Cover:

Joey Garcia
doing a turn down
over the hip
at Moreno Valley
skatepark

Stories:

Chicago B.S. Finals
P.O.W. House
Dave Mirra
Mike Escamilla
TNT Bike Test
Homeless Bike Test
24-Hip Contest

Brenman Brown photo by Steve B.
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Publisher/Editor—Brad McDonald

Chief Flash Holder/Assistant Editor—Steve Buddendeck

Contributing Art Directors—Ali Zeigler, Chris Hargrave

UK Scene Reporter—Mark Noble

Out Riding—James Shepherd

Music—Aidan Vaziri

Interview Transcriber Flunky—John Paul Rogers

Flatland Consultant—Sean McKinney

Contributing Photographers—Armen from France, Chris Banes, Hal Brindley, Paul Green, Chris Hallman, Ralf Meyer, Kris Noble, Tim Quade, Jamie Roberts

Contributing Writers—Hal Brindley, Mark Eaton, Chris Hallman, John Paul Rogers

Flash Holders—The Boy, Big Island, Taj Mihelich, Leigh Ramsdell, James Shepherd, Sean McKinney

Advice—Jeff Trelaine, McGoo, Fran Richards

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McGoo Sucks
McGoo (sic)
What's up, Bitch? This time, I (sic) guess be雷onad forced me to read your verbal masturbation, and other verbal belligerancy (sic). Just so you know, I (sic) got a job (sic) ... it's not as fun or as wonderful as sitting around cutting people down, while I (sic) wiggle my thumb around my asshole (sic), like you, but there's still good pay (sic) even got a car now! As for 'zines—in my eyes they're (sic) an underground compilation (sic) of what ever (sic) the fuck I (sic) wanna (sic) put in if as long as I (sic) have an interest in it. With all your references to 'alcoholic', White (sic) Trash (sic) Parents (sic), I'm guessing you're re a t the product of Redneck (sic) upbringing... uh (sic), am I (sic) correct? ... What do you do? Write ads begging for people to send you pornography, so you can "pass the time" in between trying to start shit with anyone who even looks at you. Just (sic) for attention? Kiss my camera and typewriter deprived ass. Love N8

Dear McCuck (sic),
I am writing in reply on winning the a c (sic) for cheesiest bike video. How can you make a comment about anyone's video when you hosted one of the biggest flukes of all time, the GT Demo Tape? The best part of the video was seeing your lazy ass doing a dead-assolated stand-up wheelie. What purpose have you served in the biking world since then besides (sic) keeping Mike (sic) Conley's diet service in business. You're better off to remember the good old days when Shawn Buckley explored your ass far AME (sic) sunglasses and Gary Turner made out checks for throwing two dollar grips in contest crowds. I've got some news for you. Shitface (sic)—a few letters don't make you Rush Limbaugh even though you are just as fat. You're standing on the wrong framestand.
Not Spike Jonze
Kip Williamson
Ft. Wayne, IN

Dear Ride,
I love your mag (sic) because you guys are so straig (sic) forward and you don't kiss ass like those pussies (sic) of Plus. I do have one complaint though it is about your December issue which you let that asshole (sic) McGoo (sic) respond to letters. Where does he get off telling people to go and return cards to pay for (sic) parts, he don't (sic) know there (sic) background (sic) or where there (sic) coming from and should stay the fuck out of there (sic) personal business. at least they can still ride a bike. I also don't like the way he barked on nick's (sic) ego because nick (sic) is and always will be cooler than that old fart McGoo (sic). My final note got (sic) out to you McGoo (sic), why don't you leave RIDE and become a fuckin' (sic) English (sic) teacher for a bunch of immature kids like yourself.
Kevin (bigbird) Bird
Matteson, IL

McGoo Rules
Dear Ride,
I would like to say two things. First thing, I think Tay Mihelich did a great job on the last issue. And second, I think McGoo should answer the letters every issue. Maybe that would cut down on the number of stupid letters in which people complain about your magazine, different companies' (sic) products, other people, etc. But then again, if everyone stopped complaining, you might not get any letters.
Jason Henze
Finleyville, PA

Dear Ride,
My congratulations to whoever (sic) decided to let McGoo answer letters. He's funny. I think you guys should hire him full time. Everybody needs to have their self-esteem crushed once in a while. I especially liked the caption that went with Philip Tanaka's picture. Good luck with the cans. Phil.

Dear Riders,
To all the upright letter writers out there. Settle Down! I'm tired of reading a bunch of "pissed off at the world" letters in ride! Go ride your bike or something. Anyway, how about running a giant test on a bunch of dirt-jumping frames. Leave out at the foot jack (sic) frames. Only run the good stuff. Try S&M, Family, Homeless, Standard's new airframe. Soul Bikes, Rooftop, Mensual Cycles, and Bully's new Big Block bike. I don't need to make it exciting like a Fast shootout or anything, just give the specs. single bikes, and state the facts. Let the readers decide "Who's Radder?!

Not Spike Jonze
Kip Williamson
Ft. Wayne, IN

Dear Ride,
I love your mag (sic) because you guys are so straig (sic) forward and you don't kiss ass like those pussies (sic) of Plus. I do have one complaint though it is about your December issue which you let that asshole (sic) McGoo (sic) respond to letters. Where does he get off telling people to go and return cards to pay for (sic) parts, he don't (sic) know there (sic) background (sic) or where there (sic) coming from and should stay the fuck out of there (sic) personal business. at least they can still ride a bike. I also don't like the way he barked on nick's (sic) ego because nick (sic) is and always will be cooler than that old fart McGoo (sic). My final note got (sic) out to you McGoo (sic), why don't you leave RIDE and become a fuckin' (sic) English (sic) teacher for a bunch of immature kids like yourself.
Kevin (bigbird) Bird
Matteson, IL

