

New Jersey BMX szine



We got
the best BMX!



.Racing
.Jumping
.Flatland
.Park
.Trails

NJBMXS Editorial



We got
the best BMX!

The State Of BMX Today and NJ BMX Szines Role In It

Alright guys and guyettes, please excuse an old man's ramblings for the next few paragraphs as he throws down the reason that we started this little mag that you now hold in your hands.

Back in the disco days of 1979, when BMX was fresh and sparkly new, (and we busted parts alot quicker) we never classified ourselves, if you rode a 20" or 24" bike and shredded it up, you were a BMXer. Jumping, racing, flatlandin', skateparks, where-ever you saw a dude or dudette on a bike you knew you had a brother. As the years dragged on and what my gen called "freestyle" came into being, the BMX moniker began to break down into distinct groups, racers, flatlanders, jumpers, ramp riders. Then with the demise of BMXA and Freestylin', and the rise of Ride magazine it seemed as though the seperate groups of BMX riders would never get a single mag for all again.

After lengthy discussions with George Hoernig of Inopia shoes, we decided that the time was right for a all in one scene-zine mag that covered all aspects of NJ BMX riding. We felt as though the sport has become too segregated. Not only did we see this in BMX as a whole but also in the state. Racers only at tracks and some trails, flatlanders, (the bastard step-children of BMX) ride mostly alone, trail riders, always hassled by townships, so secretive about their spots that noone knows most of them even ride, and the dang ramp-skatepark riders, allowed almost NOWHERE due to some bizarre "skateboard" only rule!

We have decided it is time to bring BMX back to some if its roots, and that being...if you see someone riding, stop, start a conversation, make a bud and expand your horizons.

Our motto is...(ok it's corny fellas and felletes but here goes)

CONGREGATE DONT SEGREGATE

There is strength in numbers fellow BMX loons! When townships and V.I.P.'s see a bunch of guys and gals with a strong interest in something, they will respond. That is how all the skaters got to the skatepark in every town place. We need to do the same. It's time for us to take action in numbers! Attend meetings, involve bike shops, bring the parental units, (ya know the guys you beg for bike part money...those of you using your own greenbacks, more power to ya!) when they see us, the tracks will be built, the skateparks will allow bikes and the trails will be protected.

NJ BMX Szine's Goal

We are going to attempt to cover every aspect of life on a BMX bike in New Jersey.

What does this mean? If you race, we will throw down some results, if you flatland, expect pictures, write-ups and coverage of your jams, if you trail ride, look for exposes on your spot without giving alot away, ramp-riders, invite us we'll give coverage to whomever gives us word!

There is also one other important aspect missing from BMX the reality that this is a lifestyle. We have different views of life and our surroundings then other members of society. People don't quite know what to make of some 20- 30 somethings tearing it up on a bike, of a family spending every weekend taking the younguns to the races, of a person on a bike with a set of headphones on alone in a parking lot just flipping and spinning a bike in every way possible. We will have articles, opinions, clothing reviews, media reviews, thought provoking interviews and well the occasional jab at utter non-sense to keep things interesting.

We are going to change the way BMX is seen, first in NJ and then hopefully the rest of the country. The days of the faceless sport that no-one can quite put a finger on are over. Starting here and now BMX will start to have a distinction that sets it apart from other sports.

BMX Ride On.

MAG

FILLER

what's inside...



We got
the best BMX!

Decaprio

*An interview with NJ Pro
John Decaprio*

CJ BMX

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NJ's CJ BMX*

Erin D.
Flatland Jam

*The Femme Fatal
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The Bike's
Not for Sale...

*Fiction
by
Deirdre Verdolino*



The Decaprio Mind

NJBMX- Alright man, the basics, age, how long riding, sponsors.

Decaprio- I'm 21, been riding for 12 years, and Inopia and Deathstar clothing.

NJBMX-What got you into BMX?

