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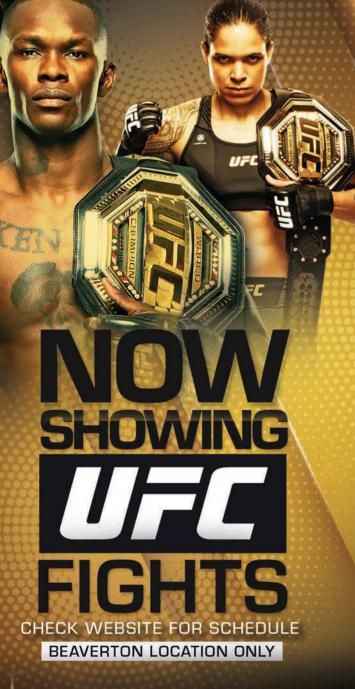


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DOS & DONTS OF DIY TOURING

your preeminent guide for taking it on the road page 20 | by blazer sparrow



SUMMER FAMILY BARBECUE the best dysfunctional family recipes ever

page 22 | by esmeralda rupp-spangle



BEHAVE YOURSELF

part one in a series on how not to get 86'd page 36 | by nate hazen



CONNOISSEUR'S BUCKET LIST

because fuck all that generic and boring shit page 38 | by wombstretcha the magnificent

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Where will your summer adventures take you?





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Is everyone enjoying the heat? No? Weren't you whining about the incessant rain just four months ago? Let's not bitch just for the sake of it, folks. There's plenty going on in this month, so positive vibes only! And with that, let's start off with birthdays...

Saint Sasha will celebrate her birthday on Saturday, August 12, at DV8. Just a week later, on Saturday, August 19, it's Shanelle's Dirty 30 at Guilty Pleasures! Happy Birthday Sasha and Shanelle! And speaking of "Dirty 30" parties... we've got one coming at the end of this month, too. More info on that below.

Want to reward your loving dog and clean your dirty ride all in one fell swoop? Devils Point and Lucky Devil are holding their 17th Annual Bikini Car & Dog Wash on Sunday, August 13, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., outside of Lucky Devil, at 633 SE Powell Blvd. And remember, it's a benefit for Family Dogs New Life Shelter (@fdnewlife)—a no-kill shelter, so come support a great cause while seeing the sexiest dog washers in the world. (Yeah, not fact-checked, but we're still hella confident...wanna bet?)

Ride a bike instead? Stars Cabaret (Bridgeport) has you covered! Join them on Saturday, August 19, for their Hot August Nights Bike Wash & BBQ! With the cars, bikes, and dogs all covered, we can move on to some real rascality and naughtiness... Head to Stars Cabaret's Salem location on Saturday, August 26, for sexy lube wrestling! Make sure to check out the event drink and dinner specials at both locations while you're there.

And now, with a little further ado, it's anniversary celebration time! We'll start with Devils Point, throwing their 22-Year Anniversary Party on Sunday, August 27—with a very special Stripparaoke night. This isn't one to miss, folks! We'd also like to congratulate them on being voted Portland's Favorite Strip Club in *Willamette Week*'s Best of Portland 2023 Readers' Poll. Way to go!

Just one last anniversary party to inform you of... I'm totally sure you haven't heard anything about this one. I mean, it's not like we have devoted the entire left page to announcing it or have it listed on the right in super thick, red lettering—or even discussed it throughout last month's special anniversary issue. Okay, you get the point. If you miss this one, you have zero excuses!

We'll see you at the jamboree!

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THE DOS AND DON'TS OF DIY TOURING

By Blazer Sparrow

end with blood. Let's honor their deaths, even with our ego-stroking project.

DO – Bring non-band members on tour. You'll definitely need extra hands unless it's physically impossible due to vehicle space. At least one. Especially for the long ones—even if it's someone's girlfriend for emotional support. They can set up the merch booth, look cute next to it, and flirt dopes into buying something while you seethe with jealousy from the stage, like the manchild you are. She's literally trying to help you pay for gas; the door money is going to the door guy and the sound guy, idiot. But on the real, if you're taking off for one of those west coast long hauls, do not just take the unlucky bastards that have to be on stage. You'll implode faster than a submarine made out of expired carbon fiber without any safety features.

it's true that a bigger city will likely give you access to more people and more opportunity (except LA, they literally couldn't care less about another band rolling through town), absolutely do not skip over the Bumfucknowheres and the God's Country One-Horse Stops. You'll likely make more money in these small towns since—depending on the day of the week—you're the only exciting thing happening in town. And I say all ages because the kids in these shithole small towns are bored as all hell, and any excuse to do something besides smoke meth or harass wildlife is a no-brainer. Bars in small towns might misfire since you could be interrupting the locals' line dancing night or karaoke, but the kids wanna go to a live loud band like they have posters of in their room. And they'll pay good money they stole from their parents to do it.

