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weekly nightlife section in



Meet your new daddy: IML 40 chosen at Auditorium Theatre

From a record-setting field of over 70 contestants, James Lee (Mr. Kentucky Leather 2017) was chosen to reign as the new International Mr. Leather (IML), Sunday, May 27, at the Auditorium Theatre. The Sunday contest was the culmination of an extended weekend of workshops, brotherhood, camaraderie and the infamous Leather Vendor Market, found at the host hotel, the Congress Plaza Hotel.

Lee stood victorious alongside first runner-up Sandro Cossaro (Mr. Leather Belgium 2017), second runner-up Stephan Ferris (Mr. friendly SF 2018) and the newly-chosen International Mr. Bootblack Lucky Rebel.

This year's contest was particularly poignant for two reasons. Firstly, James has the honor of being the 40th IML, the first having been chosen in 1979 at the Gold Coast bar. Second, this was the first IML contest after the death of its founder, Chuck Renslow, who passed away last June at the age of 87.

The winners were feted at the annual Victory Party, taking place at House of Blues Chicago after the contest.



International Mr. Leather 2018 James Lee (second from left) flanked by first runner-up Sandro Cossaro (left), second runner-up Stephan Ferris (right) and International Mr. Bootblack 2018 Lucky Rebel.
Photos by Verdell Shannon



We are the champions: IML 40 Victory Party at House of Blues

Photos by Joseph Stevens Photography



In fashion:

Cram Fashion w/Nasty Pig

Photos by Jerry Nunn



Fuzzy, was he?:

Furball at Metro Chicago

Photos by Verdell Shannon



Spotted: Producer/motivational speaker Buck Angel at the Perfect Fit Brand booth at the IML Leather Market.

Photo by Kirk Williamson

Feel the force:

Brüt at Fantasy Nightclub

Photos by Joseph Stevens Photography





BILLY Masters

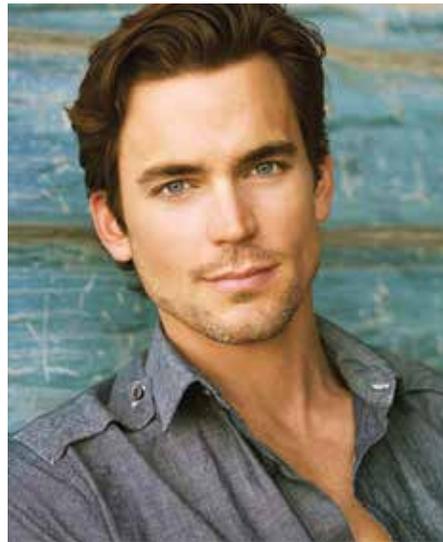
"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."—I came across this quote during my month abroad. My attempt to live by it lasted 24 hours. On the second day, I was annoyed that my traveling companion didn't take a photo of me giving spare change to a homeless woman. If I can't prove how benevolent I am, what's the point?

Since I'm spending some time in Boston, I missed out on the May 23 festivities known as **Stormy Daniels Day**. While many criticized West Hollywood for honoring the porn star, I thought it was somewhat appropriate. After all, the ceremony took place in front of **Chi Chi LaRue's** store on Santa Monica Boulevard, and was presided over by Mayor John Duran, who is partners with my husband, **gay-porn superstar Kurt Young**. (It's very complicated, but also very WeHo.) News of these festivities enraged Fox host **Tucker Carlson**: "She is not even gay!" Let me tell you, Tucker—just so you know and your children will someday know—West Hollywood has honored other non-gay persons such as Cheech Marin and Tommy Chong, *En Vogue* and others too numerous to mention.

Intriguingly enough, the West Hollywood City Council considered honoring yet another "celebrity" back in 2015. Then-Councilman Duran said, "In my mind, Bruce Jenner has not earned anything by coming out as a transgendered person." Now, three years later, Duran said, "Lady Godiva rode naked through the streets of England to protest injustice and taxes, and we have our own Lady Godiva here in the city of West Hollywood." And, Tucker, it turns out there is a gay angle. In her speech, Stormy said, "As a woman with two wonderful gay dads, Keith and JD, I feel especially at home here." And because I know you'll ask, Daniels' hot lawyer Michael Avenatti was in attendance and earned more than his fair share of attention—as well he should.