Chase'd Out of Hiding
Ride,
I am writing this letter to ride because most anyone in the world who is involved in freestyle will see it. Most importantly, I hope to reach those individuals who just don't know when the draw the line. My name is Chase Goin. I am writing with extreme justified disappointment and anger towards FREEDOM BMX magazine (of Germany), PROPS Video magazine, and also to anyone who felt obligated to open their big fucking mouth. FREEDOM said that I am riding with switched brakes and doing everything opposite. PROPS said that I have been "spotted" riding brakeless. Why must you immediately advertise the first thing you hear about me? Is it mandatory that everyone be informed of my latest endeavors? Should I try harder to not be seen, because somehow, some way, someone will "spot" me? They better have a good pair of binoculars! Why is everyone so concerned? Am I being hunted down? Whether these things are true or not is irrelevant. The fact is, if I did switch or remove my brakes it would be to reach personal goals for my own reasons, not to "get noticed" or start a new phase. How I set up my bike for riding it is one's business but mine. It all you closed-minded copycat national fanatics think that there's no tricks left and that (developing) ambidextrous ability and unlimited balance on a bicycle (is so important), then go ahead.
fuckers—switch your brakes or take them off so you can quickly obtain years of experience. Hey—you don’t want to be left behind! If you think I’m conceited, you’re missing the point. I’m no better than anyone. The same ability lies within us all. Some of us just know how to bring more out of ourselves. The others wait for the latest video then proceed in their robotic ways without a second thought. Just remember—if you switch your brakes or take them off, you’re one lame-ass mother fucker! Think for yourself and let me ride in peace. For all I care, everyone can consider me "washed-up" and "over the hill." I don’t need or want any exposure in any form whatsoever. So, please—do me a favor and stop the rumors. Keep me out of the magazines. And if you value your video cameras, don’t point them at me.

So, FREEDOM BMX magazine, thanks for repressing my freedom (to develop) individual riding techniques. And PROPS, thanks for not propping me up at all. "Hey dude! Did you hear the latest? Chase pumps liquid LSD into his eyeballs and pulls 47 reversed bars backwards no brakes decade squeaks consistently!" "Really—no way, man, that’s cool!"

Chase Gouin
A dark, lonely alley

Listen up freestyle fanatics. This cherry picker means business. Don’t sweat it. Chase—I’ve been washed up and over the hill for 15 years—it’s not so bad.—McGoo

rediR treV dedereR

Dear McGoo,

I think your the raddest! As a matter of fact, I love you! In a platonic sort of way of course. But just the way you answer letters, Boy. Please, please, please rip me apart. Just trash me. Tear me to shreds with your verbal abuse. I can’t wait to see the next letter section.

XOX,
Lee Ramsdell

P.S. Boy, those guys in the last issue sure needed a dictionary, huh?

Lee’s childish letter smacks of the kind of sarcasm and bad attitude I’ve learned to expect from the majority of riders in this sport. No wonder Leigh’s sponsored by Wilkerson Airlines. His ramblings make even less sense than Ron’s ads.—McGoo

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Burbank, CA 91504
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Chad DeGroat with one more dark side variation, first place.

Andrew Ayrey went on tour for Vans and did shows with Josh White for a couple months. In fact, Josh was seen hanging around the contest all weekend.

Krt Schmidt was totally going off in practice, but things seemed to fall apart for him in his run. Wasn't able to get it together.

The race was red hot and many people once thought were such impossibles, beat Matt Hoffman on vert.
OK's Colin Winkleman had plenty of these. His alley-oop transfers were somewhere around 8 feet high and 16 feet long. That's a lot of alley-oop.

Then his transfers from the quarter pipe to the spine of the run were even farther and higher. Now Standard and Hara are fighting over him. Todd Lyons decided that he was going to make clear that he was one of the vert ramp platform if it was the last thing he did. It was.

Swan Yang got first. He did a double truck driver. That's the only one I've ever seen in my life. Ever. There was also a bust about a rider from Canada by the name of Dave Osato.

Amongst the stunt men, Tai Mihelich did a tailwhip transfer from the launch ramp over a handrail configuration to the pyramids. Bob Kohl did not try a double flip. Little buddy Dave Mirra just could not seem to finish his run on his own bike. He began each run with big technical tricks including ice picks and full spin on the end of the tail. About 3 inches worth of wood to aim for, and would then go off and start doing huge tailwhips and bus driver transfers. These always seemed to leave him with a flat tire or some other bike malfunction and force him to finish his run on Todd Lyons' brakeless, pegless bike.

All the street classes were huge, a total of 111 riders. After a 100 start it was obvious that things would run late into the night. Patience wore thin, crowds went limp, and suddenly a naked guy appeared, dancing around on the ramp box. OK. He wasn't completely naked, he had socks on. As if that wasn't bad enough, it wasn't even during his run. Now that wasn't fair. Something had to be done. Jay Mirra and Chuck O. moved in. The nature lover came down off the box and began to put on his shorts. In a Bunkie slur, he revealed to the eggers, "Thumbsby throw my clothes." Jay wasn't having it. A friend of the shammed skater stepped in and tried to hold off the Canadian Beast.

But like David Banner, he Hulked-out, and had the assitant by the forearms. The muscles in his neck bulged as he pushed the wirece backwards across the floor. The crowd screamed in with the hope of seeing a punch thrown. Man, this is just like junior high school. No dice. No blood. The street classes came back to life with newfound vigor and vim. Was this a cleverly contrived plot to bring the crowd, or just a raw display of pure mechanisms? You can't seem nothin' yet.

Sean McKinney vs. Scott Powell (skate)

If you thought flatland riders were a dying breed, think again. 10 of them decided to compete on this brisk Saturday morning. I remember when I used to think flatlanders were wusses. Hopping around in their tight shorts. Rolling around, being goofy. Then they started wearing baggy shorts and chain wallets, growing facial hair and beating up ignorant people like myself.

You want conflict? Check out these tough guys...

As if in remembrance of the ass-kicking that would go on, there was much kick-ass going to be witnessed. Paul O'Sullivan's first pro competition landed him in fourth place and earned him much respect. His one-handed tinky sp족s were quite thrilling. With Dary Smith and Tomoy Meyer in third and second, Chad DeGroat came out on top by whipping out a wacky new trick like he does every so often.

Dimside No, the hitchhiker to half-packer. Dylan Worsley from England made a big impression with his originality and his cool Standard hat.

But the real drama in this class all began with a letter to BMX Plus. "I'm good, I deserve coverage, screw those west coast guys." That was the gist of it. There's no doubt that Scott Powell is a good rider, but some people were a bit offended. Friday evening when Scott entered the park he was greeted by a friendly west-coaster, Sean McKinney, who was wearing a smile that read "If I ever see Scott Powell, he's gonna get a mouthful of lots." Sean had promised himself something and he delivered. He called Scott out in the middle of the jam circle. When Scott didn't oblige him with a mouth-to-mouth punch, the blood-lusters moved on.

