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OUTWEEK

THE LESBIAN
AND GAY
NEWS
MAGAZINE
NO. 98

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homosexual,
but i play one
on tv"**

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The Case of the Missing Districts

Lesbian and gay New Yorkers cannot expect their interests to be upheld and respected without adequate, proportional representation in city government. The record of straight or closeted politicians who promise us everything at election time and deliver less than zero later on plainly demonstrates our need to elect open lesbian and gay leaders to directly represent our community.

The current redrawing of City Council district lines, mandated by the new city charter, provides us with the best opportunity in history for realizing that long-deferred goal. By creating districts with a gay majority or a very large minority, the city can finally assure that our leaders will have a fighting chance to enter elective government.

Such is now the plan for other minorities. The Districting Commission recently unveiled scenario maps of possible new districts designed to maintain the integrity of African-American, Latino, Chinese and other ethnic neighborhoods in proportion to those groups' population in the city.

Not so for queers. Of the 34 possible scenario maps the Districting Commission unveiled for public comment recently, only four included a prototype "gay-winnable" district. And these four scenarios each projected only one such district, despite the fact that lesbians and gays, with at least 10 percent of the city's population, deserve at least five.

One major problem which confronts the commissioners as they go about their work is the general lack of data about where we live. We're uncouneted in the US Census, and demographic information is based on less than traditional statistics.

But a much bigger problem is the prevailing notion that gay-winnable districts, having not been specifically mandated by the new charter, are an afterthought, a bone to throw our community. This leads commissioners to feel that if lesbians and gays are granted one such district, we should be more than satisfied. We should be grateful.

The commissioners should think again. The day is long since past when we thought of ourselves as beggars at the gate of municipal government. We are full voting members of the city, we pay more than our fair share of taxes, we demand at least our fair share of representation, and we're watching.

If we end up with only one district, that's several districts too few. But once new districts are approved, we'll have to live with the results for at least ten years. So the time to act is now, both for the commission and for the political watchdogs of the lesbian and gay community. A modest effort to assure fairness in redistricting today will reap a bounty of political benefits for years to come.

OUTWEEK

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LETTERS

LETTER TO LAMBDA

We never thought it would come to this: Gay men and lesbians, dressed in activist garb, on one side of the street protesting the actions of gay men and lesbians, dressed in evening clothes, on the other side of the street—and between us, a long line of police officers who clearly were there to control us and to protect the playgoers from us. The presence of those police and their paddy-wagons gave us the clearest message of how far you were willing to go on an issue that hurts all of us. We were the enemy. When you made the decision to carry on with the *Miss Saigon* fund-raiser, despite the eloquent arguments of Asian gay men and lesbians, other anti-racist, anti-sexist activists and people of conscience on your own staff, you created a terrible split in lesbian and gay organizations around the country.

Many of us have crossed over a line that we once stood behind, though painfully and reluctantly; we are no longer willing to accept the political leadership of white male-dominated organizations. We are no longer willing to put our lives, our hopes and dreams into activities or organizations that do not have our issues clearly and centrally on the agenda. For us, those issues are not only sexual identity but also race, gender, class, disability and age.

You can keep your argument that you had to support a racist, sexist play in order to have the money necessary to maintain services that don't extend evenhandedly to us in the first place. And the same

goes for the argument given by so many organizations that white men have to be in leadership because they are the ones who have the greatest skills and they are the ones who are most respected and listened to by other white men. *Please.*

We repeat our message to you and all other groups where

from those who increasingly understand that all oppressions are connected and single issue/single oppression approaches will never bring lasting social change.

Maybe inadvertently you did a good thing. While, on the one hand, it made us feel physically ill to have to shout "Shame, shame" at our own

are marching toward a new kind of organizing, a deep and true movement of social change for all of us. Clearly, you are not ready, not strong enough, to join us at this moment, but we offer that hope of change to you. When you are ready to give up your share of the oppression that hurts all of us, and, in giving it up, become ready to walk side by side with us, then we'll create those open spaces to include you, too. Until that time, we have a liberation movement to build. See you later, we hope.

Beth Richie
Suzanne Pharr
Val Kanuha
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Kelly Kuwabara
Sally Cooper
Dion Thompson
Stephanie Roth
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white men dominate: We can no longer give our time and energy and spirit and lives to those who support our oppression by their racism and sexism. We want a movement where we can bring our whole selves—all of our concerns for freedom—to the organizing table.

There is no tyranny of the oppressed; there is simply the strong call for justice and equality

people entering *Miss Saigon*, we also felt an amazing sense of political community with those who rallied to protest. We were clearly marching toward a new day, toward new hope, a better politic. You are left with many years of work ahead of you to try to figure out how to overcome your current reputation for upholding a white heterosexual male view of the world, while we

MISS, AGAIN

Now that the Asian and Pacific Islander lesbian and gay community, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center of New York have had their day in the sun, I believe it is time to talk about the *real issues*, i.e., white oppression and the bastardization of people of color within the lesbian and gay community at large.

As a first-generation US-born Philipina and a lesbian who has been working with the lesbian and gay community throughout the past 11 years, I am appalled by Lambda's deci-

BLURT OUT

TUNING FORK...

"As his friends died around him, choreographic wizard Tommy Tune defied the ravages of the '80s with a whirl of Tony-sweeping hits"—so begins *Vanity Fair's* tap dance with Broadway's big man of dance. Condé Nast seems to be stepping closer these days, but one can only guffaw at the inclusion of such quotes: "[Tommy] had been in love with [Twiggy] since *The Boyfriend*." No shit.

—Sarah Pettit

sion. I had occasion to discuss this matter for a long period of time with the only A/PI Lambda board member, who happened to come on board when this controversy began, thus walking into an explosive blind spot. I find it offensive that she has been asked to "deal with this problem" *because she is the only A/PI board member and because other board members and the executive director of Lambda do not know how the hell to rectify this matter.*

In my mind, there was nothing to negotiate with Lambda. They have blatantly exercised their rights to make money on the racially prejudiced stereotypes of Pacific Islanders and Asians. They have refused to publicly recognize that lesbian and gay Pacific Islanders and Asians have the right to choose how they wish to be viewed. They have not been very inclusive to the coalition dream.

The saddest part of this whole story is that the full truth about the alleged coercive tactics by Asian Lesbians of the East Coast and Gay Asian and Pacific Islander Men of New York is unknown. What Tom Stoddard *failed* to mention is that he hid in his office and refused to have any sort of discussion with any lesbian and gay Asians and Pacific Islanders. However, do not let it be said that his staff was not amenable to listening to the concerns of the A/PI segment of the community Lambda serves.

It should be noted that Lambda has done a lot of good work during the years of its existence. However, this incident only proclaims one thing in my mind, which is that Lambda has a very long way to go when it comes to coalition-building with its entire constituency. I look forward to the day when Tom Stoddard and the Lambda board admit their mistake, apologize to the Pacific Islander and Asian lesbian and gay community and can stand up

to be counted on civil and human rights for *all* people.

*Joyce M. Alcober (a.k.a. JOMAL)
Human Rights Specialist for the
City of New York*

STATEMENT FROM LAMBDA

The board and staff of Lambda deeply regret the pain, anger and division that the *Miss Saigon* benefit has caused. We have come to understand that Lambda's association with this play, and the controversy it has engendered, have been extremely harmful and painful to many people and communities: Asian and Pacific Islanders, other people of color, women and all of us committed to civil rights.

We have learned an important lesson on the need to think more carefully, do more research and be more sensitive before embarking on fund-raising and other programs. We will apply that lesson from now on, and are committed to pursuing a fund-raising strategy that reflects the diversity of our communities, and that is in keeping with our goal of inclusive political work.

We remain strongly committed to serving lesbians, gay men and people with HIV in all of our communities, and to fighting for the rights and equality of all of us.

We intend to work very hard over the next few months, and always, to create more dialogue with and more opportunities for the diverse people in all of our communities, including Asian and Pacific Islander lesbians and gay men, other people-of-color communities and women. We will also strive with special vigor to heal the divisions among us as we press forward toward our common goals.

*Board and Staff
Lambda Legal Defense and
Education Fund*

SEE IT AGAIN, UNCLE SAM

After all the fuss, hype, the

yelling, the bad spirit and your editorial ["Outspoken," no. 91, March 27] I saw *Miss Saigon*. And I would see it again!

You and the others were conned. There is *nothing* sexist or racist in this pop spectacle. It is, however, *anti-American*. The musical condemns what America did to the Vietnamese people. The theatergoers who only want entertainment get it in *Miss Saigon*. Those with some brains feel the pain and suffering the Vietnamese nation underwent because of our imperialistic plans.

I will never allow *anyone* else to tell me what to do. We decry the Donald Wildmons of the world when they attempt to censor what we see and hear. You, by your editorial stance against *Miss Saigon*, are practicing the same nonsense. I'm surprised you didn't see the musical before passing judgment.

It's sad that such nonsense is tearing our community apart in a moment in which we must stand together more than ever before.

*Bohdan Zachary
Los Angeles*

PS. Please report on the scam called AMFAR, the American Cancer Society of HIV.

AND NOW, FOR A TOTALLY DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE...

I would like to congratulate Tom Stoddard and Lambda Legal Defense for going ahead with the *Miss Saigon* benefit, despite protests from self-appointed arbiters of all that is politically correct.

It appears that the main objection that they have to *Miss Saigon* is that its heroine is a prostitute. They feel that that degrades Asian people. There isn't anything wrong, in my opinion, with getting money for sex. I would have never been able to afford a gay lifestyle if I had not done so as a youth. Ironically, people putting down prostitution promote the laws that rob sex

workers of power over the industry. They promote police violence while deploring our "degradation." Hypocrites!

I've never seen *Miss Saigon*, so I can't tell you if it is racist or sexist. But I have seen the insensitive leaflet put out by its protestors. Perhaps they should have consulted with the Asian prostitutes in Prostitutes of New York before writing it. Sex for money is a vital part of life and should be portrayed in theater.

Robert D'Avanzo
Manhattan

WINKEN, BLINKEN AND NOD OUT

It was good to see letters of support for Michelangelo Signorile in his battle with the Goliath of the gay establishment ["Gossip Watch," no. 91, March 27], the *Voice*. (A voice maybe, but of whom? The paper once had a rapport with its audience; now it seems increasingly isolated from it.)

I began to notice its fossilization and inability to respond to the new when Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart* came out. The *Voice* panned the most powerful AIDS play we have, not once but three times (Massa, Feingold, Goldstein) and, among other infelicities, compared Kramer to Jerry Falwell.

At best, the *Voice* has been inconsistent on the most important issue facing the gay and lesbian community: AIDS. The public has been told that AZT is the answer to AIDS (now it's supposed to prevent its onset in HIV-positive people). Thus, many people cannot understand what ACT UP is protesting. After all, they add, isn't a lot of money being spent on research? The *Voice* supposedly supports ACT UP, but they have never challenged the value of AZT. They have never pointed out that it is, at best, a mediocre drug. They have never pointed out the rigidly bureaucratic nature of a medical-industrial complex that has wasted most of the millions allo-

cated to research. Unlike *Out-Week*, they have never even reviewed the book that documents the disaster that is AIDS research in America—Bruce Nussbaum's *Good Intentions*.

The paper's insensitivity to prejudice against transvestites and transsexuals does not surprise me either. One of their editors (now gone), Erika Munk, was a closet homophobe who, for example, believed that guys

who dressed up as women hated [women]. Thus, she responded with irrational vehemence to the use of drag in the late Charles Ludlam's superb experimental production, *Salammbo*. Still, I had hoped that the current editors like C. Carr would have cared about the misuse of the stereotype of transvestites in *The Silence of the Lambs*. C. Carr's problem is not that she nods out in some nightspot on

the Lower East Side but that she nods out while writing for the *Voice*.

Bob Chappetta
Manhattan

LYRIC PARADE

I took great pride in marching with ILGO in the St. Patrick's Day parade. My pride was all the greater because my mother and brother and sister-in-law, who were visiting me

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from Belfast, marched in solidarity with us. A friend and I sat down afterward and penned the enclosed song about the controversy. For the information of your Irish readers, it is sung to the air of "James Larkin," an old Irish rebel song.

I.

In New York City, in '91, / Around the time of St. Patrick's Day,

The AOH planned a big parade, / As to who could march they had the final say.

II.

Ireland to me means lep-rechauns / And green beer and green berets,

It doesn't mean jailed Republicans / Or kids in wheelchairs or Irish Gays.

III.

"We don't want no Joe Doherty sashes, / They won't look good in our parade."

Then Frankie Beirne and his

gang of fascists / Threw out the piper who had worn Joe's name.

IV.

Then Steve MacDonald and kids disabled / Wanted to march in their wheelchairs.

The AOH said, "You are not welcome, / And we don't care if it seems unfair."

V.

"We have our rules and regulations, / They're cast in stone, and we cannot sway.

If we let you in, Lord knows who'll follow, / Oh, God forbid, we'll have to let in gays.

VI.

Then Anne MacGuire and the Irish gay group, / They'd filed their permit and made it clear.

ILGO demanded to be included, / The AOH said, "We don't want no queers."

VII.

Bold Mayor Dinkins, he stood his ground, / He held his head up with dignity.

He said, "Gay people can march beside me, / I won't be part of this bigotry."

VIII.

Two miles we marched, two miles of hatred / With spitting, cursin', insults and jeers.

I've never heard oh-so-many death threats, / While drunk-eer eejits hurled cans of beer.

IX.

The mayor stated it brought back memories / Of Alabama back in the days,

When Dr. King, he faced down the bigots / And the Ku Klux Klan, they held their sway.

X.

Well, I've seen Paisleyites and National Frontiers / And UVF and UDA.

To tell the truth, I've rarely seen hate / Like the hate I saw on St. Patrick's Day.

XI.

We walked the gauntlet, with heads held high, / Proud

Irishwomen and Irishmen.

We're gay and Irish, we won't be beaten, / You bet your life we will march again.

Tarloch Mac Niallais

Ellis Heller

Queens

BONE OF CONTENTION

John Connolly's response to my article on chiropractic ["Letters," no. 92, April 3] is a shockingly reactionary attack not just on chiropractic care but on all alternative health care. Referring to chiropractors as "abortionists" (a term right out of Operation Rescue literature), "ambulance-chasers," X-ray-happy, greedy and so on, is hardly evidence of your "daring" political stance, John. If anything, your words illustrate how successful the decades-long campaign of defamation toward chiropractic from the estab-



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SOTOMAYOR

NIGHTMARE of the Week



Once upon a time, a good, hearty gal was welcome on a school basketball team if she played a mean game of hoop. But if cowardly coaches such as Penn State's Rene Portland get their phobic way, this zealous amazon will soon be scrutinized for a lopsided walk, a too-tough slam dunk or lingering in the showers—any of those telltale signs of lesbianism. Portland's tenure at Penn has been marked by controversy over her alleged rooting out of sisters from the squad. One of her former darlings, a hetero hooper, suggested that it helped "to get rid of the stereotypes." We'd like to get rid of a few, too. And we challenge you to a scrimmage, Rene—our dykes against yours.

unethical people in every profession, but your assertion that chiropractors are not "real doctors" rings especially hollow in a community that has been busting its collective ass to reclaim control of their own bodies from this country's stagnant medical monopoly. Perhaps you should attend an ACT UP or WHAM! meeting—you'd discover that there's a strong movement working on gay, lesbian and women's health concerns, a movement that grew out of the failings of "real doctors" to edu-

cate themselves or move at more than a snail's pace around life-and-death issues. A self-professed radical queer like yourself might be able to make some connections with all this stuff.

Karl Soehnlein
Manhattan

KNOW YOUR, HIS AND HER SONG

As a longtime volunteer of the Lesbian Herstory Archives, I want to thank Allen Roskoff for his gentle reminder that "once in a while, it would be good for the

newer activists to check the facts with the veterans instead of rewriting history." For some reason, people want to use that word, "first," and actually those of us who spend time sorting and digging through lesbian and gay history know there is very little that hasn't happened or existed before, in some form or another. It is a matter of research and knowing how to read between the lines of sexist, heterosexist and racist history. Just flip through Jonathan Katz's books or J.R. Roberts' annotated bibliography on Black lesbians if you doubt our rich, extensive past.

And Allen is right: It doesn't take any great effort to discover the recent history of gay activism in New York City—a phone call to any of a number of people could do it. Maybe if more lesbian and gay people knew their history, they would be more sensitive to the possibility that their event/idea/product might not be a "first" and that some acknowledgement to those who have come before should be made.

The Archives is "dedicated to the memory of the voices we have lost." Let's not lose any more voices just to lack of information or research.

Morgan Gwenwald
Brooklyn

GAB ASS

In "The Lavender and the Green" [no. 92, April 3] (a truly disgusting color combination, by the way), Avril MacDonald wrote that members of the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization get together for "*ceol, caint agus crack*," which was loosely translated as "good old Irish-style fun."

The Irish (Gaelic) was badly mashed, and it's not clear whether the good old Irish-style fun was supposed to be "*ceol, caint agus craic*" (Music, song and gab) or "*ceol, caint agus cráic*" (music, song and ass).

Stuart Frankel
Manhattan

lished medical community has been. To insist that yoga and self-manipulation are the answers to the ailments that afflict many people is to not understand the different ways yoga and chiropractic manipulation can work (i.e., lumbar-vs.-scroiliac adjustments), to overlook the many injuries caused by self-manipulation and yoga and to create a false illusion that chiropractic is merely quackery driven by greed.

The whole point of my essay (and it was, for the record, a personal essay specifically assigned to a chiropractic patient, as opposed to the "investigative journalism" you rabidly crave) was that chiropractic has for years been considered by all but the most tunnel-visioned members of the AMA to be above-board; is covered by all insurance policies; and has been determined, through years of legal battles, to be scientifically sound. The countless patients who have been successfully treated through chiropractic care, including this "two-bit reporter," will be surprised to hear that they've been taken for fools. (And for your information, osteopaths no longer do manipulation—and haven't for years, if you check the facts.)

As for the placement of ads around the article, anyone who's had such a prestigious journalistic career as yourself (*Fag Rag*, indeed) surely understands that writers don't determine the lay-out of the publications they contribute to. While I was dismayed that my essay was surrounded with paid advertisements from chiropractors, as it undermined my own sincerity and allowed for conspiracy theorists like yourself to salivate in righteous delight, I understand the need for a struggling magazine like *Out-Week* to solicit ads that tie into its editorial content.

There are unethical chiropractors, just like there are

LETTER GRIPE

After reading *OutWeek* faithfully for a year now, I felt that I could no longer sit back and just ignore what some men are having to say in your magazine. For starters, Eric M. Pollard ["Letters," no. 92, April 3] is a disgrace to the psychological community, as well as our community. It is bad enough that Hinkley is now openly stating his hatred for Ms. Foster, but Pollard felt that he had to egg Hinkley on. It is unethical to play with a patient's mind in such a way. I find it even more unforgivable that he felt a need to inform the community of what he had done.

Many of the letters in issue no. 92 were written by white men who accused Robert Vasquez of being racist. Racism can only be practiced by those in power, those with privilege. When will white men learn, first

and foremost, that they are the ones in this country with the power? As a member of a minority community, Vasquez is not in a position of authority and therefore cannot impose racism on a white male. Yes, he may be prejudiced, but he will never be able to be racist. As for Joshua Paul Devlin, if he was so clear in his understanding of what racism is, he would know this. Someone who is truly aware of what racism is and their own inherent racism, which comes from being raised in this society, would know that minorities have every right to be angry and to feel anger and hatred toward their oppressors. This argument was well documented in "I Hate Straights" [no. 59, Aug. 15].

OutWeek needs better coverage of events outside of the New York area. By having such an East Coast bias on reporting,

your reporters will feel free to insult anyone who does not adapt to their culture. It is outrageous that *OutWeek* accepts insults directed at people living in other areas of the country as responsible journalism. By stereotyping and name-calling, you only perpetuate hatred toward those not like yourselves. Isn't that what the whole argument surrounding movies such as *The Silence of the Lambs* is all about? *Wake up, OutWeek!*

Stacy Homan
Boston

ACCURATE HISTORY

After reading "Oscar Absences" by Bruce C. Steele in issue no. 93 [April 10] of *OutWeek*, I felt compelled to point out some facts that Mr. Steele is obviously unaware of.

Historically, we, as Native American people, have been absent from so much that we

generally are more than thrilled at the attention paid to *Dances With Wolves*.

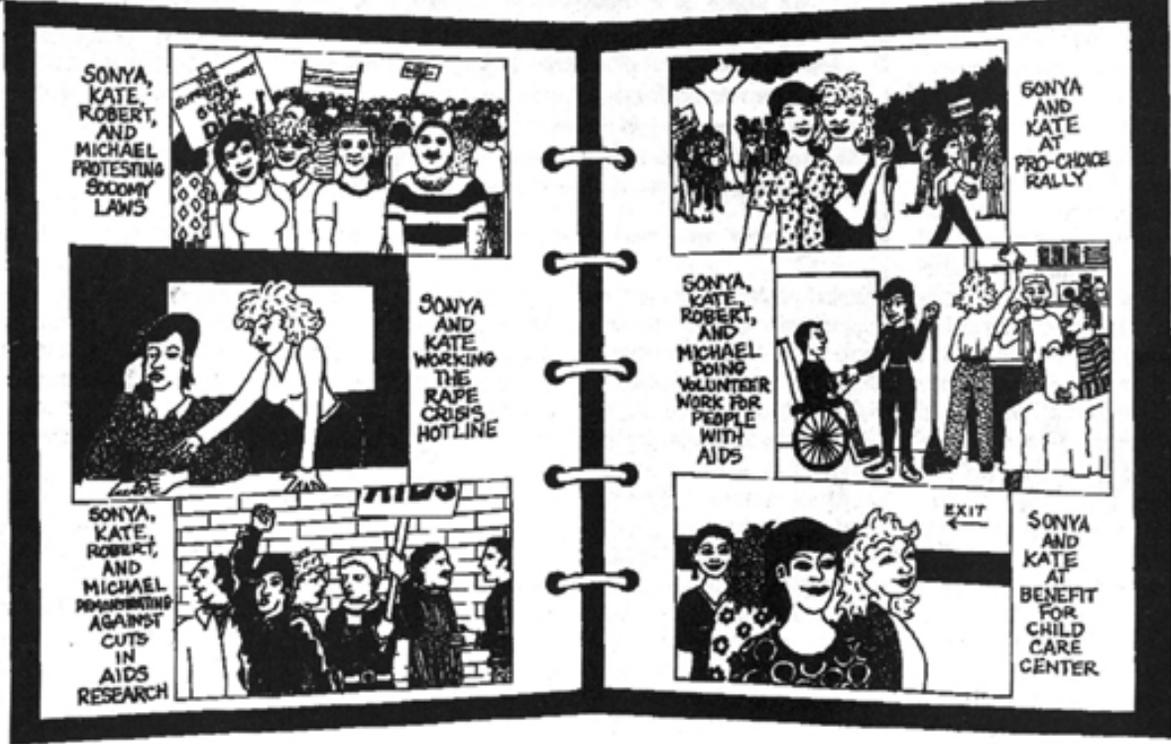
Kevin Costner came up against a wall of negatives in Hollywood when he had lunch with "the moguls" Mr. Steele refers to. Hollywood "powers that be" felt that the public wouldn't sit through a three-hour film about Indians, and Mr. Costner used his own money and European investors to prove them wrong.

Dances With Wolves utilized Native American actors and consultants in a precedent-setting way and is viewed by many as a tribute to our cultures.

Michael Blake inviting Doris LeaderCharge to translate his acceptance speech for best original screenplay into Lakota was not "cheap emotion" or exploitative, it was respectful. Many Lakota people, as well as Native American people of many

CAMPER

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PHOTO ALBUM?



nations, were watching the Oscars, probably for the first time.

The film *Dances With Wolves* has already helped our "present-day woes" just by acknowledging that we exist. There was no community in this country that scrutinized *Dances With Wolves* more than the Native American community. This film was the closet yet made to presenting history in an accurate way. It has brought attention and interest to our cultures, giving us the opportunity to enlighten many. Surely gay and lesbian people agree that the distortion of history is one of the most effective methods of oppressing a people. The history of Hollywood and Indians has been one fraught with inaccuracies and stereotypes, and Mr. Costner has the distinction of being the first "belegana" (Navajo for "white") to try and correct them.

We, as Native Americans, have traditionally viewed our gay and lesbian community members as special and integral to our cultures. We understand that we all have roles to play in the balance of things. Recognizing those roles is as important as the roles themselves.

Writing for a community is a role and a responsibility that shouldn't be taken lightly. Especially when the writer is probably presenting, in many cases, the only information that the reader is receiving. Mr. Steele should be careful how he presents people he doesn't understand to his readers. Our history books have been abused by writers presenting their own personal viewpoints as fact.

I understand that Mr. Steele has his personal agenda. The AIDS problem and gay and lesbian issues are very important. However, I don't feel it is necessary to ridicule something that he doesn't understand in one breath and then refer to us as his "Native American brothers and sisters" in the other, especially when he claims to be fighting prejudice and apathy. *Dances With Wolves* is a tribute to our fight against

prejudice and racism. Mr. Costner recognized the role he should play by producing his film.

Mr. Steele should recognize his role and not worry about competition for media attention.

Rudy Martin, Director
Public Relations
American Indian Community
House, Inc.
Manhattan

Bruce Steele responds: I don't speak for a community. I speak only for myself, and the article was about the Oscars, not about

AIDS issues or Native American issues. I admired the work of all the Native Americans who appeared in Dances With Wolves, and I'm glad to hear some Native Americans are happy with the film. Rectifying 100-year-old misconceptions is important, but the present is less pliable—I fear the only life that will be significantly changed by Wolves is Kevin Costner's. As for Michael Blake's "gesture": Bruce Davison never found it necessary to drag a PWA to awards ceremonies to advertise his solidarity with the

AIDS community. Cheap sentiment translated into Lakota is still cheap sentiment.

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

Will the New District Lines Send Gays to the City Council?

by Duncan Osborne

NEW YORK—The 15-member, independent body charged with reshaping the city's 35 City Council districts into 51 smaller, more representative ones, last week released 34 scenarios of possible districts. Several of the computer-generated scenarios included Councilmanic districts that gay and lesbian politicians have pressed the commissioners to draw.

But the scenario thought to provide gay or lesbian candidates with the best chance of election draws its southern border right through the heart of the West Village and even divides the north and south sides of one part of Christopher Street.

Though the scenarios are only tools to aid the Districting Commission in formulating the final map, gay and lesbian politicians are quickly responding to the commission's work.

The 34 scenarios represent the first fruits of analysis of the testimony presented to the commission since it began public hearings less than a year ago. The staff used a variety of information, including federal census data, election results and mailing lists, to create these scenarios.

The redistricting process continues to be a sore spot for gay and les-

bian activists. That section of the city's new charter that created the Districting Commission and identified those

men and lesbians to the category "other." And activists unsuccessfully pressed Mayor David Dinkins to appoint an openly gay commissioner.

In Manhattan, as many as three of the possible eight scenarios present gay-winnable districts. One scenario, number six, with one major exception, closely resembles the Council district that staff at the Empire State Pride Agenda, the gay and lesbian statewide lobbying group, recently presented to the commission.

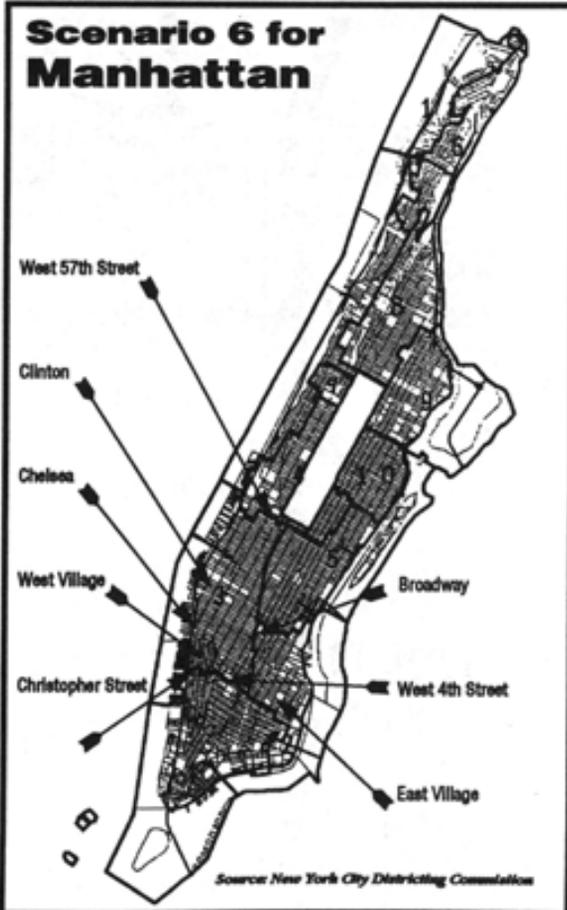
"It seems like the best scenario is number six," said Dick Dadey, executive director of the Pride Agenda. "What concerns me is [that it] cuts the West Village in half at Christopher Street. For New York City to have a gay- and lesbian-winnable district that cuts the West Village in half is ludicrous."

The southern border of that district in scenario six runs from the Hudson River along Christopher Street to Hudson Street, down to Barrow Street, across West Fourth Street and Waverly Place to Broadway. But according to Dadey, even without the 13,000 West Village voters

excluded from that district, a gay or

see DISTRICT on page 46

Scenario 6 for Manhattan



underrepresented populations the commission should serve in redrawing Councilmanic districts, relegated gay

Cop Bashings: Outcry Swells

by Nina Reyes

NEW YORK—In the continuing effort to maneuver the city in the direction of restructuring how it scrutinizes its police department, a working group within ACT UP is tracking investigations of police violence, and a broad coalition of attorneys is considering a range of legal actions against cops.

The Police Violence Working Group of ACT UP/New York is seeking action from City Hall on five demands the group has issued. The group met early last month with Deputy Mayor Bill Lynch, and while Lynch then briefed the mayor and several other top government officials, including Police Commissioner Lee Brown, on the group's demands, to date there has been no follow-up meeting.

The lethargic response of city officials to calls for an investigation into the events of Feb. 5 and Feb. 11, both dates on which gay activists were arrested and allegedly beaten while in police custody, has raised the ire of Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger.

"Too much time has passed without an adequate explanation of [the Feb. 11] incident from the Police Department," Messinger said pointedly in a letter to Mayor David Dinkins. "These serious charges merit a rigorous, speedy and independent investigation."

The working group's demands, which Messinger has endorsed and reiterated in her letter to Dinkins, call for: a thorough investigation of the Feb. 5 and Feb. 11 incidents which resulted in the serious injury of two ACT UP members, and the establishment of an all-civilian complaint review board; appointment of a special counsel to investigate those incidents; a comprehensive study aimed at improving how officers police demonstrations; immediate implementation of multicultural sensitivity training for all officers and cadets; and enforcement of existing laws that allow members of the press—particularly the gay and lesbian press—to cover events without interference and harassment from cops.

In a letter updating the working group, Lynch revealed incremental move-

ment toward satisfying four of the activists' demands but explicitly rejected the activists' request for a special investigator.

"Your refusal to appoint a civilian investigator entirely independent of the biased parties involved (the Manhattan DA and the NYPD) shows a lack of commitment on the part of the Dinkins administration to getting to the bottom of the NYPD's crimes in these instances," the activists responded sharply, in their most recent communication with Lynch. Currently, the Manhattan DA's office is both investigating the charges against the cops and prosecuting the activists who were injured prior to, and during, their arrests.

In an effort to comply with the final demand listed above, Police Department Deputy Commissioner for Public Information Suzanne Trazoff met on April 11 with members of the gay and lesbian press, including representatives from *OutWeek*, *Sappho's Isle*, a lesbian monthly newspaper, and Impact Visuals, a photo stock house that covers the lesbian and gay community closely.

Meanwhile, a group of lawyers has formed to explore the possibility of filing a legal challenge to what they argue is a pattern of police misconduct.

David Walker, chief investigator for CUNY's Center for Law and Social Justice, said that the group of about 20 attorneys from private, public and civil-rights firms have been meeting since early October to talk about innovative legal means that could be used to combat police violence.

NEWS FLASH

Connecticut Is Fourth Free State!

HARTFORD, Conn.—The Nutmeg State has become the fourth in the union to enact civil rights legislation for gay men and lesbians.

The bill, an Act Concerning Discrimination on the Basis of Sexual Orientation, passed the Connecticut Senate at 4:30 pm on Wednesday, March 18, by a 21-to-14 vote. The bill had previously passed the House 81-to-65.

"The governor will sign the bill with great enthusiasm," promised Avice Meehan, a spokesperson for Gov. Lowell Weicker, the new governor of Connecticut and a strong advocate of the bill.

The victory comes on the heels of the passage of similar legislation in Hawaii last month, and as lawmakers in Maine and California are gearing up for votes on gay rights bills.

Check next week's *OutWeek* for complete details.

—Carrie Wolford/Boston

"We're looking at a strategy around bringing a lawsuit against the city for pattern and practice of police discrimination against minority people," said Matt Foreman, an attorney and the director of the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, who recently joined Walker's coalition group.

But, first the group must thoroughly document their claims, indisputably establish a pattern and find plaintiffs willing to file suit. According to Foreman, just completing the initial leg-work could take months. ▼



LIKE TO DANCE?

ROTC and the National Lesbian and Gay Student Agenda

by Carrie Wofford

Gay, lesbian and bisexual students are trying to prove the myth of a national gay student movement true.

On April 10, students on more than 80 campuses demonstrated against the presence of the Reserve Officer Training Corps, or ROTC, a scholarship program which pays for students' college education in return for service as an officer in the military and which openly excludes gay men and lesbians.

Critics, however, are charging that students did not utilize their full power because they feared "alienating" their campuses. While students in California, New York and Massachusetts organized massive demonstrations and campus shut-downs over tuition increases and cuts in financial aid, gay students attempted to educate their campus bodies with letters in campus newspapers, letters to their college presidents, peti-

tions and educational fliers.

Some students added theatrics by donning army fatigues and distributing the famous military poster of Uncle Sam pointing—but with new text about discrimination against gays and lesbians.

NEWS FOCUS

They also zapped the White House with letters, faxes and phone calls.

"Rumor has it the phones in the White House were going all day," declared Glenn Magpantay, one of the three student coordinators of the nationwide Day of Action. But no gay student groups were able to engage their fellow students in campuswide outrage.

Students targeted the Department of Defense's directive that declares that "homosexuality is incompatible with military service," because the

directive is used to openly exclude gays and lesbians from ROTC scholarships, which, they contend, contradicts university anti-discrimination clauses (many of which now include sexual orientation).

While organizers said that the day was "fabulous" and "tremendously successful" because "so many campuses participated," other participants questioned the success, calling the demonstrations "sedate." Students at the University of California at Berkeley, for instance, had threatened to take over the administration building but never did.

"People were concerned anything confrontational would blow up in our face[s]," explained Greg Drinkwater, the coordinator of the protest at Berkeley, particularly because the campus newspapers depicted the university chancellor as pro-gay.

NEW BILL WOULD PUNISH COLLEGES THAT BAR MILITARY

WASHINGTON—A handful of US House members, in a gesture that could impact the movement to pressure the Department of Defense to rescind its policy of excluding gay men and lesbians from the armed forces, unveiled on March 22 a bill which would bar federal funds from any schools, colleges or universities that bar military recruiters from their campuses.

The measure sponsored by Republican Rep. Gerald B. Solomon of New York was crafted in response to the actions of a handful of high schools across the country that have refused the Department of Defense access to student rosters for recruitment purposes, according to Dan Amon, a Solomon spokesperson.

Amon acknowledged, however, that the same bill would also "put at risk" federal funds to colleges and universities that prohibit military recruitment on their campuses based on the military's policy of excluding gay men and lesbians from the service. What impact the measure would have on schools that ban the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, or ROTC, from their campuses is unclear.

Eight years ago, Solomon gained notoriety for sponsoring a measure which barred federal scholarship monies to college students who fail to sign up for the selective service.

Although the figures are not complete, the most reliable estimates, supplied by the American Civil Liberties Union, or ACLU, show that as of April 3, six American universities had barred ROTC programs from their campuses already, and another 16 had voted to eliminate their ROTC programs if its anti-gay policy has not changed by some later date. Three colleges have opted not to bring back ROTC programs, and one other opted to not offer an ROTC program, based on the anti-gay policy. A total of 22 colleges and universities have begun serious efforts to bar the ROTC from their campuses.

One school—the University of Virginia at Charlottesville—voted earlier this year to bar recruiting by any entity which discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation (including all military recruiting) but reversed itself later under pressure from the state Legislature.

