Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles

GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 5 No. 7 July 1993

NEWS BRIEFS

General Meeting: July 27

The July GLAAD/LA General Meeting will be held on July 27 at 7:00 pm. Come to: **Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 W. Pico Blvd.** (just east of Crescent Heights). Refreshments are available and guests are welcomed.

Love Match

Women of GLAAD/LA, in support of Lesbian Visibility Week, present "An Evening with Judy Nelson and co-author Sandra Faulkner" discussing the recently published book, "Love Match: Nelson vs. Navratilova," on Monday, July 26 at 7:00 pm at the Pacific Design Center. Sheila James Kuehl will be the guest moderator at this special event which will be held in the **Center Green Theatre Complex, Floor 2, at 8687 Melrose Avenue in West Hollywood.** Ms. Nelson and Ms. Faulkner will be available for book signing from 9:00 pm to 9:30 pm. Tickets at the door are $10.00 and Pacific Design Center parking is $1.50. For additional information call **GLAAD/LA at (213) 463-3632.**

Monitor/Response Spread Too Thin

For those of you that are avid channel 7 (KABC-TV) and channel 9 (KCAL-TV) news watchers, we apologize for their omission from the March on Washington Media

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Lee Werbel Appointed Executive Director of GLAAD/LA

David M. Smith joins NGLTF

The Board of Directors of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles (GLAAD/LA) announced the appointment of Ms. Lee Werbel as Executive Director of the organization, effective May 20, 1993. Werbel has served as Deputy Director of GLAAD/LA since February, 1993.

Stephanie Farrington-Domingue, Co-President of GLAAD/LA, commented on Werbel's appointment, "With her strong administrative background, I know that Lee will provide leadership to assist GLAAD/LA in its mission of promoting balanced and accurate images of lesbians and gay men in media depictions. She knows how to combat the defamation and discrimination we face daily."



Executive Director Lee Werbel

Werbel succeeds David M. Smith, who has been on loan from GLAAD/LA since February, 1993, when he moved to Washington, D.C. to assist the Campaign for Military Service in spearheading media strategy and planning in the effort to lift the current ban on lesbian and gay service personnel in the U.S. Military. Smith has accepted the position of Public Information Director at the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force beginning in Sept., 1993. "Lee has the skills, experience and vision to guide GLAAD/LA to its next plateau. She will make an outstanding executive director," said Smith.

Werbel comes to GLAAD/LA with fifteen years of management experience, specializing in the arts and non-profit sectors. For the past two years, she has served as a consultant to a variety of Los Angeles cultural organizations, including the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, the California Confederation of the Arts and the Dance Resource Center of Greater Los Angeles. Previously, Werbel was Managing Director for the Los Angeles County Music and Performing Arts Commission's State/Local Partnership Program.

Earlier, Werbel served as President of the Arts Democratic Club, Vice President/Secretary of the Board of Directors of Connexxus Women's Center/Centro de Mujeres, and Campaign Coordinator for the "No on LaRouche" Initiative Coalition.

Werbel said she is excited about her new role as staff leader of one of Southern California's most effective advocacy groups: "I could not be more pleased by this new opportunity. Each and every one of us is hurt by the defamation and lack of representation lesbians and gay men face each day in mainstream news accounts, feature films and television shows. The picture is improving, but we still have a long way to go."

NEWS BRIEFS

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Coverage Graph in the June, *GLAAD/LA Reports*. We only had a limited number of monitors compiling the information for the Monitor/Response Committee and those channels were missed. We appreciate those of you who called to the hotlines and letting us know that they, too, had good coverage.

Nuart On Cutting Edge

The Nuart Theater in West Los Angeles is becoming the year-round place to see gay and lesbian themed films. A quick check of their schedule reveals films such as Barbara Hammer's "Nitrate Kisses;" "Forbidden Love, The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Love;" and finally "Okoge" ("oh-koh-gay"), an acclaimed film from Japan on gay life in that country as seen through the eyes of an accepting young girl, coming during the summer.

Articles, letters, etc. for *GLAAD/LA Reports*: July 1st Deadline

The deadline for submitting material for possible publication in *GLAAD/LA Reports* will be the first of each month for the following month's newsletter. For the August newsletter all material needs to be submitted on or before July 1.

GLAAD/LA Reports welcomes your participa-

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Co-President's Column

by Stephanie Farrington-Domingue

Every day, most of us turn on a TV set, or radio, or pick up a local paper. When we do, we're either included in coverage...or we're not.

I can remember watching TV as a child and not really being fazed by the absence of African-American characters. I was crazy about "Sheriff John," "My Friend Flicka" and the Mouseketeers. Oh, there was "Amos 'n Andy,"



Stephanie Farrington-Domingue

but we didn't talk like them and they seemed too old and too stiff and, most of the time, I laughed at them rather than with them.

As I grew older, I watched eagerly any time there was an African-American character allowed in a story line. I remember cringing when they were continually cast in stereotypical roles. I seldom remember reading about our minority accomplishments in the mainstream news, and it was really something when my aunt, who was a pioneer African-American journalist, wrote an article of note and got crossover recognition in the mainstream press. Then came the recurring African-American characters like Link in "Mod Squad," and "Julia," and Bill Cosby in "I Spy." These characters were pivotal because they entered living rooms across this nation on a weekly basis and they began to expand people's comfort zones to the point that it is now generally accepted to have a sprinkling of African-American characters in almost any story line. No one really gets shocked anymore when these images appear on the screen.

What does this have to do with lesbian and gay images in the media? Well, it's actually a very similar evolution. Now, as an adult lesbia n, I watch eagerly anytime there is a lesbian or gay character allowed in a story line. I look for coverage of our issues in the mainstream newsprint - oh yes, we have or own community rags and we always will, but it really felt good to see the front page spreads covering our wonderful March on Washington and other issues germane to our community.

We watch and wait and actively advocate for those recurring characters, because they, too, will be pivotal. These images of lesbians and gay men will enter living rooms across America on a regular basis and they will have much to do with how America defines you and me as lesbian and gay folk. That's why the work we do here at GLAAD/LA is vital. We monitor just how the media presents us. We educate them and heighten their sensitivity when they're off center, and we applaud their efforts when their portrayals are accurate and balanced. Over the years, we have managed to make and maintain dialogue with most of the major media outlets in this town...and that feels good! You know, it wasn't that long ago that you ONLY saw stereotypical portrayals of ourselves in TV and film, and all our issues were covered on the obituary page. Now, in no way are we here at GLAAD/LA trying to lay claim to all the progress that has been made, but we can certainly see the changes since GLAAD has been in existence. More and more, you're there. From the integration of more lesbian and gay roles into your evening entertainment to lesbian and gay issues featured topics for hard hitting new reports; the work we do here at GLAAD/LA comes to fruition in the newsprint and over the air waves, and it is most rewarding to be a part of the driving force to make these things happen. That's what I want to share with you, THAT REWARDING FEELING. You know, no matter what your primary community affiliation is, you should also be a member of GLAAD/LA, because this organization works for YOU on a daily basis. Even when you're tired and just don't give a damn, we're there working for you.

"These images of lesbians and gay men will enter living rooms across America on a regular basis and they will have much to do with how America defines you and me..."

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Clarification of existing proposals...

Campaign for Military Service

CMS Proposal	Frank Proposal	Nunn Proposal
Lifts the ban	Unclear if it lifts the ban	Does not lift the ban
Ends recruiting and security clearance questions on sexual orientation.	Ends recruiting and security clearance questions on sexaul orientation.	Ends recruiting questions on sexuality; Unclear about security clearance questions.
Allows public and private conversation about being gay.	Allows private conversations about being gay.	No public or private conversations about being gay.
Sexual harassment, fraternization and Public Displays of Affection (PDA) restrictions applied evenly.	Prohibits public statements on-base about being gay.	No on-or-off base gay activities.
Allows private, consensual gay sex other than in barracks.	Allows private, consensual gay sex off-base.	No private, consensual gay sex.
Ends investigations/witch hunts.	Unclear as to when "speech" is too public.	Investigations/witch hunts still exist.
No discharges for being gay; appropriate disciplinary actions applied equally for misconduct by anyone.	Still allows discharges for merely being gay if announced.	Still allows discharges for merely being gay.
Legally ends discrimination.	Constitutionality problems; litigation continues.	Constitutionality problems; litigation continues.

Campaign for Military Service, 2027 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 265-6666, FAX (202) 265-7393.

President Bill Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20500, Phone (202) 456-1111, FAX (202 456-2461); General Colin Powell, Joint Chiefs of Staff, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-5000, Phone (703) 697-9121, FAX (703) 697-8758; Senator Sam Nunn, Dirksen Senate Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20504, Phone (202) 224-3521, FAX (202) 224-0072.

Toll-free Hotline 1-(800)-258-2222 (ask for Hotline Operator #9355). Callers can send high-impact messages to their two senators and congressional representative for $8.75.

Quotable Quote...

From former Sen. Barry Boldwater (R, AZ) on the lifting of the ban, "You don't need to be straight to fight and die for your country. You just need to shoot straight."

"Willing to Fight - Lift the Ban" Poster Available

To help focus attention on lifting the ban and demanding equal rights for all Amercians, GLAAD/LA is offering a "Lift the Ban" poster. In full color and suitable for framing, the poster can be ordered for $5.00 each, plus $2.75 postage and handling. Send your check to: **GLAAD/LA, 7033 Sunset Blvd., #304, Hollywood 90028; (213) 463-3632.**

United States Senate Armed Services Committee

The following Senators are members of the Senate Armed Services Committee listening to testimony on lifting the ban on gay and lesbian citizens serving in the military. Lobbying groups are intensifying their pressure as the July deadline approaches. Consider making your opinions known to as many Senators as possible. Contact your friends or relatives in the home states of these Senators and encourage them to phone or write. Correspondences may be addressed to each Senator followed by: Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

(All telephone numbers are area code 202)

Chairperson:
Sam Nunn (D-GA) 224-3521

Democrats:
Robert Byrd (WV) 224-3954
Jeff Bingaman (NM) 224-5521
James Exon (NE) 224-4224
John Glenn (OH) 224-3353
Bob Graham (FL) 224-3041
Edward Kennedy (MA) 224-4523
Carl Levin (MI) 224-6221
Joe Lieberman (CT) 224-4041
Charles Robb (VA) 224-4024
Richard Shelby (AL) 224-5744

Republicans:
Dan Coats (IN) 224-5623
William Cohen (ME) 224-2523
Lauch Faircloth (NC) 224-3154
Dirk Kempthorne (ID) 224-6142
Trent Lott (MS) 224-6253
John McCain (AZ) 224-2235
Robert Smith (NH) 224-2841
Strom Thurmond (SC) 224-5972
John Warner (VA) 224-2023

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tion and invites you to attend the Monitor/ Response Committee meetings in July on the 8th and 22nd. Send your comments, articles, letters or other submissions to: ***GLAAD/LA Reports*, c/o GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093; FAX (213) 463-4923; or directly to the Editor, Carl Matthes, FAX (213) 257-5878.**

Updates to Handy Media Guide

The Handy Media Guide, which is printed on the inside back page of *GLAAD/LA Reports*, now has listings for the national television news bureaus. They are **ABC News**, (212) 456-7777, Roone Arledge, President, 47 W. 66th Street, New York 10023; **CBS News**, (212) 975-4321, Eric Ober, President, 524 W. 57th Street, New York 10019; **NBC News**, (212) 664-4444, Andrew Lack, President, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 10112; and **PBS**, (703) 739-5000, Jennifer Lawson, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Also, **C-SPAN (1 or 2)**, (202) 737-3270, Mr. Brian Lamb, Chairman/CEO, 400 N. Capitol NW, #650, Washington, D.C. 20001.

Monitor/Response Committee

Described as the heart and soul of GLAAD is the Monitor/Response committee. This committee

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Film and Television

GLAAD/LA at the Movies

GLAAD/LA and the Women of GLAAD/LA will be co-sponsoring, with the Gay & Lesbian Media Coalition (GLMC), three screenings during the 11th Annual International Gay & Lesbian Film & Video Festival. The Festival, which is sponsored by the GLMC, will have its gala opening on July 8, and the GLAAD/LA co-sponsored presentations will be on Friday night, July 9 and Saturday, July 10. Leading off GLAAD's participation will be the Women of GLAAD/LA's co-sponsorship of **"Thank God I'm A Lesbian" (1992, Canada).** This 55 minute film showcases writers Sarah Schulman, Dionne Brand and Nicole Brossard, musician Lee Pui Ming and other prominent women speaking frankly and eloquently about issues ranging from coming out, racism, and bisexuality to lesbian literature. Inclusive of various and often contradictory points of view, "Thank God I'm A Lesbian" proposes an alternative vision of self and community that is portrayed as realistic and positive. The film is directed by Laurie Colbert and Dominique Cardona. The film short, **"Rules of the Road" by Sue Friedrich (1993, USA), fills out the evening's program. (Tickets: $8.00 each.)**

On Saturday, July 10, there will be two GLAAD/LA co-sponsored screenings. The first will be at 4:30 pm and features the video "The Gay Agenda," which was created by the political and Christian right wing as part of its hate campaign against lesbians and gays. Appearing during the presentation will be activists (from both sides of the fence) on issues confronting the queer community and the various counterattacks being mounted by the right wing. Videos to be seen include: **"The Gay Agenda" distributed by the Oregon Political Action Committee (1992, USA); "The Heterosexual Agenda" distributed by Deep Dish Television (1993, USA); and excerpts from the "Clinton Inauguration Exposed" distributed by Jerry Falwell and "The Old Time Gospel Hour" (1993,USA). (Tickets: $7.50 each.)**

Finally on Saturday, July 10, at 7:30 pm, the video "To Support and Defend" will be screened. Produced by a group of lesbian and gay professionals in the entertainment community as a response to the Senate Armed Services Committee hearings on homosexuals in the military, the video, which is moderated by Cybil Shepherd, focuses on a group of extraordinary Americans who have served with distinction in the Armed Forces. However, because they admitted being lesbian or gay, they have been labeled "unfit" for military service. Through intimate profiles and perspectives, and supported by interviews with straight comrades-in-arms and families, the video shows the human faces and feelings of those who are most affected by the ban. **"To Support and Defend", Parade Pictures (1993, USA), will be followed by a panel discussion with the filmmakers and interviewees. (Tickets: $10.00 each. $2.00 from each ticket will go to GLAAD/LA's media advocacy efforts to lift the ban.)**

Tickets for these three screenings may be obtained from **Theatix at (213) 466-1767 (11:00am to 7:00pm, Tues. - Sun.); To charge by FAX (213) 466-6972 (24 hours a day); GLAAD/LA Office: (213) 463-3632; GLMC may be reached at (213) 650-5133.**

"A damn lesbian," says Helms...

Achtenberg Nominated and Confirmed

C-SPAN recorded the three days of hearings around the nomination of Roberta Achtenberg as the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing at the Department of Housing and Development. Senator Barbara Boxer testified that the hearings should have lasted only three hours, but arch-conservative, Senator Jesse Helms, claimed he wouldn't vote for "a damn lesbian," and led a campaign to block her nomination.

In a surprise turn of events, Senator Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.) said he had "a personal reason" for supporting Achtenberg. His own daughter is a lesbian. Senator Pell stated, "I know I would want my daughter to be treated fairly if she were the nominee before us today."

After the affirmative vote, Achtenberg became the highest ranking open lesbian (or gay) in the Clinton Administration.

Film and Television

Bigotry and Death

The May 12 episode of NBC's "Law & Order" was entitled "Manhood" and dealt forcefully and honestly with the problems facing police officers who come out or become known as gay or lesbian to their colleagues. A production of Universal Television, the program was heralded as a "ground-breaking commentary on bigotry in America today." And, it certainly was.

The story involved a young officer responding to an emergency situation. Back-up is called but doesn't arrive in time to save the officer from being killed. A question arises over why back-up—in this case two different units—didn't arrive in time to prevent the killing. As the investigation unfolds the suspected killer, who is a drug dealer, is picked-up and reveals that he saw a police car sitting around the corner from the murder scene. We then learn that the police car was one of the back-up units and that the young officer who was killed was gay. The gay cop's partner discloses that he, too, is gay and that he wants a quick transfer from his present precinct because he suspects a conspiracy among his fellow officers to get rid of any gay cops. The story reaches the trial stage and not only are the back-up officers shown to be involved but that their captain is also aware and involved. The officers are tried and found not guilty. That parallels can be drawn to the attitude of some military and police situations in America today is not surprising. "Law & Order" certainly presented a timely, honest and sophisticated look at the problems lesbians and gay men face, as a matter of course, as they try to serve their community or country. Your comments may be directed to: **Dick Wolf, Executive Producer, "Law & Order," MCA/Bldg. 69F, 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608.**

"Cheers" to Gay Couple

It was great to be included in the second most watched TV broadcast in history: "Cheers," the last episode, aired on May 20 on NBC-TV.

Diane's character was brought back for the last episode. She called Sam and said she was coming to Boston and was going to bring her husband, Reed. Sam immediately asks Rebecca to pose as his "wife" and to be with him at dinner with Diane and Reed. As it turns out, Reed was just a show for Sam, the same as Rebecca was a show for Diane. The whole charade falls to pieces when Rebecca's boyfriend comes to the restaurant and asks her to marry him. She says yes, and after they leave, Reed's "Muffin" comes in looking to see why he's been left for the weekend. He mistakenly thinks that Sam is the "other man." Reed rushes from the dinner table yelling "Muffin, come back!" leaving Sam and Diane to themselves.

The whole idea of Rebecca and Sam pulling off this fake marriage for the sake of Diane was very funny and that she would do the same silly thing with her gay friend was great. Although some may have felt that the terms of endearment were stereotypical, the overall portrayal of us in the show was positive.

Unbalanced Balance

Have you noticed most of the times "The Jerry Springer Show" (KCAL-TV, ch. 9, weekdays) features an episode on gay/lesbian issues, they bring on a far-right hatemonger to denounce us? Why? Is this the show's clumsy attempt at "balance?" Would they bring on a KKK spokesperson every time they did an episode of interest to African-Americans" We think not. Write to the show's Executive Producer, Burt Dubrow, and ask that the show be more responsible in the way it produces episodes on gay/lesbian themes. Balance, responsibility and moderation should be the hallmarks, not shrill fag-baiting. Write to: **Mr. Burt Dubrow, Executive Producer, "The Jerry Springer Show," P.O. Box 4113, Chicago, IL 60654.**

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monitors what's happening in the media and entertainment industries and writes letters, makes phone calls and produces articles for the GLAAD/LA newsletter. But there's a lot of media to monitor and respond to and we need your help. Do you own a television? A video cassette recorder? Then you already have two of the basic "tools of the trade." The committee could really use more television watchers, but movie, radio and print media hounds are also welcome. Do you have friends who absorb popular culture like a sponge? Send them down. Few like to admit that they watch TV, but we know you're out there. Co-Chairs are Ruthe Canter and Anne Dutton. Please join us, we need your help. Meetings in July are on the 8th and 22nd at 7:30 pm at the **GLAAD/LA office, 7033 Sunset Blvd, Hollywood; (213) 463-3632.**

Women of GLAAD to Meet Tues., July 6

The Women of GLAAD Caucus meeting will be on **Tues., July 6, 7:00 pm at the GLAAD office (7033 Sunset Blvd.).** If you would like to be a part of the lesbian voice in GLAAD's affairs, come and join us for our monthly informal gathering to discuss ways in which we can become more visible in our community. Our purpose is to encourage

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the participation of 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. We will aggrandize, politicize, scandalize, hypothesize, socialize and we need your creative input. Tracy Stern is Chair. For more information: **GLAAD Office, (213) 463-3632.**

GLAAD/LA Wish List...

FAX Machine Two/Thirds There: Can You Help?

GLAAD/LA is very close to obtaining one of the prime items on its Wish List: a programmable FAX. All that is needed is another $600 and we move into the modern age. Can you help? One donor with $600, or two with $300, etc. would put us over the top. If you can help us in the "home stretch," please send your check, labeled "FAX machine" in the notation area, to: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093.**

GLAAD/LA Reports...

Advertising Information

Interest by potential advertisers in *GLAAD/LA Reports* is on the increase, according to Advertising Editor Margo Strik. She cites the newsletters quality, wide distribution and attractive advertising

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Film and Television

Oprah!

Oprah Winfrey is conducting a 12 part series on the family. In May, she included lesbians and a gay male couple as part of the series. The show was entitled "The New Gay and Lesbian Baby Boom." Roberta Stokes and Jaque Dupree appeared with their two children and talked about their lives as African-American mothers and lovers.

Two corporate lawyers, Ron and John, had a baby through a surrogate mother. They had a baby shower for their daughter and talked about their families' reactions.

April Martin, PhD, author of "The Lesbian and Gay Parenting Handbook," also appeared to talk about good parenting among lesbians and gays. Hearty applause from the audience when Dr. Martin said she hoped every baby would be "as planned for and as wanted as the children of gay and lesbian people."

Pamela and Rusty, lesbian lovers, appeared with their six kids as proof of the benefits of living in a warm, loving home.

A man in the audience called an openly gay man in the audience "a fruitcake." Oprah immediately reprimanded him saying "We are not going to tolerate name calling," and made him apologize.

Oprah's ability to be personal, professional, thorough and informative keeps her audience's interest and attention. And her at the top of the ratings. Comments to: **Ms. Debby di Maio, Executive Producer, "Oprah Winfrey Show," c/o Harpo Inc., 110 N. Carpenter St., Chicago, IL 60607.**

Radio and Print

"Lesbian Chic"

Now this is news. We have reached lift off...or have we? For an entire week, *New York* magazine appeared on newsstands across the country, bold letters on the cover announcing Jeanie Russell Kasindorf's feature piece, "Lesbian Chic." Imagine the word "Chic" following the word "Lesbian!" And to back it up, a full page photograph of a sultry k.d. lang that simply proclaimed the article's subtitle: "The Bold Brave New World of Gay Women." Yeah.

In its soup-to-nuts approach, the article includes: Roberta Achtenberg, Ingrid Sischy, Sandra Bernhard, The Lesbian Avengers (of chasing-Denver-Mayor-to-breakfast fame), Torie Osborn, Martina, Gertrude Stein, Rita Mae, GLAAD, Lea DeLaria, "Seinfeld," Banana Republic and Diane Salvatore among others. In fact, the piece covers so much ground that the topics mentioned could make a year's worth of feature stories. Will the interest continue? Is the future here, or is this just our own fifteen minutes of fame?

In the midst of all of this star power, there was also a discussion of one of the biggest lesbian issues today—invisibility.

"We have been the stepchildren of two movements," said Torie Osborn, "the feminist movement and the gay movement."

Rita Mae Brown added, "Gay men have always treated women the same way straight men have treated straight women. There was always this feeling we let the gay men speak for us and then we do the work."

The piece reports: AIDS kills, but more lesbians die of breast cancer, which is almost never discussed. Four to eight times more gay women have been discharged from the military than gay men, but the debate continues in a mostly male forum. Child care and education rarely see gay men showing interest. Even Kasindorf felt a need to talk about lesbians as measured against gay men. Why aren't we just ourselves?

The populist in us must enjoy this piece enormously. Anything that removes the sleaze and demons-from-hell image from the concept of lesbianism while raising visibility is of tremendous value. Yet it is the purist in us that must make the feminist argument, "why must we be chic, fashionable to attract positive coverage in the first place?" Comments to: **Edward Kosner, Editor and President, *New York* 755 Second Avenue, New York 10017.**



Women of GLAAD/LA in Support of Lesbian Visibility Week Presents:

An Evening with Judy Nelson

Discussing her recently released book,

"Love Match: Nelson vs. Navratilova"

with special guest moderator

Sheila James Kuehl

Monday, July 26,1993

7 pm to 9 pm

$10.00 at the door

Parking: $1.50 at the PDC

Pacific Design Center in the Center Green Theatre Complex, Floor 2

8687 Melrose Avenue, West Hollywood

Book Signing 9pm to 9:30 pm

For further information call (213) 463-3632

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rates as responsible for the climbing interest. *GLAAD/LA Reports* is mailed to members and supporters informing them about local and national media coverage and treatment of lesbian and gay issues. It provides an effective and proven way to reach thousands of concerned, responsible lesbian and gay community members — the friends of GLAAD/LA.

Information about ad sizes, new prices, deadlines, etc. is available by calling: **Margo Strik at (213) 259-9208.**

GLAAD/LA Advertising Policy

Founded in 1985, it is the mission of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) to counter stereotypes and misinformation about lesbians and gay men, and to promote the fullest possible understanding of the breadth and diversity of lesbian and gay lives, and to counter all public expression of bigotry of any kind.

It is the policy of GLAAD/LA to accept for its newsletter all advertising which is not inimical to its mission. GLAAD/LA nonetheless reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to reject any advertising which it deems unacceptable on any grounds.

The acceptance of and publication by GLAAD/LA of an advertisement in its newsletter shall not be construed as an endorse-

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Radio and Print

National Catholic Reporter : Duped or?

The National Catholic Reporter (NCR), a news journal with a liberal reputation, carried a reprint of an article first published by the *San Diego News Notes* that consisted of an interview with Dr. Joseph Nicolosi. The interview of Nicolosi, who has gained an infamous reputation for his "reparative therapy" (i.e. turning you straight for a price) and his homophobic writings and utterances, somehow gained favor with the editors of *NCR* and was given space in the May 7 issue. The article, complete with picture, paraded his time-worn and debunked doggerel to an audience that may not be aware of his sleazy reputation. And worse, the *NCR* offered no rebuttal, challenge or clarification regarding the statements made by Nicolosi.

In a letter sent to the *NCR* by GLAAD/LA friend, David Beaulieu, it was pointed out that "For a liberal journal to print the opinions of an advocate of the thoroughly discredited reparative therapy is astounding...Efforts by the likes of Nicolosi just contribute to the dangerously low self-esteem of vulnerable gay and lesbian youth and to the vicious campaign of hatred (by) the fundamentalist crazies."

In a follow-up, David reported that the *NCR* issue following the Nicolosi interview carried many letters critical of the false representations of Nicolosi and the NCR decision to print it. Your comments may be directed to: **Editor-in-Chief, *National Catholic Reporter*, Kansas City, Missouri 64141; *San Diego News Notes*, P.O. Box 84507, San Diego, CA 92138.**

Newsweek Poll

In the avalanche of media attention the March on Washington received, it should come as no surprise that *Newsweek* published a poll on "What Gays and Lesbians Think." It is encouraging that the views of the lesbian and gay community are considered valuable and that *Newsweek* took the time to commission the poll. It was also interesting to read the questions and to learn of the approve/disapprove percentages as disclosed in their May 3 issue. What was not so encouraging was to speak to two poll respondents who reported being contacted by the Princeton Survey Research Associates, the organization conducting the poll for *Newsweek*. Yes, the questions as printed in *Newsweek* were what they were asked. But the pollsters never mentioned the fact that the polling was being done only among "400 gay men and lesbians drawn from lists compiled by Strubco, Inc., of 400,000 who have associated themselves with gay and lesbian interests and activities." Both poll respondents felt that they could have been more open and would have responded more directly and intelligently if they had been told up-front that this was a poll being done among gay and lesbians only.

Not reported in *Newsweek* was the barrage of "personal" questions regarding sexual orientation that followed the political questions. Comments to: **Richard M. Smith, Editor-in-Chief and President, *Newsweek*, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 10022.**

"The Boys and the Ban"...

Details Impressive

In the June issue of *Details* magazine, correspondent John Weir writes about "The Boys and the Ban: Gay Life in the Marines." The author visited Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, "to uncover the roots of rage and self-loathing in the U.S. Military." (*GLAAD/LA Reports* Jan. '93 and Mar. '93) Weir offers many important details and overlooked stories that have not been explored in other mainstream media, including the outright advocacy of gay-bashing on the military base.

The same issue of *Details* carried a survey of sexual habits, which included responses from gay readers. Comments to: **James Truman, Editor-in-Chief, *Details*, 632 Broadway, New York 10012.**

The Cases:

Baehr v. Lewin: Same-Sex Marriage Case in Hawaii
Amendment Two in Colorado
Asylum for Gay Men, Lesbians, and People with HIV
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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 8

ment by GLAAD/LA of any such event, product, company, organization, person, service or thing.

Archives

Volunteers are needed to enter data on our computers for our video archives. Please contact the GLAAD office at **(213) 463-3632** and leave a message for Sylvia.

GLAAD/LA Reference File

GLAAD/LA is continually updating its reference file of clippings and articles so that the actual statements of anyone who is practicing defamation, or voicing support for our human rights, can be easily documented. But, we need more volunteers. Can you, or someone you know, start watching and clipping the *Daily News*, *Los Angeles Times*, or any other newspaper? In addition, if you read something in a magazine, periodical, newsletter, etc., that relates to gay and lesbian issues, clip and send it to: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-1763; FAX (213) 463-4923**; or call the hotlines, **English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673** and report it.

GLAAD/LA Office Volunteers

Yearning to have your finger on the pulse of combatting homophobia and heterosexism in the media?

Interested in seeing

Continued on Page 12

Radio and Print

Off-the-*Wall Street Journal*...

In an editorial titled "Bill and Roberta," the May 26 issue of *The Wall Street Journal* condemned the U.S. Senate's confirmation of Robert Achtenberg as Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. According to the *Journal*, Achtenberg "decided to teach those 12-year-old (Boy Scout) bigots a lesson (by) introducing a successful resolution to direct the city (of San Francisco) to cut its financial ties to the Bank of America." That this statement is inflammatory and false didn't seem to faze the editorial writers at the Journal. (The resolution was not successful and Achtenberg's attention was directed at the adult leadership of the BSA.) Not content with this distortion, the editorial writers went further, "The broader society doesn't want to punish gays, but it doesn't want to endorse their lifestyle either, especially when it comes to instructing children...A presidency that sides with the values of Roberta Achtenberg over the values of the Boy Scouts is heading for a big fall." Comments to: **Paul E. Steiger, Managing Editor, *The Wall Street Journal*, 200 Liberty Street, New York 10281.**

KNX Programming Raises Questions

GLAAD wants to know why gay-friendly KNX Newsradio 1070, the CBS-owned and operated radio station in Los Angeles, continues to purchase and air syndicated programming from right-wing homophobe "Rev." James Dobson? By providing a secular forum for Dobson on psychological issues and "good parenting," three times daily, KNX lends credibility to this fearmonger and right-wing activist, whose "Focus on the Family" operation in Colorado Springs spearheaded the anti-gay initiative in Colorado. Write to KNX and ask them to purchase their syndicated features on psychology and family matters from a less hateful source. Dobson may be smooth and friendly on the air, but read up on "Focus on the Family" and you'll find the truth. **Mr. George Nicholaw, Vice-President/General Manager, KNX Newsradio 1070, 6121 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood 90028.**

Reprint from "Family News in Focus..."

"Virginia Parents Fight Back"

"Parents in Fairfax County, Virginia say they're being ignored by county officials who pledge to distribute a homosexual newspaper at local libraries. Dave Henderson says he's formed a group of parents with something to say to county officials.

"(Dave Henderson) 'We're not going to put up with it. And if you all won't get this thing out of there, then we will take it upon ourselves, on our own time, on a weekly basis, to go in and destroy every copy of this magazine that we can find.'

"Henderson says 'several hundred' parents now visit local libraries and throw away every copy of the publication known as the "*Washington Blade*" that they can find."

Washington Blade Responds...

Verifying the fact that the *Washington Blade* continues to be under attack in Fairfax County was T.J. Mueller, circulation manager for the *Blade*. In a telephone interview, *GLAAD/LA Reports* was told that the Library Board ruled in favor of maintaining the distribution of the Blade in its 22 branches in March. The library staffs are supportive of the decision of the Board, and, if it is noticed that the copies of the *Blade* are missing, they are replaced. In addition, according to T.J., some of the branches of the library are under surveilance by *Blade* undercover employees and are taking down license plate numbers of suspects. What type of legal action is appropriate or available is being pursued. Comments to: ***Washington Blade*, 1408 "U" Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20009-3916.**

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Directors: Laurie Colbert and Dominique Cardona, 1992, Canada, 16mm, 55 mins.

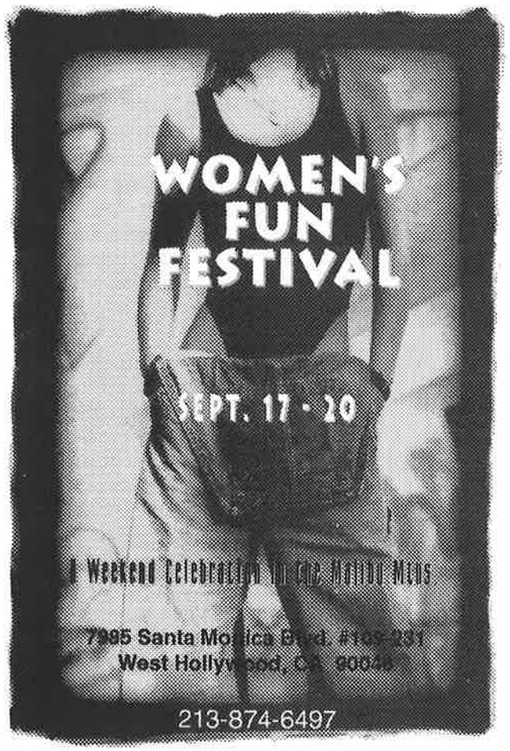
Plus short: RULES OF THE ROAD by Su Friedrich, 1993, USA, 16mm, 31 mins.



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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 10

first hand how GLAAD operates?

Want to assist our weary overworked office staff?

GLAAD is looking for people to volunteer in the office to help with phones, faxing, mailings and general office duties. Volunteer some time and make a difference. Call Nancy at the office: **(213) 463-3632.**

Call GLAAD/LA BBS

GLAAD/LA members may pick up *GLAAD/LA Reports* on the GLAAD Bulletin Board, **(213) 463-9257**, with no charge.

"Send Me Some Stickers"

You've just seen a lesbian positive episode on TV or you've just read an article on family values that doesn't include us. You want to call the hotline but you cannot find your newsletter and you can't remember that the number is 931-9GAY. You panic. Then it comes back to you. You had sent a self-addressed stamped envelope to GLAAD/LA and had gotten back several hotline stickers to attach to your phone. You reach for the phone, content in knowing you are actively participating in helping the organization monitor the media. The feeling is great! YOUR CALLS ARE VITAL! USE THE HOTLINE. IT IS A VEHICLE FOR CHANGE. Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: **Send Me**

Continued on Page 14

GLAAD News

Text of GLAAD/USA Press Release...

GLAAD/USA on Clinton Compromise

The united chapters of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance against Defamation (GLAAD/USA) are disappointed and dismayed by President Bill Clinton's recent endorsement of a "compromise" on ending the ban on lesbians and gay men in the military, and expressing his concern about appearing to "endorse the gay lifestyle."

The only thing being "endorsed" by maintaining the ban on openly lesbian and gay soldiers is hypocrisy and discrimination. Furthermore, there is no lesbian or gay "lifestyle." We are as diverse in the ways we live our lives as heterosexuals. What we have in common is our sexual orientation. President Clinton's statements, both in tone and substance, backpedal to the forces of prejudice and discrimination.

President Clinton's willingness to "compromise" our rights and establish separate rules of conduct for heterosexuals and gays in the military sends a chilling message about his commitment to the basic rights of all Americans. A "Don't ask - Don't tell" policy for lesbian and gay soldiers is a reconstituted "Separate but Equal" doctrine, and is an insult to the many lesbians and gays who have served and continue to serve honorably in our nation's armed forces.

(GLAAD/USA, the umbrella organization for all GLAAD chapters, fights for fair accurate, and inclusive representations of lesbians and gay men.)

Unity in Diversity

by Carol Anderson, Veronica Davis and Robin Podolsky

Diversity in Hollywood: It Doesn't Exist (Yet)

by Veronica Davis

The May 21 edition of Entertainment Weekly contained an article entitled "Where Hollywood Fears to Tread," outlining Hollywood's reluctance to deal with AIDS and homosexuality in film. The article goes on to say that the success of "The Crying Game" and the Pulitzer-and-GLAAD Media Award-winning play "Angels in America" has paved the way for the production of more gay and AIDS-themed projects.

There are several promising projects in various stages of development at the major studios including "Philadelphia," an AIDS-related court drama from TriStar, "The Normal Heart," Larry Kramer's play about the early days of the AIDS epidemic, and "Cure," Francis Ford Coppola's "science-fiction" story about scientists' search for a cure for AIDS.

The attention being given to AIDS by Hollywood is certainly welcome as AIDS is considered the world's first truly global epidemic, according to the Hollywood Supports newsletter, The Supporter. Statistics from WHO and CDC indicate that 14 million men and women are infected with HIV worldwide and the largest rate of increase is among heterosexual women.

In Hollywood's Year of the Woman, of the 18 or so gay/lesbian/AIDS projects currently being discussed or produced, 11 stories are specifically about AIDS, 16 have men as leads and only two are lesbian-themed. Of these two, one is the New Line Cinema release "Three of Hearts" which really isn't lesbian-themed at all, and the other, "Not for Profit" a Jennie Livingston project, has not found much financial backing. Livingston's project is also billed as an interracial lesbian love story, which would make it a welcome change to the standard Hollywood fare.

