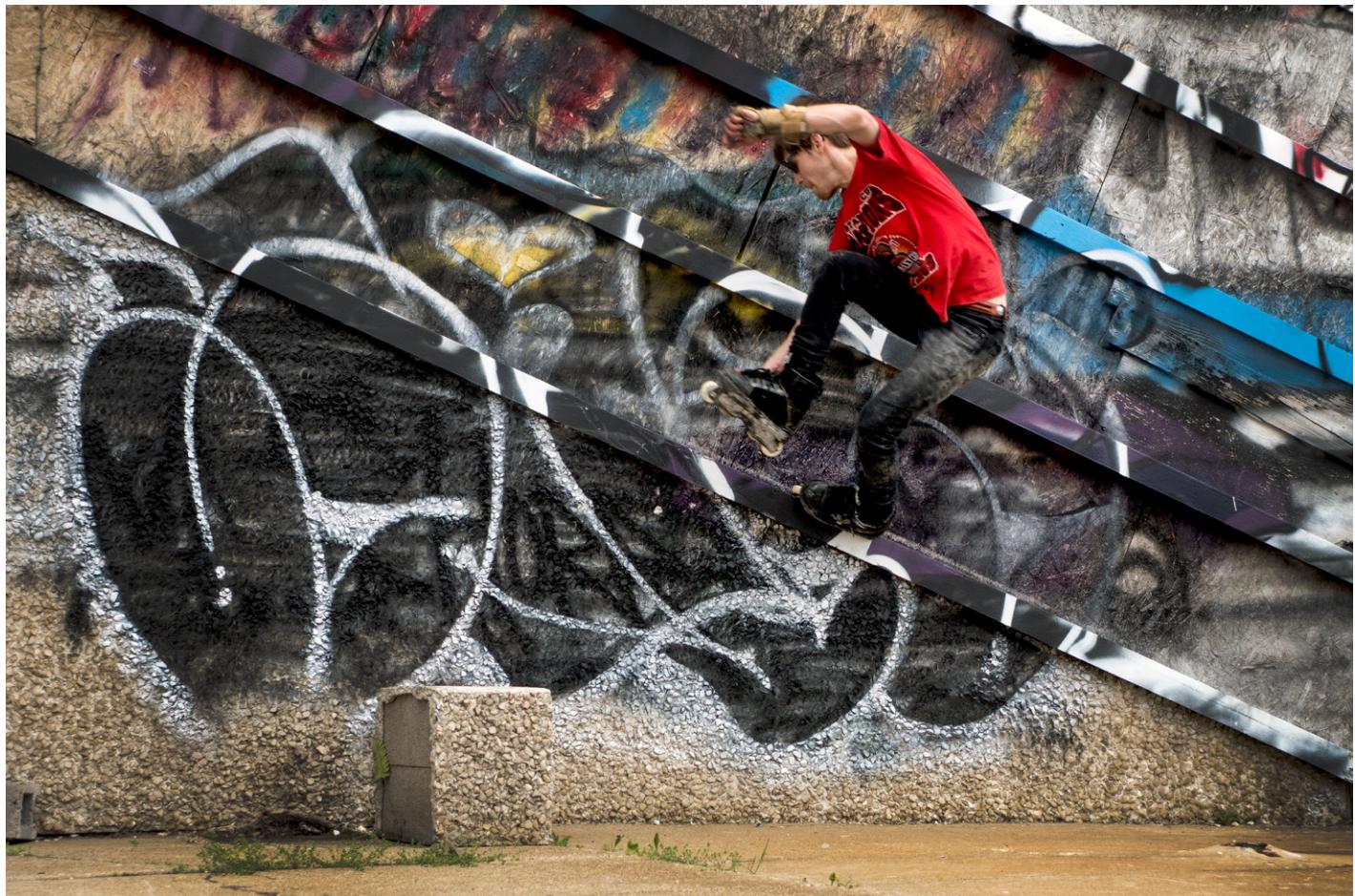


ONE DIGITAL



V.5
EDWIN
WIERINGH
COCO
SANCHEZ
2015
POW-WOW
SOUTHWEST UK
SCENE REPORT

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DON BAMBRICK / FASTPLANT AO FISH / DETROIT / PHOTO BY WEIS

DIGITAL v.5

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FRONT COVER: CHRIS LEAVER / VERTICAL SOUL STALL / PHOTO BY COOPER
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KYLE SOLÁ



Photo: Mirzoyan



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*LETTER



TIM SCHMIDT / POW-WOW IX / PHOTO BY HUMPHREY

It's been a year since the last Digi issue. DAMN! That tell you anything about how hard it is to pull all this stuff together and make a dope mag for you to enjoy, for free?!

Yeah, it ain't easy.

But nothing worthwhile comes easy. And in our circles dedication is a badge worn with pride and the corresponding scars.

Like Tim Schmidt up there. With his eye all split open from his high-speed faceplant during the 2nd Annual Inline-X race at Pow-Wow IX. Tim had been blading non-stop since before I arrived at Kona late Thursday, and he was skating on Sunday after we split. He skated in every single event he could enter. Kudos, Tim!

But since I don't talk about it in the Pow-Wow story I may as well bring it up here: we need more events for kids. Pow-Wow is great... for adults. There's camping and drinking and partying and just causing a ruckus on blades. Fuck yeah. But the thing is, if you look around the event as it's happening, you realize there's no one there under 20. Or if they are, they're a severe minority.

And putting on my adult-perspective hat for a minute, if I were a parent that accidentally brought my kids to Pow-wow, I'm not sure the spectacle would be exactly "encouraging." There were definitely local parents dropping off their skateboarding youngsters that looked around like "WTF why is there beer everywhere?" or "What's that smell?" and there was even one of our most cherished OG legends that brought his kids up to his first blade event in a long time... that had to leave because he didn't want his kids' futures to be fucked up from all the "anti-social" behavior taking place all around.

Those are not good things in a sport that needs to get more people on skates.

Don't get us wrong, we're as guilty as the rest. But we're here now, siding with the folks that realize there's more going on here than just making sure the most core and dedicated bladers have a good time.

I want to have a good time. I want my fellow bladers to have a good time. But you know what, I'd also like a future where those fellow bladers can eek out a living as bladers. To do that, we need bodies. And the best way to get new bodies on blades is to spark that interest in the younger generations.

Watching updates from Rokskilde in Denmark, ThisIsSoul skateshop is offering free blade lessons. Ricardo Lino and his multi-sport peers are touring through Africa and finding entire new populaces to entice with blade life. These are encouraging steps! We salute these guys and everyone working to expand the horizons for blading... both within the core scene and to those that have never put their foot into a wheeled boot.

We're all dedicated bladers, shaping the world to our vision. Let's take some time to think about the youngest, most open-minded future bladers that may not yet count amongst our ranks. I say we add them into the fold... and take whatever steps need be taken to make that reality possible.

BLADE ON!

JE
June 2015



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*SCENE



DUKE CITY BLADE CREW

PHOTO BY CLETUS KUHN

Albuquerque

In the heart of high desert New Mexico, nestled within the valley between ancient volcanoes and the Sandia Mountains lies a city of extensive multicultural heritage. It is here amongst the tumbleweeds and ditches that a diverse crew of bladers have been kicking up dust and making a new name for themselves. Welcome to the Duke City.

Through the mid '90s and early '00s, Albuquerque was graced with the skills of Dustin Jones, Jeremy Gallegos, Kenny Ruoff and Billy Wike, born of the first generation of aggressive blading. These guys made names for themselves and put out content for years. But over time the large crew of friends and bladers slowly withered and the local scene had appeared to die....

In 2012, Jeremy Morgan (*hecho en Nuevo Mexico* but raised in Ohio) had just rekindled his love with blading and found himself returning to the Duke City. When trips to the local parks seemed to become more isolating with each venture, it appeared he may very well have been only blader in town. Confused and desperate to discover what happened to the blading scene, he took to the interweb repetitively posting: "Any rollerbladers in Albuquerque?" Eventually our friend Marvin Chan from Chicago put Morgan in touch with us (Adam Montoya, Lance McGoldrick, and Cletus Kuhn).

Our discussions of the past and present Albuquerque blade scene made it apparent that bladers were still lurking about in the city but someone needed to lure them out of hiding. Jeremy

started ABQ Blade on Facebook that quickly began to grow, revealing a healthy mix of rollers from old crews, old men, and youngins' who were now reaching their prime. A Thursday night skate was scheduled every week and eventually a Sunday street session was mixed in.

