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## **HELP WANTED: A STAR FOR HEATH**



BayCityJohn is looking for volunteers to help on the project to get **A Star for Heath**<sup>(1)</sup> on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

"I'd love to see a comprehensive biography of Heath Ledger for the Web site. If anyone would like to tackle the challenge, please send a PM to me. Not looking for cut-and-paste from other bios, rather something original and heartfelt from his fans.

"I'd also like to start getting testimonials from Heath's friends, coworkers and family, so if anyone has contact info that would be very helpful. Letters need to be written to solicit these testimonials.

"This is at least a 4-year project, so there is plenty of time, but I would like to get the website off the ground at least by January 22 or April 4 at the latest.

"One of the criteria for the nomination is community involvement and charitable work by Heath. If anyone has suggestions, please share.

"Fan testimonials will be included on the site as well, so if you'd like yours included please PM them to me and I will get them on the site ASAP."

For more information and to join the discussion, visit the **Friends of Brokeback Mountain**<sup>(2)</sup> Web site.

<sup>(1)</sup> <http://astarforheath.org/>

<sup>(2)</sup> <http://bbmfoundation.org/forum/index.php?topic=61.0>

## **INDIANA UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS REVISIT MALE BISEXUALITY**

"The landmark 'Sexual Behavior in the Human Male' report revealed major insights into bisexual behavior and orientation -- without even using the word 'bisexual' -- when it was published 60 years ago by pioneering sex researcher Alfred Kinsey and his research team at Indiana University.

"The iconic 'Kinsey Report' unveiled the seven-point Heterosexual-Homosexual Rating Scale, commonly known as the Kinsey Scale, as a tool to gauge a person's sexual orientation or

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experiences with both sexes.

"While the Kinsey Scale has become a fixture in sexuality textbooks and even popular culture, the rating system and Kinsey's findings regarding male bisexuality, and cultural influences on male sexuality in general, have largely been overlooked by today's sex researchers, according to an article in the December issue of the 'Journal of Bisexuality.'

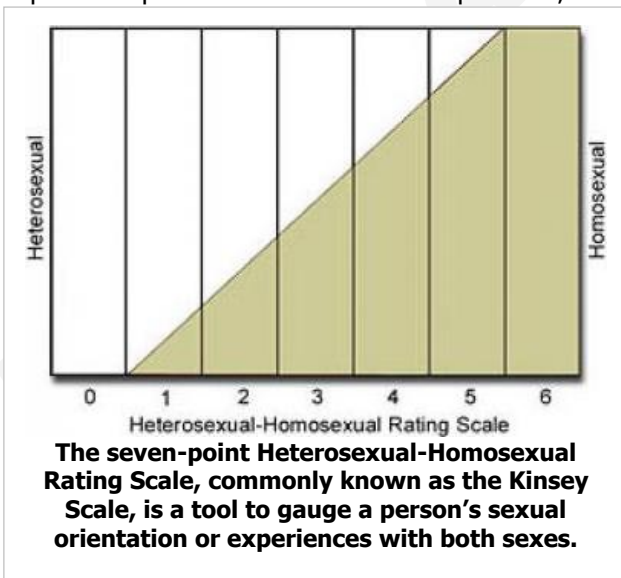
"For this article, which is part of a special issue recognizing the 60th anniversary of the first 'Kinsey Report,' sex researchers from the Center for Sexual Health Promotion at IU collaborated with Paul H. Gebhard, an original member of Kinsey's research team and later a long-time director of The Kinsey Institute at IU, to reflect on research involving male bisexuality since the 'Kinsey Report' and potential directions for future research.



**Brian Dodge is the Associate Director of the Center for Sexual Health Promotion**

"Overall, Kinsey would be disappointed,' Gebhard told the researchers, Michael Reece and Brian Dodge, director and associate director of the Center for Sexual Health Promotion in the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

"Kinsey believed that culture plays a key role in a person's sexual behavior. Gebhard said Kinsey and his research team avoided looking for causes for sexual orientation out of concern that the findings could be used against people. Through sexual history interviews, they instead sought to capture snapshots of human sexual experience, which proved to be fluid, according to their research, with individual sexual preferences or orientation often moving along the heterosexual-homosexual scale during one's lifetime.



"Since Kinsey's day, Gebhard noted that many researchers have moved to a medical model of sex research -- looking for genetic causes of homosexuality, often conducting research solely in the context of sexually transmitted disease transmissions or in an attempt to define what is 'normal,' usually using heterosexuality as the reference point. The place for bisexual individuals in sexuality research is vague, with research generally categorizing people either 'homosexual' or 'heterosexual,' giving scant recognition to the continuum described by the sexual

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orientation scale." ...

