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REASONS WHY YOU'RE GAY

resource

a satirical 'zine for grown-up homosexuals • volume nine number thirteen • issue 217 • june 18-july 1

queer directory

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966-6152

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248-0065

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266-0875

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Phoenix 271-9011

her handsome, Hispanic friend sat across from her. Willy had been grilling her over the incidents of last Friday evening, and he wasn't letting up.

"Look, Willy," she offered, "I know it wasn't the smartest thing to do. But it's over now. So can't we just write it off as a lesson in life, and forget about it?"

"Not good enough." Willy leaned in close, studying his hefty friend's face. "What made you decide to purposely ram your car into someone you didn't even know, just because you didn't like the slogans on their bumper stickers?"

"I snapped, okay? I just snapped! Can we please drop it?"

Willy cast Lauren a sidelong glance. He continued slowly, using a softer tone, "All I'm saying is that there must be something...something in your past, maybe, that would..."

"Forget it!" Lauren cut him off, "I refuse to use this little mishap as another excuse for you to delve into my personality shortcomings. Next thing I know, you'll be asking me if I was happy as a child, or if my father beat me."

Willy laughed and reached across the heavy oak table, touching Lauren's arm. "Did your father beat you as a child?"

"No, but when I was very bad, he'd tie me to the bumper of the car by my hair and drag me naked through the town square. That's why I have a thing about bumper stickers."

"What on earth are you two talking about?" Carrie had arrived at the restaurant and was standing behind Lauren, openmouthed. "Who tied you to a car?"

"Never mind, it was a joke," Lauren said, patting the chair beside her and nodding for Carrie to sit, "and not a very funny one. I'm afraid. How was your weekend?"

"Don't ask," Carrie replied, flopping into the rickety chair. "It was too short. I need a vacation."

"I hear that," said Willy. "Maybe we should go somewhere...a short road trip. Just the three of us."

"Ooh! That's an ideal!" Lauren chimed in, "and I can drive my new car!"

Carrie and Willy stopped grinning and sat up straight, staring at their friend with disbelief. Willy spoke first.

"What do you mean, 'new car'?"

Lauren was taken aback by the accusatory look on Willy's face. "God, you guys look at me like I robbed a bank or something. My poor little Honda was all smashed, so I bought a new car. Today. Is there anything wrong with that?"

"No, not really," Carrie said. "It's just that the car you had wasn't that old...and they could have easily fixed it, from what you told me."

"I'd had it for three years. I decided I didn't like red, and it was too small, anyway. Besides, I was bored."

Lauren closed the subject, folding her arms and clamping her mouth shut defiantly. Her pals were too surprised to say anything further; neither Carrie nor Willy asked what color her new car was, or inquired about the make and model. The

waiter arrived with Carrie's order and set it on the table in front of her. Willy and Lauren had already finished their sandwiches; they were used to Carrie arriving late for their coffee shop get-togethers.

"I'll eat while you guys fill me in on whatever gossip I missed," Carrie said through a mouthful of sliced turkey. "I'm starving."

As Carrie worked on her sizable sandwich, Willy filled her in on the details of his weekend. He was glad to have spent most of the time working on his newest piece at the studio. Carrie giggled when he told his story of the straight guys changing for their boat trip and then how he almost went out on Sunday night.

"But I thought you weren't going out for six months?" Lauren said. "You didn't break down on us, did you?"

Willy told her that he hadn't, but reminded her that his self-imposed six month period of gay bar abstinence was almost up. Carrie made him promise that when he did venture out to a gay bar again, he would take her along. She finished her sandwich and headed back to the deli counter for a piece of cheesecake. When she returned, it was Lauren's turn to talk.

Lauren regaled Carrie with the detailed story of her unfortunate "accident," the mysterious escape of the tattooed skinheads and her subsequent visit to the emergency room. She included the part about Mike, the cop who had written her ticket, and his past love connection to Willy. Willy tried to interrupt but Lauren pressed on with her own version of the affair. Finally, she took a breath.

"He sounds really cute, from Lauren's description," Carrie said, looking to Willy for an explanation. She wiped the last bit of chocolate from her paper plate and licked her fork. "So, what was the problem?"

My God, how can you eat like that?" Lauren asked. "I never touch chocolate cheesecake, and I'm twice your size."

Carrie shrugged. "It's just my metabolism, I guess. Or, it's from working two jobs, going to school and chasing after a six-year old. The exhaustion diet. You should try it sometime."

"No thanks, I'll stick with Slim Fast." Lauren turned to Willy. "So, you haven't told us. What was wrong with the adorable blonde officer? According to him, you're the one who broke it off."

