

# PRICK

Magazine

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FREE

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 8  
MAY 2007

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# PRICK

THE WORLD'S FIRST FREE TATTOO AND PIERCING LIFESTYLE PUBLICATION

MAY 2007 VOLUME 7 ISSUE 8



Well, it's not quite summer yet, but things are certainly heating up. This issue is hot as hell. We are still keeping an international flavor with our hot ink girl this month being from Germany. We also have a feature on Immodesty Blaize, a burlesque performer from jolly old London. Back home in the states Chris Collins from Fat Kats Artistry and Steadfast Brand Clothing put together an article on tattoo artist Jime Litwalk. We have coverage of the Detroit convention, some killer bicycles from Firebikes, and our bands of the month include Flogging Molly and the Spectremen. Also in this issue we have a way overdue article on flash artist Mitch O'Connell. Like I said, it's a hot issue.

May is a relatively slow month for us this year as far as travel goes but we are getting geared up for a busy summer season. In June we will be traveling abroad again to the 2nd Annual Iceland Tattoo and Rock Festival, and then it's back home for the Atlanta Tattoo Arts Festival. Next we're off to the 1st Annual Chattanooga Tattoo Arts Festival show in July, and finally the Annual Hell City Tattoo Festival in August. Damn, that's a great itinerary. It is May though, and now that I am a parent I can't end this without saying Happy Mother's Day to all you mothers out there. Without you there would be no one to read this rag. Love your mothers.  
*Your friend and PRICK provider,  
- Chuck B.*

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# EASTSIDE STORY DVD RELEASE PARTY IN L.A.

BY CHRIS SCHARFFENBERG



Porn stars Michelle Aston and Lexi Bardot proudly displaying their tattoos



Kristen Tribby and Britt Rubin of Babeland



Chris Scharffenberg, PRICK's L.A. rep. with Case, a local tattoo artist

Los Angeles has consistently, and accurately, been referred to as the porn capital of the world. Well, what does this mean for avid PRICK readers, you might ask? Something of a revolution has been occurring in the adult entertainment industry as of late – a truly authentic blending of DIY artistic film-making, tattoos, and porn. Vivid Entertainment, the world's leading adult film studio, has recently launched Vivid-Alt to distribute "alternative" XXX films under the guise of young director Eon McKai (known in some circles for his movie *Art School Sluts*). Along with a small, visionary crew of other directors, Vivid-Alt has quickly become the quintessential authority in altporn-themed films that feature girls who perfectly illustrate the range of what it means to look alternative – from punk to gothic, it's all here. This is something completely off track from typical mainstream pornography and, for a long time, something people have been looking for.

March 22, 2007 served as the official release date for *Eastside Story*, another addition to the new and expanding Vivid-Alt library. Directed by one of Vivid-Alt's staple residents, Vena Virago, *Eastside Story* is the self-proclaimed ultimate mash-up of underground art and documentary porn. The movie's stars include Tyler Knight, Dino Bravo, Alex Gonz, Michelle Aston, Dana DeArmond, Lexi Bardot, Page Morgan, Roxy Deville, and Rebeca Linares. Additionally, all were on hand for the event.

Bar 107, located in downtown Los Angeles, served as host to the event, and this gem of a dive bar could not have been a better venue. Bar 107 prides itself on steering clear of the typical Hollywood club fare and has a strict policy of never playing any clubby dance music within their walls. What you see is what you get, and what you get is rock 'n' roll on the speakers, a hot, tattooed bar staff, and Miller High Life, the single beer offered on tap. The entire night was co-sponsored by Babeland.com, one of the premiere adult novelty shops both online and on the streets, complete with prizes and giveaways. Overall, the event proved to be a huge success in bringing awareness to the mission and direction that Vivid-Alt plan to unleash on the adult entertainment industry. ★

For more information, go to [vivid-alt.com](http://vivid-alt.com), or [venavirago.com](http://venavirago.com).



Eon McKai, founder of Vivid-Alt



Michelle Aston with *Eastside Story* director Vena Virago



*Eastside Story* star Page Morgan



Michelle Aston and Lexi Bardot

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# Nadja

Fast cars, cuckoo clocks, and strong beer are just a few great things that come from Germany. At a closer look you might also notice beautiful tattooed women, and 19-year old Nadja is the perfect example. Nadja is currently up to her nose in books, studying for her school diploma in July. For us she pushed the books aside to chit chat about future tattoos and her favorite German tattoo artists.

"It wasn't really hard to choose the right tattoo artist for my sleeve. I wanted to have a Japanese sleeve so I searched for artists doing this style very well. Three artists were on my shortlist, I asked other people about their experiences, looked up a lot of pictures of tattoos, and finally decided to go to Bernd Broghammer at Hautnah in Germany."

"Besides Bernd I really adore artists like Filip Leu and Luke Atkinson. I like their Japanese styles, and above all the Tibetan mask of Filip Leu is legendary. Another amazing artist is Marcuse at Smiling Demon Tattoo in Germany."

Although heavily tattooed women are still rare to see in Germany, Nadja doesn't regret a thing. "Everyone around me—my parents, friends in school, and teachers don't really care about them. Some people like them a lot, while others don't like tattoos in



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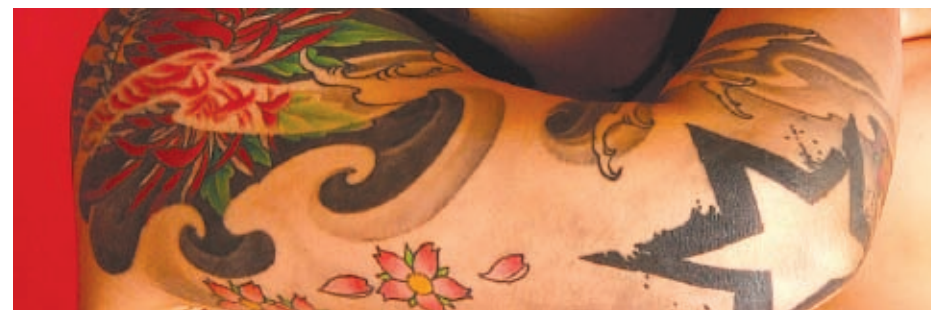


Nadja's star tattoos on her elbows were done by **Gery** at "Wilde 13" in Germany

general. But besides some strange glances at the shopping mall, I haven't had any bad experiences. More men chat me up now, even the ones without any tattoos," she laughs.

"The biggest tattoo trend here in Germany at the moment is the new-school stuff. It goes with the rockabilly and emo scene that's getting big right now. I think many people don't think about their tattoo motives; the essence is just to have some tattoos matching their clothing."

