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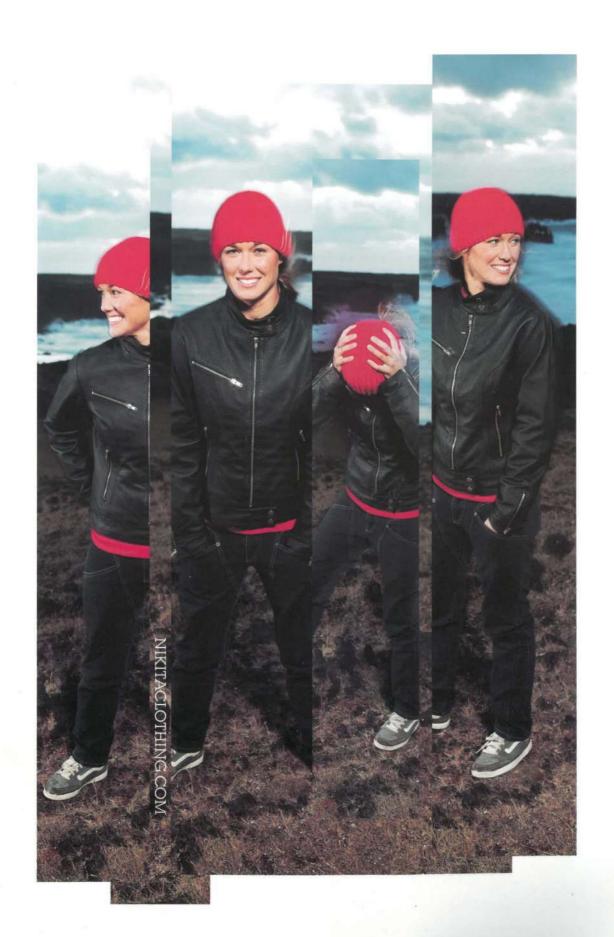


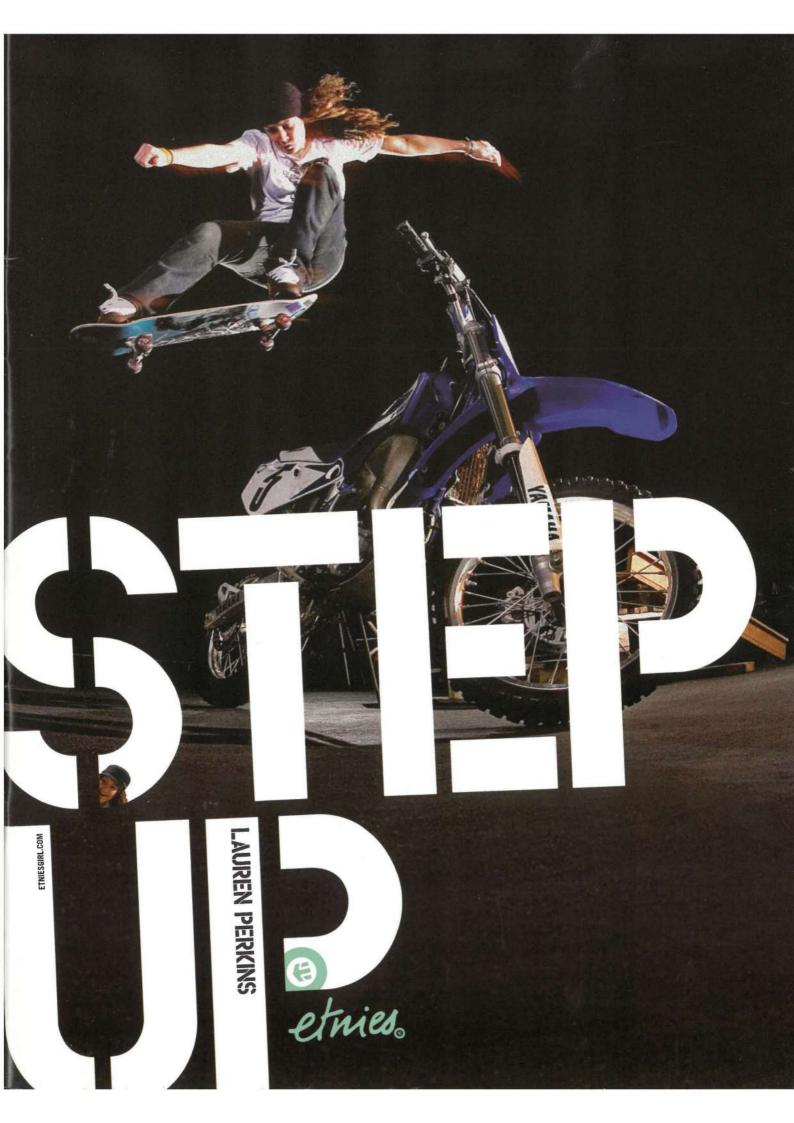


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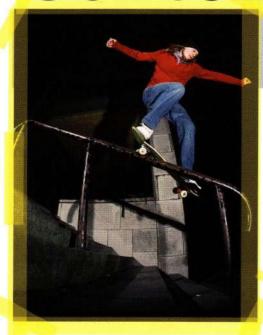
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MIMI KNOOP





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Cover: Krooked grind, Marisa Dal Santo, Vancouver. Photo: Magda Wosinska.



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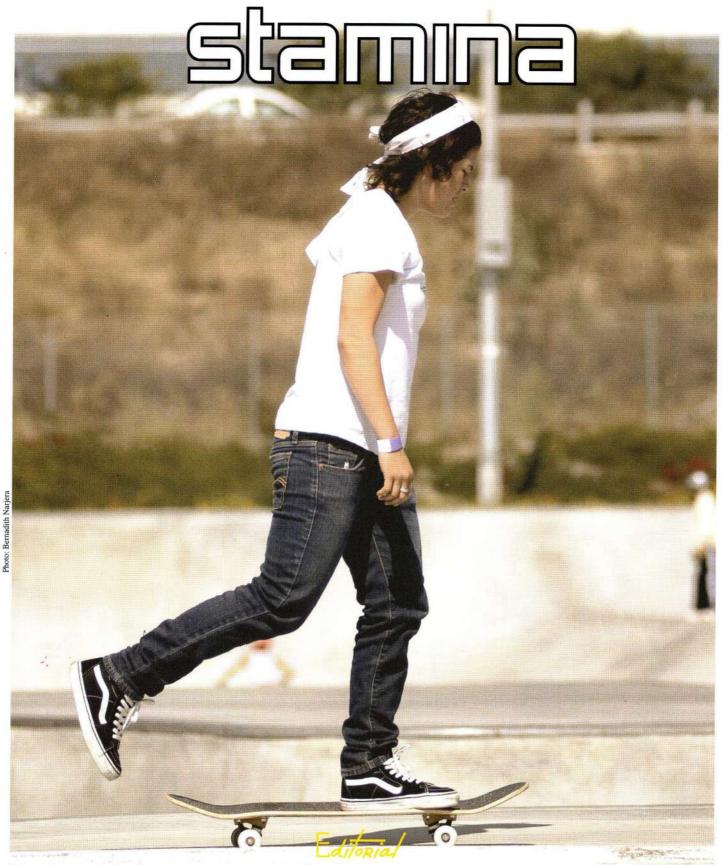
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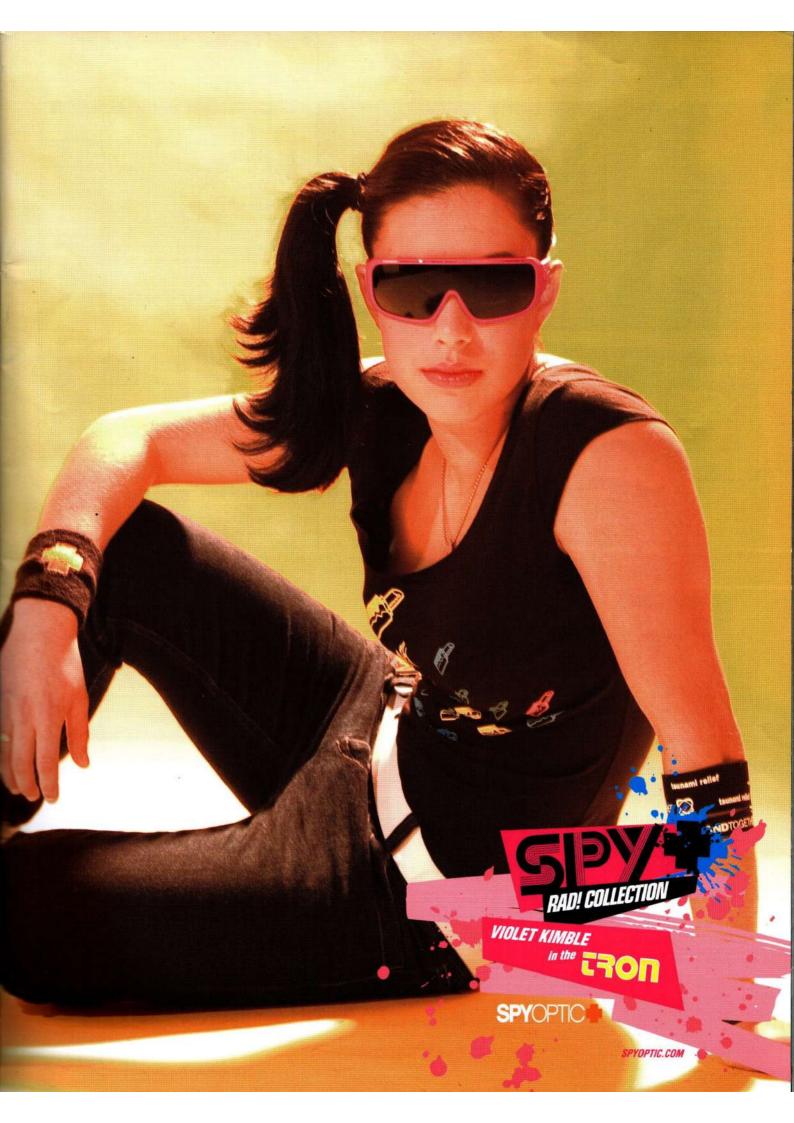


Doing this magazine for 10 years now, we have watched the girls skate scene go through its ups and downs. Some girls started to skate, ripped, and then just stopped for many different reasons. If not for an injury, marriage, or kids, they lost enthusiasm or reached the limits of their stamina. On the other hand, we have watched little girls start to skate, grow up and skate better and better every year. Women that have been skating for several years still continue to improve their skills and now influence the younger girls to pick up skateboards and ride. We can't read our future to know how long our skateboarding life will last, but we know that as long we are skating, we want to live it out to the fullest. 10 years of Check It Out Magazine means 10 years of skateboarding, development, and celebration of the talented girls in skateboarding. The best part of this anniversary is observing how much we've grown as girl skateboarders. We still have the stamina to skate and keep creating this magazine. We're still dreaming, improving and increasing the number of C.I.O. readers and girls joining the sport.

Happy Anniversary to us all!

Liza Araujo Grzeskowiak





NEWS & STUFF





The 27th Annual Salute to Women in Sports Awards Gala and Auction on Monday, October 16, at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City had Elissa Steamer as a guest on stage. Each October, the Women's Sports Foundation gathers the most decorated female athletes together with celebrities from film and television to celebrate the achievements of women in sports and highlight the best individual and team performances of the year. www.womenssportsfoundation.org

On the left, the athletes on stage and Elissa sporting a gown.

4.2



IT POWER TO THE PEACEFUL www.actionsportsalliance.com

The world's best female skateboarders are united in purpose and voice, working together to empower each other and to create more opportunities for girls in skating worldwide. Some of the Alliance girls are: Cara-Beth Burnside, Amy Caron, Lyn-z Adams Hawkins, Mimi Knoop, Jen O'Brien, Vanessa Torres, Lauren Mollica, Lauren Perkins, Holly Lyons, Van Nauyen, Monica Shaw, Sophie Poppe, Karen Jones, Apryl Woodcock, Tina Neff, Nugget, and Rebecca D. One of the first Alliance missions was to get together at the X-Games to discuss the big prize difference between the guys and the girls. Members of the alliance were ready to boycott the competition, when one of the organizers of the X-Games said that they were going to sit down with the girls and talk about the situation because "the show must go on." Now the girls have a bigger voice to speak for them. Congratulations! Long live the Alliance!



Meeting to discuss better prize for girl skateboarders at the X-Games.



PromotionIII

Patiane Freitas is getting her first pro model board by Daehonna skateboards and she needs your help to create a cool graphic idea for her next board! Send your graphic ideas to:

DAEHONNA SKATEBOARD COMPANY

2803 Elsie Ave.

Toledo, Ohio 43613

or email it to: info@checkitoutmag.com.

The winner will get their graphic launched on Patiane's board, a subscription to Check It Out Girls Magazine, Daehonna boards, t-shirts, and stickers.



WHAT IT IS:

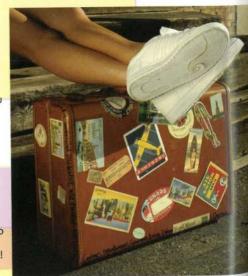
- * Girls sign up online to be an "Osiris Girl" at OsirisGirl.com or www.myspace.com/osirisgirls
- * Osiris will send the suitcase out full of product to a girl they pick
- The girl keeps the stuff
- * The girl takes the suitcase on a PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT (see sample)
- * The girl tags/stickers the outside of the suitcase
- * They send the suitcase back with the used disposable camera
- * Osiris posts the pictures on their website
- * Osiris sends the suitcase to the next girl
- (They send two per month)
- At the end of the year, the most creative girl wins a grand prize trip to the coast of their choice

SAMPLE PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT

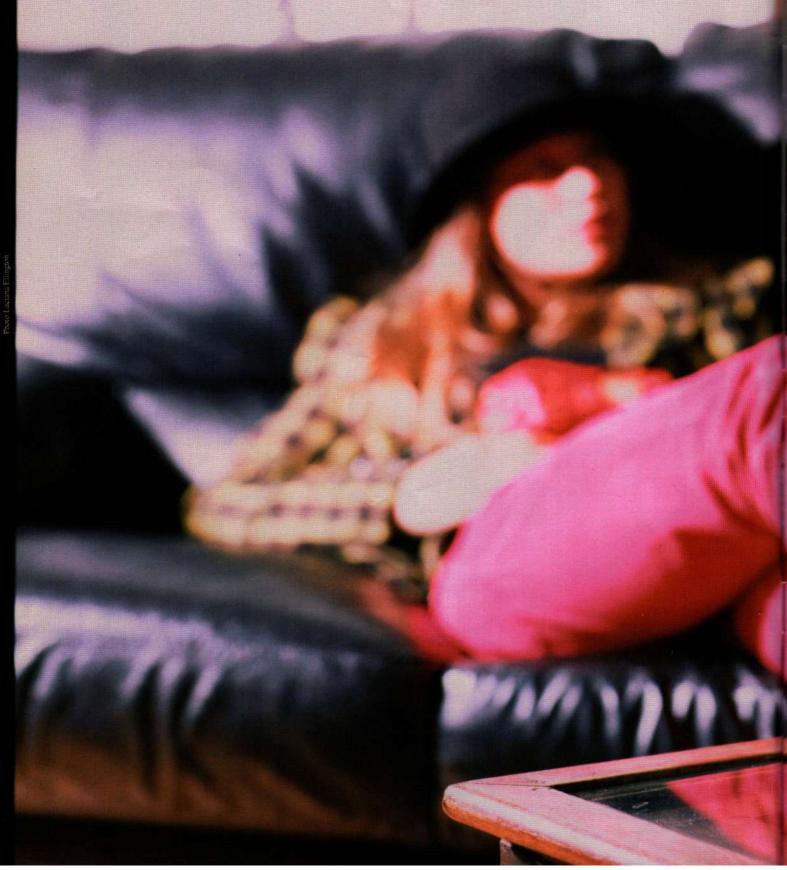
Grab the camera, it's time to hit the town with the suitcase!

