Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

GLAAD/LA REPORTS

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★NEWS BRIEFS★

GLAAD General Meeting After Amnesty, What Next?

GLAAD's Jan. General Meeting (Jan. 28, 7:00 pm) will feature a panel discussion entitled "After Amnesty, What Next? A New Era of Gay and Lesbian Global Action." A panel of international gay activists will discuss lesbian and gay organizing world-wide in the aftermath of Amnesty International's recent decision to include gay and lesbian prisoners in its mandate, including those arrested for sexual conduct. Last year, lobbying of Amnesty International (AI) by GLAAD and other organizations prompted some world-wide coalition building between gay and lesbian groups. Panelists will address whether this signifies the beginning of a new gay and lesbian international movement. Speakers include: Cosette Thompson, Director of Amnesty's San Francisco office, and a member of AI-USA's Task Force on Homosexuality; Julie Dorf, Executive Director and a founder of the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission; Masha Gessen, a writer on International Affairs for *The Advocate*, Program Co-ordinator of the Soviet Conference of 1991, and the first open lesbian to be granted U.S. citizenship; and Jairo Alberto Marin,

GLAAD/LA's Richard Jennings Named First Executive Director of Hollywood Supports;

Chris Fowler Named GLAAD/LA Acting Executive Director

On Jan. 9 the Executive Committee of Hollywood Supports named Richard Jennings as Hollywood Supports' first Executive Director. Chris Fowler, GLAAD/LA's Co-President, has been named Acting Executive Director, and will remain in that position while a national search is undertaken for a permanent replacement. Jehan Agrama, GLAAD/LA's other Co-President, announced, "We are grateful to Richard and excited at this opportunity for him, and for our community in general. We are delighted that Chris has agreed to serve as Acting Executive Director. He has been a valuable asset to GLAAD since he began working with us, and he was a natural to step into the position. With Richard remaining on our board, I know the transition will be a smooth one." Fowler has been involved with GLAAD/LA since the summer of 1990. He joined the board in September of that year; edited the *GLAAD/LA Reports* from Nov. 1990 to Nov. 1991; was technical director of the 1991 GLAAD/LA Media Awards; and is currently set to co-produce the 1992 GLAAD/LA Media Awards. Agrama, who has been appointed to the Board of Hollywood Supports, continued, "The GLAAD/LA Board of Directors decided to establish the Acting Executive Director position to give us time to reflect on where we want to see GLAAD move and grow during the next few years. We plan to fill the position by mid-summer."

In announcing Jennings' appointment, Sid Sheinberg, President and Chief Operating Officer of MCA Inc., and Barry Diller, Chairman and CEO of Fox Inc., co-founders of Hollywood Supports, stated that, "Under Jennings' leadership, GLAAD/LA has done a lot to raise consciousness about gay and lesbian stereotypes and negative portrayals. Similar work must also be done to sensitize the entertainment industry about HIV-affected individuals." Jennings, founder and former Co-President of GLAAD/LA, and since July 1990 its Executive Director, responded, "I am thrilled to be able to play a role in carrying out Sid Sheinberg and Barry Diller's vision for an increased consciousness about gay and lesbian and HIV-related issues in Hollywood, and the creation of a 'safe haven' for people in the entertainment industry affected by HIV. I am particularly looking forward to working with and learning from the AIDS experts at APLA, one of our nation's pre-eminent AIDS service and education organizations."

Hollywood Supports was launched last year by Messrs. Sheinberg and Diller to fight homophobia and AIDS-phobia in the entertainment industry utilizing the services of AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) and the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles (GLAAD/LA).

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❾ Executive Director's Report

Colombian journalist and TV correspondent. Jan. 28, 7:00 pm, Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles (just east of Crescent Heights, south side of the street).

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Youth Visibility Week

March 6-14 has been designated "Youth Visibility Week." To help celebrate this community-wide event, GLAAD/LA will be sponsoring a dance. Several organizations are working together to produce events which will raise money for and promote awareness of youth-support organizations. Beneficiaries of this campaign will include Project 10, Peer Education Program of Los Angeles and the Youth Services of the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center/LA. Volunteers interested in helping with the GLAAD dance may call Charlotte Innes at (213) 936-5886; for Youth Visibility Week call Frank at (818) 998-3123.

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GLAAD Sponsors Media Luncheons

In an ongoing effort to inform the media about GLAAD's purpose and highlight future lesbian and gay news issues; the Outreach Committee created and hosted two luncheons for Los Angeles area media representatives. In post-event evaluations by the participants the seminars averaged an overall 4.5 on a 1 to 5 scale.

Some of the replies to the question "What was the

Co-President's Column

by Chris Fowler

As we start the new year, it's good to look back on what we have accomplished. 1991 was a great year. GLAAD/LA's membership has doubled, and our efforts have been recognized by a even greater audience. I would like to thank all of you — because you are GLAAD/LA. In the list of extraordinary successes that follows, everytime you see the word GLAAD/LA, know the part you played.

GLAAD/LA had general meetings on diverse topics, including "Isms in the Community," the Gulf War, a debate on censorship, gay and lesbian comedians, "twentysomething," and "Lesbians and Gays in Prime Time."

GLAAD/LA supported television shows that had positive portrayals of gays and lesbians: "Doctor, Doctor," "Golden Girls," "LA Law," "Roseanne," "Northern Exposure," "Designing Women," "Dear John," (GLAAD/LA Board Member Sylvia Rhue consulted on the script), "Coach," "Roc," "Dinosaurs," "Seinfeld," and "Wings." On the other hand, members called in and gave their feedback on television shows that we were concerned about: "Quantum Leap," "Homefront," "In Living Color," "Fresh Prince of Bel Air" and "Davis Rules."

GLAAD/LA monitored and responded to many radio stations, met with representatives from KROQ, KIIS and KLSX, and helped sensitize the KLSX management to the homophobia of shlock jock Howard Stern. We continue to pressure the station to consider how blatantly homophobic Stern is. GLAAD/LA members responded to articles in many national publications and continued our active relationships with the local electronic and print media,.

GLAAD/LA supported movements in our community to bring about positive change: the Riverside group PACE, which organized to fight a possible initiative in the city which would have voided all legislation protecting gays and lesbians and people with HIV or AIDS; the LIFE lobby, which advocated the passage of AB 101 in the state legislature; we started a Spanish speaking hotline; and we supported Creating Change West, the gay and lesbian leadership conference for the state of California.

GLAAD/LA was pro-active in supporting sponsors who advertise during television shows which portray gays and lesbians accurately. When the American Family Association targeted sponsors of "LA Law" and "Doctor, Doctor," *GLAAD/LA Reports* listed the addresses to those same sponsors and we wrote in with positive comments, educating them on the issues.

In a year of outstanding accomplishments, there were also a few standouts. We hired a second staff person, office manager Darcy Galane. Outreach Co-Chair Charlotte Innes was a primary catalyst in the successful campaign which lobbied Amnesty International to change its policy regarding adoption of imprisoned gays and lesbians as prisoners of conscience.

Another landmark success involved GLAAD/LA's participation in the debate to get KCET to air "Stop the Church," a controversial documentary about the ACT UP protest at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. GLAAD/LA members were also responsible for a change in policy by Hallmark, which had included "lesbian" among its list of bad words in a personalized card service. We did some pro-active work towards educating the media: thanks to a grant from Christopher Street West, we sponsored two media lunches at which local media learned about issues affecting our community.

GLAAD/LA and AIDS Project Los Angeles were involved in the creation of Hollywood Supports, an organization to educate the entertainment industry about homophobia and AIDS-phobia. We will be working in partnership with Hollywood Supports to improve portrayals of lesbians and gays in film and TV, and making the environment in Hollywood better for gay men, lesbians and people with HIV and AIDS.

GLAAD/LA ended the year with a tremendous triumph. In an ad in the west coast edition of the *New York Times* and an op-ed piece in the *Los Angeles Times*, GLAAD/LA proclaimed a "Bill of Wrongs," listing some of the rights guaranteed to all Americans which gays and lesbians are denied. The response was tremendous.

The list and successes go on, and on, and on — because GLAAD/LA is committed to combat homophobia and heterosexism in the media. We have the knowledge and we have the reputation. And its all thanks to you. In fact, if you think that everything listed above is wonderful, congratulate yourself. And then take the next step — commit to participating in GLAAD for 1992. In fact, if you've never been a paid member, start now.

I know 1992 will be an even greater year, with even more successes. From all of us in the GLAAD office and the Board of Directors, Happy New Year.

Television & Film

"Prince of Tides"

"Prince of Tides," stars Barbra Streisand as psychiatrist, Dr. Susan Lowenstein, and Nick Nolte as her patient, Tom Wingo. George Carlin plays Eddie, a gay male who, while stereotypically flamboyant, is supported and accepted by the entire cast of characters. During one scene involving a party Eddie is giving, the guests, including lesbians, gays and straights, co-mingle happily. Nolte attends and is immediately "hit upon" by a gay man who asks him to dance and apparently won't take no for an answer. This scene, which is not even in the Pat Conroy novel upon which the film is based, carries no weight of intelligent judgement and only enhances the notion that gay men have raging hormones and must target all males. To her credit, Ms. Streisand has allowed Eddie, as a gay man, to be portrayed with all facets of his personality still intact. This is a step in the right direction. And, perhaps the time has come to show that gays and lesbians do not need to be cast only as comedic foil, deranged psychopaths or characters with insatiable, sexual appetites. Comments to: **Barwood Productions, c/o Warner Bros., Rockefeller Plaza, Suite 1709, New York 10019; (212) 484-7300.**

Stone Unturned by "JFK" Gay Portrayals

GLAAD/LA has been following the development of the Oliver Stone movie, "JFK," after discovering the malevolent homophobia in the script. GLAAD's Executive Director, Richard Jennings and Monitor/Response Committee Co-Chair, Robert Scheps met with Mr. Stone and his producer, A. Kitman Ho, on Dec. 4. Mr. Stone expressed an understanding of our concerns about Hollywood's misinformation in its portrayals of lesbians and gay men. He mentioned several scenes that were trimmed in "JFK" as a result of GLAAD's concern and we were invited to a press screening of the film on Dec. 16.

Mr. Stone's position is that the gay characters are historical or composite figures. His response to specific questions with the film was "historical accuracy." Included in the film is a gratuitous and overwrought drag/bondage sequence that did not advance the story line. In contrast, the personal sexual practices of other characters were never shown. One leaves the film feeling that the gay community is twisted, pathetic and dangerous. This result is not only because of the scenes Mr. Stone chooses to include; it is the way he portrays his "history." As Mr. Stone knows, tone is everything.

Mr. Stone said some of the gay characters appear sympathetic. GLAAD disagrees. In the film, the only gay characters we saw were child molesters, racists or just plain evil. Toward the end of the meeting, when our discussion turned to the lack of accurate gay characters in Hollywood today, Mr. Stone spoke of his intention of bringing to the screen Randy Shilt's biography of Harvey Milk, *The Mayor of Castro Street*. Mr. Stone has signed on as a founding member of Hollywood Supports, in future projects he will be aware of GLAAD/LA.

We want to know your reaction to "JFK." Contact: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093; (213) 463-3632. And/or write to Oliver Stone, Ixtlan, 3110 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Santa Monica 90405; (310) 399-2550.**

"20/20": Two for Three

"20/20" (ABC, Ch. 7, 10:00 pm) focused its investigative and interview resources on three issues involving lesbians and gays.

The Nov. 29 segment entitled "Whom Do You Sleep With?," produced and co-written by Sharon Young, focused on the discriminatory employment practices of the Cracker Barrel Restaurant chain in Georgia and North Carolina. Cracker Barrel has a written policy against hiring or continuing to employ anyone who does not exhibit "normal heterosexual values." Long-standing employees with excellent work records were summarily dismissed if found or suspected to be gay or lesbian. Tom Jarriel, the articulate reporter for this segment, pointed out that none of this is illegal in the states where most important information obtained from this seminar?" were, "...a sensitivity to gay and lesbian issues...; the invisibility issue...; digging beneath surface appearances...; the GLAAD Media Guide...; to say 'orientation' and not 'preference'...; the reminder to include gays and lesbians in all kinds of stories." Attended by 25 media representatives, ranging from ABC-TV to the *Los Angeles Times* and from KCBS to KFWB Radio, the luncheons were made possible by a grant from Christopher Street West/Los Angeles.

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Monitor/Response Committee

Dateline Burbank: Due to fundamentalist pressure, NBC won't be airing an episode of "Lifestories" that deals with a gay man and AIDS: GLAAD finds out, pressures NBC and the show airs...**Dateline Hollywood:** KIIS-FM's disc jockeys are relentlessly homophobic: GLAAD finds out, pressures KIIS-FM and the station requests GLAAD sensitivity trainings...**Dateline Los Angeles:** KCET decides not to air "Stop the Church," a documentary about an ACT-UP protest: GLAAD finds out, pressures KCET and the film airs.

Behind these actual events, and many others, was the involvement of the GLAAD/LA Monitor/Response committee. Described as the heart and soul of GLAAD, the committee

watches what's happening in the media and either congratulates accurate portrayals of our community or tells them, "We're mad as hell and we're not going to take it anymore." But there's a lot of media out there to monitor and respond to. So please join us, we need your help. We meet the first and third Thursday of every month at 7:30pm at the GLAAD office, 7033 Sunset Blvd. Or call Monitor/Response Co-Chairs Theresa Lamm (818) 440-9335 or Robert Scheps (310) 399-2292.

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Let Your Fingers Do The Marching

When the going gets tough, the tough get on the phone! When we have a need to show our strength in numbers, we have to be able to act fast - become a member of the GLAAD/LA Phone Tree. We need 15 to 20 Key Callers who are willing to each call 15 to 20 phone tree members. These Callers then place one phone call each. When an action needs to be taken, the GLAAD office will contact the Key Callers with a message. These Key Callers will then call their list of 15-20 Callers with the same message. These Callers than make their call. Voila! Two to four hundred messages reach their target.

Please let us know if you'd like to be a Caller or Key Caller. We will try to give the Key Callers a list of names and numbers in their area. However, if you'd like to submit your own list of

Television & Film

Cracker Barrel does business. His interviews of employees subjected to the discriminatory practices were sympathetic and respectful. Cracker Barrel executives refused to be interviewed, reinforcing the perception that even they could not defend this discriminatory policy.

The Port Authority Bus Terminal in New York City was spotlighted on Dec. 6 profiling the many people who make the Terminal their home. It appears that a number of these citizens are gay men, transvestites and transsexuals. Reported by Tom Jarriel, the story portrayed these people in a sensitive and sympathetic light. Viewers were given factual distinctions between those who were gay, transvestite or transsexual. This type of inclusive, intelligent reporting needs to be the rule rather than the exception.

Barbara Walters interviewed Calvin Klein on Dec. 13. Her introductory remarks referred to a Calvin Klein ad campaign in *Vanity Fair* as "shocking." Pointing to photos of male couples in intimate poses, Walters exclaimed, "Okay, Calvin. Two guys in bed. Now, what are they doing? Two men, kissing each other, having sex. Homosexuals. What's this got to do with jeans?" Klein's less than satisfying answer was that he was promoting safe sex and how do we know that they're having sex anyway. Mr. Klein failed to make the point that gays and lesbians are an important segment of the clothing market and that these images are appropriate and not "shocking." It might be well for Ms. Walters to remember that there was a time when the idea of a woman co-anchor was also considered "shocking." **"20/20", Victor Neufeld, Executive Producer, ABC, 77 West 66th Street, New York 10023.**

Father of the Bride

Touchstone Pictures' Christmas release, "Father of the Bride," starring Steve Martin and Diane Keaton, features two gay characters played by Martin Short and B.D. Wong. Short has been cast as Franck Egglehoffer, a wedding coordinator hired by Steve Martin's character, George Banks, to run his daughter's wedding. Not surprisingly, the filmakers trot out every imaginable stereotype that is commonly associated with effeminate men. However, the Bank's family treats the men respectfully and embraces their ideas with enthusiasm. They are shown to be competent and dedicated, and succeed in bringing off a magnificent wedding under difficult circumstances. While we in the audience are supposed to be mildly amused by the effeminacy, the characters in the movie are not bothered by it.

If Touchstone has truly committed to combating homophobia in the motion picture industry (it has joined Hollywood Supports), it might do well to abandon the stereotypes. Write to: **David Hoberman, President, Touchstone Pictures, 500 S. Buena Vista Street, Burbank 91521. Also: Charles Shyer and Nancy Meyers (Director and Producer of "Father of the Bride"), c/o International Creative Management, 8899 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles 90048; Attn.: Jeff Berg.**

"Reasonable Doubts," Doubtfully Reasonable

With a story line that turned on the premise of a hidden lesbian relationship, the Dec. 5 installment of "Reasonable Doubts" (NBC, Ch. 4, Friday, 10:00 pm) did not bring to its audience the wholesomeness of two women in love with each other. Stars Marlee Matlin and Mark Harmon are investigating the murder of a woman, allegedly by a man she has dated for many years. There is evidence that someone else was present during the murder, and they are charged with finding this eye witness. Their investigation leads to the adult daughter of the male suspect and the discovery that the dead woman and the daughter have been involved in a romantic relationship. Fearful of public reaction to this disclosure, the daughter does not want to testify nor does she want anyone to know that she is a lesbian. Matlin does finally talk her into testifying, and in this process some very positive things are said. However, the content of the story dis-

played the daughter, as a lesbian, as not having a strong enough character to stand up and voluntarily testify against a man who has murdered her companion. Stigmas of this type need to be brought to the attention of producers and writers who are able to influence America's perception of lesbians and gays. To explain that there is no reasonable doubt concerning this, contact: **Robert Singer, Executive Producer, "Reasonable Doubts," NBC, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 10112.**

"Fried Green Tomatoes" Lesbian-Positive Picture

In the November issue of *GLAAD/LA Reports* we wrote about the film, "Fried Green Tomatoes," based on Fannie Flagg's book *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe.* At the time we were worried that the film's producers had changed the lead characters' sexual orientation from lesbian to heterosexual. GLAAD/LA was able to get a sneak preview to the film and we are very pleased. "Fried Green Tomatoes" is a film about friendships and relationships between women. Unhappy middle-aged Evelyn Coach (Kathy Bates) befriends an elderly Ninn Threadgoode (Jessica Tandy) in a nursing home. Through her friendship with Ninny, Evelyn is transformed. As Ninny recounts stories from her past we are taken on a wonderful journey where we meet the citizens of Whistle Stop, Alabama and relive their adventures, joys and pains. We also meet two other exceptional women.

Idgie Threadgoode (Mary Stuart Masterson) meets Ruth Jamison (Mary Louise Parker) in Alabama in the early 1920's. They become fast friends until Ruth marries and moves to Georgia. Idgie visits her friend and realizes Ruth is a battered wife. When Ruth gets pregnant, Idgie rescues her and brings her home to Whistle Stop. They open the Whistle Stop Cafe which becomes the heartbeat of the small town. Idgie and Ruth provide the moral force of the movie by standing up for the poor, the downtrodden and racial justice. Ruth's batterer/klansman husband shows up to threaten their tranquility and abduct their child.

Don't be disappointed because there is no overt affection and no relationship labels. The producers may not think they have produced a "lesbian love story," but the emotional tie between the women speaks to the lesbian experience. Written by Fannie Flagg and played lovingly by an involved cast including Cicely Tyson. Write: **Executive Producers Norman Lear, Tom Taylor, Andy Meyer and Yuriko Matsubara; Director Jon Avnet; or writer Fannie Flagg, c/o the production company, Act III, 1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 500, Los Angeles 90067.**

Lesbian A Go-Go

The Friday, Nov. 29 edition of "Donahue" (KNBC, Ch. 4, 3:00 pm, daily) entitled "Lesbian Go-Go Dancers," centered around lesbian and bi-sexual women who dance for the entertainment of other women at a club in Washington, D.C. The club show is called "Lesbo a Go-Go" and, if the dancing that was recreated for the "Donahue" nationwide audience is typical of the club show, it was mildly erotic. The TV program centered not only on the type of dancing involved but the politics of women dancing erotically for female audiences: Is this politically correct? Discussion among the panelists, the dancers and the studio audience was intense, provocative and lively, displaying the diversity of opinion within the lesbian community. Some thought female erotic dancing solely for other females was an expression of sexual freedom and claiming our bodies for ourselves. Others spoke to the possible patriarchal exploitation and male mimicry of viewing women as sex objects. Heterosexual America received a lesson in the many ways of being lesbian along with the further debunking of the mythical, generic, gay lifestyle. Comments may be directed to: **"Donahue," 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 10112; (212) 664-6501.**

callers, feel free to put one together. Everyone involved should have a phone machine. **Contact: GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-1763; (213)463-3632; FAX (213) 463-4923.**

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Media Awards Dinner to Feature Silent Auction

A silent auction will be part of the GLAAD/LA 1992 Media Awards dinner (Apr. 11 - Beverly Hilton) with many valuable and exotic items up for bids. So far the 1992 Silent Auction will feature celebrity items from the television show "Designing Women," dinners from restaurants such as the Abbey, gift items from the fine store, Cottura, a stay at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Palm Springs, a six-month membership from Beginning — a gay and lesbian dating service, gift items from the Los Angeles Clippers basketball team, art work from artist David Wells and autographed books from writer Paul Monette. If you would like to donate something for the silent auction or can ask someone who can, please contact Silent Auction co-chairs **Dean Hansell or Jeffrey Janis at (213) 931-4883 or 931-8870.**

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Write-In, Right On

"I've been intending to write letters in response to the newsletter but I've...uh...well...um...I've been too busy, I guess." Does this sound familiar? In order to help divert

GLAAD supporters from following the path known to be paved with good intentions, a group of members in West Hollywood are organizing monthly letter writing parties, the first to be held on January 22. Get together with other GLAAD members to take an active part in changing the way America looks at lesbians and gay men. For more information, call (213) 737-5698 or (213) 467-0342.

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Full Court Press

On Nov. 20 Bill Press responded to Martina Navratilova's comments concerning the double standard applied to women and homosexuals who have acquired HIV. His editorial, which aired on Los Angeles independent television station KCOP (Ch. 13, 10:00 pm), was a rational analysis of Navratilova's statement. Mr. Press, who appears regularly on this locally produced news show, and also on XEK, 95 AM from 2-4 pm daily, has compiled a convincing and enlightened record of informed positions concerning issues of importance to the lesbian and gay community. His intelligent and positive approach is welcomed. Mr. Press can be encouraged by writing: **Bill Press, KCOP, 915 N. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles 90038; (213) 851-1000.**

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Coming Out on "Geraldo"

The Nov. 14 edition of "Geraldo" (KCBS, Ch. 2,

Television & Film

"Childhood" on PBS

The final installment of PBS' seven part documentary series entitled "Childhood" (KCET, Ch. 28, Dec. 2) addressed the issues of puberty and the discovery of sexuality. Not the slightest hint that some adolescents discover a sexual attraction to members of the same gender could be found anywhere in this presentation. What makes this omission so glaring is that "Childhood" purported to be a comprehensive examination of childhood development all over the world. It looked at children in industrialized and developing countries and across a broad spectrum of socio-economic levels. Yet for all its breadth, when it came to sexual development no mention was made of homosexuality. This kind of omission is especially disappointing when it mars a program as serious, well-researched and well-intentioned as "Childhood." **Executive Producers Geoffrey Haines-Stiles and Peter Montagnon, "Childhood," WNET, 356 W. 58th Street, New York 10019; (212) 560-2000.**

Teenagers on Cutting Edge

A three-part series entitled "Gay and Lesbian Teenagers Speak" aired on KTTV (Ch. 11, 10:00 pm, Nov. 18, 19 and 20). Involved, committed and articulate teenagers populated the on-camera interviews. "Yes, I'm a dyke," said 17 year-old Keiko challengingly. "I find my family in activism...It is more than the vetoing of AB101. It is being left out of the political and social process, being told that you have no place and no voice."

Teen gathering places, such as the Arena Cafe and the Six Gallery Cafe, supplied the back-drop for interviews with those who are coming to terms with their sexuality and facing family, school and peer pressure. Their personal experiences show that today's teenagers are not immune from the hate and isolation that has been associated with being homosexual. Brought into focus for the final segment was the AB101 protests in Woodland Hills and teens involved in a Project 10 rap group at Franklin High School. Write: **Trace Percy, Producer, Michelle Holden, co-writer, P.O. Box 27238, Los Angeles 90027.**

Invisible Boomers

The cover story of the Nov. 17 issue of the *Los Angeles Times Magazine* focused on the baby boom generation which came of age in the 1960s and 1970s. Missing from Lynn Smith's sweeping story of a generation were lesbian and gay baby boomers. Nowhere was there any mention of the substantial number of baby boomers who fought back at the Stonewall Inn in 1969, who led the gay and lesbian movement, and who are in the frontline of the fight against AIDS. This article is typical of the way lesbians and gays are kept invisible. Remember, we are not just monitoring homophobic attacks, inaccurate depictions and subtle slurs; we must remind the media where we were left out and to suggest how they might include us in otherwise non-gay issues. It's important to show our participation as an integral part of on-going events of everyday life. Don't just react when you see something positive or negative, react when we are kept invisible. And remind Linda Mathews, editor of the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*, not to leave us out of her stories: **Times-Mirror Square, Los Angeles 90053; (800) LA Times.**

Corporate Closet Door Swinging Open

Fortune Magazine crossed an important threshold with its Dec. 16 cover story entitled, "Gay in Corporate America - What It's Like and How Attitudes are Changing." The eight-page study of gays and lesbians at senior management level, replete with color photos, contained enough accurate information and intelligent insight that it could have been written by representatives of GLAAD/LA. The actual writer, Thomas A. Stewart, quoting Al Lewis of Xerox, points out, "Official or unofficial, there's a group in every large company in the U.S. Most are

closeted, like the groups at Hughes and TRW. The president of the company may not know, but they're there."

With survey data from interviews with 4,000 lesbians and gay men, Mr. Stewart advances, "The new activism picked-up steam after California Governor Pete Wilson vetoed a bill that would have banned workplace discrimination against homosexuals." This has led to the emergence of four important forces: 1) Visible CEO support for workplace diversity, 2) The slowly changing attitude of the U.S. Military, 3) Growth of homosexual groups within corporations and across industries, 4) Determination of gay men and lesbians of corporate America to be themselves.

As the article correctly assesses, "In the company closet is a big, talented and scared group of men and women. They want out - and are making the workplace the next frontier for gay and lesbian rights." From issues of harrassment to the untapped gay and lesbian consumer market to an editorial on the need for the cover story, this one has it all. Solicit continuing intelligent presentations from *Fortune* by writing: ***Fortune Magazine*, Jason McManus, Editor-in-Chief, Rockefeller Center, New York 10020-1393; (800) 621-8000; (212) 522-1212; FAX (212) 522-0601.**

NPR's Morning Edition

"Gays and Lesbians in the Workplace" was the featured topic in a three-part segment on National Public Radio's (NPR) "Morning Edition" broadcast Dec. 9 - 11 on KCRW (89.9FM, 3:00 am - 9:00 am, daily.). The first segment focused on several people who lost their jobs because of their sexual orientation. The story was framed in terms of Governor Pete Wilson's veto of AB101.