With a president who promises to make government "look more like America" and at a time when "Unity Through Diversity" surfaces as one of the nation's priorities, it seems critical that Hollywood follow suit in order to facilitate this process. To that end, stories about gay men who don't have HIV or AIDS (a lover story perhaps?), strong women who may or may not be lesbians and lesbians of color are desperately desired by this community and perhaps the nation at large. This is one area where playing it "safe" is no longer admirable. Making movies that attract Americans in all their diversity could be quite profitable if given a chance.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 12

Some Stickers, GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093.

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 may also purchase copies at A Different Light Bookstore.

GLAAD News

Join GLAAD/LA Now!

As of August 1, 1993, *GLAAD/LA Reports* will only be sent to paid members.

GLAAD/LA is having a membership drive in order to increase the number of paid members. The more paid members we have, the greater influence we will have in the media and in the lesbian and gay community. As of August 1, only paid members will continue to have our newsletter, *GLAAD/LA Reports*, sent to their homes.

See the enclosed membership application in this newsletter. The annual basic membership is $35.00 for an individual and $50.00 for a household. Subscriptions are $15.00 per year. Some of the benefits membership provides include:

- Advance notice of GLAAD/LA and Women of GLAAD/LA events.
- No extra charge to attend GLAAD/LA or Women of GLAAD/LA events.
- A year's subscription to *GLAAD/LA Reports.*
- Monthly membership meetings.

For more information please call the **GLAAD/LA office at (213) 463-3632.**

Due to increased costs the *GLAAD/LA Reports* will be mailed only to paid members or subscribers.

Rand Schrader

GLAAD/LA mourns the loss of one of its most valued associates: Municipal court judge Rand Schrader. Long time companion of former GLAAD/LA Board Member, David Bohnett, Rand died Sunday, June 13, from complications of AIDS. Rand and David have been generous to GLAAD/LA giving of their time, counsel, home and financial help. We will miss him.

Advertising

Which Companies Discriminate, Which Ones Don't

GLAAD/LA has started an advertising watch, and we need your help. The Media Outreach Comittee wants to inform the gay and lesbian community of advertisers who either support our community or contribute to censorship of programs with gay or lesbian content. The next time you watch television keep a pencil and paper handy. If there is such content, jot down the name of the show, its sponsors and products. Then call this information into the **GLAAD/LA Hotlines: English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673.** This will help us to learn which companies are inclusive with their advertising budgets.

If you are an advertising industry "insider" who might have access to information about advertisers who have been under boycott or hate campaign pressure to not advertise on programs that are lesbian and gay positive. Any information would be treated in confidence.

The Media Outreach Committee will be meeting the third Tues. of each month (for July that will be the 20th) at 7:00 pm at the **GLAAD/LA office, 7033 Sunset Blvd.**, two blocks east of La Brea in Hollywood. Media Outreach works in a variety 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: **Michael B. Keegan or Jehan Agrama, Outreach Committee, Media Co-Chairs, (213) 463-3632.**

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An open letter to Representative Frank...

Barney Frank Takes His Cue From Hollywood

by Michael Kearns

Openly gay Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), obviously taking his cue from Hollywood, has proposed that gays and lesbians should be allowed to remain in the military as long as they do not reveal their sexual orientation while on duty. "It's a policy that says, "Don't ask, don't tell, and don't listen, and don't investigate," Frank says.

For gays and lesbians in the entertainment industry, Frank's "solution" is painfully familiar, mirroring a code of silence which has existed in Hollywood since before the talkies replaced sound. Hollywood continues to put up with homosexuals among their ranks — as long as they keep their personal life a secret, or, better yet, Hollywood homosexuals are tolerated if they can act well enough to pass for straight.

"Hollywood homosexuals are tolerated if they can act well enough to pass for straight."

This "Don't ask, don't tell" code of secrecy continues to inform Hollywood of the nineties: How many actors, as well as other industry-related professionals, remain closeted in fear of losing their livelihood? When will Hollywood consider lifting the ban on gay and lesbians in the entertainment industry? Including those who choose to be openly gay.

While openly gay or lesbian soldiers supposedly threaten the morale of the military by what they do privately off the battlefield, openly gay and lesbian actors purportedly tarnish the morale of Hollywood by what they do privately off the soundstage. To suggest an actor's sexual orientation has anything to do with the art of acting is as specious as arguing that a soldier's sexual orientation has any bearing on his or her ability to serve their country.

Hundreds of homosexual actors and actresses have been fooling us for years; that's what required of actors: the ability to make believe. Knowing that a gay actor portraying a heterosexual isn't really straight is no different than knowing Clint Eastwood isn't really a gun-toting, shoot 'em up cowboy.

In a town which takes every opportunity to show off its AIDS awareness, no number of red ribbons — the de rigueur symbol of Hollywood society's liberalness — has diminished fear in the hearts of gay and lesbian actors who remain padlocked behind closeted doors. While Hollywood has witnessed the emergence of openly gay writers, directors, producers, etcetera, actors are still forced to live by "regulations: — like those in the military — which need to be broken.

Why do gays and lesbians — including some of us who make a living as actors — insist on being open? If you are heterosexual, imagine going through life denying who you are on a daily basis. Don't ask, don't tell. Don't tell anyone about your mate or who you date; don't tell if you have children; don't tell where you live; don't tell anyone what you did on the weekend. Don't reveal yourself to your peers: try it for twenty-four hours.

Understandably, closetedness in Hollywood and the military has spurred well-documented atrocities including suicides and deaths from alcoholism and drug addiction. One simply cannot perform one's job satisfactorily — whether on the battlefield or soundstage — when forced to constantly hide, deny, lie.

After years of living an unencumbered, uncloseted life, one wonders if Rep. Barney Frank could easily shift into the "don't ask, don't tell" mode?

(Editor's note: Michael Kearns is an openly gay actor-writer and the Artistic Director of Artists Confronting AIDS.)

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Executive Director's Column

by Lee Werbel

Things have really moved in a fast pace around here. I want to take a minute to say Hello to everyone. For those of you who are curious as to why I am writing the Executive Director's column now and David M. Smith is not, here's a recap. In February, David was offered the job as Communications Director for the Campaign for Military Service in Washington, D.C. He went to Washington, on loan from GLAAD/LA, to work to lift the ban against lesbians and gay men in the military for this six month period. As a member of the Board of Directors, and as an independent consultant, I was in a position to step into the job as Deputy Director while David remained our Executive Director. Recently, he accepted the position of Public Information Officer with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. He will again be working with Torie Osborn with whom he worked closely at The Center. The Board of Directors offered me the position of Executive Director and I gladly accepted.

It has been a whirlwind (actually since I began in February).

Our battle against homophobia in the entertainment industry and all the media is not an easy one. We know that media portrayals of lesbians and gays are still often negative and inaccurate, based on stereotypes and misinformation instead of reality.

GLAAD/LA is the recipient of a $30,000 grant from Hollywood Supports to provide an additional way to decrease homophobia in the entertainment industry. GLAAD/LA and Hollywood Supports will jointly provide sensitivity training on heterosexism through the creation of two publications and the training of volunteers who will go into entertainment industry corporations and conduct Sexual Orientation Sensitivity seminars.

And speaking of training and positive examples...actor Neil Tadken is to be commended for his commitment and success at creating "Day of Compassion" for daytime television on June 21, 1993. The focus of the project was the need for a compassionate response to people with HIV and AIDS. Daytime dramas and talk show including ABC's "One Life to Live," "General Hospital," "Loving" and "All My Children," and NBC's "Days of Our Lives" each produced storylines dealing with AIDS. "Donahue," "The Maury Povich Show," "Sally Jesse Raphael" and "John and Leeza in Hollywood" also aired AIDS related programs in support of the event.

The national media attention generated served to create awareness and compassion far beyond the usual viewership of daytime television. Neil's success is a testament to the incredible difference just one person can make.

Hopefully, Hollywood's increasing sensitivity will be seen in the numerous films with AIDS themed and/or gay-and-lesbian-themed projects currently in the works: "Acceptable Risks," "And the Band Played On," "Angels in America," "Blue Earth," "The Celluloid Closet," "Cure/The Cure," "Daybreak," "The Dreyfuss," "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues," "Falsettos," "Family Values," "Farewell to My Concubine," "Good Days," "The Mayor of Castro Street," "The Normal Heart," "Not for Profit," "The Object of My Affection," "Philadelphia," "Pursuit of Happiness," "Reunion," "Via Appia" and "The Wedding Reception."

Co-President's Column

Continued from Page 2

For a scant $35.00 a year, you can support our efforts, continue to receive this newsletter delivered to your home each month, and also be a member of GLAAD/USA. GLAAD/USA is our newly incorporated federation of local GLAAD chapters. GLAAD/USA galvanizes our voices from across the nation and sanctions us to monitor and respond with a national voice.

Where else could you get so much for so little? How else could you have such a far reaching impact? If you find a better way, please let me know. Until then, please clip the membership form from the back of this newsletter and send it to: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093.** We thank you, we appreciate you, we love you.

Handy Media Guide

TELEVISION NETWORKS

ABC Entertainment (310) 577-7777
Ted Harbert, Pres., 2020 Ave. of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067

CBS Entertainment (213) 852-2345
Jeff Sagansky, Pres., 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036

Fox Broadcasting (310) 277-2211
Ms. Lucie Salhany, Pres.
PO Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

NBC Entertainment (818) 840-4444
Warren Littlefield, Pres., 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523

TELEVISION STATIONS

C-SPAN (1 or 2) (202) 737-3270
Mr. Brian Lamb, Chairman/CEO
400 N. Capitol NW #650,
Washington, DC 20001

CNN (404)827-1700
Mr. Ed Turner (No, not Ted!),
Exec.-Vice Pres.
Cable News Networks, 1 CNN Center
Atlanta, GA 30348-5466

KABC (310) 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

KCBS (213) 460-3000 (Ch 2)
Steve Gigliotti, Gen. Mgr., 6121 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028

KCET (213) 666-6500 (PBS Ch 28)
William Kobin, Pres., 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90027

KCOP (213) 851-1000 (Ch 13)
Rick Feldman, Vice Pres./Gen. Mgr.
915 N. La Brea Ave.,
Los Angeles, CA 90038

KMEX (213) 466-3434 (Ch 34)
Michael Martinez, Gen. Mgr.,
6255 Sunset Blvd.,
Los Angeles, CA 90038

KNBC (818) 840-4444 (Ch 4)
Reed Manville, Pres./Gen. Mgr.,
3000 W. Alameda Ave,
Burbank, CA 91505

KTLA (213) 460-5500 (Ch 5)
Greg Nathanson, Gen. Mgr., 5800 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028

KTTV (213) 856-1000 (Ch 11)
Tom Capra, VP/Gen. Mgr., 5746 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028

KVEA (213) 502-5700
Agustin Martinez, Gen. Mgr.,
1139 Grand Central Ave.,
Glendale, CA 91201

TELEVISION NETWORK NEWS BUREAUS

ABC News (212) 456-7777
Roone Arledge, President
47 W. 66th Street, New York 10023

CBS News (212) 975-4321
Eric Ober, President
524 W. 57th Street, New York 10019

NBC News (212) 664-4444
Andrew Lack, President, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 10112

PBS (703) 739-5000
Jennifer Lawson, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314

RADIO STATIONS

KABC (310) 840-4900
George Green, Pres., 3321 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, 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 Street,
Hollywood, CA 90028

KNX-AM News Radio
(213) 460-3343
Geroge Nicholaw, VP, 6121 W. Sunset, Hollywood, CA 90028

KPFK-FM (818) 985-2711
Alan Fong, Gen. Mgr.
3729 Cahuenga Blvd. W..
N. Hollywood, CA 91604

NEWSPAPERS

The Daily News (818) 713-3000
PO Box 4200,
Woodland Hills, CA 91365

La Opinion (213) 622-8332
411 W. 5th St.,
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Los Angeles Times (213) 237-7000
Times Mirror Square,
Los Angeles, CA 90053

The Orange Country Register
(714) 835-1234
625 N. Grand Ave.,
Santa Ana, CA 92701

The Outlook (310) 829-6811
PO Box 590, Santa Monica, CA 90406

MOTION PICTURE STUDIOS

MCA/Universal (818) 777-1000
Lew Wasserman, CEO, 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608

Paramount Pictures (213) 956-5000
Ms. Sherry Lansing, CEO, 5555 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038

Sony Pictures Corp. (310) 280-8000
Peter Guber, CEO,
10202 W. Washington Bl.,
Culver City, CA 90232

20th Century Fox (310) 277-2211
Rupert Murdoch, CEO
PO Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

The Walt Disney Co. (818) 560-1000
Michael Eisner, CEO,
500 S. Buena Vista,
Burbank, CA 91521

Warner Bros Pictures
(818) 954-6000
Mr. Terry Semel, President,
4000 Warner Blvd.,
Burbank, CA 91522

Calendar

July 1, Thursday
Deadline for July
GLAAD/LA Reports

July 6, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm,
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

July 7, Wednesday
Community Outreach (Speakers),
7:30pm, 7033 Sunset, Suite 304

July 8, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee,
7:30pm, 7033 Sunset, Suite 304

July 13, Tuesday
GLAAD/LA Board Meeting,
7:30pm, 7033 Sunset, Suite 304

July 20, Tuesday
Media Outreach, 7:00pm,
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

July 22, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee,
7:30pm, 7033 Sunset, Suite 304

July 26, Monday
"An Evening with Judy Nelson"

July 27, Tuesday
General Meeting 7:00pm
6000 W. Pico Blvd.

August 1, Sunday
Deadline for September
GLAAD/LA Reports

August 3, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm,
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

August 4, Wednesday
Community Outreach (Speakers),
7:30pm, 7033 Sunset, Suite 304

August 5, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee,
7:30pm, 7033 Sunset, Suite 304

Fill in this coupon, and mail it today!

Yes! I want to join GLAAD.
Enclosed is my check for $35. for a one-year membership.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

Please make chekcs payable to: GLAAD/LA, PO Box 931763, Hollywood, CA 90093-1763

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles

GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 5 No. 8 August 1993

NEWS BRIEFS

General Meeting August 24: 1994 Media Awards & Board Nominees

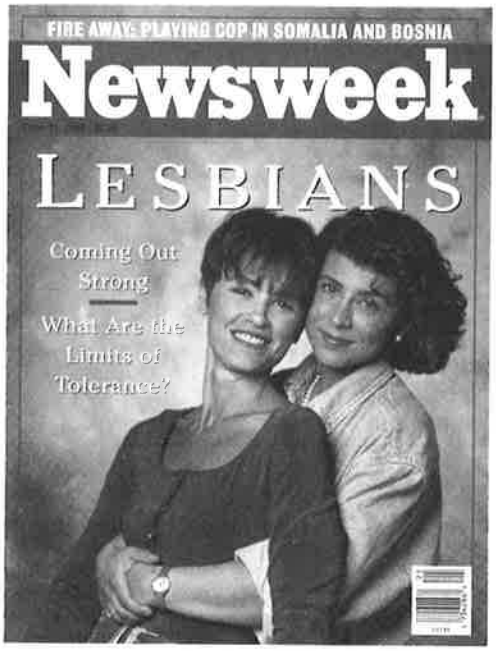
Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim will be the place to be Tuesday evening, August 24, to attend GLAAD/LA's General Meeting. Starting at 7:00 pm, highlights will include the first volunteer orientation and planning meeting for the 1994 Media Awards Program, and the presentation of nominees for the open positions on the 1993-94 GLAAD/LA Board of Directors.

Were you unable to attend the 1993 Media Awards? Were you there, but wondered how award recipients are selected? Do you think GLAAD has overlooked some heroes in the past? Do you have suggestions for ways in which we, as a group, can be more effective?

If your answer to any of these questions is "yes," then this General Meeting will be very enlightening. We will be showing clips from the 1993 Media Awards and the nominations process will be explained. Involvement opportunities for both the Awards programs and GLAAD/LA's ongoing activities will be discussed. Input from those attending will be important and welcomed. Come to: **Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 W. Pico Blvd.** (just east of Crescent Heights). Refreshments are available and guests are welcomed.

Continued on Page 2

Cracking the Invisibility Barrier







There were lesbians and gays all over the place as three of the nation's leading magazines, *Newsweek* (June 21 issue), *U.S. News & World Report* (July 5 issue) and *Vanity Fair* (August issue) featured cover stories on lesbian/gay issues and personalities. From *Vanity*, with a cover showing the super talented country "Ingenue," k.d. lang, sitting in a barber chair about to be shaved by a scantily clad Cindy Crawford, to the social and political activism covered in *Newsweek* and *U.S. News*, lesbians and gay men have never been more visible. Our report continues on Page 12.

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1

And, looking ahead...

General Meeting September 28: "The Adventures of Pat and Jerry"

Mark your calendar for the GLAAD/LA General Membership Meeting for Tuesday, September 28. GLAAD/LA Board Member, Dr. Sylvia Rhue, will present a video discussion program on the religious right's use of the media in regards to the gay and lesbian movement. The focus will be on Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson and the ways they utilize our images to promote fear and hatred of lesbians and gay men. Discussion will include strategizing to counteract their media manipulations.

Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell raise millions of dollars with their use of our images. Let's be aware of how they work and how it affects our lives.

On the Horizon...

"And the Band Played On"

Mark your calendars: HBO's production of Randy Shilt's "And the Band Played On," will debut September 11. This made for cable television movie represents a "signficant breakthrough in television treatment of the AIDS epidemic and

Continued on Page 3

Co-President's Column

by Dean Hansell

An Open Letter to Mayor Riordan

Dear Mayor Riordan:

On behalf of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles we would like to congratulate you on your recent victory and wish you the best of luck in your new challenges. I would also like to commend you on the actions you took as Mayor-elect by marching in the Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade (which with 400,000 attendees is second in size only to the Hollywood Christmas parade), and in appointing an openly gay Deputy Mayor for City Services, and a member of the Gay & Lesbian Police Advisory Task Force to the Police Commission. We are also aware that two of the people you have selected to be your advisors are gay.



Dean Hansell

While no precise numbers exist, estimates of the size of Los Angeles' lesbian and gay community put it variously at 500,000 to 600,000 people, making it one of the City's largest groups. It is also the most diverse. We are black, Hispanic, white, Asian-American, Native American and Arab-American. We are male, female, young, old, Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, Moslem and Buddhist. We are present in every board room in the City, we are lawyers, teachers, fire fighters, social workers, merchants, politicians, clergy, entertainers and, yes, even Republicans.

While the lesbian and gay community has made great strides in the five years since GLAAD/LA has been in existence and in the preceding decade, we are still the one group in the United States against whom it is still permissible to discriminate. While being Mayor gives you only limited powers, there are still many things that you can do to help combat homophobia and AIDSphobia.

According to the annual hate crime statistics the lesbian and gay community still remains one of the primary targets of hate crimes in Los Angeles. Only recently, for example, a young gay man, who was approaching a gay bar in Echo Park, was killed by a homophobe. Prompt investigation and response to incidents of hate crimes against not only lesbians and gays but against other groups that are frequent victims of such attacks (such as blacks and Hispanics) should be a high priority of the Police Department and the Police Commission.

In addition, the treatment of lesbians and gays and people with AIDS by police, paramedics and other City employees merits your attention. While relations with the Police Department have improved substantially under Chief Williams, much more work in this area remains. Specifically, Chief Williams' efforts to improve professionalism and bolster the Police Department's Internal Affairs Unit. Further, there are incidents of gay men and people with AIDS being subject to insulting and sometimes abusive treatment by paramedics. Paramedics and other Fire Department employees, as well as police, should have sensitivity training and an effective method of handling complaints pertaining to homophobia involving Fire Department employees should be developed.

Qualified lesbians and gays should be appointed to the various City commissions and to other top positions. Among the applications your transition team has received for commissioner positions are those of many highly qualified lesbians and gays. We are an integral part of Los Angeles and need to become fully represented in the governance of Los Angeles as well.

As mayor of the country's second largest city, Mayor Riordan, your opinion will carry great weight. You can use your voice, if you choose, to combat hatred and prejudice against lesbians and gays and against people with AIDS. When we are under attack by religious supremacists or hate-mongering television and radio commentators or by the bigots in the extreme right wing of your own political party, you can speak out.

Mayor Riordan, please join us in our struggle for acceptance and equality.

Yours truly,

Dean Hansell, Co-President
Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/ Los Angeles

"Together we shall overcome..."

Coretta Scott King News Conference;
Supports Lifting of Military Ban

Following are the remarks of Coretta Scott King, made at a June 30th news conference, urging President Clinton to revoke the ban on lesbians and gays in the military. Mrs. King attended the news conference with other civil rights leaders, which was held at the Martin Luther King, Sr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta, GA.

"As you know, President Clinton will soon announce his decision on what to do about the unjust ban against lesbian and gay people in the armed services. We are counting on the President to honor his pledge to end discrimination by taking clear and decisive measures to lift this un-American ban, which makes a mockery of civil and human rights in our country.

"The arguments that have been raised in favor of the ban are the same arguments that were so often raised against racial integration in the past. Then, as now, we were told that making the military service more inclusive would somehow diminish morale. Then, as now, we were told that military leaders were not prejudiced, but they were concerned about 'others' who might feel that way. This is not much different from businesses which cited 'customer preference' to justify their refusal to hire African-Americans to work in their stores.

"Back then, certain politicians raised the fear of health risks to oppose integration, and today we hear the same irrational arguments being used to deny lesbian and gay people their human rights in the military.

"The controversy over this issue indicates that homophobia, as well as other forms of prejudice and intolerance, are serious problems in the military services, as they are throughout our society. Educational programs about the destructive effects of bigoted attitudes should be made a required part of basic training for all branches of the services.

"I strongly believe that freedom and justice cannot be parceled out in pieces to suit political convenience. As my husband, Martin Luther King, Jr. said, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.' On another occasion he said, 'I have worked too long and hard against segregated public accomodations to end up segregating my moral concern. Justice is indivisible.' Like Martin, I don't believe you can stand for freedom for one group of people and deny it to others.

"Lesbian and gay people have served their country with honor and courage in the military and other institutions since the early days of American history, and many have paid the highest price to defend the freedoms we cherish as Americans. I might also add that many lesbians and gays supported the African-American freedom struggle, and I am not going to turn my back on their movement for freedom and dignity.

"The great promise of American democracy is that no group of people will be forced to suffer discrimination and injustice. I believe that eliminating this ban altogether will strengthen the military services and our country as a whole. So, I join my colleagues in calling on President Clinton to stand firm against all forms of discrimination in the military and to accept no compromises which undermine the principles of fairness and human dignity. To this endeavor, I pledge my wholehearted support, and with this committment, *together* we shall overcome."

Your comments may be sent to: **Mrs. Coretta Scott King, c/o Martin Luther King, Sr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, 449 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta, GA.**

It's Coming!...and it's going to be bigger and better than ever!

The 1994 GLAAD/LA Media Awards Program

Century Plaza Hotel
March 19, 1994

See page 14

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 2

the lesbian/gay community's role in battling the disease." Lily Tomlin, Sir Ian McCellan, Richard Gere and Steve Martin star.

"Forbidden Love"

Starting August 4, and running for nine days at the Nuart Theater, will be "Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives." This documentary, which examines the lives of lesbian Canadian women in the '50s, is both substantial and entertaining. Women of diverse class and ethnic backgrounds tell how they found entre into the well-guarded lesbian world of their day.

Attn.: G/L Teacher-Writers

Alyson Publications is planning an anthology of writings by gay and lesbian teachers to be published next year. Teachers working with any grade level from all areas of the country are invited to participate. The deadline for submissions is December 31, 1993. Information or submissions can be directed to: **Kevin Jennings, 25 Kelly Road, #2, Cambridge, MA 02139.**

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 3

Articles, letters, etc. for *GLAAD/LA Reports*:

September 1st Deadline for October Issue

The deadline for submitting material for *GLAAD/LA Reports* is the first of each month for the following month's newsletter. For the October newsletter all material needs to be submitted on or before September 1.

GLAAD/LA Reports welcomes your participation and invites you to attend the Monitor/Response Committee meetings in August on the 5th and 19th. Your comments, articles, letters or other submissions may be sent to: ***GLAAD/LA Reports*, c/o GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093; FAX (213) 463-4923; or directly to the Editor, Carl Matthes, FAX (213) 257-5878.**

Monitor/Response Committee

The heart and soul of GLAAD is the Monitor/Response committee. This committee watches (monitors) what's happening in the media and writes letters, makes phone calls and produces articles for the GLAAD/LA newsletter. But there's a lot of media to monitor and respond to, and we need your help.

How do you get involved? Do you own a

Continued on Page 5

Film and Television

"Phenomenal success..."

"Day of Compassion"

The observance on June 21, 1993 by the television industry of the "Day of Compassion" surpassed all original expectations, and was "a phenomenal success" according to Neil Tadken, Coordinating Director for "Day." Participating in this AIDS awareness were five major daytime dramas and almost every major syndicated talk show, entertainment news program and morning show. Participating this year were: "All My Children," "General Hospital," "Loving," "One Life to Live," "Days of Our Lives," "Geraldo," "Donahue," "Jenny Jones," "Regis & Kathie Lee," "Jerry Springer," "Montel Williams," "Maury Povich," "The Home Show" and "John & Leeza."

Neil would like to single out "One Life to Live" and "Days of Our Lives" for special thanks. "One Life to Live" featured Sloane Carpenter, the previously homophobic General, speaking to a veteran's group about AIDS on his deceased son's birthday. "Days of Our Lives" constructed the most extensive scene. It revolved around a candy striper who learns a guy she knows from school is hospitalized with AIDS. The storyline dealt with her fears and what she learned from the hospital staff and friends. Several role models of compassion were presented.

Already being planned is "Day of Compassion '94," which will occur on June 21, 1994. Expansion to the full spectrum of television programming is planned for the second year, as well as an effort to expand the campaign overseas.

Neil credits the hard work of many people for the success this year including his co-coordinator Ari Sloane, and GLAAD/LA Board Members Jehan Agrama and Michael B. Keegan. For more information contact Neil at (213) 874-8458. Also: **Linda Gottlieb, Executive Producer, Michael Malone, Headwrtier, "One Life to Live," 56 W. 66th Street, New York 10023; Mr. Tom Langan, Co-Executive Producer, "Days of Our Lives," 3000 W. Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91505**

(Conspicuous by their absence were any shows produced by Proctor & Gamble. See related story under "Advertising" on page 10 in this issue.)

What goes around, comes around...

"Chain of Desire"

In an updated version of Arthur Schnitzler's classic script, "La Ronde," writer-director Temistocles Lopez presents a tour de force of mostly unconsummated sexual encounters in his film "Chain of Desire." Set in New York City, and with the specter of AIDS in mind, "Chain" pairs women with straight and bisexual men, the bisexual with a gay male hustler, the hustler with a gay couple, etc. A dozen or so other matchings later, the "daisy-chain of love affairs" is complete and we are returned to our first character, Alma (Linda Fiorentino). While the gay encounters are presented attractively and as naturally as any in this witty and well produced film, a lack of a lesbian prescnce, beyond that hinted at in a massage scene, left "Desire" incomplete. Seymour Cassel, Malcolm McDowell and Grace Zabriskie add their acting skills. **A Mad Dog Pictures Release**.

Sheila Kuehl on Century Cable...

"Get Used To It"

Gaining time on Century Cable's public access channel (channel 10 in most service areas) is "Get Used To It," hosted by attorney and activist Sheila Kuehl. The monthly programs, covering topics of current interest within the gay and lesbian community, have attracted guests such as David Mixner, Ginny Foat and Phill Wilson. Sheila, in a telephone interview, says the program is basically a "discussion among ourselves," which she hopes will foster ideas, communication and consensus in the community. Broadcast times are dependent on public access scheduling. The program in August is entitled "Voices Among Us" and will feature former NGLTF executive director Urvashi Vaid and comic Kate Clinton. For dates, times and comments write: **"Get Used To It," c/o City of West Hollywood, 8611 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.**

Film and Television

Goldberg election...

Awkward Moments for the Local Media

The arrival of Jackie Goldberg to Los Angeles' 13th Council District seat is another victory for the city's gay and lesbian population, and like any major news event involving the homosexual community, it reflected the ability — or inability — of the local media to provide intelligent coverage. There were some awkward moments. On election night, KNBC's Paul Moyer referred to Goldberg as an "admitted lesbian," as though she had just confessed to wrongdoing. During the swearing-in ceremony, KTLA's Susan Etheridge referred to Goldberg's partner as her date — hardly an appropriate title considering the relationship has lasted for 14 years.

Perhaps the biggest problem was overlooking Goldberg — the politician. Although the addition of an open lesbian to the city council is extremely important, newscasters ignored the issues championed by Goldberg, such as neighborhood empowerment. By referring to her repeatedly as "openly homosexual," reporters gave the impression that she would be serving only her gay and lesbian constituents while diminishing her extraordinary political abilities. By comparison, other winning council candidates, Laura Chick and Richard Alarcon, were profiled on their positions regarding crime, development and the L.A. Unified School District breakup. For Goldberg, single label coverage was superficial coverage.

Radio and Print

More Information, Please!

The 1993 edition of the best-selling *Information Please Almanac* (*IPA*) makes gays and lesbians invisible. Promoted as "the almanac for the nineties," "the new universe of information" and "the centerpiece of the world's reference shelves," *IPA* nonetheless omits references to significant lesbian and gay subjects. In fact, you won't find the words "lesbian," "gay" or "bisexual" in the index of this 1,024 page paperback (published annually since 1947).

The section on "Law Enforcement & Crime" doesn't mention hate crimes. The lengthy "Sports" section is silent on the subject of the Gay Games. An essay on curriculum issues in "Education" never mentions the nationwide struggle to combat homophobia in school textbooks. The omissions continue through "Where to Find Out More," "U.S. Societies & Associations," "Toll-Free Numbers," and the "Ever-Changing American Family." There is an oblique, inflammatory reference under the listing "Current Events": "Philadelphian charged with spreading AIDS. Police arrest man who may have infected several hundred teen-age boys through sexual relations."

IPA does update its information. Listings of pro- and anti-choice organizations, war resisters' groups, "Women's Rights" and "Native Americans" are now included. Your comments to remind the editors that gay and lesbians are essential elements in the fabric of our society, and of the nineties, can only be helpful. Write: **Otto Johnson, Executive Editor and Vera Dailey, Associate Editor, *The Information Please Almanac*, Editorial Office, Houghton Mifflin Company, 215 Park Avenue South, New York 10003.**

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 4

television? A video cassette recorder? Do you subscribe to any publications? Attend movies? Then you already are in a position to join and help the Monitor/Response committee. The committee could really use more television watchers, but movie, radio and print media hounds are also welcome. Do you have friends who absorb popular culture like a sponge? Send them down. Few may admit that they watch TV, but we know you're out there. The chair is Anne Dutton. Please join us, we need your help. Meetings in August are on the 5th and 19th at 7:30 pm at the **GLAAD/LA office, 7033 Sunset Blvd, Suite 304, Hollywood; (213) 463-3632**.

Women of GLAAD to Meet Tues., August 3

The Women of GLAAD Caucus meeting will be on **Tues., August 3, 7:00 pm at the GLAAD office (7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 304).** If you would like to be a part of the lesbian voice in GLAAD/LA's affairs, come and join us for our monthly informal gathering to discuss ways in which we can become more visible in our community. Our purpose is to encourage the participation of lesbians on the GLAAD/

Continued on Page 6

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 5

LA board and on GLAAD's committees, and to ensure that GLAAD continues to fight for lesbian visibility in all areas of the media. We will aggrandize, politicize, scandalize, hypothesize, socialize and we need your creative input. Tracy Stern is Chair. For more information: **GLAAD/LA Office, (213) 463-3632.**

Handy Media Guide Updates

The Handy Media Guide, located on the inside back cover, has added the following listings: Radio Stations: **KROQ 106.7 FM (818) 520-1067, 3500 W. Olive Street, #900, Burbank, CA 91510; KIIS 102.7 AM-FM (213) 466-8381, Ellen Kay, General Manager, 6255 Sunset Blvd., 11th Floor, Hollywood 90028; and KRTH 101 FM (800) 232-5789, 5901 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles.** Newspapers: **Riverside Press Enterprise (909) 684-1200, Patricia Barnes, Editor-in-Chief, P.O. Box 792, Riverside, CA 92502; *Long Beach Press Telegram* (310) 435-1161, Andy Alderette, Editor-in-Chief, 604 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90844.**

GLAAD/USA Looking for National Coordinator

GLAAD/USA is conducting a search for a

Continued on Page 8

Radio and Print

"My Brother's Gay. Big Whoop."

The cover of the July '93 issue of *Sassy*, a monthly magazine for teenage women, carries the headline: "My Brother's Gay. Big Whoop." Inside, Margie Ingall takes a look at "How My Brother Came Out," chronicling the "coming out" path taken by her brother, Andy. One accompanying photo is captioned: "It's Margie and her brother. Both of 'em grew up to like boys."

The author concludes her essay on this note, "My brother is a regular brother. People who choose to hate him because of who he is need to get a hobby...Right this second there are as many as 100,000 gay, lesbian and bisexual high school seniors in America. That's how it is. The only question is whether we want to make their lives easier or harder." Comments to: **Jane Pratt, Editor-in-Chief, *Sassy*, 230 Park Avenue, New York 10169; and to Margie Ingall, Feature Writer, same address.**

And now...

A *Sassy* Backlash

Concerned Woman for America (CWA), a national right-wing hate group, is backing a crusade against *Sassy*, which includes getting this young women's 'zine "pulled off local shelves" and getting "advertisers to pull their support." *Sassy* is vilified in the CWA's July newsletter, *Family Voice*, by staff writer Marian Wallace who complains, "This magazine encourages teenage girls to explore every politically correct area available, from different sexual orientation to abortion." Your supportive comments can only be helpful. Write: **Dick Latora, President, *Sassy*, 230 Park Avenue, New York 10169.**

Tracking the Right Wing

People for the American Way has published "An Abridged Guide to Right Wing Activity in 1993 at the Grassroots Level." Serving as a state-by-state guide of targets in the Religious Right's war on civil liberties, the listings include anticipated attacks on multicultural textbooks, sex and AIDS education programs and "anti-family" school board policies. Also on the hit list: the entertainment industry, art exhibits and other forums for creative expression. For more information contact: **People for the American Way, 2000 "M" Street, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036.**

"She's Quite a Man"

"Tell people to be honest. Don't live with lies. It's up to you, it's up to me, to bring this out." That's some of the advice offered by gay African-American singer RuPaul (*GLAAD/LA Reports* Apr. '93) in an article, entitled "She's Quite a Man," vitalizing the pages of *Sister 2 Sister*, a glossy 'zine covering African-American women in the entertainment industry. RuPaul offered some insights about drag, "Underneath everything, we're all doing drag, honey." And on being gay, "People who live outside the main parameters of society see things other people don't see. It's like dogs that can hear things we can't hear." Your comments can be sent to: **Jaime Foster Brown, Publisher, *Sister 2 Sister*, P.O. Box 41148, Washington, D.C. 20018.**

FCC Head to be Appointed

President Clinton will have the opportunity to appoint a new chair of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) following the expiration in June of the term of its present chair, Alfred Sikes. Over the last decade, the FCC has taken a number of actions to restrict "indecent" broadcasts — some use that as a code word for lesbian, gay and bisexual programming. During that time, the long-standing "Fairness Doctrine," designed to insure that radio and TV stations present conflicting views on important issues, was also dismantled.

Send your views and expectations for the new FCC chair to: **President Bill Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20500.**

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 6

National Coordinator. Call Ellen Carton, GLAAD/NY Executive Director, at (212) 807-1700 for more information.

GLAAD/USA co-chairs are Stephanie Farrington-Domingue (co-president of GLAAD/LA) and Fred Humphrey (GLAAD/NY). If you are interested in obtaining contact information for other GLAAD Chapters contact **GLAAD/LA office at (213) 463-3632**.

Advertising Information

Interest by potential advertisers in *GLAAD/LA Reports* is on the increase, according to Advertising Editor Margo Strik. She cites the newsletter's quality, wide distribution and attractive advertising rates as responsible for the climbing interest. *GLAAD/LA Reports* is mailed to members and supporters informing them about local and national media coverage and treatment of lesbian and gay issues. It provides an effective and proven way to reach thousands of concerned, responsible lesbian and gay community members — the friends of GLAAD/LA.

Information about ad sizes, new prices, deadlines, etc. is available by calling: **Margo Strik at (213) 259-9208**.

Continued on Page 10

Radio and Print

"An example of everything that is good about America..."

Rand Schrader

Following is a reprint of a letter which appeared June 27, 1993 in the "Letters to the Editor" section of the *Los Angeles Times*:

"In response to 'Rand Schrader, Judge and Gay Activist, Dies at 48,' June 14.

"Los Angeles has lost a good and decent man. Rand Schrader, Municipal Court judge and gay activist, died of AIDS. My family was deeply touched by his quiet generosity and kindness. He married us eight years ago.

"In a time when the news is full of discourse about gays in the military, gay rights and AIDS research, I think it's sad that we will no longer have Schrader, an example of everything that is good about America, to participate in those debates. That he was gay is only a plus to who he was and how he will remain in our memories. That he died (from the complications) of AIDS is a tragedy and a sad fact of an exemplary life. That many others in our society cannot accept him because he was homosexual, despite his accomplishments, is a tragedy for America.

"We didn't know him very well when we asked him to marry us. My wife had known him through gay friends for whom he led a bonding ceremony. She thought his words were from his heart, and that we would be lucky to have such words spoken on our behalf. Schrader was quite generous in agreeing to spend an afternoon marrying two strangers. He wanted to meet us and not only refused any fee but insisted on buying us dinner as well.