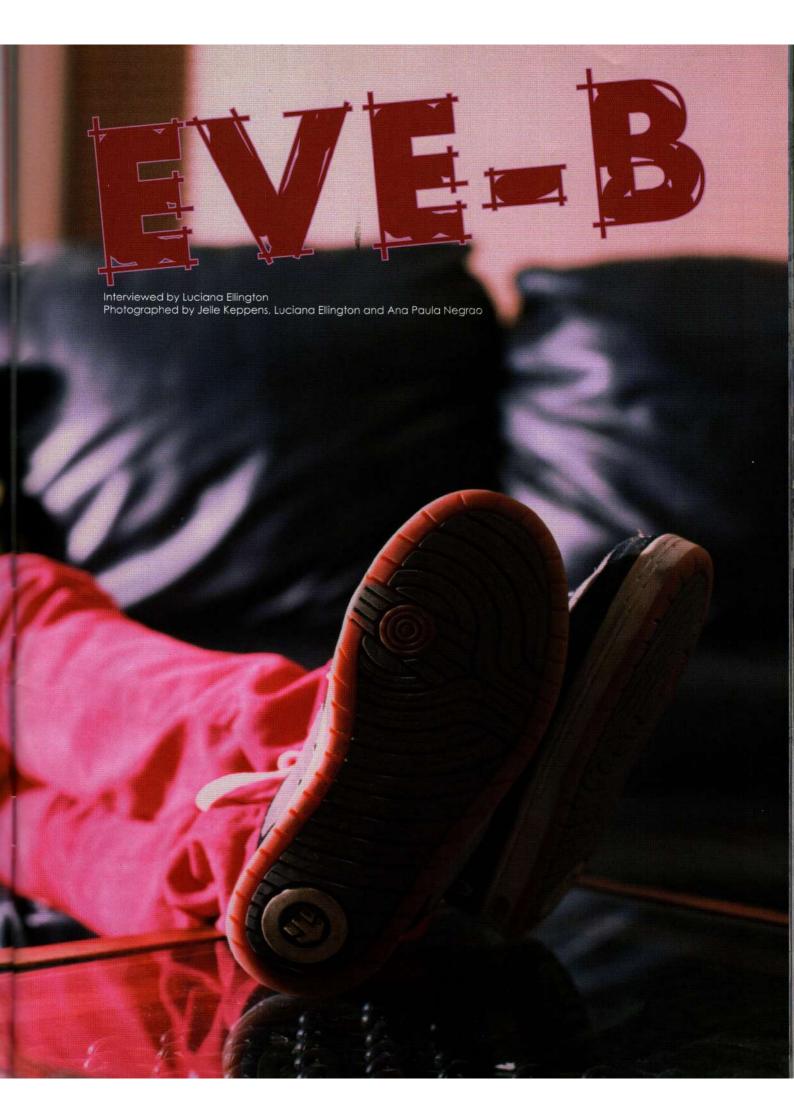
Take a picture of yourself with the suitcase:

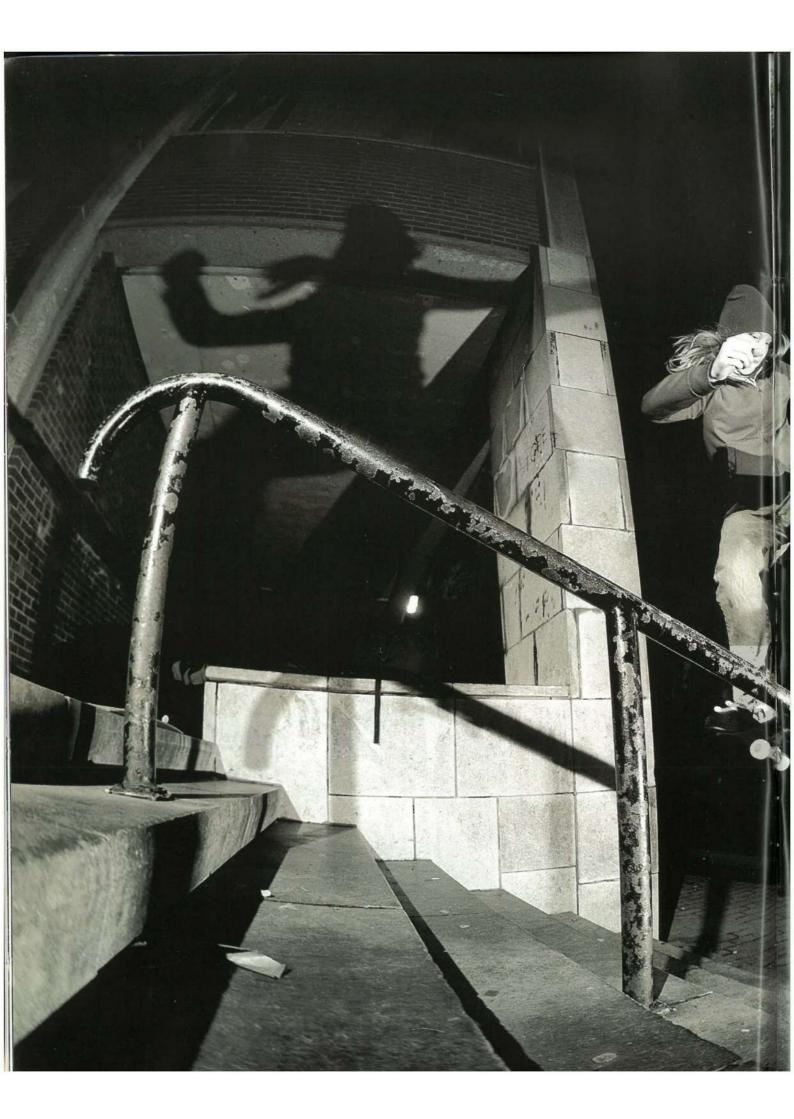
- 1. In a close-up with the suitcase open and everything you received inside
- 2. With your new pair of shoes on
- 3. At the beach
- 4. At night (any setting you choose)
- 5. With any sort of road/city sign
- 6. At your favorite shop/store that sells Osiris Shoes
- With your friends at one of your favorite places in town
- 8. Sitting on the suitcase (any setting you choose)
- 9. Doing something you could get in trouble for
- (but don't get in trouble!) 10. In a close-up after you've added your tag/design to
- 11. Use the rest of the film to be as creative as you can be!



velien (Evelyn) is a very talented European skateboarder. The first time I heard of her was when Brooke Pedersen from Etnies told us to put her on the tour we were doing. She said she was coming from Belgium for the X-Games (this year the X-games brought a lot of surprises and new girls with amazing talent that we've never seen before). Unfortunately, her obligations with school did not let her stay for the tour, but we had a chance to meet her and see her skate at the X-Games. She placed second, right after Elissa Steamer, her teammate on Etnies. Now with the help of our friend and photographer, Jelle Keppens, we have some great shots of Evelien at her street spots back home.













What is your complete name?

Evelien Anick Elisa Bouilliart

Do you have a nickname?

Eve or Evie Cakes.

How old are you?

15.

When did you start skating?

Around the age of 10.

Does your family approve of you skating?

Yeah, they support me and when I get the chance to travel they tell me I have to take it.

Where are you from?

Aalter, BELGIUM!!!

Is skating big in Belgium? Tell us about the spots you have in your country.

Well, skating in Belgium ... yeah a lot of boys but not much girls do it. Actually only Sophie and me are the 'real' girl skaters around here. We skate competitions and the other ones learn flips. We learn that stuff too.

Do you travel a lot in Europe?

Yeah, but only for contests. When I'm in another country I want to check out some culture and history, but most of the time I'm at the skatepark.

Why and how did you start skating?

Well, I started skating because I saw a bunch of guys with boards at a new made skatepark not far from my house. So I was like, "I want a skateboard!!!!" I skated for two and a half years with an f'd up board from a toyshop, and then I actually got a pro one.

Who's your favorite pro?

Vanessa Torres.

When did you first see Vanessa skate?

Well, in the video AKA: Girl Skater and Elementality, but for real at the World Championship in Munster. That was the place where I met her. She's rad.

How was your first contest?

Can't really remember ... was competing with the boys. I think I placed 23 in 70 or something. Can't remember exactly.



Favorite skate video?

Rise Up, the Element Europe video.

Favorite movie?

Uhh, I watch so many movies ... White Chicks, Hocus Pocus...

What is your favorite part in White Chicks?

My favorite part is the dude in the wheelchair and some other jokes I can't really remember.

Who do you ride for?

Element Europe boards and clothes, Etnies Europe, Nixon Europe, 911 Skateshop, and I'm also with Von Zipper.

Do your sponsors pay you a salary or help you out with products and traveling?

Well, I'm gettin' paid now from Element and I get money for photos with the logo on it. My sponsors do everything for me ... pay for travel, hotels ... they are the best! I love them.

Do you skate with any girls?

Yeah, Sophie Poppe from Belgium.

How was it participating in the X-Games in Los Angeles? Was that your first time in America?

Well, yeah, it was my first time in America and I was really stoked that I was invited for the X-Games. So it was fun participating because I got second place. I only stayed for 10 days because I still had to do exams for school.

What are you doing in school?

Uhh, learning stuff. Hang out with my friends. Just normal school life.

Did you go skate around LA? How did you like it?

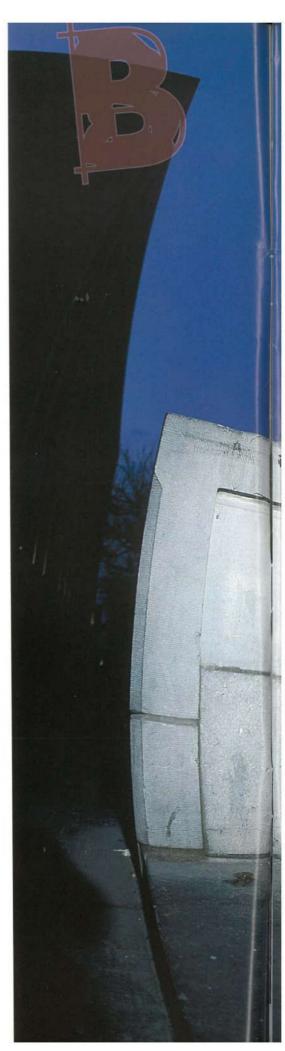
Well, actually, no. I wish I could have checked out more spots. I only went to the Hollywood High rail but we got kicked out. So we went to a smaller rail and we had a lil' session on that one. And I met a lot of people. I went to the Element office and Sole Technology and got a lot of stuff! Thanks!

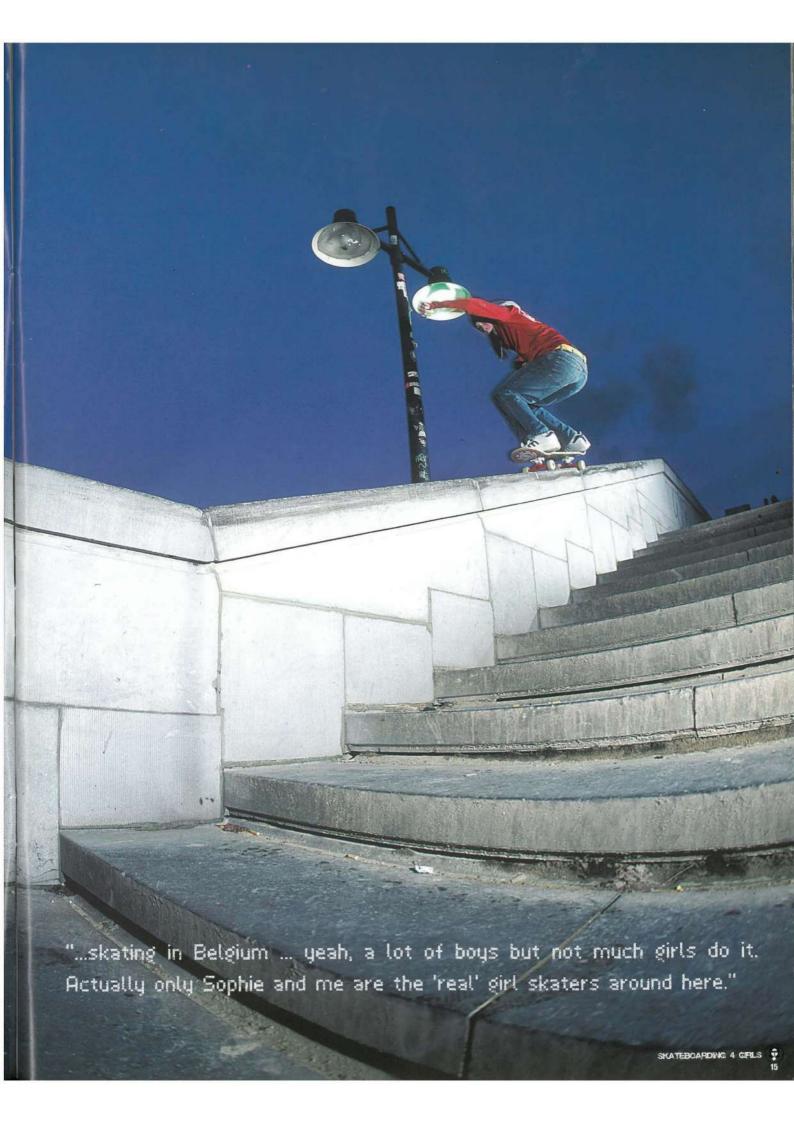
I've heard you are pretty good with the rails and I had the opportunity to see you at the X-Games skating the rails. What's your favorite trick and obstacle?

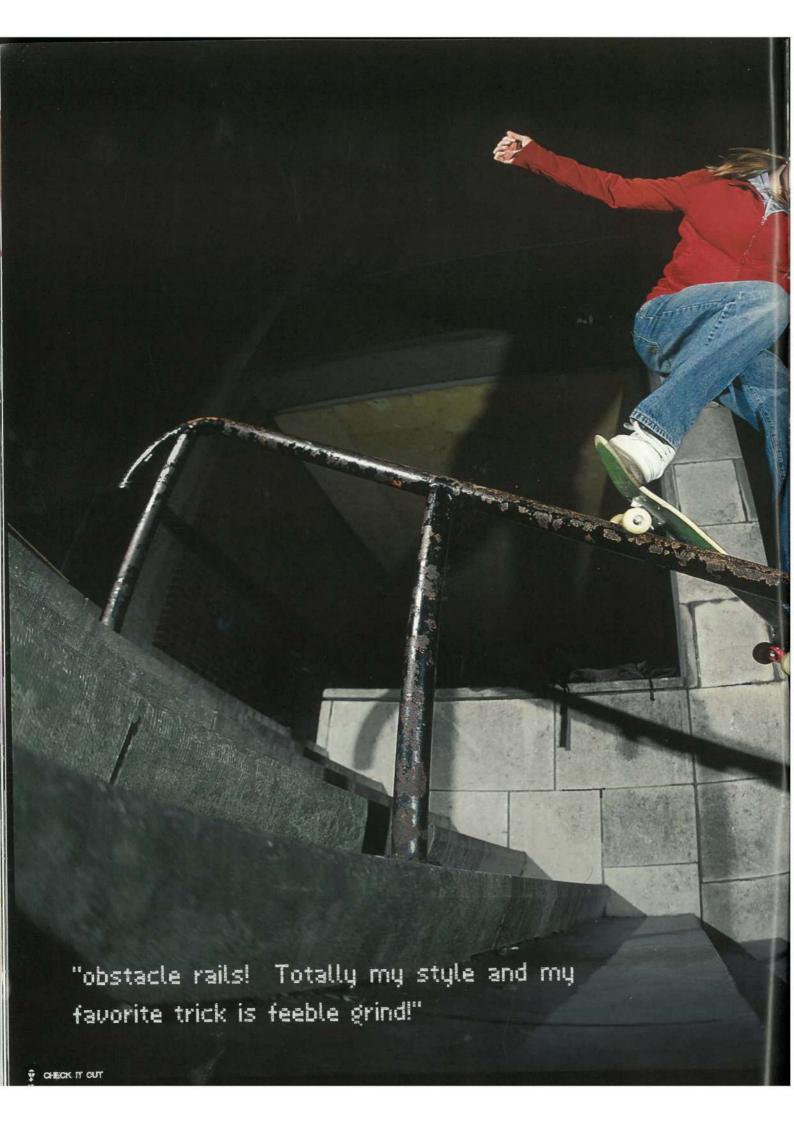
Well, obstacle rails! Totally my style and my favorite trick is feeble grind!

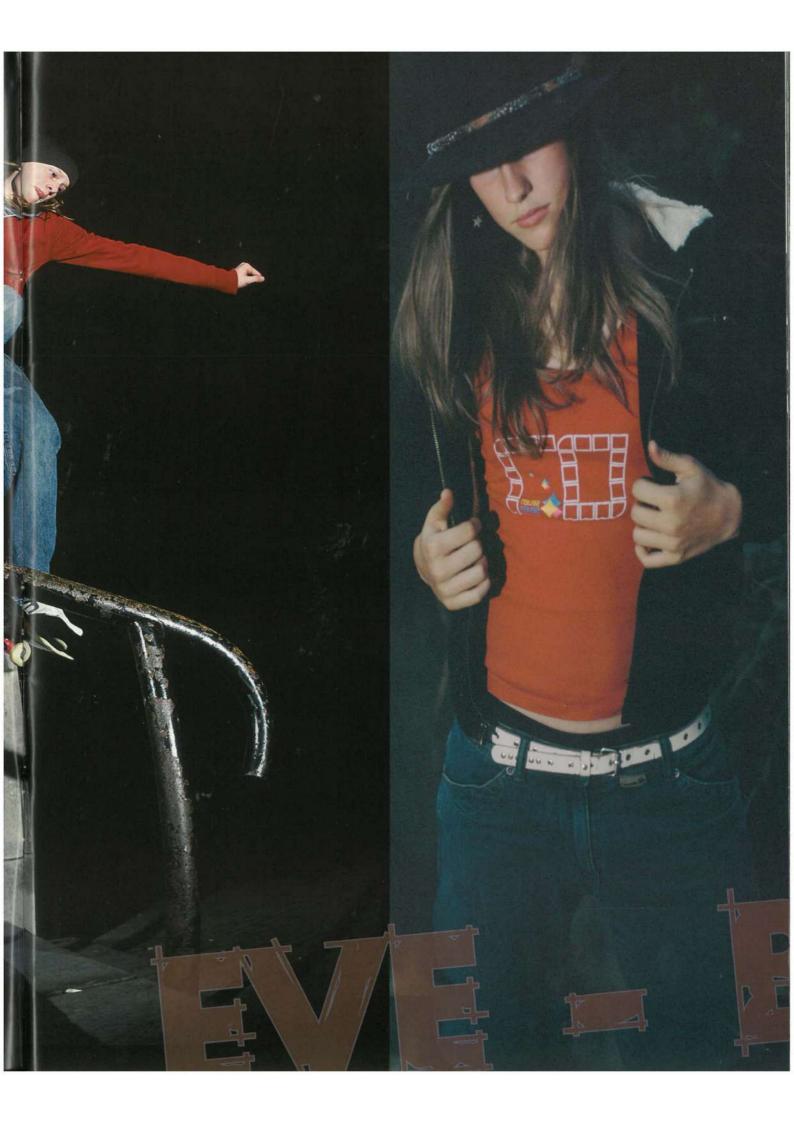
Thanks?

My parents, my sponsors, Jelle Keppens and my friends.

