

BROKEN FINGERS

freestyle skateboarding quarterly

Jim Fully Paderborn
Goodrich Contested 2017

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BROKEN FINGERS

freestyle skateboarding quarterly

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Cover Photo: Jim Goodrich (In the morning) Photo: Tony Gale
top: Tony Gale (Hang Ten Nose Wheelie) Photo: Simon Mrozinski



Osmar Fossa (Pogo to Fingerflip to Pogo) Photo: Matheus Navarro
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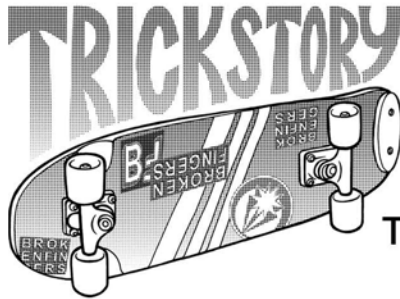
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Contest Results

Contributors:

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Matheus Navarro, Joachim Yo Yo Schulz, Maria Carrasco, Alta
Darryl Grogan, Jim Goodrich, Monty Little, Tiffany Pereira



Alexandre Brownzinho (Impossible) Photo: ALTA



The Madrid Flip By: Tony Gale

To start off this feature, I decided to explore the history, worth and outright majesty of the most iconic of all the flip tricks, the kickflip. This issue I'm pulling hard in the other direction, and talking about a trick most people didn't even know existed until recently - the Madrid flip.

What is it: Imagine a Broken Fingers (the trick, not the magazine) done entirely with the hands. From a tail stop position, grab the nose with the leading hand, and as you jump up, you pull the nose towards you and flip the board end-over-end, catching it into a 50-50.

Invented: Sometime in the early 80s; 1983 or 1984 would be a good bet.

Originator: Graham "Mac" MacEachran

The Story: British freestyle was a remarkably innovative scene considering how small it was. Gymnast plants? Shane Rouse. Fanflips (50-50 finger flips to 50-50)? Mac. 50-50 fingerflips with the arm across the body? Rouse. 720 bigspins? Mac. The list is surprisingly long when you sit and chat with either of them.

At any rate, it turns out during this arms race between the top two British freestylers of the time, Mac stumbled upon this awkward little 50-50 trick. At the time, he was skating (and working) for Madrid; so as was fairly common in that era, he named it after his sponsor. Not that it made much difference - Primo got the pro model, not Mac, and Mac eventually called Jeff Madrid all the names under the sun, quit, moved back to London and started Death Box with Jeremy Fox.

Incidentally, the version that spread like wildfire later on (the aforementioned Broken Fingers) was invented by another British skater - Don Brown.

Variations: A couple of people have done it by starting or landing on the opposite foot, but the basic idea is widespread with the slightly-less-awkward Broken Fingers, which uses the front foot to get the initial end-over-end rotation. This makes life easier by eliminating the board's tendency to flip during that rotation and putting the foot exactly where it needs to be to land on the truck. Of course, if you're sticking with the concept of using your hand, you can go with that tendency to flip and add a complete finger flip into the mix. I wouldn't fancy catching that myself, but I'm sure there's someone out there who doesn't value their fingers.

Relevance today: Strangely, the Madrid flip got somewhat left behind. Considering the amount of truck-related silliness that went on during the 2000s, I could only find one obscure clip of Tommy Harward doing one. In fact, I had to get Túri Zoltán to learn this trick just so I could get a sequence of someone doing it for the magazine.

However, since then, Túri has been hammering them out in insane combos on Instagram and at least one or two more people have shot some clips featuring a Madrid flip, so maybe we'll start seeing them more and more over the coming years.





Jim Goodrich shooting Daniel Trujullo Photo: Tiffany Pereira
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Jim Goodrich

By Daniel Trujillo

Daniel: "Are you currently or have you ever been a member of the communist party?"

Jim: *laughs* "Uhhh not to my knowledge..."

Daniel: "How did you get into skateboard photography?"

Jim: Well I started out as a skateboarder, and I didn't really have anybody to learn from so I just started skating on my own, and was just figuring it out as I went. I was skating on like an aluminum deck with Metaflex trucks these skinny little trucks that didn't have any flex or give in em, and clay wheels. Anyhow I was skating down a hill one day and hit a pebble and did a superman dive, broke my elbow and my wrist, took the skin off a lot of body parts. While I was recovering in a cast, I picked up a camera so I could take pictures of my friends and the friends that I was starting to make at that time, were a lot of the top skaters of the time and so that basically kind of gave me the motivation to start shooting more and more, and that's how I got into it."

Daniel: "Cool"

Jim: "As time went by, I would take pictures but then when I got my cast off I went back to skating again, and my camera usually sat in my car and I didn't really shoot all that much cause I wanted to skate. At one point Warren Bolster at Skateboarder Magazine saw my photos at La Costa when I was showing him some of the other skaters and I got published then he put me on staff a few months after that and at that point it was really hard for me to skate cause for every minute that I'm skating I'm missing skate shots that could make me money in the magazine so that's pretty much how my shift from skateboarding to photography happened."

