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Boulder's Shoot Out turns out fast films

FRI, 10/22

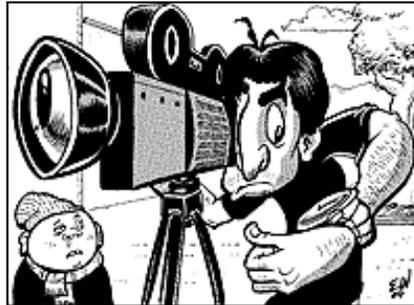
Alternative activities such as ultra-running, ultimate Frisbee and high-endurance yoga have always found an enthusiastic home in Boulder. But extreme filmmaking? Fast forward to the **Shoot Out 24 Hour Filmmaking Festival**. No, it's not a scheme to market a new lifestyle drink -- although participants in the fast-and-furious style of movie production could be downing caffeine before it's over. Instead, organizers hope to have ninety teams spend the stretch between 9 p.m. tonight and 9 p.m. tomorrow darting around the Boulder area in a race to create the best seven-minute short.

The idea has worked elsewhere. Shoot Out producers Michael Conti and Will Campbell were inspired to bring the concept back to the States after attending a similar festival in Australia. "We're not trying to glorify this as a Hollywood-type thing, either," says Campbell. "We're trying to make this about getting people out there to create something that works."

There are some restrictions. Films must be shot in sequence -- meaning only in-camera editing will be allowed -- and the footage needs to incorporate specific locations or props from within the Boulder area. But the tricky part, says Conti, is trying

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Ethan Wenberg



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this week in **Night & Day**

From the Week of Thursday,
October 21, 2004

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to tell an entire story in seven minutes. "I know a lot of people get a big rush off of going through this process," he says. "Because instead of talking about it, going, 'Oh, I want to write this, I want to make this,' within 24 hours, they actually do it."

Judges will select the top ten videos, and awards will be given in several categories, including the Shooting Star Competition for the actor who appears in the most films. An all-ages awards ceremony, including live entertainment and video screenings, will be held Sunday at 7 p.m. at the Boulder Theater; admission is \$15. For information, visit www.theshootoutboulder.com. -- **Jared Jacang Maher**

The Mo, the Merrier

Rocca brings his barnyard political humor to town TUES, 10/26

Broadcast humorist **Mo Rocca** has a secret: American politics are a regular *Animal Farm*. Bureaucratic beasts have really been running the show ever since George Washington's donkey, Royal Gift, first sat his stubborn butt down on Capitol Hill.

Rocca, a former *Daily Show* correspondent and frequent guest on NPR's *Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!* game show, tells all in his new book, *All the President's Pets: The Story of One Reporter Who Refused to Roll Over*. Fellow lampooner P.J. O'Rourke said this: "Some will consider this satire. Mo Rocca describes how U.S. political policy has been guided by presidential pets for more than 200 years. Oh, and I suppose you have a better explanation?" Indeed not.

The bespectacled Rocca (and his vintage Beatles 'do) will further dissect the *real* history of the White House, dropping big Washington names right and left -- from Helen Thomas to Ann Coulter -- as he blithely speaks today at 1 p.m. at the Tivoli Turnhalle, Ninth Street and Auraria Parkway on the Auraria campus. Admission is free; for details, go to <http://thunder1.cudenver.edu/studentlife/calendar.html>. -- **Susan Froyd**

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