

BOSTON

From the brownstones of the South End and Back Bay to the gas-lit alleys of Beacon Hill to streetwise Dorchester, Boston boasts Victorian-era charms. A history of revolutionary radicalism – from Paul Revere to cutting-edge queer – still persists beneath a veneer of Brahmin reserve. Boston's abundant student population from around the world over keeps the city young and stimulating.

Matt Mathrani

the old and new contrast delightfully in this 400-year-old city. Much of Boston is pedestrian, and America's first subway system, the "T," (Mbta.com) connects most everywhere else. The many area universities and colleges fill the city with students and the things that interest them. Boston is organized around its "squares" – Kenmore and Copley in Boston; and Harvard, Central, and Kendall in across-the-river Cambridge. These people-watching, shopping, and grazing hubs also have stops on the T. The waters of Boston Harbor, the Charles River, and the "Emerald Necklace" of parks provide breathing space and defining vistas of the city.

Walking the historic Freedom Trail, visit the North End, with its Italian cafes and restaurants, the fruit and vegetable stalls of Haymarket, Faneuil Hall, and the boutiques and comestibles at Quincy Market. Downtown Crossing's stores and busy Chinatown skirt the edges of the Financial District towers. In Back Bay, beyond the Common and Public Gardens, there are hip shops and cafes lining Newbury and Boylston Streets and the shopping centers of

Copley Place and Prudential Center. A footbridge over Storrow Drive brings you to the cruisy Esplanade, the Charles River-front park.

Among the South End's restored row houses and tranquil tree-lined side streets you'll find much of gay interest in the vicinity of Columbus Avenue and Tremont Street, below Berkeley. Increasingly, the suburb of Dorchester thrives as a gay hotbed.

New England Blade (Innews-weekly.com) and *Bay Windows* (Bay-windows.com) are the local gay papers; *The Phoenix* is the preeminent alternative weekly. There are several exceptional local college radio stations hereabouts, mostly on the left side of the FM dial. Edgeboston.com is another good resource on gay Boston news and entertainment.

Where to stay

Centrally located and close to the heart of Boston's gay nightlife, **Chandler Inn** (26 Chandler; 617-482-3450 or 800-842-3450) is a comfortable, European-style, boutique hotel in the South End. All 55 rooms here have private bath, cable TV, direct-dial phones, and there's wi-fi Internet access in the lobby. Almost half the rooms have been

redone as deluxe suites, featuring 32-inch plasma TVs, iPod-docking alarm-clock radios, and marble baths (the rest of the rooms are going plush soon). Fritz, their neighborhood gay bar and restaurant at street level, has wonderful brunches to start your day after a late weekend night on the town.

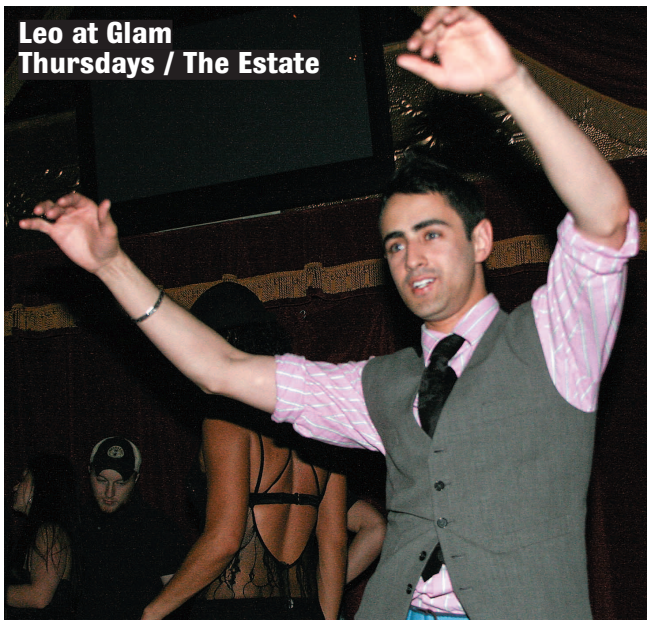
463 Beacon Street Guesthouse (463 Beacon; 617-536-1302) is elegant but affordable, and in a great location: a Back Bay brownstone close to the Hynes convention center, Newbury Street shops, and all of the city's nightlife. They offer guestroom kitchenettes with private bath, cable TV, and wi-fi, and phones in each room. Furnished apartments (by the week or month) and parking are also available.

In two townhouses on a quiet street in the Back Bay neighborhood there's the comfortable **Oasis Guesthouse** (22 Edgerly Road; 617-267-2262). Conveniently close to Boston's historic sights, the Hynes convention center, shops, and nightlife, Oasis has comfort and amenities including satellite TV, wi-fi, and parking.

