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LeatherWeb



Washington, D.C.
Musings by Vern Stewart
 ARCHIVES 2001

THE EAGLE HAS LANDED

New York leathermen now have a choice. There are two leather bars in the Big Apple. After a year absence, the New York Eagle has returned. Brand new space, great location, and a staff ready to serve. The official opening was in November. However the real test came last weekend. The entire weekend the bar was packed with men and women checking the place out. It can be said that the bar passed with flying colors.

Friday night the bar held a silent auction and Saturday night the selection of NY Eagle Mr. Leather 2002 made it's debut. A sterling crowd of leather folks packed the establishment. Seven hot contestants were vying for the title, and the opportunity to represent the bar and the city. Ed Zurav, Joseph Justin, Ross Nadler, Neville Ward, David Oravez, Robert Napolitano, David West were the contestants. The judging panel was Susan Wright, Steve Pavlus, Carlos Pertuz, Cain Berlinger, John Weis, Michael Marino, and out going NY Mr. Eagle 2000, Jack Rutland. Tally master Thom Saporita, and Den Daddies Dion Brown and James Schlecter along with boy Don Freeman as Judges boy, rounded out the list.

When the scores were tallied, the emcee announced David Oravez, Stamford, CT has the winner for 2002. Runner up honors went to Robert Napolitano, NYC. David will compete at MAL next month in Washington, DC. and will also compete at IML next May. Congratulations to all the contestants. Best wishes and good luck to the winner.

Big thank you to Davien O, the producer of the contest and weekend. A very big thank you goes to the three men that made all this possible. The partners of the Eagle, Derek Danton, Robert Berk, and Art Piloco. The reopening of the bar became a reality because of you.

Baskets for the needy are being prepared. Canned goods and other non perishable foods are being accepted at the Eagle. Please help to make those less fortunate enjoy a merrier Christmas.

Imagine NYC in December with no hint of snow. Further imagine the Big Apple with no water! If the area does not receive any major amount of rain soon we may go to water rationing! Will there be shortages of Perrier in the near future?

Shortly 2001 will be history. It will however, be a year that none of us will never forget. History has given us a permanent role. Who would have thought on January 1, 2001 the unthinkable would happen nine months later? Who would have thought in an hour and a half on September 11 our world as we know it, would be turned upside down. Could we ever imagine that thousands of Americans would lose their lives? Could we even fathom hundreds of children would become parentless in a split second. Families torn apart as we watched in disbelief. Buildings crumbling into dust. Terror striking the hearts, minds and the very soul of every American.

Was there something to be thankful for this year? Perhaps for the millions of Americans who were thankful they did not work in the WTC, or the Pentagon or anyplace close. Did we shudder and think of how many times we boarded an airliner, not once thinking we would not arrive at our destination? Are we now fearful to fly? Do we now catch ourselves looking skyward every time we hear the roar of a jet engine?

Terrorist have made us take a second look at everyone we pass on the streets. When we contemplate travel do we now make sure all our affairs are in order before we leave our homes? Do we think that perhaps our "toys" should not be left lying around in the event something happens and someone in the family may have to go through certain things?

Will we ever be able to not look over our shoulder? Will we ever feel safe again? Do we now take a second look at mail unfamiliar to us? Many have given great thought to the aforementioned.

If there is anything to be thankful for, it is for each other. Living each day to the fullest. Not, as if it will be your last. This Holiday season let all those friends and relatives, and your significant other know that you care. Love, happiness and peace to you and yours

BIG APPLE BAKED DISH.....

Contrary to the rumors, it is true that Danny Clougherty, former Mr. Philadelphia will be leaving on a midnight train to Georgia in the very near future. He must have found a new Georgia peach! He will be there in time to prepare for the spring cotillion! oops..Oh, have no fear he is entering MAL in January....

Yes, that was Daryl Fox, Mr. Southeast Drummer checking out the scene at the Eagle the other night. The look on his face was too priceless, when he saw the pictures of him licking and kissing Dave Rhodes feet at the International Drummer competition this past Oct.
OH, I SEE!!!!

Leather men are lining up in hopes that they will grace one of the pages on the Men of the Eagle calendar soon to be produced. One applicant is planning on winging his way east to give it his best shot. Obviously, he had little luck gracing the pages of the SF produced Bare Chest Calendar.

If you are in the mood for finding yourself a new "squeeze" to kick off 2002, you don't have to look too far. One of the hottest current title holders is SINGLE! I fear there may be a waiting list for this one. I can only tell you, when he gives up his title in January, have your plane ticket ready to visit the Big Apple.

If you are wondering why wait until January? That's because he will be checking out all the hunks in London and Paris during the holidays. P> To that NY Eagle contestant with the fabulous knee high red patent leather lace up boots, former Empress of SF (Donna Sachet) is dying to know where you bought them.

Imagine the contestant who's fantasy would be to steal the broom of the wicked witch. I can only add, Honey, that would be your worst nightmare!

MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND BEST WISHES FOR PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

THE WICKED WITCH...

Photos by Vern Stewart



Robert Napolitano,runner up(L) David Oravez, New York Mr. Eagle Leather 2002



Contest Producer---Davien O



Group shot of the contestants



The judges and Tally master for the contest.
(Not pictured John Weiss)



Handsome photographer from NEXT Magazine



Contestant Ross Nadler, Albany, NY



Contestant Joseph Justin strutting his stuff.

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DC Eagle turns 30

There are very few gay bars in the country, that can lay claim to having been in continuous service for 30 years. The DC Eagle holds that distinction. During Thanksgiving weekend the staff of the Eagle were the gracious hosts of the anniversary celebration and their annual Mr., DC Eagle contest.

Actually the celebration began the day before Thanksgiving. and continued until Sunday. A dark party, elegant dinner, the distribution of the much sought after commemorative pins, and the contest itself.

Friday evening a very elegant invitation only dinner, was hosted by the Eagle, at one of the city's newest restaurant/bar, Hamburger Mary's. A wonderful sit down dinner for 100 of the bar's friends and ardent supporters. Wonderful food, and terrific conversation followed by a short program. Thank you flowed from various members of clubs, businesses, and supporters of the bar. All of the previous Mr.DC Eagle's were in attendance with the exception of two. One Mr., DC Eagle flew in from the West coast arriving an hour before the dinner began.

The entire weekend was dedicated to the memory of the Late Dick McHugh, owner of the Eagle for so many years. The Eagle's anniversary pin was designed in memory of Mr. McHugh. tributes were many. However, it can be said that Leather Rack owner Jim McGlade very eloquently spoke of Dick McHugh, and also included long time previous Leather Rack owner Richard Cogan. The Leather Rack got it's start at what was then known as the Washington Eagle.

Three location moves, and 30 years later the DC Eagle is going strong. Current owner Bill Cappello and the staff of the Eagle are always there to greet you and welcome you. It must be said that one of the unsung hero's of the DC Eagle, who does not receive nearly enough recognition is none other than Michael Evans. A dedicated, loyal, man who loves the DC Eagle. Thank you Michael for all your wonderful years of service, not only to the bar, but to the entire leather community.

All previous DC Eagle title holders in attendance were presented with a specially designed sterling silver medallion. Members of the DC Eagle staff were also presented with the medallions as well. Bronze medallions were presented to other valued members of the Eagle family. Wayne Nesbitt Mr. DC Eagle 98 was responsible for those beautiful medallions. And yes, his honey of 10 years was presented with one as well. Gee Glenn, see what I started? You deserved that medallion.

From the dinner guests were shuttled to the Eagle to continue celebrating with a packed house. The Eagle hosted an open bar for what seemed like half the night. No complaints were heard on that.

Saturday evening after contestant interviews were held. The contest got underway. Ken Snowden , a favorite at the Eagle, emceed the evenings event. Six contestants were vying for the Mr., DC Eagle title. Robert Keys, Herb Kaylor, Jason Hendrix, Ed Moore, Emanuel Nixon, and one contestant who went by the name of "Hairy Butt" (it was'nt).

The winner will represent the Eagle at IML next May. American Leatherman 97 Jim Raymond and IML 2001, Stefan Mueller handled the tally master duties. When all was said and done, Herb Kaylor was announced as Mr., DC Eagle 2001/2002.Jason Hendrix was 1 runner up.

As for the outgoing titleholder, Darrell Moyers, a true gentleman, who everyone loves. His speech was short and to the point. You could tell Stefan Mueller thinks the world of Darrell, by the wonderful words he spoke of Darrell. As Darrell mentioned, dreams

can come true. The entire leather community is extremely proud of you.

The weekend was indeed memorable. Thanks Bill, thanks staff, a good time was had by all.

Meanwhile our neighbors to the North (Canada) were holding their Mr. Leatherman Toronto contest. The winner of that contest is Bill Dearsley. He will compete at IML 2002. Frank Nowicki emceed that event.

The NY Eagle is gearing up for their leather contest. The applications are out. The contest is open to all leathermen in the tri state area. Connecticut, New Jersey, and NY. The winner will go to Mid Atlantic Leather and IML. The contest begins at 8 PM, December 8. The Eagle has become a very popular bar. In addition to the contest, the bar will be producing a Calendar entitled Men of the Eagle. So, if you have always wanted grace a page on a calendar, now is your chance.

If being a Daddy is your thing and having a sash to prove it is all you have ever dreamed about, well guess what? There is a contest custom made just for you. Ft. Lauderdale, FL. will be holding the first ever International Leather Daddy contest. This contest will be held during the month of March 2002.

Great time to get away for a weekend. Lots of sunshine, beaches and forget the snow! According to sources in the state of Florida, Ft. Lauderdale, has become Ft. Leatherdale! Hmmm I, SEE! Stay tuned for more information on this upcoming pageant!

Thoughts and prayers to Mark Greene, Intl Drummerboy 2002 who's Father, suffered a stroke and a heart attack this past week. We are thinking of you.
Dot Dot Dish..

Amazing how important some people think they. Until they do not receive an invitation to an "A" list dinner and have a hissy fit! So much for thinking you were a pillar of the DC Leather community! I should think if a person who gives the party is paying for it, I should think they have the right to invite whom ever they want? So it would seem to me. The European clowns of Drummer demise are attempting to surface once again. Once again babbling on and on about the resurrection of the magazine, and the contest. Now that they have run the once honored name into the ground, the only thing left is to grab a shovel and toss the dirt into the grave. Who in their right mind would pay to read on the Internet anything coming from those people? Dead, (should be buried) and stinking are three words that come to mind.

What's with that former SF Leather Daddy who spends a great deal of time bad mouthing another SF columnist? Did we not hear enough of that several years ago, when another feud erupted into volcanic proportions...Cease and desist and give us a rest?

People are still laughing over the recent contestant who entered a leather contest in shorts and loafers. According to the first lady of Leather, the only thing worse, would have been if he had worn WINGTIPS! OOPS!

For those who are interested in who has been invited to judge the Mid Atlantic Leather contest, the following names have popped up. Annie Romano-Bias, Mike Zuhl, Stefan Mueller, Mark Greene, Joni Perry, Jim McGlade and Michael Marino. A very illustrious group to say the least.

The burning question in the minds of many leathermen is, where is it written that every single leather contest has to have a drag queen performing some tired lip sync song? What ever became of the days when one attended a leather event and not witness a Women's Wear Daily fashion show of wigs, high heels, and taffeta. A little drag goes a L-O-N-G ways.

No, you were not seeing things, if you thought you saw big John McDonald, former honcho of the Baltimore Eagle out last weekend. He was at the DC Eagle, taking in all the sights and sounds of the weekend. Single, I might add!

David Palm former Mr. Southeast Leather, has had it with North Carolina. Don't be surprised when the moving van pulls up in front of his house. Retired, single, footloose and fancy free. DC or SF look out he may be coming your way!

Derick Rojas, did certainly seem to be promoting "boytime" at the DC Eagle last week. Lip locks were long and strong, not to mention all those hand prints on his lovely derriere.

