

disney's queer kingdom

OUTWEEK

THE LESBIAN
AND GAY
NEWS
MAGAZINE
NO. 24

...at paul
and
larry lee
spin that
wheel

gays,
glamour
and taxi
blues

the bisexual revolution

*deluded closet
cases or the
vanguard of the
movement?*

BY CARRIE WOFFORD



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Saving the Children

Recently, Board of Education Vice President Irene Impellizzeri attacked educators at the Hetrick-Martin Institute for supposedly using a safer-sex course to "teach anal intercourse" to New York City high school students. She followed her attack by proposing a resolution which would have closed Hetrick-Martin's Harvey Milk High School and barred Hetrick-Martin instructors from doing outreach and education at any of the city's public schools.

Impellizzeri's resolution failed to pass only because three board members abstained. But the entire board exhibited a glaring moral failure for not roundly and soundly denouncing and defeating Impellizzeri's bid.

Anyone who cares enough to examine AIDS education in New York is aware of the fact that Hetrick-Martin's explicit gay safer-sex instructions are reserved for those adolescents at highest risk of HIV infection, such as teenage prostitutes. The regular course that Hetrick-Martin educators teach at city high schools, on the other hand, is well within board guidelines and discusses abstaining from sex and the fact that condoms are not 100 percent safe, among other things.

What Impellizzeri and company were really after was the very existence of the Hetrick-Martin Institute and its Harvey Milk School. New York's homophobic right wing has never reconciled itself with these worthy institutions which seek to serve lesbian and gay youth, just as they have never reconciled themselves with living in a world containing lesbian and gay adults. Attacks such as Impellizzeri's are the best—or rather the worst—possible examples of the attitudes Hetrick-Martin was founded to combat.

It's depressing that modern-day homophobes still arm themselves with the Stone Age canard that gays are trying to "teach homosexuality" to impressionable youth in an attempt to "recruit" new queers. And it's an outrage that they now update this lie by attaching it to vital safer-sex education.

Such a distortion immensely complicates the delicate, difficult mission of the Hetrick-Martin Institute. After all, Hetrick-Martin's task of serving lesbian and gay youth presupposes the existence of such youth, an existence still bitterly denied by those who insist that homosexual orientation is a conscious—and unconscionable—moral choice.

In the face of such prejudice, Hetrick-Martin's staff has taken on an even larger mission in the age of AIDS, seeking to save not only gay youth but straight youth as well. They do so in the midst of mainstream educators who prefer to ignore the AIDS epidemic raging among teenagers, or who use the tragedy of teenage AIDS to promote a conservative and sex-negative social agenda.

The supreme irony of such a situation is captured in incidents like Irene Impellizzeri's resolution, in which lesbian and gay educators are defamed and vilified for trying to save the lives of New York kids, the vast majority of whom are the children of straight people.

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LETTERS

POST-SANDRA SYNDROME

It's a relief to know that Sarah Pettit finally has ended her obsession with, of all things, Sandra Bernhard [no. 81, Jan. 16]. By now, I had hoped that she would have wondered, as indeed I have, what it says about our lesbian culture that Sarah should be so fascinated with a pretender. What is it about us that wants to make someone as ambiguously vicious as Sandra into one of us? Are we really that desperate? Why did you, Sarah, need her to feel justified in your love for all things lesbian? Why do we keep hurting ourselves by looking outside of our culture for the glamour, the Hollywood? I'd rather play with the girls who choose to be lesbians.

Sure, I have a lot of faith that women like k.d. lang, Melissa Etheridge, and, yes, even Jodie Foster, will get out of the closet—if that's where they're at—but it's not going to wreck my week if they don't. I'm making my own queer history, and I'm glad, dear Sarah, that you're over that Sandra thing. Let's get on with it, OK?

Jennifer Robles
Managing Editor
Windy City Times
Chicago

Sarah Pettit responds: I've enclosed one pair of my black panties with your copy of Out-Week. Get on with this, Jenny.

FORGET SANDRA, EMPOWER THYSELF

Please! No fewer than eight pictures of Sandra Bernhard? This loud-lipped lesbo should be stripped of her ill-

gotten, though now-fading, fame, her name committed to memory and her ambiguity, may it rest in peace. This continued fixation is best described by Terry Wolverton's "poem"/essay, "Ties" [no. 81, Jan. 16]. I agree with Sarah Pettit's analysis of the lesbian condition and thereby nominate Victoria A. Brownworth to replace the stars left dim by silly Sandy's

ful place is in our dreams—not in our lives—as we struggle for validation, acceptance, visibility. When and if these women ever materialize as more than images into our lives, our struggles, to proclaim their sexuality and commitment to this dangerous, deviant lifestyle, only then should we embrace them both literally and figuratively and call out their

insightful and positive. I wish Ms. B. well and remain a *big* fan, though I hope she reads the article and weeps. But now, let's talk about Madonna.

Selective memory is a common affliction these days, but let's not forget that Madonna was at least 50 percent responsible for promoting her "friendship" with Ms. B. And what about all her lesbian denial in *Vanity Fair*? Who knows who really abandoned whom when things got too tough, but one can't help but notice that Madonna has managed to divest from the entire episode and come out on top by hanging out with, ripping-off and promoting gay boys and drag queens.

Oh, I adore Ms. M., but my point is simply—isn't it a little nasty for us to read Ms. B. for her part in the scandal while Madonna sits high with "gay patron saint" status?

Cathay Hora
A Recovering
Madonna-Wannabe
Manhattan

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



departure [see Brownworth's "Philadelphia Journal," no. 71, Nov. 7], a lone voice of reason in a vast lesbian wasteland of expectation and fantasy. Few of us will ever know the life behind the face, the body of the celebrity image we wet our pants over. Few of us will ever know the real body or face stripped of artifice. Their right-

names—until then women, empower thyselfs.

Deborah Proos
Manhattan

MADONNA DON'TWANNA

Thanks for the excellent article on the lesbian affair with Sandra Bernhard. I felt your approach was fair,

AMFAR OVEREXTENDED

Bob Lederer's article in "Positive Alternatives" on garlic therapy [no. 81, Jan. 16] says Dr. Taraq Abdullah was forced to finance a trip to a conference in China after AmFAR, the American Foundation for AIDS Research, rejected his grant request.

Mr. Lederer's statement seems to imply AmFAR did not find Dr. Abdullah's proposal worthy of funding. Probably nothing could be further from the truth. AmFAR receives many, many times more worthy grant requests than it can possibly

BLURT OUT

NO, THANK YOU,
A.M. ROSENTHAL...

It seems the stress of war-mongering has taken its toll on many. If last week's op-ed column "Thank You, Mr. Bush" is any indication, A.M. Rosenthal, the esteemed former *Times* executive editor, clearly has a lot more "On [His] Mind" than usual. After much desk-pounding and a hefty serving of survey history, A.M. offers up this wonder: "Their top man, Gen. Colin Powell, showed himself not only to be personable and handsome but to have another characteristic important to a presidential possibility. He is a hell of a manager."

—Sarah Pettit

fund. For instance, last year, AmFAR received over 600 proposals for targeted educational grants, which the advisory committee deemed excellent and worthy of funding. Twenty-three grants were awarded for a total of \$850,000.

The problem is a simple lack of money. AmFAR has provided research grants worth more than \$30 million since its inception in 1985, but the need is many times greater. Thank god for Elizabeth Taylor and Dr. Mathilde Krim, or we wouldn't even have that much.

Logic would suggest AIDS research is the only solution to make sick people well. With all the yammering about what should be done, and what others should do, to end AIDS, it has always occurred to me that we gay men have always had it within our capability to fund all the research we want regardless of political conditions in the country. With an estimated more than 10 million gay men employed nationwide, \$100 given by each for AIDS research would be \$1 billion and a very small price to pay individually to try and save the lives of our friends and loved ones.

AmFAR's address is 1515 Broadway, Suite 3601, New York, NY 10036, and they sure could use some contributions for their important effort. The possibilities are quite amazing, if we care enough.

David L. Johnson
Kansas City

Bob Lederer responds: Dr. Abdullah's grant request was for a mere \$5,000 to attend a conference bringing together leading Chinese experts on garlic and immune system disorders. AmFAR's rejection of this proposal fits a pattern which belies Mr. Johnson's claim that "the problem is a simple lack of money." While

AmFAR may be a little closer to the "grassroots" of the AIDS community than the National Institutes of Health, its funding priorities are little different when it comes to holistic treatments. In an earlier column, I reported that AmFAR had refused to consider a grant proposal from a Seattle clinic for a highly scientific clinical trial of multiple holistic treatments. An AmFAR official remarked that his organization was "not interested in natural medicine." (Since then, however, one trial of acupuncture for neuropathy, run by CRI/New England, has been funded.) Yes, funds are limited, but whatever level of grants exist must be administered without bias—particularly since natural therapies are often much cheaper and less toxic than the hi-tech drugs so popular in AIDS research circles.

ALCOHOL IMPUT

This is the concerned queer who wrote about the Absolut ads ["Letters," no. 77, Dec. 19] that Michael Elek seemed so upset about ["Letters," no. 81, Jan. 16]. To be honest, I didn't think anyone could be so pro-Absolut or [pro-] advertisement to respond, unless you work for Absolut. First of all, I would like to admit that I agree with some of your points. Secondly, would I make a fuss over candy ads—no. What about car ads and knives—I won't even amuse myself with them.

Now about me singling out a gay magazine: I read *OutWeek* because I feel it's my local community news-magazine, I don't single out magazines unless they're homophobic hetero rags. I also did not infer that alcoholism is predominantly a gay disorder, but I stated that there are a lot of queers who are alcoholic, and that is a fact, and nothing to be ashamed of. Let's not be in denial.

Dictating and prohibiting are not one of my desires. If you can read, I said that I did not intend to encroach on people's freedom to choose to drink. And as adults, if one wants to drink, they certainly know how, and I wouldn't think they'd need an ad to show them that, unless you need childish wooing. Now as for the classy stylishness of an ad, I don't give a fuck about some wealthy high-class ad agency churning out these ads and making big bucks off of them—even if it's done in a witty way. By the way, I sensed classism in your comparison of childish Spudz McKenzie [beer] and glitzy Absolut ads; the means and ends are still the same.

As for queers obtaining power by corporate recognition, the only way we'll achieve any equality and "power" is by ridding this world of homophobia and all bigotry. A slick example of your kind of appraisal of corporate America are those vile Burroughs Wellcome ads. The hypocrisy of *OutWeek* to blast that company in editorials and then accept their ads is sickening. Meanwhile, that company poisons us with their self-promoting crap. As for Absolut celebrating Keith Haring's genius as an openly gay man, that is a very esoteric statement. I've never seen an ad that showed in any way that he was gay.

The sex ads, by the way, are probably coming back. Your point about conscience of safer sex is taken. However, they are all mostly phone-sex ads. That means safer sex for the most part. *OutWeek* does have a list of safer-sex guidelines concerning sex and substance usage. I personally stand by the known fact that alcohol and drugs do have a harsh effect on the immune system and impair decision making during sex. But as adults, everyone can and will make up [his or her] own

mind about drinking and drugs and sex and candy and cars and knives. My letter was merely my personal opinion and input regarding alcohol and health in *OutWeek's* ads.

*Servalan Erik
Manhattan*

STOP ME BEFORE I GAWK AGAIN

Will you please publish this letter? I am elderly, an old Stonewall street slut that has lost two wives and a career because of this common gay problem.

Why do some straight men and gay men gawk, and others don't?

Let's discuss the straight gawking first. It helps me understand our problem.

In the spring or summer of 1989, an article discussing this appeared either in Ann Landers' or in Dear Abby's column.

The letter was from a woman worried about a boyfriend (or husband) who gawked at all women. He gave all women bedroom eyes. Gawked at boobs, legs and rear ends. The columnist took the woman's side and told the man to shape up, just look at his woman or be prepared to get another girl.

But in a few days, a lot of men who gawked at women replied, and the columnist printed seven replies. They said that they could not explain it. They were not sexually interested in other women or dissatisfied with their women. They would promise not to do it, practice not doing it, pray about it, all to no avail.

I don't feel that I am gay. I am a bisexual who inherited the gay eye-reflex instead of the straight eye-reflex.

I feel lucky that I was born with the ability to look at both women and men with an equal intensity.

What is the point of this letter?

Unknown to us, our coaches, preachers, peers, classify us as gay because of this eye-reflex. I can remember beginning to do this at movies in the fourth or fifth grade.

When we begin to notice this in our peers, cousins, young nephews, etc., we should find a tactful way to encourage them to wear dark glasses. We can say that glau-

coma, hypersensitivity to light, runs in the family, etc. During puberty, talking about someone else with the problem could help.

Every straight thinks we are cruising and want to go to bed with them. Even if it was true, they don't appreciate the gawking as a compliment.

In a gay district, gawking doesn't cause that much of a problem. In school (or at

work), it does.

Another point: A straight man or gay man without a gawking reflex can do "window shopping" discreetly without being observed. But if you are a gawker, you can almost fall down and break your neck trying to look everywhere but there.

It especially hurts bisexual men, if they are trying their best to be monogamous, and

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some of the in-laws sense the gawking.

When some airmen at the Fort Worth airbase were being persecuted for being gay, some of the complaints aired over a local radio were about gawking. Gay men in the service, for the most part, aren't gawkers. They don't have the reflex. Thus, they go undetected. Thank goodness!

Last point: ACT UP should petition Dear Abby and Ann Landers to conduct a survey about gawking in their columns. I am sure that some straight women and lesbians have the same problem.

I am sure many womanizing men gawk. But not all of them do. Most parents with *Playboy* and *Playgirl* in their homes do not even begin to feel in the same manner when they accidentally stumble into their teenager's bedroom

when their kids are undressing: 90 percent of all men and women are good parents!

What is gawking? Probably an automatic eye muscle, optical nerve, brain reflex. Being bisexual, there was both a repulsion and a compulsion to do it.

*Name and Address Withheld
Texas*

PIT STOPPING

It's an irony indeed that both "Facing Our Addictions" and James St. James' "Diary of a Mad Queen" should share space in *Outweek* [no. 77, Dec. 19].

Whatever one can say about AA and other 12-step programs, they have restored good health, happiness, esteem and dignity to thousands of gay men and women. AA may have flaws, but they are a lot less lethal to us than

AZTI! I myself would be "dead and buried" without AA and the ACOA program of Al-Anon.

Sure, I loved the initial column of "Diary of a Mad Queen." Who can't get a belly laugh over James St. James' "Trudy" outfit (I have a similar "Betty Coed" get-up; yep, pleated plaid skirt, letter sweater and matching tights and penny loafers too. When I was a young club item, I was cute as a button; I got a flat one snowy night, and two fatherly old cops stopped to change my tire! Alas, my days as "Betty Coed" are numbered, even with a Bali control brief under my tights!) But why can't we have fun "dressing" and acting outrageously without substance abuse? I don't think Brother, er, Sister St. James is trying to make a Dean Martin act out of his drug and alcohol abuse, but I think he'd have a lot more fun

on the club circuit without abusing substances.

Drag and cross-dressing are excellent safer-sex outlets—and when those in our community abuse substances, face it—the practice of safer sex goes right out the window.

Here's to some more "Diary of a Mad Queen" stories, hopefully emphasizing social drinking! I hope future columns will not have to lionize a trip to an emergency ward as a post-clubbing "pit stop."

BG
East Boston, Mass.

PARIS PLEA

After five years of collecting and documenting French lesbian history, culture and politics, the Lesbian Archives of Paris are facing eviction. New accommodations are needed in order to continue to make this rich collection

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available. We urgently need your contributions. Mail to Archives Lesbienes, BP 362 775526 Paris II, France. Tel: 48 05 25 89.

Marny Hall, LCSW, PhD
Oakland, Calif.

REPUBLICAN ROSKOFF RAP

A few months back, I read an Allen Roskoff piece attacking the new East Side Republican assemblyman, John Ravitz. I met Ravitz before the election to share concerns with him. I discovered a bright, dedicated public servant who extended his hand to gay Republicans. Conscientious allies like John Ravitz make our visibility happen in places it needs to happen. I was delighted to meet such a GOP talent with a promising future. Seeing a nincompoop like Roskoff attack him sent me packing to my word processor for a rebuttal.

Meanwhile, I remembered what I heard from countless people, mostly Democrats, in our community about Allen. He contributes the most to our political life when he talks or writes about his "ideas." Sound, sensible people then see what a jerk he is and head in the opposite direction. My friends say they don't respond to him because, like an unruly child, he grows yet shriller with attention from adults. John Ravitz will do us proud, and the only thing Allen Roskoff will do is elicit chuckles and chortles. I decided not to write the letter.

Yet, his Jan. 16 "Insider Trading" needs a response. This small-minded boob denigrated our own Bill Green, the East Side congressman, stalwart Republican and loyal community friend. The reason? Bill Green is a Republican. Ignore his commitment, accomplishments and professionalism. Follow Allen's advice, and ditch

a fine, steadfast friend.

Allen managed to get some facts straight. He acknowledged that Bill Green fought for gays and lesbians over his extremely impressive 20-year career. For Bill Green to do so shows us his solid integrity and dedication to principles and justice. He's a courageous voice in a party that needs such voices.

I, for one, would have no qualms about supporting such

example of the stunted development of our community's political psyche.

I would welcome a cogent, rigorous analysis conclusively proving that gays and lesbians can only embrace the wacky, loony, left agenda. Can anyone with intellectual integrity explain how we ended up with that stance as the only one for a truly enlightened gay or lesbian. I've not seen or heard anyone offer even a plausible,

affirmative action and for economic justice and anti-militarism. None of these notions seem wacky or loony to me. I believe that the struggle to end racism is of equal importance as the fight to end homophobia. I also believe we can best win our struggle by forming coalitions with others who are also oppressed. Bill Green may be good on the gay question unto itself but when he votes against raising the minimum wage he is hurting poor people—gay and straight. Last week, he voted along with his party for the road that led to war. I believe our tax dollars should be going to fight AIDS and not to fight a war for oil. Now John Ravitz could possibly be the deciding vote in restoring the death penalty, another unjust form of punishment. I embraced the left-wing progressive agenda from which our movement was founded. Mike Flynn and his fellow Republicans are entitled to their viewpoints. I'm entitled to mine.

STOP DIMMING THE FLAME

Gay people can be political about more than AIDS, civil rights and other gay-oriented issues. How about elucidating a gay perspective on the war? I guess that's what I'm voicing: Like, do we understand our options on conscientious-objector status? (It's a moral and legal option to declare CO status. However, candidates from the reserves are being told that in the event of deployment, applications can only be received at the place of deployment, to wit, Saudi Arabia. COs are beginning to seek sanctuary in local churches.)

Do we (perhaps erroneously) assume an umbrella of exclusivity from military service due to our homosexuality? And is it right to do so while at the same time demanding an equitable inclusion with regard

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



MICHELLE DRAGS HER STRAIGHT BROTHER TO SEE LONGTIME COMPANION.

a fine man. Allen's self-important pontificating would never convince me, nor the solid East Side majority who re-elects Mr. Green, to do otherwise.

The plain facts tell me that Allen fails to develop a comprehensive, thoughtful approach to our political life. Any non-liberal, Republican or Democrat, is a sworn enemy. And, of course, any evolved, morally upright lesbian or gay would unreservedly agree. Naturally, any approach even slightly different is evil. Another compelling

let alone convincing, argument for this issue.

Such a task would daunt a keen mind and completely overwhelm a vapid one like Allen's.

Mike Flynn
Interim Committee
TriState Log Cabin Club
Brooklyn

Allen Roskoff responds: The agenda of the left consists of fighting homophobia, racism and sexism, the struggle for a woman's right to choose, for

to civil liberties?

I imagine the preponderance of gays are pacifists regarding personal involvement in active military service, lustful desires notwithstanding. I wonder if we maintain an antiwar posture or if we support the efforts of a perceived straight military machinery (as long as we can opt out as fairies).

I would like to see gay organizations present political viewpoints (if not established policies) concerning diverse issues. C'mon people, let's assume our human rights on every level. Let there be no more dimming of the flame.

*Stephen Born
Manhattan*

THE GOOD FIGHT AT HOME

As I'm writing this, the

deadline for military action in the Persian Gulf is coming dangerously close, and I'm afraid by the time this letter is received, the US will be involved in an all-out chemical war. What exactly should the gay and lesbian community's response be to this crisis?

Should we fight for our right to be allowed to fight for our country? Prove we can be just as patriotic and bloodthirsty as the rest? Should we pick up a gun for a system that still denies some of our basic rights?

As readers of *OutWeek*, we all know that the military doesn't want us. We've all read about gay "witch-hunts" at US air bases and memos urging the purge of lesbians (the "equal treatment of male and female homosexuals").

But in a time of war, they wouldn't believe you were gay

even if you offered to prove it! In a time of war, they'll expect you to kill or die for them, even though in peacetime they would term you "unfit." The military still holds the archaic notion that homosexuality is a psychological disorder.

Before you sign up or if there is a draft, think about some of these points. Is oil worth dying for? Is a racist, sexist, homophobic system worth dying for? Instead of fighting in the Middle East, we need everyone for the fight here at home! The fight against anti-gay violence—the fight against the bigotry of people like Helms. The fight against AIDS! The fight against ignorance and hate here at home!

All I can say is, "Hell, no, this bi won't go!"

*Jeff Baduer
Manhattan*

LOVE THAT JAMES

A word to describe James St. James' "Diary of a Mad Queen?" Okay...wait...um, it's right on the tip of my tongue...um...refreshing?...uh, no...stimulating?...no wait...informative? Educational? Garbage? Drive!?! SHIT!?! Oh, hell...AAAAHHH-HHHHH!!!!

*John Maresca
Manhattan*

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.

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NEWS

ACT UP Storms Network TV, Seizes Grand Central Station; 313 Jailed



Photo: Lee Snider/Photo Images

HEALTH-CARE WARFARE—*Marchers wind through the Financial District.*

by **Nina Reyes**

NEW YORK—As Americans nationwide tuned in last Tuesday for the evening's updates on war in the Persian Gulf, AIDS activists, opening a full day of demonstrations a little early with a bold gambit to capture national attention, stormed the studios of several of the nation's most widely watched

nightly news broadcasts.

Actions the next day, planned by ACT UP as part of the Day of Desperation, which ACT UP chapters all across the country observed, targeted branches of city and state government, private corporations, citizens conducting their everyday affairs and even AIDS service agencies that activists charge are not

fulfilling their mandate to serve communities being decimated by AIDS.

The Day of Desperation activities ranged from the hanging of banners across the East River Drive to the blocking of traffic on 125th Street in Harlem to impromptu meetings between activists and political and public health officials and culminated in a massive

action at Grand Central Station.

Although the activists who stormed into the broadcast studios on Tuesday evening were quickly ejected from the news sets, arrested and charged with trespassing, their actions drew notice from major media outlets and created an atmosphere of anticipation for the wide-ranging activities that followed on Jan. 23.

A spokesperson for CBS, which was stormed just as Dan Rather commenced the network's live evening broadcast, said, "Surely there are better ways to draw attention to this serious health issue."

The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour, which also sustained an interruption, did not release a comment. Activists had planned to treat NBC to a similar disruption, but security at that network intervened before the program went on the air, according to media reports.

Even though the network stations have been identified as potential targets for terrorism in connection with the Persian Gulf war, security at the studios was so lax that the AIDS activists were easily able to gain entry to the set. A spokesperson for CBS refused to disclose whether studio security has since been beefed up.

"It brought the visibility of the AIDS crisis back into the nation's living rooms," commented BJ Cavnor, a member of an affinity group involved with the action, the Bloody Marys.

Inspired, perhaps, by the triumph of taking over two major nightly news broadcasts, throughout the day on Wednesday hundreds of activists brought activist demands to insurance companies, the city's Health and Hospitals corporation and afternoon shoppers at Lord & Taylor.

The main action planned for Day of Desperation, however, was the rush-hour Affinity 500 demonstration inside Grand Central's main concourse.

That action began ceremonially, when a group of activists came in on the mezzanine level, holding aloft dozens and dozens of pink and red helium balloons, and descended down the main staircase to the center of the concourse to waves of applause from the assembled crowd. The group then attached the balloons to a huge banner emblazoned with the slogan, "Money for AIDS Not for War," and released the whole contraption.



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As the balloons drifted slowly up to the ceiling, activists erupted into a cacophony of cheers and chants, and the whole mass began moving in a carefully choreographed, if seemingly anarchic, swirl.

Banners were hung off the mezzanine and over the scheduling board listing train departures, and the arched entrances at each corner of the concourse were, in turn, blocked off by sit-ins and arm-linked activist chains.

Furious commuters, finding themselves trapped by the action, attempted to barrel through the activists, but riot police roughly rerouted them around the protesters. According to ACT UP spokesperson Victor Mendolia, none of the demonstrators was arrested inside Grand Central.

After an hour of blocking the flow of traffic through the concourse, the rambunctious demonstrators, who sought arrest as the endpoint of their action, poured out of the station onto 42nd Street.

Fighting the War at Home

NEW YORK—Hard by the New York Stock Exchange, an estimated 2,000 members of ACT UP kicked off a day of protest with raucous early morning picketing and a march that wound through Manhattan's Financial District Jan. 23.

Citing a lack of leadership on AIDS issues and a willingness of government to sacrifice AIDS services to balance budgets, ACT UPers went on a loud, three-hour march that took them to the offices of the American Insurance Association, Gov. Mario Cuomo, New York City's Department of Health and Human Resources Administration, City Hall and the city's Federal Building.

At various sites, ACT UP members paused to leave coffins bearing the message "AIDS Won't Wait" in blood-red paint, for government officials.

Each stop on the route served to highlight issues of concern to the activists. Insurance discrimination, failed or nonexistent health programs, poor AIDS education in public schools, no needle-exchange and decreasing AIDS funds were among the issues raised.

The morning's only arrests came when one group attempted to enter the Department of Health building to deliver several hundred used hypodermic needles to Health Commissioner Woodrow Myers. Two women and one man were charged with disorderly conduct and released.

On the night before the march, eight ACT UP members were arrested in St. Paul's Cemetery, along the march route, where they were attempting to hang two banners. All eight were charged with criminal trespass and released.

—Duncan Osborne



GRAVE CONCERN—Protestors carry coffins to the Department of Health.

But when the group sat down at 42nd Street and Lexington Avenue, police began making arrests. Altogether, 263 were taken into custody at that intersection, bringing the total number of people arrested in connection with Day of Desperation activities to 313.

There was some dissent within ACT UP, even two days before the demonstrations were scheduled to begin, over the wisdom of continuing with the action in light of a war that has so thoroughly taken over both the news and the public consciousness. Nonetheless, thousands of people participated in the highly successful series of demonstrations.

Additionally, the activists ably articulated a message that contrasted the vast expenditures in the war against Iraq to the meagre allotments spent over the course of the last decade in response to AIDS, neatly providing a current-events point of reference to their agenda.

"The action was designed to confront the public about their apathy toward AIDS," Mendolia explained. "If you're not doing anything, then you are part of the problem. ▲"



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news

Another Week of Anti-War Protests Leaves San Francisco Quaking



Photo: Alain McLaughlin/Reaction Images

FACE THE MACE—*SF cops make a bust and squirt Mace at anti-war protest on Jan. 15.*

by Allen White

SAN FRANCISCO—Lesbians and gay men by the tens of thousands have taken to the streets of San Francisco in the past two and a half weeks to protest, sometimes violently, US involvement in the Persian Gulf.

In the days that followed the vote by Congress on Jan. 12, both the Golden Gate Bridge and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge have been shut down,

police cars have been burned, and full city blocks have become armed camps as walls of police engaged in angry confrontations with demonstrators.

The number of arrests has been staggering. By Thursday, Jan. 17, more than 1,000 had been arrested, a record for the city. Many of the city's openly gay and lesbian police officers were among those enforcing directives to clear streets and ultimately make

arrests. Days off were canceled for all of the city's 1,800-plus officers, and virtually all were working 12-hour days.

On Saturday, Jan. 19, more than 100,000 people marched from a park near the predominantly gay Castro district to the city's Civic Center. Banners from gay-identified organizations ranging from political clubs to ACT UP and Queer Nation were visible in the march.

In this march, as with all the

Let My People Go

SAN FRANCISCO—The Board of Supervisors here has called for an investigation of the Sacramento County Deputy Sheriff's Department. The investigation was prompted by alleged homophobic conduct and physical abuse against five Queer Nationals arrested for their part in disrupting the inauguration of California Gov. Pete Wilson on Jan. 7.

Wilson was prevented from giving his speech when Queer Nation members raised the rainbow flag on the 18-foot-high flagpole during the ceremony in front of Wilson, outgoing Gov. George Deukmejian, White House Chief of Staff John Sununu and the entire state Legislature.

All of those arrested have filed written complaints with the Sacramento County Sheriff's office. They all made charges of anti-gay verbal taunts. Several who were held for more than eight hours also say that they were beaten.

The San Francisco Supervisors unanimously voted to request the mayor of Sacramento, the Sacramento Board of Supervisors and the Sacramento Sheriff's Department to "review the arrests and to modify their procedures to ensure that in any future arrests strict attention is paid to the civil rights of the defendants."

The resolution also "calls on our legislative delegation to investigate the anti-lesbian and -gay brutality and abuse by the County Sheriff's Department."

The Sacramento Sheriff's Department has responded to some of the initial charges. Ed Close, a spokesperson for that department, said that the five were offered misdemeanor citations but refused them, which, he said, is why they were arrested.

Countered Irwin Keller, a lawyer who acted as a legal advisor. "There is no reason why they would want to spend time in jail. They wanted to be cited out and be able to return to the protest," he added.

In a statement to the *San Francisco Examiner*, Close said, "They came in the jail with confrontation attitudes in an obvious attempt to elicit a confrontation with our deputies."

—Allen White

protests, the presence of the gay community has been significant. Many have estimated that as many as 30 percent of the protesters are lesbians and gays. They have also played an active role in planning almost every action to date.

