

Yesterday, Tues. June 26 a couple of my girlfriends and I who all live in Puerto, went super early to Barra to surf in the morning. We heard that there was a contest or something starting at 8 am so we thought we would get a few waves from first light until 8 am and then get out of the water when they tell us the contest start. Then we would go surf somewhere else later.

We got in the water around 6:30 and were catching waves and having a great time just 3 of us Puerto girls with a couple of other friends and two nice Australian boys we just met in the water.

At about 7am this guy comes climbing up the rocks and screaming and whistling at us and yelling that we need to get out of the water. We yelled back that we'll get out once the contest starts, that there isn't even anyone at the beach yet.

He was crazy, he started throwing rocks and was really freaking out. He kept saying he was going to jump in and crack open our heads. But we knew he couldn't swim so we didn't really worry. But he nearly hit us with his rocks that he was throwing and it became very dangerous. So we got out.

When we got out he came running up and now he was less angry. We recognized him as the President of Barra. We asked him why he was acting like a loco and freaking out like that. How can you throw big rocks at three girls who are just surfing? We told him that we only wanted to surf before the contest starts and that of course we will get out of the water once they are ready, but right now there is no one in the water so let us surf.

He said that the Gringos told him that when they show up and drive up over the hill, they want to look down at the beach and water and they don't want to see anyone in the water. If they see even one person, they are not going to give him any money.



That explains why the President was so angry. He wants the money for his pocket. You know here in Mexico there is the tradition "la bolsa" which basically is that most of the money goes into the pocket of the official.

When we walked to the rocks to get our backpacks and stuff, the president's guys had taken our stuff away – our camera and money and clothes. We ended up getting it all back, but what a hassle.

We got out of the water and went over to the palapas and waited for the People to come. At 8:30 am the special people showed up. We could have been surfing for 2 hours peacefully and then got out, but no they did not let us.

Here are the empty waves we had to watch for 1 hour while nobody was surfing, waiting for the rich people to come up over the hill for



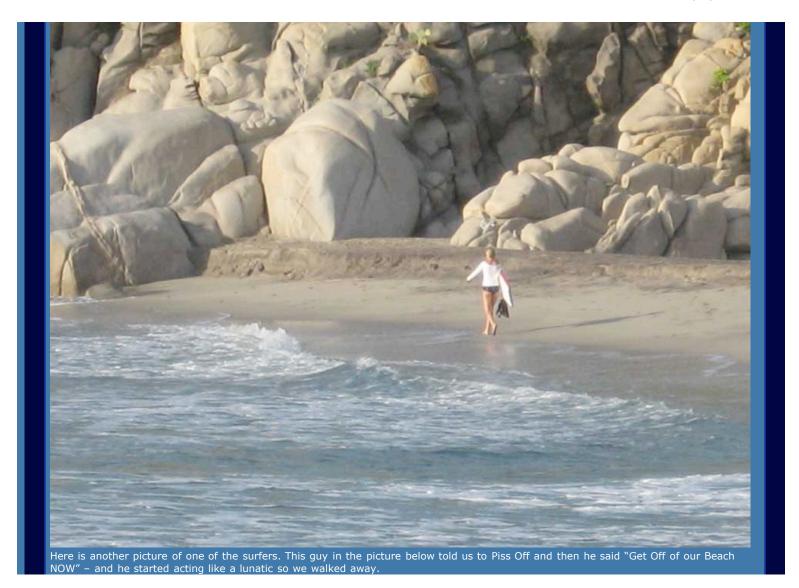
When the main guy came walking down the beach (shown in the picture below) we asked him if we could get permission to surf before and after the contest since we had taken off of work and now we were down there staying at our families friend's place and wanted to stay a couple of days visiting them.

He said NO. He said that we have to be VIP – and that we can only be so by helping the town like he did. We started to laugh and told him that we help the town for many years, we know all of the kids there, give them boards and fix their boards and bring them stuff. He couldn't even speak Spanish. When we started talking to him in Spanish and asked him how he helped the town, he got angry and told us to F*** Off.

Here is his picture. Who is that?



So we sat on the beach and watched the special people come. There were about 8 surfers and two boogie boarders. Here is one of the boogie boarders in the picture below. She couldn't even paddle out past the current.





Of course we are not angry with the President of Barra since he is just a poor, uneducated man that was taken advantage of. We're angry with the Gringo jerks that told me and my girlfriends to F*** off. Like this one above. (who is that?) See the Van behind him where it says "Surfline Goodwill Tour" – what a joke. Where is the goodwill?

You guys only came down here to take advantage of a poor little town so you could surf the waves your selves. Then you make a big story like you are helping the town. We are friends of the town and know most of them and talk with them about this, and everyone laughs and knows that all of this money is going straight into the pocket of the President. And of what is left over they are going to pave the road to the beach, because that is what the guys asked them to do. No body in town ever heard of any clinic or other stuff that surfline was telling people. That is just not true.

You jerks that disrespected us and called us names are lucky that we didn't come with our friends. I almost don't want to tell them about this and show them your pictures, because they are a little bit crazy, the Puerto boyz, and they won't be so nice to you when they see you in Puerto, or in Barra.