WELCOME

THIS IS GOD'S COUNTRY PLEASE DON'T DRIVE THROUGH IT LIKE HELL (HONDO, TEXAS)

DON'T - Do it. I'm sorry, but at the end of the day, it's a lot of work. No money. No sleep. No sex—unless you bring your romantic partner or seduce a towny, and ultimately, if you're trying to further your musical career, this is definitely the most inefficient way to do it. You're much better off doing something dumb on TikTok that blows up for some reason. I don't make the rules. Show me the last new band you discovered, and I'll show you the promotion or management company that manufactured them or the rich parents funding it. Maybe if we finally rebel against Spotify and boycott social media, some sea change might happen, but for right now, it's an expensive hobby at best. If you want an idea of how bad it is, you can read Hit Parader interviews with Jawbreaker from the early '90s, where they complain about only making \$200 from the door at each stop on tour. I did the math; that's about \$450 today. Oh, Jawbreaker, if only you coulda been around now trying to make it. I wonder if you woulda broken up.

So, here is a little peak behind the curtain, dear reader. Yours truly isn't only the preeminent adult magazine music journalist in the Pacific Northwest, but I also actually dabble in some of the performing arts myself. Think not of me as the crossed-arm critic in the back of the club, complaining about how the kids on stage aren't playing *real* hardcore because they're wearing Fred Perry, not Lonsdale shirts. I put my time in the trenches. And coming off a small west coast tour, I thought I might share a morsel of wisdom from my travels with those of you dumb enough to try this at home.



think you need. I am serious. This seems trivial, but you will hate life and everyone around you if you don't do this very important thing before striking off on even one of those long weekend tours. I can't stress this enough. When I was a young lad embarking on my first week-long tour, I asked my seasoned elders in the music scene what wisdom they could impart, and without missing a beat, they said, "Socks." They couldn't have been more right, and now I'm imparting it onto you young, lusty bucks.

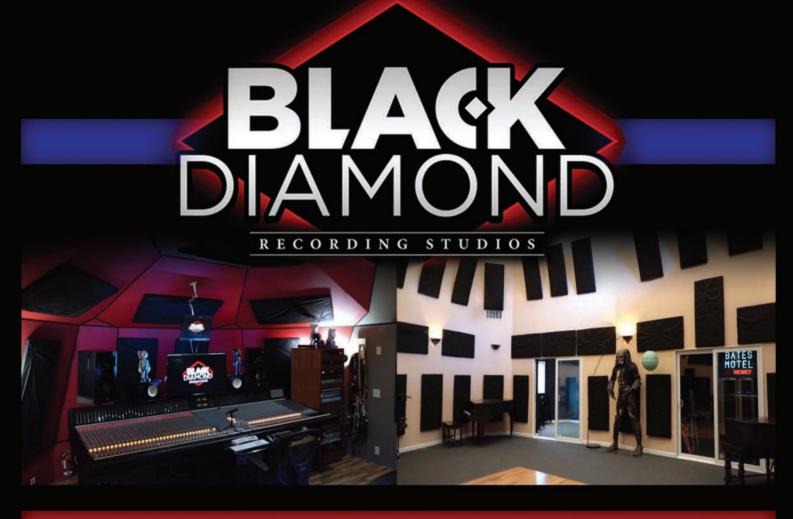
DON'T – Book a show on every night of the tour. You need at least one rest day. I might put a little asterisk that you can probably pull off one of those three-day weekend excursions and play Friday, Saturday, and Sunday night, before driving back hungover on Monday...but anything past a week, you definitely need a night off. Depending on how far away the stops are—because you can only drive for six hours, hop out of the van, load in gear, and perform without so much as a smoke break for so long before you just drop dead. Union strikers paid for the very existence of a week-

Leave an hour earlier. I couldn't be more serious about this one. Especially the west coast, which is—in my humble opinion—too fucking big. It's a goddamn James Cameron movie between relevant cities in the Pacific Northwest, and then an entire Netflix miniseries to the Bay Area and another goddamn mini-series to LA. And it's not much better on the east coast since even though everything is much more (Europeanly) clustered together, traffic alone is going to make those Google Maps estimations about as accurate as the company is not evil. Whatever time you agree to leave after all the calculations, just leave an hour earlier. Trust me.

DON'T – Leave on your agreed-upon time.

DO – Play all-ages shows in small towns. Now I know this comes off as the creepiest thing you've read in a magazine with naked women in it, but let me elaborate. It seems the smart thing to do would be to hit the big cultural centers of America: Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, etc. And while





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THE BEST SUMMER FAMILY BARBECUE RECIPES

BY ESMERALDA RUPP-SPANGLE

We're in the heart of summer, and it's time again for our annual family barbecue. Every year it's the same. Your cousin Joey ends up passed out in the bathroom, Grandpa finds someone to rant about millennials to, and your uncle Steve tries—yet again—to hit on your girlfriend. Why go back? Because your family don't fuck around when it comes to food. Here's our best interpretation of what we're pretty sure the most delectable summer barbecue recipes from our own family's summer gathering are:



Famous Fried Chicken

– An absolute shit-ton of dirt-cheap chicken breasts from Sav'n Big Mart. Tell everyone you got them from Whole Foods or a local free-range poultry purveyor. They have absolutely no idea, and there's no reason they need the ugly truth.

- Gluten-free flour for Julia's portion, regular flour for everyone else's. You can cook hers first to avoid cross-contamination, but to be completely honest, we're pretty sure it's all bullshit and have never bothered. She seems fine.

- Whatever spices you have that are red. That's the only necessary unifying theme. Plus, salt, pepper, and a good portion of passive-aggressive sniping, as Grandma Pearl reminds you that you still haven't gotten married, and you remind her that she's done it four times.