"I think the strategies of the gay movement, and especially ACT UP, coupled with involvement with the actions against intervention in Latin America, have really shaped what we are seeing on the streets now," said

Gilbert Baker, a gay man, who has been in many of the demonstrations. These protests, he said, are "a xerox copy of the tactics of ACT UP. All of the recent protests have been influenced by their actions."

For the first week after Congress voted, there were angry marches and protests virtually every single day, each bringing with it the destruction of property. Examples of spray paint used

See SF on page 24

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HAG ...sit smart

Ontario Sticks Its Neck Out for Gay Rights

by Joe Clark

TORONTO—Bob Rae, the new premier of the Canadian province of Ontario, seems intent on effecting radical change for gay men and lesbians even faster than Helmut Kohl pushed for a unified Germany, if the actions of his ministers are any indication.

Less than a week before Christmas, with Ontario's six million people concentrating more on the Middle East and the recession than issues of social justice, Minister of Government Services Frances Lankin made a surprise announcement: As of Jan. 1, 1991, spousal benefits would be extended to same-sex partners of Ontario civil servants. The policy covers dental care, dependent life insurance and bereavement leave for more than 60,000 employees. Lankin expects that fewer than 2 percent of those covered will apply for same-sex benefits and projects no cost increases.

Swept to power to the surprise of everyone—including Rae himself—in the September 1990 election, Ontario's New Democratic Party government immediately sought to demonstrate a commitment to equality. Rae named 11 women to cabinet posts, accounting for almost half the positions available and comprising such high-profile ministries as energy, the environment, and health and government services, the huge administrative ministry Lankin heads.

It was up to this former labor negotiator to unequivocally inform voters that her government would recognize gay male and lesbian relationships, at least among its own employees. "I think there is a growing understanding in the electorate in regard to issues of fairness and equity," Lankin told *OutWeek*, "and [same-sex benefits] fall squarely into those issues." The minister sees the benefits program as the first phase of a plan to ensure that the new government's policies apply to people irrespective of "the nature of their personal relationships or of their family unit."



WE ARE FAMILY...—Elaine Ziembra

Government lawyers have also identified more than 70 provincial laws which define the word "spouse" in opposite-sex terms. "The next logical step," according to Lankin, is amending all those laws to include gay men and lesbians, and "we've made the decision that that's the next thing we'll be doing."

That's a staggeringly progressive plan, but the logistics of changing all these laws will take time, according to Elaine Ziembra, who as minister of citizenship is responsible for race relations and the Ontario Human Rights' Commission. She cautions that "the feedback I've been getting from staff is that you do have to amend each [law] to change the definition. "It's a very complicated thing."

Ziembra's priority in legal protections for gays is the human-rights code itself, which, on the one hand, forbids discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation but, on the other, states that only male-female couples can be spouses. "The code has to

reflect [social change] as well, and that's part of the problem," Ziembra says. "If you don't have the code upholding all of the amendments that you're going down the line, then it's going to be very difficult" for the changes to have any meaning.

Ziembra foresees the day when the human-rights code, which also lacks firm protections against sexual-orientation harassment on the job, will be amended with sufficient care that it can act as a legislative basis for the attitude of equality she hopes to foster.

In person, Ziembra displays a degree of sincerity and personal commitment uncommon in the typically jaundiced ellipses of government. She and Premier Rae recently met with, and offered their support to, a group of Toronto gays and lesbians pressing for a boycott of a local coffeeshop chain whose management they consider homophobic. And just after his election as premier, Rae was even spotted in line with 500 citizens at the Canadian Premier of *Paris Is Burning*.

Of course, attending films about the Harlem drag-ball circuit does not in itself stop discrimination; that's up to Catherine Frazee, head of the Ontario Human Rights Commission and an arm's-length employee of Ziembra. But community leaders aren't so confident that Frazee can overcome the red tape in her own commission to actually effect the changes Ziembra wants. Frazee's staff found themselves in hot water late last year when they dismissed a complaint against Toronto mayor Art Eggleton for refusing to proclaim the city's annual Lesbian and Gay Pride Day.

The commission based its decision on Eggleton's gay- and AIDS-positive activities unrelated to his 5-year-long refusal to proclaim the celebration. Kyle Rae, the gay man who launched the complaint against the mayor, was incensed at the verdict, flatly stating that "the commissioners are homophobic. They don't understand their

DC Seeks DP

WASHINGTON—As DC government changes hands, efforts to implement domestic partnership protections are under way, an aide to new City Council Chair John Wilson assured people at a packed briefing here on Jan. 9.

More than 70 citizens, mostly gay and lesbian lawyers, heard an analysis of efforts here and around the US to extend benefits usually guaranteed married heterosexuals to those in diverse non-nuclear families, including gay and lesbian bonds.

The session was called by DC-area attorneys in the name of the new affinity group GAYLAW at the Sumner School Museum downtown.

GAYLAW Co-Chair Christina C. Forbes said that the group wants employee benefits made available to all domestic partners including gay and lesbian couples. "We want to expand the dialogue on the next step, legislation."

Newly elected Mayor Sharon Pratt Dixon supported such measures during her campaign.

—John Zeh

own code." It's a criticism Frazee seems to take personally.

"I know the commission's decision on the Pride Day complaint was a tremendous disappointment to the community, and...There has been anger and dismay and discouragement that the commission took the position that it did," she said.

Still, Frazee intimates that her commission has learned some lessons from the Kyle Rae case, and she shares Ziemba's expectation that the government will salve the community's wounds by soon naming at least one openly gay or lesbian human-rights commissioner.

Why is a brand-new government sticking its neck this far out to establish and protect the rights of gay men and lesbians? It makes perfect sense to Elaine Ziemba: "I think it's part of the makeup of everybody who is now [a member of] this new government. It's not really shocking to us that we do that. It's just part of the norm. It's just the way we do things." ▼

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OUTTAKES

DOCTORS AND DENTISTS WITH AIDS TOLD TO QUIT

NEW YORK—The American Medical Association and the American Den-

tal Association have released guidelines calling for their HIV-positive members to either cease performing invasive procedures or inform their patients of their HIV status.

But the New York state Department of Health has promulgated guidelines suggesting that the risk of physician-to-patient transmission is remote, and that HIV-positive health-

care workers should cease work only when their illness compromises job performance. Currently, patients can be informed of a worker's sero-status only under strict guidelines.

"The AMA believes that HIV-infected physicians should either abstain from performing invasive procedures which pose an identifiable risk of transmission or disclose their sero-



by **ANDREW MILLER**

Meanwhile, here in New York, nearly 200 people packed into the Community Center on Friday night, Jan. 18, for a special teach-in on the war for gay and lesbian people of color. Among the speakers at the forum sponsored by Men of All Colors Together and Gay Men of African Descent was Lambda Legal Defense Fund's stellar attorney Sandy Lowe, who advocates on behalf of gays being tossed out of the military and others who are trying to get out of the military.

"I come from a long line of people who have said, 'Fuck you,'" Lowe exclaimed before explaining the rudiments of conscientious objection to those assembled.

At New York's largest anti-war rally last Thursday, protesters marched down Seventh Avenue and over to Union Square, where news of the bombing of Tel Aviv was reportedly greeted by cheers from some quarters (Pacifists Against Jews, maybe?).

And for the silver-lining crowd, the one positive development to arise from the war in the Middle East: There are hunky foreign correspondents as cute as the waiters at Claire's on all three networks and CNN 24 hours a day. Rim Shots' favorites include NBC's Arthur Kent and CNN's Richard Roth. Reporting from Dhahran, the unshaven Forrest Sawyer on ABC looks pretty sexy, too, giving new meaning to the word "bombshell."

WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR?:

Rather than let her join her more closeted brothers and sisters in the Persian Gulf, the Army has accepted the resignation of lesbian Spc. 4 Donna Lynn Jackson, who came out to her commanding officer just before being sent overseas, and set her free on the streets of San Diego with an honorable discharge.

LEATHER AND LACE:

Every Friday night from 7 pm to 11 pm, Cell Block 28 becomes the Vault, and "the women and their ladies of the Vault welcome you to New York's newest club for adventurous lesbians," according to their latest press release. Fearless dykes can find Ms. Janet and the rest of the girls at 28 9th Avenue, between 13th and 14th streets.

IF I KNEW YOU WERE COMING, I'D HAVE BAKED A CAKE:

What do Martin Delaney, the director of Project Inform; Urvashi Vaid, the executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; and Thom Dombkowski of Chicago's Howard Brown Memorial Clinic have in common?

They each just received 25,000 no-strings-attached



ARTHUR KENT

smackaroos as the world's first beneficiaries of a new grant from the Anderson Prize Foundation, whose "sole purpose is to create a national platform where individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation, race or ethnic origins, age or gender, will be honored for their efforts on behalf of gays and lesbians," according to founder Paul Ander-

son, a Chicago-based futures trader.

In case you were wondering, there is no application process, and you can't nominate yourself, although the foundation is hoping to give away larger and more numerous grants in coming years. So feel free to put in a good word for Rim Shots with the nominating committee, whoever they are.

By the way, Vaid told the right-wing, ever-gay-baiting *Washington Times* that she would use the money "to buy a nice party dress and some makeup," according to a spokesperson. Go, girl.

positive status...and proceed only if there is informed consent," reads the AMA's statement. "Physicians who are at risk of acquiring HIV, and who perform invasive procedures, should determine their HIV status."

The statement defines "invasive procedures" as surgery with the potential for exchange of bodily fluids. The AMA, with 300,000 members, is a professional society and has no means of enforcing the guidelines.

The statement cites a widely publicized case of an HIV-positive Florida dentist, Dr. David Acer, now deceased, who is presumed to have infected four of his patients, though the mode of transmission is unknown. There is no documented case of physician-to-patient transmission.

According to Phil Weintraub, an ADA spokesperson, his group's guidelines, identical to the AMA's, were a response to the Acer case, even though the organization views the evidence in that case as inconclusive.

"We stand for good science. However, our foremost concern is for the patient," said Weintraub. Should uncertainties in the Acer case be resolved, Weintraub said that the ADA may reevaluate the policy. The ADA has 150,000 members and no enforcement responsibility.

Both the ADA and the AMA have promised to aid doctors whose careers are ended by an HIV-positive diagnosis. Both groups and the New York state Department of Health call for rigorous adherence to infection control procedures such as masks and latex gloves.

But some AIDS advocates are calling the move irresponsible. David Barr, assistant director for policy at Gay Men's Health Crisis, said, "The statistics on health-care-worker-to-patient transmission do not warrant these guidelines." Barr suggested that the guidelines will exacerbate staff shortages in AIDS health care as workers decline to care for people with AIDS, seeing a threat not only to their health but to their livelihood as well.

Peter Slocum, spokesperson for the New York state Department of Health, concurred. "We think the guidelines would lead to a screening and exclusion policy," he told *OutWeek*, adding that the department had been working on its own guidelines since December.

—Duncan Osborne

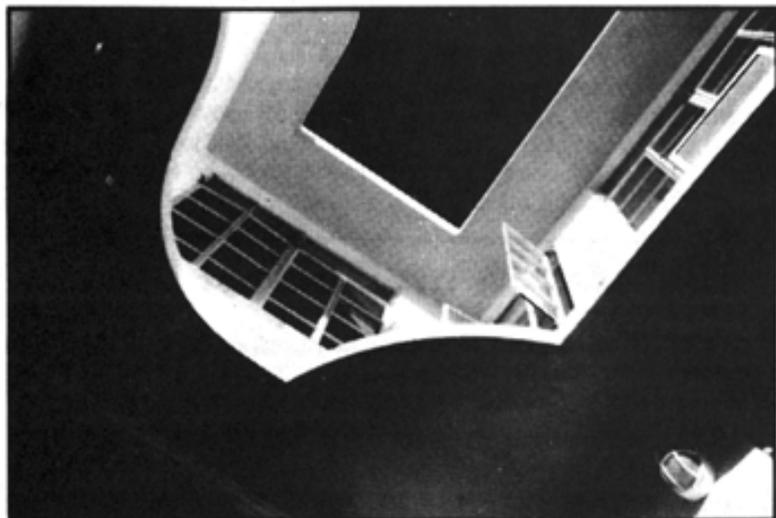
CONDOM PLAN GAINS SUPPORT DESPITE BOARD OF ED

NEW YORK—Despite a wave of homophobia unleashed more than a

month ago by Board of Education Vice President Irene H. Impellizzeri, the Schools Chancellor's Expanded HIV/AIDS Education Initiative, which includes a plan to make condoms available in public high schools, is steadily gaining support from lesbians, gays and straights.

Termed by many in the lesbian and gay community a form of gay-bashing and a blatant attempt at discrediting Chancellor Joseph A. Fernan-

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dez's proposal, Impellizzeri's Dec. 19 resolution demands that the Board ban from city schools. The Hetrick-Martin Institute, the city's only social service agency for lesbian and gay youth, has spurred an onslaught of protest amongst public officials and activists, with many calling for her resignation.

Quoting the Institute's own curriculum, Impellizzeri charged that it "explicitly encourages students to engage in anal intercourse."

In addition to misconstruing passages from the curriculum, Impellizzeri verbally attacked the Harvey Milk High School and lobbied for its closing, gay advocates charged.

Members of such lesbian and gay organizations as Senior Action in a Gay Environment, Lambda Independent Democrats, and the Community Health Project have publicly condemned Impellizzeri's conduct and urged the

Board to support the Chancellor's Initiative.

Protesting the Board's postponement of a public hearing which would have opened discussion about the AIDS Education Plan, ACT UP staged its largest Brooklyn demonstration and held a press conference on Jan. 16 at the Board of Education offices at 110 Livingston St.

"New York City has more teenagers with AIDS than any other city in the nation. While only 3 percent of the nation's adolescents reside here, they bear 20 percent of the nation's adolescent AIDS caseload," said New York City Health Commissioner Dr. Woodrow A. Myers Jr. in a statement issued on Jan. 16.

A staunch supporter of Fernandez's plan, and the father of an adolescent girl, Myers stressed: "It is crucial to understand that teens with AIDS are just the tip of the HIV iceberg. There are many, many more HIV-infected

adolescents who are not yet sick, but who can pass the virus on to others—we don't know just how many. And sadly, there are even many times more adolescents whose behavior places them at risk....The Health Department remains committed to helping Chancellor Fernandez devise an effective, scientifically and educationally sound HIV/AIDS educational plan."

In his Dec. 5, 1990, letter to Board of Education President Gwendolyn C. Baker, City Council President Andrew Stein wrote: "I urge you to support Chancellor Fernandez's AIDS education initiative to distribute condoms to high school students who request them. As explicit education is our most potent weapon for preventing HIV infection, the Chancellor's bold AIDS education program is a critical effort to protect the lives of countless young people...According to the Health Depart-

March on Capitol Draws Thousands

WASHINGTON—Gay men and lesbians joined thousands of protesters rallying at the White House on Jan. 19 in the first of two scheduled marches here against the war in the Persian Gulf.

Police estimated that 25,000 were on hand for the colorful march from Lafayette Park to the US Capitol.

The only openly gay speaker at the accompanying rally was Joe Franco of ACT UP/New York's Latino Caucus.

"I am experiencing two wars, one in the Middle East, the other inside of my body," said Franco, who has AIDS.16



Photo: Jim Marks

ment surveillance figures, nearly 30 percent of the cumulative AIDS cases in the city occur among youth aged 20 to 29 years...Tragically, many of these young people contracted the AIDS virus [sic] in their teenage years."

Other supporters of the Chancellor's plan include City Comptroller Elizabeth Holtzman and Dr. Mathilde Krim, founding co-chair of the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

—Janis Astor

18 BRITISH CELEBS COME OUT AFTER MCKELLEN KNIGHTING

LONDON—Queen Elizabeth II's New Year's Eve knighting of openly gay actor Sir Ian McKellen has Britain all stirred up.

Gay filmmaker Derek Jarman wrote an article for the *Guardian*, a major daily newspaper, saying that McKellen should reject his knighthood because the Tory administration which bestowed it is anti-gay.

The next day, 18 gay and lesbian actors, directors, producers, playwrights and others—only seven of whom were previously out of the closet—wrote a letter to the *Guardian* "distan[ding] ourselves from Derek Jarman's article."

Beginning the letter, "As Gay and Lesbian artists..." the group called McKellen's knighthood "a significant landmark in the history of the British Gay Movement."

"Never again will public figures be able to claim that they have to keep secret their homosexuality in fear of it damaging their careers," the 18 artists wrote. "Ian McKellen provides an inspiration to us all, not only as an artist of extraordinary gifts but as a public figure of remarkable honesty

**OUTTAKES CONTINUE
ON NEXT PAGE**

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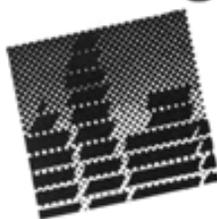
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as an instrument of vandalism are everywhere. Most street signs in the downtown area are now completely unreadable because of spray-painted anti-war statements. Billboard copy has been altered. Statements of "No blood for oil," "Money for AIDS not for war," and "Fuck George Bush" also appear throughout the city. Demonstrators so thoroughly trashed an Army recruiting station that a decision was made to simply close down the office.

As the first week of protests came to a close, there was considerable debate surrounding the term "ACT UP types." Many young straight punkers, as well as skinheads who are straight and who have moved from nonviolent protests to blatant destruction of property, had been identified in the media as members of the AIDS activist group.

That led some protesters to strongly criticize vandals who were destroying property. With incidents being reported ranging from glue in keyholes to the breaking of store windows at Macy's, the message, said many anti-war protesters, was being obscured.

The cost of added police has been a staggering blow to the city's already strained budget. Police Chief Willis Casey estimated police overtime costs at more than \$150,000 per day, which didn't include property damage the city expects to pay for.

A statement by San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos that city programs, including health services and AIDS funding, could be "shorted if the city is forced to pay unanticipated police costs for long periods of time" caused health activists to quickly react. A subsequent damage-control statement was issued by the mayor's press secretary saying that the city was still far away from reaching the crisis point.

Across the city, gay religious leaders were also participating in a wide array of programs, ranging from support groups and prayer services to a moving service for peace in Grace Cathedral, the city's landmark Episcopal edifice atop Nob Hill.

Though similar to the anti-war movement of the Vietnam era, many believe that there are significant differences. Unlike the '60s, no leader appears to have emerged, and should

that happen, some predict that he or she will come from the lesbian and gay community.

"The leaders of this anti-war movement will come out of the gay movement," said Baker. "There is an emerging voice in these protests, and it is a bigger voice for gay people than in the '60s," he noted. "As it emerges there, is a lot more room for gay people."

He added another difference. Now, he said, "everybody has an agenda, whether it is gay rights, AIDS issues or intervention in South America, and that is very different. In the '60s, there was the Black agenda, but that was about it. The agenda in the '60s was solely to be against the war." ▼

OUTTAKES CONTINUED

and dignity."

The letter was signed by actor Simon Callow, *East Enders* star Michael Cashman, director Nancy Diusguid, TV personality Simon Fanshawe, comedian Stephen Fry, theater director Philip Hedley, playwright David Lan, actress Bryony Lavery, artist Michael Leonard (painter of the Queen's official portrait in the National Portrait Gallery), theater director Tim Luscombe, leading actor Alec McCowen, musical producer Cameron Mackintosh, *East Enders* star Pam St. Clement, film director John Schlesinger, actor and novelist Antony Sher, *Bent* author Martin Sherman, broadcaster Ned Sherrin and playwright Nicholas Wright.

A news article in the *Guardian* called the letter "one of the most remarkable examples of gay solidarity in the arts since homosexuality was decriminalized in 1967."

McKellen came out of the closet in a 1988 interview with BBC Radio 3. Last week, he told reporters, "I despise the Ian McKellen of the first 49 years of his life."

"Gays must come out, and the sooner the better. You are distorting yourself for the sake of a society that doesn't want you to come out....But now [that] I am out, I feel reborn. And it was [Prime Minister] Margaret Thatcher's [anti-gay] government that got me

out."

"McKellen is one of the greats," commented Greg King, spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, America's largest gay-rights organization.

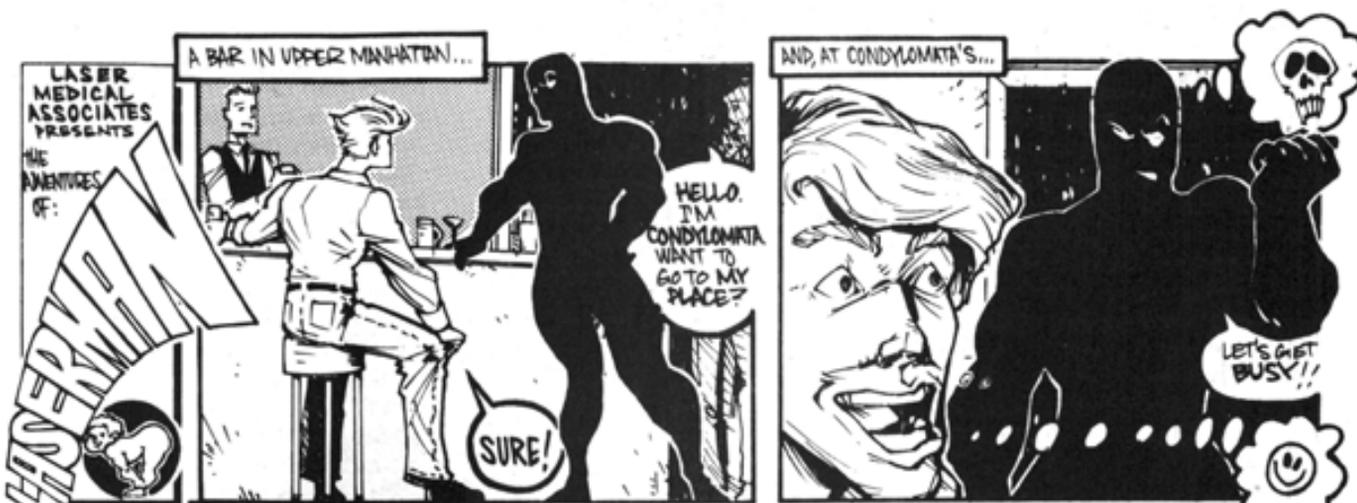
"He's done remarkable things by coming out and asserting the rights of lesbians and gays in the United Kingdom and, increasingly, in the world. I certainly hope this sends a message to Hollywood and Broadway that the time has come to open the closet doors."

McKellen is Britain's first openly gay knight of the British Empire. He is currently on a world tour, performing Shakespeare's *King Lear* and *Richard III*.

Knights are chosen for service to the country, preeminence in the arts or, sometimes, because of political connection.

—Rex Wockner/Chicago

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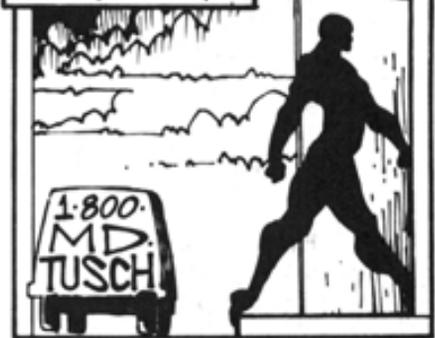


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AND CHUCK, REMEMBER, ALWAYS USE A CONDOM!

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AIDS THIS WEEK

edited by Paul Rykoff Coleman

An Aspirin a Day

LOS ANGELES—The latest AIDS "drug of the month" cannot be found at any buyers' club. Don't even ask your pharmacist, as it has been around for years and is unavailable by prescription. It's acetylsalicylic acid—*aspirin*—available at pharmacies, newsstands and bodegas everywhere.

Aspirin is an anti-inflammatory agent, taken for headaches and arthritis. It may also be an immune modulator useful in those infected with the human immunodeficiency virus, experts say. But they warn that those with compromised immune systems should use it with caution and under a physician's supervision. Aspirin can lower the platelet count, and platelets are essential for blood clotting. One may not even realize a clotting problem exists. "A fender bender can be real dangerous," said Mike Slattery, whose Los Angeles-based Search Alliance, which conducts community-based drug trials, is drafting a protocol for a clinical aspirin study.

A few studies published during the past few years describe aspirin's role in prompting the body to naturally



Photo: T.L. Litt/OutWeek

ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE—What can one believe?

produce gamma interferon and interleukin-2, which have anti-viral and immune modulating effects. But these studies were either done in the test tube or used healthy volunteers. Search Alliance wants to set up a clinical trial specifically evaluating aspirin

in people with HIV infection.

An Anecdotal Report

Recent awareness for aspirin as an immune-enhancer is being generated by a lobbyist here who says that taking one 350-mg tablet daily, a low dose, may have

Yet Another Oral Sex Study Suggests HIV Risk

SAN FRANCISCO—If you receive ejaculate in your mouth during oral intercourse, you may have put yourself at risk for HIV infection.

This is Dr. Alan R. Lifson's conclusion in a recently published report of two gay men whose antibody status shifted from negative to positive as the receptive partner during unprotected oral sex.

The report, published in December's *American Journal of Public Health*, is one of a few issued over the past year suggesting that a receptive partner who

receives ejaculate during oral sex is at risk for contracting the human immunodeficiency virus from this activity.

But the notion is controversial. AIDS educators and organizations have been telling clients that cocksucking is a low-risk activity: Just keep ejaculate and pre-cum out of the mouth. Many gay men openly talk about their penchant for unprotected oral sex. The risk is low, they say, because substances in the saliva stop HIV from performing its insidious tricks. Those who continue to

engage in unprotected oral sex say that no studies have proved the extent of the risk. Is it more than anal intercourse? Less? Do you have a greater chance of getting hit by a truck?

Risk Unknown

The problem with trying to place risk assessment on oral sex is that chances are the participants had done other high-risk activities as well. Studies that assess oral sex as a risk factor for HIV

See AIDS THIS WEEK on page 29

contributed to increasing his T4 cells from 556 cubic mm of blood last September to 968 in December. (Surrogate markers such as T4 cell measurements are used as indicators of immune status. Increases are believed to represent a strengthening immune system.)

The lobbyist, Howard Armistead, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Association Political Action Committee here, says that his results may be more than happenstance.

Armistead's research began last summer, after reading an article on aspirin and AIDS in *AIDS Treatment News*, a newsletter published twice-monthly by John S. James in San Francisco. An article by James discussed the anti-inflammatory drugs indomethacin and ibuprofen, which block prostaglandin synthesis. Prostaglandins are fatty acids. Their suppression by nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, such as aspirin, releases gamma interferon and interleukin-2. Armistead's subsequent research of the medical literature yielded the three studies in which low-dose aspirin produced these results.

Of the three, only one is a clinical study. Dr. Judith Hsia and colleagues at George Washington University and the University of Virginia infected 20 subjects with a cold virus; ten received low doses of aspirin every other day, the other ten got placebo. Aspirin did not help those who received it compared with the placebo group, but the authors noted increased production of interleukin-2 and gamma interferon. The connection between these substances and their effect in those with HIV infection has not been made.

No Economic Incentives

Why has aspirin use in AIDS been ignored? In his Aug. 17 newsletter, James suggests: "Aspirin is a generic drug, so there is no commercial incentive to run trials. Governments would have incentive to learn about an inexpensive treatment, but federal research is based on letting scientists decide what they want to study....The essence of the problem here is that no person or office has, or ever has had, overall responsibility for managing government or public-policy response to the epidemic. Therefore, when there are hints that a

safe and readily available treatment may be useful, it is nobody's job to make sure that those hints are followed up."

Since the mid-'80s, Armistead has been a subject in the Los Angeles Men's Study, an epidemiologic study of 5,000 people with HIV infection begun by the federal government in 1983. His self-administered aspirin study was not part of his involvement in the study, but he took advantage of data generated from the trial to chart his own immune course.

Meanwhile, unrelated to Armistead's

investigations, a New York physician is studying the anti-inflammatory properties of an experimental aspirin-related tablet, Asacol, to reduce colonic inflammation in those with HIV infection. The physician, Dr. Donald P. Kotler, is enrolling those who are HIV-antibody positive and who test positive on the p24 antigen test and have colonic inflammation. Anita Tierney, a member of the study team, explained that Asacol comes in a coated tablet that does not dissolve until it reaches the colon.

—P.R.C./New York

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Taking it on the Chin

by Allen Roskoff

The leadership of Lambda Independent Democrats, Brooklyn's gay and lesbian Democratic club, has been summoned to a meeting at their Borough Hall by Deputy Borough President William Thompson Jr. and Executive Assistant to the Borough President Marilyn Gelber. On Jan. 8, Lambda sent Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden a letter demanding that he break his silence regarding his anti-condom Board of Education appointee Irene H. Impellizzeri and that he repudiate her homophobic tactics and seek her removal from the board. The letter, signed by Lambda Club President Brent Crook, was accompanied by a hard-hitting press release. By the time this article appears, the meeting will have taken place.



We can expect more lip service and empty gestures from the Golden office. It's long past time that Golden himself start meeting with lesbians and gays and show respect and recognition for our concerns. He could start off by demanding the resignation of Impellizzeri, his holy crusader against condoms for students, and by replacing her with a lesbian or gay activist. He could also appoint an open lesbian or gay man to his staff to serve our community. Golden also must endorse and agree to sponsor the domestic partnership bill and begin lobbying the Brooklyn council delegation. He could become a leading voice against anti-lesbian and anti-gay violence and could lobby for passage of the state anti-bias bill. Golden could also start addressing the needs of people with AIDS and become an active part of the struggle for AIDS treatment research and care. Lambda will be

asking Golden to meet with their membership. If he refuses, there are those considering that Lambda adopt Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger as their honorary BP. Good idea.

By the way, the new hearing date for the condom debate is Feb. 6, from 10 am to 10 pm at 110 Livingston St. in downtown Brooklyn.

We must hope that mayor Dinkins reminds his Board of Education appointee Dr. Westina L. Matthews that he endorses the chancellor's plan for condom distribution and that she repre-

*Friedlander
is even cozying up
to those who have
red-baited her
in the past.*

sent him. If she won't vote for the condom plan she should be asked to resign, so the mayor can appoint someone who shares his philosophy. After all, this vote is a matter of life and death.

Hats off to Chancellor Joseph A. Fernandez for his refusal to back off from his condom proposal. He doesn't endorse a compromise, so why should he propose one?