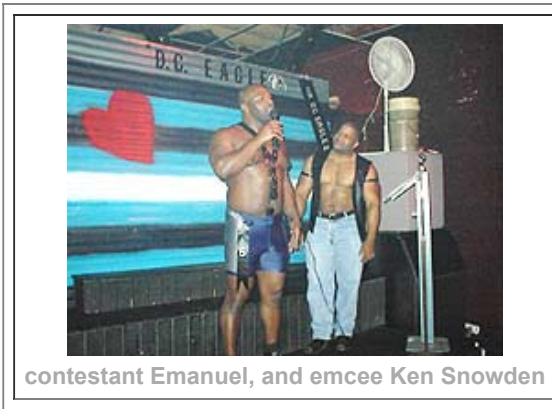
A bar in NYC recently hosted a Black Inches party. Put on by the famed magazine. And let me tell you, inches turned into feet if you brought a tape measure with you! Whew! It is not always true what they say about black men, but in this instance----it sure was!

The Wicked Witch

Photos by Vern Stewart



Mr. DC Eagle, Herb Kaylor and 1st R U Jason Hendricks



contestant Emanuel, and emcee Ken Snowden



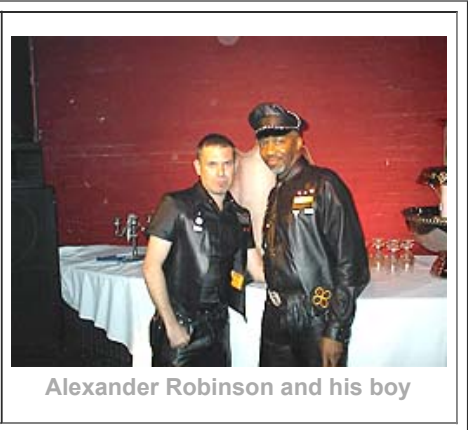
All the former Mr. DC Eagles, Woof!



Wayne Nesbit and Lover Glenn



Mr. DC Eagle, Herb Kaylor and 1st R U Jason Hendricks



Alexander Robinson and his boy

INTERNATIONAL DRUMMER
INTERNATIONAL DRAMA
Photos by Vern Stewart

To say the International Drummer weekend was a weekend to never, never forget would be the understatement of the year. Drummer and drama is putting it mildly.

Oh the contest proceeded as planned. Ten Drummer men and 10 Drummer boy contestants from all across the United States. Most of the contestants if not all rived on Wednesday. All were in a very up mood and ready for a weekend of fun. Sponsors, supporters, and guests unpacked their personal items, and headed pool side to bask in the warm Florida sun. Tom Kiple owner of the Suncoast Resort welcomed all with open arms.

But by the time Thursday arrived drama was developing. Thursday evening, the contestants drew their numbers for the competition and the meet and greet proceeded. The bars were packed, and all the vendors were smiling as the cash registers were humming a tune.

Friday morning the interview process got under way. The Drummer Sirs were brought in one at a time to be questioned by Brian Dawson, Dave Rhodes, Kevin Stedman, Jo Romano-Bias, Daniel Clark, Thom Dombkowski, Mr. Marcus, and yours truly. Delightful men each and every one of them. All had done their homework, and all had a distinct desire to serve the leather community. Their backgrounds varied, but their love of leather and the Drummer image was there for all to see and hear. And hear them we did.

Florida Drummer, Jose Bermudez, Great Lakes Drummer Terry Snodgrass, Gulf Coast Drummer Billy Bob Spears, Mid Atlantic Drummer Gary Vandeventer, New England Drummer Russ Kippen, Northern Cal Drummer Robert Espindola, Northwest Drummer, Gene Romaine, Southwest Drummer Daryl Fox, Southern Cal Drummer Chris Colas, and Southwest Drummer Michael Edwin.

What a super bunch of men. After the interview portion was over, all the judges knew this was not going to be an easy contest, and the selection was going to be very difficult.

The basket auction proved to be quite a success later Friday evening. Never did any in attendance think bingo could be fun and entertaining. Boy were they proved wrong! a sizable amount of money was raised for the travel fund. Once that was over, the dungeon party was a smash hit. Mattresses in rooms got the workout of all time. Pity those poor housekeepers. Washing machines, and dryers ran 24 hours a day!

Saturday morning rolled around and the Drummerboy interviews. The boys were delightful, well informed, and not afraid to speak their minds. Every one of them knew the role of a boy, and knew the difference between a boy and a slave. They were awesome. Shawn Carey Florida Drummerboy, David Shane Great Lakes Drummerboy, boy Patrick Gulf Coast Drummerboy, Mark Greene Mid Atlantic Drummerboy, William Shields New England Drummerboy, Andrew McCarthy Northern Cal Drummerboy, Mark Nunley Northwest Drummerboy, Paul Ferreira Southeast Drummerboy, Stephen Blackwell Southern Cal Drummerboy, and Michael Butts Southwest Drummerboy.

It is not too often that one can say they were all heavy hitters. And the judges thought judging the Sir's was hard! Cocktail parties prevailed nearly every hour and every one of them was so much fun. As contest time neared, those who had not seen it previously were dumbfounded at the size of the tent that had been erected. You could have watched the US tennis matches in there. It was huge!

Frank Nowicki emceed the event. That in itself meant the show ran smoothly---AND ON TIME. The fantasies were original, well planned and executed very professionally. Needless to say none of the audience missed one second of the Jock strap portion. The speeches were timed and most were under their time limit.

Outgoing Intl. Drummerboy Ritchie Black gave his stepping aside speech. Very interesting and moving. Daniel Clark, outgoing IMD gave his step-down speech. It was indeed very nice to see nearly all, if not all of the Drummer class of 2000 standing behind him on stage. It was indeed very impressive.

To Daniel and Ritchie, you handled your year extremely well. The entire leather community appreciates your love, patience, and all the BS that you had to endure. Much success in all your future endeavors,

The envelopes were handed to Mike Zuhl, after tally masters Jim Raymond, and Woodie Barnes totaled the scores. The announcement of the golden collar award went to William Shields, Drummerboy from New England, Mark S. Greene, Mid Atlantic Drummerboy was announced as Intl. Drummerboy, Gary Vandeventer, Mid Atlantic Drummer, grabbed the title of Intl. Mr. Drummer 2001. Robert Espindola was runner up and winner of the golden whip award. Paul Ferreira was the boy runner up. Only the second time ever that both contestants who won hailed from the same region.

It is the very first time a person of color has been selected to represent the Drummerboy title. Congratulations to both of the winners.

In Utica, NY. the North Atlantic Leather contest was underway, The Utica Tri's held their annual event. Roger Cruttenden, Mr. Western, NY grabbed that title. Tony boy, Mr. Hillside Leatherboy was selected as North Atlantic Leatherboy.

Roger will compete at IML next May, and boy Tony will compete at the American Leatherboy competition in Washington, DC next April Mike Franklin, Mr. Oneida Leather was announced as the first runner-up. Congratulations and best wishes to all.

DOUBLE DISH.....

You would have had to have been there department..... The news that Mike Zuhl, would not produce Drummer next year, hit like a bolt of lightning. And for good reason..picture this---A certain clown from Amsterdam, telling every contestant that he was running the show. Forcing the contestants, to take drugs before their photo shoots, in order to have stiff appendages for the photos. Having them pose for over two hour photo shoots...HOW DARE THEY! Mike Zuhl has every right to be furious, and the contestants as well!

You should have been there.....To see a certain current title holder being escorted off the premises of the Suncoast resort, for drunk and disorderly conduct. after making a scene. And she is supposed to be a role model. Not the first time happy juice has caused someone to come from together. Very quiet in the state of Nebraska over this one.

You should not have missed

The Drummer sir contestant, who wound up as the boy/slave being paraded around the pool, bound and almost gagged by his Drummerboy, being told to lick and kiss everyone's feet..Leather Journal publisher loved that one as his feet were being

devoured. Oh yes, there are photos!
We know who was partly responsible....

For all the Drummer boys who grabbed the wicked witch off a lounging chair and tossed him in the pool clothes and all. And they thought the witch would melt. The witch did not melt much to everyone's dismay. Were I those people, I would be looking up towards the sky. Never can tell what might fall on them! I SEE!

The worlds premiere leather emcee...Microphone in hand at a leather event wearing TENNIS SHOES!!! OH YES IT'S TRUE. Guess you will have to get the details from Mr. Nowicki!!!!

Inquiring minds still want to know.... Why was former IML 95 given a hard time at the dungeon space? After all, he was volunteering his time to help run the place? Don't think he is planning on attending another Drummer event and the same goes for his lover! Nice way to treat the volunteers!

I wonder if the former NAL 2000 will now have his photo placed in the bar in Utica with another title holder. Seems as though he could never understand why his was never up there, but someone who is not a title holder from that area has his photo there....Oh well....This is not the same title holder who forgot to thank his significant other in his step down speech is it?...oops!

Has anyone asked John Marino how it feels to be a sash widow these days? Now that his new squeeze has grabbed the International title.

The new International Drummerboy, had to beat off crowds of new fans. All wanting something from him...Gee, I wonder what it was they wanted?

How many recognized former Intl. Mr. Drummer Woody Bebout? That long, long beard covered up that handsome face. But then every body recognized Jeffery Adler and the blond tresses. Then you have some that are like a fine wine, Brian Dawson had boys and men alike nearly dragging their tongues on the ground--- You go Brian!

Ask former Intl. Drummerboy Kevin Steadman if he had a good time. He must have since he was seen sneaking into his room at 9 AM and the contestant interviews began at 11 AM...oops

The Wicked Witch

The New International Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy



Gary Vandeventer and Mark Greene



Gary Vandeventer
Int'l Mr. Drummer 2001



Wayne Nesbitt presents the Golden Collar Award to
New England Drummer Boy, William Shields



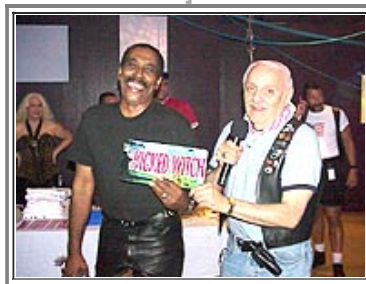
Mark Greene
Int'l Drummer Boy 2001



2001 Int'l Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy Contestants

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Photos by Vern Stewart



Vern getting the license plate for his broom

YOU CAN'T KEEP A GREAT CITY DOWN...

For the past month the entire world has focused their thoughts, love and concern on two great eastern cities. The nations capital, and New York City, I am pleased to report that both cities seem to be fairing very well.

Driving down some of the streets in Manhattan restored my faith in mankind. Down but never out for the count. New Yorkers were going about their business at hand, The look of fear on faces, has been replaced by caution and a newfound respect for community togetherness.

Driving from the Bronx via Harlem to the lower east and west sides of the city, I observed something totally unbelievable. Not one horn honked from any of the thousands of taxi cabs coming and going. a new aura of patience seems to have gripped the city. Most unusual for the city that never sleeps.

Security around various government and city bldg. was very evident. This was especially noticeable around the Rockefeller center, Central Park south, and Times Square areas which house the three broadcasting companies. ABC, NBC, and CBS were on high alert. observed Nathan Lane grabbing a sandwich at a local deli. Several other roadway stars were out and about and spending time talking to the general public.

However, no matter where you were, you constantly noticed people still glancing towards where those magnificent twin towers once stood. The beautiful Chrysler bldg., and the impressive Empire State Bldg. now reign supreme once again.

Parking north of ground zero, I headed to the LURE. Michael Marino, MAL 2001 was hosting a benefit for three charities. Two in NY and one in DC. Titled PORN AGAIN II, the fundraiser was a smashing success. u have to hand it to that young man, he has busted his pretty butt all year long.

Michael has raised money for various causes all year long. Unlike some titleholders, he is a hands on person. Not just attending functions, but creating, and initiating events. The event was well attended. All that attended left with shopping bags full of goodies. For those who love collecting magazines, it was 7th heaven. Video's were being snapped up at a record pace.

Personally, I could stay home for the next 5 months, watching videos if I care to. Yes, I had shopping bags for days! Porn star Donnie Russo lent his assistance, and Will Clark flew in from Los Angeles to be a part of the proceedings. Thank you Michael for an afternoon that was well spent.

I had been hearing for the past week that the Eagle has landed. I was intent on seeing just where it had landed. The world famous NY Eagle indeed did land on West 28th street off 11th Ave. Reopened in a wonderful new space. The new Eagle offers two floors. Excellent sound system. Dazzling bartenders, including several from the old Eagle. Bartenders without attitude. My God, they even say thank you when you tip them!

