

FEMALE MIMICS

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 2

AN **EROS** GOLDSTRIP
SPECIAL

\$5.00 R

AMAZING AMANDA
TAKES YOU THRU HER STEPS

THE BATTLE OF V.I.P.'s AND
MISS GODDESS 1979
BLOW-BY-BLOW CONTEST
DETAILS AND
EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS!

HOW TO COPE WITH SOCIETY...
'COMING OUT' TODAY!



FEMALE MIMICS

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 2

SUMMER - 1979

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EDITORIAL

First, let me say thank you to all of you who wrote in with all your good wishes for Female Mimics. It is a real delight to hear from you, and we look forward to more correspondence. In fact, we hope that our Letters to the Editor section will grow, and all of you writing in, please send photos. There is a photo release form at the end of the section that must accompany any pictures, and we love to get them. We are also establishing a personal ad section just as soon as we have enough people wishing to correspond with each other to put together this section. So PLEASE send in those ads — just simply explain a little about yourself, your experiences, your pleasures, etc., and enclose a photo. We will be absolutely discreet when we forward letters to you so that it will be your choice whether or not you want the other person to have your address. However, we do want only people interested in corresponding with admirers to place ads.

Now, a little about why we are doing FEMALE MIMICS. We feel that female impersonators are perhaps the least understood performers in the world today. Their art is a demanding one, the talent required immense. Yet, many people reject them as being merely bizarre; an object, perhaps, of ridicule. Yet those who take the time and trouble to understand the female mimic, his motives and his ability, soon discover that the world of female mimicry is far more complex than they ever imagined. Not only is the level of performance extremely high, but when a female impersonator is on stage, the difficulty of performing in a believable manner is increased by virtue of the fact that, in addition to the numbers included in the act, the performer must imitate a female to perfection, as well. As a result, the number of successful female impersonators who reach the top of their profession is relatively few. These men, able to project a fabulous female image, are what we feature in FEMALE MIMICS, in an effort to broaden understanding of them and their art.

We also like to present to you a few of our friends who have perfected the art of female impersonation for their own private enjoyment. These people do not perform or entertain; they simply enjoy the art of dressing like a woman and acting like a woman mostly in the privacy of their own homes, and sometimes they may venture out amongst people and see how well they feel. This area of female impersonation is perhaps the hardest in regard to society. Men who impersonate women for entertainment are excused, but men who dress like women for their own enjoyment are ridiculed and scorned by the majority of society. We certainly feel that this is unjust, and we enjoy bringing you our friends who feel good dressed like a woman and who are as appealing as any woman anywhere. We have two great gals in this issue, Amanda and Jennifer. Both of them know the art of make-up and dressing and enjoy living their day-to-day lives as women, and we love them.

Also in this issue, we have brought you another great contest, the GODDESS CONTEST and THE BATTLE OF V.I.P.'s along with the thrilling blow-by-blow description of what took place, with lots of photos of the happenings and the results.

Remember, we love getting photos and letters from our readers, so keep sending them in.

Kim Christy

LET'S TRY AND FIND OUT

Your editor wishes you to help him with the following aspects of "What is a Transvestite" and would welcome letters on the following aspects.

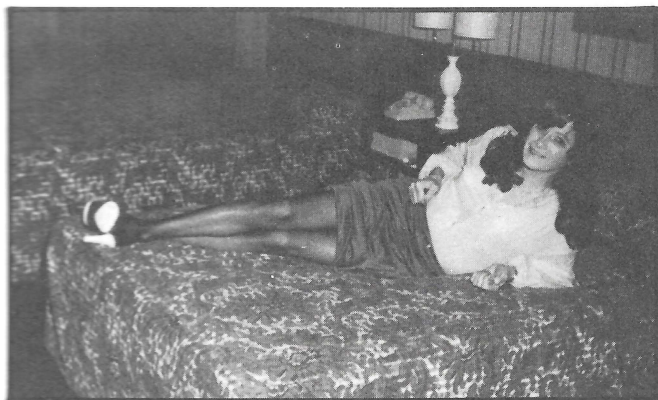
1. Do you long to share your delight at being a TV? If so, with whom, and why?
2. Experiences at meeting other TV's. Did you enjoy them? Were they what you expected?
3. Being "caught in the act." By whom? What happened and what was their reaction?
4. Shopping experiences. Nice ones? Embarrassing? Disasterous?

All of you have had experiences of some or all of these. Please let us know so that others can share (and possibly learn from) your happy times, your embarrassing, or amusing moments.

Dept. 100 FM
P.O. Box 1622
Studio City, CA 91604



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Kim:

I'd love to become a part of your special Ad Section of FEMALE MIMICS, so I am enclosing a photo release form and two photos.

I'm a beginning Female Impersonator, and enjoy the delight of dressing in feminine things from the skin out, doing my best with makeup, and enjoying dates with my boyfriend when I'm dressed — also enjoying these dates when I'm undressed!!!

Hope you will use my photos, but if they aren't good enough, I'll understand, perhaps I can get some made that are better.

I'm 5'7", 139 pounds, 36-B-30-36, very versatile and affectionate, and would love to correspond with other TVs or men who are interested in a relationship with me.

In Love,
Jane A.C.

Dear Jane:

I am sorry to say we have not yet started our ad section. What we meant to say was that we are asking for interested people to send in an ad and when we have enough, we will certainly start the section. Meanwhile, we want all of you to write in as you did and let us know what you think and feel and send pictures. Speaking of pictures, yours were great, but remember, black and white photos reproduce better than color ones, so next time send only black and white. Also, we cannot return the photos, and they must be accompanied by the release, as you did. Thank you, Jane, for your terrific letter, and we hope to hear from you again.

Kim



Dearest Kim,

Words cannot describe how thrilled I was when I saw Volume 5 Number 1 of Female Mimics in this local book store. You can bet your bottom dollar that I purchased a copy and I enjoyed it very very much as I read it from cover to cover. I am quite delighted that you are going to start publishing it again and want to wish you all the success in the world.

In a few days I am going to send you some of my latest pictures along with an ad that you might print if you would like. I would also like to subscribe to Female Mimics if you are selling subscriptions. Also, if you can think of any way that I might help to make your efforts a success in publishing it, please by all means let me know.

I think that we corresponded a few years ago, but you probably have forgotten about me, so I will refresh your memory.

I am a very feminine she-male, 29 years old, white, single, 5 feet 6 inches tall, weight 125 pounds, brown eyes, brunette hair that I now wear past my shoulders, and have a 38-24-39 figure, and my face, body, arms and legs are as free from hair as the palm of your hand, after taking hormones and treatments. For the past eight years, I have enjoyed living and dressing as a female full time, as I do not have a stitch of male clothing.

Your story on The Final Step in Female Mimics was most interesting, as I am going to J— H— the first of August to take this final step, and needless to say, I am looking forward to this very much. My dreams and my prayers will finally be answered as I have always wanted to be a female as I will not call myself a transsexual, nor will I call myself a woman in every respect of the word. I will try to cease all memory of myself as a man.

I am in business with my sweet and most understanding mother as we own and operate a very thriving and successful chain of stores.

I have no brothers or sisters and my father died when I was only a baby. Very thankfully, mother is behind me 100% in me becoming a full female, as she has been most helpful in every respect. She is insisting on paying for my operation as she wants so much to do anything to make me happy.

Very truthfully, sexually, I am what I might call myself bi-sexual. I am very fond of giving French and receiving Greek as I date men and every once in a while I go out with women also. I do also have a few TV friends that I enjoy being in the company of also.

I have had quite a few and may I say now I have had my share of experiences as being a she-male and I will tell you about them in a later letter if you would like to

read about them.

Well, best of love for now. Again I want you to know that I am wishing you all the success in the world with Female Mimics and my best regards also.

Very sincerely,
Bobbie



Dear Kim:

I have been "dressing" for years, and it was not until I read Female Mimics that I learned that there was a way to communicate with and get to know other TVs. Since then, I kept looking in magazines, papers, etc., to find out how to make contact with other TVs and then I saw your announcement of a Personal Ad section.

I am married and as a result of reading Female Mimics, I was able to tell my wife about my compulsion to dress. She has accepted it fairly well and understands why I took every opportunity to go to masquerade parties dressed as a woman. Incidentally, I always got comments such as 'what good-looking legs' from both men and women. Recently, a men's organization I belong to put on a play in which all parts were played by men. I had one of the female leads. The play was "Seventh Heaven." The play was such a success the first time that we were asked to put it on again for charity. We got a lot of comments about how unbelievable it was that those "women" were really men. Of course, I was not surprised, and I've the feeling that in one or two cases, there's some latent TVs.

I have often wondered how to broach the subject with them without revealing my own position until I can be sure of theirs.

Sincerely,
Ruth

Dear Ruth:

I would suggest showing them a copy of FEMALE MIMICS, and then taking it a step at a time.

The Editor

Dear Editor:

I have no typewriter, so I'm using a pen. I sincerely hope you can use what I'm about to say in Female Mimics magazine.