Over the next few years the crew sharpened their skills, produced a few mini edits and started leaving the comforts of home for some well-deserved trips to other locales. Word started to spread about a scene in Albuquerque once again, and visitors began to pop up to catch clips among the city's numerous spots. The Scumpire crew visited more frequently and after a day of blading in the ditches the idea of a contest was proposed. Morgan took the idea to heart and decided to run with it and now in its second year, the 2015 event was a huge success with bladers coming from as far away as Long Beach to shred.

Currently the Albuquerque crew is working hard on preparing for the 3rd Annual Duke City Ditch Comp, planning to integrate a Donate & Skate night, turning it into a two-day event. Video projects are underway including profiles on Jeremy Morgan and Dominic Gallegos with a new apparel brand, "Hammerville," scheduled to drop summer 2015. The bladers have been productive and busy in the last few years and more determined than ever to make it known that the Duke City blade scene is here to stay. — Cletus Kuhn & Jeremy Morgan

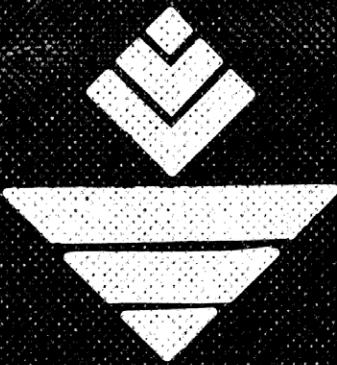


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INTUITON/VIBRALUX Riders: CHRIS FARMER - Soul through the highs ATLANTA, GA Photo: Trace Taylor

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*TAKE>5

Nils Jansons

Best Things About My New Skate:

1. They look fresh.
2. Comfort
3. Your feet stand out.
4. White and red.
5. They have got power.

Reasons to Visit Ghetto Games Festival:

1. The spirit of Ventspils city.
2. Beautiful people
3. Great skatepark
4. Seaside
5. Ghetto Burger

Why I Skate BHC Wheels:

1. Rad team
2. Great wheels
3. Passionate people involved
4. Genuine
5. Quality products

Biggest Crowds I've Blade For:

1. Winterclash
2. Winterclash
3. Barcelona Extreme
4. Laced
5. Baltic Games

Things to Remember On Tour:

1. Every day is a new beginning
2. Take care of your body.
3. Eat well
4. Wash your socks.
5. You will get out of your comfort zone so enjoy it.

PHOTO BY KASPARS ALKSNS



SEAN KEANE
ZEROSPIN MAKIO

PHOTO: CASEY BAGOZZI



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*VISUAL AID

by Drew Bachrach



Vibralux Denim – Don Bambrick

Directed by Adam Johnson

VibraluxDenimUSA.com - \$4.99

Vibralux has been on a hot streak with their recent VOD releases. Chris Haffey and Chris Farmer both brought their A-game and put out a couple of the best video parts in recent history, and for their next installment AJ decided to profile Midwest kingpin Don Bambrick. Even though Don doesn't have the magnitude of Haffey or the trick vocabulary of Farmer, you will still be watching this section over and over because of his undeniable style, spot selection and technical tricks. Shot exclusively in Minneapolis, MN and his hometown of metro Detroit over the course of 15 days, Don literally "Put in work" juggling the responsibility of being a new dad with the commitment and dedication of progressive skating. The footage of Don's true soul on the locally-famous kinked and curved "Troll Rail" is enough for the asking price alone. If you haven't already, download this one today.



Nowhere

Directed by Amir Amadi / Starring Alex Broskow

Expected release: Summer 2015

Dedicated to the memory of Brandon Negrete.

Alex and Amir have been stacking clips for the last year and are about to head into the editing room to put together this all-Portland profile. "The focus is always on the tricks" Alex told me, "But there will be some cool music and of course Amir's signature Strange Creatures filming style." He described Portland as "Different, not like a normal city. You don't just go to a schoolyard and hit 20 tricks; each spot here is a hidden gem." With a recent win at the Motor Town Classic, Alex is definitely at the top of his game. Combine that with one of today's most sought after videographers, and you have the most anticipated release of 2015. Keep your eyes out for updates about Nowhere on Alex and Amir's social channels.



Hermanos

Directed by Ivan Narez / Photography from Brandon Smith

Expected release date: Fall 2015

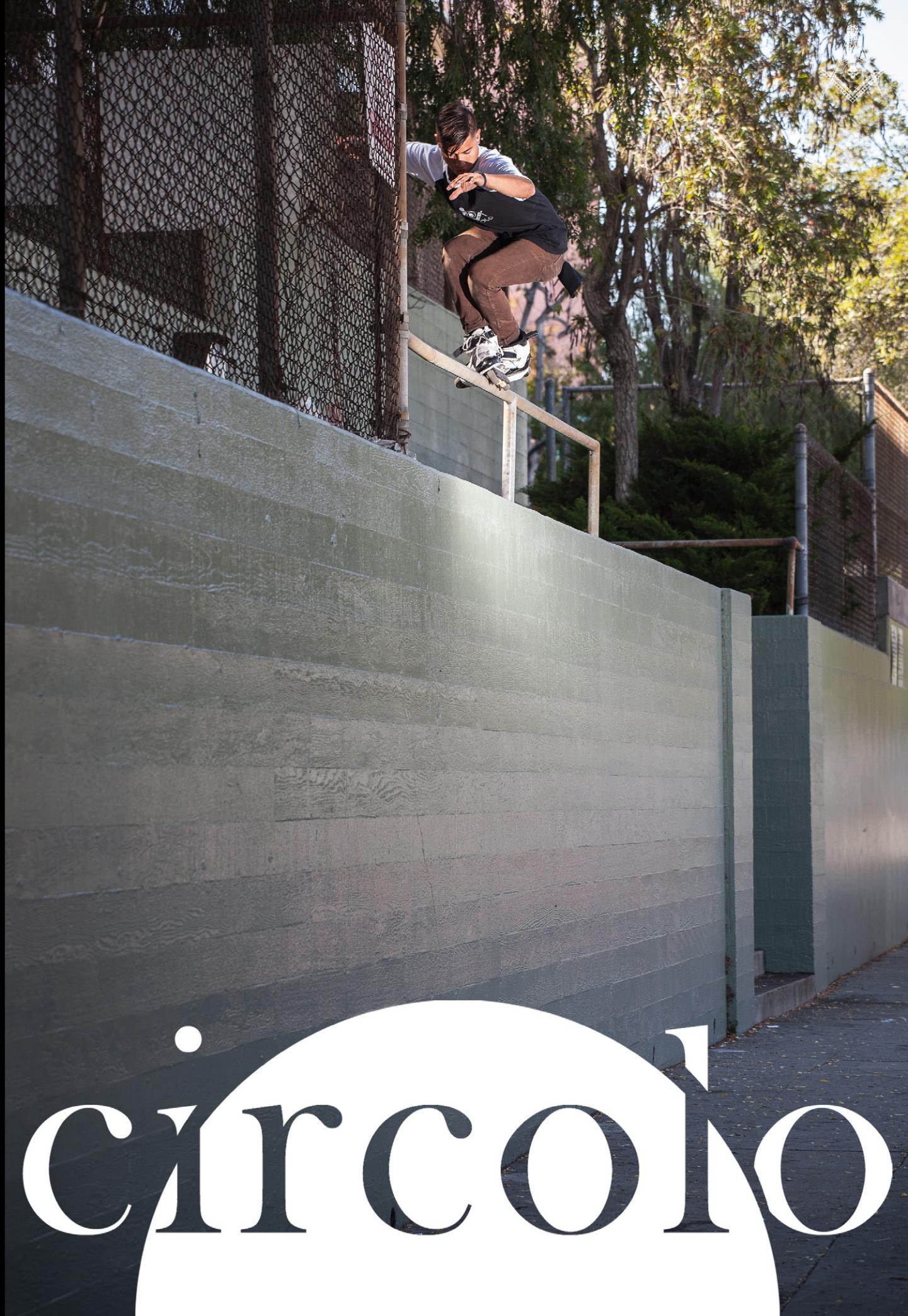
Hermanos is a self described "Tour Videomagazine" from Valo V director Ivan Narez. I had heard rumors about his project, and recently Ivan was nice enough to enlighten me on some of the basic details over the phone while he was finishing up transferring his 16mm footage up in Toronto, Canada. The *Hermanos* project turns out to be more than just a VOD. The idea was to go on tour with as many great skaters as possible, and then create a film and accompanying zine to commemorate the trip. As of now, three excursions have been completed with stops in Mexico, Puerto Rico and Australia, with a fourth trip in the works. The confirmed roster on these videos reads like a who's-who of current cutting edge blade talent: B-free, Sizemore, Carson, Vossoughi, Dave Lang, Bina and the list goes on. These trips were not sponsored, so skaters from every different clique and team were able to skate and co-exist on the road. The icing on the cake is the fact that Brandon Smith will be teaming up with Ivan to create a photo zine of each stop. If you have ever seen the *Shred till You're Dead* or *Valo V* book, you know that you're in for some beautiful photos and video.



