

COLLEGE AVENUE

VOLUME 19 | ISSUE 4

SUMMER 2024

THE CANNABIS EDITION

**IF CHEECH AND CHONG
CAN DO IT, WHY CAN'T I**

**A REVIEW OF POPULAR
STRAINS OF CANNABIS**

**MUSIC AND MOVIES
OF MARY JANE**

**WEED'S ENDURING
INFLUENCE ON POP CULTURE**

**CAN'T GO WRONG
WITH A GLASS BONG**

A DIVE INTO THE ARTIST'S WORK



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From Your Editors

Welcome to the Cannabis Culture edition of College Avenue Magazine! In this edition, we dove into the multifaceted world of marijuana - from its historical roots to its modern-day implications.

Through in-depth articles and personal narratives, learn about where marijuana comes from, and where it's headed. From medicinal purposes hundreds of years ago, to a common substance in the modern world. Hear our staff's opinions on various strains of weed and their effects. Dive into the world of glass blowing and learn how your favorite bong was made. Find recommendations for movies and music to accompany your high. And keep an eye out for edible recipes, student opinions, and so much more! Take a trip with College Avenue into Cannabis Culture.

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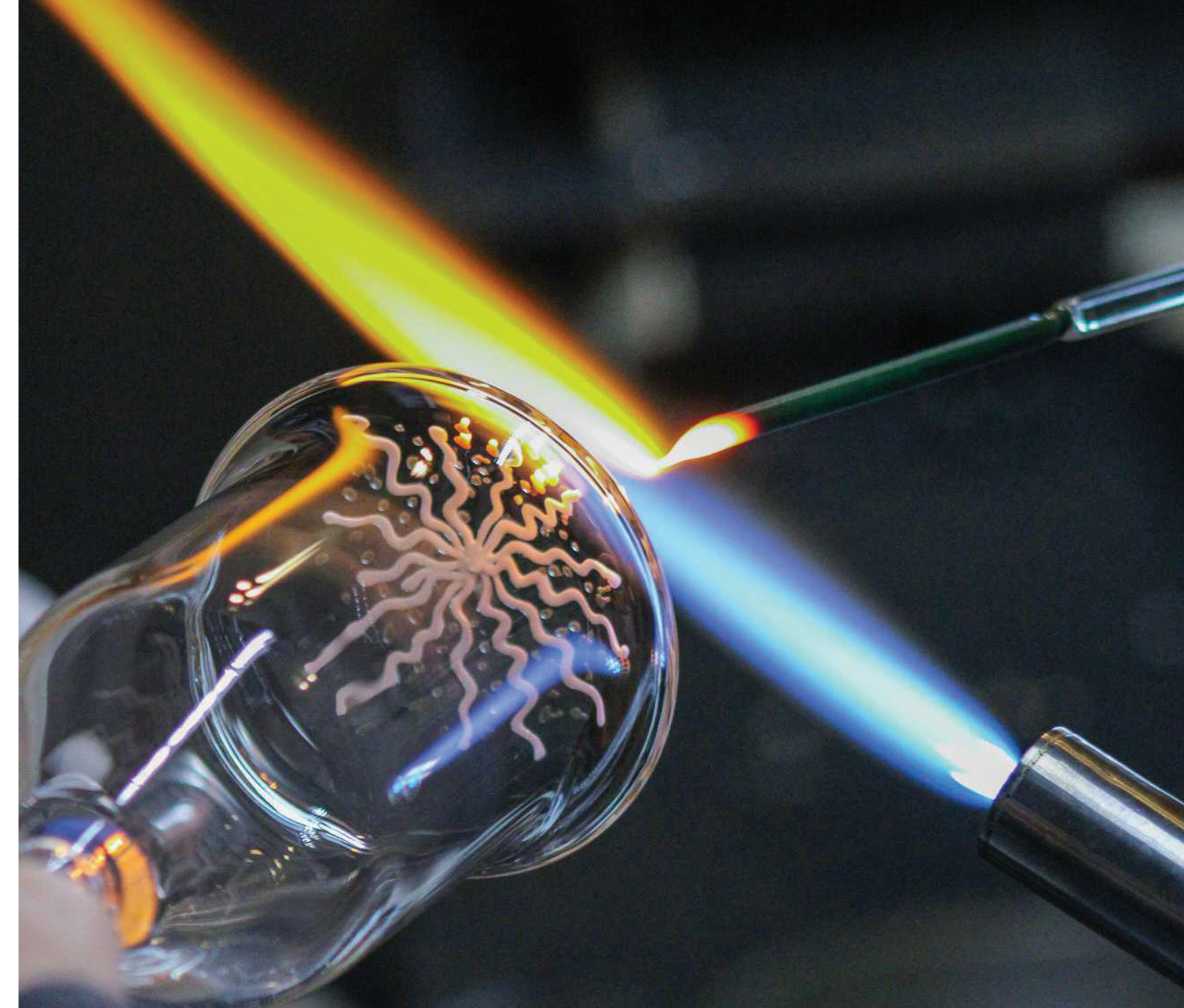
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CAN'T GO WRONG

By Audrey Donow

WITH A
GLASS
BONG



When entering Kind Creations Smoke Shop, you're immediately greeted by an inviting environment and an array of glass cases lining the wall, full of stylish, artistic bongs and glass-blown art. Opened in 2001 by current owner Brandon Fike, Kind Creations is Fort Collins' oldest smoke shop and has never left its original location on 828 S College Ave.