I'm 44 years old. Well some thirty-six years ago, my much older sister, who was living with us, dressed me in her panties for punishment. At the time I was going to school and was very much ashamed. Because I had to take my panties down whenever I went to the bathroom, some of the other boys saw my panties as they were pink, and quite naturally I was called a sissy.

Well, after that, I started skipping school and staying in the woods until school was out, and then I'd go home. The teacher called my sister and told her about this. Well, my sister was so mad that she took me over her knee. Pulling my pants and panties down, she gave me a wicked paddling and sent me to my room.

About an hour or so later she came to my room with some clothes in her hands and made me get undressed. When I had everything off but the panties, which she told me I could leave on, she laid the clothes in her hands on the bed and told me that every night after school I was to wear them. She put a white cotton slip and green print dress on me with ankle socks and sneakers. I felt even worse than I had in school when the other boys had seen that I was wearing panties.

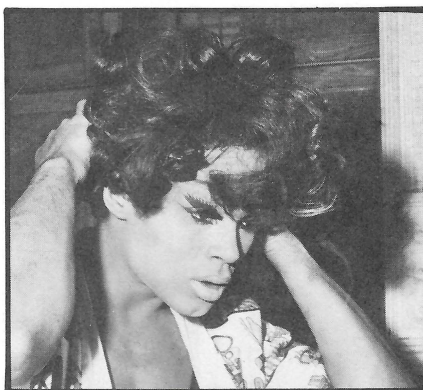
This went on for about three weeks or so and I got to like

wearing these clothes so much that I hated to take them off and put pants on. I was a good boy after that, but as time went on I used to dress up in girls clothes as often as I could.

When I was fourteen, I bought a bra, panty girdle, slip, dress and stockings and locked myself in my room and dressed up. Ever since then until this day, I wear panties, panty girdle and nylons under my male clothing. Sometimes I even go as far as to wear a half slip and bra. When I come home I put on a dress or skirt and blouse.

I love these clothes and they are a part of me, as I've tried to give them up and cannot. When I get a decent wig and heels and can take a picture, I will send one in.

Sincerely,
Joan



Dear Editor:

I have been a TV since the age of 9 years. With three sisters, a domineering mother, father who worked six days and nights a week, 12 to 13 hours per day, a brother who had his own friends, no wonder I became a TV. Anymore

help in my younger years and I may have made it to a bi-TV or TS. No one can tell me to go to "HELL!" because the past 30 years have been just that and more!

I had to learn the abc's of S.E.X. from the Happy Hooker. Yes, Miss Hollinder, the horneyest SOB ever put on earth. At age 30 I still can not control my little person when time comes, and that makes the girl I am with very upset. Seeing two guys or a guy and girl having sex turns peter off, now two lesbians is 1,000 volts of power.

Goodbye for now,
Hazel

Dear Hazel:

Thank you for your letter and your terrific pictures. Hope to hear from you again. Maybe you should join our ad section and you would be able to correspond with others in your same situation.

The Editor



P.S. WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOUR PICTURES ALONG WITH YOUR LETTERS, AND IN ORDER TO PRINT YOUR PICTURES, WE MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING RELEASE:

PHOTO RELEASE

I, the undersigned, hereby represent that I am over eighteen (18) years of age and that the photo enclosed is an actual photo of myself. I hereby give FEMALE MIMICS magazine my consent to publish my photo and in FEMALE MIMICS magazine.

DATE _____

SIGNED _____

COMING OUT

AUTHOR'S NOTE

The style in this piece could easily be faulted, shifting as it does from first to second to third person and back. However, I felt that was the most realistic way to approach it. Being a transgendered person myself, some of these observations are from personal experience or involvement, and I didn't want to exclude myself from any of the judgments and criticisms.

This is by no means a comprehensive view of the subject, but merely thoughts and reflections gathered from dealing with these questions over a period of years.

Since my own transition has been from male to female, that is the genesis of most of my information. I've tried to make the article as universal as possible, but, particularly in the section on passing in public, I wasn't always able to do that without sounding horribly awkward. The principles apply, though, no matter what the specifics.

Linda Lee is the West Coast Editor of DRAG magazine, former President of the Salmacis Society, and, in the last few years has been doing an increasing amount of public speaking about transgenderism. She recently produced a cassette tape about her own experiences entitled "A Conversation with Linda Lee."



by
LINDA LEE

All transgendered people are faced at some point with the problem of "coming out," somehow moving beyond the closet and dealing with other people about this aspect of their lives.

Of course, some deal with the problem by ignoring it and staying in the closet, but for many, this isn't satisfactory, and even people who choose this "path of least resistance" have a good many second thoughts and regrets as years pass.

There are several aspects of coming out, but they seem to break down into three major categories: "Telling Other People," "Passing in Public," and "Living Full-Time."

There is considerable overlap between them, especially the last, which necessarily involves both of the others, but each of these areas poses unique problems.

"Telling Other People" is the aspect that is faced by more transgendered people than any other. We may never go out in public, may never even consider living full-time, but unless our lives are very solitary indeed, we will face at some point the trauma of telling another person about this very important, and usually hidden, aspect of our lives.

What makes it all the harder is that the person we need to tell is usually someone close, a family member, a lover or a spouse.

This closeness emotionally loads the problem from the start. In a situation where we fear a negative response, it's always easier to deal with someone who isn't very important to us, because if the response is negative, it doesn't matter, or at least doesn't matter as much.

Unfortunately, that's not the usual situation. Few of us go around telling complete strangers about our transgenderism. (Well, I have known one or two who did, but then everyone has their own ideas of fun . . .)

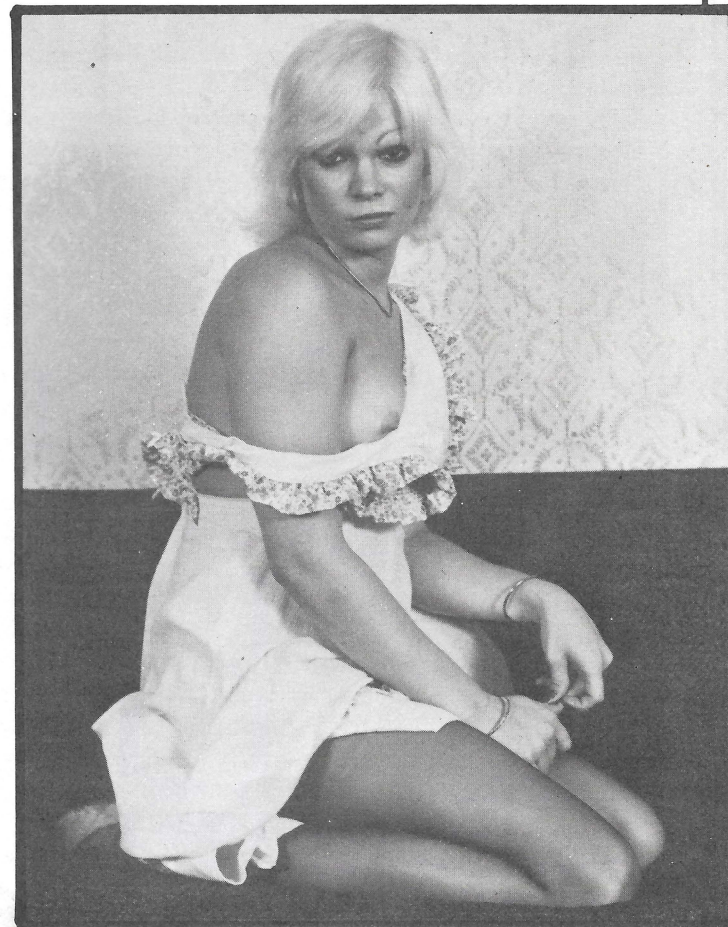
The usual case is that the person in question is important to us in some way, and there is a compelling reason to tell that person.

Indeed, over several years that I've dealt with this, I've developed a rule of thumb: "If there is a good reason to tell someone, tell them. Otherwise, don't."

This seems totally obvious, but it isn't really. Too often we make an emotional decision about telling (or not telling) someone when, if we thought it through carefully, we would decide differently.

Questions like how well the person will be able to handle the revelation and what the consequences will be if we don't tell that person have to be answered in our own minds.

The classic example is whether or not to tell someone to whom we are attracted and with whom we are thinking of initiating a relationship.



To me, this is a clear choice. In any potential important relationship, it is vital that the other person be told. "Honesty is the best policy" is a cliché, but it is also true in cases like this. No long-term relationship can succeed and grow if it's based on concealing the truth.

That's so important, I'll say it again. **NO LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP CAN SUCCEED AND GROW IF IT'S BASED ON CONCEALING THE TRUTH.**

What's more, it's never worth it to conceal the truth. The big fear is always that the other person won't love us anymore if they know the truth, but think about this for a while: Would you really want a serious relationship with someone whose regard for you is so fragile it could be shattered just by telling the truth?

There is a possible exception to this rule. If your transgenderism is not important to you, is a very minor part of your life, then a relationship based on ignoring it, or pretending it doesn't exist, might work. However, as most transgendered people know, this isn't usually the case.

