

# Viva Las Vegas, ZZ Top shoots video on Fremont

by Bret Skiba

The rock band ZZ Top blocked off downtown areas from Third and Fremont to the Union Plaza hotel to make a video for a cover of Elvis Presley's hit "Viva Las Vegas" last week. Adorned in light purple suits and over-sized, white cowboy hats, the band moved up and down the street from midnight until about six a.m. to shoot its video.

Followed by a mob of about 700 fans carrying signs and screaming the band's name, cameras and cops kept everything in line for this event to take place. According to promoters, KKLZ, the band did the same on the strip and at Bally's Wednesday afternoon.

Known for their outrageous custom guitars and long beards, the band left nothing to the

imagination of the crowd, pulling all their old tricks. Custom cars, like a cherry red '53 Cadillac convertible and a number of classic Harleys were used in the shoot. Their infamous guitars were shaped like tumbling dice. The band also brought its share of video vixens. To add to this collection, the entourage stopped at Glitter Gulch and picked a few ladies.

Taking up a small portion of Fremont, Thursday morning's festivities looked like a small version of New Year's Eve only with a live band. All three major television stations along with two radio stations 92.3 KOMP and 96.3 KKLZ covered this event. The latter two contributed to the size of the crowd by offering money to anyone who could get the stations call letters in the video. Considering this, many of the fans were

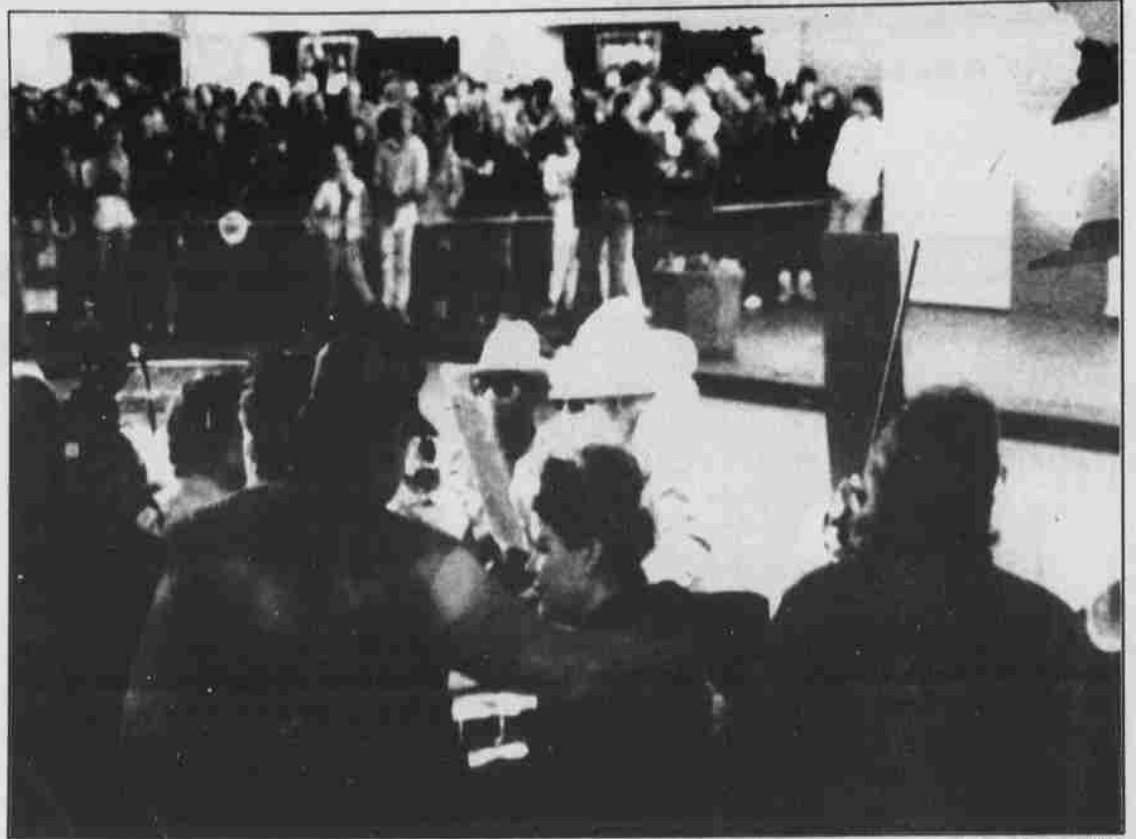


photo by Morgan Fisher

The bearded ones shoot their latest video downtown.

clad in bumper stickers or brought obnoxiously large signs in an attempt to win the money.