Health Commissioner Dr. Woodrow A. Myers has endorsed condom distribution and argues that it doesn't promote or endorse sex. Good for him, but the same argument holds true for free needle distribution, i.e., making clean needles available does not promote or endorse IV-drug use. Yet Myers vehemently opposes needle exchange. Why isn't he consistent?

• There is a good chance that after redistricting Councilwoman Miriam Friedlander will run for re-election in a district which continues to encompass Chinatown. This despite requests to the Districting Commission by the Asian Americans for Equality that the district which covers Chinatown go only as far north as Houston Street. It seems that great care is being taken to create a Latino district on the Lower East Side, and that requires that areas north of Houston be included in the Chinatown district.

It is likely then that Friedlander will run in the district which includes Chinatown, where former state Committee member Margaret Chin has already indicated her candidacy. With Chin running against Friedlander, the left would be split. Friedlander has a "solid base" progressive constituency and is the darling of the labor movement. Her home club is the Village Independent Democrats, and she would probably win that club's endorsement, although a sizable chunk of the club's activist membership would likely split off to campaign for Chin as they did for Deborah Glick this past year. The Gay and Lesbian Independent Democrats would most likely endorse Chin, who was an early supporter of openly gay candidates David Rothenberg and Tom Duane in their bids for the council seat held by the somnambulant Carol Greitzer, and also of lesbian activist Deborah Glick in her successful bid for the Assembly. Friedlander made no endorsement in any of those races.

Chin had a huge fund-raiser this past November attended by over one thousand people. Friedlander was not there. Other clues that lead one to speculate that these two will face off is Friedlander's attendance at the Christmas party of the Stonewall Democratic Club (gay Republicans registered as

See INSIDER on page 31

AIDS THIS WEEK

Continued from page 26

always consider the possibility of anal intercourse or needle-sharing. Last October, an epidemiologist at the University of California/Berkeley, said that 17 percent of 82 HIV-infected men had reported practicing oral sex exclusively and did not engage in other behaviors. The researcher, Michael Samuel, thought that the number was high; he did not discount the idea that some of these subjects did participate in anal intercourse when they said they did not. Nevertheless, Samuel told *OutWeek* that his findings, which remain unpublished, represented the first time a risk has been proved.

Lifson does not dismiss the possibility of additional risk factors, either. His two study subjects were part of a group of more than 6,000 gay and bisexual men who had participated in a hepatitis B study in the late '70s. The men claimed to not have had anal intercourse, the primary risk factor associated with AIDS, in at least five years, but admitted to repeated, receptive oral intercourse with many partners. The appearance of HIV was confirmed by both testing indirectly for antibodies as well as directly using polymerase chain reaction to detect viral p24 antigen.

Documented Activity

Lifson's certainty over neither men engaging in anal intercourse during the five years prior to seroconversion is based on a series of interviews with the subjects.

One subject, a 44-year-old white man, said that he had unprotected, receptive oral intercourse 24 times during the year before seroconversion. He swallowed semen in ten of these episodes. The other subject, a 37-year-old white male, reported 1,100 encounters over 11 months, during which he was the receptive partner. About 900 of these encounters included swallowing semen. The men had also been the active partner, but apparently without the same frequency. Both men had bad teeth and gums, and both said that they used inhaled nitrates, or poppers. Lifson could not adequately explain why unprotected oral sex may be an HIV risk factor, but he does state HIV counselors should be aware of the risks.

—P.R.C./New York

DISTRICTING

HEARINGS:

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED

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

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

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

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

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February 6	I.S. 61 445 Castleton Avenue Staten Island
February 11	Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building The Rotunda 109 W. 125 St. Manhattan
February 20	I.S. 291 231 Palmetto Street Brooklyn
February 28	Lehman College Music Building Paul Ave and Bedford Park Blvd., Bronx

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

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86	Feb. 1	Feb. 11
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

OUTWEEK

reserves the right to change
these deadlines at any time.

Gilbert Price

Gilbert Price, 48, four-time Tony Award nominee, died on Jan. 2 in Vienna, Austria, of unknown causes. Unable to find work on Broadway since *Timbuktu* in 1978, he had gone to Europe in search of work.

If you first saw him, as I did, in *Jerico-Jim Crow*, you were aware—as were the 1963 critics—that Langston Hughes' protégé had a brilliant career ahead of him. Or perhaps you saw him in plays for which he was a Tony Award nominee: *Lost in the Stars*, in which as Absalom he was killed six times each week, plus matinees; *The Night That Made America Famous*, in which he, rather than Harry Chapin, was nominated; *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*, in which Leonard Bernstein chose him as the Black chosen to supervise the upkeep of Pres. Adams' new White House; or *Timbuktu*, in which he was chosen over Eartha Kitt and Melba Moore for his Rimsky-Korsakov interpretations.

Or maybe you saw him as a singer-dancer-actor on TV shows with Ed Sullivan, Merv Griffin, Steve Allen, Dick Cavett, David Frost, Joey Bishop and Red Skelton. If you missed these performances, you can still



hear Gil on the Anthony Newley LP of *Roar of the Greasepaint, Smell of the Crowd*, in which he electrified audiences with a single song, "Feeling Good."

As one of his special buddies, I spent many Thanksgivings and Christmases with his family in Harlem. Some opening nights I escorted his mother and relatives. I handled his taxes, ate at Fedora's with him, haunted the piers and trucks with him and

was his personal manager for more than half his illustrious life.

He worked with ex-inmates of the Family, was active at St. Cecilia's R.C. Church in Harlem and was allowed by Fidel Castro in 1987 to entertain and even interview Cuban political prisoners.

On a 1983 Rockefeller Grant, he journeyed to the Central African Republic to study pygmy music and appear in a *Wild World of Sports* documentary. "One morning as I was showering there in the jungle," Gil confided, "a pygmy cautiously joined me while I operated the pail-like device above." "Yes, yes?" I inquired, for we always confided secrets. Gil had a charismatic personality and smile, and he giggled, "Aw, nothing, we just sized each other up."

At Madison Square Garden, just after Cardinal Spellman and Ed Sullivan had invited him to sing, the mike went dead. Sullivan shushed the crowd, then yelled, mindful of Gil's mighty Robeson-like voice, "This is the only performer in all of New York City who doesn't need a microphone."

Through Langston Hughes, the youthful Gilbert met so many famous people that he was unsure who they all were. Once he

GLAD TIDINGS *Commentary*

Naming Names: Mission to Mars, MGM

by Scott Sherman

In his recent, critically acclaimed book *Mission to Mars*, former astronaut Michael Collins attempts to describe the ideal flight crew for a trip to the red planet. He begins well enough, acknowledging that even though a co-gender crew might create sexual tensions, "the most highly qualified people should be selected, regardless of sex, and to hell with raging hormones!"

Yet, in the very next paragraph, Collins reveals that he cannot extend the same good reasoning to lesbian and gay men. He acknowledges that there will be "highly qualified homosexual candidates," but he advises against choosing them. Collins explains that in the tight quarters of a spaceship, interpersonal problems may arise, and "introducing an element of homosexuality could only serve to make matters worse."

It's bad enough that Earth is covered with bigots, but this man wants to fill Space with them, too. We need to remind Mr. Collins that job discrimination based on any

innate characteristic—whether it is gender, race, ethnicity, national origin or sexual orientation—is wrong. Furthermore, we need to tell him that when bigotry prevents workers from functioning as a productive team, it must be confronted and overcome. To suggest otherwise is to empower the haters and to encourage discrimination.

Michael Collins is considered by many people to be a hero. Ask him if he really wants to be remembered for preaching this kind of shameful intolerance. Recommend that he right his wrong by speaking out against anti-gay discrimination and by making sure that future editions of his book omit this offensive reference.

Write to: Michael Collins, c/o Grove Weidenfeld Press, 841 Broadway, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10003. You may want to send a copy of that letter to Ann Getty, the president of Grove Weidenfeld, to alert her to this issue. ▼

turned to Isaac Stern at a dinner and said, "Miss Eldridge says you play the violin."

If you wish to share stories about this one-and-only guy, call me at (212) 366-6481, and join Geoffrey Holder, Dick Schaap and me at a memorial service, on Tuesday, Feb. 5, 1:30 pm, at Actor's Chapel, St. Malachy's R.C. Church, 229 W. 49th St., in Manhattan.

—Warren Allen Smith

Tim Dlugos

The time for the memorial service for Tim Dlugos has been changed. The service will begin at 3 pm (not 4 pm) on Feb. 3 at St. Marks Church in the Bowery at 10th Street and 2nd Avenue.

INSIDER

from page 28

Democrats). Stonewall and Friedlander have not been close friends in the past, but she'd certainly get that club's endorsement over Chin. The Village Reform Democratic Club (mostly straight Republicans registered as Democrats) would, in a similar circumstance, either endorse Friedlander or make no endorsement. Of course if there is a third candidate in the race—someone to the right of Friedlander and Chin—both clubs would likely endorse that person. Friedlander does seem to be reaching out to former foes. She is even cozying up to those who have red-baited her in the past. Politics makes for strange bedfellows.

On Nov. 13, Gay Men's Health Crisis took out a full-page ad in the *New York Times* repudiating Mario Cuomo's proposed cuts in spending for AIDS programs and his proposed freeze on his 20 percent of the State Health Department AIDS budget. The ad cost \$39,690. On Jan. 7, GMHC took out another full-page ad in the *Times* (\$45,000) and placed identical ones in the *Albany Times-Union* (\$10,000) and in the *Legislative Gazette* (\$700). The ad reads: "IS THIS THE YEAR THAT NEW YORK LOSES THE BATTLE AGAINST AIDS?" and goes on to list what GMHC believes Cuomo as governor must do and say to start winning the battles now being lost. Isn't it a shame that GMHC had to spend \$95,390 for ads of this nature? Someone in the governor's office is asleep at the wheel—still. What a costly shame. ▼

Dr. Charles Silverstein

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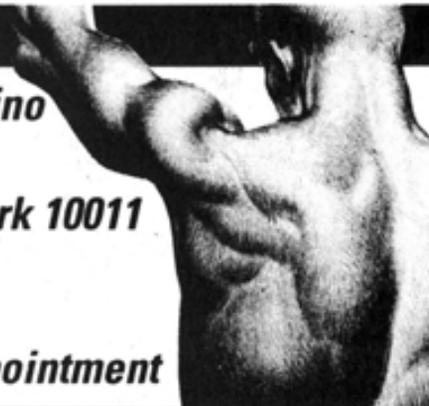
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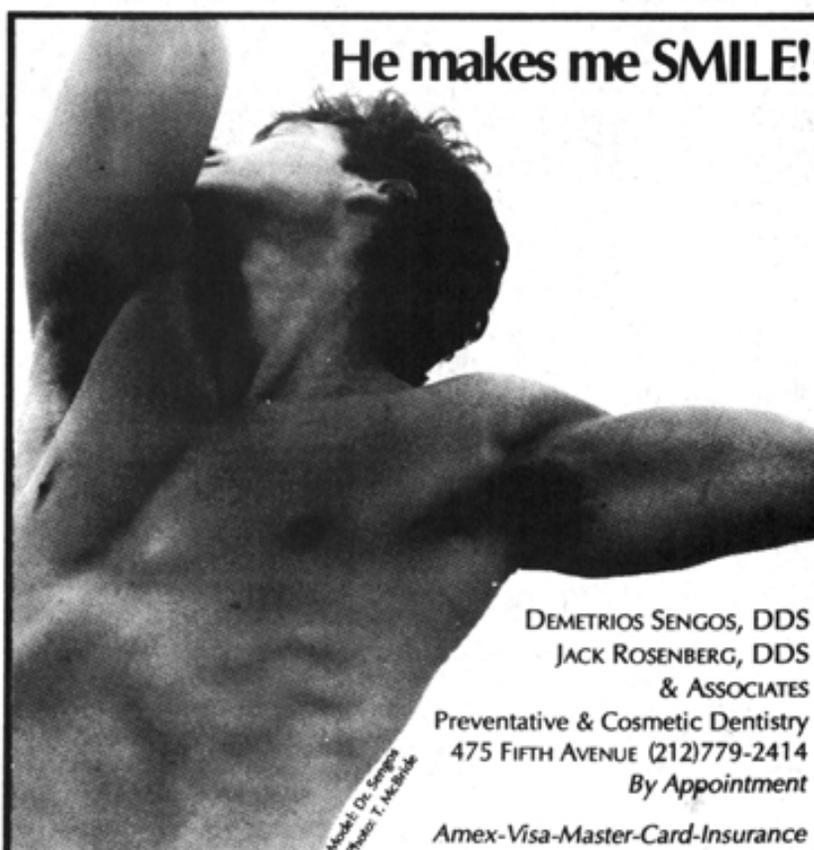
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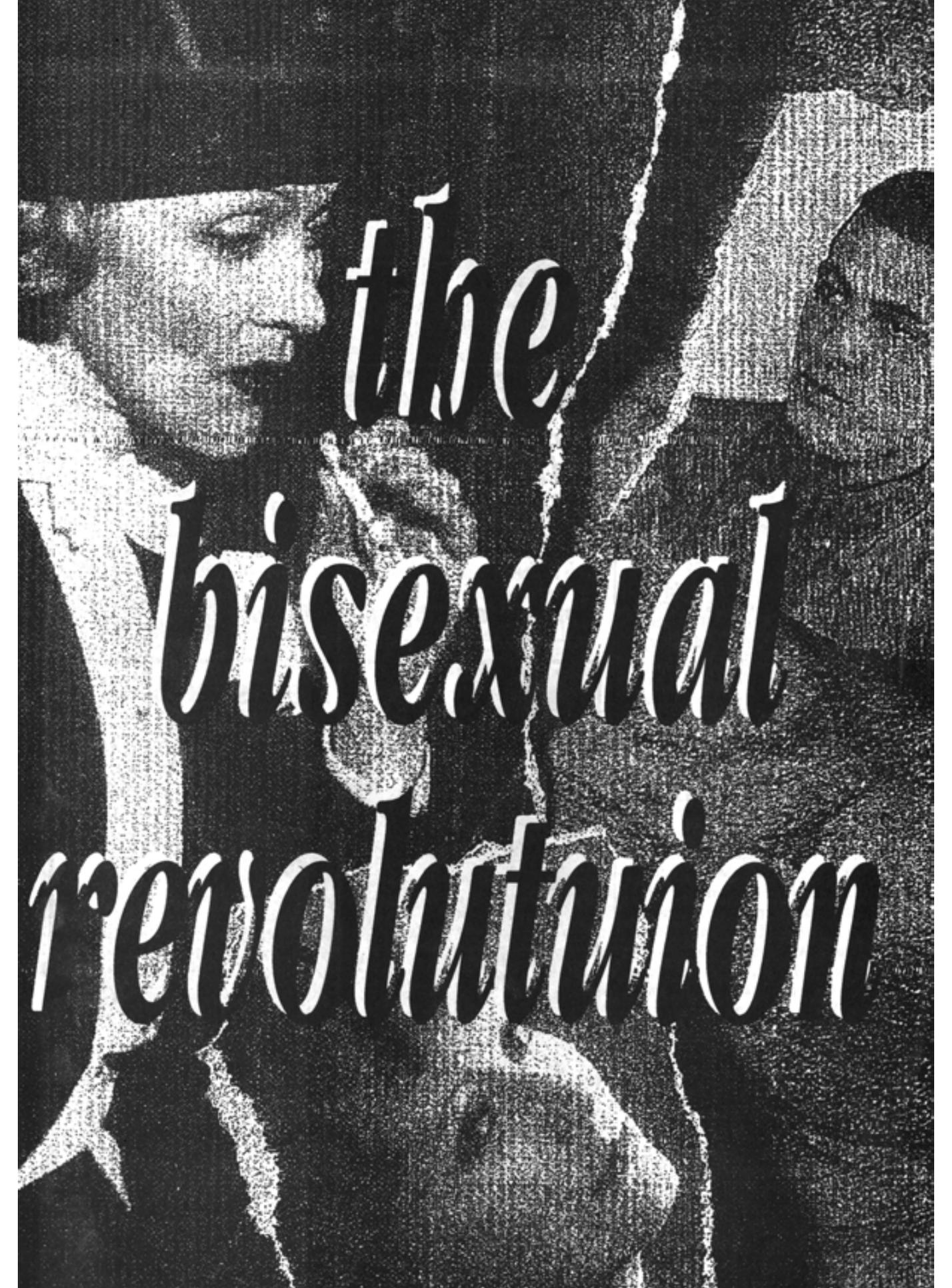


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*the
bisexual
revolution*

*deluded
closet cases or
the vanguard
of the
movement?*

by Carrie Wofford

The small Western Massachusetts town of Northampton has long been known as a haven for lesbian-feminist women who make their lives in quiet New England style.

Last May, Northampton gained a new identity as its lesbian community became pitted against young bisexuals who wanted to join the Lesbian and Gay Pride March. The Pride committee decreed that bisexuals could participate as supporters, in the way that straight friends and family do, but that bisexuality would not be formally included in the Pride title or event.

Hundreds of gay and bisexual activists, including many from Boston and other large cities, attended the committee's meetings to protest what they saw as discrimination.

The Pride celebration went on as planned, with bisexuals confined to the sidelines. But quiet Northampton garnered a lot of media attention and a new reputation on both sides of the argument: Bisexuals now see it as intolerant of them, while many lesbian-feminists fear that their hard-fought women's-only safe spaces are threatened by a new force.

The revolution isn't only confined to the East. In June, ACT UP/San Francisco was offered a chance to address the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade of the nation's largest Pride celebration. The Women's Caucus of ACT UP nominated one of their most outspoken members, Rebecca Hensler. When the decision was announced to the general body, however, an older lesbian objected to being represented at gay Pride by a bisexual, even though ACT UP isn't a gay, lesbian or bisexual group per se. The debate sparked a heated battle in which other women formerly thought to be lesbian came out to the group as bisexual. The Women's Caucus ended up falling apart—due in large measure to the tensions between bisexual-feminists and lesbian-feminists, both of whom called themselves "dykes."

Ten years ago, these conflicts wouldn't have been likely to occur. Ten years ago, there was not an organized bisexual community. And, ten years ago, bisexuality was not so potent an identity.

Lesbians and gay men in this country have gathered together to form visible communities—whether in geographic neighborhoods, in bars, in social and support groups or in political alliances. But although bisexuality is probably as frequent a phenomenon as homosexuality, few organizations exist for, or include, bisexuals, and bisexuals remain invisible—even in the eyes of lesbians and gay men.

Consider outing. When gay men and lesbians claim a public figure as a gay man or lesbian, those individuals may also maintain heterosexual relations and ought probably to be outed as "bisexual." For example, Republican Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon was outed as a closeted gay because he is rumored to sleep with men—but he is also married to a woman.

Many of our historic "gay" and "lesbian" figures behaved as bisexuals because they maintained opposite-sex husbands or wives (Eleanor Roosevelt was, of course, also married to President Roosevelt).

But for some members of the gay and lesbian community, bisexuality doesn't exist. Keri Duran of Worcester, Mass., says, "Most of my gay friends tell me there's no such thing as bisexuality—they say people [who call themselves bisexual] are just afraid to come out [as gay]."

As a bisexual, Duran says that she has no friends, no role models, no one to talk to; and she feels no support from the gay community. Even though she has been "so open publicly about everything else" (being HIV-infected, a former heroin addict and a former prostitute), Duran feels "apprehensive" about coming out as bisexual.

Lorrie Kim, staffwriter for the *Philadelphia Gay News* agrees: "There are a lot of people like me who keep quiet about our bisexuality around lesbian and gay people." Kim is, however, "out about Louis [her boyfriend] at PGN—[my male co-workers are all] in love with him," Kim jokes. Kim and Duran's hesitation comes partly from the reaction they receive.

"I'll believe in bisexuality the first time I hear about a man sneaking out on his lover to sleep with a woman," a gay activist in Boston quotes what he says is a popular gay male saying. "Because it doesn't happen," he elaborates. "It's always the other way around."

And bisexual women? "They haven't had great lesbian sex yet," he says. As for bisexuality among men of color, he (an African American) becomes adamant: "Bisexuality is more common among communities of color [only] because of the oppression of Black gay sexuality." A non-political lesbian whose ex-lover now dates men adds: "It's a front. They want acceptance from their parents and want to have a house and family and figure they can't do that as gay or lesbian. Just give them time."

As for inclusion of bisexuals in the gay and lesbian movement, the gay male activist suggests that "I don't want to say anything politically incorrect.... Most gay people wouldn't admit it [for this article], but [gay people] don't want to have anything to do with bisexuals because [bisexuals] are 'passing.'"

In Durham, N.C., a woman who first identified herself as bisexual, later negated her bisexual side: "I don't believe people are bisexual—it's just searching or experimenting."

"Why does the attitude exist that there is no bisexual community, and why is it used against us so effectively?" asks Lani Kaahumanu, a founder of the bisexual movement in this country, in the *CD Handbook* for the 1987 National Lesbian and Gay March on Washington. Her answer is that invisibility comes from bisexuals accepting negative stereotypes about themselves: "Bisexual people believe the lie that what is shared isn't community, isn't a commitment of any significance, isn't comparable to those communities we are 'in.'"

Other answers lie in understanding sexuality as an identity and recognizing conflicts in the recent history of bisexual organizing and among lesbians and gays.



*"If you ask
queens, they'll
deny it, but
many of them
are bisexual."*

bisexuality is defined as a sexual orientation towards or preference for, both men and women. Lani Kaahumanu defines her sexuality: "I am drawn to particular people—regardless of gender. It doesn't make me wishy-washy, confused, untrustworthy or more sexually liberated. It makes me bisexual."

Certainly, a bisexual identity holds different meanings in different settings. Bisexuals make sense of their sexuality differently and live a variety of lifestyles.

Bisexualities include the young woman tormented to make a decision ("Every single day I debate whether to be with women or men: In which way am I better off?"), and people for whom sexual relationships can be a conscious choice: "With all the hassles and bullshit [of] gay life, I almost want to reach out for a heterosexual relationship—[it seems] more stable and balanced," says Leonard Jewell. For Lorrie Kim, bisexuality means that she would never date a straight man because they have not experienced equal relationships—relationships devoid of "built-in [heterosexual] power imbalances."

There are those who reach a bi identity hesitatingly: "Obviously, I must be, since it's been almost three years that I haven't been sexual with a woman," says Faye Zama of Seattle.

There are nationally known gay activists, like Cliff Arneson of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veter-

an's Group, who came out as bi to the US Congress last year during his testimony.

There are also relationships many would consider bizarre, such as a committed three-way marriage of two men and a woman. "An AM/FM set, as they say," laughs George (a pseudonym), who came out in college through a six-person relationship. "I guess it's unusual, but as I see it, it should be the norm for bisexuals." The three are open about their relationship with neighbors (they recently bought a house together) and with co-workers (the two men work together).

George believes that their relationship "offers so much more potential." He points out that two could not have afforded to buy their house, and that "emotional needs and desires are taken care of" if one person is sick or unavailable. "I wasn't really content to go with...anything less—with either a hetero or a homo relationship."

Because George is African American and his two "significant others" are white, because their "marriage is taboo," and because their ages range from 27 to 41, they say that bisexuality is the least of their concerns: "The relationship just breaks so many rules."

Perhaps complicating matters, there are lesbians and gay

men who identified for a brief period (or stage) as bisexual before coming out as gay. And there are older lesbians and gay men who were once heterosexually married—either for convenience or for actual survival. The gay newsletter in Durham, N.C., for instance, announces a support group for “gay married men”—whom bisexual activists might call bisexual.

gay activists Kevin McFadden and Ruth Willis shocked the Boston gay and lesbian community when they got married on Gay Pride Day in 1988.

“Kevin was one of the most visibly gay men in Boston,” says fellow activist Don Gorton. McFadden’s gay accomplishments included running as an openly gay candidate for state senator in 1986 (McFadden received 35 percent of the vote), organizing a 1987 gay and lesbian “town meeting” with Larry Kramer and, with his lover, Will Hutchinson, serving as the emcee of Gay Pride in 1987.

“Loyal, dedicated and highly respected,” Ruth Willis was, like Kevin, involved in local gay and lesbian politics as the clerk for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Greater Boston, where she and her lesbian lover met McFadden and his gay male lover. McFadden had been a former vice chair of the Alliance, while his lover was 1986–87 chair. Willis’ lover, Cathy Pearlman, had been the Alliance’s PAC treasurer.

“Will and Kevin broke up at the same time [April 1988] that Ruth kicked her lover out. So Kevin moved in with Ruth as a temporary arrangement,” Gorton recalls. They dropped out of the Alliance and lost touch with friends, “then they sent wedding announcements to all their gay friends,” Gorton remembers. Although Ruth had been married before (with four kids) and had “never used the word ‘lesbian,’...it was quite a shock.... I don’t know if they’re bisexual or not.”

Although he misses his friends, Gorton has moved on in his work with the Alliance: “My goal since that [time] has been making [the Alliance] a less eccentric organization.”

At Rosh Hashanah services in 1990, Gladys, co-chair of the Boston gay and lesbian Jewish organization, Am Tikva, appeared after a brief absence. She returned married and preg-

nant. Although in her public words at the service she spoke openly about her large belly, she never mentioned the source of the sperm, her new husband. In a private conversation later, she admitted feeling unwelcome or unjustified in participating in a gay and lesbian group.

Although these examples may seem more racy, it’s hard to imagine that Boston is unique. “I think there are a lot of gay people who are bisexual but just have to put themselves [into the gay category to gain acceptance],” theorizes Duran.

Numerous bisexual women who were formerly lesbians came forward for this story—women such as Faye Zama, who felt pushed out of her Seattle lesbian community when she came out recently as bisexual. And women like Jennifer (a pseudonym), a “big dyke” on the ‘70s Boston scene, who married a man three years ago.

Because sexuality can be so unclear, and because the majority of bisexuals are closeted, their numbers are unknown. “If everyone who didn’t fit the heterosexual paradigm was outed, then that would be almost everybody,” asserts Lesbian sexual freedom crusader, Susie Bright (aka Susie Sexpert).

In *Interview* magazine earlier this year, gay male porn star Jeff Stryker intimated that he was bisexual but said that he fit no label. Similarly, although many gay men and lesbians know people who are behaviorally bisexual, there is significant resistance to being labeled bisexual, and the number of self-identified bisexuals remains small.

“Well, maybe I’m not a lesbian, maybe I’m not straight, but I won’t say I’m bisexual,” said one young woman.

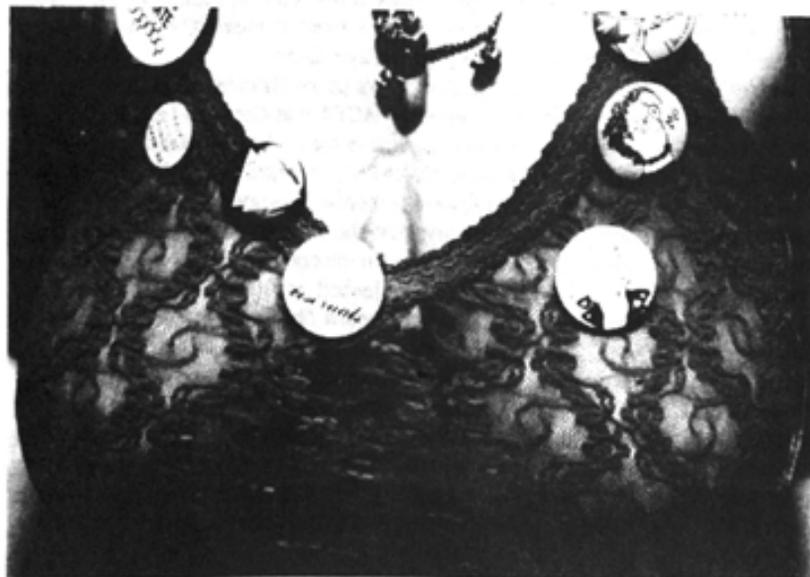
Kaahumanu reports that as a public and politically active bisexual in the Bay area, she receives many phone calls from leaders in the lesbian and gay community who tell her they are bisexual but afraid to admit it. “[Gay leaders who were bil] would support each other in private but not in public.”

Leonard Jewell agrees: “If you ask these queens, they’ll deny it, but I believe [many of them are bisexual]. [But] bisexuality is almost laughed at in gay life from what I’ve seen.” Jewell is bisexual but keeps to the gay social scene. One of his boyfriends also has sex with a woman, although “he doesn’t categorize himself as anything.”

And what of media stars like Madonna and Sandra Bernhard who publicly toy with their sexual identities but refuse to adopt any label? In addition to exploring S/M, Madonna’s new video, “Justify My Love,” exploits androgynous images of male and female homosexual couples. She kisses one woman who lies on top of her, telling her to “kiss me, kiss me—that’s right.” That her boyfriend is watching only seems to prove that she is bisexual, yet Madonna repeatedly shies away from that label.

These examples point to a key distinction in sexuality—between identity and behavior. People may identify with a particular sexuality, while what they do (their behavior) would be categorized as another sexuality: People who identify as gay or lesbian may actually have sex with both men and women, and people who identify as heterosexual may have homosexual

Photo: Efrain J. Gonzalez



sex on occasion.

Bisexual activist, Beth Reba Weise of the Seattle Women's Bisexual Network sees her bisexual identity as negating the dichotomy of heterosexual and homosexual identities: "It seems paradoxical to declare [bisexuality] as an identity... because to declare yourself a bisexual is to declare, really, that labels don't mean anything," she told the San Francisco *Sentinel* during the Bisexual Conference in June.

"I'm not sure that because there are people who identify as bisexual there is a bisexual identity," challenges Queer academic theorist Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, who has just published *The Epistemology of the Closet: Male Homosexual Desire*. (Sedgwick, by the way, approaches these studies as a heterosexually married woman who has "a real strong identification with gay male politics and identities" and who calls herself "queer.")

PGN writer Kim agrees: "I don't think there's enough of a political bisexual movement for it to be called anything."

"Durable identities are things that happen in a complicated way and usually over a period of time...[before they] become recognized, efficacious in other people's minds as a useful tool for categorization," states Sedgwick. She points to the recent emergence of incest survivors as an identity.