For many TV's and certainly for TS's, our transgenderism is central to ourselves, and is a major force in our lives. Any relationship that doesn't take this into account is almost certainly doomed to fail. It would be on the order of a blind man pretending he can see; clearly not very practical in the long run.

And the consequences of not being honest are pretty horrid, either trying to give up something terribly important, or living with the equally heavy strain of constantly being afraid of the other person finding out.

Okay, given that the best idea is to level with the other person, what's the best way to do it?

The key principle is that most people have no direct experience of transgenderism in their own lives, so by and large, they will take their cues from us, from what we tell them and, perhaps more important, from how we tell them.

Here, some soul-searching is required. The question is: How do you view your transgenderism? Do you think of it as a positive thing in your life, or a shameful secret to be hidden away as much as possible?

On an even deeper level, the question comes down to: How do you value yourself? And the principle can be expanded to: In the absence of other information, people tend to value us as we value ourselves.

If we approach our own transgenderism as a positive aspect of our lives, as something that harms no one and allows us to function more comfortably and which gives us pleasure, then others will think of it that way, too. But they won't think of it this way if we don't; it's up to us.

One thing that can help is to develop friendships with other transgendered people. Talking to them can help us crystallize our own thinking, because we





can be more relaxed and open with them, since we have nothing to hide.

The more we can openly discuss our transgenerism, the less awesome it will seem. Again, what it boils down to is the more comfortable we can become with ourselves, the more comfortable others will be with us.

One important factor that helps determine how well others can deal with it is how well it is done. If we make acceptable and natural-looking women, people will handle it much more easily than if we look like nothing on earth.

This leads (rather cleverly, I think) into the second aspect of coming out: "Passing in Public."

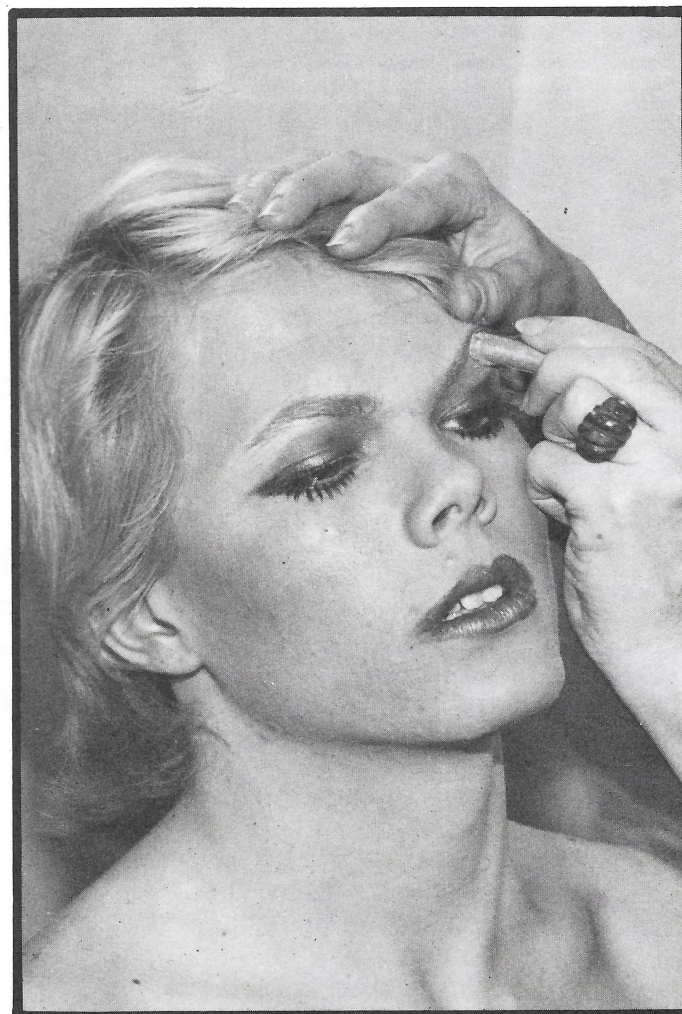
Remember that it is not necessary to look beautiful, or pretty, or cute to pass in public. If you can achieve any of these things, terrific. However, the only really vital aim is to look natural.

There are millions of ordinary-looking women in the world, and a good many who are downright homely. While no one consciously aims for homely (though I've seen one or two who were in there pitching . . .), there's nothing at all wrong with looking ordinary. I'm firmly convinced that almost anyone (I'd simply say anyone, but then I haven't seen everyone . . .) can become an acceptable woman, and that most could pass in public.

One of the worst and most common mistakes that TV's (and even some TS's) make is dressing in a way that calls attention to themselves.

Remember, we want glances, not stares!

I hope these tips will help us achieve them.



One reason many transgendered people look out of place is that they get hung up in the style of a particular period, often the period in which they first really began dressing.

For instance, today (May of 1979), mini-skirts have been out of style for some years. There aren't many places you'll see them. One is on street corners and under lamp posts in the sleazier quarters of town, and another is at any large gathering of TV's.

Now, there's nothing whatever wrong with wearing anything you want at home or anywhere private (including a private gathering). If a mouse-pelt bikini turns you on, swell. On the other hand, if you are going to try to pass in public, you owe it to yourself to try to look reasonably acceptable by current standards of style and fashion.

This definitely doesn't mean you have to try to be at the avant-garde of fashion; another mistake that transgendered people (more frequently TS's, I think) make. The exception to this would be if you were in a situation where most of the people were in the avant-garde of fashion.

In fact, this is the key to deciding what look to try for. You want to be at harmony with your situation, not to clash with it.

Presuming your situation to be a more or less ordinary one, as is the case for most of us, here are a couple of things you can do to ensure you are in style.

One tactic, of course, is to watch the women's magazines. "Cosmopolitan," "McCall's," "Redbook," and even "Good Housekeeping" have articles on fashion. "Vogue" and "Harper's" are devoted primarily to it, but tend to be more on the extreme edge than most of us would find useful.

Even better than the magazines, though, is a source of information available to everyone. This is advertising. Ads are everywhere: newspapers, magazines, billboards and television.



Especially good are the ads for large department stores that specialize in better quality women's wear. In California, stores like Macy's, Bullock's, and Joseph Magnin typify the kind of ads you want to watch closely. After all, these are the ads that vast numbers of women will be exposed to, and these are the items that are primarily going to be available to them.

Another good source are ads and catalogues for the really nice boutiques. The real trick is to watch the ads from places where the sort of woman you are (or would like to be!) would shop.

I'll make this a little more personal. My own look for everyday is neither glitter and glamor, nor dull and drab, but rather a kind of "Ms. Jr. Executive," which suits the kind of person I am and the image I want to project in public.

When I'm out, I want no more (and no less!) attention than any reasonably attractive young woman might get, and by and large, I achieve this.

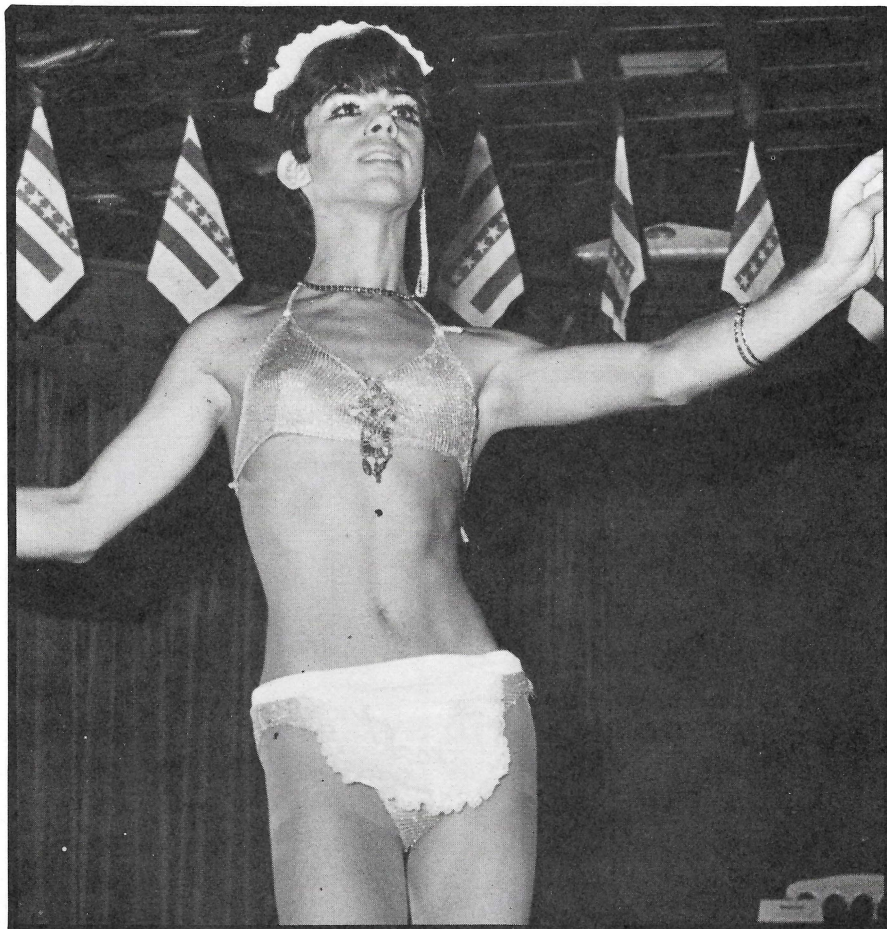
The same tricks that apply for clothes apply for make-up. Watch cosmetic company ads and women's magazines.