Willy looked from one young woman to the other. "Well, this may be kind of hard to understand if you're not gay."

"Try us," Carrie replied, pushing her plate aside and resting her chin in her hands. "We're all ears." Lauren mimicked her slim friend and turned her face up toward Willy, expectantly.

"Well," he began, "Mike is one of those guys who just can't come to terms with being gay. I don't know if it's because he's a cop, or what it is. Anyway, if there's one thing I can't stand, it's a homophobic homosexual. We dated a couple of times, but I couldn't stand to be around him after awhile. That's it: end of story."

Lauren looked at Carrie and furrowed

her brow. Both women stared at Willy for a silent moment, then suddenly burst out laughing. "You're right!" Lauren managed to blurt, choking on her iced tea and fanning herself. "We just don't get it! I'll give you that one, Willy." She stood, swinging a fat ring of keys on a macramé chain around her wrist. "Now, come on. It's already dark out and I want to show you guys my new car."

.....

"This is yours?" Willy couldn't believe his eyes. "What kind of car is this?"

"It's an Infiniti," Lauren explained. "A J-30." They were standing under a streetlight on Third Avenue. She unlocked the door and Willy scrambled quickly into the sedan's plush driver's seat. Lauren ran her hand along the gleaming hood and called to Carrie, who hung back, speechless. "C'mon, get in! It won't bite."

Carrie had no idea what such a beautiful car would cost, but she knew it had to be expensive. How could Lauren afford such a luxury on her salary? And how could she buy something like that on a whim, the way she apparently had? Carrie stood in the street, thinking of her own battered Plymouth and the trailer she called home. She wasn't sure the check she'd written the plumber that morning would be covered by the time he deposited it. She was frozen in place, consumed with jealousy. Willy toyed with the car's new CD player and ran the spotless power windows up and down. Suddenly, Lauren shrieked.

"My purse! I must have left it inside!"

"I'll go!" shouted Carrie, who was nearest the door. She ran back into the cafe and found the table already cleared. The purse was nowhere to be seen. Carrie spun around and caught the attention of the young guy behind the counter. "Excuse me, did you happen to see..."

"A big, ugly purse with a broken clasp?" he answered, holding the large, dark bag toward her and smiling. "You're lucky I'm so honest. You should be more careful with that kind of money."

Carrie was confused. What money was he talking about? Carrie explained that the purse wasn't hers, that it belonged to a friend and she thanked him for holding onto it. As she started down the steps, she glanced into the open handbag and saw immediately what the kid meant.

Scattered loosely inside Lauren's purse were dozens of hundred dollar bills. Some were wadded up, crinkled and mixed in among her makeup containers, snapshots, tampons and lipstick. Others were stacked and bundled, packed along the purse's sides. Money filled the bag, stretching it at the seams. There had to be thousands, maybe even tens of thousands of dollars in there. No wonder Lauren could afford a new car so easily, Carrie thought as she crossed the street to her waiting friends. God, Maybe she had robbed a bank.V

NEXT EPISODE: *Queen of the Double-Wide*

Summer Movies

Life isn't fair: Most of us have to find our entertainment in a glut of summer films and can only fantasize about some pumped-up mountaineer who cares enough about us to keep us from falling to our death off the Rockies. Unfortunately, most of this year's hot weather hits left me cold. Take *Sliver*, for example: Sharon Stone makes the most of her role as a repressed book editor cum voyeur-to-be, but she's pretty much the only positive element in Joe Esterhas' incoherent and mostly suspenseless thriller. Even humpy William Baldwin is unconvincing and dull as a possible serial killer. The film starts off well; it's the silly and improbable tacked-on "surprise ending" which invalidates most of what comes before it. Even the "hot" sex scenes lack chemistry and eroticism. If you liked *Basic Instinct*, you'll hate the hack, second-rate impersonation that is *Sliver*.

Life With Mikey could more aptly be called *Lifeless With Michael J. Fox*. This movie resurrects every tired child star cliché before creaking to an abrupt and falsely happy finish. Not even Broadway powerhouse Nathan Lane or squeaky pop diva Cyndi Lauper can resuscitate a story so out of touch with reality. Worst of all, *Life With Mikey* simply isn't funny, and that's the kiss of death for any "family film."

We can only hope that *Super Mario Brothers* will be the last film based on a video game. An impressive cast—headed by Bob Hoskins, Mambo-mouthed John Leguizamo, and a serpentine Dennis Hopper—all work in

vain in a squeaky clean, violence-free world of dinosaurs much less interesting than the ones in *Jurassic Park*. This film should only appeal to those players too unskilled to reach the "levels" of the video game that are depicted here. Most parents will be bored by its simplistic plot, though, and will wish they'd sprung for the home version.

