



By Meredith Bryan

## **WEDNESDAY, October 15**

**SWEATY BALLS!** Is it time yet to empty our checking accounts (of course we don't have any investments, real estate or 401(k), ya big silly) and flee to, *EEK*, Quebec? Or better yet—**Pompeii**? Or should we just close our eyes, pretend nothing is happening and drop a couple thou on a big fancy benefit? In midtown, Hollywood grande dame **Glenn Close** is recognized for her contributions to the arts (lorgnettes! boiled bunnies!) at the Princess Grace Awards Gala at Cipriani.



Co-chairs include Manhattan mega-broker **Dolly Lenz** and *Law & Order* creator **Dick Wolf**. Further west, the cologned smoothies at *GQ* throw a sedate **Gentlemen's Ball** to fete the magazine's charity initiatives; guests of honor will include actors **Mark Wahlberg** and **Forest Whitaker**, music producers **Timbaland**, whiny singer **Usher**, and NBA player **Steve Nash**.