

Courtenay/Comox

Words: Jesse Oye



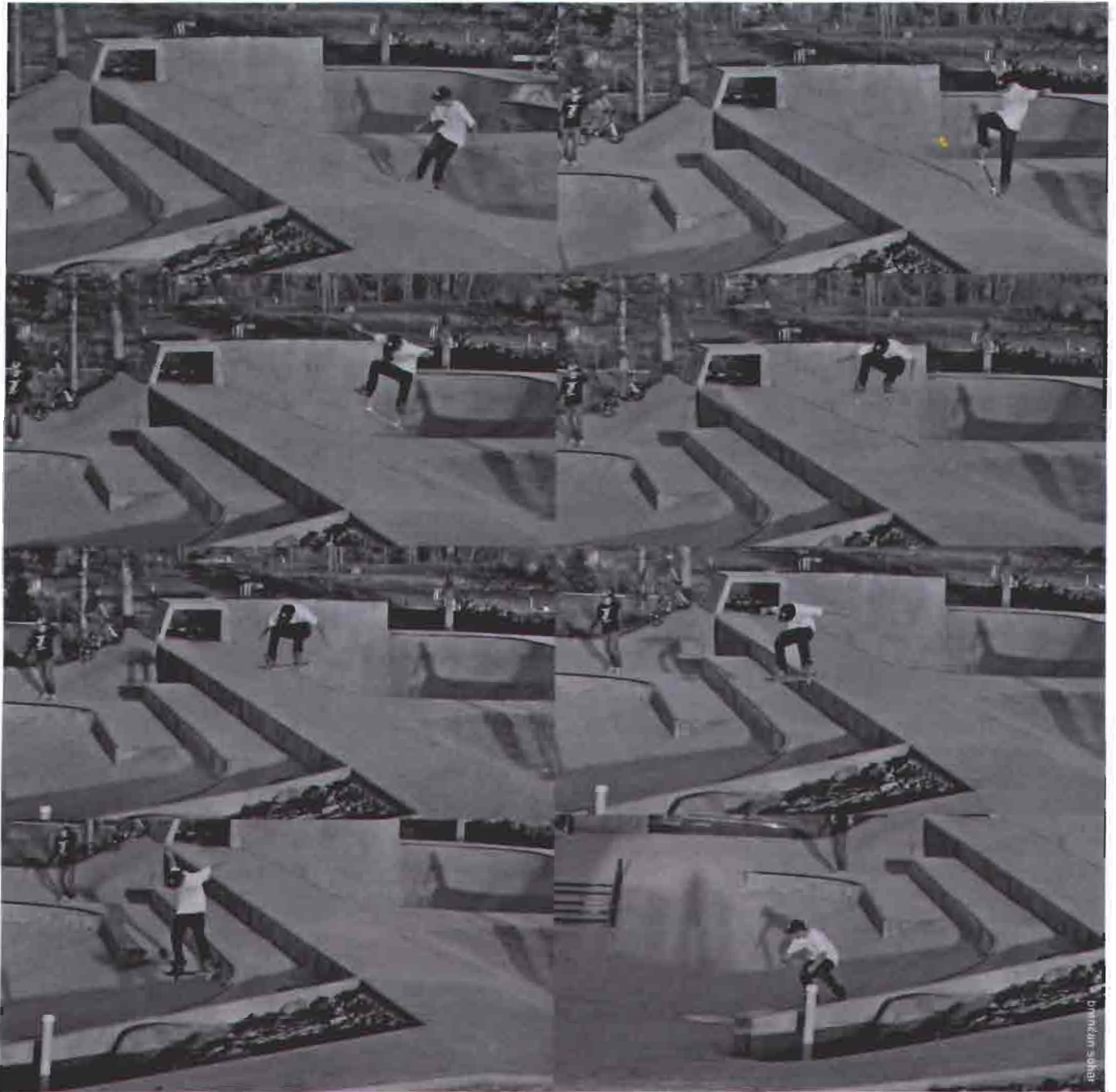
Small town, big street, is the quickest way to describe the new Courtenay / Comox, BC park. Like a lot of towns on Vancouver Island, Courtenay and Comox have histories of raising absolute rippers. Up and coming kids like Sascha Daley and Stash started skating here before making the move to the big city. Prior to this park being built, there wasn't much to skate in this area. The lack of spots in this town, along with this desire to skate the best spots in the world was really the spirit in designing the park. With the neighbouring city of

Comox already having a bowl built a few years back, the local skaters were hungry to have all the real elements that they saw in their favourite videos and magazines. The locals and designer Jim Barnum had meetings and corresponded until the finally came up with a working design. The end result was a park with authentic technical pieces like curved ledges, stamped bricks in concrete banks, a step up over rocks, metal grates and a layout that makes them all flow together. Just to round things out too they put in a flow bowl

because you gotta throw the old dogs a bone. Locals like Calen Drysdale, Jayman, and Nate Babcock now get to enjoy daily, what is described as the Island's best park.

Courtenay, is about an hour and a half from Nanaimo and three hours from Victoria. If you plan on stopping for a drink anywhere, the place to go is the Courtenay House Hotel. Despite not having much to skate other than the park, there's tons of other stuff to do. In the winter, you can snowboard at Mt. Washington.

Will Durie, kickflip.



In the Summer there's tons of rivers to fish in or Lake Comox to go swimming in. Now with one of the biggest skateparks in BC, one of the most beautiful areas in BC just got better.

FACTS

Sq. Ft. : 25,000 sq. ft.
Obstacles : Huge, street area with plaza style features including grass gaps, a step up, various sized ledges, rails, and stairs. The bowl ranges from 5' to 11' in height, with a large hip in the shallow end, a vert wall in the medium section, and an over-vert capsule in the deep end with coping all around. Also a flow area for beginners, cruising, or warming-up.