

MARCH 1981

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SKATEBOARD MAGAZINE

L.A.

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PARADISE

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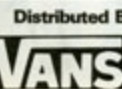
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Cover: The Badland's new blade, Chris Miller, lofting a bio frontside air during the competition of the Lakewood ASPO Contest. Photo: Jim Goodrich.

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# TALKING ED

As you may have already noticed, this issue is packed full of LA energy. The Southern California area has been responsible for a lot of skate activity. People all over the world focus their attention on what is happening in the LA skate scene. The area boasts more professional skateboarders than anywhere else on the planet and houses more skatepark facilities than you will find in any other area.

Ever since skateboarding grew outward from the Southern California surfing communities with the introduction of the urethane wheel in the mid-70's, LA has been the center of skateboarding. Definitely one of the major contributions to society in the last decade, "the new wheels" elevated skateboarding, which had already seen massive interest in the sixties, beyond any limitations that had been encountered with earlier versions. The 70's were tired, bleak, boring. The kids wanted action and took to the streets armed with a new found mobility allowing them endless exploration of a vast asphalt jungle. LA was the perfect proving grounds for the skateboard, and immediately kids found untapped energy in the form of hard concrete and plaster. Empty swimming pools became shrines where many skaters worshipped daily. Down along the beaches and boulevards, and in the parking garages and schoolyards, the skaters ruled. Drainage ditches, spillways and cement pipes came alive with new possibilities. Wooden ramps were being constructed where vertical forms were scarce or non-existent. Skateparks, the next step in the evolution of skateboarding, began to appear in the LA landscape. Serving as a focal point, the parks provided the skater with a place to practice daily. Younger skaters and newcomers to the sport were able to develop their skills very quickly, and the intensity of vertical skating was explored to the utmost. Skateparks of every design and description began to appear in other areas besides LA, and the level of skating ability and the number of skaters increased with each park constructed. Skaters and non-skaters alike now had a place to go and satisfy their curiosities about this new radical activity.

Competition soon found a home at the skateparks. Originally a skateboard contest was a bunch of neighborhood skaters gathered together to run slalom cones on a local hill. Bigger professional competitions were booked into arenas and auditoriums, with large ramps constructed for slalom and vertical exhibitions. The scene of the parks was different. The pools became the arenas and spectators watched in disbelief as the skaters took to the air, pushing the limits ever further. Banked slalom and bowl riding had become the main attraction, and there had never been as many Pro skaters to take advantage of a thriving contest circuit. A guaranteed purse of most contests assured a good turnout and an incentive to go for it.

Back out in the streets, speed runs down steep backroads had evolved into full-on downhill contests, engulfing whole communities in a speed rush. Spectators saw a more accessible form of skateboard rivalry, featuring side by side, head to head competition with a Grand Prix-like atmosphere. The thrills and spills of downhill racing provided a new aspect to the Pro skating scene and many skaters competed in downhill as well as bowl riding.

Skateboarding has flourished in LA, and the Southern California area for over six years and shows no sign of letting up. The young park bred skaters of the region have taken what their predecessors have layed down before them to new levels of insanity. Many older Pro skaters from days past have moved out of skate competition but still act as the guiding forces behind a new crop of skaters. A healthy amateur circuit provides talented skaters with a route into the Pro ranks. Amateurs turning Pro at an early age reflect the youthful intensity of a sport that has come into its own.

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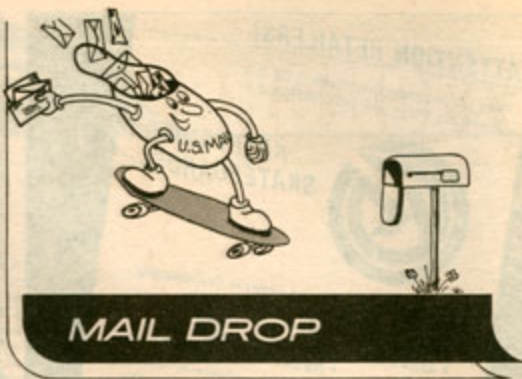
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#### SWAMP SONG

HEY, THRASHER  
I'd just like to say a word  
if I could.  
About your mag that we  
think's real good.  
Its content is just so rad,  
and all its shots are just so bad.  
So just want to say,  
to all you dudes at THRASHER  
today  
that we know you guys  
will lead the way.  
To grate the juice  
that we need today.

*A wired out skater from  
the swamps of Mississippi*

#### THRASHER

I picked up your January and  
February issues and I was stoked.  
The coverage on Secret Spots  
stunts, and the community skate-  
park scene is cool. Keep up the  
good coverage.

*Jon Inaba,  
San Jose, CA*

#### Dear Ed,

I live in the Chicago area and  
my distributor of THRASHER is AMH  
Sales. I like the outline of your mag  
because there's no other sport in it.  
The article on the Upland Gold  
Cup was terrific! The photos were  
rad! I wish your mag well, and  
hope you don't destroy it with  
other sports! Keep on thrashing!

*Radically,  
Doug McBride*

*Thank for the compliments. —Ed*

#### Hey,

I just picked up the January issue  
of THRASHER, and I was completely  
stoked! What a rad magazine! I  
also liked your staff, Kevin  
Thatcher—I remember you riding  
from the Tunnel Team and Uvis,  
Terry Nails—I can remember you  
riding Straker trucks, and Gerry  
Hurtado taking the ASPO Open  
slalom at Oasis. Let's see a few  
more captions—it was hot seeing  
Wally Inouye again. Concentrate  
on some of the "Old Wave Skaters."  
Is your secret spot Beryesa? It  
sounds and looks familiar. Keep up  
the good work. My subscription is  
in the mail.

*Dean Klusman*

*We ain't telling.—Ed*

#### Ripping Recipe

Thrasher,  
It's great to see photos of back-  
yard sessions. We all know that the  
same old keyhole with pads and  
helmet gets pretty boring. I thought  
you and your readers might  
appreciate my recipe for a tasteful  
skate session.

The spot is definitely the main  
ingredient. I chose an abandoned  
skatepark in Southwest Oregon.  
The atmosphere is complete with  
miles of fir trees in view and is far  
from any inhabitants. The park is  
comprised of walls ranging from 3  
to 5 feet with poor shape (similar  
to my local S.C. beach break) and  
is determined to grind you first. If  
this isn't tasty enough, the park is  
supplied with its local law enforce-  
ment which requires some extra  
sweet moves.

Now you spice this with an  
exceptional camera. And B.B.'s  
skating as a dash of flavor. Be sure  
to allow yourself a week's time to  
experience the other coastal  
activities cooking. A local surprise  
bush and nice surf swells will keep  
your trip boiling. You top this with a  
little hairy snack during the drive  
home. Who La.