One bartender named Brad, on the first floor, could not do enough to make sure everyone was having a good time. On the second floor, John was equally as attentive, and so funny. All the bartenders are a welcomed addition, especially the cutie who is originally from France. All bartenders were in Leather and looking good.

Imagine going into a bar where the bathrooms are so clean that you can actually spend time in there, and not feel like you have to go home and shower! The owners are very conscious in keeping it a leather bar. the huge video screen and various other monitors made for interesting viewing.

I ran into a customer who had checked his jacket several nights previously, and by accident the coat check person had given his coat to the wrong customer. The owner, immediately told the patron to purchase another jacket, and just bring him the bill and he would be reimbursed immediately. HELLO!

Once the newness wears off, we will see how the bar fares. But for my money, New York and the leather community has a hit on their hands. A welcomed addition to the Big Apple. Congratulations to management and staff of the NY Eagle. Oh yes, there is plenty of room for a contest. I wonder who will be the next Mr., NY Eagle?

The time is nearing for New Yorkers to head to the polls, to select a new Mayor. Of course like any politicians, the contestants have made promises. Hopefully they will keep at least one-fourth of them. The Republicans, have a wealthy businessman running, and the Democrats have a businessman with some ties to previous city hall administrations. Both have some liberal thoughts regarding the lesbian and gay community. We shall see how this all unfolds next month.

Many cannot wait for the current mayor to depart. However, considering the way he handled things after September 11, some in the straight community wish he were staying in office. With regard to Rudi, I can only say, don't let the door hit you where the good lord - - - - you!

Sincere condolences to the friends and family of John Purdie. The Ottawa Knights have lost a wonderful friend, mentor and advisor. John was such a special man, and will indeed be missed by all of us. The Ottawa Knights will proceed with their contest next month dedicated to the memory of John Purdie.

EAST COAST DISH.....

To that silly circuit queen, who calls himself a columnist for some rag in Florida. That "don't you know who I am" crap went out with Al Capone and high button shoes! You don't even have a clue as to who won the contest. I don't blame the management of the Suncoast resort for not giving you a free room and free drinks. And because they did not accommodate your sorry - - -, you decided to trash the resort. While you may think Ft. Lauderdale is the leather capital of the world, how wrong you are.

Take your marshmallow pumps, and your crayon and go back to South Beach and write about something you know about, like--- gold lame, and patent leather pumps!

Yes, that was former Mr. Philadelphia Leather Danny Clougherty at the LURE. His vanilla other half would not allow him to wear leather during their days of wedded bliss. I guess that is why he is now the EX other half! Free at last, free at last.....

Sparky, member of the staff at the LURE, is just as gracious as ever. However, it was quite funny to see one of the LURE barbacks trying to decide which jock to wear that he won in a raffle. One was a large, and the other a small. There were not enough socks to stuff in the large, so we assume he opted for the small! Gee Alan (Roseanna Dana) the things you have to go through to make a fashion statement.

I love the statement made by the newest Drummer sash widow from Albany. While attending a recent event. " I may be attached, but I ain't blind." OH, I SEE!

Are temper tantrums on the upswing again in the nations capital? Hopefully not. One this year was quite enough! Although I am sure the publisher of the Metro Weekly would not mind the extra revenue.hmmm

And to all those naysayers, Drummer Contests Intl., is alive and well. Even a new website...to go along with the new title and logo...Effective today, The contest formally known as Drummer, will now be known as the "International LeatherSIR & Leatherboy Contest". the website is. www.LeadherSir.com. Stay tuned for debut of the new posters and big announcements. Even the contest formally known as the Northeast Drummer regional contest is being revived according to Mike Zuhl, President. The producer of that contest will be Davien O. Stayed tuned.

What in the world is going on in Palm Springs, that has title holders moving there in droves? Rumor has it that the newest resident is none other than Mr. Northern, CA Drummer 2001.

The Kinsey Sicks, San Francisco's own, are making a big splash in NY. Packing them in at UPSTAIRS at 54. They certainly were a hit in P-town this past summer.

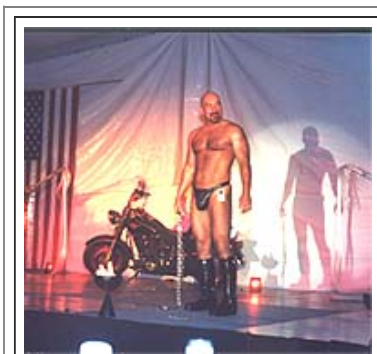
Leather contests are rolling right along. Baltimore, Ottawa, the Thirtieth anniversary of the DC Eagle and the DC Eagle contest, Toronto, and of course Mid Atlantic Leather in January. So it's time to start pulling that leather out of mothballs. High Cow season is in effect.

The Wicked Witch

The New International Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy



Gary Vandeventer and Mark Greene



Gary Vandeventer
Int'l Mr. Drummer 2001



Wayne Nesbitt presents the Golden Collar Award to
New England Drummer Boy, William Shields



Mark Greene
Int'l Drummer Boy 2001



2001 Int'l Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy Contestants

A NATION UNDER SIEGE

For those who remember November 22, 1963, they can recall the exact moment and where they were when the news of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy circled the globe.

Such will be the case for our younger generation. September 11, 2001, will be a date that none of us will ever forget. Murder before our very eyes. In a country where complacency has become the norm, who would have ever believed such an act of terrorism would happen?

Shock, despair, disgust, anger, hatred, love, compassion, are all words that we have heard over and over these past few days. However, none of these words can really express what each and every American feels in the pit of their stomach.

The loss of human life, taken so quickly by the actions of a group of terrorist intent upon bringing the United States to their knees is totally incomprehensible. To me, it has not brought the United States to their knees, instead we are standing strong. Stronger than ever before and standing together, the likes that we have never witnessed before.

From bleeding liberals, to staunch right wing conservatives, we have shown to the world that in this case---WE ARE ONE. Makes no difference of sexual preference, gay, straight, young, old or ethnic background. We will persevere. Make no mistake, complacency has, and will take a back seat.

This was a wake up call, which we should have taken much more seriously the first time the attempted destruction of the World Trade Center took place in 1993. Terrorist focused on the symbol of supremacy, power and freedom. What better object to focus on than the twin towers of the largest and most populated city in the United States.

How could this happen? It happened because we are hated in a number of regions of the world. We are seen as an arrogant country by many. Powerful, wealthy, and perhaps even selfish, reflect how some others through out the world view us.

The tears, the loss of family, friends, loved ones will eventually give way to anger, and retaliation. Make no mistake, this is only the beginning of what will turn quite possibly into World War III. Something that most citizens and the younger generation has never witnessed.

The last war ever fought in this country, was long before any of us were alive. Now we are at the brink of this happening right in our own back yard. If September 11, is any sign of what may be coming, every American should look ahead and prepare themselves, mentally as much, if not more so than physically.

We are a troubled nation deeply hurting and in great sorrow. Not everyone from every city may have someone, or know someone who was on the doomed airliners, or at the Pentagon, or the twin towers. But we all can relate to the suffering of those who have lost someone. The loss for me personally was great. Employed by American Airlines, I lost friends, and coworkers, and relatives in the collapsed buildings. But I am not alone. The prayer wall, and the hundreds of photographs posted by Mothers, Fathers, sisters, brothers and other family members is simply overwhelming. My prayers and thoughts go out to all of dead and missing.

We can find solace in our religions, our faith in God, and prayer. Not just for the ones lost and missing but for each other. We have pulled together. we must stay together...We shall overcome.

Vern Stewart

MS. WORLD LEATHER, A SMASHING SUCCESS

[See Photos Below](#)

The word successful is the only way to describe the Ms. World Leather contest held in Dallas, TX. Nothing was left to chance to ensure that everything ran smoothly. Contestants and attendees were treated like royalty. The board of directors left no stone unturned. Gracious Texas hospitality was the phrase the entire weekend.

The curious that attended, were in for a big surprise. There has never been a contest with the format that was presented. Audience participation was the name of the game. Guests were allowed to witness the interview portion, as well as the other categories. The press was allowed an hour of rapid fire questions worthy of a presidential press conference aimed at all the contestants.

All contestants have been very visible in their respective communities. A format and platform was discussed by each contestant. The contestants, did not come to Dallas proclaiming what they would like to do should they win the title. Every contestant, had a history of public service.

Nine extremely worthy contestants graced the stage. Annie Romano-Blas, San Diego, Ann Brown, Dallas, TX, Mindy Chateauvert, Washington, DC., Lynette Hadlock, Bixby, OK., Lady D Harrison, Tucker, GA. Jennifer Mork, San Francisco, Tiffany Penn, Houston, TX. Kay Prince, Panama City Beach, FL., and Marilyn Zerquera, North Miami Lakes, FL.

It was a no nonsense contest. They were there for business. My, My did they strut their stuff. Every outfit worn by the contestants was indeed a fashion show in itself. Every event began and ended on time. A press kit was given to each member of the press which was as thick as the websters dictionary, detailing everything connected with the contest.

It was indeed a wonder that the judges were able to select a winner from those wonderful women. But in the end, Annie Romano-Blas was selected and the first Ms. World Leather. Mindy Chateauvert, grabbed the first runner up spot.

It can truly be said that the entire Ms. World Leather staff was indeed so wonderful and so helpful to everyone. There was a basket auction on Saturday evening. It was the most incredible auction that I have ever witnessed. One basket, included a bra that converted into a sling! The only word to describe it would be FEARCE! The auction brought in \$7,845.00. And the winner of the contest was given a pen, and she wrote out that amount to the charity of her choice. Positively awesome!

Of course the winner was presented with a \$7,000.00 travel fund. How's that for a premiere contest? I dare say that this contest, with the excellent board, and producers, will be a force to reckon with in the ensuing years....Look out IMSL!

The hotel was delightful, and the Sunday brunch was a gourmet delight. Congratulations to everyone who had a hand in this successful venture. The flyer announced that it was a different kind of contest. The flyer was correct. I can add to that, a wonderful kind.

Entertainment was provided by the wonderful Evelyn "Champagne" King. She rocked the house. Shuttle buses ran all night to dungeon parties, and the Dallas Eagle. There was even a dungeon party Sunday afternoon...Whew!

DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS DISH.....

Intl. Mr. Drummer 98, Herve' Bernard, flew in from Paris for the weekend. And yes he did have his French designer cowboy boots with him! However, all the big bears at the Dallas Eagle were either stepping on them, or dribbling tobacco juice on them! Gee, Herve' I guess you should have brought those white tennis's and you would have fit right in!! oops...

Former Mr. Northern CA Drummer Ray Tilton wasted no time in pulling off his shirt and working the crowd at the Eagle..Don't believe that story that he lost a pin in the bar and was on his knees looking for it!!! hmmm

Picture this---- A bar full of men and some women as well, suddenly the power went out. No air conditioning in a Dallas Bar? Not pretty. Nor was the contestant, who decided to break into a sad, depressing Roberta Flack tune, while the lights were out....Fortunately there was no room for her to stand on the bar and yodel!

Most disgusting that some jerks broke into the room of one of the contestants, and helped themselves to all kind of kink toys, and an amount of cash.

That Sunday go to meeting chapeau that the contestant from Bixby, OK. wore to the brunch worked everyone. It was soooo grand! and that hat said something. Wonder how many ostrich's are running around naked?

Never let it be said that high heels are out. Oh, contrare. One pair of red pumps in one of the baskets, had quite a few leathermen checking the size, and wondering if they could fit into a pair of size 10's! Well....after all Halloween is just around the corner!

The wonderful Ann Brown, contestant from Dallas, took a fall Friday evening. But did that stop her? Absolutely not! She refused to take any pain killer medication, grabbed that walker, and continued with the contest....Now that's a real trooper, and a real beauty. Best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Queen Cougar the emcee, swept on stage in a creation that was too grand. Giving that imperial wave. The only thing missing was the double doors that Loretta Young used to make an entrance through. Does anyone know who Loretta Young was? Or am I dating myself?

If anyone ever wants the number one tallymaster in the US to handle the scoring of their contest, then by all means you must have Tim Wong. Price Waterhouse, and the academy awards have nothing on him. If he had been in Florida for last Novembers election debacle, we would have had a president that same evening!