"Gebhard, 92, is the last living member of the original Kinsey research team. He is professor-emeritus in the Department of Anthropology at IU and served as director of the Kinsey Institute from 1956-1982, when it was called the Institute for Sex Research. He lives in southern Indiana. He and his co-authors offered the following suggestions for future research focusing on male bisexuality:

"Move away from a disease-focused lens. ... Improve sampling methods for bisexuality research. ... Revive the concept of the Kinsey continuum."

Visit the **Center for Sexual Health Promotion**<sup>(3)</sup>, find more information about the Kinsey scale, or read more of the article here.

Source: EurekAlert!

<sup>(3)</sup> <http://www.sexualhealth.indiana.edu/index.html>

## **'TWILIGHT' DIRECTOR REMEMBERS HEATH**

"There is a scene in the new Hollywood blockbuster *Twilight* director Catherine Hardwicke finds impossible to watch without shedding a tear. Tears rolled down her face when she shot the scene. Again in the quiet and darkness of the editing booth. The emotional trigger has nothing to do with the storyline of *Twilight* or the acting by the young cast. The scene takes place in a rugged, forest region of Oregon in the US north-west and it was while scouting the location on January 22 that Hardwicke heard her beloved friend, Heath Ledger, was dead.

"We were in a van scouting," Hardwicke, her eyes moistening again and hands trembling slightly, told AAP during an interview in a suite in Los Angeles' Beverly Wilshire Hotel. 'Someone's phone rang. They answered it and I instantly realised something was wrong with the reaction. It was very strange. The person said: "OK, I won't say anything." I said: "What was that about?" and they said: "We don't even know if it is true. There's rumours Heath has passed away." Then one second later my cell phone rang and it didn't stop ringing.'" ...



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“Everybody who worked on *Dogtown* called because they all loved Heath,” Hardwicke said. “To all of the kids, Emile Hirsch and Victor Rasuk, Heath was their mentor. They all freaked out beyond despair. For me, I can’t really watch the one scene in *Twilight* where I received that call. That’s where I heard that news. It is my one little thing. My moment. To hear about someone you love, someone so magical, passing like that, was just crushing.”

Read more **here**<sup>(4)</sup>.

Source: couriermail.com.au

<sup>(4)</sup> <http://www.news.com.au/couriermail/story/0,23739,24755211-5003420,00.html>

## **FIVE MINUTES WITH RUFUS WAINWRIGHT**



Celebrities and news-makers get grilled in exactly five minutes by Matthew Stadlen in a series for the BBC News website.

Matthew met up with musician Rufus Wainwright in New York. They talked about gay marriage, Barack Obama and Wainwright’s new French opera.

Watch the video **here**<sup>(5)</sup>.

Source: BBC News

<sup>(5)</sup> <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/7736275.stm>

## **GRAMMY AWARD NOMINEES**

Grammy Award nominees were announced earlier this month. Here are the names in the Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album category: “Still Unforgettable,” Natalie Cole; “The Sinatra Project,” Michael Feinstein; “Noël,” Josh Groban; “In the Swing of Christmas,” Barry Manilow; “Rufus Does Judy At Carnegie Hall,” Rufus Wainwright.

Read more **here**<sup>(5)</sup>.

Source: San Francisco Chronicle

<sup>(5)</sup> <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/12/05/DD8914I6BE.DTL&feed=rss.entertainment>

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## **NEW BOOK: OUT AT THE MOVIES**

*Out at the Movies: A History of Gay Cinema*, by Steven Paul Davies, is being published by Kamera Books this month.

"In 1960, the British housewife's favourite pin-up, Dirk Bogarde, made a decision that would all but destroy his existing career. The actor now best remembered for his roles in tense studies of society's hidden underbelly had before then been famous as the heart-throb star of unchallenging comedies and romances, the staple, sugar-coated fare so essential to propping up the uneasy peace of 1950s normalcy. But then he signed up to play the part of Melville Farr, a gay barrister who decides to expose a gang who are blackmailing him with evidence of an illegal homosexual attachment, at the cost of his career, reputation and marriage.

"When it came out in 1961, *Victim*, directed by Basil Dearden, provoked responses of disgust from the press, public and even members of its own production crew. It was the first film in which the quintessential cinematic line 'I love you' found itself being addressed to one man by another, and in which therefore the emotional lives of gay men were represented as being in sync with heterosexual 'normality' – rather than, as was usual, as emanating from a seedy, topsy-turvy world bearing no discernible relation to the feelings and lives of 'the rest of us.' In this respect, the course of Bogarde's career wasn't the only thing altered irrevocably by the film – although Bogarde, who never publicly came out as gay, always maintained there was nothing autobiographical in his performance – for *Victim* is credited in part for paving the way for the Sexual Offences Act of 1967, ending the blanket proscription of sex between men that had existed in British legislation since 1885." ...

