

Skateboard!

A full-page background image of a skateboarder in mid-air, performing a trick. The skateboarder is silhouetted against a bright, low sun that creates a large lens flare. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The skateboarder is wearing a dark t-shirt with a logo on the back and dark pants. The skateboard is visible in their hands. The overall mood is energetic and dramatic.

NO.2

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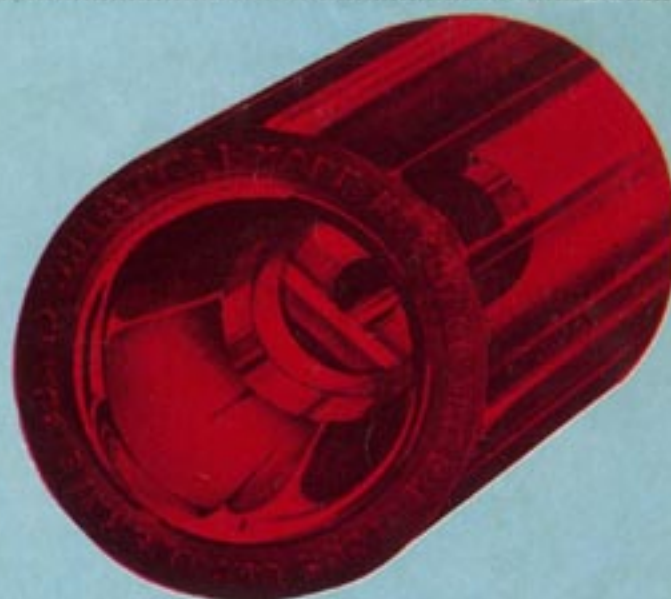
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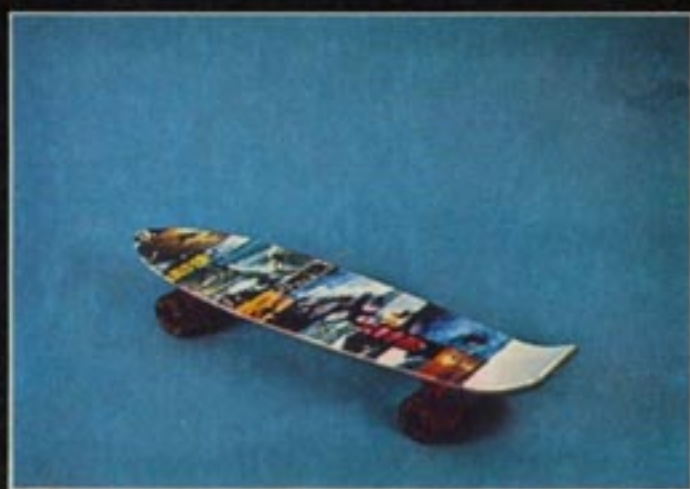
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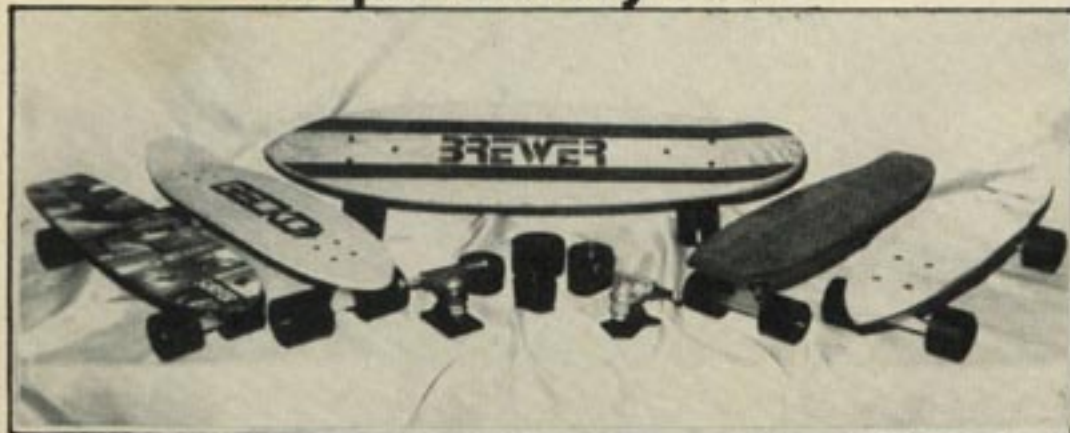
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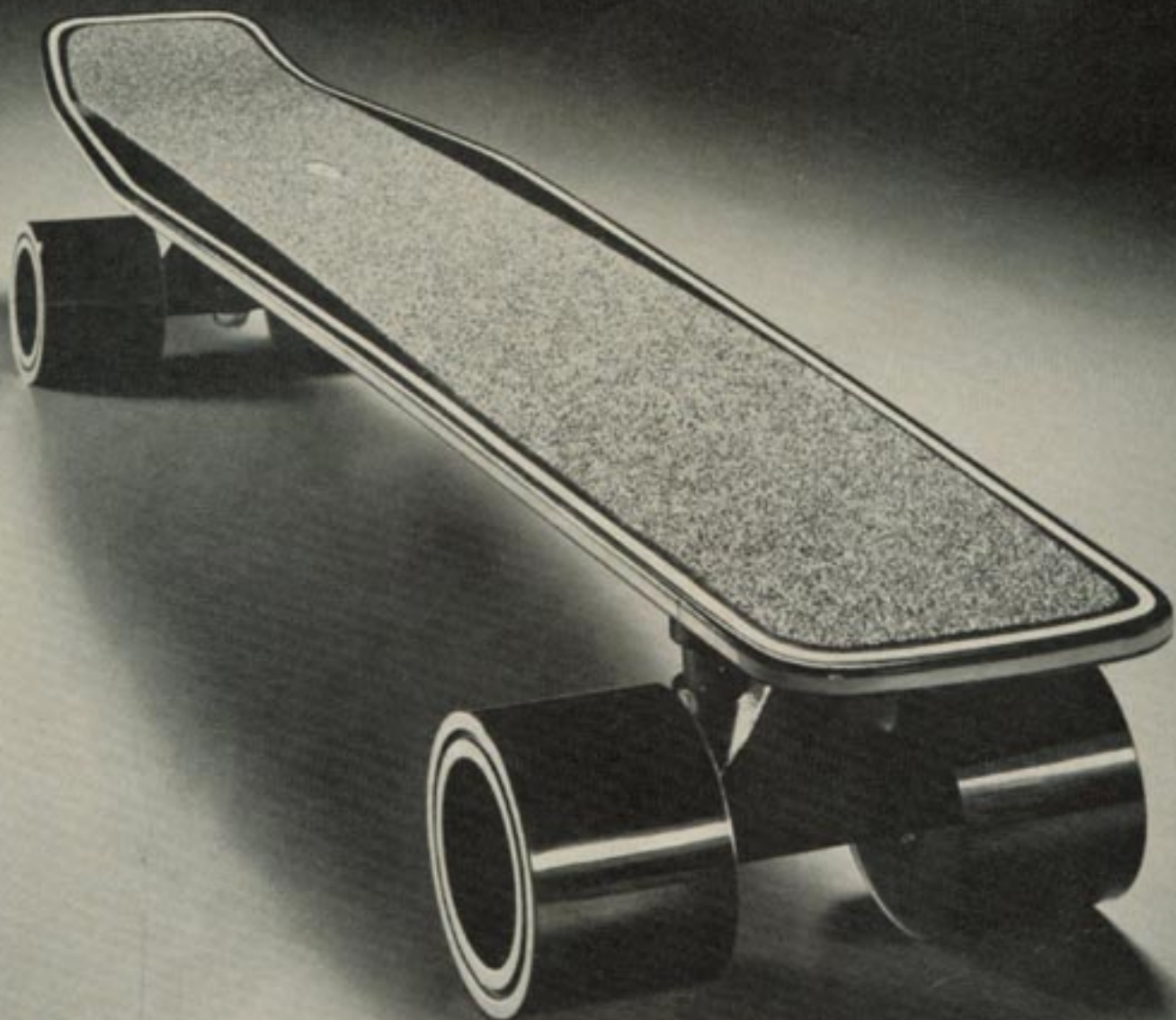
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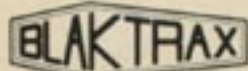
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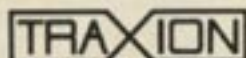


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Skateboard!

OCTOBER

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Skate News – UK: breaks up
this month into no fewer
than five great sections.
Without doubt, the A to Z of
skateboarding in this country!

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Skate Line: it's the reader's
turn to make the headlines
in our first-ever letters
column.

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Skateboarding around the
World: includes a report on
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from Switzerland and details
of America's newest and
arguably greatest skate park,
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Illustrations on manoeuvres
and tricks – plus full captions.

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Skata Data: splits this month
into a review of new
products, a wheels road test
and a questions/answers
column. Essential reading.

When *Skateboard!* magazine
first rode onto the streets,
many pundits were heard to
say "... it'll wipe-out, skate-
boarding belongs in
California, not countries like
the UK." I've got news for
them ... the first issue has
completely sold out and
you'll be lucky to get it now
for love or money. That was
the news we were waiting
to hear. From now on,
Skateboard! goes monthly ...
don't forget to put your
order in at your newsagent.

The response to the 'Help
Us To Help You' question-
naire amazed everyone. It's
going to be a while yet, till
we're able to synthesise down
the stack of information
we've had in (1,000 replies
in one week!) but already
you'll find here in *Skate-
board!* No.2 some of the
hottest suggestions. There's
a Club Page, an expanded
Skata Data section and
interviews with two American
superstars. And over this
issue and the next, we'll be
kicking off a regular Team
Check, a Competition
Calendar, a Skate Places
Index, a Calling the Clubs
feature and a free Swop
Shop. Remember though,
with all these things we're
going to need every bit of
feedback we can get. *Please*
keep regularly in touch.

On September 24th, The
World Skateboarding Cham-
pionships will be getting
under way at the Longbeach
Arena, Los Angeles, USA.
Naturally we're going to be
there covering the events
and action for you and we
won't miss the opportunity
either of pinning down some
of the big stars to exclusive
interviews for *Skateboard!*
The pictures alone will be
dynamite, so standby for our
Skateside report – next issue!

And talking of contests,
one question I'm always
being asked is "... could you
print the skateboarding
competition rules?" Well, I
talked to Don Branker of the
US Professional Skateboard-
ing Association on this one
and he tells me the short
answer is that no one set of

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W 600 Newporter Ash Deck

rules exists! Apparently, as riders and equipment improve, over in the States they find it easier to just keep on re-writing the regulations to suit. Kinda makes sense, I suppose. What Don is doing though is sending over a copy of the rules for this year's world championships. We'll be printing them up into a poster just as soon as possible and that'll be available through our mail order . . . watch out for it.

It's with great pleasure that I welcome UK's new Champion of Champions, Tim Levis, to the ranks of *Skateboard!* His ability and technical know-how will go a long way to making sure that this magazine continues to bring to its readers, the best there is in the world of skateboarding.

Lastly, to the town of Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire and our 'mouth of the month' award goes to a spokesman from the Thames Valley Police. Commenting on the possible future prosecution of 'street-borne' skaters he went on: "While we do not have a problem at the moment, the potential is there and in some areas . . . we are beginning to receive complaints from pedestrians." Surely the only 'problem' is the council concerned having failed to grasp that many of its younger citizens need good skateboarding facilities? I doubt it would cost much more to the ratepayers than the equivalent sum spent on arresting, say, a dozen skaters!

BRUCE SAWFORD
Skateboard! Editor

STOP PRESS

Unbelievable news has just come over the phone to us that the entire USA Pro Hobie Team will be arriving in the UK on October 16th for a series of demos — plus a biggie event in North London. Okay . . . do you wanna hear the star names??? There'll be Mike Weed, Ed Nadalin, Bob Skoldberg and Skitch Hitchcock! Much more next issue . . .



A blow to skateboarding was dealt by the death of young Michael Bailey. Labelled "First British victim of the craze", Michael's death came about by a heavy fall on his lower back, while trying to perfect a backward mid-air spin.

His mother was quoted as saying: "The skateboard was responsible for his injuries. These things should be banned immediately."

Thankfully, the newspapers did go on to report that Michael suffered from a rare hereditary blood disorder, which could cause heavy bleeding.

Michael practiced every night in a car park on a very cheap board. Need we say more? Give us amenities with safety regulations and these tragedies will not occur. Please don't blame the sport. Out of 26 sports listed by the USA, skateboarding was placed the 25th most dangerous. More deaths are caused by lying in bed . . .

Keep your eyes on your skateboard at all times. Some real creeps are on the loose — board snatching. In three days alone, boards and gear worth over £300 were stolen from kids at the South Bank. How does it happen? Three guys seem to be the main culprits. They approach the younger kids and ask them to demonstrate a complicated trick. Then they push the unsuspecting skater off his board, and scoot away on it. At Crystal Palace we witnessed a thief in action, trying to lift a board while its owner stood talking to the press. Don't let your board out of your sight, and never lend it to anyone you don't know . . .

Protesting skaters in Havering staged a demo recently, on market day in Romford, Essex. The kids got shoppers to sign a petition urging Havering Council to set up a local skateboarding rink where they can have fun away from complaining

pedestrians. As a result of this, the council arranged a teach-in at the Chaffords Sports Centre. Their petition is shortly to go before the Community and Recreation Committee for discussion. Take heed, all frustrated skaters, and get demo-ing!

The Thought Factory of Basingstoke claim to be making the first all-British urethane wheels. In the US hand-poured style, they're using the only fast system in

Europe. The firm is only six months old, and already they have been supplying Europe, UK and even the USA with wheels under other brand names. Now, in September, they are releasing their own brand called Alleycat. It's a bowl wheel with double edge flex — and clear green in colour. Watch out for our test in Skata Data . . .

Great to hear from all you readers who wrote to us complaining about Blackpool



Council. There's nothing like a bit of bad publicity to stir up the authorities . . .

Skaters in Blackpool have been kicked off the Promenade and out of the parks. Mr. Fred Matthew, Blackpool's Director of Parks and Recreations gave his version of the reasoning behind this:

"If there was an accident in a park involving a skateboard, then the first thing that would happen is that people would put in a claim against the Corporation for negligence. The parks are used by the old and infirm, and skateboards are a dangerous hazard."

He went on to say that he had seen children skating near his house and was surprised no one had been killed. More adventurous kids who moved on to the multi-storey car park were also chased off.

This kind of story makes our blood boil. It seems that the councils are run by the aged and infirm, living way back in the past. Kids will be killed on the streets if they're not given proper places to skate. The more they are thrown out of parks, the more dangerous the sport will be. Did you ever hear of a skater crushing a pedestrian to death in a park? Enough of this kind of codswallop!

The letters flowed in from all over the country, enclosing newspaper clips full of inane warnings about the 'Hazards of skateboarding' from citizens concerned with public safety. Berkshire, Cheltenham, St. Helen's and Penzance seem worst hit by the anti-skateboard hysteria. In the Thames Valley, sports shops have refused to stock boards, and the police are recommending a total ban on skateboards for children under the age of eight. It is claimed that decent townsfolk across the length and breadth of Berkshire and Oxfordshire have lodged complaints. "Unless they are banished from crowded town centres and housing estate subways, someone is going to be killed or maimed very soon, say the experts!", screams one local rag. Mr. Larder, of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents is quoted as saying:

"The alternative is for our hospital beds to be taken up by people maimed and injured. And, with the state of our economy as it is, that



Above Benjy man, Jeremy Henderson — a dab hand at the kick flip. Below Jeffrey Rutland, 7-up and making it look easy!



is ridiculous!" That certainly is, Mr. Larder.

But the person I would most like to nominate for free passage on the next voyage of the Titanic is a Mr. Stan Eldon of Caversham.

"Skateboards are deadly things, and most likely to cause aggro among customers. I do not regard skateboarding as a sport, and I don't want to do anything to encourage it."

Skaters of Berkshire, unite. We're right behind you.

Skateboarding symbolises youth, health and vitality, reckon the advertisers. Our TV screens are soon to reverberate with just that, as skaters take off to demonstrate the health giving properties of Unigate milk, and the vitality that can be yours if you use Blue Stratos Aftershave. Bill Goble, Max Kirsten, Tim Levis and Guy Wadsworth are among the skate superstars strutting their stuff on celluloid. Hollywood tomorrow?

Competition Reports

The Evening News Skateboard Championship at Crystal Palace did not take place without a few mishaps. In fact, at first it seemed that it was destined not to take place at all. The competition fizzled out within ten minutes of beginning as rain waterlogged the site. Disappointed spectators wandered off home — only for the sun to come out in the afternoon. Those who stayed on enjoyed a fun packed day of demonstrations, busty ladies from the Emotion Team, and hot dogs on the grass. The contest was postponed until August 10th.

The 10th dawned bright and clear, and once again enthusiasts flocked to the Palace, although spectators were thinner on the ground.

A minor catastrophe struck early, as Speedek were setting up the slalom. Terry Conlan of Slick Willies invited one of the boys to be a 'guinea pig' and try the course out to make sure it was okay for the contest. One young lad agreed to have a go.

"Plucky kid," said Terry, "that's a fast tight run, I wouldn't like to be going



down there right now!"

Too right he wouldn't — the kid wiped out spectacularly about six Coke cans down, and grazed himself badly. Within seconds the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade came pounding into view.

The biggest confusion seems to have been caused by the method of choosing an overall winner. Judging the winner for each event was quite straightforward, and placings were duly given.

They were:

Speed (under 14) — 1. Gerald Quinlan; 2. Marc Sinclair; 3. Andrew Vining; 4. Paul Sully.

Speed (14-16) — 1. John Shayer; 2. Ian Chiles; 3. David Acton-Bond; 4. John Sablosky.

Speed (17 and over) — 1. Jock Patterson; 2. Tim Dunkerley; 3. Max Kirsten; 4. Tim Levis.

Slalom (under 14) — 1. Paul Sully; 2. Marc Sinclair; 3. Keith Smith; 4. Nikolas Nikolitch.

Slalom (14-16) — 1. John Shayer; 2. John Sablosky; 3. Caspar Peacock; 4. Simon Bell.

Slalom (17 and over) — 1. Jock Patterson; 2. Tim Dunkerley; 3. Frank Middleton; 4. Tim Levis.

Freestyle (under 14) — 1. Paul Sully; 2. Marc Sinclair; 3. Keith Smith; 4. Graham McEachran.

Freestyle (14-16) — 1. Richard Heslop; 2. John Sablosky; 3. John Shayer; 4. Otto Wilkinson.

Freestyle (17 and over) — 1. Tim Levis; 2. Tim Dunkerley; 3. Cliff Mitchell; 4. Ben Liddell.

Overall winners in each age group who received cash prizes and a silver salver were Marc Sinclair, John Sablosky and Tim Levis.

Originally, Paul Sully won both his age group prize and the overall championship title. Later it was found that he had to be disqualified as his father works for the Evening News Group.

Tim Levis then took the title and the Harley Davidson prize.

Much controversy has surrounded the choosing of an overall winner, but as Tony Bowman, the organiser, explains, this was calculated on a points system.

"The speed and slalom points were worked out on a penalty system. That is: if the contestant fouled the start line or knocked over a can penalty points were

added on to his timing. These two results were then added together.

"The freestyle points were given out of a possible maximum of 90. The combined speed and slalom times were then subtracted from the freestyle points to give an overall figure. For anyone to be considered as overall champion they had to compete in all three events. Those who gained high points in the freestyle were likely to get the highest scores overall."

The judges were: Steve Constable, Peter Minto, Barry Walsh and Keith Faulkner. Roger Daltry gave the prizes and remarked:

"I was very impressed. I used to skateboard myself when it first came in fashion in the sixties, so I know just how hard it is."

The S.C.S.A. continues to thrive in Brighton. Their second competition took place on Sunday August 7th at the Portslade Sports Centre.

Prizes of £100, donated by Skateboard City, attracted over eighty entries.

