

Baez

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"Even if we don't sell like a million of them, we still get enough to sell," he said.

And time is of the essence in the ever-changing rap business, in Baez' opinion.

"It's a fast thing," he said. "If you stop to catch a breath you'll definitely get passed up in this rap game."

Baez said community support, both in Warm Springs and in Madras, has been key in becoming more successful.

"The mayor actually is a fan of Big B," he said with a laugh.

Jason Hale helped him to distribute music and even advertised him on the billboard for Ahern's Market.

A local graphic designer has been instrumental in helping him develop his album cover, Baez added.

As for those showing support in the community, he said, "It's not just the youth."

In his experience, even elders approach him and commend him for trying to find success in life.

One of Baez' main motives is to show the community that someone from Warm Springs can reach a high level of success, he said.

"I want to show them that they can do it too," he said.

He advised, "Just get your mindset, plan little goals."

Personally, Baez said, "I won't feel successful until I'm actually living off of music."

In general, he said, the important thing for him to remember is to keep things fun.

"I try to take music seriously but in all its just entertaining," he said.

The opportunity to create companies and enter the music business isn't something Baez was willing to pass up.

"When I got this opportunity I took it," Baez said.

Whether it's radio or rapping, Baez said the future for him in the music business is looking bright.

He added, "Even when I'm old I'll probably still be doing it."

At KWSO he occasionally plays his own music, but also enjoys giving exposure to other local artists and Native Americans in the hip-hop and R&B fields.

"It's not just an advantage to myself, it's an advantage to local artists," he said.

Mainly because, Baez explained, "Networking is probably the number one thing with hip-hop"

Eventually Baez has another project he hopes will be up and running—something he calls "Groove Central Radio" for Native hip-hop and R&B.

He plans for the show to be something that can be picked up in any area via satellite, and said it will feature about three disc jockeys during the two-hour show.

The purpose, he said, is to help out artists and to teach young people about their potential.

"The plan is to expose Native American artists, particularly in hip-hop and R&B," Baez said.

The program may also feature scholarships, other organizations, film festivals and much more—and Baez also hopes to create exposure for positive Native American issues.

Adopting a positive outlook is something that he hopes will begin to help many Native American communities.

"I grew up ignorant," Baez explained. "I started a new thing this last year—just to be positive."

Baez can't think of a lone reason for his change in attitude.

"It just got tiring," he said. "I was infatuated with drama."

Baez credits a lot of his will to succeed to insomnia.

When he can't sleep, Baez said, "I cannot stop thinking or learning, watching."

"If I have to over-think, what better thing to think about than music?" he said.

Recently Baez' interests have expanded to native cultures throughout the country.

Besides learning about his own culture, he said, he enjoys learning about other American Indians and their history.

For instance, he said with a laugh, "Geronimo is like the dopest dude in my life now."

"Just the way he moves, acts, is all with class and moderation," Baez added.

He also enjoys catching up on current events and watching the news—which contributes to his belief that everyone should be well informed.

For now, he plans to keep working hard while maintaining an optimistic outlook on life.

"The positive thing has been working out really good lately," Baez said.

In May Baez will be the emcee of the Collage of Culture in Madras.

Baez' CDs are currently available—and, he said, would make a great holiday gift.

He will sell the CD to community members at the wholesale price of \$5.

"For girls, though, just a kiss and a hug is good," Baez said jokingly.

Anyone interested can reach him through www.myspace.com/gamesta.

Baez is the son of Ramona Baez of Warm Springs and Luis Baez of California.

Next deadline to submit items for publication in the Spilyay Tymoo is Friday, January 12. Thank you.

