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June 461



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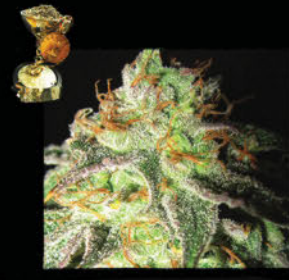
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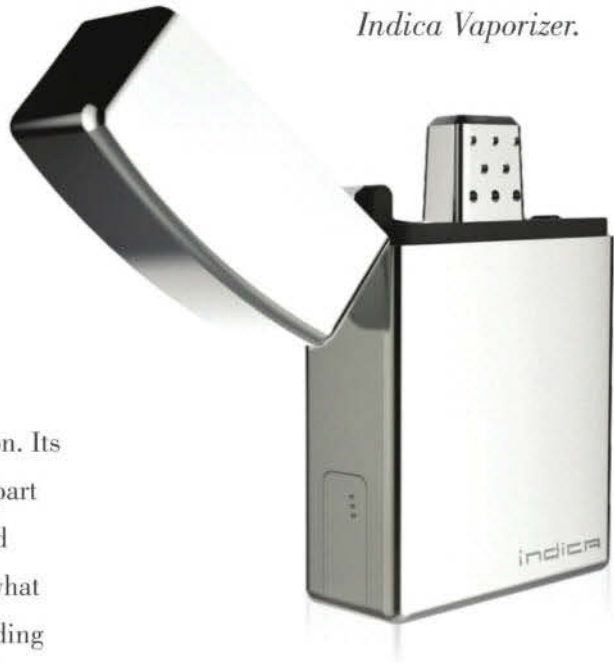
UP &
COMING

Well worth the vape.

The rumors of a vaporizer ‘that looks like an old lighter’ began just over a year ago in early 2013; not coincidentally, it’s around this same time that the Indica Vaporizer began its journey from notion to full-fledged reality.

Whether its goal of being ‘the best portable vaporizer on the market’ remains to be seen, the Indica surely puts every effort toward it. Borrowing from the equity of classic lighter design, the chassis alone is worthy of attention. Its polished silver exterior immediately sets it apart from competitor’s playful colors and goth-clad ensembles. It’s reserved approach is part of what drives the ‘cool factor’ of the Indica. Just holding it feels—genuine. It doesn’t *have* to show off.

The look is familiar, but at its heart are some surprises. Ladies and gentlemen: the Indica Vaporizer.



If the exterior is all restraint, the internal engineering is anything but. Two rechargeable batteries power the Indica’s five temperature levels of true vaporization. Pair this with a chamber that can accept up to .25g of a favorite blend—and you have a handheld unit with the fortitude and versatility that far exceeds expectations. The Indica Vaporizer proves that—in the end—investing the time and care is always worth it in the long run. ■

Style and grace / with a refined look that is as attractive as it is ergonomic, the Indica Vaporizer is completely portable and at home anywhere.



HIGH TIMES JUNE



“Man, we get so high every time we collaborate that there’s only one real story: ‘Damn, we smoked a lot of fuckin’ weed!’ But it’s great collaborating with these guys on any level,” says B-Real.

—High on Mount Kushmore, page 54

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47 San-Bern-A-Doobie!

Our second High Times Medical Cannabis Cup in San Bernardino drew thousands from the Inland Empire of Southern California, demonstrating that cannabis is the Golden State’s number one cash crop.
By Dan Skye

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Hip-hop’s weed-advocate OGs—Snoop Dogg, B-Real, Method Man and Redman—gather under the *High Times* banner for the ultimate smoke summit.
By J. Bennett

66 Living Organics

Mitch Shenassa details the reasons for growing organic, and describes award-winning techniques to increase the aroma and flavor of your pot by using a living soil mix and natural nutrients.

83 Our 40 Top Movies

To celebrate our 40th birthday, the *High Times* staff

compiled a list of our favorite 40 flicks. The debate was long and contentious, but we came up with a list of 37 winners and three buzzkills!

90 Himalayan Cream

Pack your bags, we’re going hash-hunting! Journey to Manali, where concentrate-connoisseurs stay for weeks on end sampling India’s finest hashish.
By Navkirat Sodhi

94 Growroom Electricity

We asked a trained electrician with years of experience to explain the basics of watts, amps and volts necessary for indoor gardeners to stay safe and harvest big.

100 High Times Interview: Nate Jackson

In his book *Slow Getting Up*, former NFL tight end Nate Jackson provides vivid insight into America’s most popular sport. He also shares a fresh player’s perspective on cannabis and other drugs in the league.
By Dan Skye

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HIGH TIMES DIGITAL



Lisa's Pieces with her long-necked giraffe bong.

► Glass Artist of the Month

Her name is Lisa's Pieces. Both her father and grandfather were American Western sculptors who exhibited all over the country. "Art is in my blood," she explains.

She was trained at Shasta College in Northern California and, in 1998, began blowing glass steamrollers for Hoopin' Hippy glass. In 2000, she founded Lisa's Pieces and took the name of her product line as her artist name.

Lisa's Pieces consists of sculpted steamrollers in 160 different varieties. (Visit lisapieces.com). She cites the legendary Banjo, Hoobs and Mike Luna as tremendous influences in finding her style as an artist. She's proud to be co-founder of the epic Las Vegas Flame-off, which features 52 competing glass artists.

Now based in Northern California, Lisa's Pieces says she's hitting her stride: "After nearly 16 years, I feel like I'm just getting started creatively. Glass is my life! I can't go three days without working!"

Check out the work of Lisa's Pieces online at hightimes.com/glass.



► Stoner Video Fest

It's the weekend! Looking for a laugh after lighting up on your day off? We post "5 Videos to Watch When Baked" every Saturday. Whether it's wackiness or weirdness, laughter is the best—um—second best medicine!

► Calling All Stoners!

If you can click on a website button, you can sign up for the *High Times* newsletter! It's free! Go to hightimes.com and sign up! Every week you'll get news and event updates. Plus, you can win prizes in our Top Hot Pot Shot of the Week contest. It's on the homepage. Click the button!

► The Business of Buds

Check out Eric Sandler's weekly "Cannabusiness" column. Get the financial forecast for growers, dispensaries and investors, and find out how the decisions of politicians are affecting both the green in your bong and the green in your pockets!



POT POLL

What Do You Listen To?

Some complained that the choices of music offered in this poll didn't include electronic music, trance, dubstep, trap, drum and bass, hardstyle, house or disco. Disco? Talk about buzzkill! Oh well. Over 3,500 told us what beats they did like.

Cast your vote in our latest poll online!



- Hip-Hop...31%
- Classic Rock...23%
- Reggae...14%
- Death Metal...9%
- Punk Rock...6%
- New Age...5%
- Jazz...3%
- Folk...3%
- Country...2%
- World Beat...2%
- Classical...1%



Miss June 2014

NAME: **Jennifer Flowerchild**
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Welcome to Mount Kushmore

Those who have visited Mount Kushmore say it's the most peaceful place on Earth. One thing's for sure: Its peaks are very high. Kush grows wild everywhere, under the watchful gaze of Snoop, B-Real, Redman and Method Man, and the wind carries with it the sound of beats and rhymes. In the morning, a mist of cannabis smoke rolls down from the mountain—some days the fog is so thick, you can barely see the sun. Boulders of

hash, budder and shatter protrude from the earth. Bears and antelopes sit around and pass the peace pipe, laughing at the fact that in the world beyond Mount Kushmore, their genetic brethren look upon each other as enemies.

What state is Mount Kushmore located in? California? Washington? Colorado? That has yet to be decided. For now, it's located in the State of Mind—and on the cover of this magazine, of course.

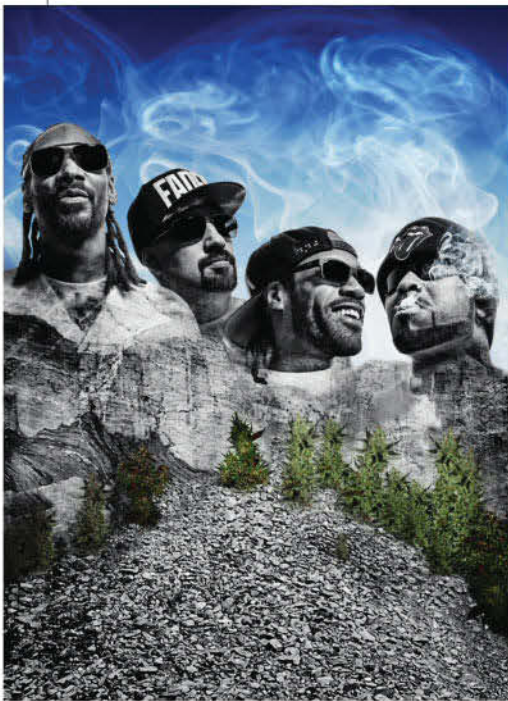
The idea for the photo shoot originated when B-Real was a guest on *GGN*, Snoop's TV show. Someone had suggested that a version of Mount Kushmore should be carved out of hash and put on display somewhere, but who has that much hash? (I know, some of you do, ha ha.) The next best thing was to get the

forefathers of chronic hip-hop to sit down for a round table discussion and epic photo shoot. As the idea began to spiral into reality, the faces on Mount Kushmore reached out to *High Times* via our associate Bianca Barnhill, and after six months of coordinating four very busy schedules, the hour was at hand. Add photographer Mark Mann and writer J. Bennett to the mix, and you have one of the greatest editorial moments in *High Times* history.

To see these four together in a room was to witness a rare and special moment. Combined, Snoop, B-Real, Redman and Method Man have sold over 100,000,000 albums, and if you added up how many years they have been singing the praises of marijuana, it would be something close to a century. So sit back, raise a joint, blunt, bong or rig, and salute these four giants, because no one in the history of recorded music has had more to say about our favorite plant.

Peace,

Chris Simunek
Editor-In-Chief



HIGH TIMES

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Bianca Barnhill,
David Bienenstock,
Crazy Composer,
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Subcool, Katy Winn

RESEARCH ADVISOR
Dr. Mitch Earleywine

FOUNDING PUBLISHER/EDITOR
Thomas King Forcade
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DWC: Deep-Water Confusion

In terms of the published equipment list in the article by Read Spear on building a two-bucket deep-water culture system (March '14), I've just about got all the parts together; however, I'm having trouble visualizing how the 1-3/8" hole saw is going to make a big enough hole required for the 1-1/2" Uniseal fitting. Is it possible that it's supposed to be a 1-5/8" hole?

Also, how critical is the tube size?

Could a person get away with, say, a 1" or even 3/4"?

RS

Read Spear replies: RS is right to be confused, and I apologize to *High Times* readers for the error. It should have been a 2-3/8" hole saw, not 1-3/8". Thank you for bringing that to my attention. The exterior dimension of the 1-1/2" Uniseal is 2-1/2". The point is to drill a hole that is 1/8" smaller, because the wall of a black bucket is not thick enough to be compressed when the pipe expands the Uniseal inside of it. Drilling 1/8" smaller provides the compression needed to avoid leaks. Regarding the PVC pipe diameter (also 1-1/2"), I would not go much smaller, because at that pipe volume the nutrient concentration takes about four to six hours to equalize in both buckets.

Maybe Tell Her to Turn the Other Cheek?

Dude, my wife flushed my stash yesterday! She's a very strict Christian, and pot smoking obviously makes me a sinner. Never mind that it's the only medicine that helps my depression, and that she flushed over \$150 worth and threw my pipes away as well. All I can say is, if you think that flushing a sick man's medicine is a godly deed, you belong to the *wrong damn church*.

Bubba

Runner's High

I am a 48-year-old female living in North Carolina. I'm a medical professional, a breast-cancer survivor, mother of three grown girls, a Boston Marathon-qualified runner, and I've been married to the law for 25 years.

I also smoke pot! *Every day!!!* I enjoy smoking and heading out on a long run—no couch-sitting for me! I'm planning to wear a shirt with a giant pot leaf in the colors of the American flag when I run the Boston Marathon this April. I think I'm one of that rare breed of folks who are active and engaged in society. Actually, I'm a competitive master runner—just this weekend, I won my age group in a 5K and a 10-miler!

Holly Briggs



Dude, my wife flushed my stash yesterday! She's a very strict Christian, and pot smoking obviously makes me a sinner.

We Don't Usually Recommend Counseling, But ...

My wife and I have been married for 30 years, and she has lost touch with pot smokers like me. I am practically a teetotaler when it comes to smoking—just two or three hits a week. The other day she caught me tokin' and now she thinks I'm the devil: untrustworthy, dishonest, and disrespectful of her and her wishes. She wants me to quit, but that won't happen. It's not bad for a person, and she doesn't get it. So after our daughter gets married in March, I might get a divorce or separation, because she makes me feel so bad. Is there any advice you can throw my way?

Smokeless and Hopeless

Well, you say she has "lost touch" with pot smoking, which leads us to wonder if she found it acceptable in the past. Thirty years is a long time to be married; many folks don't make it that long so there must be some good energy between you. We recommend showing her that you can smoke pot and behave responsibly. You definitely shouldn't hide it from her—let her know that it makes you feel good, eases your stress, etc., and that you can enjoy weed and still be the man she wants you to be. If she won't meet you halfway, it might be time to seek counseling, either together or individually. If money is tight, many clinics offer services on a sliding scale. Good luck to you both—and congratulations to your daughter!

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Old Stoners Unite!

I'm addressing any of you out there who know your way around cannabis and aren't naive about its drawbacks or potential.

Now that states are finally decriminalizing—and, in some cases, legalizing—the purchase and use of the herb, a larger question still remains unconsidered by the general public and the mainstream media: What kind of cannabis culture do we want to create?

If we want a cannabis culture beyond what commercialism will structure and encourage, it's up to us elder stoners to coach others. First, let's be prudent in the messages we offer about its use, including safe smoking and wise consumption habits. Second, let's not allow our bud to be confined to "recreation." Yes, it is that—but we also use it to spark creative writing and inspire painting and music. We should emulate Baudelaire, Oscar Wilde, Allen Ginsberg, Jimi Hendrix, Charlie "Bird" Parker, Bing Crosby and others.

We have used kief to bond, enhance intimacy, explore new ideas and vistas of touch together. It's time for those of us who have actually mastered its use for relationship building and enhancing sex to come out of the shadows and find ways to share what we've learned.

Elder stoners, disseminate what you know through public-access TV shows, smoke-ins, art and experiential workshops to reintroduce users to cannabis in all its varied dimensions.

Herb Stone

Thanks for writing, Herb. We're living in exciting times! As the mainstream culture becomes more accepting of marijuana, the opportunity is there to turn on not just a new generation but whole new segments of the population to its many uses. Thanks to years in the trenches, senior stoners appreciate the value of their hard-won freedom and are now in a position to impart the knowledge that they've spent years acquiring in the shadows of the law, whether it concerns recreational, medicinal, spiritual or inspirational use. In terms of demonstrating how to use pot safely and responsibly, older stoners have a particular advantage, since they've experienced the changes in marijuana's strength and intensity over the years as growing techniques have advanced.

Younger tokers and those new to the game, seek out an elder today!



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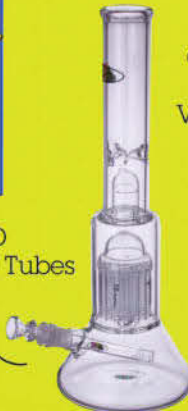
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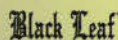
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**Contact
High**

ONLY IN HIGH TIMES No other magazine could have pulled these forefathers (four fathers?) of OG Herbal Hip-Hop together, according to Redman: "Me, Snoop, Meth, B-Real—we've stuck together since the beginning. It's like a triumph, for what we've been preaching and believing in all these years, to now consolidate it in a magazine that's been a supporter of marijuana since the '70s. We couldn't do this with no regular bud magazine or some shit like that. We had to do it with the grandfather of them all." Visit Mount Kushmore on page 54. *Photo by Mark Mann*





Contact High

BEHOLD SOCAL'S FINEST NUGGETS Take a closer look at the winners of the marijuana flower categories at the High Times Los Angeles (San Bernadoobie) Medical Cannabis Cup. These shiny strains rose above all the others to win top honors for visual aesthetics, scent, flavor, burnability and, of course, potency. *Photos by Lochfoot*

BLACKWATER
(Terrapin Terpene Collective)

BEST BOOTH

1st Place - C3PO
2nd Place - DabStix
3rd Place - Silika

BEST PRODUCT

1st Place - Cloud V
2nd Place - Oil Slick
3rd Place - G Pen

BEST GLASS

1st Place - Hitman Glass by Rob Morrison
2nd Place - Sheldon Black
3rd Place - Silika

BEST NON-EDIBLE MEDICALLY-INFUSED PRODUCT

Emu 420 Essentials Mentholated Rub from Cannoriginals & Golden State Cooperative

BEST EDIBLE

1st Place - Liquid Gold Delights Mint Meltaways from G Pharma Labs
2nd Place - Terra Bites from Kiva Confections
3rd Place - Strawberry Banana Cream from Kushie Kandy

HIGH CBD AWARD

Flower - Johnny's Tonic from Elemental Seeds
Concentrate - CBD Simple from CannaVest
Edible - CBD Lollipops from Bay Meds Delivery & MTG Seeds

BEST NON-SOLVENT HASH

1st Place - BAMF Private Reserve OG Solventless from BAMF Extractions for CannaSutra
2nd Place - Goji OG Solventless Wax from Warrior Extractions for Oh-Tay Fam
3rd Place - Holy Water from Collective Conscious Apothecary

BEST CONCENTRATE

1st Place - Koshier OG from TerpX for Grateful Meds
2nd Place - San Lorenzo Valley OG from TerpX for Venice Medical Center
3rd Place - Honey OG from The Honey Spot

BEST SATIVA

1st Place - Red Dragon from RCP Sacramento
2nd Place - Silver Haze from Gold Coast Collection
3rd Place - Crystal Coma from Alpha Medic

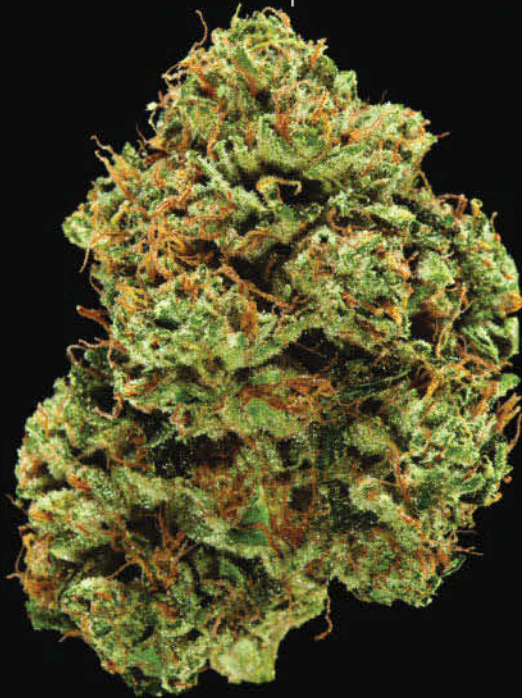
BEST HYBRID

1st Place - Gorilla Glue #4 from Standard Seed Collective
2nd Place - Alpha OG from Alpha Medic
3rd Place - Redding OG from RCP Sacramento

BEST INDICA

1st Place - XXX OG from Life is Good Healing
2nd Place - Veganic LA Confidential from Private Stock for Buds and Roses
3rd Place - Blackwater from Terrapin Terpene Collective

REDDING OG
(RCP Sacramento)



JOHNNY'S TONIC
(Elemental Seeds)



CRYSTAL COMA
(Alpha Medic)



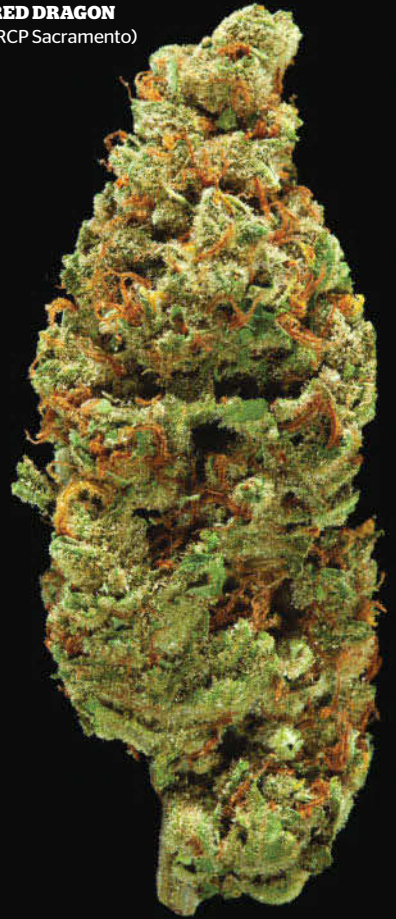
GORILLA GLUE #4
(Standard Seed Collective)



SILVER HAZE
(Gold Coast Collection)



RED DRAGON
(RCP Sacramento)



XXX OG
(Life Is Good)



VEGANIC LA CONFIDENTIAL
(Private Stock for Buds and Roses)



ALPHA OG
(Alpha Medic)



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Highwitness News

Ronda Rousey raises a reefer ruckus!



Entertainment

Art of Fred

The psychedelic work of Fred Tomaselli p.29



Food

Stoner Soup

A delicious canna-carrot soup p.36



A Shill for Prohibition

Anti-pot propagandist Kevin Sabet serves up a menu of disinformation. *By Russ Belville*

Russ Belville (right) gets a laugh out of Kevin Sabet's anti-pot rhetoric.



I've just returned from a hearing in the Oregon State Legislature, where Kevin Sabet presented an hour's worth of testimony to a panel of senators and representatives. His Project SAM (Smart Approaches to Marijuana) is a propaganda campaign designed to paint the War on Drugs with a kinder, gentler brush. Sabet readily admits that locking up pot smokers is wasteful, ineffective and racially biased, but he rejects legalization as an equally bad approach that would create a "Big Marijuana" industry preying on children. Sabet is the Goldilocks of the War on Drugs: Prohibition is too hard, legalization is too soft, but fining pot smokers and forcing them

into rehab is juuuust right! (Growers and sellers? They'd still get prison.)

I've been tracking Sabet's Project SAM from the beginning and even debated him at the Baker Institute for Public Policy at Rice University. He's a slick talker and can easily dupe those who are on the fence and relatively uninformed about marijuana legalization. True to form, he tried fooling Oregon's elected officials with talking points easily debunked by science and data, such as: "Keeping marijuana illegal means less use—after all, 52 percent of Americans use alcohol, 27 percent use tobacco, but only 7 percent use marijuana."

But it's not legality that makes a drug

popular. During Prohibition, drinking rates increased despite the fact that alcohol was illegal. Likewise, marijuana's been illegal since 1937, but over 100 million people have tried it since then. And even though tobacco has always been legal, its use has dropped by one-third over the last 30 years. Similarly, hallucinogens are just as illegal as marijuana, but only 1 million people used them last year, compared to 19 million marijuana users.

Sabet also offered this: "One in six kids who tries marijuana gets addicted—and that could lead to a permanent eight-point drop in IQ." Not surprisingly,

he fudged the numbers to get that "one in six" ratio. One in 11 people do develop marijuana dependence—an "addiction" as tough to kick as drinking coffee. And that lone study indicating an "eight-point IQ drop" was debunked by another researcher using the same data. In 1979, 31 percent of kids had tried pot; by 1992, that number had dropped to 11 percent; and these days, it's up to 17 percent. However, SAT scores, state reading and math tests, and other measures of intelligence have shown no rise or fall corresponding with these marijuana-use rates.

Then again, what difference does it make anyway? No one's proposing legalizing marijuana for kids.

« Sabet also pooh-poohed the idea of pot prisoners languishing in jail: “Only 0.4 percent of prisoners with no prior offenses are in jail for marijuana possession.” Gee, with 1.5 million prisoners total, that’s “only” 6,000 people sitting in jail for simple possession. And at \$31,000 per person to hold them there, that’s “only” \$186 million we’re spending annually on jailing people who have committed no other offense and would rather buy legal taxed marijuana and be contributing members of society. Plus Sabet’s number ignores another 1 percent (15,000 people, \$465 million) who did have prior offenses, and tens of thousands more who grew, sold, trafficked or distributed marijuana, or whose dirty pee test was a probation or parole violation.

Sabet also ventured into the nonsensical: “Alcohol and tobacco bring in \$40 billion in taxes but cost \$400 million in social costs, so marijuana taxes wouldn’t make any money.” This is like saying that because football and boxing cause head trauma, we need to ban golf. The cost of alcohol and tobacco to society is so high because they’re toxic and addictive. Alcohol leads to violence and crime; tobacco leads to cancer and death. A Canadian study in 2002 found that a pot smoker costs Canada \$20 per year in health-care

Why wouldn’t we prefer a marijuana industry that creates jobs, pays taxes and checks IDs to the current arrangement of illegal drug cartels that bribe police, behead their rivals and have no qualms about selling to minors?

costs. Adjusted for inflation, that would be a whopping \$26 today. Does Sabet really believe that we can’t raise \$26 in taxes per pot smoker per year? Has he seen those lines outside the pot shops in Denver?

One of Sabet’s favorite fall-back villains is the specter of a giant corporate pot industry: “Legalization will create a Big Marijuana that, like Big Tobacco, will target kids and lie about their product.” But legal marijuana businesses can’t “target” kids and have no reason to: The fastest-growing demographic of pot smokers is people over the age of 50, which has tripled since 2002. And why wouldn’t we prefer a marijuana industry that creates jobs, pays taxes and checks IDs to the current arrangement of illegal drug cartels that bribe police, behead their rivals and have no qualms about selling to minors?

Sabet’s dog-and-pony show didn’t convince the legislators in Oregon, who are well educated on these issues after 16 years of effective medical marijuana activism. Project SAM’s biggest weakness

is in having no rational alternative to a legal marijuana market, proposing instead to leave it in the hands of cartels, criminals and kids—something that State Senator Floyd Prozanski exposed in his questioning.

Sabet had spent the day explaining how he “had no problem with the 50-year-old guy who wants to smoke a joint at home on the weekend.” Prozanski then asked, “They should be able to do that, but they have to go to the black market?” Incredibly, Sabet replied: “Yes—the cons of legalization are more than the cons of prohibition. That is the con of prohibition: that you have to go to the underground market.”

Sorry, Kevin, but the real “con” of prohibition is you—and everyone else who claims that keeping pot illegal accomplishes anything in terms of actually controlling marijuana. ✨

Listen to The Russ Belville Show at radicalruss.com.

HIGH FIVE

Stupid Is As Stupid Says!

The dumbest shit we’ve heard so far in 2014. *By Mark Miller*



David Brooks

The New York Times

In a *Times* column, Brooks recalled that smoking pot as a teen “deepened our friendships.” But he’s opposed to legalization. Why? He once screwed up a presentation in English class while high. He felt “like a total loser.” It made him realize that “stoned people do stupid things.” So he quit puffing, eventually becoming a shameless cheerleader for invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. Mission accomplished!