Nadja elaborates on the culture of Germany. "Piercings are definitely more accepted by the general public over here than tattoos are. The piercing trends came back with teenie bopper bands that are trying to have a harder image.



Legally you can get pierced and tattooed by the age of 16 as long as you have approval from your parents so you do see a lot of young girls that are heavily pierced. I removed some piercings, and I have about eight right now but am already thinking about some new ones."

"[At the] end of April I'll have my next tattoo session scheduled for my lower stomach. It's going to be a mix between new school and Japanese style, and I have drawn the complete motive myself!" Besides dreaming of more ink or cruising around in her Audi A4, Nadja designs record covers, booklets and shirts for various bands. She says she likes the harder music scene and listens to death metal, hard- and grindcore and also has been working as a journalist for a metal webzine. ★

For more information, go to [www.myspace.com/throedigital](http://www.myspace.com/throedigital).

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# THE 12TH ANNUAL MOTOR CITY TATTOO EXPO

What could possibly be advantageous about shivering your tail off in fourteen-degree weather just to get a few puffs in before re-entrance? The Motor City Tattoo Expo, that's what. If you kids aren't familiar with Motor City let me give you a snap rock 'n' roll lesson—Detroit! The first weekend in March brought some of the best tattoo artists to downtown Detroit for a slew of astonishing work and rabid ink fans.

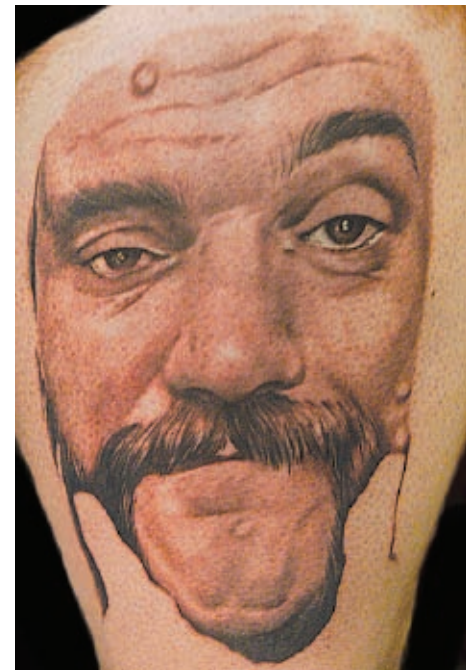
The 12th Annual Motor City Tattoo Expo, sponsored by Eternal Tattoos Inc. and Route 66 Tattoos, called upon numerous celebrities in the ink world from



Geary Morrill's Isiah Thomas and cardinal tattoo by Sean Herman of All or Nothing



Bill McKnight's Sas Christian tattoo by Mike Sizemore of Blue Devil



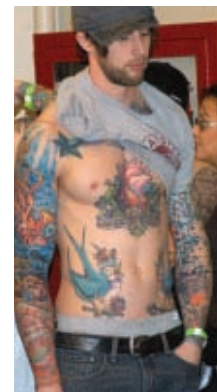
Ryan Hadley of Black Rose Studio did Lemmy from Motorhead and a reaper-vampire from Blade II on Paul France on Justin Alderman



Fine ass contestant #51 wins best sleeve



Mike DeVries starts work on Dimebag Darrell tattoo on Troy (above) and the finished result (right)



Best back on Mike by Greg Larson. The Cruel



39th Air Squad Cobra on Ray Curran by Bret Zarro

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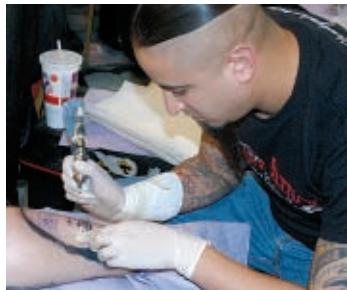
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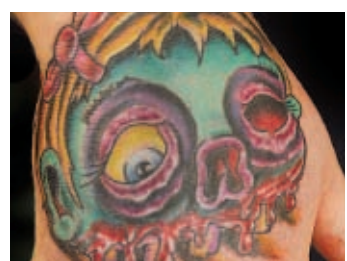
Your typical American family with **Billy the Kid** from Scarred for Life Tattoos in Boulder, Co.



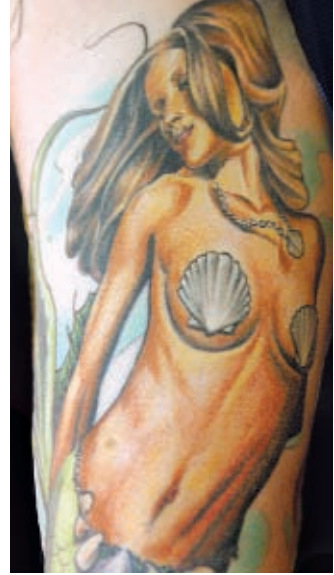
cassANDRE receiving a Motor City Kitty from Geary of Art and Soul Tattoo



Mike DeMasi of Art Junkies portraits Marilyn Manson on Ryan Hadley (above & left)



Jason Ackerman's zombie girl on Jeremiah Thacker



Cassie Nowicki won Best Medium Color on Saturday with this mermaid by Matt Hockaday



Chris Longo takes us on a tour...

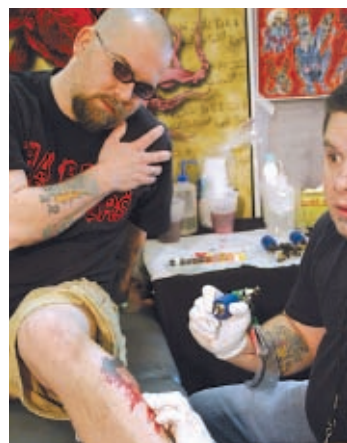


Big winner **Ron Stein** with work by Justin Weatherholtz

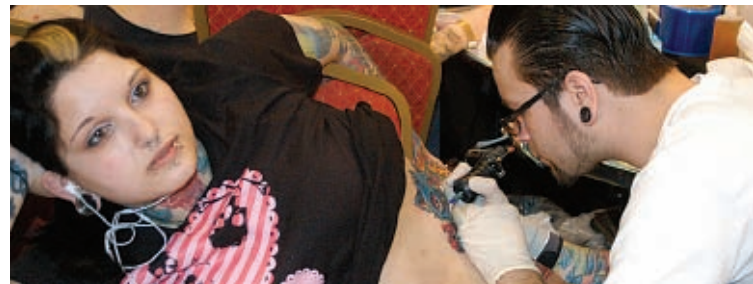
Italian Tommaso Buglioni (Tom Tattoo) to Spaniard Robert Hernandez. It wasn't all special requests from across the pond, Eternal 66 managed to pull the likes of Bob Tyrrell, Larry Brogan, Jack Rudy, and Tim Kern—just to name merely a few.