Daniel: "I know there were very few skateboard photographers at the time, at least as far as I know of, other than like... Warren Bolster, but who were your inspirations?"



Jim: "Well definitely Warren Bolster cause at the time I first got into skateboarding I had no clue about Skateboarder Magazine or any of the skate scene really at all. I mean it happened fairly quickly as I met skaters on the street who told me about skate spots and you know backyard pools and ramps and ditches and stuff like that but it happened pretty quick when I went from having no clue about what was happening in the skate scene to suddenly being right in the middle of it. So I would definitely say that after I saw my first Skateboarder Magazine, Warren Bolster was the only skate photographer I knew at the time. I did meet some other ones like Lance Smith, he wasn't as published but he was there in the scene shooting pretty much for fun like I was. There were really no others, at least in the beginning. Warren Bolster really was pretty much my sole inspiration, and then shortly after that were some surf photographers like Craig Fineman, Dan Merkel, Bob Barber, some of those guys started shooting some skateboarding on the side and I'd already been inspired by them as surf photographers so when they came into skateboarding it was pretty cool and they kinda motivated and inspired me as well. Then maybe a couple years after that Grant Brittain first came into the scene and I mentored him as he was coming in so it's kind of ironic now that Grant is really an inspiration for me NOW, even though I came into it earlier and was an inspiration for him when he started.

Grant was working at Del Mar skatepark when he first started and that's where he met most of the top skaters and started to get into skate photography. After I left Skateboarder I went to work at Gullwing as their General Manager and Team Coach for about 5 years and then Transworld Skateboarding Mag asked me to come on board as their editor, and Grant Brittain had already been working with Transworld at that time so he was actually working for me, as the Photo Editor and Senior Photographer there. So he's had a long history, probably longer than any other skate photographer I know, that's been active virtually non-stop. He was just inducted into the Skateboard Hall of Fame last year. Well, icon award."

Daniel: "You've been in the skateboard realm for... I don't know how many years. How many years has it been since you started skateboarding?"

Jim: "I started skateboarding in '76 so this year will be the 41st year. I can't think of anything else in my life that has had this kind of long lasting impact and been such a profound part of my life as skateboarding has."

Daniel: "At 30 years old I can say the same thing."

Jim: "I know, it's really an amazing thing. I mean there's no fraternity, or no group, or club, or whatever you wanna call it that I can think of that has such close ties, and that includes people I may not have seen in 20 or 30 years, and you get together and you pick up the conversation as if you'd just seen each other yesterday. It's just an amazing thing."

Daniel: "What do you think the single most historic event you've seen in skateboarding was?"

Jim: "Well... there was one probably just by the sheer size and magnitude of the event. It was Cal Jam 2 in Ontario, California. I can't remember who they had, I wanna say like... Heart and Ted Nugent, well pretty much if you think like Woodstock but coming forward by a number of years. It was just an incredible outdoor concert, and they had this stage setup, they had a wooden platform to the side of the stage, and of course all this was behind huge chain link fences to keep the crowd back from everything. Fortunately I had a backstage pass, I was there to shoot for Skateboarder. On this platform was a plexiglass halfpipe, and this was back... the earlier half pipes had no flat bottom, and it's probably like 8 feet wide, so it's just a crazy thing to skate on. It's up on this platform that I'm gonna guess is about 10 feet high, so if you flew off of that thing, you'd have not only the drop to the

Jim Goodrich at home 1979 Photo: Self Shot



bottom of the ramp, but potentially another 10 feet to the ground. Crazy insane setup. So just from a skateboarding standpoint, and California Freeformer's were the primary skaters for the demo. I'd get up, like, hanging because there was no roll out deck on it. So I'd have to hang from the metal braces at the top of the ramp to be able to get the shots. Probably one of my most memorable shots which made it an interesting event was, shooting across this ramp with a skater doing a kickturn at the top, and in the background was almost a half a million people, spread out, literally to the horizon, as far as your eye could see. Of course all these great bands are playing right? So it's just a really surreal kind of environment because skateboarding was getting pretty big then. I mean that's big time when you combine those two things together, and of course all the stories that go with it... I didn't go to Woodstock, but I can imagine it felt very much the same. I think there were actually more people there than at Woodstock. It was just an amazing thing. If it happened today, I feel like I'd make fun of it and say 'that's not real skateboarding, that's just commercial crap, skateboarding is just like a teaser to promote something.' It was just different then in the 70's, even though some of it was commercial, it still felt very grassroots to me."