Tina Brown

Tina Brown Live Media

Brown described pot as a threat to the American way of life, tweeting: “Legal weed contributes to us being a fatter, dumber, sleepier nation even less able to compete with the Chinese.” Huh? A megabillion-dollar pot industry could revitalize the US economy and begin neutralizing our \$1.2 trillion debt to China. Also, recent studies show pot doesn’t make a person “fatter” or “dumber,” but just the opposite.



Joe Scarborough

MSNBC

The host of *Morning Joe* offered this non sequitur: “I don’t get the legalization thing. Pot just makes you dumb.” If that’s true, Joe must be speaking from personal experience. He boasted: “Never once did I say, ‘Hey, man, that looks like something I want to do.’” Or even like something he might want to investigate before offering his own arrogant, uninformed opinion.



Nancy Grace

HLN

Grace stereotyped stoners as “fat and lazy” on CNN, then outdid herself on her own show, warning that “people on pot that shoot each other, that stab each other, that strangle each other, that kill whole families.” Talk about reefer madness! No one took her too seriously, though: She was mocked by Kevin Hart and Ice Cube, among countless others, and parodied on *Saturday Night Live*.



Bill O'Reilly

FOX News

Bill O’Reilly is always a sure bet for an idiotic pot quip. Here’s one of his gems from the new year: “Some adults can handle it, others cannot, so it’s literally Russian roulette.” Gee, Bill, maybe you should check your dictionary for the meaning of “literal.” Placing a semi-loaded weapon next to your head isn’t exactly the same as smoking a joint. O’Reilly is literally a moron.



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Rabble Rousey

Never one to pull a punch—in or out of the ring—undefeated UFC bantamweight champion Ronda Rousey declared marijuana testing to be beyond the rights of the Nevada Athletic Commission and that such tests represent “an invasion of privacy.” Rousey explained her pot position to *MMAjunkie* in February: “Honestly, I feel like weed is not a performance-enhancing drug at all. We are tested for it for entirely political reasons.”

She added the commission is “testing us for something that has nothing to do with athletic competition.”

Rousey, who has been outspoken in her opposition to actual PED use by mixed-martial artists, made her comments after bantamweight Jessica Eye became the first UFC female fighter to test positive for cannabis. Her October victory was changed to a “no-decision.” She was also fined and slapped with a yearlong “probated suspension.”



Taxing Toking

The government once outlawed alcohol and lottery games. Now it rakes in billions of taxes annually from their legality. Colorado, where adult recreational use of cannabis is now legal, expects to generate \$134 million in tax revenue in the upcoming fiscal year from its sale. In time, the rest of the country will take notice, because the mountain of evidence proving that legal cannabis improves society’s health and happiness only grows. And, really, how much more evidence do lawmakers need?

Dry Times

Two years into California’s worst drought since recordkeeping began, a new data-driven study by business-news publication *Quartz* convincingly argues that marijuana prohibition is exacerbating the devastation because state and local regulators are unable to set environmental standards for cannabis cultivation in the way grape growers or timber harvesters are regulated. Thus weed farmers—especially in the pot-saturated NorCal region known as the “Emerald Triangle”—use as much water as they deem necessary without oversight.

Then there’s the pending legalization of recreational pot in California. With the possibility of two initiatives on the ballot in November, a reported “Green Rush” is underway as growers try to cash in on the last few black-market harvests, resulting in more water usage than ever. In fact, from 2009–12, the amount of land utilized to cultivate weed in the Triangle almost doubled.

It’s estimated that each industrial-scale garden uses 12,000 to 30,000 gallons daily across the state. Another factor: most growing is done during the summer months, when California runs especially dry. The study also suggests the pot-fueled drought is

killing off the California Chinook salmon. Scott Bauer, a biologist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, says cannabis cultivation could theoretically “completely de-water and dry up streams in the areas where [pot farmers grow] pretty extensively.”

The state has earmarked \$3.3 million to protect destructive water use and endangered species from ganja growers. But only until recreational cannabis is inevitably legalized in California can substantial regulations be established to better manage and conserve water supplies. Meanwhile, National Geographic has speculated that the drought could last 200 years.

Occupy Main Street

In January at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia, the US Army launched their \$96 million Asymmetric Warfare Training Center. That's Pentagon-speak for "Fake City, USA"—300 acres of eerily realistic everyday establishments including a bank, sports stadium, a mosque, bridges, a railroad station with real trains and even an underground subway system.

At the opening ceremonies, Center Commander Col. John P. Petkosek described the bogus burg, which took six years to conceive and build, as a "place where we can be creative, where we can come up with solutions for problems that we don't even know we have yet." (Does "creative" here mean devising "solutions" to justify military ops against US civilians?)

With all of our recent overseas invasions, the Pentagon seems to have become adept at occupying metropolitan areas. So why practice taking over an American city?

The fake town comes on the heels of a 2012 study co-written by retired Colonel Kevin Benson that envisions utilizing troops for homeland "peacekeeping" purposes. Two years ago, a US Army Military Police manual from 2006 was leaked. It detailed "Civil Disturbance Operations," in which domestic detainees would be imprisoned in internment camps to be "re-educated" in order to establish an "appreciation of US policies."

Does that include appreciating being brainwashed?

Who's Really Doing the Smuggling?

DEA operation chief James L. Capra told the *Washington Post* that legalization "scares" them. "This is a bad experiment," he said.

But how's this for a worse experiment? An investigation by *EI Universal* has found that between 2000 and 2012, the government had an agreement with Mexico's Sinaloa drug cartel allowing it to smuggle billions of dollars worth of drugs into the US in exchange for information on rival cartels.

When you play on both sides, you really can say that you're "winning the War on Drugs."



Hot Hemp Time Machine

Archaeologists have uncovered further evidence that humankind's relationship with cannabis is as old as the hunter-gatherer era. A 9,000-year-old piece of hemp-weaved linen fabric was discovered in Turkey last summer. Archaeologists found the cloth wrapped around the skeleton of an infant inside a burned-out house. Lab tests confirmed the material was, indeed, linen lined with hemp. Dig team leader and Stanford University Professor Ian Hodder characterized the hemp fabric as "a first in the world and one of the best-preserved examples."



Hemp fabric from the ancient past

Professor Hodder added: "This piece of linen...weaved very thin, probably came from the eastern Mediterranean from central Anatolia. [Rock] and seashells [were] exchanged in long-distance trade in the Middle East during the Neolithic era. But this fabric may [reveal] another side of the trade."

Banking on Buds

On Valentine's Day, the Obama administration issued guidelines for financial institutions to conduct transactions with legal cannabis companies. Yet just how many banks will actually opt to serve the pot industry remains unknown.

The guidelines were crafted by the Dept. of Justice and the Treasury Dept. and require banks that take marijuana money to review state pot license applications, become familiar with the products sold and watch for more than 20 "red flags," like receipts of cash deposits from other states or countries.

However, the Colorado Bankers Association instantly declared the Feds' direction as insufficient protection for banks. The American Bankers Association argued that financial institutions are still at risk for prosecution and sanctions, and that only when the US ends weed prohibition outright will all banks be comfortable doing business with pot businesses. Lobbyist Denny Eliason of the Washington State Bankers Association acknowledged to the AP that, while this was a good first step by the Feds, it relies on complex procedures forcing bankers to fill out "suspicious activity reports" on businesses that comply with the law as well as the potentially shady ones.



Cruz Kontrol

In an interview with *Reason*, US Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX), who led the slimy government shutdown that ended in January, claimed Obama's unwillingness to prosecute legal weed distributors is "dangerous to liberty." Just as laughably, Cruz actually said he supports "intelligent conversation" about the issue. Then he proceeded to make idiotic oversimplifications like: "The Obama administration's approach to drug policy is to simply announce that across the country, it is going to stop enforcing certain drug laws."

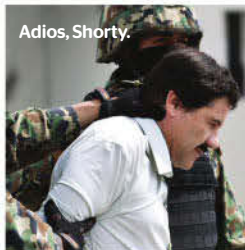
He also stated that if Obama fails to enforce federal pot laws, it "should even concern libertarians who support that policy" because when the president decides to "ignore" criminal laws, "that is a very dangerous precedent." Newsflash, Ted! Just about every libertarian in existence opposes pot prohibition.

Cruz expanded the "sky is falling" scenario claiming Obama opts to "pick and choose what laws to follow," something "fundamentally dangerous to the liberty of the people."

Yeah, Cruz is all for liberty—as long as he gets to decide for everyone else.

HIGHWIRE

Dispatches from the international drug war. *By Bill Weinberg*



Adios, Shorty.

Mexican feds: "Got Shorty?" El Chapo busted—at last

Mexican authorities on Feb. 22 announced the arrest of the country's top drug lord, the notorious Joaquín Guzmán Loera a.k.a. "El Chapo" (Shorty)—who eluded capture for over 10 years, despite a supposed man-hunt and a massive price on his head. Chapo was detained in Mazatlán, Sinaloa, and transferred by federal police helicopter accompanied by an escort of two armed forces helicopters to the top-security Federal Center for Social Rehabilitation No. 1 at Altiplano, México state. The prison has since been under escalated security measures, ringed by armed troops, with nearby highways patrolled by convoys of federal police vehicles.

El Chapo faces multiple drug charges in the United States and is on the DEA's most-wanted list, although there has not yet been any talk of extradition. The DEA may have played a role in the operation that snared him. Mexican Prosecutor General Jesús Murillo Karam, in announcing the arrest, cited "collaboration with some agencies of the United States."

Speculation had mounted in recent years that, supposed man-hunt notwithstanding,



Columbian cannabis crackdown

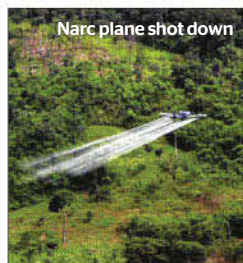
Colombian Police Announce 3.6-Ton Cannabis Haul

Although cannabis now plays a distant second fiddle to cocaine for Colombia's lucrative drug cartels, the National Police continue to net massive hauls—all of which point to a booming trade, especially in the southwestern mountains. On December 19, police announced the confiscation of 3.6 tons of cannabis near Medellín. They had apparently staked out a parking lot after receiving a tip about a truck delivering the shipment. The cannabis packages were found hidden under bananas. Reports said the shipment had just arrived from the southwestern department of Cauca, a major cultivation area. The suspects, we are told, were able to escape.

Chapo was actually being protected by the Mexican authorities, who had developed a special relationship with the Sinaloa Cartel.

US Suspends Spraying After Pilots Downed

News accounts revealed in December that the US-funded glyphosate-spraying campaign in Colombia has been indefinitely suspended after presumed FARC guerrillas shot down two fumigation planes. One plane came down on September 27, killing the American pilot, whose name was not revealed. Reports were unclear about where this incident took place. The *Los Angeles Times* named the village of Tarra, along the Venezuelan border; Bogotá's *El Tiempo* implied it was in the southern jungles of Putumayo. A second crop-duster was downed on October 5, apparently at a location in Caquetá—also in the southern



Narc plane shot down

jungle. This prompted the US embassy to halt the spraying, anonymous sources said. Neither the embassy nor the State Department confirmed the report.

At least six US pilots have been killed in the spraying program since 1995. The pilots are supplied by the contractor DynCorp in a deal with the State Department, and the planes have been fitted with armor to fend off attacks. The spraying program, which is funded by the annual Plan Colombia aid package, costs about \$50 million per year. At its peak in 2006, more than 425,000 acres were sprayed with glyphosate, a Monsanto product.

Turkey's Hashish Boom—Fallout From the Syrian War?

Turkish security forces say they seized 150 tons of hashish in 2013, including 89 tons seized in southeastern Diyarbakir province, the country's Kurdish heartland. Authorities also claimed that a somewhat improbable 56 million cannabis plants were seized in Diyarbakir, and 382 people arrested. The provincial Counter-Narcotics Department called it a record-breaking year.

Turkey has long hyped a link between the hashish trade and the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), a separatist guerilla movement that has waged an insurgency in the country's east for more than a generation. In March 2013, imprisoned PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan declared a ceasefire after months of negotiations with the government. But in September, the PKK



Civil war hash?

announced that it was suspending the truce, accusing the government of failing to deliver on promised reforms guaranteeing Kurdish rights.

A 1999 Canadian parliamentary study, "Conflict, Drugs and Mafia Activities," also noted PKK involvement in narcotics trafficking, but added: "The Grey Wolves, an extreme right-wing organization which is often used by the army and the political parties for their 'dirty jobs,' use the same methods, while enjoying significant protection within the Turkish state."

On January 9, Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu warned of infiltration across the Syrian border of both Al Qaeda militants and fighters from the Democratic Union Party, the Syrian branch of the PKK. Davutoglu portrayed them as a unified threat, but in fact the two groups have been waging a war for control of Syrian Kurdistan. If this war spills over into Turkish territory, it portends a three-way conflict among the PKK, Al Qaeda and the Turkish state—each, we may be sure, seeking to corner control of the hashish industry. ✪

For updates on these and other stories, see Bill Weinberg's websites, GlobalGanjaReport.com and WorldWar4Report.com.

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Tomaselli lets the art do the tripping.

Open, Psyche

Artist Fred Tomaselli isn't afraid to expand his horizons—or yours. *By Polly Watson*

Even people I know who don't care about art have heard of Fred Tomaselli. The artist made his reputation with fantastically elaborate works created from pharmaceuticals—arsenals of pills wildly arrayed and tantalizingly submerged in smooth, hard seas of resin, their dreamy promise just beyond reach.

Tomaselli explains how he began making these works, back in the late 1980s. “Art historians talk about paintings as windows to other realities ... about paintings as being vehicles to take you into other dimensions,” he says. “It reminded me of a lot of the rhetoric around psychedelic drugs, so I started

making art with inlaid pills. I wanted to rearrange the value of the pills; instead of going through your bloodstream to alter consciousness, they travel through your eyeballs. It's a different route to the brain.”

Though Tomaselli has resided in Brooklyn for decades, he grew up in California, and before he happened on prescription drugs as a component of his art, he did “a lot of Orange Sunshine,” he says, laughing. He tripped in high school, got into punk, made art (which he describes as “not very good”) and tripped some more. “I'd binge on art, and then I'd binge on drugs.”

By 1980, he was committed to neither. “After a while, it just kind of seemed that tripping was the same movie over and over again—I wasn't getting anything out of it,” he recalls. That same year, a good friend had his nose broken at a Public Image Ltd. show teeming with skinheads, and Tomaselli was done with L.A. He moved to New York, where his work would

Full interview
and lots
more art at
[hightimes.com/
tomaselli](http://hightimes.com/tomaselli).



“I'd binge on art, and then I'd binge on drugs.”

unfold to take on the psychedelic form with which he is most frequently identified. Then pot, which Tomaselli often grew himself, entered the picture, and the work “got a lot more lush.” His art continued to evolve, and strangely, he says, “the more trippy it got, the less actual real drugs were in them. I figured that maybe the work itself had taken its own drugs and was tripping its brains out.”

Around 2005, he stopped using pills in his work. “I still have the [pot] leaves, because I really like the shape of nature,” he says. Tomaselli started using weed in his art to play against the “geometric drugs that came out of the corporate-industrial complex,” both in form and philosophy. “I wanted some other signifiers for the drug subculture, because I thought it was all about the same thing: about altering your consciousness, or feeling better, or the lack of pain.” Of late, the artist's work—which can be seen everywhere from the Smithsonian, where he has a show this October, to record covers for Phish and Laura Cantrell—has taken a more figurative turn. “That soft shape of nature ... slowly took

over, got bigger and bigger, and then it started turning into all kinds of foliage and fish and people. It just got trippier,” he concludes with a smile. “I guess that's where I'm at now.” 🌿



Green Portals

Tomaselli says growing weed outdoors introduced him to the pleasures of the earth. “It was a gateway to gardening for me. I ended up having to grow tomatoes to hide the pot plants, and then I started growing eggplants. I got really into it!”

New Flame

Jamaica's Jah9 lights up the reggae world with her own special fire. *By Mary Ought Six*



Pretty peaceful

No matter what genre an artist is working in, she always seeks to bring something of herself to it, to add something new to an already existing bigger picture. That offering may be something as small as a splotch of yellow on every canvas produced by a painter or, in the case of the Kingston, Jamaica-based Jah9, as large and impactful as a whole new style of music. The Baptist minister's daughter—born Janine Cunningham on May 23, 1983, in Montego Bay, St. James—is credited with introducing a new breed of reggae known as “jazz-on-dub,” a smooth, blues-inflected take on the typically sparse sound of early dancehall.

Following the staggered release of a handful of

“There is still oppression on marijuana in Jamaica.”

carefully chosen singles, Jah9 unleashed her debut album, *No Name*, early in 2013, to warm acclaim from the reggae community. Her next full-length, *Rebellion*, expected out this fall, seems poised to break in ever-wider circles.

“This was actually the first album I was working on in 2007,” Jah9 recalls. “It was a very important part of a journey to learn about myself and has even more of the jazz-on-dub style.” In addition to the socially and spiritually

conscious lyrics that are a hallmark of her music, fans attending her shows will be treated to “elements of the culture and envisionist arts and Rastafari,” she says. “Many people don't really have exposure to the words of His Majesty, so it becomes a cliché to say ‘Rastafari.’ It's important to present the words of His Majesty; I put them in context now, so they understand. And, of course, I engage them in music where marijuana is concerned.”

When the singer was 9, her

little brother died of leukemia. That experience helped spark Jah9's interest in marijuana's medicinal properties. “Herb is medicine,” she avows. “We have a strain of herb right now that takes six months to grow. Some herb only takes three months to grow, so our herb gets extra exposure to sunlight. We are so lucky.”

Besides smoking weed, Jah9 practices yoga regularly to keep herself centered and healthy—a task that seems increasingly more challenging in the face of modern life. “There are many people, in Jamaica in particular, who suffer from a set of diseases that plague people on this side of the world,” she says. “Things like diabetes and hypertension especially—and these diseases are part of a world condition.”

Jah9 believes that even the act of growing the plant has benefits for the earth: “Marijuana goes hand in hand with sustainable development and hand in hand with agriculture or permaculture, whatever you want to call it.” As a result, one of the joys of her life as a musician is “that I can make new friends to just pass on information” about marijuana.

She acknowledges that, although Jamaica's House of Representatives voted last October to decriminalize marijuana, the country's laws remain stifling. “We'll see how legislation and discussion in Jamaica can progress a little more quickly now,” Jah9 says. “But the reality is still the same—there is still oppression on marijuana here.” ✨



Love Kind? Rewind!

Jah9 has started a campaign called “Healing of the Nation.” As part of that campaign, she's putting together a mixtape that she describes as “a great conversation about marijuana and Jamaica and Rastafari. It's called *For the Love of Kush*.”

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Heading for the rabbit hole: Koller, Brodsky and Cageao

Lost in the High

Progged-out heavy rockers Mutoid Man talk strains and the art of restraint. *By Polly Watson*

A long-simmering side project, Mutoid Man is the demented brainchild of Cave In vocalist/guitarist Stephen Brodsky and Converge drummer Benjamin Koller, whose union within the confines of a single band was aptly described by one reviewer on *Punknews.org* as “like having Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen play on the same team.” Rounded out by lightning-fingered bassist Nick Cageao, Mutoid Man deliver howling psych-metal burners in unholy time signatures that, though stilted and staggered (as in “Friday the 13/8”), don’t come close to slowing the band’s speedy assault.

Given this, and the (literally) face-melting cover art of the band’s 2013 debut,

Helium Head (Magic Bullet), it’s hardly surprising that the members of Mutoid Man have as many stories of getting space-shuttle high as they do memorable riffs.

“When I was in college, I was like, ‘Give me that four-foot bong—I’ll smoke it, I don’t care!’” Koller recalls. Later, things got dark: “It affected me in ways I didn’t enjoy,” so he stopped. But Koller only recently discovered that different strains produce different effects. “I learned about *sativa* and *indica*, and I realized: ‘Maybe I just had *indica* over the last few years, and that’s why I hated it.’”

“It’s crazy,” Cageao agrees. “It’s so scientific: This one will get rid of your anxiety, this one will *give* you anxiety.”

The bassist doesn’t seem particularly prone to the latter—probably because he has a mom who was chill enough to smoke pot with him while he was growing up. “She hadn’t smoked since my brother, who’s 14 years older than me, was born—so the first time I smoked with her, she was a one-hit wonder!”

For his part, Brodsky has been taking a yearlong break from pot (until tonight), but he admits to having written most of *Helium Head* “while I was high off my gourd”—a

“I ate a bag of pot. By the time we got to the show, my head was leaving my body.”

condition that seems to have been par for the course with him. Brodsky remembers a particularly twisted adventure that he had in Europe.

“The first time Cave In ever played Brussels, I had bought a bag of weed,” he says. “I knew we were going to be approaching this checkpoint, and I figured, ‘I can’t smoke all this right now, because if the van is filled with pot smoke, they’re gonna know something’s up.’” So rather than jeopardize the gig, Brodsky decided to eat the evidence. “I’ve got some Mars Bars here,” he recalls thinking. “I’ll just wash it down with some chocolaty snacks.”

“*Super Troopers* style!”

Koller interjects with a cackle.

“So I ate a bag of pot,”


Brodsky continues, “and by the time we got to the show, my head was leaving my body. The tour manager was like, ‘Dude, you’re turning green.’” Brodsky managed to make it onstage and turn on his amp. “It was like hearing electric guitar for the first time—I was like, ‘*THIS IS AMAZING!!*’ We started our set, and I was probably five or 10 seconds behind at every single point. People were legitimately bummed out, wanting refunds.”

Were his bandmates angry? According to a grinning Brodsky, they were just stunned: “They had never seen someone so fucked up before.” They had a long time to marvel—the high went on to last 52 hours. ✨




Back From Black

While playing in a previous band, drummer Koller ate a pre-show cookie—and blacked out mid-song. “I came to and everyone was staring at me: band, crowd. The bass player mouthed, ‘Drum fill!’ and mimed the fill, and I was like, ‘Oh yeah!’ and came back in.”




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Run Through

Austin, TX's Impalers will spear your ears.

Ever since being aurally bombarded by the Impalers a few years ago at Austin's annual "Chaos in Tejas" festival, I've been waiting for the universe to deliver an Impalers album. After a demo in 2010, an EP in 2011 and a split 7-inch more recently, that day has finally come.

And what a day: This record is a barbaric 10-song smasher determined to have its way with your little earholes. The Impalers are masters at mixing the feral d-beat of Anti-Cimex with the dirty, gloomy heaviness of Entombed and the evil sleaze of Venom. The result is a huge, ferocious sound that doesn't allow you to sit back and enjoy the record without putting on some lead boots to trudge

through a stinking marsh first. 540 and Todo Destruído have done a nice job with the packaging as well: This record comes in a unique die-cut sleeve featuring the grotesque art of Guillem "El Muro," who is also known for his work for the raw Spanish hardcore bands Destino Final and Invasión.

This is a time when so many "extreme" styles of music are basically stuck in a holding pattern, trying to mimic a certain golden era down to the minutest details. But somewhere in this backward gaze, we're missing something. Is rock'n'roll supposed to be about re-creating that perfect Darkthrone album, trying to recapture the dangerous feeling of some long-ago Black Flag show, or regurgitating that same quarter of a Sabbath riff for the 10,000th time through expensive amps?

No! Rock'n'roll should be about smashing shit, getting ugly, and slobbering all over yourself while you create the greatest riff of your life by accident. *Impalers* takes a step outside today's stale conventions and just goes for it. Don't look here if you're happy with the same-old, same-old. *Dennis Behrendts*



Impalers
Impalers
(540 Records/Todo Destruído)

MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS



Death Comet Crew
Ghost Among the Crew
(Diagonal)

Back in the early '80s, NYC's Death Comet Crew helped invent the future. It's hard to imagine the industrial-strength hip-hop of El-P, much less Public Enemy's Bomb Squad, without the blueprint provided by Death Comet. On *Ghost*, the Crew pick up where they left off, fusing 808 beats,

radio detritus, turntable scratching, and sampling that favors grit and texture over Pro Tools perfection. The album's cinematic sweep encompasses sci-fi spy soundtracks, immersive set pieces and dystopian club bangers. Don't call it retro-futuristic; this is music for the present. *Erick Bradshaw*



Sandrider
Godhead
(Good to Die)

The nuances of discordant art rock often go unappreciated. But on their sophomore album *Godhead*, Sandrider harness the genre to conjure a most glorious noise. Bass-heavy and velvety, rounded out by sludgy riffs and fuzzed-out, screaming vocals, *Godhead* evokes the jam session

that Jesus Lizard might've had with the Melvins while tripping out on their mutual love of Breather Resist. Balancing out their thunderous and tempered compositions are legit open-highway anthems that elevate *Godhead* into something ultimately and utterly satisfying. *Zena Tsarfin*

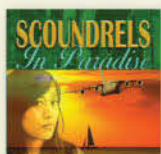


Jack Name
Light Show
(God?/Drag City)

This LA underground dude's "rock and roll sci-fi novella" is the first part of a trilogy about warring gangs on opposite sides of "the educational drug trade." Songs like "Puffy Cheek Town" and the greasy-quiff slo-rocker "Born to Lose"—dementedly crafted meltdowns of '70s gloss-pop,

proggy rock and punky teen-beat, smeared with vintage synth kitsch and skewed in a digital-editing frenzy—reveal a black-humored "rock" music in name only; the twinkling medieval lines of interludes like "Sound Was the Castle" are lovely, akin to the Residents playing *Pet Sounds*. *John Payne*

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Scott Adlai Stevenson
Scoundrels in Paradise
(Smashwords)

File *Scoundrels in Paradise* under "smugglers' blues." The author's adventures begin at the age of 12, when his brother uses him and a younger sibling as camouflage while driving a load across the Mexican border. His adolescence is spent watching his scamming family use filmmaking,

family vacations and famous relations as various means to disguise their loads. Stevenson always finds himself on the losing end of deals with his kin, his partners, his lovers and even the Feds in this confessional narrative that reads like a sad country song of the counter-culture. *Rebekah Harris*



Thomas Brothers
Louis Armstrong: Master of Modernism
(W.W. Norton)

Trumpet king Louis Armstrong began to smoke marijuana—or "gag," as they called it back then—in 1928. He would smoke it, write enigmatic songs about it, and sing these cryptoteahead compositions to black and white audiences all his life. Thomas Brothers traces that love story in a

jazzy book that depicts the trumpeter as a superb artist who helped give birth to modernism in nightclubs from New Orleans to New York. The author's discography provides a nifty guide to Armstrong's mind-expanding melodies and catchy lyrics inspired by pot.

