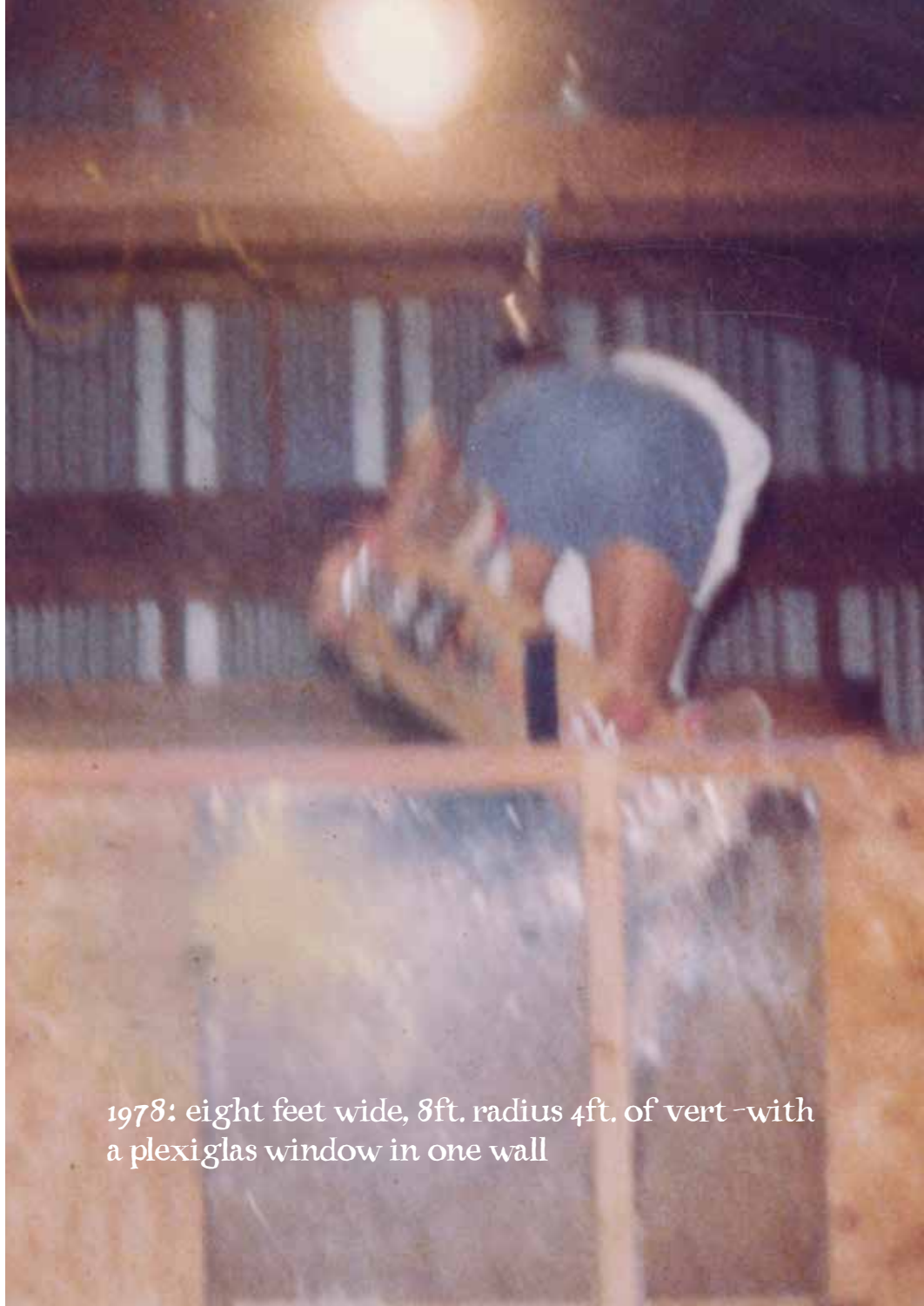


By Tom Huckabee

# Larry's Ramp



Story from BODYSLAM No. I  
originally published in 1982,



1978: eight feet wide, 8ft. radius 4ft. of vert -with  
a plexiglas window in one wall

1978: New plywood, plexiglas window covered, tiles and wood coping



Mark





1979: 16 ft. wide, 2 ft. of vert with a 4 ft. deck on one side.