Daniel: "Cool"

Jim: "By far the funniest one was... what the hell did they call that thing? Skate Mania? That to me was the lowest point of skateboarding. Some promoter with huge amounts of money hired people like Vicki Vickers, all the top names, and they dressed em up in these ridiculous costumes that were supposed to look kinda 'Space ish, but they were so elaborate and so bulky that the skaters couldn't even really skate while wearing em. They went out, and performed tricks, and I think that was the one where they had a full loop that they tried to put Tony Jetton in, there was a rail that went around the entire loop and the skateboard had a little clasp, think like a rollercoaster, or like a monorail, he dropped in, but they didn't put enough lube on the rail, so he flew down, has his speed, went all the way up, upside down, and he's wearing this costume too. He gets upside down but there was too much friction between the rail and the skateboard, and he's got his hands holding onto the board, he's upside down and the board just stops. So he's hanging upside down in front of a crowd of I don't know how many thousands of people, and he didn't wanna just drop, cause it was at least 12 feet. He also wanted to finish the trick, he started kinda shifting his weight back and forth to try and get the board to move forward. I don't remember how long it took but eventually he managed to shift it and continue the rail around. It was such a joke, and the rest of the show was kinda the same. But, I guess the audience probably thought it was all cool. Not really memorable, but pretty comical."

Daniel: "I actually asked historical, but those sound pretty memorable. I liked that. I was thinking like... you saw the first person to do 100 pogos in a row or something."

Jim: "Some of the competitions they'd come up with were kinda silly really... they're always lookin' for something to excite the crowds. The high jump was always popular cause people could always relate to it."

Daniel: "Past or present: who are your favorite skaters?"

Jim: "My favorite skaters are always the ones with the most style. I can't give it to you in order, like I can't pick a 'number one'. People like Brad Bowman by far, incredible style. I really like skaters that are unpredictable, ones that actually made my job hard cause I never knew where they were going, or what they were gonna do but they're always exciting to watch, and I enjoy the challenge to try to get the photo. Tony Alva. Neil Blender, cause he's just so original, and an incredible skater. Stacy Peralta definitely. Some of these people are my favorites because of the people that they are, on a personal level, and I'm not just picking them because they're my friends, but on a personal level I just have that respect for Stacy and

everything he's done. Rodney Mullen, definitely. I mean Rodney has been one of those people that has inspired me since the first time I ever met him when he was like 12. He didn't just inspire me for skateboarding. He inspires me in life as well. He's just an incredible person like that. More current generation? I could name a whole bunch of old timers... Um Andy Anderson definitely. Huge inspiration and definitely one of my favorite skaters. Shogo Kubo, I don't wanna name too many 'Dogtowners' they get way too much credit."

Daniel: "I can sense the bias."

Jim: "I gotta tell ya, those guys were not everything that they're given credit for. If they didn't get in a magazine and Craig Stecyk hadn't made up all that whole fantasy world of the Dogtown scene, they'd just be another group of good skaters. Unique skaters. But the truth is, hanging out with those guys was so much fun. I mean, maybe not so much with Jay Adams cause he was always getting em into trouble. Paul Hoffman, he was more of a freestyler but he skated pools and stuff. He was one of the original Zephyr guys."

Daniel: "What advice would you give to up and coming skate photographers?"

Jim: "That's a tough one, I wouldn't envy any skate photographer. When I started out, I had to work hard, and I had to learn fast, because I didn't come in as an experienced photographer when I started shooting. I was just shooting for fun and learned from that. It was so much easier then, even with the skate photography that came in, the industry was large enough and there was room for it. But now everybody's got a cell phone, or digital camera, or video camera, and everybody's shooting this stuff. As far as to make a living out of it, is very very difficult. I would say my biggest recommendation is that you gotta get into it for the love of it, and not for the money. So many companies are willing to accept a crappy cell phone picture or even video or something for free vs having to pay a photographer. As far as just general recommendations for things to pay attention to, if you wanna get published and make money in any way, you gotta shoot people that are in magazines. I grew up with Tony Hawk, but I didn't photograph him that much because his style really sucked, he didn't excite me that much. So I didn't shoot him very much. If I didn't already work for Skateboarder Mag, and wanted to get published, I would've shot him. The other thing to stand out from the pack, shoot different angles. Don't be afraid to experiment with different lighting. That's one of the things that made my photos stand out, I started experimenting with lighting techniques, and even pioneered some lighting techniques.

So be original. Don't just shoot single shots. Don't be afraid to get down on your stomach and shoot from low angles. Or, shoot high. Get a telephoto and shoot something from a distance, and get something in the foreground to get a perspective. Just play with angles and techniques. If you don't, if you just stand there and shoot like a tourist, your photos are gonna look like everybody else's.

Oh, the other thing is, make friends with the manufacturers, the team coaches, the people that are representing the companies. Get out there and meet people. Be friendly, be approachable and social. It's not about schmoozing and kissing ass, you know, if you're an asshole, you're probably not gonna go very far not matter how good your talent is. Be personable and get out and meet people. I'm not much of a social animal, but you really gotta go out and meet people and be real and get to know em, cause once they get to know you, no amount of skills is gonna get you into a magazine if people don't know who you are."