Problems employers face in dealing with false charges of discrimination over sexual orientation filled the second part. It's summation was that employers need to be better educated when it comes to being tolerant of gay and lesbian employees. The final segment was on domestic partner benefits and the need to explore the issue of health care for employees partners. Write: **"Morning Edition," NPR, 2025 M. Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036; (202) 822-2323.**

Ron of DNC Clone of Ron of GOP?

Ron Brown, Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), is following in the footsteps of former President Ronald Reagan by not mentioning the word AIDS. In a recent solicitation for DNC membership renewal, Mr. Brown notes that America is being challenged by a woman's right to choose, civil rights, racial justice, education, etc. These are important issues but he doesn't mention AIDS or lesbian and gay rights. Perhaps he feels AIDS is covered under the term "...other pressing human needs." Mr. Brown notes correctly, "... the engine which drives a winning campaign is the support, energy, enthusiasm and commitment of citizens all across the country." Lesbians and gays have proven themselves to be among the most committed constituents. AIDS is surely among the challenges faced by America. If Mr. Brown can't write the word AIDS or acknowledge gays and lesbians, there won't be the power to drive the engine. **Comments to: Ronald R. Brown, Chairperson, Democratic National Committee, 430 South Capital Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003; (202) 863-8000.**

Holocaust Memorial Museum

A recent invitation from the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, a federal establishment charged with the responsibility to plan, construct and oversee the operations of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, is soliciting funds to complete the Museum. Established to tell the complete story of the atrocities of the Third Reich, the invitation noted, "It is a story of how 8,000,000 human beings were systematically and

4:00 pm, daily) was entitled "Coming Out in Show Business" in which Sheila Kuehl ("Dobie Gillis") and Dick Sargeant ("Bewitched"), among others, spoke about the trials and tribulations of being gay and lesbian in the closeted world of show business. The guests spoke with a welcomed honesty and obvious first-hand experience. Mr. Sargeant and Ms. Kuehl are to be congratulated for their compelling demonstration of pride and self-esteem. Shows of this calibre are too infrequently on "Geraldo." Pointing this out can be accomplished by contacting: **"Geraldo," 524 W. 57th Street, New York 10019; (212) 265-8520.**

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David Jensen ▼ Tracey Stern
Theresa Lamm
Peter Nardi ▼ Robert Scheps
Wally Smith ▼ Andy Weisser
David Zahnizer

Office Manager
Darcy Galane

Radio & Print

Celebrate ♥Valentine's♥ Day on the Radio

On Valentine's Day love songs are rarely dedicated from "Kathy to Sue" or "Charles from Joe." Wouldn't it be great if most of the dedications could be from lesbians and gay men? It can happen! Join GLAAD/LA in flooding radio stations with messages from the heart. The following stations will be taking record dedications and requests by telephone. Call early and often:

REQUEST LINES:
KJLH 102.3 FM
(213) 520-5554
(714) 977-5554
KRTH 101.1FM
(800) 232-5784
KOST 103.5 FM
(213) 520-5678
(818) 788-5678
KRLA 11.10 AM
(213) 520-5752
(818) 788-5752
(714) 871-5752
KODJ 93.1 FM
(800) 292-9393
KIIS 102.7 AM/FM
(213) 520-1027
(714) 977-1027

Two major rock stations, KROQ and KPWR, will take dedications either by phone or letter. Their addresses and request lines are:

KROQ 106.7
(213) 520-1067
(818) 764-1067
(714) 977-1067
3500 W. Olive, #900
Burbank, CA 91505

KPWR 106 FM
(213) 520-1059
(714) 977-1059
2600 W. Olive, #850
Burbank, CA 91505

KOST-FM also lets you write your own love message which they will read on the air. Include several song choices with your written message, the time and date you want the dedication, your phone number and mail to **KOST-FM, c/o "Love Songs on the Kost," 610 S. Ardmore, Los Angeles 90005.**

P.S. Let GLAAD/LA know how your request was received by calling us at **(213) 931-9429.**

ruthlessly exterminated...it is also about the persecution of all people regarded as different or vulnerable - of priests and patriots, Polish intellectuals and Soviet prisoners of war, homosexuals..." The Memorial Museum was chartered in 1980 by an Act of Congress and is being constructed on 1.9 acres of land donated by the U.S. Government in Washington D.C. Congress stipulated that all funds to build and create the Museum come from private donations.

An accompaning letter from Mr. Curtis R. Whiteway of the 99th Infantry, a division that helped liberate the infamous Nazi camp, Dachau, states, "You see, the Nazi's tried to wipe out not only the Jews but also the physically and mentally handicapped, Jehovah's Witnesses, homosexuals...people who didn't agree politically."

More information about the Memorial Museum can be obtained by contacting: **Miles Lerman, National Campaign Chairperson, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, P.O. Box 96818, Washington, D.C. 20077-7674; (202) 822-6464.**

UCLA Provides Benchmark

Continuing and reaffirming a long-standing policy of inclusion, the faculty and staff at UCLA have received a letter from Charles E. Young, Chancellor of UCLA concerning sexual orientation, in which he states, "Both Regents' policy and our own efforts here at UCLA support the right of gay and lesbian members of this community to study, teach and work in an open and hospitable environment."

In July, 1982, an excerpt from *UCLA Personnel News* recorded, "President Saxon has stated that the University of California does not and will not discriminate in its employment relationship with any individual based on personal characteristics, including sexual orientation, which are not job related." Almost a decade later the December 4, 1991 *Employee Bulletin* reaffirms this stance by noting, "The UCLA campus has made a strong commitment to advancing and promoting diversity. One aspect of this diversity within our campus community is sexual orientation...which is an area protected from discrimination." **Charles E. Young, Chancellor, UCLA, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles; (213) 825-2121.**

Experts on Bigotry, Hatred and Discrimination

A recurring problem in the media is the use of a so-called "expert" to discuss why homosexuality is wrong. Since it is impossible to answer every inaccurate piece of "information" these people dispense, the strategy we recommend with station management is to address why they are on in the first place. Guests need viewpoints that are relevant, viable and informed; not inflammatory or exploitive. A show on civil rights for African-Americans would not have a member of the KKK on as an expert. A story about the Holocaust would not include a neo-Nazi to give the "other side." Why then, does Los Angeles television station KTTV (Ch. 11) feel obliged to have Lou Sheldon on and why does "Nightline" (KABC, Ch. 7, 11:30 pm, nightly) call Jerry Falwell to present information about lesbian and gays?

Second, we need to demonstrate to the stations that these men are not experts on sexual orientation. Campaigning against our civil rights, too often as a tool to raise money from the bigoted and ignorant, doesn't make them expert. For example, there is Paul Cameron who discredits gays and lesbians with false survey data, and who has been censured by the American Psychological Association and the American Sociological Association. Yet, many stations use him as a spokesman for the "other side." Perhaps Lou Sheldon's credentials have prepared him to be the purveyor of a sleazy narrowmindedness.

People have a right to express their

views; we are not asking for censorship. News and talk shows need to think twice before they invite Falwell, Sheldon, Helms, Dannemeyer, Cameron and Joseph "Reparative Therapy" Nicolosi as "experts." We need to make clear that lesbian and gay topics are legitimate issues, but that not all counter-arguments are equal, reasoned or valid.

When you hear one of these unqualified "experts", contact the station management immediately. While it is a battle to change the "experts," it is our obligation to educate those who would be the carriers of the message. This could be an easier task. The **Handy Media Guide** in this issue of *GLAAD/LA Reports* contains the necessary information for contacting the media.

GLAAD'S BILL OF WRONGS

GLAAD/LA took out a full-page ad in the Western edition of the *New York Times* to publicize ten fundamental rights gay and lesbian Americans are denied on the basis of sexual orientation. The ad, entitled "Bill of Wrongs," ran Dec. 16 — the day following the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights. The substance of the ad also appeared as an op-ed the same day in the *Los Angeles Times*. Copies of the ad's text have been sent to all members of Congress and the members of the California Legislature.

The response so far has been overwhelmingly positive. GLAAD has been deluged with requests for reprints and permission to rerun the piece, and we are currently preparing a poster edition of the ad, suitable for framing. In upcoming issues of *GLAAD/LA Reports* we will announce how you can order one. In the meantime, here is the text of the ad that appeared in the *New York Times*:

On December 15, 1991, America will celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Bill of Rights. As lesbian and gay Americans, we are taking this occasion to remind our fellow citizens that many of us live under a Bill of Wrongs. Lesbians and gay men are denied fundamental rights solely on the basis of sexual orientation. In a country founded on equality and freedom, lesbians and gay men are treated as inherently unequal. Gay men and women face the following forms of legalized discrimination, amounting to a Bill of Wrongs:

I: Lesbians and gay men shall be subject to discrimination in hiring, promotion and other aspects of employment.

II: Lesbians and gay men shall be subject to discrimination in housing.

III: Lesbians and gay men shall not be permitted to protect their country by serving in the nation's armed forces.

IV: Lesbians and gay men shall be denied the right to marry or to have their committed relationships lawfully recognized.

V: Lesbians and gay men shall be denied the right to adopt and retain custody of their children to the same extent as heterosexuals.

VI: Lesbians and gay men shall not be permitted to protect their committed partners under employee health insurance plans, and shall be denied tax benefits taken for granted by married heterosexual couples.

VII: Lesbians and gay men shall be discriminated against, and their committed relationships shall not be recognized, for purposes of immigration into these United States.

VIII: Artistic expressions by gay and lesbian artists shall be denied the support of public bodies and governmental institutions.

IX: Lesbians and gay men shall be denied the right of privacy, and shall be subject to discriminatory treatment under the law.

X: Lesbians and gay men shall not be entitled to live freely and openly to the same extent as other citizens, but shall lawfully be subjected to abuse, harassment and threats of violence from anti-gay groups, public officials and private individuals.

All citizens deserve to be treated equally - with equal respect, dignity and freedom from arbitrary discrimination. Lesbians and gay men deserve the same basic rights - to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness - as other Americans. No one should be made to suffer based on sexual orientation. We call on all who believe in liberty and justice for all to help right this Bill of Wrongs.

Feb. Fundraiser to Feature Minnie Bruce Pratt

Minnie Bruce Pratt, one of America's most original poets, will be the featured speaker at a fundraiser for GLAAD/LA on Feb. 9. The Sunday afternoon event (3:00 pm to 6:00 pm) will be highlighted by an English Tea will be held at the home of GLAAD Board Member, WillHalm,at9376 Claircrest Drive. Those attending will be asked for donations. **RSVP: Charlotte Innes (213) 936-5886 or the GLAAD office (213) 463-3632.** (Directions: From Sunset, take Doheny Road west. Turn right on Schuyler and then left on Lloydcrest. Turn right on Gilcrest and Claircrest will be on your left. *Please park on Gilcrest and walk the short distance down Claircrest to the house at the end of the street.*)

Help Wanted:

"Glamour, excitement, show biz exposure and political correctness all in one volunteer position?" You ask. This once in a blue moon opportunity is being offered, for a limited time only, by the GLAAD/LA Media Awards Dinner Committee. We seek one or two articulate, organized and ambitious volunteers to help with the logistics and administration of this gala event. Strong organizational and phone skills a must, industry exposure helpful. Contact Will Halm at (273-3133) or Carmichael Smith-Low at(874-1139).

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6430 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 1501

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Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation
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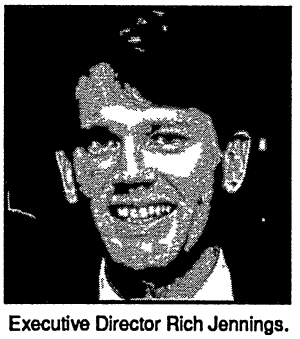
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GLAAD News

Executive's Director Report
by Richard Jennings

From our current discussions with entertainment industry leaders, it is clear that our community's protests of "Basic Instinct" and "Silence of the Lambs" have had a profound impact. Negative and unbalanced gay characters are under greater industry scrutiny than ever before. Unfortunately, several end-of-the-year releases already long in production prior to these protests perpetuate the too-familiar Hollywood portrayal of lesbians and gay men as either twisted villains or stereotyped figures of ridicule.

In Barbra Streisand's "Prince of Tides," the gay character played by George Carlin is more flamboyant and stereotypical in the film than in the novel on which it was based. The film also includes a scene, not in the book, in which Carlin's character throws a party and a gay man in leather makes a pass at Nick Nolte.


Executive Director Rich Jennings.

In "Father of the Bride," a remake of a 1950 film of the same name, the updating of the script unfortunately did not include the de-stereotyping of the effete wedding coordinator. Martin Short, as Franck Eggelhoffer, is an extreme stereotype, played for laughs, which would be fine if Hollywood did not produce these characters with such numbing consistency.

In "JFK," Oliver Stone adopts former New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's theory that two gay men, David Ferrie and Clay Shaw, were somehow involved in the plot to kill President Kennedy. Ferrie, played by Joe Pesci, is bizarre looking (wearing an obvious wig and painted on eyebrows), hysterical and pathetic. (The advance screening audience snickered loudly when Ferrie, an apparent child molester, sobbed that "All I ever wanted was to be a priest!"). Clay Shaw (Tommie Lee Jones) — the gay businessman Garrison tried unsuccessfully for conspiracy — is portrayed as being more interested in style and elegance than anything else. In a gratuitous scene of apparent sadomasochism, Shaw, dressed in Mardi Gras drag, is shown beaten by Ferrie, also in elaborate costume. Finally, Kevin Bacon as a gay hustler, claimed by Stone to be a composite of actual people, is portrayed as a racist and a fascist. He also makes sexually suggestive comments to Kevin Costner's Jim Garrison.

In GLAAD's Dec. 4 meeting with Stone and his producer, A. Kitman Ho, the two argued that Ferrie and Shaw were historical figures, and that the negative aspects of those characters portrayed on screen could be documented. This argument begs the question as to why Stone distorts history by whitewashing Garrison of real blemishes, and why his film focuses disproportionately on the sexual practices of gay characters. At least one gay negative scene was deleted from the film's final cut, but the concern that this film's negative images, unbalanced by anything else in the film and by little else produced this year by Hollywood, will reinforce myths and prejudices that, in the past, have fueled anti-gay hate crimes.

On a more positive note, GLAAD's discussion this year with Warner Bros. executives and the producers of "The Last Boy Scout" led to the deletion of a gay villain in that film, along with numerous offensive references to him that appeared in Shane Black's original script. And the makers of "Fried Green Tomatoes" restored the central lesbian relationship to that film, based on the popular book by Fannie Flagg, after an initial script draft had turned the two women into heterosexuals.

We are hopeful that the real impact of Hollywood's increasing sensitivity will be seen in film's currently in development. We know for a fact that studios have begun to reject films featuring stereotyped gay villains, and that major stars are turning down roles they think will offend our community. With continued education, we may even begin to see a significant number of gay positive characters and, perhaps, the end of one of the last great screen taboos — the depiction of genuine affection and physical intimacy between people of the same sex.

GLAAD February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 Outreach Cmte. 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	6 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	7 GLAAD Service at BCC 8:30pm 6000 W.Pico	8
9 English Tea/Poetry Reading with Minnie Bruce Pratt	10	11 Board Meeting 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	21	22
23	24	25 General Meeting 7:00pm 6000 W. Pico	26	27	28	29

GLAAD/LA HOTLINE: (213) 931-9429 (213) 931-9GAY

March Calendar Dates:

March 4 Outreach Committee 7:30pm 7033 Sunset
March 6 Youth Dance
March 5, 9 Monitor Response 7:30pm 7033 Sunset
March 10 Board Meeting
March 28 Speakers Bureau Training 2pm

✂

Not all gay bashers use a fist or weapon. **Some use a pen or a camera.**

Yes, I want to help stop bigotry in the media. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

❒$250 ❒$100 ❒$50 ❒$30 ❒ $_____

Name_____

Address_____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone _____ Tax ID#95-4242716

▼Send to: GLAAD/LA P.O. Box 931763 Hollywood, CA 90093-1763▼

HANDY MEDIA GUIDE

TELEVISION NETWORKS

ABC Entertainment (310)557-7777
Robert Iger, Pres., 2020 Ave. of the Stars, Los Angeles ,CA 90067
CBS Entertainment (213)852-2345
Jeff Sagansky, Pres., 7800 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036
NBC Entertainment (818)840-4444
Warren Littlefield, Pres., 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523
Fox Broadcasting (310)277-2211
Peter Chernin, Pres., P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

TELEVISION STATIONS

KCBS (213)460-3000 (Ch. 2)
Steve Gigliotti, Gen. Mgr. 6121 W. Sunset Blvd Hollywood CA 90028
KNBC (818)840-4444 (Ch. 4)
John Rohrbeck, Gen. Mgr.,3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank CA 91505
KTLA (213)460-5500 (Ch. 5)
Steven A. Bell, Gen. Mgr., 5800 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KABC (213)557-7777 (Ch. 7)
Terry Crofoot, Gen. Mgr., 4151 Prospect Ave., Hollywood CA 90027
KCAL (213)467-5459 (Ch. 9)
David Woodcock, Gen. Mgr., 5515 Melrose Ave.,Los Angeles, CA 90038
KTTV (213)856-1000 (Ch. 11)
Greg Nathanson, Gen. Mgr., 5746 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KCOP (213)851-1000 (Ch. 13)
Bill Frank, Gen. Mgr., 915 N. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
KCET (213)666-6500 (PBS Ch. 28)
William Cobin, Pres., 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90027
KMEX (213)466-3434 (Ch. 34)
Richard Ramirez, Gen. Mgr., 6255 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90038
KVEA (213)502-5700
Stephen J. Levine, Gen. Mgr., 1139 Grand Central Ave., Glendale CA 91201

RADIO STATIONS

KABC (213)840-4900
George Green, Pres., 3321 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angles CA 90016
KFI-640 AM (213)385-0101
Howard Neal, Gen. Mgr., 610 S. Ardmore, Los Angeles CA 90005
KFWB News 98 (213)462-5392
Chris Claus, Gen. Mgr., 6230 Yucca St., Hollywood Ca 90028
KNX-AM News Radio (213)460-3343
George Nicholaw, V.P., 6121 W. Sunset Blvd. Hollywood CA 90028
KPFK-FM (818)985-2711
Alan Fong, Gen. Mgr., 3729 Cahuenga Blvd.W, North Hollywood Ca 91604

NEWSPAPERS

La Opinion (213)622-8332
411 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles CA 90013
Los Angeles Times (213)237-7000
Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles CA 90053
The Daily News (818)713-3000
P.O. Box 4200, Woodland Hills CA 91365
The Outlook (310)829-6811
P.O. Box 590, Santa Monica CA 90406
The Orange County Register (714)835-1234
625 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana CA 92701

MOTION PICTURE STUDIOS

Sony Pictures Corp. (818)280-8000
Peter Guber, CEO, 10202 W. Washington Bl., Culver City CA 90232
MCA/Universal (818)777-1000
Lew Wasserman, CEO, 100 Univedrsal City Plaza, Universal City Ca 91608
Paramount Studios (213)956-5000
Stanley Jaffe ,CEO,5555 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
The Walt Disney Co. (818)560-1000
Michael Eisner, CEO, 500 S. Buena Vista, Burbank CA 91521
20th Century Fox (310)277-2211
Barry Diller, CEO, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

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GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 4 No. 2 MARCH 1992

★NEWS BRIEFS★

GLAAD/LA's March General Meeting

"Lesbian and Gay Images in Film" will be the featured topic at GLAAD/LA's Mar. general meeting. At press time, speakers confirmed were GLAAD/LA's own Richard Jennings and Sylvia Rhue, both experts on the entertainment industry. The evening's discussion will focus on Hollywood's delesbianization of many movies recently. Included in the discussion will be "Fried Green Tomatoes," which will be receiving an award from GLAAD/LA during the Media Awards Show on April 11, and features a powerful lesbian love story. The meeting will take place on Tue., Mar. 24, 7:00 to 9:00 pm, at the Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 W. Pico Blvd. (just east of Crescent Heights). Bring a friend!

★

Rick Dees Needs Help

On his Feb. 1 show, DJ Rick Dees of KIIS FM, 102.7, made a joke that reinforced to his listeners that verbal or physical bashing of lesbians and gays is acceptable. As Dees was speaking, an extremely effeminate voice interrupted and said, "Stop! Do you need assistance?" Dees responded by saying, "Oh yeah, it looks like

Gala Media Awards Show April 11

GLAAD/LA's 1992 Media Awards Show, which promises to be a glamorous and inspiring evening, is rapidly approaching. The dinner and show will take place on Apr. 11 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

For the many volunteers who have already donated literally hundreds of hours to make sure that this will be a sparkling, fast-paced and prideful event, it cannot happen soon enough! For those of you who have yet to purchase your tickets, time (and tickets) are running out.



Attendees at the GLAAD/LA Kick-off Cocktail Party Reception held on Jan. 25.

Entertainment and media figures whose presence at the dinner has been confirmed as of press time include co-host Judith Light (from "Who's the Boss?"), Rene Auberjonois ("Benson"), George Chakaris ("West Side Story"), Ted Danson ("Cheers"), Jill Eickenberry ("L.A. Law"), John Glover ("An Early Frost" & "L.A. Law"), Phranc ("I Enjoy Being a Girl" & "Amazon"), Doris Roberts ("Remington Steele"), Susan Ruttan ("L.A. Law"), Glenn Shadix ("Heathers" & "Meet the Applegates"), Michael Tucker ("L.A. Law"), B.D. Wong ("Father of the Bride" & "M. Butterfly"), and James Woods ("The Onion Field"). By showtime, the addition of more illustrious names to our roster is anticipated.

Individuals purchasing premium tickets to the event will attend a private cocktail reception with the presenters and award recipients. Cocktails will also be available for all others attending the awards show. Entertainment at the reception will be provided by the Funes/Barnes Duo (Matthew Funes and Greg Barnes), on "vibes" and viola.

This year, our cocktail reception will feature a silent auction with some truly unique and remarkable items (including showbiz memorabilia) such as a "City Slickers" script signed by Billy Crystal, sumptuous get-a-ways including an in-town weekend at the Bel Age Hotel, meals at fine restaurants such as O'Toto and Campanile, and fine art, including a Robby Conal lithograph.

The cocktail hour will commence promptly at 6:00 pm and dinner will be served at 7:30. The show will begin at 8:30 and is planned to end by 10:00 pm.

Music for the evening is being provided by Ron Abel, Musical Director, and Robert Norton of Harmony Gold will be the producer. All public relations for the dinner has been donated by Rick Miramontez of Rick Miramontez Company, John Guard has contributed all graphics, and Wayne Shimabukuro did all the photography.

Beyond all of this, of course, is the purpose of the dinner, which is to honor our special guests, the women and men of the media who have taken a principled stand against homophobia, and those celebrities who are helping us to honor the awardees by presenting the awards themselves.

The awards show will be signed for the hearing impaired, and vegetarian dinners are available with advance *(Continued on Page 10)*

In This Issue:

❸ Television & Film Watch
❼ Radio & Print Watch
❽ GLAAD News
❿ Executive Director's Report

we have the pink angels here protecting us." Dees humorless dismissal of the pink angels, a volunteer group of citizens organized to fight physical and verbal bashing incidents in their own communities, sends a message to his listeners that such attacks are acceptable. Write KIIS FM and let them know that any message of hate or acceptance of violence against minority groups is intolerable. Contact: **Bill Richards, Program Director, KIIS FM, 6255 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, 90028.**

★

Hollywood Homophobia Committee Alert

Oliver Stone's production of "The Mayor of Castro Street," the story of San Francisco's first openly gay supervisor, Harvey Milk, is now in script development. Openly gay and lesbian members of his production crew would aid us insuring accuracy in the film. Reminding Mr. Stone and his production staff that gay and lesbian input is central and essential to this important project can be accomplished by contacting: **Ms. Janet Yang, Producer, "The Mayor of Castro Street," c/o Ixtlan, Inc., 3110 Main Street, #301, Santa Monica, 90405.**

★

Practices, Positions, Promiscuity

The locally-oriented magazine *Buzz* offered a frank interview with

Co-President's Column

by Jehan Agrama

Welcome To The United States

CUSTOMS DECLARATION

"Each arriving traveler
or head of family
must provide the following
information
(only ONE written declaration
per family is required)."

Only ONE per family. We were four people; my lover, her two children and I. We were one family, in our eyes, but would we be viewed as such by the U.S. Customs Officer? Two last names, they might think we were sisters. Jew and Arab, so we had adventurous parents. If they asked, I would tell them the truth. And then what? Maybe we should just fill out two forms. NO WAY. We filled out one form. She was head of family, we were not bringing in food or plants and we had nothing to declare...or did we? In my mind the discussion with the officers continued. Yes we were one family. No, not sisters or cousins. Lovers? Life partners? I was determined that if necessary, I would ask to speak to a supervisor. I was prepared to get arrested, but I was not going to fill out two customs declarations.



This little episode reminded me of the daily battle we wage, as lesbians and gay men in the struggle of retaining our identity and not having our lives defined by others. I cannot express the frustration and sadness I felt after travelling for 24 hours to be confronted with yet another attempt to invalidate my life. We had been on vacation, and now we were really back. The continual affirmation of our lives takes great effort. It is hard to achieve visibility when we rarely see our images or lives reflected. And then there are instances where we are visible, but no one sees us.

A case in point is the film Fried Green Tomatoes. This is a love story between two women. Go see the movie, look at the big screen and tell me different. Yet, the critics (mostly men) don't see us and neither do the mostly heterosexual audiences. Why? Because what they are seeing is not how they have defined us. What they expect to see from lesbians on screen is something entirely different. Perhaps these two women are not as tortured, unhappy, psychopathic or even as sexually active as other on-screen lesbians have been. But it is up to us to reclaim our images and not allow others to continue to define us. Who is to say what a lesbian love story looks like, if not lesbians?

Just because there is no sexually explicit material in the film does not mean that we do not witness sensual, intimate exchanges and love-filled moments, and that the relationship is not lesbian. Lesbianism is not solely defined by sexual behavior. In the film, the women are one another's primary social, emotional and physical focus, which is the essence of being lesbian. They do tell a story which rings true of the lesbian experience and for this reason, GLAAD/LA is honoring Fried Green Tomatoes at our Media Awards as an outstanding feature film with lesbian content.

We must continue to define ourselves by shaping our images and having them be accurately reflected. Visibility is defining our own reality and not allowing someone else to create their comfortable idea of what or who we are. It means owning our experience and creating our place in the world. And in the hostile world in which we live, that is all the more difficult and imperative.

