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May 15, 1996

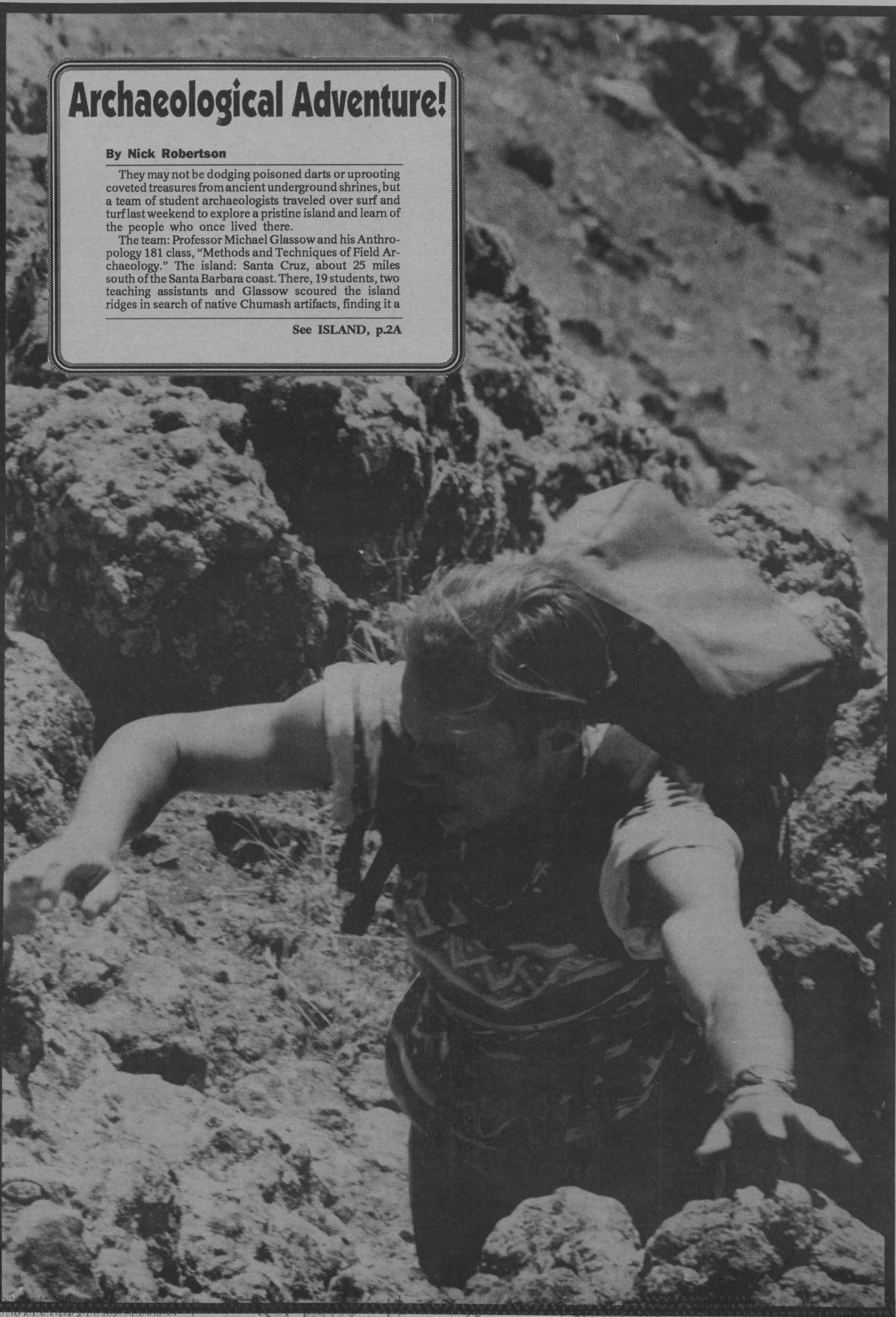
Archaeological Adventure!