DT





Paderborn 2017 - Return of the Mad Hatter

By: Bob Loftin

Our third Paderborn article. What can I say about this contest that hasn't been said already? I'll start with the personal. I had to miss last year's contest due to a family illness, and I was crushed, or as my friend Denham Hill might say, "gutted". I think that when you've been to the Paderborn freestyle contest you just want to go back, because it's the real thing. It's grassroots, it's international, it's a family reunion, and it's fun.

Our road trip crew from the UK was a bit smaller this year, as several of the brits were flying or taking the train to Germany. But what we lacked in size we made up for in personality, with the elusive Scaife Gooch joining me, Simon Mroz, Tony Gale, and our heroic driver Alex Foster on the trip. After taking the ferry across to France, our first stop was at a rest stop in France, where once again the French National Championships were held on on a 15' x 15' slab of skateable concrete in the corner of a horribly rough parking lot. As is now tradition, each skater got one 30-second run, after which the competitors voted on a winner. This year's French champion, I am proud to report, is Simon Mroz, whose unfathomable footwork blew minds after tying them into pretzels.

We proceeded on through France, to yet another rest stop in Belgium, where we skated for about an hour. As expected, we were already behind schedule, but the session in Belgium was fun! We loaded back into the car, through Belgium, the Netherlands, and into Germany. After a massive delay due to road construction, and yet another stop for food and drink at about 1am, we made it to the skatepark at Paderborn at about 2:30am. The park was still quite active, with at least one insane person blasting music and talking loudly until about 4am, or so I am told, because I immediately took out my sleeping bag, put it on my cot, and slept like the dead.

Saturday was of course the day for the park/street contest. It was great to see everyone again! The freestylers got in some practice before the contest started, and then dispersed. The UK crew, along with Robert Wagner and Nico Dragon, had a freestyle session on a nearby walking path just by the skatepark. Later we cleaned up in various hotel rooms and went to an excellent Italian place for dinner, with Yoyo, Nico, and Mario. Lots of fun. The fantastic Reese Archibald offered to let me share his hotel room that night, and I gladly took him up on it, as the prospects for restful sleep at the camp seemed unlikely based on the previous night. The next morning at breakfast with Yoyo, who should turn up but U.S. freestyler Bert Mathieson and his wife Kitty!

OK, Sunday. Contest day. We get to the skatepark. Fairbrother shows up. Everyone is skating. It is HOT. Seriously. Like almost Texas hot. It might have played to my favor, had I not still been somewhat jet lagged, as everyone else seemed to be melting.

The grass banks around the park were full. The stands at the top were full. People were there to watch FREESTYLE and nothing else. No - you don't need a street contest or a rodeo to draw an audience. You need a consistently good event, year after year. That has been accomplished in Paderborn. No corporate sponsors. Just the local skateshop and whoever decides to donate prizes. After a couple of hours of practice the contest started with the amateurs...but our friend Scaife was nowhere to be found.



Joachim Yo-Yo Schulz (One-footed Spins) Photo: Simon Mrozinski
p20

The ams with something like this:

8th: the Mad Hatter. In what was surely the most unexpected and bizarre occurrences in the history of freestyle, the Mad Hatter made an appearance from Wonderland to capture 8th place with some magical skating.

7th: Alexandru Lilea, of Romania. One of Marius Constantin's crew, Alexandru is a ripper, and I'm sure in upcoming contests we'll see him conquer the contest jitters and place a bit higher. He has great smooth style.

6th: Alex Foster, of the UK and latetricks.com. Alex's first run was one of the best I've ever seen him skate. I have to be honest -- I was surprised he didn't place higher. He has improved greatly over the last few years, with nice technical skating.

5th: Thomas Nascimento, of Brazil. I really like this guy. His skating is great, and it was nice to have the Brazil scene represented at Paderborn. Expecting great things in the future.

4th: Alexandru Stirbu, of Romania. Remember the kid who was ripping on the Penny board? This is that kid. He is developing into a great freestyler. He skated really well, played AC/DC, and is such a cool kid!

3rd: Danny "Darkslide" Klahold, of Germany. Danny does well every year. He skates in a lot of contests, so I think he is unaffected by contest nervousness. I love his fast, controlled, and stylish wheelies.

2nd: Christian Muller, of Germany. Christian is an all-around skater, who adapts a lot of flat-ground street tricks to his freestyle routine, in addition to very good wheelies, spins, and other traditional freestyle moves, all on 10"+ wide oldschool boards. One thing I really like about his skating is that his trucks are loose. He tends to carve nice arcs between tricks, which give his skating a casual style what is most appealing.

1st: Robert Wagner, also of Germany. I had a chance to skate with Robert the day before, and he is such a positive and good person. His skating just keeps improving. All I can really say is watch his runs and others on the latetricks.com Youtube channel. (<https://www.youtube.com/user/FSLateTricks/>)

Now, time for the Pros.

8th: Marius Constantin, of Romania. Marius is a hero of freestyle. He's the man largely responsible for the thriving contingent from his part of the world. In my book, Marius should always be in 1st just because of that! But it is a skate contest, he had a few step-offs, and it cost him. I have watched his runs again, and frankly, I thought they were damned good.

