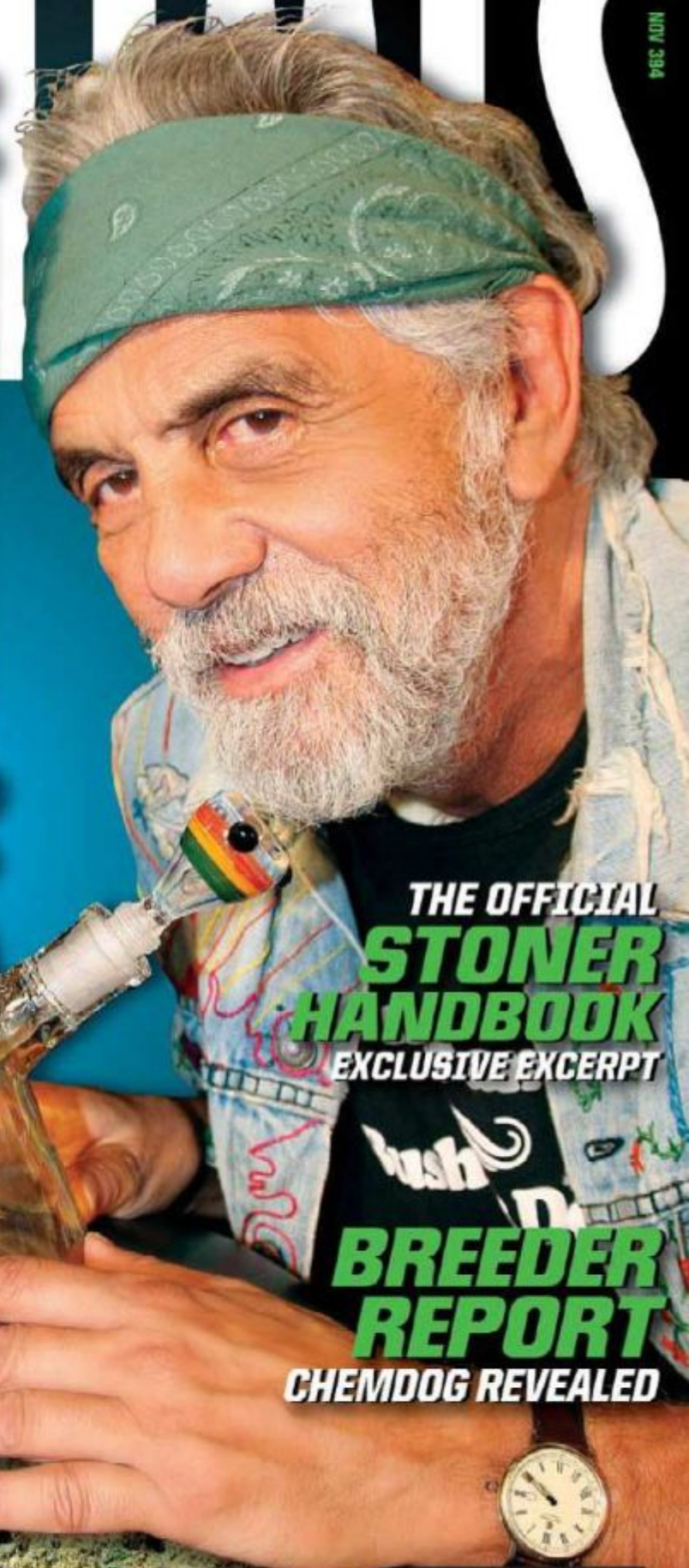
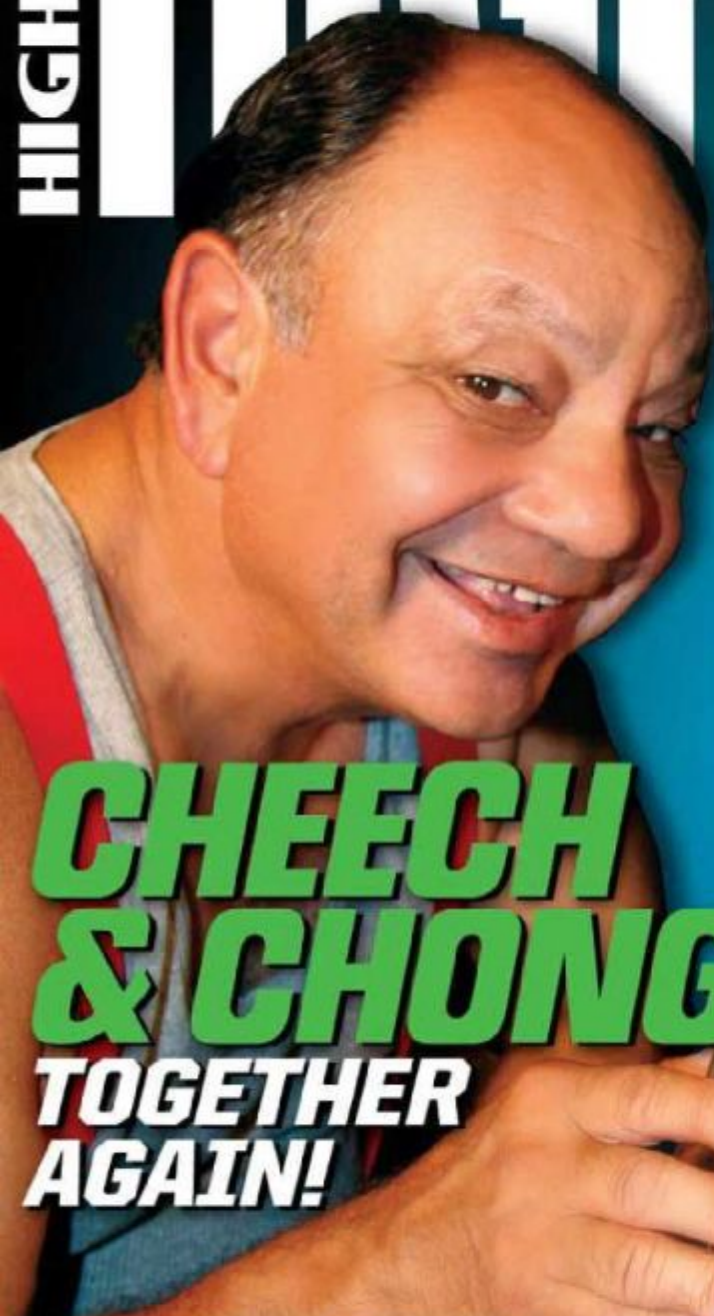


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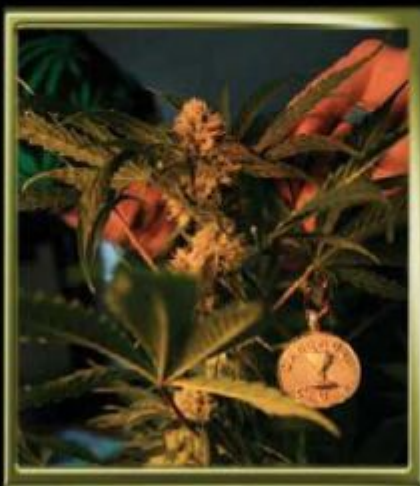
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THE HIGH TIMES PRESIDENTIAL UN-ENDORSEMENT

Four years ago, HIGH TIMES endorsed John Kerry for president of the United States in an editorial titled "Help, I'm stoned, who should I vote for?" Apparently, Mr. Kerry didn't win. Still, our endorsement made the rounds via email and the political blogs, stirring up some debate and also, perhaps, a bit of backlash.

After all, there must be *someone* in America who thinks that our current harsh policy towards the world's most benign and healing herb makes sense. Nobody that *we've* ever met, naturally, but the old-guard supporters of the War on Marijuana are still out there, and they're certainly not shy about attacking a candidate for being "soft on drugs."

Still, with 78 percent of Americans these days in favor of "making marijuana legally available for doctors to prescribe in order to reduce pain and suffering," this may be the election when the anti-pot politicians are finally branded as "soft on compassion and respect for basic human dignity."

When he was questioned repeatedly by Granite Staters for Medical Marijuana during the current presidential campaign, Republican Senator John McCain, true to form, attempted at first to take every side of the issue, claiming that he opposes arresting medical-marijuana patients, while admitting that he would continue the federal government's raids in California and the 11 other states that have created med-pot programs.



John and Cindy McCain want to arrest medical marijuana patients

"I do not approve of the medical use of marijuana—I

never have, and I never will," McCain finally acknowledged under heavy fire. "I believe there are other ways of relieving that pain and suffering."

Presumably, the senior senator from Arizona was referring to prescription painkillers like Percocet and Vicodin. He should know, since his second wife, Cindy—heir to a massive beer-distribution fortune—was caught by the DEA in 1993 stealing large supplies of these drugs from her own charity organization in order to treat a personal habit that had spiraled out of control.

So, if you were John McCain, how would you react when you found out that your multi-multimillionaire trophy wife was a thieving drug addict whose habit eventually destroyed the American Voluntary Medical Team, which she'd originally founded with the noble goal of bringing medical relief to war-torn regions of the third world? If you guessed "Treat her like everybody else," you don't know anything about the War on Drugs.

Instead of upholding the law, McCain used his inside connections to scuttle the DEA investigation, shipping his wife off to a country-club-style drug-treatment center as part of the diversion program, while having the whistleblower who exposed her crimes fired and investigated for "extortion." Naturally, the media all went along for the ride, dutifully reporting on his "brave" wife's battle with addiction, while largely ignoring her brazen theft of medicine intended to treat poor people injured in distant military conflicts. As usual, the War on Some Drugs and Some of the People Who Use Them just doesn't apply to the rich and powerful.

Meanwhile, the three remaining major-party candidates—Barack Obama (Democrat), Bob Barr (Libertarian) and Cynthia McKinney (Green)—all agree that the federal government must finally accept that individual states have a right to enact protections for medical-marijuana patients, the doctors who treat them and the growers who supply their medicine. HIGH TIMES kindly recommends that you vote for one of them—or, better yet, for our own columnist Bobby Black, proudly running on the Freak Power ticket (see page 32). But not John McCain.

For more information on the candidates' positions on marijuana and the War on Drugs, check out granitestaters.com/candidates.

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National Advertising Office: 419 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 16TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10016 (212) 387-0500

Founding Publisher/Editor THOMAS KING FORÇADE, 1945-1978

TRANS-HIGH CORPORATION

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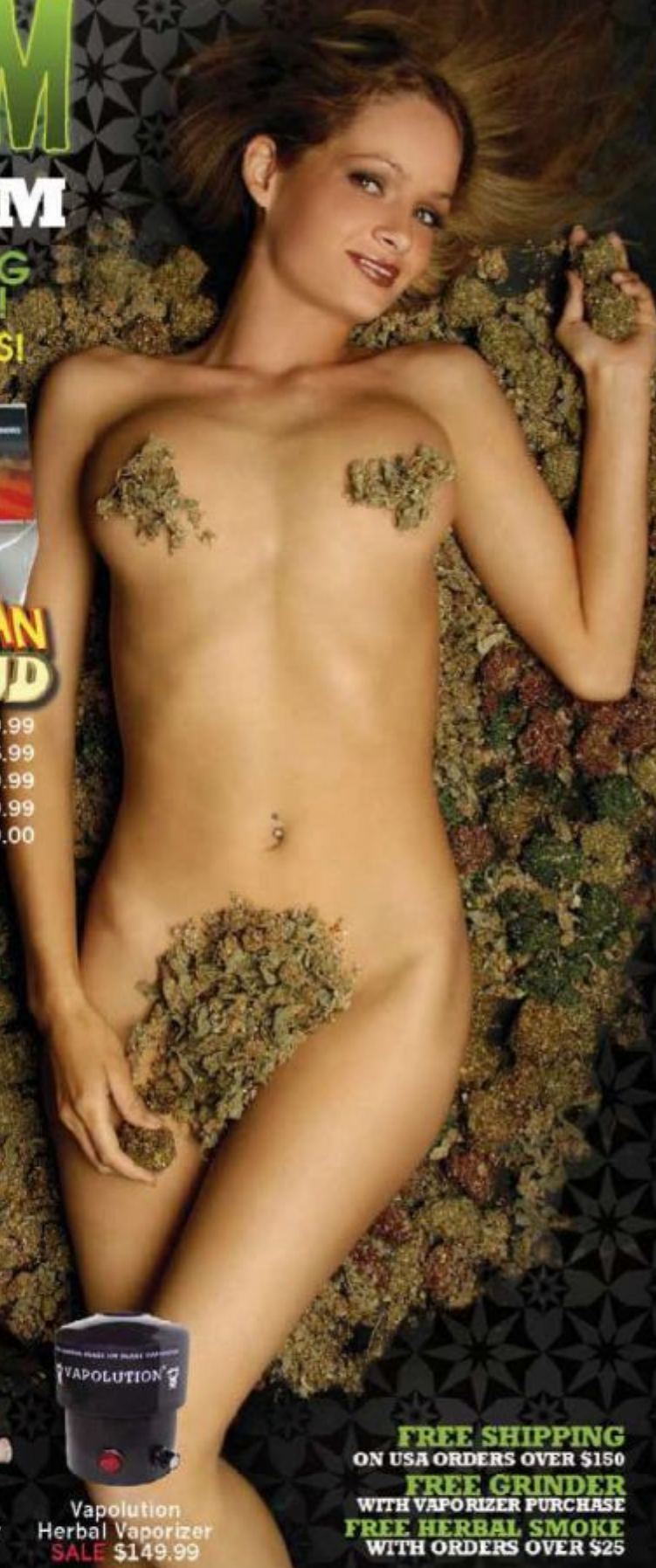


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HIGH TIMES



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features

38 ONTARIO-GRO BY DAN SKYE

British Columbia used to be known as the top pot province in Canada. Those days are over: Ontario has now run away with the title. But that doesn't mean there aren't growing pains.

46 HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN TRELLIS

The Toastmaster General lays down an easy, step-by-step way to make a cheap yet effective trellis that will keep bud tops near your lights and raise yields considerably.

52 PART DEUX

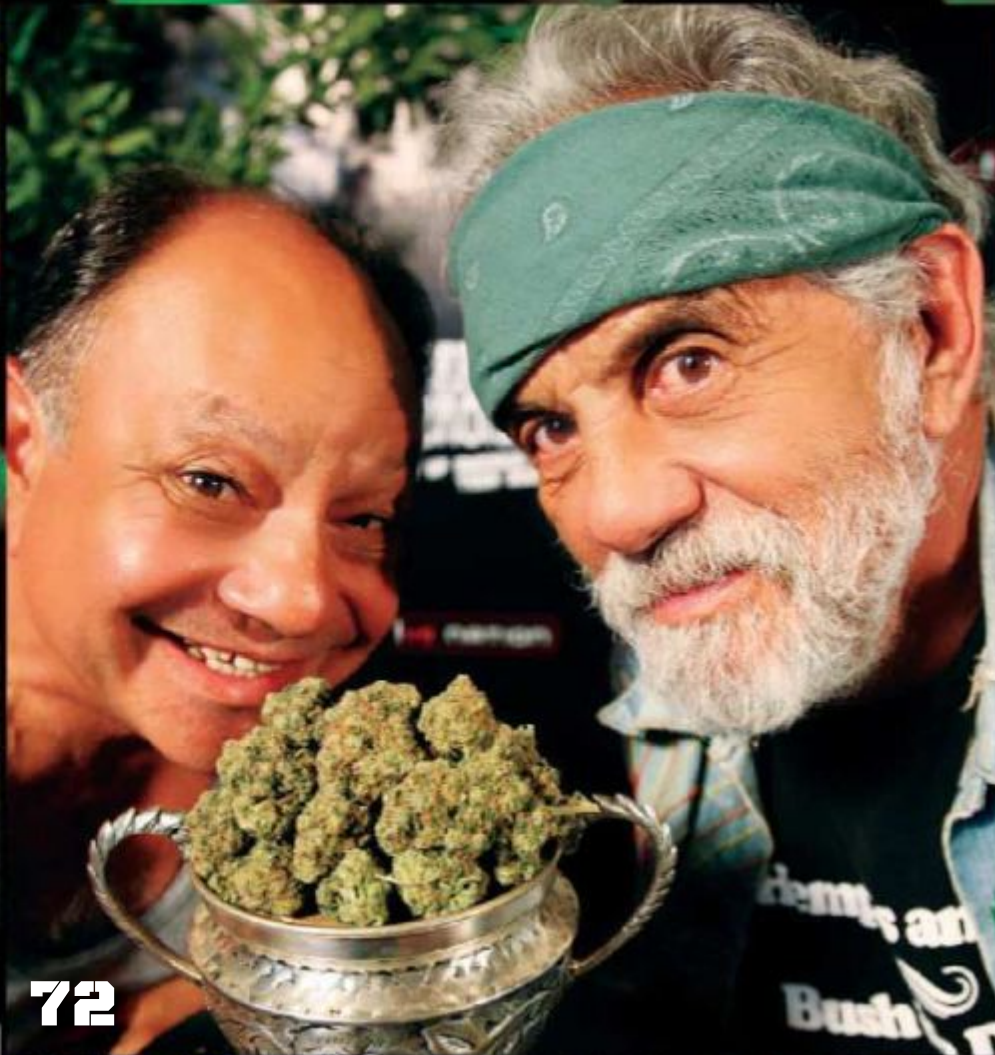
Our three-part series, "Road to the Cup," continues this month with a look at two of Amsterdam's hottest seed companies. Join Nico as he takes us on a tour of THSeeds' and DNA Genetics' gardens, uncovering the latest strains and grow tips. There's no better way to get a sneak peek at what we might expect at this year's Cannabis Cup!

63 Exclusive Excerpt : THE OFFICIAL HIGH TIMES POT SMOKER'S HANDBOOK

Since 1974, HIGH TIMES has covered marijuana in all its aspects and wonders, from cultivation to legalization to the herb's enduring (and exalted) place in popular culture. Now, for the first time, we're publishing an all-new, first-of-its-kind handbook that rolls all of this collected wisdom together into an indispensable ganja guide. Check out an exclusive excerpt before it's published!

72 CHEECH AND CHONG TODAY

On the heels of Tommy Chong's tell-all book, *Cheech and Chong: The Unauthorized Autobiography*, HIGH TIMES catches up with the godfathers of stoner comedy for the interview. Did someone say "reunion"?



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EDITED BY DAN SKYE
Pot and schizophrenia; Cannabis vs. aspirin; *Pineapple Express* All-Stars; US back on top; Narcs in MI; Body scanners; DEA turns 35; Hemp shakes; Hangover cure; Pot ghouls; Show-buzz; No surrender for the Lakota; DNA and the police state; 10 years of failure at the UN; Dr. Lester Grinspoon; NORMLizer; Freedom Fighter; Ask Dr. Mitch; Artie Lange; Antibalas; Reviews; Brain Damage Control; Almost Infamous; Miss HIGH TIMES; Vaporella.

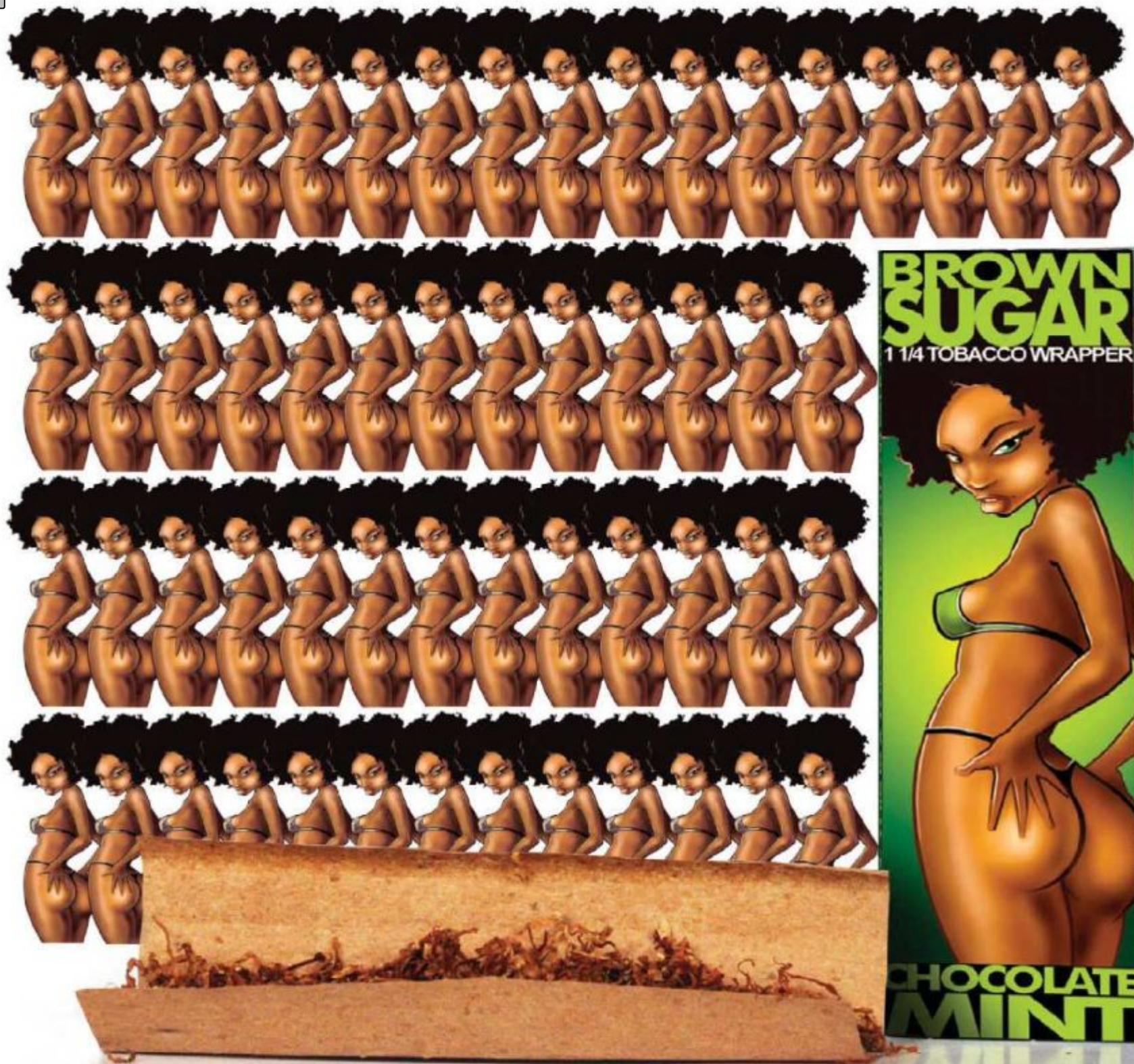
81 growworld

EDITED BY DANNY DANKO
Pix of the Crop; THMQ; Chemdog D by Crazy Composer; Jorge's Rx and November Calendar by Jorge Cervantes.

110 next month

116 pot 40

COVER: DAN SKYE STRAIN: CHEM DOG
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IRANIANS: NOT BAD

As an online cannabis commentator and lifelong supporter and subscriber to HIGH TIMES, I have to say that I usually find myself defending your publication against the misinformed views of jaded stoners who haven't bought an issue in years! However, I felt I had to write to you about your article "Irony in Iran" (HT, August '08). I know the author was probably making an attempt at humor in his derogatory remarks about the Iranian people, but lines like "nuke-loving lunatics" and "as we all know, Iranians are still really bad people" are something I'd expect to find in a Fox News report or some pro-war propaganda, not in a magazine which claims to "celebrate the counterculture." The Iranian people are an oppressed nation living under a tyrannical regime. They have a long history of tolerance for other cultures and of the use of cannabis and other entheogenic substances. A few more Patriot Acts and the good old US of A could be in a similarly unfortunate state as the Iranians—and you guys have way more nukes than they do! Still love you guys! Just a little disappointed!



When a company comes out with a product in which they can actually back up their emitted bandwidth with scientific evidence of effectiveness—and that generates a sufficiently high power output to enhance photosynthesis—I'm going to purchase it. Photosynthesis is a quanta-driven (i.e., photon-driven) process, and LEDs are outstanding generators of photons. At this point, however, most LEDs—for example, the Red Cree XR-C lamps (630nm)—are not suitable for efficient photo-

synthesis; they are good as intersection stop lights and automobile brake lights, the uses for which they were designed. After extensive research, I have found no current LED grow lights that satisfy these basic requirements. I have little choice but to wait for this to happen. I continue to search.

*J. Flowers
Canuck in the US*

How do you get a UFO light to yield more than a 400-watt light? I can't even come close. There must be some trick that you used for the article. What is it?

Rob

In preliminary tests, we noticed that plants under a UFO seemed to be producing more resin than the control group, but we never said the lights produced more yield—quite the opposite, in fact.

ELECTRICAL WARNING

I sell large amounts of electrical products for use in hydroponics. I have noticed that an alarming percentage of goods imported from China have poor and dangerous electrical fittings. Some of the fittings have caused electrical failure by tripping out lights, and some have already caused electrocution. I have serious concerns about these products being shipped here on the cheap from China. Although it is more profitable for me to buy these products and resell them, I will not so if there's a risk of endangering someone's life or property.

I would recommend that all hydroponic electrical equipment be pre-checked for safe earth conductivity, and also that all electrical connectors be pre-checked by a qualified electrician prior to installation and use. We have had many reports of loose connections causing electrical arcing. A bad earth connection would very likely mean that the appliance itself could become live. The trip switch protects you by sensing electrical current in the earth system. If the earth connection is faulty, it will not trip, and you could face electrocution. Please make use of this warning and take it seriously. We are not referring to the odd item here and there; we are referring to many items that are likely to fail in the near future.

Bill Andover Hydroponics

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I am writing in response to the many negative comments regarding using LED light sources as grow lights. I am an electrical engineer and an interested amateur botanist (everyone needs a hobby). LEDs, in theory, are to grow lights what hydroponics are to nutritional sources—easily controllable and exactly what is needed. It is sad and unfortunate that the market seems to be filled with poorly designed, under-researched and over-priced LED offerings. This is giving LEDs an undeservedly bad reputation. The current pace of advancement in LED semiconductor technology dictates that LEDs will eventually replace most conventional lighting as we know it. Regarding grow lights, this is not only because of the specific advantages of LED technology, but also because of the specific disadvantages of metal halide and high-pressure sodium lights—in particular (1) largely wasted bandwidth generation in the 500nm to 650nm region, (2) undesirable bandwidth generation in the UV and IR regions at either end of the spectrum, (3) immense radiated-heat output and (4) internal mercury content—if it's in your landfill today, it'll be in your drinking water tomorrow, so think of your children.



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We've taken the pot-smoking title back!

Last year Canada held the crown, with 16.8 percent of the population between the ages of 16 and 64 toking regularly.

But that was according to statistics released by the UN Office of Drugs and Crime. Like professional boxing, the world is full of number-crunching outfits that like to bestow these honors. We'll rely on the results obtained by the World Health Organization's World Mental Health Survey Initiative.

Based on more than 85,000 face-to-face interviews conducted using a standardized interview process, WHO determined that when it comes to pot smoking, America is the true champ, with over 42 percent of the respondents stating that they've used pot. (Canadian pot users weren't included in the report. Obviously, they're in training for the big title fight to come!) New Zealand was a close second and, amazingly, the Netherlands finished third, with less than 20 percent having tried pot—and that's a nation with no real War on Drugs.

Speaking of the enigma of Dutch tolerance, the Netherlands has banned smoking in bars and restaurants as of July, in compliance with European Union law. But that ban only covers tobacco. With about 750 coffeeshops—half of them in Amsterdam—licensed to have up to 500 grams of tobacco in stock at any one time, there may be some strange days ahead.

Europeans commonly mix tobacco and pot in the joints they roll in coffeeshops. Jason den Enting, the manager of De Dampkring, one of Amsterdam's premier coffeeshops, says: "It's the world upside-down. In other countries, they look for the marijuana in the cigarette. Here, they look for the cigarette in the marijuana."



The *Pineapple Express* throws a screwball.



ALL-STAR HYPOCRISY

Major League Baseball has regulations against pot use that can get a player suspended. So you gotta wonder why, at this year's All-Star Game at Yankee Stadium, MLB chose *The Pineapple Express* as one of its sponsors—a movie that is overtly obsessed with ganja, and whose trailers were aired during the game.

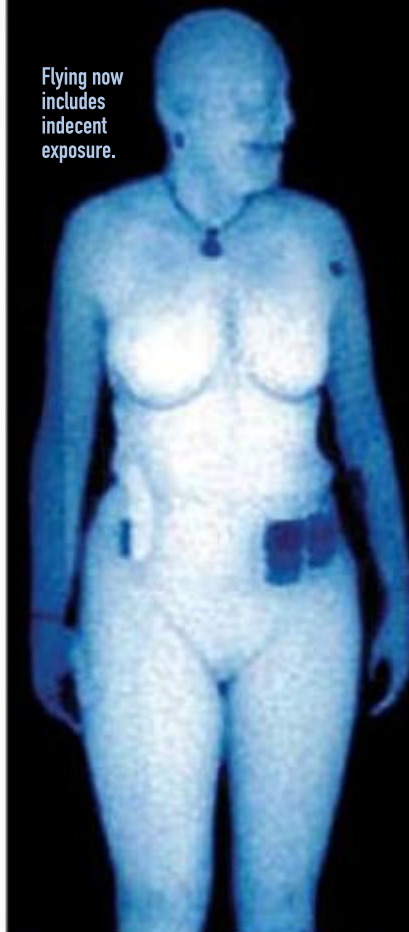
What? Nobody knew what this movie was about? Hard to believe.

Or could it be someone recognized that the audience for the midsummer classic is made up of good folks who also happen to enjoy pot-centric movie comedy, and the lords of baseball smelled cash?

MLB has always been concerned about the message it sends out to kids. If we hear right, that message is: "Hypocrisy is okay when it comes to money—and enjoy the flick, everybody!"

AIRPORTS CANCEL CIVIL LIBERTIES

Flying now includes indecent exposure.



The Transportation Security Administration has deployed full-body scanning machines at Los Angeles's LAX, New York's JFK, Reagan National in Washington, D.C., and—of particular interest to party people—McCarran International in Las Vegas. Miami, Dallas, Detroit, Denver, Baltimore and Albuquerque also use the scanners. Other major airports plan them as well.

It's technology that produces strikingly graphic images of people's naked bodies. Passenger faces are supposed to be obscured on the screen, but all other body parts are clearly revealed, including breasts and genitalia. "For a lot of people, it's a gross invasion of privacy," says Michael Risher, staff attorney for the ACLU of Northern California.

How does the scanner work? A passenger stands inside a partially open portal that resembles a sci-fi time machine. Clothing and similar organic materials become translucent when high-frequency radio waves are bounced against the passenger. (The waves are allegedly harmless.) A TSA screener in a hidden room views the black-and-white screen image, looking for objects shaded differently from the body. Upon locating a "suspicious object," the passenger is searched by security. You can refuse to enter the scanner, but then you'll open yourself up to a full-body frisk from security—one that would likely be far more intrusive than a normal pat-down.

