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GATECRASHER

By Laura Schreffler with Amanda Sidma

Kari Ann in hot water over Q&A

Kari Ann Peniche may not be the brightest light bulb in the chandelier. In fact, the fallen teen queen seems to have a slight problem understanding the term "exclusive."

The former Miss Teen United States (r.) recently inked a deal with E! for a two-part interview to discuss her nude-video scandal (she cavorts in a hot tub wearing her birthday suit with married actors **Eric Dane** and **Rebecca Gayheart**). However, late Sunday night, Peniche gave an interview with Steppin' Out magazine, effectively jeopardizing the exclusive interview rights she had given to the entertainment network.

"Kari Ann stands to lose a healthy amount of money for giving up her exclusive," says an



LARRY BUSCH/RETNA

insider close to the former Playboy model. "Her team has been freaking out and trying to kill the interview in Steppin' Out."

In the mag, which hits newsstands Sept. 2, the beauty queen says she's not ashamed of her sex scandal but admits her mother is heartbroken over it — and adds that she plans on becoming the next **Oprah Winfrey** (though hopefully with more discretion this time). "I have no regrets. You can't have any regrets," she says, before admitting to being a sex addict. "I learned that I have a love addiction and a sex addiction. Sex addiction is like a drug addiction. It can vary."

Meanwhile, Peniche's handlers say that the nature of the interview she gave to

with the content of her first prime-time network interview since the tape leaked.

"Kari Ann did not break any contract with E!," said her manager, **David Weinstrob**. "She's been friendly with **Chauncey** throughout the years. She had a discussion with him that turned into an article about her future TV shows and her clothing line; [it was] done last week before we had any type of deal with E! We'd never jeopardize our relationship with a network we'd like to be in business with."

A rep for E! said the interview would run as scheduled but didn't comment on whether Peniche's Steppin' Out interview would threaten her contract with the network.

Added **Hayden**: "I arranged an interview with Kari Ann that is not scheduled to run until after her E! special airs. I have no problem honoring that request. The interview was insightful and informative and shows her in a light other than the way she's been portrayed the past week."

Steppin' Out's editor, **Chauncey Hayden**, has nothing to do

ROMANCE IS BLOSSOMING for **Shia LaBeouf** and his "Wall Street 2: Money Never Sleeps" co-star **Carey Mulligan**. The hot new couple were spotted kissing and cuddling over drinks at West Village eatery Extra Virgin on Sunday afternoon — until British gal Mulligan realized she was being watched and began to hide her face. Tsk, tsk.



RICHARD COMPTON/OUTLINE

VIBE FINALLY HAS ITS NEW EDITOR IN CHIEF: Former King magazine head **Jermaine Hall** will be running the revamped urban glossy. "I'm happy to have the opportunity to come back and contribute to such a rich and important legacy," Hall tells us. The mag will relaunch online in coming weeks, then follow with quarterly print editions by the end of the year.



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***gotcha!**

LADY IN WAITING Songstress **Taylor Swift** struck a pretty pose yesterday during a photo shoot in Notting Hill, London.

SEEN & HEARD

Drew Barrymore chowing down on enchiladas with her Flower Films VP **Chris Miller** at Dos Caminos Third Avenue Friday night. ... **Cameron Diaz** drinking white wine with gal pals at Gemma on Sunday. ... **Veronica Webb** (r.) grabbing a bite at the Blue Parrot in East Hampton on Sunday, while **Jon Bon Jovi** dined nearby.



RICHARD COMPTON/OUTLINE

Airport security puts a hold on 'Wrestler' star

Mickey Rourke may have an Oscar nomination under his belt, but he isn't above the law. En route to Bosnia last week for the Sarajevo Film Festival, the "Wrestler" star (r.) was none too happy to be stopped by airport officials at JFK.

An eyewitness says Rourke waited impatiently for nearly 10 minutes while security rifled through his bags and questioned him about the amount of money he was carrying.

Once the actor was finally deemed not to be a security threat, he was allowed to continue on his non-merry way. But Rourke clearly didn't take the inquiry in good humor: after his bags had been cleared, he stormed off with his two bodyguards in tow.

CLINT BEWITCHED

Opposites really do attract: just ask **Clint Eastwood** and **Catherine Deneuve**.



GETTY

In the new biography "American Rebel," author **Marc Eliot** claims that the Oscar winner and the French siren had a brief but passionate affair in 1966, when Eastwood was promoting **Dino De Laurentiis**' "Le Streghe" ("The Witches") in Paris.

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