"The words he used as a refrain during our wedding that I will always remember are, 'From this day forward...' We have been happy living with those words, but 'from this day' we will have only his legacy and his deeds to remember him by. We can repay his kindness to us now only through what we teach our son about tolerance and how we share our lives."

William Nettles
Candace Lee
Los Angeles

KROQ - What's the Story?

It's time for a KROQ 106.7 FM "watch" again. We've received some mixed messages from GLAAD/LA hotline callers about KROQ's "Love Line" and its position on lesbian and gay relationships. Some of our callers are concerned that "Love Line" is actively pushing anyone who is confused about their sexual orientation toward heterosexuality. Others disagree. Also, it's time for a Rick Dees "watch" again. We've received more calls than usual to report that his humor dealing with lesbians and gays is offensive, this, after a period of improvement. So, if you're a KROQ listener, please stay in touch with us. We want to know what you think. Calls and comments to: **GLAAD/LA hotlines: English (213) 931-9429, Spanish (213) 463-4673; GLAAD P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-1763; KROQ 106.7 FM, 3500 W. Olive Street, #900. Burbank, CA 91510; For Rick Dees: KIIS 102.7 FM, Ellen Kay, General Manager, 6255 Sunset Blvd., 11th Floor, Hollywood 90028.**

"Send Me Some Stickers..."

You've just heard Rick Dee on KIIS 102.7 FM and he's "at it again." A lesbian positive program is shown on TV, or you've just read an article on family values that doesn't include us. You want to call the hotline but you can't find your newsletter and you can't remember that the number is 931-9GAY. You panic. Then it comes back to you. You had sent a self-addressed stamped envelope to GLAAD/LA and had gotten back several hotline stickers to attach to your phone. You reach for the phone, content in knowing you are actively participating in helping the organization monitor the media. The feeling is great! **YOUR CALLS ARE VITAL! USE THE HOTLINE. IT IS A VEHICLE FOR CHANGE.** Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: **Send Me Some Stickers, GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093.**

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 8

Newsletter Advisory Board; Internship Program

A Journalism Internship Program is being established for GLAAD/LA. Requested by the GLAAD/LA Board of Directors, persons interested in getting started in journalism, helping with the GLAAD/LA newsletter and covering gay and lesbian issues are invited to contact *GLAAD/LA Reports* editor, Carl Matthes, by calling the **GLAAD/LA Office at (213) 463-3632.**

Archives: Computer Help Needed

Volunteers are needed to enter dates on our computers for our video archives. Please contact the GLAAD/LA office at **(213) 463-3632** and leave a message for Sylvia.

GLAAD/LA Reference File

GLAAD/LA is continually updating its reference file of clippings and articles so that the actual statements of anyone who is practicing defamation, or voicing support for our human rights, can be easily documented. But, we need more volunteers. Can you, or someone you know, start watching and clipping the *Orange County Register, L.A. Weekly, L.A. Reader, La Opinion, Daily News* or any other

Continued on Page 12

Advertising

"Day of Compassion"...

Will P&G Come Clean?

One major daytime drama producer, Proctor& Gamble (P&G), the country's largest advertiser, was absent from the "Day of Compassion" (see related story on page 4). Not one of the shows produced by P&G - "Another World," "Guiding Light" and "As the World Turns" - participated. While other shows even changed their story lines, these shows did not participate in even a minor way, e.g., a flashback to an earlier show with an AIDS related theme, something in the credits about "Day," or someone in the cast wearing a red ribbon. Could Cincinnati-based P&G be bowing to fundamentalist pressure? We were told that it was coincidence that none of the shows chose to participate. See if you can find out by writing them, and, while you're at it, encourage them to participate next year. Contact: **Mr. Ed Trach, Executive in Charge of Production, Daytime Program Services, c/o D'Arcy, Masius, Benton & Bowles Advertising, 1675 Broadway, New York 10019-5809. Also: Jill Farren Phelps, Executive Producer, "Guiding Light," 222 E. 44th Street, New York 10017; Laurence Caso, Executive Producer, "As the World Turns," 524 W. 57th Street, New York 10023; Mr. Michael Laibson, Executive Producer, "Another World," 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 10112.**

AFA too slick?...

Slippery Johnson Wax

It appears that S.C. Johnson & Sons, Inc., maker of Johnson Wax, Glade, Windex and other household products, may have buckled under to the tactics of the American Family Association (AFA) and CLeaR-TV (GLAAD/LA Reports, May '93). Johnson's latest statement declares, "We have communicated with CLeaR-TV and we've sent (them) the lists of television programs that we purposely avoided advertising on because we felt their content was inappropriate. This, despite the fact that those programs attracted our target audiences and the air time was offered to us at attractive prices." Additionally, the company has announced its membership in "the Media Directors' Council, an organization that works with television producers to encourage them to clean up their program content."

S.C. Johnson needs to be reminded that rather than trying to cut-a-deal with the AFA and CLeaR-TV hate mongers, they should be expressing outrage at this blackmail and censorship. Contact: **Samuel C. Johnson, Chair, S.C. Johnson & Sons, Inc., 1525 Howe Street, Racine, WI 53403; and carbon copy to: Thomas R. Conrardy, Director, Consumer Resource Center, same address.**

"No Sissy Food, No Sissy Portions"

Black Angus Restaurants is running a commercial that has generated complaints to the GLAAD/LA Hotline. A cowboy is cooking his dinner and says that Black Angus Restaurants has "no sissy food." He then picks up, with his bare hands, a hot metal coffee pot from the campfire, and says, "and no sissy portions." This is followed by a sinister laugh and smoke rising from around his hands. Write to Black Angus Restaurants and let them know how you feel about this commercial. Send to: **Mr. Ralph Roberts, President, Stuart Anderson's Black Angus Restaurants, 4410 El Camino Real, Suite 201, Los Altos, CA 94022; GLAAD/LA Hotlines: English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673.**

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 10

newspaper? In addition, if you read something in a magazine, periodical, newsletter, etc., that relates to gay and lesbian issues, clip and send it to: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-1763; FAX (213) 463-4923**; or call the hotlines, **English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673** and report it.

We Need Your Help

GLAAD/LA is seeking sharp, reliable, enthusiastic and motivated individuals to volunteer in our friendly, relaxed and very busy office. There is a vast array of general office duties which provide information relevant to monitoring the media. The work done by GLAAD/LA is only possible because of the volunteer spirit within the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. We encourage you to contact the **GLAAD office at (213) 463-3632** if you have time to volunteer. You will receive genuine satisfaction as a result of your experiences, and will give a significant contribution to the community.

GLAAD/LA Wish List...

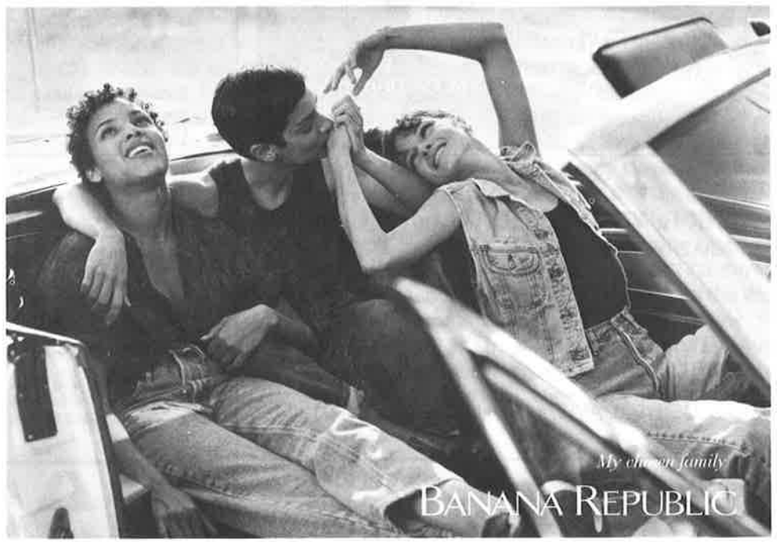
Programmable FAX a Reality

The GLAAD/LA office now owns a brand new, programmable fax machine. The GLAAD/LA Board, staff and office

Continued on Page 14

Advertising

Vanity Fair and Banana Republic



In the April '93 issue of *Vanity Fair*, Banana Republic ran a series of three double-page ads all with the headline, "My Chosen Family." These ads, pictured here and on page 17, are an example of the positive images of love between all people; same-sex and otherwise. Comments to: **Don Fisher, President and CEO, GAP/Banana Republic, 1 Harrison Street, San Francisco 94105**. Carbon copy to: **Sam Shahid, Vice President, Banana Republic Advertising, 3 East 54th St., New York 10022**.

Tracking the Ads

GLAAD/LA has started an advertising "watch," and we need your help. The Media Outreach Comittee wants to inform the gay and lesbian community of advertisers who either support programs about our community or contribute to censorship of those programs. The next time you watch television, keep a pencil and paper handy. If there is such content, jot down the name of the show and its sponsors. Then, call the information into the **GLAAD/LA Hotlines: English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673**. This will help us to learn which companies are truly inclusive in the use of their advertising budgets.

If you are an advertising industry "insider" who might have access to information about advertisers who have been under boycott, or hate-campaign pressure, to cease advertising on programs that are lesbian and gay positive, call us. Any information would be treated in confidence.

Don't Let Him Break His Promise

Despite Bill Clinton's campaign promise to free the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) from the regressive and repressive policies of the Reagan-Bush years, the Justice Department is seeking to uphold funding restrictions for lesbian and gay art. United States Attorney General Janet Reno has tacitly approved an appeal, filed March 29, that would overturn a district court ruling and maintain the "decency clause," the NEA "code words" that ban federal funding of lesbian/gay and "sexually explicit" projects. Contact the President by writing: **President Bill Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20500**.

GLAAD News

Annual process begins...

Nominations for GLAAD/LA Board of Directors

It's election time again! No, not for the Senate. Not for the Los Angeles City Council. Not even for dogcatcher! GLAAD/LA is seeking a few good women and men to run for the open positions on the 1993-94 Board, and the Nominations Committee needs your input.

If there is somebody whom you think would be a good board member, please speak to him or her and encourage their application. If *you* are interested, please apply. While the hours may be long, and the financial rewards negligible, the pride and satisfaction of promoting social change in an exciting environment is incomparable.

The list of candidates is scheduled to be presented at the August general meeting (August 24, 1993), so time is of the essence in receiving applications. An application form is included with this copy of *GLAAD/LA Reports*. Nominations for the board will also be taken from the floor at both the August and September general meetings. For more information contact: **Carmichael Smith-Low, Chair, Board Development, GLAAD/LA, (213) 463-3632.**

GLAAD/LA Board of Directors Application

(This application must be received in the GLAAD/LA Office on or before 5:00 pm on August 10, 1993.)

Name_____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home (_____) _____ other (_____) _____

Please list current or previous organizational affiliations within the lesbian, gay and bisexual community, or non-gay civil rights organizations if applicable. Please include the organizations full name, offices or positions held, and dates. (Use additional sheet if necessary.)

_____

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List three personal references and their phone numbers. (Preferably, but not necessarily, members of the lesbian/gay/bisexual community.)

1. Name _____ Phone (_____) _____
2. Name _____ Phone (_____) _____
3. Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

Describe your aims and goals for GLAAD/LA, and how you believe your particular skills and talents would complement them:

_____

_____

_____

Thank you,
Carmichael Smith-Low, Chair, Board Development, GLAAD/LA, (213) 463-3632.

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(213) 463-4923

GLAAD Bulletin Board
(213) 463-9257

Cracking the Invisibility Barrier

Continued from Page 1

Newsweek From invisibility to...

Gracing the cover of the June 21 issue of *Newsweek* were Ashley Herrin and Catherine Angiel, two women who happen to be lesbians. The cover, complete with attractive color and pose, glossy finish and bold type, may help to shatter the media-constructed image of lesbians as ice-pick wielding psychos, and begin the debate on why "Lesbians have always been the invisible homosexuals..." Inside, seven pages featured insights on the strides lesbians are making politically. ("Now these women are stepping front and center.") Also included: a lesbian glossary, lesbians in the military, Lesbianville (aka Northhampton, MA), lesbian youth and an unabashed look at lesbian sex. Mirroring the debate over numbers were unsubstantiated statements such as, "There are an estimated 2 million to 3 million (lesbians) in the United States — far fewer than the approximately 5 percent of the population (12 million) represented by gay men."

While the article contains an undertow of homophobic fretting that visible lesbians "may test the limits of America's uneasy tolerance of homosexuality," no evidence is presented to support the idea that homosexuals in general, and lesbians in particular, should be subjected to a discussion of "limits of tolerance." We feel America's limits of tolerance would be better tested against racism, homophobia, indifference to AIDS, child abuse, homelessness, drug abuse, illiteracy, poverty, rape, incest and divorce. That *Newsweek* was able to step forward and present this cover story, however, testifies to the efficacy of our educational efforts and to the continued growth and power of our pride. Comments to: **Richard M. Smith, Editor-in-Chief, *Newsweek*, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 10022**. You may also call their **Telephone Mail Desk: 1 (900) 990-MAIL** for a cost of $1.95 for the first minute and ninety-five cents after that.

Vanity Fair "My body is very womanly"...

Continuing its winning ways with eye-catching is *Vanity Fair's* August issue. Photographer Herb Ritts has clearly evoked an all "fun-and-games"attitude from his cover subjects: k.d. lang ("One of the most famous gay woman in the United States," says *L.A. Times* columnist, Liz Smith.), and Cindy Crawford (who needs no further clarification of identity, but whose husband is Richard Gere). The interview with Leslie Bennetts is articulate and thought provoking ("My body is very womanly...I don't understand my own feminine power yet...how to use (it) as a powerful tool. I use my sexuality, but I eliminate the gender from it."), and follows k.d.'s (Kathy Dawn) childhood in the Lang's home in Consort, Canada, to her latest project of supplying music for the upcoming movie, "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues" (directed by openly gay filmmaker, Gus Van Sant). The article makes for a great combination of visuals and text. On lesbian issues, k.d. is not yet ready to become a spokesperson, "I'm not interested in making that my thing. I'm an artist." One surprise: in a caption to a photo, which includes k.d. saying "I have a little bit of penis envy," is an edit remark referring to sexual "preference." A small blip in an otherwise superb presentation. Comments to: **Graydon Carter, Editor-in-Chief, *Vanity Fair*, 350 Madison Avenue, New York 10017**.

U.S. News & World Report "Concerned America..."

The July 5 issue of *U.S. News & World Report*, with a cover of bold print and a gay man with a raised, clenched fist, features a well-researched and balanced story about the politics of lesbian/gay liberation in the 90's. The story presents some key areas of focus and concern for lesbian/gay activists - from civil rights advances to the question of self-definition and identity. The cover story is followed by a second feature, written by two women, which conducts an in-depth examination of the fluidity and variety of sexual expression. Unfortunately, the cover headlines are misleading and inflammatory. Anyone who looks at the cover, without reading the articles, would be led to believe that the real story here is the viewpoint of homophobic heterosexuals, flatteringly characterized as "Concerned America." As the actual article illustrates, the attitudes of Americans as a whole, in regard to all forms of sexuality, are in a state of transition. Your comments may be sent to: **Mr. Mort Zuckerman, Editor-in-Chief, Publisher, *U.S. News & World Report*, 2400 "N" Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037**.



Photo advertisement appearing in *Vanity Fair*, see story on Page 12.

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Executive Director's Column

by Lee Werbel

GLAAD/LA is very interested in learning about lesbian/gay and AIDS-themed film projects. With the help of Hollywood Supports, we have compiled a list of these projects currently in the works. A partial list includes:

"And the Band Played On" (HBO Films/Spelling Entertainment) - Based on Randy Shilts' book; directed by Roger Spottiswoode, starring Richard Gere, Lily Tomlin, Matthew Modine, Anjelica Huston, and others. Film completed, debut broadcast on HBO September 11.



Executive Director Lee Werbel

"The Celluloid Closet" (documentary) Telling Pictures - This San Francisco-based film production company that produced the Academy Award-winning documentary "Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt," in July '92 secured the documentary film rights to Vito Russo's highly acclaimed book about homosexuality in the movies (*Hollywood Reporter*, 7/27/92). In development.

"Daybreak" - Based on the play "Beirut," "Daybreak" is set ten years in the future, when "the fear of AIDS is used as a tool by the government to break down civil liberties," (*Variety*). Written and directed by Stephen Tolkin and produced by John Bard Manulis' Chestnut Hill Productions. Cast includes John Savage, Cuba Gooding, Jr. and Martha Plimpton. Production completed.

"The Dreyfuss Affair" (Touchstone) - Adaptation of Peter Lefcourt's book, "The Dreyfuss Affair: A Love Story." Described by Claudia Eller in *Dish* (*Variety*, 5/5/92) as a "romantic comedy about a 28 year-old married white baseball player with two kids who falls in love with a black teammate." Lefcourt will adapt his book for the screen version.

"Even Cowgirls Get the Blues" (Fine Line) - Gus Van Sant adapted and directed Tom Robbin's novel; with Uma Thurman, John Nurt, Lorraine Bracco and Keanu Reeves.

"Falsettos" (Disney) - Adaptation of William Finn-James Lapine's 1992 Tony-winning musical about friends, lovers and families in the age of AIDS. According to *Variety* writer, Claudia Eller (*Dish* 6/30/92), Disney studio execs Michael Eisner and Jeffrey Katzenberg saw the show on Broadway and "flipped over it." They want to do a low-budget version to be produced by Craig Zadan and Neil Merton (Storyline Productions). Project in development.

"Farewell to My Concubine" - Directed by Chen Kaige, written by Lillian Li, from her novel (to be published in the U.S. in '93). Described by the Hollywood Reporter (8/25/92) as "China's first film dealing with homosexuality," the story recounts the 50-year relationship of two Beijing opera actors eventually reunited in Hong Kong. Film wrapped production in August '92.

"The Mayor of Castro Street" (Warner Bros.) - The life and times of slain San Francisco supervisor Harvey Milk. In development for more than 11 years, according to *Variety* (10/21/92). Not yet cast, though Robin Williams has been mentioned for the title role. Repeated delays; still not shooting. Oliver Stone executive producer with Craig Zadan and Neil Meron producing.

"The Normal Heart" (Columbia) - Will Barbra Streisand (per the *Hollywood Reporter*, 2/10/93) direct? Or maybe co-star in this long awaited adaptation by Ramsey Faidman, also currently completing the screenplay for John Schlesinger's "Good Days." Larry Kramer's play is about the early days of the AIDS epidemic and its impact on two lovers. It is expected that Streisand's newest project, "The Mirror Has Two Faces," will go into production before "The Normal Heart."

"Not For Profit" - Jenny Livingston's next project contains, according to the *Los Angeles Times*, "an interracial lesbian love story and a witchcraft subplot." Livingston hasn't found "much (financial) backing" for the film, despite having "Paris is Burning" as a credit. Not yet in production.

"Philadelphia" (Tristar) - Directed by Jonathan Demme and starring Denzel Washington and Tom Hanks. Also featured is Joanne Woodward, Jason Robards, Mary Steenburgen and Antonio Banderas. Shooting completed; Fall '93 release.

"Reunion" (for TV) - Written and directed by ex-Black Panther and Sundance Institute Director Jamal Joseph, "Reunion" examines the "emotionally charged and difficult issues related to AIDS in the African-American community" (per press release). Produced by AIDSFILMS, a non-profit organization in New York, the producers have assembled a production team "that is diverse in terms of race, gender and sexual orientation."

"The Wedding Banquet" (Taiwanese-American; Samuel Goldwyn pick-up.) - Directed by NYU film school graduate Ang Lee, who directed "Pushing Hands" (theme unknown). Producers are James Schamus and Ted Hope, all of them partners in the Good Machine Production Company. The film concerns a closeted, upwardly mobile Chinese man, living with his Caucasian lover in New York, who marries his female tenant in order to satisfy his parents' urgent request to see him married before his father dies. Screened at the '92 Berlin Film Festival and opening in Los Angeles in August.

Please look for these projects. And, please notify us about other projects not listed. Additional projects will be list next month.

Handy Media Guide

TELEVISION NETWORKS

ABC Entertainment (310) 577-7777, Ted Harbert, Pres., 2020 Ave. of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067

CBS Entertainment (213) 852-2345, Jeff Sagansky, Pres., 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036

Fox Broadcasting (310) 277-2211, Ms. Lucie Salhany, Pres. PO Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

NBC Entertainment (818) 840-4444, Warren Littlefield, Pres., 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523

PBS (703) 739-5000
1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314

LOCAL TELEVISION STATIONS

KABC (310) 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

KCBS (213) 460-3000 (Ch 2)
Bill Applegate, V.P. & Gen. Mgr., 6121 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028

KCET (213) 666-6500 (PBS Ch 28), William Kobin, Pres., 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90027

KCOP (213) 851-1000 (Ch 13)
Rick Feldman, Vice Pres./Gen. Mgr., 915 N. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038

KMEX (213) 466-3434 (Ch 34)
Michael Martinez, Gen. Mgr., 6255 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90038

KNBC (818) 840-4444 (Ch 4)
Reed Manville, Pres./Gen. Mgr., 3000 W. Alameda Ave, Burbank, CA 91505

KTLA (213) 460-5500 (Ch 5)
Greg Nathanson, Gen. Mgr., 5800 W. Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028

KTTV (213) 856-1000 (Ch 11)
Tom Capra, VP/Gen. Mgr., 5746 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028

KVEA (213) 502-5700
Agustin Martinez, Gen. Mgr., 1139 Grand Central Ave., Glendale, CA 91201

TELEVISION NETWORK NEWS

ABC News (212) 456-7777
Roone Arledge, President, 47 W. 66th Street, New York 10023

CBS News (212) 975-4321
Eric Ober, President, 524 W. 57th Street, New York 10019

C-SPAN (1 or 2) (202) 737-3270
Mr. Brian Lamb, Chairman/CEO 400 N. Capitol NW #650, Washington, DC 20001

CNN (404)827-1700
Mr. Ed Turner (No, not Ted!), Exec.-Vice Pres., Cable News Networks, 1 CNN Center Atlanta, GA 30348-5466

NBC News (212) 664-4444
Andrew Lack, President, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 10112

LOCAL RADIO STATIONS

KABC 790 AM (310) 840-4900, George Green, Pres., 3321 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016

KFI 640 AM (213) 385-0101
Howard Neal, Gen. Mgr., 610 S. Ardmore, Los Angeles, CA 90005

KFWB 980 AM (213) 462-5392
Chris Claus, Gen. Mgr., 6230 Yucca Street, Hollywood, CA 90028

KIIS 102.7 FM-AM (213) 466-8381, Ellen Kay, General Manager, 6255 Sunset Blvd., 11th Floor, Hollywood 90028

KNX 1070 AM News Radio
(213) 460-3343
Geroge Nicholaw, VP, 6121 W. Sunset, Hollywood, CA 90028

KPFK 90.7 FM (818) 985-2711
Alan Fong, Gen. Mgr.
3729 Cahuenga Blvd. W.. N. Hollywood, CA 91604

KROQ 106.7 FM (818) 520-1067, 3500 W. Olive Street, #900, Burbank, CA 91510

KRTH 101 FM (800) 232-5789, 5901 Venice Blvd, Los Angeles

KTWV 94.7 FM (213) 466-9283, 5748 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles

NEWSPAPERS

The Daily News (818) 713-3000
PO Box 4200,
Woodland Hills, CA 91365

La Opinión (213) 622-8332
411 W. 5th St.,
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Long Beach Press Telegram
(310) 435-1161, Andy Alderette, Editor-in-Chief, 604 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90844.

Los Angeles Times (213) 237-7000 Times Mirror Square,
Los Angeles, CA 90053

The Orange Country Register
(714) 835-1234
625 N. Grand Ave.,
Santa Ana, CA 92701

The Outlook (310) 829-6811
PO Box 590,
Santa Monica, CA 90406

Riverside Press Enterprise
(909) 684-1200, Patricia Barnes, Editor-in-Chief, P.O. Box 792, Riverside, CA 92502

MOTION PICTURE STUDIOS

MCA/Universal (818) 777-1000
Lew Wasserman, CEO,
100 Universal City Plaza,
Universal City, CA 91608

Paramount Pictures
(213) 956-5000
Ms. Sherry Lansing, CEO,
5555 Melrose Ave.,
Los Angeles, CA 90038

Sony Pictures Corp., Columbia, Tri-Star, (310) 280-8000
Peter Guber, CEO,
10202 W. Washington Bl.,
Culver City, CA 90232

20th Century Fox
(310) 277-2211
Rupert Murdoch, CEO
PO Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213

The Walt Disney Co.
(818) 560-1000
Michael Eisner, CEO,
500 S. Buena Vista,
Burbank, CA 91521

Warner Bros Pictures
(818) 954-6000
Mr. Terry Semel, President,
4000 Warner Blvd.,
Burbank, CA 91522

Calendar

August 1, Sunday
Deadline for September *GLAAD/LA Reports*

August 3, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

August 4, Wednesday
Community Outreach (Speakers) 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

August 5, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

August 10, Tuesday
GLAAD/LA Board Meeting 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

August 17, Tuesday
Media Outreach 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

August 19, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

August 24, Tuesday
General Meeting 7:00pm
6000 W. Pico Blvd.

September Dates:

September 1, Wednesday
Deadline for October *GLAAD/LA Reports*

September 2, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

September 7, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles

GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 5 No. 9 September 1993

NEWS BRIEFS

General Meeting: September 28 "The Adventures of Pat and Jerry"

Here is a date you won't want to miss: the GLAAD/LA General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, September 28, starting at 7:00 pm. GLAAD/LA Board Member Dr. Sylvia Rhue will present a video discussion program on the religious right's use of the media in regards to the gay and lesbian movement. The focus will be on Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson and the ways they utilize our images to promote fear and hatred of lesbians and gay men. Discussion will include strategizing to counteract their media manipulations.

Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell raise millions of dollars with their use of our images. Let's be aware of how they work and how it affects our lives. Come to: **Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 W. Pico Blvd.** (just east of Crescent Heights). Refreshments are available and guests are welcomed.

"And the Band Played On"

Mark your calendars: HBO's production of Randy Shilt's "And the Band Played On," will debut September 11. This made for cable television movie represents a "signficant breakthrough in television

Continued on Page 2

Barbra Streisand to produce TV movie...

"The Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer Story"

Glenn Close to Star and Executive Produce

"I am very proud to be producing Greta Cammermeyer's courageous story. I am thrilled that an artist of Glenn Close's stature will be playing the role and is joining me in producing this television event for NBC. This is a story that throws light on one of the most important issues of our time."—Barbra Streisand

NBC-TV will telecast a two-hour movie based on the true story of Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer, executive produced by Barbra Streisand and Glenn Close, who will also star, it was announced today by NBC President Warren Littlefield, Lindy DeKoven, senior vice-president, mini-series and motion pictures for television, NBC, and Helene Verne, executive vice-president, movies and mini-series, TriStar Television.

Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer served the country for 26 years as the highest-ranking woman in the armed services. Cammermeyer received the Bronze Star for her fourteen months in Vietnam. In 1985, the Veteran's Administration named her Nurse of the Year over 34,000 others. (This year she was given a GLAAD/LA Visibility Award at its Media Awards program at the Beverly Hilton.) Four years ago, while being interviewed by Army officers for top-secret clearance, she was asked and then acknowledged that she was a lesbian and was publicly expelled from the services she loved. She has filed a lawsuit in federal court to overturn the Defense Department's policy on gays and lesbians.

Cis Corman, President of Barwood Productions, Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, Storyline Productions, will also executive produce for TriStar Television. "The Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer Story" will be telecast on NBC during the 1993-94 season. Comments to: **Warren Littlefield, President, NBC Entertainment, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, CA 91523.**

Any Fairness at Reader's Digest?

Digest Regurgitates Ryoko

Reader's Digest continued its practice of reprinting homophobic articles when it included an editorial by Mike Royko of the *Chicago Tribune* in its June issue. The editorial claimed that gay activists, allied with a pro-gay media industry, was conspiring to spread homosexuality while duping the American public about the ban on homosexuals serving in the military. *RD* needs to be encouraged to present articles that contain more fact than fiction and more tolerance than hate. Why don't they reprint the Rand Corporation study about the true participation and impact that gays and lesbians have had in the military? Write your suggestions to the attention of: **Norman Lewis Smith, Senior Staff Editor, Reader's Digest, Reader's Digest Road, Pleasantville, New York 10570-7000.**

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1

treatment of the AIDS epidemic and the lesbian/gay community's role in battling the disease." Lily Tomlin, Sir Ian McKellen, Richard Gere and Steve Martin star.

Essence Asks... "Why are All the Good Guys Gay?"

The August issue of *Essence* magazine featured an article entitled "Straight Women, Gay Men: A Talk Between Friends", edited by *Essence's* open lesbian, Linda Villarosa. It points out that "It used to be that all the good black men were married. Today it seems they're just as likely to be gay". Malik, a gay man, and Ladonna, a straight woman discuss their feelings and their 10 year warm but sometimes rocky relationship. *Essence* should be congratulated for continuing to explore lesbian, gay and bisexual issues. Write to: ***Essence*, Susan Taylor, Editor-In-Chief, 1500 Broadway, New York 10026.**

Playgirl

The September issue of *Playgirl* magazine reported on "Women and Bisexuality". A very positive article that explores the pertinent issues of bisexuality including the strong bonds and deep friendships between women. One woman describes her first sexual experience as "like being held by an angel." Your comments to: ***Playgirl*, 801 Second Ave., New York 10017.**

Continued on Page 3

Co-President's Column

by Stephanie Farrington-Domingue

I was at a gathering with some friends a few weeks ago and as we finished the business we had come to discuss, the conversation switched to the pending legislation regarding lesbians and gays in the military. WHAT A CROCK! How can you be lesbian or gay and not act upon who and what you are? How can you NOT be what you are? If Barbra Streisand told you that she was a singer, would you say, "That's okay, just don't ever let me catch you singing!" How could we ever feel free to attend a gay rights rally, kiss a friend hello or hold hands with someone of the same gender without being afraid that some homophobe might deem this "conduct unbecoming?" How could they expect us to continue lying?



Stephanie Farrington-Domingue

One woman at our meeting spoke about President Clinton's inaugural address and what a beautiful speech it was. She pulled a copy from her briefcase and read it aloud to all of us. I had to agree; it was indeed a beautiful speech and full of promise for a brighter tomorrow. It reminded me of a previous speech he made in Los Angeles to our lesbian and gay community where he stated that he has a "vision for America, and that vision includes" us as lesbian and gay Americans. Oh, how our spirits soared! Our hope was inflated as our wallets deflated in support of Bill Clinton, "the people's candidate."

And so it was that on January 20, 1993, William Jefferson Clinton again stood before us, this time to be sworn in as the 42nd President of these United States of America. Some of the things he said to us as our newly elected leader were:

"When our Founders boldly declared America's independence to the world, and our purposes to the Almighty, they knew that America, to endure, would have to change. Not change for change sake, but change to preserve America's ideals: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

"Each generation of Americans must define what it means to be an American."

"To renew America, we must be bold. We must do what no generation has had to do before. We must invest more in our own people, in their jobs and in their future."

"The URGENT question of our time is whether we can make change our friend and not our enemy."

What happens to a dream deferred? To many, it seemed as though he had barely taken his right hand out of the air before the integrity of his words started to wane. What happens to a dream deferred? Does it fade and go away? Not on your life! It grows and grows in dark places until it EXPLODES for everyone to see and experience. Just like lesbians and gays in the military and in America, our numbers and visibility have only mushroomed.

We ARE a new generation of Americans defining what it means to be American, and we are struggling desperately to do what other generations have been unable to do - to stand firm, tall, honest and frank about who we are. We say to America that it cannot continue to discriminate against us. We will not return to our closets or let our country comfortably return to its prejudices and fears. It is time for the American people to mature and to admit that its history of discrimination was WRONG.

Despite all of our anger and disappointment, I do believe that Bill Clinton has advanced our cause. You see, ALL CHANGE BEGINS WITHIN A CONVERSATION. Just as Anita Hill started a conversation that engaged this nation's views on sexual harassment, Bill Clinton has begun a conversation about lesbians and gays that will never let this nation be the same again. It is a conversation that has provided us with more visibility than we could have imagined. While it seems we have lost the battle, we haven't lost the war. We have the power and the right to strike down any public policy that discriminates and oppresses some Americans.

We must advocate attitudes and public policies that embrace ALL PEOPLE, and according to President Clinton, that includes US! Keep your eyes on the prize.

Harvey Fierstein Writes to *T.V. Guide*

Harvey Fierstein forwarded to GLAAD/LA a copy of a letter he wrote to Barry Golsun, editor of *T.V. Guide*, concerning an article by Harry Stein appearing in a July issue. Said Harvey, *"Here is a copy of a letter I wrote in response to last week's* T.V. Guide *article on the "sentimentalization" of AIDS. Editor Barry Golsun at first promised to print it. Then suggested I write an article sometime in the future about AIDS instead. He then promised to speak to other staff members and let me know what they want to propose. So...? Thought you'd like to have a copy for your files. Hope all else is well."* —Harvey

Harvey Fierstein
July 19, 1993

Dear Editor,

I was both saddened and frightened by opinionist Harry Stein's "Is AIDS Sentimentalized"? Thirteen years and 200,000 American deaths into the AIDS pandemic I had thought the questions he raised long answered. Obviously I was wrong. If the most widely read magazine in America could provide a full page to publish this homophobically tinged misinformation then the message has still not gotten through. Let me try again. I am not a spokesperson for any organization. I'm just a person who, like many others in America today, has lost almost every friend, acquaintance and loved one to this hateful, untreatable and incurable disease. In fact I lost three friends this past calendar week alone. Does that define AIDS as a crisis worthy of television time? In my life it does.

Mr Stein begins by asserting that since the onslaught of the crisis "(TV)...took on an educational role unique in its history...In the face of widespread misinformation and incipient panic, TV offered solid information." This is simply not true. TV has, in the long run, spread as many lies as truths about the disease. Were this not true, Mr. Stein would be better educated and I would not have to be taking the time to write this now.

I'll never forget an episode of Sally Jesse Raphael when she allowed a so called expert to insist that gays got AIDS from having sex with their dogs. Ms. Raphael never even questioned the woman's allegations, accepting them as a plausible cause of the epidemic.

Even the estimable Ted Koppel can't always be counted on to do his research. On his, "AIDS Town Meeting," when I, as a guest, asserted that it is not the number of sexual partners that puts one at risk, but the specific sexual practices, he told me I was wrong. Why then should I be surprised that your Mr. Stein refers to "Safe Sex" as the "national byword." Mr. Stein, "Safe Sex" is the name of the play. One of mine in fact. "Safer Sex" is the set of suggestions put forth to keep sexually active people from becoming infected. I suggest you contact a local AIDS organization for some pamphlets outlining Safer Sex so you can send them out with your fan mail. They won't make the people who agree with your column any smarter, but at least they'll be safer.

> **"Are you aware that the first Federal grant awarded concerning AIDS was for a University study on the viability of quarantining all homosexuals?"**

Mr. Stein then questions the wearing of AIDS Awareness Ribbons as "...a gauge of our collective humanity," as if there is something wrong with that. I cannot say why others wear their ribbons, but I wear mine to say, to all who see me, that the crisis is not over. We are living in the age of AIDS and all must be aware. It is far too easy for heterosexual, non-drug users to cop Mr. Stein's attitude and say, "This is their disease, not mine." That is why AIDS is now the number

Please see *Harvey Fierstein* on Page 14.

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 2

GLMC Completes Successful Film Fest

As the Gay & Lesbian Media Coalition (GLMC) started its second decade, ticket sales for its summer film festival were up an amazing 150%. Executive Director Larry Horne and staff did another fine job presenting the July 8-18 festival. The increased support came in part due to the added corporate sponsorship including Sony and CAA chair Michael Ovitz (although some companies like Samuel Goldwyn, which held back "The Wedding Banquet," are still withholding support). Much of the increase can be attributed to a huge swelling of public support.

The Nuart Theatre also presented several of the films at that festival, including "Okoge," a film from Japan, and "Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Story of Lesbian Love."

The GLMC has screenings throughout the year. For further info call (213) 650-1533 or write **GLMC, 8228 Sunset Blvd., #308, Los Angeles 90046.**

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National Conference

The National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA) will hold its 2nd annual National Conference September 10-12 in New York. For registration or program information contact: **NLGJA Conference, 8528 Breadford Blvd., Silver Spring, MD 20901, or call (212) 629-2045.**

Articles, letters, etc. for *GLAAD/LA Reports*: October 1st Deadline for November Issue

The deadline for submitting material for *GLAAD/LA Reports* is the first of each month for the following month's newsletter. For the November newsletter all material needs to be submitted on or before October 1.

GLAAD/LA Reports welcomes your participation and invites you to attend the Monitor/Response Committee meetings in September on the 2nd, 16th and 30th. Your comments, articles, letters or other submissions may be sent to: ***GLAAD/LA Reports*, c/o GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093; FAX (213) 463-4923**; or directly to the **Editor, Carl Matthes, FAX (213) 257-5878.**

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Lesbian Chic...

Shattering Lesbian Stereotypes

"Geraldo" (KCBS-TV, ch. 2, weekdays, 4:00 pm) recently featured a panel of six lesbians gathered to help dispel stereotypes about lesbians. Included were comics Karen Williams and Suzanne Westhoefer, author JoAnn Loulan, Judy Dlugacz of Olivia Records and Cruises, plus Julie and Lynn of *Femme to Femme*.