Something to keep in mind in clothes, make-up, and everything else: If it doesn't look good on you, don't wear it!

I'm sure we've all seen people who were right up to the minute in fashion, but looked awful, because the styles didn't suit their figures, their personalities, or in some other way, just didn't work for them. The great thing about fashion today is that there is such freedom of choice that everyone should be able to find a "look" that suits them.

This calls to mind another point. Lots of TV's and Ts's live in their own little fantasy worlds. They don't really look at the women around them.

Observe women. Try to see what sets the really stylish woman apart from others. Some people have a natural clothes sense, but even people who don't can develop



one. It's mostly a matter of really becoming aware of what looks good on you.

I've come to the point where I'll spot an outfit on a woman, and I'll know it would be something I could wear well. If I'm in a situation like that, I have few qualms about approaching the woman and asking (very politely, of course) where she found her outfit.

If the question is asked with courtesy and admiration, the woman is usually very flattered and quite willing to tell where her outfit came from.

Here's another factor you may not have considered about passing in public: Who do you hang out with?

You can look perfectly natural, and if you go around with someone who looks like King Kong in spiked heels, then you are going to get stared at, and probably read. It may seem snobbish to say, but it's the reality.

There are TV's whom I really like, whose company is a pleasure and who are welcome in my home anytime, but I wouldn't be seen in public with them on a bet, unless it was a situation where I didn't care if I was read or not.

This brings to mind another point. A relaxed attitude counts for a lot. If you are relaxed, self-assured, and comfortable in your role, others will be relaxed, too. If you are nervous and defensive, you'll put others on their guard, even though they may not know why. If this echoes "Telling Other People," it's because the same principle is at work.

And similar advice works here, too. At first, it's best to go to places where it doesn't matter whether someone reads you or not. The various groups and organizations for transgendered people provide a real service in this way among others. These are places where you can become accustomed to being out in public cross-dressed, and it does take a bit of getting used to.

Perhaps the most important



point, for our peace of mind, is to keep our sense of humor and perspective.

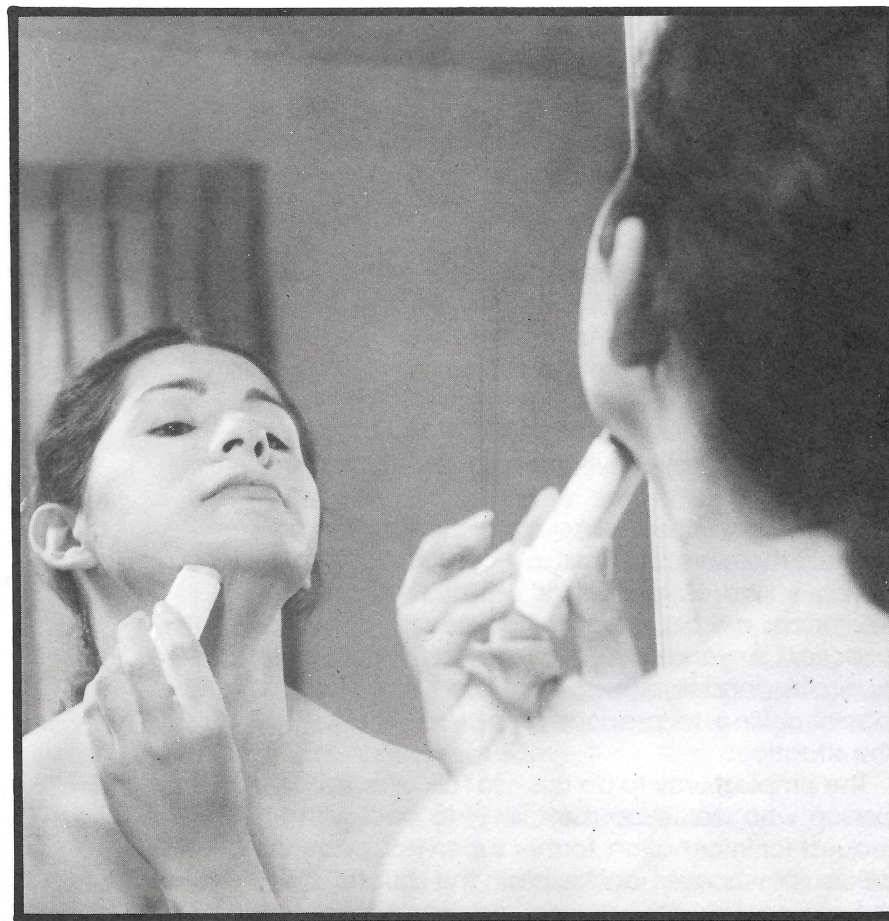
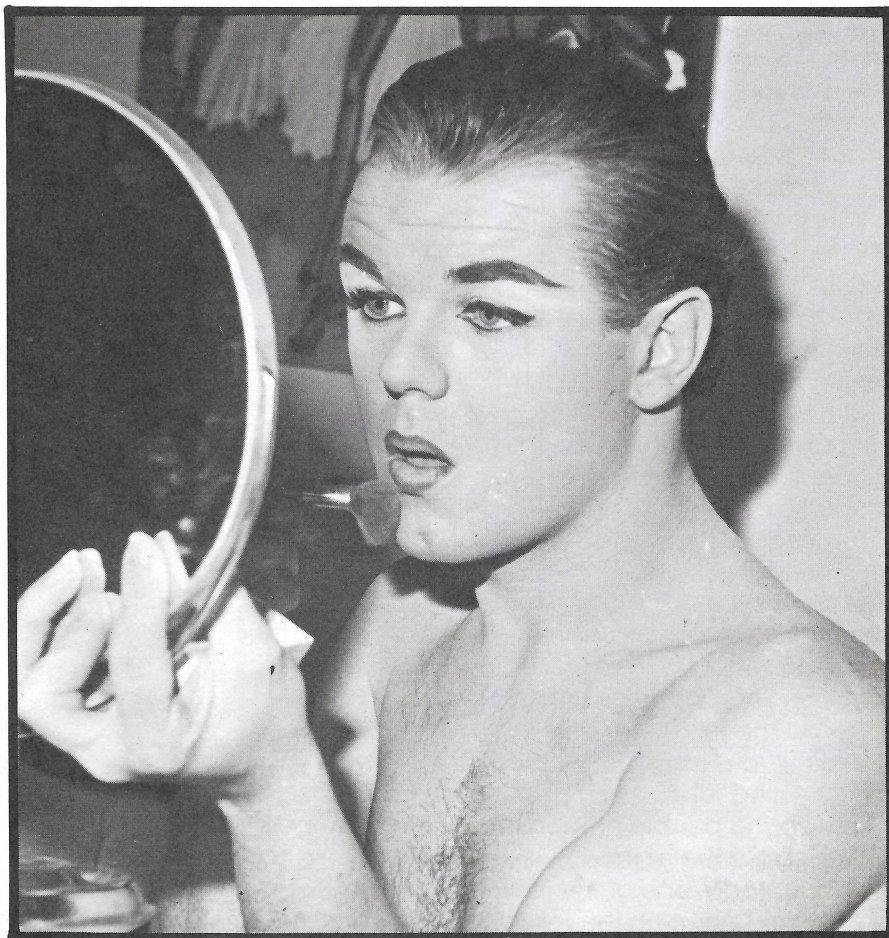
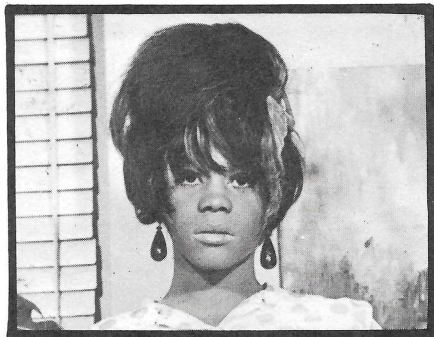
If someone reads me (and it has happened, though I'm glad to say very rarely), well, "Wot-thehell, wotthehell . . ." as Mehitabel the cat used to say. It's a big old world and holds things a far sight stranger. And it spins around in an enormous galaxy in an unimaginably huge universe in a cosmos vast beyond comprehension. And if some great intelligence is looking down at us, I hardly think it would be very concerned that I (being a biological male) happen to be more comfortable functioning as a woman.

The greatest challenge in the areas I've included under the topic "Coming Out" is the giant step of living full-time in the opposite gender role. This is "Coming Out" in the truest sense of the word.

Perhaps the most difficult aspect of living full-time is work, and it is this that keeps many of us from taking the "giant step."

The ideal situation would be one where our work is largely solitary. Wendy Carlos (formerly Walter Carlos), the well-known composer and musician, seems to have had somewhat this situation, but it is a rare one. (Incidentally, I recommend the interview Arthur Bell did with Wendy Carlos in the May 1979 issue of *PLAYBOY* as valuable reading for any transgendered person. It is deftly and sensitively done.)