The shop is full of enthusiastic employees, ready to assist with any smoke-related needs, including five onsite glassblowers. These artists do their work right in the back of the store, allowing customers to watch the artistic process. Along with the glass blowers, several artists from all over sell their bongs and pipes at Kind Creations.

Jeremy Hartpence, an employee at Kind Creations came into his job as a cashier, knowing nothing about glass blowing but has come to appreciate the artwork over the years as he has been able to get a closer look at the creation of each piece sold.

"Working here I have learned a thousand different things about everything here," Hartpence said.

Hartpence describes the environment of the store as relaxing but never without excitement. Whether joking with his coworkers or conversing with customers, there is always a welcoming space right when you walk in the door.

Skye Perry Norton: A Quick Hit of Rebellion

The back of the shop houses the glass-blowing studio where Skye Perry and fellow glass-blowers perform their art. Perry was introduced to glass blowing during a third-grade field trip, afterward, he was immediately hooked.

Perry has been selling his glass bongs to Kind Creations since 2001 and began working on-site in 2014.

He's mostly self-taught, taking a couple of classes and workshops from other local glassblowers.

His work consists of mostly bongs that have been sold at the shop, but he expressed that he also enjoys blowing goblets, bowls, and various other forms of glass. Perry picked up working with bongs in the 1990s when cannabis became largely stigmatized.

"When I started blowing glass there was a big taboo with glass bongs and cannabis in general," Perry said. "There was a little bit

of rebellion there, I think, with getting into making pipes. People said you're not supposed to do this so I'm going to do it anyway."

Perry is an artist who uses glass as his medium. He enjoys creating themed pieces but is especially proud of a smaller bong that is heavily inspired by the psychedelic rock band 'Grateful Dead'.

He uses techniques of double-layered line work with incorporations of what Perry calls 'wig wags'. The outside of the bong has only a bit of color but is mostly clear. Both interior and exterior were specially crafted for this piece and he 'double-sleeved' it to add a unique element of design.

Perry described 'double sleeving' as placing both the outer layer of glass with the inner layer. It creates a multi-dimensional look while establishing a sturdy piece.

"I really like the way that it looks, it magnifies what's in the background and it adds design that you can't add otherwise," Perry said.

Etched on the side of the bong is the head of the infamous Grateful Dead bear. To transfer that photo onto the piece he used layers of metal that were stuck onto a sheet of glass with 10,000 volts of electricity to laser etch the image onto the bong.

"The art of fire and playing with fire and being able to manipulate something that's both a solid and a liquid is really interesting," Perry said.

As best said by Perry, the creation of

smokeware is based on artists and their passion for the art behind the cannabis and smoke industry

Bryan Ratcliffe Speaks About His Shift in Specialty Glassware

Bryan Ratcliffe, a close friend of Perry, similarly performs the art of glass blowing but over the years, his specialty has shifted.

Ratcliffe originally began blowing glass in 1998 during his sophomore year of college. Over the years, he has learned from local glass blowers and used his skills to create an online presence where he can display his work and sell pieces to consumers.

Ratcliffe began making pipes when he was younger and eventually moved into smaller pieces specifically for bongs and glass pipes. Now, he is using his knowledge of smokeware to create cups heavily inspired by bongs and pipes.

"Now I make a lot of drinkware that is in the theme of bangers or pull slides for bongs." "That's been the direction I've been going in the last 4 or 5 years," Ratcliffe said.

He uses his social media to create a presence online to sell and speak with consumers whilst working out of a local Fort Collins studio as well as his home.

(Page 7) Bryan Ratcliffe, a local glass blower, creates the beginning of a mountain design in the bottom of a glass Nov. 2, 2021. Ratcliffe has an affinity for making drinkware. Ratcliffe said, "I love making drink ware. I like making things that people use, that get conversations started." Photo by: Avery Coates

(Page 8 Top) Bryan Ratcliffe shapes a new piece inspired by mountains and snowboarding Nov. 2, 2021. Ratcliffe's favorite part of glass blowing is, "how immediate it is, how you can imbed things with it right away." Photo by: Milo Gladstein

(Page 8 Bottom) Cabinets display artist's work inside the Kind Creations Smoke Shop March 24. Photo by: Emily Januszewski

(Below) Three handmade glass creations sit atop a display case March 24. Photo by: Emily Januszewski



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IF CHEECH AND CHONG CAN DO IT, WHY CAN'T I

A Review of Popular Strains of Cannabis

Written by Mia Perez

Two weeks ago I knew nothing about weed, now I'd consider myself somewhat of an expert, on weed strains, at least. For those who don't know, let me educate you.