For stays of a week or more, **Dyer Properties** (10-18 Brainerd Road; 617-

Continued on page 25

**Leo at Glam
Thursdays / The Estate**



**Bartender Matt with Suzanna,
at Glam Thursdays / The Estate**



**Bartenders Derek
& Dennis at
Paradise**



**Bartender
Joe with
Kenny at
The Alley**



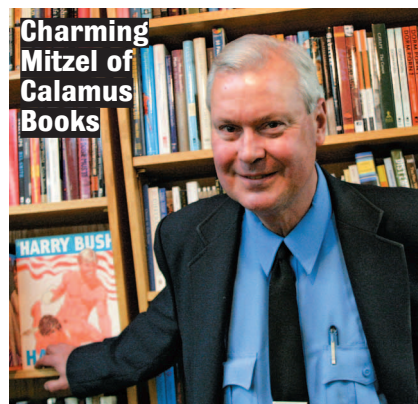
**Dancing at
Paradise**



**John of
463 Beacon
Guesthouse**



**Charming
Mitzel of
Calamus
Books**



Staff Matter, Izakio, Iliyon, Brit, & Jessy at Dbar



BOSTON

CLUBS & RESTAURANTS

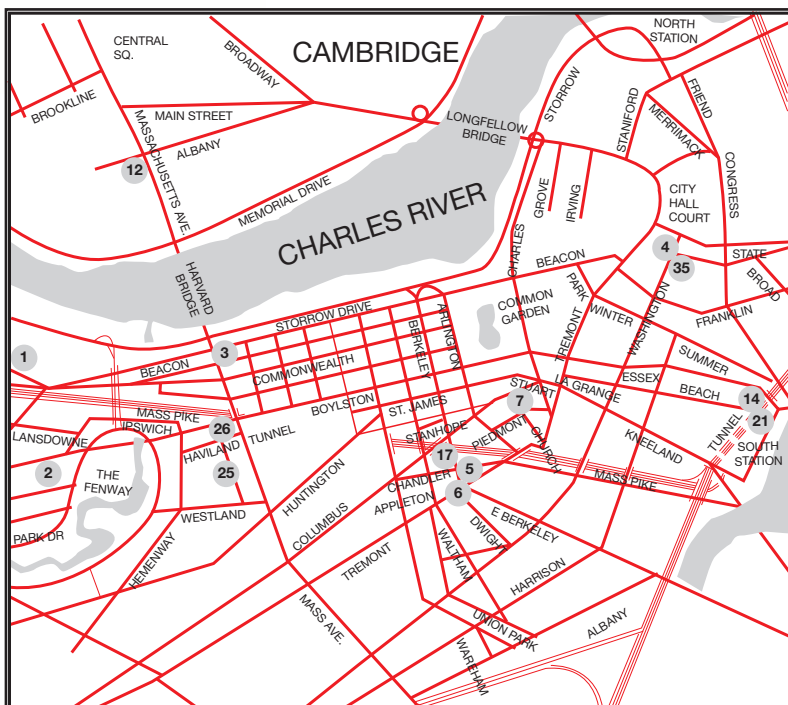
- 8) **DBar**
(617) 265-4490
1236 Dorchester Avenue,
Dorchester
- 4) **The Alley**
(617) 263-1449
14 Pi Alley at 275 Washington
- 2) **Boston Ramrod**
(617) 266-2986
1254 Boylston St
- 6) **Eagle**
(617) 542-4494
520 Tremont St
- 5) **Fritz**
(617) 482-4428
26 Chandler St
- 7) **Jacques**
(617) 426-8902
79 Broadway
- 2) **Machine**
(617) 536-1950
1256 Boylston St
- 12) **Paradise**
(617) 868-3000
180 Massachusetts Ave

HOTELS/ GUESTHOUSES


- 1) **Casa do Zequita**
(617) 264-7535
1534 Commonwealth Ave
- 5) **Chandler Inn**
(617) 482-3450
(800) 842-3450
26 Chandler St
- 3) **463 Beacon St Guest House**
(617) 536-1302
463 Beacon St
- 25) **Oasis Guest House**
(617) 267-2262
22 Edgerly Rd
- *) **Zee Paragon Suites**
(617) 232-7844
10-18 Brainerd Rd

OTHER

- 35) **AIDS Action Committee**
(617) 437-6200
294 Washington, 5th Fl
- 17) **Berkeley Barber Shop**
(617) 338-9641
86 Berkeley St
- 21) **Calamus Bookstore**
(617) 338-1931
92B South St
- 26) **Fenway Health Center**
(617) 267-0900
7 Haviland St
- 14) **Marquis Leathers**
(617) 426-2120
92 South St




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E-mail: inn3450@ix.netcom.com



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26 Chandler at Berkeley, Boston, MA
617-482-4428