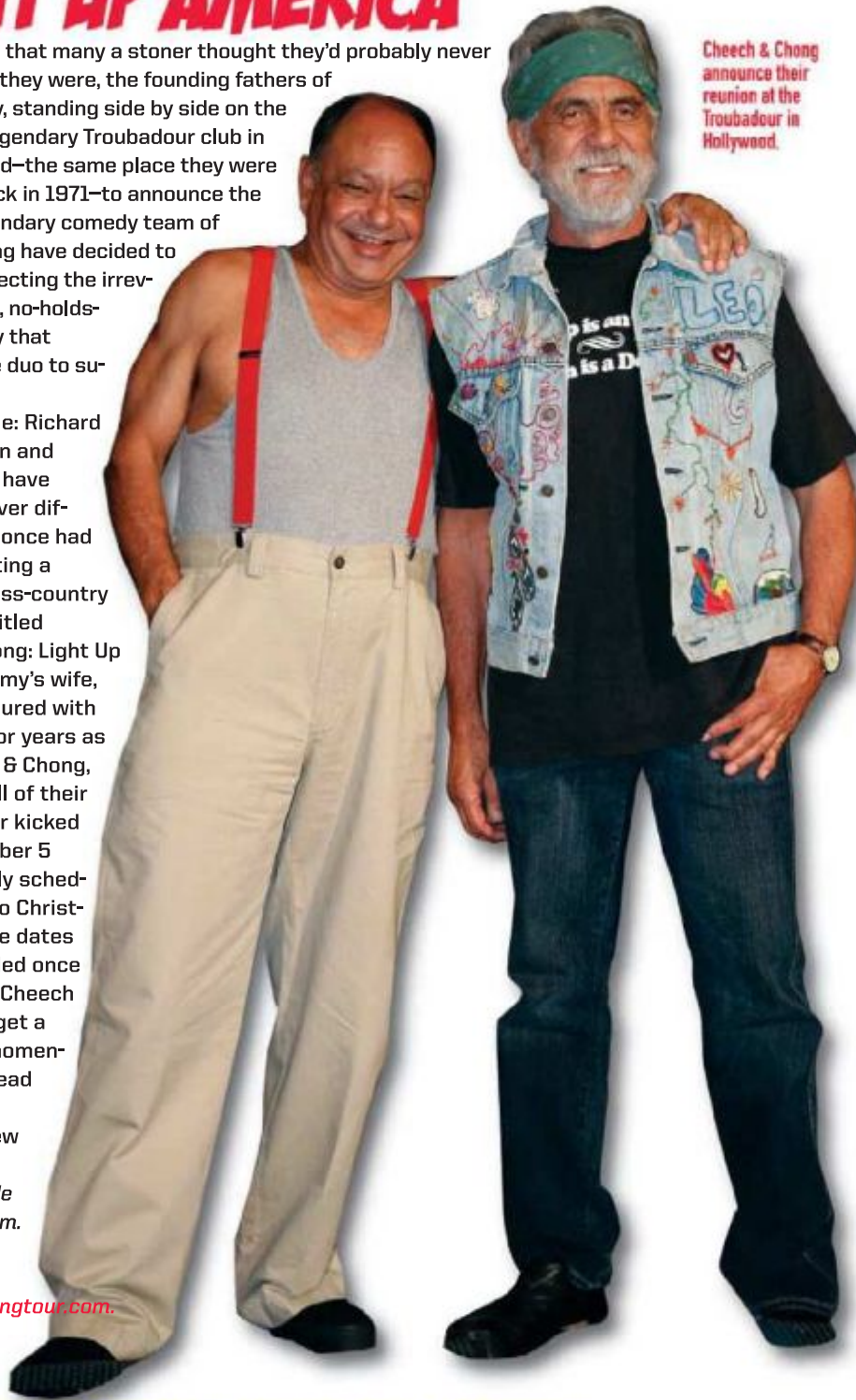
The scanners aren't foolproof. Plastic or rubber materials that resemble skin could likely obscure a hidden object—like your stash or a dirty bomb—which calls into question the whole rationale for using these devices. Risher cautions: "People get arrested at airports for offenses that have nothing to do with transportation safety. In many cases, a search for weapons is a pretext for searching someone they've profiled as potentially carrying drugs."

CHEECH AND CHONG LIGHT UP AMERICA

It was a scene that many a stoner thought they'd probably never see. But there they were, the founding fathers of stoner comedy, standing side by side on the stage of the legendary Troubadour club in West Hollywood—the same place they were discovered back in 1971—to announce the news: The legendary comedy team of Cheech & Chong have decided to reunite, resurrecting the irreverent, satirical, no-holds-barred comedy that catapulted the duo to superstardom.

Yes, it's true: Richard "Cheech" Marin and Tommy Chong have settled whatever differences they once had and are mounting a brand-new cross-country comedy tour titled "Cheech & Chong: Light Up America." Tommy's wife, Shelby, who toured with her husband for years as part of Shelby & Chong, will open for all of their dates. The tour kicked off on September 5 and is currently scheduled right up to Christmas, with more dates sure to be added once the legions of Cheech & Chong fans get a whiff of this momentous event. (Read the Cheech & Chong interview on page 72.)

Tickets available at livenation.com. For tour information, visit cheechandchongtour.com.



Cheech & Chong announce their reunion at the Troubadour in Hollywood.

WEED ALMOST AS DANGEROUS AS ASPIRIN!

The use of cannabis-based medicines is not associated with serious negative side effects, according to a wide-ranging analysis of previous studies published in the *Journal of the Canadian Medical Association* this past June.

Investigators at McGill University in Montreal and the University of British Columbia in Vancouver reviewed 23 clinical investigations of medicinal cannabinoid drugs (typically oral THC, a.k.a. Marinol, or the liquid cannabis extract Sativex) and eight observational studies conducted between 1966 and 2007.

Researchers said the subjects administered medical cannabis experienced a slightly higher risk of experiencing "nonserious adverse events"—specifically dizziness—compared to members of the non-using control groups. By contrast, investigators "did not find a higher incidence rate of serious adverse events." You know—the sort of "contraindications" that might harm or even kill someone.

In other words, medical pot possesses a safety profile that is unmatched by virtually every other prescription drug or over-the-counter medication available, including aspirin.

But of course, we already knew that.

POT DOESN'T CAUSE SCHIZOPHRENIA! WHO SAID THAT?

Despite the rash of recent media headlines warning that pot causes schizophrenia, little is known about the association between marijuana and mental illness. What is clear is that, despite several decades of pot smoking worldwide, no evidence has surfaced indicating that nations with high levels of marijuana use have experienced a correlating spike in the incidence of schizophrenia.

It also appears unlikely that pot smoking exacerbates schizophrenia's symptoms. According to the largest study ever conducted comparing pot-smoking and non-pot-smoking schizophrenic patients, pot users showed no statistically significant difference in symptoms after investigators controlled for other factors, such as the patients' age, sex and ethnicity. Some studies have even indicated that cannabis may offer health benefits for schizophrenics. A German research team reported last year that patients who used pot prior to their first psychotic episode showed improved cognitive performance on various tests compared to non-users. But that didn't stop a pair of Australian researchers from speculating in the June issue of *World Psychiatry* that cannabis's mental-health risks may be specific to "persons who are vulnerable because of a personal or family history of schizophrenia."

While that's plausible, it's also exceedingly difficult to substantiate. For starters, lots of people smoke pot: Nearly 50 percent of Americans have tried it, according to the latest federal figures. But very few people—about 1 percent of the population—are ever diagnosed with schizophrenia.

Do some schizophrenics smoke cannabis? Certainly. Schizophrenics tend to use all intoxicants—not just pot—at higher rates than the general population. Moreover, schizophrenia tends to manifest itself at an age when cannabis use is most prevalent—18 for men, around 25 for women—which makes establishing any sort of causal relationship between pot use and the disease next to impossible.

Bottom line: Pot isn't going to make you crazy. Pot prohibition? Well, that's another story.—Paul Armentano

GHOULS BEARING GIFTS

This Halloween, a new strain is circulating: It's a cruel cross between AK-47 and Trainwreck, fertilized with cyanide. It's an outdoor strain, grown in cemeteries. It's sure to kill you. The grower shown here ate the photographer.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, D.E.A.!

The Drug Enforcement Administration turned 35 on July 1. So we'd be remiss if the DEA's favorite magazine neglected to wish every pot smoker's favorite government agency a belated Happy B-day!

However you celebrate, DEA, make sure you don't blow your annual budget of \$2.42 billion—which really doesn't seem like a waste at all considering the economy is crashing.

Ah, it seems like only yesterday that you were Richard Nixon's toddling love child. Now you're all grown up and turning America into a police state all on your own! You turn a blind eye to rampant prescription-drug abuse, but raid any medical-marijuana dispensary on the Left Coast. And the benefits have been huge—at least for prison contractors and prison-guard unions.

You may be approaching middle age—and, let's face it, you *have* become a bloated, inefficient sinkhole for our tax dollars. But America thanks you just the same for spending billions while achieving nothing. Aren't government jobs great?

Only weathermen can fail so miserably and stay in business.

this month in

SHOWBUZZ

WEEDS' GOOD DEEDS

Elizabeth Perkins, who plays Celia on the Showtime series *Weeds*, has joined Mary Louise Parker in her support of pot normalcy. Parker, the series star, has made a number of statements in favor of legalizing pot since the series debuted in 2005. Perkins was on CBS's *The Early Show* when she decided to speak out: "Alcohol is legal. It doesn't make a lot of sense to me why marijuana's not."



Perkins for pot.

BUST ADDICTION



DMX suffers rash.

In May, rapper DMX was arrested going a tad over the speed limit (114 mph) in Arizona. A few days later, the cops raided his home there and charged him with animal cruelty and drug possession. Then, late in June, DMX scored a hat trick in Miami, where he allegedly tried to buy coke and pot. The grand slam came just three days later, when the cops busted him for driving with an invalid license.

ILLEGAL FORWARD PISS

In June, the Denver Broncos released running back Travis Henry after he pulled a hamstring in May. The Broncos cited his questionable commitment to the team, but it probably wasn't Henry's leg injury that caused management to pull the plug. Henry served a four-game suspension in 2005 for a drug-related offense. Last season, he tested positive but successfully challenged the league's drug-testing procedures. Unfortunately, a league source says Henry has tested positive for pot three times since. Now he faces a one-year suspension.

Bronco Henry gets bucked.



RANDOM NOTHINGNESS



High calories for Hilton.

Paris Hilton is giving up pot because it makes her eat too much and her clothes no longer fit. Hilton's pot use has been well documented via a number of YouTube videos and paparazzi photos. Still, when she appeared on *Larry King Live* last summer, she insisted that she never does drugs of any kind. Must have been short-term

A CURE FOR HANGOVERS—STILL NONE FOR IDIOCY



If you're planning to be a slurring, slobbering drunk in the near future, maybe you'd like to dispense with the ensuing hangover. Chaser promises to help you with that: Just take two tablets with your first drink and tomorrow's hangover won't even have a chance to start, since Chaser's natural ingredients absorb the unwanted toxins that are byproducts of fermentation.

On the other hand, Chaser doesn't prevent intoxication or obnoxious behavior; nor will it absorb the alcohol before you drive home. And the Chaser website features disingenuous news about booze. It states: "It takes an average of just 3.2 drinks to cause hangover symptoms."

Funny, that's just about how many drinks it takes for most people to get knocked on their ass.

Consumers are also urged to drink responsibly. Good advice: If people drank responsibly, they wouldn't need Chaser in the first place.

SUPER SHAKE

No pot smoker wants shake, but health-conscious tokers just might want to reconsider. Check out the high-fiber hemp shakes from Organic Pure Foods. These dietary, high-fiber supplements reduce your appetite and between-meal cravings while maintaining your body's healthy glycemic response. All you have to do is mix the shake powder with eight ounces of chilled water and you're in business.

The shakes come in four different flavors (cocoa, vanilla, cherry vanilla and chai) and feature 15 grams of hemp-protein powder in every serving.

Organic Pure Foods is a division of Daily Foods and is certified organic. Visit megafoods.com.



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and

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**Balance
the Herb.com**



2008

The government continues to outlaw a miracle plant.

WHERE THE WILD HEMP GROWS

A Lakota family demonstrates what grassroots environmentalism is all about.

Last year, wild hemp flourished along Wounded Knee Creek, which flows through Manderson, SD. It's been growing there and elsewhere across the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwestern South Dakota for decades. The Oglala Lakota who inhabit this land have long known what the hardy green plants are. And everybody knows it's not marijuana.

In the 1920s, Jesuit priests at a reservation missionary school actively cultivated hemp for use as fiber. Ever since, the feral relatives of those long-ago crops reappear each spring, sprouting anew across this broad landscape of rugged buttes and grassland—especially near creek beds, where the rich, moist soil can nourish growth. In those places, hemp plants can easily exceed 14 feet in height, and stalks often expand to the size of small tree trunks.

Last December, Rocky Afraid of Hawk came upon one of these monsters. It had been hacked down and left to rot, the centuries-old process of allowing the weather elements to break down the hemp plant as it lies in the field, facilitating the separation of fiber from the plant's woody core, or hurd. Rocky is a Lakota elder and a skilled craftsman who carves bows for hunting and as gifts. Upon seeing the long, staff-like hurd, he wondered if it could be carved into a workable hunting bow.

The answer, it turned out, was an emphatic *yes*: Hemp *can* be fashioned into a reliable, lethal hunting weapon just as easily as it can fulfill a variety of food, fuel and fiber needs. It's one more use to be added to the vast list of applications that hemp cultivation could satisfy, and from which society would benefit—if only it was legal for farmers to grow hemp. Because, although the use of low-THC cannabis *sativa* for fiber, fuel, food and livestock forage spans millenniums, the past 70 years have seen a demonization of hemp by the nations of the world. Some have since wised up, but the US hasn't.

The White Plume family knows all about that. For three consecutive years, from 2000 to 2002, Alex and Debra White Plume led a concerted effort on their *tiospaye* (family land holdings) to bring a hemp crop to harvest. But in all three years, their crops were raided and seized by federal law enforcement, despite an ordinance passed by the Oglala Lakota Tribal Council legalizing hemp cultivation.

During their third attempt to grow, they wound up in federal court. And though the court was sympathetic to the cause of hemp, it ruled that it was the responsibility of Congress to change the laws that prohibit hemp cultiva-

tion. The White Plumes were prohibited from growing any additional crops. (Ironically, there's more wild hemp than ever growing on Pine Ridge these days, thanks to the DEA's oafish seizure of the plants, which were hacked down and then dragged across the fields, thereby scattering thousands of seeds.)

But the White Plumes' struggles only strengthened their resolve in matters of tribal sovereignty. In some ways, hemp has become synonymous with the issue—because if a tribe can't choose what to do with its own land pursuant to its own tribal law, then how truly sovereign is it?

Despite their encounter with the Feds, the White Plumes remain stalwart hemp activists, and the global hemp community continues to recognize their dedication. When the home of Alex and Debra White Plume burned to the ground this past December, donations allowed them to rebuild using hemp insulation. The new house is also partially powered by solar panels.

This past summer, work was completed on rebuilding a community house that will serve as a local center for meetings and celebrations. It was primarily funded by Jeremy Briggs, a local environmentalist and concert promoter, who also provided the work crew. Construction entailed building walls using Hemcrete materials. With a high-lime cement mix as a binder, combined with broken-down hemp hurds and water, new walls were erected that will withstand the harsh elements on the prairie for generations. "Building our community house with hemp represents a statement of love and respect for Mother Earth and the standing silent nation—plants," says Debra White Plume, a Lakota author and artist who has organized grassroots efforts dealing with territorial treaty protections and cultural-preservation issues for 30 years. "Construction can be done with a renewable plant with a growth cycle of 120 days, versus trees that take decades to mature. Using hemp in our community house is a direct action that shows there are ways to resist colonized thinking that human beings are above Creation. We show we can meet our needs while being respectful two-leggeds."

An outdoor recreational area on their land has already been operating for years. It's called Kiza Park, where festivals, weddings and many other types of gatherings convene. Both Kiza Park and the community house are powered by a wind turbine that was erected in 2002. Another wind turbine is planned, but in the meantime, when more energy is required, the Portable Energy Transport (PET) is put into action.

The PET is an invention of Hardtke Enterprises and High Plains Wind Energy. It's a solar-panel and wind-turbine combo that is transported on the back of a small flatbed trailer. Matt Rankin, the president of High Plains and a close ally of the White Plumes, says: "As far as I know, this is the first rig to utilize multiple inputs—solar, wind, plus it even has a port for a hydroelectric unit. It's quick, portable power. We even powered the cement mixer for the Hemcrete using the PET."

Pine Ridge is one of the windiest regions in the country, a vast untapped source of renewable energy. Estimates suggest that if it could be harnessed, wind power would produce 4,000 times more energy than the tribe needs. Winona LaDuke, the prominent Native activist whose organization, Honor the Earth, financed the White Plumes' wind turbine, asks: "Who would you rather depend on for energy power—the Saudis, or the Lakota?"

It seems almost absurd that in this remote and profoundly poor region, where the unemployment rate checks in at 80 percent and life expectancy is the lowest in the Western Hemisphere, environmental projects can find traction. Nearly every other community in the US has more money and more expertise to mount such projects. Debra White Plume cites the reasons: "The Lakota worldview is known worldwide," she explains. "*Mitakuye oyasin*—this means 'all my relations.' It designates all of Creation, including our first medicine: water. We must protect our relative for our future generations. Our ancestors fought the United States to a standstill in 1876 at the Battle of the Little Big Horn. This fight was over freedom and territory and a way of life. We owe this fight to our ancestors and our future generations."

The fight she's speaking of is the arrival of uranium interests on the reservation. This past winter, she led a successful battle to head off an environmental nightmare. In conjunction with the Black Hills Sioux Nation Treaty Council, Debra's nonprofit organization Bring Back the Way was able to expel the Native American Energy Group (NAEG) from Pine Ridge. NAEG—which has no discernible connection to any tribe—misrepresented its intent to mine uranium on tribal lands. The energy group was expelled by the tribal court and escorted off the

'We had to choose to protect the earth that we borrow from our children.'

reservation by Lakota warrior societies.

"It is our Lakota spiritual obligation to protect our relatives," says Debra. "We had to stand in the way of something bad coming toward our people. It was a Crazy Horse moment. We had to choose to protect the earth that we borrow from our children. We made our stand against NAEG. Our people and our institutions stood together."

But the battle is far from over. This is uranium-rich territory, and the focus now is on the multinational corporation Cameco Inc. from Saskatchewan, Canada. Cameco owns the Crow Butte Resources uranium mine in nearby Crawford, NE. This is an ISL mining operation that has had over 25 spills and leaks since it began. (ISL mining involves leaving the ore in the ground and recovering the minerals from it by dissolving them and pumping the pregnant solution to the surface. But if the ore is impermeable to the liquids used, the groundwater can be contaminated.) The tribe has been granted standing at the upcoming hearings that will address concerns about the mine. Debra is again at the forefront.

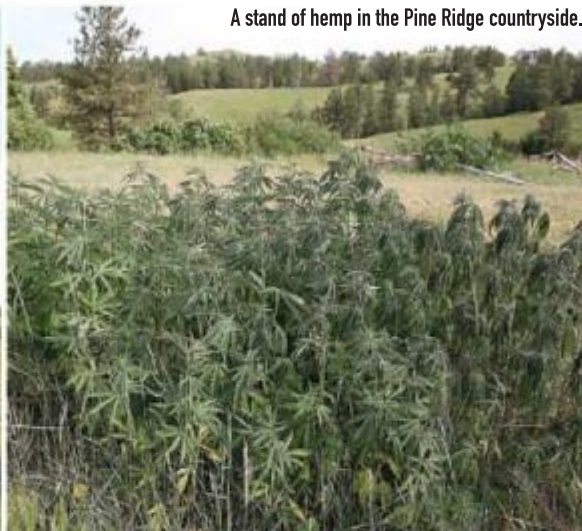
"Don't you think there is something wrong with a government that outlaws the growing of industrial hemp by making the application process impossible, while at the same time it makes the application process to mine uranium relatively achievable?" she asks. "Cameco wants to expand and open three more ISL mines. This spells genocide for our people. We are a people of the land. Without good land, our way of life is destroyed; we are destroyed. Anyone who can read can understand that mining uranium is dangerous and has deadly impacts, from the extraction stage to the waste-storage stage. The government makes growing hemp a crime, but it has created something that cannot be destroyed—nuclear waste.

"Our families are proponents of life, not death," she continues. "We use solar and wind power to be respectful, while meeting our modest energy needs for our children and home. This is the kind of support the United States government could be giving to all folks in this land, instead of giving tax credits to corporations to extract minerals and metals that, once unleashed, become contaminants that cannot be contained."—Dan Skye

Visit bringbacktheway.com, kizapark.com or highplainswind.com.



The P.E.T. provides portable wind/solar power.



A stand of hemp in the Pine Ridge countryside.



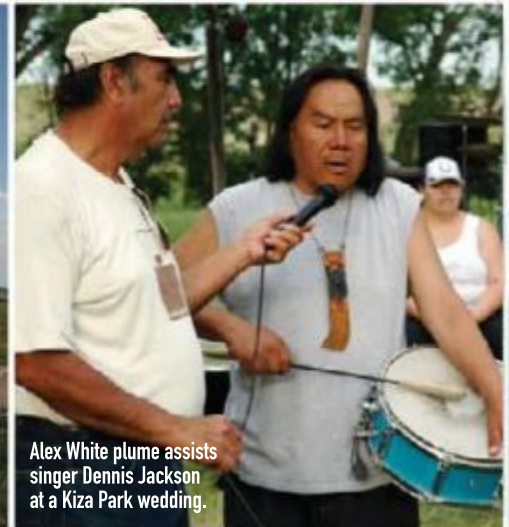
Rocky Afraid of Hawk with his hemp bow.



Debra White Plume



A community center made from hemp-based materials will last generations.



Alex White plume assists singer Dennis Jackson at a Kiza Park wedding.

WARMING UP THE POLICE STATE

Feds expand DNA database to include arrestees.

You might want to think twice the next time you fire up a joint at a US national park: If you're busted—even for a single joint—the federal government could collect a sample of your DNA. In a move that might prove ominous, the federal government announced, in April 2008, a proposed rule that allows DNA samples to be collected from every person arrested by a federal law-enforcement agency (including the DEA), even for misdemeanors. Is this merely a colossal waste of time and resources—or another tool for the coming police state?

Previously, one had to be convicted of a federal crime before the Feds could add a person's genetic profile to their burgeoning database. But now, anyone taken into custody by federal agents will have the inside of his or her mouth swabbed for DNA. The rule will be implemented by the Department of Justice after the expiration of a 30-day comment period makes it official.

Michael Risher, staff attorney of the Northern California branch of the ACLU, says: "We're very much against taking DNA samples of those not convicted. The federal proposed rule suggests they'll be taking DNA from someone arrested for something as minor as trespassing on federal property at a demonstration, or for simple drug possession in a national park."

Risher calls the move a violation of the Fourth Amendment's protections against unreasonable search and seizure. Taking a DNA sample from a convicted felon is constitutional, since a person convicted of a felony loses some rights to privacy. But those who have merely been arrested are still presumed innocent under the law; they are not supposed to lose their rights of bodily integrity and be treated like convicted criminals.

The rule was first slipped into a little-noticed provision of the Violence Against Women Act in 2005—another example of the government's use of an emotional issue to curtail civil liberties. Risher says he can't fathom the motivation of Congress in passing such a reactionary measure: "We don't know why. It's another step in the war on crime, drugs and people of color. Even the appearance of crime-fighting justifies intruding on our freedoms."

Additionally, the Feds intend to collect DNA from all detained foreigners, regardless of whether they've even been charged with a crime. According to the Justice Department, this rule would add an additional 1.2 million people annually to its DNA database, known as CODIS (Combined DNA Index System), which is operated by the FBI and currently contains the



When law enforcement takes a DNA swab of an arrestee, a digital storage bin of personal info is created.

genetic info of nearly six million Americans.

As of 2009, the state of California will have a similar law in place, but only for those charged with a felony. Under California law, the transportation of more than an ounce of pot is a felony, but a medical-marijuana patient or caregiver may be found not guilty. However, this doesn't guarantee that the DNA will be expunged from the state's database; under the new law, it's entirely up to the discretion of a judge. And if a judge rules that the DNA should not be expunged, then it remains in the state database forever, and the acquitted person has no opportunity to appeal. Risher confirms that, to date, such appeals have been extremely rare—

and that the new state law is possibly unconstitutional. At least under the federal law, a person acquitted of a crime can formally request to have his or her DNA expunged from CODIS. But people have to know that such an option is available to them in the first place; the removal of an acquitted person's DNA should have been made automatic.

Risher acknowledges that there are legitimate law-enforcement purposes for collecting DNA: to solve a serious crime, for example, or perhaps to free an innocent convict. However, the expansion of DNA collection to in-

clude every single arrestee could actually prove detrimental to law enforcement. "The resources spent analyzing the millions arrested for misdemeanors and nonviolent drug felonies will deplete the critical resources and time that could be utilized investigating more serious crimes—rape, murder and terrorism," Risher explains.

Some have argued that DNA collection is merely the "fingerprinting of the 21st century," but this is a flawed analogy. Fingerprints are merely that—fingerprints. But DNA contains enormous amounts of personal info—not to mention that the digital storage of DNA makes it easier to duplicate, which is another potential peril.—Mark Miller

THE U.N.'S 10-YEAR FAILURE

This is the final year of the UN's 10-year strategy for ridding the world of drugs. At its inception at a UN conference in 1998, one slogan embodied the aim of the optimistic new policy: "A drug-free world. We can do it!" Apart from being completely incorrect (drugs such as alcohol and tobacco were not included), the slogan has come to seem cruelly upbeat in light of the strategy's unrelenting failure.

By every conceivable measure—from drug availability and price to market demand—illegal drugs are becoming *more* popular, not less, and European cocaine use in particular has skyrocketed in recent years. Meanwhile, Afghanistan's descent into narco-statehood continues apace, with an estimated 95 percent of the world's heroin supply emanating from the American- and British-occupied Central Asian nation. CIA analysts speculate that Mexico is on the verge of falling into the hands of cocaine-trafficking cartels, and 430 police officers have died in that country's War on Drugs since 2006. The latest casualty was national police chief Edgar Gomez.

Although it seems self-evident that the UN's 10-year strategy has failed on every level, according to the head of the UN Office of Drugs and Crime, Antonio Marie de Costa, the current approach is an example of "successful containment." As de Costa tells it, the plateau in the rates of illegal drug use indicate that "drug control works." Even if the strategy hasn't met a single one of its official goals, de Costa says that it has nevertheless "prevented a pandemic" of drug addiction. With no evidence at all to support this view, he simply conjures up an imaginary crisis and then asserts that we should thank the UN for averting it.

De Costa has found himself confounded by cannabis, though. The upward trend in the popularity of the plant, and the explosion in home cultivation, has led him to devote most of his energy to fighting its scourge. In an article published in the London *Independent*, de Costa propagandized on marijuana's alleged dangers to mental health, declaring: "It is time to explode the myth of cannabis as a 'soft' drug."

These days, de Costa has found himself somewhat embarrassed by that "drug-free world" slogan, and at one point he even bizarrely denied that it ever existed. It's no surprise that his credibility is on par with that of the Drug War itself. If the UN and its chief anti-drug officer call this record a success, imagine what defeat would look like!—Brendan Hogan



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- ODOR REDUCTION SYSTEM W/ LARGE CARBON SCRUBBER
- INCLUDED 4-32 PLANT HYDROPONIC SYSTEM W/ DUAL AIR PUMP
- COMMERCIAL LOCKS FOR ULTIMATE SECURITY
- DUAL PROGRAMMABLE DIGITAL TIMER



*** ON SALE! MODULAR MOTHER CLONER**

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- ODOR REDUCTION SYSTEM W/ LARGE CARBON SCRUBBER
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- COMMERCIAL LOCKS FOR ULTIMATE SECURITY
- DUAL PROGRAMMABLE DIGITAL TIMER



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PURPOSE: DRIES YOUR FRESH HERBS QUICKLY (NO MOLD), AND ODOR FREE

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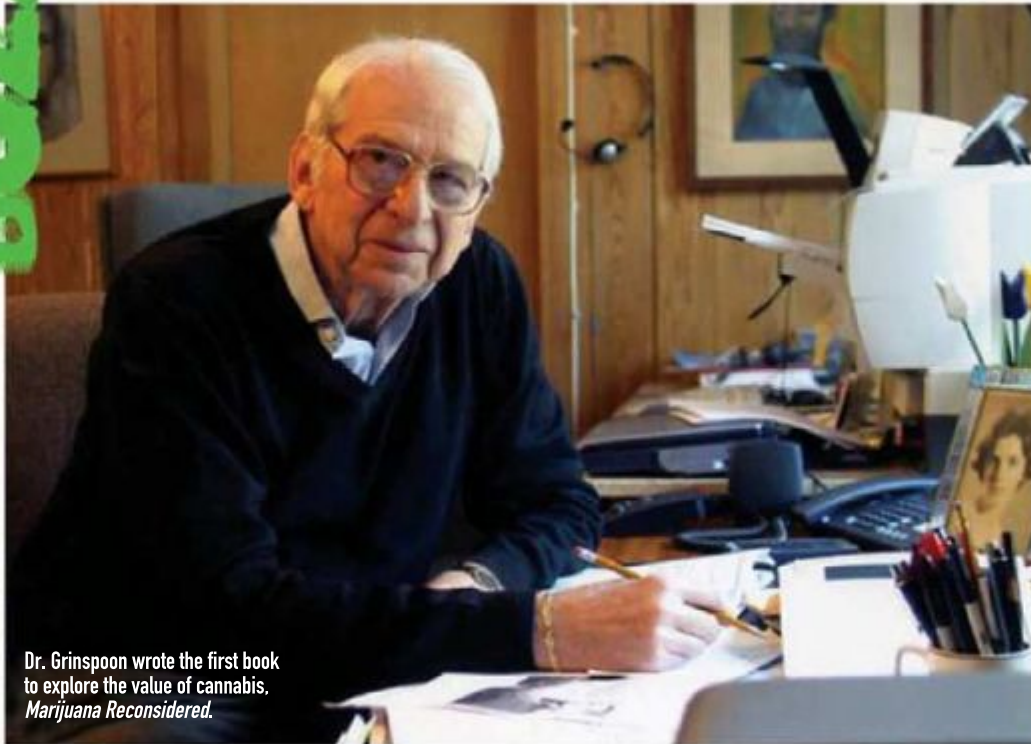
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Dr. Grinspoon wrote the first book to explore the value of cannabis, *Marijuana Reconsidered*.

THE GOOD DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION: LESTER GRINSPOON

Dr. Lester Grinspoon, associate professor emeritus of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, is to marijuana-law reform what Bob Dylan is to songwriting: They both pretty much influenced everything that came after.

Grinspoon's 1971 book, *Marijuana Reconsidered* (Harvard University Press), was the first to explore the benefits of the plant beyond stoner anecdote and place them squarely in the realm of medical science. At that time, Grinspoon had never tried pot. Still, he became the world's No. 1 expert witness for the defense of marijuana smokers. In 1972, he finally smoked a joint and became marijuana's No. 1 fan.

In 1993, he published *Marijuana: The Forbidden Medicine*, which helped bolster the increasingly credible claims of medical-marijuana activists. The following year, he helped save NORML—reconstituting the organization's board of directors, serving as chairman, and putting in place a management team that continues to this day.

Currently in retirement, Dr. Grinspoon runs two websites: rxmarijuana.com, which features thousands of anecdotes concerning the medical uses of marijuana, and marijuana-uses.com, which solicits essays relating to the positive effects that marijuana has had on people's lives. We caught up with Dr. Grinspoon one week after his 80th birthday.

A new study out of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine links marijuana use to schizophrenia. What's your take on this?

The attempt to find significant harmfulness in marijuana has come full circle—it has run out of territory. Those seeking toxicity in this plant have looked at everything from chromosome breakage to deficiency of testosterone to causation of violent behavior. Every time a new marijuana toxicity is published, failures to replicate the study follow.

What we are seeing now is the revisiting of old claims that marijuana causes mental-health problems, which are the most difficult to refute.

These claims inspired the British Indian Hemp Drugs Commission Study of 1894, the first of many government-sponsored commissions, all of which have refuted those claims. In my opinion, these claims are utter nonsense. There is no evidence anywhere in the world that the prevalence of schizophrenia is any higher now—four decades after I wrote my book on schizophrenia—than it was then. If marijuana use contributed to this prevalence—one investigator claims that 40 percent of young people who used cannabis would eventually become schizophrenic—why isn't there a spike in the prevalence statistics? If it weren't so serious a problem that these people keep seeking the devil in this drug, it would be laughable.

