Scanning the 'Zine Scene
Rumblings From the New Gay Underground

3. Jerking Off: Coming On: Two successive issues of a gay-punk-faerie chapbook. Poetry, fantasies, and journals dealing with everything from AIDS to kids and sex. (Queer Anarchist Network, P.O. Box 6705, Station A, Toronto, Canada, M5W 1X5; $3.)

4. Fertile La Toyah Jackson Magazine: Scandalous, unhinged gossip, glamour tips, and self-promotion by a posse of black drag queens known as the Afro Sisters (who also perform as a band). Fertile is the cover girl, and Vaginal Davis edits. They rate bars and male strippers and offer their own “Queen’s Glossary” when not reviewing dirt on teen stars that the Hollywood Kids would never touch, even if they believed it. A veritable John Waters film of a skinny ‘zine. (7850 Sunset Blvd., #110, West Hollywood, CA 90046; $10 for the past three issues.)

5. Amoeba Records Compilation Video: A chance to catch the Afro Sisters performing in “That Fertile Feeling” as well as their alternate incarnation, Cholita (“A Female Menu”), doing “No Controlla.” Plus gay, drag star Glen Meadmore in a video from his first disc, “Lovin’ In My Oven,” and his just completed “paean to prostitution,” “No Money, No Honey,” shot among the working boys at the notorious Oki Dog stand in West Hollywood. Label owner Keith Holland promises that the compact-disc packages are “certain to offend some people.” Forewarned? (5337 La Cresta Court, Los Angeles, CA 90039; $16 for VHS tape.)

6. Sin Bros: This brilliantly witty Los Angeles newcomer (“For You and Your Kind”) offers pieces on unintentionally homoerotic TV, the Cosmo-style quiz “How to Get a Man,” parodies of bad gay poetry, and the regular Hollywood gossip feature “My Life as a Celebrant.” Editor D. Tor Rex’s club, Sit & Spin, takes over 3626 Sunset in Los Angeles on Thursdays. (P.O. Box 618, North Hollywood, CA 91603; $3 for first three issues.)

7. B.L.K.: Not a ‘zine but a passionate mag from Los Angeles’ black gay and lesbian community, with astute reviews of homophobic rap records and a wicked national gossip column. It’s overdue, winnily discreet, and highly recommended. (P.O. Box 83912, Los Angeles, CA 90083; $2.)

8. Homocore: Anarchist skate punk Tom Jennings took the name from J.D.s but takes a more dogmatic (if still mischievous) approach. Issue 5 features the pro-drug conclusion of the four-part memoir of a bi hippie punk, a chapter from a dyke-punk novel, Mary Marvel cartoons, record reviews, and scores of letters. (P.O. Box 7731, San Francisco, CA 94107; $1.)

9. Taste of Latex: Lucy Braindrop’s pro-sex ‘zine features Mary Chester photos, an Annie Sprinkle interview, and a gay fiction titled “Butch Meets Femme.” (P.O. Box 460122, San Francisco, CA 94146; $3.)

10. Carnifex Network: Henry Bowers’s mantra is “Kill Everything. Legalize Everything.” A recent issue includes a poem for a teen hustler, gay book reviews, rants, classifieds, and a pro-bestiality essay. A ‘zine for libertines, misfits, and sexual outcasts. (P.O. Box 479164, Chicago, IL 60647; $1.)

11. Teen Punks In Heat: Sympathetic hetero editor Ben Weasal publishes the song “I Wanna Be a Homo!” which he wrote with Bruce LaBruce. A polysexual-punk ‘zine with soft-core graphics for boys and girls. (Road Kill, P.O. Box 37, Prospect Heights, IL 60070; $3 for two issues.)

12. Holy Tit Clamps: Cover features radical faeries on a terrorist shopping spree at the local mall’s branch of Saks Fifth Avenue. Also a TV’s rant against A.A. (P.O. Box 3054, Minneapolis, MN 55403; $1.)

13. My Comrade: We don’t follow celebrities—we create them!” Drag queens and Puerto Rican studs in mock-naif, wryly political scenarios cast out of New York’s downtown scene. Professionally done and recruiting national correspondents. (Les Simpson, 326 E. 13th, #15, New York, NY 10015; $4.)

14. ABC NO RIO: Editor Matthew Courtney works with a group of gay anarchists who are into art, sex, and poetry and also run an open cabaret under the same name. They cover anarchist gatherings, attack mass culture, and look at the relationship of sex to the bomb, weddings, and S&M. Eclectic, heady, and very pro. (156 Rivington, New York, NY 10002; $3.)

15. AQUA: Possibly the original queer anarchist journal. Bru Dye returns with a third issue, which includes poetry, pagan-faerie essays, and such stories as “Gay’s n’ Bunks,” “Safer Sex for Women,” and “Cruising Nicaragua.” (The Association for Ontological Anarchy, P.O. Box 1251, Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10013; $1.)

—Adam Block