

magazine coverage

# Transworld Skateboarding

**2000**

Rodrigo Teixeira Have You Seen Him, Rick McCrank Cover, Bob Burnquist Best Vert Skater Interview, Javier Sarmiento Good Stuff, and Rick McCrank Best Street Skater Interview.

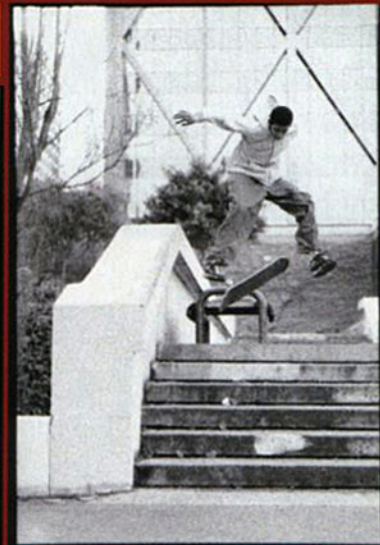
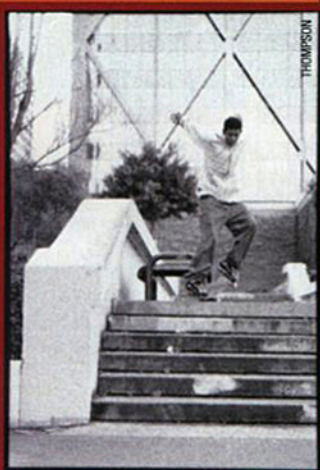
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# Rodrigo Texiera

Have you seen him?



"Rodrigo? I think he's at Hubba Hideout right now, probably doing nollie heelflip noseslides or something. I'll tell him you guys are trying to interview him if I see him, though."



"Oh, that super good Brazilian kid? Last I heard Rodrigo was in Sacramento backside-grinding some rail. But ah, right now I'm kind of busy playing video games, I'll get his number and call you back later."





**BOB BURNQUIST NA RAÇA!**





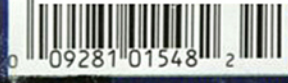
TRANSWORLD

# Skateboarding



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# Eric Koston



If I were Eric, I'd get all sorts of shoes made. The Koston lounge slippers, the Koston clog, the Koston aqua sock, and finally, the Koston combat boot for those rough mosh pits.

**B**angkok-born, 24-year-old Eric Koston is the poster boy for the phrase "actions speak louder than words." Since his early days with H-street, Eric's skateboarding's stood out in the sea of cookie-cutter pros and trendy tricks, but he's been far from vocal about it. From mini-ramp 540s to nollie heelflip noseslides on ten-plus-stair rails, Eric may not have written the book of modern skateboarding, but he was certainly one of its biggest contributors. Just don't ask him to read it aloud.

#### What was your favorite year in skateboarding?

Maybe the first years.

#### Why's that?

Because everything was new. Everything. Now it can't be as new as it was then.

#### Who's been your biggest inspiration in skateboarding?

Mark Gonzales from the beginning.

#### What about him inspired you?

His skating, and it seemed like he was always joking around, too. It seemed like he enjoyed what he was doing. He was having fun with it. Danny Way, too. Just how good he was at everything. And all the guys from way back—the whole Bones Brigade days.

#### What's the stupidest trend you've seen skateboarding go through?

Long handrails [laughs]. No, I'm just kidding. Probably all the bad clothes, like in '92 all the big, bad, ugly clothes. Big T-shirts, crazy-colored Fuct pants, late flips, and everything that went with that whole 1992 era. It was pretty awful. Late flips, late shove-its—skating was just horrible.

#### Did you get mixed up in the horribleness?

Yeah, it sucked, everybody got mixed up in it in one way or another.

#### No one's innocent of that era.

Nobody.

#### What do you consider your biggest contribution to skateboarding?

My biggest contribution? I don't know what I've contributed.

#### I think you've contributed a lot to the progression of tricks.

I don't know if I have, but other people have. I've just always tried to keep progressing, but there're other people who've influenced that as well. It's definitely not just me.

#### Describe the current state of skateboarding.

Skateboarding's cleaned up its act ... a lot. You know, not completely, but in a lot of ways. It's progressing, but not so much trick-wise as how big people are going. Like the size of handrails, stuff like that.

#### But you don't see it progressing in regard to how technical tricks are?

It is, a little, but it's hard for it to progress too far too fast.