Do you see a new round of reefer madness developing?

Yes, there are now reports claiming young people who smoke marijuana now are more likely to develop depression in the future. This is even more of a stretch because, in fact, marijuana is a good antidepressant for many people.

One has to read these studies with a great deal of skepticism. One always has to look at where the funding comes from. The recent news about the means by which drug companies have influenced some psychiatrists who do research on psychiatric medicines attests to this.

Your website encourages people to write about how marijuana has enhanced their lives. Explain your concept of enhancement.

What does marijuana do? Why do we want use it? There are three overlapping areas of interest.

One, it's recreational—it's fun. Two, it has remarkable medical utility: It's one of the safest medically useful drugs, and it has considerable medical versatility. Sometime in the future, it

will generally be accepted as one of the least toxic and, for a number of symptoms and syndromes, one of the most effective of medicines.

But there's a third reason many of us use marijuana. This is what I call enhancement. The enhancement of culinary experience is readily available to anyone who gets high. The enhancement of sexual experience also seems to be universally available. But I think one has to actually learn to make use of marijuana's capacity to enhance a variety of other experiences. It is not illusionary that many of us believe there are other experiences marijuana can enhance—such as using it for creative work, whether it's writing or graphic work, painting or architecture; or for pleasure, such as listening to music or taking a stroll in the woods; or the achievement of insight or *spiritual* enhancement, to name a few. Enhancing these capacities with marijuana is, I believe, something you have to learn, and to do that learning requires more than a casual experience. I think many—if not most people—give up on marijuana before they can discover what it may be able to do for them in terms of enhancement. And that's a shame.

I think it also enhances even sentimentality, because it temporarily diminishes the skein of history from one's past-looking vision. It can bring focus to aspects of one's personal history, including its affective experiences.

Would you say marijuana has enhanced your life?

There are four things that have shaped my firm belief that I've had a wonderful life. Aside from the usual kinds of problems life presents, I've had a most fulfilling life largely due to, in order of importance, my wife, my children, my work and, finally, at age 44, my personal discovery of the variety of uses of marijuana. My only caveat—a fanciful one—is that I think that I would have found my work even more fulfilling if I had lived in a time when I, as a psychotherapist, could have helped people who have difficulty using marijuana and assist people in making fuller use of marijuana's capacity for enhancement.

But marijuana's not for everybody, right?

Absolutely, just as lots of things are not for everybody. But it's important to distinguish the difference between it not being right for someone because he doesn't like the experience or it doesn't suit him or he believes it's harmful to him, and it not being right because it's forbidden by law. We don't know how many people, in a society free of legal or social penalties, would find it useful—even a blessing. But we live in a culture where this kind of discussion was the moral gravity of the time. It's as though the prohibition doctrine is almost sacred: It *cannot* be questioned. In fact, in the present milieu, the ideas are seen by many as repugnant.

It's a shame that so many are so closed to this experience—not just a stoned experience, but to the possibility that they could learn to use marijuana responsibly, and in ways which enhance many of life's experiences. I think they are missing something.—Richard Cusick



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TOP 10 NEW CHALLENGES

NORML lists the legal problems created by pot prohibition.

Every 38 seconds in the US, someone is arrested on cannabis charges. In 2006 alone, 830,000 people were busted—nearly 90 percent of them for the offense of possession only. The vast majority of citizens arrested on cannabis-related charges fall into the predictable categories: possession, cultivation, sales, transportation, conspiracy, driving under the influence and paraphernalia (where applicable). For most of these offenses, established case law exists and the typical defenses are known. However, the clashes between citizens and institutions are increasing. Here are the Top 10 legal conundrums that NORML is currently tracking that go beyond the “average” pot bust:

1. Medical patients—especially state-sanctioned medical-marijuana patients who have a physician’s recommendation to use cannabis—have been denied access to organ transplants because they’ve tested positive for cannabis, often resulting in the patient’s needless suffering and/or death.
2. Medical patients—especially state-sanctioned medical-marijuana patients who have a physician’s recommendation to use cannabis—have been denied access to pain clinics, Veterans Administration hospitals and even their medication because they’ve tested positive for cannabis.
3. Parents who use cannabis have had their custodial rights challenged and their children taken away and moved to foster care. Again, this includes people who are state-sanctioned med-pot patients and have a physician’s recommendation to use cannabis.
4. The ability to cross international borders with Canada, Mexico and Caribbean countries has been increasingly denied. Americans and Canadians are often turned away at the border because of a past arrest for cannabis (or any other drug-related offense, including DUI). More disturbing, citizens from both countries can be denied entry absent any criminal record. A citizen’s name can be “Googled”; if any entries are found that might lead border agents to believe that a citizen is sympathetic to cannabis, entry can be denied.

5. State reciprocity laws must be enacted to end the arrest and prosecution of medical-marijuana patients who cross state lines. For example, state-sanctioned med-pot patients from California are subject to arrest in states like Oregon, Washington, Nevada and Colorado simply for possessing their medicine.
6. In states like Arizona, US Customs and Immigration Enforcement agents are setting up roadblocks hundreds of miles from the border under the pretext of trying to catch undocumented workers. Often, they do little more than bust cannabis (and other drug) consumers and smugglers. These federal roadblocks skirt a 2000 US Supreme Court decision (*Indianapolis v. Edmond*) that largely prohibits random roadblocks on highways.
7. Non-citizens who have been arrested on cannabis and drug-related charges are being denied their ability to assert individual rights, constitutional protections and legal defenses because of their immigration status.
8. Cannabis consumers who claim a religious exemption to the Controlled Substances Act continue to be arrested on cannabis-related charges.
9. Students and faculty at state universities and colleges who are state-sanctioned med-pot patients have been denied exemptions from the laws that prohibit cannabis on school property.
10. The ever-increasing law-enforcement reliance on high-tech interdiction devices and body-scanning machines has led to numerous legal challenges in the courts. Citizens traveling via car, train or air can be exposed to numerous invasive technologies calibrated to detect pot in a pocket or handbag. Devices such as ion scanners, full-body scans, gamma-ray devices, computer-operated sniffing devices and the use of DNA to track cannabis from the grower to the end-consumer are already in use.—Allen St. Pierre, Executive Director of NORML. Visit norml.org or call (888) 67-NORML.

Ask Dr. Mitch



Dr. Mitch,
Is there any research showing that marijuana improves people’s appreciation of music?

K. Armstrong

Hi K,
The French authors Balzac and Gautier both reported that eating large doses of hash made them enjoy music more. (They also claimed that it helped them hear music even when it wasn’t really playing, which I find hard to believe.) In 1971, Dr. Charles Tart published a study in which respondents stated that they understood the meaning of song lyrics better after smoking. So it sounds like an empirical question to me ... better do some research!

I keep hearing these rants about how there’s more THC in pot each year, and also more arrests each year. It seems like the more arrests there are, the stronger the pot gets.

T.T.G.

Hi T.T.G.,
Good point! I looked at the arrest rates and the THC estimates from 1990 through today. As arrest rates increase, so does THC content. The correlation is .80—essentially huge! Of course, it’s just a correlation. Nevertheless, some folks point out that alcohol prohibition had a comparable effect: Beer, which was especially cumbersome to carry given its low percentage of alcohol, was replaced with high-octane liquor that was easier to sneak around. For what it’s worth, stronger cannabis is no more dangerous than the weaker stuff; people just end up smoking less. And smoking less reduces lung irritation for those who don’t vaporize.

What’s this new chemical in marijuana that’s supposed to be good for what ails you?

F. Brown

Hi F.,
You might mean beta-caryophyllene, which occurs in marijuana and lots of spices, including cinnamon. It stops inflammation by activating the CB2 receptor, the site where cannabis and other substances work in the immune system. (Beta-caryophyllene doesn’t get folks high, though.) Of course, we’ve know that marijuana alleviates inflammation since at least 2800 BCE or so; it’s just nice to find out how.

Dr. Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany. He is the author of *Understanding Marijuana and The Parents’ Guide to Marijuana*. Got a question for Dr. Mitch? Email him at 420research@gmail.com.

FREEDOM FIGHTER

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An attorney creates activists.

NORML often receives calls that go something like this: “Hi, I recently got busted near Fredericksburg, VA, for a bag of weed. I went to your webpage, looked up a lawyer and met with him. He was really nice, and he told me he’d take the case at a reduced rate—but only if I joined NORML and stood up for my own personal freedom, so that maybe someday soon I wouldn’t have to hire a guy like him.”

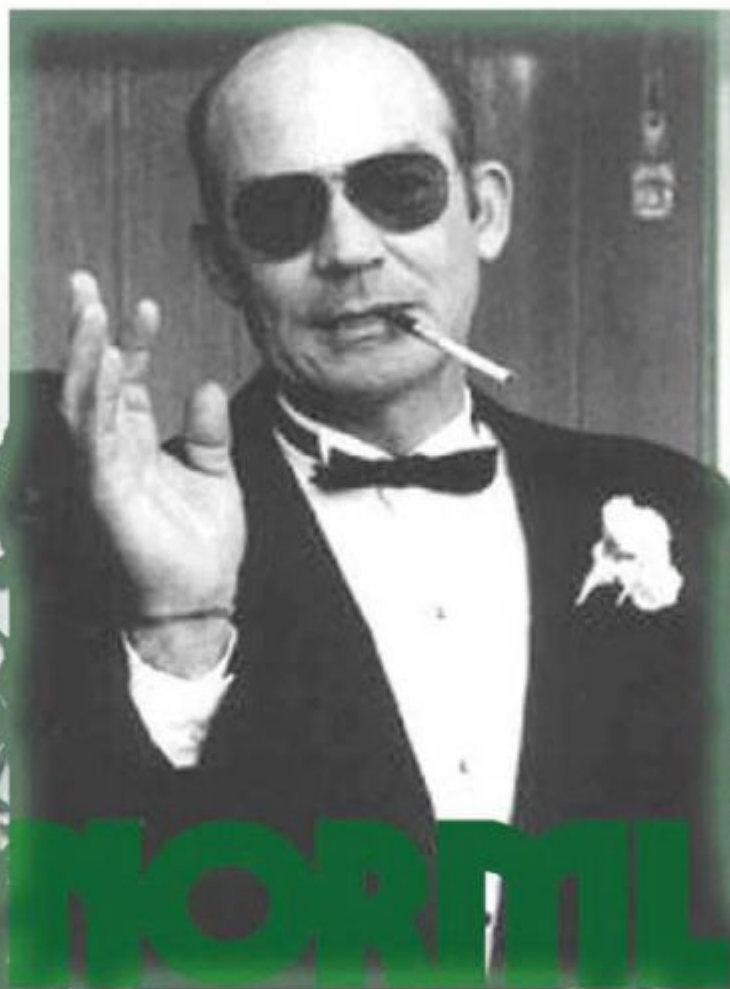
Callers are referring to Virginia lawyer Joseph Caprio, affectionately known as “Joooeey!”

He’s a longtime member of NORML’s National Legal Committee, a 500-member society of “cannabis counselors” who, along with the 130 NORML chapters around the country, make up the organization’s 38-year-old heart and soul. One of the more colorful characters to brighten our rainbow patchwork of citizen-activists, Caprio’s a lively contributor to NORML’s legal seminars for attorneys, and he enjoys grabbing the initiative—like purchasing 80 classic NORML T-shirts on a whim to give to every member of every band (Cross Canadian Ragweed, Reckless Kelly, the Randy Rogers Band, the Band of Heathens, George Devore and Stony Larue) playing on a jam cruise he took, as well as to “cool” members of the cruise staff.

Representing the cannabis community in the Northern Neck area of Virginia, Caprio encourages his clients to join NORML in return for a break in lawyer costs. Religions call this practice “tithing”; in the legal community, it’s called “good karma.”—ASP



Joseph Caprio



NORML

888-67-NORML
www.norml.org

"I have always loved marijuana. It has been a source of joy and comfort to me for many years. And I still think of it as a basic staple of life, along with beer and ice and grapefruits - and millions of Americans agree with me."

-Hunter S. Thompson

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**Comedian Artie Lange—
not necessarily
beautiful, but stoned.**
By Jim Hall

THE JERSEY DEVIL

Listeners of *The Howard Stern Show* know that sideman Artie Lange is no stranger to getting fucked up. The comedian has been part of the wildly successful radio program since stoner Jackie “the Jokeman” Martling left in 2001, and he’s earned a reputation as a blue-collar guy in the white-collar world of showbiz, thanks to the seemingly endless supply of drugs-and-booze-laced stories that have made the New Jersey native almost as important to the show as Stern himself.

Lange was a comedic actor on the rise where he was tapped to fill what Stern fans referred to as “the Jackie chair.” With a résumé that included two years on ABC’s *The Norm Show*, a stint as an original member of Fox’s *MadTV*, and roles in films like *Dirty Work*, *Jerry Maguire* and *Mystery Men*, Lange was working his way up the Hollywood ladder when the Stern people came a-knockin’. The 40-year-old funnyman began his radio career by subtly interjecting one-liners into Stern’s routines, but his role grew once Stern decided to give more airtime to tales from Lange’s debauched past—such as waking up in a bed full of shit (his own) after snorting cocaine through a pig costume on the set of *MadTV*, or punching a police officer who was arresting him for cocaine possession. These tales have transformed the comedian into the working man’s anti-hero.

Honesty is the key to Lange’s success, as he revels in all of his vices—which have included gambling, food, prostitutes, cocaine, heroin and alcohol—through both his on- and off-air personalities. But this openness comes at a price: The 300-pounder was turned down for life insurance after a company searched the Internet and found five websites, including artielangedeathwatch.com, that were predicting his imminent demise in a tongue-in-cheek manner. Situations like these are merely the collateral damage that comes with the territory, says Lange; they won’t cause him to pull back or withhold the edgier material from his listeners’ ears.

“Norm Macdonald told me to be genuine,” he says. “That’s how I created my popularity—I had all these loser stories that are true. Why not turn them into a positive? I’m going to leave my heart out there—all laid out, all the shitty things I’ve done.”

In 2004, the Stern show broadcast from the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. At one point, Lange became so drunk that crew mem-

bers carted him around in a wheelchair, but that wasn’t the most memorable incident of the weekend. While Lange was asleep in his room, regular Stern caller Captain Janks pranked Las Vegas’s KLAS-TV by reporting the comedian’s death. The station aired the story, and it almost became nationwide news. But Lange wasn’t too bent out of shape at the reports of his own demise: When you’re part of *The Howard Stern Show*, he says, you have to be a good sport about being the butt of a joke.

“I thought it was funny,” he says. “But my God, it wouldn’t have been funny if it had

made it to the national news and my mother saw that. It was so surreal—the reporter read my epitaph on the news. The details were astonishing. They said the Hard Rock confirmed my death. The funny part was, I was only 35, and people completely believed it.”

Lange’s struggles with booze, cocaine and heroin have been recounted on the air and in his stand-up act. He’s been to rehab for alcohol and cocaine, and, although he’s well aware of the rules for sober living, finds smoking weed to be an area where he and the 12-step programs differ.

“I have no problem with calling myself



The dark side of comedy.

'I have no problem with calling myself clean and sober if I had just smoked a joint five minutes ago—I really don't see anything evil about it on any level except that it's illegal.'

"I turned 12 in 1979, and every movie that people thought was cool, like *Animal House*, had insane drug use," Lange says. "Smoking weed was completely glorified; there's nothing in that movie that says it's bad. Anyone who had an older brother could get weed. Once I got high for the first time, I always wanted to be high."

Although he's snorted enough cocaine and heroin and drunk enough booze to make even rock stars jealous, Lange says the most intense high he's ever had came from some California chronic.

"When I was 27, I went out to LA for the first time to shoot the *MadTV* pilot," he recounts. "Afterwards, there was a big party that Fox threw at the Hollywood Athletic Club. This 18-year-old kid, who was the son of one of the show's producers, and a couple of the writers asked if I wanted to get high, and I said, 'Yeah, what the fuck.' The kid told me to be careful, because it was really strong. It was the first time I ever heard the term 'chronic.' It was glowing orange and looked intimidating. I was 27 and on my high horse: this fucking rich kid telling *me*? I took four or five hits off this pipe, and I don't remember any more. I got back to the apartment and, around 2 a.m., I just lost it. I was paranoid, seeing things and standing on my head on the couch, trying to get the demons out of me. I literally flipped out—it was crazy. Of all the strong drugs I've done, weed was the worst experience."

Next on Lange's agenda is a book called *Too Fat to Fish*, a term that his mother used years ago to dedescribe her son's fishing expeditions.

The 208-page collection is based on events in Lange's always exciting life; about half of the book is material that even the most diehard Stern fan has yet to hear.

"About 50 to 60 percent of the book is stories I haven't told," Lange says. "At least half—if not more—is about drug use. One full chapter is all about my late twenties, when cocaine was my drug of choice, and how it made my life chaos. Later, there are stories about my thirties, when heroin came into my life."

Whether it's on the Sirius Satellite Radio airwaves, doing stand-up, or taking on a film or television role, Lange always delivers the goods. What's next for the comedian is unknown, but one thing's for certain: His next job probably won't be as a life coach. ✨

clean and sober if I had just smoked a joint five minutes ago," Lange says. "In rehab, people go there just for weed—it's a joke. I *never* understood that, because of all the drugs, it's probably a million times healthier than liquor. I really don't see anything evil about it on any level except that it's illegal, which creates a criminal enterprise that causes violence. It's *nature*, for chrissakes."

In fact, Lange and other Stern staffers recently took a trip to Amsterdam for a bachelor party and found surprises there of more than just the weed variety.

"We went into one of the coffeeshops, and I smoked a blunt," Lange says. "It was amazing—I

don't know if it was psychological because I was in Amsterdam, but it was the smoothest, best experience I'd ever had with it. I walked all through the city, and the best way I can describe it is like the Jimi Hendrix song, 'Are You Experienced?' In it, he says, 'Have you ever been experienced/Not necessarily stoned/But beautiful.' Whatever Hendrix meant by that. It was beautiful. Another thing they have is pancakes. I got stoned, walked around and ate pancakes. It was a peaceful, wonderful afternoon."

With a drug history longer than a 40-yard first down, Lange says his torrid past can be traced back to his adolescence in the late 1970s and early 1980s—a time when popular culture first embraced drugs as a teenage rite of passage.



Antibalas prepare for another gig. Trumpeter Jordan McLean (third from the left) and band founder Martin Perna (in white suit, third from the right) speak out about hemp and marijuana.

BUD, BEATS AND ANTIBALAS

After 10 years of performing their incredible rhythms for dancing crowds large and small, the members of the musical collective known as the Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra still feel invigorated. In this climate of war, famine and ecological disaster, their potent musical message has never been more relevant. By Danny Danko

Antibalas, from the Bushwick section of Brooklyn in New York City, take their name from the Spanish word for “bulletproof,” and their music certainly commands instant respect. Known for their amazing live shows—sometimes with members of the legendary Fela Kuti’s band sitting in—Antibalas quickly make their mark on anyone who hears them. Their unique combination of funk, soul, jazz, Latin and dub, with plenty of drums and blasting horns, proves irresistible, and crowds have been known to dance until they drop at many an Antibalas show.

Sitting down with members of the band for an interview before a recent hometown gig, I can’t help but marvel at their ability to weave so many distinct personalities into a cohesive force. There are a variety of opinions represented here, yet each and every member of the band speaks of Antibalas in terms of a musical mission to enlighten the world regarding the injustice and the indignities suffered by the poor and oppressed.

I ask them if it’s difficult to keep chugging along and coming up with new songs and ideas, and they respond that the Bush regime has made it “too easy.” When I inquire about the anti-war leaflets on their merchandise table, outspoken trumpeter Jordan McLean replies with a hint of bemusement: “Yeah, we’re against women and children getting killed in the name of big oil—that’s our stance.”

Antibalas have performed in 23 countries and in settings as varied as Central Park’s SummerStage and the Rikers Island jail facility in New York. When I ask them about the latter, band founder and sax player Martin Perna says: “It was an interesting gig. At the end, when you’re packing up your gear, you wanna say to them ‘See ya later,’ but the truth is you won’t.”

That’s when Jordan jumps in: “The food was absolutely atrocious—another example of the system’s disregard for basic human rights. The prohibition of cannabis is one crime against humanity,” he continues, “but the prohibition of industrial hemp is the big problem. I think industrial hemp could solve a lot of problems right now as far as fuel sources, food shortages, land use. Some of the band doesn’t smoke weed, but we all agree on industrial hemp.”

“I smoke weed,” Martin says, “but I think it should be done responsibly. People aren’t teaching their kids the right time to start smoking and drinking, and we see problems as a result of that. When used responsibly, it can

‘WE’RE BIG SUPPORTERS OF CANNABIS USE IN ALL FORMS—CLOTHING, SHOES, TEAS FOR YOUR MIND.’

bring families and generations together. We’re big supporters of cannabis use in all forms—clothing, shoes, teas for your mind.” I ask them where they’ve found the best marijuana on tour; the answer: “BC, baby—Vancouver and Victoria. Santa Fe treated us pretty nicely as well; can’t forget Santa Fe. We always appreciate when fans help take care of us.” And the toughest place to score some bud? “Cuba! I got like half a roach the whole time I was there. Japan is rough, too.”

Martin suddenly gets serious and leans in to tell me: “My mother suffered for eight years with breast cancer in the state of Pennsylvania. Her doctor told her off the record that the best thing he could prescribe was marijuana, but he couldn’t officially do it. I got her a vaporizer and made some medicinal blends containing herb as well as raspberry leaves and some other stuff. It really helped her out with the nausea, and calming her nerves and taking away some of the side effects of the chemo. At the same time, she was prescribed all these pills that cost \$50 each and had crazy side effects. When I saw the difference, I couldn’t believe the callousness of lawmakers to stand in the way of such a medicine.”

Lately, Antibalas have been taking plenty of chances artistically (including an Off-Broadway stint collaborating with famed choreographer Bill T. Jones on *Fela!*, a musical about the founding father of Afrobeat and his short lifetime of struggle against the Nigerian government), and their sonic journey continues into another decade of opening minds with their incredibly spiritual and political music.

“Yes, we’re political,” Martin says, “but we’re still about people getting together, smoking a bunch of weed and dancing to our music.”

Any last words for the HIGH TIMES readership?

“Vote!” 🌿
*Learn more about Antibalas at antibalas.com or myspace.com/antibalas. Check out Martin Perna’s solo project, *Ocote Soul Sounds*, and his new album, *The Alchemist Manifesto*, a collaboration with Adrian Quesada (founding member of Austin, TX’s *Grupo Fantasma*), at ocotesoul.com or myspace.com/ocotesoulsounds.*

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ALIENS, MY FLAMING PURPLE ASS!

Inner Paths to Outer Space: Journeys to Alien Worlds Through Psychedelics and Other Spiritual Technologies
Rick Strassman, Slawek Wojtowicz, Luis Eduardo Luna and Ede Frecska
(Park Street Press)



I took my first dose of LSD on Dec. 5, 1968; the last time I took it was sometime in 1994. I'd estimate conservatively that I took LSD about 500 times in the intervening years. I've also taken DMT, mescaline, MDA, TMA, 2CB and mushrooms of various types; dabbled with PCP (which I do *not* recommend to anyone); and had one perfectly amazing and shockingly arduous ayahuasca session under the supervision of a hobbit shaman from the mountains of Peru.

In the course of these psychedelic adventures, I have had some remarkable hallucinations, including (but not limited to) psychic unification with various plants, altercations with demons of every shape, size and description (Tibetan demons are the worst), total lycanthropic transformation, being devoured from within by spiders, being eaten by a 65-foot maggot, getting stuck on the event horizon of a black hole, angelic discourse with flying Christmas-tree ornaments, time travel (in both directions, sometimes at once), and intimate knowledge of the universe as depicted by H.P. Lovecraft and Philip K. Dick.

At no point in my life—stoned, drunk, tripping or stone-cold sober—have I ever experienced anything that might remotely be construed as contact with extraterrestrials. The hallucinations experienced under the influence of psychedelics can provide valuable insights and epiphanies, but one must never lose sight of the basic fact that *hallucinations are, by definition, not "real."* At least not in the sense that a chair, a bong or a steroid-enhanced cop with a Taser and a Glock are real.

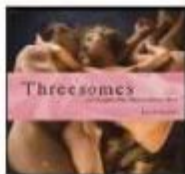
Rick Strassman and his cohorts are completely nuts to suggest that psychedelic drugs provide access to "alien worlds" and extraterrestrial beings. It's bad enough when Strassman, a clinical associate professor of psychiatry at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, openly states that DMT is a doorway to "parallel worlds" and links the DMT experience to the alien-abduction phenomena; it's even worse when his associate Slawek Wojtowicz offers us this revelation from a wannabe cult leader named Gary Renard:

"Renard's friends from the future also warned about the new leader of Iran, who, according to them, is an insane extremist who should not be fooled with or dismissed lightly. They claim that he is the man who Nostradamus described as the biggest threat to the cities of the West. They told him that this man will be involved in some capacity in setting off a nuclear device in one or more big cities such as Tel Aviv, London, New York, and Los Angeles."

Extraterrestrials, Atlantis, Nostradamus, DMT and *LET'S HAVE ANOTHER REALLY STUPID WAR!* The hidden agenda of this book scares me more than any 65-foot maggot ever did.—**Alan Cabal**

LAINIE SPEISER

Threesomes: For Couples Who Want to Know More
(Quiver)



"When you're feeling good about the people you're with, good things happen. So you're hanging out drinking wine, smoking grass, listening to some music, laughing and joking. It's all very tranquil and happy"

What happens next? Well, if you've been carefully studying a new book called *Threesomes: For Couples Who Want to Know More*, possibly the best night of your life. Calling on both her personal experiences as a columnist for *Penthouse* magazine and the true-life accounts of her sexy circle of friends, author Lainie Speiser spills the beans on one of the most forbidden—and frequent—fantasies of men, women and couples, including the down-and-dirty details on how to segue from an evening of seduction into a night of three-way passion.

Whether you're the man or the woman, part of the loving couple or the sought-after third wheel, this intriguing guidebook features fun, practical advice on how to make your next (or first) *ménage à trois* a satisfying experience for everyone involved. For starters, relax, communicate and count your lucky stars. Remember, your partner doesn't want to be pressured into *anything*—but that doesn't mean an out-of-this-world threesome isn't something we all lust after in our hearts.

And, oh yeah, *Threesomes* includes plenty of tasteful, full-page photos of multi-partner couplings happening in the flesh, each one worth at least a thousand words of inspiration.—**Dave Bienenstock**

THE FIERY FURNACES

Remember
(Thrill Jockey)



Call them a "progressive punk" band, an "art rock" ensemble or maybe an avant-blues-jazz-funk-pop-opera-Broadway proposition of some sort. The NYC-based brother-and-sister duo the Fiery Furnaces—multi-instrumentalist Matthew Friedberger and singer Eleanor Friedberger—have, over the span of several head-spinning albums, combined and chameleoned all of the above-mentioned styles into a thrillingly recombinant genetic soup of musical genres and forms.

The Furnaces' new *Remember* is a double-CD set of live recordings that serves as a retrospective of the band's career—yet it takes said career and mutates the memories into virtually brand-new musical vistas. Though *Remember* is the band's most radical rethink-and-revision project ever, it isn't their first. They once toured with a completely retooled version of *Rehearsing the Choir*, and another tour—for *Bitter Tea*—also employed drastically rearranged versions of that album's songs.

There's a lot of that rocked-up *Bitter Tea* material on *Remember*, as well as remade/remodeled versions of songs from their super-literate avant-music-hall debut, *Gallowsbird's Bark*, and their progressive-pop pirate's tale, *Blueberry Boat*. The thing is, Matthew Friedberger and frequent touring-band bassist/guitarist Jason Lowenstein have taken both the studio originals and the live versions of these songs and *thoroughly* messed with them—and us. *Remember's* fractured stitchings and stackings of the Fiery Furnaces catalog comes to resemble an opera *about* the band, starring the band.—**John Payne**

SPIRITUALIZED

Songs in A&E
(Castle Records)



It's been at least a decade since *Spiritualized* was at the top of their game with their majestic '97 space-psych masterpiece, *Ladies & Gentlemen We Are Floating in Space*. The intervening years found leader Jason Pierce going denser without expanding his palette or tightening his songwriting. Since his days with the acid-soaked drone rockers Spacemen 3, Pierce has generally gravitated toward big, thick, crowded canvases, so perhaps his last album, 2003's more basic *Amazing Grace*, was a step toward the stirring renewal of *Songs in A&E*, which showcases a shambling lo-fi sound that's very intimate and less ornate.

The orchestral touches and angelic backing vocals are still there, but they're employed far less frequently. Credit a near-death experience that landed Pierce in the hospital, in the Accident and Emergency ward (thus the title), with a nearly fatal case of double pneumonia. While he avers that most of the album was written before his illness, it's hard not to read into the music's haunted, antiseptic, almost institutional air (see the ventilator that underscores "Death Take Your Fiddle") or the wisps of hopeful resilience.

Songs in A&E recalls Pink Floyd's *The Final Cut*. Not that it doesn't rock: The gaunt, Stony strut of "I Gotta Fire," the sweltering folk-blues "Yeah Yeah" and the chunky, distortion-drenched "You Lie You Cheat" all find *Spiritualized* flexing their guns, but it's the quieter moments—like the jangly, uplifting love paeans "Baby Just a Fool" and "Soul on Fire"—that really define the album.—**Chris Parker**

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BRAIN DAMAGE CONTROL

REMEMBERING GEORGE CARLIN

BY PAUL KRASSNER

In December 1962, when Lenny Bruce was arrested for obscenity at the Gate of Horn in Chicago, the police broke open his candy bars, looking for dope. They also checked the IDs of audience members, including that of George Carlin, who told the cops, "I don't believe in IDs." Then they arrested *him* for disorderly conduct, dragged him along by the seat of his pants and hoisted him into the police wagon.

"What are *you* doing here?" Lenny asked. "I didn't want to show them my ID."

"You schmuck," said Lenny.

Lenny and Carlin had similar points of view—for example, they were both outspoken about the decriminalization of drugs—and they were both self-educated, but their working styles were different. Lenny didn't write his material—it evolved onstage—whereas Carlin wrote down all his routines and then memorized them.

Susie Bright, who first heard Carlin when she was in seventh grade, recalls playing his *Class Clown* album for her mother, "a woman whose first 20 years were entirely dominated by the Irish Catholic Church—and it was a comic exorcism for her. She peed in her pants! She was cured in one LP!" (which is what we called long-playing vinyl records back in those days).

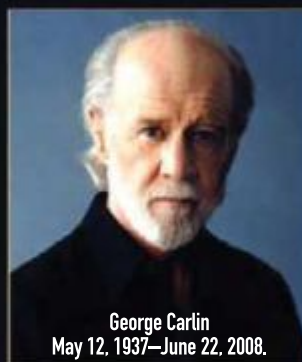
Carlin was a generous friend, and such a sweet man. When I performed in Los Angeles, he sent a limousine to pick me up at the airport, and I stayed at his home. More recently, when I opened for him at the Warner-Grand Theater in San Pedro, CA, we were hanging around in his dressing room, where he was nibbling from a vegetable plate. I watched as he continued to be genuinely gracious with every fan who stopped by. If they wanted his autograph, he would gladly sign his name. If they wanted to be photographed with him, he would assume the pose. If they wanted to have a little chat, he indulged them with congeniality.

"You really show respect for everybody," I observed.

"Well," he responded, "that's just the way I would want to be treated."

As a performer, Carlin was uncompromising, knowing that his audience trusted him not to be afraid of offending them. Who else would have posed this rhetorical question: "Why are there no recreational drugs in suppository form?" I was pleased to inform him that teenage girls have been experimenting with tampons dipped in vodka as a way of getting intoxicated without their parents detecting booze on their breath.

