Out in the Mountains

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To Submit Articles and Letters

We encourage and implore our readers to do what they can to make OITM a paper both for and by gay, lesbian, and bisexual Vermonters. Please assist us by typing your articles and letters double-spaced and including your name and phone number in case we have any questions. Your submission should be received by OITM no later than the 1st of the previous month. Thank you for helping out!

How to Advertise

If you would like to run an ad in OITM, please contact us for rates, sizes, and information. Ad copy must be received by the 1st of the month to be included in the next month's issue. Copy can be mailed to: OITM, P.O. Box 177, Burlington, VT 05402, or call Ellen at (802) 860-1922 Steven West at (802) 864-6399 or Bruce at BMH graphic design at (802) 658-1556.

From the Editor: Queer Top 10 of 1994

Fred Kuhr

WINOOSKI -- December is one of my favorite months of the year. Beyond the holiday season, beyond the festive atmosphere, and definitely beyond the sub-zero temperatures. December marks the end of that human-construct of time we call the "year". For better or worse, the impending change of year prompts many of us to evaluate what we have done over the past twelve months.

So in the spirit of this New Year's celebration, and taking into account that everyone knows mainstream pop culture begins in the lesbian and gay community, here is a Queer Top 10 of 1994:

- 10. Daddy's Girls (CBS) -- Two words, Harvey Fierstein. Better yet, Harvey Fierstein in middle America's living room's on a weekly basis. This sitcom, which premiered as part of the 1994-1995 television season, features Fierstein as Dudley Moore's friend and sidekick in the garment business. Some in the community have complained that the show portrays the stereotypes of the "gay best friend" and the "gay fashion designer" merely for comic relief. At least he has more personality than Matt on Melrose Place.
- Threesome (Andrew Fleming, Writer/Director) -- This borderline inane movie features Stephen Baldwin, Josh Charles, and Lara Flynn Boyle as a straight male, gay male, and straight female respectively. They are in college so, of course, they are exploring issues of sexuality. And the big finale is that the three have, big surprise, a threeway. Even though much of the plot and dialogue are laughable, the emotions are real and the acting is credible. And many people saw this movie and liked it. Maybe they learned something, too.
- 8. I Say I Say I Say (Erasure) -- Openly gay lead singer Andy Bell and sexually ambiguous keyboardist Vince Clarke followed up last year's salute to ABBA with this chirpy collection of tunes. The duo's first single off the disc, "Always", a song

- about a love in which "there will be no shame", was played in heavy rotation on radio stations all over the state. Fabulous!
- 7. Bob & Rod Jackson-Paris -- The gay male couple-o-muscle were involved in two books this past year -Straight From The Heart, a mismarketed autobiography written as a pseudo-dialogue in two different fonts, and Bob & Rod, a coffee table book photographed by Tom Bianchi. Some may argue that these guys do better with pictures than actual words, but Bob & Rod have beaten all odds and become the country's first famous gay couple.
- 6. The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert (Stephan Elliott, Writer/Director) -- A road picture about three drag queens driving a bus across the Australian outback? Finally, a gay movie that takes us somewhere other than the crowded streets of NYC and San Fran. Better than that, the movie includes a dance sequence to Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive" and opens with Charlene's "I've Never Been To Me". Plus, how could anyone have ignored all the "Priscilla-alikes" at Montreal's Black & Blue Party?
- Go Fish (Rose Troche, Director) --She's with her, and she used to be with her, and she's with everyone, and all of them are trying to get her to go on a date with her, but she won't, until she does! This is one of those special films that shows how a small budget can go a long way. An intelligently comic script about the lesbian dating game of the '90's, handled with sharp directing and solid acting.
- 4. Can You Feel The Love Tonight and Circle of Life (Elton John) --These incredibly popular ditties from a Disney cartoon, The Lion King, which all the kiddies ran to see, are performed and co-written by a flaming queen. Granted Elton took his time in breaking down his closet door, but he recently told Barbara