and make it difficult for people to hear my suggestions.

Which brings me to the

question I think ACT UP should be considering right now: What's the point of criticizing the work of other activists? It had better not be just to vent on another person because you're frustrated. It had better not be power-tripping, or trying to cut other people down so you or your committee look better. It shouldn't be personalized. If you do it in a heated or abusive way, you'd better be accountable to

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that person for the abuse you stupidly heaped on them that made it even more difficult to hear what you'd had to say.

It had better be to improve the quality of the work that's being done.

Otherwise, how the fuck are you supposed to work together?

Risa Denenberg's "criticism" of the work of T&D women is what prompted me to write this letter. I am so angry about it—and about having to waste valuable time—which could be spent fighting AIDS—dealing with fighting among ourselves. But "criticism" such as Denenberg's article will destroy ACT UP faster than any FBI infiltrator could.

The *only* activities Risa attacked specifically were initiated and overseen by T&D women. She did not make the effort to verify or check her facts with either of them. She

did not do either of them the courtesy of a "Heads up! I'm about to attack you in a national publication" call.

She "criticized" the "Countdown 18 Months" project on page 82: "[They] did not place a single woman-specific opportunistic infection on their agenda." It's quite obvious that she didn't read the document.

Look at page 14, Risa. Is vaginal candidiasis a woman-specific opportunistic infection?

Because she put this out in the press, I think she should be called on it in the press. I've hated doing this. But reading her article—realizing she was so eager to trash the work of T&D's women that she didn't even bother to read the document she was trashing made it necessary to respond.

I've tried to edit out the really damaging stuff I wanted to unleash in this letter.

Indulging those impulses would mean becoming what I hate—responding to fucked-up stuff with more fucked-up stuff. I have more (much worse, in fact) to say about Denenberg's article. But I should save it for a direct conversation. I should try to learn her side of the story, and going to understand what's going on. I should give her a chance to respond. And I should do my best to listen and try to understand what drove her to this bullshit. I should try to understand and be accountable to her for ways I might unwittingly have contributed.

I am not looking forward to talking directly with Ms. Denenberg. I think all I'll get is dumped on for my efforts. If Denenberg doesn't even *read* the work of another woman activist before trashing it—what am I getting into here? Asking for more abuse? Still—because

I don't know—I should be brave enough to try. I have nothing to lose by listening to her—maybe I'll learn something. If I really care as much as I profess about these issues, I can handle a little abuse. If it gets ridiculous, I can always leave.

Maybe this doesn't fit in this letter—but Risa used to be a real hero of mine. At the ACT UP meeting Fauci attended, she called him on his ignorance of the fact of women's existence like I've never seen anybody called on anything.

Since the commencement of serious harassment—including, but not limited to, threats of physical violence and threats against my life—coinciding with the beginning of my public dissent against the tactics used toward other ACT UP members by members of the 076 working group, I'm not going to use my name. But I'll see to it that Ms.

Dykes To Watch Out For



Denenberg knows who I am.

Name Withheld
Address Withheld

Risa Denenberg's column is a favorite of mine, so I was surprised and saddened to read the March 20 [no. 90] installment, "Women, AIDS, Lesbians and Politics." A "fact" that is central to her argument is incorrect, and a fact that throws the argument into doubt has been left out.

(I should make a bias statement. In October 1987, I joined Iris Long's clinical trials study group, part of the old Issues Committee of ACT UP/NY. In early 1988, it became the Treatment & Data Subcommittee, later a full committee. I remained a member until fall 1990 when I shifted my focus from investigational drugs to the federal AIDS budget.)

Denenberg states that none of the (statistically most devastating) opportunistic infections which ACT UP has targeted for elimination in its "Countdown 18 Months" campaign is an infection particular to women with HIV. But in fact, vaginal candidiasis is on the list.

Along with "Countdown 18 Months," Denenberg cites a meeting, arranged by a member of the Treatment & Data Committee, with Anthony Fauci (head of the AIDS Program of the National Institutes of Health) as evidence of that Committee's failure to take issues affecting women and AIDS seriously.

Yet both these actions, "Countdown 18 Months" and the meeting with Fauci, have been conceived, and in large part executed, by two ACT UP women, Garance Franke-Ruta and Rebecca Smith. This fact alone would not guarantee the actions' correctness. But to fail to mention it in a column designed in part to prove Treatment & Data's failure to heed women's input is more than curious. Why have these women (one a proud lesbian)

NIGHTMARE of the Week



Like Gregor Samsa, the famous functionary in Franz Kafka's *The Metamorphosis*, Edward I. Koch awoke one morning to discover that he had been transformed into a huge crawling doodle bug. No longer the droll object of our objections as a city employee, Koch has descended rungs lower on the food chain, now biding his time as an AM-radio commentator. His recent offenses include comparing efforts by Irish gays and lesbians to march in the St. Pat's parade to Palestinians wanting to rally with Israelis. This may just be the case that gets us out in favor of FCC censorship.

been rendered invisible in the process? If I didn't respect Denenberg's work more, it would begin to look like a willful suppression of fact.

Jim Eigo
Manhattan

Re: Risa Denenberg's, "Women, AIDS, Lesbians and Politics" [no. 90, March 20]—right on!

Marea Murray
Boston

GM(&W)HC

DAM! would like to thank you for covering our demonstra-

tion of absolutely necessary safer-sex materials. Our action was targeted at more than the mission statement.

2. *OutWeek* must acknowledge the work of other concerned lesbian groups working on these issues. Lesbians Working in AIDS has been negotiating with GMHC for several months on similarly related concerns. They laid the groundwork for changing GMHC's mission statement and must be duly acknowledged for their efforts.

We would like to encourage *OutWeek* to continue covering in all necessary detail the story of GMHC and the lesbian community. Although, GMHC's initial response to our demands was positive, it certainly had neglected to make public its plans to address most of our issues, let alone how they intend to carry through with the implementation of their adjusted mission statement.

Dyke Action Machine!
Manhattan

In outtake "Lesbian Picket Leads to Quick Results" [no. 89, March 13], Nina Reyes creates a false relationship between the DAM! (Dyke Action Machine!) demonstration outside GMHC on the evening of Feb. 25 and the outcome of the meeting that evening of the GMHC board of directors at which the board formally changed its mission and goals statement to affirm GMHC's commitment to the lesbian community. The most unfortunate aspect of this error is that in crediting the DAM! demo as the reason for the GMHC board response, Reyes overlooks—no, ignores—the real process, which I went to great lengths to explain to her.

A group of lesbians with a wide range and many years of experience working in AIDS organizations came to GMHC in November with a number of criticisms, suggestions and program possibilities and have been meeting with us ever since then. At the

tion on Feb. 25, 1991 at GMHC [no. 89, March 13]. The demo was designed to make public GMHC's lack of commitment to lesbian health issues, and your coverage helped us do that.

At the same time, we would also like to rectify some inconsistencies in that coverage, such as:

1. The issues as presented were oversimplified. DAM!'s point of contention with GMHC is that the organization has failed to provide lesbian-specific programming, i.e., safer-sex workshops and counseling, community outreach and provi-

January board meeting, the impact of the work of this group had already been felt; board members agreed to change the mission statement then, requesting that Tim Sweeney, [GMHC's] executive director, and I review the goals and mission and propose appropriate changes at the February board meeting. With the solidarity of the board on this issue, the outcome of the vote at the Feb. 25 meeting was anticipated. The board was unanimous in its desire to have GMHC improve existing services and expand them to areas that will include the lesbian community affected by the HIV epidemic.

I am angry and frustrated to find that an *OutWeek* journalist has done the very thing we are all fighting against. By discounting the efforts of the women who came to GMHC months ago and worked with the agency's administration carefully and diligently, she has made these women invisible. Although we respect DAMI, the hard work of those who do not demonstrate, wave banners or demand media attention must also be recognized, valued and applauded. These lesbian AIDS professionals have done an important service to GMHC and the lesbian community.

I am proud that some members of the lesbian community have stood up and called for action and am equally proud that GMHC is responding responsibly. While we respect the right to demonstrate and the value of demonstrations, let's give credit where credit is due.

Joy A. Tomchin
President, Board of Directors
Gay Men's Health Crisis
Manhattan

Staff Reporter Nina Reyes responds: I thoroughly regret having implied a causal connection between the DAMI demonstration and GMHC's long-awaited change of policy

in regard to lesbians and AIDS. As Tomchin rightly points out, the article failed to credit the efforts of lesbians who have fought this fight with GMHC for months.

My error was not, however, motivated by the malice Tomchin implies in stating that I ignored the "real process." In fact, I did not know that the group of women who began pressing GMHC in earnest on lesbians and AIDS in November had continued meeting with members of GMHC's board after their initial contact, which I wrote about back in December. Unfortunately, because of a dispute with the magazine over a related matter, several representatives of that group made it very clear to me in early December that they would not talk to *OutWeek* about their work with GMHC.

That is to say, though I am guilty of a lack of reflection, I did not intentionally elide the facts.

Meanwhile, for the record, I have never had the pleasure of speaking with Tomchin.

THE FALL OF (MISS) SAIGON

OutWeek has accomplished so many wonderful tasks that it dismays me to see the editors jumping on the bandwagon to bash *Miss Saigon* [no. 88, March 6]. Have any of the show's critics who are calling for a boycott of the Lambda and the Community Center benefit performances taken the trouble to see the show or study the libretto?

To say *Miss Saigon* demeans Asians is ludicrous. The bulk of the show takes place during the fall of Saigon and focuses on Kim, a young Asian prostitute who bears the child of an American soldier. In many ways, Kim is the most sympathetic and moral character in the show. Yes, she kills herself at the end of the musical so her child can go to

America. Should we expect calls to boycott performances of *Madame Butterfly* because of the similar plot? Or how about O'Neill's *Anna Christie*? She was a prostitute too, you know.

Lambda and the Community Center are so vital to our community. Doesn't *OutWeek* have anything better to do (like helping to fight AIDS and gay-bashing) than to attack benefit performances of Broadway musicals?

Steve Korte
Manhattan

As a colleague of Dr. Herbert Cohen and a fellow member of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights and the New York Physicians for Human Rights, I was particularly distressed by his letter in support of the musical *Miss Saigon*.

In the letter he assumes that because many of us have not seen the play in London, we cannot comment on *Miss Saigon's* racism and sexism. However, most of us who are involved with the *Miss Saigon* protest have heard and read the lyrics provided in the two-compact disc cast recording from London.

What Dr. Cohen fails to appreciate are the racist and sexist themes that inform the play. Although he believes that the abuse of women and Asians in the play "is never glorified and is always presented as ugly and horrific," he does not understand that the musical encourages and perpetuates the Western-white-male-Madame-Butterfly fantasy—a fantasy that is damning Asian women and men. In the *Miss Saigon* mythology, Asian women are exotic, excessively naive, inscrutable, passive creatures who will kill themselves so that their children can come to America.

One of Dr. Cohen's arguments centers on the song "The American Dream," which

he finds particularly non-racist. During this pro-American/anti-communist (i.e., Vietnamese) song, a white person (Jonathan Pryce), playing a self-hating Asian role in yellow face and prosthetic eyelids, condemns other Asians by calling them "chinks" and extols blond American women (presumably over Asian women) because they can earn more money for him: "Greasy chinks make life so sleazy/In the states I'll build a club that's four-starred/Men like me there have things easy/They have a lawyer and a body-guard/To the johns there I'll sell blonds there/That they can charge on a card." Even though the pimp, who is quite racist, sings these words, they retain their power to degrade and demean Asian men and women, who are seen as self-loathing opportunists who will do anything to steal the American Dream.

On a more encouraging note, the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center had decided to cancel its benefit, and I hope that many of you will become members of the Center (their address is in the community directory). In addition, I hope that people will join us outside the theater at the protest of Lambda's benefit on April 6.

Gene Nakajima, MD
Manhattan

Lambda and the Center's association with *Miss Saigon* is happening within a continuum of my life experiences which has taught me that I cannot trust others, usually white men, to represent me as the full human being that I am. I have grown up with images of Asians as exotic Geisha girls; villainous Fu Manchus; bungling, buck-toothed, cross-eyed houseboys; suicidal Madame Butterflies; thickly accented, "Confucius-say" detectives; asexual and sexually undesirable nerds; soft-

spoken, demure nannies; Kung Fu wisemen and gangsters...I have had to put up with Katharine Hepburn, Mickey Rooney, Shirley MacLaine and many other white actors and actresses masquerading as Asians. My eldest sister has had to be polite to businessmen shocked by how well she speaks English. My sister the ophthalmologist has had to defend herself against male doctors who doubt her ability to practice medicine. My mother has to "fudge the books" for her white bosses so they can evade taxes. My father has had to be the polite, quiet and cooperative employee in places controlled by white men. My parents have both had to sublimate their dreams to assure that my sisters and I could go to "good" colleges and have a shot at the "American Dream."

Now I am being asked to accept the choice of two lesbian and gay service organizations to meet their need for money by jumping on the profiteering band wagon of this record-breaking dramatic monument to heterosexual/sexist love! Now I must hear the executive director of Lambda call me coercive and immoral and tell me that I had better go read Martin Luther King! Among people who don't oppress me for my sexuality, I have to suffer exploitation because of my race?! Among people who understand the physical consequences of anti-lesbian and -gay defamation, I have to cajole and explain the legacy I have the "honor" to bear as a Korean American! Do I have to spend a minimum of \$60 to witness a show whose libretto I have read, oh, too many times, before I have the right to my feelings?

Are you taken aback by my anger? Did you not think that Asians and Pacific Islanders are oppressed, economically and culturally exploited and used as a group against other minorities?

Does racism have to be as

blatant as apartheid, sexism as cruel as foot-binding, and classism as obvious as feudalism for people to feel the shit in which they are participating?

Wake up from your American Wet Dream! The societal immune system has been compromised by bigotry, and we are dying of opportunistic infections masquerading as plays having "sensitivity," as decrying racism and sexism and as being sympathetic and understanding graphic pictures of these problems.

I will not closet my Korean heritage for the benefit of white gay men and lesbians. Enough is enough. Silence equals invisibility and disempowerment. Action equals life.

James Jaewhan Lee
Jersey City

It truly saddens me to read of the dispute between Lambda and the Center on one side and Asian Lesbians of the East Coast [ALOEC] and Gay and Pacific Islander Men of New York [GAPIMNY] on the other. It saddens me because this whole incident is another example of various groups within the gay and lesbian community fighting one another instead of fighting those who are most guilty of oppressing us.

I have never seen *Miss Saigon*, so I am not in a position to judge its content. However, I am sure that neither the Center nor Lambda was aware that the content of the show would so deeply offend many members of our community.

I am grateful that the gay and lesbian Asian groups have brought this issue up so as to educate and sensitize the Center and Lambda as well as many others in our community about the anti-Asian racism that is prevalent in both the straight and gay communities. However, I see little net gain in having both the Center and Lambda cancel their benefits, which would result in significant financial hardship for both organiza-

STOMPING OUT

(this week's actions, rallies and zaps)

✓Asian Lesbians of the East Coast and Gay Asian and Pacific Islander Men protest the use of *Miss Saigon* as a fund-raiser for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. Saturday, April 6, and Thursday, April 11, at the Broadway Theater at 53rd Street and Broadway. For more info: (212) 925-5290 or (718) 638-9097.

✓ACT UP protests against Gov. Mario Cuomo's murderous budget cuts, which will impact on the lives of all people affected by HIV and AIDS. Tuesday, April 2, at 7:30 am at the World Trade Center (Church Street Side). Info: (212) 564-AIDS.

Ⓞ[Deadline for listing of activities is the Wednesday prior to newsstand appearance. Call Daria at (212) 337-1200.]

tions. Both the Center and Lambda provide essential services for the entire gay and lesbian community. As a person who has been active in the gay and lesbian rights struggle, I know that every dollar is needed to help fight homophobia.

On the other hand, as an Asian person, I know that anti-Asian racism is an issue which is too often ignored. I can empathize with my Asian brothers and sisters who feel outraged that two prominent, supposedly racially inclusive, organizations in our community would give their support to an arguably anti-Asian, racist show.

I do not believe that a boycott or bullying of either organization is very constructive at this point. I think that both the Center and Lambda have learned valuable lessons from this whole episode. To make amends with the gay and lesbian Asian community, I propose that Lambda offer to divert itself partially and temporarily from its primary mission of gay rights and PWA advocacy and help take on some significant

Asian rights cases. The center could offer to help fund-raise for GAPIMNY and ALOEC and offer free use of the Center for a certain length of time.

I encourage GAPIMNY and ALOEC to continue their fight against racism. But perhaps instead of accosting Tom Stoddard, who has inarguably done much for the entire community, the Asian groups should be zapping Cameron Mackintosh and leading protest outside the theater where *Miss Saigon* will be showing.

Eric Tsuchida
Los Angeles

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

NEWS

When Bashers Wear Badges: Cops, Queers and the CCRB



by Nina Reyes

NEW YORK — Two months ago, New York police officers allegedly severely beat a gay man who was then arrested and charged with spray-painting on the sidewalk outside the rectory at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Less than a week later, at a demonstration called to protest police abuse in the spray-painting incident, another gay man suffered serious injuries while in police custody.

SPECIAL REPORT

No officers have been indicted on charges stemming from either of those incidents, and anti-violence activists have no faith in the body charged with investigating allegations of police misconduct, the Civilian Complaint Review Board, or CCRB.

However, with the nation still reeling from the impact of a video showing Los Angeles police viciously beating an African-American man, municipalities all over the country, including New York, are again taking a hard look at who enforces the law against the law enforcers, and some activists think that a more effective police oversight agency may be within reach.

NIGHT CLUBBING—Many cities have seen recent gay protests against police violence, including New York, Montreal, Boston, Los Angeles and San Francisco, where a police riot at an Oct. '89 demo felled Michael Barrette, left.

Photo: Marc Gellier

Lack of Complaints or Lack of Faith?

"We think that there should be an all-civilian, non-police body that can investigate and discipline [the police]," stated David Kirschenbaum, deputy director of the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project. "Right now, people don't feel it's worth filing a complaint. Nobody thinks that the system works."

That claim can be tentatively substantiated by figures: According to several reports, the number of complaints filed with the CCRB has steadily decreased since 1985. And while CCRB statements attribute that decline to an overall reduction in police misconduct, the word on the street is that the CCRB's unofficial agenda is protecting the cops at any expense.

As it is currently structured, the CCRB is a 12-member body consisting of six people appointed by the mayor and six high-ranking civilian members of the police department selected by the police commissioner. The board, which is directed by a police department deputy commissioner, Sandra Marsh, reviews allegations of police misconduct, which are then investigated by a separate arm of the CCRB, the Civilian Complaint Investigation Bureau, or CCIB. Ultimately, if an accusation is substantiated by CCIB's investigation, the board recommends disciplinary measures to the police commissioner.

The CCIB is staffed by 51 investigators. Of those, only 12 are civilians.

This system, critics charge, is inherently biased by the fact that the entire process takes place within the police department, and, in fact, the CCRB itself admitted in a report issued last year: "The use of the term 'civilian' in the name of the board may create the false impression that the process of handling complaints of civilians against members of the New York City Police Department is external to the department and free from influence of police officers and police executives. It is obvious...that the police officers and the police department executives are the major influences over the processing of complaints."

And according to a report published *The New York Times* last week, fewer than 3 percent of the complaints filed in 1989 were substantiated.

"The CCRB is a sham," charges Bill Dobbs, a longtime gay activist and attorney who has been cop-watching for years.

Anti-violence activists tend to agree with Dobbs' assessment. Matt Foreman,

executive director of the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, says that he advises his clients to file complaints with the CCRB primarily to insure that the complaint is registered and will go into the officer's personnel file. "We are very forthright about advising people not to expect that there will be any disciplinary action," he explained.

Furthermore, Foreman continued, even if a complaint is substantiated, the CCRB does not tell the complainant precisely what the investigation turned up.

"They simply state that they have recommended to the police commissioner that charges be brought against the officer," he stated. "So when the police commissioner does or does not initiate charges, you don't know if the police commissioner is carrying out the actual recommendation of the CCRB or not."

Meanwhile, the police department's Deputy Commissioner for Public Information, or DCPI, insists that the CCRB, on average, processes complaints within 90 days. But DCPI does not always seem

BASHERS, BADGES AND BOSTON

BOSTON—Two recent incidents here involving clashes between gay people and the police have prompted gay and lesbian activists to join those calling for the establishment of a civilian review board for the Boston Police Department. The campaign to create such a board was renewed here last year, following allegations of widespread police abuse of Black community members in the wake of the murder of a white woman, allegedly by her husband, which was originally falsely blamed on a Black man.

Local lesbian and gay activists held a demonstration on March 15 against "Bashers with Badges" outside a downtown police station. The more than 50 demonstrators then marched to the City Hall offices of Mayor Raymond Flynn, where they blew whistles and chanted, "Wake up Ray, your cops beat gays."

The action, sponsored by Queer Nation/Boston, came in response to the Feb. 20 berating and arrest of a

gay man who came to the aid of two gay men allegedly being harassed by police. Peter Kelly was hit across the face, arrested and held overnight by police after he wrote down the license number of a police car. According to Queer Nation, Kelly became involved in the skirmish when he heard police outside a gay bar call two men "fucking faggots." Kelly stayed to witness the incident even after police ordered him to leave. Police held Kelly overnight, then declined to press charges.

Demonstration organizers said that they were also protesting police actions at an August Queer Nation action, when officers from the same precinct disrupted a kiss-in at a predominantly straight club. Police reportedly separated a kissing couple, telling them, "You can't do that in here." Officers also threw a number of Queer Nation members out of the bar. Activists currently have a lawsuit pending against police involved in the incident.

—Laura Briggs



entirely on the level when it comes to disclosing information about the CCRB. For instance, DCPI has vacillated on disclosing just how many complaints the CCRB is reviewing that have arisen from the Feb. 11 demonstration outside the Midtown North precinct: Several weeks ago, they claimed there were a number of complaints, but last week, when queried, they said that only one claim had been filed.

Grass roots, Gay Cops and Guns

One method of creating increased public trust of the police force that some activists are supporting is the call for an all-civilian CCRB. This idea, which is not new, is currently being actively pursued by a broad coalition, spearheaded by the New York Civil Liberties Union, or NYCLU.

"We wanted to create a citywide grass-roots campaign where we would eventually go to the City Council [with a bill]," disclosed Norman Siegel, director of NYCLU, who, since October 1990, has been slowly working his way through the city's 59 community boards in an effort to build a broad base of support for an all-civilian CCRB.

But while Siegel's strategy has man-

aged so far to enlist the support of eight of the 13 community boards he has called on, opposition to the proposal from the police force, and from certain elements of the populace, has been vehement.

"The police claim they're held more accountable than any agency," asserted Siegel, who has publicly debated the head of the police officers' union, the Police-men's Benevolent Association, or PBA. "They are very hostile toward the idea."

Indeed, the last time control over the body that polices the police was fought, in 1966, the PBA resorted to race-baiting tactics that ultimately helped the police officers' union prevail.

That PBA campaign came after then-Mayor John Lindsay established a review board comprising four civilians he appointed and three ranking civilian members of the police department, according to a report on police abuse issued last year by Siegel's organization. The PBA, supported by all its caucuses save the Black officers' fraternal organization, opposed civilian review, challenging Lindsay's move by initiating a referendum repeal campaign that it ultimately won.

"I think there are a lot of people in the city who remember how ugly [the

1966 campaign] was, and they are afraid that if we push this issue, it will open that back up," Siegel speculated.

Even this early in Siegel's effort, however, the polarizing effect of proposing an all-civilian CCRB is clear: Most of the community boards that have endorsed his proposal represent predominantly Black and Latino neighborhoods, while the single board that rejected it presides over an almost exclusively white-ethnic neighborhood. In another area of the city, also largely white, one citizen told Siegel that he didn't mind if cops routinely beat up criminals.

Even in the gay and lesbian community, the issue of an all-civilian review board is not universally embraced.

Sam Ciccone, director of the Gay Officers' Action League, does not believe that an all-civilian board will provide a solution to police abuse. "I think that isn't the primary change that needs to be made," he remarked, qualifying his statement by noting that he does think that the CCRB should be assisted by an all-civilian investigative body. "The real violence that exists in this society is not a police officer hitting someone over the head with a gun, but it is someone like Cardinal O'Connor.

THREE COPS ARRESTED IN ANTI-GAY ATTACK

NEW YORK—Three cops from the Midtown North precinct were arrested on March 21 for allegedly beating and pistol-whipping three men last December. But while the police officers allegedly hurled a stream of anti-gay invective at their victims as they beat them, the case has not been classified as bias-related.

News of the three arrests came just a month after lesbian and gay activists charged the Midtown North precinct's command with insensitivity and brutality following the arrest and beating of two gay men.

The incident occurred in the early morning hours of Dec. 22, when two off-duty police officers who were on their way home from a precinct holiday party approached a taxi occupied by two men and, uttering anti-gay epithets, demanded to know if the men were getting out of the cab, according to the Manhattan district attorney's investigation.

The police officer then grabbed one of the two men and attempted to drag him out of the cab, and a fight ensued. When one of the officers drew his gun, the men, joined by their companion who had been inside a nearby deli, fled, according to the DA.

A third officer, also off-duty, happened to drive by, and, having spotted the men running, stopped and identified himself as a police officer. When the other two officers arrived on the scene, the three policemen punched, kicked, pistol-whipped and threatened the men, who at this point were face down on the ground, the DA said.

All three victims ultimately ended up in the hospital, and

one sustained a laceration on his face and head that required 40 stitches to close. Another was diagnosed with a broken rib.

According to one report, the officers were identified and arrested because of the testimony of a fourth officer, who witnessed the assault and was conscience-stricken.

"We were disappointed that the case was not classified as a bias crime by the bias unit," commented David Kirschenbaum, deputy director of the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project. "They specifically told us that this was an argument over a cab."

The three men who were beaten in the Dec. 22 incident have not identified themselves as gay, according to Colleen Roche, a spokesperson for the Manhattan district attorney, and have been described publicly simply as Albanian nationals.

But Kirschenbaum also said that his agency is disappointed that the DA's office did not independently classify the assault as bias-related, following the example of both the Queens and the Brooklyn DAs.

"We have never—independent of the police—done that," responded Roche. "I don't know what practical purpose that would serve, and it could conceivably pin a prosecutor into having to prove a particular motive."

The police officers, Daniel McCormick, Brian Carter and John Talt, have been suspended without pay, according to police department spokesperson Sgt. Grace Ridley.

—Nina Reyes



ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT—

Attorney/activist Bill Dobbs, speaking at a press conference after a memorial for gay murder victim James Zappalorti last year

He causes that kind of violence."

As a more effective strategy to curb police abuse of power, Ciccone suggested that the city set up a program wherein applicants would serve a contractual period as police officers in exchange for an undergraduate education, for instance, with emphasis on non-criminal-justice degrees. "That will have an effective change on the police force," Ciccone, a retired police officer, asserted, adding that as part of that program, he believes sworn officers ought to be required to serve one day of their week's work in a community-service type occupation.

Dan Johnston, who served on New York's CCRB as an openly gay civilian appointee of former Mayor Ed Koch, also thinks that an all-civilian CCRB is the wrong approach to correcting misconduct on the part of police officers, and he agrees with Ciccone that increasing civilian investigation would be a more effective antidote than creating an all-civilian CCRB.

"Almost all of the decisions that I made while I was on the board were dictated by the investigation," Johnston, who now lives in Washington, DC, remembered. "So in my judgment, the quality of the investigation is at least as important as the makeup of the board."

Johnston also claims that most complaints made against police officers occur in the first few years of an individual officer's service, and that a simple way to eliminate many complaints, therefore,

would be to increase supervision by higher-ups. "I think the example that's set by the top command, and having supervision that permeates the entire department," he explained, "I think those are more effective ways [than discipline] to protect the public from abuse by police officers."

Mayors and Other Players

Perhaps the single most compelling reason that an all-civilian CCRB is not currently in place is that the politicians who could see to the implementation of such a drastic change in review are leery of approaching the issue head-on.

Mayor David Dinkins, for example, who has publicly asserted his philosophical support of the idea, and who reportedly promised during his campaign to make the issue a priority, has recently skirted the issue. At a press conference last month, Dinkins stated that the issue was up to the legislature.

Victor Kovner, counsel to the city, disagrees. "Without authorization from the city, the legislature can't come in and change the city charter," he said in a telephone interview. "I can't find anything [in the city charter] that would require anything other than a city council amendment."

The mayor's liaison to the lesbian and gay community, Dr. Marjorie Hill, affirmed the mayor's position, disclosing simply that the mayor is currently examining a legislative package that includes a number of items. On the matter of an all-civilian CCRB, Hill said only, "We're philosophically in favor of it, which is the mayor's position."

Other observers point out that opposing the police officers' union on the issue of an all-civilian CCRB, as a politician, is a scary business. "This is not just a Dinkins issue," stated the AVP's Foreman. "It's a Lindsay, Beame, Koch

and Dinkins issue."

That is to say that the PBA has had enormous political influence with this city's mayors and in Albany, and that taking the union on may well be political suicide.

For instance, right now, as the budgetary axe chops away at other city agencies, the police department is expanding. Another example is that when the Safe Streets/Safe City program was set up, even though whispers of discontent swept through the city over the fact that no residency requirement for new officers was included in the proposal, the program was adopted without changes to reflect that concern.

"Out on the Street to Fight"

Even though lesbians and gay men have achieved tremendous influence under the current city administration—both within and outside the city government—the question of whether or not civilians will at this juncture gain oversight of the police rests largely with the willingness of activists within affected communities to engage in what would inevitably be a long, hard struggle.

"We just haven't coalesced behind this common issue that we share," observed Matt Foreman, noting how great a portion of the city's populace, quite aside from the lesbian and gay community, this quest for an all-civilian CCRB could conceivably encompass. "This issue is no different than so many other issues."

And as a grim reminder of how political fights are won, activist Bill Dobbs concluded: "Every inch of territory we've got has been fought for. And even if we get a civilian complaint board, we'll still have to fight. The queer community is always going to have to be out on the street to fight for our lives." ▼

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New Evidence in Rivera Murder Emerges as Trial Nears



MEMORIAL ON THE MOVE—Relatives of Julio Rivera march in Queens at an anti-violence demo last month.

by Duncan Osborne

NEW YORK—As the trial for Julio Rivera's alleged killers quickly approaches, additional details of the brutal slaying have emerged that paint a terrifying and graphic picture of the gay man's murder.

And while the Queens district attorney's office declines to characterize the strength of its case, winning a guilty verdict hinges almost entirely on a single incriminating statement given to police by one of the defendants.

A videotaped statement made by Daniel Doyle, 20, on Nov. 13, the night of his arrest in connection with Rivera's murder on July 2, was presented at Doyle's pre-trial hearing by the prosecutor, Executive Assistant District Attorney Daniel McCarthy, and represents the

Photo: Ellen B. Nepris/OurWeek

WIGSTOCK BASHER GETS PROBATION

NEW YORK—Another ugly chapter in the community's attempt to fight anti-gay violence through the judicial system concluded two weeks ago with the sentencing of a youth who was convicted on a felony assault charge.

Jose Suarez was given five years probation as punishment for his 1989 attack on a gay man attending the Wigstock festival in Tompkins Square Park. The assistant district attorney handling the case had asked that Suarez be sentenced to time in prison.

"When a defendant commits a bias act and is convicted of a gay-bashing, [that individual] must be punished, in part to deter others from committing similar crimes," ADA Daniel Parker said at the sentencing.

The decision to put Suarez back on the streets shows the lack of conviction with which the legal system pursues gay-bashing cases, anti-violence activists said after the sen-



JOSE SUAREZ

tence had been pronounced.

"The legal system has a responsibility to treat these cases as part of a larger social problem that needs to be dealt with in a larger context, not just as one isolated act," commented Karl Soehnlein, one of two gay men who was beaten by Suarez and his alleged accomplice. Last fall, a jury dismissed all charges against the youth who was accused of joining Suarez in the attack, which was carried out with lacrosse sticks, and Suarez was ultimately convicted on only one count of second-degree assault.

Added David Kirschenbaum, a spokesperson for the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, "The unfortunate message that it sends to the community is that it may not be worth it to pursue a case through the criminal justice system."

—Nina Reyes

Photo: T.L. Litt/OurWeek

strongest piece of evidence in the case.

OutWeek obtained an unofficial transcript of Doyle's statement and confirmed its contents with other sources who had seen it played in court. It allegedly implicates Eric Brown, 20, and Esat Bici, 19. All three men are currently under indictment, each charged with two counts of second-degree murder and two counts of criminal possession of a deadly weapon. Bici and Doyle remain jailed on Rikers Island; Brown is out of jail on a \$100,000 bond.

Claiming that his client's civil rights were violated when it was recorded, Doyle's attorney has made a motion to have the videotape removed as evidence from the case.

The statement places all three at the scene of Rivera's killing, a schoolyard in the Jackson Heights section of Queens. According to Doyle, he had gone to purchase beer, leaving Brown and Bici at the schoolyard. Doyle returned to find Brown and Bici in a fight with Rivera. He recounts watching Bici take a hammer from his lower back and allegedly bludgeon Rivera at least 4 times.