Odd, there were none of the big shots from IMsL in attendance. Oh yes, they were in the other leather capital-----PALM SPRINGS! However, it was so nice to know that several former IMsL's were in attendance. Thanks Pat, and Jo, and of course the wonderful Jill Carter.

The Wicked Witch....

The Witch



Ms. World Leather Contestants



Ms. World Leather 2001 - Annie Romano-Bias



Ms. World Leather Contestants



1st Runnerup
Mindy Chateauvert, Wash DC



Lynnette Hadlock (with hat)



1st Ruunerup at IMsL and
Mr. Marcus



Elaine McMullen
Enjoying the contest

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Mr. Suncoast Leather 2000, 2001; (St. Petersburg, FL)
LEFT: Earl Thomas, Mr. SunCoast Eagle 2000 (Outgoing)
RIGHT: Bruce Ross (SIR ROSS), Mr. SunCoast Eagle, 2001



FROM BEAN TOWN TO CAMPGROUND

As the summer is winding down, leather contests are still in full swing. Boston was the site of the Mr. New England Drummer and Drummerboy contest. The Ramrod hosted the contest. Three contestants put their best foot forward competing for the Mr. Drummer title, and there was one contestant for the Drummerboy title. See [Photos](#) below.

Even though there was only one boy competing, the judges put him through all the paces. He had to have a 50% or better score in order to capture the title. The winner, William Shields did do just that. His background, experience and knowledge of the leather community was very obvious for all to see and hear.

William is not a newcomer. In 1994 he captured the Intl. Bootblack title in Chicago. For him, it's on to Florida, and the Intl. Drummerboy competition. Boston has a fine representative. When the scoring was completed, Russ Kippen grabbed the New England Mr. Drummer title and also will compete for the Intl. title. Congratulations to both winners.

Outgoing NE Drummer, Daniel Rabone, gave a short to the point thank you speech. Thanking his supporters, friends, sponsors, and last but not least his extremely popular lover Rich. Rich also served as tallymaster for the event.

Although the contest was scheduled as a two day affair, mother nature put a crimp in the plans. Due to severe thunderstorms, power was knocked out in several large areas of the city. The Ramrod being located in one of those areas was without electricity for more than 12 hours. It is indeed somewhat of a chore to drive through the city when most of it is totally in the dark.

This also meant NO AIR CONDITIONING. Anyone who has visited the east coast during the hot humid summer month, knows how miserable and uncomfortable that can be. Power was restored just prior to closing time, and the contest was postponed until the next evening.

A number of titleholders were in attendance to lend their support. Darrell Moyers, Fraser Picard, IMD 99, Mr. Maine Leather, The current Intl Drummer, and Intl Drummerboy Mr. Ebony Leather, Mr. Boston Leather, 01, and Mr. Boston Leather, 02, and the newly sashed Morgan Monceaux, Mr. Ocean State Leather just to name a few.



In the Keystone State, another special leather event took place. The annual Mr. Oneida Leather contest was held. This contest originally was just a weekend leather contest held once a year for the enjoyment of the campers that spent their summer weekends at Camp Oneida.

A beautiful campground nestled in the hills of Pennsylvania approximately 30 miles from Scranton. Gay owned and operated. Many leathermen have permanent sites there and some have been coming to the campground for well over 20 years.

As the years have progressed, the contest has taken on a new look. The producer of the event, Rick Spencer, who once carried the title himself, has worked very hard to make this a first class fun event. The stage is nestled in the trees, great lighting, and sound made it a most enjoyable presentation.



Trunks of leather apparel was seen being carted from the many pickup trucks parked in and around some very snazzy trailers. Five contestants were vying for the title. The winner will compete at the North Atlantic Leather contest. That contest will be held in Utica, NY in October. The winner of that contest will compete at IML next May.



The contestants were, Adam Kaplowitz, Scranton, PA, David Vernier, East Syracuse, NY. Henry Lain, Matawan, NJ. Kevin Busif, Harrisburg, PA., and Mike Franklin. Oxford, NY.

All the contestants were required to do a fantasy. Interview, speech, formal leather and of course Jock strap/hot wear were the additional categories.



Outgoing Mr. Oneida 2000, Roger Cruttenden gave a short thank you speech for all the support he received. Emcee Bob Forbes announced the winners. Mike Franklin was selected the new Mr. Oneida Leather, Adam Kaplowitz was first runner up, and Kevin Busif was second runner up.

The weekend was so very relaxing, great bonfires, terrific food, plenty to drink, and some of the greatest guys that you would ever want to meet. After a weekend with these people, you felt like you had known them all your life.

The disco club was quite the place, and the sauna, was certainly very busy! It must be mentioned that one of "the" parties of the weekend, was the Mardi Gras party, complete with steamed clams, and New Orleans gumbo. With all the decorations, you just knew you were on Bourbon Street. The hosts were wonderful.

Rick Spencer and all the wonderful volunteers worked their butts off to ensure a smashing success. Hospitality was the key word. A huge thank you goes to the SMC (Syracuse Men's Club) for all their hard work.

DISH IN THE WOODS?----- YOU BETCHA..

No, that was not a SF earthquake we felt. It was just a well known daddy, and his two boys, moaning, groaning, and getting it on in that trailer..Poor things, could hardly move the next morning! Yeah, the boys, and they were half the age of Daddy!

And there was the person who quite loudly proclaimed he would never enter a contest. According to him, he did not have what it takes. hmmm, was that the same person that was wearing the new sash the following evening? Yes, it was! He was also the same person who said, "A sash won't change me." Queen Victoria had nothing on him when he made his royal appearance the next morning! The royal wave was given to perfection!

The entertainment was great. Well, of course there is a Miss Oneida! And that Edna B. Hive (with a wig to match) did a comedy routine, and no one in the audience was safe from her cusinart sharp tongue. All in good humor, but she did read everyone from an amazing grace to a fare thee well.

Nice to know the campers there did support the event. Pity there were hardly any leathermen from the other clubs. Hillside Campground which just happens to be at the next exit, less than 15 minutes away! Even more ironic, is the fact that the winner of the Oneida contest will be a contestant at the Utica contest in October sponsored by some of the leathermen who reside at

Hillside. What's up with that? However, it was nice to see the several who did find time to break away from fantasy weekend and lend their support

Elbow Grease, was a sponsor of the contest. The company made sure there was plenty of their product around. Guests and visitors alike were able to slide through the weekend very easily. The Elbow Grease T shirts were not too shabby nor was the very nice gift basket they provided.

If an award was to be given for "P" tease of the weekend, it would have certainly been won by that cute owner of the Pride Connection gift store located in Rochester, NY.

What's with the Rochester Rams? Are they too grand to attend runs other than their own? As the old saying goes, what goes around comes around!

Interesting to observe the jaw of the EX of Henry Lain drop when he saw Henry on stage and a contestant. So you thought Henry didn't have the balls? Well, guess again!

If you have the time, and appreciate getting out of the city for a relaxing, weekend of fun with a great bunch of guys, then plan on coming down to Camp Oneida next summer. You won't regret it.... I returned from the weekend, and will return my mosquito spray to the store. Never pulled it out of the bag Now I am impressed!

The Witch



New England Drummer contestants and NE Drummer 2000 Daniel Rabone



New England Drummer Russ Kippen and NE Drummerboy William Shields



New England Drummer contestants with IMD Daniel Clark and IMD boy Ritchie Black



Mr Ocean State Leather 01 Morgan Monceaux and Mr. Ebony Leather Hilary Williams



Mr Boston Leather 2002 James West

THE TRIPLE WEEKEND

The West coast was certainly one place to be if you had nothing else on your agenda. Contests. contests, and a street fair thrown in for good measure. A three day weekend can certainly wear one out when you are in the city by the bay.



Friday night, the selection of the XIX SF Leather Daddy took place at the SF Eagle Tavern. A capacity crowd was on hand to witness the stepping aside of Keith Truitt, Leather Daddy XVIII. A very festive evening indeed. There were three contests vying for the title. In the end, Robert Davolt grabbed the title. If the name sounds familiar, that's because Robert, is the former publisher of Drummer Magazine and producer of the Intl. Drummer contests. Congratulations Robert. you will indeed have a tough act to follow. Keith Truitt, you worked your butt off this past year. San Francisco loves and appreciates you more than you know

Saturday afternoon, once again at the Eagle, a reunion of the former bare chest men who have graced the pages of the famous bare chest calendar over the years. All money collected from the sale of this calendar goes to local SF charities. Over \$32,000 has been raised to date. The 2002 calendar premiered at the Dore Alley Fair, with all the calendar men in attendance signing the calendars. The exceptional full color calendar is now on sale for \$15.00, or \$20.00 if you wish to have one mailed. For additional information go to the SMMILE website www.folsomstreetfair.com.



Saturday evening at the King Street Garage leathermen and women gathered for the Northern, CA Drummer and Drummer boy contest. Tom Stice handled the emcee duties. Rod Wood, Daniel Clark, Ritchie Black, Blackheart, Mindy, Mark Brand, Brock Kolivas, and Skeeter Wildeman, handled the judging department. The contest was dedicated in memory of Philip Turner, who was such an important sponsor and supporter of the Drummer organization. Also the newly created Philip M. Turner Star Achievement Award. The first recipient was Audrey Joseph.

Drummerboy contestants were, Jackson, Sacramento Drummerboy, Jack Garcia, SF Drummerboy, boy Andrew, Russian River Drummerboy. The Sir contestants were; Mike Marrero, Alameda County Mr. Drummer, Abe Firestone, Sacramento Mr. Drummer, Robert Espindola, Russian River Mr. Drummer, and James Holloway, SF Mr. Drummer.



When the scores were tallied, boy Andrew, grabbed the Drummerboy title, and Robert Espindola is the new Northern, CA Mr. Drummer. They will compete in the International contest which will be held in Florida in October. The contest will be at the Suncoast Resort, St.Petersburg, October 4-7, 2001. Special recognition goes to Bob Brunson, and Graylin Thornton, and the Northern, CA Drummer committee. Omar Mosley and Ray Tilton, had their hands full as stage directors. But they pulled it off.



On Sunday, the sun did not appear until showtime. Promptly at noon the overcast skies cleared, and all attendees breathed a sigh of relief. Off came the clothes. Of course the question of the day was, why is it always the ones who should have kept their clothes on, generally the ones that make you lose your appetite? Oh YUK!

SF has to be one of the very few cities that allow nakedness at the fair. We were given the chance to witness and observe many "shortcomings" Obviously a certain percentage of SF residents do not own a mirror!

Of course the fair was a huge success. Sales at the calendar booth were brisk. It can be said that if Patrick Toner, IML 85, who's brain child this was, were alive, he would have been very pleased, and giggling, pointing and saying---OH LOOK AT HER! (one of his favorite phrases)

From all accounts Thunder in the Mountains was a huge success. Attended by many. Chicago is celebrating Halsted Days which is very popular. The city of Providence, RI. and the Rhode Island Enforcers are hosting the Mr. Ocean State Leather contest, no report on the winner of that contest yet.

August 10-12 New England Drummer contest. This contest will be held at the Ramrod. August 17-19, Mr. Oneida Leather, Oneida Campgrounds near New Milford, PA. If you fancy outdoorsy, in the woods activities this will be the place for you.

Get well wishes go to former Chief IML judge Thom Domkowski, who was stricken while on a trip to California. Get well wishes go to Eric, Mr. Edge Leather 2001, recuperating from surgery. Get well wishes go to Mike Zuhl, President of Drummer contests Intl. also recuperating from surgery.

DUCK, HERE COMES THE DISH....

Another transcontinental romance? Mr., Mid Atlantic Leather 2001 who lives in the big apple, and Mr., LA Leather 2001...Ah yes love is in the air. Gee, it won't take much to become a million mile frequent flyer... No reports yet if Mayflower van and storage has been contacted

At least IML 79 (David Kloss) found someone in his own zip code. Northern CA Drummer, 2000 is only a hop, skip and a hump away. They do make a striking couple...

Evidently IMsL 00 (Jo Blas) took to heart Jill Carter's favorite saying. "Each one teach one". Jo's other half is entering the Ms World Leather competition next month in Dallas.