Carlin provided an introduction to one of my books, *Murder at the Conspiracy Conven-*



George Carlin
May 12, 1937–June 22, 2008.

tion. Referring to the 1960s, he wrote: "As America entered the Magic Decade, I was leading a double life. I had been a rule-bender and law-breaker since first grade. A highly developed disregard for authority got me kicked out of three schools, the altar boys, the choir, summer camp, the Boy Scouts and the Air Force. I didn't trust the police or the government, and I

didn't like bosses of any kind. I had become a pot smoker at 13 (1950), an unheard-of act in an old-fashioned Irish neighborhood. It managed to get me through my teens ...

"My affection for pot continued and my disregard for standard values increased, but they lagged behind my need to succeed. The Playboy Club, Merv Griffin, Ed Sullivan and the Copacabana were all part of a path I found uncomfortable but necessary during the early 1960s. But as the decade churned along and the country changed, I did too. Despite working in 'establishment' settings, as a veteran malcontent I found myself hanging out in coffee houses and folk clubs with others who were out-of-step people who fell somewhere between beatnik and hippie. Hair got longer, clothes got stranger, music got better. It became more of a strain for me to work for straight audiences. I took acid and mescaline. My sense of being on the outside intensified. I changed.

"All through this period I was sustained and motivated by *The Realist*, Paul Krassner's incredible magazine of satire, revolution and just plain disrespect. It arrived every month, and with it, a fresh supply of inspiration. I can't overstate how important it was to me at the time. It allowed me to see that others who disagreed with the American consensus were busy expressing those feelings and using risky humor to do so. Paul's own writing, in particular, seemed daring and adventurous to me; it took big chances and made important arguments in relentlessly funny ways.

You can imagine how incredibly honored I felt.

Carlin told an audience of children how to be a class clown as a way of attracting attention. "I didn't start out with fake heart attacks in the aisle," he explained. Ah, if only that's what he was doing this time. But a reporter did once ask him how he wanted to die.

"I'd like to explode spontaneously in someone's living room," he replied. "That, to me, is the way to go out."

And, through his CDs, DVDs and books, George Carlin does indeed continue to explode spontaneously in living rooms across the country. ✨

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LEAVING LAS VEGAS

Dawn is coming up in Vegas now: 4:20 a.m. I can feel the rumble of early-morning hunger in my gut as I load up the car. Stuffed with her numerous plants and two cats, the back-seat of my girlfriend's Saturn resembled an episode of *Wild Kingdom* on wheels. These were the last of her worldly possessions, the rest having already been boxed and bound for the Big Apple. She was leaving a lot behind to become my Future First Lady (FFL): her family, friends, the dry heat of the Southwestern desert—not to mention a crazy ex-roommate who'd shut the power off on her. Jesus, what were we doing? Were we really about to drive 3,000 miles and crash our lives into one another?

As we lit a joint and watched the Strip melt away in the rearview mirror, I couldn't help but think of Hunter speeding off into the desert at the end of *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*. In his classic "wave" speech, he suggested that this godforsaken Gomorrah of gambling, glitter and tits was where the American Dream had beached itself and choked on its own filth. For me, however, this was where the Dream was about to be reborn: My harebrained ambition had mutated this cross-country road trip into a twisted homage to my journalistic idol. And like his iconic gonzo dagger, the BBD Express was fixin' to carve the heart outta the heartland and devour it raw.

We skimmed across the top of Arizona and into Utah, cruising through Monument Valley just before sunset and winding up in Mexican Hat for the night, where we enjoyed some live honky-tonk and gorged ourselves on charred sirloin and Polygamy Porter. In the morning, we took a rugged detour through the Valley of the Gods, gobbled down a Navajo taco at Twin Rock, then headed north through flat, dry Utah. As we crossed east into Colorado, the landscape changed dramatically—springing to life with furry green slopes and jagged white peaks. We began our twisting ascent into the Rockies; the air thinned and cooled, and the Southwestern sun bid us farewell, painting the mountainsides in a blushed pink glow. As I puffed on a bowl of Strawberry Cough, my mind traveled north, to the small town of Woody Creek that Hunter called home. Had the good doctor not bought a one-way ticket to that great freak show in the sky, a pack of rabid hyenas wouldn't have kept me from paying him a visit. But now a pilgrimage to Owl Farm seemed pointless. In any case, we'd soon be in Denver, and at 4:20 tomorrow the circus was coming to town.

FREAK POWER IN THE ROCKIES

It was around 3:30 p.m. when we screeched up across the street from the studios of Marijuana Radio—ironically, directly in front of Barack Obama's campaign headquarters.

"Can we park here?" FFL asked.

I glanced up at the poster in the window. "Yes we can!"

In a few months, a swarm of gutless vultures would be descending on this city for the Democratic National Convention (to which I'd heinously been denied press credentials), where they will make history by nominating the first African-American—and first post-baby-boom—candidate for president. After reading *Fear and Loathing ... '72*, I'd noticed some striking similarities between this presidential race and that one. Like Barack Obama, George McGovern had been the candidate of change, the establishment outsider—an anti-candidate, if you will, an underdog who had energized the youth vote through grassroots efforts and rose to unexpected victory after a long-drawn-out, hotly contested primary battle. And like McGovern, Obama promises to begin an immediate withdrawal of troops from a costly and unpopular war.

And Iraq is looking more like Vietnam every day, isn't it? Just as the Gulf of Tonkin incident sparked our massive involvement in 'Nam, 9/11 served as a blank check for a corrupt administration, giving those demented swine carte blanche to do anything necessary to win the "war on terror"—including invading a country that didn't attack us, and wiping their asses with our Constitution. George W. Bush, like that fascist old hack Richard Nixon

before him, has been the very embodiment of what Bobby Kennedy called "the dark side of the American spirit": "If Bush wins," Hunter once said, "the planet is doomed." When that retarded frat boy was re-elected in 2004, I contemplated either moving to Amsterdam or gargling with Drano. Christ—was America really that stupid, or just that scared?

Obama, on the other hand, is the first candidate in my lifetime to genuinely inspire me. Perhaps it's naive of me to buy into his "audacity of hope"—perhaps he's just another treacherous hustler like the rest, or perhaps Washington has become too bloated a monstrosity to ever be reformed on any meaningful level. But after two terms of deceit, despair and downright evil, hope is all I have left.

The Marijuana Radio crew had gone all-out: red, white and blue balloons, streamers and flags on the walls, a White House-style podium, some patriotically attired models, and even a spread of munchies and refreshments. As I sucked down a Heineken, producer Paul Saurini took the mic and got things underway.

"Yes, this *is* what you think it is," he said ominously, holding up a big bud: "*forbidden*." His introduction was followed by a few words from the show's host (and our Miss August 2008), McKenna Stephens, and her co-host Dan K.

"It's not about just getting high—it's about breaking the stereotype by actually coming out and supporting activism, marching in the Million Marijuana March and writing letters to your congressmen," said K. "We must unite, vote and make the older generation respect the choices we've made. And this man coming up to the stage is going to help us do that—Bobby Black!"

"Hail to the Chief" thundered from the monitors as I swallowed the lump in my throat, chased it down with the last of my brew, and approached the podium.

"Hello ... my name is Bobby Black, I'm the executive editor for HIGH TIMES magazine, and I'm running for president. And yes, I *am* high right now."

The audience was composed of 30 or so local activists and fans, including members of the Front Range NORML chapter and Captain Cannabis of Generation Fucked News. As might be expected, the crowd was highly receptive to my agenda.

"If you smoke weed, if you live a lifestyle where every day you're worried about getting busted, if every day you're sneaking around and hiding your weed usage, then you have an



Marijuana Radio's Paul Saurini with the Freak Flag girls.



Choking the ign Trail '08 Part 1

Inspired by Hunter S. Thompson's classic *Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '74*, my future First Lady and I set out on an epic, week-long journey through 14 states, on a mock presidential campaign tour promoting *Smoke the Vote*. We called the *BBD Express Across America*.



Friends, stoners. Blackolytes... lend me your ears!

obligation to join NORML—you have an *obligation* to write to your congressmen, your senators. Because how dare you complain if you're going to just sit there and do nothing?

"I'm running on the Freak Power Party ticket, which I'm sure you guys here in Colorado are familiar with. An idol of mine—Dr. Hunter S. Thompson—invented that political party when he was running for sheriff of Pitkin County back in 1970. Considering my platform, I thought it appropriate to revive the party."

I rambled on for half an hour on a range of topics, including drug legalization, federalism, the separation of church and state, sexual freedom and the two marijuana-decriminalization bills currently in Congress. After my speech, I opened the floor to questions.

"Do you consider your marijuana use medicinal or recreational?" asked one activist.

After a moment's reflection, I replied: "I'd have to say that it's spiritual. It is to create and to celebrate—to medicate, meditate and masturbate. It serves so many uses in so many ways that I think the only word is 'spiritual,' because that encompasses everything. Anyone else?"

"How about hemp and industrial uses?" asked another.

"Since global warming has finally been accepted, the media talk a lot about alternative fuels—especially ethanol, which is ridiculously ineffective and actually uses crude oil to process. But nobody mentions hemp! During the debates, not one candidate said, 'How are we going to break our addiction to foreign oil? We're going to use hemp—it's a renewable resource.' That's my position."

When the Q&A was over, it was time for the membership drive.

"I don't want anyone in this room to leave here without joining NORML," I demanded—my first executive order. Then I hunkered down at a table in the corner, chatting with the fans, autographing magazines, handing out swag and signing up 25 new NORML members (including the MJ Radio staff).

When the conference concluded, I was given the official Marijuana Radio bong and asked to partake in a ceremonial hit. Unfortunately, decades of prolonged abuse have severely diminished my lung capacity, which makes emptying a large chamber a brutal chore. But for the sake of appearances, and with all eyes upon me, I fired that sonofabitch up and sucked it down. What ensued was

a 10-minute tear-drenched, red-faced, chest-collapsing choking frenzy. I felt the Fear coming on... My head was swirling in a vortex of disorientation and panic... I was unable to move, process sensory input or internal dialogue in any reasonable manner. It felt like my cerebral cortex had been injected with a massive dose of ketamine. Jesus—I was going on the air in 10 minutes! How could I go on like this? I'd sound like a brain-damaged, dope-addled buffoon! I'd be a laughingstock! My campaign was done for ...



High on the air with my Future First Lady.

Fortunately, FFL sensed my predicament and came to my rescue—leading me to a dark office where I could decompress.

"Breathe, baby, breathe," she said as she kneaded my shoulders lovingly. But 20 minutes later, her demeanor had changed from gentle maternity nurse to pissed-off locker-room coach.

"You can't just melt down like this!" she chided. "Those people out there listen to you. You're Bobby Black—your fans are counting on you. *Smoke the Vote* is counting on you. So get your shit together, get back out there and act presidential!"

Spoken like a true First Lady, I got to my feet, shook it off and stumbled into the studio, where the interview went far better than I'd expected, and ended on a high note.

"I'm sure every stoner thinks pot should be legalized ... The goal is, how do we get these people active? That's what this campaign is all about: getting every stoner to stand together and vote in a bloc and show that we exist as a real culture and should not be persecuted."

"For a guy who doesn't consider himself an activist," Saurini observed, "you sure *talk* like an activist."

WHERE THE BUFFALO ROAM

After a triumphant rally in Denver, FFL and I were off to South Dakota—where, about a month later, the final votes in this feverish primary battle would be cast. We drove all day—up into Wyoming, then east into the Black Hills, finally arriving at the antique mining town of Keystone. We feasted on buffalo steak, sarsaparilla and fresh fudge, then raced up the road for the main attraction: our greatest shrine to presidential majesty, Mount Rushmore.

We reached the monument just before dusk. Sweet baby Jesus—there they were! Larger than life, staring down their noses at us: founding fathers George Washington and Thomas Jefferson—champions of liberty, authors of a revolution, and growers of hemp. Beside them, Teddy Roosevelt, who battled corporate corruption and ushered in the Progressive Era, and Abe Lincoln, who ended slavery and held the nation together through civil war. Sadly, in a cultural sense, we're still fighting that war. Last year, while surfing the internets, I came across something that nearly made me download in my pants: two maps of the US side by side, the first a modern breakdown of red states versus blue states, the second a map of the North and South during the Civil War—and they were practically identical. Then it hit me: Some of these pigfuckers are still fighting that goddamned war! That's what all this Dixie-flag horseshit is about—the Confederacy is alive and well, slithering along just below the surface of the Republican Party like a hungry gator waiting to pounce. Christ—maybe we should've just let those filthy reptiles secede.

As the sky darkened along the Presidential Trail, we ducked into a small cave below Washington's nose to smoke a joint. For a brief moment, I allowed myself the indulgence of imagining my own face carved beside them into the rock—joint, aviator shades and all. Bobby Black: the first longhaired, pro-pot president, emancipator of the stoners, fags, pagans and prostitutes! A seed in every pot and a bud in every bowl! Now *that's* change I can believe in.

After the lighting ceremony, it was back to the motel—we had a grueling 15-hour trek to Chicago ahead of us in the morning, and we'd need all the rest (and weed) we could get.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH....

Thanks to Marijuana Radio, Front Range NORML and Generation Fucked News. To listen to Bobby's interviews and press conference, go to marijuanaradio.com. To watch video clips of the conference, go to hightimes.com/almostinfamous. Register to vote and join NORML at smokethevote.org!

Question Authority

by Vaporella

HIGH TIMES' resident mistress of marijuana mayhem answers all of your questions and quandaries.

Hey Vaporella,

I can't say how strange it feels to ask for advice, but in this case I'll defer to your judgment

I have a friend who is a strict rotationist—meaning he gets visibly upset at every extra puff, lighting or seating change in a group-smoke setting. I make it a point to keep my mouth shut when he provides the herb, but is it bad smoke etiquette to make him relax his tyranny when my blunt hits the air?

Thanks,
Naughty

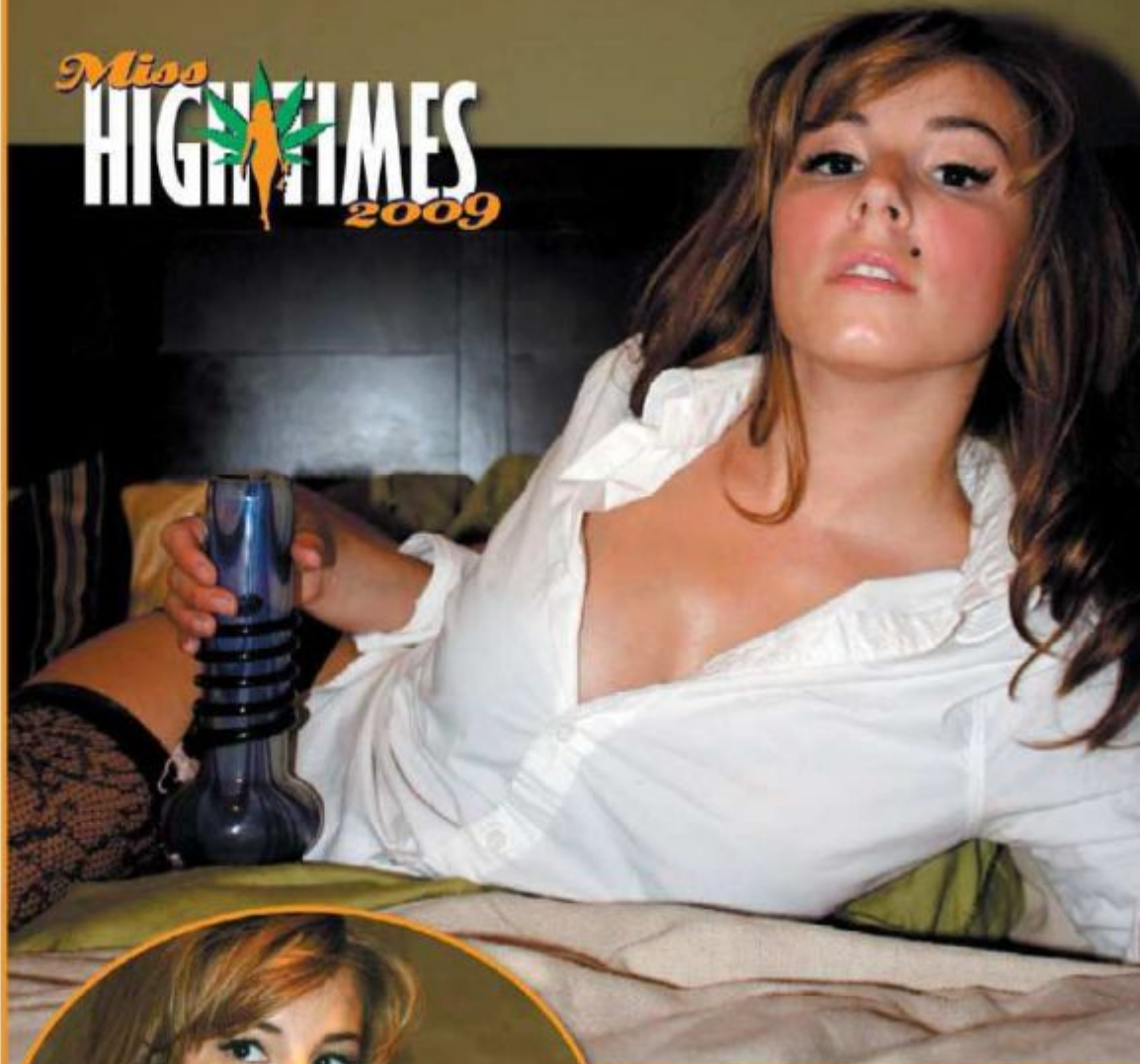
Hi Naughty,

Sounds like you got a smoke Nazi on your hands—no pot for you! This is a tricky, sticky situation that has to be dealt with carefully, because: a) you don't want to be bounced from any stoner circle he's in, and b) he's your friend, and I know you don't want to hurt his feelings. But there are some questions to be answered before we decide how to proceed. Does your friend provide the ganja more often than not, or are his contributions to the circle pretty rare? If he's a longtime contributor who throws in for the sesh frequently and has the best stuff around, the way the smoke ceremony proceeds is truly his call. But that's a rare trifecta to hit, so I take it he adds some of his bounty in from time to time and has so-so stuff—nothing worse than anyone else's, but nothing better either. Therefore, it might be best to handle this case with a bit of gentle bud diplomacy.

I say that because nothing curdles the blood faster and freezes the joint rotation quicker than offending a bossy person—and a bossy pothead is 10 times worse. Stoners, I've noticed, are quick to take offense at any sort of personal judgment or criticism. (I mean, hey—we just are what we are, right, man?) So you see the dilemma here. Therefore, instead of critiquing your friend outright for his militaristic “puff, puff, give” sequencing, the next time you or your friends provide the pot, let it be known to those about to smoke that you salute them. Tell the crew: “Hey, guys, this blunt I rolled is to be enjoyed by us all. So don't rush yourself—sit and enjoy your hits, and then please pass it on so we can all partake.” Not only will your friends totally dig your courteous offering, but they'll also appreciate the mellow methods of your honor-system ceremony. If your buddy is a true weedie, he'll pick up on these sensi sentiments, chill his reefer rules out and learn to enjoy the kindness you're passing around. ✨

Got a question for Vaporella? E-mail it to her at vaporella@hightimes.com.

Miss HIGH TIMES 2009



MISS NOVEMBER

NAME: Anastasia **AGE:** 18

CITY: Maple Grove, MN

OCCUPATION: artist, student

HOBBIES: travel, reading, creating art, yoga, playing Frisbee golf, spending time outdoors

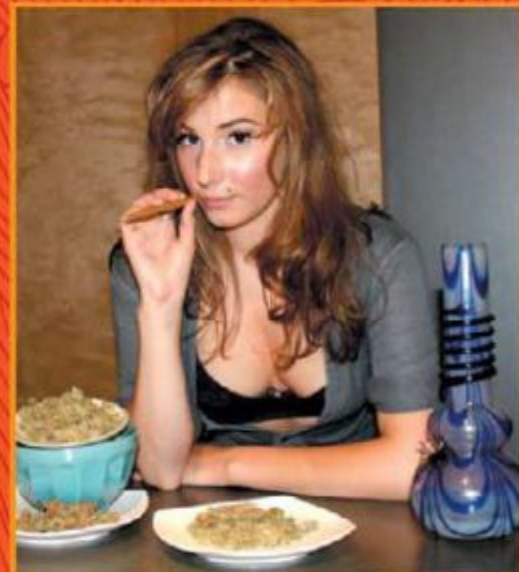
MUSIC: Incubus, Grateful Dead, Pink Floyd, Jefferson Airplane, Atmosphere, The Doors, Kottonmouth Kings and Air

WHAT TYPE OF GUYS ARE YOU ATTRACTED TO?

I really dig someone who can express himself artistically. And of course, there's nothing that turns me on more than a guy who can roll the perfect joint!

I SHOULD BE MISS HIGH TIMES BECAUSE...

I am the ideal stoner girl—I'm just a laid back chick who just wants to have a good time and spread the word of the green!



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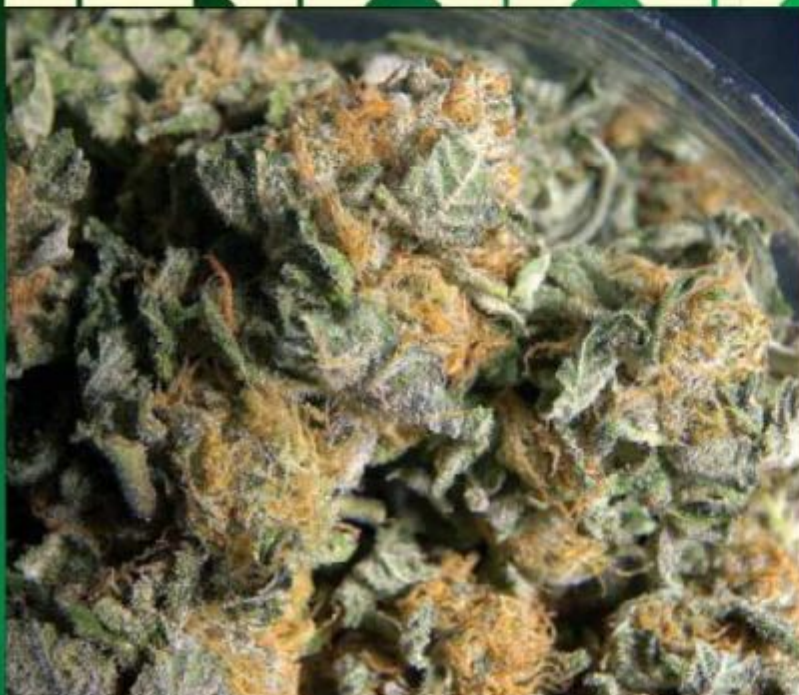
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OCTOBER 2009

INDOOR [Small text about indoor growing tips]

OUTDOOR [Small text about outdoor growing tips]

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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INDOOR GROW TIP

Stop fertilizing at least a week before harvest. Many growers stop fertilizing two or more weeks before harvest. Continue to fertilize with a super-bloom formula high in phosphorus and potassium and very low nitrogen if you plan to harvest next month.

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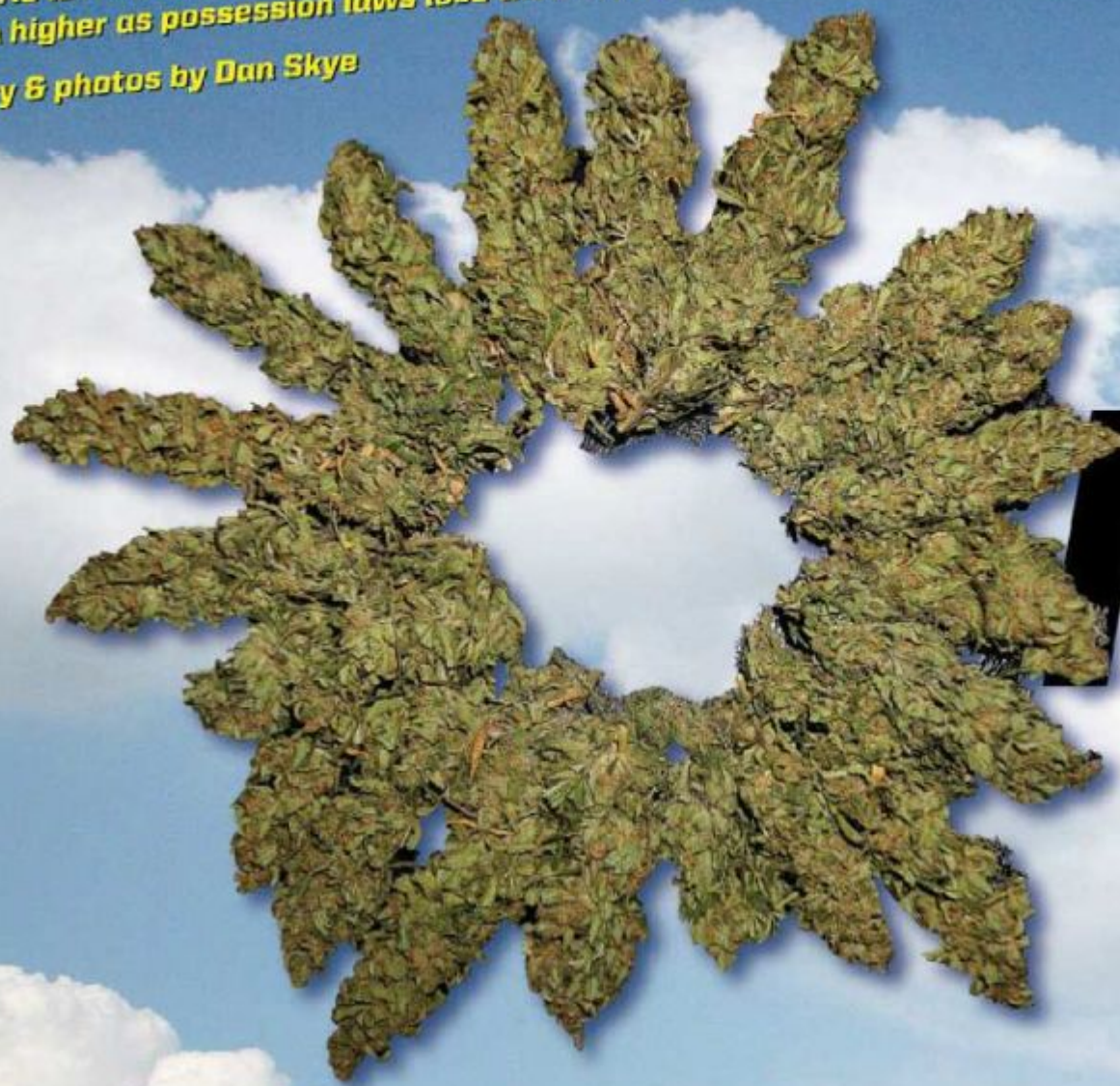
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British Columbia has been dethroned as Canada's pot capital. Ontario is now the titleholder, and it's poised to raise the stakes even higher as possession laws lose their teeth.
Story & photos by Dan Skye



NT

It was startling news. In May, marijuana possession was effectively legalized in Canada's largest province.

Maybe it wasn't the biggest news, because Ontario's pot-possession laws have been in disarray since 2000. In that year, the Ontario Supreme Court ruled that Canada's marijuana laws were unconstitutional because they failed to adequately address the needs of sick people who could benefit from the use of med-pot.

The court gave the government one year to change the law and provide medical access to marijuana; otherwise, it warned, all of Canada's pot laws would be struck down. A year passed and the government did create new medical-marijuana regulations, but it neglected to change

the actual law. Consequently, over the next eight years, thousands of possession raps were tossed nationwide.

Things finally came to a head this past January. In Windsor, ON, attorney Brian McAllister convinced a provincial court that his 16-year-old client should go free on charges of possession because Canadian pot-possession laws didn't actually exist. He argued that the government had been ordered to change the laws but didn't; therefore, all possession laws were now rendered meaningless and unenforceable. The judge agreed, adding that if a cultivation or trafficking case had been before him, he would have thrown out those charges as well. In May, a Superior Court upheld the ruling.

CANARI-GRO

What does it mean? Essentially, no one can get convicted for pot possession in Ontario. Moreover, the decision may have bearing in other provinces. Of course, Canadian prosecutors are demanding a speedy appeal to overturn the decision, and the current government may rush to pass new pot laws that would void these judicial decisions. But for the present, Canadian pot advocates are hailing a major victory—and the inhaling is easy up in Ontario.

Actually, it's been pretty chill up north for quite awhile, even though for years British Columbia got all the press. BC was long known as Canada's California, sharing a taste with its American counterpart for tolerance and good bud. The province's pot increased in stature when

NBC aired a news special covering the phenomenon of BC Bud, which left viewers with the impression that it was essentially a cannabis strain created by Satan: loaded with THC, as addictive as crack, and—*horrors!*—it was being exported to the US!

Now, as any pot consumer who is vaguely paying attention knows, BC Bud is nothing of the sort. "BC Bud" is just one of those tacky TV euphemisms coined for scare purposes, not unlike those ubiquitous eye-witness-news promos for stories on indoor grow ops: "Is there a fire hazard living next door to you?" Hundreds of strains hail from BC, and they're no more powerful than the strains grown anywhere else on the planet. Even so, BC's rep flourished.



Riddim Rebels rocked the Toronto Cup.



Judging samples, ready for duty.



The strain XXX-420 is renowned for its sweet taste and cerebral high.

However, Ontario has the numbers on its side. The estimated population of Ontario stands at about 12.7 million; BC's is about a third of that. The province of Quebec—another marijuana stronghold—has approximately 7.5 million residents. Police estimate that around 50,000 grow ops exist across the country: as many as 20,000 in Ontario, and 15,000 in the Vancouver area, with significant numbers in Quebec as well. These three provinces make up 90 percent of Canada's total pot production, with Ontario's share valued close to \$4 billion.

Of course, that figure pales in comparison to that of California, whose total production is valued at close to \$14 billion. But California has three times Ontario's population, and the climate for growing—both legal and agricultural—is significantly better. Still, according to *Forbes* magazine, "marijuana is Canada's most valuable agricultural product—bigger than wheat, cattle or timber."

Aside from the sheer numbers of growers, there are other reasons for Ontario's surge. Following the terror attacks of September 11, the northern US borders experienced a severe crackdown. In BC, exports plummeted as a result; it was just harder to get the pot across. Ontario has experienced constraints as well, but the province is better situated for shipping loads south simply because there are more avenues into the US: the Windsor/Detroit border, Niagara Falls, the Peace Bridge and the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge—plus exporters can also cross the US border by traveling through Quebec and entering via northern New England.

Even Detective Sgt. Dave Malcolm, the head of the street-drug enforcement unit for the Toronto police, acknowledges that increased border enforcement hasn't put even a slight dent into production. "The

numbers haven't decreased one bit in the past three years," he notes. "We're pretty much up to par."

Ontario's taste for premium pot has also amped its growing prominence. The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) reports a marked increase in cannabis use. Among Ontario adults, pot use has almost doubled since 1977, from 8 percent to 14 percent in 2005. Plus, cannabis users are getting older: Cannabis consumers in 2005 were 31 years old, on average, compared to their 26-year-old counterparts in 1977.

Canada's marijuana economy has also been boosted by its comparatively light penalties for marijuana offenses. Consider the legendary "Molson brewery" case of 2004. Inside a former Molson brewery in Barrie, ON, police seized 30,000 plants with an estimated value of \$30 million. Seven Canadians pleaded guilty to operating the biggest grow op in Canadian history. They received sentences ranging from house arrest to five years; all have since been released. In the US, a grow op that size could get you life.

But law enforcement knows that these were minor players. There is plenty of evidence that "organized crime" has been heavily involved in overseeing massive grows, particularly Asian gangs who are known to enlist recently arrived immigrants and refugees. Biker gangs have long been part of this scene as well.

However, this mass-produced pot is hardly top drawer. It's commonly called Beasters. A few years back, the term "Beasters" referred

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Marijuana thrives in Toronto because of the city's close-knit, extremely active cannabis community.