According to Doyle, Brown was holding a knife taken from Doyle's home, and both Brown and Bici had blood on their hands. Brown handed the knife to Doyle, who allegedly stabbed Rivera in the back. Rivera died several hours later at a nearby hospital.

According to Doyle and his attorney, Jeffrey Schlanger, Doyle attempted to break up the fight. Schlanger also insists that anti-gay bias was not a motivation in this crime.

Both Brown and Bici surrendered to police last fall, accompanied by their attorneys. Neither has given any statement to the police.

New York City's medical examiner has determined the cause of death to be a single stab wound to the chest that punctured Rivera's right lung. But Schlanger says that he will present a witness who will testify that Rivera died from cardiac arrest brought on by a cocaine overdose. And sources have described Rivera as being "full of drugs" near the time of his death.

In the one-hour-and-20-minute-long statement, Doyle describes not only the grisly murder scene but also the events leading up to the schoolyard fight.

see RIVERA on page 86

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OUTTAKES

LANDSLIDE VICTORY FOR HAWAII GAY RIGHTS BILL

HONOLULU—The first state to pass the Equal Rights Amendment (just 45 minutes after its introduction) and the state which offered non-discrimi-

nation laws on race years before the 1964 Civil Rights Act just became the third state in the country to offer gay men and lesbians full civil rights.

On March 21, Gov. John Waikee of Hawaii signed into law legislation ensuring gay men and lesbians access to employment without discrimination and to civil rights protections in housing and public services. The legislation adds sexual orientation to the list of categories (such as religion and race) which are singled out for protection

from discrimination.

Massachusetts and Wisconsin are the only other states in the United States in which lesbians and gay men are assured access to jobs, to housing and to public accommodations, although certain cities nationwide offer gay rights ordinances.

"We're planning a big party," declared Bill Woods, the spokesperson for the Gay Rights Task Force and for the Gay and Lesbian Education and Advocacy Foundation. "It was a long,

eye

SPY

by ELLEN
B. NEIPRIS



SEVENTH AVENUE, CHELSEA—The real star on Academy Awards night last Monday was Oscar himself who, it was revealed, could be found tending bar with Baby Jane Hudson at Claire's Academy Awards party, where all the waiters were all dressed up as their favorite movie stars.

Asked why he chose to come as the chiseled statue itself, Tim (a.k.a. Oscar, to whom he bore a splendid resemblance in skin-tight gold lamé spandex over a well-muscled physique) commented, "I've always liked his buns."

We liked his, too.

long, long effort of 16 years."

Those 16 years paid off in astounding support from state legislators and even from religious leaders who are traditional opponents of gay rights. Even the Catholic Archdiocese of Honolulu offered its backing for the legislation. Tim Drake, Director of Civil Rights Project for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, or NGLTF lauded their work: "They did a great job of lining up religious support. Perhaps that was the key."

The bill passed the state Senate on March 19 by a majority and passed the Senate 34 to 17. Of 76 legislators, only seven are Republicans.

Woods attributed the victory to the lobbying of Leon Rouse, who donated three months of full-time lobbying to the gay and lesbian rights bill. "We had somebody [at the state House] all the time...[Rouse] championed the bill," Woods said. Rouse also led the lobbying effort in Wisconsin four years ago.

An "excited but tired" Rouse explained that key lobbying strategy: The choice of state Senate Employment Committee over the Senate Judiciary Committee, even though that choice meant a law focused on employment. Rouse decided to "sidestep the Judiciary Committee" which normally assesses non-discrimination legislation and which had overseen the gay and lesbian rights bill in previous years because "Every single one of the four really hard-core senators against the bill sits on the Judiciary Committee," Rouse said.

Rouse "streamlined" the bill, which originally amended every Hawaiian statute relating to non-discrimination in employment. In doing so, Rouse enabled the bill to be sent to the Employment Committee, a committee of senators who supported the legislation.

Gay activists say that they were able to maintain the bill's broad focus by adding an amendment which includes "sexual orientation" in the mandate of the state Civil Rights Commission, joining race, religion and national origin as categories which "the Legislature finds and declares" that the Civil Rights Commission must protect from discrimination in housing, public accommodations and access to services, as well as employment.



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OTHERS.



queer planet

by REX WOCKNER

JAPAN: When is a queer worth saving, and when is she not? If you ask Amnesty International, they'll tell you that if she's in jail just for being a dyke, she ain't worth saving. But if she's in there for exercising her right of free speech or some other noble infraction, then she'll be considered for adoption as a "prisoner of conscience." Amnesty will again reconsider this policy in September at a high-level meeting in Yokohama, Japan. Someone at the International Lesbian and Gay Association heard a rumor that a compromise will be proposed under which Amnesty promises to be more "tolerant" of queer prisoners without going so far as to adopt them.

CANADA: Mayor William Norris of Winnipeg is in the news again. He's always refused to proclaim Gay Pride Day, and now he's declined, for the second year, to proclaim Pink Triangle Day, to honor gay men exterminated by the Nazis. Gay Winnipeg City Councilman Glen Murray finally said that enough was enough and refused, in protest, to go to work for two days. Norris responded by telling reporters: "The subject of homosexuality is not a subject for civil proclamation. I won't change my mind." Last year, Norris mindlessly proclaimed McHappy Day, Golden Rule Day, Chocolate Day and German Shepherd Dog Week. How about Assholes in High Places Year?

FINLAND: Cohabiting homosexuals in happening Helsinki now have the same access to city-housing loans as childless hetero couples, thanks to the City Council. The bill passed 56 to 23 and was fully supported by the Social Democrats, the Left Wing Alliance and the Green Party. Gay couples had previously been granted equal access to public-housing units owned by the city of Helsinki, Finland's capital.

HUNGARY: The beleaguered Hungarian gay and lesbian movement has resurfaced after a year of chaos and angst that followed the explosion of Homeros Lambda—the country's only gay organization. Several key former Homeros members have formed Lambda Budapest and announced the resurrection of *Mások*, Hungary's ill-fated gay newspaper. The new reincarnation will be printed rather than photocopied, with a minimum press run of 1,000, according to co-editor László Rusvai. Partial start-up expenses are being paid by the International Lesbian and Gay Association. "I hope that, in due course, the paper will be able to help itself financially, and we won't have to play the role of 'poor East European cousin' any longer," Rusvai said in an interview.

UK: The United Kingdom branch of Texaco tests all job applicants for HIV and blows off those who test HIV-positive. ACT UP/London has a problem with that and has called a boycott and taken to picketing what they insist on calling "petrol stations." You say, "Petrol," I say, "Gas," but Texaco still deserves a kick in the ass!

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Although he acknowledges that the legislation offers stronger protection in employment, Rouse believes that "because we can file under the Civil Rights Commission...if there were a case of discrimination in housing, we would be protected." Prior to the passage of Hawaii's gay and lesbian rights bill, gay men and lesbians could not seek protection through the state Civil Rights Commission.

Gay activists in Hawaii hope to amend all state statutes pertaining to non-discrimination over the next two years in order to ensure gay access to housing and public services, Woods and Rouse said. And, to secure domestic partnership rights, Woods and other activists are filing a lawsuit next week against the marriage licensing board.

In asserting this "mind-boggling" victory, Drake says that 1991 "is looking very good for civil rights legislation on the state level." According to him, NGLTF "expects" further civil rights victories in California, Connecticut, and Maine within the year.

Maine activists point optimistically to the recent election of three lesbians to state-level jobs, and to support from the Portland chief of police. Because Connecticut activists lost their gay rights last year by just a tie vote in the Senate, Drake says that "it looks very, very good" for a victory this year. And with the new governor, Pete Wilson, and an endorsement from the *San Francisco Examiner* last week, California activists are "very confident." In 1989, California's Legislature passed a gay and lesbian rights bill, but Gov. George Deukmajian vetoed it.

—Carrie Wofford/Los Angeles

CENTER NIXES MISS SAIGON BENEFIT

NEW YORK — The Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center has withdrawn its participation from *Miss Saigon*, the contentious Broadway musical that was to have been a major fund-raiser for it, in recognition of the grievances from Asian lesbians and gay men regarding the play's content, the

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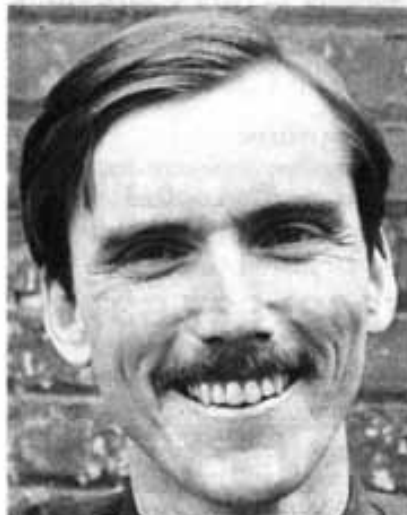


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RICHARD BURNS

Center's director, Richard Burns, has announced.

The board of directors of the Center met last week and voted unanimously to withdraw the Oct. 2 performance of *Miss Saigon* from its theater program benefit.

"Their decision stemmed both from their concerns over racism and sexism in *Miss Saigon*, and the damaging and disruptive effects that the Center's sponsorship of the play would have on community organizing efforts," he said.

The Center's decision was applauded by the members of Asian Lesbians of the East Coast, or ALOEC, and Gay Asian and Pacific Islander Men of New York, or GAPIMNY, two groups that have contested the Center's, and the Lambda Legal Defense Fund's association with *Miss Saigon*.

Lambda's own board of directors met and decided to continue with its April 6 *Miss Saigon* fund-raiser, in the face of widespread opposition from both within and without, for financial reasons. However, it agreed to convey the concerns of the protesting Asian groups to ticket-holders and offer them a full refund.

ALOEC and GAPIMNY held a forum last week at the Center to discuss the play's content and to plan pickets of Lambda's fund-raiser on April 6 and opening night on April 11. During the meeting, fliers were anonymously left at the Center, which decried the actions of the Asian gay groups and accused them of needlessly

ly attacking Lambda.

"Lambda is now being attacked and picketed. Its offices, its staff and volunteers threatened," the flier read. "Why have these 'queer activists' attacked only the two lesbian and gay groups? Two hundred and fifty groups in NYC now have *Miss Saigon* benefits. Only two are queer groups—the only two they have attacked. There may be racism and sexism here."

Apart from spreading downright untruths, the flier pointed to the cowardice of its authors who did not have the courage to identify themselves, said Milyong Cho, a member of ALOEC. "We have been criticized as being divisive, whereas we are trying to address these problems in our community."

New York City Commissioner of Human Rights Dennis deLeon, and the director of the mayor's office for the lesbian and gay community, Dr. Marjorie Hill, were both at the meeting to offer their support to the protesters.

—Avril McDonald

LAWSUIT SEEKS TO STRIP AZT MONOPOLY FROM BURROUGHS WELLCOME

WASHINGTON—AIDS activists have been screaming "AIDS Profiteer" at Burroughs Wellcome, the pharmaceutical company which holds the monopoly on azidothymidine, or AZT, ever since AIDS activism began. For years, activists have been disrupting traffic on Wall Street, chaining themselves inside Burroughs Wellcome's headquarters in North Carolina and challenging Burroughs Wellcome employees at AIDS forums—all to bring down the price of AZT, the only government-approved, anti-HIV drug.

In 1987, members of ACT UP/NY caught the public's attention when they unfurled a banner inside the New York Stock Exchange calling for stockbrokers to "sell Wellcome, free AZT!" Public pressure eventually led Burroughs Wellcome to substantially cut the price

of AZT, which originally had cost as much as \$14,000 per year—but which still costs thousands of dollars per year.

Last week, a new player joined the fight against Burroughs Wellcome. On March 18, lawyers from the public-interest litigation group founded by Ralph Nader, Public Citizen, teamed up with a New York drug-buyers group, the People With AIDS Health Group, in a legal challenge to Burroughs Wellcome's 1988 patent on AZT.

The suit, filed in the US District Court for the District of Columbia, seeks to strip Burroughs Wellcome of its right to a monopoly in producing and selling Retrovir, Burroughs Wellcome's brand name for AZT, by challenging Burroughs Wellcome's claim of invention.

The suit claims government scientists at the National Cancer Institute were the ones who actually conceived, developed and demonstrated the efficacy of AZT in fighting HIV. Furthermore, it claims the patent was obtained through misinformation because Burroughs Wellcome "knowingly failed to disclose to the US Patent Office" the government's role as inventors.

"Burroughs Wellcome has taken gross advantage of an ill-gotten market monopoly to profit off the backs of people with AIDS," said Derek Hodel, executive director of the People With AIDS Health Group, in a statement released March 19. "The price of AZT is killing us."

Burroughs Wellcome posted sales of close to \$350 million for AZT last year and is expected to reach \$450 million this year, the *Washington Post* reported last week.

A victory would mean that AZT could be produced and sold by other companies in addition to Burroughs Wellcome, thus lowering the cost through competition. The Health Group already has found a company abroad willing to develop AZT at half the cost Burroughs Wellcome charges.

Currently the government is named as a defendant in the lawsuit, "so that it will have an opportunity to assert its rights in this lawsuit," the suit explains.

Public Citizen lawyers hope that the government will choose to become plaintiffs in the suit against Burroughs Wellcome. "There's a lot of evidence [that] the government will end up joining us and reasserting their control as co-inventors, if

not exclusive inventors [of AZT to treat HIV]," asserted Bob Dreyfuss, spokesperson for Public Citizen.

The lawyers point out that scientists from the National Institute, or NCI, have publicly objected to Burroughs Wellcome's claim as the sole inventor. In the lawsuit, they include the text of a letter NCI scientists sent to *The New York Times* in September 1989 claiming to be the true inventors of AZT and laying the same facts and charges which the lawsuit now lays against Burroughs Wellcome.

Officials at the National Institute of Health, or NIH, told the *Washington Post* last week that they had been negotiating since January with Burroughs Wellcome to be named as co-inventors of AZT. They have not yet announced if they will become plaintiffs in the trial.

—Carrie Wofford

FLORIDA COURT OKs GAY ADOPTION

KEY WEST, Fla.—Gay men and lesbians in Florida may soon be allowed to adopt children, following a March 15 ruling in Monroe County, where Key West is located. The ruling by Judge M. Ignatius Lester in the case of Ed Siebold, a 53-year-old man who applied to adopt a special needs child, declared unconstitutional the 1977 Florida statute precluding homosexuals from adoption.

"I was surprised about the final judgment," Siebold's lawyer, Lynn Waxman, a cooperating attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union, or ACLU, said.

Waxman believes that the ruling could set precedent for the entire state because neither the state attorney general nor the state agency overseeing adoption, Health and Rehabilitative Services, or HRS, contested Siebold's suit against them, filed in September 1990. Neither sent representatives to the judge's ruling, which, Waxman argued, showed their lack of opposition. Since the ruling, HRS has even

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RIM SHOTS

NOT JUST THE FACTS

by ANDREW MILLER

utterly at a loss to find an offensive term that will never give aid and comfort, now or in the future, to any faction of the gay community."

Meanwhile, in San Francisco, Jay Lyon complained in a letter to the *Bay Area Reporter*. "How can anyone demonstrating in Sacramento under the banner 'Queer Nation,' and probably wearing the word 'faggot' stitched on his jacket, complain when addressed by police as a 'homo'?"

And in a full-page edict complete with analysis of historical precedent, Tim Campbell, editor and publisher of the Minneapolis-based *GLC Voice*, has set forth all the reasons why it is ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL for the gay and lesbian press to abandon the term "homosexual" once and for all.

"Call me 'gay'; call me 'lesbian'; you can even call me 'queer.' Just don't call me 'a homosexual,' please. I don't get that much ass. [?]"

Campbell is so serious about his campaign that he has cancelled his subscription to Rex Wockner's news wire, a staple of lesbian and gay papers, because Wockner would not agree to the ban, even though individual editors are free to alter the wire copy as they see fit.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO YOU: Speaking of the *BAR*, on April 2, the paper, one of the community's largest and finest, celebrates its 20th anniversary with a benefit performance by the American Ballet Theater.

Here at *OutWeek*, which celebrates its second anniversary this June, the idea of publishing for 20 years in a row is daunting indeed. Congratulations.

AND THE DISH RAN AWAY WITH THE SPOON: A Superior Court judge in San Francisco imposed a \$2,000 sanction on a lawyer and client who tried to have the opposing male counsel disqualified by alleging that he was having sex with his male client, according to the *Daily Journal*, a local legal newspaper.

Calling it "a flagrant case of 'outing,'" the judge ruled against Herman A.D. Franck of Niven & Smith, and in favor of Christopher J. Collins, Esq. The case is reportedly a dispute over money between two former business partners who tried to develop an "edible spoon." Don't ask.

BRONX CHEER: Montefiore Medical Center

I LOVE IT WHEN YOU CALL ME NAMES: The movement to 'reclaim' loathsome epithets for homosexuals seems to have had one happy effect," pronounced the anonymously authored "Media Watch" column in last week's *New York Native*. "New York Post columnist and resident homophobe Pat Buchanan seems to be

announced last week that it is extending spousal fringe benefits to the domestic partners of its lesbian and gay staff members.

With 9,000 employees, the Bronx hospital becomes the largest private business in the country to recognize gay and lesbian relationships, according to the ACLU, which negotiated the move.

Spokespersons cited the recent *Braschi* ruling in the New York State Court of Appeals, similar policies at other organizations and in other municipalities and wanting to be just plain fair as the impetus behind the decision.

HISTORY, HERSTORY, MY STORY, YOUR STORY: March was Women's History Month, and honors were doled out everywhere you looked.

Assemblywoman Deborah Glick was one of six women lauded by Comptroller Elizabeth Holtzman. Vanessa Ferro, the NYPD's lesbian and gay liaison, was promoted to detective specialist. Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger kicked off her "Women's Herstory Month Exhibit" by bestowing honors upon 20 women who have "contributed significantly to the life of the borough," including lesbian poet Jewelle Gomez, the Hispanic AIDS Forum's Miguelina Maldonado, Deborah Fraser-Howze of the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, National AIDS Commissioner June Jackson Christmas, Family Health Project on AIDS Director Suki Ports and the Asian-American Legal Defense and Education Fund's Margaret Fung.



VANESSA FERRO

Lesbian Cartoonists Lenore Chinn, Roxie, Cheela Smith, Joan Hilty and *OutWeek*'s own Kris Kovick celebrated "the existence of women" with an exhibit of their work at the Church Street Gallery in San Francisco, which runs through April 10. "Fuck *The Well of Loneliness*," commented Roxie, "we're here to have fun."

And the Los Angeles-based *Vanguard* reported that the Southern California Women for Understanding's 15th Lesbian Rights Award Banquet announced kudos for some of the community's literary luminaries: May Sarton, Adrienne Rich, Rita Mae Brown, Charlotte Bunch, Katherine Forrest, Paula Gunn Allen, Gloria Anzaldua and Cherrie Moraga.

I-GOT-AIDS-THE-HARD-WAY DEPARTMENT: An article in the *Lancet* by a doctor who claims that his patient became infected with HIV when "he used to go out with colleagues in the New York/New Jersey area to systematically beat up gay men" has caused quite a stir.

Apparently, this guy used to pummel queers so badly that his victims' blood seeped into small cuts on his own hands. While Rim Shots, knowing something about the psychology of gay-bashers, has its doubts about this new method of transmission, it prompted Paul Carson, the physician involved, to comment, "Well, maybe people ought to think twice before they start beating people up."

Photo: Morgan Gwennwald

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Will Jesse Helms Shut Down *OutWeek* Magazine?

Phone sex, the Federal courts, the FCC and you

by Arthur S. Leonard

A three-judge panel of the federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled on March 21 that restrictions on phone sex spearheaded by Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina and passed by Congress in 1989 are constitutional. The court also upheld enforcement regulations issued last year by the Federal Communications Commission, or FCC. But the decision conflicts with an August ruling in a lower-level court by federal District Judge Robert P. Patterson Jr. in New York, which is currently on appeal to the Second Circuit.

And because the lesbian and gay press is heavily dependent on revenues from phone-sex advertising, the issue is one that affects the entire community nationwide, not just the phone-sex aficionados. An article in *OutWeek* last year found that in the absence of phone-sex advertisers, many of the community's newspapers and magazines would simply go out of business.

The 1989 law reacted to the Supreme Court's ruling in *Sable Communications v. FCC* that Congress can ban "obscene" telephone messages, but may only regulate "indecent" messages to the extent necessary to prevent people under 18 from hearing them. The Helms Amendment imposes fines and prison terms for transmitting indecent messages to minors or nonconsenting adults. The amendment also provides that if a phone-sex company wants the

telephone company to handle billing for their message services, the phone company must block access from any telephone except for individuals who write to the telephone company asking that their phone be unblocked.



The FCC regulations state that to avoid prosecution, both gay and straight phone-sex companies must inform telephone companies about the nature of their messages and certify that they have adopted an approved way to prevent minors' access, including either billing customers directly through credit-card accounts, scrambling messages electronically or requiring customers to write in advance for special-access codes. The telephone companies must also identify "adult telephone-message service" calls on customer bills to inform parents when

their children are calling phone-sex lines. If a phone-sex company wants to use telephone company billing services, the telephone company must block access for any customer who has not requested access in writing.

But the phone-sex companies say that these restrictions go beyond what the Supreme Court allowed in *Sable*, and they argue that it would be sufficient for telephone companies to block access to individual phones at the

NEWS ANALYSIS

request of customers. They claim that most calls are made impulsively by people who would be deterred by complicated access rules, with so many lost calls that the restrictions would put them out of business.

New York's Judge Patterson enjoined the Justice Department from enforcing the regulations until the Second Circuit could determine whether they are constitutional, ruling that there was a strong likelihood that they would be found unconstitutional and that phone-sex companies and their customers would suffer irreparable injury if the government was allowed to enforce the rules. But the Ninth Circuit decision upholds both the Helms Amendment and the FCC's regulations: If the Second Circuit sides with Judge Patterson, the Supreme Court will probably agree to consider the phone-sex companies' challenge in order to resolve the disagreement.

The First Amendment states that "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech," but the

Supreme Court has allowed a variety of exceptions to this absolute prohibition. Speech advocating criminal acts or posing a direct danger to national security may be prosecuted, for example. Chief Justice Earl Warren once wrote that the Constitution is not a "suicide pact"; the nation may take steps to protect itself.

Government regulation of sexually explicit speech has long been controversial. Some members of the Supreme Court, most notably Hugo Black, William O. Douglas and William J. Brennan Jr., argued that no exception to First Amendment protection should be made for sexually explicit speech, but a majority of the Court has ruled that "obscene" speech is not protected. Once again quoting Chief Justice Warren, the Court found that there is a "right of the nation and of the states to maintain a decent society."

The Court struggled to frame an adequate definition of obscenity so as not to destroy other rights of individual liberty and freedom from arbitrary law enforcement. The Fifth Amendment, which guarantees "due process of law," requires that laws and regulations not be written in vague terms that lend themselves to arbitrary enforcement. A law so vague that a person of average intelligence would be in doubt whether his or her actions were prohibited would be unconstitutional.

In 1973, the Court held in *Miller v. California* that speech would be considered obscene if, taken as a whole, it appealed to "prurient interest," lacked serious scientific, artistic, literary or political value and would be considered offensive by the average adult in the community. To pass constitutional muster, a law banning or regulating obscene speech would have to specify the words or images that were banned.

Are phone-sex conversations obscene? If, in a particular community, the average adult would not consider a phone-sex message offensive, it would not be considered obscene. (It seems clear that phone sex messages appeal to prurient interest and lack scientific, artistic, literary or political value, as those terms are used by courts.) But even assuming that a federal jury in New York, San Francisco or Los Angeles would not consider them obscene, opponents of phone-

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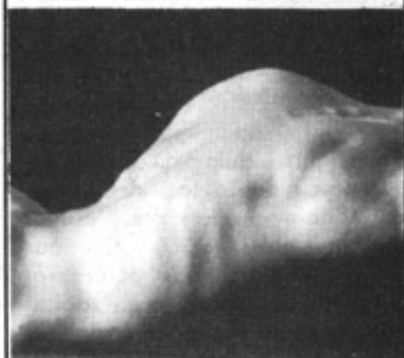
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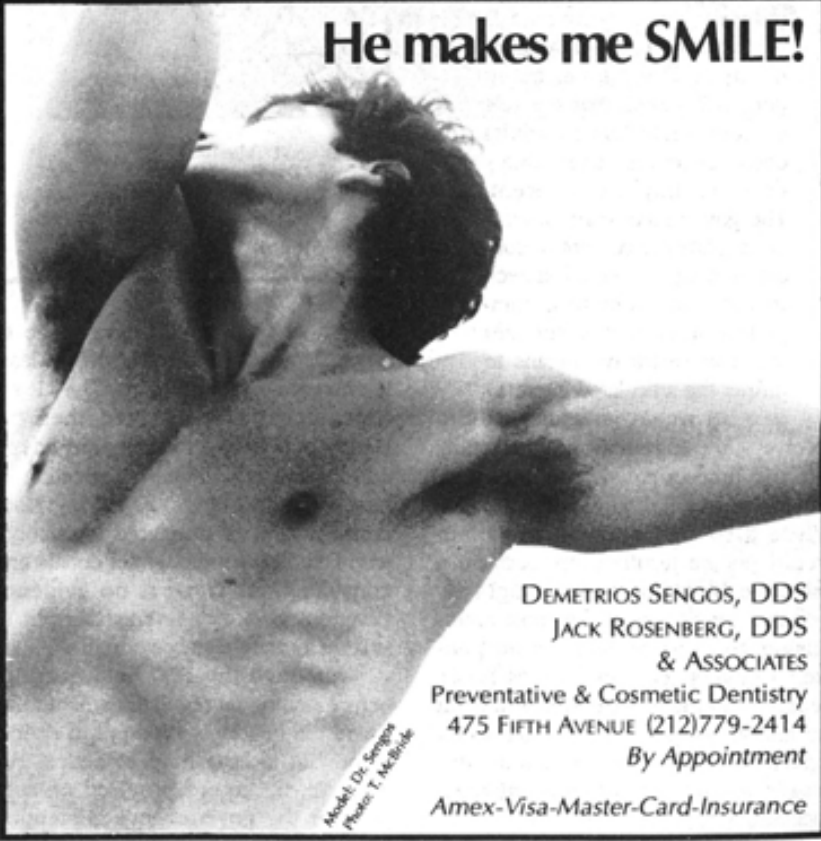


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sex services could nonetheless argue that they should be prohibited because they are indecent and harm minors who are exposed to them.

The infamous Meese Commission, named for the US Attorney General under President Ronald Reagan, Edwin Meese, heard testimony from various "experts" that a child would suffer significant psychological damage if exposed to even one sexually explicit telephone message. One religious group testified that 70 percent of phone-sex calls come from adolescents under 18. Phone-sex companies contend that the few complaints they receive compared to their total volume indicate that very few children are actually accessing their services. Based on this kind of "expertise," the Meese Commission recommended banning "indecent" as well as "obscene" telephone talk.

Congress responded in 1988 with a total ban. In *Sable*, the Supreme Court upheld the ban on obscene phone messages but struck down the ban on indecent messages. The key paragraph in Justice Byron White's opinion sets out the constitutional limits:

Sexual expression which is indecent but not obscene is protected by the First Amendment; and the government does not submit that the sale of such materials to adults could be criminalized solely because they are indecent. The government may, however, regulate the content of constitutionally protected speech in order to promote a compelling interest if it chooses the least restrictive means to further the articulated interest.

In other words, an adult's right to receive a message may not be totally cut off just because the message would be harmful to children. Justice White also states that a total ban would not be justified just because a selective blocking system might be defeated by "a few of the most enterprising and disobedient young people." Congress can go only as far as necessary to make it extremely difficult for minors to gain access; a particular regulation may not be justified as necessary to prevent *all* minors from accessing phone-sex messages.

Applying *Sable* to the Helms Amendment last summer, Judge Patterson found that it probably violates the First and Fifth amendments. So the argument boils down to whether the blocking method adopted by the Helms Amendment goes further than necessary, or whether the method advocated by phone-sex companies—a less restrictive alternative—would be adequate. There can be little doubt that the Helms approach is both more effective and more restrictive than the phone-sex companies' approach.

Patterson found the government's case severely weakened by the lack of any serious study by Congress to deter-



mine how far it would have to go to block access by minors with the least interference to adults' rights. The Helms Amendment was adopted the way Helms' amendments usually are adopted: through last-minute introduction of hastily drafted language during floor consideration of unrelated legislation, with little time for thoughtful debate and consideration. There is no evidence Congress gave any serious thought to striking a careful balance of rights.

Although the FCC held hearings before issuing its regulations, Patterson found the hearing record full of speculation but lacking hard evidence. For example, the record provided no support for the government's contention

that a properly implemented voluntary blocking system at the request of individual consumers would not be adequately effective in deterring access by minors. Indeed, the New York Public Service Commission, which regulates New York Telephone, held hearings last year and concluded that voluntary blocking was a sufficient restriction. The Commission found that few complaints were received from parents about their children having access to the messages.

Patterson also found the use of the term "indecent" to be unconstitutionally vague. The government argued that "indecent" acquired a reasonably precise meaning in the Supreme Court's *Pacific Radio* decision upholding regulation of indecent language in radio broadcasting, but in *Sable* the Supreme Court rejected the idea that rules governing radio could be applied without modification to telephones, because radio is more invasive and less controllable.

Finally, Patterson found that the Helms Amendment constituted an unconstitutional prior restraint on protected speech. Under long-established precedents, courts have held that speech which might constitutionally be punished may nonetheless not be prohibited before it is even spoken. Because it "calls for the [telephone companies] to impose restrictions on [a phone-sex company's] communication before that communication has been expressed," Patterson nixed it. Its sole purpose is "to have certain conditions placed on speech that is to be communicated in the future, and to have those conditions put in place before that speech is communicated."

But the only kind of prior restraint forbidden under the First Amendment is a restraint imposed by the government. The government argues that because the Helms Amendment puts the burden on phone companies to decide which speech to restrict, the First Amendment is not violated. Patterson rejected this argument, finding that any restrictive actions would be taken at the instigation of the government. The Supreme Court has held in the past that any requirement to restrict speech demands that there be a speedy mechanism for judicial determination whether the speech is subject to

the regulation, and that the burden must be on the government to invoke the judicial process to block the speech. The Helms Amendment in fact turns this requirement on its head, by requiring the phone-sex company to initiate the process.

...

The Ninth Circuit opinion differs from Judge Patterson's on virtually every point. The Ninth Circuit found that the FCC hearing record showed evidence that the blocking plan advocated by the phone-sex companies "would not be an effective means of limiting minors' access to dial-a-porn services." This was based on evidence that some children had accessed dial-a-porn by placing long-distance calls to numbers outside their local exchanges.

This finding misses the point of *Sable*, where the Supreme Court clearly stated that a goal of *totally* preventing access by minors was not compatible with preserving the constitutional rights of adults. Although the court makes passing reference to this concern, it makes no attempt to apply it seriously to its review of the FCC's rule-making procedure.

The Ninth Circuit also rejected the argument that the regulations would have such an adverse impact on phone-sex companies that they would be forced out of business. Rejecting the "impulse call" rationale, the court found that phone-sex companies desiring to avoid blocking could require callers to give their credit-card numbers and discounted the phone-sex companies' argument that this system would deter many adult callers.

The Ninth Circuit found that chronic problems defining the term "indecent" were addressed when the FCC adopted a definition of "indecent" as "the description or depiction of sexual or excretory activities or organs in a patently offensive manner as measured by contemporary standards for the telephone medium." (Isn't that perfectly clear?) The Ninth Circuit also asserted that the radio-broadcasting standard provided a model for defining the speech to be regulated, stating that it was "significant that in *Sable* the Court had the opportunity to prohibit

see **PHONE SEX** on page 96

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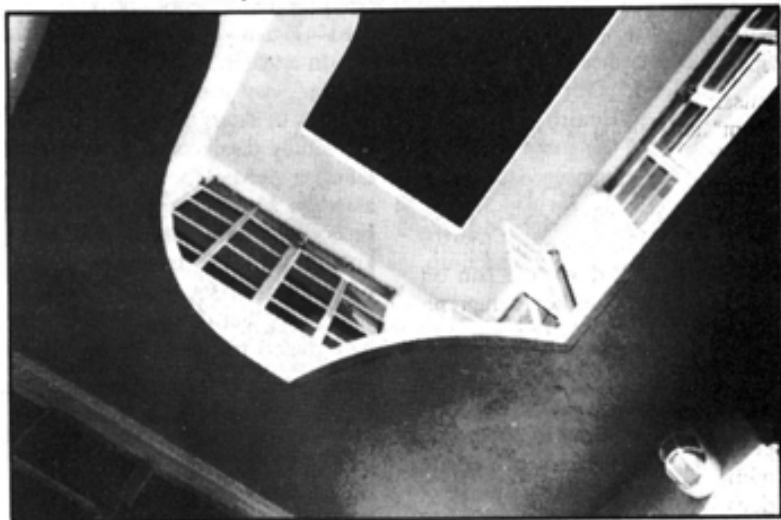
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Women, Race and Class and AIDS Activism

The Second National People of Color AIDS Activists' Conference

by Nina Reyes

NEW YORK—"We need to be more prominent down there in Washington, DC, and Bethesda, where AIDS policy is decided," Cliff Goodman, a staff member of Health Education AIDS Liaison, told the more than 150 activists of color assembled at Hunter College last weekend for the Second National People of Color AIDS Activist Conference. "We're playing catch-up, but we're getting there."

