

Compiled by Rex Wockner
Contributing Writer

"Right now I play a gay character on TV, and I want you to believe that he's gay. And when all this wonderfulness of *Will & Grace* ends, which I hope it never does, and I move on to other roles, hopefully you'll believe that I'm those characters as well. With the society that we live in today, I don't want to put anything into anybody's mind."

— Sean Hayes, *Jack on Will & Grace*, when asked by TV Guide if he's gay, May 20.

"We are... unnerved by the appointment of Elizabeth Toledo to run the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force... This is the sixth consecutive lesbian feminist executive director at the Task Force. And it's been a while, we might add, since a man has run our other major national group, HRC... The LGBT movement could stand some testosterone at the top. Maybe someone in their late 20s. Maybe someone in their 60s or 70s. Maybe someone African American. Someone from Kansas. Someone bisexual or transgendered or fat. Just someone other than a classically attractive, 40-something lesbian."

— San Francisco Bay Times *news*writer Ann Rostow, May 25.

"fab! gets 10 letters an issue regarding Paulo Murillo's WeHo lifestyle column — but not a word on Gov. Gray Davis' veto of a pro-gay bill. Is this a yuppie millennium thing? Are we baby boomer journalists, who grew up in the shadow of Vietnam, Kent State, Woodstock, etc., not really 'getting' to our younger readers — because 1) they don't know what we're talking about or 2) they don't really give a fuck, when's the next party?"

— Mark Ariel, editor of the L.A. gay newspaper *fab!* in a June 3 e-mail to this column.

"They never asked me until *Serial Mom* and then every reviewer asked me if I was gay. I think it became a political question with AIDS. I always said yes. They never used to ask, and I assumed they knew. They saw the movies. What are they — blind? Do they think a straight man could have made those movies? I don't think so!"

— John Waters' to Palm Springs' Gay & Lesbian Times, May 25.

"Those two [Boy George and George Michael] have always been at each other's throats with this love/hate relationship they have that is really quite funny. In the end, they are just a few bitter, old queens. If they weren't pop stars, they'd be bantering at the local bar — George O'Dowd would be the one with the bigger mouth and be the biggest bitch of the two. Really, it's so dull."

— Singer Jimmy Somerville to Vancouver's Xtra West, June 1.

"Wearing girl's clothing and playing with dolls will not make the boy gay. We now know that homosexuality is a matter of genetics. In other



IN DP WATER

words, they are born that way. Most experts believe that children should have a say in what they wear. When the boy is older, he may be uncomfortable wearing 'frilly' clothing and rebel. Meanwhile, MYOB."

— Syndicated advice columnist Ann Landers in response to a reader who was upset that one of the boys in her daughter's preschool "has beautiful curly hair and wears it long. He also wears ruffled and frilly dresses and stockings with designs on them. He plays with dolls and other 'girl' toys."

"I'm a lesbian... although I haven't been very open about that and throughout most of my life I've gone out with blokes because I haven't necessarily been terribly comfortable about being a lesbian. But I actually am a lesbian."

— Singer Sinead O'Connor in an interview with *Curve* magazine in the issue that comes out June 27.

"I can't think of another time that we've seen a gay rights group exert this kind of pressure so effectively [as they have against Dr. Laura's planned TV show]. I mean, to get Procter & Gamble, United Airlines — these are big American corporations. They must see gay consumers as being pretty important, and they must see some kind of penalty for them if they went ahead with this [advertising]."

— NPR's Mara Liasson on FOX News, May 31.

"Other advertisers should pay attention to P&G's [Procter & Gamble's] words: there are indeed 'better' program options."

— Advertising Age on P&G's decision not to advertise on Dr. Laura Schlessinger's planned TV show because she is anti-gay, May 29.

"I think it's indicative of the improvement of the atmosphere that Bill Clinton has ushered in. People increasingly understand that the prejudice against gay people is just silly."

— Gay U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., in reference to his June 6 speech at the Central Intelligence Agency's gay-pride celebration, to the New York Times, June 9.

"Politics and civil rights played a relatively small role in the festivities. There was little mention of Vermont's new civilunion law providing marriage benefits to homosexuals; Proposition 22, the California initiative banning recognition of gay marriages; or radio talk show host Laura Schlessinger, who has enraged gay rights groups by saying homosexuality is 'deviant.' Much of the parade was devoted to camp and satire, with the acid-tongued fashion guru Mr. Blackwell as grand marshal, waving to the crowd as two men fanned him with giant feathers."

— From Associated Press coverage of Los Angeles June 11 gay pride parade.



BRIDE OF PAT BUCHANAN

"The approval we crave as social animals has finally to be outgrown so that we can take charge of our own lives, come to our own terms... If we have any sense, we learn to make and keep our own promises to ourselves and become accepting rather than accepted people."
— Author Jane Rule

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STAFF

- Publisher & Editor**
Jim Baxter
- Assoc. Editor & Business Mgr.**
Jim Duley
- Production Assistant**
L.D. Curle
- Senior Staff Writer**
Paul Lee
- Display Advertising**
Jim Baxter
(919) 829-0181
- Classifieds & Personals**
TFPClass@aol.com
- National Advertising Sales**
Rivendell Marketing
(212) 242-6863

CONTRIBUTORS

- Sasha Alyson, Alison Bechdel, Pierre Berge, David Bianco, David Brady, Victoria Brownworth, Keith Clark, Meryl Cohn, Andrew Collins, Mubarak Dahir, Sukie de la Croix, Beren DeMotier, Robert DiGiacomo, Lawrence, Ferber, Michael Thomas Ford, Greg Kubiak, Eric Orner, Gip Plasier, Kirk Read Bob Roehr, Harriet Schwartz, Jennifer Vanasco, Steve Warren, Rex Wockner

CONTACT US!

Letters should be 250 words or less, and may be edited for space and clarity. All letters must include daytime and evening phone numbers for verification purposes. Send to:

Address P.O. Box 27928
Raleigh, NC 27611
Phone (919) 829-0181
E-Mail frntpage@aol.com
Fax (919) 829-0830

Web: www.FrontPageNews.com

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