Under the umbrella of the cannabis plant, there are upwards of 700 strains. According to Medical News Today, they all fall into three major categories, indica, sativa, and hybrid. Indica and sativa are two different species of cannabis and have different effects on those who smoke them, while hybrids are a mixture of both Indica and Sativa and tend to be the most popular.

Sativa is known for its energizing effects on the body and is considered an "upper" as it manufactures an uplifting mood. According to Healthline, Sativa results in a "mind high, or an energizing, anxiety-reducing effect," making it a common day-smoking strain.

Indica has the opposite effect. It deeply relaxes the body to the point where users fall asleep. Indica is a "downer", leaving the feeling of being relaxed in both body and mind.

All that being said, it's time to dive into what Sativa, Indica, and hybrid strains are all about through third-year Colorado State University student, Rowen Kimble. This trip

won't be Kimble's first and throughout this adventure, I learned the basics of joints and edibles.

The (Shopping) Trip

The journey began with a quick trip to Green Dragon on 804 S College Ave. A cannabis dispensary chain with stores in Colorado, Florida, and California. I stayed in the car while Kimble went into the shop.

"It's always so scary in there, you need to know exactly what you want before you go in," Kimble said.

She then went on to tell me that people head to the front desk first, where a worker walks you through the store to get exactly what you're looking for. Kimble came back to the car with two pre-rolled joints; Kreem Syle Indica, and Devil Driver Sativa, along with a container of Assorted Flavor Hybrid gummies. There was a slight snag in our plans though, but it can't matter that much right? Wrong.

"He (the worker) was supposed to give me 3g gummies but he gave me 10g!" Kimble said.

On our way back from Green Dragon, we decided to pick up Chick-fil-A.

"Shit! I'm going to be so mad at myself



once I'm high because I'll already have eaten my food," Kimble said.

Double the Dose for Double the Fun - Gummies

I told her to just eat the gummy right then and there, and just like that we had started our trip into the world of ganja.

We returned to Kimble's house safely with our twin meals of 8-count chicken nuggets, a small mac and cheese, and fries. We decided the best backing track to our first trip was the 2007 movie 'Atonement'. I took a seat on the floor while she sat with her legs crossed on the bed and we began eating while we started the movie.

Halfway through eating our food, Kimble turns to tell me she thinks the gummy is starting to kick in with growing concern in her eyes, the gummy was a bit more than she thought it would be.

She started cracking jokes left and right and laughing at the most mundane things.

"Everything up close is small and [everything] far away is big," Kimble told me. "My heart is beating really fast, it's kinda hard to breathe, and my hands are cold." She then started to joke about how she was dying and began laughing hysterically with her hand on her chest like it hurt her. We went to bed early that night.

The next day I reconvened with Kimble to ask if she remembered anything,

"Everything is mostly a blur, I did get a little nauseous toward the end and had to sleep so I didn't feel dizzy." She continued to say that that was the highest she had gotten in a while. "It was a mind and body high, which is common with edibles," Kimble said.

Kimble later told me that she hates getting crazy high to the point where she feels too psychologically messed with, she prefers smoking joints.

"It's not fun to me when I feel anxious and like something is wrong with me," Kimble said.

The Devils' Lettuce - Sativa

A couple of days later Kimble decided to smoke the Devil Driver Sativa joint. We sat together on her balcony in folding chairs. On the side table, there was leftover bud from Kimble's last smoke session. Twinkle lights lined the balcony, music lightly hummed out of my phone speaker, and a sign sat

above us nailed onto the house that read "no smoking." Kimble and I talked about anything and everything under the sun before and after she smoked. Kimble is calm by nature, so I didn't notice too much of a difference in her behavior, except for her sudden eagerness to ask me about myself.

"I don't feel like I have much awareness of my body or care about how I'm being perceived," she said.

Kimble describes this kind of high as a "functional high," where you can still do everyday things, just a bit more upbeat. The rest of Kimble's high we sat out on her balcony talking until sunset.

I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Kreem Sycle - Indica

Lastly, Kimble decided to smoke the Kreem Sycle Indica joint. She smoked before going to a hangout at her friends' house. She wanted to see if she would get tired while out since Indica is known for doing just that.

Kimble expressed early on in her high that the light outside was "too bright and hurts." She wore her sunglasses all night. She also described feeling a numbing feeling throughout her upper body and had a rapid heartbeat. She was, however, not tired at all.

Kimble had no problem mingling with everyone at the hangout, strangers and friends alike. Her social anxiety flew out the window,

"I haven't felt this relaxed in my brain and unstressed ever," Kimble said.