Much Ado About Nothing, directed by carrot-topped wunderkind Kenneth Branagh, is for my money a much better film for people of all ages. Branagh does commit the grievous sin of making Shakespeare contemporary and, dare I say, accessible, and is not likely to make many friends among purists. Others will be charmed by his playful, lush, romantic, and stirring take on the Bard's work. It's highly unusual to find so energetic an ensemble as this, headed by the immensely talented Emma Thompson and Branagh himself. The rest of the cast, including Robert Sean Leonard and a brooding Keanu Reeves, lean toward melodrama, but only Michael Keaton, acting like a cross between *Beetlejuice* and a refugee from *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, is completely out of place here. That much said, *Much Ado About Nothing* is the most entertaining movie disguised as a stuffy classic you're likely to see all year, and a great date movie as well.

Another sturdy date movie out now is *Sleepless In Seattle*, starring Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks, who apparently flew into town earlier this month to view the fruits of their labors. *Sleepless* is a



Hardly Jurassic: Samantha Mathis stars in *Super Mario Brothers*, a film based on a video game.

hopelessly romantic story about love and destiny and finding Mr. Right, and if you're not too cynical, you'll buy into it wholeheartedly. What sets this apart from *When Harry Met Sally* and the like is that this is a "Will Boy Meet Girl?" picture, with a lot of humorous discussions about relationships from Rosie O'Donnell and Rob Reiner along the way. Writer/director Nora Ephron almost misfires by making Ryan and fiancé Bill Pullman so cartoonish, but overall, *Sleepless In Seattle* is a sweet, funny piece of escapism that may become this summer's best aphrodisiac.

Probably the biggest film this summer is *Jurassic Park*, and the good news is that all the hype is right. *Jurassic Park* is a fantastic amusement park ride unto itself, with the lines but without the "E" Ticket. Adapted by Michael Crichton from his wildly successful novel, the film is a greatly simplified version of the original, sans blood and flying intestines. This doesn't mean that director Steven Spielberg doesn't manipulate you the same way he did with *Jaws*, it just means that not as many people die. The dinosaur effects are spectacular, although much of the mystery in the book is deleted, as well as the feeling that the dinosaurs have truly taken over the park. But the film stands on its own as a particularly well-crafted adventure thriller—for seat-grabbing thrills, you can't do better than *Jurassic Park*.

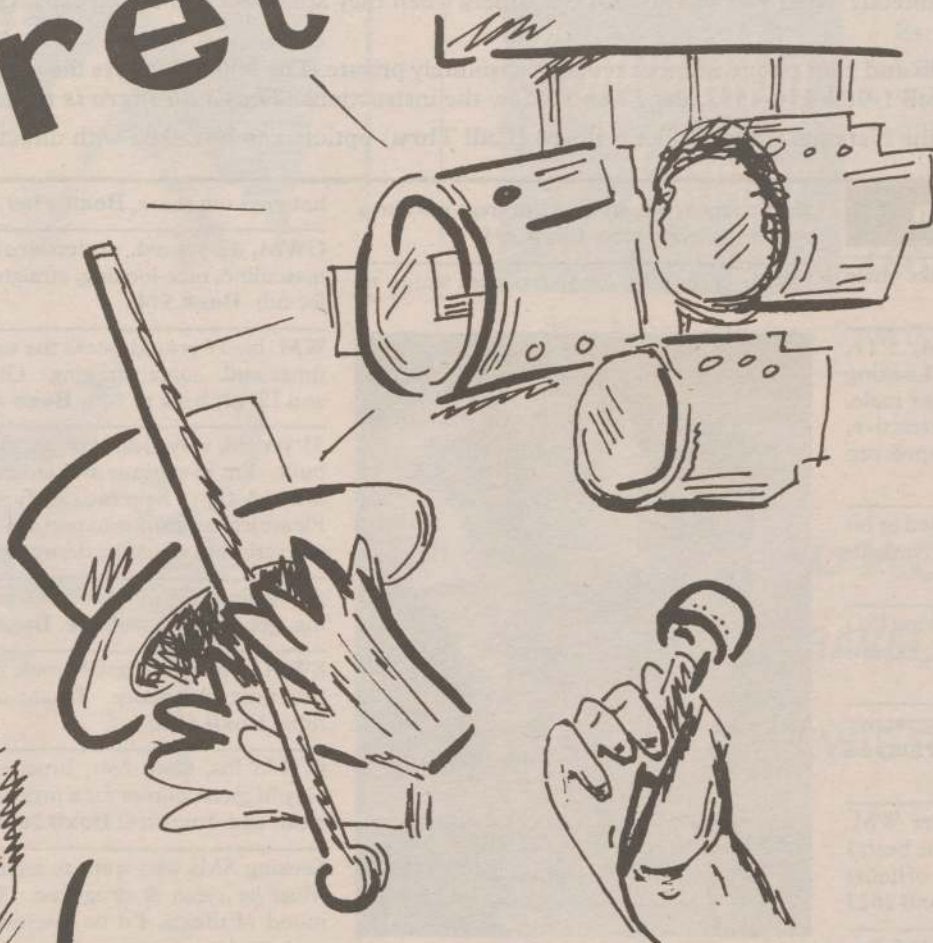
It's shaping up to be a long, hot summer, and while the film fare slated for the next few months is a mixed bag, it's nice to know that there are reasons to find a dark, cold theatre and stay there until September.