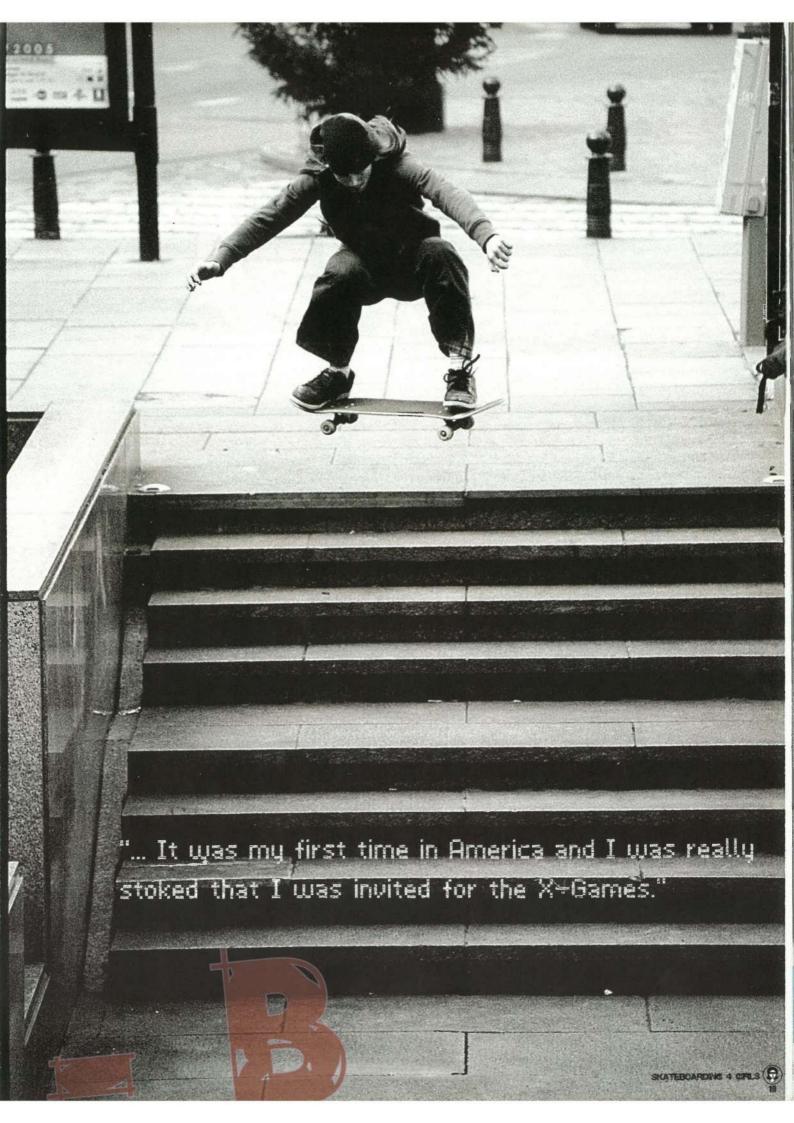














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Lyn-z Adams Hawkins
ame(s): Lil Girl, Punky Burster, L-hawk

Name: Lyn-z Adams Hawkins

Nickname(s): Lil Girl, Punky Burster, L-hawk

Birth Date: 9-21-89 Birthplace: San Diego

Current Residence: Cardiff-by-the-sea

Year turned pro: Haven't yet.

Vehicle: Just got my permit, not sure what kind of car I will get, but I do have an electric mini bike. What would we be surprised to hear from your lood? That's a hard one because I have a very

big variety of music on there. What's playing right now on your lood? Akon. What pushes you? The little voice In my head. Favorite quote: Follow what's inside you and it will lead you where you need to go.

Inspirations: Anyone who has a good attitude and does what they do because they love it.

Who inspires your riding? People with good style and a good attitude.

Any words of wisdom? Don't think because you are a grom/kid you can't do something.

Think because you are a grom/kid you can do

Local spot: The Encinitas YMCA Skatepark.

Favorite snowboarding spot:Mammoth Mountain Favorite tunes: Everything with a good beat or a good message in the words.

Favorite food: Fruit.

Personal goals: Learn how to drive, finish high school on time, learn how to snowboard better, and try to do well in all the contests this year.

What do you think is special about snowboarding; what do you love most about it? Well, although I am a skateboarder I love snowboarding as well and I like it because I can do it with friends, it gives me a break from skating, it's really fun, and because I was and my dad was in the snow when he past away. I feel close to him when I snowboard.



If you are home for a stretch of time, what are you usually doing with yourself? What's an average day like? Wake up eat, schoolwork, trainer, eat, more schoolwork, skate, eat, and then sleep.

What's the first thing you do when you get home from being on an extended trip?

Sleep then skate.

What event(s) do you look forward to next season? X-games, Slam City Jam, and the Canadian

What do you have coming up for next season?

A whole lot of skate contests and fun skate trips and hopefully a lot of snowboarding, oh and 11th

If you had the chance to move outside the US, where would you go? I already lived in Mexico and I don't really know where I would go, but probably Canada or Australia.

Favorite word: Cool

What other hobbies do you have?

Snowboarding, surfing, eating, sleeping, TV watching, picture taking, phone call making, painting, cooking, and nose picking.

What was your favorite moment of this past season? Landing the MegaRamp for the first time.

What's the one question you always get asked? What's your best trick which is my least favorite question because I don't think there can ever be a true answer for it because I skate everything and I have hard tricks in street, on vert, and in

Top three skateboarding videos: The DC video, The White Album, Getting Nowhere Faster. Top three non-skateboarding videos:

The Goonies, Napoleon Dynamite, and Harry Potter.



What are your filming goals?

I just hope to have a video part to shoot for.

Video parts:

Getting Nowhere Faster.

Board setup:

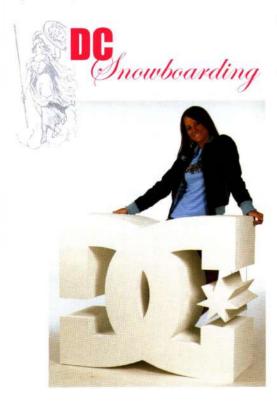
7.63 with size 52 wheels for street and 8 with size 60 wheels for vert.

Stance: Regular. Other sponsors:

Nixon, K-five Boardshop, TSG,

Type-S wheels.

What does a "Perfect Day" of riding consist of? I would have to say snowboarding in the morning then skating the rest of the day and I like when it's cloudy so it's not too hot. Oh, and learning new tricks is fun too.



Drea Russel

Name: Andrea Flint Russell

Nickname(s): Drea.....of Course! Birth Date: July first nineteen eighty seven Birthplace: Cabo San Lucas, Mexico Current residence: Truckee, California Year turned pro: I would not consider myself

pro yet.... I have a few things to learn. Vehicle: I had a Subaru, crashed it, working on getting an Suv or a truck.

Board setup: Neversummer Infinity.

Stance: 15, -15

Other sponsors: Electric Visual,

Neversummer.

Video parts: Pshhh...I just graduated. Give me a minute.

Contest results:

1st Place Eastern Regionals, J1 Slopestyle 1st Place Forum Youngblood, Mammoth 2nd Place 2005 Queen Of The Mountain, Open Class

2nd Place Main Event Series, Overall 2nd Place East Coast Invitational Local spot: Lake Tahoe...so beautiful. Favorite snowboarding spot:

Northstar at Tahoe.

Favorite tunes:

Everything....Tom Petty is at the top of my playlist lately.

Favorite food: Sushi.

Favorite quote: "A big shot is just a little shot that kept shooting."

Inspirations: Alexis Waite. Silvia Mittermuller. Mike Mallon. Ian Kirk. Rick Shimpeno. Ross Hindman, Scott Palmer, Louie, Lukas, Pat. Jed. Ellery, Goldy, Jack. Lyn-z.

Personal goals: Learning, progressing, and achieving everyday. I know that if I stick to that plan and continue to have fun with what I do I will be able to set and achieve goals that I never thought possible!

What do you think is special about snowboarding; what do you love most about it?

Everything about snowboarding is special. It's a very diverse sport...contests, filming, just plane recreation! I love that it has given me the opportunity to travel. I have met so many amazing people because of snowboarding and I am grateful for that. It is crazy how something that is so much fun can have so many additional benefits!





Oregon native Erin Valverde's incredible big mountain riding landed her a feature part in Chunky Knits' new film, Transfer. She started off the 05/06 season by traveling to New Zealand, and has plans to sled around northern mountain states. Travel to Western Europe and Russia are also in store for this talented and naturally athletic back-country rider. Erin balances her on-mountain schedule with her love of art. She attends college and is majoring in graphic design.

Name: Erin Valverde Nickname(s): Elizabeth Birth Date: 3-6-83 Birthplace: Portland, Or

Current residence: Clackamas, OR Year turned pro: Last year...I suppose.

Vehicle: Subaru Outback. Board setup: Rossianol.

Stance: Goofy.

Other sponsors: Helly Hansen, Dakine, Oakley, Rossignol, and of course DC shoes.

Local spot: Mt. Hood, OR

Favorite snowboarding spot: Krasnaya Polyana

Favorite tunes: Cure, Pretenders, Modest Mouse, and the Beatles.

Favorite food: Greek.

Favorite quote: To see a world in a grain of sand. And heaven in a wild flower, Hold infinity in the palm of your hand and eternity in an

hour, -William Blake

Personal goals: To be able to land switch in powder consistently. Have a good segment that is well rounded with all the tricks I can do on film. And to someday have a design agency of my own.

Inspirations: Nature, Art, Love, and Friends.

Did you work hard to get where you are, or did it all just fall into your lap?

I work hard for everything I do. Even if I'm naturally good at something, there is always room for improvement.

Top three snowboarding videos:

Transcendence, Pop, and Dropstitch. Top three non-snowboarding videos:

Hero, Alice in Wonderland, French Kiss.

Berg

Name: Jacqui Berg Birth Date: 1-24-81 Birthplace: Bellevue, Wa

Current residence: Mammoth Lakes

Year turned pro: 2005 Vehicle: Toyota Tacoma. Board setup: Signal 151.

Stance: Regular, 18 and -3, 22 inches. Other sponsors: Dragon, Flux, Signal, Elm,

Grenade, Shelter, Active Ride.

Video parts: Misschief, But I Was Hurt This Season Achievements:

8th Roxy Chicken Jam, Park City

4th Slopestyle, Abominable Snow Jam, Hood 2nd Rail Jam, Vans Triple Crown, Breckenridge 9th Slopestyle, Vans Triple Crown, Northstar Local spot: Slocums.

Favorite snowboarding spot: Mt. Baker. Favorite tunes: Arcade Fire, Bloc Party, Van Morrison, Killers, Pinback, Radio Top 40, Ratatat, Postal

Favorite food: Spinach salad, pizza, Mmmm. Favorite quote:

"Do onto others as you want done to you" Inspirations: Strong minded, positive people. Personal goals: Push women's snowboarding further, and make a strong push forward with my artwork and design.

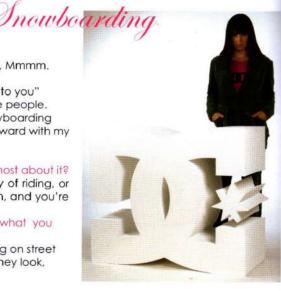
What do you think is special about

snowboarding; what do you love most about it?

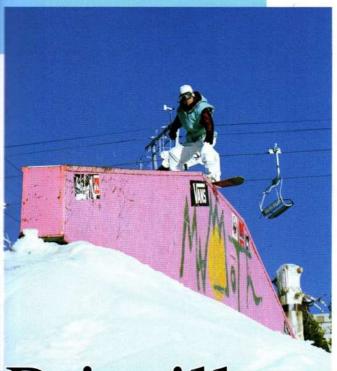
I love the feeling after a good day of riding, or learning a new trick. It's such a rush, and you're always outside in beautiful places.

Maybe 1st trick, or most difficult, or what you are currently working on?

This year I spent a lot of time working on street rails, they're so much harder than they look, and just as painful as they look.







Name: Priscilla Levac Nickname(s): P or Pris Birth Date: June 1st, 1981 Birthplace: Quebec, Canada Current residence: Whistler, Canada

Year turned pro: 2002 Vehicle: Toyota Tundra. Board setup: Goofy. Stance: -12 And +15.

Sponsors: DC, Ride, Drake, Bakoda,

Spy, Atlas Snowboard Shop.

Video parts:

Love/Hate (Kids Know Production).

Achievements:

2nd Session Vail Slopestyle 2003 2nd US Open Slopestyle 2003 1st Queen Of The Mountain Slopestyle 2004

1st US Open Slopestyle 2004 4th X-Games Slopestyle 2004 "Rider Of The Year" for Snowboarder

Magazine 04/05.

Local spot: Any coffee shop. Favorite snowboarding spot: Utah. Favorite tunes:

Any 80's Rock tunes Rock!!

Favorite food: Indian. Favorite quote:

"Saying no to red wine is like saying no to life."

Inspirations:

Music, travel, dog walks, running. Personal goals: To be happy.

What do you think is special about snowboarding; what do you love most about it?

That it's an individual sport,

free spirited, like art.

Maybe 1st trick or mor directly, or what you are currently working on? Working on cab 720.

What's your favorite snowboarding trick to do or to watch, or just in general? Cab 360 melon.

Who's influenced your riding? And why? Jamie Lynn, he was the first snowboarder who made me want to snowboard.

What pushes you? Myself always, but a lot of times, pressure.

If you are home for a stretch of time, what are you usually doing with yourself? What's an average day like? Cappuccino, dog walks, gym, friends with dinner etc.

Priscilla Levac

Name: Indigo Monk Nickname: GoGo

Home Mountain: Mammoth Mountain Lives in: Manhattan Beach, CA

Stance: Regular.

Sponsors: DC, Roxy, Oakley, Windells, Dakine, Poorboy Wax.

How old were you when you started riding?

I live at the beach so, when I was three my parents started me out snowboarding, but it wasn't until I was 7 that I started to go more than a couple times a year. Now I am lucky enough to live in the mountains during the winter and the beach in the summer!

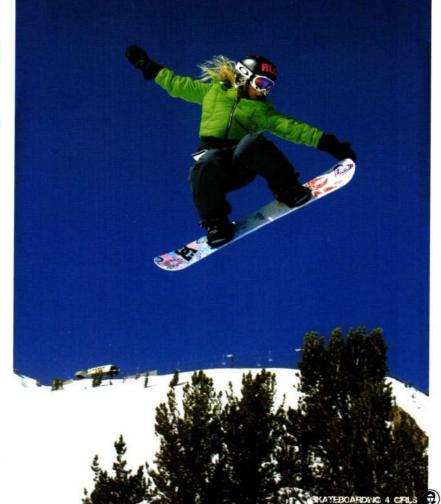
Who taught you how to ride?

My family taught me how to ride because I refused to go to ski school.

Grade in school: 5th Grade.

Hobbies? Surfing, paddleboarding and beach volleyball.

Indigo Monk





Contest results:

1st Place: Overall Freestyle, USASA NATIONALS, Copper Mountain, CO 2005

1st Place: Slopestyle, USASA NATIONALS, Copper Mountain, CO 2005

2nd Place: Groms, WCI Rail Jam, Mammoth Lakes, CA 2005 (12 & Under)

2nd Place: Queen of the Mountain Rail Jam, Mt. High, CA 2005 (12 & Under)

2nd Place: Roxy Snow Classic, Bear Mountain, CA 2005 (12 & Under)



Megan Abub



In three words what stokes you VOUS Confidence, Determination, and Happiness. Mental stimustion, Reading, Talking.

Winning Bells Beach, winning J bay, and winning Malibu Pro, and going on surf trips, every trip is a

influences Rell Sunn, sisters, Mom, Lisa Ander

Figuration in your look. The Killers, Five for Fighting, Bab Marley

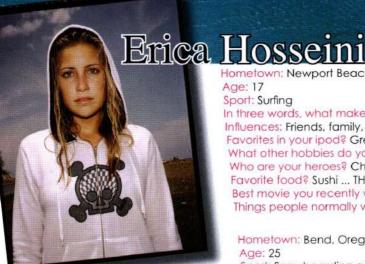
I am hyper active.
What other hobbies as you have?
Running, playing ukulele, writing.

Rell Sunn, Flo Jo, Lisa Andersen, Venus Williams

Wards of weadth or words you live by?

Treat others how you would like to be treated.

Rovertre food? Sushi.



Age: 17 Sport: Surfing

In three words, what makes you YOU? Fun, Sarcastic, Weirdo.

Influences: Friends, family, competitors -- everyone I know influences me and pushes me.

Photos: Zeigler

Favorites in your ipod? Green Day, Nelly, Jimmy Eat World, JT, Black Eyed Peas.

What other hobbies do you have? Playing the guitar and snowboarding. Who are your heroes? Chelsea Georgenson.

Favorite food? Sushi ... THE BEST!

Best movie you recently watched? Surf movie = Kelly Slater and the Young Guns... Things people normally wouldn't know about you? I wear glasses and I can't touch my

Hometown: Bend, Oregon

Age: 25

Sport: Snowboarding and skating. I wouldn't

say excel, but I also surf a lot.

In three words, what makes you YOU? Water, blood, and skin.

Mental Stimulation: Books for sure.

Influences: Scott Sisamis.

Favorites in your ipod? What? I still use a walkman... ya know, tapes?

Guilty Pleasure: I take the bus.

Embarrassing thing you're not afraid to admit: I let other people affect my mood, it's gross

What other hobbies do you have?

I sew and paint. Sometimes I sew on my paint. I often reep what I sow.

Who are your heroes?

Anyone who deliberately chooses a simple modest lifestyle. Also, my Mom.

Favorite food? Just about anything from Zinc Cafe.

Best movie you recently watched? Barfly (recently for the 50th time).



Karina Petroni

Sport: Surfing

In three words, what Makes You You? Pure, Radical, Ready.

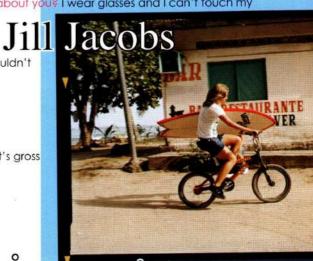
Age: 16

Mental stimulation: In The Ocean!

Career highlights: 2002 Open Women's National Champion,

Rip Curl WCT Trials Winner, 1st WQS Hello Kitty

Influences: Rory Reep! Guilty pleasure: ICE CREAM

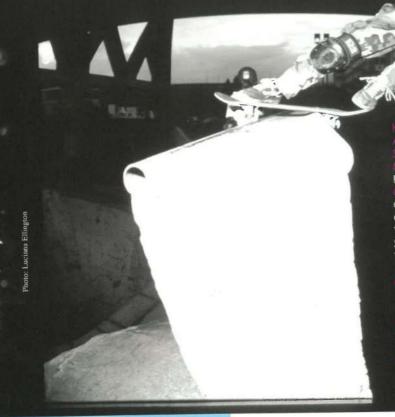


Hometown: Atlantic Beach, Florida

SKATEBOARDING 4 CIPLS

Vans Skateboarding

Cara-Beth Burnside



Encinitas, CA Skate/snowboarding Reading and meditating. 1998 Winter Olympics-Fourth Place, World Cup Skateboarding's Female Vert Skater Of The Year 2003. Summer X-Games 1st Place Women's Vert 2003, Slam City 1st Place Women's Vert 2004 Paul Newman's Peanut Butter

Cups. Oprah, Jane Goodall. Reading, learning about new things, working on my house.