Jonah Raskin

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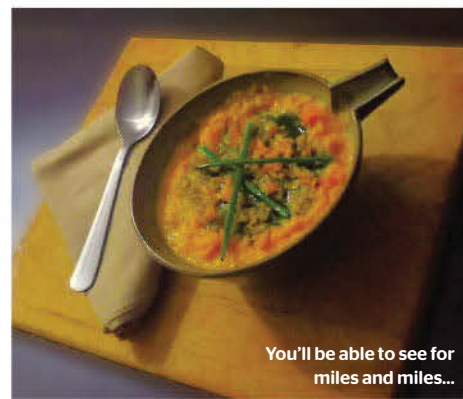
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Canna-Carrot Soup

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Though this is not a chilled soup, it doesn't have the heaviness of a hearty winter soup. It's super-refreshing, easy to make, and has all the ingredients necessary not only to boost one's health, but to keep the warm sun shining at the cool end of a late spring/early summer evening. *Mary Ought Six*

SPRING-FRESH CARROT SOUP

2 *tbsp.* extra-virgin olive oil
(divide in two after infusing)
2 grams high-grade cannabis buds, ground
1¼ lbs. fresh young carrots
1 large sweet onion, finely chopped
2 medium-size garlic cloves, minced
3 cups vegetable or chicken stock
½ lemon, juiced
Sea salt, to taste

First, infuse your canna-oil. I still use a double boiler to ensure that the oil doesn't get too hot, allowing precious cannabinoids to drift away. Heat the olive oil over low to medium-low heat, add the crushed cannabis and continue heating, stirring occasionally, for 45 minutes. Strain thoroughly and discard the squeezed-out green matter, then set aside.

Start the soup by either peeling or scrubbing your carrots, depending on your own carrot preferences. (Though

try not to use any rubbery ones or get the bitter tops in the mix.) Chop into 1-inch sections and put them aside.

Now heat half of the cannabis-infused olive oil in a large, heavy soup pot over medium-low heat. Add the onions and garlic and sauté for a couple minutes, until the onions start to get translucent. Do not let the oil steam! Add the stock immediately if it does, or as soon as the onions go clear-ish. Add the carrots and bring to a simmer for 20 to 30 minutes, until the carrots are tender and just barely fall off a fork. Remove from heat and cool for a few minutes. Purée the mixture, leaving it a little chunky for perfect texture. Stir in lemon juice and salt to taste. Finish your culinary masterpiece by plating up and adding a teaspoon-size drizzle of canna-oil to swirl in. *Stones 4.*



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Bale Tale

Our editorial director and top ganja photographer recalls how he achieved an epic pot shot.



Twenty years ago, I ran into a loose confederation of marijuana smugglers in Arizona. Many in the group were trying to get out of the business, since the risks had become too high: Law enforcement was more vigilant (even though tons of pot were still getting across the Mexican border), and some of the smugglers had already been through the legal meat grinder once—so the specter of a second arrest and serious jail time had made more than a few of them reluctant to continue in the trade. But every now and then (usually when a need for fast cash arose), they'd decide to move a load.

A "load" was usually 100 pounds or more of bright-green Mexican *sativa*—however much you could manage to fit inside the trunk of a nondescript car—compressed into slabs or bales.

During the time I knew these outlaws, they turned me on to a number of different stories that wound up in the

pages of *High Times*. But my dream was always to photograph a load. They put me off for a couple years; then, one Sunday in May 1996, they gave me the chance.

We drove to a convenience store on the outskirts of Phoenix. They pointed to a car across the parking lot, a worn-looking Dodge something or other, then handed me the keys and said, "If you want to shoot the load, you have to drive the car."

Now *that's* a dangerous photo.

The load's next stop was a remote house 200 miles away. My friends followed closely behind me the whole way, ready to start driving "like complete assholes" to attract the attention of any cops who might decide to pull me over. Luckily, we made it there without a hitch and, once in the garage, I erected an edifice of bales inside a suitcase—a perfect centerfold for our travel issue (Sept. '96), and a lifelong memory for me. *Dan Skye*

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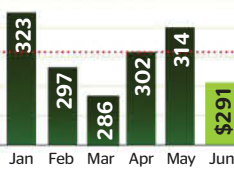
STATE	CITY	STRAIN	PRICE
Arizona	Phoenix	Strawberry Cough	\$300
Arkansas	El Dorado	Afgooey	400
California	Los Angeles	The Church	260
	San Francisco	Deadhead OG	300
	Yreka	Bull Ryder	180
Colorado	Denver	Plushberry	220
	Pueblo	Blue Dream	200
Delaware	Newark	Girl Scout Cookies	380
		Blue Dream	380
	Pike Creek	Haze x Blueberry	350
Florida	Jacksonville	Headband	260
	Miami	Girl Scout Cookies	280
Illinois	Aurora	Chemdog	280
		Sweet Island Kush	290
	Peoria	Sour Diesel	300
Indiana	Indianapolis	Sour Kush	280
Maine	Portland	Skywalker OG	360
Maryland	Baltimore	Querkle	350
Massachusetts	New Bedford	Girl Scout Cookies	275
Michigan	Marquette	NYC Diesel	300
	Traverse City	Green Crack	220
Minnesota	Stillwater	Blue Cheese	400
Mississippi	Starkville	Panama Red	350
New Jersey	Hoboken	Strawberry Cough	400
Nevada	Las Vegas	Holy Grail Kush	325
New York	New York	Chemdog	400
North Carolina	Charlotte	Super Silver Haze	350
Ohio	Columbus	Purple Haze	380
Oregon	Portland	Cheese	200
Pennsylvania	Philadelphia	Grape Ape	300
Rhode Island	Providence	Vortex	360
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Utah	Salt Lake City	Northern Lights	250
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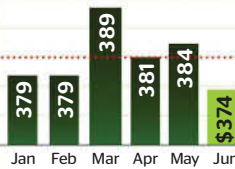
Prices by the ounce

After steady increases over the last two months, the US Price Index dropped \$23 in June, finishing at its second lowest average price ever (\$291). All indices were down in June and only the Schwag Index finished the month above its year-to-date average. Girl Scout Cookies and Blue Dream made the top five submitted strains for the second straight month.

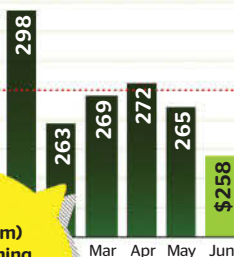
US Price Index
 YTD Average: \$302



Kind Index
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Mids Index
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(Blue Dream)
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 -Durham, UK

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2



3



4



Hot Products

What's new for cannabis cultivators and connoisseurs.

1 Vape Herbs

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2 Shipping Clones

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3 Clean Glass in a Flash

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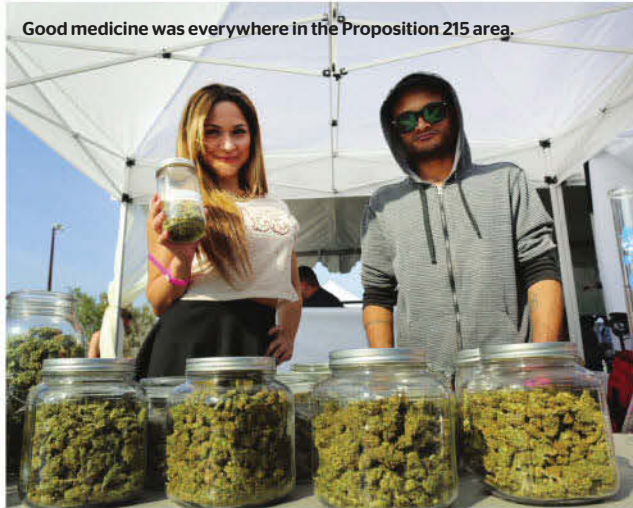
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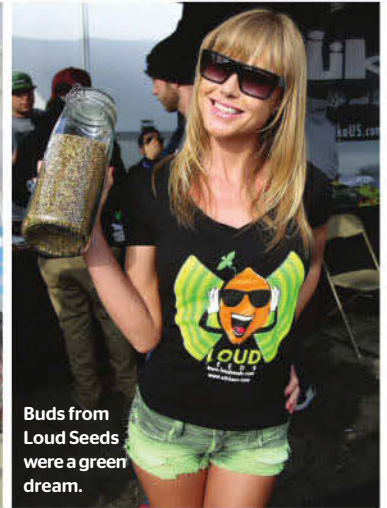
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B-Real was the high host on Saturday night.



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The second High Times Medical Cannabis Cup in San Bernardino was a celebration in the high desert. *By Dan Skye*



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“You’ve made it easy for me to smoke as much weed as I do to become the Stoner of the Year!”

—B-Real

1. NoHo Organic’s Blue Dream, Gravity, and Satellite were hits. **2.** The Grand Daddy Genetics booth displayed their famed Grand Daddy Purp. **3.** Miss High Times Yvette Ramirez dabbed up with runner-up Dinelle. **4.** Meds for Less showcased an array of great Cali strains. **5.** Nurses offered TLC in the form of THC.



Four years ago, High Times mounted its first Cannabis Cup in the United States. At that point, 22 Cups had been held in Amsterdam, but pot politics had evolved to the point that hosting a US event seemed feasible. Since both California and Colorado boasted thriving medical marijuana programs, High Times took the plunge in 2010 and held its first stateside Cup event in San Francisco.

The recent High Times Medical Cannabis Cup was the 13th held in the US. However, putting on a pot-themed event of this magnitude has not been without its hurdles. Despite the sea change in public attitudes toward marijuana nationwide, the stigma that accompanies cannabis use still persists. Obviously, finding a venue that welcomes our community is essential. Two and a half years ago, our Medical Cannabis Cup in Detroit was hounded by the police, eliminating the open display of pot products. High

Times had chosen this country’s poorest major city to make a statement: that the cannabis industry can help revive the US economy. Ah, but no good deed goes unpunished: Last year, Los Angeles kicked the Cup outside the city limits altogether, despite the fact that it had been held smack in the middle of downtown the previous year. With just 48 hours to go before the event opened its doors, the Cup was relocated to San Bernardino, about an hour down the freeway, and received the overwhelming support of California’s “Inland Empire,” the metropolitan region east of LA that comprises a population of over 4 million.

The fact is that San Bernardino is America’s *second*-poorest major city. Unemployment is high, and a third of city residents live below the poverty line. But unlike Detroit, San Berdoo welcomed the Cup—and this year, some 13,000 people turned out to celebrate Southern California’s cannabis industry.

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Young Dro got contorted in the haze.



The Cloud Penz sirens lured buyers.



A converted trailer housed a glassblowing demonstration.

Over 200 vendors set up shop in the medication area, where certified patients could check out the edibles, concentrates and good old-fashioned nugs. Crowds throughout the weekend had ample opportunities to sample the merchandise. Of course, our booming industry includes hundreds of companies that market clearly legal products like cannabis-inspired apparel for tokers, as well as an array of accoutrements designed to improve the pot-smoking experience. Additionally, a glassblowing demo, housed in a converted trailer, greeted all attendees.

Legendary rapper B-Real was on hand for the weekend and hosted the Saturday-night concert, which featured rappers Young Dro and B.o.B. Dro turned in a stirring performance, peppering his stage time with equal amounts of swagger and humor, while B.o.B. was aces, pounding out his raps with force and establishing an electric connection with the audience.

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At our Sunday-night awards ceremony, B-Real returned to the stage as our newly crowned 2014 Stoner of the Year. With an exquisite glass trophy in hand (designed by master artist Justin Jenicke), B-Real told the crowd: "To see the culture evolve from what it was 23 years ago to what it is now—it's been constant growth, progress, knowledge, education. And the product has been much better—you motherfuckers have learned a lot! So I thank you, because you've made it easy for me to smoke as much weed as I do to become the Stoner of the Year!"

The big winner of the night in our event competition, which pitted edibles, concentrates and strains against each other, was the LA collective Buds and Roses, which scored a third-place finish for Best Edible, two second-place finishes for Best Hybrid and Best *Sativa*, and won the Cup outright for Best Hash. Godfather OG from Alpha Medic took home Best *Indica*, and Girl Scout Cookies by Life Is Good won Best Hybrid. Reserva Privada, part of the DNA Genetics stronghold that has won multiple Cups, grabbed the first-place spot for Best *Sativa*. ✨



B-Real hoisting his Stoner of the Year trophy.

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- 3rd Place - Silika

BEST PRODUCT

- 1st Place - Cloud V
- 2nd Place - Oil Slick
- 3rd Place - G Pen

BEST GLASS

- 1st Place - Hitman Glass by Rob Morrison
- 2nd Place - Sheldon Black
- 3rd Place - Silika

BEST NON-EDIBLE MEDICALLY-INFUSED PRODUCT

- Emu 420 Essentials Mentholated Rub from Cannariginals & Golden State Cooperative

BEST EDIBLE

- 1st Place — Liquid Gold Delights Mint Meltaways from G Pharma Labs
- 2nd Place — Terra Bites from Kiva Confections
- 3rd Place — Strawberry Banana Cream from Kushie Kandy

CBD AWARD

- Flower — Johnny's Tonic from Elemental Seeds
- Concentrate — CBD Simple from CannaVest
- Edible — CBD Lollipops from Bay Meds Delivery & MTG Seeds

BEST NON-SOLVENT HASH

- 1st Place — BAMF Private Reserve OG Solventless from BAMF Extractions for VFL Collective
- 2nd Place — Goji OG Solventless Wax from Warrior Extractions for Oh-Tay Fam
- 3rd Place — Holy Water from Collective Conscious Apothecary

BEST CONCENTRATE

- 1st Place — Koshier OG from TerpX for Grateful Meds
- 2nd Place — San Lorenzo Valley OG from TerpX for Venice Medical Center
- 3rd Place — Honey OG from The Honey Spot

BEST SATIVA

- 1st Place — Red Dragon from RCP Sacramento
- 2nd Place — Silver Haze from Gold Coast Collection
- 3rd Place — Crystal Coma from Alpha Medic

BEST HYBRID

- 1st Place — Gorilla Glue #4 from Standard Seed Collective
- 2nd Place — Alpha OG from Alpha Medic
- 3rd Place — Redding OG from RCP Sacramento

BEST INDICA

- 1st Place — XXX OG from Life is Good Healing
- 2nd Place — Veganic L.A. Confidential from Private Stock for Buds and Roses
- 3rd Place — Blackwater from Terrapin Terpene Collective



2nd Place High Times Cannabis Cup 2012
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Hip-hop's weed-advocate OGs—Snoop Dogg, B-Real, Method Man and Redman—gather under the *High Times* banner for the ultimate smoke summit.

HIGH ON MOUNT KUSHIMORE

Story by J. Bennett, photos by Mark Mann. Creative Director Bianca Barnhill



B-Real, Snoop, Redman and Method Man convene around a platter of Caviar Gold.

Some say it was Snoop's idea. Others insist it originated with B-Real. But the gist is this: Take four hip-hop legends who have been repping weed to the masses since the early '90s—Snoop Dogg, B-Real, Method Man and Redman—and plaster their stoned mugs on the *High Times* version of Mount Rushmore. Work some digital magic and voila: Mount Kushmore. Some might call it sacrilege to recast the original hunk of granite near Keystone,

South Dakota, the one that features the stoic visages of four of America's most revered leaders—Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt and Lincoln. That kind of thinking makes sense if you're into stuffy old dead guys with questionable legacies. But we'll gladly take founding members of Cypress Hill and Wu-Tang Clan—plus Snoop and Redman—over those founding fathers. In fact, we think it's about time Rushmore was re-imagined high, happy and hip-hop style, even if it's just for one issue of your favorite magazine.



High Times is hosting this unprecedented meeting of hip-hop's most infamous weed heads at a photography studio just south of Hollywood. Cloud after cloud of thick, sweet smoke wafts out the front door as photo assistants, a video crew and a couple of local dispensary owners with eye-popping special deliveries come and go in preparation for the day's events. Method Man stands outside in a crisp white tee, white pants, and metallic blue high-tops, taking it all in. "Honestly, when Redman first sprung it on me I was a little apprehensive," he reveals. "Then I saw pictures of Mount Rushmore with our faces and thought, 'Oh yeah, that gotta happen.' I'd love it even more

if there was an album to come behind it. But I think this is a great moment for all four of us not only as weed advocates but also as artists from an era when hip-hop was still pure."

Which pretty much sums up the underlying theme here. Meth, Snoop, Redman and B-Real are the rap game's OGs of marijuana advocacy. Sure, '80s masters like EPMD, Tone Lōc and others dropped herb references in their rhymes before our fabulous foursome came up, but these dudes took it to the next level. Snoop was rapping about weed on Dr. Dre's 1992 solo breakout *The Chronic* before he even had an album of his own out. Meth praised its virtues on Wu-Tang's unstoppable *Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)* in 1993 before going all in

with his 1994 weed-worshipping solo debut *Tical*, the cover of which immortalizes our man exhaling a luxurious breath of marijuana smoke. Redman dropped "How to Roll a Blunt" on his 1992 debut *Whut? Thee Album* and went on to make the college stoner comedy *How High* with Method Man in 2001.

But when it comes to hardcore advocacy, B-Real might be the OG of OGs. Cypress Hill's 1991 debut boasted all-time classics "Stoned Is the Way of the Walk" and "Light Another One," while the liner notes of 1993's *Black Sunday* included a list of hemp facts alongside tracks like "I Wanna Get High" and the instant stoner anthem "Hits From the Bong." B has gone on to become a major legalization activist (and strain reviewer) through

When it comes to hardcore advocacy, B-Real might be the OG of Ogs.



All agree: B-Real is the heaviest hitter on Mount Kushmore.

his live-stream site *BReal.tv* and was recently named *High Times*' 2014 Stoner of the Year.

"I really took it to heart when we were younger and reading *High Times* magazine, working on the music and what we believed in as far as marijuana goes," B says. He's wearing a baseball cap that reads "Faded" and holding a joint the size of a hot dog. "It was always about legalizing it, all the way back to Peter Tosh singing it. For me, it was *The Emperor Wears No Clothes* by Jack Herer [the landmark legalization tract published in 1985]: He was a big reason why I went so hard on it compared to other rappers. I believed in what he was saying and in all the information that had been suppressed for so long. I saw the power of what it could do besides get you high. Before [we read] Jack Herer, we were just stoners, just weedheads—it was what we liked to do. But reading his book made us activists."

"Me, Snoop, Meth and B-Real are the forefathers of this marijuana game," Redman adds while rolling a blunt. "And now that it's being legalized in a couple of states—big up to Colorado and Washington; big up to New Jersey for being the 16th state to pass the law about having a certain amount on you—we welcome y'all. We welcome y'all to our world. We welcome y'all to the shit we've been fighting for since the '90s. Even though we couldn't put our finger on it or think that marijuana would actually be legal in some states, that was the mentality we was on in the '90s. So now we welcome the world to our world."

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We're outside talking with B-Real when Snoop rolls up in a gleaming black Escalade driven by an enormous body-guard. The artist formerly known as Snoop Dogg—he recently rechristened himself Snoop Lion after converting to Rastafarianism—emerges from the backseat. He's rocking a black-and-gold sweatsuit and a pair of his signature house slippers. B-Real, who's built like a brick shithouse but stands just a couple inches shy of Snoop's 6-foot-4 height, looks at us and says, "Now I get to feel short." Then he turns to Snoop and hoists the hot-dog joint in the air. "I got some of this for you," he announces.

"That size?" Snoop asks.

"I can get you one this size."

"I *like* that size," Snoop replies.

Once inside, Snoop changes into a pristine white T-shirt and starts mugging for photographer Mark Mann's camera. But there's a problem: "Can we get this man something to smoke?" Mann shouts to no one in particular. To absolutely no one's surprise, it's B-Real to the rescue. "When I see B-Real, I know I'm gonna get some free weed," Snoop laughs. "I hate to say it, but it's true. I know if I'm gonna see B, I don't need to bring all my weed."

Snoop and B-Real go way back. It was while B was guesting on Snoop's GGN web channel that the idea for Mount Kushmore was first mentioned publicly. Prior to that, the duo paired up on the track "Vato" from Snoop's 2006 album, *Tha Blue Carpet Treatment*. In fact, all four Mount

Kushmore representatives have collaborated with one another over the years. Method Man and B-Real go all the way back to 1997, when they teamed up with Coolio and Busta Rhymes for "Hit 'Em High" on the *Space Jam* soundtrack. Redman and Meth have been tag-teaming verses since 1994, appearing on each other's albums, touring together, and doing the *Blackout!* collaborative records along with the previously mentioned stoner flick *How High*. Redman, a.k.a. "Doc," also appeared on Cypress Hill's 1996 remix of "Throw Your Set in the Air" and Snoop's 2002 track "From Long Beach 2 Brick City." Snoop and Meth worked together as recently as last year, joining EPMD's Erick Sermon on the theme song for comedian Kevin Hart's *Let Me Explain* standup movie.



Snoop brings the Kush.

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"When I see B-Real, I know I'm gonna get some free weed," Snoop laughs.



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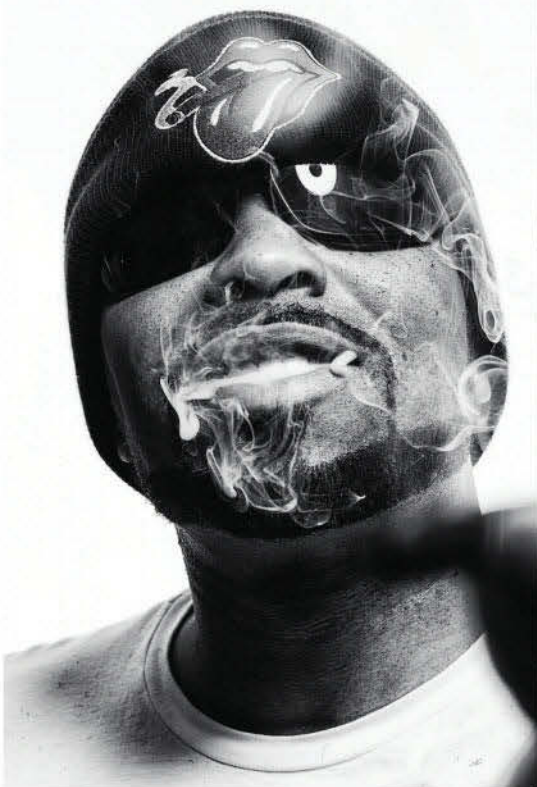
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The "heads" of state



B-Real just laughs. "Man, we get so high every time we collaborate that there's only one real story: 'Damn, we smoked a lot of fuckin' weed!' But it's great collaborating with these guys on any level," he adds. "If all four of us were to get together on a song, it would be amazing. Who knows? This could be the set-off for that."

"Real minds detect real minds, and marijuana minds detect marijuana minds," Redman offers. "Once you're part of the movement, you think different; you connect different with people. We know a lot of artists, but there's only certain artists in the rap game that stick together. Me, Snoop, Meth, B-Real—we've stuck together since the beginning. I've got a lot of respect for these guys. We're all still here, still talking about the same shit. It's like a triumph for what we've been preaching and believing in all these years, to now consolidate it in a magazine that's been a supporter of marijuana since the '70s."

"Cypress Hill is one of the reasons I'm here today," Redman continues. "Seeing them as the first hip-hop act on the cover of *High Times* magazine with that green bud—I never seen shit like that on the East Coast. I was like, 'There's bud out

Beyond the foursome's immense talent, it's no secret that their mutual love of herb brought them together. "When I first met Snoop, we smoked," Method Man recalls. "When I first met B, we smoked. When I first met Doc, we didn't—but that was because we was at a Kriss Kross album release. But after that, we smoked."

Pressed for specific recollections of working with the others,

there like *that*? I gotta tap into that world!"

B-Real and his Cypress Hill cronies Sen Dog and DJ Muggs first appeared on the cover of *High Times* back in March 1992. "I remember they brought in some BC weed," he says. "We were like, 'Can we have this?' They said, 'No, no—that's really expensive.' But we got to smoke some of it, which was cool."

"BC—British Columbia?" Snoop deadpans. "It's that Barely Chronic."

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THE LONG ARM OF THE LAW IS GETTING SHORTER

Snoop's influence on marijuana culture cannot be overstated. His name has been practically synonymous with the sticky-icky-icky for two decades and counting. Does he feel that he had a hand in pot's slow-but-sure acceptance by the mainstream? "I like to think I did contribute something by proving that it's a beautiful thing, that it don't hurt none—it actually helps," he tells us. "So I feel like I did."

Somehow, Snoop's longstanding promotion of and association with weed hasn't hindered his ability to snag endorsements or advertising deals. As Snoop himself acknowledges: "I get around." The same couldn't necessarily be said for Method Man, Redman and B-Real. "With the exception of Snoop, corporate people look at the three of us and our respective groups and see us as 'those guys,'" B-Real ventures. "They're not coming to us because they know we're associated with it. We miss out on opportunities that other rappers get. But Snoop's been fortunate—he's a household name. His name transcends that shit, so he still gets approached by those types of entities. The rest of us, even though we've had mainstream success,



In Kush we trust.

it's different than the type of success that Snoop has had. So we've gone through that, and we continue to go through it. Even when it's legal, we'll go through it, I think. But hey, that's the price we pay for standing up for what we believe in."

"If anybody smokes weed, Snoop smokes a lot of fuckin' weed, and it's never stopped or impeded his career in any shape, form or fashion," Meth agrees. "People love him for what he does. Have the rest of us missed opportunities? Fuck, yeah. But there's a way around that shit if you carry yourself in a manner that's decent and you don't play into the stereotype of a pothead. Don't be fucking lazy, you know? If you wanna smoke, smoke. But *do not* be one of those fucking dudes who falls asleep with his hand in the fryer because he smoked some fucking *indica* and couldn't handle it."

Then again, Snoop's reputation can be a double-edged sword: He's been busted for possession over half a dozen times. "All my weed cases made me bigger as a rapper," he counters. "I ain't gonna lie: When I got caught overseas, like 'Snoop Dogg got busted with weed!', my sales went up. I was like, 'Nigga, let's keep smoking and go to the next country. I know they waitin', but fuck it. They know I didn't *bring* it here. It's in your country, nigga!'"

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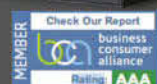
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In 2012, Snoop was banned from Norway for two years after being caught with eight grams of cannabis and several hundred thousand dollars' worth of undeclared Norwegian kroner. "I been banned from Australia, banned from London, too," he points out. "I like that shit. I like a nigga that been banned from somewhere. I just went back to Australia, and I might not be able to go back again. I was smoking in the hotel room, and the fire department came up in that motherfucker. When they came in, they was like, 'Oh, it's Snoop Dogg—can we get a picture?' I put that shit on Instagram."

Snoop might occasionally play fast and loose with the law, but he's dead serious when it comes to legalization itself. "They need to go ahead and make money off it like they want to and stop playing games with it," he says. "It could save the world in a real way because there'll be more job opportunities and less crime. We could control it like we control alcohol. They gotta think about it like that."

