We BIFICAL

The 1996 Official Spring Break Guide

American Passage



23-

by Paula Nechak

cavorting on the beach in Florida. Your skin is a whiter shade of pale. Your roommate is layering and wearing a down parka. The thought of white-sand beaches, the sun reflecting on the little bitty particles of bleached shoreline makes you instinctively reach for your shades. But, your hands begin to shake. Your eyes tear up. Face it. You're a Spring Break junkie and it's miles away.

What's a student to do?

Don't despair or go into total withdrawal quite yet—you've got a friend in your VCR. When the

sun goes down on all the Spring Break addicts of America, it's time to turn inward and remember what made days gone by so memorable. So while there is still an element of Spring Break splendor running rampant in your addled brain, run, don't walk to your nearest video store and taste a trifle of that celluloid perfection—the Beach Movie. Here is a listing of some of the ecstasies -and agonies- of beach-related fare as only Hollywood can dream it up.

The first Spring Break flick, Where The Boys Are, hit the beach in 1960. In a burst of virginal glory, four college girls descend on Ft. Lauderdale in search of Mr. Right. It starred the heartthrobs of the day and gave current talk show host George Hamilton his first opportunity to work on his eternal tan.

Frankie Avalon and Annette Funicello became the crown couple of the Spring Break empire and the royalty of Beach Party movies. Being impossible to give a plot synopsis (there isn't any plot) for Beach Party flicks, let's just say it's sun, sand, songs and relationship sob stories. Fortunately, several of the Beach Party movies are available on video cassette and some even on laserdisc. Beach Party (1963) was the first of the series with the gang tossing back a cola or two and



riding the waves. In 1964, Muscle Beach Party pumped up the box office gross and Beach Blanket Bingo hit the screen in 1965. Surf Party was wedged in between with a 1964 release and for you die-hards, don't forget the entire Gidget series, especially that masterpiece, Gidget Goes Hawaiian. Who could ever forgive writers who named a character Moondoggie?

Palm Springs Weekend also arrived in 1963

Beach Flicks continued on pg. 4

surf this!

Trying to decide where to go for Spring Break? Go surfing...on the **NET!**

Many of the most popular Spring Break destinations have multiple pages on variety of Web sites. (Info is literally like everywhere!) The sites list information on the region, activities, tourist attractions, local hotels and

nightclubs. Many sites also throw in juicy beach pictures to entice you to come to their sunny location.

Each January, destinations start listing their local Spring Break events, such as what concerts are happening, which corporate sponsors are coming and where you can find the traditional beach beauty contests. Don't worry, if you're searching for wet T-shirt contests, you can find them on the Web. too.

Page four has a list of Web sites for the most popular Spring Break locations. Surf at your leisure...remember, this list is only a start...

Surf This! continued on pg. 4

Look inside for info on...

Daytona Beach	3
Panama City Beach	
South Padre Island	

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ELY Beach.

Last year, The World's Most Famous Beach welcomed over 200,000 students for Spring Break. ilu I

The beach is huge and 500 feet wide, which allows for lots of action like beach cruisers and motor bikes. Yes, driving on the shore is allowed during the day! Other activities available include surfing, skimming, surf fishing, volleyball and jet skiing.

During Spring Break, there are many special events on the beach. Some planned this year are: Sports Illustrated Spring Break Beach Club (March 11-21), Citibank/MasterCard Coed Spring Break Beach Volleyball Tournament (March 11-31), Spring Break Career Fair (March 14-15), Spring Break Sports Challenge

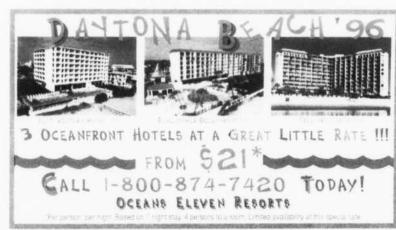


(March 18-23) and the 13th Annual Miss Hawaiian Tropic International Beauty Pageant Finals (March 22).

Daytona Beach also has great outdoor shopping, tasty restaurants and live night life. Top name entertainers appear regularly at the Ocean Center and there are numerous night-clubs where you can party with thousands of other college students. Don't worry about there not being enough room—there are 16,000 hotel rooms.