#### I guess if you progress too far, you end up with late flips and late shove-its.

Yeah. And it's going back that way, too; some people are doing that stuff again ... which is kinda weird. But for the people who are doing it, maybe it's new to them. Maybe they weren't skating in '92, you know what I mean? Maybe they saw an old video full of all these weird-ass tricks from '92, and that could be influencing people who are doing stuff like that now. Who knows?

#### Do you have any predictions for skateboarding's future?

I don't know.

#### Can it get more technical, trick-wise?

It's gonna be both [big and tech], because there's that mix. There're so many more people skateboarding than there were before. There's going to be a variety—both big and technical. Skateboarding has become a lot more consistent in the last few years—even with the most technical stuff—and it'll probably keep getting more consistent.

#### Do you see it getting more and more popular?

It still is getting bigger, and if the ratings keep going up, skateboarding's going to keep growing. But when the ratings go down, if they do, it could definitely get smaller again.

#### I guess it works in cycles.

That's true, it does work in cycles. I don't know where the peak is for skating this time around, hopefully it's a lot further away.



**With all the hype around the Millennium, do you think something will happen on December 31, 1999?**

No. I think it's just gonna be people having fun.

**What do you have planned for that night?**

I'll just see what happens—hang out with my family.

**Who are the most important skaters of the 90s?**

Guy Mariano, Danny Way, Mark Gonzales, Jason Lee, all the Blind guys in the *Video Days* video. Colin McKay rips, Jeremy Wray going bigger, Eric Koston.

**Who is Alan Gelfand?**

I know the name, but I can't think of it right now.

**He invented the ollie.**

Oh yeah, that's it.

**How do you want to go down in skateboarding's history?**

Nothing.

**Who do you think will change skateboarding in the future?**

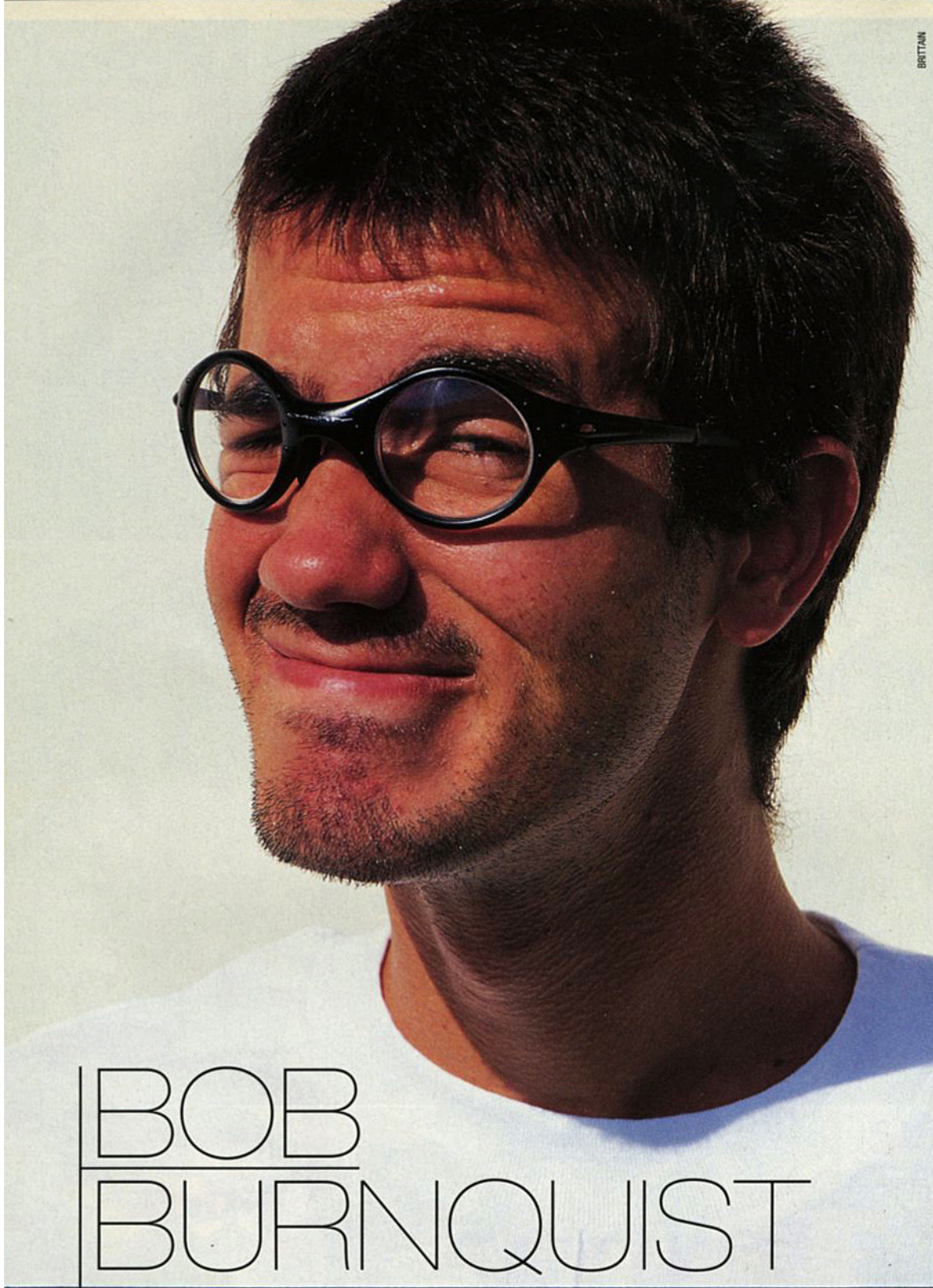
Maybe Arto Saari.