But later that night, the action heated up again in Desy's. Sean couldn't bear to be in the same restaurant with Scott, so he pushed him down as he passed by. The look as though Scott might take a swing, but Sean grabbed him and one simple need-to-the nose was all it took to get every WWF fan in the place really psyched.

Finally! Some real action. All the school kids thought to themselves. But the bell rang and with one last sock in the eye the brawl was over and all the kids went home. Although the next morning the competition was fierce, it was nothing compared to the one-sided insult war that ensued between
two pro flatlanders. I was disappointed to see that no one else followed suit by trying to eliminate their competition via pulverization. Come on you wimps, that's the only way you're going to get coverage from a micron like me. And the sponsors just love it!

**Kat Schmidt vs. the Devil (min)***

Saturday evening there were 49 seething troublemakers swarming about on the mini-ramp. I knew something bad was going to happen when Dennis McCoy allowed millions of people to stay on the platform while he was riding. Dennis never does that! Something was in the air and that was definitely an omen. A chill ran through every spine as Rick Thorne rode straight up into a wall ride and pulled a backflip out of it. The Devil had entered the room. Kat Schmidt, who had been pulling all of his insane backwards rolling spine maneuvers during practice, suddenly became violently ill. The demon had entered him. Immediately following his second run he stepped off the side of the mini-ramp and vomited amongst throngs of God-fearing Christians. The chunky, swirling mass that lie smoldering on the concrete served only as a warning for the events that were to come.

Although lots of great mini ramp riding was taking place, Rob Holli and Jon Parker decided to take the GT van for a little spin. With Rob at the helm, they ended up at Burger King. The drive-through attendant made the mistake of handing the food to a kid from Florida before collecting his money. If you know any bike riders from Florida, you know what a fatal flaw this was. Off went the unconscious GT van with free food and a probably very worried Jon Parker. For some reason, it was the only van painted with a large GT on the side within a 6 mile radius. The cops found them at the hotel, threw them in the back of the black-and-white and took them back to Burger King where they were forced to...gas!...pay for their food. That'll teach you damn biker punks.

**Darcy Saccoccio vs. The Law (vert) the Grand Final**

With the rising of the sun the following morning came a new found hope for lawlessness in this unholy city of Chicago. Sunday morning, the day of penance, the weary ritual engaged themselves from hotel doors and gathered to watch the flatland finals. When stuntboy vert finally rolled around it seemed more like a world war. Japan vs. Canada vs. USA vs. Spain. Seu Santo from Japan was said to resemble Jon Parker on vert and came damn close to pulling some Hanz. Canada triumphed over Japan with soldier Rob Sigaty pulling his

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**He wasn't completely naked, he had on socks**
Main photo: Just back from his European vacation, Paul Oegicka took fourth place in his pro debut. Below left: This guy came out of nowhere (Spain, actually) and turned a lot of heads. Eduardo Torrezos, first place in expert vert. Middle: All the headaches of organizing and trying to ride in the contests seem to have finally taken their toll on The Condor. Second place in vert and fourth in street. Below: I'm not sure if Stuart King pulled this tailwhip 360, but he's still great.
Fla irs and waving maple leaves. Jimmy Walker crossed the border on both of those cuts in the name of acide city. But when the sun came down to it, no one could touch Sean "The Spanish Fly" Eduardo Torres was breaking a record. He went high, he did tricks. He ruled.

After taking second in the street and first in the mini, Jay decided that he would laugh this light in the name of decency. You will not test current kids and you will not run naked at this contest. The last of today's classic super heroes. Jay did not let the good people down. First place again and well deserved. All weekend, the evil, money hungry skate park overflows were trying desperately to break Matt Hoffman down financially and mentally. They told him you can give us this amount of money or you can get the hell out. In a frenzy of despair, Matt whinged out a speechless statement showing the head honchos exactly how much destruction would be caused if they were allowed to cut their evil claws into action. Somehow they understood and Matt survived the weekend. With a world of troubles on his mind he could not think back tricks anymore. I wouldn't have been surprised if his latest contender was scattered somewhere to his bike.

Even with all this vert ramp insanity going on there was no question as to what the real excitement of the day was. It was what had happened the night before. The real showdown. The grand finale. The final chapter. It was Darcy v. Sacco v. Tha Law.

Late Saturday night, a plague of malvolence moved over the city of Chicago. A horde of derelict bikers from all over the world descended upon a small bar in suburban Hoffman Estates. It was a time of reckoning, a confrontation of evil. It was a bunch of drunk freestylers who obviously didn't get out of the house much. An army of bouncers had somehow managed to get everyone out of the bar when a Blake from England casually tossed a bottle through a window of the building. When Dave Bishop realized that he was surrounded by muscular bouncers and armed police officers, he prayed for a miracle to release him. Ask and ye shall receive. As Dave Patrick recounts, "Darcy was a bit drunk and said, 'Man they can't do that to Dave. I'm gonna get into that cop car and smash it into a coke so they'll let Dave go.'" The seemingly innocent standover said, 'YEAH YEAH! Go Darcy!' Little did they know that Darcy was just drunk enough to do it. Disguised as a quiet, friendly,

Basic Bikes nicer from Canada, he attached us to the police car and jumped in. His friends starred in amazement as Darcy revved the engine. "He's not going to do it; they thought to themselves as they tried to pick their jaws up from the ground. But no sooner had the officer reached into the open door to snatch out the saber when the car dropped into gear, sending the car into a swirling 330 and depositing him on the curb. Two felonies and two misdemeanors in two seconds flat. This kid was in deep shit. He stood off across the street at much ten with the lights flashing, swarms of police cars materialized in pursuit. He had only made it about a block when he jumped out of the car only to get run over by an overzealous officer. Going his damnest to serve and protect, Darcy disappeared in the back of a squad car. Was anyone ever going to see him alive again?

Not with the bail they had set for him, $150,000.00, of which ten percent would have to be paid in cash. Darcy's traveling companions from Canada could not seem to scrape up fifteen thousand dollars between the six of them and had to wave goodbye to him from the Cook County Jail in downtown Chicago.