—Cliff O'Neill

BUSH ISSUES TERSE RESPONSE ON GAYS IN MILITARY

WASHINGTON—The White House on March 26 officially issued a terse response to a letter from Democratic Rep. Gerry Studds of Massachusetts and 39 other members of Congress which called on the Department of Defense to drop its policy of barring gay men and lesbians from military service.

The succinct answer from the Bush administration was signed by Frederick D. McClure, assistant to the president for legislative affairs. Four sentences long, the letter thanked Studds for his letter "regarding the treatment of gay and lesbian soldiers in the military."

"We appreciate the interest which prompted you to write," McClure wrote. "Please know that your correspondence has been directed to the appropriate administration

officials for their careful review and consideration."

Studds, who is openly gay and a point person on the efforts to change the anti-gay Pentagon policy, reported being "less than overwhelmed" by the White House response.

"Gays always have [served] and always will serve in the US military," said Studds in a prepared statement. "The only question is that they will be allowed to do so with dignity."

Studds and 39 colleges on March 15 sent a joint letter to President Bush urging him to issue an executive order rescinding the anti-gay policy, citing Pentagon estimates that possibly as many as 50,000 gay men and lesbians served as part of the US military presence in the Persian Gulf war.

—Cliff O'Neill

Other students agreed, saying that a fear of making enemies prevented them from making bolder moves against ROTC. At UCLA, plans for a kiss-in by students wearing army fatigues and for a demand that ROTC be kicked off campus were dropped because students did not want to "alienate students who are in ROTC, particularly students of color," who may need to rely on ROTC scholarships, one student said.

"Nationwide, it's been a very conservative movement," declared Ted Comerford, another of the project's three student coordinators. A 26-year-old senior at San Jose State University and a founder of Queer Nation/South Bay, Comerford was involved in the only demonstration in the nation which ended in arrests. He and two other students were arrested for raising a gay and lesbian pride flag on the ROTC flagpole.

Comerford believes that "the younger students see that kind of activism as totally radical stuff from the '60s that won't work today. They haven't seen radical tactics being successful..., and they see ACT UP and Queer Nation as vandalizing."

The presence of ROTC on college campuses was also challenged in the '70s, when anti-war sentiment among students spread to the military presence on campuses. Then, students utilized confrontational tactics, as they did in the '80s, during the movement that led many schools

to drop their investments in companies tied to South Africa, and during the more recent struggles for racially diverse faculty and courses of study.

"In the beginning of the gay liberation movement on campuses, we weren't focused on reforming institutions [such as ROTC]. We were trying to overturn them," explained Warren Blumenfeld, an author, historian and early gay student activist who founded the now-defunct National Gay Student Center in Washington, DC. Blumenfeld suggested that the more conservative tactics used by the student ROTC movement arose because the goal is more conservative and because "the movement is new."

Former Air Force ROTC cadet Rob Schwitz, who was dismissed on March 6 after coming out to his advisors, found students "very apathetic," according to the *Gay Community News*. Students at

see ROTC on page 24



Photo: Troy Knutson/The Badger Herald

2-4-6-8, HOW DO YOU KNOW YOUR SERGEANT'S STRAIGHT?

Students at the University of Wisconsin/Madison's anti-ROTC rally on April 10

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Hollywood's Latest Has Gay SF All Riled Up...Again



CRUISING, PART 483—GLAAD's Hollie Conley with a script to *Basic Instinct*

by Allen White

SAN FRANCISCO—Vandalism and protests have been the angry response to the filming here of *Basic Instinct*, a new film reportedly about a lesbian murderer. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, or GLAAD, is describing the film as "the latest in a long series of recent American movies that depict lesbians or gay men as stereotypes or as criminals."

Following an initial outcry earlier this month, the office of gay Supervisor Harry Britt threatened to force the filming out of San Francisco.

"We only have the power to force them to film somewhere else," said Rick Ruvalo, a Britt aide. "The activists have the energy and are resourceful enough to disrupt their proceedings and think they are prepared to do that if they believe there is reason."

The film's producers were trying to prevent the city from releasing the schedule and location of the shoots, which the city attorney has declared public information.

In defense of the film *Basic Instinct*, its producers issued a statement saying that the film "does not exploit or stereotype any characters; in fact, director Paul

Verhoeven and screenwriter Joe Eszterhas have included fully developed non-stereotypical characters that reflect a mix of ethnic backgrounds and socio-economic classes." The production company's response also states, "Carolco and Tri-Star Pictures, as well as the cast and crew of *Basic Instinct*, reject any form of discrimination, violation of civil rights or bigotry."

When filming began during the second week in April at the Rawhide II, a gay country-and-western dance bar, pickets from Queer Nation showed up, targeting the bar's owner, Ray Chalker.

In the days that followed, the bar and Chalker himself, who publishes the *Sensine*, one of the city's two weekly gay and lesbian newspapers, has been deluged by vandalism and threatening phone calls.

"There has been constant harassment," Chalker said. "They put glue in my locks, and they put fliers all over my place." He even charges Queer Nationals with ringing his doorbell in the middle of the night and then running down the street.

Queer Nation has in fact been distributing a flier that includes all his business telephone numbers, as well as his home phone. Chalker said that Queer Nation is

engaging in "gestapo tactics." Chalker has also called police and his lawyers to investigate anonymous, spray-painted threats against his life.

Queer Nation has accused Chalker of selling out his community, because of his editorial position last year against the Miller Beer boycott, and now because he rented his gay bar to the production company filming the allegedly homophobic film.

"This has been blown completely out of proportion. They gave money, and they rented my space," Chalker retorted, adding: "Do you think I would take their money if I knew they were doing an anti-gay movie? Not in a million years."

Lauren Strogoff, a spokesperson for the film, told *OutWeek* that the production company is not releasing copies of the script, a major frustration for activists.

"We are really going only by rumor, and I still have not seen the script," Ruvalo said. "The people making it claim that it is not bad. But right now, we are operating in a vacuum," he admitted.

But several members of GLAAD in San Francisco have managed to obtain copies. Hollie Conley, a GLAAD spokesperson, said: "Everyone who has read the script is pretty outraged. It is yet another movie which portrays us in an unrealistic way."

Basic Instinct may be the film which creates the defining confrontation between the gay community and the film industry, "the straw that broke the camel's back," according to Conley.

Since the near-riotous protest against the filming of *Crushing* in New York in 1978, the gay and lesbian communities in San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York have protested the production of many movies and TV shows deemed to be anti-gay or that presented gay people in stereotypical, negative ways.

"Our chief concern," Conley continued, "is the homophobia of Hollywood as a whole. They don't give us any characters

that treat our community realistically."

Negotiations are reportedly underway among Robin Eickman, director of the San Francisco Film Commission, the local bureau that regulates film shoots in the city, Britt's office, activists and representatives from the film.

The script was reportedly sold for \$3 million, making it one of the most expensive screenplays in motion picture history. The movie stars Michael Douglas and Sharon Stone and is produced by Alan Marshall, whose credits include *Midnight Express*, *Jacob's Ladder* and *Angel Heart*. Director Paul Verhoeven's past accomplishments include *The Fourth Man* and *Robocop*.

The film is scheduled to continue shooting in the San Francisco area for several weeks and will then move to a site near Carmel, about 100 miles south, and then, finally, to Los Angeles. The film is scheduled to be released in 1992. ▼

NEWS FLASH

NEEDLE-TRIAL VERDICT DUE IN MAY

NEW YORK—The trial of eight clean-needle advocates, arrested last March on misdemeanor charges of needle possession, has come to a close.

As *OutWeek* went to press, defense and prosecution attorneys presented closing arguments before Judge Laura Drager, who directed both sides to provide briefs on the legal issues raised by the activists' justification defense by May 6. A verdict is due May 30.

"Their eye was on the prize," said defense attorney Mike Spiegel. "Their eye was on trying to stop transmission of HIV through shared needles."

Defense attorneys claimed that the defendants were acting to prevent the imminent danger to IV-drug users of acquiring HIV through needle-sharing.

But prosecutor Michael Solomon suggested that the events of last March were not really an earnest attempt at needle exchange, but merely a protest.

"People are not justified in committing crimes because their message has not been heard in the political arena," rebutted Solomon.

—Duncan Osborne

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Theater Deeper by the Dozen

Twelve Gay Plays; One Good Show

What first drew me to this show, aside from the blunt title, was the guerrilla poster campaign on the streets. Anything that is able to affront so clearly and quickly will hopefully be an eye-opener. There's something to please and disturb every gay taste in *Homosexual Acts*, a collection of twelve short plays, each deftly directed by Rich Rubin. What could be a slipshod variety show instead becomes a gallery of diverse talents and views from writers willing to go beyond the usual "accept me, please" mentality of too many gay plays.

Familiar themes of violence and abuse are given unusual twists in "That Al Pacino Look" (How to disempower a mugger), Daniel Curzon's "S & M" (Where did it start? Not at the Spike. Try Jerusalem) and "One Man's Opinion" (Bogotan-style monologue of a gay-basher).

Robert Patrick's three works showcases his wit and diversity. In "Wagner and Ludwig" we get a taste of Ridiculous Theatre camp between Richard Wagner and King Ludwig as they flirt and woo aboard a train. "The Family Bar" portrays a reverse satire of a society that represses apple pie types. The jokes fall flat, perhaps because the message is such a bitter punch in the face. What if THEY (i.e., your grandma, uncle and sweet little sister) had to co-grease in seedy bars and cruise spots? "The Family Bar" is more than comedy; it's a cruel indictment of the limits of bar culture in New World Order Land.

Carl Morse brings joy and hope in two similarly fertile scenes, with a pregnant word processor who gets a visit from the good Fairy in Personnel, to the cheerleading "Pussy Puck-in" where upon

all hats are given the go ahead to make more queers.

While Robert Patrick's "The Way We War" is topical regarding the Iraq War, it comes off as a plain stated PSA, never

body's Little Boy."

Actor Ted Senecal is brilliant in the diversity of roles, hopping from crotchety grandma to earnest fairy to carnivorous closet case businessman in a single scene change.

John Gerna shines in Victor Bumbalo's "Show" as a manic priest locked up in a Catholic sanitarium. His intense monologues are interspersed with recorded vocal glorias, allelujahs and brief sexual moments with husky asylum employee Joey (Leslie Roberts). He recounts his frustration with his search for God as his Carposi's sarcoma lesions grow, spurring his superior to imprison him, not unlike many other saints. Bumbalo's father Michael is a male Joan of Arc for the '90s.

What appears to be a loose collection of themes is cohesively designed by scenic artist Jamie Leo. We jump from pathos to Saturday Night Live-type sketches. It's satisfying to know that the authors had the sense to keep these plays, some with limited plots and themes, so short. Less is often more. Additionally, the talented ensemble of actors are able to hop from broad comedy to tender realist characterization, each touching on the multifaceted views of gay lives. A

—Jim Provenzano

YOU ARE
INVITED TO
WITNESS
SOME...



approaching the true firework, two gay men can work up while on opposite sides of the Pro/Anti War debate.

Bill Wright's "Mother Father Lover Man" pushes into poetic performance with a swift beauty, recounting the cruel and glorious first time account of a young Black man, played by Tony Salas, in a hotel room. Salas also provides a biting voice as the conscience of a guy recovering from yet another night of cheap sex in Robert Chesley's "Some-

Homosexual Acts, 12 short plays by Robert Patrick, Daniel Curzon, Victor Bumbalo, Robert Chesley, Carl Morse, Rich Rubin and Bill Wright, directed by Rich Rubin at Theatre at 224 Waverly Place (off 7th Avenue South) Wed, Thurs, Fri at 8pm, Sat at 7 and 10pm, Sun at 3 and 7pm. \$20. (212) 564-8038.

24 hunt
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More Gay-Bashing in Brooklyn as Stats Jump to Record Level

by Nina Reyes

NEW YORK—Two arrests have been made in a Sunset Park gay-bashing that took place in mid-March, but yet another gruesome anti-gay attack has been reported in the Brooklyn neighborhood.

The news came just as the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, or AVP, announced that the first quarter of 1991 shows a 24 percent jump in anti-gay violence over

last year's statistics.

"I never thought that would be possible," commented Matt Foreman, AVP's director, noting that the arrival of warm weather typically heralds an increase in violent crimes. "Every month this year has set a record," Foreman disclosed. "We had hoped that 1990 was an aberration, and it's clearly not."

Two 19-year-olds were arrested in connection with the March 19 beating of Eric Torres, and both were charged with

assault in the third degree and fourth-degree grand larceny. The two men are: Gustavo Garcia, of 439 52nd St., Brooklyn, and Andres Liberato, of 456 52nd St., Brooklyn. Garcia was arrested on March 21, and Liberato was taken into custody on April 13, according to Sgt. Peter Berry of the New York Police Department's public information office.

Liz Garro, the Brooklyn district attorney's liaison to the lesbian and gay community, said that she was pleased with



FILE JOINTLY, MY SWEET, EMBRACEABLE YOU

NEW YORK—Tax Day, April 15, is a sharp reminder to all Americans that marriage, at least in the eyes of the government, is an economic institution. So what better place to demonstrate their displeasure at being excluded from such a profitable rite than on the steps of the General Post Office on Eighth Avenue and West 33rd Street, at 11:30 pm.

As hordes of last-minute filers rushed up the steps, searched frantically for tax forms and grabbed the packets of free Excedrin being doled out as a PR stunt, members of Queer Nation were

busy getting hitched.

Chanting, "We're here! We're queer! We're getting married!" they exchanged vows, publicly displayed affection, threw bird seed (rice, apparently, isn't so good for unsuspecting birds), drank champagne and explained to a weary but receptive public about yet another form of discrimination against gay men and lesbians.

A similar protest was staged outside Internal Revenue Service headquarters in Washington, DC.

—Andrew Miller

the two arrests.

But Torres himself expressed only a half-hearted endorsement of the 72nd Precinct's efforts, noting that he had provided the officers with the names and addresses of his alleged attackers and had to pressure the police through the bias unit before the arrests were made.

"I'm glad that they arrested the guys," he said, "but if that's how they're going to continue, they should give me their badges and their guns, and I'll do their job for [them]."

In the other Sunset Park case, Garro said that a recent émigré from Poland was severely beaten, allegedly by three young men who told their arresting officers that they beat the vic-

tim because he had made a "homosexual gesture" at them.

The perpetrators, who were arrested by Transit Police officers who happened to be a half-block away when the incident occurred, reportedly beat the individual so severely that he may have suffered permanent brain damage. According to Garro, the incident happened at approximately 4 am, April 7, on 25th Street near 4th Avenue in Brooklyn, and the victim, who remains in the hospital, has been in and out of a coma since that time.

A spokesperson for the Transit Police did not return *OutWeek's* calls before press time.

The incident has received a bias designation.

And in Staten Island, a retired police officer who intervened in a gay-bashing on the boardwalk in South Beach, suffering serious head injuries for his effort, is currently listed in stable condition at St. Vincent's Medical Center of Staten Island. The former cop is James McKee, 69, of South Beach.

Altogether, four arrests have been made in that case, which involved a gang attack on two men, identified as Jeff Tracy and Vincent Gatto. The alleged perpetrators, all of whom live in Staten Island, are: William Gay, 17, of Andrews Street; Charles McClean, 17, of Bell Street; Michael Garland, 23, who is Gay's cousin and lives at the same address as Gay; and Sheldon Willis, 19, of Colfax Avenue. ▼

eye

SPY

by ELLEN
B. NEIPRIS



EAST 1ST STREET, EAST VILLAGE—Comedian Reno and accordionist Jasmine were caught horsing around in the kitchen at Dixon Place, which is celebrating its fifth anniversary this month, after another long grueling night of south-of-14th-Street performance-art stuff last week.

Earlier in the evening, after a straw poll of the audience produced no definitive consensus on the question "Do you

think I look like a boy or a girl?" the purple-smoking-jacketed Reno pronounced herself "cross-cultural," although she admitted that she doesn't much like kissing men.

Don't miss Reno's upcoming benefit show for the *Women, AIDS and Activism Handbook's* Spanish translation project at sister performance-space, PS 122, just up the block on First Avenue near East 9th Street, May 3 and May 4. *Te veremos allí.*

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MISS SAIGON A FINANCIAL SUCCESS BUT A PR DISASTER FOR LAMBDA

NEW YORK—The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund raised



TOM STODDARD

\$140,000 from the sale of tickets to its fund-raiser performance of the Broadway musical, *Miss Saigon*, equivalent to its financial projections, though less than Lambda could have raised if it had sold all of its tickets to the show, said Executive Director Tom Stoddard.

"It could have been \$75,000 to \$100,000 more, had we not turned in 300 tickets to the box office," he reported. "We sold over 800 tickets, but we had 300 left which we decided not to advertise in view of the controversy surrounding the play. Two and three weeks before our preview show, we sold them back."

Only 14 people acted on Lambda's offer to buy back the tickets of anyone who supported the concerns raised by two gay Asian groups about racism and sexism in the musical.

Many more people responded from the other side, Stoddard reported, accusing Lambda of capitulating to the Asian groups so-called terrorist tactics and of being held ransom by extremists. Anonymous fliers accusing the Asian groups of needlessly attacking Lambda were "inappropriate," added Stoddard. "This kind of thing does not promote anyone's interests," he said.

Responding to accusations that Lambda was in some way responsible for alleged police violence at a protest

organized by Asian Lesbians of the East Coast, or ALOEC, and Gay Asian and Pacific Islander Men of New York, or GAPIMNY, outside the theater at Lambda's fund-raiser, Stoddard told *OutWeek*: "We called the police to prevent violence. The worse alternative would have been to surprise the police. We deplore the alleged police brutality."

Meanwhile, the city's Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project, or AVP, is the only one of numerous community groups asked by ALOEC and GAPIMNY to take a stand on Lambda's association with *Miss Saigon* that actually did so.

"We are disappointed by Lambda's decision not to withdraw from their *Miss Saigon* fund-raising event," the gently worded statement from the board read, in part. "We believe that the irrational hatred which motivates bias crimes against lesbians and gay men is closely akin to hatred based on race, sex, religion and ethnicity. We are firmly committed to uniting our struggle against homophobia with the struggles against racism, sexism and religious and ethnic intolerance."

Matt Foreman, AVP's executive director, said that he was surprised that his was the only community organization to speak out. The Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center cancelled its own plans for a similar benefit at the urging of ALOEC and GAPIMNY last month.

Lambda has issued an apology for its part in the controversy. "We have learned an important lesson on the need to think more carefully, do more research and be more sensitive before embarking on fund-raising and other programs," the statement read, in part. "We will apply that lesson from now on and are committed to pursuing a fund-raising strategy that reflects the diversity of our communities."

—Avril McDonald

STATE DEPARTMENT AGREES TO TRACK ABUSES OF GAYS WORLDWIDE

WASHINGTON—The man who writes the State Department's report on

human-rights abuses around the world has agreed to include anti-gay incidents if activists worldwide provide confirmable information.

The agreement by Tom Williams, director of the Country Human Rights Reports Team, came at an April 9 meeting with three Washington activists—Michael Petrelis of ACT UP, Margaret Cantrell of Gay and Lesbian Watch and Barrett Brick of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

Activists presented Williams with 14 months of *Outlines*, a Chicago-based gay and lesbian newspaper with extensive coverage of international news, to document the extent of gay and lesbian human-rights abuses around the globe.

"The only mention of gays and lesbians in the 1990 report was a paragraph on Denmark's legalization of gay marriage," Petrelis said. "I want them to improve this report as it relates to gay and AIDS issues."

"Williams was very receptive," Petrelis said. "He listened intently and told us what to do to get this information included in the report."

Petrelis initially encountered opposition before locating Williams. "The undersecretary for the division told me the report could not include gays and lesbians without a congressional mandate," Petrelis said.

But Williams said that anti-gay incidents merely need to fit into existing categories approved by Congress, such as disappearance, torture and arbitrary arrest.

During the meeting, the three activists highlighted the reported mass-executions of gays in Iran, the extended police and judicial harassment of the Comunidad Homosexual Argentina and the reported murders of transvestites and gays by Maoist guerrillas in Peru.

"I really feel we're going to get somewhere," Petrelis said, "if activists around the world provide the information."

Reports should be filed with the political counselor at the US embassy in the nation where the anti-gay incident takes place and carbon-copied to Williams and the Washington "desk officer" for that particular country. The address is: Bureau of Human Rights, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520. Phone: (202) 647-1442.

—Rex Wockner/Chicago

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queer planet

by REX WOCKNER

MEXICO—The mayor of Guadalajara has denounced the 13th-annual conference of the International Lesbian and Gay Association, or ILGA, scheduled here for June 30–July 6. "It is an event we repudiate completely," Gabriel Covarrubias Ibarra told the newspaper *Metropoli*. "We are not going to offer them the smallest amount of support, given that this meeting contravenes public morals." But the mayor added that local organizations have a right to host the conference and he said: "There will be no aggression against them. But neither will we permit aggression against the [general] community," Covarrubias Ibarra threatened. If the delegates stage a march, he said, "they will be impeded by the authorities to make clear that [our] society...doesn't recognize all this that is unnatural."

Reached by telephone, conference organizer Jorge Romero Mendoza of the Homosexual Pride Liberation Group said that delegates should not be alarmed by hostile news reports of the mayor's ranting and raving. "This is one of ten hysterical articles on the conference that have appeared in this ultra-right-wing newspaper," Romero Mendoza said. "The bottom line is the authorities know we have a constitutional right to stage the conference." To register, send \$350 to cover all expenses to ILGA Conference, Ana Isabel Lopez Garcia, c/o Patricia Trujillo Avila, PO Box 1-2497, Administration de Correos #1, ZC 44100 Guadalajara, Mexico. Make checks out to Lopez Garcia.

POLAND—Following last year's rumors that he once promised to eliminate homosexuals from society if elected president, Lech Walesa has belatedly responded to a questionnaire submitted by *Warsaw Gay News* to the candidates in last fall's election. Although Walesa's answers seem to have been written before the election, they were only now received by *WGN*. Asked "What do you, as a candidate, think of homosexuality?" Walesa responded: "I will not speak on this issue. It does not interest me." Asked "Is there any truth to the rumors that you threatened homosexuals?" Walesa stated, "That is not true." And asked "If you become president how will you treat these people?" Walesa answered: "I don't know yet whether I will treat them as outcasts of society. It is hard for me to answer this question now. We'll see after the elections." We're waiting, Lech.

NORWAY—Following ten years of division caused by disagreement over the extent to which gay rights struggles should be merged with leftist politics, Norway's two main gay organizations are plotting a merger. Spokespeople for *Det Norske Forbundet av 1948* and *Fellesradet for Homofile og Lesbiske Organisasjoner i Norge* say the process could take two years, however.

SPAIN—Minister of Social Affairs Daniel Galán has agreed to fund seven major projects of Spain's largest national gay organization, the Coordinator of Gays and Lesbians. The government will build three gay community centers (in Barcelona, Madrid and Valencia), establish the Pink Telephone line in Barcelona and foot the bill for two new gay newspapers, one in Castilian and the other in Catalan, the language of Barcelona and Catalonia. Spain has no gay press to speak of at present.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

ROTC
continued from page 15

his private college, Washington University in St. Louis, did not participate in the Day of Action. "It was certainly to our detriment that when the [university administration's] report came out, it cited a 'lack of outcry' on campus," Schwitz told *GCN*.

And if gaining larger student support was one goal of the day, few student government or faculty assemblies adopted resolutions condemning ROTC's presence. Most private colleges were also noticeably absent from the list of participating student groups.

But the Day of Action did demonstrate greater coordination among all the gay and lesbian organizations currently targeting ROTC. National Gay Rights Advocates in San Francisco and US Rep. Gerry Studds of Massachusetts sent letters to Bush objecting to the military's exclusion of gay men and lesbians, and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force designed the anti-military petitions to President George Bush which were distributed on campuses.

In fact, the Day of Action resulted from an ACLU-hosted conference on ROTC hosted last November as part of the recent focus on military discrimination by the country's gay and lesbian organizations.

Gay and lesbian students have never been as coordinated as they were during the past seven months of phone calls and meetings. Efforts to create a national network of gay student groups over the past two years have been only partly successful; and gays, lesbians and bisexuals only last year formed a caucus within the United States Student Association.

Still, while Blumenfeld was hopeful that the student anti-ROTC movement at least "motivates students and engages them in activism," where they might otherwise never see anti-gay discrimination as a personal issue, Drinkwater suggested that the Day of Action might have failed to motivate progressive straight students, who did not see ROTC as their issue and who demonstrated instead against the fee hikes and the Persian Gulf war. ▼

—filed from Boston

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Positive Activists, Positive Agendas

by Nima Eshghi

ACT UP is about empowerment. But just who feels empowered within the structure of an organization like ACT UP? Women and people of color often feel like we are not being heard. The constituency affected most directly by this crisis—HIV-positive people and PWAs—sometimes feel that their concerns are not being addressed with the urgency they deserve. And these various groups are certainly not mutually exclusive.



As someone who has fought hard for inclusion and sensitivity to diverse constituencies, I cannot very well sit back and pretend that I do not hear HIV-positive people and PWAs asserting their profound discomfort with some of ACT UP's actions, philosophies, processes and agendas.

One of my dearest friends, an HIV-positive gay man, has told me repeatedly over the past several months that he and many other HIV-positive people feel silenced by individuals and agendas within ACT UP. Still, he is an active participant who comes to meetings every week, raises new ideas and reaches out to others in the group. Now, I know what it's like to feel silenced, to feel invisible. As a lesbian and a woman of color, these are certainly not new concepts to me. But recently, the meaning of the particular sense of exclusion felt by HIV-positive individuals finally hit me hard on an emotional and political level.

Why now? I don't know for sure. Part of it is the result of being the only HIV-negative person in several informal discussions where HIV-positive people and PWAs, all heavily involved with ACT UP/Seattle, took on the topic of how to make ACT UP's agenda and priorities work for them. And this was not

a homogeneous group of individuals. There was, in this limited pool of people, diversity in age, gender, race, culture and sexual orientation.

No one was disputing the centrality of racism, classism, sexism or homophobia to the AIDS crisis. What was being said—or at least what I heard—was that the different experiences, ideas and priorities of people living with HIV and people living with AIDS need to be con-

*All of us
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between advocacy and
appropriation.*

stantly reasserted to keep the group in focus. And that these very same people must be at the forefront of the struggle to save lives—their own lives and the lives of people who may never set foot in an ACT UP meeting.

None of this is stuff we haven't all heard before. But hearing a political message and actually acting on what we hear are two very different things. I take seriously the proposition that many HIV-negative people are not sensitive to the fact that HIV-positive people and PWAs who want to participate in a group like ACT UP are feeling alienated, frustrated and shut out. Just as I continue to take seriously that ACT UP remains inaccessible and uncomfortable to many women and people of color who want to participate.

I say "want to participate" because,

clearly, there are those people of all persuasions for whom direct-action groups are anathema. I do not think that it is ACT UP's task to make everyone, HIV-positive or HIV-negative, want to be an ACT UP activist (a scary thought indeed). But it's time to make certain practical political analogies in order to better understand some of the dilemmas we are facing within ACT UP.

The analogy to sexism works well here. I do not tolerate men telling me how women should conduct the battle against sexism. And this does happen. Yes, I want my gay male friends to confront sexism. In fact, I want them to take the issues of women's social and economic oppression as seriously as I do—and to make a commitment to fighting sexism in their own lives and in the world around them. But I want them to work with me, alongside me—not for me or "on my behalf." I do not need their charity: I need their support. More than anything, I need my male friends and colleagues to understand that because I experience sexism daily and directly, that I am best equipped to define the agenda which responds to sexism in my life. I am the rightful leader of the struggle to save my life.

I, of course, want AIDS activists to recognize that the struggle against racism and sexism is a life-or-death issue for me. I need to bring this same philosophy to my AIDS activism as an HIV-negative woman of color. But all of us who are HIV-negative and committed AIDS activists tend to dangerously blur the line between advocacy and appropriation. This is only natural: We have all lost friends, lovers and family members to this disease. We are all witnessing the ongoing devastation of our communities. We feel a sense of urgency and distress. We don't always have the time or energy to sit back and calmly evaluate what we are doing and how we are doing it. But we must try and

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris/CutWeek

make that time—because the difference between speaking for someone and speaking with someone is a crucial one.

Just as I am not interested in seeing men speak for women or in seeing white people speak for people of color, I must temper my own impulse to speak for PWAs. As queers, we do not invite heterosexuals to speak for us and represent our needs and experiences to the straight world. We are perfectly capable of speaking for ourselves. When I am spoken for, I feel patronized. To be united in a struggle is to empower oppressed groups to speak for themselves, to encourage that expression of self-determination and to educate other people to do the same. To achieve solidarity we must recognize our limits and acknowledge when we are overstepping our boundaries.

An example of an organization which successfully negotiates this precarious political position is Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. P-FLAG lobbies government officials on legislation which we in the gay and lesbian community support, educates other parents and relatives of gay and lesbian people and provides support for gay men and lesbians struggling to come out in homophobic families. A predominantly heterosexual organization, by definition, it also takes its lead from the gay and lesbian community, not the other way around.

As an HIV-negative AIDS activist, I am deeply invested in the struggle to fight this pandemic. I am proud of what we have all accomplished so far. There are many things still to be done. Too many. We can fight it out with ignorant AIDS-phobic legislators and service-providers. We can research treatment options and disseminate information. We can refine and refocus our commitment to accessing services for underserved communities.

And we can act on what we have heard from HIV-positive people and PWAs within ACT UP—which means that sometimes, out of mutual respect and solidarity, we must get out of the way. ▼

Nima Esbghi, a member of ACT UP/Seattle, recently completed a master's degree in political science at the University of Washington. She is a native of New York City.

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INSIDER TRADING *by Allen Roskoff*

Drawing the Line

In a memorandum to the members of the New York City Districting Commission, the Commission's executive director, Alan Gartner, set forth numerous possible mappings of new district lines for New York's City Council. The new districts are supposed to make it easier to elect minorities to the City Council, but observers were afraid that lesbians and gays would be left out of the process because our community, denied a seat on the Districting Commission, had no one at that table looking out for our interests. But what we had instead was a successful effort by the Empire State Pride Agenda; the Gay and Lesbian Independent Democrats, or GLID; Lambda Independent Democrats, or LID, of Brooklyn; and Queer Nation to get our community recognized by that body.

As a result of their efforts, our community is referred to as a minority in Gartner's memorandum and recognized, along with Blacks, Hispanics and Asians, as deserving our own district. The daily newspapers also referred to the lesbian and gay community as a viable, established minority in their articles on the districting process. We hope that such consideration ultimately leads to at least one district that is winnable by a candidate from our community. Right now, a West Village-Chelsea-Clinton seat seems the most likely. Among the folks whose efforts paid off so far are Dick Dadey, executive director of the Pride Agenda; Lisa Parrish, former acting director of the Pride Agenda; Bob Bailey, a political science professor at Columbia University; and John Magisano, president of GLID.

City Council

There is apparently one potential candidate for that seat who is mulling over a decision to come out of the closet. How does that expression go—"too little, too late"?



This could be perceived as a gross example of opportunism. We may not be inclined to trust candidates not proud enough of their sexual orientation to lead an open life up to now—or one whose decision to come out is based on what works best with the electorate. Nor do we need another closet case on the City Council. It's time for a real lesbian or gay Council member, one who's out and proud. My suggestion to the potential

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candidate is: Come out of the closet, and get involved in the struggle for the next five to ten years, and then contemplate a run for office.

Dadey Do-Right

On Sunday, April 7, Nick Jones and David Strah held a brunch at their carriage house to bring folks from Queer Nation together with the Empire State Pride Agenda's Executive Director Dick Dadey. Jones and Strah, who are active in both organizations, introduced Dadey to such Queer Nationals as Jay Blotcher, Liz Powers, Dave Fleck and Drew Beaver. Dadey spoke about how both groups can work together and separately toward our

common goals. A seasoned professional, Dadey seems to be progressive and may be exactly what the Pride Agenda needs. His fund-raising background at the Human Rights Campaign Fund in Washington is extensive, and fund-raising is the name of the game in politics.

Stern and Drang

On Wednesday, April 10, Henry Stern, the president of Citizen's Union, or CU, appeared before the GLID general membership to respond to GLID's concerns about his organization. GLID wanted to know, among other things, why CU had never given a preferred rating to an openly gay or lesbian candidate for legislative office. CU went thumbs down on Jim Owles, Charles Larkin, David Rothenberg, Tom Duane, David Taylor and Deborah Glick.

Stern had no logical explanation for this perceived anti-gay bias. He boasted that his organization's 40 person board has one openly (note the word openly) gay member. Big deal, Henry. One out of 40 amounts to only 2.5 percent of the membership. This is New York City, not Salt Lake City. And they call this organization a citizen's union?

There were some heated moments in the meeting, like when Stern screamed at Olivia Rodriguez that what he said about people of color and their lack of involvement in civic groups like his was not meant to be racist or "insensitive." Stern also got hot when CU was criticized for sexism, as exemplified by its negative assessment of Comptroller Liz Holtzman as having an "abrasive personality." It was pointed out that while male Ed Koch was abrasive, he was praised for saying what was on his mind. Yet when female Liz Holtzman did the same thing, she was criticized for it—sexist double-standard, no? Stern deflected the analogy by saying that at least Koch was always funny—an interesting assessment, since I think that Koch's racism stood out before his perceived humor.

Stern showed little logic in his defense of CU. One certainly can understand why Ed "I-am-a-heterosexual"

Koch thinks highly of him.

Accompanying Stern at the GLID meeting was openly gay CU staffer Robert Bourguignon, a graduate student at Columbia University. Bourguignon was clearly pained by some of Stern's responses and tried his best to repair the damage. Stern could learn a lot from Bourguignon, whose sensitivity far exceeds his own. It's a bit mystifying because CU was formed in 1897 as a good-government group in response to machine-run City Hall. Today CU is certainly doing little about reform. After all, its president, Stern, and board chair, Robert Wagner, came to the organization fresh from serving in the most corrupt city administration in recent memory—Ed Koch's. I believe that Stern and Wagner are basically honest, but their support of the racially polarizing, machine-run, politically bankrupt and right-wing Ed Koch should have deemed them unfit for any sort of leadership positions within CU. In effect, CU has become the monster it hoped to replace. GLID will consider a plan of action against CU at its next general membership meeting. Stay tuned.

"Make an Appointment"

Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden was honored by the Brooklyn Democratic Party on Thursday, April 11. The honor so incensed Brooklyn's lesbian and gay community that activists from LID and Queer Nation crashed the cocktail hour to zap Golden.

The group mingled with party-goers at the Sheraton Centre and handed out a factsheet outlining Golden's deplorable record on gay and lesbian issues. When confronted, Golden angrily told activists that this was not an appropriate time to discuss the matter, and they should "make an appointment"! He seems to have forgotten that LID met with three of his top aides in January to no avail. Golden's chief gay advisor, Ed Rogowsky, ignored the activists. Brooklyn deserves better.

LID plans to continue to pressure Golden to change his ways. The war has just begun.

Strickler Comes Out Running

Longtime gay activist Arthur Strickler will in fact run for District Leader of Greenwich Village. He hopes to run as the candidate of the Village Independent Democrats. This columnist is on his bandwagon. ▼

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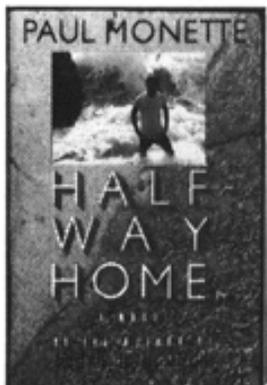
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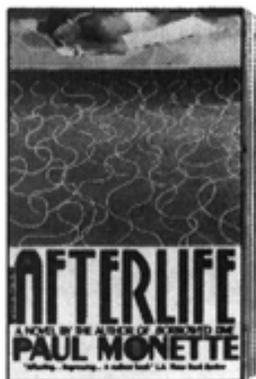
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The Road to Self-empowerment

by Jon Greenberg

Researchers in Tanzania recently discovered the answer to a question which had long puzzled them: Why do apes occasionally travel long distances seeking and then eating the young leaves of aspidia plants? The answer: The apes are responding to illness in their bodies, and the leaves of these particular plants help the apes rid themselves of parasites. It may be learned behavior, or it may be instinctual, but either way it demonstrates an important principle of health care which seems to have been all but forgotten in our over-civilized society. Ultimately, the best judge of what is going on in your body is you. These self-prescribing apes do not need a doctor to tell them what is wrong with them or how to cure it. Rather, they listen to their own bodies and act according to the messages they get from their bodies.