- Grab Steve for this one. He'll only be touching chicken breasts, but for him, that's enough, and he's got a way with them. Flour, egg wash, flour again. Now, chuck 'em into the fryer that you use only on this one single occasion every year and otherwise just sits in your garage gathering dust. Last year, a small family of mice had babies in it. You can still taste the Hantavirus, and that's the secret ingredient.



Southern Cheesy Grits

- A buncha grits
- Some other stuff

Grandpa brings this, and he won't tell us what he adds to it to give it that certain something. We're torn between that something being either PTSD, poorly veiled racism, sharp cheddar, or some combination of the three.

Julia's Collard Greens

- The most expensive organic collard greens money can buy.

- Organic shallots, locally sourced farm fresh butter, black truffle shavings, and some truly exotic spices.

She may be in serious financial trouble after investing in that essential oils pyramid scheme, but Julia still insists on buying the best. We're reasonably sure she's putting cannabis in these somehow, as well.

Sautee the shallots in the "special butter" and lower the temperature when you add the collard greens. As you stir them, cry bitter tears of regret for the life choices that brought you to the point where you have to ask your mom to borrow money. She said yes, but gave you *that look*. The despair gives a good, steady stirring pace, and the tears add all the salt you need.

Ben's Baked Beans

Baked beans

– Cheese

- Some chopped-up chives to make it look homemade

God, Ben is weird. He's been dating Julia for a while, and this year he brought these baked beans. We're on the fence about whether he made them or just glopped them out of a can and said he made them. Better than the beans was when he got drunk enough to propose we all start a big family commune. Everyone laughed, and he looked crushed. That was a good time.



Grandma's Apple Pie

2 heaping cups of disappointment in every single member of your family

– 2 large eggs

– 1 tablespoon of irritation that your current husband Ronald gave you a hard time when you told him he needed to come to the family barbecue. "They're not *my* fuckin' family!" he'd said, and you'd immediately considered divorcing him

– 1 cup margarine

- 5 apples, chopped slowly, as you'd contemplated whether killing him would be better than divorcing a fourth husband. You could make it look like an accident and get all that life insurance money. Hell, you're getting older; you've got nothing to lose.

Cook apples down, say you made a crust but use a store-bought one because it's five hundred times easier, and no one can tell anyway. Bake. Serve with vanilla ice cream and a simmering sense of resentment.

Dad's Nachos

- Tortilla chips

 Cheese, green onions, chopped tomatoes, fresh cilantro, micro-chopped red onions, hot sauce, and a roguish sense of humor.

Dad's Nachos are just normal nachos, but all have a modest quantity of normal-grade hot sauce on top. On one helping of them—you'll never know which—is the "world's spiciest hot sauce." One year Pearl got them and almost had an actual heart attack. There was an ambulance and everything. Dad's got a great sense of humor, even if he insists on Hawaiian shirts and socks with sandals.



Uncle Joey's Boozy Slushies

- Shaved ice
- Colorful liquor in as many varieties and shades as possible
- Fruit juice
- Possibly a little meth thrown in for fun

Joey's unpredictable, and the ingredients of his boozy slushies are always changing, much like his rotating stable of slag-heap girlfriends. These drinks truly make these events bearable, though, so we must include them. He doesn't really have a lot of extra money to throw around, what with his ex-wife and kids, but he really goes all out on these, and it shows. There's nothing else in the whole world that can turn a conversation about the weather into a fistfight on the lawn like these bad boys.

Joey does like his own medicine a bit much, though, so make sure to take his keys from him before he starts serving them, or he'll end up putting his car through the fence again.

If there's only one takeaway from this, let it be that no matter what dish you end up bringing to a family barbecue, you'll always be the most popular if you bring the booze.

Esmeralda Rupp-Spangle is a writer, artist, and founding member of the Anti-Llama League. She can be found on various social media platforms but prefers communicating via pager.