The customs officer scrutinized the four passports. "Same family?" she queried. "Yes," we said in unison. "All born in different places?" she mused looking at us more closely. Again, "Yes." She gave us our single declaration and let us through...this time.

Television & Film

1992 Media Awards Winners Announced And the winners are...

GLAAD/LA in collaboration with GLAAD/NY and all GLAAD Chapters has announced the winners of the third annual Media Awards to honor outstanding portrayals of lesbians and gay men in film, television, and the recording industry, and accurate coverage of the gay and lesbian community by the news and print media. The honorees were determined jointly by GLAAD nominations in Los Angeles and New York, based on nominations submitted by GLAAD members nationwide and by members of the news media and entertainment industry. GLAAD/NY awards were not available at press time. The following recipients will be honored at the GLAAD/LA Media Awards show on Apr. 11 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel: **Outstanding Motion Pictures:** "Fried Green Tomatoes" and "Frankie & Johnny;" **Outstanding Service to Lesbian and Gay Film:** The Gay and Lesbian Media Coalition; **Outstanding Television Series (Comedy):** "Roseanne;" **Outstanding Television Episode (Comedy):** "Roc" - "Can't Help Loving That Man;" **Outstanding Television Episode (Drama):** "L.A. Law" - "The Nut Before Christmas;" **Outstanding Weekly News Coverage:** *The Reader*; **Outstanding Commentary/Editorial:** Bill Press (KCOP); **Outstanding Local News Story:** Gay and Lesbian Teens (KTTV); and **Outstanding Recording Artist:** Phranc.

Bugs for Lunch

David Cronenberg's film, "Naked Lunch," an adaptation of the 1959 cult book by William S. Burroughs, shows life as seen through the hallucinatory hazes of a junkie-writer. Peter Weller portrays the main character, a heterosexualized repressed homosexual, in a film where "insectualization" gives new meaning to Warren Beatty's objection, in his latest film, to being called Bugsy. Gay and lesbian characterizations come off quite well considering what else happens in this production which features a typewriter turning into a bug; flies which speak, but not from their mouths; and a large male insect killing a male human during a sex act. Mr. Weller is portrayed in bed with his male lover, Kiki, and this relationship is followed and depicted as natural and normal, an isolated phenomenon in this provocative effort. In a film where sybolism is everything, some critics suggest Cronenberg's "hidden homophobic agenda" can be observed. The film, which on balance gives gay men and lesbians objective treatment, continues the odyessy Mr. Cronenberg started in his earler films, "Dead Ringers" and "The Fly." If you want to put a bug in his ear, write: **David Cronenberg and Jeremy Thomas, 217 Avenue Road, 3rd Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2J3, Canada.**

"Meeting Venus"

The rehearsals for a production of Wagner's opera "Tannhauser" provide the backdrop for the artistic, personal and political conflicts that accompany the relationships in this Istvan Szabo-directed film starring Glenn Close. That some of these backstage relationships involve gay men, and that they are treated and presented on an equal footing with the heterosexual relationships, helps sustain the movie's interest despite the esoteric storyline. Stereotypes are avoided and the homosexual affairs are unexploitive. While "Meeting Venus" has not received a complete measure of commercial success, the portrayal of gay relationships as a natural and continuing process of life rings true. **Distributed by Warner Bros., Mr. Robert Daly, Chariman of the Board, Warner Bros, 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank 91522; Mr. Istvan Szabo, c/o Enigma Productions, 15 Queensgate Mews, London, SW7 5BG, England.**

Brain Time on "PrimeTime"

The Dec. 19 ABC News production of "PrimeTime Live" (ABC, Thurs., 10:00 pm) included a segment entitled "Born or Bred" covering the work of UC San Diego long-term AIDS survivor and singer, Michael Callen, in its Jan./Feb., 1992 issue. Written more for an informed reader, it discusses in explicit language the sexual practices, positions, and promiscuity of gay men. Included were several disclaimers, for the uninformed, that Callen's opinion is not that of the general gay populace. As for the subject matter, the writing had more depth than generally found in gay publications and no apology was offered for the frankness. An important article with an unusual angle. Comments to: **Mr. Allan Mayer, Editor-in-Chief, *Buzz*, 11835 Olympic Blvd., #450, Los Angeles 90064.**

★

"Later with Bob Costas"

Elie Wiesel, well-known survivor of the Holocaust, was interviewed by Bob Costas on two successive shows Jan. 13 and 14. The extensive interview once again documented the horrors and atrocities suffered by millions during the Third Reich. Mr. Wiesel is an articulate, intelligent and tenacious spokesperson for those who suffered and died, for those who still have memories and for those who need to learn. Conspicuous by its absence was any mention of the shared suffering by gays and lesbians -- in particular since Mr. Wiesel has discussed the topic eloquently in the past. This ignored chap-

ter of human misery needs to be shown the light of media-day and the watchwords of "Never forget. Never again." need complete understanding and application in our community. To encourage Mr. Costas to probe even further, contact him by writing: **Mr. Matthew McCarthy, Executive Producer, "Later with Bob Costas," NBC-TV, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 10112.**

★

Women of GLAAD

Do you get mad about your lack of representation on screen and in the media? Do you feel like throwing a rotten tomato when people don't even see the lesbian love between the two young women in "Fried Green Tomatoes?" Do you feel like grabbing an ice pick when the only images you get to see of yourselves are of crazed killers, sexual perverts and suicidal victims? Do you feel like yelling "I'm a woman, too!" when lesbian issues are routinely ignored by even the most enlightened feminists? Do you have to nudge your gay male friends and say, "Hey guys, don't leave me out." If you feel the need for a lesbian voice in GLAAD's affairs, come to the first meeting of the GLAAD/LA Women's Caucus and tell us what's on your mind. It's at **2:00 pm, Saturday, Mar. 14 at the GLAAD/LA office, 7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 304,** two blocks east of La Brea, on the north side of

Television & Film

scientist, Dr. Simon LeVay. Dr. LeVay's research suggests that there could be a genetic/physiological basis for sexual orientation related to the structure of the brain's hypothalamus. The segment, produced by Rudy Bednar, offered an intelligent range of scientific perspectives combined with interviews of gay and lesbians about our life-long difference from heterosexuals.

Dr. LeVay, who is openly gay, poignantly discussed the death of his lover, Richard, as a motivation for his research. LeVay's father, also a doctor, captured the confusion of many parents of gay and lesbian children when he said he finds homosexuality "abhorrent" but declared his son's relationship with Richard showed "love and devotion on a scale I've never seen before, and of which I would be incapable." Other questions asked of Dr. LeVay by reporter Jay Schadler included "Were you ever interested in women?" and "Have you ever had a heterosexual experience?" This confirms the educational work yet to be done. Encourage the show to devote more time to lesbian and gay social issues. Write: **Rick Kaplan, Executive Producer, "PrimeTime Live," ABC News, 47 W. 66th Street, N.Y. 10023.**

"L.A. Law" Wins the Big One

NBC's "L.A. Law" (Thurs., 10:00 pm) continued it pioneering ways with its Dec. 19 program featuring C.J. Lamb (Amanda Donohoe) finding legal help for her former lesbian lover, Maggie Barnes (Elizabeth Kemp). The episode, entitled "The Nut Before Christmas," was noteworthy for the intelligent presentation of the issues around child custody and parenting as faced by lesbians; and the non-traditional sexual role assigned to a regular character in a popular prime time drama. Writers Patricia Green and Carol Flint presented a convincing case that raising children is not about a gay parent vs a straight parent but about the qualities of individual parents.

During testimony at the custody hearing, Attorney Arnold Becker (Corbin Bernsen) rebuts an "expert" witness who claims that the mother's lesbian relationship is the cause of her son's behavioral problems. Under Becker's unrelenting questioning the witness finally acknowledges that the father's problem with his former wife's sexual orientation is just as likely to be the cause of this behavior. When C.J. takes the stand she is accused of being promiscuous and a bad influence. Her decision to take the HIV antibody test three years earlier is used as a means of castigation which she effectively turns around by stating that being tested was the "responsible thing to do." When the woman's twelve year old daughter is questioned by the judge, her testimony confirms that her mother and C.J.'s relationship was happier and healthier than her mother's relationship with her father.

The development of C.J.'s character is significant. She acquits herself expertly on the stand under incessant questioning and, in personal vignettes with various "L.A. Law" characters, she is shown as intelligent, caring and sensitive. In one particularly poignant exchange with a staff attorney, she expresses that her fear of commitment had prevented her from becoming more deeply involved with her former lover. This exchange shows a bisexual woman having a "normal" conversation with a straight man about her personal feelings. The straight male attorney then compares his personal situation with hers, placing her on an equal social level. The episode ends with C.J. showing up on her ex-lover's doorstep on Christmas Eve, hugging her and going inside. The continued exploration of the relationship between these two women should be encouraged. Contact: **Mr. Rick Wallace, Executive Producer, Ms. Carol Flint, Supervising Producer, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills 90213.**

Saturday Night Slips

Broadcasting to its national audience the erroneous idea that verbal-bashing towards homosexuals is still funny and in vogue in 1992, "Saturday Night Live" (NBC, 11:30 pm) slipped when it did not

extend the same respect towards gays and lesbians as towards other minority groups. A skit on the Jan. 11 edition showed a group of friends in a small restaurant communicating mostly through a complicated combination of sophomoric "dirty" words. Of these words, none were derogatory towards minorities except when one character referred to another as "Count Fagula." In the past, SNL has done some positive things, including a clever spoof on beer commercials earlier this season, with a decidedly gay-positive bend. This illustrates how even shows with good histories can slip up on occasion. To remind SNL about homophobia write: **Lorne Michaels, Executive Producer, "Saturday Night Live," 30 Rockefeller Plaza, Room 1722, New York 10112.**

Tarnished "Golden Girls?"

A recent episode of "The Golden Girls" (KNBC, Sat., 8:00 pm) drew mixed response from our membership. In the episode, broadcast Jan. 11, Rose (Betty White) works for a TV talk show that is doing a segment on women who live together. Rose persuades Dorothy (Bea Arthur) and Blanche (Rue McClanahan) to appear as guests as part of a panel on the show. As the show goes on the air, the moderator announces the topic of discussion is about lesbians who live together, much to the embarassment of Dorothy and Blanche. At the commercial break, Dorothy and Blanche threaten to walk out, but Rose cajoles them into playing along lest she lose her job. They stay, even though they are obviously uncomfortable posing as lesbians.

At home afterwards, still upset with Rose, Blanche says there is nothing wrong with being a lesbian, but that since she isn't one, her post-talk-show social life has suffered. A man, who has seen the show, appears at the front door asking for Blanche. He tells her all she needs is a "good man to straighten her out," and Blanche eagerly goes out with him. Later, one of the actual lesbians from the talk show panel appears at the front door asking for Dorothy, who says that she has just "broken up" with Blanche and that it's just "too soon" to start a new relationship.

It could appear that the makers of "The Golden Girls" are exploiting the underlying (and odious) assumption that any straight woman labeled a lesbian would and should be embarassed. The old canard that the "right man" could turn a lesbian straight, or that any lesbian would prefer to be straight for the right man, has no intelligent value or reasoned use in 1992.

In a return to reality the script writers make a point of having Blanche say there's nothing wrong with being a lesbian. Also, the play on sexual orientation was handled with light-hearted wit and unusual sophistication for sitcom fare. Comments can be sent to: **Mr. Paul Junger Witt, Mr. Tony Thomas, Ms. Susan Harris, Executive Producers, "The Golden Girls," Witt-Thomas-Harris Productions, 846 North Cahuenga Blvd., Hollywood 90038.**

No Touchdown for "In Living Color"

Described by its producers as a "staff effort," the unbalanced and stereotypical writing that resulted in the shotgun humor of the "Men in Film" portion of the "In Living Color" Super Bowl half-time show, supports the notion that too many cooks spoil the broth. The series intent is to be outrageously funny and this has been developed by using provocative material that plays with stereotypes. Twenty million viewers of the half-time show might now believe that gay men hate women, have affairs with gerbils and have voracious appetites for heterosexual men. While previous criticism about "Men on Film" has been met with a lackluster response, the need for balanced portrayals of gay men is painfully obvious. Asking for this can only be helpful to the uncreative rut now enjoyed by "Men in Film." Write: **Mr. Keenan Ivory Wayans, Executive Producer, "In Living**

the street. Call first, so we know how many of you to expect. We are: **Charlotte Innes, GLAAD/LA Board Member and Darcy Galane in the GLAAD office (213) 463-3632.**

★

Speech Lessons

Ever wanted to go out and confront those homophobes head on? Need to know those succinctly-expressed arguments for persuading people that we need better representation of ourselves in the media? Come to the next GLAAD/LA Speakers Bureau Training session, Mar. 28, 2:00 pm at the GLAAD office and learn all of this and more! The emphasis will be on role-playing, with board member Peter Nardi and GLAAD/LA Co-Founder, Carol Anderson. Call to reserve your spot: **GLAAD Office, 7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 304, Hollywood; (213) 463-3632.**

★

Paper Won't Publish

A report from GLAAD/SFBA chronicles efforts to get the *San Jose Mercury News* to change its discriminatory policy of publishing announcements of heterosexual commitment ceremonies but refusing announcements of gay or lesbian ones. "Only partnerships with legal recognition will be published," comments the *SJMN*. You can comment back by writing: **Anne Hurst, Deputy**

Managing Editor, Features Department, *San Jose Mercury News*, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95190.

★

Friendly Outing at Marvel Comics

"We were doing a disservice to the character." With this statement comic book writer Scott Lobdell led the outing of *Alpha Flight's* comic book superhero, Northstar, in its Jan. issue. Lobdell continued, "Up until this point it's been nudge, nudge, wink, wink. I feel this will help Northstar grow and work out his feelings." In the current issue Northstar adopts an AIDS-infected, abandoned infant and, to broaden public awareness of the disease, comes out of the closet by making his own homosexuality public. Lobdell plans to give his royalties to the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. (Original copies of *Alpha Flight* are going for $50.00 among comic book activists with reprinted editions costing $3.00.) ***Marvel Comics*, 387 Park Avenue South, New York.**

★

PFLAG Invites Inquiries

The ongoing effort of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, PFLAG, is to keep families in loving relationships. PFLAG is interested in contacting more gays and lesbians posing the following question: Do your parents under-

Television & Film

Color," c/o Fox Television Center, 5746 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, 90028.

"Civil Wars"

A malpractice suit brought by a gay client (Dennis Christopher) who lost his case involving a separation from his lover, set the stage for the Jan. 15 episode of "Civil Wars" (KABC, Wed., 10:00 pm). Divorce lawyer Charlie Howell (Peter Onorati) asks his partner, Sydney (Mariel Hemmingway), to represent him in the malpractice suit and makes a number of snide anti-gay comments about his former client with references to bikini briefs, effeminate behavior and "getting together to play house." Sydney agrees to handle the case, which is built around a suspected bias towards homosexuals, and confronts the opposing attorney, who happens to be a lesbian (Katherine Cortez).

The story becomes more involved when Charlie has a conference with his malpractice insurance company who tells him that if the plaintiff is viewed by a judge as an oppressed minority they might lose millions. Charlie then considers settlement as an option and goes to the upscale New York bar, where the plaintiff works as a bartender, to offer a settlement. The man says that he won't accept anything less than what he has asked for in damages. Upon leaving the bar Charlie becomes the victim of a gay-bashing incident. The next morning in court the bruised and battered Charlie is stunned when the judge blatantly discriminates against the plaintiff and dismisses the case. Charlie is moved by the barely concealed hatred of the judge and attempts to apologize to his former client, not for any legal misrepresentation, but for his own personal homophobic attitude, as he states, "That was not me at my best."

The episode presented some real-life situations new to evening television. And while not all anger and hostility was resolved at the end of the program, the open presentation of legal and personal bias towards gays with the attempt to bridge differences between the straight and gay worlds was constructive. Comments to: **Mr. William Finkelstein, Executive Producer, "Civil Wars," c/o Steven Bochco Productions, 10201 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles 90035.**

Details

Details magazine Jan. issue looks at recent developments in the U. S. military's "anti-homosexual" policy. Writer Charles Kaiser covers specific individuals such as Erik Barker, the Marine discharged for being gay during service in Saudi Arabia, and Pete Williams, the Pentagon spokesperson who was outed by the *Advocate* last summer. In addition, discussions about military "stakeouts" at gay bars near marine camps and conversations with a closeted Democratic congressman are included. The article is an interesting summary of the latest developments in the Pentagon policy. For continued reasoned reporting, contact: **Mr. James Truman, Editor in Chief, *Details*, 632 Broadway, 12th Floor, New York 10012.**

Join the *Parade*

The Jan. 19 issue of the nationally distributed *Parade* magazine carried Lynn Minton's column, "Fresh Voices," entitled "Do You Have Any Gay Friends?" Consisting of a conversation between four high school students from Bohemia, New York, the comments ranged from the predictably unfriendly to the thoughtful and mature. "My sister has a friend, a gay guy, who is 26 years old," commented one teen. "It's not like we're afraid to drink out of a glass that he drank from or anything like that. I've been alone with him and I'm not thinking if he is looking at me or something." Those students who expressed strong misgivings about befriending a lesbian or gay man finally ackowledged that they just "didn't know any." To encourage further dialogue write: **Lynn Minton, c/o *Parade*, Parade Publications, 750 Third Avenue, New York, 10017; copy Mr. Walter Anderson, Editor-in-Chief.**

Radio & Print

Uh-Oh *Utne*

On page 148 of the Jan/Feb issue of the *Utne Reader* ("the best of the alternative press"), amid other classified ads for progressive causes, anarchist cookbooks, mystical music and environmental causes, the following ad appears: "GAY TO STRAIGHT: If you want to make the journey, call (310) 202-0670." GLAAD/LA board member Peter Nardi called the local Los Angeles number and - surprise, surprise - a man named Joe admitted he was not licensed, not credentialed, but had thousands of pages of notes supporting his "success" rate in helping people make the journey from being gay to straight.

Nardi then called *Utne's* advertising department and spoke at some length with advertising manager, Tom McKusick, asking why such an ad was accepted, especially given their reputation for progressive journalism. During the conversation, Mr. McKusick became convinced that the person offering the service was disreputable, and that the message sent to their readers was that gays can become straight. McKusick said *Utne* would discuss the issue and call back.

To their credit, McKusick called, admitted the error in accepting the ad, apologized that a larger version of the ad already went to press for the Mar. issue, and offered GLAAD/LA a free, 1/12 page ad in their Apr. issue. McKusick stated he sympathized with our argument that accurate information about lesbians and gays is typically absent in most media and that the free ad offer was to help make up for this limited access to major media.

Encourage *Utne Reader* to be more vigilant about ads from disreputable sources and for questionable services by writing: **Advertising Manager, Tom McKusick and Editor-in-Chief, Eric Utne, 1624 Harmon Place, Suite 330, Minneapolis, MN 55403; (612) 338-5040.** And you might also give Joe a call and tell him what you think about his "gay to straight" journey: (310) 202-0670.

GLAAD has also learned that the same ad has run in a number of local newspapers, including *LA Weekly* and the *Hollywood Reporter*. We have followed up with each paper's advertising department, and are at different stages of negotiation. The most successful way to combat this man's efforts to make us "gay to straight" is to call him personally, as often as necessary. So once again, that number is (310) 202-0670.

Still Not *Digest*ible

Reader's Digest has been able to maintain its historic niche in America's reading habits by presenting condensed versions of articles from other publications. Combining this with a few attention getting headlines, *RD* has survived the various trends and changes within the publishing business. Unfortunately the mindset of its editors has also remained unchanged and *RD* still presents to its readers homophobic articles such as "Film Filth." This condensation, appearing in the Jan. issue, comes from a column by Chris McKenna of the *New York Post*. It seems Mr. McKenna was upset that a gay and lesbian film festival was co-sponsored by the New York State Museum in Albany. "Most of the three day event, with midday film showings, was held at the museum just one floor below the popular 'Sesame Street' and dinosaur exhibits. Thousands of children and families are drawn to those exhibits." writes McKenna. Apparently Mr. McKenna feels that proximity to gays and lesbians is dangerous. Mr. McKenna needs to understand that information about homosexuality is not inappropriate for children and that the film festival was only open to paying adults. Can this message be condensed small enough for absorption by *RD* editors? Send your comments, along with suggestions of positive gay and lesbian articles for inclusion in *RD*, to: **Kenneth V. Tomlinson, Editor-in-Chief, *Reader's Digest*, Pleasantville, NY 10570.**

Executive Director Position for GLAAD/LA Available

GLAAD/LA is beginning the search process for a permanent Executive

stand? If yes, then we'd like to invite them to join our families in support of lesbian and gay rights. If no, we'd like to talk to them, parent-to-parent. If you send us the names and addresses of your parents and family members, we'll send a family-oriented packet about Parents FLAG and add them to our mailing list. Contact us by writing: **Parents FLAG, P.O. Box 27605, Washington, D.C. 20038-7605.**

★

Toyota Sets Example

Toyota recently ran an ad in the Australian lesbian/gay magazine *Outrage*. The ad featured the caption "The Family Car," and the text read "For some people, a family car is one that has room for a tribe. When we talk to you about a family car, we mean a car that is big enough for a couple and their friends to stretch out in comfort." Two gay men comprised the family featured in the photo. Not only is Toyota supporting the lesbian/gay press, it is helping break down bigoted definitions of the word "family,"—a word too often used by hate groups as a code for bigotry and exclusion. To encourage Toyota to produce such ads in American publications, and to include lesbians, can be accomplished by contacting: **Y. Togo, President, Toyota Motor Sales, Box 2991, Torrance, CA 90509; (800) 331-4331.**

GLAAD/LA *REPORTS*

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responsible to the Board of Directors to plan, organize and manage GLAAD/LA's programs and activities. GLAAD/LA is seeking a person of high energy, with strong administrative and communication skills and experienced in fundraising and public relations.

For consideration, please send your resume, including salary requirements and list of references, in confidence to: **Executive Search Committee, GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Los Angeles, CA 90093. No telephone calls please. GLAAD/LA is an equal opportunity employer. Women and people of color are encouraged to apply.**

Program Book Advertising Media Awards Show

The program book for the GLAAD/LA Media Awards Show reaches hundreds of individuals and businesses who support GLAAD, including most of our major donors and many entertainment industry figures. Our advertising rates start as low as seventy-five dollars. For further information contact: **Margo Strik (213) 259-9208 (Phone/Fax). Closing date for space is Mar. 20, 1992, and for camera-ready art, Mar. 25, 1992.**

Table Sponsors for Media Awards Show

The success of the GLAAD/LA Media Awards Show is the result of the work of many people. One of the most crucial roles, however, is that played by our table sponsors, the "unsung heroines and heroes of GLAAD," who last year, for example, were responsible for generating more than three quarters of the ticket sales.

This year's table sponsors, whose efforts we would like to acknowledge, are: Alan Acosta/TomGratz, Jehan Agrama/Dwora Fried, Pamela Albers/Stephanie Sautner, Gwendolyn Baba/Vicki Yerman, David C.Bohnett/ Rand Schrader,Ann Bradley/Dana Champion, Dan Brenner, Richard Bryant, Richard Bullock/Richard Cannon, Richard Colbert, Horace Collins/Bob Del Deo, Marla Cousineau/Pamela Dunn, Joan Denson/Vicki Berck, Unknown Donor, Michael Epstein/Scott Schwimer, Stephanie Farrington-Domingue/Sandra Farrington-Domingue, Chris Fowler, Fritz Friedman, Ron Galperin, Rose Greene/Carol Rabaut, Will Halm/Marcellin Simard, Dean Hansell/Jeffrey Janis, Richard Jennings/Jerome Braun and Jeff Kahn/Celia Kahn.

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The Board of Directors of the
Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation
cordially invites you
to attend the 1992 GLAAD/LA MEDIA AWARDS
Saturday April 11, 1992
Beverly Hilton Hotel
9876 Wilshire Boulevard Beverly Hills.

▼

Cocktails and Silent Auction at 6:00 pm
in the Executive Center
followed by Dinner at 7:30pm in the Grand Ballroom.
Black Tie is optional.
The 1992 GLAAD/LA MEDIA AWARDS SHOW
will be signed for the hearing impaired.

OFFICIAL GLAAD/LA 1992 MEDIA AWARDS SHOW COUPON=
Yes, I want to attend the 1992 GLAAD/LA MEDIA AWARDS, please reserve tickets for me at the following price:
_____tickets at $275.00 each which includes private, celebrity cocktail reception at 6:00 pm.
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Name_____Phone(_____)_____
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Also, for this year's dinner, we have added a new feature for members who would like to attend the dinner (but don't have a date!): the "singles" tables, one for women and one for men. If you want to take advantage of this, and perhaps make the night into a romantic adventure, call **David Barber at (213) 463-0270 for further information.**

Volunteers Still Needed for Media Awards Dinner

The planning process for GLAAD/LA's 1992 Media Awards Show (Apr. 11, Beverly Hilton Hotel) is well under way. The committee structure has been developed, and as a result, opportunities to become involved in this important (and fun) event abound!

The Production Committee is responsible both for deciding on the content of the awards show itself, and, in conjunction with the producer, for putting on the show, including "fluffing" the ballroom with flowers and glitz, greeting celebrities and other guests, and ticket administration. **Contact David Barber at (213) 463-0270 to volunteer.**

The Program Book Production Committee is responsible for creating the Media Awards Program Book for the show. Writers and "writer wan-na-bees" who will be responsible for creating short and moving articles about the award recipients, are needed. Again, call David Barber to volunteer.

Last year's Media Awards program, which was a moving and long overdue "Brava/Bravo" to those people in the media who portrayed our community and our lives in a realistic and non-stereotypical manner, was a resounding success. With your help, we can work together (in pride) to ensure that this year's dinner will be an even greater achievement.

Thanks! Will Halm and Carmichael Smith-Low, Dinner Co-Chairs.

GLAAD/LA Silent Auction; Last Call for Items

The GLAAD/LA Silent Auction, as part of this year's Annual Media Awards Show, is going to be a smashing success. We have obtained many exciting items and expect that those attending will be equally excited and interested. If you have suitable items to donate or can contact a business that might be able to donate, this is a great way to support GLAAD/LA. All donors will receive publicity both before and during the Awards Show.

A partial list of items to go on the Silent Auction bidding block are: script from "City Slickers" signed by Billy Crystal; a weekend for two at the Embassy Suites, Palm Desert; a six month membership to "Beginnings Video Dating Service;" one night, mid-week get-away at the Ritz Carlton, Laguna Niguel; autographed books by Paul Monette; autographed photo and Hawaiian shirt from "St. Elsewhere" donated by Ed Begley, Jr.; two autographed scripts by Dudley Moore; $50.00 gift certificate from Chatterton's Bookshop; lithograph by Rafalleo Serrano; lithograph by Robbie Conal; photograph by Carole Topalian; "Last Drawings of Christopher Isherwood" by Don Bachardy donated by A Different Light Bookstore; 2 dinners for two at O'Toto Restaurant; Custom Life Cast by Philip Hitchcock; 2 passes to 1992 Gay and Lesbian Film Festival; and four posters valued at $100.00 each and twelve, $50.00 gift certificates donated by the Framing Center.

