

# TIME TO RETIRE?

BY MICHAEL BURNETT / ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHAEL SIEBEN

**THERE ARE MORE** pro skaters over the age of 30 today than at any other time in the history of 'boarding. And while it's great that these legends have been able to sustain 10-plus-year careers, some of them might finally (painfully?) be wearing out their welcome. Some warning signs:

☛ YOU'RE DOWN TO ONLY A WHEEL SPONSOR, AND THEY KEEP TRYING TO PAY YOU IN WEED

☛ YOU STILL CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SPANKY AND HERMAN

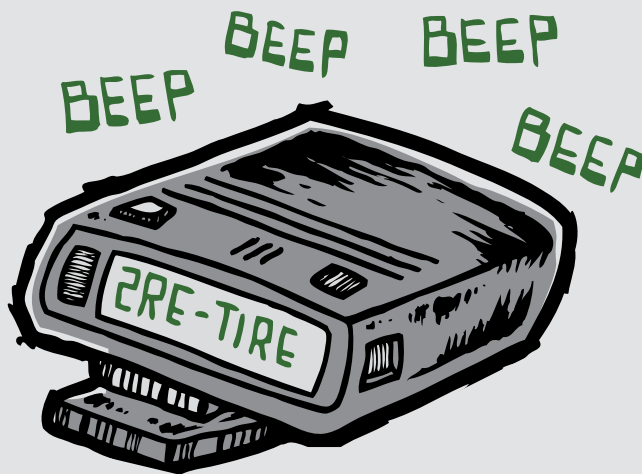
☛ YOU WANT TO GET IN THRASHER BUT YOU LOST BRYCE'S NUMBER

☛ YOUR TECH DECK AD GOT CANCELLED BECAUSE THEY STOPPED MAKING YOUR FINGERBOARD

☛ YOU'RE 10 YEARS OLDER THAN YOUR TEAM MANAGER

☛ WHEN YOU ASK FOR A PAY RAISE, YOUR SHOE SPONSOR ASKS YOU IF YOU'VE EVER THOUGHT OF DOING A LITTLE REP WORK ON THE SIDE

☛ YOU SPEND MORE TIME AT THE DOG PARK THAN THE SKATEPARK



☛ YOU'VE GOT A PRO SHOE COMING OUT FOR A COMPANY THAT ALSO MAKES VOLLEYBALL EQUIPMENT

☛ YOU WERE ONCE MASSAGED BY BARRY ZARITSKY

☛ YOU'RE TRYING TO START YOUR OWN COMPANY BUT HAVE NO IDEA WHO ANY OF THE NEW AMS ARE

☛ YOU'RE STILL TRYING TO COLLECT PHOTO INCENTIVE FROM A SPONSOR THAT DROPPED YOU A YEAR AGO

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- YOU KEEP ASKING THE PHOTOGRAPHER, "HOW MANY MORE ROLLS WE GOT?"
- THE LAST RAIL YOU SKATED WAS IN 1999, AND IT WAS A SEVEN STAIR, AND A FEEBLE GRIND
- YOU GOT THE COVER! ...OF AUTOMATIC
- YOU SHOW UP TO TAMPA PRO AND THEY ASK YOU IF YOU WANT TO JUDGE
- YOU STILL REFER TO JAMIE THOMAS AS A "T-DOG"
- YOU'VE NEVER MET THE KID WHO HAS THE FIRST PART IN YOUR SPONSOR'S LATEST VIDEO
- ATIBA WON'T ANSWER YOUR PAGE



HOW MANY MORE  
ROLLS WE GOT?



IS 3 JOINTS COOL?

- YOU'RE STILL WAITING FOR THIS HANDRAIL CRAZE TO DIE DOWN
- FELIX CREDITS YOU AS SOMEONE HE REALLY LOOKED UP TO
- THE PHOTOS YOU SHOOT FOR THE MAG KEEP ENDING UP ON THE MAG'S WEBSITE
- YOU GET THE NEWS THAT YOUR NEXT SHOE WILL ONLY BE SOLD IN GERMANY
- ON TOURS, YOU SKIP THE DEMO AND HEAD STRAIGHT FOR THE AUTOGRAPH TABLE
- YOU KEEP ASKING THE 19-YEAR-OLD FILMER IF THE TRICK YOU'RE TRYING IS GOOD ENOUGH
- THE AMS ON THE TEAM KEEP LAUGHING WHEN YOU SAY "DISASTER SLIDE"
- YOU'VE REPLACED COUNTING STAIRS WITH COUNTING CARBS
- YOU SEE THE BEST TRICK OF YOUR UPCOMING VIDEO PART IN A SEAN MALTO WEB CLIP
- EVEN PHELPS FORGOT WHO YOU ARE ♠