**Crank it up, McRicky!  
Backside 180 kickflip in Paris.**

Talent. Hard work.  
Makes anything look easy.

# Rick McCrank

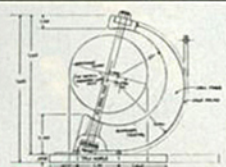




BRITAIN

# BOB BURNQUIST

1 READERS' POLL



## Best All-Around Skater

by Joel Patterson

In May of 1995, a young, almost completely unknown Brazilian vert skater wearing tube socks pulled to his knees showed up at the Slam City Jam contest in Vancouver, Canada and spent the weekend changing the course of vert skating forever. Seventeen-year-old Bob Burnquist and his switch frontside airs, disasters, and 50-50s left those in attendance as confused about what had transpired as they were excited about the future. He had personally nudged vert skating a step closer to the technicality of street, incorporating entirely switch-stance lines and bringing a sense of renewal to a sport still reeling from the sudden fall in popularity it had experienced four years earlier.

Bob has emerged as one of the most influential skateboarders of the second half of the 1990s, but not only in the realm of vert



Bob contorts himself into a familiar tweaked position. Switch frontside air.

BLADAC



LAKE HAVAS, AZ

1 RIDERS' POLL

## Best Vert Skater









¿Por qué me estas mirando?

# GOOD STUFF

## Javier Sarmiento

I'm not too sure what makes certain skaters so consistent. I wonder if maybe when they were young, videos fooled them into thinking that everything happens in the first couple tries. Could it be all the heated games of Skate, or is it something they ate the night before? Some might say it's the shoes, but whatever it is, I still haven't figured it out.

That's what came to mind after skating with a kid from Victoria, Spain named Javier Sarmiento. I got a call from my friend Preston, who told me Javier was in town, and he wanted to know if we could hook up. I didn't have anything going, so I was down. We met at a school in San Diego, and as soon as I rolled up, Javier was ready to shoot. Within two tries he was rolling away from a sequence of a switch backside tailslide shove-it. After that we hit two more spots, and in no time he'd taken care of three more good sequences.

I can't say I know much about Javier besides that he's from Spain, which I think I already said. But what I do know is that he was either fooled by the videos or it's the fun of it that lets him ride away every time. ↗

words and photos by Atiba Jefferson



A huge, slow-turning 360 flip from bump to street in San Diego's flamboyant Hillcrest district, third try.