Experienced special guests Chris Longo, Mike Siderio, and Tommy Painter judged the contests at the end of each day. Guests and artists alike were awed, pleased, and honored when Chris Longo spoke to the crowd, saying something along the lines of 'The Detroit show always brings the best artists in the world.' Not only did he comment, he also pulled his pants down. With tattoos from head to toe, the snapping of cameras was unrelenting for this mere two minutes of jaw-dropping statue posing.

With each day of the convention the crowds got bigger, faces more familiar, and the sum of shockingly gorgeous artwork



Half-pint recreates **Jim Carrey** from *The Number 23*



Josh Woods working on Janet's kitty and ducky (above & below left)



We all gotta start somewhere

# Smiling Buddha

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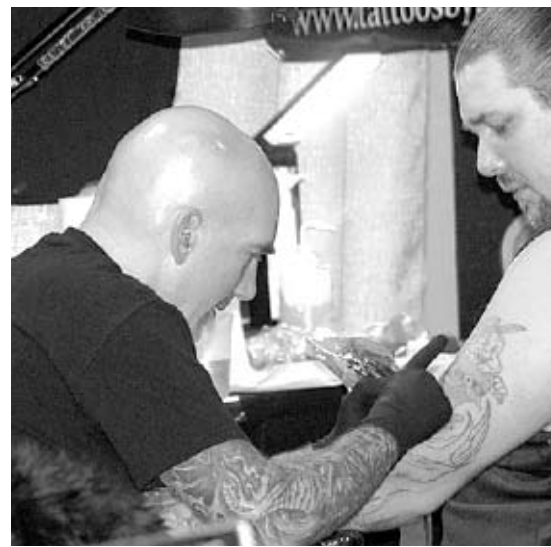
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Jason Ackerman of Lucky Seven Tattoos "amphibbing" Kim with a frog



Bob Tyrrell hard at work



Ann Last won Best Realistic using a photo of her mom, tattoo by Marshall Bennett



Dee Dee Seruga did a dragon tattoo on Mike O'Connor



Bret Zarro freehands a fairy on Micaela who drove from Toronto to get poked by him!



Hannah Aitchison doing a seascape and whale shark tattoo



"Hey Tim Creed."  
"Hey Brittany Smith...how's the lily?"



greater. Zigzagging through the convention room at the Renaissance Marriott Hotel onlookers went from beginning to end of a labyrinth where one could spot contest winners in the making. Best of the Day for Saturday went to Expo attendee Troy for a portrait of Dimebag Darrell by Mike DeVries of the Art Junkies studio in Hesperia, Calif. The convention emcee had even mentioned how it could have won best of show. It was truly incredible. Nick Hockaday won Best Realistic with his brother Matt Hockaday's Scarface portrait. Matt's work also won on Saturday for Cassie Nowicki's mermaid in the Medium Color category. Sunday left us with one major name in contest spoils—Ron Stein. Winning Best Overall Male and Best of Show, it must have been rewarding (no pun intended) to show off his winning body and proudly recognized Justin Weatherholtz for most of his work.

Sweetest and most unifying of all experiences in Detroit that weekend must have been the artists becoming the customers. Left and right were tattooers getting tattoos and even PRICK employees getting tattooed. Geary Morrill of Art and Soul Tattoo in Kazoo, Mich. got former Detroit Piston Isiah Thomas paired with a cardinal on his thigh by Sean Herman of All or Nothing Tattoo. Ryan Hadley of Black Rose Studio in Fort Wayne, Ind. got a bitchin' portrait of Marilyn Manson by Mike DeMasi of the Art Junkies.

As a whole, the convention was filled with talent. Besides tattooing, vendors collected against the back wall selling everything from custom baby clothes to pinstriped bowling pins. Seminars included topics from black and gray and color to infection control and machine building, and live music was provided by Detroit based rockabillys the Twistin' Tarantulas. Last but not least, the convention center included a sub floor with a vintage GM showroom including a Camaro, Cutlass, Cadillac, Corvette, and many other cars to die for including '65 Malibu and a '64 GTO. Gear and ink head heaven. If you couldn't make it out this year, make sure you plan ahead for this ink fest next year. ★

For more information, go to [www.eternaltattoos.com](http://www.eternaltattoos.com).



Michelle League won Best Overall Female on Sunday



Oliver Martinez gets an Early Americas' piece by Goethe of The Night Gallery (above & below left)



The Twistin' Tarantulas



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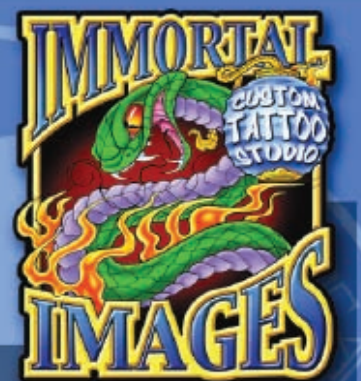
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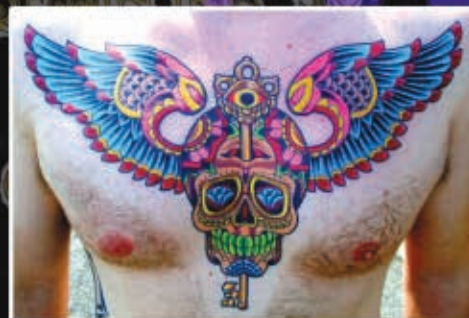


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PHOTOS COURTESY OF MITCH O'CONNELL

## MITCH O'CONNELL

Mitch O'Connell is an artist who has been creating tattoo flash for years. In fact, O'Connell has just released his latest book, *Mitch O'Connell: Tattoos*, which contains the best of his three sets of tattoo flash: *Stewed, Screwed and Tattooed* (2001), *Done While Drunk* (2002), and *From the Bottom of the Barrel* (2006). The book contains 250 tattoo designs by O'Connell. He has a very distinctive style that combines cartoony illustrations with iconic imagery and kitschy subject matter to create lowbrow masterpieces. An interview with O'Connell is long overdue for *PRICK*, and we were pleased to finally get the chance to ask him a few questions about his new book, art, life, and drinking habits.



**When did you first get into art? Do you have any formal training?**

A career in art was always my only option. It wasn't like I had an abundance of talents in other areas to choose from. So, besides the jobs I had as a teen, all I've done to earn money – or often as not, not earn money – has been drawing. I went to Chicago right after high school to enroll in art school. That means I can draw just fine, but don't try to have an intellectual conversation with me. In fact, don't even ask me to spell intellectual. First, I signed up at the fine art learning School of the Art Institute. I spent a year and a half there and then moved across the street to the commercially oriented American Academy of Art. About midway through my three semesters, I started earning a small living freelancing. As I got busier and busier and decided that I could learn just as much by doing, I left school. The rest is art history.

