

J.D.Patterson, 1991 Canadian champ, carving up some winter waves.

PHOTO: TAMMY ROGERS

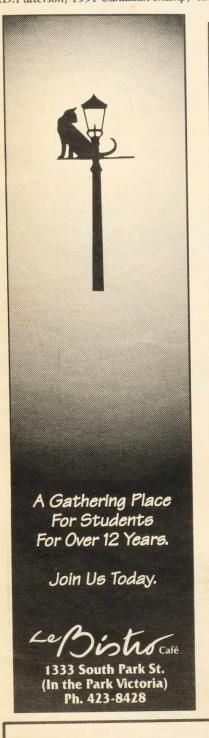
Wanna go to Rio?

The Canadian Surfing Association's East Coast qualifier for the 1994 Amatuer World Surfing Championships will be held this weekend at Lawrencetown Beach. The categories include Men's Open, Juniors, Longboard, Women's and Bodyboard. The competition is scheduled to take place Saturday, September 4. Registration is at 8 am and \$10 at the beach (\$5 for each extra event). The competition will begin at 9 am. In the case of no waves or severely inclement weather the competition will continue on Sunday, September 5 or Monday, September 6.

Surf to Snow is sponsoring this event along with Seagrams, Cousin Smoothy's, Whiteco Rentals, Island Beach Company, Gatorade, Aerobics First, O'Neill, Split Crow and the Outback Restaurant. It promises to be a fun and exciting day for both participants and spectators.

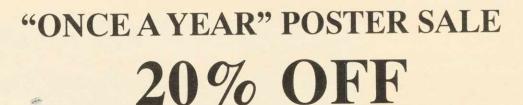
The winners will qualify to be part of the Canadian Surf Team going to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to compete in the World Amatuers next fall.

For more information call Greg Brewster at 835-8969. Anyone interested in helping out would be more than welcome.



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Backwater

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customs long since forsaken in Europe, such as splendidcafés, formal dress, and

"Rock' n' Roll Ghost Town" is what Reykjavik, capital of Iceland, gets dubbed. This is a realm so otherworldly that everything seems out of place, from the Thai restaurants to the abundant rock bands (including the Sugarcubes) on the Reykjavik scene. Just the sense of order, with a place for everything, including non-conformity, seems to fit the dreamlike landscape of sea and rock, lava and ice.

Only "Five Thousand Miles from Anywhere," the chapter on Australia, falls short. Australia may be out of the way, but hardly low profile. Iyer is left covering ground many before him have covered the oddities of Australian English, the laid back lifestyle, the whispering undercurrent of racism. The chapter is little more than a spryly written travelogue on a place few would consider "off the map."

One quickly overlooks one flat chapter amongst seven lively ones. But as entertaining as Falling Off the Map is, it is hardly weighty. Iyer's sketches are ironical snapshots, the observations of a visitor. Brevity, not breadth, is their

Let's face it. Despite jet travel and global telecommunications, few of us are evergoing to end up on the Andean plains, or walk the halls of a Bhutanese dzong, or attend the Pyongyang Film Festival. The Lonely Places of the world are going to stay lonely for a little while yet. Falling Off the Map is the next best thing to being there.

Actually, after reading about Bhutan's Olathnag Hotel, maybe it's even better than being there.



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