—Neil Cohen

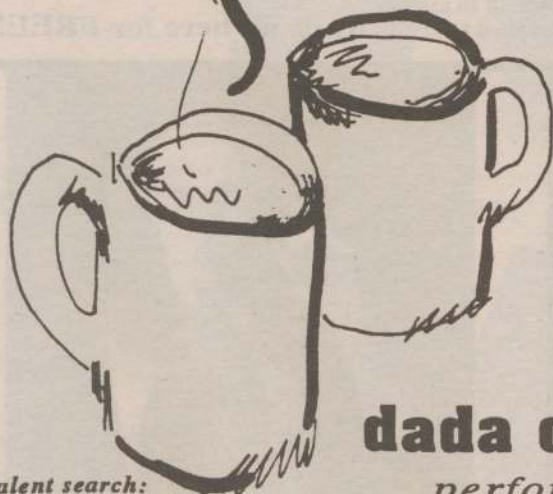


William Baldwin and Sharon Stone play a heterosexual couple who pretend to enjoy sex in Paramount's *Sliver*.

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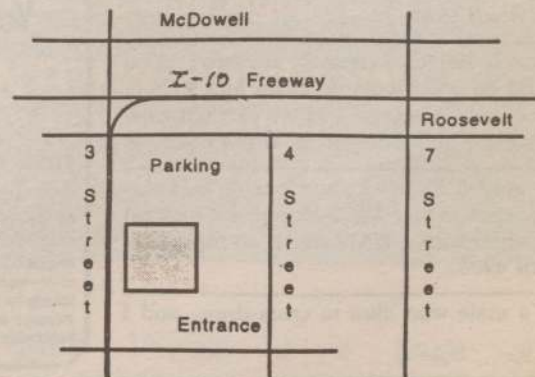
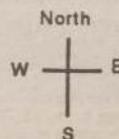
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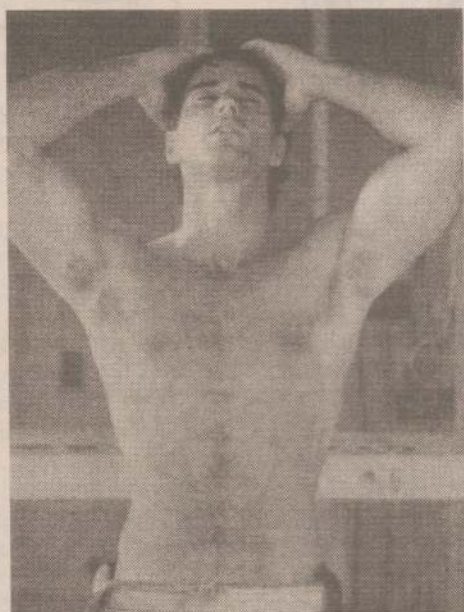
GM, 32, 180 lbs, extremely attractive. You should be good-looking, clean and fit too. Leave me a message and we can tell each other more about ourselves. **Box# 6312**

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PWM, early 40s, outdoors type, wants to



hot guys out there. **Box# 5569**

GWM, 42 yrs old, professional, fem, seeks masculine, nice-looking, straight or bi, male for fun. **Box# 5741**

WM, bi, 37 yrs old, seeks the same for good times and...some camping. Give me a call and I'll get back to you. **Box# 4702**

31 yrs old, very clean-cut, handsome, nicely built. I'm bi-curious and looking for someone, 18-40, to help me satisfy my fantasies. Please leave me information about yourself—a description would be desirable. **Box# 8394**

Any young guys out there interested in partying, get in touch with me. **Box# 9688**

SWM in search of gay/bi male or couple for first-time experience. I want a really good time. **Box# 5820**

6', 195 lbs, brwn hair, brwn eyes, seeking Gay/bi men/couples for a little fun. Must be clean and drug-free. **Box# 2646**