**What was it like putting this book together?**

It's a big kick to have Last Gasp, a real publisher, put out *Mitch O'Connell: Tattoos*. I previously self-published two books, *Good Taste Gone Bad* and *Pwease Wuv Me*, both devoted to my favorite subject...me! For my third book, I wanted to go with someone that actually knew what they were doing, and Last Gasp jumped on board. Well, maybe not exactly jumped. There was a lot of teary-eyed pleading that a collection of my tattoo designs wasn't all that bad of an idea. I really enjoyed the opportunity to put together all my best flash into one cool looking, inexpensive, accessible package. After all, I love to draw, and at least half the fun is showing the stuff off! I went through all the designs, including many that hadn't seen print before, re-lettered half of them, redrew some, re-colored a bunch—in short, made everything all bright and shiny and as pretty and clean as possible. Now that I've tied up the last seven years of my work with a bow, I'm looking forward to starting my next set with kind of a clean slate. There are a ton of ideas buzzing around that I'm anxious to put on paper!

**How does it feel to have your artwork inked on your fans?**

First off, it's a collaborative effort between me and the person doing the hard part—the tattoo artist. I don't want to hog all the credit! I always loved and admired tattoo flash. When I look at a sheet of old school flash I can actually feel a tug in my gut. My attraction to tattoo art wasn't something I had to think through, it was a physical reaction. So, since I liked them so much, I often incorporated those designs into my illustrations. At the same time, I started getting photos from folks who were having my illustrations tattooed on them. It floored me. You can't get a much

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A few tattoos based upon original artwork by **Mitch O'Connell**  
**Nathan Martin's** sleeve (above) tattooed by **Russ Abbott**  
Barbie tattoo (above far right) by **Turk** of Guru Tattoo in San Diego, Calif.

higher complement than having someone permanently engrave your stuff on their flesh! I do a drawing for a newspaper; it's thrown out the next day. An illustration for a magazine might stay on the coffee table for a couple of weeks, unless it's at the dentist's office, and a gallery show is only up for a month. But a tattoo...that's gotta be the winner for hanging in there! Since I was so inspired, I thought I might as well take it one step further and actually do designs that were meant to be tattoos. It was a pleasure, but was also intimidating to come up with my own designs. To prepare myself, I spent hours staring down the art of the old school guys; Sailor Jerry, Dainty Dotty, Owen Jensen, Ralph Johnson, Stoney, Bert Grimm, and a hundred others hoping that some of their skill and wisdom might seep into my skull.



### Do you ever think about becoming a tattoo artist?

I wouldn't mind giving it a shot but you have to realize that I do a lot of erasing when I'm penciling and use a ton of white-out when I'm inking. I feel very sorry for the first person I'd try one on, I'm sure it would be quite a mess! I'd love to take what I do in a lot of different directions and learning how to tattoo would be right at the top.

### What do you like to do when you're not creating art?

Read *PRICK* magazine. But in those very few moments each day when I'm not reading *PRICK*, I like to thrill the little lady with my lovemaking prowess...she probably has a different opinion. I also enjoy playing with my two favorite youngsters, Leo, who's eleven years old, and Kieran, who's eight. Also getting a little exercise - going for a run...let's call it a jog. Well, let's say I start out slow and work my way down from there. Cashing the checks from creating art is always a highlight. Looking for the remote control takes up a good hour or two every day and, of course, drinking myself into a stupor is the traditional end to every evening.

### Any future plans?

Did I mention drinking myself into a stupor? ★

For more information, go to [www.mitchoconnell.com](http://www.mitchoconnell.com).

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**SHOP OF THE MONTH** BY SEAN DETTMAN  
Tattoo photos courtesy of Memorial Tattoo

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April 1st saw the official we-are-now-open-for-business-but-you-should-drink-this-beer-first party for Memorial Tattoo in Atlanta, Ga. Celebrating the tattooed arts, the shop nailed all of the requisite elements—barbeque, beer, and a shitload of cool people. Complimenting the festivities, YoYo Boutique, directly next door, displayed artwork by all three of the shop's resident artists; a mix of paint, canvas, and mixed media.



Painting by **Josh May**

Painting by **Dave Kruseman**



**Phil Colvin** with **Brent Hinds** of Mastodon



**Josh May**



Memorial Tattoo is owned by Phil Colvin, formerly of Liberty Tattoo in Atlanta. He is joined by Dave Kruseman from 454 Tattoo in San Diego, Calif. and Josh May, an Atlanta native, who has spent the last two years tattooing full-time at Holy Mother Tattoo in Little Five Points. Rounding out the crew is Gary Yoxen, an 18 year veteran of tattooing, who will be returning to the trade after taking some time away from the chair. Atlanta's newest shop is situated in the middle of historic Cabbagetown, beckoning you with promises of good tattoos and an equally good time. ★

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Painting by **Phil Colvin**

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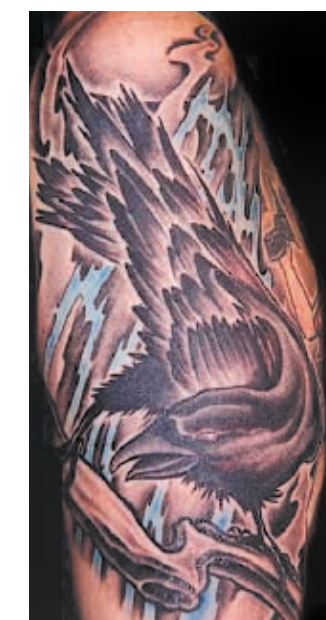
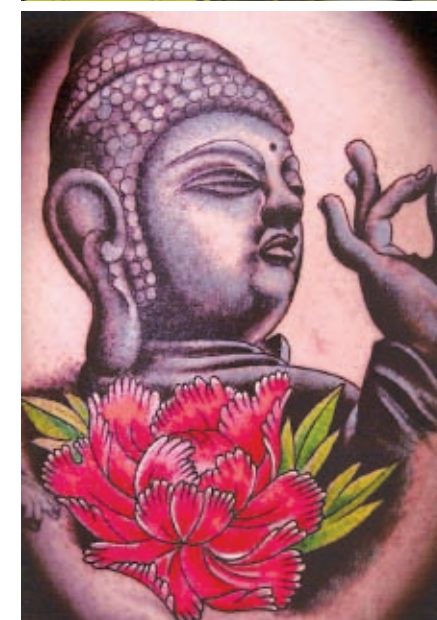
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Tattoos by **Dave Kruseman**

Tattoos by **Phil Colvin**

# FLOGGING MOLLY

★★★★

"I didn't have any clue of the success we would have," says Dennis Casey, on guitar and backing vocals for Flogging Molly. Now a household name, this Irish pub band has gone from playing the same bar every Monday night to internationally acclaimed punk outfit. Their fan base stretches across all walks of life, from housewife to skinhead; the traditional yet innovative Celtic sound bends the ear of all willing to hear.