It would be ludicrous to suggest that we turn back the clock on millions of years of evolution and learn to heal ourselves on instinct alone, but the lesson to be learned from these apes is an important one nevertheless and raises an important question for all of us: When dealing with disease and health, who ultimately knows best what is going on in our bodies—a doctor with all of his or her sophisticated diagnostic tools and high-tech drugs, or we? Modern society has so alienated us from our own natures and, in the process, disempowered us that it now takes a specialist to tell us when we have a headache. We look at our bodies only when we get sick and then as if they were some sort of foreign car that requires a special mechanic to

dissect and fix.

Empowerment must begin on the most personal level—that of our own individual health care. We are not powerless. Those of us with AIDS must learn from the women's health movements of the last quarter of a century. We must study the history of communities of color during that same period and examine how they set up alternative health clinics to serve their communities. The medical establishment is failing us, and, individually, the doctors do not have the answers that we need to fight for our lives. We should never forget that this is the same medical establishment, the same system of analysis and diagnosis, that not so long ago classified all lesbians and gay men as mentally ill simply because of our sexual preference. How can we continue to accept their theories on the cause and treatments of AIDS?

Already, as I write, the AZT model is beginning to crumble. What further studies must be done to demonstrate that, in the final analysis, those of us with AIDS hold the key to our own health? That what we know intuitively about our bodies is more valid than what the doctors have to tell us about our bodies?

For the PWA, self-empowerment begins with learning how to trust her- or himself. If a doctor makes a prescription that you are uncomfortable with, question the doctor and ask to see the study upon which the prescription is based. If this causes the doctor moments of discomfort, it is a sign not that you are wrong in mistrusting the doctor but that the doctor does not like having his or her authority questioned. Too bad. It is your health that is at stake here, not a doctor's ego.

Read as many of the studies as you can. If the studies seem impenetrable, ask

your doctor or someone else to explain them to you. If the doctor merely repeats the conclusions of the studies without adequately explaining how those conclusions were reached, chances are that the conclusions are all that your doctor has read. Scientific studies should be clear enough to understand without the help of an interpreter. If they are not, chances are that there is something wrong with the study. Ask questions. Be skeptical. Do not blindly accept a doctor's or researcher's conclusions—particularly if, ultimately, you may be taking a toxic drug with potentially serious side effects.

Learning how to treat yourself means learning how to listen to anecdotal evidence and separate the wheat from the chaff. Claims of sero-conversion to HIV-negativity should always be regarded with skepticism. Remission of certain symptoms, however, or a report of increased energy and general improvement of health need not be so quickly dismissed if the report is from someone you trust. Use your judgment. Just because a treatment does not have the formal studies to back up its claim to efficacy does not mean that it does not work. It simply means that the studies needed to prove its efficacy have not been done. "Unproven" does not mean "disproven."

In the final analysis, the first step in self-empowerment as a PWA is reclaiming one's right to make one's own treatment decisions, one's right to say no to a doctor's prescription, one's right to trust one's own intuition and knowledge about one's body and oneself. There are remedies and treatments available without prescriptions. The first step in accessing those treatments is learning how to say no to your doctor and yes to your inner, perhaps instinctual voices. ▼



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PEDRO (PETER) WLODAWSKY

Pedro (Peter) Wlodawsky died in Buenos Aires on Jan. 26, 1991, after weeks of PCP. Born in Buenos Aires on March 24, 1947, Peter moved to New York City about a year ago and managed Morgan Tours, a travel

agency on East 68th Street. He became a US citizen about five years ago and was spending the summer in Argentina when he fell sick and died. During the New York summers, Peter lived at his Fire Island home, with which he was very generous—for his

door was always open there. I've only begun to miss him.

There will be a memorial service on Thursday, May 2, at 5 pm at St. John's Episcopal Church, 224 Waverly Pl. Call (212) 989-9023 for information.

—Andy Hickey

GLAAD TIDINGS *Commentary*

KRXO, Oklahoma

by Kirk-Evan Billet

An Oklahoma radio personality advises police officers to be more sensitive to gays by keeping the police dogs back: They make the gerbils nervous.

Lesbian and gay activists in the Oklahoma City area have sent out a call for help in battling the anti-gay rhetoric emanating from yet another homophobic radio personality. Mark Shannon has been using his morning talk show to take aim at gays and lesbians, as well as people with AIDS.

The issue escalated a few months ago when the local news reported a gay man's lawsuit against the city. The gay man filed suit because, after he was mugged, the police who responded were more interested in his personal life than in the crime and, ultimately, arrested him. In his lawsuit, the man asked for sensitivity training for police officers.

Shannon characterized the gay man, who happens to be a lawyer, as "a fag with a briefcase." The rest of that day's show was dedicated to listing Shannon's top-ten ways police officers can be more sensitive to gay people. Amid background laughter, Shannon advised cops to "pay more attention to detail while

frisking, to replace flashing red lights with lavender, to watch the manicure when handcuffing, to keep their billy clubs splinter-free.... You get the idea." Shannon also admonished, "If you find brutality necessary, be polite and always ask, 'Was it good for you?'"

Shannon's misconceptions are many, and almost indescribably revolting and ignorant. He apparently believes that all gay people—and all police officers for that matter—are men, that gay men love to receive violence, that his kind of humor is harmless. The anti-gay comments have continued, ranging from their mere trivialization of our lives to the outright incitement of violence. To convince KRXO that hate can hurt and to ask for openly gay or lesbian voices on the Oklahoma airwaves, write to:

Mr. Vance Harrison, Station Manager, KRXO, PO Box 6000, Oklahoma City, OK 73153. The phone number is (405) 794-4000.

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



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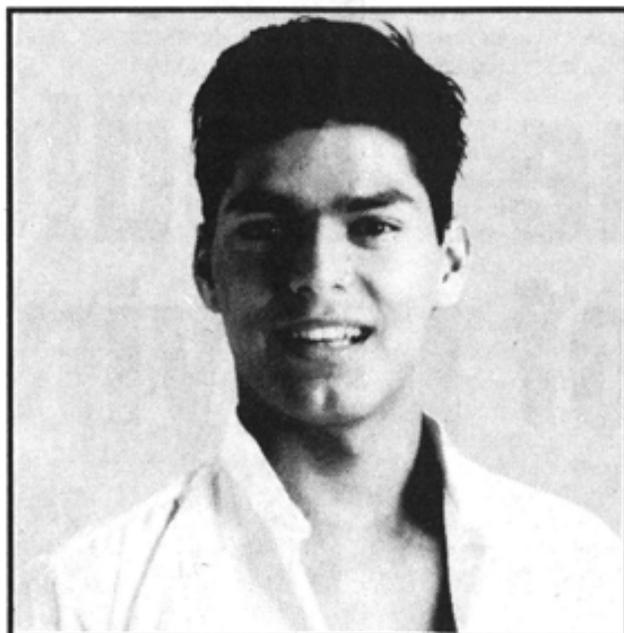
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the needless fear of playing queer

WHEN ACTORS TAKE ON GAY ROLES

Call it the Queer Curse. Believers say that it brings rejection and obscurity upon any actor who plays a lesbian or gay role. Nonbelievers, however, maintain that it's a myth and offer much in evidence. A few examples:

In 1972, a little-known actor played the young male lover of a divorced father in a TV movie. Within a couple of years, he was playing lead roles, and he went on to become one of the most recognizable faces (and voices) in movies and television.

In 1978, an up-and-coming young actress chose to play a lesbian as her second significant film role. Having won two Oscars since then, she is now among the most powerful actresses in Hollywood.

In the early '80s, a teenager made his Broadway debut playing a gay youth. Shortly thereafter, he won a Tony and is

BY BRUCE C. STEELE

now a highly sought-after movie star.

If playing queer on television, in film and onstage helped launch the careers of stars like Martin Sheen, Meryl Streep and Matthew Broderick, why does the myth of the Queer Curse persist?

The most recent demonstration of its fraudulence is Bruce Davison's Oscar nomination for *Longtime Companion*. Playing a gay man who nurses his dying lover and later dies of AIDS himself, Davison returned to the national limelight for the first time since 1971, when his relations with rats in *Willard* both inaugurated and hobbled his career. So why do Hollywood agents still tremble at the thought of their clients playing fags or dykes?

The mainstream media reports the Queer Curse as fact. "Hollywood still feels that homosexual roles spell trouble," *Time* magazine recently announced. The inevitable example that's dragged out in almost every such article is Patricia Nell Warren's never-filmed novel, *The Front Runner*, the pre-AIDS gay love story of a coach and an Olympic-class long-distance runner. Paul Newman attempted to adapt the book to film in the '70s but reportedly never got a satisfactory script. The effort continued through the '80s, eventually passing to producer Jerry B. Wheeler, who bought a full-page ad in *Variety* to beg stars—fruitlessly, as it happened—to consider taking part.

More recently, roles in *Longtime Companion* were "turned down by almost every name actor in Hollywood," says the movie's author, Craig Lucas. Tom Cruise, Michael J. Fox, Tom Hanks, Holly Hunter, William Hurt and other stars were either not available or not interested. The rejections were "a complicated matter," Lucas added, because "it was a project for no money—everybody was working for scale—and it was right on the eve of a [threatened] strike [by the Screen Actors Guild] when it looked like they might not work for a year or two. So it wasn't all homophobia. Nobody turned it down, saying, 'I don't want to play a 'mo.'" *Companion* director Norman Rene agreed: "I think there were some actors who were hesitant about being seen in a film with

**Roles in
Longtime
Companion
were "turned
down by
almost
every name
actor in
Hollywood."**

gay characters, [but] it's very hard to say, because peoples' reasons get very complicated, and what people tell you is not always what's true."

Me? Queer?

The myth of the Queer Curse is particularly insidious because, although generally believed, it's impossible to prove. Who can say what caused a certain performer's career to sink or soar? Furthermore, the line between discrimination against performers who have played lesbians or gays and performers who are lesbian or gay is very, very thin, perhaps nonexistent. When actors talk of the Queer Curse, it's often a thinly veiled way of talking about the fear of being known as a lesbian or gay in Hollywood. As the late gay film-critic Vito Russo repeatedly observed, "In an age in which nothing is unknown, this is the last taboo."

Central to almost any mainstream media interview with an actor who has played a gay or lesbian role is an assertion of the performer's heterosexuality. Lawrence Luckinbill, who appeared in stage and screen versions of *The Boys in the Band*, told *Time* how "we straight guys spent a lot of time being photographed with cigars in our mouths with our dogs, wives and children." (One wonders why he mentions dogs first.) In a 1976 interview with Chris Sarandon, a gay

Village Voice columnist noted that the actor "over-compensate[s] for his heterosexuality by making it clear before he sits down that what he did in *Dog Day Afternoon* was strictly 'acting.'" Jack Coleman, who played the occasionally bisexual Steve Carrington on ABC's *Dynasty*, has blamed his virtual invisibility since the series ended on TV viewers' inability to distinguish the sexuality of the character from the sexuality of the actor.

Author and actress Jane Hallaren, who played one of the two lesbian lovers at the center of John Sayles' *Lianna*, told *OutWeek* how she first noticed the pervasive fear that queer projects might imply a queer private life. At an awards dinner honoring those who had contributed to "outstanding creations of gay and lesbian characters" during the previous year, Hallaren was present to accept an award for Sayles. "I noticed that every time somebody got up, they mentioned their wife, their husband, their children, their babies—it was as if they were saying, 'Just in case you didn't know yet, I'm straight.'" So when I got up, I thanked John, and I thanked [my co-star] Linda Griffiths, 'who is terrific to work with and great in bed.' And I stepped down."

Hallaren, who never felt compelled to assert her heterosexuality in the course of our interview, is clearly the exception. More typical is Perry King, who played gay in *A Different Story*, a movie almost no one remembers except when King is complaining about ever having made it. He told *TV Guide*: "My goal in doing [the film] was to portray the character...as simply a person and his homosexuality as a sexual

**Maria de Medeiros and Uma Thurman of
*Henry and June***





The Hunger's Catherine Deneuve and David Bowie

proclivity and nothing more. It didn't mean that he moved or spoke in a particular way. Because of that, I think, I managed to be convincing. But it worked against me....A lot of people thought I was gay, which I'm not." King went on to describe how insulted he felt when Hollywood co-workers or women he hoped to date inquired if he were gay.

What King is angry about is *not* that he was typecast as a homosexual—he wasn't—but rather that people might dare think that he *is* homosexual. The *TV Guide* reporter who recorded this homophobic lament did not, of course, question King's implicit assertion that the attribution of gayness is an insult. As usual, the mainstream media perpetuates homophobia—and the myth of the Queer Curse—by neglecting to question it when it arises.

The fear of being seen as lesbian or gay in Hollywood may be greatest among queer performers. According to Craig Lucas, during the casting of *Longtime Companion*, "the homophobic element was most severely expressed by gay actors who turned the movie down for fear that they would be identified as gay. That saddened and angered me more than anything else about the whole process."

Certainly the oppression of uncloseted lesbians and gay men in Hollywood is strong and forbidding, as a recent *Advocate* cover story documented so frightfully well. But the backstage homophobia is not all-powerful. The impressive record

"We expect to play both straight and gay—except when we work in Hollywood."

of film actors who have played gay or lesbian roles and triumphed makes that clear.

Past Laurels

Certainly if accolades were the only criteria by which actors decided whether to take lesbian and gay roles, the Queer Curse would have long ago been recognized as the Old Breeders' Tale that it really is. Although William Hurt is the only performer to have received an Academy Award for an openly gay or lesbian role, Oscar nominations have been plentiful. Estelle Parsons, Peter Finch, Valerie Perrine, Bette Midler, Whoopi Goldberg, Margaret Avery, Robert Preston, Cher and Tom Courtenay have all been nominated for openly gay, lesbian or bisexual parts. If we count closet-case characters, we can also list Dustin Hoffman, Warren Beatty, Anne Baxter, Peter O'Toole, Vanessa Redgrave, Jon Voight and Sal Mineo.

These lists reveal two important things about the myth of the Queer Curse. The first is that it doesn't apply to established performers. Movie stars are, and always have been, bigger than the roles they play. In fact, playing a lesbian or gay man usually serves as further proof of a Great Actor's talents, since no one would imagine that he or she is really "that way." And the Popular Actor is protected from the "danger" of being identified as homosexual by sheer star power. If Julia Roberts wanted to play a lesbian or Tom Cruise a gay man, only the crassest minority of viewers would begin to question the performer's heterosexuality. Of course, performers like Roberts and Cruise who depend so heavily on hetero sex-appeal (rather than acting ability) would probably be reluctant to take on a lesbian or gay role in any case, fearful of alienating their adoring straight, homophobic fans.

The second lesson to infer from looking at previous Oscar nominees is that British actors—at least the men—seem generally unconcerned about any theoretical Queer Curse. After Daniel Day Lewis made his smashing debut on US screens as the gay punk in *My Beautiful Laundrette* (made, I might add, for British television), he told the *Los Angeles Times*, "We all expect to play both straight and gay sooner or later—except when we work in Hollywood."

The most notorious Brit to question the validity of the Queer Curse is Sir Ian McKellan, a gay actor who made a brief splash when he came out a few years ago. "I went to Los Angeles for a screen test and asked the casting director if I should have a chance at the part if I were known to be

gay," he told the *Boston Globe*. "She said, 'Why not?' and I said, 'What if the director knew?' and she said, 'So what? He's gay—and so is his wife!' That's when I knew I would have no more of this hypocrisy."

Other male British actors—who may or may not be gay themselves—have moved blithely in and out of gay roles with barely a ripple in their public image, even in their early careers. Multiple-Oscar nominee John Hurt appeared as Quentin Crisp in the TV biopic *The Naked Civil Servant* years before he started winning prominent movie roles, and later on he easily survived a stereotypically degrading queer role in *Partners*. Jeremy Irons' career—which was capped with an Oscar at last month's ceremony—began with 12 hours of nostalgic homosexuality in PBS's *Brideshead Revisited*. Michael York's budding career was only furthered by *Cabaret*, and Gary Oldman boosted his fledgling status as a top character actor by choosing to appear as Joe Orton in *Prick Up Your Ears* and in a bisexual role in *We Think the World of You*. The list goes on and on.

Unfortunately, the argument of British disbelief in the Queer Curse is more difficult to make for women performers. Susannah York seems to have been sufficiently comfortable with her lesbian turn in *The Killing of Sister George* that she did a love scene with a woman in a second movie, *X, Y and Z*. On the other hand, we have the example of Angela Lansbury, who reportedly turned down the lead in the *Sister George* film "because it might spoil her image" (the woman later played a homicidal Communist spy in *The Manchurian Candidate* and a cannibalistic pie-maker in *Sweeney Todd*— "image" indeed!) The actress who took Lansbury's place, Beryl Reid, has certainly never had another movie role as good as the one she got because Lansbury didn't want it. But as far as I have been able to uncover, she has never complained of a Queer Curse.

The "Victims"

Of course, American believers in the Queer Curse can be found to bolster any mainstream article on the subject with their sad or angry tales of typecasting and rejection. Their comments may be intended to help expose and crush the myth, but the inevitable echo of self-pity rings like a warning to any performers who might dare follow in their footsteps.

"A gay can play an axe-murderer and still be considered sexy and still get another role as a leading man, but if you play a homosexual, suddenly you're not in contention anymore for the axe-murderers," Harry Hamlin quipped to the *Washington Post* in 1986, four years after having bedded down with Michael Ontkean in *Making Love*. Hamlin complained that his career was cast into a "gloom" by playing gay, and his disappearance from feature films after 1983 seems, at first glance, to bear him out.

More blunt is the ever-homophobic Perry King. "Playing a homosexual really hurt my career," he told *TV Guide*.

"Because of that part, producers and casting directors in the motion-picture industry didn't cast me in a lot of roles. I had a reasonable film career, and it began to stumble."

Of course, *Making Love* and *A Different Story* were box-office bombs, and Hollywood actors never profit from disaster. In contrast, *Dog Day Afternoon* was a major critical and popular success. It looked like the role of a bank robber's transsexual "wife" might be Chris Sarandon's big break. Yet, according to an article in *Us* magazine, "Susan Sarandon has spoken of the typecasting difficulties her ex-husband encountered after winning an Oscar nomination for his transvestite [sic] role."

Moving even further back in time, we inevitably come to *The Boys in the Band*. The entire cast of that 1970 movie was transposed from the New York stage version, and, not surprisingly, none of them managed to parlay their film debut into Hollywood stardom. Of the nine actors, perhaps Lawrence Luckinbill came closest, having appeared most recently in *Cocktail* and *Star Trek V*. But Luckinbill also laments the fame and fortune of which he was supposedly cheated by playing gay. He likes to tell interviewers the story of how he lost a \$15,000 gig in a cigarette commercial shortly after *The Boys'* release: "No fags smoke our fags," a casting director supposedly told him.

Why are women so infrequently interviewed on this subject? In part, it's media bias—stories on film-industry



John Turturro as a gay grifter in *Miller's Crossing*

homophobia inevitably focus on men—and partly it's indicative of the way the industry slights women at every turn. Mariel Hemingway may pop up now and again (in last month's *Movieline*, she chirps that, despite *Personal Best*, "Hollywood continues to see me as a wholesome, all-American kind of girl"), but interviews with those actresses who have apparently disappeared from major film roles after having played lesbians are not to be found. Nor are the actresses: Either completely unreachable or not willing to talk to *OutWeek* were Hemingway's *Personal Best* co-star, Patrice Donnelly, Margaret Avery of *The Color Purple*, Patricia Charbonneau of *Desert Hearts* and Linda Griffiths of *Lianna*.

So let's look at the male actors' complaints more closely. I think that we can safely dismiss Luckinbill's lament as

irrelevant—if anything, *The Boys in the Band* opened doors for him in Hollywood, even if he never got more than a step or two inside.

Harry Hamlin is now the beloved star of NBC's *LA Law*. Short of turning into Jack Nicholson or Tom Hanks, he isn't likely to find a more lucrative gig, and he gets constant media exposure. Who can say for certain that Hamlin would have had any more luck in those years between *Making Love* and *LA Law* had he not played a queer? Certainly, the leads in *King of the Mountain* and *Blue Skies Again* weren't going to make him the most sought-after actor in Hollywood. (As die-hard *Love* fans know, Hamlin's attractive *Making Love* co-star, Michael Ontkean, is also now working in television—at least for now—playing Sheriff Harry Truman in *Twin Peaks*.)

As for Perry King, his "reasonable film career" before *A Different Story* consisted of such timeless acting showcases as *The Lords of Flatbush*, *Lipstick*, *The Choirboys* and *Mandingo*. Could he honestly believe that those movies somehow earned him a shot at stardom? Considering his résumé—including similar movies he made after playing gay—he was damned lucky to get the lead in NBC's *Riptide* and enjoy a few years of hunkdom.

The tale of Chris Sarandon—another *Lipstick* veteran—is harder to slough off, simply because he was so effective in *Dog Day*. He probably *did* encounter a lot of producers and casting directors who wanted him to play screaming faggots—and why not? *Dog Day* was a hit—Hollywood loves trying to recreate past successes. I can report, however, that Sarandon's career is now quite hetero and quite healthy, including lead roles in the hits *Child's Play* and *Fright Night* as well as *The Princess Bride* and TV projects.

A "Career" by Any Other Name

But we learn more from the way these men express their concerns than we do from trying to disprove their grievances. Hamlin specifically speaks of "leading man" roles, King talks of his "reasonable film career," and Sarandon's problem was reportedly "type-casting." What these guys are all talking about, then, is *not* some sort of blacklist. They aren't saying that they couldn't get work, couldn't pay the bills, had to give up acting. What they think they were cheated out of is not an acting career but rather *the acting career they had imagined for themselves*—in other words, their precious expectations.

I think it's safe to assume that most comely young actors and actresses who arrive in Hollywood are hoping for nothing less than stardom. Not a film "career," but immeasurable fame and wealth. They may speak of how nice it would be just to be "working," but once they've had a few roles, they assume that the next step is into the limo and up to the beach house in Malibu. Nothing less will do.

"If I play a queer, my career will be ruined" really means "Homosexuality is not something I want to use to construct my star image"—and it only applies to those, like Hamlin and

King, who focus themselves on constructing such an image. This becomes clear when you talk to a few performers who have played lesbian and gay roles without regrets, and it becomes even clearer in the way other performers refuse to talk.

"I told myself I came here to work more, but I think really the truth is I came here to get out of the [acting] business," said *Lianna's* Jane Hallaren. A New Yorker, Hallaren has spent more than a decade in Los Angeles doing television and films. She has appeared in small but memorable roles in *Modern Romance* ("I was the woman Albert Brooks drives around the block") and *Body Heat* (as "the feisty diner owner"). She just finished a supporting part in *My Girl*, the latest vehicle for 10-year-old superstar Macauley Culkin. Did playing a lesbian keep her from getting bigger parts? "I have no idea," she said, "it never occurred to me."

It has occurred to her friends, however, one of whom pointed out: "She's never played another leading role in a film. Why do you think that is? But whether that's [because



Meryl Streep is Woody Allen's estranged lesbian wife in *Manhattan*.

of homophobia] or not, I don't know," she continued. "I tend to think that Hollywood doesn't *think* enough for that to be the case. And look what their standards are! This is a moral cesspool out here—what do they care? It's only about money—will [the performers] pull in the crowds?"

Another actor who has played gay—let's call him "Leonard"—had similar barbs to toss at network television. ("Leonard" played a sharp-witted swish on television but asked that his real name not be used.) "The networks are, unfortunately, very cowardly," he said, "and I think that's only because they're so dependent on advertising revenue. If five people write to [a sponsor] and say, 'You can't do that on television!' they bland it right out. The networks would have more gay characters on their shows if they didn't think it would hurt them financially."

A similar observation might be made about the performers who have played lesbian and gay roles—if they don't

feel that it has hurt them financially, they don't complain of a Queer Curse. Again, it's a question of expectations. As Hallaren's career illustrates, working steadily in Hollywood doesn't mean making \$1 million per movie, like her diminutive *My Girl* co-star. Most regularly employed film actors are not stars, and most never will be. Steve Buscemi, who played the PWA in Bill Sherwood's *Parting Glances*—and whose face was visible all over New York for almost a year in ads for the movie—seems quite comfortable, for the moment, taking roles of varying size in whatever projects interest him. Since *Glances*, he has appeared in choice supporting parts in *Slaves of New York*, *Mystery Train*, *New York Stories* (he was the performance artist in the Scorsese segment), *Tales from the Dark Side: The Movie*, and other

“People had fears that I would be typecast, but it never hurt me.”

“I’m Not a Homosexual, but I Play One on TV”

Despite the considerable press that their queer roles earned them, neither Hallaren nor Buscemi reports having been typecast. Nor is “Leonard” complaining, despite having been closely associated with—in his words—a “Nellie queen.” He sought the part and even auditioned in character to impress the TV show’s producers. “I never thought about it in terms of my career—‘Is this going to affect my career in a good way or a bad way?’ The only thing that crossed my mind was ‘Is this character going to have dignity and integrity, or is he going to be a clown that people are going to laugh at?’ Right from the beginning, [the character] always had integrity. He had a wonderful sense and comfort and ease of who he was, and he was a whole human being, and I think that’s why the audience took to [him] so fast. Nobody ever laughed at [him], people laughed *with* [him].”

Well, some homophobes were no doubt laughing *at* the “Nellie queen.” Nevertheless, the actor said, “I never envisioned how overwhelmingly *positive* audience reaction would be—straight people, gay people—[the character] had universal appeal. Other people had fears that I would be typecast, but it never hurt me, never hurt me at all. It was the best thing that ever happened to me in my career.”

Yet the fear of the Queer Curse must be palpable to some of the other young performers contacted for this article. Amanda Donohoe, who plays C.J. Lamb on *LA Law*, made it clear through her publicist that she wouldn’t discuss the passionate woman-to-woman kiss broadcast a few

weeks ago. “It’s not that she doesn’t want to talk to you,” said the publicist in the course of telling me exactly the opposite. “She doesn’t want to misrepresent her character.” C.J. Lamb wasn’t a lesbian or even a bisexual role when Donohoe took it, the publicist wants me to know, and the character may be in line for a heterosexual romance next season. “It’s premature” to talk about that kiss, she says. NBC confirmed this a few days later, announcing that the show would not pursue the “story line” implied by the kiss.

Why couldn’t Donohoe speak for herself? If her publicist’s comments are any indication, she’s apparently not anxious to be known as the woman who played a queer on television. The same goes for at least one of the two actors who played gay men on *thirtysomething*. David Marshall Grant could not be reached; Peter Frechette—who is now here in New York, playing straight roles onstage—claimed (through a publicist) that he would be too completely busy for two solid weeks to squeeze in one 15-minute telephone interview. The implication: at least not on *that* subject.



William Hurt in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*

films. He just finished shooting the movie version of E.L. Doctorow’s *Billy Bathgate*. And he credits *Parting Glances* with launching his film career.

“Any time someone has seen my work in *Parting Glances*, it has always helped me,” he said. Before the movie, Buscemi was doing mostly experimental theater work; the film brought him to the attention of moviemakers and TV producers. He did a role on *Miami Vice* and was seen in the immensely successful *Lonesome Dove* miniseries. “The press I got for *Parting Glances* was the best I’ll probably ever get,” said Buscemi. “It’s still my favorite role, and it’s hard for me to imagine I’ll ever play another part as good.” Playing gay again, he adds, is always a possibility. Indeed, although few outside the gay press noticed it, Buscemi confirmed that his role in *Miller’s Crossing* was gay, part of a love triangle that also involved John Turturro’s character.



Father (Richard Venture) and gay son (Neil Maffin) in *The Sum of Us*.

Between the three of them, these performers have racked up a total of about a half-hour of TV screen time in queer situations. Philip Charles Mackenzie played gay on Showtime's *Brothers* sitcom for five years. His Donald was a breakthrough character in the world of TV sitcoms—an uncloseted, effeminate gay man who was portrayed as sympathetic, passionate, funny, intelligent and successful. (By the fifth year, Donald was said to be the head of a Philadelphia publishing company.) He was a far cry from the running gag that Billy Crystal played in *Soap* a few years earlier. (Unfortunately, Mackenzie declined to cooperate in the publication of this article.) Without a doubt, Donald was the most memorable and popular character in *Brothers*, and the producers knew it. As the series continued, they gave him better billing, gave him center stage in dozens of story lines and built him his own apartment set—an honor never accorded the oldest of the three title characters. When *Brothers* ended, Mackenzie returned immediately to the straight TV roles from whence he had come. He appeared first in the short-lived Fox sitcom *Open House* and is in the current ABC series *Going Places*. So much for the Queer Curse in his case.

The Batman Curse?

An actor who takes the part of a "Nellie" his first time in the public eye, on the other hand, could well find such re-entry into the straight film and TV establishment an uphill battle. No Queer Curse need be constructed to explain that sort of failure. Any big- or little-screen performer who has initial success in a distinct but offbeat role has to fight hard to move on to other parts. Gary Burghoff never got over being Radar in *M*A*S*H*; Adam West's career floundered after

You don't need to invent any curse—standard-issue West Coast sexism and racism are enough.

Batman; Ronce Blakley was unable to turn her *Nashville* tour de force into stardom; and Linda Blair was dispossessed in more than one way after *The Exorcist*. The list is endless. When it comes to "Nellie" roles, the victims may include most of the cast of *The Boys in the Band*, as well as the actors who played effeminate gay men in *Streamers* (Mitchell Lichtenstein), *Norman, Is That You?* (Dennis Dugan) and the remake of *To Be or Not to Be* (James Haake).

"Leonard" agreed that a "Nellie" debut might have been deadlier than his own mid-career gay role. "If I had just come from Kansas or New York or some place, and no one ever knew me in TV business, and the first thing I ever did was [that part], I might have been typed. But even though I wasn't widely known to the public, within the business I was known as a character actor, and I still am. I think the fact that I had a body of work prior to [the gay part] let people know that behind [that character] was [me], the actor."

To blame a Queer Curse for careers that may have been inhibited by flamboyant debuts requires that we also invent a Radar Curse, a Batman Curse and so forth. It's impossible to generalize from the experiences of actors stifled after a single notable performance. There's always the possibility that the performer simply wasn't good enough—or lucky enough—to move beyond his or her debut. Maybe he lunched with the wrong person; maybe she didn't eat at the right restaurant. In Hollywood, it's anybody's guess. After all, Billy Crystal went from *Soap* to become a movie star, and Chris Sarandon is now a B-movie regular. "Nellie" debuts, even in Hollywood, are not universally deadly.

Nor is a Queer Curse required to explain the paucity of roles for women and people of color who have played lesbians and gays—and why even this article is weighted heavily toward white males. Hollywood is a white male's town—the overwhelming majority of studio executives, producers, writers and directors are white men, and most of the money paid to performers is made by white males. There are ten Ted Dansons for every Rosanne Barr, a dozen for every Bill Cosby. In the movie business, star-power means white-male power. Among the top-ten movie box-office draws of 1989, calculated by Quigley Publications, there was only one person of color (Eddie Murphy, no. 7) and one woman (Kathleen Turner, no. 10). Bette Midler and Michelle Pfeiffer squeezed into the next ten, but there were no other people of color in the top 25.

Since salaries and plans for future projects tend to reflect past box-office success, it's no surprise that the money and the number of vehicles Hollywood coughs up for women

and people of color is a fraction of what white male actors get. Julia Roberts and Jodie Foster may be counted among the top draws of 1991, but when was the last time before last month that the two hottest movies were both vehicles for leading actresses? One anomalous month is unlikely to change things for most women performers in the near future. It's probably easier to succeed as a closeted gay white man in Hollywood than as a woman or a person of color, whatever your sexual orientation. You don't need to invent any Queer Curse to keep you down or to help you to disappear should you happen to play a lesbian or gay role. Standard-issue West Coast sexism and racism are quite enough.

Meanwhile, Back in New York

On the East Coast, New York casting directors insist, no one cites possible typecasting as a reason for rejecting gay stage roles. "You get 'He doesn't respond to the material,' but we get that all the time on everything. It just means they're not interested," said Randy Carrig, casting director at the Manhattan Theater Club, which last year presented *Eastern Standard*, a play with two gay male roles. "The play tended to speak for itself. We got very, very good people. I don't feel we compromised at all."

Similar sentiments were expressed by Rosemarie Tichler, head of casting for the New York Shakespeare Festival, which first staged Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart*. The Festival generally has "no trouble" casting lesbian and gay roles, she said. With Kramer's play, the only real problem was in casting the lead. In that case, Hollywood homophobia infiltrated the New York casting process, "because we were looking for a movie star. We had a lot of people turn it down, although you never know why. I suspect some of it [was fear of playing gay]—I heard twice that an actor didn't want to do a gay role, and I think it was probably a lot more than just the two I heard about." Brad Davis, star of *Midnight Express*, eventually took the part; Davis had played gay previously on celluloid in *Querelle*, and last year he reprised his *Normal Heart* role at a reading of the play staged as a benefit.

Neither Carrig nor Tichler reported any change in performers' attitudes with the onset of the AIDS epidemic. Paul Fouquet, a casting director with Elissa Myers Casting in New York, said that he sees a world of difference. "Pre-AIDS, it was quite fashionable to play gay characters. After AIDS came to be associated with homosexuality within the industry, casting gay roles became much more difficult. Before AIDS really hit, I cast *Fifth of July* [for an out-of-town venue] with Jennifer Grey [of *Dirty Dancing*] and Bill Saggerbakke [of television's *Coach*]. I don't know if I could get such name performers today."

"The casting world was slightly hysterical" about AIDS in the mid-'80s, said Norman Rene, who is also a New York theater director. Actors particularly feared being accused of having the disease. "When *An Early Frost* was filmed [for television]," Rene recalled, "and John Glover played someone dying of AIDS, there were so many rumors running that John was actually dying of AIDS. That was really difficult for him—and not true," and it caused actors, especially men, to shy away from any gay role. "But I think things are coming around again," Rene added. (The Glover rumor faded, of course, and he is now a busy man, having recently had major film roles in *Scrooged* and *Gremlins 2*.)

So does the myth of the Queer Curse affect current New York stage actors? It can. The current off-Broadway hit, *The Sum of Us*, had no trouble getting *Ghost* star Tony Goldwyn to play the gay son—but he took the role before *Ghost* became the top money-making movie of 1990. Neither Neil Maffin nor Matthew Ryan—the two young actors who have played the part since Goldwyn left the show—would speak to *OutWeek* about the role. Both are married, the show's publicist reminded me, as if apologizing for his charges.

These are handsome young (married) guys, and Ryan, whom I saw in the role, was also quite talented and charismatic. The show has been heavily promoted in, and supported by, the gay community—so what have these young (married) actors to lose by talking to the gay press? While the publicist was telling me about his having approached the (married) twosome to ask if they'd talk to *OutWeek*—they

See HOLLYWOOD on page 78

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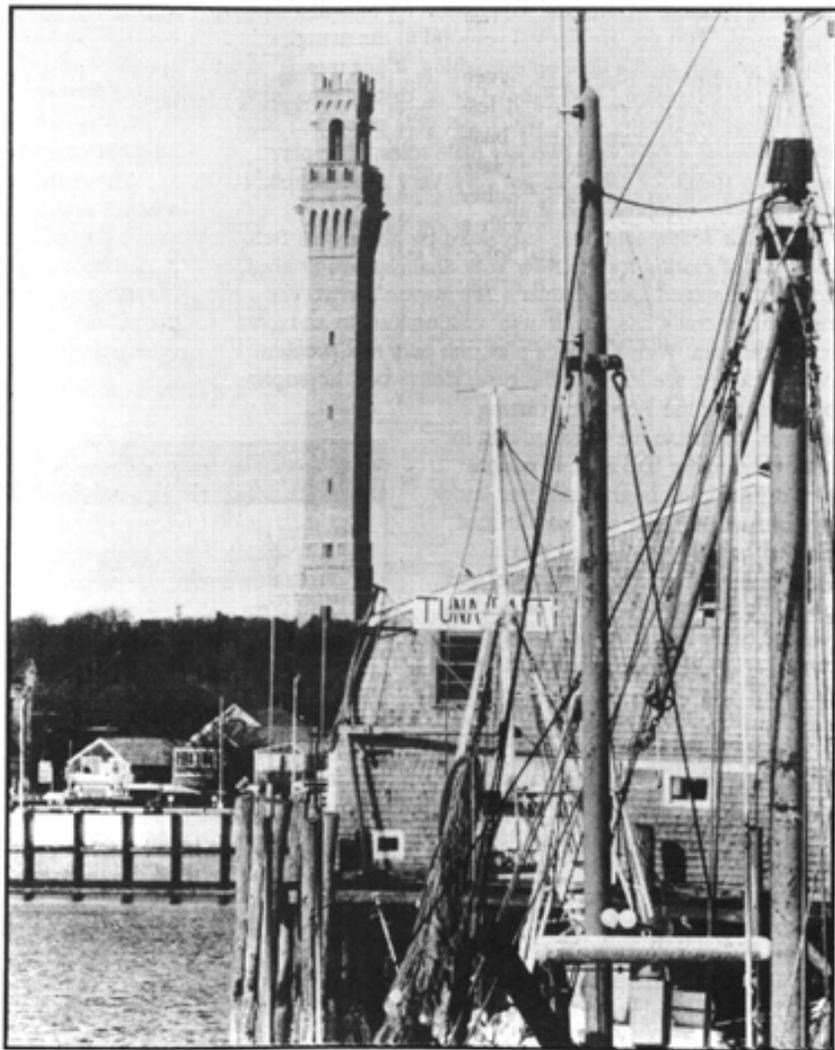
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Provincetown Beckons



If Provincetown were a man, he might be a gay Rhett Butler. The small Massachusetts town has controversy, notoriety and integrity. In the face of adversaries who would criticize it for being either too progressive or too conservative, Provincetown (or P-town, its fond nickname) has proudly stood its ground, retorting,

BY SUSAN MCDONOUGH

"Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn."
That's P-town, all right.