Geraldo seemed a little shaken by the beauty of Julie and Lynn and wanted to know if Julie was sure she was a lesbian. A man asked if orgasm was different between two women. Answer: There's no faking orgasm! Three male audience members were aggressively hostile but more than half of the audience was supportive of the panel. The panel was excellent and a lot of good points were delivered. Comments to: **Mr. Marty Berman, Executive Producer, "Geraldo," 524 W. 57th Street, New York 10019.**

Coming Out on CNBC

"Real Personal" (CNBC Cable, 8:00 pm) was just that during its July 15 broadcast. Steve Gendel, a former Los Angeles television reporter (KNBC-TV), "came out" during the program, which was dealing with the discovery of a possible genetic link to homosexuality. Said Gendel, "When I was invited to be on the program as a science reporter, I asked if I should discuss my personal relationship to the story...management here was very supportive...and gave me the green light." Other guests on the program included host Bob Berkowitz and Dr. June Reinisch of the Kinsey Institute.

In addition to CNBC, Gendel's health reports are syndicated to stations nationwide by NBC News. Letters of support can be sent to: Steve Gendel, **"Real Personal", Marlene Dann, Producer, c/o CNBC, 2200 Fletcher Avenue, Fort Lee, NJ 07024.**

Intelligent and informed, but... Why, Jane?

Viewers of the "Jane Whitney Show" (KCAL-TV, ch. 9, weekdays, 5:00 pm) will find the usual cross-section of talk show topics, along with the affable and experienced Ms. Whitney. Also to be found, when the topic is dealing with lesbian/gay issues, is a panelist from "the other side." Unfortunately, this attempt at putting a "balanced" face to our issues, actually becomes a platform for homophobia and ignorance. And too often, even though Ms. Whitney challenges the statements made by these guests, she is not able to stop them or to effectively counteract the misinformation they disseminate. The point needs to be continually made that a KKK person on a panel to bring "balance" to a discussion about race relations, or a Nazi propagandist or white supremacist to voice the "other side" in a discussion about hate crimes and defamation, is not productive. It is inflammatory and counter-productive. Her recent show on whether gays and lesbians should be allowed to hold public office is a case in point. Why include right wing or religious extremists on a panel that is trying to educate viewers on this important social issue. They come with incomplete information or doctored "facts" to back-up their statements. These guests are unable to get past their own ignorance, hatred and fear, while their jaundiced opinions detract from an intelligent discussion. Share your concerns about this with Ms. Whitney by contacting her at: **"The Jane Whitney Show," Columbus Circle, P.O Box 20314, New York 10023.**

"Life" Threatening Bigots

In 1992, "In the Life" made media history as the first nationally-distributed lesbian and gay television series. Today, the series remains the only national lesbian and gay variety show on public television. (GLAAD/LA Board Member Garrett Glaser hosted the first episode.) However, "In the Life" continues to be threatened.

Wealthy, right-wing homophobes are using their dollars to keep lesbian and gay programming banned from the Public Broadcasting System (PBS). PBS has refused to distribute "In the Life." This means that the show's producers must deal with each PBS station individually in trying to secure airtime. And even when the producers are successful, "In the Life" is routinely excluded from the prime-time slots reserved for "official" PBS offerings.

We must ensure that the Public Broadcasting System understands that lesbians and gays pay taxes too, and our dollars are supporting public television. Let the system know that there is a critical need for regularly scheduled, prime-time lesbian and gay television programs, a need that responsible public broadcasters would not hesitate to fill. Write: **Jennifer Lawson, Executive Vice President, National Programming and Promotions, PBS, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314**. Send a copy of your letter to: **William Kobin, President, KCET-TV, 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood 90027. To get more information about "In the Life," call their office at (212) 255-6012.**

"Men in Tights"...

Mel at it Again

The recent release of "Robin Hood: Men in Tights" has once again caused some to question Mel Brooks' judgment and use of stereotypes. Throughout the film we are bombarded with continuous jokes about the "Men in Tights" being "faggolas," "fruits," and "sissies;" including a fair share of prissing and prancing throughout the big production number that is highlighted in most of the film's commercials. If these offend you, you can let Mel Brooks know how you feel about these images and stereotypes at: **Brooksfilms, c/o 20th Century Fox, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213.**

"Son-In-Law"

The new Pauly Shore film "Son-in-Law" features a scene in which a straight-from-the-farm young woman discovers that her new college roommate is lesbian. She comes to the realization after her wholesome all-American roommate gives her "girlfriend" a more than friendly kiss. Later, when the young woman is making a call back to the farm, an "Action=Life, Silence=Death" sticker, complete with pink triangle, decorates the phone. The lesbian relation is treated as everyday. The program of MTV star-gone-movie-star Pauly Shore, targets teens and young adults, a great audience to expose the "normalcy" of being lesbian, and the need for AIDS action. Write to: **Peter Lenkoux, Producer, c/o Touchstone Pictures, 500 S. Buena Vista, Burbank, CA 91521.**

"Chantilly Lace"

Premiering on Showtime in July was "Chantilly Lace," a movie about the adventures of seven women - friends and relatives - who get together for three outings. Two of the women, Liz and Anne, played by Ally Sheedy and Martha Plimpton, are presented as "lesbian lovers," even though no affection is displayed between them during the entire movie. There is a hot-tub scene where Liz came out to all, much to the adverse surprise of her lover. However, everyone reacts with love and acceptance. Another scene addressed the issue of bisexuality and it was received as a sexual curiosity. On the whole the issues of lesbianism and bisexuality were positively addressed.

Continued from Page 4

Monitor/Response Committee

The heart and soul of GLAAD is the Monitor/Response committee. This committee watches (monitors) what's happening in the media and writes letters, makes phone calls and produces articles for the GLAAD/LA newsletter. But there's a lot of media to monitor and respond to, and we need your help.

How do you get involved? Do you own a television? A video cassette recorder? Do you subscribe to any publications? Attend movies? Then you already are in a position to join and help the Monitor/Response committee. The committee could really use more television watchers, but movie, radio and print media hounds are also welcome. Do you have friends who absorb popular culture like a sponge? Send them down. Few may admit that they watch TV, but we know you're out there. The chair is Anne Dutton. Please join us, we need your help. Meetings in September are on the 2nd, 16th and 30th at 7:30 pm at the **GLAAD/LA office, 7033 Sunset Blvd, Suite 304, Hollywood; (213) 463-3632.**

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 5

Women of GLAAD to Meet Tues., September 7

The Women of GLAAD Caucus meeting will be on **Tues., Sept. 7th, 7:00 pm at the GLAAD office (7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 304).** If you would like to be a part of the lesbian voice in GLAAD/LA's affairs, come and join us for our monthly informal gathering to discuss ways in which we can become more visible in our community. Our purpose is to encourage the participation of 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. We will aggrandize, politicize, scandalize, hypothesize, socialize and we need your creative input. Tracy Stern is Chair. For more information: **GLAAD/LA Office, (213) 463-3632.**

Advertising Information

GLAAD/LA Reports is mailed to members and supporters informing them about local and national media coverage and treatment of lesbian and gay issues. It provides an effective and proven way to reach thousands of concerned, responsible lesbian and gay community members — the friends of GLAAD/LA.

Continued on Page 8

Radio and Print

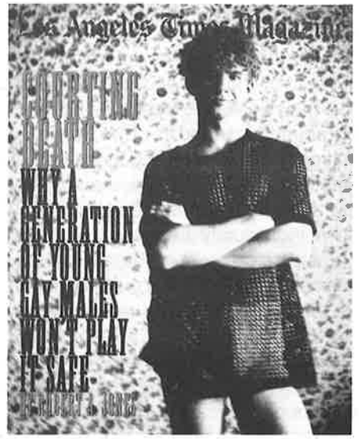
GLAAD/LA *Times* Watch

The *Los Angeles Times'* July 18 "Calendar" section carried a detailed article about lesbian comics entitled "Heard the One About Lesbian Comics?" Highlighted were Kate "Hilarity" Clinton and Lea DeLaria. (Ms. Clinton is quoted as finding "a bathroom moment in every civil rights movement," i.e. for the ERA it was same-sex bathrooms; for the black civil rights movement it was sharing the same drinking fountains; and for lesbians and gays in the military it was about guys in the showers.) Ms. DeLaria declared, "I don't think I got on 'Arsenio' because I'm a lesbian. I got on in spite of being a lesbian." On the following page was a feature article on the London pop band, Suede. Said the caption under their photo, "People want to see us as a gang of guitar-waving homosexuals."

The following Sunday, the *Los Angeles Times Magazine* carried a cover article, complete with full color picture (at the right), about "Courting Death: Why a Generation of Young Gay Males Won't Play it Safe." On July 21 a "View" section feature, complete with a full-color, front page shot of three gay veterans, graphically chronicled the fight of gay and lesbian vets trying to establish their identity.

Other articles included an Op-Ed piece by Peter Nardi, past co-president of GLAAD/LA, "Gays Should Lean on Justice, Not Science," August 6, "Metro;" "Four Bishops Join Group in Asking Pope to Condemn Gay-Bashing," August 7, "Religion;" as well as "L.A. Councilwoman Seeks to Move Beyond Stereotypes," front page, Sunday, August 8.

Send your comments to **Times' Editor-in-Chief, Mr. Shelby Coffee III, *Los Angeles Times*, Times-Mirror Square, Los Angeles 90053.**



Spin Takes on Homophobia

In the August issue of the music magazine *Spin*, Farad Chideya examined the prevalence of anti-gay lyrics in hip-hop, rap and dancehall reggae music, and concludes that blatantly homophobic words by rap performers like Ice Cube, Big Daddy Kane and Chubb Rock actually try to deny the existence of homosexuality within the black community. Ice Cube rhymes "true niggas ain't gay" while rapper Paris says that there is "no way" a gangsta rapper could possibly be gay.

The author puts questions to pro-gay rappers as well, including LA rapper Yo Yo and the rap duo Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy, whose single, "Language of Violence," railed strongly against gay bashing. Chideya concludes that one of the only ways to counteract the hate speech is for more performers to come back with their own response, using rap as the format. From start to finish, the piece is illuminating—an interesting discussion on the causes of homophobia and ways of combating it. Comments to: ***Spin*, Bob Guccione, Jr., Editor, 6 West 18th Street, New York 10011.**

GQ Gets With It

GQ has certainly come a long way. The July issue featured wonderful articles. One, "The Straight Queer," is a look at how straight culture apes gay sensibility as a kind of grand fashion. The other, "Town Without Pity," is a look at the repressive fathers of Cincinnati, Ohio, and how they terrorize gay people and gay culture.

'Bout time this magazine with such a high percentage of gay readers began to write about us intelligently and with style. Send a thank-you to: **Mr. Arthur Cooper, Editor-in-Chief, *GQ Magazine*, 350 Madison Ave., New York 10017.**

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If not attending, but would like to be put on our mailing list for future events, please send us your name, address and phone number to the above address.

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 6

Information about ad sizes, rates, deadlines, etc. is available by calling: **Margo Strik at (213) 259-9208**.

Archives: Computer Help Needed

Volunteers are needed to enter dates on our computers for our video archives. Please contact the GLAAD/LA office at (213) 463-3632 and leave a message for Sylvia.

GLAAD/LA Reference File

GLAAD/LA is continually updating its reference file of clippings and articles so that the actual statements of anyone who is practicing defamation, or voicing support for our human rights, can be easily documented. But, we need more volunteers. Can you, or someone you know, start watching and clipping the *Orange County Register, L.A. Weekly, L.A. Reader, La Opinion, Daily News* or any other newspaper? In addition, if you read something in a magazine, periodical, newsletter, etc., that relates to gay and lesbian issues, clip and send it to: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-1763; FAX (213) 463-4923**; or call the hotlines, **English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673 and report it.**

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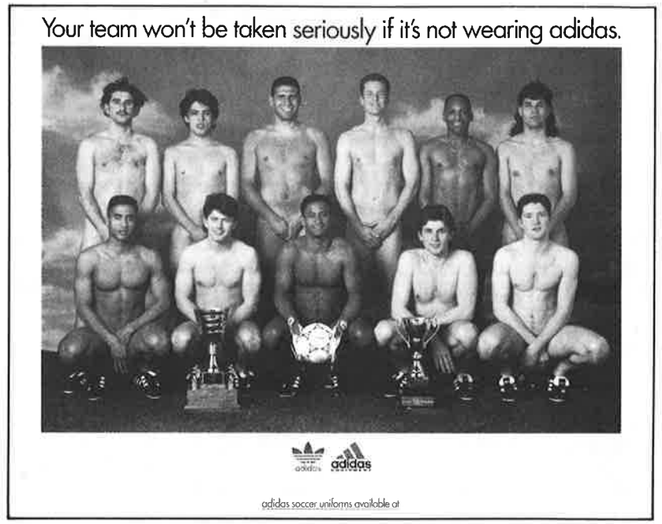
Advertising

Tracking the Ads

GLAAD/LA's advertising "watch" is continuing and we still need your help. The Media Outreach Comittee wants to inform the gay and lesbian community of advertisers who either support programs about our community or contribute to censorship of those programs. The next time you watch television, keep a pencil and paper handy. If there is such content, jot down the name of the show and its sponsors. Then, call the information into the **GLAAD/LA Hotlines: English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673**.

If you are an advertising industry "insider" who might have access to information about advertisers who have been under boycott, or hate-campaign pressure, to cease advertising on programs that are lesbian and gay positive, call us. Any information would be treated in confidence.

The Media Outreach Committee will be meeting the third Tues. of each month (that will be Sept. 21st) at 7:00 pm at the **GLAAD/LA office, 7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 304**, two blocks east of La Brea in Hollywood. Call: **Michael B. Keegan or Jehan Agrama, Outreach Committee, Media Co-Chairs, (213) 463-3632**.



Advertisement Rejected by *Sports Illustrated*

Sports Illustrated: Sexist and Homophobic

Sports illustrated (SI) rejected a one time ad from ADIDAS. The ad (see photo above), which was to run only in the North American issues of SI, was a photo of the all-male Canadian soccer team, almost nude (their hands, soccer balls and trophies were strategically placed) and each was wearing ADIDAS shoes. The ad was approved by the Canadian *SI* editorial board. However, the American *SI* editorial board rejected the ad, and therefore it did not run anywhere in North America.

Since when has *SI* had any qualms with running photos of semi-nude individuals? After all, this is the same magazine that runs the annual January female swimsuit (semi-nude) layout. So why did *SI* reject the ADIDAS ad? The answer is clear: SEXISM, the progenitor of homophobia! *SI* has sent a message to its readership, and to all of America, that it's okay to sprawl semi-nude photos in their magazine for their readership to gawk at, as long as the photos are of women only. Send your comments to: **Mark Mulvoy, Editor, Roger Jackson, Public Relations Director, Time, Inc., Time and Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York 10020.**

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 8

We Need Your Help

GLAAD/LA is seeking sharp, reliable, enthusiastic and motivated individuals to volunteer in our friendly, relaxed and very busy office. There is a vast array of general office duties which provide information relevant to monitoring the media. The work done by GLAAD/LA is only possible because of the volunteer spirit within the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. We encourage you to contact the **GLAAD office at (213) 463-3632** if you have time to volunteer. You will receive genuine satisfaction as a result of your experiences, and will give a significant contribution to the community.

GLAAD/LA Wish List

The GLAAD/LA board, staff and office volunteers extend their sincere thanks to Donald Goldberg for his generous support and contribution which enabled us to purchase a wonderful new television with built in VCR for the GLAAD/LA office. Thank you, Donald.

Donations of any of the following items would be greatly appreciated:

A multi-line phone system and phones
A laser printer
A new copying machine
A telephone answering machine
A conference table with chairs for ten or more

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Advertising

ADWEEK Magazine Sets Example

Laurels to *ADWEEK* magazine for it's lengthy July 19th piece on gays/lesbians in advertising, "The Way Out." The cover blurb promoting the article inside read: "Advertising likes to think of itself as a progressive industry, always ready to anticipate social trends. Yet as gays and lesbians have become a more vocal and active force, agencies and clients for the most part have maintained a code of silence. That closeted era may finally be ending..." Author Betsy Sharkey interviewed nearly 100 gay and lesbian advertising professionals for the piece. Some were out, most were not. Members of New York's advertising and communications network were consulted (a major support group for gay/lesbian ad professionals in New York) as were a number of senior advertising professionals. Not surprisingly the article found the trauma resulting from HIV-related illnesses frequently brought about a new openness in previously-closeted professionals. In some cases, senior management at agencies was supportive. In others, a "glass ceiling" seemed to descend around "out" lesbians and gay men. Whatever the true picture is at any moment, it's clear *ADWEEK* has made a commitment to cover our community fairly and insightfully, and for that, it should be commended. Send a note of thanks to: **Mr. Craig Reiss, Editor, *ADWEEK*, 1515 Broadway, New York 10036.**

Unity in Diversity

by Carol Anderson, Veronica Davis and Robin Podolsky

"What Went Wrong, What Went Right, What's Next?"

by Robin Podolsky
(The following column is based on remarks made by Robin Podolsky at the GLAAD/LA General Meeting in July.)

It's good to see all of you here tonight. Some of you are old friends and some are new friends from the street marches last week. Welcome.

As we marched last week, in Westwood, in Silver Lake and in Hollywood, one thing became clear. Even though the military ban issue is still important, the spirit behind our demonstrations came from a much broader impetus. The marches were about being queer, betrayed and angry. It looks as though we've suffered a setback in regard to the military ban. But we can turn this situation into an opportunity to take stock, to examine what we have achieved, what our movement looks like and to set goals.

What Happened?

We can begin by asking why this issue was placed at the center of so much of our political activity and why things didn't work out the way we'd anticipated.

It seems to me that no one on our side expected a long bruising fight in regard to the ban. An assumption was made that this goal could be achieved by a simple executive order, issued early enough in the (Clinton) administration, as was the lifting of the gag rule on women's clinics, to go over without much of a fight. Many of our leaders seemed to anticipate a quick easy win.

First of all, no one planned for the amount of political floundering from within the Oval Office that we saw - something we'd better factor into our planning from now on. Secondly, we were not prepared for the speed and ruthlessness with which the President's enemies would seize on this issue to advance their own political agendas. Republicans, like Bob Dole, saw a chance to embarrass the Democrats. Democrats like Sam Nunn, already seething because he was not named Secretary of Defense, saw a method by which they could consolidate their independent power within congress And the bodies, the physical persons of lesbians and gays within the military became expendable props in an orchestrated political drama.

Also, we can now acknowledge that our

Continued on Page 12.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 10

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E-Mail Clinton/Gore

President Clinton announced that "for the first time in history, the White House will be connected to you via electronic mail." The White House will be connected to Internet and several other on-line media. You may E-Mail your comments to: Bill Clinton:
PRESIDENT @ WHITEHOUSE.GOV
To Al Gore:
VICEPRESIDENT @ WHITEHOUSE.GOV

Letter to the Editor-
Dear Editor:

The first of three articles, "Unity Through Diversity," written by Veronica Davis in July's *GLAAD/LA Reports*, was very inspiring. It is a sincere hope that the two follow up articles by Carol Anderson and Robin Podolsky will deal further with the desperate need for more depictions of lesbians and gay men of color in television and film.

While positive depictions of gay men and lesbians are scarce, positive roles for gay men

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Unity in Diversity

Continued from Page 10.

communities were never unified around this issue. Many of the most experienced generation of activists hold deep concerns about the uses to which the U.S. military is put. A lot of us cut our teeth on protests against the Vietnam war. This is also the generation that has been decimated by the AIDS epidemic and has committed much of it's resources to fighting against it.

Nevertheless most activists, even those of us who would tend to oppose most actual deployments of military power, can relate to the ban as a civil rights issue, having to do with employment discrimination. Our fight to lift the ban could and should have focused more clearly on the reality: that those lesbians and gays most directly affected by the ban are those who wield the least power as individuals. They include low-income youth and people of color who see the army as one of few job options, a chance for an education, a way to avoid gang affiliation and to place oneself under some kind of discipline. Those for whom joining up is a gesture of self-respect. This group includes lesbians, who as women face a shrinking job market, and small-town lesbians and gays who are looking for a chance to get out of isolation and find others of their kind.

Most Americans can, in these hard times, relate to economic pressure. This presents a lesbian/gay image which is different from the successful power broker gay or chic lesbian who we are very happy to see showcased in the media but who are only one segment of our communities. What made Allan Schlinder's story so effective, apart from the horror of what was done to him, was the face of Dorothy Hadjys, a blue collar mothers who rose up to defend her child.

Finally, in regard to the Nunn hearings, we were much too nice. When it became clear that Nunn was producing a homophobic pageant, based on sexual terror, we needed to look for something that might give the opposition some reason to back off. Why did we never generate a counter-scandal, spinning memories of Tailhook, images of the young women impregnated and abandoned in military towns, of heterosexual male soldiers cavorting with female prostitutes? If our enemies were determined to push this issue to the brink, regardless of the human cost, we needed to take them to another edge, one they dared not go over.

What Can Happen Next?

When we look toward the next few years of activism, it's very important to recognize our allies. We were shocked and betrayed by the President's handling of the ban situation. But after we had seen how he treated Lani Guinier, why were we so surprised?

The next item on our agenda is the national lesbian and gay civil rights bill now before Congress. We have had to fight hard to get sponsors for that legislation, but the Black congressional caucus has always been supportive. The first Presidential candidate to embrace our issues with any fervor was Jesse Jackson. One of the few prominent non-gays who appeared at our civil rights march of '87 was Cesar Chavez. Will we repay that friendship with committed work on behalf of the entire civil rights agenda?

Ben Chavis, the new head of the NAACP, took some heat from a vocal minority within the NAACP who questioned whether or not ours was truly a civil rights movement. I suspect that if our support for the entire civil rights agenda had been more consistent and powerful, there would be less of that discussion. After all, looking around this room, I see that, in our lives, in our bodies, the entire civil rights struggle is our fight. In this room are people of every color and women and working people. I'm not a woman some days and queer at other times. If we call each other family, every one of us needs to take any attack on people of color or women very personally.

We have a national gathering coming up next June in New York, the anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion. That gathering can be the springboard of a national campaign. We can organize nationally around the civil rights bill. We can bring HIV back into the center of discussion. We can look at the political situation facing the entire country and ask how we fit in.

We who live in large cities have a great responsibility. As hard as it is for us to come out and speak out, those who live in rural areas and small towns have a much harder time and are looking to us for hope.

We are a movement, a constellation of communities which includes power schmoozers and streets activists, people of every background and circumstance. I say it one more time, because I know we are coming closer to making it true: that diversity is our greatest strength.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 12

and lesbians of color is even more rare, practically nonexistent. Many gay men and lesbians of color still feel left out in all white depictions of gayness on screen. This type of ostracizing, translates into low memberships of people of color in such powerful organizations such as GLAAD.

Racism is running at incredible levels in the lesbian and gay community. Santa Monica Blvd. was once dotted with pictures of homage of self proclaimed and convicted racist, Marky Mark. Many people of color still feel unwelcomed in the gay stronghold of West Hollywood. The Reclaim The Center group is trying to erase the continuing practices of racial discrimination at The Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center.

During these times of troubling racism it is up to each of us to try end this problem. We will never truly be unified through diversity until everyone feels welcome and equal.

GLAAD/LA should take a leadership role in this area, by insisting on a diversity of roles of lesbian and gay men in the media.

Sincerely,
Shawn Griffin

Harvey Fierstein Writes to *T.V. Guide*

Continued from Page 3.

Then comes the most dangerous part of Mr. Stein's misguided piece; the argument that 17 times more people die of cancer than AIDS, that 24 times more people die of heart disease and that 13 times more money is spent per dead body on AIDS than cancer. "Why aren't they crises, too?" he asks. Dear Mr. Stein, if you haven't heard, let me be the one to enlighten you; all health care in America is in crisis! Absolutely! Is AIDS research overfunded? No way!!! The information you fail to give your readers is the percentage of moneys spent by the government as opposed to privately raised funds. Or is your purpose to tell your readers to stop giving to AIDS organizations? I don't understand your motives, but your figures are prejudicial and misleading. Even a blind accounting of government moneys spent would not give a full picture of where the money goes. Are you aware that the first Federal grant awarded concerning AIDS was for a University study on the viability of quarantining all homosexuals? Would you really count that as health care or constructive research? How about the millions wasted by Bush on an AIDS Commission whose recommendations he completely ignored? Even if we were, and we are not, spending a disproportionate amount of our resources on AIDS there are justifiable reasons: As most people know AIDS affects the immune system. When a cure for the disease is finally found, it will come with great amounts of information about how the immune system works. We may be able to control that part of our anatomy thus eliminating cancers completely, not to mention the myriad of other diseases with which we humans are afflicted. Even the common cold. I have never met a doctor who thought a penny was wasted on the study of the immune system.

Finally, your hateful Mr. Stein criticizes a woman on a talk show for not wanting to reveal how she became infected. How can you blame her when she is surrounded by people like him who are only waiting to point a damning finger at her for her behavior. Once again it is "them" versus "us." Mr. Stein lets us know that he is a good heterosexual with wife and children, so he's not a candidate for the disease. He goes so far as to mention that his "son's godfather" died of the disease. I met Mr. Stein several years ago when he was writing for *Playboy Magazine*. At that time he told me it was his brother who'd died from AIDS. If he wonders why that woman did not want to say how she got her infection all he has to do is ask himself why his own flesh and blood got demoted. Shame on you, Harry Stein. Shame on you for denying your own. Shame on you for using your gifts to spread lies and stupidity. And shame on you for adding to the pain of tens of thousands of your fellow Americans who are struggling to live with this disease on a daily basis. Next time one of those "sentimentalized" AIDS stories is on TV, I suggest you tune in. You might learn something.

Comments may be sent to: **Mr. Barry Golsun, Editor, *T.V. Guide*, P.O. Box 900, Radnor, PA 19088.**

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Continuing important effort...

Letter Writing; Send GLAAD/LA a Copy

The need for continual gay and lesbian reaction to the events that are shaping our lives and our future has become even more important. Listed below are important events that GLAAD/LA is monitoring and where there is still a "window of opporunity" to have your voice heard. We also would like to have a copy of your correspondence, and any reply, for our files. Copies may be sent to: ***GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-7033.***

FCC Chair
(*GLAAD/LA Reports*, Aug. '93 issue.)

President Clinton will have the opportunity to appoint a new chair of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) following the expiration in June of the term of its present chair, Alfred Sikes. Send your comments to: **President Bill Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20500.**

NEA Chair and Funding
(*GLAAD/LA Reports*, Aug. '93 issue.)

President Clinton has nominated Jane Alexander to head the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Ms. Alexander has had a successful acting career, and recently received a Tony Award nomination for her role in this year's Broadway play, "The Sisters Rosensweig." She won a Tony for best supporting actress in 1969 for "The Great White Hope." Her movie career has been highlighted by Academy Award nominations for her roles in "The Great White Hope," "All the President's Men," "Kramer vs. Kramer" and "Testament." She received an Emmy for her television work in "Playing for Time." This is a step in the right direction. However, despite his campaign promise to free the NEA from the regressive and repressive policies of the Reagan-Bush years, the Justice Department is seeking to uphold funding restrictions for lesbian and gay art. Send your views and expectations about the NEA chair and funding to: **President Bill Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20500**.

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5

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

October, 1993 is

GLAAD/LA's 5th Anniversary!
Watch for the celebration activities:

Special 5th Anniversary Supplement to *GLAAD/LA Reports*,
and a

General Membership Meeting with Panel Discussion
highlighting GLAAD/LA's impact and successes over the first 5 years

SAVE THE DATE!

GLAAD/LA Comedy Night III & Cast Party
Saturday, November 20

Tighten your seat belts for this fun and exciting evening as Master of Ceremonies Lynda Montgomery and others take you on a hilarious ride around the world as seen through the eyes of some of our cutting-edge comics.

Stay tuned for further information!

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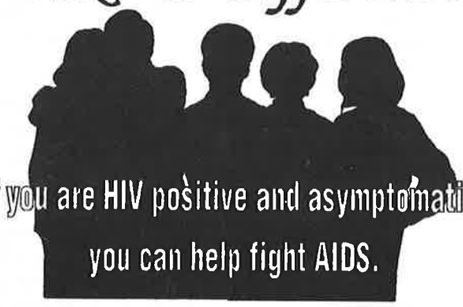
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Executive Director's Column

by Lee Werbel

Following is the completion of the list of upcoming lesbian and gay-themed film projects partially presented in last month's *GLAAD/LA Reports*:

This month don't miss **"Last Call At Maud's"** (directed by Paris Poirier and produced by Karen Kiss) at the Laemmle's Sunset V in West Hollywood, screening only eight days — September 29 -October 6. A film "full of wit, zaniness and outlaw pride." *Seattle Times*.

Also, don't forget HBO's production of Randy Shilt's **"And The Band Played On,"** Saturday, September 11. The production is true to the book and a powerful, compelling story of the AIDS epidemic.



Executive Director Lee Werbel

"Acceptable Risks" (Warner Bros. Spring Creek Productions) Journalist Jonathan Kwitny's book about "AIDS activists; fight to bring unapproved pharmaceuticals to patients," is, per *Entertainment Weekly* (6/1/92) in development.

"Angels in America" (Avenue Pictures) - Based on the hit play by Tony Kushner. In development.

"Blue Earth" (Sandollar Productions) - Produced by Howard Rosenman, "Blue Earth" is a "true story about a Chicago fast-tracker who returns to his hometown and learns he has AIDS," (*Entertainment Weekly*, 6/19/92). In development.

"Coming Out Under Fire" (Deep Focus Productions), a film documenting how and why the military developed and enforced its first anti homosexual personnel policies 50 years ago.

"Cop Gives Waitress $2 Million Tip" (Cop Gives Waitress Productions; TriStar Pictures Distribution) - currently in pre-production starring Nicholas Cage, Bridget Fonda and Rosie Perez, featuring supporting characters, Timothy and Warren, who are gay.

"Cure" (Columbia) - To be directed by Francis Ford Coppola from Diane Johnson's script. *Entertainment Weekly*, 6/1/92, says it is "about the search for an AIDS cure." Not yet in production, but it is in "the development bin" at Zoetrope Studios, according to *Variety*. "We're calling it fiction—but," says Coppola.

"Family Values" (Columbia Pictures) - Writer Barry Sandler's ("Making Love") story is described by *Variety* (7/9/92) as being about a "straight columnist and his gay brother, who find the meaning of family values while fighting society's perceptions and homophobia." A Producers Entertainment Group, Krost/Chapin, Inc. production. In development.

"Good Days" - Per *Entertainment Weekly* (6/19/92), this Propaganda Films' production is an AIDS courtroom drama with an original script by Ramsey Fadiman ("The Normal Heart"). John Schlesinger ("Midnight Cowboy") is set to direct. Still in development as of 1/21/93.

"The Object of My Affection" (20th Century Fox) - Written by Wendy Wasserman from the book by Stephen McCauley.

"Pursuit of Happiness" - Low-budget-for-home-video adaptation of play staged at L.A.'s Celebration Theater, "Pursuit of Happiness" chronicles "three decades of gay and lesbian history in Los Angeles" and will feature a large multi ethnic cast, according to Out and About Pictures' president, Kevin Glover (*Update*, 4/22/92). In preproduction.

"Via Appia" (Independent) - Directed by Jochen Hick. Concerns, per the *Los Angeles Times*, "an HIV-positive man's search for the hustler who infected him." Film apparently played in Los Angeles a year ago and opened in New York last August.

Other: Juliet Bashmore, director of "Kamikaze Hearts," completed a film last August about "radical drag queens living in East Berlin" (*Los Angeles Times*), for "Out," the weekly gay-themed program on Britian's Channel 4. A production of a public awareness, non-profit film project called "Eyes in the Mirror," a drama depicting social and human rights issues concerning homosexuality. An award-winning Directory of Photography, dedicated cast and crew, and a sensitive fully researched script are ready for a February '94 shoot. Contact: Terry Daugherty, Mirror Image Productions, P.O. Box 182, Reseda, CA 91337-0182.

Handy Media Guide

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CBS Entertainment (213) 852-2345, Jeff Sagansky, Pres., 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036

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NBC Entertainment (818) 840-4444, Warren Littlefield, Pres., 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523

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Warner Bros Pictures (818) 954-6000 Mr. Terry Semel, President, 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, CA 91522

Calendar

September 1, Wednesday
Deadline for October *GLAAD/LA Reports*

September 1, Wednesday
Community Outreach (Speakers) 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

September 2, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

September 7, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

September 12, Sunday
Tea Dance
Women of GLAAD

September 14, Tuesday
GLAAD/LA Board Meeting 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

September 16, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

September 21, Tuesday
Media Outreach 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

September 28, Tuesday
General Meeting 7:00pm 6000 W. Pico Blvd.

September 30, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

October Dates:

October 1, Friday
Deadline for November *GLAAD/LA Reports*

October 5, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles

GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 5 No. 10 October 1993

Our 5th Anniversary Issue

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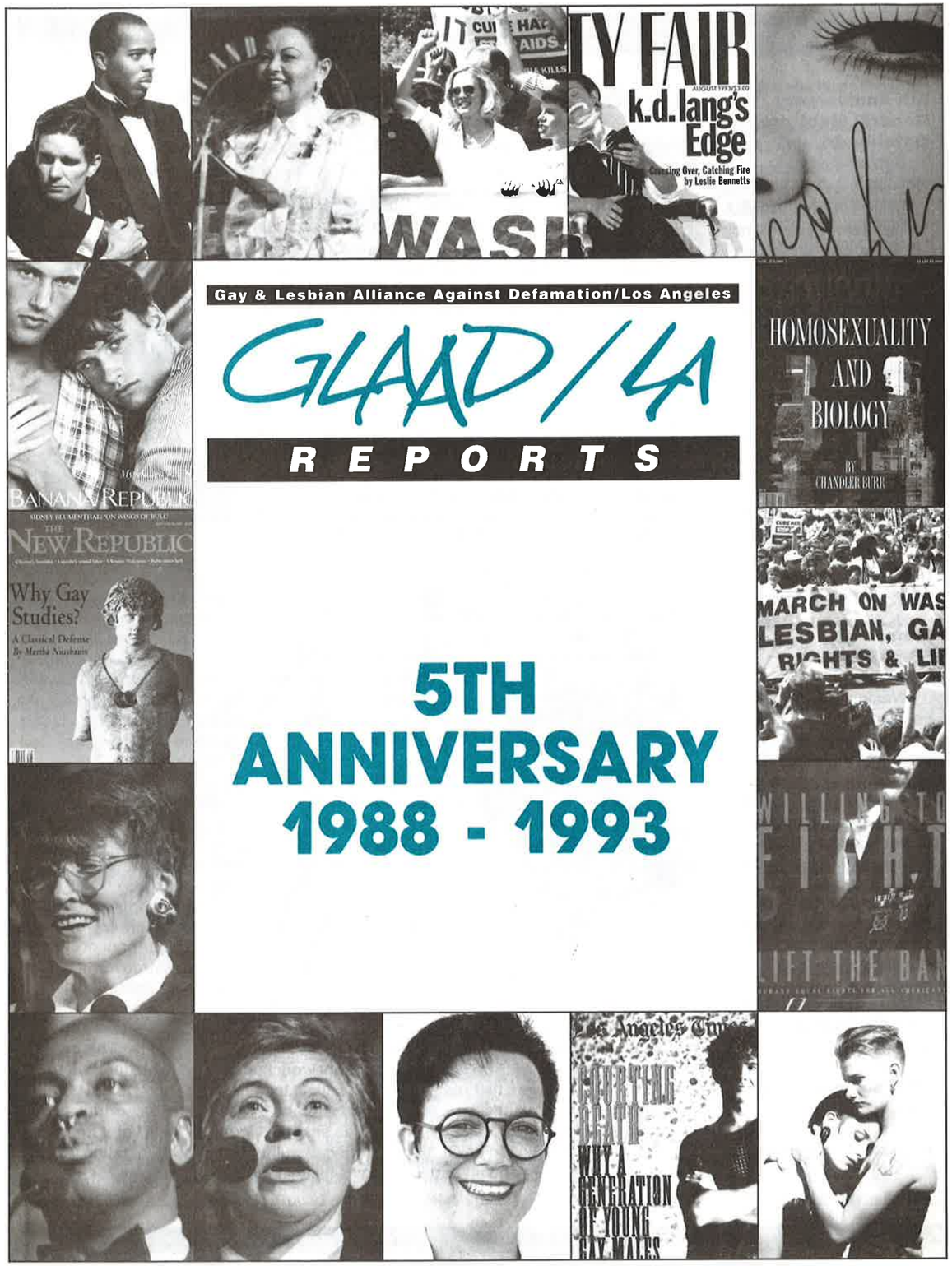
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Page 31 Handy Media Guide



NEWS BRIEFS

5th Anniversary General Meeting: October 26

You are invited to participate in the celebration of our 5th Anniversary during our October General Meeting on October 26. Join us for an exciting panel discussion focusing on "How Far Have We Come, Where Are We Going: Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Images in Film and Television." Join us as we greet prominent industry speakers. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm and will be held at **Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 W. Pico Blvd. (just east of Crescent Heights)**. Guests are welcomed; refreshments.

Women of GLAAD/LA... "BATON"

Women of GLAAD is co-sponsoring "BATON," a lesbian mentoring project, along with the Community Outreach and Education Project at The Center. An orientation will be held October 13, 1993, from 8 to 10:00 pm in the Board Room at **The Center, 1625 North Hudson Avenue, Hollywood**. Anyone interested in being a mentor or mentee may attend. Please call **The Center at (213) 993-7443** for additional information.