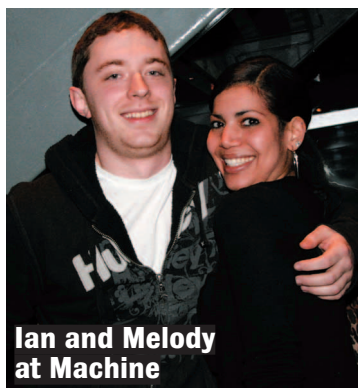
At Epic Saturdays / Roxy



**DJ Phil B. Kira,
& Chris Harris at Epic Saturdays / Roxy**



**At Epic
Saturdays / Roxy**



**Ian and Melody
at Machine**



**On the dance floor at
Glam Thursdays / Estate**



On the dance floor at Epic Saturdays / Roxy



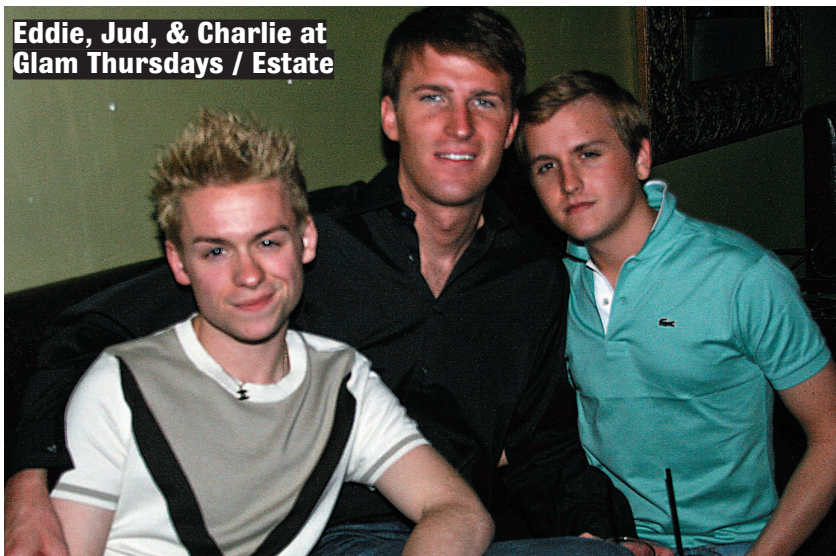
At Epic Saturdays / Roxy

Rob at Glam Thursdays / The Estate



Ed, Paul, Dennis, & Brian at Fritz

Eddie, Jud, & Charlie at Glam Thursdays / Estate



Bill of Fritz



Bartender Will at Ramrod



Rosy and Jerome at Machine



Dan (right) with photo-shy friend at Glam Thursdays / The Estate

Continued from page 20

232-7844; Zeeparagon.com), on the Allston-Brookline border, offers everything from fully furnished rooms to two- or three-bedroom luxury suites and duplexes. In a completely renovated historical building, Dyer Properties is nestled in a quiet neighborhood near the T (Green Line, Harvard Avenue stop). They're convenient to Harvard and BU, and blocks from historic Coolidge Corner district. Free wi-fi and parking for guests is available.

In student-filled Brighton, **Casa do Zequita** (1534 Commonwealth; 617-264-7535) is a lovely bed-and-breakfast on the Green Line "T," with kitchen, parking, a good breakfast, and internet.

Shopping and services

Calamus Bookstore (92B South Street; 617-338-1931; Calamusbooks.com), Boston's complete GLBT bookstore, is just a minute walk from South Station and one of the best anywhere. Owner John Mitzel is well versed

in both literature and local gay history, and will help you find whatever you seek from a wide selection of authors, best-selling and obscure. Calamus is abundantly stocked with books and also videos, travel guides, calendars, cards, and magazines. You'll find literary, scholarly, and erotic materials from across the political spectrum and the sexual divide. You can get lost in the large photo books section alone. Visiting authors appear here, too. See their website for upcoming events, special orders, and to browse the inventory or buy online. To receive a weekly book chat newsletter email mitzel@calamusbooks.com.

Above Calamus, **Marquis Leathers** (92 South Street) has a wide selection of leather items, plus a varied stock of sexy videos, magazines, fetish paraphernalia, and pride stuff.

Going out

Ramrod (1254 Boylston St.), celebrating 26 years as Boston's original leather and denim bar, is open daily noon to 2 a.m., seven days a week.

There are nightly DJs and rarely a cover charge. Leather, military gear, and rubber fetish events alternate with bear and glove-fetish nights. The cruisy leather men's backroom has a strict dress code both Friday and Saturday nights. Sunday nights are Disco nights, with DJ Ace playing all the classics. Wednesdays is '80s night, called Freestyle with DJ Mac. Thursdays bring Mandance with DJ Manuel Santiago. Friday's DJ is Dana and Saturday's DJs are the duo called Freespace. Warm weather brings sidewalk seating on their outdoor patio. Go down on Sundays for a great \$5 buffet.

