

Pool rider, Marty Smith, showing frontside and backside "blue tile" ride.

Photo by Lance Smith

POOL RIDING

...is **Total Insanity** - that's usually the reaction of a newcomer to the sport and of anyone witnessing the action for the first time. But to folks like Brian Perry, Steve Dawson, Tony Alva and many more who have this verticalness mastered, pool riding is a common occurrence. Ever since the *Skateboarder* magazine came out with Greg Weaver pool riding on the cover, people have been taking advantage of the smooth bowl of an empty swimming pool to seek the dreaded "blue tile fever."

Round or kidney shaped pools are best because of their smooth gradual corners and flow. The run basically consists of starting out in the shallows, pushing straight into the deep end, proceeding up the wall and, if with enough centrifical force and correct footing, come back down stoked to try it again. Every pool has its own style and every pool rider has their own procedure for pulling a good run. It is best to use a much of the wall as possible to make your run as smooth and flowing as possible. However, there are some skaters, that go straight up, pivot on their hands and come straight down. Either way, concentration plus the correct footing is super important. Your feet should be placed forward on the board so it won't slip out from under you resulting in a "percussive skull bongo".

Just as surfers in the water push each other to pull off radical manuevers, skaters do the same during a heated pool duel. Backside (with your back to the wall) was usually the accepted route to go, but now that people are getting it more wired the dangerous front-side is being pulled off more consistently. Safety equipment such as gloves, pads, shoes and a helmet are highly advisable. Some sort of wrist support is good too.

To a beginner, I would advise first to go to your local empty pool on an off day such as in the morning or during the week. It's at that time you can concentrate on getting it down right from the start without interference from crowds. Once you acquire bad skating habits it's hard to change. Start low and get the feeling of flowing with the roundness. Follow through and keep it as smooth as possible. Once you feel you are getting it down, try for a little height and take it from there. If you aren't an experienced skater don't feel bad if you aren't getting it down the first time. Just realize that you're trying and be amazed that you are even doing it at all. Anyway, give it a go and you'll be in for a good rush - which is what it is all about. Keep skating and try to keep it together.

by Lance Smith

PACIFIC SKATEBOARD ASSOCIATION FOUNDED

Major skateboard manufacturers and their professional skaters have founded the **Pacific Skateboard Association (PSA)** for the purpose of establishing skateboarding as a recognized sport. **PSA** hopes to raise the standard of skateboarding in the areas of public education, leisure skating, competitive skating and equipment quality-control.

The initial charter members (Gordon and Smith, Logan Earth Ski, Tracker Trucks and Bahne) are expanding the membership to other professional skateboard manufacturers. Membership in the Association is granted by invitation from the organization or by an application, when accepted by the present members.

One of the immediate tasks of **PSA** is public education through such activities as the Exhibition/Contest at San Diego State (April, 1976), a course at the YMCA (April, 1976) and a Slide show/Exhibition at a Casa Blanca Convalescent Hospital (June, 1976). The major endeavor now is to hold an Invitational Pro contest for the purpose of obtaining a short film. This film will then be shown to national sponsors of sporting events with the hopes they will use the film on network TV and thus promote professional skateboarding on the national level.

PSA members feel strongly that skateboarding has long since grown out of the "toy" stage and wish the public to become aware of the continuing development of the sport of skateboarding.

RACE RESULTS

April 4: rain - no race

April 11: Giant Slalom

- | | |
|------------------|------|
| 1. Mike Williams | 17.9 |
| 2. Ty Page | 18.6 |
| 3. Hentry Hester | 18.7 |

Other Racers

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| David Dominy | 19.6 (F) |
| Lance Smith | 19.7 (F) |
| Marty Schaub | 20.5 |
| Rudy Vaca | 21.6 |
| Joe Lynch | 22.5 |
| Victor Morris | 22.9 |
| Jeff Howe | 23.9 |
| John Branning | 24.0 |
| Kevin Wright | DQ |

April 18: Easter Sunday
no race

April 25: Giant Slalom

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| 1. John Sigurdson | 18.8 |
| 2. Henry Hester | 19.0 |
| 3. Steve Schisler | 18.5 |

Other Racers:

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| Tony Alva | 20.2 |
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| Dave Dominy | 20.5 |
| Jim Muir | 21.1 |
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SKATEBOARD CLASS HELD AT YMCA

Brad Logan has recently completed instructing a skateboard class through the North County YMCA. He was contacted by the YMCA when they recognized the need for instruction in this fast growing sport.