Additional items are $50.00 gift certificate to Sisterhood Bookshop; hard cover copy of "Lisbon Traviata," signed by Richard Thomas, star of the Los Angeles production; "The Golden Girls" episode script when Blanche meets her gay brother's

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David Stinson
David Zahnizer

male lover for the first time, autographed by staff and donated by Jamie Wooten; framed poster by Frida Kahlo, "Me and my Parrots" donated by Sonrisa; ceramic planter with plant from Cottura; artwork by David Wells; photograph by Dwora Fried; weekend at the Bel Age Hotel; your fortune told at Queen of Cups; tea for two at Queen of Cups; photograph by Wayne Shimabukura; five frames donated by LA Eyeworks; two sets of dinner for four at The Abbey Restaurant; $100.00 gift certificate for dinner at Campanile; $100.00 gift certificate for dinner at Rock Lobster in San Diego; two nights/three days stay at Villa Mikanos in Palm Springs; two night stay at Hacienda De Angeles, a bed and breakfast in Santa Fe, New Mexico; two jackets that have been exclusively designed by Perry Ellis for "Entertainment Tonight," along with a behind the scenes, private tour of the set with Garret Glaser (On Air Correspondent) and lunch in the commissary. If you have an item for the auction, or would like to help out during the auction contact: **Co-Chairs Dean Hansell (213) 931-4883 or Jeffrey Janis (213) 931-8870.**

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*(Continued from page 1)*notice. Both the cocktail reception and the dinner are wheelchair accessible.

By attending GLAAD/LA's Media Award Show, you will be telling those whose work in the media has promoted honest and accurate portrayals of the lives of lesbians and gay men how much we need and appreciate them, as well as helping GLAAD carry out its mission.

To reserve a ticket for this gala event, call (213) 463-0270 or mail in the tear-off coupon in this issue of *GLAAD/LA Reports*.

Thank you APLA for the use of your Laserwriter in making this issue!

GLAAD News

Executive Director's Report
by Chris Fowler

Things have happened so fast around here, I wanted to take a minute to say Hello to everyone. For those of you who are curious about why I am writing the Executive Director's column and Richard Jennings is not, here's a recap: In January, Rich was offered the job as Executive Director of Hollywood Supports. To provide our board with the opportunity to review GLAAD/LA's direction and the E.D. job description, we developed an interim position that would give GLAAD time to conduct a national search for Rich's permanent replacement. As Co-President, I was in a position to step into the job with little training, and decided to accept the offer the board extended. Since then, it's been a whirlwind, and I've been having the time of my life.

Rich, however, is not far away. He has rejoined GLAAD/LA's board of directors, and continues to participate on our committees. In addition, as the E.D. of Hollywood Supports, Rich will be an important ally with a significant position in the entertainment industry. Not only will GLAAD benefit from Hollywood Supports' goals and mission, but together with APLA, our partner organization in Hollywood Supports' implementation, we will gain an even stronger voice in combatting homophobia and AIDS-phobia in the entertainment industry.

That battle is not an easy one:

An alliance was recently forged between Cardinal Roger Mahony of the Catholic Church and Ted Baehr of the Christian Film and Television Commission. Baehr and his organization have been some of the Christian fundamentalist's most ardent advocates for the elimination of gay and lesbian depictions from ALL forms of the media The two proposed a new motion picture code, reminiscent of the Hays Code which dictated appropriate images in film from 1933 to 1966. The code was authored by Baehr and proposed by Mahony in an attempt to take us back to the "legion of decency" era, when all films had to go before the Hays Office before receiving approval for distribution. Included in the new code's restrictions is the exclusion of depictions in any form of "sexual perversion:" translation — no homosexuality. In addition, the code would prohibit complete nudity; sexuality (including adultery) "must not be explicitly treated or justified or presented attractively;" any "ridicule on any religious faith" would be unacceptable; and nearly all forms of dancing would be prohibited, including "movements while the feet are stationary" because that would "violate decency."

The concept has struck a chord in society for many reasons. Many people are tired of Hollywood's glorification of violence, especially against women, and the code feeds into that. On the other hand, the NEA furor over homoerotic art has many questioning any potential restrictions on freedom of expression. The point which needs to be made, however, is that the total package Mahony and Baehr are proposing would be incredibly damaging to any media attempts to depict the diversity and accuracy of lesbian and gay lives. Our invisibility is as dangerous as even the most heinous negative depictions.

Another pressing issue right now is Hollywood's continuing abuse of the lesbian and gay community. As we have been documenting in the newsletter over the past couple of years, Hollywood's depictions of lesbians and gay men have been disastrous, defamatory and nearly unqualifyingly negative. Similar to last year's furor around this time of year about "Silence of the Lambs," this year will see a major film release with defamatory images in "Basic Instinct." The film's release will coincide with the Academy Awards, and the community's reaction will likely be strong. A number of groups are planning demonstrations around the film's opening, including some who favor placing billboards in major media areas giving away the film's ending as a form of protest. GLAAD is continuing its efforts by planning a national activation which will include informational leafletting to people attending the movie, as well as attempts to work within the film's production company, Carolco, to do sensitivity trainings for the creative staff in hopes of avoiding a future film with "Basic Instinct's" homophobia. There is also discussion with Carolco about developing a public service announcement to educate the public about homophobia.

Regardless of what form the action takes, however, this is a chance to voice our concerns — our anger — as a community. The multi-level approach we are participating in is crucial to convincing those in the entertainment industry that continuous defamation against lesbians and gay men, both in the negative depictions and in our nearly absolute invisibility, are unacceptable. Regardless of what you as individuals feel are appropriate forms of protest of this film, please remember that it is in your protesting that we will bring about change.

GLAAD March Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	thursday	Friday	Saturday
			26	27	28	29
1MARCH	2	3	4 Outreach Cmte. 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	5 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm7033 Sunset Deadline for GLAAD/LA Reports	6 Youth Visibility Week	7
8	9	10 Board Meeting 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	11	12	13	14 Women's Caucus 2pm 7033 Sunset
15	16	17	18	19 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	20 Deadline Ad space for Media Awrds Show	21
22	23	24 General Meeting 7:00pm 6000 W. Pico	25	26	27	28 Speakers Bureau 2:00 pm 7033 Sunset

GLAAD/LA HOTLINE: (213) 931-9429 (213) 931-9GAY

April Calendar Dates

April 1 Outreach Committee

April 2 Monitor/Response -Deadline Articles for May GLAAD Reports

April 11 Media Awards Show

April 14 Board Meeting

April 16 Monitor/Response

✂

Not all gay bashers use a fist or weapon. **Some use a pen or a camera.**

Yes, I want to help stop bigotry in the media. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

❒$250 ❒$100 ❒$50 ❒$30 ❒ $_____

Name_____

Address_____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone _____ Tax ID#95-4242716

▼Send to: GLAAD/LA P.O. Box 931763 Hollywood, CA 90093-1763▼

HANDY MEDIA GUIDE

TELEVISION NETWORKS

ABC Entertainment (310)557-7777
Robert Iger, Pres., 2020 Ave. of the Stars, Los Angeles ,CA 90067
CBS Entertainment (213)852-2345
Jeff Sagansky, Pres., 7800 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036
NBC Entertainment (818)840-4444
Warren Littlefield, Pres., 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523
Fox Broadcasting (310)277-2211
Peter Chernin, Pres., P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

TELEVISION STATIONS

KCBS (213)460-3000 (Ch. 2)
Steve Gigliotti, Gen. Mgr. 6121 W. Sunset Blvd Hollywood CA 90028
KNBC (818)840-4444 (Ch. 4)
John Rohrbeck, Gen. Mgr.,3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank CA 91505
KTLA (213)460-5500 (Ch. 5)
Steven A. Bell, Gen. Mgr., 5800 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KABC (213)557-7777 (Ch. 7)
Terry Crofoot, Gen. Mgr., 4151 Prospect Ave., Hollywood CA 90027
KCAL (213)467-5459 (Ch. 9)
David Woodcock, Gen. Mgr., 5515 Melrose Ave.,Los Angeles, CA 90038
KTTV (213)856-1000 (Ch. 11)
Greg Nathanson, Gen. Mgr., 5746 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KCOP (213)851-1000 (Ch. 13)
Bill Frank, Gen. Mgr., 915 N. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
KCET (213)666-6500 (PBS Ch. 28)
William Cobin, Pres., 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90027
KMEX (213)466-3434 (Ch. 34)
Richard Ramirez, Gen. Mgr., 6255 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90038
KVEA (213)502-5700
Stephen J. Levine, Gen. Mgr., 1139 Grand Central Ave., Glendale CA 91201

RADIO STATIONS

KABC (213)840-4900
George Green, Pres., 3321 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angles CA 90016
KFI-640 AM (213)385-0101
Howard Neal, Gen. Mgr., 610 S. Ardmore, Los Angeles CA 90005
KFWB News 98 (213)462-5392
Chris Claus, Gen. Mgr., 6230 Yucca St., Hollywood Ca 90028
KNX-AM News Radio (213)460-3343
George Nicholaw, V.P., 6121 W. Sunset Blvd. Hollywood CA 90028
KPFK-FM (818)985-2711
Alan Fong, Gen. Mgr., 3729 Cahuenga Blvd.W, North Hollywood Ca 91604

NEWSPAPERS

La Opinion (213)622-8332
411 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles CA 90013
Los Angeles Times (213)237-7000
Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles CA 90053
The Daily News (818)713-3000
P.O. Box 4200, Woodland Hills CA 91365
The Outlook (310)829-6811
P.O. Box 590, Santa Monica CA 90406
The Orange County Register (714)835-1234
625 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana CA 92701

MOTION PICTURE STUDIOS

Sony Pictures Corp. (818)280-8000
Peter Guber, CEO, 10202 W. Washington Bl., Culver City CA 90232
MCA/Universal (818)777-1000
Lew Wasserman, CEO, 100 Univedrsal City Plaza, Universal City Ca 91608
Paramount Studios (213)956-5000
Stanley Jaffe ,CEO,5555 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
The Walt Disney Co. (818)560-1000
Michael Eisner, CEO, 500 S. Buena Vista, Burbank CA 91521
20th Century Fox (310)277-2211
Barry Diller, CEO, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

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Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 4 No. 3 APRIL 1992

★NEWS BRIEFS★

GLAAD/LA General Meeting

Reports from the committees and staff of GLAAD/LA will highlight the Apr. General Meeting on **Tues., Apr. 28, at Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 W. Pico Blvd.** (just east of Cresent Heights). This is a real chance to learn about the workings of GLAAD/LA and get involved. Meeting starts at 7:00 pm and runs to 9:00 pm. All are welcomed, so bring a friend. Refreshments are provided.

★

Search for GLAAD/LA Executive Director Continues

GLAAD/LA has begun the search process for a permanent Executive Director. The Executive Director is GLAAD/LA's main spokesperson and responsible to the Board of Directors to plan, organize and manage GLAAD/LA's programs and activities. GLAAD/LA is seeking a person of high energy with strong administrative and communication skills with experience in fundraising and public relations. Those interested may send their resume, including salary requirements and list of references, in confidence to: **Executive Search Committee, GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Los Angeles, 90093.** No telephone calls please. GLAAD/LA is an equal opportunity employer. Women and people of color are encouraged to apply.

★

Monitor Volunteers Needed

GLAAD/LA needs volun-

GLAAD/LA MEDIA AWARDS SHOW IS HOT TICKET

The glamour and glitter that accompany Hollywood media award shows will be available in great abundance as GLAAD/LA presents its 1992 Media Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Sat., Apr. 11. Honoring such films as "Fried Green Tomatoes" and "Frankie & Johnny," co-host Judith Light (from TV's "Who's the Boss?") will lead a cast of luminaries who are bound to raise the pulse and delight what is expected to be a capacity crowd. A Silent Auction, featuring such items as a script from "City Slickers" signed by Billy Crystal, will also take place. With a few reservations still available, the black-tie optional dinner (7:30 pm) and show (8:30 pm) will be preceded by a cocktail reception and silent auction (6:00 pm). Tickets are $275.00 for a VIP version of the cocktail party and $175.00 for general tickets. For reservations call: **(213) 463-0270.**

Honig Unable to Stop Project 21

State Superintendent of Education Bill Honig met with representatives of the gay and lesbian community in Aug., 1988 to help initiate the creation of the Advisory Committee for the Gay and Lesbian Community. This committee, Project 21, was to function like other minority advisory committees in the review of textbooks for use in the classroom. In Jan., 1989 Honig reversed his support for this committee but assurances were given, through his Deputy, that the Superintendent's "door would be open." Since that time, Honig has not met with the committee and has declared that knowledge of the gay and lesbian community is "not *(Continued on page 10)*

In This Issue:

❷ Television & Film Watch
❺ Radio & Print Watch
❻ GLAAD News
❿ Executive Director's Report

teers to monitor the following publications: *Daily News* (Valley), *La Opinion*, *Daily Bruin* (UCLA), the *Daily Trojan* (USC) and nearly all weekly/monthly magazines. If you have access to these publications monitor them for any homophobic content and/or articles relating to the lesbian and gay community. Articles, stories and clippings may be sent to: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood, 90093; FAX (213) 463-4923.**

★

GLAAD/LA Reports Goes Electronic

The newsletter of GLAAD/LA (*GLAAD/LA Reports*) is now available electronically. Anyone with a modem can call to **(213) 463-9257**, pick up the "sig" entitled "glaad" and read the latest issue several weeks before it is mailed. In addition, FIDONET will be receiving GLAAD postings so anyone, anywhere in the country, can get our messages on a local BBS that has a tie-in with FIDONET. (The local, Los Angeles area BBS FIDONET tie-in is: **Stonewall West! (818) 781-9506.**) If you need help in contacting the GLAAD/LA Bulletin Board, FIDONET or Stonewall West!, Mac users may call **Charles Zweig (818) 763-9501.** IBM/clones may call **Jack Newsbaum (310) 441-9106.**

★

Media Outreach Committee

The Media half of the Outreach Committee will be meeting the third Monday of each month (for Apr. that will be the 20) at 7:30 pm at the GLAAD/LA office, 7033 Sunset Blvd., two blocks east of La Brea in Hollywood. Media Outreach works in a vari-

Co-President's Column

by Dean Hansell

"When heterosexism strikes, strike back," urge folksingers Romanovsky & Phillips in one of their recent songs. The act of "striking back " or responding when confronted with homophobia involves the drawing of a line. Drawing a line is our way of deciding what we accept and what we are not willing to accept.

No two persons draw their lines in the same spot. However, we cannot avoid taking a stand even if we do nothing. Often we fail to act because we are unaware that we have just been confronted with a homophobic situation. Part of the acceptance of who we are is gaining awareness of when we are confronted with a homophobic situation and consciously deciding what our response will be.

I prepared this column before I learned that last month's Co-President's column, written by Jehan Agrama, discussed the personal dimensions of dealing with homophobia and used an example similar to mine. What is most remarkable is that we each independently chose to write about similar topics. This suggests that making personal choices when confronted with homophobia is a topic that is increasingly important to us as we confront a world that often tries to exclude us or distort who we are.

Now to the example. My lover and I took a trip to Florida last month. On the flight we were each given questionnaires seeking our opinions about the airline's food, service, timeliness, etc. At the end of the questionnaire we were asked personal information, such as level of education and household income. Then came the question about marital status. There were only two choices: "Married" and "Single." What to do? I have often filled out such forms in the past and unthinkingly marked "single" to the personal status question. We decided to create a third choice "Long Term Gay Relationship." We drew a box, checked it and returned our forms with a smile to the flight attendant. This small act of bureaucratic defiance may hardly be noticed by the survey tabulator much less acknowledged by the airline, but it was an important act to my lover and me at the moment. It was a way to say, "Don't forget about us!"

Your involvement with GLAAD is not just about changing how the media and the entertainment industry portray (or ignore) our lives. It is also your way of drawing a line and saying these are things that I am not prepared to accept. It is your way of creating a new choice when the available answers to the question leaves you out.

"Murphy Brown" Two Thumbs Up

The hilarious Mar. 4 episode of "Murphy Brown" (CBS-TV, Wed., 9:00 pm) entitled "Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are," written by Gary Dontzig and Steve Peterman, showcased Miles Silverberg, the news director, wondering if he might be gay after having a dream about Rick, the new guy in publicity.

Arguing about the best way to find out if Rick is gay, Murphy Brown and Frank Fontana make a bet whether he is or not. When the publicist comes into the room they all try to pin down his sexual orientation using every stereotypical myth possible. Frank points out that Rick has a *House and Garden* magazine while Murphy locates *Road & Track*, discovering that Rick and Frank both drive Corvettes. Corky Sherwood has her own trick. "If a man has something on his shoe and he needs to turn-up his heel to see it, a straight guy will lift his ankle across the front of his body. If he's gay, he'll kick-up his heel to the back of his body." In a last ditch effort to find out if Rick is gay, Corky yells, as Rick is leaving the room, "Rick, there's something stuck on your shoe." He first looks under his shoe from the front and then kicks it to the back. Running after him and attempting to appear friendly, they plead, "We want to know more about you." As he gets on the elevator, Rick replies, "Born in Maryland, graduated Northwestern, and (smiling) yes, I'm gay!"

Miles goes to numerous therapist to interpret his dream only to learn that "you could be gay." Miles is devastated. Murphy tells him to snap out of it while Corky is busy trying to hook him up with her minister who happens to be gay. Rick finally confronts Miles over why he has been avoiding him. Miles says he was afraid that Rick would want to get involved which makes Rick laughingly burst out with, "That's ridiculous. First of all you're not my type." "Why not?" whines an incredulous Miles. Rick helps Miles with his dream and then asks if Miles would help set-up a date with

Television & Film

Frank. "Frank? But Frank's not gay," says Miles. "That's impossible!" says Rick and the episode ends as their conversation continues.

The audience laughed at the absurdity of Miles preoccupation with his own and his co-worker's sexual orientation, and the bizarre, but usual way people try to identify gay men. The episode was entertaining and yet challenged prejudice and homophobia. Comments to: **"Murphy Brown," Diane English and Joel Schukovsky, Executive Producers; Warner Bros., Bldg. 3A, Room 28, 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, 91522. Carbon copy to: Jeff Sagansky, CBS Entertainment, 7800 Bevely Blvd., Los Angeles, 90036.** GLAAD has received a script of this episode signed by the entire cast for the Silent Auction which will be held during the GLAAD/LA Media Awards Show on Apr. 11.

"Life and Times" Tackles Hate Crimes

KCET-TV's new show, "Life and Times" (weekdays, 7:30 pm and 12 o'clock midnight), is to be commended for including gays and lesbians on the Feb. 10 broadcast concerning hate crimes directed at minorities. Hosted by Hugh Hewitt, Pat Morrison and John Ochoa, discussion centered around the possible reasons for the rise in hate crimes. It also looked at a cable access show that recently advocated gay-bashing. The show, "Dino and Rocco's Back Alley," distributed to public access by Century Cable, ended a recent episode with Dino admonishing, "If you didn't bash a gay today, do it tomorrow!" Such remarks are typical for this show which regularly exploits the stereotypes of Jews, persons of color, gays and lesbians under the guise of humor. Invited as a guest for the segment was Dino, Mr. Dino DiNatale, who tried to justify his remark as something a fictional character might make. In response, Joel Rothschild, a GLAAD/LA member and a victim of gay-bashing, expressed, "This public access show trades in hate and appeals to the lowest common denominator." Supportive opinions and incisive questioning by the hosts contributed to the unmasking of this ignorant and blatant hate masquerading as entertainment. That a level-headed discussion on such a volatile topic was possible is a credit to KCET and "Life and Times." **Write: William Kobin, President, KCET-TV, 4401 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, 90027.**

"Dino and Rocco's Back Alley" is coming back on the air. A spokesperson for Century Cable says that Mr. DiNatale has been verbally warned. A written warning from Century Cable's lawyer in New York City will be sent. The demand of West Hollywood's Cable Administrator that the show be cancelled has not been met. GLAAD/LA member, Bob LaFont, has created a half-hour show titled "Gay and Lesbian News Magazine," which will precede "Back Alley" on both Century and UA Cable. To register your reaction: **Mr. Glen Friedman, Regional General Manager, Century Cable, 2939 Nebraska Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90404.**

The Other Side of the Closet

The Feb. 24 edition of the "Oprah Winfrey Show" (KABC-TV, 3:00 pm, weekdays) presented Amity Pierce Buxton, Ph.D., author of *The Other Side of the Closet.* Included on the panel were a divorced couple and the husband's new gay lover. The unresolved anger, resentment and betrayal felt by the former wife showed convincingly some of the problems that occur when a heterosexual marriage is viewed as a cure for homosexuality. Each of the gay men had been in long term marriages and was a father. Said the wife, "He looks like my husband, the man that I married, but he's not him anymore." Responded the husband, "In my mind and heart I know now that I was born gay. I thought getting married would put an end to those desires." Dr. Buxton, who wrote her book after learning that her husband of 24 years was gay, served as the program's serious, intelli-

ety of ways to educate people in the media about homophobia and about GLAAD. Our activities are targeted at the film, television, radio, music and print industries. If you have experience in any of these areas or if you are interested in learning more about the media, please join us. Call: **Karen Wilson, Outreach Committee, Media Co-Chair, (213) 413-1981.**

★

Shifting Boundaries/Contested Spaces

The Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities has begun a lecture and film series examining the relationship between oppositional and mainstream culture. Part of the series will showcase lesbian and gay issues with the screening of three controversial and important films: Todd Haynes' "Poison" (Apr. 13); Jennie Livingston's "Paris is Burning" (Apr. 15) and Marlon Riggs' "Tongues Untied" (May 20). In addition, panel discussions and workshops with these filmmakers are scheduled. For complete information contact: **The Getty Center (310) 459-9811, ext. 7085.**

★

To Season, Add Several Cups of Homophobia

Effusively down-to-earth TV cook Juila Child couldn't quite find the right ingredients to handle the flap over her reaction to being called a kitchen homophobe. It seems Child, along with the American Institute of Wine and Food, is being sued for discrimination by a gay job applicant who claims he was told that Child was "rabidly homophobic" and that "Ms. Child's homophobia would undermine"

his effectiveness on the job. Instead of making a clear forthright statement deploring homophobia, Ms. Child could only concoct an untasty "No comment." Send your recipe for increased social awareness to: **Julia Child, American Institute of Wine and Food, 1550 Bryant Street, Suite 700, San Francisco, 94103.**

★

GLAAD Member Deserves "Published Letters Award"

GLAAD/LA member Steven Moore of Pomona writes lots of letters and has a clever, timely style that gets upwards of 50 letters per year printed by the Southern California press. From the *Los Angeles Times* on Mar. 2, Steven writes, "...protestors carried signs with the buzz phrase 'God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve.' I believe that God made everyone of us, gays and lesbians included. All those that bear the name Adam were made by God, as was yours truly, whose name is Steve. So God did, indeed, make Adam and Steve." Congratulations, Steve! And keep up the good work!

★

Levi's Now Even More Comfortable

On Feb. 24, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that Levi Strauss & Co., the world's largest clothing manufacturer, will begin offering health benefits to unmarried partners of its U.S. employees. The decision, which goes into effect on June 1, makes Levi Strauss the largest company in the United States to extend such benefits to partners of its unmarried employees. Strauss will use the "honor system" to ensure that people who join the health

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gent and enlightened counselor. Her advice to all couples involved in this type of marriage, an estimated 1,000,000 in America, was not to blame each other, tell the truth about yourself, and don't be deceitful. Questions and advice from the mainstream audience encouraged the wife to accept the situation and not to use the children against her former spouse, and admonished the husband for not being truthful to her. The program served as another educational vehicle to help understand sexual orientation. Comments to: **Ms. Oprah Winfrey or Ms. Debby di Maio, Executive Producer, "Oprah Winfrey Show," c/o Harpo Inc., 110 N. Carpenter St., Chicago, IL 60607.**

"How Do You Know If Your Baby Is Gay?"

Hooking-up to the latest wrinkle in America's recognition and absorption of its lesbian and gay citizens was the "Five o'Clock News" on KNBC-TV with a report entitled "How Do You Know If Your Baby is Gay?" Acknowledging that genetic research and scientific testing have become more sophisticated and thorough, the report, seen on Mar. 2 and 3, disclosed that it may soon be possible to detect the sexual orientation of a fetus. Unfortunately the implications of this possibility were subjected to a quasi-tabloid format and pre-broadcast, promotional sound bytes honed to provoke fear in some and derision in others. Would a mother opt for abortion if the fetus genetically, or in some other medical or scientific way, could be determined to be gay or lesbian? The sensationalizing of these life and death issues denigrates their importance. Quality and substantive news broadcasting demands more insight and intelligence. One side of the issue not covered was the possibility of pooling "gay and lesbians genes" to produce only gay and lesbian babies! Contact: **Ms. Nancy Valenta, News Director, KNBC-TV, "Five o'Clock News," 3000 W. Alameda Avenue, Burbank, 91505.**

Rick Dees Typecast?

Hope you had your television set turned to "Roseanne" (KABC-TV, Tues., 9:00 pm) on Mar. 4. Roseanne is working at the restaurant and her boss, Leon (Martin Mull), is having a bad day because he has just broken up with his lover, Steve. Roseanne and the other waitress gently tease him about the break-up, combining equal parts of understanding, acceptance and humor. Leon mentions that the restaurant is going to be used in a company commercial and Roseanne's family is chosen to be in the commercial. Enter Rick Dees, known more for his juvenile, homophobic radio personality than his acting, as the director of the commercial. The commercial is finished and when we next see Roseanne at the restaurant, Leon is in a much better mood. It seems he is putting Steve behind him and he has accepted a date with a possible new love interest. At that moment in walks the director of the commercial, Rick Dees. The two men say hello and leave together.