Remember kids, some writers glorify suicide and violence just for the sake of making an interesting story. But the real moral of this story is this: Darcy got off with one week in jail, all the charges dropped, and only had to pay for the damage to the police car after he jumped out of it. Was there a lesson to be learned here? I don't think so. Rock-on, troublemakers. That was a fun contest.
two felonies and two misdemeanors in two seconds flat

Right: Ed Koenning rode well, but not well enough to break the top four. Below: Riding with the eye of the tiger, Colin Winkleman was going for burly transfers all weekend long. He's been good for a while, but now he seems to be going for the big tricks that win contests and respect.

Results:

Expert Street
Stuart King
Todd Lyons
Colin Winkleman
Jim Walker

Pro Street
Dave Mirra
Jay Miron
Dennis McCoy
Matt Hoffman
Taj Mihelich
Bob Kohl
Rick Thorne
Steve Swope

Expert Mini
Colin Winkleman
Mike Ocoboc
Dave Freimuth
Sandy Carson

Pro Mini
Jay Miron
Dennis McCoy
Rick Thorne
Kit Schmidt

Expert Flat
Nate Hanson
Bobby Fisher
Matt Gibson
Sean Peters

Pro Flat
Chad Degroot
Trevor Meyer
Day Smith
Paul O'Scika
Steve Roy
Andrew Arroyo
Dylan Worsley
Scott Powell

Expert Vert
Eduardo Torreros
Jimmy Walker
Rob Sigaty
Seiji Saito

Pro Vert
Jay Miron
Matt Hoffman
Dave Mirra
John Parker
Dennis McCoy
Steve Swope
Rick Thorne
Joey Garcia

KING of DIRT

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Back in 1989, seven BMX pros moved into a small house in Westminster, California. Alan Foster, Dave Climer, Chris Loeller, John Paul Rogers, Eric Lilman, John Salemme, and Ralph Burn shared the dwelling and they were dubbed the P.O.W.’s (Pro’s of Westminster). Although a rider-packed household was nothing new to the Pros (man or them had shared living quarters under the Log House and Huntington Beach Pro’s labels), the P.O.W.’s became famous fast.

Maybe it was because their house was so close, or maybe it was because Dave Climer rarely washed his clothes, or maybe it was that these seven pros spent a lot of their time riding that helped the P.O.W. name get around.

Luring the home’s heyday was when man or P.O.W.’s were at their BMX prime.

As time passed, times changed and many of the originals left the nest. Cheap rent and a reputation for fun was enough to keep a steady influx of new BMX talent moving in and the riding continued to progress. The backyard changed over time as new jumps and new ramps were built, sessioned to death, and then rebuilt. All the while the P.O.W. reputation lived on and the house became the place to visit while in So Cal. So much reputable BMX talent visited the P.O.W. house that a “Wall o’ Fame” was devised.

An rider who paid a visit and had received a full page photo in a BMX mag was added to the wall. Hundreds of John Hancock and BMX “Fly Paper” soon covered the living room.
Like all good things, the P.O.W. House came to an end. After five years in the home, the local zoning inspector claimed that the ramps were a fire hazard and ordered their destruction. No ramps meant no reason to live there, so the Pros moved on. While arguments, lights, filth, drunkenness, and other unmentionable acts will live on in P.O.W. memory, the heavy riding sessions, which have been documented in many BMX videos, shouldn't be forgotten. As more and more rider inhabited homes pop up, the P.O.W. legacy will live on.

Story by Steve Buddendeck
Photos by Brad McDonald

"the ramps held the place together. once they were gone, everyone split."

brian foster
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Paul Osicka

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Mike "Rooftop" Escamilla lives up to his nickname with this massive drop-off/gap jump at a school in Whittier, CA.
PLAy

a small clothing company based on the simple pleasures in life.

play shorts

play rider Leigh Ramsdell at the play head quarters employee recreation facility

d this is a catalog
Let me tell you a little story. Play clothing was born in March of 1994. Up until then I had been doing a clothing line called 2B home cooked with my bestest buddy Steve. Around that time I got the results from the Ride magazine reader survey. 2B had been voted by far the number one clothing brand among 30 inch bike riders. We even beat Levi’s. (How’d they get #2?) Needless to say I was very happy and finally felt that I had achieved my goals with 2B. But as Def Leppard said, “It’s better to burn out than fade away.” So I stopped doing it.

Now I’m a little clothing company again. Riding my bike, doing contests, and making clothes. (Yes I still print every t-shirt myself.) I thought maybe sooner or later I would grow up, go on with my life, quit riding my little bike and make some clothes to sell in the mall. Maybe even make some money. That doesn’t seem to be happening any time soon.

So when your friends are growing up around you, getting married, getting real jobs, and you’re still doing tricks on your bike... just remember... we’re having a lot more fun than they are. Play clothes is dedicated to you.

If you can’t find a dealer to serve your needs, call us at (910) 922-3450 or write PLAY
3809 Reynolda Rd.
Winston-Salem, NC
27106

thanks, hal b.
hooded sweatshirts have a pretty embroidered logo on the chest. They are available in XL & XXL. Usually navy, black or ash. Sometimes we do zip-ups, sometimes we do printed designs. You just never know.

 tee shirts come in the 12 designs pictured on the previous page in L, XL & XXL, and in long sleeve in XL & XXL. There are a jillion ever-changing colors but common ones are rust, olive, brown, dark purple, maroon, navy, forest green, natural, ash, black, light green... you get the picture.

 hats. Wow these hats fit nice. Specially manufactured in the USA with fine embroidery. We’re playing around with lots of colors but you’re sure to find black, brown, dark green, maroon and navy.

 Flannels are most commonly found in L, XL & XXL sizes. With embroidery below the collar on the back. These are most abundant in the winter.

 pants and shorts, these are heavy denim 4 pocket jeans with a zipper fly. They come in 2 sizes; XL (40 inch waist) and Large (35 inch waist) in assorted earthy colors such as dark green, brown, black and regular old blue jean color. They have a handy loop off the front pocket to hang your mittens and the play trademark back pockets.

 assorted items items include embroidered thermal under shirts, work shirts, quilted flannels, lingerie, knit hats, and horse blankets. If you really want to you can send 2 bucks for some stickers to put on your favorite curb.

 be young, have fun, act stupid, wear play.
Just as Mr. Miyagi strengthened Daniel san in the Karate Kid, TNT has incorporated the same oriental magic in their new superstrong Hwafong Daddy frame & fork set. According to TNT, the Hwafong Daddy was “designed to take a beating.” They wanted to build a stronger bike for jumping, without making it too heavy to race. TNT’s multi-talented AA Pro Jimmy Garcia jumps, rides street, and even races AA Pro on the Hwafong.