7th: Matej Kouba, of the Czech Republic. Matej packs a lot of tricks into his runs. He is technically proficient, and had solid runs. He'd have certainly placed very high in the Am division, but pro is different.

6th: Mario Steinemann, of Switzerland. Porno Mario is always a crowd favorite. Again, I thought he had really good runs. Mario does difficult tricks and I think more importantly always looks like he's having fun. There's a universe in which he won this contest, I have no doubt.



Bob Loftin (Hang Ten G-turn) Photo: Joachim Yo-Yo Schulz
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5th: Christian Heise, of Germany. Christian is one of my favorite skaters. Very very smooth style, and he's a seasoned contest skater. His runs were good and a real pleasure to watch. However, as we head into the top 4, I think what separates them from the pack is difficulty level.

4th: Reece Archibald, of Scotland. Reece's second run was his best. I had a chance to spend some quality time with Reece, and he's just the best dude. There's a certain joy about him, and it come through in his skating, which makes him very fun to watch. Again - difficulty level of his "bangers" was a level above the skaters placing below him. So even with a few step-offs, he managed to get 4th.

3rd: Turi Zoltan, of Hungary. This guy is a beast. Really hard tricks, performed to the METAL. Turi is simply an amazing skater, who makes things that shouldn't have worked work, through sheer power.

2nd: Felix Jonsson, of Sweden. Felix is really the complete freestyler. He is smooth. His tricks are executed stylishly and to perfection. Beautiful handstands. Perfect spins. Power. Speed. Dude is a ripper.

1st: Tony Gale, of England. You can talk all you want about Tony's difficulty level. There are no "filler" tricks in Tony's run. Every trick is a banger. Every trick is a video part trick. But Tony slams them all together in a run, and makes almost everything. Besides the difficulty, what comes to mind is ENERGY. Tony not only batters the competition with multiple 540 shove-it variations and kickflips that only he seems able to do, but it's all executed at mach 5, with amazing attention to detail. There are little footwork things that go unnoticed by most that make it all complete. Clearly, I am biased. He's my friend. Sure, but damn he earned this.

And on to the Legends...

This year saw what I think is the biggest turnout in years for the Legends division, with 7 competitors. The videos have not yet been posted, and I can't find the order, so I'll tell you what I remember!

7th: Paul Brunninkhuis, of the Netherlands. Last time I saw Paul he was recovering from a bad injury, so this was the first time I've seen him skate in-person. I really really really like this guy's skating. Smooth as silk. Honestly, Paul is not old enough to be in the Legends division, but for some reason was put there. In my book he placed a lot higher.

6th: Pierre Woita. I have never seen Pierre skate before. I think if the Legends had a second run we'd have seen more "makes" out of Pierre. As it is, I really like the way this guy moves on his board. Want to see more in the future.

5th: Denis Sopovic, of Sweden. First time I've meet Denis, who is a Hero of Freestyle and scene-maker. Loved seeing Denis skate. Smooth skating, the way I like it. Can't wait to skate with him again.

4th: Elly Myers, from Belgium. Elly skated really well. Excellent wheelies, spacewalk, footwork, and I really like her toe spin (they are deceptively difficult). So cool! Enjoyed meeting her and seeing her skate!



Robert Wagner (Double Railflip Body Varial) Photo: Simon Mrozinski
p24



3rd: Me (Bob Loftin, the dancing elephant from Texas). I was not super happy with my run. Didn't feel I skated up to my potential. In reviewing the video, it wasn't as horrible as I originally thought, but still not great. I have a lot of work to do before next year, and a lot of rethinking of things. According to the injured Guenter Mokulys, however, I had the best music.

2nd: Bert Mathieson, of the U.S. Bert is such a bad ass. His handstand tricks are just off the charts, and he really seems to enjoy himself out there. Dude keeps getting better and makes up harder and harder handstand variations.

1st: Yoyo Schulz, of Germany. Yoyo does what he does, and it's always good and damned near impossible for the other old farts to beat. His spins and footwork are supported by various Yoyo Plant variations, and it's always so good to see.

So that's the contest. All done in ONE DAY. Everyone leaves happy and buzzing with enthusiasm. Paderborn is truly a grassroots celebration of freestyle skateboarding.





Túri Zoltán (Flip Flap) Photo: Joachim Yo-Yo Schulz



Felix Jonsson (One Wheel Nose Wheelie) Photo: Simon Mrozinski
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Guenter Mokulys (Tuck Knee Nose Wheelie Space Walk) Photo: Joachim Yo-Yo Schulz
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Tony Gale (Ollie Fingerflip) Photo: Simon Mrozinski



The British Guide to Freestyle Events

By: Tony Gale

As anyone who's ever attended a competition in the UK knows, British freestyle events are the worst best in the world, bar none. So in the spirit of this celebration of all things British, we're going to pass on the knowledge you'll need to make your events just as good as ours.