In questioning whether bisexuality is a potent identity, Sedgwick points to historical figures the gay and lesbian community claims as lesbian and gay (Cole Porter, Eleanor Roosevelt, Virginia Woolf, Walt Whitman, Oscar Wilde)—who would actually be classified as bisexual—"if 'bisexual' were an important classification. But the gay and lesbian movement isn't interested in drawing that line," Sedgwick claims. "[Only] to the degree that the lesbian and gay movement says people who are bisexual aren't part of this movement, then to that degree a bisexual identity would become more distinct, more necessary, more meaningful."

Socio-biologist James Weinrich finds the reverse to be true. In *Sexual Landscapes*, he asserts that environment determines sexual identity: "If people really do dislike and distrust bisexuality that much, then socialization theory suggests that bisexuality should be less common than either heterosexuality or homosexuality."

From interviews, it would seem that bisexual women feel more excluded from the lesbian community than bisexual men feel from the gay community. In part, this may be because gay and bisexual men have more separate political circles that don't exist in the context of a "men's movement."

A background in the women's movement and in feminist

"Is a lesbian a woman who sleeps with women or is a lesbian a woman who doesn't sleep with men?"



politics enabled many women to adopt bisexual and lesbian identities; with identities rooted in similar political sensibilities, lesbians and bisexual women have more ground for both cooperation and conflict than gay and bi men.

Gay activist and writer Warren Blumenfeld, author of *Looking at Gay and Lesbian Life*, co-producer of "Pink Triangles" and author of the forthcoming *Backfire: How Heterosexism Harms Heterosexuals*, believes that differences in socialization of men and women result in different sexualities. "Men are pushed into much more rigid gender-based roles," Blumenfeld asserts. "Females are given much more latitude in their range of gender-appropriate behavior, [while] betraying masculinity" is treated more severely for men. Therefore, Blumenfeld claims that "women have a greater opportunity to experience bisexuality]. As gender roles break down, men will have a greater opportunity to do so too."

Additionally, Blumenfeld asserts that, based on gender socialization, "there are differences in sexuality: Gay men have more in common in their sexuality with straight men [than with lesbians]."

Karen Friedman, who lobbies for sexual freedom for the Washington-based Human Rights Campaign Fund, agrees. "I do think men and women view [sexuality] real differently.... Most of the lesbians I know view [their sexuality] as a choice—a political, emotional or sexual choice—but a choice."

Currently, lesbian and bisexual women are fighting over ownership of the label "lesbian."

"I'm really clear that I'm not a lesbian (that I not just sexually prefer women, if that's what it means), but I feel like a dyke in other ways," says Faye Zama.

ACT UP/San Francisco's Laura Thomas explains the conflict over who could represent ACT UP at Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day in June: "Rebecca was not enough of a lesbian," according to older lesbians. "Is a lesbian a woman who sleeps with women, or is a lesbian a woman who doesn't sleep with men?" she asks. Thomas says that she is "primarily a lesbian and politically a lesbian," although she recently took on the bi label.

But Deeg Gold objected virulently when she heard Rebecca Hensler call herself a "bi-dyke." "You're one or the other," Gold says. "Bis are bis, they're not lesbians. It gives lesbians no room to identify themselves." She continues: "I know bis can be oppressed in society. But that power of really being a lesbian—to not ever seek approval of men or turn your energy to men. There's tremendous power in being a lesbian—I'd hate to see it as 'just sleeping with women.'"

Bisexual student activist Caçe Corcoran agrees because she feels excluded by the term "lesbian": "Semantics matters to me. I

don't feel like I have a lesbian side; I'm a bisexual woman... It's really important for everyone to know bisexuality is real."

"I know people who call themselves lesbians who [have attractions to men]. I don't think they're being honest about [their identities]," Lorrie Kim suggests.

Women's folksinger Holly Near also identifies as a lesbian, although she is behaviorally bisexual; identifying herself as a public lesbian is a way to help the oppressed lesbian community, despite her sexual relations with men. "Am I a lesbian? If you like," Holly Near writes in her recent autobiography, *Fire in the Rain, Singer in the Storm*, which caused controversy with its revelations of her bisexual experiences.

"Lesbianism seems so natural to me. But in the traditional sense? No, no, perhaps not. Mostly I feel the magnitude of being alive on this planet.... It is from this state of being constantly amazed that I come to my sexuality, my politics, my spirituality, my sense of humor and my music." So says the les-

this idea that if lesbians sleep with men, they'll be converted or something, stop being lesbians."

Bright's lesbian identity was challenged when she announced she became pregnant from "partying": "My definition of lesbian is a woman who wants to get inside of women's bodies.... It's what women know that men will never know. It's intimacy and energy. I can't lose that feeling from fucking men."

But longtime lesbian-feminist activist Deeg Gold challenges the notion that many lesbians now sleep with men. She asserts that she and many other lesbian-feminists who have been out pre-Stonewall and since the '70s, and whose feminism was radical, have never gone back to men. "I think all this crap about lesbians who sleep with men is just another way of invalidating lesbians and making lesbians invisible," she laments. "The patriarchy's always tried to do that because we live our lives without men or don't make men central in our lives."

"There were [women] who didn't want me to be a part of

the lesbian community, and that hurt," says Jean McGuire, former executive director for the Washington-based AIDS Action Council—in the heart of the gay community, in what might be traditionally considered gay community work. McGuire "almost didn't take the job because I knew [my bisexuality] doesn't satisfy the gay community, and it doesn't satisfy the heterosexual community."

"I've met a lot of lesbians who, when you say bisexual, their shoulders go up, and they get all tense," reports Lorrie Kim, staffwriter for *Philadelphia Gay News*. "They say bis go to lesbian groups and ruin it. I'm not like that at all, and I always get taken aback when lesbians assume I'm like that."

"One of my biggest issues is with lesbians who assume I don't have anything to offer the

lesbian and gay movement, especially when they haven't put themselves at risk as much as I have," says Kim. But Kim—unlike many other bi women—is very supportive of the exclusionary stance: "I do understand why a lesbian wouldn't want to even be in the same room as somebody who accepts male energy in a way that she rejects.... I remember very, very clearly how it felt to feel that way, and I could easily, at any given moment, be back there." Kim was formerly a lesbian and identifies strongly with radical feminism: "The natural state for any conscious woman is constant, uncontrollable rage," she says.

In her controversial autobiography, Near announced both her bisexuality and her conflict with lesbians. Near writes, "But, because my lover was a man, I didn't feel comfortable sharing my happiness with these [lesbian-feminists]."

In Northampton, when U Mass student and bisexual activist Brad Robinson asked in 1988 for bisexuals to be included in the

Photo: Efrain J. Gonzalez



bian legend, the Grand Marshal at San Francisco's 1988 Lesbian and Gay Pride March.

At the center of the current controversies lies the emergence of a lesbian sex-positive movement which spread in the latter part of the '80s with the introduction of lesbian sex magazines, such as *On Our Backs*. Simultaneously, greater interaction with gay men through AIDS activism has meant that some "lesbians" in ACT UP have sex with "gay men" in the group. Currently, self-identified S/M lesbians may engage in S/M "play" with men.

Lesbian sex expert Susie Bright/Susie Sexpert rejects the lesbian community's proscription against lesbians having sex with men: "There's this idea that sleeping with men makes you less lesbian, less able to be woman-identified," she says in a November *OutWeek* interview. "No one asks gay men if they sleep with women. It's assumed that gay men are gay, and sleeping with women wouldn't make a difference. But there's

title of the Pride celebration, they "were laughed out." But, he was invited to join the 1989 Pride March committee, when bisexual was "voted in unanimously," he recalls.

After the 1989 Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Pride March, which Northampton lesbian activist Lis Brooke called a change from "political to celebratory," and which, she says, had "no lesbian presence on [either] the March Committee...or at the rally," lesbians showed up for the 1990 planning. (Robinson admits that the 1989 Committee did lack lesbians and that the lesbian speaker backed out at the last minute.)

"The lesbians in the Valley have spent years and years and years creating women-only space," says Brooke. "Lesbians are the great majority of the community here, and [we] were frightened," explains Brooke. "We wanted to be self-determining... and welcome bisexuals as our allies."

Robinson remembers, "lesbians said that including bis was another way to make the lesbian presence invisible, watered down. But I do know that by taking it out the following year, they did make bisexuals invisible."

Now, Brooke and other lesbians are looking forward to a 1991 march with less controversy ("That one year we kind of considered a fluke.") And Robinson has moved to San Francisco. "I put two years of energy into trying to raise people's consciousness about bisexuality. And I'm pretty tired. No more hard-core lesbian activism for me."

Deeg Gold seems to agree that the conflict over who could speak at Pride was more than just sexual identity: As the only fat dyke and the oldest lesbian, Gold experienced the young bi women as very different overall. "ACT UP is a particu-

lar crowd. Maybe the people who think bisexuality is pretty hip are confined to [the upper] class... [Understanding your privilege as a bisexual] also relates to the class of the people—when you deal with really privileged people, it's hard for them to see their privilege."

And Lis Brooke has a similar view of the sources of differing ideologies. "There really is a university/town split going on here.... The students have changed all their names to be inclusive of bis—[they even have] a speaking group with straight people coming out as knowing someone who is lesbian or gay. There are town people who are frightened by that kind of politic. Our language is being co-opted, our struggle is being co-opted."

"But I don't know if it's worth dissolving a community over either," Gold concludes, as she considers the now-nonexistent ACT UP Women's Caucus.

Kaahumanu describes herself as "a lesbian-identified bisexual woman who is politically dedicated to and active in the women's movement." Now 47-years-old with a 26-year-old son and 24-year-old daughter, Kaahumanu looks back on the movement she helped create.

After leaving a suburban marriage in 1974 to help form Women's Studies at San Francisco State University, Kaahumanu became active in the lesbian community. "I was one of those lesbians who maybe three times in four years slept with men," she recalls. "I was also incredibly bi-phobic and thought there was no such thing."

Bi-Chat

The rise of a distinct bisexual identity hasn't led to the creation of many enterprises catering to those with multiple tastes. There are, for example, no specifically bisexual bars, hotels, discos or "bi-ghettos" in New York. One audible exception to this rule, however, is phone sex. New York has two lines for those who chat both ways: 550-JOJO, a "one-on-one" line, and 550-8888, a party line that connects up to 14 people in a group conversation.

According to Barry Morgan of Dial New York, which operates the lines, the bisexual services are among the most popular phone-sex lines in the city.

"They provide a safe outlet for bis," says Morgan. "They seem to allow bisexuals to hold onto the

identity they want to hold onto, without compromising themselves or their day-to-day relationships."

While conversations on the JOJO line are primarily sexual, the party line is more conversational, according to Morgan. "Bisexuals call to talk about their experiences, to meet like-minded people, to look for dates or just to find a supportive group to talk to," he said.

Others who frequent the lines, says Morgan, are gay men. "A lot of gay men call the bi line looking for bi guys," Morgan explains. "There's a lot of gays who like to get off with available straights. That's another head altogether."

—Gabriel Rotello

After falling in love with a bisexual male activist in 1980, Kaahumanu "got pretty trashed to my face and behind my back" and decided to get involved. "We [two] were the bisexual feminist community then," she recalls. In 1983, she and four others formed BIPOL, the Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Political Action group. "We were all known activists in our own right and got together [to figure out] what are bisexual politics."

Simultaneously, Maggi Rubinstein, now a 60-year-old bi woman, founded the Bisexual Center in San Francisco after having been out since the '70s, and women in Boston formed the Boston Bisexual Women's Network (BBWN).

These weren't the first groups; in 1978, Chicago's "Bi-Ways" held activities and produced a newsletter, while New York's Bisexual Forum began in 1975 as a support organization, with a newsletter in 1977. In 1983 and '84, bisexuals began speaking out, Kaahumanu writes in a history factsheet.

In 1984, BIPOL introduced San Francisco's Pride celebration to caricatures of "Princess Bi" "Mayor Bi-Anne" and others, winning the "most outrageous contingent" award.

Then, Kaahumanu and her four friends in BIPOL decided to gain some national media attention when they ran Kaahumanu for vice president at the 1984 Democratic Convention. When Kaahumanu was not allowed to speak, even though she had the requisite signatures, the "Bipol 5" stormed the control room of the Convention. "There we were, five of us in purple T's and Levis. We took over the computer room.... But we got bisexuals mentioned in *Newsweek*.... [The press] referred to 'a groundswell nationwide of bisexuals coming out of the closet,' but then the five of us would sit and ask, 'Where are they?'"

For the 1987 March on Washington, BBWN's Robin Ochs suggested to Kaahumanu that they form a national contingent. "The thing is, you just create these things. You say they are, and they are," she points out. So, they made a banner for the "National Bisexual Contingent" and handed out BIPOL's mailing address to create a national movement. But, after a year of hundreds of letters from bisexuals saying, "Yes, we're ready for a national network," and asking who else in their cities was bi, Kaahumanu realized that a real national community would come only out of a conference.

After two years of organizing, the 1990 National Bisexual Conference was held in San Francisco on June 20-24. It drew 500 people from 5 countries and 20 states and offered sessions on relationships, politics, and included a strong People of Color Caucus.

Now, activists like Cianna Stewart are at work creating the North American Multicultural Bisexual Network with a national newsletter out of Long Beach. The network, Stewart feels, will help other bisexuals come out. "I wasn't able to come out as bi until I heard the word," she says.

Kuwaza Imara (formerly Ron Franklin) recalls that he joined in the work because he felt there were no resources for bisexual men of color. Imara came not from a gay community but from a heterosexual Black activist background, where he and others did not question their same-sex encounters, and wanted to create support networks in his community.

The best thing about being bisexual," Woody Allen's infamous joke goes, "is that it doubles your chance for a date on Friday night."

But bisexuals find the stereotypes about them

less than amusing. "People assume things about my sexual practices because I'm bi (that bis are promiscuous, that I can't make up my mind)," says Cate Corcoran.

In a *Bisexual Pride* handout for Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration, the Bisexual Committee Engaging in Politics of Boston challenges four stereotypes about bisexuals:

1. That bisexuals are really gay or really straight. Wrong: "Bisexuality is a distinct sexual preference."

2. That bisexuals are happiest with both a man and a woman at one time. Wrong: "There is a wide range of bisexual lifestyles."

3. That bisexuals are promiscuous and untrustworthy. Wrong: "Bisexuals are no more promiscuous in general than straights or gays."

4. That bisexuals spread AIDS. Wrong: "Unsafe sexual practices spread AIDS."

Terminology also remains harmful, bisexuals charge. While gay men and lesbians in the '60s dropped the scientific term, "homosexual," for the more positive "gay" and "lesbian," bisexuals are still identified by their scientific behavior.

Bisexuals also charge they are excluded by the title of the "lesbian and gay community." When gay journalist and author, Randy Shilts, was asked by young gay, lesbian and bisexual activists at the New Pacific Academy (a queer summer program in San Francisco) why he excluded bisexuals and transgender persons in writing about the community, he said that it was too long a label, and that he would wait for a shorter title.

Gay writer and activist Blumenfeld invented and advocates a new term for our community: "the lesbigay community."

While mainstream gay and lesbian communities struggle with the level of involvement of bisexuals, it has become "politically correct" for bisexuals to be included in university communities.

Across the country, campus organizations are behind the times if they do not follow the trend of changing their names to include bisexuals. Many universities changed their group's titles in response to a changing membership over the past three years. Last week (Jan. 12), members of UCLA's Gay and Lesbian Association voted for a new name: UCLA Multicultural Bisexual Gay and Lesbian Association.

At this summer's historic New Pacific Academy—a month-long training program in San Francisco for young bisexuals, gays and lesbians—inclusion of bisexuals proved to be almost old news. For the young of this movement, adopting language (and sensitivities) to be inclusive of transgender people (transsexuals and transvestites) is the new norm of political correctness. NPA included a number of out bisexual activists, as well as some who found the atmosphere safe enough to come out as bi.

Students were also early proponents of "queer" as the most inclusive language for describing all sexual minorities (in some cases before the emergence of Queer Nation—also started by young people).

Cate Corcoran, the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Representative in UC/Santa Cruz's student government, reports, "Most people involved in the political queer scene use 'queer' [because] it means gay, lesbian or bisexual and can include transgender." Also, "queer" is more accurate for gossip: "You can't assume she's a lesbian—she could be bi—so you say she's 'queer.'"

See BISEXUAL on page 70

lookout

Photos by
Michael Wakefield

While some of the current batch of street signs are cryptic [below], others, like the posters all around for the most recent Columbia gay dance [right], are clearly more pointed.

WHEN YOU EAT
SOMETHING GOOD
Remember
WHERE YOU GOT IT

GLOBE

Saturday January 19

7M

**THEY'RE
GAY..**

**YOU'RE GAY
WE'RE GAY**



*NO, HE'S NOT
BASTARDS!*

LET'S DANCE!

C O L U M B I A

GaY & LesbiaN

"SamE BuT Different"

DaNcE

BLAZE SHOW:

THE VERY GAY

As you all know by now, an ACT UP affinity group, Action Tours, invaded the studios of the *CBS Evening News* last week, took over the broadcast for the first few seconds and caused quite a ruckus at the network. And it seems that like many of us, the inside poop at CBS TV goes both ways. A technical assistant in New York claims that Dan Rather "handled it well" and "laughed it off." However, a source in the LA control room, says that darling Dan (whose son was a prosecutor in the case against ACT UP's St. Patrick's Six) was regally pissed, "took it all very seriously" and showed "no levity."

But both sides foresee the same outcome. According to one source at the network, "CBS won't look highly on ACT UP" after this. And a producer notes that "something like this can kill AIDS stories [at CBS] for six weeks."

Gee, I could have sworn they'd killed all AIDS stories for the *past* six weeks—and the six weeks before that and the six weeks before that and the six weeks before that. Actually, this protest was one of the best AIDS stories I've seen on CBS in a long time. And it was the first time that AIDS was the lead segment at the top of the broadcast.

All the more reason, I suppose, to DO IT AGAIN.

Meanwhile, there's a juicy tale about Eddie Murphy which we simply must bring out. No, not *that* story—the other one, about his demands on *Vanity Fair*. This one comes independently from several individuals, some of whom are inside *VF* (although, to be fair, others at the mag say that they don't know anything about it). Here's how it goes: *La* Murphy, responding to an interview request from *VF*, told the mag that he would do it only under the condition that the profiler not be a woman, a Jew or a queer. Editors at the publication had a meeting and eagerly went down their list. Not surprisingly, they couldn't find the right person among their pool of writers who wasn't either a woman, a Jew, a queer or all three. They can-

GOSSIP WATCH

celed the interview.

Could this really be? "It is absolutely untrue," says *VF* spokesperson Hamilton South. "There was no meeting. Anyone who would call stipulating something like that would not be paid attention to."

THERE'S A TALE ABOUT EDDIE MURPHY WHICH WE MUST BRING OUT.

I ask again, Could this really be? Well, there are just too many independent dirt-dishers on this one for there not to be *something* going on here. It certainly doesn't seem above Eddie Murphy, who continually erupts with irrational hatred (which he disguises as comedy) against all three groups, to make such a biased request. (By the by, Eddie, the tabloids persistently call me asking questions about you regarding stories that drag queens on both coasts keep reporting to them. I suggest you get on top of this, so to speak.) And if *Vanity Fair* wanted him badly enough—even if only to do a hatchet job on him—they might just comply. Let's face it: The deal-making world of editor-in-chief Tina

Brown—complete with her addiction for editorially nuzzling power-brokers and her horrendous and continual conflicts of interest—is nothing new to most of us. But after last year, when it was made public that she promised press-shy Hol-

lywood superagent Michael Ovitz whatever he might desire in return for granting her an interview (and assured him a puff piece which she herself would tend to "every step of the way"), I'd say she's got some major credibility problems.

Jesus, and people talk about my brand of journalism.

Speaking of which, only a year ago, while every slimy media slug was masturbating over the sexual infidelities revealed in the Trump split-up, no one would dare write about the "sex lives" of queers, for reasons we've endlessly discussed.

So here we are, 12 months later, and I'm being pre-interviewed for *Attitudes*, the talk show on cable's Lifetime channel. The producer is going down a list of people he wants to "confirm" what I will "talk about" when I do the show: "Okay, so there's, uh, let's see,...Geffen, Diller, Foster...McGillis, Houston, Bernhard...umm, but is there anyone really *big* that will really shock the audience?"

Things have changed, I'd say.

But I resent the notion that the so-called Outing Brigade is expected to perform like a crazed bunch of circus freaks. Many people, including lots of letter writers (and aggressive phone-callers) to this publication, seem to desire explicit revelations, with or without basis in fact, which many times are out of context to anything occurring in the world regarding the closeted individuals.

For instance, I've been nudged and prodded and bashed and attacked for more than a year by people who've loudly demanded that I "go after" (in their words) Jodie Foster. But it wasn't until last week that we began to question and discuss her sexuality and her responsibilities. Why? Because this col-

umn is about the popular media and the webs they incessantly weave from week to week.

By Michelangelo Signorile

Therefore, we challenge what is going on out there *as it happens*. Jodie Foster hadn't really come into the news in the past year in a big way—and certainly not in a controversial, queer-related way—until Jonathan Van Meter's *New York Times Magazine* cover story a couple of weeks ago. Besides, contrary to what many may perceive about how this column operates, one must look at all of these celebrities on a case-by-case basis.

Unlike Sandra Bernhard, Jodie Foster did not ambiguously come out as a dyke, invent a mock relationship with Madonna and then blame the media for "accusing" her of something as "sordid" as being a "lesbian," a thing which she is now "sick to death" of being called. And unlike David Geffen, Jodie Foster did not build up, back and make a fortune off of a homophobic band.

For similar reasons, Foster was not derided, harangued and viciously attacked with CAPITAL LETTERS (though many expressed the opinion that she should have been). Things are not always cut and dried. I've learned the hard way that, as a white man, a different set of standards certainly applies when criticizing women and people of color. That is not to say that everyone should not be *equally criticized* when it's due, but rather that it should be undertaken while keeping in mind society's longstanding inequities, as well as who and what the person coming under attack represents.

But that, of course, wouldn't stop me from getting fierce. Quite honestly, there are other factors at play here too: Jodie Foster is a role model for many women and has a strong, feminist image. She's becoming a powerbroker in Hollywood, gaining access to a world long-dominated by men. And that is certainly empowering.

Also, regarding the John Hinckley nightmare that haunted her for years, it must be taken into account that Foster has had an enormously traumatizing—and certainly life-threatening—experience which revolved around issues dealing with her own "privacy" and her own "celebrity."

In other words, I say that we let Foster take up the slack herself.

But if I were you, dear Jodie, I'd grab it—quick. ▼

GAYDAR

New York Magazine Is Wrong on Rights

By Michael Goff

If only **Ronald Reagan** were alive today, he'd see that his trickle-down theory works for the media, not the economy. The drip, drip of "political correctness" stories in the *Times* last year has turned into a torrent. *Newsweek* followed with its "Thought Police" cover last month. Most recently (and least accurately), *New York* magazine picked up the scraps. All this without a PR agent.

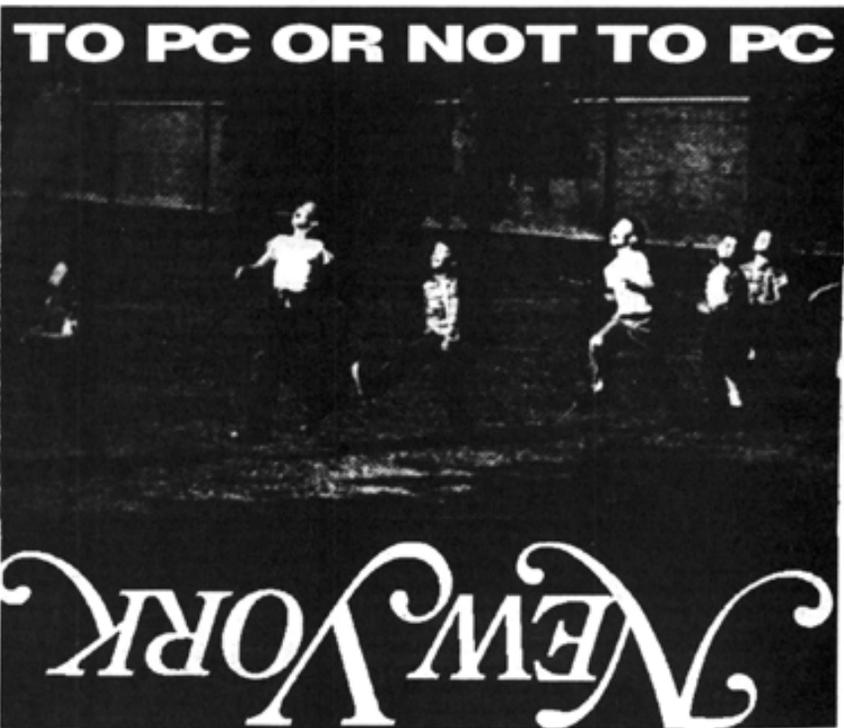
The problem is that no one seems to be getting it right.

Most writers strip the term "politically correct" of the irony it has had for years and then strip the new campus-based movement of its complexity. They would rather sell magazines by screaming "fascism" or "neo-McCarthyism." No one, on any side, will stop foaming about their "rights" long enough to talk about responsibilities. It seems that's just not fashionable.

The Bill of Rights is not a sufficient recipe for "society." *Harper's* February forum ("Who Owes What to Whom?") agrees: "The drafters didn't believe that the mechanics of a constitution were enough to secure our liberty. There had to be civic virtue. What has happened since then?" wondered *Harper's* editor, **Gerald Marzorati**.

When **John Taylor** discusses political correctness in New York, he leaves out civic virtue. He just wishes that all those minorities would stop being so sensitive about some stupid old words.

Focusing on a few extreme incidents, he shows the progressive movement at its most ridiculous. Instead of acknowledging that many more people are working for multicultural education than are trying to ban anti-gay cartoons, he presents a world gone mad. A new Red Guard is in the quad, and you aren't allowed to say anything.



He tells of professors taunted by jeers of "racist" and of required "oppression studies" classes which spell the end of academic freedom. (Why don't required math classes spell the end of academic freedom?) His interviewees fling words like "fascism," and the whole article is penned in the breathless, would-you-get-this style usually reserved for Ripley.

Still, he is right on a major point: Freedom of speech should not be abridged, ever. There are other options. But, he condemns PC cultural sensitivity for the few incidents where colleges have legislated offensive speech. On this he is very wrong, of course.

The media froths at the suggestion of limited expression, and Taylor froths more than most: "The generation that produced the free-speech movement in Berkeley...is now trying to restrict speech and control the behavior of a new generation of students." Sure.

Universities are mandated as open, unfettered places of learning. They don't need to legislate free speech, and in most cases, they haven't. But they *do* have a responsibility to teach diversity and to provide an environment free of harassment. Without regulating what people say, they can make it clear that certain actions are incompatible with an institution of higher learning—verbal abuse and non-respect for others' rights, for example.

In fact, most PC action has not been by the overzealous few. Instead, it has focused on education (diverse curricula) and equal access (for minority students and faculty seeking tenure positions.)

When Taylor compares politically correct students to Christian-fundamentalists, he misses a basic distinction: The bible-beaters tell me not to fuck a consensual partner—an action which hurts no one. PC advocates tell you not to call me a faggot—an action which can hurt if repeated often enough and can inhibit my right to pursue an education. Religious fundamentalists diss everyone. The PC credo is respect. One action hurts no one. The other hurts someone.

Why is Taylor so excited about what people would like you to call them? Their demands for inclusion do not mean the exclusion of anyone else. And you don't even have to like everyone. You just have to let them live as full citizens. **Catherine Stimpson**, the dean of students at Rutgers (a minor voice in the *New York* article), says, "I don't know of any institution that is saying you have to adore everyone else....They are saying you have to learn to live with everyone."

Stimpson knows: "The attack on diversity is a rhetorical strategy by neo-conservatives who have their own political agenda." Opponents see the strength of progressive

See GAYDAR on page 56

THREE DOTS...

In November, *Mirabella* said that Richard Rouillard, *Advocate* editor in chief, wanted "no part of" outing except in "certain cases." Last week's *Native* reported that Rouillard "expects to become far more aggressive in reporting on homosexuals in the closet." He told *OutWeek* last week, "We've always been in favor of outing, but it's a complicated subject." We'll wait and see....*thirtysomething* teaser last week: "Eilyn's romance with a married man revives memories of her relationship with Hope."

—M.G.

Sisters
are doin'
it for
them-
selves.

the pleasure chest
ny • chicago • la

"we believe in safe sex,
and a lot of it."

OUT ON THE TOWN WITH LIZ & SYDNEY

Liz and Sydney, due to scheduling conflicts and temperamental deadlines, seem to have missed their year-end first-anniversary column. But, better late than never, they have now chosen to comment on the state of rumors in New York. Anything which appears in this column is not necessarily true by virtue of its appearance here; the real fun was gathering the anecdotal evidence.

LIZ: Oh, dear (*hanging the phone up*). You won't believe what I just heard.

SYDNEY: Phone sex.

LIZ: Don't be so unimaginative. Mr. X just told me that a certain white rapper is a homo brother.

SYDNEY: That's impossible.

LIZ: Nothing's impossible—although I will say that I would prefer he not be part of my nation.

SYDNEY: He's not the only one, honey. How about **David Geffen**?

LIZ: Absolutely. You haven't heard dinner conversation until you've heard porn-star **Joey Stefano** describe his financially advantageous encounter with him in detail.

SYDNEY: Well, it could be worse. You could have listened to that guy who managed the Pyramid for three weeks screaming lies about **Michael Musto** having sex on the downstairs bar.

LIZ: I was there. It was pretty obvious that the position he was describing was not only physically impossible, but mighty acrobatic as well.