Later in the night, Kimble tripped on some shoes that were sprawled on the floor, she barely caught herself and proceeded to laugh the loudest I've ever heard her laugh.

In the end, Kimble's verdict was clear; Indica is her favorite, and she prefers joints to edibles any day. The effects of cannabis vary from person to person and are unpredictable, no matter how much research you do. The only surefire way to know how it will affect you is if you venture out and try it yourself, you might just discover your new favorite hobby- or at least have a good time trying. Happy smoking!



Illustrations by: Riley Walker



GRASS OR

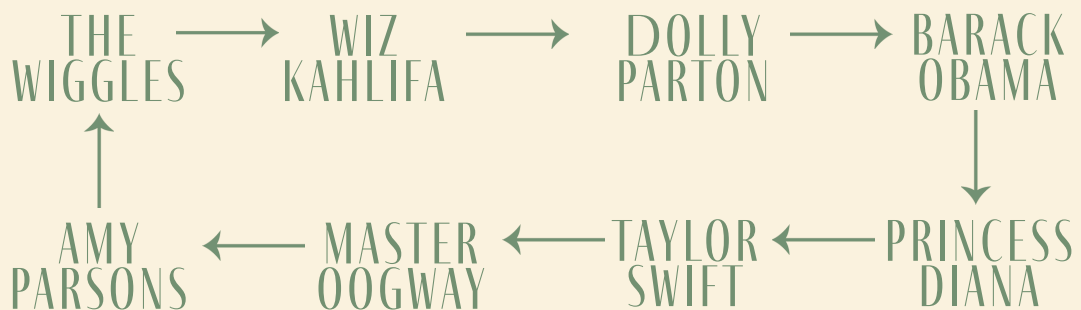
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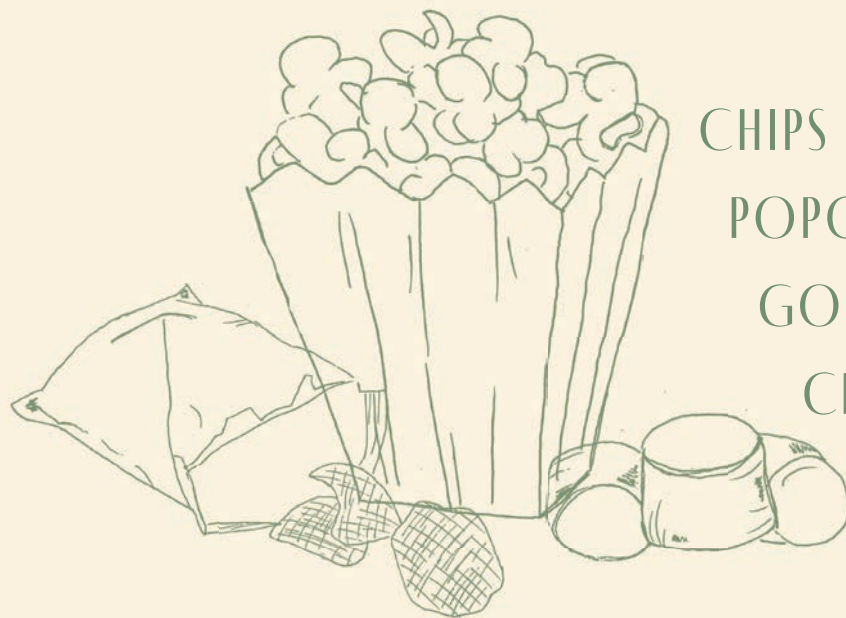
DREAM BLUNT ROTATION



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TIMES A WEEK

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CHRONOLOGY OF THE CHRONIC

Written by Duncan Cobb

Traditions in Cannabis

How did April 20 become recognized as a cannabis holiday, even by those who don't smoke?

A group of high school buddies in the 1970's, from Marin County, California, began referring to getting high as the time that they intended to smoke together, 4:20pm. Their nickname appealed to other stoners, as a single joint could land you in jail for up to ten years at that time.

Once the number 420 became synonymous with cannabis, April 20 became an unofficial holiday that celebrates counterculture.

Origins

Cannabis was traditionally seen as medi-

cine, used for spiritual practices, and was valued for its durable fibers. Marijuana was first recorded as a popular medicine by Chinese Emperor Fu Hsi in 2900 BC.


Historians, botanists, and other researchers have made the case for cannabis's reference in the bible, specifically during Christ's anointment. The book of Exodus, which occurs around 1450 BC, references Kaneh Bosesem, the Hebrew name for cannabis, as a main ingredient in holy anointing oil.

Cannabis grows naturally in several regions. It was utilized in ancient Greek and Roman societies, as well as the Islamic empire. The crop was introduced to the Western Hemisphere by the Spaniards around 1545.

