

# **TE TIRA HAERE**

An aerial photograph of a massive, layered canyon system. The rock formations are dark brown and reddish, showing distinct horizontal strata. A river flows through the center of the canyon, its water appearing a deep blue-green. The canyon walls are steep and rugged, with many smaller gullies and ledges. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

**Ngaruawahia High School  
Kapa Haka USA Tour  
April 2nd-19th 1998**





*Ngaruawahia High School*

*Kapa Haka*  
*USA Tour*

*Thursday 2nd April 1998*

*to*

*Sunday 19th April 1998*

# Tour Itinerary

## **Tuesday March 31st**

Performance 2:30pm in NHS Hall.

## **Wednesday April 1st**

Students, at their parent's discretion, may be excused from school this day to use this time to ensure that they are fully prepared for the trip. Otherwise they should attend school.

## **Thursday April 2nd**

- 1:30pm – Whanau assemble at Turangawaewae.
- 2:45pm – Proceed to Whâtâpaka.
- 4:00pm – Arrive at Whâtâpaka. Poroporoaki, Waiata.
- 5:00pm – Proceed to Auckland Airport.
- 6:00pm – Arrive at Auckland airport.
- 7:30pm – Check in with Air NZ.
- 8:30pm – Begin boarding procedures.
- 10:00pm – Depart Auckland on board Air New Zealand Boeing 747 flight NZ2. Evening meal & breakfast served on board.
- 2:00pm – Arrive Los Angeles.
- 6:10pm – Depart Los Angeles on board Delta Airlines flight .
- 9:00pm – Arrive in Salt Lake City where the billets will be at the airport.

## **Friday April 3rd**

Free day.  
Tour of Salt Lake City Temple Square.  
Evening performance

## **Saturday April 4th**

Tour of Salt Lake City.  
Gold & Green Ball 7:30pm. Performance.  
May attend session of Conference.

## **Sunday April 5th**

Spend day with billet families

## **Monday April 6th**

Visit Highland High School.  
Evening performance

## **Tuesday April 7th**

- 8:00am - Leave Salt Lake City by bus.
- 8:45am - Arrive at Provo.
- 9:00am - Tour of Brigham Young University
- 11:00am - Leave for Boulder City by bus.
- 7:00pm - Arrive at Boulder City.  
Met by billet families.

## **Wednesday April 8th**

Morning tour of Hoover Dam.

Afternoon performance

## **Thursday April 9th**

- 7:45am - Leave for Grand Canyon
- 8:30pm – Arrive at Las Vegas, Excalibur.

## **Friday April 10th**

Free day in Las Vegas.  
Another night in Excaliber Hotel

## **Saturday April 11th**

- 4:50pm – Check in at Las Vegas airport
- 5:50pm – Depart Las Vegas flight DL1465
- 6:55pm – Arrive in Los Angeles.
- 8:15pm – Arrive at Holiday Inn Buena Park

## **Sunday April 12th**

Universal Studios Combo Deluxe Tour with Pacific Coast Sightseeing. Begins at Olvera Street, the birthplace of L.A, where we will see a bit of old Mexico and some of the special buildings that makes LA so famous. Continue along Hollywood Boulevard and Sunset Strip and stop at the legendary Chinese Theatre. Then on to Universal Studios in Hollywood.

## **Monday April 13th**

Disneyland (Flexipass - unlimited entry for up to five consecutive days). We will receive one early morning admission including the use of selected attractions one hour prior to the park opening to the general public.

## **Tuesday April 14th**

Free Day (Disneyland).  
Evening - Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament.

## **Wednesday April 15th**

Magic Mountain. Spine-tingling roller coasters as well as wet & wild thrill rides.

## **Thursday April 16th**

Free Day (Disneyland, local malls).

## **Friday April 17th**

- 12:50pm - Check out of Hotel.
- 1:00pm – Depart for airport.
- 7:00pm - Check in for flight to Auckland.
- 9:15pm - Depart Los Angeles on Air New Zealand flight NZ1.

## **Sunday April 19th**

5:00am - Arrive Auckland airport.





Whanau at one of the early organisational meetings 1997.



A Gala Day held to raise funds for the USA trip was held around the NHS hockey field. Womble & Blossom, DJs of Radio Tainui, donated their time and talents in being the voices of the event.



Nga Kotiro preparing to entertain at the Kapa Haka Gala Day.





*Above and Below: Getting ready to perform at the Gala Day.*



A small section of the crowd watching the programme of the touring Kapa Haka group.



# Tour Supervisors



Richard Crawford  
Associate Deputy Principal, NHS



Robyn Roa  
Associate Deputy Principal, NHS



Pare Paki  
Parent, Performance Tutor



Poppy Ranga  
Head of Maori Studies, NHS



Wynel Te Wiata  
Parent, First Aid



Lalita Hari  
NHS Staff, First Aid



Sandy MacDonald  
NHS Staff, Tour Recorder



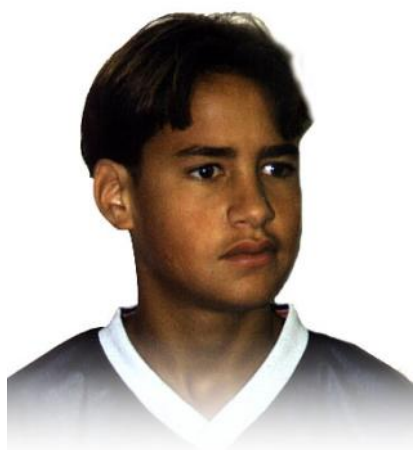
Al Duane Ngakuru - 15



Casey Mia Hawkins - 14



Isaac Royal - 15



Corrie Wharakura - 13



Jesse Royal - 17



Kotiro Turner - 18



Tutereinga Holland - 14



Kameta Puke - 16



Jacqueline Pouaka - 13



Kura Walker - 17



Leon Matthews - 18



Te Waiti Walker - 14





Maera Paki - 17



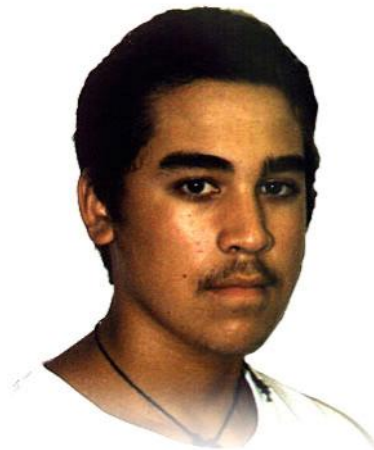
Te Ngaru Brown - 13



Malana Grey - 14



Marrin Haggie - 17



Te Whainoa Te Wiata - 14



Motuiti Hona - 15



Piata Murray - 14



Rihi Mita-Watene - 15



Pokaia Matthews - 14



Riki Lee Peters - 17



Rangiherehere Katipa - 14



Te Manawaroa Teinakore - 17

## **BUDDY LIST**

*Richard Crawford*

Jesse, Leon, Isaac, Kura.

*Sandy MacDonald*

Al Duane, Corrie, Pokaia.

*Lalita Hari*

Tutereinga, Kotiro, Casey Mia, Kameta.

*Robyn Roa*

Motuiti, Piata, Malana, Rangiherehere.

*Pare Paki*

Te Whainoa, Riki Lee, Te Whainoa.

*Poppy Ranga*

Te Ngaru, Te Manawaroa, Jacqueline.

*Wynel Te Wiata*

Marrin, Maera, Rihi.

## **Responsibility for Equipment**

Maera	Guitar #1
Te Whainoa	Guitar #2
Al Duane	Boys Piupiu, Suitcase #1
Jacqueline	Suitcase #2
Malana	Suitcase #3

## **Collecting Luggage From Conveyor Belts**

Sandy, Leon, Jesse, Marrin, Kotiro, Te Manawaroa, Kura.

## **EQUIPMENT INVENTORY**

Guitars x 2  
Banjo (Uke) x 1  
Poi Long x 7 sets  
Poi Short x 14 sets  
Tirakau Long x 11  
Tititoria Short x 8 pairs

### **Costumes**

1 black bag – Girls' Piupiu x 14 (Case #1)  
1 blue bag – Boys' Piupiu x 10 (Case #2)  
1 black bag – Equipment (Case #3)

### **Contents**

Titorea  
Tirakau (bag attached)  
Spare Poi (materials)  
Sewing Kit  
First Aid Kit

# Performance Programme

## **Karanga**

Entry.....	Whakaheke - Te Kai a Te Rangatira/Ranginui
Introduction.....	Whakamaumaharatanga mo Waiata Kingi
Waiata-a-ringa .....	Te Haerenga E Nga Iwi
Poi roa (long poi) .....	Titiro mai ra ki a matou
Haka .....	Hei Oranga Mai
Tirakau .....	Pakia kia rite, Rona, Hoe to waka (medley)
Poi – single short.....	Papaki Tahī
Poi – double short .....	Kiko
Tititorea.....	Ringitia Mai
Audience Participation.....	E Rere Taku Poi
Waiata Whakamutunga....	Ko te Aroha Homai e koe

## **WHAKAHEKE**

### 1 KARANGA

2 (*Kaea Tane*) *E Te Atua  
Tukuna mai to aroha  
to manakitanga mai  
i runga i a tatou  
i tenei wa .....*

1 Te kai a Te Rangatira  
Te kai a Te Rangatira

Te Kaupapa o tenei huinga e  
(women repeat verse 1)

(Tane) Te Kai a te rangatira  
(Haka chanted) Ko te Kaupapa o tenei huinga  
Korero tatou te reo rangatira

2 Whakarongo e nga ropu  
Ki a matou o Waikato  
e tu ana e tu atu nei

## **WHAKAHEKE**

## **Kaea**

I te timatanga ko te kore, ko te pu, ko te  
weu, ko te more, ko te aka  
Ko te ahunga, ko te aō ponga, ko te kuneiti,  
ko te kunerahi, ko te pōpō kunao  
Ko te timatanga mai o te ao  
Rangi nui e  
Rangi nui e  
Rangi nui e  
Rangi nui e me Papatuanuku  
Ka puta ki waho  
Ko Tawhirimatea  
Ko Tumatauenga  
Haumeitiketike, Tangaroa  
Whiro, Ruaumoko  
Ko Tane Mahuta  
Koia nei te pōtiki  
Me Hineahuone  
Ka puta ki waho  
Ko Tine Titama  
Hine-nui-he-po  
Ka timata te tipu mai nga tangata katoa  
Ka timata te tipu mai nga wahine katoa  
Anei mātou e tu atu nei  
Anei mātou e tu atu nei  
Rangi nui e  
Rangi nui e  
Rangi nui e  
Hei Ha!!



## HE TANGI MO WAIATA

Hahae te tau o taku ate      My heart strings are torn asunder  
Hotu te whatumanawa      My heart sobs  
Patuki taku tarauma      My breast heaves  
Moteatea taku mahara mou      My mind grieves for you  
Hakorukoru taku rae      My brow is furrowed

I te rongonga atu      When I first heard  
He ana te patu o taku manawa      My heart missed a beat  
Pupu te aroha      I was overwhelmed with grief  
Ôku whatu matawaia e      My eyes filled with tears  
Haere ra Waiata      Farewell Waiata

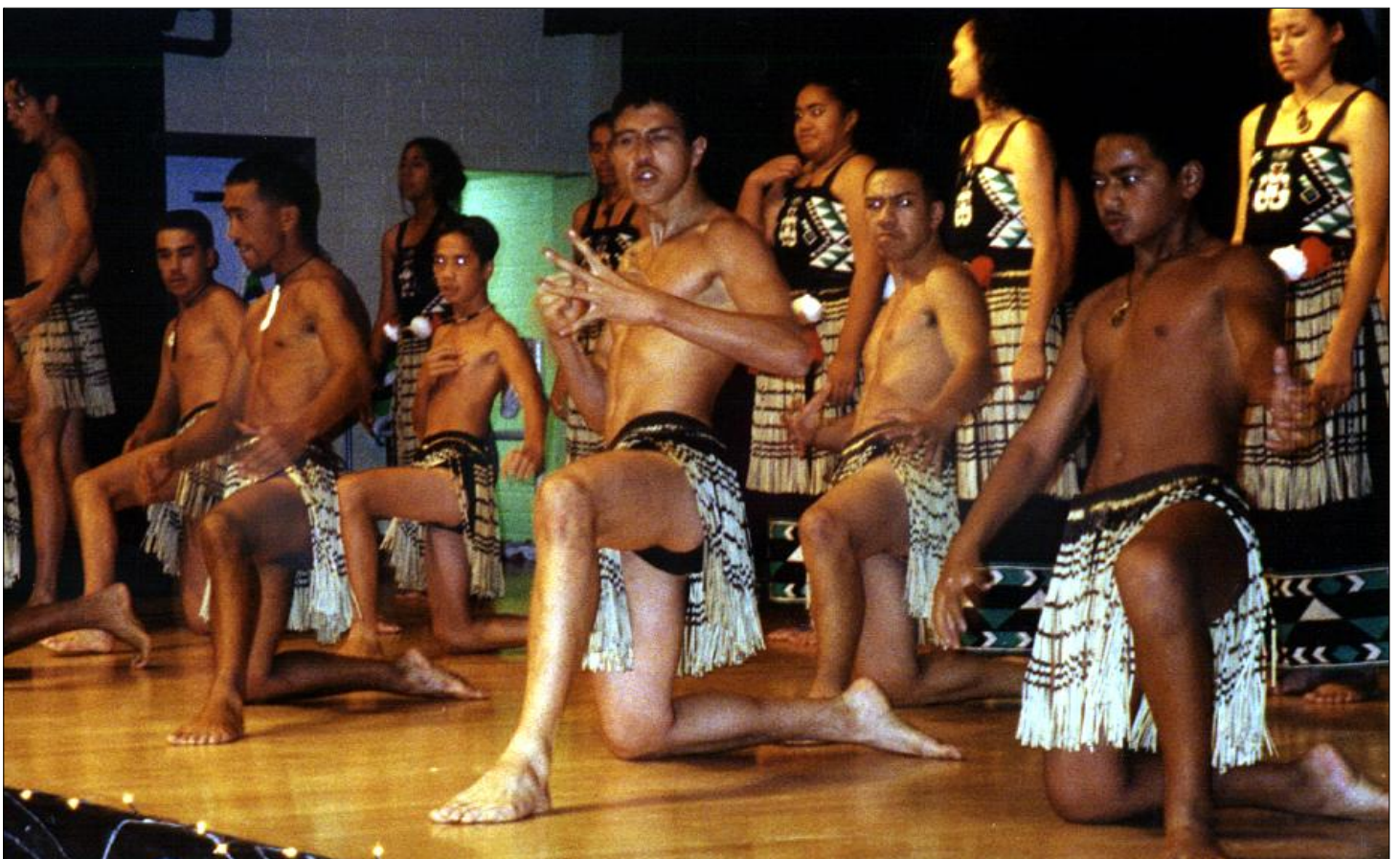
Ma wai awhina ahau?      Who will help me now?  
Ma wai ôku paparinga e whakamemene e?      Who will make me smile?

Takoto mai ra i te puke e tu mai e      Rest on the hillock standing there  
He tirohanga atu ki tou marae      Overlooking your marae

I te rongonga atu      When I first heard  
He ana te patu o taku manawa      My heart missed a beat  
Pupu te aroha      I was overwhelmed with grief  
Oku whatu matawaia e      My eyes filled with tears  
Haere ra Waiata      Farewell Waiata

E te hoa haere ra      Farewell friend

*Na Paul W Royal  
5th February 1998*





### TE HAERENGA - Waiata-a-ringa

Kua timata te hikoi  
Ki Amerika e  
Koi nei te wa tuatahi  
Mo te nuinga - aue

#### CHORUS

*Ma runga wakarererangi, e huri haere ana,  
Ma runga hau o Tawhirimatea  
Me Ranginui e*

E noho ra oku matua  
Titiro ki ahau e  
Roto i aku kakahu pai  
Te ataahua e

*Ma runga wakarererangi, e huri haere ana,  
Ma runga hau o Tawhirimatea  
Me Ranginui e*

Ka niihi - ki te hunga ora  
Nga maunga, nga awa  
Karanga ra

*Ma runga wakarererangi, e huri haere ana,  
Ma runga hau o Tawhirimatea  
Me Ranginui e*

### E NGA IWI

KAEA: E nga iwi

E nga iwi nga reo me nga hapu  
Whakarongo ra ki te reo karanga nei  
Mauria mai te aroha ki te koa te ngakau  
mo nga tamariki e tu nei

(ara wetewetekina)

Ko te kupu o nga tupuna  
Kia kaha kia toa kia manawanui  
No reira e nga iwi kia kaha ra  
Ki te hapai e nga mahi nei

Toia mai te waka nei  
Kumea mai te waka nei  
Ki te takotoranga i takoto ai  
Tiriti te mana motuhake  
Te tangi a te manu e  
Pipiwharaua  
Kui kui whiti whiti ora  
Hui e taiki e  
Totoia kumekumea hi

*Boys haka while girls repeat the toia part*

E mihi atu nei ko Waikato  
Haere mai e nga iwi haere mai  
Aue takiri e te aroha  
Kua rongo koe ki te powhiri e  
Awhinatia mai e nga iwi  
Aue aue tihei mauri ora e  
Puritia to mana maori motuhake  
Piki mai kake mai haere mai

tahi rua toru wha kss hi aue hi





## DOUBLE LONG POI

*(Kaea)* Tukua mai ra  
E ngâ poi roa  
E rua - e hine mâ  
Hikoi haere ki mua  
O te atamira tapu e

*(Katoa)* Titiro mai ra ki a matou

*(Repeat)* Ki ngâ poi nga poi roa  
O te aroha

E huri ana ki te taha  
Ngâ taharua ki mua  
whakamuri e

Bring forth your long pois  
and walk forward onto  
the stage

Look at our pois made full of love

They're turning to the sides,  
forwards and backwards

## AUE AUE RA

*(Repeat)* Aue e hine mâ  
Ka reka to ataahua  
Ka pai hoki - te whati ra  
O ngâ hope - e aue

Kanikani mai ana  
Ngâ poi roa e rua  
Kia raro, ki runga  
O tô aue tinina

Tênei taku pâtai  
Tâtou whakapiri ai  
Ngâ poi me te Tirakau  
Ki te hanga mai  
Te Kanikani hou

Ka noho tonu ana  
Koutou ngâ tane, ngâ Kai toa  
Ki whakamuri e

Ko mâtou e ngâ hine  
Ngâ kôtiro ka noho  
Tonu, ki mua e

Aue e hine mâ  
Ka reka to ataahua  
Ka pai hoki - te whati ra  
O ngâ hope - e aue

Tukua mai ra  
E ngâ poi roa  
E rua - e hine mâ  
Hikoi haere ki mua  
O te atamira tapu e

Alas maidens  
Your beauty  
And the motions  
of your body (hips)

Dance my pois  
below and above  
my body

This is what I want to know,  
let us join together  
our Tirakau and your poi  
and make a new dance together

And you warrior remain  
behind me to  
complement me

And we the maiden  
will remain in front of you  
to show our beauty





## HE ORANGA MAI

*Kaea*

He oranga mai hoki tatau  
I te parekura i Manawa-toki-tu

*Katoa*

Tu ko te hika o to whaea  
Kia matapopore mai ke te pirau o tō  
whanaunga  
Whanaunga mate ki te pō, tini o te pō,  
mana o te pō  
A! Ha! ngā korekore o te pō

*Kaea*

A! hei te pō, hei te pō

*Katoa*

Hei te aō, hei te aō

*Kaea*

A! hei te pō, hei te pō

*Katoa*

Hei te aō, hei te aō,  
Ka whera e i e  
Ka whera e i e  
Ka whero koia te ngutu o aua wahine,  
o tau tangata  
Whakapua kowai, ngutu-kaka, parera  
tokitoki

I!  
Mā wa wai e momia te tai o te kowhewhe  
tutata  
Ka haere tēnei ki te tiki tarewarewa  
Mo ana moko hei ana?  
Hei whakakote tamutamu  
Nō whaea atu ko te tamutamu?  
Nō Te Aopuhi kē ko te tamutamu!  
Ki mai nei Rehua-toro mana anake te  
korora  
Au, aue mate te korora  
Kukutia! Wherawherahia!  
Ki te tohe mai ia he aha te kai ma te niho  
kehokeho  
He keho ano!  
Tu ana te kehokeho!  
Ngaua ki ō niho, he mamae poto  
Kei pakoko kei tua tera whaitua  
Tihe!



## TIRAKAU

1 E te iwi E  
Maranga ake ra  
Ki runga i tēnei marae

Ringaringa pakia  
Waewae takahia  
Ringaringa e torona kei waho hoki mai  
Turi whatia  
Hope whai ake  
Hei hei hei - ha

2 Takoto ana au  
I te moenga uriuri  
Tu ake au  
Titiro ki te atarau  
Kei runga ra  
Te marama e whiti ana  
Kei reira Rona  
Kei roto ra  
Piri ki te taha ra  
Piri ki te Ngaio  
Aue ra e Rona e  
Aue Rona e

Hoea ra te waka e  
Hoea, Hoea, Hoea ra  
Ki te moana A Kiwa e  
Hoea Hoea ra

Ringaringa pakia  
Waewae takahia  
Ringaringa e torona kei waho hoki mai  
Turi whatia  
Hope whai ake  
Hei hei hei - ha

## PAPAKITAHU

**KAEA:**

Poi porotiti taupatupatu taupatupatu \*

**KATO:**

Papaki tahi kia rite te takahi  
kia kori to tinana ngawari  
taku poi raupo e rere atu ra  
ki taku aroha

Kia mau te aroha me te mahi tahi  
kia eke nga wawata  
titiro mai ki taku poi e rere nei  
ki taku aroha

**CHORUS:**

Kia rite, kia rite, kia rite

\* *Kaea repeats this call*



## TITITOREA

Ringitia mai - waeatia mai  
Tuhituhia mai e  
Kei te manawa tonu  
te aroha me te whakapono

Ki te pono koutou - Ki te matua  
E pai noa i ho e  
E horihori noiho te mamae  
O to tinana e

Rite tonu te mapu  
Te mapu o Amerika  
Ki nga manu te moana e  
E topa mai ana  
Whakatau iho ana  
E haere atu ana e

Ka noho Kiwi weka  
I tona nei motu  
Whakarongo kau ana e  
Ko tona mahi pai  
E noho noa iho  
I roto te puihi e

E tupu mai ana  
Ki roto te Mamaku  
Kei raro Kiwi weka e  
Ka whanau te heki  
Kotahi tau rawa  
Katahi ka paopao e

Ringitia mai - waeatia mai  
Tuhituhia mai e  
Kei te manawa tonu  
Te aroha me te whakapono

## KIKO

**KAEA:** Nga poi e rua, poi porotiti taupatupatu  
taupatupatu  
Kiko poi whiua

Kiko kiko tirohia kia whea te taunga  
O te titi waitori pare pare mai ra koe e te tiwaiwaka  
I te paepae o te tautara he nonotitaka te tau te  
mauri

**KAEA:** Kaitaina

Kaitaina mai ra i te Kokako koaka koaka  
Kia whakatauki te manu tui tui tui  
Ki te puaotanga kia whakapurua ki te remu  
o te huia

**KAEA :** Kia whakarongo

Kia whakarongo ki te tangi a te kawea  
Kawea mai ra i te tomatomato tanga o te  
tomairangi  
Kia rongu koe ki te pipiwharauoa  
Kui kui whiti whiti ora kia whakapainga ki te  
manu  
Tawhiorangi ka puta ka oranga



## E RERE TAKU POI

*Poi*

- \* E rere taku poi  
E rere taku poi  
Ki runga
  
- \* E rere taku poi  
E rere taku poi  
Ki raro  
E rere runga, e rere raro  
E rere waho, e rere roto  
E rere taku poi e rere taku poi  
Ki runga

## KO TE AROHA

Ko te aroha ano he wai.  
He pupu ake ana.  
He awa he matapuna mai ana  
I roto I te whatu manawa.  
Ko toona matapuna he hohonu.  
A ina ia karere anō  
Ko toona matapuna he hohonu.  
A ina ia karere anō  
He tai timu,  
He tai pari,  
He tai ope,  
He tai roa,  
He Tainui, He Tainui, He Tainui

## HOMAI E KOE

*Himene*

*Duet*

Homai e koe e Te Atua,  
O Manaakitanga kia matou aue!

*Katoa* E Te Atua Hareruia, (Hareruia)  
Kororia ki to ingoa tino tapu,  
Anei ra e lhowa, o pononga  
Mai ia koe te Kinginui,  
Kinginui!

*Wahine:* E Te Atua

*Tane:* Kororia

*Wahine:* Hareruia

*Katoa:* Ki to ingoa  
Ki to ingoa  
E Ihowa/Amine

*Kaituhi N. Nitro*



I remember very clearly when Robyn Roa first mentioned the idea of the trip, thinking "No way! That's just not possible! It's just too massive an undertaking ! " However, Robyn had a look in her eye that I have learnt to respect and she said simply, "I know we can do it !" And of course they did do it. The Ngaruawahia High School Kapa Haka group traveled to the United States. What an achievement.

Whenever there is a major achievement in a school, you can guarantee that there is a group of very hardworking and committed teachers at the back of it and this trip was no exception. The fundraising effort was mind blowing. Weekend after weekend saw Robyn and Poppy organising yet another fundraising event. They were assisted by the other teachers and many parents and, of course, the students themselves. The combined forces succeeded in achieving the goal. All those people deserve congratulations.

The video of the trip showed that the students performed brilliantly wherever they went, and they were obviously received very well. Mind you, that is no surprise considering the training that went into the performance. Pare Paki is a hard taskmistress and her hard work paid off. Credit must also go to the students who were prepared to put in the hard work. The amazing photo at the Grand Canyon showed the students in their full glory.

For the students this was the opportunity of a lifetime - a memory to treasure forever.

And that is why the teachers and parents worked so hard. They knew the long term value of such an experience. The students have a lot to be grateful for. However, I know that everyone concerned knew that the students were worth it and deserved the experience.

We all look forward to the next big excursion !!!!!

*Barbara Cavanagh*  
*Principal*



# *Tuesday 31st March 1998*

## *Farewells*

On the Tuesday before departure, at 2:30 in the afternoon the tour group performed to the school and members of their whanau. They went through the programme that would be performed at four different venues in the States.

Poppy Ranga was compere for the performance and gave an overview of the tour and its participants. The adults who were to accompany the group were also introduced to the audience.

In the audience was Jo Santamaria of The

House of Travel who were the travel agents for the flights and accommodation in Los Angeles.

The Salt Lake City and Boulder City billeting was being organised by friends of Richard Crawford living in those cities.

The Page, Arizona leg of the trip was changed when those overseas responsible for its organisation failed to make arrangements for it. This caused great dismay at the time but proved to be a dark cloud with a silver lining as later alternative arrangements were confirmed.



Girls of the tour group prepare backstage at the High School to give a farewell performance to the school.



A packed Ngaruawahia High School assembly hall of pupils, staff, family and friends watching the farewell performance of the Kapa Haka USA tour party.





The audience at the Ngaruawahia High School assembly hall as the group complete their presentation



The tour group perform their tour programme to students, staff and family.



# *Thursday 2nd April 1998*

## *The Departure*



Final group photograph outside the main gates after the formal farewell on Turangawaewae Marae, with all touring



Another shot of the group outside the main gates of Turangawaewae Marae, Ngaruawahia, before getting out of the rain and boarding the bus for Auckland.





Just prior to leaving Ngaruawahia for Whâtâpaka Marae on our way to Auckland Airport. Gail Wharakura (lower right) administered the group's money during the 18-month fundraising period. Several other parents travelled to Auckland both on the bus and in private cars to farewell the travellers.

How fortuitous that the Post Primary Teachers Association had called a strike for teachers in our region on the day of our departure and school was out!

The tour group, parents and well-wishers assembled on Turangawaewae Marae for a formal farewell. The weather was wet and showery and there was a little competition for dry seats alongside the marae as the farewells and replies were made.

Suitcases were stacked into the bus outside the marae on River Road, a check made on everybody being present and then at 3:00pm we left for Whâtâpaka Marae in Papakura to pay our respects to Waiata Kingi (who had lost her life in a holiday accident on her home marae).

The group looked fine in travel uniform of black longs or skirts, white shirt and travel jacket.

The journey north saw the inner surfaces of the bus windows mist up and some 'on the move' demisting had to be carried out so that the driver could see where to go!

The bus made the traditional stop to pay respects below Taupiri Mountain before resuming the journey. Another stop was made in Huntly to collect a bouquet of flowers to place on the grave of Waiata Kingi at Whâtâpaka Marae.

There was a low level form of excitement amongst the travellers as they settled in, with several of the boys isolating themselves between headphones as they listened to their tapes. The girls chatted and occasionally broke into a song or two.

The weather continued to be broken with occasional showers and bursts of sunshine, not that anyone in the bus cared!



A well-wisher helps the bus driver to clear off the misted-up window as the bus moves along State Highway 1 to Papakura.





Backseaters Rihi Mita-Watene, Te Waiti Walker and Kameta Puke signal their pleasure at going overseas with (in front) Riki Lee Peters, Maera Paki and Kura Walker.



Motuiti Hona gives his standard response to photographs while Leon Matthews (rear) and Isaac Royal are looking far more staunch than an effervescent Kura Walker who wants to get into another picture!





Arriving at Whâtâpaka Marae on our way to Auckland Airport. The travellers have called in to pay respects to Waiata Kingi, who is buried in the family cemetery on a small hill above the marae.



A whanau and travellers photograph on the Whâtâpaka marae. The tourists visited Waiata's grave and then entertained with a portion of their tour programme. The hosts fed the group and gave a koha for use on the trip.



Assembling all of the travel luggage (48 cases) at Auckland airport. Gail Wharakura (acting relaxed in the background) looks forward to two weeks of peace from managing the groups' funds.



A very solemn and emotional time was spent at the graveside of Waiata Kingi at Whâtâpaka Marae, west of Papakura. Waiata was an original member of the travel group before she died through an accident on her home marae.

Flowers from the group and individual posies were placed on the grave by members of the group and a waiata was sung.

The overcast weather saw a break in the clouds and the sun shine through onto the hilltop where the grave was during the service. The clouds closed in again and the showers swept in once the group had departed back to the marae.

The marae members fed the group and provided a koha for the travellers. This part of the trip was emotionally highly charged as the group members remembered one of their own.

Shortly before 6:00pm the bus carried on to the Auckland International Airport where there were 48 travel bags unloaded and processed for us by representatives of the House of Travel.

The time prior to leaving was spent with family, eating, exploring the complex and just gossiping. Al Duane Ngakuru used up some of his energy by competing against the escalators and marking time halfway up (or down)!



Kameta Puke, Lalita Hari, Kotiro Turner and Casey Mia Hawkins have Tutereinga Holland at their feet at the Auckland International Airport.



Robin Roa, Casey Mia Hawkins, Te Waiti Walker, Pare Paki, Kura Walker, Maera Paki and Wynel Te Wiata wait in the airport group departure lounge as all the luggage is processed.



The group assembled at the departure doors where a farewell waiata was sung. Jake Puke, one of the parents, responded with a chant on behalf of the whanau and then the boys performed the haka "Hei Oranga". It was indeed a moving experience.

By this stage the farewell sounds had attracted many more onlookers from the airport. Most of the shops around the area were emptied as customers and retailers alike came to watch the families say goodbye.

Just prior to our leaving a group of young soccer players from the Auckland area were departing for a tournament in Dallas, Texas. There were a few exchanges of pleasantries as adults from both groups excitedly swapped itineraries.

Sandy MacDonald spent time taking photographs of the families while Isaac Royal faithfully recorded the same on Richard Crawford's video camera.



A view of those who came to see off the group, watching the tourists giving a farewell waiata and haka.



Looking from the rear of the well-wishers to the touring group performing at the Auckland airport.



A number of the travellers browsed the duty free stores, some purchasing items for family (not willing to wait to do the same on the way home).

In some cases prices were not an issue as the students had the opportunity to just spend before they left New Zealand.

At 8:15pm there was the parting of the ways and the party headed off through the doors to the departure complex where there were even more shops and shopping opportunities.

Families were able to wave their last waves from the observation windows above the international departure hall. Members of the group felt as though they were in another world, being watched by distant faces at upper windows.

Thirty minutes was spent in sitting, talking, eating and window-shopping while waiting for the boarding call.

There were a few nervous people as the the flight call approached.



A rear view of the group performing to parents, whanau and other airport users who were attracted by the event.



A rear view of the group performing to parents, whanau and other airport users who were attracted by the event





The first few members of the group are not sure about walking through the departure gates and into the international departure area. There were a few 'false starts' before all the group were able to break away.



A rather dark view of the non-travellers being able to look down into the departure area from the upstairs viewing area on the third floor of the air terminal. Family members were there for their final waves.





Te Manawaroa Teinakore (rear) keeps a motherly eye over Kameta Puke, Maera Paki, Kura Walker and Rangiherehere Katipa as they snack on icecreams in the departure lounge of Auckland airport.



Kura Walker, Riki Lee Peters and Corrie Wharakura smile in anticipation in the background as Kameta Puke and Jacqueline Pouaka check out seatbelts and headphones on board the aircraft.



In settling into seats after boarding, many of the students appeared to forget there were about 400 others in the plane and became lost in their own little worlds of wonder. In their excitement they called to each other across the cabin as to which channel on the earphones was 'choice' and

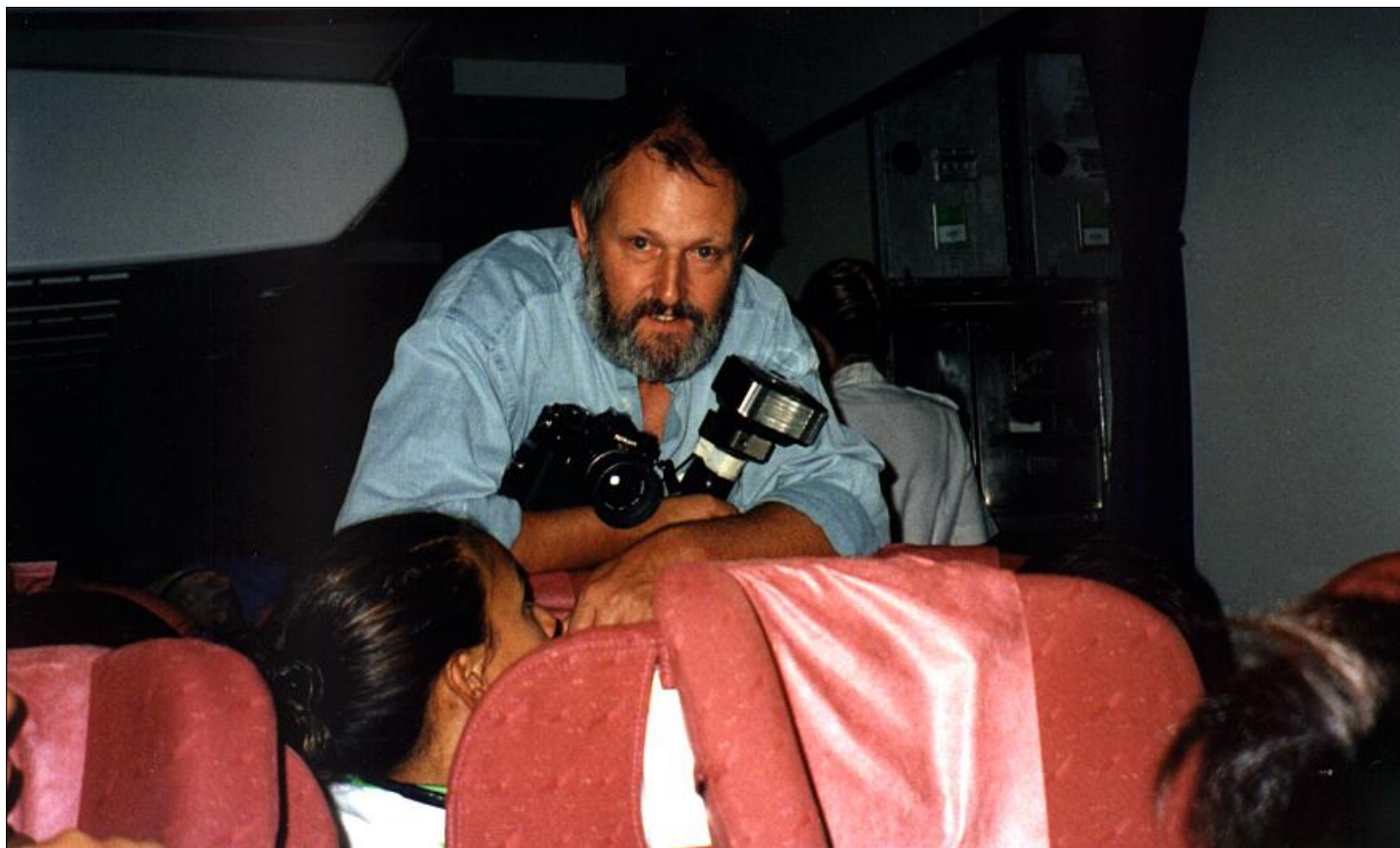
squirmed around until they found socially comfortable seats.

The evening meal was quickly followed by in-flight movies "*Spice Girls*" and "*Good Will Hunting*", but most of the group succumbed to sleep in their seats.



Motuiti Hona checks out the best head position as he settles in before take-off.





This professional photographer, during the first hour of the flight, was taking pictures of one of the hostesses carrying out her cabin duties. He said he was preparing a careers-oriented book for New Zealand publication. Several of the tour party featured in the photographs that he took.



The before and after of Rangiherehere's evening meal on board the flight. There was the choice of turkey, lasagne or beef. Sandy MacDonald ate his meal as well as Motuiti's!



Rangiherehere trying to avoid getting her photograph taken early in the 10-hour flight to Los Angeles.

After the meals and drinks had been tidied away, some of the team played musical chairs as they moved around to socialise with different friends.

Rangiherehere, to her embarrassment, found that the headphones worked better when she plugged them in!

Lots of photographs were taken during the first 2 hours by many, but few turned out.

The plane speed built up to 1,034 kph as we climbed to a height of 11 kilometers. The air temperature outside was, we were shown, minus 34 degrees Centigrade. This information, and our position over the Pacific Ocean, was constantly updated on the TV screen overhead. This information ceased when the movies began to be screened. After the meal we were asked to pull down the window shades.

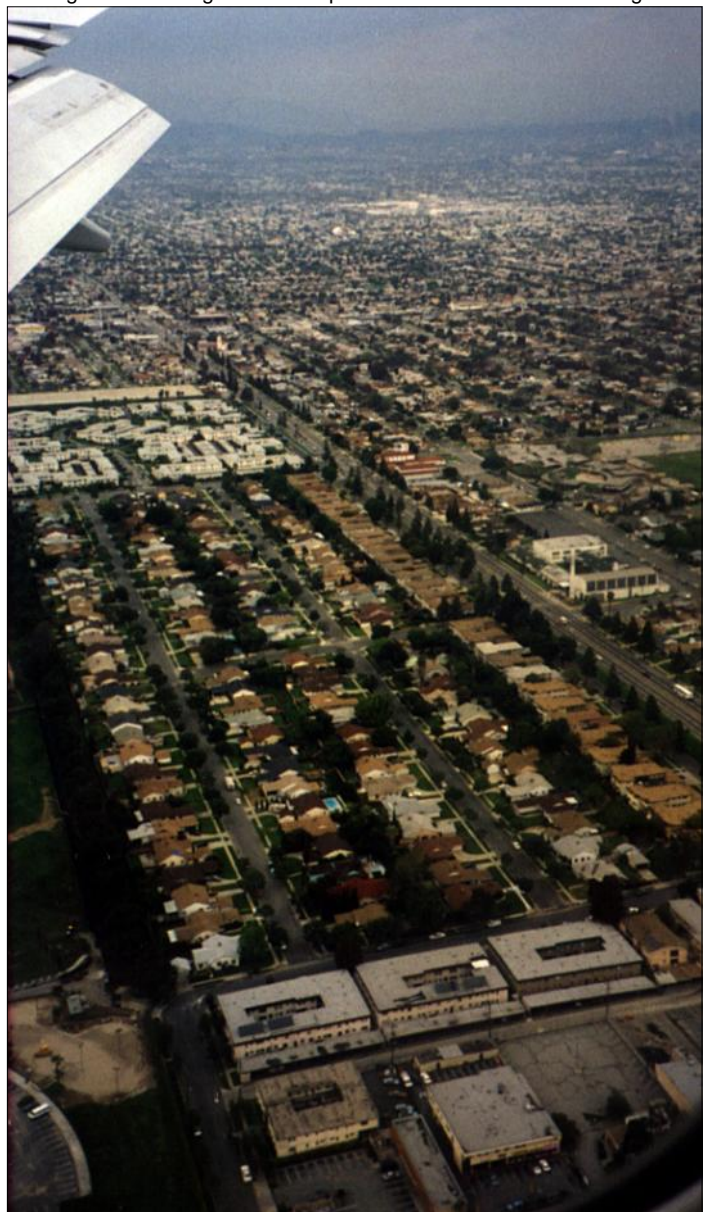


Casey Mia Hawkins, who celebrated her 15th birthday on this flight (and again in Salt Lake City), strikes up a friendship with a young American returning home.





First sight of California, Thursday morning 2nd April.



Los Angeles suburbs near the airport



As we awoke from our overnight rest, one or two of the party who were sitting on the eastern side of the plane made the mistake of pushing up the window covers – and were nearly blinded by early morning sun! The shades came down just as fast!

Shortly after breakfast, we descended more rapidly and caught our first sight of the United States. As we approached for landing Jesse Royal commented that the suburbs looked ugly and drab.

As we arrived 10 minutes ahead of schedule the plane had to ‘park’ out on the runway until a terminal became available.

The collection of the luggage and the administration of customs was about the most exciting thing the group did for the next six hours as they waited in the terminal for the Salt Lake City connection.

A few of the boys made attempts to play touch football in the waiting lounge until advised that it was not permitted.





Rihi, Casey Mia and Te Ngaru playing cards on the floor of the Los Angeles domestic terminal as they wait for the connecting flight to Salt Lake City. This was a very boring interval for the students as they could not leave the area.



(Above) Casey Mia, Kura and Rangiherehere in part of the Los Angeles domestic airport terminal about to head off to the Delta Airlines area for the next flight to Salt Lake City. In the left background are Tutereinga Holland, Corrie Wharakura and Te Whainoa Te Wiata.

(Left) Malana Grey, Robyn Roa, Kameta Puke and Maera Paki about to follow the signs to our next flight departure gate for Salt Lake City.





Te Manawaroa Teinakore, Piata Murray and Malana Grey, Los Angeles airport.



Sandy MacDonald, Kameta Puke, Te Ngaru Brown and Marrin Haggie filling in time before the Salt Lake City flight.



Robyn Roa (left), Pokaia Matthews, Tutereinga Holland and Lalita Hari in the Los Angeles airport.

A visit to a McDonalds fast food outlet in the terminal was met with disbelief that the burgers were almost twice the price and half the size of the New Zealand equivalent! Marrin took his meal back for a replacement as it was not prepared properly!

During the short free bus ride between the international and the domestic terminals Tutereinga saw his first police officer - *"Man, this*

*is scary! The cops have guns!"*.

Several of the boys had the idea that every tall, shaved-head negro they saw had to be a basketball star!

The traffic going through the access roads at the airport was closely scrutinized as to vehicle model, stereo sounds and occupants.

Casey Mia Hawkins clung to Richard Crawford's side - *"This is scary!"* she said.



Waiting for the luggage to come off the carousel at Salt Lake City airport, 9:30pm Thursday 2nd April.





Collecting the luggage prior to loading it onto a yellow school bus at Salt Lake City airport.



(Above) Te Waiti, Rihi, Kura and Maera proudly posing alongside a very long yellow school bus sent to fetch us from the Salt Lake City airport and take us to meet our billets waiting in a chapel auditorium closer to the city.

(Right) Rihi Mita-Watene and 'her' bus.







Greeting our hosts after the speech-making in a basketball auditorium beneath an LDS chapel.



The touring party responding to the welcome by our Salt Lake City hosts.



Tonia and Joseph Maere, who hosted Richard Crawford and Sandy MacDonald in Salt Lake City. Joseph is an old school-mate of Richard's. They went to Primary, Intermediate and Secondary School together.



## *Salt Lake City Billet Assignments*

<i>Manuhiri</i>	<i>Tangata Whenua</i>	<i>City</i>
Richard Crawford..... Sandy MacDonald	Joseph & Tanya Maere .....	Riverton
Pare Paki .....	President Charles & Alta Lloyd.....	Salt Lake City
Lalita Hari Corrie Wharakura		
Te Manawa Roa Teinakore..... Riki Lee Peters	Mary Ann Price / Haraki's.....	Salt Lake City
Maera Paki .....	Shreev & Tracy Peterson .....	Salt Lake City
Kura Walker		
Te Waiti Walker..... Rihi Mita-Watene	Craig & Julie Pacini.....	Salt Lake City
Malana Gray..... Casey-Mia Hawkins	Don & Charmaine Peterson .....	Salt Lake City
Rangiherehere Katipa..... Te Ngaru Brown	Rocky & Margaret Haraki .....	Salt Lake City
Jacqueline Pouaka..... Piata Murray	Mark & Donna Burgess .....	Riverton
Kotiro Turner .....	Geoff & Dolly Baker .....	Sandy
Kameta Puke		
Jesse Royal..... Isaac Royal	Nas & Sanda Atkinson / Phillips .....	Bountiful
Leon Matthews..... Motuiti Hona	Lynn & Liz Moore .....	Am Fork
Robyn Roa .....	Stephen & Marcy Barlow .....	Farmington
Poppy Ranga		
Marrin Haggie .....	Chuck & Tanya Schumaker.....	South Jordan
Pokaia Matthews		
Al Duane Ngakuru .....	Dave & Jenni Atkinson.....	Bountiful
Tutereinga Holland		
Wynel Te Wiata .....	Mary Lund	
Te Whainoa Te Wiata		

*Several of our hosts had registered for the Church College of New Zealand Reunion and flew out early, with some redistribution of the teenagers being arranged with new families.*

The following agenda of the group's stay in Salt Lake City was prepared by and supplied to our hosts so that they would know what their New Zealand visitors would be doing while in the city.

*Thursday April 2nd*

- 6:00pm Hangi & Show  
400 East 700 South, SLC
- 9:30pm Powhiri for group  
Billets & hosts match up.

*Friday April 3rd*

- Free Day
- 7:00pm NZMS Reunion  
1200 W 1200 N, Rose Park

*Saturday April 4th*

- Free Day
- 8:00pm NZAS Gold & Green Ball  
200 N 175 W, SLC

*Sunday April 5th*

- Free Day
- 7:00pm Kiwi get-together at  
Pacini's/Metcalf  
837 Juniper Point Drive, SLC

*Monday April 6th*

- Free Day
- 7:00pm Highland High School Show  
2166 S 1700 E, SLC

*Tuesday April 7th*

- 7:30am North depart from  
400 E 700 S, SLC
- 8:00am South depart from  
South Town Mall, ZCMI  
10600 South State, Sandy
- 8:30am Tour BYU Campus
- 11:00am Depart for Boulder City
- 6:30pm Arrive Boulder City, Nevada.



# *Friday 3rd April 1998*

## *Salt Lake City*



Early morning views from the Maere home in the Salt Lake valley on the first day in Utah. The mountain ranges that surround the huge valley were visible on three sides with the southern range too far away to be seen. Winter had ended and the snow capped mountains heralded the North American spring.



The billets let their charges sleep in this Friday morning before taking them out on a variety of activities. All except Corrie who is suffering from a throat infection and is staying in with Lalita and his host family. There are a few others suffering a little under the weather, but this is being put down to tiredness and excitement.

