

BIO OF GERSH KUNTZMAN

Currently an editor at the New York Daily News

Former editor, The Brooklyn Paper

Former columnist, Newsweek

Former reporter, New York Post

Playwright, "SUV: The Musical!"

Author, "HAIR! Mankind's Historic Quest to End Baldness" (Random House)

**Author, "Chismukkah: The Official Guide to the
World's Most-Beloved Holiday" (Sasquatch)**

Educated at the Sorbonne, the London School of Economics and the Yale School of Drama, Gersh Kuntzman is obviously not the person being described here. Rather, Gersh Kuntzman started life as a tabloid hack at The New York Post, first covering the entertainment industry and, later, writing the weekly "MetroGnome" column (1995-2004), which offered a witty and wry slice of New York life. Several of Gersh's features and news stories have won awards, others were ignored, but still others inspired the award-winning hot-dog-eating championship documentary, "Red, White and Yellow." Variety Magazine called Gersh's performance in the film "a breath of fresh air, albeit tinged with garlic, blowing through all of Hollywood."

From 2001-2005, Gersh wrote the "American Beat" column for Newsweek.com, a weekly piece on the "issues" of the "day" that was read by hundreds of thousands (judging from his hate mail!). Gersh's freelance work has appeared in Salon, Cosmopolitan, Modern Humorist, George, TV Guide, Time Out New York, New York Observer and New York magazine.

Gersh is also the author of "HAIR! Mankind's Historic Quest to End Baldness" (Random House, 2001), a classic social history of male pattern baldness, and "Chismukkah: The Official Guide to the World's Most-Beloved Holiday" (Sasquatch), which can modestly be described as the most-important book on a religious holiday since The Talmud.

Gersh is also a playwright. His comedy "An Evening of Semi-Autobiographical, Highly Self-Indulgent Theater," was a hit at the 2004 NYC International Fringe Festival. And his musical, "SUV: The Musical!" (co-written with Marc Dinkin), was a mega-hit in 2005 and enjoyed a month-long Off-Broadway run in 2006.

Gersh later became the editor-in-chief of The Brooklyn Papers, a chain of weeklies that covered the most-vibrant part of New York City with Gersh's inimitable stamp. But now he works as an editor at the NY Daily News.

Wow, this kid's got sumptin'!