Believe In Yourself.

Sushi, Pizza & Beers.

The Machinist & Man On Fire.

Litterbugs.

I try to live and support an environmentally-friendly lifestyle including the foods and products I use.





Hometown:

Leichlingen, Germany

Age: 23

Sport: Skateboarding

Mental stimulation:

Music and friends.

Career highlights:

2nd European Championships 2004,

Skater Of The Year 2003,

2nd Place Etnies Cup, Rome

Guilty pleasure: Shopping.

Favorites in your lpod?

Hip-hop and Reggae.

Embarrassing thing you're not afraid

to admit: I am a T.V. addict.

Fashion: I love it! I like mixing vintage with hand-made and store bought clothes. (I work for a clothing com-

pany, by the way)

Sports: Besides skating, I enjoy

basketball and soccer. I also like watching men play soccer.

School: University of Duesseldorf.

Boys: Yeah! I love 'em.

What Other Hobbies Do You Have?

Shopping, fashion, basketball and hanging out with friends.

Who are your heroes?

Mother Theresa and Helmut Kohl (he

made Germany unified)

Words of wisdom? The sense of life is life itself!

Favorite food?

Pasta, vegetables and fruits.

Best movie you recently watched?

Farenheit 9/11



Tara Dakides

Hometown: Mammoth Lakes

Age: 29

Sports: I'm a Jock, I love sports. Competing, I keep it to snowboarding and racing karts n cars. Surfing I would never compete in. Moto for strictly just like in the dirt. I'm really thinking of joining the WNBA, I got a mean slam dunk.

In three words, what makes you You?

Diesel exhaust sucker.

Mental stimulation: The speed channel.

Career Highlights: Landing a backside rodeo at X. All my dawger parts and going on David Let-

terman minus the crash.

Influences: My good friends and good people.

Favorites in vol

Fleetwood Mac's Greatest, Pinback, Bjork

Guilty pleasur

I have no guilty pleasures unless I wake up the next day with a hangover, I mean headache Embarrassina thing Letting one slip out in a crowded elevator.

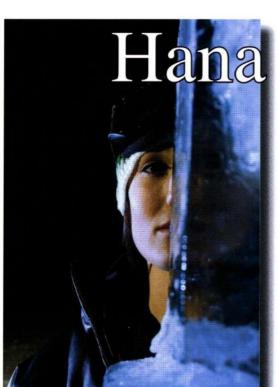
What other h

Singin', writin', shoppin', Real Estate, collecting indy films, and documentaries.

Words of wisc

"To worry about life drains life from you" Quote by Ron Rathbun, The Kelee.

Favorite food? Thai Food.



Hana Beaman

Photos: Ruhter

nowboarding

Hometown: Mammoth Lakes, CA Age: 22

Sports:

Swimming, Snowboarding, Tennis In three words, what makes you You?

Bottle of fun!

Mental stimulation: Jeopardy. Career highlights:

X-games Silver Medal 2003 Slopestyle,

U.S. Open Slopestyle Gold 2003 Favorites in your Ipod?

Everything in it is awesome! Embarrassing thing you're not afraid to admit:

I ski raced when I was younger. What other hobbies do you have?

Drawing, writing, cooking, cleaning, driving.

Who are your heroes?

Everybody that has taught me something; and Mom and Dad. Words you live by?

Try to be the better person.

Favorite food?

Ice cream.

Best movie you recently watched?

The Punisher

Biggest pet peeve?

Anything my condo manager does. Goals? Live.

Things people normally wouldn't know about you?

I have a birth mark on my foot that looks like a kiss. Or as some people say, a leech.

rin Comstock

Hometown: Salt Lake City

Age: 24

Sport: Snowboarding (Slopestyle, Rails) In three words, what makes you You? Spontaneous, aggressive, determined.

Mental stimulation: Music, tv, reading, exercise. Career highlights:

1st Redbull Heavy Metal, Cover Transworld Buyer's Guide, invite to X-games Influences:

Family, and all my friends who are constantly helping me!!!

Favorites in your Ipod?

Methodman, Greyboy, and 80's are always good. Embarrassing thing you're not afraid to admit: Flatulence.

Reading, traveling, trying new things.

Who are y

My mother is the biggest hero in my life.

Be aware of the power of forgiveness. Favorite food? Sushi, Bbq, Cheese. Best movie you recently

Napoleon Dynamite.

Biggest pet peeve? Slackers, Dishonesty.

Goals? To stay positive and always exceed my own and others expectations.

wouldn't know about you?

College graduate, grew up in Tahoe, went on a mission for my church for 18 months, speak spanish fluently, played college soccer.







Arguably the best female in the history of skateboarding, Elissa Steamer has radically redefined the role of women in this maledominated sport. Her career is riddled with firsts: she was the first female skater to have ing shoe—the etnies Steamer, followed by the etnies Tross. Elissa also has the distinction of being the first and only female skater in any of the Tony Hawk video games. She regularly makes the cut skating with the boys, and is virtually unrivaled among her female peers. Elissa first started skating in 1989 with friends in her hometown of Fort Myers, Fla. By 1995, Elissa began to receive packages from The Firm, followed by Tum Yeto. Jamie Thomas noticed her skating in Tampa, Fla., and started flowing her Toy Machine product; she became a fullfledged team member not long after.

From the get-go, Toy Machine treated Elissa as just another rider, rather than as the head of a girls division or as a side project. However, it was not until her 1996 appearance in Toy Machine's "Welcome to Hell"—a video that many in skateboarding consider one of the most influential of all time—that Elissa truly made an impact. Her exposure in the video single-handedly redefined the role of women in skateboarding and ushered in a new era of talented female skaters. Comments Toy Machine's Ed Templeton, "Obviously, she's the best girl skater, and the thing is that she doesn't skate 'like a girl.' It's in quotes because, for some reason, everyone knaws what you mean when you say that, even though it sounds like a lame thing to say. She has a good style, stands up straight and skates like a guy."

Elissa Steamer

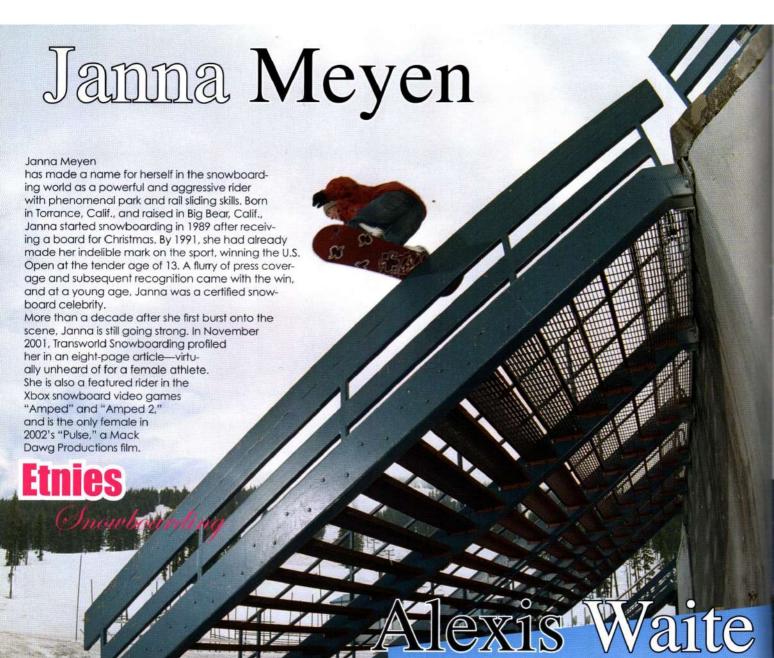


In 1998, Elissa went pro, the same year that she won the first Women's Street Contest at the Slam City Jam in Vancouver, British Columbia, the largest and longest-running skate-board contest in North America. In yet another first, the Slam City Jam contest was the first all-female contest ever held at a World Cup event. An array of tours, demos, videos and magazine coverage over the next few years increasingly propelled Elissa into the spotlight in a sport that had never had a female star. She

became widely regarded as the best female skater ever—an accolade she continues to shrug off.

After a five-year stint with Toy Machine, Elissa switched to Bootleg. She continues to dominate nearly every all-female event she enters, and was voted Check It Out Girls Magazine's 2003 "Female Skater of the Year." The fact of the matter, however, is that Elissa is simply a great skater—not just a great female skater.





Both on the snow and off, snowboarder Ale waite is extremely snowboarding in the spring of 1992, and by No snowboarding in the spring of 1992, and by No vember 1998 had made the dramatic decision her native Washington state to Waite is extremely well-rounded. She started Vermont to attend her junior and senior years of high school at the Stratton Mountain School a ski and snowboard academy. After graduation, she returned to the Pacific Northwest and attended the University of Washington for a quarter, picking up an ecled of Japanese, geology a fine art major. It soon b ever, that Alexis would not be al school while she was traveling the world snowboarding. She decided that her college career could wait until her snowboarding career was over, and in the spring of 2001 moved to the Truckee-Lake Tahoe area of California for three

Alexis' snowboarding-career took off after she moved to California, and in 2002 she went pro. Her two years at the Stratton Mountain School had placed heavy emphasis on competitive halfpipe riding, but, true to her nature, Alexis refused to be pigeonholed. She decided to take her focus off halfpipe snowboarding, and for the past few years has redirected it toward

rail events. The past two seasons have been Alexis' most successful yet, garnering her increasing recognition as she places at more and larger events. She now saves her energy for big events like the X Games, Vans Triple Crown of Snowboarding and The Session at Vail, and spends the rest of her time filming and shooting. Says Alexis, "I feet like have finally found my niche in the snowboard world, but my eyes are still always open to evolution. My career is heading in the exact direction I want it to toward the editorial and filming realm." Lately, Alexis has also been involved in the research, development and design side of the sport. This past season, she played a major role in designing the Planet Earth women's outer wear line and Santa Cruz women's boards, in cluding her own signature model. Additional she is the head women's apparel design co-owner of Wize Designs, a t-shirt and sweat shirt company that she runs as a ect with some friends from hi currently lives year-round in Bond, Ore., an ever the well-rounded individual, enjoys su ing, skating, mountain biking, running, playir soccer, practicing yoga, sewing, knifting, cro cheting, designing, drawing and reading in her





Growing up in her native Calgary, Leanne Pelosi dreamt of one day becoming a professional athlete, although not in the sport you might expect. While many Canadian youngsters carry aspirations involving hockey rinks or fresh powder, Pelosi dreamt of becoming an Olympic soccer player.

"I believe things happen for a reason," Leanne says. "And even though things were slowing down for me throughout my soccer years and I was devastated, I can look back now and be satisfied with how things have changed for the better with me and my career in snowboarding."

While her soccer career never materialized, Leanne has more than made up for it on the slopes, making a name for herself as one of the top up-and-coming riders on the pro circuit, winning six competitions and the TransWorld SNOW-

eanne Pelosi

boarding's 2004 Rookie of the Year award. Any chances of Leanne suffering a sophomore slump in 2005 were quickly put to rest as she followed her breakout rookie campaign by winning eight more competitions.

Despite her meteoric rise, Leanne has managed to maintain her humble Canadian roots. "I traveled so much this past season, I thought my head was going to fall off. I had an amazing time though, and I know that I'm truly very fortunate to be getting paid to do what I love to do. I really like the spontaneity of snowboarding. One day we'll be in Switzerland, the next New York, the next L.A., so it's really exciting and there's always new places to see and things to do."

Leanne's hobbies include surfing, running, soccer and mountain biking, as well as serving as director for the MGT Snowboard Camp at Whistler/Blackcomb.

)sbonne

Etnies Surf

Champion longboarder and tandem surfer Mary Osborne is a classic triple threat. Most widely known for winning the longboard division of MTV's "Surf Girls," the pro surfer and surf model is also making her mark as a host and personality.

Raised by Solimar Beach in Ventura, Calif., Mary picked up her first board at the age of 14. "I got into it basically because I wanted to be better than the boys," she says, referring to her three older brothers who all surf. "I was supposed to be the ballerina." Around the time that Mary started surfing, local surf shop owner and former pro surfer David Pu'u was pursuing a new career as a photographer. They started working together to create beautiful modeling and surf images, while Mary began promoting herself as a competitor by attending tradeshows, contacting companies and participating in several competitions. She quickly started garnering attention, and became the first woman to grace the cover of The Surfer's Path, a popular European surf magazine, after Pu'u shot and submitted

Mary's big break came when MTV selected her out of 4,000 other young women to compete on its reality series, "Surf Girls," where she more than proved her skills by winning the longboard division. In 2003, she was nominated for a Teen Choice Award as "Best Female Athlete," and was named the first "Action Girl of the Year" by Action Girl, Inc. Mary has been featured in magazines such as Longboard, Surfing, Surfer, Surf News, Surfer's Path, Wahine, Surfer, Surf Life for Women, Surfing Girl, Nalu, FHM, Entertainment Weekly and Spin Magazine, as well as in such surf films as "Longboard Magic." She has also appeared as a host on Fox Sports Net's "54321.

Mary coauthored "Sister Surfer: A Woman's Guide to Surfing with Bliss and Courage" with Kia Afcari, which was published by The Lyons Press in June 2005. The inspirational how-to book guides women through the process of learning how to surf, covering everything from how to conquer fear to how to wax a surfboard. Mary, who lives in Ventura, Calif., earned an associate's degree in liberal arts from Santa Barbara City College. She plans to continue pushing her surfing to new levels while simultaneously pursuing a career in entertainment.

Jodie Nelson

Jodie Nelson gracefully walks the line between accomplished competitor and soul surfer. The Surfside, Calif., native started surfing at the age of 12, after finding an old single fin left over from her father's college days in her garage. She recalls that she immediately "fell in love with the ocean" the first time she paddled out, and has been surfing ever since. "The more and more I surf, the more I want to escape into it," she says. Jodie's charisma, athleticism and commitment to surfing have made her one of the sport's best and most highly respected ambassadors. The goofy foot has made her mark by tackling everything from world-class competitions to giant waves in Tahiti, and her pervasive love of surfing shines through in everything she does. "I love surfing," she says. "I love traveling. I love making a difference in the sport and inspiring little kids."

In the 1990s, Jodie earned spots on numerous U.S. National Teams, and honed her surf skills in a variety of locations all over the world; however, it was not until a Surfing Girl magazine photo trip in the summer of 2001 that Jodie added the challenge of tow-in surfing to her repertoire. Along with pro surfers Rochelle Ballard, Megan Abubo and Holly Beck, who joined her on the all-female trip, Jodie established a place for herself in big wave surfing history by being one of the first women to be towed into enormous barrels in Tahiti's Teahupoo, as well as one of the first female surfers even to attempt tow-in surfing

Jodie has received praise for her on-site hosting at the X Games and on-air interviews for FUEL TV, and has appeared on the pages of such magazines as Elle, Lucky, CosmoGIRL!, Seventeen and Jane. She also was stunt double for an actress on Aaron Spelling's WB show, "Summerland." She answers surfing queries in her Surfline.com column, "Who Knows?" In addition to her surfing, Jodie is an accomplished photographer, avid traveler and Gretsch Guitars-sponsored musician and songwriter. She currently resides in Surfside, Calif.







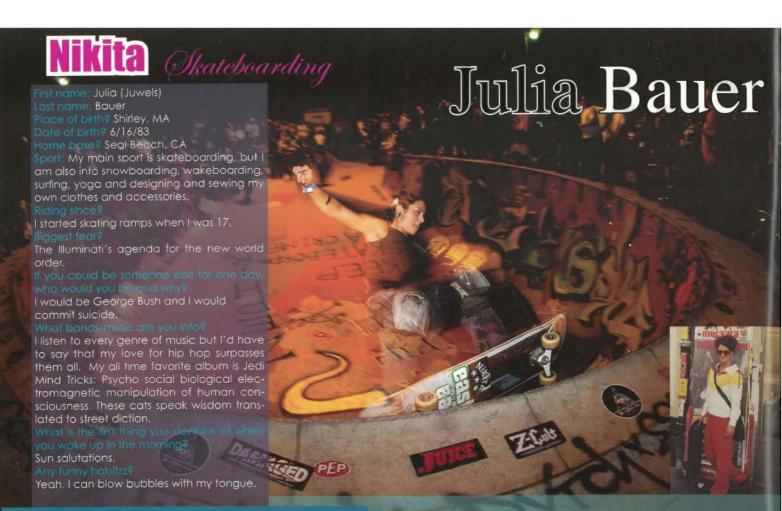
Name: Tarah Gieger
D.O.B.: September 18, 1985
Hometown: Aguadilla, Puerto Rico

Sponsors: etnies Girl, Yamaha, Alpinestars, MSR, O'GlO, Kicker, FMF, FASST, M2R, Shoei, Enzo Suspension, Independent Suspension, Pro Wheel, CTI Knee Braces, Galfer Brakes, Topar Triple Clamps, P.C.S. Neck Braces, Scott Goggles, Oakley Goggles, K&N Filters, Wiseco Pistons and Clutch Baskets, Pro Clean 1000, Engine Ice, Carbon Fiber Works, Fastway Footpegs, Santa Cruz Concepts.

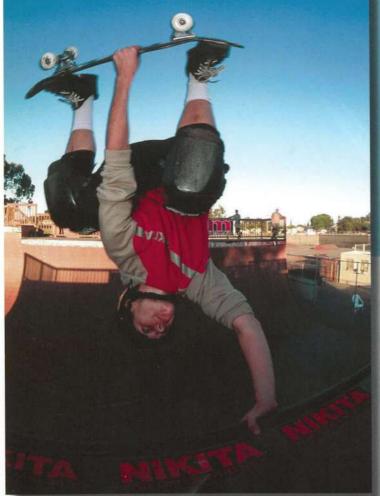
Another of Etnies Girl's triple threats, Tarah Gieger not only excels at motocross, but surfing and skateboarding as well. In fact, if she weren't a pro motocross racer, she claims she'd be a surfing champion. She may have been joking when she said that, but judging by her talent, athleticism, drive and skill, we bet she's right. It also doesn't hurt that she grew up between Puerto Rico and Florida where her parents own and operate a popular surf shop.