The judging of the Freestyle events was conducted by a panel of four Brighton and Hove Albion players and the prizes were presented by Peter Ward, Albion's top goal scorer.

There were three events, Slalom, Freestyle and Team Shunt Race and the competitions were divided into three age groups.

In the 13 and under Slalom the youngest competitor, six year old Damon Arnold, captured the hearts of the crowd. He was awarded the trophy for the most promising young competitor.

Most of the competitors were in the 14 to 16 age group and here competition was much fiercer.

Patrick Bowman took the Slalom completing the twenty gate course in just over 9 seconds.

A time of 1 minute for the Freestyle was sufficient for the riders to go through all their moves.

Neil Robbins started his winning routine with a jump over two of his team mates. He was followed into second place by Steve Karous who also was showing fine form in his jumping.

Many other manoeuvres were performed: 360s, hand-





stands, wheelies, etc., but the jumping seemed most effective in catching the eyes of the judges.

There were only a small number competing in the over 16 section. Included in these was Jock Patterson who again won the Slalom, and Tim Dunkley who tied with Jock for first place in the Freestyle. These two riders continue to dominate the Brighton skateboarding scene.

The Association Trophy for the best skateboarder went to Jock Patterson.

Results of the competition were:

Under 16 Slalom — 1. Patrick Bowman; 2. Jeff Pryor; 3. Steve Karous.

Under 16 Freestyle — 1. Neil Robbins; 2. Steve Karous.

Over 16 Slalom — 1. Jock Patterson; 2. Tim Dunkley; 3. Andy Barnard.

Over 16 Freestyle — 1. Jock Patterson; Tim Dunkley.

Skate Places

Few skateboarders have sampled the delights of a tight, steep bowl rush in the north. Yet the Stalybridge Bowl near Manchester could give the growing population of northern skateboarders a chance to experience such terrain without having to trek south to Watergate or London — to date the only other bowls in Britain.

Owners and designers Howard Wilkinson and John Easter tacked on the bowl and its 30 yard run-up to the rear of the squash courts at the Stalybridge Indoor Sports Centre in August. John first designed and constructed a model of the finished bowl, then crossed his fingers — £2,000 was quite a waste if it proved a flop, and he was concerned the design should be successful.

The tarmac dips, shoulders, humps and bowls were laid out, and within a few days, locals had flocked to the 60 degree wall, getting that ephemeral feeling of wave-riding on solid ground. A passing New Zealander heard the word, dropped by and ended up by staying five hours.

The Bowl opened unofficially on 8th August, with plans for full landscaping, a daily charge of 20 pence, hire boards, and division of the riding times into days for

Find your wild streak!

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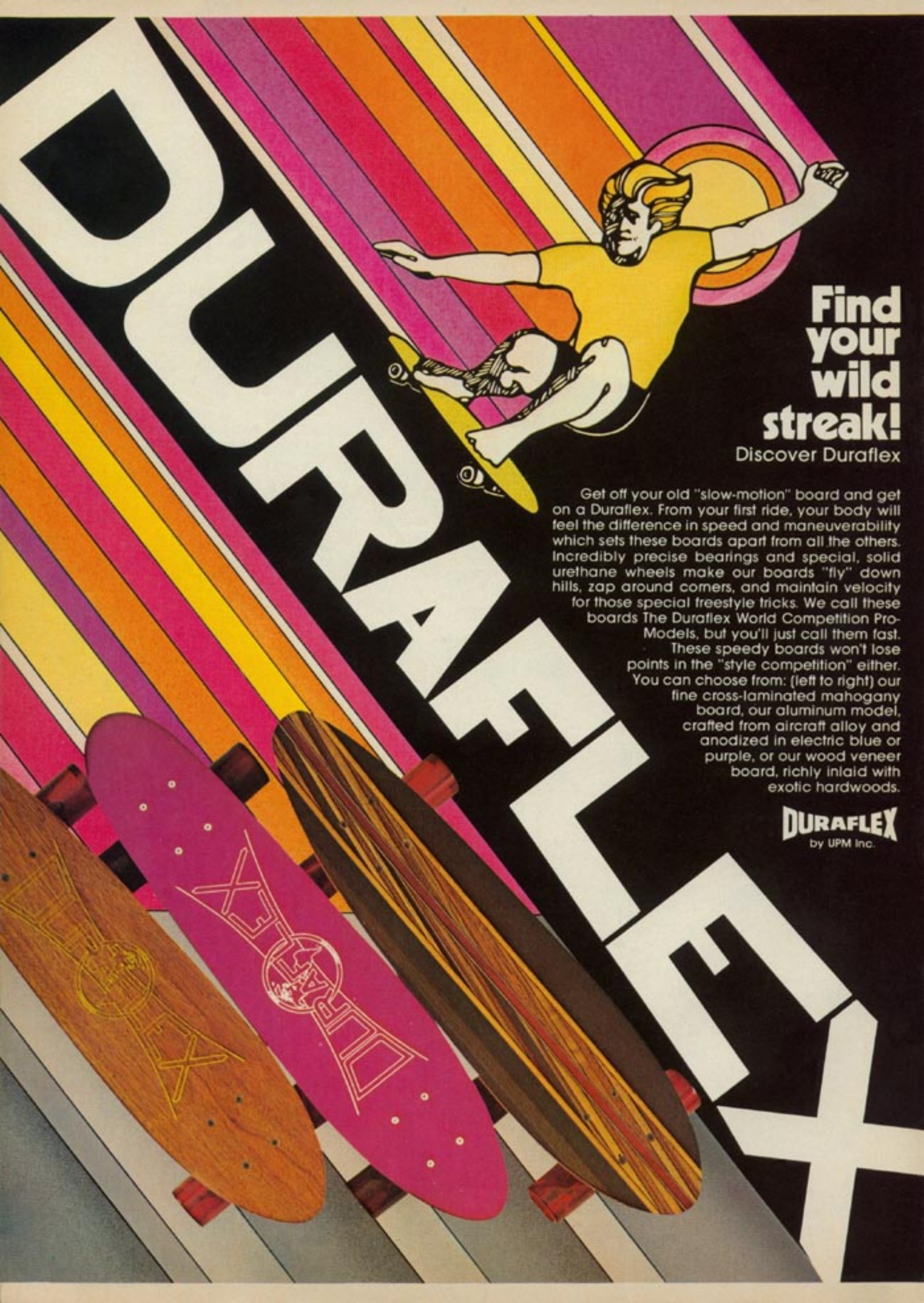
Get off your old "slow-motion" board and get on a Duraflex. From your first ride, your body will feel the difference in speed and maneuverability which sets these boards apart from all the others. Incredibly precise bearings and special, solid urethane wheels make our boards "fly" down hills, zap around corners, and maintain velocity for those special freestyle tricks. We call these

boards The Duraflex World Competition Pro-Models, but you'll just call them fast.

These speedy boards won't lose points in the "style competition" either.

You can choose from: (left to right) our fine cross-laminated mahogany board, our aluminum model, crafted from aircraft alloy and anodized in electric blue or purple, or our wood veneer board, richly inlaid with exotic hardwoods.

DURAFLEX
by UPM Inc.



beginners and days for the experienced. Rumour also hung about the edge of the Bowl that a steeper wall would be built in the future if the original took off.

And that's just what it has done. Some local youngsters have been skating just a matter of weeks, and have already slid comfortably into high line drives round the lip of the bowl, punchy off-the-lips and radical rail turns.

Crowds? One local commented: "We don't mind people bringing their boards here, particularly if they're better than us. I'll watch what they can do and try to copy them, so I'll get better."

Otherwise, it's a run you won't forget in a place perhaps you'd rather. For more information, contact Howard Wilkinson at the Bowl on 061-338 3528.

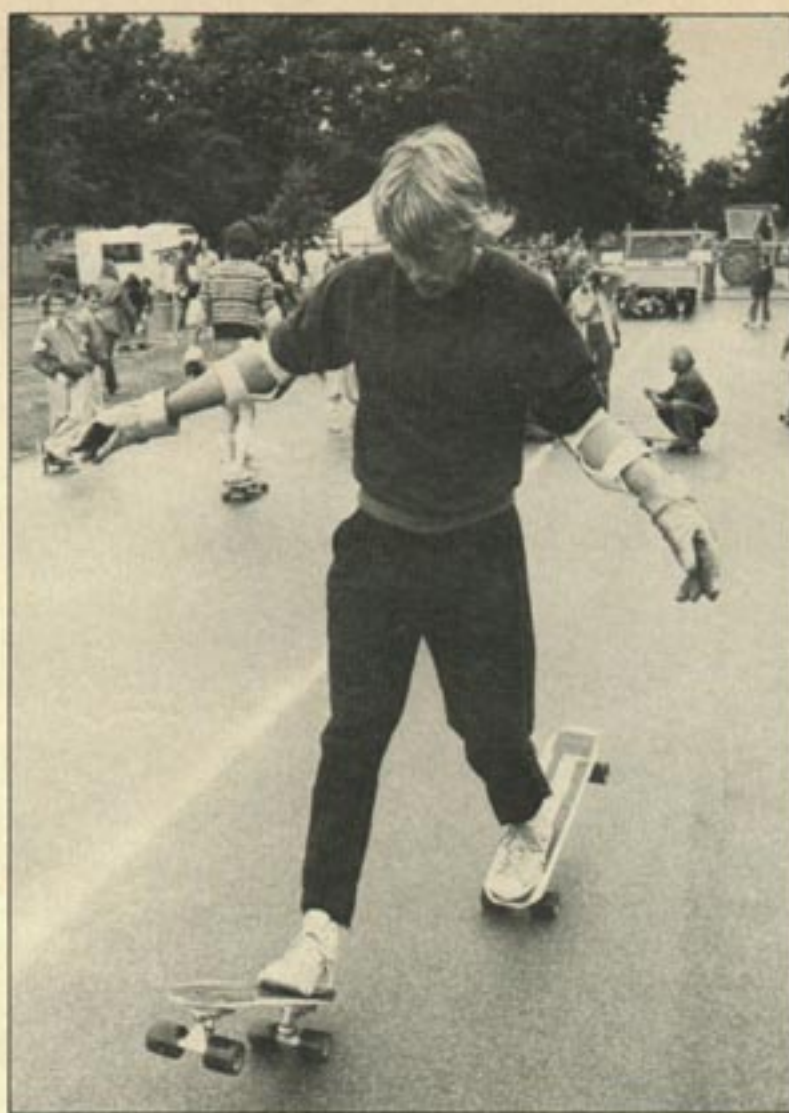
Kids in Coventry are putting their town on the national skateboarding map. They practice hard at the cycle track at Butts Stadium, Albany Road. It's by no means ideal, as the surface is pretty abrasive, but there are some good high banks. The charge is 25p for as long a session as you like, and it's open every day and evening except Friday night, when the cycling enthusiasts use the track.

They don't have any organised teams as yet, as their skating standard isn't quite high enough. But enthusiasm is great, and inevitably Coventry will be producing good competitors before very long.

On Sundays, the main shopping precinct is a favourite meeting place, and more and more kids turn up every week. Many of the kids have bought their own skateboards by saving up their pocket money, and doing odd jobs like paper rounds.

A similar scene is growing in Manchester. A regular meeting place is Crown Square in the town centre — but after 6pm as the area is used as a thoroughfare during the day. Around 40 skaters use the square, and the standard is pretty high. They've been thrown out of the parks, though some schools allow the use of playgrounds...

Hyson Green in Nottingham is the scene of much skateboard activity. There are three bowls here, varying from two to ten feet in bank



A fine 'Duffy' on display at Crystal Palace.

height, with an angle of 60 degrees. When the decaying inner city was pulled down by town planners, it was replaced with banks, bowls, tubes and smooth slopes — a skater's paradise.

Nottingham cats aren't too interested in slalom and freestyle — they're bowl riders to a man!

Richard from Eltham writes:

"Royal Greenwich Park is fast becoming recognised as one of the best skateboarding areas in the South East. There are a number of long sloping paths that give some incredible downhill runs, and the park is crisscrossed with numerous smooth tarmac paths.

"The most popular for skateboarders is a long shallow run leading to a short sharp hill. Most of the stunts are tried here, or along a path running adjacent to this. There's also a short steep run, a path following the road which is an easy half mile cruise, and the fastest of all — a long steep ride which is really hot to skate.

"The attitude of the police seems very tolerant, although some kids have been moved on, and others have been threatened with fines. It does seem a good idea to set time limits for when skating can

take place, or to section off an area. The average age and standard is below that of the South Bank, but both are rising."

Team Check

We want to hear details of what *your* team is getting up to. Please write or phone letting us know who's in the line-up, how long it's been going, where you've been riding lately, what equipment you use. Naturally, a team photo would come in handy too. Contact *Skateboard!* magazine, 14 Rathbone Place, London W1P 1DE.

Competition Calendar

It's okay running a competition, but if you want any spectators (or maybe even competitors!) then you'd better let us know about it *in good time* — and that means at least five weeks before publication day. Where it will be held, name and address of the organiser, prizes offered, events to be staged, and, most importantly, the date and time of starting. Details to: *Skateboard!* magazine, 14 Rathbone Place, London W1P 1DE.

Places Index

Skateboard! magazine is drawing up a list of well-used skate places around the country. If you have a favourite park, cul-de-sac, off-street area that you'd like to share and it's safe and legal, we'd like to hear about it. Details please to: *Skateboard!* magazine, 14 Rathbone Place, London W1P 1DE.

Swap Shop

Gotta 'board you're tired of — a set of pads you can't use any more — or how about some of those great US mags you've read sixty times over? Just write in and let us know what you'd like in their place and we'll see the word gets out in the next month's Swap Shop column. Once again, the service is free of charge. Just drop a line to: *Skateboard!* magazine, 14 Rathbone Place, London W1P 1DE.

Calling The Clubs

Each month we shall be featuring a report on the many Skateboarding Clubs and Associations around the country. To do this, we need to hear from *you*. Please write or phone, giving us your name, address and if possible phone number. We'd like to know the name of the club, where it is, how much it is to join, how many members there are, how long it's been running, and so on. All information will be published free of charge to the clubs concerned. Contact *Skateboard!* magazine, 14 Rathbone Place, London W1P 1DE.

SKATEBOARD! MAGAZINE GOES MONTHLY FROM NOW ON! Because of the enormous success of issue 1, from now on, *Skateboard!* magazine goes MONTHLY. Unfortunately, this has meant the re-scheduling of several articles that were to have appeared in this edition. Have no fear, the advertised features on 'Customising', 'Skateboarding Hybrids', and 'Constructing your own Park' will be with you in even greater detail in the months to come.

THE EDITOR

SKATE LINE

'WE'RE HOT AND GETTING HOTTER'

Three months ago we bought our first skateboards, and that was a really good feeling; we'd seen all the kids whizzing about locally and couldn't wait to try. Actually we had had a bash earlier by taking apart our sister's roller skates (boy was she mad!!!) and making a very rough deck out of plywood. It smashed to pieces coming down a very fast hill in Parliament Hill Fields — take heed — we've still got the scars to prove it.

Mum and Dad were delighted at our new found enthusiasm, that is until the first time we went up to the South Bank. Then the trouble started. 'These boards are useless, we can't ride the banks, we can't do nose wheelies, we can't do a hang ten etc., etc., etc.' So it was parents up to the scene of all the action, and thanks to a couple of very interested adults, my Dad was a champion sportsman himself, we got good trucks and good wheels and he made us some really way out decks.

Now it's all happening at our house and around New Barnet. I do find it difficult to understand why my Mum objects to sometimes as many as 15 to 20 kids hammering down the side of our house; we're lucky we live on a hill and we have a paved drive and patio. We used to have a lovely lawn too until we discovered that if we covered the grass with hardboard butted up together and then put some trestles and a couple of large pieces of 7 ply up against the apple tree we actually had a terrific mini skate park. All the kids in our area know about it now and they come round every night. We're saving up for floodlights for the winter, ha! ha! We've tamed Mum now and she understands that hanging out the washing is bound to be a fairly hazardous task and she is positively the only lady in New Barnet who wears a crash helmet whilst putting out the empty milk bottles.

We've got our own team practising hard right now because we've just been challenged by the Holymunk Skateboard Team who all live a couple of streets away. So you see it's really moving here in Barnet. Come down and see us sometime, an 11-man catamaran is something I can tell you. Matt and Ben Shaul, New Barnet, Herts.

LONDON ISN'T BURNING . . .

All right, so skateboarding in the UK did start in London, but those are the only skateboarders that you seem to be concerned with. There are lots of skaters who meet in smaller towns and villages, and although they may not be as good as the Londoners, you could at least give them a mention. Take us in Slough, for example. We meet every Sunday in a car park above Slough Bus Station. We have problems, because although there aren't any people around, we still get thrown out regularly. We may not be the best, but we're getting better all the time. P.T. Hemmings, Slough, Berks.

(In fact, we don't reckon skateboarding started in London at all. Many people from the south coastal towns claim to have been skating continuously since the '60s. We're doing our best to make our coverage as nationwide as possible, and you can help us by letting us know who's hot in your area. Each club could nominate their hottest skater, and send us pics and a phone number so we can talk to you. Londoners are lucky because they are getting the facilities first — help us to help you by giving publicity to *your* activities. Ed.)

YOU CAN ALWAYS TELL AN OUTLAW BY HIS KNEES . . .

I came across your first issue in a local shop, and felt I had to write. You seem concerned with the direction of the new

'wonder world' of skateboarding . . . so am I, yet at present, we travel on opposite sides of the street.

A friend and I began surf-skating back in 1967. I started with red cork, slippery wheels, and progressed to Hammaco. They made complete units of similar size, design and equal strength to today's boards for £5. Those wheels gave good grip, durability and allowed side-slips that are unthinkable today. Skateboard radicalism emerged alongside the short-board styles in '68.

Just a few skaters were doing things eight years ago that kids are "inventing" today. Board decks hit forty inches and eleven inches, kick tails came in four years before they were developed en masse, and one guy even shaped up a spooned, ultra-wide deck for knee-riding! Handstands and eight mph drops were for goons who'd never been near the ocean in their lives. Wirral was littered with smooth, steep hills, some of which you moved onto and off again after angry words with neighbours. Other drops are still mellow today.

Now skateboarding has taken off in Britain, it seems everybody's hell-bent to organise, be competitive, push everyone into clubs and ask advice from the RSPA (as if they were even on the same wavelength).

The days of road and pavement freedom may be waning as local authorities, cautious to promote the right image, herd everyone behind high fences and put them under the control of old men.

Now is the time to stop the spread of idiot commercialism. If we don't resist, the Government, the police and the goody-two-shoes RSPA will make damn sure you pay your 50p and take a drop into the plastic dream bowl.

Please take care *Skateboard!* Don't bury our souls because of wounded knees. Keep the pads off. Rod Holmes, Wirral, Merseyside.

(You wouldn't expect to ride a go-kart in the road or a motorbike on a footpath — in the same way skateboards are inevitably going to have to come off the streets. Surfers have the whole ocean — skateboarders will have to build their own. Yes, it would be a bum deal if the sport was rendered passive and sterile by the maiden aunts of authority — but we are looking on the brighter side. There ain't a lot you can do with a street littered with cars and pedestrians — but in a skate park the possibilities are unlimited. Doesn't a thirty foot concrete wave appeal to you? They're building them in the States right now Ed.)

MAD DOGS AND ENGLISHMEN . . .

I am writing to tell you that your mag's on the right pipeline. How about a few skateboarding stories — like people's own experiences, and some skate tips. In Nottingham we have two main 'radical' breaks, Broad Marsh centre with a 15 foot bank, and Hyson Green, which makes London's South Bank look like Diddyland. We practice every Sunday pulling stunts like power slides, space walks and tile hitting. I've worn out two boards already! My comment: why not build a replica of the concrete wave in Anaheim up North — it would cost a lot, yes, but would soon have paid for itself. And how about inviting some big stars here, like 'Mad Dog' or Jay Adams to help keep British skateboarding on the right track.