Leon's split-up and his interest in a new man was handled in a very natural and matter-of-fact way. "Roseanne" deserves continued credit for this inclusive and natural depiction of gay men. Supportive comments can be directed to: **"Roseanne," c/o The Carsey-Werner Co., c/o CBS/MTM, 4024 Radford Ave., Building #3, Studio City, CA 91604.**

You may also like to write Rick Dees, originator of an untold number of on-the-air homophobic comments, to tell him how much you enjoyed seeing him play a positive gay character. **Rick Dees, KIIS FM, 6255 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, 90028.**

Rutten Captures Essence of Anti-Gay Violence

In the Mar. 5 View section of the *Los Angeles Times*, Tim Rutten wrote what will probably be seen as one of the most remarkable articles towards understanding gay-bashing and its connection to the stance and moral tone taken by our

nation's political figures. With the article headlined "Candidate Sees Gays as Enemies," Mr. Rutten related, with unusual warmth, insight and poignancy, his becoming aware of gay-bashing during a Sunday afternoon stroll. That he was then able to tie this in with the national statistics on gay hate crimes, local examples of gay-bashing and the strident, hateful rhetoric of Republican presidential aspirant Patrick Buchanan, gives testimony to his awareness and literary skills. To commend Mr. Rutten for this excellent piece of journalism, write: **Tim Rutten, View Section, *Los Angeles Times*, Times-Mirror Square, Los Angeles, 90053.**

Danneymeyer, Buchanan, et al

Conservatives Whipping-Up Anti-Lesbian and Gay Hate to Raise Funds/Votes

With the California primaries looming on the horizon, conservative reactionaries are again tapping their mailing lists for donations based on rabid homophobia, militant ignorance and entrenched hate. Stories and broadcasts on recent 1992 state primaries document that a slanted and misrepresented ad campaign based on a mixture of homophobia and racial hatred can produce money and votes. No longer content with relegating lesbians and gays to the back of the bus, some 1992's candidates and figures are using gays and lesbians as the premier additive to fuel their campaigns.

The latest crop of fundraising letters aimed at California voters has been generated by U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer, Republican Senate candidate, and the Reverend Lou Sheldon. Dannemeyer is busy conducting a "National Poll on Homosexuals in the Republican Party." While at one time it was thought that this would have been akin to looking for a needle in a haystack, Mr. Dannemeyer has seen the enemy and he's surrounded! Accusing one of his opponents, appointed Senator John Seymour of leading the "pro-homosexual wing of the Republican Party," Mr. Dannemeyer feels Senator Seymour can be stopped for upwards of a $1,000. donation. Meanwhile, Reverend Sheldon is busy mining the gay and lesbian gold fields for unspecified amounts of money to stop AB 2601. Characterizing Assemblyperson Terry Friedman, who introduced both AB 101 and AB 2601 as "the point man for the heavily funded, highly organized homosexual lobby," Reverend Sheldon mixes his time-worn yet proven methods of fundraising with strong doses of misguided, religious zeal.

The *Los Angeles Times* on Feb. 28 discussed the contents of a television ad for Republican presidential candidate Patrick J. Buchanan, which shows photos of African-American gay men taken from the film "Tongues Untied." The film was subsidized by the National Endowment for the Arts, and the commercial accused President Bush of investing tax dollars in "pornographic and blasphemous art" that "glorified" homosexuality. Buchanan spokesperson Jerry Woodruff argued that the ad had "nothing to do with anti-gay prejudice," and that people should not have their tax dollars spent on "values that insult them." Ironically, Bush spokesperson Torie Clarke called the ad "an insult" and typical of the "garbage" Buchanan "has been putting on the air."

Still physically out of California at this point, Buchanan has a clone-replacement on some California newspaper's op-ed pages named Samuel Francis. Mr. Francis' syndicated column continues the thrust of Buchananese with a style that is sleazily vicious and violently dishonest. Write to: **Mr. Dave Williams, President, Tribune Media Services, Inc., 435 N. Michigan Avenue, 6th Floor, Chicago, IL 60611.**

GLAAD Counsels Dr. Viscott

A young lesbian falls in love with an older woman. Her heart is broken and she calls KNBC television personality Dr. David Viscott for counseling. As the story unfolds it becomes clear that the older woman was "playing games" and Dr.

plan are really live-in, unmarried lovers. The offer applies to all of the company's 23,000 U.S. workers but is expected to be used "primarily by homosexual couples." To date, only 750 employees nationwide have signed up for benefits. Comments to: **Mr. Robert Haas, Chairman of the Board, Levi Strauss & Co., 1155 Battery Street, San Francisco, 94111.**

★

Revolutionary Oprah!

You don't need guns to have a revolution. How about a TV talk show with the talented Oprah Winfrey and "Couples Who Are Fighting Over Money?" Not too revolutionary or exciting, you say? One of the partners of the couples on the panel was doing whatever possible to recover money from the other. Significantly, Oprah made no issue whatsoever that one of the featured couples was two gay men. She was in effect saying that gay and lesbian couples are so acceptable that the point doesn't even merit discussion. A great approach that needs to be emulated. Write to Oprah about her Feb. 26 show at: **Ms. Oprah Winfrey or Ms. Debby di Maio, Executive Producer, "Oprah Winfrey Show," c/o Harpo Inc., 110 N. Carpenter St., Chicago, IL 60607.**

GLAAD NEWS

Traffic Fines Fuel Community Service

Recently enacted legislation covering traffic fines includes a state levy on all traffic fines. This fine and penalty is levied even if traffic school is paid for and attended. However, the substitution of commu-

nity service for non-profit organizations, such as GLAAD/LA, may be used in lieu of paying the fine and penalty.

To secure community service, in place of paying the fine, several steps must be followed:

1. Traffic violators contact GLAAD/LA before requesting community service.

2. Convince the judge that you have more time than money and that you know of several community organizations that need your volunteer help, i.e. GLAAD/LA.

3. Payment of a $30.00 registration fee with the Community Service Administration Service within 10 days of the judge's ruling. (This fee can be waived by the judge at the time of the ruling if you can show financial hardship.)

Community Service does not remove the violation from your DMV record as does attendance at traffic school. For further information contact:
GLAAD/LA Office Manager, Darcy Galane, (213) 463-3632.

Heated Debate on the Ice

Los Angeles Times sports writer Steve Springer explored the National Hockey League's fears about AIDS in a Feb. 28 story entitled, 'The Red Badge Becomes Symbol of NHL's Fears." A debate has broken out around the players' fears of contracting AIDS even though, wrote Springer, "there has not been a single documented case of AIDS in the league." Team doctors want to convey the fact that AIDS is not solely a homosexual disease, that the heterosexual community is also at risk. This prompted the King's Luc Robitaille, who feels that some women go after

Television & Film

Viscott remarks, "...this woman would taunt and tease you just to pull you along." The good doctor then engenders the on-the-air diagnosis that, "It's part of that lifestyle a little bit, isn't it?"

In a letter from GLAAD/LA, Dr. Viscott was reminded that lesbianism is not a lifestyle, but a sexual orientation. Continued the letter, "Within the lesbian community we have a wide range of women living various lifestyles, but lesbianism in and of itself is not a lifestyle. Secondly, we were sorry to hear you give a completely erroneous opinion about lesbians to the general public. To imply that lesbians are prone to playing emotional head games and that there are the taunting and teasing of each other as a matter of course, is unfair. What happens between two individuals in a single situation should not reflect upon an entire community as fact." To further enhance Dr. Viscott's understanding of sexual orientation, write: **Dr. David Viscott, KNBC-TV, 3000 W. Alameda, KNBC Building, Room 2272, Burbank, 91523.**

Newsweek: "Born or Bred?"

"Nicolosi is no more an expert on the subject of homosexuality than Hitler was on Judaism," declared GLAAD/LA in a friendly response to *Newsweek* magazine regarding its Feb. 24 cover story, "Born or Bred." Citing the general positive thrust and the continuing need for additional articles about the lesbian and gay community, GLAAD pointed out, "We are increasingly distressed at the publicity that psychologist Joseph Nicolosi has been receiving as a 'spokesperson' on homosexuality. Nicolosi has never conducted any scientific research to support his speculations. Including Nicolosi (in the article) did not present a satisfactory counterpoint to the debate this article sets forth." Writers David Gelman, Donna Foote, Todd Barrett and Mary Talbot contributed to the positive tone of the article even though it was printed in the "Lifestyle" section of *Newsweek* and referred to a man having "appropriate" relations with a woman. (This implies that same-sex partners are inappropriate.) To encourage *Newsweek* to be more vigilant and inclusive, write: **Richard M. Smith, Editor-in-Chief and President, *Newsweek*, 444 Madison Avenue, New York, 10022.**

Unfulfilled Zychik Offers Conversion

The GLAAD/LA hotline has been ringing off the hook. More complaints have been received about the advertisement, *"Gay to Straight. Any gay or bi-sexual man or woman can do it,"* than anything else in GLAAD/LA history. These ads have appeared in the *Utne Reader* (see *GLAAD/LA Reports*, Mar. issue), the *Hollywood Reporter, The Reader, The Nation, The Village View* and the *Daily News*. The person behind the ads is Joe Zychik, and he appeared with Bill Press on radio station KFI, Sat., Feb. 29. Joe admits that gay is not wrong, but says that complete fulfillment in life comes only from a heterosexual relationship. This is why he offers conversion therapy. You can talk to him at (310) 202-0670. First meeting is free; he charges thereafter. He is unlicensed and offers no qualifications. (One GLAAD hot-line caller claims he knows Joe, and Joe is an actor.) You can complain to: **Medical Quality Assurance Board, (800) 633-2322; the Mental Health Division of the State Consumer Affairs Department, (800) 344-9940; or write to the Public Enquiry Unit, c/o Attorney General of California, P.O. Box 944-255, Sacramento, 94244-2550.**

Does Gene Research Establish Gay Link?

"I'd Rather Not Be Ann Landers"

Ann Landers' Mar. 8 nationally syndicated column in the *Los Angeles Times* headlined, "Gene Research Uncovers Gay Link", caused Ms. Landers to gush, "To every homosexual who is reading this:

Please send a postcard...and write either, 'Yes, I'm glad I'm gay' or 'No, I would rather be straight." This idea is ridiculous, morally offensive and scientifically unsound. Our lives are not open to referendum. Next week, would she ask men to say "Yes, I'm glad I'm male" or "No, I would rather be female?"

This insensitivity illustrates the kind of defamation gays and lesbians must regularly confront. If the vote comes out "yes," will Ms. Landers argue for non-discrimination based on sexual orientation? If the vote comes out "no," will she support these fraudulent "reparative therapies?"

Scientifically, the poll is bogus. Postcard or phone call voting does not represent any kind of random sampling. The results are biased. This kind of methodology was discredited decades ago in the famous *Literary Digest* fiasco when it declared Franklin Roosevelt the loser in the 1936 presidential race based on postcards sent to the magazine. The *Literary Digest* went out of business. There is no way to determine if gay and lesbian people will be the ones sending in the cards.

GLAAD strongly urges you to write Landers and complain about this type of "poll." Encourage her to write about the rise in violence against lesbians and gay people. Write: **Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, IL 60611-0562.**

A Special to *GLAAD/LA Reports*...
An Open Letter to Ann Landers.

Will Gene Research Uncover Hetero Link?

Dear Ann: I am wondering if there has been research proving that genes play a major role in someone being heterosexual. Has there been a study conducted concerning the heterosexual "lifestyle," i.e. that the heterosexual "lifestyle" is not chosen but they are just "born that way?" I would like to know because of the tremendous number of couples who divorce citing "incompatibility." Does this mean they would be more compatible with people of the same sex? In addition, the rise in the number of wife beatings, rapes, child abuse and sexual harassment cases might mean that environmental and societal pressures are forcing people to adopt a lifestyle that is against their genetic predisposition. If you could answer in the paper I would appreciate it. Los Angeles, CA

Trojan Homophobia

The Viewpoint section of the *Daily Trojan*, the campus newspaper at USC, carried an astonishing article written by Dave Rogers, "a graduate student studying professional writing, and the *DT's* arts editor," in its Feb. 10 issue entitled "Lifestyles in the Workplace; Employers Have the Right to Discriminate in Hiring Gays." It seems that Mr. Rogers, along with "most reasonable citizens," was "appalled by the extremism on both sides" during the campaign for equal treatment of all California citizens as called for in AB 101. With an incredible stretch of logic and facts, Mr. Rogers has deduced, "It seems clear that homosexuals, (since they) do not reproduce, ought to be less favored than heterosexuals, who can help societies both to improve *and* to continue. In other words, discrimination against homosexuals is in the interests of the larger society — (and) ultimately is in the interests of the homosexuals themselves..." Mr. Rogers, whose article is highlighted with graphics which seem to indicate the folly of some of the societal injustices sustained by African-Americans and Hispanics, continues the thread of his convoluted analysis by assigning to gays and lesbians enough power that, "Greece is dust. Rome is ruin. Britain is a miserable shadow of its former self. We can be content to slide like them into the dustbin of history. Or we can choose to build the future." These "historical" utterances confirm that history is not part of Mr. Rogers' curriculum at USC. That this contrived and homophobic article would appear in a university newspaper at a time when other institutions of higher learning are beginning to grasp the insidiousness of discrimination and bias against gays and lesbians, shows the importance of the work and effort still ahead. On the same

the players, to conclude, "[The doctors] are putting the blame on the players." This fact was driven home by a story that ran in a French newspaper in Montreal about a woman who claimed to have had sex with about 50 NHL players in the mid-'80s. She died from complications of the disease about two years ago. In reference to her husband's peers, Beth Taylor, wife of the Kings' Dave Taylor, said, "Maybe this will put the fear of God into some of the guys who are single. I think they should all be tested." Perhaps fear will help the married men as well.

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P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood,CA 90093-1763 (213)463-3632
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Radio & Print

page, one of the *DT*'s editors responded to Mr. Rogers, offering an excellent rebutt to the obviously homophobic opinion. Comments to: **Ms. Robin Rauzi, Editor, *Daily Trojan*, USC, Student Union Bldg., #404, University Park, Los Angeles, 90089-0895.**

Campus Liberation

Dana Milbank's article, "Campus Liberation: Gay Students Enjoy Programs, Protections at Rutgers University," in *The Wall Street Journal* on Feb. 3 reads like a positive account of lesbian and gay college life that might have appeared in a publication such as *The Advocate*. *The Journal* has documented the policies and activities at the State Univeristy of New Jersey (Rutgers) with a story containing an unprejudiced and poignant view of gay and lesbian college life. Milbank's article points out the frustration, fear and relief that many lesbian and gay students experience when they accept and publicly acknowledge their sexual orientation. Peppered with numerous interviews documenting the acceptance and tolerance at Rutgers, the article publicizes an anti-discriminatory standard by which others will be measured. To commend *The Wall Street Journal* on its inclusive and unbiased reporting, write: **Dana Milbank, c/o *The Wall Street Journal*, Editor, 200 Liberty Street, New York, 10281.** Also, comment to: **Rutgers Univeristy, Newark, N.J., 08903.**

Library Update: Education Continues

Last Oct. a report on allegations of homophobia in the Los Angeles City Public Library was ordered by the city's Human Relations Commission (HRC). Well, it's done. And it's a powerful read. The report suggests ways the library address current tensions between gay and lesbian employees and other staff by conducting diversity workshops with special emphasis on homophobia. The HRC also gave a timetable for the library to forge better connections with the gay and lesbian community and to improve the collection of gay and lesbian materials in the library. This includes the creation of a Library Consumer Advisory Panel which will have gay and lesbian representatives.

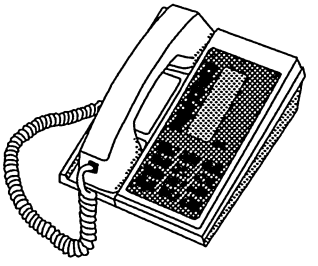
The incident that originally sparked the controversy in the library was the removal of a Lesbian and Gay History Month poster which contained a quote from Langston Hughes. The report notes, "The destruction of posters and materials at a library creates extraordinary images of censorship and repression," and then recommends that the poster be used for Lesbian and Gay History Month this June. The library has acted upon one recommendation of the report: Anti-homophobia sensitivity training. GLAAD/LA is one group being considered by the library to facilitate these trainings. We urge the library to act on the remaining recommendations.

There are ways you can make your library a gay and lesbian-friendly place: Ask if gay and lesbian materials are on hand. If the publication is missing, ask your library to order it. Offer to do a program for Gay and Lesbian History Month. You may post a flier about any event on the library bulletin board. Or mail your flier to the Library's Adult Services Department, tagged "Please Post for the Public," and it will be sent to all the city's branch libraries.

Write: **Ronald K. Wakabayashi, Executive Director, City of Los Angeles Human Relations Commission, 200 N. Spring St., Room 1000, Los Angeles, 90012; Mayor Tom Bradley, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, 90012; Elizabeth Martinez Smith, City Librarian, 630 W.5th St., Los Angeles, 90017; City of Los Angeles Public Library, Adult Services, Attention: Jennifer Lambelet, 361 S. Anderson St., Los Angeles, 90033.**

Deadline for article submissions for the May issue of **GLAAD/LA *Reports*** is April 2nd.

GLAAD/LA PRESENTS



The Phone Tree

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation needs your help!

Do you become angry when you see misrepresentation of lesbians and gays in the media? Now there is a simple way you can become actively involved.

If you have a telephone answering machine and are willing to make a few phone calls periodically as part of our team, you can help us make a difference!

Our goal is to be able to place within hours a minimum of 300 phone calls to a given target. A target will usually be a radio or television station, production company, a newspaper, or any other media business office. A target will be any entity responsible for a significant representation of lesbians and gays that appeared in the media, whether positive or negative.

GLAAD will also use the Phone Tree to pass the word to our community members when there is an upcoming rally or demonstration.

If you decide to become a part of the Phone Tree, GLAAD will provide you with the information that you need to know as it happens. We will have a dedicated line with a message stating the necessary information for reacting. When we become aware of an issue that demands immediate response, we will then activate the Phone Tree.

The Phone Tree is simply a process of relay calling. First, GLAAD will place calls to several key callers, or "coordinators." These coordinators will maintain a list of 15 secondary callers, or "activators." When the coordinators receive the message from GLAAD, they will then call their list of 15 activators.

The activators then place two calls. One to GLAAD's dedicated Phone Tree message line to hear what the issue is and where to call to respond to it, the other to the target to voice an opinion.

Voilá! 300 powerful voices are directed right to the source!

One opinion, regardless of its validity, seldom gets recognition. Together, though, we can make ourselves heard! Please join us!

Yes! I want to help! Count me in!

Name		**I would like to participate as:**
Address		**A Coordinator [ ] An Activator [ ]**
		As a Coordinator, I can [ ] cannot [ ]
Telephone		**provide my own list of 15 Activators.**

If you cannot be an active part of the Phone Tree, remember your tax-deductible donations to GLAAD are instrumental to our success!

I encourage your efforts. Enclosed is my contribution of: $_____

Please detach and mail to: GLAAD, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood, CA 90093-1763

For more information call the GLAAD/LA office at (213) 931-9429

Thank you for your support!

(Continued from page 1)age-appropriate" and they are not a "minority or cultural group."

In Feb. of this year Project 21 achieved a significant victory when the State's Health Curriculum Framework and Criteria Committee voted 8-1 for inclusion of the words "lesbian, gay and bisexual" in California health text guidelines, so reports GLAAD/SFBA. This decision may now be accepted, revised or rejected by the Health Subject Matter Committee (HSMC) of the California Curriculum Commission. Input, including personal stories or resource information, will help HSMC make the right decision. Write: **Eugene Flores, Chair, HSMC, California Curriculum Commission, Arroyo Grande High School, 495 Valley Road, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420.**

Harcourt Brace Jovanovich/Holt Rinehart & Winston is among the health education publishers currently developing textbooks with the new Curriculum Framework in mind. Editor Dave Clements appears sensitive to gay and lesbian inclusion and is seeking community feedback. Contact: **Dave Clements, Editor, HBJ School Department, Orlando, FL 32887.**

Mr. Honig has a duty, as an elected official, to guarantee to all constituencies fair representation on state education policy panels. To help educate Mr. Honig write: **Bill Honig, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Department of Education, P.O. Box 944272, Sacramento, 94244-2770; (916) 445-9016.**

GLAAD News

Executive Director's Report

by Chris Fowler

I write to you from the midst of the "Basic Instinct" storm.

At press time, we are gearing up for the release of the new Carolco film "Basic Instinct." Following is a recap of the history of the film.

GLAAD first obtained a copy of the script during pre-production several months prior to filming. GLAAD/LA contacted the production company, Carolco, which arranged for a GLAAD representative to speak with director Paul Verhoeven. At that time, Verhoeven indicated he was already planning to revise characterizations and scenes that GLAAD found particularly offensive or gratuitous. Two weeks prior to filming, however, it was announced that Verhoeven had gone back to the original script and that original screenwriter Eszterhas was back on the project.



Executive Director Chris Fowler

During filming in San Francisco, GLAAD/SFBA representatives requested a meeting with representatives from the production company. Talks broke down when Eszterhas agreed to the possibility of script changes, and Verhoeven refused to even consider them. At that time, certain lesbian, gay and bisexual groups staged protests near the film site aimed at interrupting production. GLAAD/LA continued in informal meetings during post-production to propose ways in which Carolco could help alleviate the film's potential for fueling more anti-gay violence. Some suggested items discussed included producing a public service announcement on anti-gay/anti-lesbian violence featuring one of the film's stars. We also offered to work with the stars to educate them about the lesbian and gay community's concerns, so that they could speak with an intelligent voice when asked about the protesters. And finally, GLAAD requested the opportunity to do a sensitivity training with Carolco's development crew, which happened in late February.

The final outcome of these negotiations came to very little — a screening (which was delayed until a week before the film's release) and the sensitivity training. Carolco hesitated on the development of the PSA to the point of negating its timeliness. In nearly every aspect of negotiations, they dragged their feet.

So now we turn out attentions to the film. When GLAAD representatives did see "Basic Instinct," our worst fears were confirmed. In two hours, "Basic Instinct" encapsulates Hollywood's historical depiction of lesbians. The lesbian portrayals are cardboard at best, derogatory and defaming at worst. All reference to lesbian sexuality is positioned not as a viable and real sexual orientation, but instead as a sexual fantasy for the heterosexual male characters. For example: the lesbian character Roxy likes to watch her girlfriend have sex with men; Douglas' character at one point says to Roxy, "Can we speak man to man?"; and the whole film reinforces the myth that lesbians hate men. Furthermore, the final outcome of the film follows the traditional Hollywood determination of who should live on happily, and who should die: the one strictly lesbian character dies, one of the bisexual women also dies (both at the hands of men), and the other bisexual woman either continues her murderous spree, or lives happily ever after in heterosexual "wedded" bliss (the film's ending is ambiguous).

Before I conclude, however, there's another side to "Basic Instinct" that needs to be addressed: It is probably the most misogynistic film I have ever seen. Women suffer rape, murder, physical and verbal abuse, all at the hands of men — and specifically, the lead, Michael Douglas. We have to remember, as we fight negative depictions of lesbians and gay men, that non-lesbian women and other minorities are also being abused and defamed. And as often as possible, we have to speak with the same voice — louder and stronger than either individual voice.

GLAAD April Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Community Outreach-Speakers 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	2 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 **GLAAD/LA Media Awards Show**
12	13	14 Board Meeting 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	15	16 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	17	18
19	20 Media Outreach 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 General Meeting 7:00pm 6000 W. Pico	29 Deadline for articles for June GLAAD/LA Reports →	30 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	1MAY	2

GLAAD/LA HOTLINE: (213) 931-9429 (213) 931-9GAY

May Calendar Dates

May 1-3 GLAAD/LA Board Retreat

May 6 Comm. Outreach Speakers 7:30pm 7033 Sunset

May 14 Monitor/Response Com. 7:30pm 7033 Sunset

May 15-17 GLAAD/USA Retreat in Los Angeles

✂

Not all gay bashers use a fist or weapon. **Some use a pen or a camera.**

Yes, I want to help stop bigotry in the media. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

❒$250 ❒$100 ❒$50 ❒$30 ❒ $_____

Name_____

Address_____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone _____ Tax ID#95-4242716

▼Send to: GLAAD/LA P.O. Box 931763 Hollywood, CA 90093-1763▼

HANDY MEDIA GUIDE

TELEVISION NETWORKS

ABC Entertainment (310)557-7777
Robert Iger, Pres., 2020 Ave. of the Stars, Los Angeles ,CA 90067
CBS Entertainment (213)852-2345
Jeff Sagansky, Pres., 7800 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036
NBC Entertainment (818)840-4444
Warren Littlefield, Pres., 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523
Fox Broadcasting (310)277-2211
Peter Chernin, Pres., P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

TELEVISION STATIONS

KCBS (213)460-3000 (Ch. 2)
Steve Gigliotti, Gen. Mgr. 6121 W. Sunset Blvd Hollywood CA 90028
KNBC (818)840-4444 (Ch. 4)
John Rohrbeck, Gen. Mgr.,3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank CA 91505
KTLA (213)460-5500 (Ch. 5)
Steven A. Bell, Gen. Mgr., 5800 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KABC (213)557-7777 (Ch. 7)
Terry Crofoot, Gen. Mgr., 4151 Prospect Ave., Hollywood CA 90027
KCAL (213)467-5459 (Ch. 9)
David Woodcock, Gen. Mgr., 5515 Melrose Ave.,Los Angeles, CA 90038
KTTV (213)856-1000 (Ch. 11)
Greg Nathanson, Gen. Mgr., 5746 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KCOP (213)851-1000 (Ch. 13)
Bill Frank, Gen. Mgr., 915 N. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
KCET (213)666-6500 (PBS Ch. 28)
William Cobin, Pres., 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90027
KMEX (213)466-3434 (Ch. 34)
Richard Ramirez, Gen. Mgr., 6255 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90038
KVEA (213)502-5700
Stephen J. Levine, Gen. Mgr., 1139 Grand Central Ave., Glendale CA 91201

RADIO STATIONS

KABC (213)840-4900
George Green, Pres., 3321 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angles CA 90016
KFI-640 AM (213)385-0101
Howard Neal, Gen. Mgr., 610 S. Ardmore, Los Angeles CA 90005
KFWB News 98 (213)462-5392
Chris Claus, Gen. Mgr., 6230 Yucca St., Hollywood Ca 90028
KNX-AM News Radio (213)460-3343
George Nicholaw, V.P., 6121 W. Sunset Blvd. Hollywood CA 90028
KPFK-FM (818)985-2711
Alan Fong, Gen. Mgr., 3729 Cahuenga Blvd.W, North Hollywood Ca 91604

NEWSPAPERS

La Opinion (213)622-8332
411 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles CA 90013
Los Angeles Times (213)237-7000
Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles CA 90053
The Daily News (818)713-3000
P.O. Box 4200, Woodland Hills CA 91365
The Outlook (310)829-6811
P.O. Box 590, Santa Monica CA 90406
The Orange County Register (714)835-1234
625 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana CA 92701

MOTION PICTURE STUDIOS

Sony Pictures Corp. (818)280-8000
Peter Guber, CEO, 10202 W. Washington Bl., Culver City CA 90232
MCA/Universal (818)777-1000
Lew Wasserman, CEO, 100 Univedrsal City Plaza, Universal City Ca 91608
Paramount Studios (213)956-5000
Stanley Jaffe ,CEO,5555 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
The Walt Disney Co. (818)560-1000
Michael Eisner, CEO, 500 S. Buena Vista, Burbank CA 91521
20th Century Fox (310)277-2211
Barry Diller, CEO, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

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GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 4 No. 5 MAY 1992

"DOING TIME" IS A PLEASURE

FOX-TV's (Ch. 11) Mar. 16 presentation of "Doing Time on Maple Drive" was a landmark event in the history of made-for-T.V. movies. It is the story of Matt (William McNamara) the "perfect son" whose neatly planned life unravels when he is forced to deal honestly with his homosexuality. Especially poignant is the scene in which Matt comes out to his best friend, Andy (Philip Linton) who reacts by reaffirming the bonds of their friendship. The film is noteworthy because it does not portray Matt's homosexuality as a problem in and of itself. The problem is the unrealistic expectations of his dysfunctional family.

