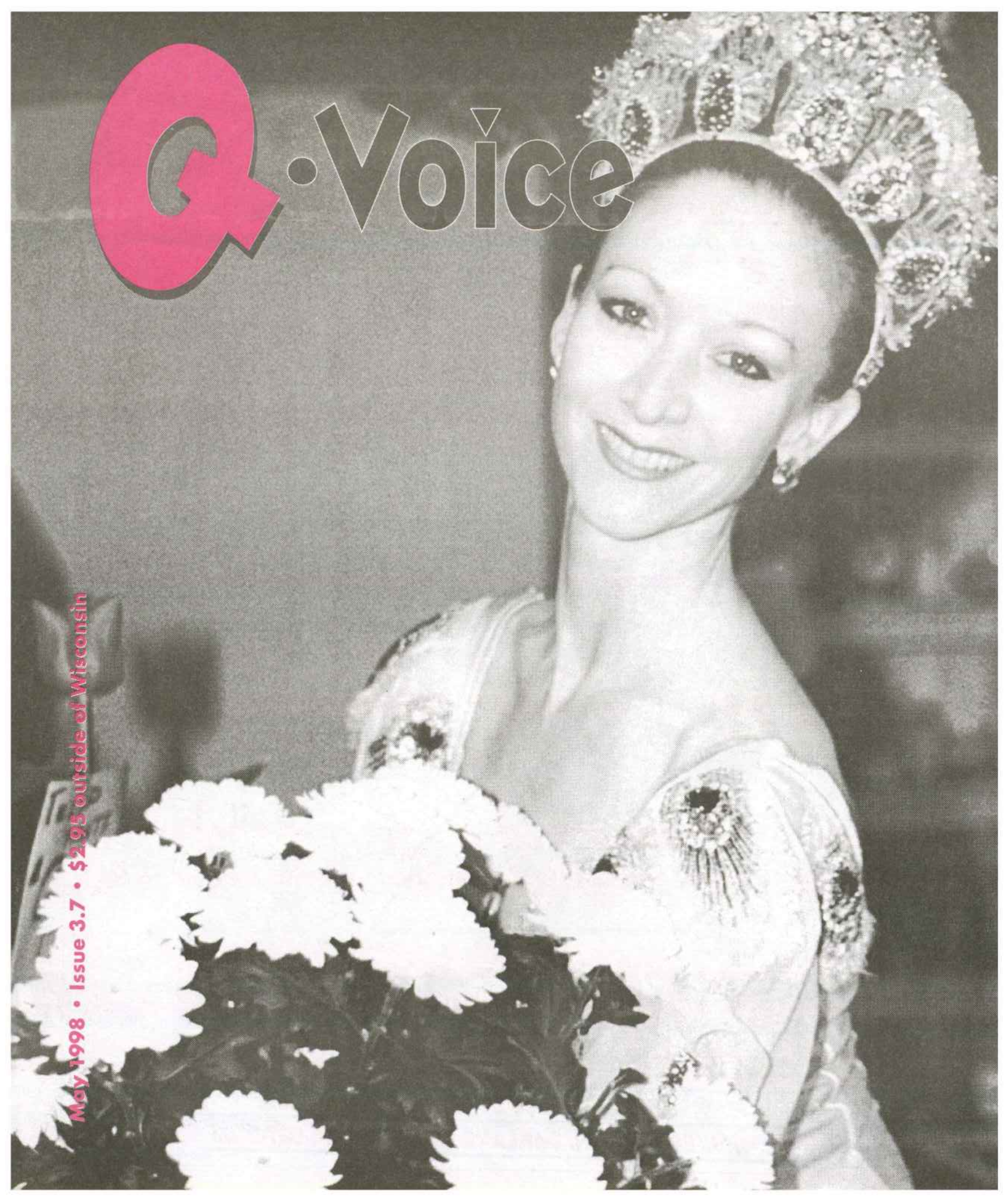


Q.Voice

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Out of the Closet

The cast of Boys in the Band
Photographed by Jorge Cabal



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Prima Ballerina

Interview and Photograph by Jorge Cabal

For seven seasons, Anne Nehring has been a featured dancer with the Milwaukee Ballet. Last month, her and her husband purchased Sendiks on Oakland. Recently Jorge Cabal spoke with Nerhing about her love of ballet, her love of food and much more.

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The Jason Stuart Questionnaire

Comedian Jason Stuart has guest starred on the Drew Carey Show and appeared in the HBO film Gia and recently had the courage to take the Q•Voice Questionnaire



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On our cover:

Photo: Jorge L. Cabal, Model: Anne Nehring

NEXT Q•VOICE: Deadline: May 28 • Appearing: June 4

Milwaukee Magazine's Got the Scoop

If you haven't seen it, this month's issue of **Milwaukee Magazine** features an article about the financial and personal woes of **Fannies** owner, **Sharon Dixon**. Seems she lost her restaurant, **Mike & Anna's**, her house was foreclosed on and — of course — there is the infamous fire at **Fannies** which is still under investigation by the arson squad.

In the same issue, there is also a piece on the goings-on over at Milwaukee's other alternative weekly, **The Paper** and it's publisher **Greg Quindel**. Reliable sources tell **The Latest Dish** that Quindel is making a serious bid to add **The Wisconsin Light** to the list of publications already under his thumb (The Paper resurrected **Art Muscle** last year). Look for an official announcement about the Light by the end of June.

Jesus as a Homo?

Acclaimed playwright **Terrence McNally** is working on a play featuring a Christ-like character who has sex with his apostles, the **New York Post** reported recently.

"Corpus Christi," likely to open on Broadway or off-Broadway in September or October, features a character called Joshua. The name Jesus is a variation of the name Joshua.

Gilbert Medina, an assistant to McNally's agent, confirmed that the play is being produced by Manhattan Theater Club, the paper said.

The play borrows dialogue from the Bible's New Testament, paraphrasing Pontius Pilate's questioning of Jesus Christ

before his crucifixion, the paper said.

"Art thou king of the queers?" McNally's Pontius Pilate character asks instead of "Art thou the King of the Jews?"

"Thou sayest," the Joshua character answers.

Roman Catholic leaders denounced the portrayal. McNally, a three-time Tony Award winner who has written numerous gay-themed plays, was quiet about his work. His previous works include "Master Class" and "Love! Valour! Compassion!"

Madonna's Bra Fetches Big Bucks

A bra worn on stage by "raunchy" pop-mom Madonna went under the hammer for 2,530 pounds (\$4,250 dollars) at the London auction house Christie's. The proud new owner — a male fan — preferred to remain anonymous... although we're quite sure he must be gay.

Streisand Museum to Close Its Doors

No issue of **Q•Voice** would be complete without — at least — a passing mention of Babs. So here it is, **Hello Gorgeous**, the Streisand Museum and Tribute profiled a few months back in **Q•Voice** will close its doors with a public auction on May 31.

According owner **Ken Joachim**, it will continue to operate as a mail order business. For more info about the auction drop by their website at www.grin.net/~hellogorgeous or call (707) 833-6998.

Chicago's Mean Street

Driving, biking or walking down Chicago's North Halsted Street can be hazardous to one's health these days as crews continue repairing water mains in the area. And the massive reconstruction of Boys Town's central strip has yet to begin.

Chicago's \$3.2-million streetscape project should be underway by mid-May. Work will begin on the east side of the street at the intersection of Halsted and Grace. Chicago city officials ensure that the project will not interfere with the Pride parade or North Halsted Market Days... yeah right.

Home Improvement Star to Come Out?

Several press reports indicate that teen-throb **Jonathon Taylor Thomas** essentially came out in a recent interview with **The Advocate**. Business advisors are advising the sixteen-year old to keep a low profile on the matter, but apparently his family is very supportive and some reports indicate that Thomas wants to be a role model for other gay teens.

And finally...

An observant **Q•Voice** reader pointed out the following ironic item from the Police Report in the April 16 edition of the **Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel**:

"Two women were charged with disorderly conduct on April 12 after a police officer investigated their parked car in Estabrook Park after closing hours. The women told the officer that they were having sex."

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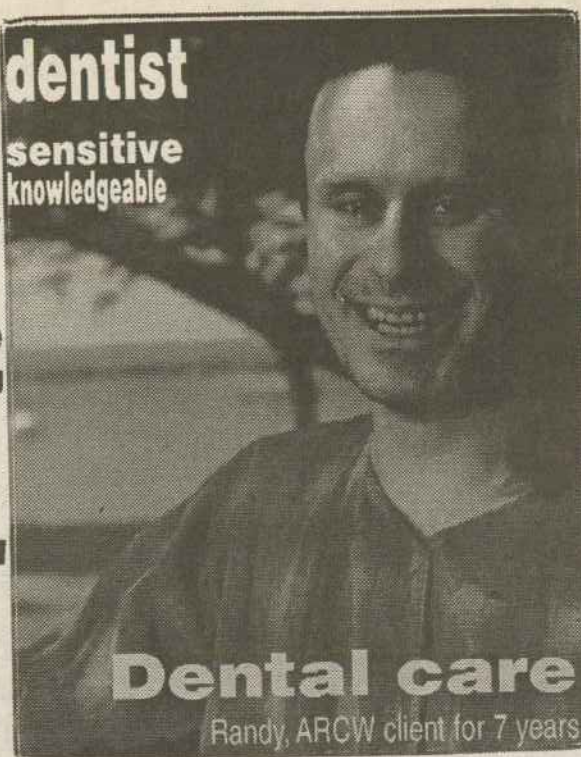


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Quips and Quotes

This Issue's Obligatory "Ellen" Reference

"Question: You wrote that Ellen DeGeneres and Anne Heche were as cozy as ever. But I read elsewhere that Heche has developed an attraction for a male actor. Who is right? ...

"Answer: Perhaps both of us. Heche, 28, may be having second (or is it third?) thoughts about her sexual orientation. Our source on the set of her latest film, 'Force Majeure,' says sparks flew between Heche and her 6-foot-4 co-star, Vince Vaughn, 27. We're told she also flirted with other actors except when DeGeneres, 40, came to visit. Her agent says Anne and Vince are 'just good friends.'"

-Walter Scott's Personality Parade column in Parade Magazine, April 19.



Little Brats

"We have always been the cultural parents of an ungrateful heterosexual society. We give them the clothes they wear, the homes they live in, the music they listen to and the movies and plays they go to. And [it] comes right back in our face. We have the most ungrateful children."

-Playwright/actor Harvey Fierstein to Denver's Out Front.

Found Under the Mattress

"I keep a secret little notebook that I call 'The Lost Notebook of Tom of Estonia' that I draw these kind of pornographic men in."

—Dykes To Watch Out For cartoonist Alison Bechdel to Chicago's Windy City Times.

One Word Quentin... Viagra

"Oscar Wilde was ... a terrible hypocrite, who had the most sordid life imaginable, consorting with young men who had been procured for him and who he met in rooms where the curtains were never drawn back."

-Quentin Crisp, 89, to San Diego's Gay & Lesbian Times.

Funniest Line of the Week

"No one has yet addressed the really burning question in the whole George Michael affair: will Elton sing at his trial? I thought a sensitive reworking of one of his old classics might

result in a dignified chorus of 'I guess that's why they call them the loos'."

-Columnist Graham Norton in London's The Pink Paper. "Loo" is British slang for "toilet."

Looking in All the Wrong Places

"The best way to meet a woman is to stop looking for one. Just as long as you don't stop going to places where a woman who also isn't looking can find you."

-From Shelly Roberts' upcoming book Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Dating.

Start Spreadin' The News

"Every time I swallow those pills [HIV antivirals] it's a pain in the ass. You have to remember to take them with you. I keep them in little baggies. But I love those pills. I respect them and am so grateful. My friend Marty isn't here to have the miracle that happened to me. I talk about it especially for people who aren't in large cities. I'm not sure a kid in Des Moines, Iowa, knows that it is possible to manage this disease. That's why I do interviews and why I want to spread the word."

-Composer Jerry Herman to Miami's The Weekly News.



One Is Never Enough

"If I would have been healthier, emotionally and psychologically, I probably would have only won one gold medal. ... That would have been enough. But, diving was a form of a drug as well [as] of hiding. For me it was my salvation."

—Gay Olympic diver Greg Louganis to the Texas Triangle.

Compiled by Rex Wockner and our crack news sources around the world. Seen a good quip or quote? Send it to us at Quips and Quotes, Q•Voice World Headquarters, P.O. Box 92385, Milwaukee, WI 53202, or e-mail to qvoice@aol.com

by Ed Grover

A Goose Egg For The P.O.

We have a newly renovated Post Office here at Juneau Village Station. It took most of the winter to do the work while people grumbled at having to do their business in a series of trailers that were parked on Jackson Street. We were assured that this was all being done to make things more convenient and speedier for us — the customers. Everyone eagerly waited to see what the results would be. I heard someone make the snide remark: "It's our federal money at work." As far as I'm concerned it's turned out to be mass confusion, but more on that later.

Last year I met Daniel "Diego" Accardo, who creates the most wonderful decorative eggs. He noticed a small painted Russian egg I had, and gave me one of his gold-leafed goose eggs. The design was done in *découpage* from an antique Russian post card. It was of a Russian Saint, rather like the ones you would see on an old Icon. The rest of the egg was covered in gold leaf, then lacquered, and finished off with gold metallic French ribbons — top and bottom — making it a very opulent looking object.

I ended up giving that egg to my sister as a last-minute Christmas gift. She loves it dearly and even her truck-driver husband approved. Just before Easter, Nan called and asked if I could get her one to give as a gift. I said sure, when do you need it? "Right away. It's for a 50th wedding anniversary in Montana, and he just told me as usual. We're leaving on the 17th." I said I would see what I could do on such short notice. I'd find Dan, get an egg, and send it off — in a hurry.

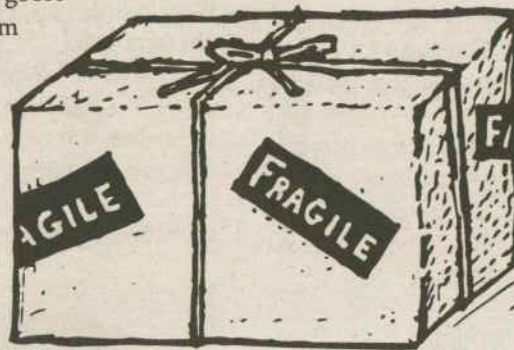
I made contact with Dan and he told me he had a shop called *The Golden Egg Emporium* on the main concourse at Mayfair Mall near Marshall Field's. He said "Why don't you come out and see what I have?" I hopped on the number 31 bus and was on my way. As we went through Wauwatosa, I saw several houses with lawns that were full of blue flowers. They were totally blue with not a speck of green. It was quite a sight.

I found Dan's space at the Mall right away. You can't miss it; there are two large glass cases filled with eggs from all over the world, and another fancy case that contained what I was looking for—his golden eggs. Dan told me that prices ranged from \$14.75 to \$1,000 (cash or check, please. No credit cards yet. And there's no phone). Out of curiosity, I asked to see the most expensive one. It was a large wooden egg, made by an 80-year old Russian woman who produces only eight to ten a year. It was covered with hand-painted figures, lacquered, and it stood on its own pedestal.

Most of the other eggs are natural, and include ostrich, rhea, goose and duck — all the shells are highly decorated. Dan told me he had purchased an air-drill which allows him to make cut-outs in the fragile shells. He is now doing Victorian eggs that are pierced with latticework and covered with flowers, angels and other Victoriana. They're right near his exquisite Faberge creations. The Pabst Mansion recently purchased several of Dan's pieces.

He has nested, enameled Cloisiné eggs on copper from China, and some really beautiful eggs made by a Russian Icon painter that are placed in cases with doors. There are lots of the usual hen's eggs with all kinds of handpainted designs; "Not decals," as he strongly pointed out to a customer. He also has jeweled eggs. Any of these would make lovely gifts, and Mother's Day is just around the corner. Dan said he would be at Mayfair Mall, possibly until June, when he plans to take a break and then hit the Egg Circuit, traveling around the country with his wares.

I got home, packed the egg, and headed for the P.O. When I got there I pulled my number from the little dispenser (that's the speedier part), and went to the end of the line — near the door. I waited patiently as people wandered around. In less than a minute they called my number and I jumped to the head of the line while the people who hadn't seen the sign to take a number, groaned and scrambled for tickets. That system doesn't seem to



work too well. So much for progress.

At the counter I got *attitude* from one of our overpaid postal clerks when I asked that the package be insured. This person glared at me and asked why I hadn't filled out the insurance form. I asked where they were and was told, in a huffy voice, "Well, they're right where you were standing." That was all I needed. I raised my voice and said, "Since you're so all-seeing, you should have known that I was no where near the damned forms." I didn't appreciate this clerk's bitchy attitude or comments. There were some audible snickers from the people in line who obviously had been where I was now. I finally got my package off — Priority mail.