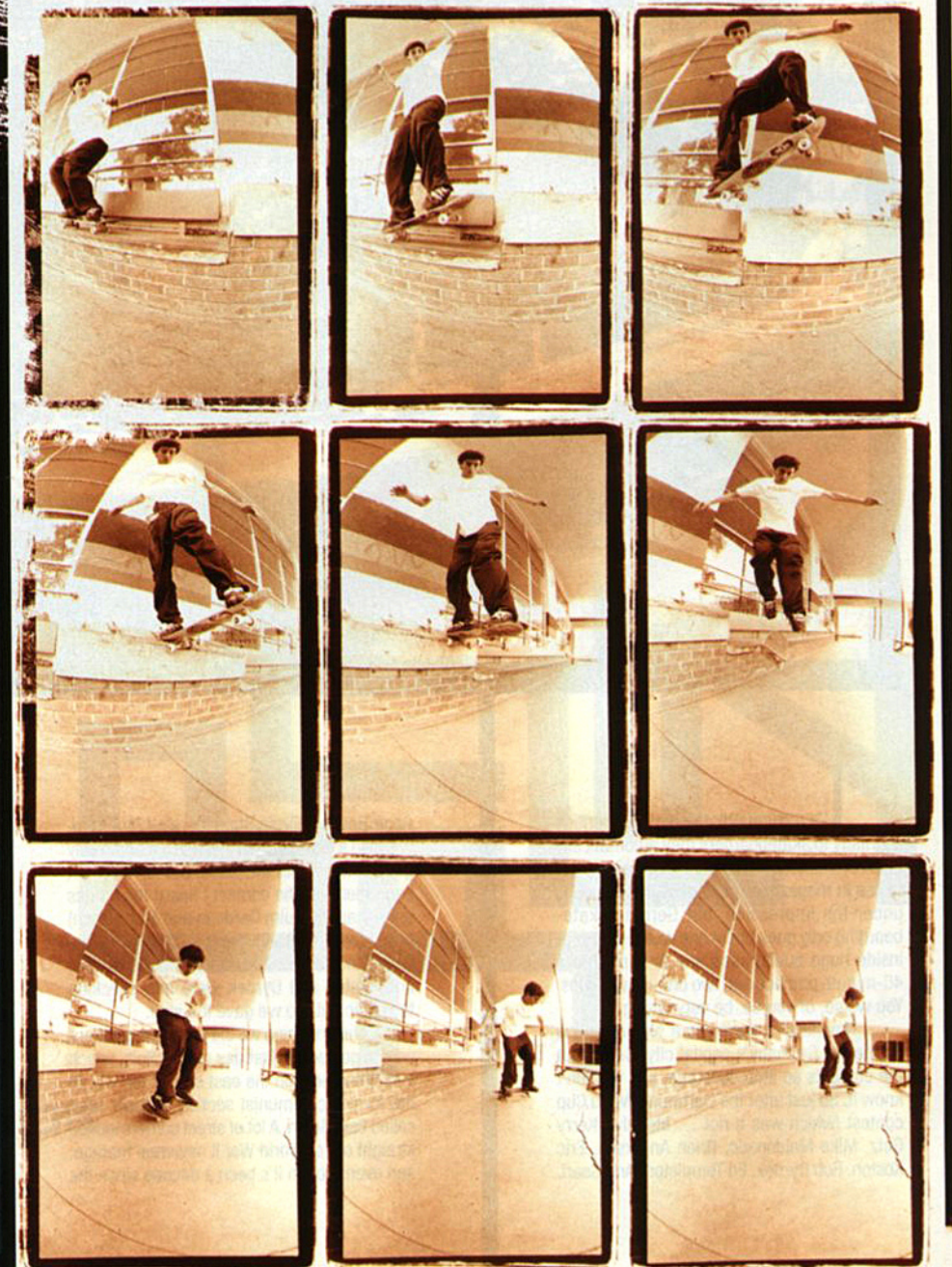


A smooth switch bluntslide to fakie in an East San Diego schoolyard, fourth try.