Call the Daytona Beach Area Convention & Visitors Bureau at 1-800-854-1234 or cruise their Web site at http://www.america.com











Beech Flicks Cont.

and starred a tribe of the resident hunks of the day, especially Troy Donahue leading the pack of trolling guys. The tide began to ebb in the mid-60's however. The British invasion changed the music scene and the focus altered from The Beach Boys and Jan and Dean to The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and The Dave Clark Five. Suddenly it was posh to look pasty. "Be Good to Your School" gave way to "Sticky Fingers."

In 1966, The Endless Summer, an in depth look at the surfing scene at the world's best beaches, was a hit, but it spelled the end to things surf-related. Haight Ashbury and the San Francisco hippie counter-culture sprang out of London's Carnaby Street allure. It seemed the days of purity and sunsets and the wholesome antics of Spring Break fare like Where The Boys Are were on a temporary vacation.

After a decade and a half of screen absence, suddenly, in the 1980's, it was cool to go back to the beach. Frankie and Annette did so in their reunion by that very name. But, Back To The Beach was a box office wipeout. Frankie and

Annette were a little too old to croon about summer love and the importance of a good tan. Even Where The Boys Are became a remake in 1983, featuring a then little-known Lisa Hartman (now Lisa Hartman-Black, she married singer Clint Black a few years back). Just to show how times had changed, the remake had our four vestal virgins traipsing down the beach in search of tawdry sex. (As a point of reference, this movie was produced by the same guy who put the Village People on the big screen.)

Matt Dillon became a cabana boy at a plush club in order to be near the girl he loved over his summer break. The Flamingo Kid is a cut above the usual teen-angst movies. It has a smart script and cast. The quintessentially-titled but laff-inducing break movie, Spring Break, also hit theatres in 1983 along with Surf II, another winner in the bad-movies-we-love category.

Then, in 1985, a movie came out that changed the image of beach-related Spring Break films. Rob Reiner directed a smart and funny little epistle called The Sure Thing. It tops everyone's

list of great break movies. Its cast features John Cusack as a

college boy trying to cross the country over Spring Break in order to meet up with a friend in L.A. who quarantees him a sure thing. Daphne

> Beach Flicks cont. on pg 10,

surf this! cont.

Cancun http://www.cancun.com/

> http://www.iminet.com/mexico/cancun.html http://www.wotw.com/mexico/cancun/ovc.html

http://www.america.com/mall/store/springbreak.html **Daytona Beach**

http://www.intbc.com/daytona/index.html

http://www.travelbase.com/destinations/daytona/

Destin/Fort Walton http://www.destinfl.com/

http://www.gulf.net/places/ftwalton/

http://www.GuideNet.com/GuideNet/cities/ftwalton/

http://florida.com/fl fact.htm **Florida**

http://www.goflorida.com/

http://orchid-isle.com/attr/attr.htm

Fort Lauderdale http://www.ftlauderdale.com/

http://q.paradise.net/online/

http://www.ftlauderdalewww.com/AreaGuide/ftlaud.html

http://www.travelfile.com/get?pcbeach **Panama City Beach**

> http://interoz.com/springbreak http://pc.gulfnet.com/baycnty.htm

http://www.sopadre.com/springbreak South Padre Island

http://www.io.com/~iaa/spimain.htm

http://www.rscomm.com/wsw/spadre/spadre.html

Some Spring Break Web sites are not simply informational. A great site to see party animals in their natural habitat is the "Spring Break '95 Yearbook" at http://springbreak.iag.net/. This site features pictures from last year's Spring Break of college students across the U.S. and Canada. The yearbook is arranged by state and then by college. You can click on any college and see who the real party animals are. Anyone can submit photos via mail or the Internet. This is one scenic site you should definitely surf.





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Although Hurricane Opal delivered a heavy blow last fall, it was not a K.O. Actually, Hurricane Opal did Breakers a big favor. The beach is actually larger and much of PCB has a phat new look. However, we should warn you, some things haven't changedthe sun, warm water and the party attitude.