Steve, Tristram, Notts.

(Good idea, Steve — let's see your skate stories — but keep them short, 300 to 500 words. We have two exciting plans in the pipeline: one to bring some top skaters over from the USA; the other to take some of ours over to see them! Watch this space. Ed.)

IN SHORT

I've been skateboarding for five months and would like to join a club. Please advise me how to do this, and tell me where I can find any skateboard runs or bowls.

T.J. Huggins, Surrey.

(Happy to oblige. See our next issue on how to set about forming — or finding — a club. Ed.)

I thought the magazine was terrific — here are some suggestions which would make it even better. A subscriptions department, so we could get back issues too. Some pull-out, colour posters. Detailed manoeuvres, with pics.

D. Manders, Wakefield.

(All three start this month. Ed.)

Great magazine, but I'm not up to date on skateboard language. I haven't the faintest idea what 'radical' means in the sense you use it. I looked it up in the dictionary with no luck. And how about a 'wanted and for sale' section in the mag?

A. Haas, Dorset.

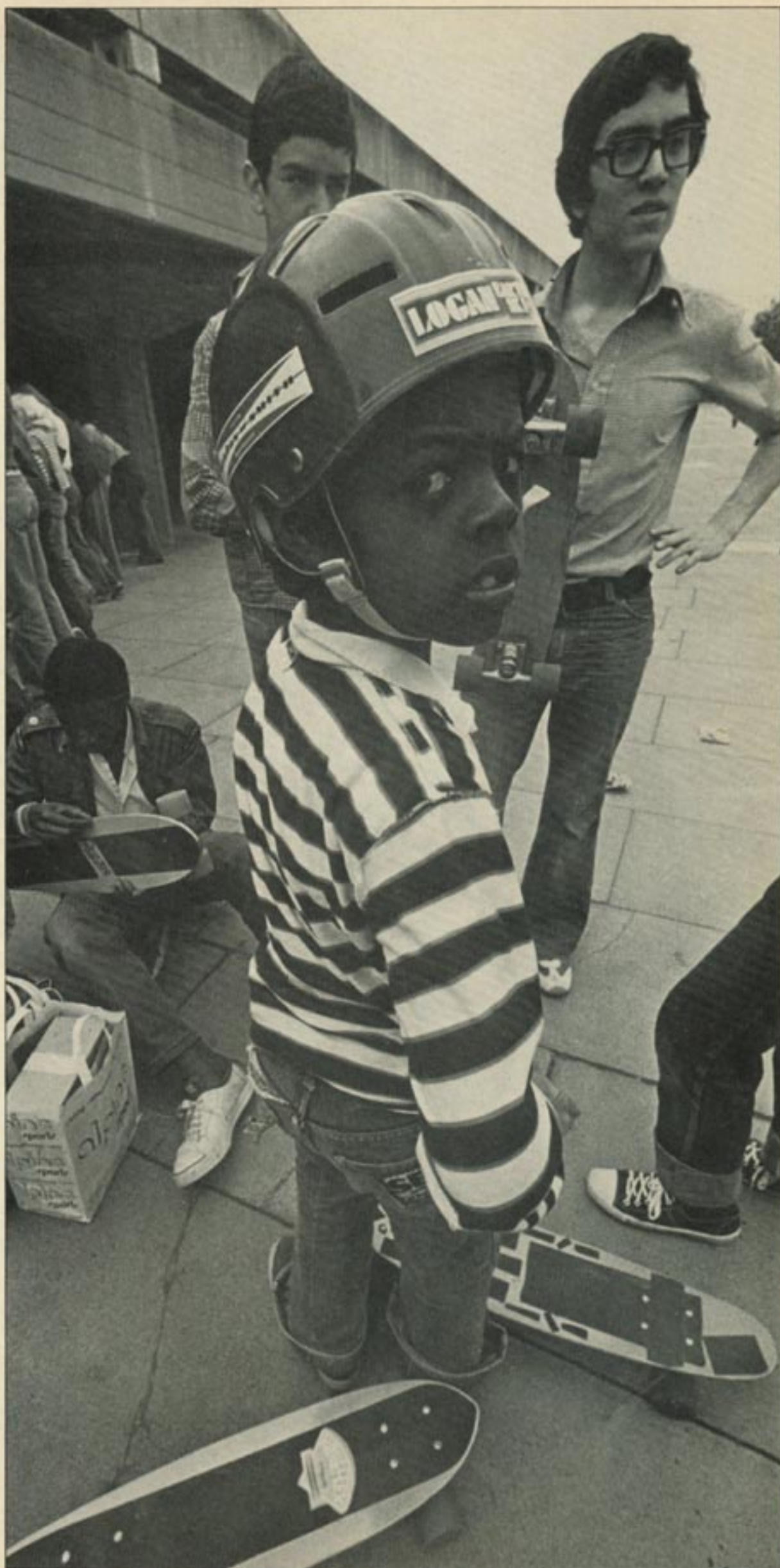
(Many skateboard terms and phrases have origins in surfing and skiing. Radical comes from American skate jargon — and we use it to describe the various styles of the most advanced and fearless skaters. Maybe we should start inventing a language of our own? Oh... the Swoop Shop starts next issue. Ed.)

Congratulations on producing a brilliant magazine. I read it from cover to cover and was totally stunned, that a magazine could be so informative and interesting. Carry on!

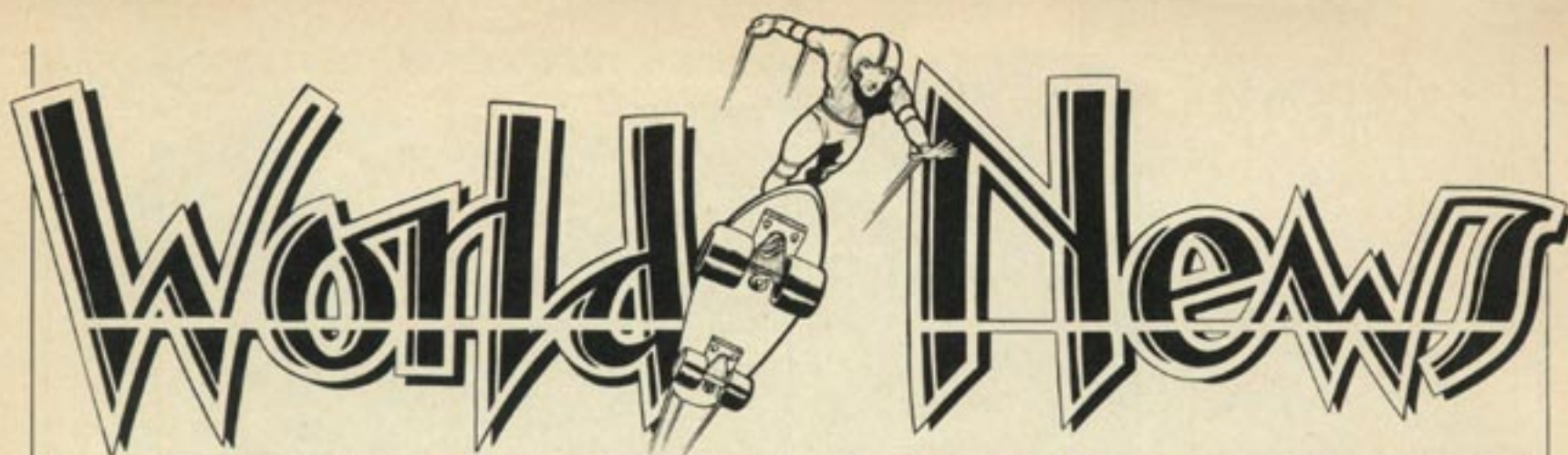
Adrian Limes, Staines, Middlesex.

(We were dead chuffed by some of your letters — it's great to know when we're getting it right! But then, we're sure you won't hesitate to tell us when you think we're wrong, too. Ed.)

For answers to your technical queries — see Skata Data, page 40.



'Manny' from the Skate City Team, hanging out at the South Bank.



Skate World

Across the USA, some 30 million people are tuned in to the joys of skateboarding. Small wonder that they have the best facilities in the world, and are getting hotter and wilder ones every day.

On June 30th, skateboarding entered a new dimension with the opening of SKATEBOARD WORLD, America's newest and most up-to-the-minute skatepark. The cost was in excess of a million dollars, it covers three and a half acres of land, and it took 9 months to build. (Which is quite a long time by American standards.)

Skateboard World is situated at Torrance, in California's South Bay, and was designed by Disney Land architect, Randy Duell. Visually, it's stunning, with landscaping, flying flags and carefully engineered multi-coloured runs. And there's something for everybody — whatever their level of skating ability. For speed freaks there's a straight, steep slalom or a curling, curving snake-like run with seven nerve testing bends. For dedicated bank riders, there's a pipe line ending in a deep smooth bowl. For those who want to test their skills on a novel surface, there's the mogul run, full of bumps to glide around or spring from one to another. Beginners are amply catered for with a gentle bowl, and a large 500 square foot freestyle area. Powerful floodlights keep skaters riding well into the evening, a popular time.

But perhaps the most unique aspect of Skateboard World is — the sound. An underground music system has been installed — so placed that the skaters get the same high quality of sound that they would from their own speakers. Piping the music up from the ground in this way makes the sound very direc-

tional — so that the skaters and onlookers can hear it loud and clear — but not the neighbours.

This music system marks a real breakthrough for free-style skaters, who can now gear their performances to a certain record, thus taking on the rhythm and continuity of a gymnastic display, or a ballet.

A session lasts for two hours and costs 4.13 dollars (£3.50) which is pretty dear by British standards, but 11½% of their gross income goes to insurance alone.

Skateboard World is bound to have quite a few accidents, but the kids want deeper and more demanding bowls, so skatepark builders have to comply. Montebello, once the most popular park, is now deserted, and Carlsbad is closed at present for rebuilding. The 15 foot banks are increasing to 30 foot to keep abreast with Skateboard World.

Safety rules are, of course, strictly adhered to. No one is allowed near a US skatepark without full safety gear.

The company responsible for Skateboard World have more great plans in store. Warwick Charlton told us that he may next be building a clear acrylic pipe with water running through, and skating it would bring the visual sensations of riding an enormous wave! They are also working on a portable system that could be taken anywhere and quickly put down — an entire surface with banks and slopes. Where to next in the country of space age skateparks?

Well, they're planning a ten acre site in Las Vegas next year — and with an estimated million skateboarders around that area alone it just has to be sound business. And quite something to see, too!

European Championship

With a first prize of a trip to California, it's not surprising that the European Skateboard Championships, held in Zurich on August 6 and 7, drew entrants from across the continent. Austria, France, Germany, Great Britain and Switzerland were all represented. Surprisingly, the skating wasn't as hot as you might have expected. The organisers had claimed to have gathered the cream of Europe. But Dennis Vuichard of the Swiss Skateboarders Association explained that the two best Swiss skateboarders, Andy Fruttig and Stefan Bertschi, were still holidaying on a beach in Spain.

If it was sun they were after, they might just as well have stayed at home. With a temperature well into the eighties, both the refreshment stalls and turnstiles were doing good business. Not, perhaps, as much as the organisers might have hoped for, but enough to prove that skateboarding has a future in Switzerland. With an estimated 50,000 boards sold so far this year, compared to 2,000 for the whole of 1976, the sport has begun to take off in a big way.

Already clubs have been formed, with members of all ages. The oldest entrant in the Championships, for example, was 77. Mostly though, in terms of performance and numbers, it's the kids that matter. Many show considerable promise, the favourite events being grand slalom, parallel slalom and downhill. All of which come naturally to a nation where people are taught to ski almost before they learn to walk.

However, as is true of almost everywhere, the problem is in finding a place to skate. Covered parking lots and shopping centres are

favourite. Sadly, as you would expect in a country where neatness, cleanliness and order are the rule, the authorities do not approve. The police, apparently, regularly confiscate skateboards and fine the riders. And, with land selling at £90 per square metre, the chances for skateparks being constructed are slim.

The Swiss Skateboarder Association, with eleven clubs and six hundred members, is doing its best as a pressure group. It could probably do more. But it is in conflict with the manufacturers and other commercial interests who, it claims, are merely in the sport for the money. Impartial observers suggested that if both sides were to join together, the future of skateboarding in Switzerland would be more secure.

The Championships were held at Strassenverkehrsamt, an area which is normally used as a vehicle testing centre. Because of this there was a good length of smooth tarmac, about three hundred yards in length. The giant slalom made full use of it. The gradient, although not steep, was sufficient to enable most riders to achieve a reasonable speed. However, it wasn't as easy as all that. From the start, the track immediately went into a sharp left hand bend, followed half way down by a gentler right, before levelling out into a tight left hander extending round to the finish. This, combined with some neat cone placement by the organisers, resulted in more than a few wipe-outs at the top, and energetic examples of board-pumping from competitors trying to maintain speed at the bottom.

The Pink Floyd droned continuously over the PA, punctuated at regular intervals by the commentator



informing the contestants that they had been disqualified for launching too many cones into orbit, or enthusiastically "hup, hup, hupping" encouragement to the Swiss competitors.

The majority of the Swiss were riding wood boards, G&S being everywhere, coupled with Bennett or Tracker trucks and Roadrider wheels. But already the local ski manufacturers are putting their minds to making skateboards and some potentially good models, such as the Kitchener, are beginning to make an appearance.

Styles differed, the Swiss basing theirs on skiing techniques, the Germans rapidly absorbing the influence of Russ Howell and Ty Page, both of whom gave recent demonstrations in Munich. The sole British competitor, Chris Baker of the Bristol Skateboard Centre, did his best, but showed the influence of too much continuous bad living.

However he completed the giant slalom in 43.26 seconds, some ten seconds slower than Picco Meyer of Switzerland, the eventual winner, who clocked 33.20 seconds.

The downhill continued further through what appeared to be a tollgate, and round into a tight chicane, before finishing. The winner, Steve Peters of Switzerland, covered the course in 32.73 seconds. But, as Chris Baker pointed out, the standards were nothing that would cause distress to some of the top British skaters.

Without doubt, the best riding was to be seen in the parallel slalom. German ace Lullu Magnus finished second in 9.58 seconds, behind his fellow countryman Michael Hocht (9.12 secs.). Magnus had an unhappy meeting, being disqualified in the other two downhill events. Pico Meyer of Switzerland won the under 18 section of the parallel slalom in 9.31

seconds, but improved in his run-off against the senior winner, Michael Hocht. His victory won him a trip to California for the World Championships, with Hocht having to settle for the second prize of a trip to Biarritz.

Sadly, there was much talk throughout the Championships amongst the German and Austrian competitors, complaining that Swiss rules differed from theirs. Obviously, with the sport ever increasing in international popularity, it is time for the various associations in each country to agree to one set of rules to apply to all competitions everywhere in the world. Only then will everybody be able to compete on equal terms.

However, as a lesson in how to organise a competition, there was much to be learnt from Zurich. Hopefully the German championships in Cologne in September will be as successful.

German Ace, Lullu Magnus, pulling out a Christie

RESULTS

DOWNHILL

1. Steve Peters SW	32.73
2. Michael Hocht GER	33.51
3. Balz Roth SW	33.78
4. Urs Meyer SW	33.98
5. Max Voltl GER	34.67
6. Robert Keller SW	35.97
7. Albert Rott SW	36.23

PARALLEL SLALOM (under 18)

1. Pico Meyer SW	9.31
2. Michael Wolf GER	9.64
3. Steve Peters SW	9.86
4. Martin Eggelin SW	10.26
5. Oliver Schraner GER	
6. Hatmund Warmann GER	

PARALLEL SLALOM (senior)

1. Michael Hocht GER	9.12
2. Lullu Magnus GER	9.58
3. Ezio Dominici SW	9.86
4. Max Foltel GER	9.88
5. Robi Hocht GER	
6. Daniel Adank SW	

GIANT SLALOM

1. Picco Meyer SW	33.20
2. Martin Eggelin SW	33.22
3. Steve Peters SW	33.38
4. Ezio Dominici SW	34.00
5. Jose Dematos F	34.08
6. Andi Beisenauer GER	34.14
7. Michael Wolf GER	34.43
8. Daniel Suter SW	34.47
Ulrich Skora GER	
10. Daniel Adank SW	34.71

LAURA THORNHILL



AND ELLEN O'NEAL

Skateboard!

Interviews Two Of America's Hottest Female Stars



Above: Laura Thornhill
Left: Ellen O'Neal

Interview by Vicki Charlton

Ellen O'Neal and Laura Thornhill are the top-liners. They are also two of the classiest skaters in the USA.

Laura is a 15-year-old from Torrance, California, and her graceful, relaxed style earns her a pile of fanmail, and many try to imitate her cat-like movements. She recently won the Overall World Championship — female category — and many of the male competitors admit they could learn a lot from her. Incidentally, she's beautiful, too.

She's only been skating for about three years; she got into it as a natural progression from skiing. Now she rides for the Logan team, and does particularly well in slalom and free-style events — her 360s, nose wheelies and kick turns off the bank are masterful in their precision. She rides some pretty radical terrains along with the best of them, but recently broke her wrist performing a 540 off the bank. She's appeared in skateboard movies and commercials, and is pleased that seeing her in action is getting more and more girls interested in the sport. Fluid, stylish and aggressive, Laura goes for it alongside the hottest skate stars — and gets there.

Our reporter spoke to Laura on the occasion of the opening of Skateboard World, America's newest, wildest skate park (see our World News section for a rundown on the scene). Laura and Ellen opened the park with flawless demonstrations of their unique skating styles.

Skateboard: Laura, why do you do it?

Laura: 'Cos it's fun, and I like to be active and doing things, it passes the time — and I actually make money at it!

Skateboard: How much do you make?

Laura: Well, I get a monthly salary from the Logan Team, I win prizes at contests, and I travel around a lot to different states and different countries doing demos. I may be coming out with a model board of my own, and I'll get money for that. It's just the deck, not wheels and trucks, and it'll be called the Logan-Earth-Ski-Laura Thornhill Model!

Skateboard: Do you have any fears about bad injury?

Laura: Well — like today I fell in the pipe and kinda messed up my elbow — but

we have to wear safety equipment, all the parks insist on it, and it's the parks that are going to keep the sport alive and growing . . . People have to have parks that they dig to keep them off the streets . . .

Skateboard: Have there been accidents in the streets here?

Laura: Oh yeah, a few people have been killed by cars 'cos they don't look out for each other . . .

Skateboard: The sport is just taking off in England right now . . .

Laura: Yeah — they definitely need some skate parks to get them off the streets, 'cos a lot of their streets aren't really that smooth — covered with cobblestones, aren't they? They also need to promote safety equipment, and plenty of time to learn how to ride properly.

Skateboard: I've noticed here that when the guys and girls are skating together in the parks, or competing in contests, they don't have any contact with each other at all — no one talks to each other . . .

Laura: Yeah — but the girls get along with the guys just as good as the guys get along with each other.

Skateboard: But it's not a very sociable thing, is it?

Laura: Not really, but the girls hang out together and like to skate together — the guys are more solitary.

Skateboard: How much training do you put in for competitions?

Laura: I practice pretty much every day, I like to get it down exactly which trick I'm going to do when, and how to add one trick smoothly to another — I practice in earnest for at least a month before a big competition.

Skateboard: Do you follow any particular diet?

Laura: Um — no — but lately I've been eating a lot of fruit, I'm trying to quit eating meat, 'cos I think that slows you down. I like to stay in good shape, and skateboarding does that for me. I really like junk food but I try to avoid it — I don't drink cokes but stick to water instead.

Skateboard: If the sport is going to get to the Olympics, the pros are going to need a lot of training facilities. How much time do you think they should have to themselves in the parks?

Laura: Well, it's nice for the

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pros to come in while the amateurs are riding but it's hard on the pros 'cos the amateurs are not up to par, so they get in the way — perhaps there should be pro hours and amateur hours . . . The amateurs could watch the pros and learn . . .