This seven-piece ensemble met and formed at a local L.A. Irish pub called Molly Malone's. After playing there every week for some time, they properly named themselves Flogging Molly. Influenced by lead singer Dave King's heritage, their music has been deemed Celtic punk or jig punk. Also influenced by



Flogging Molly are (L-R) **Dennis Casey, Matt Hensley, Bob Schmidt, Dave King, Bridget Regan, Nathen Maxwell, and George Schwindt** (photo by Jim Wright)



**Matt Hensley** (accordion) and **Bridget Regan** (fiddle)



**Dave King** (vocals/acoustic guitar)



**Nathen Maxwell** (bass)



**Bob Schmidt** (banjo)



**Nathen Maxwell's** hand tattoo (left) done in Denver, Co. **Dennis Casey's** "Mom" tattoo and "Sweet Dawn Marie" tattoo by **Tommy Sylvester**

country twang legends and other bands of their genre, Flogging Molly has a unique sound that comes alive in every song. Whether it's a more solemn song or a fast tempo hit, every tune they play further separates them from the herd.

When it comes to body art, the fans seem to be much more colorful than the band. Some members have only a few, and others are a bit too shy to show them all. The ones that we did see had important significance to their owners. Casey tells us that, "for me, all the ones I have are special—tattoos that mean a lot to me. Also, I have friends who are tattoo artists. I believe in them as an artist and I like what they do. That's the impact that [tattoos] have on me." His tattoos are dedicated to both his mother and his wife.

Nathen Maxwell, on bass, teased the camera with only a few pieces of his extensive work. His tattoos included the word "solidarity" which he picked up



**Dennis Casey** (guitar)

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on the Van's Warped Tour and a tattoo to commemorate this year's St. Patrick's Day tour. A sea of musicians came flooding out the back door of the venue when the tour tattoo was mentioned. Members of Flogging Molly, and the Street Dogs had Rob Hostetter from Iron Brush Tattoo in Lincoln, Nebr. tattoo a small design on them that would celebrate the 2007 Green 17 Tour.

The Green 17 Tour is a St. Patrick's Day tour that Flogging Molly has made an annual event. "It started because a lot of people were asking, 'Why don't you play in Atlanta for St. Patrick's Day? Why don't you play in L.A?...' So we were like, alright, why don't we just do a tour?" says Casey. Every year Flogging Molly hits seventeen major cities to celebrate the drunken holiday with all their fans. What better music to listen to when drinking green beer and wearing giant leprechaun hats?



Maxwell's tour tattoo by Rob Hostetter, and "Solidarity" tattoo done on the Vans Warped Tour

A bonus from this year's tour is an iTunes exclusive EP that Flogging Molly has released for you music downloaders. *The Complete Control Sessions* is a recording of an acoustic set that the band did in the Complete Control Radio studio. This EP includes four old favorites and two new songs. Released only a few months ago, fans are already screaming the web music's praises.

When asked what is their biggest challenge to date, Casey replied, "Not to take this the wrong way, but I would say at this point, staying together." In reality, this band has been together for ten years, and we all know that many of our favorite bands look for other creative outlets after some time. Not to worry, though, this is not the plan for Flogging Molly. "It's not that we're going to break up, but that's the only challenge left. We have a certain amount of success. We have a lot of the things that we want, and we were working for. I think now we just have to stay together and keep writing music. The shows, I think we'll always play, that's not much of a challenge. I think the live thing is what this band is all about."

Therefore, if you haven't seen Flogging Molly live, you haven't really heard Flogging Molly. This is the kind of band that puts on one of those amazing shows. Their energy and passion for their music emanates out through the crowd, and causes a shaky terrain of unsteady ground. Even in the nose-bleed seats, you'll find fans jumping and singing along with every song. Casey attributes this to the fact that, "I think that Dave writes really good songs. We go pretty much full bar every time we play live and give it all we've got. I think with that combination of things that people enjoy it." ★

For more information, go to [www.floggingmolly.com](http://www.floggingmolly.com).



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**RANDOM PRICK**

BY CALU  
PHOTOS COURTESY OF IMMODESTY BLAIZE

*Immodesty Blaize*  
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All hail the queen! Immodesty Blaize reigns over London, England as the undisputed queen of British burlesque. Although she spent most of her life as a Londoner, her ethnic heritage is mixed European with a little Mediterranean, Eastern, and a drop of Irish. An absolute professional, Blaize has performed her trademark elaborate and opulent shows for clients such as Dior and Cartier – not to mention across Hollywood, Vegas, NYC, Cannes, and back again. Needless to say, this lady is true-blooded British burlesque royalty.

**When did you first know that you wanted to perform burlesque and why?**

Secretly, I knew when I was very small, after watching *Gypsy* and deciding that Mazeppah was the coolest lady I had ever seen! I was too young to know what was sexy, but I knew that her bumps and grinds were pretty special. Even at that age, I could see that the burlesque genre promoted character, individuality, and personality in women, which appealed to me. And I always knew I had a look that didn't fit in with everyone around me! Later in life, I developed the kind of curves that told me I would never be fashionably skinny like the catwalk models, but that's fine with me. I just make sure that being curvy is very much a part of being Immodesty — and it's good to have the hips to bump like Mazeppah now!



**For the young ladies out there wanting to get started in the business, what would be your advice for them?**

Just do it! I would also suggest that they find the perfect alter ego to suit their personality. The world can be a girl's oyster.

**Tell me about your favorite burlesque-related moment?**

I think opening for the late and great

James Brown has to be up there for me, as I'm such a huge fan. Also, the Miss Exotic World weekend and getting to see Satan's Angels fire tassels is definitely going to stick with me for a long time!

**Have you ever had a clumsy moment on stage or a pasties malfunction?**

Oh, for sure. I was doing seven performances a week for five months in my West End show, so there were always going to be a few - from slipping on glitter that had been left on stage to someone trapping my foot under my rocking horse. Luckily, the audience doesn't have a script; you just deal with it, carry on, and work even harder! The U.K. is known for not having great air conditioning, so my pasties did come off in the middle of a heat wave once. Luckily for me, they pinged off at the same time and everyone stood up and cheered thinking that it was a great trick. Of course, I let them think that it was all planned.

