

pop

Jackson Allen Matt Maunder Anne-Flore Marxer Mark Meddows Ryan Wilson
Tristan Still Nathan Gamble King of the Rail James Catto Lukas Huffman Jess Gibson



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After last chair. Mt Hotham, Victoria.
Photo: Sam Chisholm.

People

34 Tristan Still

Tristan is quite the resourceful photographer. Besides tracking down one of only a handful of large format Polaroid cameras and bringing it to Sydney, he's also got plans to modify a 20"x24" home built pin-hole camera to shoot skateboarding.

54 Anne-Flore Marxer & 50 Jackson Allen

Transworld Rookie of The Year, Ms. Superpark and a bangin' part in Ro Sham Bo; Anne-Flore seems to have it pretty figured out. She gives us the low-down on being a female rider in a male dominated sport and her love of American food. Meanwhile, Mark Catsburg catches up with Jackson Allen and asks him a load of questions about what its like to be a 'Jackson.'

60 Ryan Wilson & 64 Mark Meddows

Ryan Wilson is living the dream. We caught up with him between New York, Sydney and his hometown in New Zealand to get all the deets on hanging out with the DC Team and skating in Australia. Mark Meddows is on the other end of the skateboarding scale, he's about to get married and prefers to keep it pretty low key.

48 James Catto

Not your average surfer, Catto has got an attitude and style all of his own. We catch up with him to find out what its like to be a Free Surfer. That is, he gets all the perks like travel, parties and epic sessions all over the globe like a competitive surfer, but doesn't have to wear a fluoro singlet.



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Lukas Huffman and Jess Gibson have been busy working to give us something different.

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We didn't think we could do it again. But we re-trained our research monkey's to look at skate mags.

Enders

068 boost kotr

There were a few 'kings of' contests this year but this was the only one we could get photos of therefore it's probably the best.



Cover: Matt 'Mullet' Horne showing us why skating is so satisfying. Inward Heel on lock.
Photo: Sam Chisholm.

Sam Chisholm shot the cover using a Bronica Sq-ai with an 80mm lens at f8 1/500sec on Velvia 50 film.

POP Magazine is Rick Baker and David Keating.

Thanks to Chris Boardle, Chris Jepson, Cam Stynes, Andrew Wood, Tory & Lauren, Dan Himbrechts, Sidey, Marc & Drew, JK, Joely, Katrina McGarry, Jess Gibson for the encouragement, Blotto, Brenner & Josh, John Pemberton & Forest Mars Snr (via Sam Oz).

HiThere@popmag.com.au
P.O. Box 83
Balnarring, Victoria, 3926
www.popmag.com.au
www.myspace.com/popmag



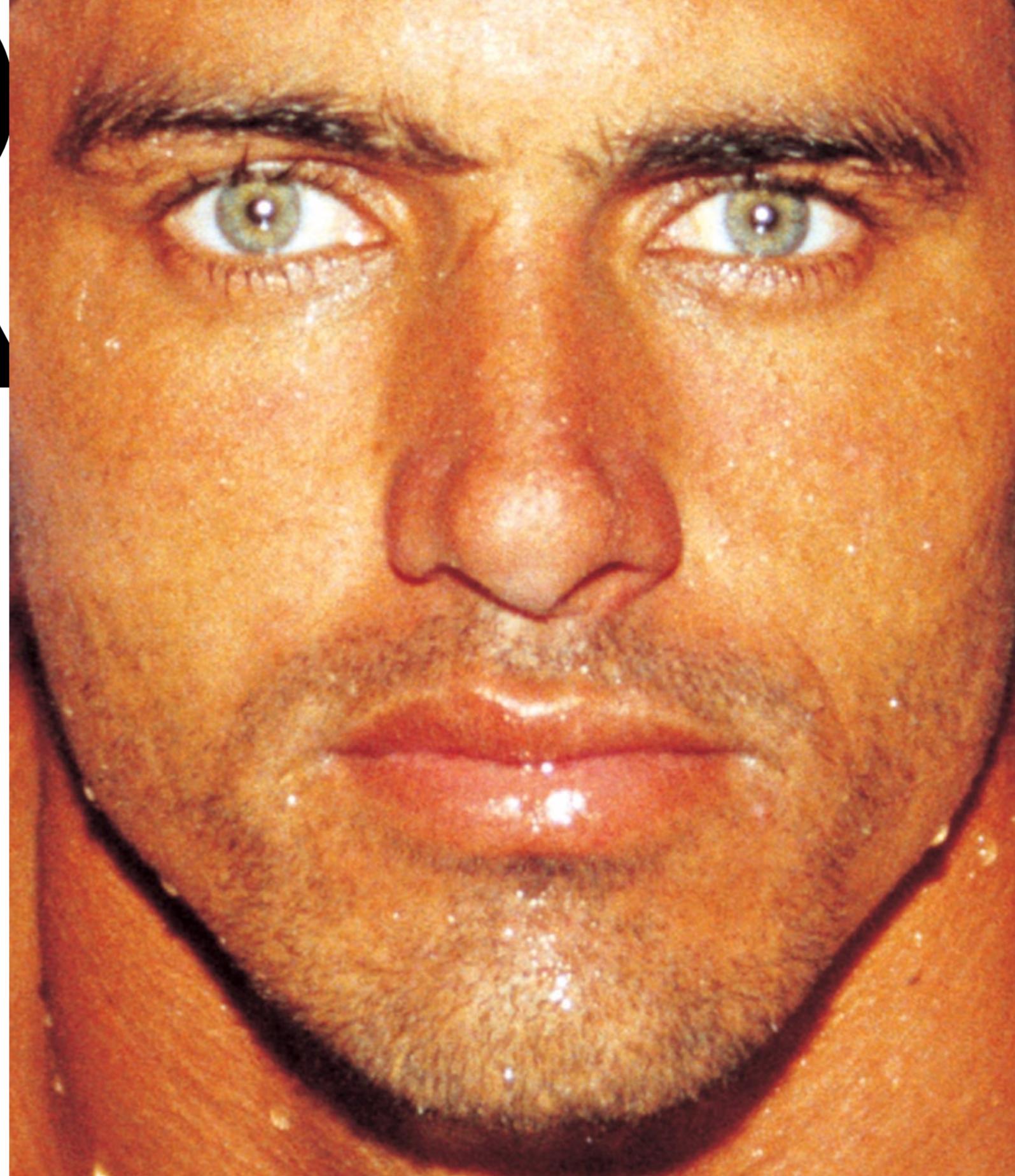
Troy Simonit. William Street, Sydney.
Photo: DanHimbrechts.com

SL&R

KELLY SLATER
8X ASP WORLD CHAMPION



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verte

Volcom's an Inker.

"What would you call it if someone draws something and then another person draws the same thing, right on top of it?" Banky would call it an Inker, the Collector would call it a Tracer. Volcom, 'a family of people not willing to accept the suppression of the established ways' (actual quote from website), has once again moved against the establishment by coincidentally producing the same logo design of New York label Verte. 'How bad can it be?' I hear you say... Well for starters Verte means 'green' in French. Volcom came up with Verde, this means - wait for it - green! In Spanish! If only the similarities stopped there... Anyway, I hope that Volcom isn't giving up too much of its half a billion US in market value to its design team, but if they are swinging a bit of cash around... I've got a great idea for a brand I'm going to call Billa-Quik-Curl. A footnote here: this is pure hack journalism based on internet rumours that are almost certainly true. So don't believe everything you read.



Welcome to my home you broke mother fkers...**

Keep an eye on MTV's Crips 'cause one of the founders of Globe shoes, Stephen Hill, has just splashed out on a new pad. Well actually... he parted with \$20 million for a house he's going to bulldoze so he can build his dream home. Shoe closet? He's got his own sweatshop bitch! However Globe Apparel is sure to see a rise in quality, credibility and style as Dave Snow,

takes charge. Not only is Dave the bassist for BlueLine Medic, he's also one of the nicest guys you'll ever meet. If the rumours are correct he has gained himself complete control over the label and has some good things happening. Which is a great if the boss is going to keep bulldozing \$20 million houses... Which brings me to my last bit of Globe Intl. news for this issue - a few weeks ago Globe successfully shed itself of all the fashion brands it was carrying. These were purchased by Pacific Brands, owner of Bonds. This is going to be a good thing for Globe as it can now re-focus on being a core skate company and doing what it's good at. PS. \$1 AUD is enough to buy a controlling share in Globe right now. Ever wanted to run a skate company? Get into it!

Extreme TV.

Have you ever been watching Yahoo's Extreme Action Channel and thought "Man, I'd like to be that extreme." Well you're the demographic Fox8 is after with its new show RA. And oh yeah... go kill yourself! It is rare to come across such a blatant attempt at selling out our entire industry in such a cringe-worthy fashion. And the pain begins with the tag line - 'If it's extreme, you can see it on RA'.



Boost FuelTV show DVD.

If you're a bit disappointed that this issue took a little longer than usual to get into your hands then take some comfort in the fact that POP Magazine now produces TV shows. We made a FuelTV and DVD for the the Boost King of the Rai. The free DVD will be out soon. You can catch the trailer on popmag.com.au.

SL8R

Kelly Slater Wins... Again.

What more can I say? I mean really... who's challenging this guy? You know, they should just hand the prize to him and save everyone from having to get wet and cold just to lose. Kelly lost the final round to Bobby Martinez but still walked away with the title based on points. It's time to add a handicap, like in horse racing, only Kelly should have to compete with a few sharks in the water and a few kilo's of raw meat attached to his ankles... Now that's extreme. Maybe someone should tell RA.

POP Magazine's Snowboarder of the Year.

Okay here's another little announcement. We're holding the first Annual Australian Snowboarder of the Year awards night in April 07. Keep your eyes on the website for the voting form that will be available over summer. Our nominations committee will be working around the clock as soon as we let them know about it. And keep your nights free in April as the after-party will be a free-for-all = WOAH!

Stephanie Gilmore's got coin...

Stephanie Gilmore got some mad cash for her amazing win over Layne Beachley at the Haviannas Beachley Classic. The top prize was \$20k and she is now placed 2nd on the WQS in only her second full year on the tour. I don't know what she has planned for her cash but just for her info... 20 large will get you 2,100,200 Malawi Kwacha on today's rate. Being that African kids are the latest accessory, you should be able to pick yourself up a nice orphan for that amount. Something similar to Madonna's... but do the right thing and pick an actual orphan, not one that

still has parents. Madonna sucks at this whole orphan/adoption thing.



Zephyr Store to be Demolished.

The owner of the site at 2001-2011 Main St., Santa Monica, the site of the original Zephyr store, is looking to demolish the building and redevelop the site. The store has not been there since 1987 but it is an iconic spot for most skateboarders and surfers so there is a growing number of people looking to gain the site a status similar to that of a heritage listing.



The Mountain and the Wave.

Quiksilver is releasing a 320 page tell-all expose of their company due out this November. The story takes you from its early beginnings sewing together boardshorts using old milk cartons and having to live off gravel sandwiches right up to its current day, which as we know from previous issues of POP includes Quik workers with private jets meeting strange women in London and chartering boats to sail aimlessly around the globe. Hey, that's what I'd do if I was running a billion dollar company. The book's called The Mountain and the Wave and will be available through your local surf shop.

Ender.

There's a bit more hate on this page than usual. Sorry, we're only joking! No one reads this magazine anyway...

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PSC

SKATEBOARDING



PSC Toga Party
The facilitator aka: "The Grayson" hosted his second annual Toga party, and it was...a place that embraced "unique" people so that not only did they feel comfortable, they felt amazing wearing nothing but a sheet! It was the sort of shindig where you could practice flicking peanuts into your mouth without being overly concerned about dropping a few on the floor. Yes, it was the kind of get-together that encouraged air guitar and was in no way adverse to the host mastering his four wheel motor cycle in the backyard whilst pissed. It was like a safe house for weirdos that created a truly unique melange' of Peninsula surfers, Melbourne skateboarders and particularly attractive girls.



wordsjk photosal wilson
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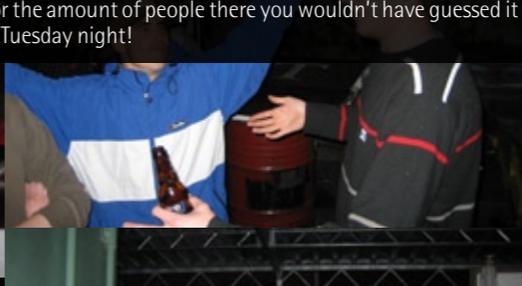


BozWreck Premier Melbourne, Australia



pop magazine yoko SESSIONS

Melbourne BozWreck Premier
POP Magazine, Yoko Distribution and Sessions hosted the Melbourne Premier of Matty Ryan and Nate Bozung's new film BozWreck on Tuesday the 19th of September at Section 8. It took me two days to update the site with this and the photos will give you some indication of why I wasn't able to get out of bed. It was off the meat rack! I mean... What a premier party! The bar, Section 8, is down an ally and is just a few shipping containers and brick pallets in an outdoor car park. Ryan from Sessions had the idea that BozWreck brown bags would get you free beer. So POP printed them and Yoko distributed them and everyone got boozy on longnecks and stubbies. IR77 was meant to be played in the background but everyone was into it and just stood in amazement. When BozWreck came along the music was turned up and everyone went mental. Of course Nate Bozung was there keeping all the ladies entertained and I was stoked when the crowd went crazy for his section. For the amount of people there you wouldn't have guessed it was a rainy Tuesday night!