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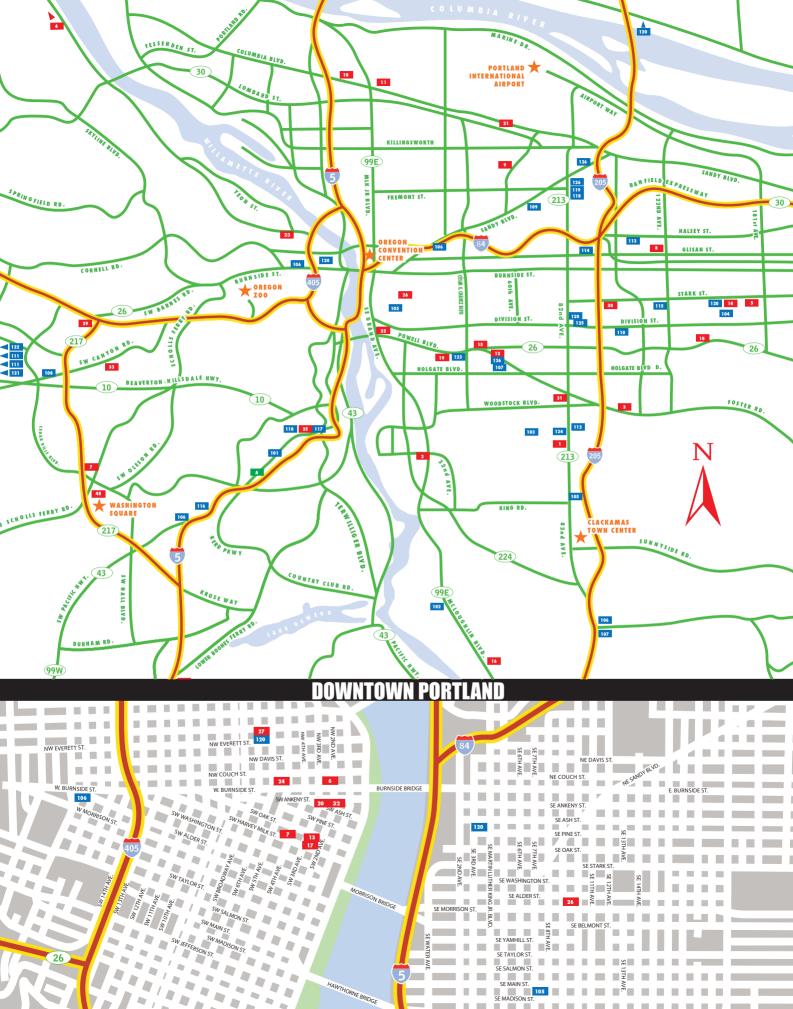


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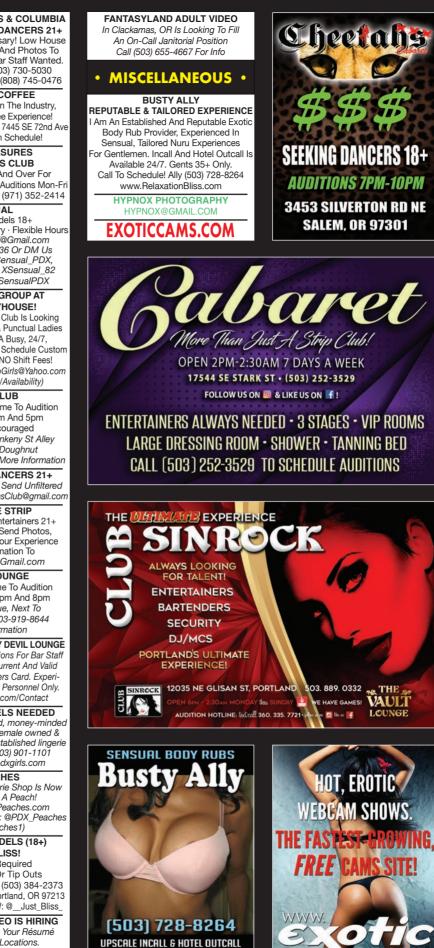


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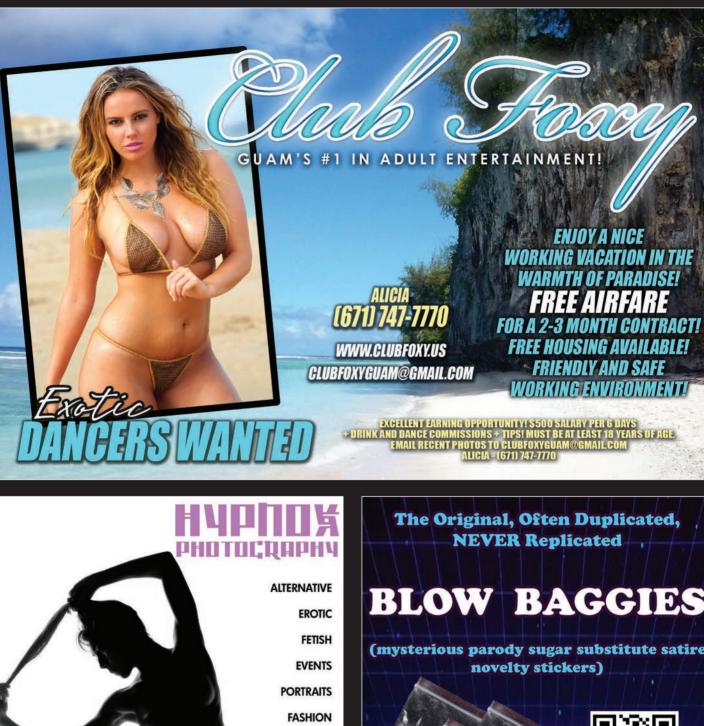
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Looking Back at Obsolete Technology BY MANNAH ONE CUP

You're in class, maybe 4th grade, maybe high have much use with the general public due to school—it doesn't matter...what matters is what you see in front of you. The teacher starts wheeling out this large, dusty (even then) pro-

jector. They plug it in and turn it on, and you are reminded of detention just yesterday, in this class, and also reminded you that you hadn't erased the profanity and drawing to go along with it, that you had so tastefully drawn on the projector's screen. Everyone sees "Mr. B. sucks ass!" again, complete with a picture. Mr. B was not a fan, and once again, you were given detention and forced to clean the projector's entire three-mile-long flimsy film that was used to write on.