Thrasher, who says you can't  
have your cake and eat it to?  
—Paul Hendrix

#### Attn: Mail Drop

I really like your second edition. I  
hope future issues will show more  
of quality Thrasher work. The articles  
by Brad Bowman and Duane  
Petes were well written. I think a  
pro skater should interview another  
pro, like Bowman did with Shawn  
Peddie. I hope to see more of BB's  
work in the future. What I would like  
to see in this magazine is contribu-  
tions by skateboarders, pro and  
amateur alike. Also a lot of  
sequence photos, of double  
sessions, and of the best like Olson,  
Smith (both Jay and Mike), Tony  
Hawk, Stelmansky Bros, Peters,  
Bowman, and some hot up and  
coming types.

I would like to know how would  
one go about contributing an  
article or photos, any special type  
of photographs and so on.  
Later.

*W.C. Gutman, San Diego, CA*

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# LA SKATEPARK PARADISE



A typical Marina crowd. On his way to winning the Gold Cup Series, Eddie Rodriguez captured 1st place at Marina Gold Cup #3.



Photo by [unreadable]

Marina local Christian Hosoi pops an air flake in the keyhole.



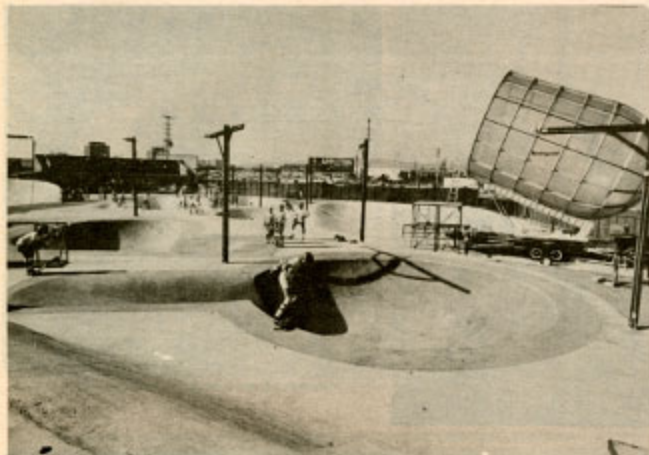
Photo by [unreadable]

The L.A. area has been the forefront of skatepark design development and infra park competition (ASPC). At one time parks numbered into the twenties. Most were either first generation snake run type, or unfortunately, those constructed by fast-buck entrepreneurs who knew nothing about skateboarding, and thus failed once the skaters recognized them for what they were—frauds. Slowly parks began to appear that were designed either by skateboarders or in conjunction

with skateboarders and thus what is known as second generation parks came on the scene. These new facilities played careful attention to the needs of skaters, not only providing good quality terrain but, also by incorporating fully stocked Pro-shops and responsible staffers who were helpful in the day-to-day running of the park. Parks also began to get involved in competitions, either by organizing their own events for example, The Marina Gyro-Dog Bowl, or by becoming involved in the original

Henry Hester Pro Bowl Series and the Association of Skatepark Owners. In some instances parks went a step further and developed competitions based on the terrain that was available at the complex; thus not only parks were utilized for competition, but the entire park as well. This trend gave birth to banked slalom and banked freestyle. The availability of flat skating areas allowed the parks to be also used for freestyle, thus they became the centers of all skate activity. This is the historical background

of the L.A. scene, and it has not evolved easily by any means. The skatepark owners of this area have taken their slaps, hassles, and problems, but they're work and conviction has allowed skating to prosper and grow. The lessons learned by these pioneers could well be used by any present skatepark owner or would-be owner or investor. The L.A. area is happening! An infusion of new skate talent is on the rise and skaters are stoked. I decided that to really show the parks in L.A. I would have to divide



Marina overview showing the small "brown bowls" and the exotic Turning Point Ramp.

A thrashing nose grabbing grind—Bob Serafin, Marina keyhole.



Marina's banked slalom area is the site of heavy speed sessions.



the story in two segments. The first part will cover Marina Del Rey Skatepark, Whittier's Skate City and Big O in Orange. The next issue will feature The Ranch at Colton, Pipeline in Upland, Lakewood Center Skatepark, Pomona Pipe and Pool and Skatercross Reseda.

**MARINA DEL REY SKATEPARK**  
Marina is really an intense spot. The park is beautifully designed and includes the Dog Bowl and everybody's favorite, the keyhole. On any given day two or three top

Pros and many amateurs may be seen at the park, either practicing their routines or just shredding. The keyhole without a doubt gets the majority of the heavy skate action, since it's practically perfect so that tricks may be easily wired. The Dog Bowl, the park's original showcase, does not really get the attention it deserves, possibly because it is slightly more difficult to skate than the keyhole (safely, though, I've been told that attention has refocused on the Dog Bowl and skaters have again taken to ripping it).

Hopefully some day someone will throw a contest in the Dog Bowl, its intricate shape making it perfect for heavy lines and modern maneuvers. The Gyro-Marina Pro Bowl was certainly one of the more entertaining contests to date. Marina also has a series of shallow bowls known as the "brown bowls" or "clay bowls," the birthplace of many new tricks. These bowls are certainly among the favorite spots of the younger skaters (also an excellent beginners' area). A reservoir is also fea-

tured and is widely used by all. The final crowning touch of Marina is its excellent banked slalom area. Denis Ogden has hosted two Pro banked slalom contests with all participants coming away with the same impression—"The best banked slalom area in existence today." During the past year Marina has also been lucky enough to have temporary custody of the fabulous Turning Point Ramp, an exotic plexiglass capsule that is one more feature of Marina's varied terrain.



The Turkey Shoot at Whittier featured Southern California's top amateurs, Tony Hawk, Indy Air. Another version of frontside air: Neil Blender, Whittier.



Tracy Strathers on a revolutionary new design skate deck.



Radical amateur Lance Mountain flows an Indy Air in Whittier's keyhole.

#### SKATE CITY, WHITTIER

Whittier was created with the vertical skate in mind. It definitely features more vertical terrain with file and coping than any other park. The main attraction is its large wide clover (depth no more than 5 feet), blessed with happening coping and files. The action is hot and heavy in the clover as it has a multitude of lines available so that tricks may be wired rather easily. A capsule pool adjacent to the clover also features file and

