

## NEWS & NOTES

**6/Suing Sony** If George Michael wins his bout with Sony, the music biz may face a contract revolution... Can it get much worse for Michael Jackson?... **HOT SHEET... FLASHES...** and more.

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**22/COVER The Young and the Reckless** BY DANA KENNEDY In the wake of River Phoenix's death by overdose, a probe into the entertainment industry reveals a decadent new Hollywood in which drugs—including the resurgent heroin—thrive.

**32/Cool Runnings** BY JESS CAGLE Sifting through the rubble of the 1993-94 Broadway season turns up a few real gems.

**34/Bless This Mess** BY ALAN CARTER Checkin' out the set of *Roseanne*, a decorating bastion of American blue-collar chic.

**40/No. 1 With a Bullet** BY ROBERT SEIDENBERG With stars who sometimes cross the line between art and crime, gangsta rap is hip-hop's most controversial—and popular—subgenre.

## REVIEWS

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**58/BOOKS** GREG SANDOW on *Her Name Is Barbra*; also *The Book of Guys*. **PLUS:** For some pinups, the days are numbered.

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**Cover** BACKGROUND PHOTOGRAPH FOR EW BY KEN SCHLES/ONYX; RIVER PHOENIX: JOHN BELLISIMO/LGI

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**IN THE WINGS:** Stephen Spinella and Ellen McLaughlin look to the heavens in a Broadway preview of *Angels in America: Perestroika*, the highly anticipated second half of the award-winning *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches*

