



POTPOURRI

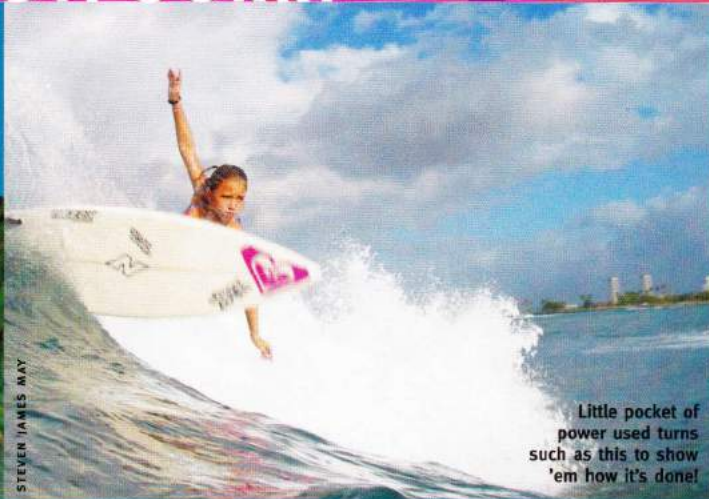
'Sally Rips' by Fran Callan

JUNIOR PROFILE: CARISSA MOORE

INTERVIEW BY KATE McMAHON



STEVEN JAMES MAY



Little pocket of power used turns such as this to show 'em how it's done!

Imagine how it'd feel having the entire surfing community claim you as being a future world champ, before you've even reached your 10th birthday? Well Carissa Moore knows exactly how it feels. At five years old, this teeny wahine from Hawaii had her first sample of surfing when her dad began pushing her into waves. Soon after Carissa held her own and began catching them by herself, and last year she reached 10 years old and started taking competitive surfing seriously. "I did the NSSA (National Scholastics Surfing Association) circuit and qualified for the national team in both mini-groms – boys and girls – where I got 3rd, and open women where I placed 7th." But Carissa surprised even her biggest fans when she eliminated seasoned surfers, Serena Brooke and Heather Clark to reach the quarter-finals of the Roxy Pro. When asked if she was nervous about going up against girls more than twice her age, she replied, "I didn't really think about beating any of the pros, I just tried my hardest. Haleiwa is a very tricky wave and it gets really big, so I tried to practise in some bigger surf (I was out when the wave faces were 15 feet) – it was scary but my dad was there with me." Not bad for an 11-year-old, huh?

Years Surfing: Six

Best things about surfing: I get to spend time with my dad.

Music you're into: Pretty much anything, I kind of like Good Charlotte.

Munchies you crave: Grandma's dinners: chicken, pasta, fruit salad, and hot butter rolls!

Favourite all-time flick: *Whale Rider*, *Lilo & Stitch* and any hot surfing video!

The best day of your life: I've had a lot of great days, but one of the best was when I was surfing Trestles with my friends and a lot of the good pros.

What scares you: Big waves, the dark and stitches.

If you could hang out with anyone in the world for a day, who would it be and why? Surfing with Kelly Slater, maybe he could give me some tips.

Your surfing strengths: 360s, tail slides.

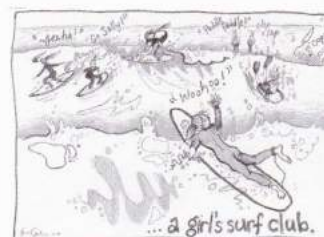
Personal strengths: Being silly.

Surfing weaknesses: Paying attention in the line-up.

Personal weaknesses: Paying attention during interviews.

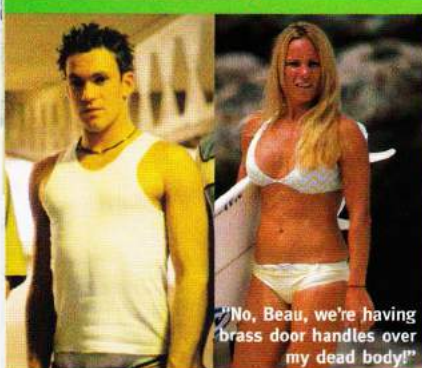
Favourite surfing spot in the world and why:

I like Trestles in California because it's a perfect-peeling wave and I like the area – I like to hike down to the spot. It could be a bit warmer though.



KEEP YOUR COOL

Feeling a little hot, baby? Howz this Squeeze Breeze, \$19.95 – it's a motorised fan you put water in. Now who's the coolest cat on the beach?



"No, Beau, we're having brass door handles over my dead body!"