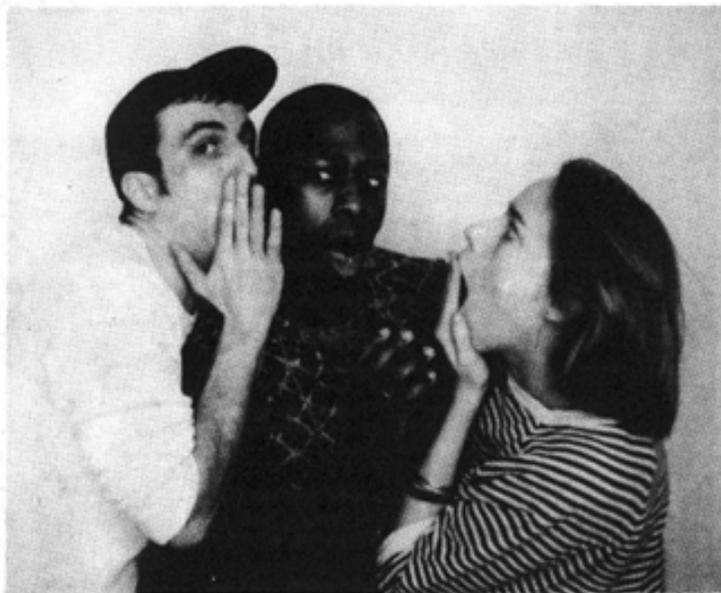
SYDNEY: Really. There's some sort of theory that the bigger the lie, the more people believe you.

LIZ: The more people involved, the more widely spread it gets. Do you remember the **Jodie Foster-Whitney Houston-Kelly McGillis** fight?

SYDNEY: Who fought who?

LIZ: Depends on who you spoke to. It was always over Whitney, though.

SYDNEY: Well, her not being a les-



bian and all, it would make more sense to have her fight both of them to preserve her heterosexual status.

LIZ: *Vivid!* The birth of another rumor. No, the best Whitney goop I got was that she was in a hospital somewhere in New Jersey, heavily sedated because she broke up with her girlfriend. Every time she woke up, she would just call her name, over and over again.

SYDNEY: Yeah, well, somebody saw her that day having dinner and not a slurred word was heard.

LIZ: Well, she must be pretty strong to throw a garbage can at **Irene Cara** and all.

SYDNEY: Yeah, but Jodie's got staying power. According to every dyke who went to Yale, she was hopping into their sacks faster than the Concorde.

LIZ: That's pretty good, considering the queer component of the student body.

SYDNEY: Whenever you meet one of them on the street in a Yale shirt, they say it's Jodie's.

LIZ: The school shop must have sold out a few times over.

SYDNEY: You know, it's strange, you never hear about Jodie and **Madonna**.

SYDNEY: My friend told me that she was at a party in LA with **Sandra Bernhard**...

LIZ: That name is not to be spoken in this house while I'm here.

SYDNEY: Anyway...Sandy said that Madonna's just a big dyke and loves to hit on girls.

LIZ: Don't we all?

SYDNEY: Yeah, but not everyone is accused of putting backward messages in their records that say, "I hate Jews."

LIZ: I simply don't think Madonna's intelligent enough to put a frontward message in there.

SYDNEY: Tell me something: Is it my imagination, or do you think that she's discovered Extasy? I mean, that video is such a drug-

See **LIZ & SYDNEY** on page 56



By **LIZ TRACEY & SYDNEY POKORNY**

FIELD TRIPPING

If all the gays and lesbians walked off the premises," Michael Wanzie is fond of saying, "Disney World would become America's first self-service park."

As the song says, It's a queer world after all.

In the sugar-coated utopia in the swamps near Orlando, Fla., irony reigns: The wholesome nuclear (read: "heterosexual") family image is maintained by an inordinate number of lesbian and gay staff members.

Len Mayer, business representative of Teamsters Local 385, the Disney union, is hard pressed to find a reason. "Homosexuals like to go to warm climates," he suggests. "They seem to gravitate here. They're good union members and good employees."

And they bring their own brand of pixie dust to the Magic Kingdom.

Scott, a gay Disney employee, has played a score of Walt's characters in oversized furry costumes, from Br'er Bear to *The Jungle Book's* Baloo. But all cartoon characters eventually go to the bathroom. Scott says that the employee johns and locker rooms are "quite cruisy." On a typical day, you may catch Goofy giving head to Winnie the Pooh. "Every now and then, another man would hop into the shower with you," Scott says. "I've had sex about 30 times in various communal showers on the property." Supervisors have turned a blind eye to this brand of employee r & r.

When one employee was crowned Mr. Gay Orlando in a queer local disco, he was congratulated by his supervisor. In the line of duty, however, all Disney folks are expected



to behave within bland, gender-specific boundaries called the "Disney look." The employee handbook spells it out: "Extremes in hairstyles, lipstick, fingernail polish, jewelry and the like can draw the guest's attention away from the total experience we are trying to create." Males must be clean-shaven, the better to see their saccharine smiles. But don't even think of shaving your head or eyebrows. According to insiders, one transsexual part-timer was subtle enough to avoid detection. But most overt displays rankle the head honchos.

Joel Strack, who spent seven years with Mickey & Co., says that gays in mid-management positions are not allowed to be too outrageous: "The queens will not be promoted as quickly. The successful ones keep their gay life at home." Strack tested

the Disney creed a few years ago. Chief Justice Warren Burger was visiting Orlando, and Strack was part of the Disney welcoming party, dressed as the Spirit of 1776 drummer. When he saw gay activists zapping the judge outside, he doffed his costume and joined his comrades on the picket line. He was energetically chastised by superiors.

Michael Wanzie, a Jungle Cruise guide, also had Walt spinning in his tomb. In the summer of 1985, he mounted a musical show called *Forbidden Disney* at Orlando's hedonistic gay resort hotel, Parliament House. The plot lampoons Disney's annual competition, where employees vie for the title of Disney World Ambassador, an honor not unlike Miss America. The warped story line: A male character is barred from the ceremony, until he threatens to reveal all the gays who work for Disney. A nervous top brass allows him to enter. As he is crowned, he reveals himself as a lesbian.

Continued on page 56



By Jay Blotcher



Because The Dawn

Lesbian and Gay Film

9 HOT DAYS IN FEBRUARY THE NEW FESTIVAL'S

DOWNTOWN WINTER SERIES

FEBRUARY 1-9, 1991 Anthology Film Archives

32 Second Avenue at 2nd Street
Box Office Information: (212) 477-2714

The New Festival, Inc., is proud to present its first Downtown Winter Series: a collection of films from the '89 & '90 New York International Festival of Lesbian & Gay Films. Over 25 films from 10 countries will screen.

In the current climate of increasing attacks on lesbians and gay men – both physical assault and artistic censorship – it becomes ever more critical to create programs that speak truthfully about our lives. Come celebrate our passion and power.

OPENING NIGHT BENEFIT Friday, February 1st, 1991

\$25 includes
5-7pm cocktail party at Jerry's 103
103 2nd Avenue at 6th Street
and
Choice of Screening:
7pm SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW
9pm CARAVAGGIO
11pm DAYS OF GREEK GODS
and

Special free entry to
Chip Duckett's ABC Club
Irving Place at 15th Street

Reservations accepted for
Opening Night Benefit tickets.
For further information
call (212) 966-5656

	1:00	3:00	5:00	7:00	9:00	11:00
FRI 2/1	BOX OFFICE: (212) 477-2714			SNEAK PREVIEW	Caravaggio	Days Of Greek Gods
SAT 2/2	Maedchen In Uniform (1931)	Desire	Looking For Langston & Trojans	Friends Forever	Nocturne & Because The Dawn	Pink Narcissus
SUN 2/3	Comrades In Arms & Flames Of Passion	November Moon	Parting Glances	Another Way	Silence = Death & shorts	
MON 2/4				Friends Forever	Virgin Machine	Tickets \$6.50 all shows
TUES 2/5				Tongues Untied & Flesh & Paper	Coming Out	
	Looking For Langston					
WED 2/6			In & Out Of Love	Comrades In Arms & Flames Of Passion	Looking For Langston & Trojans	
THURS 2/7			Friends Forever	Vera	Beyond Gravity & Night Out	
FRI 2/8			Desire	Coming Out	A Question Of Silence	Virgin Machine
	Pink Narcissus					
SAT 2/9	Sisters In Jazz	Beyond Gravity & Night Out	Pink Narcissus	In & Out Of Love	Summer Vacation 1999	Nocturne & Because The Dawn

THE ARTS

Ready, Aim, Fire

FIRE (EMPTY YOUR CLOSETS IF YOU WANT NO FIRE) by Bina Sharif. Theater for the New City. 155-57 First Avenue. (212) 254-1109. Jan. 31-Feb. 3, at 8 pm.

by Victoria Starr

Many women are ashamed of their bodies. It's just one of those things we grow up with. Very few of us feel comfortable standing naked in a room, particularly when there are 50 people, fully dressed, with their eyes upon us. Nevertheless, it's been done.

That it's been done, and more than once, was the first thing that went through my mind watching "Shame," the opening segment of Bina Sharif's latest work. As she stands with her back to us, lamenting the shame and discomfort she feels in her bareness, I waited for that twist that would make this act different. Different from all of the other women who have bared their bodies to the crowd, not as an act of economic sex-exploitation, but as the most basic of feminist statements.

To be a Pakistani woman—and a Muslim—is difference enough, and it is this simple, yet significantly "other," thread that pulls the audience through *Fire*. From standing naked in a room to attempting to open a bank account in a New York City bank, racism, misogyny and religious oppression bombard Sharif's characters, turning even the most basic daily activities into reasons for committing either murder or suicide.

In "Blow Job," another segment, Sharif dons a Tina Turner wig to deliver a witty and cutting commentary of one immigrant's search for fame, fortune and love. Leaving her job as a coat check girl at the Plaza Hotel to become a rich man's mistress, she eventually falls in

HEATING UP—Performer Bina Sharif



love with the man's cleaning woman (another expatriate), eventually leaving the minks and jewels behind for the promise of more genuine attention. When her love object fails to pass her long-awaited medical exams, the two decide to go into show business. Why show business? "Because," Sharif declares, "that's the biggest blowjob of them all."

Bina Sharif presents a powerful

combination of Old World tragedy and latter-day angst, moving fluidly between the life and traditions of her mother (dowry planning, the loss of a young child) to her own failures as an educated, upper-class Pakistani woman living in poverty in the

Lower East Side. Sharif's work marks new ground, even for seasoned perfor-

PERFORMANCE

mance-art followers, and is deserving of much support. ▼

Wet Your Whistle

Donald Moffett's Double Header

WET HOLES. Wessel O'Connor. 580 Broadway. (212) 219-9524. **WET DREAMS.** Simon Watson. 241 Lafayette. (212) 925-1955. Both through Feb. 16.

by John Donahue

Donald Moffett was worrying about the bowling balls. The manufacturer couldn't guarantee delivery in time for his upcoming show at the Wessell O'Connor Gallery, one of two opening in mid-January. In addition to the bowling balls, other words were scheduled to arrive from the embroiderer and, more traditionally, from the silkscreener. As the diversity of materials indicates, Moffett's work is undergoing an expansion of form.

He gave *OutWeek* a preview of the work, some of it then still plans on paper. When asked what he'd been thinking about in preparing for the show, he laughed and said: "Nothing new here. I'm thinking the same old crap." While his dealer may not be happy hearing that, to his viewers it's an understandable viewpoint. Issues of homophobia, gay invisibility and the politics of AIDS form the core of Moffett's work, and these issues don't disappear.

The bowling balls, when I saw them, were still circles on paper. As Moffett described them, the ten "blood-red balls, the weight of a human head," will be drilled with

one hole instead of the usual three, and each engraved with a word: "Citizen," "Freak," "Hot,"

"Discharge" and so forth. The idea is to let loose these oblique comments on gay culture in the center of the gallery's floor.

Other work at Wessel O'Connor is the latest evolution of Moffett's message lightboxes. The displays in this edition are four-by-five-feet across, illuminating transparencies with dropped-out type. For instance, the most topical states: "Call the Pentagon 1 (202) 545-6700. Remind them that despite their Uniform Code of Military Justice we're fucking everywhere." The text is superimposed over the blurred image of a soldier.

In these pieces, Moffett continues his subversion of advertising conventions in broadcasting a queer's truth. As he explained, "I want to deliver the message as blatantly as possible." Other pieces in the show list the phone numbers of the White House ("Tell them we're not all dead yet") and the Supreme Court. Visitors at both galleries will receive a Helms postcard bearing the senator's phone number and a special message.

If the lightboxes represent a contemporary response to government abuse and homophobia, works at Simon Watson offer a rereading of historical forms. "Gays in the Military" consists of five found etchings of military men to which Moffett has added each man's accomplishments. U.S. Grant is billed as a "Brilliant War Strate-

gist, Fierce Bottom." Another is described as "Hero. Sure Shot. Really Thick." The men in these sepia prints, who appear respectable at first glance, have their hidden lives revealed.

A book on wrestling published in the '50s was the point of departure for the "Procedures and Common Mistakes" series also at Simon Watson. Each 45-by-35-inch black-and-white silkscreen displays two male wrestlers as well as a caption ("Coach," "Mat Burns" or "Common Mistake: Failure to Arch your Back."). The photos and captions appear courtesy of the wrestling guide, although slightly rearranged by Moffett. The men illustrating the holds are half-naked and bursting with muscle; some participants seem much older than their opponents. Even in the '50s, this how-to wrestling guide had another secret meaning.

Donald Moffett mines this vein of secret meaning. His alternate histories expose hypocrisy with humor and eroticism, and critiquing historical representations enables Moffett to comment on our own troubled and troubling times.

But, the pieces in Simon Watson that most fully articulate the complexity of gay desire and repression may well be his "bed" pieces. The series consists of five double beds (emphasis on the "double") made up with sheets embroidered with various phrases. Some sets include a crotch-level

ART

cutout hole. Moffett sees the bed as the locus of the battleground for gays and lesbians, the place of ultimate desire and control. What occurs in a queer's bed is subject to Supreme Court rulings.

Some of the embroidered phrases such as "God. God. God. God. God. God." have both sexual and religious underpinnings, a duality the work exploits. Moffett himself describes the phrases as "perverse incantations but also sex grunts." According to Moffett, the erotic aspect

mustn't be underplayed. "I see the hole as the reverse of a rubber," he said. Placed on the top sheet, the hole is for fucking in or for fucking out, either way you like it. These crisp white sheets, one of which was folded over his studio's work table, also make

unavoidable allusions to the hospital as well as to passion.

It must be mentioned that Moffett is a member of Gran Fury, the infa-

group's agitprop.

Moffett recently had a show in Vancouver with Felix Gonzales Torres. In April, he'll be showing work in

Houston, and it'll be interesting to see how the Lone Star State takes the return of his native son. In the meantime, Moffett has been preoccupied with the logistics of bed placement—the mattresses must be mounted on the wall due to lack of floor space. This installation brings to mind a

slew of art historical references, but unlike Rauschenberg's icon "Bed," Moffett has other ideas. As he folded up the demonstration sheet, he said: "You know where these sheets are gonna go after the show. Right back into the bedroom." ▼

Call
Senator Jesse Helms
1 (202) 224-6342
Tell him I can teach him
how to swallow

DONALD MOFFETT. "CALL SENATOR JESSE HELMS" (1990).

mous art collective that addresses AIDS-and health-related issues. The collective's confrontational and blunt approach is evident in his work, although his art is traced with a humanness, a sense of humor and a depth that is not always visible in that

Heat Stroke

TOO MUCH SUN. A film by Robert Downey. Produced by Lisa M. Hansen. New Line Cinema. Exclusive engagement at the Angelika Film Center. 611 Broadway.

by Karl Soehnlein

Comedy and homosexuality make uneasy bedfellows. Long scorned and stereotyped, we queers so very rarely get the upper hand in a joke that we're forced to be on guard against anything meant to be even remotely mocking—and not without good cause: Contemporary comedians use humor not only to defame our identities but to make us look uptight if we complain. "I'm a comedian," protests Arsenio Hall when his homophobic banter is challenged by Queer Nation. "I do gay characters. Get a sense of humor, man"—framing us as oh-so-unhip as he whips his audience into a frenzy of heterosexual superiority. What these comedic

creeps don't seem to get is that there's no room for us to laugh with them as they're laughing at us.

It's rare that a comedy venture that casts gays and lesbians in the role of heroes, and so the premise of *Too Much Sun*, the latest film from Indie director Robert Downey, sounds hopeful. A multimillionaire dies, leaving his fortune to be split between his lesbian daughter, Bitsy, and his gay son, Sonny. In order to inherit the cash, however, one of the two must produce a child within a year. Standing in their way is Father Seamus Kelly, an ambitious and unscrupulous Catholic priest who will get all of the money if the Rivers siblings don't come

through with an offspring.

Queers taking on the Catholics? Sounds too good to be true, especially since Fr. Kelly is clearly the villain. But calling the daffy Bitsy and the simpering Sonny heroic turns out to be a real stretch. Downey and his collaborators time and again go for the easy laugh. Before he dies, Old Man Rivers (yes, that's the millionaire's name—chuckle, chuckle) defends his son's presumed heterosexuality to Fr. Kelly, saying, "My son is as masculine as I could have

FILM



DUBIOUS...Bitsy (Andrea Martin) and Susan (Laura Ernst)

hoped for." There's a quick cut to Sonny, lips pursed in a bitchy scowl under his bush mustache, shoulders slouched beneath his leopard-print kimono, playing chess at poolside with his lover, George. (Oh, I get it: He's really *not* masculine—he's a *fag*. Ha, ha, ha.)

Some of the film's humor is truly offensive. When Sonny offers a prostitute \$2 million if she'll have his baby, she says, "Seven figures or not, I've got to see your AIDS card." At which point, Sonny and George whip out ID badges that are stamped "AIDS FREE" in red letters across the top. (In the film's press kit, director Downey cites this as a moment of social responsibility. I'd say it's exactly the opposite.) Most of the jokes, however, are not even that touchy, and just fall flat.

As Sonny, Monty Python veteran Eric Idle is embarrassingly unadventurous. Surely so talented a comic actor could have done better than the stereotypically swishy queen he comes up with. In an equally unbearable portrayal, Leo Rossi whines his way through as Sonny's ever-jalous lover, George. There's not a hint of nuance or subtlety between both actors to demonstrate that they have any idea what a gay couple in a long-term relationship might really be like.

Lesbians make out slightly better, if only because former SCTV regular Andrea Martin, rather than relying on any of the typical film-dyke portraits, turns Bitsy into one of her own hysterically manic characterizations. Laura Ernst, who plays her attractive lover, Susan, is unremarkable for anything but her odd accent, a non-identifiable amalgamation of several Eastern and Western European influences. (Ernst co-wrote the script with Downey, her real-life lover, which seems to explain this bit of unfor-

unate miscasting.)

Like Sonny and George, Bitsy and Susan never kiss on the lips and refer to each other, even amongst themselves, only as "friends." The most extended physical contact between the lesbian lovers is a knock-down, drag-out fist fight which climaxes with them

falling into each other's arms as the guys look on with admiration—a sort of domestic violence-as-foreplay scenario.

To be fair, the script does afford the characters a bit of gay pride. When Sonny is called a "fagatini" by Reed Richmond, a guy Bitsy believes to be her long-lost son from a teenage pregnancy, Bitsy quickly sticks up for her brother, saying: "We're all fagatinis here. You're the odd one out." (Reed is played by Robert Downey Jr., the director's son, who, in a sort of reverse Sophia Coppola situation, is far too talented to be stuck in his father's plodding film.) The film's ending gives Fr. Kelly his much-deserved comeuppance and allows everyone else a victory samba on the Rivers' estate, although by this time I had lost interest.

While *Too Much Sun* is hardly offensive enough to merit a community outcry, it's certainly worth a collective cold

shoulder. There's no sense that its creators have a connection with real gay men and lesbians, just the mass-media images of us, which of course makes sense: The film was produced, directed, written and acted by straight people. Unfortunately, it's also a film made for straight people. Gays and lesbians may take the spotlight on the screen, but we seem to have been overlooked as potential audience members. There's very little a queer viewer will gain from watching this film, other than the knowledge that even the most liberal straight people are intrigued by homosexuality enough to keep turning to it for laughs. ▼



...ACHIEVEMENTS—Sonny (Eric Idle) and George (Leo Rossi)

Taxi Zum Beau

TAXI BLUES. Written and directed by Paul Louguine. Produced by Marin Karmitz. Released by MK2 Productions. Lincoln Plaza Cinema. 30 Lincoln Plaza.

by Judith Shulevitz

For Soviet artists, *glasnost* has meant not just openness but a dizzying rush to the West and fame, and an odd, discomfiting loss of context. Nothing illustrates this better than an image in the new Soviet film *Taxi Blues*. After a lifetime of kicking around Moscow and scrounging for his next drink, Jewish saxophonist Lyosha (played by rock star Piotr Mamonov) is suddenly discovered by an American musician, flown off in a private jet and made a star. It's his fairytale come true, and it ought to be the happy ending, but it isn't.

Instead we see his success through the eyes of the man Lyosha has left behind—a stolid, "man-of-the-people," half-consciously antisemitic cab driver named Chlykov (Piotr Zaitchenko) whom Lyosha once cheated out of a whopping fare and with whom, most recently, he has been living while working to pay off his debt. Their relationship sprang to life when Chlykov slammed Lyosha's head against a bathroom

FILM

In the West,
it seems, no
Soviet filmmaker
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that isn't wholly
an allegory
of ethnic and class
tensions in Soviet
society; sexual
tensions just don't
enter into it.

York Film Festival last fall were as flat and weird and decontextualized as Lyosha's face up there in the Moscow night: They reduced these two wonderfully layered characters to broad Russian types. In the West, it seems, no Soviet filmmaker may make a film that isn't wholly an allegory of ethnic and class tensions in Soviet society; sexual tensions just don't enter into it. Which is why, standard homophobia aside, so many critics have failed to comment on the profound and profoundly obvious homoeroticism at the heart of *Taxi Blues*. "Work Ethic meets and tries to grind down Pleasure Principle," wrote Georgia Brown dismissively in the *Village Voice*. *The New York Times'* Janet Maslin was, despite herself, a little more aware; you can tell that she meant to embed the movie in the big, important political issues, but her language ran away with her. Maslin "hints at the forces behind" the characters' unhappiness, something she says the filmmaker (first-time director Pavel Lounguine) does; in all apparent innocence, she describes how Chlykov at first snatches away Lyosha's saxophone as collateral, then returns it because he "decides he would rather have the musician himself." Lounguine contributes to the obfuscation with a little elision of his own: "This isn't a social or political subject, nor is it critical of the present order of things," he writes in the movie's production notes. "I'm just telling a story—a true story..." Naturally, he can't finish the sentence. This is America.

But if he had, he might have pointed out that *Taxi Blues* is a vital and unabashed, though frustrated, love story. It's a tale of unspoken—and unspeakable—desire between two ostensibly straight men, as powerful in its passion and repression as, say, *Midnight Cowboy* or *Scarecrow*, both of which Lounguine cites in interviews but which, in a certain sense, do not do justice to this film. Male comradeship being less suspect in the Soviet Union than in the United States, *Taxi Blues* is almost entirely free of the kind of gay-bashing inserted into American buddy movies to distinguish friendship from faggoty. One of the sexiest scenes in this movie is a striptease Lyosha performs for Chlykov. Lyosha has been peeling off his Western clothes, literally

giving Chlykov the shirt off his back to sell, when Chlykov commands him to unbuckle his pants as well; after a brief pause, Lyosha does so, with an air of abandon and a certain alacrity. There is one highly ambiguous, vaguely homophobic scene at the end, involving an inflatable female doll, that I can't tell you about without giving too much away. But the taunt implied by the doll emanates from Lyosha and is construed by Chlykov and, I think, by the audience, as much as a betrayal of their love as a slur on Chlykov's masculinity, and it leads to tragedy. It is neither gratuitous nor acceptable.

There are also women in the picture, but it would better for them if there weren't. The men don't relate to women with even a fraction of the feeling—be it hate or love—they harbor for each other. Women are around to be slapped and get over it, to get laid and sometimes raped—and to like it. When Lyosha visits his wife, who has kicked him out, he fights with her over some drugs she's stashed away and locks her in the bathroom so he can take them in peace. Later, he finds her calmly immersed in a bubble bath and climbs into the tub. She's happy to have him there; she must be used to this kind of behavior. Chlykov, meanwhile, has a thrillingly lovely girlfriend who works in a butcher shop and procures him fresh meat. (The pun was, I'm sure, intended.) But she only really acquires a personality when Chlykov shows her off to Lyosha, and the three get caught in a triangle. The price she pays for this, of course, is rape.

Lounguine calls his style of filmmaking "extremist," and it does hover around the edges of the Soviet stylistic envelope. His camera is jumpy and jazzy and noses its way into corners of Soviet life—Hare Krishna on the streets, casual alcoholism and back-alley black marketeering—that Americans have never seen. One of my favorite revelations comes at the beginning of the movie, when Chlykov, in search of Lyosha, goes to a jazz club and, passing by a trio of rehearsing dancers, comes face to face with a dancer in drag. So at last we catch

a glimpse of it, the world of sexual ambiguity we always knew was out there. Let's just hope *glasnost* lasts long enough to open some more of those closet doors. ▼

FILM

wall, and it has been thick with sado-masochism since. While things lasted, they afforded the musician the closest thing he had to stability, the cabbie a newfound and angry tenderness and both of them an intimacy you'd be hard-pressed to call mere friendship. And then one night after Lyosha flies off, Chlykov spots on a giant TV screen above a Moscow street the strange and awful vision of his own household drudge, transformed by electronic magic into a saxophone Cinderella, smiling in his artist's bliss and haloed by the half-dots and glitches of larger-than-life, satellite-sent glory.

The reviews that came out when *Taxi Blues* was screened at the New

Eat to the Beat

FIVE YEARS OF FUN, Funtone USA. PO Box 54472, Atlanta, GA 30308. (404) 377-2134.

by Victoria Starr

Honey, what's for dinner?

Why it's Wanda's Imitation Pizza Pie, direct from the recipe found in "the fully substantiated Company story" of Funtone, USA ("If it's not fun, don't do it"). "Open up a can of Vienna (sausages), and cut every one into little circles. Put some ketchup on light bread, and set you some cut-up pieces of Velveeta on top of that, and then put your little circles you done made out of the Viennas. That's a imitation pizza pie, and you can eat it cold or set it in the stove and heat it up."

That's a down-home Funtone meal, Atlanta-style, now being exported to a drag queen's kitchen near you. A guaranteed budget-minder meal, it won't keep your landlord off your back (or George Bush's foot off your neck), but it will surely allow you to feel patriotic without having to become a sand digger in the Middle East.

But what, you may ask, does that have to do with music? Why it's Larry Tee and Company, the Atlanta crew that turned New York on its head and almost single-handedly rejuvenated the downtown club scene. These days we should give extra thanks, with escapism at a premium and those last five clams that get us out the door at night becoming harder and harder to scrounge. Besides, who do you think Deee-Lite looks to for karmic guidance? So for those of you who've not been there the last five years, you can now get your hands on this crew's fiercest, funnest booty shakers by grabbing "Five Years of Fun," one neat little compilation tape from Atlanta's hippest mid-'80s counter-culture.

The oldest stuff is the finest on this tape, and "Nappy" wins hands down. Originally released in 1985 by Tee's Now Explosion, this mighty gem beckons that wicked queen in all of us: "Put your hands in the air/Show your under-arm hair/It's **NAPPY!**" With a sparse beat (à la low-tech drum machine) and a garage-funk flavor, "Nappy" is a primal chant for difference.

Then there's RuPaul, who is not simply a good singer (rumor has it that he was just signed to Virgin records) but a key ingredient of Funtone's, er, prophecy. Again quoting from "Company Story," which in turn is quoting from a Hungarian article written about them: "Is good music enough? Probably not. They need stars: Interesting and mysterious personalities who the public watches."

Interesting? Ha. "Badder than Bond, more bullets than Rambo. RuPaul is Starbooty: six-foot-seven-inches of raw power." RuPaul is also multitalented, seeing that one of the songs on this tape is "Starbooty's Revenge," the soundtrack for "Starbooty III—The Movie," directed by Jon Witherspoon (1989). The original "Starbooty" (1986) is here too, along with his Brit-Pop inspired "Follow Me" and the guitar-laced "In My Neighborhood," featuring RuPaul and Wee Wee Pole (1985).

For those of you who already have most of the goods, there's some new cuts here as well. Larry Tee's "What Am I Gonna Do?" sounds a little more mainstream than one might've expected (What's wrong, Larry, is the bar scene working your nerves?), but hey—everybody's gotta



"BADDER THAN BOND"—RuPaul is Starbooty

make a living, right? And the new and improved "Rhythm Within 'Em" by the Singing Peek Sisters, while it doesn't touch the original (also included), does have a certain '90s quality to it.