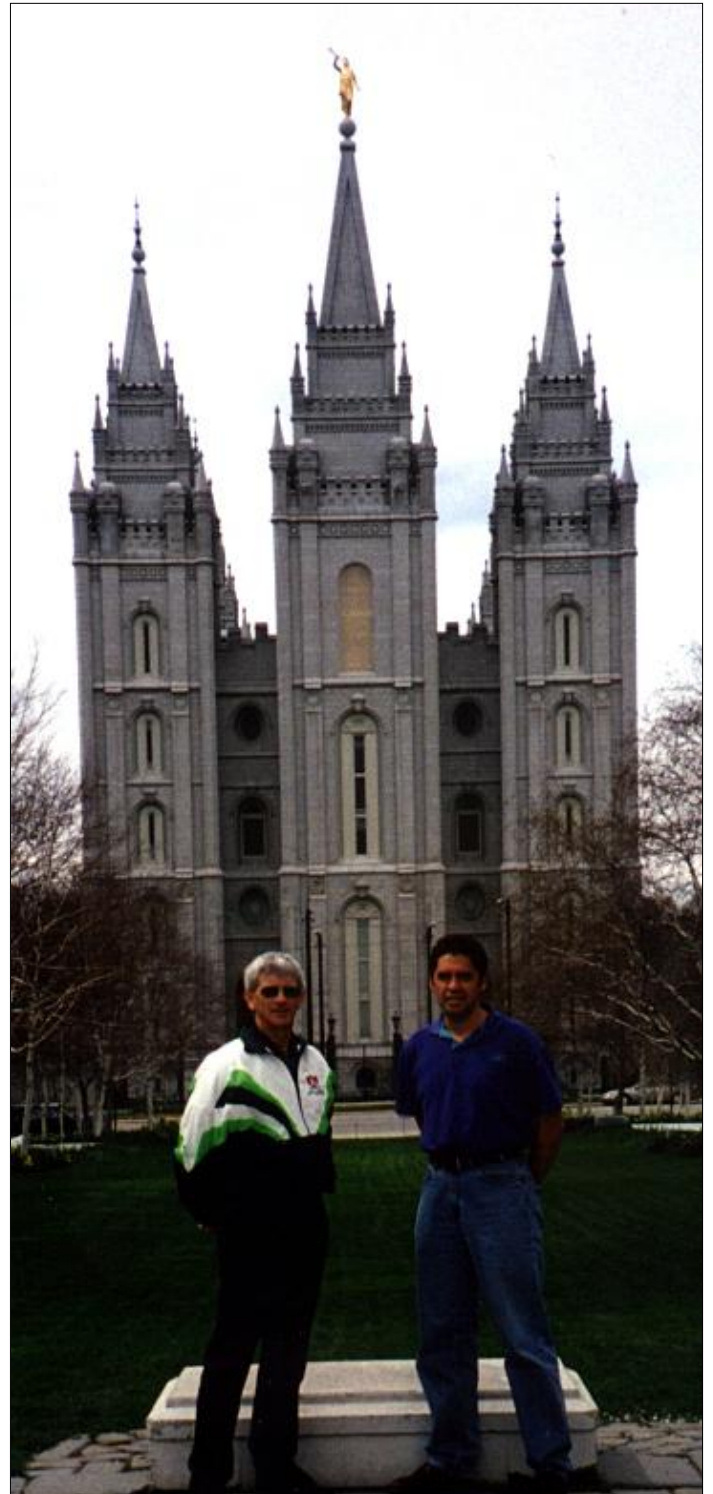


Pare Paki and Wynel Te Wiata in front of the Salt Lake Temple on Temple Square, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Richard and Sandy went into the city centre and checked out the view from the 26th floor of the LDS Church Office building as they planned to take the group up there on Monday. From there all of Salt Lake City can be seen.

A superficial browse of the stores seemed to indicate that the prices were just about the same as in New Zealand so some bargain hunting looked to be in order.

The Mall opposite Temple Square had a great variety of food stores, convenience shops and department stores.



Sandy MacDonald and Richard Crawford at the rear of the Salt Lake Temple on Temple Square.





Richard and Sandy headed for the Salt Lake Tabernacle to collect passes for the Saturday morning session of General Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and were lucky enough to be able to collect some. Both had brought their suits on the tour in case the opportunity arose.

The weather was clear and mild, a typical spring day in Salt Lake.

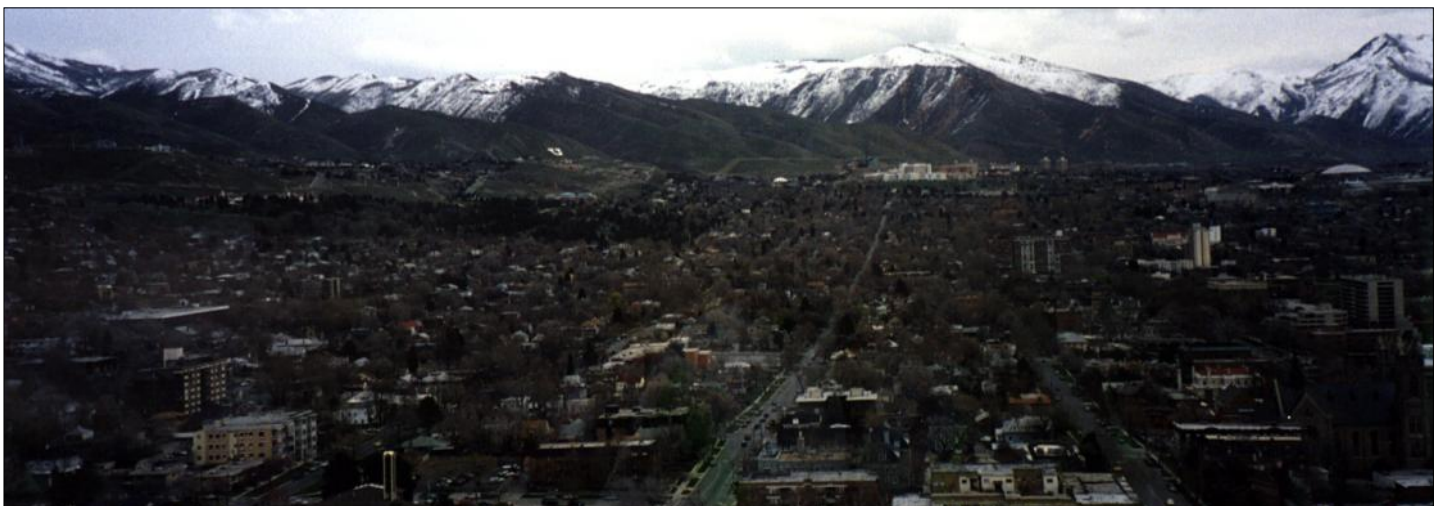
Several of the adults ran across each other on Temple Square and swapped shopping yarns, then viewed an art display in the Joseph Smith Memorial Building.

This building used to be the Hotel Utah, an opulent residence for travellers. The structure was commenced in 1909 and no expense was spared in its construction. In 1993 it underwent a three-year restoration and now is used as a visitors centre, administration and the venue for the film *Legacy*, a film portrayal of the experiences of early Latter-day Saints.

Te Manawa Roa Teinakore had quite a full day – shopping, cooking dinner American style, attending a 24-hour movie theatre (\$1 to get in), drove her host's car, being video'ed doing kapa haka with the other children in her family, met the 'relatives' and had her first taste of *Dirty Dog* and *Slappy Joes!*

*Left:* Richard Crawford in the foyer of the Joseph Smith Memorial Building, Salt Lake City.

*Below:* A view of Salt Lake City from the viewing deck on the 26th floor of the LDS Church Office Building.







Views around the city from the 26th floor of the LDS Church Office Building.





View of the city from the 26th floor of the LDS Church Office Building.



Views around the city from the 26th floor of the LDS Church Office Building. The flat-roofed building to the centre right of the photo is the Delta Centre, home of the Utah Jazz and Utah Starz basketball franchises.





From the viewing floor of the Church Office Building the tour group was able to see the construction (*above*) of the Church of Jesus Christ's new assembly building across the road from Temple Square.

The auditorium will seat about 21,000 people for general conference sessions and is the fan-shaped structure in the photo. The construction of the auditorium, a smaller 900-seat theatre and underground parking structures for 1,300 cars should be complete by April 2000.

The building has the look of a multi-purpose arena but it will be a house of worship.

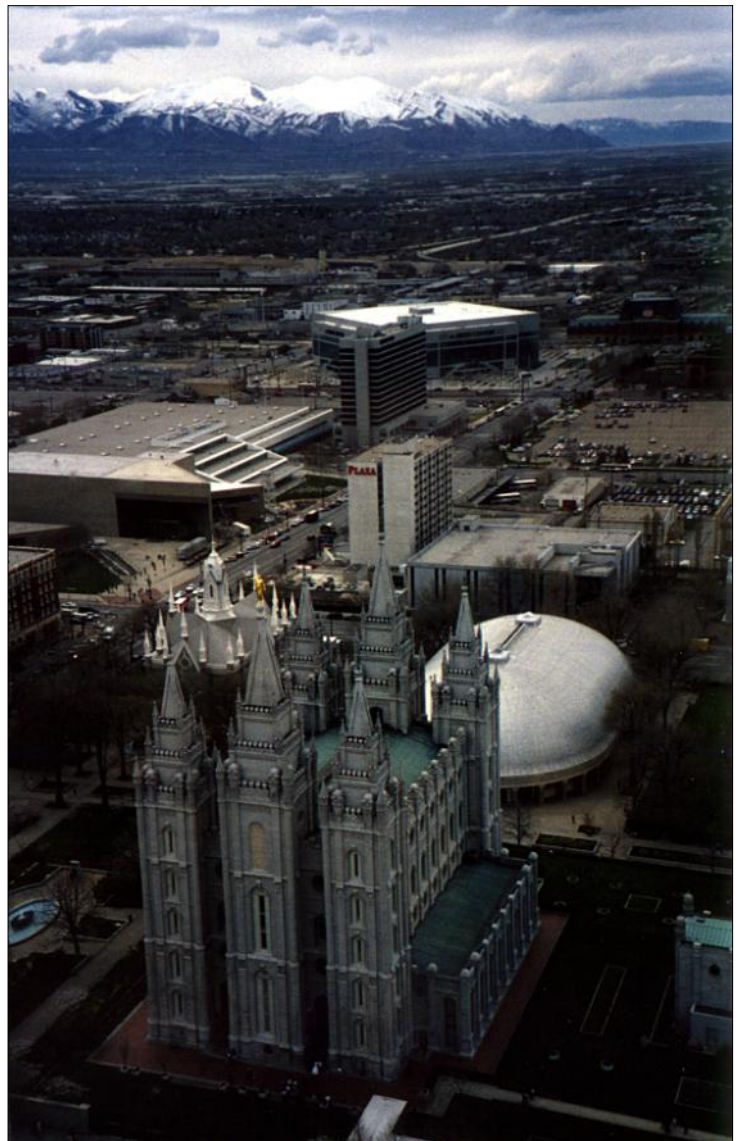
Because of the building's uniqueness there are no other structures like it in the world for its designers to use as a model.

The main auditorium will be large enough to house a Boeing 747 jet aircraft and the main support for the roof will be a 600-ton steel beam that was lifted into place in September 1998.

The auditorium's concrete shell is being strengthened with 15,000 tons of reinforcing steel. In the initial stages of construction 600 workers are employed with a work force of 900 towards the latter stages. Forty-five sub-contractors are also involved.

The Salt Lake Temple, dedicated April 6th 1893 after 40 years in construction, with the Salt Lake Tabernacle behind.

The prominent ten-acre block of Temple Square (*right*) is home of the many-spired Salt Lake Temple; the Salt Lake Tabernacle, the egg-shaped auditorium that houses the world-renowned Mormon Tabernacle Choir; the architecturally elegant Assembly Hall, where free weekly concerts are offered locals as well as tourists; and two fascinating visitors centres, all set in lushly landscaped grounds.







Corrie Wharakura in the home of his Salt Lake City host. Corrie contracted a throat infection early in the trip and was lucky enough to be treated by his hosts, who lived in apartments adjacent to Temple Square. Kapa Haka funds were used to reimburse the Lloyds.



Another view of Corrie's foster home in Salt Lake City, with prints from New Zealand artist Rei Hamon.





Large screen television in "Corrie's" lounge at the Lloyd home, Salt Lake City.



Above and right: Mary Lund, who hosted Te Whainoa and Wynel Te Wiata in Salt Lake. Mary is an ex-Ngaruawahia resident of the Hutchison family.



Host family members for Jesse and Isaac Royal in Salt Lake City.



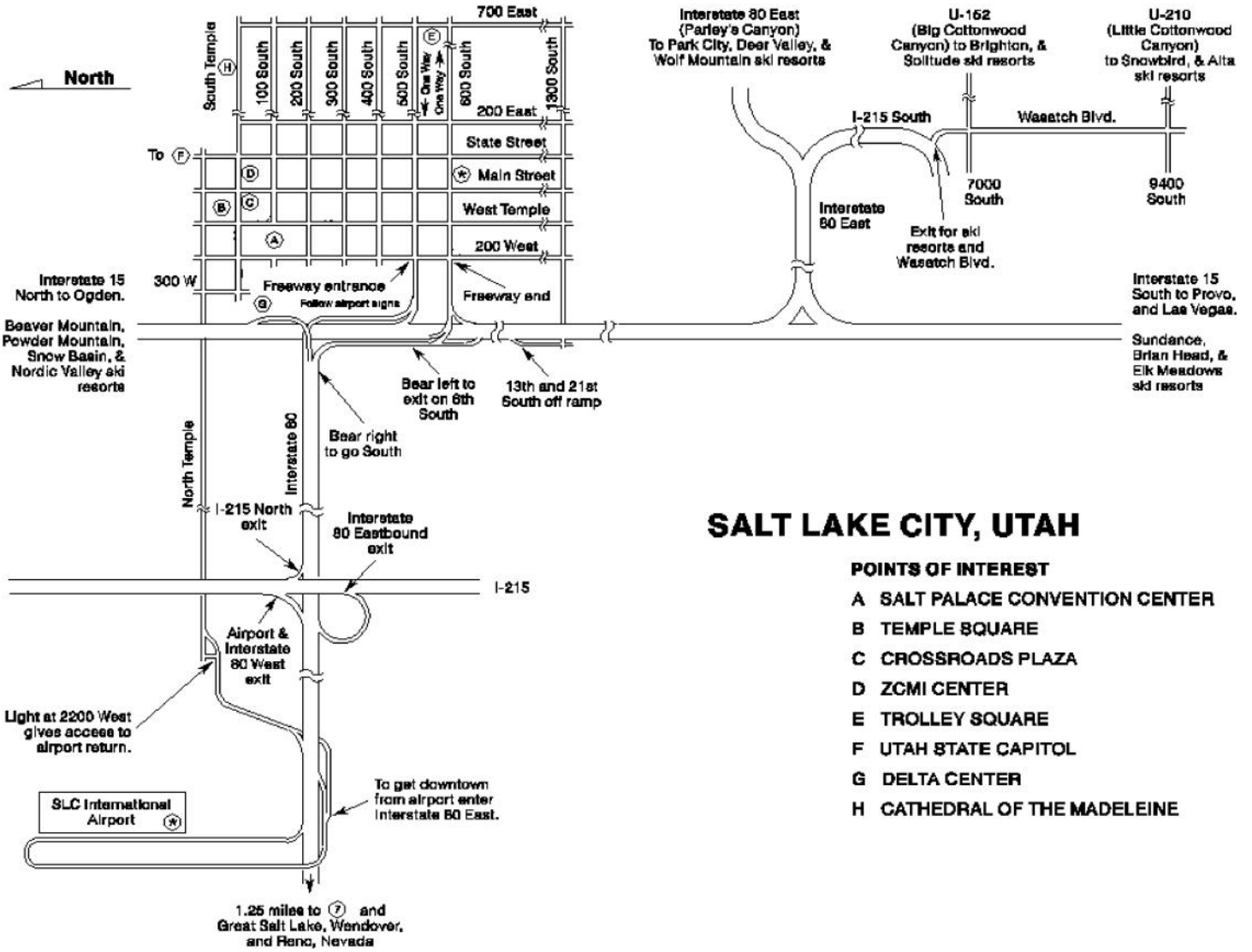




Pokaia Matthews having fun and games at his hosts home, Salt Lake City.



Marrin Haggie with the children of his hosts in Salt Lake City.





On this Friday evening the group were brought by their families to the Rose Park North Stake Center where the New Zealand Returned Missionaries Reunion was being held, and at which the group was to entertain. Over 800 people were at the Reunion, the majority of whom had served prostelyting missions for the LDS Church in New Zealand.

It was discovered that the group's

performance had been pre-advertised on local TV! Several of the group saw the advertisement as they surfed their way through some of the huge range of TV stations available.

The group warmed up in a classroom away from the stage. The audience was full of praise for the group who gave an emotional display. A koha of US\$50 was presented to the tourists after the show.



Te Waiti, Te Ngaru, Malana and Jacqueline warming up in a side room for the performance at the New Zealand Returned Missionaries Reunion. There were approximately 800 attending who had served LDS missions in New Zealand over the past 60 years.



Kotiro, Maera, Rangiherehere and Rihi practicing for the NZRMC Reunion.





Richard Crawford introducing the group to the audience at the NZ Returned Missionary Reunion.



(Above & Right) The group performing to 800 members of the New Zealand Returned Missionary Reunion.

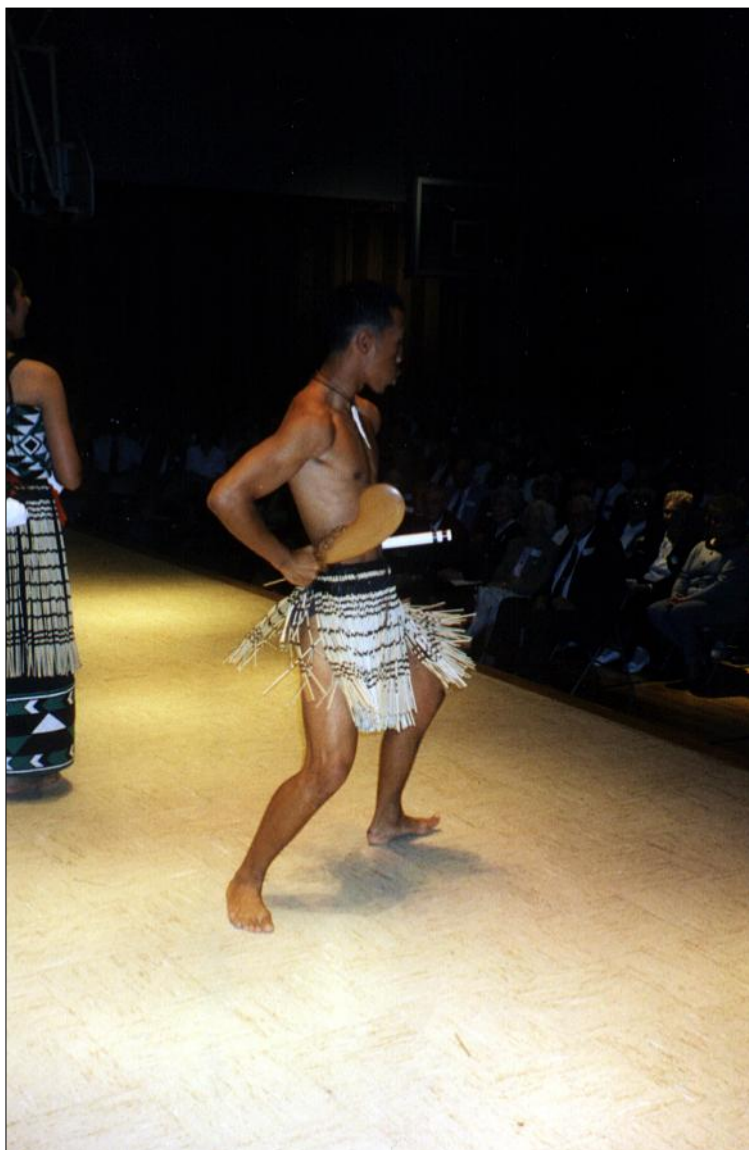








Brian Layton, one of our hosts in Salt Lake City.



Leon Matthews going solo during the final waiata.



Doing an item with 'volunteers' from the NZ Returned Missionary Reunion concert.

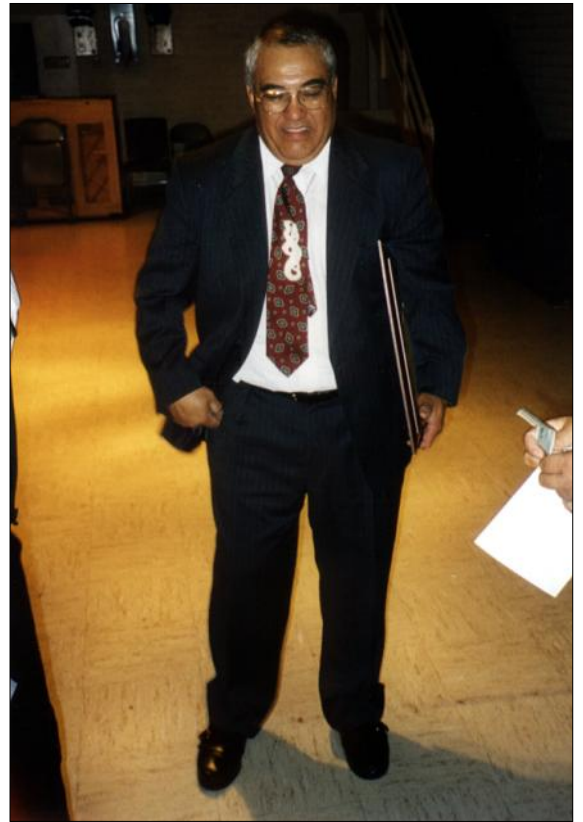




(Top and Above) Final item at the Returned Missionary concert.

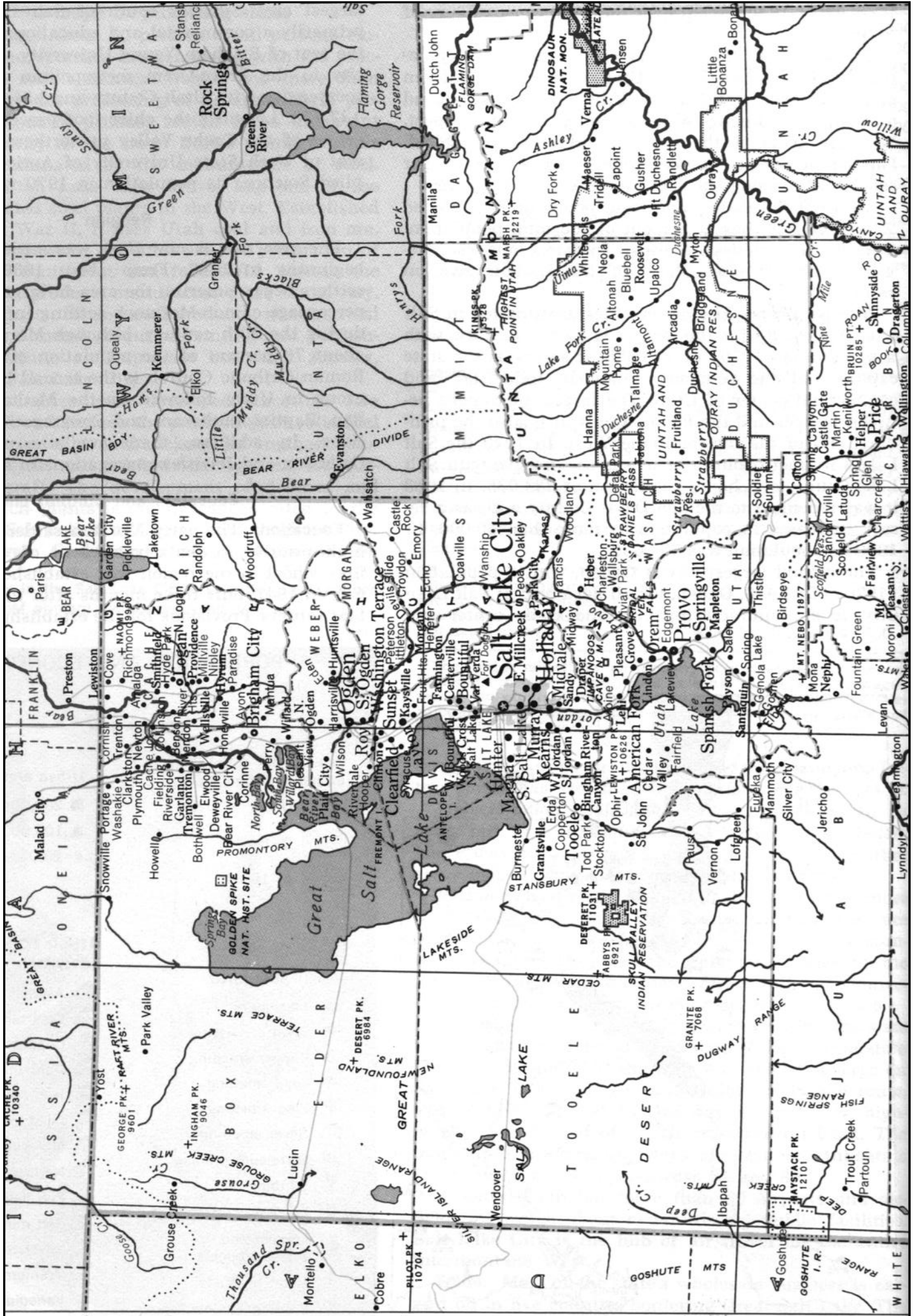


Al Duane Ngakuru getting to grips with a little hoop-la after the concert with some of his mates from Salt Lake.

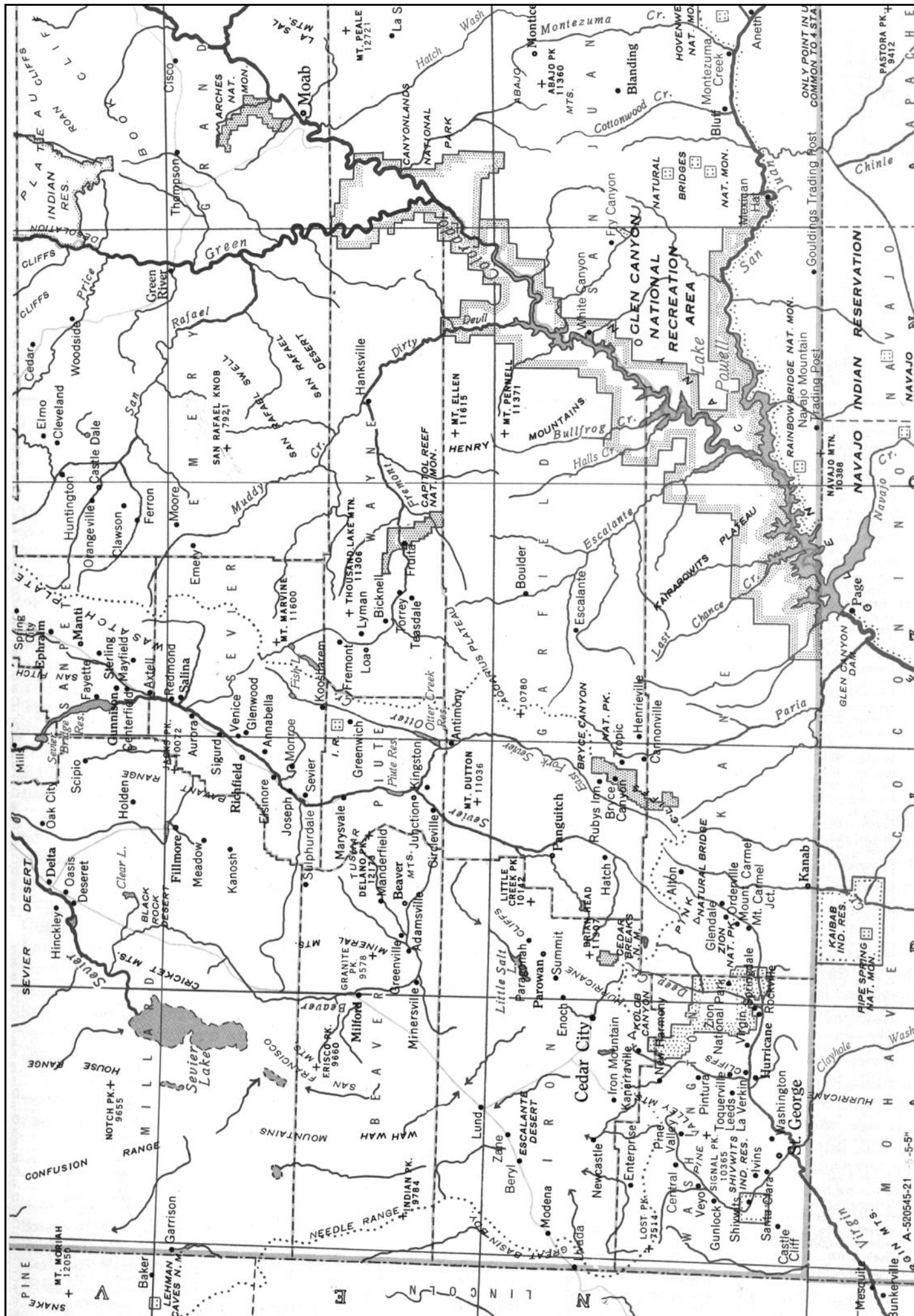


This gentleman presented the group with a koha after the performance.











# NEW ZEALAND MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Rose Park North Stake Center  
1155 North 1200 West  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
Friday April 3rd, 1998

- Welcome.....John Sonnenberg**
- Opening Song.....p.164 Hark, All Ye Nations  
one verse Koutou Katao Ra**
- Invocation..... Brother Charles L. Querry**
- Introductions....**
- Guests, visitors and recently returned missionaries.**
- Diplomatic Report.....Ian B. McKay, Honorary Consul**
- Speaker.....President Charles Lloyd**
- Presentation of Te Aroha Nui Award.....Glen Rudd**
- Closing Song.....Called To Serve**
- Benediction..... Brother Don Stott**
- Musical Presentation.....under direction of David Atkinson**

Our thanks to Bro. James E. Bean, chorister, and Sister Marjorie Kjar, pianist for the music and to all who have served us this evening. And our special thanks to the young people of New Zealand who performed for us.

Refreshments in cultural hall.



This was the programme of the evening at the Rose Park North Stake Center where the group performed to over 800 returned missionaries who had served up to two years in New Zealand in proselyting and labour missions for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



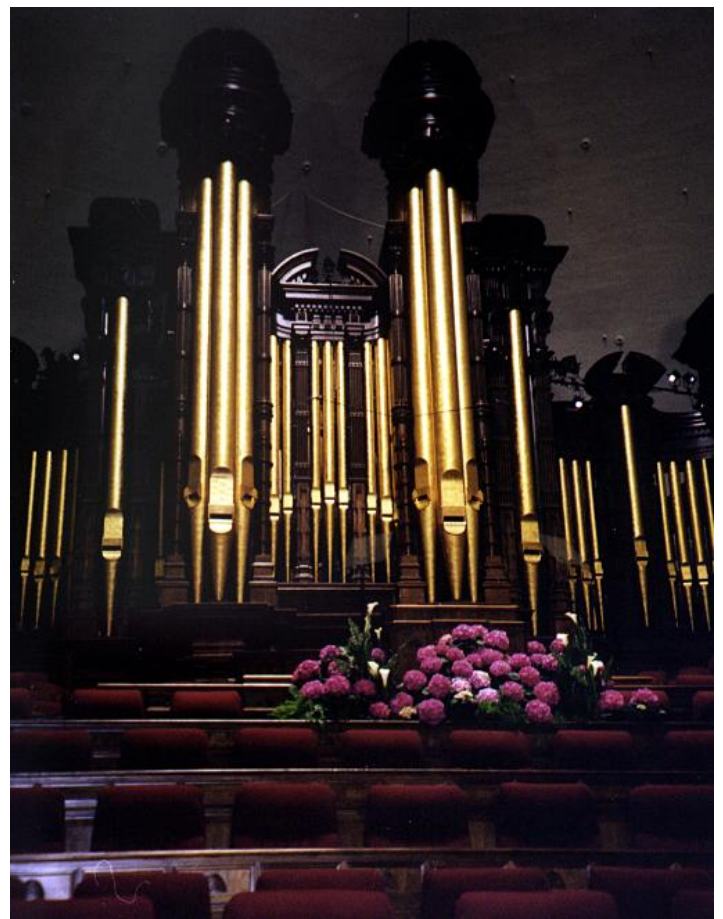
# Saturday 4th April 1998



A view from up in the mountains at Park Ridge, a skiing resort. Shown is one of the numerous chapels in the Salt Valley. A number of the group visited the Outlet Stores there and some stayed over in hosts cabins for the weekend, enjoying mountain activities.



Lalita, Corrie and Pare visit the Tabernacle and view the organ with Alta Lloyd, on Temple Square .



The Tabernacle organ on Temple Square. The building is readied for Conference sessions.





Corrie and Pare flanked by hosts Charles and Alta Lloyd in front of the organ and rostrum in the Tabernacle building on Temple Square, Salt Lake City.



The weather along with the dryness of the air in Utah caused a few chapped lips and a rush to purchase some lip salve.

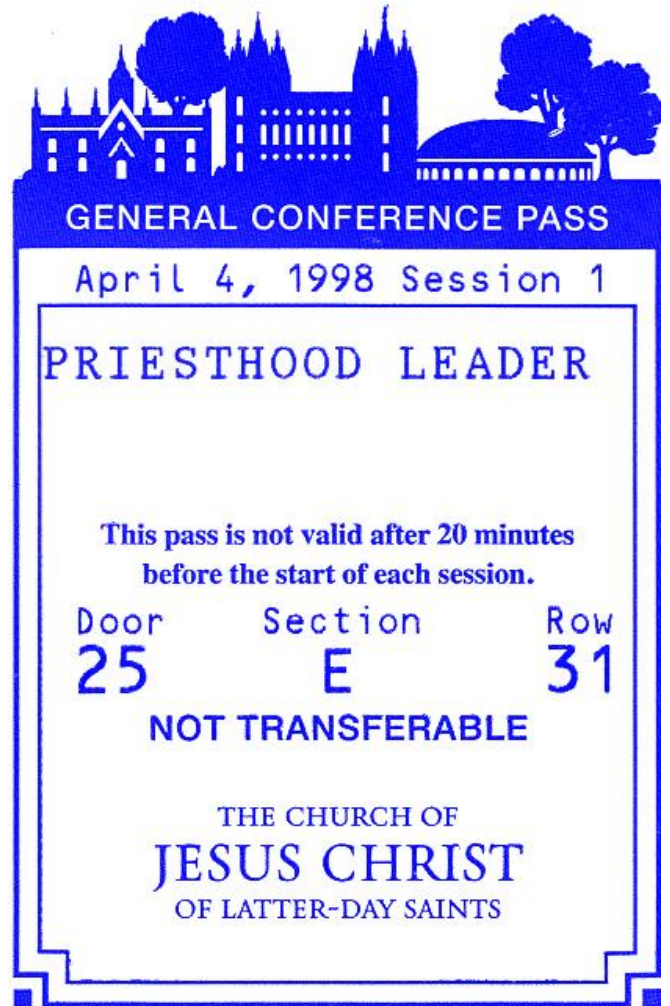
Most of the billets let their charges sleep in as there was the inevitable late night after the NZ Returned Missionary Society performance the previous night.

Sandy and Richard dressed up in their No.1's and attended the morning session of the LDS Conference, which was televised throughout the state and many other places around the world. Some other members of the tour group watched the broadcast in their billets' homes.

A number of the adults undertook some serious shopping in the city and personal funds took their first dive of the tour.

We heard from the airlines that Jesse Royal's travel papers had been located in Honolulu and would be back at the Salt Lake City airport on Monday morning.

That evening the group performed at a Gold & Green Ball which was organised largely in recognition of our visit. Although numbers were not high the ball attendees enjoyed the involvement and performance of the tourists in the 35-minute show.



Sandy and Richard attended the Saturday morning session of conference in the Tabernacle and had to collect their admission passes the previous day.



Casey Mia Hawkins arriving at the venue of the Kiwi Green and Gold dance.



A child of one of the people attending the dance trying out one of the groups' pois.





Casey Mia, Kotiro, Robyn and a less-than-well Corrie sit in the foyer of the Gold & Green dance venue.



Richard Crawford addressing the audience at the Gold & Green dance, introducing the group and the programme.



Performing at the Kiwi Gold & Green dance in a chapel within a stone's throw of Temple Square.





(Above and top) Sections of the group performing to the guests at the Gold & Green dance.

The organiser of the Salt Lake City part of the trip, Dave Atkinson (right) stated after the performance that the show was the most polished and professional act he had seen in the 15 years he had been living in Salt Lake, and that comparison included professional culture groups.

Members of the audience responded to the presentation of gifts to Dave Atkinson with a haka of their own, recognising the efforts of Dave and his cultural group who are committed to retaining their sense of identity as Maori in a foreign land.

The evening was held in an LDS chapel close to Temple Square, the site of the first chapel built when the Saints arrived in the Great Salt Valley over 150 years ago. The original stained glass window has been preserved and incorporated in the later building and is back-lit.

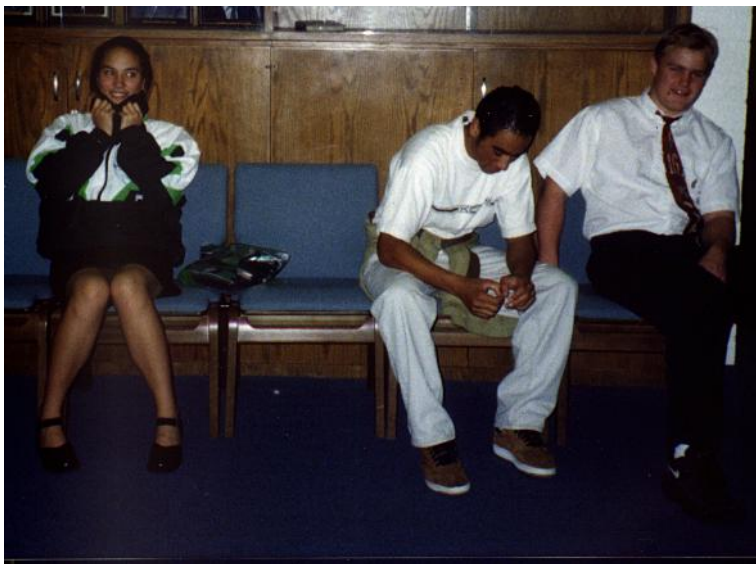


Al Duane Ngakuru after presenting The Historical Atlas of New Zealand to Dave Atkinson and his wife for their contribution in organising the Utah section of the tour. Dave organised the billets and performance schedule.





After the final thank-you speeches following the performance, members of the host families (The All Blacks) responded with their own haka in appreciation of the programme by the tourists.



Te Ngaru relaxing in the foyer after the dance alongside two of the other guests.

A large number of contacts were made even in this early stage of the trip between the group members and 'locals'.

After the performance the clocks were moved ahead one hour and the time became exactly 18 hours behind New Zealand clocks.

The group now had their third late night in a row and had the luxury of looking forward to a sleep-in again on Sunday if they wished it.

Whenever the party assembled for concerts there was the frantic swapping of information as they compared 'families' and situations of the previous 24 hours; especially of the 'fantastic' houses and families they were with and the things they had been doing with their newly-found friends.



Te Manawaroa entertaining on a one-to-one basis in the foyer after the dance.



Rangihere (centre) with her adopted family after the Gold & Green dance.





Richard and Sandy went shopping in the mall across from Temple Square, where Richard ran into the conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. The conductor had already heard excellent reports of the group's performance at the Returned Missionary's Reunion the previous evening – word gets around fast in the city!

Sandy checked out the Deseret Book Store in the mall (a predominantly religious outlet) and ear-marked a number of items that he planned to buy on Monday – items not readily available at home.

In the chapel beside the culture hall where the group attended the Kiwi Gold & Green dance was a stained glass window that was over 140 years old.

When the Latter-day Saint pioneers arrived in the Great Salt Lake Valley they constructed their first chapel on this same spot and brought in the materials with which to construct this window, called "Joseph's First Vision".

The original chapel was replaced by the current building complex and the window was retained and later covered over from the outside to preserve it.

It is back-lit so that those attending the regular meetings in the chapel can view it. The window is over six meters high.

Brian Layton was able to turn on the back-lighting for us so that some members of the group could see the effect.





# Sunday 5th April 1998

## *Salt Lake City*



Doug Richards and his family. Doug first met Sandy MacDonald in Huntly in 1966 and they renewed their friendship over a meal at the Richards home and later they took a trip up Little Cottonwood Canyon to the ski area. On the way up the canyon that evening they ran into a solid snow storm.



The Richards family and their dog on their back terrace that has a very close view of the mountains.



Advantage was taken of activities provided for the group individually, such as snow-mobiling, skiing and watching any one of the 300+ television channels available.

Some of the pupils headed with their families up into the hills to sites where the 2002 Winter Olympics will be held and enjoyed the snow activities and stay overnight.

Isaac Royal and others could not understand why they could not go snow-mobiling on Sunday! Well, guys, you were in Utah and Sunday is the sabbath!

The Sunday newspaper is delivered in a plastic bag to keep it all together. There were so many sections that it would take about 8-10 of our regular NZ daily papers to equal one edition!



Isaac Royal snow-mobiling in the mountains above Salt Lake City.



The largest suburb of Salt Lake is called Sandy.

Sandy MacDonald was taken out for the evening by the Richard's family. Sandy knew Doug when he was in Huntly in 1966. He was taken for a ride up both the Cottonwood Canyon and the Little Cottonwood Canyon. The trip up the second canyon was made more exciting by the snowstorm in the failing light!

Richard Crawford had an exciting late-night time trying to unblock the toilet in his friend Mark's home with the whole episode caught on video camera!

Summer sales are on all over the place with the winter items going at a greatly reduced rate.



# Monday 6th April 1998

## *Salt Lake City*



Richard Crawford posing at the entrance to the mall across from Temple Square.

The adult males were driven out to the Salt Lake City airport by Joseph Maere to collect Jesse's lost travel documents (passport & flight tickets) which were arriving on the 9:30am flight from Hawaii. The replacement of such documents would have proved exceedingly arduous.

From there it was on to confirm that the bus was booked for the long trip south tomorrow. The company was Casino Caravans. The bus hired was a 46-seater with toilet and three video screens. The cost was US\$1,050.00 for the trip to Boulder City (and back empty).

Many of the group ran into each other on Temple Square (mainly all the girls with the boys still off in the mountains) where a large number of photographs were taken.

The group went up onto the 26th floor of the Church Office Building and out onto the observation decks to have an elevated look over the City.

Rihi Mita-Watene turned up sporting a bright orange back-pack in the shape of the character 'Tigger' from Winnie The Pooh.

Isaac and Jesse's snow mobiling earned Isaac a sore shoulder as he tumbled off, but nothing that prevented him enjoying the day.

Richard, Sandy and Joseph headed out to Highland High School in cold and blustery weather to see part of Highland's 66-0 win over Sacramento High. Highland play in an all black strip and were just too good for the visiting opposition side.





Te Manawaroa, Te Ngaru, Kura and Maera on Temple Square.

<p>Welcome to</p> <h1>Legacy</h1> <p>A moving story of faith in the Savior Jesus Christ and devotion to truth, <i>Legacy</i> portrays the hopes and trials of early members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 70 mm film; 53 mins.</p> <p>This ticket guarantees a seat until 10 minutes before showtime.</p>	<p>MON 12:00PM APR 6</p> <p>ADMIT 1</p> <p><b>FREE ADMISSION</b></p>
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All those who arrived for the Temple Square tour attended the 53-minute Legacy film.





Rangiherehere and Maera in front of the Assembly Building on Temple Square.





Members of the group who arrived to tour Temple Square in front of the Christus statue in the Visitors Centre.





Te Ngaru, Kura and Rangiherehere on the observation level of the Church Office Building in Salt Lake City.



Maera on the observation level of the Church Office Building.



Rangiherehere and Robyn on the observation level of the Church Office Building.





Poppy Ranga in front of the fountains on Temple Square





Group photo at the rear of the Salt Lake Temple, Temple Square.





Te Manawaroa Teinakore on Temple Square.

Those who visited Temple Square today also went through the Visitors' Center, and were able to see the displays and be photographed in front of the Christus Statue.

A feature of the day was being able to attend the movie 'Legacy' in the Joseph Smith Memorial Building. The film portrayed some of the hardships experienced by the early 'Mormons' at the hands of mobs and their trek west towards the Great Salt Valley.

Those of the group who attended the various screenings were impressed by the theme of the movie and were glad they attended.

Some of our females commented on the good looks of the actor depicting Joseph Smith. They jested that if he was really that good looking they would have followed him too if they were present when he taught his message!

Richard Crawford gave those present in the Legacy movie something to remember as he was politely but firmly reprimanded by one of the ushers with the words "*Please do not climb over the seats!*".

After this the group met at an American smorgasbord restaurant for lunch. The cost of the lunch was US\$7.00 per person. Although one could be critical about the quality of the food the quantity was impressive!

The group quickly learned that cooking a meal was a rare occurrence in an American home. But we were not complaining – it was great!



The Delta Centre, home of the Jazz (men) and Starzz (women) basketball teams. This was the venue of some of Michael Jordan's greatest feats as he denied the Utah team a national title for the second year in a row.





Shown is a chapel typical of the church buildings throughout Salt Lake City. Such chapels occur about every second or third block.



Richard Crawford and half of Joe Maere arriving back 'home' after the Temple Square Tour. This house is typical of those built in the last few years, having three living levels plus a basement.

The group arrived via their hosts at the LDS Chapel where Highland High School were to hold their post-tournament evening. It was situated close to the mountains.

There was a very large crowd (400+) of high school rugby players and their supporters who were afforded a sit-down meal prior to the awards and festivities. Being in a church hall, and the age group of the majority being 16-18 years there was no alcohol or smoking at the function.

Richard Crawford introduced the group and then the performance just blew the audience away!

One teenage female member of the crowd asked who a certain male performer was....

*"Oh, that's Te Whainoa."*

*"I know! But what's his name?"*

*"Te Whainoa!"*

*"I know he is **the fine one**, but what is his name?"*

The double-poi section of the programme was greeted with roars and applause from the audience, especially when Rangiherehere became the focus of the number.

By observing the audience it seemed apparent that the girls had made a hit with all the young males in the hall and when the Haka was performed everyone was riveted in their seats and more than one young lady was openly admiring the male's physiques!

After the thankyou's at the end the Highland High School rugby team responded with a Haka of their own – very impressive.

Highland had toured New Zealand and had played against the Ngaruawahia High School rugby team in 1996. Their school is made up of over 27 nationalities where English is a second language.

At the end of the evening Doug Richards and his family who had traveled across the valley to watch, privately presented Sandy with a very substantial koha for the group – US\$200.00!

The 24 members of the troupe gave a display to be proud of and it was excellent to have Corrie Wharakura well enough to join in for his first performance in the States.

By 9:30pm the tourists departed with their hosts for their final night in Salt Lake City, to be up for a 7:30am departure south via Brigham Young University.





Waiting backstage before the Highland performance.



Leon Matthews at the Highland HS performance.



Rangiherehere leads a 'volunteer' onto the stage.



Players and supporters of the Highland High School Rugby Tournament teams at the wind-up and concert.





Watching the Kapa Haka performance at the Highland High School Rugby Tournament wind-up evening.



Selected 'volunteers' attempt the poi at the Highland HS evening.



Leon Matthews.



Casey-Mia's & Malana's host family at the Highland High School evening.



# *Tuesday 7th April 1998*

## *Brigham Young University*



The bus that was hired for over US\$1000 to take the group south from Salt Lake City to Boulder City.



Part of the group was collected from the same chapel at 400E 700S Salt Lake City where they arrived at on the first day in Salt Lake City. The bus then made a second stop at South Town Mall, ZCMI, 10600 South State, Sandy, to collect the others. One group was already staying near Provo and waited there.

With the group spread out over a fair area of Salt Lake City there were two collection points. At 7:30am those more to the north gathered at the chapel they were welcomed at five days previously and then the bus moved south to collect those in another area.

Several of the group were already in Provo and arranged to meet the bus in the parking area of Brigham Young University.

The farewells were not without emotions on both sides.

A large number of the group informed the adults that they had done their best to stay up all night so that they would sleep on the 400-mile (600 kilometer) bus trip south to Nevada!

On the way south on the 30-minute trip to Provo Te Waiti suffered nosebleeds as the bus took us slightly up in altitude (4,600 feet above sea level).

The sleepers barely had time to snuggle down or start a chain of conversation before arriving at Brigham Young University in Provo.



Chuck Schumaker, Marrin, Te Whainoa, Pokaia, Charles, James, Tanya (peeking) and Tyson taking leave of each other before the 7:30am boarding of the bus to head south.



On the way south from Salt Lake to Provo. Nearly all of the main freeways were being widened ready for the year 2000 Winter Olympics, and traffic appeared to be confused.



Leon and Motuiti joined up with the group (they had been in Anenan Fork, close to Provo, with their hosts) and were welcomed by Vernon Heperi, a Maori who was a school-mate of Richard Crawford and who was responsible at the university for the welfare of all the 'foreign' and American Indian students.