Last year, over 550,000 students from colleges across the country came to Panama City Beach to party. College s dents choose Panama City Beach as their Spring Break destination for all the right

reasons-27 miles of beautiful snow white beaches, emerald green waters along the Gulf of Mexico and value on a tight budget. There's a wide variety of cool (and cheap) activities, such as beach volleyball, wind surfing, parasailing or numerous activities sponsored by

hotels such as the Holiday Inn

SunSpree, Ramada, Days Inn and the Boardwalk Beach Resort. What's more, the Coca-Cola Jam Fest rocks PCB every vear. Whether you're working on your tan or checking out the mobile scenery, you'll never be bored on this beach.

After the sun goes down, PCB gets even better. Two of the largest and coolest nightclubs in the world are located here-Spinnaker Beach Club and Club La Vela. The music scene at PCB is on top with international artists ranging from Boston alternative rockers Letters to Cleo, Belgium's Lords of Acid and London's Ned's Atomic Dustbin. What's more, legends of classic rock like Fleetwood Mac, 38 Special and Foreigner also trek here to jam. What about rap, hiphop, techno or jungle? Don't worry, you'll find it here, too.

You'll also discover there is food for all tastes and budgets in PCB. Whether you crave a huge seafood buffet or thick, juicy burger, you can stay within your budget and eat in your bathing suit. All restaurants honor the beach's mandatory dress code...casual.

One of the best things about spending Spring Break at Panama City Beach isbelieve it or not-the police. You can party on the beach and the local cops are really



Ramada and Days Inn. Panama City Beach

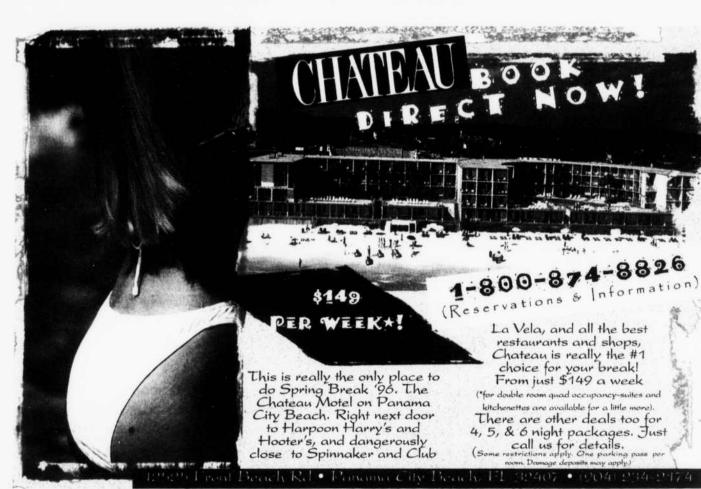
cool. In fact, they are so cool here, some cops actually have been seen welcoming students. (Hard to imagine...but it has happened. It must mean that the city really wants Breakers to come!)

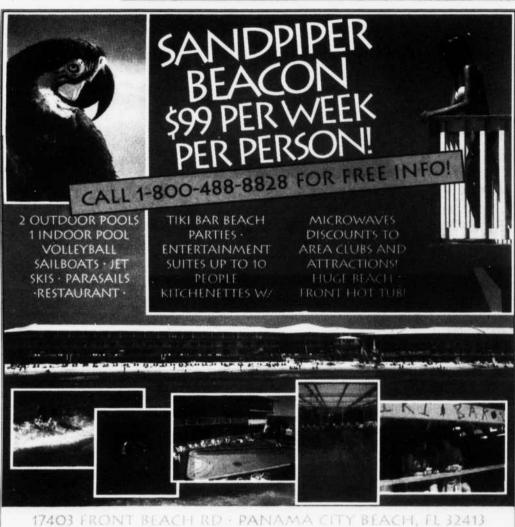
So come on down and check out PCB. There are 18,000 hotel rooms, but they are filling fast.

Call 1-800-PCBEACH or cruise the Panama City Beach Web site at http://www.travelfile.com/get?pcbeach.