The activists, including African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Native Americans and Arab Americans, came together from around the country to strategize, socialize, share information and argue about issues that particularly affect people of color with AIDS and AIDS activists of color.

"It was a very diverse conference," commented Ming Ma, a member of ACT

UP/New York's Asian/Pacific Islander Caucus. "That's very significant, because very often the term 'people of color' is misused—in terms of being very monolithic."

In addition to its other high points, the three-day conference, liberally peppered with issues over which the assembly loudly disagreed from a variety of different viewpoints, amply proved Ma's assertion. From arguments over whether or not people of color should take the anti-viral AIDS treatment AZT to whether activists should support, or attempt to shut down, the controversial AZT clinical trial in which the drug will

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be given to pregnant women, the conference participants proved that while the term "people-of-color AIDS activist" is generally descriptive, it by no means designates a particular worldview or



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED
ACT UP/NY's Ming Ma

Photos: Morgan Gwenfeld



political agenda.

The discussion on upcoming federally sponsored regional conferences on AIDS for people of color, for instance, showed the complexities of dissension among participants. Whereas one delegate strongly argued that holding regional conferences was a tactic the government has adopted to keep people from exchanging experiences, contacts and extremely important information, another conference participant pointed out that to attempt to attack the epidemic as a national problem would ensure continued failure on the local level.

On that issue—as on others—consensus from the assembly was not sought. In fact, organizers said, at the conclusion of the conference, no statement of goals or resolutions was issued. "I think we've achieved what we wanted to achieve," Ma commented.

While most of the activists came from ACT UP chapters, there were also attendees from organizations and communities that have sharply criticized ACT UP's tactics and actions. That balance, participants said, created an opportunity for activists from both sides of the ACT UP line of demarcation to study their activism on political, cultural and social levels.

ACTING UP, SPEAKING OUT—

Conference-goers (below, left to right) Andy Valentine and Noel Madlansacay of New York; Angukcuag of Minneapolis and Douglas Yaranon of San Francisco; and Nilda Pimental, editor of New York's SidAhora.



And as the conference was styled after an ACT UP meeting, it allowed people of color a unique chance to see their direct-action organization of origin as it would be with a predominantly dark complexion.

But even the structure of the event did not please everyone. "Basically, the whole way the conference was set up was in the way ACT UP usually functions, and that in itself excludes people," observed Lei Chou, a member of ACT UP/New York's

Asian/Pacific Islander Caucus.

"I'm happy the conference happened," remarked Ron Wheeler, a delegate from ACT UP/Seattle, noting that while the conference did not meet all of his expectations, concrete plans for creating a national network of AIDS activists of color were developed. "In the Black Caucus, we have resolved that we will keep in touch—like the Women's Caucus has. I'm inspired by the fact that I think this is going to happen now." ▼

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RANDAL (RANDY) MYERS

Randal (Randy) Myers of New York passed on Feb. 25, 1991, at Roosevelt Hospital from complications due to AIDS.

Brought up in Iowa, he moved to New York City in 1977, where he met Jim Mello, who became his lover of 14 years.

Randy was one of those special people with so many talents. He graduated from New York University with a degree in computer programming, which he put to use frequently, helping to create the data base for *Living With AIDS*, a resource manual now widely used in New York. He was also data manager for the gay singing group the Flirtations and performer/costume designer/road manager for LeClique, a repertoire performance company that produces theatrical events around the country. An avid photographer, he had a show in the lobby of the Saint.

All through his illness Randy never gave up: Right to the end, he was in control of his treatment, knowing and trying all of

the new medications available. His strength and courage to fight on were incredible. He will be missed by many who knew him as a blazing spirit freely giving of himself to others, no questions asked—if he could help, he was there. He leaves behind his mother, Shirley; three sisters; one brother; a grandfather in Iowa; and his lover, Jimmy, and their cat, Phoenix.

I know he's up there watching over us, but it's nothing like having him here with me everyday. I love you and miss you so.

—Jimmy Mello

RONALD WOGAMAN

Ronald Wogaman, former director of education at the South Street Seaport Museum, died on March 23 at New York University Medical Center. He was a resident of Manhattan. The cause of death was AIDS.

Wogaman was born on May 5, 1950, in West Alexandria, Ohio. He received, among other degrees, a master's in Museum Education from George Washing-

ton University in 1982.

In 1980, Wogaman joined the staff of the Oakland Museum, Oakland, Calif., as head of education for the museum's history division. While there, he introduced a variety of innovative programs and was responsible for creating a small but symbolic exhibit featuring gay and lesbian artifacts. It was the first such permanent exhibit in a major museum. In 1986, Wogaman joined the staff of the South Street Seaport Museum, which he left, due to illness, in 1988. Wogaman was also active in the American Association of Museums' Education Committee and served as an officer from 1986 to 1987.

Wogaman's companion was David M. Kahn, executive director of the Brooklyn Historical Society. Wogaman is survived by his mother, Bernice, his sister, Joyce Utsinger, both of West Alexandria; and a brother, Robert, of Albuquerque.

A memorial service will be held at the Oakland Museum on a date to be announced.

—David M. Kahn

GLAAD TIDINGS *Commentary*

US District Judge Oliver Gasch

by Henry Yeager

Unfortunately, a great many lesbians and gay men have had to become inured to the epithet "homo" snarled by street punks or yelled from a passing car or just muttered by "respectable"-looking men and women in business suits. But what about when it comes from the presiding judge in a case before a US District Court?

US District Judge Oliver Gasch, presiding in the case of former midshipman Joseph Steffan, who is challenging the constitutionality of his dismissal from the Naval Academy for being homosexual, twice referred to the plaintiff as a "homo" during a recent hearing. As first reported in the *Washington Post*, Judge Gasch indicated that he was inclined to deny Steffan's motion seeking access to Pentagon studies about homosexuals in the military. "The most I would allow," Gasch said, "is what relates to this plaintiff [Steffan], not every homo that may be walking the face of the earth." A few minutes later, commenting on the contents of Steffan's affidavit, Gasch remarked, "He's a homo and knows other homos—is that it?"

These statements by Judge Gasch are equivalent to directing

racist slurs at a plaintiff in a case alleging racial discrimination. They also appear to violate a recently adopted change in the Code of Judicial Conduct of the American Bar Association, which prohibits judges from making statements that "manifest bias or prejudice" based on a number of factors, including sexual orientation. The scary irony is that Judge Gasch is a former president of that very same American Bar Association. Who will judge the judges?

To protest Judge Oliver Gasch's blatant and unprofessional bigotry, and to ask for his removal from the case, write to: Chief Justice Aubrey E. Johnson, Jr., US District Court, Third and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001.

Use the same address to direct comments to Judge Gasch himself. You can call the US District Court in Washington at (202) 535-3513.

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.

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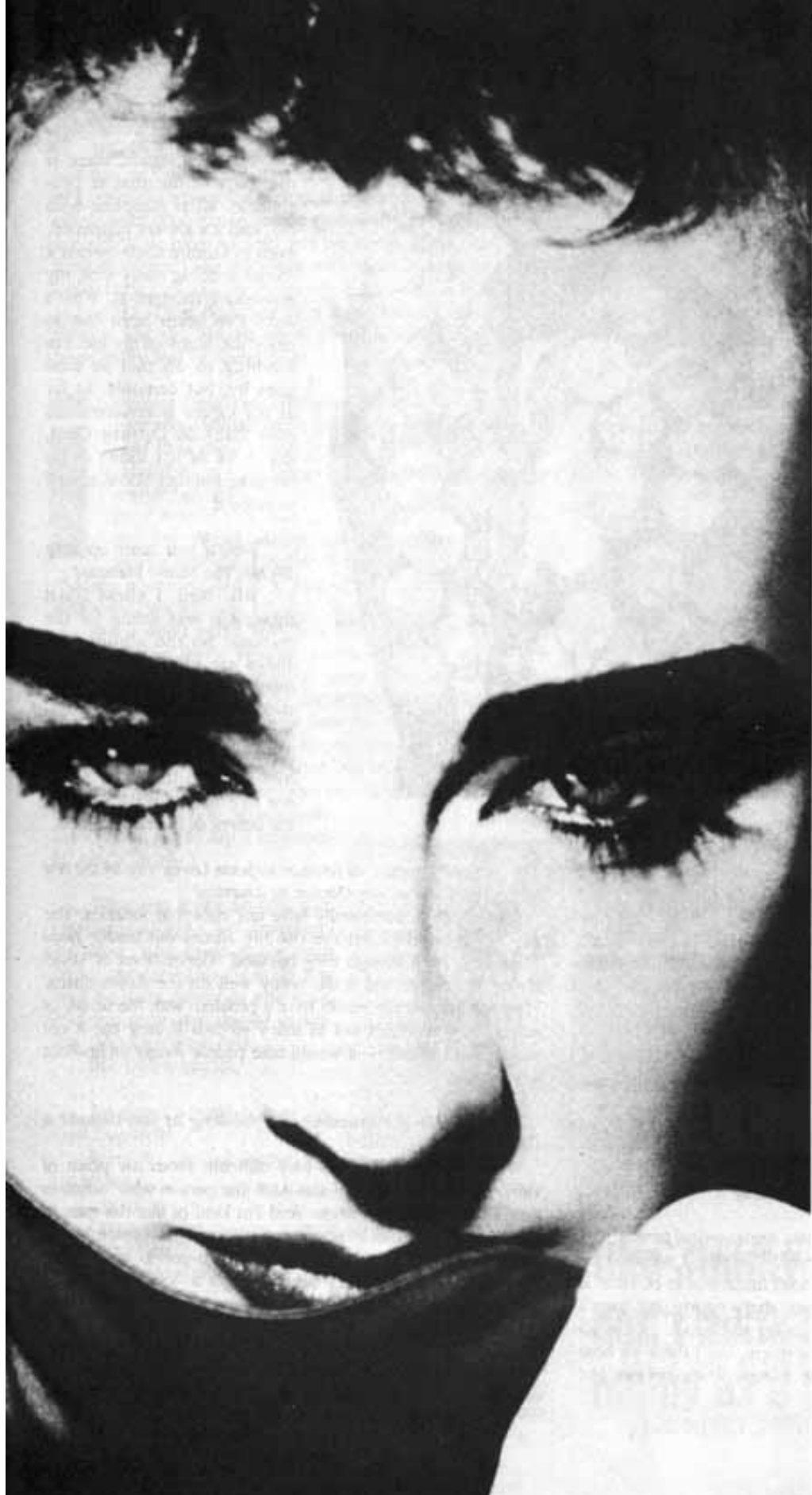
dishing to be clever

by ERNEST HARDY

In 1982, the world gasped when a previously unknown British drag queen suddenly ruled the pop music charts. Three years and much success later, Boy George's career came to a crashing halt as he found himself embroiled in a series of drug-related scandals. Now, after years of soul-searching and even more bad press, the Boy is back...with a vengeance.

It's been nearly ten years since Boy George and Culture Club were part of—then suddenly, momentarily and brilliantly *leaders of*—a revolution in music. It was tagged “the second British invasion,” and many reasons for its appeal were offered, but what really gave this mini-movement such a kick was its handling of sexuality. Never had androgyny and cross-dressing been so gloriously at the *forefront* of pop music; the dalliances and experiments of David Bowie, Lou Reed and Mick Jagger looked positively tame next to the watershed of artists who gave weight to the phrase “gender-bender.” Boy George, Annie Lennox, Pete Burns (of Dead or Alive), Marilyn, Haysi Fantaysee and countless others dominated the charts, dictated fashion and ruled MTV. Having sloughed through the narrow-mindedness and bigotry of pop's shameful recent years, it's sometimes hard to remember the rush of hearing Culture Club on the radio or seeing a suit-and-tie-garbed Annie Lennox glaring out from the TV screen.

If not all the artists were queer (or willing to 'fess up to it), their obvious empathy with queer culture and sensibilities seemed to mark a definite changing of the



times. They were taking homo- and bisexuality out of the confines of big cities, trendy clubs and gossip columns and selling it to middle America. Then an AIDS-fueled burst of homophobia, ironically nurtured and exploited by the entertainment industry, saw many of these artists hastily dismissed by critics and a scornful public who, in lieu of a challenge, wanted "real" men (take center-stage, Axl Rose) and easily defined, unchallenging women (any Madonna clone you can think of).

Boy George, easily one of the two or three most talented members of the one-time vanguard, unwittingly played right into the hands of his detractors. His gorgeous, soulful voice had propelled Culture Club to international superstardom with two classic albums, *Kissing to Be Clever* and *Colour by Numbers*. Unfortunately, the group's third album, *Waking Up With the House on Fire*, was an unevenly produced effort whose poorly chosen singles helped derail the group's career. Then came a well-publicized battle with drugs on which George now declines to comment. A musician associate died of an overdose in Boy George's home, and the deceased man's parents went to the press with accusations against the Boy. Though the singer had played no part in the death, it was another

**See review of
The Martyr Mantras,
page 61**

twist in a snow-balling media frenzy. Photos of a gaunt and haggard Boy George were published around the world, while the more cynical members of the music industry started a countdown till Boy George's own death day.

Even dietard fans began to doubt that the singer had it in him to overcome his problems. Culture Club released a fourth and last album, the rather obviously titled *From Luxury to Heartache*, which included one great track, "Sexuality," but seemed proof that the band had gone too far off course to really recover. The band broke up, and Mr. George O'Dowd began the process of defining himself as a solo artist.

No longer "hip," Boy George soon found himself struggling to get radio play in England. The eagerly awaited first album, *Sold*, released at the height of rumors and bad press, didn't live up to artistic or commercial expectations but did produce an international hit, "Everything I Own." The second effort, *High Hat*, while an improvement, revealed its own flaws as the singer was forced to contend with ill-suited new-jack constraints foisted on him. Nevertheless, the Boy's interest in the music coming from the streets and the clubs was growing. He formed his own record label, More Protein, and created a "group," Jesus Loves You, that allowed him to work with a variety of musicians and styles without having to deal with the preconceptions and expectations associated with "Boy George." Jesus Loves You has gone on to release several successful dance singles, establishing oh-so-important club credibility and garnering the radio play that had proven elusive to Boy George. Those singles, along with new material, are featured on the album, *The Martyr Mantras*, a disc that finds the singer doing his best work since peak Culture Club. The spiritual happiness he's found in his personal life spills over onto the album, making it a confident and inspired trip through state-of-the-art dance/pop music.

You've often been described as a cynical person.

Boy George: (Laughs.) A what?

A cynical person.

BG: (Still laughing.) Cynical or clinical?

Probably both. Do you think you are a cynical person?

BG: No, I think if I was a cynical person, I wouldn't be talking to you. (Laughs again.) I don't mean that to be rude. If I was cynical...There is a part of me that's cynical, but there's also a part of me that's quite forgiving and naive. I think all human beings are cynical to some extent, but I think it's how you deal with it that's important. I guess I am cynical, but tomorrow's another day.



How do you protect that part of yourself that is naive and untainted? Considering the life you've led, it would be completely understandable if you were very pessimistic.

BG: Well, again, there is that part of me that is pessimistic. What happens with me, and it's always happened, even in Culture Club—when a record is doing really well, my immediate thought is, What's next? I've never been one to enjoy the highs of my life. I'm learning to do that as time goes by, but certainly, as far as my career is concerned, I look back at Culture Club, and a lot of it I didn't enjoy because I didn't allow myself to enjoy it.

*How'd you come up with the title *The Martyr Mantras*?*

BG: Well, I guess I just thought it was fitting for the material on the album. The songs are kind of about the martyrdom of love. Also, about two years ago, I started chanting Buddhist chants. I guess *Mantras* is just a kind of follow-up from that. The songs are like the mantras of love, the lament of the human race.

Why were these cuts released as Jesus Loves You in the rest of the world, but as Boy George in America?

BG: Well, I didn't really have any choice in America. The Americans wouldn't let me put the album out under *Jesus Loves You*, even though they released "Generations of Love" under that name, and it did pretty well on the dance charts. They felt that people would have a problem with the name, or maybe they wouldn't sell as many records if they put it out under [that moniker]—it would take people longer to find out it was me.

Is the rôle of businessman as fulfilling as you thought it would be?

BG: It's great, but it's very difficult. From my point of view, I'm an artist, but I'm also A&R [the person who acquires new artists] for More Protein. And I'm kind of like the man in the middle, because in some ways I've got to please Virgin Records [More Protein's distributor]—I've got to be kind of businesslike. On the other hand, I've got to look after artists, and artists can be very volatile and moody and demanding. But it's fun, it's really fun.

When listening to your records, it becomes obvious that no one can work heartbreak or melancholy the way you do. (He

laughs.) *That seems to be something that's missing from dance music nowadays, which is really ironic, because when you look back at some of the classic dance and r&b tracks from the '70s, the records and songs that are influencing today's music, there was a real strain of melancholy in them.*

BG: Well, I think the problem with dance music for the last two or three years...I've called that period the producer's revenge, where the technical side of making music has taken over. For dance music to actually progress, people are going to have to start writing songs again, and that's kind of where I see my place with More Protein, to sort of bring back melody. As far as when it comes to me writing sad songs, I do find that very easy. I don't really know why, I just do. Maybe some past-life experiences have been really bad or something.

I spoke to [producer] Jellybean a few days ago and asked him about dance music being a forum for politics. He said that when people go dancing, they're trying to escape all of that—that there's a time and place for everything, but when people dance, they just want to have a good time and not think about issues or politics. On "No Clause 28" and "Generations of Love," you've addressed political and spiritual issues. Was that an awkward union to pull off politically aware lyrics and dance music?

BG: I don't agree with him [Jellybean]. If you look at somebody like Stevie Wonder, there's somebody who's managed to make many a political point very eloquently, very soulfully. Look at somebody like Marvin Gaye with "What's Going On." Look at the songs from the '60s. Music definitely has a part to play in social issues. You can't deny that—I mean, not only on a social level, but on a political level, on a sexual level. [And when you] say something very important—even if you're saying nothing—you've got to say it in a soulful way. (Laughs.)

What was it like working with (former Culture Club drummer) Jon Moss (who co-wrote the track "After the Love Has Gone")? You and he were lovers at one time, and you were later quoted as saying, "He was a great fuck...."

BG: Downright lie.

He wasn't a great fuck, or you didn't say that?

BG: Oh, I'm just joking, I'm just joking.

Do quotes like that put a strain on your current relationship with Moss?

BG: Could you repeat the quote again?

"He was a great fuck."

BG: I don't think Jon really cares. You'd have to ask him—that would be very difficult for me to answer. But I speak to Jon now—we're good friends, and we get on very well. I don't think there's any kind of hostility. What's hap-

pened, happened. It was fun while it lasted.

OK, getting back to Culture Club. Is being a solo performer more difficult or easier than being in a band?

BG: More difficult sometimes—other times, it's less complicated. It's nice to be in control and decide what happens with your music. Democracy within a band is very difficult to maintain. Compromise is not sweet within any band. I think that's, in a way, what destroys most bands. Everybody wants to be in control, and people don't really accept their roles. And why should they? We're all creative people, and as you become more successful, you become more confident. Things change. You want your own situation. You want to be able to say what you want to say.

*It's easy to measure success in terms of income or gold records but a little more difficult when you're judging a body of work. I'd like to hear how you feel about some of your previous work. How do you feel about *Kissing to Be Clever*?*

BG: *Kissing to Be Clever* was a great album to make because it was the result of years and years of listening to music and, for all of us, I think, it was a real spiritual album. We had so much energy and so many ideas. I think that all spilled over onto [the second album] *Colour By Numbers* as well. We spent a long time working on them, writing songs for both those albums, so they were special because we weren't working to a schedule. Once you become successful, you begin working to a schedule. Being creative on a schedule is very difficult.

*What about *Waking Up With the House on Fire*?*

BG: I can put both *Waking Up With the House on Fire* and *From Luxury to Heartache* in the same bag if you like. The titles of those albums were prophetic in a way. By the time we did the third album, which is always a difficult album for



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**like Jimmy Somerville, I
don't think he's really
happy as a gay man.**

any group, the house was on fire. It was a true statement—a very hysterical time. I think that's when we really began to suffer because of the lack of dedication that we were putting into writing songs. When you're successful, you think, "Oh, we'll just write some songs for the album, and they'll be fine." In some ways, we became lazy by the time we made the third album. And *Luxury to Heartache* was kind of like the fire petering out at the end of the night.

Do you think a Boy George, with the makeup and androgynous look and all, could be a bit today? Not you specifically...

BG: It's difficult to say. You always have people in music who have a distinctive style. Go back to Jimi Hendrix: He may not have been considered as eccentric as I was, but he had a look, and you remember it. So, I don't think it could be ruled out, but I think it would be more difficult. Definitely.

How rampant would you say homophobia is in the music industry?

BG: Rampant? Is that the right word? (Laughs.) I don't know really. I think that human beings, regardless of sexuality, color or whatever, are very cruel to one another. If somebody's fat, and you have an argument with them, you're gonna call them "a fat pig." People always go for the obvious. As far as the industry is concerned, I don't feel particularly victimized. I don't belong to any kind of group. I don't belong to the rock-&-roll section of the industry. I don't really belong to the Jimmy Somerville section of the industry. I'm kind of on my own. I'm not obsessed with my sexuality. It's not the most important thing in my life. If you look at somebody like Jimmy Somerville, for instance—do you know who I'm talking about?

Definitely.

BG: I don't think he's really happy with what he is.

How do you mean?

BG: As a gay man—he's not happy with that. It's not really an important thing for me. There are always going to be people who dislike me, and they'll find various reasons for that. If I was straight, I'm sure there'd be reasons they'd find. It doesn't make any difference to me.

Well, one of the questions I

wanted to ask you has to do with gay and lesbian artists who hide their sexuality and make their work ambiguous or their personas androgynous but feel that to own up to their sexuality is to forfeit their private lives. It seems that you can say you are gay or lesbian and still have your private life. I mean, yes, people will make assumptions, but they do that anyway.

BG: I think it's really down to personal choice. It's not for anyone to tell someone else to come out of the closet. It's a personal thing, and it's not for you or I or anyone else to say, "You should speak out." In a way, that's hypocritical. People like Jimmy Somerville have said how difficult it is to be gay, and yet they don't tolerate other people who won't come out of the closet, stand up and be counted. They know full well how difficult it is—one part of them is saying, "It's difficult, it's hard." And yet they want to put other people through the same torture. I don't hold with gay groups going out and provoking people. I don't believe in outing. I think it's really offensive. First of all, I don't think you can really challenge the structure of society: "Boy meets girl, it keeps the world spinning. It's been that way from the very beginning." There's nothing anyone can do about that. That is how the world works. Yeah, I think gay people have a right to a voice, but I don't think you have any right going around telling other people what to do. It's hypocritical, to start with. I think it's wrong. Do you know what I'm saying?

I understand what you're saying, and I agree with much of it. I think we should still encourage people to come out. It's an old argument, but if a famous or respected person's coming out provides some hope or inspiration for some teenager who is feeling afraid or isolated...

BG: Do you think it makes it easier? It doesn't. It maybe makes it easier for that person to accept himself on a personal level, but it doesn't make the community any better.

That's certainly true, but if those teenagers do accept themselves on a personal level because of being inspired by someone else, doesn't that help them deal with the community at large in a much better or more effective way? You've got to find some inner strength to deal with the fact that the community around you is not going to treat you as it should. A positive role model could be invaluable in that sense.

BG: I don't know. From that point of view, it is a difficult sub-



ject. I think that there are always good people in this world, and what you have to do is find them. Sometimes you have to travel around a bit, but, sooner or later, you'll find them. I don't think it's necessarily a bad thing if someone comes out and says, "I'm gay." It really just depends on how they feel about themselves and what they're trying to achieve.

(It became obvious that Boy George and I were not quite connecting with this line of questioning. I wasn't attempting

You mentioned a couple of times that you don't align yourself with any group or organization. Do you consider yourself a loner?

BG: No, I don't consider myself a loner. I would consider myself to be—oh God, I can't find the word. I believe almost everything. I believe in all possibilities. But ultimately, what I do believe in is the goodness of the human race, which may be a very naive thing to do. I believe in the goodness of other people.



I don't hold with gay groups going out and provoking people.

to justify outing, a practice I personally disagree with, so much as expose the more specious arguments used to justify staying in the closet. It seemed that Boy George was reacting from the very understandable position of someone who has had incredibly painful and private elements of his life dragged onto the front pages by a media insensitive to his feelings or the personal outcome. We both agreed that this disregard for consequences was why we opposed outing; I was a little surprised and disappointed, however, at his seeming resignation in the face of society's bigotry and how much that resignation seemed to factor into his defense of the closet. We both took a breath and changed the topic.)

Your spiritual beliefs seem to have deeply affected your work. How were you first attracted to your Krishna beliefs?

BG: I went to a Buddhist meeting about four years ago. I'm not a Buddhist, but I think that Buddha had a lot of interesting things to say. I guess my coming from a sort of Catholic background, filled with brimstone and fire—artistic people, I think, question everything. We just question things. I found a lot of answers in Buddhism, in Krishna consciousness. I'm not a member of any group. I just feel those belief systems have a lot to offer us. I mean, Buddha was such a logical one. You don't have to jump headfirst into the pool, but you certainly can learn from those people. One of the things that changed in my life is the fact that I became a vegetarian. I started to realize that if you kill animals, it's wrong. If you allow slaughter of any kind to go on, then people are going to get slaughtered, too. If you look at what's going on in the Gulf, that's our karma in the West—our karma because we sold them guns. It's instant karma, if you like. We've been selling guns to people like Hussein for a long time. All of us.

Yeah, gay people should have a voice, but we don't have any right telling others what to do.

You seem to be contradicting the questioning nature you said all artists have.

BG: What I mean when I say, "I believe most things," is that my mind is open. I'm not one of those people who sits there and says, "I believe in this, and whatever you say won't change my point of view." There's a few things about Krishna consciousness I don't agree with, but on the whole it's very healthy. It's saying that if you're going to be obsessed with material things and physical things, you're gonna bring yourself misery. That's proven to us day by day. If you look at a relationship, most of us are always looking at the grass on the other side. Most of us don't try in a relationship. Where I'm at in my life is to try to be with someone I care about. A lot of people say to me that it's such a cliché for me to have gotten into this spiritual thing. [But] unless you've been hit by a couple of trucks, you can't really judge your life. You can't really step outside your life and look at yourself and say what it is you want. From the beginning of Culture Club and through to today, what I've wanted was to be liked by people. My career has never been as important as my relationships, which is why

See BOY GEORGE on page 79

The Lavender Underground

*Amidst the rapidly shifting club scene,
Chip Duckett kicks off the new Danceteria*

Chip Duckett is one of the most accomplished party promoters in New York. But his success is not without controversy. The most publicized dispute occurred when a profile by *New York Magazine* spurred a letter-writing campaign by GLAAD, asking that gay and lesbian readers protest the gross stereotyping of gay culture as the simplistic male pursuit of drugs, disco and sex. Throughout his career, Duckett has seen many less-serious attacks made by other promoters, disgruntled patrons and even some friends. Yet he has overcome most skirmishes. Perhaps his cultivation of the press, a knack for sound-bite discourse and his experience as a publicist in his "former" life have assisted him in remaining untarnished in the face of accusations. No doubt, these skills will once again shift into high gear when he takes his talents to his next venue, the new Danceteria, later this month.

Brash confidence is one of Duckett's better-known character traits. And that's helped him build a solid career inside of three years.

Previously, Duckett worked as a New York publicist, mostly in the cook-book section of a large publishing company. He promoted his first party by accident: As he tells it: "I was doing a birthday party for myself, and it got too big for my apartment. I moved it to the Crystal Room [at the World]. That snowballed, and I started doing [parties] once a month."

He threw a series of parties called, collectively, the Seven Deadly Sins, which included a giant bed full of go-go boys, an ACT UP for Anger benefit party and some sort of food frenzy involving Hostess Sno-Balls. Soon, Duckett says: "The World became an unpleasant place to work. I decided to quit night life." But Rudolf (the German creative force behind the first Danceteria and the Tunnel) was about to open Mars and convinced Duckett to do their Sunday gay night.

BY LIZ TRACEY AND SYDNEY POKORNY

What began as a birthday party has now become a three-year career, covering six Manhattan nightclubs, and Duckett is but weeks away from his seventh, at the new Danceteria (without Rudolf). As a veteran of such clubs as Quick!, Carmelita's, the Palladium and Irving Plaza (where ABC is now in its fifth month), Duckett has shown remarkable staying power in an arena where a "hot night" is made or broken in a one-month period. The Saturday night "Mars Needs Men," which lasted more than a year, was a "dinosaur" in the nightclub world by the time Mars was closed in spring 1990.

What Mars did for gay night life was somewhat similar to what Duckett did with the World, and as Dean Johnson's Rock & Roll Fag Bar had done before him, except on a citywide scale. As he tells it, "We had succeeded in ghettoizing ourselves to this point: East Village, West Village, Chelsea and no lesbians." He envisioned a club where everyone gay would go and be fabulous, and all those fabulous people could just simply be their gay selves. This time-frame witnessed "the rise of ACT UP" as a political and social force, and Duckett's alliance with the group helped him build up a clientele of political queer boys, conversely affecting the club's weekly

activities. One week, after the boycott of Burroughs Wellcome was called (in response to profiteering from AZT), Chip placed Sudafed and

come." The connection between sexual politics and gay night life had never been as fully explored as it was at Mars; this may also have accounted

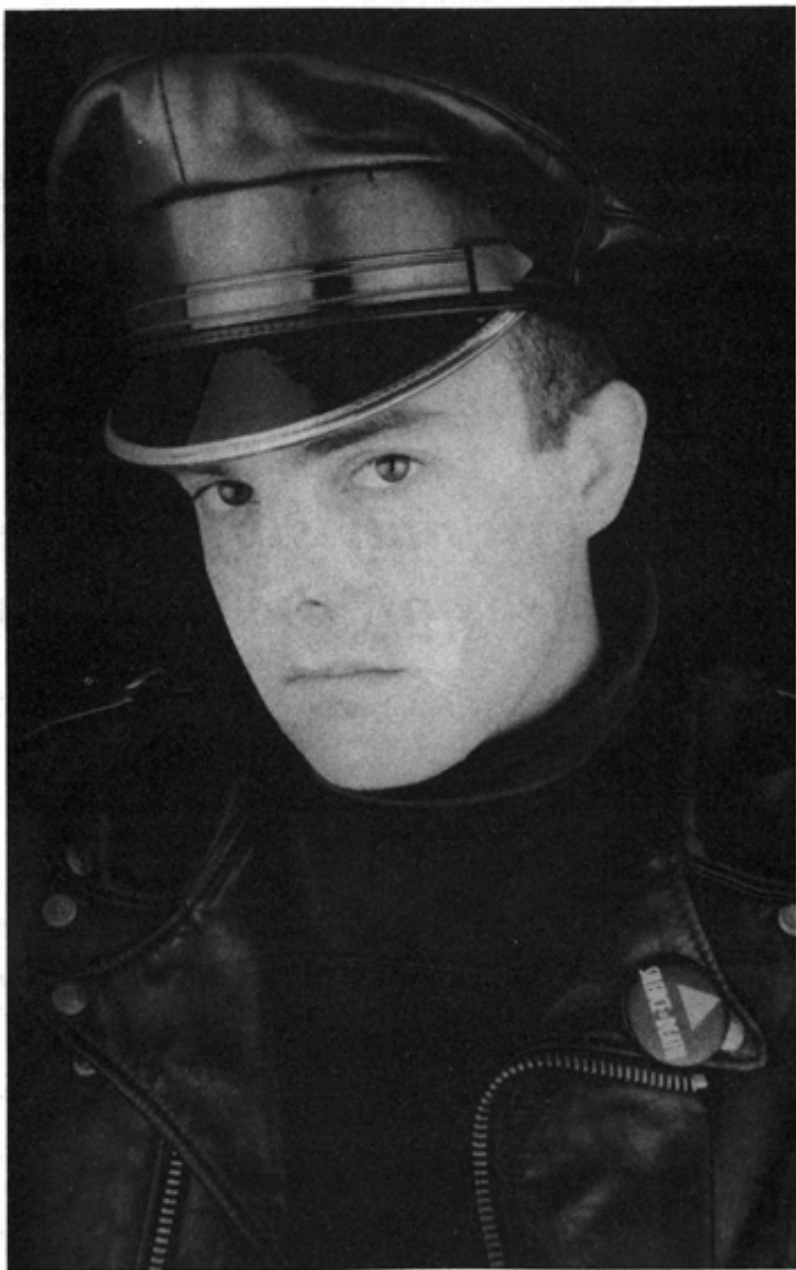
for the extremely sex-positive atmosphere that literally oozed from the walls. "Nothing," Chip comments, "has replaced Mars in its feeling of freedom."

Since he left Mars, Duckett has not showcased many performers. However, he says that will change with Danceteria, where he plans to book "unusual acts." Already he has plans to feature a drag-queen clown and Queer-donna, a 350-pound drag-queen Madonna impersonator. Danceteria will, he hopes, "bring a little glitter and glamour back to night life."

"Today there are too many old clubs and too many bad clubs," he says.