TRUDY TODD ON HOTHOUSE

By now you probably would've heard of, or seen, **Network Ten's, Hothouse** – 14 couples chip in to knock up a mansion and only one

NEWSY BITS REALITY TV; INTRUDERS; READER EXPERIEN

gets to keep it. Professional surfer, **Trudy Todd** has coupled up with boy-of-three-years, Beau Callcott to make a play for the hothouse. Known for her, um, quietly challenged manner, Trudy simply says, "I hope I can control myself and not **get abusive at Beau**, I've gotta learn to **keep my mouth shut!**"

INTRUDER EVICTION

Kate Skarratt and Trudy Todd received anything but an Aloha welcoming on their first night in Hawaii. The girls planned a stopover to revive and be ripe-and-ready for the Billabong Pro Maui, but things didn't quite work out that way: **An intruder**, who had

somehow conned the receptionist into giving him a key, let himself into their Honolulu hotel room at 2am, was **ejected by security** when they heard the kaffuffle, only to later reappear at 4am to be **turfed out again**. By morning the girls were rattled and tired – the incident topping off a **traumatic year** for both, each already suffering from knee injuries. Trudy announced she was ready to go home, "I want out," she cried, bleary-eyed. "**I just want this all to be over.**"

WHO WON THE WILDCARD?

Each year the ASP (Association of Surfing Professionals) is granted a

Tour Wildcard to use as they wish. This year, **four applications were submitted** including: **Serena Brooke** and Laurina McGrath – WQS surfers who fell short of qualifying due to injury, Marie-Pierre Abridgall who missed out on requalifying directly through the WCT, and **Kate Skarratt**, who has been awarded the injury wildcard twice before, who also failed to requalify via the WCT as a result of injury. The ASP board were so divided in their decision, they figured it was fair for the **girls to fight it out** – in the water! The surf-off took place at the Roxy Pro on Phillip Island with Laurina awarded

REAL-LIFE
READ



“MY ARM WAS BITTEN OFF by a shark”

BETHANY'S STORY

Thirteen-year-old Bethany Hamilton from Kauai, Hawaii, tells how not even her worst nightmare has dampened her passion for the ocean or her desire to be the world's best ever surfer.

I first started surfing because my mum, dad and brothers all surfed. Then I really became passionate about it when I met Alana Blanchard in fourth grade. We were both only eight years old and really started to get into surfing because now we had someone else to go with, and pretty soon we were surfing with each other every day.

I totally fell in love with the sport so much, I never wanted to quit. Our perfect day would be to have snacks, then surf all day long in good, uncrowded waves, and we'd have our skateboards at the beach with us so we could skate home for more snacks! I love growing up on Kauai [island of Hawaii] – everyone knows everyone, most people in the area surf and it's just totally beautiful, kinda like Tahiti.

I have a coach from Australia, Russell Lewis, and he really helped

in boosting my level of surfing. I was only eight when I entered in my first contest and I scored first place.

So I could surf more and improve, my parents allowed me to do home online schooling from the seventh grade – it's like home-schooling, I can do it on my own time and lots of surfers do it. So as you can kinda guess, my whole life revolved around surfing.

Then one day me and my mum woke up at 5am cos we thought the waves were going to be good, cos they were the evening before. We drove out to check a spot called Tunnels, but to our surprise the surf wasn't so great. Alana, her dad Holt, and brother Byron, pulled up next to us and decided to go out for a splash, and even though it was a little small my brother and me decided to join them.

It was a really pretty morning and the surf was reasonably

uncrowded with only three other guys out. It's quite a paddle out to the break, about 10 minutes from the shoreline.

We'd been out there having fun for about half an hour and I was lying on my board waiting for a set. My left arm was in the water and my right arm was holding onto my board. All of a sudden the shark [estimated as a 14ft tiger] came up and started pulling me back and forward, not a lot, just a little bit. It was only for two or three seconds, I just saw a grey blur and after that it went underwater. There was tons of blood in the water so I knew it was a shark attack and I knew I'd lost my arm. I started paddling in and I was like yelling, "I got attacked by a shark!" Holt paddled over and pushed me into a little whitewash and Byron caught the same wave to pull me over the reef into the channel, then onto shore. Holt tied his rash vest around my arm to stop the bleeding and told me to keep