First, a bit of history: On Nov. 20, 1620, before they ever made it to Plymouth Rock, the pilgrims touched down on the archipelago of sand and rock at the very tip of Cape Cod that became P-town. During the 200 years that followed, the little wooden town became a thriving seaport with a large whaling and fishing industry. More recently, its appeal was further enhanced by artists, novelists, actors and playwrights such as Tennessee Williams and Eugene O'Neill, who summured there during the first half of this century.

Today, Provincetown is a haven for queers. Openly gay men and lesbians have bought property and businesses in Provincetown, and the place is ablaze with pink triangles, leather dykes and drag queens, along with a few insecure heterosexuals. But tolerance appears to be the name of the game in recent years. After all, the town, like the rest of Cape Cod, survives on tourism. In Provincetown, though, the almighty dollar takes on a delightful lavender hue every time a passenger boat from Boston unloads its precious booty.

Some of the best gay and lesbian acts drop by P-town throughout the high season and perform in the clubs, cabarets, cafes, lounges and even the Town Hall. Don't be surprised to see top-notch female impersonators like Jimmy James, hilarious comedienne like Kate Clinton or Lea Delaria, hunks like Mr. Gay America or old friends like Holly Near and Ferron. On any given night in Provincetown, something's always cooking. There's even an ACT UP that meets on Monday nights.

Commercial Street is the main street, and it's packed from June to September with sightseers and shoppers. But if crowds don't turn you on, don't panic. There are plenty of ways to escape the hubbub. You can stroll down the clean, expansive beaches at Race Point or Herring Cove, bask in the sun on a dune two-stories high or witness a spouting whale on the dawn's gray horizon. For a closer look at those giant mammals, you can

If Provincetown were a man?—Pilgrim Monument dominates the skyline (left).

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If you're planning your trip during peak season (Memorial Day to Labor Day), reservations should definitely be made in advance. Provincetown has two reservations companies, In-Town Reservations and Provincetown Reservations Services, which can provide you with rooms, apartments and condos, although visitors should know that not all proprietors sign on with these companies, since guest houses can fill up quite readily through word-of-mouth during peak seasons. If you know where you want to stay, your best bet may be a direct phone call. If communing with nature is more your style, there are also a couple of campgrounds on the outskirts of town.

Some people are under the impression that staying in P-town can cost a fortune, but a week for two can be had for much less than one might expect. A room with double bed and private bath may cost from \$65 to \$90 per night during the summer. Apartments sleeping four people range from \$100 to \$130 per night or approximately \$600 to \$1,000 for a week during the same time period. During the fall, winter and spring, the same rooms go for about \$35 to \$55, and apartments can be rented for about \$75 to \$85 per night, many offering specials if you stay more than one night.

The Gifford House Hotel, where we stayed most recently, welcomes men and women and boasts all rooms with private bath, as well as a gym, breakfast buffet, Backstreet Club downstairs, whirlpool for 12 and a cabaret room that will be featuring the New York comedy *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* all summer long. Other guest houses include Check'er Inn, a women-only guest house and apartments, which has a large Jacuzzi amidst an exotic greenhouse and recently added private baths to two guest rooms. The

antique-filled Bradford Gardens Inn has working fireplaces and offers a full vegetarian breakfast. Many other inns compare in value and quality.

Getting to Provincetown is relatively effortless. If you don't want to drive, take a train or bus to Boston. Bus routes between P-town and Boston run year-round, and passenger ferries cruise between Boston and P-town daily throughout the summer.

You can also fly from New York to Provincetown via Boston. Just recently, Cape Air started a joint fare with the Pan Am shuttle out of La Guardia. Until May 16, one-way fares range from \$128 to \$168 from New York to P-town (\$49 to \$89 from Boston to P-town). Call 1-800-352-0714 if you want to know more about it.

Lower rates and fewer crowds are luring more visitors during the off-season. There's a women's weekend in the fall, as well as group discount rates and two-for-one specials from September through May. Visitors in winter may find that a crackling fire and a hot tub take the bite out of December's chill. Some guest houses, such as the women-only Gabriel's, offer guests off-season amenities such as free bike rentals, whale-watch tickets, donations to animal-rights groups for eating vegetarian and even free phone calls to Mom on Mother's Day.

Word has it that because of the recession, more Americans are planning domestic vacations this year. Innkeepers in P-town have remarked that more guests are requesting units with full kitchens to save on costly meals in restaurants.

Meals can be pricey during the high season, but there are plenty of wonderful bistros and sidewalk cafes where a hungry person won't have to go broke. For dining at its best, there are quite a few excellent restaurants serving up sumptuous, sensual repasts. Try Franco's, Capers, Napi's and the Landmark Restaurant for starters. Napi's, by the way, took veal off its menu and added creative tofu entrees to its long list of meat and fish dishes.

If Provincetown were a woman, she might be a lesbian Mae West, a bit brazen, a bit demure. Heavy-eyed and round-bodied, she struts just ahead of me and casts a teasing glance my way, saying, "Why don't you come up and see me sometime?" ▼

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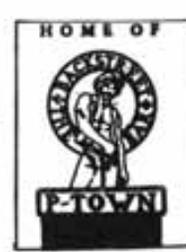
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DISTRICT

continued from page 12

lesbian candidate could nonetheless emerge victorious, because it still includes the largest concentration of gay voters in Manhattan.

And scenario six is a very likely final map, because it also provides the Asian and Latino communities the districts of their own that they are seeking in Lower Manhattan.

The district in scenario six runs up into the high West 50's, placing Chelsea and a large portion of Clinton and the surrounding Theater District together with most of Greenwich Village. That scenario also places all of the East Village above Third Street in a single, separate district.

Scenario four presents another possible gay-winnable district that includes Chelsea, the West Village and a portion of the East Village. That district is bordered by Houston Street to the south and the Hudson River to the west, reaches over to Avenue A up to East 14th Street, across to Broadway on 14th, then up to the high 30's along Broadway.

One district included in scenario one closely resembles the 61st Assembly District that put Deborah Glick, the state's first openly gay officeholder, into her Assembly seat last November.

In Brooklyn, attempts by gay politicians to obtain a gay-winnable district are complicated by efforts to increase African-American representation in the City Council. Currently, there are six Black Council members, and Brooklyn, with the city's largest African-American population, presents an opportunity to the Districting Commission to draw districts that Black City Council candidates can win.

According to David Shanton, president of the Brooklyn gay and lesbian political club, the Lambda Independent Democrats, or LID, scenario four and six are closest to the maps LID would have liked drawn.

Scenario six has a district that puts large concentrations of gay and lesbian voters together by combining the Park Slope, Brooklyn Heights, Boerum Hill, Carroll Gardens and Cobble Hill sections of Brooklyn with parts of Fort Green and Prospect Heights. But it's

not likely to be voted in by the commission.

"Scenario six would be my dream, but it's not going to happen," said Shanton. "There are too few African-American districts in scenario six. And we don't want to see African-American representation minimized to Brooklyn."

Scenario four has a gay-winnable district similar to the one found in scenario six, but scenario four's district does not include Prospect Heights and cuts Brooklyn Heights in half, making it an unlikely final map. The commission's mandate requires it to keep intact neighborhoods with traditional or historical ties.

The Districting Commission must present its first prototype district plan by May 1. After public comment, the commissioners must issue a revised plan on May 16 and a final plan on June 3.

Candidates for the City Council will begin circulating petitions to get themselves on ballots on June 7. City Council primary races are slated for September, and all 51 seats will be filled after a special election in November. ▼

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Explore exquisite temples, breathtaking scenery, exotic night markets and the sexual byways of Bangkok, Pattaya and Chang Mai, Thailand's most notorious pleasure destinations. Witness beautiful young men cavorting with gleeful, uninhibited abandon on the streets and in the shops of this beautiful "Land of Smiles". **THAILAND: Through a Gay Traveler's Eyes** marks the first time Western cameras have been allowed inside Thailand's most infamous bars. Included are the dazzling nude underwater ballets at the **Nautilus Bar** in Pattaya, the extraordinary laser light dance review at **Boys, Boys, Boys**, the youthful denizens of Pattaya's beach and the exotic candle dancers at the notorious **Cockpit**. Also featured are the **My Way** bar in Bangkok and Chang Mai's popular **Coffee Boy** and **Macho Bar**. Your host on this tour explains what to pack and wear, money exchange, shopping strategies, how to bargain for the best prices in the night markets and the glories of Thai cuisine. Generous time is also devoted to Thailand's unique bar system, describing in detail the subtle differences in boy-bar ambience from one city to another. As playful and irreverent as the youth it celebrates, **THAILAND: Through a Gay Traveler's Eyes** is a remarkable seeing-is-believing exploration of Asia's last Shangri-La! Nudity! Full-Color, 60 Minute Travelogue. **INCLUDED WITH THIS CASSETTE IS A SPECIAL \$75.00 MONEY SAVINGS COUPON ON A THAILAND DREAM VACATION FROM TOURS TO PARADISE!**

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Patrolling the Shore

Lesbians, Golf and the West Coast Style Wars

Ever since he moved there several years ago, my friend Al Grayson has been pushing me to visit Palm Springs during the Dinah Shore Golf Tournament. This year, he came up with a reason I couldn't resist: "The lesbians are prettier on the West Coast."

When I protested, Al answered coolly, "It's nobody's fault—it's a genetic thing." According to Al's theory, all the "beautiful people" came West to work in "pictures" during Hollywood's initial boom years, while all the "intellectuals" stayed on the East Coast. Each population perpetuated its best trait, so today Los Angeles is full of blond but vacant beauties, while New Yorkers compensate for their lackluster looks with smart, fast and witty conversation.

Well, it seemed like a theory worth checking out, and what better time than during the Nabisco

BY KATHLEEN CONKEY

Dinah Shore Ladies Professional Golf Association Tournament? When it started 20 years ago, the Dinah Shore was just a women's pro golf tournament. But today, it has become the Michigan Women's Music Festival without the music. Every year, thousands of lesbians gather in Palms Springs to party, dance, sun, swim, cruise and—oh, yes—catch a little golf.

Along with the women—and the catering to them—come the dances, special events and pool parties. Many of the city's hotels are almost entirely lesbian that weekend. *The Bottom Line*, normally a Palm Springs gay men's magazine, becomes *Shore Patrol* for the weekend, with bios and photos of the

"Shamu"-zing with the girls from Grl Spot. Left: Dinah Shore with tournament-winner Amy Alcott

golfers so fans can pick and follow favorites. *The Lesbian News*, a Los Angeles-area newspaper, even runs a special astrology guide with advice on how to handle each type of lesbian one might meet poolside. (A typical passage: "The Gemini is too busy talking to get laid. She has the biggest phone bill at the hotel." And: "The Taurus has no interest in watching the golf or playing the golf....It distresses her to attend Dinah. But she does because she likes to get very dressed up.")

As I approach the golf course on Friday morning, I imagine that the crowd is full of lesbians, but I'm a little wary. Are they really lesbians, or is this a trick location, like Minnesota and Colorado, where all the women look gay but aren't?

I ask a stern-looking female cop where the press tent is. She waves me in the right direction and then, smiling broadly, calls after me, "I really like that haircut." Yes, I think, the dyke quotient is high. From the grounds to the galleries, 50-, 60- and 70-year-old straight couples mingle (or at least co-exist) with lesbians of every age, shape and color, whether perusing Dinah Shore's new cookbook at the pro shop or waiting in hushed anticipation for Amy Alcott (this year's winner) to sink her final putt at the 18th hole.



Photo: Al Grayson

But why do so many lesbians come to this golf tournament? After inquiring many times, the explanation I heard most often was that the dyke fans come to see dyke golfers. For example, I ask a group of lesbians watching a particularly handsome golfer: "Right now, we're following this golfer all over the course because our friend Susie is in love," says Jocelyn Bennett, a decorative artist from Laguna Beach. And why does Susie like this particular golfer? "Well, on one of her plays, she made a bad swing, and she said, 'Shit,' and lit up a cigarette. Susie fell in love."

Though some fans may love it, such "unladylike" behavior probably doesn't impress tournament organizers. "The LPGA [Ladies' Professional Golf Association] is really struggling now because heterosexual golf fans don't want to watch lesbian golfers," says Heidi Isaac, a San Francisco carpenter and architectural designer. "It's not like tennis, which promotes women in little skirts and headbands. The golfers wear baggy shorts or pants and sun visors, and they just look too dykey for the heterosexuals. Recently, the organizers have been trying to change the image of the tournament. Hairstyles are getting longer, and there are more lipstick lesbians."

Undaunted by such changes in style, thousands of lesbians continue to

come to watch golf and see strong, beautiful women compete for top prizes. But what about the thousands of other lesbians who come to the Dinah Shore weekend without stepping foot on the golf course?

"Women bring women," explains Jocelyn. "And women don't want to go to bars all the time. They want to be able to get together in the sunshine where they can be active instead of being in a dark, little room."

Connie Thomas, another Laguna Beach artist, says: "It's just so convenient. This event is extremely organized. There are hotels that are hosting parties and renting out all the rooms to gay women so you can go right there without driving. There's pool parties during the day and dancing at night."

"The parties bring the women," according to Trudi Aguilar, a banker who lives in nearby Palm Desert and has long studied the Dinah Shore scene. "About ten years ago, party promoters from LA and San Francisco came in with parties for women, and everything changed. During the year, there's only one club and one resort here for women. But this weekend, there's something like 13 giant dance parties. That brings in women who don't know the first thing about golf."

It is impossible to compare this



weekend's party scene to anything in New York—or anywhere else for that matter. On Saturday night alone, there were six major parties, attracting between 1,000 and 2,000 women each—the equivalent of having six Saint parties for women on a single night.

I started my evening at the Desert Magic party, a \$60 affair at the Ramada that included dinner and dancing under the stars. Billed as the party for "discreet gay women," many attendees were overdressed and enjoyed dancing to the Pointer Sisters and Natalie Cole. The party was so discreet that the promoter did not want any publicity. "I have my list, and the women come back year after year," she told me. "Most are professionals—teachers, lawyers, you know. They don't need any hassles."

Though otherwise dull, the Desert Magic party did have the most original entertainment of the night—an amazing hypnotist who really hypnotized people. He put a friend of mine under a spell

that had her talking for days. "It was a religious experience..., the best orgasm I've ever had." The party also featured Karaoke, a sort of Japanese "Sing-Along-With-Mitch" machine that plays background music and videos to popular songs, while audience volunteers get up and vocalize in sync.

After dinner and a few dances, I escaped to my car where I had a change of clothes waiting—something small and black. I was off to the Museum party, where 2,000 women were sweating to a live performance by Martha Wash (Black Box, C+C Music Factory) and generally trashing the Palm Springs Public Museum, where the event was held. Now this was a party. Organized by Mariah Hanson of San Francisco's Girl Spot, it featured terrific House music, go-go girls, hefty drinks and sexy women dancing wildly, many without their shirts.

I never made it to the big Los Angeles party, promoted by Caroline Clone of Los Angeles' Code Blue, but

the amazing word the next day was that Grace Jones actually arrived on time and performed for two hours for the 2,000 women in attendance.

A friend who went to the "In the Heat of the Night" party, sponsored by Los Angeles' *Entre Nous*, hated the deejay, reported that the place was too big for the 1,500 dancers and was disappointed that the swimsuit competition never took place. Other parties included one for women over 35, one in a circus tent and Valerie Clark's Singlefest VII, where the women all wore name tags to indicate their availability.

Overwhelmed by fun, I nearly skipped the Sunday afternoon Annual Ladies' Whipped Cream Wrestling at Daddy Warbucks, an established men's bar. I've been to lesbian strip shows in New York, and I expected this to be just as bad—a few semi-professional sex-workers trying hard to entertain a bunch of embarrassed, unenthusiastic women who gave cheap tips. *Wrong!* This was California, and these wrestlers were the California Dreams, a team of four very professional strippers who travel the country, mostly working

Oh, yes, and then there's the golf...

straight men's clubs.

I learned in an interview after the show that all four of the Dreams are straight, but no one would have guessed it that night. Before the wrestling matches, each one danced through the crowd of about 400 very excited lesbians, exchanging deep, open-mouthed tongue kisses, tit- and butt-rubs and other very sexual acts for \$1 and \$5 tips. The evening's star, Kona the Barbarian, had a favorite trick of pulling an audience member onto the floor, forcing her flat onto her back and standing straddle-legged over her while splashing beer over her ample tits and into the waiting woman's mouth.

Almost as entertaining as the performers were the enthusiastic audience members, many of whom came prepared with thick wads of \$1 bills. They showed wild appreciation—screaming, woofing, crying, "Ko-na, Ko-na, Ko-na" and sometimes just watching with drop-jawed amazement.

Kona told me after the show that her favorite part of working a lesbian audience is the wild response: "I like the screaming. It's so loud it makes you feel really accepted. Men are quieter, [and] when you're being really sexy, they're just sitting there, staring at you. Something like this—where they respond really well, and everyone's laughing and having a good time—you feel like a performer instead of some sleaze."

Audience members bid and pay big money to win the privilege of applying the whipped cream to a wrestler before her match and washing her off afterward. Kona the Barbarian, always a favorite, went for a high of \$350. Later, for \$210, a woman in the audience won the chance to get into a tiny bikini wrestling suit herself and wrestle Kona. By the end of the show, I was hoarse and broke.

"I imagine the fairway crowd is full of lesbians."

At the tournament one day, I spotted three terribly blond women who helped fill me in on another phenomena: The Los Angeles-San Francisco style wars. They were all in black, and, thinking they must be New Yorkers, I introduced myself. It turned out that they were San Franciscans in town to work—two bartenders and a bouncer from the Museum Party.

When they invited me to a private pool party that afternoon, hosted and attended entirely by San Franciscan girls, I felt that I owed it to my readers to attend, but I didn't have my swimsuit with me. Tracy Cavaretta, a veteran bartender at San Francisco's Cafe San Marcos and the Girl Spot, spoke up. "No problem," she assured me and, reaching into her black-leather belt pack, pulled out a tiny tiger-print G-string and held it up for all the Dinah Shore fans to see. "This one's brand-new," she said, "it's got your name on it." I wondered how many others she had in there.

At the party that afternoon, Karen Matyka, another Girl Spot bartender, gave me her take on the San Francisco-Los Angeles style wars. "[When] a woman comes in, very professional, blond hair, Anne Taylor silks—she's def-

initely from Los Angeles." San Francisco women, she explained, have more of an edge to their looks, but they're actually friendlier. "If we approach Los Angeles girls, that's fine, but they would never approach us. It's like the difference between the Los Angeles and San Fran-

isco women dance. "Well, a little bit. San Francisco is a little more risqué. They'll take their tops off—they'll take *everything* off. Los Angeles is more like, 'I'll wear a bustier under my jacket, and *maybe* you'll get to see it.'"

Observing the Saturday night danc-



Photo: Al Grayson

cisco parties. San Francisco has Martha Wash performing. She's high energy, a good time. Los Angeles has Grace Jones. She's all attitude, a night of checking out who's who."

Karen's description and my own observations gave me the impression that San Francisco women have a New York sense of style and a California attitude, while Los Angeles women sport California fashions and standard New York snobbishness. Wendy Goodfriend, a psychologist from Oakland, had a clipped clinical summation of the differences between the two cities: "A San Francisco girl's looks are less intense—she has more intellect, less makeup. In Los Angeles, the trend is blonder, more stylized."

Wendy herself was a perfect example of the San Francisco lesbian. She was dressed in a downtown trendy way but had a very sweet attitude. As a matter of fact, *she* actually approached *me* to talk, and, when I asked her what was the most fun she'd had that weekend, she said, "We took our Bronco into a parking lot and did wheelies, kicking up dust. It was great!"

I asked her if there was any difference in the way Los Angeles and San

ing, I had to agree. The San Francisco women seemed determined to shock. There was lots of pseudo-butt-fucking, real stripping and true horniness. At the risk of sounding New York-centric, my impression was that some San Franciscans had visited New York, been to the Clit Club once, seen some women dancing with their shirts off and come back to San Francisco saying: "Take your clothes off! Everybody does it in New York!" Or perhaps it's the other way around.

So, was Al Grayson right? Are the dykes prettier on the West Coast? I can say unequivocally that they are tanner and blonder. According to Karen Bascin, a transplanted New Yorker who has lived in San Diego for four years: "East Coast lesbians are not as physically oriented. They're not as concerned about personal appearance, physical condition. The West Coast, because of the year round sunshine, helps women and men stay fit."

A Laguna woman adds: "But East Coast women have more to talk about. I'd go to bed with a West Coast girl, but I'd rather go out to dinner with an East Coast girl and have a good chat."▼

LOOKOUT

**This is
either a
really feeble
attempt at
safer sex
by our
favorite
senator or
some wise
vendor's
comment
on him.**



**We can
hardly
keep up!
Lesbomania
has now
taken over
even the
pages of the
NY Times
Magazine.
We can't
wait for
the June
issue of
Bride's
Magazine.**



GEMMA KHANG

ABOVE LEFT, HER GREEN-FLECKED TWEED SUIT IS SPICED WITH A BROOCH BUTTON AND HAS A TWO-COLOR BLOUSE.

ISANI

ABOVE RIGHT, THE BROTHER/SISTER DESIGNING TEAM IS MAKING NEAT SUITS OF TWEED WITH SPECIAL DETAILING.

LOUIS DELL'ORO

LEFT: FOR ANNE KLEIN
• COMPANY ME DOES

Like an out-of-control fungus, homophobia in Hollywood—rather than abating with the onslaught of queer liberation—is spreading at breakneck speed, threatening to smother us. All of this is an amazing study in the stubborn determination of an industry to ignore a revolution happening all around it. And, as we've seen so many times in the past, the bomb will eventually explode in their grotesque and grimy faces—probably sooner rather than later. Plain and simple: Queers won't be stepped on any longer.

Take this scenario: Another grossly anti-queer, potentially blockbuster film is to be belched up for American consumption. Queers vigorously protest it, pointing out that portraying gays and lesbians as killers—without historically having shown us as an integral part of the fabric of America—is morally reprehensible. Says one of its "sensitive" makers: "I'm a bit hurt by all of this....I don't want to be a part of anything that lends itself to gay-bashing...[but] minority groups of any kind have to accept the possibility that among them is a sociopath." The project proceeds.

No, this is not Jonathan Demme making lame excuses about *you-know-what*. And it's not Paul Schrader discussing his current *The Comfort of Strangers* (in which Christopher Walken plays—what else?—a psychopathic gay killer). The sad truth is that it could be any number of writers and directors talking about all of the vile shit and garbage that they've produced and then excused over the past 40 years.

This time, though, the product in question makes all of the other recent anti-queer vomit-fests pale in comparison. Hopefully, this will be the film that galvanizes the lesbian and gay community to finally take to the streets with rage. Personally, I'm praying that it will motivate queers to rampage through Hollywood, TEAR DOWN THE LOTS AND TAKE THE STUDIO HEADS INTO THE STREETS AND FEED THEM TO PACKS OF HUNGRY PIT BULLS.

Here's what's going on: A film called *Basic Instinct* is being shot in San Francisco, and Queer Nation has already interrupted the filming, especially since a gay publisher

GOSSIP WATCH

and bar owner is letting the producers use his establishment for a scene [see news story, page 16]. The movie stars Michael Douglas as a hetero cop who gets involved in a love triangle with—you guessed it!—a bunch of butchering queers. According to GLAAD/San Francisco, "of the three major female characters [in the film],

Enough is enough:

It's time to
march on
Hollywood.

one, a lesbian, killed her brother when she was 14 [and was then institutionalized]. This character, in a fit of jealous homo rage, tries to kill the hero, Douglas, because he is involved with her friend and roommate, a bisexual woman. "The bisexual roommate [also] kills men with an ice pick," GLAAD reports. "And a third woman, who is either lesbian or bisexual, is also apparently a murderer."

The original script bears all of this out. However, the publicists at the production company, Carolco, and the distributor, Tri-Star, are doing headspins trying to convince us that the script has changed considerably. But, according to several reports in both *Variety* and the *LA Times*, public squabbles (regarding vari-

ous issues) between the director, Paul Verhoeven and the screenwriter, Joe Eszterhas, have resulted in much of the script going back to its original form. Besides, there's very little that can be done to change *Basic Instinct* for the better; homophobia is the basis of

the plot. As GLAAD/SF's Hollie Conley puts it, "This script can't be saved."

The unsalvageable script in question is Eszterhas' record \$3-million monster that you may have read about in *Spy* and other publications. (Buying the script for such a high figure—the largest-ever—the movie company must be certain that it has a megahit on its hands, which it will no doubt heavily promote when the time comes next year.) Eszterhas is the person quoted above, saying that he wouldn't be "a part of anything that lends itself to gay-bashing." But this straight, white, liberal man, like Demme and all the rest, hasn't done shit for queers in the past. And yes, perhaps lesbians and gays should accept that there may be "sociopaths" among them, but when Hollywood hasn't shown us anything but that, the rationale begins to wear thin.

Carolco and Tri-Star's public-relations strategy is perhaps even more appalling than the plot of the film itself. In addition to releasing statements denying that there are "stereotypical" portrayals in the film, they are frantically trying to convince us that Eszterhas is a "sensitive" screenwriter. They even quote the guy saying that he's "written movies specifically about intolerance and injustice done to minority groups."

Now, I'd hardly call *Muscle Box* and *Betrayed* immensely enlightened films, but that's beside the point. THE FACT THAT ESZTERHAS MAY HAVE DONE GOOD THINGS FOR OTHER SO-CALLED MINORITY GROUPS, DOESN'T MEAN THAT HE'S NOT A HOMOPHOBIC-IN-DENIAL, CAPABLE OF PRODUCING BIGOTED TRASH IN THE GUISE OF ART.

It really pisses me off when I'm told that "liberals" are making these movies—as if that is supposed to make me feel better. IT MAKES IT ALL THE WORSE.

These people *should* be listening to us. But they're not. And they sometimes feel that by merely

By Michelangelo Signorile

showing a gay person in a movie, they've done more than most directors and thus don't care what that character represents and what messages he or she conveys. With regard to *Basic Instinct*, part of the movie company's PR strategy also includes telling us that the director, Paul Verhoeven, made the Dutch film, *The Fourth Man*, which included homosexuality and which, the Carolco/Tri-Star PR people claim, was "praised" by the gay community for an "honest" portrayal.

Well, I don't know who praised *The Fourth Man* when it was released eight years ago (certainly it is sexy, and, at a time when there were even fewer gay roles, perhaps the visibility alone was welcome), but looking at it now, it's clear that the film is quite anti-gay; the queers, as usual, are demented freaks who meet with death or are institutionalized. (Vito Russo made the same assessment in *The Celluloid Closet*.) What then are we to conclude? That both the director and screenwriter of *Basic Instinct*, rather than making films, should be in therapy dealing with the homo-hatred which they obviously—as good liberals—cannot admit to but which bursts forth in their work.

All the worse, other films that have recently attempted to serve up explicit and positive queer portrayals have been watered down just before release, their queer scenes either completely censored or made ambiguous. According to GLAAD, this occurred with regard to lesbian portrayals in *Welcome Home, Roxy Carmichael* and *LA Story*. In both movies, explicit scenes were removed so that the lesbian characters' sexuality is made more ambiguous.

And in the upcoming *Switch*, a comedy about a male chauvinist who dies and comes back as a woman, played by Ellen Barkin, two-thirds of Barkin's love scene with actress Lorraine Bracco was cut because test audiences were offended by the lesbianism. (Barkin, by the way, was quite disturbed by the cut and expressed her desire to keep it in to combat homophobia.) Director Blake Victor/Victoria Edwards told newspapers that he had to remove the scene so as not to "lose the audience."

THIS IS WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH. In the midst of the AIDS crisis and a gay-bashing epidemic exploding

GAYDAR

Not Ready for Prime Time

It's all about visibility. But you already know that. It's a vicious circle: Homophobia exists, so gay people don't come out, so straight people don't know anything about gay people, so there is homophobia.

Michael Musto argued in the *Village Voice* last week that outing "has got to be considered a welcome upheaval that strives to make homosexuality something worth knowing about... and the shake-up hasn't made these stars gay, it's just revealing they are. It aims to render 'She's a lesbian' as upsetting as 'She's a blond.'"

Stories on famous dykes and fags will make the straight world a bit more comfortable in the same way that single movie-star mothers, recovering rock-star alcoholics and celebrity cancer-fighters have demystified these facts of

life for regular Americans. Rock Hudson made it OK for people to talk about AIDS. Farah Fawcett removed some stigma from unmarried women choosing children. And, Nancy on *thirtysomething* raised discussion about ovarian cancer.

Our job is to make the mainstream see that they are living and working with gay people everywhere. So, in addition to outing celebrities, we need to continue to target television, the most pervasive medium. We are losing ground. An insightful piece in the *Los Angeles Times* titled "Back Into the Closet" looked into why, "today, not a single network series sports a continuing character who is openly gay or lesbian." The last of them disappeared when CBS pulled *Doctor, Doctor*.

Though the article claimed that threatened boycotts rarely work, "sponsor pull-outs over content are now a reality of life, as are shrinking

audiences and the recession," so the networks are being extra careful.

Last year, when *thirtysomething* aired an episode which showed two men in bed, they estimated a loss of \$1.5 million from sponsor pull-outs, and a *Lifestories* episode about a gay newscaster with AIDS lost about \$500,000 in unsold commercials.

In place of recurring characters like Steven on *Dynasty* and a queer neighbor, cop, lawyer and nurse on *Cagney and Lacey*, *Hooperman*, *Sara* and *Heartbeat*, respectively, according to the *LA Times*, shows are including

By Michael Goff



thirtysomething

millionqueers

willnottolerate

victimroles&

tragicendings



See GOSSIP WATCH on page 68

Illustration: Tom Kalin

"incidental" characters which aren't a steady target for "pro-family" organizations—the bisexual *LA Law* kiss and characters on *Designing Women*, *The Simpsons*, *Golden Girls*, *The Trials of Rosie O'Neill*, among others.

But this cuts two ways. Viewers can't tune in weekly to see gays and lesbians living their lives on a regular basis. When an incidental character shows up, her or his sexuality is often the issue. Karin Schwartz at GLAAD says that this is good: "We're seeing a rather sophisticated and concentrated portrayal of gay and lesbian issues and personalities on these episodes."

Yes, a few shows go in-depth, but "incidental" gay characters also cause a lot of problems. If they are not the center of attention in a show, the *LA Times* reports that they can be dropped because they are "distracting." In addition, their short tenure often forces an "incidental" character to become either a stereotype or an "idea"—a way for the show to deal with AIDS, for example.

A bisexual writer told the *LA Times*, "There is the sin of commission or outright ridicule, which is made worse by the sin of omission," for example, when gay characters are either villains or sight gags, as on *In Living Color*. Most of the time, they aren't even there.

Liz Smith had it right when she quoted "a *thirtysomething* philosopher" about last week's episode in which a minor character reveals that he has HIV: "God forbid anybody should write a gay character who doesn't eventually have it." The idea is, if we are going to get a gay character, she or he is going to be the issue.

Now, this is not to say that the *thirtysomething* episode wasn't very good. The character Peter was not a caricature. He is a regular person, living and working as an openly gay ad man. And the producers obviously worked hard to accurately show Peter's reaction to his HIV-positive test result. I had a lump in my throat when I realized that I had seen it before with friends. He was facing the existential questions about his life (in a mere three lines, as only *thirtysomething* can do) and bashed back against a homophobic slur by his boss (something about the fact that he wouldn't know anything about team sports).

It was a little disturbing, though,

See GAYDAR on page 66

THREE DOTS...

... John J. O'Connor (*NY Times*) wrote of straight AIDS in TV shows that they "can now sidestep gay men and drug users to focus on more 'accessible' groups." *Degerassi High* on PBS, *First Love*, *Fatal Love* on HBO and a special episode of *A Different World* with Whoopi Goldberg took on the subject last week. The Oscar winner did get in the line "AIDS is not a moral judgment." ... Channel 13 seems to be buckling under to the boycott, announcing plans for a national show "that could air weekly if underwriting support is found." ... *A Closer Look* on NBC interviewed Rock Hudson's former lover, along with Merv's, Brent Prott. Griffin's lawyer says that he will subpoena Prince Charles, Diana, the head of the FBI (Brent's tennis partner at a benefit tournament), two secretaries of state and, of course, Eva Gabor. It's going to be fun! ... One of the winners in the *Ladies' Home Journal* Oprah Winfrey look-alike contest turned out to be Jecquin Stitt, who is in the process of having a sex change. After some discussion, Stitt was not disqualified and will appear on the show in May.

—M.G.

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OUT ON THE TOWN WITH LIZ & SYDNEY

The Pet Shop Boys, terminally bored shopping monsters, were in town last week to perform in their New York debut at Radio City Music Hall. Ambivalent and lacking tickets, Liz and Sydney did not attend the concert, which some reviewers called "self-indulgent" and "cold," but did go to the party held at the Building in the group's honor. On what was one of the hottest nights of the year, we join our columnists perspiring...

LIZ: If this is a party for the **Pet Shop Boys**, why are there so many awful straight people here?

SYDNEY: They're "industry" people, they work for record companies. Call them what you like.

Liz: Do you think they have any clue as to what all these young men in hot pants and T-shirts are doing here?

Sydney: No. Look at them dancing, though. People have said ignorance is bliss, and they look pretty blissed out.

Liz: I think we should go look for the **Pet Shop People**.

Sydney: Lead the way.

Liz: Oh, look, it's **Larry Tee** and **Keoki**...and the same five people we always see. I bet the **Pet Shop Boys** won't even show up!

Sydney: Remember the last time we were in this room? It was the party for **Wolf Remsen**¹ last Thursday, and **Quentin Crisp** was sitting right under his own photograph—in the same outfit, no less.

Liz: Did you see the hatchet job he did on *Paris Is Burning* in the *Sunday Times*?

Sydney: For someone who said he didn't like the bitchiness of the **House Balls**, he threw more shade than any one of the **Ball Queens**.

Liz: That was nothing. Last Saturday, **Whitney Houston** got read so hard she probably has bruises. And that's a feat, considering **Escuelita's**² 15 miles from her house in New Jersey.

Sydney: Sometimes I worry that I'm too jaded, that nothing will ever amuse me again, and then I see a 300-pound drag queen in a gold sequin dress lip-synch the "Desert Storm" remix of the National Anthem, and I

**"I WORRY THAT I'M
TOO JADED, THAT
NOTHING WILL EVER
AMUSE ME AGAIN."**

Sydney: Isn't that just the butch/femme couple from hell?

Liz: I don't know about hell, exactly, but the butch/femme revival seems to have found a home on the West Side Highway.

Sydney: I hope you mean **Stingray's**⁶—unless there's an open-air lesbian bazaar I don't know about. Butch/femme couples were certainly in season for the girls. The boys were another story...

Liz: Yes, well, considering the patrons were a little on the young side, I would just keep away from those girls, missy. Unless you want to be called "Chicken Little" for the rest of your days.

Sydney: Takes one to know one....Some of those girls had the fiercest clothes.

Liz: Well, now that they've renovated, you can't just show up in any old thing.

Sydney: Yeah, and it's not just at **Stingray's**—I mean, that girl who handed you the invite at **Visions**⁷ looked fly! There's hope for the future of the **Lesbian Nation**.

Liz: You know, these are the people that all the "fabulous" clubs in New York are trying to keep out, and, in the end, the only people losing are the ones too stupid to see past their prejudice.

Sydney: I know, I can only think of two parties, **S'More**⁸ and **Panty Girdles**⁹ that come close to being racially mixed.