From Stormy Daniels Day to **George Takei** (it rhymes if you say it aloud): Remember last year when a former male model alleged that the *Star Trek* actor sexually assaulted him back in 1981? Turns out it may not have happened at all. Scott Brunton claimed that he fell asleep at Takei's house and woke up with his pants around his ankles—if I had a nickel! He even said, "I know unequivocally he spiked my drink!"

Now he's changing his tune. According to Shane Snow of *The Observer*, Brunton slightly altered his story each time he recounted the incident. Brunton told Snow that he thought Takei just wanted to be friends; he was shocked when the actor hit on him, saying, "He was 20 years older than me and short. And I wasn't attracted to Asian men. I was a hot, surfer, California boy type, that he probably could have only gotten had he bought, paid for or found someone just willing to ride on



Matt Bomer has revealed a bit, according to Billy.

his coattails of fame." Oh, MY! Then Snow came right out and asked, "Did he touch your genitals?" Shane said, "You know...probably...He was clearly on his way to...to...to going somewhere." I'm going to the next Caucasian surfer boy—and I ain't payin'!

If you were at one of the first previews of the Broadway production of *The Boys in the Band*, you got to see a bit more of **Matt Bomer** than usual. He said, "My character takes a shower within the first five minutes. I realize that there was no towel when I got out of the shower. I had the choice to do the rest of the scene buck naked, which would not have made any sense, or there's like a glass partition, so I had to coyly reach around and grab my tighty whities and put them on my soaking wet body and do the rest of the scene in wet tighty whities." With these choices, I consider this a win/win. Left to a vote, I can guess which way the election would have swung ... if not the rest of Bomer.

While we wait patiently for NBC to decide the fate of *Timeless*, I decided to take matters into my own hands—literally. There must be nude photos of **Matt Lanter**, who I have enjoyed ever since his brief stint in the White House as Geena Davis' son in *Commander In Chief*. And then, as if a gift from the heavens, Lanter appeared in my lap. If people got to see these alleged nude shots of Matt, I suspect *Timeless* would have a long, throbbing run on the network. I'll do what I can to help and post the pics on BillyMasters.com.

Our "Ask Billy" question comes from Josh in Chelsea, England: "Big fan of yours—met you at 'Chess,' with Elaine Paige. What a thrill! I remember you saying you saw **Ben Whishaw** in *Cock*. So that got me wondering: Do you have any pics or footage of his actual cock?"

I hate to say this, but can you send me a photo, Josh? I remember meeting Elaine Paige, but I don't remember you. And I'm not entirely sure what thrilled you—being at the opening of "Chess," meeting Elaine Paige or meeting me! Moving swiftly along to Whishaw, I can certainly

give you a hand. While nothing quite equals being in a small venue with his *Cock*, he's been even more in a variety of films, as you'll see on BillyMasters.com.

When we're thrilled about cocks, it's time for me to end yet another column. Before ending, I'd like to acknowledge the passing of Broadway legend: Patricia Morison. The original star of *Kiss Me, Kate* was one of the loveliest and most gracious people I've been privileged to know. Up until her 100th birthday, she not only appeared at benefits to raise money for important causes (including HIV/AIDS), she also sang...and usually in the original keys! Fitting to remember her on Memorial Day. Of course, you don't need any excuse to check out BillyMasters.com—the site that's always willing to take a knee (although most simply kneel). If you have a question, send it to Billy@BillyMasters.com, and I promise to get back to you before Matt Bomer wins Broadway's *Wet Briefs* contest! Until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR

Local chefs show cooking styles on new TV program

BY MELISSA WASSERMAN

WTTW delivers flavor with its new show Dishalicious, which features Chicago chefs cooking up different cuisines and dishing on their experience and cooking tips.