Machine (1256 Boylston) is a large separate nightclub beneath Ramrod, with hot local and guest DJs. Fridays here are the place to enjoy "Boston's Best Friday Night Out!" with resident DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning the best in dance music and VJ Tom Yaz playing hot videos in the video lounge. On the first and third Saturday of each month Machine is host to Sin-O-Matic and Shelter, two hot goth and fetish

New England's Only Bar with Hot Male Strippers 7 Nights a Week

PARADISE

Come Celebrate

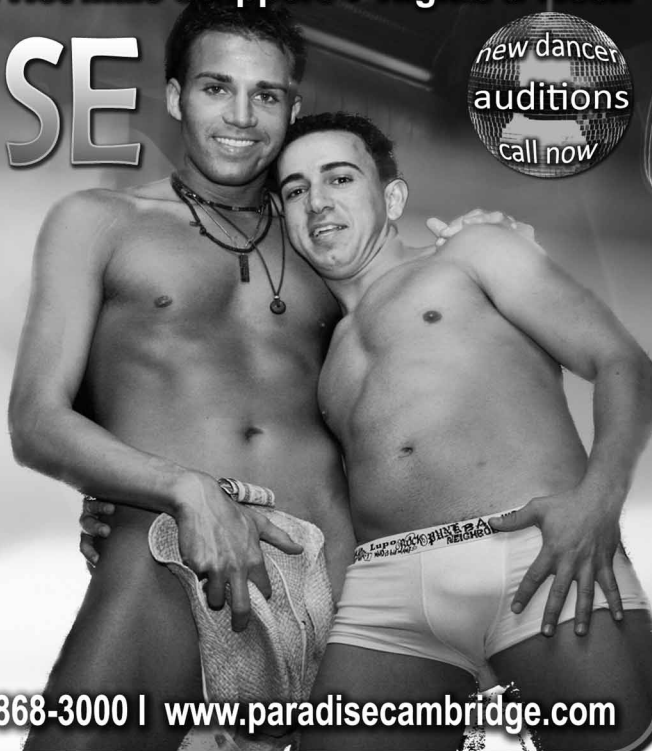
GAY PRIDE
WEEKEND

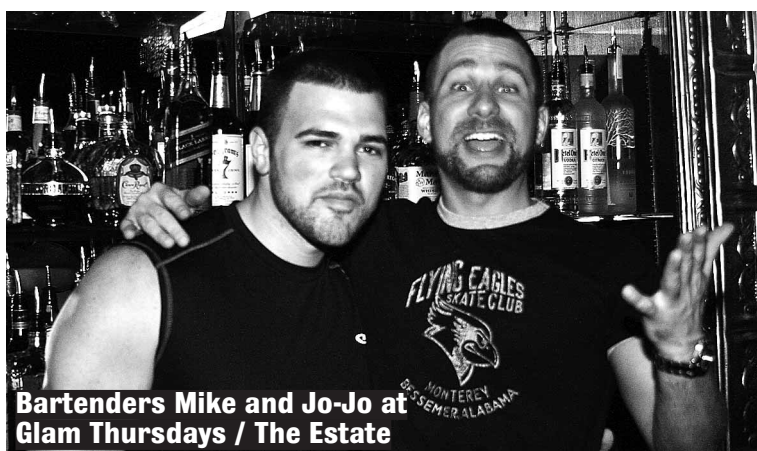
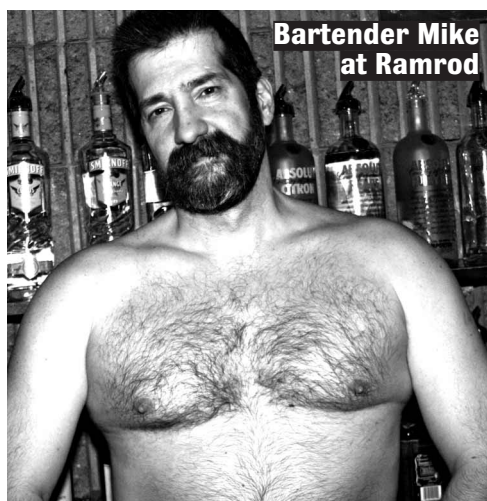
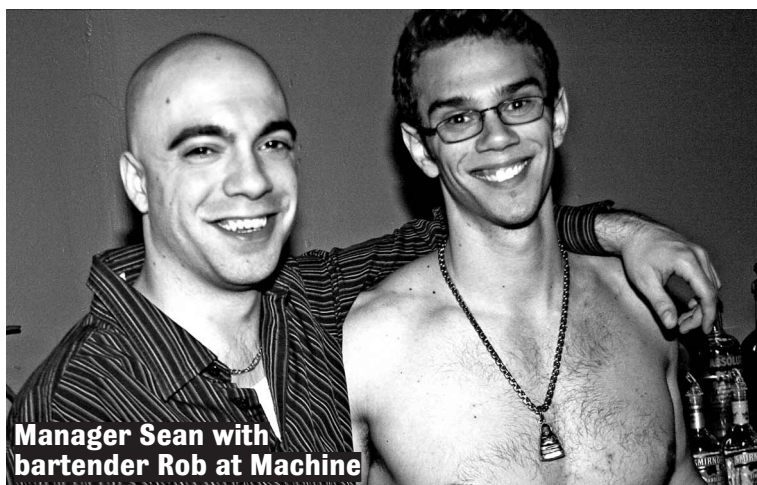
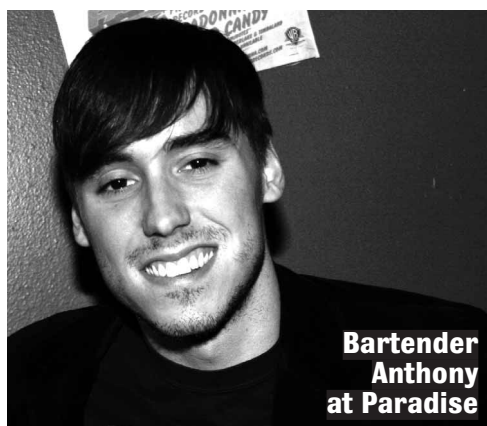
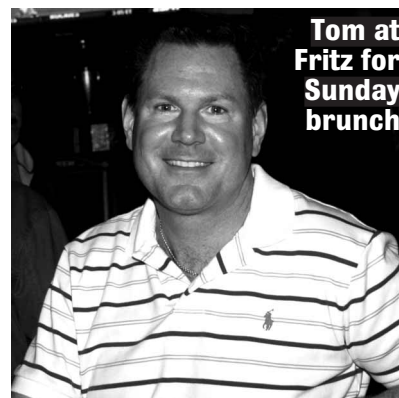
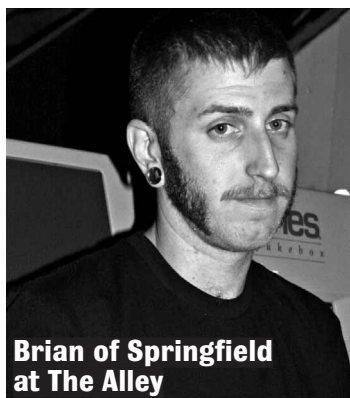
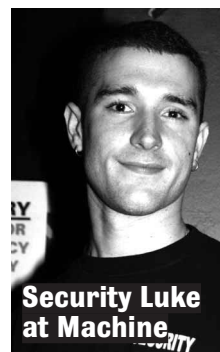
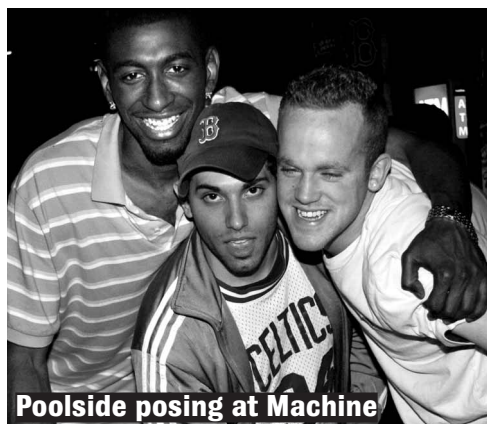
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nights. The opposite Saturdays host 1256 Underground, a deep house night, with a body-and-soul atmosphere. Dirty Sexy Mondays brings on resident DJ Susan Esthera, spinning the hottest top 40 and hip-hop, this is accompanied by a great drag show headed by the legendary Miss Kriss. Thursdays Machine has karaoke in the video lounge host by Adam Morris. Sundays has a piano night with rotating pianists, Michelle Currie and Todd Theriault.

Ramrod/Machine is handicapped-accessible and offers Keno games and an on-site ATM.

Paradise (180 Massachusetts Avenue), across the river in Cambridge, is open seven nights a week from 7 p.m. The sexiest strippers in New England perform onstage in the upstairs bar. Out-of-town hunks and uninhibited local talent appear here, and the dancers mingle and socialize with the audience after their sets. Downstairs the dance floor opens through the weekend – and for most Sundays with a Monday holiday following. The dance floor rocks to the tunes of DJs Jonny C and Billy B with an emphasis on top-40 and high-energy music. Adult-video movies play on the monitors around the bar after 10 p.m.