The course attracted thirteen boys and girls, - beginning skaters between the ages of 7 to 12 years old, - and included a 40 year old woman visiting California.

The class, held on the basketball court, covered techniques of slalom, freestyle, downhill skating and equipment maintenance, with prime emphasis on safety. Soon after the class started students were using shoes, pads and wearing shirts. Brad divided the class by its skating ability, enabling him to work more closely with beginners as the more advanced students improved their skills. He worked individually with each student at least once in each session. Students were introduced to different kinds of equipment, a safety film, a guest demonstration by Tony Alva, slalom courses, a cross-country course and several games which improved their skills.

Brad has agreed to teach a second class in May for the YMCA. This class will have the benefit of Brad's constantly developing experience and education. He plans to include more involved safety maneuvers and award each student with a certificate of course completion. For information call the YMCA at 753-6536.

SKATEBOARD EXHIBITION AT SAN DIEGO STATE

A large portion of the student body at San Diego State received a chance to see some of the best skateboarders in the world compete and demonstrate in the first skateboard tournament ever held on a Californai University campus.

Sponsored by the Recreational activities board and several advertisers, the tournament ended with a dramatic run off race on the advanced slalom course on the Library east hill.

RESULTS:

Advance Slalom - Carl Eberhart

Intermediate Slalom - Rudy Vaca

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Editor's Note: Read the "Coming Events" section to get advance notice of future exhibitions.



AT LA COSTA

Lance Smith, on left, and John Sigurdson

COMING EVENTS

MAY 14 - 15

Place: Magic Mountain

Events: Invitational Slalom, Cross Country, Freestyle

Cost: Admission to Magic Mountain

MAY 22 - 23

Place: Cow Palace, San Francisco

Sponsor: R-M Enterprises

Events: Slalom, Freestyle, world record events, products exposition, pool ride demonstration

Cost: \$2 (adults), \$1.50 (under 12 years)

JUNE 5 - 6

Place: Carlsbad

Sponsor: North Coast YMCA & KCBQ radio

Events: Pro-Am Slalom, Giant Slalom, Freestyle, Cross Country

Cost: \$3.00 per day

Contact: Kathy Reese at 753-6536 for info; deadline for registration is June 3.

JUNE 13

Place: Carlsbad

Sponsor: Pacific Skateboard Association

Events: Invitational Pro Slalom, Giant Slalom, Downhill

Cost: none

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- offering Tracker, Bennett or Chicago trucks.
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GORDON & SMITH SURFBOARDS

5465 Gaines St., San Diego, Calif. 92110
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JUNE 19 - 20

Place: Nassau Coleseum, New York City

Sponsor: National Skateboard Shows, Inc.

Events: Pro Masters Invitational Slalom, Freestyle.

JUNE 21 (running six weeks)

Place: North County YMCA, Encinitas

Event: Skateboard Class

Cost: to include transportation, insurance, free session at Carlsbad Skatepark: \$15 members, \$18 non-members.

Contact: Kathy Reese at YMCA 753-6536

JUNE 27

Place: Signal Hill

Sponsor: USSA

Events: Invitational Pro Downhill Speed Run \$1000 - Winner take all

Cost: none

FOCUS SCOTT WILLIAMS

BY John O'Malley

As skateboarding specializes more and more, the most recent riders of super star stature fall into a category termed bowl and bank riders. In their habitats (pools, drains, tubes, spillways and banks), "clean skating bowl magicians" and "fluid style monsters" show that the true element of skateboarding is perpendicular to the ground.

It is among these ranks that Scott Williams has emerged. To the well trained eye Scott's brand of skating is a synthesis of spontaneous radical maneuvers executed with a graceful style that permeates his skating.