According to "Company Story," the first review that Funtone ever got was from an *NME* reviewer who wrote: "I have no idea what the record is like. I declined to play it, lest it should shock me. After all, there is no greater threat to organized society than an art school dropout." This reviewer says, "Get naked, Mary, and get *ovab* yourself (snap!)."▼

MUSIC

Up Your Butt

HELOT REVOLT. Club Basquos, Los Angeles. Jan. 10.

by Ernest T. Hardy

"This group was formed because faggots need something other than Judy Garland to commit suicide to," bellowed Ultra Violent, manager of the world's first self-proclaimed "openly faggot heavy-

brush, adrenalin rush/The naked feel of skin, shirts in the dust"), the band rips into "Bigotry Is Not Rebellion," a searing commentary on the bigotry that seems at times to define the heavy-metal genre. Sample lyrics: "Bigotry is not rebellion, it

only shows your fear/And when you take the stage, you sing and preach your hate/Against the very influences, you try to emulate/Stealing blues licks from the 'Negroes'/Advertising your ignorance/Stealing lipstick from the 'Queers'/Your contribution has no significance." The group ended their set with the Queer Nation anthem, sung to the tune of Green Acres, and pulled out surprise guest-celebrity look-alikes Elton John, Joan Jett, Liberace, Robin (minus Batman) and Endora from *Bewitched*, in a move that forever punctures the image of the all-star sing-along. (Endora's hands roamed Jett's

body quite freely during this number.) By the time Helot Revolt left the stage after far too short a set, the crowd was theirs for the taking. Just the way they like it, dude. [Helot Revolt records for De Stijl Records in Los Angeles and is currently working on an EP tentatively titled *In Your Face, Up Your Butt*. Call (213) 487-1307 for more info.] ▼

Photo: John Ellis



metal band." Equal parts Village People, Motley Crüe and Spinal Tap, and completely legit (beneath the tongue-in-cheek put-on, there beats the heart of a real rock-and-roll band), Helot Revolt is a band with a mission: to battle the heterosexism of heavy metal and society at large. The band made its debut in Los Angeles on Jan. 10 at an AIDS benefit at Club Basquos that featured performance art, live bands and dancing to alternative

a successful heavy-metal band: "You gotta be brain-dead and have a big cock." But there is a serious side to the quartet (Daniel Savage, Jack Spittle, Alex Thrust and John Maximum). After tearing through the lust-driven tune, "Shirts and Skins" ("Clutch your cloth, bare your navel/Let me see your body, quick and able/Accidental

body quite freely during this number.) By the time Helot Revolt left the stage after far too short a set, the crowd was theirs for the taking. Just the way they like it, dude. [Helot Revolt records for De Stijl

MUSIC

Records in Los Angeles and is currently working on an EP tentatively titled *In Your Face, Up Your Butt*. Call (213) 487-1307 for more info.] ▼

JUSTIFY MY PHONE BILL...

Remember that 900 hotline that Sire records set up to raise money for AIDS charities (900-990-SIRE)? Well, now you can call to hear a "breathless" safer-sex message from that ambitious blonde herself. The only problem is, it's of little relevance to anyone reading this magazine, or at least not the lesbians.

"Hi, it's me," the voice begins, trying her best to titillate. Sounding as though she's either drugged or horizontal, Madonna goes on to advise, "If you're having sex, don't be silly. Put a condom on your willy. And if you don't have a willy, put one on his." While we'll forgive Ms. Thing this time around, it wouldn't be a bad idea to drop a couple dental dams in the mail, c/o Howie Klein at Sire Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019.

TENNIS, ANYONE?...

Someone must be on our side over at Nike's ad agency. Check out the shoemaker's "Rock-'n'-roll tennis" commercial, which teams up feline/fem/sexy tennis pro Andre Agassi and canine/butch/sexy funkmonsters the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

LIP SERVICE

RUMORS, ODDITIES
AND THE PLAIN TRUTH

Agassi's schtick is a furry, kittenish look that masks a fierce ability in tennis—a paradox of masculinity. So isn't it odd that he should share ad space with the most homoerotic heterosexual rock band around, the Peppers—those wiry, muscular guys perform wearing only a sock around their privates and who tell *Interview* they like nothing more than to grope each others bums in the dark? Makes you wonder what Nike's target

market really is and why Nike didn't sponsor the *Red, Hot and Blue* project.

THREE QUEERS IN A BOAT...

Keep your eyes peeled for a groovy new mini-pamphlet by those now infamous Three Anonymous Queers. The pamphlet contains a series of proud, angry statements on violence against our community and should be a must-read for any happenin' homo. Getting hold of one may require a little effort—getting your heinie to a meeting or demo where it's rumored they're being passed out—but an effort worth making.

—compiled by Victoria Starr, Joe Clark, Sarab Pettit

My Night With Federico Garcia Lorca

(As told by Edouard Roditi)

by Jaime Manrique

It happened in Paris.
Pepe asked me over to dinner
to meet a guy named Federico
who was on his way to New York.
I was nineteen years old.
Federico was eleven years older
and had just finished
a relationship in Spain
with a sculptor
who had been rotten to him.
Federico only had two lovers—
he hated promiscuous queens.

We were both Geminis.
Since astrology
was very important to him,
Federico took an interest in me.
We spoke in Spanish.
I had learned it
from my grandmother, a Sephardic
Jew, who had taught me
sixteenth century expressions.
Federico was amused by all this.

We drank a lot of
wine that night.
In the morning, when I woke up,
his head lay across my nipples.

Hundreds of people
have asked me for the details:
Was Federico fabulous in bed?
I always give them my standard answer:
Federico was emotional
and vulnerable; for him,
the most important thing wasn't sex
but tenderness.

I never saw him again.
He left for New York
then Cuba and Argentina.
Later, the second love
of his life was murdered
defending the Republic.

All this happened in Paris
almost sixty years ago.
It was just a night of love
but it has lasted all my life.

*Jaime Manrique is a
Colombian writer
living in New York
City. He is currently
writer-in-residence at
the New School for
Social Research.*

POETRY

students as a challenge to the status quo, so they fall back on anything to defend their prerogative.

It's interesting to note that *New York* magazine didn't take on the political correctness evident in the gay community (they did women and minorities). Is it because Taylor and his editor, **Ed Kosner**, agree with everything we do, or could it have something to do with us being the most vocal group monitoring *New York* magazine? Maybe Kosner is starting to understand that trashing gay people is not acceptable. On the other hand, maybe it was a conscious snub.

At the heart of all this: Legislating people to shut them up does not end racism or homophobia. In addition, it can backfire: The next speech regulated could be your own. Activists, students and faculty have to make offensive language first unacceptable and then unthinkable. Speakers must be allowed to speak, but activists must be sure that they are heard as well. Every effort must be made to make people responsible.

In this way, the gains will be real. By sending homophobia to the closet, they will understand that this is not a simple matter of semantics. And it does work.

The New York Times Magazine gave us a prime example last week in a piece on **Rev. Calvin Butts** of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem. Though Butts has often condemned gays and lesbians in the past, **Richard Goldstein** of the *Voice* is quoted as saying that Butts is now "specifically including gay people as people who are victims of violence."

We may not want to be sinners in the Reverend's eyes, but we have to recognize his right to believe. However, somewhere along the way, someone or something made Butts recognize our right to exist and his responsibility to protect our rights. No wonder **Cardinal O'Connor** is scared to meet with him. ▼

LIZ & SYDNEY

from page 45

induced sex party...They don't even have enough sense to get naked for intercourse...they just rub..."Justify My Frottage."

LIZ: I don't know what you're talking about. I have no idea what one would do under drug-induced hominess.

SYDNEY: Yeah, right.

LIZ: Besides, everybody in New York is talking about Gemini already.

SYDNEY: I'm so glad they came up with a drug that reproduces your astrological personality. They should just come and live with you—it would be so much cheaper.

LIZ: Funny. Maybe you should look for a new place to hang your many hats.

SYDNEY: Yeah, but have you ever met the guy who "invented" the drug?

LIZ: I don't think so. What's his name?

SYDNEY: Well, he actually has three names, depending on who he talks to.

LIZ: The chemistry student?

SYDNEY: He's also a bartender, and something else, like a construction worker or something.

LIZ: You're grasping at straws.

SYDNEY: Just think of it this way—it's like night clubs: You can say you are whatever you want to, but there's always something that gives you away, like the World.

LIZ: Oh, you mean the brand-new club with the same old violations?

SYDNEY: Yeah, the one **Dean Johnson** is going to reopen as an after-hours sex club.

LIZ: I'll believe that when I see it. Nobody needs two sex clubs that close together.

SYDNEY: What are you talking about?

LIZ: Nothing. It's just a rumor. ▼

FIELD TRIPPING

from page 46

The next day, Wanzie received an anonymous call from a top Disney employee. The voice admitted loving every minute of the show but suggested that Wanzie ring the curtain down or risk going to jail. *Forbidden Disney* closed after four nights. Disney World ultimately used the show name for their own more benign production.

For some Disney visitors, an attraction more popular than Space Mountain is extortion. Some tourists spend the whole day devising ways to pump the empire for money, claiming emotional or physical injury. One woman, Strack recalls, was flirting heavily with an

employee of Disney's Contemporary Hotel and slipped him her room number. The rattled kid told his supervisor. In the meantime, the woman contacted security herself, complaining that the young man had been sexually harassing her. She demanded a new hotel room and financial compensation. But her story didn't wash; she had been hitting on a queer.

In 1985, the AIDS crisis intruded upon this Fiberglass Paradise. Straight employees were nervous about sharing sweaty Minnie Mouse costumes with their queer co-workers. The breakneck pace meant that one actor stripped off the suit at the end of the shift, and another jumped into it right away. The Teamsters stepped in and calmed the hysteria; costumes were ordered to be washed between wearings.

Despite the occasional rough spots, the sky over Disney World remains decidedly lavender. Says Len Mayer: "If you're a homosexual, you have more of the natural attributes that Disney likes. Did you get that, Mr. Eisner?" ▼

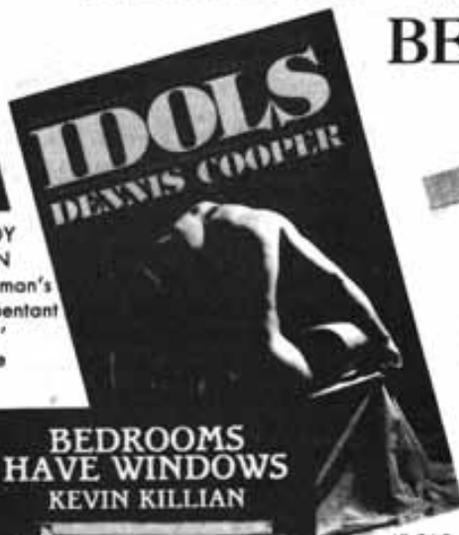


WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A
FLASHLIGHT IN THE **DARK?**
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THE BURIED BODY
BY MARK AMEEN

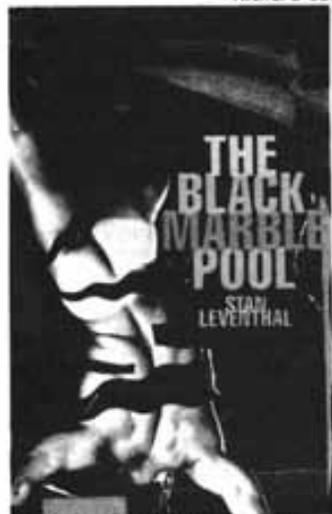
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sexual days with unrepentant
rigor and detail."
—Richard Labonte



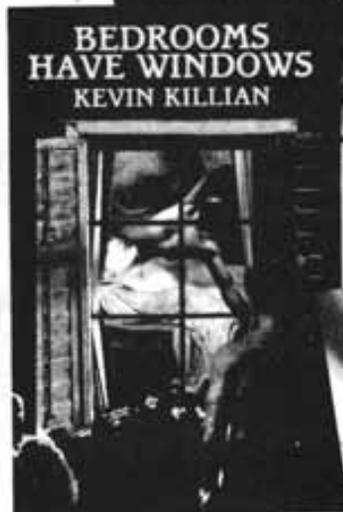
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—Outweek



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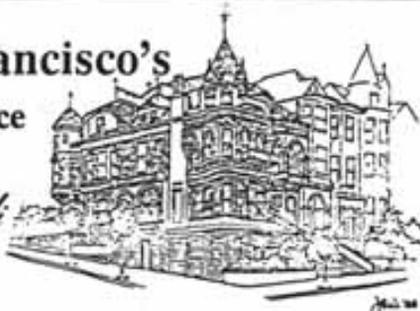
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*Performances by
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Host: Annie Sprinkle*

also

Feb. 1-2, 8 pm & 11 pm \$20

*Hosts: Lisa Kron,
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Black-Eyed Susan w/
Lola Pahalinski and Dancenoise*

Performers include

*Reno, BETTY,
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Allen Ginsberg,
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Bronx Lesbians United in Sisterhood



Bronx Lesbians United in Sisterhood (*BLUS*, pronounced "blues"), is a multi-racial group of women of all ages, committed to promoting solidarity with, and opening avenues of communication among lesbians in the Bronx, and the other outer boroughs.

We began in 1988, in response to the lack of a visible and organized presence of lesbians in the Bronx. The group is dedicated to outreach, education, and the identification of the unique needs of the Bronx lesbian community. We have targeted the following needs:

- Establishing a proud and positive identification as lesbians within our community
- Distribution of information about existing services in other boroughs, and an assessment of needed services for the gay and lesbian community within our borough.
- Organizing activities and a group which fosters educational, cultural and political awareness.
- Outreach to other gay and non-gay groups alike for coalition building.

We envision BLUS as a community organization that will continue to grow and change in its efforts, according to the needs of its members. We invite you to become part of the effort to make the Bronx lesbian community a stronger and more visible presence. We are everywhere and proud to be Bronx lesbians.

Hermanas Unidas Lesbianas del Bronx (*BLUS*) es un grupo de mujeres multi- raciales, de todas edades, comprometidas a promover la solidaridad, y abrir caminos de comunicacion entre las lesbianas del Bronx y otros condados de la ciudad.

Empezamos en al 1988, en respuesta a lo poca visibilidad y la presencia organizada de las Lesbianas del Bronx. El grupo es dedicado a extender la educacion y la identificacion de las necesidades uicas al genero de la comunidad lesbianas del Bronx. Tenemos los siguientes objetivos:

- Establecer una positiva y orgullosa identidad como Lesbianas en nuestra comunidad.
- Distribuir informacion sobre servicios existentes en otros condados, y hacer un asesoramiento de servicios necesitados para la comunidad homosexual/lesbianas de nuestro condado.
- Organizar actividades y grupos que fomenten el conocimiento educacional, cultural y politico.
- Alcanzar a hacer una coalicion entre grupos homosexuales y no-homosexuales.

Envisamos a BLUS como una organizcion que continuara a crecer y cambiar en sus esfuerzos para que la comunidad de lesbianas del Bronx sea mas furete y tenga una presencia visual mayor. Estamos en todo los sitios y orgullosas de ser lesbianas del Bronx.

JOIN US!

We meet in Manhattan & the Bronx at

The Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 1st & 3rd Fridays of every month, 6:30-8:00pm
1 Fordham Plaza, 8th Floor, Bronx AIDS Services Room., 2nd Wed. of every month, 6:30-8:00 pm.
Contact 212/829-9817 or 212/409-1131

BLUS P.O. Box 1244, Bronx, NY 10462

GOING OUT

AN EVENTS CALENDAR

For additional information, call

**The Gay & Lesbian
Switchboard of New York**
daily, noon to midnight,
(212) 777-1800

Send announcements & listings to:

OutWeek Listings Editor
159 West 25 Street
New York, NY 10001

Next deadline: Monday, Feb. 4,
for issue #85, which hits the
stands on Monday, Feb. 11.

NEW ADDRESS

All listings should be sent to OutWeek Listings, 159 W. 25 St, NY, NY 10001.

A (A) signifies a new listing

ADVANCE LISTINGS

THE NETWORK OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS presents a **Share-a-thon** for those seeking summer shares. The Share-a-thon benefits the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project. Share seekers: \$15. Share offerers: \$25. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 6-9 pm. Info: (212) 517-0771.

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH presents **Photography: A Gay Perspective**. This class, limited to 18 students, is taught by **Steve Morrison**, and will be divided between lecture and workshop. Lecture topics: the history of gay representation in the arts; current issues facing gay artists, including censorship and political realities; contemporary gay artists. Workshop combines critique of students' work with discussion of technical subjects. Students are asked to examine their own pasts as sources for discussion of their work, and an individual approach is suggested for each student's direction. \$30. The 12 weekly sessions begin Monday, Feb. 4, and run from 7:45-9:30 pm. For more info, contact the New School at (212) 741-5600.

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH presents **The State of the City: A Gay and Lesbian Perspective**, given in conjunction with *OutWeek* magazine. "Gay men and lesbians are vital participants in the life of New York City," says the class description. "Despite this, many believe that the popular media and mainstream arts communities either fail to represent or actually misrepresent gay and lesbian concerns." Given in three sessions which focus on the arts, the

media and politics, respectively, the classes will be led by Arts Editor **Sarah Pettit**, Features Editor **Michelangelo Signorile** and News Editor **Andrew Miller**. \$15 for the course, \$8 for a single session. The first session is April 25. For more info, contact the New School at (212) 741-5600.

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH presents **A Psychoanalytic Approach to Issues of Gender and Sexuality**. Instructor: **Adria E. Schwartz**. "Much has changed within psychoanalysis since Freud declared that 'anatomy is destiny' and asked, 'What does a woman want?' We approach sexual difference through the work of feminist psychoanalytic thinkers such as Nancy Chodorow and Jessica Benjamin in an attempt to understand the ways in which the family mediates the social constructions of gender. Our concern is with the interface of biology, family and culture. We critique the notion of 'normative sexuality,' assess homosexual development in males and female and examine variations in heterosexual relationships." Six sessions beginning Feb. 4. \$130. For more info, contact the New School at (212) 741-5600.

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH presents **Gay and Lesbian Writing: From World War II to Stonewall**. Instructor: **Joseph Cady**. "The years after World War II witnessed a significant body of gay and lesbian literature that has tended to become overshadowed by the more open homosexual expression of the post-Stonewall years of the '70s and '80s. But the relative burst in gay and lesbian writing from the mid-1940s through the 1960s contributed to the change in cultural atmosphere that helped make possible the contemporary gay and lesbian liberation movement and is an integral part of the background of the present gay and lesbian situation. This course, which covers the years from late 1940s until mid-1950s, identifies some of the most important homosexual/bisexual writers in the post-war period and defines their basic concerns and strategies. 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 the New School at (212) 741-5600.

CENTER SHOWS presents **Jeff Harnar**, award-winning cabaret performer. After raves at Eighty Eights and The Ballroom, Jeff and musical director **Alex Rybeck** will perform a special benefit for the Center just prior to their opening at The Algonquin. \$20. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 7:30 pm. (212) 620-7310. Feb. 3.

LIVELY ARTS

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

THE COLLECTIVE FOR LIVING CINEMA presents **Charles Burnett's Killer of Sheep**. \$6. Jan. 25 through Feb. 1 at 7 and 9 pm; Feb. 2 and 3 at 4, 6:30 and 8 pm. The Collective for Living Cinema, 41 White St. Box Office: (212) 2111.

THE VORTEX THEATER COMPANY, INC., presents **Free Will and Wanton Lust**, a new play by **Nicky Silver**. The play is about a mother and a son and the illusions they impose upon themselves and their sexuality. \$10 or \$5 with TDF. The Sanford Meisner Theater, 164 Eighth Ave., between 22nd and 23rd streets. W-Su at 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 206-1764. Through Feb. 14.

WESSELL O'CONNOR LTD presents **Donald Moffett's Wet Holes**, a series of back lit cibatransparencies employing both figuration and his distinctive activist text. This exhibit is a further continuation of the artist's examination of sex and politics in the midst of the AIDS pandemic. With Moffett is **Scott Lifshutz's New Paintings**, a series of portraits which focus entirely on the backs of the artist's friends. **Wessell O'Connor**, 580 Broadway, 8th floor. Gallery hours: Tu-Sa, 10 am to 6 pm. (212) 219-9524. Through Feb. 16.

ARTISTS SPACE presents **Reframing the Family**, a group exhibition and video program exploring the mythology of the American family co-designed by **Connie Butler** and **Micki McGee**; and **A Project**, a conceptual installation mirroring **Simone de Beauvoir's 1971 Manifeste** in support of women's reproductive freedom, co-organized by **Kathe Burkhart** and

Chrysanthe Stathacos; and **Installation by Francois Morelli**. Opening reception: Jan. 17 from 6-8 pm. Gallery hours: Tu-Sa, 11 am to 6 pm. Artists Space, 223 West Broadway. Info: (212) 226-3970. Through Feb. 23.

DON'T TELL MAMA presents **The Songs the Girls Sang**, a musical revue conceived by **David Perkins** and directed by **Mark Cole**. Musical director: **Matthew Ward**. Their flyer says: "Did you ever wonder why the female characters always get the best songs in Broadway musicals? Did you come to New York hoping in your heart of hearts you would be cast as **Nellie Forbush** in *South Pacific* and sing, 'I'm in Love With a Wonderful Guy,' only to end up in the male chorus singing 'There is Nothing Like a Dame'?" Their answer: a revue in which four men—**Jay Montreal**, **Allan Palmer**, **David Perkins** and **Robert Harryman**—sing Broadway show tunes all originally written for female characters. \$10, with a two drink minimum. Don't Tell Mama, 343 W. 46th St. Jan. 27 at 10 pm; Feb. 3, Feb. 10 and Feb. 17 at 8 pm; and Feb. 24 at 10 pm. Reservations: (212) 757-0788 after 4 pm.

THE COURTYARD PLAYHOUSE presents **John Glines' Chicken Delight**, directed by **Charles Catanese**. \$15. The Courtyard Playhouse, 39 Grove St. W-F at 8 pm, Sa at 6 and 9 pm and Su at 7 pm. Reservations: (212) 869-3530. Through March 3.

THE GLINES presents **Landscape With Male Figure**, a farce about two gay men and their sexual fantasies, written by **John Crabtree**. Director: **John Wall**. Cast: **Martin Outzen**, **Rob Parker**, **Jimmy O'Neill**. \$15. Courtyard Playhouse, 39 Grove St. at Bleecker Street. Wednesday through Friday evenings at 8 pm, Saturdays at 6 and 9 pm, Sundays at 7 pm. Reservations: (212) 869-3530. Through March 3.

LIVING THE DREAM, INC., presents **Our Young Black Men Are Dying and Nobody Seems to Care**, an original musical play by **James Chapman**. The play is "a compassionate look at some of those men whose lives and (untimely) deaths are reflected in the familiar statistics of drug abuse,

crime, police brutality, alcoholism, poverty and AIDS. \$15. The Castillo Cultural Center, 500 Greenwich St., #201, between Spring and Canal streets. Feb. 1, 2, 7-10, 14-17, 21-24, 28 and March 1-3. Th-Sa, 8 pm and Sundays at 3 pm. Reservations: (212) 941-5800.

EL TEATRO RODANTE PUERTORRIQUENO inicia la 1991 temporada con *Así en Miami Como en el Cielo*. Escrito por el dramaturgo cubano Raul de Cardenas, el estreno mundial se trata del regreso al hogar de un hijo gravemente enfermo, y el doloroso encuentro entre dos generaciones con visiones opuestas de la vida. [El Teatro Rodante Puertorriqueno kicks off its 1991 season with the world premier of *Así en Miami Como en el Cielo*. Written by Cuban playwright Raul de Cardenas, the play depicts the return home of a gravely ill son and the painful clash between two generations with opposing philosophies of life.] \$12 and \$15. 304 W. 47th St. Descuento para estudiantes, mayores y grupos. En ingles: We-Fr at 8 pm. En español: Sabados y Domingos a las 2:30 y a las 8.

ROYAL COURT PRODUCTIONS presents *Lips*, a revue in gender illusion. \$10. Producers Club Theater, 358 W. 44th St., suite 7. Fridays at 11 pm. Info: (212) 689-5789.

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

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

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

TUE-FRI at 8 pm, SAT & SUN at 7 pm; 691-2271

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

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

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

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

MONDAY, JAN. 28

SAGE presents *Letting Go*, a closed discussion group, at 6 pm; and *Adult Survivors of Sexual Abuse* at 7 pm. All events happen at the Center, 208 W. 13th St. Sage info: (212) 741-2247.

LESBIANS IN CREATIVE ARTS Preliminary Meeting. Join this new group now forming for multimedia, artists and appreciators. Come share ideas, create projects, workshops, forums and events. Network, support and socialize. The New Room. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. Info: (212) 982-7141.

THE NETWORK OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS presents a Share-a-thon for those seeking summer shares. The Share-a-thon benefits the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project. Share seekers:

\$15. Share offerers: \$25. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 6-9 pm. Info: (212) 517-0771.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER presents HIV/AIDS Concerns Committee Meeting at David's, 169 Manhattan Ave., 4B, at W. 108th Street. 7 pm. Info: (212) 932-3138.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents *SAL Mailing Night*. Here's your chance to fold, stuff and lick the *Sal Gals'* newsletter. 7 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL events: (718) 965-7578.

GAY ACTIVIST ALLIANCE OF MORRIS COUNTY presents *Womyn's Network and Men's Rap Group* at 7:30 pm, before their *General Meeting* at 8:30 pm. Tonight's discussion group includes a tax consultant who will tell you how to hold on to your money. Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd. Morristown, NJ. Info: GAAMC Gay Helpline: (201) 285-1595.

TUESDAY, JAN. 29

LONG ISLAND GAY MEN'S GROUP present *Porn: Socially Redeeming-Value?* For complete details on this discussion, contact LIGMG at Box 433, Levittown, NY 11756, or call them at (516) 694-2407.

SAGE presents *Sagercize* at 11 am; *Sage Plus*, a rap group for men who are over 50 and HIV-positive, at 6 pm; and *FV Team A*, also at 6 pm. All events happen at the Center, 208 W. 13th St. Sage info: (212) 741-2247.

BRONX AIDS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT presents *Women Peer Education Training IV*. Bronx AIDS Services, Inc. One Fordham Plaza, suite 800. The Bronx. 10-12 am. (212) 295-5605.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents *Arts and Crafts Night*. Come share your talents or discover them at the Clubhouse. Bring arts or crafts supplies. "There's a creative individual in all of us just waiting to break free—this could be an exciting evening." 7:30 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL events: (718) 965-7578.

THE CENTER presents *Homo Love Song*, an original concert of love, passion and light performed by composer Dan Martin with lyricist/performance artist Michael Biello. The performance "unabashedly speaks of the love between men—from fist love, through sexual exploration, long-term relationships, separation and healing." \$5. The Center, 208 W.

13th St. 8 pm. (212) 620-7310.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30

SAGE presents *Men's 50-plus Rap Group* at 5:30 pm; *Women's Dance Committee* at 6 pm; and *Sage Plus II*, a rap group for men who are over 50 and HIV-positive, at 7 pm. All events happen at the Center, 208 W. 13th St. Sage info: (212) 741-2247.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents *Pool Night*. Featuring free pool, ping pong, billiards, air hockey and shooting hoops at Brownstone Billiards, Seventh Ave. at Flatbush. Afterwards, socializing at The Roost, Seventh Ave. at 8th St. The evening begins at 7:30 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

A DIFFERENT LIGHT presents Michael Cunningham, reading from his book *A Home at the End of the World*. 548 Hudson St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 989-4850.

THURSDAY, JAN. 31

SAGE presents *Sagercize* at 11 am, *Friendly Visitor Training* at 6 pm, *Men Couples' Group* at 6:30 pm, and *Men's 40-Plus Rap Group* at 8 pm. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. Sage info: (212) 741-2247.

BRONX AIDS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT presents *Speakers Bureau Training I*. Bronx AIDS Services, Inc. One Fordham Plaza, suite 800. The Bronx. 10-12 am. (212) 295-5605.

OPEN CIRCLE gathers to *Celebrate the God/dess on the Full Moon*, at the Center, bring percussion instruments; 208 W 13 St; 7-7:30 pm (begins promptly; arrive early); \$2 (OC, Box 4538, Sunnyside, NY 11104)

IN OUR OWN WRITE presents a *Benefit Reading*, proceeds to go to In Our Own Write. Scheduled readers include Irena Klepfisz, Susan Sherman, Anne Ml Ok Bruining and David Warren Frchette. \$3. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 7:30 pm. (212) 620-7310.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS is taking a field trip to see Kate Clinton, *Funny Gay Males* and Joan Katz. Join SAL at this Identity House fundraiser to be held at Eighty-Eights. \$15 with a two-drink minimum. SAL is going to the 8 pm show; there's another at 10:30. This event is open only to Identity House members, so SAL says, "Join first (they deserve it)." And, as always, please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

OPEN CIRCLE presents **Focus on Aphrodite**, a presentation, both academic and experiential, by **Judy Harrow**, High Priestess of Proteus Coven and author of "A Season With Aphrodite" in *Gnosis* magazine. \$5. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8-9:30 pm.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN WIMMIN UNITED FOR SOCIETAL CHANGE **Weekly Meeting**. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8-10:30 pm.

FRIDAY, FEB. 1

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN **National Young Feminist Conference**. Issues to be discussed: a young women's right to abortion, the Persian Gulf crisis and hate crimes on campus. For complete information about the event and for registration materials, contact NOW at 1000 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036, or call them at (202) 331-0066.

SHANTI PROJECT **Training for Practical Support Volunteers**. This workshop of the Mission Neighborhood Health Center, Shanti Project, the Most Holy Redemer Support Group and other groups is a multicultural training for volunteers interested in providing people with AIDS assistance with cleaning, errands, child care and other tasks. For complete info, contact Mike or Jennifer at (415) 777-2273.

SAGE presents **Men's 50-plus Rap Group** at 6 pm, **Women's 40-plus Rap Group** at 7 pm and **Women's 50-plus Rap Group** at 7:30 pm. All events happen at the Center. 208 W. 13th St. Sage info: (212) 741-2247.

THE NEW FESTIVAL, INC., presents the first **Downtown Winter Series**, a collection of films from the '89 and '90 New York International Festival of Lesbian and Gay Film. The festival runs from Feb. 1-9 at Anthology Film Archives. 32 Second Ave. Box office: (212) 477-2714. Join the opening night cocktail party at Jerry's 103 from 5-7 pm. 103 Second Ave., at 6th Street. Tonight's movies: a special sneak preview at 7 pm; at 9 pm, it's *Caravaggio*; at 11 pm, it's *Days of Greek Gods*. Afterwards, obtain special free entry to Chip Duckett's ABC. Irving Place at 15th Street. \$25. Reservations must be made in advance: (212) 966-5656.

BRONX AIDS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT presents **Teen Peer Education Training V** from 3:30-5:30 pm. Also today: **Social Friday** (at the HUB) from 4-8 pm. Bronx AIDS Services, Inc. One Fordham Plaza, suite

800. The Bronx. 3:30-5:30 pm. (212) 295-5605.

THE ANSWER IS LOVING **Women Talking Women's Talk: Confusion, Clarity, Consciousness, Cop-Out**. "In how it affects me. How do I handle/deal with the interruptions of my beliefs? Do I have a point of view or do I have viewing points?" 1964 E 35 St, Bklyn; 7:45-10 pm; \$10; Ruth Berman & Connie Kurtz, 718/998-2305

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT and GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS present **Think About It**, a workshop concerning the decision to take the HIV-antibody test. Topics include: the medical, psychosocial and social advantages and disadvantages of testing, dealing with your test results, maintaining a safer sex commitment and dealing with sexual partners, lovers, family and more. Assembly Hall. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. (212) 620-7310.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER **General Membership Black His/Herstory Month Social**. The CAPOC Room. The Center. 208 W. 13th. 8 pm.