We visited the 65,000 capacity Cougar Stadium (where the University gridiron team plays) and then on to the 10,000 seat Marriott Centre where basketball, devotionals and

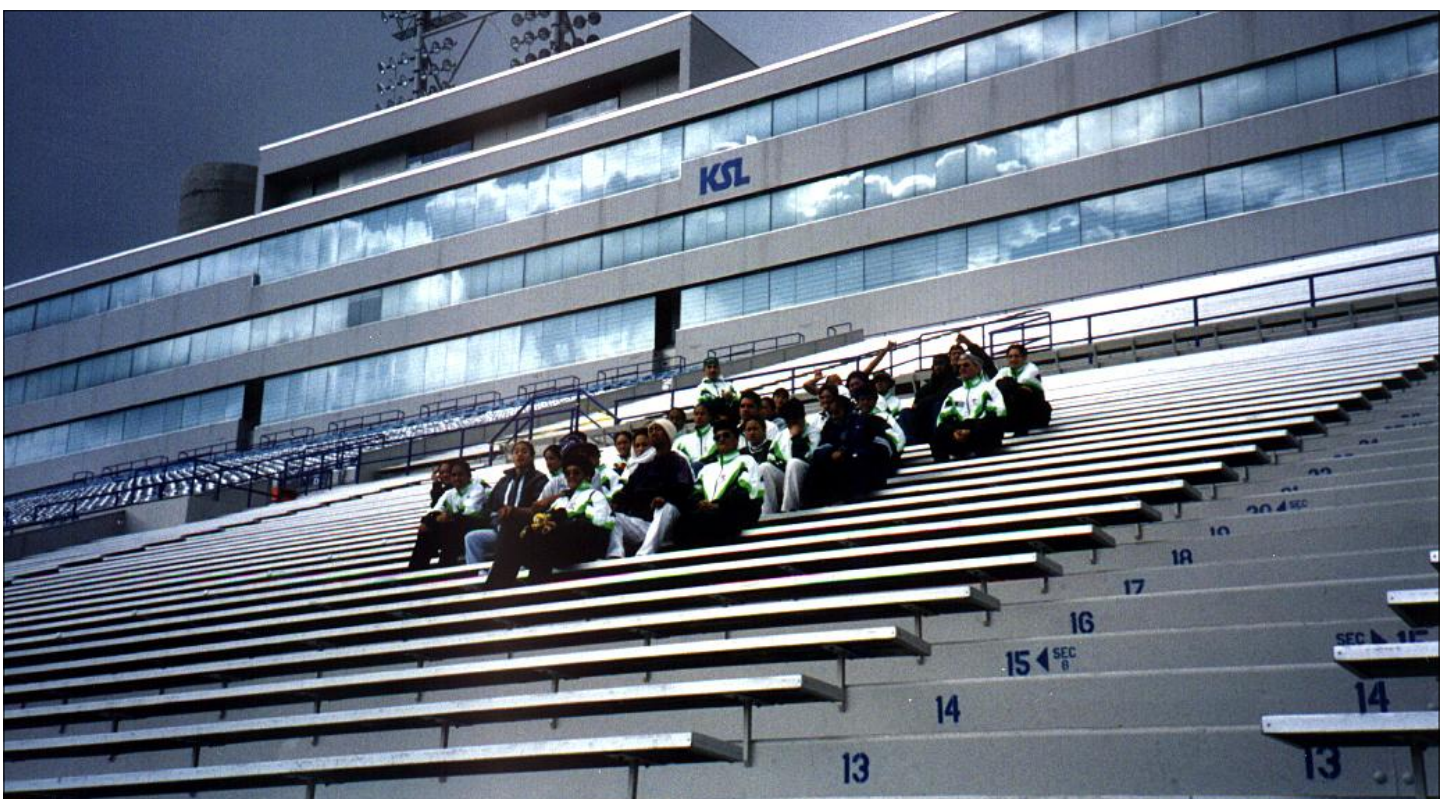
assemblies are held for the 27,000 students enrolled. A choir was practicing when the group entered, getting ready for a devotional assembly.

We walked past the construction site of America's largest public genealogical library – all four stories below ground level.

A waiata was performed in Vernon Heperi's administration office to all the staff present. Vernon supplied the group with a packed lunch, T-shirts, books and a CD "Go My Son" by the Lamanite Generation.



Upon arriving at Brigham Young University at Provo we were hosted by Vernon Heperi who showed us, among other sights, Cougar Football Stadium, which seats 32,000 and has hospitality boxes.







Motuiti Hona heading down to have a look at the turf on the field at BYU's Cougar Stadium.



Heading from the Stadium back through the campus.



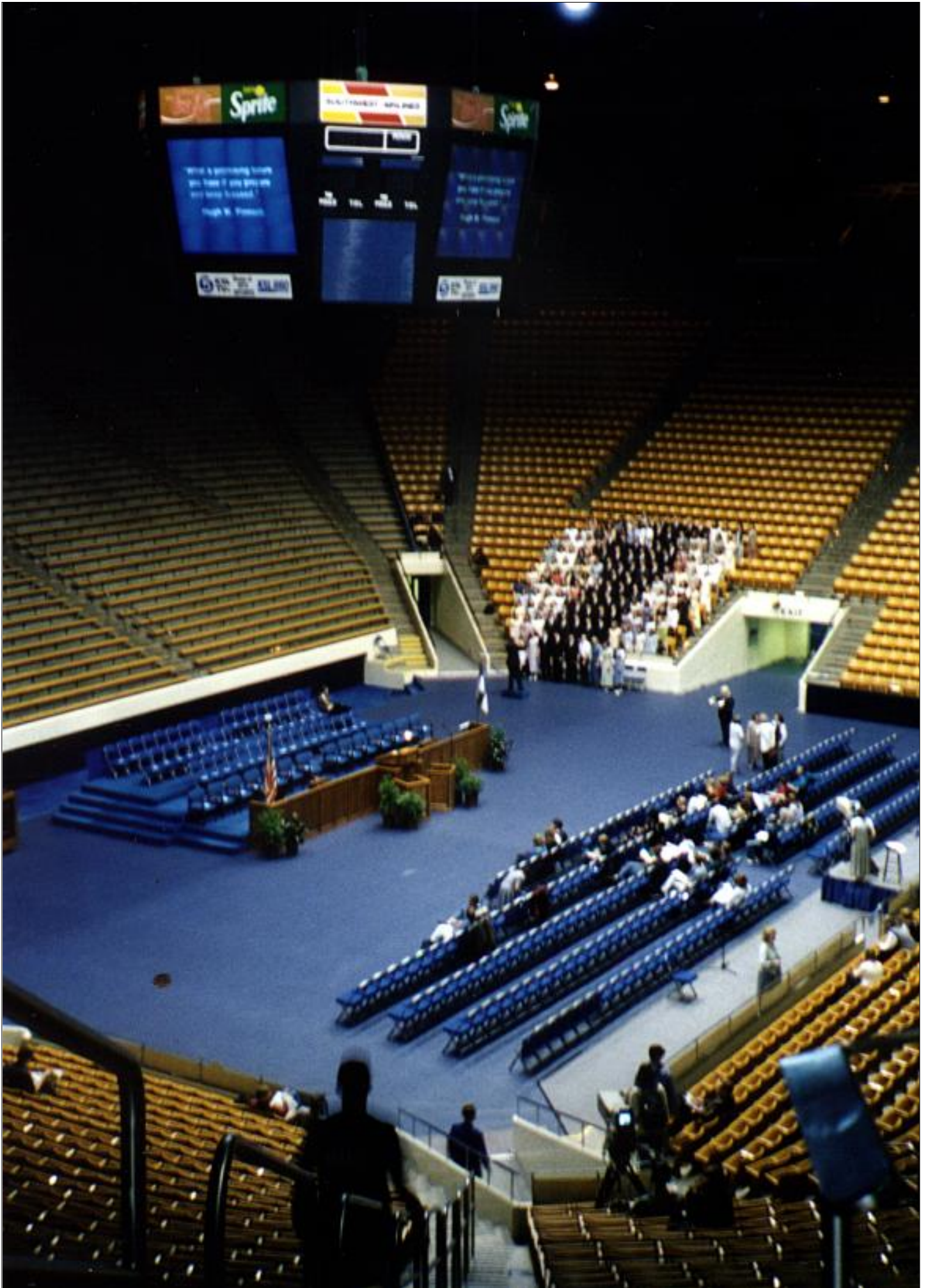


Pare, Poppy and Lalita at BYU's 32,000-seat Cougar Stadium with the "Y" on the mountains behind.



Robyn, Wynel, Piata and Te Whainoa head past a construction area at BYU. Being built is a four-story public genealogical library, all underground. The roof will become part of the campus lawn. The structure will become the largest public genealogical library in the world. Building below ground level enables better control of building temperatures for the safe storage of genealogical files.





Inside the Marriott Centre at BYU, used for assemblies, devotionals and basketball and seats 10,000.



# Brigham Young University Layout

**“Education is the power to think clearly, the power to act well in the world’s work, and the power to appreciate life. Our education should improve our minds and fit us for increased usefulness, to make us of greater service to the human family.” - Brigham Young.**

The original school, Brigham Young Academy, was established in 1875 on a one acre plot of land. In 1884 fire destroyed the building and in 1891 the institution moved to its present site.

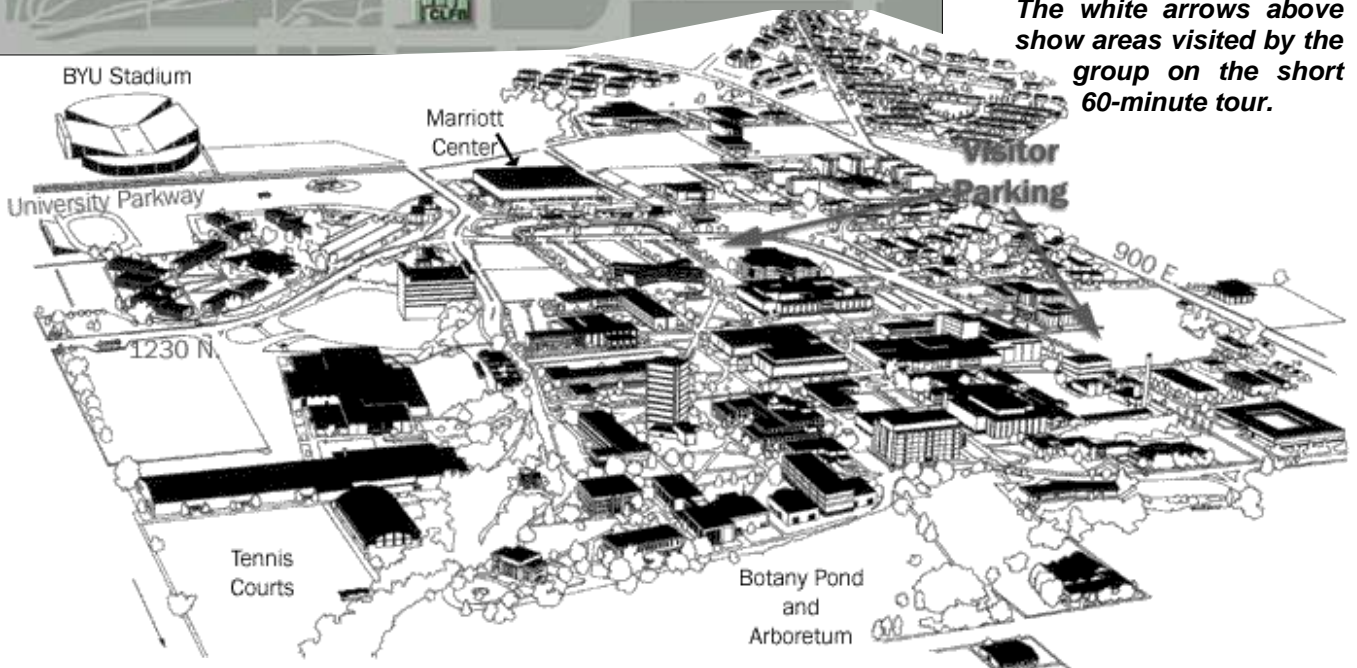
BYU’s full-time employees include approximately 1,500 teaching staff, 1,020 administration staff and 1,282 other staff personnel. Ninety-five percent of this faculty are members of the LDS Church, while the other 5% represent 21 other faiths.

BYU employees also include an additional 379 part-time faculty, 800 part-time staff and more than 11,000 students who work part-time.

Full-time enrolment for the 1997 year totalled 29,011 students with another 2,238 part-time day students and 963 evening students.

The “No Access” section on the map designates the construction site for the four-storied underground public genealogical library.

***The white arrows above show areas visited by the group on the short 60-minute tour.***







Inside Vernon Heperi's office suite. Vernon (a Kiwi) is responsible for the welfare of Native Americans and non-Americans at the University (about 8,000 students of the 27,000 enrolled).



Lalita Hari and Richard Crawford at the front doors of the Marriott Center, Brigham Young University, Provo,



# *Tuesday 7th April 1998*

## *South to Boulder City*

Lunch was eaten before the bus departed BYU – filled roll, biscuits, drinks and chips.

The initial part of the journey south was on an undulating concrete freeway at 70 miles per hour (110 kph).

It was not too long before the video tape of the Highland High School performance was plugged in and viewed on the three screens.

Following a little bit of self-adulation “*Event Horizon*” and “*GI Jane*” were screened to those who could stay awake as the bus headed south through rain and sunshine.

The landscape was mostly flat but there were mountains either side that sent down to the valley floor individual rainstorms and snow flurries, which increased as the bus traveled on.



Leaving Provo for Las Vegas and Boulder City, 355 miles south (about 6 hours journey). Occasional showers and storms were encountered that swept down from the mountains.



Settling in for the long journey to Boulder City (via Las Vegas) with blinds drawn and videos going. The bus had three video screens available on the roof. They watched recordings of their own Highland High School performance.

Conversation was mainly about catching up with the happenings in Salt Lake City and lots of photographs of sleeping pupils and staff.

The bus was comfortable, well heated, toileted and had blinds and lent itself to sleeping.

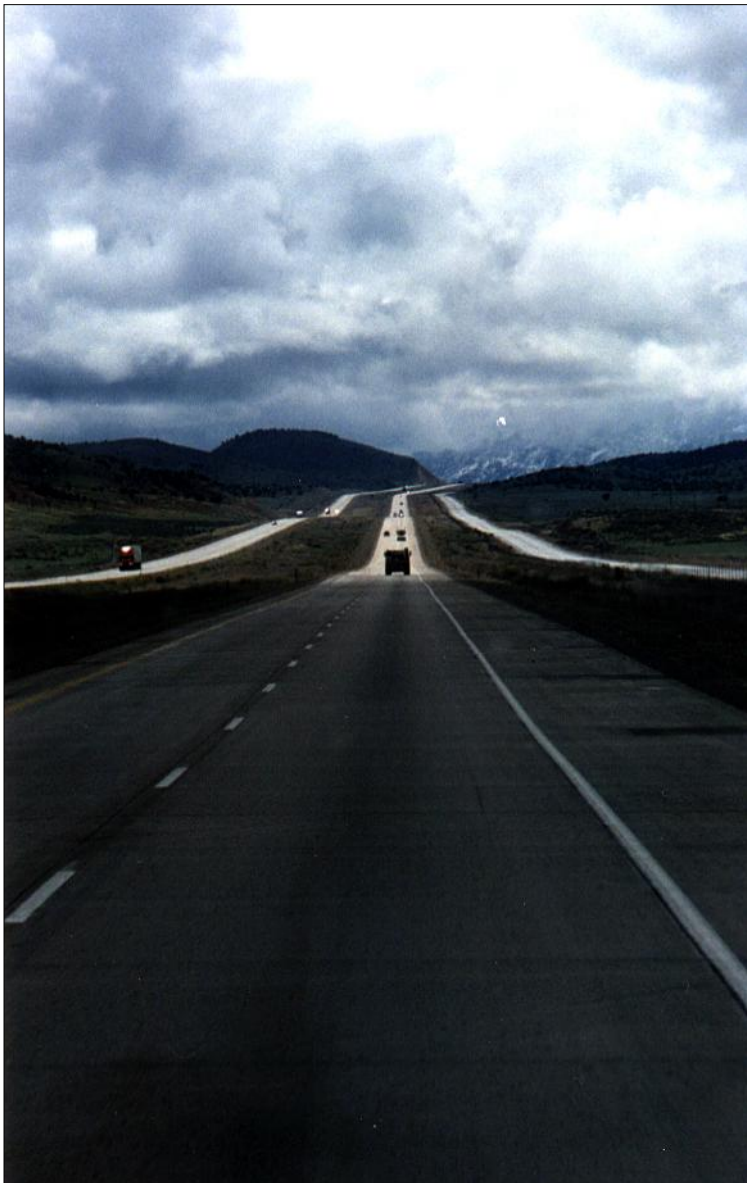
Once on the road, and all others asleep, the

driver asked Sandy MacDonald if he was from Australia as he had a different complexion from all the others in the group! That prompted a history/geography lesson for the next half hour!

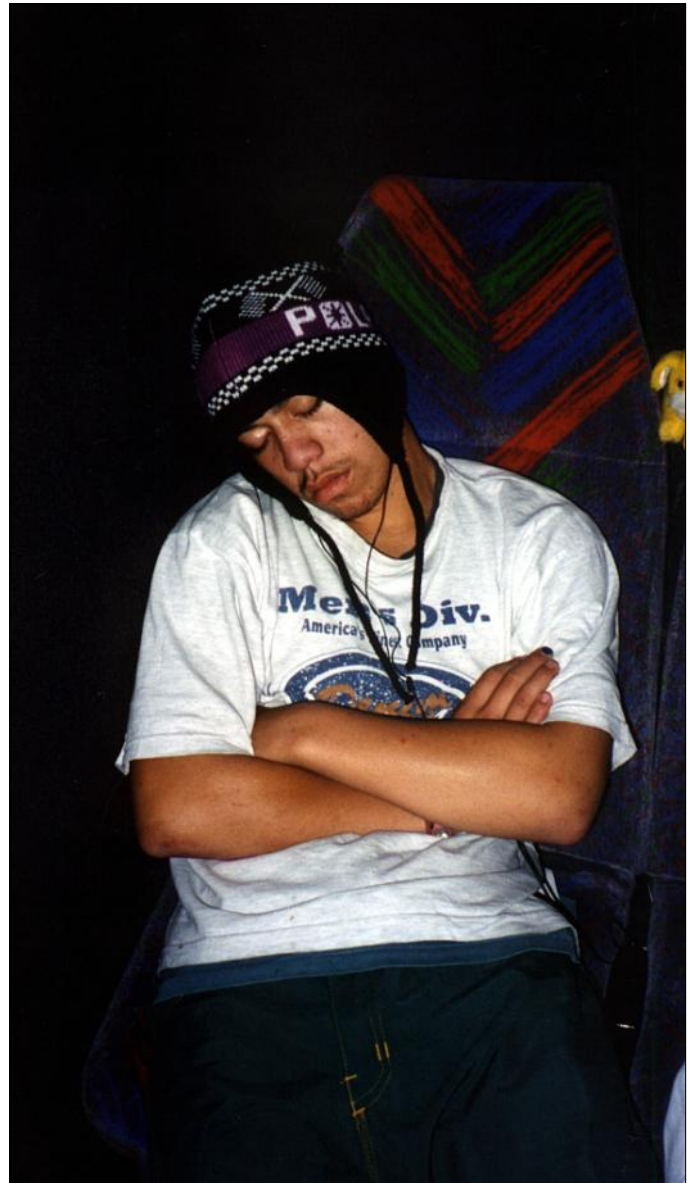
The driver set the bus on automatic throttle and cruised at a steady 110 kph with his feet up



South of Provo. Northbound and Southbound traffic had their own carriageways to eliminate head-on collisions..



Triple highway in southern Utah.

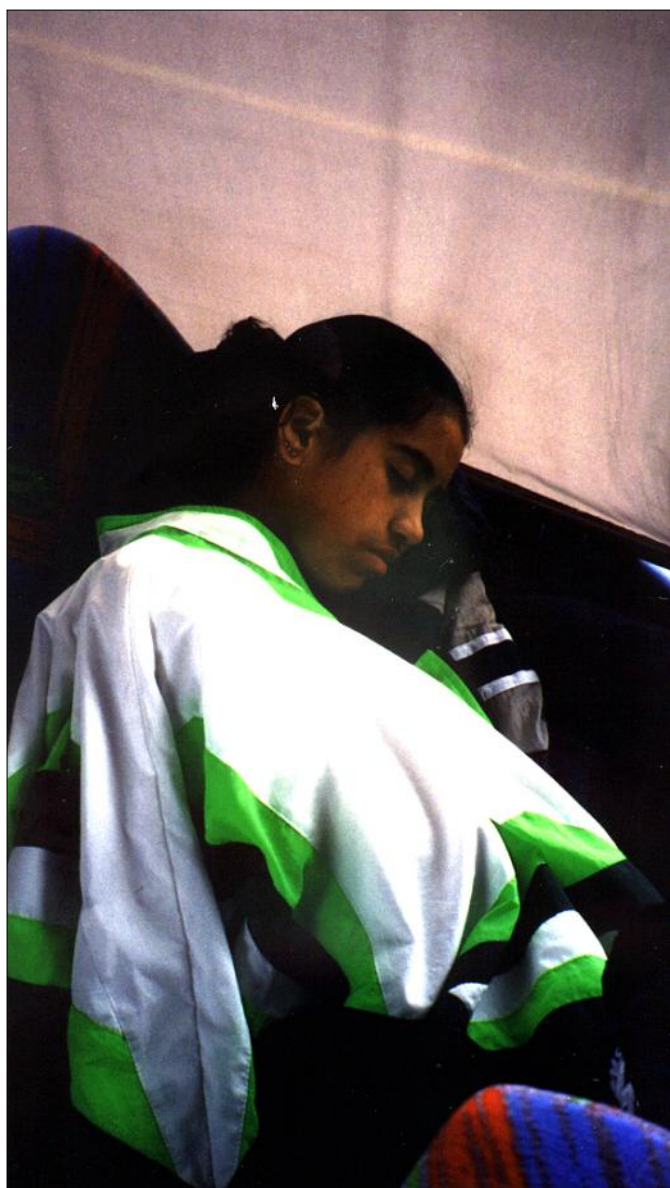


Motuiti catching up on all that missed sleep.





View from half-way back in the bus showing two of the side video screens. The front screen is above the driver's window. Most of the party is sleeping even though it is only 1pm!



Kura Walker (left) and Marrin Haggie (right). The interior of the bus was warm and comfortable.



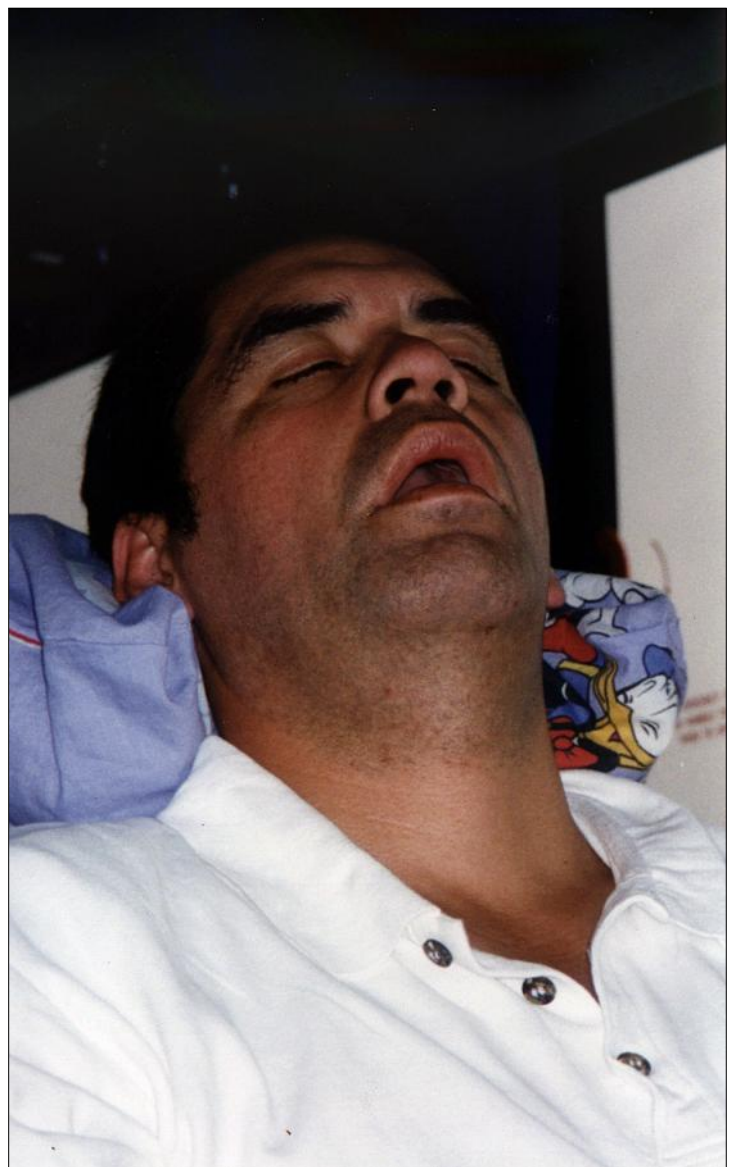


See Mum! We are still cute! Te Ngaru Brown (left) and Te Waiti Walker (right) heading south to Boulder City.



Rangiherehere Katipa

For the early part of the trip south most of the party dozed, catching up on the late nights and some of the mountaineering activities in Salt Lake City.



Richard Crawford, tour organiser.

Catching a few moments of well-deserved sleep. Richard's contacts in Utah were responsible for much of the US spadework in arranging tour matters.





Rihi Mita-Watene using her back-pack 'tigger' as a pillow, while Jacqueline has to just make do!



on the driving console.

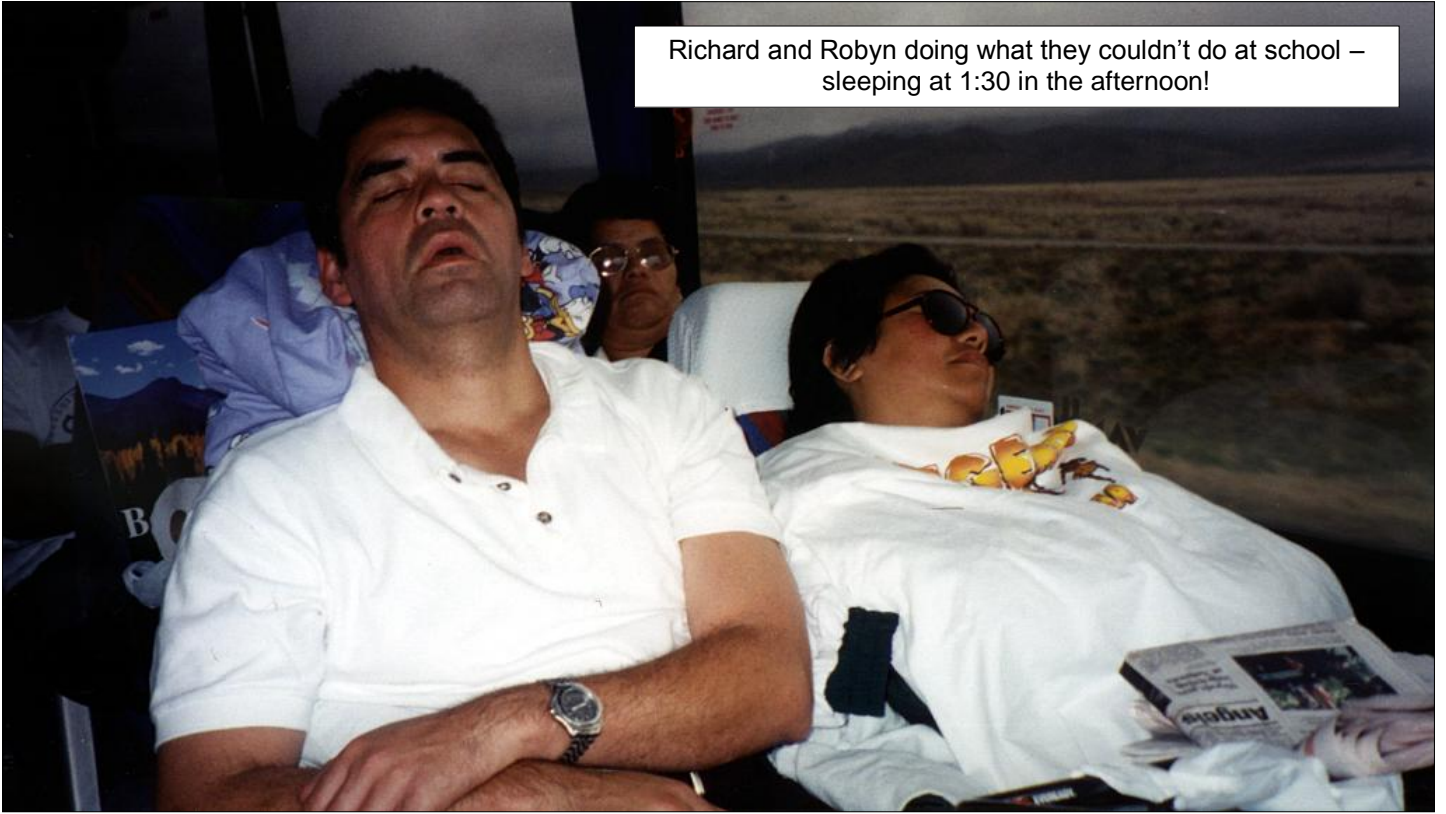
In this early section of the trip Sandy MacDonald was amused by several people in Utah that he was the "In Charge" person of the group. This was especially so during performances as Sandy stood out from the group by way of being a very pale Māori! He was very quick to point out the real leaders responsible for the high quality performances by the group.



Pare Paki and Lalita Hari.



Richard and Robyn doing what they couldn't do at school – sleeping at 1:30 in the afternoon!



Marrin Haggie with Riki Lee in the background.



Riki Lee Peters.

A number of the group had deliberately stayed up most of the previous night, knowing that a long bus journey was to be undertaken, and that they would be able to sleep through its six hours.

In some respects this was unfortunate in that many of the group did not get to see the countryside they travelled through as they dozed behind drawn curtains in the bus.

The conditions inside the bus were warm and comfortable with reasonable leg room, television and radio for those few awake.

The highway south was smooth with no steep hills and the driver was able to maintain a constant speed on the dual-carriage road.



Sandy MacDonald caught by Lalita Hari.





Less than an hour out of Provo the weather turned to snow and the bus travelled through cold, white, icy conditions as the highway lifted up and over the rim of the Great Salt Valley.

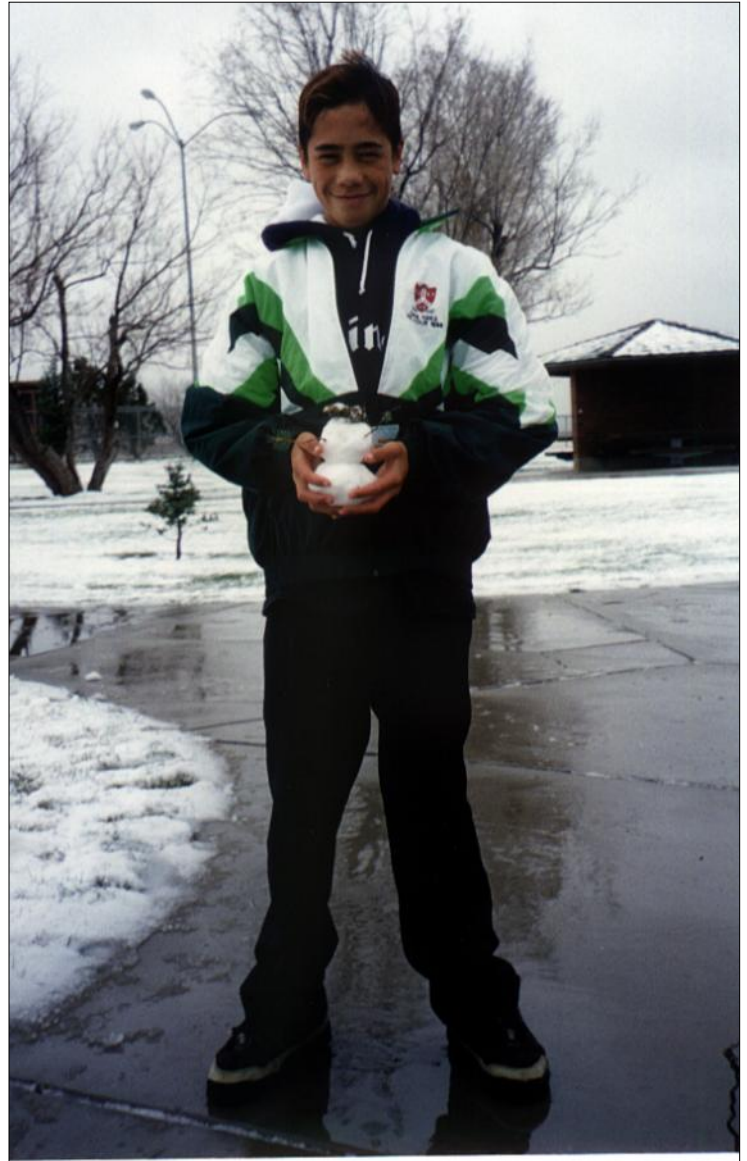


Malana Grey and Motuiti Hona fooling around in the snow at a rest stop 70 miles south of Provo.





Tutereinga Holland looking for a victim in the snow.



Pokaia Matthews with his snow-baby.



Leon Matthews with his snow-boy.

Two hours into the journey south the coach encountered snowstorms, which gradually iced up the top set of windscreen wipers into blocks of frozen water that rubbed back and forth across the windows.

The snow eased after 2¾ hours and the bus pulled off into a rest area for toilet stops, snowball fights, snowman construction and a quick puff by a couple of the adults! About half the group stayed on the bus where it was warm and dry!

After a 20-minute break, in which the driver updated his travel log, all headed south again.

Further down the highway three upended cars that had spun off the southbound lane in the snow were seen as well as a yellow school bus that had almost missed its off-ramp and had parked itself across the freeway in front of the tour coach.

As the group climbed over the rim of the Salt Lake Valley the weather and the landscape changed as the bus headed for the Arizona border.





Visibility dropped as the snow increased after leaving the rest area.



This empty school bus had slid on the icy road as it attempted to turn off the freeway. It was having trouble straightening up but made it as we slowly passed. This was the fourth accident we passed in the space of ten minutes. Our driver maintained a speed of 60 miles an hour through the snow.





The windscreen wipers on the upper windows became solidly caked with ice and had little effect.



Roads and landscape of southern Utah.



The driver became slightly annoyed at the prospect of having to turn in to the Arizona weigh station.





Flashing lights on the freeway indicated that the bus was to pull off into the checking station just inside the Arizona border where the drivers papers and logs were to be checked.



While the group was parked in the check station a triple pick-a-back sight went through.





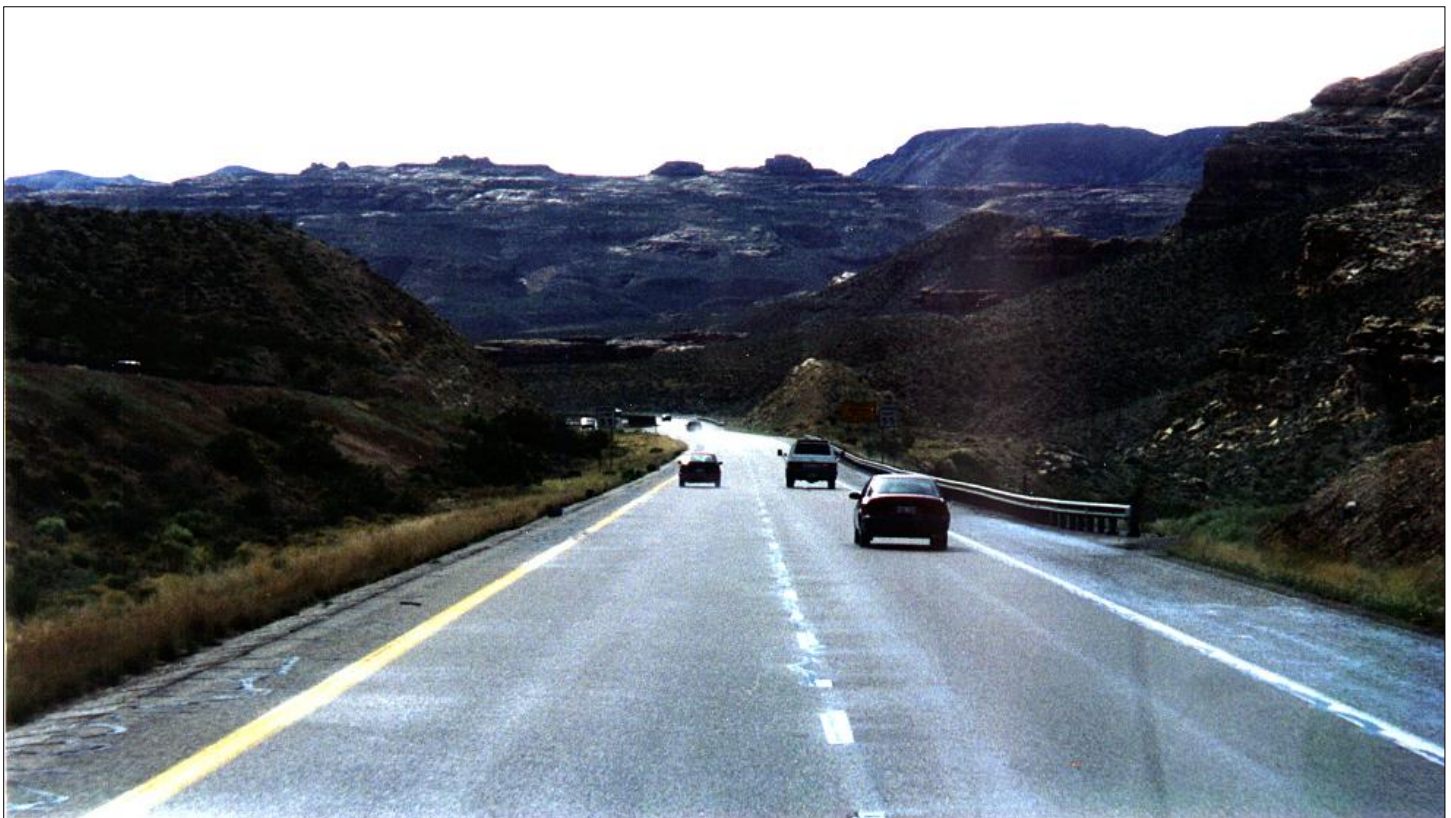
All of the passengers remained on the coach while the driver went into the Arizona border officials to have the coach documents checked. The driver obviously found



The official border sign indicating that we were leaving Utah.



Some of the big rigs that were pulling in to the checking station after the tour bus had arrived. There was a wait of about 10 minutes before being cleared and released back onto the freeway.



The relative flatness of the southern Utah state began to give way to a more rugged layout in Arizona.



# *Tuesday 7th April 1998*

## *Boulder City*

*Every cloud has a silver lining.....*



The bus diverted through the main street of Las Vegas (The Strip) on the way to Boulder City.



Above: Outside the Mirage Casino with Caesars Palace behind.



Right: The 1000 foot Stratosphere in Las Vegas.



The Arizona landscape differed from Utah in that it became more 'cut up' and interesting and at times looked like a balder version of New Zealand's volcanic plateau.

Jesse spent all of the trip south with his beloved headphones and rap music.

The driver was asked if the group could detour slightly and drive down Las Vegas Boulevard (The Strip) on the way through to Boulder City so that it could be seen in daylight.

All clocks were put back one hour (19 hours behind NZ) and the strip was cruised at 6:30pm with eye-balls and cameras popping all over!

The group saw some of the famous casinos and caught a glimpse of Excalibur, where they had booked in for Thursday and Friday nights.

Several stretched limo's were parked outside Caesar's Palace and it was obvious that the glitz of the Strip needed to be seen at night when all the lights were on.

Photographs that were taken from behind the bus windows were not too successful as the image caught the reflections of the photographer or the flash unit in the glass.

The 1,000 foot high Stratosphere coaster was earmarked early for visiting on Friday.



The Strip in daylight lacks the excitement of the lights at night. It all looked quite messy and plain.



Looking across the roof of a stretched limousine to Caesars Palace.



On the way into Vegas the bus was 'escorted' by two hotdogging jets from the nearby military base.

Arrived at 7:00pm at Kawana Pohe's marae in Boulder City to be met by a welcome, an evening meal and billet allocation.

A number of the group took early advantage of the heated outdoor spa and swimming pool along with the basketball hoop.

Te Whainoa and Sandy were freakishly allocated Joe Apiti to stay with – Sandy knew Joe from Huntly in the 1960's.

Joe lived on the outskirts of Vegas and he

took his charges up the strip to Freemont Street to see the midnight overhead display of lights and sound – spectacular!

The street is about 100 meters long, roofed over by thousands of multi-coloured lights and swamped by stereo speakers – a gigantic television screen that played different scenes each time. The 12:00am show was of some of the singers of Las Vegas – Frank Sinatra, Liza Minelli, Sammy Davis Jr, Dean Martin, etc.

This was followed by a 12:45am breakfast at a nearby casino and then home for a 2:00am bedtime!

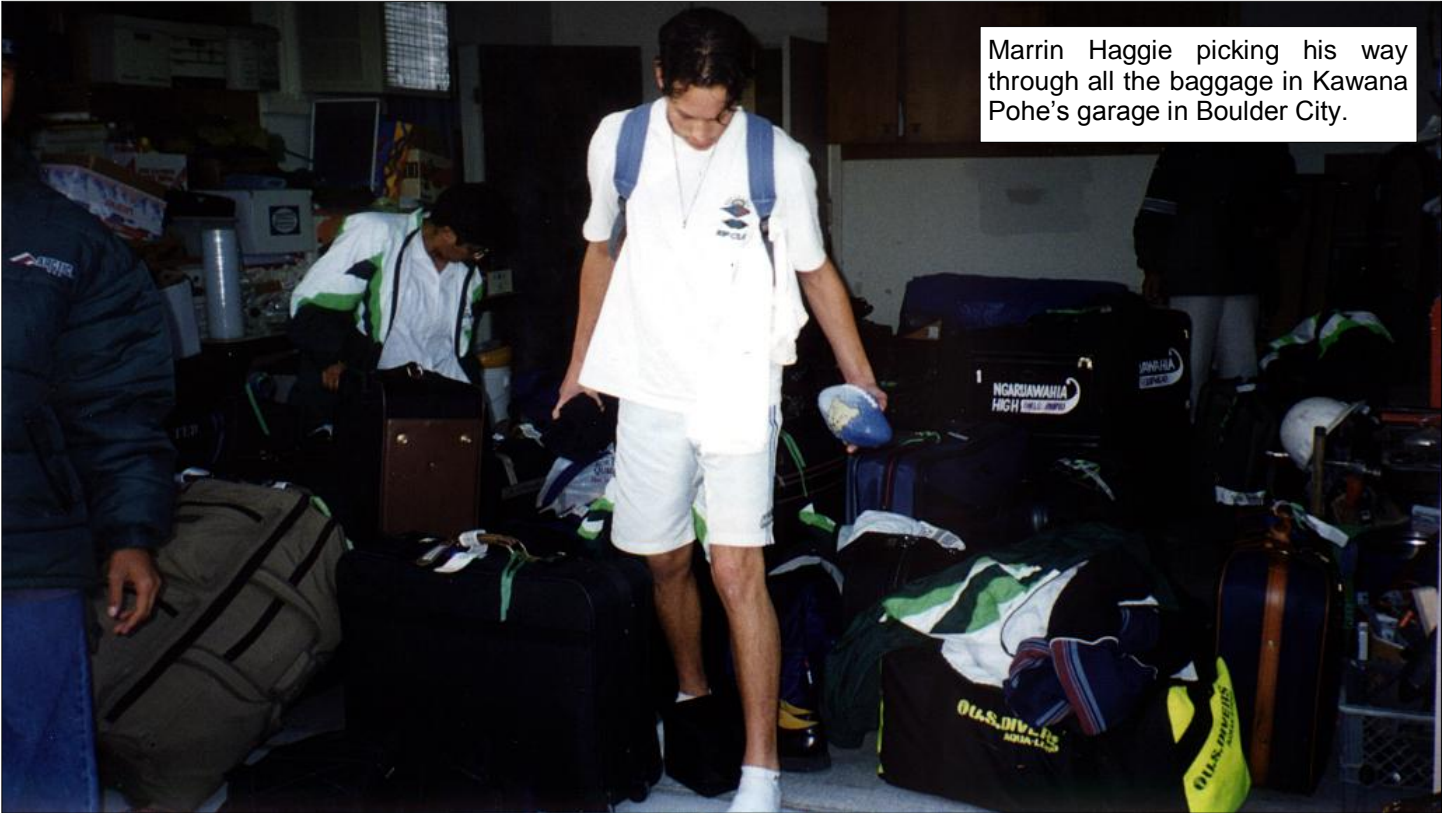


The groups' first view of the Excalibur Hotel where they were to spend two nights later in the week.



The bus parked outside Kawana Pohe's home in Boulder City before it returned empty to Salt Lake City.





Marrin Haggie picking his way through all the baggage in Kawana Pohe's garage in Boulder City.



Poppy, Robyn, Wynel, Pare and Lalita on the edge of the spa/pool at Kawana's.

*Below:* Rangiherehere, Riki Lee and Malana soaking out the 360 miles of travel in the hot spa at Pohe's. The spa water flowed over into the swimming pool just below. The pools were lit from under water.





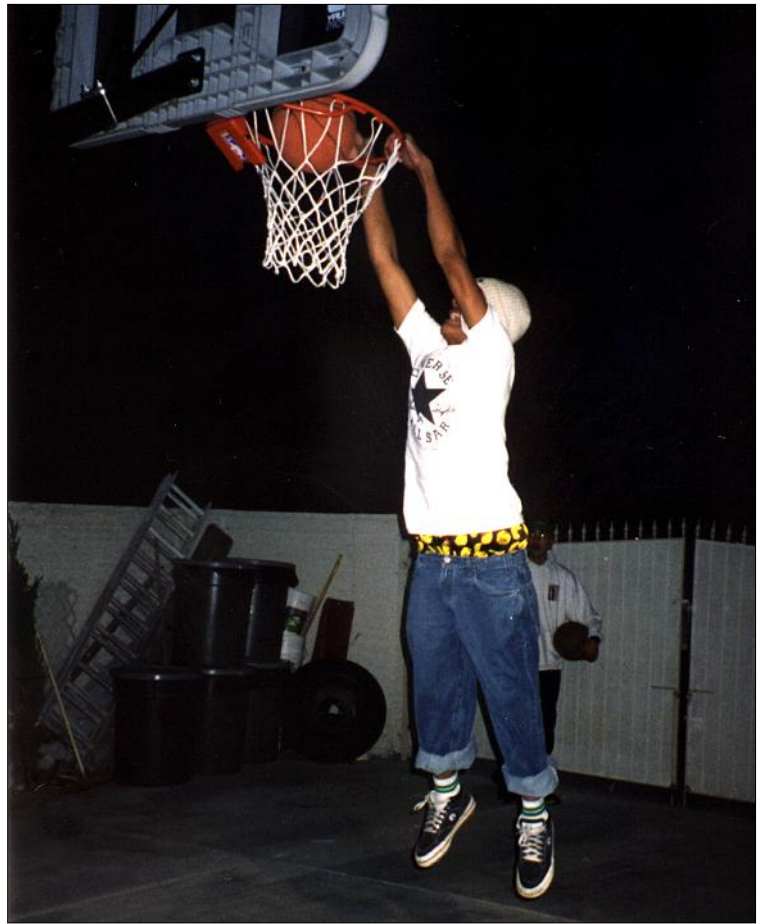
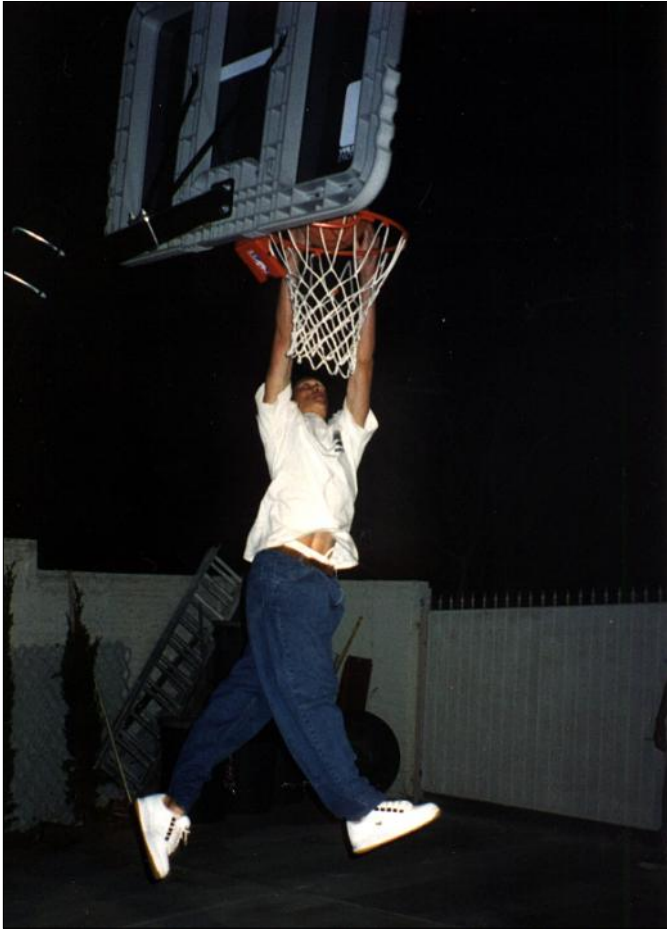


Jacqueline and Rihi on the rocks of the pool complex while Rangiherehere, Riki Lee and Malana relax.