Liz: Wait a minute. What about **Shelter**¹⁰ or **Sound Factory**?

See **LIZ & SYDNEY** on page 96



**By LIZ TRACEY &
SYDNEY POKORNY**

THE ARTS

A Mess in Venice

THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS. Directed by Paul Schrader. Screenplay by Harold Pinter (based on the novel by Ian McEwen). Produced by Angelo Rizzoli. A Skouras Pictures release.

by Peter Bowen

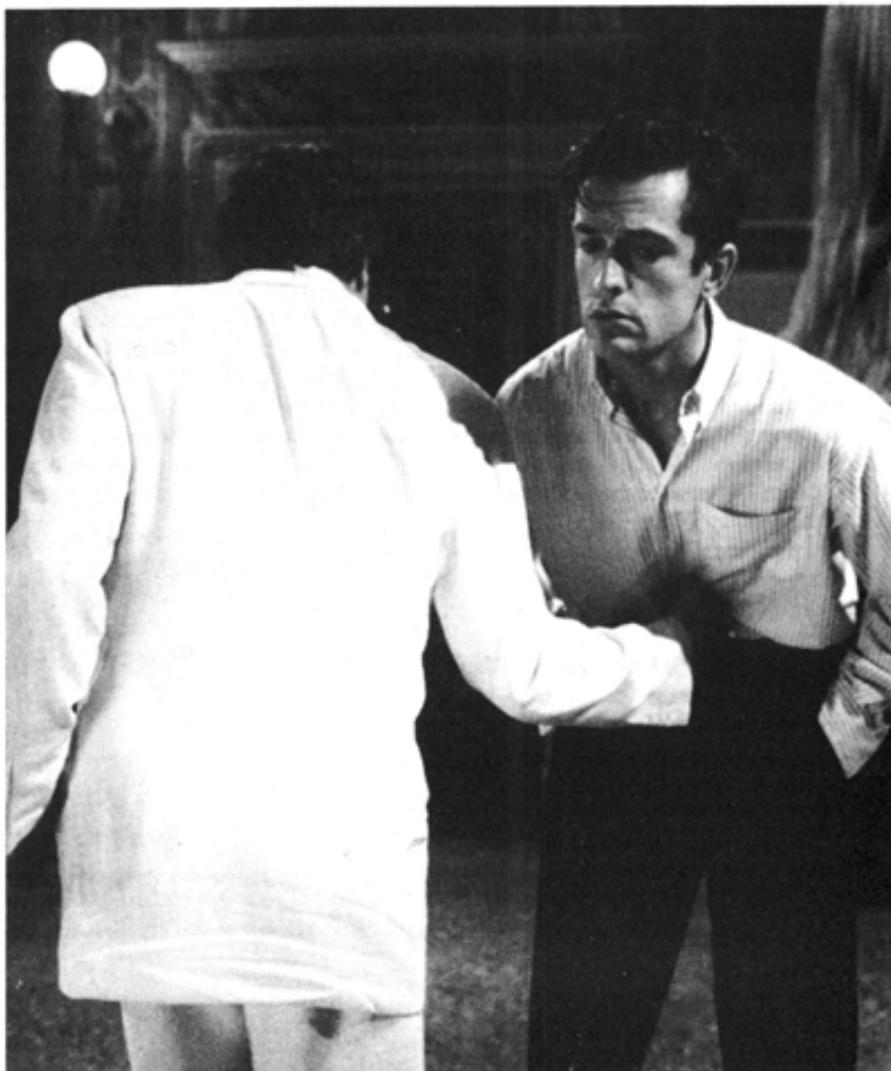
Venice, especially the Venice of Paul Schrader's gruesome thriller, *The Comfort of Strangers*, never looks quite right. Its discomfort no doubt stems from the strain of always having to be in two places at once. Both European and Middle Eastern, lushly romantic and sexually dangerous, Venice, whose very streets turn to water under your feet, is transformed in this film into the most dangerous tourist trap of all—a city in the closet, a city that only looks like a safe European escape for heterosexual love.

Moping about Venice, Colin (Rupert Everett) and Mary (Natasha Richardson), the quintessential British yuppie couple, have misplaced the passion that had brought them together years ago in Venice. Mary, an ex-feminist actress, hangs out at the hotel trying to telephone her kids. Colin, her wishy-washy boyfriend, stands about modeling his starched Armani clothes and sculpted torso, seemingly unable to decide what to do next. And so they drift aimlessly across the piazzas, down the narrow, unnamed streets, along the garbage-littered canals, all the time being secretly watched, trailed and photographed. The tourists who would turn this Italian town into a postcard spectacle have been rendered by the city into a spectacle themselves, a lovely irony which, misguided by Pinter's artsy script and misdirected by

Schrader's overzealous camera, gets lost in the film's strained attempt to find suspense everywhere.

Equally lost, our honeymoon couple

is comforted one night by a stranger, Robert (Christopher Walken), who guides them to what first appears to be a gay bar. Plyng the couple with red wine



BELOW THE BELT—Colin (Rupert Everett) gets it from Robert (Christopher Walken).

and uncomfortably personal questions, Robert reveals his stranger personality by narrating lengthy and violent family anecdotes. Finally returned to the city's confusing streets from which they were rescued, the drunk and confused couple again get lost and collapse on the street. In the morning, before they can make it back to the safety of their hotel, the couple is again rescued by the white-suited Robert who insists on gondoliering them to his regal home.

As if in a dream (or nightmare), our awkward couple find themselves naked in a Byzantine apartment that offers too many questions and too few clothes. Greeted by Robert's enigmatic wife, Caroline (Helen Mirren), who proudly confesses her pleasure at having watched their nude bodies in sleep, Colin and Mary have a hard time figuring out where hospitality ends and manipulation begins. Refused their clothes until they accept a dinner invitation, the two alternately find themselves seduced and attacked throughout the evening.

Unfolding like an inverted mystery novel, this film's plot becomes more and more bizarre, until its penultimate crime occurs as an utterly open and incomprehensible act of violence. But while the film provides few, if any, motives for its characters' erratic behavior, it produces an endless flow of suspicions. On Robert's desk are a series of photos with Colin as their subject. Why? Out of the blue, Robert punches Colin in the stomach. Why? Suggesting that all "perverts" should be lined up and gunned down, Robert nevertheless introduces Colin as his lover. Why? But the film's quirks are not limited to Robert's or Caroline's odd behavior. Built into the city's architecture, rehearsed in a waiter's rudeness, stitched into the very fabric of heavy drapes, a sense of foreboding and secrecy pervades the entire film, until there seems to be no mystery at all, just mysteriousness.

For the gay viewer, however, there is something even more disturbing than simply the film's diffuse atmospherics of terror. At the center of the film's fascination is the beautiful and bewildered male body of Colin. Sitting in a café, for example, Mary suddenly realizes that everyone is looking not at her but at Colin.

FILM

Everyone—Robert, Caroline, Mary, even strangers on the street—fixate on Colin's body, and, in the film's convoluted homophobic logic, the fetishization of the male, rather than the female, body serves as both the source of, and excuse for, suspicion, violence and finally murder.

It might be easy to dismiss this film as an overwrought and underdeveloped thriller if it wasn't for the stunning model

of homophobia it presents. Never overtly bashing queers—indeed it invites us to side with Colin's and Mary's appreciation of diverse sexualities—the film rather stresses the phobia in homophobia by finding utter terror in otherness. Like the mother warning her little boy about the "comfort of strangers" waiting in station wagons outside his school, the film incites a certain paranoia about anyone or any place that is, for lack of a better word, queer. ▼

Bo-He-Me-Ah!

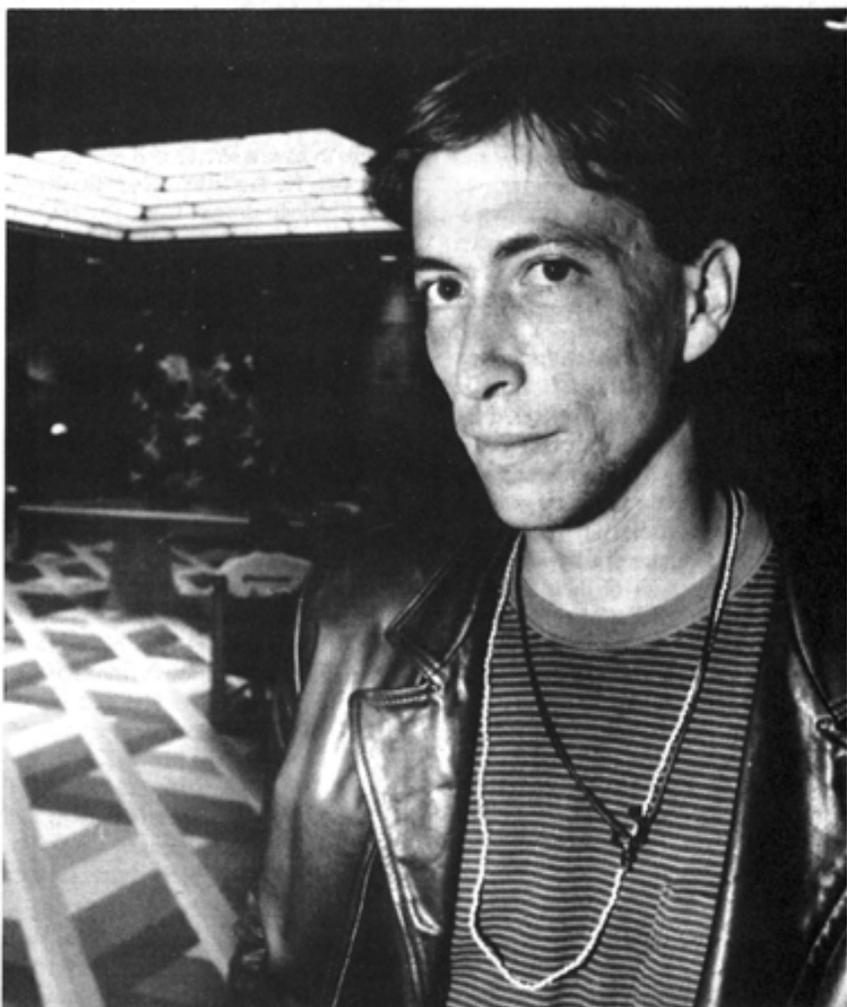
Remembering With Bo Huston

by Bruce Benderson

Bo Huston's new novel, *Remember Me*, is a gentle and serene book about AIDS, as well as an in-depth treatment of an unconventional friendship. Through a narration that is both meditative and imagistic, it tells the story of an unnamed gay man and his lifelong friend, Charlotte, living together in sexless intimacy in a shabby industrial river town. Most striking

about this short novel is the way it subtly integrates the narrator's HIV infection into the everyday fabric of life. And the central relationship in the book, between a gay man and a female recluse, defies all categories. Bo Huston and I met recently to discuss his new novel.

Bruce Benderson: The friendship you describe in your novel—between a gay man and his housemate, Charlotte, a



THIRTYNOTHING...Contrary to the pre-airing hoopla, last Tuesday's "AIDS episode" of *thirtysomething* was a big, fat zero. While portrayals as sensitive as these may be few and far between, for the initiated, the program was trifling. Sandwiched amid several story lines about the manifold pressures on Michael (Ken Olin), the tale we learn of Peter (Peter Frechette) taking "that test" amounts to a strange footnote in the oblivious, spinning world that is straight hegemony. Back to Nancy.

LET'S GET BUSY...Later that evening, while toothsome gals twirled the Clit Club, Arsenio Hall was engaged in some much-needed damage control. Hall's busy basher reputation may finally have piqued his conscience, even if only after the vocal protest of Queer Nationals and the publication in the *Village Voice* of OUTpost posters baring his likeness. Last Tuesday's bone took the human, kimono-wearing form of Harvey Fierstein, whom Hall proceeded to sound out on various issues from the closet to outing and our beloved

LIP SERVICE RUMORS, ODDITIES AND THE PLAIN TRUTH

Monsignor Signorile. Fierstein was, as ever, resonant and proud. Hall nodded his head ponderously and admitted to having learned something. Don't hold your breath.

CITY OF NIGHT...New York's very own *The Portable Lower East Side*, long the purveyor of rad, off-beat work, has announced a special gay and lesbian edition

of the journal entitled *Queer City*. The editorial board is in hot pursuit of poetry, fiction, performance work, essays and memoirs that are no longer than 3,500 words in length and come "from a lesbian and gay perspective, deal with issues of concern to our various communities and relate to New York City." Get it off fast—the deadline is April 30. Manuscripts must be double-spaced, typewritten and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a brief biographical note. Editors accepting manuscripts include Jacqueline Woodson, at 390 Sixth Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215 and Ira Silverberg, at 401 W. Broadway, #2, New York, NY 10012.

—compiled by Sarah Pettit

woman who never goes out—is very unconventional. And all of the conventional families that are portrayed in the book are disasters. In a strange way, the book seems an indictment of the conventional family.

BO HUSTON: I feel outside of the nuclear family—that's what I was trying to let them express a little. He's gay, and she's this insane recluse. The love that they have for each other is so undefinable: They're not brother and sister, they're not husband and wife, they don't have matching sexualities, and yet they have chosen to stay together.

BB: Typically—and perhaps pejoratively—their friendship could be described as a relationship between a fag and a fag-hag. I've noticed that, in general, the males of such a dyad have wider horizons; they often get to sleep with the people they choose. The women are often people who are not having much sex and who put all of their libidinal energy into their love of these men. Charlotte doesn't seem to have sex. Is she getting the short end of the stick?

BH: The word fag-hag never popped into my head. I just don't think in those terms. And in this story, I don't think she's the more

dependent one at all.

BB: Why?

BH: If somebody is obsessed with somebody in this story, it's he who is obsessed with her—with her approach to life and with some kind of mystery that she holds for him in terms of the past.

BB: But what about the fact that he seems to have a sex life and she doesn't?

BH: He has a lot of earthly things that Charlotte doesn't have. He still has some small ambitions that connect him to the outside world. But in many ways she's beyond him, and he's looking up to her. The last thing I could call her is a fag-hag. I don't even believe in the concept. She's very in control of her environment and herself. I've never really known any woman whose whole life was chasing around after gay men who then left her at three in the morning to go get laid.

BB: Well, I'm not a woman, but you've practically described me.

BH: Very funny.

BB: But I do get the feeling that Charlotte lives vicariously through his sex life. She gets blow-by-blow descriptions of all the sex he has.

BH: *Everything* is vicarious for her now. As a teenager, she was a

wild kid, stealing things, smoking cigarettes, a lot looser and attracted to danger. Then she got hurt, or she got too afraid that she might get hurt.

BB: Both of them are squeamish about life, retired from the world, but all of it seems based on a high sense of idealism. The slightest human flaw appalls them both.

BH: Yes. She accepts life as difficult, and her way to deal with it is to find a safe corner where she won't be too unhappy. The narrator finds this attitude very appealing but not entirely possible for him.

BB: Right. The narrator has certain impulses that compel him into the world—like sex.... I love the book's courageous affirmation of anonymous sex—safer, of course—its healing powers and connecting powers. When he had sex, it was almost better medicine than he was getting from the hospital for his disease.

BH: I like anonymous safer sex. It is good, it serves a purpose. But he was beginning to understand that there are other things in life that weren't getting fulfilled by that. Anonymous sex helps a lot of young gay males. It gets them out there—they get to learn all the codes of behavior. But it doesn't satisfy all their needs. One of the things he comes to

BOOKS

realize is that Charlotte fulfills a lot of his needs. She is the primary relationship in his life, even though that relationship doesn't have a sexual component.

BB: One of the most dramatic incidents in the book is a gay-bashing. And here as well, a woman plays a principle role, since she happens to be with the two gay men when they get bashed.

BH: It was very natural for me to have a woman present during the bashing. I guess that's how I see gay life. You feel free to hang around with the most interesting people, and many of them are women.

BB: And Charlotte is interesting, yet she can't deal with his HIV infection at a time when he most needs her. Isn't this a

real limitation to their relationship?

BH: It's something he has to learn to accept. Charlotte does not change or move—she is just who she is. She's in the center, and he's moving around her in a circle. The book is partly about her immobility, and he has to come to terms with it and with his love for her.

BB: Meanwhile, there's a kind of ecstatic quality in the slow process of his confrontation with AIDS. The illness seems almost like an antidote to his alienation from the world, but as he gets more ill, his alienation decreases, the town becomes beautiful, sensory images that disturbed him before suddenly seem to glow with beauty.

BH: Well, I think that's true, but it's sort of shocking to hear about it.

BB: I'd go so far as to say that, at the end of the book, the body and desire seem translated by the illness into a pure moment, a kind of...

BH: Freedom?

BB: Exactly.

BH: I do think that what he sees is a glimpse of freedom. As you must have noticed, a part of him is very detached. He's constantly listening to what other people are saying. That's his role in life. But the narrative of this book is the first chance he's ever really had to tell a story. This is his book. And that's the reason for the title: *Remember Me*. ▼

Friends Not Lovers

REMEMBER ME by Bo Huston. Amethyst Press. \$9.95 pb. 143 pp.

by John Preston

The nameless narrator of Bo Huston's new novel lives in a house owned by Charlotte, his childhood friend. He is adrift, without an income or his own family (both his and Charlotte's parents died when they were young).

The narrator has AIDS. He is one of the legions of young men with a diagnosis who have not yet found their center. The specter of the life-threatening disease can't be handled: Even the simple task of taking his medications is beyond him; he frequently forgets to take his pills. Huston writes:

Will I be alive long enough to be mature? I mean, long enough to possess that generous kind of smile that accepts the world a bit more?

At night, when Charlotte is drinking her cocoa and reading, I cannot sleep; voices chatter questions in each ear. At this time next year, how will I look and sound? Will I be able to move, to see, to think? Will a day come when I am not even able to read? And about sex—freedom and pleasure that I have not yet really been able to know, maybe I will not know. My expression must be just like

that of a hungry child staring at plates of food.

The narrator has other relationships, and there are occasional sex partners. But most of these connections fail in most fundamental ways and never develop into anything meaningful. They can't really, because, for the most part, the characters are conceived not as rounded figures but as statements. There is an affair, of sorts, with one man who, it turns out, exists mainly to allow Huston to make a statement about gay-bashing. An old man exists, really, to allow the author to draw a parallel between life during AIDS and the Holocaust, and the old man's son provides the final, and totally unconvincing, attempt at a positive "solution": While walking through the village, the narrator comes across this young man swimming. His beauty alone is, apparently, the reason.

Until this last, epiphanic moment, the narrator's only substantive reason for being has been to have authored a novel circulating various publishing houses. When the book is accepted by a company called XXX Press, the narrator finally finds a bit of hope. Then the company goes bankrupt. It's not the fault of the book, the author is assured by one of the

The narrator has AIDS. He is one of the legions of young men with a diagnosis who have not yet found their center. The specter of the life-threatening disease can't be handled: Even the simple task of taking his medications is beyond him; he frequently forgets to take his pills.

BOOKS

publisher's employees: "It's just so awful that small publishing companies, the ones who take risks, experiment, explore, we go out of business left and right, while the big guys with their silly sex dramas and thrillers and horror books....God knows if Kafka would ever see print in these times."

This is an argument that many beginning authors experience. Their lack of success must be the fault of a conspiracy against the productions, which they're sure is Art. There seems little doubt that the narrator and the author believe that their work is art, but they can't seem to cope with the requirements for a work that will mean much to their readers.

The story of a young man with AIDS who has no meaning in his life has more than simple poignancy about it. But there must be a *story* to bring this drama into sharp relief. The one great flaw that even XXX Press found in his narrator's manuscript was the lack of a plot—after all, Kafka was a master storyteller.

There's no question that Huston is talented. Many critics find him among the most talented of the younger generation of gay writers today. If the streak of nihilism that runs through this book is all that he can see, then he will, in fact, be relegated forever to XXX Press, unable to make his vision comprehensible to his readers. He, just like his narrator, has to find a center. ▼



CHANNEL CROSSER—Kinny Gardner comes to Manhattan.

Out There

OUT AND OUT. Kinny Gardner. Eighty-Eight's. 228 W. 10th St. (212) 924-0088. April 24 at 8 pm.

by Jonn Wasser

During the past few years, several gay male artists have staked their performance claims by eschewing traditional

cabaret boundaries (i.e., masking one's homosexuality) and have evolved a more radical performance style. Sometimes flamboyant and often witty, these artists

sit
and
SPIN

DJ: *David Padilla*
CITY: *Miami Beach*
CLUB: *Warsaw*

1. "Where Love Lives" by Alison Limrick
2. "Gypsy Woman" by Crystal Waters
3. "Tonight" by Those Guys
4. "People Are Still Having Sex" by La Tour
5. "Superficial Lover" by Ten City
6. "Lock Up" by CRJ
7. "Contributions" by Mica Paris
8. "Let the World Dance" by BC Underground
9. "A Song of Love" by Black Tulip
10. "Work It" by Lisa Bellamy

**"BEAUTIFUL,
LIVELY,
INTELLIGENT,
EXPLORATORY."**

- Terrence Rafferty,
THE NEW YORKER

**"THE MOST
DYNAMIC
DOCUMENTARY
SINCE ROGER &
ME. ★★★★★"**

- Larry Trachten, *IF*

**"POWERFUL,
PASSIONATE &
ENTERTAINING."**

- Karl Schohlein, *OUTWEEK*

**"REMARKABLE.
RIVETING.
MASTERFUL."**

- Michelle Parkerson,
BLACK FILM REVIEW

**"SEE THIS
MOVIE."**

- Karen Katchpole, *SASSY*

**"BRILLIANT.
FUNNY,
TOUCHING &
TOUGH - YOU'RE
UNLIKELY TO
SEE A FILM AS
GOOD AS THIS
ONE THIS YEAR."**

- Dennis Dermody, *PAPER*

**"DAZZLING & MOVING.
EXTRAORDINARY."**

- Byron Metz, *FILM JOURNAL*

Paris is Burning



**"A BEAT BOX
OPERA OF
COLOR, KITSCH,
WIT & STYLE...
INSPIRING."**

- Beena Joss, *BOMB*

**"A STARTLING
MIXTURE OF
THE BIZARRE &
THE HEART-
BREAKING."**

- Quentin Crisp,
NEW YORK NATIVE

**"ABSORBING,
FUNNY &
TOUCHING."**

★★★

- Jonathan Hoardell, *NEWSDAY*

**"IT WORKS
PERFECTLY."**

- Randall Koral, *VODDY*

**"SPIRITED, AN
EYE OPENER!"**

- Peter Travers, *ROLLING STONE*

**"GLORIOUS.
ELECTRIC.
MY FAVORITE
MOVIE... IN
MANY MOONS."**

**SWIFT,
ENTERTAINING &
TANTALIZING."**

- Georgia Brown, *VILLAGE VOICE*

"WITTY & PROFOUND. RIVETING."

- Owen Gleiberman, *ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY*

PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY JENNIE LIVINGSTON

EDITOR JONATHAN OPPENHEIM CINEMATOGRAPHY PAUL GIBSON CO-PRODUCER BARRY SWIMAR

MON-FRI 2, 3:35, 5:10, 6:45, 8:20, 10 FRI & SAT MIDNIGHT SAT-SUN 1, 2:35, 4:10, 5:45, 7:20, 8:55, 10:30

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FILM FORUM

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Nurse

by Dennis Cooper

There's a guy who still reflects in bloodshot eyes, glasses and beer mugs too lukewarm and fingered to drink from, though embossed with the names of some places we cruised. He was The Future, I tried hard to believe, out of sheer drunkenness, I guess, since he was obviously a hustler, and even a kind of in-joke among "friends." Oh, *him*. We're only horny enough to see through things, not inside, take that guy gradually nodding out over a beer I'd paid a waiter to set before him with my regards. My God. Too bad he can't open his eyes wide enough at this point to see who's hung around, may not care by this stage that I'm here being moved by his stupor, as I was drawn to his beauty once, in ways I couldn't actually show, though he was touched by the effort in some remote way, I know.

Dennis Cooper's books include Idols, The Tenderness of the Wolves and Closer. His new novel, Frisk, will be published in May by Grove Weidenfeld. He currently lives in Los Angeles.

POETRY

celebrate their sexuality, even embracing it as a mark of distinction. One thinks of Bloodlip's hysterical antics, Jay Rogers' Broccoli Head impersonations and John Burke's grande dame of the airwaves, Sybil Bruncheon. Their unbridled display of camp and character have alarmed cabaret purists, but there is no denying that these performers have carved out a comfortable niche. Today's cult artist is tomorrow's mainstream performer.

The latest to arrive on the scene is British-born Kinny Gardner. A spirited

performer, Mr. Gardner combines campy characterizations and mannerisms with glimpses of harsh reality. The show, appropriately titled *Out and Out*, belongs to the *Out-Week* crowd, but to describe it as "gay cabaret" limits its potential. This show might effectively be billed as Camp 101 for the unsuspecting and open-minded masses.

Most of Mr. Gardner's songs are imaginative ditties backed by either a pre-recorded musical track or John McMahon's effective piano-playing. Singing in a high tenor, he often slides into a heady falsetto which masks a tendency toward nasalness. The songs themselves are more cheek than chic and cover a wide array of subjects.

Following his rousing welcome as our "in-flight homosexual"—cruising at an altitude of six feet of makeup—Gardner dives into Sondheim and Rodgers' rarely heard "Americans." Taking stabs at American culture may now be an international pastime, but the performer's off-center approach and humorous facial expressions set the stage swirling. But in one way or another, "Americans" represents the patchwork of songs and sketches which mark Mr. Gardner's US cabaret debut. Cultural and sexual differences abound, but our (hopefully) united front against discrimination is the glue that binds us together.

This theme periodically appears in both comic and serious forms, often in tandem. Following the opening number, Mr. Gardner devotes considerable time to his youthful memories, culminating in "Kay," a true song of woe whose



eponymously named heroine stole the singer's boyfriend, a handsome chap attracted to both sexes. Just when the song verges on pop sentimentality, Mr. Gardner plaintively inquires, "Kay, why?" and immediately reverses direction.

It is to Mr. Gardner's immense credit that he possesses the innate ability to easily segue from high comedy to near tragedy. Despite the show's many laughs, the performer receives little support from director Alastair Macmillan. Many sketches lack fluidity and could have been funnier if properly channeled. At times, songs end without rhyme or reason.

Nevertheless, this gay British embryo has let himself loose in the Big Apple, so let's show him that American audiences are truly no different from anyone else. We too can support and nurture up-and-coming talent. All it takes is a trip to Eighty-Eight's. ▼

CABARET



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GAYDAR

continued from page 56

that America saw Peter reveal his HIV status in front of the bathroom stalls, the only place many viewers think homosexuality exists—local tearooms.

Most interesting in the show was seeing Michael trying to be his usual sensitive self. He tells Peter, "We're friends here," and wants to help. Peter responds: "You don't know my life. I don't know yours. We leave our lives at the door. You don't know anything about me."

And he's right. Michael and everyone else in the cool professions of advertising, media, movies and fashion think that they have it down just because they

know that a colleague is gay.

Really, they don't know anything about our lives, nor do they really think about them. Peter knows that Michael's best friend has just died, but Michael probably doesn't know anything about the friends that Peter has lost. Michael doesn't know much about Peter's lovers and his social circle, but Michael's wife brings the kids by the office when he's working late, and his friends are always stopping by.

By showing this gap, *thirtysomething* may make people think about how much they actually know about the queer people in their lives. This media-representation thing is heating up, and,

sad but true, that fact is queerer than fiction. (Next week, look for Maria Maggenti's interview with Paul Monette, the originator of this episode's script.)▼

GOSSIP

continued from page 55

nationwide, Hollywood refuses to portray us in any positive, visible way but *will* show us as freaks and murderers. And then they have the gall to tell us it's OK because there *are* "sociopaths" among us, and thus they're actually portraying reality. DO YOU BELIEVE THIS SHIT?

It is time for us to take action. What we want is *positive representation*, so that the negative stereotypes will be rendered harmless. We must begin protesting. WE MUST DEMAND TRUE, HONEST, GOOD PORTRAYALS OF QUEERS IN FILMS. And we also want them to LET US IN. Yes, they must be forced to take our proud and out queer filmmakers, screenwriters, actors, etc., and give them a bigger piece of the fucking pie. GAY MEN RUN THAT DAMNED TOWN—DAVID GEFFEN, BARRY DILLER, MERV GRIFFIN, ETC.—AND HEAD THOSE MOVIE COMPANIES. There really shouldn't be a problem. And the fact that there is one is appalling.

I propose a massive national action in Hollywood. Tinseltown is a seat of power in America as big—or bigger—than either Washington or New York. And Hollywood's insidious depictions of this community are exactly what empowers the legislators to vote the way they do—as well as empowering the people who bash us in the streets.

If we plan far in advance and if all of the nationwide Queer Nation chapters and other gay groups around the country work on it and send people out to LA for a major demo, we will create a huge, unprecedented and, of course, glitzy, ruckus. The media will eat this thing up!

Everyone concerned should go to their local Queer Nation chapter and begin the letter-writing, the faxing and the phone-calling to the studios—especially to the queers who run them—making our demands heard and letting them know that we've had it and that we're coming to get them.

And we've got to start organizing this event. What will we do when we all get there? Well, I'm sure people will come up with lots of creative and zany and powerful and magnificent ideas.

Queers Marching on Hollywood. I think this has the makings of a fabulous movie.▼

TOP THIS TOP
You sexy guy, wearing those tight sweats and walking your dog every afternoon, why not take some afternoon time off and meet me
Downstairs after 1:00 pm Monday-Saturday.
- Your Neighborhood Cableman

BIKER SEEKS
Guys who like to take long hard rides on big vibrating cruisin' machine and are dedicated to:
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I got the boots, crewcut and loaded pistol. You bring the cigars and Marine grease I'm ready for the **All Night Beer Blast on MONDAYS.** Come on Man, quench my thirst!
- "Golden" Guy
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MR. RICHARDSON
I've seen your eyes checking out the men in the office. I can just imagine you without your suit on and hanging loose in your BVD's. Meet me after work or at the **Nightly Specials from 5:30 to 9:00 Monday - Friday.**
Let's see who the real boss is!
- Engineer Tom

SEEKING COOL / TOUGH COWBOY
A very, well reared Indian Chief lookin' to rope up and tie down a real horsemaster so I can ride on you all night. I want to make you feel real good. **See you Wednesday night with the rope.**

Sunday Beer Blast
4:00 to 9:00

BODY BUILDER / WRESTLER
Well defined. Shaved and hungry lookin' to shoot some pool. Guys in a sweat - turn me on, so beginners are cool. Let me show off and teach you my way to shoot
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ADVANCE LISTINGS

THE MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S OFFICE in cooperation with DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY and DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS are holding **Hearings on Manhattan and Paragon Cable**. That's a mouthful, but what it boils down to is this: Do you get your money's worth from cable? and, Are we getting the cable system we deserve? The Manhattan Cable Service Area hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 17. Board of Estimate Chambers, City Hall, 6:30 pm. The Paragon Service Area hearing will be held on Monday, April 22. Harlem State Office Building, 125th Street and Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard, 6:30 pm. Info: (212) 669-8157.

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH presents **The State of the City: A Gay and Lesbian Perspective**, given in conjunction with *OutWeek* magazine. "Gay men and lesbians are vital participants in the life of New York City," says the class description. "Despite this, many believe that the popular media and mainstream arts communities either fail to represent or actually misrepresent gay and lesbian concerns." Given in three sessions which focus on the arts, the media and politics, respectively, the classes will be led by Arts Editor Sarah Pettit, Features Editor Michelangelo Signorile and News Editor Andrew Miller. \$15 for the course, \$8 for a single session. The first session is April 25. For more info, contact the New School at (212) 741-8778.

LIVELY ARTS

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

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

THE SANFORD MEISNER THEATRE presents ***The Starvation of Ruby Nellis*** by Jeff Rose. Directed by Tony Phelan. The play tells the story of a young girl in the rural South who sets out to save the world by staging a hunger strike on the White House lawn. Some things complicate her plan, however, including but not limited to attempted murder, makeovers, weird sex, fried chicken, spurned lovers, assault, floor wax, fast cars, bomb drills, caeseroles, bondage, patriotism and sponge rollers. \$10 or TDF. 164 Eleventh Ave., between 22nd and 23rd streets. Reservations: (212) 206-1764. April 18-21 and 24-28.

THE WINGS THEATRE COMPANY presents ***Roman Spectacle***, "a night in the orgy chamber of the teenage emperor of the Roman empire, Heliogabalus," written and directed by David Michael Gallagher. Featuring "a spectacular drag wedding in the palace." 154 Christopher St. Tu-Fr at 8 pm.

GOING OUT

an events calendar

Compiled by Dale Peck

Send announcements and listings to: 159 W. 25th St., 7th floor, New York, NY 10001. Next deadline: Monday, April 22, for issue #97, available in New York on Monday, April 29.

OUTSTANDING

the best of this queer week

THEATER FOR THE NEW CITY/BARTENIEFF-FIELD presents Stephen Lott's ***Charlotte in Wonderland***, "an AIDS allegory," and the second installment in Lott's trilogy which began with ***MacBeth in Hell***. Musical direction and original songs: Tom Judson. Directed by Penny Rockwell and Sebastian Stuart. Set: Jamie Leo and Catharine Dill. Choreography: Jeni Breen. Costumes: Gelf Rhian. Lighting: Tom Barker. Starring: Cameron Ford, Evan Heinemann, John Heys, David Hirsh, John Jiler, Tom Judson, Katie Krocodille, Agosteo Machado, Penny Rockwell, Irene Shea, Chris Tanner, Edward Weiss and Mary Lou Wittmer. \$5 or TDF. 155 First Ave., at 10th Street. Th-Su at 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 254-1109. Through April 28.

Lesbians, Latinas and more: INTAR HISPANIC AMERICAN ARTS CENTER presents Carmelita Tropicana in an expanded Latino cinema performance, ***Once Upon a Time*** by Ela Troyano. The video also features Spanish rap group Latin Empire, and the night also includes Ana Maria Simo's ***The Opium War***, composed by Zeena Parkins and directed by Linda Chapman. \$12. INTAR Two, 508 W. 53rd St. April 26-28. 8 pm. Info: (212) 279-4200.

Bring popcorn and dental dams to THE CENTER, when it presents Lesbian Movie Night. These videos are "by, about and of interest to lesbians." Scheduled are ***Let's Play Prisoners*** by Julie Zando, a "troubling investigation into female subjectivity" that "examines the relationships between power and love, dependency and differentiation"; ***Looking for Labelle*** by Jocelyn Taylor, "a delightful sexual romp"; ***Father Knows Best*** by Jocelyn Taylor, in which "the videomaker interviews her father about his views on homosexuality and what it's like having a lesbian daughter"; and ***Take Your Laws Off My Body*** by Catherine Sealfield and Zoe Leonard, which asks, "Who controls our bodies anyway?" Taylor and Sealfield will discuss their works after the viewing. \$8 donation. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. April 26, 8:30 pm. Info: Stephanie Grant at (212) 620-7310.

The second time around...time around...around: ABC NO RIO presents ***Narziss und Echo*** and other Super 8 shorts by Michael

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

Beginning April 13, Sa at 7 and 10 pm and Su at 3:30 and 7 pm. Reservations: (212) 627-2961. Through April 28.

PS 122 presents ***Richard Elovich's Someone Else From Queens is Queer***. Written and performed by Elovich. Directed by Itamar Kubovy. The solo play is a love story about activism and death in the age of AIDS. It tells the story of Felix the Kat, a human cannonball shot out of Queens and Gordie Benjamin, a stand-up spritzer who theorizes about everything: outlaw queerness in William S. Burroughs, assimilation in *The Munchers* and *The Addams Family*, heroin, Jewish law and the Panopticon. \$10 or \$5 plus TDF. 150 First Ave. Th-Su at 9:30 pm. Reservations: (212) 477-5288. Through April 28.

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

LOVE CREEK PRODUCTIONS presents ***Gay and Lesbian Perspectives***, a series of at least 12 one-act plays featuring gay and/or lesbian characters or "themes related to alternative lifestyles." The "mini-festival" is part of an ongoing playwrighting competition designed to provide a venue to quality scripts dealing with gay and lesbian themes. \$10. Westbeth Theater, 151 Bank St. Reservations: (212) 769-7973. April 18 through May 6.

UPSTAIRS AT THE DUPLEX presents Wicked Trash Productions' ***Bedtime Stories***. Join them for "more tales of shattered, splintered, split-upon love." Written and performed by Marian Goldstein, Scott King and Jason Kordeles. Directed by Simon Fitt. \$7 cover/2 drink minimum. 59 Christopher St. Mo at 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 255-5438. Through May 6.