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Circo



*SPOT CHECK



Chris Smith in ATL

Text and photos by Dustin Spengler

Dudes like Chris Smith blow my mind. Even when faced with seemingly impossible and dangerous spots they remain so level headed and mellow that you wonder if they even notice how fucking dangerous what they're trying is. I've actually talked to Chris about this before and his philosophy is "the more relaxed the more in control." I'd have to agree, and often practice breathing techniques myself before doing something I'm scared of. But dudes like Chris are on a different level. How he suppresses his adrenaline and maintains such control of his thoughts is beyond me. Hats off to you, Chris, on this goregous dark true top soul.



*INTERVIEW



Edwin Wieringh

by Randy Abels

photos by Steve Steinmetz

*Edwin "From Hell" Wieringh is the essence of what it means to be a professional rollerblader. From his past accomplishments to his present day motivation, innovation, and prowess, Edwin has stood the test of time and he continues to push himself to the limit of whatever he believes is possible in his skating. Not long ago Edwin came to San Diego on a mission to relive some old memories and make some new ones. He's someone I look up to not only as a professional blader, but also as a genuine dude always down for a good time. We are lucky to have someone like him progressing rollerblading into the future and setting a precedence of what it means to be a true professional.. – **Steve Steinmetz***



At this moment Edwin “From Hell” Wieringh is living and working in Amsterdam. From his social media posts we know he is working on a VOD with a planned release for end of this summer. We took a minute to write down some questions, threw these over the pond and got ‘em back. This is what he had to say.

Edwin it has been quit for a while, what have you been up to?

I have been working a lot lately, but luckily I have still plenty of time for blading.

The thing I have been doing is training my focus. I have been practicing it in a way so it doesn't matter if you do an easy trick or a hard trick. I started realizing that usually you fall the hardest on easy tricks and not on hard tricks. So I started to train my focus in a way that it doesn't matter what kind of trick you do, and I can tell you it's amazing. With that amount of focus you can really hit every trick that you want to do first try.

With who have you been skating lately, and what kind of cities/spots?

Usually I skate by myself because I work in the evening. Other people I skate with generally are Pascal Tan, and Tyron Ballentine when possible. I've also got some close friends that I try to session with once a week.

We've got some dope pics of your visit to SD, how did you experience that trip?

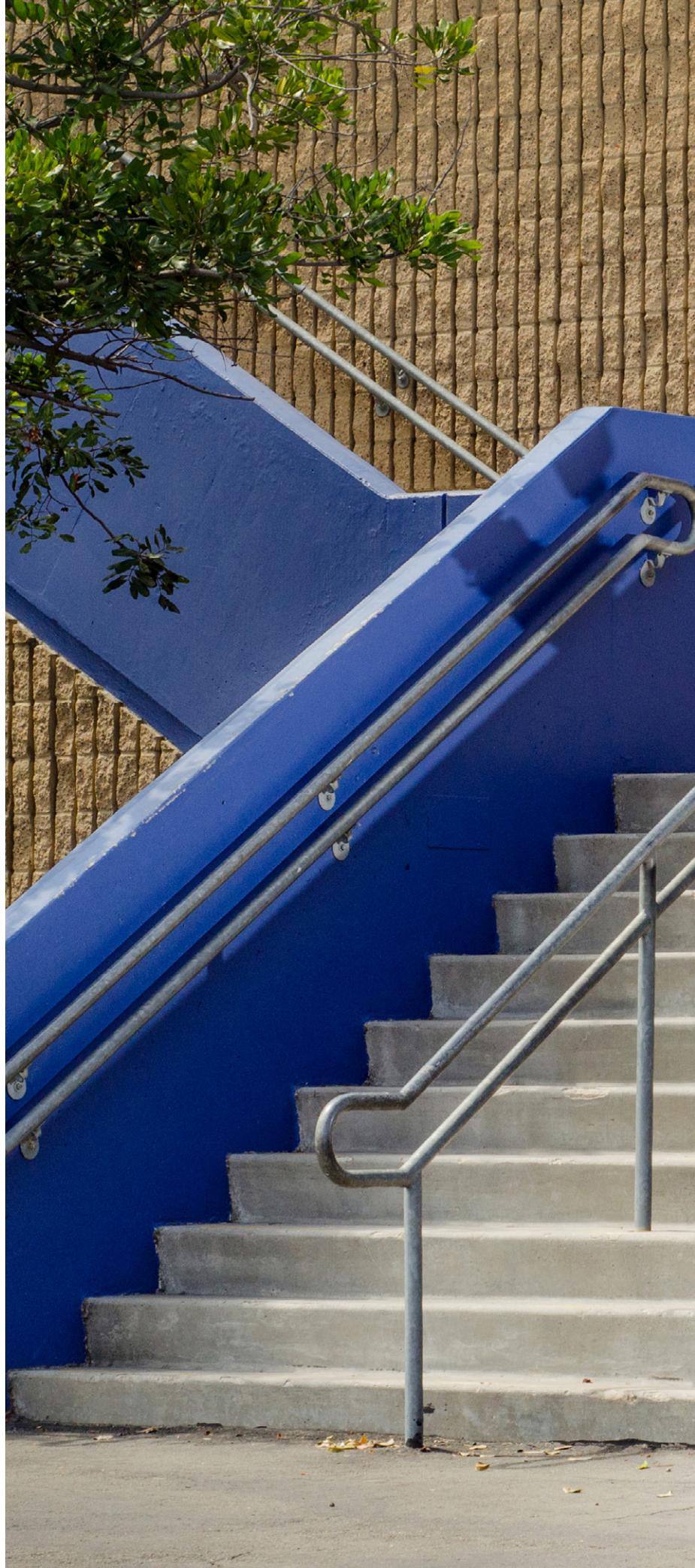
My visit to San Diego was amazing as always. The weather was super good, there was a good surf on some days... it's just an amazing city. It feels like my second home town. We got a lot of blading done and some really good clips for my next profile. I also got to see all the friends I've made there over my years of visiting San Diego.

Online you posted some clips of your new favo spot, tell us a bit about it...

My new favorite spot. This is a spot that I skate with a homemade ramp. It's a ledge that's about 6 ft. high and 12 ft. long. What makes it so much fun is that you bring a bit of skatepark to the streets because of the little ramp. So tricks are pretty much endless as what you can do on it, and I like that.

The scene has a lot of love for you, how does that feel?

It always feels good when people support the things that you do. I would like to thank everybody to who supports me. Big thanks goes to my sponsors: Razors, Fester Wheels, That Rolling Brand, and Rollhouse Skateshop. I will definitely keep doing what I do for another 10 years.