Film Submissions Sought

The National Asian American Telecommuni-

Continued on Page 5

Co-President's Column

5th Anniversary Message

by Stephanie Farrington-Domingue and Dean Hansell

As GLAAD/LA begins its second half-decade, we thought it useful to attempt to articulate the idea that lead to GLAAD's formation and identify where GLAAD differs from other lesbian and gay organizations.



Dean Hansell

In contrast to other lesbian and gay civil rights organizations that work through the legal and political systems, GLAAD is the only national lesbian and gay group whose focus is cultural advocacy. The late Craig Davidson, GLAAD/New York's first Executive Director, defined "cultural advocacy" in this way:

"Cultural Advocacy is a group of activities including media reform, educational curricular reform and religious reform that has the common goal of full integration of the lesbian and gay community into 'mainstream' society (i.e., non-gay and non-lesbian) through strategies that generally do not involve the legal or legislative process."

GLAAD is the one national lesbian and gay organization that focuses on the media and other cultural institutions. It was created both to respond to our invisibility in the media and to fight defamation.

GLAAD is not the first organization to appreciate the importance of popular culture in shaping society's perceptions (and misperceptions) about a people. The NAACP has long been hard at work fighting defamation and the invisibility of African-Americans within our cultural institutions. Similarly, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has combatted anti-semitism and other forms of discrimination within our culture ever since a Jewish industrialist in the South, Leo Frank, was wrongfully tried and convicted of killing one of his employees. He was lynched by a crowd whipped into hysteria by bigoted press stories.



Stephanie Farrington-Domingue

Through the advocacy of GLAAD, lesbians and gay men are now able to take their seat at the table along with other civil rights groups dedicated to combatting discrimination within our popular culture.

As advertisers, which are willing to spend millions of dollars on national television have long ago discovered, the media and other cultural institutions have a powerful but often subtle impact on the way a person, a group or a product is perceived. Gay rights laws alone cannot change public perception about who we are. Moreover, it will be extremely difficult to get national gay rights legislation until public perception changes.

Other articles in this 5th Anniversary issue of *GLAAD/LA Reports* chronicle our successes, our history and our media impact over the past five years. The cultural advocacy work of GLAAD/LA has been important work that needed to be done when we began in 1988. It is work that remains just as critical today. Your service to GLAAD/LA, your financial contributions, your letters of protest and praise about the portrayals and invisibility of lesbians and gay men, are just as essential today as they were during our first five years. With your help GLAAD can bring about an end to discrimination against lesbians and gay men and an end to our invisibility in the popular culture.

Film and Television

"And the Band Played On"

GLAAD/LA was well represented at the premiere of HBO's "And the Band Played On," based on Randy Shilts' bestseller about the early years of the AIDS epidemic. (The film debuted on HBO September 11.) Over 1,600 people showed up for the premiere at the Motion Picture Academy Theater on August 31, which was covered by *Los Angeles Times*' writer, Bill Higgins. Many of the stars of the film were in attendance, including Lily Tomlin, Matthew Modine, Swoozie Kurtz, Sir Ian McKellen, Angelica Huston, Richard Mazur and Bud Cort.

Higgins quotes Shilts' repsonse to the film: "I might have done some things differently, but they took my feedback, so I'd be petulant to complain." Shilts told GLAAD/LA Board Member Dr. Sylvia Rhue that he "wished the film had been gayer." The heroes are straight white males, with the exception of a sterling performance by Lily Tomlin. Alan Alda's self-serving Dr. Robert Gallo and Tomlin's portrayal of Selma Doritz should earn them Emmy nominations.

"And the Band Played On" is a must see for anyone interested in the forces of fear and homophobia and their impact on our lives and the culture.

A reception followed with other stars and supporters attending, including Sandra Bernhard, producer Midge Sanford, Branford Marsalis, Luke Perry, Sharon Gless, Lou Pitl, Dana Delaney, Zev Yaroslavsky and, of course, Randy Shilts.

Your comments may be directed to: **Aaron Spelling and E. Duke Vincent, Exectuive Producers, "And the Band Played On," HBO Pictures, 1100 Avenue of the Americas, New York, 10036**.



Randy Shilts



Sir Ian McKellen, Matthew Modine and Lily Tomlin

"The Wedding Banquet"

If you haven't seen this film, make plans to see it now. An excellent cast of characters, a well developed storyline full of logical interest and depth; and gay men portrayed with a sense of honesty and wit. This Ang Lee film easily combines elements of today's diverse society and does it with flair, assuredness and imagination. That a story revolving around a gay Asian/Caucasian couple's attempt to fake a hetero-marriage is finding wide appeal - and impressive box office bucks - adds credence, and should provide impetus, to presenting lesbians and gays as whole human beings. **The Samuel Goldwyn Company, "The Wedding Banquet," 10203 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles 90067**.

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 4

cations Associations (NAATA) is seeking submissions for its 12th annual San Francisco Asian American International Film Festival. Applications and guidelines may be obtained by contacting: **Paul Mayeda Berges, Director, NAATA, 346 9th Street, 2nd Fl., San Francisco 94103; (415) 863-0814; FAX (415) 863-7428.**

Queer Television Network

Century Cable will be broadcasting "Tinseltown Queer" (hosted by Nicholas Snow) on Oct. 2 (12:30 pm), Oct. 9 (Noon), Oct. 13 (11:30 pm) and Oct. 20 and 27 at 11:00 pm. Also, "Gay and Lesbian News Magazine" (hosted by Bob LaFont) on Tuesdays at 9:30 pm; and "The Fresca Vinyl Show" on Oct. 14 at 8:30 pm.

NEA Publishes G/L Booklet

The National Education Association (NEA) has published "Teaching and Counseling Gay and Lesbian Students" as part of its "Human & Civil Rights Action Sheet" series. The booklet contains information about homosexuality, homophobia and educational equity and a list of resource organizations. Contact: **National Education Association, 1201 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036-3290.**

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 5

Letter Writing; Send GLAAD/LA a Copy

The need for continual gay and lesbian reaction to the events that are shaping our lives and our future is important. One of the most effective tools we can use is letter writing. When you write a letter, please send a copy of your correspondence, and any reply, to us for our files. Send to: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-7033.**

GLAAD/LA Committee Information

Media Outreach Committee

The Media Outreach Committee meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the **GLAAD/LA office, 7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 304**, two blocks east of La Brea in Hollywood. Media Outreach works in a variety of ways to educate people in the media about homophobia and about GLAAD/LA. Our activities are designed for the film, television, radio, music and print media. Interested people may call: **Michael B. Keegan or Jehan Agrama, Media Outreach Committee, Co-Chairs, (213) 463-3632.**

Continued on Page 8

Film and Television

Images and invisibility in films...

"Without a Face," & "Vampire"

"The Man Without a Face"

"The film would have been a lot more challenging if it had been faithful to its source, Isabelle Holland's young-adult novel, in which McLeod (Mel Gibson) was also homosexual. Gibson elects to play it safe." David Ansen, *Newsweek.*

About 25 people from ACT UP and GLAAD/LA protested the honoring of Mel Gibson, who was about to have his hands and foot prints enshrined in cement in front of Mann's Chinese Theater. The protest was against Gibson's reported homophobic and sexist remarks. "They take it up the ass. This is only for taking a shit." (Gibson getting up from a chair and pointing to his rear.) And then to dispel any thoughts that he might be gay, MG reportedly said, "I became an actor despite that. But with this look, who's going to think I'm gay? It would be hard to take me for someone like that." Maybe the best part of Mel was passed over for the cement tribute ("Hollywood's ultimate honor," says *Frontiers*). Has anybody ever sat in it? Comments to **Mr. Mel Gibson c/o Warner Bros, 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, Ca. 91522.**

"Interview With the Vampire"

"Hot on the heels of almost everybody in the world — except Warner Bros. stockholders — objecting to Tom Cruise being cast as Lestat in (the film) "Interview with the Vampire,"...a rumor is rampant that Cruise has insisted that every trace of homoeroticism be written out of the script." Liz Smith, *Los Angeles Times*, syndicated columnist.

"Ridiculous...Look, Tom agreed to do this movie and to perform the script as written...It has not been altered. Any homoerotic elements that were in the original script remain. Maybe not as many as Anne Rice's (the author of "Interview with the Vampire") — or Tom's — gay fans would like, or as many as were in the book, but I can assure you Tom has made no demands in this area. He has placed himself in (director) Neil Jordan's hands ("The Crying Game") and will follow Jordan's script." Pat Kingsly, publicist for Tom Cruise.

An interview with Anne Rice, carried in the *Los Angeles Times' Calendar* ("Interview With the Vampire's Picky Creator," Film Clips, August 22), presented Ms. Rice's views toward the casting of Tom Cruise as Vampire Lestat and the resultant suspicion that any traces of the book's homoerotic material will eventually be eradicated when translated to film. She's not happy. Comments to **Mr. Neil Jordan, Director, "Interview With the Vampire," c/o Warner Bros, 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, Ca. 91522.**

Unable to learn from such films as "The Wedding Banquet" and "The Crying Game," some in Hollywood still don't understand that the portrayal of homosexual material - in its full breadth, diversity and complexity - can only mean success at the box office.

Helms Stopped, For Now

United States Senate backers of federal aid to the arts blocked an attempt by conservatives, led by Senator Jesse Helms (R, North Carolina), to end funding of grants to individual artists through the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). In the latest manuevering by the resilient right wing, supporters in the Senate managed a lopsided vote of 65 to 30 to defeat a motion to limit grants only to non-profit organizations. Also killed, by a vote of 57 to 38, was an attempt to require that "no less than 70% of NEA funds be sent to the states for redistribution by local officials." Said Senator Barbara Boxer (D, California), "I am not an art critic. The senator from North Carolina is not an art critic. We will make mistakes, yes, but give Jane Alexander (President Clinton's nominee to head the NEA) a chance."

SAVE THE DATE!

GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION/LOS ANGELES
presents its
1993 Benefit

THE 3RD ANNUAL
GLAAD COMEDY NIGHT

Saturday, November 20, 1993 - 8:00 pm
Doors Open at 7:00 pm with no host bar available
Harmony Gold Auditorium - 7655 Sunset Boulevard - Hollywood

- Surprise Guests
- Come Celebrate GLAAD/LA's 5th Anniversary
- Silent Auction and Cast Party
- Amazing Theatrical Articles of Priceless Value
- Sumptuous Pre-Theatre Munchies
- November Will Never be the Same
- Release Your Pre-Thanksgiving Tension
- Don't be a Turkey
- Lots of Laughs - Plenty of Gaffaws
- We're Pulling Out All Stops on this 5th Anniversary
- A Couple of Snickers
- You'll be Rolling in the Aisles
- You'll be Bent Over by Laughter
- You'll be Blown Away by Brilliance
- You'll be Remiss if You Don't Attend
- Hey, It's a Major Fundraiser for a Great Organization
- Giving Will Never Make You Happier

Tickets (Members): $25.00
Tickets (Non-Members): $30.00

We look forward to seeing you for this laughter filled evening of fun.
And, thank you for supporting GLAAD/LA

I can't wait...I'm ordering my tickets now by sending in the form below:

To: GLAAD/LA Comedy Night III & Cast Party
GLAAD/LA, 7033 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90028

I have to have _____ ticket(s) at _____ each. Total enclosed. $_____

I'm DEVASTATED that I cannot attend this benefit,
but enclosed is my donation of $_____

Name _____ Telephone(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip_____

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 6

Monitor/Response Committee

This committee watches (monitors) what's happening in the media and writes letters, makes phone calls and produces articles for the GLAAD/LA newsletter. How do you get involved? Do you own a television or a video cassette recorder? Do you subscribe to any publications or attend movies? Then you already are in a position to help the Monitor/Response committee. Please join us. Meetings in October are on the14th and 28th at 7:30 pm at the **GLAAD/LA office, 7033 Sunset Blvd, Suite 304, Hollywood; (213) 463-3632. Anne Dutton, Chair.**

Newsletter Advisory Committee

The deadline for submitting material for *GLAAD/LA Reports* is the first of each month for the following month's newsletter. For the December newsletter all material needs to be submitted on or before November 1. Your comments, articles, letters or other submissions may be sent to: ***GLAAD/LA Reports*, c/o GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093; FAX (213) 463-4923**; or directly to the **Editor, Carl Matthes, FAX (213) 257-5878.**

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Film and Television

"Joey Breaker"

Another must see would be "Joey Breaker." Written, produced and directed by Steven Starr, this light hearted heteromance also finds a way to deal with gay men and AIDS in an inclusive and non-exploitive way. Capturing kudos as well for its diversity, "Breaker" tells the story of a New York agent (Richard Edson) who will do and say anything to make a deal - a New York answer to Tim Robbin's "The Player." Along the way he meets Cyan (Cedella Marley), finds himself falling in love with her, and, when he accompanies a co-worker on her way to share lunch with a gay man (Fred Fondren) who has AIDS, he senses some humanity and gets a glimpse of life's realities. As his love affair blooms, he is trying to sign a cutting edge black comic, Hip Hop Hank (Erik King), who happens to be gay. Hip Hop declines signing a multi-year sitcom contract, partly because it would mean he would have to take a thorough health exam possibly discovering that he is HIV positive. The on-screen affection between Hip Hop and his lover is effectively portrayed. An ingratiating film. Comments to: **Steven Starr, c/o Fredell Pogodin & Associates, 8271 Melrose Avenue, #102, Los Angeles 90046.**



Cedella Marley, Steven Starr and Richard Edson of "Joey Breaker"

"Charlie Rose"

No Thorns Here

Ever tire of stomach-churning, mind-numbing homophobic "talk" TV? If you're weary of exclusion, imagine a guest list including Larry Kramer, U.S. Representative Pat Schroeder, Alice Walker, Tony Kushner, Dr. Anthony Fauci, Anna Quindlen, Randy Shilts, Paul Rudnick, Patricia Ireland and Kristine Gebbie. Imagine panel discussions like "AIDS: The Second Decade," with international health workers. Imagine a discussion on "The Crying Game," with Oscar winning writer/director Neil Jordan and cast, imagine assorted opera divas, Broadway legends, non-generic movie stars, politicians and artists. These are some of the guests on this season's "Charlie Rose." (Seen in Los Angeles on **KCET-TV (PBS), Monday through Thursday at 11:00 pm, Friday at 12 midnight**.)

Rose, who was recently profiled by *The New Yorker*, is one of television's most erudite journalists. Formerly the anchor on "CBS News Overnight," he was wooed and won by PBS to host his own hour conversation show in New York. He consistently hosts those who give voice to our community, and the talk is not a rant, but rather thoughtful dialogue. Write KCET-TV and encourage them to present more of this type of programming. Contact: **William Kobin, President, KCET-TV, 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028.**

Poster Celebrates Famous Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual People In History



Project 21 is proud to offer a multi-cultural poster featuring 57 famous lesbian, gay and bisexual figures and seven major historical events. The 2' X 3' posters are printed in full color. Included is a key identifying each person and his/her historical role as well as a bibliography of sources for further reference.

These posters are ideal for elementary, secondary or college classroom use. They're also great for home or office, and make excellent gifts.

Project 21 is an informal, national alliance of organizations and individuals working to ensure that fair, accurate and unbiased information is presented to America's youth regarding the nature and diversity of sexual orientation. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/San Francisco Bay Area Chapter (GLAAD/SFBA) acts as Project 21's fiscal agent and sponsor. The Project 21 poster is sponsored by GLAAD/USA.

Please send _____ posters at $10 each $_____

Shipping and handling (see below) $_____

Total Enclosed $_____

Make checks payable to GLAAD/SFBA.
(Sorry, no credit cards)

Shipping and handling:	
1-9 posters	add $5
10-19 posters	add $10
20-29 posters	add $15
etc.	

All orders shipped first-class in crush-proof tubes.
Allow 3 weeks for delivery.
Proceeds from poster sales benefit Project 21.
Also available in the GLAAD/SFBA office.
For more information call GLAAD/SFBA at (415) 861-4588.

Ship To:

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Name (Please Print)

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Address

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City State Zip

( )
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Phone

Project 21

Send form and check to:
Project 21 Poster
GLAAD/SFBA
514 Castro Street, Suite B
San Francisco, CA 94114

NEWS BRIEFS

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Women of GLAAD

If you would like to be a part of the lesbian voice in GLAAD/LA's affairs, come and join us for our monthly informal gathering to discuss ways in which we can become more visible in our community. Our purpose is to encourage the participation of 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. The Women of GLAAD Caucus meets the first Tuesday of each month at **7:00 pm at the GLAAD office, 7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 304; (213) 463-3632. Tracy Stern, Chair.**

We Need Volunteers

Archives

Volunteers are needed to enter dates on our computers for our video archives. Please contact the GLAAD/LA office at (213) 463-3632 and leave a message for Sylvia.

Andrew, Thank You

Thank you to Andrew Rakos of the eatery Who's on Third (8369 W. 3rd Street, Los Angeles) for donating the food for the joint GLAAD/LA and GLAAD/NY retreat held in Los Angeles the last weekend of August.

Continued on Page 22

Cable

Thirtieth Anniversary...

March on Washington

On August 28, C-SPAN broadcast the March on Washington's 30th Anniversary Memorial of the 1963 Historical March on Washington for Civil Rights. After much negotiation, Phill Wilson, founder of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, spoke on justice for people with AIDS and Black lesbians and gays. He was introduced by Torie Osborn, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). The crowd was estimated to be from 70,000 to 100,000 but Torie and Phill were the last speakers and the crowd had dwindled to less than 100 people. Ten years ago, at the 20th Anniversary of the March on Washington, Audre Lourde spoke, marking the first time in history an openly gay person was allowed to address a major civil rights event. When it looked like Osborn and Wilson were not going to get to address the crowd, Coretta Scott King insisted that they be included.

C-SPAN's practice of televising an entire event, without commentary, continues to serve its cable audience in a unique and attractive way. Comments to: **Mr. Brian Lamb, Chairman/CEO, C-SPAN, 400 N. Capitol NW, #650, Washington, D.C. 20001.**

"Larry King" Features Mel White and Lou Sheldon

On August 13, "Larry King Live" (CNN, weekdays, 6:00 pm) interviewed the Reverend Mel White, the ghost writer for Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson and Billy Graham. He came out of the closet because "I couldn't live with the silence any loner...this (being gay) is a gift from God." His coming out has shaken his old friends and he is exposing how "they use gays to raise money."

Lou Sheldon, leader of the Traditional Values Coalition, came on with a string of vituperative distortions of lesbian and gay reality. He said gays were only 1% of the population. Larry King asked Sheldon, "How can only 1% terrorize 99%?" Sheldon: "Very cleverly." White, Sheldon and King went back and forth with Sheldon getting more desperate. King's next segment featured Sandra Bernhard who was visibly upset over Sheldon's statements. She called Sheldon "evil." Write Larry King and suggest that invited guests, who present opposite views on a subject, be encouraged to have legitimate facts and figures to make a convincing argument. Write: **"Larry King Live," CNN, 1 CNN Center, Atlanta, GA 30348-5466.**

Radio and Print

Asian American Mag...

Transpacific Features Gay Man

The July/August issue of *Transpacific*, an Asian American magazine, includes an article ("Gay and Angry Solo Satirist") on performer Patrick Lee. The interview addressed Lee's experiences as an "immigrant-Asian-gay" from personal, political and professional perspectives. For more information contact: **Tom Kagy, Publisher/Editor, *Transpacific*, 23715 W. Malibu Road, #390, Malibu, CA 90265; FAX (310) 456-3724.**

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.

Please complete the coupon below and send it - along with your list of up to 15 activators, complete with their names, addresses and phone numbers to: GLAAD/LA Phone Tree, P.O. Box 931763, Los Angeles, CA 90093. If you already are a part of our Phone Tree, please submit the coupon with updated information for yourself and your activators

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) 463-3632



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5th Anniversary Feature

GLAAD/LA's Early Years

by Richard Jennings

Executive Director of Hollywood Supports

In some ways, it is hard for me to believe that GLAAD/LA has been around for over five years. Some of the bruises of defeat and thrills of our first victories are still too fresh to me to be nearly five years old. On the other hand, many of us now take for granted that the media covers our issues and that gays and lesbians are being increasingly portrayed on the big and little screen. That was not true five years ago, when none of the major newsweeklies covered the '87 March on Washington. The work of the GLAAD chapters across the country has certainly played a key role in the greatly improved and increasing coverage of our community in the media since that time.

GLAAD was founded in New York in 1985 by a group of writers, including Vito Russo and Larry Kramer. The group was inspired by a series of outrageously defamatory headlines that had appeared in the *New York Post*. A year or so after GLAAD formed, a contingent that wanted to focus exclusively on AIDS issues separated and started ACT UP.

In Los Angeles, GLAAD's origins date back to 1988. I was inspired with the idea for a media watch/education project while attending the 1988 March on Sacramento in early May. That weekend I read an interview with then Assemblyman Art Agnos in which he said he was always there for the gay community but felt we had not always been there for him. He cited as a small example a cartoon that had run in the *San Francisco Examiner* showing Agnos being led by the nose by a fairy. He said he was surprised that no one from the lesbian and gay community ever responded to this cartoon. This criticism from a key supporter of lesbian and gay equal rights instantly made me realize there was a serious void in our movement: we had yet to organize an institution like the Jewish Anti-Defamation League or the media arm of the NAACP to monitor and respond in a systematic way to ongoing instances of defamation against lesbians and gay men.

I returned to Los Angeles anxious to share this vision with fellow activists, especially lawyer friends whom I knew through Lawyers for Human Rights, the lesbian and gay bar association. A number of us activist lawyers who had been thinking of making change primarily through litigation were beginning to despair of making much progress with judges appointed primarily by Reagan and Deukmejian. We felt we might have an impact more quickly by educating media outlets on our issues, so that the media could then help us educate the public whose support would be needed to make lasting change through legislation.

After initial brainstorming sessions on this project, I happened to be invited to a cocktail party July 6, 1988, at the home of Rich Llewellyn and Chris Caldwell to meet their friend Craig Davidson. Craig had recently been appointed the first executive director of GLAAD in New York. (Since I had been inquiring about media efforts around the country, I heard rumors about something called GLAAD in New York, but no one I talked to knew whether the group was still in existence.) Attending the gathering with me that night were many who would later play important roles in the establishment of the Los Angeles chapter, including Rand Schrader, David Bohnett and Dean Hansell. I was inspired by Craig's description of GLAAD, especially its phone trees and monthly bulletins listing names of media outlets to call or write. I spoke at the meeting about my intention to start a similar effort in Los Angeles, and collected names of those interested in being involved.

We subsequently convened another meeting, to which I invited Carol Anderson, Karen Lash, Carmichael Smith-Low and others with whom I'd been talking about the need for a media watch organization. At that meeting we adopted several guiding principles that have since played a major role in GLAAD/LA's development: first, we decided we could not fully form the organization until we had done sufficient outreach to insure that our founding body was as representative as possible of the diversity of our community, and second, we committed to involving in the work as many other major organizations that already existed in our community as possible. As outreach continued at a furious pace, we began holding general meetings and committee meetings in September.

In October, we decided to incorporate in California as a Los Angeles chapter of GLAAD — so as to become the first national gay and lesbian organization with grass roots chapters on both coasts. While some of us were at first wary of joining with a group in New York that might have somewhat different goals and membership, the idea that such an alliance would give our community an unprecedented united effort based in the two major national media markets was ultimately most compelling. By this time we had also started monthly mailings to a growing list of interested volunteers and members — the beginnings of what would soon be our monthly newsletter, *GLAAD/LA Reports*. We also acted quickly on Deb Bergman's suggestion that we write monthly media watch columns for the local papers. By the following year our columns, the first by any GLAAD chapter, were being published in *Frontiers*, the *Lesbian News* and the now-defunct *Vanguard*.

By November, we were conducting GLAAD/LA committee meetings every week, and held a large town meeting at Plummer Park to introduce new mem-

Please see Early Years on Page 22.

GLAAD/LA Landmarks and Successes

by Jehan Agrama
GLAAD/LA Board Member Emeritus

In five years GLAAD/LA has had a major impact on the way the media portrays lesbians and gay men. Not only are we covered accurately but coverage on our issues has been extensive. GLAAD has also achieved a high level of credibility with the media. Our reputation in the lesbian and gay community has been solid and we have been the recipients of many awards.

GLAAD/LA has been featured in stories on the media's portrayal of lesbians and gay men and our issues. We have regular media-watch columns in *Frontiers, Lesbian News* and the *Santa Barbara Gay and Lesbian Resource Center Newsletter.* Some of the mainstream media in which we have appeared is CNN, "Entertainment Tonight," *The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Examiner, Washington Post, Dallas Morning Herald*, UPI, AP, *TV Guide, Premiere Magazine, Entertainment Weekly, L.A. Weekly, California Magazine*, "E! Entertainment," KFI, KLSX, KKLA, KCBS, KABC, KCAL, KTTV, KDOC, KNX, KGIL, KPFK and KROQ.

The great strides we have made as an organization is thanks to the participation of our members and volunteers who have written letters, made phone calls, donated money and time. We have all participated in this struggle and should all share in the success. While what follows is by no means exhaustive (though at times was exhausting) here are some highlights of GLAAD/LA over the past 5 years. Sit back, be proud, and enjoy!

1988 - GLAAD/LA is incorporated in October.

1989 - Successful campaign to reverse *Daily Variety*'s policy against listing survivors of same-sex couples in obituaries... Widespread airing of Bob Hope public service announcement for GLAAD/LA against anti-gay violence... *Los Angeles Times* adds a chapter to its style book about the use of derogatory terms one month after GLAAD meets its editors... First GLAAD/LA Board of Directors elections: Jehan Agrama and Richard Jennings elected as Co-Presidents.

1990 - Publication of full-page ads in *Hollywood Reporter* and *Daily Variety* about gay-bashing by current Hollywood movies and the absence of lesbian and gay characters on television...Consulting on network television projects and films, including episodes of "Golden Girls," "Fanelli Boys" and "STAT," and a lesbian positive "Dear John" episode.... CBS suspends Andy Rooney for homophobic and racist remarks... Pacific Bell agrees to include new section entitled "Gay & Lesbian Organizations" in their August 1990 Yellow Pages.... GLAAD/LA "Media Watch" columns begin appearing in *Frontiers* and *Lesbian News*... GLAAD/LA's curriculum entitled "Homophobia: Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation" is approved for use in the Los Angeles Unified School District in connection with ADL's "World of Difference" program... Monthly General Membership Meetings move out of our living rooms and into Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 West Pico Blvd... Speakers Bureau holds first training session... First successful Valentine's Day Project... GLAAD/LA members call local radio stations for same-gender love song dedications... Positive and prominent article on GLAAD in *Los Angeles Times*... First Annual GLAAD Media Awards... GLAAD/LA gives BEST IMPROVED COVERAGE award to *Los Angeles Times*... First Executive Director, Richard Jennings named... GLAAD/LA participates in formation of GLAAD/USA... GLAAD/LA joins the Media Image Coalition of Minorities and Women and takes a leadership position.

1991 - Second Annual GLAAD Media Awards: over 500 people attend... Successful, star studded bi-coastal GLAAD Media Awards for positive gay and lesbian images... GLAAD/LA creates and publishes "Bill of Wrongs," in response to 200th Anniversary of Bill of Rights... Sensitivity training sessions for creative teams at major studios, such as Universal Pictures and Disney/Touchstone, as well as popular radio stations, including KIIS-FM and KROQ... Installation of a Spanish-language hotline and media monitoring project, and appearance by GLAAD members on national Spanish-language talk show "Cara a Cara"... Improved local television coverage of the 1991 Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade following a report card on previous year's media coverage by GLAAD/LA Co-President and Sociology professor Peter Nardi... GLAAD/LA moves into our new offices at 7033 Sunset Boulevard.... Major press and Hollywood attention for GLAAD's protest of negative stereotypes in major Hollywood films such as "Silence of the Lambs" and "Basic Instinct"... GLAAD calls for an end to PBS censorship and exclusion for decision to cancel airing of two films that address homophobia & AIDS... Hallmark Cards withdraws the word "lesbian" from their list of banned words... Hollywood Supports project to counter homophobia and AIDS phobia in the entertainment industry formed by industry leaders with joint assistance of GLAAD/LA and AIDS Project/LA.

1992 - GLAAD/LA hosts Third Annual Media Awards: over 650 attend... GLAAD organizes protest of censorship of lesbian high school student's art. Decision to drape nude painting overturned... Women of GLAAD forms... *Entertainment Weekly* names GLAAD/LA as one of the 100 most powerful entities in Hollywood... GLAAD/LA, with GLAAD/USA, conducts an exit poll during the 1992 General Election to assess how the lesbian and gay community voted; the *Los Angeles Times* lists the

Please see Landmarks and Successes on Page 30

Five Years Later: Lesbian & Gay Images in the Media

by Peter M. Nardi, PhD
Professor of Sociology, Pitzer College, Claremont

When GLAAD/LA was in its formative years, the 1987 March on Washington was fresh in people's memories. Even stronger in their minds was how the March was ignored by the major newsmagazines. Almost six years later, however, the 1993 March on Washington generated banner headlines in newspapers and gay/lesbian topics were front cover stories in six different national magazines. While some of this attention can be traced to President Clinton's election promise of lifting the military ban against lesbians and gays, many of the reasons for increased media focus are traceable to the presence of GLAAD and its work during the past five years.

There are several ways of analyzing how far we have come in such a short period of time. In general, gay and lesbian images in the media can be categorized in four ways:

(1) overt homophobic and stereotypic characterizations

(2) heterosexist and more subtle forms of stereotyping

(3) invisibility and omission

(4) accurate and balanced images.

(1) Overt homophobia. The repeated use of epithets, such as "faggot," "dyke," "homo," and "fruit" — while not used gratuitously as much as in the past — does occur still in many media, especially in films. When they are used, they often signify a way of establishing evil or marginality about the character so labeled, although occasionally to demonstrate the ignorance of the person using them. These words often become a shorthand for indicating the villain or underlining the pathology of the character.

Linking certain film characters with homosexuality through non-verbal cues is a common way of signalling their evilness, even when explicit epithets are not used. The battle over the movie "Basic Instinct" — partly organized through GLAAD/LA's efforts — centered on these issues, specifically in the depiction of lesbians and bisexual women as serial killers, using ice picks to murder their predominantly white, male, heterosexual victims, particularly in the absence of balancing positive images of lesbians. Another example of GLAAD's active protests was the debate over the serial killer in the 1991 Oscar-winning "The Silence of the Lamb" who is seen cross-dressing, petting a poodle named "Precious," and wearing make-up. An earlier reference to his male lover and the images used in the film are associated with being gay, even if the character was never directly called gay.

The use of overtly homophobic expressions on television dramas and situation comedies, and by stand-up comics on variety or talk shows, has declined significantly over the past five years, although some radio personalities, like Howard Stern and Rush Limbaugh, continue to depend on negative stereotypes in their shows. Perhaps the source of the most homophobic images comes from the religious right's media campaigns. Ads and videos — created and marketed by religious right organizations fighting to overturn anti-gay discrimination ordinances and to pass repressive legislation against gays and lesbians — depend primarily on presenting the most stereotypical images in sensational and distorted ways.

By creating images of gays and lesbians as "other" or as foreign, the media perpetuate and contribute to people's homophobia. The media have come a long way from the pre-GLAAD years' characterizations of homosexuals, despite some remnants of distorted depictions.

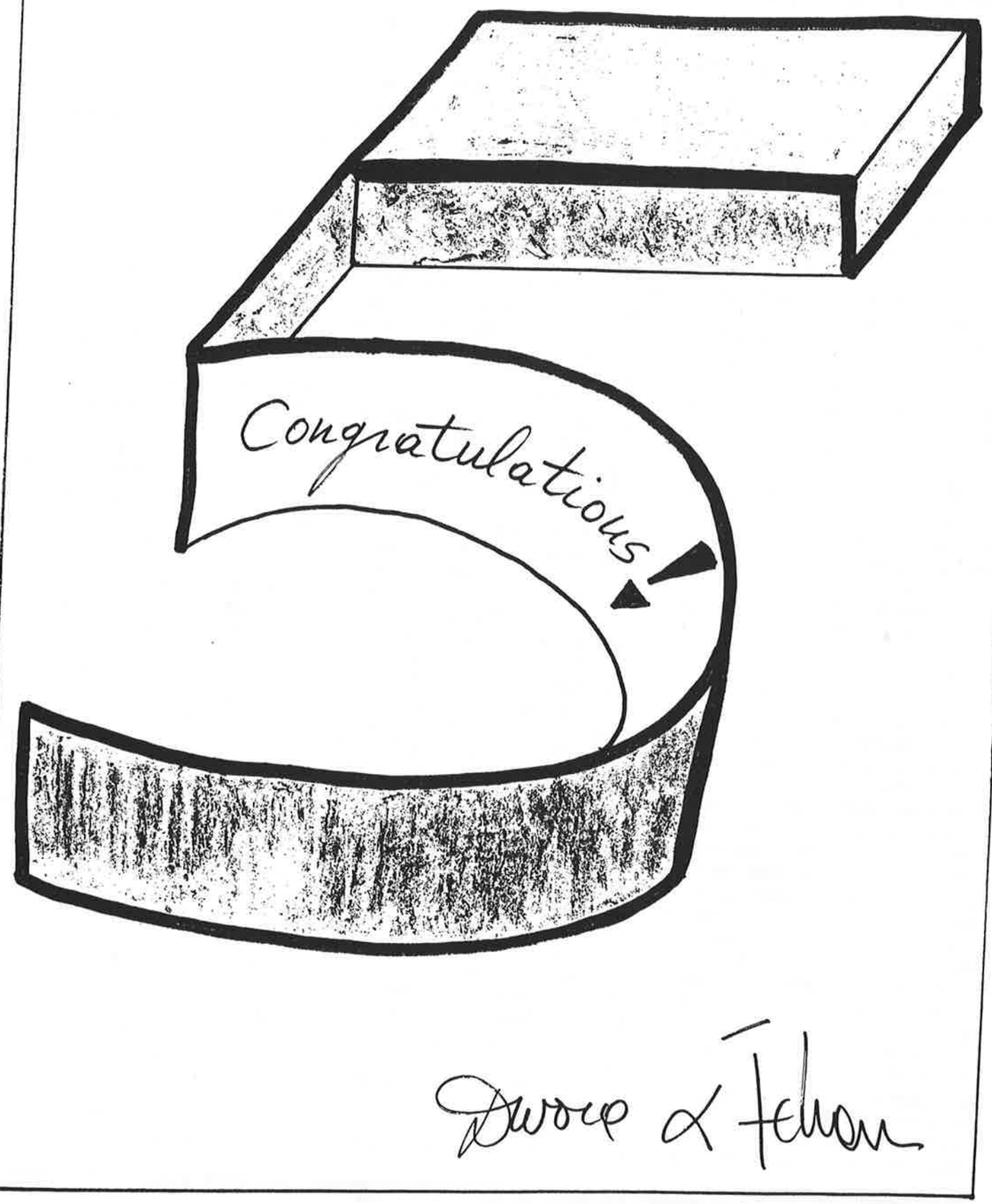
(2) Heterosexist and the more Subtle Stereotyping. When the media do include gay and lesbian voices and perspectives, there are techniques and words often used that end up reinforcing the dominance of the heterosexual perspective and the outside status of the gay and lesbian viewpoint. So, for example, calling a gay person an "avowed homosexual" or non-gay people as the "general population" perpetuates the "otherness" of the gay person without using traditionally negative stereotypes. Continually referring to a "gay lifestyle" rather than acknowledging that we have "lives," the media create a false and simplified image. While these phrases are not overtly homophobic, note that certain assumptions are clearly indicated by them. GLAAD has been instrumental in the past five years in getting the media to use suggested phrases and language when describing lesbians and gay men that don't perpetuate the more subtle messages of stigma.

In addition to language, other forms of heterosexual dominance can be seen in the ways gays and lesbians are depicted, even positively. The images are almost exclusively white, middle or upper class, and male. The 1982 film, "Making Love," "Longtime Companion," TV movies such as "An Early Frost," "Doing Time on Maple Drive," and "The Lost Language of Cranes" are all examples of the perpetuation of "acceptable" images and the exclusion of gay (and especially, lesbian) characters of other races and social classes. Many gay and lesbian characters also appear in sitcoms usually separate from other relationships, thereby reinforcing some stereotypes about gay people being alone or separate from the ways others lead lives embedded in networks of family and friends.

Gay couples are shown less frequently, and rarely is physical affection displayed. Usually gay or lesbian characters appear when the topic is a gay one; scarce are the times they are just

Please see Five Years Later on Page 20

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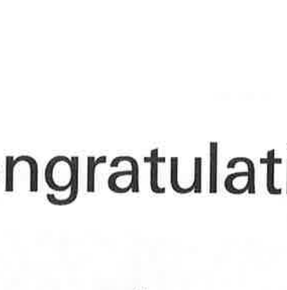
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GLAAD/Denver
(303) 331-2773; FAX (303) 494-7216

GLAAD/Kansas City
(816) 374-5927; FAX (816) 756-1760

GLAAD/Los Angeles
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Five Years Later

by Peter M. Nardi, PhD

Continued from Page 15.

part of the on-going cast of characters. Sexuality, political issues of oppression and marginalization, and other complexities of gay and lesbian lives are virtually eliminated or severely trivialized. While we have gained during the past five years in being more visible in TV shows, it has been primarily from a heterosexual perspective of acceptable, one-dimensional main-stream images.