Less than a week later I got a phone call from my sister telling me that the snow in Wyoming kept her husband from getting back in time to pick her up. She had re-packed the egg and sent it off to Montana. She says she's very happy to be staying at home watching the birds move north and looking for other signs of spring. A day or so later the phone rang again and a familiar voice said, "Hiya kiddo, we're back." Spring is surely here! Aunt Ursy and Zöe had just pulled in and lost no time in letting me know all about their adventures. Have I got tales to tell.

Don't Get His Goat

“I’ve always loved jogging, running and exercise. I’ve always loved trees and bushes,” says former adult video star Mike (alias Beau) Beaumont.

Having once starred in videos such as *The Pledgemasters*, *Ten is Enough*, and *Bat Dude and Throbin*, Beaumont is now retired and happily co-owns the Mega Discount Nursery in Oak Creek.

“My dad and I own the nursery. It’s great exercise. I’m here nine to nine, seven days a week. I can’t think of any place else I’d rather be! We grow most of our own stock. I’ve got a big pond in back for irrigation.”

The still handsome Beau was born and raised in West Allis. After his debut as a dancer at Club 219, Beaumont joined the Chicago Meatpackers and was quickly asked to do spreads for magazines.

“I started my own business in New Berlin called Grin and Bare It. We’d send out male and female dancers to birthday parties and stag parties. About two years later the *Advocate* invited me to west coast. They did a spread on me and put me on the cover. I started doing videos. After the videos I was doing guest appearances all over the country.”

Beaumont starred opposite Jeff Stryker in *Powerful Two*. He remembers Stryker as charming, intelligent and professional.

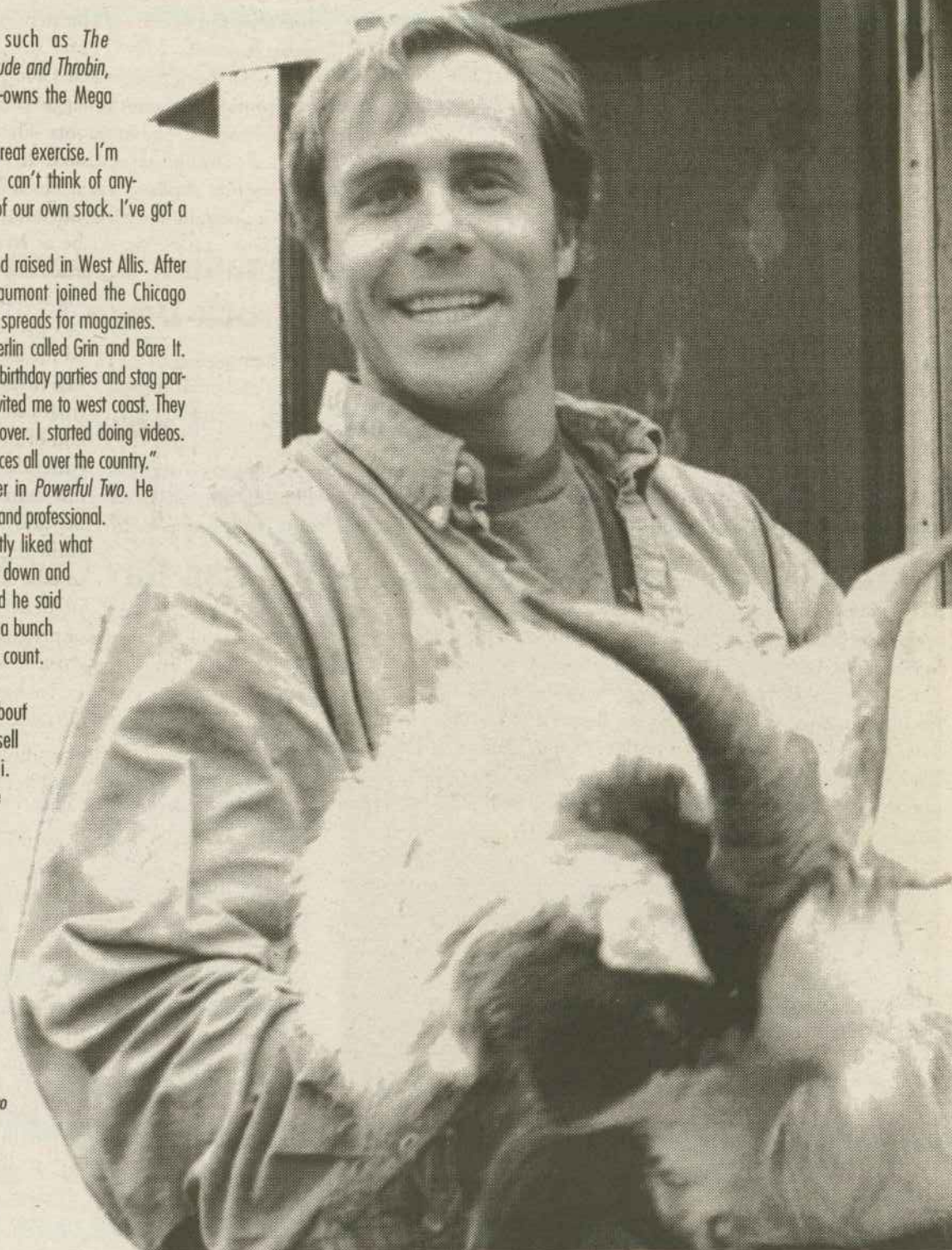
“I had sent him pictures. He apparently liked what he saw because he called me up! I came down and he interviewed me. We talked a little and he said ‘let’s go’! We went out to dinner and ate a bunch of oysters because it increases the semen count. The next day we shot.”

These days Beaumont thinks only about keeping his nursery well stocked. “We sell everything from fruit baskets to bonsai. With Mother’s Day coming up, we are doing a lot of fruit baskets. But mostly our claim to fame is nursery stock: trees, bushes and shrubs.”

I asked Beau if he currently had a partner in his life.

“In the wintertime me and a buddy go to Key West. Other than that, nah, I’m too busy busting my ass around here.”

—story/photo: Waswo



Grave Found Of Nazi Doctor Who Experimented On Gays

The grave of a Nazi doctor who performed experiments on gay men in concentration camps has been located in Argentina's Britanico Cemetery.

Historical records show that Carl Peter Vaernet, a Dane, castrated and implanted hormones in homosexuals in attempts to alter their sexual orientation at the Buchenwald and Neuengamme camps. After World War II, he escaped to South America without being tried for his crimes; he died in 1965.

- Vaernet was tracked down by a Danish gay activist who used the Internet to locate Vaernet's grandson in Argentina.

Many French Mayors Oppose Partners Measure

About 12,000 of France's 36,000 mayors have signed a petition opposing legislation that would let same-sex couples register their relationships at city hall and receive many of the benefits of marriage.

The mayors fear they will be forced to perform gay ceremonies if the "Social Union Contract" proposal becomes law. French may-

ors function as the municipal registrar for births, deaths and marriages, and in smaller towns, the mayor often handles such matters personally.

The petition is being circulated by Felletin Mayor Michel Penton who founded the center-right Union for French Democracy party 20 years ago. He says the mayors are "anxious to preserve the family as the natural and fundamental element of every society."

"In our sick French society, the two things that are still healthy, the family and the town council, are now being threatened," Penton told fellow mayors. "It may be that this new form of marriage, which you will have to officiate at, clashes with your conscience. ... Behind these homosexual 'families,' a sad parody of a true family, other liaisons will rush in, beginning with polygamous marriages."

Canadian Sodomy Statute Struck Down

Quebec's Court of Appeal struck down a provision of Canada's penal code that forbids sodomy before age 18 while allowing other sexual practices at age 14, La Presse reported April 16.

The court said the ban violates the national Charter of Rights and Freedoms and discriminates against young gays. The ruling is binding only in Quebec. A similar earlier ruling covers Ontario. The ban remains in effect across the rest of Canada.

Latvian Gay Cop Bashed

A Latvian gay cop who was fired last year after coming out of the closet in a newspaper interview was seriously beaten by bashers April 16 along with his lover.

The Riga-based Homosexuality Information Center (HIC) believes the attack on Gatis Bugoveckis and his partner may have been related to the group's complaint on Bugoveckis' behalf filed with the National Human Rights Office and to Bugoveckis' many appearances on TV programs.

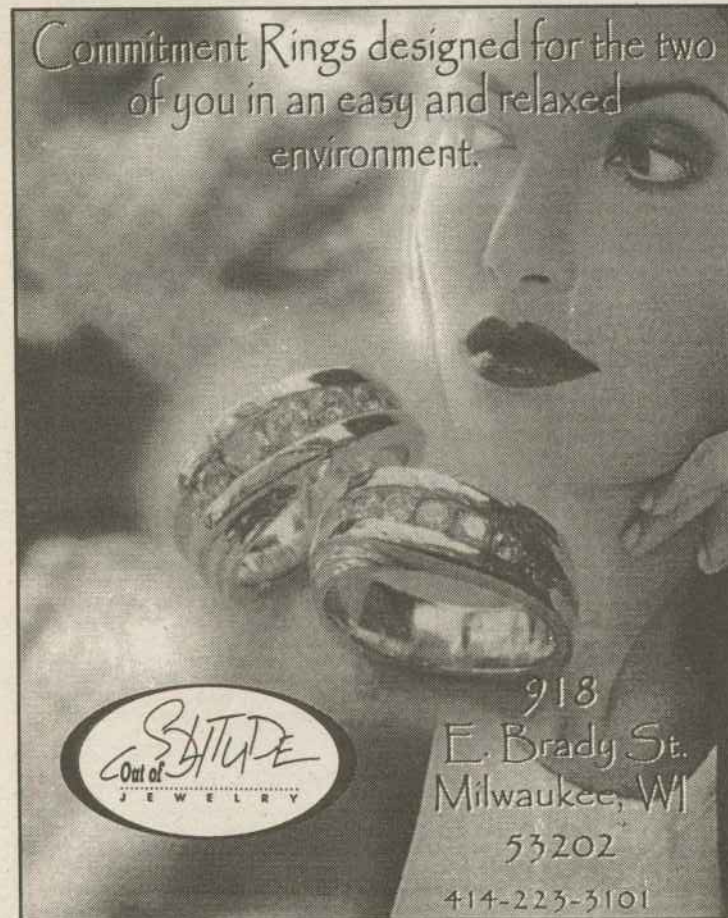
The couple was jumped by three Russian-speaking men in central Riga at about 9:15 p.m. The assailants shouted "Fucking queers" and "We're going to break your balls" as they beat them.

Bugoveckis' lover managed to phone police from his cell phone and all five men were taken to a police station then released. According to HIC, "After Gatis expressed his intention to submit a report for initiating a criminal case, he was strongly 'advised' by the policemen that it is better and in his interest not to do that."

Bugoveckis filed the complaint anyway. At press time, he was recovering from a concussion and multiple bruises.

Meanwhile, on April 17, the Human Rights Office ruled in Bugoveckis' favor in his discrimination case.

"There is enough evidence, including audio recordings, to demonstrate that it was a case of discrimination on the grounds of



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sexual orientation which is a violation of human rights," the office said. "Paragraph 28 of [the law 'On Police'] does not require heterosexual orientation as a requirement for serving the police, but instead requires education, physical preparedness, health, ability and willingness to carry out police duties, knowledge of the Latvian language, and absence of criminal records.

"It must be considered," the judges wrote, "that violence or any discrimination against an individual because of their sexual orientation, in Latvia as a democratic country which is ruled by law, is a violation of the state's principles and laws. All people living in Latvia are equal in their duties, rights and the realization of those rights regardless of differences among them. Only the state, in specific cases which are defined by laws, or when an individual through his activities harms other individuals' rights and freedoms, can restrict that individual's rights."

The ruling apparently carries no legal weight but HIC said "the opinion has a significant moral importance for the lesbian and gay community in Latvia."

"This is the first official statement in Latvia where discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation is considered as a violation of human rights contrary to the Latvian and international law," the group said. "The Latvian National Human Rights Office supports our proposal to include sexual orientation in paragraph 69 of the Criminal Code, which criminalizes discrimination on the grounds of race or nationality. The Office submitted a separate proposal on such inclusion to the Parliamentary commission dealing with the creation of a new Criminal Code."

Greek Gays Flunk Aids Survey

Greece's Homosexual Initiative of Thessaloniki is disturbed by results of an AIDS survey it conducted in gay bars and online.

Among the results: Less than half of gay men know that HIV- antibody tests are inaccurate in the weeks immediately after one becomes infected, that people are most infectious in the earliest stage of HIV infec-

tion, and that petroleum jelly (such as Vaseline) dissolves condoms.

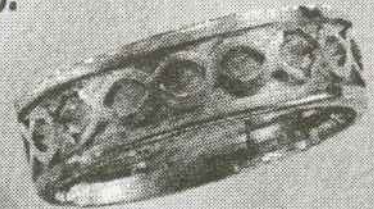
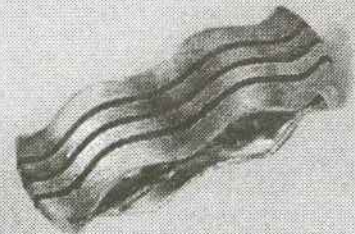
Also, a third of those surveyed believe that pulling out before ejaculation greatly reduces the risk of HIV transmission and that HIV-positives can bareback together

without concern.

Only 49 percent of those questioned had safe sex every time they had sex in the past year and 5.2 percent have unsafe sex regularly.

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EAT OUT!

O.K. So just what was your most memorable meal? Was it that chili dog you and your lover wrapped your mouths around the moment before consummating lurid lust?

Was it that night in Morocco? The night you were fed couscous and goat eyes by your faithful companion Abjid? Maybe it was the honey-soaked figs and sexy Berber tongue you devoured while Abjid was out buying *kif*?

Or was it that night in Bangkok? The night you ate spring rolls and fish at a floating restaurant, and later discovered a discotheque with more delectable young men than the Frugal Gourmet has "assistants"?

Or was it the evening your absolutely favorite girlfriend made something special, just for you, in her own little oven?

Oh, the joys of eating out!

Whatever your most memorable meal, the fact is we all have one. Human beings have attached great ritual to the process of eating. We expect certain food to be served in certain ways within a certain ambiance. We all know what we like and what we don't. So when it comes to culinary taste,

any review is bound to be a conglomeration of subjective opinion.

Here, in quick snapshots, we appraise some area eateries. All of these places are memorable for one reason or another. If our views differ from yours, so be it. One of the joys of eating out is the ability we all have to indulge our own opinions.

Osteria del Mondo

1028 East Juneau

Still our favorite dining experience in Milwaukee. Finely prepared northern Italian cuisine in a rarefied atmosphere. The veal ragu is simply the best. Try the chicken breast wrapped in pancetta, served with polenta and caramelized green beans. You might bump shoulders here with Mayor Norquist or any number of local celebrities. We just wish they'd do something about that tacky mural slap-dabbed at the end of the room.

Hooters

135 W. Wisconsin

Jimmy von Milwaukee said that Hooters should take over the restaurant at the Milwaukee Art Museum, because

"Milwaukeeans deserve nothing but the best." On that recommendation, we donned trench coats and phoney moustaches to check Hooters out for ourselves.

Whatever your stance on the issue of marketing chicken wings with the lure of female breasts, the fact is the food here sucks. The Hooter's waitresses (note: a politically correct term like "waitstaff" doesn't apply) are bubbly and fun and don't seem to be burdened with any sense of oppression. But the food is crappy and the ambiance Neanderthal. Hey dudes, if you're just looking to get titillated, you get more bang for your buck at Ricky's on State.

Au Bon Appetit

1016 East Brady

We pooh-poohed this place in our last reviews and were given more than an earful of criticism as a result. So we went back. Guess what? We were wrong! Which isn't often! This wonderful quiet oasis has become one of our favorites. Try the shredded lamb with almonds and rice. Order a bottle of wine and let yourself travel to the romantic Mediterranean. Just goes to prove that it is always good policy to give a place

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a second chance. But please, get rid of that big plastic wrist watch on the wall!

La Perla

734 S. 5th

This hang-out has been so consistently COOL it deserves it's red HOT reputation. Shouldn't this place be in New York, Chicago, or LA? What the hell is it doing in Milwaukee? Let's count our blessings.

Azteca

816 S. 5th

Doesn't have the glitz of La Perla, but what it does have is really, really good food. If you're looking for a fine Mexican meal without the noisy hub-bub, this is the place.

Hi Hat

1701 N. Arlington (at Brady)

Haven't been here yet? Well darling, you really must make more of an attempt to get with it! Positively the swankiest new spot

Any number of things goes into the making of a memorable meal. Recently my partner Tommy and I dined at the gay restaurant *U Stareho Songu* in Prague. The meal was memorable, not for the soup, the appetizers, the salad, the meat, the dumplings or the desert, nor for the six pints of extremely good Czech beer. What was memorable was that the bill for everything totaled less than fifteen US dollars!

Good food was found at other gay venues in Prague. *U Kapra* was more centrally located than *U Stareho Songu*, and the prices were a bit higher. But the gay and lesbian chic of the place was unforgettable. Another night found us seated at the restaurant window of the Sedi Hotel (the Bon Ami porn film, *An American in Prague* was filmed here). We enjoyed

candle lit dining with a view to the Charles Bridge on the River Vltava.