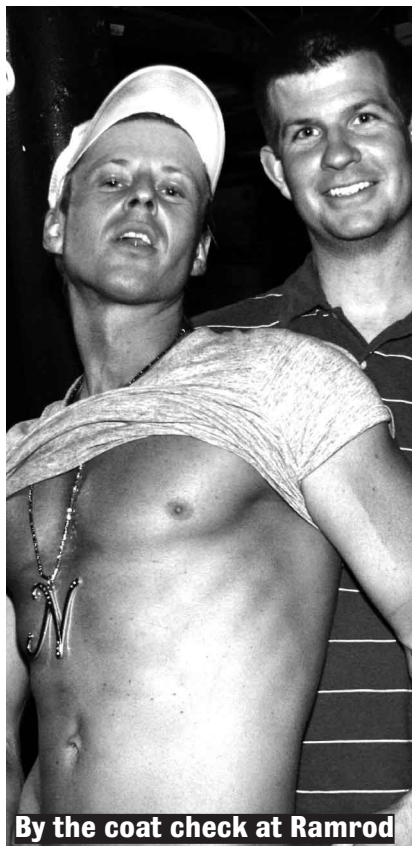
The Alley (14 Pi Alley; Thealley-bar.com) is a downtown men's cruise bar that pulls in a friendly no-attitude

crowd of leather/Levi "regular guys" and bears from late afternoons daily. Their drinks are among the most generous in town and they have pool tables, games, and a massive 12-by-9 foot screen to catch the sports, the Wednesday-night movies, and other special events. On third Fridays, area leather clubs host a club night upstairs with a strict leather dress code. See their website for other upcoming events.

At Chandler Inn, **Fritz** (26 Chandler) is another friendly neighborhood gay-favorite in the South End, with satellite-TV sports on monitors throughout the bar. Fritz serves a popular weekend brunch. They're famous for their Bloody Mary's and have a big Sunday afternoon and evening crowd. For gay pride in June, Fritz celebrates with a huge and festive annual outdoor block-party.



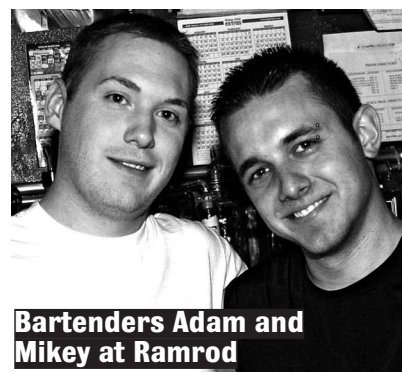
Aaron, Johnny, & Dino hanging at Dbar



By the coat check at Ramrod




At Paradise



Bartenders Adam and Mikey at Ramrod

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Jacques (79 Broadway) features the electric performances of Boston's most talented stars of female impersonation.

Boston Eagle (520 Tremont) is a South End neighborhood bar with a friendly leather vibe.

Nearby, **Club Cafe** (209 Columbus) is a lounge, video bar, and American bistro restaurant, especially well-trod on Thursdays.

Francesca's (564 Tremont) is a South End fixture, offering superb coffees and light fare – and a wall of windows from which to survey the local scene.

In Dorchester, **Dbar** (1236 Dorchester Avenue) was formally an old-school Irish pub filled with mahogany charm. Now it's been renovated into a hip, chic hotspot. There's a full-service restaurant with a tasty menu seven nights a week from 5 to 10 p.m., seamlessly transforming into a gay nightclub and lounge from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dbar fills the void in the increasingly gay Dorchester neighborhood, while drawing clientele from surrounding areas.

From espresso martinis, to eclectic martinis, to a fine glass of Bordeaux, Dbar caters to all thirsts. An attractive staff, sparkling lights, and a pumping sound system add to the festivities.

The Beantown's nightclub scene now benefits from Chris Harris's glamorous extravaganzas. Having teamed up with self-styled "Boston Gay Mafia Dom" Rafael Sanchez, he's made Boston host city to one of the largest weekly gay dance parties on the East Coast. It fills a gap opened with the closing of the *über* club Avalon, along with several other neighboring venues on Lansdowne Street.

Glam Life Thursdays (1 Boylston Place; Theestateboston.com), which had its beginnings on Lansdowne, now hangs its hat at The Estate, a posh club that resembles a turn-of-the-century mansion. There are chandeliers, candelabras, and a multitude of VIP booths, lounges, and private rooms neatly tucked away in the darker corners of this palatial space. Local

legend DJ Richie Ladue explores the not-so-conventional sides of top-40, hip-hop, and pop – and don't be surprised if he throws in some Bon Jovi or Journey before the night is complete!

Epic Saturdays (279 Tremont Street; Chrisharrisrepresents.com) is hosted at the Roxy, one of Boston's largest and most elegant venues. Originally a hotel ballroom in the heart of Boston's historic theater district, the Roxy has a full proscenium stage and a marble foyer. Epic Saturdays rocks this elegance with an array of international guest DJs and producers.

