



Black Rock Gazette

Black Rock Desert, Nevada

pop.±500

Saturday, September 4, 1993

Man Slumbers, Sky Burns

When anarchists organize, schedules exist mainly to be ignored, and yesterday proved no exception. The Man was not raised and the much-anticipated slide show failed to materialize, but the denizens of Black Rock were more than compensated with a strange and powerful display of lightning in the southern skies. Like a Tesla coil cranked by some speed-crazed organ grinder, the electrical activity continued relentlessly for most of the night, often bright as daylight but eerily silent in the playa's strange acoustical sink. The Man regarded it all impassively, lying like a king in state as the heavens split and the winds roared, calling him home to chaos.

It's a Java Cow Thing

While ritual elements of Burning Man are largely improvisational, newcomers to the playa should be made aware of one important ceremony related to tomorrow's early-A.M. fire-lighting: the ancient rite of the Java Cow.

Early Sunday morning, the faithful will rise before dawn to greet the sun's first rays and focus them through a cunning array of lenses to ignite the fire that will be used later to torch the Man. But first, the fire bearers (and any other pilgrims brave enough to get out of the sack) will be visited by the Java Cow — sacred dispenser of the restorative libation.

When all cups have been filled at the Miraculous and Ever-Flowing Udder, the Cow will address the crowd with her ritual greeting, "DO YOU WANT CREAM AND SUGAR WITH YOUR COFFEE?"

Raising their steaming mugs to the dawn's first light, the congregation will respond as one, "NO, WE WANT IT BLACK."

While mere words can never do justice to such a subtle and profound experience, we hope that this brief outline will eliminate any potential confusion and/or embarrassment among first-time Burning Man participants who wake to find themselves staring into the teats of a large, vaguely humanoid cow.

Top 10 Rumors on the Playa

10. Tom Jones spotted near the mud car, passing out cocoa butter and cigarettes..
9. Video slot machines at Bruno's went nuts during electrical storms, paying out continuous triple-7 jackpots until management pulled the plug.
8. That wasn't lightning, it was Survival Research Labs.
7. If it rains, look for hallucinogenic frogs. There's a species that can stay dormant for up to thirty years in dry lakebeds.
6. Free whippets!
5. Alien spaceships disguised as motor homes...Stay Awake!
4. We've secretly replaced the Java Cow's usual blend with Folger's Crystals — *let's see if these people notice...*
3. Next year's Burning Man to be sponsored by Bud Light.
2. Bureau of ATF has officially classified Burning Man as a cult; Janet Reno en route with a posse of heavily armed public relations men.
1. Larry Harvey abducted by aliens.



More Dog Miracles Reported

Fiberglass dachshund heads are not normally invested with supernatural powers, but how else can you explain the persistent reports that the Doggy Diner head north of camp has been having some profound effects on those who touch it.

Sir Lee, the *Gazette's* circulation manager, reports that his dog Sport was cured of a life-long inability to bark by simply urinating at the feet [actually the neck — ed.] of the Dog Head. Within minutes of this simple act of canine communion, Sport, who had never been known to utter so much as a whelp, began to bark incessantly, and even let out an honest-to-Dog howl at the moon.

"How much more proof do you need?" asked a DogHead cultist known as "John the Bathless." "This thing is powerful. But what you saw today is nothing compared to what's going to happen when fourteen of these puppies are assembled in one place."

Tomorrow: Origins of the DogHead Mystery

CONTRIBUTE!

The *Black Rock Gazette* is currently accepting submissions to its expanded Sunday edition. We're particularly interested in letters to the editor, group profiles, cartoons, and camera-ready photographs.

Submissions must be legible. Good taste encouraged but not mandatory. The briefer your item, the more likely it is to get printed.

Deposit all items in the *Black Rock Gazette* folder on the bulletin board in central camp. Deadline: 3:00PM.

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Hardware: Macintosh Plus with MicroMac 25Mhz 68030 accelerator and 4MB RAM, Quantum 40 MB hard drive, Printer Works LX-29000 laser printer, Xerox photocopier. Power by Andy™

Software: Microsoft Word 5.1, Aldus Pagemaker 4.2

Beer: Cerveceria Rancho Mangrum's Redwood Stump Ale, Blombshell Honey Lager, and Burning Man Brown.

Thanks to everyone who helped.

"COGITO ERGO FLAMBÉ"

Who Is Danger Ranger?