What makes a memorable meal is often an amalgam of factors that coalesce into the unforgettable. It might be sheer exoticism that etches a meal into memory. I'll never forget the kangaroo steak with peppercorn cream sauce I ate in a small South Australian town.

Nor will I forget the blackbirds in polenta served to us recently in Italy. This meal was rendered even more unforgettable by the fact we had been invited to join a "hunter's feast" where rabbit and pheasant was also part of the night's repast. No less than thirty huntsmen and their wives gathered at a huge banquet table. It didn't take long before loud friendly argument broke out between those who were Italian businessmen, and those who were Italian

communists.

A meal might be memorable simply because it was so horrendously bad. It might be memorable for the fine wine, the beautiful view, the romantic ambiance, the tempting aroma, or the warm glow of camaraderie.

We all have our favorites. There are places we will go back to again and again, realizing that we will never be disappointed. For us, this includes La Bruschetta in Toronto, and Pesce Pasta on Bleeker Street in New York City.

I remember the simplicity of pungent cheese with ripe olives and wine at a small cafe in Portugal. I remember gin and tonics and curried potatoes on the veranda of the Lake Piccola Hotel in Udaipur, India. But mostly, I remember good conversations, and the satiated warmth of valued friends.

—Waswo

on the strip! Art by luminaries Fred Stonehouse and Jason Rohlf. Martini heaven! Hi Hat really isn't a restaurant, but a cocktail lounge with incredibly delicious appetizers. The Sunday brunch is divine. Order me another Bloody Mary, will you darling?

Dancing Ganesha

1694 N. Van Buren

Use to be you had to travel to Chicago if you had a sudden hankering for *aloo mutter*. Not any more. Suddenly Milwaukee has nearly as many curry palaces as a statue of Shiva has arms. Dancing Ganesha stands out as the undisputed leader.

Proprietor Usha and her daughter Ami bring us Indian food "without the mogul and colonial influences". The result is no tandoori and somewhat milder curries. The bar tempts you to flirt with some absolutely wicked cocktails. If you have yet to be introduced to the wonders on Indian cuisine, this is a fine place to make the acquaintance.

M & M Club

124 N. Water

What would we do without this place? After countless years, "M's" is still the premiere gay eatery in Milwaukee. Please, God, never take the Monte Cristo sandwich off the menu!

Rock Bottom Brewery

740 N. Plankinton

Good brews. I particularly like the Raccoon Red. Fantastic deck for summertime laziness on the Riverwalk. But the food here is subpar. The Friday fish fry of deep-fried smoked salmon is good but just too weird for Milwaukee tastes. And it hits your stomach with a heavy thud. The pizza is sort of yucky. And don't those huge poster-like murals of the Rocky Mountains look out of place and downright cheap?

Milwaukee Ale House

233 N. Water

When this place first opened, the brews were a bit flat. But they've improved. Food is OK. But for a place where you'd expect cheaper pub food, the dinners are pretentiously priced and

not really spectacular. Still, the Ale House has brought much needed life to Milwaukee's Third Ward, and promises to have one of the most exciting Riverwalk decks this summer.

Cafe Knickerbocker

1028 E. Juneau

One of the best spots in town to dine *al fresco*. A chicken breast caesar salad and a glass of Pinot Grigio can make a girl feel really special on a sultry summer afternoon. And Juneau Park is just a hop, skip, and a jump away!

The Elias Inn

200 N. 2nd, Watertown

Since the beginning of the trial commuter rail service, this quaint little restaurant has become a destination. Take the 5:10 train to Watertown (Monday through Saturday), get off, and walk about six blocks to the Elias Inn. Great steaks, walleye pike, and prime rib. The complimentary relish tray is a mouthwatering bonus. This is unpretentious dining (in a fabulous old room) with inexpensive prices. Reservations are recommended. You have about two and a half hours to eat, wander the Rock River boardwalk, then catch the 9:00 train for home.

The Coffee Trader

2625 N. Downer

Is there any better way to start the day than to have one of the Coffee Traders fabulous omelets? This is an eastside institution we hope will never leave.

Mediterranean Cafe

1205 E. Brady

Great space in a great location, too bad the food is so damn inconsistent. There have been some good experiences here, but also some real disappointments. The lunch menu is inexpensive but could use an item or two that doesn't come wrapped in pita bread. Enjoyed a chicken breast smothered in cranberry sauce and saffron rice one day. Unfortunately, that great special was never to be found on the menu again. And when you order desert, even baklava, you really ought to get more than a one inch square.

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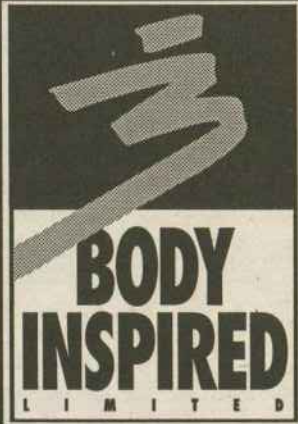
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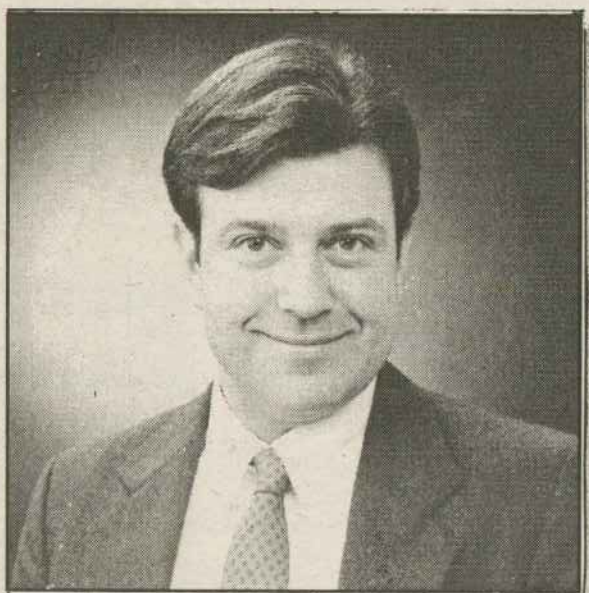
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Cafe Vecchio Mondo

1137 N. Old World Third

The only place in Milwaukee that competes with Hi-Hat for chi-chi cocktail chatter. Really good soups, fondue, cheeseplates, and Italian sandwiches. An enormous selection of beers, ales and martinis. This is a nice pit-stop on the way to the Eagle, though you might feel out-of-place in full leather regalia.

Ma Fisher's

2214 N. Farwell

It is tantamount to sacrilege to criticize this eastside institution. But we really wish they'd learn what a credit card is, and that many, many people prefer to use them.

Bellissimo

3510 N. Oakland

We had just flown back from Rome when we decided to try this Italian travesty. We were still hungry for good Italian food. But Bellissimo didn't exactly take us back to the Trevi Fountain.

When we ordered calamari our waiter rolled his eyes and took the time to explain to us that calamari was squid (oh my god! we never knew!). When I ordered the veal saltimbocca he wriggled his nose and asked if I would like that "cooked a little more" (for what? to kill the unspeakably vile veal germs?). I said no, since veal is best when still a bit pink.

Apparently no one ever explained to the cook that calamari is *tender* squid. The saltimbocca arrived: tiny, overcooked, tasteless and tough. What's worse, it was totally smothered in a glue-like white sauce.

Milwaukee Room

316 N. Milwaukee

It's unfortunate that such an ideal Third Ward location has been taken over by an overpriced and mediocre venue. The Milwaukee Room serves up an unimaginative menu coupled to a price tag that would make you expect more. You don't have to wonder why this place seems always empty.

Kegel's

5901 W. National

This is a wonderful little German restaurant with good saurbratten and schnitzel at prices much lower than its downtown equivalents. The atmosphere is old Bavarian beer hall, complete with dark ornamental woodwork and hand-painted murals that are yellow with age. Kegel's is a little secret worth discovering.

John Hawk's Pub

100 East Wisconsin

The picturesque view from Hawk's Riverwalk terrace is one of the best. Seeing the Edelweiss glide by, or watching the Wisconsin Avenue bridge raise for boats, is a treat. The beer's good and the sandwiches OK. Eating on Hawk's deck is always a relaxing way to kill some time on a warm summer evening. But come winter, the food in itself isn't worth going out of the way for.

Mimma's

1307 E. Brady

Still one of Milwaukee's best for Italian cooking. Mimma's offers a menu that takes from every region of Italy, but there is a distinctive southern Italian bent. Black lin-

guini with shrimp is to die for. After cocktails and appetizers at the Hi-Hat, walk across the street for a major meal. After a little pasta and Pinot Grigio you'll be in heaven.

Heaven City

591 W. 7850 National Avenue,
Mukwonago

Speaking of heaven, this is a restaurant that is definitely worth the drive out of the city. I remember when this place featured a landing strip for small planes out back. Then, briefly, it became a biker bar. Now it is one of the most elegant and tasty eateries you can find.

Heaven City bills itself as "a white tablecloth restaurant with a blue denim attitude". Superb food served in an assemblage of interesting little rooms. This is the sort of experience you feel is so precious, you should treat yourself to it just once a year.

Mader's

1037 Old World Third

Tastily Teutonic, this is one of our picks for Sunday brunch. A great spread of food that is one of the areas better values.



Frozen Custard

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Fri.	8	M&M In Vanilla
Sat.	9	Strawberry Oreo
Sun.	10	Mudd Pie
Mon.	11	Death by Chocolate
Tues.	12	Carmel Cashew
Wed.	13	Chocolate Covered Cherries
Thurs.	14	Butter Pecan
Fri.	15	Cookies 'n Cream
Sat.	16	Cookie Dough
Sun.	17	Strawberry Cheesecake
Mon.	18	Turtle Swirl
Tues.	19	Candy Explosion
Wed.	20	Banana Nut
Thur.	21	Blue Moon Sprinkle
Fri.	22	Apple Cinnamon
Sat.	23	Rocky Road
Sun.	24	Toffee Cashew
Mon.	25	Burgundy Cherry
Tues.	26	Chocolate Raspberry Torte
Wed.	27	Mint Chocolate Chip
Thurs.	28	Creamy Butterfinger
Fri.	29	Cherry Cheesecake
Sat.	30	French Silk
Sun.	31	Pralines 'n Cream

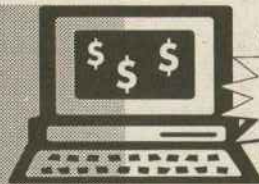
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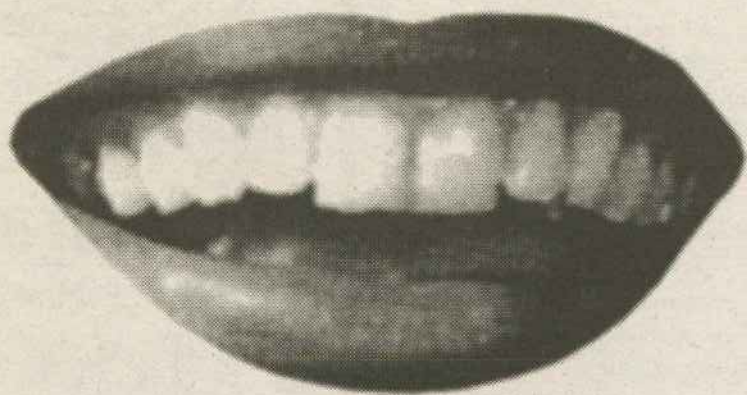
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Pieces of Eight

550 N. Harbor Drive

Another of our picks for Sunday brunch. Not surprisingly, Pieces of Eight features a brunch that is weighted toward seafood, though nearly anything can be found at the buffet. The setting is marvelous, with nice city and lake views. Too bad the dinner entrees have never equalled the general good quality of the brunch.

Red Rock Cafe

4022 N. Oakland

One of the areas best for seafood. The fish is flown in daily, and a counter up front still sells it market style. Unfortunately, this means there is sometimes a "fishy" smell in the air. But Wow! Try the macadamia nut encrusted mahi mahi. Or the halibut cheeks. Yum!

Pizza Shuttle

1827 N. Farwell

This inexpensive hot spot offers more than just pizza. Stuff yourself with gyros, calzone, ravioli, soups, subs, chicken and shrimp!

We really love this place for ordering out. Pizza Shuttle gladly delivers to our Riverwest home, while other Eastside delivery services act as if crossing the North Avenue bridge risks falling off the edge of the world. With a properly clipped coupon it is possible to enjoy four scrumptious pizzas for little over twenty bucks! And besides, the delivery boys are cute!

Third Ward Caffe

225 E. St. Paul

The ambiance here is dreamy, but the pasta sauce seems to come out of a can.

Cafe di Salvo's

2523 E. Bellevue

Rumors abound that this little gem may someday move to Brady Street. But so far, di Salvo's remains happily situated just around the corner from the Downer Theater. The simple, good, Italian food is always a delight before catching a film at the Downer.

Oriental Coast

1230 E. Brady

Good, basic, inexpensive, Chinese food. We really like this place for cheaper eats. But the atmosphere could be greatly improved with just a few alterations. The Oriental Coast isn't a Chinese diner with florescent-lights and formica tables. So why not go all the way and give it a truly romantic ambiance? We'd like to see the lights dimmed, and a few candles put on the tables.

Don Quijote

2624 North Downer Ave.

Milwaukee needed a tapas bar, and now we sort of have one. The food is excellent here, but the trouble is Don Quixote seems too much like a restaurant, and not like a casual Spanish tavern. Real tapas bars work best for heavy drinking and light snacking. If you're not careful, making a meal of tapas (individually ordered Spanish appetizers) can quickly run up a huge bill.

Cafe Marche

143 N. Broadway

Maybe it's our imagination, but the prices in this place seem to have gone up, and the quality of the food gone a bit down. Marche's great morning breakfasts are now a thing of the past. It's still a delightful spot, and the soups are divine. You can dine outdoors, and sometimes find yourself treated to live music. Jack Grassel or Peter Baime are often the featured musicians. This place use to be one of our favorites, so we hope the slight dip is not permanent.

Buca's Little Italy

1233 N. Van Buren

Don't even bother with this place, unless you've got at least six in your party. The kitschy decor is a hoot, and the service is generally fun. The food is served family style and is generally good, though nothing to write home about. What Buca's excels at is entertaining large groups. The Pope's Table (a round, rotating, "lazy-susan") is great fun if you can round up twenty of your best friends. This place is always packed. If Buca's stock ever goes public, buy it.

These mini-reviews were once again laboriously compiled by Waswo and Livieri. Like Dennis Getto, Waswo and Livieri dine anonymously. They remove the paper bags from their heads only as needed.

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.....Art's Page.....

Exhibition Examines 100 Years Of Works On Paper

This colorful exhibition at the Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM), opens on June 11 with a preview in the Journal/Lubar Galleries at 5:30 p.m. and a 6:15 lecture by Museum Director, Russell Brown, in the Vogel/Helfaer Galleries. The exhibition will continue through August 23, and follows the history of 20th-century art through 75 drawings and works on paper. There are works by Pablo Picasso, Wassily Kandinsky, Georgia O'Keeffe, Stuart Davis, Arshile Gorky, Willem de Kooning, Claes Oldenberg, Anselm Kiefer and others.

These works on paper have been rendered in a variety of materials — pencil, charcoal, ink, watercolor, pastel, gouache and even collage—and fully reflect the vari-

ous movements, directions and attitudes of the 20th century. The works are drawn from the extensive Milwaukee Art Museum collection, with key loans from various private collections.

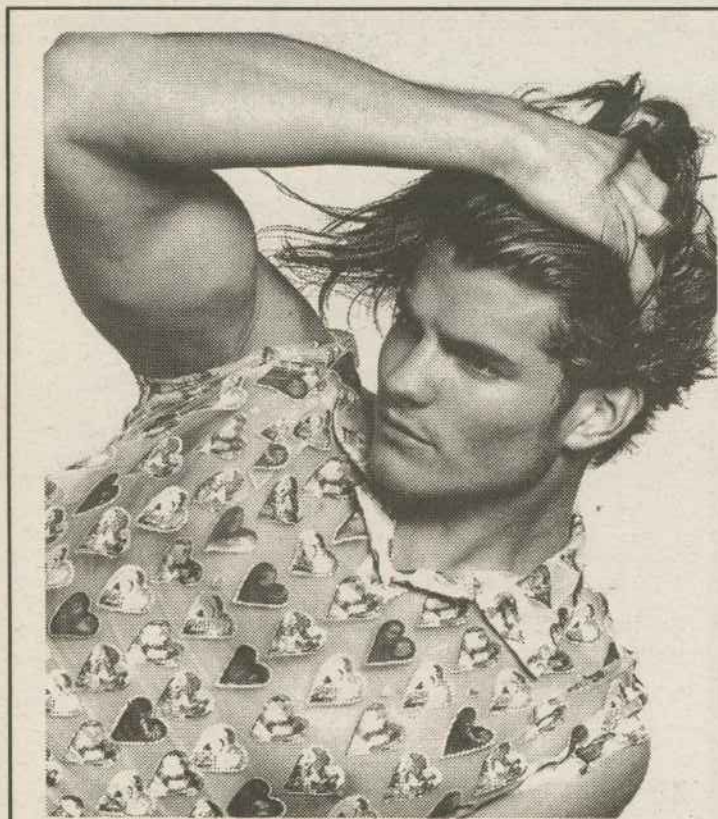
Drawing has remained an essential artistic practice during the 20th century despite the explosion of new media. Even as technology has assumed a greater role in art making, the act of an artist marking a piece of paper by hand has retained its primacy, and still is the most immediate record of the thoughts and intentions of the artist.