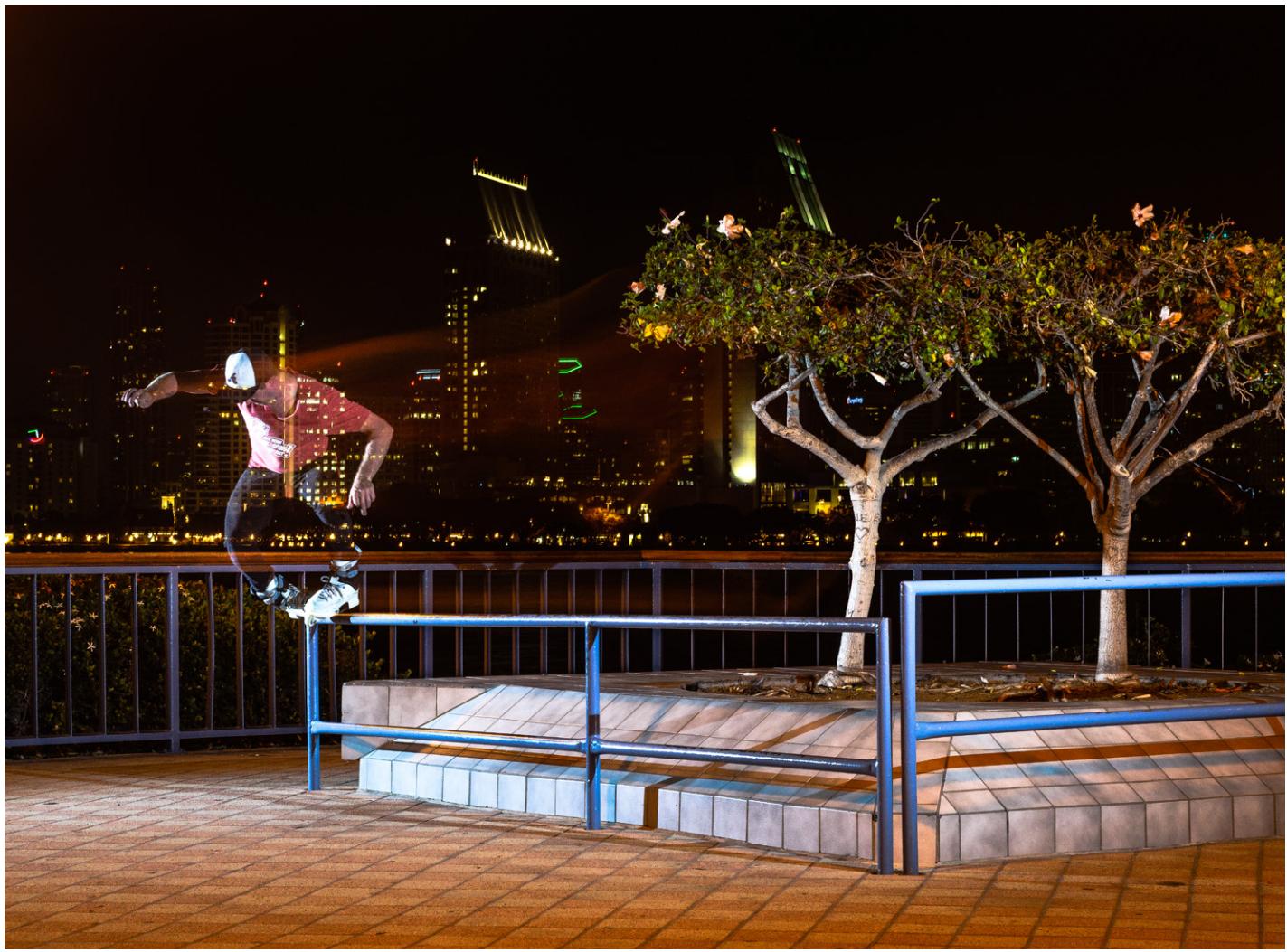




FRONT TORQUE TO FAKIE / SAN DIEGO



ROYALE TO 180 GAP / SAN DIEGO



TRUESPIN TOPSIDE SOYALE / SAN DIEGO

"It always feels good when people support the things that you do. I would like to thank everybody that supports me..."

.....

They were asking for a pro model with your name on it, did that almost happen? Is it still gonna happen?

Yeah, there was a point where we were talking about a pro skate. I'm not sure if it is going to be there, but I will be doing more than my best to try to get a skate with my name on it. So I really hope that next year we can present a skate from hell.

You've competed in several big contests, but at heart you are a true street killer. How do you feel about contests?

I find skating contests fun, but when I'm in the streets it's just like there's no end to what I can do. Of course I skate parks. There are a lot of "spin to win" tricks you can do, but to take a trick you can do in a park to the street is what always gets me excited. Lately I have been filming now for my new section. It's going to be a VOD and will be dropping in September.

Was it frustrating when the competition side of blading didn't work out for you?

Well, not really. I always have fun in blading, and when a comp doesn't work out—sure, it feels a little sucky, but then you realize there will be more comps and another chance to do better.

How is living in Amsterdam for you in general, considering you come from the northern part of the Netherlands?

Amsterdam is a really a nice city to live in. Really chill atmosphere, lots of parks where people can go and chill. I live on the south side off the city where there is a lot off green space, so you can have some nice walks in the forest. I'm for sure staying where I live now. And to everybody: Come and visit Amsterdam! You will love it.





"Edwin's skill is only matched by his awesome personality. Only a man from hell can have all that talent."

— Damien Wilson

.....

You work in a well-known Amsterdam based restaurant, how do you manage to combine that with skating?

Working in a restaurant has some advantages because I usually start working at 4 p.m., or sometimes at 6 p.m., which gives me a lot of time to skate before I go to work. I'm still trying to skate five days a week right now. It doesn't always happen, but I'm getting there.

What's the last good meal you've served?

Hahaha! Honestly, everything that the chef makes for the restaurant is just amazing. For example, this was the starter off his latest menu: tartar of seabass with wakame roasted langoustine, vinaigrette of lemon, and pearls of ginger and soya. It's fun to work with him and get good wine combined together with the dishes that he makes.

Any good wine tips for after blading?

For after blading I would say start with a nice, cold beer... to feel refreshed. Then I usually drink some stronger wines. The wine I like the best is an Oaked Chardonnay, the flavor the oak gives the wine makes it very complex.

Last thing, I would like to thank you, ONE-blademag, for this interview! It was awesome to see you last September in San Diego. Good vibes. **ONE**



ADAM BAZYDLO / BEST TRICK 540 OVER THE FENCE

*CONTEST



ERIC HALLIMEN / MISTY FLIP TRANSFER

POW-WOW IX

Text by Justin Eisinger
Photos by Corey Ozingderff

Nine years in, the Pow-Wow has become the best blade-extravaganza North America has got. The festival atmosphere, the free-for-all spirit of the Kona Campgrounds, and the early spring weather creates something that no other U.S. event comes close to touching. And with this year's addition of more events, more days, and more people, well, that could only mean one thing: Pow-Wow IX was going to kick ass.



WAKE SCHEPMAN / HALF CAB DISASTER UNITY

Dunno about you, but Pow-wow is a blade-cation in the truest sense. It's in Florida, modern stand-in as the defacto "vacation destination" for lazy Americans. It's March, when a certain sort of person is doing that Spring Break thing. And it's camping, which again is a bedrock staple of the American vacation. Toss in a couple hundred mischievous sonsabitches from around the country (and world), one of the most historically-storied and busted up skateparks in the U.S., and what essentially amounts to free reign — well, you have either experienced it or you can imagine what comes next.

All kinds of shit. That's what happening at any moment in any direction when you look around the campgrounds and Kona Skatepark. And for about 54 or so hours it's goddamn amazing. After that I suggest hightailing it the eff out and getting back to civilization. Ask yourself a question: where have all those people been shitting all weekend?

But let's not digress. This year event organizer and all-around trooper Blake Taylor added more events, like roller hockey, and the organized chaos stretched from Friday through Sunday.

Arriving late on Thursday night after stops at Big Lots and Wal-Mart (dammit!) to pick up supplies, the skate-

park was lit up and alive with a session, while the campsite had already packed up more tightly than it had been the previous year. To find a reasonable spot this guy had to post up like an island in the middle of the then-empty space away from the main tent "neighborhoods" where Texas, NorCal and... other people(?) had pitched camps. It looked ridiculous but come late Friday it was assimilated into the fold as the headcount cranked ever higher and the homies rolled in from all corners.

With the tent pitched — thanks Tim Schmidt for the help, and you two other interlopers too! — it was time to unleash the beast, otherwise known as the Sony VX2100 and Century MKII fisheye I'd procured for the trip. Hot damn Craigslist and Amazon are amazing things. I ended up out on the course sometime after midnight as Mick Casals, Cody Sanders and Adam Ehalt all got some pieces as the night dews started to collect on the ramps.

It's a point Cody is quick to point out. "Whenever everyone else was drunk and making bonfires, we were skating hard at two in the morning. Remember Mick getting that long royale cess across the deck and up the quarter? No crowd, just for fun." I remember that Cody. I won't forget. (And it's in our edit!)



"...if it was up to me it would now be called the "Can you Out-Stunt Adam Bazydlo?" contest."