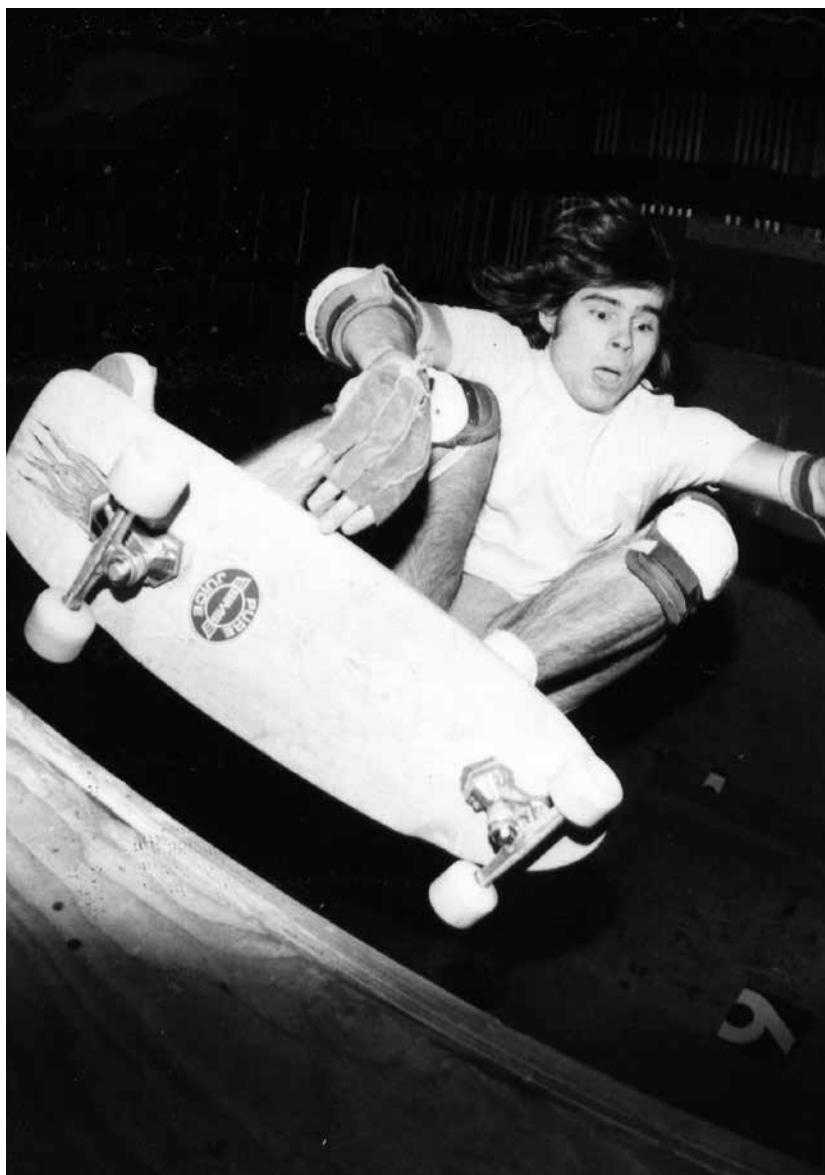
# LARRY'S RAMP ... THE BEST PLACE TO RIDE IN PORTLAND...

that is, if you could ... I used to go out to Larry's every weekend ... then every night during the years that it was around. It was about a 50 mile drive there and back, but I had my dad's gas card: no problem ...

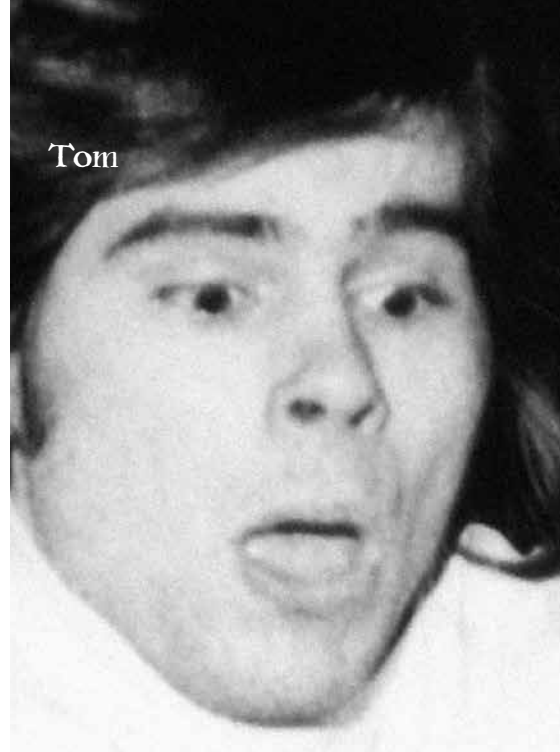








Tom



Larry



Harris



Mark











MAR  
79



Larry's was the scene of some of the best sessions that I've ever been part of ... going out there every night riding ... pushing everybody that was there (usually it was Mark, Harris, Larry and me). Then when it was all over