Although a few of the works in *Making Marks: Drawing in the 20th Century from Picasso to Kiefer* are so finished as to be called "paintings on paper," most reflect the qualities of spontaneity and intimacy. The



Heroic Head (1921) by Pablo Picasso. Milwaukee Art Museum, Mrs. D. Vogel to Metropolitan Milwaukee War Memorial Collection

works range from the smaller size typically associated with paper to large-scale works which challenge the viewer's assumptions



Versace's Legacy Chronicled in New Book, "The Art of Being You"

"Gianni wasn't the kind of person to embrace art just once. He wasn't the kind of person who would have one work of art by an artist just to say he had one. ... He embraced it like his total embrace of life." With these words, artist Julian Schnabel encapsulates Gianni Versace's lifelong passion for art — a spirit that is vividly expressed in *The Art Of Being You* by Gianni Versace, with Ingrid Sischy, Germano Celant, Julian Schnabel, Richard Martin, and Frank Moore. The book is published by Abbeyville Press (hardcover \$75), ISBN: 0-7892-0436-3.

Conceived and designed by Versace before his tragic death, this oversized, lavishly illustrated book explores the inspiration he derived from contemporary artists and the great modern masters of the 20th century, and his own strong influence on popular culture — particularly the worlds of fashion, music and art.

From his meeting with Andy Warhol, who painted Versace's portrait, to more recent exchanges with Frank Moore and Julian Schnabel, who inspired by the designer, produced important pieces for Versace's private collection, these relationships document the affinity that bound Versace to art.

about works on paper.

Included in the exhibition are examples of almost every 20th-century movement--Post-Impressionism, Cubism, Constructivism and deStijl, Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop, Minimalism and various approaches of the last decade. *Making Mark** is organized by MAM and curated by Russell Bowman, MAM Director. The exhibition is sponsored by Anderson Consulting LLP and Vernon, Roche and Hodgson, Inc.

This is the first of four exhibitions which examine the development of 20th-century art. The other exhibitions are *From Figure to Floor*, an overview of sculpture (fall 1998), a survey of photography around the theme of *Under Construction* (simultaneous with the museum's expansion), and *The Last Show of the Century*, which will tell the complex history of this century through art in all media.

Admission to MAM is \$5 adults, \$3 students and senior citizens 65 or older. Admission is free to children 12 or under with an adult, and MAM members. Milwaukee County residents are free from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday and Saturday. MAM does not sell advance tickets for exhibitions. For more information call (414) 271-7588.

African-American Art at Charles Allis

The Charles Allis Art Library celebrated 150 years of African-American contribution at the art opening *External Traditions* on Sunday, May 3. The exhibition, curated by Evelyn Patricia Terry and Sonji Yarbrough-Eichman features creations by 24 artists, mostly from southeastern Wisconsin, and will be up through June 14, 1998.

"This is our opportunity to celebrate and give visibility to the wealth of talent in the African-American arts community during Wisconsin's Sesquicentennial," state the curators. "The Charles Allis exhibition exemplifies traditions of the home which have been elevated to contemporary aesthetic expressions by both University-trained and self-taught artists." Included are folk dolls, quilts, folk sculpture, carved wood, jewelry, glass and ceramic vessels fashioned from life and memory.

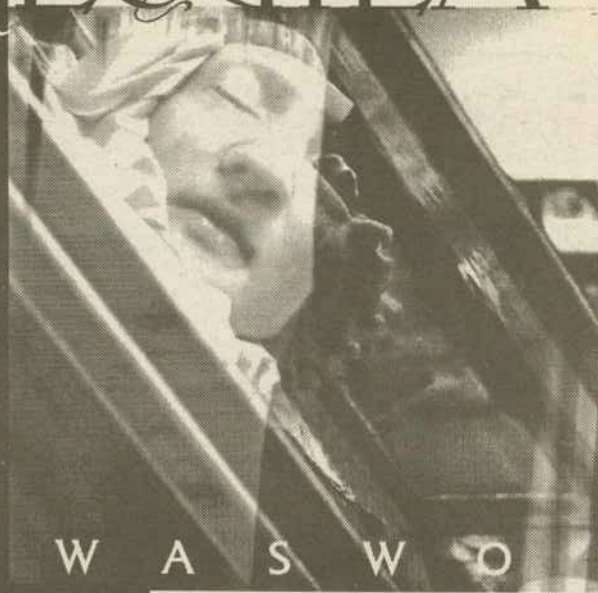
The Charles Allis Art Museum is located at 1801 N. prospect Avenue at E. Royall Place, and is part of the Milwaukee County War Memorial Complex. Admission is \$2, free to members and children under 13. Guided tours are available. For more information, please call (414) 278-8295.

Theater X Late Night to Stage Production of "The Big Room"

The Big Room, a new play by Anne-Marie Cammarato, will open in the Theater X Late Night Series on May 14 and will run through May 30 in the Studio Theater at the Broadway Theater Center, 158 N. Broadway. Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 10:30 p.m.

The play explores the views and fears of "Generation X" through the fun, complexity and strangeness of Internet dating

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and relationships. Through the use of video, staged scenes and live music, the production follows the struggles of three characters as they search to understand their place in a society of pre-recorded images.

Writer-director Cammarato directed the "Elephant Man" for the Theater X Late Night Series last season. Actor/musician Jeremy Hawkinson returns to Milwaukee to play Alex.. James Konicek, who was seen in Theater X's production of "Good" earlier this season will play Grandpa. Sarah Behrendt, who was recently seen in the Playwrights Studio production of "School Girls in Uniform," will play Molly.

Also appearing on video in this production are twenty-two local actors, including regular Theater X Late Night performers Jonathan West, Stephen Roselin, Terry Tuttle, Bill Crawford and Robert Kennedy. Costume design is by Amy Horst. The Producing Director of Theater X is Michael Ramach. Ticket prices are \$10. There are no discounts except for Theater X subscriber discounts for Theater X Late Night productions. For ticket information, please call (414) 291-7800.

Skylight Opera To Close Season With "Once On This Island"

Skylight Opera Theater concludes its 39th season with the Milwaukee premiere of *Once on This Island*, opening at 7:15 p.m.

on May 15 in the Cabot Theater of the Broadway Theater Center, with music by Stephen Flaherty and book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens. Flaherty and Ahrens are the creators of the current Broadway hit "Ragtime" and Academy Award nominees for the music in the animated film "Anastasia". The production will run through May 31.

Based on the novel "My Love, My Love" by Guy Rosa, this retelling of "The Little Mermaid" is based on the cultural, religious and racial diversions found in Haiti between the mulatto ruling class and the dark-skinned rural peasants. This rousing musical set on a Caribbean island tells the story of the peasant orphan To Mouné and her romance with a rich boy from the city whom she saves from certain death.

Once on This Island will be directed by Milwaukee resident Pam Kriger, who says that "the story is simple and heartfelt, surrounded by exuberant song and dance that lifts the soul in celebration." Making their Skylight debuts are soprano Evauhgn High (Asaka), tenor Corwyn Hodge (Daniel), tenor Bill Jackson (Agwe), tenor Ron Lee (Papa Ge), soprano Dawn Miller (Ti Mouné), and Yvette Marie (Mama).

Tickets for the production range from \$21.25 through \$43.25 (tax included, and are available at the Broadway Theater Center Box Office, 158 N. Broadway, or by calling (414) 291-7800.



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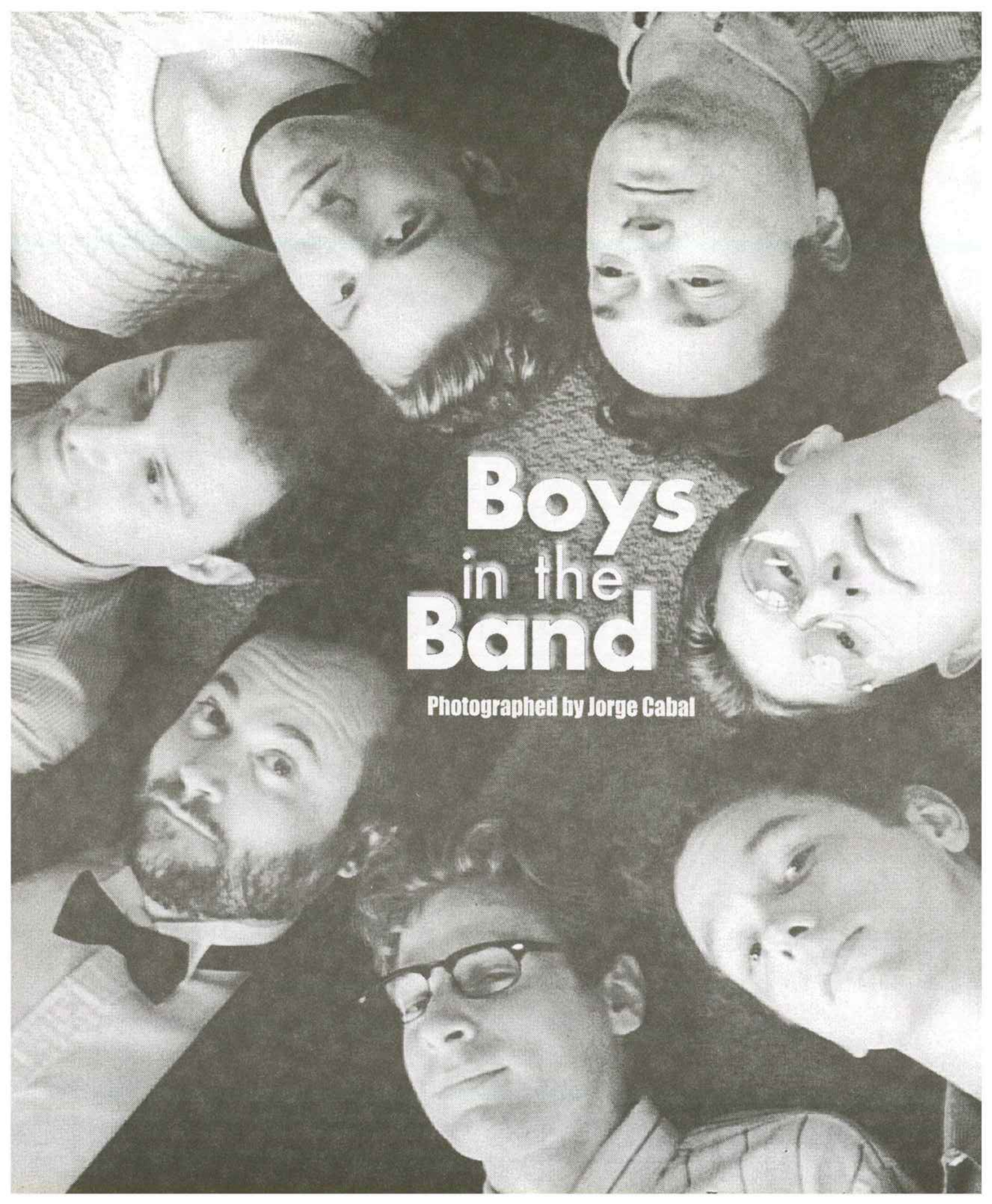
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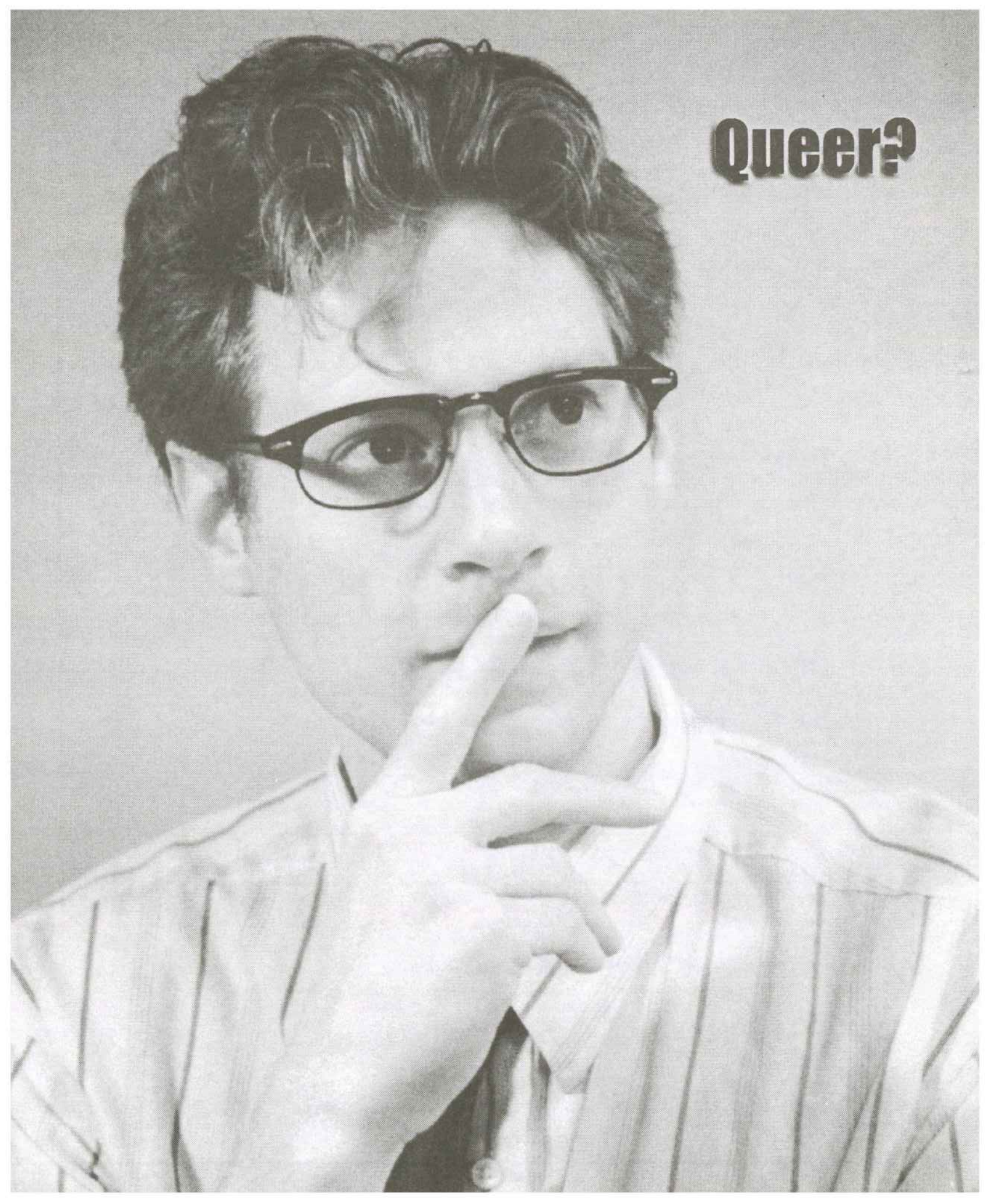
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Boys in the Band

Photographed by Jorge Cabal

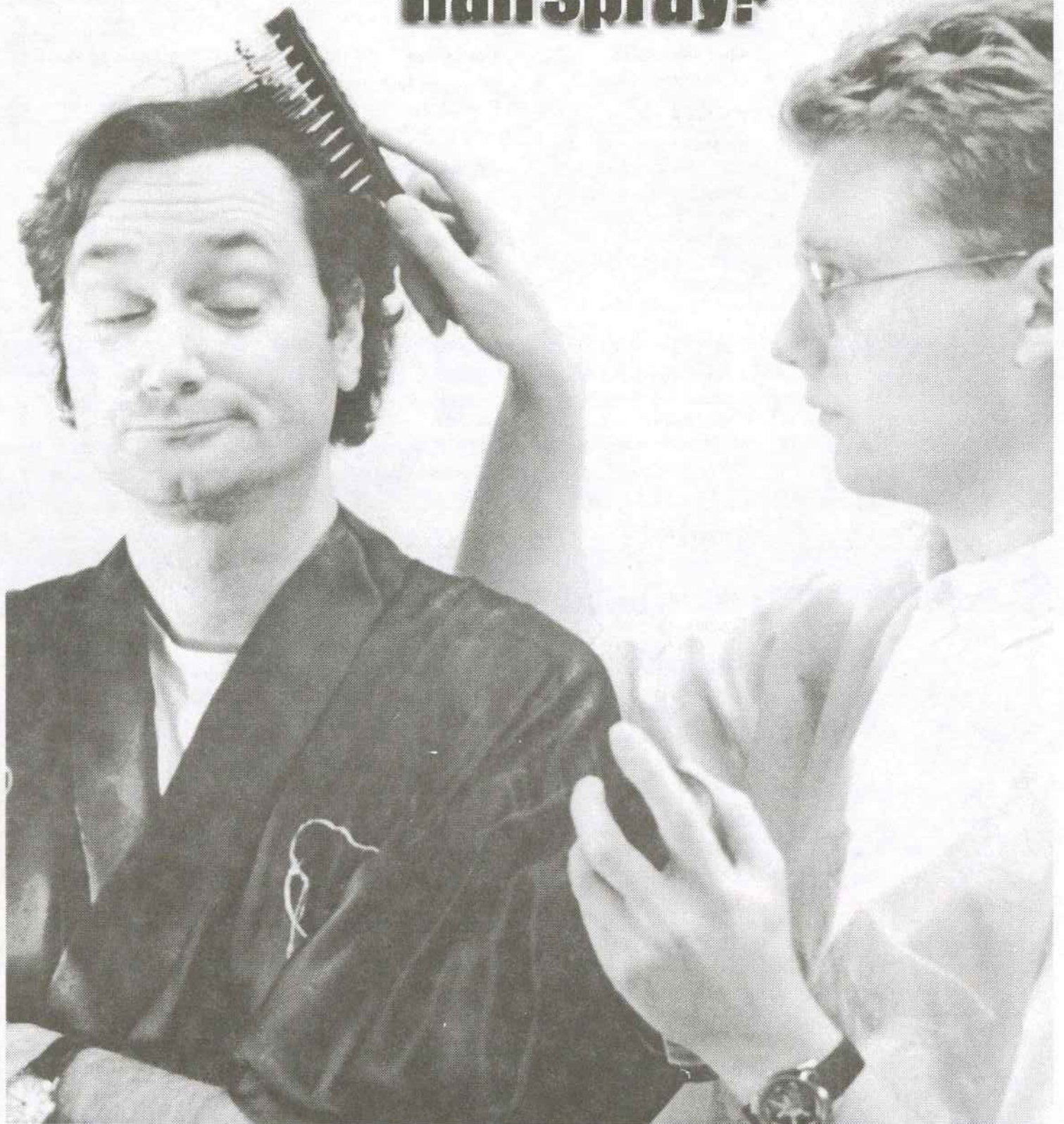
Queer?