"It took 40 years after *Victim* before a gay sex scene was shown in mainstream cinema with anything approaching the candour with which heterosexual sex is now routinely displayed. *Brokeback Mountain*, and its now legendary tale of chaps in chaps, not only won three Oscars but brought tears to eyes that would hitherto have been averted as if in response to some mortal threat.

"*Brokeback Mountain* and *Victim* are both given a starring role in a new book about the history of gay cinema. Following a rather gushy preface by Simon Callow, author Steven Paul Davies displays a well-judged queer eye for numerous ostensibly straight films, showing on a movie-by-movie basis how gay and lesbian sensibilities find themselves reflected throughout the history of modern society's love affair with celluloid. While evidently targeted at a gay readership – no prizes for guessing the colour of the cover – *Out at the Movies* presents us with a rare case of something





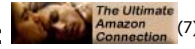
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genuinely progressive having been aided and abetted by commercial cinema.”

Read more **here**<sup>(6)</sup>.

Source: guardian.co.uk

Buy the book in the Forum's Amazon store by clicking the button:



<sup>(6)</sup> <http://www.guardian.co.uk/film/filmblog/2008/dec/10/gay-films-brokeback-victim>

<sup>(7)</sup> <http://astore.amazon.com/davecullencom-20/detail/1842432915>

## **ENTERING WYOMING: THE OLD CHILDRESS PLACE**



FindingBrokeback offers another in its continuing series of articles highlighting Wyoming places with important Brokeback connections.

In 1998, as director Gus Van Sant launched his ill-fated attempt to make *Brokeback Mountain*, Annie Proulx took him on a tour of potential Wyoming filming locations. She was eager to show Van Sant the house that inspired her memorable Twist Ranch, the “old Childress place” near East Ulm, Wyoming.

**THE DAILY SHEET**

A production of The Ultimate Brokeback Forum

[www.davecullen.com/forum](http://www.davecullen.com/forum)

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It was shortly after the Civil War that Kentucky native Millard Childress came west and planned the modest ranch house that will forever carry his name. Childress, and later his son, grazed cattle on this property, which is dimpled with rolling hills and covered in Wyoming sagebrush. A century later, while budding novelist Annie Proulx was a writer-in-residence at the nearby Ucross Foundation, she discovered what Millard Childress left behind. The old Childress place made a lasting impression, one that she would summon to paper when writing Brokeback's stunning Twist Ranch scene.

Today, the old Childress place is empty and abandoned. Its remaining occupants are a prodigious colony of rattlesnakes and the extended family of field mice upon which they feed. It is a timeless and eminently graceful location, seeped in Wyoming solitude.

Van Sant never got a chance to make his Brokeback. And, although he visited the area in December of 2003, we do not know if Ang Lee ever saw the old Childress place. Lee's choice for his Twist Ranch, the memorable Esslinger home near Beiseker, AB, is a much grander ruin than the one that inspired Proulx.

*"The road to Lightning Flat went through desolate country past a dozen abandoned ranches distributed over the plain at eight- and ten-mile intervals, houses sitting blank-eyed in the weeds, corral fences down."*



**Sunset at the Old Childress Place**



**Road to Lightning Flat**

For more information, see: **Old Childress Place**<sup>(8)</sup>

As always, for Brokeback travel and production information, visit **FindingBrokeback.com**<sup>(9)</sup>

<sup>(8)</sup> [http://www.findingbrokeback.com/Entering\\_Wyoming/Old\\_Childress\\_Place.html](http://www.findingbrokeback.com/Entering_Wyoming/Old_Childress_Place.html)

<sup>(9)</sup> <http://www.findingbrokeback.com/>

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## **OUT FOR EQUALITY AT THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION**



The LGBT community's commemoration of Barack Obama and Joe Biden's Inauguration will be held Tuesday, January 20, from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Entertainment will include Melissa Etheridge, Cyndi Lauper, Rufus Wainwright and Thelma Houston.

Get ticket information [here](http://www.boxofficetickets.com/outforequality)<sup>(10)</sup>.

<sup>(10)</sup> <http://www.boxofficetickets.com/outforequality>

## **Forum Footnotes**

### **FUN QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

**This week's Question:** St. Stephen's Day is more commonly known as what? What happens on this day? When is it celebrated?

Let us know the answer on the **response thread**<sup>(11)</sup>.

**Last week's Question:** What are the names of the Three Musketeers?

**The answer:** Athos, Aramis and Porthos. Yea Jack and Ministering Angel who knew that one!

<sup>(11)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=8377.msg1450948#new>



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## POST OF THE DAY

In the **Topic of the Week**<sup>(12)</sup> thread, the question **When did you first hear about Brokeback? What was your reaction?** elicited this response from Adrift (in part):

I remember seeing the film early in 2006, when it opened in Mexico City. I don't remember in which cinema. I don't remember if I was with a friend. I don't remember the audience reactions. I just remember coming out of the theater as if I had been stabbed and feeling mortally wounded. I could hardly breathe and my heart was pounding as if my chest wasn't its own home. I was dizzy and couldn't sleep all night....