Buzzboat sailors soaked up lake breezes and fresh Canadian buds.

exclusively to bud coming out of BC; now it means any kind of Canadian pot grown in bulk. Americans know it when they see it—it's good enough to get you high, but very wet.

Ontario police are finding fewer of these massive ops in recent days. Toronto police report that a few years ago, they'd find thousands of plants growing in a home; now there are more houses but with fewer plants—maybe a couple hundred or less. In fact, close to half the grow ops busted in Toronto now are located in apartments.

Obviously, 20,000 grow ops need support industries, and in Ontario, consumers enjoy a vast marketplace from which to satisfy their needs. Nearly every Toronto neighborhood features a grow-gear store, and those growing in non-urban areas have no problems acquiring equipment.

Marijuana thrives in Toronto because of the city's close-knit, extremely active cannabis community. Consider the stoner holidays: On the week of April 20, an entire schedule of events is regularly mounted featuring education, activism and entertainment. The Toronto Freedom Rally, held the first Saturday in May and sponsored by the medical-marijuana organization CALM, drew 20,000 people this year—despite the fact that it poured throughout the day.

However, nothing is more emblematic of Toronto than Yonge Street, the neighborhood of pot-related businesses that stretches along

Yonge Street. It's not clear who coined the term, but Dom Cramer has certainly exploited it.

Cramer, a thoughtful, energetic activist, has created a mini-empire of cannabis commerce. He oversees the Toronto Hemp Company, where you can purchase clothing, smokeware and stoner accoutrements; the Kindred Café, which offers a coffee bar and an excellent place to hang; Sacred Seeds, which can meet all of your seed needs; Vapor Central, which offers a lounge and comparison shopping for vaporizer seekers; and the Toronto Compassion Centre, which provides medicine for those in need.

Yonge Street has many other outlets like the Friendly Stranger, which features top quality glassware and the best in hemp-clothing designers. You can also find natural-food stores, restaurants, art and office suppliers, lawyers and even chiropractors who have recognized the good economic sense it makes to join the Yonge Street cannabis consortium.

For five years, the Toronto Cup has attracted an equal number of Canadians and Americans. Ron Hill, the man behind Iron Seed Sales and the Hidden Jungle smoke shops, pulled off another successful Cup this past June.

The Toronto Cup has increased in popularity every year. Participants sign up for a three-day event that includes samples of the entries, live bands, a barbecue, a tour on the Buzzboat (which cruises Toronto's waterfront) and even cannabis burlesque acts. This

year, Gypsy Rose Leaf, a pot hottie, took the stage adorned with vaporizer bags. Then she introduced some audience participation. Bumping and grinding her way through the crowd of stoners, she demanded that they inhale the contents of the bags in order to view some skin.

The Toronto Cup attracted dummies and superheroes.



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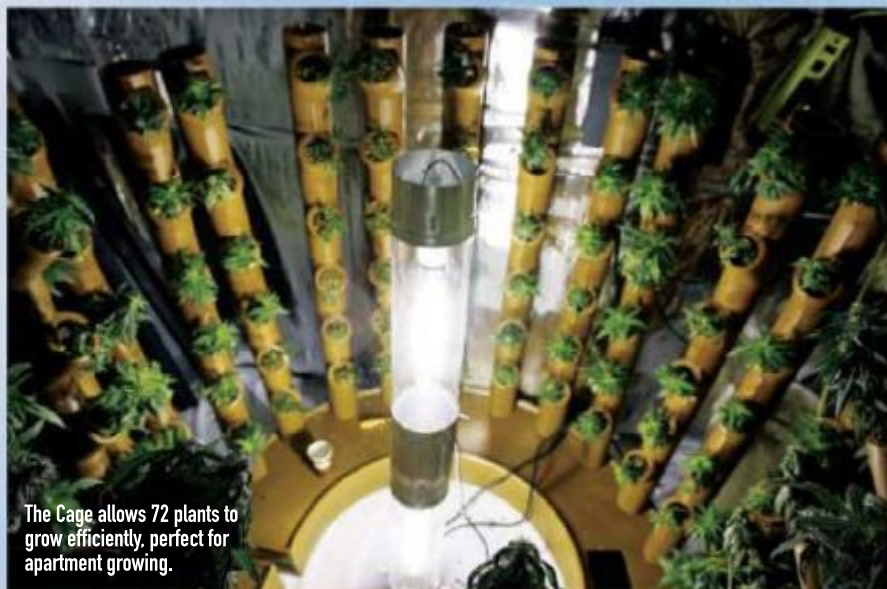
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One has to wonder when this stalemate between marijuana sanity and reckless law enforcement will end.



Buds and seeds are at the center of cannabis commerce.



The Cage allows 72 plants to grow efficiently, perfect for apartment growing.

Prize giveaways were rife throughout the Cup—but those prizes didn't come without a price. For example, eight \$300 gift bags of stoner gear were offered to the eight best Simon Says players aboard the Buzzboat. However, contestants discovered that playing Simon Says is a lot like playing chess when you're high:

In mere seconds, half the players were eliminated.

The winning strain at the Cup was the Blueberry Super Skunk entered by a Manitoba grower named Johnny Budd. To be fair, many of the judges were somewhat disappointed in the weed samples: They felt that they were a little sparse, and that the competition could have benefited from a few more entries, especially over the course of a three-day smoke-out. But everyone agreed that the Toronto Cup was a great venue for networking and sharing weed wisdom. Plenty of excellent weed was shared as well; professional stoners don't travel without their own stash. So the total quotient of stonedness at the Cup never waned.

Ontario may be basking in the newfound freedom that the possession-law debacle has ushered in, but law enforcement plans to rain on that parade. Canada's federal Justice Department is vowing to continue prosecuting marijuana cases. A spokesperson stated: "We are still of the opinion that the law against marijuana is valid." Ontario law-enforcement agencies have issued similar statements, but attorney Brian McAllister responds: "I don't understand why the police—who are not trained in the law—would thumb their noses at an Appeals Court decision. If police continue to arrest and prosecute people for marijuana possession, they are risking massive civil liabilities. They can't say they didn't know better."

Meanwhile, outdoor cultivation continues in full swing. The Ontario Provincial Police predict a huge outdoor harvest this year. In 2006, the police seized plants valued at \$10.9 million; last year, the haul was \$15.8 million. They're scouring the countryside, searching in cornfields, scanning remote roadsides and attempting to think like growers in order to find their secret gardens.

But one has to wonder when this stalemate between marijuana sanity and reckless law enforcement will end. Cannabis has raced to the top of the list of Canada's most valuable agricultural products, and a vibrant economy has sprung up around the plant, supporting hundreds of ancillary businesses. The continued prosecution of marijuana offenses promises to waste taxpayer dollars and damage a healthy marketplace of legal and productive businesses. ✪



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Build Your Own Trellis

"My buds are getting *so big!*" This is the anguished cry of the lucky grower who needs a proper trellis to keep those heavy tops from falling all over neighboring plants. A string trellis is easy to make yourself, and it's a much better solution than those haphazard approaches to training plants that can make your growroom look like a giant game of cat's cradle. With just a few dollars in materials and some common tools, you can make a lasting string grid that will support each plant in any position you desire.

Story & photos by Toastmaster General



(Fig. 1)

2 light-gauge (25-gauge) 8' drywall tracks (1" x 2" track is good, but other sizes work fine as well)

1 box standard (7/16") Zippie pan-head sheet-metal screws

4 medium machine screw hooks and nuts (or 4 eye screws and 4 S hooks)

4 light chains of desired length (to hang trellis)

1 ball of lightweight twine

4 additional heavy-duty wood screw hooks and matching plastic screw anchors to hang trellis from ceiling.

Tools:

Pliers

Tin snips

Measuring tape

Angle square

Drill with Phillips-head driver bit (to screw in Zippies) and drill bits (Fig. 1C)

Sharpie (to mark location of Zippies)

Safety goggles (for drilling)



A cheap yet effective trellis system will increase yields substantially.



Build Your Own Trellis



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

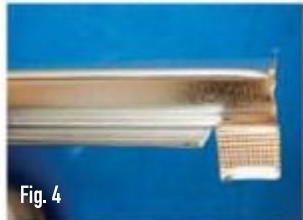


Fig. 4

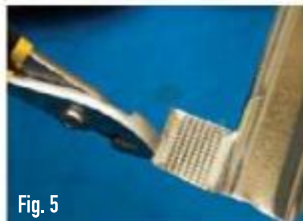


Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

Any good hardware or building-supply store will have these items, and Home Depot or Lowe's is a sure bet (although we used screw eyes and S hooks to attach the trellis to the chains, as Home Depot was actually out of screw hooks). *Warning: Metal drywall track has sharp edges, so be careful not to cut yourself.*

Using the tin snips, cut even lengths of the drywall track to the length and width you desire (Fig. 2). For example, if you'd like a 6-by-2-foot trellis, cut two lengths of 6-foot and two lengths of 2-foot track. When cutting the track, don't try a single cut from one side through the center channel and to the other side; instead, cut each side first, then bend the track back and cut the center channel to sever the track completely. Take care not to cut where the track's stud holes are located.

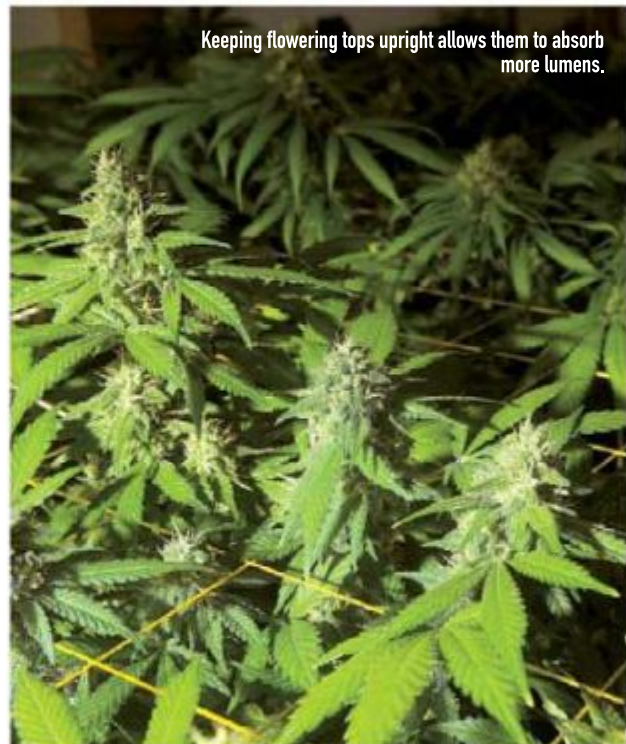
Lay out the lengths of track on the floor with the channels face-down (Fig. 3). To interlock the long and short lengths into a frame, make tabs on the inner sides of the long sections to sit on top of the ends of the short sections; at each end of each long section, make a cut the width of the track and bend the metal up to form the four tabs (Fig. 4). Use the pliers to flatten out the beveled edges of the tabs so they will sit flush on the track (Fig. 5).

At the corners, fit the short lengths inside the long lengths, and use the angle square to form perfect 90-degree corner angles (Fig. 6). Holding each corner together with the angle square, screw the two sections together with five screws (Fig. 7).

For large trellises, a center brace will strengthen the frame and allow shorter string lengths to maintain tension. To create the center brace, make two cuts the width of the track on the sides at each end, bend them up to create tabs, flatten the tab bevels with pliers, and screw in the brace in the middle of the frame in the same fashion as the corners, with the tabs sitting on top of the long sections of track (Fig. 8). Drill a small hole at each corner for the machine screw hooks or eye hooks (wear the safety goggles). The hole should be the same as the screw diameter (Fig. 9). Put the screw hooks through the holes and thread the nuts onto the screws to hold the trellis (Fig. 10). (One nut below the frame will do, but placing a second nut above and tightening the nuts on both sides of the frame will hold it firmly in place.) Now comes the tedious part: Using the measuring tape and Sharpie, make marks every 2 inches all around the top of the frame for the Zippie screws, which will hold the string. Make sure the measurements line up identically on all sides so that a perfect grid of string squares will result. (An alternative measuring method is to drill the first screw and then place the 2-inch side of the angle square against it and mark the other end for the next screw, and so on.)

Next, using the Phillips-head bit driver on the drill, screw in the Zippies, *but not all the way, leaving a small space between the screw and the track for the string to wind once around.* The Zippies are "self-tapping" screws with a special point that grabs the metal with a popping sound.

After all of the Zippies are screwed in (whew!), it's time to wind the string. Tie off the string around the first screw on the long side of the frame and bring it across the frame to the opposite screw; then bring the string to the next screw on that side before bringing it back across the frame to the opposite screw, and so on. To hold the string firmly in place, wind it once around each screw before going on to the next (Fig. 11). Follow the same procedure on the short sides of the frame to create a grid of 2-inch string squares. If you use a center brace, you have the option of screwing in just one set of screws to continue the same string from one long side to the other, winding it around the center-brace screw once on the way to maintain string tension and position; or you can use two sets of screws and wind the two frame segments separately. Again, make sure all the Sharpie marks line up perfectly from one side of the frame to the other before you screw in the Zippies. Remember the old carpenter's adage: *Measure twice, cut once.*



Keeping flowering tops upright allows them to absorb more lumens.

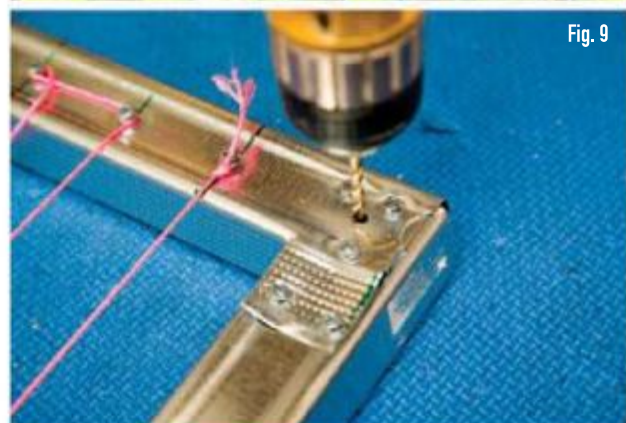


Fig. 9



Fig. 10

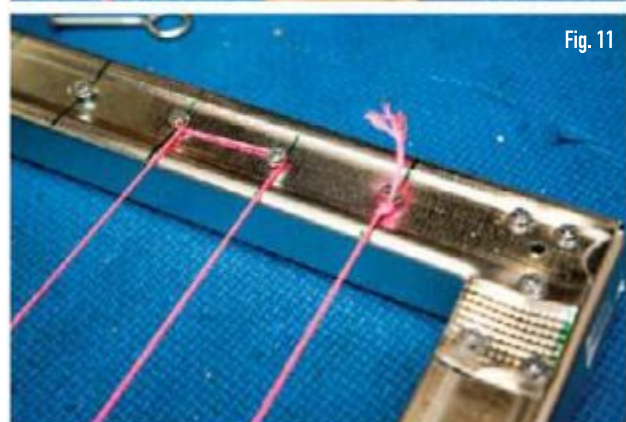


Fig. 11

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Build

Your Own Trellis



Fig. 12

Prepare the trellis system well before you need it.



Fig. 14

Allow plant tops to grow through the holes for support.

After the string is wound around all of the screws and tied off at the ends, you should have a lightweight trellis that will last. As a precaution, tape up all of the exposed track ends with duct tape to provide protection from those super-sharp metal edges.

To mount the trellis from the ceiling, you'll need four more wood screw hooks and matching plastic anchors. Drill four holes for the anchors in the ceiling to match the location of the chains; make sure to use the right-size drill bit to create holes that the anchors will just squeeze into. (It's best to use a masonry bit to drill into plaster or sheetrock ceilings, but a wood bit will do. Wear the safety goggles so the dust doesn't fall into your eyes.) Place the anchors in the holes and tap them in flush with the ceiling before screwing in the hooks, which should expand the anchors for a firm fit to

hold the weight of the trellis. Hang the chains from the ceiling hooks first, then attach the chains to the trellis below at the desired height above your plants. Alternatively, the trellis can be attached to a frame on the floor that can also serve as a base for the plants (Fig. 12).

Now that you've made your trellis, you can train your plants to go straight up through the spaces between the strings, which will keep them nicely spaced apart from one another (Fig. 13). If your vertical space is limited, you can put the tops of the plants through the trellis at an angle to the pots below to keep the stalks from growing too high, or you can weave the stems back down through the string to keep plants low to the ground (Fig. 14). Either way, a trellis gives you full control of the position of your plants, helping to maintain proper light distribution and airflow and facilitating maintenance. ✨



Fig. 13

These vegetative shoots will hold heavy buds when finished.

HIGH TIMES

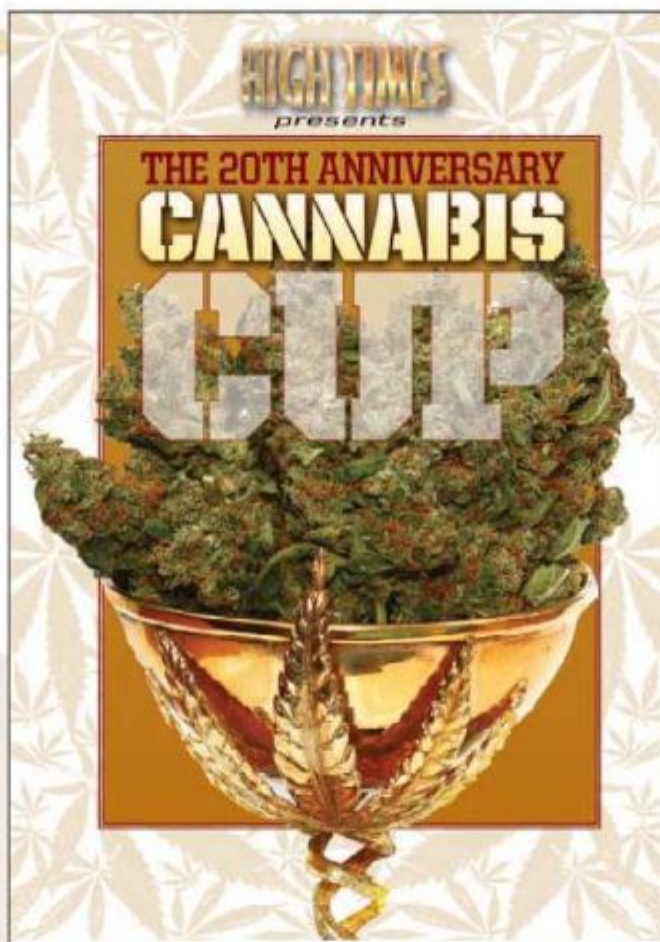
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PART DEUX ROAD TO THE CUP

By Nico Escondido

Beautiful? Indeed! But some of the real beauties are hidden deep inside...

Welcome back! And in case you're just joining us, you've landed in Part Two of our three-part series that examines a central question on everybody's mind: What are the next great strains that we'll be smoking in the very near future?

Well, I traveled far and wide (to Amsterdam, anyway) to find these answers, and we're fashioning those revelations right here, featuring two prominent seed companies in each article. Lucky for you, this is one of the best in the series, starring THSeeds and DNA Genetics as our duo for the month.

So sit back, roll a J of your fave flave and get ready to book a ticket to the 'Dam for the '08 Cannabis Cup, 'cause that's where these buds are coming down!

DAY 5

Things in Amsterdam can get intense. Like in any business (and, by the way, this is BIG business over here), there's a lot of politics and drama floating around. Luckily, I encountered very little of this ...

However, with both THSeeds and DNA having been founded by young Americans, representing New York and California, respectively, one might say there was a little East Side-West Side rivalry going on. And you know who wins in that game? You do. Fierce competition, especially in the cannabis kingdom, breeds—well, better breeding!

All joking aside, THSeeds and DNA Genetics are two of the world's best seed companies. THSeeds are renowned for developing such strains as SAGE, Bubblegum and the fabled MK-Ultra. DNA, drawing on their endless Cali resources, have brought strains such as LA Confidential (an OG-LA Affie crossed with Afghani) and Anunnaki (a California Hash Plant mixed with Cannalope Haze) to the forefront of Amsterdam seed lines. At the end of the day, these two breeders are big-time contenders at Cups around the world, and their latest strains attract the attention of growers worldwide.

THE DNA WAY

It wouldn't be a stretch to say that DNA Genetics bring more than just a little bit of SoCal to A'dam. Founders Don and Aaron, for whom the company is named, pride themselves on pumping Cali genetics into a gene pool they felt was starting to become stagnant. In fact, their philosophy in regard to cannabis cultivation is both poignant and true to form.

"For us now, at this level, it has nothing to do with THC," Don tells me, referring to his breeding projects. "We want to create plants that are easy to grow but at the same time are enjoyable to smoke."

At a time when all the strains being sold in Amsterdam shops are plenty strong, Don and Aaron focus on flavors and aromas—trademarks of some of California's hallmark buds. This approach brings about an aggressive selection process, eloquently described by Don:

"If you're going to do a selection—be God!" he proclaims, half of him grinning like a school kid and the other half adamant in his convictions. "You're the reckoning, bro, and it's time to fucking kill shit."

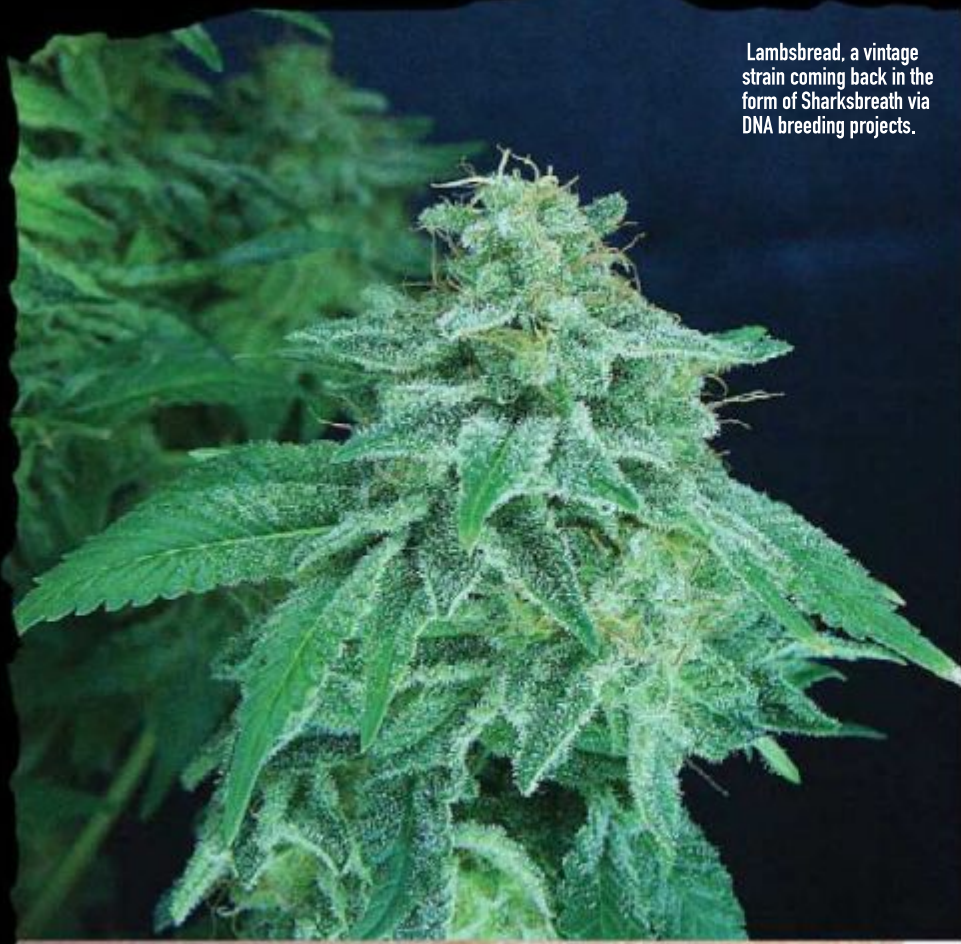
Funny as it may sound, anyone who has ever attempted a serious hybridization project understands, to some extent, that when it's time to select your breeding genetics, you may as well be as selective as possible. While some like to hunt for that crazy mutation, the DNA boys look for solid genetics that will develop well and true while also exhibiting those traits that are most desirable—in Don's case, something that tastes fantastic ... and is Cali tough.

But while the DNA attitude may seem intense at times (and by that I mean they are serious about cultivation), there is a whole other side that has a real family-business vibe to it, not to mention an extremely friendly atmosphere. In fact, their shop headquarters is regularly bustling with friends, visitors, customers—and, of course, smoke sessions. And just to keep things on the up-and-up, Don's wife, Katarina, along with Aaron's wife, Kim, help keep the hectic life of running a store, seed company and various gardens on an even keel. As Don puts it, they are the lifeblood of the company and their families, "helping keep us in good spirits!" But at the end of the day, as more than one of their competitors confided to me: "Those guys may be the new kids on the block, but man, they grow good weed."



Mmmm. Anunnaki—Hashplant x Cannalope Haze.





Lambsbread, a vintage strain coming back in the form of Sharksbreath via DNA breeding projects.

MOVIN' UP, SLIDIN' IN

Relative newcomers in Amsterdam, DNA Genetics have been playing their game in Holland since 2003. Since that time, they have amassed six HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cups (and even more if you count non-cannabis-related categories), most notably a 2005 first place for Best *Sativa* with their Martian Mean Green, one of their flagship strains. Last year, DNA took third place for Best *Indica* with their OG #18, a super-potent *indica* that is one of the original phenotypes to come out of their feminized OG Kush seeds.

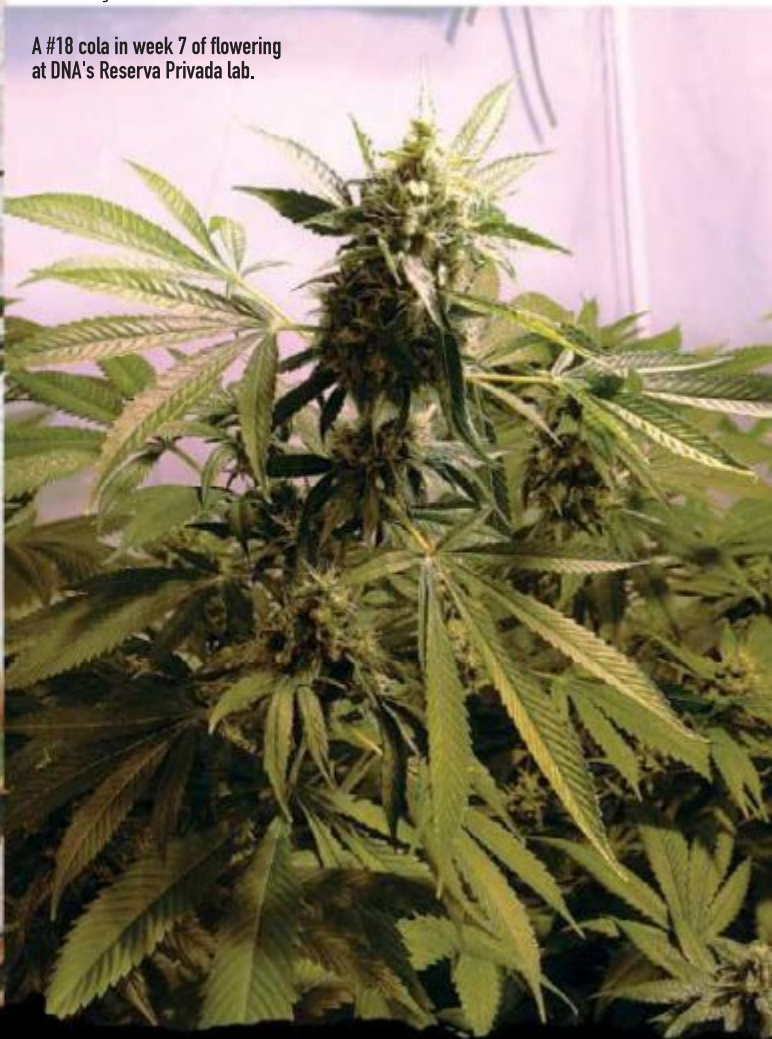
The #18 comes from a DNA spin-off company called Reserva Privada, created to preserve the best strain lines worthy of archiving. This year, Don tells me that their coffeeshop affiliate, the Grey Area (so named for the "grey area" in Dutch law that keeps cannabis semi-legit in Holland), will be choosing the strain entered in this year's Cannabis Cup for coffeeshops. His guess was a revisiting of that same Martian Mean Green that took home a Breeders' Cup in '05. The Martian Mean Green is a beautifully balanced 60/40 on the *sativa/indica* scale, coalescing Sharksbreath and the omnipresent G-13 Haze into a Cup legend. The Sharksbreath really kicks it old school, as a cross of Great White Shark and Jamaican Lambsbread.

On a global scale, the Cali boys are making good. Big wins at Cups around the world are helping spread DNA's genetics worldwide, including scores in 1st place finishes in Spain and South Africa this year. Last year, the Grey Area took home second place at the Cannabis Cup in

Amsterdam with DNA's Chocolope, and the strain also received honors as one of the HIGH TIMES Top 10 Strains of the Year in '07. A hybridized Chocolate Thai and Cannalope Haze, the Chocolope also kicks it old school with Thai and Mexican *sativa* genetics blended together to make this strain 95/5 on the *sativa/indica* scale. And this is where the legacy begins for the DNA boys ...



Chocolope finished a close second in the 2007 Cannabis Cup.



A #18 cola in week 7 of flowering at DNA's Reserva Privada lab.



Taste test: A sampling jar of the final product—cured Anunnaki. Will she make it to the Cup?

SNEAK PEAKS

From here, the future looks bright for DNA Genetics. As I enter one of the various garden rooms sponsored by DNA, the yellowish hue of high-pressure sodium bulbs seeps out of the cracks and crevices of several large tents. The room is well-constructed and represents a Cali-style indoor grow op. Fan boxes link to ductwork that runs the length of the room, connecting with each tent along the way to ventilate heat away from the gardens. A look inside each tent reveals numerous 600-watt bulbs, large charcoal filters and, of course, hoards of beautiful ganja plants.

In one corner tent, a trial run of this year's possible Cannabis Cup entries is underway. "In order to have properly cured entries," Don explains, "we need to have our Cup crops in the ground by August 1. So this room has a couple of test crops that will allow us to make our final decision. If these turn out like we think they will, we'll immediately follow up with a special crop for this year's Cannabis Cup."

The room is immaculate, the trees pristine. As we carefully unzip the flaps of the tent, lush branches fan out, with buds popping in every direction. One tent easily holds 75 flowering plants, and at six weeks into budding, these ladies have already maxed out all the available space. A thick canopy of green spreads out across the tent and covers our bodies as the sidewalls fold back, opening the garden towards us. The pungent smell makes it immediately clear that this is

where the crazy shit is going down.

The tent is filled with Kushberry plants, a very probable DNA entry for Best *Indica* at this year's Cup. The Kushberry, a new strain released in the last year, is an excellent-tasting variety produced by an OG Kush mother and an Oregon Blueberry father. The high is mostly *indica*, with a 30/70 mix on the *sativa/indica* scale. Though it usually grows short and stalky, this tent pushed the plants a bit harder—to about 3.5 feet—with huge pyramid colas jutting out above the canopy.

In an adjacent tent sits their likely entry for Best *Sativa*: Anunnaki. A California Hash Plant mother pollinated with a Cannalope Haze father, this 80/20 blend grows tall and flowers long. The plants in the garden had been super-cropped—a popular technique used around Amsterdam whereby growers roll and then bend over the plant's top shoots, forcing it to heal as a knot and reproduce multiple top colas. Another possible entry for Best *Sativa* could be their Sour Cream (in case you haven't figured it out yet, the DNA boys like to keep us wondering). The Sour Cream is a ridiculous combo of Sour Diesel and G-13 Haze. Slightly more *indica* in stone, this bud may represent a favorite among judges who prefer balance in their high.