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meet someone for fun, pleasure and afternoon delights. **Box# 6482**

25 yr old SWM is very curious and looking for a first-time experience. Clean and looking for a good time, so please if you're experienced and would like to teach me a thing or two, leave me a message. **Box# 6411**

26 yr old cross-dresser, very passable and pretty, clean, safe and discreet. If this interests you and you're straight or bi and extremely good-looking, please leave a message. Thanks. **Box# 3598**

WM, 27 yrs old, totally straight, seeks straight guys who want to have a good time. I'm into body-building, am 5'10", 185 lbs, solid muscled, and very good-looking. First timers only. No gay guys please. **Box# 4255**

Italian WM, 35 yrs old, good looking, seeks nice looking WF who's outgoing and likes to have a lot of fun. **Box# 9895**

5'9", 160 lbs, dk hair, moustache, muscular, and wanting to talk on the phone to other hot

dressings. **Box# 6510**

BiWM, 35 yrs old, desiring first-time experience as a slave to a master. I'm seeking someone good-looking, and well-built to introduce me to the world of D&S. **Box# 1742**

Late 30s, 6', 190 lbs, good-looking, bi, and interested in attractive bi/gay Ms—if there's a woman involved. If you'd like to get together, and you have a female partner, please call. **Box# 8966**

Older, effeminate GWM. Used to be a TV & could be again I guess. Seeking an assertive WM for a friend & lover. I'm looking for someone who needs a person like me. I know it's difficult to find, but I hope you're the person. **Box# 4804**

29 yrs old, 6', 150 lbs, slim build, seeking another guy, who's well-built & good-looking, 25-35, for my first-time experience. I've always been curious. If you're interested, please leave a message including a description of yourself. **Box# 6200**

Attractive biM, brown hair & eyes, seeking a guy who's clean, discreet, drug & disease-free—someone to share time with and get to know. **Box# 8407**

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Women seeking Women

Bi white female, attractive, thin, brown hair, brown eyes. ISO attractive, thin woman, 25-30 for friendship. No men please. **Box# 6376**

Couples

We are a married white couple in our early 30's. We are seeking a straight or bi-female. Please call us using this system and we can get to know each other better. **Box# 8326**

Chuck, 5'10, 165, well-built, attractive. Wife is April, 4'11, 115, very hot. Seeking couples or bi-ladies for weekends. **Box# 4594**

Married W Couple seeks bi-couple or bi-female. First timers welcome, no swingers **Box# 8771**

Professional, SBM, 6'2", 225 lbs, 30 yrs old is looking for discreet, sensual females and couples for pleasurable times in the afternoon and occasional weekdays. Attractive and intelligent and hope you are too. **Box# 8266**

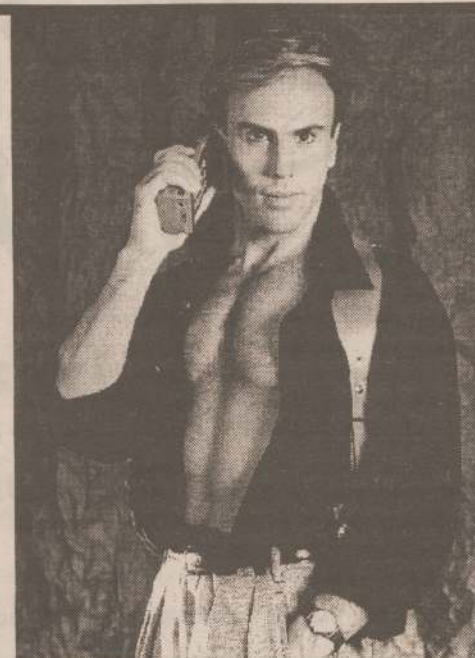
Interested in meeting couples w/straight male. BM, 6'6", 285 lbs, clean, discreet and very private. **Box# 2143**

Attractive, straight, professional MWC w/ herpes seeking similar couples, females and select males to meet with together or separately. He's 46 and she's 36. He travels the U.S. **Box# 2612**

She: blue-eyed and blond, 34 yrs old, 5'6", 135 lbs. He: brunette, 32 yrs old, 5'11", well-built. Looking for other couples interested in getting together. (**Call Thru**) **Box# 5104**

Couple seeking bi-female for long-term, equal relationship. He is a 5'10", 160 lb, straight BM. She is a 5'6", 135 lb, biWF. **Box# 9157**

