Say What

August 1, 1999

Rubber Lucky

“The industry is a jungle. Some [condom] makers have excellent labs, and others stagger along with broken-down machinery. Latex goes in one end, something else comes out the other—the buyer doesn’t know the difference.”*—A British condom-quality consultant, South Africa’s Sunday Times, May 16, 1999*

Harm’s Way

“The deputy director-general of health, Dr. Harm Pretorius, said, ‘There is no policy’ to inform the public. ‘We simply remove the defective condoms from the system.’” *—South Africa’s strategy for recalling 40 million Kenzo brand condoms after tests showed that 1 in 4 were faulty. Only 4.7 million were actually netted. Sunday Times, May 16, 1999*

Mommie Queerest

“My son Michael found out the truth—that he could walk away from homosexuality. But he found out too late. He has AIDS.”*—Mother of “ex-gay” Michael Johnston in Mom, the first ad in the Truth in Love TV campaign launched by a coalition of 18 conservative groups on Mother’s Day, May 9, 1999*

Responsible for What?

“Positive Steps program director Donald Price is a dedicated role model committed to re-establishing HIV positive individuals into society as responsible, productive citizens.”*—Unimed Pharmaceuticals’ press release announcing the winners of its Striving to Thrive Award, April 19, 1999*

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