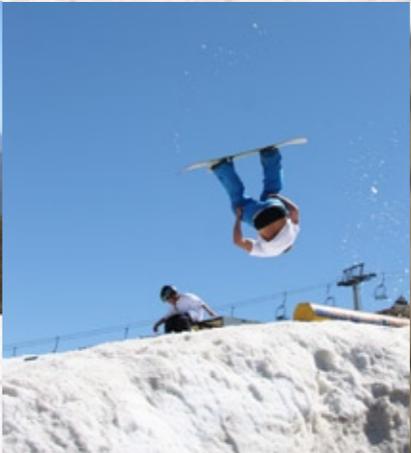




Trigger Brothers

Trigger BBO

Well the The Annual Trigger Brothers End of Season Mt Buller BBO (or ATBESMBBBO as I'm trying to get people to call it) happened again this year. I feel sorry for you if you missed it because it was a really fun time. And yes, there was enough snow for a few boxes and a heap of awesome-ness. Mitch and Darragh spent all day perfecting box combos whilst Marc Baker and Chunk took patch-to-patch grass sliding to new heights (or lengths rather). Chris, Midget and Chunk also got sliding on those pole padded mats. The Trigger guys were manning the BBO and giving limited edition 'Hot Doggin' t-shirts out to anyone that came and said hello. POP brought the sound system and someone produced an iPod full of Johnny Cash. What a day! I have to mention the 2 little kids that pretty much learnt how to snowboard on the day. If ever you've ever tried snowboarding and thought it was too hard then you should think about giving it another go. These 2 mini shredders didn't even know how to stop and they were sliding boxes. Now that's what it's all about!





artwork by Carmel Seymour

lola &
eve

laevie.com lasnow.com



Bottle Bro.

Just slot your tasty beverage in one end and link the other to your belt loop. It even has a girl (or guy) trapper on it (aka bottle opener). Easily the most convenient way to hold a bottle if you're on the chairlift or at a BBQ. Plus they're big in Japan so that's always good. Get this bad-boy from www.yoko.com.au



Internode Broadband.

I can't write this without getting angry, turning into the Hulk and smashing my computer. Which is not something I really like to do. So I'm going to use my Bruce Banner level interlect to turn this into an equation for you. Here goes. Telstra + Bigpond = Sh*t. There, that's pretty simple. For the fastest speed (which is what you and YouTube require) Bigpond costs \$69.95 per month for a retarded 500mb of download. For \$79.95 Internode will give you 9500mb more! Oh and upload's don't count so you can talk on Skype and play games and it won't hurt your music downloading capacity. Sweet!



Melbourne Box Tee.

Sorry Sydney people, this ones for the Mexicans south of the border. This is for those of you that don't want to get a Melbourne Pride tattoo but still want to impress the Japanese kids with your witty display of Supreme influenced dope steez. Printed on triple A shirts so you know they're good. Thanks to Memphis on the Sneaker Freaker forums for the sweet hook-up.



Skype.

Ever heard the term 'good things in life are free'? How about 'money can't buy happiness'? Well usually I'd say that's loser talk and punch you in the front teeth, however, Skype (and a lawsuit) have changed my perspective on things. Skype is a free computer program that lets you talk to other Skype users for free. If you buy Skype credit you can even call regular phones. I could get all Professor Frink on you and mention how it supports video calls, chat and file transfers but no one wants to hear that (ha, you just did). www.skype.com

Foam Core Skimboards by NEMO.

When the surf's flat you can't exactly skate on the sand can you? So what do you do? Why skim of course! NEMO is now doing a foam core skimboard called the Rhythm which has sidewall sandwich construction much like a snowboard. The Rhythm is a great board for skimmers looking to step up from the flatland wood core scene to something a little more serious. Although there is no surer way to break yourself than skimboarding, it's probably the most fun you can have in the water aside from sitting on the old lawn tickler (aka sprinkler).



Wheeler Double Deck by Burton.

It's that time again when we all get amped for summer trips. For those of you making multiple continent stops you'll have to deal with changes in luggage allowance. This is where Burton steps up with its ingenious new wheeler bag that allows you to split one overweight bag into 2 underweight ones. Apart from this split feature it's also got all those logical features that only Burton seem to worry about, like skate wheels, external backpack attachments and internal shoe packets and laundry bags.

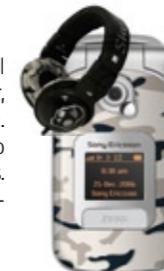


SX-70 Polaroid Camera.

Arguably the king of lo-fi camera's. The SX-70 was produced in the 1970's and was the first instant SLR camera. It's especially unique as it folds flat in the way only designers in the 70's would think of. The SX-70 is not a Leica, so it's easy to find and cheap. You can pick one up on eBay for under \$50. The catch is that production of the SX-70 Time Zero film used in them stopped production earlier this year. So you will have to play around with the camera to get it to take the readily available Polaroid 600 film. I know this sounds like a lot of effort to most of you with digital cameras but camera geeks are losing it right now. And by 'it' I mean sexual juices.

Sony Ericsson Z530i Music Phone by Boost.

Look, I'll be honest with you. I've never used this phone so I can't tell you how rad it is. However I do know it has a camera, an MP3 player, is Bluetooth enabled and perhaps most importantly, is camouflage. I'm pretty sure it makes phone calls too. Oh hang on, wait! It also comes with a limited edition pair of Skullcandy 'Hesh' headphones. So did the phone you were about to buy come with Hesh headphones? No? Well I'm glad to have helped you out. Enjoy yourself.



DC 20|94.

Warning: Wearing these in Tokyo is likely to get you Nunchaku'd to the head. We're definitely not preaching the limited edition thing here but I saw these shoes and I loved them. The baseball stitching on the toe and the pinstripes over the heel look epic. No doubt, these are hard to come across but if you can get your hands on a set I guarantee your girlfriend will be better looking and you'll have a greater chance of owning a Ferrari. Maybe even one with personalized brake pads... like K-Fed.



Mesh Jersey & Shorts by American Apparel.

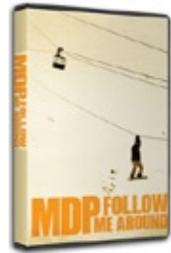
Now that it's starting to get hot around the country you're probably thinking it's a good time to get those velour hot pants with 'Angel' printed across the back. If you want to get sonic boomed in the stomach, you should buy those. If you don't and would rather not look like a skank (or Britney) then you really should take a look at this mesh line from American Apparel. Oh and these are for girls in case you still haven't figured that out.



Hamish.

This kid is so good. Hamish is a snowboarder from Melbourne who's making these little (the guy above is about an inch tall) jewellery pieces. There's also ones with little letters which are kind of like scrabble pieces but cooler. It's rad to see something handmade and original from time to time. You can get this goodness from Alpha Ville, Lawton Knows Ruby, Bobbies Cuts and the usual Melbourne boutiques.

Why can't I ever get the same weather and conditions as most films crews, I need a new job. Or I need to marry an Austrian woman. Either/or, watching these and nudie films is the closest I'm getting to my dream for a while.



Follow Me Around By Mack Dawg Productions

Considering the roster, it would have been so difficult to mess up this video. Not too much bad can really be said about the latest offering. Although Mack Dawg has changed dramatically since the days when I use to stay home from school and get such 'simple pleasures' (pun intended) from watching over and over. But you can't stop progress. This is unless you are Mack Dawg and can poach 'people' (double pun, snap!) to you team. Neoproto is now defunct (in name, not in spirit) with Pierre Minhondo and Justin Eeles producing a second film for the Mack Dawg name. While I was watching FMA I also noticed some cinematographic techniques that looked strangely familiar, obviously during the 05-06 film crew draft Jaako Itaahto from the amazing free film project 'Elekrep' (elekrep.com) is now on board. The end result is incredible, Jeremy Jones is as consistent as ever, Jussi switch back 10 powder, 'nuff said, Andreas back 7 rodeo of DCP cliff. Eero Ettala is a whole new chapter, basically I could go on forever about tricks, just get this movie. My only complaint, why is it deemed necessary to saturate the crap out of all the colors? Weird, get it.

People by Mack Dawg Productions

I must say, I was actually really disappointed with this film. I was expecting to see the same quality that Neoproto as we knew them left us with after 'Some Kinda Life', what we got was a semi deflated version of its former self. Not to say that it was a bad film, it just lacked the feel they use to have. The 'introspective' introductions seemed to be there for the sake of it, not because there was any need. Recycled music also bothers me a bit, on my count there were 4 songs that had been used in other recent skate and snow videos. It cannot be that hard to find new music, there are approximately 28 million* more albums than snowboard movies. However, still an awesome cast with standouts being Ryan Thompson, Curtis Woodman, Jordan Mendenhall, and Etienne Gilbert. Etienne kills it. Definitely not my favorite of the year, but worth a look for sure. Just like with Neoproto, it may take them a video or so to find their feet.



Never Felt Better by Autumn Line Cinema

There is a reason I reviewed this just after 'People'. When I first watched this film it reeked with Neoproto style. It was no surprise to me that Justin Eeles and Pierre Minhondo were the first 'people' (and another) thanked in the credits, hmmm. Casey Neefus, Zac Marben and Tim Eddy, who were dropped from the roster, make up a good part of the amateur vibe. Jonas Michilot has the ender, and watching parts like his you can see why the level of riding is constantly getting better and better. If I were a superpro I would be watching movies like this and Technine and all the other amateur films to keep me motivated. Not a first film for these guys, but a first major release, and a very good one at that. Nothing to blow your mind, but good music, good riding and very enjoyable to watch. If you can find it over here, have a peep.

That by Forum

I still often pop 'True Life' into my VCR (remember them) and think to myself how it is still one of my favorite movies ever? Whatever it is about it, I was so pumped to hear that Forum was making a new film. It was exactly what I expected and wanted it to be. If you look carefully you will even see many of the same spots that were in the 'Resistance' and 'True Life'. Forum, like many other companies, have such a strong team I am surprised that there isn't more team videos floating around. It is such a successful formula in skate films I would assume that it would carry over, but it seems that is not the case. All the better for Forum I guess. The riding is as strong as ever and it is great to see some of the younger guys step up and have full length parts. I said last year 'that' (on fire with the puns) Stevie Bell would be one to watch, and I was right. All the usual Finnish suspects plus with Devun and J.P back it every bit as strong as I had hoped.



Draw The Line by Standard Films

This film easily had the potential to be my favorite. Standard have been running with a fool proof formula for 15 years or so which is great, if you are on a good thing, stick to it. They have an incredible bunch of riders in some of the best locations and setups in the entire known universe. But for some reason, and it annoys me so much, such a massive amount of this film is in slow-motion. If the whole film was played at regular speed it might only go for 15-20 minutes. Not to detract from the actual film which is incredible, but I was bumming by the end that it had so much slo-mo. Mads Jonsson, Frederik Kalbermatten, Mark Landvik, John Jackson, and new comer Juuso Laivisto all killed it, and I was pumped to see Kazuhiro Kokubo ride backcountry, taking to it like a duck to water. Please speed it up next time and your on a winner.

Flavor Country by Sandbox

The second film for the Canadian based Sandbox is worth buying for the cover alone. The riding is not the best I have ever seen, but some moments to note are Andrew Hardingham's General A.D.D, young Mark Sollars and Dustin Craven, and Mikey Pederson having maybe the best slam ever. The Cinematography and music choice are spot on, but I keep coming back to the cover. I think when I first got it I spent 20 minutes staring at it, then I realized I was being like a 12 year old girl distracted by shiny things. Go watch the movie if you can.



ir77 by Pulp Publishing

Some of you may remember the book from a few years ago by the name of 'Blower'. Well ir77 is not exactly a new concept, but an incredibly well done re-birth of the book+movie idea. The book is based upon five themes; Anticipation, Dedication, Stories, Pain, and Exhilaration. Obviously a homage to the many things that make snowboarding great, the book is filled with just that, stories, artwork, and photos that capture the feelings. The book lacks the raw amount of content that is in 'Blower' but is made up for by quality. The DVD is a whole other story, making this an amazing combo. A mix between a traditional part film, with some specific focus on the many themes encompassed in the book. Austin Smith is incredible, the Campos' are great, always a pleasure to see Lukas Huffman, and with Jess Gibson (of TB and Robot Food fame) and Jake Price (of Robot Food) behind the lens all is peachy. Another aspect of the film that I loved is that the shot in bad weather too; being that bad weather and me are best friends, it made this film that extra bit special. I could relate... ir77 is a must have for your collection. One day I will start drinking coffee, until then I only have to worry about spilling coke and cereal on my copy. Get yours from www.yoko.com.au

Gap Sessions by Blank Paper Studios

You always wonder about how much of one contest you can watch before it gets old (having made a contest DVD, trust us we know). Well double lucky for David Benedek and Co. that they have put together a well pieced documentary on the largest competition jump I am aware of and stuck it in a case with last years '91 Words for Snow'. The 'Gap Session' reminds me of a when Mr. Burns filled a room with monkeys to write Shakespeare. Put a bunch of snowboarders in a ski jumping arena and they will come up with something great. I wont spoil it, however, keep in mind the words double, 1260, and other numbers and angles. Not the most well rounded film, but for a contest documentary still fresh. Lots of extras too including an action only edit, well worth a look.



More by Absinthe films

Gigi Ruf needs his own movie, its not often you see someone get the closing and opening part in a movie. Some of the stuff in more is silly, im glad I don't have to step up or in this case step down to what these guys do. Chris Coulter, MFM, and Nicolas Muller deliver the goods exactly as you would expect them to. And the interesting addition of Justin Bennee, Erik Christiansen, and Mikey Leblanc adds a little variation to what we have come to expect from Justin Hostynek. Travis Rice also makes his return to Absinthe in pretty good form, and by that I mean he is fucking incredible. At times the editing can get a little confusing, but much like an erection, the movie grows on you(this applies to both sexes). To be perfectly honest I didn't like it as much as 'Futureproof', But give it time.

Patchwork Patterns by Think Thank

Different is the word of choice in regards to 'Patchwork Patterns'. I'm pretty sure some of these guys would rather be skateboarding but unfortunately there is snow where they live so snowboarding will do for now. Definitely the most inventive of all the films, nothing is sacred in the path of these guys. I guess I have to thanks them though, it should make Mt. Buller just that little bit more fun for me next year. Scott Stevens is like a video game character with all his wacky combos, and Jesse Burtner definitely thinks with the other side of his brain. Gus Engle boasts the closing section which is full of what I guess could be called bangers, I have never seen a boardslide to front shove it on a snowboard before. Also I'm not sure leopard print Lycra is the best snowboard pant material out there, but at least he's got flexibility.

