

Today's Waldo!

... entered Black Rock

City vesterday afternoon. Shower her with gifts, invitations and your very best impression of the Playa Chicken! Give her a melon, RIGHT NOW! She's Black Rock City's WALDO for the day! Make Waldo really, truly happy! Bring proof (and a melon) of your success to the City Desk for the grand WALDO's ANGEL WINGS giveaway (you nice person, you!)



### **Gridding & Cleaning**

Leave No Trace is not a trendy expression, it is essential to the survival of our community. The creation of each successive Black Rock City depends on the clean up efforts of the previous one. This year, all traces of our existence must be removed by Oct. 5 for us to keep our permit.

We are a community, so all of the garbage belongs to all of us. You must remove all traces of your camp, then carefully walk a grid over the entire area removing everything that is not dried mud. You also must contribute two hours to the community clean up effort in order to make next year's Burning Man a reality.

Your help is crucial to the survival of Black Rock City.

#### Earth Guardian Camp of the Day

The Midnight Popcorn Palace, at 5:50 Head Way, is Friday's Earth Guardians Camp of the Day, and they win a free ticket to BM 2001. Their creative signage and friendly persuasion have ensured that popcorn gets consumed instead of hitting the ground. Watch for future winners and hints on recycling, composting and dealing with gray water.

### Sunday Clean-up

Why rush out on Sunday just to wait in line? Extend that BRC community feeling by joining the clean-up festivities! Starting Sunday at noon in Center Circle near the Earth Guardian camp, we'll be going out in teams to attack the trash. There will be special prizes for those helping out the most. Many hands make light work, and a clean playa will help us ensure that there is a Burning Man 2001.

#### **Amplification**

Regarding the article Update on Arrests that appeared in the Friday issue of the Black Rock Gazette, the Pershing County sheriff's office said the citizen who was arrested Wednesday night and detained for several hours was held at the county outpost near the Black Rock City entrance at the request of her family, who asked that she not be taken to jail.

The charges against her, which included drug trafficking, required she be held lieu of \$5,100 bail, and that could not be raised in Black Rock City. Her husband had to drive to Reno to obtain the services of a bail bondsman.

#### **Celestial Weather Report**

Things are apt to get pretty intense today so be careful about how you throw your words around. One slightly offensive remark could turn a friendly fire performer into a rage that leaves you with all of your body hair singed off-sending off a mighty stank from here to Winnemucca. Do things with passion today. It's all or nothing. Have wild pumping sex that is so amazing that your orgasm doubles the number of cracks in the playa. If you are having trouble dealing with the emotional intensity of the day, you should seek out a Pisces, Scorpio,

LEFT IS LEFT ... ALWAYS CONT'D ON PAGE 2



BLACK ROCK

### Burn Heads

You will be there. Whether you are sober, whether you are working, performing or witnessing, whether you are a greenhorn newbie or a crusty veteran, you will be there. It is the one event that virtually everyone in Black Rock City makes it a point to attend. I refer, of course, to the Burn.

But each participant's experience is different, ranging from the ecstatic to the infuriated. The increase in Black Rock City's population over the years has also changed the dynamic of the event, with larger crowds resulting in more aggravation. Between frustrated people who cannot see past those in front of them, bikes clogging the crowd, and artworks being burned against an artist's wishes later in the night, there is real potential for celebration to turn into catastrophe.

Boggman, lead trainer for the Black Rock Rangers, says "No matter how much community there is, at the moment when the Man goes up, it's still personal. People want to crawl into their little pill boxes and have their own experiences. They have to 'die,' undergo a catharsis; and that can take away from the communal experience."

"The Burn is the culmination, so people are already excited," says Hail Mary, a Fire Performance Safety Coordinator on the B.A.T. (Burn Activities Team) for the past four years. "People get territorial, but that's a good thing. I think that people sometimes forget that wherever they are sitting or standing, that's their immediate community. They have the power to make it worthwhile for everyone, and there are always solutions in situations like that. People just need to be respectful and smart, and not take away from the experiences of others"

Bikes are a necessity for sightseeing in Black Rock City. But, they're a liability at the Burn. A bike you take into the crowd is a hazard and can paralyze your mobility. A bike left at the outskirts can be lost or "borrowed." Hail Mary said, "If people didn't take their bikes, it would make the crowd much more comfortable.'