"I might get 20 invites in one night, most of which won't be good." With Danceteria opening, Duckett has assured himself of continuing to

work at a job he describes as a "9 pm to 5 am." And where does he see himself in 10 years? "I'd like to end up like Carmelita [the 65-year-old proprietress of Carmelita's on 14th Street] in a disco at 4 am full of cute boys, falling asleep over the cash register, giggling inanely."▼



Actified in the urinals and invited patrons to "piss on Burroughs Wellcome." The drag show that night included performers squeezing unpleasant tubes onto the stage, while Duckett stood with a microphone reading product names and ending with "Fuck Burroughs Well-

OUT SHOPPING

How Do You Say, “De-Groovy”?



Photos: Michael Wakefield

**Cruising Christopher Street for fashion
bargains from the Stonewall Age**

BY ANDREW MILLER

C

Christopher Street has been called many things since the drag queens liberated it almost 23 years ago. But if the dramaturge in you is dying to dress in

decade-appropriate decadent duds for a stroll along Stonewall Place, a brief bob down the Boulevard of Broken Dreams reveals itself as a veritable connoisseur's cakewalk. Between Greenwich Avenue and Bleecker Street, Christopher Street has enough boutiques chock-full of mad, mod '60s-style clothes to keep the Lady Miss Kier herself busy for weeks.

Begin at 1 Christopher, where the **Village Square** proves that its merchandise is anything but. Derek, the handsome salesboy, will show you an assortment of polka-dot and tie-dye mid-calf Capri pants from Charles Goodnight (\$20). Or check out La Frip's "antique" blue jeans with flower-print velvet strips stitched into the seams from waist to bell bottom (\$56). And the store window offers the world a view of their own overalls spray painted with a billiard ball motif, for those butch pool-hall nights out with the girls at Slope Activities for Lesbians.

Just up the street at **New York Man** (13 Christopher), you can find high-shouldered crew-neck short-sleeve cotton and lycra jerseys in olive, black,

Right: Christina strikes a pose outside Johnny B. Goode on Christopher Street; **left:** Sue, Louis and Chris of Banshee share a quiet moment.



OUT SHOPPING

Onyx and Jennifer amidst the sartorial splendor at Amalgamated.



slate and apricot. Some of these \$40 bargains come with a gray stripe running down the front: Just like the Jecons! Similarly, all cotton versions in teal, purple, ochre and olive stripes, geometrics and prints right off the cover of a Janis Joplin album are available for about \$10 less.

Next stop is across the street at **Johnny B. Goode**, 18 Christopher, for the genuine articles: Antique clothes from the '60s that would make Peggy Lipton's head spin. A rackful of sleeveless A-line dresses is on your left as you walk in, with enough black velvet, sequins and rhinestones (all from between \$30 to \$60) to make any drag queen on a budget delirious. Ask Norma or Paul to help you with the furry, genuine leopard-skin purse, the wraparound patchwork skirt in psychedelic blues, greens and purples, or the red satin hostess pants with three sequin stripes stitched lovingly down each leg: Just like Lucy Ricardo wears! And for those days you wake up feeling just like Jackie Kennedy, there's a whole selection of pillbox hats, all for under \$40.

For those fussy glamour dykes who won't wear it unless it's new, it's off to **Amalgamated** (19 Christopher), for a wide selection of wide ties in prints so loud they speak for you. Denim shirt-vests with zipper fronts (\$135 from Raw King Man); sleeveless trapeze dresses with or without zippers (\$125 from Carol Donawa); and, for the muscle-boys (or girls) among us, see-through silk chiffon chemises in navy or burgundy (\$160 from Artichoke Design) are all here for the asking, at a store where Cheryl Lynn is singing "Got To Be Real," and the talking clock crows like a rooster every hour on the hour. Tell Kathy *OutWeek* sent ya.

Leathermen and leatherwomen need not feel left out on our Outta-Sight Odyssey. Red, electric-blue, tan, dark green and, of course, basic black-leather mini skirts (\$72) can be had at the **New York Leather Co.**, at 33 Christopher, near its serendipitous intersection with Christopher and Gay streets. Mario will also fit you with a dyed antique leather coat or bomber jacket, in colors Jimmy Dean would have hated, or a fringed

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suede shirt, \$155 from MonTee Style.

"It's anything you want it to be," commented Reggie, the man in the fabulous turban presiding over **Man II** at 51 Christopher, on the garishly stiped cotton one-piece sleeveless smock-shorts hanging near the entrance. "It's very casual, very unrestrictive. I don't know if people would wear it out..." Obviously, he's never been to the Clit Club on a Friday night.

And for the one-of-a-kind crowd, Naresh at **Minu Minu** (45 Christopher) promises that, for about \$60, they will sew you the best-fitting pair of custom-made bell-bottoms you've ever owned.

Now, stop in at **New Jimmy's**, put your packages down, order a Tequila Sunrise or a Tia Maria and Cream and get ready to blast off into nostalgia nirvana, for the best is yet to come.

Go directly to **The Loft**, just across Seventh Avenue South at 89 Christopher St., where the owner, Bob Kohler himself, will show you their collection of one-piece jumpsuits in black and purple from the House of Field, the very source of the '60s renaissance. "It's girdle materi-

al," notes Kohler. "I don't know what girdle material is called." It turns out to be tight-fitting lycra and nylon, from \$110.

Don't miss the sparkly spandex (\$28) and potent patent-leather (\$38) club shorts ("They were very big for the Black Party"), the flower-print bicycle shorts or the plush shiny long-sleeve rayon and velvet pullovers, reduced for winter clearance to an irresistible \$20.

The store also sports its own faux-tattoo parlor, where for \$2 to \$10 you can emerge sporting snakes, roses,

scorpions (just like Bette Midler in *The Rose!*), or your less-common dinosaur or happy face. "We'll put them on right here. Any place you want," promises La Kohler. For those shy types, the decals, which look real but come off with baby oil, can also be applied at home.

But the *pièce de résistance* is "the love shirt," an all-cotton denim snap-button long sleeve with the word L-O-V-E stitched in gingham patches across the chest. There's even a peace sign for the O: about \$80 from Joe Dahun.

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And just next door at 87 Christopher, the staff at **Banshee** is waiting to fulfill your every fantasy of looking and living like Diana Rigg, Lieutenant Uhuru or any member of the Partridge Family.

Upon entering, you know immediately that the store is special: Chris, the hunky salesboy, is in the back, spinning around madly and singing along with a cover version of Aretha's greatest hit: "What you want, baby, I got." Truer words were never spoken.

His co-worker, Sue, greets you in a starched yellow crinoline party dress with ruffles that stick out about nine feet. Drop daisy earrings bigger than your fist frame a haircut last seen on Karen Valentine in *Room 222*. She looks fa-a-a-bulous.

Platform shoes, platform boots, Capri pants, velveteen halter tops, hip-huggers, go-go dresses with sewn-on boas: They're all here, lined up along the walls decorated with flower decals. ("We only sell those to special people," comments Sue. Nancy Sinatra begins a chorus of "These Boots Are

Made for Walking.")

Sequins are the favorite fashion statement: sequin headbands (\$12, just like Lady Kierf); sequin hot shorts, sequin biking shorts, sequin skirts, sequin pants and sequin bras, in colors like "citron green," "gun-metal" and, of course, fluorescent pink (from \$50 to \$99).

And staffers are excited about a shipment of patent leather skin-tight cat suits due to arrive any day now. ("You'll look like you were dipped in plastic," Chris promises.)

There are also enough sparkly accessories to make Andy Warhol look drab. Check out the daisy pendants, space-age earrings and birdcage rings. And the store's philosophy is strictly flower-power. There's a \$10-and-under rack—"So everyone can leave with something," the adorable Chris explains. "We know what it's like to be poor."

From spending every last cent on clothes, no doubt, but what good is money anyway if you don't look like fabulousity itself? And what better place to spend it than on the block where Queer America was born?▼



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lookout ●

PENNY: Meryl, Meryl, Meryl. That's all I hear is Meryl. You like her more than me.

CARRIE: Let me ask you, Pen. Seriously. Do you like Robert De Niro more than me? Bobby, Bobby, Bobby. I mean, be honest. Does he wear blue face mask like I do? You can tell me. I can handle it.

PENNY: Oh, stop.

[Marshall's assistant brings a midnight supper, two pieces of broiled, flattened chicken.]

CARRIE: See? Dinner with the stars. You want sauce, Pen?

PENNY: No, I'm too tired. How long is tomorrow?

CARRIE: Twenty-four hours.

PENNY: That long. Are you sure? ◆



Carrie: "You want to beat the clock before your breasts fall."

expression—burst into tears. Like, boom! "Did you hear that? Carrie must've burst into tears again."

PENNY: We should get away somewhere. **CARRIE:** But not to an island, because there's no shopping.

PENNY: It's when everything's going well that I have the most trouble. If things

the princess has to spin a pile of hay into gold. But the pile never gets any lower.

PENNY: You're the princess. **CARRIE:** I was the princess. Now I'm the pile of hay. People say, "What a great year! You must be so happy." It's embarrassing, but you're not really so happy because you're tired and your boyfriend

hit movie, then you're allowed four failures. **CARRIE:** Are you really? **PENNY:** Yeah, that's what they say. But I don't know if that applies to women. And I don't wish to find out. On *Awakenings* the buzz was good. This word I just learned—I mean, the first movie I directed, I came on 10 days into shooting. I had no preparation. I just dropped into it to learn. Now people refer to it as "her failure." Hey, hey, lay back! I got something up on the screen. I finished the movie.



are terrible, I'm solid as a rock. **CARRIE:** Right. If there's a crisis, I can rise to the occasion. But if things are going smoothly, I feel an eerie calm—like, "Uh-oh, something's going to blow."

PENNY: That's when you make up all the neurotic s---, the insecure stuff. **CARRIE:** Yeah. Everything was going nicely, so guess what? I've become phobic.

PENNY: I'm afraid of heights. **CARRIE:** I've gone... have gone... ecy for my marriage. **PENNY:** The... hicroglyphics on the... **CARRIE:** Simon were divorced in 1984.

is nagging you and you're waiting for the other shoe to drop. There is no point at which you can say, "Well, I'm successful now. I might as well take a nap." At best you have moments when you feel sort of competent.

PENNY: I watch my...

An absolute must-read is the current People Extra, appropriately headlined "Women, Sex and Power," which includes such interesting girlie glories as this at-home, no-holds-barred look at Penny Marshall and Carrie Fisher.

...nd felt were...
...D. Dot. of...
...esses in parts that...
...Demeaning.
PENNY: Embarrassing. I didn't know mi was embarrassing until they told me it w
CARRIE: I wasn't ashamed of being f
cest Leia. I mean, people knew who Princess
Leia was, but they didn't know who I was.
PENNY: The characters were more famo
ous than some of our
friends, and that pissed ev
eryone off.



CARRIE: Last October we had our birthday cake inscribed LAVERNE AND LEIA GO TO WAR. It seemed fun at the time.
PENNY: It was 10 years ago we began having joint birthday parties. [Marshall's is Oct. 15, Fisher's Oct. 21.] Being Libras, we can never decide who not to invite. So we invite everybody.
CARRIE: We've never gone in for themes much.
PENNY: One year it was Chinese.
CARRIE: And I got to write the fortune

...thing that attracts men...
...exactly what drives them away as a mate.

HOLLYWOOD—Ah, the glamour of it all. Yes, this truly is the glitter mecca of the world. It's that deliriously dazzling dream-place where...

OK, I'm not really here—or there, rather. I mean, I'm in dirty, sooty, shitty New York. But every mud-slinger on this planet has her column datelined "Hollywood" the week after the Academy Awards. So why should I be any different?

Besides, I was in LA a few weeks ago—part of a hectic and quite dishy journey that took me from New York to Miami to LA to San Francisco and back. And I did want to write all about it. But then, just as I arrived home again, the war broke out (not the imperialistic Gulf War, but the *Village Voice/Silence of the Lambs/Jodie Foster War*). Once again, I found myself called to battle. And suddenly all of the frivolous pleasures in life were cast aside so that we could try to figure out whether the nipple ring on a supposed wanna-be transsexual was really a homo signifier, or if the entire ghastly exhibition was just pure "fool's gold."

These are the times that try *persons'* souls.

But really, I did want to tell you all about the journey: The unsafe-sex bathhouse scandal that rocked Miami; the near-deadly lightening bolt that struck my plane (a botched plot by C. Carr and David Geffen, perhaps?); the brouhaha surrounding West Hollywood's Sports Connection gym, where men are now required to wear bathing suits at all times in the wet areas; the pro-outing, mind-bogglingly PC law students of UCLA (One married couple was particularly interesting: *He's* bisexual, *she's* "theoretically" so, and they don't touch in public because they refuse to take advantage of "heterosexual privilege"); and the weird San Francisco Tavern Guild member (who is also the publisher of *The Sentinel*) who told all of the city's gay-bar owners that they shouldn't keep free copies of *Hunt* (which is produced by the publishers of *OutWeek*) in the bars because the phone-sex ads would induce people to stay home and jerk off rather than patronize their establishments (I'm not kidding).

Anyway, I wanted to report all of these ditties in depth,

GOSSIP WATCH

including—dare I say it?—the lusciously lurid and lustful spectacles that became the defining moments for much of this trip. But just as a lot of the craziness regarding *that movie* died down, the *other* war broke out (no, not the Gulf War—the St. Patrick's Day/Cardinal O'Connor/Patrick Buchanan War). And I got so caught up that the idea of telling

A QUEER NIGHT AT THE OSCARS

those now-old travel tales suddenly seemed, well, quixotic and chimerical—sort of like when people use pretentious, silly, fluffy adjectives. And with all of the hullabaloo, the very thought of going back to the coast to soak up the queer action at the Academy Awards became an effort in and of itself and a reality that no mere mortal queen could ever possibly pursue.

Why am I talking this way?

Oh, I don't know. Maybe I got sunstroke in LA (even though it was raining). That place does weird things to people. I ran into the brilliant AIDS activist, singer and songwriter (the Flirtations), author (*Surviving AIDS*) and PWA Michael Callen, now retired and relocated from New York. His tan was something out of a Hawaiian Tropics ad, and he was carry-

ing a little gym bag, entering the aforementioned pectoral factory, Sports Connection on Santa Monica Boulevard.

"Michael," I said, stretching my arms out over the city, "this place just doesn't seem, well, it just doesn't seem *you*."

He looked me in the eye and, with just the faintest smile, answered, "Well, I'm trying to become more *it*." He then took his little gym bag and scurried—excuse me, "strode"—off.

But enough of these trivialities, and back to the important issue of the day: the Academy Awards. I spent this year's Night of a Thousand Bad Hairdos at the fabulous Manhattan penthouse of Dr. Barbara Starrett, who hosted a benefit for Community Health Project, or CHP. We all drank, ate turkey, watched the awards on three television sets and stopped breathing as Madonna vamped across the screen.

Later, it was down to the Pyramid for a continuation of the CHP benefit, where Les/Linda Simpson handed out the Queer Academy Awards. Though the favorites for best actor were Richard Simmons in *Homo Alone* and Arsenio Hall in *Enemas: A Love Story*, the winner was Richard Gere for his challenging performance in *Dances With Gerbils*. Of course the hands-down favorite for best actress, Jodie Foster in *The Silence of Jodie Foster: Part V*, took the award, even though we were all rooting for Chastity Bono in *Teenage Dyke Ninja Lesbian*. (Secretly though, I was hoping Sandra Bernhard would get it for *Reversal of Foreplay*.)

But LA was where the real queer stuff was happening. Prior to the awards, ACT UP/LA had sent about 1,000 Academy members a well-written, friendly letter, having obtained the list from sympathetic types inside one of the studios. The letter asked members to discuss AIDS issues on camera during the awards—if they got the opportunity—and provided them with lots of facts, figures and statistics (but, of course, no one did speak to the issue). The group also sent the Academy members "Silence=Death" buttons. (Only Bruce Davison, nominated for Best Supporting Actor for *Longtime Companion*, was seen on camera wearing his button.)

According to activists, about 50 members of ACT UP/LA then protested outside the Academy Awards. Three protesters pulled up to the

By Michelangelo Signorile

GAYDAR

Pete Hamill May Be Getting It

entrance in a limousine, just like the fabulous celebrities do, so as to have all eyes on them. Upon getting out of the limo, Terri Ford, Judy Sisneros and Dale Griner threw up a bunch of fliers and chanted, "Lights, Camera, AIDS Action Now!" creating a ruckus and hamming it up for photographers.

Meanwhile, Susan Sarandon, always immensely supportive of ACT UP, approached the demonstrators after exiting her limousine, cheered them on and took a "Silence=Death" button.

Inside, one protester, David Lacaille, got as far as the orchestra in his attempts to take the stage. (He'd gained entrance by using tickets donated by a well-known gay Academy member). He chanted: "102,000 Dead from AIDS! What are you doing?" All heads turned, as he was hauled out by security and arrested by police (but his disturbance wasn't heard on camera).

Later, about 100 people, members of ACT UP and Queer Nation, surrounded Spago, the Beverly Hills restaurant where the famous literary agent Irving "Swift" Lazar tosses his annual post-Oscar, star-studded bash.

The activists say that they were divided into three groups: Two groups were at different parts of the street, facing stars as their limousines came to drop them off at the restaurant, and the third group was stationed at the front door. They held several huge banners and signs: "Come Out Queer Hollywood, Come Out of the Closet"; "Come Out of the Celluloid Closet, The Truth Shall Set You Free"—Vito Russo"; and "Gay Stars Shine Brightest When They Are Out."

As the limos turned onto the block, and as the celebrities—people like Dustin Hoffman, Michael Jackson, Kevin Costner, Madonna, Gene Hackman, Tom Cruise, Arsenio Hall, Glenn Close, Debra Winger and scores of others—exited them, the demonstrators simply chanted a litany of names: "Tom Selleck, Merv Griffin, Jodie Foster, Barry Diller, John Travolta..." They also urged celebrities to talk about AIDS and homophobia. And, of course, as *Newsday's* newest \$300,000-per-year embarrassment, Liz Smith, arrived, activists yelled, "Come out of the closet Liz. Come out!"

Hmmmm. Somehow, *that* didn't get into her column. ▼

As I wrote last week, Pete Hamill's column on the parade was pretty silly, totally avoiding the subject of homophobia. But, from the letters to the editor, and a clarifying column from Hamill, it seems that *Post* readers think he is our biggest supporter.

Defending himself against Cardinal O'Connor's PR blitz, Hamill said that his first column was not Catholic- or Irish-bashing but directed at "the rude oafs who run the parade. If that clique of suburban ushers truly believes that an attack on them is an attack on the Catholic church...that is just additional evidence of their self-absorbed stupidity."

He went on to say that O'Connor's "counsel on religious issues is between him and the flock....But whenever any clergyman enters secular politics and seems to be advocating the imposition of his religious beliefs upon non-believers, then we can expect a grand and open quarrel. That's the nature of this country,

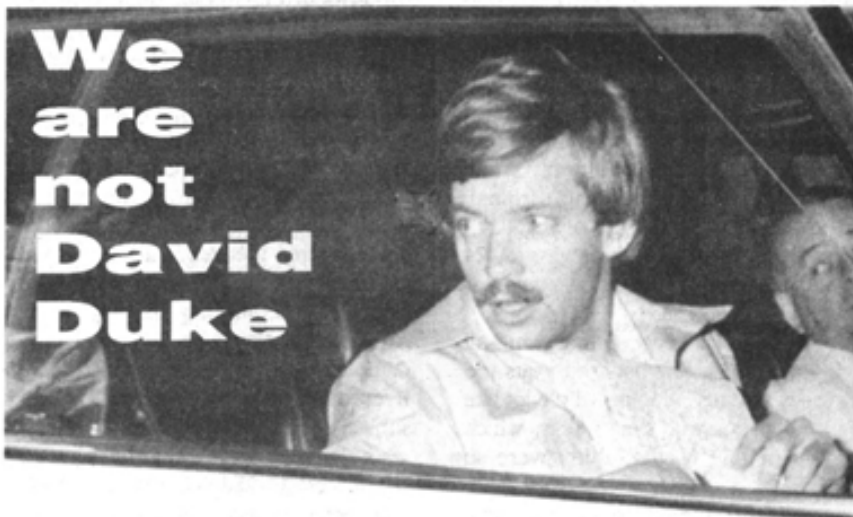
which remains a nation without a state religion....If they tried to use the power of their church to make their opinions into law, I would, as an American, oppose them."

Who is this writing? It sounds a lot like what we at *OutWeek* have been saying for nearly 2 years.

That parade was something important. The world saw some in-your-face violence, and it seems to have changed Mayor Dave, honest. His opinion piece for the *Times* was not about politics. It was about what's right. He "was deeply saddened and, quite frankly, surprised by the outbursts at the parade," and again compared the crowd's "mob hatred" to that faced in the South decades ago. At the end, he renewed calls for Albany to pass the bias-related crime bill which Senate Republicans have stalled.

The *Times* noticed the new mayor and, in a cover story on "A Resolute Dinkins," said that the parade showed his "growing willingness to take unequivocal stands." And we can turn

By Michael Goff



We
are
not
David
Duke

KLAN

this public support into something bigger. For a start, **Karin Schwartz** at **GLAAD** is looking into some sort of alliance with the **NAACP**, **B'nai B'rith** and **NOW** against syndicated columnist **Patrick Buchanan**. It's time to turn him into the Anita Bryant of the '90s and send him packing.

The second wave of St. Pat's press came in last week from the writers who waited to see what everyone else would say. Their reactionary rantings read like a primer of homophobic myths for the '90s.

"ST. PATRICK'S DAY IS HOLY," writes **Bill Reel** in *Newsday*. "Dis-senters from the teaching [of the church]—homosexuals or others—have no business imposing themselves on a parade in honor of the evangelist who is credited with converting Ireland to the Catholic faith."

As if this were such a reverential crowd. When gays and lesbians want to march, the day's theme changes from "the day when everyone in New York is Irish." to some kind of sacred processional.

GAYS HAVE DECLARED WAR ON THE CATHOLIC CHURCH: In his *New York Post* column, former mayor **Ed Koch** asked, "Can you be compelled to march with those whose views are antithetical to the very purpose of the parade?" Koch was joined by **Ray Kerrison** (*Post*), the *Post* Editorial Board and countless others who tied Irish homophobia to **ACT UP's** campaign to balance Cardinal O'Connor's forays into city politics.

Kerrison weighed in for the third time on the issue with some incomprehensible bile that puts him firmly in the 17th century along with the cardinal. "Homosexuality is the fad of the day," he writes, dismissing the rights of 24 million American lesbians and gays as this year's "chic" cause.

So be it. However, Catholicism—all the vogue for a few hundred years too long—is starting to look a whole lot like those thin ties with piano keys, which certain people used to think were so cool.

Seriously though, gays don't hate Catholics, some of whom have figured out that the cardinal's attempts to keep safer-sex information out of the hands of New Yorkers is morally reprehensible.

HAVING GAYS IN THE ST. PAT'S PARADE IS LIKE...: Koch (like Kerrison) asks, "Should the Israeli Day parade be forced to make room for a PLO contingent? Should the organizers of the Martin Luther King Day Parade have to open its ranks to David Duke, the former Ku Klux Klan leader, and his followers? And should skinheads with banners be allowed in the Gay Pride parade?"

Please, Ed. The members of **ILGO** are proudly Irish. It's in their name, and they want to celebrate it. The other groups should not be welcome. They don't accept the right of parade organizers to even exist.

This is not the first alert that something is happening to our former mayor. He has either totally lost it...or he is thinking of running for office with a Rudy Giuliani voter base. His comment that **ILGO** only wanted to be in the parade to "advance their claim that homosexual conduct is morally acceptable" led a friend to suggest that the mayor may actually be straight and brings us to another myth.

GAYS AND LESBIANS WANTED TO TO PROMOTE A POLITICAL AGENDA: Koch says, "If homosexuals and lesbians were in the parade only as Irishmen and woman [sic]...no one would have denied them entry." Koch and the others can't deal with the fact that **ILGO** and others have no problem acknowledging that they are both gay and Irish (or Jewish, Protestant, AA members, whatever). It's not a "political agenda" to proudly identify yourself as what you are. By the end of his column, Koch calls himself a "proud Jew, born in the Bronx, marching with the Holy Name Society of the police department."

There are people in the church who recognize that things must change. They cheered the mayor at the parade and think that they can work within the organization. Among them is **Rev. Andrew Greeley** who defended Irish Catholics against what he called **Jimmy Breslin's** "twisted self-hatred on the subject of Irish Catholicism." (Breslin wrote in *Newsday* that the parade should be abolished, and that Irish Catholics can't deal with sex as well as Italian Catholics.)

Greeley tells us about international research that shows Irish Catholics to be "more tolerant of homosexuality and

premarital sex."

But in Cardinal O'Connor's church, they are not welcome if they come out of the closet with these beliefs (let alone actions). To him and all "devout" Catholics, their abortions, premarital sex and birth control are just as sinful as an AIDS activist crumbling a communion wafer.

In his Lent column for Catholic New York, O'Connor ignored the violence at the parade and chose instead to attack the press, "This Lent, Catholic-bashing has really been the in thing...It suggests we must be doing some things right."

Scary. ▼



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A RECKLESSNESS THAT DIDN'T
VIOLATE ITS DELICACY BUT
ENHANCED IT. DANCING SO
SENSITIVELY TOGETHER THAT
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TUES, APR 2, 8PM
Cartlever Two
Killer-Of-Enemies
The Divine Hero
WORLD PREMIERE
INTENSITIES OF
SPACE, AND WIND
New Moon

WED, APR 3, 8PM
Today, With Dragon
Intensities of Space
and Wind
Plains Daybreak
Heyoka

THUR, APR 4, 8PM
Cartlever Two
Killer-Of-Enemies
The Divine Hero
Agathon

FRI, APR 5, 8PM
Summer-Clouds
People
Intensities of Space
and Wind
Agathon
Heyoka

SAT, APR 6, 2PM
Cartlever Two
Killer-Of-Enemies
The Divine Hero
Intensities of Space
and Wind
Heyoka

SAT, APR 6, 8PM
Cartlever Two
Killer-Of-Enemies
The Divine Hero
Intensities of Space
and Wind
New Moon

SUN, APR 7, 2PM
Cartlever Two
Killer-Of-Enemies
The Divine Hero
Intensities of Space
and Wind
Hurrah!

SUN, APR 7, 7:30PM
Agathon
New Moon
Cartlever Two

Every dance will be
performed with live music.
Erick Hawkins
Dance Company
has never performed to
taped music,
and never will.

DIARY OF A MAD *Queen*

It was a dark and rainy Monday afternoon when I fell back down the rabbit hole. I closed the shades, double-locked the door and crawled back into my cupboard beneath the kitchen sink. I stayed there for almost three days, drifting in and out of reality. Occasionally, one of my 12 alleged roommates would toss in a slice of pizza or a piece of date-nut bread—they care about me, they really do.

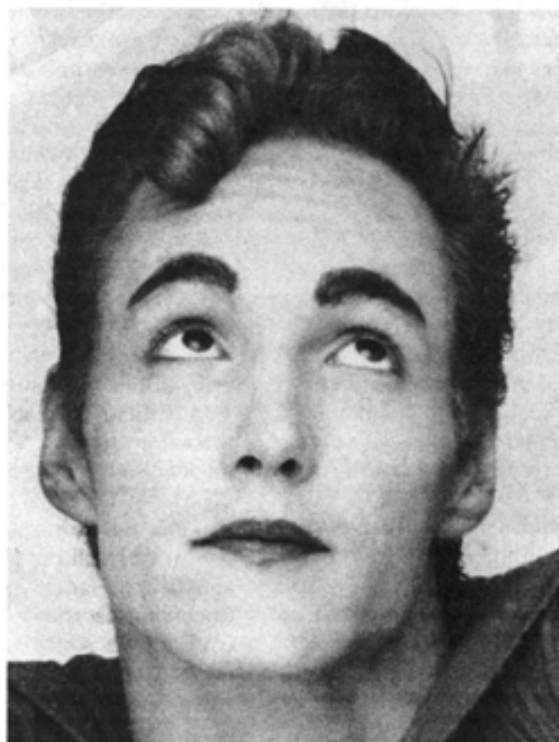
I was really down there, dreaming my little dreams—all of them variations on a theme. I'm at a slumber party over at Pat Buckley's house. There are other girls there—Nancy Reagan, Betsy Bloomingdale—you know, *the* crowd. We sit around doing simple, girlish things like painting each other's toes and giggling about boys. Of course I know you don't approve. You have something against Pat. Lord knows what it could be—she's a perfectly lovely human being. Just a bit misunder-

stood. If it helps any, try thinking of the Buckleys as the Archie and Edith Bunker of the '80s. Sure, William is a fat bigot and a bit of a jerk. But she loves him. She doesn't always agree with what he says, but she stifles herself. And remember, when Archie wasn't around, Edith would run off and play with her Black friends like Weezy Jefferson. And you just know Pat does the same. The minute Billy leaves for work, Pat invites all her faggot friends, like Jerry Zipkin, over to play with her wigs.

Unfortunately, the '90s have not been kind to Pat and her ilk. They were once pretty high on the hog, yes indeed, but that was before the recession hit and conspicuous consumption was made to seem vulgar. This was before the *nouveaux pauvres* were all the rage. Before the First Lady started wearing polyester circus tents to formal affairs, and the first dog had embarked (haha) on a literary career.

I can see Nancy now, desperately clutching Pat's arm, screeching: "What about us? Remember?" Oh, ladies, I feel for you. It's a horrible thing to wake up one day and find yourself no longer in. I've been down that road a few times myself.

Do you sit up nights, Pat, wondering where it all went to? Why Billy and Suzy don't return your calls—or maybe it



hasn't gotten to that point yet. It will, trust me. And do you stare numbly at your scrapbook full of yellowing pictures of yourself at party after party, smiling a little *too* confidently, and wonder who *is* that happy girl? Is that really me?

Are you living in your memories now, girls? Do you call each other at three o'clock in the morning to reminisce about the time Nan got so drunk she peed on the coatcheck floor at Mortimers? Or the time you caught Jackie shooting up in the bathroom stall of the Met? And then you hang up and start to cry because you wish it was *you* still out there peeing on floors and shooting up.

Do you curse the gods?

Do you rail against your former friends, the ones still on top?

"Fuck you, Ivana," you must hiss bitterly behind her back. "We never *really* liked you anyway.

You can keep your tacky publishing deal and your sportswear collection. You're only this year's Vanna White. We'll keep our drooping jowels and withering breasts and frumpy helmet hairdos. We'll stand by our men even when they seem bigoted and incontinent. Because that's where the money is."

And: "A toast!" you say, "A toast to the '80s. To *Dynasty* and hair mousse. To Gorden Gecko, Malcom Forbes and Ivan Boesky, our fallen gods. To better days than this...."

You poor dears.

But, ladies, before you throw on the tattered old Galanos and retire to the attic like some latter-day Miss Havisham, before you crawl into a cupboard of your own—come, let's have a slumber party! Mrs. Buckley, you old dingbat, Nancy darling, let me tell you what inspirations you are to all the little Marla Maples and Dianne Brills out there—to all the future helmet-headed, pearl-twirlers of America. Let's put curlers in our hair and drink Tab and eat lots of cheese doodles. Let's have a party.

I crawl unsteadily out of my cramped little tomb and stumble to the bathroom mirror. I pile on pound after pound of clown-white foundation to hide the 25 years of hard living that stares back at me. Frustrated by what I see, I splash some chicken

By James St. James

LIFESTYLES OF THE DOWNWARDLY MOBILE

A chiropractor once assured Anne that drinking seven cups of water every day would cure her delicate lower back. Although the phrase "placebo effect" springs to mind, she follows this advice because it's so much cheaper than another course of not-covered-by-Blue-Cross adjustments. Madame X, whose spine is robust, is simply a fool for raspberry-flavored seltzer. Now that it's warm, all New York seems to be imbibing Frescas *al fresco*, but those who drink must eventually do something else. Therefore, all New York women have a common problem. No, we don't mean just returning the cans.

Locating clean bathrooms in New York can be a harrowing experience, but sometimes a girl's just got to find a place—*fast*. If it's a particularly nice day, you may find yourself in Central Park; the obvious choice would then be the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Since the entrance fee is a "suggested donation," feel free to hand them a quarter for access to their convenient facilities. If you feel guilty, give more and spend a couple of hours in the Temple of Dendur.

Traveling south, we hit another temple, this one dedicated to the conspicuous wealth of the vulgar bourgeoisie: the Plaza Hotel. You know what they say about New York life: Act as if you own the place. March past the front desk, wave aside porters and head straight toward the "Ladies" sign. Madame X, a frequent user, likes the golden plumbing and shiny marble; most of all, she loves to think that a mere dozen floors above, Ivana resides. This thought makes it so piquant when Madame X whips an indelible black marker out of her bright yellow messenger bag to leave a rude message in the stall.

The same advice—no, *not* about the illegal graffiti—applies to would-be borrowers of any other midtown hotel's facilities: Act as if you belong. If you can cope with the inevitable restroom lines, you can eavesdrop at conventions. It's a sterling opportunity to observe the bonding behavior of female travel agents, dentists, historians, romance novelists or whomever. Romance novelists' gossip is the best, but all women basically talk about the same thing at conventions: money.