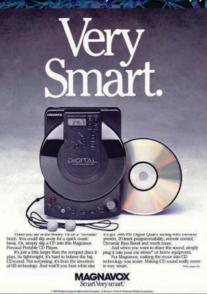
Folks in school now, and kids who started school any time after 2010, will never know what this contraption was or what a pain in the ass it was to see anything on it, "Is it clear now? How about now? Let me change the focus this way ... " Those things were awful and sometimes prone to fires or at least overheating. Now schools use better technology, like smart boards. And no fires have been started with those (that I've heard?). Anyways, this was a simple example of a now obsolete piece of technology that had been used for so long but has, thankfully, found its end of life, or at least is used much less frequently.

There are many others out there, and I thought you all might find this a fun trip down nostalgia lane or learn something about a time before yours and the interesting contraptions that people used back then. Things that no longer

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updates in technology or simply changes in social standards of morality. Sit back and enjoy.



Compact Discs (CDs) - Not a completely obsolete piece of technology. In fact, I still own a large CD collection I refuse to let go of, even though half of them are so scratched that making any attempt to listen to it will cause a level of distress that physically draws my head to the wall and bangs my forehead. CDs used to cost upwards of 30 dollars if they were a double-header and came packaged in plastic that was so hard to remove that you would almost give up and try to break open the entire case or chip your teeth trying to take it off. The best CDs were those that had a nifty pamphlet that would tell you the words to the songs you were listening to because, for some reason, our ears didn't work correctly, and we needed to see the words as well as listen to the song so that we could go, "Ohhh, it's 'all my instincts' and not 'oh my end stinks." CDs grew into MP3s, which do not come with pamphlets of lyrics and force you to have to know all the words to the song or look it up on the internet.

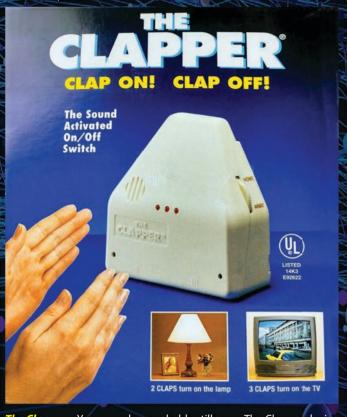
Family Phone Book - Did your house have a Rolodex or handwritten phone book that your mom usually kept up that had all of the numbers you could ever need in it? Complete with little notes like, "Don't call after 8 p.m.," or "Bill's doctor," "Grandma's number," and address, which were crossed out and changed so many times that you needed to start putting grandma on the last 'Notes' page of the book. Ours

did, and I can only imagine that most houses also did, or at least something similar written on sticky notes all over the place near the home phone. How else were you supposed to remember anyone's phone number? That's actually a funny thing, too. You used to remember phone numbers. Do you know why? Because the next generation did not want the responsibility of having to handwrite all of their friends' phone numbers in a book. No one wants to inherit that. The family phone book has since been entirely replaced by cell phones. Your grandma's number and address (if you put that in there, too) are now neatly typed once into your phone. Unless you're like me, and forget you had them in there, so you have five grandmas in there... and the most recently updated one has "(NEW)" at the end of their name.



Dial-up Internet - Dial-up is still a thing out in the sticks. Why? Because 1% of America is completely forgotten about by communication technology for some reason. Dial-up internet was the absolute worst. You had to unplug the home phone, first making sure to check and make sure no one was using it. You'd get screamed at if they were; the same goes for someone online. It was a constant back-and-forth tug of war. And whoever won access—either to the phone or the internet—was considered king or queen of the house for the duration they were using it. Anyway, you would unplug the phone, plug in the internet cord (super technical here), and hear your computer make a lot of weird noises that made you wonder if something was breaking. You could always tell if you were going to have a good connection or not based on the noises made and the time it took to connect.

14 Kbps a second was lightning speed. Yet, you would still have to wait 5 minutes for a webpage to load if there was any animation on it. That, coupled with "bad connections," made the internet a slog. A damn slog. So, there wasn't really much use for it with us kids back in the day. I'd rather bang my head on the wall trying to get my CD not to skip. But being on the net made you king or queen, so I'd sit my ass down and stay on there as long as I could prove a point and put ridiculous themes on the family computer that would slow it down to a snail's pace.



The Clapper – Your grandma probably still owns The Clapper device in one of her rooms. This nifty invention made it so that turning off a light was as simple as "1, 2, 3, clap-clap". You had to make sure to clap fairly loudly; otherwise, the light would continue shining. Who doesn't want to surprise their housemates by clapping their lights off in the middle of the night? The Clapper has since been replaced with smart technology, like smart lights. So, no need to clap your way to a sound sleep any longer.

A few notable mentions I did not place on this small list; please queue *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* for the following:

Betamax, floppy disks, portable DVD players, portable TVs, the boombox, corded phones, phone booths, CRT TVs, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), Walkmans/Discmans/minidisc players, Blockbuster and Hollywood Video (be kind-rewind, folks), dumb phones.

This is only a sampling of now obsolete pieces of technology. There are so many other useless items from back in the day that now only exist in the recesses of your mind when you walk into a school, and déjà vu hits. Eraser pen, anyone?

Hannah One Cup is currently figuring out a way to downgrade back to a Razr phone she found on eBay while whipping out her box of VHS tapes and finding a working VCR at Goodwill. She likes to stay in the air-conditioned, dark room in her house, smelling her old Crayola smelly markers and thinking of simpler times while listening to Chumbuwamba's only good song.