Skateboard: How young do you think people should start to learn to skate?

Laura: Any time they've got the ability to control their boards, and the confidence.

Skateboard: Do you find that men skate a lot faster?

Laura: Yeah they do, 'cos they've got more guts than the girls to go for it . . .

Skateboard: How many pro girls are there?

Laura: At the most about ten, but there are more getting into the sport every day, in a couple of years there'll be a lot more pros.

Skateboard: Do you think there's a definite possibility of the sport making the Olympics?

Laura: No doubt about it, they'll have free-style, compulsories, slalom, cross-country and bank-riding — they could make really high banks that could be moved around . . .

Skateboard: What's the fastest speed you ever got up to?

Laura: Probably about 45mph . . .

Skateboard: Do you think it's important to have coaching?

Laura: Oh yeah, especially for the Olympics. Entrants will have to train and be coached intensively. Here's looking forward to it!

Ellen O'Neal was the overall freestyle winner at Carlsbad, and is as much, if not more of a cult figure than Laura. She's also featured in several skateboard movies and commercials.

Skateboard: Ellen, when did you start skating?

Ellen: Two years ago when I got a skateboard on my sixteenth birthday.

Skateboard: Were you interested in any form of athletics before?

Ellen: Uhuh, I did gymnastics at school, and I did a lot of bike riding so my legs were strong, and I did ballet for five years which has really helped my balance . . .

Skateboard: How long do you think it takes before people can become competent on a board?

Ellen: A good six months.

Skateboard: Do you need

expensive equipment?

Ellen: Well, it's whatever you feel most comfortable on, you should look around . . .

Skateboard: For people in England, who are only just starting to skate, what would you say is the most important thing?

Ellen: To take it slowly and not rush at things past your ability . . .

Skateboard: Would it help to have coaching?

Ellen: You can instruct a person, but you can't really teach them much. It's all practice, learning to feel your way. A coach could observe what you're doing wrong, I guess . . .

fade away again?

Ellen: Oh yeah, there are just too many manufacturers and companies putting money behind it. The first time round it was a lot more dangerous too, 'cos of the crummy wheels . . . there's a lot of drive behind skateboarding now.

Skateboard: Safety is being pushed a lot now too . . .

Ellen: You can't tell a person what to do and make them wear safety gear, except in the parks. It's a decision each person has to make — I still see kids going into parks, trying not to wear any gear.

Skateboard: I noticed you were very reluctant to put it

your face hurt?

Ellen: I don't worry about my face, more my legs! When you fall the first things you go on are your arms and then your legs — my face has never hit the ground but my head has once — but I don't try to do a lot of things that the radical guys do.

Skateboard: So there is a difference in the way boys and girls skate?

Ellen: The guys are more radical and aggressive . . .

Skateboard: But I've watched you skate and you look just as aggressive as they do . . .

Ellen: Really? Maybe in slalom I do, but in freestyle I think I come across differently because of my ballet, and the way I use my arms . . .

Skateboard: How much competition is there between you and the other girls?

Ellen: It's just a friendly competitive atmosphere, there's no rivalry. Like there are a lot of guys who are at each other's throats — but mostly we do it for self-satisfaction — not just beating someone to get a name . . . I'd just as soon go out skating all by myself — and just having a really good feeling about it, going around and enjoying it. Then there's other times when I feel like competing . . .

Skateboard: Do the guys accept you?

Ellen: Oh yeah, there are lots of us now and we're up with them and do a lot of the same things — the girls who are good are better than a lot of guys, anyway. I think they enjoy having us around.

And Ellen and Laura went off to give another demo to the skate-hungry crowds. This is Ellen's advice to those who want to skate like her:

"Let your neck hang loose, bob your head up and down with the rhythm of skating. Be aware of your senses. Go fast. Feel the wind. You've got to have a relaxed body, with an aware, relaxed mind. I'll skate with my feet like this, my knees out, arms out — stretched, slightly bent, really loose but not sticking out. One, two, three — turn, one, two, three . . . this feels hot! Hang loose and let it flow. Skate dance, do whatever steps you please. Don't judge it, don't say it's good or bad. Stay with it, let it flow, trust yourself. Set no mental limitations. Then you'll be free to reach for the sky."

LAURA THORNHILL

ELLEN O'NEAL

*America's
Hottest*

Skateboard: How early should kids start?

Ellen: At about five or six, but most accidents happen at first . . .

Skateboard: Do you think skateboarding has a big future?

Ellen: Oh definitely, now it's so popular in Australia and England and the rest of Europe, Canada is probably more advanced than we are here. There are more contests for amateurs, not just professionals like in the US. The little kids here are getting a bit left behind by the pros.

Skateboard: So you think skateboarding is definitely here to stay, and it won't

on yourself, does it make you feel restricted?

Ellen: Well, ever since I started to wear gear in competitions I've been practicing a lot with it on 'cos I have to get used to wearing it. It gets pretty hot . . .

Skateboard: What are the worst injuries people get without it?

Ellen: I think the most vulnerable part is the wrist — parks get more broken wrists than anything else. Then your knees and elbows, but I haven't had a grazed knee in over a year now 'cos I've been wearing the pads . . .

Skateboard: As a girl, how conscious are you of getting

The Sun Rises On SKATE CITY

As you flick through your back copies of *Skateboarder*, eating your heart out at page after page of superstars taking it off the lip and cruising airborne into the sunset, I bet you sigh: "It'll never happen here."

Well, drool no more, grab your board and get your butt over to London's Tower Bridge. A new day is dawning in the homeland, and the first rays of hope are shining in Tooley Street!

Skate City may not be Utopia — but it resembles it more closely than anything else we've seen in this country so far. Quickly and efficiently, with the minimum of fuss, a group of people have been beaver away to bring us our first *big* skate-park. Suddenly, grown up in our midst are three and a half acres of beautiful concrete, artistically landscaped into runs, bowls and S-bends! Wanna hear more?

Okay, it's sited right behind HMS Belfast (the floating museum) on the south bank of the Thames, west of Tower Bridge. Nearest underground tube station is London Bridge on the Northern Line. That, with all the buses ambling by the Park entrance, makes it a pretty accessible place.

And for you who live just too far away, don't be disheartened — for where fools rush in — other fools quickly follow, and Skate City could well serve as a prototype for the building of more parks all over the country.

In fact, Glenn Powell, a director of Skate City, tells us that there are strong possibilities of there being two other parks in London in the near future, one to the north and one to the west. In the USA, parks are often built from start to finish in



six weeks or less, so once the ball has started rolling here, the success of Skate City is bound to prompt more financiers to start building.

So what are the plans for Skate City... is it really going to resemble our wildest dreams? Well, on paper, it looks great. There'll be a permanent shop on site, run by that famed London skateboarding outlet, Alpine Sports. A cafe will be nearby, handled by a specially selected company of *non* rip-off caterers. *Skateboard!* magazine is assured that prices will remain reasonable. The Park will open each morning at 10am and the wheels will keep right on turning up to 9pm every night. At least they *will* do, when the floodlights are fixed up!

Competitions are, of course, a strong possibility in the months to come, and Skate City is making sure it's well prepared. Seating accommodation, we are promised, will be easy to arrange for the guaranteed large crowds and, to get a really bird's eye view of the skaters, walkways follow the line of the bends and bowls. "Skating in the winter?" you may say. Yes, there's every chance that Skate City will soon be entirely protected from rain and snow by a giant plastic umbrella. Science does it again.

Glenn Powell is well aware of the problem that's plagued American parks for years. Trouble is, once the riders have scaled the new banks and find them easy — they just buzz off somewhere else. Not very patriotic, but understandable. Glenn is optimistic about this not happening at Skate City for two vital reasons. One is that the banks and the bowl walls have been deliberately

designed to be extended in the future. Secondly, he also has an option on some of the adjacent land . . . the park can grow bigger.

By around mid-August when the bowls had been dug, the earth had been put down and all that was left to do was spray on the concrete, this is what one of the organisers told Maggie Norden for a programme called Hullabaloo on London's Capital Radio:

"Skate City is a group effort — we had the availability of the land and we got involved with some people in skateboarding. We had the time and the land, and there seemed to be a need. Thousands of tons of earth were moved in and shaped into a series of ramps and bowls. When we started we hadn't actually seen an American skatepark, we just talked to the kids themselves down at the South Bank and watched what they were doing and applied our skills to their needs! Subsequently we got a lot of information and advice from the USA. The kids have come down every day, and we've sat down on the ground with the bulldozers and said, 'Let's shove a bit of earth here and dig a hole there!'

"The surface is critical — both for the speed and the safety aspects. If it's too rough they'll graze themselves — but you have to have it slightly rough to get adhesion on the wheels, so there's quite a technicality involved there."

Safety is, of course, uppermost in the minds of the directors of Skate City. A three-tiered system of marshalling the park will operate, with at any given time an on-site manager, three supervisors who all have youth training, and five marshalls, who will be kids over 16. There'll also be a minimum age limit on riders of eight years.

"We won't allow anyone in to skate unless he has full safety gear — that means elbow pads, knee pads and a helmet (all of which are available for hiring). The marshalls will be scooting around all the time checking that everyone is okay, and teaching them anything they want to know. If there are any accidents, we'll have medical facilities on hand."

The accent on safety is understandable. Having spent a near "six figure sum" on building Skate City, insurance against bad accidents is obviously essential. No insurance company in the world would support a park if it allowed riders on without protective gear.

Entrance to the park costs £1 for a session and the latest news we have is that the period lasts a full day. That may change though. Compared to the States, this is a pretty good deal. A typical US park might charge about £2 a year for membership and £2.50 per 2-hour session. Skate City has been designed to cater for a maximum of 3,000 people per day.

Tuition is planned to be

available, when asked for, at around £1 per hour. Don't forget though, that the marshalls will always be on hand for free advice. Glenn also declares he's happy to consider cut-rate hire of the Park on certain days of the week for such worthy causes as school club competitions and so on.

There are three bowls of varying depths, the steepest being the hottest thing to ride yet — a beginner's area, set apart from the main areas, so that the hammiest among us don't feel too uncool in front of the hotties — a free-style area and a covered area, which should be something of a cult scene, with disco music and wooden ramps.

The last is an old warehouse, and it stands on the 'river' side of the Park. Right now, only the ground floor is being used, later it's hoped to use it in its entirety — and there's lots of floors. Only problem here is the lowish ceiling . . . don't forget your helmet!

August 27th was the day the ball was ready to start rolling and, just before, Glenn Powell told us: "It'll be a big open day to which we are inviting all the teams from interested bodies."

"We believe in freedom," insists Glenn. "Skateboarding has grown from the streets, and we want to keep that atmosphere about it. But the sport does need to be controlled and developed here. Discipline, in the sporting sense, team spirit and

safety are essential for the kids to get the maximum enjoyment out of it, and to one day get the sport into the Olympics."

For several reasons, publicity of Skate City has been kept to a very low key indeed. Glenn holds that enthusiasm that builds up too quickly can just as quickly disappear — and too many dreams and illusions get shattered in the process. Also there is the matter of a 'rather secret' building process he's used. Being experimental, Glenn didn't really want onlookers while going through the tricky business of spraying on the concrete.

Well planned construction of the runs and bowls is essential and a special type of reinforcing has been used which, its makers claim, will eliminate any bad cracking of the surface. Only time will tell if they got it right!

One great advantage of the location of Skate City is the HMS Belfast, moored close by. Tourists visit the ship in their thousands and they'll hardly be able to miss London's hottest leisure area. And leisure area it is, for in many ways it promises to be more than simply a good skate park. With the extra amenities planned, before long skaters will be almost living there.

And good it is to see a skate park arise in such a deserted and depressed part of the great city. At least somebody is attempting to inject new life there . . . let's hope planning departments

"It May Not Be Utopia—But It Resembles It More Closely Than Anything We've Had So Far"





From dust bowl to a concrete sea – so rises the mighty Skate City.

you soon get good."

Maggie Norden: "Why do you think skateboarding has caught on so this summer?"

"Well, there's nothing else to do in London, so it's a good escape from going to the cinema. You can just skateboard all day, you don't get bored with it. There are some good places to do it like the South Bank, Holland Park and sometimes Crystal Palace. It's just getting away from everyday London which is really boring. So that's why people start skateboarding – that's why it's caught on –

the only reason. And it's a good sport as well . . .

"Of course we try to help in other cities follow this excellent example.

To end up, you might be interested to hear what two of the marshalls from Skate City had to say on Capital Radio's Hullabaloo:

"Skate marshalls here just hang about and help people up if they fall off their boards, or show them how to do it if they're having trouble with a trick. I've been skating about six months only, but if you

practice for about six hours every day during the holidays, each other along, but after a while you start to try and get better than the next guy – to do a trick better than he does and that sort of friendly competition. But there's no real rivalry . . .

"It's better to skate in a group than on your own, as you'd get bored on your own. We always like to try and skate somewhere that's different so we can develop our skills – so we want everything to be higher and more demanding. I haven't

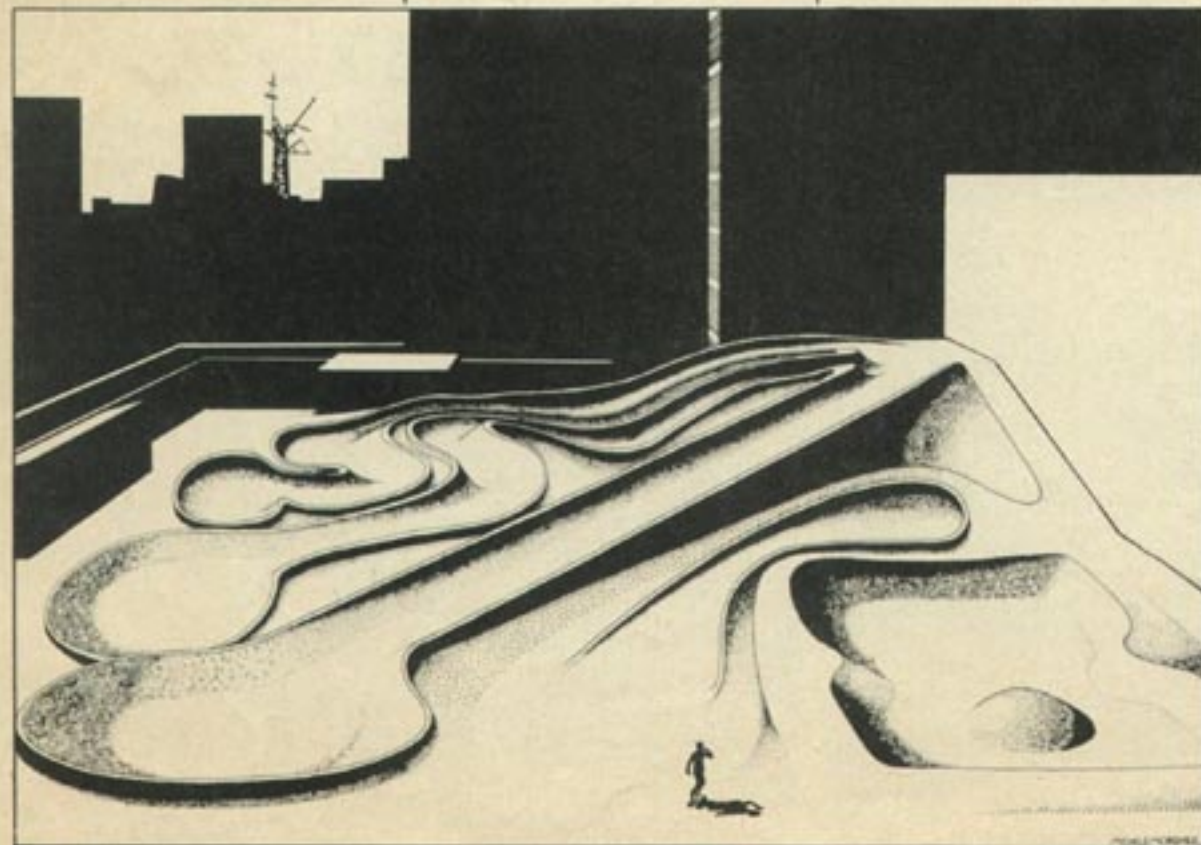
been down here much, but I would've thought we're going to get faster curves and quicker S's. And there's larger bowls with nice lips so you can get over – you want something that's going to advance you more."

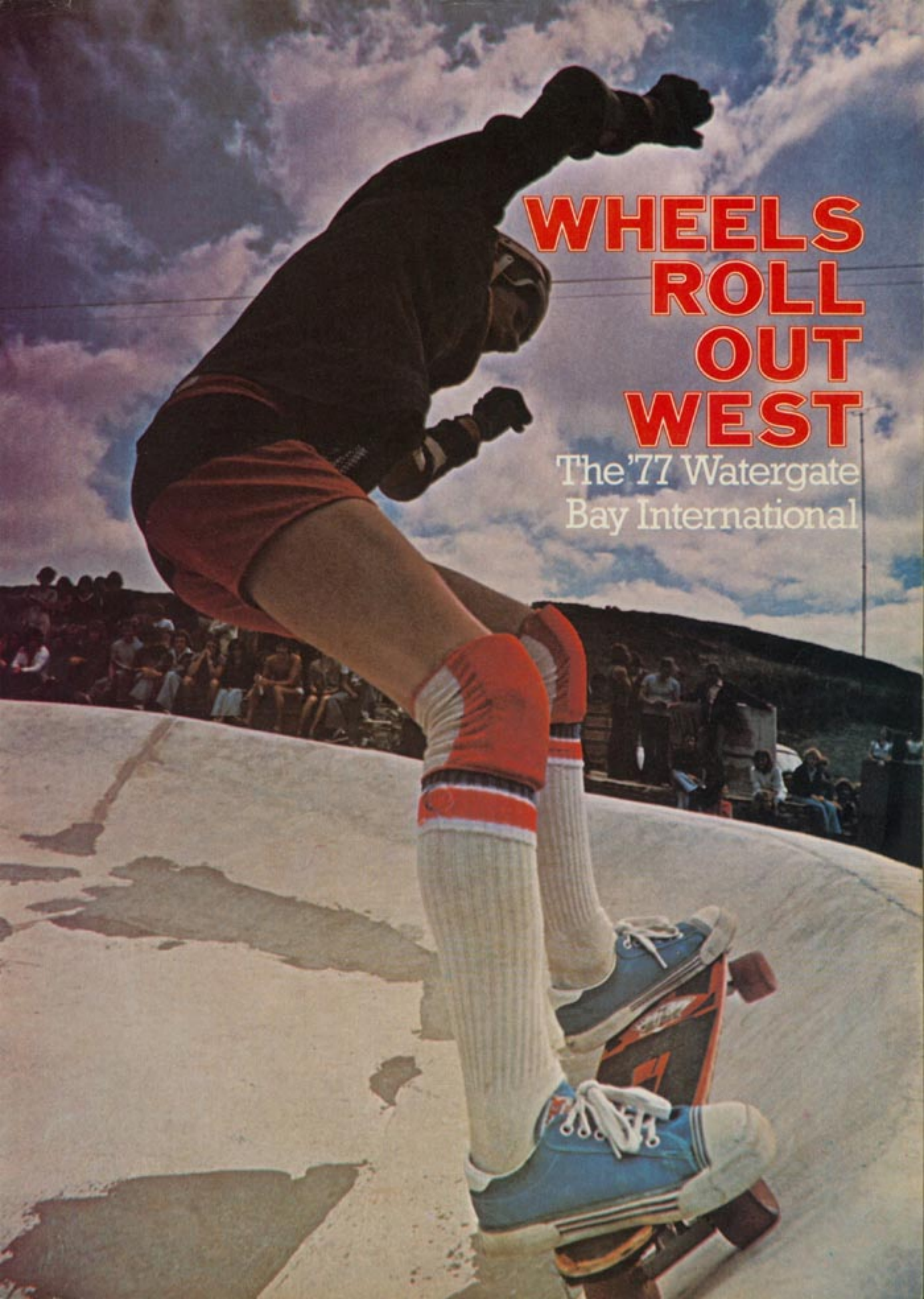
Maggie Norden: "I can see you all as being junior Fonz's or something, and you'll have an audience saying: 'My god, how does he do it?' Does that sound as if it would appeal to you?"