Criminalizing Cannabis

The effort to criminalize marijuana began in the 20th century by the U.S. Department of Justice.

America's first cannabis-related arrest



happened at Denver's Lexington Hotel on Oct. 5, 1957. Samuel R. Caldwell and Moses Baca were arrested for the sale of two joints. Their conviction led to the enactment of the Marijuana Tax Act of 1957. This legislation laid the foundation for federal criminalization.

The fluctuating legal status of cannabis has been described as a culture war, though the impacts of criminalization have been consequential to all Americans.

The criminalization of cannabis disproportionately impacted marginalized communities, serving as an excuse for mass incarceration.

The Drug Enforcement Administration justifies the federal criminalization of cannabis, citing "a high potential for abuse" and "a

lack of accepted safety for use under medical supervision." Cannabis is classified as a Schedule I substance within the Controlled Substances Act.

Individuals who received simple possession charges before state legalization continue to be penalized, due to this federal classification.

There are currently 19 states where cannabis is criminalized, four of which - Kansas, Oklahoma, Utah, and Wyoming - share a border with Colorado. A single joint could result in a possession charge, but just across state lines, it's completely legal.

While the movement for cannabis legalization has made great strides since the start of the Green Rush, federal reform is needed to ensure equal enforcement of the law.

Federalism

The Federal Government intends to avoid prosecuting cannabis-related issues in states where laws are solid, and industry practices appear to be fair and minimally harmful as explained in The Cole Memorandum.

The Cole Memorandum was officially reversed after former President Donald Trump named Jeff Sessions, Attorney General. The Department of Justice has left the decision to prosecute cannabis offenses up to individual U.S. Attorneys.

Selective enforcement on behalf of the Federal Government impacts some communities more than others. A study conducted in 2025 by the United States Sentencing Commission found that 70.8% of individuals charged for the possession of cannabis in a five-year period were Hispanic, and 59.8% were not U.S. citizens.





Mixed-Legal Status

Cannabis has a mixed legal status in many states and it is necessary to understand the difference between decriminalization and legalization to interpret policy across state lines.

Decriminalization describes a policy in which possession, production, and commercialization are illegal but are not prosecuted as a criminal offense. Legalization describes a policy in which possession, production, and commercialization are not at all prohibited by law.

Individuals incarcerated during the war on drugs continue to experience formal and civil penalties for charges that don't exist in many states today. Legalization at the state level has been positive for many Americans, but further reform is needed to enforce cannabis policy in a non-discriminatory manner.

Decriminalizing Cannabis

Colorado has been a leader in cannabis reform since Amendment 64 passed in 2012. 12 years later, Colorado is one of 24 states to legalize recreational and medicinal use for individuals 21 and older.

In 2021, the Colorado General Assembly discussed 10 cannabis-related bills, eight of which passed. The Criminal Marijuana Offenses (HB21-1090) bill raised the legal limit for

possession to two ounces of cannabis. It also required that, upon request, the court must seal conviction records for individuals charged with possession who do not re-offend.

Similar reform is in motion at the federal level. In October 2022, President Joe Biden pardoned U.S. citizens and permanent residents who had been convicted of simple possession of cannabis.

He also recommended a review of the plant's scheduling under the Controlled Substances Act. As a result, the Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and Expungement Act (H.R.5617) was introduced in 2021. This bill proposed the decriminalization of cannabis at the federal level; It was approved by the House of Representatives and then referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.

The States Reform Act (H.R.5977) was also introduced in 2021 in an attempt to decriminalize cannabis at the federal level, but for financial purposes rather than as criminal justice reform. This legislation would "allow for federal oversight of interstate medical marijuana products," and would create a federal permit system and excise tax structure for cannabis businesses. It did not pass but has been rewritten and reintroduced in Congress as The States Reform Act of 2025 (H.R. 6028).

The 118th Congressional session has the



potential to be pivotal for decriminalization.

If either the MORE Act or the States Reform Act are enacted, federal and state policies will overlap in a fashion that makes the discriminatory impacts of mass incarceration easier to address.

April 20 is both a celebration and a reminder to contact your representatives to voice your support for cannabis policy reform.

Illustrations by: Riley Walker

(Page 19) Cannabis flowers being dried before packaging in Organic Alternatives' grow facility on Apr 7, 2021. The flower may dry for up to a week before being packaged and sold. Photo by: Ryan Schmidt

(Above) Cannabis flowers being dried before packaging in Organic Alternatives' grow facility on Apr 7, 2021. The flower may dry for up to a week before being packaged and sold. Photo by: Ryan Schmidt



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MUSIC AND MOVIES OF MARY JANE