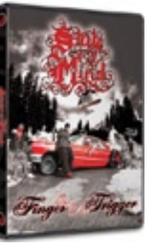


Boz Wreck by Outta Our Pocket

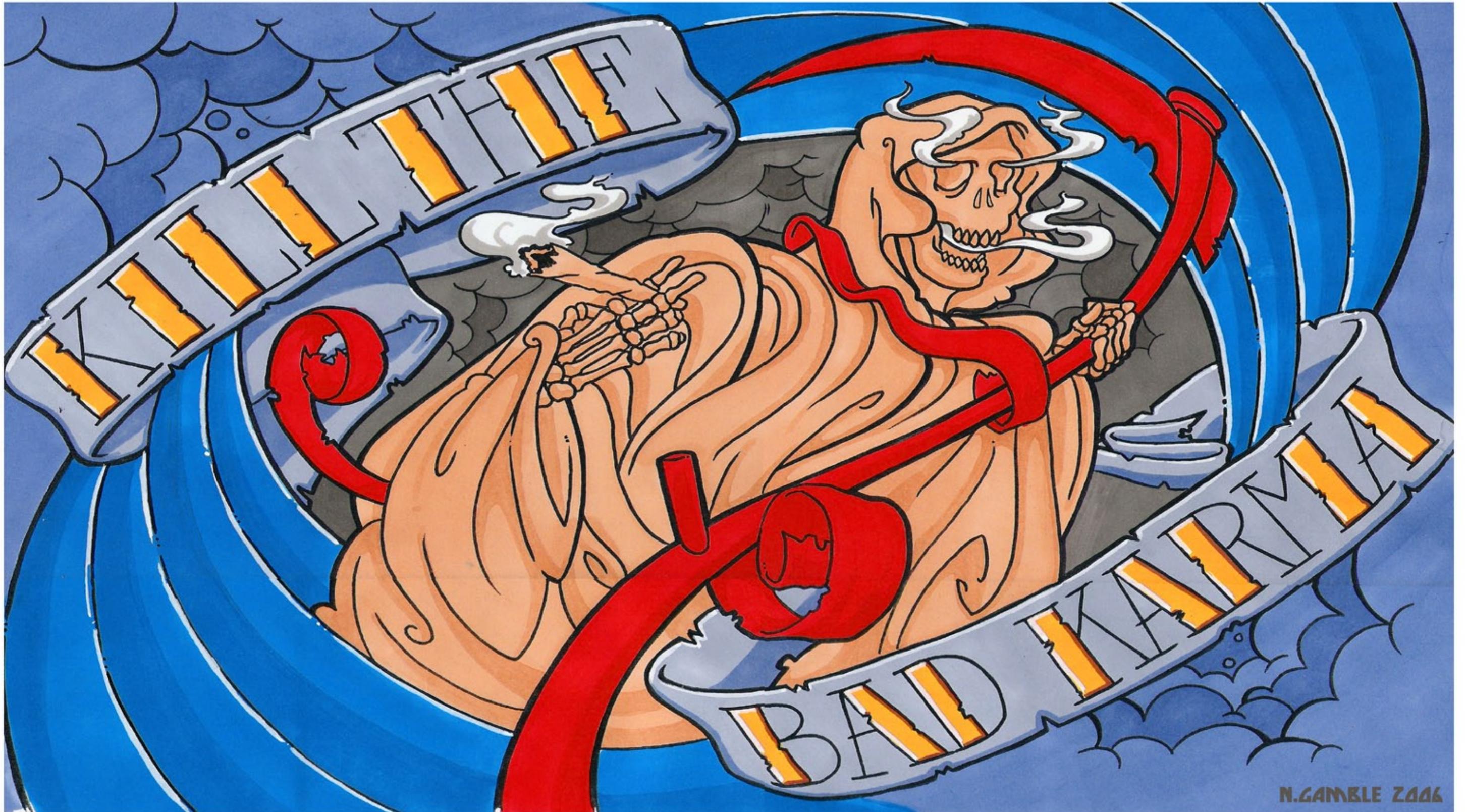
Nate Bozung and Matty Ryan, a.k.a. Boznutz and Homewreck, a.k.a. Bozwreck. Good, great, now we have that out the way I can tell you that these guys wanted to make a video of them and their buddies, with no rules or budget for that matter. What you get is a very Baker bootleg meets Whiskey series video. After watching it I might be a little bit high, but pretty content. This movie is what happens when you don't take yourself too seriously, but still have some serious riding. It goes for 30ish minutes, has no extras and features a bunch of Utah guys, J2 is back and Hans Ahlund from Sweden. Forest Shearer has all his footage from his infamous poaching of chads' gap and other famous sessions. Another welcome return is this video is a friends section, where did they go? Don't expect a Mack Dawg or Absinthe scale epic production, but simply a good time. Good to see these guys snowboarding again.

State Of Mind by Finger On Da Trigger

I have been a massive fan of the FODT films for a long time as they seem to be the breeding ground for all sorts of tomorrow's superstars. Open up a longneck because we don't have 40's and smoke a joint. Actually, don't smoke, these guys will for you. Like always an all hip-hop soundtrack and lots of rails, but this year seems to have ventured slightly more uphill with some good results. You cant go wrong with a shoot everything in digi mentality, sure camera geeks don't like it, but they have more footage than almost anyone else it seems. With their footage they have also trimmed a lot of the filler that has been included in previous years. Standouts for me are the French Canadians Yan Dofin and Max Legend, Joey Sexton, and Jake Devine. If you have enjoyed any of the other FODT/Technine fims, you will love this.



*not a real figure.





simon
body ©

If any of you have been involved or are interested in the Australian hardcore music scene over the last ten years its likely you would have seen or at least heard of one of Australia's most brutal hardcore acts to ever appear. Hailing from Melbourne's south east suburbs, Mindsnare have proven themselves to be worthy or wearing the crown in Australian hardcore for some time now. Mindsnare's live shows are definitely an experience that everyone should at some point check out. So much energy, sweat, fun and of course bone crunching hardcore that you wont leave disappointed.

Mindsnares lead vocalist, Matt Maunder (aka Midget), may well be Australia's best hardcore frontman, but there is more to him than belting out blood curdling screams and growls and storming the stage like a pitt-bull terrier. He has a great passion for both skateboarding and surfing, along with the rich history and lifestyles they both have.

Here are some questions i asked matt when i caught up with him about the man outside of Mindsnare and hardcore music.

MATT MAUNDER

MATT MAUNDER

So Matt, we are all familiar with you as the energetic front-man of much loved Melbourne hardcore act Mindsnare, but I'm aware there is much more to you than the aggressive vocalist we watch jump around on stage at your shows. You have a great passion for both skateboarding and surfing as well. Tell us what it is you love about those things and what motivates you find the time to get out there?

I have surfed for most of my life, I used to ride a boogie when I was 10ish, Mum would take my buddy and me to Phillip Island every other weekend. A cousin then had a car crash and lost an arm, he could no longer surf, so I got his board, a 5'10 Brothers Neilson, I was secretly stoked to score that. I stood up ever since, it just felt way better than gutschiding. There were some twins that lived up the road and they had made themselves a really wide skateboard, they said they saw someone riding one on the telly and decided to make one up. It had 4 roller skate trucks on the bottom and was heavy as f**k. You couldn't turn it so we just naturally learned to tic tac around stones we set up in a pattern, and time each other in a race. I saved up twenty bucks and bought that one off him. The next week I saw him on a Reeflex with big pink wheels, I was so jealous I got one the next Christmas. I just go crazy if I'm inside for too long and surfing/skating has always been an outlet. I make time to go at least once a week to the beach even if I don't go in its cool just being down there. Its all about freedom to do what you like, when you like.

How long have you been involved in skateboarding and surfing now and where are some of your favourite places to do those things?

The skateboard bugs been with me since I was 11 or 12, I have always been into the surf influenced type skating. Big bowls, loose trucks. I love all types of skating but have a mental block with all the new stuff. I like turns and grinds. As far as the beach is concerned, any remote, un-crowded beach is good with me. I'd rather surf a crumbly un-crowded vibe than have to surf with too many at a better break. I never catch enough waves but Winki Pop when it's happening is a really good all round wave.

You also work in the skateboard industry. It must be a satisfying feeling being around and working amongst the things you love most?

It was a lucky break for sure. I never worked a proper full time job before this one, I always found a way to work short weeks so I could go up the coast to surf and skate. Never really got my head around the whole work ethic thing but this jobs suits me perfectly. It goes to show that there is a job for you, you just gotta go and figure out what you want from life and find a job that allows you the freedom to do it. I once said to a friend "I gotta find a job that revolves around my life and not a life that revolves around my job". I am happy here for now.

My old man is a keen surfer and has quite an extensive surf memorabilia collection, but I understand you also collect surf

and skateboarding memorabilia. What are some of your favourite things you have found?

I always regretted throwing out my old boards, I can still remember my dad asking if I wanted to keep the bunch I had when I left home, I said no. Big mistake, I have been trying to find them ever since. Very costly exercise these days now that kook put that book out with all the old gold in it. That definitely pumped the price up. I am not too sure what I'm after I just know it when I see it. Usually the stuff I saw as a youngster and wanted. Sims, Powell, Santa Cruz was my era. I really am on the lookout for stuff from that era.

Do you have any other interests or hobbies you are really passionate about?

Not really, I do have a house full of very odd sh*t. I am starting to really enjoy motorbike riding, I have a very small Honda road bike, would love to afford a nice old Triumph or Harley one day. I make sure no one sees me on the thing I've got at the moment, but you gotta start somewhere.

Do have any people that you truly look up to, as inspirations, and that you would call huge influences on the person you have become today?

Jason Jessie, George Greenough, Gerry Lopez, Jack from Big Wednesday. I am influenced by people the are different, focused and driven by something.

Are there any defining moments that you have experienced, that you would consider life changing. I.e. While travelling, family, epic skate sessions back in the day, or even punk rock shows you attended?

Hard one to answer, I have been lucky enough to see first hand some really good bands overseas and here at home. They don't change your life but they get you pretty stoked. I always try to do stuff that counts to me all the time, I like to feel alive. If I'm at a show or skate spot it's because I really want to be there, not just for the hell of it. I don't really like just hanging out that much I like to be out doing stuff.

If I asked you to describe yourself in ten words, what would you say? Confused, learning, moving, loving, hating, grinding, yelling, drinking, watching, living.

Here's another cliché question. Name 5 things you could simply not live without.

Love, arms, legs, freedom, thoughts.

Do you have any goals that you insist on reaching before your time is up on our crazy planet?

I will not be satisfied, ever, not sure what I want but I'm constantly looking for it. They say satisfaction is the death of desire. My goals are all there but unknown at the moment.

Well Matt, thanks for doing this interview... do you have any profound words of wisdom you would like to leave us with, maybe a quote or some lyrics you live by?

I am on a quest to do everything, keep an open mind and start to stop hating everything. There is no reason for it.





Many of you guys and girls out there in readership land have travelled overseas and worked. Indeed, the "working holiday" is a popular way for snowboarders, surfers and skaters to get overseas and shred.

For snowboarding, you have three options. Canada, America, or Europe. Europe is a different ball game and most countries let you work as long as you pay 40% tax.

Canada lets anybody in, even if you're from Iraq and smell like cleaning supplies. The easiest legitimate way will be to get a WHP Work Permit. This visa allows for you to work in Canada for up to twelve months and is relatively easy to get. Of course, Canada is full of Australian's and the snow is wet and it's real cold. Me, I like the best. The home of the brave, the land of the free. The U.S of f**kin' A.

Unless you have a company in America willing to sponsor your Australian only E-3 work visa, which we got after Bush signed the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Package (which may as well have been called the War Kick Back Package) your only option is something similar to the WHP Permit. However, you are pretty much limited to working in a "summer camp". You can luck out and get onto some sick skate/snow camp like a friend of mine Andy, he got onto Camp Woodward, which is basically like living in a Tony Hawk game. However, you can get screwed and end up working in Fat Camp like my friend Di and be busting on fat kids for sneaking in candy bars.

The way these summer camp programs work is, for three months you work with the campers and then you get three months off to explore the USA. It is kinda like how jail works, except unlike jail, there is no guarantee you're going to have sex in the shower.

Now, if your like me, your probably thinking, "Screw That!"

That's where I come in. I know a guy. This guy, he knows some guys. These guys, they know things. These things they know may not be legal; I don't know, I'm no lawyer. I don't ask questions, because they don't speak English and I don't speak Spanish. Hence, I don't ask, because I can't ask. Just the way I like it.

These things they know; I have learnt. I have done some things I am not proud of, and I think a man named Carlitto may want to kill me, however, like that fat kid in Fat Camp, I just can't help myself. I know how to work illegally in America and I am going to tell you...

Step 1: Line up some accommodation.

Before you leave Australia you need to line up some accommodation. If everything goes according to plan, you should only need it for about two weeks, but I'd try and work something out for a month just in case. Depending on where you're going this may be very hard or very easy. Look on www.craigslist.org for a short term sublet. I hate having to work and snowboard at the same time so I prefer to go some place like New York City and work there for 3 months and then go snowboarding somewhere else after saving up some cash. If you have managed to get in with a friend for free, it is important that you hook up the person your staying with. I'll go into the reasons for this later but it is important to build relationships. And unlike some girls who left vomit on my friend's bed, a collectable star wars figurine is generally preferred.

Step 2: Get in the country.

Now, if you're a first timer this is going to be easy. If you're travelling on an Australian passport you don't even need a visa as Australia and America are part of the Visa Wavier Program. This lets you stay in the country for up to 90 days as long as you have a return ticket and don't give the customers agents at the boarder any reason to suspect that you're not going to leave the country. To restart this 90 day stay period all you need to do is leave the country and come back again. It is renewable indefinitely and is thus your ticket to the good life.

As your America career expands this re-entry becomes harder and harder. I know some guys that have done five 90 day stays back to back. Then you need to start running some tactics otherwise your f**ked. It is generally easier to get through customs when you're coming from Australia as opposed to Europe. Despite the urban rumour, you can't just go to Canada or Mexico for the weekend and reset your 90 days.

When you get into the line to show your passport, do what you can to work the line as it is important you get the right customs officer. Your entry is in their hands, they can bar you and you can't appeal. If that happens your proper f**ked. Work your strengths. If you're a good looking girl, go with the officer that is close to your age and be nice. If you're a handsome dude, go with the 40 year old Mum looking for excitement. If you're a dwarf humpback with a five-head (as opposed to the normal looking four-head) look for the girl with the front bum because she'll take anything.