we'd go inside and have milk and cookies. The best sessions nappened after the ramp was widened to 16 feet, mark would be perfecting some new trick he'd seen in Skateboarder Magazine, an "Ollieair" or something equally difficult, he would always have the move down by the end of the night, Harris, he was Harris. He had a goofy style, we called him "Harris the Duck" Larry was always doing smething crazy. First it was wheeling off the side of the ramp when it was only eight-feet wide. Later it was fully extended inverts. Me, I just tried to keep up. Larry's was where we learned how to skate.

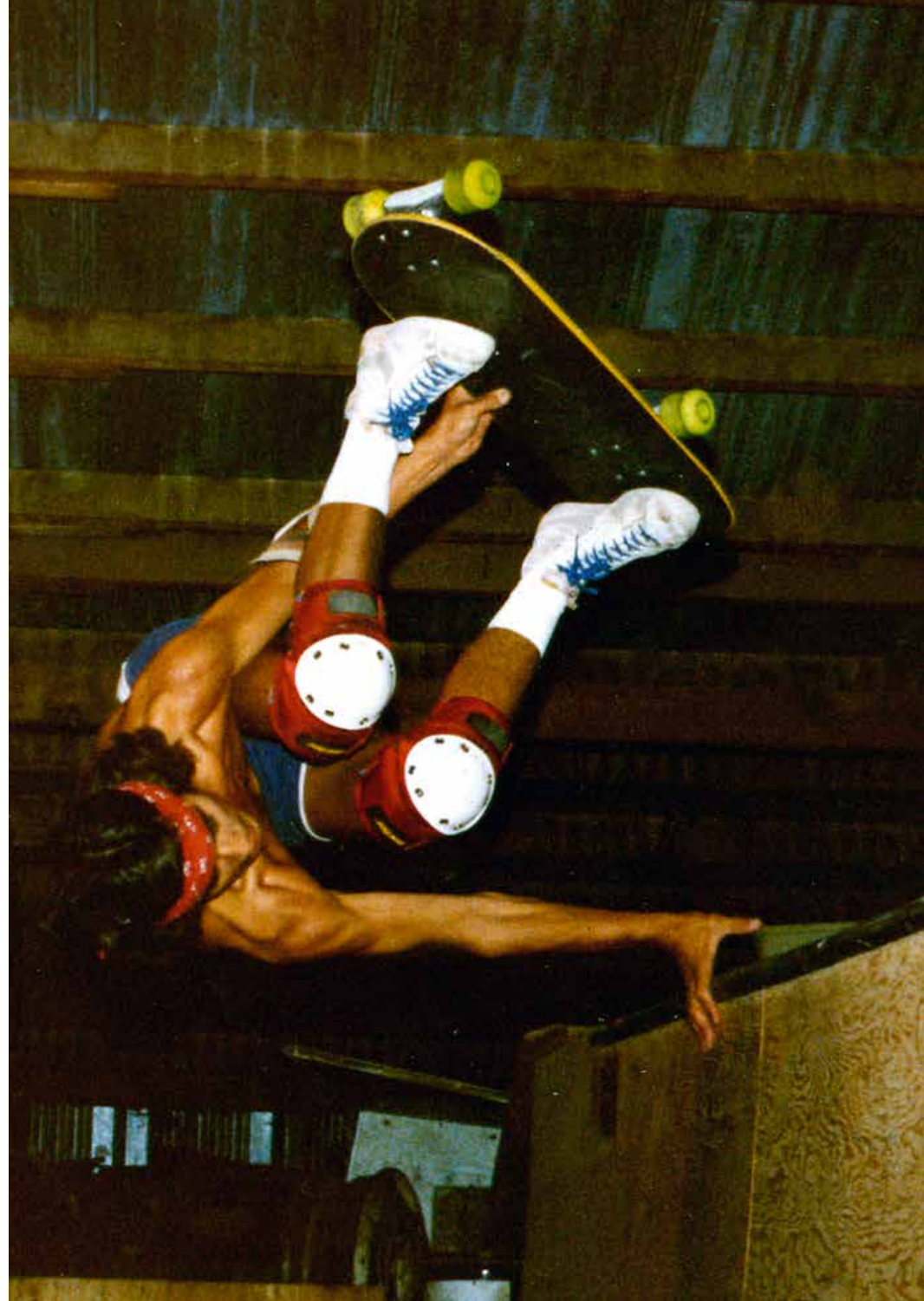
You have to skate every day, that's the only way to get good. That's just what we did too... and hey, we got good. There was a time when nobody in Oregon was even close.