BODY POSITIVE **Friday Night Social**, for all HIV-positive individuals and their friends. Free. Middle Collegiate Church. 50 E. 7th St., off Second Avenue. 8-10 pm. For complete details, call (212) 721-1346.

THE ANGELIKA FILM CENTER presents **The Culture God of the 1960s: The Films of Andy Warhol**. The six-week series continues with *Vinyl*, a film from the second phase of Warhol's filmmaking, more closely related to the theater and the establishment of "superstars" whose actions form a series of exploration of sexual taboos. *Vinyl* features Gerard Malanga dancing with chains, while Edie Sedgwick sits to the right of the frame and assumes the position of the viewer and pseudo-sadomasochistic torture takes place in the background. Plus: *Beauty #2*, set on abed and featuring Edie Sedgwick and "a young man" talking between themselves and the off-screen voices of Chuck Wein and Gerard Malanga. The Angelika Film Center. 611 Broadway. Midnight. (212) 995-2000. [See Jan. 25]

SATURDAY, FEB. 2

SAGE presents **Support For You**, a bereavement group for men and women dealing with loss. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 11 am. Sage info: (212) 741-2247.

ARI FRIDKIS, CSW presents a **Workshop for Gay Men: Gay**

Sons/Straight Fathers. The workshop hopes to "provide a supportive group setting for gay men to come together to better understand and talk about their unresolved feelings about their fathers." \$40 (reduced fee available). 251 Central Park West. 10:30 am to 3:30 pm. (212) 769-8796.

THE NEW FESTIVAL, INC., presents **Downtown Winter Series**. Today's films: At 1 pm, *Maedchen in Uniform*; at 3 pm, *Desire*; at 5 pm, *Looking for Langston and Trojans*; at 7 pm, *Friends Forever*; at 9 pm, *Nocturne and Because the Dawn*; and, at 11 pm, *Pink Narcissus*. Anthology Film Archives. 32 Second Ave., at 2nd Street. Box office: (212) 477-2714.

GAY MEN OF THE BRONX present **Movie Day**. Coop City. Bay Plaza. 3:30 pm. Bus #12, 28, 29, 30. Info: Chris (212) 601-0806 (English); Robert (212) 882-3404 (Spanish); or Ron (212) 519-8746.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE presents **Registration for Recreational Division** (intro level). \$75 for a 11-week session. 351 W. 18th St., 7th floor gyms. 2:30 pm. Info: (212) 666-4327 or 836-9219.

SHESCAPE presents a **Fire Island Reunion Party**. Shescape wants to take the chill out of winter by throwing a summer reunion party, featuring beach scenes on the video screens, drawings for gift certificates to The Beach tanning salon and a bulletin board where customers can advertise summer house shares. And, of course, dancing all night. \$8 before 10 pm/\$10 after. Private Eyes. 12 W. 21st St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues. 9 pm to 4 am. Shescape: (212) 645-6479. Private Eyes: (212) 206-7772.

THE ANGELIKA FILM CENTER presents **The Culture God of the 1960s: The Films of Andy Warhol**. The six-week series continues with *Vinyl*, a film from the second phase of Warhol's filmmaking, more closely related to the theater and the establishment of "superstars" whose actions form a series of exploration of sexual taboos. *Vinyl* features Gerard Malanga dancing with chains, while Edie Sedgwick sits to the right of the frame and assumes the position of the viewer and pseudo-sadomasochistic torture takes place in the background. Plus: *Beauty #2*, set on abed and featuring Edie Sedgwick and "a young man" talking between themselves and the off-screen voices of Chuck Wein and Gerard Malanga. The Angelika Film Center. 611 Broadway. Midnight. (212) 995-2000. [See Jan. 25]

SUNDAY, FEB. 3

THE NEW FESTIVAL, INC., presents **Downtown Winter Series**. Today's films: At 1 pm, *Comrades in Arms and Flames of Passion*; at 3 pm, *November Moon*; at 5 pm, *Parting Glances*; at 7 pm, *Another Way*; and, at 9 pm, *Silence = Death* and short films. Anthology Film Archives. 32 Second Ave., at 2nd Street. Box office: (212) 477-2714.

LESBIAN FEMINIST LIBERATION presents **Lesbian Sex: Safe and Hot**, featuring speaker **Rebecca Cole**, lesbian community sex educator \$4 donation includes refreshments. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 3 pm. Info: (212) 627-1398.

CENTER SHOWS presents **Jeff Harnar**, award-winning cabaret performer. After raves at Eighty Eights and The Ballroom, Jeff and musical director **Alex Rybeck** will perform a special benefit for the Center just prior to their opening at The Algonquin. \$20. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 7:30 pm. (212) 620-7310.

THE SOMERSET VALLEY PLAYERS present **Eastern Standard**, a benefit performance for the New Jersey Chapter of the Names Project. A wine and cheese reception will follow the play. \$20. Somerset Valley Playhouse. Hillsborough, N.J. 7 pm. Reservations, directions and info: (908) 788-6730.

MONDAY, FEB. 4

THE NEW FESTIVAL, INC., presents **Downtown Winter Series**. Today's films: At 7 pm, *Friends Forever*, and, at 9 pm, *Virgin Machine*. Anthology Film Archives. 32 Second Ave., at 2nd Street. Box office: (212) 477-2714.

IN OUR OWN WRITE **Writer's Workshop** for lesbian and gay writers. Workshops are held on the first and third Mondays of the month; next is Feb. 18. Please bring work. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8-10 pm. (212) 620-7310.

TUESDAY, FEB. 5

BRONX AIDS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT presents **Women Peer Education Training V**. Bronx AIDS Services, Inc. One Fordham Plaza, suite 800. The Bronx. 10-12 am. (212) 295-5605.

THE NEW FESTIVAL, INC., presents **Downtown Winter Series**. Today's films: At 7 pm, *Tongues Untied and Flesh and Paper*, and, at 9 pm, *Coming Out*. Anthology Film Archives. 32 Second Ave., at 2nd Street. Box office: (212) 477-2714.

TWENTYSOMETHING Steering Committee Meeting from 6-7:30 pm, followed by a rap group discussion of **Sex in the '90s: Passions and Fears** from 7:30-9 pm. Refreshments will be served. \$3 donation. For complete details, call (212) 967-7711 ext. 3163.

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.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6

SHANTI PROJECT Shanti Training for AIDS Caregivers. If you are taking care of a friend, lover or family member with AIDS, Shanti Project and Home Care Companions offers a free training in home care skills, organizing a network of caregivers to provide around-the-clock care and coping with the challenges of dementia. For complete info, contact Jana Rickerson at (415) 777-2273 or Celi Phillips at (415) 824-3269. Also offered: **Shanti Volunteer Opportunity Night**, an evening for people interested in becoming a Shanti volunteer or a volunteer in other AIDS groups. For complete info, call Mike or Jennifer at (415) 777-2273.

THE NEW FESTIVAL, INC., presents **Downtown Winter Series.** Today's films: At 5 pm, *In and Out of Love*; at 7 pm, *Comrades in Arms and Flames of Passion*; and, at 9 pm, *Looking for Langston and Trojans*. Anthology Film Archives. 32 Second Ave., at 2nd Street. Box office: (212) 477-2714.

A DIFFERENT LIGHT presents **Eileen Myles**, reading from her book *Not Me*. 548 Hudson St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 989-4850.

THE KITCHEN presents **Linda Fisher**, in her new musical performance piece, *Margaret in Ball*, the first in a series of songs entitled *Songs About Scientists, Explorers, Inventors and Philosophers*. All of the songs are about women; *Margaret in Ball* is about Margaret Mead. Fisher will also perform other works, and she splits billing with **Robert Ashley**. \$5 for members/\$10 for nonmembers. The Kitchen. 512 W. 19th St. 8:30 pm. Call for complete details and reservations: (212) 255-5793.

THE GIRTH AND MIRTH CLUB Newsletter Stuffing and Mailing. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. Call for time and other details: (914) 699-7735.

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. 25 St., NY, NY 10001.

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

9:00 AM WCBS-TV *Geraldo* I know, no one wants to wake up to Geraldo, but his scheduled topic is "homosexuality," so be sure you're around to give him a call. CH 2
1:30 PM WUSB 90.1 FM *The Word Is Out* Marc Gunning hosts a weekly lesbian, gay and bisexual variety show featuring music, news, editorials, comedy and guest interviews.
2:00 PM WUSB 90.1 FM *Lavender* Woman News, songs and music produced by women for women.
2:30 PM WUSB 90.1 FM *This Way Out* More queer news.
3:00 PM WIND-TV *Hawaii Five-O* couldn't resist: One-hit disco wonder Yvonne "If I Can't Have You" Elliman has a cameo. Nostalgia and a good theme song. CH 9
8:30 PM Manhattan Cable *The Brenda and Glenda Show* Scheduled: Queers invade the Empire State Building.
9:00 PM GBS *Out in the 90's*: community news, discussion, interviews. BQ Cable, CH 56 (1:00)
10:00 PM SHO *Black Widow* Debra Winger and Theresa Russell make eyes at each like crazy in this, an unsung lesbian classic. Repeats Thursday at 3:20 am on HBO.
11:30 PM *Tomorrow/Tonight Live!*: entertainment; Manhattan and Paragon Cable, CH D/17 (1:00)
Midnight CCTV *The Closet Case Show*: Closet Clips; Manhattan/Paragon Cable, CH C/16 (3:00)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

8:30 AM WUNI-TV *Casos de alarma* Un homosexual aprende a enfrentarse con el hecho de que tiene el SIDA. Cerra visto a las 11 pm. CH 41
12:00 PM WFOX-TV *Three's Company* After a wild party thrown in the 'girls' absence, Jack awakens to an unlikely bedfellow. The gay gags are just a riot in this one. He ha. CH 5
4:00 PM HBO *The Truth About Alex* HBO apparently only has one movie about gay men in its library—this one, about a straight high school jock who learns that his best friend "is a homosexual."
10:00 PM MTV *Sex in the '90s* TV Guide promises "candid opinions on abortion, AIDS, birth control and pornography." All this from the channel that wouldn't air "Justify My Love."
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)
11:30 PM WIND-TV *Arsenio Hall* Scheduled guest: Vanilla Ice. Now, I can't vouch for their veracity, but according to a lot of posters that appeared at Columbia University two weeks ago, Ice inhabits the same murky world that Hall does. Should make for an interesting

conversation. CH 9

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

7:00 AM MAX *Profile: Montgomery Clift* The program description didn't mention if this documentary talks about Clift's queerness.
9:00 PM WABC-TV *Doogie Hoser, MD* Vinnie is on the scene with his video camera when the hospital heartlessly cancels a mural project run by a street artist with AIDS. Sounds a little Divi-ish to me. CH 7
Midnight RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male and female strippers; live call-in show; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35
THURSDAY, JANUARY 31
1:00 PM WBAI-FM *This Way Out*: the international gay/lesbian news magazine; 99.5 FM (3:00)
1:30 PM WBAI-FM *An Afternoon Outing*: local news and information about the gay and lesbian community with *Larry Gutenberg*; 99.5 FM (3:00)
4:00 PM WABC-TV *Oprah Winfrey* Cher is the scheduled guest. You know my line: If there's a call-in portion of the show, make sure to ask Cher a few direct questions about Chastity's choice. CH 7
8:00 PM *The Gay Dating Game Show* with *Tommy Seel* and *Lahoma Van Zandt*; Manhattan Cable, CH C/16 (3:00)
9:00 pm A&E *Sweet as You Are* "A teacher jeopardizes his marriage—and his life—when he has an affair with a student who's carrying the AIDS virus." I just can't nortell you how angry that program description makes me.

10:00 PM GCN *Be Our Guest*: entertainment for and about the lesbian/gay community; Manhattan Cable, CH D/17 (3:00)
10:30 PM GMHC *Living With AIDS*: health and politics; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (3:00)
11:00 PM GCN *Gay U.S.A.*: news and entertainment from around the country; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)
Midnight GCN *Men in Film*: male erotica, interviews with adult filmstars; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (3:00)
12:30 AM RB PROD *Men For Men: Robin Byrd* presents gay male porno stars; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (3:00)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

10:00 AM WABC-TV *Sally Jessy Raphael* Scheduled topic: educators and sexual misconduct. Expect anything. CH 7
2:30 PM WBAI-FM *Rompiendo el Silencio*: todos los viernes, *Gozalo Aburto* con temas y noticias para la comunidad latina gay y lesbiana; 99.5 FM (1:15)
7:00 PM WBAI-FM *AIDS in Focus*; *Michael Alcalay*, producer
1:00 AM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male and female strippers; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

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
1:00 AM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male & female strippers; Paragon Cable, CH C/16 (1:00)
1:30 AM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male & female strippers; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3
7:30 PM WBAI-FM *OutLook*; with host *Mark Allen*. Alternates with *The Gay Show*; 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 (3:00)
11:00 PM GBS *Way Out*; entertainment for and about the lesbian/gay community; Rich Volo, producer; 254-7685; Manhattan Cable, CH C/16 (3:00)

MORE LISTINGS NEXT WEEK

DANCING OUT

Monday

Limelight (OutWeek's Get Out and Give party. Door goes to lesbian, gay and AIDS organizations. 9 pm to 4 am. \$5) 47 W. 20th St., at Sixth Ave. (212) 807-7850

Private Eyes (Marc Berkley's Kool Komrads; strippers; downtown crowd, students, professionals; \$7) 12 W 21 St, club 206-7772

Temple (BillieKlub's party: a different theme each week.) 101 Avenue A

Tuesday

Big City Diner ("Subculture," featuring dancing, food and bar. For men, but women are welcome. \$7.) 43rd St. at 11th Ave. (212) 268-4572.

◆ **Clit Club** (Jocelyn and Julie add a second night of hot lesbian action in the East Village. \$5.) 101 Avenue A

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

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

Kilimanjara (Tracks Tuesdays.) 531 W. 19th St. 627-2333.

◆ **Roxy** (Men on Wheels, gay roller skating; starts 8 pm) 515 W 18 St; 645-5156

Wednesday

◆ **Channel 69** (Doors open at 10 pm, showtime is 1 am. Linda Simpson, DJ Dany Johnson. East Village crowd. \$5.) 101 Avenue A

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

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

◆ **Limelight** (Disco 2000 with Michael Allig and Larry Tee; 10 pm, \$10; Coors no longer served) 8th Ave at 20 St; club 807-7850

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

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

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

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

Thursday

Cheap (It's a new party, promising "cheap drinks and cheap queers." No cover.) 101 Avenue A

◆ **Copacabana** (last Thu. of the month Susanne Bartsch party, next is November 29; iffy door) 10 E 60 St, at Fifth Ave; 755-6010

Excalibur (\$1 drinks, also open Tues-Sun, women WED) corner 10th/Jefferson behind football stadium, Hoboken, NJ; 201-795-1161

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

◆ **Roxy** (Disco Interruptus, DJs Larry Tee and the Pop Tarts. Performances and club personalities scheduled. \$10) 515 W 18; 645-5156

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

Friday

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

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

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

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

◆ **Meat on Friday** (Just like Saturday. DJ Nobody's Pussy. \$5.) 101 Avenue A

◆ **Mike Todd Room** (Sister Dimension's Panty Girdles) 123 E 13 St; 473-7171

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

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

Stingray's (Brand new club, brand new sound system, everything else is a surprise. Free, 7-10 pm. \$7 after.) 641 W. 51st St. (212) 664-8668

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

Saturday

Barefoot Boogie (2nd & 4th SAT; adults/kids, smoke & alcohol free; 8:30 pm - 12:30 am, \$4; next is Dec 8) 434 8th Ave (btwn 9/10 Sts), 4th Floor; 632-6799

Center (2nd & 4th SAT, 9 pm to 1 am, \$8; next is Feb. 10.) 208 W 13 St; 620-7310

◆ **Center** (Women & Friends, 1st SAT; 9 pm - 1 am, \$8; next is December 1) 208 W 13 St; 620-7210

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

Columbia Dances (SamE BuT DifferenT, 3rd SAT, next is Feb. 16. DJ Karin Ward, 10 pm - 3 am; \$5) Earl Hall, 116 St/B'way; 629-1989

Controversy (Hosted by Patrick Butts and the people who bring you Disco Interruptus. \$2.99) 101 Avenue A

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

Love Zone (dancing & performers) 70 Beach St, Staten Island; 718/442-5662

◆ **Meat** (DJ Aldo Hernandez, every Saturday; go-go boys, videos; opens 10 pm; \$5) 432 W 14 St; 353-3866

◆ **Private Eyes** (Shescape Saturday Night Parties for Women, opens 9 pm; \$8 before 10/\$10 after) 12 W 21 St; info 645-6479, club 206-7772

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

◆ **Silver Lining** (women's Sat) 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Park, LI; 516/354-9641

Sound Factory (mostly gay, serious House/Club dancing, no alcohol, opens 11 pm) 530 W 27 St (10th/11th Aves); 643-0728

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

Tiny City (Featuring cheap drinks, cheap women and cheap thrills. \$5) Now at 70 Grove St next at Sheridan Square (Pandora's Box). (212) 242-1408.

Sunday

◆ **The Building** (Dallas' The Men's Room; students, professionals, men; go-go boys & 60-ft. ceiling) 51 W 26 St; 576-1890

◆ **Cafe Society** (Society Sundays Tea Dance, Hi NRG DJs, Society Dancers; 5 pm-??; \$10) B'way at 21 St; 529-8282

FUCK! (DJs Craig and Victor, "caged go-go animals" and "ruff music for ruff dykes and fags." \$2.99) 101 Avenue A

Kelly's (DJ Moaning Lisa spins the records for dancing dykes. Doors open at 8 pm. \$3.) 46 Bedford St. (212) 929-9322.

◆ **Mars** (Lahoma's Home for Runaway Boys. DJ Larry Tee, emcee Ru-Paul. TVs and women welcome. \$10/\$5 with invite.) 13th St. at the West Side Highway

Monster (Sunday Tea Dance at 4 pm; dancing also on other nights from 10 pm) 80 Grove St at Sheridan Sq.; 924-3557

Safe Sundays (Kool Komrads' party at the Cadillac Bar; go-go boys, \$2 shots, \$5 beer blas from 5-8 pm.) 15 W. 21st St. (212) 645-7220

20/20 (Michael Fesco's Tea Dance, opens 4 pm; \$6; free Mimosas & BMs from 4-6, buffet at 7:30) 20 W 20 St; 727-8841

Every Night (or almost)

◆ **Bedrock** (lesbian club, closed MON & TUE) 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

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

◆ **Pandora's Box** (formerly the Duchess) Sheridan Square & 7th Ave; 242-1408

419 (nightly Gay House Party, opens 6 pm) 419 N. Highway (Rte 27), Southampton, LI; 516/283-5001

Grand Central (closed Mon, 2-4-1 drinks Thursday) 210 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, LI; 516/536-4800

Magic Touch (ethnic mix: Anglo/Latin/Asian) 73-13 37th Rd, Jackson Heights, Queens; 718/429-8605

Monster (West Village) 80 Grove St at Sheridan Sq.; 924-3557

Spectrum (good mix of gay men & lesbians; closed Mon-Tue, WED free, THU free & 2-4-1 drinks, FRI male/female strippers, SAT recording stars, SUN variety show & free admission 9-10 pm; Coors served) 802 64th St @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, Bklyn; 718/238-8213

NOTES: ◆(new info) ◆(attracts TVs) ◆(women) ◆(men)
Send information, corrections, and complaints to OutWeek Listings, 158 W 25 St, NY, NY 10001. You may also fax the Listings Editor at (212) 337-1220.

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)

499A Hudson Street, Suite G4 NY 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-judgmental pastoral care for PWAs and loved ones. Volunteer opportunities. (212) 461-1270, 24 West 30th St, NYC 10001

ALOC/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) 517-5698 for more information.

ARCS (AIDS-Related Community Services)

for Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. AIDS education, client services, crisis intervention, support groups, case management, buddy and hospital visitor program.
214 Central Ave., White Plains, NY 10606 (914) 993-0906
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: 212-674-5004, or write to: P.O. Box 6628, NY, NY 10163-0623.

ATR (AIDS TREATMENT RESOURCES, INC.)

Publishes a bi-monthly Directory of clinical trials of experimental AIDS/HIV treatments in NY/NJ, and has educational materials/seminars for trial participants. ATR also advocates for improvements in the trial system. P.O. Box 30234, NY, NY 10111-0102. (212) 268-4186. 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-judgmental atmosphere. First Sunday of the month, 4:45pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BISEXUAL INFORMATION & COUNSELING SERVICE, INC.

A professionally staffed, non-profit organization for bisexuals, their families and partners, facing problems of a psychological or medical kind. We also work with those in doubt about their sexuality. Confidentiality is protected by law. For information phone: (212) 496-9500

BISEXUAL PRIDE DISCUSSION GROUP

Topical discussions on issues of interest to the community in a congenial atmosphere, followed by an informal dinner at a friendly local restaurant. Every Sunday, 3:00-4:30pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BWAY'S 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 women and their friends. Regular social events and meetings on the first and third Fridays of every month. At The Community Center, 208 W. 13 Street, from 8:30-9pm. For more info call Lisa at (212) 629-8817.

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. 2065 Broadway, Suite 308, 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 streetfairs and meetings on special topics. Join us. 336 Ninth St, Suite 135 Brooklyn, NY 11215 (718) 965-8482

CIRCLE OF MORE LIGHT

Spiritual support and sharing in a gay/lesbian affirmative group. West Park Presbyterian Church 165 West 86th Street Wed. worship service 8:30 pm, program 7:30. Mantra (212) 304-4373/Cherie (212) 691-7118.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

208 West 13th Street, NYC, New York 10011 For Appointments and Information (212) 875-3559 (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 Ken Fomataro at (212) 489-1650 for info and mailing list.

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH

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) 787-7900

DIGNITY BIG APPLE

A community of Lesbian and Gay Catholics. Activities include Liturgies and socials every Sat., 8:00 pm, at the Center, 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Call (212) 618-1308.

DIGNITY NEW YORK

Lesbian and gay Catholics and friends AIDS Ministry, Spiritual Development The Cathedral Project, Worship Services & Social-Sun. Even. 7:30pm-St. John's Episcopal Church 218 West 11th Street @WVely-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 1-6 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) 724-6700.

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. Please call 914-376-0727 for more info.

GAY FATHER'S FORUM

A support organization for gay fathers, their lovers, and others in child-nurturing situations. Monthly meetings include a potluck supper, support groups on varied specialized topics, speakers, and socializing. Meetings: 1st Friday each month, 7pm, at The Center, 208 W. 13th St., West of 7th Ave. Contribution: \$8. Bring a main course for 4 people (or pay a \$5 food charge.) For information call: 212-679-7541 or 212-286-3236

GLAAD

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

80 Verick 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 Phone Tree! Call (212) 966-1700 for information.

GLIB

Gay and Lesbian Independent Broadcasters invites you to tune into OUTLOOKS on WBAJ-NY, 98.5 FM every other Sunday, 7:30-

8:30pm and join us every Tuesday at 7:00pm to 8:00pm to become a member of GLIB. No experience needed. 505 Eighth Avenue, NY, NY 10018 Attn: Outlooks or call (212) 245-6386-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 1981. Open meetings w/programs on S/M techniques, lifestyle issues, political and social concerns. Also special events, speakers bureau, workshops, demos, affinity groups, newsletters, more. GMSMA - Dept. O, 498A Hudson Street, Suite D23, NYC 10014, (212) 727-9878.

GMAD (GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT)

80 Verick 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 more information, call 718-802-0182.

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: 212-807-8892/212-645-7470 TDD (For the Hearing Impaired) Mon.-Fri. 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. 12:00 to 3:00

GIRTH & MIRTH CLUB OF NEW YORK

Social club for heavy, chubby gay men & their admirers. Monthly socials at the "Center", weekly bar nights Thursdays at the "Chelsea Transfer", monthly Fat Apple Review, bi-monthly F.A.R. panels. For more information call Ernie at 914-899-7735 or write: G&M/NY, Dept. O, P.O. Box 10, Pelham, 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) 974-HOPE.

HERITAGE OF PRIDE, INC.

Organizers of New York's Lesbian and Gay Pride event: the March, the Rally and the Dance on the Piac. Call (212) 891-1774 for meeting schedule or more information. 208 West 13th Street, NY, NY 10011.

HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

for lesbian and gay youth. Counseling, drop-in center (M-F, 3-6pm), rap groups, Harvey Milk High School, AIDS and safer sex information, referrals, professional education. (212) 833-8920 (voice) (212) 833-8928 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 228 Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10018.

IDENTITY HOUSE

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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. 212-790-9432

INTEGRITY/NY

Lesbian and Gay Episcopalianes and friends. Eucharist and program every Thursday, 7:30pm. St. Luke's Church, Hudson and Christopher Sts. INFO: P.O. Box 5202, NY NY 10185 (718) 720-3054

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND

Precedent-setting litigation nationwide for lesbians, gay men and people with AIDS. Membership (\$40 and up) inc. newsletter and invitations to special events. Volunteer night on Thursdays. Intake calls: 2-4pm Mon thru Fri (212) 955-8585.

LAVA (LESBIANS ABOUT VISUAL ART)

Call for slides for Lesbian Artists' Exhibition, Gay & Lesbian Com-

munity Center, NYC. For more information, send SASE to: Miriam Fougere, 118 Fort Greene Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217.

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LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

208 West 13th Street New York, NY 10011 (212) 820-7310 9am-11pm everyday. A place for community organizing and net-working, 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) 833-8990.

LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS PROJECT

of the American Civil Liberties Union. **WE'RE EXPANDING THEM** (212) 944-9800, ext. 545

LESBIANS AND GAYS OF FLATBUSH

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LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES

P.O. Box 1298 New York, New York 10110 (212) 974-7232 Since 1974, the Archives has inspired, shaped and reflected Lesbian lives everywhere. Call to arrange a visit or to volunteer for Thursday worknights.

LONG ISLAND ACT-UP

Meets Tuesdays at 8pm at 181 Post Ave. in Westbury, NY. Support us for change on Long Island. Mailing address: PO Box 514, Westbury, NY 11590. 516-338-4992.

LSM

is a support and information group for lesbians and bisexual women interested in fantasy, role-playing, bondage, discipline, S/M, fetishes, alternate gender identities, costumes and so forth. Membership is available only to women 18 years and older. Actual experience is not required but genuine interest and an open mind are. For information please write: P.O. Box 983, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10159

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER NY

A multi-racial group of gay men against racism. Meetings every Friday night at 7:45 at the Lesbian

and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th Street. For more info. call: (212) 245-6366 or (212) 222-8794.

METROPOLITAN TENNIS GROUP(MTG)

Our 200 member lesbian and gay tennis club includes players from beginning to tournament level. Monthly tennis parties. Winter indoor leagues. Come play with us! For information: MTG, Suite K03, 496-A Hudson St., New York, NY 10025. (718) 852-8562.

MOCA (Men of Color AIDS Prevention Program.)

Provides safer sex and AIDS education information to gay and bisexual Men of Color; coordinates a network of peer-support groups for gay and bisexual Men of Color in all 5 boroughs of New York City 303 Ninth Ave., New York, NY 10001 or call (212) 239-1798.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

is the national grassroots political organization for lesbians and gay men. Membership is \$30/year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing and direct action. NGLTF 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20008. (202) 332-8483.

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 women. For membership information call Lisa (212) 829-8817.

N.Y. WOMEN'S SOFTBALL GUILD

For experienced, serious Softball Players, Coaches and Managers. We play mod/fast pitch weekends in Manhattan and Queens. Try-outs begin Feb. 11 thru April or until filled. (212) 255-1379 Janet.

NINTH STREET CENTER

Since 1973, a community dedicated to demonstrating that a homosexual lifestyle is a rational, desirable choice for individuals dissatisfied with the rewards of conventional living. Psychologically-focused rap groups, Tues., Sat, 8 to 10 pm. Peer counselling available. 319 E. 9 Street, New York, NY 10003, for info call (212) 228-5153.

NORTH AMERICAN MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOCIATION (NAMBLA)

Dedicated to sexual freedom and especially interested in gay intergenerational relationships. Monthly Bulletin and regular chapter meetings on the first Saturday of each

month. Yearly membership is \$20; write NAMBLA, PO Box 174, Midtown Station, New York, NY 10018 or call (212) 907-8578 for information.

NORTHERN LIGHTS ALTERNATIVES

Improving Quality of Life for People with AIDS/HIV. THE AIDS MASTERY WORKSHOP: Exploring the possibilities of a powerful and creative life in the face of AIDS. Call (212) 255-8554

NYC GAY & LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT

Counseling, advocacy, and information for survivors of anti-gay and anti-lesbian violence, sexual assault, domestic violence, and other types of victimization. All services free and confidential. 24 hour hotline (212) 907-0197

PARENTS/FRIENDS OF LESBIAN AND GAYS

Let P/FLAG help you and your family deal with the upheaval of your coming out. Our meetings are free: monthly on the 4th Sunday, at 3:00 pm, in Duane Church, 201 West 13th. Info? call Jeanne, 212-483-0829

PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION

(212) 532-0297/1-800-828-3280/Hotline (212) 532-0588 Monday thru Friday 10am-6pm Meal programs, support groups, educational and referral services for PWA's and PWAr's.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS HEALTH GROUP

Underground buyer's club importing not-yet-approved medications and nutritional supplements. 31 West 26th St. 4th Floor (212) 532-0280

PINK PANTHER PATROL

Community street patrol in East and West Village dedicated to deterring violent crime against gays and lesbians. West Village weekly meetings at Tues. evenings at Community Center. Call for time and info: 212-475-4363. For East Village patrol info, call 212-246-6286.