Te Ngaru and Te Waiti at Kawana Pohe's Las Vegas-styled marae. The lintel and supports were lit internally giving a pink, white and blue colour to the designs. Kawana was a member of the **Maori High Fives** that were famous entertainers in the casinos in Las Vegas.

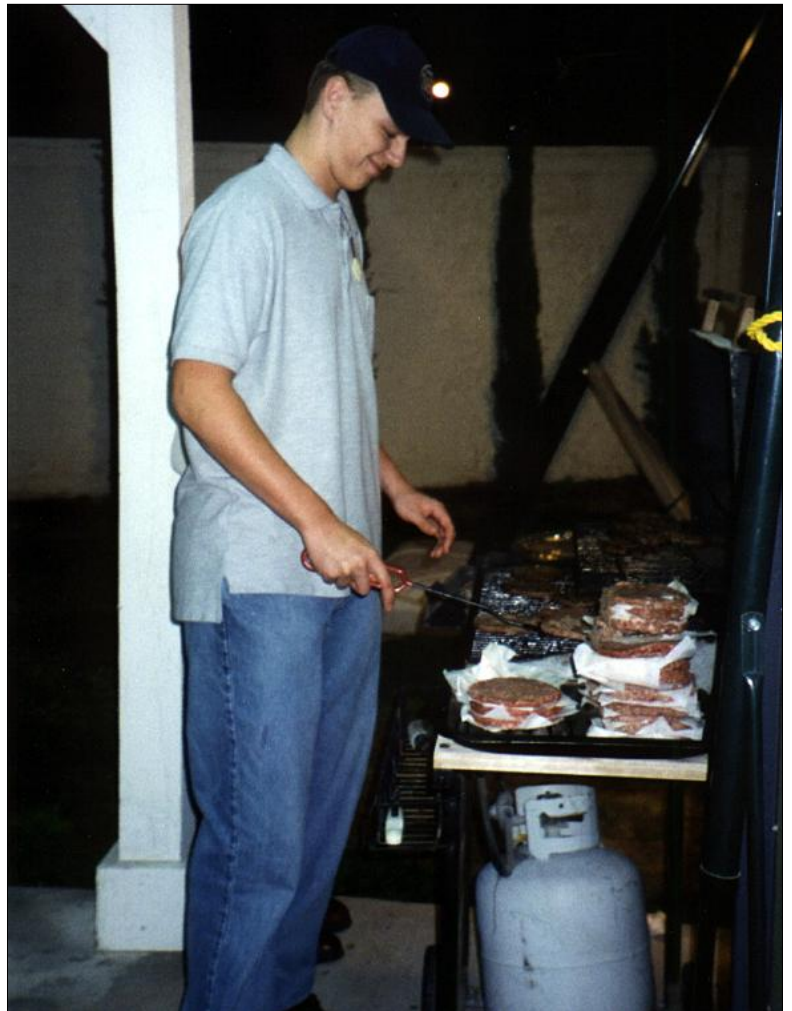




Marrin (left) and Al Duane (right) shaking off the travel cramps on the mini court at Kawana Pohe's.



Robyn Roa relaxing after arriving in Boulder City, before the group was billeted out.



An evening meal was provided for the travellers by one of our hosts before they were collected by their billets.



# *Wednesday 8th April 1998*

## *Hoover Dam*



Pokaia Matthews and Corrie Wharakura playing pool at Kawana Pohe's marae.

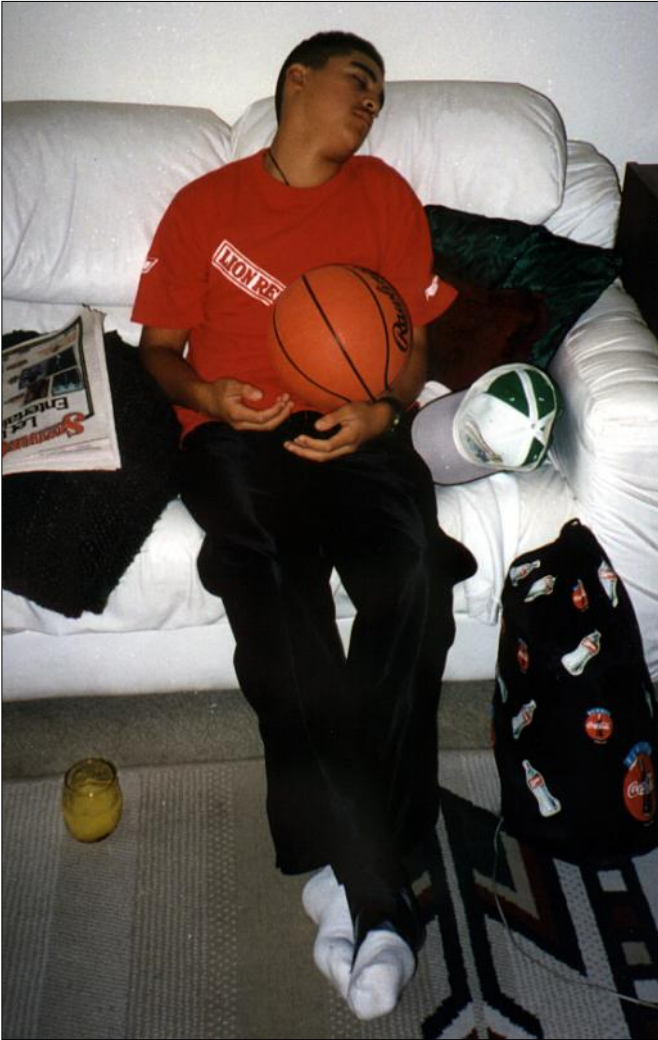


Te Waiti, Kameta and Maera at breakfast.

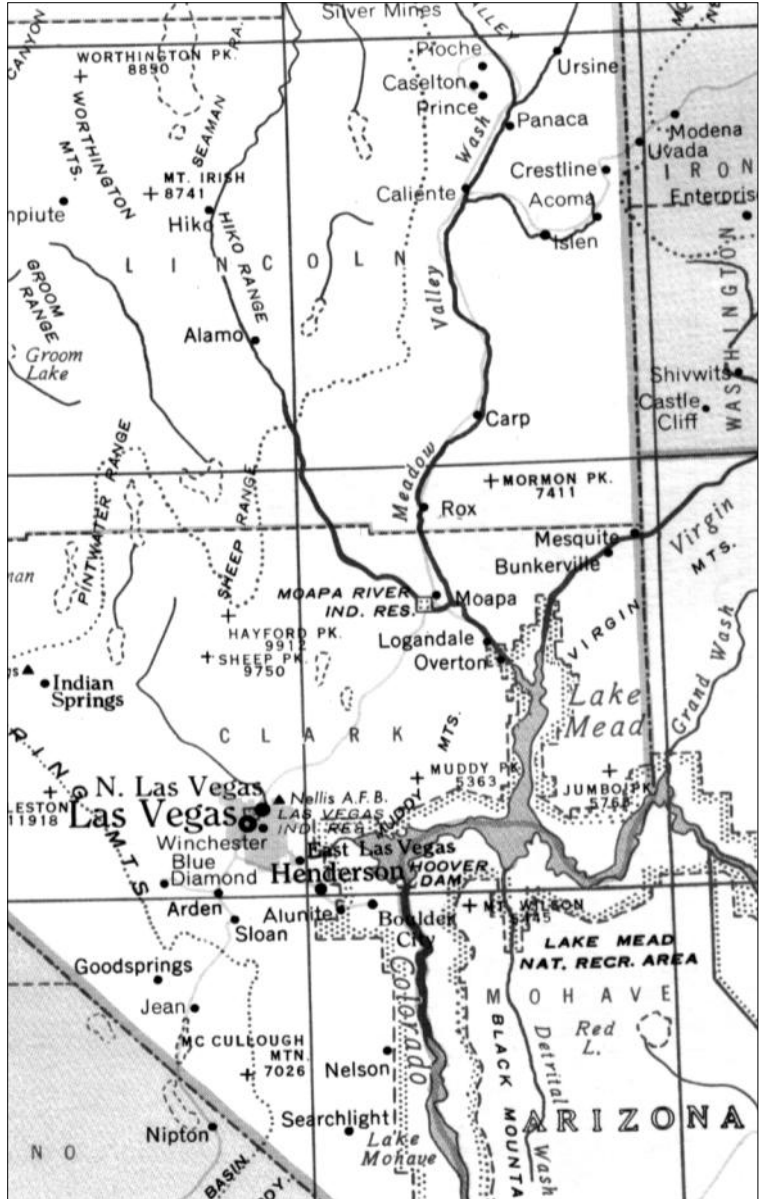


Sandy MacDonald and long-time friend Joe Apiti.





At 1:30am, after a midnight visit to Vegas's Fremont Street in Las Vegas, Te Whainoa just can't stay awake. Fremont Street is roofed with tens of thousands of multi-coloured lights that act like a massive television screen. Five to ten minute shows appear in light and sound on the roof at regular intervals.



A 6-hour journey from Provo saw us in Boulder City, a short hop south-east of Las Vegas, near Hoover Dam.



Early in the morning as the group re-gathers at the Pohe's for breakfast. The golf course over the back fence is regularly used by many of the top names in golf and the entertainment industry (eat your heart out Paora!).





Relaxing on the back lawn of the Pohe's before heading off to the Boulder City LDS Chapel to practice for the performance the same evening, after a visit to Hoover Dam, just down the road.



Kawana Pohe (at table), an original member of the **Maori Hi Fives**, with Te Manawaroa and Kura.



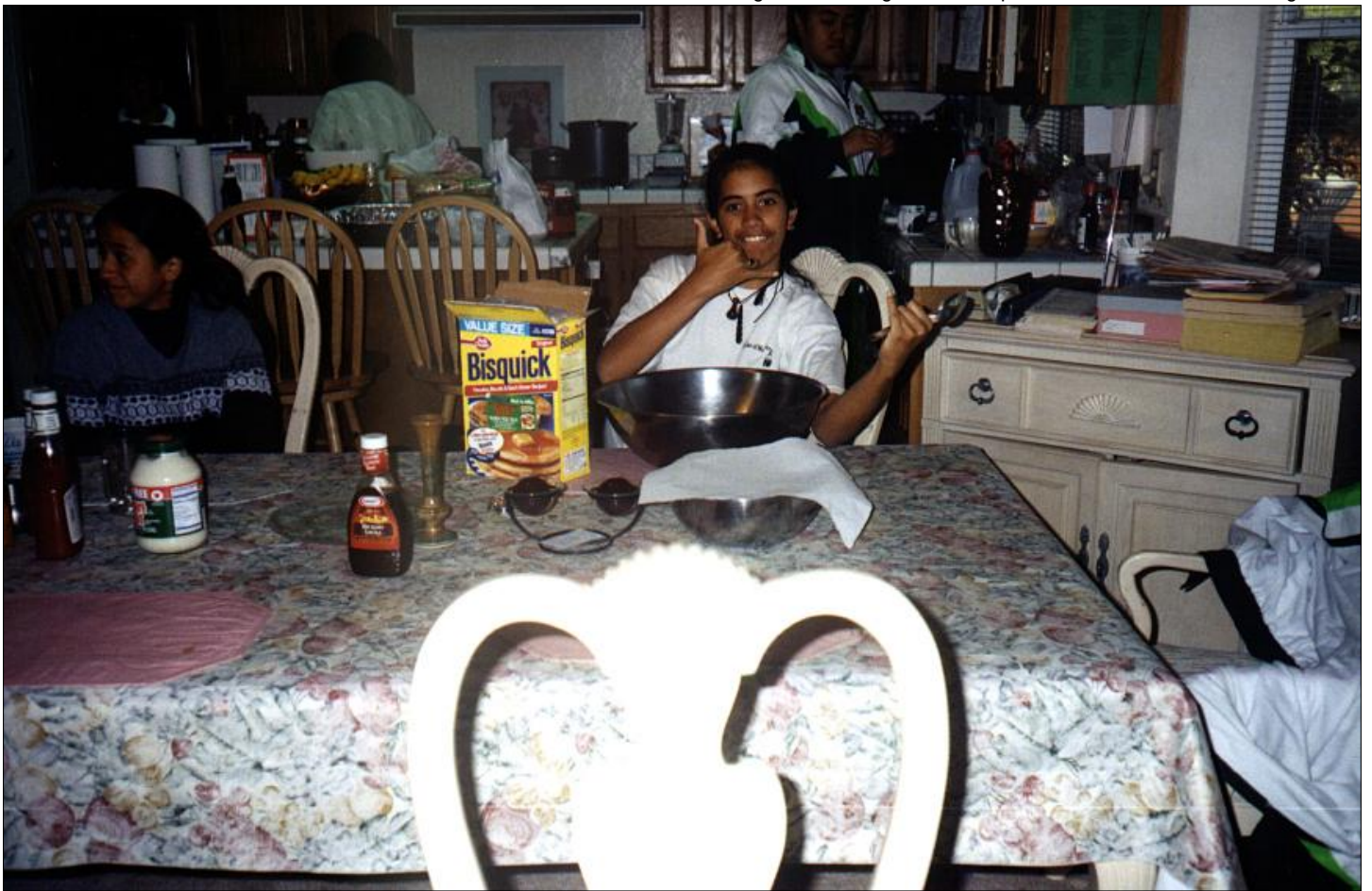


Maera, Kura, Te Ngaru and Kameta relaxing in the early morning sun in Boulder City.



Grace and Wally Murray, whose involvement in this region of the tour made it a *Ripley's Believe It Or Not* episode. They organised our itinerary and billeting while in Boulder City.



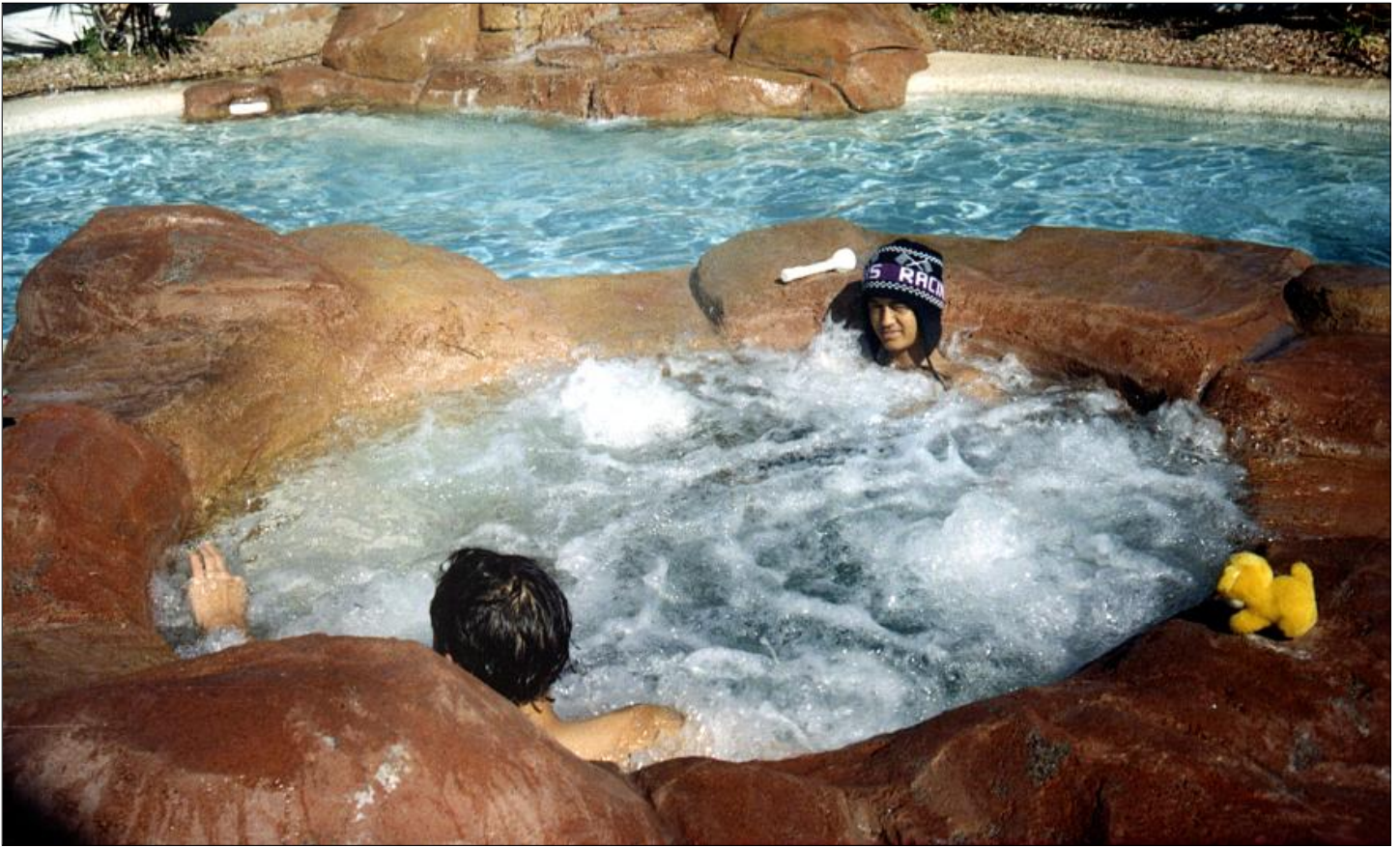


Kura Walker preparing the pancake mix for breakfast.



Malana Grey and Kura Walker check out their delicious pancake mix, while in the background Richard Crawford chats to Kameta Puke.





Isaac Royal relaxes in the spa while Motuiti's stuffed dog keeps an eye on his master at the near end.



The LDS Chapel in Boulder City where the group practiced in the morning ready for an evening performance.

The group, although billeted around Boulder City and the southern end of Las Vegas, centred their activities around the home of Kawana Pohe, a member of the famous Maori Hi-Fives. His dedicated marae was an ideal relaxation and assembly stop for the group. It had a heated spa, swimming pool, basketball hoops, a punching bag, table tennis, pool table, high end sound system and facsimile facilities.

Some of the pupils found that they were wearing themselves out and the healing and medical knowledge of Wynel Te Wiata and Lalita Hari were being regularly called upon dealing

with headaches, backaches and other minor problems brought on by too little sleep.

The group assembled for breakfast at Pohe's and then, at 11am, moved up to the 5th Street LDS Chapel to practice and prepare for that evening's performance and to set out the seating in the recreation hall.

They were glad to get a bit of culture into the system again and tutor Pare Paki was a little stretched to whip the group into shape in the two hours available before the planned 1:30pm trip down to the Hoover Dam, a short 12-minute car trip down the road.



The Hoover dam was quite a spectacle, built across the narrowest part of Grand Canyon with Lake Mead stretching out behind.

The main highway between the neighbouring Nevada and Arizona states passes across the dam and causes the heavy traffic to slow to a 5 kph crawl as it winds down the canyon wall and across the massive dam. The group heard

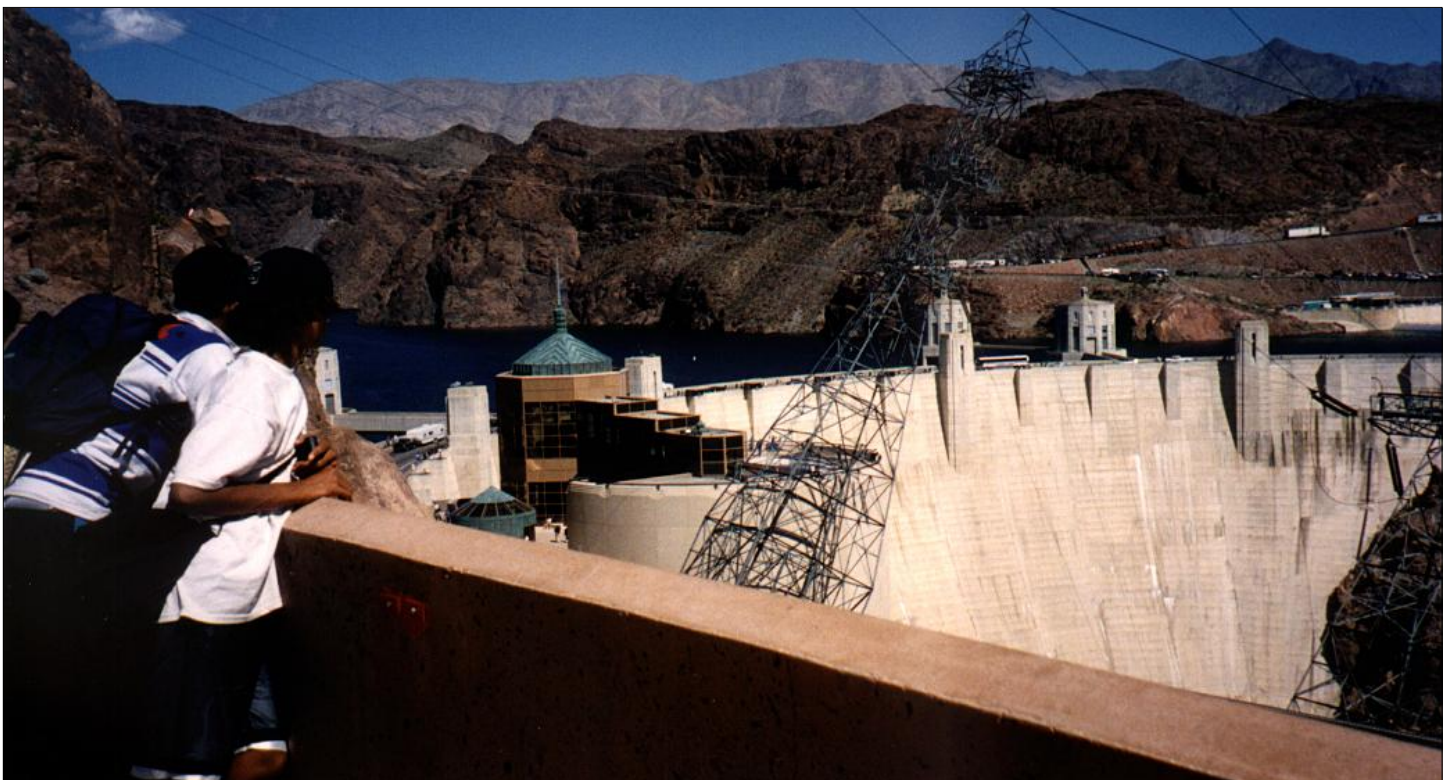
of talk of the future possibility of a more direct road across the Canyon.

The group assembled for photos atop the parking building and then headed into the entrance tunnel to wait in the foyer for their \$8 per head tour.

Several hundred other tourists were waiting their turn also in the underground assembly area.

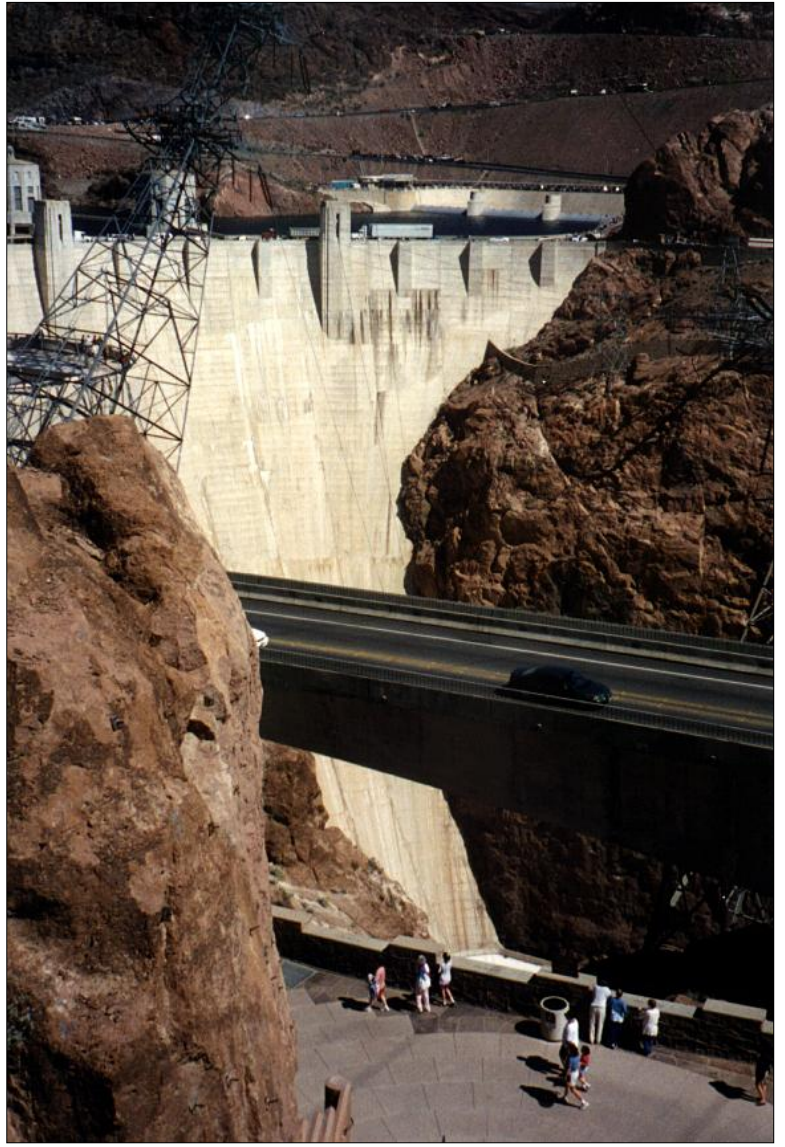


On the way to Hoover Dam, just east of Boulder City (about 10-15 minutes drive). Part of Lake Mead can be seen to the left and (scary thought) it is Robyn Roa who is driving the pupil-laden vehicle ahead!



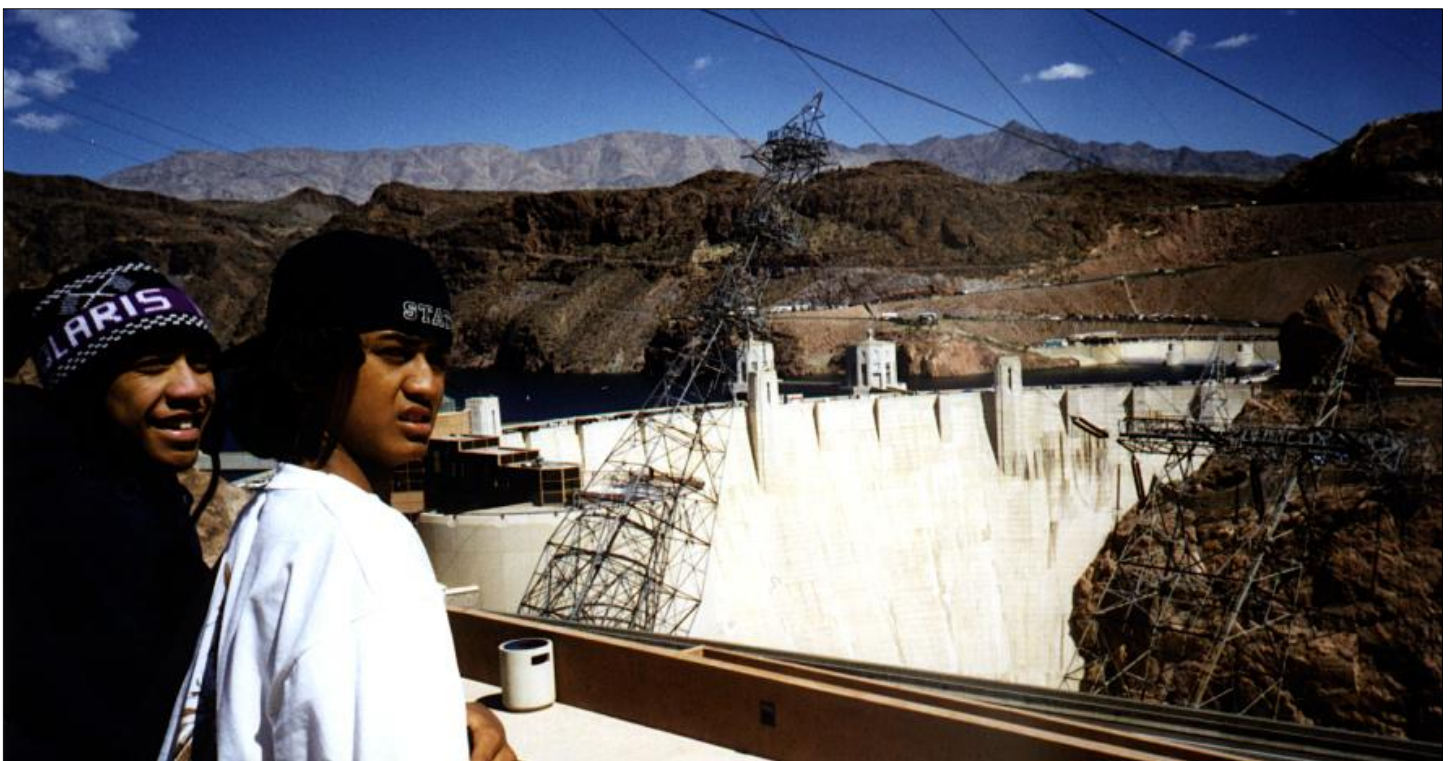
Leaning over the rail of the multi-floored parking building and looking over to Hoover Dam. The traffic travelling between the states of Arizona and Nevada crosses the top of this dam at a snails pace.





Te Manawaroa and Maera check out the views from the parking building. The cable crane beyond them was used to construct the original dam and is still used for maintenance now.

Looking at the dam and part of the main highway running past the access-way to the dam for tourists. This is the narrowest point of the Grand Canyon and was a logical location for the dam.



Motuiti and Isaac looking out over the Hoover Dam from the Parking Building.





Photographs on this page and at the bottom of the previous page are of members of the group on one of the levels of the parking building across from the Hoover dam







Yet another photograph of the group on the Hoover Dam parking complex.



Hoover Dam with the leaning pylons that bring generated electricity up from the powerhouse and out of the canyon.





Waiting in the entrance hall for our turn at touring the Hoover Dam (\$8 each tour).



Taking weight off the feet as the group plant themselves along the wall of the entrance tunnel while waiting for the tour of Hoover Dam.



Al Duane Ngakuru settles into the speakers rostrum in the entrance way to the Hoover Dam. This area had displays and memorabilia of the Dam construction.





Waiting, waiting, waiting for that Dam tour.

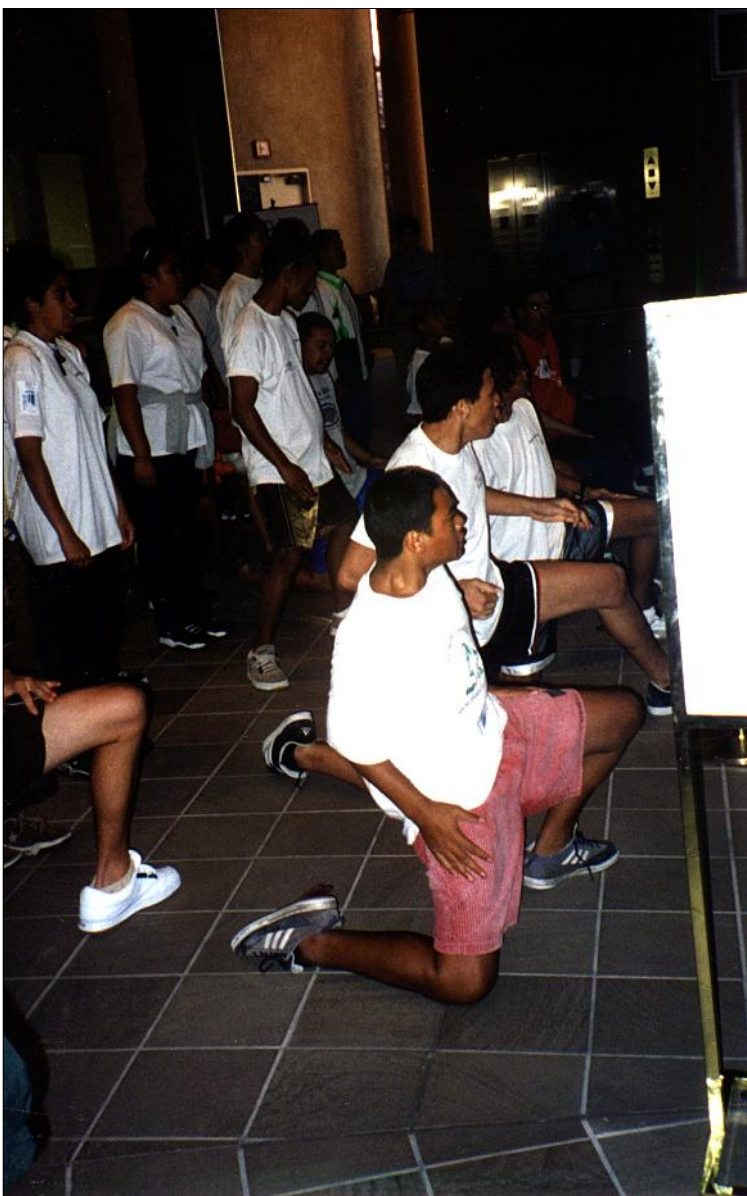


While waiting for our \$8 per head tour an official of the US Department of the Interior asked one of the group who they were and what they were doing in the States. Upon learning that they were a Maori Culture group they were asked if they would perform. The reply was yes and the group gave one waiata and a haka to a large crowd of other tourists waiting alongside. The acoustics were brilliant in the solid rock entrance hall and the performance was well received by the public, who got a bonus while waiting for their tours.





Giving an impromptu performance at Hoover Dam.



The boys' turn to present the haka in the Hoover Dam entrance hall.

Upon the invitation of the Ministry of the Interior (who administer the Hoover Dam) the group performed two items to nearly 200 others present and were rewarded by the administration telling the group that they had earned the \$25 'hard hat' tour. With 37 in the group it made a saving of \$925 that was gratefully received!

The performance was dynamic and all the more impressive due to the outstanding acoustics in the assembly area. The applause by the spectators was enthusiastic and prolonged.

Blue hard hats were issued to each member of the group (that they were allowed to keep) and they were instructed that these must be worn throughout the tour, which started with a lift ride that took them 520 feet down into the bowels of the dam.

The tour, accompanied by a guide who tried to convert all his imperial statistics into metric for the group, wound through solid rock tunnels, into the huge generator room, and on over the enormous underground pen-stocks where the roar of water moving at high speed was ever present.

The statistics of the Dam were awesome, especially when distances were compared to lengths of football fields. At the base of the dam above the tail race the full majesty of the dam was apparent as the crest loomed way overhead.

Two runs of the lift took the group up to the lip of the dam where they looked out downstream as the Colorado river continued its journey.

It was difficult to find a vantage point where all of the dam could fit into camera viewfinders.





The girls giving an impromptu performance at Hoover Dam.



The boys giving an impromptu performance at Hoover Dam.





Giving an impromptu performance at Hoover Dam. At the conclusion of the 8-minute presentation the head man at the Tours told the group they were being upgraded to the Hard Hat Tour, which was worth \$25 each. This tour went inside the structures of the dam, not just outside as the cheaper tour did. The group were permitted to keep their hard hats.



No! Robyn Roa is not preparing for her class, but heading down the first of the tunnels deep under the dam. Richard Crawford is steadily videoing despite there being a low level of illumination in the tunnels. Poppy Ranga accompanied the group despite her reservations about being so far below the surface.





*"If I'm not back in six hours, ring my mum!"*

Kura turns for a photograph opportunity as the group walks down long rock tunnels deep under the Hoover Dam.



Lalita, Jesse, Maera, Poppy and Motuiti taking a break in the generator room of the Hoover Dam.





(Top and Above) The group looking over the balcony over the generators that supply Las Vegas and Los Angeles with all their electrical needs.



Looking into the well, where the water that has gone through the turbines, comes out, with the dam wall in the background.

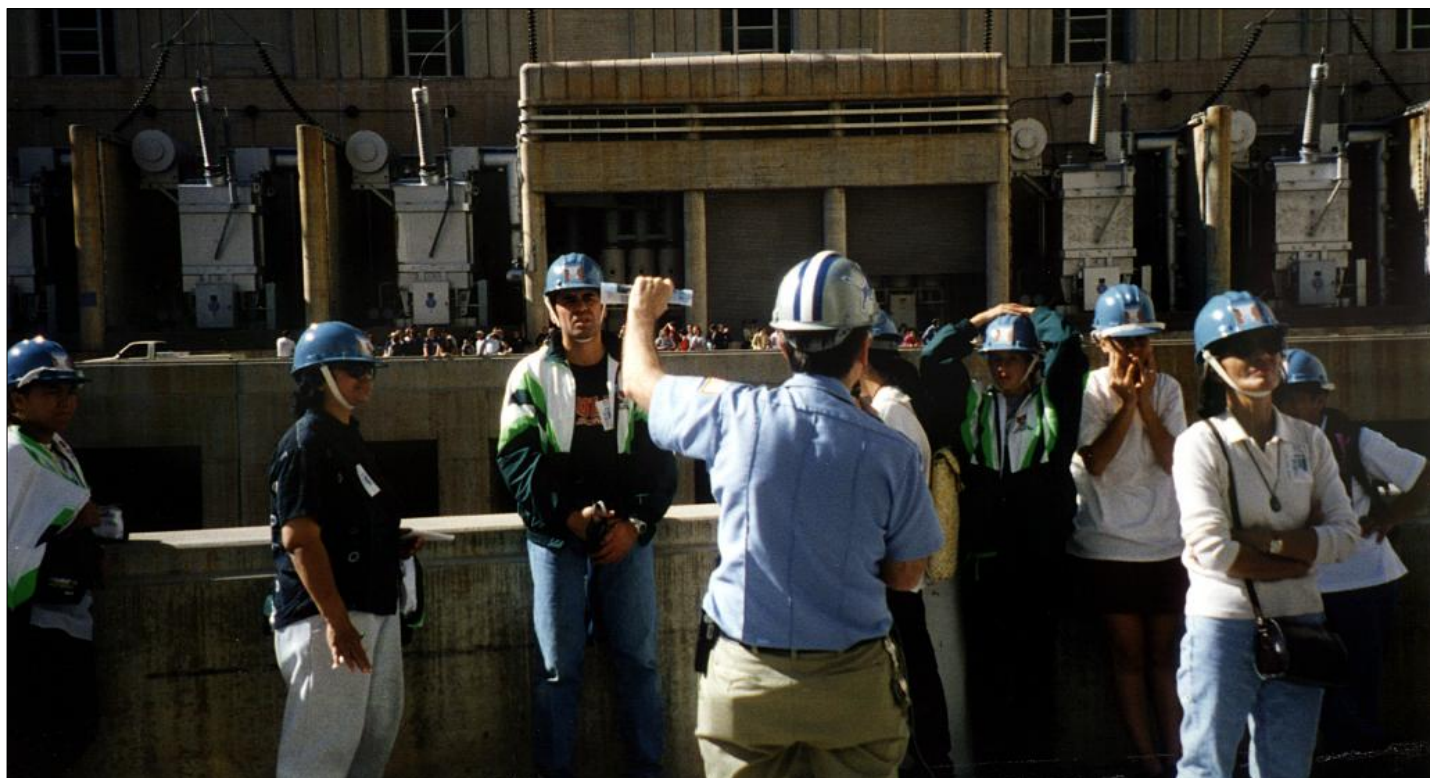




A low-down view of the top of the Hoover Dam.

Several movies, we were told, had used parts of the dam in their scenes, such as *The Fugitive* and *Universal Soldier*.

Right: Wally Murray, one of our hosts, and Te Whainoa Te Wiata in a small room perched on top of one of the underground penstocks.



The guide points out features of interest at the base of the dam.



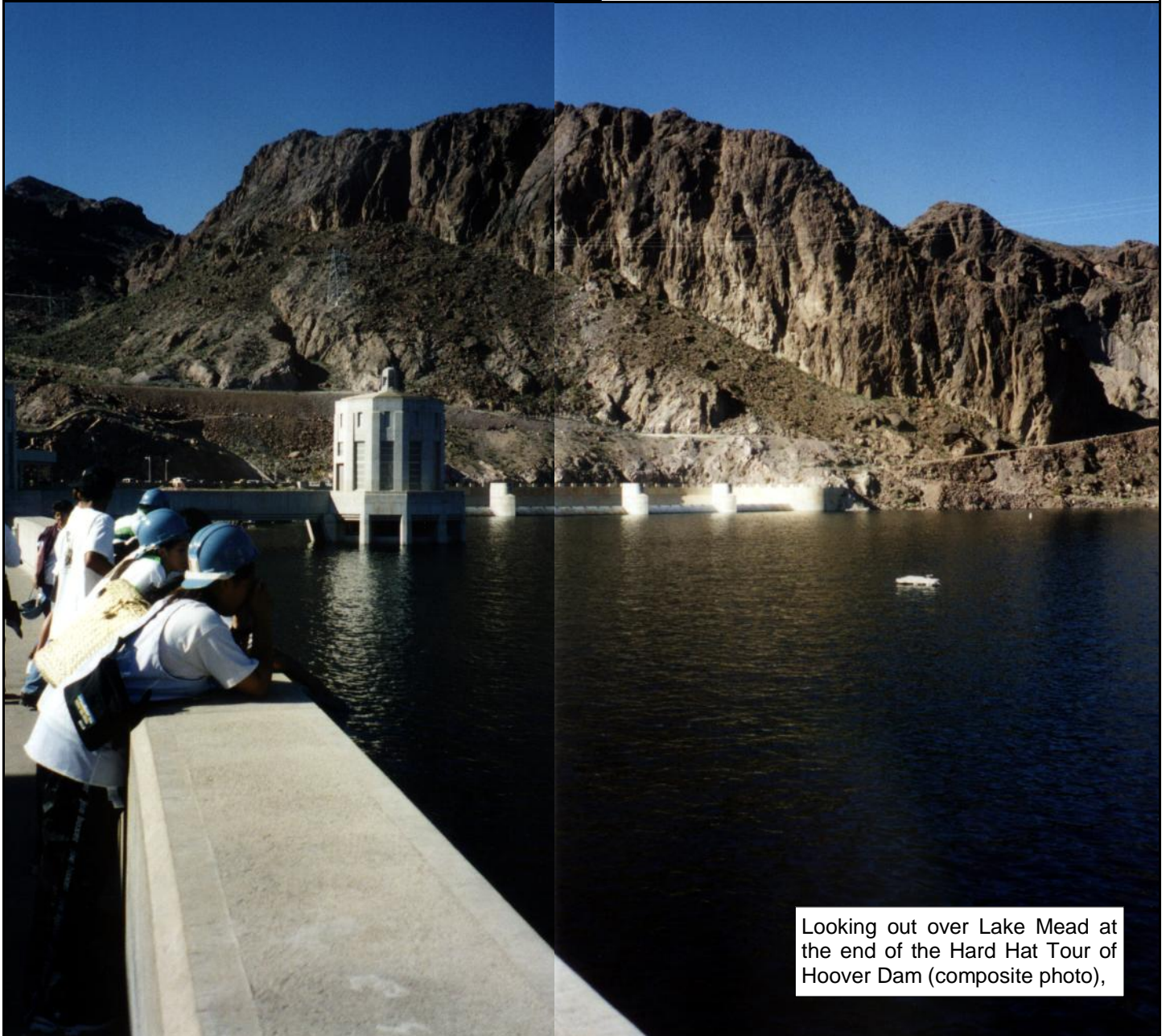


At the base of the Hoover Dam.



Inside a small room perched immediately above one of the huge penstocks carrying the water to the turbines.





Looking out over Lake Mead at the end of the Hard Hat Tour of Hoover Dam (composite photo),



Corrie and Pokaia leaning on the rail of the spillway, which has only been used twice in the history of the Dam.





At Kawana Pohe's souvenir shop on the shores of Lake Mead at Hoover Dam.

At the conclusion of the tour the group headed over to Kawana Pohe's souvenir shop to spend and enjoy the gift of iceblocks by Kawana. What a gold mine this tourist shop is. You could hardly get in the door!

A large number of the group purchased items and enjoyed the view across Lake Mead before returning across the dam (and the state line) to the private vehicles to return to Boulder City.

Richard Crawford and Robyn Roa took

advantage of the opportunity to drive to and from the dam.

On the way back there was a stop-off at the Gold Strike Casino for an evening meal (US\$1.50 each) and an opportunity to experience "tipping".

Boulder City has no Casinos within its boundaries, a by-law enacted by the citizens of Boulder City. To that end the Gold Strike is right on the city boundary to catch the travellers. The Gold Strike Casino is near Hoover Dam.



Pokaia, Te Whainoa, Corrie and Tutereinga having their evening meal at the Gold Strike Casino.





Hoover Dam, one of the major dams of the world, on the Colorado River, at the Nevada-Arizona state line, 25 miles east of Las Vegas. Hoover Dam is the second highest dam in the United States and is considered one of the greatest engineering achievements in the world. The massive dam is the chief flood control unit on the lower Colorado River, and it also provides power and water for a large area of the western United States. Hydroelectric power generated at the damsite is used throughout Nevada, Arizona, and southern California and is carried as far away as the Los Angeles metropolitan area. The dam's immense reservoir, Lake Mead, irrigates more than one million acres of semiarid land in the Southwest. The dam itself, a gravity arch dam, has a height of 726 feet and a crest length of 1,244 feet. It is over 660 feet thick at the base.

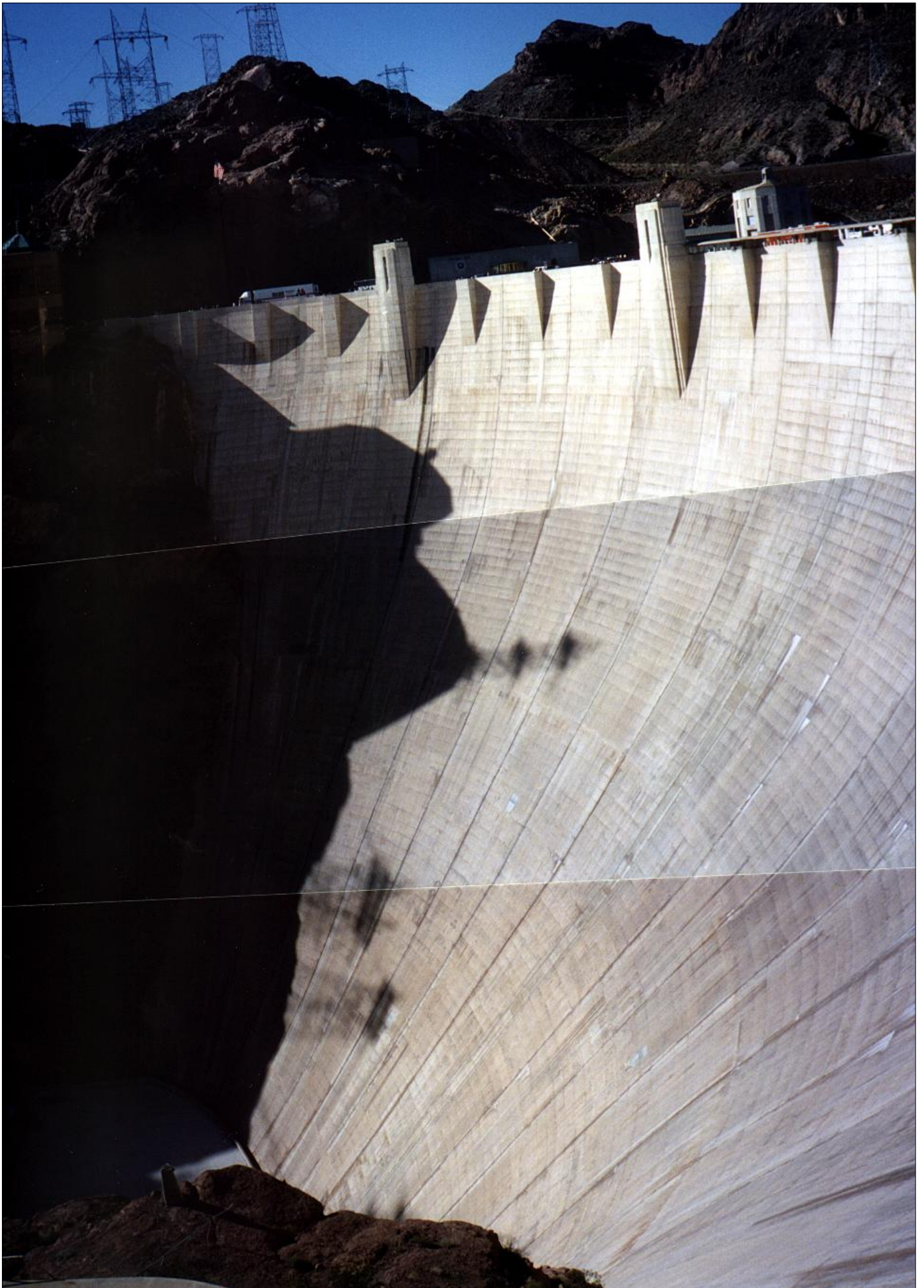
Construction of the Dam. The dam was authorized by Congress in 1928. It was planned as the major structure in the Boulder Canyon project, which also included a reservoir and power plant. A damsite in Boulder Canyon,

several miles upstream from the present location, was first chosen. The site was later moved to the head of Black Canyon, a narrow, steep-sided gorge.