By Nick Robertson

They may not be dodging poisoned darts or uprooting coveted treasures from ancient underground shrines, but a team of student archaeologists traveled over surf and turf last weekend to explore a pristine island and learn of the people who once lived there.

The team: Professor Michael Glassow and his Anthropology 181 class, "Methods and Techniques of Field Archaeology." The island: Santa Cruz, about 25 miles south of the Santa Barbara coast. There, 19 students, two teaching assistants and Glassow scoured the island ridges in search of native Chumash artifacts, finding it a

See ISLAND, p.2A





BRYAN SILVER/Daily Nexus

Santa Cruz Isle Adventure!

CONTINUED!

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fruitful voyage.

"We discovered about 13 archaeological sites, some residential sites and others were probably campsites," Glasgow said the day he returned from the valiant journey. "We were surveying about 10 linear miles of ridgetop."

The trek began at dawn last Friday, when the team ventured to Ventura to catch an early ferry to the isolated land. During the harrowing passage

through the rough Pacific waters, the ship was momentarily surrounded by friendly oceanic mammals, according to team member and senior anthropology major Jennifer Ryckman.

"Just during the ride out there we came into a large group of about 1,000 dolphins who swam around the boat," she said. "It was a thrill for everyone."

The animalian action didn't stop when the ship docked and the intrepid explorers unloaded their gear, according to fellow pathfinder and senior anthropology major Tamzin Smith.

"On the way [to the field station] we got in these four-wheel-drive trucks, just like *Jurassic Park*," she said. "We took these dirt roads through creek beds and ridges to the station. ... We saw some wild boar. We were in a truck and they were running up a hill maybe 100 feet away."

The field station, a complete facility featuring sleeping room for about 30 and all the basic luxuries of civilization, belongs to the University of California and is used systemwide quite frequently for classes and research that entail such expeditionary exploits, Glasgow said.

"There's a few classes that take advantage of the station. Geology and environmental studies bring

out some pretty large classes," he said. "I try to do this every time I teach my field class. ... It gets a lot of academic use."

The team was briefed Friday night for the task ahead—to climb the perilous slopes of the island and search for whatever artifacts they could find indicating signs of former tribal life. Santa Cruz was well populated by the Chumash and other indigenous peoples since ancient times, according to Ryckman.

"The island was full of Chumash and their antecedents and they lived there well into the 1800s from the prehistoric era," she said. Originally, to reach the island from the mainland, "they made canoes out of redwood driftwood," she added.

The students broke up into groups Saturday morning and spread out to cover as much territory as possible and record their findings, Smith said.

"We divided into crews of three and each were assigned to a ridge to search for artifacts like beads and any evidence that there had been any prehistoric habitation there," she said. "We marked on a map where these sites were."

In the course of these discoveries, the diligent students had to traverse steep bluffs in mildly hazardous conditions, according to Glasgow.



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"There was a lot of chugging up hills, it's relatively rough with the slopes. ... We were about 800 to 1,200 feet above sea level," he said. "It was pretty hot. ... Everybody survived quite nicely, just a little bit of sunburn, tired feet and hay fever."

On Sunday, the team once again spread out across the land to officially document the sites they had discovered. The forms they filled out will be sent to Sacramento to join official archaeological chronicles, Glassow said.

"[We were] formally recording them on what will be record forms to be submitted to the Site Record Archives," he said. "They are the official state forms."

On Sunday night the brave team regrouped at the field station for a barbecue and a chance to share experiences in the field, after which they slept one more night before heading back to the mainland Monday morning.

Some students believed the weekend was not only fun but an enriching academic activity that may inspire future archaeological trips, Smith said.

"I had never taken a field class before this and it was exciting to actually see the sites," she said. "I'm thinking about going to Peru this summer with another professor. ... There's a lot of volunteers in archaeology, so I'll get the chance again."