You would think that Snoop and B-Real's home state of California would have been the first to go full legal, but as we all know, Colorado and Washington beat the Golden State to the punch. "California still got a face to keep," Snoop

offers. "Colorado and Washington don't have a face to keep, so they can jump in full speed to make us catch up. We still got a foot behind, but we the ones who initiated it—we the ones who kicked the door down [with medical marijuana]."

"California is finally on the verge," B-Real says. "We had a chance during the last voting cycle, but certain people were indecisive, and it didn't happen for us. But I think people are seeing the legalization in Washington and Colorado; they're seeing other states roll over into medical marijuana, so I think people are ready. And California needs that economic boost, that tax revenue. It goes on the ballot this year, and if it passes, it'll activate in 2016. So I think we've got a really good chance. Colorado and Washington made us look bad, you know? Come on, Cali—let's get the fuck in there!"

Snoop believes it's just a matter of time before pot is legalized across the entire US, now that a new generation of politicians are taking office—and bringing their appreciation of the Mount Kushmore Four with them. "The youngsters got in there," our man enthuses. "They were raised on our music, and they about that change. Once we get New York and Texas, it's a motherfuckin' wrap." ✨



The Gold Standard in Cannabis

Mt. Kushmore was made possible by the folks at Caviar Gold Meds (caviar-goldmeds.com) who brought several pounds of their unique product to the photo shoot.

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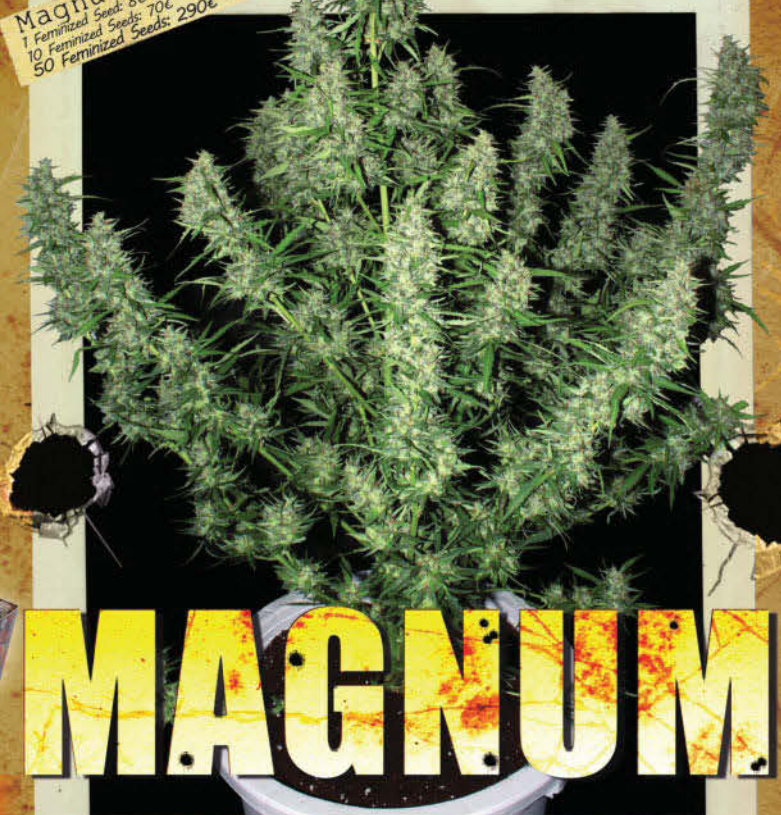
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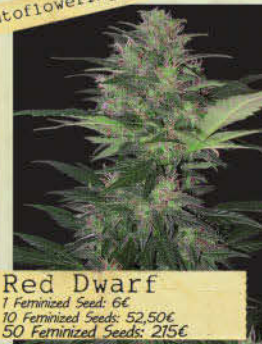
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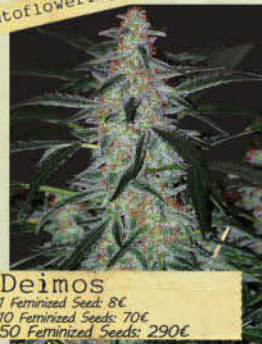
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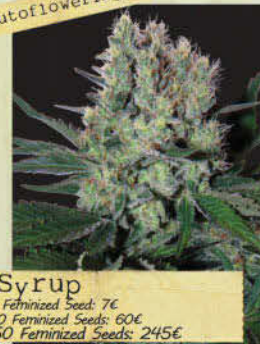
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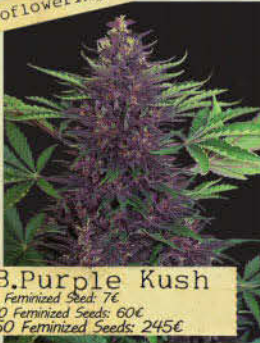
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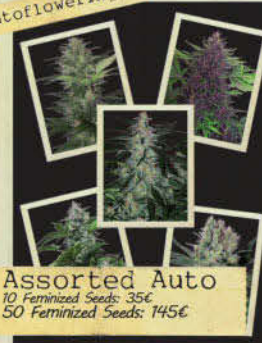
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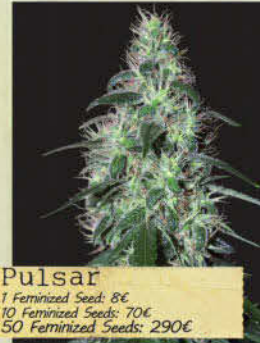
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This dry nug of Rectangle was grown using natural plant foods.



Living Organics

Cultivation contributor Mitch Shenassa reports on recycled organic living soil, a proven technique for growing the most flavorful and aromatic marijuana—including some pro tips from multiple Cannabis Cup winner Nestor Garrido.



Nestor mixing up some magic soil.

A Growing Dilemma

So you've finally decided to grow your own, but 10 steps into your local grow store, you're already overwhelmed by what seem like hundreds of choices. The worst part is, you have no idea what's in these bottles. Sure, the labels have numbers for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, but there's no way to tell what makes one brand of nutes better than another, aside from the brand name and price.

If this story seems familiar, it's high time to save yourself a lot of money and frustration and start producing more fragrant, potent, better-tasting buds by collaborating with Mother Nature instead of the nutrient companies. It's time to try recycled organic living soil!

What Is ROLS?

Recycled organic living soil (ROLS for short) is an indoor growing method that draws on a fact-based understanding of horticulture, botany and plant physiology coupled with the principles of soil science, organic farming, traditional agriculture and permaculture. In a ROLS garden, you're nurturing a setup that creates a fertile living soil, full of microscopic organisms that "digest" food for your plants. You accomplish this by mixing a soil that

has everything your microbial life needs to flourish: plant and mineral sources to break down into things your plants' roots can take up; humic substances that act as a storage and delivery system for your nutrients; and aeration amendments to make sure your roots (and their microscopic friends) have plenty of fresh air. Once the soil is mixed, you fortify it with compost tea to kick off the microbial life and then give it some time for the soil to become fully populated. After a few weeks, you're ready to grow some world-class organic plants!

Why ROLS?

A lot of growers get interested in organics because they want cleaner smoke, better flavors and more beautiful buds—but the advantages to growing organically don't stop there. When you go ROLS, you'll find that you spend less time and money on your garden, because once it gets started, your soil just keeps getting better with time. As an added bonus, some of the most time-consuming tasks involved in growing—like pH-balancing your nutrient solution and flushing your medium before harvest—become completely unnecessary when you work alongside Mother Nature.



West Coast Diesel exhibits extreme trichome production.

Life Under a Microscope

A lot of different terms get thrown around to describe the microscopic organisms that inhabit your soil. You'll hear or see words like *microherd*, *micro-beasties*, *soil life* and plenty of others. For the purposes of this article, we'll use the term *microlife* to describe the whole universe of creatures living, eating, reproducing and dying in your soil. You don't have to understand or identify the exact types of microlife to be an amazing organic grower, but it can be an awe-inspiring research project to observe a drop of compost tea or a soil sample under a 300x microscope. At that magnification, everything looks pretty much like a 1980s video game: You've got weird creatures swirling around in different patterns—some of them floating aimlessly, others using little jets or tentacles to scoot from one big goopy mass to another. With a little patience, you'll see a bigger critter make a snack of a smaller one, or watch an organism divide itself into a pair of identical copies. It's everything your high-school biology teacher promised it would be, though he probably never informed you that these tiny life forms are one of the secrets to growing dank herb.



Mix up all ingredients thoroughly.

Soil: It's More Than Dirt

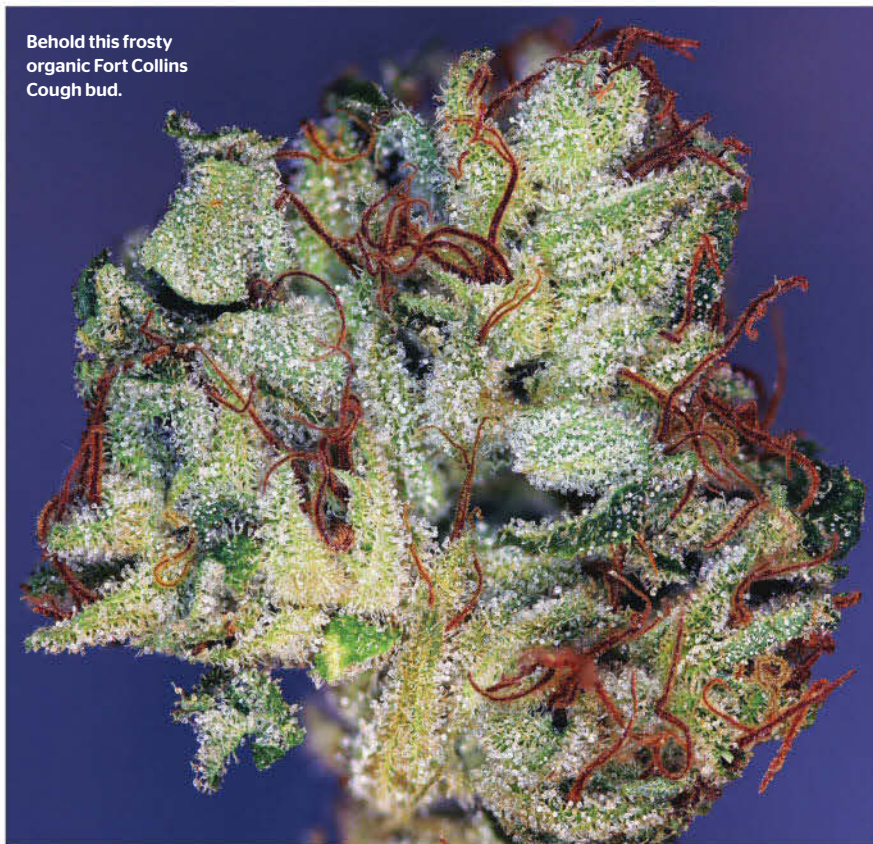
When we think of soil, we tend to imagine a pile of dirt—a brownish-black mass of broken-down rocks and plants. But soil is more than just dirt: It's the combination of that organic matter plus billions upon billions of microscopic organisms. When the planet was still new, these bacteria, fungi and other forms of microlife evolved, living on the atoms and molecules in their physical environment.

The next life forms to show up were plants. Evolving into a world rich with microlife, plants flourished by working in harmony with their environment. When

the microlife “eat” and “digest” chemical compounds to create energy for themselves and “poop out” the waste from this process, they create the compounds that plants need to grow. The plants then use those compounds, along with water and light, to make food. It's an elegant system in which the waste from one organism becomes food for the next, creating a cycle that can sustain itself without any outside help.

Feeding and caring for this cycle of life is what organic growers are focused on. We feed the soil, and the soil feeds our plants.

Behold this frosty organic Fort Collins Cough bud.



Battling the Bottles

Plants have grown the same way naturally for over 450 million years. Then, sometime in the past 100 or so years, chemists working in corporate laboratories discovered how to mix and match the constituents of various chemical compounds in order to make others. They realized it would be big business if they could just synthesize the finished product that soil feeds the plants, then concentrate it, bottle it and sell it at a profit.

Of course, they were right, as anyone who's ever harvested a crop fed from plastic bottles can tell you. But think about it for a minute: Have you ever had a glass of fresh-squeezed orange juice and compared it to OJ made from concentrate? They may taste somewhat similar, but they're definitely not the same.

When your soil is alive, it acts as your plant's digestive system: It breaks things down and makes them available for the roots to uptake. It's just like taking a bite of food: When you chew it, your teeth are making it smaller, enzymes are breaking it down, and once the food hits your stomach, bacteria split it up chemically, and the nutrients and vitamins get directed through your bloodstream to where they need to go. In living soil, worms and other small creatures make chunks of things in the soil smaller,

enzymes break them down, bacteria split up the nutrients, and the roots take what they need and put the good stuff through the plant's circulatory system.

Bottled nutrients take a different approach by skipping the breakdown process altogether. Instead, these nutrients are already chelated (pronounced *key-lated*), meaning the digestion your soil would be doing is already done. Feeding your plant chelated nutes is like hooking yourself up to an IV bag with a solution of protein, carbs and fats: You skip the whole digestion process, and as a result, the soil's microflora doesn't get fed. While that IV might have enough nutrition to keep you alive, it's nothing like the healthy, balanced diet that your body needs to thrive.

Beyond Veganic

With organic growing gaining popularity over the past few years, a lot of nutrient companies have come out with their own "organic" or even "veganic" lines. In a sense, these bottled nutes are better than the old synthetic kind, since they were extracted from real plants. But remember that orange juice from concentrate was extracted from real plants once upon a time, too—but to make it practical to store, transport and sell, it's been heated to remove the water and

then mixed with preservatives to keep it from being a good environment for bacteria to develop. Bottled "organic" nutrients are a lot like OJ from concentrate: To make them practical to warehouse, ship and retail, they need to be concentrated and preserved through chelation. Since the object of organic living soil is to cultivate as many types of life as possible, bottled "organic" nutes are a more expensive and less productive alternative to our methods.

Also, while the idea of growing with good karma by keeping it vegan may be initially appealing, it's worth taking some time to consider the bigger picture before you ditch the animal products. The major differences between an organic and a veganic approach are the inclusion of earthworms (or their castings), animal manures and amendments made from sea life (fish hydrolysate, crab meal, ground oyster shells, etc.). To state the obvious, worms and soil go together like fish and water—worms evolved to specialize in the soil environment, playing a major role in beginning the digestion process and adding structure, aeration and, of course, their very fertile castings. Animal manures can be almost completely replaced with plant-based "green" manures—but since the heart of the organic method is a sustainable approach to growing plants, any time we can take what would be a pile of useless waste and turn it into high-grade fertilizer, it's a win-win situation. Amendments created from sea life are also typically made from the waste products of other industrial processes and offer some very unique compounds (such as forms of calcium, silica and other minerals) that are rare and exotic treats for your soil.

Home Kitchen Bug Killers

For pest prevention, we use neem seed oil (usually found in the health and beauty aisle), as well as a spray made from fresh organic cilantro, mint, lemon rinds and hot peppers, combined in a food processor with a little water, organic rosemary and lavender essential oils, plus a drop or two of Dr. Bronner's soap. The oil and soap work as a spreading agent to cover your plants evenly with the water-based mixture (which would otherwise bead up), and they also help the active ingredients in the herbs penetrate the exoskeletons of pests. A lot of the high-priced pesticides you find in grow stores use the exact same compounds found in these and other common herbs, seeds, barks and so on.

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Raw, organic aloe vera juice is an amazing addition to your regular waterings or foliar feedings at ¼ cup per gallon of water. Think of aloe vera doing for your plants what a protein shake does for an elite athlete: providing the body what it needs to grow bigger and stronger by giving it more raw material. Just like a human body will use amino acids to make proteins and proteins to make muscles, plants will use simple sugars to make starches, and starches to make their structures. Aloe vera juice is chock-full of simple sugars and starches, giving your plants the nutrition they need for serious performance.

For Plants That Grow Like Coconut Palms

Raw, organic coconut water can replace an armload of top-secret grow formulas. Added to feedings at 15 milliliters per liter of H₂O, coconut water will cause your plants to grow faster, more vigorously, and with more buds sites and shorter internodal distances. Keep in mind that a coconut is the biggest seed on Earth—and like any other seed, it contains enough nutrition for the plant to grow until it develops sufficient leaves to make its own food. Coconut trees get taller by growing huge palm leaves that die off, leaving a trunk—which means that unlike cannabis, which grows stem space between each set of branches, coconut water has cytokinins (*sigh-toe-kine-ens*), hormones that signal the plant to divide cells in the roots and growing shoots, equaling explosive growth. Coconut water is also a great source of calcium, magnesium, and other minerals and elements your plants need.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Recycling your soil after harvest is one of the main principles of ROLS. As the soil lives, it breaks down the minerals mixed into it over long periods of time; certain elements will become available over a few weeks or months, but others won't go through enough digestion for years. By recycling, we let nature work through some of these longer processes, resulting in complex compounds that nourish and protect your plants and microflora.

Recycling also makes the most efficient use of your microflora: Instead of tossing used soil into the trash or backyard garden and losing all the microflora we've cultivated over the growing cycle, we help it to replenish the soil by adding more food



Organic Snowdawg shown growing (top) and dry (below).

and giving the little guys time to re-establish themselves.

Many ROLS growers empty their containers into a pile, bin, tub or trashcan, mix it with soil amendments, add water or compost tea, and give it six weeks or longer for the microflora to find its rhythm. Some ROLS growers (including MicrobeMan, BlueJayWay and SilverSurfer_OG) are pioneering a no-till method, in which they transplant a new plant directly into the same container they just harvested from. This allows them to take full advantage of the thriving microflora without any delays or hiccups in a busy production schedule. In a no-till system, rather than mixing amendments into the soil, the amendments are sprinkled on top and watered in with teas, allowing the soil to digest them and replenish itself. The no-till method takes advantage of the relationship between the plant's root system and the microflora that develops in the rhizosphere (*rye-zoe-sphere*) or root zone.

Humus Be Kidding

One of the key ingredients in ROLS is humus (*hue-muss*), a black, spongy, rich-smelling material that is produced by thriving microflora. Humus is made up of the parts of plants that are hard for the soil to digest (like waxes and woody lignins), along with the gums and starches that the microflora excretes as waste products. Humus is loaded with organic humic and fulvic acids, which do their part to feed the microflora that, in turn, feeds your plants.

But that's just the beginning when it comes to humus:

Humus holds moisture and provides room for the air that your roots and microflora need.

Humus holds and releases nutrients in ways that make them available to plants but also prevents them from washing away, acting like a nutrient “savings account” for the roots.

Humus creates food for your microflora, along with the vitamins, hormones, antibiotics and other substances that protect and support your plants' health.

Humus balances the pH in your soil so you don't have to.

Com-post Modern

If you do a little research, you'll find that there are almost as many ways of making compost as there are of growing pot. From composting in heaps or sheets, to composting in bins or tumblers, to using worms or black soldier flies, each method has its advantages in certain situations—for example, a compost heap isn't very practical if you live in an apartment, but an earthworm farm might be perfect.

No matter how you compost, the goal is always the same: to create an environment in which organic substances can be efficiently turned into humus. The key to creating this environment is providing the right balance of green organic material like stems and grass clippings (which are packed with nitrogen) and brown or yellow organic material like dead leaves (which only have carbon left), along with enough moisture and air for the microflora in the compost to thrive.

Look online for simple plans to make your own compost tumbler or stackable vermi-compost (worm-compost) bin, and start by feeding it your kitchen scraps and shredded paper. Before you know it, you'll have more compost than you really need—and as you feed it your fan leaves, stems, trunks, root-balls, cardboard boxes and electricity bills, you may find great satisfaction in turning potential security risks into top-notch fertilizer.

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By Plants, for Plants

Another key element of ROLS is the use of dynamic accumulators (DAs). DAs are certain plants—usually fast-growing weeds—that take up nutrients and micronutrients from the soil and store them in their leaves. Some commonly used DAs are:

- Alfalfa
- Kelp
- Yarrow
- Comfrey
- Stinging nettle
- Watercress
- Dandelion
- Shavegrass (a.k.a. horsetail)

DAs are mixed into the soil before first use, added during recycling, or made into botanical teas or fermented plant extracts to ensure that the widest possible range of nutrition is available to the plants and soil at all times. A lot of ROLS gardeners quickly realize the benefits of growing their own DAs in containers, raised beds or backyards, providing all the free plant food they can use.

Tips From a Master, Plus a Winning Recipe

Nestor Garrido is a ROLS grower who took home a first-place Best *Sativa* for his Snowdawg at the 2011 *High Times*

Medical Cannabis Cup in Denver, and a second-place Best *Sativa* for his Durban Poison at the first US Cannabis Cup in 2013. Coming from a background in organic-food production, Nestor combined his family tradition of Earth-friendly sustainable gardening and his love of cannabis to grow some of the tastiest, most gorgeous buds on the planet.

For starters, it should be noted that with this mix (and all true organics), the objective is to “feed the soil,” getting away from the notion that we need to (force-)feed our plants a “fast-food diet,” as is the case with synthetic nutrients. This is done by adding organic amendments and allowing the microbial activity that ensues to balance out over time. The resulting byproduct creates a perfect environment for root growth, which translates into robust overall plant growth and stronger immunity (i.e., disease resistance).

Additional benefits from using this method include increased potency in the final product, coupled with the full spectrum of flavor expression and aromatic qualities in a particular strain. Buds grown in living soil have higher trichome

Benefits from using the ROLS method include increased potency.

density and terpene content, which will be noticeable to the smoker not only in the aromatic qualities and flavor, but also in the non-irritating smooth smoke that results when inhaled.

A few other advantages that one might take into account: less labor and cost; no pH meter; no guesswork trying to decide which fertilizers to use; no more changing and scrubbing nutrient reservoirs; and no contaminating wastewater going down our drains and into our rivers. Plus, as mentioned, the soil can be amended and reused over and over, leading to less waste disposal (and therefore less security risk).

Below are some recommended amendments that will benefit your soil mix—however, it’s always good to experiment with different mixes to discover what works best for you. An important thing to remember is that there is not some top-secret “proprietary formula” out there: Any mix focused on feeding the soil will result in a healthy biodynamic medium full of microbial activity that will ultimately grow the best nugs you’ve ever smoked.

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Helpful Amendments

(Quantities listed are per 9 to 12 cubic feet of soil)

Fish bone meal, 5 lbs.
 Blood meal, 5 lbs.
 Alfalfa meal, 3 lbs.
 Neem seed meal, 2 lbs.
 Feather meal, 3 lbs.
 Green sand, 2 to 3 lbs.
 Fish meal (for veg), 1 to 2 lbs.
 Soybean meal (for veg), 3 lbs.
 Kelp meal, 3 lbs.
 Rock phosphate, 3 lbs.
 Bark mulch, 2 lbs.
 Indonesian bat guano (for bloom), 5 lbs.
 Mexican bat guano (for veg), 5 lbs.
 Earthworm castings, 15 to 20 lbs.
 Epsom salt, 1/2 cup
 Powdered mycorrhizae, 1/2 cup
 Granular humic acids, 1/8 cup
 Dolomite lime, 1/2 cup
 Azomite, 3/4 cup

It's not necessary to use all of these amendments in a mix (though you can if you choose). If you're just starting out, I recommend using a base mix and then experimenting with other amendments. A good base mix might include fish bone meal, blood meal, earthworm castings, powdered mycorrhizae, Epsom



"Nestor's in the basement, mixing up the medicine."

salt, dolomite lime, granular humic acid and azomite.

When it comes to mixing and using the soil, I like to spread it out about 6 to 12 inches in depth and then sprinkle the amendments evenly over the soil. Next, mix it all up thoroughly and then mix it again ... and again. I store the mixture in large trash bins and moisten it with a gallon or so of non-chlorinated water and a tablespoon of unsulfured molasses to catalyze the microbial activity (the molasses

is optional). The final step is to let the mixture sit and "cook" for at least 30 days before using (preferably as many as 60-plus days). Once this time has passed, the soil is now balanced and ready to use. Simply fill the bottom half or third of your grow container with the mix and back-fill the rest with a less concentrated organic soil (either bagged or home-cooked). For the remainder of the grow cycle, all that's left is to add water as needed.

Happy gardening! ✨

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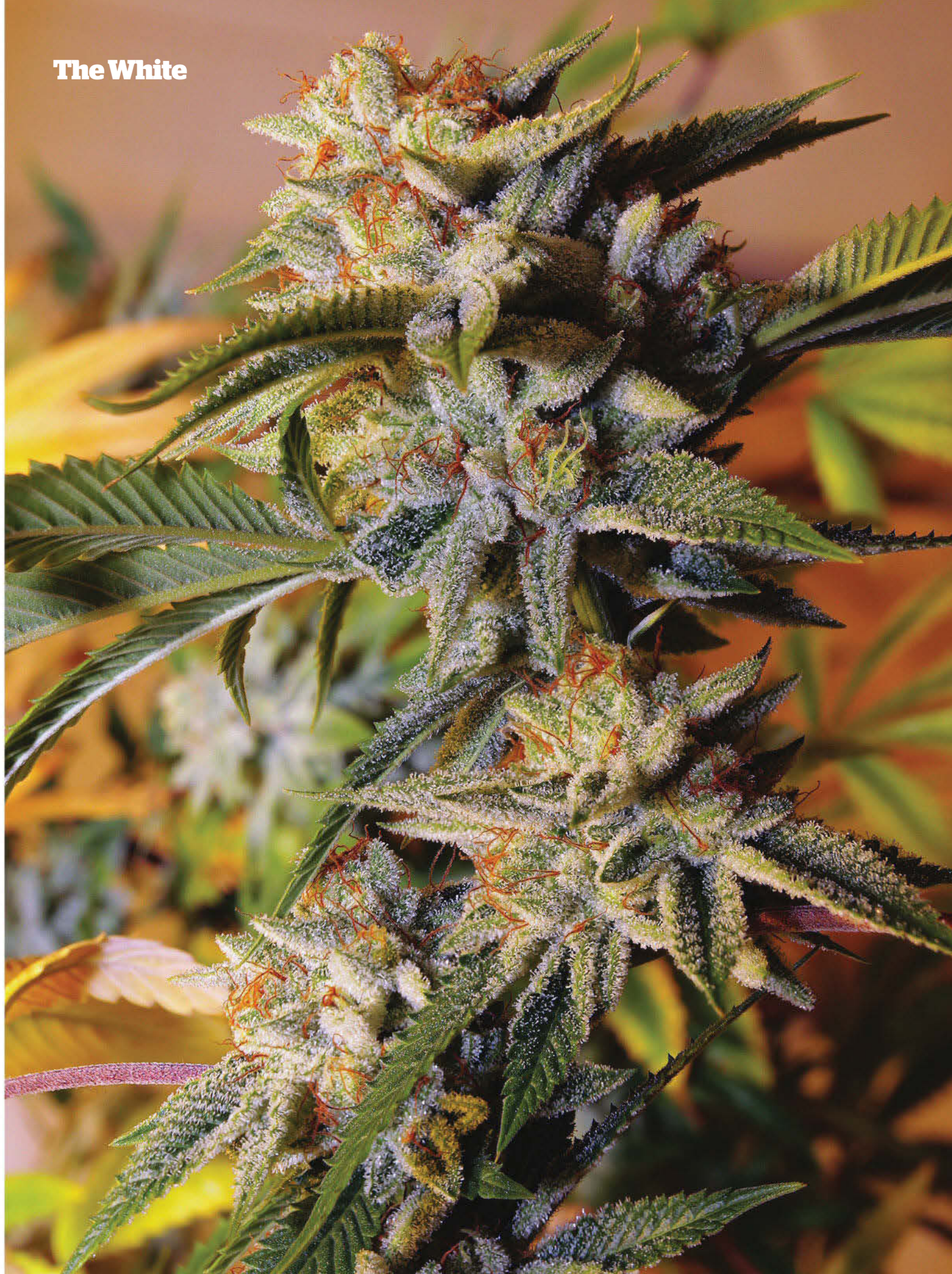
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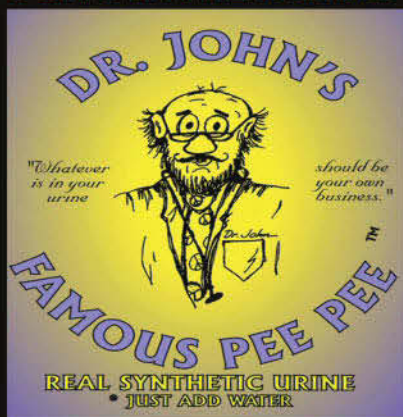
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TOP 40 STONER MOVIES



To celebrate *HT*'s 40th anniversary, the *High Times* staff compiled a list of our 40 favorite flicks. The debate was long and contentious, but we came up with a list of 37 winners and three buzzkills!