Quote

Yesterday, 08:43 AM

<u>falanius</u> 🕥 Registered User

Join Date: Apr 2004 Location: Ventura, CA Posts: 594

what is the surfline goodwill tour barra 2007??

I saw this on the windshield of the car on one of the pics.



Yesterday, 08:45 AM

#<u>5</u>



Join Date: Aug 2004 Location: in and around santa cruz Posts: 3,003





international surf trip with two days notice? It also seemed quite a coincidence that the ´Goodwill´ tour took place at the same time as the best swell of the season was upon us. As we had already booked and paid for our accommodation (that was actually closer to the beach than where the sign was posted), we decided that we would get up before first light and get a surf in before the competition commenced (as with any professional surf competition, with clear intentions of heading in when competition began). Upon our arrival to the beach, we saw the partially assembled tents in which had also been there the day before. We also encountered approximately five mexicans that were taping off the area as you walked towards the point to paddle out. There were also a few people in the water, with the waves being flawless. As we started walking towards the point we were greeted by two mexicans that could not speak english and were indicating (with hand gestures) that we could not enter the 'site'. We asked if any of the organisers of the event were present, and clearly there wasn't. Not wanting to enter the site, we decided that we would paddle from the beach out to the point until someone from administration had arrived. Clearly, we were not causing any problems as there were only a few fellow 'gringos' out there surfing. Soon after reaching the line-up, we noticed two Mexicans on the point screaming at us. Soon after, we noticed that rocks were being thrown at us from the cliff by both hands and sling-shots. Not knowing what was going on, the only choice we had was to hang around on the shoulder and wait for someone to paddle out and tell us what the problem was (obviously not paddling to the beach as we were unsure of what would have awaited us there). With rocks the size of tennis balls being launched at us from some distance and height, we knew that if one should hit us in the head it would have surely killed us. Soon after, I was unlucky enough to have a rock skim my leg and cause me some minor damage. After approxiamtely 20 mintues (and without catching a single wave), three Mexicans paddled out and told us that we should paddle in. Soon after, we paddled into the beach to find out what the problem was. Still, no apparent organisers of the event were present. However, we did notice that Mike Parsons was sitting on the beach inside the taped off area. My friend and I then approached him to find out what the problem was and why we couldn't surf before the so-called 'contest'as no one was there, nor was anyone surfing. He swiftly told us that he was on holidays and had absolutely nothing to do with the 'Goodwill'tour. He also said that he would NOT be surfing. It seems funny now that after reading surflines website that Mike Parsons was one of the 15 VIP's of the event (The Surfline Goodwill Tour: Mexico will have fifteen VIP participants, a few additional pros (including Brad Gerlach, L). Whilst talking to Mr Parsons, we heard screaming from up the beach. It was now apparent that our friend had paddled in further down the beach away from the taped off area. As we looked, it was clear to us that he was being attacked by a group of mexican men. We sprinted up the beach to see what and why this was happening, only to be greeted by a group of Mexican men armed with pieces of wood and rope. They were hitting my friend, trying to take his board, and tie him up. Obviously, we assisted our friend and tried to deter the attackers. Although outside of the taped area and making it clear that we were leaving, they continued to hit our boards and our persons. This continued for sometime without ANY retaliation. We then continued to swiftly make up our way up the beach and towards our accommodation, with three severely damaged boards, physical abuse, and extreme anxiety. As we walked up the road towards our accommodation we noticed a car coming down the road. It was noticable that in it was Sean Collins, the 'organiser' of the event. We asked him why this brutality had taken place and also why we could not surf. Obnoxiously, his response was "What did you do when when Rip Curl were here?". Being a so-called 'Goodwill' tour, this answer was clearly not what we were expecting. He then continued towards the beach. Approximately three hours later we spoke to Kim, one of the official translators for the event, who informed us that the men who threw rocks at us and assaulted us were working directly for Sean Collins, the organiser of the event. He also informed us that we were lucky that we were not kiled - for doing what we all love so dearly - pathetic. Clearly, Sean Collins, along with the sponsors of the event are directly accountable for both the physical and financial damage that was suffered on that particular day, not to mention the reputation of the companies that placed there name on such an event. Furthermore, as far as I was aware, the notion of 'goodwill' is giving, not taking. How can eradicating fellow surfers (including most local surfers from the village) be indicative of such a gesture? Buying exclusive access to a world class wave is obviously taking far more than what is being given. We do not let this occur at waves in America, Australia, and Hawaii, just to name a few, so why should this be able to occur in countries that are less financially fortunate? The exploitation of waves such as Barra is something that should not happen in the present, nor the future. Surfline and fellow sponsors should 'donate' money directly to the village and continue to let others surf if they feel that they are in need, without taking. I expect that such an incidence should never happen again. I look forward to your reply.