Decaprio- There was this kid from my neighborhood by the name of John Britton.. he was defiantly one of the best kids from our area and I always looked up to him, he was pretty much my main inspiration for riding...

NJBMX- What do you feel is the first craziest trick you pulled.

Decaprio- That's hard to say, I've done some big rails on street but that isn't exactly a crazy trick.. I guess when it comes to skatepark tricks there used to be this skatepark in Toms River that my good friend George owned and towards the end there was a 6 foot quarter and behind it about 7 feet up there was a rafter that I ice-picked....

NJS- Favorite place to ride.

Decaprio- If the Toms River skatepark was around that would definately be my favorite place to ride, but I guess I'd have to say the trails behind Jennings house or street in Atlantic City.

NJBMX- Best place you've ridden.

Decaprio- The Toms River skatepark, the first original set up was definately good stuff and also the Asbury pool was amazing when it was still around.

Decaprio- When I was younger I used to enter contests but as I grew up I didn't really enter anymore.. I don't like the feeling of competing and all the pressure that comes along with it... it doesn't really matter to me if im better or whos better then me.

NJBMX- You're a pretty quiet dude, whats going on in the mind of J. Decaprio.

Decaprio- I,m usually not real quite, its just today I got some shit on my mind. Life sometimes can take its toll on you..

NJBMX- How do you feel about skate contests, and the whole no bikes allowed NJ park scene.

Decaprio- This is the first skate contest I have been to, but I guess its kinda cool that the town held it because for the most part I didnt think they really cared about skateboarding, seems like they just build skateparks to shut kids up and keep them from riding street... The whole thing about bikes not being aloud in skate parks is pretty ridiculous, there is absolutely no reason that bike shouldn't be aloud in public parks, it comes down to discrimination...

NJBMX- Longest rail you've done.

John- I think the longest rail I've tried was 40 steps and the longest rail I have pulled was 30 at the Amherst college in Massachusettes..

NJBMX- Alright, preference in ladies.

Decaprio- Hahaha, I have no luck with ladies but I'd have to say my type would be blue eyes, long hair, nice backside, and a girl that's into me for me and will always be there no matter what.. it seems as though there aren't many loyal girls left...

(Amen to the no loyal ladies left John....I hear that!)

more Decaprio

NJBMX- What's lacking most in the NJ scene?

Decaprio- Good indoor skateparks and kids to ride with that are just into riding for the fun of it, a lot of kids I think ride because its cool or to impress people which sucks..

NJBMX- Best part of the NJ scene.

Decaprio- Well theres a lot of street to ride, plenty of colleges and new stuff popping up. It's good because we have citys real close too, Philly and New York are only a little over an hour away..

NJBMX- What keeps you motivated to try new stuff?

Decaprio- Riding is definately based on my emotions, if I'm having a shitty day or something is really getting to me that motivates me to do stuff that my sane mind wouldn't allow me to do... it's like I let a lot of stuff bottle up and then I release it through my bike

NJBMX- Who would you like to thank that's really helped you in BMX or life.

Decaprio- I would definately like to thank George Hoernig, he's always been there for me and the reason I ride the way I ride wouldn't be the same if he didn't start the skatepark in Toms River... he also runs a shoe/clothing company called Inopia and keeps shoes on my feet and clothes on my back.. ohn Jennings, Gary Thorpe, John Britton, Garrett byrnes, and all the local kids from TR... and I'd definately like to thank my Aunt Eileen and parents for taking caring of me and being their all the time.

NJBMX- Cool, John. Alright loyal readers and readerettes...go back to the front cover and see if you can figure out Mr. Decaprio's emotional state when that picture was taken. Ride on...NJB





ENTER

DICKAPRIO

MOTEL



ATCO

South Jersey Ramp Locals

*more on these guys
next issue!*

WELCOME To... SINCE 1981

CENTRAL JERSEY



ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S
TOP TRACKS!