Work was begun at the dam site in 1931. To supply power for construction, a 200-mile-long power line was strung to the site from San Bernardino, Calif. Railroad and highway facilities were built, and 7 miles southwest of the damsite, Boulder City was laid out to serve as construction headquarters. It was later made a local headquarters of the Bureau of Reclamation, which operates the dam.

Six private engineering companies worked on the dam from 1931 to 1936. The mammoth Boulder Canyon project was completed at a total estimated cost of \$173,100,000. The dam was dedicated in 1935. During the early years of construction it was known as Hoover Dam, in honour of President Herbert Hoover. It was later officially called Boulder Dam, but in 1947 it was renamed Hoover Dam.





A montage of the front wall of the Hoover Dam.





Maera, Riki Lee, Pare and Kura having their evening meal at the Gold Strike Casino.

The pupils were still hearty and enthusiastic eaters, taking advantage of the fact that the meals were paid for out of the putea.

However there were some interesting arrangements as to who was going to leave the tip on the table and keen discussion on just how much to tip. In this case the tips were more than the price of the meals!

On arriving back at Boulder the group prepared for the performance at the 5th Street Chapel, getting changed in a classroom upstairs.

The audience filled the recreation hall (about 400) and were very appreciative. The group did well on a stage slightly smaller than they wished and mixed with the audience after the performance before heading 'home'.



Leon, Isaac, Motuiti and Jesse having their evening meal at the Gold Strike Casino.





Riki Lee and Maera at the Gold Strike Casino complex just out of Boulder City. This casino was destroyed in a fire several months after our tour.





Getting ready for the evening performance in the Boulder City LDS Chapel.



Performing to a capacity audience in Boulder City.



Some of the audience for the performance at Boulder City.





Richard Crawford thanking Grace Murray at the end of the concert.

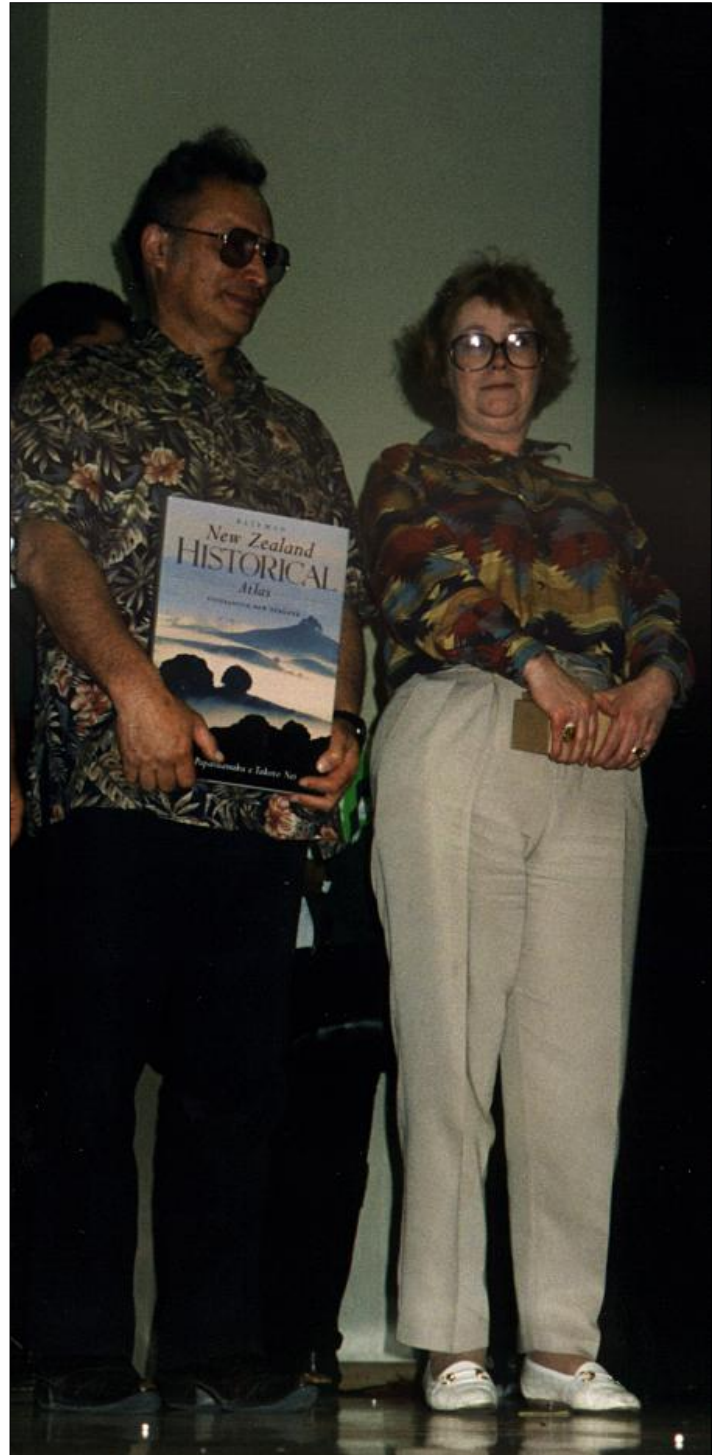
The Boulder City performance in the LDS Chapel was enthusiastically received by the capacity audience. Riki Lee Peters was getting over a chill in her kidneys, thanks to a blessing given to her by her hosts. She had stood around in the cool night air in her wet togs after a hot spa. Rihi Mita-Watene was not 100% either and missed out on the performance.

Presentations were made to Kawana and to Wally Murray for their contribution towards the organisation of the tour in the Boulder City area.

The troupe headed home at 9pm to rest up ready for a 7am departure for Grand Canyon in the morning. They were aware that the journey would take over 4 hours from Boulder City to Grand Canyon village on the South Rim.



Wally Murray (right) in the standing room only concert.



Kawana Pohe and his wife, who facilitated our stay in Boulder City.





*(Above and Below)* Performing at Boulder City.



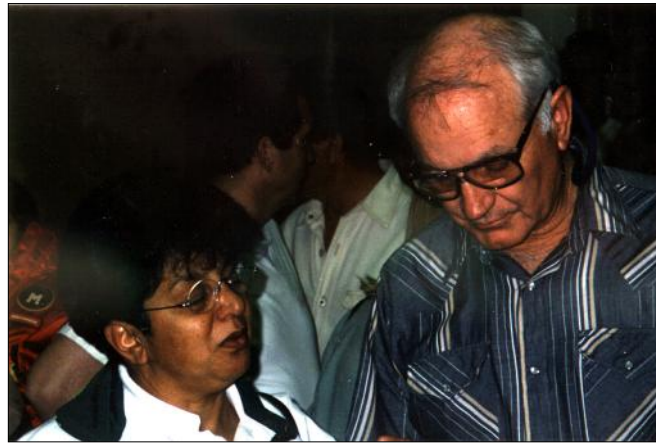




Te Manawaroa, Kotiro, Casey Mia, Rangiherehere and Leon performing at Boulder City.



Te Whainoa and Tutereinga mixing with the audience after the concert.



Lalita talking with a member of the Boulder City audience.



Pare (left) and Poppy chatting with the audience of our last scheduled performance in the States.

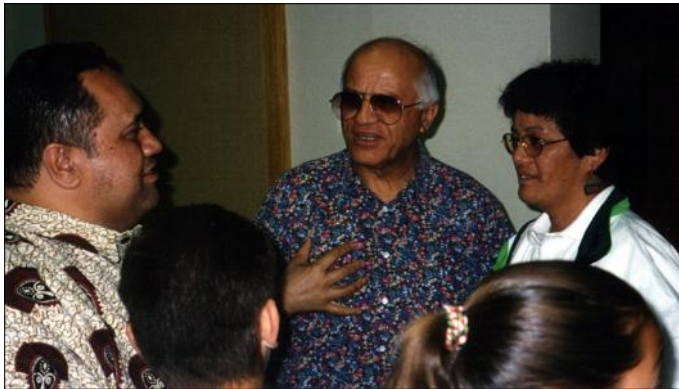




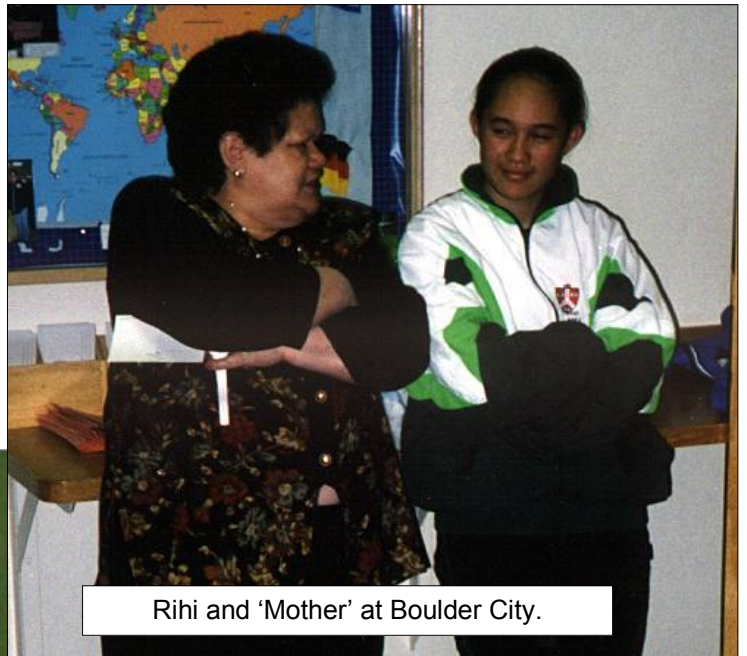
Marrin Haggie at the Boulder City performance.



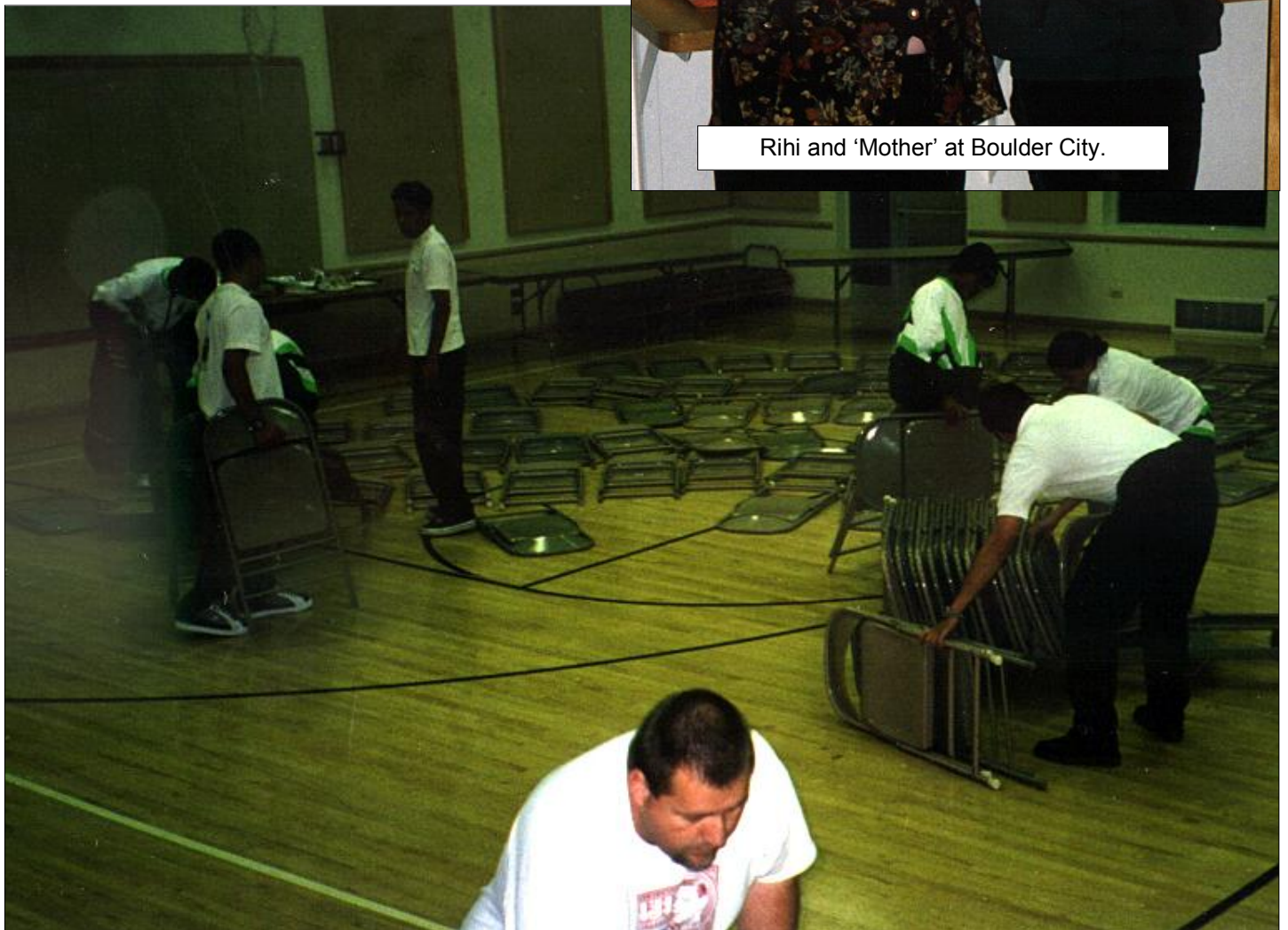
Richard meets his wife's first cousin, Sheldon Murray.



Poppy (right) at the Boulder City performance.



Rihi and 'Mother' at Boulder City.



Members of the tour group help in packing away the seating after the the concert.



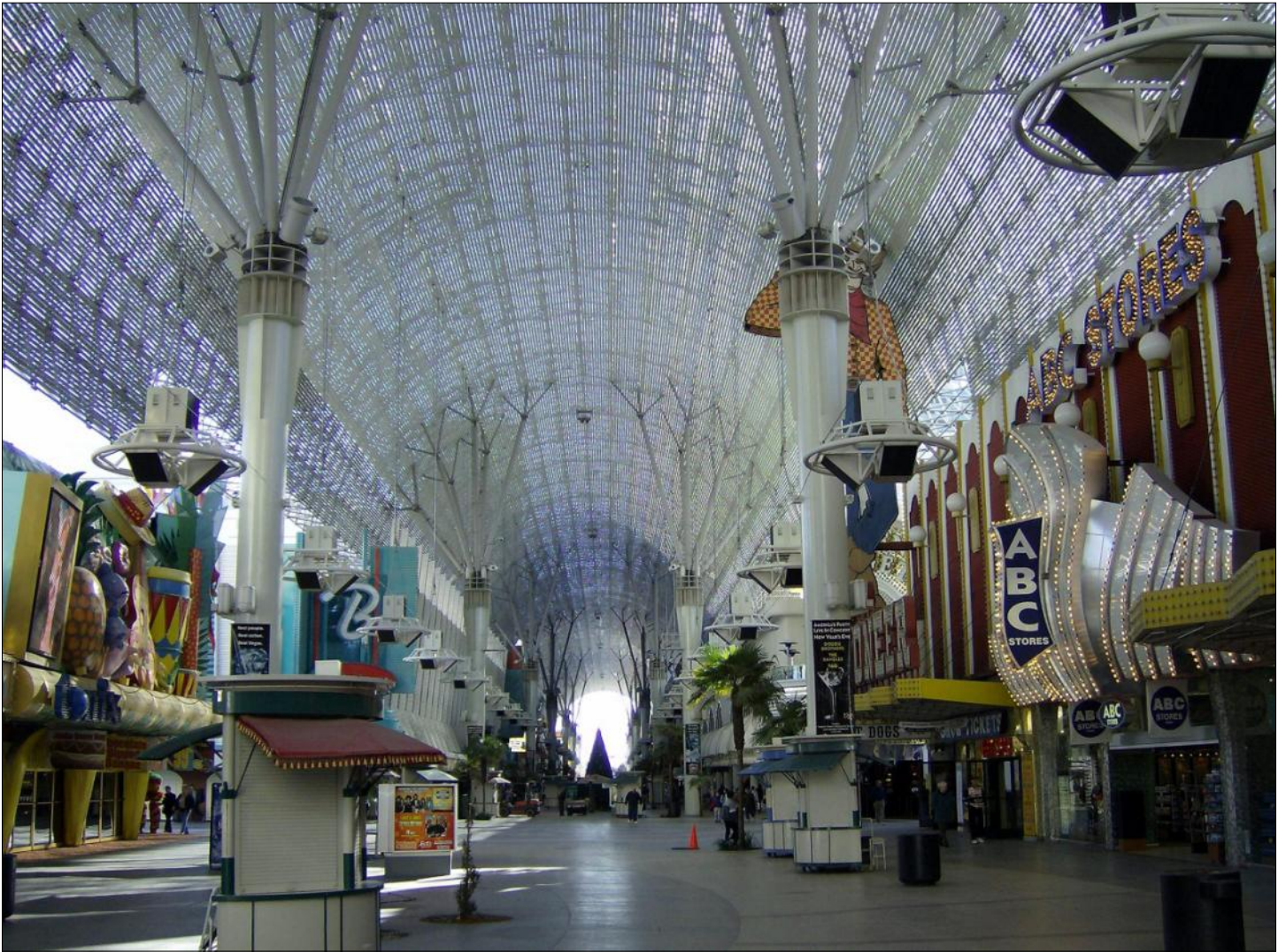


All of the boys get into hot water at Pohe's after the concert at the Boulder City LDS Chapel.

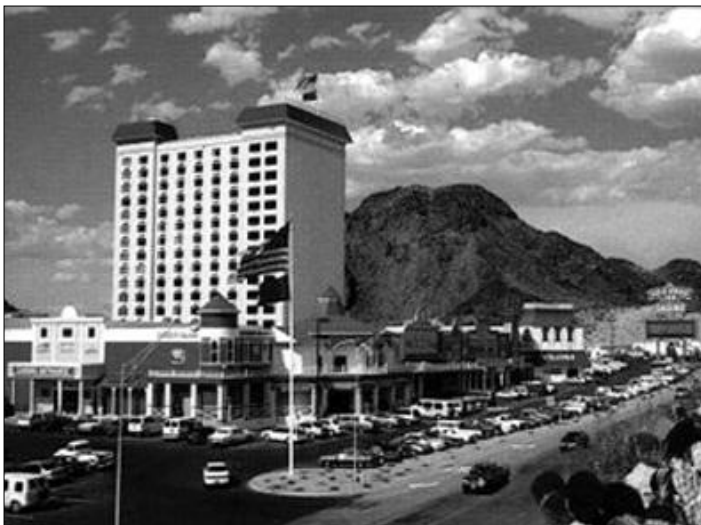


Jesse, Pokaia and Tutereinga in the spa pool, Boulder City.





A view of Fremont Street in the older part of Las Vegas, visited by Sandy and Te Whainoa at 12:30am. The projection surface is the largest screen in the world, measuring 1,500 feet long (5 football fields). The screen is made up of 12,500,000 LED lamps with 180 strobes and 8 robotic mirrors per 100m block. The life of the bulbs is 50,000 hours. Average daily attendance in the street is 25,000. The average light show is six minutes long and is free to view.



Above: This was the Gold Strike Casino complex just east of Boulder City as the group saw it after visiting Hoover Dam. We stopped there for an evening meal.



Right: The results of a fire at the Gold Strike Casino in June 1998, two months after our visit.



# *Thursday 9th April 1998*

## *Grand Canyon*



Te Whainoa looking really comfortable in his host Joe Apiti's Lincoln.



Breakfast for all at McDonalds in Boulder City before heading off on the long trip to Grand Canyon's South Rim.





Breakfast for all at McDonalds in Boulder City before heading off on the long trip to Grand Canyon's South Rim..



At 8:38am tour guide Karen Rancilio explains a few things to the group before they leave for Grand Canyon, four hours away. Richard became acquainted with Karen through E-mail.





Another look at Hoover Dam as we cross it to travel into Arizona.



Rangiherehere and Riki Lee admire Jesse's plastic-wrapped cigar at the shopping stop-over on Route 66. The stop was barely 20 minutes into the journey. The operator must have had an arrangement with tour buses!

Up for a 7am breakfast at McDonalds of Boulder City. It cost \$US98.00 for the 32 meals served. At 8:30 the bus pulled in to the McDonalds car park and the group left to head back over Hoover Dam and briefly onto the famous Route 66.

Had a brief toilet/shopping stop at a truck lay-by just 30 minutes into the journey. Food and souvenirs were bought. It appeared as though we

stopped only because the driver had 'arrangements' with the outlet owner.

Tour guides Shirley and Karen kept up the entertainment throughout the trip, with Shirley giving a gospel song and the group responding with several of their own.

The bus has five video screens and a toilet. Maera made available her awesome dreadlock plaiting techniques to several travellers.





Pare and Poppy sit on the kerb of the parking lot with the famous Route 66 highway in the background.



Jesse (rear) and Tutereinga.



At the Grand Canyon village lunch stop with the Cranes. Jo and Alan Crane travelled from his ranch in Phoenix, Arizona to meet with Sandy for the brief 30-minute lunch stop before they headed back home. Alan and Sandy knew each other in Huntly in 1966 and this was their first renewal of the friendship in 32 years. From left: Rangiherehere, Jo, Sandy, Allan, Rihi and Corrie.





Maera weaving small plaits into Poppy's hair.



Motuiti sunbathing and sleeping on the long trip.

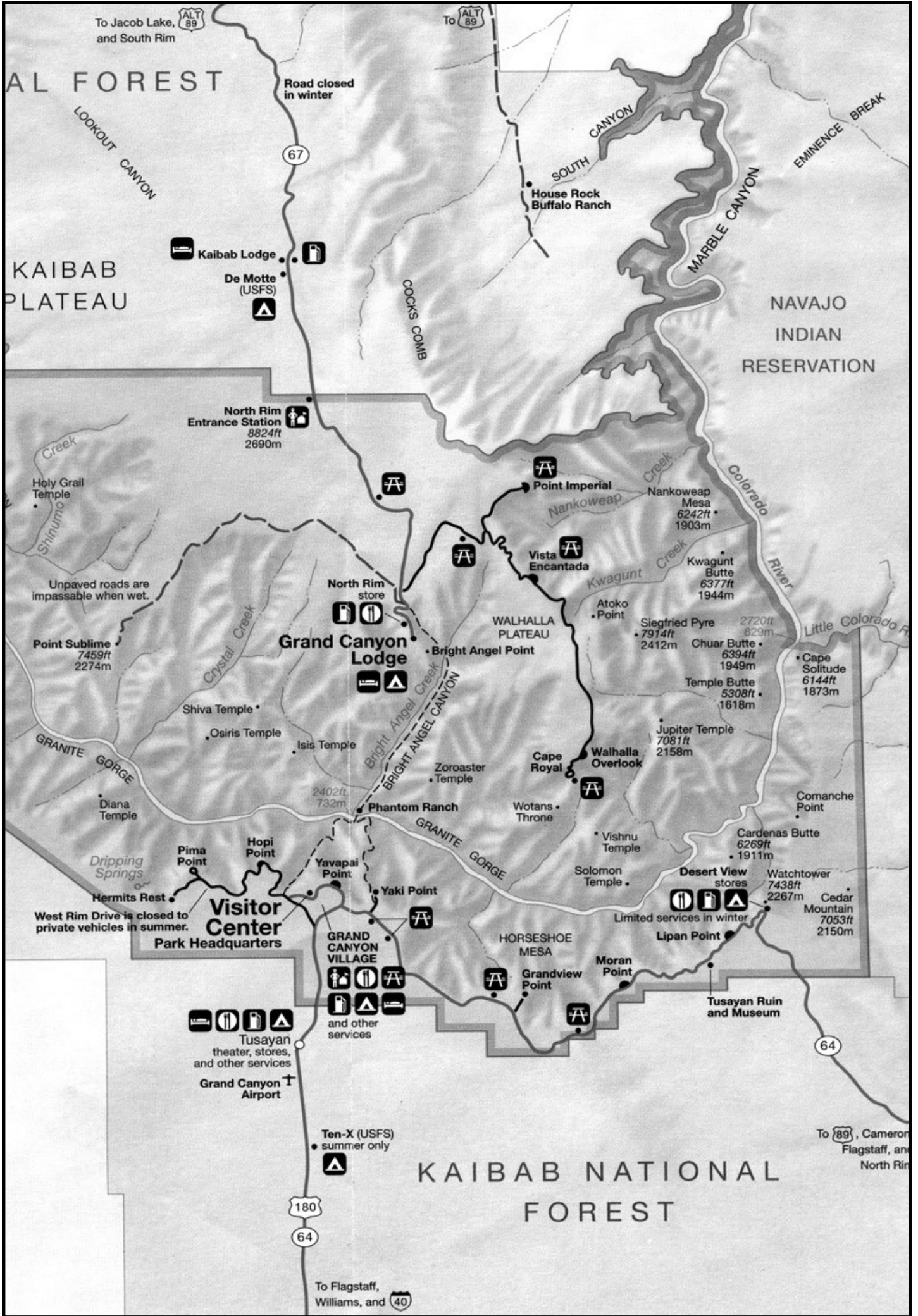


Assistant tour guide Shirley.



This was the appearance of much of the landscape on the journey east. Here the group is 30 minutes from lunch.







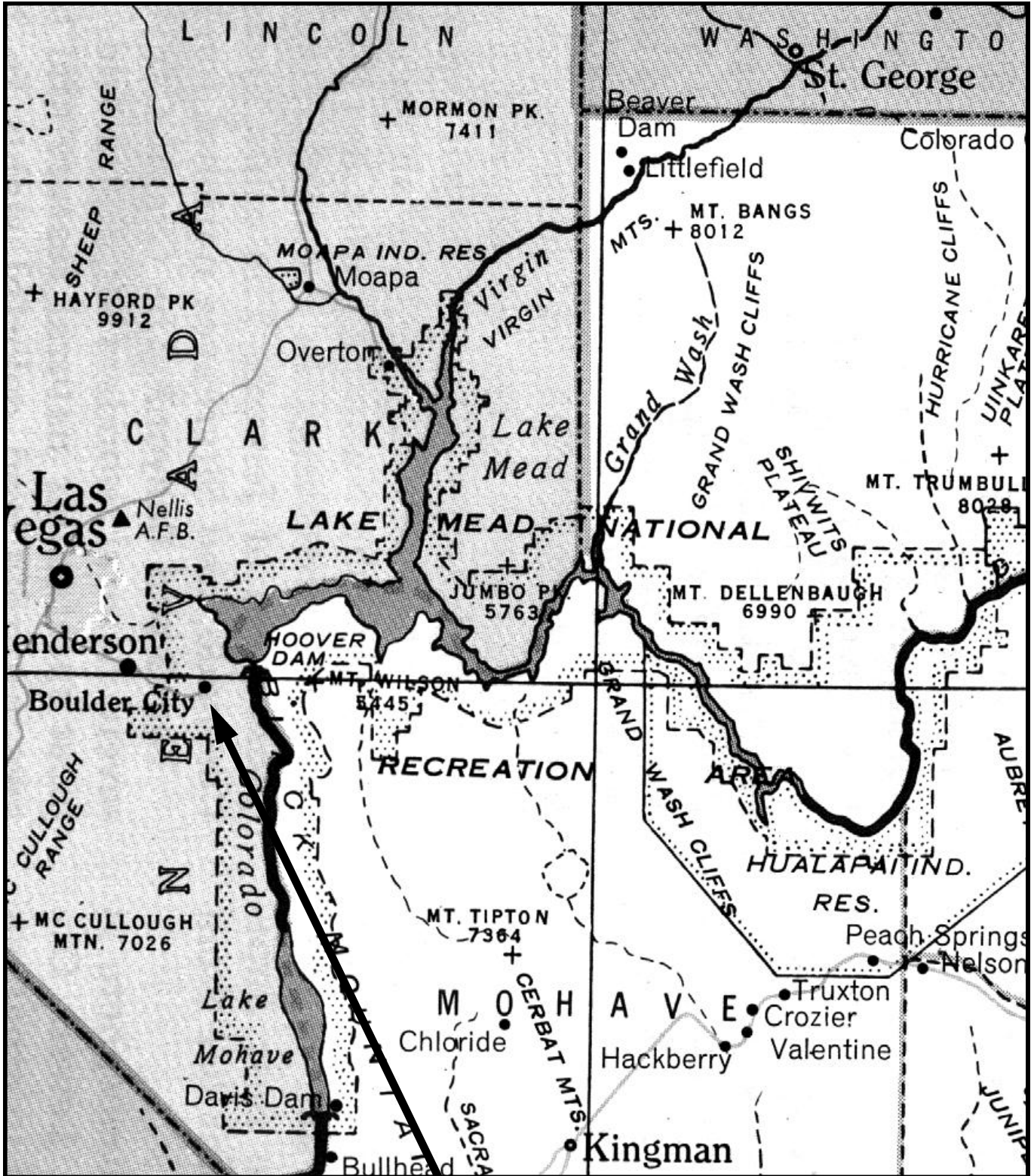


Kura Walker and Tour Guide Shirley at Grand Canyon.



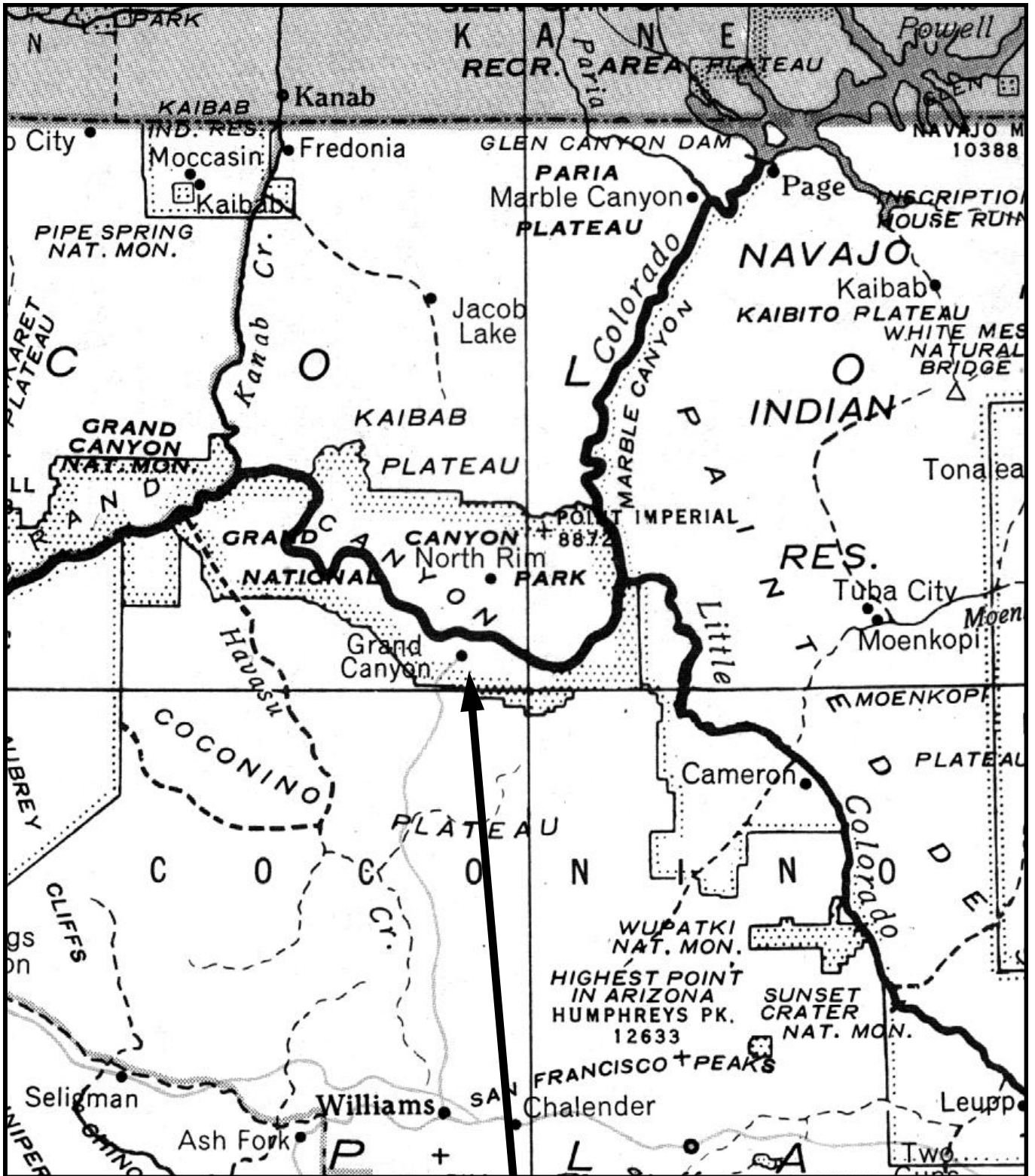
Kura Walker and Maera Paki at Grand Canyon.





Boulder City, the group's base for two nights as they visited Hoover Dam and Grand Canyon. Left here at 8:30am for a four-and-three-quarter-hour trip east to Grand Canyon Village.





South Rim, four and three-quarter hours later, where the group viewed the Canyon and had photographs taken. The land around the Canyon is quite flat and 'uninspiring'.



# GRAND CANYON

Grand Canyon is an immense canyon on the upper course of the Colorado River, in north-western Arizona. It is known as one of the most spectacular natural wonders of the world. About half of the total length of the canyon lies in Grand Canyon National Park.

The canyon winds through a region of high plateaus for a total distance of 217 miles (350 km). It is an extremely broad canyon and, from rim to rim varies in width from 4 miles (6.4 km) to as much as 18 miles (29 km). At the canyon's deepest point the Colorado River lies about 1 mile (1.6 km) below the general level of the plateaus.

The North Rim is about 1,000 feet (300 meters) higher than the South Rim. The walls of the canyon are generally steep, but not vertical. However, in some places there is a sheer drop of 1,000 or more feet.





The Grand Canyon region forms a huge area of dissected plateaus, separated by innumerable canyons and steep-sided chasms. Numerous side canyons which carry tributaries of the Colorado, open onto the main canyon. The side canyons are in turn cut by smaller ravines and gorges. In the main canyon are isolated pinnacles of rock, known as buttes.

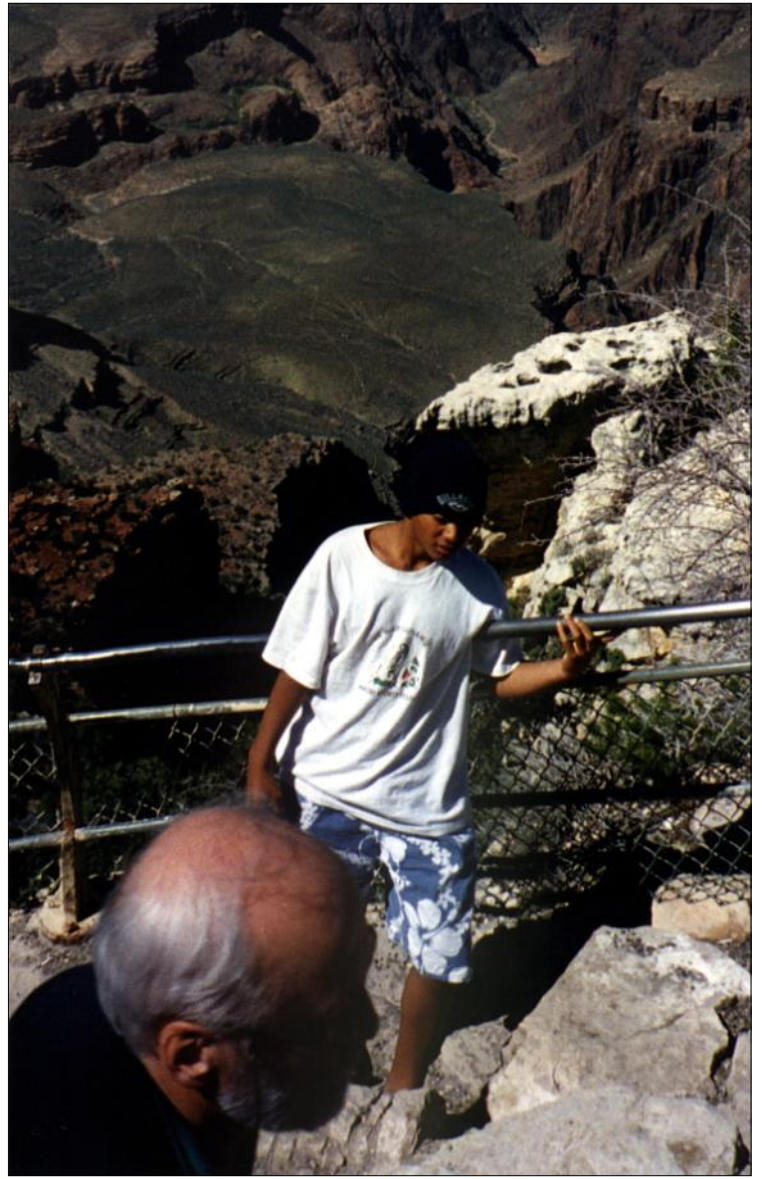
The walls of the buttes and canyons are exposed as multi-hued strata, or layers of rock. The bands of colour of the rock formations seem to change as the intensity and angle of sunlight change.







Piata, Robyn and Rangiherehere.



Tutereinga Holland at Grand Canyon

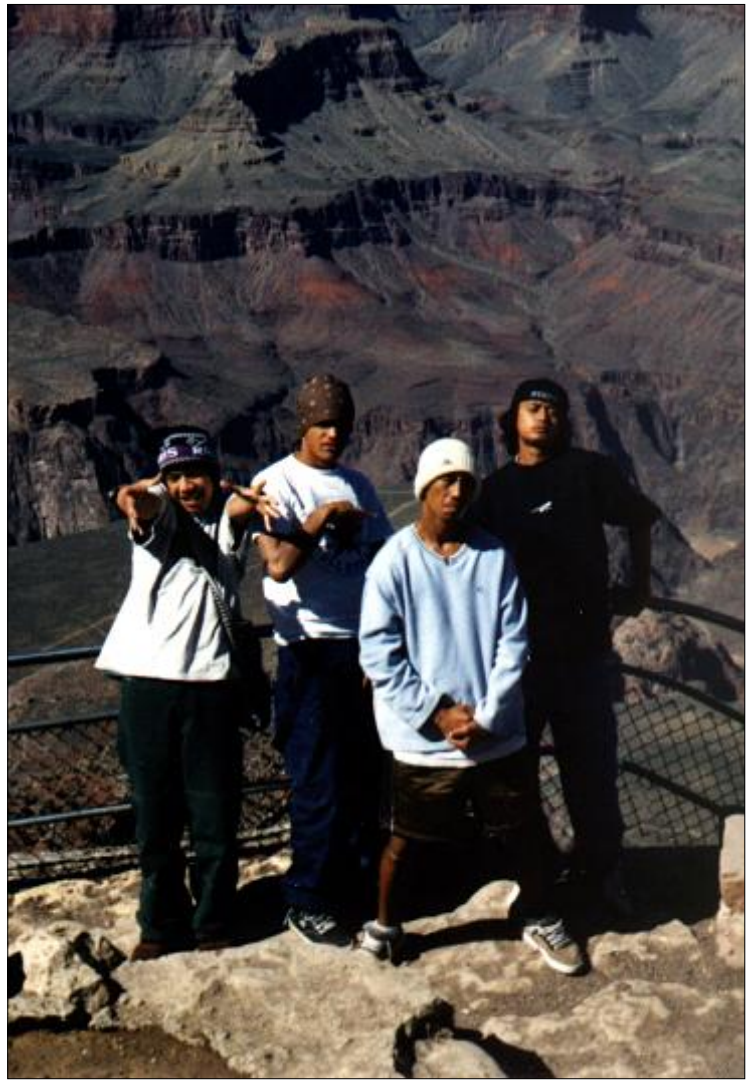


Te Manawaroa Teinakore on the South Rim of Grand Canyon.





Wynel Te Wiata at Grand Canyon with snow patches. Access to the Canyon in many areas was disrupted the previous week due to a very heavy snowfall, the remains of which could still be seen in the shady areas.



Motuiti Hona, Al Duane Ngakuru, Leon Matthews and Isaac Royal at the point of their first view of Grand Canyon.



A special moment for Te Manawaroa with Shirley and Karen at South Rim, Grand Canyon.





The first look at Grand Canyon.



Maera Paki on the South Rim of Grand Canyon.





Kotiro Turner and Casey Mia Hawkins.



Kameta Puke.





Te Whainoa Te Wiata on the South Rim of Grand Canyon.

Arrived at the Grand Canyon Village where we had lunch at a smorgasbord restaurant at 1:15pm and then promptly took off again at 2:00pm for the last 'hop' to the canyon rim.

It was here at the village restaurant that Sandy met up with Jo and Allan Crane for the short lunch stop, where they crammed 33 years of catch-up into 35 minutes!

Made two rim stops – the first just for 20

minutes to get the first views of the canyon and then the second to get changed on the bus into costume and have several panoramic group shots with the canyon in the background and crowds of other tourists watching on..

It was unfortunate that an elevated position could not be found so that the shots could be of the group with the floor of the canyon behind them. Headed back west at 5:15pm.



Pokaia Matthews, Kura Walker and Maera Paki.



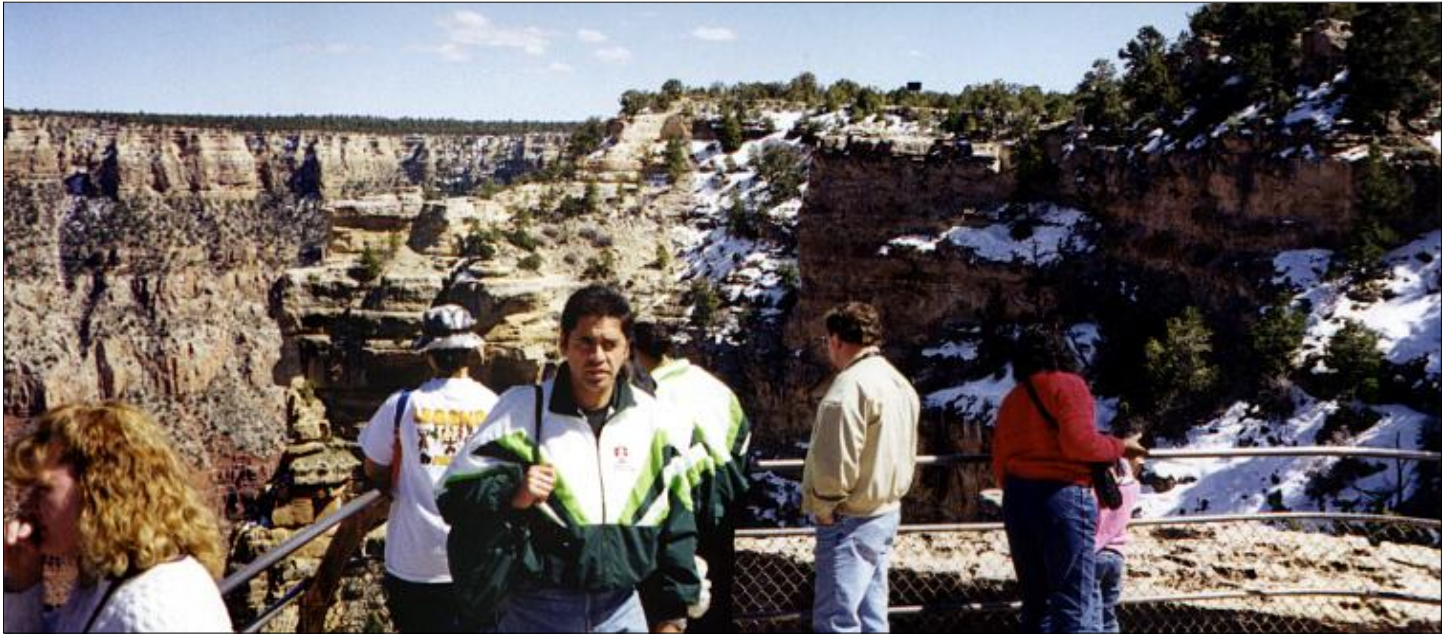


Lalita Hari.



Heading down to a lookout point on the South Rim of Grand Canyon.