Speaking of Ms World Leather, the producers have announced that there will be nine contestants. The contestants cover a very diverse cross section of the entire US. Not too shabby for the premiere of this prestigious event. It has been mentioned that there will be top notch entertainment as well.

The contestants are: Ann Brown, Arlington, TX, Annie Romano, San Diego, Lady D. Harrison, Tucker, GA. Mindy Chateauvert, Washington, DC., Tiffany Penn, Houston, TX. Lynette Hadlock, Bixby, OK., Kay Prince, Panama City Beach, FL., Marilyn Zerquera, North Miami, FL., Jennifer Mork, San Francisco. I am sure many former and current IMsL's will be in attendance as well lending their support.

If anyone is wondering where Frank Nowicki got all those hickeys, bruises and bite marks?...Well...ask him how was Denver? But, not a hair on his head was out of place! Must have been more than THUNDER in those mountains! oops

The Washington Post has come a long ways since Watergate days. In one of last weeks edition there was a great article on DC's first lady of drag, Ella Fitzgerald. The leather community adores Ella, and the article was very unbiased, and very complimentary. Way to go Ella!

Much to the relief of former MAL 96 Mauro Montoya, his photo has been removed from a website claiming him to be Mr. Ebony Leather 2000. He was the runner up, however he was never asked to step in during the year. Ric Morris who won the title, did complete his year, and was one of the top 20 finalist at IML. He did an excellent job of representing the leather community. We wish him well in all his future endeavors. Now everyone from the year 2000 contest can go on with their life. All support should be focused on the new title holder Hillary Williams at this point.

Speaking of gracious hospitality, San Franciscans Omar Mosley, and Don Ho, go all the way out. It's not often that you find hosts willing to give up their bed for visiting out of towners. Especially, on a weekend when there are more than enough hot men in town to fill all their beds not to mention the sofa's and the floors. Salem thanks you and the same goes for NY.

The Wicked Witch

SHORTS, SANDALS AND SEX

Nearly everyone's favorite season is summer. Easterners go to the shore. West coast residents opt for the beach. The state of Maine has a wonderful resort town called Ogunquit. Many gay owned and operated businesses have sprung up there in the past 10 years.

I drove up to see for myself what Ogunquit had to offer. I was pleasantly surprised to discover wonderful restaurants, and a number of gay bars. The friendly atmosphere and great prices, will certainly make me want to return. From Boston it is an hour driving time, and a very easy drive. For anyone wanting something different from Fire Island, I would suggest checking it out. Great gay owned bed and breakfast establishments are everywhere. The bartenders and waiters are very easy on the eyes.

The previous weekend Mid Atlantic Drummer contest was held in Baltimore, MD. The Drummer boy contest was held Saturday night at the Baltimore Eagle. Drummer boy contestants were boy Brian, VA, Drummer boy, boy Jake, DC, boy Stewart, PA, boy Marcus, MD. As always the boys were excellent in every category,

The judges were Daniel Clark, IMD 2000, Richie Black, IMD Boy 2000, Patti Brown, Rudy Szollar, Scott Reikofski, David Labriola, MAD 2000 and Derick Rojas, MAD boy 2000. When the votes were tabulated, boy Marcus (Mark) Greene was chosen Mid Atlantic Drummer Boy 2001. He will represent his region at the finals in October in St. Petersburg, FL.

Sunday afternoon brought us the Drummer Sir's were Gary Vandeventer, DC, Michael Casey, PA, Rodney Burger, MD, and David Black, VA. Their fantasies were original, well thought out, and funny. When all was said and done, the judges selected Gary Vandeventer, Mr. DC Drummer and the new MAD 2001. Congratulations to Gary and to all the great contestants.

It has to be mentioned, that Frank Nowicki was the emcee for both contests. Many of those in attendance have watched Frank at many contests, however it must be said, most in the audience had all they could do to keep from falling on the floor in laughter. Frank was the funniest and the best that I have in years. I have no idea as to what was in that coffee or in that cape cod, but he was on a roll, and right on point all afternoon. Thanks Frank for a delightful afternoon.

Much to my relief, I did not have to bring my pillow with me in the event I fell asleep during the step down speeches. Both David and Derick were short and to the point with their thank you's. Two terrific people who handled their year with grace and dignity.

Southwest Drummer will be the next regional, followed by the New England Drummer, and Drummer boy contest. New England Drummer will be held at the Boston Ramrod, August 10-12. They are looking for a few good men and boys for contestants. This could be your opportunity to have that coveted sash, and title vest, and represent the New England area.

At the time the last article went to press, one judge for the Intl. Drummer contest had not been confirmed. Since that time, I am pleased to announce that IMSL 2000, Jo Blas, will indeed join the judging panel.

The New IMSL 2001 is Joni Perrie, from Springfield, VA. I have no additional information at this point or a photo. Congratulations to the winner.

Many leather folks will be heading for SF to attend a week full of events The SF Leather Daddy contest, will be held Friday, July 27, followed the next night by the Northern, CA, Drummer and Drummer boy contest, and of course Sunday will be the Doer Alley Fair, Always a fun weekend.

The upcoming MS.World Leather seems to be progressing right along, and is right on schedule. Many men and women are going to be in Dallas for this one during Labor Day Weekend. Jill Carter IMSL 96 has a lot of support for this one. I will not miss this one.

DISH ON THE HALF SHELL.....

Yes, that was Mr. SF Drummer 2000 on his farewell tour of the US seen in the Village and the LURE. He will be departing for Zurich, where he hopes he will be living a life of Luxury with his new \$\$\$ squeeze!

Former Mr. Philadelphia Leather Jim Mitchell, had enough of Florida and has moved back to New Jersey, with his handsome new boy!

The Vanishing Cream nominations are coming in fast and furious. A particular leather title holder from the rocky mountain state, who did not represent his title at IML 2001, is currently in the lead, and running a close second, is NE Drummer boy 2000. In third place is American Leatherman, but it is rumored that he will make an appearance at the Mr. Leather of all California contest during Folsom Fair weekend. The award is also known as the "Grab the sash and dash" award. hmmm

Coming up in August, is the Mr. Oneida Leather contest. This contest will be held at the Oneida Campgrounds in Pennsylvania. This should be a fun contest. The weekend will be dedicated to the late Mason Timmons Mr. Upstate NY Leather 96.

Hopefully, all the men and women who have decided to run for leather titles, have given it a great deal of thought. It is a huge responsibility to take on. Nothing is any worse than winning a title and then fading into the woodwork after you have made all those promises.

Fortunately, there are many who do make a difference, and are out there working in the community long after their title has been passed on to someone else. We salute all of you.

THE WICKED WITCH

PRIDE IN THE CITY BY THE BAY



[\(more pics!\)](#)

The city that knows how pulled off another grand weekend. San Francisco pulls out all the stops when it comes to presenting a pride parade. I can truly say the weather was made to order. Everyone was in a festive mood. The floats were spectacular. Every organization imaginable was represented. The leather community was very evident.

Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt, one of the Grand Marshall's, rode in a grand Roman chariot, pulled by six of her boys. She was preceded by two of her boys in cages made up to look like tigers.

This was certainly one of the highlights of the parade. Unfortunately due to the lack of foresight on someone's part, no banner or sign was made to announce who she was....oops!

Friday night before the parade, the Phoenix Uniform Club held their annual Uniform Ball, and everyone who was anyone was in attendance. Of course the night before the parade, the annual Pink Saturday party was held in the Castro. The streets around the area were closed, and thousands partied in the streets until the wee hours. San Francisco is truly a wonder. The community does know how to let the world know what gay pride is all about.

On the East coast, disturbing news was dispatched on July 3, that former MUNYL (Mr. Upstate NY Leather) Mason Timmons passed away suddenly in Syracuse just before beginning his vacation at Hillside Campgrounds. Mason held the title in 1998, and competed at IML. He was a member of the Journeymen Club of Syracuse, NY. A viewing will be held Friday night July 6, from 4 - 7 PM at Perrio Mortuary, 514 Turtle St., Syracuse. Information on Services can be found at www.journeymenltd.com

Condolences go to his family and his significant other and the members of his club. He will be greatly missed, and was an excellent example of the true meaning of a leatherman in his wonderful work in the community. Gone but never forgotten.

Mid-Atlantic Drummer and Drummerboy weekend will be held July 6-8 in Baltimore, MD. The Drummerboy contest will be held at the Baltimore Eagle Saturday Evening, and the Mid-Atlantic Drummer contest will be Sunday afternoon (1 PM) at the Stagecoach, located in Baltimore. Competing for the title, will be the Sir's and the boys from PA.,VA.,DC., and MD. Good Luck to the contestants.

International Drummer contests President Mike Zuhl, announced the judges for the International Competition which will be held in St. Petersburg, FL. October 6-9. The judging panel consists of the following; Brian Dawson, IMD 89, IMD boy 91 Kevin Steadman, former IML Chief judge Thom Dombkowski, Dave Rhodes, Leather Journal publisher, Daniel Clark, current IMD, and yours truly, the Wicked Witch.

This should be a fun weekend. For those who have not reserved or purchased their packages, you might want to do so very soon as the event is selling out quickly..I am purchasing a new broom to make the trip outfitted with new flaps and stabilizer in case I run into a hurricane.

AND THE DISH MOVED IN WITH THE SPOON.....

If you are waiting for your monthly issue of one of the Brush Creek Media publications, hopefully you will not have to wait too long. Due to financial difficulties with the IRS, a large padlock was slapped on the door of their headquarters. Hopefully their employees will not have to look for employment.

One of the funniest comments overheard during SF Pride Weekend... At 4 am in a house on Buchanan Street..."Anyone have any poppers? And when there was no answer, "I can't believe in this house full of bottoms, no one has any poppers"! "Gee, here is my first time to bottom and there are no poppers," Oh well, I guess I will have to grin and bear it"! Now did that Mr. SF Leather 1990, actually think anyone believed that? Those living in the house are still laughing!

Congratulations to Robert DaVolt, former publisher of Drummer. He tied the knot with his significant other at a ceremony at SF City Hall, during pride weekend. His significant other, is the business partner of the late Philip Turner, owner of Daddy's.

San Francisco's lovable Mr. Marcus was the envy of every drag queen in the city.. His throne on the Bare Chest Calendar Float was higher than the crowns of the past 15 Empresses stacked on top of each other.

And in the single again department..... Mr. SF Leather 1999.....Available, Looking, and taking applications. Mr. SF. Leather 1996.... ditto ditto ditto

In Washington DC. members of that leather community decided that reading was believing...Yes, the owner of the DC Eagle did indeed place a letter of apology in one of the local gay publications apologizing for his outrageous behavior at a recent leather event held at his bar. Some may not be satisfied with that, but, it was a start. As they always say...actions speak louder than words!

Speaking of apologies, that mouthy boy who is a member of the DC Boys of Leather should send one to the current Mid-Atlantic Drummerboy who has worked his tail off the entire year promoting the role of the boy and raising funds. Before you start pointing fingers and making comments via e-mail, perhaps you need to take a look at what you DID NOT DO during your year 2000. The Mid-Atlantic region is very proud of Derick. Thank you for your time, patience and your love of your community.

The Wicked Witch

GAY PRIDE IN THE NATIONS CAPITAL

(Pics from DC)

June is such a special month. Pride celebrations are being held in hundreds of cities across the United States. Pride Celebration in the nations capital was a wonderful display of joy, understanding and love.

The weather was picture postcard perfect, and a festive mood prevailed. Everyone was on their best behavior. Well, almost everyone. The one day in DC, that exemplifies to the world the freedom to be with and love who you want.

The parade included every organization, club and agency in and around the DC metropolitan area. The Pride program is absolutely spectacular, and was very much in demand. A large amount of historical information was included.

Parties, dances and social events were attended by thousands over the weekend. However, the leather community was in the forefront. The Potomac M/C held their annual River Run weekend. With a cruise down the Potomac for starters. A wonderful dinner, cocktail parties galore, and the Mr. DC Drummer and Drummerboy contest.

On pride weekend, with hundreds from out of town visiting the city and the various bars, what should have been a joyous occasion at the DC Eagle turned into a disgusting, disappointing, outrageous display of extremely unprofessional behavior from the owner of the bar.