"Oh yeah . . . it's a great ego trip – it's fantastic. That's what it's about – showing off to everyone – going right to the top of the bowl, and there's about twenty people standing there taking pictures! You love to show off you know, fly all over the place . . . it's brilliant. You get lots of girls, too . . ."

In next month's issue, stand by for the *Skateboard!* test of Skate City. We'll be checking out the speed and grip of the surface, what sort of ride you can expect and what other riders there think about the park. Don't miss it . . .

The illustration we reproduce here is intended only as a guide. In fact, since it was drawn, many changes have taken place and it's interesting to compare the original concept with the real thing.



A full-page photograph of a skateboarder in mid-air, performing a trick on a concrete ramp. The skateboarder is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt, red shorts, white socks with red stripes, and blue sneakers. The background shows a crowd of spectators on a hillside under a cloudy sky.

WHEELS ROLL OUT WEST

The '77 Watergate
Bay International

The whooshing and whirring sound of urethane wheels rolling over concrete filled the air down on the west coast recently. It was the last weekend in July, and skateboard cats from all over the country scooted down to Watergate Bay to take part in the Watergate International Skateboard Contest. If you were there you'll remember that it was warm, windy and sunny, the vibes were good and the skating was pretty cool.

Why "International" for an event which was, after all — in spite of the liberal sprinkling of American and Australian accents — largely British? Well, the Watergate International Skateboard Contest has grown out of the Watergate International Surfing Contest — just as skateboarding grew out of surfing back there in the '60s. For two years Watergate has tried to get it on with something big in surfing, struggling for sponsorship from the relatively small surfing market, and last year making it with prize-money totalling over £1,000, most of which went to visiting Aussies. And last year, too, the Watergate International was combined with a skateboarding contest (slalom and free-style) which netted about £30 for the winners. This year — with the opening on May 29th of the Watergate Bowl — one of Britain's first operational skate bowls on a site overlooking the beach north of Newquay — the pendulum swung the other way, and a considerable proportion of the prize-money, provided by Shoreline Surf Shop and spectator admission to the Bowl, went to the skateboarders.

The Watergate set-up is small — a short run-in with a concrete wave on the right rising to eight feet, and two 15 yard diameter bowls with six foot walls, but there is room on the site for intended future expansion.

The weekend kicked off on Saturday afternoon with novices' bowl-riding, slalom and free-style. Prizes were donated by manufacturers and retailers up and down the country. Local boy Ray Smith got a Hobie Parkrider for his performance in the Novices' Bowl-riding, 9-year-old Paul Targett of Plymouth won himself a Newporter Competition in the Free-style, and Steven Jones of Santa

32 Skateboard!



Barbara, California, got a Newporter Pro-Slalom for his 6.45 sec Slalom/Speed-Trial run. Second prizes in these events were a Skuda design (wooden deck, precision trucks, "Orange" wheels) donated by Alan Whittingham Skateboards of Loughborough, a Lotus and a Super-Flyer by Morris Volcan of Solihull. They went respectively to Darren Soper (St. Agnes, Cornwall), Victor Hole (Newquay) and Pat Kieran (Liverpool).

The Professionals' Free-style event was also held on Saturday. This took place in the main car park, and was somewhat marred by holiday makers arriving and departing in their cars, thus breaking up the continuity of the competition. All in all, the free-style events were rather untidy! The area was too small, the skaters seemed nervous and the acts were all rather un-coordinated. Hand-standers would go careering off into the spectators, most tricks ended in clumsy falls, and no one really strutted their stuff with much conviction! On the bonus side, most competitors did attempt some quite advanced manoeuvres. Jeremy Henderson really shone out with his wide range of tricks, including a headstand, moonwalk, powerslides, endovers, a christie and some very cool tail wheelies and one foot 360s. Richard Heslop's was one of the better coordinated sequences, and Paul Robert's tail wheelie going into a 720 was a high spot of the show. In the States, the grooviest free-stylers realise that tricks should be presented as part of a two minute sequence, like a dance with a beginning, middle and end, so that the act has a cohesion to it. How soon here, one wonders?

On Sunday, the Slalom and Bowl-riding events generated some hotter vibes. Some complained that the Slalom course was too steep, but most danced downhill and glided into the straw bales in great style.

About 500 spectators turned out to watch the bowl-riding. Criticisms heard were that the bowl walls were too low, and the surface was slow. It was difficult for riders to maintain any speed and often they had to belt back up the run-in to gather the momentum to hit the lips.

Casper Peacock who rides





for Benjy Boards hit the walls with a fine, free-flowing California surfing style, which brought delighted shouts of 'radical!' from onlookers.

Simon Mayle was also very laid back with controlled grip and some neat 540s off the bank ('right on!'). John Sablosky, yet another Benjy Boarder made some great kickturns, and brought some hopeful cries of 'airborne!'

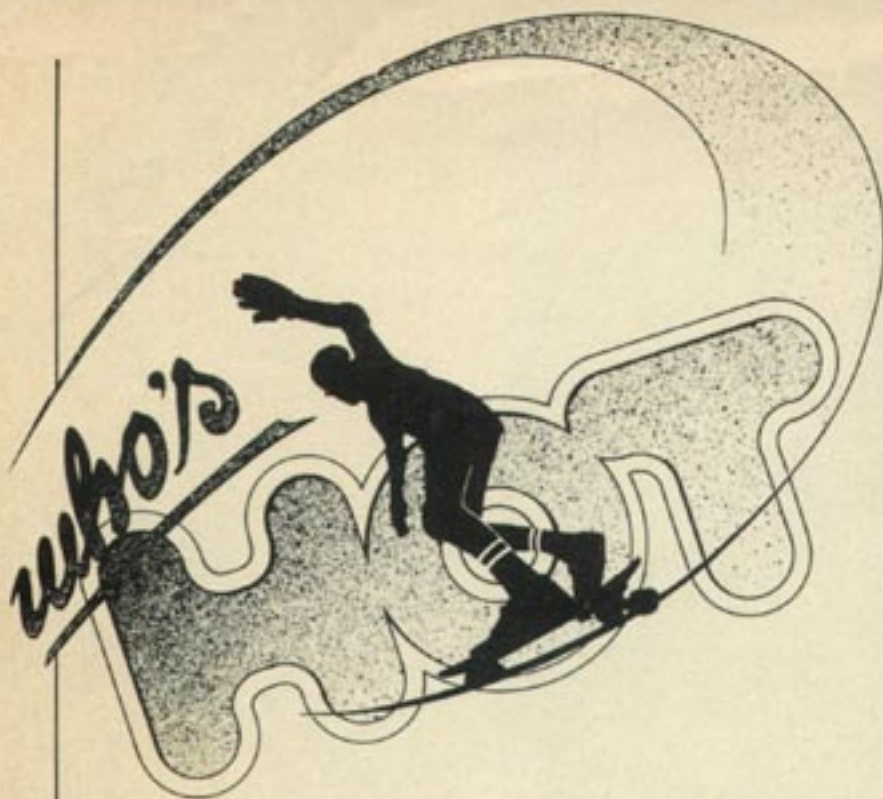
Jeremy Henderson cleaned up again though, with some hungry riding, power-sliding and kick-flipping — he wipes out a few times, but he goes for it with the fearlessness of an ace rider.

The Hobie team were dressed to kill in their flashy team colours, but their skating isn't as extrovert as their gear. (Don't really go for manufacturers making kids look too ostentatious — bit like walking ad campaigns.)

Fourteen-year-old Jeremy Henderson (Benjy Boards) took away £150 after winning the Professional Bowl-Riding, the High-Jump (3'7") and the Free-style, plus also the prize for the Best Trick (kick flips). Richard Heslop (Skate City) took the Slalom/Speed-Trial in a time of 5.5, netting him £35. In fact, in the Professional class, the hot Londoners cleaned up. Tim Levis (Alpine) came second in both the Free-style and the Slalom, and third in the Bowl-Riding (total prize money £50), while Simon Mayle (Benjy Boards) clinched third place in the Free-style and the Slalom and £18. His team-mate, John Sablosky, took second in the Bowl-Riding (£30).

The contest was well organised by Bez Newton, leading light of the local Surf Club, and Editor of *Surf Magazine*, and both spectators and skateboarders had a memorable weekend. The whole show will very likely be seen by many millions more, as it was filmed by Rodney Sumpter on behalf of the BBC, and copies have already gone out to Australian and American TV networks. Watergate '77 has put British skateboarding on the international map.

Skateboard! anticipates many more competitions before the year's out. Please inform us in good time when and where they will be.



MARC SINCLAIR

Marc rides for the Slick Willies team. He got the bug about a year and a half ago while on holiday at Ocean Beach, California. Marc is most interested in slalom, and took first place in his age group in both slalom and freestyle at Crystal Palace, and second in speed.

Marc lives next door to the Meanwhile skatepark, and has been involved with the construction right from the

beginning.

"It's a great place," says Marc. "It's got rounded edges at the tops of the banks which makes it much less dangerous, and the park's got a great atmosphere. I love to skate there after dark as the reflections from the street lamps make the surface look like snow."

Marc practices every day — often for as long as from midday to midnight!



TIM LEVIS

Tim Levis is our British Skateboard Champion. He won this title in the Evening News Championship at Crystal Palace — and a Harley Davidson.

Tim is Australian born and has been living in England since last April. He didn't skate much down under — "They have very poor equipment," he explains. Tim has a Rocket board with large blue Kryptonics, which he finds works best for bowl-riding — the aspect of the sport which he most enjoys. He rides the secret swimming pool 'The Dustbowl' with John Sablosky, "though it's full of water at the moment."

Tim took first place in the over 17s freestyle with his crouching nose wheelies (samoa squats), space walks and headstands. He also did well at Watergate, taking second in slalom and freestyle, and third for bowl-riding.

At present Tim rides for the Alpine Sports Team.

"I've been ripped off by teams in the past — a lot of them take advantage of kids."

What tips would Tim give to beginners?

"Always watch where you're going as you skate, most kids don't and that's why they wipe out."

In conjunction with Clearasil, *Skateboard!* is hoping to sponsor Tim's entry in the World Championships at Long Beach — this September! Tim is really looking forward to it — especially the chance to meet Peralta and Alva, his skate heroes.

How does he think he'll do?

"I'm bound to get whipped," laughs Tim, "but if I practice hard I might do okay in the slalom. The Americans have a really smooth skating style which we'd do well to copy."

If on, check Tim's trip in full next issue!





JOHN SABLOSKY

John is 14 and lives in Paddington. He's been skating for about a year and five months now, and many say that he's the most stylish skater around. He comes originally from Maryland USA — "But there wasn't any skating going on there," he told us. John is on the Benjy Boards Team, and was introduced to them by his friend, Kadir.

"We went to see a surf movie together and Ben Howard, the manager, was there. Kadir suggested that I join."

John uses Bennett trucks and OJs, and he's more into bowl-riding than anything else. He's been skating a secret swimming pool known as The Dustbowl for the last three months, and he was pretty impressed by the bowls at Skate City, Tower Hill.

"It's not sculpted too well, but the surfaces and the

heights of the bowls are great. It's going to get ridiculously crowded there, though."

John was the overall winner in his age group at Crystal Palace, and reckons he came around fifth in the whole contest. Although he found the contest really enjoyable, like many others he found the placings confusing as the judging method wasn't explained. At Watergate, John took second in bowl-riding and third in high jump. His fluid, relaxed bowl-riding style is hard to match. How does John see the future of skateboarding?

"The sport's getting a lot of media coverage now, so that should help to promote it. I'm in a Unigate Milk commercial which was filmed at Wandsworth roundabout, but that's pretty stupid — and I was on the Marc Bolan show in August demonstrating some freestyle."

JULES GAYTON

Jules Gayton is in the Hobie Source Team, and has been skating for a year. He started off as a surfing enthusiast, and was very impressed by some skateboarders he saw in a car park down in Cornwall. As soon as he got home he made himself a board with rollerskate wheels.

Jules is 15 and lives in South London. He practices every day during the school holidays, and all weekends. Jules also favours bowl-riding, though he's quite keen

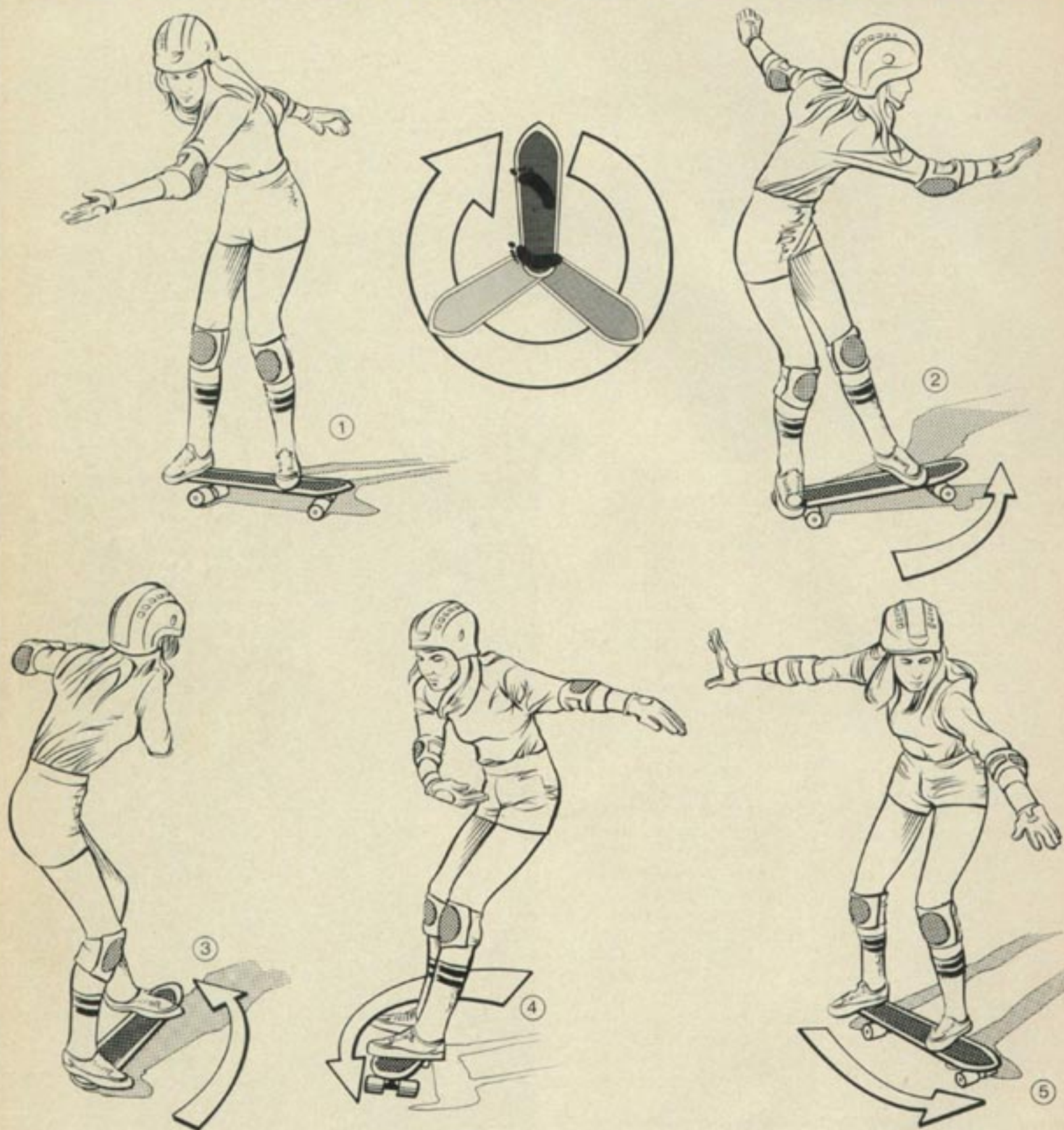
on freestyle and high jump — he took second place at Watergate with 3ft 11 ins. He can be found riding at Skate City, Meanwhile Gardens and the South Bank, and was recently featured in Nationwide on TV.

"We've got to have more parks here if we're ever going to be good enough for the Olympics. That seems a long way off at the moment. We also need a greater variety of facilities — with gentle slopes for beginners and challenging banks for the pros."



THE ART OF SKATEBOARDING

Every Month - A Step By Step Guide To Tricks And Manoeuvres



The '360'

Compulsory to most freestyle routines and one of the most basic of skateboarding manoeuvres is the surprisingly difficult 360 degree turn – the '360'.

The feet remain in the same position on the board throughout the movement, the necessary turn being produced by body torque.

1. 'Winding Up'. Twist the arms and torso from the waist as far as possible to the right without having to bend the

knees. The legs remain centred over the board, both straight, with the head held well up.

2. Swing the arms and upper body quickly but smoothly to the left, across the front of the board, to start the board swinging. The front wheels of the board can be lifted by slightly bending the front knee at the same time as the body swing begins.

3. Keep the top half of the body held forwards with the arms outstretched to

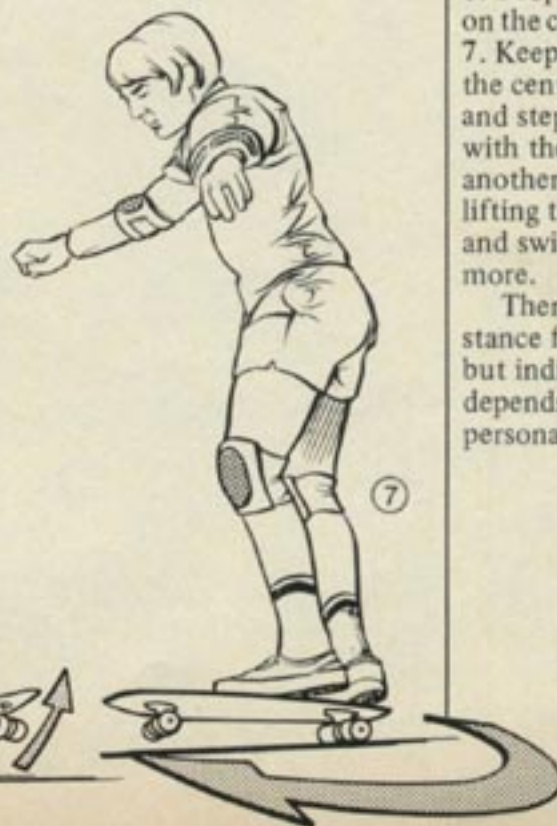
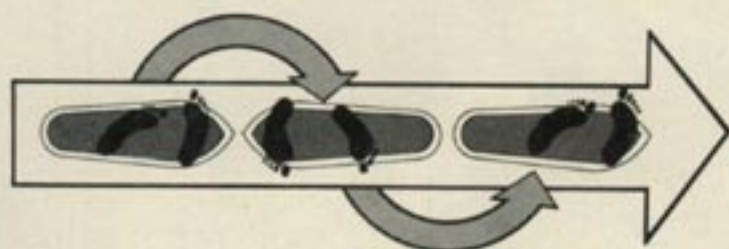
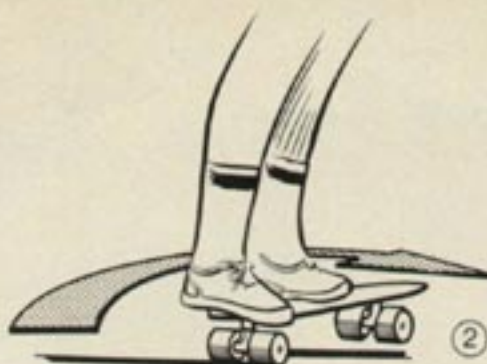
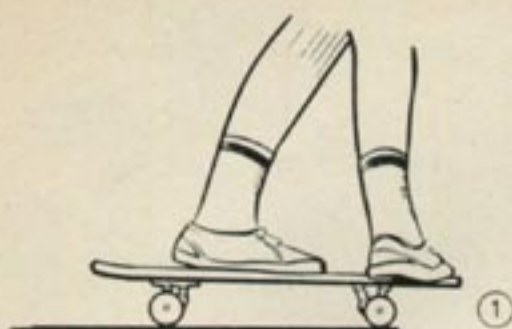
maintain balance with the legs forward (2). This also serves to keep the front wheels clear of the ground.