Looking down the road, the DNA boys divulged a little extra, saying the HIGH TIMES readers deserve it. So get ready for some more Cali treats, including the development of the local SoCal legend, Cataract. Originally just a slang term amongst a group of good grower buddies,

cataract described the absolute chronic—that super Kush from back in the day that displayed the crazy *indica* phenos and made you feel like you had cataracts after smoking it. Experimenting with an OG Kush and LA Confidential cross, where the LA is the male (and actually a fifth backcross with the Afghan male), this strain might come out at 150 percent *indica*!

Whatever your preference, power *indica* or cerebral *sativa*, and whether you're a grower or a Cup-goer, allow me to make a few simple observations that may one day come in handy. First, get your hands on some Anunnaki buds and have yourself a tasting-table session; compare that flavor against something like the LA Confidential. If you can, smoke them on consecutive days, right when you wake up in the morning, and compare the highs. If you didn't know before what your palate's preference was, or whether you're an *indica* or *sativa* person, you'll know now for sure.

If you're a grower, think hard about investing in some Reserva Privada seed stock—specifically some #18 seeds, which, at the moment, are somewhat of a rarity. Barring that, pick up some pure Afghani seeds (100 percent *indica*) for use in future breeding projects, perhaps with a strong *sativa* to achieve that perfectly balanced bud. The DNA creation Connie Chung comes close to such a feat, crossing the LA Confidential with (you guessed it) the male G-13 Haze. Any way you mix it up, it will be hard to go wrong with DNA Genetics, growing or smoking.

BIG CROPPA (1), NICO ESCOBAR (2), RANDOM.ORG (1)



An impressive THSeeds growroom containing a possible 2008 Cannabis Cup winner?

THE CIA, KGB AND THSEEDS

One of the first young pioneers of the new wave of immigrant cannabis workers to make a serious mark on the Amsterdam scene was Adam Dunn, founder of THSeeds. One look in his eyes and you can tell that this is a guy who has given his all to the cause.

An intelligent, alternative-minded kid from New York, Adam arrived in the 'Dam circa 1989 as an eager and willing apprentice, landing his first job at the landmark Hash Museum. It was there that Adam got Tony (now of Sagamartha Seeds) involved in with the museum and later Simon (from Serious Seeds) would join. Working in the same circle of next generation breeders, the trio would eventually branch out on their own directions to become some of the industry's top breeders. Adam went from working at the museum to working directly for Sensi Seeds, where he honed his skills as a master grower into the early 90's. But like all good things, that stint came to an end

You might have guessed from the subtitle of this section that there were some inevitable run-ins with the good ol' boys over at the CIA and even the KGB once or twice. What do you expect? When you grow the world's best pot, it's not exactly a cakewalk through the park. It all went down one day when you decided to get stoned. You smoked that joint and you never stopped, and now you're so gullible that you're reading this and thinking: Wow, that must be some dank pot if the CIA and KGB were on their asses

Well, you got half of it right. THSeeds does grow dank, dank pot. And they are currently in the Top 5 of the all-time best breeders in the world. And, for a time, they were the CIA and the KGB. Beginning in 1993, with the inception of Cannabis In Amsterdam (CIA) and then Know Good Bud (KGB), Adam has been playing a major role in the world of breeding, as well as the

Cannabis Cup and the worldwide hemp movement. At a time when the Cannabis Cup was still in its infancy, Adam and the CIA (and KGB after that) were not only regular attendees and supporters, but also instrumental organizers of the Cannabis Cup. Dating back to the fifth Cup, when maybe only 100 people were attending, the CIA helped anchor the event using their Dutch resources and networks to attract new shops from around Holland to the event. To this day, THSeeds is an active supporter of the Cup and annually puts on the popular Fashion Show at the event.

Now the owner of THSeeds as well as a gorgeous shop—Hemp Works, located in the heart of town—Adam, along with partner Doug Mignola, has zoomed in on two primary objectives: breeding good strains and furthering the hemp movement. His shop sells only hemp-made clothes as well as the seeds of the super strains he's created over the years. The fabric, however, of this man's soul comes in the form of community, and it's easily visible.

From customers to growers to business associates, employees and nagging journalists, Adam has time for everyone, stopping to chat with anyone who comes in the store—including one man from Oregon who walks into the shop asking for him by name. Turns out they had met in 1995, and upon his return to Holland, the guy made it a point to come in and say hello and express his thanks for some seeds Adam had given him over 12 years ago.

"It's been a long ride, but we were there in the beginning," Adam says as we get ready to cruise around town in his custom-made Vespa truck. "The people, the community, unity—it's all very important to what we do."

Indeed. So much so that, if you find yourself in Amsterdam with time to do only a handful of things, high on your list should be a visit with the fine people at Hemp Works. It's very likely this crew will be there for quite some time.

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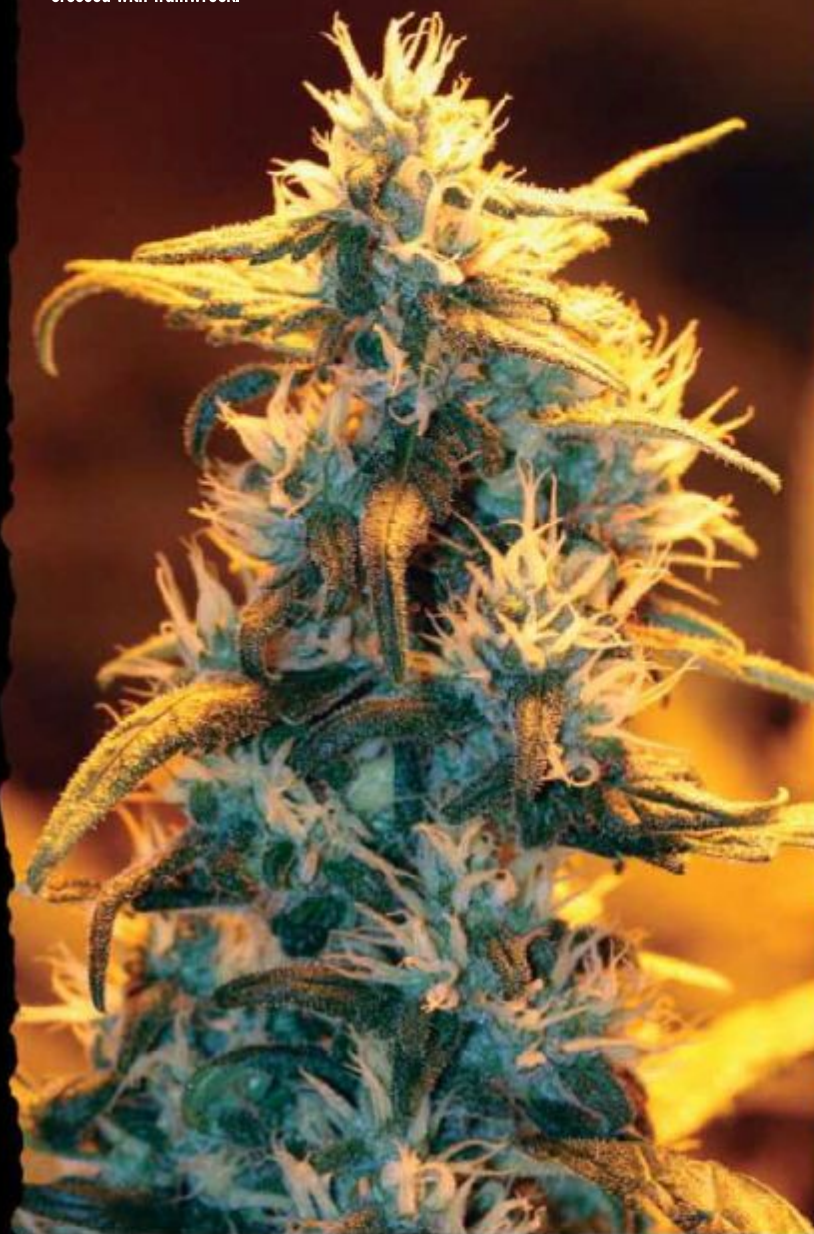
NEW STRAINS RELEASED BY THE GREEN HOUSE SEED CO.
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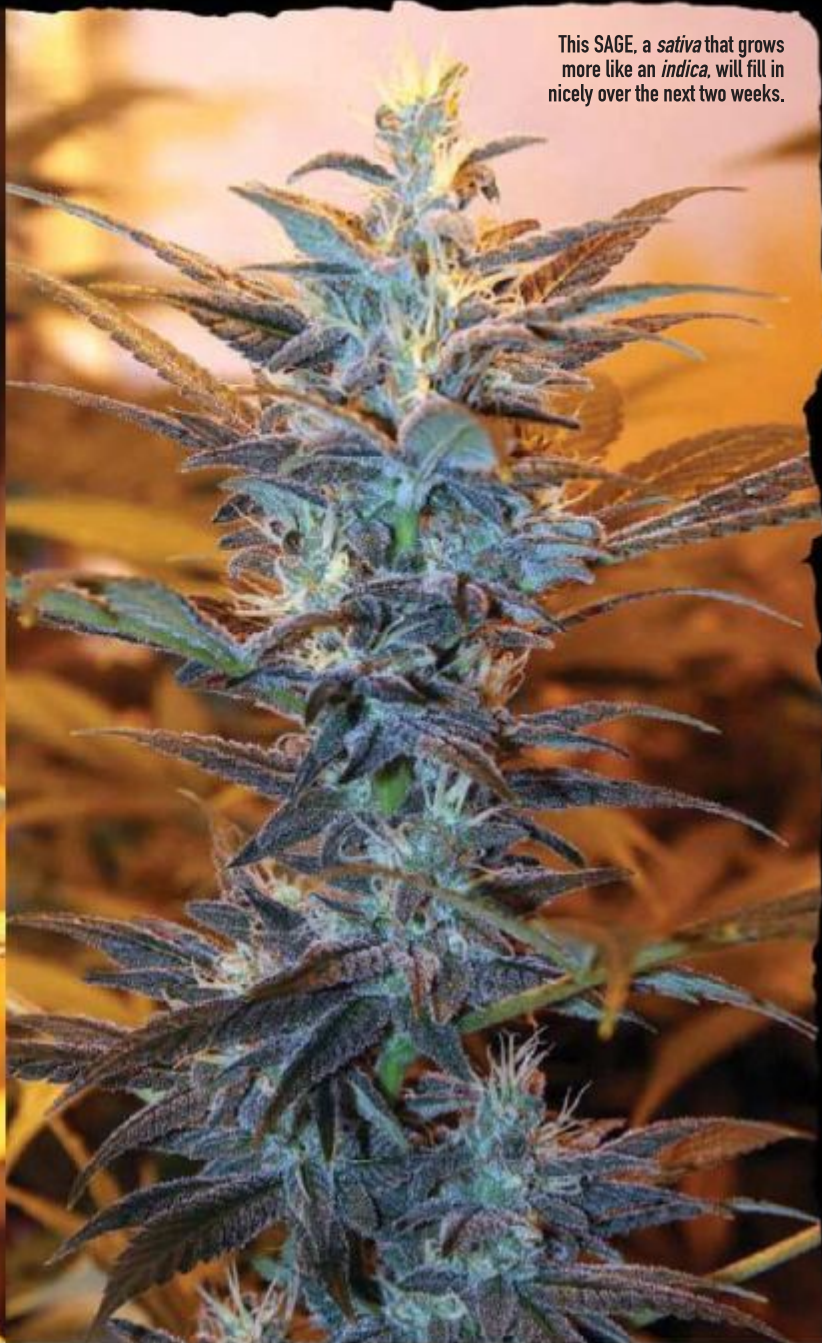
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Wreckage, a Best *Sativa* hopeful, is THSeeds' SAGE crossed with Trainwreck.



This SAGE, a *sativa* that grows more like an *indica*, will fill in nicely over the next two weeks.



THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY (a.k.a. Day 9)

Similar in philosophy to Delta-9 Labs and differing greatly from DNA Genetics, THSeeds have been against the feminization of seeds in order to keep the cannabis gene pool pure and natural. Concurrent to this ideal, THSeeds grow biodynamic ganja, using coco as a grow medium and employing drip-emitter systems in many of their gardens.

"Ideally, we like to keep our plants as organic as possible," Adam tells me. However, a problem in Holland is that some shops don't appreciate the extra time and care and so it may become cost prohibitive for many growers to do. "Betty Boop is one coffee shop that we work with that wants that really good organic bud, they carry our top lines like Kushage and Sour Diesel."

As we head inside one his larger grow facilities the clock hits midnight and we catch our second wind, allowing Adam and me to delve deeper into more of the good stuff. As if there isn't enough to admire about this guy, I am pleasantly surprised to hear about his never-ending quest for new and unique genetics and his desire to create that which he loves.

Take, for instance, the SAGE (Big Sur Holy x Afghani) strain—so named for its *Sativa* Afghani Genetic Equilibrium. A self-admitted *sativa* lover, Adam created a balanced heritage, never hiding the sources of his work. Relentless in the search, he travels frequently to acquire lost or even brand-new genetics, such as his Sour Diesel cutting that came from California long before Diesel was a household name.

"So, for our 2008 *Indica* entry," he begins, continuing along this same vein, "we're about to acquire a completely new line, Texas Tea. I have some friends arriving here in the next few days from the Houston area, and when I told them we needed something new out here, he told me about this hardy plant—and I said, "We'll definitely try it out."

Another big possibility for THSeeds in the Best *Indica* slot is a revisiting of the MK-Ultra strain—a legend in its own right. Another of Adam's creations that harks back to his CIA days, this strain was named in honor of the US government's infamous mind-control experiments involving LSD. An OG Kush hybrid, the MK-Ultra is one of the original super-potent indicas.

"Maybe it'll be a ringer and let everybody know what's what," Adam says of the early MK strain. "It's kind of confusing right now with all the different types of Kushes out there."

As I try to carefully balance two cameras and wade through the dense canopy of the first room, Adam continues to teach as he points out a live version of THSeeds' entry for Best *Sativa* at this year's Cup.

"Trainwreck is basically a pure TAM variety," he tells me, as I stare blankly back. "A Thai-Afghan-Mexican hybrid."

"Oh, yeah, right," I say as I knock over my tripod and almost squash three ounces of pure heaven just two weeks away from finishing.

"Here we have Wreckage," he says, pulling four huge colas back away from the equipment. "It's a Trainwreck-SAGE cross, our hopeful for the *Sativa* Cup. But it's weird—we only seem to win Indicas. I'd really like to win a *Sativa*, because we really are big *sativa* smokers."

Along those lines, THSeeds have produced some top-selling *sativa* strains, including SAGE 'n Sour and Mr. Bubble, which is closer to a balanced 60-40 *sativa/indica*, having Kali Mist and an original Bubblegum as parents. Keep looking for new and improved *sativa* lineages from THSeeds, because Adam is, for sure, a man on a mission—especially once he puts his mind to it.

As one of his own employees put it: "There is something very reassuring about someone who manages to stay true to his ideals, even if it means taking the harder road."

If that someone is Adam Dunn, I'd have to agree 🌿



OG KUSH





**SOUR
diesel
HIGHTIMES**





AK-47



BURN TIMES

BOOKS

HIGH TIMES proudly presents an official handbook for potheads.

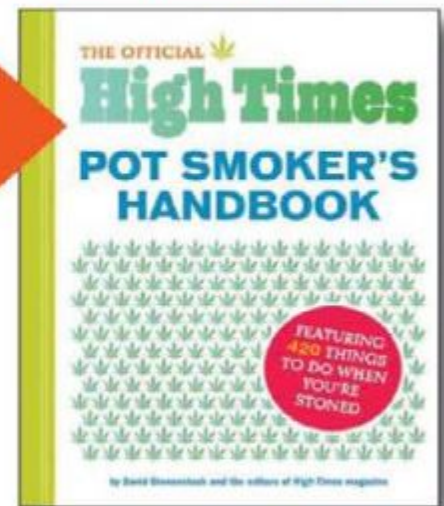
Ever wonder how often to change your bongwater? The most effective method for baking potent pot brownies? How to deal with your dealer? The best destinations for a ganja getaway? Where to find weed once you get there? How to hide herb in your car? Whether to grow your own? Who to call if you get busted? Or how something as wonderful as marijuana ever got to be illegal in the first place? Finally, you can find all these answers and much more in *The Official High Times Pot Smoker's Handbook (Featuring 420 Things to Do When You're Stoned)*, the first book of its kind from the world's most trusted name when it comes to getting stoned.

Since 1974, HIGH TIMES magazine has covered marijuana in all its aspects and wonders, from cultivation to legalization to the herb's enduring (and exalted) place in popular culture, consistently reporting on the smugglers, growers, dealers, artists, activists and everyday heads who make up marijuana culture, a torch passed down from Chinese herbalists, Islamic hashish-eaters, African herbsman, Jamaican rastas, Pancho Villa's Mexican revolutionaries and New Orleans's legendary jazz-cats, to beatniks, hippies, yuppies, punks, ravers and hip-hoppers, and now on to a new generation of stoners, scattered like seeds across the Earth, but globally connected by a common philosophy, an underground etiquette and the ongoing struggle to free the weed.

Packed with inside information, *The Official High Times Pot-Smoker's Handbook* includes an entertaining look at marijuana's *high*story, profiles of herb-friendly travel destinations and festivals, favorite "pot luck" recipes from the HIGH TIMES staff, smoking skills, advocacy and activism, essential marijuana movies and songs, profiles of famous cannabis strains, comprehensive growing information, celebrity endorsements, and much more.

The Pot Smoker's Handbook rolls all of this collected wisdom together into a single, indispensable ganja guide—whether you want to light up yourself or just hang out for the contact high. Also featuring a life-changing list of 420 things to do when you're stoned, this is truly, finally, the ultimate guide to green living.

To celebrate the book's October arrival in bookstores, we're proud to present an exclusive excerpt, comprised of a choice nugget selected from each chapter, in advance of publication.



CHAPTER 3: POT CULTURE

HIGH SOCIETY

Choice quotes from the HIGH TIMES interview archives

Not every pot-smoking celebrity has the guts to talk to HIGH TIMES. We only get the ones who really love the plant and want *everyone* to know. Still, over the past three decades, some of the biggest and coolest names in music, movies, literature, pot, and politics have all sat down for a sesh with our reporters, and given the unique headspace most of these conversations take place within, you just never know what's going to get said in a HIGH TIMES interview.

Here's a few of our "greatest hits" from over the years.

DAVE CHAPPELLE (2004)

"When I think about the people I have smoked pot with, they're such an eclectic mix of people, and I probably never would have spoken to a lot of them if it weren't for pot. Alcohol doesn't bring people together like that."



MICK JAGGER (1979)

"I know what people spend on drugs. You've got to look it up in HIGH TIMES. It's a fortune. Grass is a hundred dollars an ounce—a hundred and fifty dollars for an ounce of grass. It's unbelievable."

CHAPTER 1: HIGHSTORY

HEAD STONER IN CHARGE

HIGH TIMES founder Tom Forcade

All but lost to *high*story, HIGH TIMES founder Tom Forcade led a brief, troubled, but ultimately triumphant life, often underground and always full speed ahead. At once a marijuana smuggler, weed dealer, renegade publisher, political activist, and cosmic prankster, Forcade came of age hot-rodding in his native Arizona, often having occasion to outrace the local police in the famed Bonneville Salt Flats. From his high-octane teenage years until his death in 1978 at age 33, the young outlaw from the wild West always felt most comfortable one step ahead of the law.

In addition to being bold, Tom Forcade was also brilliant, graduating from the University of Utah's business

CONTINUED ON PAGE 64



HIGH TIMES' head honcho.

STEPHEN KING (1981)

"I think that marijuana should not only be legal, I think it should be a cottage industry. It would be wonderful for the state of Maine.... What we've got up there are lobsters, potatoes, and a lot of poor people. My wife says, and I agree with her, that what would be really great for Maine would be to legalize dope completely and set up dope stores the way that there are state-run liquor stores. You could get your Acapulco Gold or your whatever it happened to be—your Augusta Gold or your Bangor Gold. And people would come from all the other states to buy it, and there could be a state tax on it. Then everybody in Maine could have a Cadillac.

BOB MARLEY (1976)



"It's time to let de people get good herbs an' smoke. Government's a joke. All dey wan' is ya smoke cigarettes and cigar. . . . Some big cigar me see man wit', me tell him must smoke herb. Me wanna see a nice level piece of green grass."

TREY ANASTASIO (2002)

"I should probably smoke more pot when I'm recording an album. You sit in the studio for four hours staring at a soundboard, and then you start to lose perspective. Smoking pot is a way of changing perspective."

NORMAN MAILER (2004)

"I was out in the car listening to the radio. Some jazz came on. I'd been listening to jazz for years, but it had never meant all that much to me. Now, with the powers pot offered, simple things became complex; complex things clarified themselves. These musicians were offering the inner content of their experiences to me."

WILLIE NELSON (2005)



"I knew I was killing myself with cigarettes, and I knew I was really putting myself in danger with drinking so much . . . In the early years I drank all the time. Before pot."

ALI G (2003)

"Me can roll up two spliffs using one hand—

dat iz why I iz known as bein' double-jointed, a'ight?"

NOAM CHOMSKY (1988)

"One of the traditional and obvious ways of controlling people in every society, whether it's a military dictatorship or a democracy, is to frighten them. If people are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 66

HEAD STONER IN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 62 administration program in just two-and-a-half years. Given his anti-establishment leanings, the choice of such a seemingly square college major reveals Forcade's approach to revolution as a serious endeavor, requiring commitment, strategy, and plenty of money. But whether he was flying in a multi-ton shipment of Santa Marta Gold from Colombia or launching a national magazine in praise of America's last taboo pleasure, the profit potential of each mission was always secondary to the thrill of adventure and the opportunity to support his favorite causes. Along with leaving \$10,000 in cash on the doorstep of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) with an anonymous note encouraging other

With pot coming in by the planeload, of-flooded by forklift and secured in stash houses set up all over Manhattan, Forcade oversaw a vast and profitable empire and used his clout, connections, and free-flowing cannabis to establish himself as a major player in the radical politics of the time, albeit usually behind the scenes. Despite his business degree, this was one "hip" capitalist who never saw his illicit operations as a way to get rich or famous, but rather as a revenue stream capable of funding his higher callings.

In 1967, long before starting HIGH TIMES Forcade founded the Underground Press Syndicate (UPS), which collected the best content from the hundreds of alternative newspapers sprouting up across the country during the



marijuana dealers to do the same, he also helped form the Rock Liberation Front to shake down major rock music promoters and make them donate a portion of their profits back to the emerging youth culture that had made them rich in the first place.

Like Robin Hood before him, Forcade broke the law with honor.

It all started in the early '60s, with a fateful trip across the country in a psychedelic school bus, a journey that ended in New York City, which would become Forcade's adopted hometown. Arriving in a freewheeling, swashbuckling era with mild pot laws and relatively little enforcement, Forcade smuggled marijuana into America as part of a loose-knit, anarchistic brotherhood known as the Hippie Mafia.

Far-wandering flower children had found insanely cheap high-grade herb all over the world, and returning Vietnam vets knew how to pilot small planes, navigate international waters, and organize the military-style operations necessary to bring the weed back home to America. For his part, Forcade flew down to South America, rode ferry boats out to meet supply ships, drove getaway cars faster than the cops could follow, and once, when he couldn't escape on wings, water, or wheels, took off on foot, subsequently spending two days stuck in the middle of a swamp, soaking wet and surrounded, until he finally crawled past the police barricade inch by inch on his hands and knees while the pigs sat in their cars to avoid the mosquitos.

Like Robin Hood before him, Tom Forcade broke the law with honor.



psychedelic '60s, and made this content available for reprint in

other publications and on microfiche in university libraries. In 1970, Forcade edited Yippie cofounder Abbie Hoffman's *Steal This Book*, a collaboration that yielded a brilliant field guide to fomenting social revolution, but also a feud that would mark Forcade's break with the established anti-establishmentarians. He would go on to form the Zippies, in opposition to both the Vietnam War and his one-time Yippie cohorts, claiming his former comrades had gone soft in the fight against imperialist America.

When the Zippies decided to crash the 1972 Republican National Convention, the result was an indictment for Forcade for planning to firebomb the event—trumped-up charges later dropped by the FBI for lack of evidence. Meanwhile, the UPS disintegrated after pressure from the CIA led the major record labels to stop advertising in the underground press. As a result, the number of alternative magazines dropped precipitously.

Always a savvy entrepreneur, Forcade understood that to truly succeed in publishing he needed an idea the corporations couldn't co-opt and a group of advertisers the straight world couldn't scare off. Still heavily involved in the lucrative marijuana trade, he dropped



CHARGE

\$20,000 of his own money into a new venture: *High Times* magazine. Hoping to do for drugs what Hugh Hefner's *Playboy* had done for sex, Forcade's timing couldn't have been better. In 1974, when the first issue premiered, countless Americans were discovering the joys of marijuana as the hippie sacrament became increasingly ingrained in mainstream culture. Meanwhile, just a year earlier, the DEA had formed in response to Richard Nixon's call for an all-out War on Drugs.

The stakes in this new war were high, but fortunately, so was Forcade, his magazine, and its readers. The earliest issues of HIGH TIMES served the interests of smokers, smugglers, and growers alike, offering such sought-after but hard-to-find information as how to make hash oil, where to plant outdoors, and which airplanes work best for concealing a few tons of weed.

An immediate, smashing success, HIGH TIMES would quickly reach millions of pot-heads each month, while making its anonymous publisher rich and influential almost overnight. Still, dark days loomed ahead for our hero. Suffering from the manic depression that had stalked him since his father's death when he was 11, Forcade became increasingly paranoid and erratic, although perhaps an herb-smuggling, weed-dealing, drug-magazine-publishing revolutionary can never be too careful.

Increasingly in conflict with friends, lovers, and his own magazine, one day the boss would arrive in the office in a drug-fueled rage, fire everyone in sight, rip the phones from the wall, and then apologize the next day and restore order. One night he'd be up till dawn reviewing the current issue and planning new stories; the next day he'd talk about shutting down operations.

When times got too tough, Forcade would drop back into the underground and resume his smuggling operations. Most at ease in situations the rest of us would find unbearable, he found sweet relief in living on the edge, but when a botched mission led to a plane crash over the Everglades and the death of his closest friend, Jack Coombs, he never really recovered. Bringing in a shipment of herb from Colombia in the spring of 1978, Forcade, in the lead plane, kept instructing his pilot to fly lower, just above the treetops, to avoid detection. They made it across, but the plane behind them dipped too low and went down in a ball of flames.

Over the following summer, Forcade convinced himself that Coombs had miraculously survived the crash, and even hired private investigators to search for him. Suddenly without his best friend, confidant, and co-conspirator when he needed him most, Forcade became increasingly withdrawn and depressed as the winter approached. In November, just four years after founding the magazine that would carry on his legacy, he committed suicide, and the hip world lost one of its brightest shining stars.

This guy's girlfriend only lets him smoke one joint per day.



CHAPTER 2: SKILLS

GENERATION JOINTS

Not every joint gets finished. What's left behind is universally known as a *roach*, presumably because of its resemblance to a cockroach. Usually there's not much worth saving, but sometimes a decent-sized roach finds its way onto the coffee table. Peel back the singed paper and you'll find a choice little nugget of bud in there, nicely cured by the smoke that's already passed through it on the way to your mouth.

Collect seven sizable roaches and roll them together. That's a *first-generation joint*, strong and smooth. Roll up the roaches from seven first-generation joints, and you're puffing a *second-generation joint*, a dankly decadent smoke requiring the harvest of fifty roaches. To reach the seventh generation, you'd have to roll 823,543 joints. If you start today and smoke three joints per day, saving every roach, it will only take you 754 years to achieve this worthy goal.

Better get rolling.



CHAPTER 4: GANJA GLOBETREKKING

VARANASI, INDIA

According to legend, Varanasi was founded by the ganja-loving deity Lord Shiva, making it one of the seven holy cities for Hindus around the world. Also ranked among the oldest continually inhabited cities on the planet, this center of music, art, architecture, and spirituality lies on the banks of the famed Ganges river and attracts few tourists, but plenty of *saddhus*—wandering holy men who roam the Earth with nothing but a begging bowl and a *chillum*, seeking just enough food to eat and hash to smoke to satisfy the moment. Renouncing the first three Hindu goals—*karma* (enjoyment), *artha* (practical objectives), and *dharma* (duty)—the *saddhu* dedicates his (and occasionally her) life solely to liberation from this world and contemplation of the higher plane of God. Often, this involves the sacramental use of cannabis.

Dreadlocked and penniless, *saddhus* wander across India's pilgrim routes as respected members of society, supported by donations from those they meet along the way. So, if you've been mooching weed off a friend for years, and you worry about having bad cannabis *karma*, it might be wise to make a pilgrimage to Varanasi and smoke out a *saddhu*.

Hash smoking *saddhus* seek a higher plane of existence.



Dreadlocked and penniless, *saddhus* wander India's pilgrim routes as respected members of society.

CHAPTER 3: POT CULTURE (CONTINUED)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 64 frightened, they'll be willing to cede authority to their superiors who will protect them. . . . The Drug War is an effort to stimulate fear of dangerous people from whom we have to protect ourselves. It is also a direct form of control of what are called the 'dangerous classes,' those superfluous people who don't really have a function contributing to profit-making and wealth. They have to be somehow taken care of."

ABBIE HOFFMAN (1980)



"I'm innocent. Completely innocent. *Crime* is one of the most complicated words to define. One person's crime is another person's means of survival. The prosecutor asked for \$500,000 bail in my case as he adjusted his tie for the

newspaper boys. He said, and I quote, 'This is a crime more heinous than murder.' That was six years ago. Now, the prosecutor, that same guy, is a partner in a dope case with one of my lawyers; he goes into court and claims coke is harmless. He gets clients off. He's a good lawyer. So who's on first?"

JOHN WATERS (1983)

"No matter how much I liked it, I could never say to someone, 'I'd like some Maui Wowie.' I would be so mortified to say that to someone. The high could never compensate."

CHEECH MARIN (1976)

"Even when you could get the death penalty for smoking, I used to smoke, and practically the same amount that I do now."

JIMMY BUFFETT (1976)

"I don't get stoned before shows, but afterwards I get real high. . . ."

ANDY WARHOL (1977)

HIGH TIMES: "Do you ever smoke pot?"
Andy Warhol: "No, but I like the smell of it."

KEITH RICHARDS (1978)



"There's all this flim-flam about decriminalization, which isn't legalization, and eventually what it comes down to is money anyway. If they can figure out a way of taking it over and making bread out of it, it'll be legal... Let's just say that I can't see myself, or anybody that I know, preferring to buy a

packed of prerolled marijuana cigarettes when I know that it's going to be Grade C."

"Sure, marijuana plants look cute when they're young..."



CHAPTER 5: WHO'S THE MAN?

WHY IS POT ILLEGAL?

It's a long story (see Chapter 1, "Highstory"), but it's mostly due to a combination of racism, fear-mongering, profiteering, social control, and the maintenance of the status quo at any cost. The early propaganda campaigns that led to the first American prohibitions against marijuana painted horrifying pictures of dark-skinned, reefer-smoking homicidal maniacs chasing after all the white women in town. In the conformist '50s, one puff of pot could instantly transform any upstanding young person into a filthy beatnik, and possibly a communist. By the time the '60s rolled around, marijuana became associated with the antiwar movement, the environmental movement, the women's liberation movement, and other social justice causes—again, a threat to the powers that be. Then pot made you lazy. Then it made you do hard drugs. Then it made you a terrorist. Since the charges against cannabis keep changing and contradicting each other, we can only assume that a powerful medicinal plant that can't be patented, makes you want to share, and leads many to question authority tends to make the powers that be more than a little nervous. Not to mention paranoid.