Another claim of Tarah's is that she began riding motocross because her parents gave her a bike instead of the Go-cart she had requested. It's now been more than seven years since that fateful decision was made and she's risen to become one of the fastest women's motocross racers around. So far, 2004 has been her biggest season to date achieving her personal best by conquering the previously undefeated Stefi Laier at Cycle Ranch, securing national championships at both Loretta Lynn's and the ZIR WMA Cup and placing second overall in the AMA/WMA Nationals.





Mimi Knoop



First name: Mimi Last name: Knoop

Place of birth? Norfolk, Virginia
Date of birth? Sept. 25th
Home base? Encipitas CA

Home base? Encinitas, CA Skateboarding since? I was little. Gooty or Regular? Regular

Street or Ramp?

Both, but mostly ramps and bowls.

Favorite skatespot?

Anywhere there's a fun session with good energy.

Skateboarding is about

Having a good time.

Sponsored since? 2003

What got you into skateboarding?

A neighborhood kid rolled by on a skateboard when I was little and I asked to try it out.

How many hours a day do you skate (on average)?

It's depends what else is going on, but usually when I skate, I skate about 3 hours or so. Maybe more, maybe less.

What, other than skateboarding, inspires you most?

Seeing people break through their own boundaries and making it happen with whatever they're pursuing in their lives. Not taking no for an answer.

List three goals you have for the upcoming season?

Just to try and skate better all around and try to reach my own personal potential with skating.

Best trick you have done? Frontside invert, stalefish.

What's the best/worst thing about being a pro rider?

Best thing: giving other people inspiration for themselves.

Worst thing: outsider's expectations.

What's the best thing about skateboarding these days?

All the different things to skate; there's so many choices.

And all the people to skate with.

If there was one thing you could change in the skateboard world what would it be and why? One thing I would change is the industry itself.
Biggest fear? Heights, snakes, spiders, and public speaking.



First name: Laura Last name: Hadar

Place of birth? Carbondale, Colorado, in my

Date of birth? December 27, 1984 Home base? Salt Lake City, UT

Snowboarding since? I first went in 5th Grade, and fell in love in 6th, I

think I was 12 or 13.

Goofy Or Regular? Goofy of course. Board? Um.... Gnu Riders Choice 146.5

Freeride Or Freestyle? Freestyle the freeride is how I do it.

Favorite snow resort? Um.... anywhere theres good company.

Snowboarding is about? Friends, Fun, Fear, Accomplishments, Travelling, Learning, Exploring, Enjoying, Growing, Hurting, Healing, Deep Powder, Big Air, Fast Runs, Tree Jibs,



Ollies, Street Rails, Backcountry, Doing Things You Never Thought You Would Actually Do... Sponsored since? Um.. Jr Worlds, 2000. What got you into snowboarding?

I wanted better/more friends.

How many days a year do you snowboard (On Average)? A lot. Maybe half or more. (Thats A Lot)

What, other than snowboarding, inspires you

Um, everything. Snowboarding Is such a small part of this world. I think we all just found our niche in it and now we are hooked. But like the rest of the industry I look to talented skaters, skate movies, skate mags, and skateboarders for inspiration. They are simply amazing. Also artists, photographers, and muscians... Those people are creators. I am inspired most by creators.

Keiko

First name: Keiko Last name: Yanagisawa Place of birth: Tokyo Date of birth: 06 July 1977 Home base: Niigata Snowboarding since? 18 years old. Goofy or Regular: Goofy. Board? Salomon. Freeride or Freestyle? Both. Favorite snow resort? Tirol. Snowboarding is about? My life. Sponsored since? 19 years old. What, other than snowboarding, inspires you most? Skateboarding and surfing. List a few highlights of your snowboarding career? 2001 X-core game in Japan big air 1st, 2002 air fry in Tokyo big air 1st, 2004 Vail session rail 4th, slope 7th.

Best trick you have done? Swich 540. What's your favorite event and why? Nikita shooting, exciting and happy. What's the best/worst thing about being a

pro rider? Injury.

Biggest fear? Injury.

If you could be someone else for one day,

who would you be and why?

Vera, I respect her.

What bands/music are you into?

Reggae.

What is the first thing you do/think of when you wake up in the morning? Thanks. Any funny habitzz? I love Dragon Ball. Other sponsors? Salomon, Bonfure, Puma,

Oakley, Timex, GMC. Slogan/personal message?

Thanks Nikita.

First name: Natasza Last name: Zurek Place of birth? Zakopane, Poland Home base? Vancouver, BC Snowboarding since? 1992 Goofy or Regular? Goofy. Board? Burton Custom 151. Freeride or Freestyle? Freestyle. Favorite snow resort? Blackcomb, BC.

Snowboarding is about?

Having fun and getting better.

Sponsored since? 1996.

How many days a year do you snowboard? 200 +

What, other than snowboarding, inspires you most? The future.

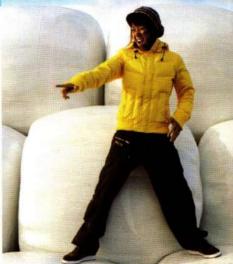
List a few highlights of your snowboarding

I won some contests and saw my photo in some magazines.

List three goals you have for the upcoming season?

Bs 7, cab 7, and switch bs 7. Best trick you have done? Front 7. What's your favorite event and why?

I like slopestyle but only if the course is fun and there are friends to ride with.



What's the best/worst thing about being a pro rider?

I got to go to Japan.

What's the best thing about

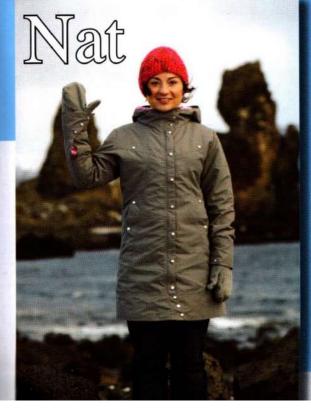
There's some really cool people in the sport that are helping to make changes happen. There is more variety in contests and park features because of them. As well they are pushing the sport to new levels and making it look so easy and controlled. These days it's not enough just to land a cab 7 into powder off a 10 meter cliff, you have to stomp it perfect without any hand waving either!! That's sick!!

If there was one thing you could change in the snowboard world what would it be and why?

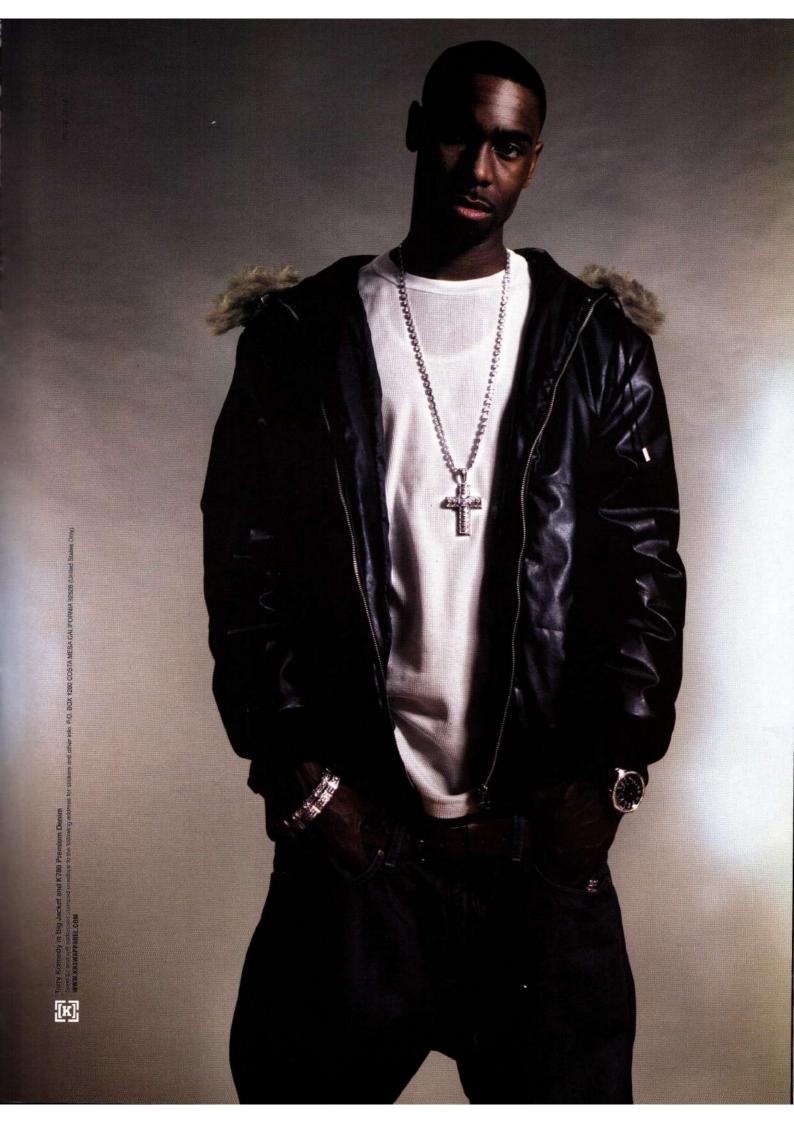
I would build better parks for Europe so I wouldn't ever have to go to the States. Biggest fear? Injuries.

If you could be someone else for one day, who would you be and why?

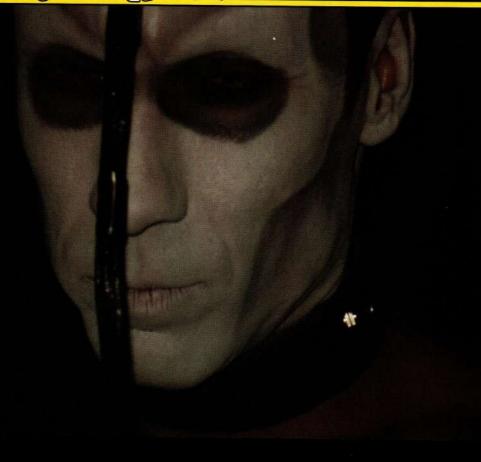
A boy just because I can't think of who else to be, and what the hell?! I just want to be myself!







THE NOISE





DANZIG AND DOYLE





TURBONEGRO



DETROIT COBRAS

Last year Danzig and Doyle reunited on Danzig's tour to thrash out their old Misfits tunes. In November they dropped by the West Cost Choppers Garage to wish Jesse James a spooky birthday. The annual "No Love" party united punk rock, cars, Mexican wrestlers and the roller Derby Dolls in an all day event. Sick!

At the end of October, **Turbonegro** played at the Knitting Factory in Hollywood for a "Wildboyz" party. These Scandinavian leather-clad rockers pumped out the insanity with their death punk adaptation of classic rock riffage. Wildly known for MTV's "Wildboyz" theme song, this band will crack you up.

In September, Interpol played at The Greek Theatre in Hollywood. Tons of people showed up at the stunning open-air venue to enjoy Interpol's most beautiful melodies and interstellar light show.

The Detroit Cobras also played an L.A. show in September at The Troubadour. This girl band's bite is deadly and should not be underestimated.

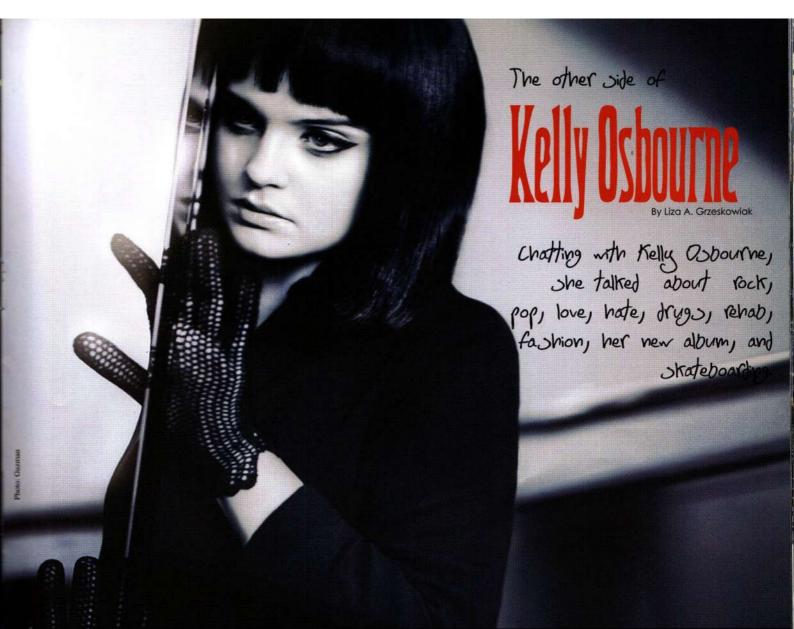
Need a break from the overplayed on the radio waves? Then you need **The Vacation!** These budding L.A. rockers had a couple intimate gigs at the King King club the end of summer. It was hot!



INTERPOL



THE UNCATION



I am because it's going to shock a lot of people because

site of the state of the state

I love electronic and 80's pop. My first album was more forced to the record label requests. This one is way more

my toste.
In the first song, "One Word,"
we can hear a little bit of a
french accent. Is that you?
There is some. My French sucks but I love French.

It is based on Alphaville, Anna Karina's movie. It's my favorite movie. The period was beautiful. I loved the black and white. The video is about discovering the truth. Just finding it out with one

by a boyfriend. How did you

Relationships are full of drama. People love or hide that they do. Do you love to hate or do

you hate to love?
The song "Red Light" has a really cool and modern beat.
Was it your intention to go for the 80's pop sound?

When we recorded the album, we didn't expect it to sound like that. People say that I sound like Blondie and Duran Duran.

From the first album it was so different. When you do opium you get a dry throat that makes your vocal cords sore.

I wrote that song in rehab. Linda Perry was my producer of this album. She taught me a lot and made me sound

much better.
What is your message in "At

That's the only track I don't know if I like.

What is it ab

Whatever I say and whatever I try is never enough. I feel

It was tough. I had to drop a lot of friends, and it is hard to do because I loved a lot of them but I needed a new life. Some people mean well but they dre lost children, drag you down with them. but they are lost and they can

Because it kills your pain. I was doing everything, all kinds of drugs, not just painkillers. But I'm happy to be clean now.

"Sleeping in the Nothing" sounds like a happy track, all about dancing and having a good time. Do you go out to 80's clubs a lot?

I love 80's clubs. I used to go a lot to "82" in Echo Park and "Beat-It" in Hollywood. It was so much fun. So I wanna make some songs to get people dancing in the clubs.

How come you come from a family grounded in the metal music scene, but you're into

I'm not a rock star or gothic person and people would make punk music for me on the last record label, and I'm not like that, that's why this album is all me. I love pop music. People will be

Because my first record label was so big and they had everything planned out for me and didn't wanna be a part of what I am. And it just turned me off. After a while I decided to give it another shot with this new record label.

amazing clothes and makeup.
Even when you have just a pair of jeans and a t-shirt on, you got something special going on. What is your secret to being fabulous?

Clothes are refreshment. I dress baggy if I'm in a bad Me and my best friend Ali are

doing it. It is a fun line.