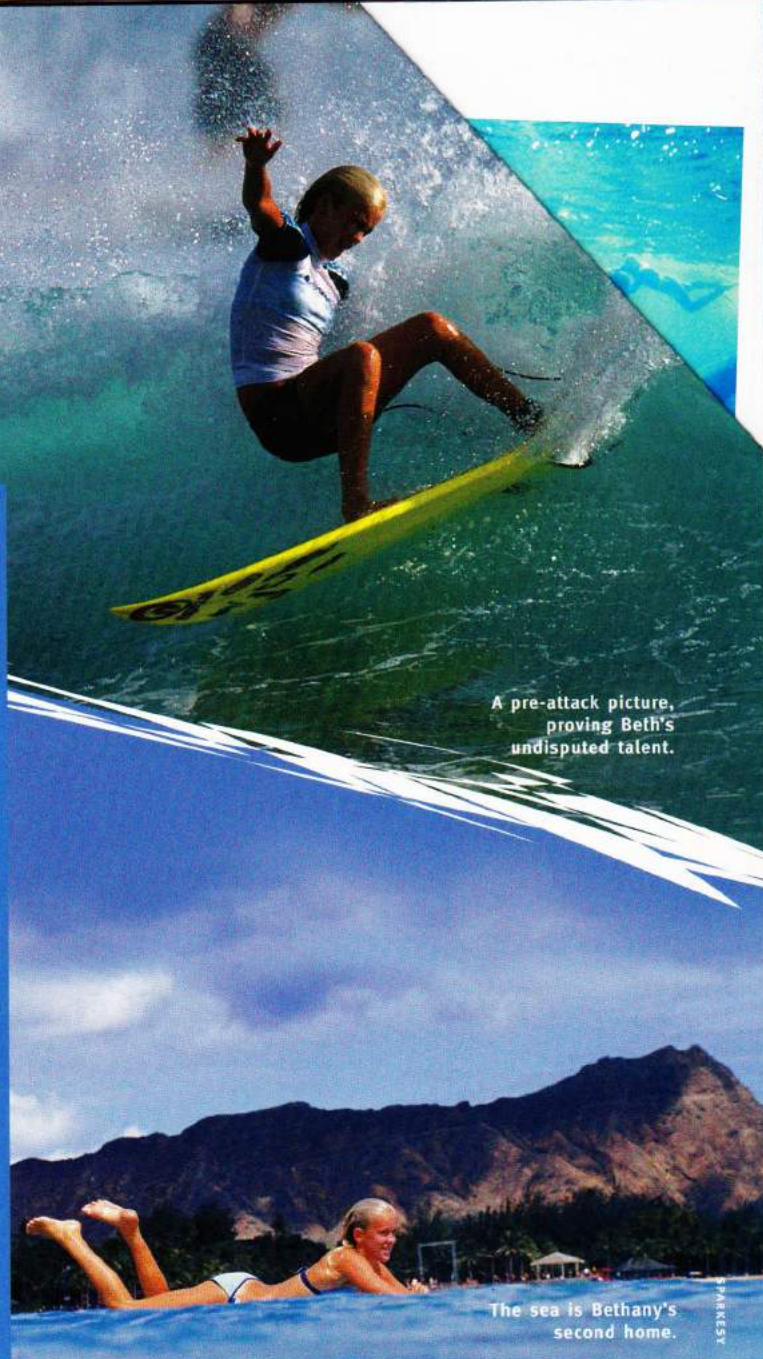
"ALL OF A SUDDEN THE SHARK CAME UP AND STARTED PULLING ME BACK AND FORWARD"

6 WAYS YOU CAN BE SHARK-SMART

- 1 Surf or swim with friends as a shark is more likely to attack someone going solo.
- 2 Don't enter the ocean if you're bleeding, as they possess super-strong senses.
- 3 Avoid wearing shiny jewellery – it can be mistaken for the sheen from fish scales.
- 4 Use extreme caution when surfing or swimming in drop-off areas – where it falls into deep ocean – or beyond sandbars, as they're renowned feeding zones.
- 5 Be wary at dawn and dusk being their primary feeding times and they have an added advantage of being able to see you better than you can see them.
- 6 If you spot a shark, don't flip out – it will most likely mind its own business and swim right on by.

Here Beth, a mere two months since her ordeal, rides a 6'3" board – which is a tough enough feat for the best of us.

NOAH HAMILTON



A pre-attack picture, proving Beth's undisputed talent.

The sea is Bethany's second home.

PARKESI

ing. I was just praying to God help, because I have a really strong faith with him and I think that helped me get through it. I had a thought that popped into my head of, I wonder if I'm going to lose my sponsors! My mom rushed in to phone 911. On the shore, Holt untied the vest and replaced it with a life preserver as tight as he could as a paramedic. I passed out for a while. When I woke up I was lying on a beach with a bunch of people around me including a paramedic. They carried me on a surfboard to the back of a truck while we waited for the ambulance. Once it arrived I was rushed to hospital. My dad, who was there, needed to be having surgery on his knee, had to be kicked out as they needed the operating room for me! When I woke up I saw my mum and dad in the hospital. I think I remembered what happened and why I was there. I had lost my arm. I just figured that was the plan for me and that I'd have to deal with it.

I was bummed because I didn't think I could be pro anymore, but I still might be able to. It's definitely harder to surf, but I'll just have to deal with it. I have moments where I'm kind of sad – not mad or upset – simply sad.

The doctor said I could go surfing for the first time since the attack, on Thanksgiving (November 25) but I ended up going out the day before, because I felt up to it and the waves were so good!

I just took out a longboard and surfed on the inside. My brother was filming and my dad was next to me, but I didn't want any help, I just wanted to do this on my own.

I got to my feet on my third wave. I thought my balance would be more off but it didn't feel that different. Getting up felt way different cos you can only use one arm to lift yourself up. I didn't feel scared of sharks at this particular spot but the thought of it does cross my mind sometimes.