This is probably the point to stress that I am talking here only about living full-time, or nearly full-time, in the opposite gender role.



A discussion of the pros and cons of the reassignment surgery is beyond the scope of this little article. If this is a main concern, I refer you to *THE TRANSSEXUAL PHENOMENON*, by Dr. Harry Benjamin — the first, and still the best, comprehensive book on the subject.

Whether or not one has had the reassignment surgery will, of course, influence to some extent the range of work available. The usual case (and the most sensible sequence) is that one starts living full-time well before surgery is considered, so most of these hints should apply.

Unless one works alone, the most likely situations to encounter are switching jobs as the transition is made, or staying on the same job as the transition is made.

Ten years ago, or even five, the idea of switching on the job was largely unheard of, and it still couldn't be called common, but it is, at least, much less rare. Nancy Hunt, the former reporter who made the transition while working at the *CHICAGO TRIBUNE*, is probably the best-known example.

The on-the-job shift seems to occur most frequently among professional people or others who have highly skilled jobs. It's probably easier, too, in fields where young people predominate, or where liberal attitudes are the norm.

Undoubtedly, one of the factors is the reluctance of any firm to give up the services of a truly valuable employee, which may help explain why it happens most often with people visible to upper management.

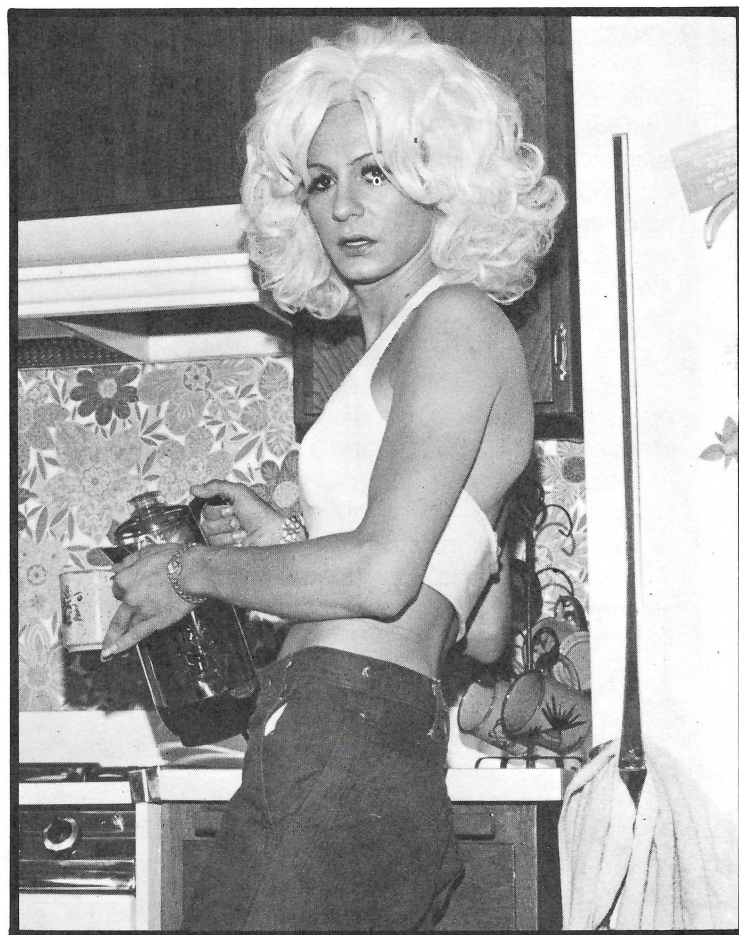
Unions have occasionally helped workers who wanted to change on the job, and there would seem to be a good deal of justification for their position that if these workers were satisfactory before the change, there is no grounds for assuming they would not be afterward.

Even with all the progress that has been made, the more common pattern for someone making the transition is to move to another job. I know of occasional cases where the offer to change on the job was made but declined, because the people involved felt more comfortable with the thought of moving into a new environment where past history was unknown.

Even if one does make a break with the past, though, there are realities that have to be dealt with.

In any kind of job that carries any responsibility, references are almost certain to be requested and checked. Anyone switching to living full-time in the opposite gender role is going to have to do some back-tracking to previous employers and explain the situation.

The simplest way to do this is to talk directly to the person who would be most likely to deal with the request for information: former supervisor, personnel officer, or whoever, and explain the situation. Alert them especially if the request may come in under a



different name, so that there is no risk it will be returned marked "unknown."

This is one of those occasions when much depends on how we come across, and everything in the section on "Telling Other People" applies like crazy.

Many people, transgendered or not, have a real reluctance to talk about themselves in a meaningful way, and having friends with whom to talk things through, even to the point of setting up a practice interview session, can be a help.

Another idea to become accustomed to is that it is better not to try to fool anyone, as far as jobs go. Employers are far less likely to judge against you for telling the truth than for trying to "con" them, no matter for how good a purpose. An exception might be if you have a good job record behind you in the gender in which you are functioning, because you could reasonably make a case that it seemed unimportant to bring up long-past history.

One of the keys to unlock this door is to develop skills that you can use after you make the shift to living in the gender of choice. The ideal solution, of course, is to have skills that will serve you well in either role.

On the other hand, don't overlook the emerging role of women in non-traditional jobs, and if you have a marketable skill that you are especially good at, bear in mind that you may be able to work at that skill in the gender of choice if you really make an effort.

At the same time, you need to remember that women in non-traditional jobs tend to receive more and closer scrutiny than most people, and you need to decide if you can deal comfortably with that.

Much, both in your work and your personal life, will depend on how well people around you can deal with your situation, and it's important to remember that there are some people who simply can't cope with the idea of a transgendered person.

This may be because at some unconscious level, they have buried some area of gender discomfort, and to be confronted with something directly related to it is like touching a raw nerve. But, for whatever reason, it is necessary to be aware that the problem exists, and that it may be necessary to deal with it at some point.

For this reason, we really need to develop the capacity for independence and the ability to be alone and function on our own. If everyone around you has to accept your transgenderism in order for you to be comfortable, expect to be uncomfortable.

Thinking of expectations, this is probably a good place to emphasize that we have to be able to be honest with ourselves and our expectations, and to look at situations as realistically as possible.

We, far more than most people, can truly be said to create our own lives. We shape and mold them in a direct way that most people cannot conceive of. It



is a tremendous responsibility, and we have to use it wisely.

We are fooling ourselves, for instance, if we think things can be the same for us in the other gender role.

A male who tries living as a woman will soon find that, in spite of all the progress over the last several years, women still have a much harder job than men to be accepted for their merits and to gain the recognition and status they deserve.

A female functioning as a man, on the other hand, will find that there is a lifetime of conditioning that has to be unlearned, and that on a personal emotional level, the man's role may offer less scope and carry more restrictions than the woman's.

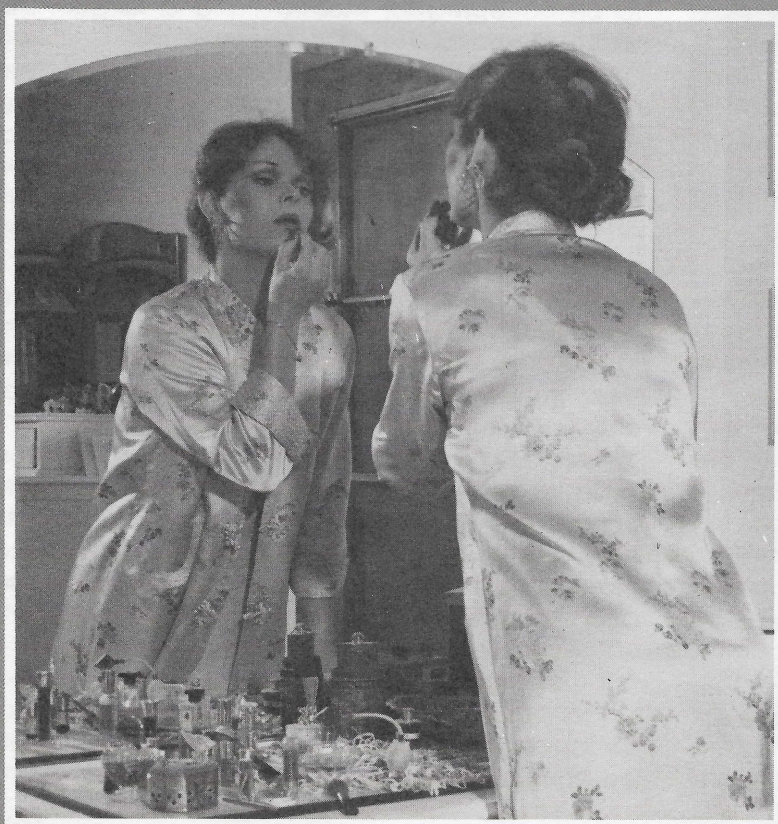
We have to be ready to "suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune . . ." and, what's more, to suffer them gracefully and without getting too defensive. People have a natural curiosity, and in the case of employers and others who have a stake in how responsible and stable we are, it's not only natural, it's necessary.