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By Nate Hazen



I mentioned in last month's article that I really enjoy having friendly interactions with my customers. The problem is, I've been noticing that a lot of customers lately are doing their level best to make that as difficult as possible. Some of you might be new to strip clubs, and nobody ever explained the rules to you. Others have been going for years and have just gotten way too comfortable with not following those rules. Or you think you're special, and the rules just don't apply to you. Whichever case may apply, Exotic magazine has so kindly granted me a city-wide platform (and beyond), so this month and next (I've got too much to squish into a single month), I'm gonna use that platform to set all you motherfuckers straight. Let's dig into how you can behave when you go to a strip club to avoid finding yourself on a bouncer's bad side-especially mine.



If you aren't planning to do strip club shit, don't go to a fucking strip club. Alcohol and video lottery machines are there to add to your enjoyment, but if that's all you're there for, I can recommend plenty of great bars that provide those amenities without burdening you with the expectation of tipping strippers. Dancers are hired as independent contractors. The clubs don't pay them; the only money they make is from stage tips and selling lap dances. In fact, when you figure in stage fees and tip-outs, a slow enough night can leave a dancer with less money than she brought in. Don't be the asshole who expects them to entertain you for free. See, there's a reason you've chosen to go to a strip club rather than some dive bar. You can't have your cake and eat it too. Tip the dancers or go somewhere else. Let me assure you, the bouncer isn't going to have your back on this. Our dancers tip us out at the end of the night—if they aren't making money, neither are we. You don't have to come in and make it rain, blowing entire paychecks at a time in the process (although that is always welcome)! A dollar a song for an hour is only \$36. Do that one thing. Everybody, no matter if you're sitting at the bar, the lottery machines, or wherever, do that one thing. Tip a dollar or two for every song. You'll guickly see a change in the atmosphere of the club. Dancers who were sullen, bored, or perhaps even resentful of your presence will start having a good time, which means everyone else will too. I've had dancers I've worked with tell me in no uncertain terms that they'd rather chill in an empty club than try to entertain a room full of non-tipping deadbeats. Are you a deadbeat? No? Fucking prove it.

Touching

Depending on the club, there might be some allowance for touching in a private dance-within certain boundaries. Out on the floor, again depending on the club, some touching might be allowedif the dancer consents. On the other hand, no matter what club you go to, trying to shove a finger, or worse, a dollar bill (fucking disgusting, dude-do you have any idea how dirty money actually is?), or for that matter, any object or bodily appendage into any part of a dancer...that's sexual assault. I'm "this" close at this point to making customers who do this shit leave without the offending digit. Start casting dismembered fingers or dicks in resin and



giving them to the dancer who was assaulted as a token of some semblance of justice. Eye for an eye on this one; I don't give a fuck.



Listen. If you and your significant other are at the club together and the sight of a stripper flirting with said significant other (a.k.a. doing her job at the place where she works, which the two of you *chose* to visit) is making you feel some kind of way, maybe it's time to re-evaluate some things. Have a chat with that significant

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other about expectations and boundaries within your relationship. If your person still doesn't respect those boundaries, maybe it's time to make some changes. Maybe think about breaking up, or going to the strip club separately. Or...I dunno...I guess bury your head in the sand and ignore the toxic-ass relationship you're in. Whatever you do, start internalizing right fucking now that whatever issues you have in your relationship have exactly nothing to do with the dancer/customer relationship. If your significant other is going to cheat on you, it's not going to happen at the strip club. Your relationship problems are purely between you and your partner, and it's your own goddamn fault if you refuse to address those problems. Don't try to drag everyone else into your bullshit drama. We're doing our jobs. Jealousy doesn't fly at the strip club.

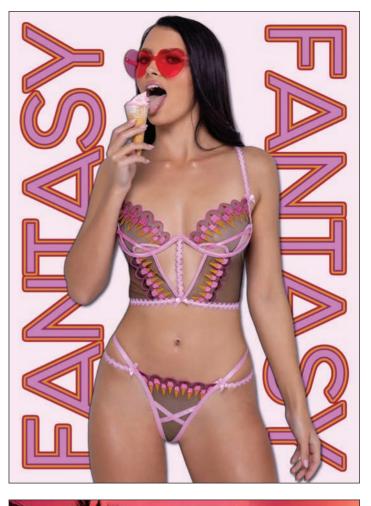
Not Paying For Dances

Every time someone tries to not pay for a dance, it's always the same. A motherfucker gets really drunk, and somehow the booze convinces him that services rendered no longer require compensation. They channel Jerry Seinfeld's take on receiving the check at the end of the meal. "Then after the meal, you know, you got your pants open, you got the napkins destroyed, cigarette butt in the mashed potatoes. Then the check comes at that moment. People are always upset, you know? We're not hungry now....why are we buying all this food?" The lap dance ends, and suddenly the dude starts questioning why he should pay for that dance. He already enjoyed himself at this point. The fun part is over. Quick aside. Dancers. I'm talking to you for a sec. Get. The. Fuckin'. Cash. Upfront. Don't give a customer a dance until you've collected the money for that dance. They can't try to back out of paying afterward if they have to pay beforehand. That said, shit happens, and when it does, just know I'm 3-for-3 on collecting money owed. Dancers, I promise you, and customers, I warn you, I don't intend to break a perfect streak like that.

