

# The New York Times

**BOLDFACE NAMES/Campbell Robertson**

## And Then It Turned Out He Was My Agent

"He told me it was a casual event," said **JAI RODRIGUEZ** of "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" at the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation Awards on Monday night.

Mr. Rodriguez - in a pea green jacket, jeans and a cranberry-colored fedora - was complaining about **CARSON KRESSLEY's** fashion ad vice, and who could blame him?

Men in suits and women in cocktail dresses crowded into the Marriott Marquis Hotel. Nearby, a drag queer reached up to stabilize her three-foot high **MARIE ANTOINETTE** beehive.

"Now I'm, like, wow, I'm so under-dressed," Mr. Rodriguez continued. "I had a black suit on. He's, like, 'You're overdressed.' I was, like, 'O.K.'"

It is difficult to overstate the popularity of the cast of "Queer Eye" at the Glaad awards, which honor "fair accurate and inclusive representations of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community" in the media.

The cast wandered around the V.I.P. room during the show, bestowing compliments and advice like dapper holly men. One reporter was almost

overcome when Mr. Kressley told her that he liked her handbag. A sign of the times, perhaps, considering that the crowd included **GLENN CLOSE, JULIANNE MOORE, CYNTHIA NIXON, PHIL DONAHUE, MARLO THOMAS, CHERRY JONES** and **MARISKA HARGITAY**.

Conspicuously absent was the rapper **50 CENT**. ("Egad," you say, "there's a real gossip item in this column?" To which we respond, "Be patient, Dear Reader, we are not finished.") Last month, Glaad extended a special invitation to Mr. Cent after he said in an interview with Playboy magazine that he doesn't like to hang out with gay people.

But **P. DIDDY** was there, or should we say **SEAN COMBS**, which is how he was identified when he walked out to announce the award for outstanding reality show. It was a category that included, among others, "Queer Eye," "Amazing Race 4" and "The Real World/Road Rules Challenge: The Gauntlet."

The tension, as one could imagine, was almost unbearable. Mr. Combs read stiffly from the monitor, saying, "My eyes are getting bad." (Yes, we agree the suspense is terrible. But read Mr. Combs's com-

ment again, and think, think very hard. The answer appears at the end of the column.)

Ms. Moore, who was given an award for "excellence in the media," told the crowd about a recent encounter she had had in the meatpacking district. "This guy calls out," she said, "this kind of bedraggled guy. He looked like he might have been homeless and stuff, and he started yelling, 'Excuse me! Miss! Miss!' which is always better than Ma'am - so I turned around."

She said that the man had explained that he was gay, that he had AIDS and needed some money, which Ms. Moore gave him.

"I start to walk away, and he goes, 'You should've won that Oscar.' And I just thought, man, I have truly made it."

## An Exciting Tale While You Are Racking Your Brain

It is spring, and what better place to celebrate life's cycle of renewal and rebirth than at the book party for "Light Years Younger: The Definitive Guide to Anti-Aging Skin Care" by Dr. **DAVID J. GOLDBERG**. The party was at Restaurant 212 on Monday evening, and **JAID BARRYMORE, SYDNEY BIDDLE**

**BARROWS, EVA DILLON** and others turned out to lift, er, raise a glass to the good doctor's work.

But what would a tableau of springtime be without an appearance by **CUPID** in one of his many guises? Away from the party, at the back of the bar, near the potted palms, under the gray skylight, there sat **SHAGGY**, inveterate party crasher, drinking beers with a friend.

Fancy that, we thought. What is Shaggy doing here?

"Meeting girls," he said

## Later, In the Drawing Room

"Oh, I know," cried **WATSON**, jumping up from his chair. "It must be 'Queer Eye for the Straight Guy!'"

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"Skillful deduction, Watson" said **HOLMES**. "Do you enjoy that show?"

"Oh yes," said Watson. "I love that show. That doesn't mean anything, you know. It's just Carson. I just find Carson's banter entertaining."

"Yes," said Holmes, as he puffed thoughtfully on his pipe. "Carson's banter is quite entertaining."

*With Melena Z. Ryzik and Alexis Rehrmann*