2. Easy Rider

The movie that introduced pot to a nation (cinematically speaking). Chopper-riding Dennis Hopper and Peter Fonda cruise the highways of America searching for truth and pick up Jack Nicholson along the way. At night, they light up, pass the joint around a campfire, and ruminate on everything from true individualism to Martians. Moral of the movie: Rednecks will kill you.

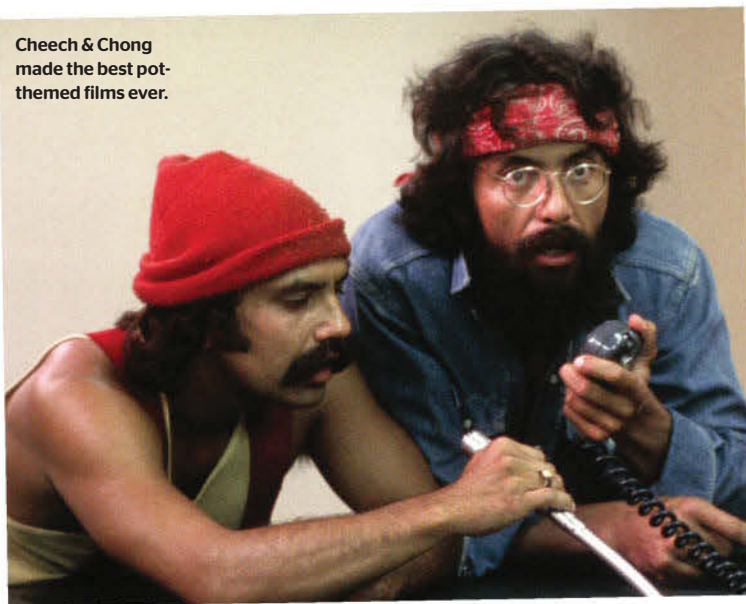
3. Half Baked

A sensational pot comedy featuring a group of stoners who concoct a scheme to start a pot-delivery service in order to bail their buddy Kenny out of jail. Dave Chappelle and Neal Brennan wrote this classic cannabis caper, directed by Tamra Davis. Watch for cameos by marijuana luminaries like Willie Nelson and Snoop Dogg.

4. Friday

A day in the life of South Central's Craig and Smokey (Ice Cube and Chris Tucker) revolves around smoking weed on the porch and figuring out how to pay back Big Worm, the dealer who fronted Smokey his stash. They also have to deal with Deebo, the

Cheech & Chong made the best pot-themed films ever.



1. Cheech & Chong movies

The legendary comedy duo's archive of stoner movies—*Up in Smoke*, *Nice Dreams*, *Cheech and Chong's Next Movie* and *Still Smokin'*—continue to generate huge laughs 40 years after their release. But *Up in Smoke* is by far the best, featuring a smuggling vehicle made out of pot and Stacy Keach as the hard-boiled Sergeant Stedenko in hot pursuit of our boys.

neighborhood bully; Ezal, the local crackhead; and the late Bernie Mac as a hypocritical pastor.

5. Woodstock

A three-hour documentary of the world's greatest rock concert. In 1969, a galaxy of musical legends played in the fields of an upstate New York farm and made history when a half-million attendees crashed the event. The film's sound is poor by today's standards, but

the performances are historic. Watch it high—because everybody there was!

6. Fast Times at Ridgemont High

A classic high-school movie featuring future stars like Forest Whitaker, Nicolas Cage and Jennifer Jason Leigh. But Sean Penn steals the show as Jeff Spicoli, arguably the best portrayal of a budding young stoner dude ever!

7. Dazed and Confused

Richard Linklater's film depicts the last day of school for a group of juniors about to become seniors and eighth-graders about to become freshmen. Through hazing and bonding rituals, they unite over a shared love of pot and partying. The cast features many breakout stars, including Mathew McConaughey, Parker Posey, Milla Jovovich, Rory Cochrane and Ben Affleck.

8. Grass

In 1999, Ron Mann released this comprehensive, supremely entertaining documentary exploring pot prohibition. Narrated by Woody Harrelson, the film chronicles decades of government propaganda juxtaposed against humankind's undeniable veneration of cannabis throughout history.

9. The Big Lebowski

Jeff Bridges plays the ultimate stoner saint. We deeply admire his non-achieving, bathrobe-wearing, doobie-puffing, White Russian-sipping, longhaired, hippie/slacker portrayal of "The Dude." One-liners like "The Dude abides" and "Careful, man, there's a beverage here!" have worked their way into our lingua franca and challenge us all to be more Dude-like daily.

10. The Harold & Kumar Trilogy

What started as a munchies mission to White Castle ended up becoming one of the most epic stoner-buddy comedies in all of moviedom. This Cheech & Chong for the 21st century have taken us on some epic adventures: from Gitmo to Radio City, through KKK rallies and warehouses, all the while blazing up with such unlikely characters as Santa Claus, George W. Bush and an off-the-rails Neil Patrick Harris.

12. The Jay & Silent Bob series

Kevin Smith has crafted his own little Jersey-based universe populated by a colorful cast of characters. From film to film, the dank-tastic duo of Jay (Jason Mewes) and Silent Bob (Smith) evolve from mere drug dealers into actual comic-book superheroes—Bluntman & Chronic. In *Dogma*, they even save the universe.

13. Super Troopers

Broken Lizard burst onto the scene with this gem about slacker cops who stumble upon a drug-smuggling ring. *Meow*. This movie is most notable for its opening scene, in which the troopers mess with the minds of a group of hapless stoners. That, and the infamous “Meow Game.” *Meow*.

14. Super High Me

Former *High Times* Stoner of the Year Doug Benson’s riff on Morgan Spurlock’s *Super Size Me* features Doug abstaining from pot for 30 days, then toking faithfully for a month and documenting the differences. Along the way, comedians and activists pontificate on the effects of marijuana as well as its prohibition.

15. Platoon

Oliver Stone’s seminal Vietnam War film features a group of soldiers who have divided themselves into two distinct groups: drinkers and stoners. The drinkers are led by the evil Tom Berenger, while Satan look-alike Willem Dafoe (cast against type as a warm, empathetic sergeant) leads the tokers. Just like Nam, nobody wins.



If you puff, insanity is not far behind, according to *Reefer Madness*.

11. Reefer Madness

Made in the 1930s, *Reefer Madness* was conceived as the ultimate scare movie, warning an unwary nation that those who smoke pot would lose both their minds and their morals. Eighty years later, the movie is a universally scorned joke, while “reefer madness” has become a synonym for pot propaganda. Badly made, but eminently watchable—especially while high.

16. Pineapple Express

The stoner power trio of Seth Rogen, James Franco and Danny McBride star in this action-comedy adventure about a man and his weed dealer. We love the epically funny 25-minute gunfight in a commercial grow op—not to mention that the lead roles in this film are both played by former *High Times* Stoners of the Year!

17. Soul Plane

We doubt anyone can get higher than Snoop Dogg flying through the air with a ton of Kush. He offers up delicious stoner moments as Captain Mack, the pilot on this raucous ride: “Ladies and gentlemen, we have reached our cruising

altitude of 33,000 feet. Oh shit, man! We fuckin’ higher than Redman at the *Source Awards*!”

18. Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas

Journalist Hunter S. Thompson (Johnny Depp) and his trusted but misguided lawyer “Dr. Gonzo” (Benicio Del Toro) embark on the most realistic LSD trip in movie history. Director Terry Gilliam’s masterpiece is a menacing but visually exciting chronicle of the duo’s Vegas adventure. Kudos to Thompson for remembering to jot down this most epic of assignments after the fact!

19. Jackie Brown

A quirky serio-comic romp, complete with

blaxploitation goddess Pam Grier in the title role as a stewardess at odds with arms dealers. But Bridget Fonda gets high praise as the sweet-natured surfer girl who explains pot to Robert De Niro: “Coughing’s good! It opens up the capillaries. You know, when you cough, you’re pulling in air—or in this case, smoke—into parts of the lungs that don’t normally get used. So, coughing’s good—it gets you higher!”

20. Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels

Bacon, Tom and Soap send their good friend Eddy to clean up at a high-stakes card game run by Harry “the Hatchet” Lonsdale. When the rigged match lands them

£500,000 in the hole, the boys must navigate a sea of hooligans, robbery, weed growers and a few choice growroom scenes on their way to payback in this Guy Ritchie classic.

21. Cabin in the Woods

Ganja-fueled horror fans will levitate with bliss watching this film. The epic opening scene is just the beginning—and once you think you’ve got a handle on what’s happening, you’ll be proven wrong again and again. Though the plot is revealed in the very first scene, the two seemingly unrelated storylines will keep viewers rapt until the final credits, as the movie proceeds to gleefully run amok within the bounds that the filmmakers have established.

22. Romancing the Stone

Has there ever been a better title for marijuana devotees? The highlight of this light-hearted adventure flick is Michael Douglas and Kathleen Turner stranded in the jungle, burning a bale of weed as firewood. Turner gets classically blitzed and winds up facedown.

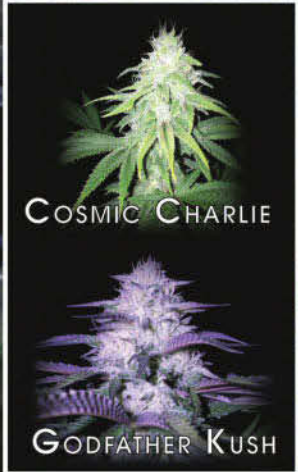
23. Thelma & Louise

After Susan Sarandon blows away Geena Davis’s would-be rapist, the pair go on the run. The pot highlight occurs when a cop pulls them over for speeding; they manage to turn the tables and lock him in the trunk of his cruiser. After shooting holes in the trunk to provide him with air, the pair vamoose. A passing Rasta on a bicycle stops to investigate. He hears the cop’s cries for help, then lights a spliff and exhales into the trunk—to the audience’s delight!

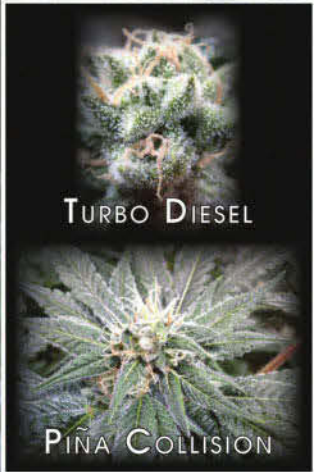
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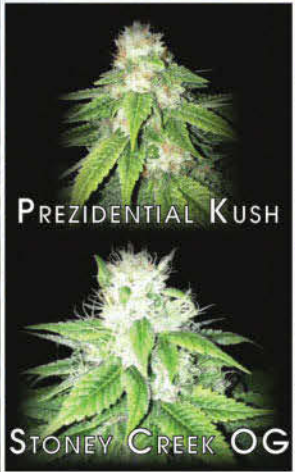
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25. Private Benjamin

Goldie Hawn scores as a spoiled Jewish-American princess conned into joining the Army. At first she whines and complains; then she becomes a top soldier. Before winning the base's war games, she and her fellow GI Janes pass a joint around a campfire in a surprisingly realistic toking session.

26. Mr. Nice

A biopic on the high life and hard times (prison time, that is) of gentleman smuggler Howard Marks, a.k.a. Mr. Nice. Marks, an Oxford student, was seduced by the money and adventure to be found in hashish smuggling during the swinging '60s. Starring Rhys Ifans as Marks and Chloë Sevigny as his wife Judy.

27. This Is the End

Just about every young actor who ever showed his face in a pot comedy is here: Seth Rogen, James Franco, Danny McBride, Craig Robinson ... the list goes on. Trapped in a house together as the apocalypse (or maybe an alien invasion?) unfolds, it's nonstop mayhem as the food, water and weed supplies grow scarce.

28. The Harder They Come

Shot in Kingston, Jamaica, in the early '70s, this film chronicles the rise and fall of rude-boy gangster and reggae singer Ivanhoe Martin, played by Jimmy Cliff. It's a classic tale of violence and exploitation that the Jamaicans who lived through that era know all too well. Cliff's rendition of the title song in a recording studio is one of the greatest vocal performances ever captured on film.

Anthony Michael Hall gives a bravura performance as a first-time toker in *The Breakfast Club*.

**24. The Breakfast Club**

The late John Hughes's best film, in which a group of mismatched high-school students serve Saturday detention and share a joint late in the day. They proceed to discover themselves and learn how their teen "roles" have unfairly defined them.

29. Knocked Up

Prior to a one-night stand with Alison, fat joints, theme parks and his celebrity porn site were Ben Stone's only responsibilities. But now he's gonna be a dad! Starring Seth Rogen and Katherine Heigl, this comedy explores the parenting of two unlikeable dweebs. Several good laughs.

30. Club Paradise

Robin Williams and Peter O'Toole head an all-star cast of '80s *SCTV* and *Saturday Night Live* alums in this tale of everyday people up against greedy corporate real-estate developers. Rick Moranis and Eugene Levy triumph as "The Barrys" in their quixotic quest for a couple of joints to smoke while on vacation.

31. Grandma's Boy

After being evicted, video-game-testing pot-head Alex (Allen Covert) is forced to move in with his grandmother and her elderly roommates. Alex blazes up with most of the characters in the film, including a lion, a witch doctor, his grandma and her two post-cougar pals—who, mistaking his pot for tea, drink it all and lose their shit.

32. Tenacious D and the Pick of Destiny

Unhappy with life at home, man-child Jack Black (a.k.a. "JB" or Jables) and his pal Kyle Gass ("KG" or Kage) set off on a Dio-inspired quest to obtain a guitar pick made from one of

the Devil's teeth and achieve rock superstardom. Along the way, Jables trips on mushrooms and imagines that Sasquatch is his father. Eventually, the pair confront Satan himself (Dave Grohl) and defeat him by breaking off a chunk of his horn, which they then turn into the "Bong of Destiny."

33. The Wackness

A young dealer named Luke trades pot for therapy sessions in this coming-of-age story set in New York City in the mid-'90s. *The Wackness* boasts Method Man as a high-grade cannabis supplier as well as an unsettling make-out scene with Sir Ben Kingsley and Mary-Kate Olsen.

34. True Romance

Christian Slater marries call girl Patricia Arquette, steals a suitcase full of cocaine from her pimp and tries to sell it in Hollywood. Of course, the coke's original owners want to get it back. Brad Pitt owns the pot spotlight here as a couchlocked stoner who, when visited by angry mobsters, affably offers them his pipe: "Wanna hit?"

35. Smiley Face

We've all been there: You get stoned, everything's looking great—but it sure doesn't turn out that way! Anna Faris plays a Hollywood actress who likes toking up. But her life goes haywire after she eats a plate of pot brownies. We've seen some of the gags before, but Faris is an adorably befuddled screen presence.

36. Saving Grace

What do you do if you're a widow who's just

discovered that her husband has left her adrift? You figure it out. Brenda Blethyn and Craig Ferguson are terrific growers. Watch their garden expand and expand and expand

37. I Love You, Alice B. Toklas

In 1954, Alice B. Toklas released a cookbook featuring a recipe for "Hashish Fudge." This 1968 flick pays homage to Toklas, with Peter Sellers as a straight guy getting cold feet as his wedding day draws near. After trying pot brownies made from Toklas's recipe, Sellers ditches his bride-to-be and runs off with a hippie girl.

Plus Three Buzzkills ...**American Beauty**

Not a bad film overall, but when pot dealer Wes Bentley charges Kevin Spacey two grand for an ounce of pot, you gotta wonder if Spacey's character is a moron, or if Hollywood actually does promote "improper values" just like the religious right says?

Eyes Wide Shut

We award Nicole Kidman the anti-Oscar for the worst portrayal of a pot smoker in cinema history. Was she on laughing gas, acid or crack?

We're the Millers

A piece of crap. Jason Sudeikis plays a thoroughly unlikable small-time pot dealer who gets mixed up with Mexican drug cartels and then becomes a DEA narc. Jennifer Anniston strips. *Yawn.* 🌿

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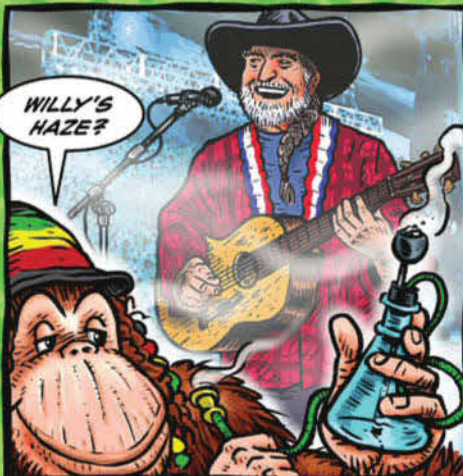
DADDY'S GIRL?



SNOOP'S MASTER KUSH?



WESTERN WINDS?



WILLY'S HAZE?



PEACE MAKER?



BLUE SKY BLONDE?



PURPLE!

MONKEY!

BALLS!



NEVER THOUGHT I'D EVER SAY THIS...

HUH?

WHUZZAT?



I THINK WE MAY BE A LITTLE TOO HIGH!

OHHHH YEAH!

DON'T LET YOUR JOB GO UP IN SMOKE!

KEEP IT UP!

OHHH YEEAH!

NO WIMPS HERE!

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C'MON... GET SERIOUS, OMAR!

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Story & photos by Navkirat Sodhi



Himalayan



Manali cream is an exotic delicacy for hash lovers.

Dhyana—meditation or deep reflection—is an ancient exercise in India for achieving spiritual progress. Indian mythology, the oldest scriptures (such as the Vedas), and many ancient tales tell of gods, goddesses and sages immersed in *dhyana*, reflecting on the riddles of life, formulating the best ways to spend our time on earth, and finding the purpose of it all. Often, to improve concentration, those who meditate have been known to partake of cannabis in any of its three popular forms here: *bhang* (which is made from the flowers and leaves), *ganja* (the dried leaves and plant tops) or *charas* (hashish made from the resin).

**Top: Manali is a smoker's heaven.
Bottom: Bongs, pipes, hookahs
and chillums.**

most well-known use—*charas* or hashish. Though cannabis as a recreational drug is illegal in the country, it's an open secret that Manali is heaven for smokers. The backdrop of snow-capped Himalayan peaks, the air as fresh as dew, the friendly—sometimes overbearingly so—people always ready to offer you tea and conversation, the remarkably juicy food: All of these contribute to a vibe so content that it makes you wonder if there really *is* anything else to life.

“A lot of people who come here from different countries keep postponing their parting from Manali till the time they have no money left, except enough to take a train to the nearest town,” a local resident told me. “For example, look at that man there—he’s from France. I gave him some *charas* to smoke yesterday, and since then he’s been stationed outside my house trying to draw a painting of it. This is a very noble plant, you see: It’s like giving goodness to people, and in return they give goodness back.”

“This is the best stuff I’ve ever smoked,” a young tourist from Italy assured me. “Italians are known to smoke a lot, but what the Manali *charas* does is something else. It doesn’t get straight to your mind but gently frees you. What you get in Italy or elsewhere in Europe comes mostly from Morocco in Africa, and it is not very good—it’s very dry, not smooth and creamy like this. But it can sometimes be hard to find the right source here, because a lot of people try to sell you mixed, adulterated stuff for very high prices.”

The Italian was right—because, while almost anyone here is ready to sell you some *charas* or weed, it’s not always of the best quality. Ever since the locals started seeing the influx of cannabis tourists as a business opportunity, some have taken to mixing pure *charas* with other substances to make a quick profit. I could tell the difference just by looking at one lot being offered by the owner of a local handicrafts store versus another by a village boy who was a shepherd’s son. The first batch looked more manure-ish and seemed to have traces of grass in it, while the second was pure black cream.

“This used to be a recreational plant that locals would enjoy smoking in the bitter winter; it warms you up and alleviates pain,” the owner of a well-known guesthouse in Manali told me. “Now it’s

Cream

With time, however, cannabis came to assume other roles. These days, besides its concentration-enhancing and pain-relieving qualities, it has become one of the most popular recreational substances in the world. With all of this in mind, I traveled to Manali, an idyllic Himalayan town in the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, which is home to some of the best natural cannabis in the world. Here, *charas*—as the plant is known locally—grows wild and relentless; although I came a tad before season, I still found young *charas* plants lining the sidewalks, growing in the fields, even poking through walls by the roadside. Some say the plant is as ancient as Manu, the first man to have ever lived on earth, who

appeared in the very lap of Manali. (In fact, this place was initially called Manu Alaya, which gradually morphed into “Manali.”) There’s a very famous Manu temple in upper Manali, which remains a significant spot of pilgrimage for those on a religious tour.

For generations, cannabis has been a vital resource for the thousands of people living in the valley who harness different parts of the plant to make a living. For instance, the stem of the plant is used to make hemp, which then becomes the rope, shoes and clothing that are sold to tourists and natives alike. (They are some of the most organic and comfortable pieces of apparel I have ever worn.) Aside from that, the plant is sold for its



become a disease among locals and foreigners alike. I myself have seen many families get ruined because of the addiction to *charas*. It makes a person mentally and eventually physically incapable of doing anything. He loses the strength and the desire to act and just sits there waiting for his next fix. And unlike *charas*, food is not free here.”

Many others besides the guesthouse owner are against cannabis being legalized in India. They say that thousands of people are already hooked on it, so legalizing it would send the country spinning into a riot of cannabis addiction. Others feel that we’re still a long way from realizing the importance of using cannabis responsibly as a recreational (let alone spiritual) drug. However, those with a different viewpoint suggest that if, like the Netherlands, cannabis is made legal here, it would offer a great source of income to the locals as well as the government. Many locals have been upset with the recent police crackdowns on the wild fields of cannabis and see it as a significant threat to their livelihood—especially those who live in Malana, a nearby tribal village that is considered the oldest democracy in the world, whose sustenance depends primarily on products

To India, cannabis is as ancient and familiar as the tales of Shiva.

made from the cannabis plant.

To India, cannabis is as ancient and familiar as the tales of Shiva, who was known to partake of it so religiously that, right up to the present day, devotees make offerings of the plant at Shiva temples all over the world. Countless *sadhus* were smoking *charas* from clay chillums on the banks of the River Ganges for eons before their pictures became iconic images of Indian culture.

The plant is as revered here as it is relished. “Legal or not, everyone loves to smoke and fly once in a while,” the village boy advised me. And though some might object to the rapid expansion of restaurants and cafés and the growing influx of tourists, “no one can deny anybody this piece of heaven,” he adds. “I

have been selling *charas* for the last four years without ever having smoked a drag myself. But I can tell the effect it has on people.”

I also met a local DJ who plays at the Manali rave parties. “Ten years ago, you’d find people just sitting around and smoking everywhere—there was no fear, no cops, no formality; it was the thing to do,” he said. “But this stuff is so powerful, it is always going to attract people from everywhere. Look at my example: Though I haven’t ventured out of Manali much, I have friends from Delhi, Chandigarh, Bangalore, Japan, Russia, Italy and Germany. This is full power.”

Manali is also popular with Israelis, who come here after their compulsory military training. The fresh, pure *charas*, plus a few nonregimented weeks of pleasure in the untainted mountain air, lends them a new lease on life. “For us, it doesn’t get any better,” one Israeli told me. “After three years of every second of our lives being regulated, this is the closest we get to complete freedom. Smoking Malana cream and then dancing in the sun and moonlight at rave parties in the forests, sometimes for three days on end—it’s like flying without wings. You never feel like leaving.” ✨

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Beginner & Intermediate

Growroom Electricity

Sorting through the ins and outs of amps, watts and volts can be difficult and daunting for indoor growers looking to expand their operations. Read this information carefully before plugging in to start growing bigger. *By Olyver*

Powering Up

Indoor growroom electrical equipment can have power requirements ranging from a few watts to a few kilowatts or more. Since electrical work is dangerous, such equipment must be installed by competent and licensed professionals. The average person can do simple work on 120- and 240-volt (V) electrical circuits, changing breakers, connecting fixtures, connecting wires to the correct terminals, etc. Books from Home Depot can also be helpful. Power is required to operate lights, ballasts, AC units, air handlers, fans, pumps, dehumidifiers, heaters, CO₂ control, valves, metering, security, trimming machines and more.

Most of this equipment is 120V; some of it is 240V, which reduces the amperage (A) per leg, with 120V per leg/phase. A 1,000-watt ballast will draw 120V at 9A and 240V at 4.5A per leg. In the latter case, the amperage draw is the same, only both phases/legs are 4.5A. This is beneficial to balancing loads across the phases/legs; three phases/legs can be more difficult to balance.

The receptacles (or outlets) for 120V and 240V are single or duplex. Duplex allows two devices to be plugged in and share the power, or separates the jumpers between the screw terminals and has both receptacles as single. The National Equipment Manufacturer Association assigns industry and national compliance standards to electrical equipment and regulates what receptacles must be used.