**You have performed for numerous celebrities. What is next for Immodesty Blaize?**

I have some lovely performances lined up this year, and a couple of TV shows that will be out in the U.K. this spring. I'm looking forward to some sun at Exotic World, too. Being in Vegas makes me feel like I've come home! ★

For more information, go to [www.immodestyblaize.com](http://www.immodestyblaize.com).



# FIREBIKES

BY CALU  
PHOTOS COURTESY OF FIREBIKES

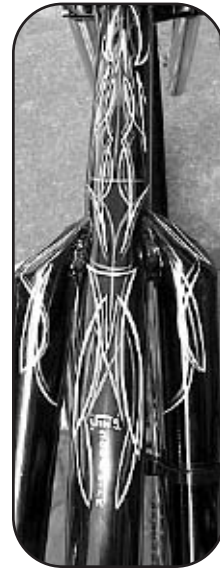
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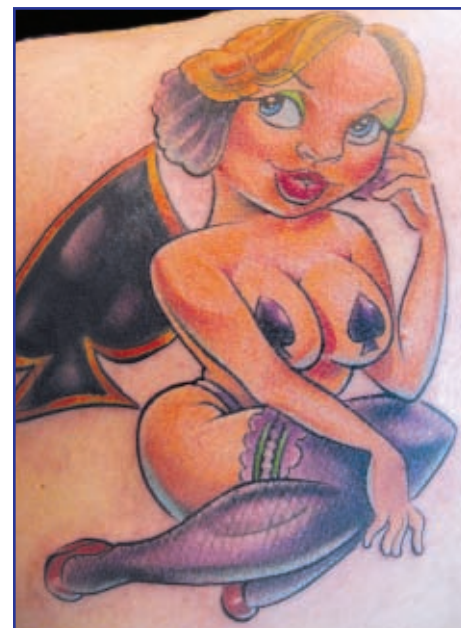
**BY CHRIS COLLINS**  
OF STEADFAST BRAND  
Photos courtesy of Jime Litwalk

# JIME LITWALK

A WALK INSIDE THE MIND OF A MASTER



I first met Jime Litwalk on the tattoo convention circuit in Florida about four years ago. I was impressed with his animated style and his overall attitude towards his art. I had been to his shop, Electric Superstition, in Detroit, Mich. Then while on a trip to Las Vegas, Nev. I got to hang out at his new spot at Hart & Huntington Tattoo Company, and I sat down with him to do this interview.



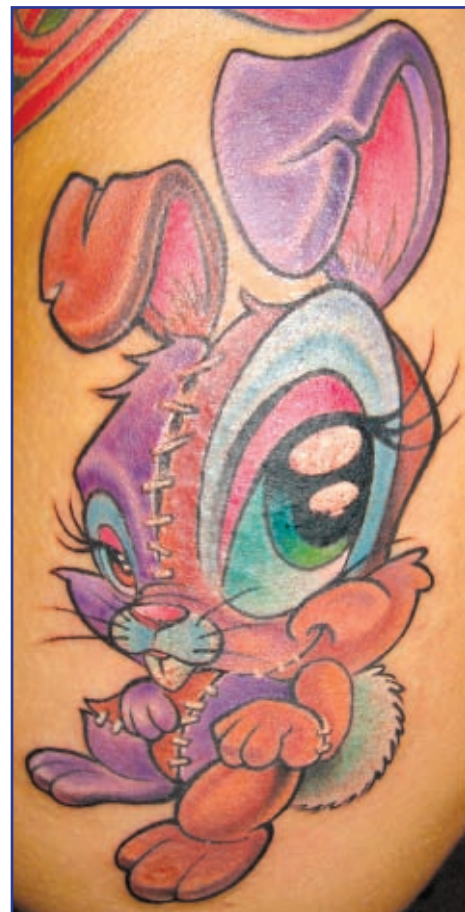
**Where are you from?**  
Southwest Detroit.

**How old were you when you got into the tattoo business and why?**

I first started hanging out at shops in my teens. At the time, I was drawing and airbrushing. The guys at the shop asked me to draw tattoos for their customers and charged them extra because they were "custom." I just thought it was funny to see my art on other people. That was when I first started thinking about actually tattooing. I officially started working when I was 21, after a year and a half apprenticeship.

**What was the first shop you worked in?**

Color Master, and I apprenticed under the owner, Chuck Groulx. He was the one who suggested that I start tattooing.



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**TATTOO NEWS**

**SIX-STRING MASTERPIECES**

BY GEOFFREY STEPHENSON  
 PHOTOS COURTESY OF CURSE MACKEY AND ACTION ARTS AGENCY

The *Six-String Masterpieces: The Dimebag Darrell Art Tribute Auction + Benefit Concert* will take place at the House of Blues on the Sunset Strip in Hollywood, Calif. on May 17. The auction will include more than sixty electric guitars that have been hand-painted by some of the biggest names in rock 'n' roll, tattooing, and modern art. This project was done in memorial tribute to Dimebag Darrell Abbott and to support music education. Funds from the auction go to support the Little Kids Rock organization, a charity that brings free music classes to low-income children.

Abbott, best known as the lead guitarist for Pantera, was one of heavy metal's most influential musicians. He was highly respected by the music industry and fans for his talent and vibrant personality. The guitar model being used as the canvas for the project is the Dean ML, Abbott's signature guitar.

The guitars will be on display to the public for two weeks prior to the auction. The art preview will be held May 4-16 at La Luz De Jesus Gallery in Los Angeles, Calif. The exhibit and auction includes guitars painted by Mark Ryden, Alex Grey, Jack Rudy, Paul Booth, Filip Leu, Joe Capobianco, Derek Hess, Guy Aitchison, Bob Tyrrell, Aaron Cain, Gill Montie, Ozzy Osbourne, Rob Zombie, Ace Frehley, Dalek, Les Claypool, Marilyn Manson, Slash, Hank Williams III, Mark Mothersbaugh, Dave Grohl, Von Franco and more.

In addition, an all-star benefit concert will take place right after the auction, featuring a band made up of artists involved in the art exhibit. This includes Vinnie Paul (Pantera/Damageplan/HellYeah), Kerry King (Slayer), Dave Navarro (Jane's Addiction/Red Hot Chili Peppers), Chester Bennington (Linkin Park), Scott Ian (Anthrax), Aaron Lewis (Staind), and more surprise guests.

