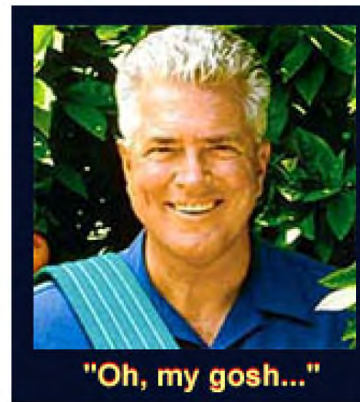


**Was Huell Howser  
Surprised, or  
What!**



(June 21, 2002) TV personality Huell Howser certainly got more than he bargained for, Tuesday, when he videotaped a segment at the Metro Blue Line's Artesia station for his popular "California Gold" TV show.

Howser was interviewing Lynn Aldrich, the artist whose tile mosaics of water images decorate the station. As the two were discussing the blue concrete pavers on the walkway leading to the station, a snake emerged from the grass.

"Oh, my gosh, there's a snake!" Howser exclaimed in his deep Southern drawl, instructing his cameraman to film the serpent as it crawled across the sidewalk.

When the startled snake wriggled away and things settled down, Howser and Aldrich resumed the interview – only to be interrupted again by another surprise.

"A man came riding down the freight train tracks on a beautiful Arabian stallion," Aldrich reported in a phone call to Maya Emsden, deputy executive officer, Creative Services. "Huell said 'Oh, my gosh, there's a horse!' and, of course, he had to interview the guy. It was a very exciting morning for Huell."

Just another episode of "California Gold," airing soon on your local PBS station.

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