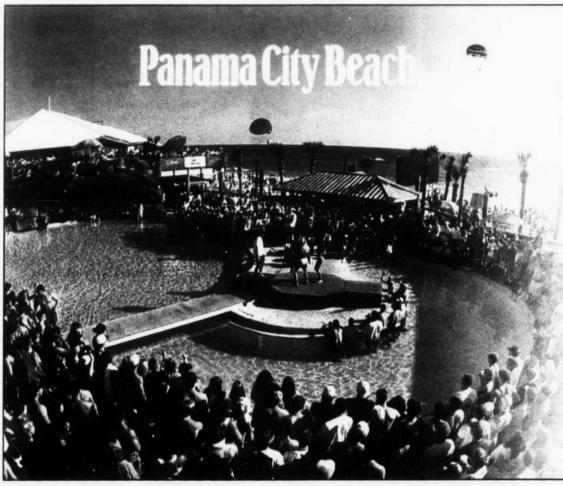
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For a free Spring Break '96 Guide, call 1-800-PCBEACH or write to Panama City Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau, P.O. Box 9473, Panama City Beach, FL 32417.

Panama City Beach



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Mega-Fun, Mini-Bucks

This year. the annual Spring Break party continues. More than 125,000 book-weary, but cost conscious, college students will make the southern migration to the sunny beaches of the always popular and value-packed South Padre Island.

Add numerous events such as free outdoor concerts on the Coca-Cola stage, specialty nights at the many local establishments, contests of stamina and skill and you have the makings of a terrific Spring Break.

Extreme Excitement

New participants this year include the ESPN Extreme Games Competition. Exciting events such as Sky Surfing, Bungee Jumping and In-

Great Accommodations

Back in South Padre, you'll find a wide

range of accommodations ranging from

private condos to luxury hotels. (See the

previous page for hot spots to crash.)

Nore Info.s

South Padre **Island Convention** and Visitors Bureau at 1-800-SO-PADRE

Fun in the no shirt! no problem. hottest fajitas and coldest cervezas along the border. Customs is generally pretty laid back—proof of citizenship in the form of a driver's license normally suffices. Driving across the border into Mexico is legal, but be sure to carry proof of insurance in your car. If you get into a fender bender in Mexico, you are "guilty until proven innocent" under Mexican law. Due to recent changes in Mexican law, "mordida" (a bribe) is not recommended,

so just go with the flow and be careful.





Beech Flicks cont.

Zuniga (from Melrose Place) plays the college girl who ends up traveling with him and who teaches him a thing or two about love and what is and isn't all that certain in life. There is a hysterical little bit by then unknown Tim Robbins as a driver who advertises for car-poolers to share costs on the journey.

If your bleary eyes can still focus after the barrage of break-and-beach related fare, test one or two more. Though Kathryn Bigelow is known for her visual-feast movies, like Near Dark and Strange Days, she also waded out into the surf with an explosive and adrenaline pumped beach-bound odyssey a few years back-Point Break. It starred Keanu Reeves as Johnny Utah, an FBI rookie on the trail of the bank robbing ex-Presidents gang led by Zen surf-king Patrick Swavze.

And, not to neglect the ultimate Spring Break

sport-volleyball-there is Side Out, a 1990 sports flick that is available on cassette and laserdisc, too. Ironically, the final entry (so far) in our series of water-logged titles allows us to come full circle in our quest for the best beach movies. In 1994, The Endless Summer II came out, documenting the continuing saga of the never-ending search for that perfect wave that began with its 1966 predecessor.

So, here's the scoop—by the time you make it through all these titles, it will be March. The sun will be out and it'll be time to bake, do some sit-ups and get into shape so you look buff when you set that first foot onto the warm, waiting sands of Panama City Beach, Daytona Beach, South Padre Island and all

those other shores devoted to ensuring that your Spring Break thirst will finally be quenched.



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anama City Beach, Florida

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Where did you spend Spring Break 1995? City/State

Country

Where do you plan to spend Spring Break 1996?

City/State

Country

Mail this entry form to register. NO PHOTOCOPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. All entries must be received by Wednes day. February 28, 1996. One winner will be selected at a random drawing held on Thursday, February 29, 1996

> Panama City Beach Convention And Visitors Bureau P.O. Box 9473 Panama City Beach, FL USA 32417-9473

Number in order of importance when choosing a Spring Break destination: (1-most important - 5-least important)

Price of room

Distance from campus

Activities (Nite Life, Sports, Etc.)

Recommendation

Beach Destination

College/University You Attend

Class: Tresh. Soph.

☐ Junior ☐ Senior

A phone number where you can be called if you win:

Name



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