A bike left behind at your camp isn't necessarily safe either. In 1999, several bikes were stolen from camps during the Burn. If you walk out to the Burn, make sure your bike is locked and secure.

The angst doesn't necessarily end when the Man topples and the crowd surges forward. In recent years, art arson has become a problem for many artists who either wanted to burn their art on their own terms, or didn't want it burned at all. One artist had created a memorial to his recently deceased father, and the burning of the piece was intended to be a very personal part of his grieving. He was devastated when he and his family returned to find the memorial in flames. LadyBee, Black Rock City Art Curator, asks "Why do some folks feel that they are entitled to burn someone's art installation? Just because we're at Burning Man doesn't give you permission to destroy someone else's property. Leave the self-entitled behavior back in the corporate culture we've escaped for a week. IF YOU DID-N'T CREATE IT, DON'T BURN IT!" No one person comprises Burning Man, but without the community effort that each individual contributes, it would not be possible.



(SO, DO YOU THINK ANYONE NOTICED WE USED THE SAME CARTOON THE WHOLE WEEK?)

# Berlin to Burning Man

It's 7,000 or so miles from Berlin to Burning Man. Pretty long way, right? Doesn't bother a Berliner, because they are known to simply love travelling. Hardly a place in the world where there isn't at least one of them. In Black Rock City I have counted three so far; I am number four. People keep asking, if I came all the way from Europe JUST to be at Burning Man. YES! Normally I wouldn't have come this time of the year or even at all. But I guess normally 30,000 or so people don't gather in the desert in the summer either.

Last May a Los Angeles friend told me about BM. I got lost in the website for hours. I signed up to volunteer in Center Camp Cafe and the Black Rock Gazette and was proud to be part of something that I didn't really know anything about. I explored the e-playa and got swamped with daily e-mails that nurtured my excitement about this adventure I was going to have.

Hanging loose and going wild might be something that comes naturally to you Americans. Most Germans though do that in their cars on the freeway. Well, yeah, there are raves and there's a LOVE PARADE where a million people come together in Berlin to get intoxicated listening to techno music, but other than that?

So there I was, desperately wanting to attend BM but not a camper-type at all. How to do this from Berlin? Without the help and sweetness of some awesome people that I've met through the e-playa, it would not have been possible to land here so smoothly. Total strangers invited me to join their camp, and brought an extra bike. Can you believe it? I just love it!

Bewilderment, cynicism, awe, envy and admiration were the first reactions I got from friends at home. The Burning Man idea about sharing and all is surely contagious though, because even my tight-ass optician gave me all the contact-lens equipment I needed for the trip at no charge!

Now I've been here since Sunday and, of course, have never seen anything like it. I am trying to imagine how I will describe this event to people at home. Before I got here, I read an article that reduced Burning Man to free sex for all in the desert-I knew there was more to it. By now it doesn't seem strange anymore to: talk to strangers; get your neck massaged while selling coffee; receive treasures; get hugged; be disgusted; be delighted; feel too hot in the sun; use porta potties; have a living room drive by you; and so forth. Yeah, I like it!

Wir sehen uns am Strand!

### Market Meltdown Stocks crash in heavy liquidation! Total drop of billions!

TOM CALDERA

Granted, a billion doesn't buy nearly as much as it did when the gory headline first appeared in the 1929 New York Times, but other than that it works just fine to describe Thursday's unexpected NASDAQ meltdown.

News travels fast out here (and bad news is no exception), but just in case you've had your head stuck in a cup of Chai for the past 24 hours, here's the naked truth: a minor tech-sector correction on Wednesday turned into a wholesale run for the gates Thursday morning, with a flood of automated sell orders at the opening, which triggered massive amounts of stop-loss sales and shut down trading for nearly an hour. By the end of the (JUMP TO PAGE 2)

## Staying Connected

It's ironic that Burning Man is a leave-notrace community when you consider the trace it leaves on each and every one of us. And when you find your community at last, it's only natural to want to stay in touch year round.