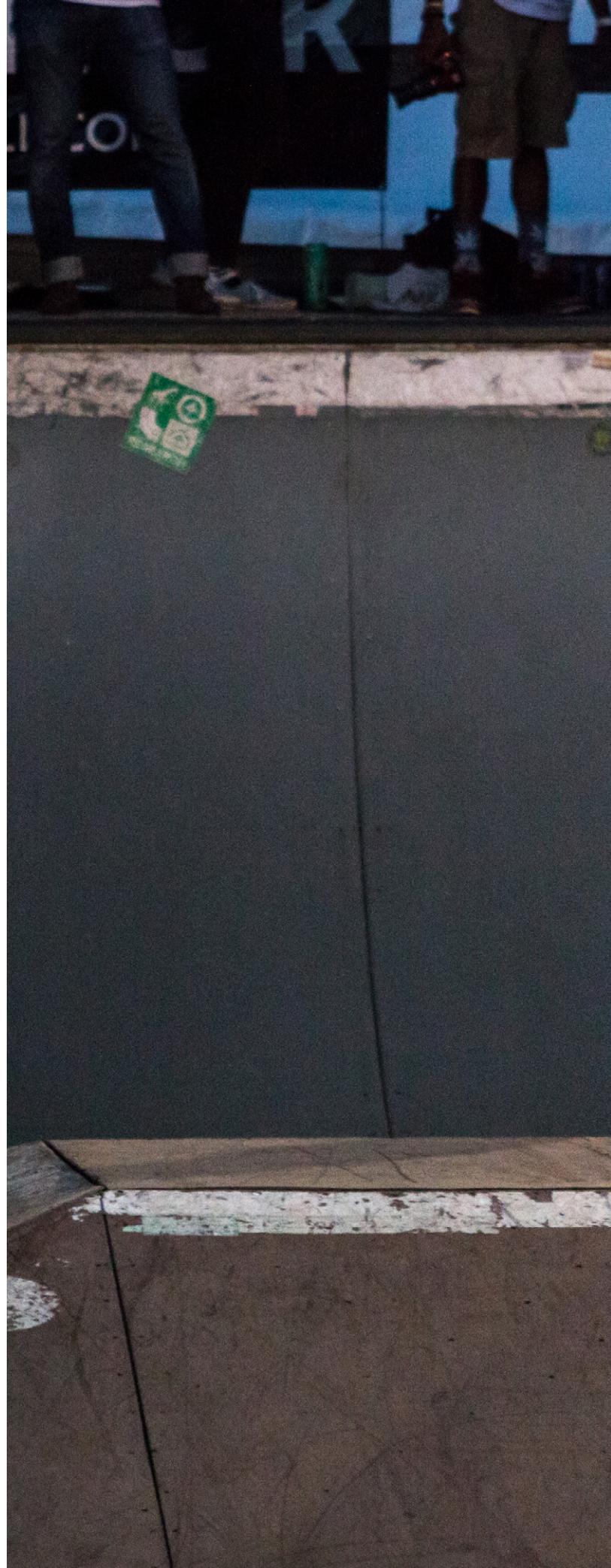
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When the sun came up Friday so began the first official long day of the trip. Initial thoughts included "Wow, lots more dogs and girlfriends," which was a perfect little jab since I'd planned to bring my wife and pup, but later on my judgement was vindicated as I saw those perky Friday a.m. girlfriend faces twist into the bitter look of "WTF are we still doing here?!?!" that became the more commonly witnessed mask by Saturday afternoon.

But those "bitch faces" can wait because Friday was a bomb day with the Inline Cross, where Julian Bah won (Mens), Coco Sanchez won (Women's), and Tim Schmidt took a straight air off the big corner and then came back next round for an epic faceplant mid-run that left the crowd stunned. But Tim remained unfazed and skated all weekend anyway. Boss moves.

After the Inline Cross, (which again for year number two remained one of the weekend's highlights. You can hate on Powerblading if you want but everyone likes watching bladers haul ass down the snakerun in groups of four, battling for the lead!) it was time for the Best Trick contest, or if it was up to me it would now be called the "Can you Out-Stunt Adam Bazydlo?" contest. (The answer is no.) Right off the bat Adam royaled the big fat rail that had been set up off the edge of the vert ramp. It was like a "Will anyone do this today?" thing and then Adam just did the damn thing perfectly right off the bat. First try. First trick. It was awesome to watch. And just because Adam saw a couple of the tricks that get described in the next paragraph, he also 540'd over the deck railing and into the small end of the snakerun. Another first at the skatepark that has been around for 38 years. And that was just the first round.

Eric Hallimen — blader from Rochester we want to know more about — threw the hugest damn misty flip transfers from the deep bowl into the snakerun. And once he'd landed that perfectly he tried a switch bio dub! Testament to his talent he nearly rolled out of that one too. Then Carson Starnes tried to jump off the top of the world into the deepest deep end, Chris Smith grinded off the vert ramp (mostly to his ass in what looked like some painful bales), Russell Day and Yuto killed the x-box down boxes, then Joey Chase took some laps down the fatty rail before Wake Schepman decided to throw half cab disaster unity from the vert ramp to the fatty rail. That ended the Best Trick comp. Adam won as he should have, but a lot of sick tricks got tried and landed.

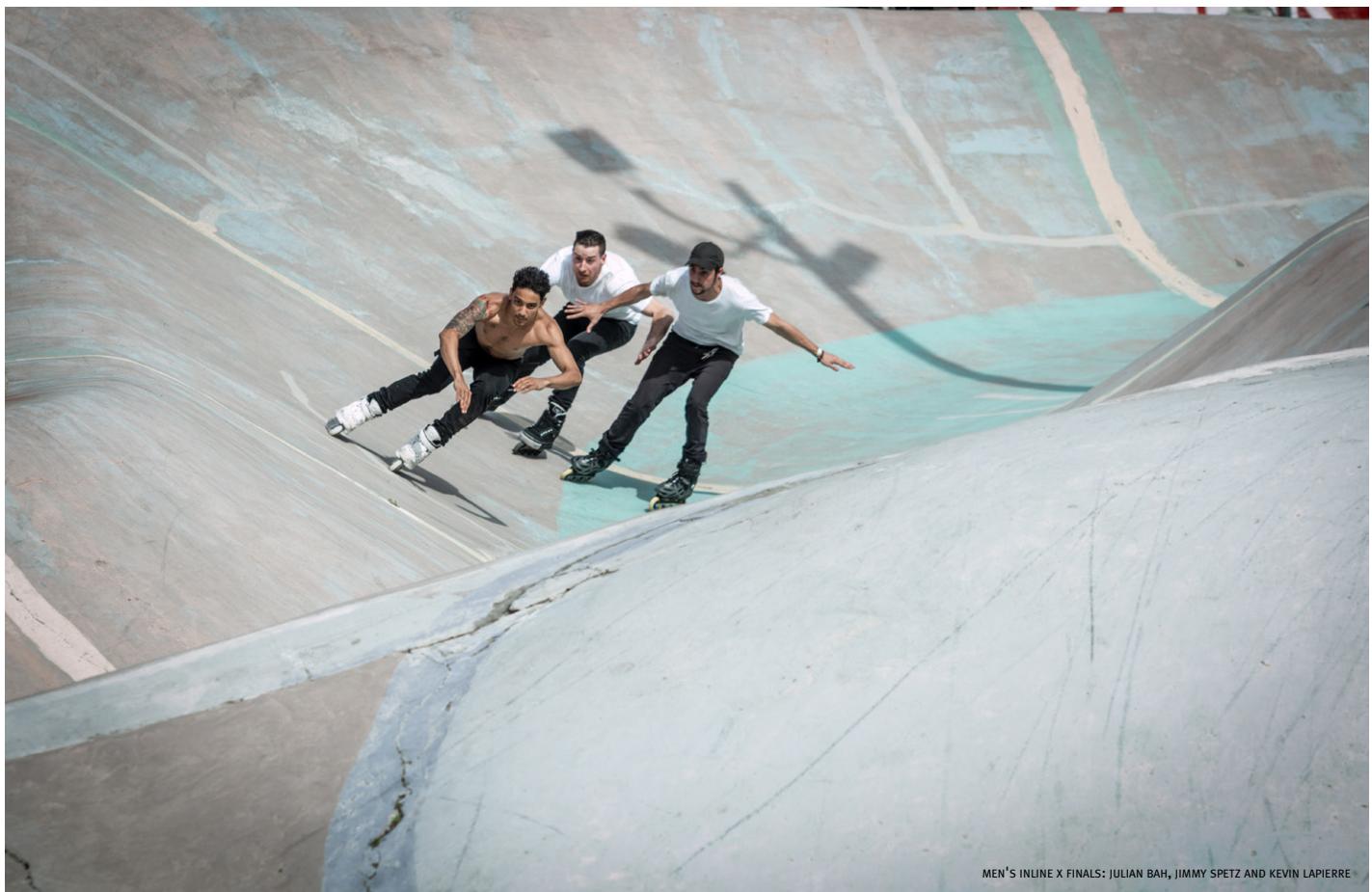




CHRIS SMITH / ZERO DARK AO ROCKET SLINK



GRANT HAZELTON / AO MAKIO



MEN'S INLINE X FINALS: JULIAN BAH, JIMMY SPETZ AND KEVIN LAPIERRE



MONTRÉ, JON FROMM AND TRACE TAYLOR



YUTO GOTO / 360 DISASTER FARSHIDE MISZOU

When we asked enthusiastic Pow-Wow fan Wake Schepman to recount his favorite memory from the weekend, he said Best Trick for sure "because of so many of the ridiculous tricks you get to see go down!" Looking back he was right on the money. What a set of back-to-back highlights!

