DONALD, OR

Someday a town was going to build a skatepark that was just like the best backyard pool you ever skated. We used to joke that it would be complete with a fence you had to jump, scummy water to bail and someone to kick you out. Well, I have had to clean scum out of the Donald bowl a few times.—MC

BODY SLAM 6.2 FUTURE 6.2 NOSTALGIA

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The double transition is something almost nobody believed in. "Red is crazy," they said, "that thing is going to be unskateable." What compels these skatepark builders to come up with ever more outlandish creations? Is it egotism or are these guys geniuses? Of course the thing is really fun to skate, while making possible some crazy lines. That's only one wall. There are all kinds of interesting and challenging features. Yep, I'll go ahead and say geniuses.















BACKYARD MINIRAMP

I built the mini three years ago. I bought all the wood and did most of the work myself. It was a nice little project for me. I took a few shortcuts, So certain things aren't very straight and the coping sticks out too far on one side. I painted all the wood up to the masonite, and I tarp it up so it's still mostly sound. When I got the masonite a bunch of friends helped put it down.

I spoke to several of the neighbors when I was planning the ramp. They all thought it would be fine. Except for the cow next door who's really loud and inconsiderate and brings her dog over to crap in my front yard. She doesn't like the ramp. She cranks her outdoor speakers when I'm skating - which must bug the neighbors much more than the ramp noise does. I never play music outside. I wouldn't want to disturb folks with my punk rock favorites or high energy dance mixes. For some reason her sonic weapon of choice is If I Could Turn Back Time: Cher's Greatest

Hits, Personally, I prefer the dog shit.

They light! "©&ing baseball diamonds and football fields but somehow lights for night skating got left out of the plans for Pier Park skatepark. Rich Burton found some cheap clipon battery powered LED units and attached them to a helmet with Velcro. Four light units running on four AAA batteries each adds

a little weight but It works better than you would think. It is scary getting used to it. This is a time exposure of Shawn Reinert taking a run and skating like it was daytime. I made a light helmet too. Now that the sun sets before five p.m., I'd better pick up some batteries.

PIER PARK, PORTLAND, OR



JESSICA STARKWEATHER

Photo: Rich Burton

Rich Burton takes some cool pictures of our silly little scene and posts them up at his website Earth Patrol Media. He's a good guy to know because in addition to taking great snaps, he's ready to go skate almost anytime.

RIVATE BOWL noto: Rich Burton