1) Location, Location, Location.

In a small country with an array of international airports and a rudimentary understanding of public transport, it's all too easy to set up an event that will allow the international competitor to turn up, skate and leave within the space of a day or two. Where's the fun in that? Ours is a beautiful, historic country with no end of sights to see. As such, it's important to choose a venue that is not only in the arse-end of nowhere - necessitating an arduous amount of travel for anyone other than the organiser - but absolutely soul-crushingly ugly, filthy and vile. That way, not only will the foreigners have to trudge half way through the country to get there, but all the majesty of all those locations they passed through will seem magnified in comparison to the shitpile they spend the next two days in! It's genius.

2) Get the surface right.

In an activity such as ours where obstacles are openly frowned upon, it's important to introduce some variation and challenge in the competition scene. Some people - fools, all of them - decided to do this by halving the allotted time for a run to make Guenter skate at double speed (so his freestyle looks like the dancing of a German Happy Hardcore fan). We took another route: make the surface as rough, crack-filled, abrasive and unlevel as possible. Extra points are awarded for including any of the following in the freestyle area:

- broken glass
- manhole covers
- vomit
- empty cans of Strongbow
- empty cans of Strongbow filled with vomit



Alex Foster (1 1/2 Fingerflip to Casper) Photo: Simon Mrozinski
p32







COWBOY UP AT THE ROUND-UP

By Monty Little

Ever heard the term, “Cowboy Up?” Well, as any cowboy knows, when things are getting tough, ya gotta get back up, dust yourself off and keep trying.

We saw a lot of that during this year’s World Freestyle Round-Up as 62 skaters from 13 different countries endured the rather strenuous conditions put on oneself at a contest that spans four days. That, coupled with jet-lag and getting used to the slippery floor and you are going to find yourself flat on your butt more than once. That being said, I’ve found that most freestyle skaters Cowboy Up, determined not to let something as little as taking a fall ruin their day.

As many of you know, freestyle is generally a solitary sport. More often than not, you are probably the only freestyler in your town and have learned every trick you know by watching YouTube videos. So when you come to the World Round-Up, it’s like this big skate camp designed just for you, where you can skate and learn from like-minded skaters. One thing is for sure, this is a freestyle contest you will never forget.

Now in its 6th year, the World Freestyle Round-Up, which is held at the Cloverdale Rodeo & Country Fair, has become the largest gathering of freestyle skaters in the world. It’s not just because of the \$10,000 in prize money or all the prizes being dished out, but more importantly because of the comradery that abounds here. One skater confided to me that it took 5 months of his wages to be able to afford to come and this is the second year that he has been here. Talk about dedication. Many skaters have made this a yearly pilgrimage, arriving days before the contest to visit and skate with their friends. Never been to the World Round-Up? Here is a schedule of this year’s events to give you an idea of what you are in for when you do come.



Christian Heise (One Wheeler) Photo: Jim Goodrich

Thursday, May 18th - Cloverdale Bed Races Freestyle Demo.

This has become a bit of a tradition skating together at this annual crazy event. After the demo, the gang comes over to our house for the annual Chili-Dog Chill-Out Party that kicks off the World Round-Up. My wife Cheryl cooks up two huge pots of her Award Winning Chili, one of them vegetarian for you health nuts, and a huge batch of her famous Blackberry Cobbler for dessert. Eat and visit all you want but be sure to have your photo taken with Monty The Moose.

Friday, May 19th - Final Registration - Preliminaries.

After you have paid your entry fee, you can pick up your Welcome Bag full of surprises including the sought after Contest Belt Buckle and T-Shirt. This year Rodney Mullen was featured on the back plus all the contestants' names and the counties they are from. In addition, the gang from SKULL SKATES handed out special t-shirts honouring Russ Howell, who was recently inducted into the Skateboarding Hall Of Fame. After the practice sessions we held the preliminaries from which we seeded the contestants into the order they will skate in the Semi-Finals.

Saturday, May 20th - The Annual Rodeo Parade - Semi-Finals.

Imagine skating together down the main street of Cloverdale with over 10,000 spectators lining the streets. We even won the Best Wheeled Entry in the parade this year. After the parade we all get together for our annual group photo, which is getting larger each year.

Next up is the Semi-Finals. We have been using a battle format since we started the contest six years ago, putting skaters in groups of 5 per heat, each taking 3 one-minute runs. We drop the high and low score from the five judges and use the skater's highest scoring run. Ties are broken by using their second or third highest scoring run. Each year we strive to improve the contest and welcome suggestions from the contestants regarding changes they would like to see for next year.

If you saw our live feed you know that some of the best skating of the contest took place during the Semi-Finals as only the top 15 could advance to the Finals. Isamu Yamamoto lead the pack, with 8 other skaters from Japan also making the Semi-Finals. Mitsuhiro and Toshiaki Fujii's plan to bring their freestyle team to the World Round-Up definitely paid off.