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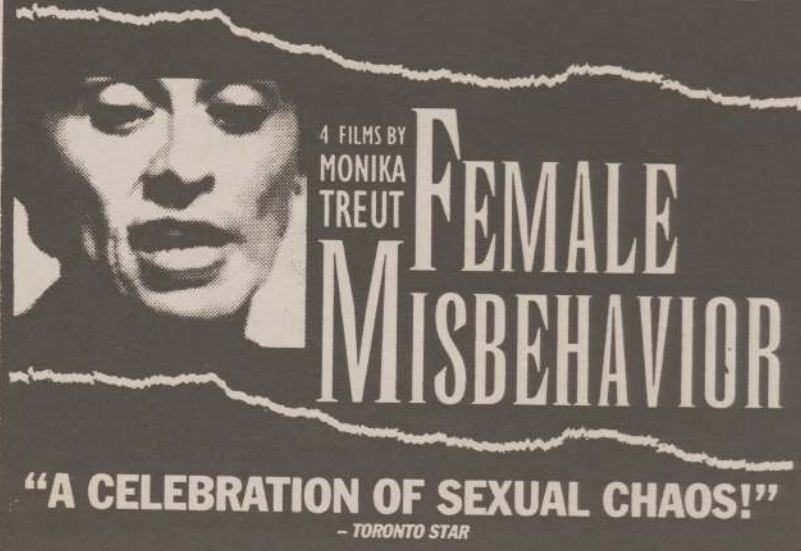
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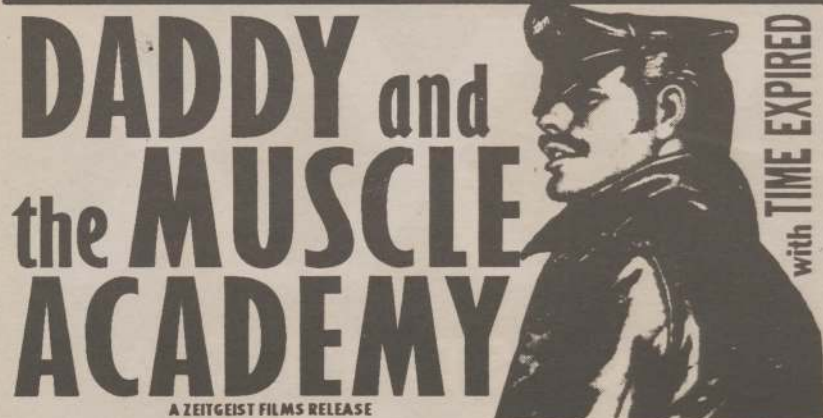