(3) Invisibility and Omission. In 1990, the largest amateur, non-Olympic sports games event in the world (larger than either the Commonwealth Games or the Goodwill Games) went unreported by most major newspapers and almost all television and radio sports shows. The Gay Games in Vancouver were ignored as not of interest to local sports fans, even in cities which sent large delegations, like Los Angeles and New York. Unless it is a special, exotic topic on one of the talk shows ("Women married to gay men" or "Lesbians who left their husbands"), or the result of some national crisis (such as President Clinton's call for lifting the military ban against homosexuals), gays and lesbians are rarely part of the ongoing depiction of urban life usually portrayed in most movies, TV shows, or newspaper articles. How the Gay Games in New York will be covered in 1994 should indicate how far we have come during the past several years.

Numerous examples of invisibility abound, as documented in the monthly *GLAAD/LA Reports*. Articles about women in combat and in the military rarely discuss lesbians; a newspaper's travel section reports on tourism in Key West and ignores the large gay business trade; an article about teenage suicide overlooks the high rate among gay teenagers; and a profile of growing old in America fails to describe elderly lesbians or gay men. Unless it's a gay topic, we are left out of the everyday issues of real life.

With few exceptions, there are no continuing gay or lesbian characters on American prime-time TV shows. ABC-TV's "Roseanne" and FOX-TV's "Melrose Place" were the only shows with regular lesbian or gay characters in the 1992-1993 season. While appearances of gay characters have occurred on such shows as "Northern Exposure,"

"Law and Order," "Quantum Leap," "Murphy Brown," "Designing Women," "Coach" and "Seinfeld," they either have appeared only once or irregularly, thereby emphasizing their invisibility throughout the rest of the series' shows.

News shows don't fare any much better. Too often news and other public affairs radio and TV shows present a view of the world that underrepresents the disenfranchised and powerless. Even when the issue is of concern to the marginalized group, representatives from that group do not often appear as the spokespeople. A study released Aug. 23, 1993 by Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR), confirms that in the period studied (first six months of 1992), no gay or lesbian was interviewed on any public affairs programs of 15 public-TV stations.

(4) Accurate and Balanced Portrayals. Although invisibility continues to characterize much of the media images, there has been a relative increase in the representation of gays and lesbians in the past five years and a trend toward more accurate and balanced portrayals. Some of this is due to an increase in the production of media by gays and lesbians, such as the many gay and lesbian film festivals regularly held in many major cities, gay newspapers and magazines which are attracting more mainstream advertisers, and gay public access television. But non-gay media are also increasingly devoting more attention to gay images and doing so with increasing accuracy and balance.

One of the best examples is the lesbian character played by Sandra Bernhard on ABC-TV's "Roseanne."While the first show or two was dedicated to the other characters' reactions to her being lesbian, her involvement in the series makes her sexual orientation an integrated aspect of her portrayal without problematizing it.

With the exception of Jonathan Demme's upcoming "Philadelphia," there has not been any major studio feature film with gay characters or themes as the central focus in the past few years. While a gay character appeared in "Frankie and Johnny" and another in "Prince of Tides," they both were kindly, good supportive neighbors (male, white, and middle class, of course) of the lead female character, not too dissimilar to the traditional depictions of the effeminate best friend in the 1930s movies, only more openly acknowledging and stating they are gay. However,several independent films have had gay or lesbian characters in central roles, in particular "The Crying Game," "Claire of the Moon," "My Own Private Idaho," The Wedding Banquet" and "For a Lost Soldier." A few TV movies (primarily thanks to British TV), including the upcoming "Tales of the City," "And the Band Played On," and last year's "The Lost Language of Cranes," have also focused on gay characters (again, white, middle class, men).

Some of the explanation for an increase in balanced and accurate depictions of gays and lesbians in a variety of media can be traced to an increase in openly gay people in positions of power to produce and regulate images. It is also a result of socio-political forces, such as the attention to gay issues generated in the 1992 presidential conventions and election. And, of course, the increasing visibility and power of media watchdog groups like GLAAD over the past five years have contributed to these changes. GLAAD's fight for accuracy and representation in the media, free of discrimination and defamation, needs to con tinue. There is strong evidence that change has occurred, but that the change has only just started.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 10

GLAAD/LA Reference File

GLAAD/LA is continually updating its reference file of clippings and articles so that the actual statements of anyone who is practicing defamation, or voicing support for our human rights, can be easily documented. Can you, or someone you know, start watching and clipping the *Orange County Register, L.A. Weekly, L.A. Reader, La Opinion*, or the *Daily News*? In addition, if you read something in a magazine, periodical, newsletter, etc., that relates to gay and lesbian issues, clip and send it to: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-1763; FAX (213) 463-4923**; or call the hotlines, **English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673** and report it.

GLAAD/LA Wish List

Donations of any of the following items would be greatly appreciated:

- A multi-line phone system and phones
- A laser printer
- A new copying machine
- A telephone answering machine
- A conference table with chairs for ten or more
- Blank video and audio-cassettes
- General office supplies [i.e. copy paper, scissors, staplers, file folders, etc.]
- Office desks

Continued on Page 26

5th Anniversary Feature

GLAAD/LA's Early Years

by Richard Jennings

Continued from Page 13.

bers to Craig Davidson and to make policy decisions that were incorporated into our bylaws the following month. My calendar for December shows multiple GLAAD meetings — the Outreach Committee, the Policy and Bylaws Committee, the Media Watch Committee, the Steering Committee — as well as meetings of other groups, such as ACT UP, AGLA, Connexxus, Gay & Lesbian Latinos Unidos — that we attended to introduce GLAAD and explore issues of common interest. (By January '89, Craig Davidson was in San Francisco advising a group of activists on starting a chapter there, and the GLAAD movement would soon be joined by GLAAD/San Francisco Bay Area and, within a year, six other chapters.)

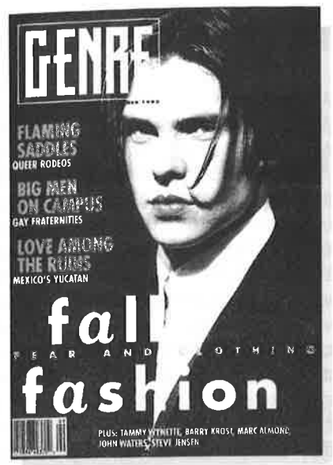
It was at one of those early meetings at Dean Hansell's home that I remember we were joined by several journalists and entertainment executives, including Deborah Bergman of the *Los Angeles Times* and Jehan Agrama, who was soon to play a major role in GLAAD/LA's development as a three-term Co-President. At this particular meeting, I remember we discussed the pros and cons of various tactics for responding to three defamatory editorials in a row by KCBS commentator Bill Stout. The station was refusing to meet with representatives of GLAAD to discuss the issue, and we were considering further action. The sophisticated level of discussion that night about the relative effectiveness of various tactics, including weighing the needs and concerns of journalists and media organizations, set the tone for the high level of brainstorming and tactical thinking that GLAAD/LA has tried to pursue ever since. I personally consider that my education as a media activist began that night with the insights and suggestions shared by many full-time media professionals.

It took another full year before we started getting meetings with news media outlets and began to be taken seriously by the media and other civil rights organizations. The milestone that finally helped bring us national visibility was Andy Rooney's temporary suspension from "60 Minutes" for homophobic and racist remarks on and off camera. That story, and GLAAD's involvement in publicizing his comments and in meeting with CBS producers, led to a front-page View section article in the *Los Angeles Times* that really helped establish GLAAD's name in Los Angeles.

Our next major milestone came in '91 with our first meetings with studio representatives, thanks to then-Councilman Michael Woo, who called to offer his support after seeing our full-page ads in the entertainment trades attacking film and television portrayals. It would then be another year before Barry Diller called to ask GLAAD to lend its expertise and resources to an industry-financed effort to educate the industry on AIDS and gay and lesbian issues. This Hollywood Supports project, of which I have been executive director for the past twenty months, has worked closely with GLAAD in designing programs for the industry and in promoting gay and lesbian employee groups and domestic partner benefits. Five years ago this close involvement and partnership with major entertainment companies was beyond our wildest dreams, but it has become a reality thanks to the thoughtful and effective work of GLAAD's many volunteers.

What amazes me in retrospect is how quickly this ambitious effort took off after those initial meetings. Clearly, GLAAD was an idea whose time had come, in that a lot of people were beginning to see the media as not only a major source of stereotype-reinforcing images of gays and lesbians but also as a major potential ally in disseminating more accurate and enlightening portrayals of our lives. What we couldn't know back then was how crucial it would be, five years later, for our community to have an institution like GLAAD to counter the organized attacks and disinformation of well-financed, religious right wing forces who have declared war on the movement for gay and lesbian equal rights.

"...a Gay version of Esquire or GQ." USA Today

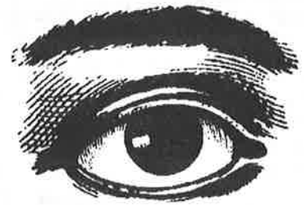


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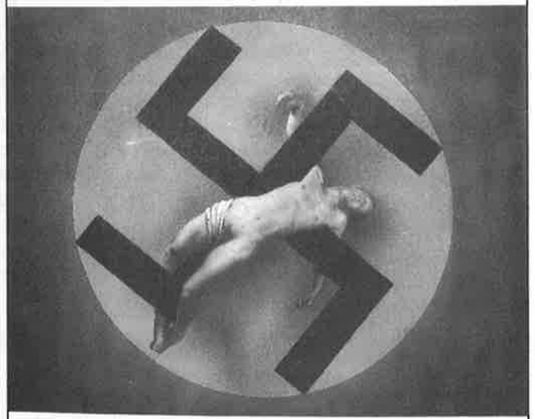
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Radio and Print

Redbook ...

Powerful Stuff

The September issue of *Redbook* magazine had two terrific articles: "Are You a Moral Wimp?" and "The Secret Life of Bisexual Husbands."

Author Judith Vorst reminds people that "Not speaking up may be easy and safe, but there's a price to pay for your silence." Vorst quotes a gay man who explains, "Whenever you don't speak out against a gay-bashing crack, you ally yourself with those guys who literally bash us." Vorst writes, "If we keep failing to do the right thing - because it's hard, inconvenient or possibly risky - we chip away at our moral code, corrode our self respect (and) become smaller people." Excellent article. Vorst and *Redbook* should be applauded for speaking out against racism and homophobia.

The companion piece, "The Secret Life of Bisexual Husbands," is an illuminating, non-judgemental look at bisexual men. Often the wife is the last to know about her husband; "they love their wives and their male lovers." Author Esther Davidowitz says that research indicates that 2/3 of bisexual men - from an estimated total of six million - are married men.

William Weden, Ph.D, a pyschologist and director of the Bisexual Information and Counseling Service in New York City, believes that one in every six males is bisexual. "It may be one of the best kept secrets in America," according to Davidowitz. Dr. Weden stated, "Men are a lot more homophobic than women are...women tend to react to the fact that their partner has been unfaithful rather than to the fact that their partner has been having sex with a man." To encourage more articles that are intelligent, well-researched and factual, send your comments to: **Diane Salvatori and Sally Lee, *Redbook*, 224 West 57th Street, New York 10019.**

TV Guide On Target

"Melrose Place," (KTTV-TV, ch. 11, Wed., 9:00 pm) which has had several false starts in its dedication to presenting realistic sexual and racial diversity, received a "Jeer" in the August 7 "Cheers 'n' Jeers" column of *TV Guide*. To its credit *Guide* took "Place" to task for "creating - then blowing - an excellent opportunity. The straight white types, typical of most prime-time ensemble casts, were joined by Rhonda (Vanessa Williams), a black fitness instructor, and Matt (Doug Savant), a gay social worker. Producers reduced them to tokens, though, never exploiting their potential for socially relevant stories." Advanced word on future storylines indicates Matt gaining a love interest in the new season. When and how this is accomplised will be of interest. To encourage *TV Guide* to continue asking about the presentation of the diverse elements in America write: **Mr. Barry Golsun, Editor, *TV Guide*, P.O. Box 900, Radnor, PA 19088; copy to Althea Disney, same address**. To help encourage the producers of "Melrose Place" to depict the fullness of human diversity and then not marginalize its presentation, write: **Ms. Lucie Salhany, President, Fox Broadcasting, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills 90213; and Darren Star, Executive Producer, "Melrose Place," Spelling Enterprises, 5700 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036**.

***GLAAD/LA Reports* Advertising Information**

GLAAD/LA Reports is mailed to members and supporters informing them about local and national media coverage and treatment of lesbian and gay issues. It provides an effective and proven way to reach thousands of concerned, responsible lesbian and gay community members — the friends of GLAAD/LA.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 22

Donors, please call the **GLAAD/LA office at (213) 463-3632.**

GLAAD/LA Reports Advertising Information

Policy

Founded in 1985, it is the mission of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) to counter stereotypes and misinformation about lesbians and gay men, to promote the fullest possible understanding of the breadth and diversity of lesbian and gay lives, and to counter all public expression of bigotry of any kind.

It is the policy of GLAAD/LA to accept for its newsletter all advertising which is not inimical to its mission. GLAAD/LA nonetheless reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any advertising which it deems unacceptable on any grounds.

The acceptance of, and publication by, GLAAD/LA of an advertisement in its newsletter shall not be construed as an endorsement by GLAAD/LA of any such event, product, company, organization, person, service or thing.

Radio and Print

Coming-out in the comics...

"Doonesbury"

After nearly 25 years in the cartoon strip "Doonesbury," campus radical and public radio host Mark Slackmeyer came out of the closet in the pages of America's newspapers. The coming-out storyline is a clever, intelligently handled development for Mark, one of the strip's main characters.

Mark, the messy-haired, mustachioed deejay, was actually one of the 3 original characters created by cartoonist Garry Trudeau in 1970, along with advertising man Michael Doonesbury and football player/agent B.D. The trio were college buddies at Waldon Pond back when the cartoon parodied Trudeau's Yale University experiences during the 1960s.

In the first week of the gay storyline, Mark Slackmeyer falls asleep and receives a dream visit from Andy, one of the strip's character who died from complications of AIDS. After Andy points out that Mark doesn't "have a life," hasn't had a girlfriend in years and has been losing himself in work, Mark plunges headfirst into his coming-out crisis. He visits Doonesbury in the middle of the night and tells him that he's not ready to be a "nearsighted, loudmouthed, middle-aged radical gay dj."

Mike Doonesbury's wife J.J. reminds Mark that she has many gay friends who are happy, which opens the door to more gay characters in the cartoon strip in the future.

Encourage Mr. Trudeau to add J.J.'s friends to the cast and explore Mark's coming-out process further. Comments to: **Gary Trudeau, "Doonesbury," Universal Press Syndicate, 4900 Main Street, Kansas City, MO 64112.**

Remembering Schindler

The tragedy of Allen Schindler, the Navy sailor who was brutally beaten to death by two shipmates because he is gay, may have ended after his killer received a guilty verdict, but a year after the vicious killing, the September 12 *New York Times Sunday Magazine* offered a 5-page profile of Schindler's mother Dorothy Hadjys, the Salvation Army bookkeeper who battled the Navy to find out the truth about her son's murder. Author Jesse Green chronicled Hadjys' journey as she educated herself on her son's homosexuality, befriended gay activists and made a passionate plea at the March on Washington in late April.

The tale is chilling, detailing a beating that a coroner described as worse than a high speed car or plane crash and a mother who did not come to terms with her son's homosexuality until it was too late. Yet the tale is also inspiring. Hadjys took on the military and told her son's story to journalists, civil rights marchers, even the Illinois legislature as it considered a gay rights bill. "If there's a place in the Guinness book for the woman kissed most by gay men, I'm it," she says. Comments to: **Mr. Max Frankel, Editor, *New York Times*, 229 W. 43rd Street, New York 10036.**

Advertising

Out Advertisers

In response to GLAAD/LA's advertising watch, *Out* magazine, a magazine for the gay and lesbian community, has sent GLAAD a list of its clients who have "recognized that the Gay and Lesbian market is strong and buying products of all kinds."

The list is as follows: Apple Computer, Anne Winkler, 20525 Mariani, Cupertino, CA 95074; Asahi Beer, Robert Kapeller, 707 Wilshire Blvd., #4350, Los Angeles 90017; Italian Country, Alice Romano, 8784 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles 90048; L.A. Eyeworks, Ruth Handle, 7407 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles 90046; NANA Clothing, John Curry, 1228 3rd Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401; New Line Home Video, Patti Bodner, 116 N. Robertson Blvd, Los Angeles 90048. Comments to: **Kelly Daugherty, *Out* Magazine, 8205 Santa Monica Blvd., #1-183, West Hollywood, CA 90046.**

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GLAAD News

Hollywood Supports Update

The first training for facilitators to deliver the new GLAAD/Hollywood Supports "Sexual Orientation in the Workplace" seminars for the entertainment industry will be Oct. 2 & 3. After that we plan to help GLAAD market the seminar aggressively to industry workplaces. Employee support groups at Disney and NBC, and human resources and diversity personnel at MCA, Sony and Fox participated in a series of focus groups on Aug. 20 to help us with issues and approaches that should be included in the training.

Hollywood Supports has now delivered over 400 "AIDS in the Workplace" seminars to entertainment workplaces nationwide, including over 100 sessions this month in New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

There are now four companies in the industry that have adopted the Hollywood Supports model documents for extending health coverge to employees' same-sex partners: MCA, INC.; Viacom, Inc.; Home Box Office; and Warner Bros. We are hopeful that by the time you read this our first industry union health plan, the Writers Guild-Industry Health Fund, will also have adopted the coverage for members of the Writers Guild.

We are looking forward to "Out and Equal in the '90's," the Third Annual Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Workplace Issues Conference at Stanford University on Oct. 16 & 17. We expect to have a sizable industry contingent there this year, and Hollywood Supports is participating in several of the workshops. For more information on this conference, the seminars or domestic partnership benefits, contact **Hollywood Supports at (213) 962-3118**.

Media Awards Nominations

It's time again to start preparing for the 1994 GLAAD/LA Media Awards. Next year's gala awards event will take place on Saturday, March 19 at the Century Plaza Hotel in Century City. Nominations are now open and GLAAD/LA is accepting names of possible award nominees from the following areas: Television and Radio Programming and News; the Recording Industry; the Print Media; Film and Advertising. The primary criteria for submissions in news is that the work includes fair and comprehensive coverage of lesbians, bisexuals and gay men. For the entertainment media, the primary criteria is that the work portray gay, lesbian and bisexual characters as complete human beings rather than one dimensional stereotypes.

To qualify, the material must have been first published, broadcast or released in the United States between January 1, 1993 and December 31, 1993. To submit your nominee, simply write legibly or type the name, topic, storyline or title, date and other pertinent information and include a **brief** blurb on why you feel an award is deserved. Please include your name and phone number in case there are any questions and send to: **Media Awards Nominating Committee, GLAAD/LA, 7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 304, Hollywood, 90028**. Questions can be directed to: **GLAAD/LA Office at (213) 463-3632**.

UCLA Extension...

"The Lavender Ceiling"

"Sexual Orientation in the Workplace: The Lavender Ceiling" is the subject for one of the fall quarter meetings sponsored by a new UCLA Extension "breakfast briefing" program. Scheduled for October 13, from 7:30 to 10:30 am, at the UCLA Extension's facilities in the World Trade Center, 350 S. Figueroa Street, Downtown Los Angeles, will feature, among others, GLAAD/LA Founder and Board Member Carol Anderson. For details on cost and other information call: **UCLA Extension (310) 825-2012**.

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Executive Director's Column

by Lee Werbel

This is a special issue of *GLAAD/LA Reports*. GLAAD/LA marks its 5th Anniversary this month. Five years filled with victories and also defeats. In this issue, Richard Jennings, founder, former Co-President and former Executive Director of GLAAD/LA, reflects on GLAAD/LA's early years; Peter M. Nardi, PhD., former Co-President, writes about lesbian and gay images in the media — then and now; and former GLAAD/LA Co-President Jehan Agrama outlines GLAAD/LA's landmark events.



Executive Director Lee Werbel

If you are reading this publication, and are not yet a member, this is the month to join. The first 100 new members to join GLAAD/LA during October will receive the GLAAD/LA t-shirt.

GLAAD/LA is the only lesbian and gay community organization dedicated solely to sensitizing the media. In addition to lobbying for more openly gay and lesbian characters in television and film, GLAAD also works towards more appropriate inclusion of gay and lesbian issues in all aspects of the media. This work is accomplished through big activations, small activations, taking a meeting with a news director, and all type of contributions including letters written.

Currently, GLAAD/LA, in partnership with Hollywood Supports, is preparing the first ever "Sexual Orientation in the Workplace" seminars designed especially for the entertainment industry. The seminars and related written materials dealing with the workplace needs of lesbians and gay men will be available for delivery by mid-fall. The seminar is being designed to work either as a stand-alone session or as a component of an overall workplace diversity program.

We invite you to participate in making the next five years as significant as the first five years in combating homophobia in the media.

GLAAD News

"Breaking the Censorship Cycle"...

Project 21

In our nation's public classrooms information about sexual orientation has long been censored. Children are deprived of accurate information regarding the historial and contemporary contributions of lesbian, gay and bisexual people. To break that cycle, Project 21 - an educational equity campaign based in GLAAD's San Francisco Bay Area Chapter (SFBA) - is proud to announce a new poster that may be hung in classrooms and living rooms across our country.

Created by Project 21's Mid-American Coordinator, Rob Birle, this elegant, full-color poster includes images and events covering the last 2,600 years. See the full page ad in this issue of *GLAAD/LA Reports* for detailed information. Comments to: **GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro Street, Suite B, San Francisco 94114**.

Great chance for volunteers...

1994 Media Awards

The first volunteer orientation and planning meeting for the Media Awards '94 took place at GLAAD/LA's August general meeting on August 24. A myriad of involvement opportunities were announced and explained. If you like to schmooze, there's the Celebrity Committee and the various sales committes - corporate, community, program book and table sponsor. If you are a collector, consider joining the Silent Auction Committee. For writers and creative people, there's the program book and show production committees.

Also announced during the meeting was the GLAAD/LA mentoring plan, which is called the Understudy Program. Basically a two-year commitment; in the first year a volunteer would understudy an experienced committee chair, and the following year chair the committee itself.

For more information contact: **Carmichael Smith-Low or Will Halm, co-chairs, Media Awards, (213) 463-3632**.

5th Anniversary Feature

Landmarks and Successes

by Jehan Agrama

Continued from Page 14.

results.

1993 - GLAAD/LA hosts Fourth Annual Media Awards with over 900 in attendance...GLAAD/LA works with the local and national coalition to lift the military ban against lesbians and gay men; we are main distributor of "To Support and Defend," a video featuring lesbian and gay members of the Armed Forces; we produced "Willing To Fight" poster as part of the overall capaign...GLAAD/LA, in partnership with Hollywood Supports, initiates Sexual Orientation in the Workplace Seminars created for the Entertainment Industry...GLAAD/LA joins in coordinating "Day of Compassion," daytime television's day of dealing with people with HIV and A.I.D.S...GLAAD/LA works in coalition with MANAA (Media Action Network for Asian Americans) to protest racism of film "Rising Sun."

Handy Media Guide

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Deadline for November *GLAAD/LA Reports*

October 5, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

October 6, Wednesday
Community Outreach (Speakers) 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

October 12, Tuesday
GLAAD/LA Board Meeting, 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

October 14, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee, 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

October 19, Tuesday
Media Outreach, 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

October 26, Tuesday
General Meeting, 7:00pm
6000 W. Pico Blvd.

October 28, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

November Dates:

November 1, Monday
Deadline for December *GLAAD/LA Reports*

November 2, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

November 3, Wednesday
Community Outreach (Speakers) 7:30pm
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Michael Eisner, CEO, 500 S. Buena Vista, Burbank, CA 91521

Warner Bros Pictures (818) 954-6000
Mr. Terry Semel, President, 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, CA 91522

WHEN THE LOCAL NEWS IS BREAKING USE THESE DIRECT PHONE LINES TO RESPOND

CNN (213) 993-5000

KABC-TV "Eyewitness News," Roger Bell, News Director (213) 668-2800

KCAL-TV Bob Henry, News Director (213) 960-3899

KCBS-TV Michael Horowicz, Exec. Prod. "Action News," (213) 460-3000

KCOP-TV Jeff Wald, News Director - (213) 851-1000 Ext. 223

KNBC-TV Mark Hoffman, News Director (818) 840-3425

KTLA-TV Warren Cereghino, News Director (213) 460-5501

KTTV-TV Jose Rios, News Director (213) 856-1236

KFWB News 98 Radio (213) 462-5392 FAX (213) 871-4670

KNX-AM Newsradio (213) 460-3343 FAX (213) 460-3275

INDUSTRY PUBLICATIONS

Daily Variety, (213) 857-6600
Michael Silverman, Publisher 5700 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036

The Hollywood Reporter (213) 525-2000
Robert J. Dowling, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief, 5055 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036

GLAAD/LA
P.O.Box 931763
Hollywood, CA 90093–1763

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THE 3RD ANNUAL GLAAD COMEDY NIGHT

Silent Auction & Cast Party
Saturday, November 20, 1993 at 8:00pm

SAVE THE DATE!

GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION/LOS ANGELES

Celebrating It's 5th Anniversary Presents



THE 3RD ANNUAL GLAAD COMEDY NIGHT

Silent Auction & Cast Party

Saturday, November 20, 1993 at 8:00pm

Doors open at 7:00pm with no host bar available

Harmony Gold Auditorium at 7655 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood

Suzy Berger, Scott Capurro, Jackie Guerra, Brian Judd, Vanessa Kaufman, Karen Kilgariff, Lynda Montgomery, Scott Silverman and Host

Les Stevens

Tickets - **$25.00** (Members), Tickets - **$30.00** (Non - Members)

We look foward to seeing you for this laughter filled evening of fun!

And thank you for supporting GLAAD/LA!

I would like to purchase_____ticket(s) at_____each. Total enclosed. $_____.

I'm DEVASTATED that I cannot attend this benefit, but enclosed is my donation of $_____, so someone else can go.

Name_____Telephone (_____)_____

Address_____City_____Zip Code_____

Please mail this tear-off with your check to: GLAAD/LA Comedy Night III & Cast Party, 7033 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90028.
If you would like further information, please call 213 463-3632.

NEWS BRIEFS

General Meeting: November 23

"Gays & Lesbians in the Fall TV Season: Who Has Us, Who Doesn't?" Join GLAAD/LA for the November General Meeting as our panel looks at the presence (or absence) of lesbians and gay men on the small screen. Has there been improvement in the quantitative and/or the qualitative presence since last season? Panelists will include Amanda Bearse, actress on "Married with Children" and currently on the cover of *The Advocate*; Mary Buck, casting agent; David Ehrenstein, film critic and formerly with *The Advocate*; Richard Gollance, panel moderator and currently Executive Story Consultant for "Beverly Hills, 90210;" and Rick Lead, President Wind Dancer Productions and producer of "Home Improvement." Come share your views with the panel. The meeting on the 23rd starts at 7:00 pm and will be held at **Temple Beth Chayim Chadashim, 6000 W. Pico Blvd.** (just east of Crescent Heights). Guests are welcomed; refreshments.

Speakers Bureau Training

GLAAD/LA will be conducting Speakers Bureau Training during November and/or December. Those interested in receiving training to

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Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles

GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 5 No. 11 November 1993

"Aren't enough of them..."

Opening the Daytime Closet

In the August 3 issue of *Soap Opera Weekly*, Joanne Douglas Lampe investigates homophobia in the soap opera industry. "The Daytime Closet" encourages readers to write in with opinions about 1) whether or not you could still enjoy the "fantasy" of a love scene or heterosexual relationship if you knew the actor or actress was homosexual; 2) would you be interested in a storyline involving a gay or lesbian relationship? The article came on the heels of "Day of Compassion," where daytime TV focused on the need for a compassionate response to people with HIV and AIDS.

On another note, Michael Laibson, executive producer of "Another World" speculated, "I tend to think there aren't enough of them (homosexuals) watching soaps to make it worthwhile for the shows to do gay stories." Kay Alden, co-head writer for "The Young and the Restless," feared a loss of ratings with a homosexual storyline. She said that in the late seventies "Y&R" was the first soap to hint at a lesbian relationship, and viewers "turned off the soap in droves." Alden continued, "If gay issues are dealt with in daytime, the storylines will probably be geared toward trying to teach the audience acceptance and understanding..."

The Sept. 28 issue included coverage of the vicious attack on soap hunk Keith Pruitt ("Former Daytime Actor Victim of Bias Crime"). The article included quotes from activists who criticized judicial homophobia, police indifference and the largely untold story of anti-gay/lesbian hate violence.

Your note of thanks and encouragement could only be helpful. Send to: **Mimi Torchin, Editor-in-Chief, *Soap Opera Weekly*, 41 W. 25 Street, New York 10010.**

Volunteers Needed for Comedy Night III

Here's your chance to join in the fun on Nov. 20 and help make GLAAD/LA's "Comedy Night/Cast Party III" fundraiser a smash success. This gala Sat. evening show will be held in the Harmony Gold Auditorium on Sunset Blvd. in Hollywood, and volunteers are needed to help with the Silent Auction, displays and ticket and refreshment sales. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Call now to : (310) 652-3963 and ask for Kym. For complete details on this exciting event see the full page announcement on opposite page.

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 3

represent GLAAD at various organization, club and professional meetings may call the GLAAD/LA office (213) 463-3632.

"Out There" - December 3

Mark your calendars for December 3 and tune into Comedy Central's "Out There" - a full hour gay and lesbian comedy and variety special hosted by Lea DeLaria. Scheduled to perform are Marga Gomez, Phranc, Suzanne Westenhoefer, Steven Moore, David Drake and Scott Capurro.

Letter to the Editor

Editor,
GLAAD/LA Reports

Dear Editor:

A letter printed in your last newsletter (October, '93) referred to a "Reclaim The Center" group working to erase racism at the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center. While we applaud the efforts of anyone working to eradicate racism in our community and elsewhere, we felt it was important to let your readers know that we have never been contacted by a "Reclaim The Center" group to discuss any concerns about our work.

As the largest gay and lesbian organization in the county serving 70,000 members of our community each year — primari-

Continued on Page 5

Co-President's Column

by Stephanie Farrington-Domingue

How often is it in our daily lives that we get the opportunity to make a genuine difference in the way things happen or are perceived? Or should I ask: How many times do we act on the opportunity when it knocks?

When we as individuals consider orchestrating the elements that could lead to making differences in legislation or public perception, we often find ourselves overwhelmed. But, when we reflect on the mounting pressure of the religious right in their efforts to snuff out our very existence, or the recent disappointment surrounding the struggle to lift the military ban, or the fact that some people feel that you would be an inappropriate parent and therefore should not have that privilege, you can see that we must rise to the occasion. And, that's where organizations like GLAAD bridge the gap between the individual and the cause. Our efforts are tireless in making sure that you have a voice, that we have a presence and that our issues are dealt with fairly. To quote George Bernard Shaw:



Stephanie Farrington-Domingue

This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.

I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no brief candle to me, it is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.
(From "Man and Superman," dedicatory letter.)

I'm sure many of you have been reading this newsletter for years, content to know that "the work is going on," but WE CAN NO LONGER GO ON WITHOUT YOU! And so we offer you this opportunity to make a difference from right where you are:

You are cordially invited to participate in the changing of the public's perception as it relates to lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgenders.
You may accept this invitation by making a tax deductible donation to GLAAD/LA to underwrite the vital work that they do on behalf of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgenders everywhere.

Please send your checks to:
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Hollywood, CA 90093-1763
We just can't do it without you.

Film and Television

On KCET-TV...

"High School Stories" & "In the Mix"

Kudos to KCET-TV for two programs that included segments on gay and lesbian teens. "High School Stories: One Day in America's Schools" aired on September 7 and highlighted the Harvey Milk School (HMS) in New York City. HMS was created to provide a safe learning environment for gay and lesbian teens. Two teens attending the school gave their perspectives on how homophobia and heterosexism affects gays and lesbians at a young age. They explained how HMS was a way to escape high school gay bashing.

On September 19 "In the Mix" ran a segment on gay and lesbian teens, addressing stereotypes as well as realities. The program mixed the stories of exceptional teens with music videos. Emma told her story of how she had low self-esteem before coming out and how being out made her more confident and happy. The segment also allowed gay and lesbian teens to send a message to other g/l teens telling them that they can be proud of who they are and that they're not alone. Another message was sent to straight teens, "We're your friends and we want respect and not tolerance."

Reducing isolation is important for anybody confused about their sexuality or scared and in the closet. These programs were definitely a step in the right direction. Write KCET and encourage them to present additional programs of this caliber. Comments to: **William Kobin, President, KCET-TV, 4401 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood 90027; "High School Stories: One Day in America's Schools," Wisconsin Public Television, 3319 W. Beltline Highway, Madison, WI 53713; "In the Mix," WNYC-TV, 1 Center Street, New York 10017.**

"Hard Target"

Jean Claude Van Damme continues his homophobic ways in Universal's John Woo directed "Hard Target." Van Damme, still trying to live down his very first film role as a gay hustler, plays a drifter in "Hard," where his attempts at being Mr. Tough Guy consist of insulting and threatening bad guys by saying, "Why don't you and your boyfriend get out of here."

In a cover story in *Details* magazine featuring Van Damme, writer Erik Hedegaard speculates that Van Damme's butt shots in the movie are for his female and gay fans. Hedegaard seems to believe that there are many gay males with internalized homophobia, as he states "Van Damme has a large gay following." Is he saying that gay men care nothing about homophobia and homo hating content in films as long as it includes a nice butt? Send your comments to: **Rob Tapert, Producer & Director, "Hard Target," 100 Universal City, Bungalow 415A, Universal City, CA 91608; Erik Hedegaard, *Details*, 632 Broadway, New York 10012; Jean Claude Van Damme, c/o Kevin Campbell, PMK, 955 S. Carillo Drive, #200, Los Angeles 90048.**

Fear and hate at school...

Hostile Hallways is the name for the nationwide survey on sexual harassment in America's schools conducted by the American Association of University Women (AAUW). The survey documents that the form of harassment children and teens fear most is being called faggot, sissy or other anti-gay epiteths. A copy of *Hostile Hallways* may be obtained by writing: **AAUW, Survey on Sexual Harassment in America's Schools, P.O. Box 251, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701-0251; (800) 255-9998.**

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 4

ly low income lesbians and gay men — we expect to get regular constructive comments on how we can provide the best possible services. We welcome the opportunity to work with any groups to eliminate all forms of oppression in our community.

Sincerely,
Lorri L. Jean
Executive Director
The Center

Letter Writing; Send GLAAD/LA a Copy

The need for continual gay and lesbian reaction to the events that are shaping our lives and our future is important. One of the most effective tools we can use is letter writing. When you write a letter, please send a copy of your correspondence, and any reply, to us for our files. Send to: GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-7033.

Handy Media Guide Additions/Changes

Two new Handy Media Guide listings will be found starting this month (see inside back cover). They are: The *Hollywood Reporter*, Robert J. Dowling, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief, 5055 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036, (213) 525-2000; and *Daily Variety*, Michael Silverman, Publisher,

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5700 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036, (213) 857-6600.

Change in management has taken place at KMEX-TV where Agustin Martinez has replaced Michael Martinez as General Manager; KVEA-TV picked Jose Ronstadt to replace Agustin Martinez and at the *Long Beach Press* Telegram Jim Cratchfield has replaced Andy Alderette as Editor-in-Chief. KMEX-TV's address and phone is now: **KMEX-TV 6701 Center Drive West, 15th Floor, Los Angeles 90045; (310) 216-3434.**

Women's Media

The National Council for Research on Women has published the 16th edition of A Directory of Women's Media. For a copy contact the Council at: **NCRW, 530 Broadway, 10th floor, New York 10012; (212) 274-0730; FAX (212) 274-0821.**

How to Break into the Movies

Home Girl Productions, a group of women filmmakers, is compiling scenes from both amateur and professional filmmakers depicting the daily lives of lesbians. A feature length film will be made to show "women in their real life..." Submissions are being solicited and must include a SASE in order to be returned. Contact: **Home Girl**

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Custody Coverage

The Sharon Bottoms child custody case created a spate of TV talk shows on lesbian moms and gay dads as well as intensive press coverage. In denying Ms. Bottoms custody of her son on the sole grounds that she is a lesbian, Judge Buford Parsons of Virginia's Henrico County Circuit Court demonstrated his ignorance about gays and lesbians as he moved away from rational jurisprudence and acted upon his own homophobia.

Three TV shows were especially memorable: "Geraldo" (KCBS-TV, 4:00 pm, weekdays) on September 29, "Sally Jesse Raphael" (KNBC-TV, 3:00 pm, weekdays) on October 1, and "Home Show" (KABC-TV, 10:00 am, weekdays) on September 15.