If you don't think you can cope with that, then you have to give the matter serious thought. Every transgendered person who is thinking of living full-time in the gender of choice ought to be issued a plaque, writ in letters of gold and big enough to read at a distance, that says:

IT ISN'T GOING TO BE EASY

because it isn't . . . but only you can decide if it will be worth it.

AMANDA



Amanda takes her time putting on her makeup. She wants to look and feel her best.





Amanda loves to putter in her yard. A phone break sets up a date for the night and she ponders what to wear.





The morning's over and it's time to get herself together. Notice how coordinated Amanda always takes care to look. After a few free, quiet moments, we convince Amanda to give us a few different looks of her . . . the WOMAN. And doesn't she do a terrific job!













In her bedroom, Amanda gives us one last look at the sexy feminine atmosphere she has created.



JENNIFER



Jennifer prefers to dress a little kinky for her dates. She feels more sensual in a garter belt, stockings and an alluring dress.



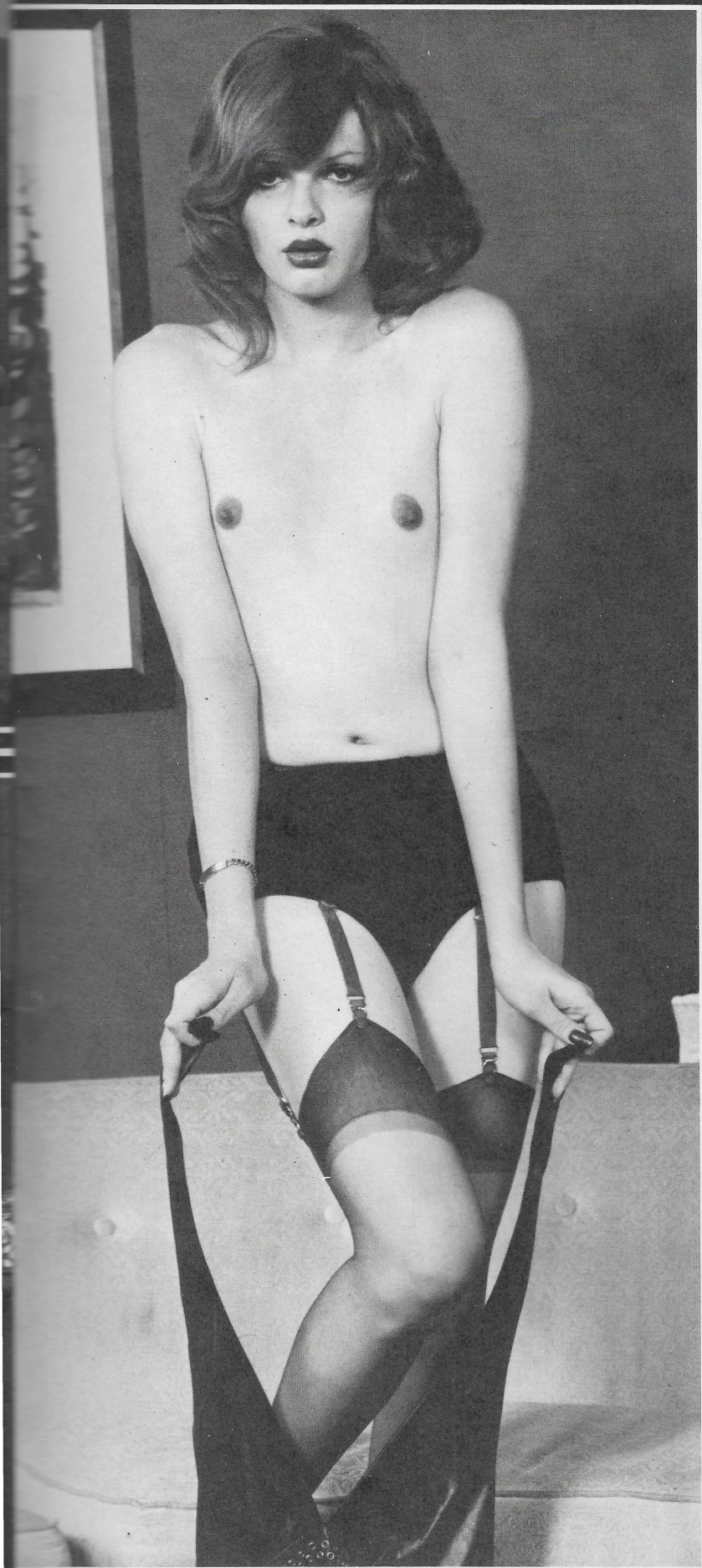




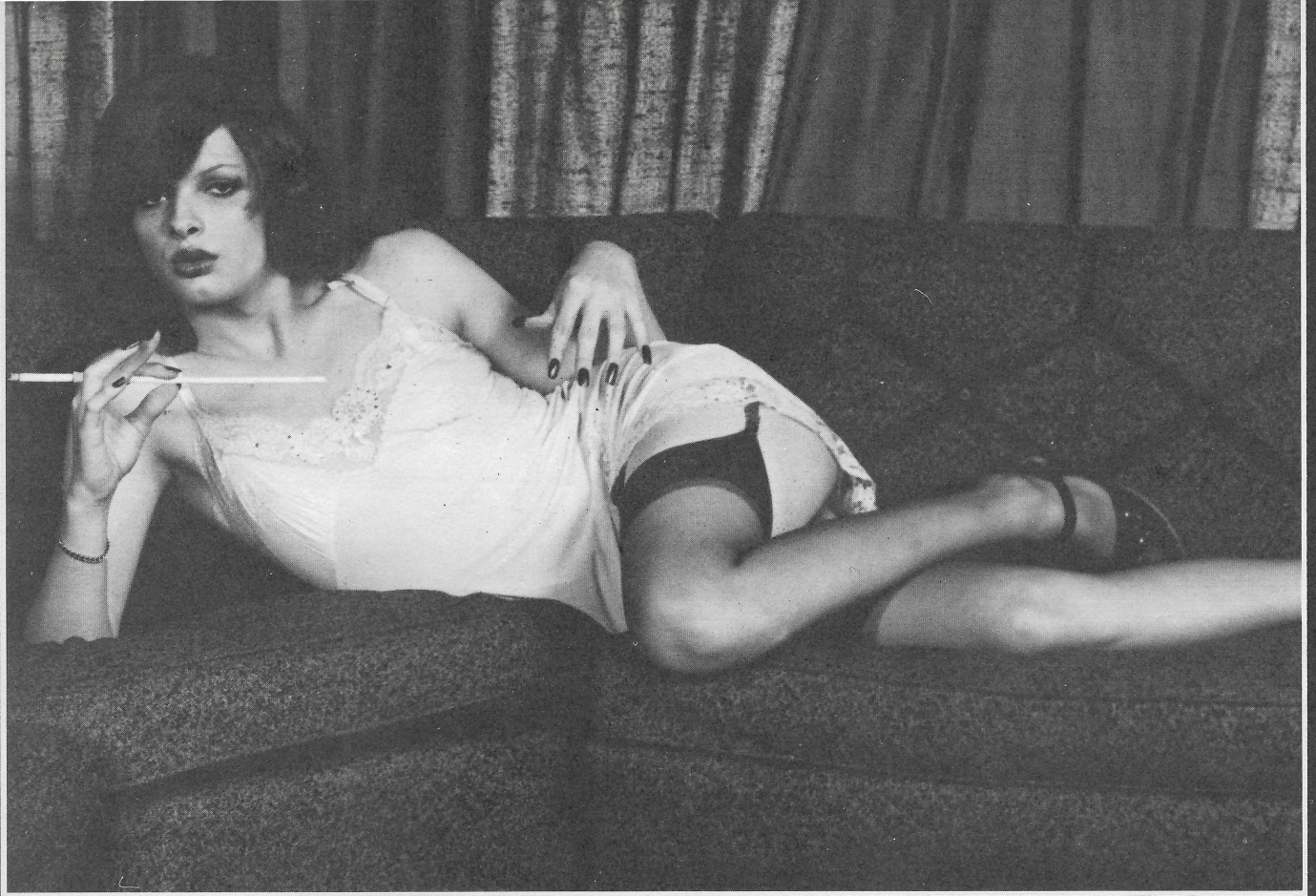
Jennifer loves to tease with a slow unveiling of her naked self. She is very proud of her smooth skin and perfect female curves.











In everything Jennifer puts on (or doesn't put on), she looks marvelous. Thank you, Jennifer, for sharing yourself with us.