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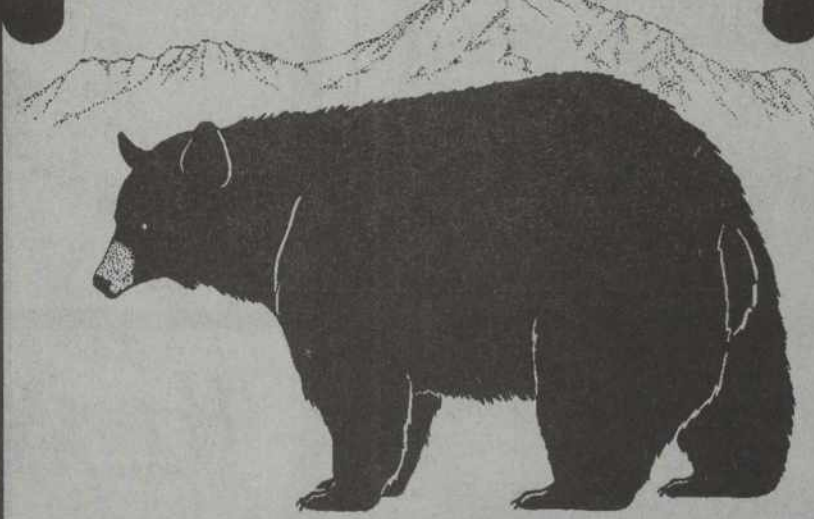
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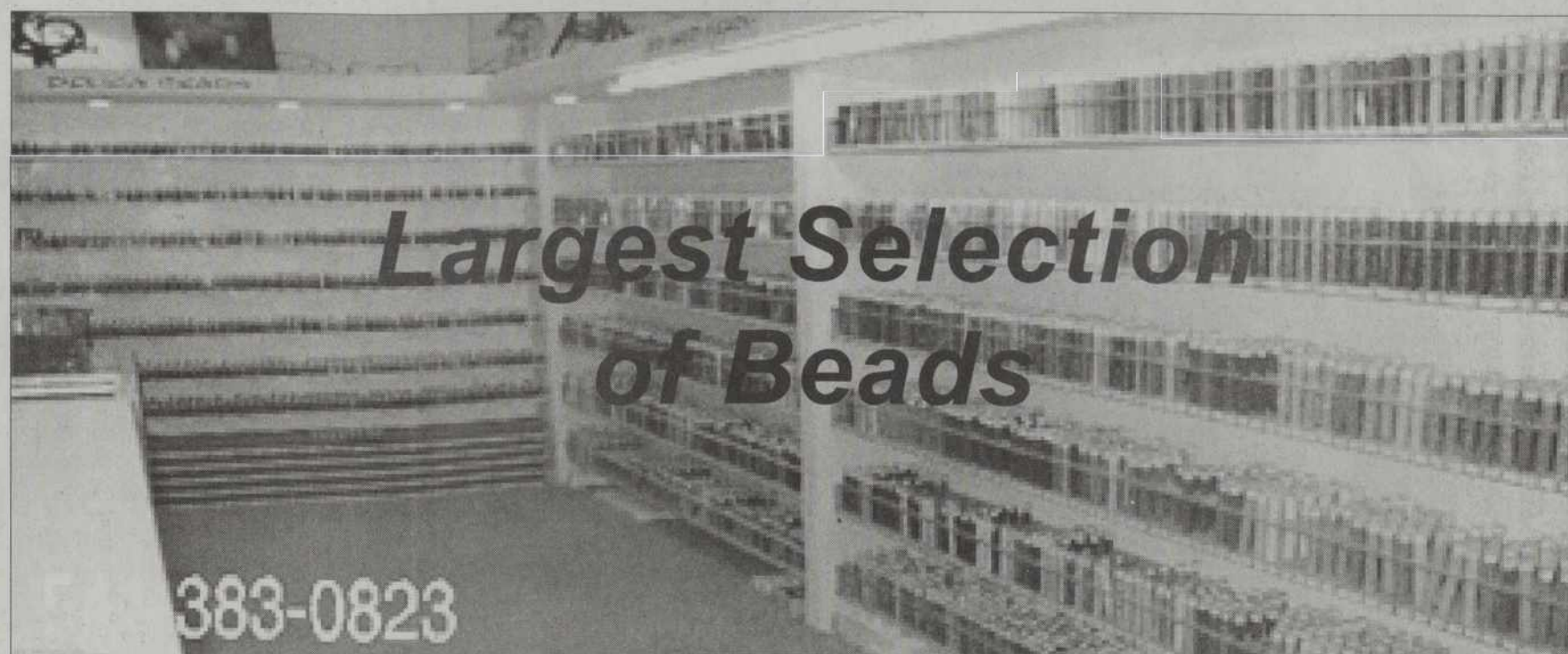
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