You can find it at Hot Topic

I can surf but I can't skate. Once I fell bad on this hill while skateboarding and I gave up on trying again. I'm friends with Tim Gavin and

Jason Dill. Is Jason Dill as annoying as he was on the (Osbournes)

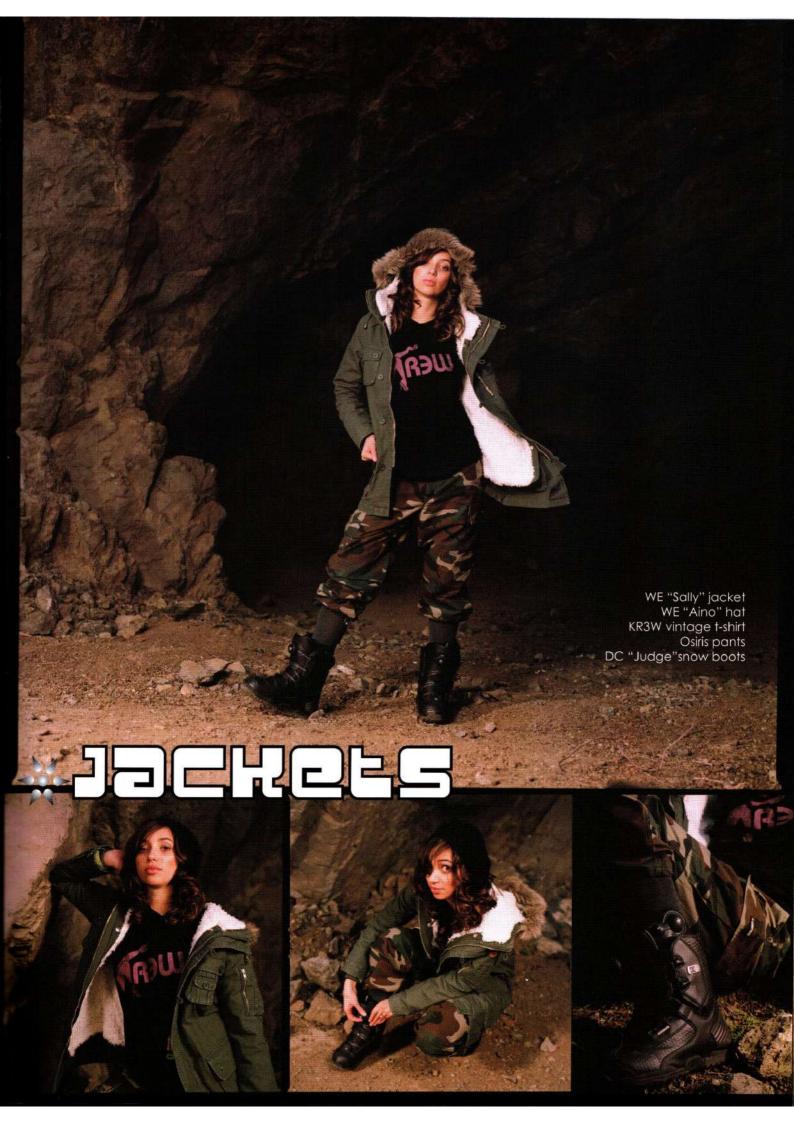
The TV show only shows 30 minutes of our lives, I think Jason is the raddest guy ever. He is like a brother to me. I'm sure he doesn't care what people thought of him on the

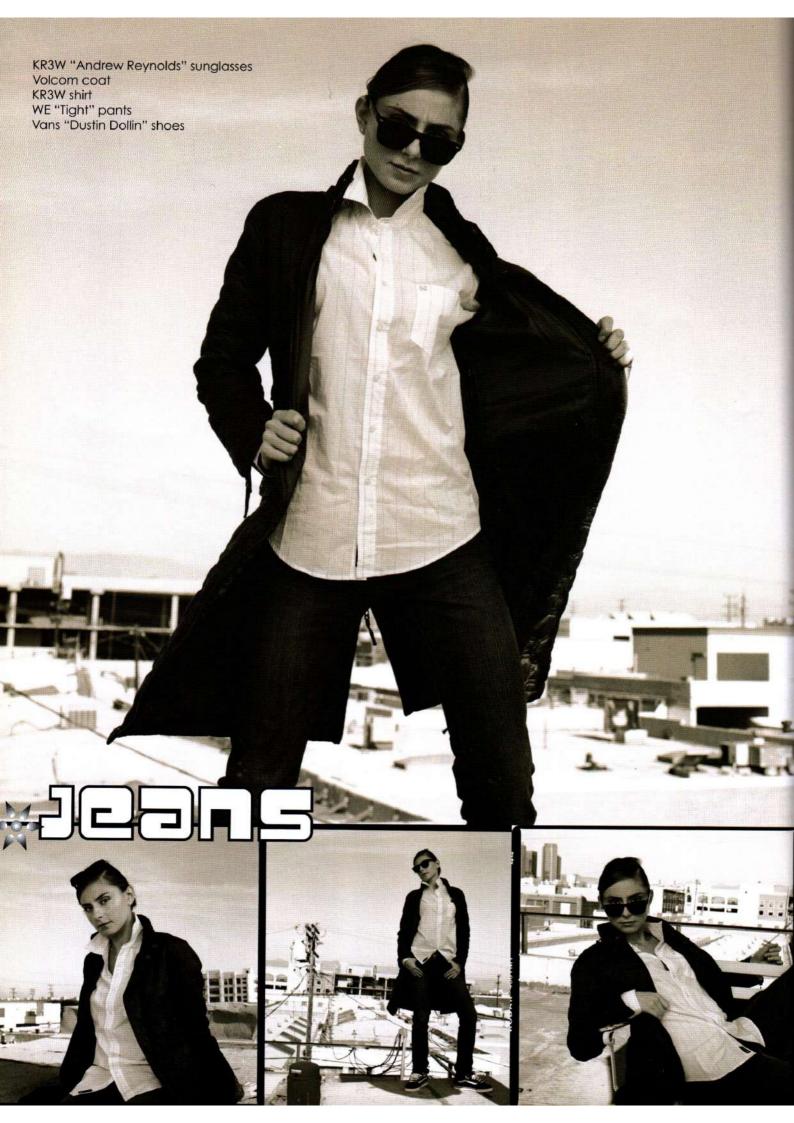
Do you ever get to see him

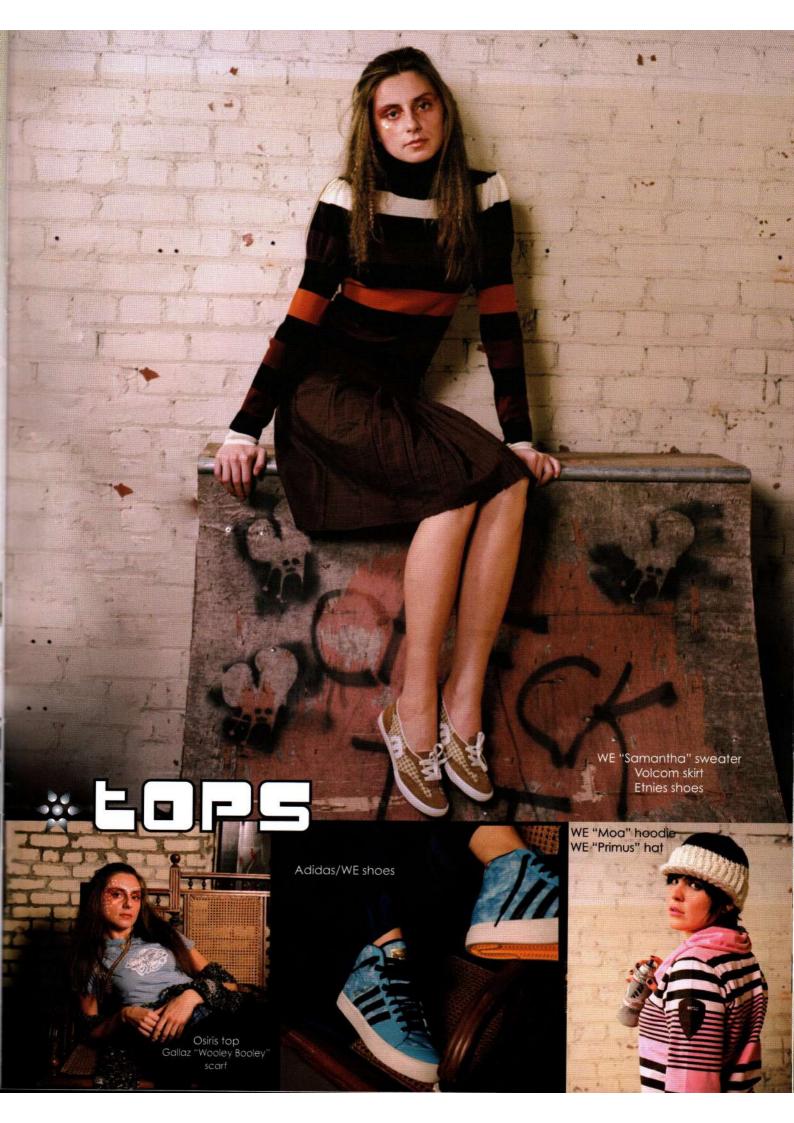
well, just to finish this up, please send a message to the teenagers and girl skaters

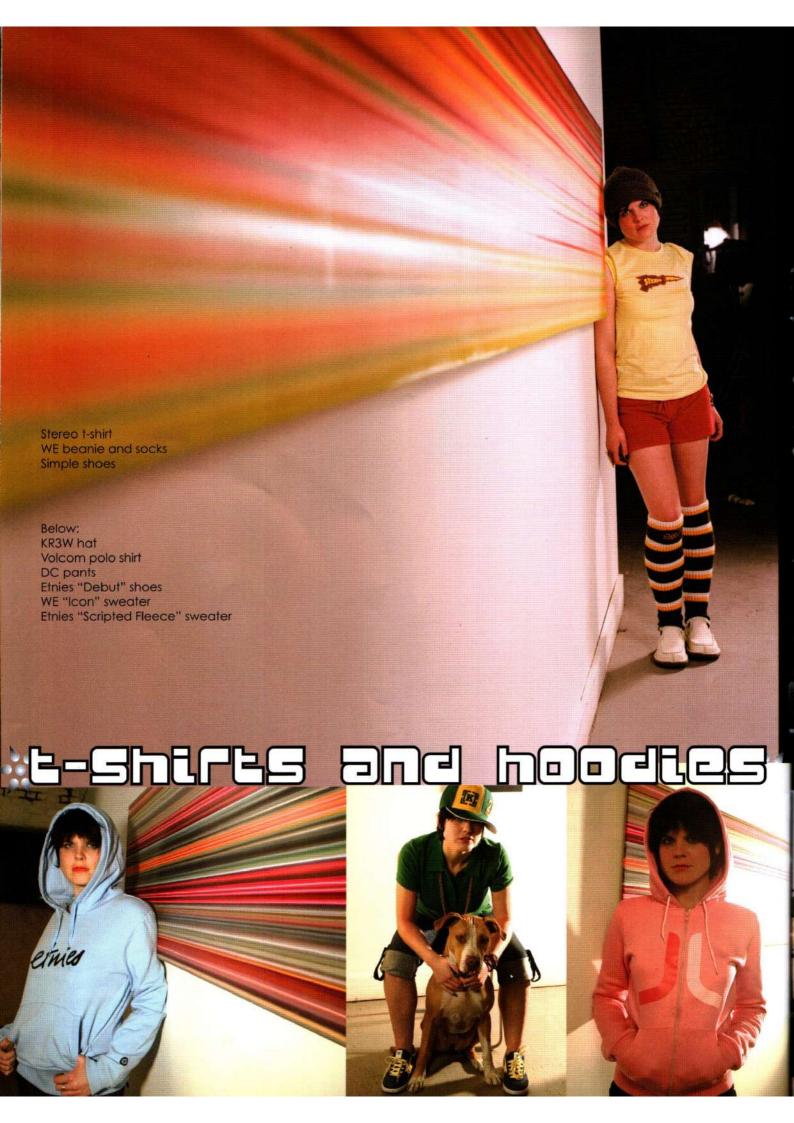
'Have a guilty pleasure.

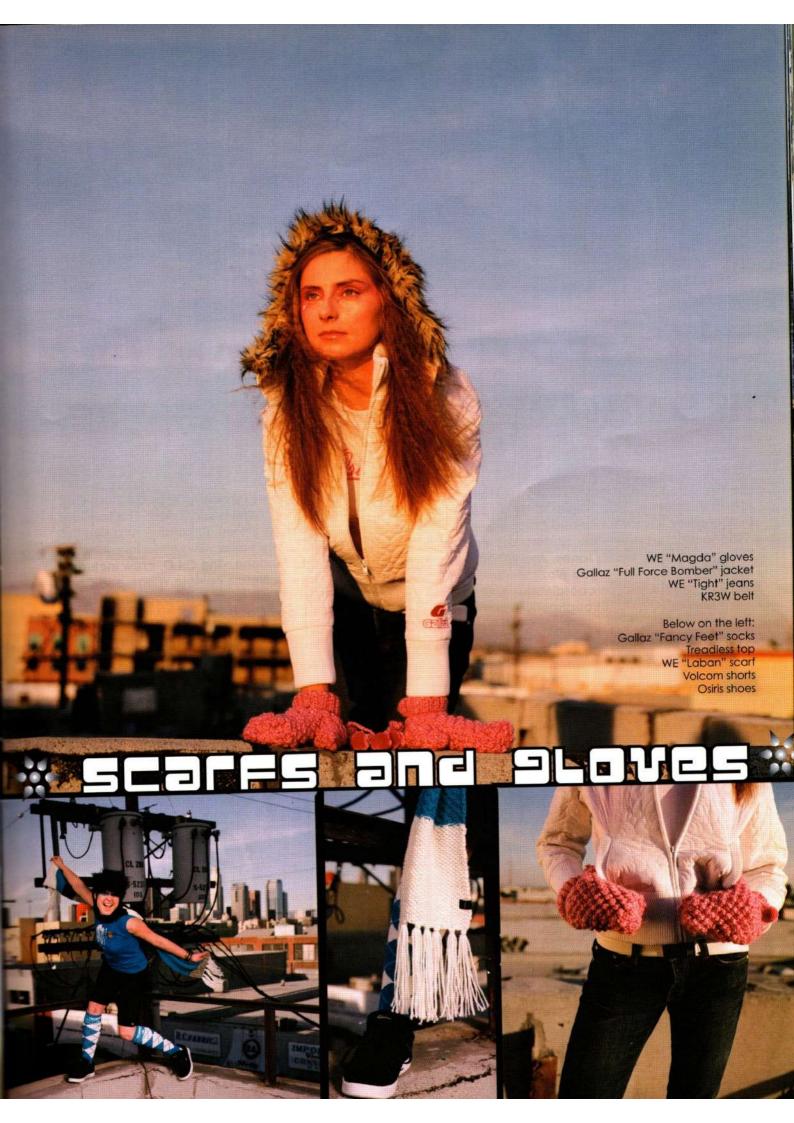














THE NORTH AMERICAN GIRLS SKATEBOARDING

TOUR

AUGUST 15TH - 31ST OF 2005

We hit the road on August 15th for our North American Tour, from Los Angeles all the way to the Slam City Jam in Vancouver, with 13 girls to do a cool article for our special 10 Year Anniversary Issue. The tour was sponsored by Boost Mobile and co-sponsored by: Etnies, Vans, Gallaz, Spy, Stereo, Billabong, and Red Bull. The four brought together skaters: Lauren Perkins, Stefanie Thomas, Lacey Baker, Gwen Markus, Alison "Nugget" Matasi, Karen Jones, Alex White, Sophie Poppe, and Juliana Marinho. The C.I.O. crew included ff photographers Magda Wozinska and Ana Paula Negrao, along with filmers Patricia Wince and Chris edesen, and myself as coordinator. Together we experienced this road trip full of skateboarding sessions throughout the Bay Area, Oregon, Washington, and Canada.

STORY BY LIZA GRZESKOWIAK PHOTOGRAPHED BY ANA PAULA NEGRAO AND MAGDA WOZINSKA





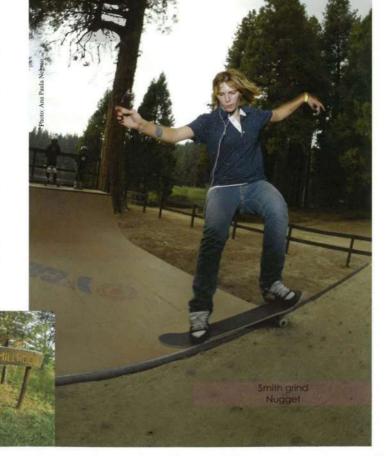
FIRST STOP: VISALIA SKATE CAMP

Visalia YMCA Skate Camp is on Sequoia Lake in Visalia, California. Located a few miles from Sequoia and Kings National Parks and just down the road from Grant's Grove, the fresh mountain air and mild summer climate provide an ideal environment for a camp. With Ana Paula as a veteran of the Visalia Skate Camp, she got us hooked up at this amazing campground in the middle of the sequoia woods. The camp provides cabins, organic food, skateboarding instruction and camp counseling all near an amazing lake surrounded by skate ramps.

Camp Millwood is a traditional, rustic summer camp facility. Campers live in cabins with bunk beds. Restroom and shower facilities are separate from the cabins and are centrally located. The camp usually costs \$100 a day and includes food, skateboarding tutors, and accommodations. Besides skating, the camp offers other fun activities like learning how to make your own skateboard and building a fire. It is a great summer camp experience and well worth a visit.









We arrived to the camp around 12 a.m. on Tuesday. We could not really see around us, but it looked scary, like a scene out of a *Friday the 13th* movie. Actually, this location was used for shooting one of Jason's movies. Without very many lights, we hurried to find our cabins.

Everybody was already cranky and upset with the whole situation. We got there too late because of the many issues we had to deal with before leaving Los Angeles. We just tried to get a good night's sleep.

The next morning we woke up to the beautiful, bright sun and a nice breakfast. Some campers yelled at us for entering the wrong way through the kitchen door ... oops.

After meeting with the campers, and after a lof of screaming, we went to check out the ramps. A cool street area, a few mini ramps, and a nice bowl served us lots of skateboarding before lunchtime.

It was a hot day. Even though I was afraid to swim in the lake I had to join Ana Paula, Magda, Juliana, and little Gwen. They seemed so blissful lying on the deck on the other side of the lake. It turned out to be so much fun. Gwen encouraged me to swim after we had been out on the water for a canoe ride. Meanwhile, Lauren, Stefanie, Lacey, Sophie and Nugget were still shredding the wood at the park.

The park has a program sponsored and created by Element Skateboards named Elemental Awareness where participants have had the opportunities to win scholarships to skate camp, touch wild animals, learn to make friction fires, tour a board-making factory, and create graffiti murals and self-made bows. Unfortunately, we didn't have time to enjoy all the activities in one day. But it sure seems worth it to get back there for a full weekend of camping.

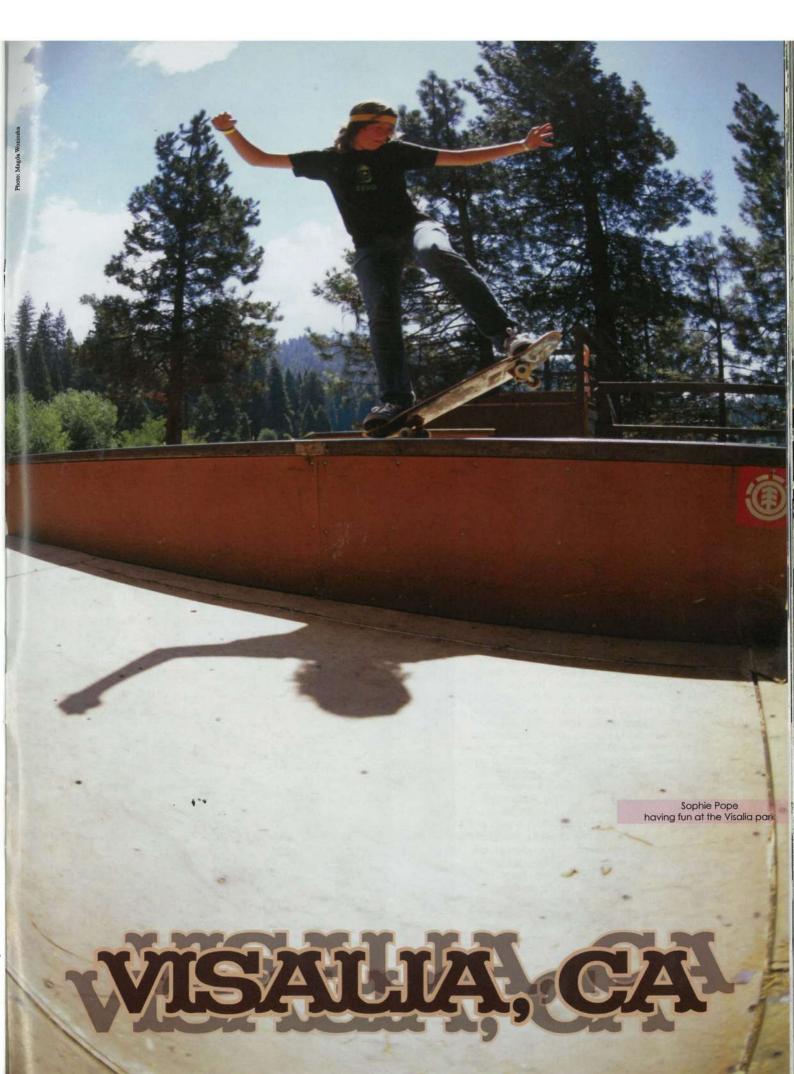
Under the sunset light we ended the day at camp with a good mini ramp session where Nugget got a frontside smith grind photo.