THE PERRY STREET THEATRE presents ***Jeffrey Essmann's Artificial Reality***. Accompanied by composer Michael John LaChiusa, Essman will present a series of sketches featuring such characters as Stan, a recovering recovery addict; Jean-Louis DeBris, a French existentialist cabaret singer; and Raye,

a woman with a lover who's literally out of this world. Directed by David Warren. 31 Perry St. For reservations and showtimes, call (212) 279-4200. Through the first week in May.

ART IN GENERAL presents **Out Loud: Artists Engulfed Against War**, a collaborative multi-media installation which assembles contributed works from artists and writers in opposition to the Gulf War. Other artists' works are also featured in the show. 79 Walker St. (212) 219-0473. Through May 11.

THE LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES and THE CENTER present **Keepin' On: Images of African-American Lesbians**. Opening Feb. 28. Wheelchair accessible. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. Hours: daily, 4-6 pm. For more info, contact the Archives at (212) 874-7232. Through May 11.

THE BALLROOM presents **Julian Clary**, "a self-effacing comedian who creates a surrealistic fantasy world with his crossed-dressed Ziggy Stardust persona, fast-paced barbs and sly double entendres." \$15, plus a two-drink minimum. 253 W. 28th St. Tu-Sa at 9 pm, Fr and Sa at 11:15 pm, and Su at 3 pm. Reservations: (212) 244-3005. April 21 through May 12.

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

MUSICAL THEATRE WORKS presents **Colette Collage: Two Musicals About Colette** by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt. The two parts focus on Colette as a young girl discovering her art and as an old woman, looking back on her life, and does not cover up her lesbian affairs. \$20. The Theatre at St. Peter's Church, 54th Street and Lexington Avenue. Contact theater for show times: (212) 688-6022. Through May 19.

BLUE ANGEL THEATRE presents **Pageant**, New York's nightly, audience participation, musical beauty contest. \$40 and up. 323 W. 44th St. Tu-Fr at 8:30 pm, Sa at 7:30 and 10:30 pm and Su at 3:30 and 7:30 pm. Reservations: (212) 262-3333. Through May 26.

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

THE GLINES present **Evan Bridenstine's High-String Quartet**, a comedy in which "David loves Greg, Greg loves Sally, Sally loves Bruce and Bruce loves David."

Bryntrup. *Narzuss and Echo* premiered in the United States last fall at the Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival. \$5/\$3 students, seniors and PWAs. 156 Rivington St. April 27. 10 pm. Info: (212) 254-3697.

Features Editor Victoria Starr puts her stamp of approval on this one: WILLIAM PATERSON COLLEGE COALITION OF LESBIANS, GAYS AND FRIENDS presents an AIDS Benefit Concert and Tea Dance. Featuring the music of Sweet Convulsions, a queer industrial dance band described as a cross between Yaz and Black Flag. Also on the bill: the Whirling Dervishes, the Traveling Texans and No Secrets. William Paterson College, Student Center Ballroom. April 28. For complete details, call (908) 595-2157.

May I have this dance? DANCE THEATER WORKSHOP presents *His/His and Hers/Hers*. First on the program: *Duet*, a collaborative duet by Irene Hullman and Vicky Shick. Then *It's Sodomite Warriors* by Chazz Dean and Kurt Fulton, a "mini-epic which explores the facets of contemporary gay male culture and the tenuous relationship to the straight society it lives within." \$12 or TDF. DTW's Bessie Schonberg Theater. 219 W. 19th St. 8 pm. Reservations: (212) 924-0077.

Directed by Leslie Irons. Starring John Carhart III, Suzanne Cryer, Dana Hall and Mark Leydorf. \$15. 39 Grove St., at Bleecker. We-Fr at 8 pm, Sa at 6 and 9 pm and Su at 7 pm. Reservations: (212) 869-3530. Through June 9.

THE CARNEGIE HALL MUSEUM presents its inaugural Exhibition, featuring memorabilia of gay Russian composer Peter Ilych Tchaikovsky. Included in the exhibition are pages from Tchaikovsky's original manuscripts, some of his diaries and letters, and letters to him. 881 Seventh Ave., at 57th Street. 11 am to 4 pm. Info: (212) 903-9750. Through June 30.

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

UBU REPERTORY THEATRE presents *Cop's Grand Finale*. Directed by Andre Ermette. Translated by Michael Feingold. Starring Robert Carriart, Delphi Harrington, Jack Koenig, Keith McDermott, David Parsley and Margo Skinner. The play "may just be the first farce written about AIDS, a farce which mixes pathos and wit, tenderness and cruelty." \$20/\$15 for students and seniors. 15 W. 28th St. Tu-Sa at 8 pm, Sa and Su at 3 pm. Reservations: (212) 679-7562.

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

55 GROVE STREET presents **Cam Brainard and Bob Koherr's Brickface & Staves**, 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. Fr at 8 pm. (212) 366-5438.

CHERRY LANE THEATRE presents **David Stevens' The Sum of Us**. Starring Robert Lansing and Neil Maffin. Directed by Kevin Dowling. By the writer of *Breaker Morant*, this play is about a father who tries to help with his son's gay relationships while looking for a new wife. 38 Commerce St. \$27.50-\$32.50. Tu-Fr at 8 pm, Sa at 7 and 10 pm, Su at 3 and 7:30 pm. (212) 989-2020.

THE FRIENDS OF ALICE AUSTEN HOUSE present **Alice Austen: The Larky Life**. From her bio, Alice Austen sounds like the Gertrude Stein of Staten Island. Visit her house, now a museum, and see pictures that she took of upper middle class men and women. 2 Hylan Blvd. Staten Island. Th-Su. 12-5 pm. Info: (718) 816-4506. Through December.

MONDAY, APRIL 22

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH presents a **Jewish Feminist Friday Night Shabbat Service**, followed by **Oneg Shabbat**. Congregation Beth Simchat Torah is New York's lesbian and gay synagogue. 57 Bethune St. 6:30 pm. (212) 929-9498.

GAY ACTIVIST ALLIANCE IN MORRIS COUNTY presents **Womyn's Network and Men's Rap Group** at 7:30 pm, before their **General Meeting** at 8:30 pm. Tonight's discussion features guests Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, talking about "When You Come

Out, We Go In." 21 Normandy Heights Rd. Morristown, NJ. Info: GAAMC Gay Helpline: (201) 285-1595.

ACT UP General Meeting. Cooper Union. Fourth Avenue at 7th Street. 7:30 pm. Info: (212) 564-AIDS.

OUTMUSIC General Meeting. Outmusic is an organization of lesbian and gay composers, lyricists and musical performers. Tonight's meeting will feature performances in a wide range of musical styles including rock, pop, theater, jazz, folk and others. \$3. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. Info: Dan Martin at (212) 533-0598.

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

LONG ISLAND GAY MEN'S GROUP presents **Discrimination: How it affects us. Has it affected you?** For complete details on this bi-monthly discussion group, contact LIGMG at (516) 694-2407.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER Political Action/Media Outreach Committee Meeting. For complete info, contact Chris at (212) 601-0806.

PROFESSIONALS IN FILM AND VIDEO present **Career Networking Night**. An evening devoted to meeting people in PFV who can provide the career opportunities and services you are seeking. \$7 nonmembers/\$5 members. The Center, 208 W. 13th St. 6:30-9:30 pm. Reservations: (718) 667-6507.

AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS COUNTY presents an HIV Forum and discussion of AIDS issues. ACOQ. 97-45 Queens Blvd., suite 1220. Rego Park. 6:30-8:30 pm. Info: (718) 896-2500 or (718) 896-2985 for the hearing impaired.

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS presents **Eroticizing Safer Sex**. Their regular safer-sex seminar and workshop happens in the Bronx tonight. 1 Fordham Plaza, suite 800. 6-8 pm. For more info, contact Chris of Gay Men of the Bronx at (212) 601-0806. Also tonight, GMHC presents a **Health Seminar: Medical Treatments**. 129 W. 20th St., third and sixth floors. 7 pm. For more information, call the GMHC hotline at (212) 807-6655. TDD (212) 645-7470 for the hearing impaired.

LESBOS General Meeting for lesbian mothers. Open to lesbian parents, co-parents and interested others. \$3 suggested donation. 675 Woodfield Rd. West Hempstead, Long Island. For complete details, call (516) 483-2050.

LESBIANS AND GAY MEN OF NEW BRUNSWICK General Meeting. Tonight's discussion: "Lesbian and Gay Parenting." A panel of men and women will share their experiences. Adoption, coming out to kids, handling a break up, impregnating and other subjects will be covered. Friends Meeting House. 109 Nichol Ave. New Brunswick, NJ. 8 pm. (908) 247-0515.

THE NINTH STREET CENTER presents **Queer Questions, Queer Answers**, a series of rap groups whose focus is defining homosexuality for the 1990s. Tonight's topic: "Polarity: In Same-Sex Relationships, Opposites Attract." 319 E. 9th St., basement. 8-10 pm. (212) 228-5153.

THE KITCHEN presents **Diamanda Galas** in excerpts from *Plague Mass (1984 to the End of Epidemic)*. Selections include "There Are No More Tickets to the Funeral." \$15 nonmembers/\$10 members. 512 W. 19th St. 8:30 pm. Reservations: (212) 255-5743. [See also April 19 and 21]

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS COUNTY presents **Stress Management**, a workshop on meditation relaxation and other stress-management activities. ACQC. 97-45 Queens Blvd., suite 1220. Rego Park. 6:30-8:30 pm. Info: (718) 896-2500 or (718) 896-2985 for the hearing impaired.

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

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

THE CENTER presents **Orientation**, a chance for lesbians and gay men who are new to New York City to learn more about their community. Featuring speakers and literature. \$3. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 7 pm. (212) 620-7310.

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS present **Flash and Spirit: The S/M Path**. A panel will discuss the role of S/M practices in a spiritual quest, both historically and in contemporary terms. \$4 members/\$6 non-members. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. (212) 727-9878.

A DIFFERENT LIGHT presents **Peter McGhee**, reading from his book, *Boys Like Us*. 548 Hudson St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 989-4850.

BODY POSITIVE presents **Personal Finances and HIV**, a monthly orientation forum. Topics include: immediate steps you can take to protect your financial future; getting and keeping life, medical and disability insurance; selling life insurance policies for cash; and keeping control of your life through good planning. St. Vincent's Hospital. Cronin Building. Tenth floor auditorium. 170 W. 12th St. 8-10 pm. Info: (212) 721-1619 or (212) 697-2580.

KELLY'S presents **Suzanne Westenhoefer**, performing comedy "for straights in a homosexual world" and entertaining "queeries" on homosexual life. \$5 plus a two-drink minimum. 46 Bedford St., at

Seventh Avenue South. 8:30 pm. Info: (201) 641-8731.

THE EAGLE presents **Movie Night: Ghost**. "This box-office blockbuster stars Patrick Swayze as a New York investment banker. When he is killed after uncovering a money-laundering scheme, he returns in the afterlife to save his girlfriend (Demi Moore) from the same fate." The Eagle. 142 Eleventh Ave., at 21st Street. 11 pm. (212) 691-8451.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

THE LESBIAN AND GAY ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT presents **Volunteer Orientation**. Join now, before the summer case-load hits. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 6-8 pm. Info: (212) 807-6761.

AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS COUNTY presents **Caregivers Forum**, focusing on partner relationship and HIV-related stressors. ACQC. 97-45 Queens Blvd., suite 1220. Rego Park. 6:30-8:30 pm. Info: (718) 896-2500 or (718) 896-2985 for the hearing impaired.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents **Mailing Night**. Join them at the Clubhouse for some "constructive fun": stapling, collating, licking, folding, rubber-stamping... 7 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

IN OUR OWN WRITE presents a **Writer's Workshop Showcase**. Featuring writings from their bimonthly writing workshop. \$3. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 7:30 pm. Info: (212) 620-7310.

ACDG presents **Gayme Night** for lesbians. \$3 donation. 675 Woodfield Rd. West Hempstead. Long Island. 8 pm. Info: (516) 483-2050.

HERITAGE OF PRIDE presents a **Marshall Outreach Social**. If you're interested in volunteering to marshal or otherwise help out HOP on Gay Pride weekend, this meeting is for you. Free refreshments, and a slide show of past Gay Pride parades. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 691-1774.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS COUNTY presents **Teen Rap Support Group**. For complete info, speak to Paul. ACQC. 97-45 Queens Blvd., suite 1220. Rego Park. 6-8 pm. Info: (718) 896-2500 or (718) 896-2985 for the hearing impaired.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER present a **Y-MACT Consciousness-Raising Session** at 7 pm. Tonight's topic: "Domestic Partnerships." Then, at 8, it's a **Social Open House and May Newsletter Mailing**. Both events happen at the Center. 208 W. 13th St. Info: (212) 222-9794.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents **30-Plus Potluck and Game Night**. Bring shareable food, drinks and games. 7:30 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

INTAR HISPANIC AMERICAN ARTS CENTER presents **Carmelita Tropicana** in an

expanded Latino cinema performance, *Once Upon a Time* by **Ela Troyano**. The video also features Spanglish rap group **Latin Empire**, and the night also includes **Ana Maria Simo's The Opium War**, composed by **Zsena Parkins** and directed by **Linda Chapman**. \$12. INTAR Two. 508 W. 53rd St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 279-4200. [See also April 27 and 28]

THE CENTER presents **Lesbian Movie Night**. These videos are "by, about and of interest to lesbians." Scheduled are *Let's Play Prisoners* by **Jelle Zandé**, a "troubling investigation into female subjectivity" that "examines the relationships between power and love, dependency and differentiation"; *Looking for Labelle* by **Jocelyn Taylor**, "a delightful sexual romp"; *Father Knows Best* by **Jocelyn Taylor**, in which "the videomaker interviews her father about his views on homosexuality and what it's like having a lesbian daughter"; and *Take Your Laws Off My Body* by **Catherine Szafield** and **Zoe Leonard**, which asks, "Who controls our bodies anyway?" Taylor and Szafield will discuss their works after the viewing. \$6 donation. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8:30 pm. Info: Stephanie Grant at (212) 620-7310.

MICHAEL JEFFRIES presents *The Bitch Thing Is Jane!* From their flyer: "This awful video, a reinterpretation of the film *The Boys in the Band*, is certain to amuse, delight, offend and embarrass you." Refreshments served. \$3. Downtown Community Television, 87 Lafayette St., two blocks south of Canal. 8:30 pm.

THE KITCHEN presents **Karen Finlay**, reading from her book, *Shock Treatment*. \$8 nonmembers/\$3 members. 512 W. 19th St. 8:30 pm. Reservations: (212) 255-5793. [See April 27]

WEBO PERFORMANCE GALLERY presents **Killer Spoken Word Scene #3**. Hosted by **Matthew Courtney**. With **David Chelsea**, **Pat Dix**, **Maggie Estep**, **Karl Holmqvist**, **Mr. Impala**, and **Joss Pades**. \$5. 317 E. Houston., at Attorney St. 9:30 pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

WOMEN ABOUT presents an **Easy Hike and Picnic** in the Black Rock Forest. For complete details and to join Women About, call (212) 642-5257.

AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS COUNTY presents **Disclosure and HIV**, focusing on HIV-related employee insurance and social issues. ACQC. 97-45 Queens Blvd., suite 1220. Rego Park. 11 am to 1 pm. Info: (718) 896-2500 or (718) 896-2985 for the hearing impaired.

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

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS presents **Think About It: Deciding to Take the Test**. For those thinking of taking the HIV-antibody test, this workshop is designed to

give you knowledge and decision-making skills. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 1-6 pm. Registration: (212) 807-6655 or (212) 645-7470 for the hearing impaired.

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents **Arch Reopening and Park Walk** at 12 noon. Then, at 7:30 pm, it's a **Singles Party**. "Come meet the folks you didn't get the chance to meet at the Extravaganza." Also at 7:30, it's **Video Night in Brooklyn Heights**. Call for title. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

LESBIANS AND GAY MEN OF NEW BRUNSWICK present a **Potluck Dinner**. Join them at Tal's in Monmouth Junction. Please call ahead to let them what you're bringing. 7 pm. For complete info: (908) 422-4915.

LATINO GAY MEN OF NEW YORK present **AIDS and Other Health Problems**. For Latino gay men only. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 8 pm.

INTAR HISPANIC AMERICAN ARTS CENTER presents **Carmelita Tropicana** in an expanded Latino cinema performance, *Once Upon a Time* by **Ela Troyano**, with Spanglish rap group **Latin Empire**, and the night also includes **Ana Maria Simo's The Opium War**, composed by **Zsena Parkins** and directed by **Linda Chapman**. \$12. INTAR Two. 508 W. 53rd St. 8 pm. Info: (212) 279-4200. [See also April 26 and 28]

SOUTHERNERS presents a **Fourth-Saturday Two-Step Dance**. Lessons are at 8 pm, and the dance starts at 9 and last until 1 am. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. Info: (212) 674-8073.

THE KITCHEN presents **Karen Finlay**, reading from her book, *Shock Treatment*. \$8 nonmembers/\$3 members. 512 W. 19th St. 8:30 pm. Reservations: (212) 255-5793. [See April 26]

ABC NO RIO presents **Nardiss and Echo** and other Super 8 shorts by **Michael Bryntrup**. *Nardiss and Echo* premiered in the United States last fall at the Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival. Also on the program: short 16 mm film studies by **Oliver Henks**. \$5/\$3 students, seniors and PWA's. 156 Rivington St. 10 pm. Info: (212) 254-3697.

WOMEN ABOUT presents a **Compass Workshop**. For complete details and to join Women About, call (212) 642-5257.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS presents **Diversity Picnic**, a social and sports picnic, so bring equipment and friends. SAL is doing extra recruiting to attract women of all colors to this event. 1 pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to confirm all SAL activities: (718) 965-7578.

THE GAY AND LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD presents its **Talent Show Fund-Raiser**. Refreshments served. \$5. donation. The Center. 208 W. 13th St. 3 pm. Info: (212) 777-1800.

MORE LISTINGS NEXT WEEK

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

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

A&E (Arts & Ent, 565 Fifth Ave., 10th Fl, NYC 10017; 661-4500)
CCTV (Rick X, Box 790, NYC 10108)
GBS (Gay Broadcasting System, Butch Peaston, 178 7th Ave, Ste. A-3, NYC 10011; 243-1570)
GCN (Gay Cable Network, Lou Maletta, 32 Union Square East, Suite 1217; 477-4220)
GLIB (Gay and Lesbian Independent Broadcasters. (212) 473-1689.)
GMHC (Gay Men's Health Crisis, Jean Carfomusto, 129 W 20 St, NYC 10011; 807-7517)
RB PROD (Robin Byrd Prod., Box 305, NYC 10021; 988-2973)
WABC-TV (77 W 63 St, NYC 10023; 456-7777)
WBAI-FM (505 8th Ave, 19th Fl, NYC 10018; 279-0707)
WCBS-TV (51 W 52 St St, NYC 10019; 975-4321)
WNBC-TV (30 Rockefeller Plaza, NYC 10112; 664-4444)
WNET-TV (356 W 58 St, NYC 10019; 560-3000)
WNYW-TV (Fox, 1211 AV/AM, NYC 10036; 556-2400)
WPIX-TV (220 E 42 St, NYC 10017; 949-1100)

MONDAY, APRIL 22

7:00 AM WABC-TV *Good Morning America* Scheduled: Liza Minelli. A woman who, quite frankly, intrigues us. CH 7.
10:00 AM WABC-TV *Sally Jessy Raphael* Scheduled topic: post-wedding depression. Trapped in heterosexuality—a real downer, eh? CH 7.
12 noon A&E *Charley's Aunt A* farce, according to *TV Guide*, centering on romance, mistaken identity and female impersonation. Repeated at 4 am.
1:30 PM WUSB 90.1 FM *The Word Is Out* Marc Gunning hosts a weekly lesbian, gay and bisexual variety show.
2:00 PM WUSB 90.1 FM *Lavender Wimmen* News, songs and music produced by women for women.
2:30 PM WUSB 90.1 FM *This Way Out* More queer news.
3:00 PM WNBC-TV *Joan Rivers* Scheduled guest: Merv Griffin. Watch the fur fly. CH 4.
7:00 PM WCBS-TV *Hard Copy* Scheduled: sexual misconduct and teachers. CH 2.
7:30 PM WCBS-TV *Entertainment Tonight* Scheduled: John Travolta. Speaking of fur.... CH 2.
7:30 PM WIND-TV *Miss Saigon: The Heat Is On* If you want to know how this piece of trash was made, here's your behind-the-scenes look. CH 9.
8:30 PM Manhattan Cable *The Brenda and Glennie Show* CH 17
9:00 PM GBS *Out in the 90's*: community news, discussion, interviews. BQ Cable, CH 56 (1:00)
9:00 PM GCN *Gay USA* Paragon Cable. CH C/16 (30)
11:30 PM BRV *Ten Great Writers* Marcel Proust, France's most famous literary homo, is profiled.
11:30 PM *Tomorrow/Tonight Live*: entertainment; Manhattan and Paragon Cable, CH D/17 (1:00)
Midnight CCTV *The Closet Case Show*: Closet Klips; Manhattan /Paragon Cable, CH C/16 (30)

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

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)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

9:00 AM WIND-TV *Best Talk* Scheduled: state budget cuts. Use the call-in period to tell them about AIDS cuts, and how much they suck. CH 11.
9:30 AM WBAI 99.5 FM *Ghosts in the Machine* We've been long remiss in listing this weekly radio show, hosted by *OutWeek's* new features editor, Victoria Starr. 2.5 hours.
11:30 PM MTV *More Sex in the 90's* Topics include sex education and the AIDS crisis. We don't know what their slant is, but we give them an 'E' for effort, anyway.
Midnight RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male and female strippers, live call-in show; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

1:00 PM WBAI-FM *This Way Out*, the international gay/lesbian news magazine; 99.5 FM (30)
1:30 PM WBAI-FM *An Afternoon Ousting*: local news and information about the gay and lesbian community with Larry Gutenberg; 99.5 FM (30)
2:00 PM WBAI-FM *Paths to Self-Empowerment* Discussing alternative and self-directed responses to immune suppression. With Bob Lederer, Betsy Lenka, Nicholas Cimerelli and various guests. 99.5 FM (1:00)
3:00 PM WABC-TV *Oprah Winfrey* Scheduled: sexual misconduct and teachers. CH 2.
3:00 PM HBO *First Love, Fatal Love* "The true story of Kim Frey, a college woman who contracted the 'AIDS virus."
8:00 PM SHO *Drugstore Cowboy* Matt Dillon and Kelly Lynch star in gay director Gus Van Sant's story about drug use and petty theft.
9:00 PM A&E *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* No, they're not—young Jeanette is another one, of the lesbian variety. Repeated at 1 am.
10:00 PM WNBC-TV *LA Law* Brackman, closet homophobe, is the litigator in a case involving a transsexual fired from a job as a model. CH 4.
10:00 PM GCN *Be Our Guest*: entertainment for and about the lesbian/gay community; Manhattan Cable, CH D/17 (30)
10:30 PM GMHC *Living With AIDS*: health and politics; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (30)
11:00 PM GCN *Gay U.S.A.*: news and entertainment from around the country; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)
Midnight GCN *Men in Films*: male erotica, interviews with adult filmstars; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (30)
12:30 AM RB PROD *Men For Men*: Robin Byrd presents gay male porno stars; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (30)

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

2:30 PM WBAI-FM *Rompiendo el Silencio*: todos los viernes, Gonzalo Aburto con temas y noticias para la comunidad latina gay y lesbiana; 99.5 FM (15)
7:00 PM WCBS-TV *Hard Copy* Scheduled topic: sexually explicit home videos. CH 2.
7:00 PM WBAI 99.5 FM *AIDS in Focus*, Michael Alcalay, producer.
8:00 PM BRV *Distant Voice, Still Lives* I forgot the director's last name (his first name is Terence) but he's gay, and this beautiful film—actually two shorts—showed at last summer's Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Repeated at 1 am.
1:00 AM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*: male and female strippers; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

6:30 AM WNET-TV *Turnstyles* A program on home health care. CH 13.
8:30 AM WBAI-FM *Any Saturday* with David Rothenberg; live call-in; 99.5 FM (2:00)
7:00 PM GCN *Gay USA 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 porrr; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35
1:00 AM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show* Male and female strippers. Paragon Cable, CH C/16 (1:00)
1:30 AM RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show* Male and female strippers. Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (1:00)

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

7:30 PM WBAI-FM *The Gay Show* Co-hosts Larry Gutenberg, Allan Ross, Marle Becker and Bob Storm. Scheduled guests include: Martin Duberman, author and activist; Robert Rygor, commentator, Nancy Sondag and Matt McCleanahan of "Hearts and Voices"; Charles Thomas, composer; and two recent victims of gay-bashing on Staten Island. Alternates with *Outlooks*. 99.5 FM (1:00).
10:30 PM RB PROD *Men For Men*: Robin Byrd presents gay male porno stars; Manhattan Cable, CH V/35 (30)
11:00 PM GBS *Way Out!* Mark Chesnut and Michelle VanVoorhies host. Rich Volo is the producer. CH C/16 (30)

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Monday

- Private Eyes** (Marc Berkley's *Kool Komrads*; strippers; downtown crowd, students, professionals. 2-4-1 drinks till midnight. \$7) 12 W 21 St. (212) 206-7772.
- ◆ **Pyramid** (Michael T. presents New York Nights. Alternative music with DJ Bad Taste. \$1) Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 420-1590.

Tuesday

- ◆ **Clit Club** (Drink specials till midnight. Lesbian erotic videos and slides. \$3 before midnight/\$5 after.) Pyramid. 101 Avenue A. (212) 420-1590.
- ◆ **Club Edelweiss** (TVs, TSs, gays, bi's, singles, couples; Tuesdays are especially for lesbians, but everyone is welcome.) 167 W. 29th St. (212) 868-6989.
- Danceteria** (Coming soon: Chip Duckett's gay Tuesdays. Keep your eyes on this space for opening.) 29 E. 29th St.
- ◆ **Grand Central** (Women's night tonight. Mixed We-Su.) 210 Merrick Rd. Rockville Centre, L.I. (516) 536-4800.
- Jack Officer's Club** (Cruising, Bruising, Drinking and Carousing. Audio, Video and Manual Manipulation by DJ Craig. \$3) 505 E. 6th St., between avenues A and B.
- Roxy** (John Blair's "Muscle on Wheels." Gay rollerskating. Doors open at 8 pm. Varied cover.) 515 W 18 St. (212) 645-5156.

Wednesday

- ◆ **Channel 69** (*Drag Extravaganza*, with Linda Simpson. Go-go stars, DJ Dany Johnson. Sexy, upbeat, East Village fag and dyke crowd. \$5.) Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 420-1590.
- The Building** (Dallas' The Boys' Room. House music, downtown crowd, go-go boys and a 60-foot ceiling. \$10/\$7 with invite.) 51 W. 28th St. (212) 576-1890.
- ◆ **The Bunkhouse** (Club Trash, a night of WDRE-alternative music, with Freddie and DJ Kamakazie. No cover.) Montauk Highway. Sayville. (516) 567-BUNK.
- ◆ **Excellibur** (Ladies Night. \$1 drinks.) 10th Street and Jefferson behind football stadium. Hoboken, N.J. (201) 795-1161.
- ◆ **Limelight** (Disco 2000, with Michael Alig and Larry Tee. Doors open at 10 pm. \$10.) Sixth Avenue at 20th Street. (212) 807-7850.
- ◆ **Limelight** (Queer U. DJs Andy Anderson and Keoki. \$5/\$10) Sixth Avenue at 20th Street. (212) 807-7850.
- ◆ **Cadillac Bar** (Gini DeSantis presents Pure Party Production Dances for Women. Free buffet from 6-8 pm. Renee Cooke, bartender. \$5.) 16 W. 22nd St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues.
- ◆ **Private Eyes** (Shescape Afterwork Party from 5-10 pm. 2-4-1 drinks before 7. \$5 before 7 pm/\$7 after.) 12 W. 21st St. Shescape: (212) 645-6479. Private Eyes: (212) 206-7772.
- Private Eyes** (YMVA Night. Students, professional and women. \$7.) 12 W. 21st St. (212) 206-7772.
- Silver Lining** (2-4-1 drinks.) 175 Cherry Lane. Floral Park, L.I. (516) 354-9641.
- Stutz** (2-4-1 drinks.) 202 Westchester Ave. White Plains, NY. (914) 761-3100.

Thursday

- The Bank** (For fags, it's Sperm Bank, with host-

DANCING OUT

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

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



- ess Hapi Phace, DJs Craig Spencer and Victor Anonymous? For dykes, it's Egg Bank in the Jodie Foster Lounge. Guest DJs and hot and sleazy girl action. \$10/\$7) 225 E. Houston St., at Essex Street. (212) 505-5033.
- ◆ **Copacabana** (Susanne Bartsch. Last Th of the month. Iffy door) 10 E. 60th St., at Fifth Avenue. (212) 755-6010.
- ◆ **Danceteria** (Coming May 2. Shescape presents Every Thursday for Girls. Guest DJs. Doors open 6-11 pm. \$5 before 7/\$7 after.) 29 E. 29th St. (212) 645-6479.
- Excellibur** (\$1 drinks.) Located at the corner of 10th Street and Jefferson behind football stadium. Hoboken, N.J. (201) 795-1161.
- Hatfield's** (2-4-1 drinks, female impersonators.) 126-10 Queens Blvd. Kew Gardens, Queens. (718) 261-8484.
- More Men** (Tony, Keith and Dominic present DJ Tommy Richardson, go-go boys, videos, billiards. \$10/\$7 with invite.) 239 Eleventh Ave. (212) 518-3283.
- ◆ **Pyramid** (Dee's Dyke Bar for dykes and dyke hags. DJ Mike of Bensonhurst. \$5) Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 420-1590.
- Stingray's** (New club, new sound system, everything else is a surprise. No cover tonight.) 641 W. 51st St. (212) 664-8668.
- Friday**
- ABC** (Chip Duckett presents DJ Merritt and dancing in the ballroom and balcony. \$10/\$7 w. invite.) 17 Irving Place at 15th Street.
- The Bank** (Nightmare on Wax: Alternative music hosted by Lee Chappell and Michael T. DJ Ralph Duncan. Mixed crowd. \$10/\$7.) 225 E. Houston St., at Essex Street. (212) 505-5033.
- ◆ **Clit Club** (Jocelyn & Julie present Clit Club West. With go-go girls and lesbo videos. \$1 drinks between 8 and 9 pm. Doors open at 8 pm. \$5) 432 W 14th St. (212) 406-1114.
- Columbia Dances** (First Friday dances. 10 pm to 2 am.) Columbia University Earl Hall. 116th

- Street at Broadway. Daytime phone: (212) 854-3574.
- ◆ **Hatfield's** (Women's night.) 126-10 Queens Blvd. Kew Gardens, Queens. (718) 261-8484.
- ◆ **Loony Bin** (Hosted by Page and Don. DJ Patrick Butts. "Deviant" crowd. \$5.) Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 420-1590.
- Mea Culpa** (For men, with dancing, video and live entertainment. \$7/\$10.) 47 W. 20th St. (212) 807-7840.
- Meat on Friday** (Exclusive performances at 1:30 am. DJ Nobody's Pussy. \$5.) Pyramid. 101 Avenue A. (212) 420-1590.
- ◆ **Millennium** (Ladies Night.) 1770 New York Ave. (Route 110) Huntington, L.I. (516) 351-1402.
- Parallel** (Lincoln Palsgrove IV, Scott Currie and Chauncy present Satyricon. Featuring Matthew Kastan's beauties and Bold Soul Sisters. DJ Johnny Dynell. \$12.) 229 W. 28th St. (212) 563-9292.
- Private Eyes** (YMVA Night, for students and professionals.) 12 W. 21st St. (212) 206-7772.
- Stingray's** (Free before 10 pm. \$7 after.) 641 W. 51st St. (212) 664-8668.
- ◆ **Visions** 56-01 Queens Blvd, Woodside, Queens. Info: (718) 846-7131. Club: (718) 899-9031.

Saturday

- The Bank** (Controversy. DJ Patrick Butts. Drag queens, drinking, dancing and scandal. \$15/\$10/\$7.) 225 E. Houston St., at Essex Street. (212) 505-5033.
- Barefoot Boogie** (A party for adults and kids. 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. Smoke and alcohol-free. April 27 is themed "Afro Pop." 8:30 pm to 12:30 am. \$5/kids free.) 434 Sixth Ave., 4th floor, between Ninth and Tenth avenues. (212) 857-5152.
- Center** (2nd & 4th Sat, 9 pm to 1 am, \$8. DJ Peter Arden.) 208 W. 13th St. (212) 620-7310.
- ◆ **Center** ("Women & Friends." Every first Saturday. Next is April 6. DJ Gini DeSantis. 9 pm to 1 am.) 208 W 13 St. (212) 620-7210.
- ◆ **Clit Club** (Erotic lesbian videos, slides and go-go girls.) The Pyramid. 101 Ave. A. (212) 420-1590.
- Club West End** (Michael Fesco's Saturdays. 12-9 am) 547 W. 21st St.
- Columbia Dances** (Third Saturday dances with DJ Karin Ward. 10 pm to 3 am. \$5.) Columbia University Earl Hall. 116th Street at Broadway. (212) 629-1989.
- 419 419 N. Highway, Southampton, L.I. (516) 283-5001.
- Love Zone** (dancing & performers) 70 Beach St. Staten Island. (718) 442-5692.
- ◆ **Girl Saturdays** (Shescape presents Saturday Nights for Women. With go-go girls and a guest DJ. \$8 before 10:30/\$10 after.) 20/20. 20 W. 20th St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues. (212) 645-6479.
- Meat** (DJ Aldo Hernandez, every Saturday; go-go boys, videos; opens 10 pm; \$5) 432 W 14 St.
- Parallel** (John Blair and The Athletic Complex present New York's hottest go-go boys, DJ Tommy Richardson. \$15.) 229 W. 28th St. (212) 563-9292.
- ◆ **Roxy** (Locomotion. Gay men, straight women, some lesbians.) 515 W. 18th St., between Tenth and Eleventh avenues. (212) 645-5156.
- ◆ **Silver Lining** 175 Cherry Lane. Floral Park, L.I. (516) 354-9641.

THE BAR GUIDE

Sound Factory (Mixed crowd but mostly gay. Serious House music. No alcohol. Doors open at 11 pm.) 530 W. 27th St., between Tenth and Eleventh avenues. (212) 643-0728.
Stingray's (\$8.) 641 W. 51st St. (212) 664-8868.
The World (Christine Vista and Junior Vazquez present an after-hours party. Doors open at midnight.) 254 E. 2nd St., at Avenue C.

Sunday

The Bank (Herbal Tea Dance. Early evening dancing and drinking. DJ Victor. Free fruit, free admission from 4-7 pm. \$5 till 11.) 225 E. Houston St., at Essex Street. (212) 505-5033.
The Bank (Pump, hosted by David Leigh, with DJ Micheal Fierman. Free admission with Chelsea Gym ID. \$7/\$10.) 225 E. Houston St., at Essex Street. (212) 505-5033.
The Building (Dallas' The Men's Room. Students, professionals. Go-go boys and 60-foot ceilings.) 51 W. 28th St. (212) 576-1890.
♣♣ **Clit Club** (Jocelyn and Julie's Tea Dance. 6 pm to 12 am. \$5.) 432 W. 14th St.
♣ **Crazy Nanny's** (Sunday evening Tea Dance. Free before 9 pm/\$5 after.) 21 Seventh Ave. South. (212) 366-6312.
♣ **FUCK!** (DJs Craig and Victor spin industrial, house, bass, soul and twirly disco. Downstairs, the Lesbian Luv Lounge with DJ Lori E. Seid and guest DJs. \$5.) Pyramid. 101 Avenue A. (212) 420-1590.
♣ **Kelly's** (DJ Moaning Lisa spins the records for dancing dykes. Doors open at 8 pm. \$3.) 46 Bedford St. (212) 929-9322.
Monster (Sunday Tea Dance at 4 pm.) 80 Grove St. at Sheridan Square. (212) 924-3557.
Parallel (Michael Fesco presents Sunday Tea Dance. Open bar 5-7 pm. Complimentary hors d' at 7. Go-go boys. \$6.) 229 W. 28th St. (212) 563-9292.
♣ **SOBs** (Leticia Montalvo presents The Lust House. First Sunday of the month. DJ Marlow. \$5.) 204 Varick St., at Houston. (212) 243-4940.