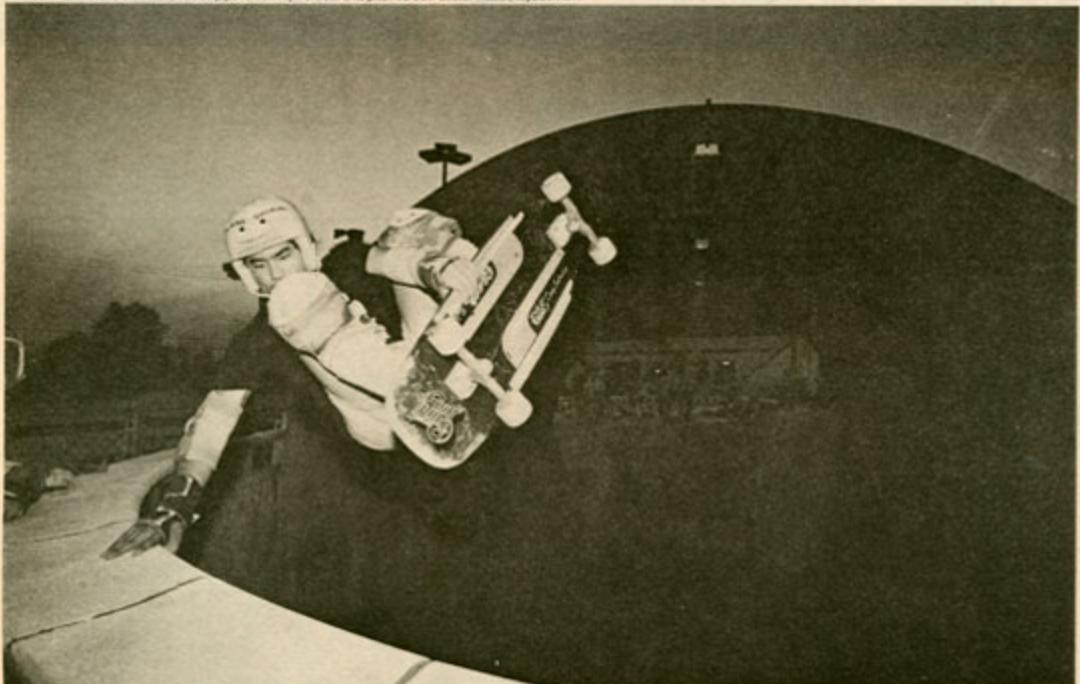


Whittier features five bowls with file and coping; among them is the popular clover.



The skating is not restricted to the bowls. Freestyle action in Whittier's parking lot.

The bowl at the end of Whittier's full pipe is heavily vertical and pitched out. Lester Kasal, layback air.



coping. The capsule is also heavily skated although some criticism may be claimed because of its uphill nature and light transitions. As if that is not enough, a deep keyhole is also part of the park geography. In 1979 it played host to a Hester Series contest and since then has been the target of some bio skating.

Another feature of the park is its full pipe, constructed of what was originally a steel pipe, but now surfaced and serving its purpose quite well. A little aside gives an

example of the owner's commitment to creating a park of high quality: when originally poured the bottom of the pipe was kinked, but the management promptly ordered the flawed area jackhammered and properly built. That is what we mean by responsible owners.

A few other smaller bowls with (of course) file and coping complement the remainder of the park. A small freestyle area is available, as well as a small banked half pipe.

In closing I would like to add that the park is well kept, the Pro shop is fully stocked and the arcade has all the right machines—in short you can have a ball there.

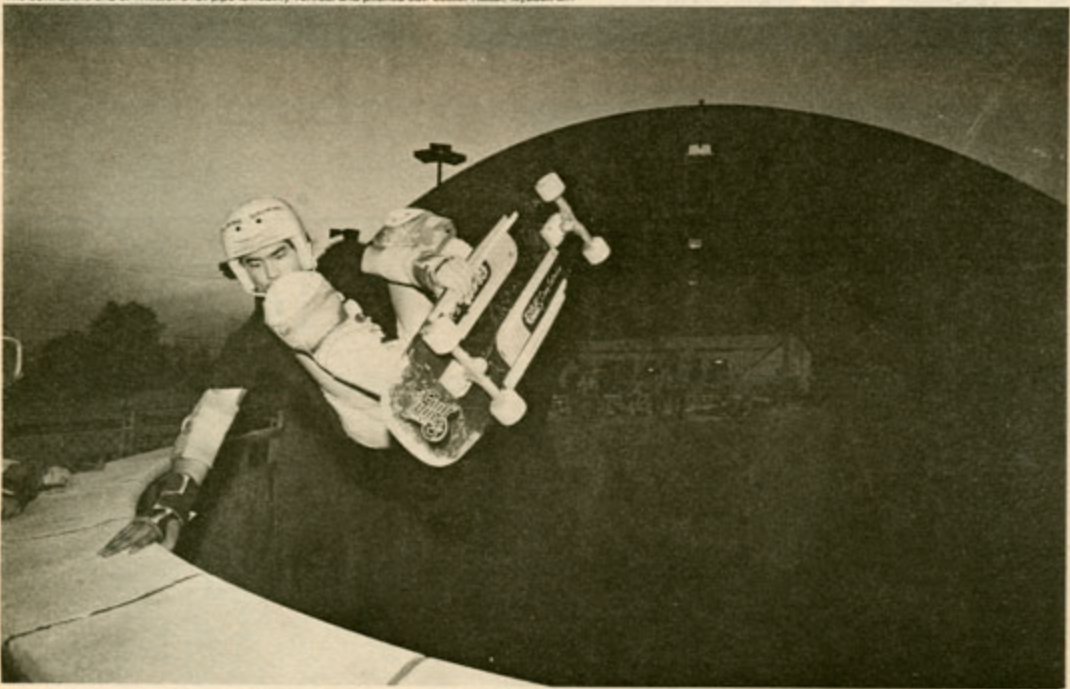


Whittier features five bowls with tile and coping, among them is the popular clover.



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Flying a high backside Ollie over the famous "canyon" at the Big O, Tony Hawk.



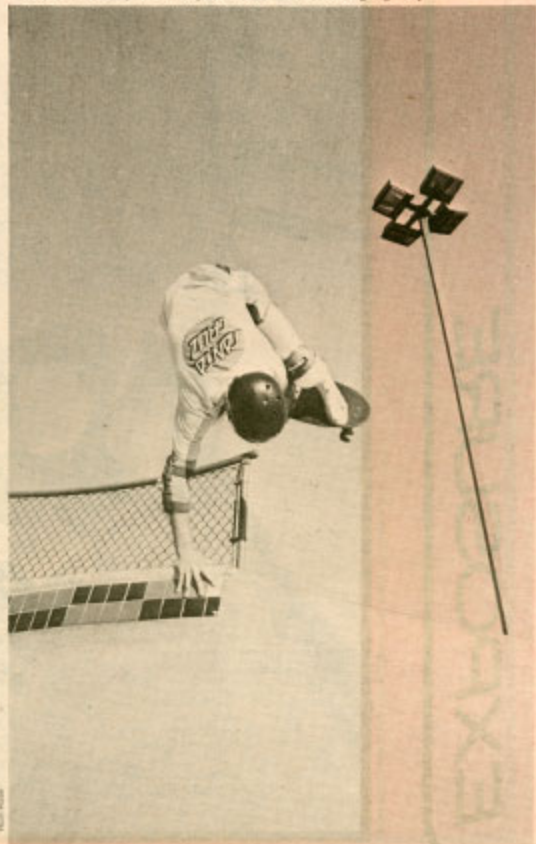
Well, that's it for part one of my report on L.A., A Skatepark Paradise. As you can read and see, the scene here is happening. The involvement encompasses skaters, park owners, management and parents. This is skating 80's style, growing and ever more radical. Catch you next issue for the wrap-up. In the meantime, keep THRASHING!

—Dudley Counts



Teddy Barnett blast a frontside aerial in the capsule pool.