1981. 24 years. Mention BMX in Central New Jersey and one sentence comes to mind. Bicycle World and Howell BMX Track. Though the Gleason's famed Bicycle World is gone, Howell BMX now known as CJBMX is still kicking. NJBMXS showed up and checked out opening day to get a feel for the state of local NJ racing in 2005. We can definitely say the scene has shrunk since the hey days of BMX but the killer go for it attitude of the riders is still jamming. One of the best things I saw, was a lot of Old School guys who now have their own kids and have begun to encourage them to race and bring them to the track. (Check out the article, The Lost BMX Generation, in this issue) Bill Gillis is shown some major respect for all the hard work and fortitude that has gone into getting CJBMX going this year after all the rain and snow of spring. Several motos of just beginners were at opening day and that is a sure sign that racing will be making a major come back as the year drags on. You can be sure to look for plenty of race coverage in our mag, and we are on the lookout for some correspondants to cover all the major NJ BMX tracks. So if you have something to contribute be sure to drop us a line.



CJBMX.ORG





INOPIA THE INOPIA TEAM
AT POINT PLEASANT



Are you high dude?

N^{ew} Jersey BMX szine

North
West East
South
*We got
the best BMX!*



MIKE DOMINGUEZ
CIRCA 1985



AT BRADDOCK BMX

Erin Donato's Rutgers Flatland Jam

April 19, 2005

By Anthony Brown aka Antdog



Went to the Rutgers jam today, it felt good to be around flatlanders. Although I do not have a quarter of their talent, I was shown much love.

Alex and Jesse Caps, Erin Dinato, Lou from Middlesex, Rodney M., and a host of others showed up. The level of riding was intense! I do not get to see much flatland anymore, so when I do I soak it in. I also met Khe lagger (roosevelt) from VintageBMX.com. very cool dude.

Now the good stuff. Jesse Caps is amazing, solid flow, links tricks together, he also rode my bike better than I ever have or will. His brother Alex is just as good. Their styles are similar, I would hate to have to judge these 2 in a contest. Rodney is still the manual king, and a top notch mechanic. Lou is an amazing young talent, who if he can ever keep from breaking stuff (axles) will be damn good, his flow is solid, he can spin for days. There was a 14 year old girl named Shea, the girl had a bright future in flat. very good balance, almost like Kris Dauchy but better, a good solid foundation, if she keeps riding and uses Erin as an influence.



Erin Donato's Rutgers Flatland Jam



ERIN IS JUST AWESOME. She has more talent than alot of guys. I have known her for many years, and she has just kept getting better. i find her footwork intriguing. still pictures do her no justice If i forgot to mention anybody i apolgize. i want to say thank you for all the love that was shown. All in all a good time was had. No attitude's no stress just riding your bikes.

On a side note i am amazed by the quality of bikes today. i put my bike next to jesse's and there is no comparison. bikes have progressed. and how when i rode his bike it felt weird, and on that note i will ride my 1987 haro master till i can ride no more.

PEACE LOVE AND HAIRGREASE

ANT DOG



The Lost BMX Generation by Bri Mi Do

1975 to 1988. The boom years. Huge moto counts at races and incredible turnouts at freestyle contests. The 12 to 22 year olds out there that were shredding it up, made for a huge BMX scene.

Then the end came, 1989, the beginning of the '90s and that generation dropped out. We had to do what most human beans do eventually....get on with our lives. Usually this consists of getting a decent job, starting families, raising the younguns, buying a home, even starting businesses. You know the "normal" stuff all our parents did. The only difference being, was that we were supposed to be the anti-establishment hardcore bike guys.

Well here we are. The original BMX generation is sitting in our late 30's and early 40's. But something is missing. Instead of ramp parks that allow bikes in, we have skateparks that ban bikes. Instead of tracks in every town, with new racers signing up weekly, we have just a handful of tracks and rider turnout is way down. Instead of open access to parks, so that kids can build trails to go jumping, dirt jumpers must remain hidden so as not to be harrassed.