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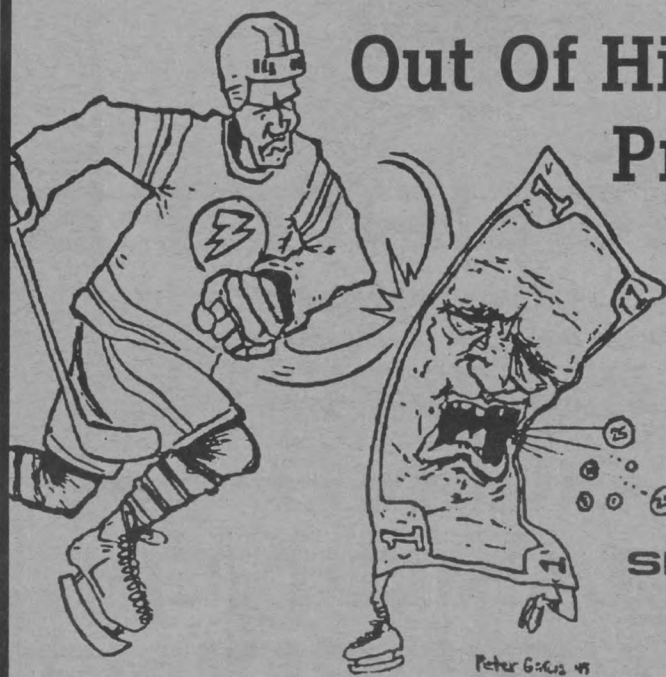
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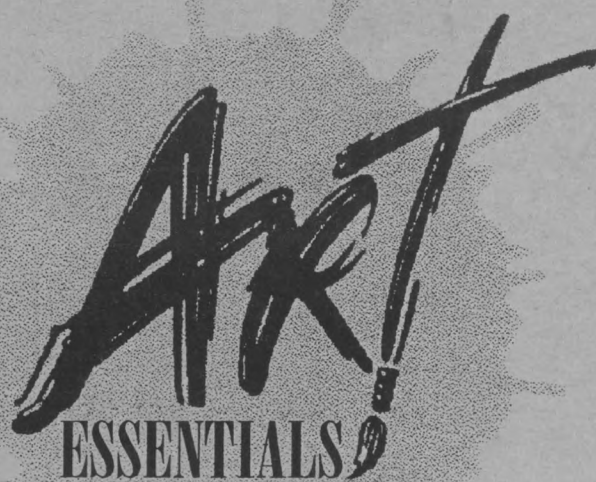
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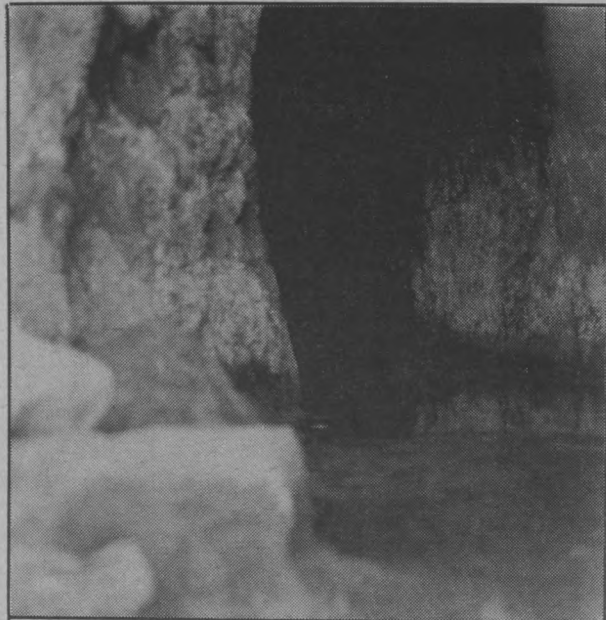
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Stomaching the Colorado Rapids (almost)



ERIN DERBY/Daily Nexus

By Marc Valles

In the beginning came the water, slicing cookie-cutter rivulets into the red rock. Season after season slipped away. Soon the trickle surged into a stream, the water cutting deeper into the rock, carving out clods, fissures, boulders, canyons.