Regards,	
Anthony Brown (Austr	alia).

then this email:

Dear organisers and supporters of the Surfline Goodwill Tour,

I write to you in response to the email I have received from Anthony Brown outlining the treatment he received at the hands of your contest director Sean Collins, and the apathy shown by Billabong sponsored rider Mike Parsons. There are several pretty clear reasons why their treatment is completely unacceptable, firstly of course, the use of violence by the security guards hired by contest director Sean Collins. The responsibility of the actions of those Mexican security guards lies solely with the competition directors and organisers, violence can not be condoned ever, and certainly not when there clearly was no harm what so ever being done to the contest site. The second and probably the most concerning for surfers the world over is the lack of notification that an event is going to be taking place which limits the use of the break. La Jolla is no longer an underground break. Since the Rip Curl Search exposed it to the world last year it has become a world renowned dream destination. What sort of commitment does it take to get to La Jolla for an Australian surfer? A couple of thousand dollar plane ticket, 20 hours in the plane and more than a few hours on a rickety bus using all the holiday time you get for the year - a big commitment I think you will agree. To officially announce the event on the 14 of May with a waiting period between 29 May to the 10 June, giving two weeks notice is absolute bull s**t. Giving the event the pick of the best 5 day forecasted period between May 29 and June 10 is bull s#\$t, to not announce that you have decided not to run the event during its scheduled period is bull s\$\$\frac{1}{2}\$, to announce on the 20 June that the event is to run from the 26 to the 30 of June is just bull s*%t. Trips to La Jolla are planned months in advance, turning up to find a contest site is the last thing any travelling surfer would want to find. I have been to busy surfing (it's been pumping in Sydney for the last month) to have checked what the swell ended up being like in the originally planned pe

I'm a little suspicious of the motives of the Goodwill Tour, it seems to me that raising \$20 000 for the local community is a rather poor goal, why would you be aiming so low? Why not \$100 000 or \$200000. You would of course set your goals low if your real motivation is

to hire the break for a week and have it exclusively for your self, seems the going price is \$20 000. Is Surflines Goodwill Tour really an opportunistic way to gain exclusive use of break for a week for a group of professionals to take photos and gain publicity, seems like it to me. Wait until you forecast a good swell then pay the local community \$20 000 and get the place to yourself, you people are s&*t, and this s**t is sticking to all those who have sponsored or been associated with this event.

So congratulations to all those sponsors and associates of the event - Barra Events, Surfline, Billabong, Wavehunters, Quicksilver, Sol Beer, Mexicana Airlines, NSL, HSS, Third Point - You have a great job of selling out the surfing community.

Kindest Regards,

Warren Brewer.

then this email:

- >Dear all.
- >Im sitting here in Bali disgusted to the pit of my stomach as how my
- >younger brother Anthony was treated at YOUR contest in mexico.
- >I was not there but I can assure you my brother is one individual
- >who I will stand proud and loud for, he is the most respectful and
- >mellow individuals i know and his love for surfing has seen him
- >travel the world many times. I have seen hassles in the water
- >everyday and its a sad sight but i have never heard of anything like
- >The 'surfline goodwill tour', yeah it sounds great, doing it for >the cause hey mr. collins? Sure you are, you thug.
- >I hope surfline realise just how damaging this could be to your
- >company and future events, and i also hope everyone of you feel
- >this on a personal level.
- >As a fellow surfer I know my brother did nothing wrong.
- >A duty of care was not shown (in fact exactly the opposite, you had
- >impressionable, naive, poor people carry out such brutal acts that
- >could of had them blinded, drown or even killed, all under the
- >orders of your contest directors.)
- >Now does that sound like a 'goodwill' tour? I think not.
- >Whats done is done, All you can do now is redeem your reputations.
- >SURFLINE surely doesnt want this matter to go any further.
- >My brother and his mates now are in mexico, batterd bodies and
- >boards, lost absolutey all faith in surfing and the circus that is >associated with it.
- >I look foward to a reply, yours in good faith,
- >Stephen Brown.

and then this email

As a long time good friend and travelling companion of Anthony Brown I read the below email with a keen interest. One thing I can't figure out is what is happening to surfing and the people involved in it? In Australia, you get muppets on jet skis patrolling the competition areas trying to muscle people out of the water which is expected but throwing rocks at people and attacking them with pieces of wood!? That is beyond the pale and unacceptable. But then you probably wouldnt expect anything less from people such as Sean Collins. I have never met him, I dont know him, nor do I care to but from what Anthony has explained, his attitude is lower than the guts of a sh!thouse rat. Especially taking into consideration the fact that there wasnt anyone in the water and the comp hadnt started and Anthony and his crew had done what they thought was right and got up at the crack of dawn to try and snavel some waves before the event started. Even when they moved further down the beach it wasnt good enough for Collins' breed of Mexican thugs. Whoever organises a marathon doesnt own the road, whoever organises a surf comp doesnt own the surf. When the comp is in full swing, fair enough but before a comp, the waves are anyone's entitlement and when physical abuse and property damage are involved, it certainly shames the industry and those responsible. You can get away with it in a third world country with corrupt law enforcement and it appears Collins has taken advantage of this and let down his fellow surfers.

Quote

Yesterday, 04:24 PM

#16



Join Date: Nov 2006 Posts: 721

shame, picking on girls. Must be gay, from what I saw in the pics.