Conclusion

Okay. If you're already behaving yourself when it comes to the things I've just mentioned, I want to say thank you. Good customers are the lifeblood of a strip club, and those of us who work in the industry appreciate you. If you're not, think about what I've said and really consider whether you want to wear out your welcome at your favorite club. If you haven't been 86'd yet (*yet!*), it's not too late to turn things around for yourself. If you have, find a new club, take my advice, and use that fresh start as an opportunity to do better. I'll be back next month with more tips on how to behave yourself—or at least avoid getting banned...

Nate Hazen is a bouncer at X Exotic Lounge. He'll readily kick you out if you're misbehaving, but he'd rather not. He'd much rather have a friendly conversation with you. That said, the choice is yours.







BUCKET LIST: BEST THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU DIE

By now, everyone is familiar with the concept of a "bucket list." Following the 2007 movie wherein Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman decide to finish off their lives satisfied, the concept has been established as where you cross off items on a list of all the things you ever wanted to do before you shuffle off this mortal coil. However, a lot of the suggestions people have for what you *absolutely must experience* tend to be bland or trite. Go see Paris, go pan for gold, go visit Mount Kilimanjaro. Stuff like that. Boring!

I've got some ideas for final adventures which will really put some Everclear* in your junior prom punch bowl.

Not ranked in any particular order, but if you can do even one of these, you'll exit this life as a satisfied person.



TAKE A SHIT WHILE SKYDIVING

Skydiving makes it onto a lot of people's bucket lists, but how many people can say they dropped a fat log while doing so? I'm sure some people have crapped their drawers in fear, but that's lame. Wear assless chaps (technically, all chaps are assless, but so the phrase goes) and leap from that plane, preferably after having consumed a large quantity of burritos, for maximum impact...once you're in the freefall, bombs away! I would advise you not to do this in one of the situations where the instructor is strapped to you, as they may not appreciate you unloading your cargo on them.



RIDE A GALÁPAGOS GIANT TORTOISE

Before anyone says this sounds like animal cruelty, those things can tote around a massive amount of weight, and they themselves can weigh up to 500 lbs! Assuming you're not fresh off a filming of My 600 Pound Life or something, the tortoise wouldn't even notice your weight. The catch is that to do this properly, you gotta go to the Galápagos Islands and do it. Yeah, sure, they have the tortoises at petting zoos and such, but come on. You really wanna go to Aunt Nancy's Tortoise Farm and ride one next to a bunch of kids, then smell like hav for a week? No. Travel and adventure. I would recommend dressing up like a cowboy and also bringing a tiny cowboy hat for the tortoise as well, so it can feel like a cowboy, too. The singing of cowboy songs while riding very slowly into the sunset on top of your new friend is optional but encouraged.



BLOW UP A TRUCK WITH A ROCKET LAUNCHER

This one also involves travel and adven-

ture. See, you can go to Cambodia and pay them a modest fee to use old. Soviet-era surplus rocket launchers (RPGs or rocketpropelled grenades, technically) to destroy beat-up old cars and the like. You'll definitely need a very particular travel phrasebook to figure out how to say, "Where are the rocket launchers?" without accidentally getting involved in the international arms trade. It also doesn't hurt that Cambodia is quite easy on the pocketbook, though the flight there may be pricy. Travel guides I have read say you could indeed live there comfortably for under \$1,000 a month, which leaves money in your rocket launcher budget.



KICK A POLITICIAN IN THE ASS

Apart from very high-ranking elected officials with security protection, most politicians can be found just walking around their offices in capitol buildings or other places where they work. If you want to go easy mode, go to Washington DC when Congress is in session, take in the sights, don't get mugged, and shine up your ass-kicking boots. Then go and literally boot rumps. You may do a stint in jail for this, just FYI, as assault—even a kick in the butt—is still illegal. However, that would be time well served just for the story, and since you're on your way out of life, it's one for the kids.

TRY FOR A GUINNESS WORLD RECORD

This one has a low barrier to entry, as you



can simply do something nobody else would ever do and call the Guinness people to come record it. "Most live crabs kept in a kiddie pool," "longest time spent playing the kazoo in public without getting beat up," or "largest ball of used condoms." Something like that. They'll do it, and you'll literally be in the record books. Don't... don't try to make the world's largest pancake, though. I tried to do that once until I found out how depressingly serious other people are about it.



IMPERSONATE A CORPORATE EXECUTIVE

Big companies, well, their employees seldom know what the top dogs actually look like, especially if they've got many locations. Do you know what the CEO of Burger King looks like? No, likely you don't, so it may as well be you. Dress up in a nice corporate style and phone the back office of your local big-box store, saying the CEO, or some adjutant at least, is in town for an impromptu visit. They'll likely at least cater lunch, so you can cash in on that one. Then, look at the managers and say something in corp speak to the effect of "Brandon, the numbers this location is making simply aren't meeting with our quarterly projections. It's with much regret that I must inform you that you are being terminated, effective immediately." Then watch Brandon's face as he trundles out of the office, and you scoot out the back and drive away in your beat-up Corolla before he realizes he's actually not fired and that you are an impostor.