Eons passed; the water gnawed its way to the very entrails of the earth. And today, the mighty Colorado River snakes through the Grand Canyon under a searing white sky, all of which can be yours for the bargain price of only \$25.

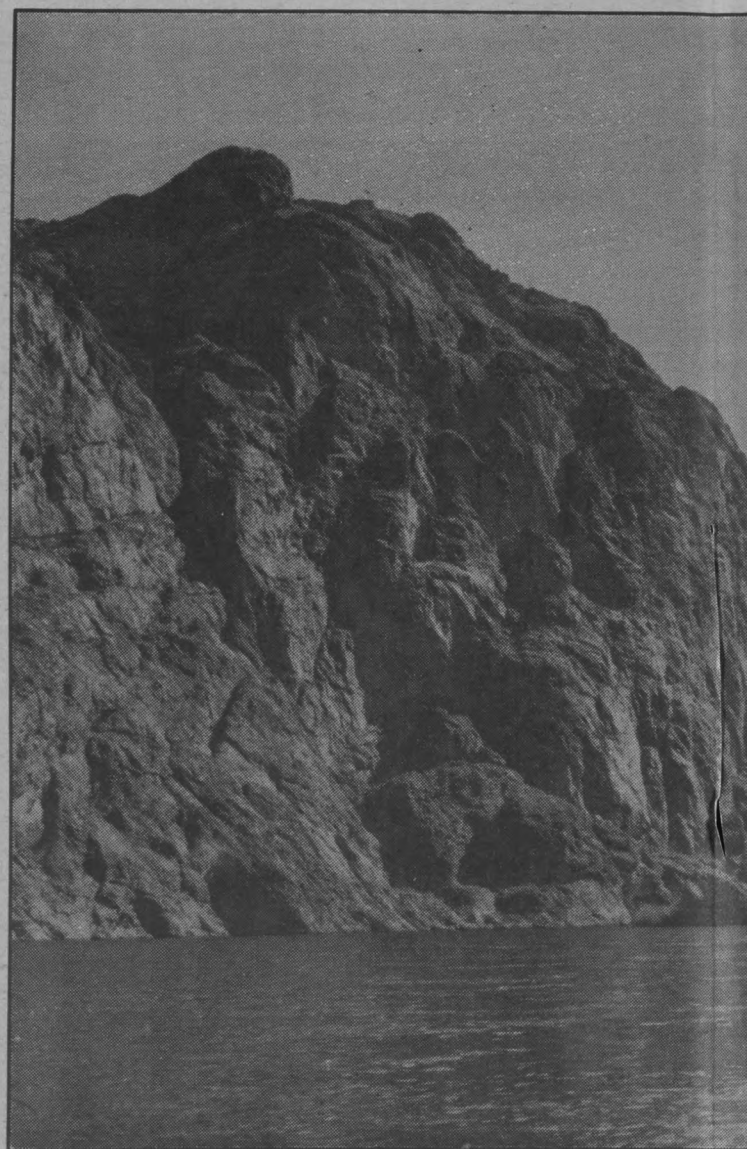
Well, at least the boat trip, that is.

If that sounded like a pulse-pounding prelude to nature's rock-toothed, frothy-mouthed realm, there's a simple explanation: White water rafting offers more bang for your buck than any other activity in the great outdoors. It certainly did for me, thanks to Skipper Rich "Wolf" Larsen's Arizona Ragin' River Tour, available for the aforementioned pittance.

Although it happened two months ago, it seems like only yesterday that Skipper Wolf threw those special orange vests around me and five other brave souls and took us for the ride of our lives down that roarin' ribbon of a river they call the Colorado.

"The trip ain't for the faint of heart — or stomach," growled Skipper Wolf from behind his grizzled beard. "We'll be heading through some of the roughest waters this side of the Pecos. By trip's end, you'll have tossed your cookies for sure."

