

# SPOTLIGHT

## ON *Back Bay*

by Clint Hamblin



Summer Style Shopping Spree

### The Shops at Prudential presents Summer Style.

On Thursday, May 31 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm is a girls' night out for shopping, socializing and splurging. Hosted by Mix 98.5's Kelly Malone, this shopping spree will feature best-selling author Claire Cook, author of *Must Love Dogs* and soon-to-be released, *Life's a Beach*.

Enjoy special events and discounts at retailers including Alpha Omega, Ann Taylor, Ann Taylor Loft, Arden B., The Body Shop, Club Monaco, Crane & Co., Olympia, Levenger, Lord & Taylor, Karisma and Saks Fifth Avenue.

From discounts on chocolate drizzings to organizational tools for busy women, the Prudential's Summer Style is sure to get your summer off to a great start.

### Dorfman sells \$1,000,000 pearls.

Gerard Riveron and Jonathan Dorfman recently returned from Geneva after a major buying trip for Dorfman Jewelers located at 24 Newbury Street. "We're bringing in the highest high-end luxury Swiss watches along with Henry Dunay, the dean of American jewelry designs, all coming to Dorfman's in October," Dorfman said. "We've noticed an enormous interest in rare and exceptional pearls," Dorfman continued. "We recently sold a major pearl necklace in the high six figures." Not necessarily a Mother's Day gift, this nearly \$1 million necklace was sold to a collector of fine jewelry.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DORFMAN JEWELERS

Dorfman's exotic pearls

**Swan boats return.** There's something about the launching of the swan boats in the Public Garden that officially marks the beginning of the glorious summer season. In 1877, Robert Paget received a license from the City of Boston to run a boat for hire business. Paget built a catamaran utilizing a foot-operated paddle wheel which became the model for the swan boats of today. The swan was intended to hide the captain.

Paget's descendants continue to operate the business today as the swan boats continue to represent one of Boston's most delightful and identifiable attractions.

**The Boston Pops want you.** There's a lot more going on at the Pops than fist fights. In a video clip on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart invited individual singers from across the country to submit videos to compete in POPSearch 2007, a national talent contest that offers amateur singers a chance to perform with the Boston Pops at its annual Fourth of July Extravaganza.

The POPSearch 2007 winner will also be awarded a \$5,000 cash prize and will appear with the Boston Pops as part of its national tour this summer. Also new this year, music lovers across the country can watch the top POPSearch competitors online and vote for their favorite singer.

Singers may audition for POPSearch 2007 through Thursday, June 28 by submitting a two-minute performance video. For competition and voting details, visit [www.bostonpops.org](http://www.bostonpops.org).



PHOTO: ERIC LEVIN

L'Espalier's Frank McClelland

**Frank McClelland, owner and executive chef for L'Espalier, won the 2007 James Beard Foundation Award for Best Chef: Northeast.** Winners were announced at a ceremony held at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall in New York City. The awards, now in their 17th year, recognize excellence and achievement in the culinary profession.

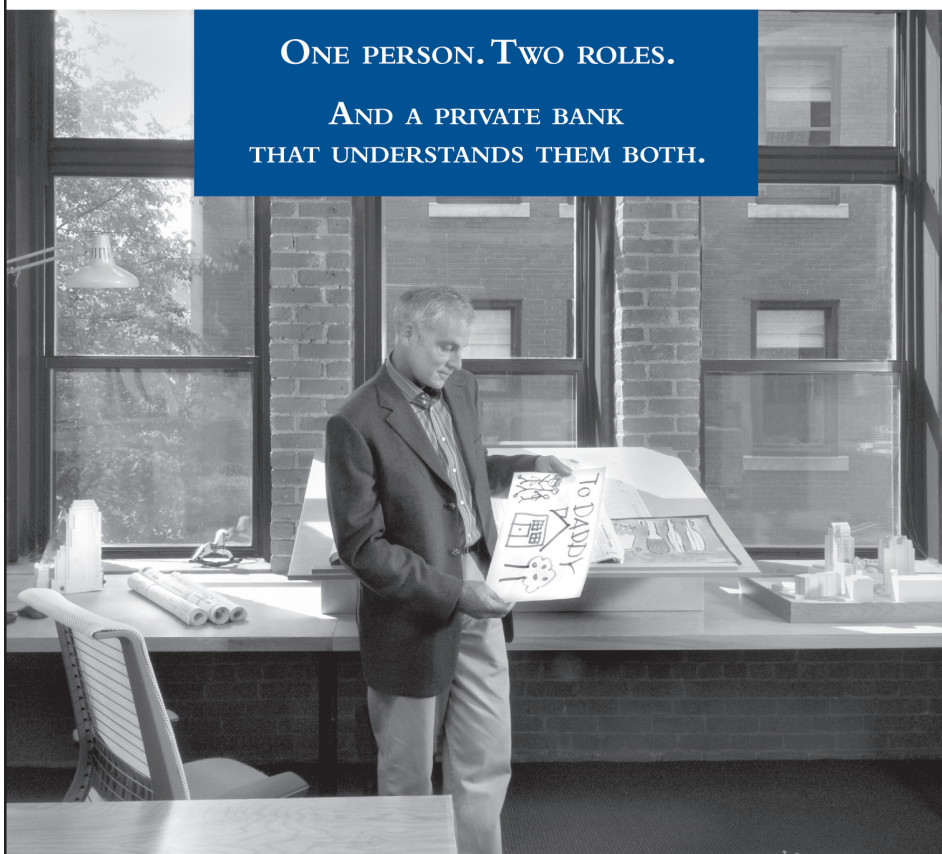
Located on Boylston Street when it opened in 1978, L'Espalier moved to its 30 Gloucester Street location, a historic Back Bay townhouse, in 1982. Next year the restaurant plans to move to the Mandarin Oriental Hotel on Boylston Street. Under the direction of McClelland, this fine dining establishment has won numerous awards and for the last seven years has remained the only independent restaurant in New England to receive Five Diamonds from AAA.

"Tonight's winners represent the best and the brightest in the food world," said Susan Ungaro, president of the foundation. "Winning a James Beard Foundation Award is like taking home an Olympic gold medal, a Pulitzer or a Grammy. For many, being selected by their peers is confirmation of achievement of excellence, marking the pinnacle of their careers."

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