The clover is the birthplace of many new moves—Duane Peters going crazy

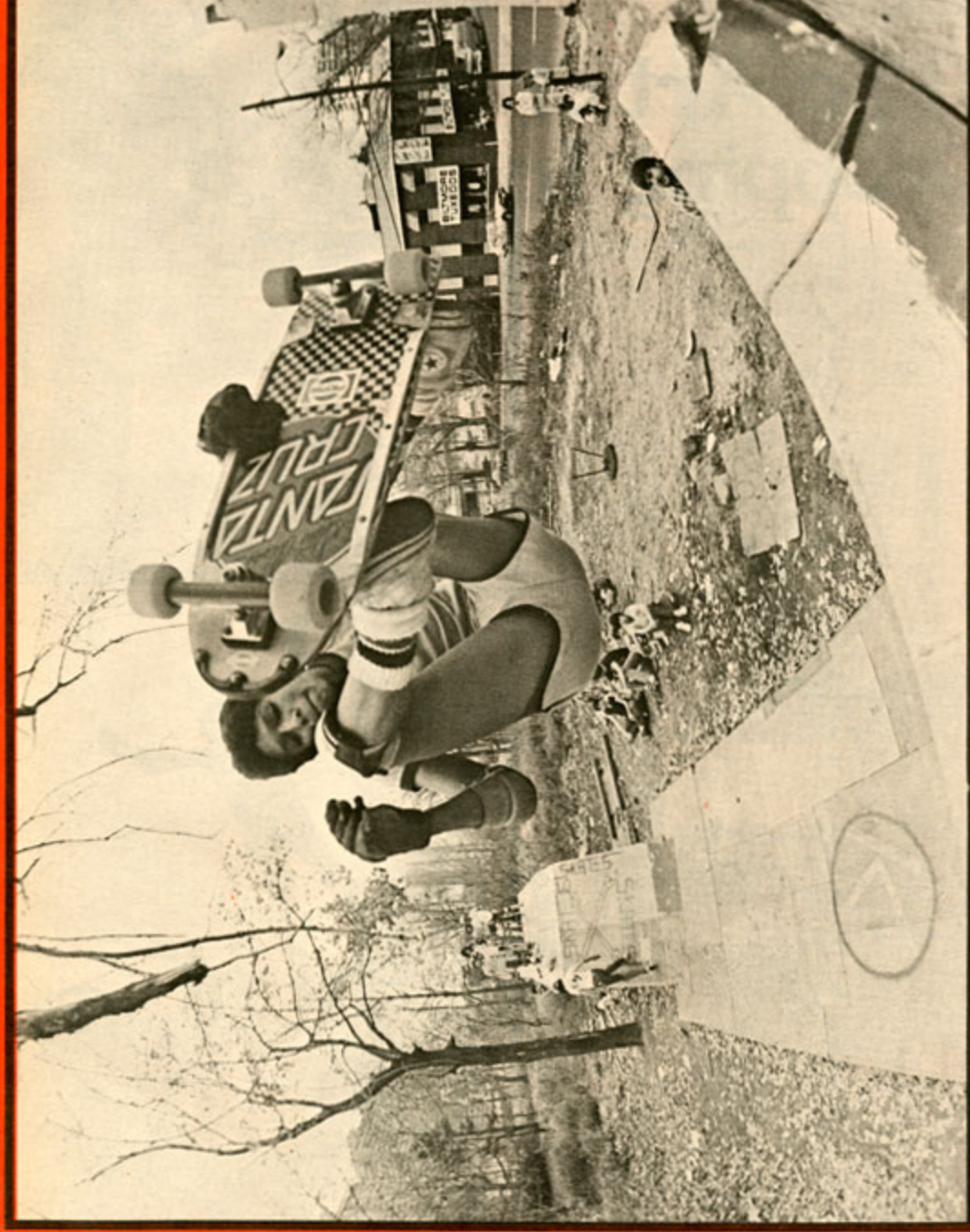


# EXPOSURE

James Moll says there's a secret, unadvertised world in New Jersey. *Frank Firo*



Frank Firo



Uncover the secret world of Fort Lee, New Jersey. *Frank Firo*

Frank Firo

# MODERN MOVES

## The Art of Dropping In



All eyes focus on the instant of commitment—Steve Alta defies the odds again. Upland.



Alan Loi is a blur as he drops into Lakewood's Half Pipe.



Rick Blackhart drops-in at an all-night teler for a late hour withdrawal.



Skateboarders are not known to take the easiest route from one point to another—but definitely the most direct. Curb jumping has been around as long as skateboarding itself, being the natural progression from sidewalk to street. Ty Page's dropping off picnic tables and the like, was considered a big maneuver for its day and still is. Young Steve Monahan, rolling off the top of a parked van, was unbelievable. Blackhart took it to the vertical with high speed roll-ins at Upland and T.A. was last seen dropping off the deck and landing on the flat bottom of Marina's Dog Bowl. Duane Peters has since taken the "acid drop" to new depths in contests. Dropping in, off or onto is a maneuver that is as basic and simple as skating itself, and is equally as radical as any layback-aerial-revert-footplant or whatever combo of tricks one can come up with. No amount of planning or practice can precede a drop-in maneuver. You've got to go for it now and ask questions later, and in the meantime, let instincts take over. That's what skating is all about—the detachment factor—the split second of not knowing whether one is in control of his or her own destiny. Riding the razor's edge provides the rush and dropping over the edge intensifies it.

A well serves as the launching pad. But Steve Alta, right there.



It's bombs away for Steve Caballero at a trendy backyard pool.



# ASPO

Who could have thought that an amateur contest could last 12 hours? During the past 3 ASPO seasons many contests did, yet the enthusiasm of the competitors was always at an all-time high. At several of the parks the entry roster numbered close to two hundred. The season again managed to cover most of the skateparks in the LA-San Diego area.

The ASPO contest format includes many different events, including banked slalom and flat light slalom, along with the already popular pool riding event. Whittier's Skate City contest offered yet another side of skating in the form of pipe pasting, which involves a combination of pipe riding skills with the dexterity of being able to apply a small piece of tape into the upper quadrants of the pipe.

Learning the different variations of the fine art of skateboarding demonstrates how healthy our sport can be when it is propelled by an innovative competition program. The kids involved have fun plus develop sportsmanlike conduct and behavior that will be invaluable later on in life.

The divisions that made up the format for 1980 were as follows:  
12 yrs. of age and under  
13 to 14 yrs. of age  
15 to 17 yrs. of age  
Open Class

Within these age groups there were further breakdowns that are explained as such:

3A Semi-Pro—A skater who has been given equipment as a form of sponsorship.  
(Team skater)

2A Skater—A skater that is not quite skilled enough to be picked up by a team, yet is more seasoned than a 1A skater. (Park skater)

1A Skater—A novice skater that, within a few ASPO seasons, will be classified 2A. (Beginner)

Park Team—A skater that has wired a certain park well enough to represent that park. Usually a 2A class skater. (Park local)

Girl—Any female that enters a contest. 3A/2A/1A.

1A Roller skater—Novice type skater with 8 wheels.

