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Massachusetts

BOYS ON THE SIDE Good looking, 40 year old, Married, Black male, top, 5'9, 160lbs, with a trim, fit, runner's build, seeks a Married, or Bi, White male, bottom, who's muscular, and smooth, for occasional safe, discreet, sex. Friendship is possible, but let's have some fun. (Boston) #2508

GREAT AND SMALL Very good looking, extremely well built, White male, 28, 5'8, 150lbs, with Black hair and Blue eyes, seeks other hot guys, under 30, with great bodies, and small endowments. (Boston) #4170

WHY WAIT? I'm hot, I'm wild, and I'm ready. Let's do it. (Boston) #3265

I'M DYING FOR IT This Divorced, White male, has always wanted to be with a Transvestite. I'm a good looking, Italian male, 5'10, 170lbs, with dark hair. I'm very giving and I'm dying to experience sex with a feminine guy. I can be dominant or submissive, whatever you like. (Springfield) #6585

ALL TORQUED UP Sexy, dark skinned, Bi male, 18, with a very large tool, wants to talk to other hot men between 18 and 23. If you're in the area, let's meet as soon as possible. I'm all torqued up. #5957

New Hampshire

ONE LIFE TO LOVE I want to meet a slim, or muscular, man who can put some love in my life. I'm a masculine, White male, 5'9, 165lbs, with Brown hair, Hazel eyes, a hairy body, and a military haircut. (Manchester) #29659

WEEKEND IN NEW ENGLAND This good looking, 18 year old, Gay, White male, seeks a fun loving, Gay male, 18 to 30, for friendship. If you're the right guy, maybe more will develop. (Merrimack) #6563

ATHLETES MEET Twenty seven year old dude, new to the scene, wants to meet some good looking, athletic, guys to hang around with. Let's have some fun. #5922

OLDER AND BOLDER I'm all ready to go. I'm young and hung, and would like to meet some people to have fun with. I want someone older and bolder. Let's talk it over. #4562

New York

THE COLLECTOR I'm looking for friendship, and good times, with other men in the area. I'm a 40 year old, Gay, White male interested in collecting stamps and coins, and reading. I'm most interested in men between 20 and 40. (Albany) #2161

ALL BONE IN ALBANY This attractive, 28 year old, Italian male enjoys giving pleasure to well endowed guys who like to sit back and relax with their legs spread. I like other things too, but this is my favorite. (Albany) #1463

COME ONE, COME ALL I'm looking for guys for friendship and more. I'm a 27 year old, White male, into meeting everyone. (Albany) #32801

Vermont

TO BE IN BENNINGTON Good natured, White male, 37, 290lbs, wants to meet men who are unafraid of being who they are, and who like to be pleased. (Bennington) #4126

AT THE VERY BEGINNING Anybody out there ready to begin something real? I'm a good looking, good natured, White male, 6'1, 290lbs. The next step is your call. (Bennington) #1862

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT This masculine, White male seeks other men for fun times. (Bennington) #21178

THE URGE TO MERGE Good looking, well built, White male seeks a hot man to satisfy my needs. (Burlington) #4270

ACTIVE PASSION This very active, passionate, White male, 39, 5'7, 155lbs, wants to get to know someone special, 19 to 45. I love to dance, bike, hike, ski, swim, take walks in the woods, go to movies, and enjoy nice dinners. Are you the partner I've waited for? (Burlington) #33845

HEAVY CONSTRUCTION SITE I'm looking for hot, young guys, with tight chests and big pieces of equipment, for oral action and lots of fun. (Randolph) #5968

EXPERIENCED GUIDE I'm a good looking, White male, in my early 50's, 6ft, 200lbs. I seek younger men for casual meetings or more. (Rutland) #1015

BEEN WAITING FOR DADDY? Daddy's home. I'm looking for young guys, between 18 and 29, who need a daddy figure in their lives. I'm a nice looking, 50 year old, White male, 6ft, 195lbs. I can't wait to have discreet meetings with my boy. (Rutland) #30225



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Massachusetts

BOSTONIAN FIRST TIMER This attractive, White female, 21, 5'6, with Brown hair and eyes, is Bi curious. I want to meet someone who can show me a good time. (Boston) #34384

KUNG FU AND YOU Bi-racial, Harvard grad student, 30, seeks friends who are well informed, attractive, and in good shape. I'm 5'10, into Kung Fu and other sports, and want to get to know you. I'm especially interested in other womyn of color. (Northampton) #5660

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Cheryl Elinsky: First Vermonter to Swim the Channel

continued from front page

unaffected by technology," swimmers are restricted to wearing just a swim suit, a swimming cap, goggles, and grease.