It's like a montage of the best of Boston's party scene of recent years: **Estate Sundays** (1 Boylston Place; Theestateboston.com) is an infusion of Avalon Sundays, Axis Mondays, and Diesel Sundays, with a slew of original Avalon Sunday staff. Hosted by Mizery with "Providance" DJ Dena Cucci – and with weekly random unannounced guest appearances – "You never know what to expect, except for a good time!" ▼



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Island House, South Beach, 1428 Collins Ave; (800) 382-2422, (305) 864-2422; web: www.islandhousesouthbeach.com; email: ihsohe@bellsouth.net. /reservations@islandhousesouthbeach.com South Beach's favorite guesthouse, steps to the beach and all South Beach action. Rooms and efficiencies. Complimentary breakfast and manager's happy hour. Island House Miami Beach, 82nd Street, our intimate original location. Jacuzzi, tropical patio, sun bathing, 5 minutes to Haulover's nude beach, ten minutes to South Beach.

GEORGIA

ATLANTA

Hello B&B - 1865 Windmere Dr, Atlanta GA. 30324 (404) 892-8111. Email: hellobnb@aol.com. Visit us online: members.aol.com/hellobnb/. Mike Russell is your congenial host and expert on gay Atlanta at this family home B&B. The Hello B&B is located in a pleasant upscale residential neighborhood, minutes by car from entertainment districts in mid-town and Buckhead. On-site jacuzzi is a big plus.

INDIANA

INDIANAPOLIS

Metro Nightclub and Restaurant 707 Massachusetts Avenue. "Never a Cover!" (317-639-6022; www.metro-indy.com) Indy's number one gay bar has Indy's number one Karaoke nights, Tuesdays and Metro Idol Karaoke on Thursdays 10pm; Monday Piano Night with Dave Lowe; the Second Story Bar, open seven days with games, and pool tables. Restaurant open seven days a week from 5-10pm. Brunch served every Sunday from 11am-3pm. The second floor Metropolitan Gift Shop is open every night.

Talbot Street, 2145 N. Talbot; 317-931-1343. Indianapolis' premier disco/cabaret Thursday/Friday/Saturday 9pm (weekends 'til 3am). Saturday DJ Logan Matthews. "Sky Bar" cocktail lounge overlooks main floor. "Legends" Cabaret Bar is "A Glitter" with Ladies of Legends showtimes Friday/Saturday 9:30pm, 11pm and 12:30am and Sunday at 10pm. See www.talbotstreet.com for special events.

LOUISIANA

NEW ORLEANS

Lions Inn Bed and Breakfast, (2517 Chartres Street) Offering 10 rooms, seven private, one efficiency. Complimentary breakfast/cocktails. Lush clothing optional garden with swimming pool / hot-tub. "Do what-ever you wish, but do it quietly!" Located minutes from the Quarter. 10% discount for mentioning The Guide. Let us be at your service. Call 504-945-2339 or 800-485-6846. www.lionsinn.com.

Petunias, A Restaurant, 817 St. Louis, New Orleans. (504) 522-6440; www.petuniasrestaurant.com. The darling of the French Quarter offering traditional and original Cajun/Creole dishes and the "world's largest crepes." Specialties include Cajun Pasta, Crawfish Étouffée, desert and crepes. A favorite of locals and visitors. Friendly, casual atmosphere. Open seven days 8am thru 11pm. Evening reservations/all cards accepted.

MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON

463 Beacon Street Guesthouse, 463 Beacon Street Boston, MA 02115; phone, 617-536-1302; fax, 617-247-8876; email, info@463beacon.com; www.463beacon.com. Weekly and nightly lodging in elegant, Back Bay brownstone with private baths, cable TV, A/C, telephones and answering service. Convenient location near public transportation, the Prudential/Hynes Convention Center, restaurants, and night life. A comfortable and affordable hotel alternative. Parking available. \$69-\$139/night, special weekly rates. Short-term furnished apartments also available.

Oasis Guest House, 22 Edgerly Road, Boston, MA 02115; (617) 267-2262, (800) 230-0105, fax (617) 267-1920. Two renovated Back Bay town-houses in heart of Boston. Continental breakfast on outdoor decks or in living room. Minutes walk to historic sights and night life. Central air, telephones, color TV, parking, private and shared baths, \$89-\$149, with off season rates. MC/Visa/AmEx. www.oasisgh.com, email: info@oasisgh.com.

Check out our
Boston coverage,
p 20

MISSOURI

KANSAS CITY

Ken's Place, KC's Gay Bed and Breakfast (18 W. 38th St., Kansas City, MO 64111; 816-753-0533) A grand old house, central location off Main Street near Buddies and Side-kicks. Six rooms each with it's own theme, three with private bath. Cable TV, DVD/VCR, room with a sling, balconies, pool, hot-tub, sun deck. Great rates! See www.purple.roofs.com/kensplacemo.html Email: machogene@netscape.net.