Friday night devolved into a boozy bonfire of boys being boys and bladers being bladers and people just mingling over every square inch of Kona. Jesse James might have had one of this three or four fights that night. Who can remember? Which night did someone jump on Ben Weis' bouncy castle "penthouse" and cause all that ruckus? I don't know, and though I'm sure some care it's hardly important. Ever seen *Dazed and Confused*? Every night of Pow-Wow is like a party at the moon tower. I think my night ended at 5 a.m.

Saturday came and so did the stench from the camp shitters. Every time I walked within that foul cloud's perimeter I couldn't help but let a full-fledged "MERRY CHISTMAS. SHITTER'S FULL!" fly. I guess it was a sort of protection against that all too natural but yet completely unnatural odor. Yuck.

But away from that mess was a skate contest taking shape. Coffee jam. Vert Pro/Am. Am Qualifier. Women's

Pro/Am. Men's Pro/Am. Even now, just a few months removed from it all, I can only really remember details with the help of the edits. Oh god the edits — they show it all. Don't read this! Just watch it all instead. ;-)

If Friday was long then Saturday was forever. So much blading! And so many injuries. Outside of Josh Hayes and his broken leg, and the Jarrod Banning head-slam that was to come, there was a broken collar bone in the vert ramp, a bladie's broken arm on a stair rail, and Kevin LaPierre dislocating his hip. But Doctor Ariel Surun applied his Miyagi magic and fixed that thing right on the street course. *Brothers don't shake hands, brothers gotta reset hips!*

Who remembers the last time they watched a vert contest? Probably no one reading this article, that's who. But the vert event was well attended and featured maneuvers from Jeph Howard and Eric Hallimen and Grant Hazleton, Guy Crawford, that guy from Florida that hates me, Dave Lang, and some more I'm forgetting. There was some legit blading that went down in the very hot Florida sun, and I'll be interested to see how many new vert entries there are next year. And worth noting, in true NBA Jams fashion, it was during the vert event that Wake Schepman got "On Fire!" and he stayed that way the rest of the comp.



RUSSELL DAY / TRUE TOP PORN

Sometime after the vert contest I mentally checked out for several hours and just walked around. I think I charged my camera battery in the shop, maybe got some lunch — did stuff. That's what Pow-Wow is about, just doing stuff with friends and blading in between. Or you can go hard the whole damn time like Hallimen or Schepman or Yuto or one of the other countless bladers there that spent the whole weekend in their skates. But the thing that brought most to the grounds at Kona that weekend was the Men's Pro/Am, and as the afternoon sky took hold and the sun moved lower across the tree line, it was time for the main event.

.....

*"From dusk till dark
the street course came
alive with the thunder of
strong blading."*

.....

And oh what an event it was. From dusk till dark the street course came alive with the thunder of strong blading. David Sizemore. Jon Fromm. Adam Bazydlo. Julian Bah. Tim Franken. Carson Starnes. Brian Weis. Jon Cooley. Sean Keane. Kevin LaPierre. And of course Wake Schepman and Yuto Goto. There were smooth switches on the shotgun box. Innovative grinds to wallrides or wallrides to grinds. There was David Sizemore's top acid 540 transfer. Yuto's backslide to ao dark fishes on the shotgun/a-frame setup. And then Wake's disaster 360 top acid and misty off the top of the a-frame. For as terrible as that skatepark is (come on, be honest!) your dudes did a pretty outstanding job finding interesting lines and tricks. Again, watch the edits! It's all there... over and over again.

When all was said and done, and the judges had most likely had themselves a nice and heated debate, the results were announced: 1) Yuto, 2) Julian and 3) Kevin LaPierre. From there on out most of the night we heard A LOT of debate about the results. I don't think so much about first place, because it seemed unanimous that Yuto had killed it — but that second and third places could have shuffled differently. Ultimately who gives a shit? A bunch of bladers got together and had themselves a good ol' time. Let the party REALLY begin.

Soon guitar chords and thumping drum riffs filled the air as Modern Primitives took the stage and Saturday succumbed to wanton excess. Hungry bladers, many realizing they'd ignored their base needs like food and water all day, crowded the remaining food trucks as cans





KEVIN LAPIERRE / LAUNCH TO SAFETY 540



DAVID SIZMORE / ZERO MUTE TO FAKIE WALLRIDE



YUTO GOTO / BACKSLIDE TO DROP TRUE FISH



CHRIS SMITH / TRUE WALLRIDE TO FAKIE

and bottles were emptied of their contents. The bonfires came roaring alive. The sounds of revelry carried through the night.

Despite the new events added to extend the event into Sunday, many of us travelers had to head out before the weekend ended, and for us this was the last hurrah for conversations and hangouts, or in-person good times. With sunrise came the reminder of real life responsibilities.

As it turns out, we saw that sunrise too. This one was spent standing with Leon Basin about one foot outside my tent, just standing and talking about blade philosophy and where we want things to be and how we imagine they can get there. It seemed like some good information was shared in those pre-dawn hours as the dew collected on the grass around our feet and the sky grew paler and paler. A fine conversation on the last night of a grand blade celebration. Bl8 gawds be praised.

When I finally poked my head outside my tent a few hours later, the sun was high in the sky and beating down with the most intense heat it'd shown us yet. And all around camp sites were being rousted as people packed up to head home. I joined in, packing up the tent for another cross-country flight (this was greeny's second Pow-Wow!) and passing along stuff like pillows and sleeping mats to anyone that was staying another night. Pay it forward and all that.

One cold shower later it was time for final goodbyes. My long-time buddy Anderson from Ohio had already split so I found Blake to say congratulations on another great event, and shared the sentiment with bladers and friends I passed along the way. Though a brief Jacksonville Beach diversion was the true final adventure, all too soon I found myself alone in a rental car headed west, towards Tampa, where family and another set of traditions waited for their time in the spotlight. Our Pow-Wow IX had come to an end. **ONE**



*FEATURE

South West UK Scene Report

by Tom Laflin
photos by Sam Cooper

Nostalgia. That feeling of sentiment that embellishes our favorite memories plays an important part in all of our lives. From our early years as children, through our teens and into our adult life, the many poignant times we have create a colorful canvas that we look back on and use to mold our future selves.



GUY MILLER / MUTE INTO BANK



MATTHEW BROWN / DISASTER BACKSLIDE



"...a realization that there was a strong scene outside of the small towns and villages that we grew up in."

.....

As a rollerblader, speaking predominantly to a rollerblading audience, I am sure that many of your life's fondest memories have come through skating. Perhaps a session, favorite trip or an event has carved a golden niche a little deeper in your grey matter than an average working day. For its rollerblading inhabitants, the South-West of England has provided the stage for many of our most memorable times.

The South-West that is being referred to in this writing stretches from Lands End in Cornwall right up to the city of Bristol.

Bristol is perhaps a good place to start when looking at southern rollerblading. Built around the River Avon, the city has housed many of our most notable skaters over the years. In the '90s, bladers from all over the South would make the trip to Bristol's Skate and Ride Park to skate and watch local shredders like Guy Crawford, Al Roberts and Doug Peel-Yates. Bristol's hometown heroes grew over the years with people like Chris Maher, Al Jones and James Van Gowler to name a few. With rollerblading and many of its participants in their infancy and without the use of the internet for communicating, we relied on our parents for lifts and hoped that when we got to the big city there would be other skaters to session with.





