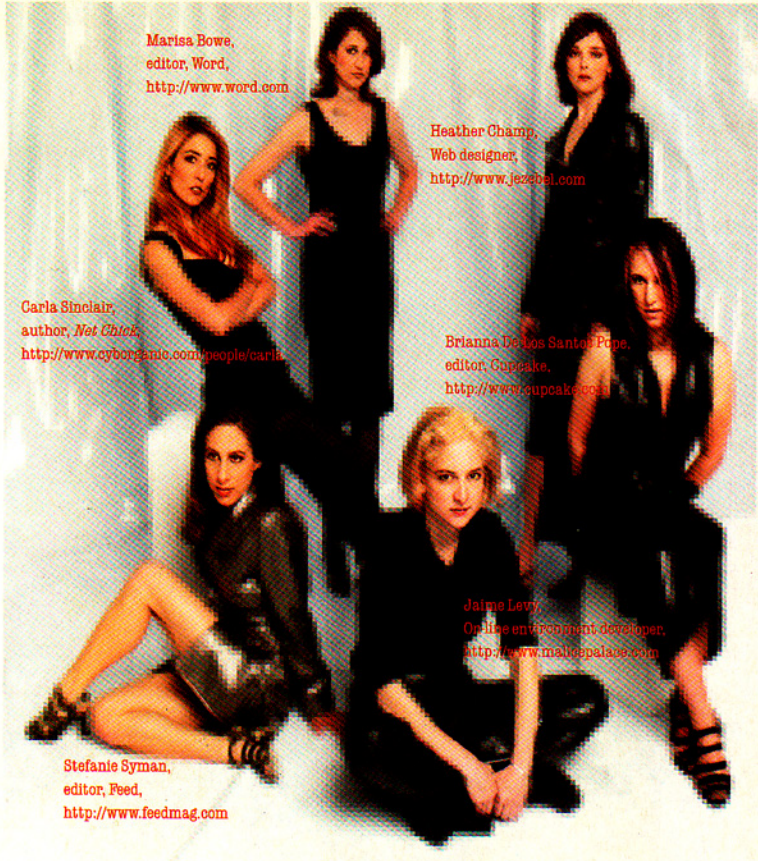




ESQUIRE  
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Téa lights up a cigarette and inhales to her toes. I watch her move with purpose to wherever she is headed. I start to wonder where that is. And as I do, the pain in my cheek seems quite unimportant. —BEN STILLER



Marisa Bowe,  
editor, Word,  
<http://www.word.com>

Heather Champ,  
Web designer,  
<http://www.jezabel.com>

Carla Sinclair,  
author, *Net Chick*,  
<http://www.cyborgame.com/people/carla>

Brianna De Los Santos Probst,  
editor, Cupcake,  
<http://www.cupcake.com>

Jaime Levy,  
Online environment developer,  
<http://www.malhepalace.com>

Stefanie Syman,  
editor, Feed,  
<http://www.feedmag.com>

## THE WEBMISTRESSES: Grrrls just wanna be wired

Once, the digital world was made up of boy nerds. And if they developed a reputation for being overweight and lacking in certain social graces, it was generally well deserved. Believe me. Way back in the early nineties, I used to go to the best geek parties. And these early nerds were like car mechanics: boring, but they sure knew how to build sleek, sexy machines that helped us communicate. Yet, as we've all finally figured out, women know how to communicate even better than men do.

So forget that patronizing stuff about how great it is that women are finally taking to the Net. They're not just taking to it—they're takin' over! That's right. All that vibrant, rebellious energy of the Web is wherever the grrrls are. And they're a special breed: sexy women with brains *and* modems. Sound dangerous?

I hope so. 'Cause it's a tangled Web they weave. —R. U. SIRIUS

# ...es comedy can be painful