This is wrong, my generation is just now coming into a position of power and our kids are beginning to get to the age where they should be in full force at parks and tracks. BMX should be at its biggest point ever, and it is not.

I put the partial blame on this on myself and my generation of riders. When we left the sport, we didn't just leave for a bit, we just **DROPPED OUT COMPLETELY**. Poof, we were gone. (Well most of us, the famous guys, like Hill, McCoy, Moliterno, and the like, kept it up.) The mid-school guys stepped up, but it just seems like us OS'ers just turned our backs on something that we loved, lived and basically nurtured into existence, BMX.

It's time for the OS gen to flex its power. How many of us now, are cops, fireman, councilmen, small business owners, people in positions that can help get BMX really in the mindset of the people.

It's going to take us regular guys who were never "the best" but loved BMX to get it big again. I was never the best racer, or the most insane freestyle rider, but I really loved the sport and my main motivation was always to get the word out to everyone else how great BMX was and is.

So, here I am now, almost 40 and I'm calling us all out. The Old School 1st generation BMX guys. Start doing your part. Go to council meetings, ask why bikes are not allowed in local parks, take a bunch of kids to a race or contest. Show the new guys what it was all about years ago. Not the ESPN, NBC mega extravagant super nutso spectacular but the friendship and laughs that we all had getting to ride our bikes.

Let's make use of the "middle age" we are stepping into and make BMX, whether it be racing or riding bigger than it **EVER WAS**.

NJBMX Szine is going to do our part by bringing all the different BMX lifestyles together. Racers, ramp riders, trail riders, flatlanders, old school, mid school, new school, street riders, if you ride a BMX bike you are in.

All the rest of us have to do is a little nurturing and support where it matters most, but convincing the unbelievers of the validity of our lifestyle,

BMX



BMX WEIGHTLESS
ROCK N ROLL

"THE BIKE'S NOT FOR SALE, FRANCIS..."

Quote from Pee Wee's Big Adventure, Story by *Leah Kordich*

It was a night that had me wandering around like the headless horseman, cept I was a girl and I decided to take a trip to brooklyn. instead of tarrytown, ny. there were the elements of darkness in the streets of east new york, but I had to find those damn tamarind sweets. they only made 'em in this little bodega, that I had no business trying to find, plus the drug dealers and other low life skills were about, and I just happened to ride in off the subway on my 1970 stingray, fair lady, with the fuchsia pink paint and chrome wheels. I know, they were a dime a dozen at one point, but to me this bike meant gold. I had to keep it close, yet I knew if I rode it to the bodega, I would be handing it over to a toothless ingrate with knives for hands and perhaps a few extra pounds in the ass which would be kicking my ass. anyhow, I found the elevated train tracks for the m train, and saw there were some abandoned train yards on metropolitan ave. back when I rode my black and red huffy, as a teenager, experimenting with the hidden passageways in forest park, queens, I remembered the long straightaway on myrtle, where I could coast downhill for a good two minutes and not have to pedal. that was beauty and speed intertwined into one knot of joy.

so the bodega, I decided it best to lock up the bike in the abandoned train yards and keep it hidden behind some fucked up looking weeds that were as big as trees and smelled like bleach or man juice. I wasn't sure, but I had hoped the filth and the smell would keep losers away from my stingray. some fucker out there would want to jack it up on ebay and then I would truly have to get medieval on their ass.

now, don't get me wrong, I am not the violent type, but if you mess with my bike, the one I learned to jump and show off on when I was 12, you will go down. I mean you can relate, right? when you put that much energy, fall down enough, and find escape on a strangely mobile piece of metal with wheels, you really don't even need to eat, you just need to ride.

so the bike was locked up, and I continued back to the street, clutching the warm fuzzy sweatshirt that was given to me sometime last winter when I had a boyfriend. now I was alone and looking for tamarind sweets, one, because they reminded me of him, and two because I was pretty much lost. the bike helped, but some days you need a mission.