"I hope this [project] inspires kids to pick up a guitar or a paint brush, bash on some drums, write some lyrics—whatever it takes to get the frustrations and pain that we all feel sometimes out of their system and direct it in a creative or nonviolent way. At the same time, we need to help make these creative outlets more available to the next generation of rockers and those who can most benefit from them," said Curse Mackey, exhibit producer and curator. ★

For more information, got to [www.littlekidsrock.org](http://www.littlekidsrock.org).



By Mark Ryden



By Derek Hess



By Jason D'Aquino



By Jack Rudy



By Joe Capobianco



By Daniel Martin Diaz



By Guy Aitchison



By Hank Williams III



Signed photograph by Ace Frehley (right) with Dimebag Darrell Abbott (left)

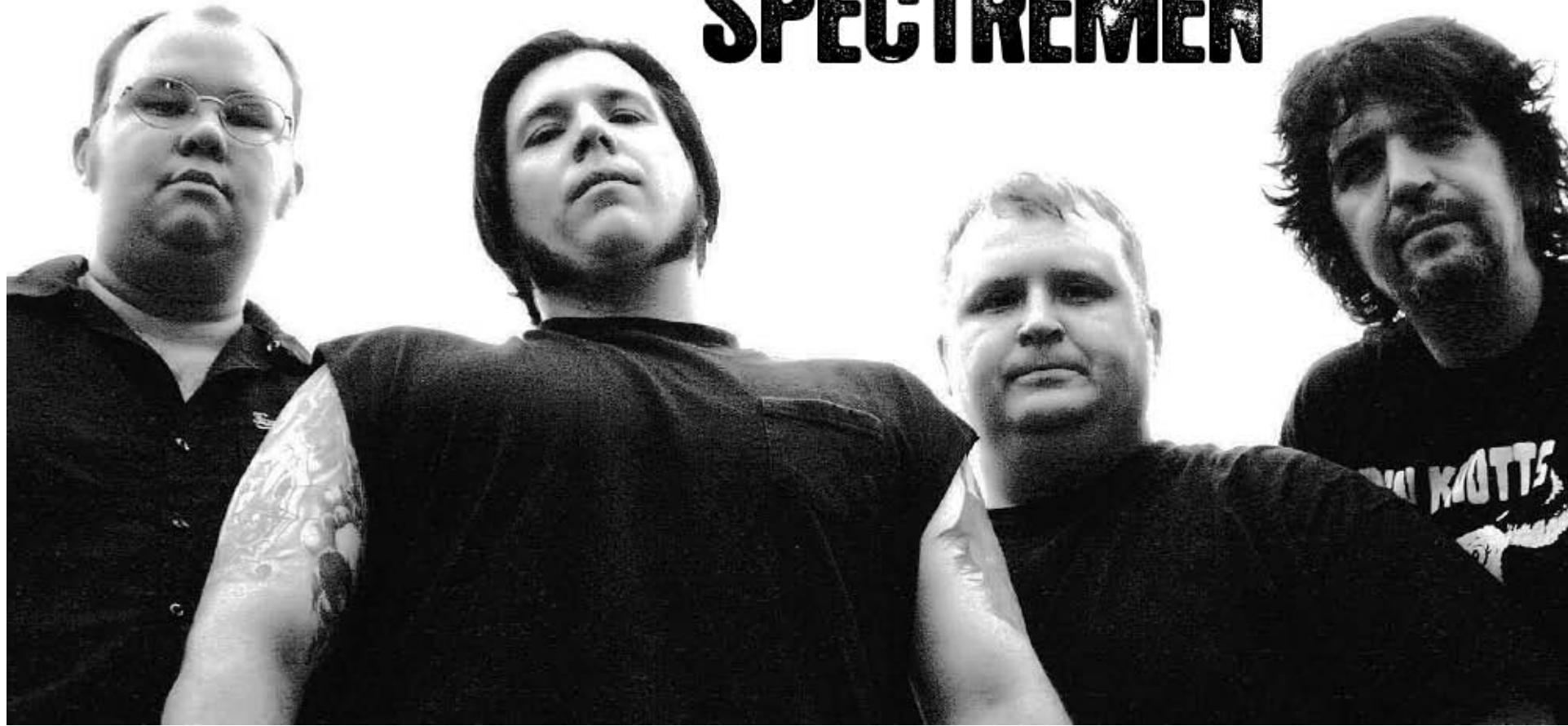


By Paul Booth



By Kerry King

# SPECTREMEN



## A DECADE OF HORROR BUSINESS

BY ERIC SNODDY PHOTOS BY EVIL JIM AND JANE GANTT

Formed by friends Danny Spectre (vocalist) and Randy "Stench" (drums), the Spectremen began their horror rock saga ten years ago. Its parts are stitched together out of classic horror and sci-fi movies, monster models, Godzilla toys, and really loud rock. Evil Jim (guitar) describes their sound as "guitars as loud as Black Label Society and vocals as good as Danzig."

After being selected by Dr. Cyclops Records/World Horror Network to be included on *The Horror of It All Vol. 2*, they are currently slated to be on the upcoming third installment, which will be accompanied by a DVD. Thus, you can imagine that it is full of horror and gore-type themes, or as Evil Jim says "deeper shades of black." This special video will include the song

"George," a Spectremen tribute to Romero's Dead films, which, in true Romero fashion, was filmed in a funeral parlor. In July, the label, Shovel in Your Face Records, is scheduled to release the band's full-length album entitled *Dark Holiday* and recorded by Todd Johnston at Sit-n-Spin Studios.

As you could imagine, there have been a few lineup changes in a band that has been around for a decade, but after speaking with Spectre, the band believes this to be its strongest incarnation ever – rounded out by Evil Jim on guitar and "Dr. Syn" Newell on bass. The band continues to release more in its series of 7-inch recordings entitled *Tales of the Spectremen*. Catch their next show May 31st at Lenny's in Atlanta, Ga. ★

For more information, go to [www.spectremen.net](http://www.spectremen.net) or [www.myspace.com/spectremen](http://www.myspace.com/spectremen).