Each episode features a different cuisine and, so far, has covered Italian, Mexican and Korean fare. Having three different chefs who specialize in each cuisine, the emphasis is on collaboration between chefs and those chefs teaching audiences how to create their dishes at home. The show began airing on April 6 and is available for streaming.

"It's interesting, you get a glimpse into how chefs work together, a little bit about their history, culture, tips, you learn something," said



Rick Bayless, Alfonso Sotelo, Sarah Grueneberg and Diana Davila.

PR photo

Dishalicious Creator/Executive Producer David Manilow. "So, it's part talk show, part cooking demo."

The Italian cuisine episode included chefs Tony Mantuano, of Spiaggia and Bar Toma; Giuseppe Tentori, of GT Fish & Oyster and GT Prime; and Leigh Omilinsky, of Nico Osteria. The Mexican cuisine episode included chefs Rick Bayless, of Frontera Grill and Topolobampo; Diana Dávila, of Mi Tocaya Antojeria; and Alfonso Sotelo, of 5 Rabanitos.

The Korean cuisine episode included chefs Bill Kim, of Urbanbelly and bellyQ; Dave Park, of Hanbun; and Beverly Kim, of Parachute.

"I've been to a lot of kitchens and I was always kind of fascinated with how chefs cook and collaborate together and it's a very warm

community in Chicago," said Manilow. "It's a very generous, sharing, chef community, so I just thought that would be a very interesting glimpse into that life. I think people love cooking demos also. So you have a little bit of both."

Monteverde Restaurant & Pastificio chef/partner Sarah Grueneberg is the show's host, serving energy, keeping the flow of the show going and asking the questions that viewers at home may be asking themselves. Grueneberg explained some of the questions she aimed to ask and have answered center around the chefs' life experiences, what they are doing as they cook, what their inspiration is as well as helpful hints.

"I think a lot of times we try to think about how can you adapt this chef recipe to a home cook," said Grueneberg, also a James Beard Award winner as well as a Top Chef and Iron Chef Gauntlet competitor. "It's a fun show to get to talk about different things that make chefs tick at that moment."

Grueneberg explained the various restaurants that the chefs come from range in style as well as price ranges.

"Doing this show now, I have found even I am looking for more ethnic, off-the-beaten-path restaurants, which before I think as a chef, we always go to our friends' restaurants, but doing this show has made me want to go and try other places, which is also fun," she said.

Bill Kim, who is featured in the Korean food episode, said cooking in front of a live audience was a new experience for him. His cooking, he

described is uncategorized. His "food without borders," is inspired by his background, travels, love story and other personal experiences. The idea, he explained was to have something different than to what people are accustomed. He aims to take something people know and give them a different take on it.

"Chicago is my home, I grew up here almost 40 plus years and I want to bring something really, really, truly from the heart and I want to be able to feed a lot of people," said Bill who moved to Chicago when he was 7-years-old from Korea.

"I would love for them [people] to obviously come to our restaurants, but also to have that boundary kind of be broken," said Bill who has a new cookbook out with Chandra Ram called Korean BBQ: Master Your Grill In Seven Sauces. "It doesn't always have to be a mom and pop restaurant that makes it good, but it can be a busy restaurant and there could be all ethnic groups in those restaurants to be good. To me, that word authentic is a very personal thing, so your authentic and my authentic is totally different and that's what I really want people to understand."

"Even within the same cuisine, there are so many differences," said Beverly Kim, also featured in the Korean food episode. "It still makes it interesting, even though the commonality might be Korean, but all our restaurants might be different and have different spectrum of

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Congrats to Boy Gregory, the new Mr. Chicago Bear!

Photos by Joseph Stevens Photography



SIDETRACK

Bears and pups in the sun: Such fun!

Photos by Joseph Stevens Photography



JACKHAMMER

Pucker up for the Make Out Party.

Photos by Kirk Williamson



THE SOFO TAP

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Photos by Kirk Williamson