I knew east ny had a lot of creepy shit from back in the day when I took my 1978 cutless supreme into the hood to search for other chemicals non-related to tamarind. that's right, sugar was my madame, and I am not no lesbian either. east ny was also world-renown for the best cotton candy factory on earth, so here again I was, this time walking, leaving behind my most prized possession, and finding sweets.

I got closer to the bodega since I remembered the smell of burning beef before finding that little shop with the bullet proof windows.

brisk and elevated steps carried me around the corner, through the park, and around the barking pit bulls tied in the rancid yard of the chicken seller. I was close. I could smell it. it was just about that time the harassment kicked in, about three kids, all dirty and gangly, all girls no less, started asking me for money. I picked up the pace; I started the hipster doofus bop down the street to try to get away from the swindlers. I was surrounded by ghetto pikers or gypsies if you must, and they were following me to my destination. I felt my stomach sink and my heart pound out of my chest, as they surrounded me and the lights of the bodega rang clear on the next corner. how could I possibly buy the tamarind sweets and not have them jump my ass?

I ran like hell, ran into the bodega, past the little arms reaching around my black hair, shining in the moonlight, my forehead lightly glistening, my chest thick with pressure.

sanctuary as I entered the bodega, the door slammed behind me and I asked the man behind the counter, who looked like a puerto rican shaman, if I could hide behind the counter. he did not understand english, so I dove behind him anyway? my fear transferred to him as he grabbed for the phone. I just sat on the stinky floor, the cardboard looking floor. I wanted, he ranted in spanish, something about respect. I don't know. I got up when he yanked me by the sweatshirt hood and asked me to please leave. it was just then on the metal turn wheel on the counter, did I see the tamarind sweets. I bought all 5 packages. I wanted to ride. the sun was going down and the pikers were gone.

pulling up my hoody I jogged back, mouth full of tamarind and slowly picked up my pace back to the train yard. I couldn't believe my eyes, chewing the sweet and sour, tears began running down my face.

the bike was gone.

~ to be continued ~

The NJ Ramppark Directory

Here is the place to find all the parks in NJ that allow bikes. Below you will find contact numbers or websites to get all the info you need!

The Incline Club

Location: 485 Locust St.
Lakewood, NJ 08701

Phone: 732.901.7900

web: sk8tic.com

Status: Bikes always allowed

Shields Skatepark

Location: 19 Royal Rd.
Flemington, NJ 08822

Phone: 908.788.7168

web: shieldsskatepark.com

Status: Bike hours posted on website

Vans Skatepark

Location: 400 Route 38 Space 1705
Moorestown, NJ 08057

Phone: 856.642.9966

web: vans.com/skateparks

Status: Bike hours posted on website

Clifton Skatezone

Location: Third St.
Clifton, NJ 07011

Phone: 973.470.2254

web: cliftonnj.org/skatezone/index.htm

Status: Bike hours posted on website

Hackettstown Skatepark

Location: 13 West Route 57
Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Phone: 908.852.8155

web: hackettstownskate.com

Status: Bike hours posted on website

Contributors

NJ BMX Szine is on the lookout for contributions.

If you have a story, opinion piece, photograph, letter, or anything you consider to be BMX lifestyle worthy, we would love to see it.

If you can't send something in, then drop us a line in any of the ways below and we will get someone out there to cover you or your event.

We are the alpha and omega of NJ BMX, so don't be afraid to let us hear or see what's on your mind.

Let's double the size of the next issue!



We are also looking for potential advertisers. If you're market is BMX, then we are reaching all of your potential customers! Contact Brett at the number shown below.

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**Thanks for checking out
our first issue!**

**More coverage, more riders,
more lifestyle...coming next time!**



New Jersey BMX
szine



**We got
the best BMX!**