

In a flash the four enter the water together for an easy paddle out. Only then does it become clear just how heavy this new break is. Hearts are pumping as solid top to bottom, Hawaii Five-O type waves wind off inside. Boils are abundant and clearly the reef is not far below the surface. Gradually they all score some good rides, every one thrilling. TC easily scores wave of the day, even the wave of the trip with a dangerously thick solid six foot barrel. His style inside though, squatting, ring kissing deck, truly reflects the general atmosphere of fear. Hames and Peck power through the session, Hames particularly expels all the demons from his first day hiding and Peck is temporarily forced to focus 100% on the surf.



On return to base it is clear that the swell has picked up. Local legend Indo Steve is out at the point alone surfing solid eight footers and managing to avoid bigger wide ones on the paddles out. Finally one gets him and before long he's half a kilometer down the coast duck diving endless ten foot walls of whitewater. A meeting is held and the decision is to head into town for an evening session at the left.

So its back into the van with Nev at the helm, grinding through the gears, but at least driving slowly. All enjoy the unusually relaxing trip. They drop TC at an occy shop on the way and he manages to get about a half a chain of medium strength ties for A\$40. He and Peck had been concerned that a storm might occur and that their current stock was too thin. This acquisition provided great relief to them, and later the others would be



grateful too. The left in town was small, clean and empty, but sucky and hollow. They surf without caution and all get drilled. No injuries though and by the time the sun touches the horizon, the chanting ceases and the fishing boats begin to re-

turn, it generally agreed that surf days like these come too rarely in life.

That evening is spent on the Anchors at the club. TC chastises Cici for cleaning up his half empty glass and then she watches in awe as he spills his next three newly filled glasses in the space of five minutes: the last a spectacular effort as he falls through a seat.