PUNCH A GIANT SQUID IN THE EYE

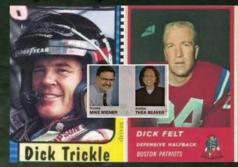
Now, with no exaggeration, this would be extremely difficult. Giant squid are one of the most elusive creatures in the briny deep and are only rarely seen except when they wash ashore dead. Punching a dead one in the eye does not count, by the way.

I know I touched on animal cruelty earlier with the tortoises, but fuck giant squid; they deserve to be punched. Tentacled assholes. Now, to actually find one, you would have to search the depths of the ocean, a grand adventure in itself, in order to see a live one trucking along doing...squid shit. Once you do, though, steel up your mitts and get ready. Sock it right in one of its huge, fat peepers. This may *cause* your death, but it would be a feat of legend, nevertheless. Give that tentacly bastard the what-for!



DRIVE A GOLF CART THROUGH A SHOPPING MALL

Yes, this is another one which could get you arrested and is also precipitated on there actually being shopping malls, which are dwindling in numbers due to the prevalence and convenience of online everything. That said, you can fit a golf cart in those doors, easy as pie. Tool through JCPenney at a solid 20 miles per hour with all your friends, slappin' slacks off racks and mocking security. Bonus points if the golf cart is stolen from some rich-people golf course, and *extra* bonus points if the mall security also have golf carts, and you get into a golf cart chase through the food court, wherein you make an agreement to pause the chase for a moment so everyone can get an Orange Julius.



CHANGE YOUR NAME TO SOMETHING RIDICULOUS

It's fairly easy to change your name. You just go to the courthouse and fill out a form, then have a brief hearing before a judge, wherein you explain why you're doing so. They don't care that much to begin with, but if you say you're gonna die and always wanted your name to be Kevin Kickass, Pamela Punchbeef, Gerald Groinhammer, or Dorothy Dickslapper, they'll let you. After all, basketball star Ron Artest changed his name to "Metta World Peace," and they let him do that, despite it being the dumbest thing in the world. The only problem is that you have to change the names on all your bank accounts, social security card, and Subway Sub Club card and shit, but it might be worth it for the fun you would have when you show your ID or introduce yourself to strangers. "Nice to meet you; I'm Steve Smith." "I'm Alfred Assfurnace; it's a pleasure to make your acquaintance."

Put those on the list because if you're gonna go out, you may as well go out doing something absolutely absurd.

Live a long time, and be happy.

-Wombstretcha

* The grain liquor, not the band. Dear god, not the band.

Wombstretcha the Magnificent is a rocket launcher enthusiast, person with a ridiculous name, squid puncher, writer, and retired rapper from Portland, OR. He can be found at his website, wombstretcha.com, on Twitter as @wombstretcha503, and on MeWe.com (yay!) and Facebook.com (boo!), as "Wombstretcha the Magnificent."

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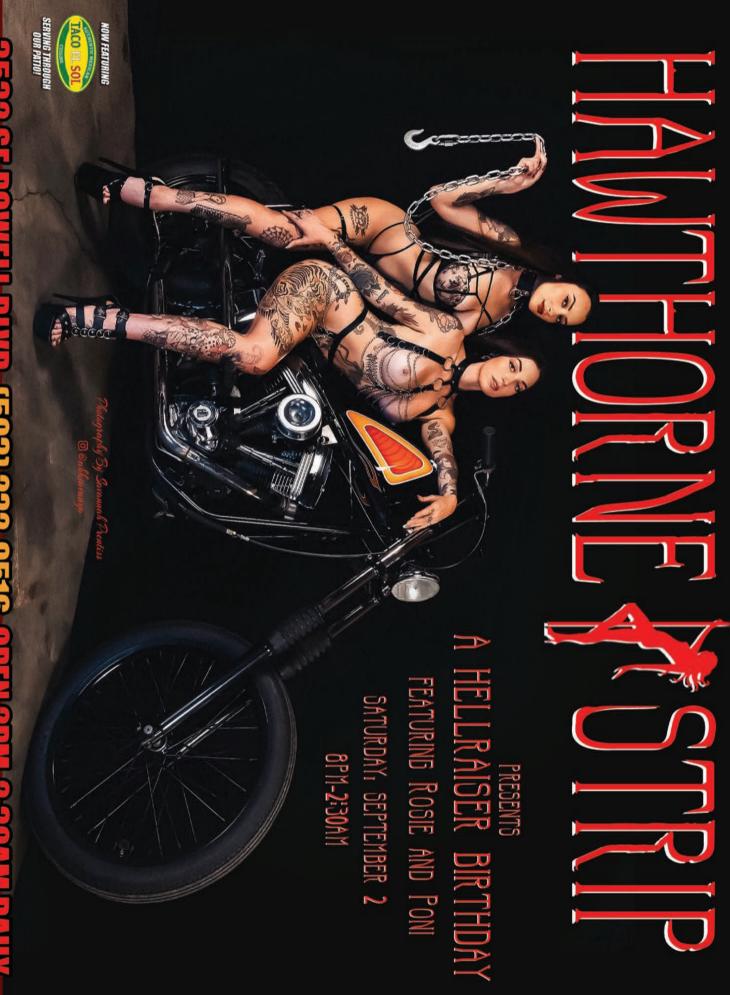
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