Getting Grounded

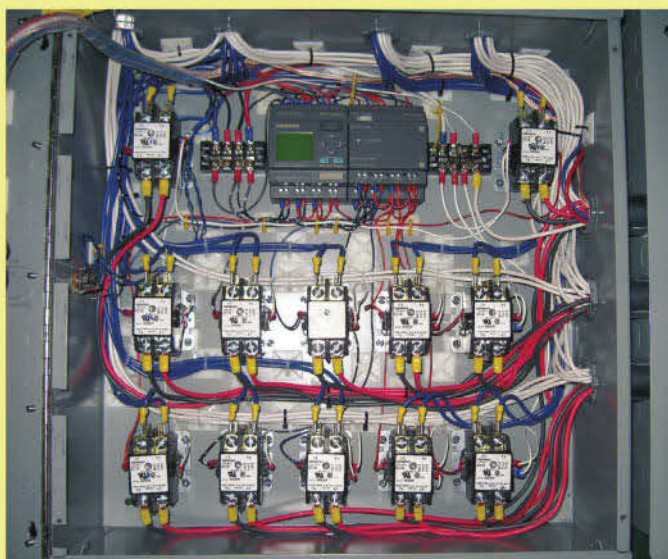
Some municipalities may require GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) receptacles in the growroom if the equipment is being plugged in there. This will trip the circuit at the receptacle instead of the breaker panel or load center. It is a safety feature that should be considered, and it is mandatory if the receptacles are for pumps or are located in a wet location alongside irrigation lines.

The US National Electrical Code (NEC) and, in Canada, the Canadian Electrical Code (CEC) set forth requirements that must be complied with. When electrical inspectors look for potential trouble spots, they will be looking at wiring connections and terminations like wire nuts. The main breaker panel must have an antioxidant compound (e.g., Noalox, Penetrox); when this is applied to bare wires, it reduces moisture to keep it from oxidizing copper, steel or aluminum conductors.

Wire conductors come in various gauges and diameters. Wire-sizing charts and guides are available from 14AWG to 500MCM. These charts show the required size of the conductor for the amperage and voltage being consumed. When wiring receptacles and circuits, the cables with three or more conductors come in various insulations, which determine whether they must be installed (i.e., buried) inside a wall. If the cables/wires are mounted on the exterior of the growroom walls and ceiling, they will require mechanical protection. Most cables/wires have only one layer of insulation, and depending on the materials in the plastic insulation, voltage protection can range up to 600V. The cables/wires will also be rated for amperage and certain temperatures, since higher growroom temperatures will affect the amperage draw.



An example of a ballast load center



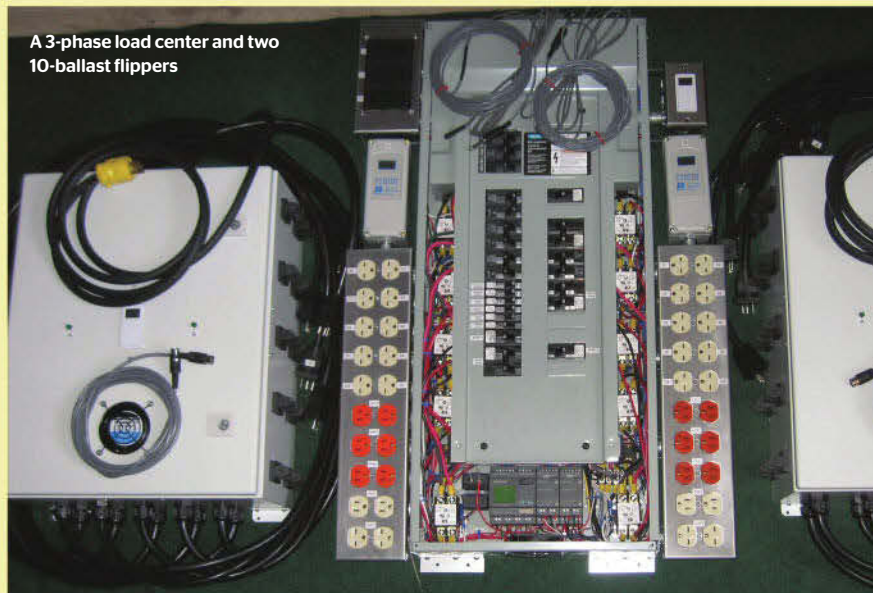
A PLC (programmable logic controller) and contactors

Wired for Growth

EMT (electrical metallic tubing) pipe is available in 1/2" to 4" internal diameter. The gauge of the wire and whether it is "current conducting" determines how many individual wires can be run through EMT. Plastic pipe is another option.

Cables/wires that are mounted on the exterior walls and ceiling are either armored cable or SO/SJ cable. A flexible metal housing contains all the wires. Sometimes the metal housing is covered by insulation and can be used outdoors as well as indoors.

Most of the 120V circuit's individual wires will be stranded or solid copper—primarily 14AWG wire. If you have the option, you should use 14AWG or 12AWG stranded conductors for single or duplex receptacles. These wires will need to be run through EMT, flexible or plastic pipe. The safest (and required) termination is to use a terminal lug (ring or spade) crimped to the bare wires. A ratchet crimp will permit terminating from 16AWG (red), 14AWG (blue) and 10AWG (yellow) wires and lugs. When larger terminal lugs are required, they will connect 8AWG to 500MCM, which are approximately 1/4"- to 1"-diameter wires that need heavy-duty crimps (two hands or air drill required).



A 3-phase load center and two 10-ballast flippers

Going Through Phases

Three-phase power is almost the same as single-phase. There are two 120V legs/hots in a single-phase system and three 120V legs/hots in a three-phase system, and each of the legs/phases is 120 degrees out of phase.

"Phase" refers to the difference between two or more alternating-current (AC) waveforms. There are 360 degrees in a complete cycle (i.e., as a generator completes one rotation). Three-phase systems produce three sets of sine waves that are 120 degrees "out of phase" with one another (3 x 120 = 360). This is to say that phases A-B, B-C and A-C are 120 degrees apart from each other. However, when you use only two of the legs in a three-phase system, it is single-phase since there is no other phase that it can be "out of phase" with. The term "two-phase" is a misnomer, although many electricians use it; there is only *one* sine wave, hence a single phase.

Single-phase and three-phase are the two standards used in the United States today. It is important to know exactly which one you have.

With a delta (high), the second phase (L2) is 208V to neutral, so precautions must be taken to ensure that no 120V equipment is connected to that phase, since the equipment will be damaged and most likely cause a fire. Newer three-phase systems use a delta configuration, which supplies 120V to each of the three phases to neutral, and 208V/240V across any two of the three phases (A-B, B-C and A-C). To make the three phases closely balanced with the amperage being drawn, the ballasts or any other multi-equipment usage should be divided by three so that each phase has very close to the same amperage draw.



Cool Air

AC units for single- and three-phase systems can be balanced easily; the AC units will require two or three legs to power them. Attention must be paid to the colors on the three-phase cables: L1, black; L2, red/orange; and L3, blue. In the United States, two color combinations are used for delta and wye configurations. The delta will have a second phase (L2 with 208V to neutral/ground); *no* 120V circuits can be used on that phase. This cable will be marked with orange tape or heat-shrink tubing.

Once all the ballasts and AC units have been installed across the phases, the other 120V or 240V equipment can be easily balanced, depending on how frequently the equipment is being used (i.e., constantly or intermittently). To help indicate real-time voltage and amperage use, two or three ammeters can be added to the electrical room. When all of the equipment is in use, you will know exactly how balanced and safe your electrical installation is.

Most basic electrical work can be done with just wire strippers, hand tools, screwdrivers and a battery drill. When setting up larger growrooms, you will need pretty much all of the following tools:

Multimeter

Battery drill

Corded drill

Complete screwdriver set, all three sizes (1, 2, 3) for box, star and slotted driver tips, with a preference given to 600V insulation

Socket set, 1/8" to 1"

Stepper/uni-bit, 1"-1/8"

Electrician hole saws, metal, 1/2" to 3"

Corded jigsaw

Tool bag

Wire strippers

Ratchet crimps

Allen wrench set, 1/8" to 1"

Tap set for 6-32 to 1/4-20

Dremel set

File set

Jigsaws are great for cutting smoothly through heavy-gauge wire. When openings need to be made in enclosures, a jigsaw with a bi-metal blade and battery drill will allow you to cut an opening down to within 1/16" of the dimensions. For adding EMT pipe and BX fittings, you'll need an electrician's hole-saw set; they're about \$300, but a very good investment when you have a power cable and a box with no openings or knockouts.

Help Wanted

As stated earlier, electrical work is dangerous, so unless you are qualified, it must be left to licensed individuals and contractors. To ensure added protection, disconnect switches or main breakers must be installed when loads and the number of circuits exceed the specific amperage. The disconnect switch is much quicker to access if you want to shut off the power; a load center will have a hinged cover/door that has to be opened before the main breaker can be switched off. Disconnects will also require large fusing.

In upcoming articles, I will show how lighting controllers are manufactured and installed, and how all lights/ballasts, fans, HVAC, dampers, intake/exhaust, pumps, heating, etc., can be linked to one central controller. This means all basic equipment can be linked with a simple cable and turned on and off in relation to the status of all the other devices. For example, CO₂ burners can be turned on 15 to 30 minutes before the lights go on; lights can be staggered on and off and, to help with reducing heat, 10 percent of them can be turned off in key locations of the growroom; and drip-irrigation systems for hundreds (even thousands) of plants in soil or coco can be seamlessly controlled for optimum irrigation. ✨

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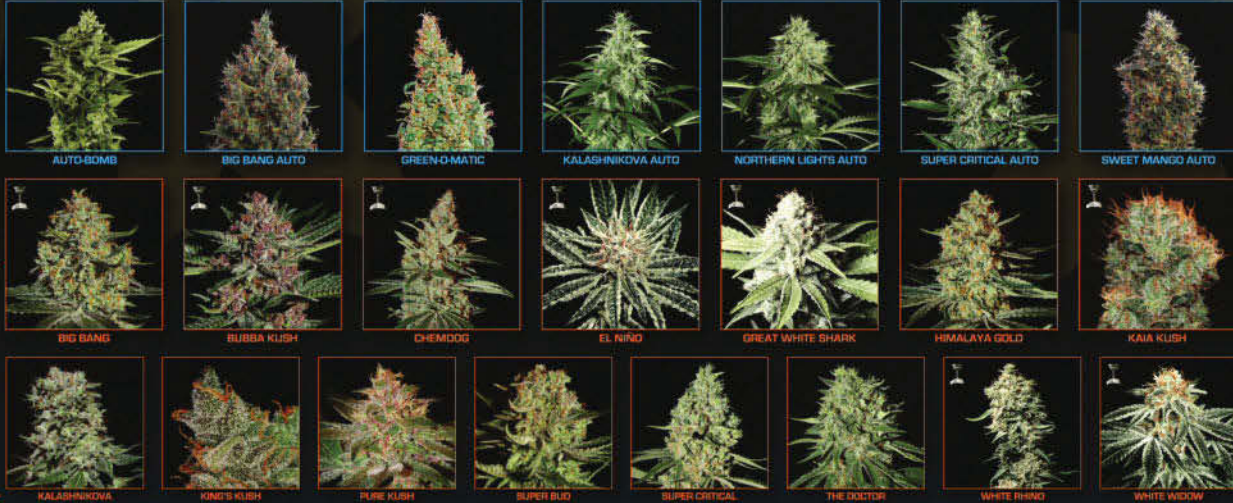


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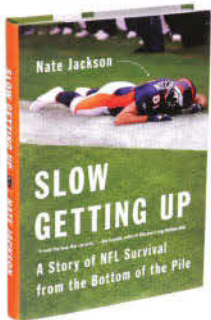

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INTERVIEW & PHOTOS
BY DAN SKYE

NATE JACKSON

THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW



AS NATE JACKSON SITS ON THE SIDELINES OF THE SANTA MONICA COLLEGE FOOTBALL FIELD NEAR HIS HOME IN VENICE, CA, HE TWIRLS THE FOOTBALL HE'S CARRYING, SOMETIMES UNCONSCIOUSLY TUCKING IT INTO THE CROOK OF HIS ARM AS IF HE'S PREPARING TO RUN. THE FORMER DENVER BRONCO HAS BEEN OUT OF THE GAME FOR FOUR YEARS NOW, BUT IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THE GAME IS STILL IN HIM. LAST SEPTEMBER, HIS MEMOIR *SLOW GETTING UP* WAS RELEASED TO CRITICAL ACCLAIM. IT'S AN EYE-OPENING LOOK AT WHAT LIFE IS LIKE FOR THE AVERAGE NFL PLAYER, AND READERS WILL FIND THEIR PERSPECTIVE MARKEDLY ALTERED WHEN WATCHING FOOTBALL IN THE FUTURE. WHILE

JACKSON'S BOOK DELVES DEEPLY INTO THE PAIN ENDURED AND THE MENTAL TOUGHNESS REQUIRED TO SURVIVE IN THE NFL, HE ALSO WRITES CANDIDLY ABOUT POT USE BY PLAYERS AND, IN THIS INTERVIEW, ROLLS OUT A SOUND RATIONALE FOR USING IT WITHOUT PENALTY.

hurting; you're not supposed to tell them when you're in pain. If you do, you get pulled off the field and someone takes your place. If they play better than you, you don't get back on the field. So there's an institutional incentive for keeping your pain and your injuries and your symptoms to yourself.

Up until a few years ago, the head issue was never even talked about in the NFL. The doctors never addressed it. It was something that you dealt with.

What's the biggest difference between the NFL and college football?

For me, it wasn't the speed; it was the *technique* of everyone. These guys were polished, really confident and really strong. As a receiver in Division III, I was able to do what I wanted off the line of scrimmage against DBs [defensive backs]—I could throw them aside and go where I wanted. In the NFL, the DBs weren't having it. I had to work on my subtlety of movements.

How high did you go in the NFL draft?

I wasn't drafted—I was signed as a free agent to the San Francisco 49ers, my hometown team. Coach Bill Walsh [who died in 2007] was instrumental. He came

to my Menlo College games and gave me confidence. After one game, I met him and he said, "Hey, keep doing what you're doing. You can play at the next level." He pulled some strings to get me on the Niners. Then he helped get me signed in Denver when it wasn't working out with the Niners. He believed in me all along.

Most of your career was spent with the Broncos. How was that experience?

The city was great, the fans were awesome, and I really liked coach Mike Shanahan. A lot of it is luck where you end up—most guys don't get to choose where they go, and I didn't choose to go to Denver.

Your book doesn't spare details about the injuries and pain

players suffer.

It's actually part of a football player's daily mental processes, overcoming the physical pain. And that's empowering. It was for me, pushing through any bumps, bruises and misalignments. I learned to embrace it as part of the job. I definitely had my share of severe injuries, which I chronicled in the book. But I wouldn't take those back. I never complained about the physical aspects of playing. I was comfortable with it. All football players are.

Concussions in the NFL have been in the news constantly. As serious as a concussion is, do players try to hide them?

Yeah—I mean, football's a tough guy's sport. You're not supposed to tell the coaches and trainers when you're

Did you suffer head injuries?

When I made the transition from wide receiver to tight end, I was undersized, trying to block 300-pound men on the line. My only hope was to shoot out like a missile using my head, with the crown of my helmet hitting them in the chin, neck or face area. That's where I aimed, and I always feel a little woozy, a little dizzy—some times more than others. But that meant I was doing what I was supposed to do. Anything above the waist you can deal with; as long as I could run, I could deal with anything else. If you can't run fast, if you can't cut well, you get exposed on a football field.

Over the past 20 years, tacklers have increasingly used their



bodies as missiles—something the NFL is trying to curb.

Yeah, they're trying to stop it, but it's after the fact. [Players] are trained to be missiles; they're trained to be explosive weapons. They lift crazy weights; they train linear, downhill and exploding fast. It's all about moving as fast as you can towards your target. You can't pull off and decide exactly where you're going to hit that target. If you make any contact, that's a win. And when you're leaning forward running that fast, your head is the tip of the spear. Your head is always going to make first contact. On top of that, it's the most effective way to bring down another man, especially a larger man. Guys who can do that stick around; they earn jobs. The guys who don't know how to attack like dogs get cut. You learn to be an attack dog.

Last season, the NFL actually tried to regulate how tackles are made.

It was a PR move generally. The NFL is in a tough spot. They want to promote the game, they want it to grow, they want to make a profit, so they don't want to admit that it's probably as bad for you as it is. They want little kids to play; they want that feeder system alive and well. They want the mothers of America to think that it's an okay sport. So they're implementing things like "Heads Up Tackling" for the little kids—teaching the safe way to tackle. ["Heads Up Tackling" was an initiative started by the NFL, which is working with USA Football, which governs youth football.] It purports to be a safe—or safer—technique of tackling that keeps the head out of the tackle. It's bullshit. They present it using a tackling dummy—it's like slow motion. But it's impossible to implement that technique in real time. Not only that, the actual tackle is probably only 5 percent of the hits that occur on the football field. The rest



"Players are very familiar with their own bodies, their own pain, their own path to the NFL—and if it involved marijuana along the way, they're still at the very top of their profession."

are blocks, not tackles. People are hitting all the time.

The league says it's worried about players' health. "Safe," "safety"—they think if they say those words enough, it creates a perception that the game is being made safe. But it can't be made safe. There is no safe way to tackle. There's no safe way to bring another man to the ground who's running full speed.

Some experts believe the altered technique has been more damaging to the lower body.

They fine players who lead with their helmets, but those are split-second tackles. The guy who's going to be tackled is trying to avoid being tackled, so he's constantly moving. Everyone's moving! It's impossible to dictate where that helmet is going to land. Guys are intentionally aiming low because they don't want to be fined. They're taking out guys' knees in the open field. I think, to a man, you'll find NFL players would rather be hit up high rather than down low, even if their head's involved. Because if you get a torn ACL, you'll be out for four, five, six months—and it may never feel good again. You may be done for your career. Whereas your head—as sad as

it is to say—you can shake that off and be back the next play. That's just the institutional shittiness in the game of football. But again, there's no safe way to attack another man like that, especially wearing armor and with the armor leading the charge. If you get hit in your bones, your ribs or your knees with a helmet, it's going to hurt no matter what.

How do NFL players view league management?

I think what you'll find is a general mistrust on the part of players. They don't think [NFL Commissioner] Roger Goodell is on their side. He seems like a politician. The prevailing belief is that he's not compassionate. He passes out fines for things players know are endemic to the game. They know he's passing out fines for the media and for the fans, to create a perception. The players are very aware of that, so they don't trust him.

That being said, I think there's room for him to reach across the aisle and try to connect with players. The players just want someone to feel their pain—or at least to act like it's a collective effort. The NFL should do a better job of taking care of guys

after the fact. If they have certifiable, documentable injuries from playing, these dudes should be taken care of the rest of their lives for those injuries. As of now, the NFL doesn't do that. There's a feeling in locker rooms that it's us versus them. "Us" is the players; "them" is everyone else. Nobody has compassion for what we go through.

What do you go through?

Players are interchangeable pieces; they come and go constantly. The threat of being fired is always hanging over your head if you fuck up on the field or in practice. You watch film of every day of practice—not just the games. Multiple angles, slow-mo ... every guy's performance is dissected. If you mess up the same play a couple times, they won't parse words: "If you can't get this done, there are a hundred guys waiting by the phone right now who would love your spot." Guys get replaced all the time. We're like the equipment.

Roger Goodell made \$30 million last year. Thirty million dollars! That disconnect is very apparent to players who will never be millionaires. The average salary is less than a million, and the average career is only three years. A lot of guys will run into money issues after playing, yet they see the commissioner raking in money hand over fist. That's definitely a disconnect.

The novel *North Dallas Forty*, written by former NFL player Peter Gent 40 years ago, detailed widespread pharmaceutical drug use by players. How accurate was his book?

We live in a pharmaceutical country. Everyone seems to be on pills of some nature, but NFL players *need* them—they need to take their minds off the pain. So, yeah, it's pretty widespread. Some take to them more than others. But they're definitely available, especially if you have an



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injury. A legitimate injury allows a doctor's prescription for Vicodin, Percocet or whatever, with several refills. You deal with your injury, you take all those pills, you go through the refills, and then you find yourself with a physical addiction. You'll have withdrawal symptoms when you come off the pills.

Was that your experience?

Yeah, the pills weren't good for me at all. They made me depressed, got me down, made me sluggish. I didn't like what they did to my head. I couldn't think well; I couldn't sleep. And it's not just the pain pills—it's the anti-inflammatories. They pump guys full of anti-inflammatory pills. My stomach lining is gone; I have constant acid-reflux issues. I'm constantly clearing my throat; my food comes up all the time—not vomiting, but regurgitation. And the Toradol shots I took in the ass before a game to play, they destroy your insides. But they're passed out regularly.

How did you use pot during your playing days?

It was based on the time of the season when I needed it. As we started training, I felt really good; I didn't think about it much at all. In mini-camps, I felt great, so I didn't really mess with it. We got tested once a year for the "street drugs," and that usually started in mini-camps and went through training camp. You're good for the rest of the season as long as you pass.

I wouldn't smoke weed much during mini-camps—maybe a little bit in the down time between mini-camps and training camps. But once training camp started, I didn't touch it at all. We were there for 15 hours every

day, from 7:30 in the morning until 10 at night. You can't be smoking weed; you have to be in meetings or on the field.

People forget that when they watch game one of the season, the players have been at it for months. Their bodies are starting to break down, and the season is only beginning. That's kind of when I started to use pot: After games, after really rough practices, I'd medicate with marijuana when I got home because my body was a wreck and my mind was a wreck. It helped me; it got my mind off my body and strengthened my mental resolve for what I'd be doing the next day.

Do many NFL players smoke pot?

I don't think there's a high-school kid in America who isn't familiar with weed, what it smells and looks like—it's part of the lexicon these days. But you have this older, right-wing, white reefer-madness crowd running the NFL. They make the rules that players live under, so again there's a big disconnect. The NFL is definitely worried about its image, its cultural image. Coaches are well aware that guys unwind in different ways, and that they need to unwind. Of course, there are consequences if you get caught. But if you handle your business when you come to work and know your plays and perform on the field and stay in good shape, the coaches don't care what you're doing.

Do you believe pot can be a "performance-enhancing drug"?

I don't know. It allows you to visualize. Playing sports involves visualization—picturing yourself performing. If you can

visualize success, you can do it on the field. Marijuana helped me in that regard over the years, but not just with football—with life, with general things. Is it a *mental* performance enhancer? Maybe. For me, it was nice to just get away from my body for a few hours.

Would you recommend that NFL players be allowed to use marijuana?

I think it's an inevitable part of life for these guys. Players are very familiar with marijuana. Players are very familiar with their own bodies, their own pain, their own path to the NFL—and if it involved marijuana along the way, they're still at the very top of their profession. There's no one better in the world at what they do, so obviously they know how to manage it. We should trust them to manage these things on their own, as long as they're performing on the field and not fucking up their world. The NFL should accept that marijuana's here to stay.

Are you comfortable being a spokesperson for allowing pot to be used by players?

It doesn't carry a stigma for me anymore. I know what these guys go through. To me, it's less about marijuana than the health of these guys, the fact that they're ravaging their bodies on a daily basis to entertain millions of people—and that ravaging makes a lot of people really rich. These guys are human beings, with fears and insecurity and pain. They have doubts as well, but they know how to push through them. At the same time, they're only human, and marijuana is an innocuous form of escape. 🌿

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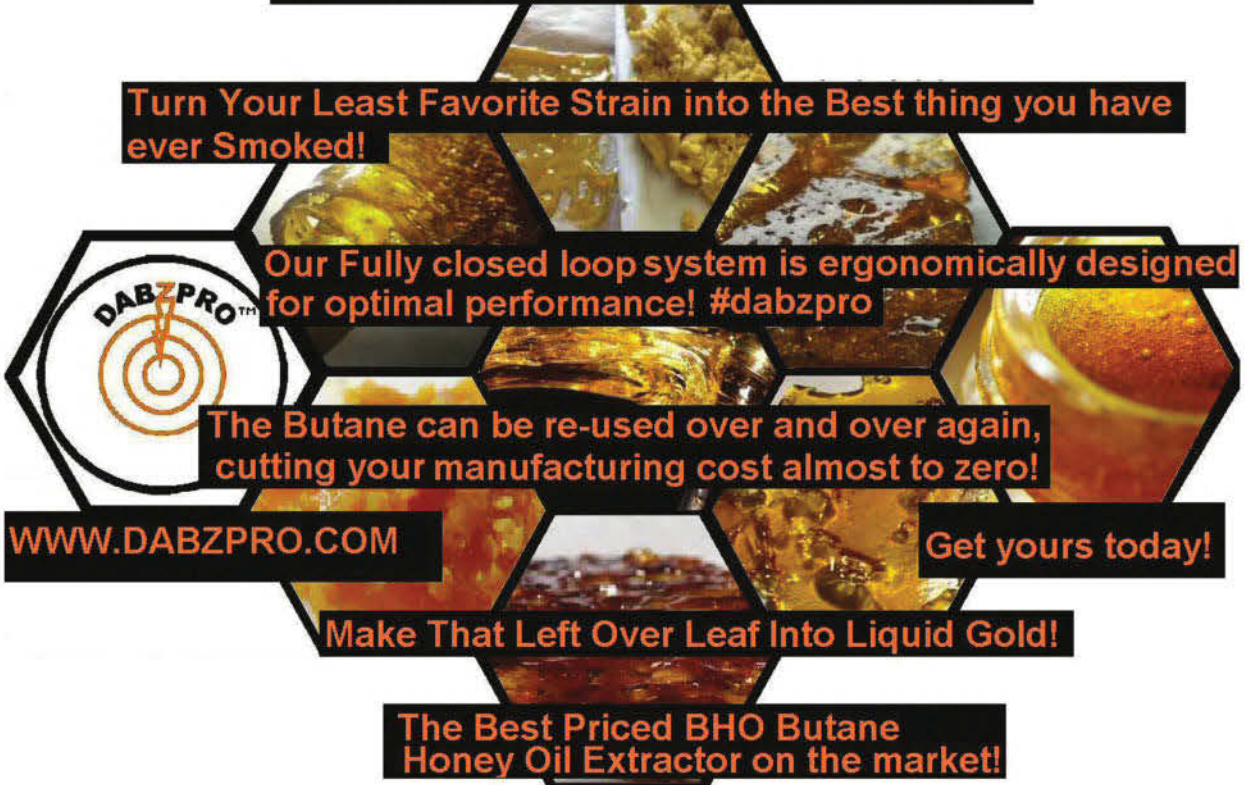
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Science in Growing

Understanding CO₂ in gardens.



Many indoor growers believe that carbon dioxide is essential to plant development and can be directly correlated to the yields they achieve. To a certain extent, this is true—increasing a garden's CO₂ from ambient levels of around 300 ppm (parts per million) to supercharged levels of around 1,800 ppm can almost double plant growth. However, there are limits to this line of reasoning, as well as to how much CO₂ your plants can physically handle.

