

Adulthood, in a cat's point of view

Took last week off for some vacation time, all by myself, and spent four glorious days with no one wanting a ride somewhere, or a need for me to be at any given place at any given time.

Every day, after breakfast was finished, the dishwasher loaded and kicked into gear and the rest of the Brown household had headed out the door to school or work, I had the place virtually to myself.

Yessir, a week of stress-free vegging, with no deadlines, assignments, and best of all, ringing telephones. Just me and the cats, taking it cool.

Well, at least that was my intention.

But it seems one of our cats had another idea. I've discussed our felines in the past, how we have an older, set-in-her-ways sour puss, and a younger upstart who is just coming up on her first birthday. They happen to hate each other.

And to make matters worse, it seems the younger cat has reached, ah, er, adulthood, from a cat's point of view.

You see, she spent the entire week of my vacation, howling, meowing and purring her furry little head off, while rolling around on the floor, with her tail in the air.

It seems she was, er, lonesome.

I swear that damned animal howled all day, all night, and any time that was left in between.

Except of course, when I left the house to go shopping, or on one of my little day trips.

Then I suspect she slept.

So much for a restful week off.

Now after cohabiting with five women for years, I feel I'm quite experienced in coping with the monthly hormonal roller coaster associated with numerous females living under one roof.

(I once suggested they could all get in sync, and I'd just move out of the house for one week every month. They weren't impressed.)

Anyway, it seems this young cat's hormonal urges have been getting on everyone's nerves.

My wife and I discussed throwing her outside to let the local male cats have their way

A
TED
BIT



Ted Brown

with her, just to shut her up. But we weren't really prepared to accept a litter of kittens appearing on the scene a few weeks later.

Our older cat viewed the whole event with a certain amount of contempt, (or maybe envy — you see, she's fixed.) She endured the howling until reaching a saturation point, then went after the younger one to deal out a swat, complete with claws, just to quiet her down a bit.

However, I must admit, the most entertaining reactions came from my daughters.

The older ones understood what was happening, and made several cute comments about the cat being in heat.

But when my youngest daughter got into the conversation, they decided to lead her on, like older sisters are prone to do.

And she swallowed it, hook, line and sinker.

Take the first morning the cat was rolling around on the rug—the older girls told their younger sibling the cat had cramps.

Innocently, she believed them.

Or the other story about buying sanitary napkins for the kitten.

Yup, she bought that one as well.

Anyway, we've endured the first wave of hormones from that furry little creature, and all's quiet on the home front — for now.

But I know it'll happen again. And again.

That is, of course, until we take her on her own little personal sleepover adventure.

To see the vet.

MAY WE RECOMMEND ...

COSTA RICA, CENTRAL AMERICA

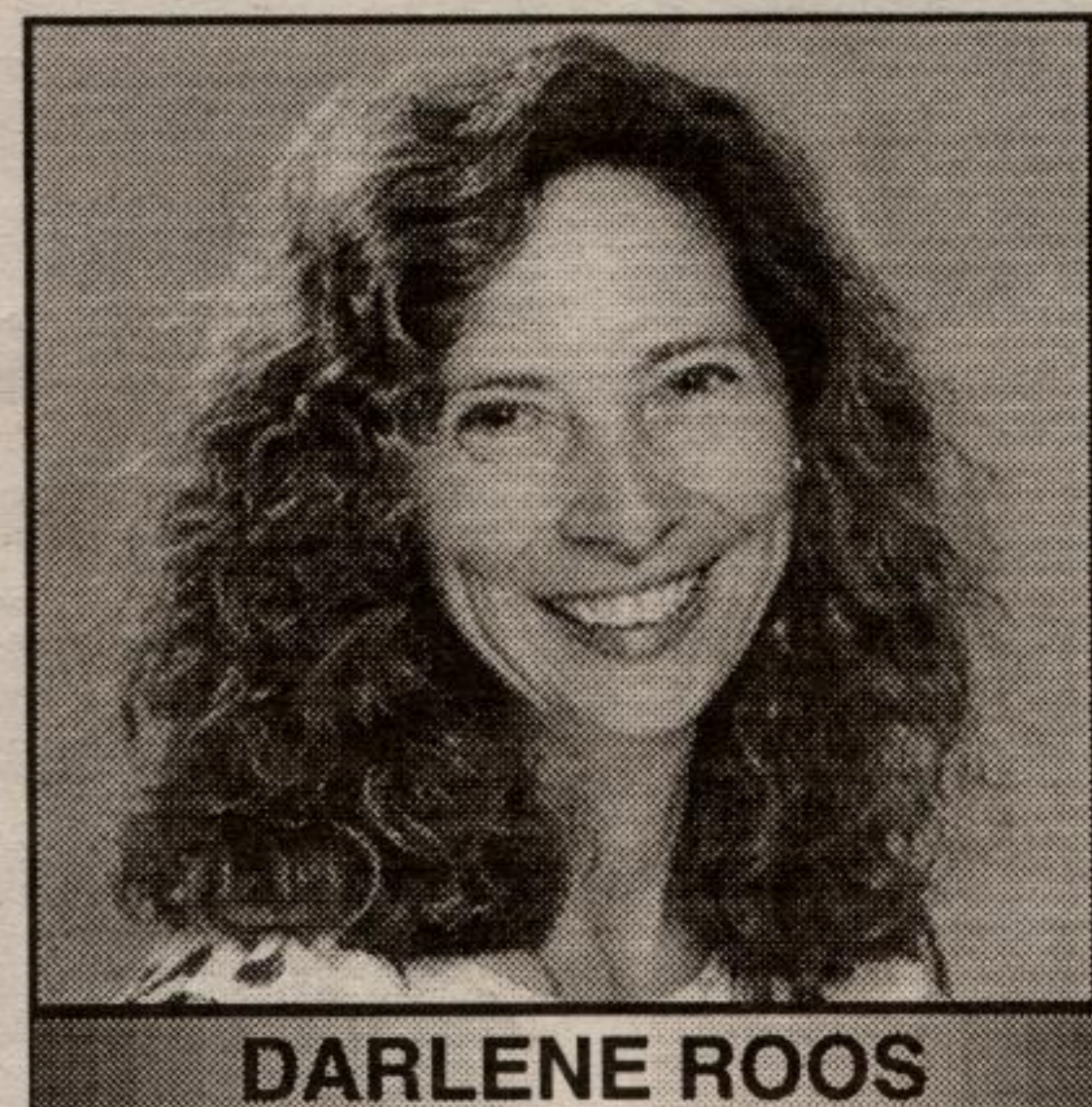
This is what's HOT for this winter...

