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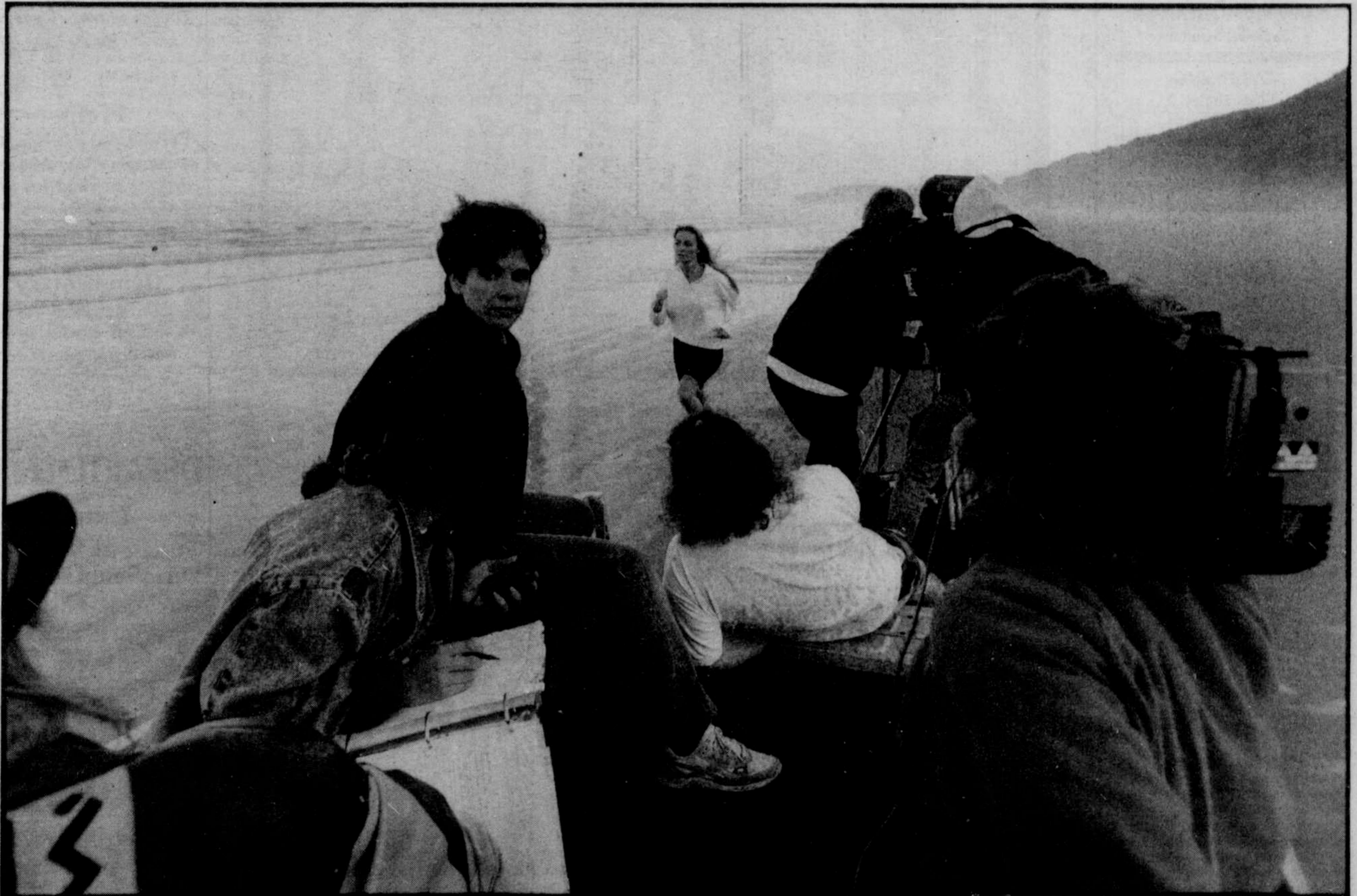


PHOTO BY LINDA KLIEWER

Local lesbians make good

Lesbians and gay men who thirst for films with even a drop of queerness, will chug this film right down

by Ellen Hansen

Why do I get to be this totally lucky lesbian?" ponders Nicole Conn, executive producer, screenwriter and director of *Claire of the Moon*, a 35mm feature film being made here in Portland. "I could lose my house, my beach house, my car, but I'm living the purest moments of my life right now."

Nicole Conn is an ambitious young filmmaker. At 32, she has a successful "real job" as a controller for M. Stearns Construction, Portland. Yet, for the last few years she has been "shopping" for

scripts in Hollywood, and has three scripts optioned, and two more in development. But her experiences in Tinseltown have not been entirely satisfying, and so *Claire of the Moon* was born. "This was a backlash to the compromises you have to make in Hollywood. I wanted to write a story about intimacy, which is really a big issue for me right now, and I'm going to make it about lesbians, because I'm a lesbian. I also wanted to make it in Oregon, because I love Oregon."

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