The weirdest thing has been all

of the attention I've been getting over the world about the attack. Like from Switzerland, Japan, South America, the Caribbean, oh and Layne Beachley even told me she heard about it in Belgium! It's a little bit cool but after a while you get sick of it and all you want to do is surf. There were two benefits held for me, one on Kauai and one on Oahu where they had heaps of signed surfboards, paintings and stuff like that to auction off, but I couldn't go cos I didn't want to be swamped by people.

My main priority now is recovering. I have to keep stretching my stump, otherwise it will go all scrawny and my spine could go crooked. I might get this

operation where you can get the arm extended a couple of inches longer so I'll be able to paddle a little better.

I'm getting measured up for prosthetics and I hope to have an arm sometime in January or early February.

I just entered my first comp, since the attack 10 weeks ago. It was the NSSA [National Scholastics Surfing Association] Open Women Division. I didn't want any special treatment like more paddling time or anything, I just wanted to try my best, and I ended up getting fifth. For the year ahead I don't have any real contest goals, I just want to be surfing well and ripping on my shortboard! **SG**

THE WORLD LOVES BETH!

So far this little legend's story has touched the hearts of millions worldwide, appearing on shows from *Oprah* to *Good Morning America* and in publications from *National Geographic* to *Teen Vogue*. If you're keen to contact Bethany or simply see how she's doin' check out her very own website www.bethanyhamilton.com

THE BLONDE

Fear facing, friendship woes and boyfriend blues. Like us, Layne Beachley's just a girl...



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANTHEA PAUL

By Kate McMahon

I'm walking in the backstreet 'burbs of Curl Curl, Sydney, and am only a few doors down from Layne's front door. I notice the letterbox's secured with a padlock, and the sandstone-coloured surrounding wall allows no insight to her private life. There was a rumour I'd heard suggesting Layne had purchased this property for three million dollars. Fifty-five minutes later when I mention this to her in the midst of our interview she throws her head back and laughs, "Really? Wow! I wish I had *that* much money!" She then cocks her head to propel her voice down the hallway and jokes to her personal assistant/friend and housemate, Brooke Farris, "I spent three million on this place!" "Oh shit, that was a bargain!" Brooke sarcastically replies, knowing it was acquired for under a mill.

I'm at the door all formal-like with my bag full of journalistic equipment, and knock quietly on the locked screen door. Don't know why, but I'm a little nervous. This'll be the first time I see Layne since her breaking a world record and securing five consecutive world titles. But Brooke opens the door and leads me through to the kitchen where she's preparing her and Layne's daily fresh juice fix. "Want one?" Brooke asks as she hacks the peel from an orange. "Um, yeah... if it's not too much trouble." I reply in an uncharacteristically shy manner. "Stop being polite!" says a familiar voice from the upstairs bedroom. "Just say you want one!" It was Layne's voice with advice to not only quench my thirst, but an underlying message to chill out. It's only an interview.

Footsteps patter down the stairs and Layne walks through the lounge into the kitchen. Her bright-blue with brown trim three-quarter-length board shorts hang on her hips well below her flattened belly and the matching tri-top burns bright against her deep-brown Hawaiian tan. I move closer and hug her tiny 5'5" frame and whisper, "Congratulobloodylations Layne, I knew you could do it." And I did. Here stands a woman who, as a child, decided whatever sport she chose to compete in, she would be the best or wouldn't compete at all; yearned to ride the biggest wave a woman's ever ridden, and did so on a 30 foot monster in 2000 at Hawaii's Outer Log Cabins; and whose seemingly unrealistic goal after her first world title win back in 1998 to smash Lisa Andersen's world record and win five consecutive world titles is achieved.

I release my embrace, and ask her how she feels. Her eyes, so crystal blue they could've spawned the ocean itself, roll back into her head. "I've celebrated every [five] world title this week," Layne says. "Just with red wine alone!" she adds laughing. As I'm about to suggest we begin the interview, Layne draws in a sharp breath, and with watery eyes, leans across the kitchen bench, grabs a fistful of tissues and shoves them up to her nose in time to catch a sneeze big enough to saturate a small state. She reveals while pinching her nose for sound affect, "I'b gob ba colb inb ba bose." A cold that would later cause her to cancel a snowboarding trip to Lake Tahoe. Mmm, so Wonder Woman is human after all, I think.

I follow Layne over to her chocolate-brown modular couch where she

huddles her athletically buffed body into the corner. I position myself comfortably next to her and notice the cabinet leaning on the opposite wall containing half of Layne's trophies. The other 45 are displayed either on the walls or in the upstairs "adults room".

Brooke asks us if it's okay to interrupt and begin juicing. And with vested interests Layne and I agree it's cool, so the extractor fires up louder than a westy V8 convention. A few minutes later Brooke places two balloon glasses full to the brim with a bright-orange concoction into our hands and we simultaneously take a sip.