This unique combination of beach and nature vacationing hosts the wonders of volcanos, rain forest, hot springs and more. From all inclusive at Jack Tar's newest loca-

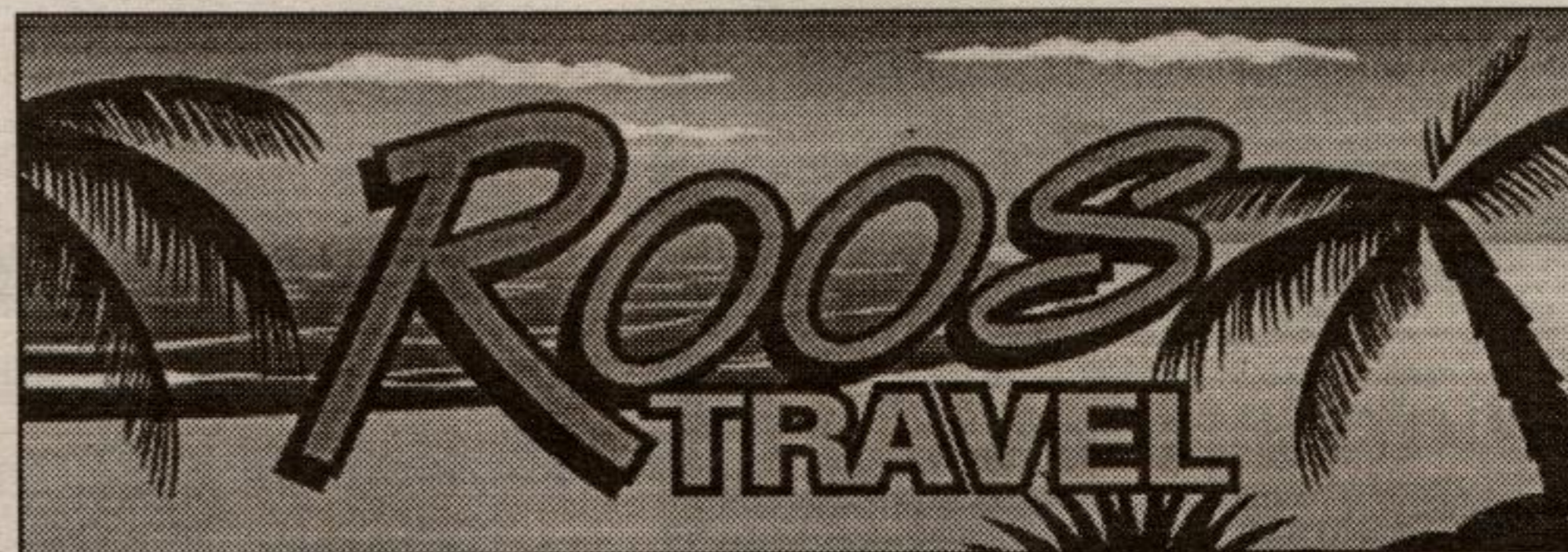
tion to A LA CARTE Travel with your own four-wheel drive vehicle or our fully escorted tour in February. This safe and friendly country has a lot to offer.

I've been, I've seen, I would love to have you see for yourself.

Give us a call, our knowledgeable staff can make this a carefree holiday.



DARLENE ROOS



HOURS:
Mon.-Wed. 9 am-5:30 pm; Thurs.-Fri. 9 am-8 pm; Sat. 9 am-4 pm
905-873-2000

STILL TIME PHOTOGRAPHY



BOOK NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

877-5920



Pre-Season Bridal Event Sale

Winner of Brampton Guardian's "Best Bridal Boutique" 1995

We must make room for spring '97 samples

starting at **\$249** all sizes 4-44



Bea Shawn FASHIONS
THE BRIDAL SPECIALISTS

(905) 457-3363

389 Main St. N.
457-3363

PLENTY OF FREE PARKING

	WILLIAMS PKWY.
MAIN	Zellers Mall
	VODDEN

INSTA-FLAME PRE-CHRISTMAS FIREPLACE SALE



Insta-Flame
by MAJESTIC

Come In and See Our Showroom

\$100.00 OFF

THE PURCHASE OF A FIREPLACE

Expires November 9, 1996



Call KEITH or ART for an appointment



FOR A FREE ESTIMATE CALL 877-8023 SHOWROOM 12 TODD ST.