By: Owen Primeau

WEED'S ENDURING INFLUENCE ON POP CULTURE

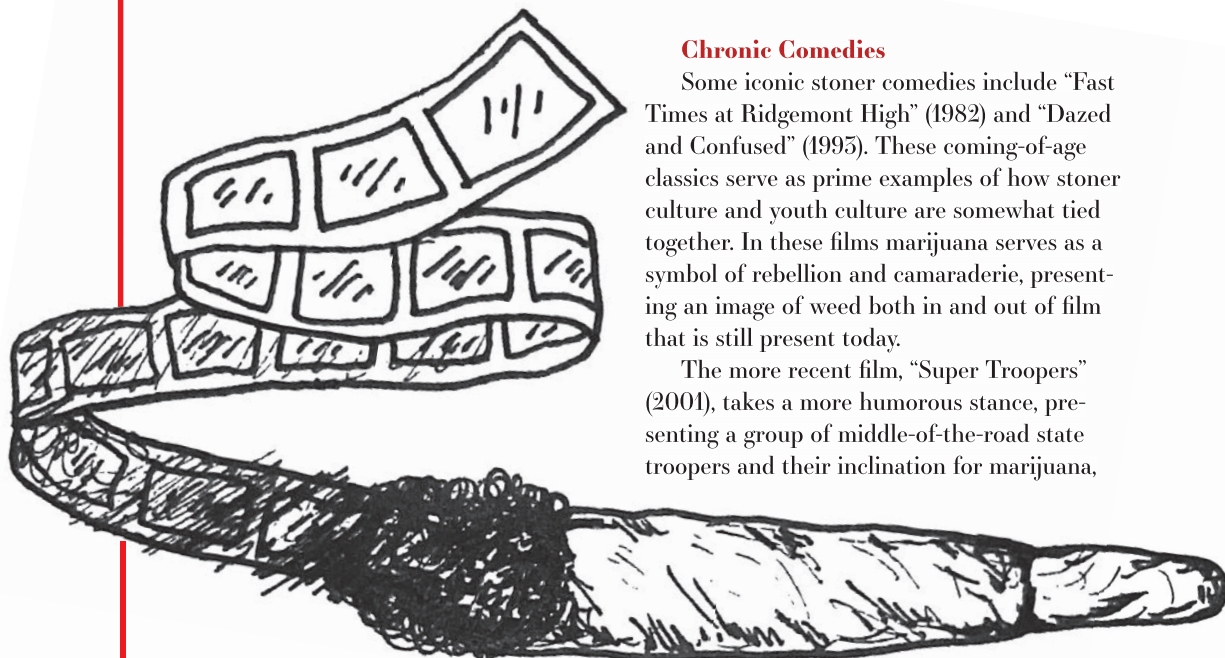
Few substances have left a mark on pop culture the way marijuana has. From its depiction in films to its celebration in music, weed has been a staple in the zeitgeist for generations.

Marijuana has been depicted in pop culture for some time now and, until recent years, hasn't been widely accepted or portrayed in a positive way. Some of the most common depictions of cannabis in movies are rebellious antics and laziness. These movies are referred to as stoner comedies.

Chronic Comedies

Some iconic stoner comedies include "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" (1982) and "Dazed and Confused" (1993). These coming-of-age classics serve as prime examples of how stoner culture and youth culture are somewhat tied together. In these films marijuana serves as a symbol of rebellion and camaraderie, presenting an image of weed both in and out of film that is still present today.

The more recent film, "Super Troopers" (2001), takes a more humorous stance, presenting a group of middle-of-the-road state troopers and their inclination for marijuana,



ironically leading them to several absurd situations. It serves as a commentary on the blurred lines between law enforcement and recreational drug use.

“Pineapple Express” (2008) takes a different approach, blending action and comedy to deliver a wild ride fueled by weed-induced misadventures. Its cult-like status solidifies its place in the realm of stoner cinema, demonstrating the enduring appeal of weed-centric narratives. Not long after its release, the film cemented its name in stoner history by becoming an official strain of weed.

Marijuana Medleys

Much like film, music presents as a great medium for artists to express their love for their favorite plant. While movies present many different stories about marijuana, all have a similar raunchy stoner plot, whereas music allows for a wide range of genres offering a wide range of stories and points of view.

The hip-hop hit “Because I Got High” by Afroman takes a comedic approach, chronicling the misfortunes that fall upon the protagonist due to his appetite for getting high. Its catchy chorus and ironic lyrics have made this song an anthem for enthusiasts worldwide.

“Pass the Kouchie” by The Mighty Diamonds offers a more reggae sound, telling a story of the communal aspect of smoking. The line “pass the Koutchie pon the left-hand side” refers to a common rule in the smoking community: when smoking a joint with your friends it's typically known to pass it to the left once you've finished hitting it.

Weed transcends musical genres and can be found in all areas.