We valiantly pushed the meager craft out into the strangely tranquil waters, amongst the picturesque rocks and boulders of the terrain. As we started out, the river rolled gently under the boat and we were free to relax our stomach muscles and admire the ancient walls of the canyon that stretched above our heads like nature's

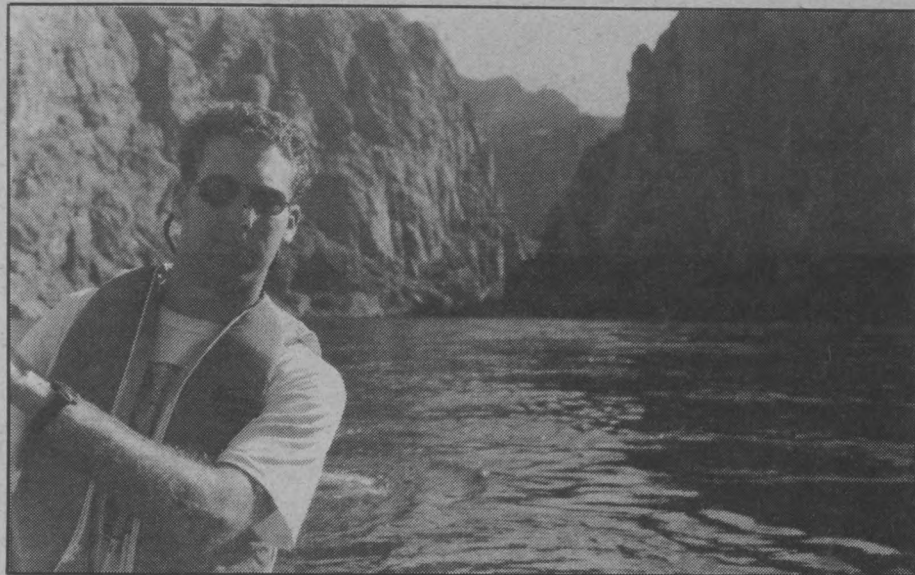


own rock-ribbed cathedral.

But then the boat began to pitch and rock beneath us. The water came in sickly surges now, licking the sides of our small inflatable craft, the river's strokes as rough as some alley cat's raggedy-bristled tongue. Skipper Wolf's sure hand tightened on the

ship's rudder and I knew we were heading straight into the beast's maw.

Now the river slapped the tiny ship as viciously as a New Jersey street pimp. We clung to those cheesy nylon ropes that all inflatable craft had, praying for dear life that the sealant would hold. Spray whipped around us; the



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river tossed the boat from rock to rock. I felt like tossing something else I'd had earlier in the day.

Doubling over, I caught sight of Skipper Wolf's clenched jaw, the inspiring vision of which made me all the more reluctant to spew. Great Caesar's ghost! What steely determination the man projected from that rock-solid

jaw! The only song he heard was that of the untamed river — not the chorus of our untested, weak stomachs singing out in sickly supplication to the awful water deities as we hurled over the side.

In the end, my stomach gave out, too. But the worst was over; our offering seemed to have placated the river gods for

now; the water grew calm. And somehow, as we lay green-faced in that little puke-filled raft, swamped in river slime, the stolid presence of Skipper Wolf made it all OK. That man must have had guts of pig iron.

It was an adventure that would stay with me for a lifetime — even if my breakfast didn't.