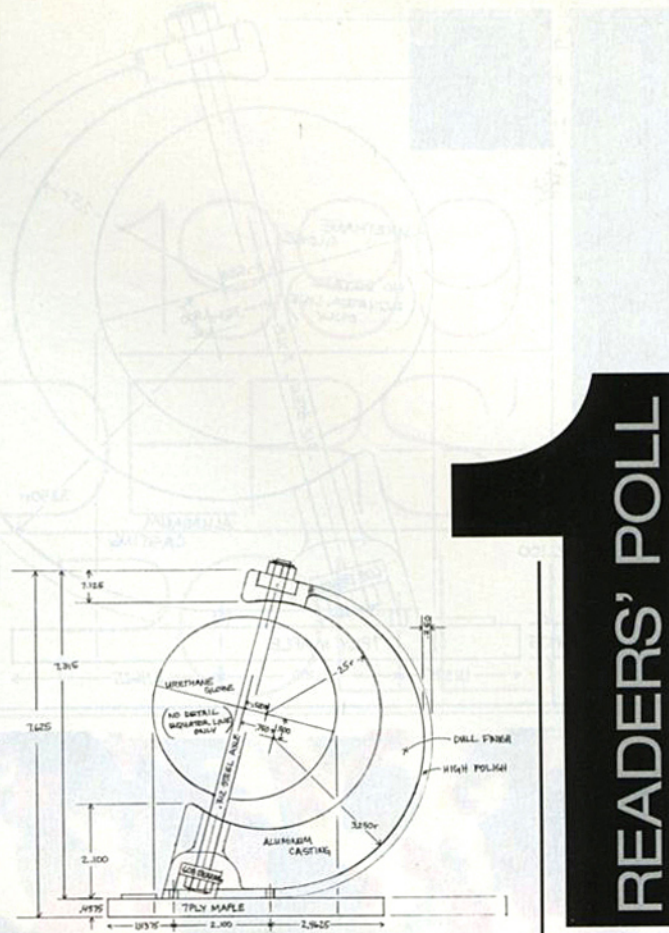


A switch-stance backside tailslide shove-it from low ledge to high in the San Diego State area, first try.

# Javier Sarmiento







# 1

READERS' POLL

## Best Street Skater

# RICK McCRANK

by Shad Lambert

Welcome to the next level. At this stage, Rick McCrank can do airs like professional fighter pilots, come up with more skate-combo meals than McDonald's, bust nollie kickflip lip-slides on handrails, and stomp his tricks smoother than a tub of butta on a hot summer day. All this while simultaneously raising a family, starting a wheel company, designing a shoe, filming nonstop, golfing, snowboarding, and don't forget being voted best street skater. Ahhhhh! This sounds like a crazy video game. By the way, Rick is going to be in a video game. So we can safely say Rick McCrank didn't "chill" his way into the Best Street Skater award—he paid his dues and worked for it. But how do you get an interview with someone this busy? Well, we shot McCranks a bunch of e-mail questions, and he bounced 'em back to us. Welcome to the Ricky Digital interview.



According to readers, McCranks is the best on street and imitation street. Switch nosegrind on an imitation handrail.



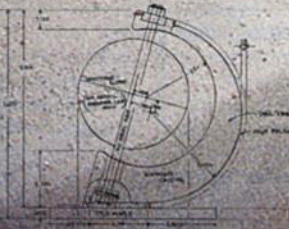






Fifteen-stair crooked grind.

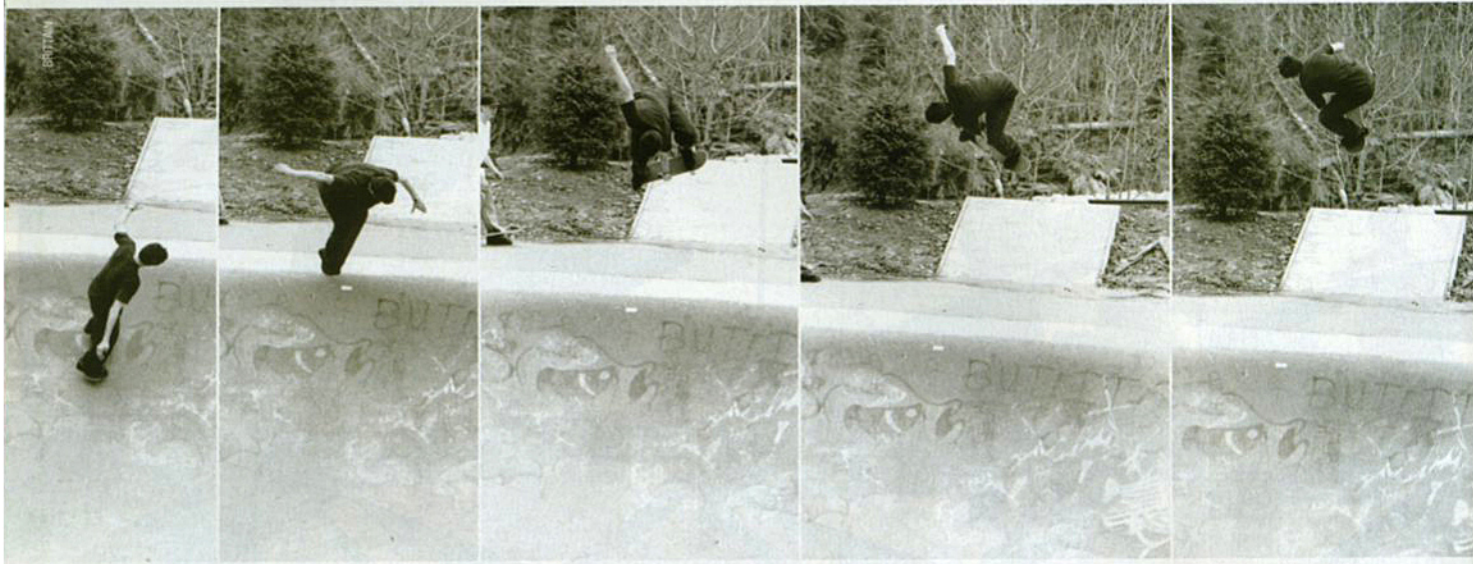
# 1 READERS' POLL Best Street Skater



Nollie flip lipslide.







