



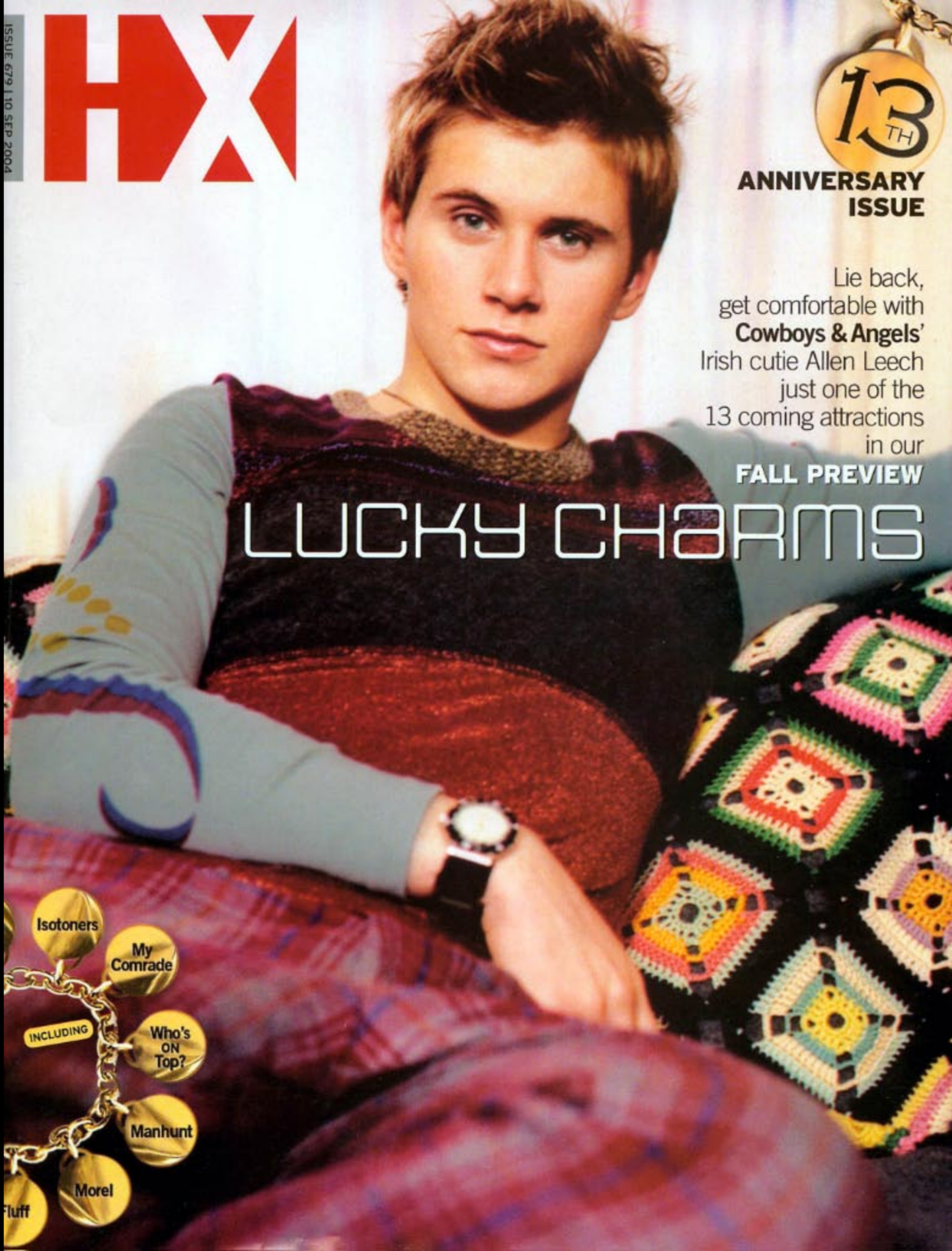
**ANNIVERSARY
ISSUE**

Lie back,
get comfortable with
Cowboys & Angels'
Irish cutie Allen Leech
just one of the
13 coming attractions

in our
FALL PREVIEW

LUCKY CHARMS

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Royal Flush at Fez

Downtown talent heads downstairs at Time Cafe

The Isotoners, New York City's gay pop rock band, return to Fez for a residency every Tuesday night in September. They'll satirize the big gay world around them in a variety of styles from cabaret-punk to chamber-funk to dream pop-junk, including tracks such as "Manboobs" from their debut EP, *Sometimes I Sit Down When I Pee*. They'll also debut songs from their forthcoming CD, *Sitting Pretty*—look for "Oxygen" a pop-punk kiss-off that pays homage to John Waters.

Also at Fez, public relations firm SASi PR will present a variety show titled SASi Sundays the second Sunday of each month starring a slew of queer-friendly talent. "I

put this night together," SASi representative Stephen Schulman told us, "because the thirtysomething crowd here in New York City is so completely ignored as people who enjoy entertainment. Everything is geared toward teens or twentysomethings, and this is a night perfect for anyone any age. It's an early evening event for people who have work on Monday morning—it's also a great place to go to first before heading somewhere else." Kicking off the September 12 show are plus-size burlesque sensation The Glamazons, sultry singer Ari Gold, Josh Zuckerman and Bill Budd, lead singer of the trippy soul group P-1 Beth-Anne Arentsen and the drag queens of ABBAlicious.—JW



Isotoners



Sean P. Hayes and Jennifer Lopez

Seen & Heard

Where there's a Will, there's a Grace, a CD, a DVD and a book. Oh yeah, and a Karen and Jack, too.



Arriving with a multimedia assault that Madonna would envy, the new season of *Will & Grace* premieres September 16 (in an episode starring Jennifer Lopez; Janet Jackson pops up the following week). The same week sees the release of *Will & Grace: Let the Music Out* (BMG), a CD that includes "He's Hot!" a dance mix in which memorable lines from the show get the club treatment. Eric McCormack and Barry Manilow wrote and recorded "Living With Grace" for the disc, while Megan Mullally paired up with Carly Simon on "The Right Thing to Do." Also included are songs from past guest stars (Cher, Lopez, Elton John) and a Bacon Brothers recording of "Footloose." In addition, look for the release of Season Two on DVD.

But wait, there's more! New Yorker Jim Colucci has penned the ultimate guide to all past six seasons—about 145 half hour segments in all—for a book titled *Will & Grace: Fabulously Uncensored*. (\$19.95 Round-table), which serves up fascinating

behind-the-scenes secrets (all four leads originally turned down the sitcom) and in-depth interviews. Such as? "Megan [who plays Karen Walker] said she had the idea to do the voice from the beginning, even in the audition," Colucci says, "But she kept it in the closet and sneaked it in slowly." McCormack, aside from sporting longer hair in the first season, was more of a "noble homo," Colucci notes, so he could be palatable to the mainstream. But he gayed up. And can you believe that the rapport between Karen and Jack wasn't scripted from Day One? They don't even meet in the pilot episode.

Looking to the future, though, we wondered what plot line Colucci would like to see developed. "I've always thought it was so much fun to hear about Karen's family (Stan, the stepkids)," he says. "She's someone who's a perfectionist, intolerant of bad smells or appearances. I'd like to see Karen have to mother a baby. If she got knocked up..."—TS