Those of you with internet access and e-mail are encouraged to stay up to date on Burning Man politics, ticket sales, start date, URL's and events by subscribing to the Jack Rabbit Speaks internet newsletter. Send an e-mail to bman-announce-subscribe@burningman.com. The newsletter is intermittent and infrequent but full of useful information.

Your best one-stop resource for information by and about the Burning Man community is our Web site: www.burningman.com. The recently re-designed site is searchable, easy to navigate and contains all the information you will need to participate in Burning Man - from desert survival to volunteering.

The new "Black Rock City Year Round" section of the Web site is intended to be a destination for extensive information & connectivity. It will include an on-line zine (let us know if you are interested in helping this develop), links to other Web sites, articles on participant experiences, Burning Man friendly business listings, and the e-playa BBS area.

Information on how to connect with other burners in your area can be found under Regional Contacts in the BRCYR section. There are 45 contacts world-wide, including the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and the U.K. Regional contacts can be a valuable source of information about local events and gatherings, or simply a good way to connect with Black Rock citizens in your area.

The e-playa is also accessible from the front page of the Burning Man Web site. Once registered, you can post messages to regional bulletin boards on a variety of subjects. Chat rooms are also available. Also, the e-playa is a good place to leave messages and your experiences for others to enjoy.

Many find calling (415) TO FLAME (415-863-5263) the simplest way stay connected. The information line is updated regularly to keep it current. Staying connected ensures our community remains a vital one and that Black Rock City's spirit endures year round.

Cancer, Capricorn or Virgo as your life raft these will be the most stylin' signs of the day. Food of the Day: Donuts. Color of the Day: Sky Blue.

### What about those dumpsters?

We know you've done your part to make Burning Man welcome on the playa next year. You brought mesh bags to dry your wet garbage. You've taken your aluminum to recycling camp, you've burned your paper, and now you're ready to haul your trash outta here. Wait ... what's that smell? Maybe all of that wet trash didn't dry. If you have diligently sorted your garbage and have one small smelly bag, you can offload that small bag during Exodus, on your way out. NO glass, NO aluminum, NO monster bag. We'll take that one small smelly bag off your hands. Plan to take the rest home with you.

### Guerilla Campaign for Mayor

Chimpie The Chimp evolved as the favored candidate for mayor of Black Rock City in its first-ever debate for elective office.

Chimpie, the third candidate and dark chimp contender, faced off against Johnny, of the Playa Cruisers, and Brettt Roncelli, of the Cosmic Love Dome. The three-way debate, sponsored by the Black Rock Gazette, became necessary after both Johnny and Roncelli claimed to be the sole, genuine, legitimate, statutory, mayoral representative of Black Rock City.

Despite the lack of an official elections structure, a voice vote of spectators after the debate, indicated Chimpie as the clear

All three candidates scored BIG points. Johnny's shining moment occurred when an audience member inquired how he felt about the use of Chimpie's native gibberish as a second language, adding the proviso that his response be in gibberish. Johnny immediately responded in his best stumpstyle with the Homeric: "Sit down and share round won-ton fried grits toasted for your protection, we're trying to raise the bottom water for your interest."

Roncelli also put in a strong showing. When the candidates were asked what kind of involvement could be expected from their first ladies, he replied: "As far as I am concerned, there are many ladies involved."

In the end, however, it was Chimpie's touching appeals to the electorate that won the day. When Roncelli demanded if he was "primate enough" to serve as mayor, Chimpie, at his full height, rhythmically thrust forward his abdomen, clearly demonstrating that he was a leading member of Homo erectus.

### **Errata**

The Black Rock Gazette wishes to apologize for certain factual inaccuracies in the recent Market Watch columns by "Tom Caldera." The NASDAQ automated exchange did not collapse on Thursday, as previously reported. Furthermore, certain "news stories" relating to U.S. corporations including Oracle and Cisco Systems, were patently untrue and entirely satirical in nature. Upon closer examination, the alleged reporter, Tom Caldera, does not appear to exist. We regret any inconvenience suffered by any of our readers

### Playa Iron Chef Contest Winners

Blueberry Pancake Man camp is the winner in both Best of Show and Best Kitchen/ Dining Set-up categories. Lucky Black Rock Gazette staffers got to taste chef Suzanne Johnson's delicious chicken Phad Thai, cooked on their fabulous Mongolian grill -handmade by the Blueberry Pancake Man himself, Bob Shingler. You can congratulate these playa gourmets at 4:30 and Sex Drive.