What makes the bike stronger than your average TNT is that it features the triple tubed front end, oversized 1-1/8” forks, and double thick dropouts in both the front and the rear. It’s basically an overbuilt race frame that should be able to take whatever you throw at it. While TNT swears that the strength of the Hwafong comes from an ancient Chinese secret, the Hwafong Daddy frame & fork is actually made in New Jersey.
TNT HWAFONG DADDY SPECS

Frame design: 1 1/8" O.D. top tube
   1 3/8" O.D. down tubes
   3/4" chainstay
   5/8" seatstay

Frame: 4130 Chromoly
Fork: 4130 Chromoly, 1 1/8" O.D. fork

Frame Weight: 5 lbs, 9 oz.
Fork Weight: 2 lbs, 4 oz.
Wheelbase: 36" - 37.25"
BB Height: 11.5"
Chainsay length: 14.25" - 15.5"
Top tube length: 20.75"
Head Tube Angle: 74°
Seat Tube Angle 72°

Extras:
   Double thick dropouts
   Headtube gusset
   Split seat tube

Cantilever brake mounts available
Colors: Black, Red, or Yellow
Origin: Made in New Jersey, USA
Main photo: Dave said he was out of practice, but this photo should prove otherwise. Sequence: One-hand tailwhip on vert.
An Interview Dave Mirra by Steve B. Photos by Brad McDonald

Your parents have probably told you a million times, "Look both ways before crossing the road." Well, twenty year old Dave Mirra is proof that your parents weren't kidding. In November, 1993, Dave was carrying his favorite Italian delicacy across the street, failed to look both ways, and was slammed to the pavement by a Hyundai. A year later, Mirra is lucky to be alive.

Now thirty pounds heavier, Dave is back on his bike. He recently signed a fat deal with Haro Bikes and this easy money has him as stoked as ever to be riding. Dave is so stoked that he won Pro Street at the B.S. Finals in Chicago.

Along with this interview comes photos, and with photos comes controversy. These photos, read on and learn how times have changed with ramp riding's "Little Buddy."

How'd you get into riding? I went to a Haro show in 1984. Bob Haro was announcing and Rich Sigur and Ron Wilkerson were riding it. I got into it because of that show and a lot of my friends from around my neighborhood were into riding. Where are you from? I'm actually from Chittenango, New York, but I'll say Syracuse because it's easier. You were originally a flatlander, right? Yeah, I started riding in 1984 and rode flatland up until about 1988. I got picked up by General for being a flatlander. It was kinda like a co-sponsor deal. I got a discount on the bike.

Did Fred Blood pick you up? Yeah, I got to meet Fred Blood. All the General guys were really cool. I was really young, so I was really happy. That was like the best day of my life. I was at the General show and I was riding a pink GT. I was riding while Fred was sitting there talking to somebody and he saw me doing one of those reverse walk-aways where you lay it down. I could do that and pull it off and I could do a lot of different tricks that no one was doing around my area. Fred was so stoked, he went and talked to the bike shop after the show and got me on their team. He got me a discount on the bike, but I never got that jersey that he promised.

Those General co-sponsorships were pretty tough to get, you must've been stoked. Yeah, but then three months later I went to a Haro show and Bill Hawkins, Ron Wilkerson, Brian Blyther, and Dave Nourie were there. I pulled off a double decade and they were so stoked that Bill Hawkins gave me a co-factory deal on the spot, I got a free bike and Haro would pay my hotel and food when I was at the contest, but I had to get myself there. That was back in '87, my first real factory deal. Then you must've been stoked. Yeah, the General deal wasn't that good, but the bike shop that I was riding for was so pissed because they didn't sell Haros. I just told them it was a better deal. How's the new deal with Haro Bikes working? It's great. They're totally cool and they listen to what I suggest. I couldn't even imagine a better deal. They're so cool and they're ready to listen to anything I have to say about their bike. I just went out there and met everyone in person and they're totally cool. It's kinda funny, they were my first real sponsor and now they're my sponsor again. You were in Dorkin' 2, how'd you get hooked up with the Hoods? I went to a local contest in Pennsylvania and I came out in my run and did triple whiplashes back then. That was kinda new for back then. I had always heard of Kevin Jones and I saw him there. I went up and talked to him and he was really quiet at first, but then he started talking more and he introduced me to Mark Eaton. They gave me their phone numbers and said that if I ever wanted to come down to York that I could. I went down to York after the 1988 AFA contest in New Jersey. I was down there for a week and they were working on Dorkin' 2, so I rode a lot for that. Did you learn a lot from riding with the Hoods? Yeah, it was awesome. I was up at eight in the morning every day. I got up earlier than everybody. We rode so much flatland, it was cool. Those guys are totally cool, but I don't get down there much anymore. I haven't seen Kevin in a long time, but I know that he still rides, I don't really ride much flatland anymore, but that was fun back then. Eaton's totally cool. So when did you get into ramp riding?

Little Buddy
When I first started riding (1984) there was this railroad track in North Chittenango with a dead end and a guard rail which stopped cars from driving over the tracks. We went down there one time with my friends and they had some boards up against the guard rail. It was like a wedge thing to another wedge made out of flat boards. We started riding ramps like that, no real transitions. We got really into that, then we slowly started building things a little better until we had a quarter pipe. I never really got that good back then, but once I got on the bike shop team I started riding ramps more at practice. The team would practice on every Wednesday and I'd ride some flatland and then I'd ride the ramp. I remember that I wore this dumb helmet that was way too big for me and I wore elbow pads on my knees (laughter). I'd ride the team quarterpipe and I learned how to fly out on it and drop back in. *Wow, you wore elbow pads on your knees? Yeah. I was always pretty small. When I was in 10th grade I was 5'1" (Dave's over 6' tall now). Is that how you got the nickname "Little Buddy"? Yeah, it was Brett Downs or Kevin (Jones) that gave me that nickname. They started calling me that when I stayed in York. Tell me about getting hit by the car. Me, my friend Jim, and my friend Frank went out that night to a club. We had a couple of beers before we went there. *How could you drink beer, you're not twenty-one? (LOUD) You know you can get beer, anyone can get beer (laughter). Okay, then at the club I drank some more beer and we were out messin' around and dancing. I had some more beer and I guess that I was pretty drunk because when they drew blood I was a 16. I didn't feel that bad, but I must've been pretty drunk. So anyway, we were all leaving the club and there were a lot of people outside because the club was getting out. We were walking across the street and I was carrying a pizza. Then all of a sudden I didn't know anything. I woke up in the hospital in intensive care because some girl had hit me with her car.