ST. LOUIS

Brewer's House Bed and Breakfast, 1829 Lami Street, 63104, (314) 771-1542, (888) 767-4665. www.brewershouse.com, brewershouse@sbcglobal.net. An elegant Civil War vintage home in south St. Louis, minutes from Souldard and downtown. Fireplaces. The hot tub in our intimate garden offers total privacy. Deck view of The Arch. Expanded continental breakfast. Reservations required.

Cheap TRX Alternative Shopping, Body Piercing and Tattoos, 3211 South Grand, St. Louis, MO 63118; (314) 664-4011; www.cheaptrx.com. St. Louis's favorite house of sinful delights. The most experienced, informative, friendly piercers and tattoo artists! The region's largest selection of quality body jewelry, pride merchandise; plus cards, DVDs, candles, incense, club clothes, jewelry, gifts, leather, lube, adult toys, pipes, and magazines. Monday through Saturday 10-8pm, Sunday 11-6pm. All major credit cards. Email: cheaptrxstore@gmail.com.

Clementines, 2001 Menard; 314-664-7869; www.clementinesbar.com. It's always cruising time in the historic Souldard District at St. Louis's oldest bar with the newest look and summer patio. "Oh My Darlin' Cafe" open daily with prime-rib specialty and weekend brunches. Weekend beer busts 1-5pm and holiday "Wet Jockey Shorts Contests." Labor Day finals (coincides with Show Me Invitational Bowling Tournament).

St. Louis Guesthouse, 1032-38 Allen Avenue, 63104, 314-773-1016; www.stlouisguesthouse.com, garryhawk@aol.com Come home to historical Souldard, next door to Gay Bar and Restaurant. Each unit is a two room suite with wet bar, refrigerator, private bath, phone, and cable TV; opens onto private courtyard with hot tub. Reservations required. AmEx, Discover, Visa, MC.

The Complex, 3515 Chouteau Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri; 314-772-2645. All under one roof! The number one dance club in St. Louis. The newest music and videos with DJ nightly. Dance bar, patio bar, video bar, martini lounge, drag shows Tuesday and Sunday, and comedy drag on Wednesdays. Nightclub open Tuesday-Sunday until 3am.

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS

The Rack is Las Vegas' most diverse clothing store for both sexes. From club to swim-ware, to custom leather, bondage and fetish-ware, we've got you covered. One of Nevada's best selections of cock rings lubricants and toys. 702-732-7225; 953 E. Sahara Building 16, just north of Hawks Gym.

Blue Moon Resort, 2651 Westwood drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109; 866-798-9194; bluemoonlasvegas.com. **Las Vegas' Only Gay Men's Resort** featuring 45 professionally designed guest rooms and suites, heated, clothing optional pool in a private compound, jacuzzi grotto, 10 foot waterfall, internet and tv lounge, video lounge, steam room, complimentary wireless internet throughout, complimentary breakfast daily and BBQ every Sunday (weather permitting). Just blocks to the Las Vegas strip! Air and room packages available through the website.

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Snick's Place, 1402 South 3rd St. Just off the Strip between Sahara Ave. and Charleston Blvd. 702-385-9298. Est 1976. Las Vegas's oldest and friendliest gay bar. Open 24 hours, 7 days a week, Where the locals meet!

OHIO

AKRON

Adams Street (77 N. Adams; 330-434-9794). Open nightly to 2:30am. Akron's best mix: college boys and levi-leather to drag. Piano bar Wednesdays and Fridays. Drag shows Sunday and Tuesday. Saturday country-western. Strippers on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. "Full Moon Parties" on closest Saturday. Uniform, blackout, and other theme parties, see www.adamsstreetbar.com.

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CLEVELAND

Body Language, shop online at www.body-language.com. Cleveland's gay/lesbian emporium for books, magazines, gay videos, pride stuff, erotic leather (whips, restraints, harnesses, hoods, slings, paddles, floggers, and more), and personal pleasers. At 11424 Lorain (corner of W 115th), open daily 11am-11pm (except Sunday til 6pm). (216) 251-3330, or (888) 429-7733.

COLUMBUS

Torso, 772 N. High St, #100, Phone: 614-421-7663. At N. High and Warren Streets in Columbus' gay Short North District. Open Monday until 6pm, 9pm Tuesday-Thursday; 10pm Friday & Saturday; & 5pm Sunday. Denim: Buffalo, Syn, and RufsKing; Underwear: 2(x)ist, Ginch Gonch, C-IN2 & Unico; Fashions & Sportswear: Couture, Hard 8, Ajaxx63, Whittall & Shon, Go Software & Sauvage. Torso Leather & Fetish, 117 E. Chestnut St. (614-228-3250) Inside Tradewinds II bar. Open Thursday-Sunday 10pm-2:30am. Nasty Pig, Leather & Fetish Wear, Cockrings, Lubes, and Video Head. www.Torsoonline.com

OKLAHOMA

OKLAHOMA CITY

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