MATT SMITH / TOPSOUL

THE
PINNSULA
ARTS
WITH





The skate sessions in Bristol helped forge one of the most integral, national and international companies in rollerblading: BHC. Mark Trebble has worked tirelessly against the financial shit-storm of maintaining an economically viable rollerblading business, giving skaters incredible wheels, well designed clothes, and DVD's that portray skating at its highest level. Trebble and the other Black Hearted members have undoubtedly created the South's most valuable blading export.

Along with Bristol, other cities have nurtured a lot of the area's rollerblading talent. Plymouth, Exeter and Truro have all played host to small competitions and acted as the meeting spots for many skaters.

.....

"Bristol helped forge one of the most integral, national and international companies in rollerblading: BHC."

.....

In the early 2000s Devon's Jamie Harris and Olly Baker would garner troops through our Geocities message board and head to the city of Plymouth to hold the South Devon True Street Comp. The first SDTSC went better than expected with a huge turnout and good weather, helping make for a solid day of skating. Tom Martin's rail wizardry that day sealed his notoriety and led him to becoming a well-respected and recognized name nationally. New acquaintances were made and sick skating went down. In hindsight it was perhaps a notable turning point for a lot



ROB ABBOT / CAB BIKE 540



NIKO SALAMAN / STALE 180



NICK BONE / SOYALE



SWITCH BACKSIDE / KINGSPORT, TN

"...we were the rural equivalent of the Wu-Tang Clan, only paler and about as gangster as the Backstreet Boys."

.....

of our region's blading community, with bonds being made and a realization that there was a strong scene outside of the small towns and villages where we grew up.

Inspired by Dave Paine's BMC videos, we in the South had our own group, The Illiance. It wasn't a body of people or crew defined by any single person necessarily, but it encompassed anyone who was willing to spend their weekends and holidays shredding. Olly Baker, Jamie Harris and Si Glover would document a lot of the skating that went on and post on the usual skating message boards. Looking back at some of the old footage you would be forgiven for thinking that we were the rural equivalent of the Wu-Tang clan, only paler and about as gangster as the Backstreet Boys.

Moving on from those heady days the South-West's scene has been well maintained by the older and younger guys that call it home. Exmouth's Nathan Hadley and Adam Wallis have helped keep people on social media excited about USD's greatest skate ever, and Budleigh's Tom Smith is a co-founder of The Blade Museum where you can take a little trip down memory lane.

The actual skating is staying on point too. Our zider swigging yokels Mark Worner and Guy Millership continue to put huge amounts of time and dedication into filming and editing the region's finest bladers, from the Cornish boys in the Deep South all the way up to Dorset and the Jurassic coast rippers.

"...like it or not, they will become the torch bearers for southern rollerblading."

.....

Over the past twenty years the South-West has made a strong contribution to our national rollerblading scene. In the past we had Tom Hole and Jason Davies gracing the pages of the now defunct Unity on a monthly basis. Nowadays we have the likes of Matt Smith and Bobby Boulders putting solid work in.

So what part does the South West of England have to play in rollerblading's future? In economic terms alongside the successful BHC outfit, we have Slaptap Skate shop. Chris Leaver took the reins from Mike Gogerty in 2013 and has been working hard to make it the go-to online skate store for the UK. In actual blading terms, two names spring to mind: Connaire Skerrit and Niko Salaman. From Weymouth and Bristol respectively, these two represent our freshest talent. Both have an ability that is perhaps beyond their years on blades and whether they like it or not, they will become the torch bearers for southern rollerblading.

Although rollerblading might not have the finances that it did in the '90s, or even the amount of practitioners, we in the South-West are lucky to still have a very strong scene. Let's hope that with our successful companies and emerging talent we can continue to push our sport in a part of the world that doesn't necessarily lend itself to an activity which was born on the beaches of Southern California. Judging by the South-West scene now, I say we can. Here's to the next twenty years. **ONE**





*PICKS

A wide-angle photograph of a large, smooth concrete bowl at a skatepark. The bowl curves upwards towards the left. In the background, there is a dense forest of green trees under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

Adam **EHALT**

trick: parallel 180
location: kona skatepark
skates: valo
frames: ground control
wheels: eulogy
photo: oringderff



Lui SUMMER

trick: mute to wallride
location: austria
skates: xsjado
frames: fifty-50
wheels: conspiracy theory
photo: summer/dreyse





Chris **COUTURE**

trick: fishbrain to gap 180

location: san diego

skates: razors

frames: ground control

wheels: circolo

photo: steinmetz



Garret **MITSCHELEN**

trick: backside torque
location: san diego
skates: valo
frames: ground control
wheels: haunted
photographer: steinmetz







Sammy GARLAND

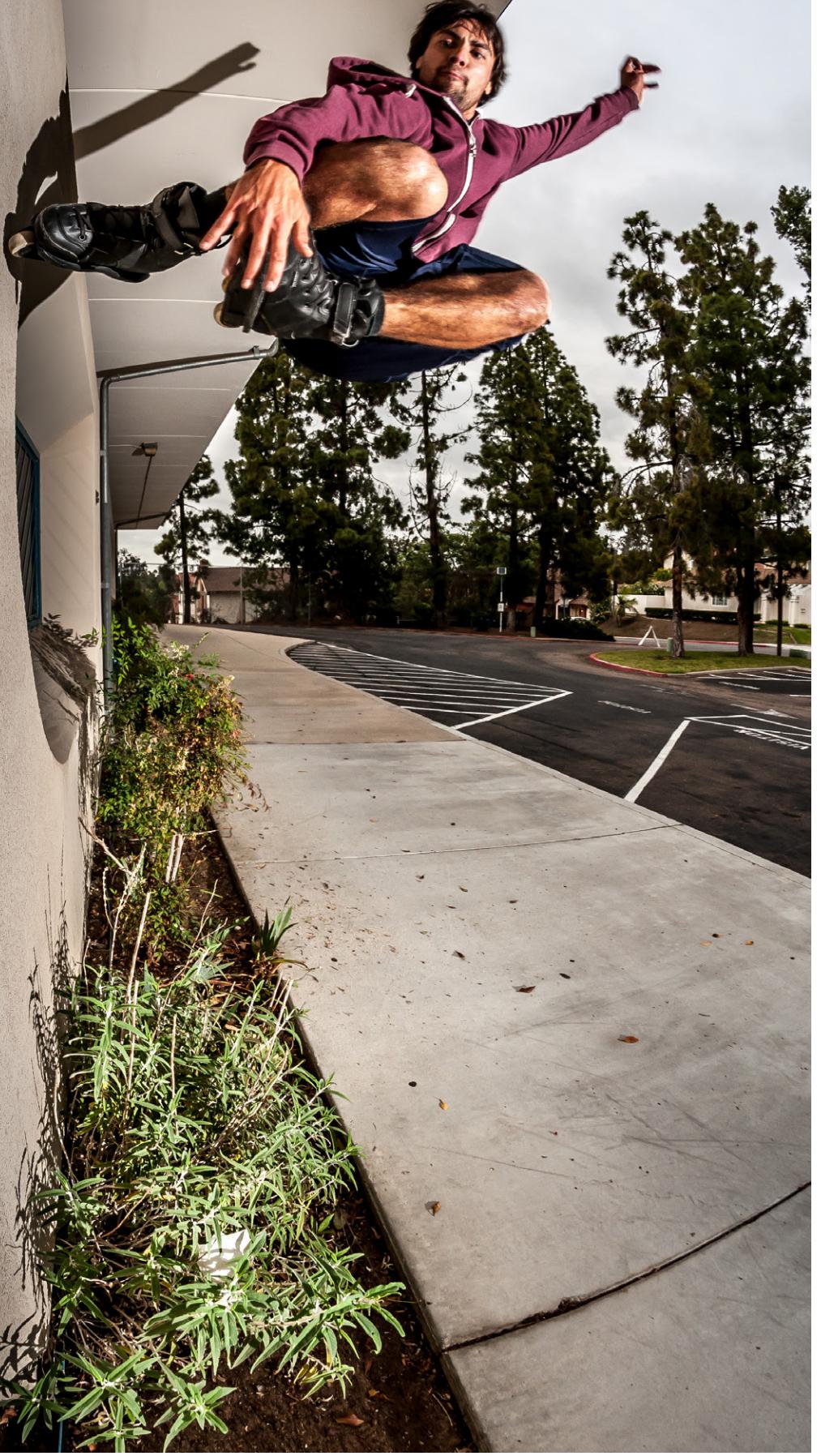
trick: pornstar to back backslide
location: manchester
skates: razors
frames: ground control
wheels: bhc
photographer: cooper