*What happened to the pizza (laughter...)? I don't know, I didn't remember anything. Jim said that after I got hit I layed there knocked out for a couple of minutes, just laying there in a mud puddle. My shoulder was all tweaked and dislocated. Then I started screaming. "Help me out get me out of here." and then I was freaking out when they put me in the ambulance. He said that I was really freaking out. *How long were you in the hospital for? Eight days. I had a blood clot on my brain, my skull was messed up pretty bad, and my shoulder was dislocated. *How long were you off your bike? From November of last year until about the middle of June. The next time that I really rode was when I went to Germany to do some shows for GT in September. I couldn't ride for about seven months. What would you have done if you could never ride again because of the accident? Aw man (long pause...). I would probably go to school and do something. I have no idea what I want to do or what I want to be after riding, but I know that I have to go to school someday. Right now would actually be a good time for me to go to school because I'm not out of town that much, but I'm not sure if I'm going to. What did you do when you were injured? I went to physical therapy two times a week. I just went out and hung out with my friends that was my recovery. I was just worried about getting my body back to normal and not too worried about being able to ride. I wasn't sure if I ever wanted to ride again. I was away from riding for so long that I didn't even remember what it's like. I asked myself if I really wanted to get
"I woke up in the hospital...
because some girl had hit me with her car."

I hurt again. Just slamming and hitting your head makes you feel like crap. What happened to your ride with GT this year? Woody (Koon, GT’s freestyle promotions guy) offered me a totally good deal, so I drove out to California in June and stayed there for two weeks. I rode about a total of five times and I wasn’t into it. I was pretty nervous after the accident and I really wasn’t ready to come back. GT wanted me to live out in California and I started thinking about how I really love going to California and everything, but that’s only when I know that I’m just visiting. Going out there to live was something that I really didn’t want. I didn’t want to go on tour, so I told Woody that and then got in my car and drove home. He was pretty cool about wanting to help me out as far as contests and everything, but he couldn’t help too much if I was living in New York. I just said heck with it and decided to build a ramp at home. You drove straight home to New York? Yeah, I drove forty-eight hours straight. I left California at noon and then drove to Oklahoma. I went to Oklahoma to Matt’s (Hoffman) office, but Kris Gack was the only one there. I went to lunch with him, hung out for an hour and a half, and then took off for New York. I drove the whole way home with no sleep. I didn’t stop at all, but I probably did sleep some while driving from Oklahoma. I remember having a bunch of dreams while driving. That was really sketchy, so I’m lucky that I made it. That was in your 5.0? Yep. Tell me about your ’stang, dude! My car? It’s a piece of shit now, dude. I want to get a new car. A new Mustang right? No, no...I want to get a Thunderbird Supercooper. Something like that. Something big and luxurious, a comfortable car. My Mustang was just fast and I beat it into the ground. Now I want something that’s nice and comfortable. I want something for long drives. How are you going to beat your brother with a Thunderbird Supercooper (Dave’s brother also has a 5.0)? I don’t know. We used to race all the time up on the Boulevard on Saturday nights. Where we live it’s not just Mustangs, but any kind of car that looks nice. That’s more for the beginning of the summer, it gets boring after awhile. What happened during the fight with Jay (Miron)? Oh that, there isn’t really a lot to say. We just didn’t get along because we had been on tour together for about three months. Tension builds up and it took that one time for it to snap. It wasn’t really a fight, we just got into a wrestling match I guess. I don’t have any hard feelings over it. I always talk to the Hoffman guys. I’ve never been in a fight with Matt, it was just on that tour and Jay and I didn’t really get along. Being on tour it’s hard to get along with people. Except for Dennis (McCoy). I don’t know how anyone wouldn’t be able to get along with Dennis. He’s so cool, he doesn’t even stress. I totally like riding with Dennis. What’s a good vert run to you? Lip tricks are something that you need, or an mini-ramp. Airs flow really well, but it’s good to have both. I like doing airs a lot more, so I think that the higher that you go and the more that you do in the air counts more for me. It all depends on how you put your runs together. You can go the highest or go for the hardest variations, but if you pull off some lip tricks real fast it even out everything. When I was down in Pennsylvania Luc-E was doing some stuff on that spine that I couldn’t believe. He had it chained and that’s so hard. It’s different in everyone’s eyes, but I don’t think that it’s how high you go, how many tricks that you do, or what you go for, but it’s how you flow. That’s why Jay (Miron) rules, he flows. It’s rad when you pull hard tricks, but I think a run with variations, a lot of lip tricks, and a lot of hard tricks, high 540’s, halfpipes, that’s a better run than someone that has a choppy run with a lot of hard tricks. It’s definitely who ever flows the best should win. Did you ever think that you’d beat Matt Hoffman? No way. I never thought that I’d ever even compete against Matt. The first time that I ever saw him compete was at the 1987 AFA event in Columbus, Ohio. That was crazy because he was so good. I never thought that I’d make it to the Pro class. Back then Matt was 15 maybe, and he was so good. I told myself, “There’s no way that I’m ever competing against those guys.” Do you like being competitive? I like riding with people I love contests and I love doing well in them, but every time I can’t wait to get there, then once I’m there I can’t wait until this is over. I’m really looking forward to the finals in Chicago because there are going to be a lot of people that are going. I just want to ride with a lot of people. The most motivation that I get is riding with everybody and seeing other people ride. That’s totally fun. When I get to ride with other people I don’t get more crazy, I just get more dialed. Like if I had all those people to ride with everyday I’d always be trying my best. Is there anyone that you’d like to thank? Yeah, I’d like to thank everyone that stood behind me when I was hurt. Airwalk sent me a get well gift, GT sent me something saying get well, Hoffman Bikes sent me something, Dennis called me and Rick Thorne did too. I just want to thank everyone for standing behind me when I was hurt. Thanks to everyone at Haro Bikes.