Gay men and lesbians don't share the same bathroom experiences; to us, they've never been so...special. Still, there are some

interesting anecdotes about ladies' rooms. Anne has seen more than one pair of shoes in a single stall—admittedly, it was in the bathroom at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center. (The Center has by far the most aesthetically pleasing bathroom in New York, by the way.) Madame X fondly recalls brief glances exchanged in the third-floor bathrooms of the public library's main branch; she wasted two hours following one woman out to Queens and back. Alas, the desired one was oblivious, and even in Queens, the MTA keeps the subway bathrooms tightly locked. Not that Madame X would set foot in a subway john, even for the sake of important research.

On a more practical note, we recommend the library's bathrooms, most notably the ones on the lower floor of the 42nd Street entrance. They are free, clean and provide unparalleled opportunities to check out the latest scholarship. (Ahem.) The NYU library, on the other hand, is no place for cruising. NYU students don't seem to be diligent readers, so the whole place is usually empty, bathrooms and all. The catch is, you need an up-to-date college ID to get into this useful downtown comfort station.

In its small but pressing way, the women's-room problem reflects larger issues. Bathrooms are the only places (including recent lesbians' meetings at the Center) which (our whole society agrees) must be sex-segregated. It doesn't have to be that way: In the small-town punk club where Anne spent her high-school nights, the two bathrooms were unofficially dubbed "light" and "dark." "Dark" was for drugs and sex and its lightbulb was always smashed; light was for makeup and, in it, straight girls struggled with hustlers of both sexes for mirror space. If you had to pee, a friend stood in front of you as a shield.

That was then; this is now. New York men have the privilege of pissing anyplace the impulse strikes. If they had to wait until there was a closed door in front of them (or behind them as the case may be), you can bet there would be a lot more public toilets. As it is, we console ourselves by heckling guys urinating in the streets. Pointing and laughing work well, as do comments on accuracy ("Look at that! He got it all over his shoe!") and size. We figure, What the hell? If the guy gets too mad, we can always find a ladies' room somewhere to hide out in. ▼



By Madame X and
Anne Rubenstein

THE ARTS

Honey Girl 350 Scare on West 12th Street

Charles Busch in the Spotlight

by Joe E. Jeffreys

A fire burned in the apartment upstairs. Undisturbed, Charles Busch and Julie Halston single-mindedly continued to discuss and rehearse a scene from Busch's latest play. It was only when Busch noticed a firefighter's ladder pass outside his third-story living room window that he even suspected something out of the ordinary. Halston ran to the kitchen of the railroad apartment only to discover it swimming in smoke. "Suddenly I was so thrilled with myself," Busch recalls, "all the warnings that I had gotten from TV or reading about it came back. And I was saying, 'Julie, don't open the door! Don't open the door! The wall of fire!' You know, 'Don't touch the door knob!' I was going to throw a rug on her head." Halston bolted downstairs, despite Busch's composed warnings.

Busch had, in his composure, prepared for just such a moment. "So often I've sat here watching TV or something and thought, 'If there was a fire, what would I take?'" His preparation was about to pay off. Busch scrambled for his credit cards, so he could book a night at the Ritz if need be and grabbed his most rare and prized possession—his collection of Honey Girl 350 wigs.

These Honey Girl 350 wigs are Busch's trademark—a discontinued red-

wig line that allows him to transmogrify into Chicklet in *Psycho Beach Party* or

Gertrude Garnet in *The Lady in Question* or the Virgin Sacrifice in *Vampire*



Photo: T.L. Boston

THE WALL OF FIRE!—Charles Busch as Mary Dale

Lesbians of Sodom or, his latest creation, *Mary Dale* in *Red Scare on Sunset*. And "the dynell is just so versatile" that, even if Busch no longer played these roles, losing such fine wigs would be a shame.

West 12th Street had quite a scare over the Honey Girl 350s, and the theatrical community might equally brace itself for Busch's latest fright, *Red Scare on Sunset*. The author of Off-Broadway's longest-running comedy (2,024 performances), *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*, Busch is now directing his attention toward the House Un-American Activities Committee. As if guilty by suspicion, Busch indicts his last play, *The Lady in Question*, set in Nazi Germany in the early '40s as a possible impetus for this, his latest: "I said to Arnie Kolodner, my leading man, backstage one night: 'If we ever did the sequel to this set in the '50s, you'd be facing the House Un-American Activities Committee. And where would I fit in? I would denounce you, even though you were my husband.'" In this way, a play is born, and, as the wigs are safe, it must go on.

"They Are Everywhere" trumpets a newspaper headline on the poster for *Red Scare on Sunset*. And so they are. Busch's take on the events surrounding the '50s Red Scare focuses on a Communist's attempt to promote the party line by infiltrating Hollywood's continuous flow of technicolor extravaganzas with actors trained in gritty black-and-white method technique.

"Can They Be Stopped?" queries another headline from the poster. For the answer to this, you will have to see the play. The questions raised by Busch during our interview seemed far more pressing. "I'm prepared to start getting the letters and phone calls," Busch readily admits. In *Red Scare*, Busch's character, a gay dramatist and actor who appeals to a large gay audience, is involved in a subplot with a blacklisted gay actor. The actor jumps out of a fifth-floor hospital window and kills himself. "I'm satirizing that sort of thing. I hope people are intelligent enough to see that it's tongue in cheek," Busch remarks.

Vito Russo's "Necrology," which concludes *The Celluloid Closet*, his study of homosexuality in the movies, serves as a chilling reminder of Hollywood's homophobia, especially of those movies made in the '50s. Busch's inclusion of such detail in *Red Scare* can be seen as reflective of its parodic medium. But it can also

be spun from the other side—as reflecting the values of these '50s Hollywood horrors. "I'm really so unpolitical. I wish I could tell you that I was passionate about those sort of things," Busch answers.

This is not the first time Busch's politics have been called on the mat. Writing in the *Village Voice*, Michael Feingold stated that his *Lady in Question* "very lightly skate[d] over any serious matter inherent in the work," adding that this "knowing lightness is the essence of good entertainment," yet that it leads one to ask, "Is it possible that he [Busch], too, believes the old show-biz corn of which he's created such sly, devastating parodies?"

Busch embraces Feingold's commentary: "Very interesting piece—even though he was being critical, I thought he probably understood me better than anybody else....I'm a popular entertainer. That's where I'm coming from. I'm not the type to do a blue-sting indictment of society. I believe in conventions of the well-made play. I believe in conventions of melodrama."

While believing in these conventions, Busch is also willing to disrupt and subvert them. Busch specializes in female roles, and for the actor this drag "other" is in no way an "issue." He has rejected several opportunities to appear on such national telecasts as *Donabue* or *Oprah*. To Busch's mind, these shows are issue-oriented venues: "I never thought what I did was an issue....They're just trying to make an issue out of something that's popular entertainment." (Be warned Andrew Ross.)

Although Busch has in fact appeared on *Donabue* once ("I still wish I hadn't done *Donabue* now. I regret it...., but I was desperately trying to save two shows—one on each coast—that were about to close, so I would do anything to publicize them"), his fear was grounded in a notion that the audiences would conflate lifestyle—transvestism or transsexualism—with his actor's role. The audience obliged his fear.

Like all female impersonators, Busch does not wear his drag off-stage. It is merely an actor's role put on and taken off. Yet as Michael Moon and Eve Sedgwick jointly theorize in the current issue of *Discourse*, female impersonation should not be separated from homosexuality. In Moon and Sedgwick's opinion,

Mary Dale comes out in all her '50s glory, Honey Girl 350 wig appropriately styled, ready to hunt down those Commies. "I think that just by who I am, it's political," Busch allows, "but I do tend to tread lightly."

female impersonation is a hot topic among glit-crits, as it allows them to flirt with the issue of homosexuality without ever having to directly name the love that dare not speak its name.

Although Busch admits to being evasive on the issue of his homosexuality on *Donabue* so as not to conflate transvestism or transsexualism with homosexuality or female impersonation, he has publicly come out elsewhere and agrees with Moon and Sedgwick's conclusion.

Red Scare on Sunset, along with Busch's other plays for his Theatre in Limbo company, further disrupts standards of the melodrama and well-made play through his use of drag. Busch's female roles, unlike those of mainstream drag plays such as *Charlie's Aunt*, present him from start to finish as a woman. At no point do the characters go through ridiculous machinations to put the male

lead in a dress, for him then only to act awkwardly in it. Busch's characters are introduced in a dress and for the duration

THEATER

of the play are accepted as women.

The extreme structural disruption of this approach is evidenced through a glance at the history of drag plays. Prior to *Charlie's Aunt*, drag plays were constructed along the continuum Busch employs. The drag character was introduced in a dress and remained so throughout the play, with all characters assuming him to be female. Slippage of this false recognition was admissible only for brief, winking comic asides. As the 19th century began to roll over into the 20th, the notion of the invert was introduced by medical science and quickly rooted in public consciousness.

Inversion, as first defined, referred to a man who desired to be a woman and would often dress as such to obtain his sexual end—another man. Drag plays reflecting the public awareness of inversion surfaced, starting with *Charlie's Aunt* in 1892, and created a chasm between the man and the dress. The man now had literally to be forced by life-threatening circumstances to don a dress. Such shenanigans assured the audience that the object onstage had no perverse desires in mind. This structural holdover continues in today's drag classics. Think of *Some Like It Hot* or *Tootsie*, and what about that all-but-forgotten TV show, *Bosom Buddies*?



SCARE TACTICS—Arnie Kolodner with Busch

Busch's plays cut against this mainstream tendency. Mary Dale comes out in all her '50s glory, Honey Girl 350 wig appropriately styled, ready to hunt down those Commies. "I think that just by who I am, it's political," Busch allows, "but I do tend to tread lightly."

The Red Scare of the '50s is a possible parallel to the political-cor-

rectness scare of today. Busch may have the last word after all: "It's not enough that a guy in drag can just be funny and an entertainer. It's safer if they can put you in an intellectual or political context. They can't just say: 'See? Isn't he great, and isn't that funny? We enjoyed that show.' I think its more fun to be Bette Davis than George Brett." ▼

SPRING BLOOM...It's almost summer, and things are heating up. And just in time, Alycee J. Lane and BLK Publishing Company, the corporation behind the national lesbian and gay newsmagazine *BLK*, have brought out the first issue of an erotic quarterly for Black lesbians. Entitled *Black Lace*, it features a range of bold, smoldering copy, including commentary, poetry and short stories, as well as "Dyke Horoscopes" and "Hot Lace Letters." Subscribe today, and be up to speed by summertime. *Black Lace*, BLK Publishing Corp., PO Box 83912, Los Angeles, CA 90083.

THE HUNGER...if you're still hungry, the soon-to-be-launched lezzie bi-monthly (that refers to its frequency), *Deneuve*, is forming as we speak. "Dedicated to lesbian news and politics, arts and entertainment, love and even sex," it hails from San Francisco and promises, among other lures, to deliver an article on lesbian firefighters. Get out your hose, girls.

OUT OF HER MIND...And if you're still not spent, Madwoman Press is accepting manuscripts "by, for and about lesbians." Novel-length fiction, cartoons and comics are all welcome. These folks want "the upbeat, the tale of triumph



over adversity, the story of pride in being lesbian," so leave your sob stories at home. They even promise to respond to queries in eight weeks. Could this account for the madness? Madwoman Press, PO Box 690, Northboro, MA 01532.

AVERSION THERAPY REVISITED...Richard Schmiechen, he of *Harvey Milk* fame, is winding up work on a docu-

mentary about mental health professional Dr. Evelyn Hooker. Hooker's study of gay men is widely believed to have been instrumental in the declassification of homosexuality as an illness by the APA in 1973. Producer Dr. James Harrison is still in search of home movies, photos and memorabilia about queer life in the '40s, '50s and '60s, individuals who were acquainted with Hooker or who may have been subjects of abuse or injury at the hands of lesser professionals during that time. Harrison can be contacted at the Foundation for Integrative Studies, 123 W. 44th St., Garden Level, New York, NY 10036, or at (212) 580-4826.

— compiled by Sarah Pettit

A Life Worth Examining

Ross Bleckner Opens Up

ROSS BLECKNER. Mary Boone Gallery. 417 W. Broadway. April 6-27.

by John Donahue

Leaning against the wall of his studio, the exposed back of a new painting by Ross Bleckner revealed scores of burn marks. For his new exhibition opening on April 6 at the Mary Boone Gallery, Ross Bleckner has used the torch as a brush. Images were painted, then scraped off or burnt, woven under and over his homemade varnish in work that mixes painting with alchemy. The resultant paintings have a rawness that is new in Bleckner's work.

The afternoon I visited his studio, with its striped surfaces and austere beauty, several paintings for the show were hung or in the process of completion. Renny, his dog, lay on the wooden floor, the fur exactly between her eyes going gray. On a side table, a double row of enamel pots contained his brew of paints. We sat and talked at his work table.

The collective name for this body of work, painted almost exclusively in black and white, is *Examined Life*, a phrase taken from this quotation: "An unexamined life is not worth living, and the un-lived life is not worth examining." The first half is Freud, the second a recent jokey addition.

Bleckner is no stranger to paintings that examine and reveal his psyche. His rise to international fame in the '80s was based on two distinct bodies of work. One group consisted of striped paintings modeled loosely on '60s Op art, though Bleckner fuzzed Op's hard-edged line and added personal imagery. He also produced brooding, elegiac paintings, with titles such as "8122 and Counting," "Knights Not Nights" and "Recover" that were the opposite of his cool abstract work and referred to the mounting losses of the AIDS crisis. His paintings seduced the viewer with either optics or knee-buckling beauty. This is his first New York show in two years.

According to Bleckner, these paintings examine different sites—a place in the studio, a place in a laboratory, a place in the body. "All these paintings are about recirculation of matter, and

UNPAINTED PAINTINGS—The artist poses.



decay and transformation," he explained. Bleckner's work has always contained recognizable objects ranging from urns and shields to chandeliers and birds. In his new paintings, these icons have been shredded; he's managed to represent these images even without their appearing. "I wanted a burnt image," he continued, "I wanted images achieved by destroying the image. The paintings are kind of elaborate in what's in them—but it's like nothing is in them, 'cause I've taken it all away."

The most unconventional painting in the *Examined Life* series consists of a grid of smaller canvases butted one against the other, each containing a cellular portrait. He described the paintings, initially constructed as studies, as "anonymous blood portraits." Some cell's centers were burned and look like dried blood. He wanted to explore mutation, he said: "That's what science is, what disease is really. Mutation within a structure."

A self-proclaimed workaholic, Bleckner has worked on and off for two years on *Examined Life*. The show will contain seven or eight works. "It's been very difficult, this group of paintings," he allowed. "They make me very anxious. I wanted these paintings to be color paintings, and they ended up being the most reserved paintings I've done. Since I've been working on them, I've used four tubes of paint. They are very thinly painted, like unpainted paintings." Bleckner has always excelled in producing beautiful images without sentimentality. His work has a stillness to it, a mystery, and frequently evokes loss and pain. The new work is no exception.

Apparently, Bleckner has thought deeply about the effect of AIDS on the gay community: "I think a lot of gay men think about what is important in life right now," he explained. "Gay people, more than anyone else right now, have had to deal with mortality. The things that made people happy 10 years ago don't make people happy now. They want more. They want to inquire deeper. I think that's why a lot of people are getting more political, because they want to be more connected to their life—and do something that directly affects

the community."

Bleckner finds similarities between the process of painting and that of thinking, an equation only possible to an artist in full control of her or his medium. Yet as the burn marks indicate, Bleckner frequently experiments and sees his studio as a laboratory investigating the physics of paintings. It also offers a clue to understanding his work: "Painting is very dispersed, in the way it contains meaning, especially in a time that's very difficult. Painting seems to be more irrelevant, the more difficult times are. I think that's why younger artists a lot of the time choose not to make paintings," he said, adding, "I think the opposite."

Bleckner's paintings are sought by museums and collectors worldwide, and I'll confess my own bias that he's one of the top painters working today, anywhere. His sensibility speaks directly to mine, or more specifically, his work avoids the pose many of his contemporaries indulge. Of all the '80s art stars, he's the sole gay representative, besides Keith Haring, on an international level.

"In the art world, I see a big movement of young gay artists," he observed. "They're becoming much more prominent. My generation of artists, I think, is dominated by heterosexual worldviews. It was always a little bit hard for me to relate. Once in a while, you get a Jasper Johns, but I think it's an illusion that the art world is exempt from the codes of regular social life. It's just as homophobic and racist as the world everywhere, and sexist."

Bleckner's paintings probe, question and problematize. If, as Bleckner suggests, the role of an artist is to try and make sense of the world, his paintings, which he calls "dark fairy tales," chart a singular course: "I always thought—when I was younger, which is why I became such a workaholic type—that the only thing that was going to get me over my insecurity, or the only thing that was going to matter, was my relationship to my art—not my relationship to my boyfriends. You have to have something that is the center of your life that you love and that you've created yourself. That is the way to be happy in life." ▼

"In the art world, I see a big movement of young gay artists," he observed.

"They're becoming much more prominent. My generation of artists, I think, is dominated by heterosexual worldviews. It was always a little bit hard for me to relate."

ART

Spring Out

The Monthly Consumer Guide

by Ernest Hardy

STRANGE FREE WORLD.

Kitchens of Distinction: (A&M).

Kitchens of Distinction is what Morrissey would be if he'd stop wearing his threadbare cleverness on his sleeves, *really* put himself on the line and showed true vulnerability—and the ensuing rewards and consequences of it. The group is what Cocteau Twins would be if Elizabeth Fraser's gorgeous ramblings made sense in any language. Cribbing lyrics from *my* diary (to read the lyric sheet is to have your heart pierced with recognition) and drenching them in a wall of sound that ranges from a blur of frenzied guitar to a soothing sparseness (sometimes in the space of one song), Kitchens of Distinction creates musical short stories that haunt, provoke and move. Lead singer (and bassist/lyricist) Patrick Fitzgerald, who is the only gay member of the trio, writes lyrics that are both specifically gay and universally appealing: for example, from the track "Gorgeous Love": "I can feel the waves of your gorgeous love, and it hurts to think that this is wrong/I can take your pain, anything, to overcome our fear, and we're strong, strong enough to prove it." And from the track "Within the Daze of Passion": "This good, I swear, I'm staying lurking in your arms/So good in sin, I'm staying with you in bitter senses." Even songs that depict hetero relationships ("Quick as Rainbows") show a decidedly queer quality; it's doubtful that a straight man could so brilliantly capture the myriad emotions that arise from giving of yourself physically and emotionally and then realizing how little it has meant to the other person—because he had the upper hand to begin with and never had as much at stake. (Fitzgerald has said that his songs all have origins in his own experiences and the "she"s he sings about have been changed from "he.") "Rainbows" hones in on an inequality in relationships that most straight men just

don't have to—and therefore rarely do—think about. There is sadness in the strange free world of Kitchens of Distinction, but there is also strength, beauty, poetry and more than a glimmer of brilliance. Visit soon.

THE MARTYR MANTRAS.

Boy George (Virgin).

Boy George's solo career has been spotty at best, putting fans in the sometimes-uncomfortable position of watching a major talent stretch and grow—and make the inevitable fuck-ups that are part of the process. A calmness and assurance permeate *The Martyr Mantras*, putting an end to the creative searching that marred efforts such as 1989's *High Hat* with its ill-advised new-jack experimentation. The new disc is a subtle but powerful salute to the Boy's much-publicized spiritual conversion (a salute given a more obvious nod on the Krishna tribute, "Bow Down, Mister"). His voice is better than it's ever been, swinging from silk-and-honey tones to a grayed falsetto, all the while brimming with emotion. Highlights are the melancholy "I Specialize in Loneliness" ("I know these are dangerous times for love/Shouldn't we stick together?"), the club hit "Generations of Love" and the blatantly '70s disco/r&b track "Love Hurts." This is also the most *homo*

work he's ever done (the track "One on One" creates a love triangle that's either two-thirds gay or two-thirds lesbian), though oblivious Top-40 whores will never pick up on half of it. Not quite solid enough to be called his masterpiece (the pedantic "No Clause 28" and filler like "Too Much Love" are the flaws), *Mantras* offers ample evidence that Mr. O'Dowd is not to be written off as yesterday's news.

CONTRIBUTION.

Mica Paris (Island).

The diva-in-training returns with a disc that confirms what her debut, *So Good*, only hinted at: Paris is going to be a major musical force in this decade. Her talent lies in the tension created between a smooth exterior (say, Sade) and a core seething with passion. Contributions from Prince (the song, "If I Love U 2 Nite") and a great rap by Rakim (of Eric B. and Rakim fame)—as well as hip hop- and House-flavored production—in a no way overshadow Paris' talent. A definitive version of Smokey Robinson's "More Love" and the impossibly sexy songs "Truth and Honesty," "You Can Make a Wish" and the aforementioned "If I Love U 2 Nite" are standouts.



TALKIN' BOUT A CONTRIBUTION—Diva-in-Training Mica Paris

MUSIC

ROUND THE OUTSIDE, ROUND THE OUTSIDE.

Malcolm McLaren (Island).

Mixing, matching and sampling from a variety of sources, pop's premier multi-level swindler returns with a work that has its moments (namely the remixes of past hits "Buffalo Gals" and "World's Famous Supreme Team") but none that approach the brilliance of his classic album, *Fans*, or its glittering centerpiece, "Madam Butterfly." Rap dominates here with a too-crude "Romeo and Juliet" (despite the seamless blend of samples, it's short on real inspiration but perfect for horny teens who also despise the bard) and an on-the-mark "II Be or Not II Be," from Hamlet's famous soliloquy. This is one of those releases that seems great initially, but increasingly less so the more you hear it. Remixed sin-

gles could reach the potential that is hinted at on the album.

"IT'S A SHAME."

Monie Love (Warner Bros.).

The follow-up single to the disappointing, high-school-crush-themed "Monie in the Middle" is what we were all craving based on Love's output with Queen Latifah and the Jungle Bros. Sassy and wise advice to a sister whose man is treating her badly, "Shame" is a clever ode to sisterhood that absolutely sizzles in the "Cool As..." House mix. Essential.

"RESCUE ME."

Madonna (Warner Bros.).

Both one of the best and one of the worse things she's done. A simple-minded chorus and bridge ("Love is under-

standing"—*please!*) undermines the otherwise very cool lyrics, while the whole thing basks in the glory of "Vogue." The "Alternative Mix" is best mainly because it dares to shake off the shadow of the familiar. She gets to belt out the chorus and weave all the dramatic verse with the spoken verse, proving once and for all that she is an actress. A near gem.

"CLOUD 8."

Frazier Chorus (Charisma).

The title says it all. This one threatens to float right off your player with feathery vocals and sparse Soul II Soul-style production that will have your toes tapping and body swaying. Nancy Reagan and William Bennett beware: This is as close to an aural drug as you've heard in a long time. ▼

For a Good Time, Call...

SCOUTS. April 18. CBGB's. 315 Bowery. (212) 982-4052. 8:30 pm.

by Dale Peck

I'm a skeptic when it comes to live music in New York, and it's rare that I'll go hear an unsigned band. It always ends up costing too much, and, of the few bands I *have* seen, most have been pretty bad. I mean, who wants to drop \$25 to see four or five guys doing: a) their rendition of the Sex Pistols on heroin, b) their rendition of REM on Quaaludes or c) "our own thing, man, like, our own thing." To top it off, there are no queer venues for live rock 'n' roll in New York that I know of, which means putting up with a bunch of straight people who usually can't dance, can't dress and whose big hair keeps getting in the way.

Going to see Scouts, then, was a risk, but a risk that I'm glad I took. I con-

fess that I went mostly because a friend vouched for them, and because he eliminated the money problem by producing

free passes. But I've seen them twice now—first at the Bitter End a couple of months ago, then at Continental Divide a few weeks ago—and I've enjoyed both shows.

Like most struggling bands, the Scouts' stage props weren't elaborate: At the Bitter End, they taped to the wall a neon green poster that read, in black letters, "Scouts." At Continental Divide, they taped up two. Six people shared



A MISERABLY GOOD

TIME—David Driver and Marty Beller of the Scouts

the stage with the posters, four guys on instruments (drums, bass, guitar, keyboards), a female backup singer and a male lead singer, David Driver, who took the stage at the first show wearing your basic thrift-store suit with a twist: It was fringed up and down the legs and under the arms with thick gold tassels that reminded me of the border on my step-mother's kitchen curtains. (David, I should mention to *OutWeek* readers, is the gay one, and he's cute too.)

By the first songs of both shows, the element of kitsch in the suit was amplified almost to the level of camp. At

the Bitter End, they opened with a rock 'n' roll cover of Wayne Newton's "Daddy, Don't You Walk So Fast" that had Lisanne Paulin, the backup vocalist, singing the part of Daddy, and David singing the part of the little girl. At Continental Divide, they opened with a version of "Last Night I Didn't Get to Sleep at All" which was so good that I almost didn't notice that it was a cover. These songs worked well as audience hooks, immediately establishing that the band both knew how to play

MUSIC

their instruments *and* had a sense of humor.

They also established David as a focal point. A lot of lead singers get attention

just because they're lead singers, but David earns his. He worked the microphone and the stage and his silly suit, and he especially worked his hair, which, at the beginning of the night, was neatly combed and then, with a shake, fell around his head and covered his face, ending up pulled back in a short ponytail *à la* Jack Nicholson in *Witches of Eastwick*. Someone suggested to me that David seemed theatrically trained, and when I asked after the show, this turned out to be the case. It's a training he puts to good use, creating a stage presence that, on one level—that of pursed lips and swinging hips—seems to be parodying macho male lead singers but, because he's so sexy, doesn't deny you the pleasure of staring at those hips as they swing.

Musically, everything is fast-tempo rock 'n' roll. David, who writes nearly all of Scouts' songs with drummer Marty Beller, told me that his main objective is to keep things fun and danceable. Lyrically, he's more serious. He told me that he tries to write songs which say that, despite the fact that the world is "really shitty," it's still possible to feel OK and have some fun. Song titles like "Happy the Hard Way," which is the title cut from their four-song cassette, and "We Said OK" point to that opposition. He's successful in his mission: Both shows left me feeling that he was kind of miserable but having a good time anyway (as opposed to someone like Morrissey, who seems to have a good time *because* he's miserable).

Queer viewers who see Scouts shouldn't expect a political manifesto—David's the only gay member of the band, and there's nothing overtly gay about their music. But there's nothing overtly straight about it either, and as he doesn't write love songs, he doesn't fall into the pit of unconsciously promoting heterosexuality. All in all, Scouts are a good time, which is, when it comes down to it, exactly what they want to be, and something we all need every once in a while.

For your very own Scouts cassette, send a check for \$5.95 (payable to M. Beller) to P.O. Box 1694, NY NY 10009. ▼

sit and SPIN

DJ: Jim "Skippy" Belanger

CITY: Chicago

CLUBS: Roscoes (Tuesday, Friday and Sunday), Europa (Wednesday and Saturday)

1. "What Time Is Love?" by KLF
2. "Replay" by Tom Tom (Import)
3. "Dangerous on the Dance Floor" by Musto and Bones
4. "Move Your Body (Elevate)" by Xpansions (Import)
5. "Me the Mailman" by Six Bells All (Import)
6. "Kraken" by N-Joi (Import)
7. "Here We Go" (Dub Mix) by C and C Music Factory
8. "People Are Still Having Sex" by LaTour
9. "Subsonic Trance" Beltram (Import)
10. "Move Any Mountain" (Pro-Gen) by the Shamen (Import)

Victory Dance

VANISHING ROOMS by Melvin Dixon. Dutton. \$18.95 cl. 211 pp.

by John Preston

One of the purposes of the *Men on Men* series, edited by George Stambolian and published by NAL/Plume, is to talent-search. While many of the contributors already have a place in the literary world, the anthologies are an opportunity for newcomers to show their work to editors and for previously published authors to display their works in progress.

Melvin Dixon's new novel, *Vanishing Rooms* (his first novel, *Trouble the Water*, won the 1989 Nilon Award for Excellence in Minority Fiction) is the fulfillment of a shorter piece, "Red Leaves," which originally appeared as a story in *Men on Men 2*.

The plot: It's 1976, and Jesse is the survivor of a gay couple whose move to New York takes a catastrophic turn when one of them, Metro, is killed by a gang of gay-bashers. Jesse is Black; his lover was white. Entranced by the power of the subterranean landscape that gave him his nickname (he is a man who moves underground, under everything in his life), Metro was beginning to explore the docks and other anonymous-sex spots in the city and was also beginning to objectify Jesse, calling out to his "nigger," offering to become Jesse's sexual "nigger" during sex, stripping Jesse of his most vital and most hard-won identities as man and beloved.

With Metro murdered just as their racial conflicts were coming to the fore, Jesse has been left with unresolved emotions. He finds himself alone in the city, without his anchor. By profession a dancer, he teams up with Ruella, a Black woman in his dance workshop: Just before he learns of Metro's death, in a moment neither can forget, Jesse and Ruella dance a duet by means of which each of them defines a self. Dance is their redemption, their individual expression.

When he learns of Metro's death, Jesse can't stand living in their old apartment, so he turns to Ruella, who takes him in. Unable to have his own room, Jesse takes hers, even renames her

"Rooms," in this way doing to her precisely what Metro had done to him—viewing her as something he needs, not as her own person.

Formally, *Vanishing Rooms* has three voices: Besides Jesse and Ruella, there's Lonny, the Italian-American teenager who was involved in Metro's death. The tides and torrents of three people trying to create themselves in the midst of urban violence and anti-individual hatred are at the core of this novel. *Vanishing Rooms* is about spaces, the spaces that we're given by society, and our ability and need to create, define and defend our own spaces against society's assaults.

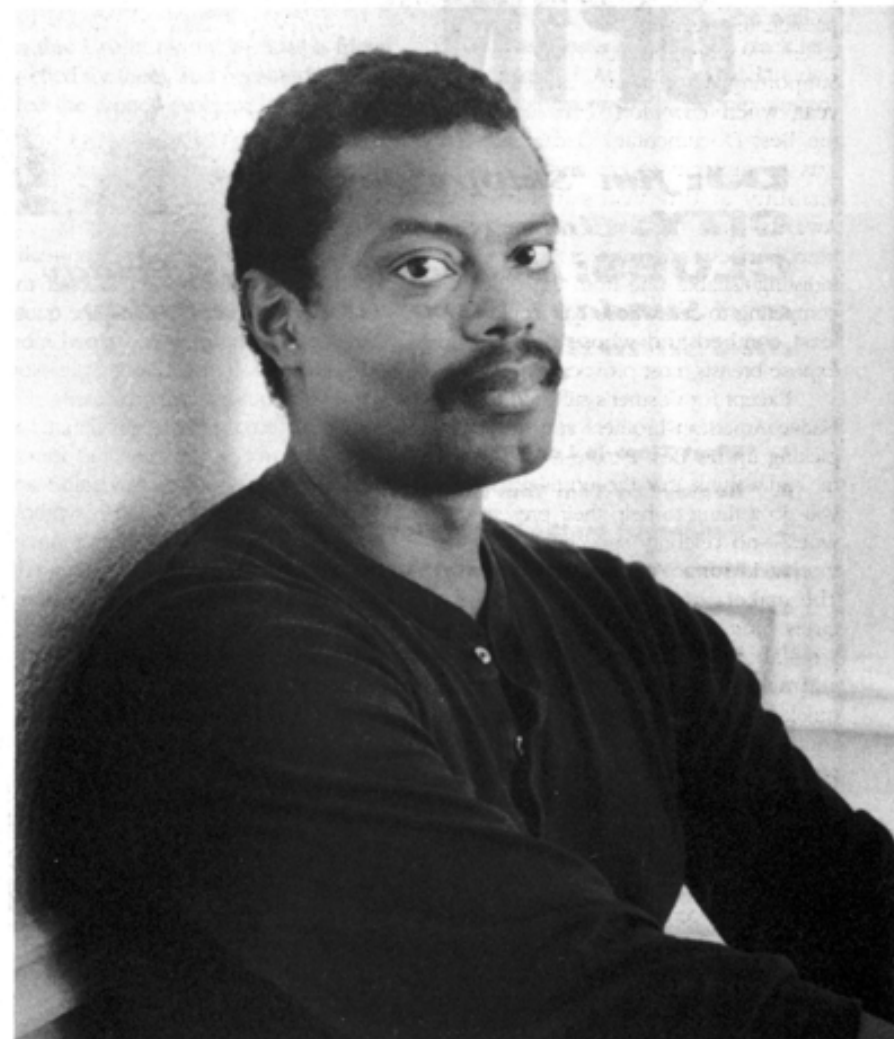
The collision of Jesse and Ruella allows them to find what they each need in themselves, even when it becomes painfully clear that what

they need is not one another. Lonny finds neither his own space nor the tools to discover one for himself. He ends up a hustler, which marks a tragic role-reversal of the self whose insecurities led to Metro's death.