As Layne wipes the orange moustache from her upper lip, I reflect back to the '90s where Layne demanded to be noticed. She snagged her first professional victories at two of the tour's most prestige events – North Narrabeen's 1993 Coke Classic and Bells Beach's 1994 Easter Classic. Although her professional profile was shining bright, Layne still couldn't dodge people's perception of her performing below Lisa Andersen's standard. "It made me feel as frustrated as hell, and I was tired of living in her shadow both professionally and through sponsorship." I ask Layne if she thinks Lisa will ever praise her for beating her four-title record?

"What surprised me was she [Lisa] showed up to the dinner we had the night I'd won. Which I guess is her way of showing her respect to my achievement. She didn't say anything to me, then at the end of the night she came and gave me a hug and said, 'You were stressed out there today, weren't you' and that's about all I got," said Layne shrugging her shoulders. "I don't expect her to be thrilled for me. Her going for four [world titles] gave me something to strive for."

Layne's more than familiar with the demanding role of a world champion. Often she wakes snuggled safely in her own bed and forgets who she is. "Oh yeah, I forget every day and I'm rudely awakened!" But all jokes aside, such as celebrities when thrust into the pupils of the public eye, preconceived conclusions are often blindly jumped to. "When I was number two in the world everyone thought what I did was funny. Now I'm number one everyone takes me very seriously." Ironically laughing at the thought, Layne continues, "So I realised I can't be as jovial, sarcastic or silly as I normally am. If I feel I'm going to be misunderstood or taken too seriously I have to bite my tongue!" She giggles, then pokes out her orange-coated tongue: "My tongue's bruised I tell ya, cos I've really had to bite it a lot!"

I admire Layne's ability to laugh at herself, it's just *another* thing she's good at. But imagine leading a life where you fear to be yourself. Which is why Layne values her true mates: "I have a lot of friends all around the world who I'm very well understood and respected by, and they let me be me. But they put me in my place if I try to pretend I'm better than I am!" After a time of being taken a little *too* literally in the USA's sarcastically challenged environment, home's where her heart is: "When I'm in Australia I feel really accepted and I don't feel like I have to be anything other than just being Layne."

PROFILE: LAYNE BEACHLEY

CRUMBET PRODUCTIONS

I JUST THOUGHT THEY WERE JEALOUS, THEN I REALISED IT WAS FAR FROM THE TRUTH AND IT WAS ME THAT WAS THE PROBLEM.

FUN FACTS ABOUT BEACHLEY

- ▶ Layne used to pull the newspaper boy's trolley up the steep grass hill next to her house for 20 cents every afternoon after school.
 - ▶ Layne used to spend the 20 cents on mixed lollies or a Paddle Pop.
- ▶ Layne rode a foamie until she was 14 because she didn't want to surf out of the flags.
 - ▶ Layne had braces twice.
 - ▶ Layne grinds her teeth at night.
- ▶ Layne shaved her legs the first time at age 16 and did a dry shave.
 - ▶ Layne bypassed an amateur career to go pro straight after high school.
- ▶ Layne financed her first few years on tour by working 60 hours a week in various places such as a: restaurant, pizza shop, hairdresser, pub, clothes shop.
 - ▶ Layne bought her first bra at age 19.
- ▶ Layne represented her school in tennis, hockey, basketball and soccer.
- ▶ Layne would go to the Pizza Hut for a family dinner and pull the topping off and just eat the base.
 - ▶ Layne can see the ocean from her bed.
- ▶ Layne would like to see Chelsea Georgeson take over the reins as World Champion because, "She's got a really good personality, she an inspiration and she's an amazing surfer."



FAR ABOVE: Layne making solid Sunset look way too easy. ABOVE: A 21-year-old Layne clutches surfing's most prestige trophy, the Bells Beach Classic bell in 1994. RIGHT: She gave the finger in 1998, then the high-five in 2002.

BEHIND THE BLONDE

Up until a year ago, during the first few years of her world title status, Layne felt she had no friends on tour. She figured close personal relationships could interfere with her main aim of being a champion. But what a lonely way to live. "I used to think everyone hated me just because I won, so I distanced them from myself and they distanced themselves from me. I just thought they were jealous, then I realised it was far from the truth and it was me that was the problem. It's amazing what you can create in your mind and then believe it's happening."

Mind you, the period surrounding her first four world titles was consumed with boyfriend, and big-wave dude, Ken Bradshaw. Layne had Ken by her side and it was all she needed. But in France – the land of love – August 2002, one by one the petals of their passion proceeded to wilt and Layne couldn't take it anymore. "I was beginning to be intolerant! It was just bugging me, until he [Ken] got up one morning and went, 'Are you over this relationship?' And I said, 'Yeah, I am.' I just had to be honest with him." Layne's yearning to return to Aussie shores and Ken's desire to remain in Hawaii proved a geographical burden, but it was the dad-like discipline she was subjected to which saw Layne kiss her man goodbye.