I listen to everything. A lot of hip-hop, but I prefer the beats over the lyrics 'cause a lot of lyrics are dumb. I truly like everything, though. I was heavy into Stan Getz for a while—once I was in Milwaukee at a competition and I went into a record shop and bought ten Stan Getz records. I guess it depends on my moods. There's nothin' like some straight-edge hardcore to get you angry.

**Who did you vote for? Best Street Skater?**

Koston—always killing it.

**Best Vert Skater?**

McKay—so fresh.

**Best All-Around?**

McKay.

**Best Style?**

we're going to put in a game and a chat room.

**Whenever I see footage of you falling, it's like you're joking or doing it on purpose. Do you have any tips on how to fall gracefully?**

I guess I'm lucky 'cause I'm light. I try to slide when I fall, and it spreads my weight out. I slide on my butt a lot, though, and I get wedgies every time.

**Are there any tricks you would like to see people start doing again?**

Anything on vert. I think vert is the funnest thing in skating—once you get over the fear, that is.

**Are there any tricks that bug you? Like most people hate benihanas or pressure flips.**

Not really. I used to dislike all those shove-in,

If Kalea's being baby-sat, we'll go all day.

**What other stuff do you do besides skate?**

In the winter I really like to snowboard. I used to live in Whistler—that was sick. I like to ride big mountains. Lately I've been riding park and pipe a lot. I also love to golf. I think most skaters golf; if they don't, I bet they will some time. Other than that, I just hang with my family.

**What was up with the egg incident in South Africa? Didn't you, Rick Howard, Eric Koston, and Atiba go crazy egging cars or something?**

We had this demo at a rave. It was kind of a surprise demo 'cause we didn't know about it until that day—there was a few of those in S.A. Anyway, when we



Justin Strubbing—underrated killer.

**Best Video Part?**

Scott Johnston.

**Best Video?**

Chocolate Tour—minus me.

**What's the deal with Momentum wheels?**

I mentioned to Jody [Morris] I wanted to start a wheel company, so I'd have something to fall back on after skating. He said he'd be into it. He's the main reason we did it, though—he had the motivation to start things up. We've got a good team, and most importantly we've got good products. I'm pretty proud of what we've made.

**Hey, can I get a Momentum sweatshirt?**

It's in the mail, you can check out the styles at momentumskate.com—our site is sick. We have three music tracks to choose from in the background, plus

shove-out ledge tricks, and I realized I didn't like 'em cause I couldn't do 'em.

**What questions do you get asked the most by people when you go on tour? Like, "When is the next Girl video coming out?" or what?**

It's usually, "Can I have your board?" or "Were you in *The End*?"

**Ummm, if you were an albino spider monkey and you did a roast-beef grab with your prehensile tail, what would the grab be called?**

Faux dink.

**From what I hear, you skate every day for at least a couple hours. Is that true?**

Yeah, I skate when it's dry. We don't have an indoor park here, which is pretty strange considering all the outdoor parks we have. But, yeah, at least a couple of hours.

were driving to the demo, and I was in this local guy John's truck, and everyone else was in the van. So for some reason I started throwing stuff that was laying around in the truck at the van. First it was little things, then it was wheels, bearings, and stuff. We pulled over 'cause we were lost. Then Eric ran out of the van and threw an unopened cup of yogurt at the truck. The window was open and it filled the truck with yogurt. After that we went to the rave, me and John were covered in yogurt. On the way home we went to a store to get water and snacks. We grabbed tons of yogurt and eggs, that's when the war started. That went on for the rest of the trip.

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**1** Best Street  
READER'S POLL  
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# RICK MCCRANK

We're pretty sure that every one of our Canadian readers voted for Rick McCrank as their favorite street hero of 1999. Rick employs the ollie out to backside lipslide in Tokyo, Japan.