That heroic masked man...saviour of the oppressed...last hope of the lost...his origins are shrouded in mystery. Legends abound. Was he abandoned in the desert as an infant and raised by prairie dogs? If so, was he in fact that same feral child who enjoyed brief popular acclaim as the celebrated "Hamster Boy?" Did he travel the carney circuit, learn the



speech of men, and then disappear again into the playa, disillusioned with the ways of the "two-legged coyotes?" Or was he the real-life inspiration for the "dreadlocked rasta" cowboy immortalized in Marley's "Buffalo Soldier"?

Some say he came from the East, some the West, while others insist he's not from this world at all, but a traveler from some other dimension who rode through the trans-warp gate that opens every hundred years near the ruined stagecoach at Black Rock Springs. Is it true that he's the seventh son of a seventh son of a scion of the Seventh Tribe, and thus invested with supernatural powers beyond all human comprehension? Can he really survive for up to two weeks on a single road kill? Manufacture crushed ice without either water or electricity? Charm the mighty prehistoric serpent that slumbers beneath this dry lake bed?

We'll probably never know the truth, but then again it's probably better that way.

Hi-yo, Danger Ranger! As long as you ride the playa, we can all sleep a little safer at night.

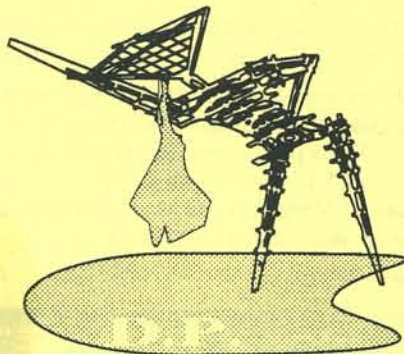
ANNOUNCEMENT

Space travel is just around the corner... Neither here, neither there, the LOST IN SPACE Fashion Show.

Saturday, early evening, 7.00 till 8.00. Clothes from every century, shapes that time forgot. Listen for the drums.

Correction

In yesterday's edition, it was incorrectly reported that festival authorities denied reports of an alien invasion. No such press conference ever took place. There were no rumors of any extraterrestrial infiltration of Burning Man, and the interview with the "unnamed source" in the advance team never took place. UFOs do not exist, and there is no mysterious cadre of "men in black" coercing silence on these issues. We regret the error and any inconvenience it may have caused to our readers.



SCHWA **BILL BARKER**
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IN CASE OF ABDUCTION: 1. Remain where you are. 2. Do not resist. Give or do whatever they ask. 3. Forget everything that happens.

For more information on alien defense send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Schwa, Box 6064 Reno NV 89513

Schedule of Activities

Date	Time	Event	Location
Saturday	5:00pm	Raising Man	Burning Man
Saturday	6:30-7:30 pm	Fashion Show: "Lost in Space"	Central camp
Saturday	TBA	Sculpture/Performance: "Fire Tree"	Northeast of camp
Saturday	9:00-10:00pm	Concert: Three Day Stubble & Mudwimmen	Northeast of camp
Saturday	10:00-10:30pm	Pyro Performance: The Incredible Exploding Couple	Burning Man
Saturday	10:30pm	Concert resumes	Northeast of camp
Saturday	Midnight —	Rave	North of camp
Sunday	Before dawn	Java Cow Ritual	Burning Man
Sunday	8:30-9:00am	Golf/Skeel Tournament	Assemble at central camp
Sunday	All morning	Communal art show	Central camp
Sunday	3:00pm	Lower Man	End of processional roadway
Sunday	6:00-7:00pm	Cocktail Party (BYOB)	Central camp
Sunday	7:00-7:30	Kali-Ma Dance: Mond-Jean Cedar & Malinda Mohn	Central camp
Sunday	7:30pm	Raise Man	Burning Man
Sunday	8:00-8:30pm	Fire Performance: Crimson Rose & Will Roger	Burning Man
Sunday	8:30pm	Burning Baby	Burning Man
Sunday	9:00pm	Ignition	Burning Man
Sunday	10:00-11:00pm	Concert: Three Day Stubble & Mudwimmen	Northeast of camp
Sunday	Midnight—	Rave	North of camp
Monday	Morning	General Clean-up - All participate	

Schedule subject to change without notice and without reason. Check the bulletin board in central camp for changes and additions.

What we're trying to do is reinvent civilization out here. We're trying to find out how we can do that in a very short period of time.

—Larry Harvey