So upsetting was the ranting, raving, screaming and hollering that many title holders, customers and some out of towners fled the scene in droves. The outgoing Mr., DC Drummer was not given the opportunity to thank those who had supported him during his title year.

A victory party was subsequently moved to a private residence. Many, still in shock spent their money at other pleasant establishments. Is this the way to treat club members and others that have supported that bar for nearly 30 years?

Once the dust settled from those outbursts. A meeting by various club presidents was held to decide what to do, and how to respond. An apology was issued to one club president.

It has been rumored that a public apology will appear in a local gay publication later this week.



The DC Boys of Leather celebrated their 2nd anniversary. Given the episode that transpired the previous weekend at the DC Eagle, the club members only hoped that the leather community would come out and support them. Even though the fundraiser, and beer blast, was held at the Eagle, because it was too late to change the location, Leathermen, Leatherwomen and Leatherboys did rally around and come out to support them and over 2000.00 was raised.

The boys hosted a wonderful dinner at the home of Mary Elizabeth Boyd, who is one of their staunchest supporters. A good time was had by all who attended. The announcement of their new officers for the year was made, and the awards were presented to very deserving members of the leather community for all their help and support,

The biggest smash success that DC has seen in quite some time also occurred on pride weekend. The Washington Plaza Hotel, which is the host hotel for MAL, ABW, and Bearfest (just to name a few) has started their pool side tea dance on Sunday afternoons.

This is the brain child of Frank Nowicki. Opening Sunday, over 800 hot men and women, leather, non leather were jammed around the beautiful outdoor pool. During the warm summer months this will be the place to see and be seen in those tasteful International Male bikini's

Oh yes, Frank was a vision of loveliness, in an all white Martina Navatilova tennis outfit. with sunglasses recently acquired from his trip to Italy!

A late breaking news development.....

In a press release from Chicago, IL. it has been confirmed that IML 2002, will indeed have some changes..

Patti Brown, former manager of the Cellblock, current general manager of the Cellblock and residing in Washington, DC. has been added to the list of judges for 2002.

Former title holder Steve Lenius, from Minneapolis,MN has also been invited to judge the contest. Both have accepted the invitation.

Effective immediately, there will no longer be a chief judge for IML. According to various sources, the judging system is being totally revamped, and will be in place for IML 2002. Stay tuned for additional developments.

DC DISH CAPITAL STYLE.....

Mr. Daddy's Leather was in the nations capital, along with the members of the SF Gay Mens Chorus. San Francisco was well represented this past weekend.

Chicago leathermen were seen everywhere. Do you think they were here to cruise, or to report back to the windy city, that yes, Patti Brown is indeed living in the nations capital. And no, Patti did not relocate to open a bar in the area. Yes, he is the new General Manager of the Leather Rack.

Congratulations to Keith Pollanen, the new President of the DC Boys of Leather. That club has grown by leaps and bounds this past year.

If you looked carefully through the crowd around the Plaza pool, you would have seen sexy, hot funny former Mr. New England Drummer of a few years ago Joe Mancini. Yes, he has relocated to DC.

Centaur member Bailey Walker, was just too through, when a so called friend of his walked up to him and said, "So, now that you are on Social Security what do you do with yourself these days? Bailey curtly informed him, that he had RETIRED, AND WAS NOT ON SS!! Thank you very much!

Contrary to belief, all the Dim-Sum is not in Ottawa, Canada, Just check with former MAL Tom Robinson. The cute young man is an entertainer, and will be appearing in the Big Apple next week. At least we will know Tom's whereabouts for the summer!

Former GM of the Leather Rack, wasted little time in snapping up a DC redheaded bodybuilder. I guess John will have something else to do besides walk his dog.



IML first runner up Darrell Mopers has taken DC by storm. A certain witch, suggested that he purchase a new broom to beat them back with.

The newest restaurant/bar Hamburger Mary's has employed a bartender, with a tattooed body, and a smile that will melt ice - fresh from Phoenix. If you were in Phoenix last year at a particular bar; yes, that was him that you saw entering the Drummer contest.

If the rumor that was running rampant in DC proves to be true, DC will have another bar. The bar is allegedly to open in approximately 60 days It will only have a beer and wine license (at least in the beginning). However, leathermen do drink a lot of beer...And just think, one can nearly crawl there from the Washington Plaza!!! hmmm

It should be duly noted that the excellent bartenders and bar backs at the DC Eagle feel terrible over that incident. Two in particular spent one entire evening apologizing to the customers over and over. It's not about them. Stay tuned....



It has been announced by the producers of the Mid Atlantic Drummer Contest that Mr. DC Drummer 2000, Alexander Robinson will be giving his step down speech at their event in two weeks. The Leather community extends a heartfelt thank you for making that possible.

The Wicked Witch

LEATHER PRIDE
May 5, 2001

The nations capital was the site of the 5th annual American Brotherhood Weekend. Every year this event draws an audience larger than the previous year. ABW 2001 even had additional feeder contests from across the country. The city of Long Beach held a contest as did Kansas City with their winners competing.

Later this year San Francisco will host the Mr. California Leatherman contest and the winner of that event will compete at American Brotherhood in April 2002. There were a total of 18 contestants , 9 for American Leatherman, 4 for American Leatherwoman and 5 for American Leatherboy. Not every contestant who entered had a title or a sash.

However, there were a very diverse group of men and women. Each personality bringing something special to the event. This year the contest was held in a new location. The Washington Plaza Hotel, which was the host hotel also was the competition site. Having out grown the Club Improv a larger space was needed.

Friday night the VIP party was held at the home of the First Lady of leather, Mary Elizabeth Boyd. As in the past years, this is always the party not to miss. The food was out of this world, and the liquid libations flowed for hours. Mike Zuhl, President of Drummer contests held court as the chef of this extravaganza. The weather was perfect so the patio was the place to be.

Upon departing the party the bus brought the party people to the hotel for a quick change, and on to the DC Eagle for the meet and greet party. Of course on the third floor of the bar the annual Silent Bid auction was also going on. with wonderful items to bid on. This event was started some years ago by Ed Moore a former Mr. DC Drummer.

For those who were requiring a bit more breathing room, the newest bar and restaurant, Hamburger Mary's offered the weekend visitors a delightful change. Glenn Mlaker a former Mr. DC Eagle and member of the Centaur M/C has a wonderful spacious establishment. This bar and restaurant welcomes everyone.

During the day on Friday, the interview portion was held. By the time Saturday afternoon rolled around, after a wonderful brunch at Hamburger Mary's the contestants were ready to be put through their paces. What better person to put them through their paces than Frank Nowicki who is "the" emcee.

Leatherman contestants were Rob Carabelli, Lew Alessio, Jeffrey Cooper, Don Grasso, Tim Davis, Jack Miller, Michael Allison, DJ Williams, Bob Guenther.

American Leatherwoman contestants were Mistress Millarca, Daddy S, Phyllis Darcy, and Lava.

American Leatherboy entrants were Eric Crammer, Bryan "Pup" Millikin, boy Don Freeman, boy Scott R., and Keith Preston.

The fantasies were quite unusual, and the speeches were very interesting. Sunday afternoon brought the weekend to a close. The panel of judges, which included head judge Judy Tallwing McCarthy, Kay Hallanger , Patti Brown Graylin Thornton, Mr. Marcus, and out going titleholders Dean Ogren, Paula Smith and Randie Smith.

The New American Leatherman 2001 title went to Jeffrey Cooper, a resident of Los Angeles, sponsored by Pistons Bar and Mark Malan Production. Second runner up Jack Miller, Kansas City, and First runner up was Lew Alessio from Greene, Maine.

American Leatherwoman for 2001 is Phyllis Darcy, who hails from the mile high city, Denver, CO, First runner up Daddy S, Atlanta, GA. Second runner up Mistress Millarca, Chicago, IL.

American Leatherboy 2001 Bryan "Pup" Millikin, Washington, DC. First runner up boy Scott R., Kansas City, Second runner up boy Don Freeman, Reading, PA.

Congratulations to all of the contestants. The Brotherhood award for American Leatherboy went to Bryan Millikin. Brotherhood award for American Leatherwoman went to Phyllis Darcy. and in an unusual twist the brotherhood award for the men was jointly given to all of the men contestants, since each one of them received one vote.

ABW weekend has become the event to attend, especially, since over 50 percent of the judges for IML were in attendance. Obviously this did not go unnoticed since one-third of the IML contestants were in attendance. This should serve as a heads up for next years IML aspirants.

ABW can only be viewed as a "class" act. The producers of ABW, Jim Cobb, roger fleming, Howard Fleming, Frank Nowicki, and Jill Carter have pulled off another smashing success. Please put this event on your list of events to attend next year.

Coming up this weekend May 4 - 6 in Scranton, PA, is the Pennsylvania Drummer contest. Stepping down will be David Labriola, and derick rojas, Drummer and Drummer boy respectively. Both were outstanding during their title year. The new winners will have a great act to follow.

GOT A SPOON? I HAVE THE DISH!.....

Amazing how ABW judge Graylin Thornton still seem to have an entourage everywhere he went last weekend. Guess those crutches were a help in snagging those boys.

Just think, due to a slight residency snafu, Jeffrey Cooper became the contestant from Long Beach, and look what happened. Just goes to show you being second runner up has it's advantages!

Mark "Ms.Knott" Malan, producer of the Pistons contest did have a box of Kleenex sitting beside him just in case his contestant won. Just think if one of his other two contestants for IML grabs a spot on one of the three boxes, he will need more than a box. Shall we order a case?

Inquiring minds want to know are body bags, and death fantasies the "in" thing this year? How depressing. Well, just goes to show you Mike Siemer finally was stiff after all these years....oops

Isn't it odd, how a title holder can thank everyone in the world. Jesus Christ and the 12 disciples were omitted, but yet cannot thank or acknowledge the other two who held the male titles during the year. Many in attendance did duly note that in the nations capital. However, American Leatherman, and American Leatherboy were gracious in their step down speeches which included the American Leather Family!

Hotel guest are wondering what kind of security the Washington Plaza has. Several title holders discovered their rooms had been burglarized and large sums of money were missing. However do to the kindness of others, Mid American Leatherwoman (Mistress Millarca) received a wonderful donation to help her make it through the weekend as was the case with several others that lost money and items as well. Now thats what brotherhood is all about. The big question is what has management of the Plaza done about this situation?

No, International Mr. Drummer 2000, and Daniel Premack were not joined at the hip. It just seemed that way! P> The contestants who use fog machines, should consider passing out ox[Unable to display image]ygen masks or at least place the hose where it does not asphyxiate the audience.....HELLO?

You cannot believe who showed up at the Mr Pennsylvania Drummer contest...AS A CONTESTANT-----

----DAVIEN O, YEAH, HE ENTERED THE CONTEST AND WAS THE FIRST RUNNERUP...All I can say is--- he sure has balls!!! The contest was in Scranton, PA ..I drove up there friday night and got back this afternoon...

The Wicked Witch

GOING DOWN TO THE WIRE

April 16, 2001

The past two weeks have been filled with sadness for many for and happiness for some that have won new leather titles. Two leathermen from the West coast have left us, and have left a large void in the city by the golden gate. Bob Miller, Mr. Edge Leather 2000, and Philip Turner, owner of Daddy's departed this world within days of each other. Philip I had the pleasure of knowing for over 20 years. Anyone who knew Philip knew what he stood for in the leather community. His Support and love for the gay and lesbian community in general is legendary.

My sympathy goes to the lovers of these two men, Houston Davenport, Mr.SF Leather 2001, and to Greg Pennington who was Philips significant other. I will be attending the service for Philip on April 21 in San Francisco. The Service for Bob Miller will be held on May 5, 2001, at the MCC church in SF.

As the leather community came to grips with the aforementioned, leather contests were taking place on both coasts. The Mr. Pistons Leather contest in Long Beach produced 7 contestants, and three winners. Yes, ma'am, I said three. Daniel Vanderbark is Mr. Pistons Leather 2001, Alex Marr, Mr. Leather Long Beach, and Jeffrey Cooper Mr. Pistons Leatherman 2001.

Daniel and Alex will compete at IML, and Jeffrey will compete in two weeks at ABW 2001, in Washington, DC. Producer Mark Malan out did himself on the weekend, and the fabulous brunch on the Queen Mary (one of the biggest Queens I've ever seen) had everyone talking the rest of the weekend.