"Geraldo" presented "Lesbian Moms" and it was an unmitigated disaster. As invited guests, Geraldo had Paul Cameron, a professional homophobe who has been disbarred from the American Psychological Association, the prosecuters in the Bottoms case, Richard Ryder and Paul Morrisey of the Morality Action Committee, pitted against a panel of lesbian mothers. This show was proof that Geraldo only wants "ratings" based on polarization and stupidity. "Sally," on the other hand, had Sharon Bottoms' mother and Richard Ryder, but handled it with such class and dignity that a homophobic panel member walked off the show in a huff. Also checking in with a positive presentation was Woody Fraser on "Home Show" where he interviewed two lesbian couples - one in Virginia (seen only in shadows) and the other in Los Angeles (Dyan Ullman and Terri Levine with their daughter Hannah), seen in full light with an attendant Gloria Allred and a heterosexual son (David Abbitt) of a lesbian mother. David was quite eloquent when asked if he could handle the discrimination from his peers because of his lesbian mother. Said David, "All children suffer ridicule in one form or the other...I don't think I suffered anymore than any child in the classroom." It was a very positive presentation. Your comments may be sent to: **"Sally Jesse Raphael," 267 Broadway, New York 10007.** Send your comments along with suggestions that Geraldo include guests such as the openly gay Reverend Mel White, former ghost writer for Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson and Billy Graham, on his show to: **"Geraldo," Mr. Marty Berman, Executive Producer, 524 W. 57th Street, New York 10019.** And to: **Woody Fraser, "Home Show," 1845 Empire Avenue, Burbank, CA 91504.**

Most of the press coverage of the Richmond custody case included inaccurate assertions by homophobes. Despite the fact that no evidence exists to link sexual orientation to parental fitness, statements to that effect were reported as matters of legitimate opinion. Almost without exception, reporters failed to ask homophobic bigots to defend their statements. An article on the lesbian custody case was written by Associated Press (AP) reporter Larry O'Dell. To his credit, O'Dell quotes University of Virginia psychology professor Charlotte Patterson who has studied the children of lesbian parents. "The basic finding was that children of lesbian parents are developing much like children of heterosexual parents," Patterson said. Unfortunately, O'Dell placed this quote at the end of his story, increasing the likelihood that this vital information would be cut in many newspapers around the country.

Send your comments to: **Bill Schiffman, News Editor, Associated Press, P. 0. Box 7247, San Francisco, CA 94120.**

Barbie's Boyfriend Gay?

Mattel's new Ken doll, Earring Magic Ken, is causing quite a storm. Is he gay? Is he out? Or is he just a 'cool dude?' Ken is wearing a cock ring around his neck. Mattel claims it is a necklace to hold charms he shares with Barbie. The rest of his attire and look also provides further clues. His outfit may remind many of International Male some three years ago: purple leather vest, purple mesh shirt, black jeans, black loafers, earring, and two-tone blond hair.

Our gay culture has again been co-opted or appropriated by the straight culture. Now it is hip and chic to be gay. We have gay comics on national television, lesbians on the cover of *Newsweek*, gays and lesbians meeting in the White House with the President, and day-long coverage of the March on Washington on C-SPAN.

Or, is there a closeted, or not-closeted, lesbian or gay designer working at Mattel?

What do you think? Visit your nearest Toys R Us and check Ken out.

Gay Activation on Melrose?

Guess who came to dinner? An endangered species; one of only two or three left in the nation. Matt Fielding (Doug Savant), the almost invisible gay habitant of Fox's "Melrose Place" (KTTV-TV, Wed., 9:00 pm) has surfaced. Receiving questions from almost all quarters, the producers of "Melrose" have been trying to explain the lack of storylines dealing with Matt and black fitness instructor Rhonda (Vanessa Williams), two components of this "realistic" '90s apartment complex. (She has now left the series entirely.) Part of the explanation surfaced on the October 6 show where Matt is asked over for dinner by a co-worker, and it is established that he is still gay and still breathing - something easy to miss during the show's past season.

Contact Darren Star, the Executive Producer of "Melrose" (recipient of a 1993 GLAAD/LA Media Award), and encourage him to allow Matt to be portrayed as a real, complete and honest gay man. And, horror of horrors, this could mean he should have a boy friend. Comments to: **Darren Star, Executive Producer, "Melrose Place," Spelling Enterprises, 5700 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036; Ms. Lucie Salhany, President, Fox Broadcasting, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213.**

Real World II

MTV's hip documentary series Real World II tracks the lives of several young adults living together in Los Angeles. The format is a combination of cinema verite intercut with talking head commentary. In the September 10 episode, a new roommate, Beth Stolarczyk, arrives on the scene. Wearing an "I'm not gay but my girlfriend is" t-shirt, Beth is definitely an out lesbian. Reactions from others in the household demonstrated their own prejudices and curiousities, providing a clear comparison to the intelligent and upfront Beth. The Oct. 7 episode featured the roomates playing a "get-to-know-you" game where each answered questions about themselves. Beth was eloquent in pointing out that questions to her were about her sexuality only and that was only a part of who she was. This was a very positive presentation. Your comments to MTV about inclusion of gays and lesbians in the "real world" can be directed to: **Office of the President, MTV Networks, Inc., 1515 Broadway, New York 10036.**

And more on "Real World II"...

Editor
Los Angeles Times

I was extremely disappointed by Steve Weinstein's decision not to discuss the open lesbianism of Beth Stolarczyk on the MTV series "Real World II" in his article, "A 'Real World' of Difference," September 19. At a time when there are so few openly gay characters on TV, MTV has established some of the "real" in "Real World" by choosing to include us in their show. Mr. Weinstein prefers not to include any mention of Beth's lesbianism, instead stating that "men want to buy her drinks far more often now," further burying her true identity.

Mr. Weinstein's decision to expurgate his article of any mention of gays or lesbians regarding this season or last is offensive...Anythng less than acknowledgement of gays and lesbians on the part of Mr. Weinstein implies bigotry and intolerance and will not go without challenge.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Winston

(Editor's note: Thanks to Ms. Winston for forwarding a copy of her letter to GLAAD/LA.)

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Productions, 6662 N. Robertson Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069; (310) 859-9013.

GLAAD/USA Identity Committee

The GLAAD/USA board of directors is seeking proposals for the development of a comprehensive corporate identity. The project will include the creation of a unifying logo for existing and new GLAAD chapters. Proposals must include proposed costs and previous work examples/references. Proposals due Dec. 6, 1993. For requirements please contact: **Carl Lange, GLAAD/Atlanta, P.O. Box 55111, Atlanta, GA 30308; (404) 876-1398.**

We Need Volunteers:

Archives

Volunteers are needed to enter dates on our computers for our video archives. Please contact the GLAAD/LA office at (213) 463-3632 and leave a message for Sylvia.

GLAAD/LA Reference File

GLAAD/LA is continually updating its reference file of clippings and articles so that the actual statements of anyone who is practicing defamation, or voicing support for our human rights, can

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 7

be easily documented. Can you, or someone you know, start watching and clipping the *Orange County Register, L.A. Weekly, L.A. Reader, La Opinion, or the Daily News*? In addition, if you read something in a magazine, periodical, newsletter, etc., that relates to gay and lesbian issues, clip and send it to: **GLAAD/LA, P.O. Box 931763, Hollywood 90093-1763; FAX (213) 463-4923**; or call the hotlines, **English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673** and report it.

Office Help

GLAAD/LA is seeking sharp, reliable, enthusiastic and motivated individuals to volunteer in our friendly, relaxed and very busy office. There is a vast array of general office duties which provide information relevant to monitoring the media. The work done by GLAAD/LA is only possible because of the volunteer spirit within the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. We encourage you to contact the **GLAAD office at (213) 463-3632** if you have time to volunteer. You will receive genuine satisfaction as a result of your experiences, and will give a significant contribution to the community.

GLAAD/LA Wish List

Donations of any of the following items would be greatly appreciated:

Continued on Page 10

Film and Television

And more on MTV...

"Cowboys"

Hats off and thank you to MTV's "Free Your Mind" series for their positive images of the gay and lesbian community. One particular service annoucement depicts two "macho" gunfighters donning the typical attire (e.g., hats, boots, dusters, etc.) under the hot sun (a la "High Noon") facing off for a draw. With hands poised above their guns, they cautiously approach one another, face to face. Slowly they loosen and drop their holsters. Then they reach out and hold hands. They begin to dance; a little two step of sorts. A moment or two later they separate and walk off into the sunset. An on-screen message then reads, "Would you rather they killed each other?" Very well done, with beautiful production values. And, most importantly, very positive gay representation.

Can Can

Never at a loss to distort, misrepresent and outright lie to raise more money off the images of gays and lesbians, CAN, the Christian Action Network - a heterosexual supremacist group - has been sending "clips of pornographic films" to politicians in Washington, D.C. including President Clinton. A 15 minute video, which CAN misrepresents as having the "stamp of approval" of the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA), is composed of excerpts from films shown at the 1991 Pittsburgh International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. The CAN excerpts depict two men masturbating, a woman masturbating and a man - dressed only in leather boots - handcuffed to another man.

The NEA did not contribute any funds toward the production of these films. NEA did grant $17,500 toward the support of lesbian and gay film festivals in Los Angeles and New York with a small part of that going to Pittsburgh.

CAN should be canned. Contact President Clinton and encourage him to resist and speak-out against such distorted and hateful campaigns. Write: **President Bill Clinton, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20500**. If you would like to have a copy of the CAN video, send your request to: **Christian Action Network, P.O. Box 606, Forest, VA 24551**.

Quotable Quote...

From Jane Alexander upon being sworn in as the new Chair of the NEA, "If I can accomplish anything as chairman, it would be to release the imagination and creative spirit that I feel is alive in all people of all ages in this vast and wonderful county of ours."

Wright Veering Right?

NBC President Robert Wright has named Roger Ailes, media advisor to former Presidents Nixon, Reagan and Bush and the executive producer of "The Rush Limbaugh Show," as the president of CNBC, the cable talk show and business news network. Said Wright, "(Roger Ailes is a) one of a kind in the television business. He represents a unique combination of promoter, entrepreneur and, above all, a highly talented television producer." Ailes will also take charge of "America Talking," a NBC cable channel venture due in 1994.

In the America of the '90s, those appointed to important media positions need to reflect an ability to understand the diversity and breadth of American society. Can Mr. Ailes rise above his previous and present connections to the right wing? Share your concerns with Mr. Wright by writing: **Robert Wright, President, NBC, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 10021; CNBC, 3000 W. Alameda Avenue, Burbank, CA 91523**.



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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 8

A multi-line phone system and phones
A laser printer
A new copying machine
A telephone answering machine
A conference table with chairs for ten or more
Blank video and audio-cassettes
General office supplies, i.e. copy paper, scissors, staplers, file folders, etc.
Office desks

Donors, please call the **GLAAD/LA office at (213) 463-3632**.

Tracking the Ads

The Media Outreach Comittee wants to inform the gay and lesbian community of advertisers who either support programs about our community or contribute to censorship of those programs, and you can help. The next time you watch television, keep a pencil and paper handy. If there is such content, jot down the name of the show and its sponsors. Then, call the information into the GLAAD/LA Hotlines: English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 463-4673.

If you are an advertising industry "insider" who might have access to information about advertisers who have been under boycott or hate-campaign pressure to cease advertising on programs that are lesbian and gay positive, call us. Any information will be treated in confidence.

Radio and Print

Playboy Larry Kramer

Larry Kramer, author, playwright and founder of New York's Gay Men's Health Crisis and ACT UP, is interviewed by David Nimmons in *Playboy Magazine*'s September issue. Blunt as ever, Kramer compares the Reagan and Bush inaction on AIDS to Hitler's acts against the Jews; wonders whether Clinton may be one of our worst Presidents; targets the Center for Disease Control and the National Institutes of Health as wasteful and destructive and criticizes ACT UP for its bureaucracy problems. And he wants more from the gay community, calling it "meek, recalcitrant and useless in the battle against AIDS." When Nimmons says, "We know more about HIV than we have ever (known)," Kramer responds, "Bullshit...If we knew so much we'd have a cure by now." Kramer describes a "Manhattan Project" as the way to an AIDS cure and says that letters to congress, the President and newspapers is our power.

Whether this lengthy interview breaks new ground is questionable, even though the dynamics between Kramer and Nimmons are sometimes contentious. *Playboy* deserves credit for not only printing this interview but for allowing Kramer his full range of self-expression. His description of what it was like finding out he is HIV-positive may be the most meaningful confrontation with the reality of HIV *Playboy* readers have ever had.

To encourage more in-depth coverage of such personalities and issues send your comments to: ***Playboy*, 680 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60611**.

"Chic Love" in *Harpers*

The October issue of *Harper's Bazaar* featured an article by Wendy Wasserstein on "Chic Love." She is concerned about lesbianism being viewed as a passing trend. Says Ms. Wasserstein, "What concerns me is that the media will make lesbian chicness all about bell bottoms and pierced body parts, and not about safeguarding basic rights...the right to love another woman or raise a child with her isn't about making a fashion statement or creating for women an equivalent of the gay male world to which they obviously would never be completely admitted. It seems to me it's all about women being created equal. And that leads to for more profound changes for everyone, men and women." That her comments are well-centered and intelligent gives them universal appeal. Your comments may be directed to: ***Harper's Bazaar*, Elizabeth Tilberis, Editor-in-Chief, Hearst Publishing, 1700 Broadway, New York 10019**.

Readers, Help *Reader's*

According to *Out* magazine, *The Reader's Catalog (RC)* is receiving hate mail and has lost 50 subscribers for including lesbian and gay titles in their book lists. Catalogs such as this are an important source of information for anyone wanting to know about material on topics of special or limited interest. This is especially true for gay men and lesbians who do not have access to a well-stocked bookstore. Support the decision by RC to be inclusive and for standing its ground in the face of homophobic reactions. Write: **Stephanie Smith, *The Reader's Catalog*, 250 W. 57th Street, New York 10017**. The free catalog can be ordered by dialing **(800) 733-BOOK**.

Sheldon on "Gay Rights, Special Rights"

Lou Sheldon's Traditional Values Coalition (TVC) has produced a videotape entitled "Gay Rights, Special Rights," that he is distributing to conservative African-American ministers in an attempt to make a distinction between civil rights and gay and lesbian rights. Sheldon and the TVC have championed mostly reactionary causes, none of which are remotely connected to the defense of civil or human rights. To obtain your copy, write: **Traditional Values Coalition, 100 S. Anaheim Blvd., Suite 350, Anaheim, CA 92805.**

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NLGJA Release Survey Results

Most gay and lesbian broadcast journalists say their newsrooms are comfortable places to work, but many are highly critical of coverage of gay and lesbian issues, a survey released October 1 shows. The survey, by the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA) and the Radio-Television News Directors' Foundation, showed that seventy-two percent of newsroom managers praised their coverage of violence against gays, while only 35 percent of the gay and lesbian journalists agreed. The l/g journalists were also critical of how TV covered the gays-in-the-military issue and the recent March on Washington for gay and lesbian rights.

"The survey is an important part of the work we are doing in the area of newsroom diversity," said Eric Swanson, executive director of the News Directors' Foundation. "Diverse newsrooms not only better reflect the communities they serve, but should add considerably to the depth and quality of the coverage they provide."

Two-thirds of the 179 gay and lesbian journalists who responded say they are "out" in the workplace. The journalists and the managers agreed that sexual orientation does not generally affect career advancement, but 9% of the 228 news managers who responded said whether an on-air employee was gay might make a difference in hiring. Comments to: **Mr. Eric Swanson, Executive Director, Radio/TV News Directors Foundation, 1000 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.**

Podolsky Wins Award

Robin Podolsky, GLAAD/LA Board Member, received an "Outstanding Journalist Award" from the NLGJA for her column in the *LA Weekly* entitled "Polyanna with a Hatchet." Congratulations, Robin!

Opinion Survey on Blacks & Gays

The National Black News Survey (NBNS) is conducting a national survey of the attitudes towards homosexuality within the African-American community, according to *The Los Angeles Sentinel.* While the questions might be relevant, the survey methods are open to question. It has been demonstrated that by inviting any "interested persons" to respond to a survey, the results can be skewed. Questions are: 1) As you understand them, do you support the goals of the homosexual rights movement? 2) Do you think homosexuals should be allowed to adopt children? 3) How many of your friends are homosexual?

Interested persons can participate in the survey by sending their answers to the above questions to: **NBNS, 1221 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Suite 522, Washington, D.C. 20005**, or by calling **(202) 895-5246**.

Update on Billboard...

The GLAAD billboard project, "Another Traditional Family," is still gathering attention. In September the image and the models - Pat, Karen and Zachary Norman - appeared on the "John and Leeza Show" (KNBC-TV, weekdays, 11:00 am) and next year the billboard will be featured in a British documentary on lesbian parents.

The New Yorker: From Journalism to Trash?

(The following article is excerpted from the September 14 "GLAAD Tidings" by Tom Trela of GLAAD/NY)

While most reviews of the film "And the Band Played On" (the HBO production of Randy Shilts' best selling book) have been favorable, few if any have been as offensive as the one by James Wolcott in *The New Yorker.* Wolcott complains that "almost none of the homosexuals we see (in the film) are beefy, butch; they're wan and slender - angels in America. It's something of a rewrite job of history." Wolcott says he knows this to be true because he lived in the West Village during the '70s. He discusses "the weekend mobs of men in leather and chains" and "even then one sensed an orgiastic build toward critical mass." Wolcott continues by stating that William Friedkin's film "Cruising" was a much better statement of the era because, according to Wolcott it "caught the sexual compulsions of the period better...(the film) allowed itself to be drawn into the dark drive of sadomasochism which found its fullest expression in fisting." In one short column, Wolcott implies that 1) if you're gay you can be neither thin nor good; 2) that the real cause of AIDS are all those frightening men in leather; 3) that all gay men who went through the '70s found fisting as the ultimate sexual act; and 4) that we brought AIDS on ourselves.

Your comments can be directed to: **Tina Brown, Editor, *The New Yorker*, 20 W. 43rd Street, New York 10036.**

(Ed. note: To request a copy of the Sept. 14 issue of *GLAAD Tidings*, write to: Carl Matthes, Editor, *GLAAD/LA Reports.* Be sure to include your address and it will be mailed to you.)

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Is Mark's Seduction of Klein Ending?

Calvin Klein underwear super-spokesperson Marky Mark may be stripped of his skivvies. Reportedly the convicted racist and openly sexist Mark, who recently added gay bashing charges to his list of hate crimes, may be replaced by a member of the rock group The Red Hot Chili Peppers. GLAAD/USA, which recently stepped up its national activation to remove Mark as the Calvin Klein spokesperson, is continuing to press for his removal. As Al Kielwasser of GLAAD/SFBA put it, "We want Marky's designer briefs replaced with a pink slip." (A few weeks back, GLAAD's New York chapter and CAAAV, The Committee Against Anti Asian Violence, cancelled plans to produce an anti-violence television spot that would have featured Mark speaking out against hate and violence. That decision was made after the underwear poster boy assaulted a record company executive in Los Angeles. The police report filed by the bashing victim in Los Angeles stated that the altercation began when Mark "started making disparaging remarks about homosexuals." Warner Bros. has confirmed that Mark was in a violent altercation with Maverick Records executive Guy Oseary at a party on July 31. In 1986, Mark attacked a group of African-American elementary school children. In 1988, he served time in jail for assaulting two Vietnamese men.)

By dropping Mark now and telling the nation why, Calvin Klein could send a strong anti-violence message of his own. Racism and homophobia should hardly be "fashionable." At the least, Klein needs to rethink his use of Mark as company representative and underwear spokesmodel. The Public Relations Department for Klein say they will respond to individual written inquiries. Mark's management has had no official response. Write to: **Calvin Klein, 205 West 39th St., 10th Floor, New York 10018; also Public Relations Dept., same address; Marky Mark, c/o Richard Channer, Dick Scott Entertainment, 888 7th Avenue, 29th Floor, New York 10019, fax (212) 581-3596.**

This Won't Clean Your Windows

Following many months of "will they or won't they" (*GLAAD/LA Reports*, May & August '93), S.C. Johnson & Sons, Inc., maker of Johnson Wax, Glade, Windex and other household products, will buckle under to the pressure, scare and hate tactics of Donald Wildmon's American Family Association (AFA) and CLeaR-TV. Says Thomas Conrardy, Johnson spokesperson, "I am happy to report that CLeaR-TV has lifted the national boycott against S.C. Johnson Wax...We are confident that the mutual understanding will strengthen our ability to avoid programs that are not in good taste or inconsistent with our own values."

In the September issue of *Penthouse*, Bill Dedman and Art Harris examined the Reverend Donald Wildmon and his American Family Association. They state that Wildmon isn't successful when corporations ignore or stand up to his intimidation, that he doesn't pick boycott targets fairly, they charge, and he isn't accountable to his donors.

Wildmon's main goal is not to change corporate behavior in funding TV shows but to raise large sums of money. Wildmon has eight family members on the AFA payroll, with his salary being over $100,000 yearly plus housing and car allowances. The AFA raises a reported $6 million annually while in non-compliance with the Better Business Bureau's Philanthropic Advisory Service. In addition, Wildmon has invested donations in 15,000 shares of Phillip Morris and American Home Products Corp., two corporations he criticizes. Reported shifting of tax deductible contributions into lobbying and legal functions may bring IRS scrutiny.

If S.C. Johnson is still receiving its own mail, you may send your comments to: **Samuel C. Johnson, Chair, S.C. Johnson & Sons, Inc., 1525 Howe Street, Racine, WI 53403; carbon copy to: Thomas R. Conrardy, Director, Consumer Resource Center, same address.**

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GLAAD News

D.C. Sodomy Law

The Washington, D.C. Sodomy Law reform went into effect on September 17. The mandatory Congressional 60 day review period for changes to the D.C. criminal code expired allowing the change. A new subsection to the D.C. Sodomy law has been added reading: "No act engaged in only by consenting persons 16 years of age or older shall constitute an offense under this section."

The Criminal Code Right to Privacy Amendment Act of 1993, the official name of the legislation, was unanimously passed by the D.C. Council and signed by the Mayor last May. No opposition emerged on Capitol Hill despite threats by extreme right wing religious leaders. These same leaders did get Congress to remove funding for the D.C. Domestic Partnership program. Both Houses of Congress have to pass a Motion to Disapprove and have it signed by the President to overturn a D.C. Council action.

Prior to passage of this law, sodomy — defined as oral-genital, genital-anal, or anal-oral contact — was a felony punishable by up to $1000 fine and ten years in jail. The law applied equally to heterosexual and homosexual relations. An arrest last November of two men accused of "attempting sodomy," a misdemeanor, was nullified by a jury which refused to find the men guilty of engaging in oral sex.

A reception was held at the District Building on Friday, September 17, to officially celebrate the act going into effect. Word has not been received on how the act was officially celebrated.

Media Awards Nominations

Preparations are already underway for the 1994 GLAAD/LA Media Awards. Next year's gala awards' event will take place on Saturday, March 19 at the Century Plaza Hotel in Century City. Nominations are now open and GLAAD/LA is accepting names of possible award nominees from the following areas: Television and Radio Programming and News; the Recording Industry; the Print Media; Film and Advertising. The primary criteria for submissions in news is that the work includes fair and comprehensive coverage of lesbians, bisexuals and gay men. For the entertainment media, the primary criteria is that the work portray gay, lesbian and bisexual characters as complete human beings rather than one dimensional stereotypes.

To qualify, the material must have been first published, broadcast or released in the United States between January 1, 1993 and December 31, 1993. To submit your nominee, simply write legibly or type the name, topic, storyline or title, date and other pertinent information and include a brief blurb on why you feel an award is deserved. Please include your name and phone number in case there are any questions and send to: **Media Awards Nominating Committee, GLAAD/LA, 7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 304, Hollywood, 90028.** Questions can be directed to: **GLAAD/LA Office at (213) 463-3632.**

Great chance for volunteers...

1994 Media Awards

There are many opportunities for volunteers to help with the 1994 Media Awards. From the Celebrity Committee and the various sales committees - corporate, community, program book and table sponsor - to the Silent Auction Committee, your help is needed and welcomed. And, for writers and creative people, there's the program book and show production committees.

Being launched this year is the GLAAD/LA mentoring plan, named the Understudy Program. Basically a two-year commitment; in the first year a volunteer would understudy an experienced committee chair, and the following year chair the committee itself.

For more information contact: **Carmichael Smith-Low or Will Halm, co-chairs, Media Awards, (213) 463-3632.**

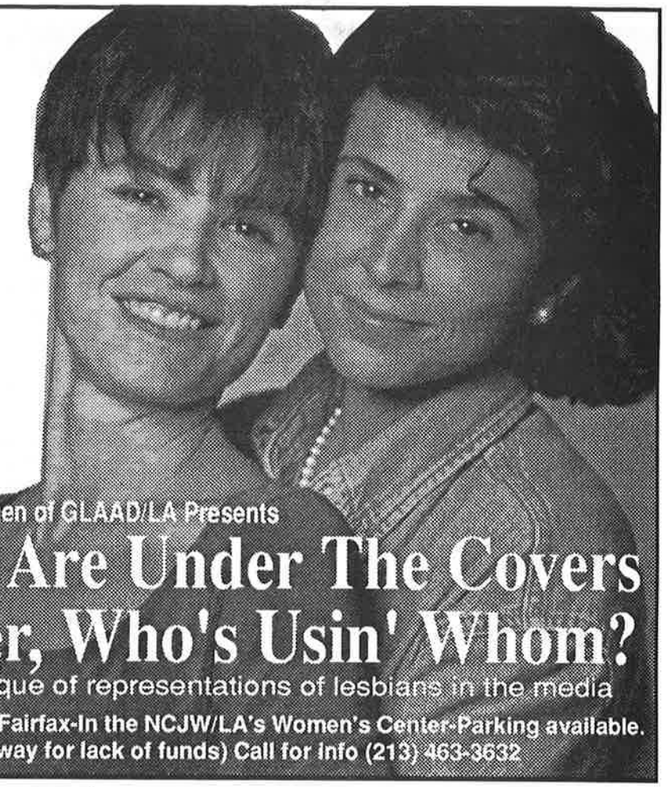
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November 1, Monday
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November 2, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

November 3, Wednesday
Community Outreach/ Membership, 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

November 9, Tuesday
GLAAD/LA Board Meeting, 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

November 11, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee, 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

November 16, Tuesday
Media Outreach 6:30pm
APLA, 1313 N. Vine, #211

November 20, Saturday
GLAAD/LA Comedy Night III
8:00pm
Harmony Gold Auditorium
7655 Sunset Blvd

November 23, Tuesday
General Meeting 7:00pm
6000 W. Pico Blvd.

November 24, Wednesday
Monitor/Response Committee, 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

December Dates:

December 1, Wednesday
Deadline for January *GLAAD/LA Reports*

December 1, Wednesday
Community Outreach (Speakers) 7:30pm
7033 Sunset, Suite 304

December 7, Tuesday
GLAAD/LA Volunteer Recognition Party

December 9, Thursday
Women of GLAAD Panel
7:30 543 N. Fairfax

Executive Director's Column

by Lee Werbel



Executive Director Lee Werbel



Donna Red Wing

The umbrella organization for all our GLAAD chapters — GLAAD/USA — has hired its first staff person as Chapter Coordinator: Advocate Woman of the Year, Donna Red Wing! Donna will be working on national organizing including establishing new chapters.

We've just completed the initial two-day training session for the first set of facilitators for the "Sexual Orientation in the Workplace" seminars designed especially for the entertainment industry, co-sponsored with Hollywood Supports. The weekend was intense and very gratifying. The volunteer industry professionals serving as facilitators are terrific and bring many different skills and talents to the process. These seminars will help our organizations in their proactive efforts to counter myths and stereotypes that lead to blatant and more subtle forms of workplace discrimination against lesbians and gay men. The first series of seminars is being scheduled for later this year. The team of facilitators will continue to meet to receive further training and brainstorm regarding marketing of the seminars.

The holidays are coming soon...If you are looking for a Chanukah or Christmas gift for that special someone, why not get them the 'Earring Magic Ken' doll. The question debated in the *New York Times*, and Washington, D.C.'s *City News*, is whether Ken is gay or not. It's clear to us. (Check accompanying story.) Actually, Mattel Toys claims Ken is not gay—he's just a cool dude. And speaking of the holidays, we hope you will consider our Holiday Card Campaign. (See ad on opposite page.)

The new television season has begun and so has GLAAD/LA's new season. With the election for Board of Directors over, GLAAD/LA welcomes new Board members Lynn Ballen, Scott Barton, David Craig, Nazila Hedayat, Garrett Hicks (alternate), Jody Hoenninger, Steven Solomon, Tracey Stern, Angela West; and returning members Will Halm, Dean Hansell, Richard Jennings and Myra Riddell. While welcoming the new, we must also say goodbye to those members now gone from the Board — Ruthe Canter, Veronica Davis, Garrett Glaser, Sylvia Rhue, Jan Simons and Karen Wilson. Each gave in a special way to GLAAD/LA. We thank you all.

Yes! I want to join GLAAD.
Enclosed is my check for $35. for a one-year membership.

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

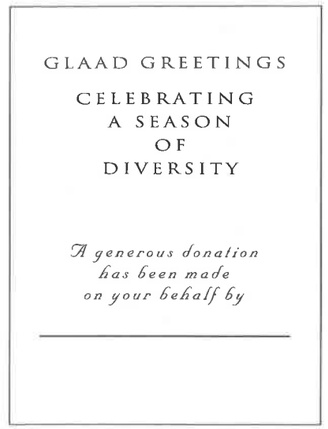
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11

Avoid the holiday rush at Neiman's this year and do something really meaningful... like sending someone a GLAAD Holiday Greeting Card*





Photographer: Lendon Flanagan, Design: Jason Murakawa

*(Design/Photography at time of publication of Newsletter has not been completed)

GLAAD/LA has a tremendous job on its hands and is supported largely by private donations from individuals such as you. So during this holiday season do something good for your community, for your family and friends - and for yourself. For each donation of $10 or more, we will send a beautiful GLAAD Holiday Card acknowledging your generous donation.

Please send GLAAD Holiday Cards to:
(If more than three, please attach a list)

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Exp. Date_____
Signature_____
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Mail this form to: GLAAD/LA, PO Box 931763, Los Angeles, CA 90093-1763 or fax 213 463-4923

Avoid the holiday rush at Neiman's this year and do something really meaningful...
like sending someone a GLAAD Holiday Greeting Card*



GLAAD GREETINGS

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Photographer: Lendon Flanagan, Design: Jason Murakawa

*[Design/Photography at time of publication of Newsletter has not been completed]

GLAAD/LA has a tremendous job on its hands and is supported largely by private donations from individuals such as you. So during this holiday season do something good for your community, for your family and friends - and for yourself. For each donation of $10 or more, we will send a beautiful GLAAD Holiday Card acknowledging your generous donation.

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   Address_____
   City_____
   State_____ Zip Code_____

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   Address_____
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Donation PER CARD:

_____$10.00 x _____cards = $_____

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Mail this form to: GLAAD/LA, PO Box 931763, Los Angeles, CA 90093-1763 or fax 213 463-4923

NEWS BRIEFS

No General Meeting in December

There will be no GLAAD/LA General Membership meeting in December. The next General Meeting will be on January 25, 1994.

Meet People and Have Fun!

Volunteers are needed to help the Membership Committee of GLAAD/LA canvas the community. Especially needed are people to help out weekends and evenings. For information please call Membership Committee co-chair, **Steven, at (213) 650-2099**.

Steven Moore

We've just lost one of our hard-working volunteers. Steven Moore was already on disability when he phoned us four years ago and said he had time and could gather articles from the *Orange County Register* and the *San Gabriel Valley Gazette* and perhaps help GLAAD/LA in other ways. His clipping service was especially valuable. He gathered for us the newsletters of Lou Sheldon's Traditional Values Coalition, Donald Wildmon's American Family Association, and Pat Robertson's Family Research Council. He also tracked and clipped the writings of such right wing homophobes as Phyllis Schlafley and Pat

Continued on Page 4

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles

GLAAD/LA REPORTS

Vol. 5 No. 12 December 1993

"CBS Evening News": Wrong on Rights

Who's watching the writers and checking the text of the correspondents for the "CBS Evening News"? Someone was asleep at the switch on November 1 as correspondent Scott Pelley gave this explanation of Colorado's Amendment 2, the anti-gay and lesbian initiative passed earlier this year. Said Mr. Pelley, "Basically, Amendment 2 says that homosexuals have no special rights in Colorado." The word "special" received emphasis. Mr. Pelley, and the writers for the "CBS Evening News," need to be reminded that Amendment 2 was conceived to deny equal rights to lesbians, gay men and bisexuals. "Special rights" are the code words used by the right wing in its misinformation campaign to subvert the legitimate civil rights of lesbians and gays. Direct your comments to: **Eric Ober, President, CBS News, 524 W. 57th Street, New York 10019**.

GLAAD/LA Reports "On the Air"

Plans are being made to take GLAAD news one big step further: into the ether! We are looking for talented script writers and journalists to write concise editions of our media stories for a weekly radio or television program which will be produced locally. Style must be exciting, informative and concise. Messages will be read by on-air personalities. Contact: **Bob LaFont, 32392 World Trade Center, Long Beach, CA 90832-2392**.

GLAAD/LA Office Moves

GLAAD/LA has moved. The new office is now located at **8455 Beverly Blvd, #305, Los Angeles, CA 90048**. (This is just east of La Cienega on the south side of Beverly.) The new office **phone number is (213) 658-6775**, while the new **FAX number is (213) 658-6776**. Discontinued will be the GLAAD/LA P.O. Box. All correspondences may now be addressed to the GLAAD/LA office on Beverly Blvd. Also changing is the **Spanish Hotline** number which now is: **(213) 658-6074** and the **GLAAD BBS** which is now **(213) 658-6516**. (Remaining the same is the **English Hotline: (213) 931-9429**.) A new line has been added for the **Phone Tree, (213) 658-6435**. All committee meetings will be held at the new GLAAD/LA office (see Calendar on page 18 of this issue).

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 5

contact the GLAAD/LA office at (213) 658-6775 and leave a message for Sylvia.

GLAAD/LA Reference File

GLAAD/LA is continually updating its reference file of clippings and articles so that the actual statements of anyone who is practicing defamation, or voicing support for our human rights, can be easily documented. Can you, or someone you know, start watching and clipping the *Orange County Register, L.A. Weekly, L.A. Reader, La Opinion*, or the *Daily News*? In addition, if you read something in a magazine, periodical, newsletter, etc., that relates to gay and lesbian issues, clip and send it to: **GLAAD/LA, 8455 Beverly Blvd, #305, Los Angeles, CA 90048; FAX (213) 658-6776**; or call the hotlines, **English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 658-6074** and report it.

Office Help

GLAAD/LA is seeking sharp, reliable, enthusiastic and motivated individuals to volunteer in our friendly, relaxed and very busy office. There is a vast array of general office duties which provide information relevant to monitoring the media. The work done by GLAAD/LA is only possible because of the

Continued on Page 8

Film and Television

"Free Your Mind"

MTV continues to gain points with its inclusive "Free Your Mind" theme (diversity programming designed to open dialogue among its teens-to-thirties viewers). Unfortunately, MTV then turned around and demonstrated a "closed mind" when it refused to air, because of its homoerotic content, the video from the album "Woman to Woman" by Fem to Fem, a group of lesbian and bisexual performers. The "Free Your Mind Forum: Testing the Limits of Racial and Sexual Tolerance" aired October 13 with discussion on homophobia, racism and sexual harassment. The homophobia segment opened with footage from MTV's August special on "The Gay '90s." Guests ranged from a lesbian college student in Colorado (who had appeared in the August special) and gay marine, Sgt. Justin Elzie, to former Soldier of the Year, Sgt. Joseph Zuniga. Topics included attitudes about lesbians and gays showing affection in public, what would you do if your child were gay or lesbian and gays in the military. While the format didn't allow for much in-depth discussion of the the issues, moderator Tabitha Soren did have objective come-backs to negative or bigoted comments from the audience. Your comments to: **Viewer Department, MTV Networks, Inc., 1515 Broadway, New York 10036; Viewer Comment Line, (212) 258-8700**.

"Other Mothers"

CBS-TV's "Schoolbreak Special" marked a historic first on the afternoon of October 15 when it broadcast "Other Mothers," the travails of Will (William Russ), a high school freshman, who weathers homophobic ostracism when his peers discover that he has "two" mothers, both of whom happen to be lesbians. (The two women had revealed their status at the parent's booster club. His biological mother is played by Joanna Cassidy and his "other mother" by Meredith Baxter.) It was an excellent presentation. "Other Mothers" was directed by Lee Shallot, co-produced by Joseph Stern and Karen Shapiro and written by Amy Dunkleberger

In a "Read More About It" postscript to the program, actress Meredith Baxter says: "To learn more about the changing roles in our parenting society, the Library of Congress recommends these books: *Diversity in American Families*, by Maxine Baca Zinn and D. Stanley Eitzen, and *Rethinking the Family*, edited by Barrie Thorne and Marilyn Yalom."

Advertisers on this affirming program were: Multigrain Cheerios (General Mills), Jell-O, Actifed Sinus Medicine, Cortisone-10, Campbell's Soup, Sears, Airwick, Purina Cat Chow, Yuban Coffee, Aquafresh, Efidac 24, Fleishmann's Egg Beaters, Lever 2000, Mrs. Dash, JC Penny, 1-800-DENTIST (a registered service mark of Applied Anagramics, Inc.), Post Raisin Bran, Huggies Diapers, M&M's, V-8, Prego, Preparation H, Hershey's Hugs, and Rolaids.

CBS-TV received 185 negative phone calls on the show soon after its airing - but it's not too late to call. Your input is important. Call: **CBS at (213) 852-2345**. Your written comments to: **Jeff Sagansky, President, CBS Entertainment, 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles 90036**.