She bends her right knee to her chest. Rests the right arm – toned tight from over two decades of paddling – on top and places her head in her hand. I don't say a word. I just listen. Listen to Layne's story of lost love. "He expected me to perform harder. Train more. Be more focused. I didn't go to France for the WQS [World Qualifying Series], instead I went to [Las] Vegas to party for a week. This disappointed him greatly. He has my best interest at heart, but there's a lot of moments I missed out on living because I allowed someone else to direct me." She brushes her beach-blonde hair from her eyes and expresses, "We had a lot of fun together and if it wasn't for him I maybe wouldn't have won the world title so soon. There was a lot of love, support and understanding. He gave me so much stability and strength and now I can draw on that within myself."

At this moment I can't hold on any longer – so I take a toilet break. As I drop my daks and ease down my butt, I'm face-to-face with Ken. It's a poster of him riding an Outside Log Cabins gigantic wave claiming "Biggest Wave Ever Ridden" framed and mounted on the door. Wow, Layne's surfed there, I think, as I pull up my fly.

As I head back to the couch I notice Layne's balloon glass is drained of juice and almost all of mine is too. "I drank some of your juice, buddy," said the champ. But should I drink the rest? Will I get a cold? Or maybe I'll drink it and be empowered with an uncanny big-wave ability, yeah, just like in *Spiderman*. Before I have the chance to experiment my notion, Layne pours my remaining juice into her own glass, smirks at me and comfortably rests both her feet on the table.

Man, her feet are small. Not so much in length – they're a size seven – but narrow. It's beyond belief they're the only thing between her body, her board and 30 foot of sea-swell. I slump in my seat I ask if big-wave riding will still serve as a passion with the absence of Ken.

"Yeah, I still have a love for big waves. I've never done it for anyone but myself or for any other reason than to fulfil my big-wave desire." Remembering a time when I got pressed duck-diving a three-footer, I ask Layne, do you get scared?

"Oh yeah, I get scared."

Like crying scared?

"Oh no, I never get *that* scared. I'm mentally prepared for the worst wipeout of my life and physically able to deal with it."

But what about dealing with a broken heart? She's a cool chick – attractive; fit; healthy; and funny. So I ask, any guys bustin' down your door for a date?

"Nup!"

Oh come on. What, you don't get asked on dates?

"Nope!"

Really?

"Um, you'll work it out. Ha, sooner or later!"

Why, are you seeing someone?

"Uh huh," she mumbles.

Yep?

"Yep!" She's blushing. Layne Beachley's blushing! And she looks amazing.

"You've got ten minutes left, we have to go soon," yells Brooke from upstairs. "What am I gonna wear? Hang on, I'll come up," replies Layne. While Layne's in her room, I stop the tape recording, walk over to the kitchen bench and place the dictaphone into my bag. That moment I hear a guy's voice upstairs. Oh shit, I think, it's her new boy. I didn't realise Layne meant I'd find out *this* soon. She bounces back down the stairs, into the lounge, and twirls joking the boardies and bikini she's wearing is her work uniform for the day! I laugh and so does a male behind me. I swing to face him and Layne introduces me to her new boyfriend, Kirk. I'm face-to-face with INXS's saxophonist, Kirk Pengilly and my mind briefly flashes back to '80s-induced mullets and puffy pants. Now, he's obviously older – he's 44 – Layne likes older guys. But he's kinda cute, quirky-lookin', and super-friendly, for sure I can see why she digs him.

Layne's relaxed. Loose. Stimulated. Her aura seems softer. She's vibing on life. On *her* life. What are you up to now, I ask speaking of the next few hours. She glances at Kirk from across the dining table, stretches her arms towards the sky, closes her eyes, smothers her lungs with a breath of fresh air, smiles at me and says, "I'm just going to have fun and surf my life away." SG



10

golden moments

which left a sparkle in the eye of the 2003 Gold Coast Roxy Pro



BOSKO

◀ 001. [wicked waves]

Torture, pure torture, are the words I'd use to describe watching this year's Roxy Pro on March 5, 6 and 9. But don't take this the wrong way...

Sitting on the ocean deck of the Rainbow Bay clubhouse with an A-class ocean view, sunbeams bouncing off the sea surface and enough surrounding eye candy from the Quiksilver Pro to satisfy even my sweet tooth, sure as hell beat sitting in an office surrounded by walls, with my main eye contact being with the computer in front of me. Nah, this I didn't have a problem with... it was the waves driving me to the brink of insanity.

Perfect three-to-four-foot peelers reeled down the mechanical right-hand point of Snapper Rocks, many remaining unriden if they failed to deliver maximum scoring potential for the tour's top 18 women. But for you and me, they probably would've given us the ride of our lives.