The metaphors and themes of dance are woven throughout this novel of emotional movement and passionate spacial-definition. Large parts of *Vanishing Rooms* are written with lyricism so perfect that any distinction between poetry and prose is beside the point. There is, in these pages, the piling beat of the city, the drums of African-American experience, the soft lullabies of affection and even the cry of a lover's hurt. Though his plot may be too structured, with coincidence overwhelming chance, Dixon's novel is a major achievement. Its direct look at interracial gay relations, its virtuoso voice and its

expression of hope in the face of injustice combine to produce what's sure to be a much-talked about and much-loved book. ▼

BOOKS



NOT VANISHING—Author Melvin Dixon

Oscar Absences

by Bruce C. Steele

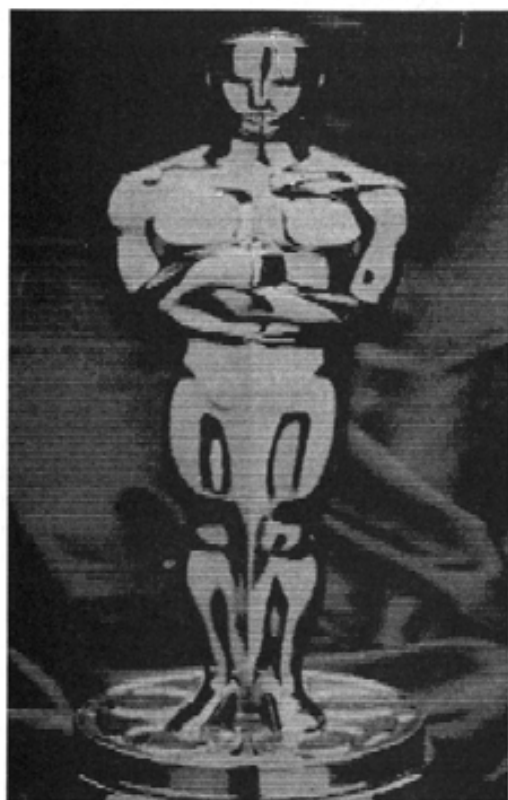
Exactly ten years ago, Martin Scorsese lost the Best Director Oscar to an actor directing his first picture when Robert Redford's *Ordinary People* beat out *Raging Bull*. Cue *Twilight Zone* music: It happened all over again last week. Scorsese earned the award with the bravura craftsmanship of *GoodFellas*, but Kevin Costner won it for mooning the camera and stuffing the wide screen with bison, integrity and sentiment in *Dances With Wolves*.

At least actor Joe Pesci—nominated for *Raging Bull*—turned things around for himself by winning *GoodFellas*' only Oscar. But for the gay men gathered in my living room, Pesci's win was the nadir of the evening, because that meant that Bruce Davison had been shut out for *Longtime Companion*. We didn't get the chance to hear the "Fight AIDS, not war!" speech he has dutifully and passionately delivered at every other ceremony where he picked up a Best Supporting Actor award. Unlike last year, when *Common Threads* won the Best Documentary Oscar, there was no moment of gay and lesbian visibility at this year's Academy Awards—just the usual parade of homophobes and closet cases, generally indistinguishable one from the other, all competing to see whose hair could look least combed and whose dress could expose breasts most provocatively.

Except for Costner's stiff nod to "my Native American brothers and sisters" in picking up his Best Picture award—does he really think that the nostalgic *Wolves* will do a thing to help their present day woes?—no celebrity speechifying ripped the placid surface of scripted insincerity. The makers of the winning documentaries plugged their films' subject matter—labor rights and the fight against anti-Asian racism—but you had to be quick to catch the politics dropped in amidst the "thank you"s. I know that I won't ever see the blacklisted Vanessa Redgrave again on Oscar night, but I never thought that I'd find myself mourning the absence of Jane Fonda.

Certainly the Gulf War is in part to blame for the ceremony's somnambulism

this year. Hollywood remains in some sort of patriotic fugue state: Norman Schwarzkopf got more mentions than



Gone With the Wind. (Sally "You-really-like-me" Field outdid even herself this year with one Scarlett O'Hara-like quote: "Let's face it," she said in a taped montage, "it was about me." Right, Sally. Now it's time for your medication, dear.)

Cheap emotion was not limited to jingoism, however. Costner and friends found a way to both sensationalize and degrade even their movie's thin symbolic importance to present-day Native Americans. Screenwriter Michael Blake trotted a Lakota-Sioux woman up to the podium with him to use as a sort of ventriloquist's doll in translating his boot-strap aphorisms into a Native American language: Exploitation? Me? Let's do lunch.

Thank God for Madonna, who was visibly nervous but nobody's dummy. Reba McEntire may have out-warbled her, but Madonna out-wiggled everyone in sight. She had to wrestle a bit

with that uncooperative boa—it refused to hit the downbeats as she whipped it around—but she still wrapped her voice and body seductively around the soon-to-be-Oscar-winning song, "Sooner or Later (I Always Get My Man)," from *Dick Tracy*. At least *ber* Schwarzkopf reference, tossed in amidst the Stephen Sondheim lyrics, was tinged with sarcasm.

But where was Sondheim? Or Meryl Streep? Or Joanne Woodward? Not to mention Warren Beatty and Jack Nicholson—last year's twin space-cadets. (Poor Kim Basinger had to represent the outer planets all by herself.) Practically every top box-office star was absent. Sure, Tom Cruise was there, but who's he these days compared to *Home Alone's* Macauley Culkin? Did the in-crowd know that, except for Kathy Bates' satisfying surprise win for Best Actress, this was the year to miss?

The celebrities who showed up did provide the occasionally surreal moment. The shot of Madonna and Michael Jackson seated side by side, both in full regalia, during the Special Visual Effects presentation was particularly apropos. More down-to-earth was Jessica Tandy, whose noble hairlessness put to shame the fuzzy rugs worn by Pesci, Burt Reynolds and others.

One important historical note: Denzel Washington's presentation of the Best Supporting Actress Oscar to Whoopi Goldberg marked the first consecutive victories for African-American actors—even though Whoopi squandered the moment with her me-me-me, up-from-the-projects acceptance speech. But don't think that Oscar is getting more sensitive about race issues: Whoopi won for *Ghost*, don't forget, while Spike Lee's *Do the Right Thing* was included among the clips of war films. An outsider is an outsider is an outsider, and even the most highly acclaimed New York films—like *Do the Right Thing* last year, or this year's *GoodFellas*, *Longtime Companion* and *Metropolitan*—are bound to suffer when pitted against that invincible Hollywood machine, the Vehicle, movies created for

Box Office Heroes in deals made at chic LA restaurants. Sure, Kevin Costner dances with wolves, but what's important is that he Lunches With Moguls. ▼

FILM

August

by Danielle Willis

when I was growing up
on Long Island we lived
on waterfront property
and in August the
water turned green
with algae and
the boats would
empty their bilges
into the Sound—
you'd be swimming
through this murk
that smelled like
rotting fish and
all of a sudden
a human turd would
float across your
line of vision

the summers in New York
were too hot to stay
out of the water so
you braved the seaweed
and the shit and the
jellyfish and went in
anyway

it was worse in
the city because
there was nowhere
to swim unless you
belonged to a club
or felt like taking
an hour ride on the
B train to Coney Island
to essentially cool off
in a toilet

the summer Jean and I
broke up it was always
98 degrees and humid
and I used to get
head rushes going
up the stairs to
my apartment—
we were fighting
all the time and I
wasn't eating anyway

one night I
picked up some dyke
after a performance
at the WOW Cafe

on East 4th Street and
we went over to the
Duchess in Sheridan Square
to have a drink—
she was fat and
couldn't dance and
the next morning
I couldn't even
stomach a bowl of
Rice Crispies

the dyke (her name
was Edie) was convinced
I had eating disorders
I think eating disorders
were the in lesbian-feminist
problem that year
Edie said she needed
someone she could explore
her sexuality with and
got mad at me when
I bit her

we spent the
next few hours
drawing naked women
on my bedsheets and
after she left I
poured myself a cup
of Drano and stared
out the window down
the airshaft

that night I went back
to the Duchess where
this six-foot-tall
black fashion model
told me she wanted us
to get together with
a friend of hers and
take bondage pictures

her name was Tiffany
and she had an elaborate
theory of existence she
was trying to explain to me
in an incomprehensible
Jamaican accent, something
about how she was in contact
with benevolent aliens and
that her husband didn't
mind if she fucked girls

we staggered over to a
French restaurant on
the East Side where I
ended up ditching her
between vodkas and
calling Jean from the
subway to brag about all
the pussy I was getting
Jean said she hadn't
thought it would
take me long (we
were experimenting
with non-monogamy)

there was a man
wandering around the
platform shouting at
the top of his lungs
so we hung up
the man had fastened
his pants with a
strip of cardboard
they had slipped down
around his buttocks
people were sneaking
glances at his penis
he looked like he
had forgotten he
had one

Danielle Willis was kicked out of Barnard in 1986 and has since worked as a nanny, poodle groomer, stripper and a dominatrix. Her books include Dogs in Lingerie (Zeitgeist Press, 1990). She divides her time between San Francisco and New York City. ▼

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G E S

INTAR Two, 508 West 53rd St.

QUEEN

from page 54

blood onto my pretty, new party-girlie
 and dance around the apartment like the
 guy from *The Silence of the Lambs*.
 Always an appropriate look for us mad
 queens.

I go to a club where the promoter,
 painted purple and green, offers a bottle
 full of vomit to his guests, who drink it
 gratefully. Later on, he pees on the crowd
 gathered outside, and nobody seems to
 mind.

Next stop: Creem-a-torium, where
 the go-go boys become so aroused
 they fuck each other on the pool table
 while the whole club watches.

I run into a room full of coke
 fiends picking \$40 boogers from their
 noses. They eye me hungrily for more
 drugs, so I leave and hide in a corner.

People often ask me if I'm jaded.
 How on earth could I ever get *used* to
 things like this? The wonder and specta-
 cle of New York night life is too great. I
 don't think I will ever crawl back into the
 cupboard again. I wouldn't want to miss
 anything. ▼

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MAY THE MASTER LEAD THEE INTO EMPYREAN
WHILE THE ANGEL CHOIR REJOYCES
"WHERE THERE IS HATRED, LET ME SOW LOVE"
OH MY MASTER LET SOME DROPS OF THY SWEAT
FALL UPON MY FLAME
FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECIEVE
AND IT IS THY FORCE
THAT I COME TO
SERVE AND
RESPECT.

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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) 741-8778.

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. For more info, contact Jim O'Connor at the New School at (212) 741-8778.

SENIOR ACTION IN A GAY ENVIRONMENT takes you on a *Cruise Around Manhattan*. Join SAGE on the *Spirit of New York*—they've reserved all three decks, and offer a gourmet brunch, a Broadway revue, dancing and views of the New York skyline. \$45 for one/\$80 for two. Prepayment required by April 1. Cruise date is May 5. Boarding time is 11:30 am at Pier 11, near Wall Street. For more info and reservations: (212) 741-2247.

BROOKLYN WOMEN'S MARTIAL ARTS offers *Karate Classes for Women* in Goju karate. Beginners may start the week of April 2. Sliding fee of \$5-\$115 based on monthly income. Free child care offered. 421 Fifth Ave. Park Slope, Brooklyn. (718) 788-1775.

YALE BGLAD presents *Bisexual Gay and Lesbian Awareness Days*. With Rep. Barney Frank of Massachusetts; performance artists Tim Miller of ACT UP/LA; cartoonist Alison Bechdel, creator of *Dykes to Watch Out For*; and many lesbian and gay activists and artists. April 4-14. Yale University. New Haven, CT. For complete details, contact Sam at (203) 772-1695, Martha at (203) 436-0422 or Eva at (203) 773-1732.

GOING OUT

an events calendar

Compiled by Dale Peck

Send announcements and listings to: 159 W. 25th St., 7th floor, New York, NY 10001. Next deadline: Monday, April 1, for issue #94, available in New York on Monday, April 8.

OUTSTANDING

the best of this queer week

Start your week off laughing: Join the CLUB AT LA MAMA as it presents *The Alien Comic's All-Comedy April Fool's Day Show*. Included on the bill: Paul Zaloom, Lisa Kron, Hapi Phace and Alien Comic Tom Murrin. 74A E. 4th St. April 1. 8 pm. (212) 475-7710.

It wouldn't hurt you to buy the book, either: HIGH RISK READINGS present Bob Flanagan, Mary Galtskill, Ana Maria Simo, David Trinidad and David Wojnarowicz. The writers will be reading from their work, which appears in the anthology, *High Risk*. There will be a publication party after the reading. The Kitchen. 512 W. 19th St. April 1. (212) 255-5793.

Read last week's cover story on rich dykes and wondering how you can be one too? Join WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN BUSINESS for their Monthly Meeting. WEB is a networking and support group for lesbians of all colors, cultures and lifestyles who own or are planning businesses. Tonight's topic: "Finding the Business That Suits You." \$5. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. April 2. 6:30-8 pm. Info: (718) 237-2399.

Last time we had half a million. If you think we can do better, join now in planning a 1992 Lesbian and Gay March on Washington. This newly formed ad hoc group is open to all members of the lesbian and gay community. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. April 2. 7 pm. Info: Andrew Beaver at (212) 353-2438.

Now queer this: STONEWALL DEMOCRATIC CLUB, THE COALITION FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS, LOG CABIN CLUB, and THE GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION present *Do You Like to Be Called Queer?* Invited speakers include: Warren Johansson, editor, *Encyclopedia of Homosexuality*; representatives from Lesbian Feminists/Radical Lesbians; Donna Minkowitz, lesbian journalist for the *Village Voice*; representatives from Queer Nation; and Dr. Campion Reed, a member of the Stonewall Democratic Club. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. April 2. 8 pm. Info: (212) 969-8854.

A good thing gets a little better: CHANNEL 69 presents *The Ru*

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

LIVELY ARTS

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

MOSAIC BOOKS presents *Prinya Alavi*. The photographer's work, all 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 Bride*, a poetic musical work in progress which traces a day in the life of Gill Clout. Written by Terry O'Reilly. Directed by Ruth Maleczek. 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.

THEATRE-AT-224-WAVERLY-PLACE presents *Homosexual Acts*, a series of 12 short plays, including seven world premieres and three New York premieres. They are: Robert Patrick's *Ludwig and Wagner*, *The Family Bar* and *The Way We War*; Daniel Curzon's *S&M*, *Celebrities in Hell* and *One Man's Opinion*; Carl Morse's *Annunciation* and *Fairy Fuck-In*, or *A Call to the States*; Robert Chesley's *Somebody's Little Boy*; Victor Bumbalo's *Show*; Bill Wright's *Mother Father Lover Man*; and Rich Rubin's *That Al Pacino Look*. \$20. We-Fr at 8 pm, Sa at 7 and 10 pm, Su at 3 and 7 pm. Tickets: (212) 564-8038. Through May 26.

THE NEW YORK OPEN CENTER presents *Susan Bennett's Shapeshifters*, an exhibition of painters. The New York Open Center, 83 Spring St. Mo, Th, Fr from 1-6 pm. (212) 219-2527. Through April 3.

AMOS ENO GALLERY presents *Joseph A. Kaminski's Dick and Me*. *Dick* is a series of seven large paintings, each of which focuses on the penis as subject matter, and came about as a direct result of the censorship currently spreading throughout the art world. *Me* is the result of an ongoing photography project in which the artists focuses on himself to explore issues such as sexual orientation, repression, acceptance and censorship, both personal and psychological. 594 Broadway, at Houston. Tu-Sa, 11 am to 6 pm. Artist's reception: April 6 from 2-4 pm. (212) 226-5342. Through April 18.

THE PUERTO RICAN TRAVELING THEATRE presents *Alberto Adellach's Sabina and Lucrecia*. The play is about "two women fugitives from an asylum whose views of reality clash with one another in a series of oddball sequences which ultimately end in a serious resolution. The play was inspired by a true incident which was reported in the Argentine newspapers." With Cordelia Gonzales, Marilyn Romero and Nancy Walsh. Director: Aiba Oms. Design: Edward Gianfrancesco. Lighting: Rick Butler. Costumes: Mary Marsicano. \$10/\$12/\$15. The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre. 304 W. 47th St., at Eighth Avenue. Opening March 21. English schedule: We-Fr at 8 pm. Spanish schedule: Sa-Su at 2:30 pm and 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 354-1293. Through April 21.

THE WINGS THEATRE COMPANY presents *Roman Spectacle*, "a night in the orgy chamber of the teenage emperor of the Roman empire, Heliogabalus," written and directed by David Michael Gallagher. Featuring "a spectacular drag wedding in the palace." 154 Christopher St. Tu-Fr at 8 pm. Beginning April 13, Sa at 7 and 10 pm and Su at 3:30 and 7 pm. Reservations: (212) 627-2961. Through April 28.

THE DUPLEX presents *Cafe Berlin*, starring Sybil Brunchon, Bob Gutowski, Jay Rogers, Thomas Stoehr and Jeffrey Wallach. The Duplex, 59 Christopher St. Fr at 10 pm. Reservations: (212) 255-5438. Through April 30.

EIGHTY EIGHTS presents Robn Seykora, a singer currently appearing in *Les Miserables*, in a cabaret engagement to benefit Broadway Cares and Equity Fights AIDS. \$15. 228 W. 10th St. Su at 10:30 pm. Reservations: (212) 924-0088.

THE GLINES present Evan Bridenstine's *High-Strung Quartet*, a comedy in which "David loves Greg, Greg loves Sally, Sally loves Bruce and Bruce loves David." Directed by Leslie Irons. Starring John Carhart III, Suzanne Cryer, Dane Hill and Mark Leydorf. \$15. 39 Grove St., at Bleecker. We-Fr at 8 pm, Sa at 6 and 9 pm and Su at 7 pm. Reservations: (212) 869-3530. April 3 through June 9.

THE CASTILLO CULTURAL CENTER represents James Chapman's *Our Young Black Men Are Dying and Nobody Seems to Care*, a look at some of those men whose lives and deaths are reflected in drug-abuse, crime, police-brutality, alcoholism, poverty and AIDS statistics. \$20. 500 Greenwich St., suite 201. Th-Sa at 8 pm and Su at 3 pm. Reservations: (212) 941-5800. April 5 through Aug. 31.

THE WPA THEATRE presents *Red Scare on Sunset*, a new play by and starring Charles Busch, creator of *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* and *Psycho Beach Party*. Directed by Kenneth Elliott. Starring Ralph Buckley, Roy Cockrum, Andy Halliday, Julie Halston, Mark Hamilton, Judith Hansen, Arnie Kolodner. 519 W. 23rd St. Tu-Th at 8 pm and Su at 7:30 pm—\$22. Fr and Sa at 8 pm and Su at 3 pm—\$26. Reservations: (212) 206-0523.

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 Bralard 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 Menonite," 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; Fr at 8 pm; 366-5438.

Paul Film Festival, featuring such films as *Cupcake*, *Mahogany II*, and *American Porn Star*. Ru Paul will be on hand to perform his new single, "I've Got That Feeling." Hapi Phace will also be performing. Fierce, darling, just fierce. \$5. The Pyramid, 101 Ave. A. April 3. The movies start at 10 pm. (212) 473-7184.

Wondering where Ru Paul got all those gorgeous outfits? Now you too can be fabulous, just by joining ACT UP'S OUTREACH COMMITTEE at Fashion For Action, a benefit auction to send a representative of the Outreach Committee to the Seventh International AIDS Conference in Florence, Italy. A partial list of contributors includes: Andy Valentin, David Spada Design, Lee Chappell, Living Doll by Amanda Uprichard, and Michael Kors. \$5 admission. Visa, MasterCard and American Express accepted at the auction, so get out the plastic and go. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. April 4. 7 pm. Info: Andy Valentin at (212) 564-2437.

This just in: Brian Butterick and Jeannette and Victor Anonymous? present a benefit for Rolf Rombach, longtime downtown soundman, who was severely injured in a hit and run. Rolf will be on hand, as will John Kelly, Tabboo!, Wendy Wild, Allen Comic, Mr. Fashion, Carmelita Tropicana, Penny Arcade, Kota Matu and Madam Ekathrima Sobechanskaya. Also expect films by Jack Waters, Carl George, Peter Kramer and Samoa and Kembra Pfahler. A print of Elly Eichelberger will be auctioned. Lady Bunny will be your emcee. At presstime, other artists were still coming aboard, so consider this a partial list. Now, get out your \$10 and go (if there's any room for guests). The Pyramid, 101 Ave. A. April 4. 11 pm.

Because life (and activism) doesn't stop at 30: SAGE presents *Gayla Weekend for Lesbians*. The three-day event expects to draw 1,000 from across the country. The schedule of events includes a Get-Acquainted Social tonight, a women's conference titled "Do the Rights Thing!" on Saturday, the Women's Drop-in on Sunday afternoon, and the "Almost Spring Dance" on Sunday evening. April 5-7. Complete info, contact SAGE at (212) 741-2247.

Get a little religion: MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER present their Seventh Annual Passover Seder. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. April 5. 7 pm sharp. (212) 222-9794. For the women's version, join THE ANSWER IS LOVING as it presents *Women Talking Women's Talk: Women's Passover Seder*. They offer dinner and a substance-free, sugar-free, smoke-free evening with women of all backgrounds and a reading from a Hagadah for women about women. \$15. 1964 E. 35th St. Brooklyn. April 5. 7 pm. Info: Ruth Berman and Connie Kurtz at (718) 998-2305.

Someone else likes to be called queer: DIXON PLACE presents Richard Elovich in *Someone Else From Queens Is Queer*, a new solo play written and performed by Elovich and directed by Itamar Kubovy. Also on the bill for tonight, Eileen Myles "does verbal improv or else talks." \$6 or TDF. 37 E. 1st St., between First and Second avenues. April 5. 8 pm. (212) 673-6752.

"New York City, 1988/Raging homophobia/A killer on the loose/Disco dancing till dawn/Performers struggling to survive/Delliah seduces Samson in song/Gender illusionists go shopping." All this at THE KITCHEN when it premieres *Son of Samson and Delliah* by Charles Atlas. Starring John Kelly and Hapi Phace with Brian Butterick, Almon Grimsted, Anne Iobst, Anna Levine-Thompson, Casey MacDonald and Lucy Sexton. Director of photography: Paul Gibson. Art director: Scott Litshultz. \$6. 512 W. 19th St., between Tenth and Eleventh avenues. April 6. 8 pm. (212) 255-5793.

Only a PATH ride away: MAXWELL'S presents *Two Nice Girls*, live in concert. Other bands will also be playing tonight. In between bands, *OutWeek's* own Madam X will be spinning records "for your non-dancing education." Maxwell's, 1039 Washington St. Hoboken, NJ. April 6. (201) 798-4064.

If you've nevah, then now it's time: CARNEGIE HALL presents The New York City Gay Men's Chorus in *Anything Cole!*, featuring guest stars Chita Rivera, Stockard Channing, David Carroll and others. Directed by Gary Miller. Featuring an array of Cole Porter songs. Tickets range from \$10-\$50. 57th Street at Seventh Ave. April 7. 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 247-7800.

CHERRY LANE THEATRE presents David Stevens' *The Sum of Us*, by the writer of *Breaker Morant*, starring Neil Massin and Richard Ventura, 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

MEN WITH WIGS, INC., presents *It's a Man's World: Ladies Sing the Blues*, a fun-filled, gender-bender fantasy, from the Cotton to Motown. Men, with wigs, examine incandescent images of the blues' queens and their descendants. \$10. The Producers Club, 358 W. 44th St., 2nd floor, suite 7. Fridays at 11 pm. (212) 971-9021.

MONDAY, APRIL 1

THE MOMENTUM PROJECT presents *Volunteer Orientation*. Momentum provides communal meals, clothing and groceries to people living with HIV and AIDS. 19 W. 36th St. 6:15-7:45 pm. Info: Sandra Levine at (212) 268-2610.

NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK presents the first NYACN/PFV *Real Night*, directed by Dan Berkowitz. PFV screens the best of their best for NYACN members. Downtown Community TV Center, 87 Lafayette St. 6:30 pm. Info: (212) 517-0380.

SAGE presents *Adult Survivors of Sexual Abuse*, an experiential therapy group for women ages 21 and up to support the recovery 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.

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 CLUB AT LA MAMA presents *The Allen Comic's All-Comedy April Fool's Day Show*. Included on the bill: Paul Zaloom, Lisa Kron, Hapi Phace and Allen Comic Tom Murrin. 74A E. 4th St. 8 pm. (212) 475-7710.

HIGH RISK READINGS present Bob Finagan, Mary Galtskill, Ana Maria Simo, David Trinidad and David Wojnarowicz. The writers will be reading from their work, which appears in the anthology, *High Risk*. There will be a publication party after the reading. The Kitchen, 512 W. 19th St. (212) 255-5793.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

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.

TWENTYSOMETHING *Steering Committee Meeting* from 6:30-8 pm. Nominations for officers begin and continue until

April 16, when the election will be held. Info: Scott Hummel at (212) 242-4881. Also tonight, from 8-9:30 pm, they present a **Rap Group**, addressing "Body Image." Twentysomething is a social group for lesbians and gay men in their 20s and early 30s. \$3. Both events happen at the Center, 208 W. 13th St. Info: Perry at (212) 242-3038.

WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN BUSINESS Monthly Meeting. WEB is a networking and support group for lesbians of all colors, cultures and lifestyles who own or are planning businesses. Tonight's topic: "Finding the Business That Suits You." \$5. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 6:30-8 pm. Info: (718) 237-2399.

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS presents a **Health Seminar: Benefits 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.

Join now in planning a 1992 **March on Washington.** This ad hoc group is open to all members of the lesbian and gay community. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 7 pm. Info: Andrew Beaver at (212) 353-2438.

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

PINK PANTHER PATROL General Meeting. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 475-5363.

THE NINTH STREET CENTER presents **Queer Questions, Queer Answers**, a series of rap groups whose focus is defining homosexuality for the 1990s. Tonight's topic: "Tired of the Bars? I Just Don't Fit In!" Facilitated by Larry Wheelock. 319 E. 9th St., basement. 8-10 pm. (212) 228-5153.

STONEWALL DEMOCRATIC CLUB, THE COALITION FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS, LOG CABIN CLUB, and THE GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION present **Do You Like to Be Called Queer?** Invited speakers include: Warren Johansson, editor, *Encyclopedia of Homosexuality*; representatives from *Lesbian Feminists/Radical Lesbians*; Donna Minkowitz, lesbian journalist for the *Village Voice*; representatives from *Queer Nation*; and Dr. Campton Reed, a member of the Stonewall Democratic Club. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 969-8854.

CELLBLOCK 28 presents **Spring Loaded**, a J/O group party sponsored by Michael Mitchell and Hands On. 28 Ninth Ave., downstairs, between 13th and 14th streets. 8 pm to 3 am. (212) 733-3144.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

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.

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.

JUDITH'S ROOM presents **Claire McNab**, reading from her book, *Cop Out*, the fourth Detective Inspector Carol Ashton mystery. 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.

GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION presents **"The Silence of the Lamb: Why No One is Silent."** The panel includes **Stephen Harvey**, film curator, MOMA; **Marcia Pally**, film critic, Penthouse; **Scott Sherman** of the GLAAD Media Committee; and is moderated by **Karen Schwartz** of GLAAD. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. (212) 966-1700.

THE LESBIAN AND GAY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION Business Meeting. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. Info: (718) 258-4102 or (718) 626-4699.

ORGANIZATION FOR GAY AWARENESS presents **Dr. Richard Plant**, author of *The Pink Triangle*, speaking about Nazi persecution of lesbians and gay men. The evening will include information from Dr. Plant's recent inspection of newly opened archives in what was formerly East Germany. St. George's Church. The corner of Ridgewood and Woodland roads. Maplewood, NJ. 8:30 pm. (201) 743-5322.

CHANNEL 69 presents **The Ru Paul Film Festival**, featuring such films as *Cupcake*, *Mahogany II*, and *American Porn Star*. Ru Paul will be on hand to perform his new single, "I've Got That Feeling." **Hapi Phace** will also be performing. \$5. The Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. The movies start at 10 pm. (212) 473-7184.

THE EAGLE presents **Movie Night: Entertaining Mr. Sloan.** The Eagle, 142 Eleventh Ave., at 21st Street. 11 pm. (212) 691-8451.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

LONG ISLAND GAY MEN'S GROUP presents **Bar Night** at Grand Central. For complete details, contact LJGMG at (516) 694-2407.

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 Berach 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.

ACT UP OUTREACH COMMITTEE presents **Fashion For Action**, a benefit auction to send a representative of the Outreach Committee to the Seventh International AIDS Conference in Florence, Italy. A partial list of contributors includes: **Andy Valentin**, **David Spada Design**, **Lee Chappell**, **Living Doll** by **Amanda Uprichard**, and **Michael Kors**. \$5 admission. Visa, MasterCard and American Express accepted at the auction. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 7 pm. Info: Andy Valentin at (212) 564-2437.

TOWER BOOKS presents **Bo Huston**, **Mark Ameen**, **Patrick Moore** and **Stan Lenthal**, reading from their most recent works. Lafayette at Fourth Street. 8 pm.

GAY WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVE presents **Robin Morgan**, political activist and editor in chief of the new *Ms.* magazine, in *Another Round the World in 80 Minutes* with Robin Morgan. For women only. \$5. The Universalist Church, Central Park West at 76th Street. 8 pm. (212) 595-8410.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

SAGE presents **Gayla Weekend** for lesbians. The three-day event expects to draw 1,000 from across the country. The schedule of events includes a *Get-Acquainted Social* tonight, a women's conference titled "Do the Rights Thing!" on Saturday, the *Women's Drop-In* on Sunday afternoon, and the "Almost Spring Dance" on Sunday evening. For complete info, contact SAGE at (212) 741-2247.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER present their **Seventh Annual Passover Seder.** The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 7 pm sharp. (212) 222-9794.

THE ANSWER IS LOVING presents **Women Talking Women's Talk: Women's Passover Seder**, dinner and a substance-free, sugar-free, smoke-free evening with women of all backgrounds; reading from a Hagadah for women about women. \$15. 1964 E. 35th St. Brooklyn. 7 pm. Info: Ruth Berman and Connie Kurtz at (718) 998-2305.

GAY FATHER'S FORUM General Meeting. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 7 pm. (212) 288-3236.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents **First Timers April Fool's Party and Game Night.** Specially designed for women who've never been to a SAL event before. Bring snacks, drinks and games. 7:30 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

DIXON PLACE presents **Richard Elovich** in *Someone Else From Queens Is Queer*, a new solo play written and performed by Elovich and directed by **Itamar Kubovy**. Also on the bill for tonight, **Eileen Myles** "does verbal improv or else talks." \$6 or TDF. 37 E. 1st St., between First and Second avenues. 8 pm. (212) 673-6752.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

HYACINTH FOUNDATION presents an

Attorney Training Program on AIDS Legal Issues, including insurance, confidentiality, discrimination, legal documents, financial matters and the psychosocial aspects of the disease. Hyacinth Foundation is New Jersey's leading AIDS service and education organization. The day-long seminar is free. Breakfast and lunch are provided to participants. For complete details, contact Michael Fannon at (908) 246-0204.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND goes to see **Miss Saigon.** Call for complete details: (212) 995-8585.

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.

TRIMUSICANGLE, INC. presents the **Big Apple Corps Auxiliary Troupe** in an exhibition of flag and dance baton twirling. The *Avant Garde Flag and Drill Corps* will perform to the "Overture to Candide" as a tribute to Leonard Bernstein and Chuck Mangione's "Legend of a One-Eyed Sailor." Thomas Holt will perform Erik Satie's "Three Gymnopédies." A production number to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" will feature the baton twirlers and the finale will involve the entire ensemble and will be set to an Armed Forces medley honoring "our men and women in the Persian Gulf." \$5 or TDF. PWAs admitted free. Washington Square United Methodist Church. 135 W. 4th St. 3 pm. Info: Thomas Holt at (212) 598-4527 or David Maxwell at (718) 979-3732.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION presents **Ripped Jeans**, a single's tea and contest, with prizes for best ripped jeans in various categories. Offering good refreshments, good company and good fun. For gay men and lesbians who are HIV-positive or have AIDS, and their friends. 222 W. 11th St. 3-5:30 pm. (212) 532-0568.

DIXON PLACE presents **Matthew Courtney** in a new poetry performance that works with "found conversations, rhymes and rhythms of speech." Also on the bill, **Jasmine**, who brings you "impressions of the abysmal drudgery which passes for life today" while accompanying herself on the accordion. \$6 or TDF. 37 E. 1st St., between First and Second avenues. 8 pm. (212) 673-6752.

THE NINTH STREET CENTER presents **Queer Questions, Queer Answers**, a series of rap groups whose focus is defining homosexuality for the 1990s. Tonight's topic: "20-, 30-, 40-, 50-, 60something: Gay Ageism." 319 E. 9th St., basement. 8-10 pm. (212) 228-5153.

THE KITCHEN presents **Son of Samson and Delilah** by **Charles Atlas.** From the flyer: "New York City, 1988/Raging homophobia/A killer on the loose/Disco dancing till dawn/Performers struggling to survive/Delilah seduces Samson in song/Gender illusionists go shopping." Starring **John Kelly** and **Hapi Phace** with **Brian Butterick**, **Almon Grimsted**, **Anne**

Iobst, Anna Levine-Thompson, Casey MacDonald and Lucy Saxton. Director of photography: **Paul Gibson.** Art director: **Scott Lifshultz.** \$6. 512 W. 19th St., between Tenth and Eleventh avenues. 8 pm. (212) 255-5793.