You need to craft a clever alias for the customs people. Stay away from stereotypes and clichés. The old "Russian Arms Dealer" gig is going to get you anal probed faster than a "Travelling Student" will.

Apparently the alias that is working the best these days is the "Paris Hilton". Thanks to that whore, the average customs officer thinks that people like her actually exist.

When they ask how you afford such travel, tell them your Dad is rich and you "Like to Party" and LA or N.Y.C (as these are the two entry points into the states... jeez, do I need to tell you every-thing!?) is the best place in the world for that kind of thing. They will hate you but trust me, it works. It doesn't hurt to have an American flag belt buckle like my friend Tom.

Step 3: Get comms.

Get a cell phone. You need this otherwise nobody can call you about jobs and ass (hopefully). Go to Radio Shack and pick up a prepaid phone. Last time I checked they were \$20 bucks, it's a good short term solution if you don't make to many calls. Once you're getting some regular cash, you can go to a "cell" phone provider called Sprint. Sprint is the only cell phone provider that doesn't really check into your social security number. They check, but they don't really "check" if you catch my drift. And by "check" I mean the dude writes the number down and makes sure its nine digits. No questions asked. Just the way I like it.

Be creative with your number, I prefer to use the number 8. It looks the same from the left or right and is much better than 1. It's about 8 times better than 1. For example: I had sex with 8 hookers last night. See.

Step 4: Get a job.

This is not actually as hard as you'd think. Head for the big cities and it's almost a joke how easy it is. Your answers here are "Now. It's coming. 6 months". And just to Tarantino it they are in response to - When can you start? Do you have a visa? How long do you plan to be in the city for?

Your best bet for a job is going to be the service industries. Why? Because you get tips and because you will have access to some of the best underworld connections this side of Mos Eisley. Most of the big places have open call job interviews because staff turnover is so big in these cities. And let's face it, it's hard to get good help. Spend a day walking around going into every large hotel, bar, restaurant and club. Most of them do their interviews on Monday or Tuesday and after 3pm because these are generally the slowest days and nobody is awake before 1pm.

You will most likely find you're group interviewing with a bunch of Mexicans, Cocktail Waitress' and Bartenders. This is perfect because the fact that you can speak English, are willing to work and have 10 fingers (be prepared to show that they bend) is going to make you look like a kebab to a piss head...f**king fantastic!

You will probably have to fill out a new-hire employee information form asking for your tax details and prior work history. Just write your name and number on the top and write a note saying you will "Do anything". Leave the rest. At the worst, they will ask you what the deal is with your poor paper work. You tell them that you're working on a visa and that it should come through in 3 months. They will want to know how long you plan on being in the country for. Tell them at least six months. No one is going to hire you if they know you're leaving two months from now. Don't worry about getting paid for now, it is crucial just to get in the door.

The key thing to remember is that you need to be prepared to work 24/7 and never ever say no when they ask you to work. With this attitude, you will get a job. They will be stoked that your not Mexican and will do any job they ask you to do. Most people only want to be bartenders and believe me, the last thing any bar manager needs is another prima donna bartender. Like Obi Wan said, "These are

not the jobs you're looking for". My friend Andy made almost \$400USD a night working coat check! I know two brothers who worked as doormen and made \$150USD a night plus bribes. Like my friend Peter says, "You can't go broke making a profit".

Step 5: Get paid.

This may take awhile. But, depending on the job you get you might not even need it. Most jobs in the service industry have a base wage of close to \$3 per hour. Tips are the key. You can walk with enough cash in one night to get your season pass.

However, if they need you to get your "papers" before they will pay you this is where your new found underworld connections come into play.

Seek out the Mexicans. They will know.

The South Americans are a wealth of underworld knowledge. They have an almost supernatural ability to find a way. You could tell a Bar Back that you need a flag pole ASAP and he would find one. I shit you not, he would find one. The Bar Back is the equivalent to the King in the Mexican society. He is at the top of his game. Tell him your problem and he will find a way. Mostly, you just need a fake social security number setup and they can arrange this.

Although, it's better if you're new work can "I-90" you. This basically means that you will be paid like a contractor. You may be curious to know why this is better? Firstly, you don't need to get a fake social security number and risk people asking questions. Secondly, (if this article was a movie, right now there would be a "Ka-Ching" sound being played) No Tax. That's the answer. Your company will not pay any tax on your behalf because they expect you to do it.

This is the equivalent of a 40% pay rise in New York City. Actually, that "Ka-Ching" sound, it should sound more like a jackpotting slot machine, you know like this "Ding-a-ding, ling-ling-dong-ding-ding."

Once you are "I-90'ed" you will need to submit invoices and they will pay you via cheque once a week generally. Cashing your checks can be a pain. The banks won't do it unless you have an account and you can't get an account unless you have a green card. Again, speak to the Mexicans. Most cities have a local chain of cheque cashing stores. These stores will cash your cheque and take a small percentage on top. Best of all, after you show them your passport, no questions asked. Just the way I like. This place will now be your "Bank". Although, unlike your other banks, this one also specializes in selling Kung Fu movies.

Step 6: Get your own digs.

"Since you grown, don't bring your black ass back home." Hmmm, wise words indeed.

You will probably need to get your own place now that you're a long term resident. Although no land lord is going to give you a lease unless you have back ground checks done, and trust me, you don't want questions asked.

Talk to your new friends at work. See if they have a room going. Your best bet is to find the most cracked out cocaine whore that works there. She will be so messed up mentally and so unstable that nobody can handle her. Perfect.

Party with this girl. Be careful not to be sucked into her disaster of a life. She is not fun, she is the human equivalent of Hooker Spit. Get to know her drug dealer if you can, don't get involved, but just remember as much as you can (read on for the reason). Cocaine may sound like a good idea, but when you're getting nose reconstructions at age 22 it's not cool, unless you're Kate Moss and then it's a career move.

Once you have moved into your new apartment it is time to play The Game. I like to call this game the "Waiting for the crack whore to die game". She probably won't die in the traditional sense. She will have no life left, which is kinda' like dying.

You know you have almost won The Game when she starts asking you to give her money to pay the "rent" 18 times a month. This is a delicate situation. You need to give her enough money to fuel her drug habit, but keep enough for the next step. If you play it right, after about one month she will decide to move back home to "ground herself". If you're like my friend Drew and you can play The Game on a different level, she will not even tell you she is leaving. One day you'll just wake up and she will be gone. You now have a fully furnished apartment. As sweet as this sounds, there are some strings attached...

Step 7: Secure your new apartment.

You are now on the road to success. You have an apartment. Sort of. Everything is in the Crack Whore's name. The TV, phone, water, power, the whole sha-bang-a-bang. Nobody has been paying these bills. She has been spending all her money on partying and sooner rather than later the landlord is going to wonder why he has stopped getting his rent cheques. Now you'll need to have a fair stack of grease money (cash that is used to ensure the pending financial transaction goes smooth) saved up for this day. When the landlord shows up you tell him that you "met this girl through your new job and that you have been giving her rent money for 3 months". He will now say, "She hasn't paid rent in 3 months and now has no bond money left". You answer with a little "Oh my dear, that's terrible. She was such a crazy person, you know I feared for my life at one stage?" Fill him in on how she just packed up a left one day and that, although you don't have enough money to pay a bond, you have enough to cover the next months rent plus a little extra, you know, to smooth things over. He will be stoked. He has gotten rid of this crazy bitch that gave him nothing but trouble, he doesn't have to find a new room mate or change the paper work and he just got some extra cash for the wife. Now you're best friends. After my friend Drew did this the landlord asked him to come snowboarding with him in Vermont. True story.

Don't worry about paying any bills just yet. You will have a few weeks until they cut the power and then you can just explain your story to the power company. The cops will come looking for her so don't be scared when they show up at the front door.

They will want answers however. You give them one in the form of the contact details and description of this 'sketchy looking dude' that used to come round here a lot. He might know something about her. Come to think of it, he might have been her drug dealer."

Now the cops. Their job is busting criminals. Busting some stupid girl for not paying her bills, well, that doesn't get you promoted. Busting drug dealers, now that is some exciting shit. I know what you're thinking; you're thinking



"How could I sleep at night after doing something like that?" Well, I don't know about you but I find it pretty easy to sleep on a big pile of money with the aforementioned 8 hookers.

Step 8: Get your money back home.

So, you now have a job, an apartment, a phone and a bank. You probably smell a little different now too, that is the smell of success. However, you will now be running into a problem that you never expected to have. Even after I tell you this you will struggle to comprehend it. I like to call this problem, the Good Problem...

The Good Problem stems from your cash based accounting system. You will get to the point where you can't spend it quick enough. What are you going to do with all this cash? If you're smart, you will need to get it back to Australia and into your bank account for your spending pleasure. Or, perhaps you need to pay off your credit card or purchase an airline ticket (they won't take cash -thanks Osama). Talk to your new Bank. They have these great things called "Netspend Pre Paid Credit Cards". Like the name suggests, you get a master card that acts like a credit card except you don't have any credit. The best thing is, once you give them your passport number they don't ask any questions. Just the way I like it.

These cards are so good that I can't believe they are legal. Once you have your card sorted, you can go onto their website and order a secondary card holder card. They will send it out to you and then you can send it out to somebody you trust back home. They can now go to an ATM in Australia and withdraw money from it and it only costs you \$5USD per \$1000USD withdrawn. Compare that to a Western Union wire transfer of the same amount which will set you back about \$250USD. What's that sound you hear? "Ding-a-ding, ling-ling-dong-ding-ding".

Netspend does have its draw backs though. Their business model is all based online so if you try and do anything out outside of the box (like call their customer support number) you will regret it. My friend Andrew spent close to 3 hours on the phone with some Indian named "Phil". "Phil" will not help you. He will say he can help you, but trust me, he can't. Helping is not something "Phil" is good at. In fact, he is quite good at "Un-Helping".

Although, I can't blame "Phil", he is like me... He doesn't like questions asked.



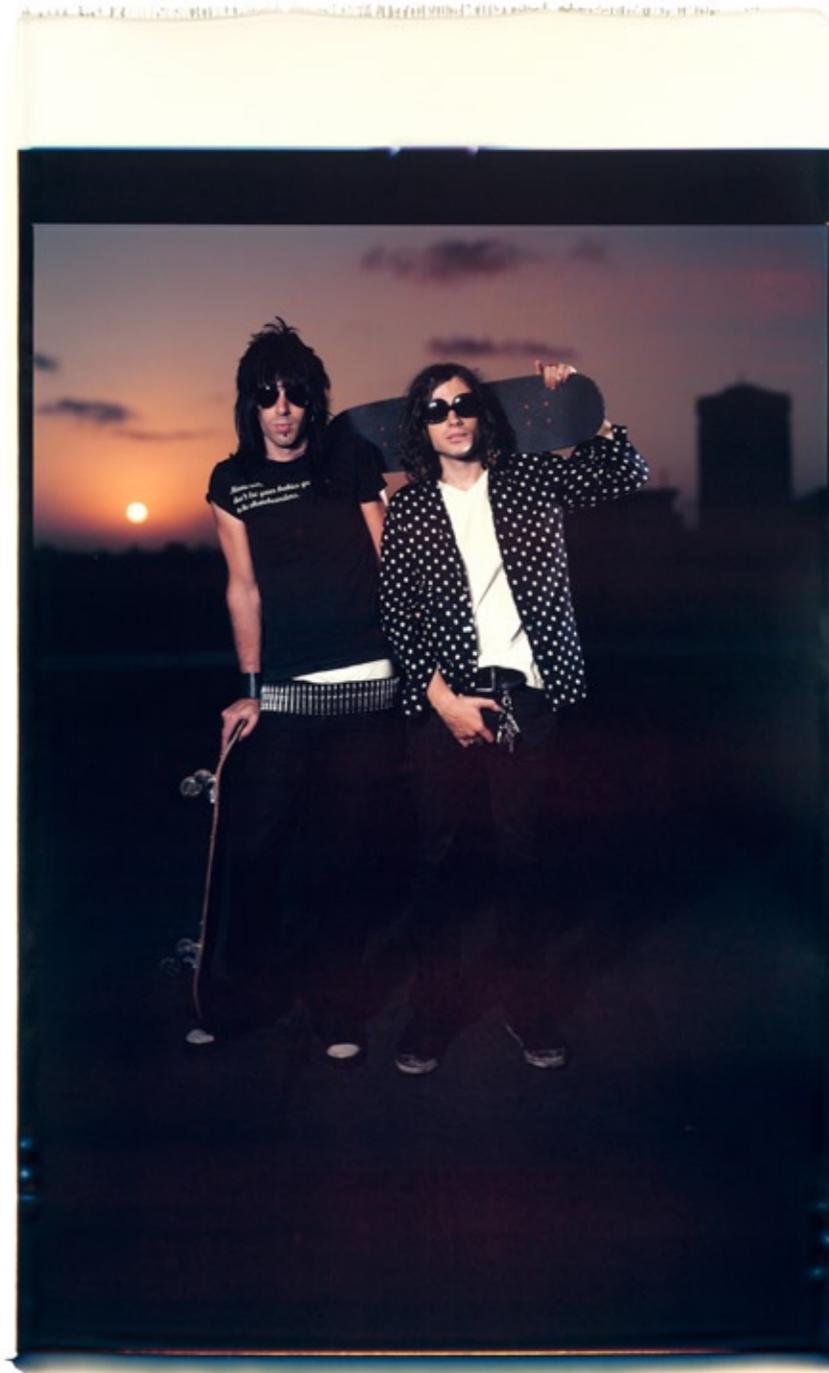


Fingers

TRUSTIAN STILL

I've always been fascinated by the arresting detail that is only present in large and ultra-large format photography, and equally fascinated by the magic of Polaroid film, both in its instantaneous nature, and its ability to render the most beautiful colour interpretation of almost any scene, so naturally, ever since I first read about the Polaroid 20"x24" camera, I knew that I had to get my hands on one! Shooting with such a camera has been by far the most intense and rewarding experience of my photographic explorations - every single shot was peeled back after 90 seconds to reveal a stunningly beautiful one-of-a-kind print. Shooting portraits of skateboarders on Polaroid 20"x24" was the natural coming together of two of the greatest passions of my life, skateboarding and photography. I hope to continue my exploration of ultra-large format photography with plans to modify a home built 20"x24" pinhole camera, adding an old lens to it in a fixed position so that I may do a series of black and white portraits of skateboarders in the city of Sydney.