From top, clockwise: Busdriver over the hip at Moreno Valley, a flair, an X-up over the hip, and a framestand can-can nosepick on a spine.
Dear Diary,

Today had to be like the totally raddest day of my entire life. You’ll never believe it!!! Remember that “Win A Dream Date With Ron Wilkerson” contest I entered at Merry Go Round in the mall? I won!!! I was so totally stoked! I could barely pay attention in Algebra today. Luckily my parents went out of town this morning and won’t be back til Monday! My boyfriend was really mad that I was going but I told him, “Shut up, you’re only a geek skater and BMX’ers are way cooler than you.”

Right now I’m in the car and we’re headed to New York, so sorry if my handwriting is really sloppy. Ron’s factory pro Leigh Ramsdell stopped by to pick me up in boring old West Virginia. He’s totally cute! He looks like he’s about 17 but he says he’s 24. I don’t believe him, but anyway we’re almost to the hotel.

Dear Diary,

Oh my gosh. Ron is so AWESOME! The hotel was totally gross but when we woke up I got to go for a ride to the grocery store in Ron’s rental car. He kept smiling at me and saying, “I like rental cars” and then in the middle of the road he jammed on the emergency brake and did a perfect U-turn. I felt like I was in 90210 or something! I thought maybe we were going for a romantic stroll in a park but it turned out even better! We went to a skatepark called Hudson Valley in Newburgh! The place was so cool! It totally made me think of elementary school cause it’s in an old roller skating rink! (God that was like three years ago!) Ron said it was a contest and I could do anything I want so I said, “I want to be a judge!” He said “sure!” and handed me a clipboard. I was way happy and I went and sat down and watched the whole contest. There were so many hot guys riding around I don’t know if I can remember it all but I’ll try.

In pro flat I gave Leigh last cause he said he would dedicate his run to me but he didn’t. (He’s still awesome!) I gave Dave Schaffer third cause he had really long pretty hair! I gave this guy Rob Thayer second cause he was pretty good but he had this totally icky shirt that said Lick Me all over it. I’m so sure! Aaron Behnke was the best. He got a really cute smile and he’s from Florida so his tan is awesome!

Then came the mini ramp stuff. I think Jon Maul got second in novice and Mark Choquette got first. Some kid stuck his head through the ceiling. It was funny!

In expert Mike Laird got fifth, Mike Forney got fourth and Kennan Harkin got third. Kennan was spinning around on his back wheel so fast! I know I would have gotten dizzy! I gave this guy Keith McElhinney second cause he looked so big and strong and powerful on his bike. Then I decided I would give Adam Banton first even though he had this ugly orange helmet on. He did this neat grind, spun around on his front wheel and landed it into a taitap.

Totally cool!

In pro mini I gave that guy Jamy Spreitzer third. He has really nice hair too! But
...and I'm back in the hotel with Ron. He told me he had a special surprise for me when we got here. I thought he was talking about something gross but it wasn't! It was fifteen pairs of ATI grips! I don't know what I'm going to do with them cause I don't even have a bike besides my beach cruiser! But who cares?! I got them from Ron Wilkerson. He is like the sweetest, nicest most awesomest guy I have ever met and I'll never forget the wonderful weekend we spent together. I think my life is complete now. Thanks Ronnie. Good night Diary.

-Wanda Pillsbury
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Not really

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**New Homeless Biker Nate Hanson lets loose with eraser footed Cubain collider on "The Spot" in Redondo Beach.**

Miscellaneous: All tubing is mill-spec .049 Chromo. Elvis liked peanut butter, banana, and bacon sandwiches. The Player comes with chain stay mounted 990 mounts. The phrase "The Iron Curtain" was coined in 1817 by the earl of Munster: Single top tube with wrap around platform. Besides the square states, Texas is the only state to have a cornbread pan shaped after it. There's a neat logo plug at the end of the top tube.

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1995

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26th - Flatland Finals & Vert

May 13th - 14th

14th - Flatland & Mini ramp, Street combined
15th - Flatland Finals & Vert

Sept 2nd - 3rd (Labor Day weekend)

3rd - Flatland and Mini ramp
4th - Flatland finals and Vert

Nov. 17th, 18th & 19th

18th - Street
19th - Flatland & Mini ramp
20th - Flatland finals & Vert

Thanks to all the Riders, Magazines, Airwalk and Jinx for the support in 1994. If you have any suggestions or comments please write to:

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Here are four new products from a clothing company called Low Key. Picture here are two new t-shirts ($14), a Low Key hat ($15) and a crew neck sweatshirt ($23). All of these products are made by a guy from Arkansas named P-Nut and are very nice as far as quality goes. To place your order or to get some more information write to Low Key at the following address: 607 Rush Dr., Bryant, AR 72022 or call (501) 847-5262.
Baco 6: Girls
Chris Aye is a humble guy. When viewing his sixth Bac 6, it struck me that Chris has a lot to brag about, but seldom does. Baco 6: Girls is brilliant. From excellent riding to copotch mixing and editing, Girls stays fun and entertaining throughout its entirety. If you’re into Austria you’ll dig seeing Chad Degroat busting his freshness and the originality of the U.K’s Dylan Worsley. If you’re into mini-ramps you’ll get into the combo tricks of Dave Freimuth. If you’re into Girls you’ll love the fact that there are plenty of interesting clips of cute girls. And if you’re into video-Blading, Chad Degroat will take your fancy. Baco 6 is also full of death-defying street stunts & jumping from Anyوا, the Mid West, and the Standard posse. Paul DeSka, Brian Howell, and Steve all make plenty of appearances, but seeing Degroat ride while wearing a dress, a speedo, some disco-style polyester, and even barefoot make Baco 6 a must.

ON THE COVER:

This month’s cover boy is Joey Garcia. Joey is proof that actions speak louder than words. While he can do a mean turnaround (and won the ABA King of Dirt), he doesn’t have to try.