002. [world-class threesome]

The heat of the decade. Or at least, there was a decade of world titles between the three competitors: Layne Beachley (five), Lisa Andersen (4) and Pauline Menczer (1). As Tropical Cyclone Erica – ironically the same name as Lisa's nine-year-old daughter – pirouetted north of the state, Layne Beachley exploded with an opening ride leaving onlookers gasping for air at her precision and power. And while Lisa and Pauline answered back with reasonable rides, Layne hurtled ahead and convincingly confirmed her true champ status with a total 17.27 score out of a possible 20.

003. [crouching tiger, hidden terror]



This may be the Tower of Terror, but check out the guy in the third row on the right. We have no idea who he is or how he got there. It's frickin' feaky.

For a little out-of-water action, Dreamworld invited *SurfGIRL* to Tiger Island to meet Mohan – the first white tiger to be kept in captivity in Australia. Neridah Falconer, Lisa Andersen, Chelsea Georgeson, Layne Beachley, Trudy Todd, Pauline Menczer and Sam Cornish crouched timidly behind the beautiful beast for a pat and a Kodak moment (see page 81). It seemed Mohan was more interested in portraying pussy-like expressions than scaring the pants off seven surfer girls, so the girls thankfully left with every limb attached. It was a unanimous decision we couldn't leave without scaring ourselves shitless on the Tower of Terror and Giant Drop rides, although Trudy and Neridah snuck off home – pikers!

Cost of reaching speeds of 160km/h to power up 38 storeys, then dropping from a height of 120 metres? Free actually, cos Dreamworld buffed us by taking us through the back door! Cost of the look of our idiot grins once we wobbled wearily away from both rides? Priceless!

Layne Beachley rubs in the fact this slab of sea is a competitors-only zone for the day, by pulling into a bit of Snapper gold.

004. [SurfGIRL VIP Winner!] ▶▶

Remember the comp we ran in *SurfGIRL*'s Autumn issue where you win a VIP behind-the-scenes pass to the Roxy and Quiksilver Pros? Well 19-year-old Emmie Burrows from Brisbane was the lucky lass, and here's what she had to say...

"I couldn't believe it! Kate [Ed] called to tell me I was the lucky girl! So many of my friends were jealous, so I tried to experience everything without hounding the poor pros when they were relaxing between heats with their mates and family. Luckily Kate's friends with most the surfers, so she introduced me to as many people as she could."

So who'd she take?

"On the first day I took my best friend Felicia. It gave her an insight into the surfing world I'm so into. On the other days I took Mal, my boyfriend. He's heavily into surfing and made me 'girlfriend of the year'! He couldn't wait to meet his fave surfer Occy."

Emmie rocked! She wasn't shy to meet anyone – she even strolled straight up to Kelly Slater and introduced herself as the *SurfGIRL* comp winner to get a quick snap. Plus she came and partied hard with us during our night-time frolics!

Any last words, Emmie?

"Thanks, *SurfGIRL* for the maddest time!"

In Emmie's words ...



Kelly and Emmie.

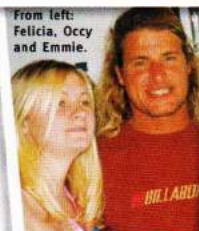
"Ohh, can I take you home with me?"



Emmie and Trudy.

"Trudy told me, 'The party doesn't end here still have to hit the clubs!'"

From left: Felicia, Occy and Emmie.



"Mal is gonna be sooo jealous!"



"This was taken just before Lisa took us to 'surfers only' spots at the comp!"

Three seconds later, Rookie Sofia Mulanovich scored \$5000 for this tube.



▲ 005. [youth vs, err, wisdom!]

It was a case of first-comp jitters for grom girls Chelsea Georgeson and Sofia Mulanovich during their first heat. Sofia confessed, "I was really, really nervous. This is the big league, no more joking around." Despite their nerves, the two teenagers progressed through to the quarter-finals to individually face two of the tour's cultivated competitors...

"It'll be good to have Sofia," said Lynette MacKenzie of her upcoming heat against the Peruvian power-grom. "I had her in the first heat, so hopefully I'll beat her again." While Layne confessed, "Coming up against Chelsea, that's the one girl who always makes me nervous."

Sofia bolted from the starting gate before Lynette barely had time to attach her legrope. She flew across the sea's surface and punched the

wave's pocket harder than Buffy slaying Satan, claiming an 8.83 and a 9.10. Lyn displayed clear signs of frustration – which is usually in her surfing's favour. And although she showed incredible form in her previous two heats, this time failed to score over a 4.33.

There was a simultaneous jet ski race back into the line-up to secure priority after Layne and Chelsea completed their opening rides only seconds apart. Chelsea almost ran over Layne during one of her rides. And both competitors had wave-for-wave exchange in the last 30 seconds. Neither girl would let the other out of her sight, and the surfing standard made you quiver with adrenalin. But Layne's shredding her way to a near-perfect 9.80 saw her unanimously progress to the semis, while Chelsea finished the event with an impressive equal-fifth placing.