Danny Spectre



Evil Jim



Stench



Dr. Syn

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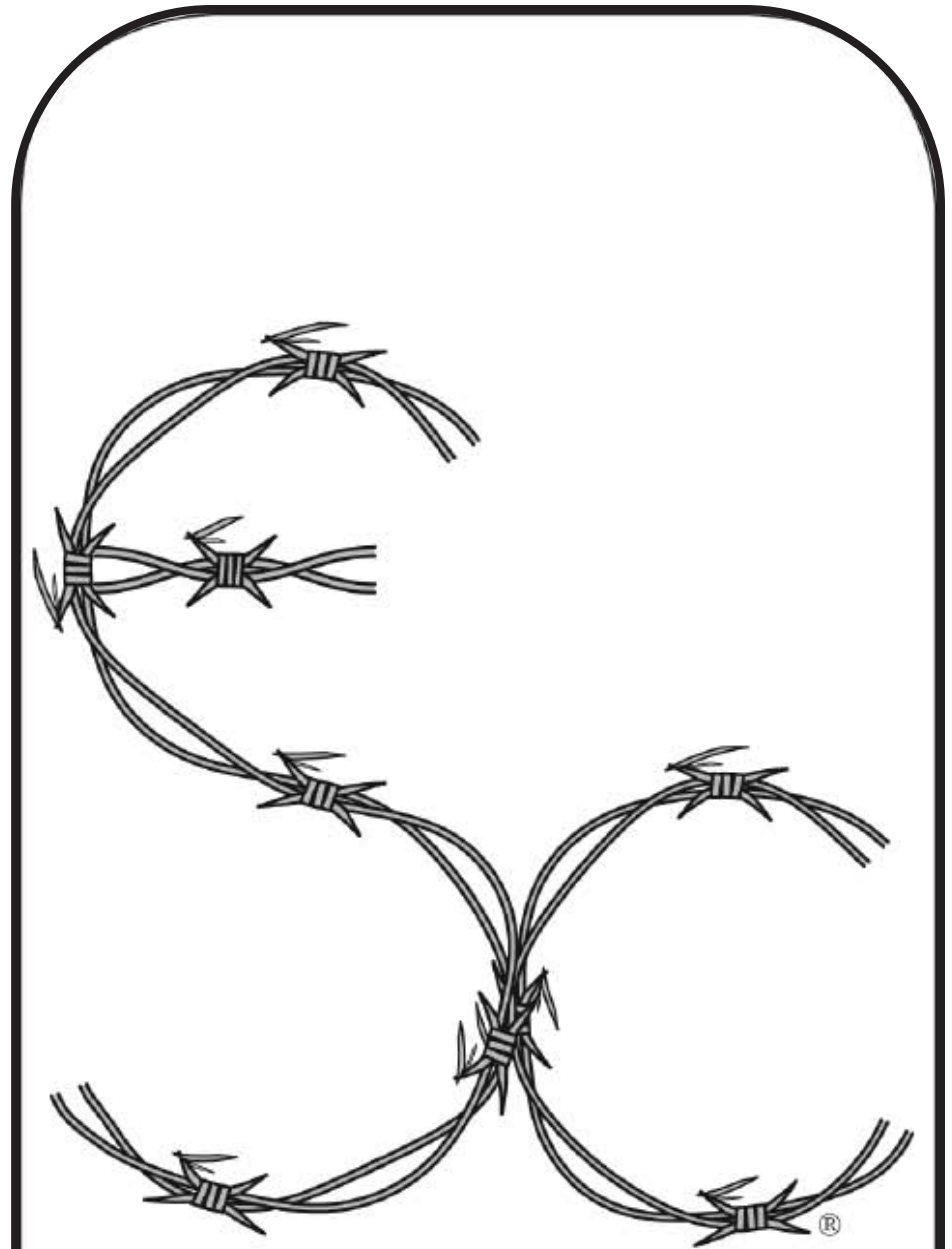
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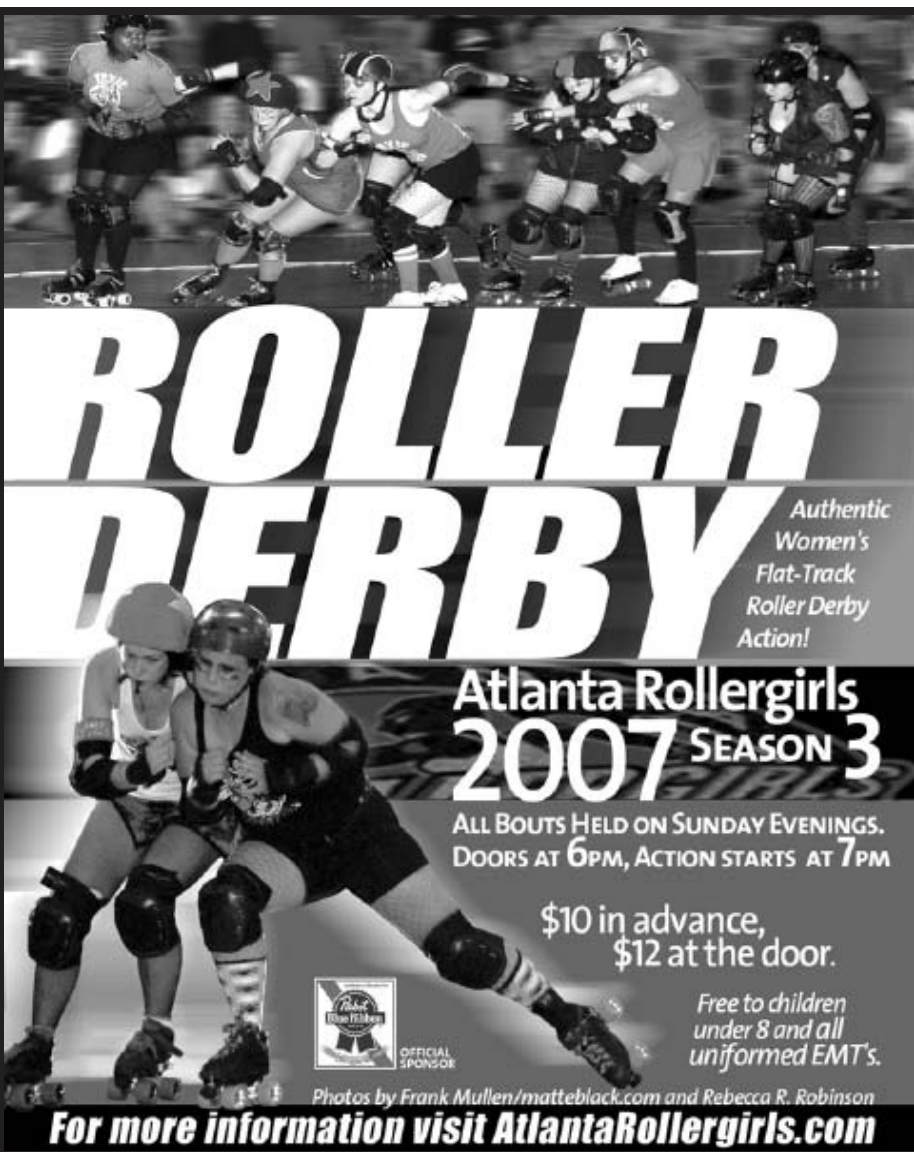
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