CO₂ and Your Growroom

The first question that needs to be answered is: Exactly how much CO₂ does a plant really need? And the following question should be: How much CO₂ is too much?

Generally speaking, indoor plants do not require a CO₂ infusion, as ambient levels are sufficient at 300 to 400 ppm. However, there are reasons to add CO₂ to your indoor grow space. For instance, it can help bulk up your buds, especially in strains that are notoriously low yielders. Furthermore, in gardens where the lighting is intense, you will find that the more light provided to plants, the more CO₂ they need for photosynthesis. But this is true only to a certain point: Once the garden climbs beyond 2,000 ppm, plants begin to lose their capacity for CO₂ uptake, and anything over this amount becomes a waste of gas.

Now consider the following: The dry matter of a plant is composed of 90% carbon, oxygen and hydrogen, with all of that carbon coming from the CO₂ in the air that the plant leaves breathe in. These CO₂ molecules are necessary during the light or "daytime" part of the photoperiod only, and (if you read this column last month, you might remember this next part) are used in photosynthesis to form glucose, the sugar that provides the plant's actual food. The photoperiod is key here, as it takes approximately 10 photons (the particle energy that plant leaves harvest from light) to provide enough electrons to split a single CO₂



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molecule into carbon (C) and oxygen (O) atoms for use in food production.

A lot of growers like to use lumens as a measure of light intensity to determine how much CO₂ to supply their plants. And while ratios have been established using lumens to derive a basic formula for garden quantities of CO₂ (more on that below), lumens are not the true barometer for measuring such levels. Considering the photon requirements mentioned above for splitting CO₂ molecules, a much better measurement of light intensity is PAR, or photosynthetically active radiation, because any light not hitting the leaf surface is useless in terms of photon harvesting and CO₂ splitting. So, in the end, the thinking should be: The greater the PAR, the higher your CO₂ levels should be.

In addition to lumens and PAR, there are a couple of other considerations when it comes to CO₂ use. The proximity of your lights to the garden canopy is a factor, as this distance affects light intensity. The closer your grow lamps are

to the garden, the more intense the light will be and the more your plants can use added CO₂.

The final consideration will be your garden's temperature—a delicate subject when dealing with CO₂. It is important to remember that higher temps will cause stomatal closing on the leaves. When these stomates close, the absorption of CO₂ ceases and photosynthesis grinds to a halt. Carbon dioxide added to gardens whose temperature is above 86°F (30°C) becomes increasingly useless to your plants as the growroom temperature climbs. When temps climb, two things happen: First, water within the plant decreases, causing stress and triggering the stomates to close; and second, plant respiration increases, causing an increase of CO₂ concentration within the leaf and thus stomatal closing again.

Also, remember that when indoor temperatures climb out of the proper range, most growroom cooling systems kick in, many of which rely on exhaust systems to remove heat from the garden.

This will subsequently (hopefully) shut off the garden's CO₂-infusion system and then vent out the heat along with the CO₂-enriched atmosphere—a negative for your plants as well as a big waste of CO₂. Therefore, keeping your garden temperatures at optimal levels (68°F to 72°F) is essential for CO₂ infusions.

Here is a rough guide, using lumens as a benchmark, for supplying your garden with the right levels of CO₂:

LIGHT TYPE	LAMP DISTANCE	CO ₂ LEVEL	LIGHT INTENSITY
1,000 watt HID	4 feet from canopy	Ambient	1,000 lumens/sq ft
“	3 feet from canopy	500 ppm	1,250 lumens/sq ft
“	2 feet from canopy	1,000 ppm	2,500 lumens/sq ft
“	1 feet from canopy	2,000 ppm	5,000 lumens/sq ft



Featured Strain of the Month: Golden Goat 22.8% THC

This rarity was first seen in Colorado circa 2012 and was lab-tested at the time at over 22% THC. Since then, she has made appearances in the Pacific Northwest and in some areas of California as well.

A truly exotic combination of Island Sweet Skunk x Hawaiian x Romulan, this *sativa*-dominant hybrid also has the genetic potential to carry high levels of CBD for patients (though they're not found in every phenotype). If you can get your hands on a few of these seeds, it's more than worth the effort to sprout them and see what turns out. The initial flavor profile came across as Hazy, much like the Super Silver Hazes of Amsterdam, but the aroma offers something different. However, some reports have her delivering a fruity-tasting smoke, and they also caution that she can go nearly 11 weeks in flower.

Still, the Golden Goat comes highly recommended—with a little bit of mystery thrown in. Thanks for reading, everyone, and remember: Grow—and help the world grow, too! ✨



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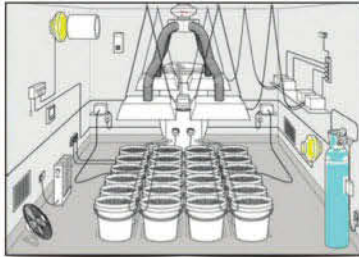
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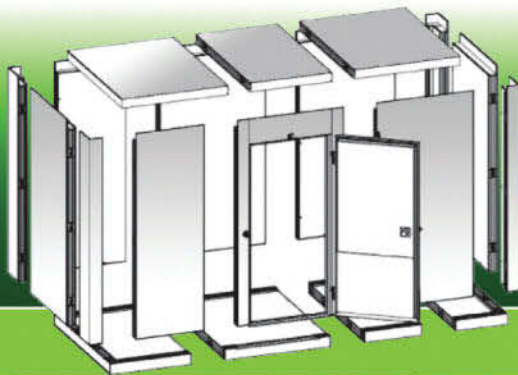
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Send your cannabis cultivation questions to @deardanko or deardanko@hightimes.com.

SUBJECT: **Moist Nugs**

FROM: **Canna Lush**

🌿 What are your thoughts on the use of humidity-control packets in the 62% to 69% humidity range for curing cannabis?

Dear Canna,
I think that if buds are dried, cured and stored properly, then humidity-control packets are unnecessary. However, if your flowers have been allowed to dry out too much, then humidity-control packets designed to keep the moisture between 62% and 69% would work fine.

Buds that have cured to a perfect consistency should be sealed in opaque glass jars and kept in a cool, dark place. Stored this way, you should never have need for the packets. Their benefits only kick in when mistakes have been made and too much humidity has been lost to the air.

I wouldn't use humidity-control packets during the curing process unless your air is super dry and the threat of the flowers drying out too soon is strong. I think your flowers should alternate from moist-air buildup to fresh, dry air replenishment in order to cure properly. And I certainly don't recommend using pieces of fruit (like orange or lemon peels) in order to remoisten marijuana: There's simply too much danger of mold being caused by the composting action going on.



Glass jars are the preferred method for storing connoisseur-quality nuggets.

Danko Tip: Outdoor guerrilla gardens should be planted on southern-facing hillsides to get the most sunshine.



“Screen of green” (or ScrOG) trellising systems contribute to bigger harvests.

SUBJECT: **Vegging Again**

FROM: **Gary**

🌱 I've heard some very interesting things about growing that make me wonder. A girl that a friend of mine knows claims she's clipped buds from her mature plant, returned it to an 18/6-hour light regimen and had it start growing again. Ever hear about this? Is this a bunch of fertilizer? It's not something I had ever heard before.

Dear Gary,
Yes, it absolutely is possible to do this. It's called re-vegging your plants. After you've harvested most of the plant, leave some fan leaves on a few branches and place it under a vegging light cycle, and you'll see new leaves and branches begin to develop

after a week or two. This is an especially good technique if you're trying to save a certain strain and the plant is your only genetic connection to it. Once enough leaves and branches have formed, take a clone from your re-vegged plant and root it in order to keep it. I don't recommend re-vegging in order to flower the plant again, however. The law of diminishing returns is at play here, and while you will get some buds out of the plant, your yield won't be worth the time and effort spent to accomplish the task. You're always better off starting with a fresh seedling or rooted clone than trying to flower a re-vegged plant. So consider re-vegging as a last resort to save particular genetic material, not as a way to get a second harvest from the same plant.

SUBJECT: **Cold Seeds**

FROM: **Nigel B.**

🌱 The temperatures in my area right now are below zero. If I order seeds and they freeze, will it have any bad effects? If so, should I wait a few months?

Dear Nigel,

The cold temperatures shouldn't affect your seeds in transit. Seeds are regularly frozen and refrigerated by growers, breeders and, if you think about it, even nature—many times they spend the winter frozen in the dirt, only to thaw and germinate in the warmth of spring. So go ahead and order those beans and get growing soon!

SUBJECT: **Green Screen**

FROM: **Mac in Scotland**

🌱 I'm thinking of applying the “screen of green” (ScrOG) technique to my next grow but don't know much about the specifics. How high should the screen be from the top of the plants? What are the best sorts of places or positioning to attach the branches to the screen?

Dear Mac,

“Screen of green” is a technique that involves using a horizontal screen across the top of your plant canopy in order to hold the branches in place and efficiently fill in the space provided by the grow light's footprint. The easiest way to do it is to use chicken wire. While your plants are in their vegetative stage, attach the chicken wire above the plants but below your grow-light reflector. As the branches grow, tuck them in under the screen, taking care to fill in the empty areas of the canopy. When the screen is close to full, induce flowering by changing the light cycle to 12 hours on/12 hours off and feed accordingly.

The flowers will grow through the holes in your trellis and fill out the space above the screen very efficiently. The distance between your screen and your containers is determined by how long you plan to vegetate the plants, but it's safe to keep the screen about 2 feet below your reflector. As for positioning, most people like to build a simple frame with four posts, one in each corner, and attach the screen to it. Take care when harvesting to cut the flowers out from the wire and not try to pull them through, which can damage the buds.

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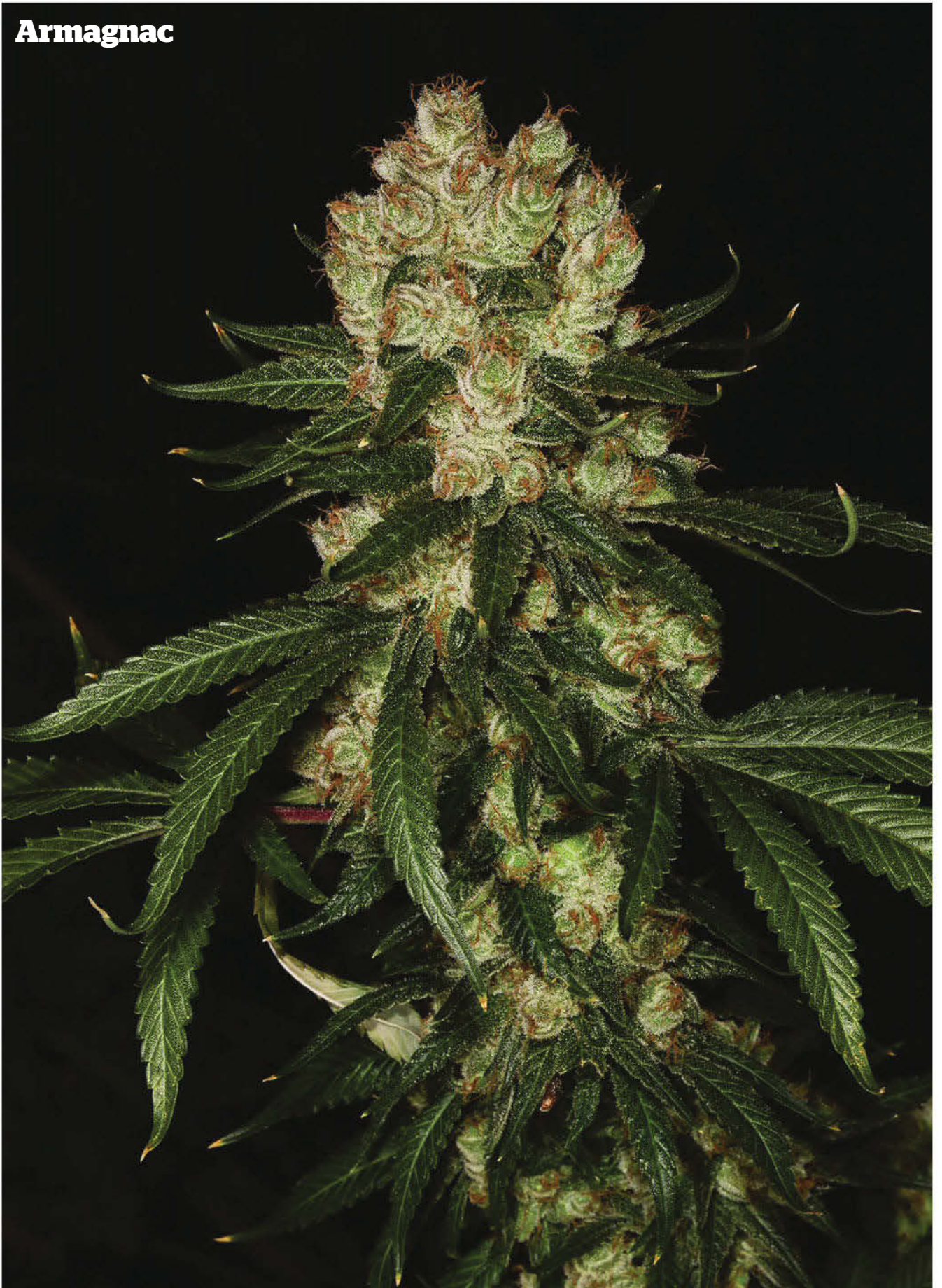
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Danko Tip: Wet, trimmed material that's frozen after harvest works better for making hash than dry, room-temperature trim.

SUBJECT: **Growing Daytime Sativas**

FROM: **Johnny Tom**

🌱 I love your podcast! I'm looking for a plant that gives a good daytime *sativa* high with minimal couchlock but is also a short plant that's easy to grow. What good strains can you recommend?

Dear Johnny,

Thanks so much for the kind words about the *Free Weed* podcast—we're glad you enjoy it! My suggestions for easy-to-grow *sativas* would be Strawberry Cough, Blue Dream, Jack Herer and Kali Mist. All take less than 10 weeks to flower, and none of them show the extreme characteristics of some Hazes that can be finicky with feedings, stretch into long internodal spacings, and seem to flower for months and months before ripening.

SUBJECT: **Moldy Rockwool**

FROM: **Rucko**

🌱 A friend of mine started some clones with rockwool and noticed some mold developing on top of the cubes after a few days. How can this be prevented?

Dear Rucko,

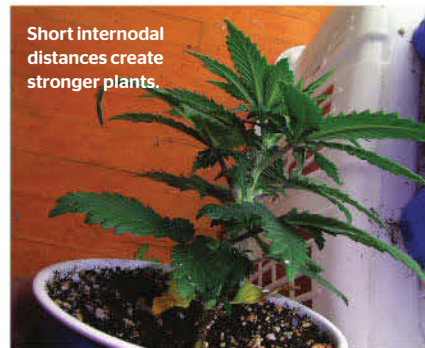
One of the advantages to using rockwool as a growing medium is that it stays wet, yet allows oxygen to reach the roots. This can also cause mold and algae to build up on the surface of the cubes, and they in turn begin to compete with your plants for the nutrient solution. Luckily, mold and algae need light to survive, so if you simply cover the tops of your rockwool cubes with an opaque surface, you'll eliminate most of the growth on your medium. Some companies make products specifically for this purpose. The one that comes to mind is Cubecap (cubecap.ca). Covering your cubes has the added benefit of discouraging annoying fungus gnats as well.

SUBJECT: **24-Hour Plant Party**

FROM: **Blunt Master**

🌱 My question is: Will it hurt the growth of my vegging plants to run my grow light 24 hours a day instead of 18/6?

Short internodal distances create stronger plants.



Dear Blunt,

In my opinion, plants fare better when they have some downtime during their vegetative stage. Even 22/2 is better than 24 hours of continuous light. Plants absorb the light, food and CO₂ they need during the day, but they put those ingredients to work at night to convert them into the sugars that are needed for explosive new growth.

So, to answer your question: No, 24 hours of light won't necessarily hurt your plants, but it won't have them performing at full capacity either, and your yields will end up smaller in the end. It may seem counterintuitive, but the added stress of continuous light will actually hinder the plants' ability to rest up and grow.

SUBJECT: **What's the Flush?**

FROM: **Jimmy**

🌱 I have read that when flushing plants, I need to use three times the amount of water as the size of the pot (so if I have a 5-gallon pot, for example, I need to flush with 15 gallons of water). Now for my question: If I have 10 plants in 5-gallon pots, that means I'll need 150 gallons of water twice per week. If I'm using city tap water, how can I get the chlorine out of the water? Also, do I really need to flush with that much water?

Dear Jimmy,

You could stand to use less water for the flushing period. Basically, you want a decent amount to run out the bottom of your containers, but three times the volume is overkill. Get a few big 55-gallon drums and fill them up 24 hours before you plan to use the water; this will let the chlorine evaporate. You can also use a reverse-osmosis (RO) water-purification machine if your water has tested positive for heightened impurities.

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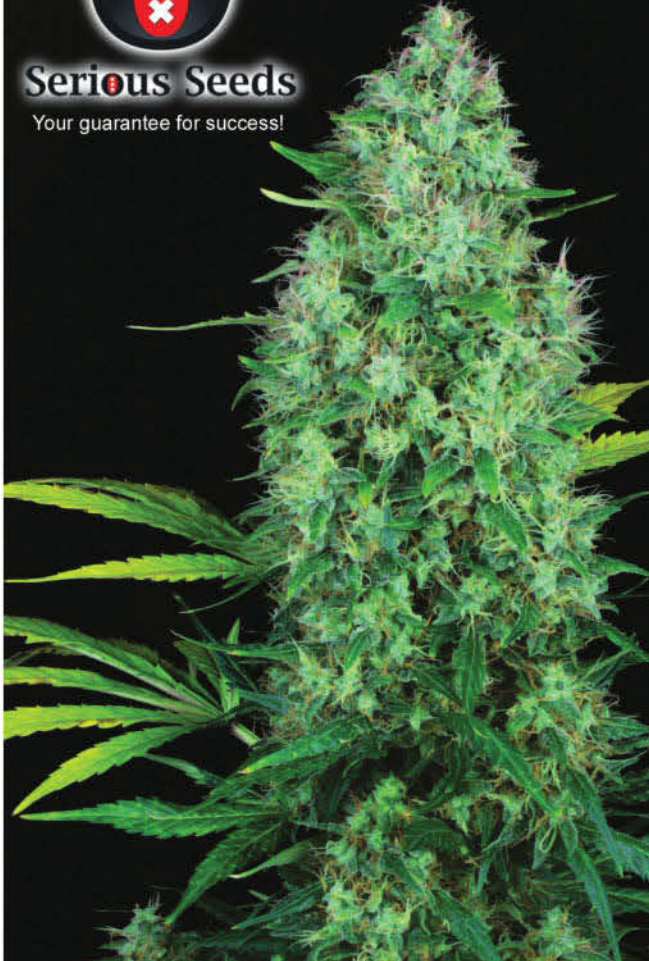
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Danko Tip: Root-bound plants should be transplanted into larger containers for bigger yields.



SUBJECT: **Fluorescent Distance**

FROM: **Jairin**

🌱 How far should my T5 fluorescent light be from the tops of my vegetative babies?

Dear Jairin,

My recommendation for T5 fluorescent lighting is between 2 and 8 inches from the tops, depending on the age of the plant. Newly rooted seedlings or clones need to be a little further away so they won't dry out too quickly (8 inches is good). With few roots to take in water and food, they need to be gently nurtured along the way. Once they've established a root system and begin to grow new shoots, you can lower the lights to just a couple of inches above the plant tops. Raise the lights as the plants grow, and you'll see healthy growth with short internodal spacing on thick stems that never had to reach for the light.

SUBJECT: **Charcoal-Filter Frustration**

FROM: **Bitaddict**

🌱 My question has to do with charcoal filters: How long do they typically last, and is there a way to replenish or recycle them?

Dear Bitaddict,

The life of charcoal filters varies greatly based on size and usage, but a good rule of thumb is not to run them more than two years. Most manufacturers will tell you to change the units every 18 to 24 months no matter what, but if you have a big room with exhaust blowing through the filter 24 hours a day, you might want to replace it every calendar year. The pores between the pieces of activated charcoal eventually become filled with moisture, dust and other particulates, limiting the ability of the charcoal to clean your outgoing air.

Rather than replacing and repacking the new activated charcoal yourself, I recommend purchasing a replacement filter and installing it according to the manufacturer's instructions. Unless you're an expert on how to pack the filters properly while avoiding air pockets, do yourself a favor and stick to the manual. 🌱

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Canna-Truths

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I heard someone say that marijuana is as addictive as coffee. How do we know?

T. Mason

Hi T.,
Comparing the addictiveness of different drugs is a bit like comparing zebras and beans. My lab and others have done surveys of mental-health professionals, who tend to view opiates and cocaine as very addictive, with tobacco usually coming in beneath those two. Caffeine and cannabis appear comparable to each other and get placed way on the low end of the scale: Only hallucinogens like LSD and Ecstasy get rated as less addictive. And when you ask experts to consider actual harm—not just addictiveness—plenty of legal drugs are rated far more damaging than cannabis.



What does "impaired" mean?

direct way to keep our roads safe than trying to prohibit cannabis (but not, apparently, alcohol) because it might possibly lead to impaired driving.

I've heard that cannabidiol decreases schizophrenic symptoms, but it seems like we already have drugs for that. What's the big deal?

Sid Kraeplin

You and your ilk need to understand that any drug that impairs driving needs to be illegal or people will die. Learn to value human life more than your cheap momentary pleasures.

Czar Kevin Kennedy

All hail Czar Kevin!

By the same logic, since painkillers, anti-anxiety drugs and antihistamines can also impair driving, I guess we'd all better get accustomed to agony, angst and runny noses while we build more prisons. And maybe we can make being tired illegal as well, since fatigue impairs driving too.

On the other hand, driving while impaired is already illegal, and enforcing those laws would actually be a more

Hi Sid,
The experiment you mention is small but very promising, since cannabidiol has fewer side effects than standard antipsychotic drugs. You can't blame schizophrenics for failing to take a medicine that causes tremors, excessive thirst, sexual dysfunction or weight gain. If cannabidiol can keep hallucinations and troublesome thoughts away without creating those nasty side effects, it'll be one of the most humane treatments for psychosis ever discovered! 🌿

Dr. Mitch Earleywine, PhD, is a professor of psychology at SUNY Albany and the author of *Understanding Marijuana* and *The Parents' Guide to Marijuana*.

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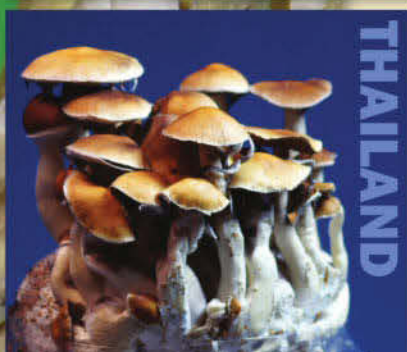
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That's all there is to it!

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Blasting Dos and Don'ts

Simple guidelines for safety.
By Cesar Soriano

If you're a novice hash maker and are thinking of enhancing your bottom line by extracting BHO using inferior materials or equipment, think again: you're putting yourself and everyone around you in serious danger. Blasting accidents happen when people try to cut corners or are too dumb to take proper precautions.

Be smart—leave the dangerous solvents to the experts and stick to ice or water. If you insist on using butane, however, always adhere to these simple rules to avoid disaster.

DO be extremely sanitary. Wear gloves and a hair net, and clean your tube after every extraction. Dirty tubes create dirty concentrates, and no one wants foreign particles or fibers in their dabs.

DON'T ever blast indoors. Make sure you're outdoors at least 100 feet away from any source of fire or electricity—including your cell phone. Butane is highly flammable and is heavier than air, causing it to sink to the floor, and even the smallest spark can set off an explosion.

DO use Pyrex or stainless steel extraction tubes. Other materials such as PVC and copper have only a "C-Fair" rating on the Chemical Resistance Guide (CRG) and are potentially hazardous.



DO pack your tubes well. Pack your material tightly enough to avoid air pockets, but not so tight that the butane can't flow through. A badly packed tube will decrease your yield.

DO use scientific filter papers rather than coffee filters, which aren't meant for non-polar solvent extractions at freezing temperatures. You can find multiple sizes and screens online or at a scientific supply store.

DON'T blast onto silicon pads. Butane causes silicon to swell and leech into the concentrate. In relation to butane, Silicon rates a "D-Severe Effect" listing on the CRG, which is even worse than PVC (which has a "C-Fair" rating). Parchment paper is also coated with silicon, so stick with Pyrex.

DON'T use low-quality butane. It will negatively affect the overall color, smell, and taste of the concentrate.

DON'T process flowers that contain pesticides, neem oil or mold. Anything on the plants will end up in the concentrate and are harmful to ingest.

DON'T process machine-trimmed buds. When buds go through the trimmer, they're tumbled and beat up, causing them to bleed chlorophyll. This can leech into the concentrate giving it a dirtier taste and darker color.

DON'T process wet material. Any moisture in the plant material will freeze, which can cause pressure to buildup—cracking the glass tube or forcing the butane and/or plant material out the opposite end (a "blowback").

DO vacuum-purge your concentrates. Slow cooking at low temperatures for about eight hours ensures your concentrates are properly degassed.

DON'T purge over 130 degrees—you'll lose flavorful terpenes and degrade the concentrate.

DON'T whip your BHO—agitation causes butane to get locked into the concentrate.

DO cure your concentrates as you would your flowers. Freshly processed concentrate will have a different smell and taste than concentrates dried and cured for several days. ✨

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College Daze Pt. 2: The Spirit of Radio

High on the air during higher learning.

As I mentioned last issue, the college I attended—CUNY's Bernard M. Baruch College—was primarily a finance school. There weren't many metalheads around, so the few of us there were naturally gravitated toward one another. It was one such rocker dude—a bleach-blond, longhaired lothario named Darren—who introduced me to the school's radio station, WBMB.

Located in the basement of one of Baruch's buildings on Park Avenue South in New York City, WBMB was by far the coolest campus hangout for a music lover like me. The station consisted of a soundproof studio with a recording booth and an engineer station, a back room stacked floor to ceiling with vinyl, and a large lounge area with couches and a fridge. Best of all, there was practically zero faculty supervision.

Among the colorful cast of characters in the BMB crew were Darren's pal Mark, a tall "poseur" dude with a lisp and an attitude, and Boozah—a cross between Fat Albert and Charles Bukowski who, as his nickname suggests, had a habit of getting hammered. Many an afternoon, he'd lure us down to Bar X—our preferred watering hole, across from Madison Square Park—where we'd suck down a few \$2 Jägermeister shots and drafts between classes. Or, more often, we'd blaze a jay in the park, then veg out in the lounge and play board games. One particular afternoon stands out in my memory: A station newbie named James "Filet" Mignon and I got totally baked and held an epic, one-on-one Connect Four tournament. Three hours and 100 games later, I'd missed my last class but had memorized every winning move and strategy imaginable.

