



GIRL ABOUT TOWN GODDESSES, GODS AND SOCIALITES

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In certain social circles, **JJ McKay** has been called “the Perle Mesta of Seattle.” Mesta was a celebrated society hostess known for bringing artists, business leaders and political luminaries together at her high-class soirees in Washington, D.C. “On such jolly occasions, the food is always bountiful, the liquor excellent and plentiful,” proclaimed a March 1949 Time Magazine cover story. “She likes everybody to be gay, but not to get out of hand.”

Which brings us to the Grecian Bacchanal, a private themed party hosted by JJ and celebrity caterer **Russell Lowell** to “celebrate the arrival of summer in Seattle and the goodness of life”; invitations were sent out to Seattle’s “gods and goddesses” and promised an evening of plentiful charm, beauty and laughter. To wit:

Seattle philanthropists **Jack** and **Becky Benaroya**, who stayed for the first dance because “my husband’s attendant likes to dance, so one dance

and we’ll go home” ... **Leigh** and **J.P. Canlis**, who turned up late after having a Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day involving a car break-in ... **Pennie Lane** of “Almost Famous” fame, wear-

ing hair extensions and a flowy blue gown created by director Gus Van Sant’s costume designer ... the “very social Barriers,” i.e. **Jimmy** and **Patty Barrier** of Seattle and Palm Springs ... Sen. **Ed Murray** and his longtime partner **Michael Shiosaki**, who were not wearing togas (no fun at all!) ... celebrity jewelry designer **Bruce**

Magnotti, wearing an ornate necklace, glitter, flip-flops and, frankly, not much else ... Barneys store manager **Anne Smith**, who looks like a Greek goddess no matter what she’s wearing ... and Seattle Metropolitan publisher **Nicole Vogel** sporting a sleek and flattering Anna Wintour bob.

Oh, and **Stephanie Kron Raffetto**. Who is she,

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**What does
\$3 million
get you in
Belltown real
estate?**

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FROM J1



KEN LAMBERT / THE SEATTLE TIMES

**Stash the rock and paper, but keep the scissors —
Sounder Roger Levesque is sportin' a 'stache.**

you ask? That's what I said when she approached me as I was walking out the door. "I just moved here from Washington, D.C. How do I get my name in your column?" Well, Stephanie, that's easy: All you have to do is ask. ...

SEATTLE SOUNDERS FORWARD **Roger Levesque** may be a high scorer on the field, but his rock-paper-scissors game could use some work. After losing a bet to an opposing player following a game against the Rochester Raging Rhinos (best team name *ever*), Levesque had to grow a mustache for two weeks. "It was a moment of weakness," he said. "When we play them again, I have to show up at the stadium, clean-shaven except for the mustache." By the way, did you know Seattle has a professional soccer team? It's called the Seattle Sounders. ...

FORMER SEATTLE MARINER **Jeff Nelson** rounded up some baseball pals for celebrity bartender night at the Metropolitan Grill July 19, a fundraiser for Northwest Children's Fund. The bartending tab combined with live auction raised nearly \$8,000, despite **Dave Henderson's** misguided attempt at generosity: "Drinks are on the house!" Henderson spent much of the night mixing Jack Daniels and coke. When customers ordered singles, he served doubles. There's a baseball joke in here somewhere, but I can't find it. ...

WHAT DOES \$3 MILLION get you in Belltown real estate? How about a dramatic "designer" condo with panoramic views from the founders of swanky interior design company Two Downtown? Life and business partners **Howard Weiner** and **Lance Kostrobala** have put their 2,609-square-foot condo on the market and are moving to a small village in Thailand. The couple plans to maintain a transcontinental lifestyle as they pursue photography and painting and, Lance writes, "once again ask the question of ourselves: 'What do we want to be when we grow up?'" ...

CELEBRITY SIGHTINGS ROUNDUP: **Megan Mullally** from "Will & Grace" dining at Lola ... **Vicki Gunvalson** from Bravo's "The Real Housewives of Orange County" having cocktails and appetizers with her film crew at The Parlor in Bellevue ... Has anyone seen **Tom Skerritt**? I'm getting worried.

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