Correction: Will the Real Beth Please Stand Up

Following last month's story on MTV's "Real World II," we have received corrected information about the last name of Beth, the lesbian included as one of the roommates in the series. This young woman's last name is Anthony, not Stolarczyk, as we printed. There are two Beths living in the home.



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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 3

Buchanan, contributing material for our reference files that enables us to quote them and others accurately.

More than that, Steve wrote streams of letters to the editors. Once he phoned proudly that he'd had four letters published in one paper or another on four successive days. Unless you are out of the Los Angeles reading area you don't realize the many letters that homophobic ministers write. When Steve answered them, they were infuriated to have their version of God's word challenged. Steve capitalized on that fury to get our message out. Some day, with more volunteers, we'll form a committee just to battle the bigots, and when we do we'll have a wonderful file of Steve's letters to guide us. Steve was already doing it.

Steve knew how much we valued his work. He was proud that we have a special file marked "Steven Moore" and that last year he received GLAAD/LA's special volunteer award.

Children's Books

A new bibliography of more than 85 picture books for children of gay and lesbian parents and a bibliography on gays and lesbians and their families are available from: **GLPCI, Box 50360, Washington, D.C. 20091**.

Continued on Page 5

Co-President's Column

by Dean Hansell

1993 has been a mixed year for gay rights in the United States. Several defeats make clear that we have a lot of work ahead of us.

In the November 2 elections, voters in Cincinnati, Ohio and Lewiston, Maine voted to repeal gay rights ordinances enacted by the city councils in those towns; while voters in Portsmith, New Hampshire voted down a gay rights ordinance. Similarly, the United States Supreme Court, at the request of government attorneys, voted to limit the effect of United States District Judge Terrence Hatter's ruling invalidating the military ban on gays in the military. Recently, voters in seven Oregon counties voted to prevent their local governments from enacting ordinances that would protect gays and lesbians from discrimination. And, a Virginia state judge ruled that a lesbian mother was presumptively unfit to care for her child, awarding the child to the lesbian's mother.



Dean Hansell

On the other hand, consensual sodomy was decriminalized in the District of Columbia after Republican leaders persuaded Senator Jesse Helms not to introduce legislation overturning the decriminalization ordinance. U.S. District Court Judge Milton Schwartz of Sacramento ruled that the military ban on gays was motivated by prejudice and politics rather than legitimate concerns about military needs. The State Department has for the first time issued a statement that it will not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in the selection of its Foreign Service corps. About seventy corporations participated in the first sexual orientation in the workplace conference, held in Palo Alto, CA. American Express has formed a task force aimed at identifying products to focus on lesbian and gay consumers. The Automobile Club of Southern California has changed its by-laws to allow two adults living in the same household to hold a joint member/associate member membership. Los Angeles got its first openly gay Deputy Mayor and member of the Police Commission. While Mayor Dinkins of New York was defeated, many papers prominently identified gay voters as being among Dinkins' largest supporters.

The many successes we have enjoyed this year did not come without a lot of work from people such as yourselves. These victories all stand as evidence that often our efforts really do pay off. On the other hand, the defeats need to remind us that we still have a long way to go and that there are going to be setbacks. Your work with GLAAD/LA and your financial contributions are critical to our work and to the fight for equality.

Let's hope that 1994 will be a year that will bring about an end to legalized discrimination by the government against lesbians and gays, that it will no longer be acceptable for media stars and politicians to make homophobic statements in public, that the media will portray us for whom we are rather than typecasting us according to bigoted stereotypes. With your help all of this is possible.

Film and Television

Kissing a man...

"I Just Couldn't Do It"

A feature story in the Fall '93 issue of *Tell*, a new teen magazine, profiles actor/rapper Will Smith (NBC-TV's "The Fresh Prince of Bel Air"). Feature writer Karen Catchpole describes Smith's "commitment to growing as an actor," explaining that he just hired his first acting coach and "is taking his best shot at becoming a bone fide movie star" by playing the lead in the upcoming film "Six Degrees of Separation." In the film, Smith's character is gay. When he accepted the role, Smith knew that the script called for an on-screen kiss with another man. However, when the time came to shoot the scene, Smith refused. "I just couldn't do it," Smith explained. "I mean, I'm an actor. I can sit there with a greasy smile on my face and act like I kissed a man. But it's different when you actually, physically, kiss a man. It wouldn't have been acting. It would have been real. I have kissed girls on-screen. I could work that out. The difference is how people perceive it. If I'd kissed a guy and then went home, they'd be like, 'Yo, man. Why'd you do that?' And I'd be like, 'You know, Man. I'm an actor. I was acting.' And they'd be like 'Yo, man. You kissed a dude. Something's wrong with you, man.' I just didn't want to hear that."

Smith's attitude demonstrates a remarkable lack of sensitivity. Is Smith worried that if he "actually physically kissed a man," he would not have been acting but that "it would have been real?" Or is he just uninformed and worried that a straight can become gay just by touching or kissing another guy? For Smith, acting is apparently not a means for expanding awareness but reinforcing ignorance. Write to: **Will Smith, "Fresh Prince of Bel Air," c/o NBC TV, 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91505**.

"Front Page" and Gay Teens

Fox's "Front Page" (KTTV-TV, Saturday, 9:00 pm) on October 16 featured "Gay Teens Face Parents." This informative undertaking presented the lives of three homosexual teens, Eric McMahon, Jessica Byers and Troix Bettencourt, president of the Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth. Each explained how lonely life was inside the "closet," the anxieties they had deciding to come out and how their families reacted. Their personal stories sent a strong message that coming out made them stronger and improved self esteem, helping to reduce the isolation felt by teens. Comments to: **"Front Page," c/o The Fox News Magazine Show, 10301 West Pico Blvd., 2nd Floor, Los Angeles 90064**.

Three Gays and a Baby

"Sally Jesse Raphael" (KNBC-TV, weekdays, 3:00pm) recently featured Tiffany and Carol, their baby, Sophie, and Jim, their gay friend who fathered Sophie. The show went quite well until Sally brought out Dr. Judith Reisman, career homophobe, who turned the show into another typical gay-bashing forum. Reisman was so vile that most of the audience turned against her. Carol, Tiffany and Jim were loving and articulate in stark contrast to Reisman's well-known agenda of misinformation and misanthropy.

Evidently we must continue to remind talk show hosts and those who book their guests that there are enough homophobic people in every studio audience to present "the other side." Inviting in the professional haters does nothing but derail intelligent presentations. Your letters and comments can only be helpful. Write: **"Sally Jesse Raphael," 267 Broadway, New York 10007.**

NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 4

GLAAD/SFBA Seeks ED

GLAAD/SFBA (San Francisco Bay Area) has announced a job opening for the position of Executive Director. Inquiries as to job functions, responsibilites and duties may be obtained by contacting GLAAD/SFBA before resume deadline of December 15, 1993. **GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro Street, Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114; (415) 861-4588; FAX (415) 861-4893**.

GLAAD/USA Identity Committee

The GLAAD/USA board of directors is seeking proposals for the development of a comprehensive corporate identity. The project will include the creation of a unifying logo for existing and new GLAAD chapters. Proposals must include proposed costs and previous work examples/references. Proposals due Dec. 6, 1993. For requirements please contact: **Carl Lange, GLAAD/Atlanta, P.O. Box 55111, Atlanta, GA 30308; (404) 876-1398**.

GLAAD/LA: We Need Volunteers Archives

Volunteers are needed to enter dates on our computers for our video archives. Please

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 6

volunteer spirit within the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. We encourage you to contact the **GLAAD office at (213) 658-6775** if you have time to volunteer. You will receive genuine satisfaction as a result of your experiences, and will give a significant contribution to the community.

GLAAD/LA Wish List

Donations of any of the following items would be greatly appreciated:

A multi-line phone system and phones
A laser printer
A new copying machine
A telephone answering machine
A conference table with chairs for ten or more
Blank video and audio-cassettes
General office supplies, i.e. copy paper, scissors, staplers, file folders, etc.
Office desks

Donors, please call the **GLAAD/LA office at (213) 658-6775**.

GLAAD/LA Committee Information

Community (Educational) Outreach

This committee is responsible for extending GLAAD's message outside the lesbian and gay community. Projects include an ongoing journalism outreach where speakers are sent to journalism classes in

Continued on Page 10

Film and Television

Be on the lookout for...

"Birdland"

Frontera Productions B.C., Ltd. is producing an ABC television series called "Birdland," starring Brian Dennehy, for distribution by Columbia Pictures Television.

The dramatic comedy follows the relationships of Dr. Brian McKenzie (Dennehy) and his "family" (the doctors, patients and administration of a hospital's psychiatric ward). "Hector," an orderly, will be a continuing gay character with no apparent stereotypical mannerisms.

Unprepared Richard Bey

Anyone familiar with the format of the "Richard Bey Show" (KCOP-TV, weekdays, 1:00 pm) knows that the guests and the audience inevitably scream and shout at each other as invariably the show becomes a circus. Unfortunately, the October 18 broadcast also showed that when it comes to lesbian and gay issues, Bey is unprepared with the facts. The topic revolved around a gay man who wanted a family and, after his male lover refused to adopt a child, married a woman who was willing to have a family with him even though she knew he was gay. The situation was further complicated when the wife discovered that her new groom was having an affair with his old lover.

The audience was judgemental and called the gay man selfish, self-centered and a monster. Bey did not mention the fact that lesbians and gay men often want children and have proven to be good parents. Also, nothing was mentioned to challenge the myth that a man or woman will become straight if they are just treated right or find the right person.

If Richard Bey wants to be taken seriously, then he should be armed with the facts. Your comments may be sent to: **Richard Bey, 6th Floor, 445 [illegible]nos (Genera[illegible], New York 10022.** [illegible]Medicine, Corti[illegible]p, Sears, Airwick, [illegible]uban Coffee, Aquafre[illegible]shmann's Egg Beaters, [illegible]000, Mrs. Dash, JC Penny, 1-8[illegible] DENTIST (a registered service mar[illegible] Con-Applied Anagramics, Inc.), Post R[illegible]e this Bran, Huggies Diapers, M&M's, V-8, P[illegible] busi-Preparation H, Hershey's Hugs, a[illegible]l com-ments and suggestions to: **Kathy Spear and Terry Grossman, c/o Paramount Television, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles 90038.**

"The Mommies"

The new NBC comedy series "The M[illegible]-mies" (Saturday, 8:00 pm), fea[illegible]redith Bax-fensive scene on their October[illegible]tion. "Other A young boy comes into the kitc[illegible] Shallot, co-his father (Luke Robin Thomas) about some-one he likes. Once the father hears it's a girl the son likes, he lifts his face to the heavens and whispers "Thank God." "The Mommies"

Evil Gay Bad Guys

The new Sylvester Stallone, Wesley Snipes actioner "Demolition Man," features a couple of evil gay bad guys. The two are a homophobe's dream: sneaky, underhanded, disloyal, cowardly and pushing their own greedy agenda. It's sad to see, since a few months ago Stallone was on the "Arsenio Hall Show" and Hall pointed out a guy who was cheering when Stallone unbottoned his shirt. Stallone replied, "It's okay, get with it Arsenio, it's the '90s." Just when we thought we had an action star (he is on the board of Hollywood Supports) on our side. Comments to: **Marco Bambilla, Director, "Demolition Man," 9830 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90212; Sylvester Stallone, c/o Ron Meyer, CAA, 9830 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90212.**

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 8

universities; a high school project, where GLAAD's published "Homophobia: A Curriculum for..." is sent to school districts for inclusion in their curriculum; and a Speakers Bureau. **Co-Chairs: Carol Anderson and Bruce Tucker.**

Media Outreach Committee

The Media Outreach Committee will be meeting the third Tues. of each month at 7:00 pm at the **GLAAD/LA office, 8455 Beverly Blvd, #305.** Media Outreach works in a variety of ways to educate people in the media about homophobia and about GLAAD/LA. Our activities are designed for the film, television, radio, music and print media. Interested people may call: **Jim Thomas or Jehan Agrama, Media Outreach Committee, Co-Chairs, (213) 658-6775.**

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is in charge of developing campaigns to attract new members to GLAAD/LA as well as retain those who already have memberships. Co-Chairs are **Myra Riddell and Steven Solomon.** For information call **Steven at (213) 650-2099.**

Continued on Page 14

Film and Television

"Montel" Spotlights G/L Teens

On October 15 "The Montel Williams Show" (KCOP-TV, weekdays, Noon and 4:00 pm) continued the presentation of its "Family Matters" series by featuring Joyce Hunter, co-founder of the Harvey Milk High School in New York City, and psychologist Robert Becker. The program spotlighted the issue of lesbian and gay teens coming out at home and in school. In a format that can easily be taken advantage of by a talk show host only to boost ratings by creating a circus, Montel instead created a forum to educate his television audience. By not including a professional homophobe on the program, the gay and lesbian teens, who comprised most of the audience, were able to tell their stories in a safe environment. In addition, Becker and Hunter were able to answer questions and give advice without having to defend themselves. Montel, playing "devil's advocate," explained that "like the homophobes out there, I want to understand." Hunter pointed out, however, that that was what differentiated him from the homophobes. Let Montel know that you're happy he presented an informative and positive show by writing: **"The Montel Williams Show," 1500 Broadway, Suite 1107, New York 10036.**

"The Mo Show"

The new Mo Gaffney show or "The Mo Show" was dedicated to coming out on October 11, National Coming Out Day. Most of the audience appeared to be from the lesbian and gay community and roundly applauded Amanda Bearse of "Married...with Children," who is the first to come out while appearing in an on-going television comedy or drama.

Mo knows how to run a show and doesn't bother to pack a panel with professional homophobic types in order to boost ratings. Your thanks and comments to KTTV-TV may be addressed: **"The Mo Show," c/o KTTV-TV, Tom Capra, General Manager, 5746 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood 90028; (213) 856-1000.**

"For Love or Money"

Is there anyone not insulted in Universal's "For Love or Money"? Michael J. Fox stars as an ambitious hotel concierge who dreams of owning his own hotel. He discovers a way to do this by selling the woman he loves to a wealthy businessman in exchange for the money for the hotel. While setting this plan into action, we discover that room attendants and dishwashers are African-American while the front offices and boardrooms are all white males. A nearly senile bellman, the only senior depicted in the movie, a money grubbing Jew, a fast talking not so bright Arab and, of course, a stereotypical obnoxious gay fashion designer, are all the subjects of unfunny humor. Perhaps the real justice is realized in the film's poor performance at the box office. Comments to: **Allen Sutton, Director, "For Love or Money," 100 Universal City Plaza, Bldg. 507A, 3rd Floor, Universal City, CA 91608.**

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"Butterfly": The Lovers and the Movie

The Lovers...

The real-life male lovers, who were the inspiration for the play and movie, "M. Butterfly," were interviewed by Barbara Walters on "20/20" (KABC-TV, Friday 10/8/93, 10:00 pm). Bertrand B., the former French diplomat, and Xiu Pe Pu, the Beijing Opera performer, had an 18-year relationship during which time Bertrand believed that Pe Pu was a woman disguised as a man. Ms. Walters pressed Bertrand during the interview trying to pin him down and unravel the love story. Walters and the segment seemed obsessed with fitting it into a heterosexist framework and making Bertrand out to be either an innocent virgin or a "sexual buffoon." But, after he was shown with his current long-term male lover in Paris, Barbara did have the good sense to bring up the possibility that Bertrand had been closeted himself and that the situation had suited his self-denial at the time. Hugh Downs' side comments had him declaring the love-affair "bizarre." But, Joyce Wadler, author of "Liaison," a book based on the couple's story, put it all in perspective by describing Bertrand and Pe Pu as "two beings who entered into the same dream - the dream they both needed." Your comments to: **"20/20," Victor Neufeld, Executive Producer, ABC, 77 W/ 66th Street, New York 10023.**

The Movie...

Many critics agree that Warner Bros. "M. Butterfly" has not translated well to the screen from the Broadway play. Jeremy Irons plays the unknowing French diplomat to John Lone's cross-dressed opera diva. The film, directed by David Cronenberg, concludes the same as the book and the play, some finding the ending homophoic. The actual intention of the ending was the transference of power from the straight white male to the helpless Asian female. The film does include several good points including how Asian women are portrayed as passive sex objects. Write: **David Cronenberg, c/o Geffen Films, 9130 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles 90069.**



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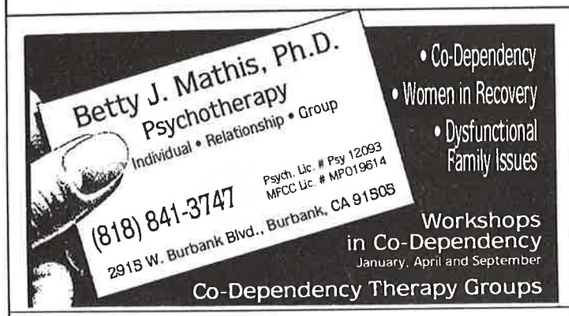
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Continued from Page 10

Monitor/Response Committee

This committee watches (monitors) what's happening in the media and writes letters, makes phone calls and produces articles for *GLAAD/LA Reports*. Volunteers are needed and it is easy to get involved. Do you own a television or a video cassette recorder? Do you subscribe to any publications or attend movies? Then you already are in a position to help the Monitor/ Response committee. Please join us. Meetings in December are on the 8 and 22 at 7:30 pm at the **GLAAD/LA office, 8455 Beverly Blvd, #305, Los Angeles 90048; (213) 658-6775. Anne Dutton and Lynn H. Ballen, Co-Chairs.**

Newsletter Advisory Board

The deadline for submitting material for *GLAAD/LA Reports* is the first of each month for the following month's newsletter. For the February newsletter all material needs to be submitted on or before January 1. Your comments, articles, letters or other submissions may be sent to: ***GLAAD/LA Reports*, c/o GLAAD/LA, 8455 Beverly Blvd, #305, Los Angeles 90048; FAX (213) 658-6776; or directly to the Editor, Carl Matthes, FAX (213) 257-5878.**

Continued on Page 15

Newsweek on "Lifestyles": "Tune In, Come Out"

The November 8 issue of *Newsweek* focused on the increasing number of pro-gay programs introduced in public and private schools in Massachusetts. (Even Andover, the elite private school and alma mater of George Bush, now has a gay student group.) Unfortunately, the article was found in the "Lifestyles" section. Entitled "Tune In, Come Out," an impressive list of educators, counselors and doctors spoke to the increasing willingness of younger and younger students to come out to their classmates. Teenagers, according to Dr. Frances Stott, a professor of child development at Chicago's Erikson Institute, "...are at a point in life where...they're figuring out issues of sexual identity, occupational identity (and) role identity. They're really asking the question, 'Who am I?'" The article examined the coming out process for gay and lesbian teens and the phenomenon that "spurred by media images and a new climate of acceptance, teenagers are experimenting more openly with gay and bi-sexuality." At some schools it has become almost "chic" to be questioning whether or not you might be gay, lesbian or bisexual. Meanwhile, the number of student gay organizations are burgeoning and "A climate of greater tolerance is making it possible for teens to explore more openly what they've historically sampled in secret." However, the authors pointed out that "faggot" is still the most popular locker room taunt and that 60% of high school students polled would be "upset or afraid" if people thought they were gay or bisexual.

The point needs to be made that being gay or lesbian is not a choice, nor just chic or a passing fancy; it is more than just sexuality or experimenting sexually with the same gender. Gays and lesbians are complete human beings and deserve the same rights and can accept the same responsibilities as any other person. Your comments to:**Richard M. Smith, Editor-in-Chief, *Newsweek*, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 10022**. You may also call their **Telephone Mail Desk: 1 (900) 990-MAIL** for a cost of $1.95 for the first minute and ninety-five cents after that.

Uncorking Homophobia?

The current radio commercial for Meridian Wine on KLOS-FM features two men engaged in conversation with a woman at a party talking about the "great bottle of wine" they brought. At the end the woman asks, "Did you guys come in together?" The men, shocked, reply "No, no never!" The ad leaves the impression that any implication that the two men may be gay is insulting or that there is something wrong with being gay. Comments to: **Meridian Wine, 7000 Highway 46 East, Paso Robles, CA 93446.**

Letter Writing...

Send GLAAD/LA a Copy

The need for continual gay and lesbian reaction to the events that are shaping our lives and our future is important. One of the most effective tools we can use is letter writing. When you write a letter, please send a copy of your correspondence and any reply to us for our files. Send to: **GLAAD/LA, 8455 Beverly Blvd, #305, Los Angeles 90048.**

Newsweek on "Gay Rights, Special Rights"

The mid-October issue of *Newsweek* spotlighted the political agenda behind the Traditional Values Coalition's (TVC) new anti-gay video "Gay Rights, Special Rights" (*GLAAD/LA Reports*, Nov. '93). Black conservatives are being targeted with the video in the hope of inciting them into joining the TVC anti-gay cause. TVC is referred to by *Newsweek* as "one of several predominantly white, conservative Christian groups attempting to attract black support by stirring anti-gay resentment." *Newsweek* does a very responsible job in exposing the TVC by reminding its readers that two central figures in the video - Mississippi Republican Senator Trent Lott and former Attorney General Edwin Meese - have both worked for legislation particularly unfriendly to African-Americans.

"Gay Rights, Special Rights" was written and produced to show as unfavorably as possible that lesbians and gay men have adopted the legitimate tactics of the black civil rights movement to gain "special protection" as a minority.

Newsweek deserves special credit for exposing the hate tactics behind "Gay Rights, Special Rights." Your comments of appreciation may be sent to: **Richard M. Smith, Editor-in-Chief, *Newsweek*, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 10022**. You may also call their **Telephone Mail Desk: 1 (900) 990-MAIL** for a cost of $1.95 for the first minute and ninety-five cents after that.

"The Date-or-Wait Game"

Ah, the dating game! Who hasn't played it? Who hasn't suffered the anxieties of making the first move? In the October 6 edition of the *Los Angeles Times*, writer Michael Haederle explored the "rules" of the dreaded game in his article "The Date-or-Wait Game." Explaining that traditional and gender roles can often create a challenge, he does not limit this universal phenomenon to heterosexuals - gays and lesbians were included. Show Coalition director and GLAAD/LA board member Stephanie Thomas and psychotherapist Chuck Gurth provided input from the gay and lesbian community. Explaining that in the world of same sex dating we don't, or don't always, follow traditional gender roles, they remarked, "it ultimately comes down to a matter of which person is bolder" when it comes down to making the first move. The best part of this positive and well rounded article is that it unifies gays, lesbians and heterosexuals in our humanity. Let the *Los Angeles Times* know that more human interest articles need to include the attitudes and thoughts of lesbians and gays. Send your comments to: **Mr. Shelby Coffee III, Editor-in-Chief, Los Angeles Times, Times-Mirror Square, Los Angeles 90053; also feature writer Michael Haederle at the same address.**

Essence: Lesbian Legacy of Amazons

The November issue of *Essence Magazine* featured an article by Khephra Burns on "The Fanfare for the Amazons," which traced the Black Warrior women of Northern Africa to the Isle of Lesbos. "Lesbos' most famous daughter was the poet Sappho, whose 'small dark body's lesbian loveliness' reveals much about her Amazonian origins." Your comments and your thanks for their efforts to address lesbian concerns in a positive and educational way may be addressed to: **Susan Taylor, Editor-in-Chief, *Essence Magazine*, 1500 Broadway, New York 10036.**

Continued from Page 14

Women of GLAAD

If you would like to be a part of the lesbian voice in GLAAD/LA's affairs, come and join us for our monthly informal gathering to discuss ways in which we can become more visible in our community. Our purpose is to encourage the participation of 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. The Women of GLAAD Caucus meets the first Tuesday of each month at **7:00 pm at the GLAAD office, 8455 Beverly Blvd, #305, Los Angeles 90048; (213) 658-6775. Tracy Stern and Angela West, Co-Chairs.**

Advertising Policy

It is the policy of GLAAD/LA to accept for its newsletter all advertising which is not inimical to its mission. GLAAD/LA nonetheless reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any advertising which it deems unacceptable on any grounds.

The acceptance of, and publication by, GLAAD/LA of an advertisement in its newsletter shall not be construed as an endorsement by GLAAD/LA of any such event, product, company, organization, person, service or thing.

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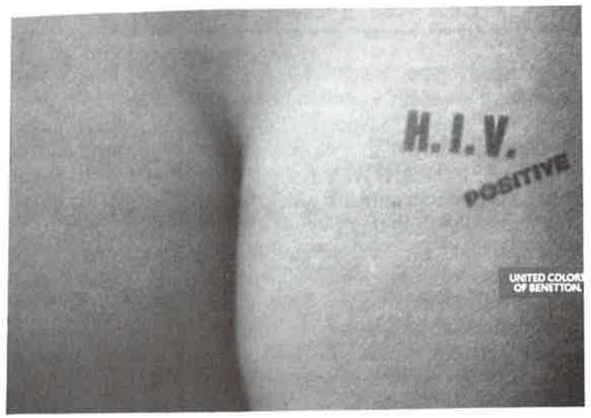
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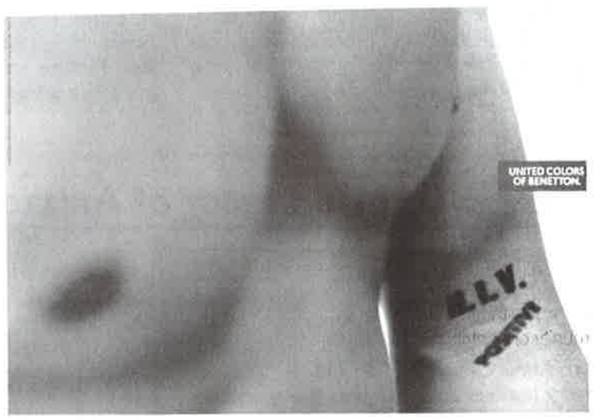
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HIV Positive





The latest advertising campaign for United Colors of Benetton has brought mixed responses. Three separate images (see accompanying photos) depict various body parts which have been stamped "HIV Positive." The image of the stamped arm has appeared in *Rolling Stone*, *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times*. A billboard campaign is ensuing with two already in place in the Los Angeles area. Your reaction and comments to this ad campaign may be sent to: **Peter Fressola, Director of Communications, United Colors of Benetton, 55 East 59th Street, 24th Floor, New York 10022**. And, while you're at it, send a copy of your letter to **GLAAD/LA, 8455 Beverly Blvd, #305, Los Angeles 90048**.



GLAAD News

1994 Media Awards...

Media Awards Nominations

Nominations are now open and GLAAD/LA is accepting names of possible 1994 Media Award nominees from the following areas: Television and Radio Programming and News; the Recording Industry; the Print Media; Film and Advertising. The primary criteria for submissions in news is that the work includes fair and comprehensive coverage of lesbians, bisexuals and gay men. For the entertainment media, the primary criteria is that the work portray gay, lesbian and bisexual characters as complete human beings rather than one dimensional stereotypes.

To qualify, the material must have been first published, broadcast or released in the United States between January 1, 1993 and December 31, 1993. To submit your nominee, simply write legibly or type the name, topic, storyline or title, date and other pertinent information and include a **brief** blurb on why you feel an award is deserved. Please include your name and phone number in case there are any questions and send to: **Media Awards Nominating Committee, GLAAD/LA, 8455 Beverly Blvd, #305, Los Angeles 90048.** Questions can be directed to: **GLAAD/LA Office at (213) 658-6775.**

Hollywood's Other Awards

GLAAD/LA's 1994 Media Awards Show arrives on March 19, 1994 at the Century Plaza Hotel in Century City - and there are many opportunities for volunteers. From the Celebrity Committee and the various sales committees - corporate, community, program book and table sponsor - to the Silent Auction Committee, your help is needed and welcomed. And, for writers and creative people, there's the program book and show production committees.

Being launched this year is the GLAAD/LA mentoring plan, named the Understudy Program. Basically a two-year commitment; in the first year a volunteer would understudy an experienced committee chair, and the following year chair the committee itself.

For more information contact: **Carmichael Smith-Low or Jody Hoenninger, co-chairs, Media Awards, (213) 658-6775.**

"Hostile Climate"

A report entitled "Hostile Climate: A State-by-State Report on Anti-Gay Activity," prepared and released by People for the American Way, a 300,000 member nonpartisan constitutional liberties organization, documents anti-gay efforts in states and localities around the country. The report was released to the press one day after three local jurisdictions — Cincinnati, Ohio; Lewiston, Maine; and Portsmouth, New Hampshire — voted against discrimination protection for lesbian, gay and bisexual citizens by wide margins. The report can be obtained through the organization's **Communications Department at: (202) 467-4999.**

Tracking the Ads

The Media Outreach Comittee wants to inform the gay and lesbian community of advertisers who either support programs about our community or contribute to censorship of those programs, and you can help. The next time you watch television, keep a pencil and paper handy. If there is such content, jot down the name of the show and its sponsors. Then, call the information into the **GLAAD/LA Hotlines: English (213) 931-9429; Spanish (213) 658-6074.**

If you are an advertising industry "insider" who might have access to information about advertisers who have been under boycott or hate-campaign pressure to cease advertising on programs that are lesbian and gay positive, call us. Any information will be treated in confidence.

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Calendar

December 1, Wednesday
Deadline for January *GLAAD/LA Reports*

December 1, Wednesday
Community Outreach/ Membership, 7:30pm
8455 Beverly Blvd, #305
Los Angeles 90048

December 7, Tuesday
Volunteer Recognition Party. Call GLAAD/LA office for location.

December 8, Wednesday
Monitor/Response Committee, 7:30pm
8455 Beverly Blvd, #305
Los Angeles 90048

December 9, Thursday
Women of GLAAD Panel
7:30pm, 543 N. Fairfax

December 14, Tuesday
GLAAD/LA Board Meeting 7:30pm
8455 Beverly Blvd, #305
Los Angeles 90048

December 21, Tuesday
Media Outreach 7:30pm
8455 Beverly Blvd, #305
Los Angeles 90048

December 22, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee 7:30pm
8455 Beverly Blvd, #305
Los Angeles 90048

December 28, Tuesday
General Meeting 7:00pm
6000 W. Pico Blvd.

December 30, Thursday
Monitor/Response Committee 7:30pm
8455 Beverly Blvd, #305
Los Angeles 90048

January Dates:

January 1, Saturday
Deadline for February *GLAAD/LA Reports*

January 4, Tuesday
Women of GLAAD, 7:00pm
8455 Beverly Blvd, #305
Los Angeles 90048

January 5, Wednesday
Community Outreach/ Membership, 7:30pm
8455 Beverly Blvd, #305
Los Angeles 90048

Executive Director's Column

by Lee Werbel

At the end of each year, as the holiday season approaches, I often find myself in a reflective mode. 1993 has been quite a year for GLAAD/LA and for me. Both the struggles and accomplishments are reminders that the work is not close to done. A sampling of activities follows:

The election of Bill Clinton as President (starting right at the beginning) and the hope and sense of inclusion we felt as a community;



Executive Director Lee Werbel

GLAAD/LA loaned it's then Executive Director to serve as Communications Director for the Campaign for Military Service when President Clinton announced he was going to lift the ban on gays and lesbians in the military;

GLAAD/LA created and distributed the "Willing to Fight/Lift the Ban" poster and became the main distributor of "To Support and Defend;"

GLAAD/LA coordinated media relations for the Allen Schindler Memorial March;

Over 900 people attended GLAAD/LA's Media Award Dinner at which Sir Ian McKellen, Roseanne and Tom Arnold, and others were honored;

I was appointed Executive Director!

GLAAD/LA and Hollywood Supports jointly designed, prepared and trained facilitators for the first ever "Sexual Orientation in the Workplace" seminars to be delivered to the entertainment industry;

GLAAD/LA joined with MANAA (Media Action Network for Asian Americans) to protest "Rising Sun;"

Lesbians and gay men, including many members of GLAAD/LA, appeared on television (especially all of those talk shows) fighting stereotypes and showing our diversity;

Media coverage of the 1993 March on Washington for Gay, Lesbian,and Bi Rights and Liberation was extensive including all day on CSPAN;

GLAAD/LA helped organize and publicize "Day of Compassion," television's day of dealing with HIV and AIDS

GLAAD/LA moved into new offices (larger, with a little room to grow) with Hollywood Supports.

I hope you share the pride I feel about the work we do. I also hope you will want to do something special to support GLAAD/LA by sending GLAAD Holiday Cards to your family and friends. And, if you are buying toys for children (of any age), why not consider the new "gay" Ken doll from Mattell, a delight for everyone's collection?

However you celebrate, all of us at GLAAD wish you the best, safest and most peaceful time during the season and in the new year.

Take time and join GLAAD/LA now.
Just fill in this coupon, and mail it today!

Yes! I want to join GLAAD.
Enclosed is my check for $35. for a one-year membership.

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Please make checks payable to:
GLAAD/LA, 8455 Beverly Blvd., #305, Los Angeles, CA 90048 12

Women of GLAAD/LA

Presents

When Who We Are Under The Covers Is On The Cover, Who's Usin' Whom?

Join us for a dialogue and critique of representations of lesbians in the media

with

Sarah Pettit
Executive Editor, Out Magazine

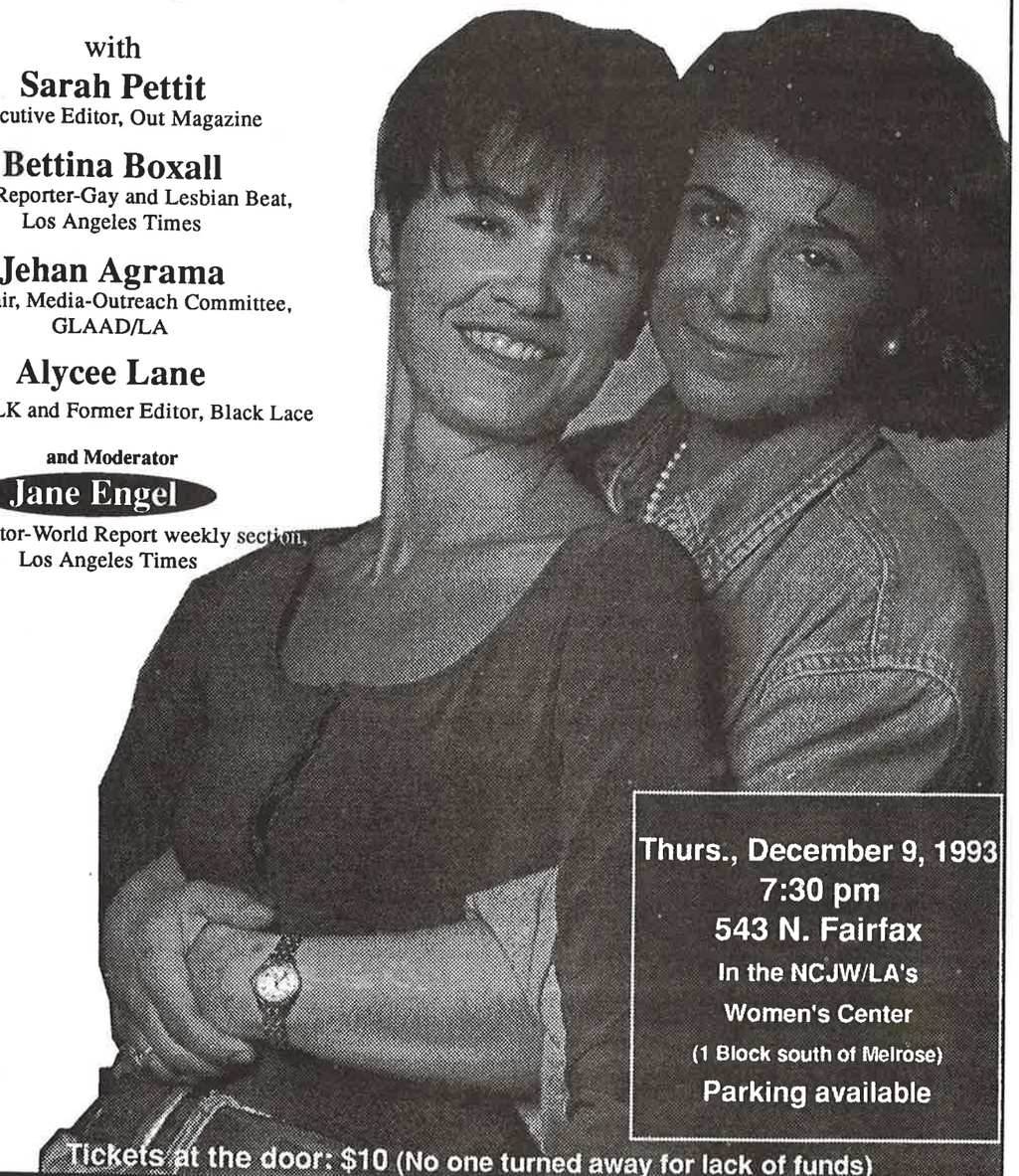
Bettina Boxall
Metro Reporter-Gay and Lesbian Beat, Los Angeles Times

Jehan Agrama
Co-Chair, Media-Outreach Committee, GLAAD/LA

Alycee Lane
Writer, BLK and Former Editor, Black Lace

and Moderator

Jane Engel
News Editor-World Report weekly section, Los Angeles Times



Thurs., December 9, 1993
7:30 pm
543 N. Fairfax
In the NCJW/LA's Women's Center
(1 Block south of Melrose)
Parking available

Tickets at the door: $10 (No one turned away for lack of funds)
For more information call GLAAD/LA (213) 463-3632