YMCA Skate Camp c/o Visalia YMCA 211 W. Tulare Ave. Visalia, CA 93277

Phone: (559) 627-0700 Fax: (559) 739-7819









We left Visalia around 6 p.m., expecting to drive about three hours to reach Monterey. We supposedly should have gotten there in three hours but it took longer because we had to stop for gas, girls needed to use the bathroom, and we needed food. On one stop; Nugget and Stefanie were throwing candies at each other; it was so silly and serious at the same time! What drama!

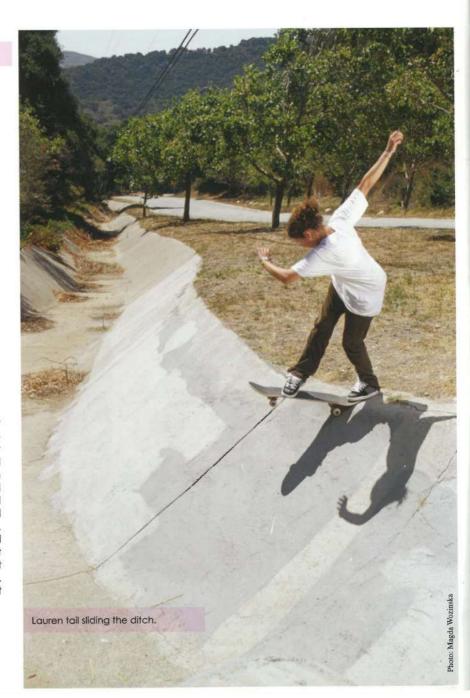
Oh yeah, Patricia and I were driving in a smaller car where most of the film and photo equipment was. Patricia along with Chris from Portland are filmers for our upcoming Check It Out video that will show footage of this tour. Ana Paula was the official van driver and drove a lot on this tour. Patricia took a plane ride home from Vancouver but had her fair share of driving the van as well. On this evening, they both had their hands full of steering wheel and raucous trying to get us to Monterey. Around 1 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 17, after getting a little lost, and after all the drama, we finally met up with Alex White in her hometown.

Patricia filming for C.I.O video

Alex is one of the most motivational persons in the girls skateboarding scene I know. She welcomed all of us into her house and had planned to take us to some skate spots. Unfortunately, our schedule was tight because the next day we had to be in San Francisco to drop Lauren Perkins at the airport. She needed to catch a flight home to spend time with her family. Lauren had been on the road way too long this year with so many demos and contests, and school was about to start again for her. She definitely needed some time to chill with her family. We also had to pick up Lacey's mom and Karen Jones, who was flying in from Brazil just for the tour to the Slam City Jam.

So, we decided to stay in Monterey for just one day. Alex took us to this ditch where I totally took a big chunk out of my hand on the ground. The ditch was rough and had stones and dirt all over the place. We even brought a broom to clean it up a little. Alex took us there to show us what kind of skating she had been up to. It took everybody a while to land something because the spot was cool but sketchy at the same time. Nugget was the first one to try to tailslide it, then Sophie and Lauren followed. With Nugget pushing, everybody landed the trick. Lauren got the best shot. Meanwhile, Lacey was working hard on her kickflips.

When we were still in the Monterey area on the way up to SF, we stopped on the road because a lady almost hit Alex's car and Alex's friend Snake yelled at the lady. The lady suddenly came back and grabbed Alex's hair and I saw Alex kicking her. Nugget got in on the fight as well, because the lady was huge and Alex was in trouble. The huge lady's mother and brother threatened to hit our cars with a big rock and demanded that we get out of their neighborhood. Nugget was determined to defend us and it was hard to drag her out of the fight. Eventually we broke it up before things went from bad to ugly. We couldn't believe that we were involved in this crazy incident. I was glad it finished pretty quickly and nobody got hurt.



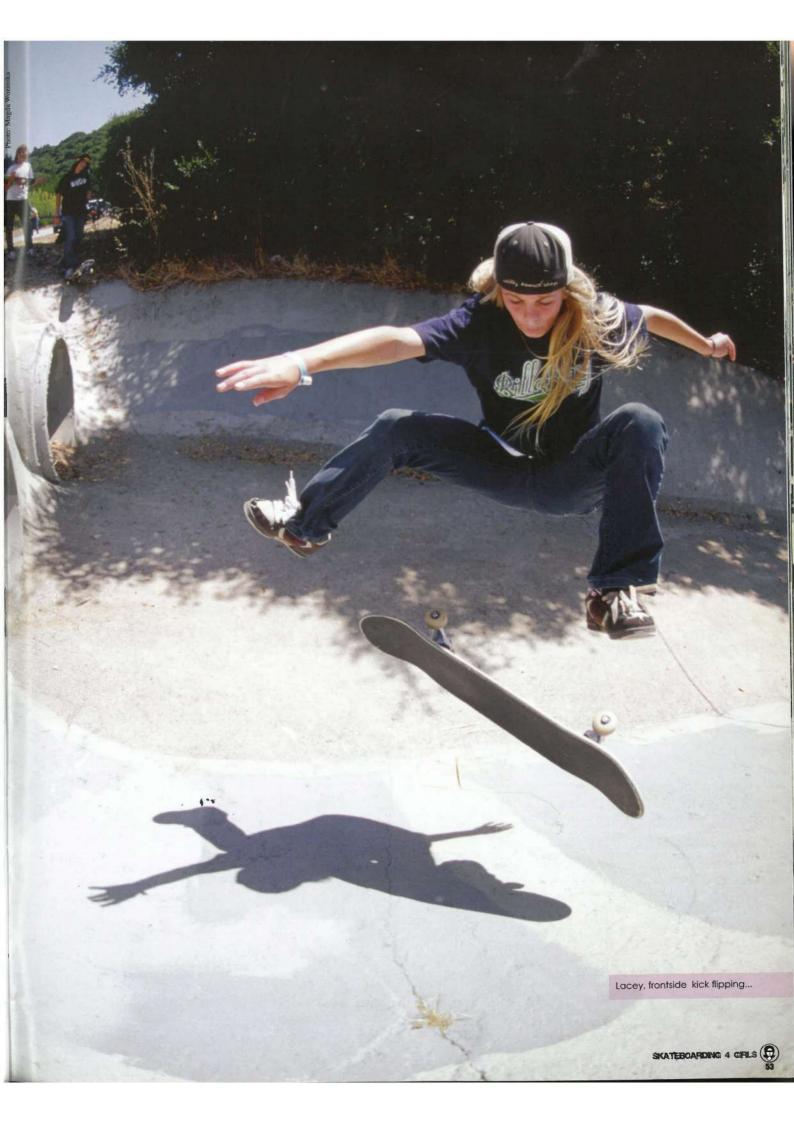


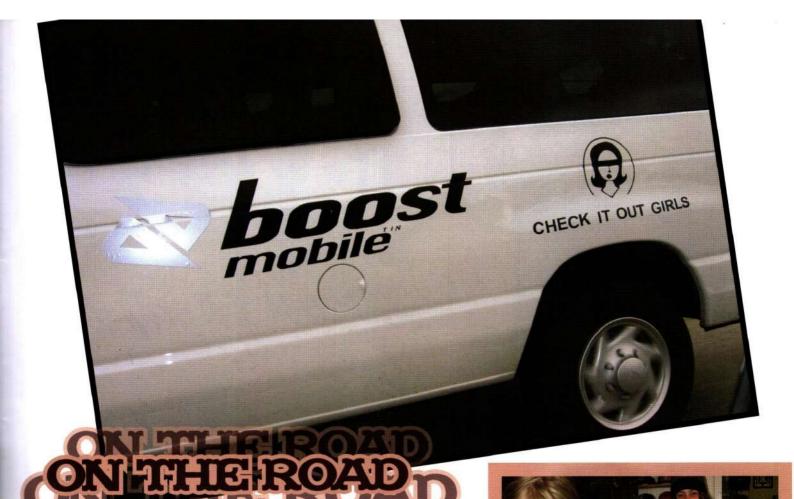
Photo: Magda Wozinska



Alex White rocking the 3rd and Army spot.

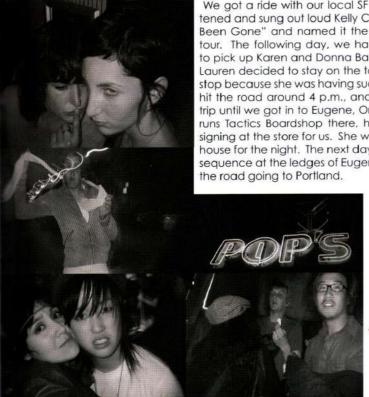


CHECK IT OUT



Getting into San Francisco, Magda, Stefanie, and Lauren were in Alex's car and we were trying to catch up to them at the 3rd and Army spot. Ana Paula thought that we were going to another spot to meet up with photographer Eric Gee, his girl Lizzie, and filmer, Chris, at the skatepark. We ended up at separate sessions, but the best photo of the day was of Alex White at 3rd and Army.

Soon it was dark. We went to eat and checked in to the Travel Lodge hotel to get some rest before going to the bar to celebrate Magda's birthday. The party helped the girls make peace with each other. They had fun gathering toilet paper and making scarves with it. But when everything was fine and fun, someone had to throw a glass on the wall, which hit some guy in the face. There I was talking to the dude trying to defend my girls again.



We got a ride with our local SF friend Jolie. We listened and sung out loud Kelly Clarkson's "Since You Been Gone" and named it the official song of our tour. The following day, we had to wake up early to pick up Karen and Donna Baker from the airport. Lauren decided to stay on the tour until the Oregon stop because she was having such a good time. We hit the road around 4 p.m., and it was such a long trip until we got in to Eugene, Oregon. Chrissy, who runs Tactics Boardshop there, had set up a poster signing at the store for us. She welcomed us into her house for the night. The next day, Lacey got a good sequence at the ledges of Eugene. After that we hit

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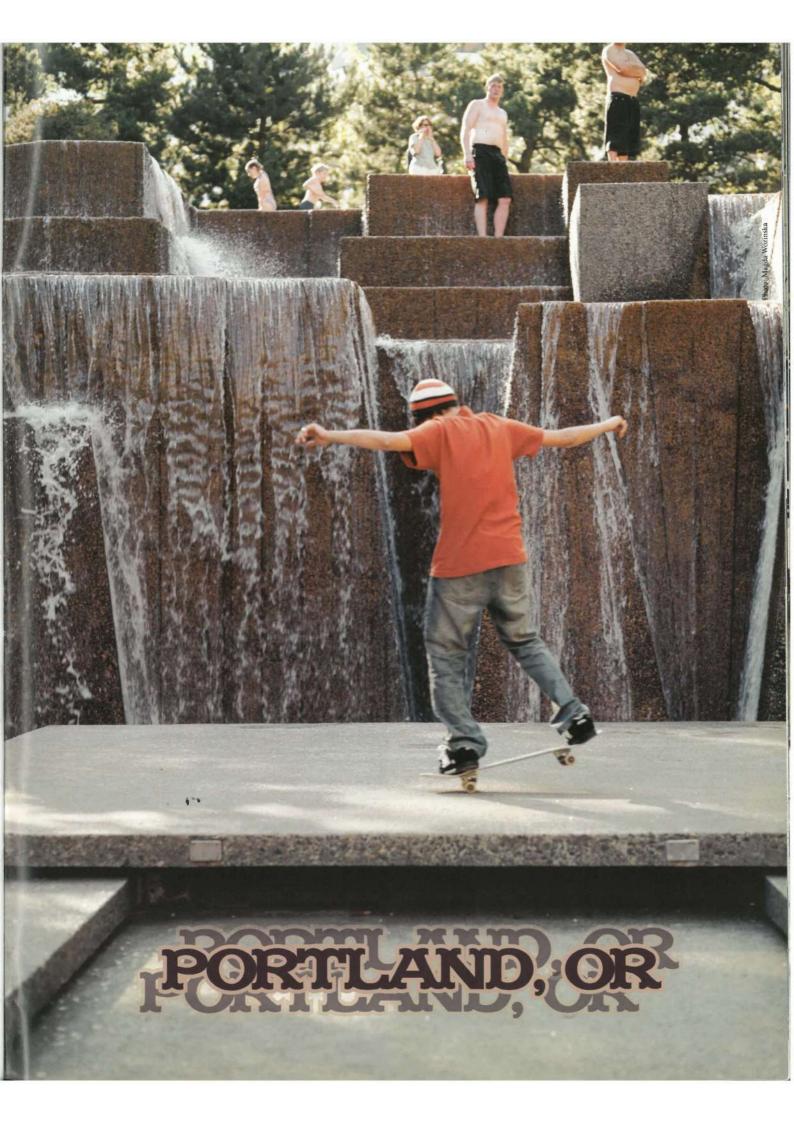






Lacey Baker, frontside flip in Eugene

On the right: Stefanie Thomas, nose manual in Portland







Portland has been proclaimed as North America's "Best Big City" in terms of wealth, and I believe for skateboarding as well. It is a Mecca of many street spots and is the home of the famous Burnside skatepark. During our time there we got to hang out with the local girls, Cindy Gorset and Jessica, and meet with Vanessa, Amy, Lauren Mollica, Monica Shaw, Lisa Whitaker, and Van Nguyen at the park. On our way up from Eugene, some of us girls on the tour went straight to the Windells Skate and Snowboarding Camp where we had a big cabin waiting for us. The cabin was decked out with 4 bedrooms, 20 beds, 3 bathrooms, a big kitchen, pool table, fireplace, jacuzzi, and an indoor skatepark! If that wasn't enough, there were ramps all over the camp.

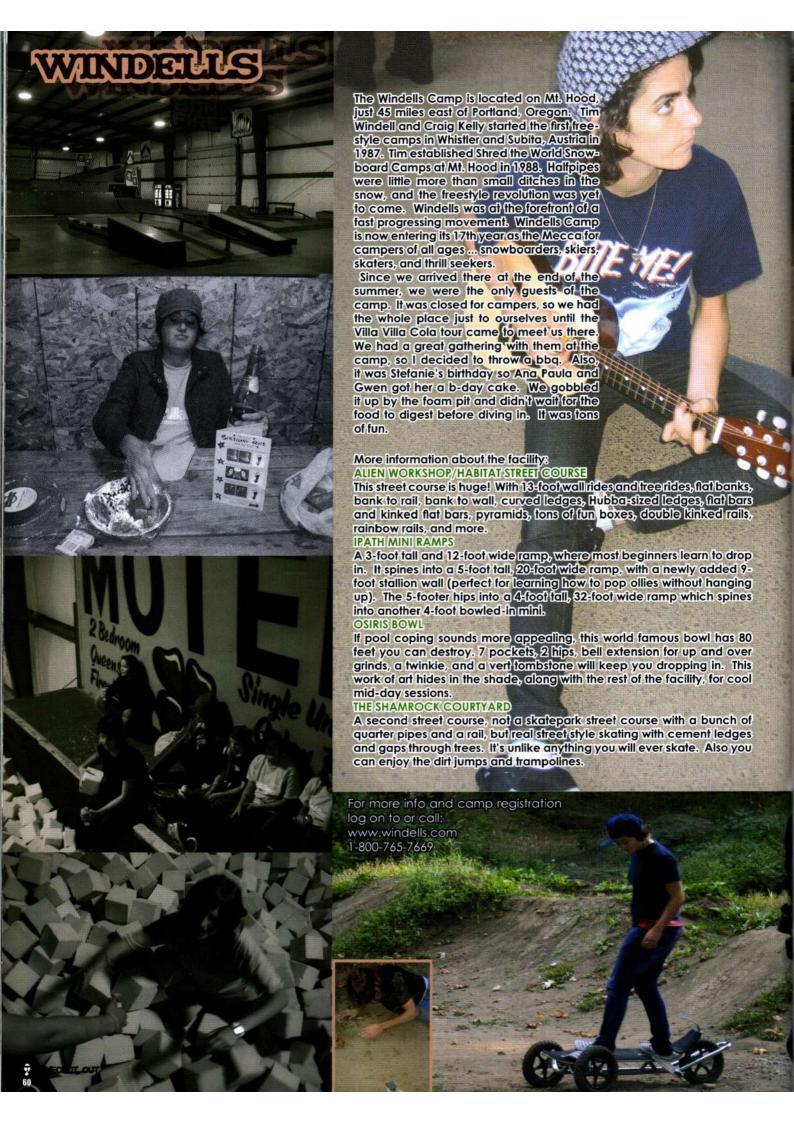
Some of the other girls decided to stay in a hotel in the city and catch up with us later. Ana Paula, Magda, Juliana, Stefanie, and Lauren were the ones who decided to do some serious street skating and partying in the city with filmer, Chris. Patricia, Nugget, Sophie, Lacey, Gwen, and Donna (Lacey's mom) and I camped at night and were glad that we got such a chill pad. Unfortunately, as soon as I got settled in a camped that my wallet was gone with all my documents and money. It really put me down for a couple days, and I couldn't enjoy the trip as much until I talked to my family. They were very supportive and made me feel better. I toughed it up and was able to move on with coordinating the tour and entertaining my group. It seemed like the Windells camp was our best stop, because we met up with more girls before heading to our final destination. Overall we had plenty of fun acting like kids in the mountainous playground.