In continuing its reputation of producing non-traditional television, Fox has given its audience a powerful and beautiful depiction of the realities of being gay or lesbian in modern society. And they did it with an intelligent script, a great group of actors, and a handsome production.

We have to thank "Maple Drive"'s producer, writer and director, and Fox television, for this kind of movie. When they hear the lesbian and gay community's applause, they will be more likely to do it again. Write: **Paul Lassier, Executive Producer, James Duff, Writer and Ken Olin, Director (of "thirtysomething") at FNM Film, 11833 Mississippi Ave., Los Angeles 90025.** Be sure to send a copy of your letter to: **Mr. Peter Chernin, President, Fox Entertainment Group, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, 90212.**

ONE-ACT PLAYS TO BENEFIT GLAAD/LA

An evening of exciting and thought-provoking one-act plays will be presented **May 13** at the Tamarind Theater (**5919 Franklin Avenue, Hollywood**) with GLAAD/LA benefitting from the proceeds. Featuring plays by Samuel Beckett, Lanford Wilson and GLAAD's own Dana Gorbea-Leon, the theater evening is called "Heavy Mental" and, according to actor/producer Don Paul, each play dramatizes the escape from self-imposed barriers and the attempt "...to capture past moments and missed opportunities."

Mr. Paul, recipient of a Drama-Logue award for his performance in "Natural Affection," will be working with Director Louis Fantasia *(Continued on page 8)*

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★NEWS BRIEFS★

Marvelous May Meeting

GLAAD's May General Meeting will feature a lively discussion entitled "Politics, Protests and Parades: How the lesbian and gay community presents itself." With the June Pride Festivals coming up, just on the heals of the "Basic Instinct" protests, and following last fall's renewed activism in the form of protests, the media is covering the lesbian and gay community in many new ways. The discussion will focus on which are the most effective, which the least, and the pros and cons of all possibilities. Panelists were not confirmed at press time, but the issue has been heating up recently, so it promises to be a lively and exciting discussion. As usual, the meeting will take place on the fourth Tuesday of the month. So, on **May 26**, plan on being at the **Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim at 6000 W. Pico** (just east of Crescent Heights). The panel **begins at 7:00 pm**, and will conclude by 9:00. Refreshments are available. And bring a friend!

★

Video Volunteers

GLAAD is looking for volunteers to organize our Video Archives. We have hundreds of hours

that need to be systematically reviewed, filed, and organized. If you are interested, please call **Sylvia Rhue at 213/464-7400, ext. 218**. This could be an interesting and entertaining project. So please call!

★

LA WEAKLY

The Apr. 10 issue of *L.A. Weekly* featured a cover story about Derek Jarman and his new film, Edward II. Unfortunately, the author of the article, noted gay writer Dennis Cooper, went on for several paragraphs characterizing GLAAD as an organization promoting bland, middle-of-the-road gay and lesbian images. Send your letters to Cooper in care of the *Weekly*: ***LA Weekly*, P.O. Box 29905, Los Angeles 90029**. Copy the *Weekly*'s editor, Kit Rachlis, and as usual, remember to include GLAAD in your copies as well.

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Research Volunteers Needed

Do you have gay or lesbian children, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, cousins, parents or other relatives?

If so, you are being invited to participate in a family study of "Biological Determinants of Human Sexuality," sponsored by the National Institute of Health (NIH). The aim of the study is to determine whether the development of sexual orientation is

Co-President's Column

By Jehan Agrama

The reason "Silence of the Lambs" is homophobic is because the psycho character is portrayed as a homosexual, even if he's not really in the book. And in "Basic Instinct" the bisexual or lesbian women are all crazy. There's really nothing positive out there and that's why they're protesting.

I overheard this conversation while having breakfast with my lover at a local Los Angeles eatery. We were not dining in West Hollywood, not even Hollywood, for that matter. The speaker was a middle aged man, talking to his female wife/girlfriend/lover (I didn't eavesdrop long enough to find out) and her little daughter, approximately 10. What struck me was that he sounded as if he were a speaker for GLAAD/LA. He was not. He didn't look like he was an activist or even wanted to be an activist. But he was talking our language. AMAZING. Three years ago, before GLAAD/LA was formed, I doubt that I would have heard this conversation.

Part of GLAAD/LA's mission drafted three years ago was to work to change public opinion of gays and lesbians by working through the mainstream media. Our persistence as individuals and as a community demanding our rights, increasing our visibility and demanding respect is paying off

Lesbian and gay issues are now being covered in the press. It is with quite regularity that we hear "homophobia" being discussed in the press. Not too long ago, you would never have heard the word. It seemed no one in the mainstream press even knew its meaning. *Homosexuals* are being included in lists of minorities when hate crimes and discrimination are discussed as opposed to historically being left out. We are also not appearing in as many lists which begin with " murderer, drug addict..." In some cases, even *lesbians* are finding their own niche in the media coverage as opposed to being "gay" or invisible. Film reviewers would rarely consider covering a picture with its homophobic content in mind, now they do. Television programming has begun to reflect the interest by the public at large on lesbian/gay issues as many talk shows and top rated series are exploring our concerns.

The effects of our calling, writing letters, meetings with media executives and holding panel discussions are visible. People are thinking twice before defaming or excluding us. But the effects of our efforts are also more indirect and far reaching.

This year, at the Media Awards, we gave awards to those in the media who had presented our issues in a balanced and accurate manner. We give the awards to publicly congratulate and encourage similar lesbian/gay positive work in the future. Aside from the awards given specifically to lesbian/gay organizations or role models, I was amazed at how many of the award recipients were openly gay. The writer for the "Roc" episode, the executive on the "Roseanne" show, the producer of the KTTV teen series, the writer of "Frankie & Johnny" and the writer for *The Reader* all made some statement regarding their being gay and the challenges to create gay positive work. They all mentioned that their jobs had been made easier thanks to the support and efforts of GLAAD.

And that is really what it's all about. Creating a climate in the media where coverage of lesbian and gay issues is supported and where closet doors can be opened further to allow people to achieve their full potential. We have begun to create a climate where someone will consider adding a lesbian/gay positive character. Lesbian/gay stereotypes are beginning to be seen as limiting methods of depicting a diverse community. Some of the barriers and fears regarding our community are being challenged. Our concerns are being covered.

While we deserve to rejoice in the fruit of our efforts, and we need to congratulate ourselves for such a good beginning, let us realize that that is what it is...a beginning.

Let us not get lulled into complacency. Let us not forget that we are attacked daily on the radio, in the papers and on the small and big screens. As an oppressed people we have systematically been denied expression. We are learning to expect more; we are learning to settle for nothing less. Let us commit to continuing on this path of change. Let each of us get personally involved. We have seen over and over again how one person's letter, phone call, conversation has made a tremendous difference. There are so many ways to get involved, to share your strength and join in. Call the **GLAAD Hotline (213-931-9429)**. Make your commitment to change, today.

Television & Film

PBS Series in Jeopardy

In the political tensions developing on our way to the November elections, freedom of expression is being attacked ever more viciously by the right. Currently, there is a movement to attack funding of a PBS project which threatens the very independence of public broadcasting.

The Independent Television Series (ITVS) was created by Congress in 1988 to address unserved and underserved audiences, particularly minorities and children. It was charged to fulfill this mission by fostering independently produced shows and make them available for public television. In its first set of productions, a number of projects included gay and lesbian positive themes. Now, with its first round of grants currently in production, ITVS is under threat of being abolished.

Senator Jesse Helms is expected to offer an amendment to defund ITVS when the Corporation for Public Broadcasting reauthorization bill goes to the Senate floor. This defunding would be a devastating blow to public broadcasting's innovative and challenging programming. It would also set a terrible precedent for the undermining of the independence of public broadcasting.

Helms' expected amendment has support from many conservative Senators. Two key Senators in the vote are Senators Dole and Inouye. If you would like to express your support for ITVS funding to either of these Senators, or if you'd like to send your opinion to any Senator of choice, address your remarks to: **The Honorable _____, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20501.** If you'd like, you can copy your letters to **ITVS at P.O. Box 75455, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55175.** As usual, GLAAD would appreciate it if you'd also copy us at **P.O. Box 931763, Los Angeles 90093.**

This is important television. Keep it in mind when you sit down to write your favorite Senator!

Oscars

At the 64th annual Academy Awards ceremony on Mar. 30, several positive and touching tributes by gays and lesbians were heard by an estimated one billion people worldwide. The first happened when the Oscar for Best Documentary Short Subject was awarded to "Deadly Deception: General Electric, Nuclear Weapons, and our Environment." Accepting the award was Debra Chasnoff who thanked her "life partner," Kim, and their child, Noah. Later in the show, the Oscar for Best Original Song went to Alan Menken and Howard Ashman for "Beauty and the Beast." After Menken made his acknowledgments, Bill Lauch, Ashman's lover of 7 years, made a powerful and touching speech about their relationship and about Ashman's struggle with AIDS. Ashman died a year ago.

Billy Crystal and Richard Gere each addressed the meaning of the red ribbons that people were wearing during the ceremonies. The ribbons had been supplied by the producer of the Academy Awards show and served as a symbol of support for people with AIDS and AIDS research. There was an unfortunate reference to "AIDS victims," but the overall feel of the evening was very lesbian and gay positive. Now, hopefully, we can see that translated onto the big screen!

"Cutting Edge" Doesn't Cut It

The makers of "The Cutting Edge," the new comedy-drama film set in the world of competitive figure skating, have depicted its single gay character as an immature, stereotypical predator. The story, which revolves around a temperamental female figure skater who is paired with an ex-hockey player, contains a scene in which the female skater's ex-partner, Brian (Kevin Peeks), is introduced to her new partner, Doug (D.B. Sweeney). After giving him the once-over, Brian says, "Now I see why you've been keeping him to yourself," and winks at Doug. Since Doug is new to the world of figure skating, Kate advises, "Don't worry, you'll get used to it," the inference being that Brian's unprofessional and unrealistic behavior is the norm in the figure-skating arena, and, further, that straight men aren't "safe" from gay advances. This demeans real-life gay figure skaters and supports the public misconception that gay athletes are marginal annoyances. Write Director Paul M. Glaser in care of his agent, **Patty Detroit, at ICM, 8899 Beverly Blvd. Los Angeles, 90048.** Also let the producers know how you feel

influenced by heredity. To participate, you need to be at least 18 years old and have TWO OR MORE adult gay or lesbian relatives. The study organizers are interested in two types of families: 1) those in which there are three or more gay men or lesbians; 2) those in which both of the parents and the paternal grandfather of a gay person are available for participation.

You will be interviewed in private by a gay-positive researcher, and will donate a blood sample. Your identity and participation in the project will be strictly confidential. Travel expenses and per diem will be paid by the NIH.

If you think that your family might qualify for this study and are interested in volunteering, please contact: **Dr. Dean Hamer, National Institute of Health (NIH), Bldg. 37 Rm. 4A13, Bethesda, MD 20892; Collect calls to: (301)402-2709.**

★

Buckley Puts the Touch on PacBell

Pacific Bell will be holding its annual telecommunications exposition, TEXPO, at the Anaheim Convention Center on May 5-7, to showcase the latest telecommunications products and services. The invited keynote speaker, 9:00am on Thurs., May 7, will be William F. Buckley Jr.. Protest within the company about the selection

of Buckley and the $10-15,000 fee he is expected to receive, has centered around an opinion piece he wrote in *The New York Times* on Mar. 18, 1986, advocating that people testing HIV-positive be identified by a tattoo on the buttocks.

The Gay/Lesbian Employee Association (GALEEMAS) at Pacific Bell wrote a letter to the exposition organizers, objecting to Buckley's invitation, asserting that he would be an inappropriate speaker, requesting that his invitation be withdrawn, and offering to serve as a resource in selecting a more appropriate speaker for the event. The letter was endorsed by several other employee groups at PacBell, representing women, Latinos and Asian Americans, and several company-sponsored Minority/Women's Advisory Boards.

PacBell's management chose to disregard these objections, stating that Buckley will be a "big draw for the business community." They have also rejected instituting new procedures, or establishing guidelines for making decisions like this in the future, with more involvement from the company's diverse employee groups.

PacBell maintains a free number (in California) to handle customer problems: **811-EASY (811-3279)** and a FAX line: **1-800-343-2038.** The information number for **TEXPO: 1-800-462-8379.**

Television & Film

about stereotypical characters. Write: **Ted Field and Robert W. Cort, Producers, c/o Interscope Communications, Inc., 10900 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, 90024.**

"48 Hours" Gets Inclusive

The Feb. 28 edition of "48 Hours" focused on hate crimes and finally put the physical and verbal assaults suffered by gay men and lesbians on equal footing with those suffered by other minority communities. Homophobic fundamentalists, espousing their bigotry, were portrayed as not being different from the KKK, skinheads or the Nazi Youth Movement. Countering the religious bigots were a lesbian activist and her daughter who are working to preserve antidiscrimination ordinances in Portland, Ore.

Unfortunately, the segment began with sensationalistic film footage of some of the participants in a San Francisco Gay Pride Parade. This footage had nothing to do with the report and added nothing to the generally strong conclusion that hate against any group fosters and encourages hate against others. To commend "48 Hours" for this inclusive effort and to encourage them to do more, contact: **Steve Glauber, "48 Hours," 524 W. 57th Street, New York, 10019.**

"Leaving Normal"

Keep your eyes out for the new movie, "Leaving Normal." It's a "buddy" film featuring Meg Tilly and Christine Lahti who journey across America to Alaska, where Lahti owns land she's been awarded upon her husband's death. The women fight and get into various misadventures, with Tilly deciding she really likes Alaska. She and Lahti decide to live there and build a house on the property. They are NOT lesbians, but they share a certain closeness. Unfortunately, writer Ed Solomon, director Edward Zwick (co-creator of "thirtysomething"), producer Lindsay Doran, and executive producer Sydney Pollack, probably grew increasingly uncomfortable with the idea of these two women living together, so they include a lesbian-bashing joke at the end of the film. Says Lahti to two teenage Eskimo boys helping to build the house: "If you two don't stop staring, we're going to start kissing." One boy translates for the other who doesn't speak English and he makes a horrible face, as if the idea were really disgusting. Lahti joins in with a noise like she's gagging. The audience is invited to laugh at this idea. Write **Producer Lindsay Doran at Mirage Enterprises, Universal Pictures, 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City 91608-1085.**

Academy Douses "Paris is Burning"

In defense of the Academy's exclusion of the film "Paris is Burning" from the roster of Academy Award nominated documentary features for 1991, Sy Gomberg of the Academy reported to the press that the nominating committee decided not to include "Paris is Burning" because a film about "drag queens" could not "come anywhere near (the other nominees) in terms of importance." In his subsequent defense of this statement, the Academy's executive director, Bruce Davis, was quoted in *Daily Variety* as saying, "It takes a fair amount of willful misreading to turn (Mr. Gomberg's statement) into something anti-gay."

We find it difficult to read Mr. Gomber's statement as anything but anti-gay. Clearly, the implication is that films which explore the less conventional aspects of the gay community are, per se, less worthy of serious consideration. We take exception to the suggestion that films about gays and lesbians are by definition less important than other films. To let the Academy know that films with gay and lesbian themes should not be dismissed so casually, write to: **Bruce Davis or Sy Gomberg, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, 8949 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, 90211.**

KUSC-FM and the Gay Men's Chorus

On Mar. 24, Bonnie Grice, the morning announcer on classical station KUSC-FM(91.5), interviewed Jon Bailey, director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, and Roger Bourland, Professor of Music at UCLA and composer of "Hidden Legacies," a new work premiered by the Chorus at UCLA on Mar. 29. The lengthy

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interview included a very positive and sensitive discussion of the Gay Chorus, excerpts from the Chorus' recordings, the new AIDS work, and their trip to Eastern Europe last summer. Let KUSC know how important it is to hear music by gay and lesbian composers and artists included on their radio shows. Write: **Bonnie Grice, KUSC-FM, University Park, Los Angeles, 90089.**

"Lipstick Liberation"

The Mar. 15 edition of the *Los Angeles Times Sunday Magazine* featured an excellent article by Lindsy Van Gelder entitled "Lipstick Liberation" focusing on the generational differences within the lesbian community. Van Gelder contrasted the attitudes and tastes of the "older" segment of the lesbian community (especially those who came of age in the 1960's and 70's), with those of their younger contemporaries, who often refer to themselves as "lipstick lesbians." Van Gelder explained, "Lesbians in their 40's, for example, seem to be more inclined toward political activism and traditional feminist concerns, while lesbians in their 20's tend toward exploring and expressing their sexuality more openly."

Drawing from a pool of diverse subjects, Van Gelder gives us fascinating and sharply-etched portraits of many different women without lapsing into the sort of generalizations that often mar articles of this type. Written with humor and attention to detail, the article does a great service by making the "mainstream" audience aware of the vast diversity within the lesbian community — a community most often reduced, when not overlooked completely, to simplistic stereotypes. Send your encouragement to: **Lindsy Van Gelder, c/o *Los Angeles Times Sunday Magazine*, Times-Mirror Square, Los Angeles 90053.**

"Kids In The Hall"

Have you been looking for a consistently gay-positive show recently? Check out "Kids in The Hall." This HBO series offering from Canada has one openly gay comic, Scott Thompson. The late evening comedy casts five young men in several different skits each half-hour episode, with the men usually playing all female characters in drag. Much of the humor is Britishlike and directed toward adult audiences (of course). HBO has had much success with the show. In the past, it has been nominated for ACE Awards, the equivalent of the Emmy for Cable. Check your HBO listings for airtimes. Send letters with comments to: **"Kids in the Hall," 25 St. Nicholas Street, 4th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M4Y IW5; 416/975-2480.**

Newsmagazines

Once upon a time, the newsmagazines kept lesbian and gay issues invisible to their readers. Remember how they ignored the 1987 National March on Washington? Slowly, both *Time* and *Newsweek* have increased their coverage of gay and lesbian topics. The Mar. 23 issues are good examples. In *Time*, Andrew Tobias' column, "Money Angles," focused on the growing recognition of lesbians and gay men in the world of business. He claims that, "there is a quiet recognition among a large segment of the country, and even the conservative business world, that, hey, most people are straight, some people are gay, and it's really not that big a deal."

In *Newsweek's* Mar. 23 issue, a two-page article highlighted the growing number of businesses, cities, and agencies that have begun to recognize domestic partners, both straight and gay. A theme of the piece was the steady decline of "traditional" two-married-parents-with-children families and the rise of alternative, stable intimate relationships.

Be sure to send letters to the editors when you see such articles to help counteract those from the people who object to the magazines writing about us. Encourage the editors to cover more of the issues that concern lesbians and gays in accurate and balanced ways. Write: **Jason McManus, Editor-in-Chief, *Time Magazine*, Time-Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, 10020; or Richard M. Smith, Editor-in-Chief, *Newsweek*, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 10022.**

New High for *Wall Street Journal*

The Mar. 16 edition of the *Wall Street Journal* headlined a beautifully written

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article by Judith Valente entitled, "How a Father and Son Discover Each Other in the Shadow of AIDS." The story chronicles the coming out of Paul Henderson to his father, Duncan. When his son comes out to him the senior Henderson remarks, "Paul, you're our son and we love you." Paul contracts AIDS and the journey of love between father and son begins in earnest. Both parents nurse and nurture Paul until his death. Valente sensitively observes, "Over the months and years, as Duncan Henderson helped his son battle AIDS, he learned things about himself that he had never imagined. He became a stronger and more complex person than his wife had ever known. And Duncan and Paul, once intimate strangers, found a deeper love." This is an example of excellent, in-depth journalism which provides insight, compassion and understanding. Read this article and then write: **Judith Valente, c/o *The Wall Street Journal*, Editor, 200 Liberty Street, New York, 10281.**

Homophobes Raise $$ For GLAAD/LA

When GLAAD/LA held its 1992 Media Awards on Saturday, April 11, the theme of the evening was "Accentuate the positive and eliminate the negative." While most of the evening was devoted to honoring individuals who have "accentuated the positive, " nineteen homophobes helped raise $6,900 to "eliminate the negative."

Midway through the evening's celebration, lesbian comedian Lynda Montgomery took the stage and alerted the audience's attention to the "Bigot Ballots" which were being distributed.The ballots listed nineteen infamous public figures who have regularly expressed anti-gay/lesbian sentiments. Exhorting the audience to "put your money where their mouths are," Montgomery explained that voters could cover the mouth(s) of the bigot(s) of their choice with stickers denominating various dollar amounts.

Politicians were the most popular candidates on the ballot and Pat Buchanan was the big winner of the evening. This Republican presidential "hopeless" who has made homophobia a staple of his platform raised $1205 for GLAAD on Saturday night. Governor Pete Wilson, who won the hearts of California's lesbian and gay community with his veto of Assembly Bill 101 last October, came in second with $1035. Orange County Representative William Dannemeyer had to settle for third place with $910.

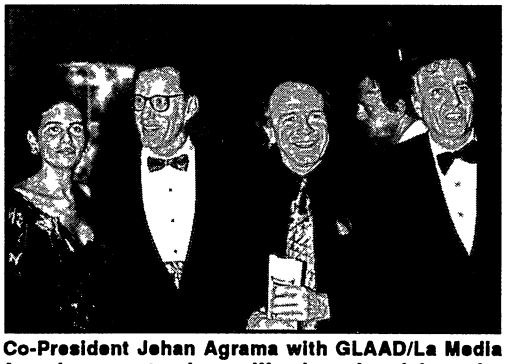


Photo: Paul Pelletieri

Co-President Jehan Agrama with GLAAD/La Media Awards presenter James Woods and recipients for "Frankie and Johnny" screenwriter Terrence McNally and director Garry Marshall.

North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms trailed behind Dannemeyer to claim fourth place but the fifth and sixth place winners shifted the focus to entertainment personalities. Coming in fifth, Mel Gibson finally had money rather than his foot in his mouth. Schlock jock Howard Stern would probably have been disappointed to learn that he was only the sixth most popular homophobe of the evening.

Other close contenders included the Reagans, Margaret Court, Rush Limbaugh and David Duke. The U.S. Military and the Boy Scouts of America earned honors as well for their exclusionary policies.

Hollywood Supports Update

by Richard Jennings

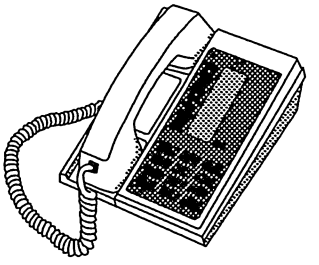
Things are hopping at Hollywood Supports — the entertainment industry project that uses the services of GLAAD/LA and APLA to counter AIDS fears and homophobia in the industry.

We are currently training a team of 20 industry professionals (selected from of over 60 who responded to our ads in the trades) to deliver Hollywood Supports' two-hour AIDS in the Workplace seminars. Our highly committed and articulate team of trainees are hearing from a variety of experts in a specially designed six-week training course, giving them the information and skills needed to most effectively facilitate AIDS education for fellow industry professionals. We are booking our seminars for human resources and supervisory personnel at major industry employers to start mid-May, and we are also receiving requests from production companies to provide the training for all employees. The seminars will include short video vignettes that set up workplace situations for discussion.

Another initial project has been to survey anti-discrimination policies and health insurance benefits in the industry. Several industry employers already have, or are in the course of adopting, written sexual orientation non-discrimination policies, and we will soon be announcing their names. In the course of our insurance survey, we are encouraging industry employers to adopt a number of specific recommendations that can improve health coverage for people with HIV. We have also formed a domestic partnership task force that is working with the industry to create a model for extension of group health coverage to employees' domestic partners, including same-sex couples.

On the imagery front, a team at GLAAD is working with Hollywood Supports on new GLAAD materials for the industry regarding portrayals of gays, lesbians and HIV. If you are interested in helping with this effort, please contact **GLAAD's Media Outreach Chair Karen Wilson at (213) 413-1981.** Hollywood Supports is also working with other interested industry groups to set up panel discussions on the portrayal of HIV on television and in film. Watch *GLAAD/LA Reports* for announcements regarding these panels.

GLAAD/LA PRESENTS



The Phone Tree

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation needs your help!

Do you become angry when you see misrepresentation of lesbians and gays in the media? Now there is a simple way you can become actively involved.

If you have a telephone answering machine and are willing to make a few phone calls periodically as part of our team, you can help us make a difference!

Our goal is to be able to place within hours a minimum of 300 phone calls to a given target. A target will usually be a radio or television station, production company, a newspaper, or any other media business office. A target will be any entity responsible for a significant representation of lesbians and gays that appeared in the media, whether positive or negative.

GLAAD will also use the Phone Tree to pass the word to our community members when there is an upcoming rally or demonstration.

If you decide to become a part of the Phone Tree, GLAAD will provide you with the information that you need to know as it happens. We will have a dedicated line with a message stating the necessary information for reacting. When we become aware of an issue that demands immediate response, we will then activate the Phone Tree.

The Phone Tree is simply a process of relay calling. First, GLAAD will place calls to several key callers, or "coordinators." These coordinators will maintain a list of 15 secondary callers, or "activators." When the coordinators receive the message from GLAAD, they will then call their list of 15 activators.

The activators then place two calls. One to GLAAD's dedicated Phone Tree message line to hear what the issue is and where to call to respond to it, the other to the target to voice an opinion.

Voilá! 300 powerful voices are directed right to the source!

One opinion, regardless of its validity, seldom gets recognition. Together, though, we can make ourselves heard! Please join us!

Yes! I want to help! Count me in!

Name		**I would like to participate as:**
Address		**A Coordinator [ ] An Activator [ ]**
		As a Coordinator, I can [ ] cannot [ ] provide my own list of 15 Activators.
Telephone		

If you cannot be an active part of the Phone Tree, remember your tax-deductible donations to GLAAD are instrumental to our success!

I encourage your efforts. Enclosed is my contribution of: $_____

Please detach and mail to: GLAAD, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood, CA 90093-1763

For more information call the GLAAD/LA office at (213) 931-9429

Thank you for your support!

GLAAD/LA *REPORTS*

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(Continued from page 1)
("Remember Me" and "Waiting for Phil"); Emmy award winning costumer Alfred Lehman; Oscar winning make-up artist Doug Drexler ("Dick Tracy" and "For the Boys"); and composer/performer/conductor Michel Columbier ("New Jack City," "Against All Odds" and "Ruthless People").