BATTLE OF THE V.I.P.'S CONTEST AND GODDESS CONTEST 1979



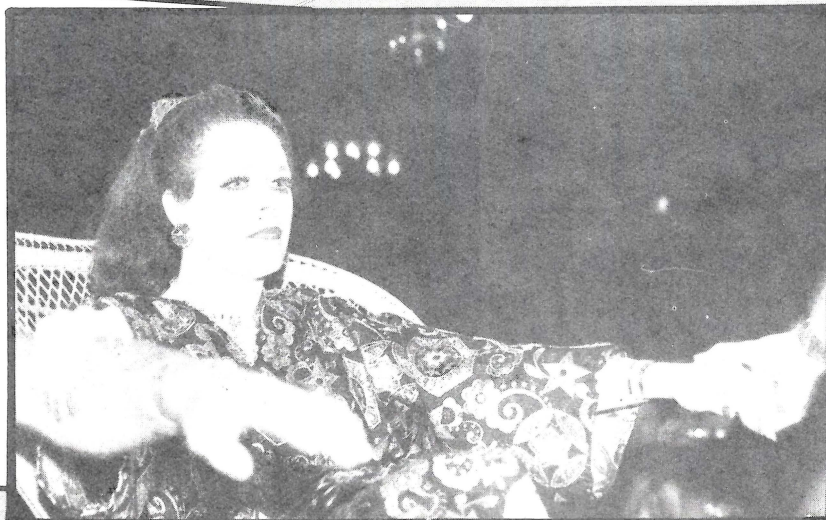


This year's battle of V.I.P.'s proved to be the glamorous event it promised to be, announcing its theme "An Arabian Night." Master of Ceremonies, and principle organizer of the event, Empress LaRey, made a few quick touch-ups and amazed everyone with her

glamorous attire, the best of all the Arabian costumes in tonight's event. She really goes all out when she organizes these events and should be applauded for her efforts, as it is always a smashing success and an evening of glamour and fun, fun, fun, for everyone in-



volved and attending. Empress LaRey announced the rules, etc., for the contests and turned us over to the Mistress of Ceremonies for the night, David Quinte introduced the Goddess contestants in their casual wear, and the line-up was as follows:



CONTESTANT

SPONSOR

(Contestants 1, 2, & 3 were eliminated)

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 4. CAROL | ALEXIS CAMELO REVUE |
| 5. CHONA | QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE - 1977 MAYRA |
| 6. ROCIO | MONTEREY CAFE |
| 7. NOVA..... | NEW GAY PARI LOUNGE/EMPRESS III BUSTY O'SHEA |
| 9. KEYNA | T & C PRODUCTIONS |
| 10. RONDA LEE ASHTON | GREGORY MOORE |
| 11. AMANDA WINTERS . | MISS GAY CALIFORNIA ANDREA NICOLE |
| 12. FRANKIE | PASADENA OFFICE |
| 13. DAISY DOAN | TRUE COLOR STUDIOS |
| 14. KUULEI | THE STORE |
| 15. AMANDA TALBOT | EMPEROR II RICK MORGAN |
| 16. JENNIFER | MYRA |
| 17. SUGAR NICOLE | FIORUCCI OF BEVERLY HILLS |
| 18. LINDA | EMPRESS VIII BESSIE de LONG BEACH |
| 19. AVIANA | LA RUE (CLOTHES OF YESTERDAY) |
| 20. CINDY | C.R.O. PRODUCTIONS |



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As you can see, the line-up was sensational. After this, Causha Lee gave us all the rules and regulations for the Mr. V.I.P. contest and the Miss V.I.P. contest, and the contestants were presented as follows:



MISS V.I.P. CONTESTANTS (1, 4 & 6 eliminated)

SPONSORS

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2. RENEE | CHRIS — MR. V.I.P. 1975 |
| 3. ANGEL SHERBORNE | TRUE COLOR STUDIOS |
| 5. SUZIE APPLE | EMPRESS GEORGIA BROWN |
| 7. JAYNE | GODDESS VII KAREN |

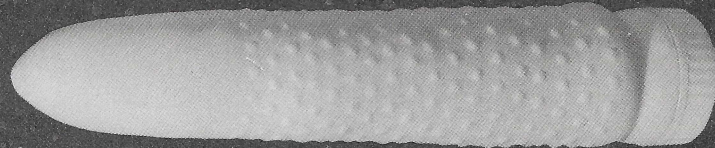
MR. V.I.P. CONTESTANTS

SPONSORS

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. MAGGIE ... | EMPEROR JOHN CARLYLE/EMPRESS BUSTY O'SHEA |
| 2. STONEY | FIRESIDE PRESS |
| 3. MARTY | TRUE COLOR STUDIOS |
| 4. STRAWBERRY | HAPPY HOUR |
| 5. MOE | 9TH IMPERIAL COURT de LOS ANGELES |

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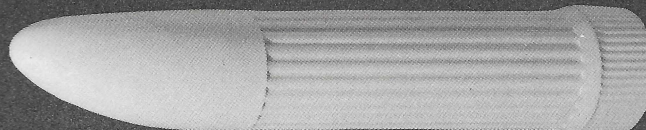
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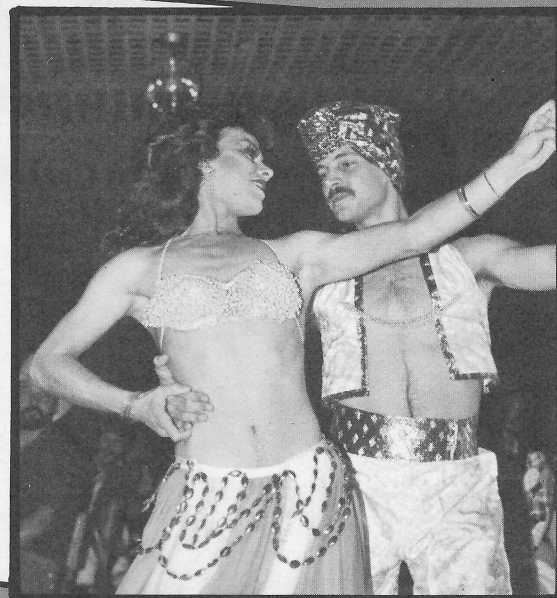
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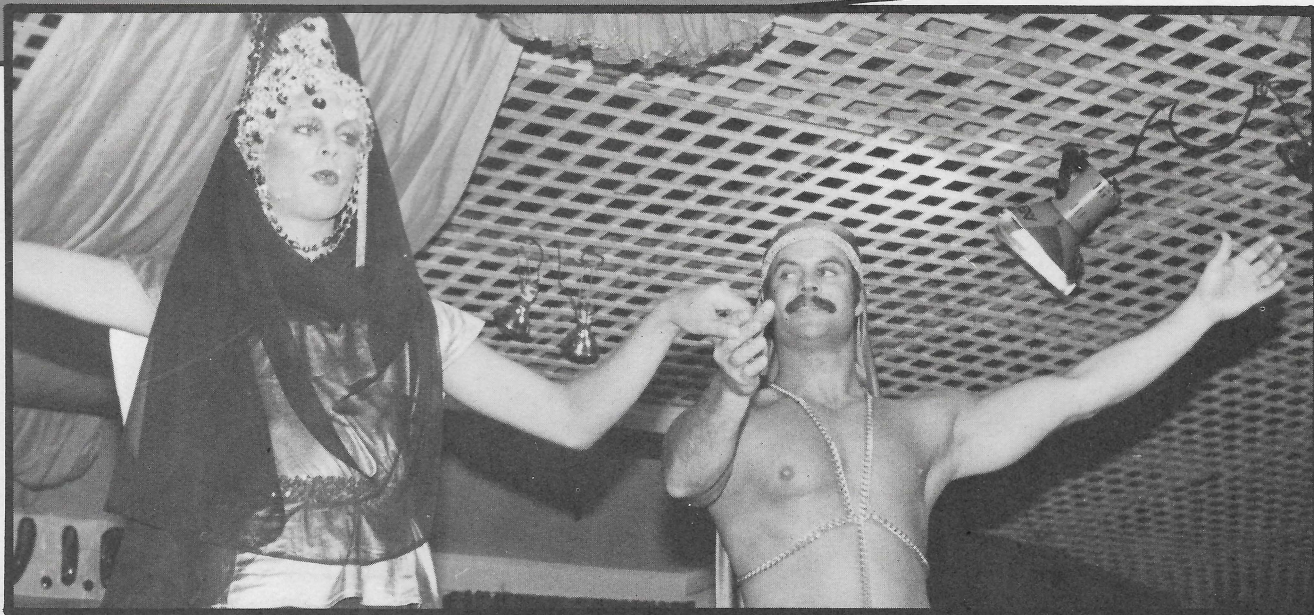
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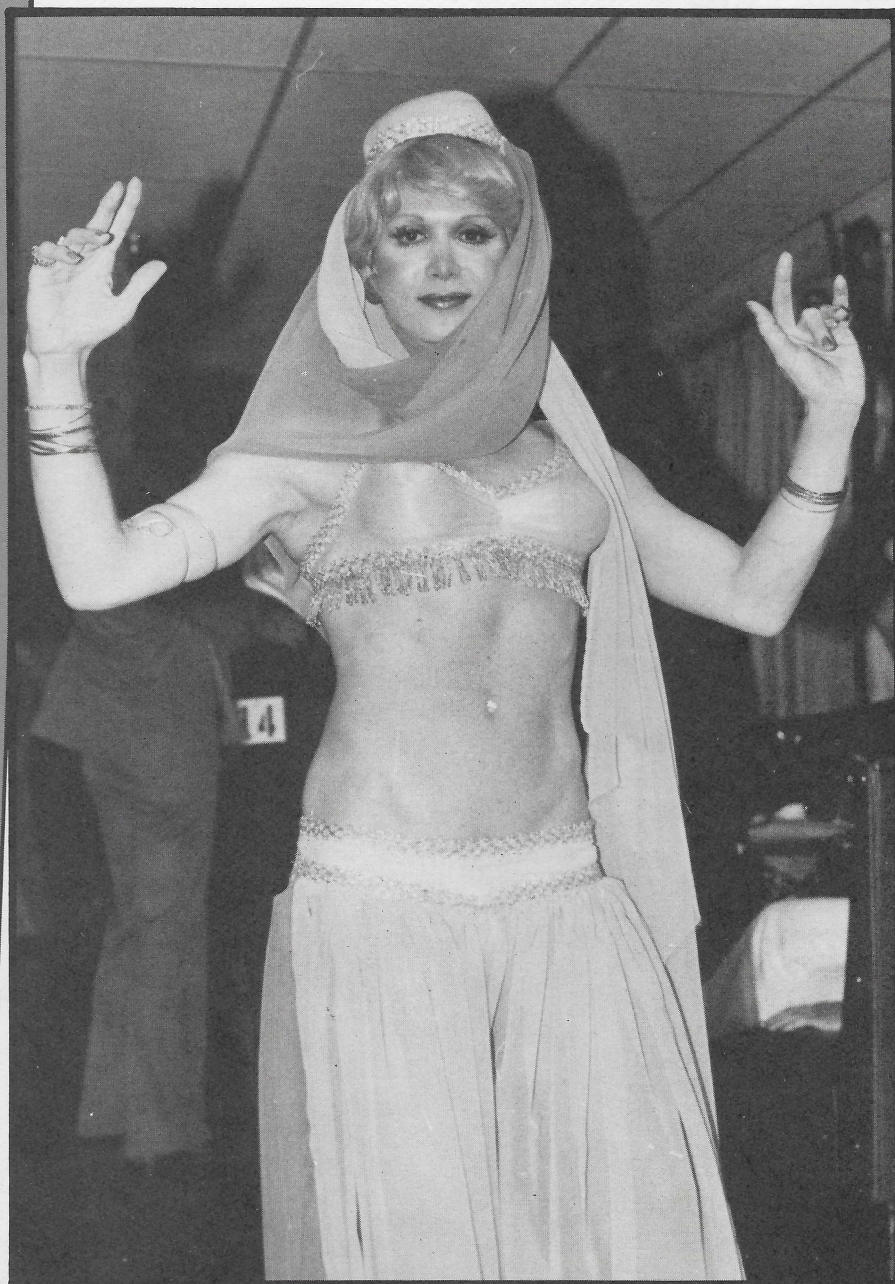
We were then delightfully entertained by the CAMPERS, after which a slight intermission gave us all an opportunity to settle in for a few obviously challenging contests.