Steve: Hi Jimmy there?
Mr. Garcia: No he moved to Sacramento.
Steve: Oh, is Joey there?
Steve: Joey is this at Ride. I’m calling to inform you that you are on the cover of the fourteen issue of Ride Magazine. Joey, any way, really? Oh, wow. That’s cool. Wow.
Steve: Yes, and I’m recording this for your On The Cover Interview.
Joey: Okay.
Steve: You got to talk really loud, because I just holding this tape recorder up to the phone.
Joey: Okay.
Steve: You race, jump, and enter freestyle contests. What do you make the most seriously?
Joey: Racing, I’ve been doing it for so long.
Steve: How long?
Joey: 10 years.
Steve: Wow. What’s your favorite thing to do on your bike?
Joey: Probably jumpstunts.
Steve: Oh yaah, you lucked out, you’re doing one on the cover.
Joey: [Laughing]
Steve: What do you do besides ride your bike?
Joey: Nothing, just go to school.

Dirt Brothers, Chees
I have to be honest, and admit, I’ve only seen this video one time, and that was a few weeks ago. The fact is, my VCR broke on me I was trying to see video grabs of Jay Arbor almost pulling a double loop on the new Hoffman video (last month). What I do remember about the Dirt Brothers video is that it’s everything I expected it to be. Lots of semi-underground San Diego riders going off on dirt and street. With ideal talent like Brad Blanchard, Vic Murphy, Aaron Kueger, Sean Varrell, and Manuel DeLa Cruz, riding legendary spots like Honda Hill’s & Mission Trails, you can count on getting your money’s worth out of this video. To order, send $14 to Fred Ansfield, P.O. Box 824, Alpine, CA 91903.

Steve: How old are you anyway?
Joey: 16.
Steve: Who do you ride with now that Jimmy moved out.(Jimmy is Joey’s older brother and TNT teammate).
Joey: Just locals.
Steve: Is everyone into jumping?
Joey: Yeah.

Steve: Do you realize that you and your brother are the first sibling combination to get the cover of Ride?
Joey: I don’t know that.
Steve: Joey: Yeah you’re like Richie and Ronnie, Brent and Brien, Brian and Alan. Joey: That’s cool.
Steve: Do you think that you could beat Mark Zalewski in arm wrestling?
Joey: Probably not.
Steve: Did you beat any of the guys on TNT?
Joey: Maybe Aaron Webber if I got lucky (TNT’s 12 year-old Expert).
Steve: How about your brother?
Joey: No, he’s pretty strong.

Steve: Who are your sponsors?
Joey: TNT, Standard, Play, Anvar, CIC, UGP, hang on a second... Echo, and Odyssey.
Steve: Did you get your gear?
Joey: Yeah, I didn’t want to mess anybody.
Steve: That’s about it. Thanks.
Joey: Yeah, thanks a lot.
Sick Of It All

It seems that a lot of hardcore bands today have simply run out of gas, and their answer to that problem is tip the bands of old off," says Lou Koller, singer for New York City's hardcore demigods Sick Of It All. "We come from an era where a lot of the old hardcore bands earned their stay in the underground by working hard and building a network with other bands. Now, it all seems lost."

When it comes to remaining true to one's art, Sick Of It All are on it. A key figure in the late-'80s East Coast hardcore scene, Sick Of It All's 1987 "Revelation" single, along with Agnostic Front's Victim In Pain and the Cro-Mags' The Age Of Quarrel, set the standard for hardcore as we know it. With weekly CBC3 hardcore marathons and strongholds in cities such as Boston, Philly and Chicago, their pissed-off sound made it commonplace to see armies of bald-headed kids with baseball caps nodding the stage for the mic and moshing like there was no tomorrow. Doing this week-in and week-out on the strength of one single was indeed, amazing.

Sick Of It All was on a high that hasn't seen them come down since, 1989's Blood, Sweat, and Tears LP on In-Effect/Relativity. brought Sick Of It All face to face with the rest of the U.S. and the world, touring non-stop on their own, with the Bad Brains, and devastating crowds on the New Kids On The Block tour with Sepultura and Napalm Death. The tour opened up doors to a whole new audience for Sick Of It All and they kept coming back for more. With the release of Just Look Around in 1992 (Relativity), Koller and company continued to wreck houses across the nation and in Europe. The band then took some much needed time off to re-evaluate their position with Relativity. The result? A new home and their strongest record ever with Scratch The Surface on East/West. For the first time, we are on a label that believes in working as hard as we do, says Koller. "Relativity just wasn't there for us. That's the reality. Now we have a new label that believes in us and is willing to work with us.

Scratch the Surface is a return to the school of hard-knocks. Coming from the infamous Alleyway Crew and derived from past respected bands such as Straight Ahead, Sick Of It All was built upon the values of friendship, integrity, dedication and earning respect. Keeping their political and social agenda intact, on Scratch the Surface, Sick Of It All express harsh views on rape ("Desperate Fool") with lyrics suggesting appropriate castration and laceration for the animals. The crew disses the superficial outlook on the title track, focuses on integrity in the underground ("Step Down") and refers to the human voice as "the barrel of a gun" on the anti-tension ship track, "Cease Fire."

As long as there's issues that need to be addressed, you can count on Sick Of It All to be around. The name says it all.

Kenny Gerchow

Reviews

© WEEZ smoke way too much crack, and that's a good thing. Nowadays else would you find such jackass-up bliss as is in abundance on Chocolate & Cheese (Elektra). This time around the bros Dean and Gene have evidently been overdoing on cheese. '70s soil and early happy sing-along records from the same era. Even the lyrics can't deny the pure 100 percent total genius of songs like "Mister Would You Please Help My Pony?" and "Don't Shit Where You Eat." Dig it.

© Usually, the idea of two girls alternately screaming and whining in your ear is a bad thing. But when that pair of female happens to be Nina Gordon and Louise Post, the vocal half of Veruca Salt, it's not only quite alright, it's downright pleasing. On American Thighs (DGCL), the Chicago group rips through Breeder-esque harmonies, spitfire guitar chords and tweaked sentiments. Ah, yeah!

© There were plenty of rumors that John Frusciante had completely wiggled out when he bared on the Red Hot Chili Peppers at the height of their success. Well, now we have indisputable proof: Aandra (Ladies And Usualy Just A T-Shirt Americani) is the brilliant solo debut of a complete madman. There are echoes of Bowie, Beefheart and whatnot but nothing will prepare you for 'My Smile Is A Rifle.' —Aidin Vaziri
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