The judges included Mike Taylor, Jill Carter Thom Dombkowski, Jim Raymond, Bob "puppy" Pedder, Fred Katz, Dave Burton, and Will Hildreth. This equaled one judge per contestant! just about.

Since Pistons has had a winner in the top three for the past two years, I can only assume that their chances will be increased this year by sending two contestants. The best of luck to all their contestants. A special thank you goes to my old friend John who owns the bar. Let it be known that Long Beach is not just a city that boards LA, but a city with a very strong leather community that should not be lumped into an LA bar syndrome.

Meanwhile on the East coast two other contest were taking place. The following week in Boston, Mr. Boston Leather took place at the Ramrod. Bob "puppy" Pedder stepped aside. Bob, some of you will remember was a runner up at IML last year. A large crowd was on hand from all across the country.

Due to the contest date being changed next year to August, the winner for 2001 and 2002 was selected. Jeff "mutt" LaMantia will compete next month at IML, and the other winner James West will compete in 2002.

In Norfolk, VA. Mr. Virginia Drummer 2001 contest was held with David Black grabbing that title and Randy Pate the runner up. Virginia Drummer boy winner was David Harrison and Michael Thomas 1st runner up.

As you can tell, The Drummer contests are under way. The next biggie will be American Brotherhood weekend at the end of this month in Washington, DC. From what I understand nearly all of the IML judges will be in attendance. This is a heads up for all those competing at IML this year (hint hint)

More detail will follow on other upcoming contests next week. Stay tuned for photos of all the contestants in the various contests so far Next week will be a photo extravaganza. The Wicked Witch

A VIRGIN CROSSES THE ATLANTIC ?

March 5, 2001

The Virgin in question happens to be a Virgin Atlantic 747-400 aircraft. Yours truly headed to Europe to get away from the snow and cold weather. But alas, upon arrival in London, I was greeted with rain (of course) freezing temperatures, and snow!

Despite the weather, Londoners were out and about. The bars were packed. Leather wear and leathermen were seen through out the city. One of London's oldest Leather bars (Backstreet) was filled with lots of activity. The Hoist, another leather bar, found many of the patrons in various forms of undress, and using all of the heavy duty equipment and toys provided. Dress codes are strictly enforced in those two bars. So leave the marshmallow pumps in the hotel or wherever you choose to rest your body.

The Mr. Hoist Leather contest was held. However, I was unable to meet the new titleholder due to missing the contest by one day. The United Kingdom certainly is not without drama. I was greeted with glaring headlines of "Foot and Mouth" disease. Thousands of farmers having to dispose of their herds of cattle. Consumers of beef afraid to purchase meat of nearly any kind. A tragic railway accident and of course scandal with the royal family. Not unlike the mess with Bill and Hillary.

Oddly enough, one of the most tasteless exhibits (in the eyes of most Britons) is the memorial to Princess Diana, and Dodi. On display in the center court of Harrods, the world famous department store, are the enormous gilt framed photos of the two. Complete with the wine glass, with Diana's lipstick and remainder of the wine still intact. Left on the table just before they took the fatal ride that evening. Just below the glass is the enormous diamond ring that Dodi gave Diana the day before. Tons of flowers grace the shrine...Quite tacky! If you love to shop, Harrods is the place to shop, providing you took out a huge loan and brought every credit card you own.

Richard Tirado a leatherman from upstate NY moved to London 4 years ago when he met his significant other. A London resident, now resides in a home with more rooms than you can count. But his biggest renovation effort resulted in the fantastic dungeon which has hosted leathermen, boys and slaves from the United States, and half of Europe. Any and everything you can imagine (and something's you can't) can be found in that dungeon.

Richard certainly has done his homework on British history, and is as knowledgeable as any London resident and maybe even more so. He is the perfect tour guide. ROB of London the leather shop that is so well known to visitors who have visited their other store in Amsterdam, has beautiful leather goods and many additional toys to delight the most discriminating leatherman.

Another stop after sightseeing and a must, is the popular bar Comptons of Soho, located on the street of the same name. An afternoon early evening after work pub. The bar is reminiscent of the now closed Sutters Mill which was located in SF during the 70's and 80's. A very mixed bar for young and older men. Something or someone for everyone can be found there! If your tastes run toward the young cuties, loud but good upbeat music, then pay a visit to the Barcode, which is only a few blocks away.

Prior to departing for London I was informed of the passing of Dick McHugh. Dick was the former owner of the famous DC Eagle. A respected and truly loved leatherman. His list of friends and acquaintances certainly covered half the globe. A strong supporter of the leather community, and the gay community as a whole. His participation, and the donation of time and money encompassed the eastern seaboard. Always willing to assist in any way he could. He was truly in every sense of the words, "old guard" leather. Anyone who had the privilege of meeting and spending time with Dick, can consider themselves enriched and lucky.

Bill Cappello, current owner, and the entire staff of the DC Eagle will miss him greatly. The Eagle set the standard for what a leather bar is all about. The late Don Bruce (founder and original owner) laid the ground work when it was then known as the Washington Eagle/DC Eagle. Dick McHugh carried on the tradition for over two decades. Gone, but never will he be forgotten.

.....DISH, LONDON STYLE....

Truer words were never spoken when it was said it's a small world. Who was sitting in a London pub but none other than the person that former IML David Kloss, moved to Texas to be with oh so many years ago. Lee and his current squeeze were having a few pints before departing for South America!

Did the person who purchased a pair of soiled underwear belonging to the current MAL at a recent DC auction really have them framed? Perhaps we will have to check at the Washington Plaza for that answer!

What is the answer to the question why is it so difficult to get MEN to enter leather contests? Better yet what is the solution? If leatherboys are entering contests (and winning I might add), will leathermen now enter boy contests? or is that something that is already happening? hmmm

In a recent press release for a future Drummer contest, it states that the winners will have to pose for photos "explicitly" for Drummer on line. Just what does that mean? Suppose the winner does not want to do that? Will he be DE-SASHED? or better yet, only men willing to pose "explicitly" are allowed to enter? hmmm

Has it become a prerequisite that a title holder must agree to that? Funny, I thought what is in the mans heart and mind, and his character far out weighed nude photos.

The Wicked Witch

LET THE WARM UP'S BEGIN

February 5, 2001

February, the month of love, lust, and leather. Men across the country are running to their gyms to buff up. Leather contests once again are about to begin. IML is in the air. Phones are ringing, e-mails are flying about, and advice is being passed around like hors d'oeuvre' on a tray.

Anyone who is thinking about entering a contest that will propel them to IML or Drummer, should plan on attending as many local and regional contest as their wallets will allow. Many have agreed that an appearance at Pantheon of Leather is a good place to start. So, we will see many making the trip to New Orleans this month. The DC Eagle will be hosting their annual Scarlet Bake Sale, where some of the newly crowned title holders will be on view for all to see. Down the road, contests in Tennessee, Arizona, Ohio, Boston, will have large crowds of Leathermen watching and deciding if they should toss their hat in the ring, and make a run for the roses.

Chief IML Judge, Thom Dombkowski, has been besieged with dinner invitations. Lord only knows how many of the other judges have had invitations extended. Leather tailors, and designers are ordering enough hides to cover half of Texas.

As the date draws nearer, watch and see who is jockeying for those top positions. However, over the past few years, the winner of the IML title has proven to be someone who is just himself, and has put on no airs. In other words, just plain folk. For years many considered IML a beauty pageant with only the pretty boys. That concept has changed. More minorities have entered the contest.

That is indeed a good thing, and we hope that will continue. In addition it is hoped sponsors and bar owners will continue to promote the leather lifestyle in their various communities across the US.

Saturday, Feb 3, the LURE in NYC, had a large turnout for the event sponsored by GMSMA. Mr. MAL 2001, Michael Marino was in attendance, along with the current Mr. Lure (Fred Little) who is a workhorse in the community, Michael's buns had hand prints from half the bar. Well, they are furry. However, John Marino's take the cake. The hair on his could be braided into corn rows! Michael Erp, NAL 01, also was there to support the event along with his other half Sal Perrone.

All of the aforementioned events were preceded by a large turnout at the memorial service for Ed Ryder. A very fitting tribute to an extremely well liked and popular man. He will be missed, but always thought of as a true leatherman.

VALENTINE, HEARTS, FLOWERS AND DISH...

Yes, that was Kevin Shancady in attendance at the memorial service. He has moved to the Boston area from Colorado after his attempt to run for political office in Colorado. He has decided to give politics a rest (at least for now).

The colorful character "Animal" Joe Smith, former SF resident appeared at the LURE Saturday night. Looking healthy, happy, single and living in Manhattan.

In the did you know department....

Seems as though, another finalist surfaced from the MAL contest. Due to a tally error, there are now TWO-second runner ups. John Marino, who was announced on stage as the holder of that position, now has to share that title with Bill Coover, Mr. North East Pennsylvania 2001. Don't ask how that happened. Don't ask if the judges were aware. I guess, JUST DON'T ASK! John Marino, in a manner befitting a gracious leatherman has accepted his fate, and said "OH WELL!

In the event that you want to attend something different, and happen to be in Phoenix Arizona on May 5, International Drummer boy 2000 (Richie Black) is hosting a preliminary contest to the Southwest Regional Drummer contest. So you say whats different about that? Nothing, except, the leather contest and a drag contest will take place concurrently.

One winner will go to the regional leather contest and the other will compete in the Miss Gay Arizona-America! HELLO? Leathermen and boys will compete in the interview, leather image, speech, jock strap and fantasy categories. The female impersonators will compete in interview, evening gown, on stage question, creative fashion, and talent. Should be a L-O-N-G evening!

Is it really true, that a former Mr. Upstate NY is getting ready to run for another title? I guess once you have a case of sash rash it never goes away! I wonder what his title holder lover has to say about that?

Andover Mass hosted a huge Fetish and Fantasy fleamarket. the place was packed. Those prim and proper New Englanders, are certainly not all that prim and definitely not that proper! Just ask Schelli Dittman, Max, and Kei Fenton... oops, I forgot thats SIR Kei these days!

The question that some people keep asking.....

Which Boot Black contest will the winner of the Mid Atlantic bootblack title enter.... IML or IMSL? I can only say, ask the winner if you really need to know.

The Wicked Witch

NEW YORKER WINS MID ATLANTIC LEATHER
January 19, 2001

Once again Washington, DC. was the place to be during the Martin Luther King Jr, holiday weekend. The Centaur M/C hosted their annual Mid Atlantic Leather Weekend. The Mid Atlantic Leather weekend is the Golden Globes to the IML Academy Awards held in Chicago each May, although many in attendance would dispute that statement. Even though the weekend package price has inched up over the years due to production costs, it is still the bargain of the year.

Lets face it, when you can attend a weekend that includes a wonderful vendor mart, free drinks at almost every bar in the city, an elegant leather cocktail evening with an open bar (yeah folks FREE) for hours and a fabulous brunch, name entertainment, cocktail parties galore, a great leather contest, and HOT, HOT, LEATHER MEN AND WOMEN, and a commemorative pin. You just can't beat that with a stick. For those that still had the energy, there was a big dance to attend. Many old guard leathermen remember when you used to see some of that at IML!

The contest featured 8 contestants. Every contestant brought their own cheering section. The Centaur membership, having become an old hand at hospitality, and making everyone feel right at home did not out do themselves this year. They simply maintained the extremely high standards that they have set for themselves.

The interesting selection of judges included IML Mike Taylor, IMSL Jo Blas, Joe Gallagher, IML 96, former Centaur President John Rocco, Randall Kent, Cornelius Baker, Whitman Walker Director and out going MAL 2000 Tom Robinson.

When all was said and done, Intl. Drummer boy 2000, Ritchie, handed the envelope to the diva emcee Frank Nowicki, whose flawless manner always keeps the show on a professional level. The judges selected Michael Marino of New York City, Mid Atlantic Leather 2001. First runner-up went to Mark Teesdale from Rehoboth, DE., and second runner-up title was awarded to John Marino from Albany, NY.

The other 5 contestants were superb and I am sure the selection was not an easy one for the judges. Paksen Burrell sponsored by the Denver Triangle won the Mid Atlantic Bootblack title. Paksen will compete for the Intl. Bootblack title in Chicago.