MAXWELL'S presents **Two Nice Girls**, live in concert. Other bands will also be playing tonight. In between bands, *OutWeek's* own Madam X will be spinning records "for your non-dancing education." Maxwell's, 1039 Washington St. Hoboken, NJ. (201) 798-4064.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

THE GIRTH AND MIRTH CLUB presents **Brunch** at the Dugout. Christopher Street at Weehawkin Street. 12 pm. Info: (914) 699-7735.

GAY MEN OF THE BRONX presents **Gallery and Branch.** Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse., at 165th St. Bronx. 12 pm. Info: Ron at (212) 519-8746.

AMERICAN GAY AND LESBIAN ATHEISTS **Monthly Meeting.** AGLA is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to preserving separation between state and church and upholding the civil rights of lesbian and gay atheists. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 1-3 pm. Info: Dial-A-Gay Atheist at (718) 899-1737.

LATINO GAY MEN OF NEW YORK present **Violence Against Lesbians and Homosexuals.** For Latino gay men only. Robert Vazquez's home, 145 Attorney St., #6C. 2 pm. (212) 598-2342.

BROOKLYN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AT BROOKLYN COLLEGE presents **The New York Festival of Song** in *Leonard Bernstein: From Concert Stage to Broadway.* Featured are singers **Stephen Bogardus, Katharine Buffaloe, William Sharp and Louise Edelstein,** and pianists **Michael Barrel and Steven Biler.** The program includes the complete *Arias and Barcarolles* and selections from *West Side Story, Wonderful Town, Candide, Mass, On the Town, Trouble in Tahiti* and *Peter Pan.* George Gershwin Theater. 2 pm. Info: Mindi Rayner at (718) 377-4720 and Angela M. Potter at (718) 780-5006.

JUDITH'S ROOM presents **Louise Rafkin** and contributors, reading from *Different Mothers: Sons and Daughters of Lesbians Talk About Their Lives.* 681 Washington St. 3 pm. (212) 727-7330.

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) 532-0568.

DIXON PLACE presents **Mark Ameen** and **Paula Martinec,** reading in the poetry and fiction series curated by **Cathy Taylor,** owner of mosaicBooks. \$6 or TDF. Dixon Place, 37 E. 1st St., between First and Second avenues. 8 pm. (212) 673-6752.

CARNEGIE HALL presents **The New York City Gay Men's Chorus** in *Anything Cole!*, featuring guest stars **Chita Rivera,**

Stockard Channing, David Carroll and others. Directed by **Gary Miller.** Featuring an array of Cole Porter songs, including "Where Are the Men?," "Most Gentlemen Don't Love," "Find Me a Primitive Man" and others. Tickets range \$10-\$50. 57th Street at Seventh Ave. 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 247-7800.

MOVEMENT RESEARCH presents **Three-Day Pile-Up,** featuring performances and discussion by **Laurie Carlos, Tere O'Connor, DANCENOISE, Jennifer Monson, Kate Stafford** and **Eileen Myles.** \$5. 179 Varick St. 8:30 pm. (212) 691-5788.

SOBs presents **The Lust House,** an exotic affair for women. Featuring hot dancing on a large dance floor, frozen drinks and DJ Marlow. \$5. 204 Varick St., at Houston. Doors open at 9 pm. (212) 243-4940.

MONDAY, APRIL 8

UNITY '94 Club Fund-Raisers **Committee Meeting.** Unity '94 is the theme of the 1994 Gay Games IV. The Dugout. Christopher Street at Weehawkin Street. 6:30 pm. Info: Wolfgang Busch at (212) 989-4605.

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

STEVE MCGRAWS presents **David Drake's The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me.** The performance is scheduled for an Off-Broadway opening in the summer of 1991. The play, directed by **Maryrose Wood,** uses poetry and performance to explore issues raised by the AIDS activism. Tonight's showing is a benefit for Equity Fights AIDS. \$10. 158 W. 72nd St. 10:30 pm. Reservations: (212) 595-7400.

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, APRIL 9

LONG ISLAND GAY MEN'S GROUP presents a **Guest Speaker.** For complete details on this bi-monthly discussion group, contact LIGMG at (516) 694-2407.

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) 807-8655. TDD (212) 645-7470 for the hearing impaired.

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.

LAVENDER HEIGHTS **Speaker Series** presents **Gabriel Rotello,** editor in chief of *OutWeek* magazine (yes, the one you're reading). \$7. The Cornerstone Center, 178 Bennett Ave., one block west of Broadway at 189th Street. 8 pm. (212) 304-2471.

LESBIANS AND GAY MEN OF NEW

BRUNSWICK present New Jersey Lesbian and Gay Coalition President **Dr. Leon Gellman.** Gellman will share "some of the exciting advances which have been made in our state with lesbian and gay rights." Friends Meeting House, 109 Nichol Ave. New Brunswick, NJ. 8 pm. (908) 247-0515.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

BRONX LESBIANS UNITED IN SISTERHOOD **General Meeting.** Tonight's topic: "Self-Awareness and the Coming-Out Process." There will be an invited speaker from Identity House to join in this discussion. Refreshments served. 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.

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.

A DIFFERENT LIGHT presents **Paul Russell,** reading from his book, *The Salt Point.* 548 Hudson St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 989-4850.

THE LESBIAN AND GAY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION **Planning Meeting.** The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. Info: (718) 258-4102 or (718) 626-4699.

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS present **On Pins and Needles: Playing With Piercing.** This discussion of the techniques and mindset for safe and satisfying piercing play features master piercer **Jim Ward** from Gauntlet in San Francisco. \$4 members/\$6 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. (212) 807-6664.

THE EAGLE presents **Movie Night: Wild at Heart.** "Winner of the 1990 Cannes Film Festival for Best Picture, this film is a bizarre, seductive and rowdy retelling of *The Wizard of Oz.*" The Eagle, 142 Eleventh Ave., at 21st Street. 11 pm. (212) 691-8451.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

RUTGERS LAW SCHOOL LESBIAN AND GAY STUDENT CAUCUS and GALA OF RUTGERS present **Jonathan Ned Katz,** speaking on "The Invention of Heterosexuality" in celebration of World Week. Refreshments served. Rutgers Law School, 15 Washington St., room 113. Newark, NJ. 4 pm.

JUDITH'S ROOM presents **Contributors,** reading from the book, *Women, AIDS and Activism.* 681 Washington St. 7 pm. (212) 727-7330.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents **Woody Allen Night.** Come see a

couple of videos in Park Slope. 7 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

ORGANIZATION FOR GAY AWARENESS presents a **Holocaust Memorial Service.** The evening begins with a march to the First Presbyterian and Trinity Church. The service is at 8 pm, and features **David Beatty,** OGA's president, as a speaker, and **Julie Lee,** a lesbian activist and Holocaust survivor, as a candle lighter. Meet in Grove Park, on the north side of South Orange Avenue, east of SHU. 7 pm. Info: (201) 743-5322.

GAY MEN OF THE BRONX present **Rollerskating.** Featuring a live DJ. \$3 entry plus \$1 for skate rental. 8 pm to midnight. For complete details, contact **Jimmy** at (212) 365-6239.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents **Under-30 Party.** This is SAL's once-a-month get-together for the "younger crowd." 7:30 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN-LESBIAN RIGHTS TASK FORCE **General Meeting.** Tod's, 2 Georges Rd. New Brunswick, NJ. 7:30 pm. Please RSVP at (609) 393-0156. Tod's: (201) 545-8990.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

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. I.YI. 227 W. 13th St. 12-1:30 pm. (212) 929-0586.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents **Hackers, Hitters and Hoops** at 2 pm. Join SAL for goof indoor sports at a brand new place in Chelsea. Games include batting cages, computerized and miniature golf, basketball, ping pong and Orbitron. Then, at 7:30, it's **40-Plus Potluck and Game Night,** SAL's monthly get-together for fun, food and games. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

DIXON PLACE presents **Reno,** workshoping brand-new material. Reno is a well-known comedian who has "shocked audiences" everywhere, from PS 122 to uptown comedy clubs. \$6 or TDF. 37 E. 1st St., between First and Second avenues. 8 pm. (212) 673-6752.

MORE LISTINGS NEXT WEEK

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.

Compiled by Dale Peck.

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)
GLIB (Gay and Lesbian Independent Broadcasters. (212) 473-1683)
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; 560-3000)
WNYW-TV (Fox, 1211 AV/AM, NYC 10036; 566-2400)
WPXI-TV (220 E 42 St, NYC 10017; 949-1100)

MONDAY, APRIL 1

9:00 AM WIND-TV *Best Talk* Scheduled topic: gay-bashing. CH 11.
10:00 AM HBO *Mahogany* Starring Diane Ross and Billy Dee Williams. Do you know where you're going to?
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 Glenna Show* Brenda and Glenna smash the heterosexist honeymoon paradigm of Niagara Falls. CH 17
9:00 PM GBS *Out in the 90's*: community news, discussion, interviews. BQ Cable, CH 56 (1:00)
9:00 PM GCN *Gay USA* CH C/16 (:30)
8:00 PM TBS *Wonder Woman* Who can resist a superhuman woman who comes from an island called Paradise, where they don't allow men?
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, APRIL 2

2:00 AM WIND-TV *The World According to Garp* Robin Williams has the lead, but John Lithgow steals the show as a tight end (or was that wide receiver) turned transsexual. CH 11.
10:00 AM WABC-TV *Sally Jessy Raphael* Scheduled topic: physical and sexual abuse and the clergy. CH 7.
8:00 PM TBS *Tarzan, the Ape Man* It's super (read: bare-chested) heroes week on TBS. In tonight's installment, *Tarzan, Jane*, played by Bo Derek, is the real star.
9:00 PM LIF *My Two Loves* From *TV Guide*: "A recent widow (Mariette Hartley) is involved with a man, but finds herself increasingly drawn to another woman (Lynn Redgrave)." It's a TV movie, so don't expect miracles.
10:00 PM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male and female strippers; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)
11:00 PM GBS *Out in the 90's*: news, information and interviews; Manhattan/Paragon Cable, CH C/16 (1:00)
2:30 AM HBO *The Josephine Baker Story* *TV Guide* promises "sexual situations," but it doesn't say what kind. Repeated Saturday at 4:55 am.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

9:00 AM WIND-TV *Best Talk* Scheduled: New York City sheriff Phillip Crimaldi. Call-in and ask him a few tough questions about police bias violence against queers and people of color. CH 11.
1:05 PM TBS *Flatbed Annie and Sweetiepie: Lady Truckers* Two women tooling around the country together? Makes you wonder....
8:00 PM TBS *Conan the Barbarian* Bare-chested bonanza continues with

the movie that made a star out of Arnold Schwarzenegger.

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

9:00 AM WCBS-TV *Geraldo* Scheduled topic: daring women. CH 2.
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)
3:30 PM MAX *Hush...Hush, Sweet Charlotte* Go, Betts, go.
5:45 PM MAX *Dial Dial My Darling* Tallulah Bankhead traps her dead son's fiancée and torments her. That's what you get for being heterosexual!
8:00 PM TBS *Red Sonja* Tonight's bare chest belongs to Brigitte Nielsen.
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)
10:30 PM WNET-TV *After Hours* Discrimination, sexual harassment, status and on-the-job gender relations are the scheduled topics. CH 13.
11:00 PM GCN *Gay U.S.A.*: news and entertainment from around the country; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)
11:30 PM WIND-TV *Arsenio Hall* Arsenio goes at it with Whitney again. If you're still up, you might as well see what stories they have to tell. CH 9.
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, APRIL 5

8:30 AM SHO *Cry-Baby* John Water's latest, with Johnny Depp. Repeated at 8:30 tonight.
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)
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)
8:00 PM TBS *The Beastmaster* Surely one of the stupidest movies ever made, starring Tanya Roberts (one of the last *Charlie's Angels*.)
10:00 PM WNET-TV *Out/Women's Lives* A program on lesbians, discussing how "gay family values are values they understand very well." CH 13.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

4:20 AM MAX *Deliverance* One of the most homophobic nightmares ever made. Burt Reynolds and Jon Voight star.
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)
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, APRIL 7

7:30 PM WBAI-FM *The Gay Show* Host Mark Allen discusses the politics and relations between couples in which one person is HIV-positive and one is HIV-negative. Interview, discussion and call-ins. 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. Rich Volo is the producer. CH C/16 (:30)
11:05 PM WNET-TV *Frida* "An impressionistic drama about the painter Frida Kahlo and her encounters with the personalities of her time." CH 13.

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; Tuesdays are especially for lesbians, but everyone is welcome.) 167 W. 29th St. (212) 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 Rd. Rockville Centre, LI. (516) 536-4800.

Jack Officer's Club (Cruising, Bruising, Drinking and Carousing. Audio, Video and Manual Manipulation by DJ Craig. \$3) 505 E. 6th St., between avenues A and B.

Roxy (John Blair's "Muscle on Wheels." Gay rollerskating. Doors open at 8 pm. Varied cover.) 515 W 18 St. (212) 645-5156.

Wednesday

◆ **Channel 69** (*Drag Extravaganza*, with Linda Simpson. 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. 26th St. (212) 576-1890.

◆ **Excalibur** (Ladies Night. \$1 drinks.) Located at the corner of 10th Street and Jefferson behind football stadium. Hoboken, NJ. (201) 795-1161.

◆ **Limelight** (Disco 2000, with Michael Alig and Larry Tee. Doors open at 10 pm. \$10.) Sixth Avenue at 20th Street. (212) 807-7850.

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

◆ **Cadillac Bar** (Gini DeSantis presents Pure Party Production Dances for Women. Free buffet from 6-8 pm. Renee Cooke, bartender. \$5.) 16 W. 22nd St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues.

◆ **Private Eyes** (Shescape Afterwork Party from 5-10 pm. 2-4-1 drinks before 7. \$5 before 7 pm/\$7 after.) 12 W. 21st St. Shescape: (212) 645-6479. Private Eyes: (212) 206-7772.

Private Eyes (YMVA Night. Students, professional and women. Door often benefits a gay/lesbian organization. \$7.) 12 W. 21st St. (212) 206-7772.

Silver Lining (2-4-1 drinks.) 175 Cherry Lane. Floral Park, LI. (516) 354-9641.

Stutz (2-4-1 drinks.) 202 Westchester Ave. White Plains, NY. (914) 761-3100.

Thursday

The Bank (Upstairs it's Sperm Bank for Fags, with hostess Hapi Phace, DJs Craig Spencer and Victor Anonymous? Down-

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]



stairs, Egg Bank for Dykes features guest DJs and hot and sleazy Girl Action. \$10/\$7) 225 E. Houston St., at Essex Street. (212) 505-5033. [Please note: The Bank is closed until March 30.]

Blaçgla (Celebrating gay men and women of color. Bi-monthly.) Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 473-7184.

◆ **Copacabana** (Susanne Bartsch. Last Th of the month. Iffy door) 10 E. 60th St., at Fifth Avenue. (212) 795-6010.

Excalibur (\$1 drinks.) Located at the corner of 10th Street and Jefferson behind football stadium. Hoboken, NJ. (201) 795-1161.

Hatfield's (2-4-1 drinks, female impersonators.) 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) 5788-3283.

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 presents DJ Merritt and dancing in the ballroom and balcony. Dinah in the upstairs lounge. \$10/\$7 w. invite.) 17 Irving Place at 15th Street.

The Bank (Alternative Music Night, hosted by Lee Chappell, David Leigh and Michael T. DJ Ralph Duncan. Mixed crowd. \$10/\$7.) 225 E. Houston St., at Essex Street. (212) 505-5033 [Please note: The Bank is closed until March 30.]

◆ **Clit Club** (Jocelyn & Julie present Clit Club West. With go-go girls and lesbo videos. \$1 drinks between 8 and 9 pm. Doors open at 8 pm. \$5) 432 W 14th St. (212) 406-1114.

Columbia Dances (First Friday dances. 10 pm to 2 am.) Columbia University Earl Hall. 116th Street at Broadway. Daytime phone: (212) 854-3574.

◆ **Hatfield's** (Women's night.) 126-10 Queens Blvd. Kew Gardens, Queens. (718) 261-8484.

Mea Culpa (For men, with dancing, 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 New York Ave. (Route 110) Huntington, LI. (516) 351-1402.

Private Eyes (YMVA Night. Attracts students and professionals.) 12 W. 21st St. (212) 206-7772.

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

◆ **Visions** 56-01 Queens Blvd, Woodside, Queens. Info: (718) 846-7131. Club: (718) 899-9031.

Saturday

◆ **The Bank** (Controversy. DJ Patrick Butts. Drag queens, drinking, dancing and scandal. \$15/\$10/\$7.) 225 E. Houston St., at Essex Street. (212) 505-5033. [Please note: The Bank is closed until March 30.]

Barefoot Boogie (A party for adults and kids. 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. Smoke and alcohol-free. April 13 is themed "Island Night" 8:30 pm to 12:30 am. \$5/kids free.) 434 Sixth Ave., 4th floor, between Ninth and Tenth avenues. (212) 857-5152.

Center (2nd & 4th Sat, 9 pm to 1 am, \$8. DJ Peter Arden.) 208 W. 13th St. (212) 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.) The Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 406-1114.

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

Columbia Dances (Third Saturday dances with DJ Karin Ward. 10 pm to 3 am. \$5.) Columbia University Earl Hall. 116th Street at Broadway. (212) 629-1989.

419 419 N. Highway, Southampton, LI. (516) 283-5001.

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

◆ **Girl Saturdays** (Shescape presents Saturday Nights for Women. With go-go girls and a guest DJ. \$8 before 10:30/\$10 after.) 20/20 W. 20th St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues. (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, men; straight women, some lesbians.) 515 W. 18th St., between Tenth and Eleventh avenues. (212) 645-5156.

◆ **Silver Lining** 175 Cherry Lane. Floral Park, LI. (516) 354-9641.

Sound Factory (Mixed crowd but mostly gay. Serious House music offered. No alcohol. Doors open at 11 pm.) 530 W. 27th St., between Tenth and Eleventh avenues. (212) 643-0728.

Stingray's (Brand new club, brand new sound system, everything else is a surprise. \$8.) 641 W. 51st St. (212) 664-8668.

The World (Christina Vista and Junior Vazquez

present an after-hours party. Doors open at midnight.) 254 E. 2nd St., at Avenue C.

Friday

Building (Dallas' The Men's Room. Students, professionals. Go-go boys and 60-foot ceilings.) 51 W. 26th St. (212) 576-1890.

razy Nanny's (Sunday evening Tea Dance. Free before 9 pm/\$5 after.) 21 Seventh Ave. South. (212) 366-6312.

ICKI (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.

elly'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.

Parallel (Michael Fesco presents Sunday Tea Dance. Open bar 5-7 pm. Go-go boys. \$6.) 229 W. 28th St. (212) 563-9292.

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.

◆ **SOBs** (Leticia Montalvo presents The Lust House. First Sunday of the month only. Grand opening April 7, with DJ Marlow. \$5.) 204 Varick St., at Houston. (212) 243-4940.

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.

Every Night (or almost)

◆ **Bedrock** (Lesbian club, closed Mo and Tu.) 121 Woodfield Rd. West Hempstead, LI. (516) 486-9516.

◆ **Club Edelweiss** (Tuesdays are for lesbians, but it's open to all Tu-Su.) 167 W. 29th St. (212) 868-6989.

419 (Opens 6 pm.) 419 N. Highway (Rte 27). Southampton, LI. (516) 283-5001.

Grand Central 210 Merrick Rd. Rockville Centre, LI. (516) 536-4800.

Magic Touch (Anglo/Latin/Asian) 73-13 37th Rd. Jackson Heights, Queens. (718) 429-8605.

Monster 80 Grove St., at Sheridan Square. (212) 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 (Look under daily listings for individual parties and themes. Coors served.) 802 64th St., at Eighth avenue. Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. (718) 238-8213.

◆ **Ted's** (Night club and restaurant. Mostly women, but men are OK.) 2 Georges Rd. New Brunswick, NJ. (201) 545-8990.



THE BAR GUIDE

Chelsea

Barbary Coast, 64 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

Badlands, Christopher and West streets, 741-9236

Boots & Saddle, 76 Christopher St., 929-9684

Crazy Nanny's 21 Seventh Ave. S., 366-6312 (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

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., 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

Tribeca

Altar, 161 W. Broadway, 571-7272.

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

continued next page

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Town & Country, Ninth Ave. at 45th St., 307-1503
Trix, 246 W. 48th St., (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)

Broadstix, 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)

Blanche, 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, 283-5001

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, 636 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, 242-3857

Thunders, 894 Jericho Turnpike, Smithtown, 884-1410

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 Berksire Valley Rd., Jefferson, 697-9780

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COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

A.C.C.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)

496A Hudson Street, Suite G4 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 7:30, 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 apartments). Non-judgemental pastoral care for PWAs and loved ones. Volunteer opportunities. (212) 481-1270, 24 West 30th St., NYC 10001

ALOEC/APLN-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 ATHEISTS

AGA, Inc./701 7th Avenue, Suite 9W/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 Atheists. Meetings the First Sunday Community Center, 1 to 3 P.M. Dial a Gay Atheist (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) 963-0606 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 6626, NY, NY 10163-6623.

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 8-8 pm. Lesbian & Gay Community Centr. 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) 498-9500

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.

BIRWAYS NEW YORK

Monthly social events for the Bisexual community and friends. Call NYABN for details of upcoming events. (212) 459-4784

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) 459-4784

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 lesbians in the Bronx. Regular meetings 3rd Fri at 208 W. 13 Street, from 6:30-8pm, and the 2nd Wed at One Fordham Plaza, Ste. 800, Bx. Call Lisa at (212)829-9817 or Miriam 212/409-2692 (Spanish).

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) 965-9482

CIRCLE OF MORE LIGHT

Spiritual support and sharing in a gay/lesbian affirmative group. West-Park Presbyterian Church 165 West 98th Street Wed: worship service 6:30 pm, program 7:30. Marsha (212) 304-4373 Charle (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 HOTT-LINE. 212-255-1517 The Teen HOTT-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 Kan Fomataro at (212) 481-1050 for info and mailing list.

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHATTORAH

NY's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue Services Friday at 8:30pm 57 Bethune Street For info. call: (212) 829-9498.

CONGREGATION B'NAI 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) 767-7900

DIGNITY BIG APPLE

A community of Lesbian and Gay Catholics. Activities include Uturgies and socials every Sat., 8:00 pm, at the Center, 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Call (212) 818-1308.

DIGNITY NEW YORK

Lesbian and gay Catholics and friends AIDS Ministry, Spiritual Development. The Cathedral Project. Worship Services & Social-Sun. Eves. 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 914-378-0727 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: \$8. Bring a main course for 4 people (or pay a \$5 food charge.) For information call: 212-979-7541 or 212-298-3236

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 7:30pm to 9:00pm to become a member of GLIB. No experience needed. 505 Eighth Avenue, NY, NY 10018 Attn: Outlooks or call (212) 473-1688. 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 Worth Street, Box 67, New York, NY 10013. For info call (212) 566-4995.

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS

Dedicated to safe and responsible S/M since 1961. Open meetings w/programs on S/M to techniques, lifestyle issues, political and social concerns. Also special events, speakers bureau, workshops, demos, affinity groups, newsletter, more. GMSMA - Dept. O, 496A Hudson Street, Suite D23 NYC 10014.(212) 727-9678.

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
212-607-6655 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 "Cheese Transfer", monthly Fat Apple Review, bi-monthly F.A.R. penpals. For more information call Ernie at 914-699-7735 or write: G&M/NY, Dept. O, P.O. Box 10, Palham, NY 10803.

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)674-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) 681-1774 for meeting schedule or more information. 208 West 13th Street, NY, NY 10011.

**HETRICK-MAITIN
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) 633-8928 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 201-653-7824 or write H.U.G.L., P.O. Box 226 Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10019.

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 6th 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 Street, SF CA 94110, or call (415)647-0453.

**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
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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 call: 2-4pm Mon thru Fri (212) 965-8585.

**LAVA—LESBIANS ABOUT
VISUAL ART**

Call for slides for Lesbian Artists' Exhibition, Gay & Lesbian Community Center, NYC. For more information, send SASE to: Miriam Fougere, 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) 869-2922.

**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)923-9600.

**LESBIAN AND GAY
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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. 516-338-4862.

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 963, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156

**MARAMATHA:
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)

**MEN OF ALL COLORS
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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) 245-6366 or (212) 222-8794.

**METROPOLITAN TENNIS
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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
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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 for call (212) 239-1796.

**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 20009. (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 8:30pm 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 Femmes and are primarily attracted to butch woman. For membership information call Lisa (212) 629-9817.

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**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 NAMBLA, PO Box 174, Midtown Station, New York, NY 10018 or call

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**PARENTS/FRIENDS OF
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**PEOPLE WITH AIDS
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(212) 532-0290/1-800-828-3280/ Hotline (212) 532-0568 Monday thru Friday 10am-6pm Meal programs, support groups, educational and referral services for PWA's and PWA's.

**PEOPLE WITH AIDS
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PINK PANTHER PATROL

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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 212-463-7208 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 PWA's. 208 West 13th St. NYC 10011, (212) 741-2247

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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 services is wide, encompassing child care and custody, discrimination, housing, 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 9, 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

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WHAMI—Women's Health Action And Mobilization.

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WOMEN'S 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.

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BOY GEORGE

Continued from page 39

Culture Club went to pieces. If I'd been professional, I would have held it together. But it wasn't what I wanted at the time.

What do you want out of your career at this point?

BG: When I started Culture Club, we never set out to become what we did. We just became that by accident. We never set out to be the biggest thing in the world. You can't predict these things. But certainly, I wouldn't like to go through what I went through with Culture Club again.

Earlier, we were talking about sadness and melancholy in your music. Do you find that you're more creative when you're depressed or in a funk? Or is that too much of a stereotype?

BG: If my life was as miserable as my songs, I'd be in big trouble. I always have days where I feel—not miserable or depressed—but confused. Insecure. Those days are certainly very fruitful in regards to writing songs. If you take the song, "I Specialize in Loneliness" [from the new album], it's about a part of my personality or any human being's personality. It's about when things are going really well, that sense of panic that appears in some people. I do believe that ultimately we're on our own. If you listen to the backing vocalist, he says, "You know you're born into this world alone." And I guess that's the theme of that song. There is a part of me that is very lonely.

Yeah. That part of you that, even when you're in a relationship, is never quite satisfied.

BG: Exactly. (Laughs.) That's definitely true. I think most people in relationships spend the whole relationship wondering why the other person is with them: Why are you with me? What have I got that you want? I think it's even worse for celebrities. I don't think any two people are in a relationship for the same reason. It starts off as a sexual thing most of the time, then develops into other things. Or it can start off as a very calculated career move in some cases. Human beings are very bizarre creatures.

What have you learned from past relationships that help your current one? What do you bring to your relationship now that you couldn't have five or ten years ago?

BG: I think the ultimate kind of love you can have is when you're prepared to set someone free. I think most human beings would find that impossible. The fact is that if you really love somebody, you'd want the best for them and let them go into another relationship. Most of us would find that very difficult to do—me included. But I'd like to think I've become less selfish, that I listen more, that I'm not so self-obsessed. I want to be able to be friends with that person as well as sleeping with them. To actually like them as people. When you're friends with someone you love, it's a rare and beautiful thing. You really have to work at that, though. I think that what happens is: When you meet someone, you're attracted to them for various reasons. And then you spend the whole time trying to destroy a side of their personality because of your own insecurity or because you think other people are going to find him attractive. Ninety-nine percent of the problems in relationships are projection. You end up destroying it for the very reason you want it so much. I think it's a lifelong battle.

But to even be aware of all of that would take a kind of self-knowledge and self-awareness that most people don't have. Or they avoid it because it's too painful to admit those sorts of things about yourself.

BG: I think a really good thing would be if they had counseling at school where you could actually learn a little bit more about yourself. If we were taught more about human nature, if we could learn at a young age about how much of a role you play in your own destiny, that would be a great thing.

Would you ever want to raise a child?

BG: Uh, well, yeah. I'd like to adopt children, but not now. Maybe when I'm about 45. I think children are great. It's a really powerful thing to have a child because you can either poison it or make it a really beautiful person. I have thought about that. Yeah. Don't make that your headline. (Laughs.) ▼

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87	Feb. 8	Feb. 18
88	Feb. 15	Feb. 25
89	Feb. 22	Mar. 4
90	Mar. 1	Mar. 11
91	Mar 8	Mar 18
92	Mar. 15	Mar. 25
93	Mar. 22	April 1

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CLASSIFIEDS

According to Doyle, he, Brown and Bici had been at a party at Doyle's home earlier that evening and had left at 1:30 am to buy beer and drink at the schoolyard. The statement does not explain how the fight began.

Past reports of weapons used in the fight included only a knife and a hammer, but, according to Doyle's statement, other weapons included fists and a wrench.

Because the statement is admissible as evidence only against Doyle, prosecutors will begin by seeking to convict Doyle. Should they succeed, the DA will put Doyle on the stand at a trial for Brown and Bici, who will most probably be tried together, and require Doyle to repeat his statement.

Should Doyle recant, prosecutors can then play the videotape for the jury in an attempt to impeach his testimony. And Bici's defense attorney, Barry Rhodes, is already planning for a vigorous cross-examination of Doyle. Rhodes believes that the DA will attempt to convict Doyle and turn him into a witness for the state.

To obtain a conviction for second-degree murder, the DA need not prove that all three caused Rivera's death, but only that the defendants acted in concert. And even if a jury decides that only one defendant caused Rivera's death by stabbing him, any accomplices can be found guilty of murder in the second degree as well.

For a conviction on a second count, the DA must show that the defendants acted with "depraved indifference to human life" and "recklessly engaged in conduct which created a grave risk of death." A source at the Queens DA's office has confirmed that Doyle is being targeted as Rivera's alleged killer, and Brown and Bici as his accomplices.

Other evidence includes a police lineup identification of Doyle by an unidentified witness, which has also been challenged by Doyle's lawyer. The night of the murder, three men were seen running from the schoolyard by this witness, prosecutors say. And the witness has reportedly identified Doyle as one of those three men.

Police have also recovered the hammer which Doyle claims in his statement belonged to Bici. Police have

not recovered the knife.

According to police, a second witness claims that Doyle spoke to her about his involvement in what he believed to be a fight that had resulted in the victim's being hospitalized and perhaps killed. The same witness reported that all three defendants belong to a group called DMS, or the Doc Martin Skinheads, and that all three hated gay men, according to police.

The case will be tried before Judge Ralph Sherman, who was elected to Civil Court in 1975 and Supreme Court in 1978. The next hearing date is set for April 10, in Supreme Court of Queens County, located in Kew Gardens.

Julio Rivera's murder galvanized anti-violence advocates last summer, when bias crimes against gay men and lesbians hit record numbers. ▼

OUTTAKES from page 23

recommended that the statute be repealed—a suggestion the Legislature is now considering in committee.

Under that 1977 statute, a question appears on every adoption application asking if the applicant is homosexual. Siebold, the Director of AIDS Help, Inc., and a 20-year resident of Key West, answered affirmatively on his application last Spring. HRS rejected his application.

Waxman argued that the statute was unconstitutional because it violated Siebold's right to privacy under the Florida Constitution, as well as Siebold's state and federal Rights to due process and equal protection. Florida's sodomy law was repealed a number of years ago.

"The statute suffers from the trite notions of homosexuals unsuitability as fit parents and evidences discrimination through archaic stereotypes associated with homosexuals," Judge Lester told a news service.

The legal argument was in part based on an Ohio Supreme Court decision last year in which a gay social worker was allowed to adopt a special-needs child. New Hampshire is the only other state with a law explicitly prohibiting gay adoption, although many states have anti-gay policies.

—Carrie Wofford/Washington

HARD TIMES FOR AIDS TREATMENT REGISTRY

NEW YORK—"As much as I hate to say it, it's AIDS in the '90s," said Steve Machon, president of the board of the AIDS Treatment Registry, or ATR, bemoaning the financial woes that have forced ATR's board to eliminate the organization's five salaried positions.

"Like many smaller organizations, we're having funding problems," said Machon. "A number of resources are drying up, and there are diminishing expectations about finding new sources of money."

Although ATR—which since 1989 has published the quarterly *Directory of AIDS Clinical Trials in New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia and Connecticut*—has not ceased operations, its staff continues to work on a purely volunteer basis, and ATR is delaying distribution of the latest issue of the *Directory* until it can find another organization willing to shoulder the substantial cost of mailing the 150-plus page publication. The *Directory*, the most complete regional guide available to free clinical trials of treatments for HIV and associated opportunistic infections, currently reaches some 6,000 subscribers. ATR has also stopped accepting new subscriptions orders.

Machon told *OutWeek* that ATR's board is now engaged in negotiations with the board of a large AIDS service organization and that prospects for ATR's rescue look good. He declined to name the larger organization, but he said that he expects a decision will be reached within the next few weeks.

The AIDS Treatment Registry was established in 1988 as a spinoff venture of ACT UP. Besides the *Directory*, it has published brochures—in English, Spanish and Créyol—to inform people living with HIV about the numerous issues they should consider before opting to enter a clinical trial. ATR had also recently begun producing a series of single-page, reader-friendly "information sheets" on the range of treatments currently available for each of the major opportunistic infections associated with HIV. That project, too, has been put on hold.