Later next year, this series of skateboarder portrait Polaroids will be on display at the Australian Centre for Photography in Paddington, Sydney. Here is a sneak peak of two images out of the twenty-eight that will be on display.



Benji & Luke



Skateboards

Monster





Pool



Tim

Maroubra



Unfitted 2

stitched

06 - 07



Denim, Skelter by Emerica
Tee, Shout Out by Burton
Sweater, Corey's Sweater by Sessions
Watch, The Banks by Nixon



Photography by **Chris Boadle**
Make-up & Hair by **Danielle House**
Styling by **Amie Francis**
Story by **Chris Boadle**
Girl by **Lucy Moran**
Boy by **Tom Nolan**



Denim, Bartie by **Billabong**
Tee, Cooch by **Kr3w**
Shoes, The Corsair Hi by **Adio**

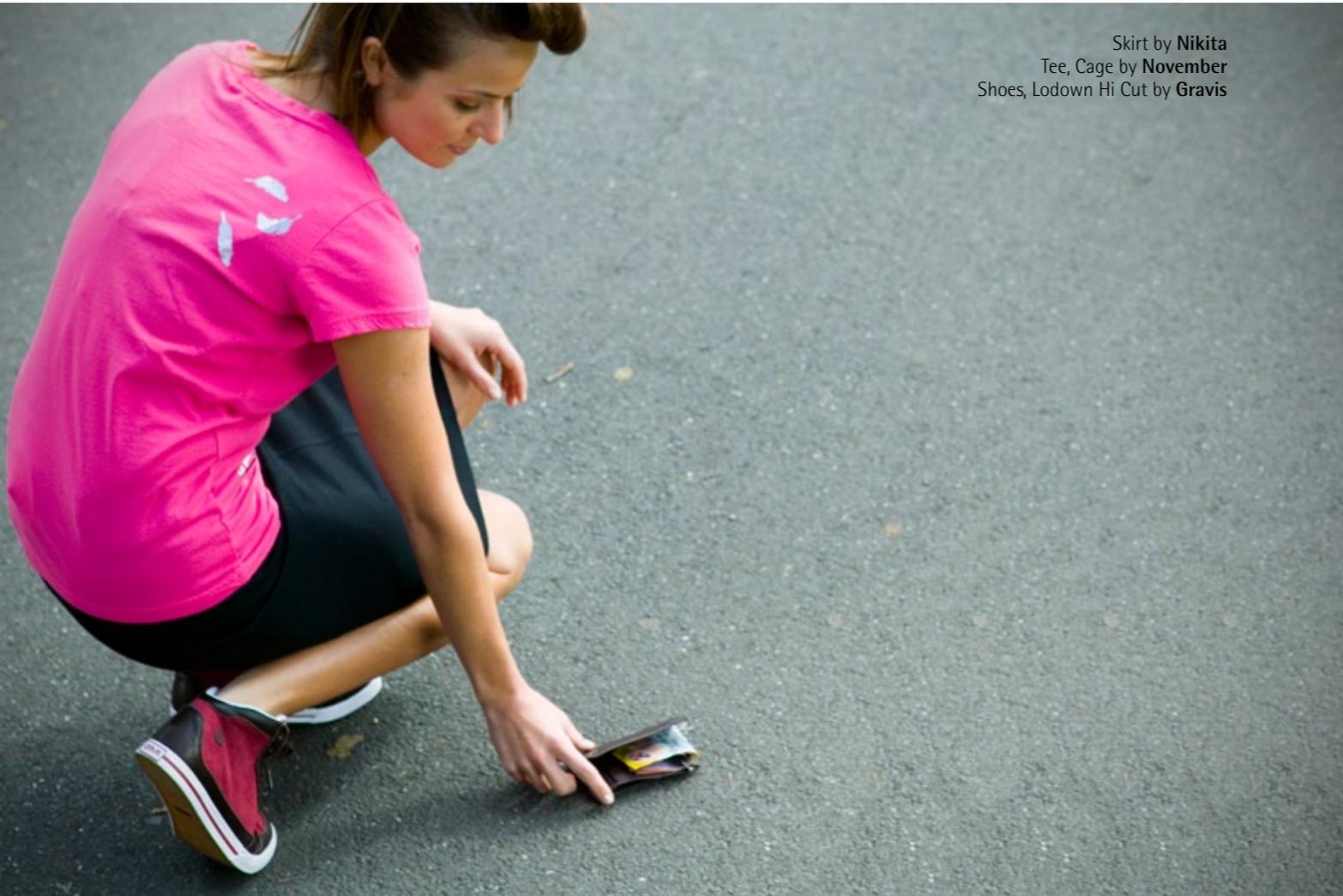


Denim, Greco by **Kr3w**
Tee, St. Squirkle by **Quiksilver**
Sweater, Maestro Sceptor by **Analog**
Wallet by **Nixon**





Skirt by Nikita
Tee, Cage by November
Shoes, Lodown Hi Cut by Gravis



Tom Wears
Tee, Gates by DC
Denim, Greco by Kr3w

Lucy Wears
Tee, Ikit by Nikita
Sweater by Volcom
Jacket, Natasza Substitute by Nikita
Watch, The Chalet by Nixon





James Catto

James Catto is one of the most electrifying free surfers to come out of Western Australia.

If it's a good party, soaring for the sky or chasing massive waves, Catto is always doing it with his own style. With long time sponsor Rusty behind him, Catto is ready to take off to some of the world's most exciting and dangerous waves to surf with the best of the best. If you counted him out, don't. There is certainly a lot more to come from James Catto.

What are you up to?

Just playing poker online.

Umm... Ok. What's life like being a surfer in W.A.?

Yeah good. We've got f**kn' bullsh*t waves over here. But the problem is Perth is just so far from f**kn' everywhere else. So it's a bit of a c**t to fly everywhere. Except Bali. It's a lot of driving to the spots here.

Yeah I've seen some rad shots taken down south. Is that near your house?

Yeah, that's where I grew up. Gracetown, Margaret River. But I've been living in Perth probably the last three years because it's just boring down there.

I hear you're going to Hawaii soon too?

Yeah, on the 21st of November, heading over there for two weeks.

Where are you staying? At Pipe?

We're staying at Sunset, Rusty have a house there. I didn't go last year cause I broke my foot in the Canary Islands at the start of the year. So I missed out.

So you're known for more of your air surfing, how do you go with the big stuff?

I love it, I grew up in it. I've always loved it but you know, it's not always that big. But I f**kin love it, I love using my tow boards and my jetski and pretty much find the biggest ones we can. Doing the airs is really fun cause its more of like an everyday thing. You can always go for a surf and do a f**kin huge air and plus with a jet ski you get towed in and practice your airs.

Yeah, whip ins are just so good huh?

So fun yeah. All day funness.

So you've taken a different approach to surfing, choosing to be a free-surfer, chasing photos, going on trips. Its must be a pretty good life?

It is good but you obviously don't make as much money as being on the tour, but the tour is a lot of hard work, it's a lot of hard work to get there, unless you've got that real burning desire to be away and be living out of a suitcase nine months of the year.

So, had you ever dreamt of pulling on a CT jersey?

When I was a kid, I grew up with Taj. Me and him lived near each other, went to school and just grew up doing all the contests together. I was at the start but I sort of had a few problems along the way, family sh*t and stuff and sort of went off the rails a little bit.

But um, then I wasn't into the whole competitive thing but then I got approached from Rusty to do what Margo had done for Billabong. So mate, asked me that and I was like "F**k Yeah." And we just



have a ball you know? Years of just doing trips and stuff. But I always just sit down and think 'F**k' you know? Half these c**ts on tour, you think it would be easy to beat them but it's a whole different approach when you've got to surf a contest. Even hard surfing with the CT guys and WQS guys they're like riding every wave into the beach you know, like they're in a contest when you're in free surf. So it's a bit different.

So Rusty and your other sponsors must be pretty good, allowing you to chase waves and not have to worry about contests and stuff.

Yeah, it's good. I'm f**kin' lucky. It was sort of unheard of until a few years ago. Unless you were doing the contests and trying to get on the tour, there was no such thing. But all that sort of opened up and now you can have a career out of it even if you're not doing the contests.

Yeah, its pretty weird to have guys actually making a career out of free surfing cause it has really only been a contest thing in the past.

Yeah, I think its cause the contest thing got a bit stale for a while there. I remember a few years back until they changed to the Dream Tour. They used to just have it where the crowds were and stuff but most of those spots are sh*t waves and then they changed it. It became sort of boring so they changed it, now you've got like every best break on the planet they have a contest at it, so it's amazing and people want to watch it more now. That's where the free surfing came in cause it's exciting and you don't want to run pictures in magazines

of dudes in singlets.

I've seen some photos from the Mentawais trip that Rusty put on. Is that sort of an annual event?

Yeah, they never used to do it cause they didn't want to be like the other companies. But the last three years they've done a trip there and its been good. This year we didn't get that good waves but last year we got amazing. But yeah, I don't know if they're going to do it again, its been pretty hammered but we get some good shots from it.

Well it looks like its pretty fun... a boat full of piss and all the boys.

Yeah fun but mate that boat gets pretty small pretty f**kin quick.

Haha. Especially when you've got the Hazards on there.

Oh, you've got the hazards, crazy boat people that have been on the sea way too long and your bed by the end is just like a little box.

Whats next for the Catto?

Well, off to Hawaii then I'll get back and I'll probably shoot over to the Gold Coast in March but this time of year, after Hawaii, you sort of don't really go anywhere. Once you've sort of done that, that's like the end of the year. Probably just chill out for a couple of months. Just hang on the internet, look at where the swells good and try and rip over there. Vic has sick waves but its always raining there.

Anyone you want to thank?

Just Rusty and my sponsors. I'm not the easiest guy to get along with but they put up with me and they're real good.

ALLEN

I don't know Jackson Allen. At least I didn't really before I did this interview. I decided to find out about him via MySpace. So I searched "Jackson" and picked the first one that looked interesting. The Jackson I picked was from Texas and he had like 1065 friends and lots of hot girls were apparently his friends. He had a fancy Lois Vuitton background and I found out about pretty much everything about him, more than was necessary anyway. I discovered that he's into "clubbin, chillin, cell phones, diamonds, cars, gold" a bunch of terribly cheesy hip hop and the Bad Boys films. I even found out his favorite colours, the restaurants he likes to frequent, that he had a fatburger this year and he's "gotta admit it is one of the dopest burgers I ever had but I am also down with In and Out." This particular Jackson was also not a fan of "haters." Fascinating stuff...

When I finally got around to creeping the actual Jackson's space, all I could find out was that he goes to Frankston High, enjoys hanging out with friends and that he "doesn't like the smell of wet dog... at all". Although those two didn't have much more in common than their name, I decided to find out if Jackson had more in common with other Jackson's in the world, starting with...

Michael Jackson had a hit song, "Don't stop till you get enough" would that song be something you might live by? Or are you a quitter?

I'd go with Wacko Jacko on that one, don't stop.

He also has some sweet signature moves, such as the moon-walk. Do you have any signature moves, like a Jackson 5 or anything?

I dunno. Ask my friends...but there's probably some creepy dances.

What about in snowboarding?

Nah, no signature Jackson moves on the snowboard yet.

M.J. was also burned horrifically during the filming of a Pepsi commercial, fell down the steps, had to have skin grafts. Have you had any horrific accidents?

Umm not yet, with snowboarding.... touch wood [knocks on wood] nah nothin' too serious just the usual bumps and bruises.

Wacko Jacko is well known for his ridiculous live shows over the top lights and moves, are you one to put on a dazzling show for the people or do you just chill at your house and occasionally come out and dangle a baby out a window?

Ha-ha. Definitely number two... well, maybe somewhere in between, although I'm not trying to dangle a baby out a window anytime soon.

But everyone knows you party down though, right?

Yup.

M.J is often referred to as the king of Pop. How high can you ollie?

As high as I need to.

Janet Jackson... Ooh. Yeah dog, she's the youngest child. Do you have brothers and/or sisters?

Umm, I've got an older sister, she's nineteen... [silence] F**k up!

Janet exposed her right breast for millions at the Super bowl halftime show a couple years ago. Have you ever exposed yourself to millions of people?

Ha, not millions!

Not millions... then how many?

Aahhh, I dunno, small groups...

On more than one occasion or what?

No, not on more than one. Well... maybe. Maybe on one of my crazier nights. [Laughs].

Well when I asked Skinner for some dirt on you he said "Ummm, nothin' major, 'cept the time he showed up at a house party of mine real wasted. Let's just say he ain't got no problem with gettin his gear off and jumpin in the spa in his short whities."

(Laughs but no comment).

Right, so that's true then... moving along...in 2006, it was announced that Janet Jackson was the "Most Searched on the Internet," and, "The Most Searched for News Item," in the Guinness Book of World Records. What do you most search for on the internet?

Oh man I don't even know, MySpace? Snowboard crap.

Are you a snowboard geek?

I like it but I wouldn't call my self a geek, I keep up.

But not an uber nerd?

Nah.

Cindy Jackson has world record for most cosmetic surgery procedures spent over \$100g! So we know she's good at getting plastic surgery, and you are obviously slightly talented at snowboard riding, but she also has other amazing talents such as: She's



the singer for the English band The Dolls (which you have obviously heard of) AND Her pet Bengal cat, Cato, had once been a record holder for being the most expensive cat ever purchased at \$41,435.00 USD. Do you have any other amazing hidden talents like Cindy?

Nah... not as much as snowboarding, I play the guitar...

Do you wail?

Nah, I wouldn't say I wail, I try to, I used to play in a rock and roll band.

What were you called?

We were called the Defiants, but we didn't really do anything. Just got drunk too much when we jammed in my bungalow.

In your bungalow?

Yeah, never really went anywhere, we never played a show, me and my friend Alex just used to fight each other cause we couldn't work together. We had originals, made up our own songs, just real bad ones.

So how do you feel about plastic surgery? On girls?