A terrific weekend. If anyone left the nations capital without a smile on their face that weekend, well, it was their own fault. How many more years will it be before the attendance at MAL equals that at IML? I predict that is not a long way off. Lets face it, people attending large events such as this and other ones, want something for their money besides a manila envelope stuffed with flyers!

A special note to the outgoing president of the Centaur M/C. During your two terms in office you set a president that hopefully will be carried on. You always made it a point to attend the various cocktail parties hosted by the many leather clubs in attendance and thank their membership for coming to your event. It has been duly noted, and the membership of Onyx from Chicago were impressed. Good manners and respect go a long way in this community.

On a sad note.....the passing of the ever popular Ed Ryder. Ed held the title of Mid Atlantic Drummer 1995 and was a runner up that year for Intl. Mr. Drummer. Ed's good looks and stunning silver hair, and wonderful personality always had the men drooling. Who can ever forget the entrance he made on stage at IML 98. Ed came down the stairs wearing a full length silver fox coat, smoking a cigar. Tossed the coat to the side of the stage. Of course Frank Nowicki the emcee ran over and immediately grabbed the coat to try it on. It brought down the house and gave him a runner-up title that year. Gone, but always remembered, and truly will never be forgotten.

DC DISH.....DC DIRT.....

Does anyone know if a certain MAL contestant will have business cards made stating that he was a contestant at MAL? Some people still have cards he handed out from the last contest he entered.

According to a poll taken during MAL weekend 60% of those asked felt there was a need for another women's leather contest on the international scale. Lets see how many of those asked will be in attendance at the Ms. World Leather contest to be held in Dallas. The concept is new and those backing this contest are putting forth a lot of effort in making this a success.

On the other hand, what a shame there will not be a Mr. Oklahoma Drummer contest this year. According to those involved with the production of this event, one loud mouth lesbian has stirred so much crap with letters and phone calls, that the sponsors decided to withdraw and not waste their money....

A new broom was spotted touching down in Tulsa this week. Unfortunately it landed directly across the street from the Oral Roberts University. Fortunately Gulf Coast Drummer boy Kevin Eddings spotted the Bissell, threw the broom into the back of his pickup and assisted the witch into the truck and took him off to dinner. One can certainly say those Oklahoma boys and men are certainly hospitable. Thanks Pat Sullivan, Gene West, David, Jim Stout, and Bruce Crowl for a terrific time.

In the on the move department.....Add another one to the list....Kevin Eddings will be moving to Florida! Gee, wonder what Daddy Mike Siemer has to say about that?

Out of leather and into a dress.....Yes, that well known leatherman who is the owner of CJ's Leather in Denver, will be making his/her reappearance at the Denver coronation in March...Surprised? Well, don't be. After all Carlos was the Empress of Los Angeles 20 years ago! He designs beautiful leather. You can only imagine what the gown will look like. How do I know? I was at the Los Angeles Coronation when he became Empress!

Tongues were wagging in DC last week. The emcees for IML this year will be Tom Stice and Joe Gallagher. So the producers wanted to try something different. Good wishes and congratulations go to both of them.

San Francisco was well represented at MAL this year. Mama and her entourage, former Northern CA. Drummer Omar Mosley, and his string of boys, Marcus and his camera bag full of bookstore tokens!

Is there any truth to the rumor that an award will be given at the end of each year to the person who gave the longest step down speech? The list of nominees would be as long as the Washington monument is tall! Too bad there is not a time limit for step down speeches!

The Wicked Witch

APPROACHING HOLIDAYS

January 01, 2001

As the year 2000 approached, Y2K had half the world in a tizzy. However, much to everyone's relief absolutely nothing of major importance happened. Much ado about nothing as the saying goes.

Of course January brought a capacity crowd to the nations capital for Mid- Atlantic Leather Weekend. For the first time in years, the contest moved to a new location. The Centaur M/C hosted the wonderful event. Club members were somewhat nervous about the new site. The weekend went off without any major glitches. Whatever technical problems there may have been, were of no concern to the enthusiastic audience. Tom Robinson was sashed MAL 2000 by outgoing MAL 1999 Dean Ross. For the first time in several years the winner was from the local Metro, DC area.

During the month of February, the annual Scarlet Bake sale was held at the DC Eagle, and much money was raised for local charities. Meanwhile leather contests were underway in cities all across the country. Pantheon of Leather awards and contest was once again held in New Orleans. Many deserving individuals, groups and businesses were duly honored.

The month of March roared in, and the SF Leather contest gave that city their new Mr. SF Leather 2000. A hot handsome young man known city wide and nationally from the porn movies as Lance Gear. Baltimore, Boston, Philadelphia were grooming contestants for their leather contests and to compete at IML.

April brought the annual Cherry Blossom Festival to DC. The much debated Millennium March left a bad taste with many leathermen and Leatherwomen. American Brotherhood Weekend produced a wonderful array of contestants for their American Leatherman, Leatherwoman, and Leatherboy contest. Dean Ogren of Chicago was selected as the New American Leatherman, Paula Smith of Myrtle Beach, NC, is American Leatherwoman, and Randie Smith formerly of Albany, NY. hold the American Leatherboy title.

The merry month of May gave us the Mr. Pennsylvania Drummer and Drummerboy contest. The contest returned to it's roots, and was again held in Pittsburgh, PA. Derick Rojas won the PA. Drummerboy title, and David Labriola became Mr. PA Drummer. Later in the month all eyes were focused on Chicago and Intl. Mr. Leather. Over 60 contestants entered the granddaddy of Leather contests. The Buckeye State produced the winner. Mike Taylor of Columbus, Ohio was announced as IML 2000. Scott Bloom, Mr. Pistons Leather, Long Beach, CA. was first runner up and Bob "Puppy" Pedder from Boston, MA. was 2nd runner up. Also the same weekend of IML, the Mr. Ebony Leather 2000 contest played to a full house at the Cellblock in Chicago. Tall, dark and handsome Ric Morris, of Chattanooga, TN. walked away with that title. It comes as no surprise that Ric is a very visible title holder. He was extremely visible and active when he held the title of Mr. Connecticut Leather several years ago.

June enabled us to show pride to the world. Many Gay and Lesbian Pride parades and celebrations were held from coast to coast. San Francisco and New York, certainly ranking as two of the largest in attendance and participation. Washington, DC. has to hold the top honors for being the shortest parade in length of time. Forty minutes from beginning to end. However, with the temperature hovering near 100 degrees, and humidity nearly matching, many were hoping it would have been over even sooner than that!

Ever see drag queens in full regalia in 100 degree heat? Not a pretty sight when the makeup is bubbling and sliding off their faces! Meanwhile in New York, First Lady Hillary Clinton marched in their parade, which immediately gave her another 100,000 votes. The LURE hosted the MR. LURE leather contest and a major fundraiser for local NYC charities. Fred Little now holds the title of Mr. Lure 2000. Bringing the weekend to a close was the NYC version of Folsom Street east. This event seems to be growing in popularity each year. Especially popular with those who have not had the chance to attend the "original" in the city by the golden gate. Let us not forget the American Gay Rodeo Assn. All those cowboys in tight fitting jeans (and those who like them) all attended that weekend event in the suburbs of Maryland

The month of July had many dashing to Toronto to attend the Intl. MS Leather contest. Others attended the Mid-Atlantic Drummer contest, and witnessed Derick Rojas capture the Mid Atlantic Drummerboy title, and David Labriola grabbed the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer 2000 title.

Sunny and warm August was the month for vacations and still more contests. Regional Drummer events, Mr. Ocean State Leather, Mr. Double L Leather. Leather men and women were seen in Provincetown, Fire Island, Rehoboth Beach, DE. and a sighting of a witch zooming over Salem, MA.

September is always a fun month, as the summer winds down. The Centaur M/C hosted their Olympia run. According to all reports, everyone in attendance had a terrific time. New Orleans had a city full of hot men and women for Southern Decadence, and the Louisiana Leather contest sponsored by the Lords of Leather. Imagine having a Leather contest at a gambling casino? Thats exactly what the Lords of Leather did, and what a smashing success it was. Todd Cole walked away with that title. What would September be without Intl. Drummer? For the first time in Drummer history, the contest was held outside of San Francisco.

St. Petersburg was the city, and the Suncoast Resort was the place. Outside of the hurricane that swept through, and the contest being one of the longest in recorded history, the weekend was considered a success by all in attendance.

The judges selected Daniel Clark, Mr. Great Lakes Drummer as the new IMD 2000. Richard Black, Southwest Drummerboy won the Intl. Drummerboy 2000 spot. If you still had the stamina, and money, then off to San Francisco for the annual Folsom Street Fair. Folsom has something for everyone on that particular day.

October in the fall is a colorful month. Nowhere is the beauty more evident than in New England with the turning of the leaves. It is also one reason that the North Atlantic Leather Weekend held in Utica, NY. has terrific attendance. Between weekend events, one has time to view the vistas of colors for miles around.

North Atlantic Leather 2000 was a special weekend because the contest has grown so much over the years that it was held at a new location. The Raddisson Hotel was the site of most of the events. The judges selected Michael Erp to represent the region at IML 01, and Don Freeman was the choice for the NAL Leatherboy. Don will compete for the American Leatherboy title next April in Washington, DC. The gayest holiday during the year surely must be Halloween. A chance for all the macho men to let their hair down, or put it up in a French twist! Throw on a pair of sling back pumps, slip into a tasteful housedress and enter one of thousands of contests held at bars across the country. Of course you always hear, "I don't do drag" except on Halloween. And how many Halloweens have they done this? Yeah right!

November is definitely leather weather. Several contests in November called for "high cow." The Mr. Maryland Leather contest was the first one. Followed by the Mr. Ottawa-Hull Leather contest. Howard Hao, passed the title on to Norman Miller. He will represent our neighbors to the North at IML 2001.

Several weeks later, back to Canada. This time to Toronto for the Mr. Leather Toronto contest eStevan de Castro MLT 99, and a true gentleman sashed his successor Peter Theodoropoulos who will be one of many competing at IML. Nova Scotia held their Mr. Atlantic Leatherman contest at the Halifax Eagle. Bet you did not know there was an Eagle in Halifax? Leif Chu was selected as their representative and will compete at IML. We cannot forget the DC Eagle anniversary and their contest which is always held on Thanksgiving weekend. The new Mr. DC Eagle is a cutie. Here is wishing him well as he prepares for IML.

December, is the month for reflecting on the past year, and wondering where did the year go? Christmas parties, being with loved ones, and holding on to that new lover until after Christmas. One never drops a new squeeze before the presents are passed out!

.....A YEAR OF DISH.....

Of course there was dish---tossed in with MESS!

The Millennium March on Washington comes to mind. Will we ever know how much money disappeared? Will we ever again believe those that were in charge?

Meanwhile on the West coast something similar occurred. Disappearing funds. And yes, a former title holder from that city was involved with that MESS!

Of course there were leather title holders (men and women) who got the short end of the stick from their so-called sponsors. Having to put out money from their pockets to pay for air fare and hotels at international contests. An outright disgrace. And we wonder why we have to look and scrape to find contestants.

Let us not forget that "has been" disco diva who's demands were so outrageous. She only flies first class! Yeah right! Many remember when she was riding in the back of a truck! It's Raining Men? The only thing that rained was HER ATTITUDE!

Then we have the contestants who never seem to be satisfied with the outcome of a contest. Bad mouthing judges and, or, the organization that puts the contest on is not the way to go. Pettiness should be replaced with getting on with your life (and we hope you have one).

And where are they now? Kei Fenton....Living in New England Roger Fleming....Living in Florida Randie Smith....Living in Virginia Bruce Chopnik....relocating to SF Frank Nowicki....Now in his new DC crystal palace Woodie Barnes....Soon to be residing in Florida...

THE VANISHING CREAM AWARDS FOR 2000.... Genelle Moore.....IMSL 97 Daniel Clark.....IMD 00 Richard Black.....IMD boy 00 David W.W. Walker ...IMD 95 Mr. Double L.....2000

Wishing each and everyone a prosperous New Year ... let us not forget our friends and mentors that we have lost during the year 2000. Let us pray that a cure for AIDS will be found during 2001. I wish you peace and love...

THE WICKED WITCH

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