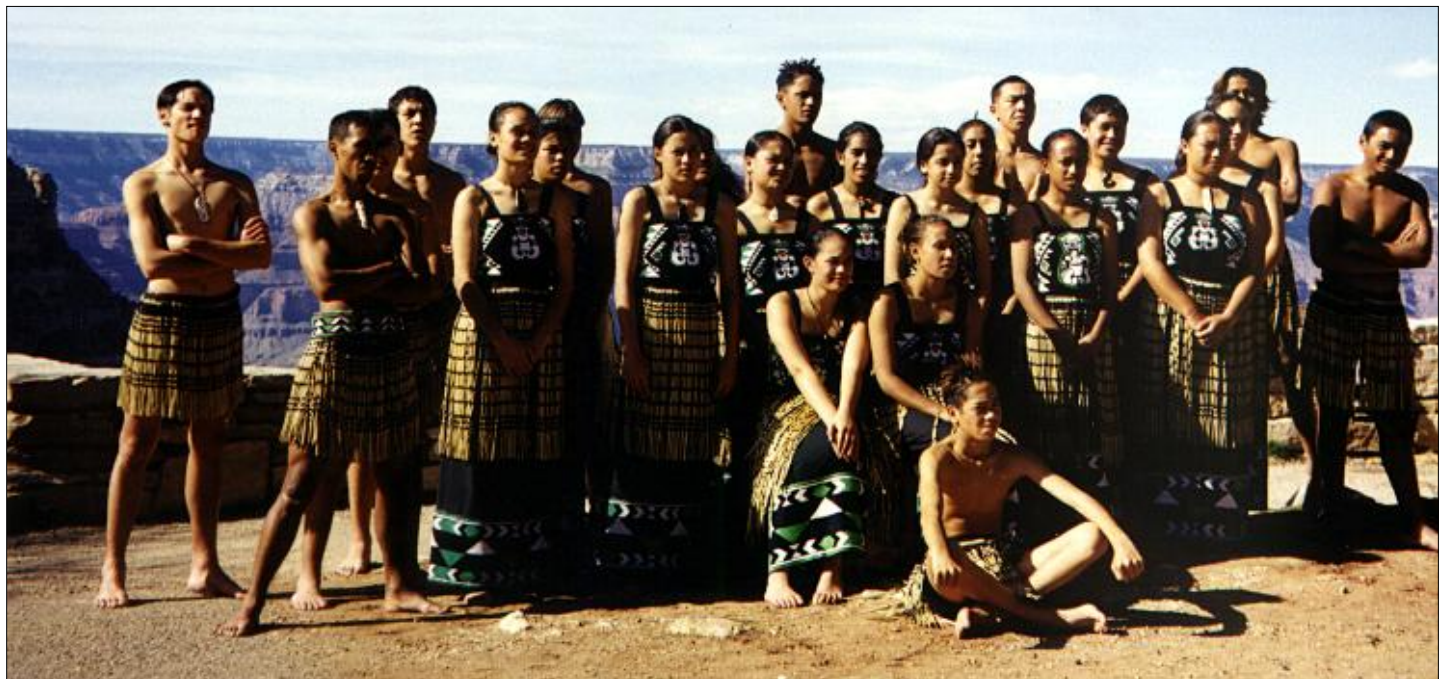




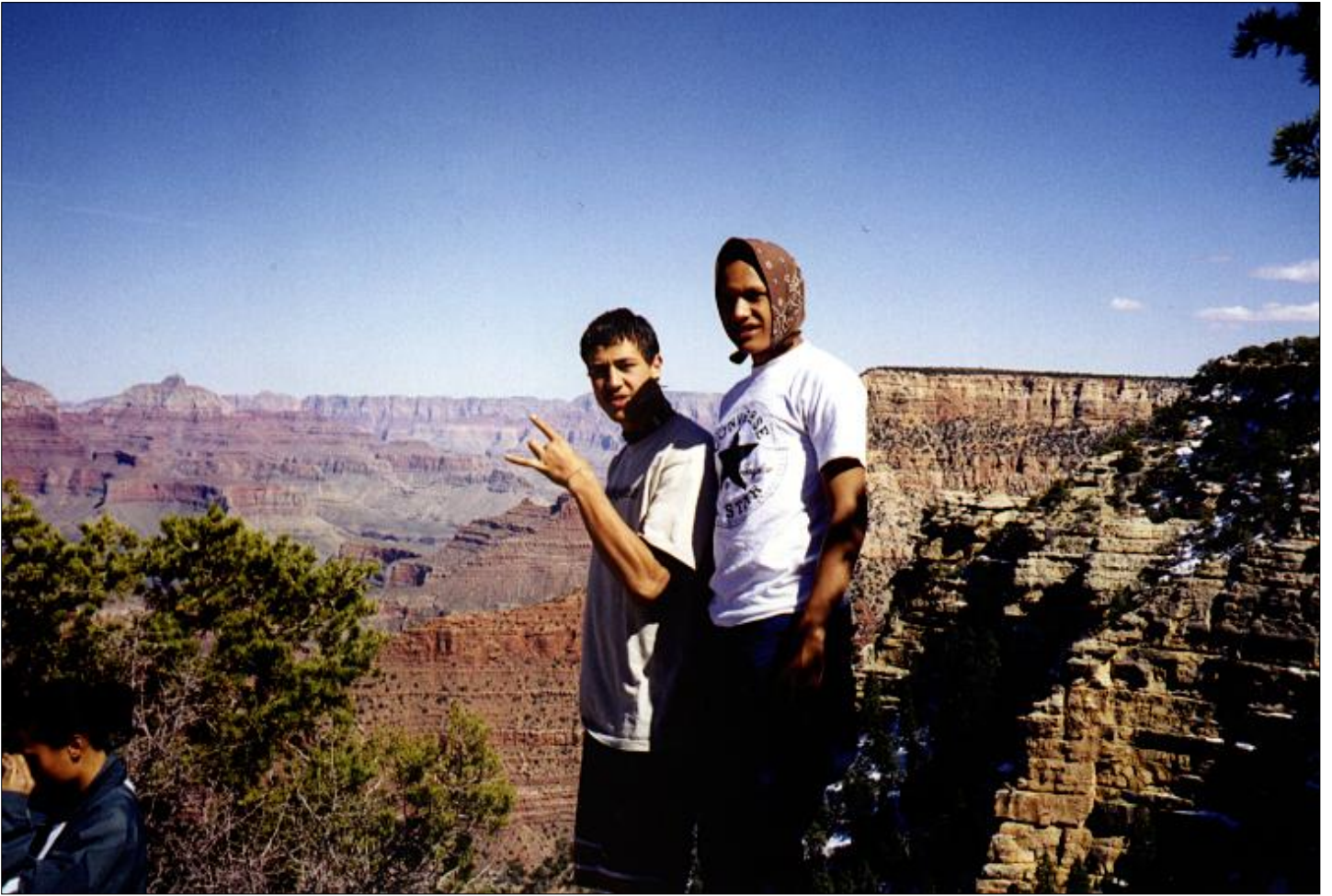
Richard Crawford.



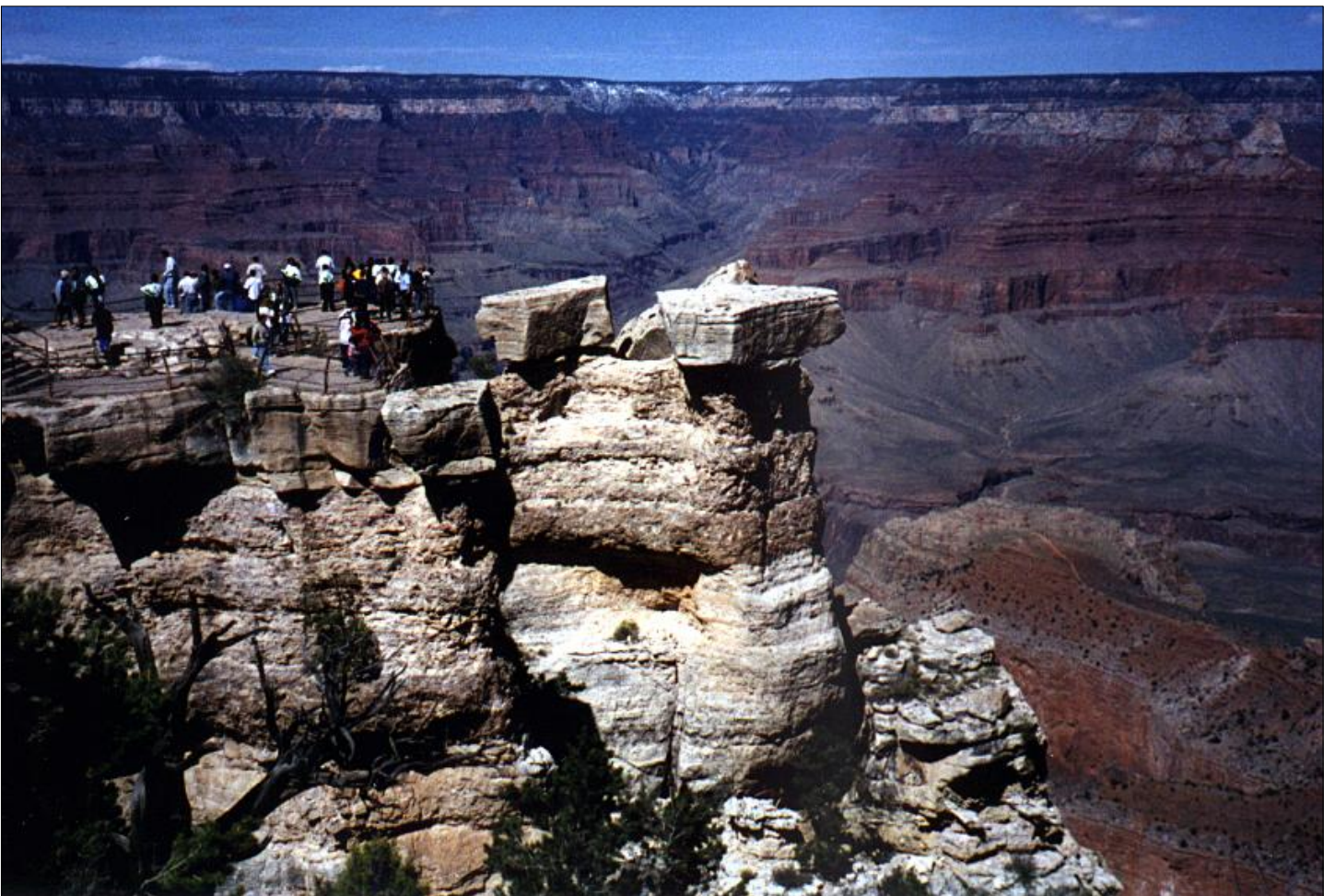
(Above and Below) Photographs on the South Rim of Grand Canyon.







Jesse and Al Duane.



Members of the Kapa Haka Tour Party out on an observation spur at Grand Canyon.

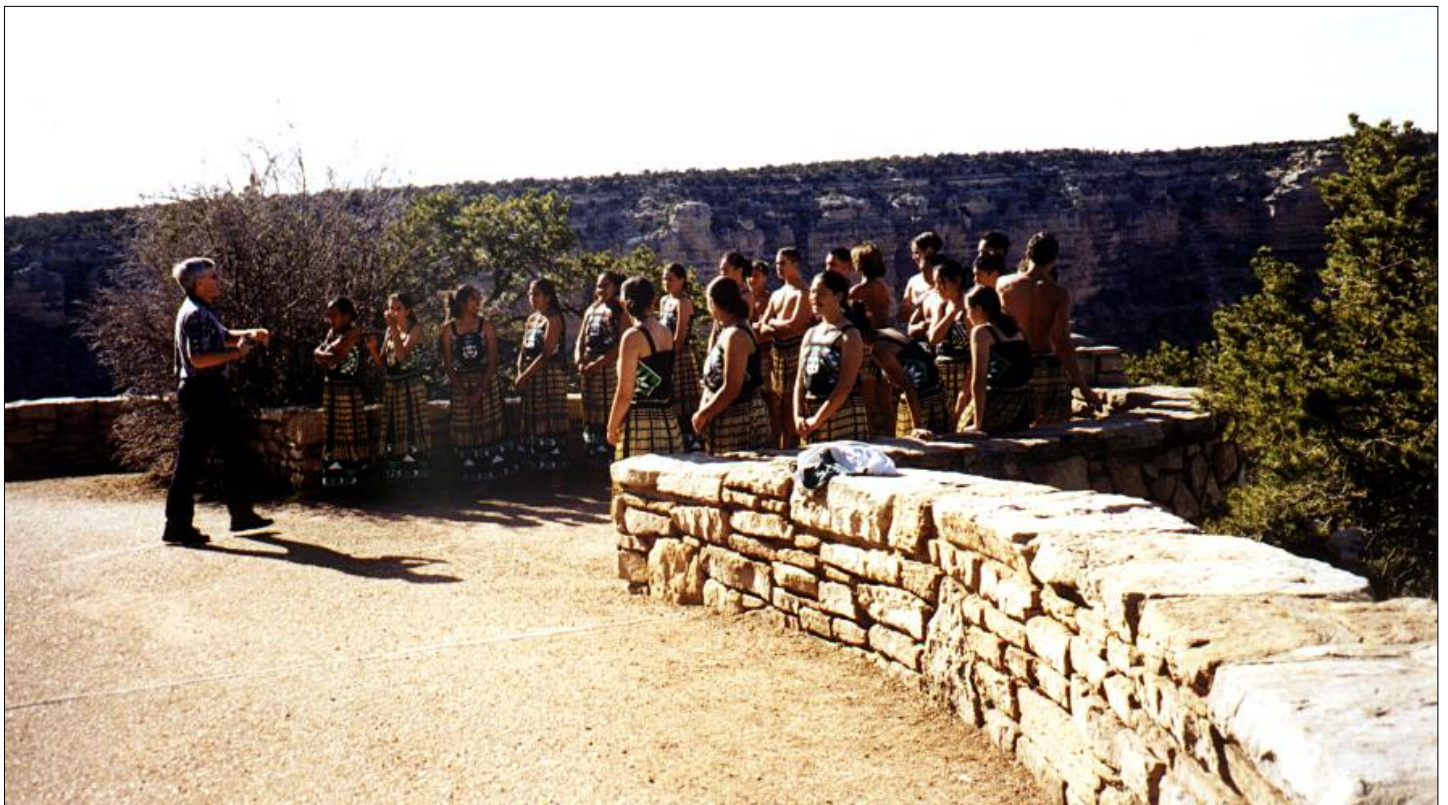




Te Manawaroa and Rihi in the Hopi Tourist Centre and viewing hut.



Taking a break and passing time on a fence near the rim of Grand Canyon.



Sandy MacDonald setting the tourists up for a group photo on the South Rim of Grand Canyon.





**Ngaruawahia High School Kapa Haka USA Tour Party 1998**

From the left: Jacqueline Pouaka, Piata Murray, Kameta Puke, Kura Walker, Te Manawaroa Teinakore, Casey Mia Hawkins, Corrie Wharakura, Kotiro Turner, Te Whainoa Te Wiata, Motuiti Hona, Isaac Royal, Leon Matthews, Al Duane Ngakuru, Tutereinga Holland, Pokaia Matthews, Maera Paki, Te Waiti Walker, Jesse Royal, Te Ngaru Brown, Riki Lee Peters, Rangiherehere Katipa, Malana Grey and Rihī Mita-Watene.





*Above:* This is what the tour would have been like without the teenagers!







*Below: Group photos at Grand Canyon.*







Corrie Wharakura and Pokaia Matthews.



Leon Matthews.



Maera Paki





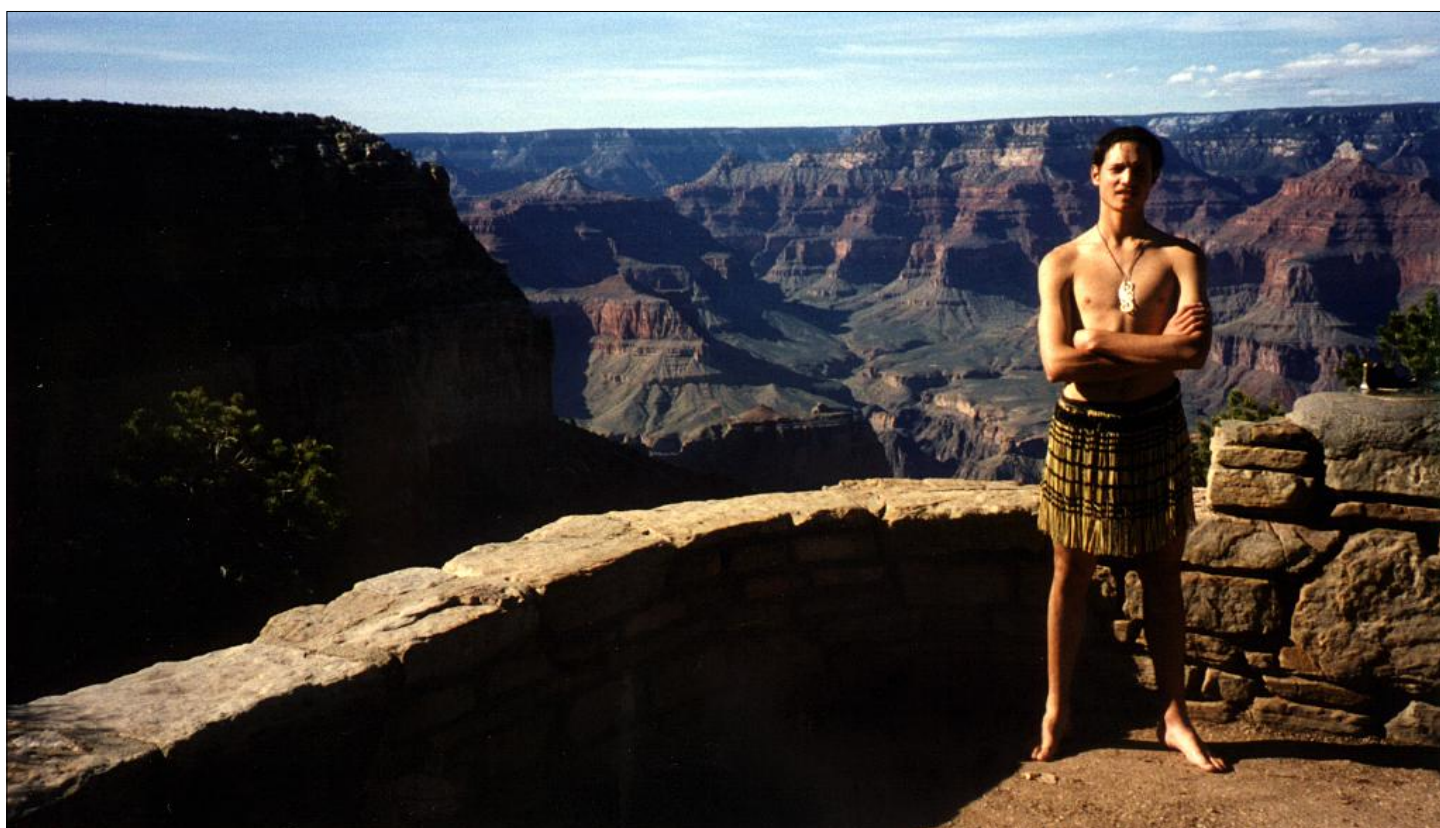
South Rim, Grand Canyon.





Robyn Roa



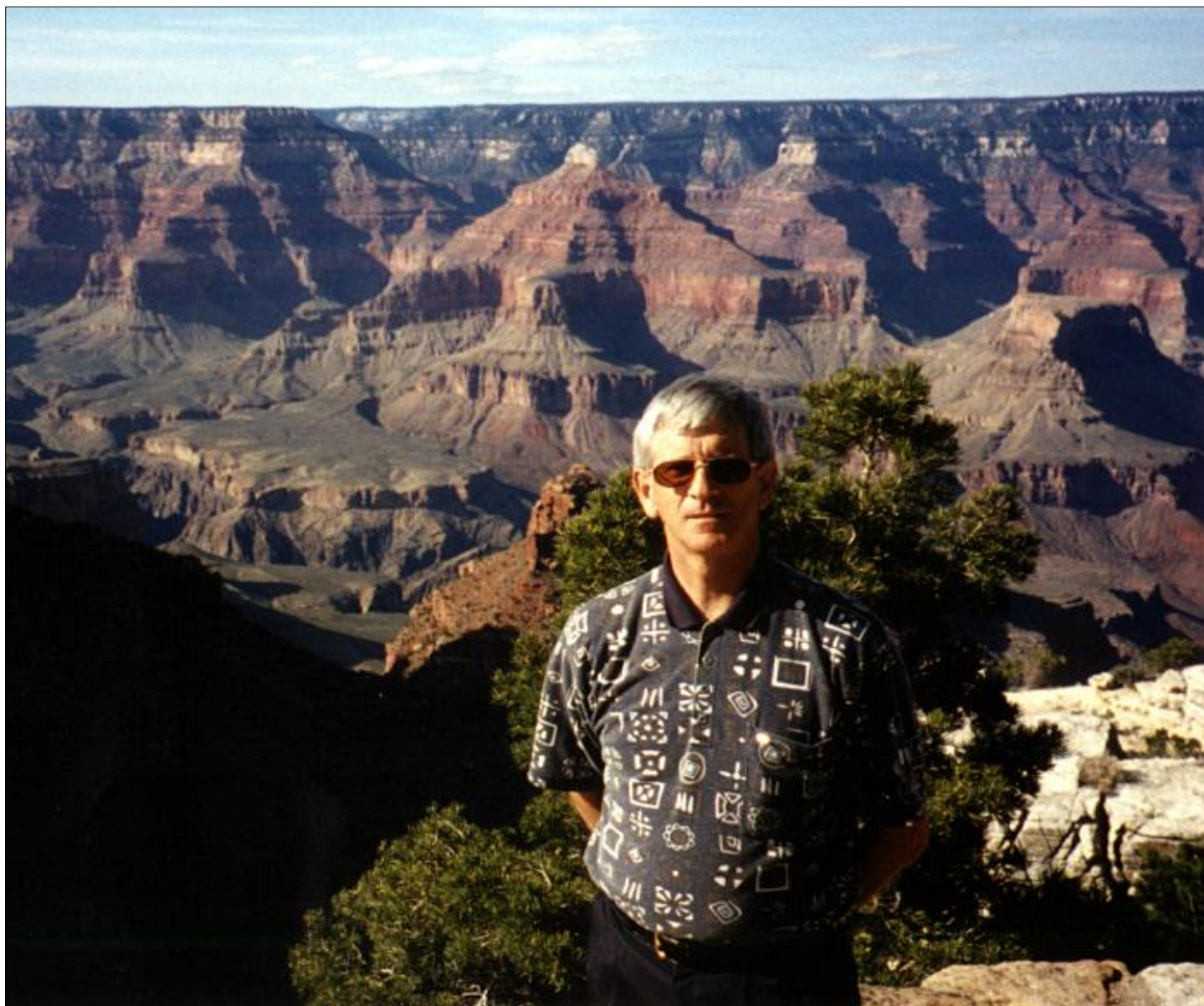


Marrin Haggie





Robyn Roa and Poppy Ranga.

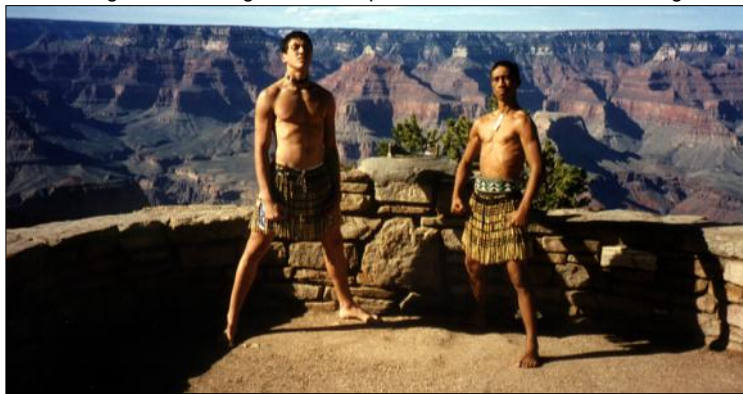


Sandy MacDonald





Jesse Royal



Jesse Royal and Leon Matthews



Richard Crawford after buying at the Hopi Souvenir Shop.



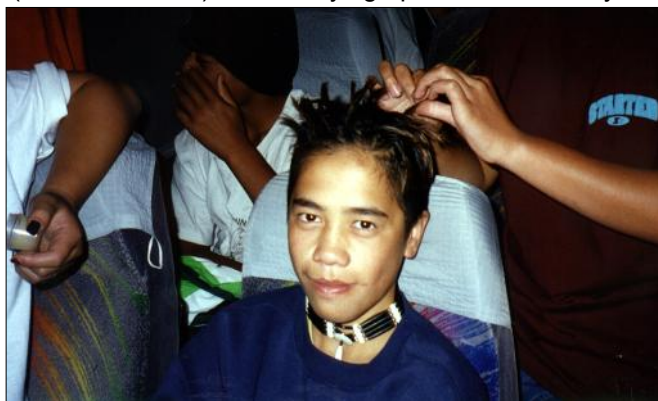
Jesse and Riki Lee leaving Grand Canyon.



(Above & Below) Maera tidying up Pokaia's hair style.



Kotiro and Casey Mia.







Pare Paki on the long trip back from the Canyon.



Poppy and an unwell Te Ngaru share a milkshake.



Marrin Haggie and Casey Mia Hawkins 'sleeping'.

The photographs at the canyon were in the late afternoon with the sun in a less than perfect position for good shots.

Visits to the pueblo souvenir shop and the lookout shop were well worthwhile with more money being spent. A long 2 meter panoramic photograph of the canyon was purchased for donation to the school on arrival back in NZ.

The 5 hour journey back through Boulder City to Las Vegas was met with snores, sound tracks from the videos and broken occasionally with silence as lost sleep was caught up on.

There was only one stop on the way back (at fast food outlet Arby's) as the group needed to arrive at Excalibur Casino/Hotel before 10pm and before the bus company began to charge extra!

Saw lots of jet aircraft vapour trails in the sky due to heavy air traffic in the area. The movies *Independence Day* and *Sister Act* ran on the bus's five video screens.





Having a late tea at Arby's fast food restaurant before carrying on to the Excalibur Hotel in Las Vegas.

There's nothing better than an Arby's® Roast Beef sandwich. It has all that tender, juicy slow-roasted beef that's thinly sliced as we individually prepare each sandwich.

• select chicken choices • tempting light menu • premium cut potatoes • slow-roasted roast beef •

• select chicken choices • tempting light menu • fresh toppings and savory sauces • premium cut potatoes •

You may also want to try our Roast Chicken. It's oven-roasted, seasoned to perfection and sliced just right. What's your favorite?

An Arby's paper bag flattened out.



Poppy Ranga making sure she gets her share of the paper towels at Arby's Restaurant.





(Above and Below) Unloading all of the 63 bags at the rear entrance of the Excalibur Hotel at 10:30pm.



Tutereinga checking out the night view from his room.

Passed through a small town in the desert that had light aircraft in the driveways instead of cars! The bus radio was played at a level that displeased many of the Rap supporters but allowed others a bit of rest. Many of the teenagers appeared to be driven to distraction by any quiet moments on the bus!

At 9:48pm arrived back at Boulder City where Shirley and Karen were dropped off. Arrived at Excalibur at 10:30pm and headed up to the 21st floor and the allocated rooms. At 11:45pm Richard Crawford took a large group up *the strip* to see the lights, as unaccompanied youth were not allowed out after the city's 10pm curfew.



# Friday 10th April 1998

## Las Vegas



Excalibur Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas. The group spent two nights and one day here on the 21st floor.



Rihi at the front of Excalibur Hotel.

### Excalibur Rooming List

- Room 1 – Richard, Leon, Pokaia.
- Room 2 – Sandy, Motuiti, Tutereinga.
- Room 3 – Marrin, Te Whainoa, Corrie.
- Room 4 – Jesse, Al Duane, Isaac.
- Room 5 – Poppy, Kotiro, Kameta.
- Room 6 – Wynel, Kura, Te Waiti.
- Room 7 – Pare, Malana, Rihi.
- Room 8 – Robyn, Rangiherehere, Te Ngaru.
- Room 9 – Lalita, Piata, Jacqueline.
- Room 10 – Maera, Te Manawaroa, Casey Mia, Riki Lee.



On the entrance walk of Excalibur.





Rihi with the medieval knights in armour at the front-piece display of the Excalibur Hotel and Casino.



Rihi in the foyer of the Luxor Hotel/Casino.



Rihi up on the entrance steps of Caesar's Palace.





Rihi with a view up Las Vegas Boulevard (The Strip) from the front of Excalibur Hotel/Casino.

The hotel rooms were 5m by 15m with two double beds, telephone, television, drawers, wardrobe and bathroom. The showers were stingingly forceful with soaps, shampoos, shower caps and towels all provided.

The telephones were immediately used as the group rang up each others rooms (and a few that were not part of the groups’).

The normal room rate was US\$275 per day for three people, but we got a better deal through Karen Rancilio at US\$40 per room!

Breakfast was all together on the ground floor in the *Round Table Buffet* and paid for out of the putea at \$5 per head. The selection was vast but no-one could go back for seconds! Food plates looked pretty full.

Before the group broke up and headed off to explore Las Vegas and its wonders, each pupil received a cash allowance for their lunch and told when to be back at the *Round Table* for the evening meal if they wanted their meal paid for from the group funds.



The front driveway of Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas.





In the shopping streets of Caesar's Palace with painted ceilings to give the impression of early evening

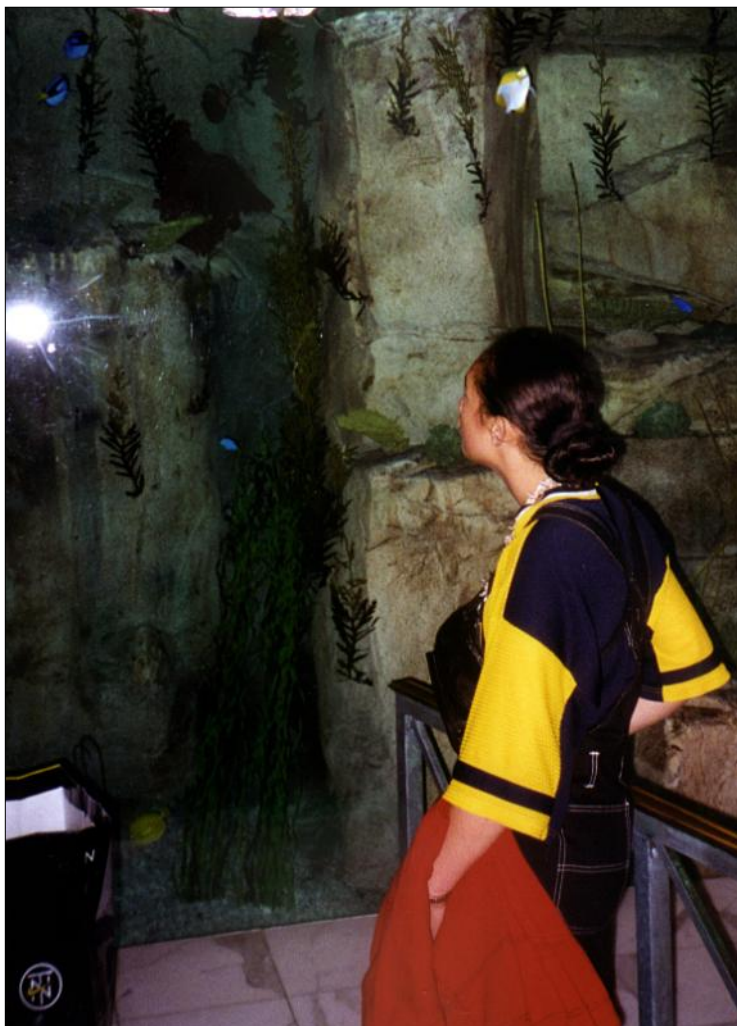


Rihi waiting in the central plaza of Caesar's Palace for the hourly spectacular of fire and water.



The fire and water spectacular was a prelude to the *Race For Atlantis* show at Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas.





One of the immense fish tanks at Caesar's Palace.



Rihi on the front lawn of Caesar's Palace.



Kura Walker and Riki Lee Peters outside a café at the MGM Grand Hotel, just across the road from the Excalibur.





Maera Paki and Riki Lee Peters at the M&M "Factory" on The Strip, Las Vegas.

Robyn Roa was delighted to find oatmeal available for breakfast among the 30-35 breakfast foods on offer!

Sub-groups headed off to Caesars Palace, Luxor, New York New York, Treasure Island, MGM Grande and especially the Stratosphere to ride on the highest coaster in the USA.

Rihi shopped everywhere for a particular cuddly knapsack (a rug-rat character) and found everything but the one she wanted!

All assembled back at Excalibur for the 5pm meal and then disappeared again to get as much action in as possible before the 10pm under-19 curfew.



Kura Walker in the M&M Factory, Las Vegas.

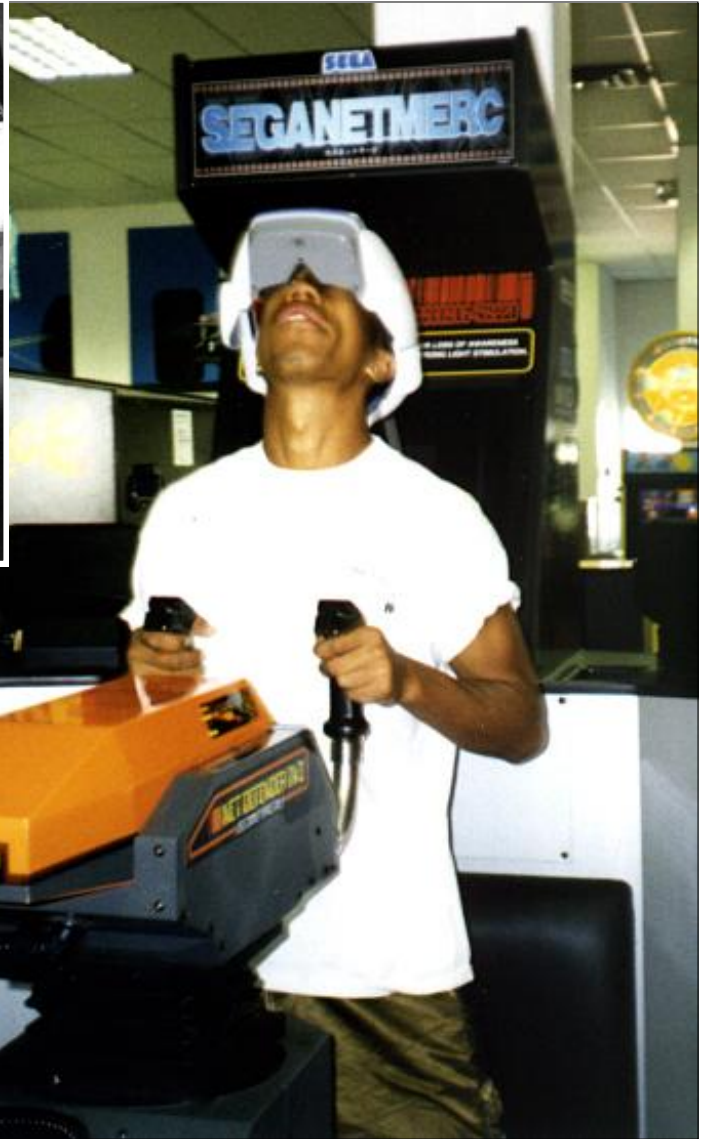


Richard Crawford outside the Excalibur Hotel, Las Vegas.





Shows went on in the lower levels of the Excalibur Hotel.



Above: Leon on one of the games machines.

Tutereinga Holland made the trip up and back to Treasure Island four times at 1.5 km one way! Robyn went on the New York New York roller coaster (and has a photograph to prove it!). Te Manawaroa and Sandy had their caricatures done by airbrush at the Excalibur while all passersby watched.



New York New York Casino façade with the roller coaster.





The view out of our 21st floor window down to the Excalibur swimming pool.

The following letter, written by Robyn Roa, was faxed back to Ngaruawahia High School today -

*"This is my first note home since we've been abroad. I am writing this from the Hoover Dam where we are waiting to go on our group tour. We're penned in until our turn comes up.*

*"You won't believe the commercialism that surrounds the Dam - to us a dam is a dam is a dam!*

*"After the Dam we're off to eat at a local casino called 'Gold Strike'. It serves dinner for about US\$1.45 per person - real cheap!*

*Tonight is our last planned performance. We're expecting about 300 people from around Boulder City and this is the only one we have been able to practice for.*

*"The kids have been really great. In fact we've just been roped into doing an impromptu performance for the other tourists at the Dam - tino choice - lead by Leon with real ihi! The crowd loved it. Stuff to be proud of!*

*"The kids absolutely loved Salt Lake City - loved the people who treated us like Kings and Queens. Even now they miss their billet families.*

*"The homes we've lived in are like Flagstaff, River Road homes! Real flash and big - swimming pools, spas, every modern convenience, rooms with ensuites, big cars, flash, flash, flash!*

*"I think we're neat! Richard and I have been driving around on their roads. I drove to Hoover Dam and Richard drove us back! Neat, eh!*

*"Probably the highlight so far for me was the performance at Highland High. The kids were wonderful. The boys got a standing ovation and the girls were absolutely beautiful.*

*"With about nine days remaining our students have done a lot, seen a lot and learned a lot.*

*"We'd like to send our love to all our whanau at home and assure you that so far we're having a great time.*

*"When you're driving through the Black Rock Desert and it's snowing for most of the way the scene takes on a whole different meaning, especially when we're not used to driving in snow and sleet, and you see three vehicles upside-down on the freeway! But we felt very safe in our luxurious video/toilet bus.*

*"Today it's really hot so we've had extreme temperatures in two days.*

*"Motuiti has been our gentleman, making sure whaea Poppy is safe walking around the Dam - isn't that nice.*

*"Well folks, gotta go. We've finished our tour and the mod is hungry.*

*"Love to you all - Robyn Roa."*





Riki Lee Peters relaxing at the M&M "Factory" on The Strip, Las Vegas.



Te Manawaroa, Kura and Maera somewhere in Las Vegas with Shirley's three 18-year-old boys!

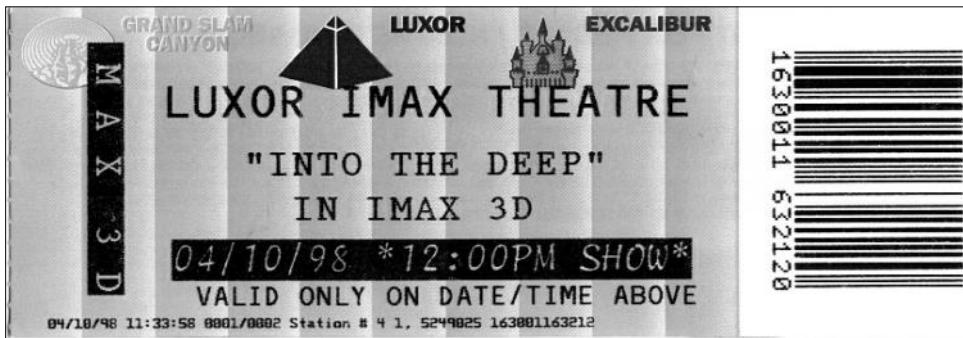


Kura Walker and Riki Lee Peters at the M&M "Factory" on The Strip, Las Vegas.





IMAX 'Race For Atlantis' is a high-speed simulation ride system. You are asked not to ride if you are not in good health or have a history of back or neck conditions, heart ailments, high blood pressure, epilepsy or motion sickness. In addition, people should not ride if they are pregnant or are wearing a pacemaker. The use of this ticket for admission indicates your agreement with the above conditions, and the ticket holder assumes all risk and liability of damages related to their failure to conform with all of these conditions, as well as damage, loss or injury as a result of their failure to follow all instructions presented by the operators of the system.



Tickets to several of the local shows.

Many attended the *Destruction of Atlantis* show at The Forum in Caesar's Palace while others caught the shows at the spectacularly impressive IMAX theatres where the screens were 7 stories high and 58 feet wide!

Sandy MacDonald took the chance to slip away from the group and attend the *EFX* show at the MGM Grande. David Cassidy played the lead role in the 90-minute spectacular on one of the largest stages in the States. Cassidy had taken over the lead role from Michael Crawford. The entrance price was \$US70 and, according to Sandy, worth every cent.

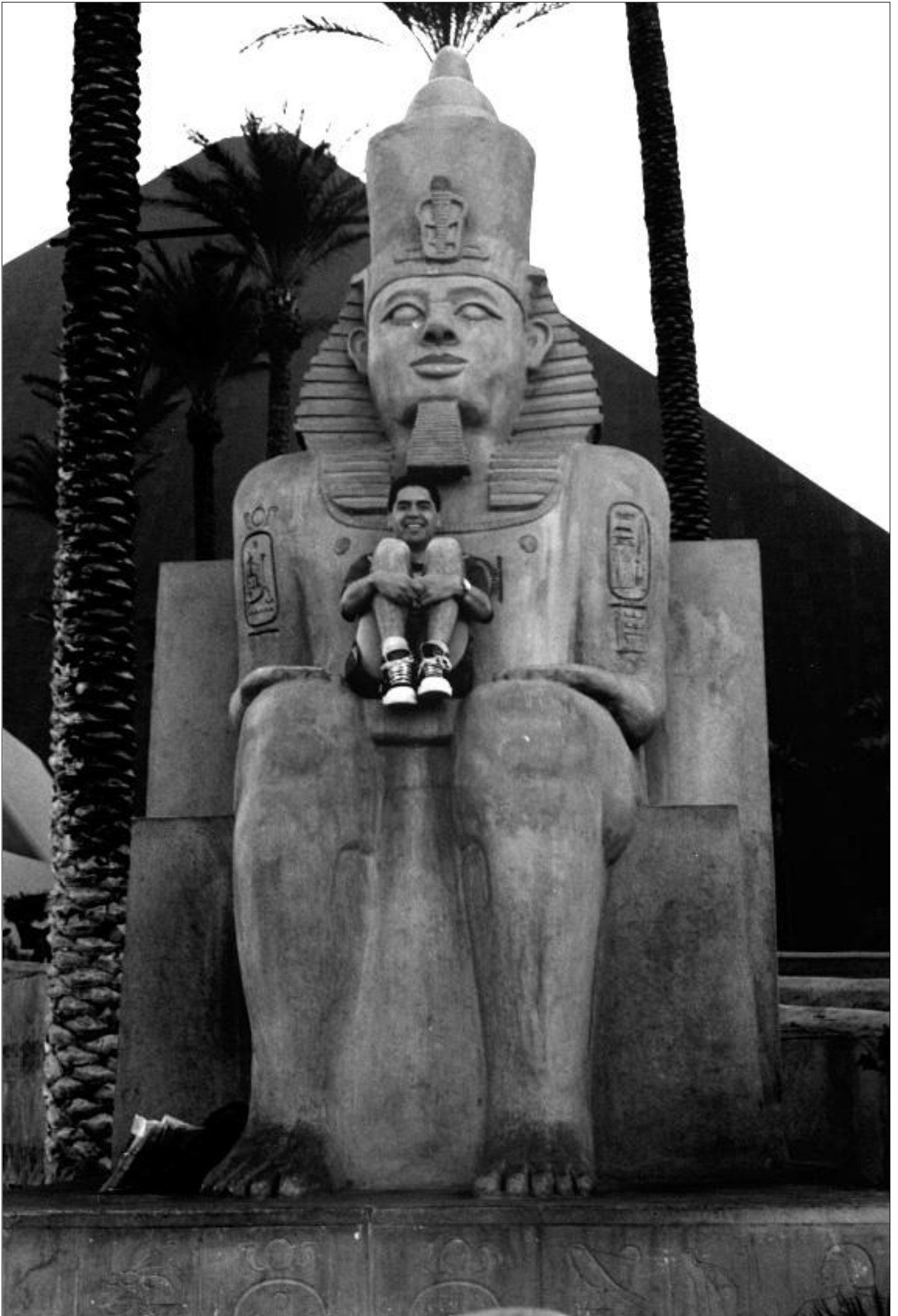
Ten spools of film were handed in for development at a cost of \$US158 for 384 prints. There were many keen viewers back at the hotel!

Excalibur did not charge for our daily Fax to Radio Tainui, but it costs \$US10 to get one item of clothing laundered!



Kameta Puke with a guard at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas.





Richard Crawford in the lap of the Gods at the Luxor Hotel, Las Vegas.





Marrin Haggie, Kotiro Turner and Lalita Hari having a meal in the Excalibur Restaurant.



Above: Kura and Riki Lee enjoying a meal at the Excalibur with one of the waiters.


**MGM GRAND**  
THE CITY OF ENTERTAINMENT.

GRAND THEATRE PRESENTS  
**EFX**  
STARRING DAVID CASSIDY  
FRI 04/10/98 7:30PM  
INCL. CET/BEVERAGES EXTRA  
GRATUITY NOT INCLUDED

Section	1E	A	ADMIT
Row	515	CA	\$70.00
Seat	20	BEL	

**MGM GRAND**

Section	1E	A	ADMIT
Row	515	CA	\$70.00
Seat	20	BEL	



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EX10E

Right: Sandy MacDonald attended this spectacular live stage show at the MGM Grand on the last night in Vegas.

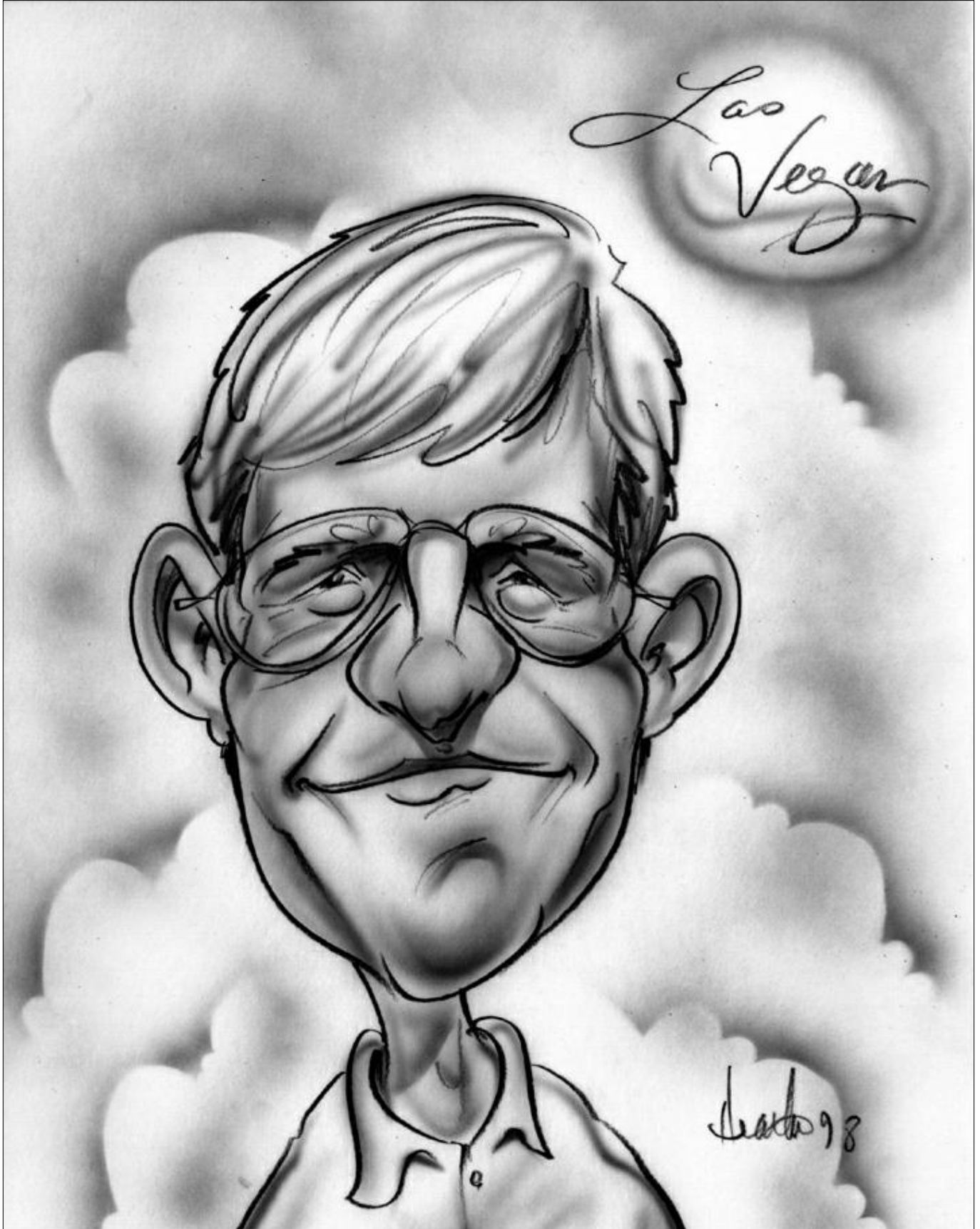


Clothing (particularly 'smalls') is being washed in the handbasins to save money due to the expense of laundry at the hotel.

The dry air causes a lot of static electricity and several members of the group received

shocks when touching metallic objects.

Richard took another late-night jaunt with a large group of the youngsters in tow to overcome the illegality of teenagers being out alone after 10pm on Las Vegas Boulevard.



There were, at times, two spraybrush artists working on the lower level of the Excalibur Hotel. For about \$15-\$20 and a ten-minute sitting period both Sandy MacDonald (above) and Te Manawaroa Teinakore had their likeness done in caricature form in full colour. The members of the public were able to watch the process.





Piata Murray, Te Waiti Walker, Jacqueline Pouaka and Rihi Mita-Watene eating at Excaliber, Las Vegas.



Isaac Royal and Casey-Mia Hawkins roller coasting on top of the 1000 foot high Stratosphere, Las Vegas. The coaster is reported to be America's highest roller coaster. It travels around the top of the building, *on the outside*.



# Saturday 11th April 1998

## To Los Angeles



The morning the group were to leave Excalibur, all the baggage was stockpiled in Richard Crawford's so that the porters could trolley them down to the foyer.

Only eight made it up for breakfast while the rest caught as much shut-eye as possible before leaving for Los Angeles. At 8:45am Tutereinga thought it was too hot already!

The breakfast group passed through the gaming rooms to get to their morning meal it it was humming and jingling with hundreds of gamblers.

### **Buena Park Hotel Accommodation Groups**

*Triple:* Corrie, Sandy, Te Whainoa.

*Triple:* Isaac, Al Duane, Motuiti.

*Triple:* Pokaia, Marrin, Tutereinga.

*Quad:* Te Ngaru, Jacqueline, Rangiherehere, Piata.

*Quad:* Riki Lee, Te Manawaroa, Maera, Kura.

*Triple:* Rihi, Malana, Te Waiti.

*Quad:* T.Roa, R.Roa, A.Roa, A.Roa.

*Twin:* H.Roa, R.Roa.

*Triple:* Wynel, Pare, Lalita.

*Twin:* P.Ranga, T.Ranga.

*Triple:* Richard, Leon, Jesse.

*Triple:* Kotiro, Kameta, Casey Mia.



Many of the host families from Boulder City arrived to take us and the luggage to the Las Vegas airport. One host family travelled 350 miles south from Salt Lake City just to help the group move from the hotel to the airport!





Richard Crawford with his uncle Wally Murray and Aunty Grace at the Las Vegas airport.