2A Roller skater—Your more refined roller skater. (Pool rider)

Female Roller skater—Any female that enters a contest. 1A/2A/3A.

Park Team—A team that consists of one 12 or under skater, one 13 to 14 age group skater, one 15 to 17 age group skater and Open class skater.

The Lakewood and Whittier contests had the added incentive of being double point events. This allowed skaters that missed one contest the chance to catch up. The usual 100 points for first place was doubled to 200 points and so forth down the line.

### Park Team Final Standings

- 1) Big O 7586 points
- 2) Pipeline 7407 points
- 3) Skatercross 7364 points
- 4) Colton 7247 points
- 5) Lakewood 7231 points
- 6) Del Mar 6424 points
- 7) Marina 6368 points
- 8) Skate City 5776 points
- 9) Oasis 3826 points

### Division Standings - Top Three

- Park Team 12 and under**
- 1) Doug Cobalis
  - 2) Tim Metz
  - 3) Eric Berquist

### 13 to 14

- 1) Ed Bettefcourt
- 2) Bill Wahl
- 3) Les Pearlman

### 15 to 17

- 1) Todd Joseph
- 2) Tim Galvan
- 3) Brian Henson

### Open Class

- 1) Todd Smoke
- 2) Andre Watts
- 3) Jim Coane

### Unponsored 1A - 12 and under

- 1) Jeff Heath
- 2) Charles Pina
- 3) Youree Henley

### 13 to 14

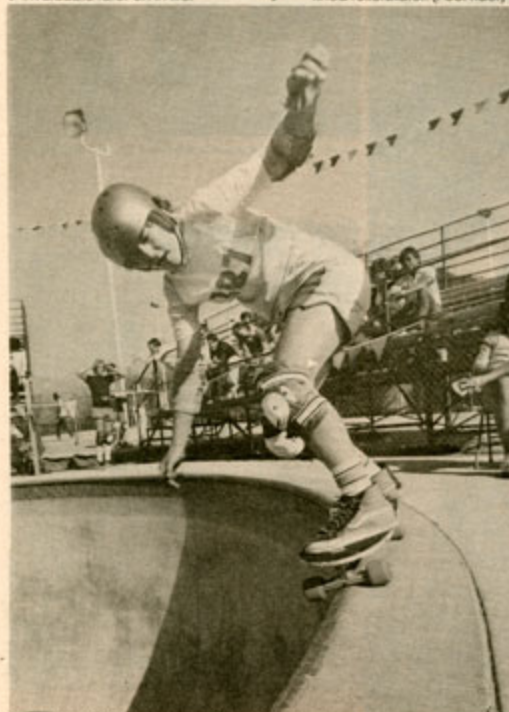
- 1) Chris Robinson
- 2) Ron Yearman
- 3) Richard Ito

### 15 to 17

- 1) Ken Tuponco
- 2) Matt Richards
- 3) Jason LaFoy

### Open

- 1) Mark Bailey
- 2) Adrian Lozano
- 3) Charlie Lewis



Progressive 50/50 grind, Eddie Meek, Combs Pool, Upland.



Kevin Staub ollies-out at the Lakewood ASPO.



ASPO brings together skaters at all levels of ability for competition and fun.



Carabeth Burnside, Eric Berquist and friends, Tony Hawk, Bob Serafin.



Jamie Ide, the top amateur rollerskater.



Gerry Hurtado attacked the slalom competitors with style and commitment.

### Unponsored 2A - 12 and under

- 1) Eric Berquist
- 2) Paul Hinker
- 3) Tommy Finch

### 13 to 14

- 1) Lester Kasal
- 2) Mike Krueger
- 3) Paul Young

### 15 to 17

- 1) Rick Tracey
- 2) Henry Matus
- 3) Tom Steenbock

### Open

- 1) Kenf Douglas
- 2) James Murphy
- 3) Bill D'Angelo

### Sponsored 3A - 12 and under

- 1) Chris Miller
- 2) Tony Hawk
- 3) Danny Jorgenson

### 13 to 14

- 1) Bob Serafin
- 2) Mike Hirsch
- 3) Mark Rogowski

### 15 to 17

- 1) Eddie Meek
- 2) Bill Ruff
- 3) Neil Blender

### 3A Open

- 1) Gerry Hurtado
- 2) David Weaver
- 3) Rusty Morris

### Girls - 15 and over

- 1) Carabeth Burnside
- 2) Sue Smith
- 3) Lisa Foreman

### Girls Roller skate

- 1) Sue Feldman
- 2) Pam Cass
- 3) Penny Fritts

### Mens Roller skate

- 1) Tracy Baldwin
- 2) Bobby Chase
- 3) Dave Goldsmith

### 2A Roller skate

- 1) Jamie Ide
- 2) Paul Volava
- 3) Greg Hund

In closing I would like to congratulate all the skaters that participated this past season and made ASPO a success and a showcase for up and coming skate talent. Thanks also to all the participating park owners and their staffs, the parents of the ASPO skaters and a very special thanks to Lou Peratta who created and organized ASPO and has kept amateur skating alive and well. —Gerry Hurtado



Mike Hirsch blitzes banked slalom as well as vertical terrain.

# EASTERN FRONT

## Kona Pro-Am Kona Skatepark — Jacksonville, Florida

As Friday arrived many skaters appeared to put in some heavy practice. The weather was nice for skating, about 50 to 60 degrees and sunny, with a weekend forecast of slightly warmer temperatures. Although the pool was relatively new to many of us, some of the skaters were showing good ability to adapt to different terrain. Among the group were Mike McGill, Monty Nolder, Rodney Mullen and Shawn Peddie.

As ripping practice sessions went into the evening more skaters showed up to watch and skate. Although the half-pipe finish accumulates moisture during the night, constant skating will keep it dry.

The contest was scheduled to start Saturday at 12:00 noon with freestyle. The program called for six events: pool, half pipe, freestyle, banked slalom, bowl and vert, and finally, downhill. The pool is an eleven foot deep kidney with one foot of vertical, its rad and demanding. The half-pipe is 11 feet high with 1 1/2 feet of vertical by 16 feet wide, it has a fiberglass finish that makes it fast and durable. The banked slalom course was unreal—a snake run with 4 to 8 foot banks and a good slope. Many skaters showed up at 10:00 a.m. for the rider's meeting, as well as to get in some early practice sessions. Dan Murray took first in freestyle with some modern moves. The next event, banked slalom, brought out some old and new skaters, among them, Shaun Jackson, a long time competitor. A new face was Buck Smith, who surprisingly

beat out Shaun and was right behind the winner Kenny Heath, who is a local ripper in slalom and downhill and holds the park record for both events.