Michael **FROEMLING**

trick: makio
location: milwaukee
skates: seba
frames: youth
wheels: whatever
photographer: kilpatrick



Derek **HALL**

trick: wally to mute wallride
location: san diego
skates: adapt
frames: create originals
wheels: sic urethane
photographer: macgowan



Ganesh**RIOS**

/////////
trick: topside pornstar
location: cantabria
skates: razor
frames: ground control
wheels: undercover
photographer: de la iglesia





Chris **FARMER**

trick: soul
location: detroit
skates: xsjado
frames: youth
wheels: street urethane
photographer: weis

Elliot **STEVENS**

trick: stale 180
location: manchester
skates: valo
frames: ground control
wheels: eulogy
photographer: cooper









Brian **WEIS**

/////////
trick: backslide to fakie
location: detroit
skates: ssm
frames: ground control
wheels: haunted
photographer: martin

*SPOTLIGHT



COCO SANCHEZ PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF LINETT

Coco Sanchez

by Justin Eisinger
photos by Jeff Linett

From the basketball courts where dad coached her team to the skateparks and street spots of the world, one young woman followed her passion for skating all the way to the pros. Coco Sanchez is a globe-trotting professional inline skater for Rollerblade that performs all across the U.S.A. with legendary sports entertainment group All Wheel Sports. And life shows no signs of slowing down. Whether she's in Amsterdam or Shanghai, Jacksonville or Long Beach, on stage or in front of the camera, Coco goes at life with 100% and does it her way. Now find out what inspires this athlete to challenge conventions wherever she goes.



AO FISHBRAIN / VENICE BEACH



COCO SANCHEZ PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF LINETT



COCO SANCHEZ PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF LINETT



COCO SANCHEZ PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF LINETT

Where did you grow up, and when did you relocate yourself to the west coast?

I've been brought up everywhere: west coast, east coast, down south. I made my way back to Cali in '09. I've currently been living — still also growing up — in Long Beach, Ca.

At what age did you first discover inline skating?

I've been skating since I can remember. Roller rinks in elementary school led to speed skating, then to aggressive skating. I guess going really fast in a circle wasn't enough for me. By the time I hit the skatepark, I was about 11.

How did that sit with your parents? Were they supportive of your choice to skate, or did that cause friction for you?

My mom bought me my first pair of aggressive skates. I can recall an argument between my parents shortly after I received the big birthday present. It's a male-dominated sport and I was already passionately involved with basketball too, which my dad coached. My dad got over it and became my number one fan when I won the first competition I entered. I quit basketball and as a family we traveled the south from contest to contest staying relevant in the blading industry.

What about any gender bias within blading... or any action sport really; is that something you've encountered?

How did you deal with it?

At this time in my life, I'm so motivated to progress my own set of skills and help the sport prosper that I don't let myself get distracted by anything gender bias related. It all comes down to what you really want. If you want it bad enough, you won't let such negative encounters disrupt you and the vision.

But it's not necessarily a bad thing to be skating with a bunch of eligible bachelors, is it?

It's not a bad thing at all. In the relationship department, I've run into many lessons good and bad with dating other athletes. I have skating to thank for introducing me to Austen Seaholm (pro skateboarder) who I've learned so so much from, both skating wise and in everyday situations. You learn from past relationships until you find one that keeps you hungry to succeed in this life.

In other sports there's "amateur" or "professional," what's your status within inline skating? And how did you earn it?

Starting January 1st, 2015 I signed with Team Rollerblade as a paid and competitive rider. This is the first time in my career where I'm under contract that requires certain expectations from both sides. I'm also on salary which is awesome!! I strive to turn those heads who are unfamiliar with this sport.



COCO SÁNCHEZ PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF LINETT



COCO SÁNCHEZ PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF LINETT

That's all I concentrate on and it seems to be working. Rollerblade's decision in adding me to their pro team gives my vision a massive boost of determination.

**How much traveling does a professional inline skater do?
Where all have you been to blade?**

Traveling is one of the greatest parts to being a professional athlete. I've had the opportunity to travel all over the U.S., different parts of China, and Europe. Beijing, China is the most interesting place I've been to. It's always a pleasure visiting that country. I'd say I fly out every two or three months to either a competition or a show.

Have you spent much time competing in organized events? What have those experiences been like for you?

I compete in as many competitions as I can get to. The Asian X-Games and the KIA World Extreme Games are a couple of the top events that I've had the opportunity to compete in. Located in Shanghai, China, these events come with nerves and excitement, as skating so far from home can feel unfamiliar. Nerves help me while under pressure, so I suppose it's not so bad after all. This week, I'm off to Amsterdam for the largest event in the blading community, Winterclash. It will be a fun one! Wish me luck.

Tell us about the group you tour with, All Wheel Sports. Who's in charge of that and how did you get teamed up together?

I've been a part of the All Wheels family for seven years now. I was recommended by a former cast member. Every summer a select few athletes perform in shows at theme parks around the country. There's about five locations right now. I perform in Sandusky, Ohio at Cedar Point. Jill Transki, the director and the person in charge (aka MoM) takes a variety of sports and their athletes and choreographs a nail-biting, fun and exciting show for audiences of all ages. The show can consist of blading, bmx, scootering, gymnastics, dance, parkour, tramp wall, etc. They specifically look for interesting or unusual talents that gives the performance an all around unique feel. I'll be off for another season this May! YAY!

Have you learned anything unexpected from being part of a multi-sport group?

I learned that if you truly trust the group of athletes you're working with it makes for a much more exciting show. The previous summers you'd have the bmxers flipping over someone while you're doing a trick under them. If you don't trust one-another..."OFF WITH YOUR HEAD!" No, but seriously, it could get ugly. Trust is key. The greatest part about





COCO SANCHEZ PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF LINETT



COCO SANCHEZ PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF LINETT

"no matter what you choose to do... make your decision count."

.....

All Wheels Sports is that Jill takes these athletes who are involved in different sports and brings them together creating lifelong friendships. It's the absolute greatest job to have.

Was it fun to go through hair/wardrobe then strap on your boots and hit the skatepark?

This shoot wasn't easy. It was the first modeling experience I've done that involved my skates. The wardrobe was hard to control while rolling around. The stunning long dresses were dragging behind me, sometimes even being rolled on. The corset dress was my favorite outfit but, that being said, we had to get the shot quick due to not being able to breathe properly. It was difficult for me to keep my focus deep within the lens while distracted with these problems. But at the end of the day, it makes it that much more rewarding. Looking back at the work that Jeff, Gordan, and myself created is a gratifying feeling.

What's the most surprising thing that's happened to you through being an inline skater?

Running into familiar faces while traveling the world is pretty surprising. You never know who you're going to bump into. And every single time is a happy moment.

Any words of wisdom for aspiring athletes out there reading this?

Blading isn't the most popular sport. I think it's safe to say we know what happens when someone or something isn't so "popular." I'd like to say that no matter what you choose to do in your lifetime, make your decision count. For yourself, and nobody else. How could anyone possibly understand your true roots, your feelings, your passions? They can't and they won't, although they'll put in their two cents anyway. Just be yourself 100% of the way. Start now and don't look back. And if you start to look back, shred through your head. Dream it, see it, believe it. Stay shredding.

Well thanks for your time and best of luck with everything. We look forward to seeing what you get up to next!

No, Thank you! I'm looking forward to it! **ONE**



GEAR REVIEW: Circolo Street Magic Wax

by ONEblademag
photos by Circolo

Suddenly wax is a big deal in blading. Social media feeds are filling up with "support" and "sponsor" edits for seemingly small operations that are melting down wax, adding lubricants then selling that material to shops. It's kinda like the Paper Street Soap Company in *Fight Club* – but instead of combustables we're talking about stuff to make concrete, wood and metal slide for your blades. And after several weeks of extensive testing between competing wax companies, the regular parafin wax you can buy at the grocery store, and a candle your mom left out in the bathroom, we can confidently state the following: this stuff works.

ONE

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