Casserole?



Hairspray?



Page 23 (clockwise from top) Stephan Roselin, William Clifford, Richard Carsey, Reginald Kurschner, Scott Howland, Michael Chmiel), Page 24, Stephan Roselin, Page 25 Reginald Kurschner and Scott Howland, Page 26 Scott Howland and Michael Chmiel. Bialystock & Bloom's production of the queer classic, *The Boys in the Band* is directed by Johnathon West and will be performed beginning June 5 and running through June 14 at Milwaukee's Broadway Theater's Studio Theatre. For tickets call (414) 291-9642.

Resources for Milwaukee Area Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Questioning Youth

Support Groups

Gay Youth Milwaukee

(high school age)
P.O. Box 090441
Milwaukee, WI 53209
414-265-8500
e-mail: youthmil@usa.net
www.angelfire.com/wi/gayyouthmilwaukee/index.html

**LGBT Community
Center Youth Group**
769-7913

Gay Youth WI Hotline

272-TEEN (Milwaukee)
1-888-GAY-TEEN
(Fri. - Sat. 7pm-11pm)

National Resources

Hotlines

1-800-347-TEEN
(Fri. - Sat. 7pm - 10pm EST)
1-800-96-YOUTH
(Daily 5:30 - 9:30pm)

National Youth Advocacy Coalition

1711 Connecticut Ave. NW,
Suite 206
Washington, DC, 20009
203/319-7596
NYouthAC@aol.com

Dancing

Mad Planet*

(under 21, Sat. 8pm to 1am, \$5 cover)
533 E. Center, 263-4555

Metropolis*

(17 to 20, Wed./Sun. 8pm-12:30am, \$6 cover)
788 N. Jackson, 272-7550

Restaurants

Glass Menagerie

124 N. Water St.
347-1962

Walker's Point Cafe

1106 S. First Street, 384-7999

George Webb*

1828 N. Farwell Avenue, 374-3835

Silver Dollar Cafe*

831 S. 16th St., 645-8860

Coffee Houses

Brewed Awakenings*

1208 E. Brady St., 276-2739

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Prima Ballerina

From a distance, Anne Finch Nehring is everything you'd expect a ballerina to be — beautiful, graceful and unreachable — like the porcelain figurine which dances when you open a young girl's jewelry box.

Up close, Nehring's piercing blue eyes and easy demeanor reveal an inner-strength, warmth and candor which I found refreshing.

For seven seasons, she has been a featured dancer with the Milwaukee Ballet. In late April, Nehring and her husband John purchased the long-time Shorewood shopping landmark, Sendick's on Oakland.

Recently, I spoke with Nehring about her love of dance, her love of food, her career and much more.

JC: Was there a point in your life where you came to the realization that dance was such an important part of your life ... it was something you just had to do?

AN: I had that realization a couple of different times during my life. I think that probably the first time [it happened] I was about ten years old; I started [studying dancing]

when I was four. My mother was a dancer and I had watched her perform since I was a baby. I just loved watching her dance.

Then, at about age ten, I got a scholarship to North Carolina School of the Arts and it was like a huge light bulb going on in my head saying, "Wow, I guess I can really do this and maybe I can be like my mother. Maybe I have some special talent for this."

Then again, it hit me, I think towards the end of high school — I had danced all during that time. I would go away to New York [during] the summer and study on scholarship with Harkness House, which was a company and a school in New York City. Some summers I was at Jo Jeffrey's and sometimes the American Ballet Theater.

JC: What was your big break?

AN: I had quite a few [opportunities]. I was very fortunate in having some job opportunities that I actually said no to.

I decided to compete in an international ballet competition that was held here in the states in Jackson, Mississippi. It's held there every four years. I went to ask the director of the larger company — Atlanta Ballet, which I didn't dance for, but who was a

good friend — if he would help coach me for the competition. He and his Prima Ballerina said, "Yes, they would." They coached me all winter getting ready for the competition.

I went to the competition and I did very well for somebody who was really kind of dancing part-time. I was a semi-finalist and had a great time. I actually got offered a job in Europe from the competition. He also offered me a job with Atlanta Ballet. He said, "I hate to steal you from this other company, but if you'd like to come and work for me, I have a job for you." That was really my decision to dance full-time and be a professional ballerina.

JC: Did you get the support that you needed from your family?

AN: They were incredibly supportive. My dad was an architect; he's retired now — he was incredible supportive of my dance career and what I wanted to do. He was also supportive in whatever I wanted to do; they never forced me. My mother was the same way. She loved it that I danced because that was what she did. She also didn't want to push me into something that wasn't right for me just because she did it.

Photograph and Interview by Jorge Cabal

They were very supportive in letting me find my own way, and [let me] go back and forth into a lot of different things without saying, "No, you have to make a decision." They said, "The right thing for you will be revealed. If you just do your best in all these different things, you will figure out what makes you happy."

Next year will be my eighth season in Milwaukee. I've been so happy. A high point of my career has been dancing here — over New York, over Europe, over anywhere else. This city is very supportive of the company; the community really makes you feel like you are *their* company, that they're very proud to have good dancers.

Even though the arts are always struggling for money and you wish you could get people to give more money, the audience and the people that love coming are so appreciative when they see you on the street, when they find out who you are and they meet you. The people here, even though it's a conservative town, are so warm and welcoming. They made me feel, probably, more at home here than I even do in Atlanta, which is my home town. This has now become ... I consider Milwaukee my home. This is where I belong and where I really feel more at ease than anywhere.

JC: In your opinion, how competitive is the dance?

AN: Very! Incredibly! That's why I have been so fortunate that I've been able to do this as a career. Few dancers actually make it into a professional company. There are so few jobs — so few companies that actually survive, especially really good ones like Milwaukee Ballet, which is in the top ten ranked companies in the country. Of anywhere in the country, a town the size of Milwaukee has one of the best ballet companies. It's very humbling to feel that you've actually gotten to do that when some people would love that opportunity.

It's a dream of so many little girls to become a ballerina. You see these children come up to you after a performance with literally "stars in their eyes," and say, "I want to be like you." That's a huge burden to carry. It's like, "Oh my gosh, this child wants to be like me!" It blows your mind. It's very awe inspiring and children really — not just children — I've even met adults that have this image, because you're on stage and they're seeing you from afar.

They really respect the athleticism of what we do and maybe [they might have] wanted to be a dancer themselves at some point. They know what goes into the discipline and the fact that they're getting to talk to somebody who's actually done that and fulfilled a dream that they maybe had. It's a wonderful feeling to almost let people live their fantasies through you. I feel that's part of my job to allow people in and to [get] to know me, so they feel they can fulfill a dream they may have had, or still

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have, through me.

It brings a little bit of light into a world that's so incredibly dark. That's why I think the arts are so incredibly important and to try and keep them alive. They do give people hope and a dream.

JC: Do you find that Milwaukee audiences receptive towards the arts, or do you find that there might be some lack of understanding and perhaps a little lack of support at times?

AN: I think the only lack of support is through the lack of education in the audience itself — the greater audience base. Audiences that we get in the door are very appreciative and wonderful to us. We'd like to get more numbers through the door, but to get more numbers you have to let them know you're there. You have to do a lot of audience development and outreach and give them a reason to come and see you — make it enticing for an audience to want to come and see what you have to offer.

JC: What do you mean by making it more enticing?

AN: Sometimes people are afraid of ballet, particularly. It's one [art form] that is more stand-offish than some of the others — it's not as tangible, not as many people have been physically able to do it.

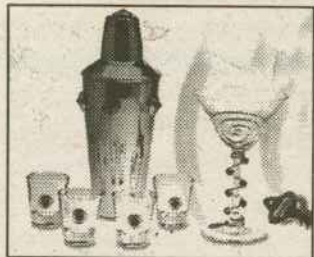
JC: Is that because it's classic and intimidating?

AN: Yes, it's a classic art form. Most people don't stand on the ends of their toes and things like that. It's a little intimidating because most people don't understand — we don't speak — they may not understand the story of a ballet. Even though they might not understand a painting, at least they can appreciate it. You may not know exactly what it's saying, but you can appreciate the painting. It's sort of the same with ballet. A lot of ballets don't even have a story line, or it doesn't matter if you make up your own story for that ballet. You don't necessarily have to understand.

We have to educate people that it's OK to have different opinions of different works in the ballet world — to even not like them, but to maybe gleaned some kind of ... even if it upsets you, like some art work, maybe that's not such a bad thing. Maybe you're learning something, maybe it's stirring up some emotion inside you that could be very valuable and you could learn something from that.

I think that by educating the audience, you have to go out into the community. You have to do some free exposure and get yourself out there. We also do pre-performance and post-performance talks with the audience members to try and get them more educated before they see what they're going to see, and get some feedback from them after they've see what they've seen, so that we know what they're thinking and what they like and what they don't like.

They can feel it's more accessible if they sit in the seat and there's some information about the story, about the person who choreographed the dance, who's going to dance the dance, what the music meant to the choreographer, or how hard the steps are and what to look for. In some classical ballets a certain *corps de bra* (which is movement of the arms), means different things. It



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either means "You are going to dance until you die," or "You and I shall marry." there's all these different arm gestures that really mean something. If you give people that information, they know [what] to look for and how to tell the story.

JC: So, you can see more in a three-dimensional way than just the dance in a role?

AN: Right. I think that with the Milwaukee Ballet ... they're trying to figure out how can we best serve the community? How do we get more people in the door? How do we give them what they want? They're experimenting and trying different things. They're looking [around] to do some new work that might generate a younger audience, that might be interested in that and, hold on to the classics as well.

JC: What's your opinion about that?

AN: It's hard. It's tough for me. I'm here to dance with a classical ballet company, and I've been dancing with classical companies. But I'm also well-known for the work I do in contemporary ballets and I love doing them. They're created on you at times. That's an enormous feeling to have a work created "on you," for your body, for your particular talent. They both have their advantages, and as a dancer you love doing both. I would hate to see Milwaukee Ballet lose its classical status or the ability to do the classics. I think that would be a terrible thing. I hope it never comes to that.

The sort of down-scaling of the season this year, and the fact that we're only doing the new *Nutcracker* and *Giselle* at the end of the season, is less classical work than we usually do. I know the reasons for doing this and I know it's an experimental time, as well. I think we all have to sort of sit back and watch and see how it works. If it doesn't work for the audience, then [they] better change something. I hope that they are listening enough and I really feel that they are.

Our new executive director and the artistic director, both, want the best for the community and the best for the company and certainly don't want to see the company fail. I know that they will be listening to what the community and the dancers are saying about how it works for them. We just have to wait and see. There's a lot of reasons for the changes. There's huge debt in that they have to try and figure out some way to get themselves back on solid ground again. And, that's a reality. They have to deal with that reality the best way they can. This is the way they are choosing to do it and we just have to hope for the best and hope that what they're trying works.

JC: How would you describe the environment, in your opinion, about the other dancers?

AN: About the changes?

JC: About the changes and about each other.

AN: I've been with the company a while and I must say it is one of the greatest groups of people that I've ever worked with. It's a very unique, wonderful, group of people and I love 'em all dearly. I think that in this time of transition ... each individual is evaluating and deciding whether they want to stay. That creates tension in any situation. It means they go somewhere with a different group of people and make new friends. It is tough for us all right now.

I think the dancers are incredibly supportive of one another in this company. They will work hard through the next year to really have fun with the new opportunities that we have and in the work they're going to have. They're all smart people. They're strong enough people that they'll voice their opinions if they don't like something. I hope that they will continue to be as close-knit a group as they have been for the past seven years.

I don't see any reason why that should change. But if we do lose certain members, if the cast changes, the situations going to change. I hope that anybody new coming in will fit into the group as easily as the ones we have now. I think that the general atmosphere towards the end of any season is one of exhaustion. Dancers tend to get very stressed at this time of year anyway, because we getting ready to be laid-off for like, three months.

It's always a stressful time; everybody's scrambling to find summer work. They wonder what they're going to do to keep themselves busy, keep in shape and make a living. There's a lot of anxiety for us. It's hard to answer that question because, generally we're always anxious at this time of year. I honestly can't say whether I'm feeling more anxious than any other year. It's just always that way right before we go on a long lay-off. That's something I won't miss. Having a secure situation will be a nice thing.

JC: Do you have a favorite number that you feel is like a second skin? And then, do you have one that puts you totally on edge?

AN: There are some of both, I must say. The second-skin pieces ... one of them for me, and it's not surprising because we do it so much, is the Sugar Plum Fairy. That's one of the ones that I just love. The choreography that we did for the past seven years felt like an old friend — it felt like my soul being portrayed out there. It was very comfortable for me.

There have been quite a few that have felt exhilarating. Juliet is one of those roles. Every time I've performed it, it's been the greatest experience; it just feels so good. The whole performance is so emotionally fulfilling because you've gone through every gamut of emotion. *Giselle* is the same way. *Giselle* is one of my all-time favorites. I love being able to go mad on stage. There are a lot of different aspects to that role that make it really fun.

As far as the ones that make my hair stand up on the back of my neck ... I'm trying to think, I usually try to block them out my head. I'm really good at that. A ballet will come back that I've really hated and I can't remember the first step. This happened to me not long ago where I went, "I should remember this," and I think it was something like, Dewdrop in *Nutcracker* — one of my least favorite roles. I mean, I can do it, but it's not one of the most pleasant roles I know of.

JC: Why not?

AN: It's one of those roles where you can feel pretty — you sit up there in you tutu on the throne, but you sit up there for a long time in the beginning of the second act. Then you have to run down and get off stage and be ready to jump up and down and be ready to do big leaps through the air. In this particular version you're not out there a whole lot, so you kind of run on and then

you're off again. You run on and then you're off again. At the end — huffing and puffing — you go and sit back down and you're legs start cramping and everything turns to stone. You think you're going to die.

That one is one of my all-time favorites not to do. It's also kind of a thankless one because the audience is watching the corps more than they're watching you. It's like, who's that gnat flitting around amongst the flowers? I know there are some others that we have recently done that I just cringed when I knew it was coming back. It was something this year.

JC Is there some truth, or have you witnessed ... like in the modelling industry and the dancing industry that there are a great deal of eating disorders?

AN: There have been, traditionally, but then now days it's not so stereotyped to our professions anymore. I think that's a societal problem more than it is a career problem. Dancers, traditionally have had to be thin because it's an esthetic that is appropriate for that art form. It's what the audience wants to see and it's how the lines look best. It's important to see the muscles and if they're covered up you don't see them as well. It's also not as easy to move; you need to be lean to be light on stage and to move properly; it just helps.

JC: You're heading in a different direction as far as your career. How did that all come about?