Now, with everyone getting their practice in the pool, the event was about to start—with even more competitors. Some of the hot amateurs were Dan Murray, Billy Beaugregard, Robbie Weir, and Chris Baucorn. In addition, Pros Alan Gelfand, Jim McCall and Bruce Walker showed up. Shawn Peddie had an unfortunate fall during practice and injured his hip. Finally, all practice was in and the amateurs had put in their best. When the Pros came up the pressure was on and the crowd cheering. The better of the two runs would decide the results—which turned out to be: McGill, 29.50; Folmer, 28.50; Nolder, 27.00; Gelfand, 25.50 and Cox, 25.00. The panel consisted of three judges: Jim McCall, Monty Ramos and Doug Doane, using a scoring system of 1-10. Concluding the day was a freestyle demo by Rodney Mullen, who put on a fabulous show with his endless display of original tricks. And after that the park owner, Mr. Ramos, invited all the Pros to a steak dinner at the restaurant of their choice. Despite the many fine steakhouses in the area everyone picked Duff's, a pretty good smorgasbord.

Sunday came soon with nice weather and early practice sessions. The day began with the open downhill event, which was also won by Kenny Heath. Following a lunch break, the half-pipe event started with some ripping sessions by the amateurs, most notably, Billy Beaugregard, floating some high backside ollies, and



Thirteen year old Peggy Turner competed against the guys in every event.



Monty Nolder continues to maintain his reputation as Florida's top amateur.



Well traveled Pros Mike McGill and Mike Folmer continued their battle in their home town.



## KONA...

Robbie Weir, pulling off some outrageous lay-back ollies. Then the Pros put in their runs, which were even more rad and really blew away some of the new spectators. The results were almost the same: McGill with 29.00; Folmer with 28.00; Gelfand with 26.00; and Nolder, 25.50.

Finally, it was time for the last event, bowl and vert, which was mostly local skaters. It was also the main event in the 1977 U.S.A. Pro-Am Championship, which was the first East-West Pro Match-Up.

This day ended with a freestyle demo, this time by Jim McCall and narrated by Bruce Walker, topped off by an awards ceremony. This was the third contest this year at Kona, with another one coming up in February, and plans are now being made for a Winchester-type keyhole in March or April.

—Mike Folmer—

## Results

### 13 and under

- 1) John Thurman
- 2) John Sparks
- 3) Nathan Roy

### Freestyle Sponsored

- 1) Dan Murray
- 2) Peggy Turner
- 3) Kenny Heath

### Slalom (Open)

- 1) Kenny Heath
- 2) Shaun Jackson
- 3) Buck Smith
- 4) Doug Doane

### Downhill Sponsored

- 1) Kenny Heath
- 2) Shaun Jackson
- 3) Mike Folmer
- 4) Peggy Turner

### 13 and under

- 1) Buck Smith
- 2) John Thurman
- 3) Kindra Owens

### Half Pipe Sponsored

- 1) Robbie Weir, John Hodges (tie)
- 2) Billy Beaugregard

### 13 and under

- 1) Buck Smith
- 2) John Thurman
- 3) Kindra Owens

### 14-16

- 1) Tommy Redcay
- 2) Ray Showalter
- 3) Scott Lassiter

### 17 and over

- 1) Anthony Boyer
- 2) Steve Gump
- 3) Dale Key, D.J. Braddock (tie)

### Pool Sponsored

- 1) Dan Murray
- 2) Peggy Turner
- 3) Kenny Heath

### 13 and under

- 1) Buck Smith
- 2) John Thurman
- 3) Matt Rimes

### 14-16 Age Group

- 1) Tommy Redcay
- 2) Ray Showalter
- 3) Bryan Cox

### Bowl And Vertical

- 1) Kenny Heath
- 2) Peggy Turner

### 13 and under

- 1) Buck Smith
- 2) Matt Rimes
- 3) John Thurman

### Pro-Overall

- 1) Mike McGill
- 2) Mike Folmer
- 3) Monty Nolder
- 4) Alan Gelfand
- 5) Mike Cox

## TRAVELS WITH B.B.

During his Eastern tour Brad Bowman stopped at Casey's Ramp and fished his usual form.



Texan ripper Andrew Lopez doing a Texas size take-ollie. San Antonio.



CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY



Another well traveled skater, Jamie Godfrey, jamming indoor air at his home park, Cherry Hill.



Twelve year old Dean Godfrey, Cherry Hill mis-shred gets rad beyond his years. Layback air.

"Mouse" Mosberg cooling to lip grind, Cherry Hill.



Brad Bowman is a skater who has been on the scene for quite awhile. He comes from the heart of the L.A. suburban skatetropolis with a flashy style and a full on attitude regarding what he is doing and where he is going.

His surf/skate travels have taken him to many far away places. Last month he returned from a trip through the Southern United States with East Coast camarade Mike Folmer. The long journey included stops in Arizona, Texas, Alabama, Florida and finally Philadelphia, Pa., right next door to Cherry Hill Skatepark, which Brad considers to be his favorite.

The indoor facility at Cherry Hill provides Northeast skaters with a hot place to skate during the cold winter months. Brad managed to capture some of the action with his latest toy, a Canon A-1. Hey Brad, how about that 50mm lens we lent you at Marina?

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# ON BOARD

## THRASH—DON'T TRASH, PUT YOUR LITTER IN THE CAN

### DON'T BE A FOOL—STAY IN SCHOOL!

#### GLOSSARY OF SKATE TERMS

- Bail** — the act of falling, either off a board or while walking.
- Bio** — to pull off a maneuver above and beyond reasonable limits; unbelievably high air.
- Blaze** — to make an outstanding skate maneuver or run; as in, he blazed that run.
- Clone** — to copy or imitate; a non-creative person; as in, he cloned that move.
- Crave** — to heavily want something.
- Dag** — to choke or crumble under pressure.
- Dwid** — one who is not happening in any way, shape or form, usually to describe someone who completely blows it.
- Fully** — used to express complete commitment; as in, fully thrashed.
- Gnarly** — a heavy-duty, no-bull attitude, definitely NOT taking the easy way out; as in, watch out, he's a gnarly guy.
- Jel** — total disintegration of your act; as in, he jels at every contest.
- Jerk** — one who does things without putting his or her brain in gear; as in, you're a complete jerk!
- Ripper** — one who can, by means of a skateboard or simply by his philosophic attitude, take total command of the situation or place.
- Robot** — a skater who has no style; a computerized skater.
- Slam** — to make full-on contact with the skate surface; as in, a vicious body slam from coping.
- Stoked** — to be overwhelmed with enthusiasm; as in, I'm stoked with that board.
- Tear** — to trash (see below).
- Thrasher** — one who completely dominates what he attempts by his intense behavior and "don't give a hoot" attitude; as in, he totally thrashed the pool!
- Totally** — see Fully.

#### COMING EVENTS

Whittier's Skate City Pro/Am Bowl Contest  
\$2,000.00 Purse, March 14 and 15, 1981

The Ranch Variflex Pro/Am — April 17 and 18, 1981  
Gold Cup Sanctioned Event

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\$600.00 Tight Slalom

Entry Fee — Pro: \$40.00 — Amateur: \$20.00



**NEXT ISSUE—THE WINNERS OF OUR CARTOON CONTEST—**  
If you have not sent in your entry you have until February 20, 1981 to send your version of a modern skate cartoon. Check for details in Vol. 1, No. 2.