—James Waller

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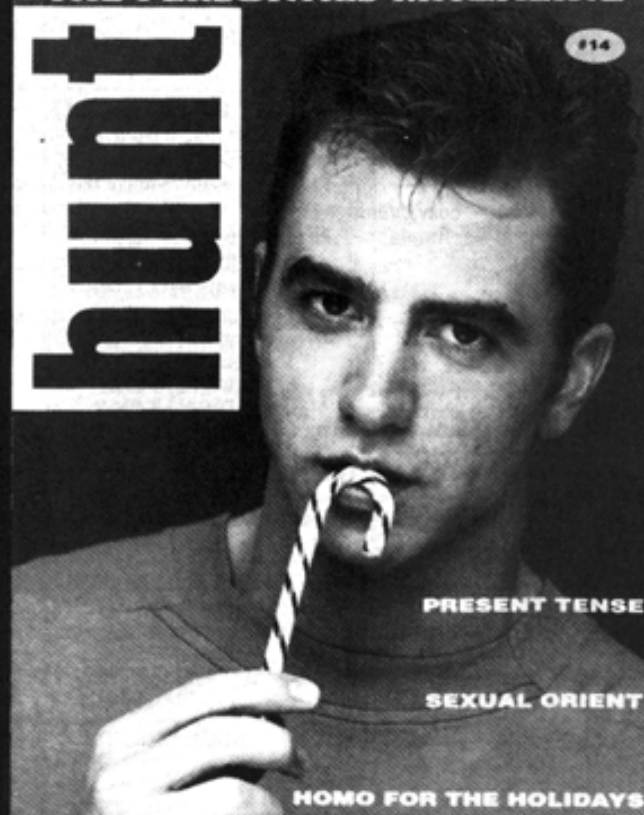
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24, 6'2", 175 lbs hung 8" and thick,
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THE PERSONALS MAGAZINE

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#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.

FAILED SOUTHERN LADY

Seeks mature woman with sense of humor. I'm 36, pleasant to look at, tax accountant, like foreign films, books, desire serious committed relationship. Send Photo if available to Outweek Box # 3905

GBF MATURE PROFESSIONAL

5'8" 135lbs sincere affectionate seeks feminine race unimportant for a committed relationship no Bi Sexu-als no children write inc. phone no. to Outweek Box 4012

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 fireplace. Take a chance on someone nice. Your

photo will get mine. No drugs non-smoker preferred Outweek Box 3707

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 yourself what I can show you. Outweek Box 3719

LEFT HANDED ABCDE

Seeks same. Who knows why some people "click". All I know for sure, is that I'm 32 with short red hair. I want to make the world a better place for Lesbians and gay men. I also want to eat Chinese

food and take long walks. Send me something that describes you. Outweek Box 3845.

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. Outweek 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

women's personals

ANDROGYNOUS, GWF, 27

Healthy body & psyche, fascinated by "ishmael" from "fanny & alexander." seeking similar w/similar fascinations for romantic friendship or 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 I 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 handbag 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

BI-F FILIPPINA 40 YO

Pretty, Petite, married child less, seeks Bi-F/GF for friendship, hopefully lover. I am gentle, honest & caring. I love simple pleasures of dining, occasional travel, talking, relating loving. Box 443 Manorville, NY 11949

CHINA PATTERN AT BLOOMIE'S

GF, 35, 5'6", 135, BI/gr, alcohol/drug free SF native/Manhattan dweller seeks to end years of serial monogamy. Softball, Diane Kurys films, ferron, gardening, politics and cruising the pages of Elle and Mirabella. Sweep me off my feet and into a domestic partnership. Photo/Phone gets mine. Outweek Box 3771

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

CHOICE CUTS WOMEN MEN

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.

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SINCERELY

Goodlooking, Intelligent, kinda funny, kinda works out. Sincere 24- year old Manhattanite seeks similar GM for a drink and maybe more. Photo and phone a must. I'm open to meet someone to spend time together without killing each other. Outweek Box 4112

take risks? Send photo and letter to: Outweek Box 3804

OUT, LOUD AND PROUD

26 Yr. old Queer TS woman tired of exclusionary politics in the womens community seeking friends, maybe dates, maybe more. Intelligence, maturi-

ty, and a sense of humor are prime importance. The unadventurous need not apply if you're new to TS women, we don't bite (unless you ask nicely). Note w/phone. photo optional. To Outweek Box #4224

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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. Honest, non-smoker, sober and drug free a must. Send photo and letter. Outweek Box 3662

men's personals

GOM, 42, 155, 5'6", avg looks, secure, with sense of humor, in shape seeks similar 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. Outweek Box 3699

40 YEAR OLD HISP. HANDICAPPED
Exec. looking for romance, friendship, and more. Must be compas-

sionate, sensitive, and open-minded. Photo a must! Outweek Box 3565

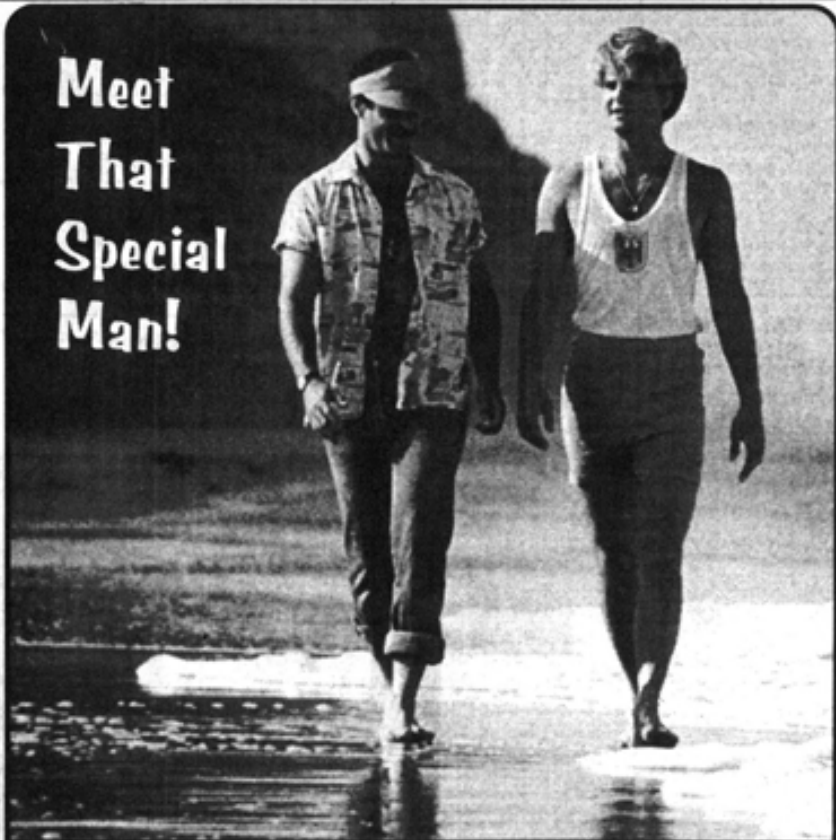
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Fine with me. I know there's more than black leather and Dock-martins in your closet. Do you fantasize about having a good straight-bashing? Like to hold hands and kiss in public? Don't mind mixing Boy Bar til four a.m. w/reading Oscar Wilde on Sunday over croissants and juice? Have a nice body and not too many quirks? Play safely? Then you're for me and I'm for you Person of not-so-much color w/dancer's body & steel blue eyes, decidedly unchic brn hr, 5'9", seeks a light fuck buddy relationship, with options for manic obsession later on. To Outweek Box 4293

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BEEFY BOY

26 years old 170 lbs. Very good looking dark hair & eyes smooth body muscular I don't go to the bars & work out at home. I'm looking for muscular Latin men well hung for hot safe sex. Photo a must. Outweek Box 3534

BIG GUY SOUGHT

By attractive blue eyed masculine ex-cop, 5'8", 155, very muscular, well proportioned, easy going, healthy, mainly dominant regular guy. Prefer football player/power lifter type for hot safe fun. Westchester/Southern Conn. =A+. Photo appreciated. P.O. Box 132, North White Plains, NY 10603-0132

BLOND OR RED HEAD?

If U-R 18-35 clean

shaven and smooth body I want you! I am a GWM 34, 5'10" clean shaven good looking very passionate and hairy serious only and no phone sex. If you are European. it is even more exciting (212) 529-2305

BLUE EYES

Clean cut, boyish, 30's, top seeks cute bottom for safe fun/friendship. Photo / tel: to Suite F-32, 496A Hudson St., NY, NY 10014

BOTTOM SEEK TOP

Looking for you lets get serious GWM 42,5'7" 195 successful secure sweet guy looking for a special man to start a relationship send photo phone number to P.O. Box 31, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

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 mustache a plus. Not tender. Leather a must. Photo/phone to Outweek Box 3696

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I want to surrender control to an in-shape dominant man. I'm 6'4", 185 lbs, br/bl, stache outside, we're equal companions in bed, you're in charge P.O. Box 610, Southampton, NY 11969. Travel City, Tri-State.

GAY AND INTER-RACIAL 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

GAY COUPLE - PINEHILL

NY 24 & 34 GWM & GHM looking to meet other gays (couples or singles) for friendship hiking or whatever boys do in the woods weekends in the Ulster / Delaware country border write Box 222 Highmount, NY 12441

GBM 5'5", 28 YEARS OLD

Handsome, firm, looking for 24 - 36 Bick or Hisp. (body conscious) big brother type to spend quality time together. Send

Photo & Phone # to Outweek Box #4230

GET ME WHILE YOU CAN

Very attractive WM, 24, br / br, 5'9", 140, cln shvn, discrete, straight acting Prep seeks friendship & more. Send letter photo if you are warm, intelligent & sincere and love opera, movies, good food & quiet eves. Outweek Box #4127

GHM 23 YO 5'7" 135LBS

Seeks a GHM OR GBM to be my big daddy that hung 9" + age between 18-40 to put your hot dick in my juice mouth and ass. I will give it to you like no one else ever give to you before. Please send

photo / phone to Outweek Box 4150

GRAD STUDENT IN ARTS

GWM, 29, 5'10", 160, br/gr, into MOMA, Cage, I'm Burroughs, Wooster Grp, Lao-Tse, sks safe, self-motivated gay w/own passionate interests to share ideas & maybe more. You: please w/yr life, skilled in art of conversation. Listening & like me, we pfr gentle care about to non-committal sex w/a stranger. Innate wisdom & sense of humor at CD you really be out there? Ph/Ph, if u like. No smokers. To Outweek Box #4341

GWM 27 5'11" 150 BR/BR People say I'm



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handsome I am seeking a fellow ardent male, a man who likes to give and receive sexual and emotional bliss, who wants to savor existence on many levels, a man not put off by the unconventional, who enjoys relating with intimacy and kindness. Let's take long walks in the park and then explore each other in front of an open fire ph/ph. Send to Outweek box 3843.

GWM 27 BLACK HAIR BR EYES

Would you like to sit back watch xmovies drink a beer have a smoke and spread your strong hairy legs and get your dick sucked without reciprocation. Send your photo and

number Mike Outweek Box 4238

HANDSOME HUNG GUY 37

Seeking other handsome hung guys. Big shaved Balls Eric 212-242-7198

HANDSOME SUMO

Not nearly as big as they are buy enuf 4 MEN who like their mates well-padded and proportioned. I'm 5'9" 250#s 32 yo musc. calves-n-thighs, cushy butt, blk/br, smart, litry. gd lking. LAT., great kisser UR: /cuddler 30-45yo 4: mind/body feasting-n-manhandling w/a future? Photo / Phone pls. to Outweek Box #4334

HEY LITTLE BROTHER

Tall (6'3"), blonde big brother in good

shape and good looking, 35, wants hot little brother 18-30 to play with: intense, safe fun, massages, biker's tights, football jerseys, jock straps. Let's find the fantasy. Rick P.O. Box 938 Rock Center Sta. NY, NY 10185-0009

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 JUICY MOUTH

Wanted by two horny HIV neg white males age 50 in Santa Rosa Calif. on a regular steady basis. Keep our juices drained. Write Doug and George Box 282 Fulton, CA 95439-Come soon!

HOT MUSCULAR BOY

Looking for weekend lover 5'7", dark hair/eyes, trim, extremely cut, beautiful, 25. Looking for aggressive, muscular, hung boy up to 30 year old. Must be sexy, verbal, hot. Must like to dance, wrestle, laugh. We would have great, steamy, safe times together. Tenderness +. Write to Outweek Box 3647

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

I WANT A BOYFRIEND

Handsome, built writer, 31, seeks friend for fun and romance. I'm 6'1", 160, dk bl, stache, goatee; like books, plays, and Steve Reeves movies; an human but capable of greatness, funny, moody but worth the hassle. Hope you're great shape, affectionate, thought-provoking. Outweek Box #4113

IMPOSSIBLE?

I won't accept the impossibility of finding a decent sensitive man who is warm and funny with a fully functional brain. Am looking for a secure independent companion to share life's pain and wonder, willing to work toward permanence when the potential is real. Am 35, professional, tall, slim, and attractive. Enjoy world travel, nature, people watching, film, beautiful music and creating good karma. Are you a kindred spirit? Outweek Box 3606

ITALIAN OR LATIN GUY

All American regular guy - 6' 175, 30, blue eyes, handsome straight - acting, fun & horny seeks goodlooking latin or Italian boy to explore NYC & each other. Your Photo and Phone

gets mine. CIAO / Adios. Outweek Box #3994

LATIN STRIPPER

25 bodybuilder hing Big Nuts Seek 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

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

LETTER WRITERS

I am a fello assoc. with the HRCF, I need people, to write letters and / or make phone calls to our senators concerning Gay & Lesbian issues, Aids issues and such please call or write, let's make a difference! call or write Mike (718) 321-2589 P.O. Box 70-1175 East Elmhurst, NY 11370

MARRIED BUT (T)

31, 6', 155 seeks weekday AM / noon tryst w / uncut top in Chelsea / w. Village Areas. Hairy and / or BB a turn-on. Top body available for 3 ways call Steve 989-8597

MONOGAMY, ANYONE?

GWM, early 40s, successful professional, 5'9", br/bl, moustache, hairy, healthy, 160 lbs. with a good sense of humor. Enjoys movies, theater, good music, dining out, reading, travel, good conversation. Seeks GWM, 25-38

who is intelligent, warm hearted, slim nonsmoker with a good sense of humor, a sane but passionate attitude towards sex, and who is also seeking a serious relationship. Write to: P.O. Box 99, NYC, NY 10028

NASTY TOP

Really good looking bottom seeks really nasty top to explore all the different ways you can dominate me over make me serve you. I want to be knocked out to my senses by how erotic you can make being tied up and make to serve. You could be a boy from the S/M or an aggressive business man. Photo & letter to Outweek Box 4246

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 lking, 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

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NICE NORMAL GUY

Ivy prof, 33, 5'6", br/br, 135, haven't broken any mirrors. Have usual guppy indicators: gym, travel, restaurants, theatre, books hard worker but love a good time. (Narcissistically?) looking for somebody else kinda like that. Box 7427, New York, NY 10163

NJ SINGLE

GWM, 36, 5'11", 175 has Christmas wish to behalf of a couple. Seeking intell, romantic, sincere, attract, GWM to share music, films, books, cuddling, hugs, kisses, love, life. A furry chest to snuggle against would be nice. If honestly, caring, monogamy are in your vocabulary, send descriptive ltr/ph/ph. Outweek Box 3736

OLDER BROTHER OR DAD

GAM 19, 5'6", 140 lbs swimmer is looking for an older man (23+), who can help me find the way. Very new to the scene don't know what to do Write Outweek Box #4250. Photo pref.

PERSON TO PERSON

Man to Man. I smoke, drink, do drugs, eat meat, make love. If you like the same, call let's talk or something. The more pleasure. The more gain. 725-1289 x282

QUEER MALE, 23, TIGHT BOD

seeks other compatible guys for urban frolic. I'm

young, mature, need to laugh. Ready for some dates and some sweaty dancing. Good kisser a must. Send a letter and photo to me. Get my attention. Outweek Box 3621

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

SANE & SEXY

Unpretentiously masculine GWM, Br/Br, goodlooking, great athletic bld, well-endowed, sex. Versatile, hairy chest, upbeat, manly, bright, 34, 5'8" seeking attractive in-shape masculine 25-45 yr old with extra-hairy body for unprintable excitement & pos. relationship. Beard, stache or clean-shaven fine. Photo (important) & letter/phone to J. Cort 532 La Guardia PL. Box 476 NYC, NY 10012

SCIENCE, SCI-FI

GYM, film, big questions. Bright, down-to-earth, midwestern GWM, 31, 5'8", 145, b/br, seeks attractive unpretentious guy of similar build and age, into some of the above for friendship, dating and ...? Send to Outweek Box 3790

SHAVED HEAD

Pretty blue eyes, 6', vegetarian, 33, thin, sincere; wants long term cheap law dry deeply meaningful

affair w/some down home Hip non-straight-acting man with a voyeuristic appreciation of sleaze. A man creatively diverse, bright & witty, sensual & direct, having a strong sense of self, a good grip & great eyes. A laughing dancing sentimental bitch goddess sap. someone clearly queerly fabulous. Write with Photo to POB 582 NY, NY 10023

SOLID GENTLEMAN 5'11"

47 HIV - 185 secure educated travelled/mature gd lks/Irsh Amrcn quick wit smile/nn smkr/drnr sks yngr Fra Grp gent of quality objct dating prhps more Outweek Box 4084

SPIRITED AMBITIOUS JAPANESE MAN*
Into Music, Art Lit., Film & conversation seeks student of Nihongo Interested in exchange of language lessons also desires romance. I enjoy dancing I'm 6'1" 150 lbs 28 yrs old. Broad mind with a fair fluency in English. Seeking sincere relationship. Photo & Phone appreciated. Returned upon request. Send to Outweek Box 4187

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 rela-

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tionship. Must have a good sense of humor. Photo / Phone get prompt response. To Outweek Box 3971

THE WRITER'S LIFE
A GWM Poet / Artist Became a masseur to free up mornings but lost evenings, charged a book's expense on Visa to Get it

published and hopes for pay-off by age 40. Now 36, 5'8", 135, br/br, HIV +, needs potential lover who understands. Outweek Box 4255 or call (212) 989-5923

VERY ATTRACTIVE MAN
Msclr, 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

VERY HANDSOME IRISH
GM, 5'11, 150, br/bl, 35, HIV-, smooth, swimmer's build, easygoing, masculine, humorous, integrated, fairly literate, sexual but not promiscuous, not into bars. Seeks

dark (Italian?), handsome, possibly topish GM, at peace with himself, for sensual, intense sex and more. Photo a must; discretion assured. Box 3873

WANTS TO FALL IN LOVE

Down-to-earth red-head actor dancer looking for someone to share my life with. Mysterious eyes and an unforgettable smile are definite requirements -also a sense of 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 someone who will be both a best friend and a lover. Send photo & letter to Outweek Box 3684

WHOLESAOME VALUES
Handsome, masculine 40, 6'2" 190, br/blue, clean shaven, muscular, hung All American with successful business career and wholesome values seeks single prof. 25-45 with WASP/Irish good looks for fun/ friend/poss. rel. Photo and phone a must for reply! Outweek Box #4193

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

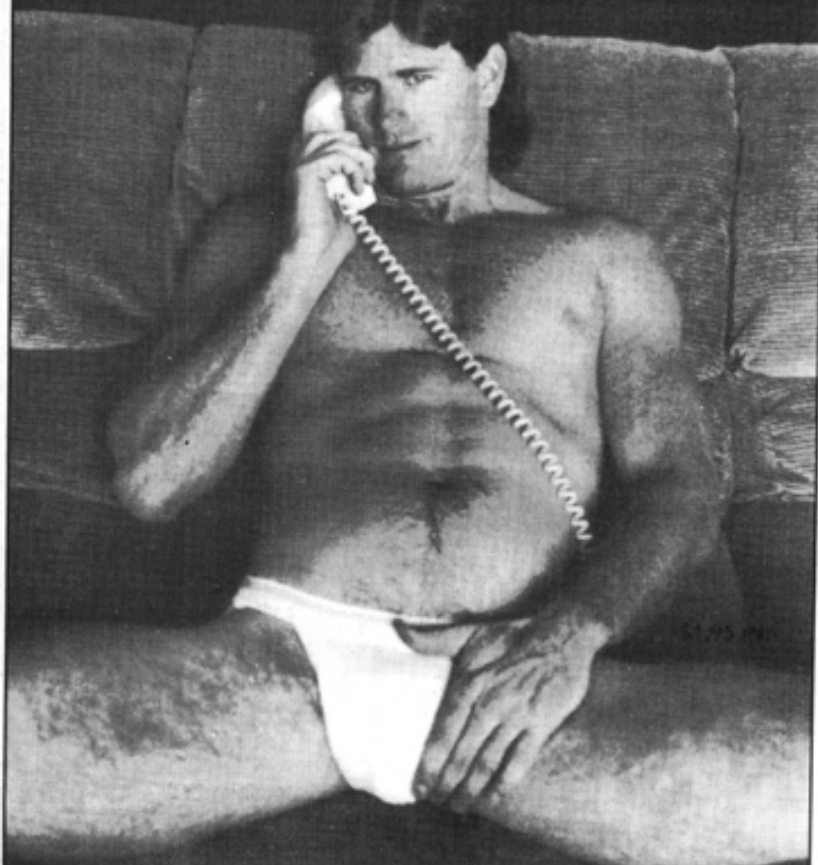
WRESTLE
Ex-college jock lacks opponents and floor space. Slow and easy or rough and sweaty. Ring, mat, or mattress. Or do you just like to watch? Photo, phone, and fantasy to Outweek Box 3687

YOUNG AND ETHNIC
5'9", 150lbs, 20yrs young GBM, who looks Latino, College educated, in search of a GBM or Latino man for a friendship or relationship interests should include house music, clubbing, movies kissing and safe sex. Include photo, I will respond. Outweek Box #4333

GBM 30 5'8" 135 LBS
Well hung good time seeking companion for good time must have a good sense of humor and very attractive feet. Please send photo and letter to Outweek #4247

GIPM 23 YO 5'7"
Goodlooking seeking a very attractive Hispanic or Blackman to be top and hung a ++ for safe and wild sex. Send ph/ph to OutWeek Box #4248

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YOU MUST BE 18

1-900-999-MEET

the broadcast definition of indecency for the telephone medium but deliberately chose not to do so."

But most bizarre is the Ninth Circuit's ruling that the regulations do not impose a prior restraint anyway. Noting that normally "prior restraint" refers to government action to enjoin speech or require advance approval, censorship or licensing for speech, the appeals court said that these regulations did not involve the government in any of those activities. Instead, the regulations give telephone companies (private, non-governmental actors) an incentive to restrain the speech by subjecting them to penalties if they do not. According to the Ninth Circuit, since the telephone company may decide on its own not to provide billing services for phone sex, it is not unconstitutional to give the telephone company a strong incentive (fines and prison terms) to make such a decision.

Besides, the Ninth Circuit found that the regulations did not impose any restraint on speech. "Receipt of uttered expression is provided immediately upon request," the court asserted. "Speech is transmitted according to standard commercial practice: If a subscriber desires to receive dial-a-porn material, he or she requests it and pays for it." The court draws a disingenuous analogy to paying admission before entering a theater or paying for a book or videotape.

A better analogy would be that a bookstore may not sell a book to just any customer who wanders in, but instead the publisher must designate which of its products are "indecent," and a customer could only purchase a designated book if he or she wrote to the bookseller in advance providing documentation that he was over 18. In an even more twisted analogy, the court compares the FCC's regulations to the movie-rating system restricting admission by minors.

The Ninth Circuit's opinion makes strange reading after Judge Patterson's, partly because the courts seem to have very different understandings of the facts. This may be partly due to the different roles of the two courts. Patterson heard witnesses during six days of hearings. By contrast, appeals courts reviewing agency regulations



do not hear live witnesses, but instead are left to read through the hearing records and listen to the arguments by the lawyers for both sides.

Another reason for the differences between the two opinions has to do with the Ninth Circuit's inadequate consideration of the constitutionality of the Helms Amendment. Although it indicates that its constitutionality and the validity of the regulations are both before the court, the opinion is devoted mostly to the latter. The court lacked the kind of factual record that would be necessary for an appropriate determination of the Helms Amendment's constitutionality. These failings make the opinion vulnerable to serious attack on reconsideration by a larger Ninth Circuit panel or the Supreme Court.

So, where do things stand for the phone-sex companies right now?

Judge Patterson's injunction remains in effect against the Justice Department, although there is no injunction against the FCC. But the FCC's ability to initiate proceedings against telephone companies and phone-sex companies is doubtful as long as the injunction is in effect. The phone-sex companies could ask the Ninth Circuit for a rehearing before an expanded panel (which is rarely granted) and eventually petition the Supreme Court for review.

In the meantime, if the Second Circuit agrees with Judge Patterson, the likelihood of Supreme Court review to resolve the conflict would be greatly enhanced. If the Second Circuit agrees with the Ninth Circuit, it may dissolve Judge Patterson's injunction, and the

Justice Department could be free to begin enforcement activities.

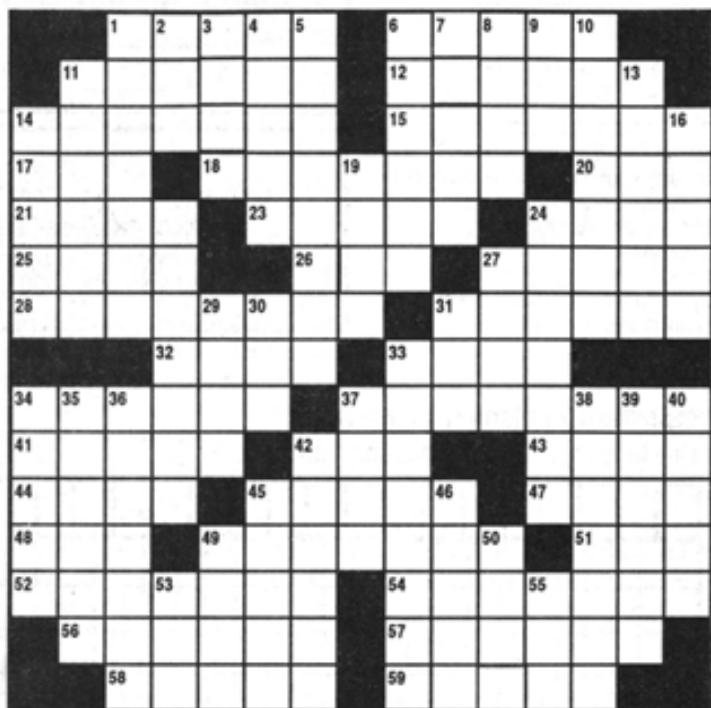
It is hard to predict how the Helms Amendment and the FCC regulations would stand up to Supreme Court review. In *Sable*, five other justices joined Justice White's opinion. The partial dissenters, Justices Brennan, Marshall and Stevens, agreed that a ban on indecent telephone messages was unconstitutional but would have gone further to declare unconstitutional the ban on obscene messages. The crux of the argument, whether the FCC's blocking system is the "least restrictive alternative" toward achieving the goal that the *Sable* court identified as legitimate, is, at bottom, a question of fact, and the quality of evidence is not all that good, since it consists mainly of speculation rather than hard data.

The best approach to resolving the issues would be a study of the experience in New York and California under existing systems (which are those advocated by the phone-sex companies). Do many minors get through to hear phone-sex messages, and is there any evidence that those sophisticated enough to do so are seriously harmed? Without a reliable answer to these questions, any resolution of this dispute may depend more on the political sympathies of the judges than on the Constitution.

And a favorite means of entertainment, self-expression and information-exchange for millions of gay men, a potentially precedent-setting interpretation of the extent of the First Amendment and the fate of much of the lesbian and gay press nationwide, hangs in the balance. ▼

OutWeek Crossword

by Greg Baysans
Edited by Gerard Mackey



11. Term of office
13. Mexican shawl
14. Terrific!
16. Anwar
19. Lake or canal
22. Of the Orient
24. "Sweet Home ____"
27. Beat, as a wing
29. Mars, to Plato
30. Compass pt.
31. Before: pref.
33. Kind of highway
34. Son of Obededom
35. Writer Nora
36. Do you take ____?
37. Welden, for one
38. Mends
39. Writer Jong et al.
40. Lazy ____
42. Terms of endearment
45. The Wizard of ____ Park
46. Dame, e.g.
49. Sky, to Mao
50. Put on cargo
53. I love: Lat.
55. Was ahead

SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK—ON SALE MONDAY

Across

1. Smelting refuse
6. A De Mille
11. Grow molars
12. Pizza potions
14. Grapefruit unit
15. Poe heroine et al.
17. Corn or cycle prefix
18. ____ button
20. A Gershwin
21. Cougar
23. Sea eagles
24. Annapolis, e.g.
25. Notable periods
26. Young louse
27. ____ coin (leave to chance)
28. Dependence
31. Venus, for one
32. English composer
33. Bedouin
34. Sofa
37. Makes ready
41. Plant pest
42. ____ under the collar
43. Peak near Kilimanjaro
44. Fashionable

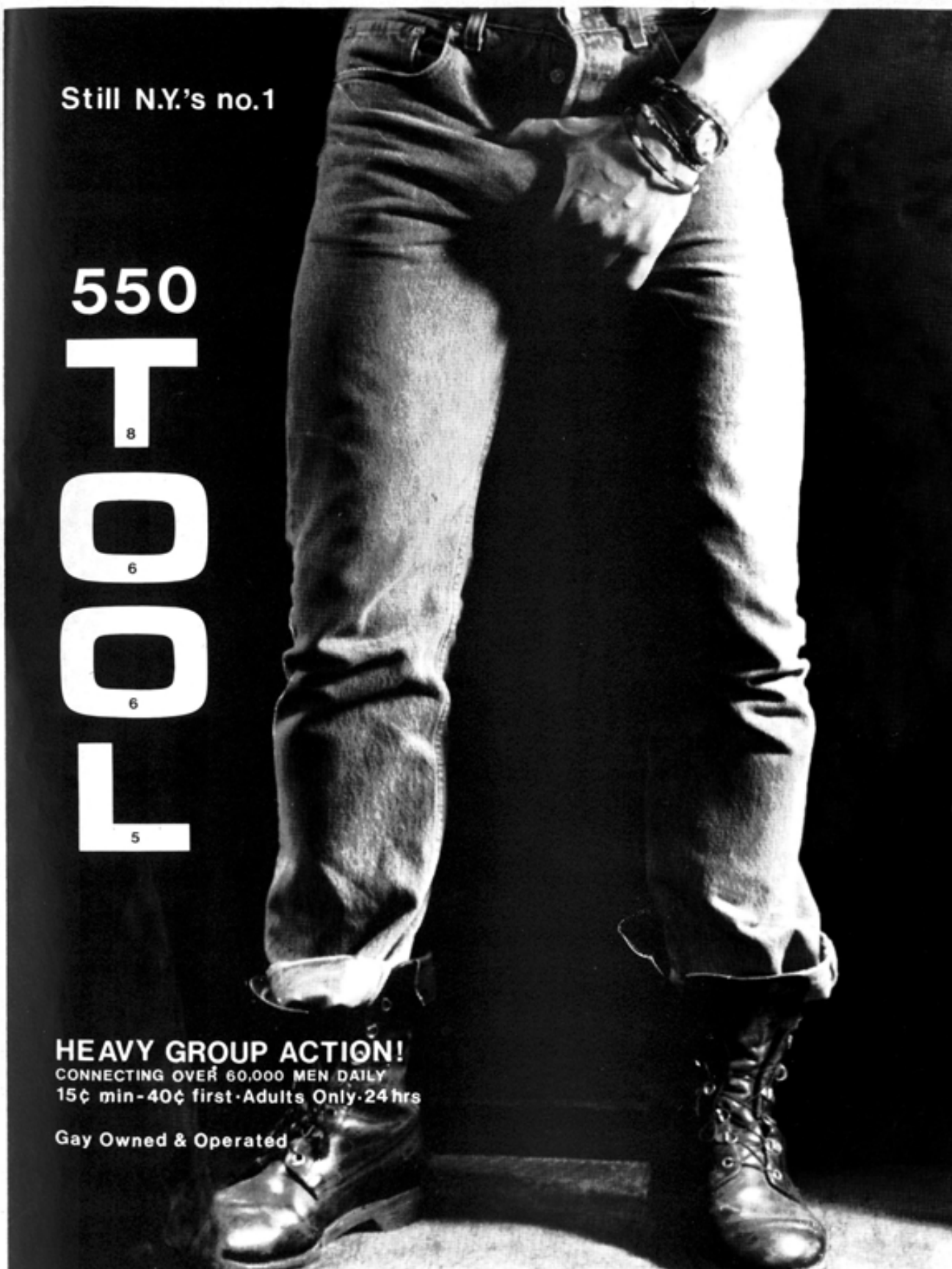
45. *Waterlilies* painter
47. Sacred bull of Egypt
48. ____ *poetica*
49. Plant support
51. There: Sp.
52. Lettuce for a Caesar salad
54. Pavarotti, for one
56. To wit
57. Trees of the birch family
58. Forbidden things, to baby
59. Yorkshire city

Down

1. Dewey ____ system
2. Soak flax
3. Of the ear
4. Cry out
5. 5 to 10, to some
6. On a bias
7. She played Cagney
8. 1492 name
9. Novelist Umberto
10. Silk protein

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