Larry's family was really supportive, too...

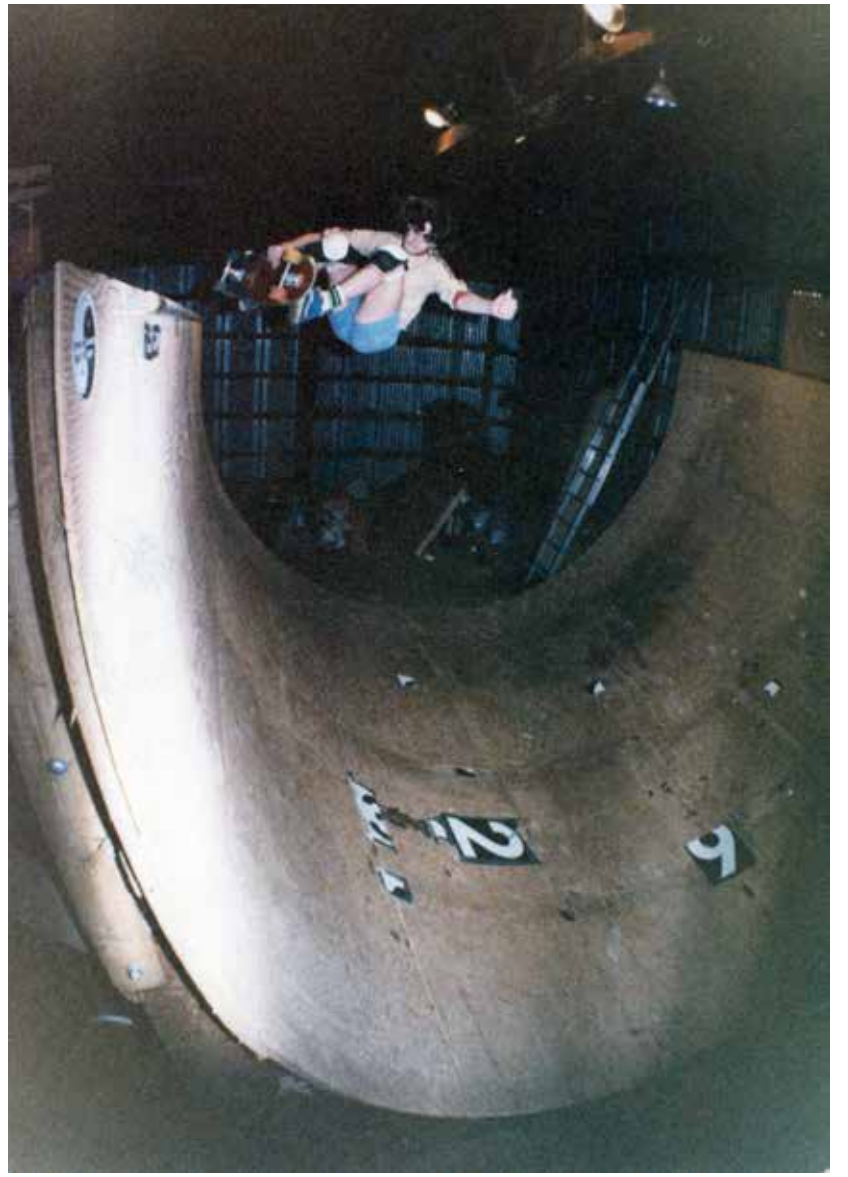
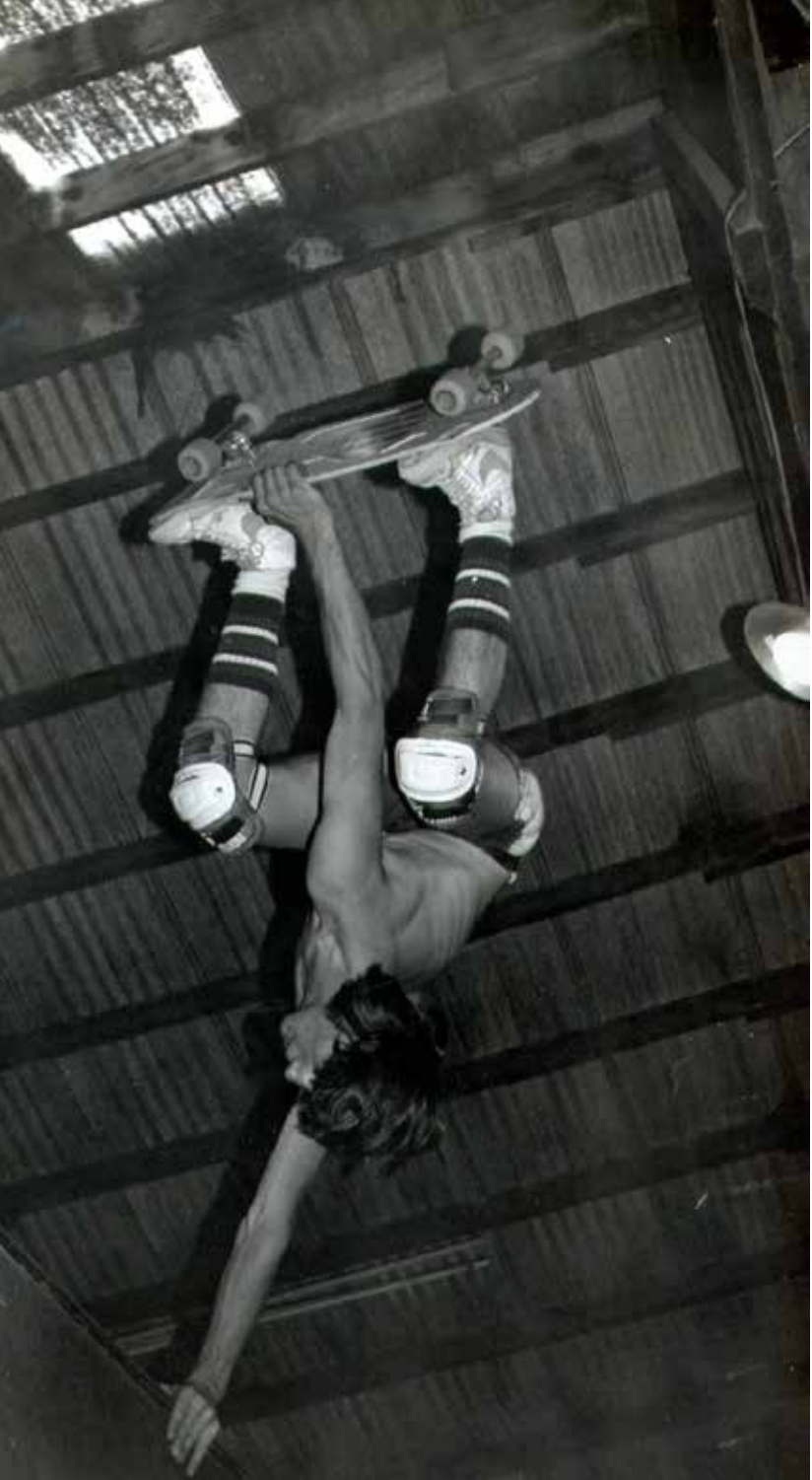


# We went through a lot of cookies and milk.

And the ramp was in Larry's grandpa's barn. Try to find someone who will let you use that much indoor space rent-free for four years. We owe a lot to Mr. Gantbein. Now we have to search for good places to skate ... they aren't easy to find. One of the best places we've ever skated, trashed beyond recovery.









Marcus' ramp may be to the present generation what Larry's was to us. the potential is there ... I'm not sure if the dedication is ...

Build a ramp! We all should. Nothing is as cool as vertical skating.





But to sum up: Larry's ramp ... it had its humble beginnings as a 1/4 pipe - used in a demo at Mall 205. It became one of the best spots to skate on the west coast ... we stopped going out there ...



Larry got into cars, started getting into trouble ...



...his grandpa  
had him tear  
the darn thing  
down.



November 1980