This promises to be an exciting evening of theater and tickets are available for $20.00. For reservations call: **(213)465-7980.**

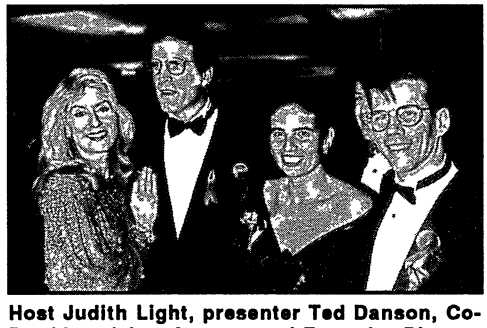
GLAAD MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 931763
Hollywood, CA 90093-1763

GLAAD News

Executive Director's Report
by Chris Fowler

On Saturday, April 11, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, more than 650 friends and supporters of GLAAD, award recipients and celebrity presenters gathered to pay tribute to the truly positive and balanced images of lesbians and gay men in the media for 1991. They all joined in the night's theme: *Accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative.*

It was an exciting and thought-provoking night. Not only were people impressed that it was only GLAAD/LA's second ever attempt at producing an awards show; they were also impressed that so many people from the media outlets receiving awards chose to attend the banquet, and were quite noticeably honored by the evening's activities.


Photo: Paul Pelletieri

Host Judith Light, presenter Ted Danson, Co-President Jehan Agrama and Executive Director Chris Fowler at the 1992 GLAAD/LA Media Awards.

GLAAD was fortunate to have a number of wonderful celebrities turn out for the evening. The lovely Judith Light, so memorable from last year's show, was this year's host. Also presenting were Rene Auberjonois, Ted Danson, Bruce Davison, Robert Guillaume, Connie Norman, Kenny Sacha, Dick Sargent, Glenn Shadix, Hattie Winston and James Woods. In addition, Richard Roundtree, Steven Poletti and Ella Joyce were on hand from the award winning "Roc"; Susan Ruttan and Elizabeth Kemp from the second-year winner "L.A. Law"; director/producer Jon Avnet from "Fried Green Tomatoes"; and Terrence McNally, Alex Rose and Garry Marshall from "Frankie & Johnny."

Echoing comments from last year's show, recipients from two of the television programs, "L.A. Law," and "Roc," applauded GLAAD for its work and commented that, were it not for GLAAD's efforts, their respective shows might not have aired.

The event provided GLAAD with the opportunity to say "Thanks." Too often, we are only able to point out what is negative and defamatory in the media. The GLAAD/LA Media Awards, however, are our opportunity to showcase the kinds of media representations that focus on the balanced and positive images of lesbians and gay men. Our message is so much more effective when the emphasis is balanced between condemning the negative, and applauding the positive.

The Awards are also an opportunity to recognize the wonderful work being done in our own community. This year, we gave Visibility Awards to Lillian Faderman and Paul Monette. Faderman has published two extensive histories on lesbian life in America, including last year's acclaimed *Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers: A History of Lesbian Life in 20th Century America.* Monette has published six novels, three books of poetry, and an AIDS memoir. As I said at the Awards Show, both of these people are personal heroes of mine, and it is a true honor to be a part of an organization that is recognizing such incredibly important and significant work.

It was also exciting that GLAAD gave awards to groups like the Gay & Lesbian Media Coalition, documentaries like "Paris is Burning," and the folksinger Phranc. All of these people and groups are fighting for the more accurate inclusion of lesbians and gay men, and they deserve this recognition.

All of these elements contributed to make the evening a successful event. And though each element and award presentation was inspiring and contributed to the evening's success, the most powerful part of the evening for me was the sense of community so tangible in the room. From the silent auction and cocktail party (with the crazed paparazzi and the press), to the dinner, through the entire awards show and as people were walking out — I got the sense of a community recognizing its ability to change its surroundings by raising its voice.

A few years ago, before GLAAD was making efforts to improve media representations of lesbians and gay men, when we saw negative images, or no images at all, there wasn't a mechanism established to work towards making a change. We could always write personal letters; but the sense of a concerted effort on the part of the community as a whole didn't exist.

With GLAAD, it does now. And everybody in that room recognized how they were a part of that. And everyone who participates in any of GLAAD's activities is a part of that — even reading the newsletter and having your awareness raised.

I hope this has given you a sense of what that evening was like, and I hope that you feel a part of what GLAAD has been able to accomplish. As always, there are limitless opportunities for becoming even more involved in GLAAD. If you'd like more information, please call our offices at 213/463-3632.

GLAAD May Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			6 Outreach Cmte. 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	7 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	8	9
10	11	12 Board Meeting 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	13 Theater Event see related cover story	14	15 GLAAD/USA Meeting in Los Angeles →	16 Long Beach Gay Pride Festival →
17 Long Beach Gay Pride Festival →	18 Media Outreach 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	19	20	21 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	22	23
24	25	26 General Meeting 7:00pm 6000 W. Pico	27	28	29	30
31	1 JUNE	2	3 Outreach Cmte. 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	4 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	5	6

GLAAD/LA HOTLINE: (213) 931-9429 (213) 931-9GAY

June Calendar Dates

June 3 Outreach Meeting 7:30pm 7033 Sunset

June 4 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset

June 27-28 CSW Gay Pride Festival and Parade

✂

Not all gay bashers use a fist or weapon. **Some use a pen or a camera.**

Yes, I want to help stop bigotry in the media. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

❒$250 ❒$100 ❒$50 ❒$35 ❒ $_____

Name_____

Address_____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone _____ Tax ID#95-4242716

▼Send to: GLAAD/LA P.O. Box 931763 Hollywood, CA 90093-1763▼

HANDY MEDIA GUIDE

TELEVISION NETWORKS

ABC Entertainment (310)557-7777
Robert Iger, Pres., 2020 Ave. of the Stars, Los Angeles ,CA 90067
CBS Entertainment (213)852-2345
Jeff Sagansky, Pres., 7800 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036
NBC Entertainment (818)840-4444
Warren Littlefield, Pres., 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523
Fox Broadcasting (310)277-2211
Peter Chernin, Pres., P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

TELEVISION STATIONS

KCBS (213)460-3000 (Ch. 2)
Steve Gigliotti, Gen. Mgr. 6121 W. Sunset Blvd Hollywood CA 90028
KNBC (818)840-4444 (Ch. 4)
John Rohrbeck, Gen. Mgr.,3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank CA 91505
KTLA (213)460-5500 (Ch. 5)
Steven A. Bell, Gen. Mgr., 5800 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KABC (213)557-7777 (Ch. 7)
Terry Crofoot, Gen. Mgr., 4151 Prospect Ave., Hollywood CA 90027
KCAL (213)467-5459 (Ch. 9)
David Woodcock, Gen. Mgr., 5515 Melrose Ave.,Los Angeles, CA 90038
KTTV (213)856-1000 (Ch. 11)
Greg Nathanson, Gen. Mgr., 5746 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KCOP (213)851-1000 (Ch. 13)
Bill Frank, Gen. Mgr., 915 N. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
KCET (213)666-6500 (PBS Ch. 28)
William Cobin, Pres., 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90027
KMEX (213)466-3434 (Ch. 34)
Richard Ramirez, Gen. Mgr., 6255 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90038
KVEA (213)502-5700
Stephen J. Levine, Gen. Mgr., 1139 Grand Central Ave., Glendale CA 91201

RADIO STATIONS

KABC (213)840-4900
George Green, Pres., 3321 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angles CA 90016
KFI-640 AM (213)385-0101
Howard Neal, Gen. Mgr., 610 S. Ardmore, Los Angeles CA 90005
KFWB News 98 (213)462-5392
Chris Claus, Gen. Mgr., 6230 Yucca St., Hollywood Ca 90028
KNX-AM News Radio (213)460-3343
George Nicholaw, V.P., 6121 W. Sunset Blvd. Hollywood CA 90028
KPFK-FM (818)985-2711
Alan Fong, Gen. Mgr., 3729 Cahuenga Blvd.W, North Hollywood Ca 91604

NEWSPAPERS

La Opinion (213)622-8332
411 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles CA 90013
Los Angeles Times (213)237-7000
Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles CA 90053
The Daily News (818)713-3000
P.O. Box 4200, Woodland Hills CA 91365
The Outlook (310)829-6811
P.O. Box 590, Santa Monica CA 90406
The Orange County Register (714)835-1234
625 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana CA 92701

MOTION PICTURE STUDIOS

Sony Pictures Corp. (818)280-8000
Peter Guber, CEO, 10202 W. Washington Bl., Culver City CA 90232
MCA/Universal (818)777-1000
Lew Wasserman, CEO, 100 Univedrsal City Plaza, Universal City Ca 91608
Paramount Studios (213)956-5000
Stanley Jaffe ,CEO,5555 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
The Walt Disney Co. (818)560-1000
Michael Eisner, CEO, 500 S. Buena Vista, Burbank CA 91521
20th Century Fox (310)277-2211
Barry Diller, CEO, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

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Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 4 No. 5 JUNE 1992

NEA VS. GAYS AND LESBIANS

We were appalled to learn that the new acting head of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), Anne-Imelda Radice, will refuse to fund so called "controversial" and "sexually explicit" art. Even more outrageous is Radice's statement that grants will not be given to projects considered offensive to taxpayers. To quote Radice: "We're talking about public money - taxpayer's dollars."

We urge all GLAAD members to write and ask Ms. Radice: Whose public money? Whose taxpayer dollars? Whose artists?

Let's face it, most of the artists criticized by conservatives like Radice are lesbians and gay men. They are Robert Mapplethorpe, Tim Miller, Holly Hughes, Minnie Bruce Pratt, to name a few. Tell Ms. Radice what she and others fail to recognize is that these artists have an audience, us. We are lesbians and gay men. We are the parents, relatives and friends of lesbians and gay men. We are millions of Americans who love art and literature in all its forms. We *are* the taxpayers. Write: **Anne-Imelda Radice, Acting Chairperson, Room 250, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506.**

As the national debate continues...

Will Ms.Radice Be Listening?

When President Bush decided it was better to have a right wing than a backbone, there is little doubt that Ms. Radice will experience severe difficulties balancing the artistic tastes of Senator Jesse Helms, Patrick Buchanan, et al, with the mandated purpose of the NEA. One of the first casualties of her campaign to protect and save the American public from "controversial" art has been the rejection of the prestigious National Medal of Art by Stephen Sondheim, an intended recipient of a 1992 award. Sondheim said it "would be an act of the utmost hypocrisy" to accept the award, which is administered by the NEA, because of what he termed a climate of "censorship and repression." Only one other time has the award been declined by an intended recipient, that was in 1989. The late Leonard Bernstein refused the medal indicating that he was protesting the cancellation of an NEA grant to Artists Space Gallery in Manhattan for a show on AIDS. At that time, then-NEA chairperson John Frohnmayer changed his mind and restored the grant.

As the NEA sets up new criteria for funding, perhaps David Duke, former Republican presidential candidate, could be persuaded to apply for a grant to display his personal collection of Nazi regalia and "collectibles."

GLAAD & CSW

Lesbian and gay pride month is here! And GLAAD/LA needs its members to help celebrate...and to spend a few volunteer hours. GLAAD/LA will be marching in the Christopher Street West (CSW) Parade on Sunday, June 28, and we not only need marchers, but creative *(Continued on Page 9)*

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3 Television & Film Watch
6 Radio & Print Watch
8 GLAAD News
11 Handy Media Guide

★NEWS BRIEFS★

GLAAD/LA General Meeting

The June General Meeting will be the place to be if you want to learn about GLAAD/s many activities. Spotlighted will be a discussion and introduction to such important activities as: speaking to groups; monitoring the media; responding to the media; holding sensitivity training sessions; bringing in volunteers; and many others.
The meeting will be held **Tues., June 23 at 7:00pm** and will finish at 9:00pm. All are welcomed to attend at **Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 Pico Blvd.** (just east of Crescent Heights). Refreshments are provided.

★

One Picture Is Worth...

At least a thank you. And, in the case of Marilyn Weiss, photographer extraordinaire for the *Los Angeles Times*, and Paul Pelletieri our biggest thanks. The photos run in *GLAAD/LA Reports* of the kick-off cocktail party in January and the GLAAD Media Awards Show are examples of their fine work and volunteer effort. In addition, the general news media received photos of these GLAAD/LA projects. Many thanks, Marilyn and Paul.

Women of GLAAD

The newly-formed Women of GLAAD Caucus will meet regularly the first Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be **Tuesday, June 2 at 7:00 pm** at the GLAAD office (7033 Sunset Blvd.). If you would like to hear a stronger lesbian voice in GLAAD's affairs, please come. Our purpose is to encourage the participation of vocal lesbians on the GLAAD/LA board and on GLAAD's committees, and to ensure that GLAAD continues to fight for lesbian visibility in all areas of the media and other institutions, and to condemn instances of bigotry against lesbians whenever they arise. We are also eager to work with lesbian artists as part of GLAAD/LA's fundraising program. And don't forget: If you see or hear something that's either negative or positive about lesbians in the media, call the GLAAD/LA Hotline: (213) 931-9429. We need to hear from you!

★

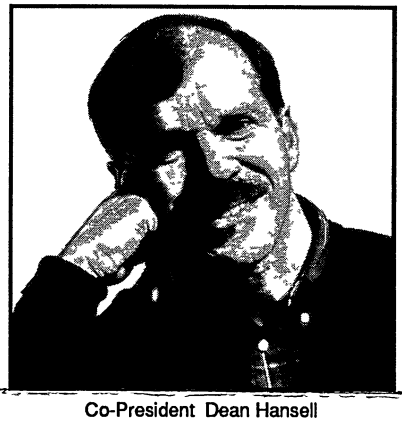
Do You Have a Modem?

Now you can get our newsletter, *GLAAD/LA Reports*, about a week early if you set your modem for GLAAD's **Bulletin Board, (213) 463-9257.** And you will find GLAAD's press releases and other items modem members post. In addition, there is a national GLAAD BBS, accessible from a local BBS, **"Stonewall West!" - (818) 781-9506.** This BBS is offered free to its users,

Co-President's Column

by Dean Hansell

Is there a lesbian and gay analysis to be made of the uprising following the police brutality verdict? I think so. We must never lose sight of the fact that we are an oppressed minority and that GLAAD is a civil rights organization. We cannot be concerned merely about our own issues but must be concerned about the rights of other peoples who are discriminated against. There are many reasons for this responsibility we must accept, many of them lofty. But fundamentally there is our self-interest. If our society tolerates discrimination against black, hispanics, Koreans, Jews, women, etc., it is not a safe society in which to be lesbian or gay. The disease of bigotry can appear as discrimination against lesbians and gays.



Co-President Dean Hansell

There is a danger that the media and politicians will quickly turn their backs on the causes of the rebellion, without really addressing the root issues of alienation, powerlessness, discrimination and poverty. This danger is even greater than it was at the time of the 1965 Watts riots because at least then there was civil rights movement taking place and a President with some interest in these issues. After twelve years of Reagan-Bush, there is no place on the national agenda today to address the fundamental issues of poverty, discrimination and disenfranchisement.

Today's sad reality was illustrated poignantly recently with the statement from Bush's Press Secretary, Marlin Fitzwater, that the problems stem from the programs of the 60's. The best one can say about this position is that it is stupid, when you consider that the bulk of the programs from the Great Society that survive are Medicare, Medicaid, Aid for Dependent Children and Head Start. Worse than that, the unwillingness of the Bush Administration to honestly and seriously respond to the underlying conditions that led to the insurrection is downright meanspirited. It is the farthest thing from the priorities of many of our current political leaders to take up such issues as the lack of education, high unemployment, homelessness, lack of medical care, and the realistic lack of a future for so many people today who grow up in our cities' ghettos. There is no evidence that despite the cry for help that we heard so poignantly in Los Angeles over the past couple of weeks that our nation and our state's political leaders are prepared to seriously address the conditions that lead up to the Los Angeles rebellion of 1992. As lesbians and gays we cannot let that happen. Just as we have known discrimination on the basis of our sexual orientation so we must remember that other people know discrimination because of their skin color, nationality, religion and age.

GLAAD, as you know, does some of its work through coalitions. We have on more than one occasion been the beneficiaries of representatives of other minority groups speaking out against homophobia. We must make sure that prominent on our agenda are the concerns of other minorities. A legal system that denies protection and equal rights to a person because of her skin color or nationality is a legal system that will also discriminate against a person due to sexual orientation.

As those of you who have been active with GLAAD know, change does not come automatically but will only come when people for it. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. reminds us, "We have not made a single gain in civil rights without determined legal and non-violent pressure. Lamentably it is an historical fact that privileged groups seldom give up their privileges voluntarily."

I am sure that most of you feel the sense of outrage and anger about the police brutality trial and the underlying conditions that led to the*(Continued on page 10)*

Television & Film

Quackery Debunked...

"20/20" Reaches for Leadership with Lesbian and Gay Coverage

"20/20," the ABC news magazine (KABC, Fri, 10:00pm) is becoming the program to watch when it comes to coverage of issues important to the gay and lesbian community. Two recent broadcasts, and the remarks from co-host Barbara Walters, both on and off camera, show the continued movement of gay and lesbian issues to the forefront of the national conscience. On Apr. 24, "20/20" gave the "reparative therapy" of psychologist Joseph Nicolosi a national audience and presented the segment in such a balanced way that any reasonable viewer could only conclude that this therapy is a fraud. Unfortunately, the advance hype the program received gave the impression that his bogus treatment is successful. While the segment shed some positive light toward understanding sexual orientation and deflated the claims of the therapy's success, Nicolosi, whose slick demeanor (probably honed by many consultation hours with unhappy gay men promising to make them straight - for a fee) was coupled with ready answers cloaked in seeming reasonableness, never was asked about his ties to such hate mongering groups as the Traditional Values Coalition and his efforts to censor information about sexual orientation in the public schools. The fact that some of his clients, who were interviewed during the segment in disguise, "backslid" occasionally or still had homosexual desires didn't squelch his proclaiming the power of his "cure."

Handling the interview was John Stossel, who clearly stated that Nicolosi is out of step with the American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychological Association as well as with most of his peers. Stossel also made the point that Nicolosi's long-discredited theories about the origin of male homosexuality, i.e. a distant, uncaring father, etc., just don't make sense, given the distribution of homosexuality across almost all cultures and species. (One quotable quote, "14% of seagulls are lesbian!") To her credit, Barbara Walters, who spoke after the segment had concluded, continued her increasingly enlightened attitude against homophobia by expressing the hope that "if it were ever proven that it were biological there would be less prejudice."

The local ABC affiliate, KABC-TV, Ch. 7, did a follow-up immediately after the "20/20" segment which featured GLAAD/LA's own Peter Nardi and a representative from the Traditional Values Coalition.

On its May 8 show, "20/20" devoted a segment to suicide among lesbian and gay teenagers. Discussed was a federal study which found that about 30% of teen suicides are committed by gay and lesbian youth. Several lesbians and gay teens talked about their own suicide attempts and the ridicule they received in school. A touching interview with a mother whose son committed suicide after her attempts to make him change through Bible readings and prayer, forcefully made the argument that parents need to understand rather than reject their gay children. The voice from the "other side" was an especially bigoted woman who took her children out of the schools in order to prevent them from hearing about homosexuality in their sex education class. She claimed that all homosexuals will die of AIDS and that very few gay teenagers exist. Besides, she said, they aren't harassed in school, but they are recruited into the lifestyle by classes in homosexuality. In the context of the show, her comments came across as cruel and ignorant. Encourage producer David Sloan and reporter John Stossel to continue their balanced and insightful segments on gay and lesbian issues: Letters to "20/20" may be addressed to: **Victor Neufeld, Executive Producer, "20/20," ABC News, 157 Columbus Avenue, New York 10023.** Barbara Walters may be contacted at the same address.

but, if you use it a lot, a donation would be greatly appreciated. Stonewall West! connects to Fidonet, a national net, and you can read, post and retrieve messages from GLAAD chapters in Dallas, New York, San Francisco and others as they come on line.

★

Lineas Abiertas - Hotlines

Much of GLAAD's information comes from our members and friends in the form of calls to our hotline, or in Spanish, lineas abiertas. This information is what the Monitor-Response Committee uses to go after those who slander or defame lesbians and gay men as well as thanking those who support us. When you hear or read a slur against lesbians or gays, please call the hotline immediately. When you call, have ready the who, what, when and where of the defamation. Your information goes from there to the GLAAD computer, then to the office staff and committees, all overnight. Most issues are dealt with by the Monitor-Response Committee which meets Thursday evenings. Urgent matters get to someone immediately. Your call is important; do not be concerned that someone else may call reporting the same incident. Many times a more complete idea of what has been said, seen or written can be compiled from several hotline calls.

So please, keep GLAAD's hotline number, lineas abiertas, handy and when calling, speak slowly. Spanish: (213) 463-4673; English: (213) 931-9429.

★

Magic on the Three Orientations

Excerpts from Magic Johnson's book, "Take Charge of Your Body," contained enough provocative and accurate information that makes reading the book a must. Magic states, "A large part of sexual responsibility is coming to terms with the way you are." He goes on to recognize that there are three sexual orientations: heterosexuality, homosexuality and bisexuality, and explains what each one is. Sounds like Magic is still scoring lots of points.

★

Don't Call Us and We Won't Call You

Dr. David Viscott, the late-night advice personality on KNBC (Sat., 1:00am), is trained as a counselor on marriage, sex and relationships. No easy task. His warm cultured voice has probably spoken reams of encouragement to many a late-night caller and listener. But not on the evening of Apr. 24. An obviously distraught young gay man was told that gays are basically "unhealthy" and that his caller should seek help to change his orientation. (The only surprise was that Dr. Joseph Nicolosi's phone number wasn't then

Television & Film

Former Beauty Queens Never Die...

...they just write books. Or so it would seem with the orangiest queen of them all, Ms. Anita Bryant. Few can forget the hateful attacks on lesbians and gays by Ms. Bryant and her campaign to deny civil rights in the 1970s to some citizens of Dade County, Florida. She recently surfaced on the "Maury Povich Show" (KCBS, daily, 3:00pm) touting her new book and throwing daytime TV into a time warp.

Bryant, Povich and the audience discussed how Bryant's campaign against gays had been "misunderstood," and resulted in unfair attacks on her. Povich remarked that the controversy "mushroomed to the point that gays felt you were against them entirely." The closest Povich came to challenging Bryant's homophobia was remarking that her position was "easy to misunderstand." When Bryant started into one of her sermons on homosexuality, "In the Bible it says it's a sin, and the wages of sin is death," (the Book of Bryant?) Povich quickly said, "I don't want to get into that." However, with the obviously well-screened audience asking questions such as, "In the Bible Jesus did state that when you preach His word...you will be persecuted...didn't that help you?", he was already being used as the messenger for this ignorant propaganda.

While Mr. Povich's nice-guy behavior gave no credence to anything except Ms. Bryant's homophobia, his inane cooing, as he was about to kiss Anita farewell, included, "I can't believe we got through this show, nobody got angry...that says a lot about you, Anita Bryant." And that says a lot about you, Maury Povich. Send any comments, along with any old orange peels, to: **"Maury Povich Show," Ms. Kari Sagin, Executive Producer, 221 W. 26th Street, New York, 10001.**

Will Fierstein Catch Fire?

Harvey Fierstein, the openly gay actor, playwright and wit appeared as Mark Newberger, Rebecca's old high school sweetheart, on the April 23 episode of "Cheers" (KNBC, 9:00pm, Thurs). Unfortunately, Harvey was cast more as a caricature of his real self than as a believable ex-boyfriend returning to see his former high school flame. Fierstein says that the openly gay character could return in future episodes if viewer response is positive, citing that the network counts each letter it receives as representing 20,000 people. During the episode the "Cheers" cast quickly recognized that Harvey had returned, not because of any romantic interest in Rebecca, but rather as an old friend. The inability of Rebecca to sense or react to a situation that had everyone else in the cast laughing and winking behind her back lacked belief and originality. Not an unusual condition for sitcoms, it could be argued. The story ended with Rebecca and Mark cuddled up under a blanket on her sofa looking at TV and her feeling around under the blanket, supposedly for the channel changer. A letter supporting the inclusion of Harvey, as well as other talented, openly gay men and lesbians portraying a wide range of characters in a leading sitcom, could only be helpful. Write to: **Les Charles, Glen Charles and James Burrows, Executive Producers, "Cheers," Charles/Burrows/Charles Productions, Paramount Television, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles 90038.** Be sure to also write or send a copy of your letter to: **Warren Littlefield, President, NBC Entertainment, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, CA 91523.**

Blackeye for The Nashville Network

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store Restaurants (118 outlets throughout the South) borrowing ideas usually associated with Nazi propagandists, fired all of its suspected and known lesbian and gay employees last year. Cracker Barrel has a policy not to employ people "whose sexual preferences fail to demonstrate normal heterosexual values which have been the foundation of families in our society." Obviously Cracker Barrel doesn't under-

Television & Film

stand that homosexuality is a sexual orientation not a "sexual preference." In addition, does Cracker Barrel want society to support "normal heterosexual values" which include a rampant divorce rate, child abuse, wife beatings, incest, rapes and infidelity? The chain's commercials are now running nationally on cable's The Nashville Network. We doubt that the network would sell commercial space to any company as openly racist or anti-Semitic as Cracker Barrel is homophobic. Ask the network to stop doing business with bigots. Write: **E.W. Wendell, President, The Nashville Network, 2806 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214.**

No "Great Performance" Rating for Texaco

Texaco, the long-time corporate underwriter for PBS's "Great Performances" art series, will end its support as of June 10, 1992. "The Lost Language of Cranes," a BBC/WNET adaptation of David Leavitt's novel about the parallel coming out of a gay father and son, was screened by Texaco officials prior to their announcement. "Cranes" airs June 24 on "Great Performances." Texaco says its move was based on a "review of both the current and future direction of the series" that found it moving away from "traditional and classical works."

Current speculation suggests tht the pull-out was in response to the gay-positive content of "Cranes," according to the gay and lesbian film organization, Out in Film. Earlier this season "Great Performances" broadcast "Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane and Company," which included homoerotic dance scenes and a moving interview with choreographer Jones about the AIDS-related death of his lover and "one true companion," Arnie Zane.