Laughs... girls with fake tits! Never really seen any in real life but... I guess... I guess its all right, I got nothing against it! [Laughs]

Ok so, Samuel L Jackson, he swears a lot. DO YOU SAY MOTHERFKER A BUNCH, MOTHERF**KER?**

Yes! Haha, well I try to keep it cracked but once I've got a few drinks in me a little Samuel L could slip out.

Everyone knows that Samuel L Jackson is "tired of those motherfkin' snakes, on that motherf**kin' plane" what would**

be something that you are tired of? Like in snowboarding?

I'm tired of seeing kids that are expecting to get sponsored for doing just one trick, and they think that like just cause they can do a few moves or whatever they should be sponsored, or that they deserve it, when I think that you should make sure you can actually snowboard before you start getting so serious about everything. People just need to learn the basics first. It seems like a lot of them are only in it to get hooked up, and they've forgotten why they even snowboard in the first place.

So is there anything you are scared of? Samuel L risked his life to save people from snakes, do you think it's worth risking your body for a good shot?

Yeah. I'm afraid of getting hurt, but it's definitely worth it if you know the shot's going to look good.

Mace Windu's purple light saber in the Star Wars prequels was the result of Jackson's suggestion; he wanted to be sure that his character would stand out in a crowded battle scene. Do you stand out in the snowboard crowd? Maybe with a purple outfit and a crazy beanie?

Haha, I think its good, not to stand out too much. But it's good to have your own style going, not just be another run of the mill snowboarder, which there seems to be a lot of these days. But definitely do what you wanna do and ride how you wanna ride.

I don't see you taking the "zany outfit" route to try get noticed though?

Nah I'm not getting too crazy, rather do it with the snowboarding.

Jackson is a popular last name meaning: son of Jack. But you are not The Son of Jack! Who are you the son of?

I'm the son of Marc, my dad changed his name from Mark with a 'k' to Marc with a 'c' because of some rock and roll star, I don't remember who though.

That's fuckin' cool! Jackson is a pretty popular last name its number 25. In England number 13; in USA number 7. Are you popular? How many friends on MySpace?

Umm, not really, maybe like, 150.

You have 229.

Oh! You've done your research.

Yeah maybe after people see this interview it'll be more like 235!!! Eric/John Jackson. Do you like those snowboarders or what snowboarders are you into?

I probably like John more than Eric. They're good but not my favorites. I like Nima this year, his part in People is up there, MFM is up there, J.P Walker is still there from when I was a kid, just guys with good style and good tricks.

Peter Jackson is famous for making epic flicks like Lord of the Rings and crappy ones like King Kong, are you currently working on any epic or even any crappy films?

Yeah the Trigger Brothers movie! (Plug Plug) going to shoot for that with Jan over summer in Utah, hopefully come up with enough for a part or at least a few decent shots, that's supposed to be coming out in May, it should be sick.

Peter Jackson could also be seen at any of his premieres usually wearing some type of non Hollywood style attire, like shorts and a purple shirt. You could be seen at any of the snow premieres this year drunk. Did you actually watch any of the movies or were you just there for the free beers?

Definitely for the beers!! Haha, but I liked some of em, People is really good I like that one a lot, and oh J2's part in Bozwreck was amazing!!!! Brilliant. He's up there for sure! Haha.

Randy Jackson, you know the American Idol judge, he used to be the bass player for Christian metal band Stryper!! He uses a lot of slang, you know, like "I wasn't really feeling that dawg. Or that was "dope" and says "dude" a bunch. I heard you have some pretty serious slang issues?

What? No nothing. Not really.

You're lying, apparently you say weird crap like, "peeheart" and tell people to "grow a heart" You have also been heard saying things like, "yeah dog".

Yeah dog.

Johnny cash sang a song called Jackson, the lyrics were like "We've been talkin' 'bout Jackson, ever since the fire went out. I'm goin' to Jackson, I'm gonna mess around. Yeah, I'm goin' to Jackson. Look out Jackson town." But that really doesn't mean anything so...

Oh wait, my mum used to sing that song to me! When I was a kid, before I would go to sleep!

That's crazy! There's also a band called Sleepy Jackson, heard of them?

I've heard of em, never really listened to em.

Are you sleepy...Jackson?

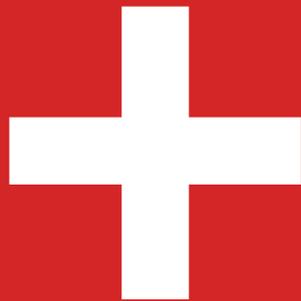
Not really, sometimes.

Are you more like Action Jackson?

Haha. Yeah Action Jackson all of the time!

I want to say thanks to my Mum and Dad because without them I wouldn't be where I am today with snowboarding. Jarrod Wouters for showing me how to snowboard. Jon and Shane and Trigger Brothers, C.P and Billy, Marc and Rick, all my friends, Ralph, and anyone who I've ever snowboarded with and who has helped me out. Thanks. Peace!





Anne-Flore Marxer

When I approached Anne-Flore for this interview I said I wasn't expecting her to write back to a little Australian magazine. She wrote back the next day saying how stoked she was that an Australian magazine would want to talk to a little Swiss girl. I wasn't expecting that from a girl that won the Transworld Rookie of the Year, Team Challenge and has filmed parts for the last two Misschief Films videos.

So...Transworld Rookie of The Year, Ms. Superpark, Transworld Team Challenge and a part in Misschief Films new video 'Ro Sham Bo'! You've been busy these last two seasons huh?

Yeah, I've snowboarded and travelled a lot the last two seasons... I just love it so much I can't stop and I always want more... Sometimes I try to do too much and I get very tired... But it's all fun!

There seems to be something of a girl's revolution in snowboarding right now. What with 'girls only' videos, brands, events and in-stores. Do you think that's the way forward?

There are so many girls only products and events lately... I guess it's because there was nothing before... As a positive effect they involve new girls in our sport and give them something to be inspired by. Personally I'm not a girl power type of person... Especially in snowboarding... When I go ride with friends I ride with friends no matter if they are male or female. I think mags, events or videos should mix genders. In competitions, girls and guys should be able to ride at the same time during practice and finals. Mags should talk about girls as they talk about guys... Not just in girls only trips or a special girl issue...

I cant wait to see a solid part from a girl in a men's video... The last I remember was Tara's.

Also brands should advertise their female riders as much as they advertise their male riders. I love to ride with guys because it pushes my riding and that happens with some girls too. So I think it really doesn't matter. The 'girl only' is a marketing thing. But as far as technical products (boots bindings and boards), it really makes a difference.



photomoran

Do you think there is much of a contrast between the atmospheres you experience on all girls shoots like "As If" and "Ro Sham Bo" as compared to what went on during 'Community Project'?

The contrast is up to the people you ride with. I was stoked to go ride with Travis Rice, Pat Moor and all the other guys for Community Project. As stoked as going riding with Marie-France Roy, Hana Beaman or the other girls for Ro Sham Bo... It's all about having fun.

Do you think the emergence of more and more women's specific companies is having a significant impact on the number of girl's being able to find support and commit full time to their snowboarding or has it always been just about riding well enough to get noticed?

In the past I felt that girls who would get better support from their sponsors were the cute ones, instead of the most talented ones, and it used to drive me crazy! I'm not sure women's specific companies make it different... but yes, brands know they need girls in their team and so give more girls the opportunity to become full time snowboarders. But at the end it's all about being good at snowboarding.

What's always puzzled me is that once girls graduate from high school, there really aren't a lot of sports that they pursue. With the positive lifestyle (not to mention the money to be made) involved in snowboarding, why don't you think more girls are riding at a younger age?

I don't know.

When you're out on the hill who do you ride with?

Anyone who has good motivation and who wants to have a good time. This year I rode a lot with my friend Marie-France Roy, she is such a good snowboarder and a great friend... I got to ride with some skiers too.

With all the contests and filming days, when do you find time to work on new tricks and progress? Or does filming and contests force this progression?

Through filming I try some new tricks here and there. The best time to progress is the beginning of the season for me... before I start filming when I get to ride the same park every day with no pressure... even though it's pretty icy most of the time.

It's clear that you have made a big commitment to your snowboarding by the amount of time you spend in America. What do you think are the main contrasts between being home in Switzerland and living in the USA?

The food. Obviously way better in Europe! And relationships. I feel everything is a little more artificial in the U.S. But you get used to everything.

With that massive amount of time on the road, which countries stood out for you this year? Are there many countries you would like to visit without your snowboard?

I went to Japan for the first time this year and I loved it for being so different with such a cultural contrast. Without my snowboard I went to Brazil this summer and that was a great time as well for the same reason in a very different way. I love travelling and I'll have so many places to explore once I get rid of my board bag!

What's your excuse for not coming to Australia?

You're underestimating my back packer skills to think that I don't go to Australia! My first real trip was in Australia! When I was 18, the day I graduated from high school, I bought a ticket to the other side of the world for a three month trip. We travelled all around N.Z in a camper van, we stayed most of the time in Wanaka but my favourite place was Craigieburn for those who have been there.

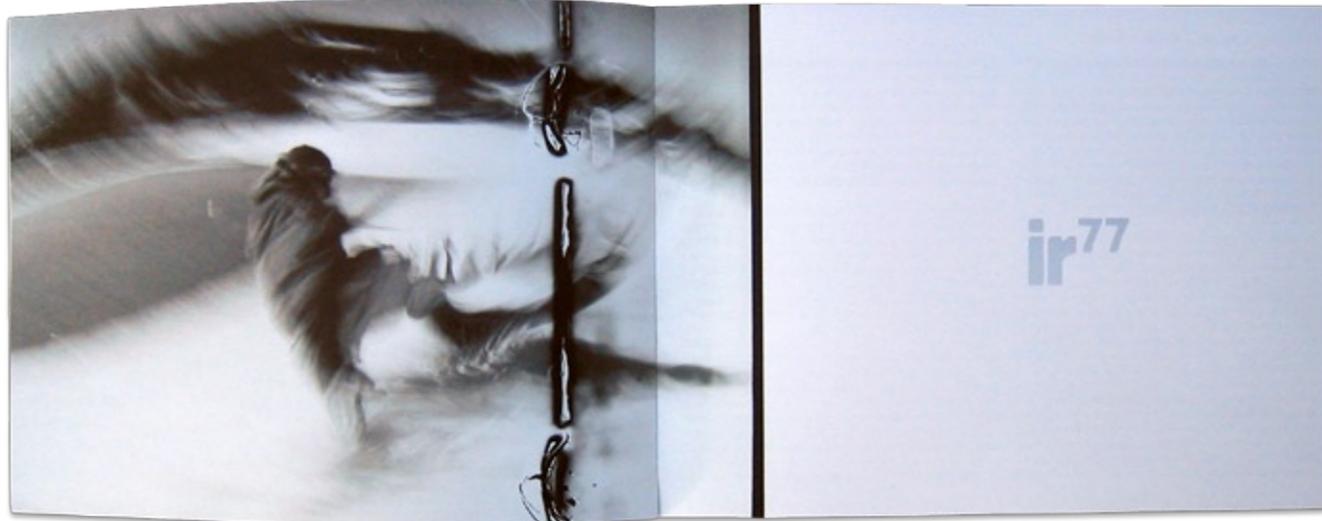
In Australia I spent most of the season in Falls Creek and I even hiked Mount Bogong with my Australian mate Peter Corney. I stayed in Melbourne, in Torquay, I went riding in lots of gumtree resorts, went to Sydney and then stopped in Thailand for another three weeks on the way back. It was a great trip. I love Australia!

Anyone you'd like to thank?

My sponsors. Burton, Oakley, DVS shoes, Bluebird wax, Iron Beanies!

Anne-Flore
Marxer





ir77 is a unique book and movie about the raw elements of snowboarding. Published by professional snowboarder Lukas Huffman, ir77 explores Anticipation, Dedication, Stories, Pain and Exhilaration through contributions from snowboarders, photographers and artists within snowboarding. It contains personnel and emotional accounts from the likes of Jussi Oksanen, Dean "Blotto" Grey, DCP and Louie Fountain on their sometimes loving, sometimes frustrating but always cherished relationship with snowboarding. It's a journey that reminds us why we snowboard, and why season after season we are willing to sacrifice so much to do so.

Unable to decide who to interview, and not really wanting to, POP ended up talking to the men behind both the book and movie that are ir77.

ir77 book = Lukas Huffman

Lukas has been a hugely respected snowboarder for over 10 years riding for Nitro, Anon, L1 and Hurley. I once heard that Lukas is so damn solid in the backcountry he builds his own kickers and hits them solo. Not because he enjoys the work but he knows he's going to stomp every time and doesn't want to deal with bomb holes. Seems like nothing Lukas does bombs, and ir77 is no exception.

What was the motivation behind the ir77 project?

There were a butt load of reasons that this had to be done, but the biggest driving factor was my belief that this kind of story about snowboarding, about the feelings in snowboarding, had not been told and it was mandatory that it be told. It was the most interesting thing about snowboarding for me. As well, I saw a huge need for a snowboard media project that was smart and challenging. A lot of video and print media is literally made for 13 to 18 year old snowboarders. I am 28, and I wanted to make something that my friends and peers would appreciate. A project that had more mature and sophisticated content.

What was the process behind creating the book and how long has the book been a work in progress for?

It started in the fall of 2004. I started brain storming about what to include, how to articulate "the feeling of snowboarding". The five sections, Anticipation, Dedication, Stories, Pain, Exhilaration got defined that fall. Then I sent a call for entries to all the photographers, snowboarders, and creatives that I know in snowboarding. I asked that they submit photos, words, and ideas about what those five sections mean to them. Then in the spring of 2005 shit rolled in. People sent wonderfully beautiful and insightful work. That summer a few friends and I organized and layed out about half of the book. We filmed all winter of 2005/2006 for the movie, then in the summer of 2006 I finished

putting the book together, Jake Price cut the movie, a couple press-checks, then boom. Book + movie.

So do you think that the 5 elements, (Anticipation, Dedication, Stories, Pain and Exhilaration), are currently not portrayed that accurately in today's snowboard media?