AN: It's funny. It's been a weird fantasy of mine for years to have my own grocery store. I think it started because there was a wonderful food market in Atlanta, where I lived. It was Harry's Famer's Market. This place was a huge warehouse, but it had the best produce and the most incredible deli section and seafood section. You could find anything and everything you wanted. I love to cook. They has gorgeous flowers and everything.

JC: You love to cook?

AN: Oh, I love to cook. I would go away to other cities to live and I could never find a store like that. I would say, "I'm just going to open my own. It can't be that tough to do." Little did I know. I had this dream of doing this. It was just kind of a weird back-of-my-head fantasy. I even told my mother about it and we used to laugh about it. She'd say, "Yeah, yeah, when you get your grocery store."

Then I met my husband, John, three years ago. When first met, the very first conversation we ever had — I knew he worked at Sendick's on Downer — I started talking to him at a wine tasting at the Haggerty Museum. I started talking about different food stores. I asked him if he had ever been to Atlanta and told him there was this great food store there. He said, "Yeah, Harry's." I was just like blown away with this man.

He said, "Oh God, that's my favorite store. I've always wanted to own one." I was like, I think I love this man. And, I did immediately fall in love with him.

With Sendick's on Oakland, we just happened to be at the right place at the right time and everything fell into place. It's like a dream come true because everything has worked so beautifully and we have the utmost respect for the Sendick's name and the

Sendick's family tradition. Ted and Steve Ballistreri are the most wonderful men. They wanted that store to be carried on.

I'm so excited and it's an interesting shift for me because, as I said, I've always dreamed of this. I think for dancers who have been so intense in their careers, sometimes it is so hard to transition. A lot of them do stay in the ballet world, but I think for myself I think I will always be involved with the Milwaukee Ballet and the arts. I'm going to dance more, I'm not done yet, but I'm ready at 40 to move on and let younger dancers come in.

JC: Do you have any little character secret or something that would surprise most readers?

AN: I'm terribly . . . My husband always laughs at me because I always say I'm terribly self-conscious and really pretty insecure about my own personality as well as my career. I'm very much in disbelief when people come up and say anything wonderful. I'm always going, "Really, you're kidding me." I'm always bashing myself and feeling inadequate and very hypersensitive. I'm never good enough, I didn't get it right. I'm real tough on myself. I don't have a ton of self-confidence.

JC: Any last thoughts?

AN: Tell all your readers to come and see me before I retire. Tell 'em to get to the ballet; buy tickets. And come shopping at Sendick's on Oakland. Those are my two things: buy tickets to the ballet and come shopping at Sendick's on Oakland. I promise to dance up and down the aisles for them.

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Mug SHOT

"It's a great place to boy-watch in the mornings," says Brew Bar Coffeehouse owner Brad Yates. "It's not a gay coffeehouse. That's a label and I'm not a label person. But it's a gay-friendly coffeehouse. People come here and hold hands. It's nice to see people comfortable enough to do that outside of a bar."

Brad moved to Milwaukee from Columbus, Ohio, about two years ago. A few months later he established Brew Bar, which has gained a reputation as one of the most comfortably snazzy meeting spots in

town. The soups are yummy and the coffee great. The atmosphere is sunny and smoke-free, and there is always interesting art to be found on the walls.

"Brew Bar is kind of like Cheers. A lot of nice things have happened here. People do a little networking."

Yates is now the proud sponsor of a team called the Brew Bar Mugs in the Saturday Softball League. The Mugs wear jerseys bought by Brad (that's him in number 12), and the team can often be found gearing up for a big game at the tables of Brew Bar.

"I've always been a softball player. Two years ago

the Riverwest Rainbow Association held their summer picnic. A bunch of us guys were playing and we decided to start a team. The Riverwest Rainbow Association sponsored us, but decided not to this year. So Brew Bar picked up the sponsorship.

"Last year we won our first game, and then lost a bunch of them. But we ended up doing really well for the season. The whole point is having a little fun and meeting new people."

Yates had initially planned to open his coffeehouse in Columbus. When I asked just what caused his change of mind, and the move to Milwaukee, Brad had a one word answer.

"Claude." (number 7)

—story/photo: Waswo

Commentary by Jim Andrews

When The Fat Ladies Sing...*or, when opera stars sing pop!*

Opera singers have been making a pile of money for themselves and their record companies singing pop music. It's a lucrative diversion, but not a new one. In the late 1940s and early '50s, during the dawn of the long-playing record, the Metropolitan Opera diva Dorothy Kirsten recorded a series of successful pop albums for Columbia.

Kirsten, who had begun her music career as a pop radio singer, knew the secret of a classical artist doing popular music successfully: Throw out the operatics. Great opera singing and great pop singing surprisingly have almost nothing in common. One has almost everything to do with placing technique before instinct and the other almost everything to do with placing instinct before technique.

Most classical vocalists trying pop fall all over themselves with their mannered pronunciation, strict adherence to meter and allegiance to tempo and general lack of—as the song requires—subtlety, wit, pathos or just plain sexiness. Most also perform their brains out when what a pop song needs is not performance but life—the feeling the singer is relating his or her own experience and making the lyrics up as the story unfolds.

So a lot of great opera stars have klutzed their way through their pop albums, the worst possibly being the great Jessye Norman. Steer clear of her two excruciating tries. The best? Dorothy Kirsten! And, miraculously, those 10-inch Columbia albums have just been rereleased beautifully remastered on C.D. (contact Collectors' Choice at 1-800-923-1122). You won't find greater pop singing—sympathetic, sinuous, surprising, sexy—than in her George Gershwin, Jerome Kern and “tropical love song” col-

lections.

Except possibly in the pop albums done a decade or so later by the fabulous Eileen Farrell. Who as a pop singer doesn't even sound remotely like herself as a diva. Most of Farrell's terrific best-selling Columbia output is available on C.D. and in recent years she's issued a splendid series of new albums.

As for the current output by younger opera artists, two Rodgers and Hart albums head the list. Chicagoan Dawn Upshaw's collection (Nonesuch) is charming, with splendid phrasing, technicolor orchestral accompaniments and an overall sense of well-being and joy in the pleasures of sentiment. As good is Frederica Von Stade's album (EMI). Flicka, as she is affectionately known, has plenty of her own musical charms to share and the orchestrations are as sweet and tart as a roll of Life Savers. Her “My Funny Valentine” will have you smiling.

The biggest catalog of pop albums by an opera star belongs to the glorious Kiri Te Kanawa (Angel, EMI) but here you have to be careful. The quality and her artistry vary wildly from album to album. Her first collection, “Blue Skies,” arranged by Nelson Riddle, ranks among her best, and her latest album, of Irving Berlin songs, among her worst.

Her Gershwin, Porter, Kern and Michel Legrand albums are heavenly and she's also done a charming jazz set with André Previn (Philips). She's at her best when she's content with being a relaxed pop singer not out to prove anything. She's at her worst when she goes classy and sounds like she's a great artist slumming on music row.. At her best, she's a knowing interpreter and at her worst she's stilted and distant.

Speaking of Previn, Sylvania McNair has done Kern and Arlen albums with him (Philips) and both are divinely jazzy.

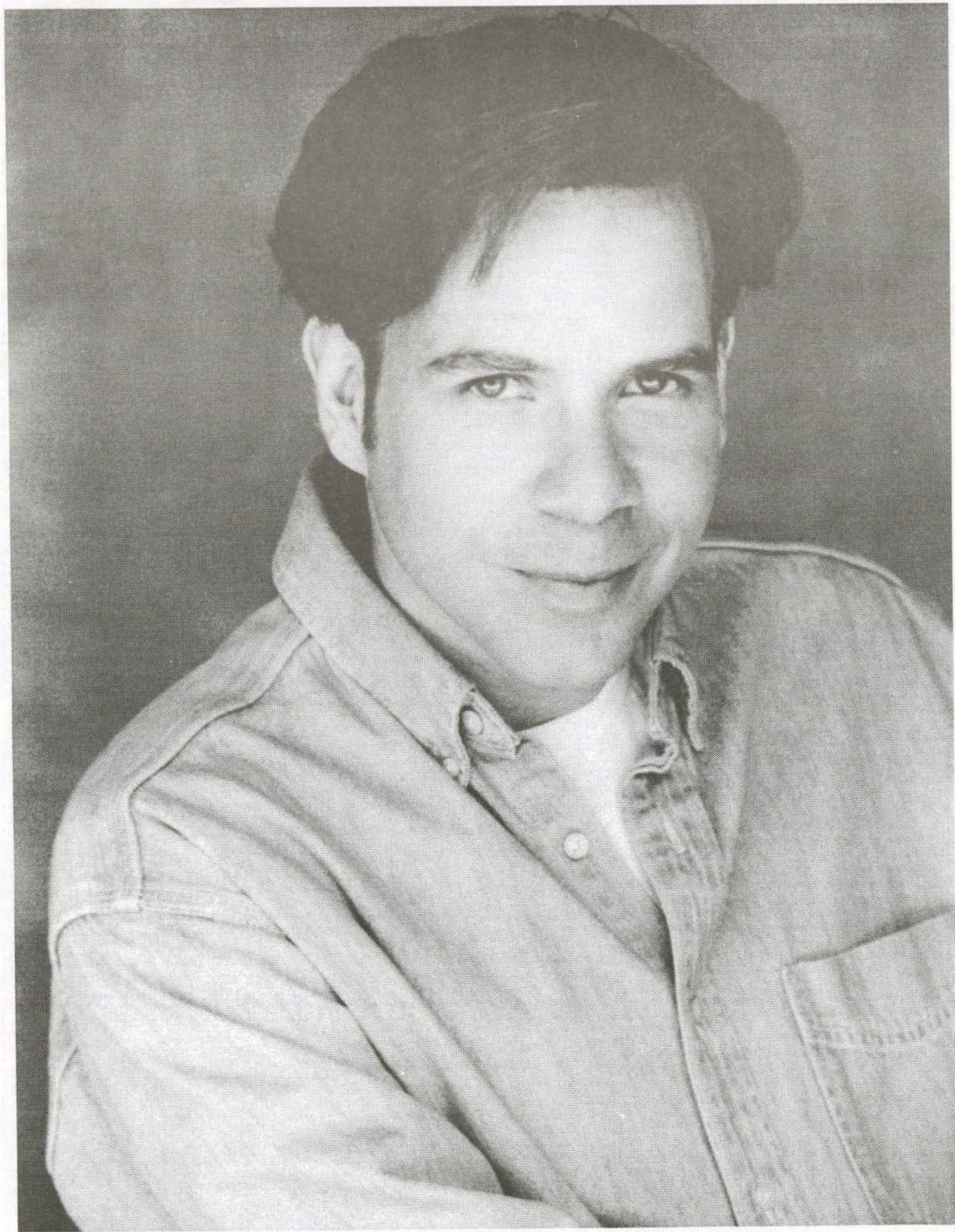
Among the boys, you can't go wrong

with Jerry Hadley's glorious “In the Real World” and Broadway collections by him (RCA), Samuel Ramey (Teldec), Thomas Hampson (Angel) and Bryn Terfel (Deutsch Gramophone). Forget Luciano, Plácido and José, who get just about everything wrong in trying to find their way around Pop City (one reason being they seldom seem to actually learn the songs rather than reading them ploddingly from the sheet music).

Finally, there's Barbara Hendricks, a diva whose Duke Ellington collection recorded live at the Montreaux Jazz Festival (Angel) is right in the groove and whose album of Disney songs is nearly narcotic (play it just once, I dare you). Her oh-so-tony operatic pronunciation sounds perfectly at home with songs about flowers singing on golden afternoons and mermaids who want to go topside. It's all very close to an earlier Disney album done by the treasureable and loveable Barbara Cook (MCA Classics), and although technically this Broadway diamond isn't an opera singer every album she has ever done has magically blended classical and pop sensibilities.

So you might want to get both Disney C.D.s by both divas and overdose on songs about flying elephants, hysterically late rabbits and the color lavender blue all done with the greatest beauty and charm.

Finally, finally, there is the British opera star Lesley Garrett, whose albums (Silva) are so over the top with embellishments, hysterics and unintelligible pronunciation they travel rapidly between glamour and camp within the space of every few seconds. She has a following, not to mention amazing hairdos, but you may find she quickly wears you out.



The Jason Stuart Questionnaire

1. True or False: Jason Stuart could beat the crap out of Reggie White.

IN A GRAY MINUTE! (BUT, I REALLY DON'T LIKE TO HURT PEOPLE. I'D RATHER LOVE THEM)

2. True or False: I am the love child of Martha Stewart and Patrick Stewart.

3. True or False: Comedy is an art form.

TRUE, BABY!

FILL IN THE BLANKS

4. The best advice someone ever gave me is:

ASK FOR WHAT YOU WANT AND LEARN TO SHUT UP!
ALWAYS BE KIND TO EVERYONE UNTIL THEY GIVE YOU A REASON TO ACT DIFFERENTLY.

5. The best thing about visiting Wisconsin is:

THE BIG MEN IN PLAID SHIRTS AND JEANS WITH A CUTE EARRING... OH THOSE LESBIANS TOO.

6. The most important television program today is (and why)....

WAS ELLEN BECAUSE IT CHANGED EVERYTHING AND WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO GO BACK. ALWAYS GOING FORWARD!

7. The best thing about being Jason Stuart is:

I TELL THE TRUTH, I SHOW UP AND I'M A GOOD KISSER.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

8. I would rather work with...

- a) Heather Locklear
- b) Hillary Clinton
- c) Paul Jones
- d) Martha Stewart
- e) Other: BARBRA STREISAND, OF COURSE!

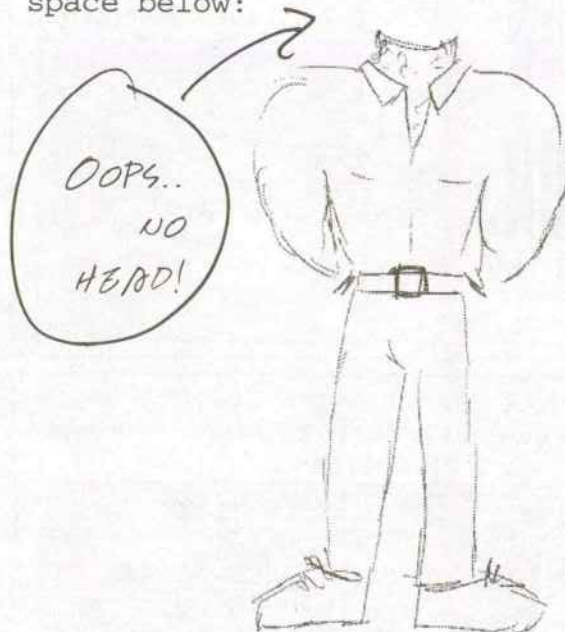
9. The most pressing issue in the world today is...

- a) Life after Seinfeld.
- b) Intolerance
- c) AIDS
- d) My Career
- e) Other: FINDING A HUSBAND

10. I get most of my news from...

- a) Television
- b) Backstage gossip
- c) The Internet
- d) Q•Voice Magazine
- e) Other: USA TODAY & CNN.