In March of 1996, Elinsky, a physical therapist and teacher at Springfield College in Massachusetts, began communicating with one of the four boat captains, called "pilots," authorized by the Association to accompany swimmers across the Channel. Among the requirements for approval of her application to the Association to attempt a crossing, Elinsky was asked to submit the times and circumstances of previous long-distance swims. Already on her impressive resume were a 12-mile swim around Key West in 1995, and a 28-mile tidal-assisted swim around the island of Manhattan in 1996.

A final requirement was that Elinsky complete a 6 hour swim in water 60 degrees or less. Elinsky devoted herself to cold water swims in 1997, including a 3-hour swim in New Hampshire, a 5-hour swim in the mid-west, 7 hours in Lake Champlain, and a 6-hour swim in a river outside Bath, Maine. Elinsky noted, "I spent over 60 hours acclimating to water 60 degrees or less, and I was still cold!"

Elinsky knew she had done everything possible to get ready for the swim. She put on 8 pounds as protection against the cold, but though she swam as much as 40,000 yards a week for week after week.

The week of July 27, 1997 was chosen for Elinsky's crossing, based on the tides. On the first day of good weather during that week, the attempt would be made. On the second day, Elinsky and three other swimmers (women from Connecticut and South Africa, and a man from India) got their chance.

At 5:46 a.m., Elinsky started swimming. She knew she was fortunate to get this early morning start, as the tides might just as easily have forced a night crossing. Her pilot set the course, and Elinsky swam roughly ten feet from the side of the accompanying 36' motor cruiser for the duration of the crossing, allowing her father, accompanying her from Maryland, and her partner Kim Parent to shout their encouragement along the way.

For the first two hours Elinsky admits to having been somewhat scared, though the swells were consistently a moderate 2-3 feet. In hours 3 and 4, she became very relaxed. "Things were really going well. Kim and Dad provided really good support." The pilot, who had accompanied many swimmers, gave her confidence that she was performing well.

Twice, large ocean-going vessels changed their course in deference to the 4' 11" swimmer ("Very cool!"). And every half hour Elinsky paused to drink a carbohydrate/electrolyte mix, ensuring that she consumed 500 calories an hour. Despite the investment of 2 years of study into how and what to eat during the swim to meet her body's needs, Elinsky abandoned her plan upon arrival in Britain when she was encouraged to rely on a powder mix that would be easier to digest than what she had planned to consume. Her flexibility paid off, as she credits this regimen as "a big reason why I made it."

After four hours the wind picked

up more than expected. The tide and winds were moving in opposite directions, creating 5 - 6 foot swells, which persisted for much of the rest of the swim. If these rough conditions had been anticipated, the Association would not have allowed the attempt on that day. Elinsky persevered. "I kept telling myself, This is why it's The Channel. I can do it. I can make it."

Around the 12th hour the water started to calm, but tides again become a consideration. The high swells had slowed Elinsky, and she was in danger of having to fight the outgoing tides as she approached France. Despite any swimmer's best efforts, the tides can simply sweep them up and pull them out to sea.

At this point Parent shouted to Elinsky, "It's really important that you swim really hard right now." Elinsky understood. "The biggest reason people don't make it is the cold. Second reason is that they can't fight the tide. I was not going to let that happen to me. I pulled it out of every cell in my body - I just blasted!"

Still, not content to confine her encouragement to the boat, Parent donned a wet suit and jumped right in to swim alongside Elinsky as a pacer for the first 30 minutes of what they both knew would be the most difficult part of the swim. Elinsky found Parent's participation, "...comforting. Even though the boat is ten feet away, it's a very lonely and vulnerable place to be."

By this point, Elinsky's back and hips had become very painful. "I swallowed a lot of cold, salt water." Finally, 45 minutes from the French shore, Elinsky knew for sure that she would make it. "I was very, very, very happy! There might have been some warm tear drops in that water when I realized I would make it."

Present French law prohibits making the swim from France to England. And despite a history of notable, successful landings on French beaches, the French are apparently not very keen on having folks just swim on over. Luckily, Elinsky came ashore on a beach and, after a single stumble, enthusiastically accepted the warm greetings of a gathering crowd. "I told them I loved their country!"

Once Elinsky was ashore, Parent swam in to join her for some serious jumping up and down on the French coast. And then, as anticlimactic as it sounds, they picked up a single stone, swam back to the boat, and began the 3 hour ride back to Dover!

Elinsky trusted heavily in the abiding presence of her father and Parent. "With all the homework and training, it's critical what the support team does for you and gives you." For her part, Parent declared it "an honor to be a part of this. I learned a lot about myself. When it was hard, I grew, too. We both had our Channels. They were different, but we both had them."

Back home, Elinsky has been honored as the first Vermonter to swim the English Channel with a proclamation from the Town of Brattleboro. When asked what a Channel crosser, who swims around Manhattan for a warm up, plans for an encore, Elinsky smiled, "This was my goal - fait accompli - it feels very complete, very thorough."

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