I really felt strongly that snowboard media does not represent the bad sides of snowboarding; that is what the dedication and pain sections were for. It is ok that things suck sometimes. In fact if snowboarding did not suck so bad some times, it would not be so amazing when things are going good. Most snowboard media tackles the "stories" and "exhilaration" in snowboarding for sure, but I thought we could shed a little deeper light on those elements.

After the Olympics and huge media coverage of snowboarding, do you think snowboarding itself is getting a little lost?

I don't think snowboarding is lost. It is definitely growing. Snowboarding has yet to solidify it's identity, it is still going through puberty, so it will become lots of different things to different people.

Besides an extremely short run of "25 by twentyfive" printed on your home printer, this is the first book pulp has published. What hurdles did you hit and are the rewards there?

Yeah besides the "25 by twentyfive" book this is the fist book published on this level. Umm... the hurdles are numerous, the main thing is that I had never been to press before. That is a huge experience. Things are different in your head and on your computer then they are when printed on paper. I actually know how to put together a large document for print now. And I know a lot more about creating a visual narrative to carry through a book.

How tough was it to cull down all the submissions from riders, photographers and artist to what we see in the book?

At first it was pretty tough lots of really good content was sent in. But, then as we narrowed down the feelings for each section, it became

more easy. Some images scream out the feelings and some don't.

Which were your favourite?

I love the Magnolia picture by Jess Mooney. It is in the pain section. That could not be more poetic and right on point. And, anything Mark Kohlman sent in was exactly what I needed. I really liked his picture of the Italian kid (second picture in the book) with the snowboard/heart tattoo. That picture pretty much summed up the whole project.

Who is doing good things in snowboarding at the moment?

Nicolas Meuller is a real good thing in snowboarding. Holy shit, that kid eats up everything. Mark Frank is always a good thing. He is one of the most honest and courageous people I have ever met. All the folks like yourself that are making shit happen, all the smaller companies. That is sick, kids are making lives for themselves using snowboarding as the launch pad. That is good.

Will we be seeing more from pulp publishing soon?

For sure, something else will be coming. There are a lot of ideas floating around. I got a big hard-on to go to school though, so that may get in the way, we will see which way the wind blows.



ir77 movie = Jess Gibson

To me, snowboard films are stuck in a rut that sees them released annually, crews and riders scrambling to get the biggest best tricks and often leaving creativity and the real story of snowboarding behind. There is some exceptions and Jess Gibson can be directly credited for a good chunk of them. In his first snowboard film since directing and producing the Robotfood movies, ir77 is most definitely a refreshing departure from the norm.

What is your history in making snowboard films?

I don't know. I think it's weird to give you my resume in an interview. History would be my past, which sounds old, which I am. I've been shooting snowboarding since people drilled their own hole patterns.

How did you get involved with Lukas and the ir77 project?

He bugged the shit out of me until I'd help him. It's hard to say no to the little guy.

What was the process of creating ir77 the movie?

Lots of talking. Then shooting. Then editing. Honestly that's about it. I guess there was a lot more talking sprinkled in there between shooting and editing.

The movie follows the same 5 elements of snowboarding the book does. How hard was it to portray these on film?

There was a conscience effort to capture some of these feelings in the movie. These elements are already there so it was more a matter of recognizing that and then just focusing on those.

The Audio is definitely different from your average movie and played a huge role for me in telling the story, both the sound-

track and having rider comments throughout. Is this something you worked a bit on?

Audio is huge for me. I know Jake (Price) feels the same way. We just made sure there was a video camera and a mic going. As far as the "soundtrack" goes I think it's pretty cool. We have some great friends who helped us get music. Then there are the artists that let us use their work for free. Our music budget was zero. Since I'm talking about budgets I think people should know that Lukas is the major contributor for the project. I'm serious when I say he paid for this out of his own pocket.

ir77 definitely isn't your standard snowboard movie. Why ir77 and not a power packed hammer fest?

Been there done that - so have the viewers.

There are a mass of new film crews popping up and releasing snowboard videos. Do feel they portray snowboarding completely or do you think the elements explored in ir77 are often forgotten in todays snowboard movies?

This is really two different questions.

#1 I like the new "film" crews. Whatever they portray in snowboarding is a part of snowboarding. It's their part of snowboarding - but either way it's part of what's going on. Yeah I think most of them suck but hey not everyone likes what I like. I do think with so many crews it does take away from what's out there. At the same time it makes the producers and distributors work harder to make and sell only the best titles. I also think it's easy these days to "film" snowboarding- which is good. This ensures that the people that should be noticed will be seen.

#2 Yeah I think people forget why snowboarding has an effect on us. That was what ir77 focused on. Lukas kinda came to a fork in the road. He had some questions he needed to answer. I've already been down this road so it was kinda cool to see how Lukas handled it, like a pro, naturally.

Who is doing good things in snowboarding at the moment?

Austin Smith. Shandy Campos. My friends. Anyone that buys a lift ticket. Anyone that buys new gear. Anyone that reads this magazine. For real. I think this is the best snowboarding magazine on the market. You need better distribution so more people around the world see it. I guess it covers skate and surf as well so it's not just considered a snow mag. I think the other magazines that cover snowboarding aren't so hot. I like Snowboard. Frequency is cool too. Are those still around? Oh there are some great European magazines too. I like those cause I feel they have more freedom to say and do what they want. I haven't seen any other videos this year. Honestly I don't pay attention to snowboarding like I used to. I love it and I always will, but I kinda feel like life has some other things I don't want to miss out on. Sorry to get off the subject.

You now work at nemo design? What are they all about?

I don't work for Nemo, I work with Nemo. They design stuff. They help companies develop brands. They do a lot of print and web design. Nemo rules.

What can we look forward to next from Jess Gibson?

My coffee just kicked in so if I don't flush you can expect to see great things.

I need to add that Jake Price and Paul Watt had a lot to do with this dvd. Those guys really worked hard and made this happen. Jake edited the movie. That means I didn't do anything and Jake did all the hard work with only a little direction from Lukas and myself. Good job Minibike.

RYAN WILSON

I had to talk to this kid after hearing about how he was living the dream skating the best spots in New York City while hanging out with the DC Team. We got chatting over email while he was between New York, Sydney and his hometown in New Zealand where we talked about skating in the DC King of New York contest, getting sponsored and getting fired from Tsubi. Enjoy.

So... you've just returned from the DC King of New York contest where you were riding with Sam Winter and all the DC crew. What were the highlights of the trip?

Yeah me and Sam (Winter) went there together; he's good to travel with so it was cool, he's really good at skateboarding so he helps me with my skating too. We stayed with all the American guys so we skated everyday with them... maybe just seeing all the spots that you see in videos and mags was cool. We would be driving down the street and there's a good chance that you'll see a pro skater you recognize you know? Maybe someone you have looked up to for ten years.

Who were you staying with?

Greg Myers, Lindsay Robertson, Devine Calloway, Heath the team manager, Art who works at DC and was helping organize stuff, Jay Thorpe, Renee Renee, Sean Malto, people came and went and the other DC guys had another apartment... and Jeff Pang was there everyday, he was the man of the city, you could ask him anything and he'd probably be able to give you an answer..

Did you get to hang out with Renee Renee? What was that like?

Yeah he stayed in the room with Sam and I for a few nights, he's a funny guy, he skates good I didn't really know it was him, neither did Sam I think, it was kinda' like 'is he that guy from those digital vids?' But he makes music and stuff so have a listen.

Have you been to New York before? Have you got some favourite shops, cafes, restaurants etc?

No, but I'd like to go back as soon as I can. I went to Supreme and other skate stores. The skate stores were a lot better than in Oz, just more product and selection but I suppose skating is bigger in America. We went to some decent as restaurants, one of them was called Ponte's I think, its owned by Vinnie Ponte's dad, it was an Italian joint. I don't think I would be eating there if I was paying though.

Where was your favorite place in New York to ride?

Brooklyn, I like skating around there. There's lots of spots in a small area, just street skating that's what I like.

In your opinion, what and where was the best trick of the contest?

There were a lot of good skaters at every contest, this one guy... I can't remember his name, but he placed in the comp out at Queens. He did a bunch of tricks over the grate, one of them was a fakie heelflip and he did two in a row so I thought that was decent as.

Jimmy McDonald won by 12 points. Did he just dominate or were there a few close contenders?

Yeah, he pretty much cleaned up. I think he did more tricks than everyone put together so that's fair he won. There were a lot of good skaters but he was better I suppose.

So back home now, I caught the four page spread you got in Slam #123. You mentioned that you're still buying your own boards. That sucks. In an ideal world which board company would you like to ride for?

As a kid the first video I got was Time Code from Alien Workshop. I watched it everyday, you know? I liked the skaters and everything the company did, liked their ads and stuff, so... I suppose them. But I don't know, you have to deserve it to get free boards and stuff. I think I need to



RYAN WILSON

skate a lot more. I'm just trying to figure out how to do that and get by at the same time, you know. Andrew helps me out with boards when he can and thanks to Devine for the Chocolate boards in

Are there any companies you would never ride for?

I don't know. It's the people behind the company, if I didn't get along with the people there then I wouldn't ride for them. I like all the people at DC and the Aus team and the American guys, so it's cool. They want to help you out so you want to give them as much as you can back.

I heard about you getting fired from packing boxes at Subi. What happened there?

They thought I was stealing stuff, this manager lady just said she didn't trust me, there was a party incident where some alcohol went missing and I got the blame for it because the person that did it wouldn't own up...I'm not going to tell myself I did something I didn't...so I was like if they think that, then f**k them...then I got fired. Those owner douches never even asked me themselves

they were probably spying on some kids at a skate park trying to find out what clothes to make for next winter so them and there dj friends can look like skaters.

How can companies better support skaters and skateboarding in Australia?

Maybe try keep it in Australia. Skaters can help the companies by buying from your local skate shop and not the internet, and I think having a team is important, you can't really get people to buy a product just because of a name they should have people to relate to it, you know, like having local riders and stuff.

Which companies do you believe are best supporting the sport?

I think DC are doing a lot for the Aussie riders at the moment so it's good to be apart of that...even though you can be bitter about the big surf companies such as Billaobong, Quiksilver, they're still supporting skateboarding and people within the companies these days are skaters you know, not like back in the day when skaters didn't own companies as such, and I think it's pretty funny you know, just knowing that there's some pro skaters can have several houses 3 cars, a motorbike and a family. That's pretty crazy right?

Who would you like to thank.

Everyone at DC, Kerry Fisher who has helped me a lot with everything. Andrew Currie for helping me get some confidence, big thanks Dave Chami, Pete Daly, Young Vo, Jaime and Sparkes at PSC.





MARK WOODS

Hey Mark...

Hey Rick. What are you up to?

Interviewing you. What are you up to?

Right now I'm chillin' on MySpace and msn.

How come everytime I sign in to MySpace

you're online? Do you have:

a) a computer in your bedroom

b) a computer in your bathroom

c) have you taught monkeys how to add friends?

All of the above.

Hang on, I'm looking at your MySpace profile now and I'm hearing your

music. That's actually your music yeah? Like you produce it?

The song up there at the moment was a competition from a Melbourne producer, but I wrote the words and done the voice over.

How's that going for you?

It's starting to go good now, I've hooked up with a DJ and we're slowly starting to get some stuff together. We call ourselves N2W, he's from up the coast and I'm from C-town so it stands for North 2 West. We're gonna' blow up. [Laughs]

Aren't you getting married soon? Aren't rappers supposed to have bitches and ho's? How does your gurl fit into that (I'm not saying she's one so don't shiv me)?

[Laughs] Yeah I'm getting married in February. She's my number 1 girl and she digs the tunes.

Wait, how old are you?

23

So you're 23 years old and you skate harder than anyone I know. Why do you push yourself so much?

I just love skating. I always wanna' get shit done and just love pushing myself

You skate with a pretty talented bunch of kids in Sydney (photographers, musicians, artists). Yet you're all pretty low key. Why is that?

We usually keep to ourselves. Our crew pretty much just skate because we love skating for ourselves, not anyone else. I think you have the most enjoyment when you're stuffing around with the boys in and out of cars through the crazy streets of Sydney.

Every few weeks we try and hook up with either Dan or Sidey and shoot something but we really only do it for the love.

So you've got the girl, music and skateboarding. It sounds like things are working out for you?

Things are sitting pretty right now, definitely can't complain about those 3 anyway.

What would you change if you had a million dollars?

I'd want to get my car back on the road to start with, I've had nothing but trouble with my new Benz since my old one caught fire. Then I'd buy Benny a laptop so he can jump on the MySpace train.

So when that happens will you still be skateboarding?

I'll do it until I can't walk.

Hey Rick, cheers for this mate. If I can put a few thanks in... I better start with my girl Nicole, Dan, Sidey, Jayson at Force Industries, Mark and Harry at Prizm, Ben, Pillz, the 2 Troy's and Paul. All my friends and family.

Where you at?! (skateboarding)

For everyone who caught last issue's Where you at!?, you'd know it's a pretty large task. However hard we thought doing the snow analysis had been, the skate media upped the ante. The average analysis time for each magazine over the last few months was around two hours. That's before we start writing about what we found!

Still, the results are in. To recap how this comes about, we collect magazines from July to October from various sources, mainly the two major publishers Morrison and Emap. From that we look at each photo; the size, who took it and who's in it. That's then assigned a number of points which make up a total that ranks the riders media exposure against that of other riders. Easy!

Then we take out the international riders and photographers (we're all about Aus in this) and assign a cut off point. That is... the riders have to score above a certain level to gain entry onto the list. Kinda' like the BRW Rich List where they say "you have to have 3 garbage trucks full of money for us to even consider spitting on you." So, from our analysis we have a tie for first place. Jake Duncombe and Scott Standley scored evenly on the editorial exposure. This came as a huge surprise as it seemed like Jake Duncombe had been rivalling Paris Hilton for overall exposure. Another big surprise was Chima Ferguson placing in at 19th. All the pre-game talk was that Chima was almost a sure thing for the top 5. Something else to note was the relatively small role international rider's play in the Australian skate magazines we looked at. While in Snowboarding over half of all appearances in the Australian mags were International riders, collectively in Skate they would have placed below the top 10 if they were included.