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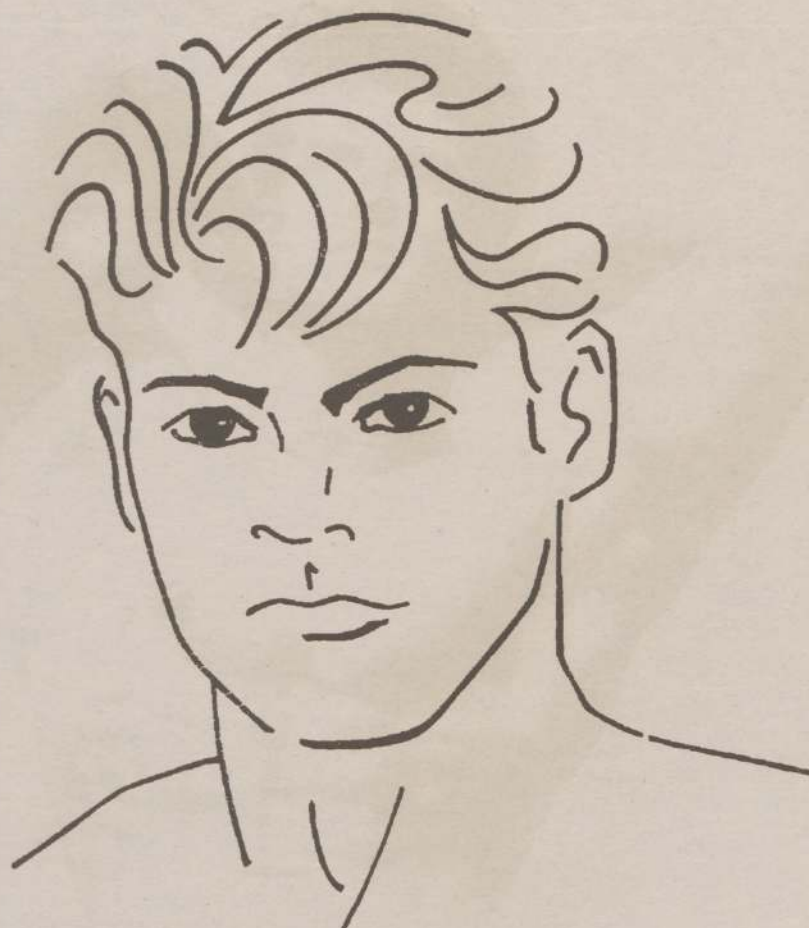
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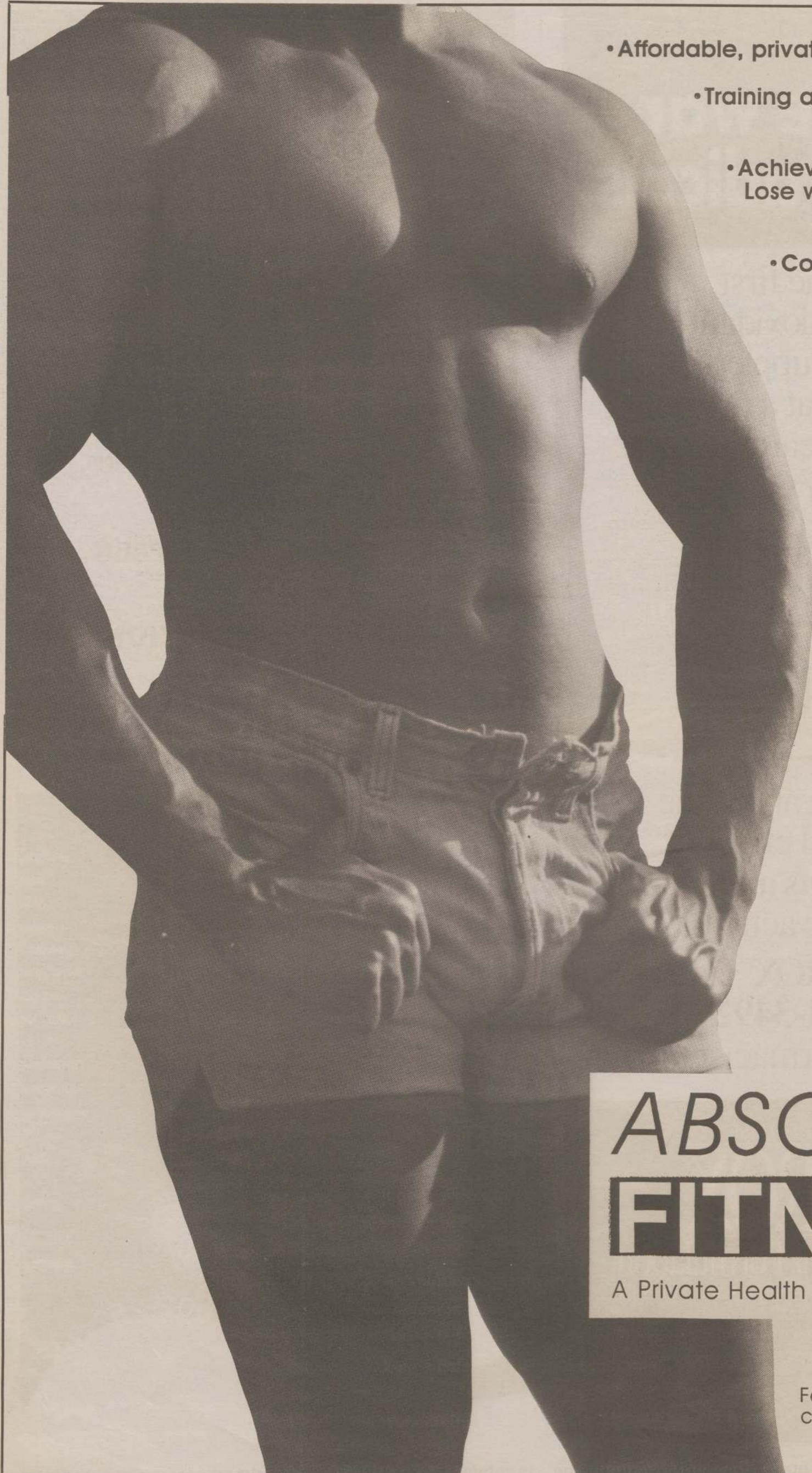
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