Corrie Wharakura, Pokaia Matthews and Isaac Royal gambling one-cent pieces with Marrin Haggies 'machine'. The group had several hours to fill in while waiting for the short flight to Los Angeles.



The students who are almost all burning the candle at both ends are beginning to suffer from small ailments associated with tiredness.

Sixty-six large suitcases were packed and literally stuffed into Richard Crawford's room to await the bell-hops who took it all down to the foyer for the trip to the airport. Some did a final run up the strip before all meeting at 11:30am to leave in cars, organised by the Boulder City

billets, for the airport. One of the group's Salt Lake City billets traveled all the way down to Las Vegas to give them another send-off!

The flight to L.A. was scheduled for 5:50pm and the group had six hours to fill. Some of the Boulder billets took their charges away from the airport in that time and returned them ready for the departure. Others stayed and entertained themselves in the airport.



The bus from the Buena Park Hotel arrived at the Los Angeles domestic terminal to pick up the group. The bus had "Ngaruawahia School" pasted by the hotel to the front window for easy identification.



This is the Hanford Hotel, just around the corner from the Buena Park Hotel. Buena Park had double booked (not expecting the group until the following day). The stay and the meal here were refunded to the group. The suitcases and the group transferred to the original hotel the following day.



Sandy MacDonald bought himself a pound of peppermint fudge and got another half-pound free. There were plenty of mouths available to help lighten the package. Shops were well patronised and a number of the boys had long

‘gambling’ sessions with Marrin Haggie’s toy one-armed-bandit and every one-cent coin they could scrounge off the group.

Reading and sleeping were two of the most popular activities for those waiting.



Magic Mountain circled in black (top left).



The flight to Los Angeles was 47 minutes long and the passengers were supplied with a brown-bag meal as they boarded.

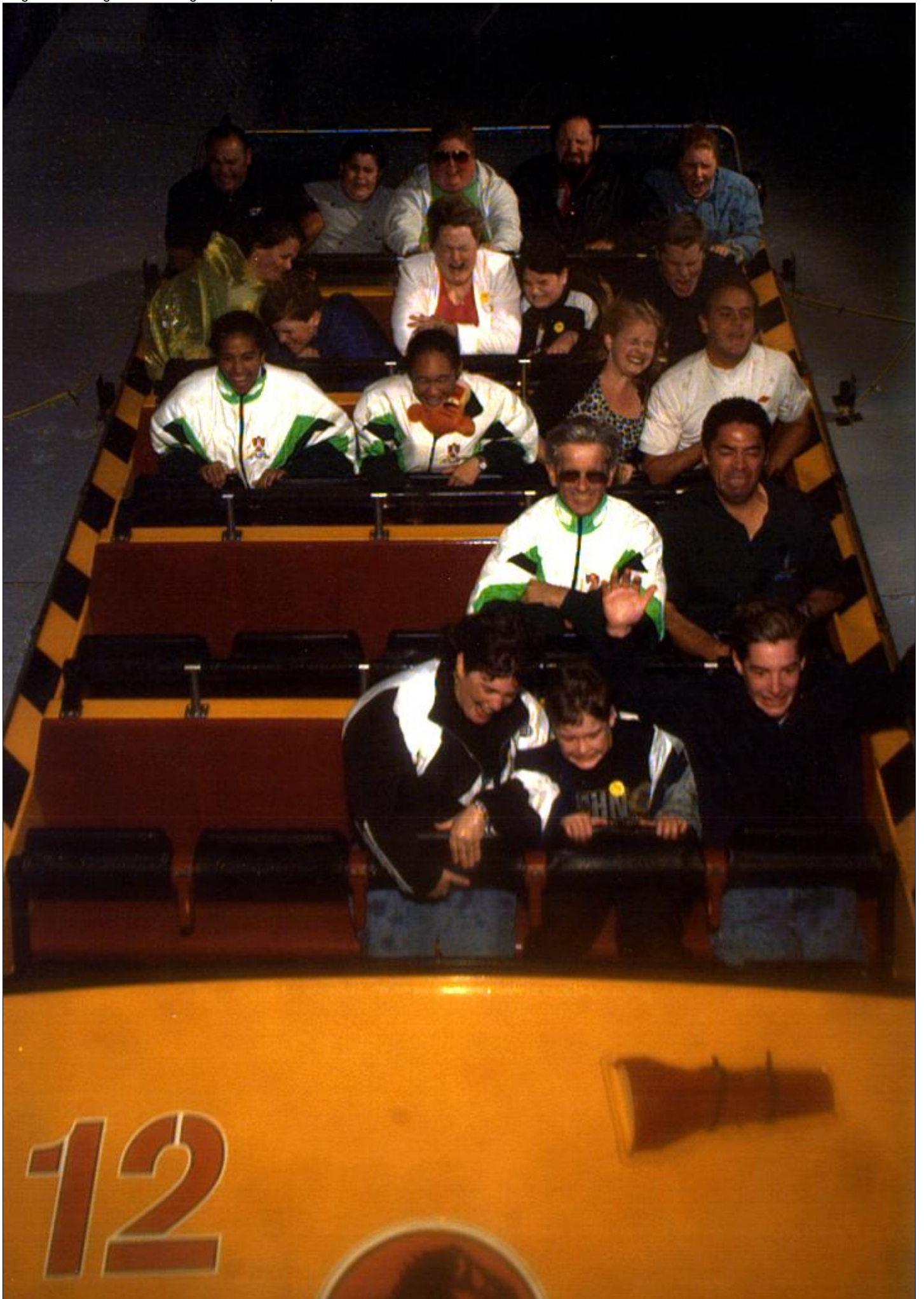
A 56-seater bus (with 'our' name on it) took the group to the Holiday Inn at Buena Park, only

to find that they were not booked in until the following night, so the neighbouring Handford Hotel took charge and filled the gap for free, along with a free breakfast. Denny's was the location for tea. Curfew set at 11pm while in L.A.



Circled above is the Buena Park Hotel where the Tour Party stayed while in Los Angeles.





Kura, Rihi (3rd row back), Sandy and Richard (2nd row) on the Jurassic Park ride at Universal Studios.

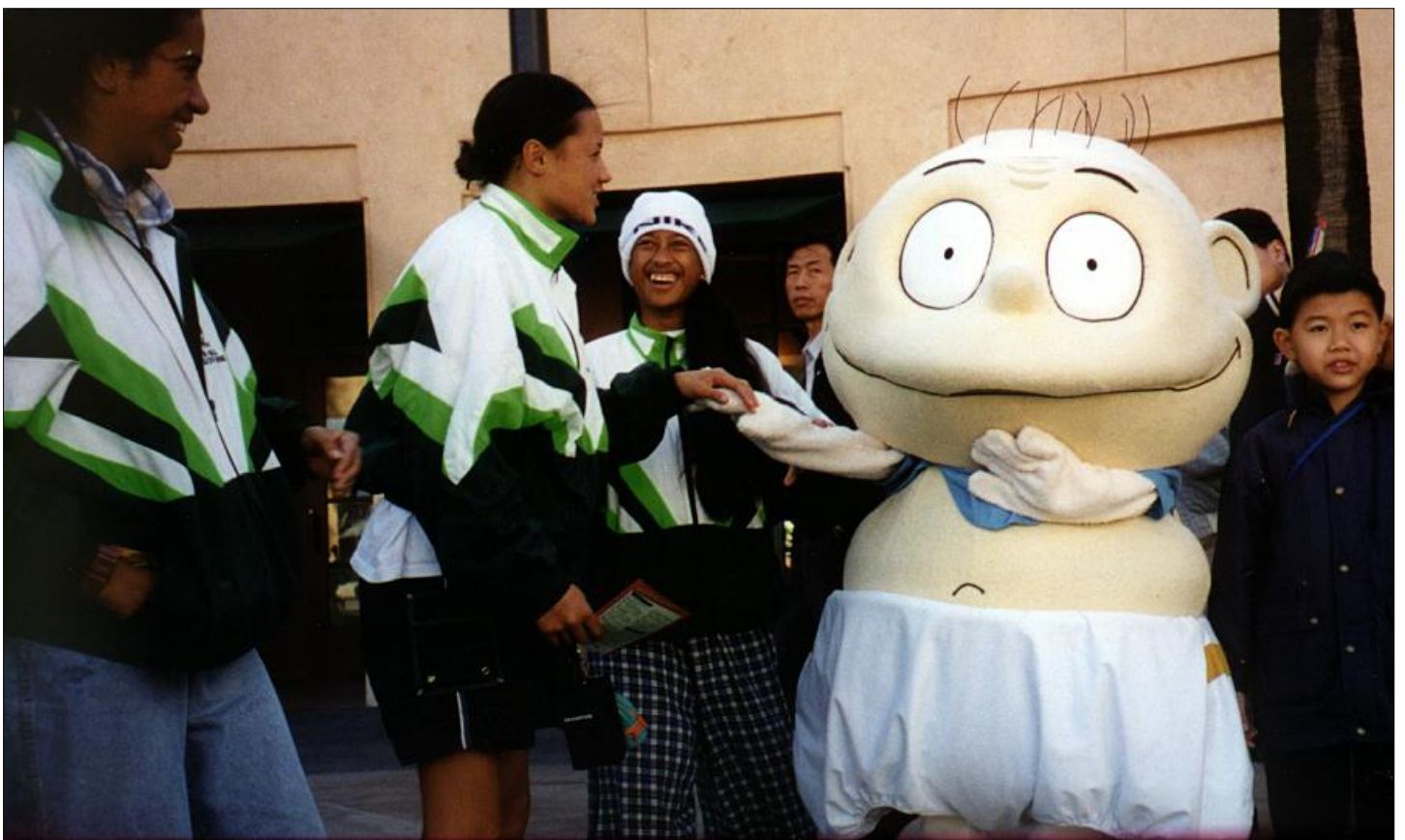


# *Sunday 12th April 1998*

## *Universal Studios*



Heading along the freeway to Universal Studios on the other side of Los Angeles. Most of the group who had seen the movie "*Independence Day*" recognised the city skyline that was destroyed by the alien spacecraft. The city centre is a very compact set of buildings.



Kura, Casey Mia and Jacqueline with one of the Rug Rats of television fame at Universal Studios.



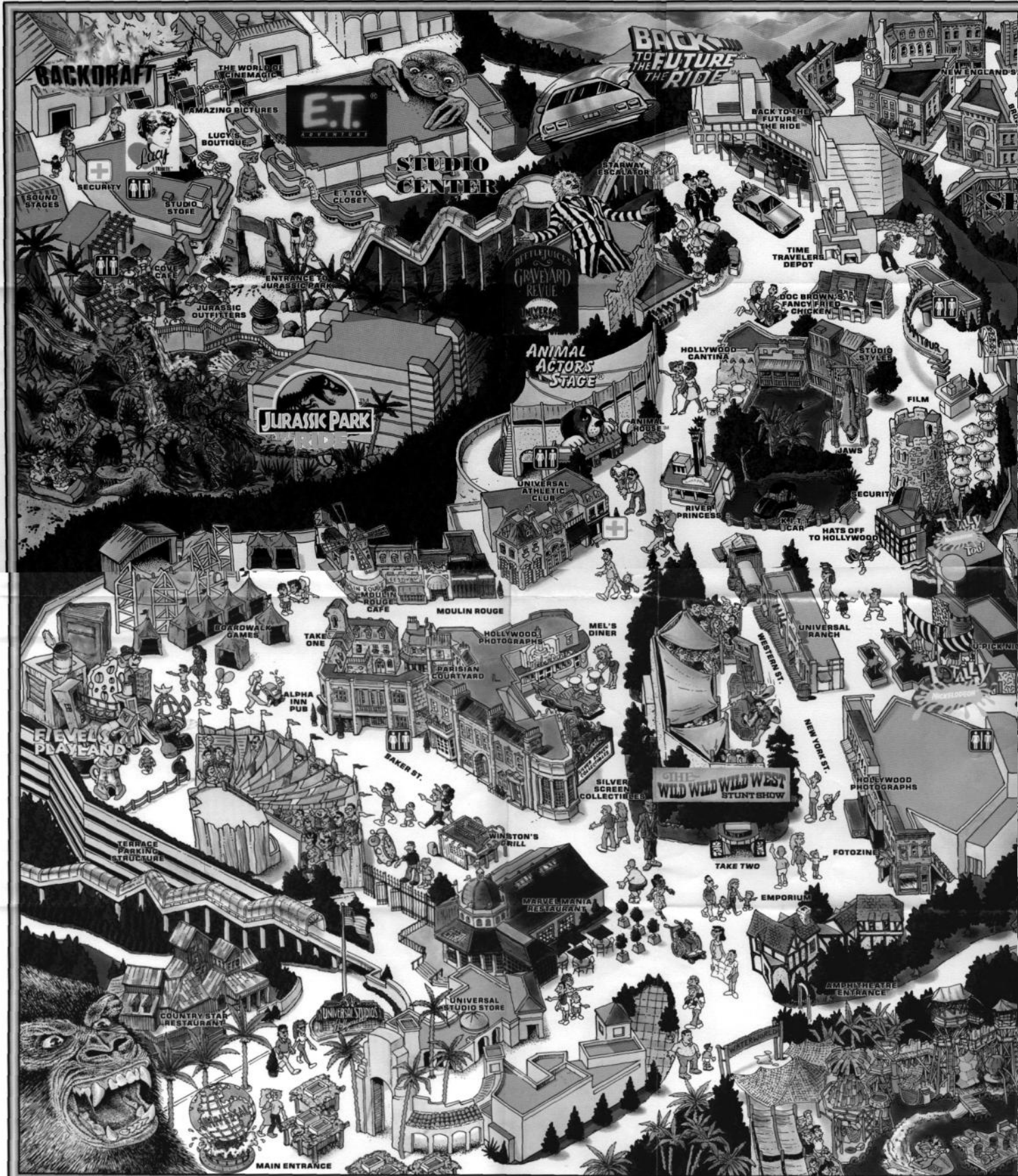
The hotels the group have stayed in on the tour all have 'cards' for keys and there have been innumerable instances of these identical cards being mixed up, lost and even failing to open the doors, resulting in trips to the front desk for advice and recharging of the cards.

Most of the group was awake at 6:00am for the short walk down the road for breakfast, but it

was discovered that the Handford Hotel provided a light but adequate breakfast of fruit and cereal, along with donuts and orange juice in the lobby.

All 66 units of luggage (plus lots of carry-bags) were again moved downstairs for the hotel to transport across the block to the Holiday Hotel originally booked.

At 8:30am the bus for Universal Studios



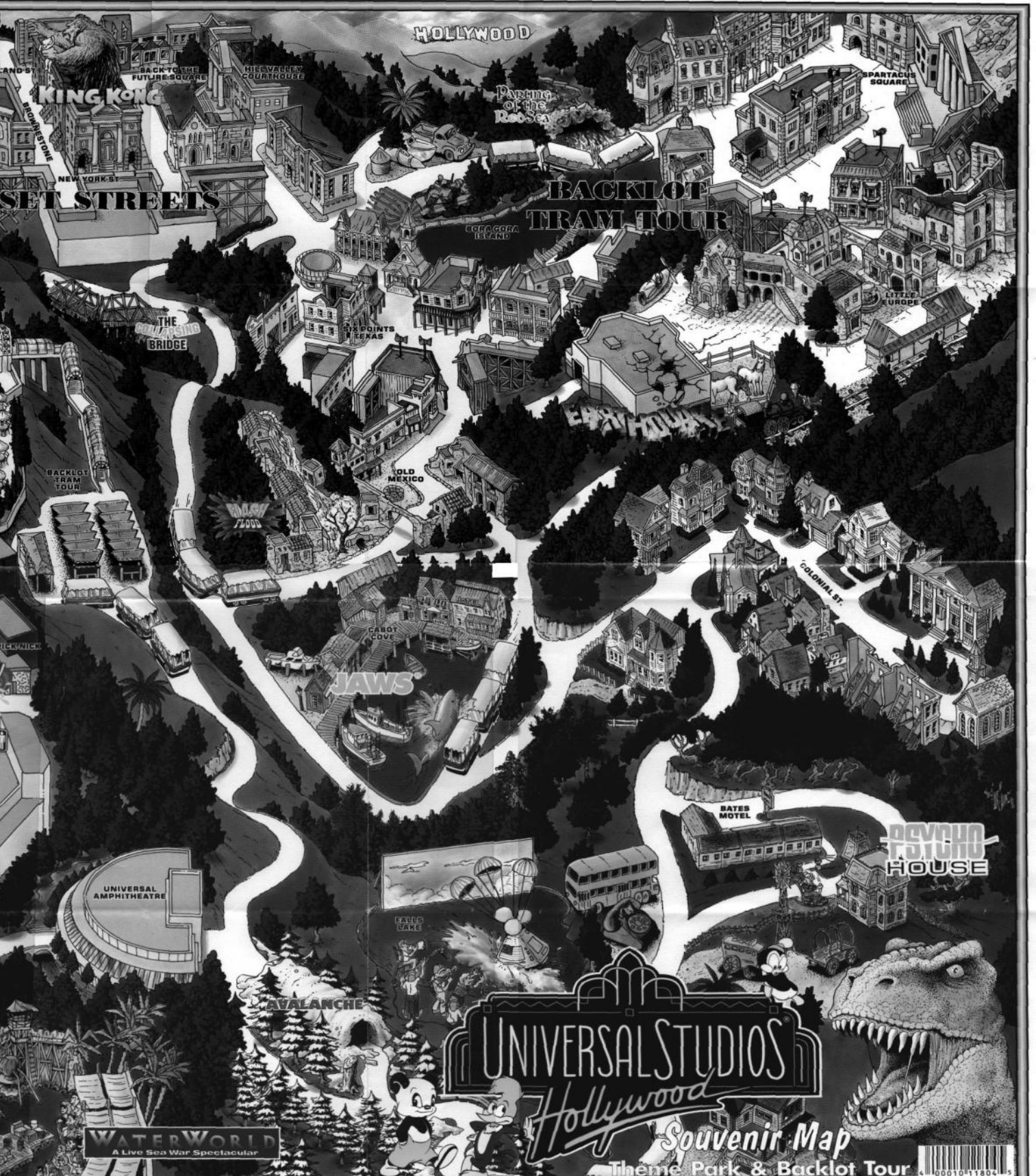


arrived. The driver was full of information and humorous commentary as the ride went through the suburbs. Film locations for movies such as 'Speed' and 'Grease' (among others) were pointed out.

On arriving at Universal Studios the faster boys rocketed off to get into the 'good rides' early – such rides as *Jurassic Park*, *Back to the Future*,

*Backdraft* and *Water World*. Many of the pupils and staff went on the *Jurassic Park* ride seven times! *Back to the Future* was a popular ride as well, rated "Choice" and "Cool"

*Water World* was fast-paced and dramatic as well as a bit scary when the audience was almost brought into the act with a crash-landing plane at the end of the show!







Kura and Rihi on the Jurassic Park ride at Universal Studios.

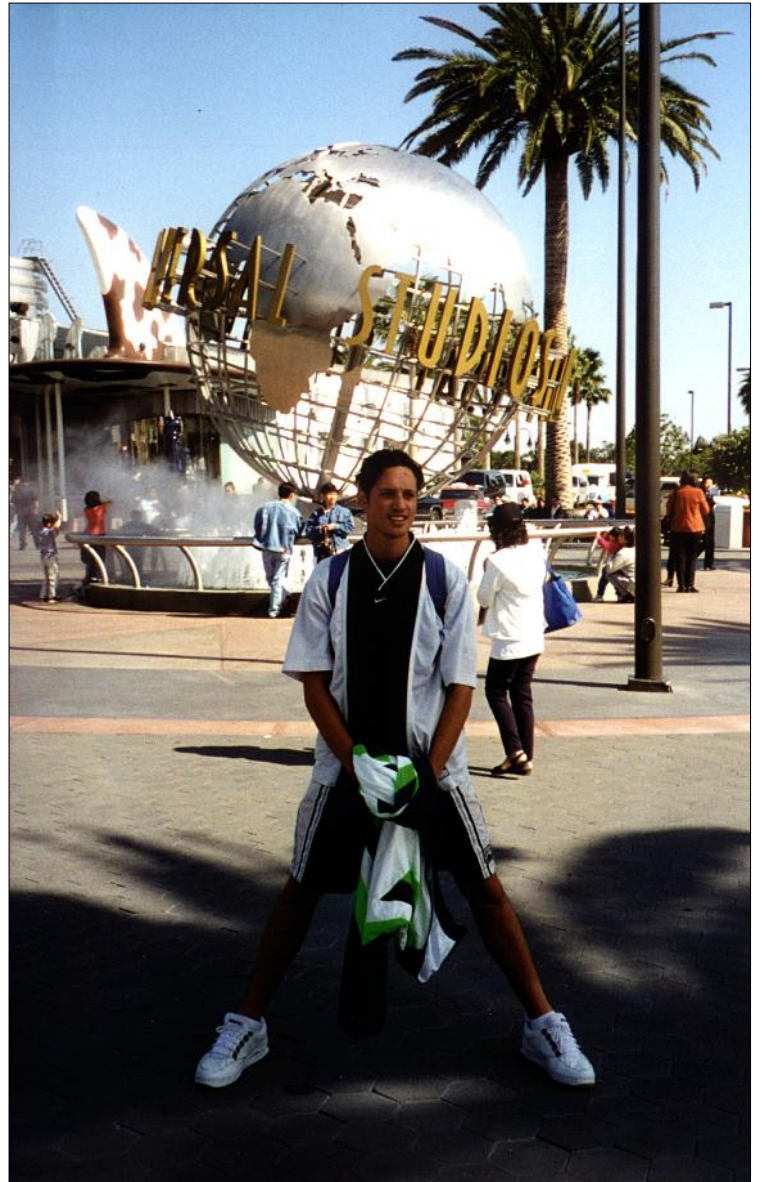


Motuiti Hona and Jesse Royal at Universal Studios.





Richard Crawford on the front plaza of Universal Studios.



Poppy Ranga (left) and Marrin Haggie (right) at Universal Studios.





Kura, Al Duane, Riki Lee and Kameta back up Marrin at Universal Studios.

A Blues Brothers concert played and was watched on an open-air theatre before the group left for Hollywood Boulevard and the star-studded pavements.

Grauman's Chinese Theatre, with its names and hand-prints in the concrete, was crowded. The group walked much of the Boulevard looking for familiar names in the stars on the footpath. Cheap T-shirts were on sale everywhere.

The students saw Melrose Road, the locale for *Melrose Place* and the school running track where John Travolta tried to Impress Olivia Newton-John with his hurdling technique in *Grease*. There were many other movie and TV show sites that were viewed from the bus.

Laundry arrangements were made with the hotel before a 7:45pm meal at a Chinese Smorgasbord Restaurant just around the corner for \$6.99 (plus tip) each. The group was on a natural high and dinner conversation was noisy.

The hotel had a pool and a spa, which were both well utilised by the group at all hours up to the 11pm curfew.

Poppy Ranga's husband joined the group today as well as all other members of Robyn Roa's family – Tom and the four girls. The extended whanau were to be together over most of the remainder of the Los Angeles stay. The Rangas would be leaving on the Wednesday for an extended family holiday in the Pacific Islands.



Members of the group watching the Blues Brothers perform at an outdoor stage at Universal Studios.





Pare Paki and Lalita Hari at Universal Studios.



Action during the *Waterworld* show at Universal Studios.





King Kong swinging on the suspension bridge that the backlot tour bus passed over at Universal Studios.



The Star Trek actors' signatures and imprints outside Grauman's Chinese Theatre.



# *Sunday 12th April 1998*

## *Hollywood Tour*



After leaving Universal Studios the group was taken to Hollywood Boulevard and the Walk of Fame.



Al Duane Ngakuru on the Hollywood Walk of Fame with Michael Jackson's star.



Marrin Haggie on the Hollywood Walk of Fame with the Harlem Globetrotters star





Marrin Haggie across the street from Grauman's Theatre on Hollywood Boulevard.

The crowd beside the theatre is looking at the names and handprints set into the concrete.

Richard and Sandy (Star Trekkers at heart) were pleased to see the complete cast prints of the original Star Trek actors (see page 196).

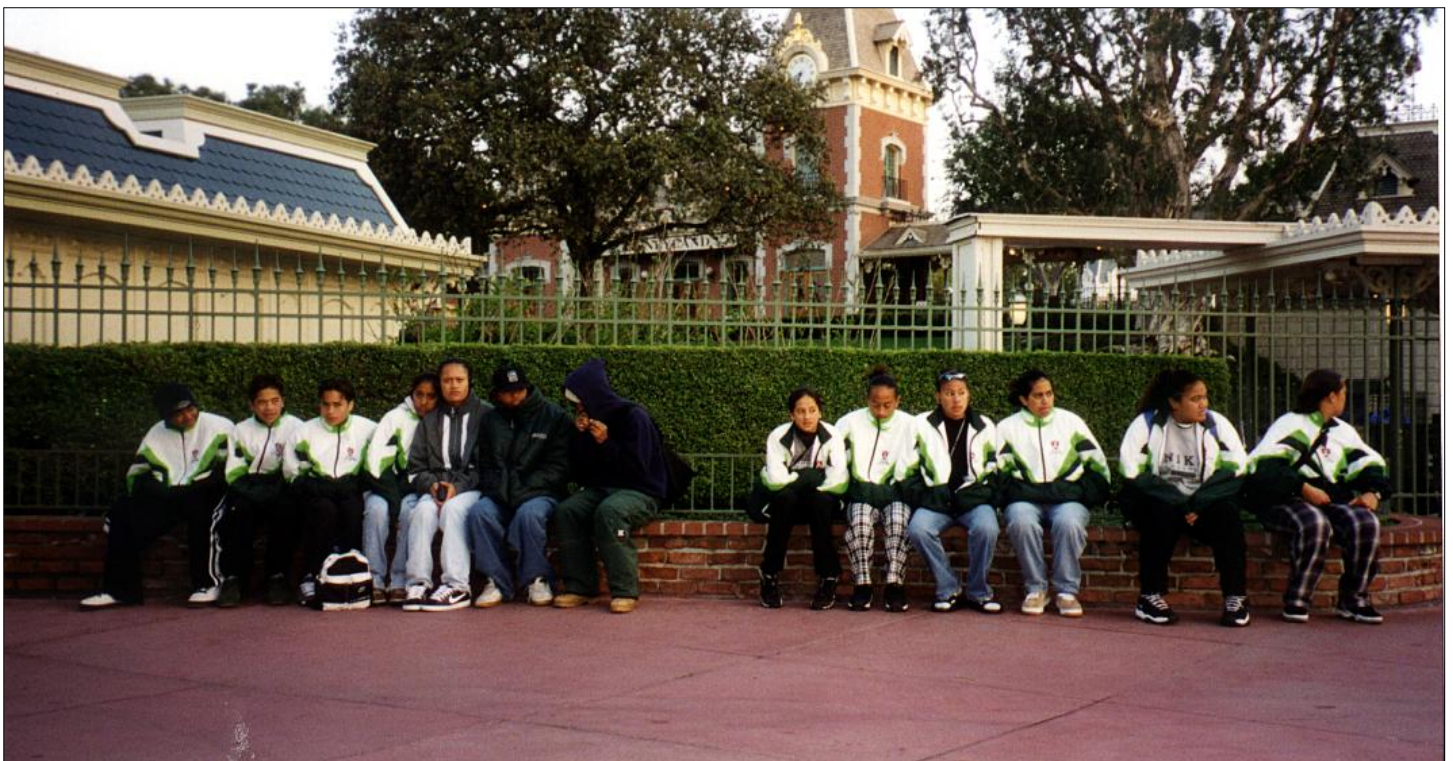


# Monday 13th April 1998

## Disneyland



These are all the members of the group that managed to get up at 6:15 to take advantage of the early entry to Disneyland. They caught the shuttle one and a half hours before the others, who had to wait for the next bus.



Waiting in the cool early morning spring air outside the Disneyland gates while Richard got the tickets.  
From left: Tutereinga, Pokaia, Corrie, Kameta, Kotiro, Issaac, Leon, Piata, Jacqueline, Riki Lee, Kura, Temanawaroa





Main Street, Disneyland.



Five Day Flexipass to Disneyland.

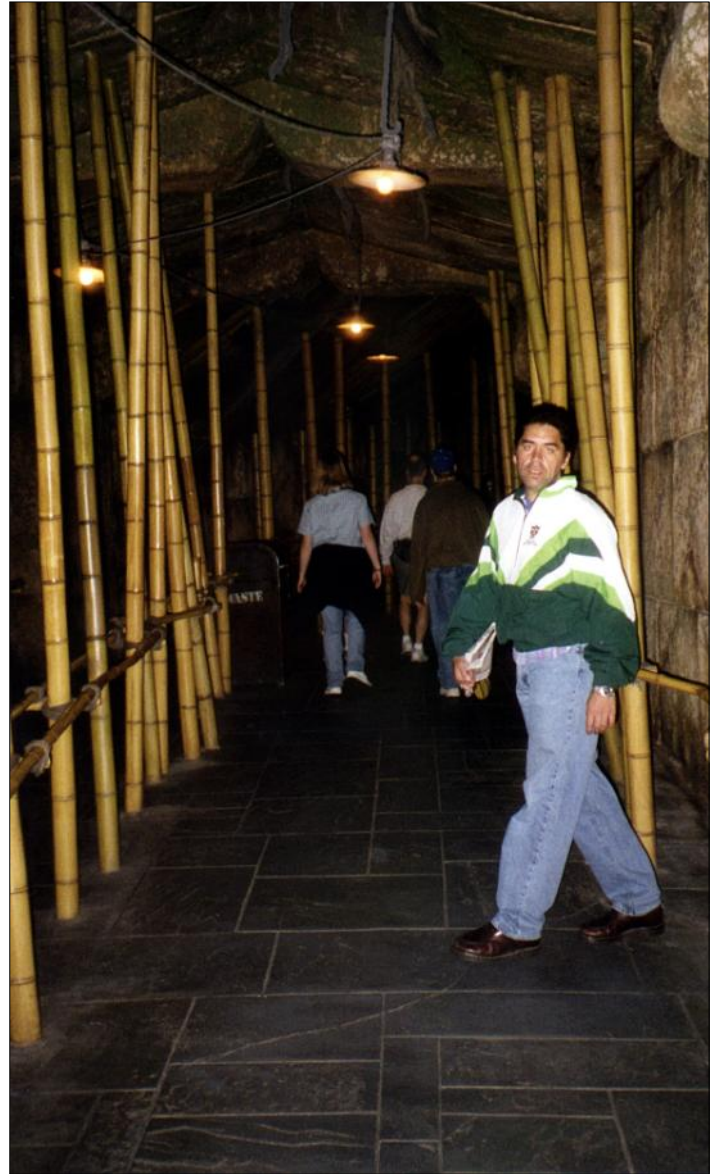


Richard, from inside Disneyland, issuing tickets and directing the latecomers to the gates.





Te Manawaroa and Malana on Main Street, Disneyland



Richard Crawford leaving the Indiana Jones ride.



The crowds and some of the Ngaruawahia party coming in





Riki Lee, Maera, Kameta and Marrin on a coaster at Disneyland.



Te Whainoa snuggling up the The Beast of *Beauty and the Beast*, at Disneyland.



Richard, Riki Lee, Marrin, Tutereinga and Te Whainoa on a lunch break at Disneyland.





Maera, Rihi, Richard, Te Ngaru and Te Waiti with Marrin in front, Disneyland.





Te Manawaroa, Maera, Riki Lee and Te Whainoa in the monorail on the way to Disneyland Hotel.



At the remote control boating pool at Disneyland Hotel with Te Manawaroa and Te Whainoa.



No breakfast this morning! The shuttle bus left the hotel at 6:15am whether the group was on or not. This gave the opportunity to get in early with Flexipasses before the major crowds arrived.

Those who missed the 6:15 start had to wait until the shuttle did its second round at 7:15am.

The early birds headed to the *Indiana Jones Ride* for an early morning drenching before scattering to explore the theme park on their own.

Isaac and Leon had completed all that they wished to do at Disneyland by 9:00am and headed back to the hotel to skateboard, swim and sleep. Jesse Royal stayed at the hotel due to not feeling very well.

The early group got several rides out of the way before the gates opened to the general public.

The *Indiana Jones Ride* was an eye-full with several effects direct from the film *Temple of Doom* - such as darts whistling past riders heads (jets of air) and the giant ball rolling towards the cars.

The weather deteriorated and by about 1:30 the park was canceling some of the outdoor attractions because of safety concerns.

Marrin Haggie was extremely vocal during his *Space Mountain* ride and also drove the *Indiana Jones* car that carried a few staff members.

Some of the group tried to go to as many attractions as they could in the time at the park while others were only interested in the 'high adrenaline' rides and then became bored.

While waiting for the 3:00pm shuttle to take the group back to the Buena Park Hotel, Tutereinga entertained the crowds by leapfrogging over the one metre high parking cones until he caught the crutch of his track pants on one and became stranded upside-down! Lalita Hari paid him \$1 for the laugh while Sandy MacDonald gave him 5 cents!

Back at the hotel many went swimming, dipping in the spa pool, weight training or sleeping.

Tea was at a Chinese smorgasbord restaurant on the corner of the block across from the hotel. All enjoyed the ability to pile up their plates with their preferred foods and return for more (and more). The ice cream machine was kept very busy.

The rest of the evening was spent settling in with television, guitars, etc. Pokaia, Te Whainoa and Tutereinga planned a midnight birthday celebration for Corrie (with the approval of the staff).



Robyn Roa at the front entrance of Disneyland.



Kura Walker dressed up in Disneyland souvenirs.





Sandy MacDonald in a familiar setting on the gardens of Disneyland Hotel.



Te Manawaroa Teinakore (distant centre at left) and right lunching at Disneyland.





Waiting in the car and bus park for the ride back to the hotel.



Tom and Robyn Roa and family on Main Street, Disneyland.





Raukura and Anne Roa resting at Disneyland with Poppy Ranga.



Pokaia Matthews and Corrie Wharakura taking a break at Disneyland.



Anne Roa at Disneyland.

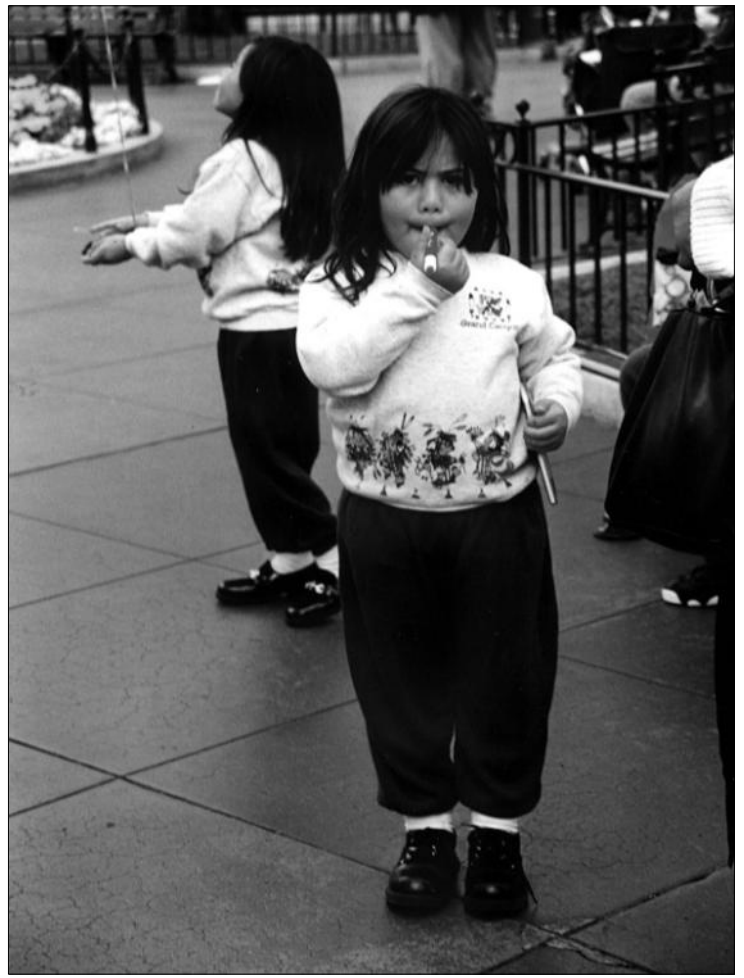


Te Manawaroa under the waterfalls in the water gardens of the Disneyland Hotel.





Lalita Hari and Minnie Mouse.



Anne (rear) and Atamira Roa at Disneyland.



Rangiherehere (6th from left), Robyn and Piata lining up for urgently needed money at the Disneyland Bank.





Jacqueline Pouaka, Raukura Roa and Rangiherehere Katipa at Disneyland.



Tom Roa, Te Manawaroa Teinakore, Raukura Roa and Malana Grey.



# *Tuesday 14th April 1998*

## *Medieval Times*



The group ready to support the red and yellow knight at the Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament, just down the road from Ngaruawahia's hotel.



The Master of Ceremonies of the Tournament and Jousting competitions.





The half-chicken had to be eaten by hand during the meal at Medieval Times!



The red and yellow knight that was supported by one of the eight sections of customers.



Looking at their photos and waiting for the action at the Tournament at Medieval Times.





Pokaia and Kameta during the meal and entertainment at Medieval Times!

Only four appeared for breakfast at 7:30am – Tom, Sandy, Malana and Robyn. The rest slept in and only appeared in time to catch the 10:00am shuttle bus to the *Mainplace Mall* that had been recommended by the hotel.

It was learned later on that the Hotel gets a 22% gratuity from the mall for sending tourists there (just 22% of what was not obvious).

The mall itself was well appointed and looked a little ‘upper class’ with not as many stores as the group had expected. However there were a number of purchases made and the group fed themselves at the mall.

At 3:00pm it was back on the bus after the inevitable wait for those who liked to keep others waiting.

The tourists were seldom able to get away to venues on time throughout the tour due to members who were unable to keep to schedules. This was not restricted to any one or two but was shared in general amongst the boys.

The bus stopped off at a Levi’s outlet on the way back where more purchases were made. The store had a **large** size pair of jeans on the wall that appeared to have a waist measurement of over 12 feet!

Some of the adults found their credit card balances getting a little too close to their limits. The pupils were using a little cunning and guile in their purchases, not accepting anything at face value and willing to shop around for value for money.

Jesse continued to be under the weather on the trip but perked up considerably after a good bout of shopping in skateboard and surfing stores.

The group had a 150-minute break at the hotel before being due at the Medieval Times dinner 250 meters up the road.

By the time the group had walked the short distance up the side of the highway they had spread themselves out over 100 meters! Riki Lee stopped to photograph some fire ants that were streaming out of a crack in the footpath.

Upon entering the Medieval Times castle everyone had their photos taken with the King and Queen (which rather embarrassed Motuiti), given red & yellow hats with which to identify ‘their’ knight, and then escorted to the arena.

The seats were arranged around a very large sand-filled arena where the jousting and battles took place and each section of the crowd was encouraged to verbally support their knight and to boo the opponents. Ngaruawahia High School chanted the Mooloo Rugby song!

The red and yellow knight was defeated!

The meal was half a barbecued chicken, potatoes and pepsi, with no knives or forks – finger lickin’ stuff.

On arriving back at the hotel the group was put upon to give a few items to a large group of teenagers from Saskatoon in Canada. The group performed creditably despite no practice for six days, and was enthusiastically applauded.

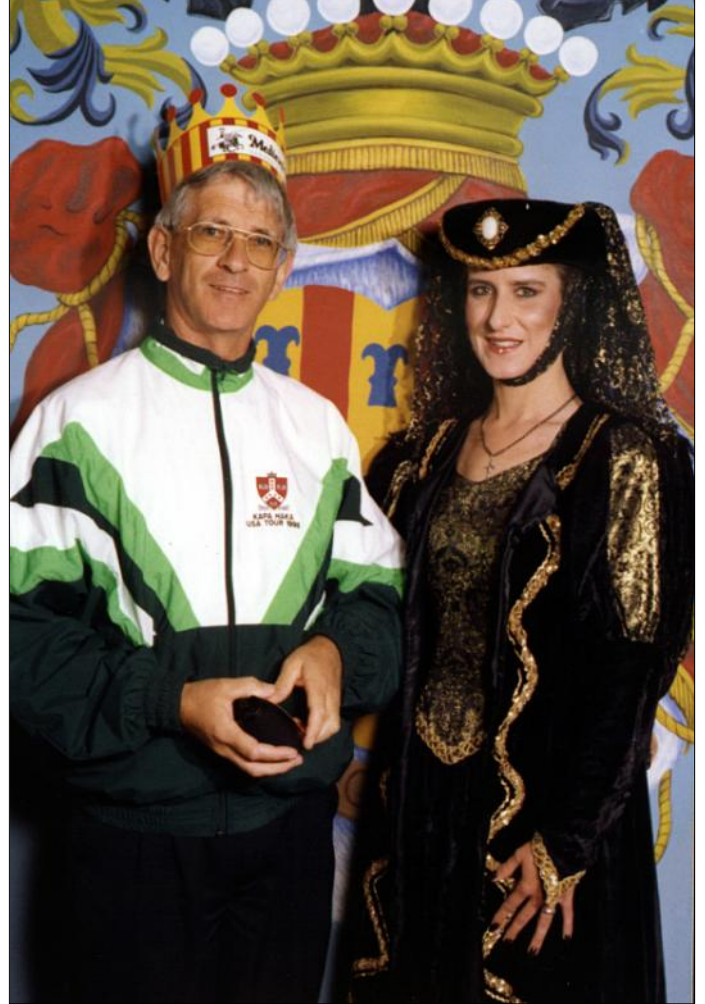
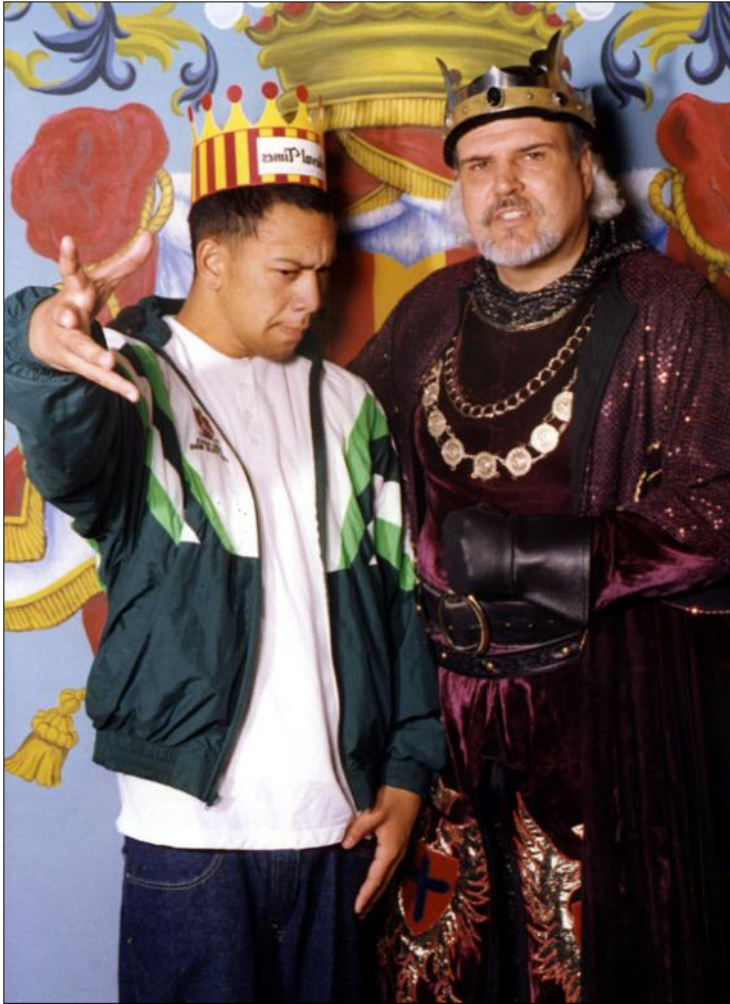
All in bed by 11:30pm.





Group photo with our vanquished Red & Yellow Knight.





Motuiti Hona (left) and Sandy MacDonald (right) being photographed with the King and Queen, Medieval Times.



Lalita Hari with the Lord of the Castle.



Maera relaxing in the foyer of our hotel.





When the group arrived back at the hotel from the Medieval Times dinner late at night they were asked to perform to a large group from Saskatchewan, Canada – Youth For Christ.



The Youth For Christ group in one of the large conference rooms of the Buena Hotel being entertained by the Ngaruawahia High School Kapa Haka Group. The audience then carried on their social programme while the Ngaruawahia group were headed off to bed.



Performing to the Saskatchewan Youth For Christ group at the Buena Hotel.



# Wednesday 15th April 1998

## Magic Mountain



Only five up for breakfast at "Pofolks", just down the road.  
Sandy takes the photo of Pokaia, Te Whainoa, Corrie and Richard.



Breakfasting at Pofolks (slang for *Proud Folks*) Restaurant. A large scale model train ran around the rooms just below the ceiling which is just visible at the top left of the photograph..





The group farewells Mervyn (above) & Poppy Ranga who were heading off to the islands. Lalita is on the right.



In the foyer of the Buena Park Hotel, farewelling Mervyn and Poppy Ranga.

1998 TICKET STUB - VOID IF REMOVED  
For admission please present at any Main Gate turnstile

**Six Flags**  
**Magic Mountain**  
A Time Warner Entertainment Company

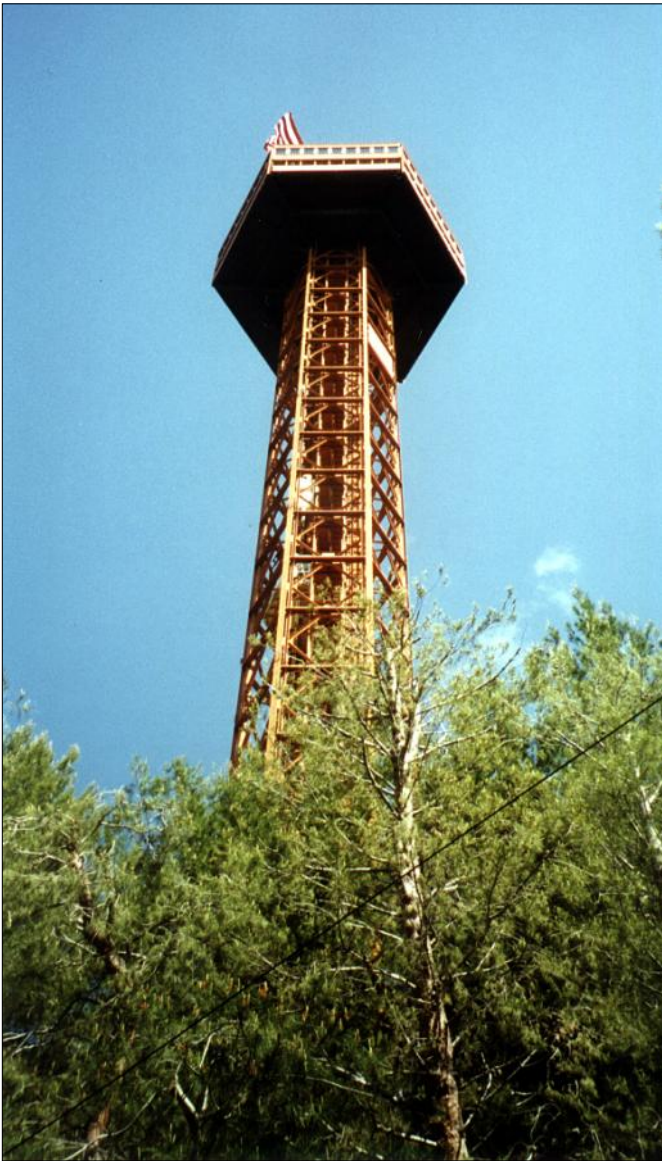
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0698735 10 19

Only five got up for breakfast this morning at *Pofolks* (Proud Folks) just up the road from the Hotel. The restaurant has a large-scale model train running around the rooms at ceiling level and solitaire games on the tables while you wait. The meals were excellent with the bacon strips nice and crunchy.





The Sky Tower at Magic Mountain, an observation structure.



Batman The Ride.



The Psyclone wooden roller coaster.





Batman The Ride at Six Flags Magic Mountain



Batman The Ride at Six Flags Magic Mountain



The Birdcage, a ride suitable for younger children. The tour group would not be seen dead on this ride!





Above, right and below: The Colossus twin track wooden coaster. The park rarely ran both tracks at the same time.



The coach left the hotel at 7:15am and headed for Magic Mountain, about 70 minutes away on the northern side of Los Angeles. Arrived 30 minutes before the gates opened at 10:00am.