After the Semi-Finals wrapped up we closed the doors to the public and held Hippy Mike's Worst Trick and Pizza Party. Get this, the guy who delivered pizzas was non other than Rodney Mullen. Everyone got his autograph and photo, then they got to make a total fool of themselves in front of him as they competed to win the coveted Worst Trick Award!

Sunday, May 21st - Process Skateboarding Contest - Pro & Am Finals.

In addition to our freestyle contest, our friends at Skull Skates and Vans ran a separate contest outside the World Round-Up venue, that featured three events from the past - Blast Ramp, Slappy Curb and High Jump. The event, known as the Process Skateboarding Contest, not only drew in the skateboard community, but it also exposed them to freestyle skating. And get this, it wasn't the hard core skaters who ruled that day, but two freestyle skaters who won the Slappy Curb and High Jump contests.

As for the Pro Finals, the skaters had been changing positions all weekend long. Guenter Mokulys, who had placed 10th in the Semi-Finals, came back with a vengeance breathing down Isamu and Mike Osterman's necks. Canada's own Andy Anderson, who had just turned pro, was also gaining quickly on the rest of the leaders. In the end, Isamu won the world title with Mike coming in 2nd place, Guenter in 3rd, Andy finishing in 4th place and Pete Betti from the USA closing the field in 5th.



Mike Osterman (Double Railflip) Photo: Jim Goodrich
p40

There are two special awards that we present each year: The coveted Henry Candiotti SKATE-4-FUN Award was given to Mike Osterman for stylish moves, and the Ambassadors Of Freestyle Award was awarded to Russ Howell for his exemplary life of service to skateboarding.

Monday, May 22nd - Speciality Events - SKATE-4-FUN After Party.

With the finals behind us, day four has always been laid back with the Legends Freestyle Classic and four speciality events taking place.

If you are still pulling off freestyle tricks when you are over 50, you have earned the right to be called a Legend. David Campbell, age 55 who raises Border Collies, came out of nowhere to win the event. He was joined on the podium by Tai Tai Craveiro, a lawyer from Brazil, who took 2nd, and Jay Mandarin, the President and CEO of several companies including SBC Skateboarding Magazine, taking 3rd.

Although Canada's Ryan Brynelson won the 360 Spin Off with 30 spins, he was disappointed as he had been spinning over 70 in practice sessions at home. He wasn't the only skater who found problems spinning high numbers on the contest's smooth surface. That surface has been a bone of contention for us trying to figure out how to make it less slippery. This year we made sure that the floor was swept hourly as well as scrubbed and washed each night giving the skaters a clean surface. All in all the skaters said that it was definitely an improvement.

The honours for the Best Handstand went to another Canadian skater, Dillanger Kane, who had been weight training to make sure he had the stamina to pull off his flawless inverted tricks.

Speaking of tricks, the unanimous winner of this year's Best Trick Contest, was veteran skater Masahiro Fujii, who at age 44 is still a force to be reckoned with.

The final event was the Longest Coconut Wheelie contest, which was won by Isamu Yamamoto, who once again showed everyone what a technical powerhouse he is, by touching down at 85 feet 9 inches to win it.

At the end of day four, everyone helped to take down the contest site and store everything away for next year. We all then headed over to the Holiday Inn for the Henry Candiotti SKATE-4-FUN After Party. Sit back with your freestyle family and enjoy good food, funny skits, videos, and special awards. Why Brett Novak even launched the World Premier of his new video ISAMU. And if that wasn't enough, everyone received a copy of the stunning photo book *The Legacy Of Warren Bolster*, complements of Powell-Peralta.

One other thing I should mention is that there were two film crews documenting this year's Round-Up. Pro street skater Rick McCrank and his crew were filming the event for an upcoming episode about freestyle on VICE TV. The other film crew was from StarBeat TV who were interviewing several skaters to help launch their Ultimate Skateboard on-line skate video contest. This on-line freestyle contest is going to really help bring freestyle to the masses and at the same time give skaters world-wide the opportunity to showcase their skating and win some cash. Look for upcoming contests at: StarBeat.TV

As I said before, this is one freestyle contest you will never forget. On behalf of Kevin Harris and myself we would like to invite all of you to next year's World Freestyle Round-Up on May 18 - 21, 2018.