4. With the arms outstretched, gently bring the upper body towards the vertical – thus keeping the board spinning.

5. To bring the front wheels down at the completion of the '360', simply straighten the front leg, ensuring all four wheels are on the ground while the rider still maintains good balance.

Having mastered the

technique of the '360', the number of revolutions can be increased by bringing the arms progressively closer to the body. Remember that outstretched arms while improving the balance (probably the main criterion for the beginner) vastly slows the spinning motion and thereby decreases the number of complete revolutions it is possible to perform.



Walking The Dog

'Walking the Dog', like the '360' one of the compulsory elements of most freestyle routines, is an almost curious end-over-end movement of the skateboard in which the board is caused to travel forwards in a straight line by means of a series of 180 degree kick turns.

1. The most important point to remember about 'Walking the Dog' is that one foot (the left foot for the 'natural' movement) remains on the same spot throughout — central on the skateboard.

The right foot is moved from end to end to perform the 'wheelie'. To begin, with the right foot on the nose of the board, lift the tail for the first 'wheelie' position.

2. Swivel the body, performing a 180 degree kick turn and drop the tail back to the ground.

3. Keeping the left foot static, step through with the right foot to the opposite (tail) end of the board.

4. Now perform another 'wheelie', lifting the nose end of the board to produce a second 180 degree turn.

In this way, a continual forward motion of the board can be maintained. Of course, to perform this manoeuvre fluidly and without interruption will require many hours of practice.

5. Showing 'Walking the Dog' from the other side, remember that throughout the entire series of movements the body faces in the same direction. This illustration shows a nose wheelie with the right foot on the nose of the skateboard.

6. Drop the tail of the board on the completion of the turn.

7. Keeping the left foot in the centre of the board, pivot and step to the opposite end with the right foot. Now, another turn can be made by lifting the nose of the board and swinging the arms once more.

There is no hard and fast stance for this manoeuvre, but individual technique depends entirely on the personal style of the rider.

Sims 'Bowl Rider'



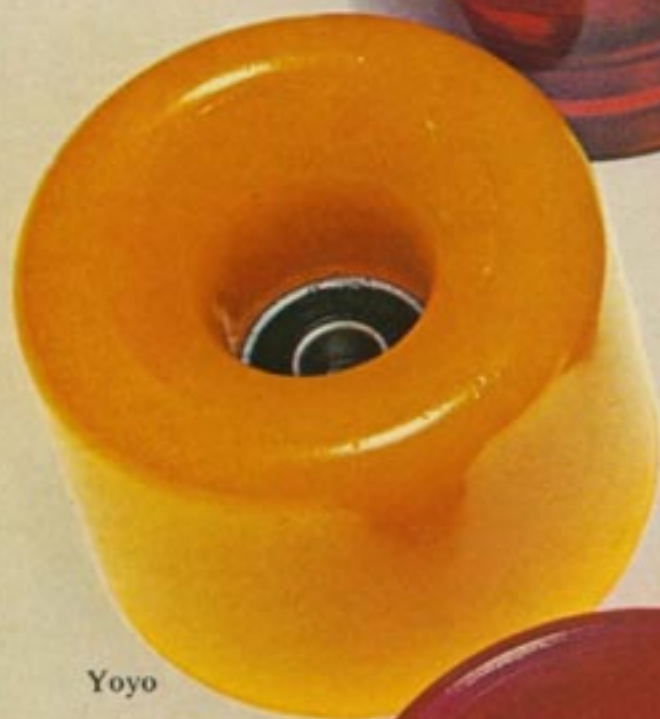
Powell 'Bones'



Alley Cat



Yoyo



Pacer G3



OJ 'Super Juice'



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Skuda SK5



Pacer G5



Road Rider 4



Kryptonite Star Trac 70mm Red



Kryptonite Star Trac 70mm Green



Kryptonite Star Trac 70mm Blue

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Wheels Check-Out

"I'm looking for a really slow wheel." The cry of a mountain road freak whose friend has just screamed and rattled down a steep hill, missed a hairpin bend, and performed some spectacular aerobatics over a thousand foot precipice. Luckily the skateboard industry will always satisfy the need and, sure enough, Kryptonics have come up with an "ultra-slow" model for mountain road cruisers which "smooths out the roughest road". It's big and yellow and if only he'd known about it.

In fact it's becoming harder and harder to keep up with all that is new in wheels. Existing and new manufacturers are coming up with sizes, designs and colours that have never been seen before. The basic material, urethane, doesn't change but chemists are working hard to create the magic formulae which bring us faster, grippier and generally more exciting wheels. Of the many models now available, some are made for freestyle, others for slalom and speed. Most of them are designed for the average skater who does a little of this and a little of that and who certainly can't afford three sets of wheels! This month we rolled some of the latest American wheels down to the South Bank and let some hot riders test them. Before we look at the results I'd like to mention a few factors which are worth bearing in mind when you're mulling over wheels.

The diameter gives you a good idea how fast a wheel is

going to roll. Large diameter wheels roll fast and smoothly because they get less involved in the cracks and crevices of the surface than small wheels. Also at any given speed their bearings spin slower (the slower the bearings need to spin the less resistance there is). Good all-round wheels have a diameter of 55 to 65 mm. Anything greater than this should be very fast but will be less manoeuvrable in freestyle.

Width also affects speed. Narrow wheels are faster than wide wheels, but they skid more easily. Very wide wheels give good traction but tend to be cumbersome and slow. Choose a wheel between 40 and 50 mm in width, narrower if you are light in weight, wider if you are heavy in weight.

Resilience and durometer is another way of saying bounce and hardness. If you drop a resilient (fast) wheel on the ground it will bounce high. Wheels that absorb the shock are slow. Another way of testing resiliency is to dig your fingernail into, or squeeze, the wheel. If the mark disappears immediately, or if the wheel resumes its normal shape quickly, you have a fast wheel. If you find it hard to dig your nail into the plastic, the wheel is hard (high durometer) and should be fast anyway. Most skateboard wheels are made in a durometer range of 85A to 90A.

There is a certain amount of argument as to the best shape for a wheel. The standard design is a square-

edged one, with the bearings either flush with the inside of the wheel or inset to give improved running qualities. Models with rounded "radius" edges are beginning to appear. They are designed to give smoother swivelling while performing tricks like tic-tacs and 360's. By putting radius edges on a wheel the manufacturer reduces the running surface but, on the other hand, he has taken account of some of the wear that tends to round off the outside edges anyway.

Loose or open bearings can be fast if maintained properly, but they do require continual attention. Sealed bearings are much quieter, run more smoothly and involve far less maintenance.

Now that supply problems are being ironed out, new wheels arrive in Britain only a matter of weeks after they are launched in the States. In the past two months several significant new models have arrived and I've made an extra effort to keep right up to date with the latest developments. At the South Bank we took a look at models from Kryptonics, Yoyos, Powerflex, Park Rider and Yandall.

There is no doubt that Kryptonics will have an enormous impact. For the first time a manufacturer has come up with a range of wheels varying considerably in durometer, from 75A to 85A. There are five different colours (each colour is a different hardness) in two sizes, 60mm and

70mm. At the moment, three colours are available — red (which is the softest), blue and green (which is the hardest). Most skaters agree that the red wheel is the most radical. It is extremely soft but very fast, a combination of qualities which no one has been able to achieve up to now. The reason is an exceptionally resilient urethane. The wheel absorbs so much that one can ride paved surfaces hardly feeling the cracks and almost silently (to the alarm of pedestrians who suddenly see you appear from nowhere!).

The blue Kryptonics is proving popular as an all-round wheel. It is also very soft and, in its small size, lends itself ideally to slalom or freestyle. The green Kryptonics is harder and more durable than the other models. Of course, durability is something to consider when you're spending £25 on a set of wheels and many still swear by O.J.'s for this reason. Not only that, O.J.'s take some beating for traction!

We were intrigued by the Yoyo as this is the first radius-edged wheel to appear in Britain. It comes in two colours, yellow and red, which are the same hardness. The wheel is unusually hard and very fast. If you don't like feeling everything you ride over the Yoyo isn't for you, but for 360's on a smooth surface it gave a very easy rotation.

Powerflex have hit the scene with an amazing technicolour collection. They are all one durometer but there are seven different colours. If you have a six wheeler (don't laugh, they're available at Harrods in London) you can

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save your favourite colour for a spare. The Powerflex has a low durometer of 82A and we found the speed and traction very good.

Road Rider are probably the best-known name in wheels. They have a well established range of four models and the No.4 remains a classic in terms of dimensions. Now the Park Rider 4 has appeared which has the same dimensions but a different urethane compound for skateparks. We tested the next model up, the Logan Park Rider 5 (as used by the Logan Earth Ski team), which proved faster, and should take the effort out of skating in skateparks.

Finally we tested the Yandall wheels, which are made by G&S. There are two models, the Slalom and the Bowlroll. The Slalom gives fairly predictable performance, but the Bowlroll was surprisingly impressive for a wheel of average size. On the banks the grip was secure and the wheel proved to be pretty fast.

It only remains to bring Bones to your attention, a pretty radical innovation, both in name and appearance. We didn't have a set of production Bones at the time of our test, but one can only say that the wheel is creating considerable interest, as it has a double-radius design with a machined running surface. It has all the signs of a good freestyle or park-riding model. More to come on that soon.

Well, that concludes our rundown on wheels. Just to avoid a mad rush to the shops for any particular model we're not going to recommend a wheel. Instead we'll leave it to you to decide which ones make your feet itch!

Techno Talk

My trucks don't turn very easily. How can I improve their performance?

The performance of a truck depends very much on three factors: the geometry, the cushions and the axle length. The geometry is the design of the truck and cannot be changed. Some cheaper trucks have synthetic materials for the cushions. I have even seen urethane used for cushions. These materials are generally too hard, will not compress sufficiently and do not soften with use. So replace them! Buy four natural rubber cushions. The axle length of a truck affects its turning power to a lesser degree. You can obtain axle extenders but these tend to put additional strain on the yoke and existing axle.

Where should the trucks be mounted on a deck?

The wider your trucks are spaced, the larger the turns made by the skateboard, and therefore the more stable it is. A slalom deck should have the trucks mounted close to the nose and tail to give a long wheel base. A free-style deck should have the trucks situated to allow leverage over both axles. The axle of the rear truck should be close to the start of the kicktail. The axle of the forward truck should be about four inches from the front of the board.

What length and type of deck is best suited to freestyle?

The length of deck one should use depends not only on the use you want to put it to. Remember that your height is also important, as it affects the size of board you are able to handle. Generally a deck between 26 inches and 32 inches is best for freestyle. Choose a 26 or 27 inch deck if you are small, 28 inch to 32 inch if you are medium height or taller.

Make sure that you choose a deck with a kicktail; a kick at the nose is not important. The kicktail should be comfortable for the rear foot, allowing you to "feel" the back of the board. Avoid decks with a high kicktail as these tend to trap or press the back foot forward. If you are keen to learn nose-wheelies, etc., the deck should have a broad area at the front to allow both feet to stand side by side. The composition of the deck is less important and is largely a matter of personal taste. Oak, Mahogany and other hardwood decks are now widely available. Laminated decks are recommended for strength. The Benjyboard Competition has laminates of oak and mahogany and a long kicktail for plenty of leverage over the back axle. G&S produce two Fibreflex models suitable for tricks, the Kicktail and the Bowlrider. They are both very

thin, strong and light, the Bowlrider being somewhat stiffer than the Kicktail. At a lower price the Pacer Woodie kicktail is good value and is fitted with grip tape.

And slalom?

For slalom one should choose a deck between 28 and 30 inches. There should be a broad platform where your feet stand — at speed it is important that your feet are completely supported and secure. For stability it is good to keep riser pads to a minimum so that the deck is as near the ground as possible. Therefore a slalom deck should be narrow at any point where the wheels might rub out on a tight turn.

In terms of construction the preference in US competition is for flexible decks for slalom as the flex adds to one's turning power and allows pumping or acceleration into the turn. Many slalom decks have been modelled on the G&S Fibreflex Henry Hester which is light and precise. The whole rear portion of this deck is tapered to the tail.

What is pumping?

Pumping is a technique used to accelerate a skateboard. A diagonal stance is adopted on the deck and the knees are pushed strongly downwards to the right and left sides of the board. This pressure combined with the turning of the trucks makes the board accelerate forwards in a series of right and left turns. Pumping must be done in a vigorous rhythmic way to be effective.

What is the latest development in Skateparks in the States?

Riding the inside of huge

concrete pipes has been one of the major new directions in American skateboarding in 1977. These pipes were originally found in such unusual locations as deserts, where they are used for water-carrying. Luckily for skateboarders some of these pipes were left abandoned lying on the ground! Pipes are now being installed in the latest skatepark schemes.

How do I maintain my bearings?

Let's first deal with loose (open) bearings. These are found on cheaper skateboards, make considerably more noise than sealed bearings and need regular maintenance work. If you have these bearings, try to keep them as clean as possible. Avoid taking the board out in wet conditions as a ride through a puddle will carry mud and dirt straight into the ball bearings. Remove the wheels over a large container so as not to lose the parts. The wheels and parts should be cleaned in a little detergent and dried. Re-assemble the wheels and lubricate them with a light oil.

Sealed bearings are worth having if you want to reduce your maintenance. Two sealed bearings fit inside a wheel, and they can be simply removed. These bearings vary widely in quality. The cheaper varieties have one side sealed. Superior bearings have both sides sealed either with metal or black neoprene. Neoprene sealed-bearings are packed with grease and are virtually waterproof. Metal sealed bearings will always allow some dust and water to enter. The cases on sealed bearings can normally be

prised open with a fine needle, but take great care. If you are unsure of this, or if the bearing has a single side, consult your shop.

Once the seal has been removed the inside can be cleaned with detergent if necessary. It can be lubricated with a suitable grease (graphite grease can be used). A can of spray lubricant or "damp start" is really useful for cleaning and lubrication of bearings.

I have a limited amount to spend on protective gear. What should I buy first? Is ice hockey padding suitable?

If you skateboard at low speeds your elbows, knees and hands are in more danger than your head. Elbow injuries are very common and a good pair of pads is advised. These must fit very firmly without being uncomfortable and cutting your circulation. Always try them on in the shop, and if you can't find one the right size, take something slightly too large and take in the elastic. Check that the foam inside the pad is sufficient and that the exterior is really tough.

For knees, similar advice applies. Hands can be protected from grazing with a sturdy glove, preferably with a leather or suede palm.

Your helmet should be light, strong and have good padding. If it is adjustable, reduce the size to the minimum for comfort. Shake your head to check that it does not slip.

Ice hockey protective gear is now widely available for skateboarders and is made to take hard impact in the same places that are vulnerable in skateboarding. It is therefore recommended.

New Products

This time last year you could have counted British skateboard manufacturers on the fingers of one hand. Now the pressure's really on, they're springing up all over the country. Many of them are the back-street bandwagon merchants who will make anything from toffee apples to transistor radios. Luckily for the serious skateboarder, for every cowboy there is a factory turning out worthwhile equipment. We'll be doing our best to let you know who they are.

It looks as if Britain's strong point will be in the deck and wheel side of things. Considering the short time many of the companies have been in existence, some impressive units have been appearing. Two British manufacturers specialising in hardwood decks have shown us their latest models this month. Benjyboard, makers of the successful (and very pretty) oak/mahogany "Competition", have now switched to ash for their new freestyle model, the "White Lightning". The Benjyboard Team specified the design features which are a broad sidecut and large kicktail area for good foot placement and control. The other interesting feature is a set of wheel wells to stop rub-outs.

Speedek have shown us a mahogany model for dual-purpose skating. This slalom/freestyle board with kicktail has cutaways at the nose and tail and is finished very smoothly indeed. *Skateboard!* magazine's initial

impression of the design is that while tailor-made for slalom work, the narrowed down front and forward positioned leading truck could certainly make life difficult for tricks like nose-wheelies. Other models in the Speedek range are to appear soon.

Skuda are working on a line of new precision-bearing wheels, which they claim are as hot as some of the latest American models. They're called SK Skorchers and will be available in several different versions. Early reports on the SK5 orange wheel are good — it has a high durometer and is pretty fast.

Pacer have introduced the G3 and G5 wheels, which are improved versions of the Gecko 3 and 5. The G3 is in the familiar dimensions of a good freestyle wheel, and the G5 has larger dimensions for speed. The urethane is now red and of improved quality.

Some news of a range of wheels from Thought Factory — the Alley Cat. This Basingstoke based firm have three models aimed at three different uses — bowl, slalom and freestyle. Thought Factory have been making hand-poured wheels for some time for export, but these are their first wheels to hit Britain.

Finally, word from Maurice Vulcan that a whole new range of skateboards (seven in all) are due to hit the market in October. No tests have been possible as yet, but a spokesman tells us that they intend to span a very wide price-range. Stand by for *Skateboard!* test results.

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THE MAIL-ORDER BOOK LIBRARY



Skateboarding
David Hunn
Published by Duckworth

Another fine new British publication and full once again of action-packed black and white pictures... many of them American stars like Tony Alva. Starting in the first chapter with a brief history of the sport, it works its way through basic manoeuvres, simple and more difficult tricks, ending up with some well-chosen words on the aspect of safety equipment. For a kid on the

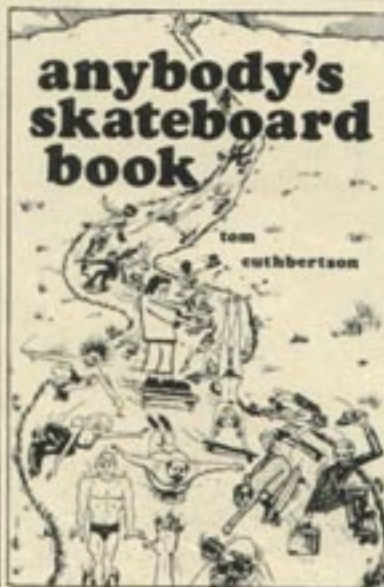
first rung of the ladder who's got the ambition to go a long way, 'Skateboarding' makes an ideal partner. Cost (includes handling) is £1.20



Skateboard Manual
Martin Schultz
Published by Theorem

"A very basic, UK produced paperback, fine for the absolute beginner with clear

descriptions of a variety of tricks and racing techniques. Safety is strongly accented and the chapter on maintaining your skateboard is clear and precise. Plenty of black and white pictures, mainly from the States and explanatory illustrations." An ideal number one book! Cost (includes handling) is 75p



Anybody's Skateboard Book
Tom Cuthbertson
Published by Ten Speed Press

Packed to the brim with really superb illustrations and photos, this US production starts right in at the nitty-gritty and doesn't let up right through to the last page. There's a wealth of worthwhile material in here covering such aspects as buying your first board, taking your first ride and, importantly, how to fall off at the right moment. Later on it takes you head first into the whole gamut of tricky stuff... riding radical terrain, repairing damaged equipment and so on. A very handy US import in the great tradition of American 'how to do it' books. Cost (includes handling) is £2.50

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BLUE

A harder wheel than the red, suiting many skaters who prefer a touch more "feel". The blue is the original Kryptonics wheel and it gives outstanding allround performance.