For example, the rap classic “Hits From The Bong” by Cypress Hill, idolizes a popular form of consuming weed, through a bong. A beat that includes the sound of someone smoking from a bong matched with stoner and

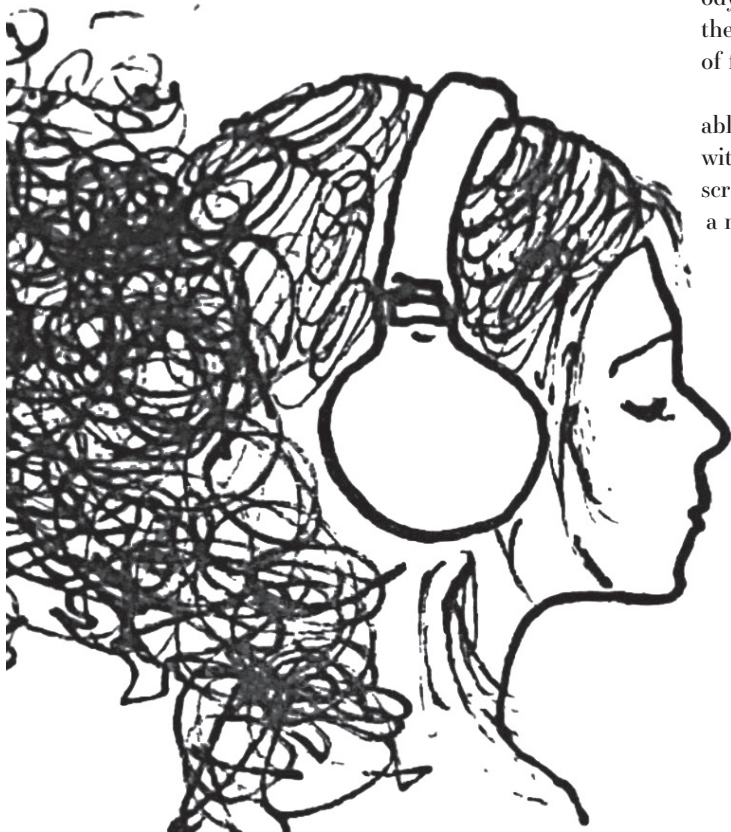
storytelling lyrics made this song an instant hit in the marijuana community.

On the other hand, “Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die” by Willie Nelson featuring iconic rapper/stoner Snoop Dogg, exudes a sense of laid-back tranquility, reflecting the country legend's long-standing advocacy for marijuana legalization. With its calm melody and reflective lyrics, the song encapsulates the essence of stoner culture and its embrace of freedom and individuality.

Weed's influence on pop culture is undeniable, shaping the way we perceive and interact with the world around us. From the big screen to the stereo, its presence is known in a multitude of forms, challenging stereotypes and sparking conversations along the way.

As attitudes towards marijuana continue to evolve, one thing remains certain: its place in pop culture is firmly rooted, and destined to inspire generations to come.

Illustrations by: Kennedy Merrión





COLLEGE AVENUE'S EDIBLE RECIPES

Written by Nathan Billingsley

For those with culinary skills, edibles can be a tasty way to get high. Edibles are THC-infused treats that can satisfy sweet or savory palates. Unlike smoking, THC from edibles, results in a longer and more potent high.

Cannabutter

Most edible recipes use cannabutter, which is a fun way of saying cannabis-infused butter. You can make cannabutter in bulk and store it in your refrigerator for any and all edible recipes.

Here's how to make it:

First, begin by decarbing your bud

1. Break up the bud and place it on a sheet pan with parchment paper.

2. Place the pan in the oven for around 30-45 minutes at 220 degrees Fahrenheit. Once the plant turns dark brown, you know it's ready.

3. Grind the bud until it's a fine, powdery consistency.

4. Melt one stick of unsalted butter in a saucepan. Once the butter is melted, add the weed and one and a half cups of water and let it simmer on low heat for around three hours.

5. Finally, strain the mix and put it in the fridge until it solidifies.

Now that you have your cannabutter, you can start experimenting with your favorite recipes!



***READ OUR
BUD BROWNIES
AND TEA
RECIPES ONLINE!**

Mary Jane's Mac & Cheese

What better way to get a comfortable high than some good old-fashioned comfort food? For this savory dish, we recommend making it from scratch.

1. In a large pot with water and salt, boil some elbow macaroni until it is almost cooked, then remove from the boiling water.

2. In a separate saucepan, melt your cannabutter over medium heat but be careful to not let it burn.

3. As your butter is melting, pour in about two cups of milk and whisk until it thickens to a creamy consistency.

4. Slowly add and whisk two cups of your preferred cheese. Make sure to do this slowly so the cheese melts completely and doesn't form lumps.

