

GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA: *On Fire, Face-To-Face, and Running the Rapids*

Howard S. Muscott, Ed.D.*



On Fire. Grand Canyon, AZ. Color Photograph.

Sunsets seen from the bottom of the Grand Canyon can be spectacular and dramatic, especially after a low pressure system has passed through. Settling down at our campsite after our fifth day of rafting the Colorado River, this August sky appeared on fire. The peak colors in sunsets like these typically last only moments, so photographers must be ready when the opportunities arise.



Face-to-Face. Grand Canyon, AZ. Color Photograph.

We saw many big horn sheep on the 14-day rafting trip down the Colorado River in August of 2005. This mature bull showed no signs of fear but plenty of interest as we passed by him at twilight. The protection afforded by the national park designation is probably responsible for this big horn sheep feeling safe in the presence of humans like me who pass by on the river. That fearlessness allowed us to come face-to-face, taking only pictures and leaving only memories.



Running the Rapids. Colorado River, Grand Canyon, AZ. *Color Photograph.*

In the shadow of John Wesley Powell and the others that have come before them, a group of paddlers survey downriver looking for the best entrance point to attack the turbulent rapids that are the mighty Colorado River. The 14-day, 225-mile trip from Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek provides rafters and kayakers with some of the world's most exciting rapids to navigate.

* **HOWARD S. MUSCOTT, Ed.D.** is a professor of education at River College and director of undergraduate special education programs, graduate programs in emotional or behavioral disorders (EBD), co-director of the NH Center for Effective Behavioral Interventions and Support, and principal investigator for the Mental Health and Schools Together-NH initiative. Muscott received his doctorate in educating students with EBD from Teachers College, Columbia University and joined the Rivier faculty in 1992. He was honored with an *Excellence in Education Award* by the NH College and University Council as the NH Professor of the Year in 2000. An accomplished and exhibited photographer, Muscott's photographs have been published on the cover of national journals in special education, in newspapers, and used on educational and other websites.