### DPW: The Deep Penetrating Whoop Ass That Makes Burning Man Happen

Every citizen of Black Rock City is indebted to the Department of Public Works, which erects Black Rock City from the dusty playa and upholds its brief annual existence.

Nine square miles of land are surveyed and sectioned off before the DPW places the roads and street signs and builds all public structures, including the coffee shop and The

DPW is active around the clock. Its mechanics, carpenters, tireless welders and surveyors make this festival possible and more. Last Monday I took my car out there and traded a fifth of Jack Daniels to have them cut off the doors and roof and add an extra seat.

From June to November, Will Roger is the head of DPW. For him, the best times are dur-



ing the set up and the tear down. "We build our own city," he explained, "then all these people show up and fuck it up." For the last few days before the Burn, Roger and his 80-member crew are in emergency mode, typically working 18hour days. A vital element to DPW is the operations director, Flynn Mauthe. "I couldn't do it without him," Roger said.

DPW is an eccentric group and proud of it. "You have to have character," Roger said. "You need it to smile in a dust storm."

This year, the federal Bureau of Land Management cut the amount of time allotted to setting up the city by two weeks and the cleanup time by one month, compared with 1999.

The BLM decision required the immediate removal of a large amount of fencing. As soon as Roger heard the order, he radioed his staff. "I had 40 guys remove 3 miles of fence in two hours."

Roger needs all volunteers he can get to help restore the playa to BLM standards after the festival. Every citizen is expected to clean their own camp space. Anyone who can help with the rest of the playa should show up at 8 a.m. Monday at DPW headquarters at the end of 5:30. After Monday, only DPW staff may stay in Black Rock City. &

### Too Much Food?

Did you go overboard at Trader Joe's in Reno? Would you like to donate food for the Burning Man clean-up crew?

Flying in from the east coast, I bring everything by plane and supplement with what I pick up at thrift shops, Twin Cities Surplus and supermarkets on my way through Reno. I can return most non-food items, but there is no obvious solution for the leftover food.

Last year, I donated leftovers to the Burning Man Commissary. They were unable to accept many food items, due to health code restrictions, e.g. if the box of mac 'n' cheese is opened, even if the inner bags are sealed, they can't accept it. The same goes for an opened mesh bag of oranges. Of course, your first and best choice is to give unwanted food to your friends and neighbors in Black Rock City.

With the help of the Burning Man staff and the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, here are some guidelines to help you Leave No Waste:

Black Rock City Commissary, 5:30 between Throat and Heart, Sunday and Monday is the ONLY official food donations drop-off point on site, NOT the Cafe, the Ranger Station, the Gate or Greeter areas. Anyone outside the donations area offering to take your unused food is collecting it for themselves.

1. Perishable items are hardest to donate, so eat them first-and don't let the rinds and seeds hit the ground! In fact, if you MUST buy ice for it, you CAN'T donate the leftovers here. Once frozen foods are thawed, they're undonable. Keep it cold until you can donate in Reno.

2. No opened packages of foods can be accepted at the Commissary, including the outer box or bag.

3. Use your water. (Take a sip after every paragraph.) After weeks of clean-up, the crew still had a swimming pool's worth of water which they emptied onto the playa. The plastic containers create a huge trash problem.

Even if you meet all the conditions, be willing to drive your donations to Reno. Historically, the clean-up crew can't use every donation and much of it will become trash, and very expensive to remove. Make another stop on the way through Reno.

The Food Bank of Northern Nevada (994 Packer Way, Sparks. 775-331-3663) is usually open 9-5 every weekday, but can't guarantee volunteer staff on Sunday or Labor Day.

St. Vincent's Dining Room (505 West 3rd St., Reno. 775-329-5363) is one block from the Sands Hotel. Manager Ray Trevino's kitchen feeds 600 people a day, no charge and preachfree. He is protected by the Emerson Act and can accept any reasonable food donation. Don't be afraid to just show up.

Do donate to the Black Rock City Commissary: Undamaged canned goods with labels intact. Sealed, pre-packaged goods; unopened cans of drink and bottled goods; undamaged, unblemished, whole fruit.