Cindy Gorset

Burnside skatepark

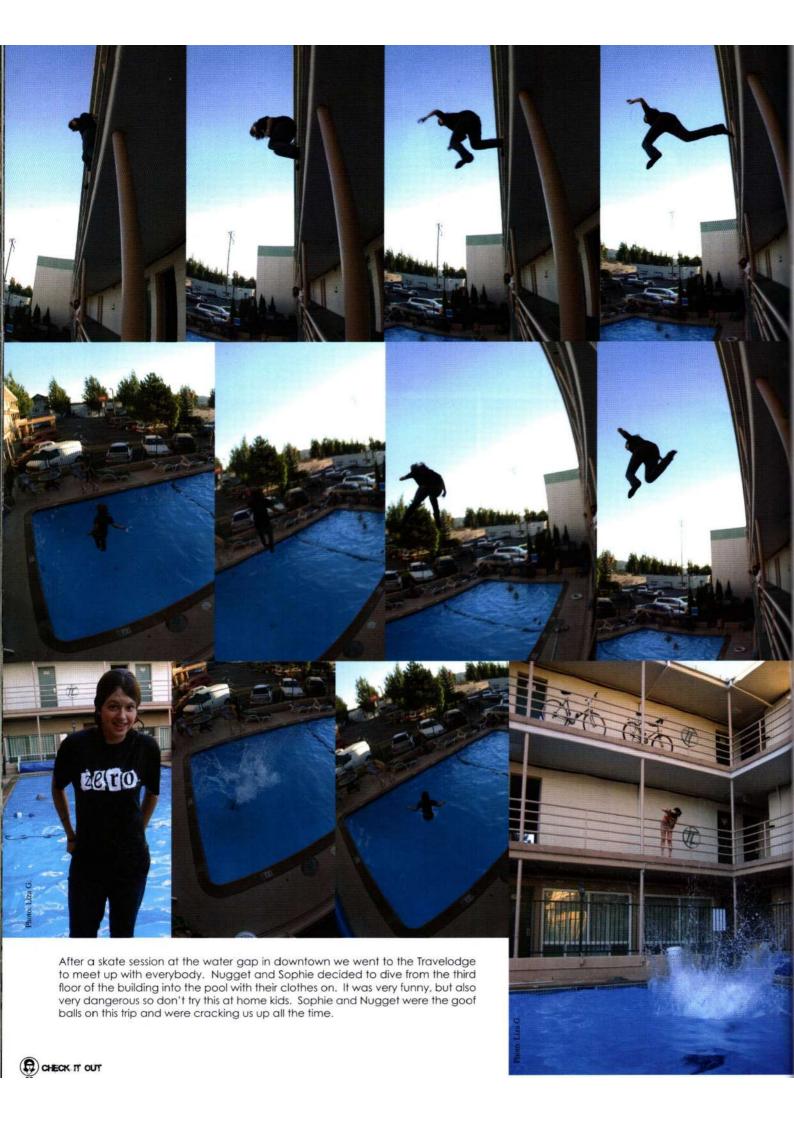
Jessica and Vanessa















It was fun skating around Portland. Mountain Dew held a contest there while we were in town. It was cool to see a lot of friends there and go to a party at the Nike warehouse with them.

The girls all had different ages and personalities so every now and then it was good for us to split up into different groups. Magda and Ana Paula shot photos of Lauren, Juliana, and Stefanie in downtown Portland. They stayed in a different hotel than us and had their own good times. Lauren would soon be flying home from Portland for her mother's birthday and had wanted to check out and skate the Portland street scene as much as she could.

Stefanie was also very determined to get photos and film with Chris there. She is consistent and is always down for a session. Her tour sessions were so great that she already filmed a whole part for the upcoming Check It Out video.

The video is coming together and we are excited to go out and finish the rest of the girls' parts. We all finally met up at the Windells Camp on our last day in Portland. We had some fun and hit the road again the next day.

Next Stop: Seattle

Ana Paula, Magda, Patricia, Juliana, Karen, Stefanie, and I drove to Seattle that night while Donna Baker, Lacey, Gwen, Sophie, and Nugget decided to stay one more night in Portland. When we arrived in Seattle we said good-bye to Erik Gee and his girlfriend. Seattle is their hometown and they had to get back to work. It was nice having them along.

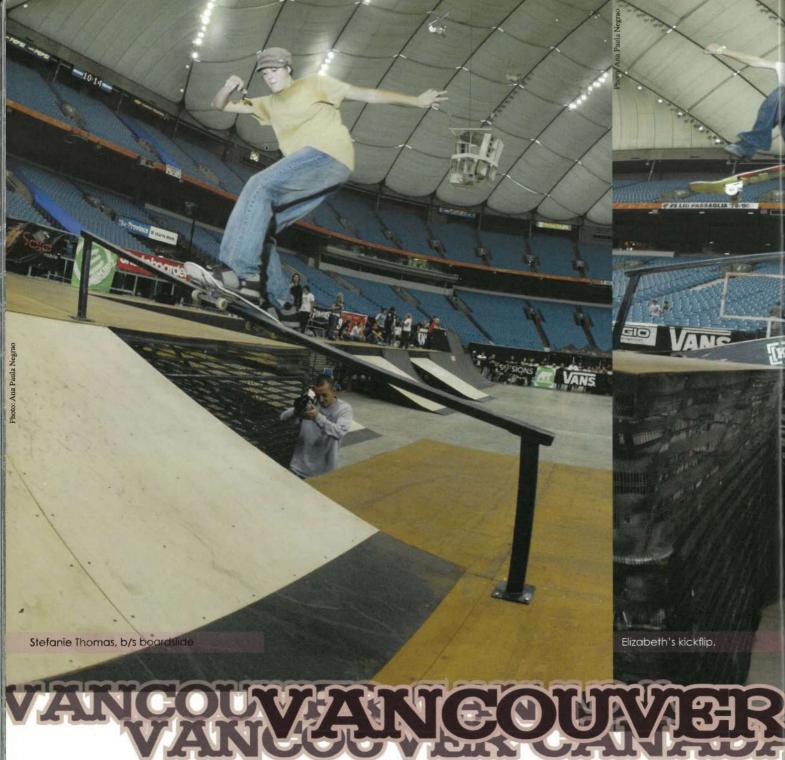
Stefanie, frontside noseslide

First, we checked in at the Days Inn and then traveled about the beautiful coastal city. We ended up at a popular bar called Cha Cha and hung out there for a while. The next morning we picked up my husband, Joe, at the airport. Since I wasn't able to travel into Canada with my pending-visa situation, Seattle was my last stop. Joe flew there to drive little Gwen and me back in the rental car.

Sadly, it was time to end the first leg of the tour. We went to one of the many classic coffee shops for some Seattle brew. While we enjoyed the mellow atmosphere we did some accounting, secured arrangements in Vancouver, and made sure our crew was safe and all good to continue the tour.

Late afternoon the other group had finally made it up from Portland through the city traffic. They rushed to a cement skatepark to get some runs in before the sun set in Seattle. From there, they were on their way to the Slam City Jam! Gwen, Joe, and I checked out Sub Pop Records before heading home. Sub Pop has been the home of Mudhoney and other great Seattle rock bands throughout the years. Seattle definitely rocked and it was hard to say goodbye. Gwen had a lot of fun on the tour but was looking forward to seeing her mom. I had an amazing experience as well. We left early, but the tour lates the state of the continues on the next page with Ana Paula's story.

Next stop: Vancouver, Canada







Only two more hours away was our final destination: Vancouver, Canada. But of course something would hold us up even more. Immigration stopped us and asked all these questions. Patricia was in the driver's seat trying to answer as quick as possible so we could make it on time to the contest. It's not that easy to pass through the border when you're driving a 16-passenger white van plastered with stickers everywhere, and you have five girls who are all foreigners trying to get into the country. After we spent an hour trying to get through, we were on the road again. We were all tired and wanted to have a nice night of sleep before the contest. After we checked in to a hotel we drove around to find some food and got back to the room with hot chocolate and lots of candy. That was all we could find at that time. It was wonderful to sleep in.



parks around anyways.

The party is on all the time in Vancouver. It's amazing to see skateboarders on every corner of an entire city. Fun, fun, fun is how I describe it. Every night we had a couple parties to go to and got to hang out with our friends from all over the world.

Finally we made it to our big day: the contest. All the girls had to wake up early for the contest. They all did well and experienced the adventure of The North American Girls Skateboarding Tour!

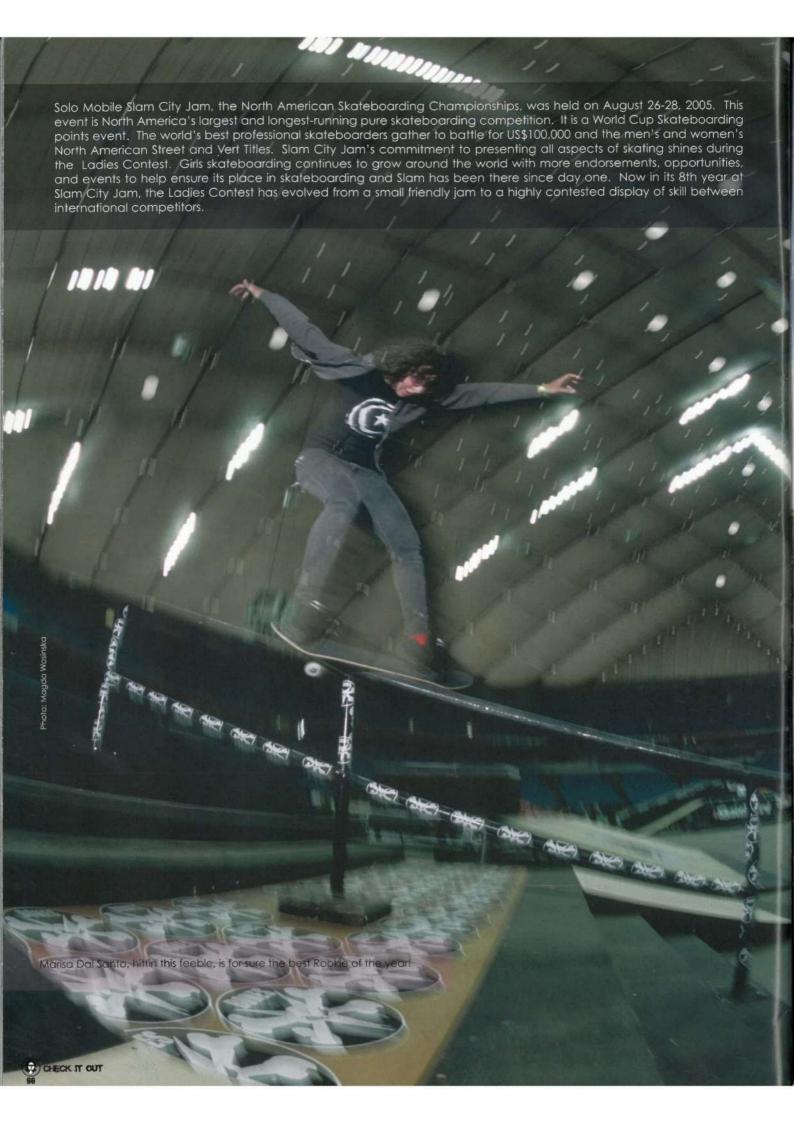
Lyn-Z at the streat course















Usti

1- It seems that after your marriage you calmed down for a minute, but in the early PD days you seemed to cause quite a mess. Do you remember any of the craziness that went down with some of the others in the PD crew?

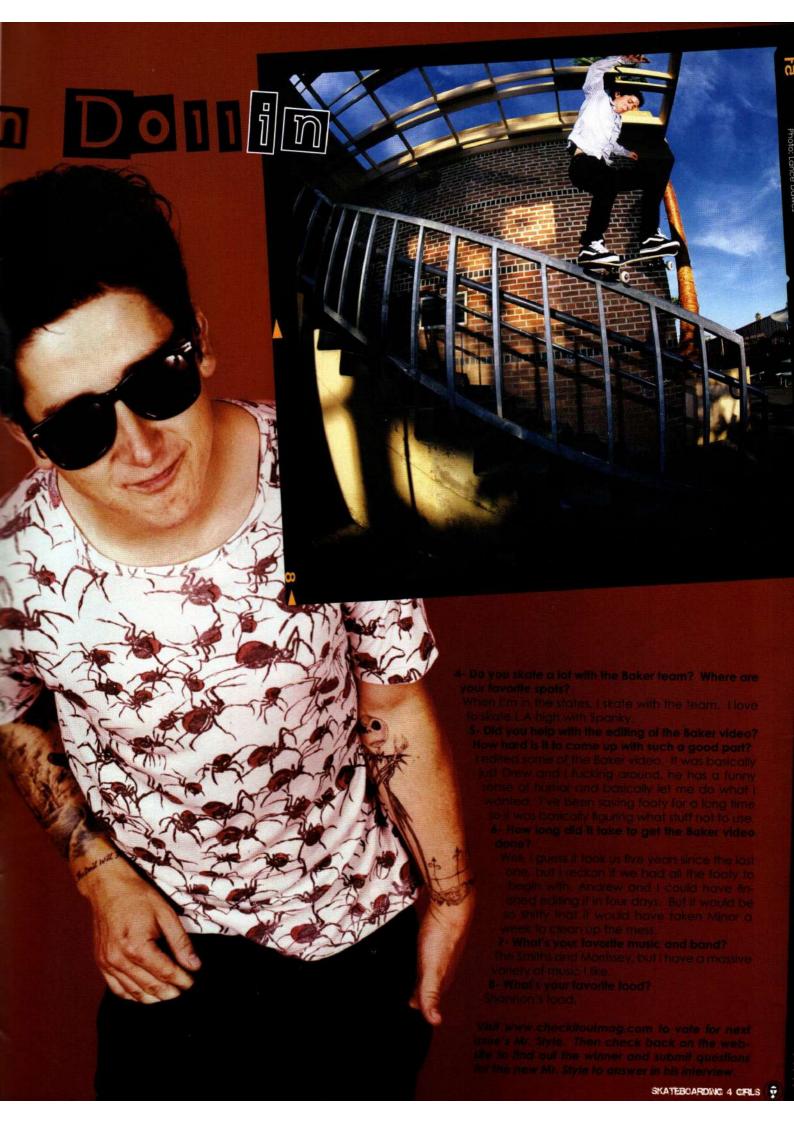
One time Ali and I started getting wasted at the Ventura Contest. We drank a bottle of Jack between us at the camp then I got kicked out for screaming during the vert contest. We managed to get a ride with someone back to Cuntington, and on the way we pounded another bottle of Jack. When we got back to Warner everyone ended up running knee-high through mud in the drains next to the house. I was up the top tossing cans of beers like grenades down at them. I don't think anyone came back from the trenches with shoes on. I had alcohol poisoning for the next two days, but Ali and everyone else kept drinking.

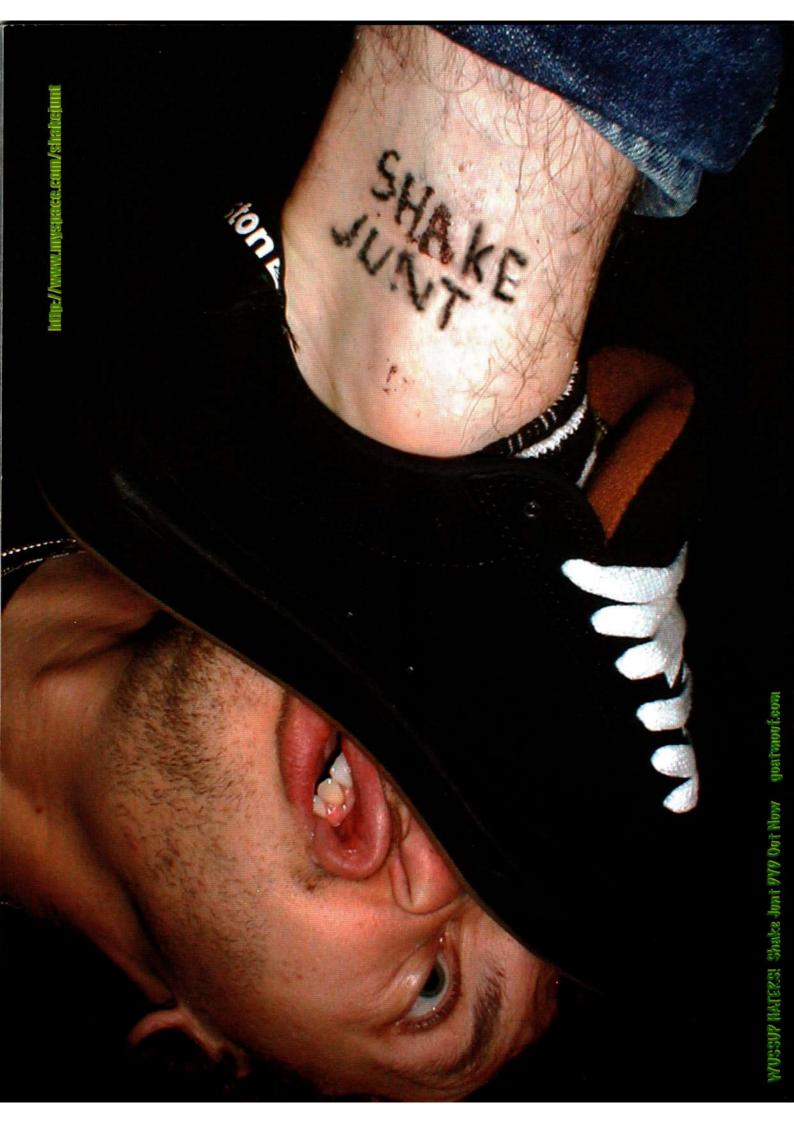
2- How is Australia to skate?

Australia is fantastic to skate, but if you're with a jacked krew, ya ain't gonna see my spots.

3- What's your favorite trick?

Mob ollies over corner hips.





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Patiane Freitas



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