After engineering both Mark's and Darren's shows for a semester, I was stoked to earn my own timeslot. Adopting the DJ name "The Steppenwolf" (after my favorite Herman Hesse novel), I began spinning the coolest tracks from every era and subgenre of rock twice a week. I'd spend hours poring over the vast library of vinyl and stacks of CDs, discovering new artists like

Tool and Marilyn Manson, and digging up forgotten treasures like St. Vitus' *Born Too Late* or Kyuss' *Wretch*. Since most record companies sent new albums to radio stations before their official release date—and since commercial stations didn't play metal or underground bands—I got to premiere brand-new metal before nearly anyone else on the East Coast. I vividly remember the day Pantera's *Vulgar Display of Power* arrived in the mail; I could hardly wait until my shift to play the first single, "Mouth for War." Or Monster Magnet's *Dopes to Infinity*, which I played in its entirety.



Bobby at WBMB with Life of Agony's Keith Caputo and Alan Roberts in 1993.

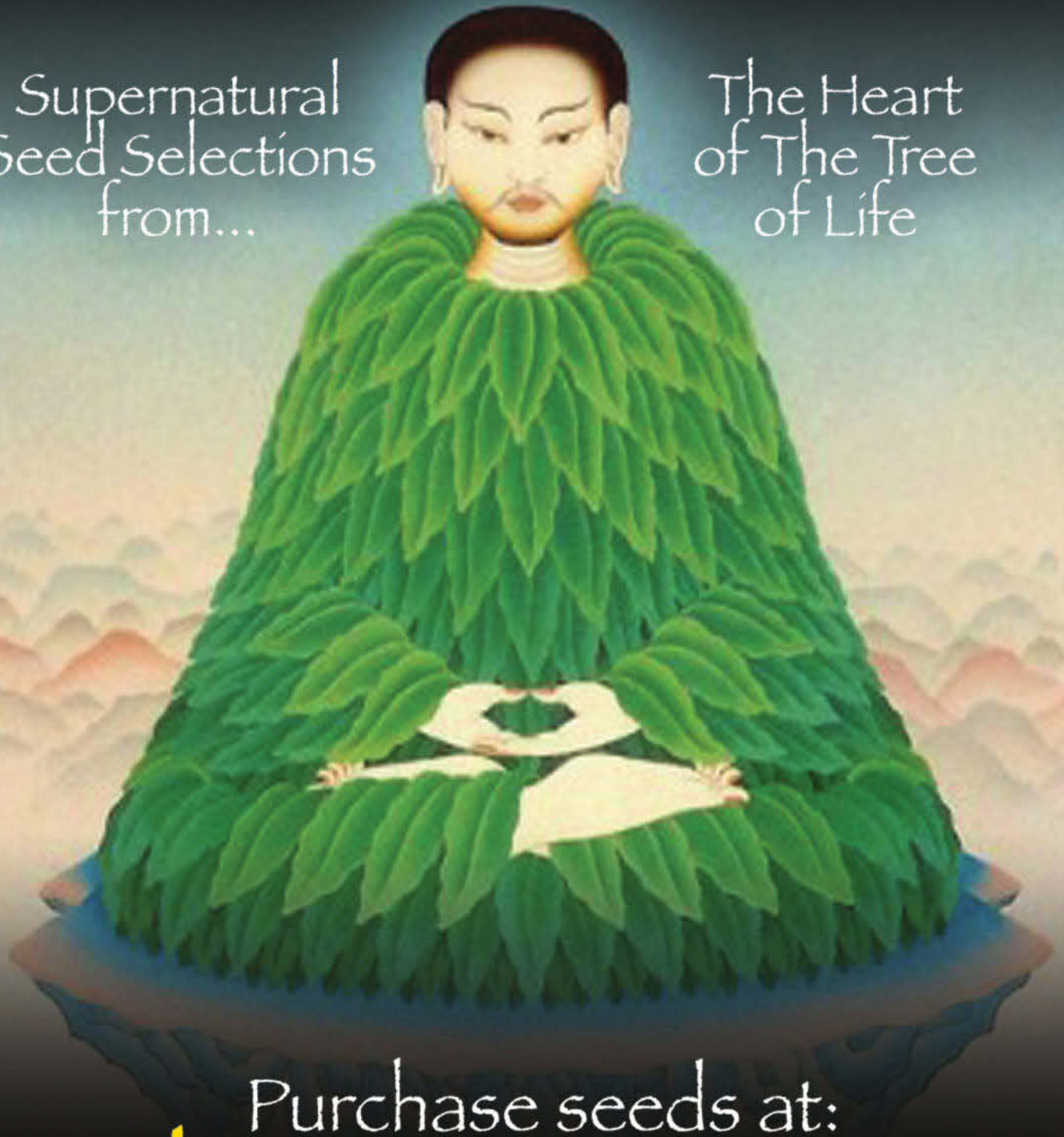
Unfortunately, since Baruch was a business school, the radio station was not a high academic priority. As a result, our broadcast signal only reached a 10- to 12-block radius—which meant that aside from those in the student center and cafeteria, there weren't too many other people listening. But that didn't stop any of us from putting our all out onto those airwaves. Occasionally, we'd even convince a local band to come in for an interview or to guest DJ. I did two on-air interviews during my three years at WBMB: the first with Sisters Grimm, a glam rock group fronted by a somewhat skanky pair of twin sisters I knew from high school, and the other with Brooklyn hardcore legends Life of Agony, who came on to promote the release of their classic debut album, *River Runs Red*.

My show, *The Wolf's Lair*, ran from my sophomore year in 1991 until I graduated in 1994—the same year I began working at *High Times* (whose offices were conveniently located just down the block from campus). Besides the fun memories and musical discoveries, DJing at WBMB provided me with the experience and confidence I'd later need when, a decade later, Sirius Radio's metal manager Jose Mangin offered me my own stoner rock show on their Hard Attack channel. And though writing will always be my professional passion, I often miss the excitement of turning the masses on to new underground music and hope to return to the radio airwaves again someday. ✨

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Are You Listening, Barack?

What might have been—and what still can be.

Allen St. Pierre is the executive director of NORML. Visit norml.org.

In a recent article in *The Atlantic*, Juliet Sorensen—daughter of the late Theodore Sorensen, the progressive intellectual who was John F. Kennedy’s confidant and presidential speechwriter—recounted her father’s attempts to persuade President Lyndon Johnson to include a small section in his famous 1964 “War on Poverty” speech about the need to treat illegal drug

users not as criminals, but as citizens in need of mental-health services. Regrettably, LBJ’s vision extended only to his soon-approaching presidential election, so he roundly rejected Sorensen’s entreaty.

Undoubtedly, Sorensen’s views were shaped by the unanimous 1962 US Supreme Court decision in *Robinson v. California*, in which the Court effectively held that being a drug addict is not a crime; it’s a public-health matter. Nor were Sorensen’s views—or the Court’s—especially radical: This case was championed by a number of America’s most prominent civil institutions, including the American Medical Association, the American Bar Association and the Ford Foundation. How very different might our country have been if the US government



had decided to embrace this kind of basic human decency and common sense, instead of waging a domestic and international “war” against chemical substances and cultivated plants, as well as the humans who use (or abuse) them?

Here are just a few of the things that might *not* have been:

No Richard Nixon—declared War on (some) Drugs, his pretext for cracking down on Vietnam War protesters and what he viewed as a threatening counterculture.

No destabilization of our once-peaceful borders with Mexico.

No Ronald Reagan and his massive expansion of the domestic Drug War with failed government programs like civil asset forfeiture, drug testing, mandatory minimum sentences and domestic use of the military.

No enhancing the racial tensions in this country by creating a wildly disparate criminal-justice system driven by disproportionately high arrest rates for minorities.

No programs like DARE and the Partnership for a Drug-Free America.

And if we choose to look forward instead of ruminating on what might have been, what can President Obama do with his three remaining years in office?

Some positive steps have already been

taken during his administration. States have been allowed to move forward with legalizing cannabis sales for adult medical and recreational use. Banks have been cleared to handle cannabis commerce. And new guidelines have been established for federal prosecutors to reduce the length of incarcerations for drug-related sentences.

These are huge departures from our longstanding prohibitionist policies. But short of doing what every *High Times* reader wants to see him do—support cannabis legalization outright—President Obama can take further steps in order to hasten the end of this terrible, 76-year-old failed public policy. These steps include:

Commute the sentences of all federal prisoners incarcerated on cannabis-only charges where no violence was involved.

Defund the huge federal grant programs that incentivize local and state police to make 98 percent of all cannabis arrests nationwide—over 700,000 annually.

Allow American farmers to cultivate industrial hemp.

Move cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule V under the Controlled Substances Act, and allow it to be prescribed by physicians.

Finally, establish a presidential commission to review this nation’s cannabis policies and make recommendations for long-overdue changes in the law. With just a little political courage, this is what still can be. 🌿

FREEDOM FIGHTER

By Erik Altieri, NORML communications coordinator

Nightingale’s Call

Patrick Nightingale is a key player in Pennsylvania pot politics.

Patrick Nightingale enjoyed a successful career practicing law prior to becoming a marijuana-legalization advocate. He began his career in 1996 with the Allegheny County District Attorney’s Office, where he helped create the Domestic Violence Prosecution Unit. But after several years as

a prosecutor, he shifted his focus and began practicing as a criminal-defense attorney at the state and federal level.

When the Pennsylvania Legislature announced that it would consider its first medical marijuana bill in 2009, Patrick was eager to see it approved. He reached out to activist Chris Goldstein of the Philadelphia-area NORML chapter and then



set about restarting the one in Pittsburgh, which has grown into one of the most active and effective NORML chapters in the country.

Unfortunately, cannabis remains illegal in the Keystone State, a crime at both the medical and recreational levels. But Patrick and Pittsburgh NORML are going strong into 2014, mobilizing supporters and pushing for sensible changes

to Pennsylvania’s laws. They’re hosting multiple rallies, meetings and fundraising events, even as Patrick continues to work the political process, testifying and fighting for favorable measures pending in the State Legislature. As he explains it: “I have the ability to give voice to the tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians who can both benefit from medicinal cannabis and who have been victims of this ruinous war on pot.”

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Matthew R. Abel

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FLOWER OF THE MONTH

Raising Arizona Buds


 This is my AZ medical Strawberry Cough. I've only been in the growing game for three years but I had help from a friend with 25 years of experience, plus your kick-ass magazine has been very helpful. A little trick I used was to put my Method Seven glasses in front of the camera lens for a clear shot instead of the orange wavy lines from the HPS lights. If you print it, I wanna give a copy to my mom because she thought she'd never say it, but she's proud of what I do and is glad I can get good, clean, quality meds to patients. *AZ Joe*



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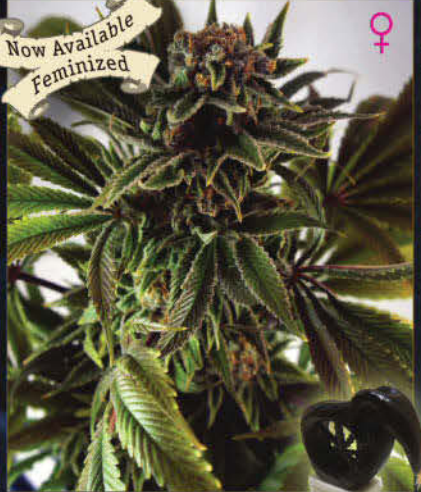
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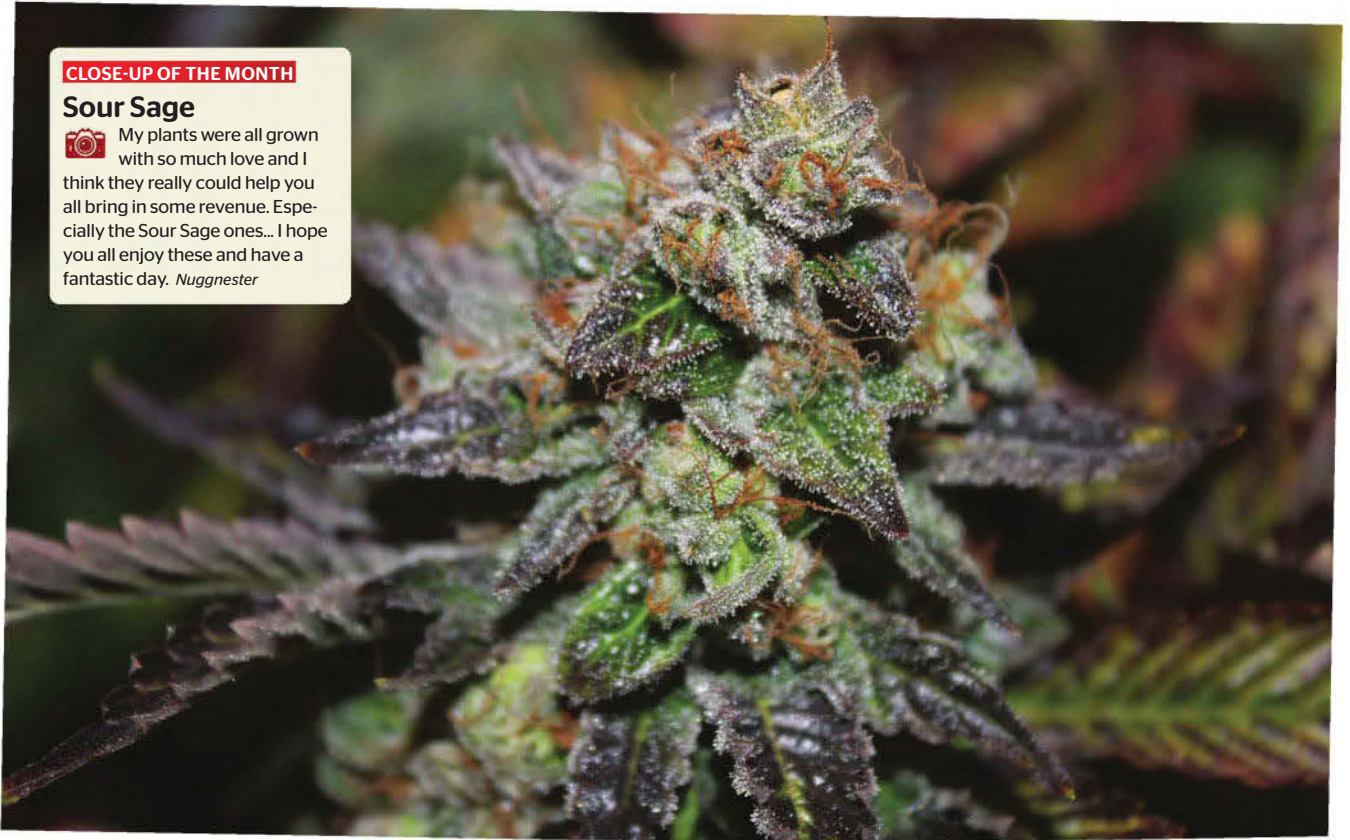
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CLOSE-UP OF THE MONTH


Sour Sage

 My plants were all grown with so much love and I think they really could help you all bring in some revenue. Especially the Sour Sage ones... I hope you all enjoy these and have a fantastic day. *Nuggnester*



GROWER OF THE MONTH

One Giant Leaf For Man's Kind

 Fun "Kpacka" times during exciting Ukrainian cannabis growing. This is week two of the bloom in my indoor grow. The strain is Grand Daddy Purple Bay 11 and it's fabulous. Thanks!
Adam Kraska

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GARDEN OF THE MONTH

Washington Heights

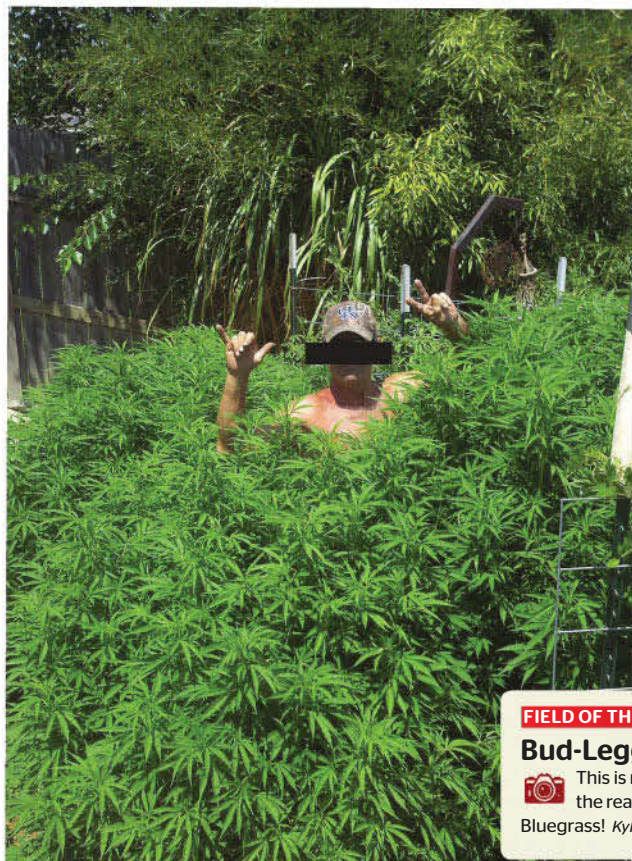
This is a pic of me inside my 2011 crop in Walla Walla, WA. Jason T.



NUG OF THE MONTH

Scout's Honor

After seeing a couple of my friends in "Pix of the Crop", I felt completely and utterly compelled to see if I was material! Cannabis has been life-changing for me, and growing it has been even more of a reward! This photo is of some outdoor Girl Scout Cookies from this past outdoor season! @FaderPhoto on Instagram & Brandon Cornilsen



FIELD OF THE MONTH

Bud-Legger

This is me with the real Kentucky Bluegrass! Kybeau

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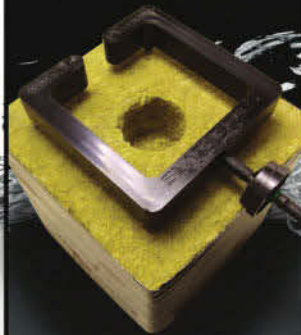
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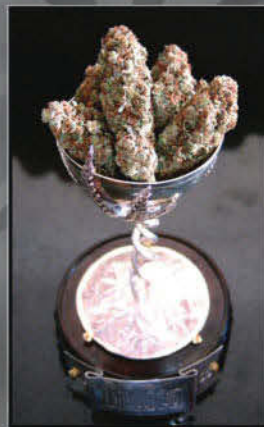
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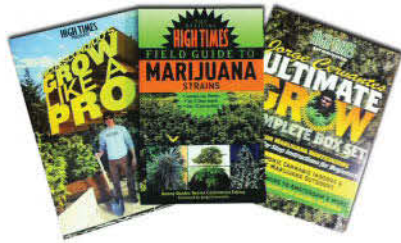


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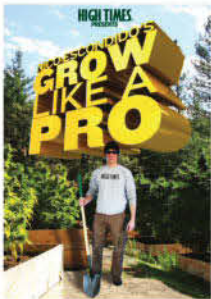
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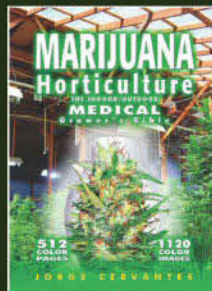


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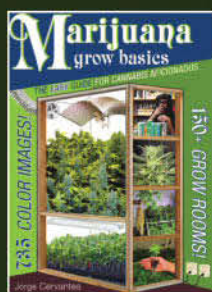
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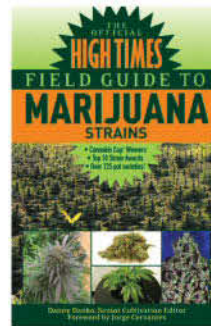


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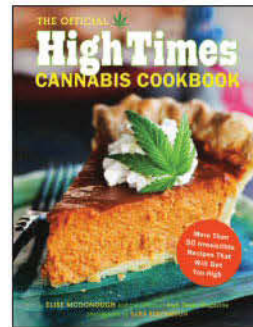


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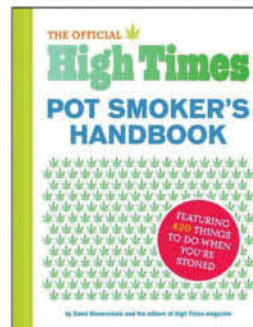
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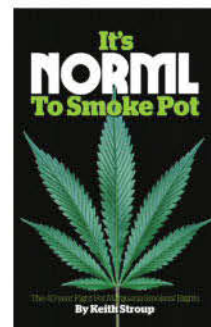
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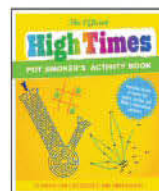
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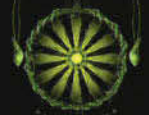
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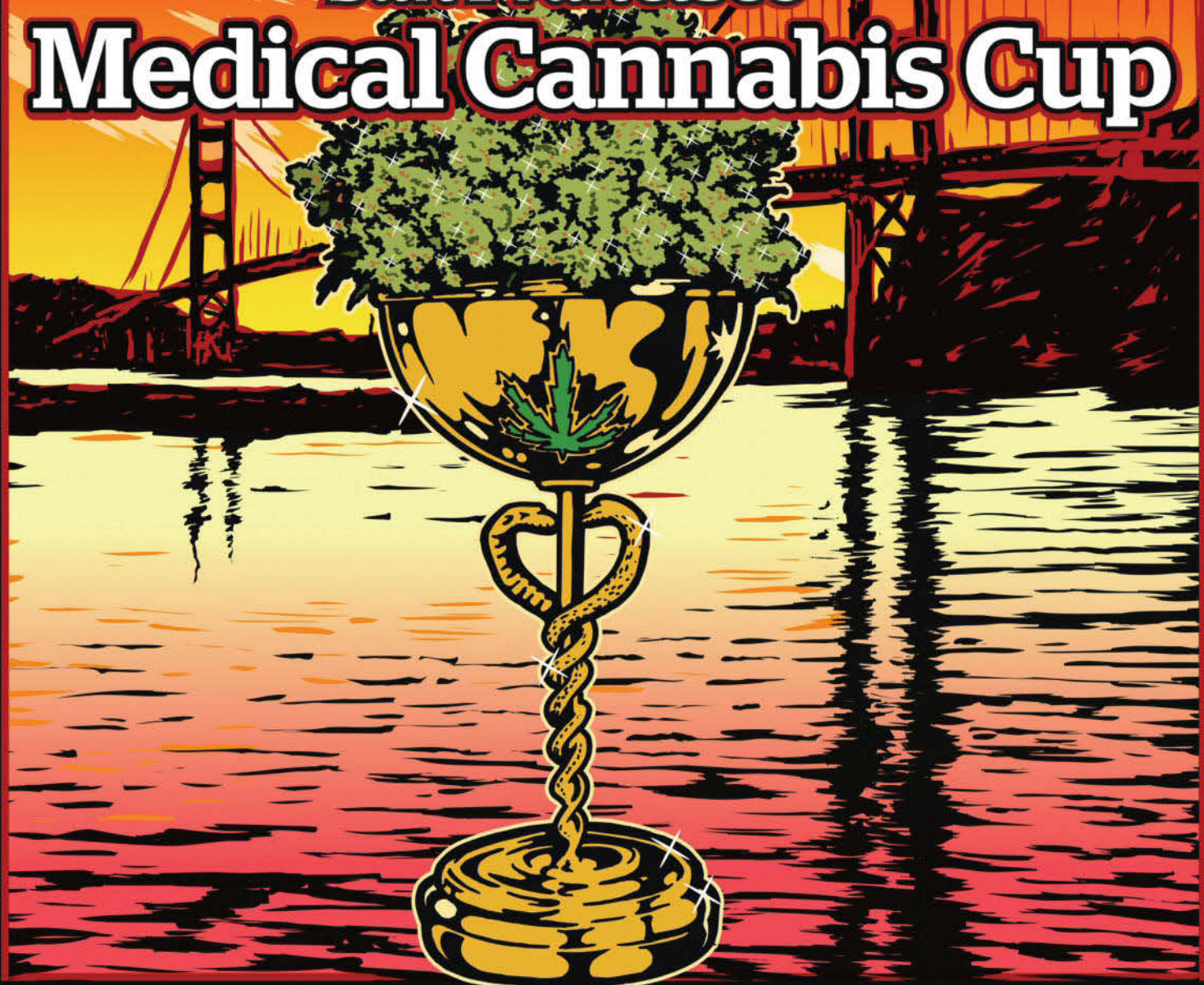
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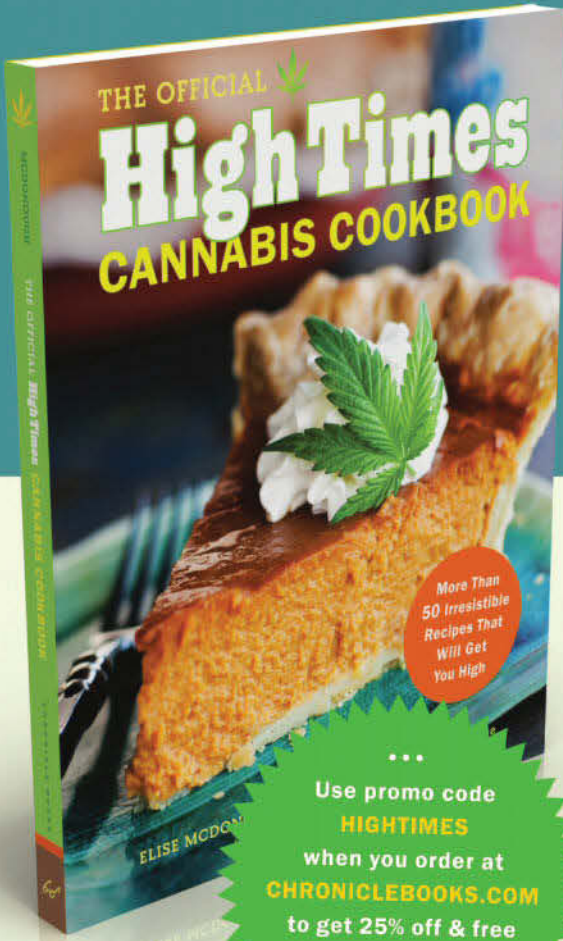
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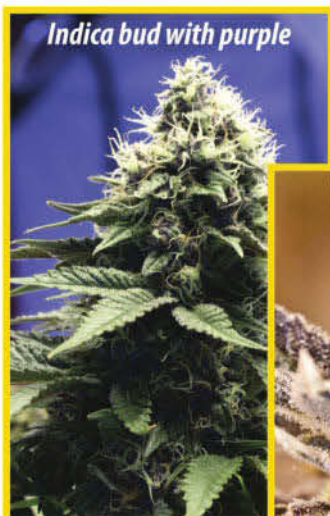
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