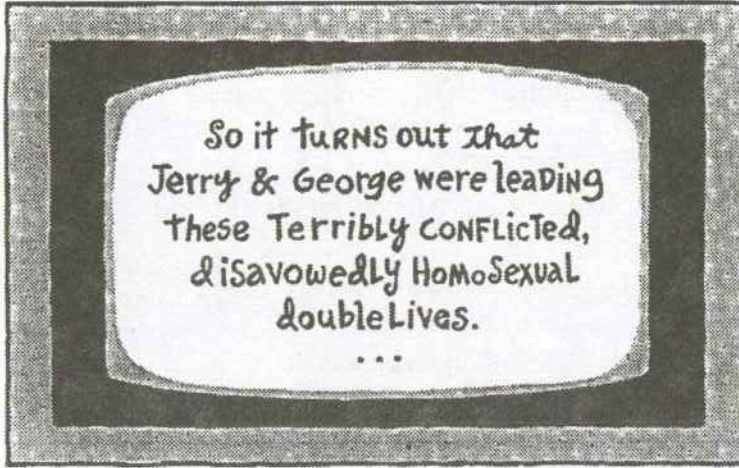
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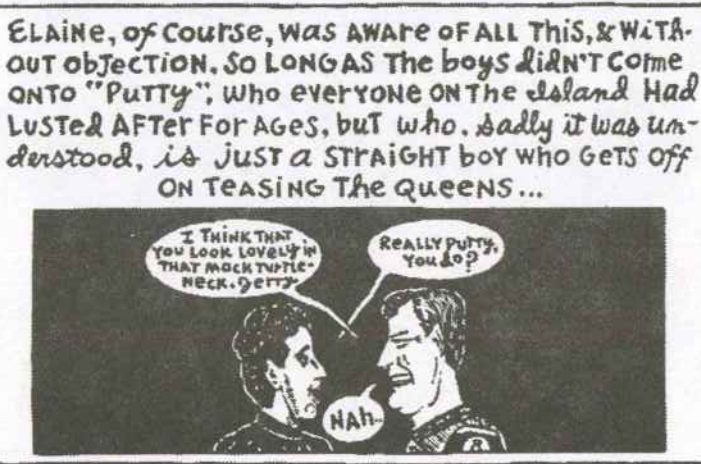
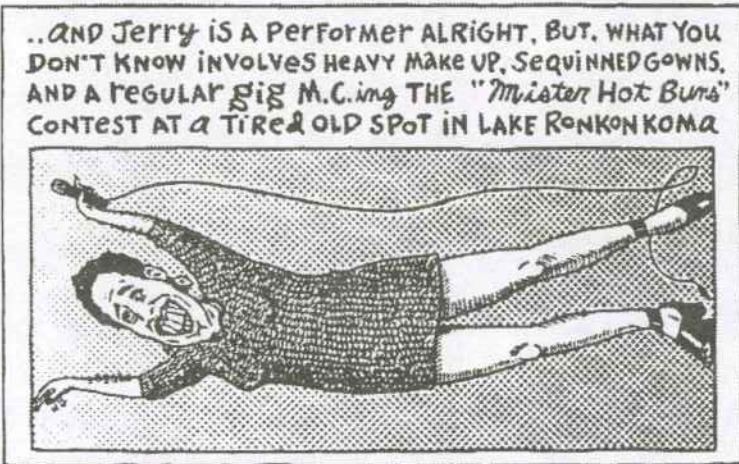
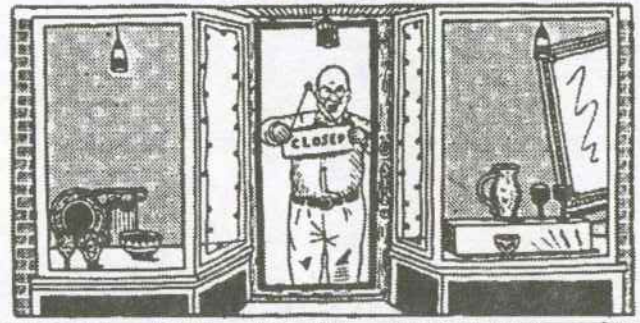
Comedian Jason Stuart has guest starred on the Drew Carey Show and appeared in the HBO film GIA starring Faye Dunaway and Mercedes Reuhl. He will be appearing at Green Bay's Funny Bone from May 27 through 31. For more information call (920) 498-2663.

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

by Eric Orner



The George you never saw on camera owns a small antiques business in New Hope, Pennsylvania, and commuted to the city on Thursday nights to do the show.



For The Ears

Review by Jorge Cabal



Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

"Big Bad Voodoo Daddy"

Stir gin and dry vermouth; strain into a chilled glass. Serve straight up with an olive or, less traditionally, over ice or with a lemon twist. Made with a pearl onion, it is called a Gibson; with vodka, a vodka martini or Vodkatini.

In the case of Big Voodoo Daddy: take a vocalist who can play guitar and answers to Scotty Morvis; mix in a drummer Kurt Sodergren, stir in an upright bass and another vocalist Dirk Shumaker with a piano player who can also sing Joshua Levy; find a wise-guy-trumpet-player Glen "the kid" Marhevka who can accompany some guy who plays baritone, saxophone and for the most part can carry a tune Karl Hunter, add some Andy "luscious" Rowley who plays the baritone sax, throw in Jeff Harvis on a trombone, pour them in a studio and what do you get?

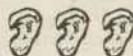
Eleven of the twelve tracks on the self-titled CD, "Big Bad Voodoo Daddy" are original compositions, including new recordings of two songs "You, Me & the Bottle Makes 3

Tonight" and "Go Daddy-O" first heard on the soundtrack album to the sleeper hit film

"Swingers," in which Big Bad Voodoo Daddy was featured. The eponymous CD, produced by Brad Benedict, creator of the Ultra Lounge Series, and studio wizard Michael Frondelli, will also mark the first release for Coolsville records through its label deal with EMI-Capitol Entertainment Properties.

The music is written in the style of Forties swing yet it's distinctive and fun. Each track from "The Boogie Bumper," "Minnie the Moocher," to "So Long-Farewell-Goodbye," delivers its own personality. This music ages very well and draws a crowd!

"Big Bad Voodoo Daddy" is lounging for the ears.



Welcome to Woop Woop

Soundtrack to "Welcome to Woop Woop"

The film, "Welcome to Woop Woop," soon to be released by MGM Distribution Company, is about a

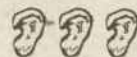


charming con man whose karma has suddenly caught up with him. He somehow ends up married and living a warped happily-ever-after existence in the remote town of Woop Woop, Australia.

The soundtrack contains five tracks written by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II from various musicals. The Rodgers and Hammerstein involvement comes by way of the character Daddy-O, the Rupert Murdoch of Woop Woop, who prevents the town's cinema and radio from playing anything else. The film stars 1960's matinee idol Rod Taylor ("The Birds") as Daddy-O, Paul Mercurio ("Strictly Ballroom"), Rachel Griffiths ("Muriel's Wedding"), and Tina Louise, of "Gilligan's Island" fame.

The arrangements to such Rodgers and Hammerstein's songs: "There is Nothin' Like A Dame," "I Can't Say No," "Bali Ha'," "You'll Never Walk Alone," and "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," have a fresh twist and oddity to them. Artists such as Poe, Merrill Bainbridge with Shaggy, Moodswings with Neneh Cherry, Eels, Robin S, and Peggy Wood's performance mixed by Junior Vasquez give these timeless song a new depth that originally wasn't there. Boy George also lends his vocal and writing talent with the track "Welcome To Your Life (Woop, Woop)."

The twist of originality to some of these very familiar tunes may cause some musical whizzes to squawk and get their undies in a bundle, but for the rest of us "Welcome to Woop Woop," the movie soundtrack is popcorn for the ears!!!



MF
MANFINDER

Wisconsin Personals

ON MY KNEES I'm a submissive White Male, 40, with a foot fetish. I'm looking for dominant Males for master/slave games and to orally service. Heavy or chubby is a plus. I'll be on my knees waiting. (Milwaukee) ☎16005

RISE AND SHINE This masculine, dominant, White top Man, 37, 165 lbs, seeks a masculine, hairy-chested bottom. I work third shift, so mornings are preferred. (Racine) ☎16825

SEEKING NEW FRIENDS I'm a Gay Asian Male who is looking for new friends. I like nature, art, and walking, so if you're interested, please leave a message. (Winona) ☎17707

FACE THE MUSIC These Bi White Males, 40 and 21, into heavy metal music, seek Bi or Gay Guys under 25 for concerts, fun, and casual drinking at home. We're not into the bar scene. Give us a call. (Kenosha) ☎16974

NOT ONE TO GOSSIP This Gay Black Male, 5'11", light-complexioned and positive, seeks friends for conversation and maybe more. I'm down-to-earth and don't like to gossip. Let's be real. (Swanson) ☎16828

TEACH ME THE TRICKS I'm a White Male, 5'6", 125 lbs., with brown hair and brown eyes. Sadly, I'm very inexperienced. I'm looking for a Male, 18-mid-20's, who can teach me the tricks of the trade. (Kenosha) ☎16554

SOMETHING GOOD This 33-year-old Gay Black Male would like to meet another Gay Black or Latino Male who's interested in a long-term relationship. I'll show you something good. Peace. (Milwaukee) ☎18517

WHAT'S IN YOUR HEAD? I'm a Bi Native American Male, 22, 6', 200 lbs., with dark brown hair and hazel eyes. I'm looking for intellectual Guys my age who want to have good conversations and good times. (Northeastern Wisconsin) ☎16118

COVER BOY This smooth, good-looking model, 25, seeks young Males, 18-25, for lots of fun. (17265) ☎17265

STICKY - STICKY This Gay White, 46 year old, 5'7", 145 lbs, in-shape Male is looking for other White Gay Men who are into nipples and jacking off. (Milwaukee) ☎17692

I LOVE LATINOS I'm a Bi White Male, 34, 6', with dark brown hair, blue eyes, a mustache, otherwise clean-shaven. I'm looking specifically for some nice-looking, in-shape Latinos or Hispanic Males, 21-35, to have a good time with, although I'll answer anyone who responds. I'm nice-looking and easygoing. Give me a call. (Madison) ☎16445

NEVER DONE THIS This Bi-virgin, 34, with black hair and brown eyes, seeks another Male who's a virgin to the Bi thing to experiment with. I have a disability and am looking for fun and a short-term relationship. Show me the way. (Wausau) ☎17280

LET'S PLAY! These two in-shape Gay White Males in their early 30's, good-looking, would like to meet a third Male or another couple for fun times and adventure. Let's try some new things. (Milwaukee) ☎17313

THE HEAT IS ON I'm a Bi Married Male, 5'9", 180 lbs, with brown hair, blue eyes, and a good build. I enjoy the outdoors, beaches, hot weather, and massage. I'm looking for that special Guy, Black or White, for regular get-togethers. (Wisconsin Dells) ☎17154

SEASON TO PASS This attractive Gay White Male, 25, 5'11", 180 lbs, seeks someone to hang out with. I like alternative music, techno, cooking, and going to farmer's markets. Let's get together. (Madison) ☎17401

FILL MY VOID This is attractive Gay 21-year-old White Male with lots of interests inside the bedroom, and out. I am very attractive and well-hung, so please give me a call. (Milwaukee) ☎17597

LIFT A LOAD This good looking, pretty well built, White male, college student and weightlifter, 23, 5'11", 235lbs, seeks other guys, around my age, to have fun with. (Oshkosh) ☎13457



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NEW TO ALL THIS I'm a 42-year-old Male, 6'3", 220 lbs., with greying brown hair and green eyes. I've been in the closet my whole life and am just coming out a little bit. I'm looking for understanding Gay Males to talk to. I'm trying to figure out just what it is that I want. (Milwaukee) ☎15863

SNAPSHOT I'm a hot, passable Bi White Transvestite, 31 years old, 6'0", 175 lbs, clean shaven. I'm looking for generous Males to photograph me in my slutty leather vinyl outfits and sexy lingerie. Click! Click! (Milwaukee) ☎17676

HOW BI AM I? I'm a Married White Male, very, very Bi, looking for a Guy to get together with on a regular basis. I'm 48, 5'9", 180 lbs., with a good build. I enjoy the outdoors and watching videos, and thong underwear really turns me on. Let's meet. ☎25097

NO VANILLA HERE This White Male, 32, 6'2", 175 lbs., blonde, smooth, seeks a master who's into serious bondage/discipline, humiliation, light SM, and cross-dressing. I'm also into nude beaches, nature, walks, music, and dancing. This is my first ad, so please call. ☎15525

LET'S WORK OUT! Guys, I need an exercise partner who is around 180 lbs and in good shape. I like judo and wrestling, so if you want a really hot work-out, call me. (Milwaukee) ☎15592

LET'S COOL DOWN Yo, what's up? I'm a 20 year old, 5'11", 175 lbs Gay Black Male. I am really cool, down to earth, very discreet and I love to have fun. If you like the way this sounds, give me a call. (Milwaukee) ☎17842

BEAT ME, WHIP ME This Gay Male is into really hot, steamy phone talk. If you're into physical pleasure, please leave an evening message and I'll give you a call back. (Milwaukee) ☎18025

I WANT TO STRIP FOR YOU I want you to be my french mate. I am a 30 year old submissive Single White Male. I want you to tell me what to do, humiliate me and do what ever you want me to do for or to you. (Milwaukee) ☎17484

EXPANDING MY CIRCLE You can't have too many friends, right? This Gay White Male, 33, 6'1", 180 lbs., with dark blonde hair and hazel eyes would like to locate new friends, Gay, Bi, or Straight, in the Madison area. My interests include gardening, biking, golf, UW sports, movies, art, dining out, and just talking. I have an overall great personality, according to my friends. You be the judge. (Madison) ☎15064

EARLY RISER This 38-year-old Bi Male bottom is looking for top action, preferably in the mornings. I need something big to fill me up. ☎14813

TANNED AND TONED This Gay White Male loves socializing, movies, dinners out, talking, and quiet times. I'm 34, 5'8", 160 lbs, with blond hair, green eyes, tan skin, and a muscular build. I'm seeking fun times with Guys in my area. (Appleton) ☎17202

GOODBYE GREEN BAY Good looking, rugged, White male, 34, 6'2", 168lbs, into snowskiing, waterskiing, motorcycles, and other fun stuff, seeks a guy to enjoy life with. I'm moving to Texas in a few months. (Green Bay) ☎14092

YOU ONLY I'm a very versatile Bi Male, 38, 5'7", 192 lbs., stocky and orally talented, with a beard, mustache, and a shaved head. I'm looking for you only. Race doesn't matter. ☎15525

RIDING THE TRAILS Fun loving, White male, 5'11", 220lbs, with Brown hair and Blue eyes, wants to meet someone to spend time with. I like camping, long walks, mountain biking, and hanging out at home. (Appleton) ☎11582

GREEN BAY BOY I'm hot to meet someone for good times. Let's get together and make our fantasies come true. (Green Bay) ☎12744

A NEW BEGINNING This 30 year old, White male, just coming out of a rocky relationship, seeks new friends to pal around with. I live about 30 miles out of Appleton. (Appleton) ☎11492

DOWN FOR THE COUNT I'm a masculine, in-shape Male, 5'10", 185 lbs., looking for Guys to exercise with. I wrestled in high school, and am also interested in Judo. Let me know if you have experience on the mat. (Southeast Wisconsin) ☎15592

SHOW ME A GOOD TIME I'm a 21 year old, very good looking Gay White Male, 6'1", with blonde hair and green eyes. I'm looking for other Gay White Males who are 20-24 years old and would like to meet and maybe do something later. (Madison) ☎18039

WF
WOMYNFINDER



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INSIDE AND OUT This Single Female, 45, in good shape, seeks an intelligent, interesting Woman to share time with. I'm a lover of language, travel, mountains, and nature. I'm hoping to meet someone who's interested in exploring internally and externally. (Milwaukee) ☎15652

NOT ABOUT GAMES I'm looking for someone to love, who'll love me back. I'm on the ball and have a lot going for myself. I'm not about games, I'm very family oriented. I really need to have someone in my life. (Milwaukee) ☎9960

FIRST-TIMER I'm a married Female, heavy-set, and so interested in women it's unbelievable! I'm hoping to meet the right Woman for my first experience. Be gentle! (Elk Horn) ☎15121

I VALUE COMMITMENT I'm a Single White Gay Female college student, 26, 5'5", 175 lbs., with blond hair, blue eyes, and a dark complexion. I'm in search of a Gay White Female, 21-40, who knows what she wants and isn't confused for a monogamous, long-term relationship, if possible. I'm feminine and interested in having an intelligent conversation with you. All answered. (Milwaukee) ☎16466

GOTTA START SOMEWHERE This attractive, butch, Black female, 5'6", with Brown hair, seeks a feminine womyn, 24 to 35, for friendship or more. (Milwaukee) ☎11961

HERE TO PLEASE This Gay White Male, 41, seeks Married Men, attached Guys, inexperienced or curious Guys, or Males who haven't been with another Male for a long time. Let's get together and have some fun. (Rochester) ☎16283

SEXUAL BIZARRE My husband and I are looking for passable, attractive Transvestites, Transsexuals, and full figured She-males, to help us fulfill some of our more kinky and bizarre fantasies. The more feminine and beautiful, the more my old man gets off. We have a beautiful Harley Davidson for ride taking, and it also makes a great prop for hot photo shoots, which I love. (Rochester) ☎10615

LIFE IS ART This art-loving Asian male, 36, 5'11", is hoping to make friends and possibly have a long-term relationship. (Southwestern Minnesota) ☎16940

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My name is Kurt Kettler! I'm 31 yrs. old currently living in Germany. I'm looking

to meet and write to men in America: Kurt Kettler, Lindenstr. 52, 27711 Osterholz-Sch. Germany.

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37 YO GWM: Brown hair and eyes! Looking for friendship or relationship. I'm physically challenged with speech impediment, but mobile. I'm a smoke and social drinker. I'm 38 years old and willing to relocate. Call (414) 253-0921 or write: Mark Schicker, N83 W15776 Apple Valley, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051,

GWM ISO HIV+ Masc GBM: GWM, 33, 170 lbs, 5'11" good-looking, masculine, healthy HIV+ physician from Indianapolis, Indiana, br/br, moustache, loves professional sports. ISO gbm, masculine 25-50, top, also HIV+ healthy, wanting LTR, and who'd consider relocating, if things worked out. (317) 387-1315, Joe.