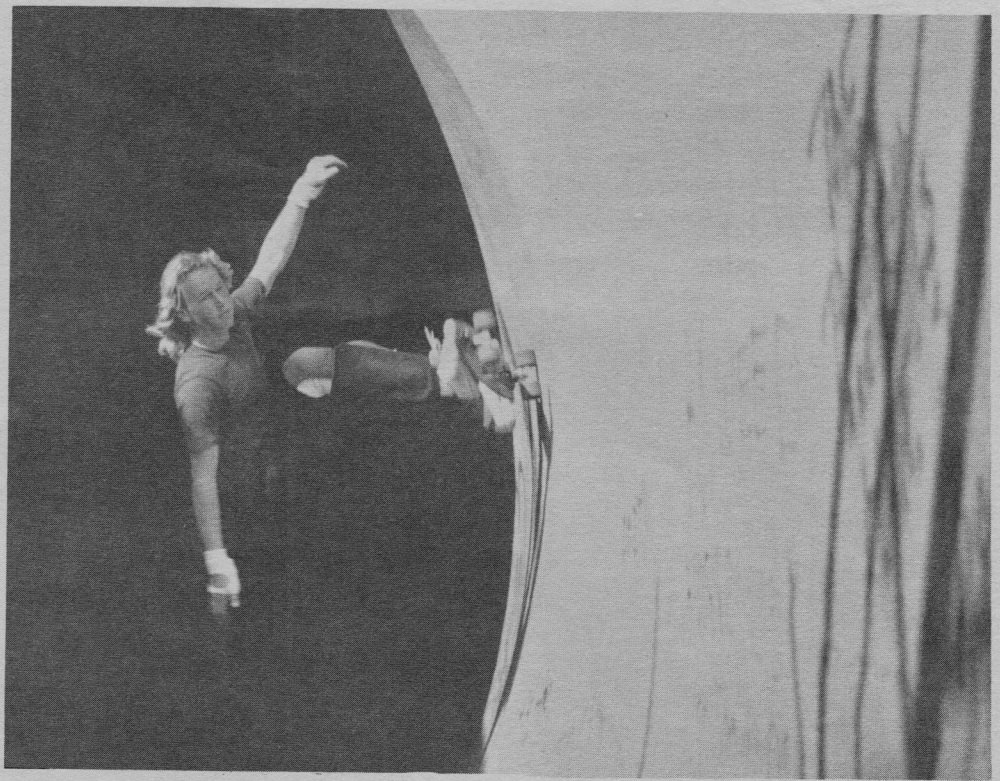
Scott's creative concrete riffs are ocean-amped by a healthy slice of surfing with a side order of mellow Leucadia Beach front living. In the water he shows that the only difference between asphalt soul and surf boogie is the media.

Presently Scott is riding for Dick Brewer Skateboards and Surfboards, a perfect home for a versatile talent that needs a constant stream of quality equipment and new concepts.

Although he has not entered any contests to date, Scott will be a featured pool riding demonstrator at the Northern California's Pro-Am Cow Palace meet, where he and Kenny Means will wow the crowd with pool riding expertise that will send middle class America running home to pull the plug on the new backyard recreation discovery.

Scott's fame has been built on consistently hot performances at the late Escondido reservoir, La Costa and virtually every hot San Diego County skate spot. Currently he has been seen giving show stopping performances at the L.A. Pipeline and at Carlsbad Skatepark for cinematographer Joh Malvino for his movie "That Magic Feeling."

A skater with style and class beyond his years, Scott Williams has made the transition from "The Hottest Kid Around", to a force respected as the embodiment of skateboarding's freedom and flow. His surfing and skating reflect the rhythm and grace which has become synonymous with athletics in a classic life style sense: living in harmony with that essence that inspires you creatively.



Tracker

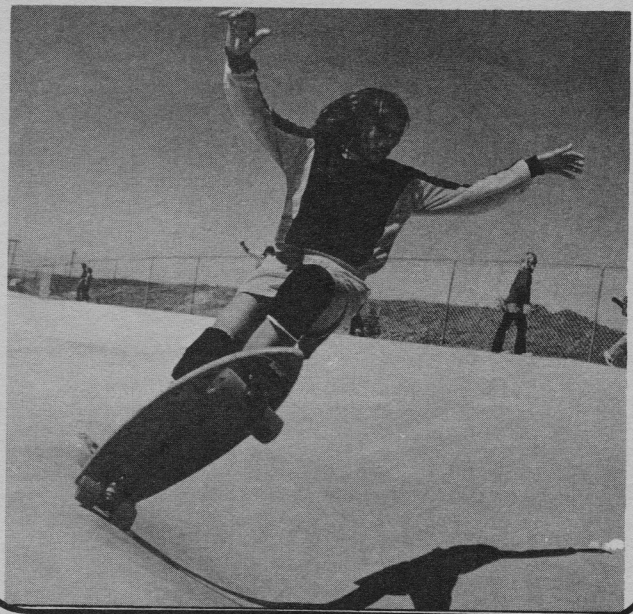
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*Next month the feature article will
Focus on PETE THOLL.*