



Jay Cabler, layback at Mike Hill's.



Ray Underhill, invert



by Bob Pribble

## M.E.S.S. #1

### "The Midwest Converges on Squidland"

The success of this make-up contest was ever so crucial to the overall success of the M.E.S.S. With the deluge of rain from last month's ill-fated contest attempt still precipitating on everyone's mind, we were all put to ease by the ever so assuring weather reports.

Contest day was scheduled for Saturday, June 11 at Mike Hill's ramp in Fairborn, Ohio. Out-of-towners started tricking in early Thursday to get down some lines before the mad rush of skaters that would pour in Friday. When our entourage from Indianapolis arrived early Friday, we were greeted by Mike and the Nashville, TN crew. Off to McDonalds we soon cruised with the "Bermuda Bro's" Ray, Britt and Lyle.

Back at the ramp, sessioning began in spite of the scorching 90 degree weather. More and more skaters arrived and joined our newly named form of sessioning. Someone appropriately named it "Skat'n & Bak'n". Later that night as pads were coming off and plans for the evening were being made, the Knoxville, TN boys (Team T.H.C.) once again proved to all that light isn't a necessity for them to skate. Most everyone soon blazed to Brett Martin's house to enjoy his then vacant swimming pool. Feeble with hunger, a couple of us got permission and quickly snaked some hot dogs from Brett's fridge. Soon everyone was in the backyard at Brett's well-lighted ramp. Pads were put on and some rad stak'n was going down on his bigger than life ramp. Later, everyone dispersed to different residences to spend the night.

In the morning, we put up the banners and got ready for the contest. The sun was definitely out and the temperatures were way up there. About 11:00, skaters found their way to Mike's to get in some last lines. The contest got under way at about 2:00 with the unsponsored division. The 14 entries were cut to 8. The skating was extremely close and there were ties all through the top 8 right down to a three way tie for the 8th spot. We had a skate-off between Steve Gee, Britt Parrot, and Joe Bowers. Britt really blasted his ars and skated tough to attain his right in the top 8, but not after edging Joe out by a mere 1/2 point.

Soon the top 8 padded up and took to the ramp to do battle. We were running them by a 5-10 point head-to-head system. The skating again was very close and there were more ties. Not fairing as well today, but still ripping his way into 8th was Brian "Badmate" Beauchene. Brian has so many different tricks and lines, he could have easily won it on any other day. The 7th place was snagged by Jon Kulp whose consistency is a trademark. Chip Jones settled for 6th place. Jay Cabler sketched his tenuous one footed bio airs, varial footplants, "Jaybacks", and other cool tricks right into 5th. The Almighty renowned Squidman (Kevin Dickman) failed and bailed into a respectable 4th place. Mike "7.5" Bennett seemingly managed 3rd place with more of that squidlet consistency. Britt Parrott really pulled out the stops and fought his way to 2nd place. He had multiple air to air runs highlighted by cool inverts. Coming out today with a deserved first place was Doug Walker. He was so consistantly blaz'n a slew of tricks such as Caballerials, pop a rockers, backside & frontside & false ollies and big backside airs. Judging today for unsponsored were a few of the sponsored guys: Brett Martin, Ray Underhill, and myself. All the while Mike Hill coordinated the whole division.

The sponsored division was next, but before we started there was an hour break. Originally there were six sponsored skaters there that day, but Jeff Kendall (Madrid, Gullwing) was laid out early by some full-on falls. As before the judging was done on a 5-10 point head-to-head system. Brett Martin (Walker) took 5th with big air and cool Andrechts, 4th was snagged by Marty Jimenez (Madrid, Tracker). He was nipp'n nice air to air and had many intricate lip tricks. J, Bob Pribble (Sims, Tracker), took 3rd. Mike Hill (Gullwing), the owner and host to this great event, managed himself 2nd place. Undoubtedly, today's victor was Ray Underhill (Schmitt Six, Tracker, Powell). He had a lot of cool moves such as fakie inverts, big bio, all kinds of air, eggplants, frontwards fakie ollies, lofty fakie ollie grabs, and many other stylish maneuvers. Judges were Joe Bowers, Britt Parrott and Bryan Ridgeway, with Chip Jones coordinating.

Immediately following was the highest air event. Lyle Donoho was the judge. Ray Underhill, still hyped from the contest, landed himself a 4'3" air. Marty Jimenez copped a 3'6" height to earn 2nd. Others who competed were Jay Cabler, Brian Beauchene, Doug Walker, Britt Parrott and myself. This event amazed each of us. This ramp had no vert and practically no coping!



Britt Parrott



Ray Underhill, fakie ollie grab



Brian Beauchene, invert

After the contest we awarded the prizes. The following companies really came through: Madrid, Santa Cruz, Gullwing, Sims, Tracker, Independent, Schmitt Six, Seaflex, G & S, Powell, Squid Skateshop, TransWorld and Thrasher.

Everyone was crazy about the prizes. As they were being awarded, Chip Jones modeled some hip pads for everyone to laugh at.

After the contest everyone jettied over to Brett Martin's house where money was collected and a massive cookout went down. The flames were leveling out at 2 feet and everyone was tossing their burger on the grill. We kicked back til morning when most left on their homeward journeys.

The M.E.S.S. #2 will be at Middletown, Ohio. BE THERE!!

## RESULTS:

SQUIDLET (15 & under):

Mike Bennett  
Jon Kulp  
Mark Heinteman  
Joe Downey

UNSPONSORED:

Doug Walker  
Britt Parrott  
Mike Bennett  
Kevin "Squid" Dickman  
Jay Cabler

SPONSORED:

Ray Underhill  
Mike Hill  
Bob Pribble  
Marty Jimenez  
Brett Martin



Britt Parrott, Invert