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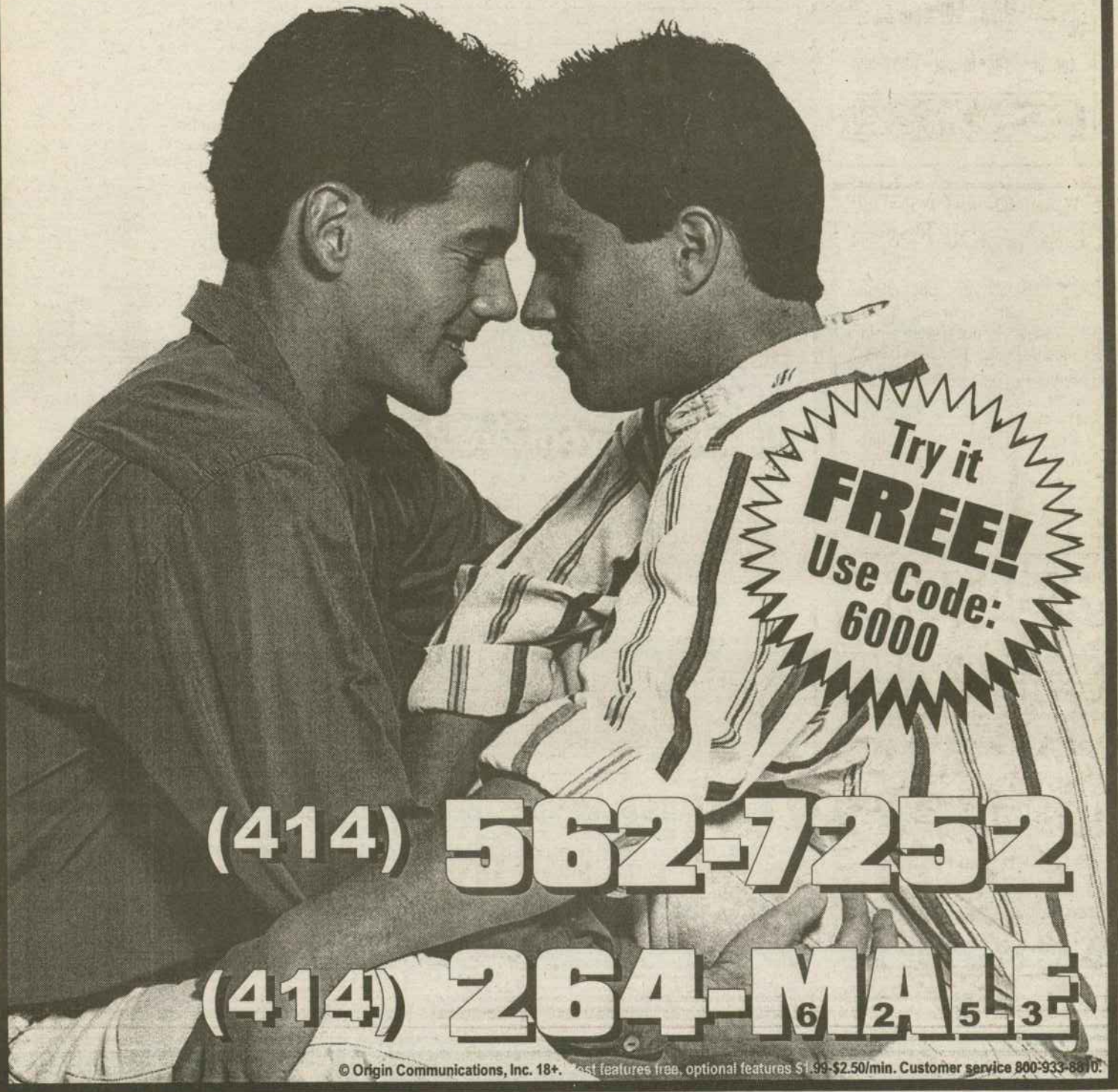
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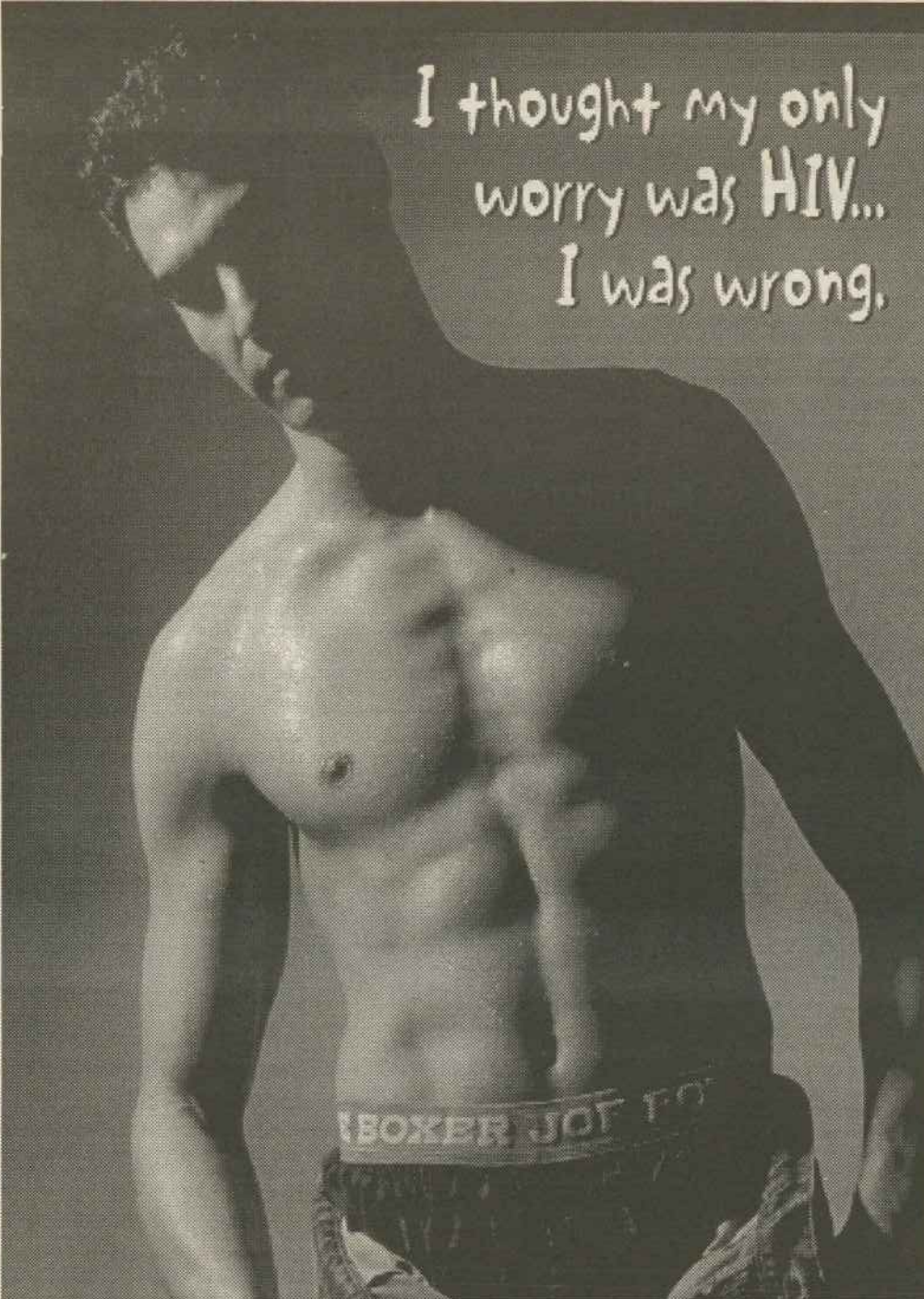


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review by Ed Grover

The Vagina Monologues

by Eve Ensler with a Forward by Gloria Steinem

Sometimes when I'm given a book to review (no, I don't pick them all myself), I blanch and turn a little green around the gills. I asked, "Why this one?" and was told "It's FUNNY!" I thought, "So?," and took it home where it languished on the coffee table (mostly under other stuff), and then was moved a shelf where I didn't have to look at it.

I don't even use the "V" word for women, much less the "P" word for men. I stick to the "C" word for both. Some people who stopped by were as prudish as I when they picked up the bright pink book — they dropped it like a hot potato, saying, "What's this thing?" I had to explain why I even had it; that I sometimes review books that I wouldn't touch with a stick, much less read. Strictly out of guilt, I picked it up and started to read the press releases to get a feel for what it was about. It turned out that Ensler, a playwright, poet, activist and screenwriter, had written this play centering around one simple word: *vagina*. It had won a 1997 Obie Award and was nominated for a Drama Desk Award. It had had a hit run Off-Broadway and was scheduled for a national tour in spring, and it was also going to be the centerpiece for "V-Day," a gala theatrical and musical event on Valentine's Day '98.

One day, as I was going through the

Cue section at the back of an old issue of *New York* magazine, there it was — a blurb, with a picture — under "Performance" in the Theater Section. I quote: "About a dozen or so well-known (and unblushing) women [gathered] at the Hammerstein Ballroom to read aloud from *The Vagina Monologues*, Eve Ensler's Obie Award-winning sketches about 'nappy dugouts,' 'mush-mellows,' 'tamales,' 'split knishes,' 'funnyboos' etc., etc., etc."

We were told that Glen Close would read "Reclaiming Cunt," Whoopie Goldberg would read

"My Angry Vagina," and Lily Tomlin would read "The Vagina Workshop." Among the other "sporting monologists" would be Rosie Perez, Marisa Tomei, Shirley Knight, Wynona Ryder and Susan Sarandon. "Each woman is doing something that really matches her personality," explained Ensler —

doubtless one of the most unusual compliments ever paid." All proceeds were going to organizations that fight violence against women. The tickets, by the way, were \$100 to \$1,000.

"These monologues grew out of interviews Eve Ensler had with more than three hundred women ages six to seventy-six from around the world, discussing the forbidden subject — 'down there.' The soliloquies range from an older woman's memory of her first experience with her own sexuality to an account of rape by a Bosnian refugee to the birth of Eve's own grandchild. Ensler's stories, facts, and words give testimony to the power and vulnerabil-

ity of gender and womanhood in our society today."

Gloria Steinem, in her introduction says, "I come from the 'down there' generation. That is, those were the words — spoken rarely and in hushed voice — that the women in my family used to refer to all female genitalia, internal or external." She goes on to explain that they were not unliberated, or straight-laced (a suffragette, an educator, and early political candidate, and even a pioneer newspaper reporter), as they would have put it, but she never heard words that were accurate, much less prideful [coming from any of them].

And, there's more if you care to read about it, on the comparison between the structure of religious architecture and how it imitates the female body. Gloria is not kind! Steinem ends by saying, "...With the help of outrageous voices and honest words like those in this book, I believe the grandmothers, mothers, and daughters of the future will heal their *selves* — and mend the world."

After reading the book, I thought, "Gee, this might be a good idea for our lesbian community: have a reading and raise some money for some of their causes. If the Stars can do it, why not some of Milwaukee's finest dykes." Are the womyn of LAMM, Lesbian Avengers, and Dish listening? Any takers? I'm sure the author would agree to it (there may be a fee involved). Check it out ... discuss!

I didn't think the book was "funny"; it was liberating and thought provoking. As I have often said after reading something I wasn't exactly keen on: My education continues! (Random House/Villard Books, ISBN: 0-375-75052-5, \$12).



by W.W. Wells III

How To Land A Man

Just as some gay men seem genetically predisposed to avoid relationships, commitment and joint pet ownership, other men are programmed to pursue them and are considered by many to be the Amway salesmen of gay love. However, if my own research, (which involves paying inordinate attention to the fantasy lives of friends) is to be believed, there isn't a gay man on this planet who wouldn't trade in his rogue lifestyle for an on-going, trashy, sexual relationship with a Brad Pitt's face, or the rest of him for that matter. And while sex is the super-glue that holds most gay relationships together for the first 30 days, you will become less tolerant of your partner's more eccentric qualities as time goes by. As a rule of thumb, you'll be less than charmed with a partner who:

...raises a mega-stink at the Army recruiting office because he can't find the check-off box on the military application labeled, "Nellie the Wonder Queen".

...is convinced he's so incredibly witty he could be a regular on a Harvey Fierstein sitcom.

... met his last nine lovers during "drive by cruisings" in questionable neighborhoods.

...was inspired to become a drag queen by J. Edgar Hoover with make-up tips by Tammy Faye.

...has recently gone into therapy to deal with the psychological trauma caused by his circumcision.

...is so militantly hetero-phobic, he's declared a 100-foot radius around his home to be a Straight Free Zone.

...thinks "ethnic cleansing" has something to do with Ivory soap and The United Colors of Benetton.

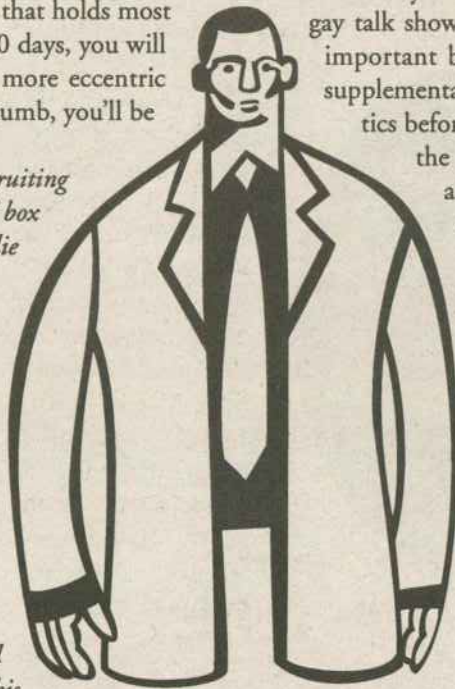
The first few seconds of any long-term relationship begins with a homo-alert issued by our built-in early warning system, commonly referred to as "Gay-Dar". While recent budgetary cutbacks have delayed plans for a NASA-launched Gay-Dar satellite most gay men are born with the uncanny ability to determine another man's sexual preference merely by eye contact.

It's this extended eye contact, usually lasting a few seconds

longer than is socially polite, which becomes the launching pad for most gay relationships, juicy sexual encounters and severe eye irritation while trying to get the attention of cutest member of male dance revues.

Unfortunately, there are gay men who suffer from defective Gay-Dar, and often cruise boyish looking lesbians despite the fact many these women wear Timberland boots, a profusion pink triangle buttons and drive Toyota pick-ups with bumper stickers that read, "Real women don't eat men".

On the opposite end of the spectrum, some straight-appearing "Stealth Homos" are detectable only by the most sensitive Gay-Dar or because they host their very own gala-gay talk show on public access TV. For these reasons, it's important back-up a positive Gay-Dar detection with supplemental observation of obvious external characteristics before making a pass. The combination of any of the following, coupled with a positive Gay-Dar alert is considered clear confirmation of extreme homo-ness:



1. Pink Triangle bumper sticker worn on forehead as fashion accessory.

2. Large mustache styled with at least one can of mousse.

3. Leather bomber jacket adorned with buttons featuring the likeness of Madonna, Streisand, Garland, Crawford or Divine.

4. Tiny dog with grand rhinestone studded collar, pooch named after a favorite character from any Broadway musical.

5. Annoying two-toned hair color while waiting for bad blond dye job to grow out.

6. Rumpled clothes, ruffled hair, dark circles under eyes and unwashed hand-stamp from some gay bar's Rave party.

7. Pink tank top purchased from International Male Catalog reveals pierced nipple or shaved underarms.

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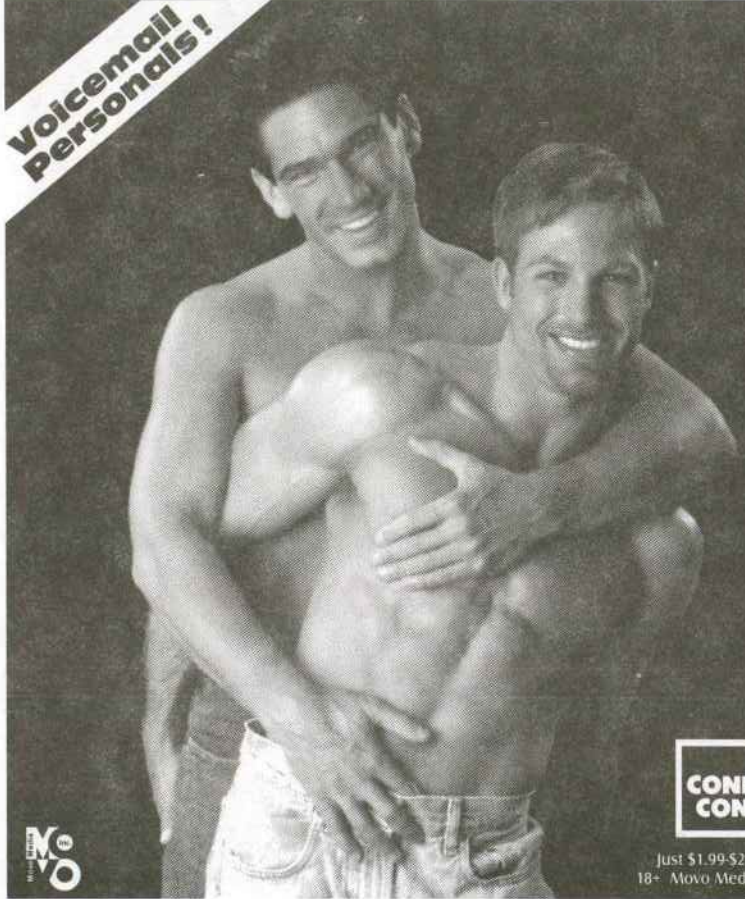


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