Seeing the film tore not only my heart, but my whole being, out of genuine compassion for both characters. From what I have read in different threads on this forum, I gather that all of us writing in this space realize that what is transcendent in life is the possibility to express the yearnings of the soul without constraints. If it is sad to see a blind man facing the sun and feeling its warmth, without being able to perceive the radiance of the light and the play of the sun rays on

the earth, or a deaf person unmoved and indifferent to the sounds of music, birds and laughter, it is even more painful to love and not being able to express it. Realizing that people by the millions have gone through such ordeals, and will probably continue to do so because of the lack of loving kindness in society, just kills me.

... The film is so devastating, crushing and overpowering and, simultaneously, so prodigious, vast and irresistible, that if I don't see it in small doses I might get a coronary failure. If I could tell something to all the Ennises in the world, I would tell them that the moment when I lost fear and began to live as a gay man outside my family was the precise instant I said to myself: I want to live, not to last. That has made all the difference.

<sup>(12)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=31848.msg1457271#msg1457271>

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## **WHAT'S COOKING: SWEDISH BREAKFAST MILKSHAKE**

From the Forum's Recipe & Cook's Corner comes a healthy breakfast for people who don't like to eat in the morning: "It's ideal for the forum lifestyle, since you make it in the time it takes to load a YouTube video, and you gulp it down without using cumbersome forks, spoons, or other instruments that take motor skills and distract you from reading and writing. It's crammed with nutrients - lots of protein, no added sugar - and will keep you from getting hungry for at least a couple of hours. And, of course, it's very tasty!"



Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon soy flour
- 2 teaspoons cocoa powder
- 1 tablespoon peanut butter
- 1 smallish, ripe banana
- 1 1/4 cups milk

Put everything in a mixer and blend it.

Find and share recipes [here](#)<sup>(13)</sup>.

<sup>(13)</sup> <http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=8751.0>

## **QUOTE OF THE DAY**



**"Christmas gift suggestions:**

**To your enemy, forgiveness.  
To an opponent, tolerance.  
To a friend, your heart.  
To a customer, service.  
To all, charity.  
To every child, a good example.  
To yourself, respect."**

*~ Oren Arnold ~*

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**BRING YOUR HUMOR HERE**

**Posted by Nax**

**TEN TIMES NORMAL SIZE**



The 6th grade science teacher, Mrs. Parks, asked her class, 'Which human body part increases to ten times its size when stimulated?'

No one answered until little Mary stood up and said, 'You should not be asking sixth-graders a question like that! I'm going to tell my parents, and they will go and tell the principal, who will then fire you!'

Mrs Parks ignored her and asked the question again, 'Which body part increases to 10 times its size when stimulated?'

Little Mary's mouth fell open. Then she said to those around her, 'Boy, is she going to get in big trouble!'

The teacher continued to ignore her and said to the class, 'Anybody?'

Finally, Billy stood up, looked around nervously, and said, 'The body part that increases 10 times its size when stimulated is the pupil of the eye.'

Mrs. Parks said, 'Very good, Billy.'

Then she turned to Mary and continued... And as for you, young lady, I have three things to say...

One.. you have a dirty mind.

Two.. you didn't read your homework.

And three... one day you are going to be very, very disappointed.'



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**PHOTO CAP OF THE DAY: FAVORITE CHRISTMAS PHOTO CAPTIONS**

**By backtobrokeback, November 25, 2006**



-- I don't need no star to adore you, Jack.  
-- You're a wise man, Ennis.

Contributors: **BayCityJohn, Laurentia, DeTina, backtobrokeback, Adrift**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

If you have ideas about initiating a gathering, go to **Start Your Own Threads** and get the ball rolling to plan a get-together near you.

**4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BROKIE REUNION - ARIZONA SPRING FLING  
April 17-19, 2009**

<http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=29613.0>

**Let us know** of any events you'd like listed here

***THE DAILY SHEET***

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[www.davecullen.com/forum](http://www.davecullen.com/forum)



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The Daily Sheet is a production of The Ultimate Brokeback Forum at [www.davecullen.com/forum](http://www.davecullen.com/forum).

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Forum Footnotes section produced by **Stilllearning**

Today's edition was formatted by **gnash**.

We count on you to send us your news items, questions, and nominations for posts of the day.  
If you have items you'd like to see published, send them to [tds@davecullen.com](mailto:tds@davecullen.com).

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