PROFESSIONALS IN FILM/VIDEO

336 Canal Street, 8th Floor, NYC 10013 212-445-3351

QUEER NATION

The Lesbian and Gay direct action group dedicated to fighting homophobia and Gay and Lesbian invisibility. Anyone can suggest an action and should come to meetings prepared to organize and implement it. QN, Box 1524, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10003. Call 212-483-7208 for meeting info.

SAGE: (Senior Action in a Gay Environment)

Social Service Agency providing care, activities, & educational services for gay & lesbian senior citizens. Also serves over 160 homebound seniors & older

PWA's. 208 West 13th St. NYC 10011, (212) 741-2347

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SUNDANCE OUTDOOR ADVENTURE SOCIETY

A non-profit club offering Outdoor activities for every season including hiking, biking, skiing, water activities and other outdoor activities for the Gay/Lesbian community. For information or complimentary Newsletter call (212) 598-4728.

THE OUTREACH USING COMMUNAL HEALING (TOUCH)

Community volunteers providing a weekly buffet supper for the Brooklyn AIDS community. TOUCH meets Monday even. 5pm to 8:30pm- at downtown Brooklyn Friends Meeting House (110 Schermerhorn St. near Boerum Place). Limited transportation may be arranged. Info: (718) 622-2758. TOUCH welcomes contributions of funds, food and volunteers.

ULSTER COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE

Meets first and third Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Unitarian Church on Sawkill Road in Kingston. For Information, call 914-628-3203

WHAMI Women's Health Action And Mobilization.

A direct action group committed to demanding, securing and defending absolute reproductive freedom and quality health care for all women. We meet every Wed. at 8:30pm at 105, E 22nd Street, 4th floor. 212-713-5966 Mailing address: WHAMI, PO Box 733, NYC 10009

WOMENS ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY CENTER (WACC)

A non-profit, Lesbian community center serving Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Thurs. night weekly discussion groups. 8:30 pm, for other activities please contact us at 516-483-2050.

WRESTLING FOR GAYS & LESBIANS

Watch the men of the knights wrestling club inaction every Sunday at 7:30 PM at the GAY CENTER. The club also conduct training classes on alternate Saturdays afternoon (1st & 3rd Saturdays for men 2nd & 4th Saturdays for women) for more information please call: 718-639-5141

OUTWEEK **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)

West Village

Badlands, Christopher and West streets,
741-9236

Boots & Saddle, 76 Christopher St., 929-9684

Crazy Nanny's 21 Seventh Ave. South 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 (for
merly the Ramrod)

Eighty-Eights, 228 W. 10th St., 924-0088

The Hangout (J's) 679 Hudson St., 242-9272

Julius, 159 W. 10th St., 929-9672

Keller's, 384 West St/Christopher, 243-1907

Kelly's Village West, 46 Bedford St., 929-9322

Marie's Crisis, 59 Grove St., (Seventh Ave.)
243-9323

The Monster, 80 Grove St. (Seventh Ave.)
924-3558

New Jimmy's 53 Christopher St., 463-0950

Ninth Circle, 139 W. 10th St., 243-9204

Sneakers, 392 West St., 242-9830

Two Potato, 145 Christopher St., 242-9340

Ty's, 114 Christopher St., 741-9641

Uncle Charlie's, 56 Greenwich Ave., 255-8787

West Side

Candle Bar, 309 Amsterdam Ave., 874-9155

Cat's, 730 Eighth Ave., 221-7559

Don't Tell Mama, 343 W. 46th St., 757-0788

Gents, 360 W. 42nd St., (Ninth Ave.)
967-0659

Sally's Hideaway, 264 W. 43rd St., 221-9152

Town & Country, Ninth Ave. at 45th St.,
307-1503

Trix, 246 W. 48th St., (bet B'way and Eighth
Ave.) 664-8331

The Works, 428 Columbus Ave. (at 81st),
799-7365

East Side

Bogart's, 320 E. 59th St., 688-8534

Brandy's Piano Bar, 235 E. 84th St., 650-1944

G.H. Club, 353 E. 53rd St., 223-9752

Johnny's Pub, 123 E. 47th St., 355-8714

NY Confidential, 306 E. 49th St., 308-8390

Rounds, 303 E. 53rd St., 593-0807

South Dakota, 405 3rd Ave., (29th St.)
684-8376

Star Sapphire, 400 E. 59th St., 688-4710

The Townhouse, 236 E. 58th St., 754-4649

Twenty-Nine Palms, 129 Lexington Ave.,
686-8299

East Village

The Bar, 68 2nd Ave., (4th St.) 674-9714

101 Avenue A, (formerly the Pyramid), 101
Avenue A, 420-1590

Tunnel Bar, 116 1st Ave., (7th St.) 777-9232

Brooklyn (area code 718)

After Five Plus, 5 Front St., 852-0139

Spectrum, 802 64th St., (Eighth Ave.),
745-9611

Sweet Sensations, 6322 20th St., 435-2580

Queens (area code 718)

Breadstix, 113-24 Queens Blvd., Forest
Hills, 236-0300

Friend's Tavern, 78-11 Roosevelt Ave.,
Jackson Heights, 397-7256

Hatfield's, 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew
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429-8670

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, 785-9808

**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.,
Huntingdon, 351-1402

Starz, 836 Grand Blvd., Deer Park,
242-3857

Thunders, 894 Jericho Turnpike,
Smithtown, 864-1410

**New Jersey
(area code 201)**

Charlie's West, 536 Main St., E. Orange,
678-5002

Feather's, 77 Kinderkamack Rd., River
Edge, 342-6410

Friendly's Bar, 6310 Park Ave., West New
York, 854-9895

Excalibur, 10th and Jefferson, Hoboken,
795-1023

Nite Lite, 509 22nd St., Union City,
863-9515

Vibrations, 165 Cedar Lane, Teaneck,
836-5518

Yacht Club, 366 Berksire Valley Rd.,
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BISEXUAL

Continued from page 39

UC/Santa Cruz even held a workshop on "Unlearning Biphobia," for straight and gay students, while older activists question "biphobia" as a relevant term.

But Lis Brooke isn't so sure the changes are for the better because by making a space for bisexual women, the movement may be destroying old-school lesbian-feminism. She remembers working 15 years ago as the lesbian therapist with the U Mass Lesbian Union—"which was a strong political group and now doesn't exist," she laments.

Meanwhile, the changes continue. This semester, at the elite Massachusetts Institute of Technology, students can choose a course on bisexuality for the first time. "Contexts and Constructs: Bisexuality," taught by Robin Ochs, one of the founders of the Boston Bisexual Women's Network in 1982, is the second college course in the US to focus on bisexuals. The first emerged last semester at UC/Berkeley with Professor Susan Carlton.

Bisexual student activism brought about the MIT course, which is sponsored by the Women's Center. "An undergraduate took this on and did most of the groundwork," Ochs recounts.

"We find some of the most active bisexuals come out of the campuses," Robert Bray of NGLTF concurs.

"I see this as the beginning of a landslide—like the first gay studies class was," Ochs says. The class is possible, she says, only because of the recent emergence of bisexual voices in anthologies (bisexual Thomas Geller's *Bisexuality: A Reader and Sourcebook* appeared this summer; Lani Kaahumanu's *Bi Any Other Name: Bisexuals Speak Out* is due out next month; and Warren Blumenfeld's *Backfire* will include a chapter by Ochs on bisexuals).

In addressing how women's studies and gay and lesbian studies exclude bisexuality, Ochs will ask students for a critical reading of Adrienne Rich's classic "Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence," which has been widely accepted as a definitive writing on lesbianism, and to compare bisexuality in Mexico and an Asian country (perhaps Japan). "In cultures where family is more highly defined and more heavily structured, there is more willingness not to

see some behavior as long as the men fulfill their role (e.g., get married)," Ochs reports.

Meanwhile students face a battle against Rutgers University which plans to remove the "B" word from the title of the annual Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Studies Conference (held for three years at Yale, this fall at Harvard, and scheduled for next fall at Rutgers). Harvard added "bisexual" following activism by undergraduates, but Rutgers argues that "bisexual is included in lesbian and gay, and that if they add it, they'd have to add transgender and transsexuals later," reports Ochs.

Inclusion of bisexuals into Gay Pride celebrations, and even into gay and lesbian organizations, is a difficult idea for many. This year, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force introduced a first: They included a panel on bisexual involvement in the gay and lesbian community at the annual Creating Change conference (following heated complaints by bisexuals at last year's conference).

Despite an "excellent panel, the few people who spoke were quite hostile...[suggesting] bisexuals should go back where we came from," reported panelist Robin Ochs, who was joined by Brad Robinson, Kuwaza Imara of San Francisco, Lisa Power, the secretary general of the International Lesbian and Gay Association, and Duncan Teague, a gay man from BWMT in Atlanta and an ally of bisexuals. Ochs expressed dismay at the hostility.

But some gay and lesbian activists believe bisexual inclusion is important. "I think we're natural allies. In a homophobic's eyes, a bi isn't just half-perverted," he says, "they're just as perverted as a gay man or lesbian. Also, for a bisexual to come out as bisexual is to renounce their heterosexual privilege. For us to exclude anyone from our movement is ludicrous." As director of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Speakers Bureau of Boston, Warren Blumenfeld requested that his Board add bisexuals, despite threats that funding would be cut by some donors. "It took five months. Some meetings were emotional and teary as some people came out as bisexual, came out of another closet which some of us forced them to stay in."

Currently, neither of the two

national gay and lesbian political groups, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Human Rights Campaign Fund, are planning to amend the titles of their organizations to include the word "bisexual."

For Robert Bray, the spokesperson for NGLTF, bisexuals "would have to organize and set a political and social agenda, and an identity and visibility, [they would have to create] bisexual empowerment" before they could be included in the movement (although NGLTF staff do attempt to be sensitive to and inclusive of bisexuals).

However, in contrast to Bray, HRCF Executive Director Tim McFeeley thinks that "there's no logical reason why [not to]... [It would not] in any way dilute the impact of what we're trying to do, and if it means bisexuals would feel more included and work more in coalition, then [we probably should amend the title]." McFeeley believes that bisexuals are already included in the work of "eliminating discrimination against people on the basis of their sexual orientation."

Meanwhile, like Lorrie Kim at *Philadelphia Gay News*, both the Task Force and HRCF have bisexual employees, making the question of inclusion nearly null. For them, the question is how to make their inclusion more explicit, stated more openly by their organizations.

But HRCF lobbyist Karen Friedman worries that the inclusion of bisexuality might confuse the position lobbyists take: "It is easiest to [change the way people think] with the simplest message possible. Bisexuality becomes too murky.... It threatens [legislators and the general public more] personally."

While younger gays and lesbians feel so much in common with bisexuals and transgender persons that a united 'queer' community has emerged in many locations, older dykes and queens who paved the way for the current level of liberation often remark that bisexuals were not out there at Stonewall fighting the fight, and that bisexuals aren't, in a sense, deserving of such easy inclusion.

"I don't agree that it's the same movement," Brooke states. "But I agree that we can support each other in our causes [as allies]."

See **BISEXUAL** on page 80

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women's personals

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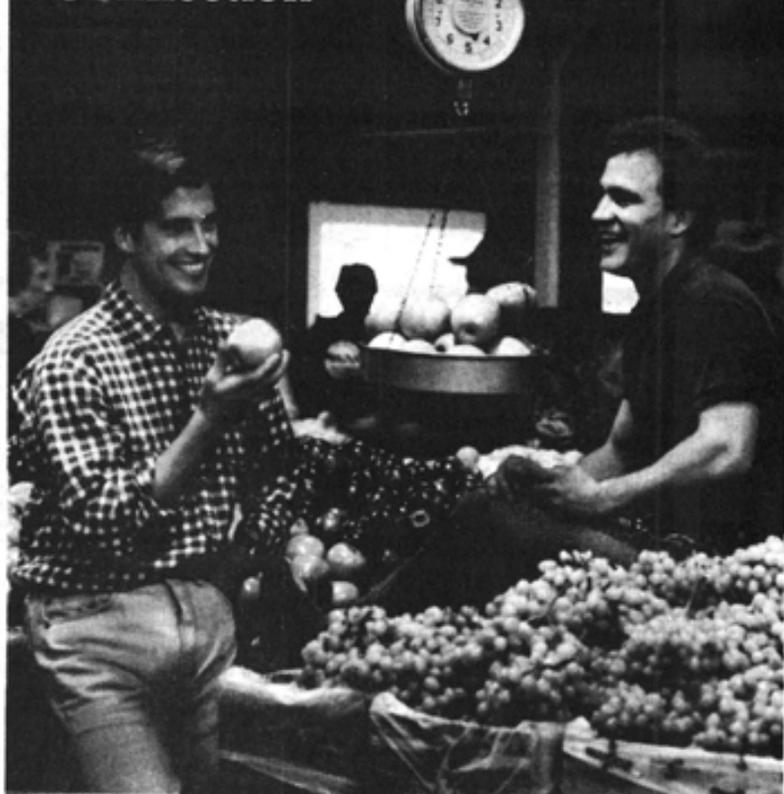
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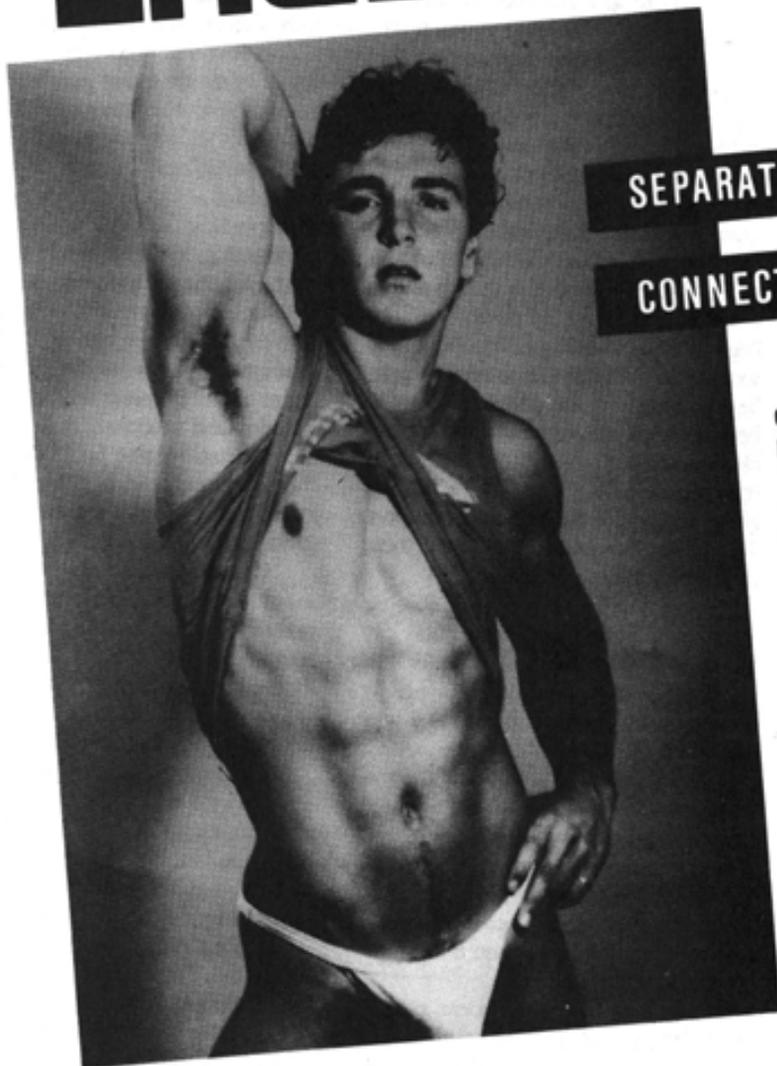
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BISEXUAL

Continued from page 39

Meanwhile, bisexuals in Philadelphia want to be more than allies. They presented the Mayor's Commission on Sexual Minorities with a laundry list of needs—needs which mirror the development of a gay community, and which they say the gay community has the responsibility of addressing: strong representation at all lesbian and gay conferences and events; greater coverage in the gay press; sections in gay bookstores that include works by bisexuals; bi nights at lesbian and gay bars; bi personals section in newspapers; and community center space. And some bisexuals say that they face oppression from the gay community. But Deeg Gold asserts that gays and lesbians do not have the power and privilege to be oppressing bisexuals, just as women do not have the power and privilege to be sexist, and people of color to be racist. Gold remembers when bisexuals felt excluded in the '70s and again in the middle '80s. "They were talking about acceptance rather than oppression. The issues were more politicized then, more savvy about oppression."

Gold questions how much she has in common with bis: "Lesbian and gay liberation is more than a struggle for sexual freedom. [Being lesbian or gay] really challenges the roots of society in a way that bisexuality doesn't."

The differences—whether generational or philosophical—are not likely to dissolve over a short time. Also, the debate is clearly not as simple as the earlier fight by lesbians to be included in gay organizations. But some bisexuals see the fights similarly—then it was sexism, now its bi-phobia.

"You just kinda feel some people are so unfriendly or militant that they have a hard time with anything that's different," says George of the three-way marriage. However, those who oppose bi inclusion seem to be saying that they feel a lack of respect for the history of the work they have done and the oppression they have faced.

"To me, you're always stronger and better when you're inclusive," Jean McGuire theorizes. "It strikes me as somewhat mean-spirited...to set up exclusion criteria" based on who lives with less safety.

Clearly, there is more overlap among gay and lesbian communities and

bisexual communities than some might believe. Given that some self-identified lesbians engage in bisexual behavior, "defining lesbian identity becomes an exercise in ambiguity and imprecision," Greta Christina writes in *On Our Backs*. Many popular lesbian role-models and writers, for instance, are bisexual: Women's music singer Ferron is involved with a man, and even radical feminist Andrea Dworkin, who writes in *The Politics of Penetration* that any heterosexual intercourse is rape, has a male lover.

And, clearly, there is some inclusion of bisexuals. Lani Kaahumanu served as the 1986 co-chair of the San Francisco Freedom Day Parade as an out bisexual, representing San Francisco at the national convention—four years before ACT UP Women's Caucus split over whether a bi woman could speak at Pride. Now Kaahumanu works for the National Gay Rights Advocates and feels wonderfully included and accepted; NGRF fights the discrimination she faces because of "homophobia," and her suggestions are incorporated without resistance. "It feels good. It's the '90s, and it's all of us."

But the true sexual orientation of many in the lesbian and gay world remains hidden as long as bisexuals remain invisible: "I want women to say they're bi when they're bi. I hate it when women call themselves lesbian while doin' boys in the backroom," says Faye Zama, who was labeled a "traitor" by lesbian friends when she came out as bi this year after 7 years in women's warehouses and radical feminist politics.

"So maybe a better question is not, why draw the line at bisexuality, but why draw the line at all?" Christina challenges those in conflict. And Imara says: "Here we are facing right-wing attacks, and whether you're gay or bi you're all faggots. To me it's real hairsplitting and backwards-stepping [to exclude bisexuals]. He believes that more energy should be spent by gay men and lesbians fighting more important battles like racism. McGuire agrees, "I don't know that I would label myself anything if I didn't have to."▼

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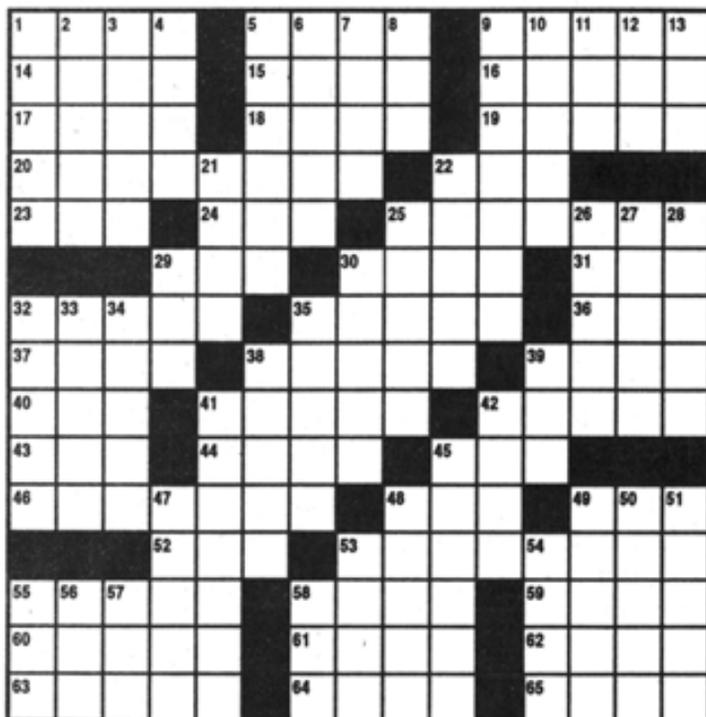
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**Ad
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OutWeek Crossword

by Greg Baysans
Edited by Gerard Mackey



5. Root vegetable
6. Mideast ruler
7. Khomeni, e.g.
8. Grow sleepy
9. Romps
10. Nebraska city
11. Bribe
12. Numerical prefix
13. But: Latin
21. Erstwhile
22. Dressed to the ____
25. Emulate Ingres
26. Silent
27. M. Zola
28. ____ the beans
29. Consumed
30. Squeeze
32. Fundamental
33. Texas shrine
34. Coupe
38. Skirt material?
39. Small fish
41. ____ *Night Music*
42. Countertenor
45. Expresses contempt
47. Go bad
48. Sot
49. Beliefs
50. Cuts of pork
51. Hole ____
53. Jupiter's mate
54. Dressing gown
55. Metric wts.
56. NYC subway
57. Burns' negative
58. Speck

SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK—ON SALE MONDAY

Across

1. Backtalk
5. Biblical felon
9. Expenses
14. Hue
15. BB's, e.g.
16. Love, in Roma
17. La Scala highlight
18. Peruse
19. Insipid
20. Composer-diarist
22. Japanese drama
23. Ike
24. Negative conjunction
25. Bluebeard's crew
29. ____ UP
30. Desire
31. Electrical (abbr.)
32. Sew
35. Tests
36. Second-century date
37. On the sheltered side
38. Smiles
39. Sate
40. Blue

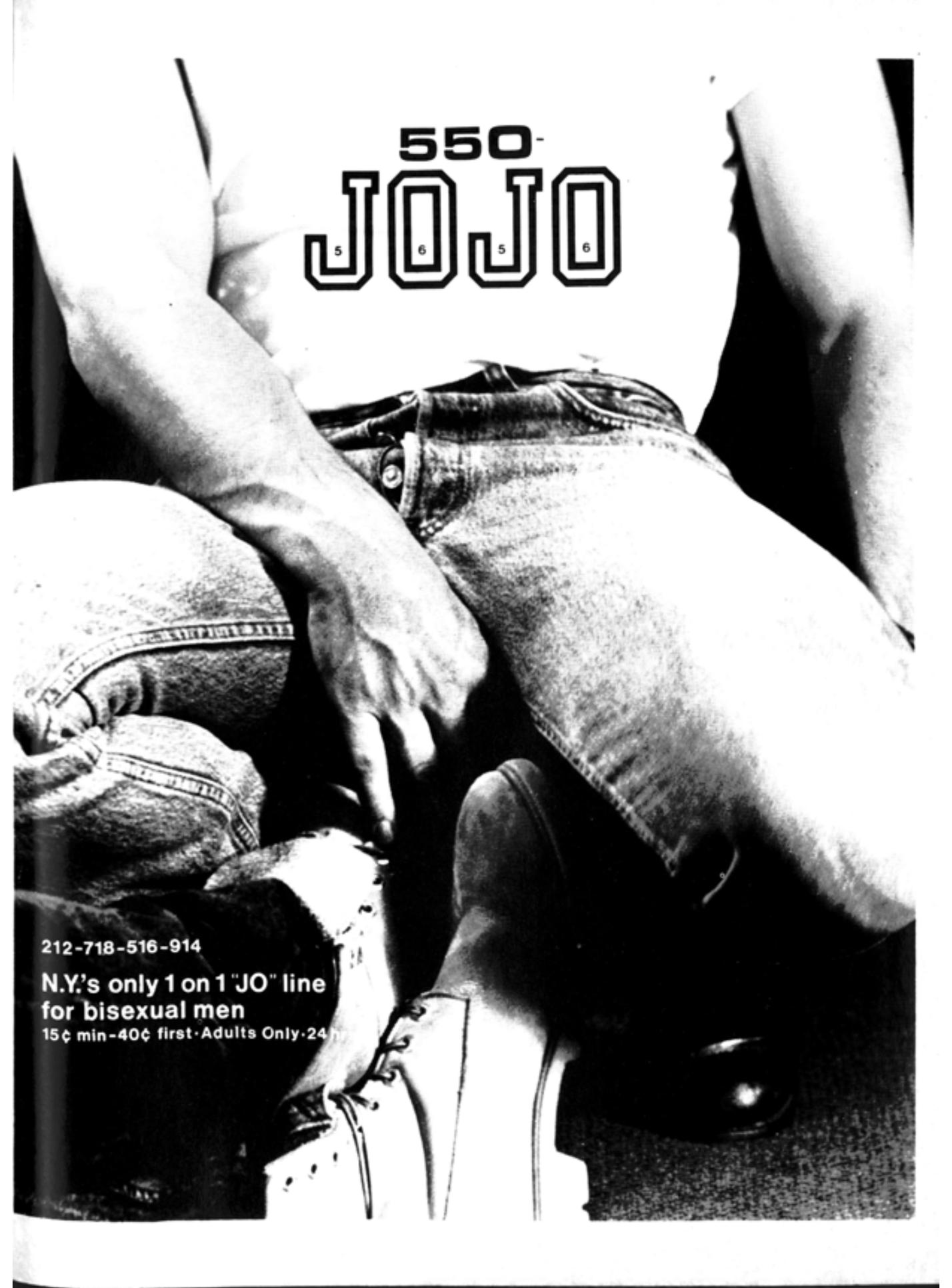
41. Common contraction
42. Soviet co-op
43. "____ Believer"
44. Director Fritz
45. Like a fox
46. Made up (of)
48. Explosive letters
49. Yalie
52. Parts of qts.
53. *Loot* playwright
55. N.D. city
58. Deceive
59. Mississippi feeder
60. King Arthur's quest
61. Unique person
62. German city
63. Inscribed pillar
64. Craggy hills
65. Being, to Brutus

Down

1. "____ By Your Man"
2. Broadcast
3. Insinuating
4. Polaris, for one

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



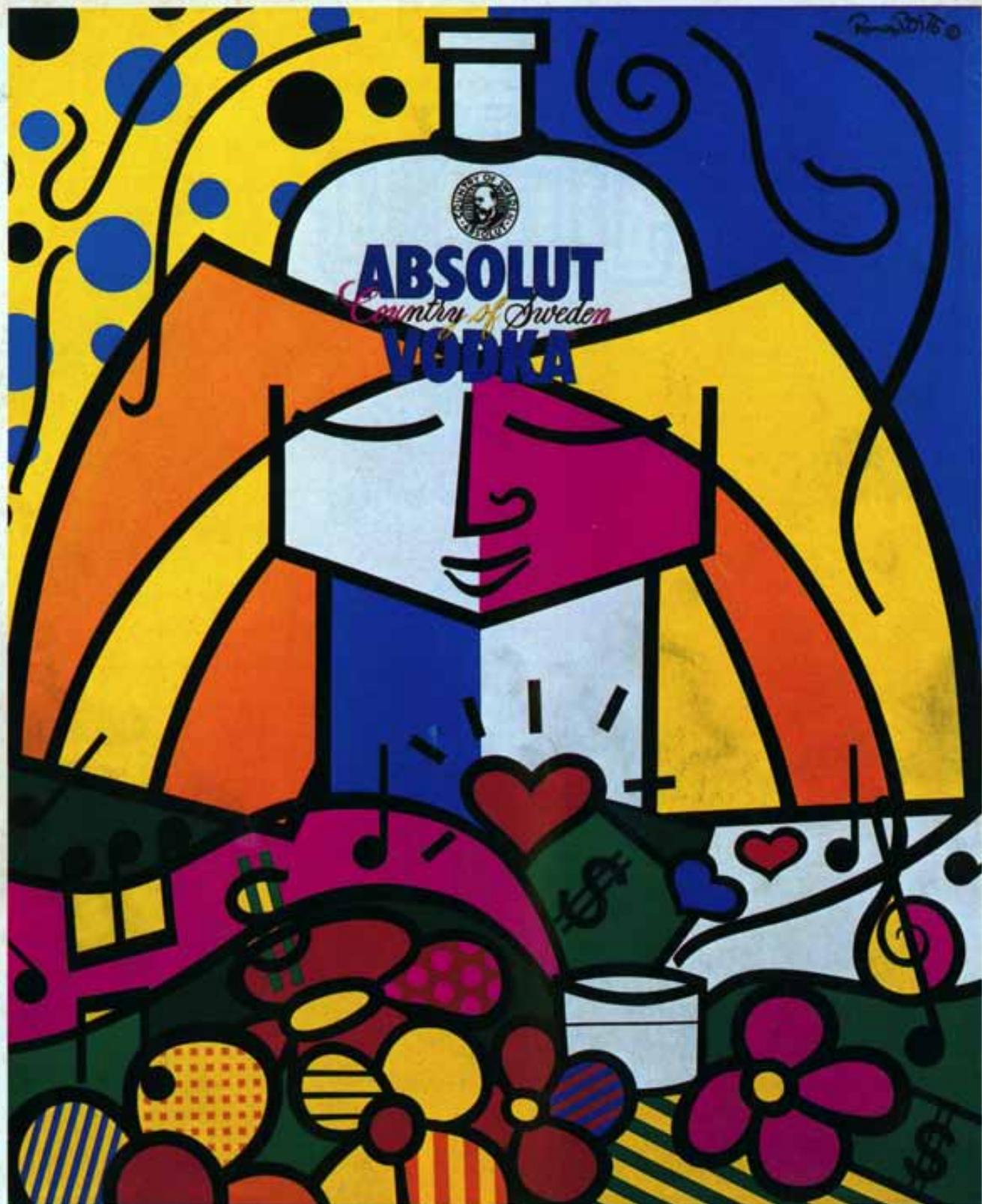


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