#### POOL YOUR ENERGIES

So you've waited all these years for a skatepark to be built in your area, but to your dismay, have found that the nearest park is still hours, maybe even days away. Of course, there's always the streets and parking lots to practice flat-land moves. And a downhill run of speed can be exhilarating and challenging. And you can always build a wood ramp, which cost money, although one may be built cheaply by using scrap wood and recycled nails.

Well, that's all fine and dandy you say, but like any red blooded skateboard junkie, the craving for vertical terrain is what keeps you going. Even with a good half-pipe ramp at your disposal there still exists a nagging feeling that there is something more. Let's face it, nothing compares to skating a perfect, round keyhole or kidney shaped swimming pool.

Now if you're one of the lucky ones with a skatepark near your home, you're all set! Parks provide a wide variety of contours with an infinite number of lines that may be drawn. Any imaginative skater with average ability will find years of enjoyment and a multitude of shredable routes of a skatepark.

But again, not everywhere do you find a park. In fact, parks are relatively scarce in proportion to the skate population, and those who live in non-skatepark areas must not despair. Gather your crew, arm yourselves with boards, brooms and other cleaning equipment and seek out the pools that exist in every city and town. Chances are good that you will find a rideable bowl close to home if you keep a sharp lookout. The time for pool searching has never been better, and with inflation pushing up the cost of upkeep, pools are being drained faster than you can ride them.

A friendly pool owner may exchange a skate session for a little cleanup of his long neglected swimming hole. Don't hesitate, the perfect pool that you craved today may be gone tomorrow.

# ON BOARD



## FROM THE UNDERGROUND

Alright! Here we go again. Well, I thought this time I'd tell you not about ONE group, but about several. All of these groups play new type, up to date music and are quite competent in their respective categories. The groups I'm referring to have some recordings that can be found on a compilation album called 415 Music. Among these bands are THE DONUTS, an L.A. band led by 17-year-old Lisa Bosch; THE OFF'S, very hard core, ska-reggae-punk kind of group—real head bangers. THE READYMADES, a power pop band whose tune "Electric Toys," well worth listening to; SUDEN FUN, a good local band whose "I can't wait for the weekend show" is their contribution to the album; THE SYMPTOMS, whose tune, "Simple Sabotage" is definitely interesting, but whom I've never seen live and can't say much more about; and an SVT song, "Always come back for more." I'll go into a little more detail about the other groups.

song out called "Search and Destroy." They played some real good gigs with groups like the BLUE CAPS, did such songs as "Racing with the Devil" and "Be Bop a Loo La." Unfortunately, he died a few years ago in a skiing accident. He can be seen as a featured artist in a 50's movie called *The Girl Can't Help It* and the T.V. movie *Heroes of Rock'n'Roll*. The KINGSNAKES should have some vinyl out really soon—look for it.

Back to 415, TIMES 5 is the next group in the line up. They're a young power pop band whose tune on the album is called "Is Your Radio Active." The VIP'S are the final group and feature two ex-members of the NUNS. Most notable again, Jennifer Mira, the willowy and sultry ex-NUNS keyboard player. She wrote their tune "She's a Put-On." Now based in L.A., the VIP'S play the club scene a lot.

Now the most notable band on the album (besides SVT) is Jo Allen and The Shapes. They're led by singer-songwriter Allen Powell, an

Vincent. In case you don't know that name, he and his group, the BLUE CAPS, did such songs as "Racing with the Devil" and "Be Bop a Loo La." Unfortunately, he died a few years ago in a skiing accident. He can be seen as a featured artist in a 50's movie called *The Girl Can't Help It* and the T.V. movie *Heroes of Rock'n'Roll*. The KINGSNAKES should have some vinyl out really soon—look for it.

From time to time I will be giving you info on some artist who literally invented rock'n'roll, such as Gene Vincent, Johnny Burnette and his ROCKNROLL TRIO, and many of the original "Sun" record artists... Jerry Lee Lewis and all the boys and some of their more outrageous episodes.

And back to 415 Records. I want you to know that those guys are really stoked about the way all you shredders are getting into music. Being heavy skate fans themselves, they told me to tell you THRASHER readers that: IF YOU WANT YOU CAN GET THIS ALBUM FOR HALF PRICE, which I think is pretty hip of them. Just write and tell them you read the only skate magazine worth looking at—THRASHER. Send \$4.00 plus postage by check or money order, made payable to 415 Records, P.O. Box 14553, San Francisco, CA 94114. It lists for over \$8.00 so it's a hot deal. Remember THRASHER readers only!

*Long Nails*



THE MUTANTS are an avant-garde, art school band that has to be seen to be believed, really off the wall, and good too. Their song "Insect Lounge" is a 45 and on the album is called "Baby's No Good." 391, who has since broken up, is also represented. The singer was originally with the NUNS, the first N. Cal. punk group, and most likely the best. The NUNS started a whole different music scene and developed a pretty heavy rep with such songs as "Savage," sung by keyboard player Jennifer Mira, a tall blonde 50's Vogue model type hair. Jennifer was quite a contrast to the rest of the band which included Alejandro Escovedo, who is related to Pete and Sheila Escovedo and brother to Coke Escovedo from Santana. There was also the totally outrageous madman, lead guitarist Mike Varney, definitely a warped genius. Mike, in collaboration with former Jefferson Starshipper Marty Balin, produced, directed, mixed, played guitar and sang on the rock opera (rock story... whatever) "Rock Justice," which is now on an album on EMI. Other members of the NUNS were singers Jeff Olenka and Dietrich. They had one killer

Englishman who was a member of several well known groups in his native country: VINEGAR JOE and TANZ DER YOUTH (Tan der youth? sounds like something out of the Hitler-Jugend, don't it? That's Hitler's youth in case you shanks didn't already know it). Most noteworthy was HAWKWIND, of which he was drummer; he also wrote a song called "Jealous" which was a pretty big hit for Robert Palmer and also recorded by Rachel Sweet. His current group puts on a good show and plays extremely well—definitely an up and coming young band.