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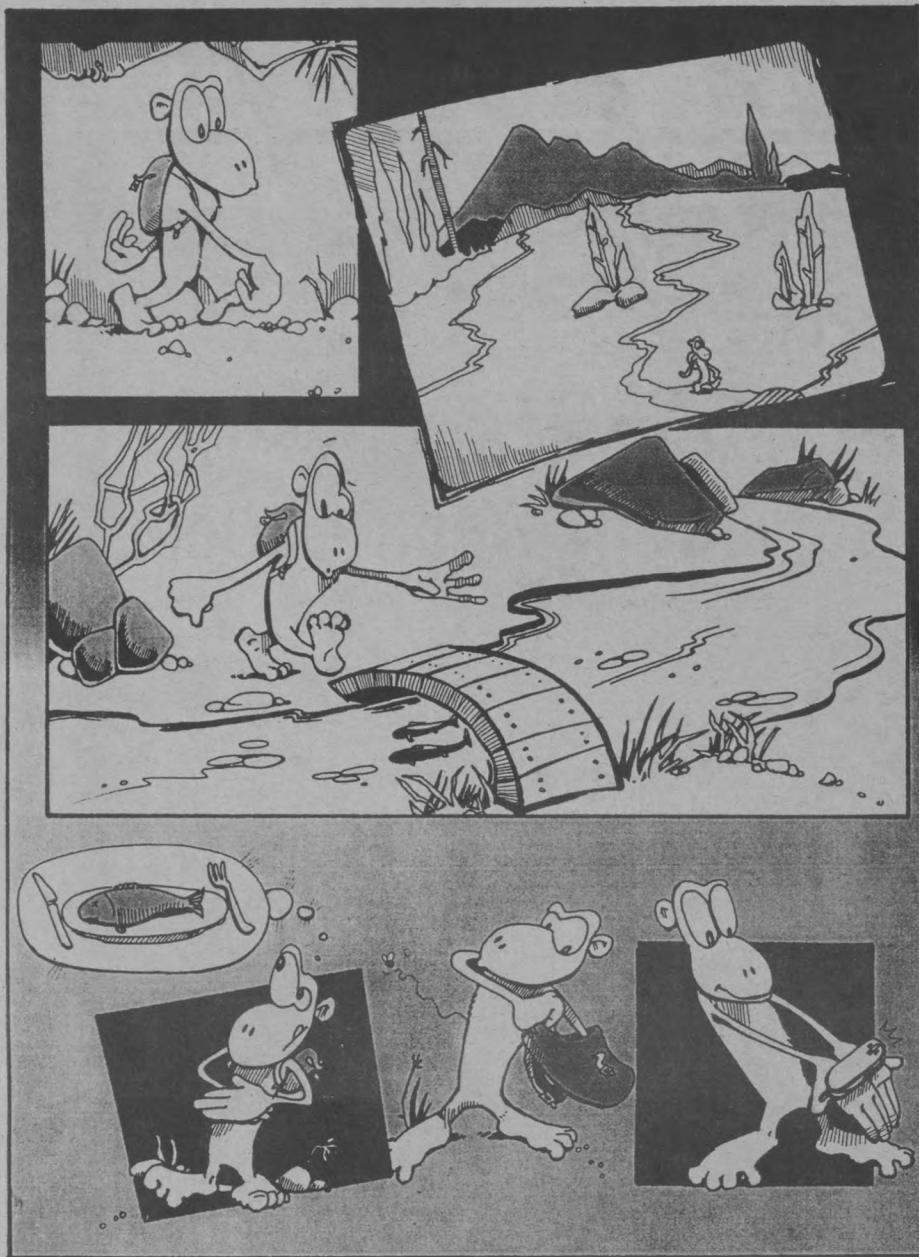
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