No major incidents broke out except for the occasional breaking of bottles in the street and heckling of police by the

crowd. Prior to the shoot two young men were pulled over and cited for possession of alcohol. What made this noteworthy is that the five officers who pulled them over were on mountain bikes.

The video will be out on the market in the near future. The last event of this magnitude on Fremont Street was when U2 shot its video for "Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For" in 1986.

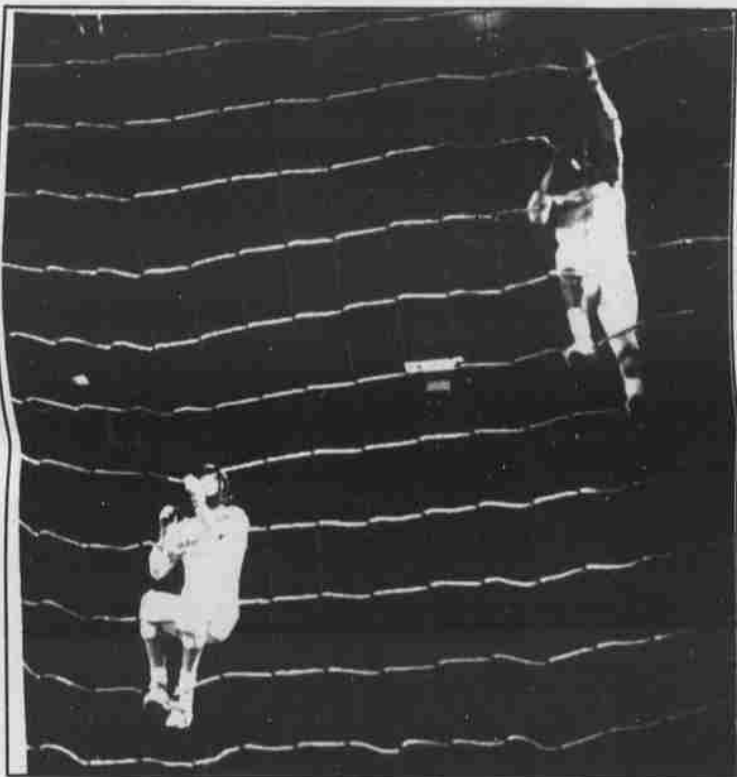


photo by Jennifer Fleischman

Local competitors battle each other and the clock.

## Locals battle gladiators for a chance at national finals

by Bret Skiba

Eight local competitors fought for the chance to compete in the American Gladiator finals in Atlantic City this May. Starting with four men and four women, the contest got under way very quickly.

In the first event, the assault game, contestants try to dethrone a gladiator who sits on a platform and shoots tennis balls at them.

Following this, the players attacked the wall, a 40 foot Plexiglass monster which tests one's stretching ability. Finally, before reducing the field to two women and men, the competitors were abused in the powerball competition. No one was seriously injured but it was still pretty exciting.

The two women's finalists were Nikki Dennis, an 18 year old communications major, and Jacqueline Love, a 1992 Olym-

pic runner. For the men it was Tommy Deters, a karate instructor, and Elbert Gray, a C.C.S.D. police officer. Although these four have a good deal of athletic training, none could compare to the over-sized gladiators such as 6'4", 270 pound Tower or 5'9", 165 pound Storm. The gladiators pushed and chased the smaller, less competitive opponents around the numerous courses and tried to pump the crowd at half time.

The second half started with the atlasphere challenge. This event resembles a rat running in a one of those steel balls while being chased around by gladiators and trying to score points by rolling over scoring pads.

The joust came next and while no one lasted 30 seconds or beat a gladiator, the heavily favored Deters was the first to

see GLADIATORS page 13

## University Musical Society Orchestra to feature soloists

Four music students will be featured as soloists when the University Musical Society Orchestra, under the direction of James D. Stivers, presents its third concert of the season at 2 p.m., Sunday in Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall.

This free concert is part of an ongoing series of concerts by the college-community orchestra. A competition is held each December to choose outstanding

soloists for the concert.

Judges this year were Jeff Manoukian of Salt Lake City, Dorothy Jianu, UNLV adjunct professor of voice and David Vanderkooi, artist-in-residence cellist at UNLV.

The four competition winners include Kelly Anderson, pianist, and Russell Petroni, flutist, both from Las Vegas, as well as Jenny Wright, clarinetist from Reno, who will all per-

form movements of Mozart Concertos. Michael Odynski, pianist from Reno, will perform Adinsell's "Warsaw Concerto."

Other selections on the program include the Pastorale and Farandole form "L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2" by Bizet and the finale to "Symphony No. 1" by Brahms.

For more information call 739-3736.

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