I've also been checking out the club scene in S.F. lately and have seen some really good bands. One in particular is the KINGSNAKES, an old style rockabilly, rock'n'roll band. They do almost all originals which isn't that easy when you're trying to do rockabilly type music. The drummer, originally from the FLAMIN' GROOVIES, is a monster who reproduces the old rockabilly drum style perfectly. The lead singer plays an old thick hollow body electric guitar that looks like it was made in 1948. His stage presence and vocals are superb and he looks like a young Gene

#### 415 MUSIC

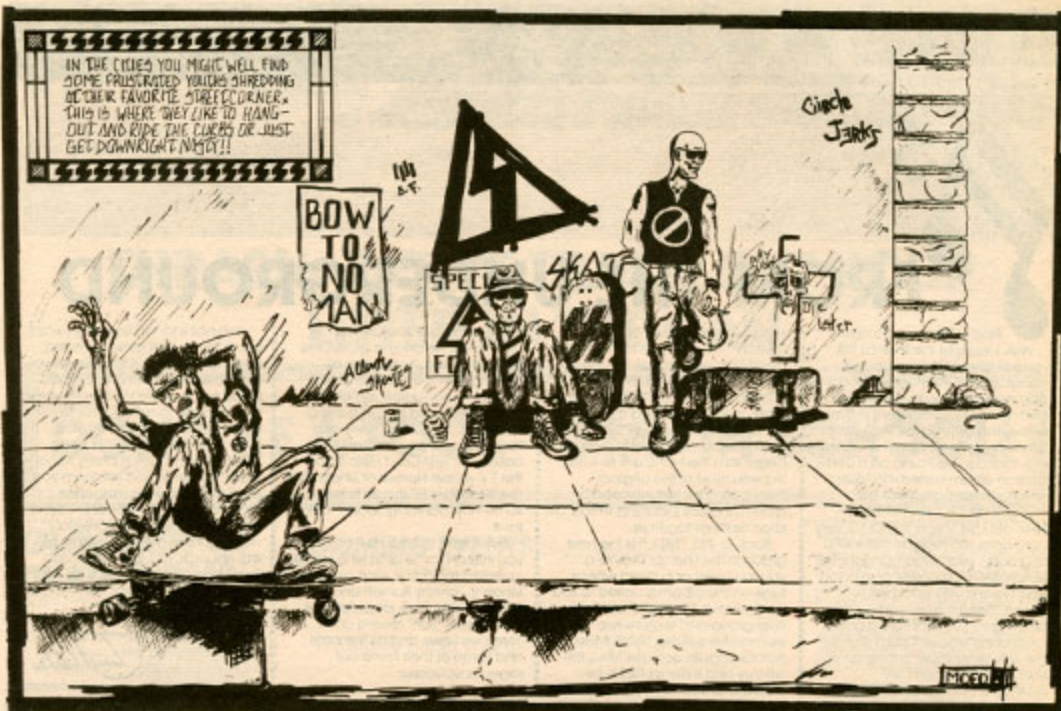
- JO ALLEN AND THE SHAPES
- THE OFFS
- THE DONUTS
- THE MUTANTS
- THE READYMADES
- SUDEN FUN
- SVT
- THE SYMPTOMS
- 391
- TIMES 5
- THE VIP'S



#### THRASHER WORLD CHART

- The Clash—Sandinista
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- Atom and The Ants
- XTC—Black Sea
- The Teardrop Explodes—Kilimanjaro
- Specials—More Specials
- The Jam—Sound Affects
- Sex Pistols
- X
- The Who—My Generation

- CLUB BANDS**
- Modelles
  - Go Go's
  - Black Flag
  - Circle Jerks
  - Two Tonas
  - Keith Joe Dick



## WILD RIDERS OF BOARDS

My name is Eddy Boy. I ride a skate. I'm in a skate gang. We're called Zeke's. Blade is our leader. He is mean. He don't take no flak. He has one enemy—Nacho Cruz, the leader of our rivals, El Varios Bandidos De Vario X. They like to clash. So do we. Here's our story.

The sun had been up for an hour already. I was late. My boss told me if I was late again I'd be canned. I quit as of today. Besides, I still ache from yesterday's clash. Fighting always makes me hungry and it smells like Ma's makin' breakfast.

"Momin' Ma."  
"Good morning Edward. Sleep well?"  
"I told you not to ever call me that, yeah I slept OK."  
"That's nice. How would you like your eggs?"  
"COOKED!"  
"Edward, why don't you have any respect? What happened to everything your father and I taught you? God rest his soul. We gave you the best of everything, but you kept breaking everything. Everything except those skateboards of yours, and Lord knows how long they'll last. Where did I go wrong?"  
"I don't know, and don't call me Edward, it makes me sick. Ma, I'm spittin'...later."  
"Oh hurry, you're running late already."

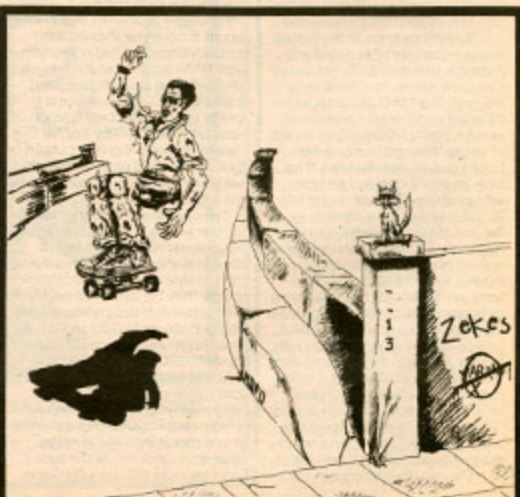
"Yeah, Right." What she don't know won't hurt. Wonder if Blade is awake by now? Maybe we can go check out the savings and loan parking lot. Rumors says it's got D.K. Banks, but the only gnarly part about it is that it's near Vario X.

The sidewalks around Blade's house are totally cool. Nice and wide for side action and the curbs are the monoral variety. Curb grinds forever is the name of the game here. If you can't ride a twenty footer with style and pull it off consistently, you ain't sheet. And when you ain't sheet, you ain't a Zeke. Right in front of Blade's house, next to the driveway, is this little ten-inch wide shelf that stands about a foot high with a totally mellow transition up to it. The maneuver here is the Otie Aerial Revert, which has taken its toll, and either makes or breaks many of the Zeke's. I went for it with a little more speed than usual (which could result in a severe Wilson) and pulled it off with extreme finesse. I then proceeded with the Zeke clamout (that involves flipping the board in the air, twisting around and catching it behind your back, then twirling it around like a baton and having it end up under the arm). I looked around for witnesses of my above-average accomplishment and saw one of the Zeke Debs in a house across the street. She waved, blew me a kiss, and pulled the curtains closed. Boy, I've wanted access to her for a long time. Maybe now I'll have a chance. My fantasy was interrupted when a voice behind me snapped:

"Eddy Boy, you jerk, don't you ever bail?" It was Blade.  
"Did you see it, Blade? Was it very high?" I replied.  
"Sheet!" He smiled, "at least a two footer."  
"Whoah." I groaned in disbelief.

"That's gotta be my record height."  
"That's the Record, Period. No other Zeke has come close to that yet!"  
"Bullshit!" I said with bubbling modesty, "you're just saying that."  
"OK, have it your way then. What d'ya say let's go skate the savings and loan, Eddy Boy. I hear it's shreddable."  
"That's why I came over, to see if you wanted to go over there."  
"Then it's settled. Let me get my stick."

As we rode downtown, I couldn't help thinking about that Zeke Deb (that's the name we call the Zeke chick groupies. They like to hang around us 'cause we're cool and tough).  
**YOU MAY BE INTRIGUED. BET YOU CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT? DEB CHICK, VIOLENCE, SEX, ACTION GALORE. BUT WHAT ABOUT NAOMI? LOOK FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER OF THIS EXCITING THRILLER-CHILLER-DILLER OF A STORY.**  
—MOFO



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