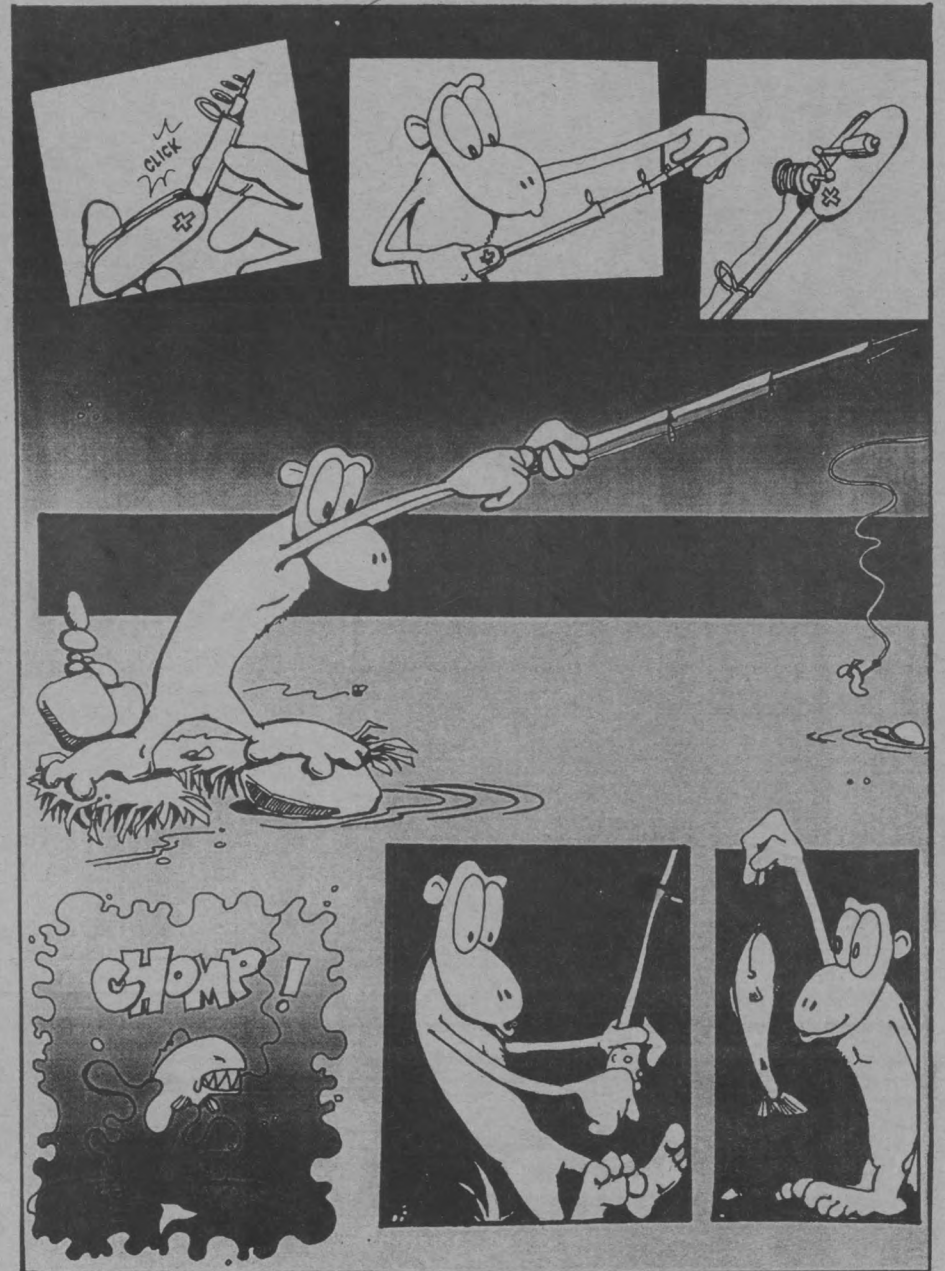
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By Kevin Gleason