"They're going to talk to you and talk to you about individual freedom," Jack Nicholson's character noted in *Easy Rider*, shortly after getting stoned for the first time. "But if they see a free individual, it's gonna scare them."

DENNIS HOPPER: "Well, it don't make them running scared."

JACK NICHOLSON: "No, it makes them dangerous."

Basically, marijuana's not anti-establishment because it's illegal, it's illegal because it's anti-establishment. Pot makes you ask questions and imagine another way the world might be made better and more fair. And that has always made the people in power afraid of us.

Marijuana's not anti-establishment because it's illegal, it's illegal because it's anti-establishment.



Honk if you love high-grade!

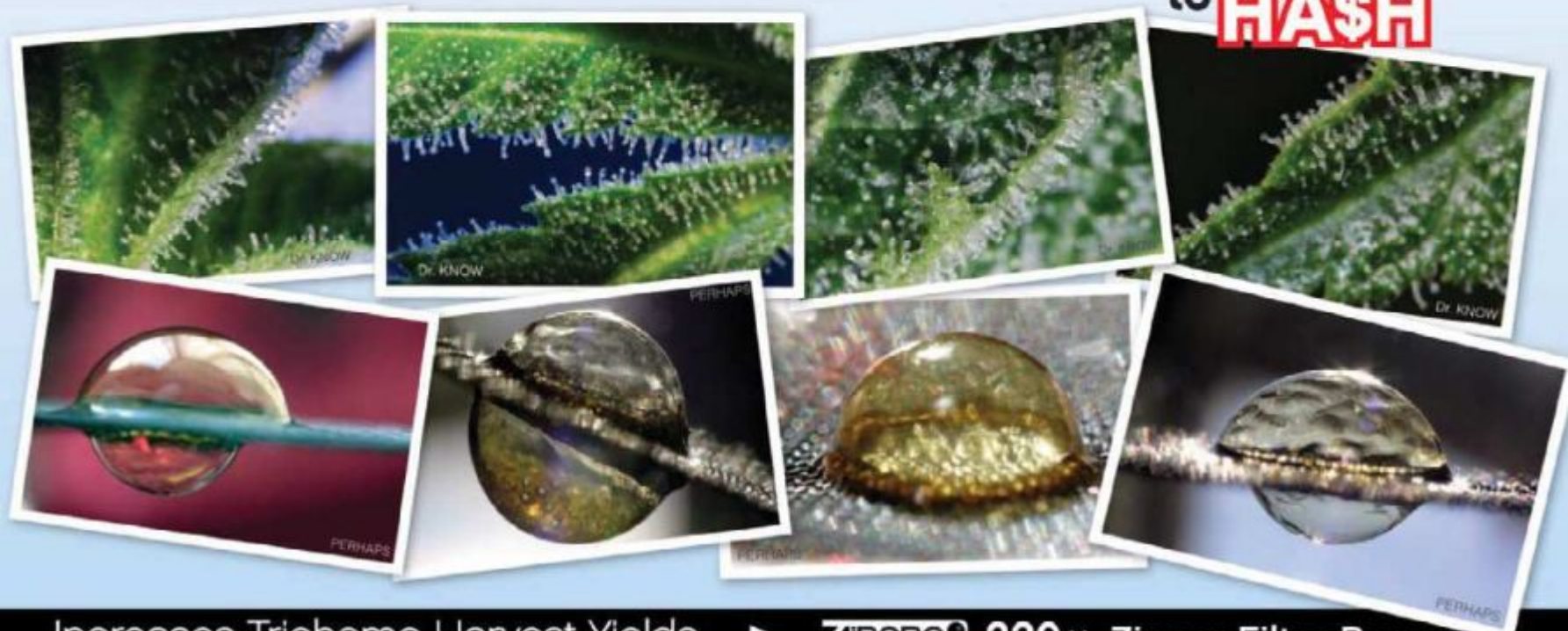
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SUSAN SONTAG (1978)

"I think marijuana is much better than liquor. I think a society which is addicted to a very destructive and unhealthy drug—namely alcohol—certainly has no right to complain or be sanctimonious or censor the use of a drug which is much less harmful."

ANI DIFRANCO (2004)



"If I use just the right amount of cannabis, at just the right time, it can be incredibly instructive. It makes me drop my preconceptions about what I'm doing—all of the subliminal mental stuff that has to do with the babble of society. It makes me experience music viscerally and very spiritually."

THE GAME (2005)

"Amsterdam was like weed heaven. I felt like Noah—I could've built me an ark out of weed. I almost cried when we had to leave. I was looking out the bus window and waving like one of those movies."

ROB THOMAS (2005)



"When I travel, I'll buy a \$10 bong and then ditch it or give it to a friend. At home, I have a plastic one and a two-foot glass one that someone got me for Christmas, but I don't use the big one too much. It's like the good china you bring out when company comes over."

SEAN PAUL (2006)

"A pothead is a lot different than a wino or a crackhead. A pothead is a considerate person who thinks about life and the people around him."

T.C. BOYLE (1999)

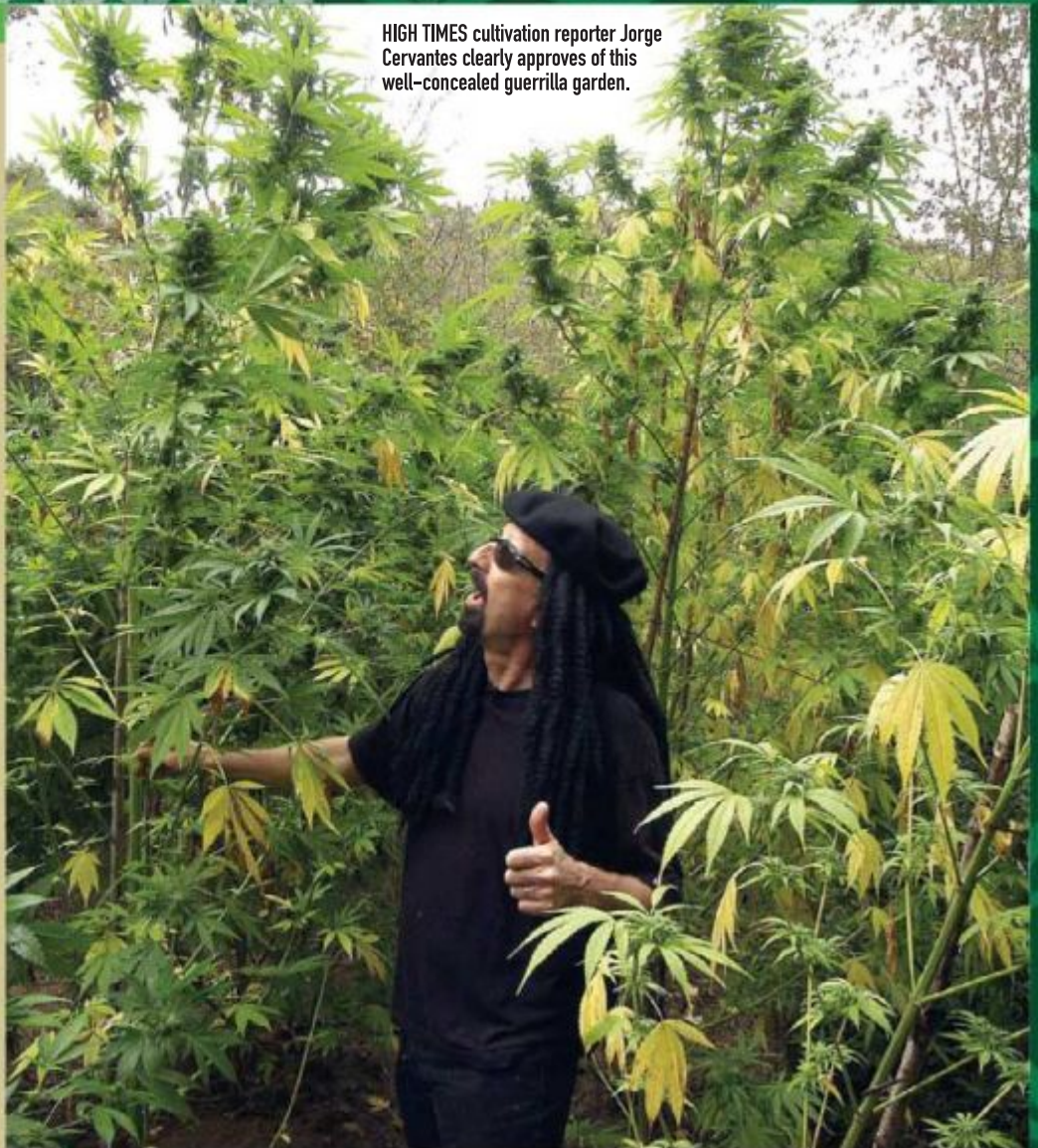
"You know what the government makes off a pack of cigarettes, a gallon of gasoline, or a bottle of booze? We could do the same with pot and hash."

SNOOP DOGG (2000)



"If the government legalized weed, the crime rate would go down. People would just wanna chill."

HIGH TIMES cultivation reporter Jorge Cervantes clearly approves of this well-concealed guerrilla garden.



CHAPTER 6: WHERE DOES MARIJUANA COME FROM?

GUERRILLA GARDENS

A guerrilla army attacks where it's not expected, secures victory, and then disappears without a trace—which is exactly the approach you should take to a guerrilla garden. Plant it where it's not expected, on a remote patch of land far from prying eyes, secure victory in the form of a fat harvest of buds, and then disappear without anyone being the wiser.

Much like real estate, the three most important factors in a guerrilla garden are *location, location, location*. You must choose a clearing with adequate sunlight, soil, air, water, and drainage; a spot close enough to visit at least twice a month, but also remote enough that no one will stumble across it, including hunters, hikers, rival growers, or a friendly local park ranger. You won't have as much access or control as you would with a backyard or indoor garden, but there's less risk than planting on your own property, and at far less cost than growing indoors.

First, scout out your patch, preferably well in advance so you can visit it several times to see if it gets consistent sunlight all season and to make sure your plants will blend in well with the surrounding vegetation until an autumn harvest. Select a strain that thrives in your outdoor climate, and start by growing a set of clones until they're about six inches tall. Next, pay your patch a visit, without any pot on your person, and make any necessary improvements, such as pulling weeds, adding fertilizers, or trimming overhead vegetation.

When you're ready to plant, moisten the clones and pack them carefully into a backpack along with a small shovel, enough soil to transplant each clone, and a large bottle of water. Like a guerrilla warrior, you should plan to avoid detection. Visit your patch early in the morning, and have a cover story ready in case you need one, like a dog on a leash, or a copy of Thoreau's *Walden*.

Work quickly, without rushing, and try not to leave a trail when walking to or from your patch. Maintenance depends on the climate. If you receive adequate rain, you may not need to visit your guerrilla garden again until harvest, though you may be disappointed by what you find if heavy storms, grazing deer, insects or infectious mold have taken their toll.

When the big day finally arrives, plan your harvest as carefully as your planting, especially considering the hopefully large bag of evidence you'll be lugging home. ✨

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X.



Y.

REUNITED AT LAST!

Cheech & Chong team up for a new era of stoner comedy. By Steven Hager & Justin Hampton, Photos by Dan Skye

Tommy Chong had barely finished writing his recently published “unauthorized” autobiography of Cheech & Chong (Simon and Schuster) when—out of the blue—his old comedy partner, Cheech Marin, invited him over and dropped a bomb on him: After 30 years of separation, Cheech was ready to reunite the world’s most famous stoner duo.

They had kicked the idea around before, but something always kept it from happening. Sometimes it was the trivial showbiz squabbles that other legendary comedy teams, like Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis, had experienced. Other times, outside factors—like Tommy’s incarceration for Internet bong sales—side-tracked their plans. In fact, just a year ago in *HIGH TIMES* (Sept. ’07), Tommy said that “Cheech wants to be a serious actor” and saw little hope of a reunion. So when Cheech broached the idea of getting back together, it was so unexpected that Tommy actually turned him down. Then he went home and thought it over.

Guess what? They’re back! They kicked off a four-month tour on September 5, 2008—their first in 25 years. And it looks like there’s a lot more of Cheech & Chong on the horizon.

Light up and celebrate!

So the long-awaited reunion of Cheech & Chong is finally happening.

CHONG: It’s official—Cheech and I made nice. He promised to wear the tutu again, and that’s all it

took. Because before, he said that he would never wear that tutu again; I insisted, and finally he came around. But he’s gonna have to wear knee braces, because his knees are giving out. So it’ll be funny—a guy with leg braces wearing a tutu. We’re going to be touring starting in September through November, maybe longer. And we’re going to hit everywhere—from Los Angeles to New York to Vancouver. CHEECH: They wanted us to name this tour, so we went through a bunch of names. We never had names for tours before; it was just called “On the Road—Forever.” But the one that kind of emerged but was shot down at the end was “What’s That Smell?” Then we were gonna call it “Catch ‘Em Before They Croak.” But we decided to be all-embrasive of the whole country and named this tour “Cheech & Chong: Light Up America.”

CHONG: It’s gonna be fun, because this is a moment that I’ve been looking forward to for many, many years. Because we have such a legacy and such a history that we couldn’t escape it even if we tried. So, at the end of the day, we just looked at each other and said: “Hey, we better do this now, man, because there ain’t no tomorrows.” So that’s why we’re here, and that’s what we’re planning to do—just go out and do the old Cheech & Chong routines and just have a good time. The show will be opened by my wife Shelby, then we’ll be coming on, kickin’ ass the rest of the way.

What took you guys so long?

CHONG: Uh, we were fighting.
CHEECH: It was like a marriage—

you know, after a while, “Enough of this shit.” We had been together every day of our lives for 17 years—
CHONG: And we ran out of shit to fight about.

CHEECH: So our trial separation lasted 25 years.
CHONG: You know, people ask me who really put the tour together. Well, I gotta tell you right now, I figured it out: *God*. God put the tour together for one reason—well, two reasons: to get us back together, and also because I got a book called *The Unauthorized Biography of Cheech & Chong*, which is coming out—oh, fuck! Umm ... it’s gonna be on tour with us. So that was another reason why God said: “Okay, you guys gotta get together and tour.”

Did the success of the *Harold and Kumar* movies persuade you guys to reunite?

CHONG: Yeah, because when we saw those two brown guys doing movies about pot, we thought: “Jesus, that’s a helluva good idea!”
CHEECH: Yeah, we thought maybe that could be our job!

How do you explain your appeal to younger audiences?

CHEECH: We’ve had the younger audience all along. When they hit that certain age, they go through a Cheech & Chong period of watching the movies and listening to the records. It’s almost like a rite of passage.
CHONG: Our humor is very—
CHEECH: Juvenile.

CHONG: Yeah, there’s no other way to describe it. But there are generations of Cheech & Chong fans out

there.

CHEECH: Yeah, we were also thinking of calling it the “Womb to Tomb” tour.

What do you think of the current state of pot comedy?

CHEECH: Well, the humor right now is for the ages and times of right now. Pot humor, for us, has more to do with the stoner mentality.
CHONG: Yeah, recently *HIGH TIMES* pointed out that whereas other comedians talk about pot, Cheech & Chong actually *are* stoned—we are the butt of the joke. That’s what makes us so popular, or made us so popular, is that everybody is smarter than we are.

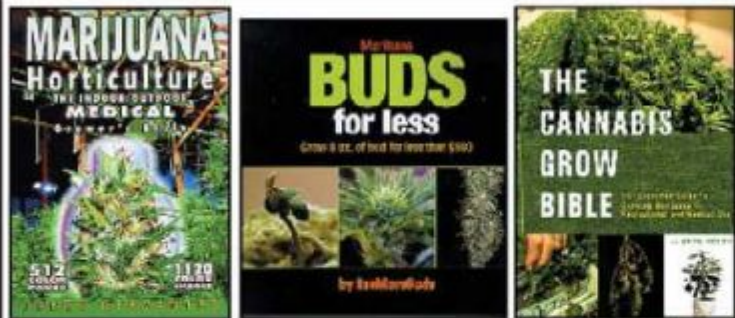
Cheech, you recently spoke on the Los Angeles Film Festival panel “Back to the Stoner Age.” Did you learn anything there?

CHEECH [*sotto voce*]: I was there to teach. [*Laughs*] It was an interesting panel. It was me and Jenji Kohan, who created *Weeds*, and then two comedians, Doug Benson and Jay Chandrasekhar, and their question basically was: “What denotes a stoner movie now [versus] the stoner movies that you did?” And I think from my point of view, what it came down to was, stoner movies are not *really* about smoking dope; they’re about a stoner *mentality*. That’s what makes it funny—like the mentality of Cheech & Chong to kind of be in a haze, focus for a minute on something that was very true, and then move off. It’s like that delay or that pause that’s built into it, sort of like: “Wait a minute, wait, wait a minute, man



The two stoner legends are sky high about their new tour, Cheech & Chong: Light Up America, which kicked off September.

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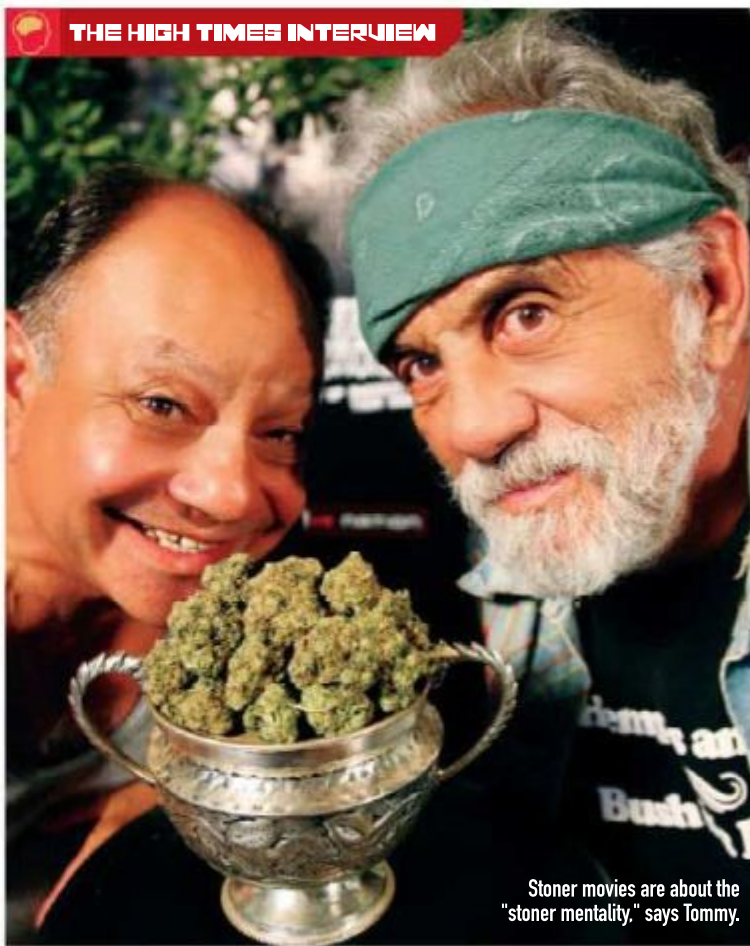
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Stoner movies are about the "stoner mentality," says Tommy.

.... [LONG pause] What was it?" And that stoner mentality is what really makes a stoner movie. It has nothing really to do with the act of smoking a big blunt.

Your renowned Chicano art collection has been shown in galleries and museums across America. The collection seems utterly absent of irony or detachment. It jumps out at you.

CHEECH: This is very spontaneous art. They're great painters, and it's almost analogous to being great jazz musicians—they're not counting anymore, they're not playing three-chord songs, they can really put it on. It's like all of a sudden you're walking through the jungle, and you turn a corner and you see John Coltrane and Miles Davis and Charles Lloyd and Herbie Hancock playing: "Where did these guys come from?" Well, they've been here all the time! And there is an urgency and a vibrancy and a technical virtuosity that exist in all these guys.

Do you feel that pot may have enhanced your eye for art?

CHEECH: Stoners are more enlightened people anyway, if only because they've made a conscious choice to slow down their perception for just a minute and take a look. I mean, that's the era that I came from: "Wait a minute, why am I in this line? Why am I shuffling along this line that's painted

on the ground, and I'm just turning where they tell me to?" And it's during that era that I got wise and smoked pot, and I go: "Wait a minute—they said this is gonna kill me and lead to heroin and ruin my life. Well, what other things have they been lying about?"

So that was the attitude. And artistic people, by and large, are subject to getting high; I think that it goes hand in hand. It really enhances the appreciation and understanding of art. And it's an age-old urge for everybody on the planet—I don't care whether you're from New Guinea or New York.

Do you feel your advocacy of Latino-American art can peacefully co-exist with your legacy as a stoner comedian?

CHEECH: Absolutely—"marijuana" is a Spanish word! [Laughs] Come on, you wonder where it came from? It came from us, homes. [Holds out hands] We came sharing, bearing gifts to you: "White people, smoke peace pipe. We come in peace"—like you said you did. But you didn't. [Laughs]

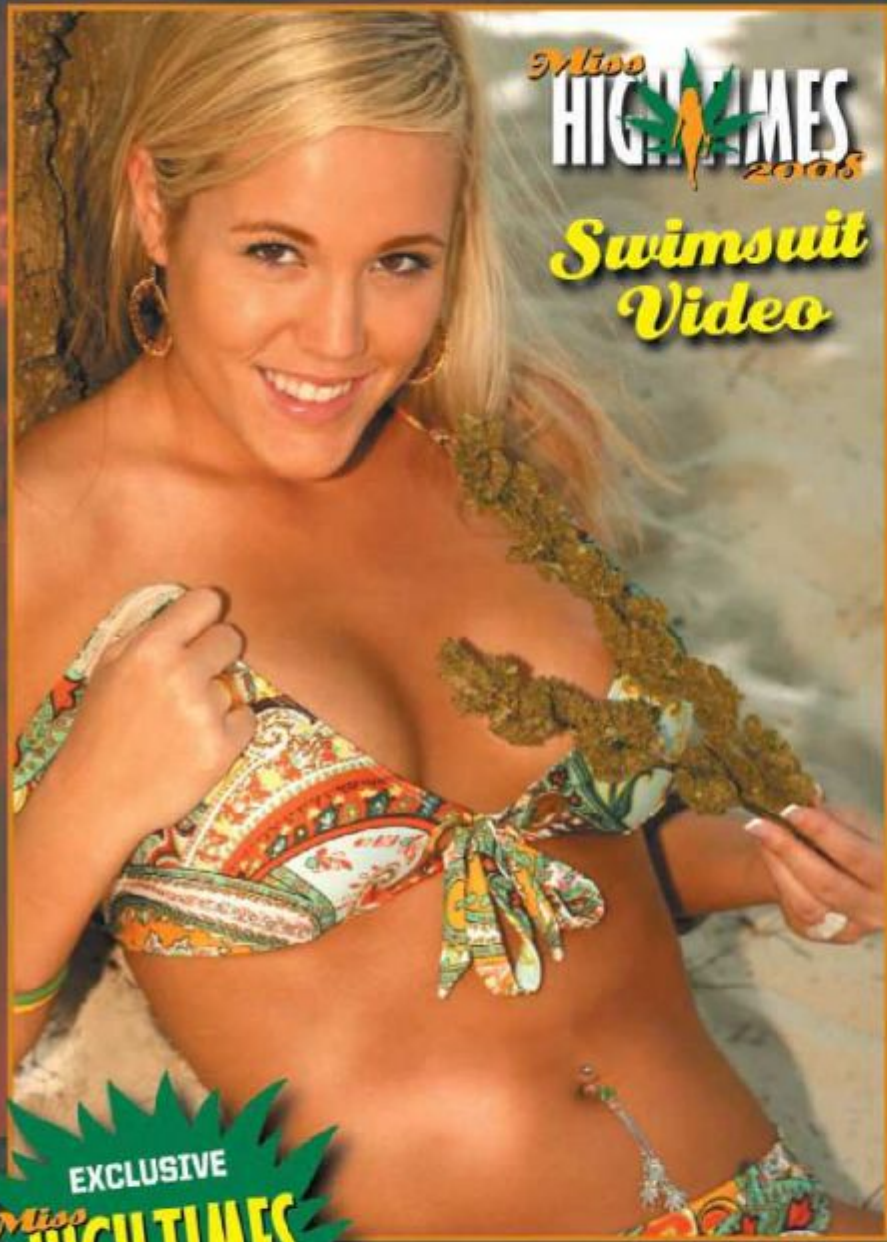
Tommy, you've been writing books—two high-quality books in two years. It didn't even look like you were breathing hard.

CHONG: Well, I've got a lot of stories. Halfway through the Cheech & Chong book, I was stuck, so a writer friend named Pat gave me good ad-

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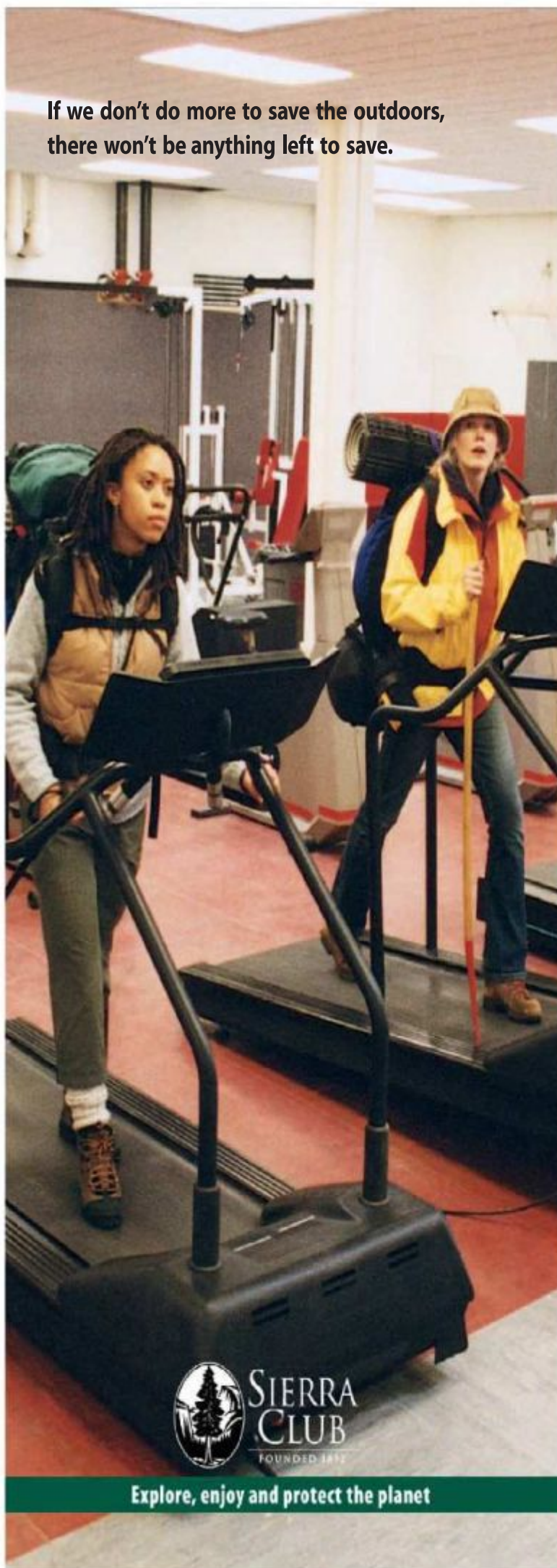
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THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW



vice. He said, "Just write it—don't read it. Let someone else read it."

How long did you spend on that book?

CHEONG: A few months. Not long.

In the beginning it looks like you're going to drop a bomb on Cheech, but you don't. You paint a very nice picture of him. You explain why you got upset when he went off on his own, but you didn't really belabor it.

CHEONG: Thank God I didn't or we wouldn't be having a reunion. The bottom line between Cheech and I is, there's a lot of love. Cheech had to grow up—he grew up, and I never did. And I owe it all to the pot. Pot has kept me in a juvenile state of mind. I mean, you suffer for it in some ways, but in other ways you're happy.

Will you be performing new material?

CHEONG: Everything we do is new for us. We haven't been onstage together since '81, so anything we do is gonna be new to *everybody*. Everything that's happening is always part of the act. We're gonna be talking about what we're doing today, or yesterday—you can't escape it. That's the beauty of comedy: It's not written in stone. You have to update everything. For instance, we're not gonna be doing any Nixon jokes.

Do you have plans for a new Cheech & Chong movie?

CHEONG: Yeah, actually, we do. Everything you do nowadays turns into a movie.

Will you use real pot in the movie?

CHEECH: The last time we used real pot in a movie, it got stolen

by the Teamsters. So we stopped doing that.

Will you guys be performing your music again?

CHEECH: Yes, we will. We'll be doing some musical stuff with whatever city provides a symphonic orchestra. It's gonna be very theatrical—everybody's gonna get their money's worth.

By the way, what happened to your TV careers?

CHEONG: What happens to anybody's television career? It comes to an end. No matter who you are ... you can be *Elvis*.

Do you guys have medical cards?

CHEONG: I have an honorary membership.

CHEECH: Yeah, we have medical-marijuana cards—absolutely. It's gonna be interesting in politics to see who's gonna be the first candidate to endorse legalization.

CHEONG: The truth is, I got busted for bong, I went to jail—all that stuff. We've got to really make a serious effort to bring attention to the medical aspects of marijuana. Whereas Cheech and I before, we had a lot of fun doing the movies and that, but we also became a catch phrase for the recreational use of pot. You look at us: I'm 70 years old, Cheech is a little younger ...

CHEECH: A *lot* younger.

CHEONG: We're ready to go on tour, and people wanna know, for a 70-year-old man—y'know, I'm the same age as McCain. I attribute all my youthfulness, my ... my—

CHEECH: *Memory* ...

CHEONG: —to marijuana. You can write that down! 🌿

For more information on the tour, visit cheechandchongtour.com. Tickets available at livenation.com.