Rick McCrank (Ollie Airwalk) Photo: Jim Goodrich



Reece Archibald (Tommy Flopper) Photo: Jim Goodrich
p43



Mirei Tsuchida (Rail Flip) Photo: Jim Goodrich



Shen Meng (Nose 360 spins) Photo: Jim Goodrich







Rodrigo Texaco (Handplant) Photo: Matheus Navarro

Fully Contested

Up to Date Contest Results

2017 World Freestyle Round-Up Final Results

May 2017

PRO DIVISION

- 1 – Isamu Yamamoto – Japan
- 2 – Mike Osterman – USA
- 3 – Guenter Mokulys – Germany
- 4 – Andy Anderson – Canada
- 5 – Pete Betti – USA
- 6 – Stefan Lillis Akesson – Sweden
- 7 – Diego Pires Afonso – Brazil
- 8 – Satoshi Kanagawa – Japan
- 9 – Reece Archibald – Scotland
- 10 – Tony Gale – England
- 11 – Toshiaki Fujii – Japan
- 12 – Christian Heise – Germany
- 13 – Lucio deLima – Canada
- 14 – Daniel Garb – USA
- 15 – Masahiro Fujii – Japan
- 16 – Ryan Brynelson – Canada
- 17 – Felix Jonsson – Sweden
- 18 – Kaue Araujo – Brazil
- 19 – Toni Medina – Spain
- 20 – Mitsuhiro Yasumoto – Japan
- 21 – Shen Meng – China
- 22 – Marius Constantin – Romania
- 23 – Jacob Whitt – USA
- 24 – Denham Hill – England
- 25 – Lars Rothenstein – Germany

360 SPIN-OFF

Ryan Brynelson – Canada

BEST HANDSTAND

Dillanger Kane – Canada

HENRY CANDIOTI SKATE-4-FUN AWARD

Mike Osterman – USA

AMATEUR DIVISION

- 1 – Marcio Torres – Brazil
- 2 – Ikkei Nagao – Japan
- 3 – Yuzuki Kawasaki – Japan
- 4 – Cristobal Bahamonde – Chile
- 5 – Yuta Fujii – Japan
- 6 – Dillanger Kane – Canada
- 7 – Nick Beaulieu – USA
- 8 – Josh Dunstone – Australia
- 9 – Mirei Tsuchida – Japan
- 10 – Andreas Tsougrianis – Canada
- 11 – Eduardo Bandeira – Brazil
- 12 – Brandon Ross – USA
- 13 – Kristopher Abramovic – Canada
- 14 – Kanata Hayakawa – Japan
- 15 – Rick McCrank – Canada
- 16 – Riley Allen – Canada
- 17 – Tyrone Williams – USA
- 18 – Eric Lowery – USA
- 19 – Daniel Trujillo – USA
- 20 – Matt Smithies – England
- 21 – Kyle Kraus – USA
- 22 – Alex Foster – England
- 23 – Jordan Sterling – Canada
- 24 – CJ Maldonado – USA
- 25 – Ricky Rodriguez – USA

BEST TRICK

Masahiro Fujii – Japan

LONGEST COCONUT WHEELIE

Isamu Yamamoto – Japan

AMBASSADORS OF FREESTYLE AWARD

Russ Howell – USA

LEGENDS FREESTYLE CLASSIC

1. David James Campbell – Canada
2. Ernani “Tai Tai” Craveiro – Brazil
3. Jay Mandarino – Canada

BRAZA FREESTYLE SKATEBOARDING

July 2017

AM

- 1 Charles Ribeiro/São Paulo
- 2 Kesley Maximiano/São Paulo
- 3 Luca Chiossi/São Paulo
- 4 Wesley Robert/São Paulo
- 5 Igor da Silva/São Paulo
- 6 Guilherme Carioca/São Paulo
- 7 Fabio Napoleão/Rio de Janeiro
- 8 Bruno França/Sorocaba
- 9 Franklin Nunes/São Paulo
- 10 André Teco/São Paulo
- 11 Felipe Terrinha/São Paulo
- 12 Fábio Lopes/São Paulo

Master

- 1 Edmar Marroca/Rio de Janeiro
- 2 Paulo Folha Citrangulo/São Paulo
- 3 André do Ipiranga/São Paulo
- 4 Osmar Fossa/Atibaia
- 5 Tai Tai Skater/Rio de Janeiro
- 6 Mauricio Kisuco/São Paulo
- 7 Cicero Braz/São Paulo
- 8 Tom /Belo Horizonte

PRO

- 1 Rogério Antigo/São Paulo
- 2 Matheus Navarro/Atibaia
- 3 Kauê Araujo/São Paulo
- 4 Marcos Toshiro Toshiro/São Paulo
- 5 Isnard Rocha /Atibaia
- 6 Brownzinho Mendes/São Paulo

Paderborn BBQ Skateboard Contest

July 2017

AM

- 8th: the Mad Hatter.
- 7th: Alexandru Lilea
- 6th: Alex Foster
- 5th: Thomas Nascimento,
- 4th: Alexandru Stirbu
- 3rd: Danny Darkslide
- 2nd: Christian Muller
- 1st: Robert Wagner

Legends

- 7th: Paul Brunninkhuis
- 6th: Pierre Woita
- 5th: Denis Sopovic
- 4th: Elly Myers
- 3rd: Bob Loftin
- 2nd: Bert Mathieson
- 1st: Yoyo Schulz

PRO

- 8th: Marius Constantin, of Romania.
- 7th: Matej Kouba
- 6th: Mario Steinemann
- 5th: Christian Heise
- 4th: Reece Archibald
- 3rd: Turi Zoltan'
- 2nd: Felix Jonsson
- 1st: Tony Gale



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