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MEMO PAD

LOCAL PLAYGROUND, FOR NOW: Rumors the New York Observer may take its parenting title, Observer Playground, national are unfounded at this point but a second edition is on its way, slated to hit newsstands Dec. 2. Beginning in March, Observer Playground will be published monthly, said **Lyss Stern**, editor in chief. Stern will probably need to hire a few more when the title goes monthly, but as of yet, she has not hired any former staffers from Cookie, which Condé Nast shuttered earlier this month.

“Gossip Girl” star **Kelly Rutherford** will appear on the cover of the second issue. The holiday, winter wonderland-themed shoot will take place in Central Park this Sunday, with Rutherford posing in a Swarovski crystal-encrusted Santa hat. — **A.W.**