Miss National Cotillion 1978, Dizzy Andrews, opened the next part of the evening, riding into the room on a barge atop the shoulders of some absolutely gorgeous bodies — I mean, men — and she and her men entertained us with a hot and sexy number, leaving everyone in the room fantasizing about a night with them under an Arabian tent. After everyone calmed down from Dizzy's exciting performance, Empress LaRey presented special awards to the Miss V.I.P. contestants and we proceeded to Phase II of the Goddess Con-



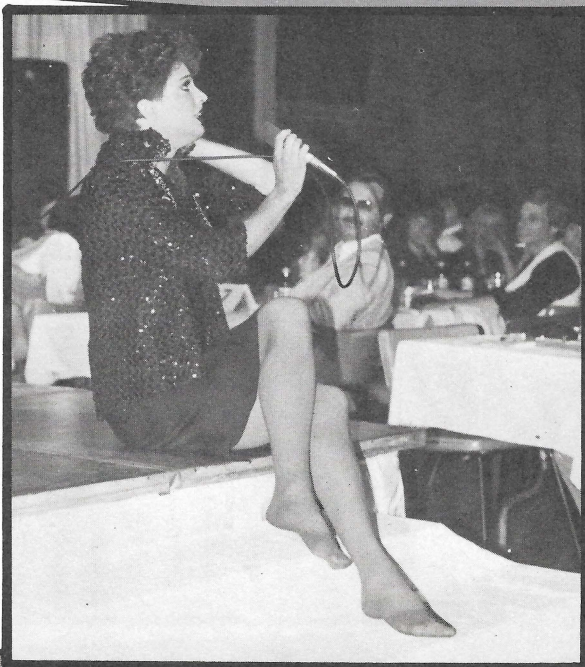
test. This part of the contest showed us all these lovelies in the most original evening gown attire I've seen recently — it looked like an evening at a designer fashion show anywhere in the world. All the girls took extra care with their make-up, hair, design of their gowns and all the accessories, not to mention grace and poise for this, the really elegant part of the contest. Of course, this was the perfect moment to award the Fashion Award for 1979, received graciously by LADY NOVA.

Now a slight breather, or inhale (however), and we stretched and looked around the audience to see if everyone else was as excited at this point as we were. I must say, this audience could win "AWARDS"



of its own easily . . .

At the opening of the third part of tonight's contests, we experienced the highlight in the evening's entertainment with an absolutely stunning, dynamic performance by 'Judy Garland' via Erica Manchester. Not only is 'Judy' looking as good as ever . . . her talents have only become more perfected since touring with the exuberant French Dressing Troupe. I know everyone there enjoyed 'Judy' as much as we did, because when she finished, the audience stood up and gave her a well-deserved round of applause. The pictures on these pages of Erica depict a truly convincing 'Judy,' and the tunes you hear her perform could compete with any recording.

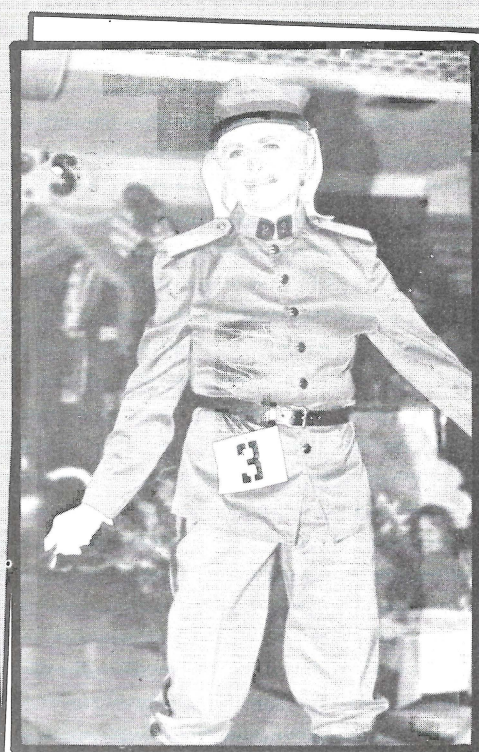




Now, while the audience is still on the edge from Erica Manchester's performance, the tension builds as the ten finalists for the Goddess contest are announced and the excited ten ready themselves for the question and answer segment.

The Mr. V.I.P. finalists are announced and the awarding of Mr. Macho of 1979 goes to STONY, and he is thrilled. Now we are presented with the Miss V.I.P. finalists, and Miss Femininity for 1979 goes to SUZY APPLE.

The pressure was building, and believe me, we all felt it. I am now going to announce the winners for the evening, and say CONGRATULATIONS to you ALL, everyone who participated in the contests did a terrific presentation, and the audience enjoyed every moment.



AWARD

GODDESS OF POPULARITY 1979

MR. V.I.P. 1979

MISS V.I.P. 1979

GODDESS VIII 1ST RUNNER UP

GODDESS VIII 2ND RUNNER UP

GODDESS VIII FOR 1979

WINNER

DAISY DOAN

STRAWBERRY

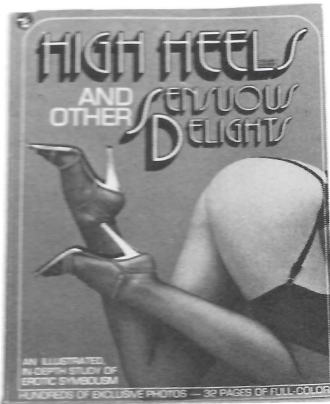
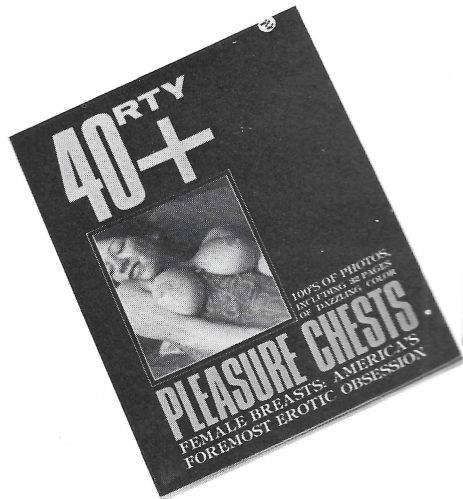
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Andrea: Good Luck in Texas!