Every Night (or almost)

♣ **Bedrock** (Lesbian club, closed Mo and Tu.) 121 Woodfield Rd. West Hempstead, LI. (516) 486-9516.
♣ **Club Edelweiss** (Tuesdays are for lesbians, but it's open to all Tu-Su.) 167 W. 29th St. (212) 868-8989.
419 419 N. Highway (Rte 27). Southampton, LI. (516) 283-5001.
Grand Central 210 Merrick Rd. Rockville Centre, LI. (516) 536-4800.
Magic Touch (Anglo/Latin/Asian) 73-13 37th Rd. Jackson Heights, Queens. (718) 429-8605.
Monster 80 Grove St., at Sheridan Square. (212) 924-3557.
♣ **Pandora's Box** Sheridan Square & 7th Avenue. (212) 242-1408.
The Pyramid (Look under daily listings for individual parties and themes. Also check Going Out for special events.) 101 Ave. A. (212) 420-1590.
Spectrum (Look under daily listings for individual parties and themes. Coors served.) 802 64th St., at Eighth avenue. Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. (718) 238-8213.
♣ **Ted's** (Night club and restaurant. Mostly women, but men are OK.) 2 Georges Rd. New Brunswick, NJ. (201) 545-8990.

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
Lavender and Lace, at the Vault, 28 Ninth Ave., 255-6758 (Fr, 7-11 pm and Su, 3-8 pm, women)
Private Eyes, 12 W. 21st St. (bet Fifth and Sixth avenues) 206-7770
Rawhide, 212 Eighth Ave., (21st St.), unlisted
Spika, 120 Eleventh Ave., 243-9688

West Village

Badlands, Christopher and West streets, 741-9236
Boots & Saddle, 76 Christopher St., 929-9684
Crazy Nanny's 21 Seventh Ave. S., 366-6312 (women)
D.T.'s Fat Cat 281 W. 12th St., 243-9041
Pandora's Box, 70 Grove St. (Seventh Ave.) 242-1408 (women)
Dugout, 185 Christopher St., 242-9113
Eighty-Eights, 228 W. 10th St., 924-0088

The Hangout (J's) 679 Hudson St., 242-9272
Julius, 159 W. 10th St., 929-9672
Keller's, 384 West St/Christopher, 243-1907
Kelly's Village West, 46 Bedford St., 929-9322
Marie's Crisis, 59 Grove St., 243-9323
The Monster, 80 Grove St. (Seventh Ave.) 924-3558
New Jimmy's 53 Christopher St., 463-0950
Ninth Circle, 139 W. 10th St., 243-9204
Sneakers, 392 West St., 242-9830
Two Potato, 145 Christopher St., 242-9340
Ty's, 114 Christopher St., 741-9641
Uncle Charlie's, 56 Greenwich Ave., 255-8787

Tribeca

Altar, 161 W. Broadway. 571-7272.
G-spot, 50 Warren St., 219-2588 (Fr and Sa, women)

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

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Town & Country, Ninth Ave. at 45th St., 307-1503
Trix, 246 W. 48th St., (664-8331)
The Works, 428 Columbus Ave. (at 81st), 799-7365

East Side

Bogart's, 320 E. 59th St., 688-8534
Brandy's Piano Bar, 235 E. 84th St., 650-1944
G.H. Club, 353 E. 53rd St., 223-9752
Johnny's Pub, 123 E. 47th St., 355-8714
NY Confidential, 306 E. 49th St., 308-8390
Rounds, 303 E. 53rd St., 593-0807
South Dakota, 405 3rd Ave., (29th St.) 684-8376
Star Sapphire, 400 E. 59th St., 688-4710
The Townhouse, 236 E. 58th St., 754-4649
Twenty-Nine Palms, 129 Lexington Ave., 686-8299

East Village

The Bar, 68 2nd Ave., (4th St.) 674-9714
Pyramid, 101 Ave. 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)
Broadstx, 113-24 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, 236-0300

Friend's Tavern, 78-11 Roosevelt Ave., Jackson Heights, 397-7256
Hatfield's, 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, 261-9484
Hideaway, 87-36 Parsons Blvd., Jamaica, 657-4885
Love Boat, 77-02 Broadway, Elmhurst, 29-8670
Magic Touch, 73-13 37th Rd., Jackson Heights, 429-8605

Staten Island

(area code 718)
Sandcastle, 86 Mills Ave., 447-9365

Westchester

(area code 914)
Playroom, 590 Nepperhan Ave., Yonkers, 965-6900
Stutz, 202 Westchester Ave., White Plains, 761-3100

Long Island—Nassau

(area code 516)
Bedrock, 121 Woodfield Rd., West Hempstead, 488-9518 (women)
Blanche, 47-2 Boundary Ave., Farmingdale, 694-6906
Grand Central, 210 Merrick Rd., Rockville Centre, 536-4800
Pal Joey's, 2457 Jerusalem Ave., N. 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, Weinscott, 537-3332
Crew's Quarters, 36 F Pines Blvd., upstairs, Fire Island, 597-6873.
Ice Palace, Cherry Grove Beach Club, Fire Island, 597-6600
Kiss, 161 Farmardie Dr., Lake Ronkonkoma, 467-9273
Club 608, 608 Sunrise Highway, W. Babylon, 661-9580
Millennium, 1770 New York Ave., Huntington, 351-1402
Starz, 836 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, 242-3857
Thunders, 894 Jericho Turnpike, Smithtown, 864-1410

New Jersey

(area code 201)
Charlie's West, 536 Main St., E. Orange, 678-5002
Feather's, 77 Kinderkamack Rd., River Edge, 342-6410
Friendly's, 6310 Park Ave., W. New York, 854-9895
Excalibur, 10th and Jefferson, Hoboken, 795-1023
Nite Lite, 509 22nd St., Union City, 863-9515
Vibrations, 165 Cedar Lane, Teaneck, 836-5518
Yacht Club, 366 Berkshire Valley Rd., Jefferson, 697-9780

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SECURITY

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COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

A.C.C.—AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS

County Social Services Education • Buddies • Counseling • support Groups Volunteer Opportunities (718) 896-2500, (voice) (718) 896-2865(TDD)

ACT UP (AIDS COALITION TO UNLEASH POWER)

486A Hudson Street, Suite G4 NYC 10014 (212) 584-2437 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.

ADULT SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE (Sponsored by SAGE)

Mondays, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sage Room at the Center Experimental Therapy Group for Women (Ages 21 and up) to support the recovery process and free you from the pain and silence of sexual abuse. In a safe setting, we share feelings, develop relationships with inner children, and explore and release beliefs and patterns that block growth. This re-interactive process assists in uncovering your self worth and inner strength. Psychotherapists Joyce Z. Meyers, CSW., and Robbye Stuart-Russell, M.A. facilitate the group.

AFRICAN AMERICAN WIMMIN UNITED FOR SOCIETAL CHANGE

Lesbian & Gay Community Center 208 West 13th Street, NY, NY Meeting every Thursday 8:00 PM

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) 481-1270, 24 West 30th St., NYC 10001

ALDEC/APLN-NY

(Asian Lesbians of the East Coast/Asian Pacific Lesbian Network-New York) We are a political, social and supportive network of Asian Pacific lesbians. Planning meetings on the 1st Sunday and social events on the last Friday of each month. Call (212) 517-5598 for more information.

AMERICAN GAY/LESBIAN ATHEISTS

AGA, Inc./701 7th Avenue, Suite 9W/New York, New York 10036 A non-profit, educational organization dedicated to preserving separation between state

and church and upholding the civil rights of Lesbian and Gay Atheists. Meetings the firsts Sunday Community Center, 1 to 3 P.M. Dial a Gay Atheists (718)899-1737, 24 hours.

ARCS (AIDS-RELATED Community Services)

for Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. AIDS education, client services, crisis intervention, support groups, case management, buddy and hospital visitor program. 214 Central Ave., White Plains, NY 10606 (914) 993-0608 838 Broadway, Newburgh, NY 12250 (914) 582-5005 AIDSline (914) 993-0607

ASIANS & FRIENDS- N Y

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: 212-674-5084, or write to: P.O. Box 8628, NY, NY 10163-8623.

ATR (AIDS TREATMENT RESOURCES, INC.)

Publishes a quarterly Directory of clinical trials of experimental AIDS/HIV treatments in NY/NJ, and Philadelphia, and has educational materials/seminars for trial participants. ATR also advocates for improvements in the trial system. 259 W. 30th St., 9th fl., NYC, 10001. (212) 268-4188. Publications free/donation requested.

BAR ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Lawyers Referral Service for the Lesbian and Gay Community Full Range of Legal Services (212) 459-4873 Free Walk-in Legal Clinic. Tuesday 6-8 pm. Lesbian & Gay Community Center. Ground Floor

BIDS (BISEXUAL DOMINANCE & SUBMISSION GROUP)

Share S/M experiences and fantasies with others in a positive, non-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.

BIJOUX (THE BISEXUAL JEWISH GATHERING)

Comel Noahl Schmoozel Meet other Jewish bisexual (and allies) and share your interests at a "show-and-tell." Second Friday of each month, 8pm at The Community Center 208 West 13th Street, Part of the New York Area Bisexual Network. For more info. Call (201)440-3902.

BISEXUAL INFORMATION & COUNSELING SERVICE, INC.

A professionally staffed, non-profit organization for bisexuals, their families and partners, facing problems of a psychological or medical kind. We also work with those in doubt about their sexuality. Confidentiality is protected by law. For information phone: (212) 498-9500

BISEXUAL PRIDE DISCUSSION GROUP

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

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

Discussion & CR Group meets every 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 8:30 - 8:00 pm at the Community Center, 208 West 13th Street, Part of NYABN.

BIWAYS 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

Is an active, viable, multicultural membership organization that is addressing the social and political needs of the Bronx Lesbian community. Regular meetings, the 3rd Fri, 8:30-8 pm @ 208 W. 13 th St. and the 2nd Wed, 8:30-8pm at One Fordham Plaza, Bronx. Call Lisa 212-829-9817 (English) or Miriam 212-409-2692 (Spanish))

BODY POSITIVE

If you or your lover has tested HIV+, we offer support groups, seminars, public forums, reference library, referrals, social

activities and up-to-date national monthly, "THE BODY POSITIVE" (\$25/year). (212) 721-1348. 2095 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 street fairs and meetings on special topics. Join us. 338 Ninth St., Suite 136 Brooklyn, NY 11215 (718) 965-8482

CENTER FOR ANTI-VIOLENCE EDUCATION/BROOKLYN WOMEN'S MARTIAL ARTS

a non-profit organization teaching self-defense and karate for 17 years. 5 week courses in self-defense for women. Community workshops in self-defense. Ongoing classes in karate & tai chi for women. Courses & workshops in SD for lesbians & gay men. Sliding fee scale according to income. Call for more info. 718-788-1775. 421 5th Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215.

CIRCLE OF MORE LIGHT

Spiritual support and sharing in a gay/lesbian affirmative group. West-Park Presbyterian Church 165 West 88th Street Wed: worship service 8:30 pm, program 7:30. Men's (212) 304-4373 Charle (212) 681-7118.

COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER

Gay Affirmative Psychotherapy for Individuals, Couples and Groups by licensed clinical social workers and psychologists. Special experience in addition, stress management, depression, career counseling, relationship concerns, AIDS anxiety and coming out issues. Sliding fee scale. Insurance accepted. Village location. For immediate appointment, call 212-353-2888. A staff member will return your call within 24 hours.

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. 212-255-1517The

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, NY (CRI)

The Community Research Initiative of New York ("CRI NY") is a not-for-profit, community-based center for AIDS and HIV-related clinical research. Created in 1987 by people with AIDS and their physicians, CRI NY tests promising experimental treatments which may restore or stabilize immune function, and treatments and preventions for AIDS and HIV-related opportunistic infections. There is no charge for participation in CRI studies. Many laboratory tests and physicals are provided free of charge to participants. Child care can also be provided. All identifying information is kept confidential. Call (212)481-1050

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHATTORAH

NY's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue Services Friday at 8:30pm 57 Bethune Street For info. call: (212) 829-9498.

CONGREGATION B'NAI JESHURUN

Monthly Spiritual Gatherings and free catered festive luncheons for all People With AIDS, their lovers and families. Program includes music and discussion led by our Rabbi. Call (212) 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) 818-1309.

DIGNITY NEW YORK

Lesbian and gay Catholics and friends AIDS Ministry, Spiritual Development. The Cathedral Project. Worship Services & Social-Sun. Eves. 7:30pm-St. John's Episcopal Church 218 West 11th Street @ Waverly-675-2178

DROP-IN COME OUT RAP GROUPS

For Lesbians and Bisexual Women. Fridays starting April 5th 8:30-8:30 p.m. For Gay and Bisexual Men. Saturdays starting April 6th 11:30 a.m.-1:30 pm *\$5.00 Donation Rap Group for Lesbian and Bi-Sexual Women over 40 1st & 3rd Saturday 8-8 p.m. *\$5.00 Donation Rap Group for Lesbian and Bi-Sexual Woman Every Saturday 2:30-5:00 p.m. *\$5:00 Donation Rap Group for gay and Bi-Sexual Men Every Sunday 2:30 - 5:00 p.m. *\$5:00 Donation

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

THE FIFTH NEW YORK LESBIAN AND GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL

will be held at Anthology Film in September 1991. Submissions will be accepted until June 30. Please send your 16 or Super-8 prints or video transfer (only film will be shown at the festival) with return postage to Jim Hubbar, 503 Broadway, Rm 503, New York, NY 10012. Early applications and premieres will be given priority. For further info please call (212) 925-5883.

FRONT RUNNERS

A running club for lesbian and gay athletes of all abilities. Fun Runs of 1-8 miles held every Sat. at 10am and Weds. at 7pm in Central Park and every Tues. at 7pm in Prospect Park. For information call (212) 724-8700.

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 month. Call 914-376-0227 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: 212-879-7541 or 212-288-3236

GLAAD-GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION

80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 (212) 998-1700 GLAAD combats homophobia in the media and elsewhere by promoting visibility of the lesbian and gay community and organizing grassroots responses to anti-gay bigotry. Do you have 30 minutes a month to fight homophobia? Join the GLAAD PhoneTree! Call (212) 998-1700 for information.

GLIB-GAY AND LESBIAN INDEPENDENT BROADCASTERS

Gay and Lesbian Independent Broadcasters invite you to tune into OUTLOOKS on WBAI-NY, 98.5 FM every other Sunday, 7:30-8:30pm and join us every Tuesday at 7:30pm to 9pm to become a member of GLIB. No experience needed. 505 Eighth Avenue, NY, NY 10018 Attn: Outlooks or call Meek, Allan, (212) 473-1888.

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) 586-4895.

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS

Dedicated to safe and responsible S/M since 1981. Open meetings w/programs on S/M techniques, lifestyle issues, political and social concerns. Also special events, speakers bureau, workshops, demos, affinity groups, newsletter, more. GMSMA - Dept. O, 496A Hudson Street, Suite D23, NYC 10014 (212) 727-9878.

GMAD (GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT)

80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 is a support group of Gay Men of African Descent dedicated to consciousness-raising and the development of the Lesbian and Gay Community. GMAD is inclusive of African, African-American, Caribbean and Hispanic/Latino men of color. Meetings are held, weekly, on Fridays. For information, call 718-902-0182.

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 (212-807-6655 212-445-7470 TDD (For the Hearing Impaired) Mon-Fri 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. 12:00 to 3:00

GAY STAMP COLLECTION

One of the collections on exhibit will be Alternata Lifestyles out of the Closet. This is the only gay/lesbian stamp collection of its kind. It has won 9 gold awards so far. For information on GLHSC, send a SASE to: GLHSC, P.O. Box 230940, Hartford, CT 06103-0940

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. penpals. For more information call Ernie at 914-699-7735 or write: G&M/NY, Dept. O, P.O. Box 10, Pelham, NY 10603.

HEAL—(Health Education AIDS Liaison)

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

HERITAGE OF PRIDE, INC.

Organizers of New York's Lesbian and Gay Pride events: the March, the Rally and the Dance on the Pier. Call (212) 691-1774

for meeting schedule or more information. 208 West 13th Street, NY, NY 10011.

INSTITUTE FOR LESBIAN AND GAY YOUTH

Counseling, drop-in center (M-F, 3-6pm), rap groups, Harvey Milk High School, AIDS and safer sex information, referrals, professional education. (212) 633-8920 (voice) (212) 633-8920 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 201-663-7824 or write H.U.G.L., P.O. Box 226 Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10019.

IDENTITY HOUSE

Now in our 20th year, we provide peer counseling, therapy referrals and groups for the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. Call us at (212) 243-8181. Visit us at 544 6th Ave., between 14th-15th Streets, Manhattan.

INTERNATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

works to focus the spotlight of world opinion on the oppression of gays and lesbians throughout the world. Currently organizing an Int'l symposium on Gay and Lesbian issues to be held in Moscow and Lenin-grad in July 1991, in addition to many other exciting projects. For more info write IGLHRC, 2978 Folsom Street, SF CA 94110, or call (415) 647-0453.

INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN IDENTITY INC.

New York's non-profit lesbian and gay psychotherapy center. Licensed psychologists, psychiatrists, and clinical social workers. Sliding scale fees. Insurance accepted. Individual, couple, and family therapy. Variety of Men's and women's groups forming continuously. 118 W. 72nd Street. 212-790-9432

INTEGRITY/NY

Lesbian and Gay Episcopals 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

KLGO—(KOREAN LESBIAN AND GAY ORGANIZATION)

is a group of lesbian and gay Koreans who are committed to supporting each other, creating positive visibility and confronting anti-lesbian and gay bias within the Korean community. For more information call Gene (212) 477-8558

LATINO GAY MEN OF NEW YORK (LGM/NY)

is dedicated to consciousness-

raising, education, support and empowerment for Latino gay men. We are inclusive of Latino gay men of all nationalities, colors and ages. We meet weekly and publish a monthly calendar of events. For more information call (718) 634-8785 or write to P.O. Box 7108 Grand Central Station N.Y., N.Y. 10163.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND

Precedent-setting litigation nationwide for lesbians, gay men and people with AIDS. Membership (\$40 and up) inc. newsletter and invitations to special events. Volunteer night on Thursdays. Intake calls: 2-4pm Mon thru Fri (212) 995-8585.

LAVA LESBIANS ABOUT VISUAL ART

Call for ideas for Lesbian Artists' Exhibition, Gay & Lesbian Community Center, NYC. For more information, send SASE to: Miriam Foggers, 118 Fort Greene Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217.

LESBIAN AND GAY ADULT EDUCATORS

Meet with other lesbians and gays who work in adult education as teachers, administrators, counselors, tutors, etc., to discuss issues such as coming out to staff and students, materials and curriculum, workshop and conference participation. We meet the first Friday of every month at 8:00 pm at the Lesbian and gay Community Center 208 West 13th Street. Call Bryna Diamond at (212) 932-7002 (days) for information

THE LESBIAN AND GAY BIG APPLE CORPS

Get your instrument out of the closet and come play with us. Symphonic, Marching, Jazz, Dixieland, Rock, Flute Ensembles and Woodwinds. 123 West 44th St. Suite 12L New York, NY 10036 (212) 809-2922.

LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

208 West 13th Street New York, NY 10011 (212) 620-7310 8am-11pm everyday. A place for community organizing and networking, social services, cultural programs, and social events sponsored by the Center and more than 150 community organizations.

LESBIAN AND GAY LABOR NETWORK

An organization of Lesbians and Gays who are active in their labor unions working on domestic partnership benefits and AIDS issues. For more information call (212) 923-8690.

LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS PROJECT

of the American Civil Liberties Union KNOW YOUR RIGHTS/WE'RE EXPANDING THEM (212) 944-0800, ext. 545

LESBIAN & GAY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION—NYC

The LGTA has been in existence since 1974. We promote the needs and rights of Gay/Lesbian educators, students and parents. We are currently in active negotiations with the Board of Education concerning the multicultural curriculum, sensitivity training of guidance counselors, social workers, and teachers and many other issues. We also have a friendly working relationship with the U.F.T. For more information call (718) 626-4699 - (718) 596-1864

LESBIANS AND GAYS OF FLATBUSH

Brooklyn's social organization for both gay men and lesbians. P.O. Box 106, Midwood Station Brklyn, NY 11230, (718) 859-9437

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES

P.O. Box 1258 New York, New York 10118 (212) 874-7232 Since 1974, the Archives has inspired, shaped and reflected Lesbian lives everywhere. Call to arrange a visit or to volunteer for Thursday worknights.

LIFELINE THE NATIONAL LESBIAN AND GAY TOLL-FREE SERVICE 1-800-LIFE 96

LOST PEER SUPPORT SERVICES (LPSS)

Lost Peer Support Services, a new program to provide counseling and support to the lesbian, gay and bisexual community of Greater Westchester, is planning its first volunteer training. Those interested in becoming group facilitators and peer counselors should call the Lost switchboard at (914) 948-4922 for further details. Experience and beginning volunteers welcomed.

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. 516-338-4802.

LSM

is a support and information group for lesbians and bisexual women interested in fantasy, role-playing, bondage, discipline, S/M, fetishes, alternate gender identities, costumes and so forth. Membership is available only to women 18 years and older. Actual experience is not required but genuine interest and an open mind are. For information please write: P.O. Box 983, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10158

MARANATHA: RIVERSIDES FOR LESBIAN/GAY CONCERNS

Monthly program meeting on second Sunday for gay/lesbian Christians and friends. Educational, political, and social activities scheduled, 12:30 p.m. Riverside Church, 480 Riverside Drive, Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.. For info, call (212) 222-5900 (ext. 290)

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 Service Center, 208 W. 13th Street. For more info, call: (212) 245-6366 or (212) 222-9794.

METROPOLITAN TENNIS GROUP(MTG)

Our 200 member lesbian and gay tennis club includes players from beginning to tournament level. Monthly tennis parties. Winter indoor league. Come play with us! For information: MTG, Suite K83, 496-A Hudson St., New York, NY 10025. (718) 852-8582.

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) 239-1796.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

is the national grassroots political organization for lesbians and gay men. Membership is \$30/year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing and direct action. NGLTF 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009. (202)332-0483.

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) 829-9817.

N.Y. WOMEN'S SOFTBALL GUILD

For experienced, serious Softball Players, Coaches and Managers. We play mid/late pitch weekends in Manhattan and Queens. Try-outs begin Feb. 11 thru April or until filled. (212) 255-1379 Jenet.

NINTH STREET CENTER

Since 1973, a community dedicated to demonstrating that a homosexual lifestyle is a ratio-

nal, desirable choice for individuals dissatisfied with the rewards of conventional living. Psychologically - focused rap groups, Tues., Sat., 8 to 10 pm. peer counseling available. 319 E. 9 Street, New York, NY 10003, for info call (212) 229-5153.

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) 807-8578 for information.

NORTHERN LIGHTS ALTERNATIVES

Improving Quality of Life for People with AIDS/HIV. THE AIDS MASTERY WORKSHOP: Exploring the possibilities of a powerful and creative life in the face of AIDS. Call (212) 255-8554

NYC GAY & LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT

Counseling, advocacy, and information for survivors of anti-gay and anti-lesbian violence, sexual assault, domestic violence, and other types of victimization. All services free and confidential. 24 hour hotline (212) 807-0197

PARENTS/FRIENDS OF LESBIAN AND GAYS

Let PFLAG help you and your family deal with the upheaval of your coming out. Our meetings are free: monthly on the 4th Sunday, at 3:00 pm, in Duane Church, 201 West 13th. Info? call Jeanne, 212-463-0829

PEER COUNSELING FOR SURVIVORS OF BIAS ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

The New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project (AVP) is offering free peer counseling for lesbians and gay men who are survivors of bias assault, domestic violence and sexual assault. Trained volunteer peer counselors will be available from 6 to 8 PM every Wednesday and Thursday at the AVP offices, 298 West 13th Street. AVP offers free counseling, advocacy and information and referrals to survivors of bias assault, domestic violence and sexual assault. Call (212) 807-0197 for more information.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION

(212) 532-0290/1-800-828-3280/ Hotline (212) 532-0588 Monday thru Friday 10am-6pm Meal programs, support groups, education and referral services for PWA's and PWA's.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS HEALTH GROUP

Underground buyer's club importing not-yet-approved medications and nutritional supplements. 31 West 20th St. 4th Floor (212) 532-0290

PINK PANTHER PATROL

Community street patrol in East and West Village dedicated to deterring violent crime against gays and lesbians. For info and meeting time for West Village, call 212-475-4383. For East Village Patrol info, call 212-248-8566. 70 A Greenwich Ave., Box 107, NYC 10011

PROFESSIONALS IN FILM/VIDEO

336 Canal Street, 8th Floor, NYC 10013 212-645-3351

QUEER NATION

Queer Nation is a multi-cultural direct action group dedicated to fighting homophobia, queer invisibility, and all forms of oppression that any queers might face. Anyone can suggest an action and should come to meetings prepared to organize and implement it. QN, 208 W. 813th St., New York, NY 10011. Call 212-978-8720 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 180 homebound seniors & older PWA's. 208 West 13th St. NYC 10011, (212) 741-2247

SETHIAN GAYS, LESBIANS AND BISEXUALS

Any of us interested in reaching out to each other in exuberance to spontaneously explore and expand upon the Seth/Jane Roberts "Philosophy" as it relates to our lives, personally, sexually and politically. Call Al (212) 725-1280, x287

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) 598-4726.

TASK FORCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's HIV Support Group at 348 East 140th Street Room 809, on Thursdays 11:00 - 12:30. This is an on going closed group for women who are HIV infected. 2-3 individual consultations are required before admittance into group. No fee. For further information call Donna Bensch of Planned Parenthood/HUB at (212)565-5001

TASK FORCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The legal Action Center located at 153 Waverly Place, NY, NY 10014, has begun two new programs. All their services are free. The HIV/AIDS Legal Service Project provides free legal services to people with HIV/AIDS. Their scope of service is wide, encompassing child care and custody, discrimination, housing, healthy health planning, confidentiality and employment. The HIV/AIDS Agency Training and Assistance Project provides technical assistance to public and private agencies about legal and policy issues on HIV/AIDS and drug abuse. They provide training, individual consultations, and model policy guidelines, among other items. If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Catherine O'Neil at (212)243-1313. The Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) has monthly meetings with speakers and networking opportunities. For meeting info, please contact Janet Vaccariello at (212)340-8724

THE OUTREACH USING COMMUNAL HEALING (TOUCH)

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each "supported" the other's refusal to talk, he said—I could imagine them sitting in their dressing room, posters of *Ghost* on the wall, hoping that they would follow in Goldwyn's footsteps and find fame and fortune in Hollywood. And to hell with the audiences who helped launch them in New York.

The Code

Like Donohoe and Frechette (another actor recently on the New York stage), the *Sum of Us* actors seem to be constructing careers that have less to do with acting and more to do with image—always a tenuous, amorphous thing. It's as if the ghost of Fatty Arbuckle were still visiting young actors in their beds, warning them that one tiny mistake, one deviation from the Moral Majority line, and their future careers as TV and film stars could be ruined forever. Homophobia is not the only threat, although in these cases it is the practical result. The real source of the fear is much deeper and broader—it's that all-pervasive insecurity with which the film and TV industry has always lived and worked.

Success in Hollywood can sometimes be repeated, but it can never be consistently and accurately predicted. No one ever knows for certain what suddenly turns an actor or actress into a star (or a has-been) or a low-budget movie into a breakaway hit, but everyone *thinks* that they have some idea. Hollywood is run on 20/200 hindsight; in retrospect, everyone *knew* that *Havana* would be a failure or that Julia Roberts had "that certain something." The result of this counterfeit wisdom is a strict code that dictates, "Never try anything that hasn't already succeeded." Because gay characters still raise eyebrows and hackles in a vocal minority of viewers, homophobia is a corollary of that code, and gay roles are a convenient scapegoat when a career takes a nose dive. Young performers, fearful of breaking a rule that in fact doesn't exist, shy away from being identified with queer roles; movie studios, fearful of picketing in Peoria, generally avoid even the best in queer drama.

"There was a point when it looked like *Longtime Companion* wasn't going to get a distributor," said screenwriter Craig Lucas. "No one would touch it. Then, when the movie was screened at Sundance last year—and it won the audience award and people were standing up, cheering—people from [studios that had rejected the project] said, 'Why didn't you send us this script? It's wonderful!'"

The ability of Lucas and Rene to find a way to make their movie also calls into question the long, sad tale of *The Front Runner*. Why has it been so completely impossible to get that movie made? Or has it simply been impossible to make it as a blockbuster with a big-name star? Might it have succeeded as a low-budget project outside the Hollywood system? We may never know.

The Blame

Despite the *Advocate's* rather convincing argument to the contrary, Hollywood fancies itself an open-minded town. The standard Screen Actors Guild, or SAG, contract prohibits discrimination against performers on the basis of sexual pref-

erence, and Mike Fenton, the president of the Casting Society of America, told the *Los Angeles Times* just last year that he "has never encountered...blatant discrimination" against lesbian and gay performers. In clear cases of homophobia, everyone always has someone else to blame. Fenton blamed the lack of queer parts on "studio marketing executives." Performers and others blame the agents and publicists who try to shape an actor's image. Craig Lucas, for example, told how one of the actors in *Longtime Companion* was advised by his agent—a *gay man*—not to appear in the movie. The actor overruled his advisor.

TV executives blame skittish sponsors. Perry King blames producers and casting directors. Casting directors blame movie directors. "I've seen directors shy away from an actor because they think he or she is gay," one casting director told the *LA Times Calendar*. Directors blame everybody: "There's a general feeling that homosexuality is a dangerous subject," Marshall W. Mason, would-be director of *The Front Runner*, told *Time* magazine. And in classic cannibalistic form, critics blame other critics: "Heterosexual critics often use homosexuality as a selective slander against artists they happen not to like on other grounds," noted Andrew Sarris in the *Village Voice*. Lucas agreed: "John Simon is nice to me [when we meet face-to-face]. He even shakes my hand. He can only call me a 'faggot' in print."

With all the accusations flying, it would be easy to return once again to lay all the blame on the altar of that evil god of Hollywood—homophobia. But homophobia doesn't exist—and can't be defeated—in a vacuum. As the *Advocate* suggests, and as writers for this magazine chant constantly, the myth of the Queer Curse will begin to collapse only when all the lesbians and gays in the film, TV and theater industry begin to take responsibility for their actions by promoting queer projects, rejecting homophobic projects and being more open about their sexuality.

Even that will not be enough. The Queer Curse myth can affect performers of any sexual orientation who play lesbian and gay roles, so the ultimate responsibility for destroying the myth rests not just with queer performers, but with everyone who has ever refused or complained about a lesbian or gay role. Like any myth, when people stop believing in it—when they stop acting as if it's gospel—it will pass into history.

Is there any hope? Maybe. Craig Lucas said that he got fan letters from "straight boys and girls, [and] old people who said, 'I never even thought gay people were human before.'" Testosterone-marketer Oliver Stone, director of *Platoon* and *The Doors*, is trying to put together a biopic based on the life of Harvey Milk. And teen dreams Keanu Reeves and River Phoenix will be seen later this year in gay-tinged roles in Gus Van Sant's *My Own Private Idaho*.

And, after all, not every name actor in Hollywood refused to appear in *Longtime Companion*, Lucas noted. Alec Baldwin, Elizabeth Perkins and Kevin Bacon were all at one time scheduled to take part, but the threat of a SAG strike drove them all to higher-paying projects. "In fact," he said, "Alec Baldwin asked me the other day if I would be interested in writing a movie for him to play a gay person, and I said, 'Sure.'" Therein lies the secret of vaporizing the mythical curse—an openly gay screenwriter, a Hollywood star and one simple "Sure." Let's do it. ▼

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Sensually exquisite photo set avail. for your pvt. collection (4 B&W 5x7). Send a chk./m.o. for \$38.00 payable to Cash only please (incl's postage), along with a name, address, and Mail To: Occupant, P.O. Box 1094, Murray Hill Sta., NY, NY, 10156-06 04. Allow 2 wks for delivery.



mmmmm...
I'm hungry

PERSONALS

Hunt, the personals magazine, has expanded and left *OutWeek*. With new articles on sex, humor, plus personals and phone-line ads, *Hunt* is available in gay bars and community centers nationwide.

women's personals

ACTION WOMAN SEEKS!

Over to share great life! I am a morning run in Prospect Park, a squirt of kumquat as you bite, the hot breath of a woman speaking from the heart. Love fresh food, dancing, kids, Calif, O Keefe, Al Varreau, colors. Attractive And rogyne, successful entrepreneur # Teacher, LWF, 33. Write w # photo or drawing to Outweek Box #4420

BISEXUAL PERVERT DYKE

(Also anti-war activist, act up er, and general pillar of the community) seeks women who like to play in new places as well as in the

traditional wh rps-and chains venues. No smoke/perfume msgs: 459-4811

GWF 29 LOVES TO...

Cuddle take long walds, have candlelight dinners, I consider friendship and sharing to be extremely important for a lasting relationship seeks GWF 27-35 who is not afraid of commitment and expressing their feelings and it willing to grow together. Write / photo to Outweek Box #4409.

JUSTINE

A new mailorder company for the S&M woman. To be on our mailing list send name and address stating you are 21. Justine, P.O. Box 922947, Sylmar, CA 91392-2947

ANDROGYNOUS, GWF, 27

Healthy body & psyche, fascinated by "Ishmael" from "fanny & alexander. seeking similar w/smilar fascinations for romantic friendship or relationship. Must be honest, able to communicate, & slightly academic. Send letter, Outweek Box 3776. Photo helpful.

HELP! I'M STARTING TO LOOK AT MEN.

33, 5'3", br hair seeks sporty-fem women for relationship. Into humor honesty romance and treating you right. Enjoy cozy evenings by a fire place. Take a chance on someone nice. your photo will get mine. No drugs non-smoker preferred- Outweek Box 3707

ARTSY BUT NOT FLAKEY, YUPPIE

but not square...but definitely artistic-looking, so not really yuppie, but could pass at the country club and JUST LOVES MONEY! AMBITIOUS! But spiritual...vegetarian...kid, sweet, sensitive, youngish, pretty, long-haired, yet strong! Iconoclastic and absolutely original. Very smart (both in the way you'd describe a hand bag and a scholar). All you have to be is wildly clever, as tomboy as they come, over 30 and not too terminally cynical or chicken to for heaven sake write instead of guessing. Outweek Box # 3659

FAILED SOUTHERN LADY

Seeks mature woman with sense of humor. I'm 36, pleasant to look at, tax accountant, like foreign films, books, desire seri-

ous committed relationship. Send Photo if available. to Outweek Box # 3905

BI-F FILIPPINA 40 YO

Pretty, Petite, married child less, seeks Bi-F/GF for friendship, hopefully lover. I am gentle, honest & caring. I love simple pleasures of dining, occasional travel, talking, relating loving. Box 443 Manorville, NY 11949

CHINA PATTERN AT BLOOMIE'S

GF, 35, 5'6", 135, Bi/gr, alcohol/drug free SF native/ Manhattan dweller seeks to end years of serial mono-gamy. Softball, Diane Kurya films, ferron, gardening, politics and cruising the page of Elle and Mirabella. Sweep me off my feet and into a domestic partnership. Photo/Phone gets mine. Outweek Box 3771

D.K. - WE WORKED TOGETHER ALL TOO BRIEFLY

at that ridiculous excuse for a publishing company. I had a major crush on you, but couldn't quite figure you out. It was always fun talking to you - write back, will du? E.L. Outweek Box 3315

GBF MATURE PROFESSIONAL

5'8" 135lbs sincere affectionate seeks feminine race unimportant for a committed relationship no Bi Sexuals no children write inc. phone no. to Outweek Box 4012

HOT DYKE SEEKS SAME

Baby I'm an inferno--will you be my fuel? I can burn even the most inflammables. 5' 6" 23y.o. GWF short brown hair-eye glasses make my vision pierce your soul to depths you never knew it had. A photo/phone # will get you the same--if you have the courage to see in yourself what I can show you. Outweek Box 3719

CHERCE CUTS WOMEN MEN

HEY THERE

I'm a nice, cute, 100% lesbian who needs to meet more fun dykes to hang out with. No specifications-just like to have one hell of a good time. Outweek Box 3945

LAS VEGAS LOOKING

35 Brown, Brown Rugged goodlooks big neck muscled arms stocky build likes out doors and guys 18-45 hairy a + I am educated aquarius HIV-only no crap IXI friend only Box Holder 80032 / P.O. Box Las Vegas N.V. 89180 (Military \$ Hairy Wanted.)

LEFT HANDED ABCDE

Seeks same. Who knows why some people "click". All I know for sure, is that I'm 32 with short red hair. I want to make the world a better place for Lesbians and gay men. I also want to eat Chinese food and take long

walks. Send me something that describes you. Outweek Box 3845.