What you can donate to the Food Bank in Sparks: All of the above ... PLUS: Frozen food if it hasn't thawed; refrigerated food (milk, eggs, cheese) if it has remained constantly chilled.

What you can donate to St. Vincent's Dining Room in Reno: All of the above ... PLUS: Fresh, whole produce in reasonable condition; and packaged food with outer seals broken but inner seals intact. RRG

If you play with fire you're going to get burned. That's the maxim we've heard from childhood. In Black Rock City, that's shortened to "Play with fire." If you weren't a pyro before you came here, you've got a 99.9% chance of being one when you leave. But your mama and papa were wrong: you don't have to get burned.

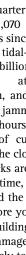
Mike, a graphics art designer from Chicago, was lured by fire performance artists into trying their dangerous art of fireballing, a technique for breathing fire. After sucking in a flammable fluid, you can seemingly breathe fire while exhaling with a small flame in front of your lips. Last year, Mike let go his first fireball. It roared. Then he made a near-deadly mistake: he inhaled. The flame shot back into his face leaving him with borderline third-degree burns. He's back this year with a revived spirit and complexion. He plans on keeping both. His fire tip: don't inhale.

Mike's fire tip may seem vague, but it is an elemental principle of fireplay: it can kill you. That's fire. Want to burn your stuff? Don't burn it at your camp. In fact, don't burn it anywhere but at specially designated areas on the central playa.

XXX (her real name she insists), who formerly monitored explosions with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, says "Light can create; light can destroy. Intelligent light creates; stupid light destroys. Fire has a yin and a yang side."

Her advice? No tossing propane into a fire, no MAPP gas, no oxy-acetylene, no hard liquor, and NO COUCHES! Couches produce nasty by-products like formaldehyde, hydrochloric acid, carbon monoxide and dioxin.

Play with fire; don't get burned.



Market Meltdown day, the Nasdaq index lost nearly a quarter of its value, falling to 3,070 in its biggest one-day loss since its inception in 1971, on tidal-wave volume of nearly 8 billion shares.

Servers at E\*Trade, Schwab.com, and other online brokerages jammed, delaying trades for hours and leaving thousands of customers high and dry at the close. Rumors of hacker attacks are unsubstantiated at this time, but may have compounded the troubles.

Now before you go jumping off a tall building, be advised that the damage was limited almost entirely to the technology sector, and to the alreadybloodied dot-coms in particular. As the money flowed out of the Nasdaq, it seemed to cas-

cade into old-economy stocks in nearrealtime, leaving the Dow with a healthy eight-point gain, to close at 11,998. The S&P 500 fared similarly, though not as dramatically, finishing the day at 1,572.

By the time you read this, your trusty reporter will be back in the City, taking care of business. As much as I hate to abandon my post here before the big Burn, I feel I have no choice at this point but to hit the highway, and get myself to a reliable phone connection. Wish me luck! 578



Well ain't it that time agin! My how time flies on the playa, kinda like the dust. I'm sayin' G'Bye now, cause when they stick a candle up the big wooden feller's arse tonight, we all let go. And sometimes we don't hook up agin fer another year.

I been pokin' fun at some stuff this week and maybe tryin' to teach ya a few things yer group can use on the playa. Hope I helped a little, maybe pass on a smile or two. You all know it's real important we take our crap back with us, so Tio can have his fishin' hole back and so we can come back agin next year.

We also gotta keep the fire burnin' year round. Dad-blast-it-all-to-hell, I hates to admit it, but I'm really kinda partial to some of you folks. Well, more like ALL you folks. And not just kinda partial either. So let's figger a way we can keep Black Rock City alive inside of us until Ol' Bessie bounces its way back onto the playa next year. Maybe use a good ol' fashioned address book or somethin' like that. I hear tell some of you folks have one o' them new-fangled com-pah-tooter things that send them eel-mails to each other.

So, let's not get all mushy here. Go on, git outa-here. What's this? Oh geez, Uncle Tio's got somethin' in his dad-blamed eye. Now go on, git afore I say somethin' embarrassin'. Dag-nabbit, now I got somethin' in my other eye. Ya better get back over here and gimmie a hand. And while you're here, give Tio a big ol' hug.

Now git!



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