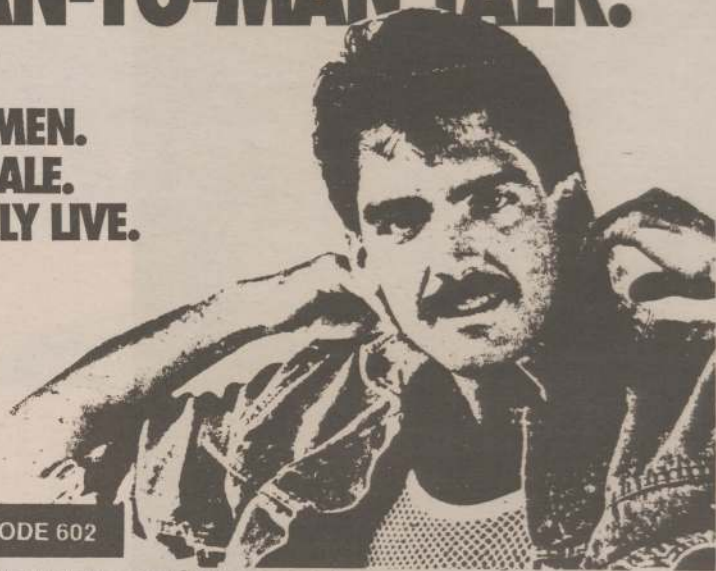
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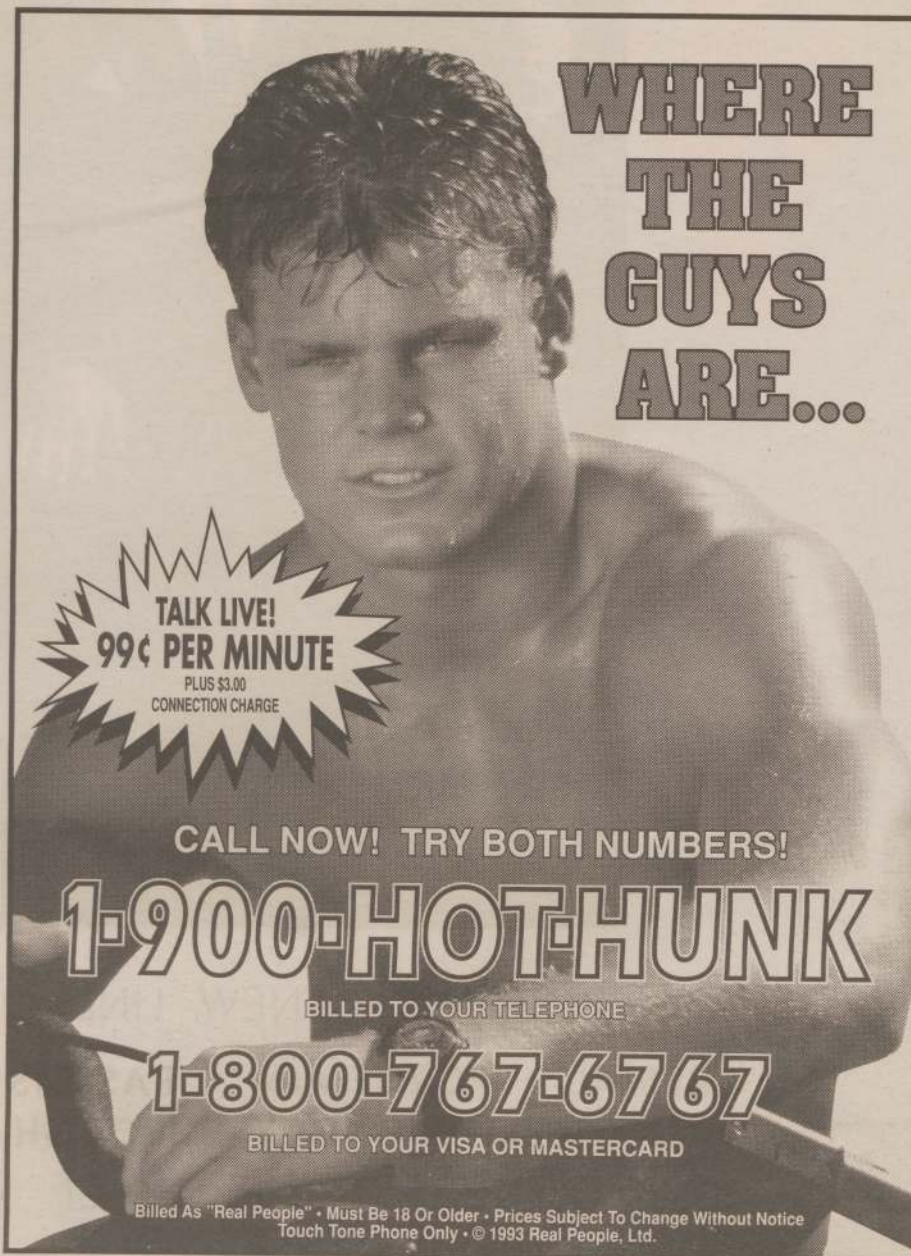
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