LESBIAN COUPLE WITH

8yr old daughter seeks contact with other lesbians & gays with children 7-9 yrs. We are Manhattan based and

prefer same. Lets have fun and give each other support 212 989-7808

OK SO I SMOKE & DRINK

These are not my worst habits. (I also bite my nails, but lesbians should not have long nails anyway) this-26 GWF is looking for

someone to play with on Tue & Wed (the worst days off possible) or after midnight (how did I get this job?) If you still eat meat & cook with butter drop me a line we'll see a movie or I'll cook you dinner, we'll do snow bongs on the roof. OutweekBox 3722

ONE DATE AT A TIME
GWF, 29, Attractive, sincere, funny, insightful, stable, attentive, somewhat spiritual and politically aware seeks these qualities in an "out" woman who is emotionally articulate, sensually spiritual, dynamic yet ground-

ed, willing to listen and learn and allow for a possible relationship. Old enough to know better; young enough to take risks? Send photo and letter to: Outweek Box 3804

OUT, LOUD AND PROUD

26 Yr. old Queer TS woman tired of exclusionary politics in the women's community seeking friends, maybe dates, maybe more. Intelligence, maturity, and a sense of humor are prime importance. The unadventurous need not apply if you're new to TS women, we don't bite (unless you ask nicely). Note w/phone. photo optional. To Outweek Box #4224

RENAISSANCE

Woman seeks same in SSF Bay Area.41, les not bi. Classics illustr. Comics, Atlanticmo. Zen oriented Christian. Oh yes-Sex maniac. Outweek Box 3718

SEXY PLAYMATE WANTED

GF Br skin mixed 5'7" androgynous 31 fun hot creative into Art Music, Rock to Bach, Pim sum Boxer, shorts, lingerie pleasant surprises, being pampered and fantasy play. UR attractive sensuous 21 to 81 fun loving generous warm giving femme to drag passable butch desirous of an attractive GF pal to call to invite to join U in some of your many pleasures.

Write: fantasia Box 1234 Edgemere, NY 11691

TIRED OF QUEENS

The borough, that is. I've left all my girl friends in Long Island City. Just moved to Park Slope, looking for fun and fantasy between Fourth Avenue and Prospect Park West. Outweek Box 3770

WARM, SENSITIVE, HONEST,

androgenous, 5'5", 30, blonde, blue eyed, virgo wants to get to know you. I like to sit in a cafe and sip cappuccinos, go to the movies or just stayhome and cuddle by candlelight. Let's keep it simple and slow.

Tell me about yourself. Honest, non-smoker, sober and drug free a must. Send photo and letter. Outweek Box 3662

men's personals

BEEFY BOY

26 years old 170 lbs. Very good looking dark hair & eyes smooth body muscular I don't go to the bars & work out at home. I'm looking for muscular Latin men well hung for hot safe sex. Photo a must. Outweek Box 3534

DENNIS SAVAGE SEEKS

Little KIWI: Handsome, lite rate GWM 32, 5'10" 130 HIV-, in search of short cute young GWM

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open to high culture and solid friendship. Your self-portrait gets mine. Send to Outweek Box #4402

MIXED DIET IS BEST

GOM, 35, 5'9", 140, nice looks, healthy, funny, secure. seeks slender, healthy, drug free, GM 20 to 35, any race; who is also interested in travel, good food, videos, languages, nature, romantic moments and a lot of safer sex. foto/letter to P.O. Box 361, NYC 10009

UNIQUELY DESIRABLE

GWM, Tall, attractive, smart, generous, 45, actor/play write seeks passionate, caring, se-

rious relationship with guy, 35-50. My interest-arts, history, religion, politics; recreation-theatre, concerts, movies, travel, tennis, horses, frisbee, reading. Please send letter and photo to Outweek Box #4408

MID-20'S, W/M, 6'2"-BB

Bl/Bl - Easy going, passionate, passive, bubble-butt, viril seeks "Together" Professional honest, responsible, loving—top / M-for possible relationship. Photo / phone receives!! Commitment?? Send to Outweek Box# 4410

LITTLE BROTHER BOYS

Hot, dick-worshipping little brother(s)

(cocksuckers - in-training) sought by in-shape grad stant w/good brain, big heart + huge rod. Pfyph to P.O. Box 7966, NY, NY 10116 or call 212-594-9486.

"HEY YOU"

GWM 25 seeking manmade wonder into fun, fiction, and fantasy. Must be sensitive, masculine, and possess a sense of humor. Me I'm cute attractive and as horny as hell. Shy and quite and sensitive to the needs of my fellow man. Need you to bring out the wild beast that awaits. No fats or fems. Phone and photo to Outweek Box #4417

COUPLE SEEKS FRIENDS

GWM couple, early

30's average/ good build/looks, bearded, healthy. Seeks similar couple or single for friendship and safe fun. No smoking, drugs, drinking, sports. Enjoy music and dancing such as Saint parties. North Jersey. Letter and/or Photo/ Phone # to PO Box 625 Bloomfield, NJ. Masculine a +.

GOM, 42, 155, 5'6", avg looks, secure, with sense of humor, in shape seeks similar guys 35-50, for fdshp & safe sex. Likes music, reading, & gym excs, quiet eyes at home. No drugs, smokers, 1 nite. Hairy a +. Let's talk. Outweek Box 3699

40 YEAR OLD HISP. HANDICAPPED

Exec. looking for romance, friendship, and more. Must be compassionate, sensitive, and open-minded. Photo a must! Outweek Box 3565

ASPIRING ACTOR

Hisp Male, 22, 5'8" 135, BL. BR seeking to meet WM in the movie industry both in New York and Los Angeles Outweek # Box 3729

ASYMPTOMATIC HIV + 39

GWM, successful hlt care professional, 6' nonsmoker, in great shape physically & emotionally, wants to meet similar non drug using men of any race to date. I enjoy working out

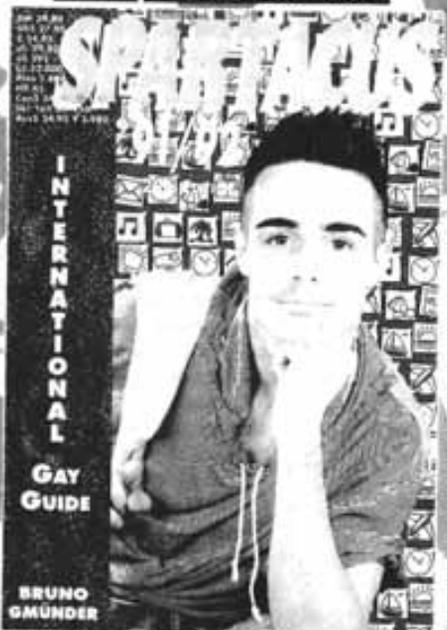
biking, travel, the symphony, opera, beach, theater, cooking, good conversations, NYC & gay community events. I'm very self-examining as well as fun & romantic with the right man, and find this an attractive combination in others. Send a descriptive letter, phone # & if possible a recent photo to Outweek Box 4204

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN

24, 5'5", 140lbs, bright, affectionate, romantic, career oriented, desires monogamous relationship with cute, adventurous, fun honest, loving, hairy guy under 35 who enjoys jazz, soft music, travel, dancing candle lit din-

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ners, kissing cuddling passionate sex! Please write me soon. Tuan, P.O. Box 98209 Pittsburgh, PA 15227

BIG GUY SOUGHT

By attractive blue eyed masculine ex-cop, 5'8", 155, very muscular, well proportioned, easy going, healthy, mainly dominant regular guy. Prefer football player/ power lifter type for hot safe fun.

Westchester/ Southern Conn. =A+. Photo appreciated. P.O. Box 132, North White Plains, NY 10603-0132

BLOND OR RED HEAD?

If U-R 18-35 clean shaven and smooth body I want you! I am a GWM 34, 5'10" clean shaven good

looking very passionate and hairy serious only and no phone sex. If you are/European it is even more exciting (212) 529-2305

BLUE EYES

Cleancut, boyish, 30's, top seeks cute bottom for safe fun / friendship. Photo / tel to: Suite F-32, 496A Hudson St., NY, NY 10014

BOTTOM SEEK TOP

Looking for you lets get serious GWM 42,5'7" 195 successful secure sweet guy looking for a special man to start a relationship send photo phone number to P.O. Box 31, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

CAN YOU TOP THIS?

Habitual top seeks

stronger, taller man to put me in my place. Me: 5'11", 160, Br/Gr, stache, gym bod, 26. You: 25-45, built, tough yet mustache a plus. Not tender. Leather a must. Photo/phone to Outweek # Box 3696

DEUTCHES HAUS

Doesn't fit my schedule. Ned GWM German College Student for six weeks and more of conversational tutoring at home Approx. 6 hours a week - sex not a object. Outweek Box #4211

DICK WORSHIPERS WANTS

Weil Hung Top; Me 36 GWM 170 lbs 5'10" send photo to P.O. Box 7118 Grand Central Lock Boxes New York, NY 10163

DOMINANCE / SUBMISSION

I want to surrender control to an in-shape dominant man. I'm 6'4", 185 lbs, br/bl, stache outside, we're equal companions in bed, you're in charge P.O. Box 610, Southampton, NY 11969. Travel City, Tri-State.

GAY AND INTER-RATIAL GJM

40, 5'10" 155lbs, cute, blue eyes and wise desires masculine Bi or Gay Black man sensitive and mature to explore who we are. Foto/Phone if possible to P.O. Box 20, NYC, NY 10012

GAY BLOND SEEKS FUN

GWM 25-35 to enjoy life, hot safe-sex & monogamous

relationship. I'm 30, 5'11", 175#. NO fats, fems, fakes. Send photo /phone/letter & fantasy. Outweek Box 3808

GAY COUPLE - PINEHILL

NY 24 & 34 GWM & GHM looking to meet other gays (couples or singles) for friendship hiking or whatever boys do in the woods weekends in the Ulster/Delaware country border write Box 222 Highmount, NY 12441

GBM 5'5", 28 YEARS OLD

Handsome, firm, looking for 24 - 36 Bk or Hisp. (body concious) big brother type to spend quality time together. Send Photo & Phone # to Outweek Box #4230

GHM 23 YO 5'7" 135LBS

Seeks a GHM OR GBM to be my big daddy that hung 9" + age between 18-40 to put your hot dick in my juice mouth and ass. I will give it to you like no one else ever give to you before. Please send photo / phone to Outweek Box 4150

GOLDEN BOYS/GWM, 50'S youth full + free-spirited yet responsible + private, wants to establish supportive structure of cohabitation for 4/5 men of kindred spirit. Write: billabong PO Box 187, Folly Beach SC 29439

GRAD STUDENT IN ARTS GWM, 29, 5'10", 160, br/gr, into MOMA,

Cage, Wm Burroughs, Wooster Grp, Lao-Tse, sks safe, self-motivated guy w/own passionate interests to share ideas & maybe more. You: pleased w/yr life, skilled in art of conversation, (inc.listening) & like me, wd prf gentle intimacies with someone you care about to non-committal sex w/a stranger. Innate wisdom & sense of humor a +. Cd you really be out there? Ph/Ph, if u like. No smokers. To Outweek Box #4341

GWM 27 5'11" 150 BR/BR

People say I'm handsome I am seeking a fellow ardent male, a man who likes to give and receive sexual and emotional bliss, who wants to savor existence on many levels, a man not put off by the unconventional, who enjoys relating with intimacy and kindness. Let's take long walks in the park and then explore each other in front of an open fire ph/ph. Send to Outweek box 3843.

GWM 27 BLACK HAIR BR EYES

Would you like to sit back watch x movies drink a beer have a smoke and spread your strong hairy legs and get your dick sucked without reciprocation. Send your photo and number Mike Outweek Box # 4238

HANDSOME HUNG GUY 37 Seeking other handsome hung

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guys Big shaved
Balls Eric
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HANDSOME SUMO

Not nearly as big
as they are but
enuf 4 MEN who
like their mates
well-padded and
proportioned. I'm
5'9" 250#s 32 yo
musc. calves-n-
thighs, cushy butt,
blk/br, smart, litry.
gdlng. LAT., great
kisser UR: Masc.,
Mat., sensual,
well hung top
man/cuddler 30-
45yo 4: mind/ body
feasting-n-man-
handling w/a
future? Photo/
Phone pls. to Out-
week Box #4334

HERE I AM

29 years old 6'
195 lbs, DK Skin
With military hair
cut, sincere, pas-
sionate witty,
loves music wet
kisses, reading.
Possed with a de-
sire to be loved
and chereished.
Seeks warm,
funny, strong, lib-
eral resonably
butch, down to
earth, GM age 27-
45, for friend,
date, possible re-
lationship, race
unimportant, sani-
ty is. Send photo
& phone # to Out-
week Box 4361

HEY LITTLE BROTHER

Tall (6'3"), blonde
big brother in good
shape and good
looking, 35, wants
hot little brother
18-30 to play with:
intense, safe fun,
messages, biker's
tights, football jer-
seys, jock straps.
Let's fine the fan-
tasy. Rick P.O. Box
938 Rock Center
Sta. NY, NY
10185-0009

HOPELESS RO- MANTIC?

Love to cuddle,
make love by can-
dlight, take long
walks in the park?
I'm 22, 5'6", 150#,
Italian, attractive
and REAL Try me
on, I might be the
lover that fits.
Ph/Ph. Outweek
Box 3688

HOT JUICY MOUTH

Wanted by two
horny HIV neg
white males age 50
in Santa Rosa Calif.
on a regular steady
basis. Keep our
juices drained.
Write Doug and
George Box 282
Fulton, CA 95439-
Come soon!

HOT MUSCULAR BOY

Looking for week-
end lover 5'7", dark
hair/eyes, trim, ex-
tremely cut, beauti-
ful, 25. Looking for
aggressive, muscu-
lar, hung boy up to
30year old. Must be
sexy, verbal, hot.
Must like to dance,
wrestle, laugh. We
would have great,
steamy, safe times
together. Tender-
ness a +. Write to
Outweek Box 3647

I HAVE GREAT TASTE...

and so do you.
That's why we'll
get along. Our first
date, you'll say how
much you'd like to
kiss me...and of
course, we'll kiss,
etc. I'm a 23yo.
queer, just back in
NY, great tight
body, fine face,
mind, humor. Send
a picture and 3 re-
asons why I should
respond. Outweek
Box 3493

I WANT A BOYFRIEND

Handsome, built
writer, 31, seeks

friend for fun and
romance. I'm 6'1",
160, dk bl, stache,
goatee; like books,
plays, and Steve
Reeves movies; an
human but capable
of greatness, funny,
moody but worth
the hassle. Hope
you're great shape,
affectionate,
thought-provoking.
Outweek Box #4113

IMPOSSIBLE?

I won't accept the
impossibility of find-
ing a decent sensi-
tive man who is
warm and funny
with a fully func-
tional brain. Am
looking for a secure
independent com-
panion to share
life's pain and won-
der, willing to work
toward perma-
nence when the
potential is real. Am
35, professional,
tall, slim, and attrac-
tive. Enjoy world

travel, nature, peo-
ple watching, film,
beautiful music and
creating good
karma. Are you a
kindred spirit? Out-
week Box 3606

ITALIAN OR LATIN GUY

All American regu-
lar guy - 6' 175, 30,
blue eyes, hand-
some straight - act-
ing, fun & horny
seeks good looking
Lating or Italian boy
to explore NYC &
each other. Your
Photo and Phone
gets mine. CIAO /
Adios. Outweek
Box #3994

LATIN STRIPPER

25 body builder
hung Big Nuts Seek
Men 50 up if you get
off on Strippers!
Get off Stripping
This show 4uSend
letter & #What U
want to see. Out-
week Box # 3997

LEAN SEXY SANE CUTE!

160 lbs Indiana
bred, not white
bread in bed! 40
and looking 32. You
could be 20, let's
see Photo Outweek
Box 3970

LETTER WRITERS

I am a fello assoc.
with the HRCF, I
need people, to
write letters and /
or make phone
calls to our sena-
tors concerning
Gay & Lesbian is-
sues, Aids issues
and such please
call or write, let's
make a dif-
feence!! call or
write Mike (718)
321-2589 P.O. Box
70-1175 East
Elmhurst, NY 11370

MARRIED BUT (T)

31, 6', 155 seeks
weekday AM /
noon tryst w / uncut
top in Chelsea / w.

Village Areas. Hairy
and / or BB a turn-
on. Top boddy
available for 3 ways
call Steve 989-8597

MONOGAMY, ANYONE?

GWM, early 40s,
successful profes-
sional, 5'9", br/bl,
moustache, hairy,
healthy, 160 lbs.
with a good sense
of humor. Enjoys
movies, theater,
good music, dining
out, reading, trav-
el, good conver-
sation. Seeks
GWM, 25-38 who
is intelligent,
warm hearted,
slim nonsmoker
with a good sense
of humor, a sane
but passionate at-
titude towards
sex, and who is
also seeking a se-
rious relationship.
Write to: P.O. Box
99, NYC, NY 10028

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and meet Hot Guys that like to
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NASTY TOP
Really good looking bottom seeks really nasty top to explore all the different ways you can dominate me over make me serve you. I want to be knocked out to my senses by how erotic you can make being tied up and make to serve. You could be a boy from the S/M or an aggressive business man. Photo & letter to Outweek Box 4246

NEED A GENTLE PUSH
GWM 25 looking for a man to help me get my life in order. Im not a loser in search of a daddy. I just want to meet someone who has the power to help me end my perpetual struggles. Even if only advise and moral support. Im kind, int gd lkn, sincere. Just need push in rt direction. Outweek Box 3737

NEW FRIENDS
WM, 35, 6'1", 185, handsome, masculine, works out, and sincere. Career-oriented business professional, but hot & creative; humorous, probing, and supportive. Seeks similar very tall guy for explosive action, intense friendship, and/or caring, long-term relationship. Call Art, btwn 8pm-12mid, at (212) 675-7352.

NICE NORMAL GUY
Ivy prof, 33, 5'6", br/br, 135, haven't broken any mirrors. Have usual guppy indicators: gym, travel, restaurants, theatre, books hard

worker but love a good time. (Narcissistically?) looking for somebody else kinda like that. Box 7427, New York, NY 10163

NJ SINGLE
GWM, 36, 5'11", 175 has Christmas wish to behalf of a couple. Seeking intell, romantic, sincere, attract, GWM to share music, films, books, cuddling, hugs, kisses, love, life. A furry chest to snuggle against would be nice. if honesty, caring, monogamy are in your vocabulary, send descriptive ltr/ph/ph. Outweek Box 3736

OLDER BROTHER OR DAD
GAM 19, 5'6", 140 lbs swimmer is looking for a older man (23 +), who can help me find the way. Very new to the scene don't know what to do Write Outweek Box #4250. Photo pref.

PERSON TO PERSON
Man to Man. I smoke, drink, do drugs, eat meat, make love. If you like the same, call let's talk or something. The more pleasure. The more gain. 725-1289 x282

QUEER MALE, 23, TIGHT BOD
seeks other compatible guys for urban frolic. I'm young, mature, need to laugh. Ready for some dates and some sweaty dancing. Good kisser a must. Send a letter and photo to me. Get my attention.

Outweek Box 3621
S.I. GBM WANTED
St. George WM, 39, looks 39, in shape (but not body beautiful) wants BM for friendly, regular sexual meetings (friends not lovers). Not looking for any special "type" or age. Send letter. Outweek Box 3680

SANE & SEXY
Unpretentiously masculine GWM, Br/Br, good looking, great athletic bld, well-endowed, sex. Versatile, hairy chest, upbeat, manly, bright, 34, 5'8" seeking attractive in-shape masculine 25-45 yr old with extra-hairy body for unprintable excitement & pos. relationship. Beard, stache or clean-shaven fine. Photo (important) & letter/phone to J. Cort 532 La Gurardia PL. Box 476 NYC, NY 10012

SCIENCE, SCI-FI GYM, film, big questions. Bright, down-to-earth, midwestern GWM, 31, 5'8", 145, bl/br, seeks attractive unpretentious guy of similar build and age, into some of the above for friendship, dating and ...? Send to Outweek Box #3790

SHAVED HEAD
Pretty blue eyes, 6', vegetarian, 33, thin, sincere; wants long term cheap raw dry deeply meaningful affair w/some down home Hip non-straight-acting man with a voyeuristic appreciation of sleaze. A man cre-

atively diverse, bright & witty, sensual & direct, having a strong sense of self, a good grip & great eyes. A laughing dancing sentimental bitch-goddes sap. someone clearly queerly fabulous. Write with Photo to POB 582 NY, NY 10023

SINCERELY
Goodlooking, Intelligent, kinda funny, kinda workout. Sincere 24-year old Manhattanite seeks similar GM for a drink and maybe more. Photo and phone a must. I'm open to meet someone to spend time together without killing each other. Outweek Box 4112

SOLID GENTLEMAN 5'11"
47 HIV - 185 secure educated travelled gd lks/Irsh Amrcn quck wit smile/nn smkr/drnr sks yngr Fra Grp gent of quality objct dating prhps more Outweek Box 4084

SPIRITED AMBITIOUS JAPANESE MAN*
Into Music, Art Lit., Film & conversation seeks student of Nihongo Interested in exchange of language lessons also desires romance. I enjoy dancing I'm 6'1" 150 lbs 28 yrs old. Broad mind with a fair fluency in English. Seeking sincere relationship. Photo & Phone appreciated. Returned upon request. Send to Outweek Box 4187

TABOO
Tall masculine GBM, 34, 190 lbs, seeks masculine Gay/Bi Black or Hispanic male. He must be a mature minded stable individual (35-45 yrs old) who enjoys good music, art, movies, and interesting conversation. If you are a romantic and sensitive guy who's fun loving and witty then drop me a line. No drugs, drunks, drop outs photos get quick replies. To Outweek Box #4362

TALL ATTRACTIVE GBM
6'5", 225 lbs, 30 yrs. Seeks a style conscious 25-35 black male of similar build who interests include: Movie, theater, arts, books. For companionship or possible relationship. Must have a good sense of humor. Photo / Phone get prompt response. To Outweek Box 3971

THE WRITER'S LIFE
A GWM Poet / Artist Became a masseur to free up mornings but lost evenings, charged a book's expense on Visa to Get it published and hopes for pay-off by age 40. Now 36, 5'8", 135, br/br, HIV +, needs potential lover who understands. Outweek Box #4255 or call (212) 989-5923

VERY ATTRACTIVE MAN
Mscir, dk hair/eyes, smth skin, cln shvn 6Ft 170# sane n2 dark-haired men, humor, movies, gyms, reading, writing, walking, flea

markets, sex, politics, commitment, kinky sex, long conversations, commitment, cooking, fixing broken things, big dicks, kissing, commitment, hugging, arguing, laughing, camping, computers and commitment. Reply 245 8th Avenue, #174, NY, NY 10011

VERY HANDSOME IRISH
GM, 5'11, 150, br/bl, 35, HIV-, smooth, swimmer's build, easygoing, masculine, humorous, integrated, fairly literate, sexual but not promiscuous, not into bars. Seeks dark (Italian?), handsome, possibly topish GM, at peace with himself, for sensual, intense sex and more. Photo a must; discretion assured. Box 3873

WANTS TO FALL IN LOVE
Down-to-earth red-head actor dancer looking for someone to share my life with. Mysterious eyes and an unforgettable smile are definite requirements -also a sense of who you are, fun, adventure, witty, able to laugh, in-shape body, romantic, spontaneous, sta. acting, no drugs, NS. I'm 5'10"145 lbs., 30 yrs. old and want to date someone who will be both a best friend and a lover. Send Photo & letter to Outweek Box 3684

WHOLESAOME VALUES
Handsome, masculine 40, 6'2" 190, br/blue, clean shaven, muscular,

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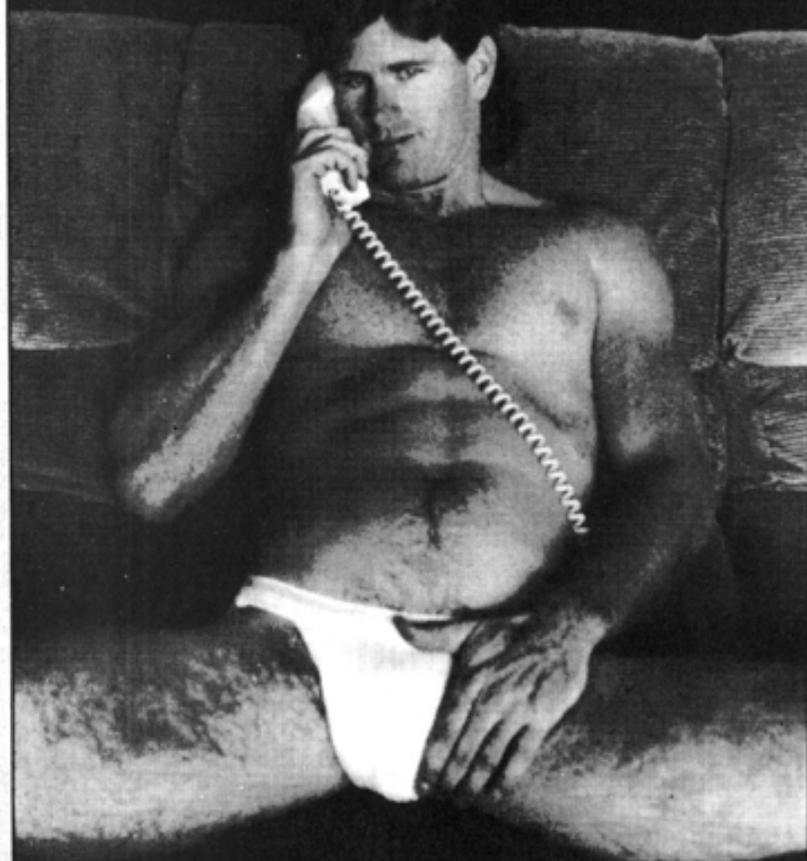
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VOICEMAIL PERSONALS AND MORE

hung All American with successful business career and wholesome values seeks single prof. 25-45 with WASP/Irish good looks for fun/friend/poss. rel. Photo and phone a must for reply! Out-week Box #4193

WISE MEN STOP HERE

GWM, 38 5'9" 150 br / br moustache and trim beard, hairy, defined, muscular build, handsome, masc., intell., unpretentious. Enjoys movies theater photo., cooking bicycling nature. Seeking other rare find who is good looking, masc., very health-conscious, intell., well-built w/ musc., arms & peds, sense of humor, enjoys the arts, mature, honest, affectionate, non-cig. smoker. Let's exchange letter and photo. Out-week Box 3623

YOUNG AND ETHNIC

5'9", 150lbs, 20yrs young GBM, who looks Latino, College educated, in search of a GBM or Latino man for a friendship or relationship intrests should include house music, clubbing, movies kissing and safe sex. Include photo, I will respond. Outweek Box #4333

WRESTLE

Ex-college jock lacks opponents and floor space. Slow and easy or rough and sweaty. Ring, mat, or mattress. Or do you just like to watch? Photo, phone, and fantasy to Outweek Box #3687



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2MEN

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LIZ & SYDNEY

Continued from page 57

Sydney: Those are clubs, not parties.

Liz: Shelter is the best thing that ever happened to Quick!—I haven't had that much fun with that many people without being confronted with a bunch of nightmares in a very long time. It's a good reason to stay up late on Saturday night.

Sydney: I don't even know who the deejay was, but the music was unbelievable—they played old Chicago House music. I was at one with the guy who was dancing wildly on top of the speaker.

Liz: Look, isn't that **Bruce Weber**?

Sydney: Do you know that you are sitting next to **Eartha Kitt**?

Liz: You mean **Cat Woman**?

Sydney: Ask her to meow.

Liz: (*Dumbstruck*) Uh...uh...I can't. She's leaning on my lap.

Sydney: Oh, no, it's **Robin Byrd** again. Uh-oh, she's going to sit in your lap.

Liz: What am I, a magnet for women tonight?

Sydney: A legend in her own mind. ▼

NOTES

1. Photographer working on an extensive project documenting transvestites, transsexuals and drag queens, currently exhibited as *Extraordinary Women*.

2. Latin drag club located in the Times Square area. Tradition states that we cannot supply you with the address.

3. Played **Ellie May Clampett** on *The Beverly Hillbillies* and recent recipient of the First Annual *Limelight Nightlife Award*.

4. Drag queen of size. See above.

5. Played by the late **Nancy Culp**, a one-time congressional candidate and alleged full-time lesbian.

6. Formerly the **Doo-Wop Club**. A lesbian operated, primarily Latin dance club.

7. Sunday night party at the **Warehouse** (formerly **Hot Rod**) at 27th Street and 11th Avenue. Features deejay **Robert Owens**, for whose album the party is named. Mixed (gay/lesbian), mostly younger people of color.

8. Saturday night party at **More** with deejays **Dmitry** and **Towa Towa** of **Deee-Lite**. Mixed (gay/straight) and racially diverse crowd.

9. Yes, those crazy queens are back! You can find **Kenny Kenny**, **Bella Bolski** and **Sister Dimension** Thursdays at the **Building**.

10. Mostly Black, almost completely gay members-only club in the place that was most recently **Quick!**. Modeled on the **Paradise Garage** and rumored to be the site of the post-premiere party for **Madonna's** film *Truth or Dare*.



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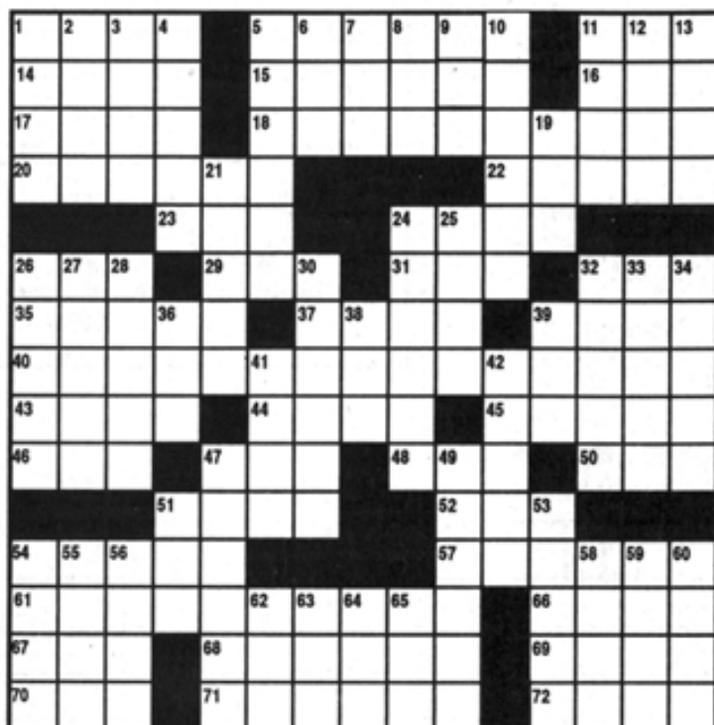
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OutWeek

by Greg Baysans
 Edited by Gerard Mackey



6. Turn to the left
7. Japanese statesman
8. ___ *Misérables*
9. Three: pref.
10. Solar ___
11. Borscht ingredient
12. Musician Hines
13. Gaelic
19. Tiny ___
21. Din
24. Mummify
25. Misplaced
26. Restless
27. Composer Franz
28. City on the Seine
30. Changes
32. ___ *de chine*
33. To love, in 28 down
34. Iraqi port
- 36., Kin: abbr.
38. Bauxite, e.g.
39. Past
41. Part of the leg
42. Inert gas
47. Candy
49. Used a plane
51. Planet
53. Saltpeter
54. Portico
55. Onomatopoeic word
56. Air: comb. form
58. Joint inflammation
59. Requirement
60. ___ girl!
62. Pronoun
63. *Uno, due, ___*
64. Prefix with air of day
65. One, on a die

SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S *OUTWEEK*—ON SALE MONDAY

Across

1. Java's neighbor
5. *And the Band Played On* author
11. Word with spelling or quilting
14. Tabriz locale
15. Diner
16. Corn unit
17. Explorer Ericson
18. Novel by Gore Vidal
20. Dormant
22. Ownership
23. ___ *v. Wade*
24. Type of sch.
26. The Matterhorn, for one
28. Savings acct.
31. Pop's mate
32. Taxi
35. Approaches
37. Tennis strokes
39. La Scala highlight
40. Short story by Vidal
43. Cruise
44. Cad
45. Pollster Elmo

46. Mos. and mos.
47. *To ___ with Love*
48. Actress Tilly
50. Baseball stat.
51. Has
52. Claus ___ Bulow
54. Gaze
57. The Sphinx, e.g.
61. Play by Vidal
66. Ballyhoo
67. ___ *Town*
68. More than twice
69. Oxidize
70. Word in a Shakespeare title
71. Ranked, in tennis
72. Singer James

Down

1. ___ of fare
2. Vicinity
3. Café au ___
4. Conclude
5. Hunting dog

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



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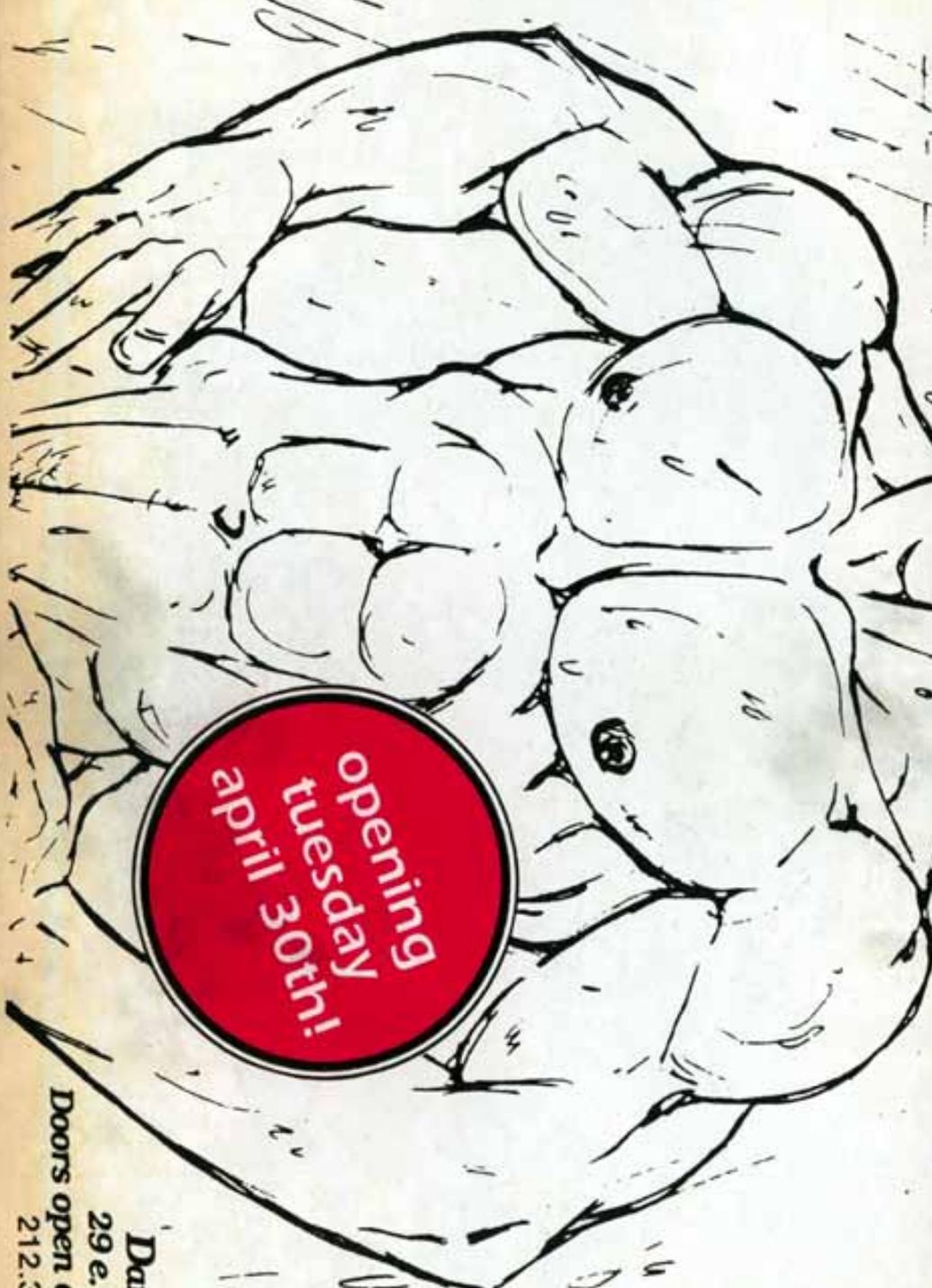
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