About 1000 were there waiting to get in and the NHS group had a park photographer take their picture that would be ready for viewing in the park in about an hour (the resultant photos were so inferior that they could not be reproduced for this album).

The park comprised of over 30 high-adrenaline aerial and water-based rides and the

tourists were immediately lost to the adults as they took off in all directions, heading for the rides.

Stayed, played and ate until 4:00pm. As at all locations on tour the groups' jackets received a lot of attention and comments.

Al Duane caught the limelight as he got his pants caught on the entrance gate turn-styles and did an unintentional down-trou!

Some rides were free while others had an additional charge over and above the entry fee. The group tried their best to sample every ride they could and to hell with the nausea!





Freefall satellite tower, where the ride cage drops vertically on the outside of the tower after going up the inside.



A complex of coasters at Magic Mountain.



Batman, The Ride.





The Dive Devil with a coaster in the background.



Flashback Coaster.



Superman, The Escape.  
While the group was there only the right-hand track was being used, despite the large crowds waiting. The noise was like a jet aircraft passing close overhead!





Different views of Superman The Escape.





A couple of the boys went around looking for a third member willing to join them on the Dive Bomber – like a bungy jump on a swing where the ‘victims’ are pulled back on a long rope to a point about 200 feet up and then released in an arc! No luck – no-one wanted to experience the thrill.

There was a spray-paint T-shirt booth that was an attraction and several personalised shirts were bought.

Jacqueline Pouaka, Rangiherehere Katipa and Lalita Hari at Six Flags Magic Mountain.



Ninja Roller Coaster



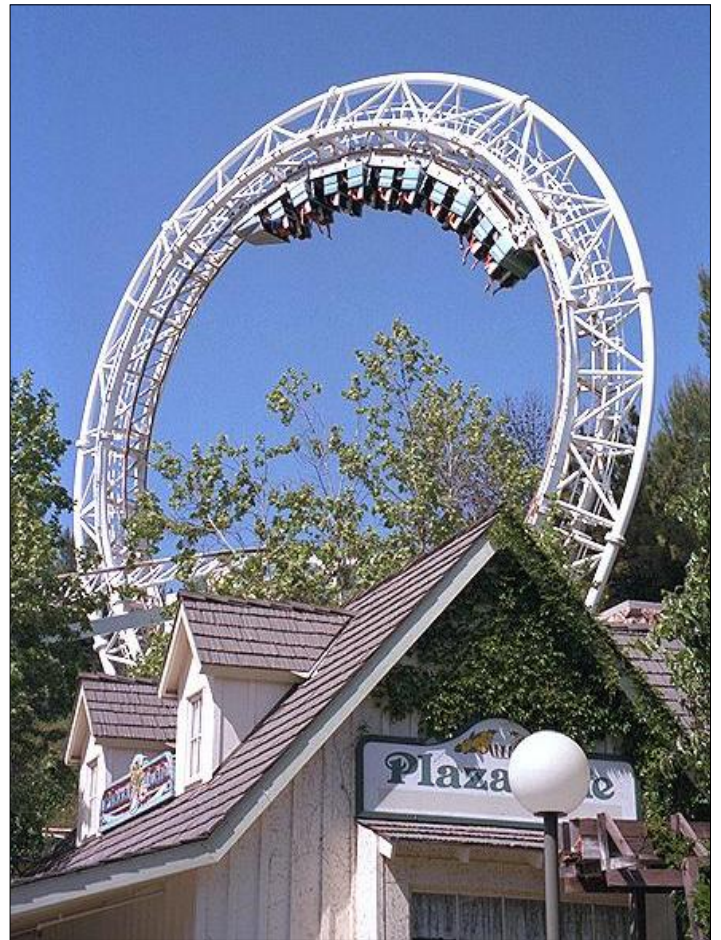


Psychone Roller Coaster





Psychone Roller Coaster

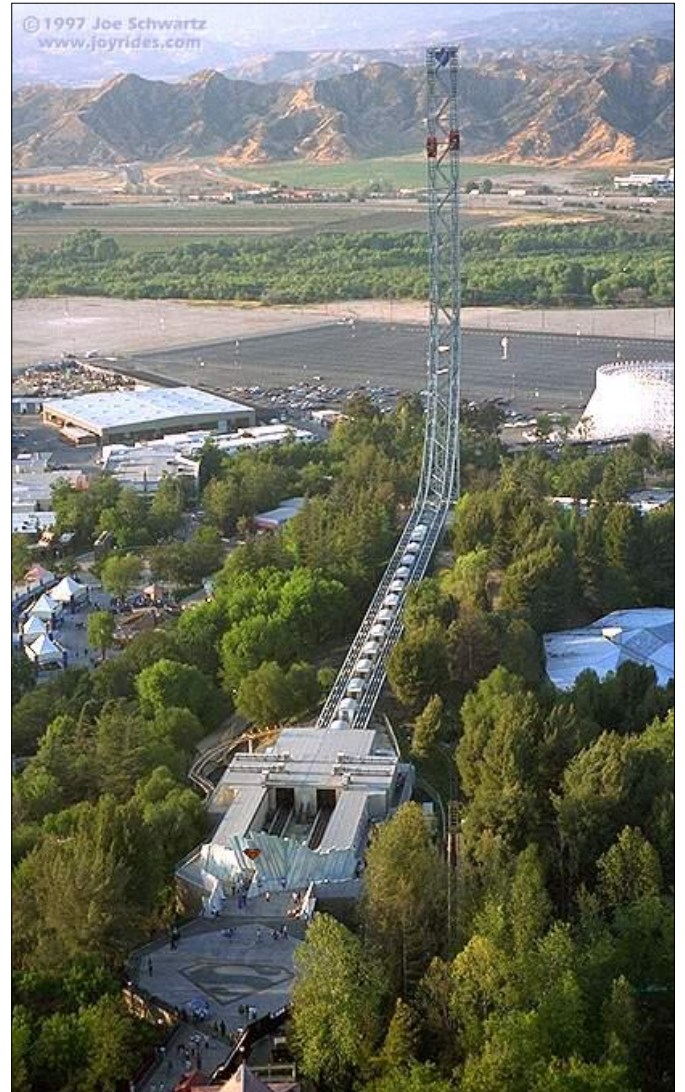


Revolution Roller Coaster








Revolution Roller Coaster



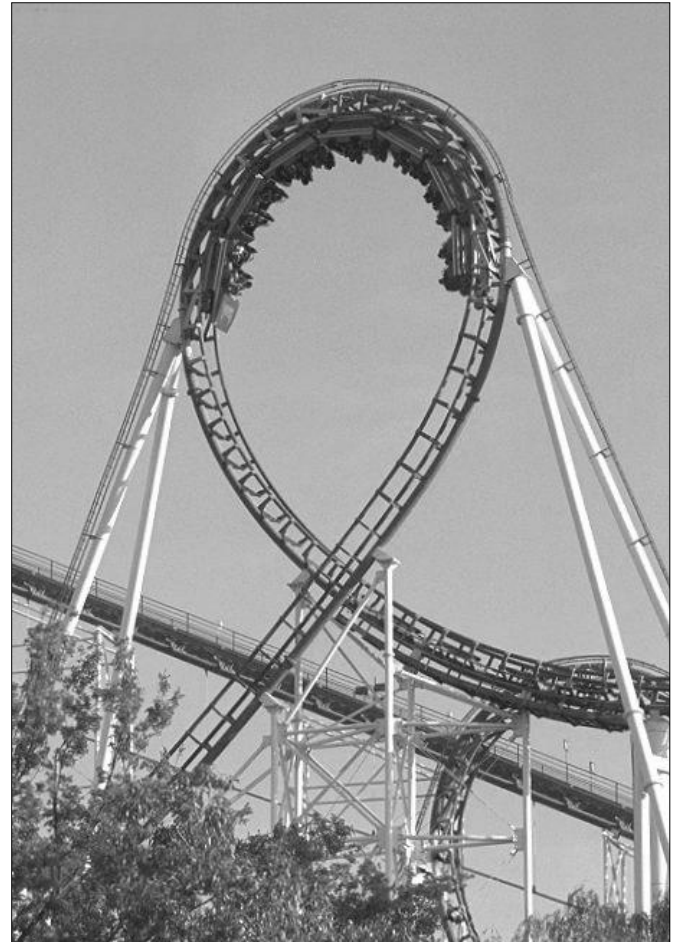


Superman The Escape.

## SUPERMAN THE ESCAPE

-  Utilizing prototype technology, delivering unprecedented acceleration, riders reach speeds up to 100 mph in just 7 seconds.
-  Linear Synchronous Motors (LSM) blast the six-ton vehicles out of the Fortress of Solitude by an electro-magnetic power that is conducted from rare earth magnets mounted underneath the vehicles.
-  Riders feel 4.5 Gs at maximum speed before shooting straight up the record-breaking 41-story tower, which stands taller than the landmark Sky Tower at 415 feet.
-  An unprecedented 6.5 seconds of weightlessness is experienced when riders reach the peak and then slowly begin the terrifying backward decent free falling smoothly to earth.
-  The dual track has a total length of 1,315-feet, and forms a gigantic "L" shaped superstructure which has dramatically changed the skyline of the park.

SUPERMAN and all related characters, names and indicia are trademarks of DC Comics © 1997







Superman the Escape seen from the top of the tower.



The Viper Roller Coaster

Below: The Viper Roller Coaster with the Sky Tower viewing platform to the right.







Log Jammer



Casey Mia and Kotiro line up for Superman The Escape at Six Flags Magic Mountain

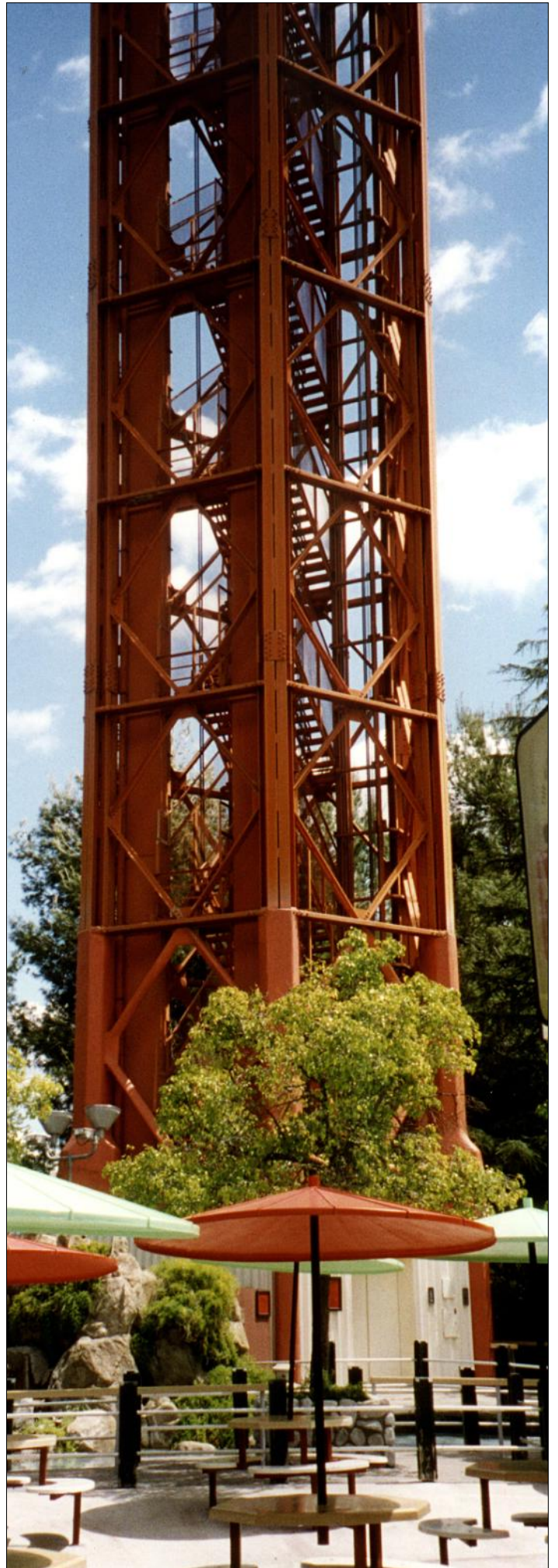
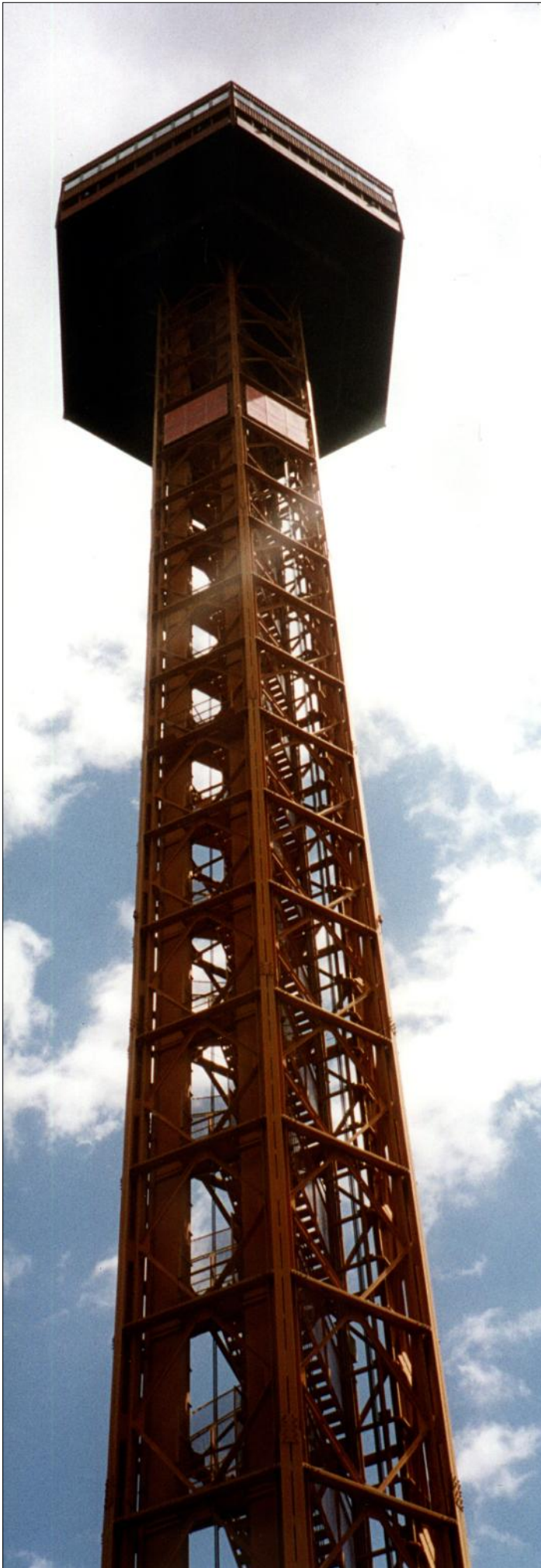




Lalita Hari and Robyn Roa (bottom right) watch the stage show at Magic Mountain featuring Taz.







It took two photograph shots to get all of the Sky Tower.





Sylvester the Cat makes some new friends in Piata, Kameta, Te Ngaru and Te Waiti at Magic Mountain.



Passing over a railway marshalling yards on the outskirts of Los Angeles on the way back from Magic Mountain.

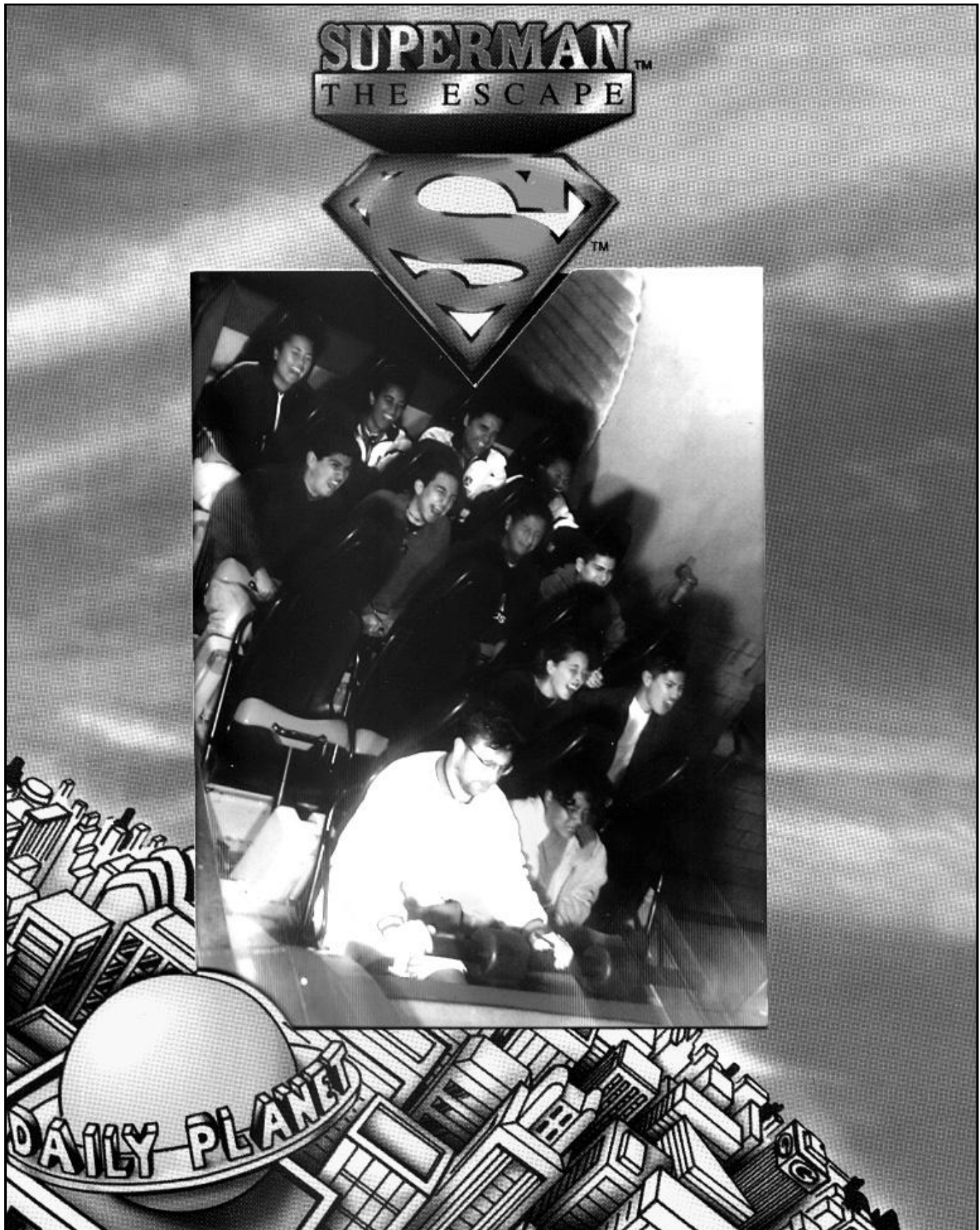


On the way back to the hotel the group experienced the business-hour freeway crawl despite the four lanes each way. Fly-overs were at four different levels as the roads snaked into each other.

The Los Angeles skyline was recognised by

all those who had seen the *Independence Day* movie.

At 6:00pm some headed back to Disneyland to see the *Laser Light Show* and the *Fantasy Light Parade*. Others went to tea at Sizzlers and then had a spa and swam at the hotel pools.



Tour members (in the back row) heading off on the Superman ride.



# Thursday 16th April 1998

## Ontario Mills Mall



On the way from the hotel to Ontario Mills shopping mall the bus passed through a five-level intersection.



No-one was interested in getting up for breakfast today, preferring to catch as much sleep before the last full day in the States and some serious shopping at Ontario Mills Mall.

The bus left at 8:30am for the massive single-story mall – the mall to beat all malls as far as the group was concerned!

The outlets were arranged around a wide corridor that did what seemed to be a 1km loop! It seemed that far when one had to walk it hunting for purchases.

The stores were grouped in sections of similar items and the food hall was a little larger than a football field! The book stores were cheaper than in NZ and the Summer sales saw many items of winter apparel at very attractive prices.

The bus had no standing room on the way back as every crevice was crammed with shopping bags, packets, parcels and a myriad of other items.

Once again the group caught the business traffic heading home and it took over an hour before arriving back at the hotel.





Raukura Roa and Riki Lee Peters at one of the entrances to Ontario Mills Mall.





## Ontario Mills Mall

### ANCHORS & ENTERTAINMENT

AMC 30 Theatres  
 American Wilderness Zoo  
 Bed Bath & Beyond  
 Burlington Coat Factory  
 Dave & Busters  
 Fozzles Bookstore  
 Group USA – The Clothing Co.  
 UltraScreen Theatre  
 JCPenny Outlet Store  
 Marshalls  
 Off 5th – Saks 5th Avenue Outlet  
 Off Rodeo Dr. Beverly Hills  
 Sega Gameworks  
 The Sports Authority  
 T J Maxx  
 Totally 4 Kids  
 Virgin Megastore

### ATHLETIC GOODS & APPAREL

Healthrider  
 Pro Image Outlet  
 The Sports Authority

### BOOKS / CARDS / GIFTS

Big Entertainment  
 Country Clutter  
 David's Gifts & Tobacco  
 DayRunner  
 Magnetic Attraction  
 Michael's Cards/Gifts  
 Sanrio Surprises  
 Spencer Gifts  
 The paper Outlet  
 We're Entertainment  
 Young Hui Imports

### CHILDREN'S APPAREL

Baby Guesses / Guess Kids  
 Carter's for Kids  
 Oshkosh B'Gosh Super Store

### ELECTRONICS / MUSIC / PHOTO

Bose  
 Electronics Boutique  
 Ritz One Hour Photo

### THE BIG FOOD FOOD COURT

Bruegger's Bagel bakery  
 Burger King  
 Cinnabon  
 Everything Yogurt & Salad Café  
 Gloria Jean's Gourmet Coffee  
 Häagen Dazs  
 Kelly's Cajun Grill

Kenny Rogers Roasters  
 La Salsa  
 Panda Express  
 Sbarros The Italian Eatery  
 World Links

### FOOD – RESTAURANTS

Banana's Ultimate Juice  
 Cinnabon  
 Gloria Jean's Gourmet Coffee  
 Starbucks Coffee  
 Wolfgang Puck Café

### FOOD – SPECIALTY

Auntie Anne's (two outlets)  
 Cheesecake Factory  
 Rocky Mt Chocolate Factory  
 Sweet Factory (two outlets)

### FOOTWEAR

The Athlete's Foot  
 Banister Shoe Studio  
 Bostonian  
 Converse Company Store  
 Etienne Aigner  
 Factory Brand Shoes  
 Famous Footwear Outlet  
 Florsheim Factory Outlet  
 Foot Locker Outlet  
 Footquarters  
 Hush Puppies & Family  
 Jarman Shoes  
 Just For Feet  
 Leeds Outlet  
 Nine West  
 Outdoors  
 Payless Shoe Source  
 Shoe Pavilion  
 Skechers USA  
 Track "n" Trail  
 Two Lips  
 Vans Shoes

### HEALTH & BEAUTY

Angles  
 Beauty Express  
 Colours & Scents  
 Designer Fragrances  
 General Nutrition Centre  
 Mastercuts Family Haircuts  
 Perfumania  
 Perfumania Plus  
 Prestige Fragrance  
 Vitamin World

### HANDBAGS – LUGGAGE

AY Leather  
 California Luggage Outlet  
 Etienne Aigner  
 Leather Loft  
 Samsonite/American Tourist

### HOME FURNISHINGS

Corning Revere Factory Store  
 The Cutting Edge  
 Famous Brands Housewares  
 Frames Galore  
 Mikasa Factory Store

### JEWELRY / EYEWEAR

C.R.Jewelers Outlet  
 Claire's Accessories  
 Etienne Aigner  
 Frame-N-Lens  
 Fossil  
 Grand Jewelers  
 Hatfield Jewelers  
 The Icing  
 The Jewelers of Las Vegas  
 Lenscrafters  
 Saving Time  
 Sterling Optical  
 Sunglass Hut Fashion  
 Sunglass Hut Outlet  
 Sunglass Hut Sport  
 Taxco Sterling Co.  
 Tic Time Watch Specialists  
 Ultra Jewelers

### MEN'S APPAREL

Bugle Boy Factory Store  
 Casual Male Big & Tall  
 Hugo Boss Outlet  
 J.Riggings  
 Rivoli de Paris  
 Why Knot A Tie

### MEN'S WOMEN'S CHILDRENS APPAREL

American Outpost  
 Anchor Blue Clothing Co.  
 Beyond the Beach  
 Big Dog Sportswear  
 Crazy Shirts  
 Dockers Outlet  
 FILA  
 Gap Outlet  
 Guess ? Factory Store  
 Hot Topic

### IS

Leathermode  
 Levi's Outlet  
 London Fog  
 Mossimo  
 Old Navy  
 Pacific Sunwear Outlet  
 Players  
 S.C.R.U.B.S.  
 Tilly's  
 United Colors of Benetton  
 Warner Bros. Studio Store  
 Wilson's Leather Outlet

### SERVICES

Car-lene Research  
 Let's Talk Cellular & Wireless  
 Ontario Police Substation  
 PFF Bank & Trust  
 Urgent Care

### SPECIALTY

Black & Decker  
 Black Market Minerals  
 Crystal Factory  
 Casio  
 Illuminations  
 Lids  
 Magic Max & Fun Shop  
 Remington Factory Store  
 Zap "Create Your Own Cap"

### TOYS

KayBee Toy Works  
 Toyco

### WOMEN'S APPAREL

5-7-9  
 All That Jazz  
 Ann Taylor Loft  
 Bebe  
 Charlotte Russe Outlet  
 Dress Barn  
 Dress Barn Woman  
 Group USA – Clothing Co.  
 KASPERasl  
 L'eggs/Hanes/Bali/Playtex  
 Maidenform  
 Morgan of Paris  
 Red Eye  
 Westport Woman  
 Winsor





Above and below: Looking both ways in the food hall of Ontario Mills Mall. Huge variety of foods.



From 5:15pm to 7:00pm a lot of the group got some serious repackaging of their suitcases done before the noon departure of the hotel tomorrow.

It took both Corrie and Te Whainoa to crush down Sandy MacDonald's suitcases so that they could be zipped up!

The last evening meal of the tour was held at the neighbouring Chinese smorgasbord where the group celebrated the combined birthdays of Te Waiti, Casey-Mia and Corrie with a cake supplied

by the restaurant.

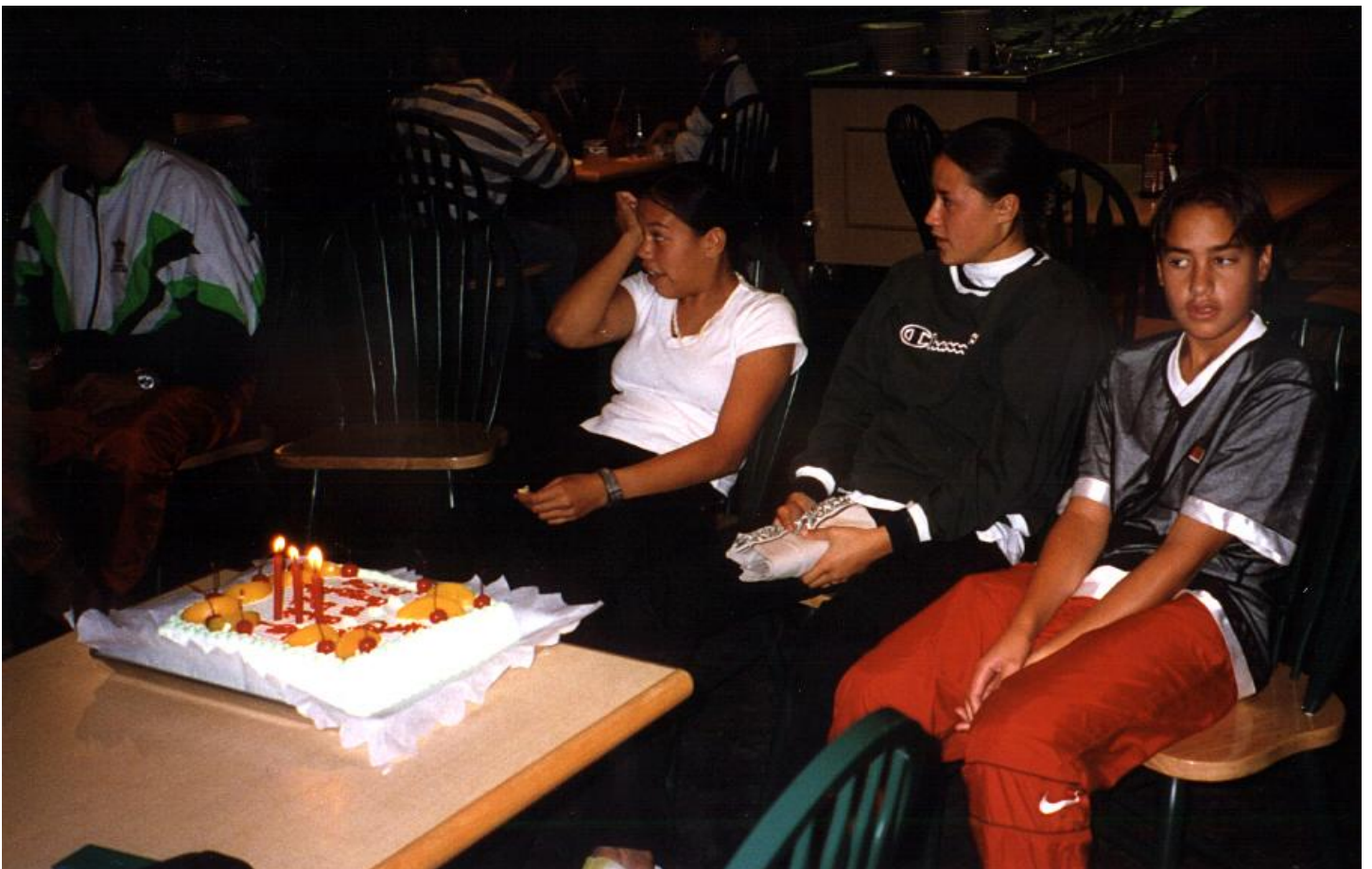
Every member of the group was given the opportunity to say what they had enjoyed about the trip and what they had learned from the experience.

Impromptu performances followed as they entertained each other, much to the fascination of other patrons in the restaurant (the group were allocated a section to themselves where they could eat and dance). Then it was back to the hotel for a spa and bed by 11:00pm.





The three travellers who had birthdays on the trip – Te Waiti Walker turned 15 in Los Angeles, Casey Mia Hawkins







Singing prepared songs to the birthday trio.



TeWaiti, Casey Mia and Corrie blowing out the birthday candles.



The three birthday celebrants were a little embarrassed as they were sung to and commented upon.

Casey-Mia had 'Spanish Harlem' sung to her while Te Waiti heard 'I'm Gonna Miss You'. Corrie received the song 'He Puru Tai Tama'.

Everyone noted that the date on the birthday cake was iced in American fashion – with the month first, followed by the day!





The tourists telling others of the best parts of their tour, and what they had learned from it.



Watching the group entertain themselves at the Asian Restaurant.



Entertaining at the final night meal bash.





The girls singing on the last night in the States.



The boys deliver their final haka of the tour.

	<i>What part of the trip did you enjoy the most?</i>	<i>What did you learn while on the trip?</i>
Richard Crawford	Meeting my Auntie and Uncle in Boulder City.	There is strength in numbers and the benefits of teamwork.
Te Manawaroa Teinakore	Family life with my billets in Salt Lake City.	That the lifestyle is different from New Zealand.
Rangiherehere Katipa	I enjoyed the Utah families and being with them.	
Rihi Mita-Watene	Living like Kings and Queens in mansions in Salt Lake City.	That Casinos in Las Vegas stink! And that I missed the group while billeting.
Jacqueline Pouaka	The Salt Lake City billets were choice!	That many things are so much more convenient that at home.
Leon Matthews	I enjoyed the togetherness in Utah.	Vegas sucks! New Zealand food rules! There are lots of cultures.



*What part of the trip did you enjoy the most?**What did you learn while on the trip?*

Poppy Ranga		Tipping is expensive!
Wynel Te Wiata	I enjoyed the friendliness and also Grand Canyon.	
Tutereinga Holland	I liked everything and wanted to stay!	
Pokaia Matthews	Salt Lake City billets were homely and I was spoiled there.	Many things are similar to New Zealand.
Wynel Te Wiata	I enjoyed the friendliness and the experience of visiting Grand Canyon.	
Pare Paki	Disneyland was the highlight of my trip.	I really enjoyed being with the group – it was great.
Corrie Wharakura	The Utah billeting and being on tour with the group were my most enjoyable moments.	That you come to appreciate your friends when on tour.
Casey Mia Hawkins	I really liked travelling with the group with the bonus that there was no school!	I learned that American toilets flush backwards – they suck instead of flush!
Te Waiti Walker	I loved our Salt Lake City billets and the money!	I could see that not all Americans are famous!
Kura Walker	I loved my Utah billets, the food, Grand Canyon and the hotels.	I thought I could get sick of being with the group until we were parted!
Marrin Haggie	There were lots of experiences especially in Utah, Vegas and the funparks.	Bonding is important. And I found out that Piata can talk!
Lalita Hari	Salt Lake City hospitality and group togetherness.	Americans eat sweet foods.
Motuiti Hona	Utah was fun and America had girls!	
Te Whainoa Te Wiata	My Utah billets were choice.	The Americans have interesting road rules.
Isaac Royal	Utah was primo!	I learned how teenagers hook up in the States!
Jesse Royal	I enjoyed being with the group on tour.	I quickly learned that the toilet bowls have a higher water-line than in New Zealand!
Piata Murray	I loved Utah and the mountains.	I found that everyone in our group is different.
Malana Grey	Utah was my best experience.	I experienced 'straight-as' roads, saw heavy makeup and the weather was not what I expected.
Kameta Puke	Overall the trip was awesome. Utah billets were flash and I saw many personalities in our group.	American food is yuck! And that I miss people.
Kotiro Turner	Utah and the billets were great.	I can appreciate another culture.
Hariru Roa	Group dynamics, Magic Mountain, Universal Studios and shopping.	
Riki Lee Peters	A recovery blessing by two 'Mormons' when I got sick with a chill in my kidneys.	I learned how to get a chill in my kidneys by staying out of an outdoor spa in wet clothes too long!
Sandy MacDonald	I met three friends by design and also by accident whom I had last seen 34 years ago in Huntly. I also enjoyed revisiting some sights I had seen 16 years ago.	That most teenagers can appreciate and work in with another culture when away from home.
Raukura Roa		The boys of America are not too bad!
Te Ngaru Brown	I enjoyed the group along with the new faces I met.	Do not jaywalk!
Al Duane Ngakuru	I enjoyed the opportunity to hang out with mates my own age.	I am just grateful for everything I experienced.
Maera Paki	Utah! Boulder City! Performing! The crowd reactions to our culture.	Bonding (especially with my mother).
Tom Roa	I was happy to see members of the group conquering fears.	I learned that we can all go further in our endeavours.
Robyn Roa	Getting to know Sandy. First time overseas together as a family. Enjoyed many little things. Things from the heart. Hoover Dam performance. Driving to Hoover Dam. Dynamic staff team. Poppy and Richard. Seeing smiling faces everyday. A primo trip. The least stressful of all group trips I have been involved with.	





The group had hired a section of the Asian Restaurant beside the Hotel in which to have their last evening meal of the tour, to perform to themselves, and to talk about the past 17 days.



Hariru and Raukura Roa entertain.





Adults joined by Rihi giving an item.



Te Waiti and Piata.



Rihi, Malana, Kotiro, Leon and Kameta sharing experiences at the final dinner.





Marrin Haggie checking up on some items as he prepares to pack his suitcase for the last time on tour.



Robyn and Tom Roa with daughter Atamira in the Buena Park Hotel – final night.





Richard Crawford trying to get some belated study done before leaving the States.



Typical of what was going on in all hotel rooms on the last night in the United States.



*Pofolks* was the breakfast location on the last day of the tour with most of the group turning out.

Back at the hotel all rooms were cleared out with suitcases (73 of them) stacked in Crawford's room and along the corridor (with one or two students standing guard).

All dress jackets were checked and accounted for (as some were only on loan) and the group frittered the time away before checking out at noon when the bus arrived.

With not enough room in the bus's large storage area underneath, many of the suitcases had to join the passengers inside.

Arrived at the Los Angeles International Airport at 1:30pm (after a little bit of getting lost on the approach roads) and unloaded the vast array of cases.

The check-in area was very crowded and the Kapa Haka group only added to the congestion at the counters.

Some could not wait patiently while the formalities were conducted and played on the luggage trolleys. Some of the boys preferred to skateboard outside on the roadways while the others organised the movement of all the luggage.

Once all the administration had been done and all the luggage was taken care of each group member was given their last gift from the putea – \$10 with which to feed themselves before departure at 9:15pm.

There were a few who asked for their flight tickets so that they could get into the Duty Free stores and check out the goodies. Almost everyone was surprised by the prices and did not spend long in the places.

While some crawled under the seats in the embarkation lounge to have a sleep others played trolley derbies. Casey Mia found that using trollies as seating was not a good idea as hers flipped over and deposited her embarrassingly on the lounge floor in front of hundreds of others awaiting passengers.

Jesse found out twice within 30 minutes that it was illegal to skateboard while on airport property.

After a very long and wearying wait the flight home was boarded at 9:00pm, with Richard Crawford being relocated to business class due to a shortage of seats in tourist. As it turned out his seat in tourist was not taken, much to the delight of Lalita Hari, who took advantage of the extra sleeping space.

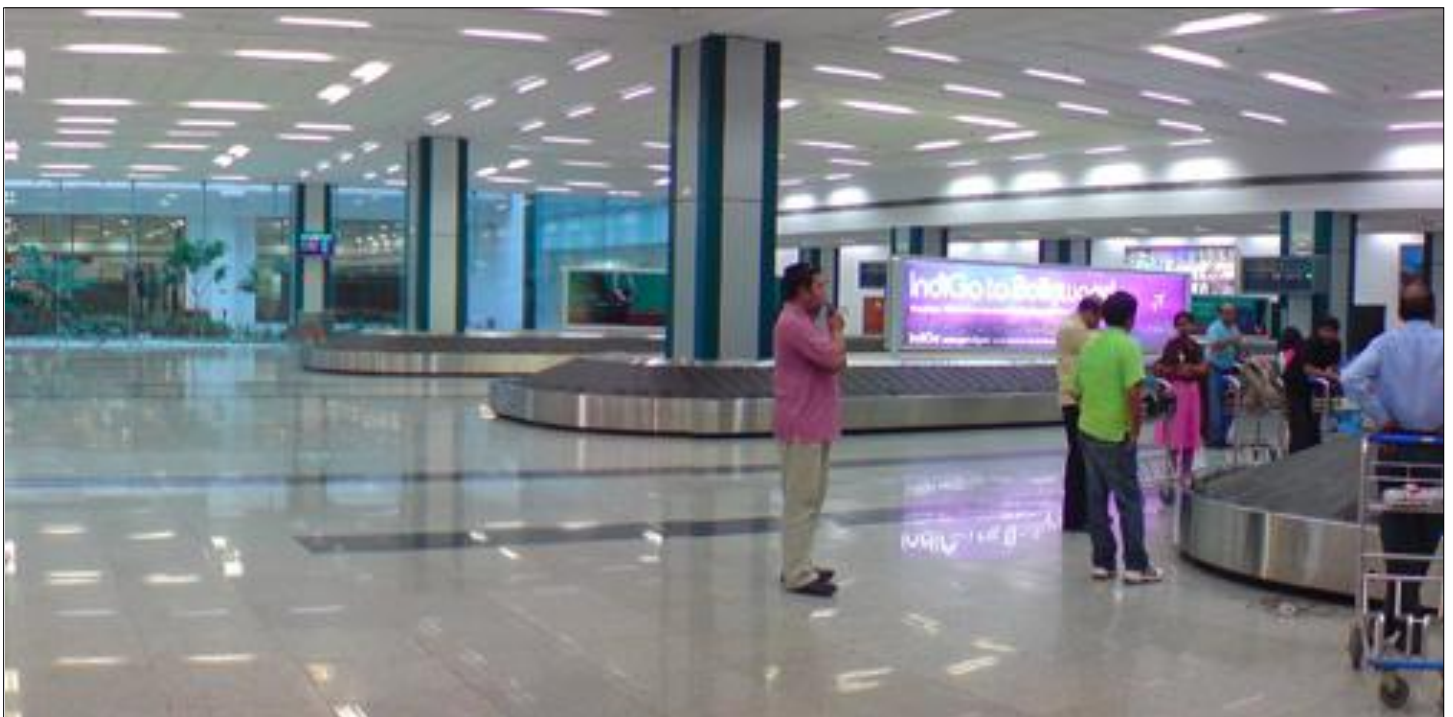
After the take-off and evening meal there was almost immediate settling for sleep as the trip was scheduled to be 11 hours direct to Auckland.

One of the flight movies shown was *The Jackel*.

The flight home was uneventful and the plane landed at 5:00am at Auckland. The trip through the baggage collection and customs was smooth except for Sandy MacDonald who waited and waited for his suitcase to come off the carousel. All that was left on it was Kotiro Turner's suitcase.

It turned out that Kotiro had grabbed the first familiar case and headed off home! The case was later delivered to the correct owner.

Sandy was the last through the airport doors and everyone was whisked off home to rest up and enjoy the final week of the April holidays.



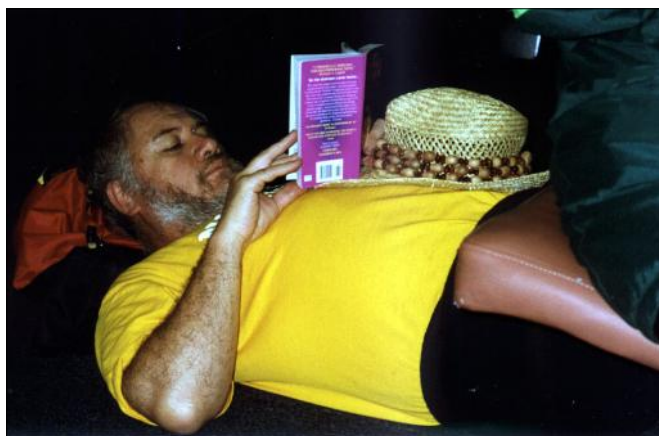




There was a long wait at the Los Angeles International Airport for the flight home.



Above: Raukura Roa is used as a pillow by younger sister Atamira in the waiting area of the LA Airport.



Tom Roa catches up on some reading on the floor of the Departure Lounge at Los Angeles Airport.







More waiting at the Los Angeles International Airport for the flight home.



# *At Home*



Paora Royal opening the report back evening in the Ngaruawahia High School Library.



Maera Paki tells of some experiences on the tour.



An attentive audience of whanau in the Ngaruawahia High School Library as Robyn Roa speaks.



Tena ra koutou katia

He panui tenei ki a koutou te whanau

Kia haere mai ki tatou po **whakahoki korero mo te haerenga ki USA**

Te Ra Taite 7 Mei

Ki Whea Ki te Library

A Whea? 6.45pm Karakia

Mo te aha? \* Kia Kai tahi

\* Kia Kite ai koutou I nga mahi tino rawe a tatou tamariki Kapa Haka

\* Koreronero ai

### PROGRAMME

6.45pm Karakia Motu Katipa (if available)

Mihi Richard Crawford

Presentation to school of books and photos of the tour Tutereinga  
Jessie

Presentation of Tour

Maera

Grand Canyon

Casey Mia

Flight over; Las Vegas

Marrin

Los Angeles

Alduane

Hoover Dam

Kura

Boulder City

Manawaroa

Salt Lake City; Las Vegas with Shirley

Corrie

Hotel life

Jackie

Dining out

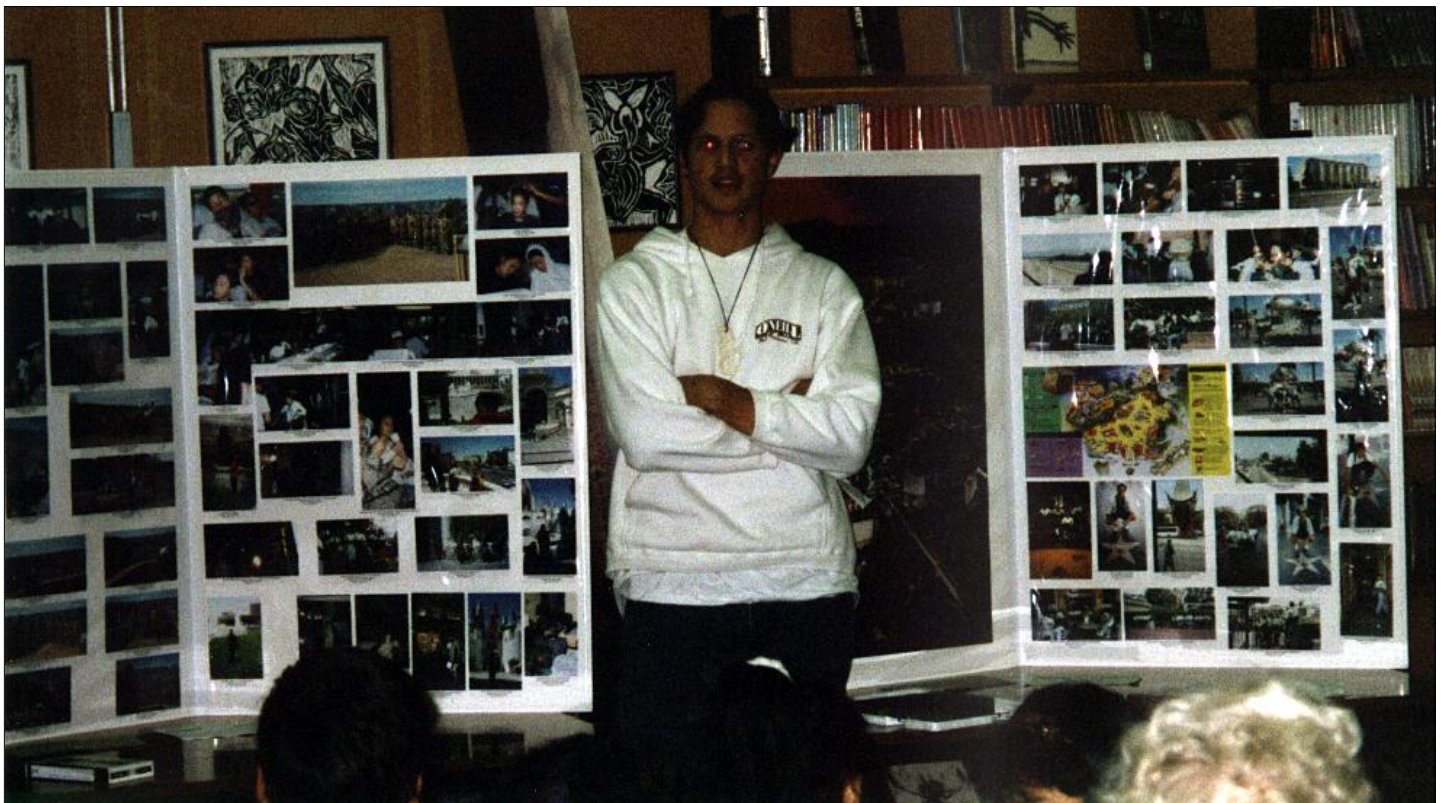
Korero whakamutunga

Robyn Roa

Video Presentations

Supper

9,00pm Karakia whakamutunga



Marrin Haggie relates some of his experiences while on tour.





Listening to proceedings in the Library.

The second week back into Term 2 the group held a de-briefing evening with parents and whanau, where selected students gave short addresses on aspects of the tour.

Several gifts were presented to the school in the form of photographs and books, as a record of the tour.

Each traveler was presented with a framed photograph of the group in costume on the edge of Grand Canyon with a larger version of the same photograph going to the school, along with a two-meter long photograph of Grand Canyon.

A collection of over 300 photographs of the tour was on display and selected photographs were enlarged for display in the Ngaruawahia High School Foyer.

Copies of the group photograph were also donated to Radio Tainui and to the Ngaruawahia Public Library.

*As many of the photographs as possible that were taken on tour were collected and form the basis of the pictures that appear in this album.*

*Photographs were taken by Sandy MacDonald, Robyn Roa, Lalita Hari, Wynel Te Wiata, Kameta Puke, Jesse & Isaac Royal and Maera Paki.*



Richard Crawford viewing the displays of the tour.





Selected photos from the tour enlarged and displayed in the school foyer. The long photograph (not a print) above the display is of the Grand Canyon.