GREEN

The hardest and most durable of the three compounds with an excellent allround performance, combining speed and traction. The smaller 60mm size (little green monsters) are proving particularly popular on smooth surfaces such as skate parks.

STAR*TRAC RED	
Performance: Smooth, fast	
Durometer: 78A	Resilience: Good
Traction: Good	Sizes: 60mm, 70mm
Recommended use: Skateparks, flat freestyle	
Remarks: Radical departure from standard urethane wheels. Ultra-soft and incredibly fast. Unlike any other wheel on the market, a totally new experience in riding. Accelerates very quickly, maintains momentum	

STAR*TRAC BLUE	
Performance: Smooth, fast	
Durometer: 82A	Resilience: Good
Traction: Average	Sizes: 60mm, 70mm
Recommended use: All around/soft	
Remarks: First of the Kryptonics resilient compound wheels. Offers a quiet, smooth ride with above-average speed. A good all round wheel that works equally well in slalom and bowls.	

STAR*TRAC GREEN	
Performance: Firm, fast	
Durometer: 85A	Resilience: Good
Traction: Good	Sizes: 60mm, 70mm
Recommended use: All around/hard	
Remarks: One of our hardest compounds, but still softer than the majority of wheels available. Provides high speed and a firm, positive ride. One of our most popular wheels since its introduction in '76	

DUROMETER?— an explanation

Durometer is the measure of hardness of the wheel. The lower the number the softer the wheel. Until this year a soft wheel was a slow wheel and a hard wheel was a fast wheel. Now Kryptonics have changed all that :—

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WHEELS ~ actual size

KRYPTONICS



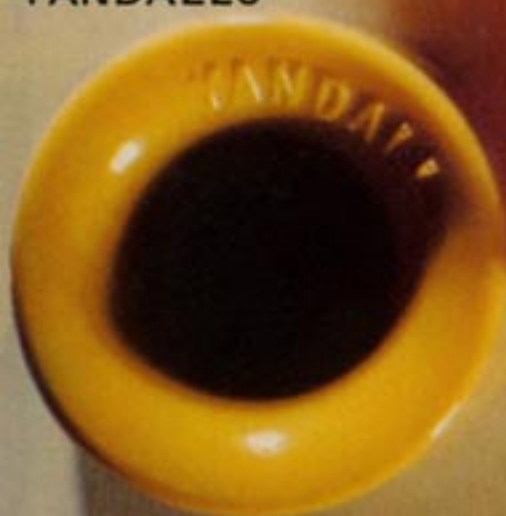
YOYO'S



YOYO'S



YANDALLS



O.J.'S



ALPINE SPORTS

309 Brompton Road, London SW3. Tel.01 581 2127
10/12 Holborn, London EC1. Tel.01 404 5681
158 Notting Hill Gate, London W11. Tel.01 221 6042
138 Western Road, Brighton. Tel.0273 26874

ROAD RIDER
HENRY HESTER

ROAD RIDER No. 6

ROAD RIDER No. 4

R.R. No. 2

SIM'S
BOWL RIDER

SIM'S
COMPETITION

GECKO
No. 5

GECKO
No. 3

GRENTec GT



MORE WHEELS & BARGAIN OFFERS

ALL WHEEL PRICES ARE FOR ONE WHEEL PLUS TWO BEARINGS

ROAD RIDER WHEELS

The original hand poured urethane wheels and still the world's best sellers. Road Riders are precisely made, immaculately finished, and are extremely durable. Five different wheels are available.

Discount price
ROAD RIDER 2 - 1 5/8" wide
1 3/8" diam ea. **£3.95**

ROAD RIDER 4 - 1 1/4" wide
2 3/8" diam ea. **£4.95**

ROAD RIDER 6 - 1 15/16" wide
2 11/16" diam **£5.95**

HENRY HESTER - specially designed for slalom: 1 7/16" wide
2 7/16" diam ea **£4.95**

LOGAN PARK RIDER 5 - specially formulated for use on banks and parks:
1 7/8" width
2 7/16" diam ea **£5.50**

SIMS WHEELS

SIMS BOWL RIDER

The widest wheel you can buy. They're not the fastest but they do offer superlative traction in the bowls etc..

2 1/8" wide
2 1/4" diam ea. **£5.95**

SIMS COMPETITION

A very popular wheel with a good reputation as an allround performer.

2 1/8" wide
2 1/2" diam ea. **£5.95**

GECKO WHEELS

British made wheels which are slightly cheaper than American rivals. However, they are not yet able to match top U.S. performance. A good choice for those on a more limited budget.

GECKO 5 - 2 1/4" wide
2 3/8" diam ea. **£4.00**

GECKO 3 -

1 5/8" wide
2 1/4" diam ea. **£3.50**

GRENTEC G.T. WHEELS

A real U.S. made hand poured urethane wheel with sealed precision bearings at a crazy low price. Ideal for those who want to get away from loose bearing wheels but don't have a lot to spend.

Discount price
2 3/16" wide
2 1/4" diam ea. **£2.95**

REMINDER

A skateboard consists of one deck, two trucks and four wheels (each of which have two precision bearings). Our prices are for individual items, not for pairs of trucks or sets of wheels.

THIS MONTH'S BARGAIN OFFERS

California slalom-trucks

A full 7" truck £££'s cheaper than you can buy anywhere else. (Available from Sept. 15th onwards). Only **£5.95** each. Also available - California Pro - same truck but with 5 1/2" axle - **£5.50**

Kryptonik wheels

Everyone wants Kryptonics - the hottest, fastest, smoothest wheel you can buy, now available at Alpine Sports at the lowest ever prices: red, blue, or green.

70mm ~~£7.50~~ **£5.95**
60mm ~~£6.95~~ **£5.50**

Norcon helmets

Used by top professionals - the best helmet money can buy. Red or blue - sm, med, lg.. We strongly recommend this helmet in preference to any other. ~~£7.50~~ **£6.95**

YO YO wheels

Designed by Steve Cathey for freestyle and bowlriding. Features 1/4" radius edge which gives smooth catch-free transition in kick turns and other tight turning manoeuvres. Colours: yellow or red - (Mix or match!) ~~£5.95~~ **£4.95**

Rector gloves

The best skateboarding glove made - direct from the States - tough pigskin with masses of padding and reinforcement. New low price while stocks last: ~~£12.50~~ **£9.95**

ACS trucks

Now we have also slashed prices on ACS Trucks:-

ACS 430	4.3"	£3.70	£3.50	
ACS 500	5"	£5.45	£4.95	Best value
ACS 500 Pro	5"	£6.15	£5.50	in
ACS 651	6.5"	£7.20	£6.50	Britain

Alpine wrench

NOW IN STOCK - A must for every skateboarder. In stock now! Only **£1.00**

Flarico pads

Protective gear at rock bottom prices - Flarico pads are favourites with hot American skateboarders.

Knee pads - S, M, L **£4.50** pr. Colour: gold/scarlet
Elbow pads - **£4.50** pr.

G&S Fibreflex slalom

Ultra light, high performance slalom deck. We have a limited quantity of slight paintwork seconds at a very special price: ~~£19.50~~ **£12.50**

ALPINE SPORTS - FOR BRITAIN'S LOWEST PRICES ON TOP GEAR

MORE NEXT MONTH

ALPINE'S TOP FIVE PACKAGES

PACKAGE OFFERS

ALPINE SPORTS have chosen the best skateboard deck currently available in each price range and have added the most appropriate trucks and wheels and then thrown in the grip tape, nuts, bolts, riser pads etc.. The price is then slashed to a convenient round figure, and the customer ends up with the best value and best performance board available for its price in Britain, and so we present our TOP FIVE PACKAGES.

N.B. ALL PACKAGES ARE FULLY GUARANTEED BY ALPINE SPORTS FOR ONE YEAR.

ALPINE'S PACKAGES SAVE YOU MONEY!

1. FREESTYLE 27in.

A British made multi laminate wood deck, designed to the same specification as the superb "ROCKIT" yet offering incredible value for money. Highly recommended to good skateboarders who want an inexpensive strong and lightweight deck.

Pkge. Deck	Trucks	Wheels	Price
1a) Freestyle	ACS 500	GT Precision	£30
1b) Freestyle	California Slalom	GT Precision	£34
1c) Freestyle	California Slalom	Yandall Slalom Road Rider 4's	£40

2. G&S FIBREFLEX SLALOM 3. G&S STACY PERALTA WARPTAIL

The world famous Gordon and Smith (G&S) fibreflex slalom boards. Responsive, high performance multi laminate maple/epoxy construction. With this package you can choose any of the three G&S slalom boards:- a) The original 28" Pro Slalom; b) The 29" Cutaway Slalom, giving additional clearance for large wheels; and c) The 28" Henry Hester Slalom, designed by Henry Hester himself.

Pkge. Deck	Trucks	Wheels	Price
2 a) Pro Slalom		Yo Yo's	
b) Cutaway Slalom	California Slalom	Yandall Slalom	£39
c) Henry Hester		Road Riders' Henry Hester	

Developed jointly by Gordon and Smith (G&S) and Stacy Peralta for banks, pools and freestyle skating. It is a solid oak board with just enough kicktail to hold your foot without trapping it. The G&S emblem is branded on the underside.

Pkge. Deck	Trucks	Wheels	Price
3 a) Stacy Peralta 27" Tracker		Yo Yo's	
b) Stacy Peralta 29" Mid Track		Yandall Slalom Road Rider 4's	£49

4. BENJYBOARD 5. G&S BOWLRIKER 27in. & 29in.

Britain's top manufacturer of laminated wood boards. Benjyboards have a striking appearance and their laminations of oak and mahogany are instantly recognisable. Complete with kicktail etc..

Pkge. Deck	Trucks	Wheels	Price
4 Benjyboard 27"	California Slalom	O.J. Super Juice	£55
	California Pro		

The ultimate skateboard! G&S fibreflex bowlriders are the lightest boards available. They are also Britain's most popular high performance deck. Lightweight boards are certainly best for freestyle and bowlriding. Hot skateboarders really appreciate the bowlriders shape:- A hint of rocker to keep the centre of gravity low and a long gentle curve up at the tail.

Pkge. Deck	Trucks	Wheels	Price
5 a) Bowlrider 27" or 29"	Midtrack Hafrack	Kryptonics 60mm green, blue or red	£58
b) Bowlrider 27" or 29"	Midtrack Hafrack	Kryptonics 70mm green, blue or red	£60

TRUCKS

All trucks sold at Alpine Sports carry a full year guarantee against breakage of any metal part.

TRACKER

Tracker are U.S.A.'s top truck manufacturer. Their products are designed for high performance and are, in our opinion, the best trucks money can buy. All these trucks have the following features:-

- * HIGH PERFORMANCE
- * SUPER PRECISION
- * UNBREAKABLE

Trackers are available in three proven widths and geometrics:-

THE TRACKER	6 1/2" axle	£8.95
THE MIDTRACK	6 1/2" axle	£8.95
THE HAFTACK	5 1/2" axle	£8.00

CALIFORNIA TRUCKS

Fantastic value in trucks. Although they don't quite have the same level of performance or finish as Tracker

they are streets ahead of anything else available at the price.

CALIFORNIA SLALOM 7" axle £5.95
CALIFORNIA PRO 5 1/2" axle £5.50

ACS

ACS are renowned for strength, smart looks and sensible prices. Alpine Sports sell them at well below normal retail prices.

100% guaranteed by Alpine Sports.

	Normal price	Our price
ACS 430	£3.70	£3.50
ACS 500	£5.45	£4.95
ACS 500 PRO	£6.50	£5.50
ACS 651	£7.70	£6.50

BENNETT TRUCKS

Truely excellent trucks but with one big problem - the plastic Bennett base plates nearly always break. Our solution to the problem is this - we will only supply the trucks with a metal base plate and pivot bolt (as used for the California Slalom).

Unfortunately this adds £2 to our normal retail price, but it does prevent a weekly trip back to your skateboard shop to exchange plates.

— COME ON MR. BENNETT, PULL YOUR SOCKS UP AND GIVE US A BASEPLATE THAT REALLY DOESN'T BREAK !!

(Price incl. metal baseplates)

BENNETT HIJACKER 5" axle £7.95
BENNETT PRO 5.8" axle £8.95
BENNETT AD-TRAK 6.6" axle £9.95

GULLWING 6 3/8" axle £12.50

A unique truck design incorporating split axles, adjustable turning radius, adjustable tension. It's instant response makes it the finest slalom truck on the market. It is rapidly gaining popularity with radical freestylers.

Freestyle skaters are advised to purchase the optional support bracket **£1.95**

PACKAGES

ALPINE'S TOP FIVE PACKAGES

TOP VALUE - TOP PERFORMANCE



FREESTYLE

FREESTYLE laminated deck
ACS 500 trucks
GT precision wheels. £30.00



G & S HENRY HESTER

G&S FIBREFLEX Henry Hester slalom deck
CALIFORNIA SLALOM trucks
ROAD RIDER Henry Hester wheels. £39.00



G & S STACY PERALTA

G&S STACY PERALTA warptail deck
TRACKER trucks
ROAD RIDER 4 wheels. £49.00



BENJYBOARD

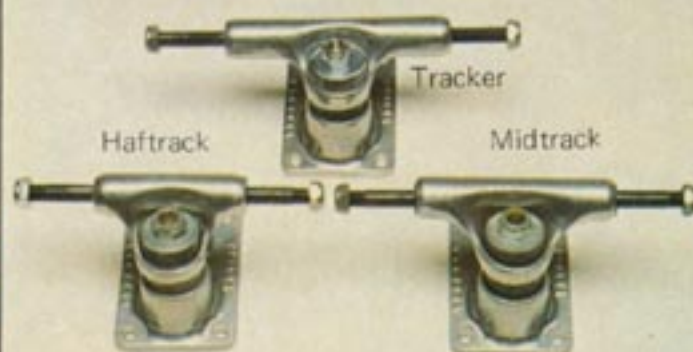
BENJYBOARD 27" deck
CALIFORNIA SLALOM trucks
O.J. Super Juice wheels. £55.00



G & S BOWL RIDER

G&S FIBREFLEX BOWL RIDER deck
TRACKER trucks
KRYPTONIC 70mm red wheels. £60.00

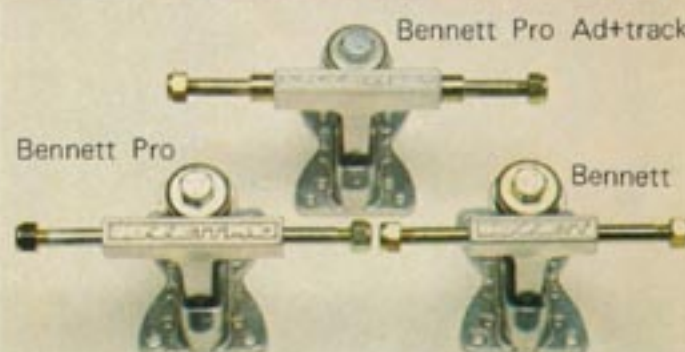
TRUCKS



Tracker

Haftrack

Midtrack



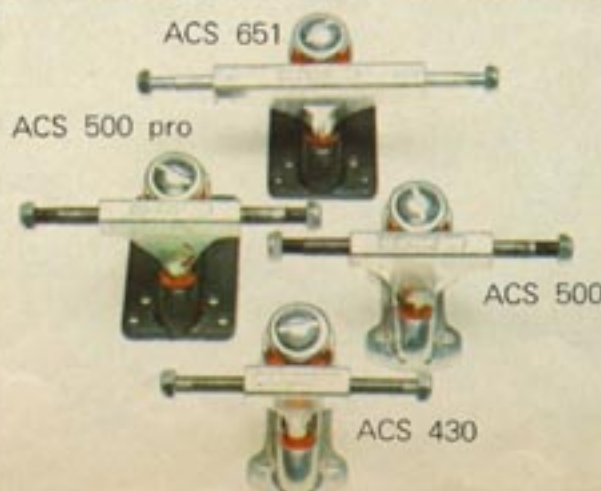
Bennett Pro Ad+track

Bennett Pro

Bennett



California Slalom



ACS 651

ACS 500 pro

ACS 500

ACS 430



Gullwing

THE COYOTE

BRITAIN'S BEST BUDGET PRICED SKATEBOARD

Still only

£15

WITH SEALED PRECISION BEARINGS **£20**

DECKS



Quicktail



Sims Taperkick



G&S Cutaway Slalom



G&S Pro Slalom



Rockit



Logan Earth Ski



Pacer-wood



Pacer-fibreglass

PROTECTIVE GEAR ACCESSORIES MAGAZINES



Norcon helmet

Cooper helmet



Cooper knee & elbow pads



Grip tape

Riser pads

Rubbers

Super wrench

Alpine wrench



Rector gloves

Magazines & books



SKATEBOARDS & ACCESSORIES

THE COYOTE ~ Britain's best £15 board

AND HERE ARE THE REASONS WHY

- 1) Money back Guarantee:- If you are not delighted with your purchase during the first seven days we offer a money back guarantee, (even if you have used the board).
- 2) Front and back kicktail — ideal for tricks.
- 3) Giant extra wide wheels - (57mm x 60mm diam.).
- 4) Choice of colours — Red, blue, or black.

- 5) Also available with sealed precision bearings - **The Coyote Super at £20.**
- 6) Made to high tolerances in Southern California - home of the world's top skateboarders and skateboards.
- 7) Spare parts always available.
- 8) One year guarantee - who else gives you that?

1 YR. GUARANTEE

If during the first year your board breaks or goes wrong in any way, Alpine Sports will repair or replace the board at no extra charge.



DECKS

THESE PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE TRUCKS, WHEELS ETC..

All decks are guaranteed against breakage for ONE year.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--------|
| 1) QUICKTAIL | 72cms | £36.00 |
| | 84cms | £39.00 |

Specifically designed for the performance demands of banks, pools, and parks. It's construction is a unique ultra strong Alu/fibreglass and epoxy laminate.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------|
| 2) SIMS TAPERKICK | 27" | £27.00 |
| | 30" | £29.00 |

Superb craftsmanship is shown in the construction of this ultra-light multi-laminate board with customized wheel wells. For the enthusiast skater — probably the finest wood board on the market.

3) + 4) GORDON & SMITH FIBREFLEX

- | | | |
|----------------|-----|--------|
| Proslalom | 28" | £19.50 |
| Cutaway Slalom | 29" | £19.50 |

G & S are Britain's most popular high performance decks. Fibreflex skateboards are ultra light with a superb "feel". They are carefully finished and come in a large selection of colours. Both these boards — and of course the Henry Hester model — are ideally suited to high speed slalom. The flex is softer than the bowlriding and freestyle models.

- | | | |
|-----------|-----|--------|
| 5) ROCKIT | 28" | £18.50 |
|-----------|-----|--------|

Developed by Tracker and Gordon & Smith the Rockit is an epoxy reinforced multi laminate maple board which combines lightness with exceptional strength.

6) LOGAN EARTH SKI

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----|--------|
| Bruce Logan Kicktail | 27" | £15.95 |
| | 29" | £16.95 |

The original oak board — often copied and imitated. Stiff wooden decks are very stable and make good allround boards.

7) PACER - MAHOGANY 900

- | | |
|-----|--------|
| 27" | £11.95 |
|-----|--------|

A British made deck with a laminated kicktail and grip tape top surface. Excellent value.

8) PACER - FIBREGLASS 300

- | | |
|-----|--------|
| 25" | £ 9.50 |
|-----|--------|

A fibreglass kicktail deck with slight camber in the middle.