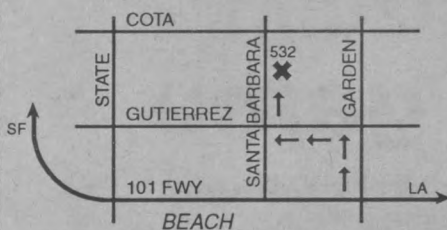
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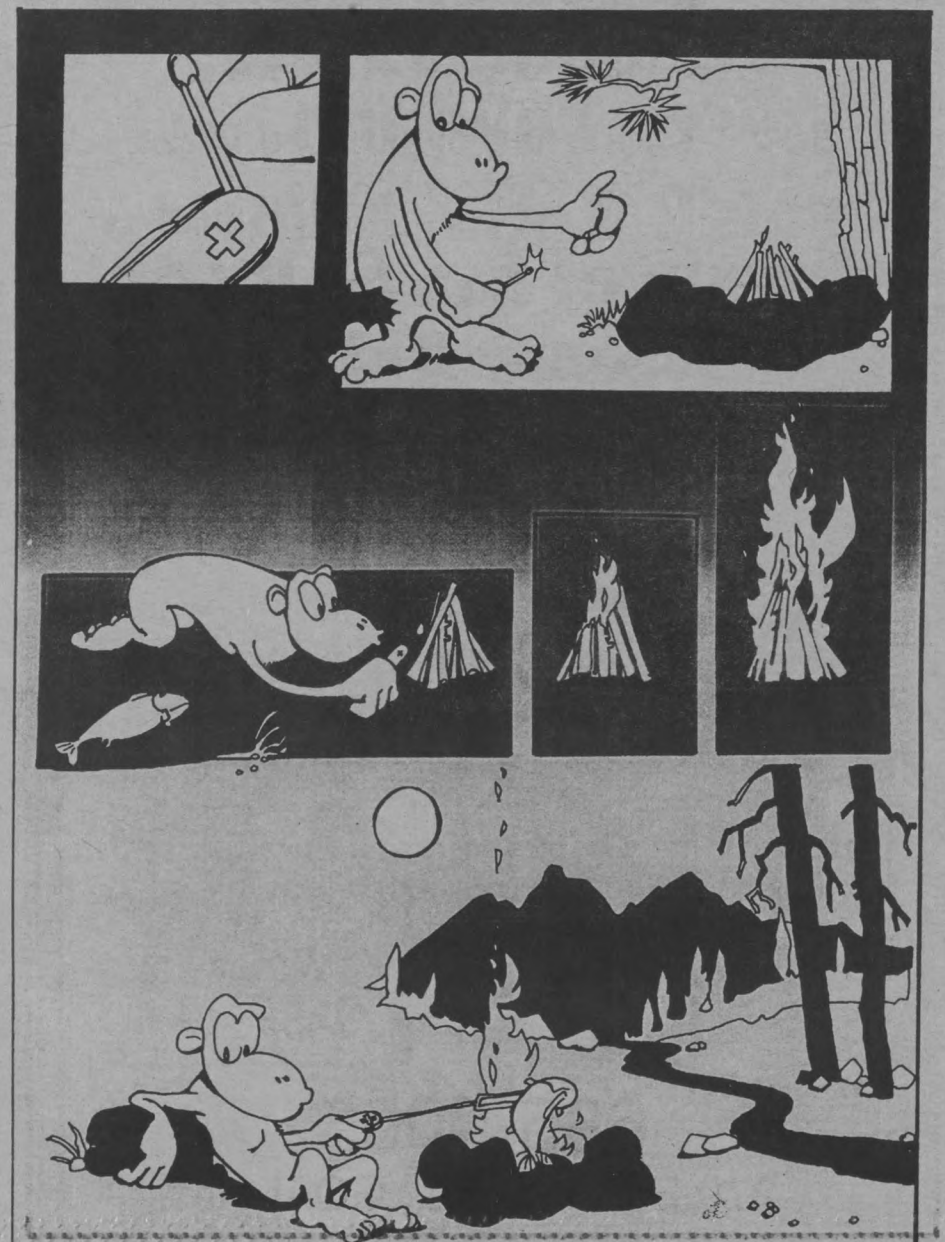
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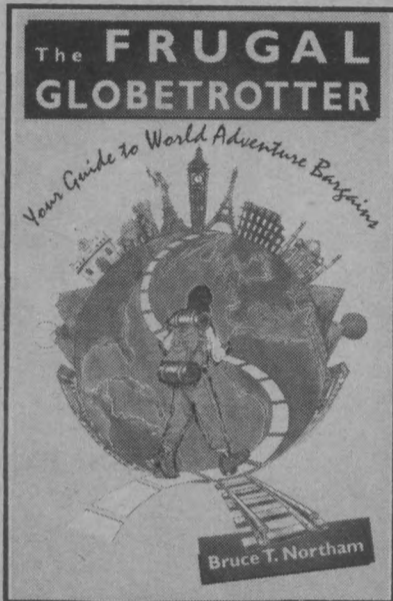


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