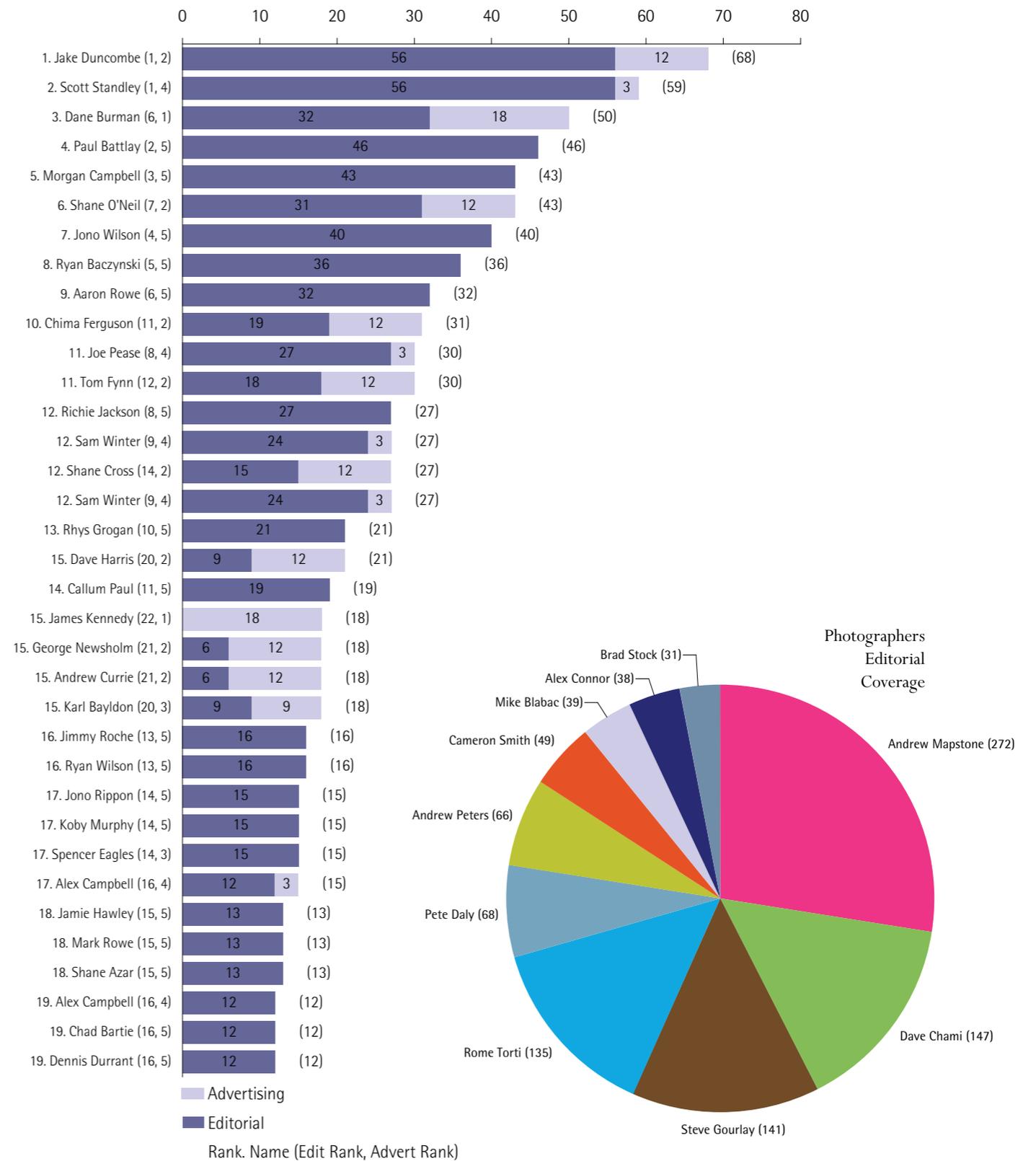
However, the Internationals more than made up for it with their advertising appearances. International riders scored 43 points for every one point scored by an Australian in an advertisement. This is obviously massively out of wack and in some way can defeat the purpose of having an Australian team. The strongest companies, such as DC and PSC, did have a tendency to make use of their team in their Australian advertising. This is good for skating in Australia, good for rider awareness and good for the company. Why would a company pay an Australian roster and let some team members remain anonymous?

Using the analysis to pick riders that are 'good value' for companies to sign at this point is impossible because there is little or no crossover between advertising and editorial coverage. Therefore some riders who receive excellent editorial are not being properly associated with their brands and conversely advertising coverage for some riders such as Dane Burman and James Kennedy has not been backed with sufficient editorial support.

So what does the rider analysis conclude? If you're running a skate team, now is the time to get together with marketing and design some ads using your Australian riders. Then go bargain with Emap and Morrison to get some editorial in return for an advertising deal. Create some sense of a connection between your brand and your riders and while you're at it, put on a demo or contest and give something back to the skate community.

Now the photographers. Andrew Mapstone dominated with nearly double the points of his nearest rival. Mapstone's close association with Slam and solid involvement in the industry is paying off in spades and from the regular party shots featuring him, I'd say he's having fun doing it. He's closely followed by Dave Chami and Steve Gourlay who nearly ranked even. The top photographers are all in a pretty tight group associated with the major editors. So make nice with these guys or you'll be forever on the outside.

The last words go to overall observations. There were over 100 riders recorded during our study, which is almost more than double the amount of riders recorded in the snow media (which means you have a 100% greater chance of getting a trick in a skate mag over a snow one!) There was not a single female skater featured in any of the mags studied despite female skating having greater growth over male skating in North America for three years running. And finally, the most amusing article written in any of the mags goes to Ben Hoban for his article on the opening of the Frankston Skatepark in Slam #122. The best part about the article was not what was in it, but the fact that Ben received a written response from Frankston's PR department trying to refute his claims about crime, teen pregnancy and drugs in the satellite city. You have no idea how sorry I feel for Frankston PR. For those who don't know the area, let's just say they'd have an easier job convincing people Baghdad's a wonderful family holiday destination.





Mikey Williams

Boost Mobile King of the Rails Perisher Blue 28th-29th September 2006 'Snow, television, and the greatest heist ever'

On the long drive from Melbourne to Jindabyne I was worried, the forecast was crap, and it had been raining for a solid eight hours with no sign of easing up. The previous year the event, as fun as it was, turned out to be a complete washout. In fact, I would go so far as to say last year was the worst weather I had pretty much ever seen. Thunder, lightning, and rain was not something I was looking forward to, especially standing next to 100m of steel. Luckily for everyone involved the outcome was much more pleasing.

Once we got to the Alpine way [located somewhere between Victoria and New South Wales], the temperature had dropped and it was snowing, almost the first I had seen for the year and it was late September. Not just snowing, dumping. That road can be hairy at the best of times, so it made for an interesting drive under a half a foot of snow. But that's another story that involves dingo puppies, megaphones, and unexpected handbrake action (thanks Mikey Williams).

The event itself had undergone a massive makeover since 2005 that included a change of venue (now next to the halfpipe),

added big air, and a brand new down-flat-down kink rail. Also new was the addition of a 20ft scaffolding tower (which held the game-show-esque spinning trick wheel), eight television cameras, and a giant 40ft projection screen where live coverage of the event would be beamed to the screaming spectators.

Friday evening hosted the wildcard event which had 40 hungry riders fighting for 2 spots in the otherwise invitation only final. The event was held during the same week as the national inter-school championships so the ages of the riders ranged from 14 all the way to old bastards. Alex Scott from Mt. Buller nearly killed Shay Paxtons' reigning world record with a 33 metre slide, I could have sworn that someone would destroy the whole thing by the end of the weekend. However, the real action took place on the jam setup which consisted of a 50ft table, a stair set which housed a down rail, down box and kink. Not afraid, working class Canadian Matt Galina stepped up instantly and threw down off the jump with no warm up and stomped a bunch of frontside 7's easily earning himself a spot in the finals while many others were struggling to get over the knuckle.



Matt Galina



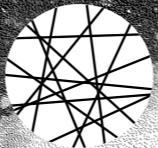
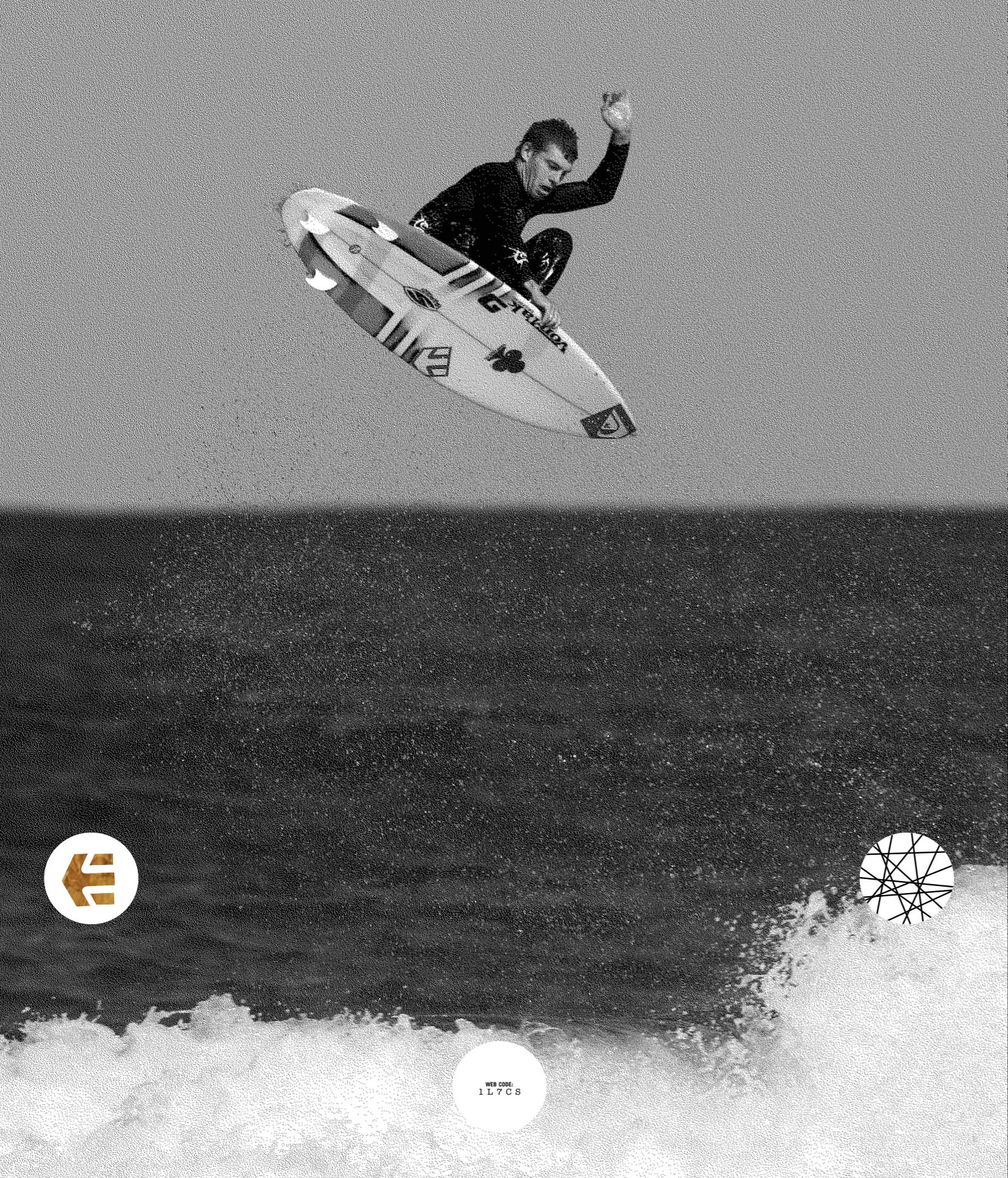
Saturday night finals were a bit more exciting. Many people were nursing sore heads from the Forum movie premiere in Jindy the night before and the weather had closed in. This might have been the first contest I have seen that featured a powder landing for the jump and rails. It was dumping. In the longest rail part of the contest a lot of people tickled the 30m mark of the 100m rail, but no one was able to bump Shay's effort from last year. Last minute entry (super last minute; he had to run to his car to get his gear and maybe put his beer down) Adrian Pelley pulled one out of the bag at the last minute to be crowned king of the rail for 2006 with a slide of 31.22 metres and a \$4000 megacheque.

The jam session would decide who would be in the snowshow 6 man final. Highlights included Gus St. Leon's general ripping of the rail setup, same goes for Charles Beckinsale. The kink was given a shot from all angles too... most exciting. Most riders who chose to jump were having fun in the foot of fresh snow that had blown up onto the landing. After the jam, the final six were; Max Cookes, Mikey Williams, Ryan Tiene, Charles Beckinsale, Russel Holt, and wildcard Matt Galina.

With \$4000 and a whole heap of pride on the line, the final six would have to perform whatever the wheel told them to in a 'game of skate' style, the aim; spell MOTO. No doubt the most dreaded, everyone was praying for the wheel not to land on switch backside 900. Blowing a gale and snowing sideways would you be-

lieve it landed on switch back 9 three times? Well, you better, because it did! Matt Galina and Russel Holt gave it a good crack, lucky for that fresh landing. But the surprise/heist of the night involved one Charles Beckinsale, who had expressed that in no way did he want to be involved in any form of jumping. After the wheel landed on switch backside 900 for the third time, he looked like a pokies addict losing his life savings; angry and bumming. Not to be put to shame, he manned up, dropped in and stomped the living shit out of a flawless switch back 9, or did he? (you might need to watch the DVD). Regardless, everyone went nuts and almost forgot that Max and Ryan were battling for the title. Due to the rankings of the jam, Ryan Tiene had a one jump/rail head start on Max. After a small game of cat and mouse, Ryan was able to walk away with the win on a flawless full cab.

Afterparty followed, hmm, not much to report there. Considering the weather, the event went off without a hitch. It is always good to see the community get supported by the big corporate guys. Thanks to Boost, Motorola, Allphones, Burton, MTV, Perisher Blue, and Skullcandy. Should have put this at the start, but those who didn't want to read all those annoying words, we here at POP are producing a DVD of this event which will be screened on Fuel later this year. Peep that shit or die. For those that watch and don't die, see you next year.



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