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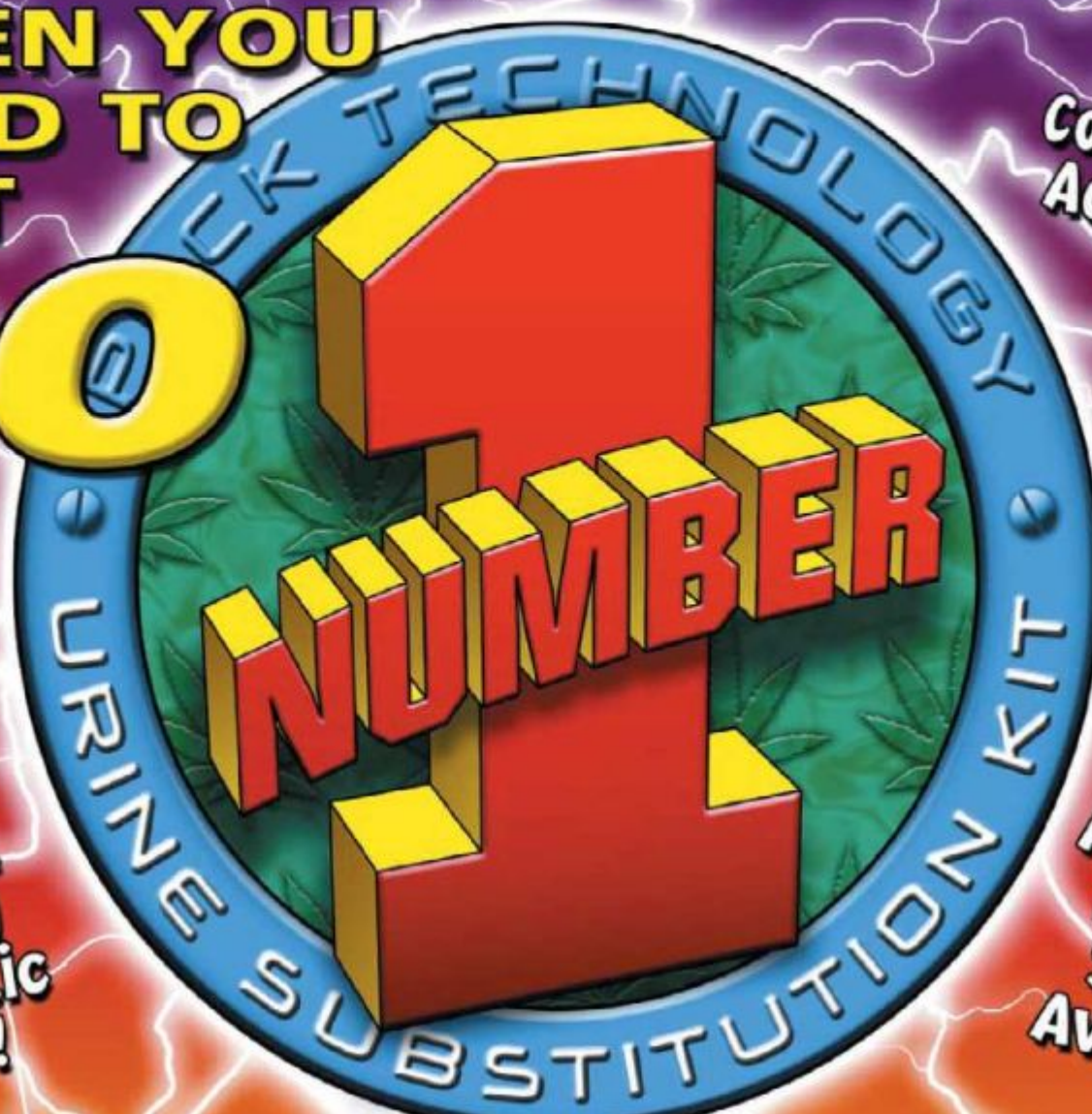


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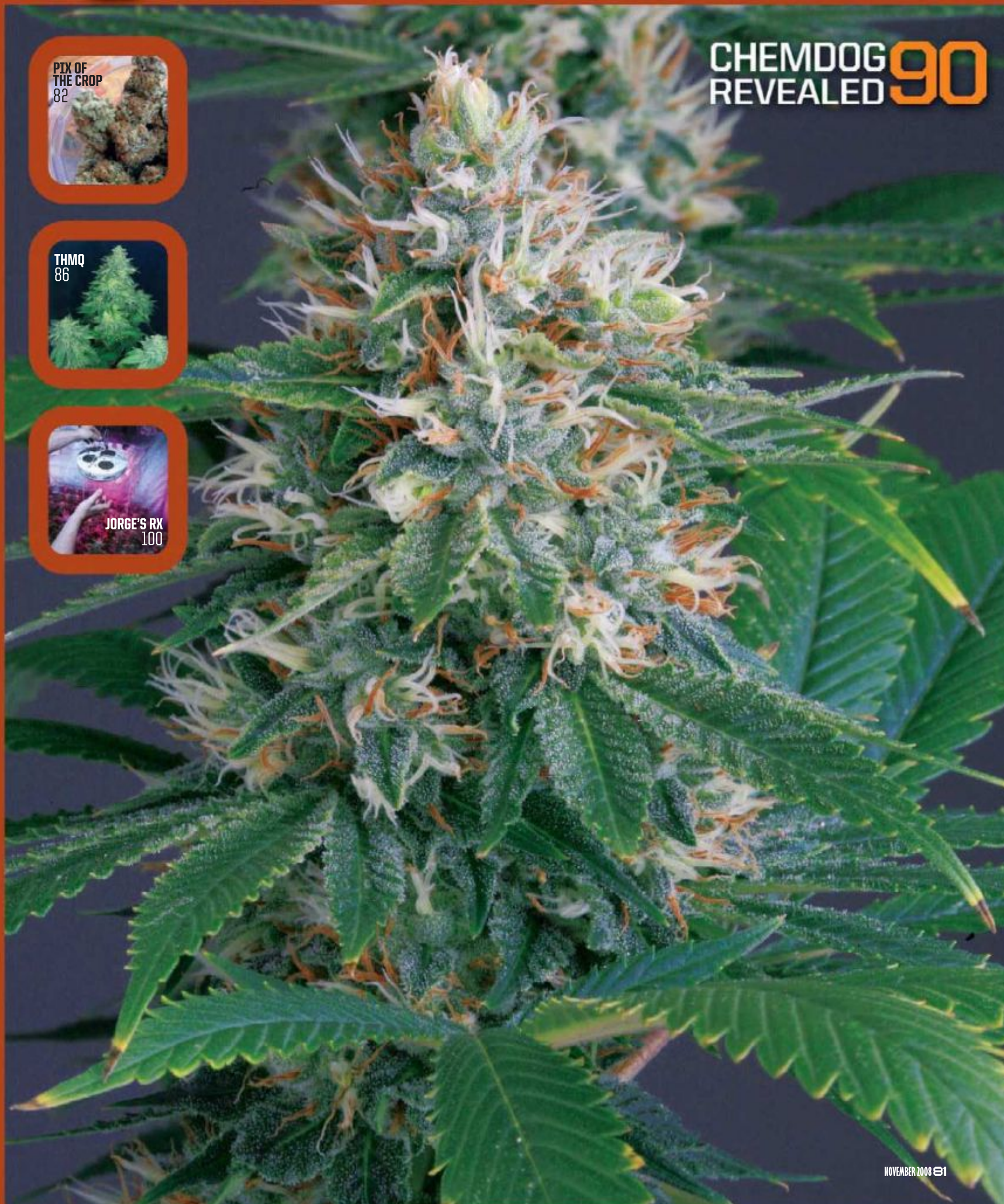
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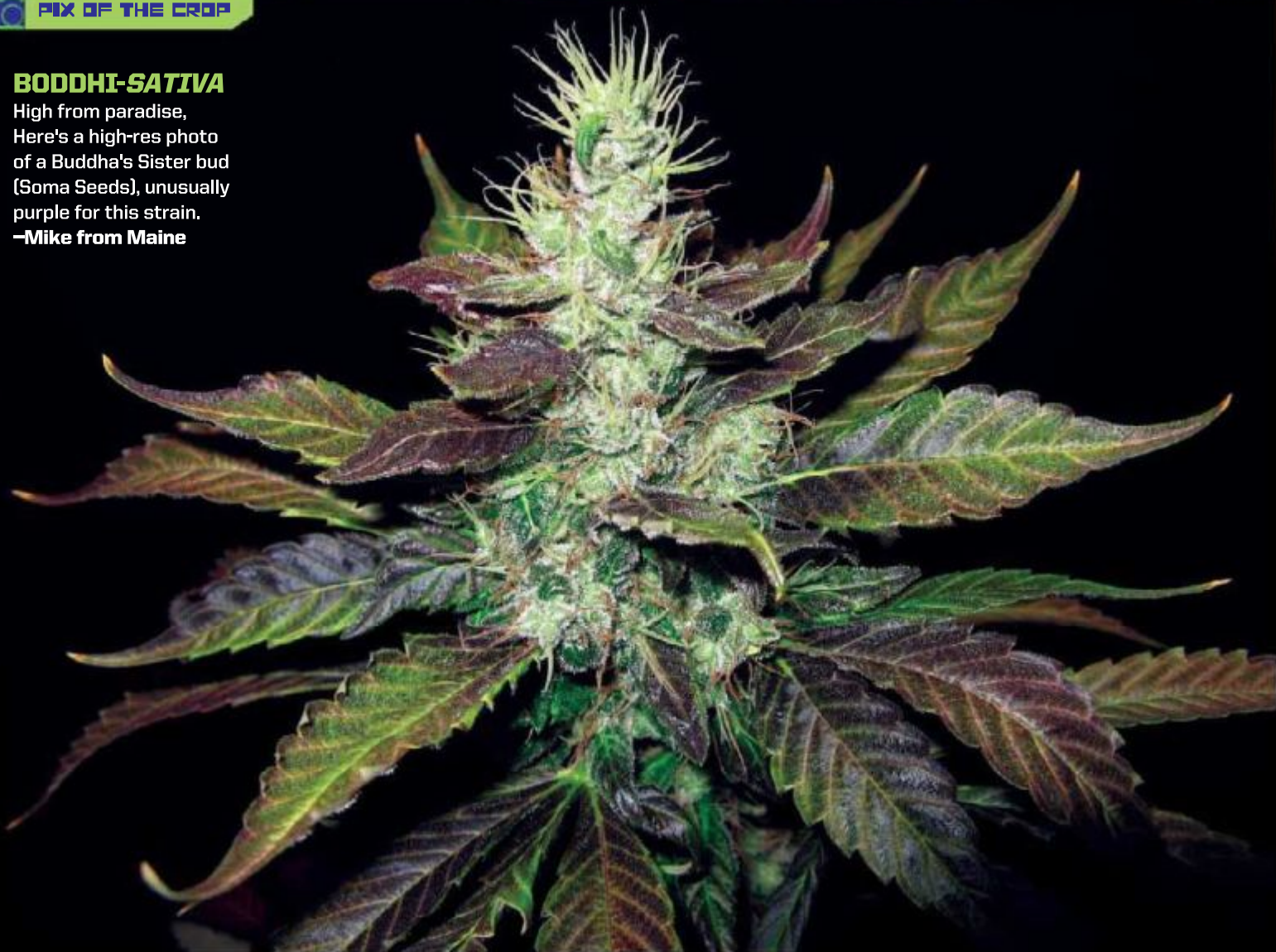


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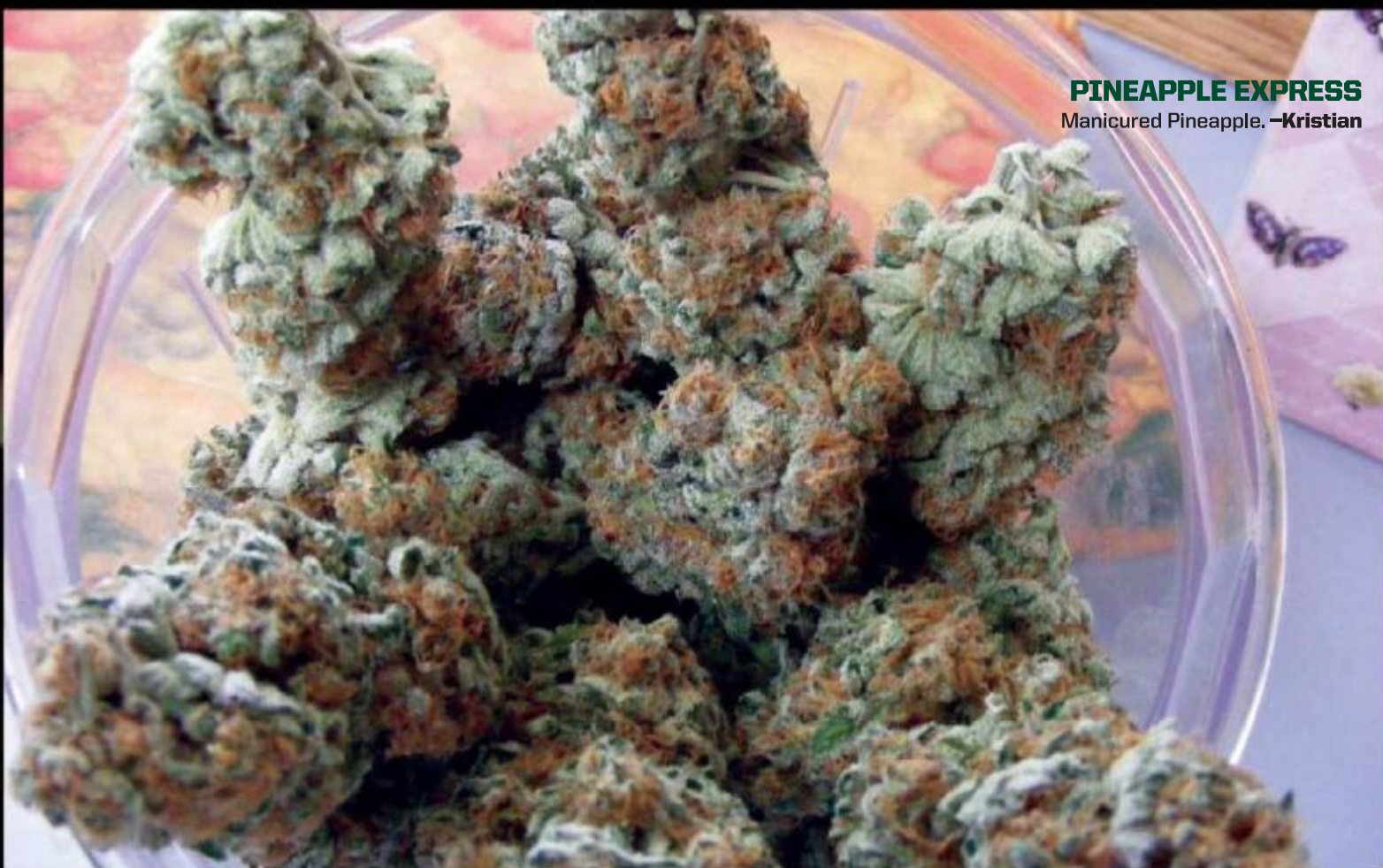
BODDHI-SATIVA

High from paradise, Here's a high-res photo of a Buddha's Sister bud (Soma Seeds), unusually purple for this strain. —Mike from Maine



PINEAPPLE EXPRESS

Manicured Pineapple. —Kristian



VOULEZ-VOUS KUSH-EH AVEC MOI?

Here's some nice Kush from Canada. This phenotype had all kinds of colors and a vibrant Blueberry smell and taste. Words just can't describe it. Hope you enjoy! —Jm



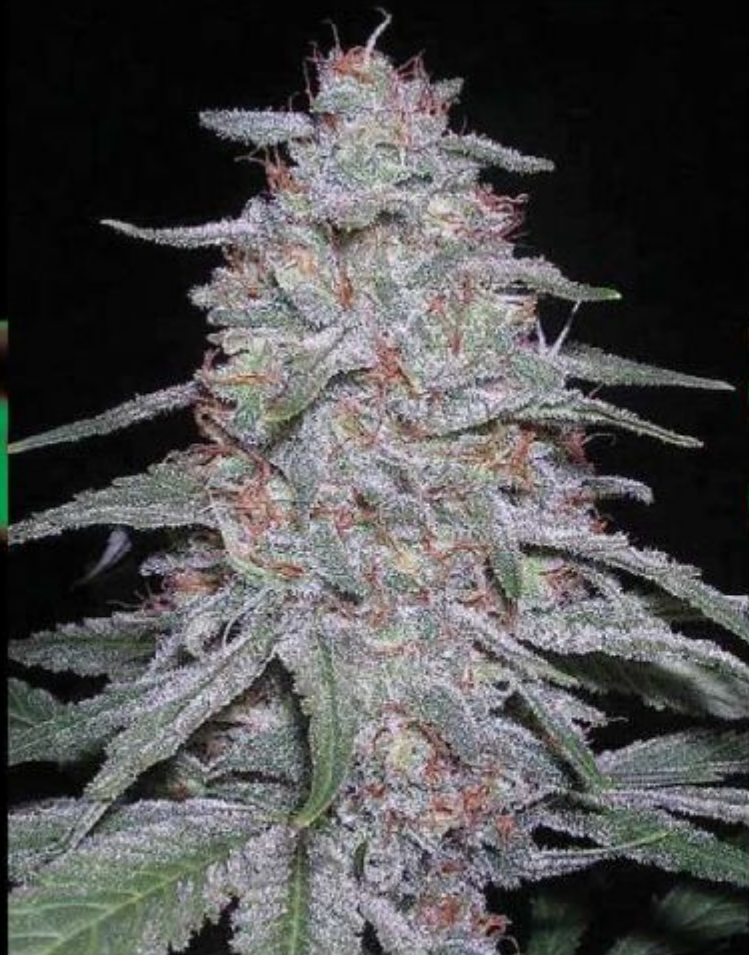


DA KINE

Puna Buddha,
grown organically
under the Hawaiian
sun.—**Surfin' Zach**

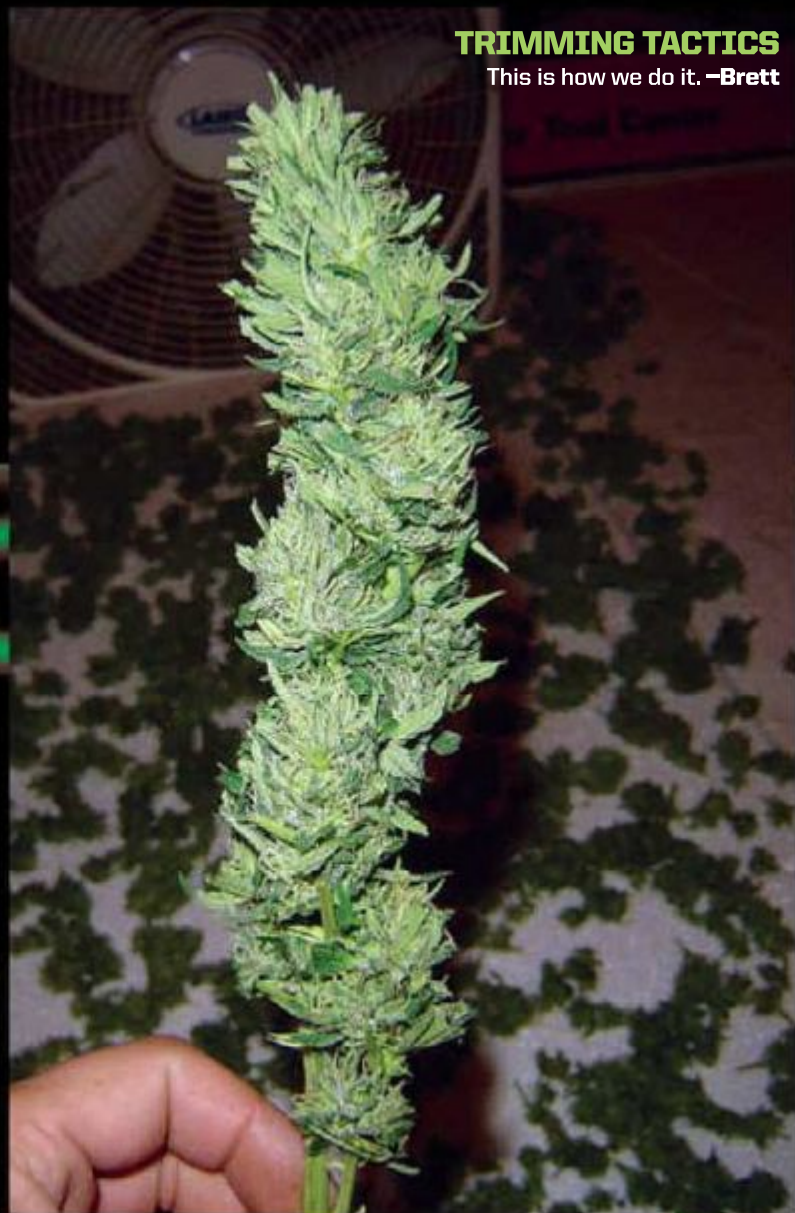
KNIGHTS IN WHITE SATIN

Here's a White Satin grown under a 1,000-watt HPS using Pure Blend Pro organics. We couldn't do it with out your help.—**Damone and The Nice Guy**



TRIMMING TACTICS

This is how we do it.—**Brett**



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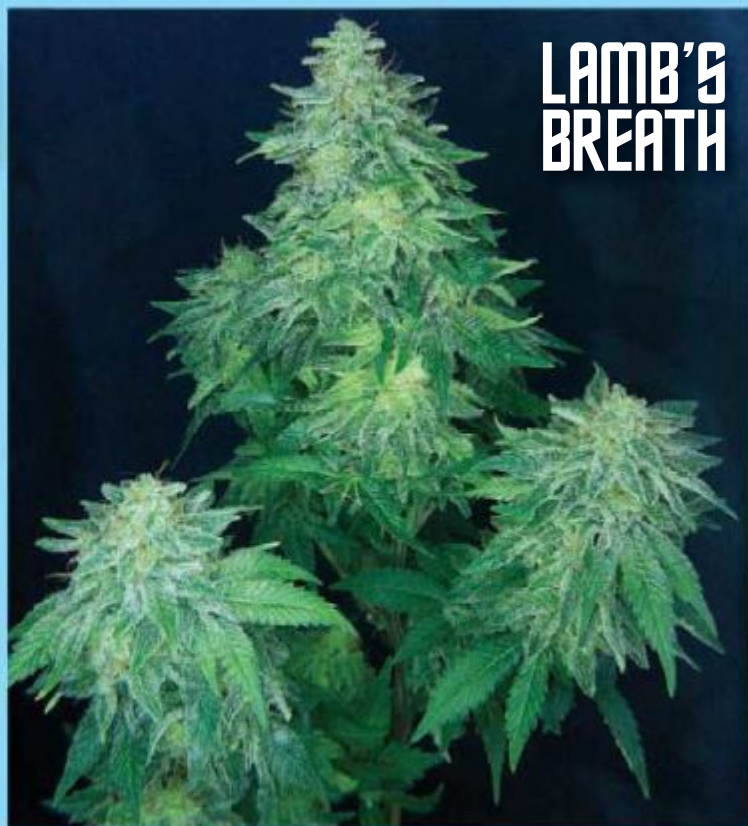
Trans-High Market Quotations (THMQ) reports pot prices by the ounce, strain and location. To submit prices, go to the THMQ link at hightimes.com.

CURRENT US PRICE INDEX: **\$344** (last month: \$361; YTD: \$370)

CURRENT KIND INDEX (\$350+ PER OZ): **\$427** (\$468, \$448)

CURRENT MIDS INDEX (\$150-\$349 PER OZ): **\$279** (\$297, \$276)

CURRENT SCHWAG INDEX (\$1-\$149 PER OZ): **\$100** (\$93, \$91)



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STATE	CITY	STRAIN	PRICE
CALIFORNIA	Oakland	NYC Diesel	\$380
		The Purps	\$475
COLORADO	Boulder	Bubblegum	\$400
FLORIDA	Jacksonville Melbourne	Indoor	\$100
		Mids	\$120
IDAHO	Coeur d'Alene	Agent Orange x White Rhino	\$200
ILLINOIS	Downers Grove	Blueberry Sky	\$400
INDIANA	Elkhart County Indianapolis	G-13	\$350
		Master Kush Northern Lights	\$350 \$400
IOWA	Des Moines	Trainwreck	\$375
KANSAS	Salina	Hash	\$700
MARYLAND	St. Mary's City	Mids	\$110
MASSACHUSETTS	Boston	Northern Lights x Blueberry	\$560
MINNESOTA	Hopkins Stillwater	Beasters	\$300
		Papaya	\$400
MISSOURI	Kansas City	Schwag	\$70
NEBRASKA	Lincoln	Mexican	\$120
NEVADA	Reno	Trainwreck	\$300
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Concord	Lowrider	\$375
		Blueberry	\$300
NEW JERSEY	Flemington Newark Trenton Westfield	Sweet God	\$450
		Strawberry Diesel	\$600
		Mids	\$200
		Chocolate Kush	\$425
NEW MEXICO	Albuquerque	Northern Lights	\$325
NEW YORK	Buffalo Newburgh New York City	Loganberry	\$350
		Kush	\$400
		OG Kush	\$500
		NYC Diesel	\$450
NORTH CAROLINA	Asheville Burlington	Mendo Purps	\$400
		Pineberry	\$425
OKLAHOMA	Edmond	Master Kush	\$430
PENNSYLVANIA	Hazleton	Purple Haze	\$240
TENNESSEE	Memphis	Schwag	\$85
TEXAS	Austin Dallas Houston	Purple Haze	\$420
		Afghoey	\$400
		Strawberry Cough	\$350
UTAH	Salt Lake City	AK-47	\$400
		Sour Diesel	\$300
		OG Kush	\$320
WASHINGTON	Richland	Blue Cheese	\$300
WEST VIRGINIA	Morgantown	Jack Star	\$420
WISCONSIN	Appleton	Mids	\$130

INTERNATIONAL: CANADA (prices in Canadian dollars)

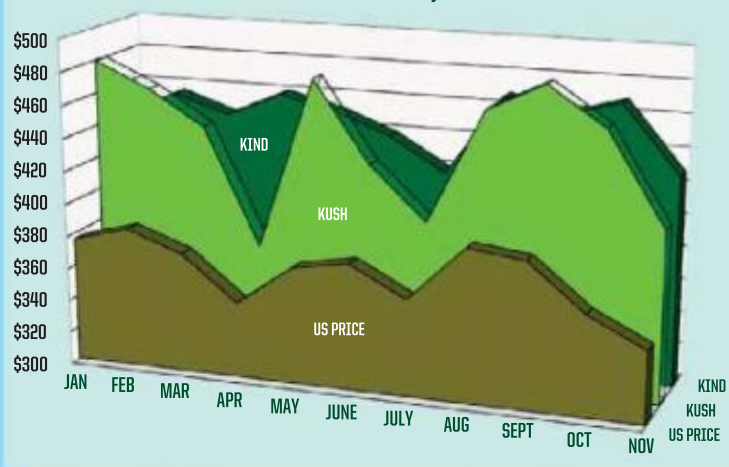
ALBERTA	Calgary Edmonton St. Albert	Blueberry	C\$200
		Purple Kush	C\$240
		Sugarberry Kush	C\$220
ONTARIO	Mississauga Toronto	Sacra Fresca Jack Herer	C\$200 C\$220
QUEBEC	Montreal	Skunk #1	C\$200

MARKET ANALYSIS

Kush reclaimed its place as the most submitted strain after being displaced by Diesel in October. However, while Kush was the most submitted strain of the month, its average price also made it the cheapest of the top five strains. In November, all indices were down from their previous month's average with the exception of Schwag. Additionally, the US Price and Kind indices finished significantly below their respective year-to-date averages. The top five submitted strains (with average price) were Kush (\$404), Purps (\$406), Diesel (\$426), Haze (\$417) and Blueberry (\$420).

HIGH TIMES wants to know what you're smoking. Submit your strain information (including location and price by the ounce) to thmq@hightimes.com.

AVERAGE PRICE 2008: US, KIND & KUSH



G-13-\$350

Elkhart County, INDIANA

"I have never experienced a smoke that makes you couch-locked the way G-13 does. One hit and I was feeling it."

Northern Lights x Blueberry-\$560

Boston, MASSACHUSETTS

"By far the most potent herb I have smoked. The smell alone through the Ziploc is enough to make you lightheaded."

Mendo Purps-\$400

Asheville, NORTH CAROLINA

"This herb came from a little college in the vicinity of my town. It has a stout aroma and very fruity taste. It's a seven out of 10 compared to the other buds here in the mountains."

Sacra Fresca-C\$200

Mississauga, ONTARIO

"Pure *sativa*, organically grown indoors. Bright red hairs and the slightest hints of purpling adorn these beautifully manicured buds that look as good as they smoke!"

Jack Star-\$420

Morgantown, WEST VIRGINIA

"This strain has been a favorite of mine since I first tried it about a year ago. The parents are a Jack Herer mother and a Sensi Star dad. The appearance is a bright lime green, and the stone is very cerebral coupled with a couch-lock body high. A very good nighttime smoke."

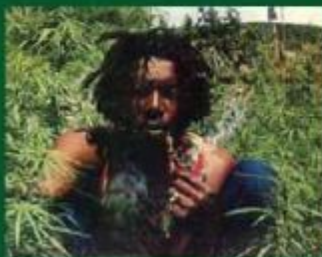
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Everyone should know this about me: I am *not* a titty-tattle. I have never once called The Man about the illegal exposure of any woman's globular girls. Breasts are beautiful—most of them, anyway—and in my opinion, even sub-par buppies should be legally allowed out of their underwire cages to enjoy the fresh air.



Friends don't let friends stay straight.

Everyone should also know that cops scare me. In light of their local history here in the Big Easy—a record of unmitigated brutality and flat-screen television pilfering—the only time I ever call them is when I'm belly-crawling under a barrage of gunfire, which in any case is so common in New Orleans these days that I rarely even bother to drop *or* dial anymore.

F-bombs in the dad's direction. I don't mind boobs, but I do mind bail bonds. I warned her of that possibility.

Also, I'm a professional stoner who used to bartend topless on roller-skates—activities completely incongruent with prudery. Nonetheless, over the course of the last year I've contended with some trifling but widespread slander. Here's the story, with the names changed.

Sure enough, the father called the police, but by the time they arrived, Ghoulie had dressed, thereby escaping incarceration. However, when I returned to Boobaroo, I soon learned that she'd told our entire crew that I'd called the cops on her.

Last summer, I was doing production at a festival called—um—Boobaroo, along with a rigger named Ghoulie. Initially, I thought we'd be friends, because she's a fearlessly unabashed wild woman, much like me. But, alas, a fifth of Jägermeister set us down the wrong path before we had a chance to bond.

People who knew me knew better. And Ghoulie never bothered to get to know me. No big deal—but she just moved to New Orleans and has been hired by the production company that employs me. So here we are, Ghoulie and me, on the same crew again, this time in my hometown.

One afternoon, our crew decided to seek refuge from the summer swelter at a local swimming hole. By the time I arrived, the Jägermeister was gone, and so was Ghoulie's swimsuit. A father of four prepubescent children was freaking and wanted Ghoulie to cover herself. But Ghoulie responded by unleashing a barrage of

I found myself torn between a petty desire for vengeance and a deeply ingrained ethos of Southern hospitality. I opted for the latter. In Louisiana, it's *de rigeur* to crush a squabble by raising a toast and offering your detractor something wonderful and full of garlic. And since the word "pesto" derives from the Italian word *pestare*, which means "to crush," I can think of nothing better to serve this purpose than some ganja pesto.

So, Ghoulie, welcome to New Orleans! Welcome to my family! How about we crush this tiff over some ganja pesto and wine? And hey—clothing's optional.—Ashley Boudreaux

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GANJA PESTO

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- 1 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 pinch kosher or sea salt
- 2 cloves garlic
- 3 tbsp pine nuts or walnuts
- 2 cups small-leaf basil
- 1/4-cup grated Romano or Parmesan cheese

Combine the olive oil and ganja. Heat in a double-boiler on the lowest setting for at least eight hours, adding tablespoons of water to prevent scorching as needed. Cool, strain and set aside.

Smash the garlic and salt until they form a paste. (For the best consistency, use a mortar and pestle. A blender works, too.) Slowly add the pine nuts or walnuts, pounding or blending them to small bits. Wash and pat dry the basil. Remove the stems before hand-tearing the leaves into tiny pieces. Add the basil a 1/4-cup at a time. Blend in the cheese. Stir in a 1/4-cup of ganja oil. Cover tightly, as the air will oxidize the pesto, turning it brown. Refrigerate and use within five days: It's great over pasta, as a sandwich spread or alone on sliced baguettes. Stones 7.

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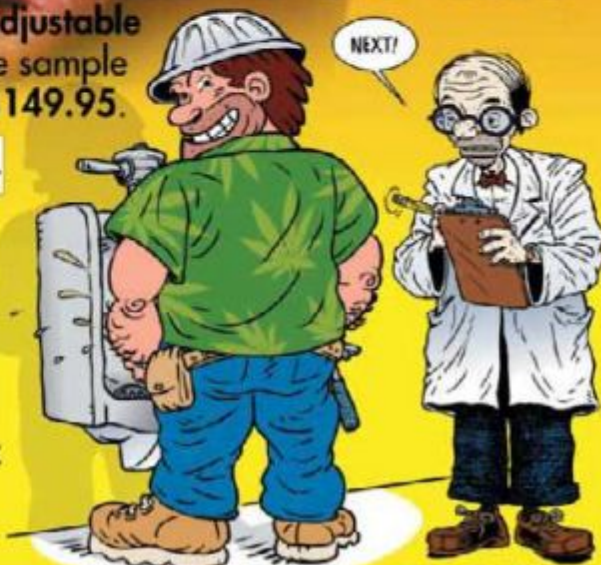
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