To express your concerns regarding this decision, and to ask Texaco for clarification, write: **James W. Kinnear, President & CEO, Texaco, Inc., 2000 Westchester Avenue, White Plains, NY 10650.** The creative and inclusive programming of "Great Performances" can be encouraged by writing: **Jac Venza, Executive Producer, "Great Performances," WNET, 356 W. 58th Street, New York 10019.**

Coming Out vs. Blackmail/Suicide

The Apr. 28 episode of "Law and Order" (KNBC, Tues., 9:00pm) dealt with the issue of outing and homosexuality in an intelligent and positive fashion. The storyline revolved around a gay city councilman who has committed suicide. After an investigation it becomes clear that the councilman was being blackmailed over his gayness by an ex-con, his lawyer and his own father. The show's message was clearly about the benefits of "coming out" and the bigotry that all of us as gays and lesbians must face on a daily basis, even from our own families. To encourage the further intelligent presentation of issues important to all of society, and to congratulate the producers for the Apr. 28 episode contact: **Mr. Dick Wolf, Executive Producer, "Law and Order," 100 Universal Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608.**

More Exposure

"Northern Exposure," CBS-TV's hit series (Mon, 10:00pm), brought back the gay couple on its Apr. 27 episode. When we last saw them a year ago, the two men, who had just bought a house from Maurice, were shown dancing with each other among the other townfolk as the episode went to fade. In the latest episode, they have turned their place into a Japanese guest house for Japanese tourists. Despite some strong homophobic remarks from Maurice (including "fruit" and "fairy") which went unchallenged, the show portrayed the two men in positive and accurate ways. By the end, Maurice appears to have accepted their presence in town. Rumor has it that the flashed on the screen.) In a very detailed letter from GLAAD/LA, Dr. Viscott was reminded about the facts of life and was encouraged to "Stop slurring our community. Stop telling lies. Learn the truth." Additional comments can be sent to: **Dr. David Viscott, KNBC-TV, 3000 West Alameda, KNBC Building, Room 2272, Burbank, CA 91523.**

★

Newsletter Deadline: First Thurs. of Month

The deadline for submitting material for *GLAAD/LA Reports* will be the first Thurs. of each month for the following month's newsletter. For July's newsletter all material must be submitted by June 4. The amazing men and women who put together each month's newsletter are working toward the goal of having it in member's mailboxes by the first of each month.

★

Se Necesitan Traductores/ Translators Needed

GLAAD tiene material que necesita ser traducico al espanol. Las personas interesadas en trbajar en este progecto por favor comunicarse con **Jeff Janis (213) 931-9429.** GLAAD has brochures and curriculum materials which we would like translated into Spanish. Anyone interested working on this project please contact **Jeff Janis (213) 931-9429.**

Radio & Print

Out Makes Break-Through with New CD

A promotional campaign for a new general-interest, gay quarterly called *Out*, will include a 17-song CD spotlighting such artists as Lou Reed, David Byrne, k.d. lang, Morrissey, the Tom Tom Club and Debbie Harry with every new subscription. Entitled "Get Out," the recording is the result of Howard Klein's Sire Records and some of the recording artists' desire to speak out about the entrenched homophobia in the rock industry. Said Book of Love's Ted Ottaviano, "For so long, gay people have been a community under seige." Klein seconded, "Added to the mosaic of efforts the industry is making, this CD can only help."

★

Quotable Quotes...

From actress extraordinaire, **Whoopi Goldberg**, being interviewed by *Los Angeles Times* reporter Kenneth Turan during the Cannes Film Festival when asked about the riots in Los Angeles, "...Given the vileness of the racist and homophobic statements politicians have been making for years, we shouldn't be surprised that this is happening. You can't step on people that much before they rise up."

From politician extraordinaire, **Mikhail Gorbachev**, being interviewed in San Francisco and being asked by a woman how he could claim to be a vigorous

May 18 episode will be a flashback tracing the discovery of the town and will include Cicely and Roslyn, the lesbian couple after whom the town and coffee shop are respectively named. Let the producers know that we would like to see these characters more often. Write: **Joshua Brand and John Falsey, c/o Pipeline Productions, 3000 Olympic Blvd., Suite 2575, Santa Monica 90404.**

Update: Project 21 Still Fighting

The California textbook wars are warming-up again as the focus begins to bear down on the basis for the new health education textbooks and the framework for presenting sex education and the discussion of "alternative" family structures. As we go to press the Health Subject Matter Committee (HSMC) of the California Curriculum Commission will be holding hearings in Sacramento to discuss such things as family living which the framework presents as, "The term family is used in its broadest sense to include not only the classic nuclear definition...but also the host of diverse living arrangements found in modern society." "That's not acceptable at all," says the Rev. Lou Sheldon of the Traditional Values Coalition. However, Al Miller, director of development for the Christian Educators Association, another conservative group, said that the framework was "basically sound." Continued input and support can be directed to: **Eugene Flores, Chair, HSMC, California Curriculum Commission, Arroyo Grande High School, 495 Valley Road, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420.**

Any Way Out for Ann?

Syndicated advice columnist Ann Landers keeps digging herself into an ever deepening hole every time she addresses a lesbian or gay issue. Last year she told a mother that her daughter's domestic partner had no right to be included in a family photograph; last month she decided to hold a postcard poll on whether or not lesbian and gay men are miserable. Her latest mis-advice comes as a response to a woman who wrote that her husband has been corresponding with an imprisoned gay friend. She steams open her husband's private mail from this jailed friend only to discover that she now fears her husband will have an affair with the gay man once he is released from prison.

Laced with inaccurate information, Ann's response included, "When a woman competes with a homosexual for the affection of a bisexual male, she almost always loses. Since AIDS has reared its ugly head, I would not advise any woman to continue in a relationship with a man who has sex with another male."

Advice to Ann Landers regarding the fact that it is unsafe sex and not "gay sex" that transmits HIV, and that bisexuals are not really gay, can be sent: **Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, IL 60611-0562.**

Requiem for the "Am I Happy Poll": Ann has hopefully learned (by a 30 to 1 ratio) that gays and lesbians are happy with "their condition" and that she would best serve her readers' needs for advice, not by running more polls, but by learning about the wonderfully diverse world of lesbians and gays. She could start by advising her readers that sexual orientation is not synonymous with "lifestyle choice," and then hiring an openly gay or lesbian as an adviser.

Dramalogue Out of Touch

Dramalogue, a local trade paper for the theatre and film industry, recently ran a full page interview with "Basic Instinct" director Paul Verhoeven that failed to even mention the objections to his film by the lesbian and gay community. The interview, conducted by Bruce Feld, centered around the sexuality and controversy of Verhoeven's film and yet never alluded to lesbians or to the outcry from

"Northern Exposure" of Lesbians

The May 18 episode of CBS's "Northern Exposure" (CBS-TV, Mon., 10:00 pm) showcased one of the most powerful lesbian love stories we've seen in a long time. Following up on the previous mentions of the mythical lesbian couple who founded the town in which the series is set, Cicely, Alaska, the episode took us back to the early 1900s. There, we meet Roslyn and Cicely, a lesbian couple who arrive in the first car the as yet unnamed Cicely has ever seen. Their intentions are to establish the little town in the corner of Alaska as the "new Paris." As the story develops, we learn that the townspeople (played by actors from the series in period costume) don't like their town. Roslyn and Cicely pull everyone together and turn the entire town into a successful and self-respecting "community," which is eventually re-named Cicely.

The episode highlighted the power and strength of the central relationship between Roslyn and Cicely — in a way very similar to "Fried Green Tomatoes," but even taken a bit further. The actresses who played the couple were Jo Anderson and Yvonne SuHor, and both infused their characters with beauty and sincerity. This is in part due to the wonderful writing of Andrew Schneider and Diane Frolov, whose sensitive script powerfully depicts the power and intensity of lesbian love. This episode of "Northern Exposure" is a wonderful example of how television is making incredible strides to include lesbian and gay characters in everyday situations — and even in heroic situations.

GLAAD encourages everyone to write the "Northern Exposure" production company and tell them how you feel about this project. Encourage the writers and producers to continue referencing this beautiful lesbian couple. Also encourage them to keep the gay male couple from previous shows as recurring and developing characters. Write: **"Northern Exposure" Production Company, 3000 Olympic Blvd., Suite 2575, Santa Monica, CA 90404; 213/315-4833**. Copy executive producers **Josh Brand and John Falsey**, producers **Matt Nodella and Rob Thompson** (also episode's director), and supervising and assistant producers **Cheryl Bloch, Jeff Melvoin, Diane Frolov, Andrew Schneider, Robin Green, and Martin Bruestle**.

MCA Extends Health Benefits to its Employees' Same Sex Partners

On Friday, May 15, MCA President and Chief Operating Officer Sid Sheinberg, who with Barry Diller (then Fox head) started Hollywood Supports, announced that MCA, one of Hollywood's major studios, would begin extending health benefits to its employees' "spousal equivalents" starting July 1.

Hollywood Supports Executive Director (and GLAAD/LA co-founder) Richard Jennings established an industry task force to analyze the legal issues involved and to draft documents necessary to enable employers to provide this benefit. One of GLAAD's own board members, Will Halm, served on the task force.

In addition, there is hope and speculation that additional studios will enact similar policies. If you work for a studio, encourage them to follow MCA's lead and afford for lesbians and gay men the same rights that non-gay men and women have: the right to secure health coverage by employers for same-sex loved ones.

HAVE YOU CALLED THE HOTLINE LATELY?

Remember that most of what GLAAD responds to comes from the hotline. Every time you see an item in the media -- whether it's a slur, or a wonderful representation of our lives -- call the hotline. We have two numbers:

Spanish Language
213/463-4673
English Language
213/931-9429

the lesbian and gay community concerning the latest defamation from the Hollywood entertainment industry. It is reprehensible that a trade paper for Los Angeles theatre could omit something of obvious concern to many of its readers. By doing so, *Dramalogue* clearly does not represent the many lesbians and gay men that are a part of the Los Angeles theatre community. Theatre professionals, especially those who are lesbian and gay, should make *Dramalogue* understand that by omitting these important issues from their coverage they do a disservice to their entire readership. Contact: **Faye Bordy, Editor in Chief, *Dramalogue*, 1456 North Gordon, Hollywood 90028.**

Wildmon Still At It

The American Family Association (AFA), the Donald Wildmon hate group that has been at the forefront of organizing boycotts of businesses that sponsor programs contrary to his dogma, has now mounted a campaign against Shearson Lehman Bros., part of the American Express conglomerate, for advertising in *MetroSource*, described as an "upscale gay guide to New York." According to *MetroSource*, this is the first time American Express has advertised in a gay publication. Last year *GLAAD/LA Reports* reported on the efforts of several organizations that have formed to counter the hate and misplaced zeal of Wildmon, who, evidently, never leaves home without it. Counter this outdated and offensive AFA effort by congratulating American Express on its recognition of an important segment of the American public. Write: **James D. Robinson III, Chairman, American Express, 200 Vesey Street, New York 10285.**

Thanks to First Federal

The eye easily catches the centered proclamation of the ad which reads, "Evil Will Prevail When Good People Do Nothing." The encircling text speaks of lofty ideals and missed opportunities, naming many of the minority groups which are suffering discrimination and violence in the America of the 90's, and ending with "Bigotry is unproductive, unfair and un-American." Placed in leading publications in Southern California by "...the employees of First Federal Bank of California..." one missing essential was the mentioning of gays and lesbians as groups of American citizens high on the list of hate mongers. When contacted, First Federal immediately amended the ad, which was then run, and by doing this lived-up to the demand of its own advertising. To thank First Federal for this intelligent, thoughtful and immediate response, write: **Bill Mortensen, CEO, First Federal Bank, 401 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401.**

Glamour is for Everyone

Though not a bastion of complex political analysis, *Glamour Magazine* has consistently offered responsible coverage of lesbian and gay issues. The May issue was no exception, containing two stories of interest to gays and lesbians, which was followed by the June issue with yet another timely article entitled, "Not Just Another Prom Night." The May issue carried the story, "My Father is Gay," by Monica den Haan (pseudonym) which explored her own confusion and homophobia as well as the effect of her father's own internalized homophobia on his family. Den Haan's story successfully illustrated that coming out is a process for everyone who loves a gay man or lesbian. She observed," Of all the issues that having a gay father raised, the one that took the longest to deal with concerned my own sexuality." Through her personal struggle she learned that "(being) gay versus straight is not a choice we're given to make."

A shorter article by Charles Krupp, "Can 'Nice' Lesbians be Good Box Office?", raised a few questions about whether or

defender of human rights while permitting the jailing of thousands of gays and lesbians during his tenure. Reporter Jenifer Warren of the *Los Angeles Times* noted his reaction, "Gorbachev looked uncomfortable, but hesitated only for a moment before issuing his response. 'You ask a very difficult question. I can only tell you my ethical position. I am in favor of a healthy way of life...(and) a healthy society.'"

★

A Tale of Two Cities

The Police Chief of San Francisco, Richard Hongisto, has been fired, after just 44 days on the job, by the San Francisco Police Commission after it was determined that he ordered the confiscation of a small, biweekly, gay tabloid, the *San Francisco Bay Times*. It seems former Chief Hongisto was upset at a cartoon negatively depicting his handling of the quick, mass arrests during the "sympathetic rebellion" following the Rodney King verdict in Simi Valley. Meanwhile, the Los Angeles Chief of Police remains firmly attached to his office despite his handling of the Los Angeles rebellion, his repeated promises of retiring, the calls for his dismissal, and his seige mentality that has contributed to the disarray in Los Angeles law enforcement.

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(213) 463-4673

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Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation
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GLAAD News

not Hollywood should be obliged to portray gays and lesbians in a responsible manner. While the gist of the article agreed that lesbians and gays are represented abysmally, Krupp then trivialized his observations by writing, "...screenwriters are now consulting special interest groups to woo their Politically Correct stamp of approval."

"Not Just Another Prom Night" written by Ann Cunningham was about two young women (17 and 20 years old) in Manassas, Virginia who attended their graduation prom in June, 1991, as a lesbian couple. The six page article, complete with lots of pictures, including one of the two women kissing, covered the prom date from beginning to end and included the comments of the pair as they talked about the thrill and excitement of going together and the incredibly empowering result of their action. Terrific is the best word to describe *Glamour's* inclusive attitude and coverage. Your comments and encouragement to continue these needed stories on lesbian and gay issues can be sent to: **Barbara Coffey, Managing Editor, *Glamour*, 350 Madison Avenue, New York 10017.**



Jehan Agrama along with Chris Fowler and Bruce Davison and Lisa Pelikan celebrate at the GLAAD/LA Media Awards held April 11 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

As July deadline approaches...

GLAAD/LA Seeks Executive Director

The search for a new permanent Executive Director (ED) for GLAAD/LA is moving into high gear as the July 7 deadline for receiving resumes approaches. The new ED will take over the duties beginning Sept. 1, 1992. Candidates will be interviewed with the following criteria in mind: media experience (journalism, public relations and/or entertainment); strong public speaking and writing skills (media setting preferred); active involvement in lesbian/gay community activities; strong organizational/administrative skills with supervisory experience; fiscal management experience; fundraising experience/participation; experience in managing diversity; mediation and negotiation experience; Bachelor's degree (advance degree desirable). Salary will be $45,000 - 55,000 plus benefits.

Resume, salary history and reference letters must be received by July 7, 1992. Send to: **Search Committee, GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood, CA 90093.** All inquiries and applications will be held in strict confidence. GLAAD/LA is committed to a policy of equal opportunity employment. Women and people of color are encouraged to apply.

GLAAD/NY Media Awards

Preceding GLAAD/LA's Media Awards by a few days, GLAAD/NY held its Media Awards at the Windows of the World atop the World Trade Center in Manhattan on April 6. A host of stellar presenters including Harvey Fierstein, Barbara Walters, Phil Donahue and Mandy Patinkin, honored Jennie Livingston for her film "Paris is Burning;" David Sloan and Sharon Young for "20/20" segments on the exclusion of gays in the military and the Cracker Barrel Restaurants; Thomas Stewart, author of "Gay in Corporate America," *Fortune Magazine*; Linda Vilarose, author of "Coming Out," *Essence*; and Andrew Sullivan of the *New Republic*, among others.

During the evening's remarks, Barbara Walters spoke in an extraordinarily incisive manner regarding the media's sorry record covering gay and lesbian issues

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(213) 931-9429

GLAAD SPANISH HOTLINE
(213) 463-4673

GLAAD OFFICE
(213)463-3632

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P.O. Box 931763
Hollywood, CA
90093-1763

and of attempts to correct the situation. Her passionate remarks, when giving out the award to "Paris is Burning, included her gushing that, "...its exclusion from the Oscar's should have caused a bigger uproar than Barbara Streisand's!" Phil Donahue spoke about marching in the gay counter-St. Patrick's Day Parade and being insulted by old ladies in front of St. Patrick's Cathedral. An unofficial and unannounced award, the "Do-You-Think-He-Is?," was won by Matthew Broderick who attended as a date/escort for presenter, actress Sarah Jessica Parker.

Amnesty International Becomes its Own Prisoner

The 1992 Amnesty International (AI) Conference on Women and Human Rights will censor any discussion of lesbian issues. According to Carolina Kaoudines, British AI Women's Officer, the subject is "too controversial." Dr. Monika Reinfelder, lecturer in Political Science at the University of London, had been invited to speak at the conference, but her invitation was revoked when it was learned that she intended to speak about lesbian sexuality. To protest this apparent demonstration of lesbophobia, write to: **Carolina Kaoudines, Amnesty International Women's Officer, AI British Section, 99-119 Roseberry Avenue, London EC1R 4RE, United Kingdom.**

Anti-Homophobia Curriculum

Homophobia: Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation is a 40-page, 5-part lesson plan for junior and high school students. This prejudice reduction curriculum contains lesson plans, supplementary readings and a bibliography. The lessons are entitled: *Homophobia and Violence; A Lesson In History; Dispelling Myths and Falsehoods; Troubled Teens,* and *Preparing Your Class for Speakers on Homosexuality.* Each lesson plan has a teacher's guide which includes objectives, vocabulary, teaching strategy, discussion questions and activities. The lesson on history includes a chronology of important events in the lesbian/gay rights movement and a list of famous historical figures who are known to have had lesbian/gay relationships. The curriculum has been approved for use in the Los Angeles Unified School District. It has been styled to be used in conjunction with the Anti-Defamation League's "World of Difference Campaign." To order please send $12.50 (includes shipping and handling) to **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093.** You can also purchase copies at A Different Light bookstores.

GLAAD & CSW

*(Continued from Page 1)*types who will help design and make signs and banners. GLAAD/LA will also have a booth at the CSW Festival (weekend of June 27) and we need volunteers to spend just a few hours each to hand out literature, sell a few buttons and meet people who want to know more about GLAAD.

Yet another opportunity to work for GLAAD is as a media escort. In conjunction with CSW, GLAAD members will escort media crews around the Festival grounds. It's a great way to work for GLAAD, help CSW and see the fairgrounds. (You also get in the Festival free!)

Show your pride in GLAAD and volunteer. Contact: **Wally at (213) 463-3632.**

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Video Volunteers

GLAAD is looking for volunteers to organize our Video Archives. We have hundreds of hours that need to be systematically reviewed, filed, and organized. If you are interested, please call **Sylvia Rhue at 213/464-7400, ext. 218.** This could be an interesting and entertaining project. So please call!

★

Hotline Number

To report both positive and negative media coverage of Lesbians and Gays please call the GLAAD/LA hotline Number: **(213) 931-9429 (213) 931-9GAY.**

★

GLAAD Gives Thanks

Thank-you to all volunteers who have helped GLAAD/LA in 1992, with your tireless effort we couldn't have done it without you! The GLAAD/LA booth at CSW, needs volunteers to staff the booth for both days June 27 and 28. If you'd like to help out call **Wally at (213)463-3632.** Keep up the good work!

★

GLAAD News

Co-Presidents Message Continued

*(Continued from page 2)*events that swept-up Los Angeles. I hope you will use that anger to do something. What can you do? In a city like Los Angeles there a definite number of ways to get involved. Here are a few ideas:

1. Register to vote and then vote;
2. Make sure that others register to vote and then vote;
3. Make a financial contribution to GLAAD;
4. Call or write your state and federal legislators to express your outrage. When specific legislation comes up that is of relevance contact them again and express your concerns;
5. Write letters to the editor or write newspaper columns, you would be amazed about how many publications will carry your writing;
6. Hold fund raising events. You don't have to have a lot of money or access to wealthy people to be a good fund raiser. GLAAD's fund raising committee can help you out. Call the office for details;
7. Join a GLAAD committee and get to work;
8. Help collect and distribute food and clothing to those who lost their homes and jobs from the fires and looting;
9. If you live in Los Angeles, work for Proposition F on the June Municipal ballot that will help to implement many of the changes recommended by the Christopher Commission;
10. Get active with other organizations that are doing something;
11. Consider becoming an office volunteer at the GLAAD office or for any of the numerous other overstretched civil rights or social services organizations that could use your help;
12. Become more award of what is going on by reading newsletters, magazines, newspapers and books;
13. Get involved in the Police Advisory Task Force in the gay and lesbian community or other police watch groups in existence;
14. Join organizations that are trying to fight discrimination and poverty such as GLAAD, ACLU, NAACP, Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF), LAMBDA Legal Defense, ACT-UP, etc.;
15. Make a monthly financial pledge to a group;
16. If you have a special skill such as being a carpenter, painter, nurse, doctor, lawyer, dentist, writer, landscaper, photographer, teacher, etc., there are a lot of groups that can use your specific talents.

This is only a preliminary list of things that you can do. You alone will not solve all of Los Angeles' problems but you can help and if each of us were to get involved, there is a lot we can accomplish.

If you have other ideas of ways to get involved, please write me c/o: **GLAAD/LA office, P.O. 931763, Hollywood, 90093-1763.** In an upcoming newsletter column I will list some additional ideas.

LATE BREAKING NEWS-LATE BREAKING NEWS-LATE BREAKING NEWS

MCA-Universal is First

MCA became the first entertainment company to extend health insurance coverage to "committed same-sex partners" of its employees. Working from a model drawn up by a group of health benefit experts organized by Hollywood Supports, MCA employees will sign an "affidavit of marriage/spousal equivalency" in which they will declare, among other things, that they live with their partner and that they plan so indefinitely. Civil rights lawyer Gloria Allred applauded MCA for taking "a very important step on behalf of people who do not have the opportunity to have long-term relationships recognized under the law." Hollywood Supports is an entertainment industry created group to help counter discrimination based on sexual orientation and fears about AIDS. Sid Sheinberg, President of MCA and Chief Operating Officer, was one of the founders of Hollywood Supports. Rich Jennings, former GLAAD/LA Executive Director, was appointed the first Executive Director of Hollywood Supports in Jan.,1992.

GLAAD June Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			27	28	29	30
31	1JUNE	2 Women of GLAAD 7:00pm 7033 Sunset	3 Speakers Bureau 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	4 Deadline for July issue *GLAAD/LA Reports*	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	12	13
14	15 Media Outreach 7:30pm 7033 Sunset	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 General Meeting 7:00pm 6000 W. Pico	24	25 Monitor/ Response 7:30 pm 7033 Sunset	26	27 CSW Pride Parade and Festival West Hollywood →

GLAAD/LA HOTLINE: (213) 931-9429 (213) 931-9GAY

Calendar Dates

June 27 & 28 Christopher Street West Parade and Festival

July 1 Outreach (Speakers) 7:30pm 7033 Sunset

July 2 Deadline for August issue *GLAAD/LA Reports*

July 7 Deadline for applications for GLAAD/LA Executive Director

July 9 Monitor and Response Committee 7:30pm 7033 Sunset

✂

Not all gay bashers use a fist or weapon. **Some use a pen or a camera.**

Yes, I want to help stop bigotry in the media. Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

❒$250 ❒$100 ❒$50 ❒$35 ❒ $_____

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Address_____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone _____ Tax ID#95-4242716

▼Send to: GLAAD/LA P.O. Box 931763 Hollywood, CA 90093-1763▼

HANDY MEDIA GUIDE

TELEVISION NETWORKS

ABC Entertainment (310)557-7777
Robert Iger, Pres., 2020 Ave. of the Stars, Los Angeles ,CA 90067
CBS Entertainment (213)852-2345
Jeff Sagansky, Pres., 7800 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036
NBC Entertainment (818)840-4444
Warren Littlefield, Pres., 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523
Fox Broadcasting (310)277-2211
Peter Chernin, Pres., P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

TELEVISION STATIONS

KCBS (213)460-3000 (Ch. 2)
Steve Gigliotti, Gen. Mgr. 6121 W. Sunset Blvd Hollywood CA 90028
KNBC (818)840-4444 (Ch. 4)
Reed Manville, Gen. Mgr.,3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank CA 91523
KTLA (213)460-5500 (Ch. 5)
Steven A. Bell, Gen. Mgr., 5800 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KABC (213)557-7777 (Ch. 7)
Terry Crofoot, Gen. Mgr., 4151 Prospect Ave., Hollywood CA 90027
KCAL (213)467-5459 (Ch. 9)
David Woodcock, Gen. Mgr., 5515 Melrose Ave.,Los Angeles, CA 90038
KTTV (213)856-1000 (Ch. 11)
Greg Nathanson, Gen. Mgr., 5746 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90028
KCOP (213)851-1000 (Ch. 13)
Bill Frank, Gen. Mgr., 915 N. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
KCET (213)666-6500 (PBS Ch. 28)
William Cobin, Pres., 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood CA 90027
KMEX (213)466-3434 (Ch. 34)
Richard Ramirez, Gen. Mgr., 6255 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90038
KVEA (213)502-5700
Stephen J. Levine, Gen. Mgr., 1139 Grand Central Ave., Glendale CA 91201

RADIO STATIONS

KABC (213)840-4900
George Green, Pres., 3321 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angles CA 90016
KFI-640 AM (213)385-0101
Howard Neal, Gen. Mgr., 610 S. Ardmore, Los Angeles CA 90005
KFWB News 98 (213)462-5392
Chris Claus, Gen. Mgr., 6230 Yucca St., Hollywood Ca 90028
KNX-AM News Radio (213)460-3343
George Nicholaw, V.P., 6121 W. Sunset Blvd. Hollywood CA 90028
KPFK-FM (818)985-2711
Alan Fong, Gen. Mgr., 3729 Cahuenga Blvd.W, North Hollywood Ca 91604

NEWSPAPERS

La Opinion (213)622-8332
411 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles CA 90013
Los Angeles Times (213)237-7000
Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles CA 90053
The Daily News (818)713-3000
P.O. Box 4200, Woodland Hills CA 91365
The Outlook (310)829-6811
P.O. Box 590, Santa Monica CA 90406
The Orange County Register (714)835-1234
625 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana CA 92701

MOTION PICTURE STUDIOS

Sony Pictures Corp. (818)280-8000
Peter Guber, CEO, 10202 W. Washington Bl., Culver City CA 90232
MCA/Universal (818)777-1000
Lew Wasserman, CEO, 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City Ca 91608
Paramount Studios (213)956-5000
Stanley Jaffe ,CEO,5555 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles CA 90038
The Walt Disney Co. (818)560-1000
Michael Eisner, CEO, 500 S. Buena Vista, Burbank CA 91521
20th Century Fox (310)277-2211
Rupert Murdoch, CEO, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

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Address Correction Requested

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