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Published: June 04, 2006 3:00AM

Metro Detroit

## FIVE THINGS: About a bachelor party planner

June 4, 2006

BY EMILIANA SANDOVAL  
FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

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LOCAL GUY

Darren Hitz grew up in Beverly Hills and graduated from Brother Rice and Notre Dame, where he majored in environmental science. He did the corporate thing for a few years before starting Adventure Bachelor Party, [www.adventurebachelorparty.com](http://www.adventurebachelorparty.com), two years ago. The idea came to him after a college buddy's bachelor party.

"We're all spread across the nation, and the only time we see each other is at bachelor parties," he said. "And the only time we really got to talk was when we were nursing

hangovers at the airport on Sunday. I wanted our time together to be more rewarding. I organized a rafting trip for a buddy, and after having one of the best weekends of our lives, I knew I was onto something."

ON LOCATION

He's got about 50 trips booked this year but doesn't go on each one. Bachelors and their pals can wrangle cattle, sky-dive, raft, fish, bungee jump, hike, take part in motorsports or play paintball at various locations nationwide.



**zoom**

Darren Hitz, 29, of Northville owns Adventure Bachelor Party, a business in which he plans bachelor parties that include such things as rafting, sky-diving and bungee jumping. Hitz gets everything set up: lodging, meals, outfitters and even a list of what bars to hit. (DARREN HITZ)

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- 7:00 PM
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- 7:30 PM
- Poker: [The Detroit Amateur Poker Association Meetup](#)
- 9:30 PM
- Insane Clown Posse: [Detroit Suburbs I. C. P. / Hatchet Rydas Meetup](#)

Thursday, October 12

- 12:00 PM
- Work At Home: [The Emmett Work At Home October Meetup](#)
- 6:30 PM
- Entrepreneur: [Business Women Making it Happen October Meetup](#)
- 7:00 PM
- Bookcrossing: [Mount Clemens Bookcrossers of Metro-Detroit October Meetup](#)
- 7:00 PM
- Democratic Party: [We're Having an Meetup Up! Eastpointe MI](#)
- 7:00 PM
- Democratic Party: [We're Having a Meetup! Eastpointe, MI](#)
- 7:00 PM
- Democratic Party: [Orion Area Democratic Club Meetup October Meetup](#)
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Hitz gets everything set up: lodging, meals, outfitters, even a list of what bars to hit. Partiers get commemorative T-shirts, engraved wood paddles and a video.

"It's rewarding to see guys hugging and taking pictures -- I get to be with people when they're having fun."

#### PLUGGED IN

Hitz, who's single, spends pretty much all his time working, though he recently saw Pearl Jam at the Palace. He's paperless -- everything is on his laptop or stored in online databases. His PDA is always on.

"Customer service is really the key. I get back to someone within an hour. Technology lets me do the work of multiple people."

And traveling is hard.

"When I'm on trips I have to get there early, do setup, worry about the guys," he said. "For me, a vacation is doing nothing."

#### TRIVIAL PURSUITS

He's a devoted Animal Planet watcher and would like to own a "random animal" such as a penguin or a sugar glider someday.

He loves animal trivia and other random facts. Example: The only male animal that gives birth is a seahorse.

#### AT HOME IN NORTHVILLE

Though Hitz could run his business from anywhere, he likes it Michigan and plans to stick around.

"I really enjoy the Midwest mentality," he said. "The people have a good work ethic and are a little sarcastic, and I'm sarcastic, and they like to have fun."

Plus he's close to Notre Dame football games.

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