5. Add salt and pepper to your liking and mix with the macaroni. Sit back, relax, and enjoy your cheesy high!

Illustrations by: Riley Walker

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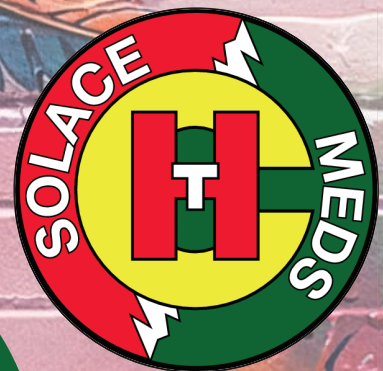
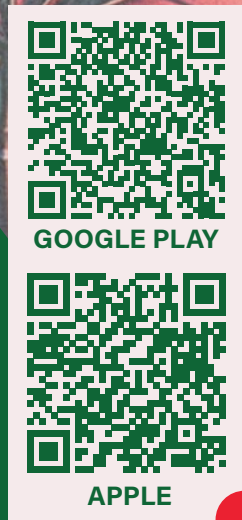
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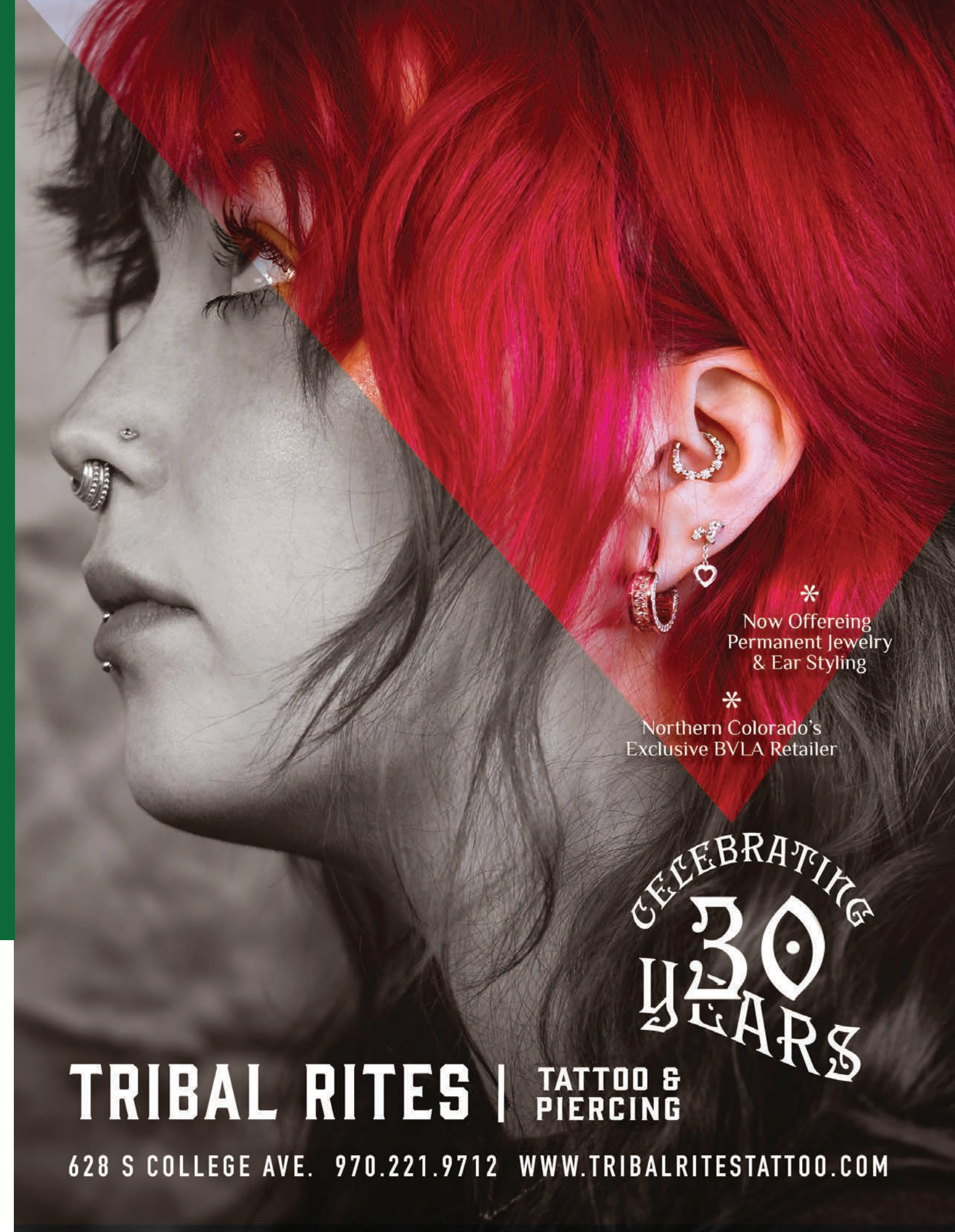
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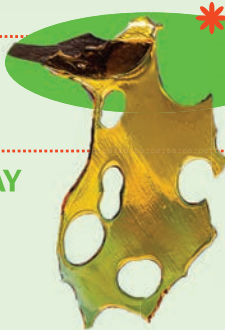


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