PROTECTIVE GEAR ACCESSORIES MAGAZINES

ACCESSORIES

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Grip tape - Sandpaper type (per ft.) | .75 |
| Riser pads - 1/2" urethane each | £1.00 |
| Truck rubbers - ACS red rubbers ea. | .25 |
| IKS & NKS - precision bearings ea. | £1.00 |
| Alpine Skate wrench each | £1.00 |
| Road Rider - T-shirts XS,S,M,L | £1.95 |
| G & S Fibreflex - T-shirts XS,S,M,L | £1.95 |
| Alpine Sports - T-shirts XS,S,M,L | £1.95 |
| Mounting bolts + nuts - 1 1/4" each | .10 |
| Axle nuts - each | .10 |

HELMETS

- 1) COOPER An inexpensive basic helmet at a reasonable price.
Small, medium **£4 50**
- 2) NORCON The "Rolls Royce" of skateboard helmets, offering superb protection, comfort and smart looks. 4-ply carbonate shell & foam padding.
Sm,med,lg; red, or blue **£7.50 £6.95**

RECTOR GLOVES

Made specifically for skateboarders. Split leather and pigskin construction with additional padding at the base of the hand. Expensive - yes, but offering the ultimate in protection. Imported from the States.
Per pair **£9.95**

ELBOW & KNEE PADS

- 1) COOPER
EK4 Small elbow pads **£4.95**
EK3 Medium elbow pads **£4.95**
EK2 Knee pads **£5.95**
N.B. EK3 make suitable knee pads for children up to 8 years.
- 2) FLARICO (not illud.) **£4.50**
As used by the professionals. Elbow pads (XS,S); knee pads (M,L).

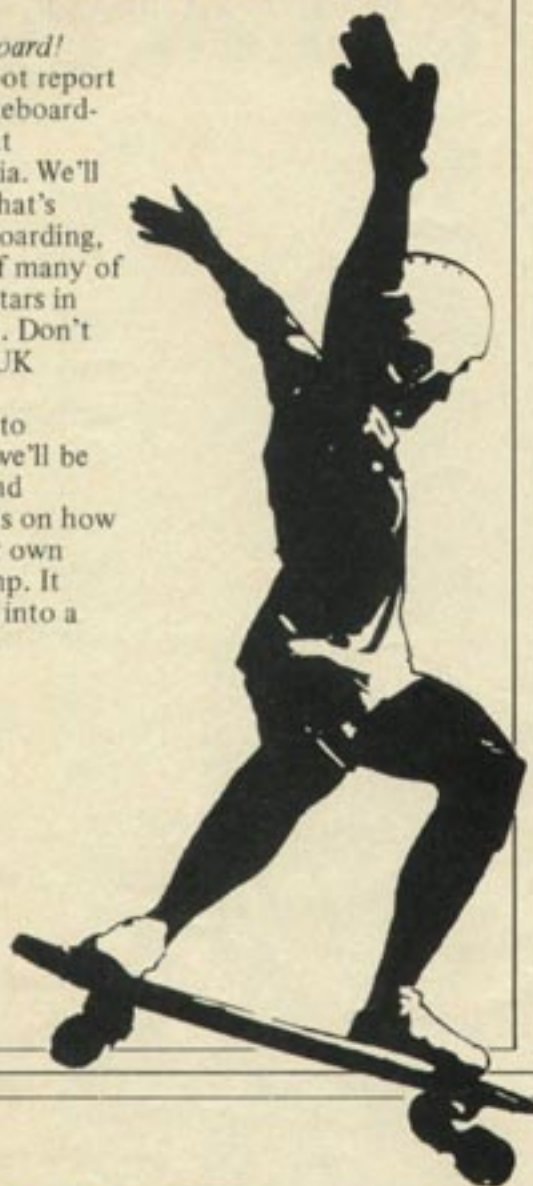
MAGAZINES ETC..

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| Skateboarder | £1.00 |
| (The best U.S.A. magazine) by post | £1.30 |
| Skateboard | .45 |
| (The British magazine) by post | .75 |
| Skateboarder Poster Book | £2.00 |
| Contains 8 full size posters — an ideal gift | (by post) £2.30 |
| Skateboard Manual by Martin Schultz | .60 |
| | by post .80 |
| Skateboarding by David Hunn | £1.00 |
| | by post £1.20 |

NEXT MONTH..

Stand by for *Skateboard!* magazine's on-the-spot report from the World Skateboarding Championships at Longbeach, California. We'll be bringing you all that's radical in hot skateboarding, plus great pictures of many of the world's leading stars in 'lip-smacking' action. Don't miss it . . . it'll be a UK exclusive!

And, in response to enormous demand, we'll be carrying full plans and constructional details on how to put together your own wooden practice ramp. It turns indoor skating into a practical possibility.



PRIZEWINNERS

HELP US TO HELP YOU . . . PRIZEWINNERS!
Skateboard! magazine is delighted to announce the winners of last issue's Questionnaire Competition. As promised, the winner receives a complete 'board (generously donated by Alpine Sports Ltd) and that person, plus the next four names out of the sack, *all* receive a free year's subscription to *Skateboard!* (that's 12 issues and not just the 6 previously advertised).

Outright Winner is: Simon Kent from Wilmcote, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, and he will be receiving a G&S Fibreflex Slalom with the following possible choices . . .

Deck . . . Pro Slalom/Cutaway Slalom/Henry Hester
Trucks . . . California Slalom
Wheels . . . Yo Yo's/Yandall Slalom/Road Riders/Henry Hester

Catalogue price £39.00.

Readers winning the full year's subscriptions are:

Andrew Davey from Patcham, near Brighton, Sussex;
Angela Blake from West Tytherley, near Salisbury, Wiltshire;
Darren Mills from Wimbledon in London;
Alan Gibson from Dunfermline in Fife, Scotland.

Thanks again to everyone for taking part . . . stand by for another competition . . . next month!

SUBSCRIBE!

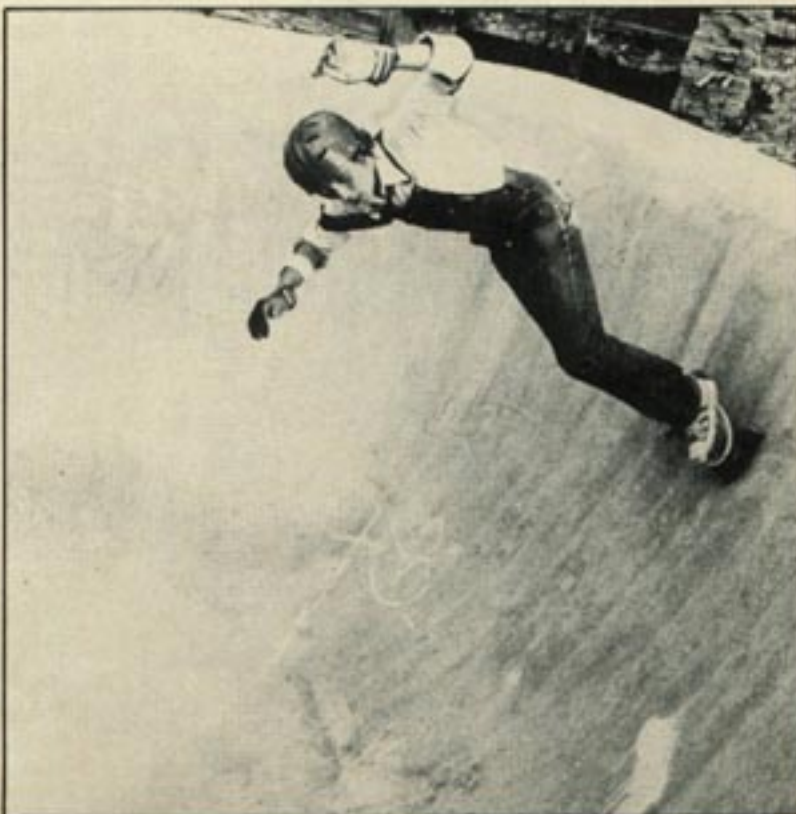
The only way to *ensure* getting your regular, monthly copy of Europe's hottest skateboarding magazine is by subscribing. Issue number one *sold out* and a lot of 'boarders got disappointed.

Don't be caught for a mug! Sales, we predict, will keep on rocketing so there's no guarantee *Skateboard!* will still be in your shop by the time you get there.

Make sure *you* don't miss out! Order the next 12 copies to be delivered direct to your door by sending a postal order or cheque for £6.00* (made out to *Skateboard!* magazine) to:
**Skateboard! Subscriptions, 14 Rathbone Place,
London W1P 1DE**

Please write your name and address CLEARLY and in capital letters.

* European subscriptions £6.50;
Rest of the World £7.00 (seamail)



PRICES & MAIL ORDER FORM

Item	unit cost	quantity	Total cost
DECKS			
Gordon & Smith (G&S)			
Bowlrider 29"	each £19.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Bowlrider 27"	each £19.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Kicktail 27"	each £19.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Cutaway Slalom 29"	each £19.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Henry Hester Slalom 28"	each £19.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Pro Slalom 28"	each £19.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Pro Slalom (slight seconds)	each £12.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Stacy Peralta 27" Warptail	each £14.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Stacy Peralta 29" Warptail	each £15.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Stacy Peralta 32" Warptail	each £16.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Powell			
Slalom 70cms 27½"	each £29.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Quicktail 72cms 28½"	each £36.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Quicktail 84cms 33"	each £39.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Sims			
Taperkick 27"	each £27.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Taperkick 29"	each £29.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Logan Earth Ski			
Bruce Logan Kicktail 27"	each £15.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Bruce Logan Kicktail 29"	each £16.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Benjyboard			
Benjyboard 27" Kicktail	each £18.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Benjyboard 32" Kicktail	each £20.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Tracker			
Rockit 28"	each £18.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Freestyle			
Laminated wood kicktail 27"	each £ 9.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Pacer			
300 Fibreglass kicktail 25"	each £ 9.60	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
900 Mahogany kicktail 27"	each £11.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
TRUCKS			
HPG IV			
Gullwing 6 3/8" axle	£13.50 each £12.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Tracker			
Tracker 6 3/8" axle	£ 8.50 each £ 8.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Mid track 6 3/8" axle	£ 8.50 each £ 8.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Halftrack 5 1/2" axle	£ 9.00 each £ 8.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
ACS			
ACS 651 6 1/2" axle	£ 7.40 each £ 6.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
ACS 500 pro 5" axle	£ 6.45 each £ 5.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
ACS 500 5" axle	£ 6.45 each £ 4.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
ACS 430 4 3/8" axle	£ 3.70 each £ 3.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
California Trucks			
California slalom 7" axle	£ 7.95 each £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
California Pro 5 1/2" axle	£ 7.60 each £ 5.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Bennett			
Ad + track 6.6" axle	each £ 9.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Pro 5.8" axle	each £ 8.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Hijacker 5.0" axle	each £ 7.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
WHEELS - Prices are for one wheel + bearings			
Kryptonics			
Green 60	£ 6.95 each £ 5.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Green 70	£ 7.50 each £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Blue 60	£ 5.95 each £ 5.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Blue 70	£ 7.50 each £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Red 60	£ 6.95 each £ 5.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Red 70	£ 7.50 each £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
O.J.'s Super Juice 65	£ 7.50 each £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Yo Yo's 60	£ 7.50 each £ 4.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Yandall's			
Slalom 55	£ 5.95 each £ 4.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Bowlroll 63	£ 7.50 each £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Road Riders			
Road Rider 6 68	£ 7.50 each £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Road Rider 4 60	£ 6.00 each £ 4.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Road Rider 2 48	£ 4.50 each £ 3.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Henry Hester 62	£ 6.00 each £ 4.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Logan Park Rider 5 65	£ 7.50 each £ 5.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Sims			
Competition 63	£ 7.50 each £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Bowlrider 57	£ 7.50 each £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Powell			
Bones Park Rider 65	£ 7.50 each £ 6.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Gecko			
Gecko No. 5 60	each £ 3.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Gecko No. 3 57	each £ 3.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Grentec			
GT Precisions 55	£ 3.50 each £ 2.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Superstar (loose bearings) 55	each £ 1.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
No. 1470 (loose bearings) 50	each £ 1.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
TOP PACKAGES			
1a) Freestyle 27" Kicktail			
+ ACS 500 trucks			
+ GT Precision wheels	each £30.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
1b) Freestyle 27" Kicktail			
+ California Slalom trucks			
+ GT Precision wheels	each £34.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
1c) Freestyle 27" Kicktail			
+ California Slalom trucks			
+ Yandall Slalom or Road Rider 4's *	each £40.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
2a) G & S Pro Slalom 28"			
+ California Slalom trucks			
+ Yo Yo's, Yandall Slaloms, Road Rider 4's			
or Road Rider Henry Hester *	each £39.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
2b) G & S Cutaway Slalom 29"			
+ California Slalom trucks			
+ Yo Yo's, Yandall slalom, Road Rider 4's			
or Road Rider Henry Hester *	each £39.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
2c) G & S Henry Hester Slalom 28"			
+ California Slalom trucks			
+ Yo Yo's, Yandall slalom, Road Rider 4's			
or Road Rider Henry Hester *	each £39.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....

Item	unit cost	quantity	total cost
TOP PACKAGES etc.			
3a) G & S Stacy Peralta Warptail 27"			
+ Tracker or Midtrack trucks *			
+ Yo Yo's, Yandall slalom or Road Rider 4's* ea.	£49.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
3b) G & S Stacy Peralta Warptail 29"			
+ Tracker or Midtrack trucks *			
+ Yo Yo's, Yandall slalom or Road Rider 4's* ea.	£49.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
4 Benjyboard 27" Kicktail			
+ California Slalom or California Pro *			
+ O.J. Super Juice	each £49.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
5a) G & S Fibreflex Bowlrider 27 or 29" *			
+ Midtrack or Halftrack trucks *			
+ Kryptonics 80mm, green, blue or red *	each £58	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
5b) G & S Fibreflex Bowlrider 27 or 29" *			
+ Midtrack or Halftrack truck *			
+ Kryptonics 70mm, green, blue, or red *	each £60.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
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Super Coyote 24" double kicktail			
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Pacer 300 25" Fibreglass			
+ ACS 430 trucks			
+ GT Precision wheels	each £29.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Pacer 900 27" Mahogany			
+ California Slalom trucks			
+ GT Precision wheels	each £35.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Logan Earth Ski kicktail 27"			
+ Tracker trucks			
+ Logan Park Rider 5's	each £58.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Quicktail 72cm			
+ Gullwing trucks			
+ Bones Park Rider wheels	each £88.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Quicktail 84cms			
+ Gullwing trucks			
+ Bones Park Rider wheels	each £91.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
PROTECTIVE GEAR			
Cooper helmets (sm, med, lg)	each £ 4.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Norcon helmets (sm, med, lg) - the best!	each £ 6.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Flarico pads - XS - for elbows	pair £ 4.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Flarico pads (S, M, L) - for knees	pair £ 4.50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Cooper elbow pads (sm, lg)	pair £ 4.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Cooper knee pads	pair £ 5.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
BOOKS AND MAGAZINES			
Skateboarder - U.S.A. magazine	each £ 1.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Skateboard! - G. B. magazine	each £ .45	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Skateboard Manual - Martin Schultz	each £ .60	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Skateboarding - David Hurn	each £ 1.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Skateboarder Poster Book - 8 posters	each £ 2.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
ACCESSORIES ETC.			
Grip tape - sandpaper type	per foot £ .75	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Riser pads - 1/2" urethane	each £ 1.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Truck rubbers - ACS red rubbers	each £ .25	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
IKS or NKS precision bearings	each £ 1.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Alpine Skate wrench	each £ 1.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Road Rider T-shirt XS, S, M, L *	each £ 1.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
G&S Fibreflex T-shirt XS, S, M, L *	each £ 1.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Alpine Sports T-shirt XS, S, M, L *	each £ 1.95	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Mounting bolts with lock nuts 1 1/2"	each £ .10	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Axle nuts	each £ .20	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
Ad-track spacers	each £ .20	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
California Slalom base plate } To replace	each £ 2.00	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
California Slalom pivot bolts } broken Bennetts	each £ .50	<input type="text"/>	=£.....
* Delete unwanted items			
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Trucks	each £ .50 (£1 max)		
Wheels	each £ .25 (£1 max)		
Helmets	each £ .50 (£1 max)		
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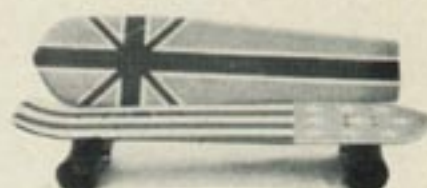
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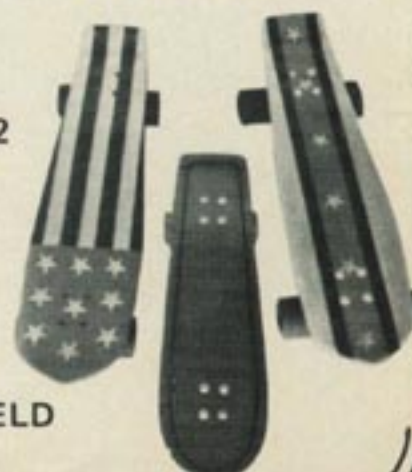
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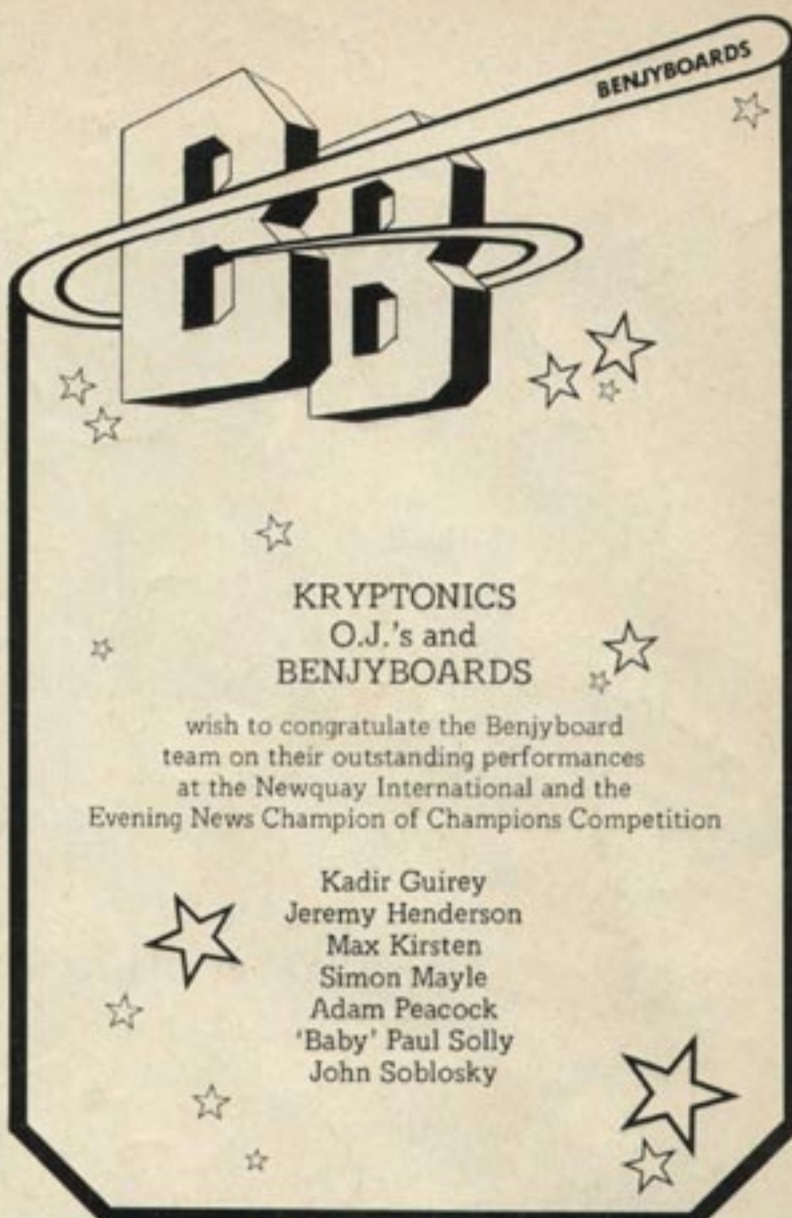
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