006. [from the beach]

They shuffle their bare sunburnt feet in the sand, glancing every 30 seconds at the five-minute flag above the judges tower, knowing any minute soon the siren would sound. Five, four, three, two, one, broooooooooo! Heat's over. Hundreds of star-struck grommies scramble in a merciless manner to the water's edge as though Willy Wonka has just opened his factory for a free-for-all. Surrounding their heroes retiring from the heat, their waterproof textas are about to be sucked for all their money's worth in an autograph frenzy. This was just part of the good-vibe visible during the Roxy Pro.

The large local contingent soaking up the action ensured the support for their local or fave competitors was heard loud and clear. Any heat involving Cooly Chick, Trudy Todd, came with ardent ovations as she smacked the lip on her home turf. While Sam Cornish also touched spectators' soft spot, with her fast and fluid style encouraging roars and applause from the residents. As far as scoring crowd participation, it was a unanimous perfect 10.



Pauline time-tunnelling back to the '80s in her fluoro duds.



007. [Torquay time tunnel]

One simple rule, one simple outcome: get the longest barrel during the comp (and come out), get 5000 bucks! Torquay Mineral Water figured this was a pretty good incentive for the girls to take some time out in the tube.

Pauline Menczer claimed, "I'm going for it, I want the 5000 bucks!" And so she started the stopwatch ticking by scoring the first baz for 2.13794327 seconds. She looked to be sitting pretty for the first three rounds. Frivolously spending the 5000 big ones in her mind: a new winter jacket for her mini-dog; a fluffy dice for the new van; fishing gear; new undies...

But in quarter-final number one her dreams of an overflowing purse were shattered. Sofia Mulanovich claimed the prize by slotting into a bit of three-second gold. It was her time to shine... not to mention her shout for cocktails that night!

008. [dance off]

I'm not sure what was in the Gold Coast water during the event, but when night fell and the girls' contest commitments were either over or on hold with a lay day, any dance floor standing in their way was in some serious danger of being doofed to death. We followed the masses and ran riot at the *Tracks* party on Friday, March 7. Roland, owner of the infamous party place on the French coast Rockfoods, was in his fine tequila-shouting form, by lining up Kate Skarratt, Holly Monkman, Megan Abubo and myself at the bar for a little lick, sip and suck - with shots, that is. But this dance floor didn't cop it half as much as Cooly club, Baja's did on the night of the Roxy finals...

An apprehensive ring of guys could but circle the chaos of girls grooving and grinding, with petrified expressions splashed across their faces, not knowing whether to take the risk and get amongst the mayhem or run for their goddamn lives! A few brave souls took a nothing ventured, nothing gained approach and hurled themselves into the concoction of rhythmical and sensual energy. Sadly, only the strong survived - those willing to writhe on request - while the weak were spat from the doof den like venom from a cobra!



Left to right: Kate, Roland, Holly and Megan, post tequila!

results!

1st, Layne Beachley, \$10,000
5th, Lynette MacKenzie, \$3000
9th, Melanie Redman-Carr, \$2500
9th, Megan Abubo, \$2500
17th, Kate Skarratt, \$2000

2nd, Trudy Todd, \$6000
5th, Chelsea Georgeson, \$3000
9th, Keala Kennelly, \$2500
9th, Neridah Falconer, \$2500
17th, Lisa Andersen, \$2000

3rd, Jacqueline Silva, \$4000
5th, Samantha Cornish, \$3000
9th, Heather Clark, \$2500
9th, Julia Christian, \$2500

3rd, Sofia Mulanovich, \$4000
5th, Pauline Menczer, \$3000
9th, Rochelle Ballard, \$2500
9th, Marie Pierre Abgrall, \$2500

"Weeeee! This world can be so much fun!" Layne Beachley, who won the semis, floats into first.



009. [the finals]

"I wish I could grab that yellow rashie back," said Layne Beachley tugging at the damp red rashie hugged tight against her tiny waist as she approached Snapper Rocks's paddle-out point for the anticipated final. "I won the semis in that one!" she said pointing towards her fellow finalist in yellow,



local Trudy Todd. "The last time Trude and I surfed against each other was in '99 I think... and she beat me!"

Trudy clutched her board tightly and looked to see what the ocean had to offer. She tried to remain focused, but couldn't contain her excitement at making the final on her first year back on the 'CT at the first event of the year. "Layne's surfing so good," she exclaimed with her big blonde hair bouffing out in the breeze. "I'm going to have to surf well to beat her, but I'm just glad to have made the final and surf such good waves in my home town."

Trudy almost failed to make it through round three in her battle against West Oz's Mel Redman-Carr, but whacked her way from Snapper to Rainbow Bay with a 9.73 in the last five minutes after needing a 9.10 to progress.

Now she was being towed by jet ski around the bobbing Roxy buoys back into the line-up after scoring an impressive seven-point ride, to lead the final against five-time world champ, Layne Beachley.

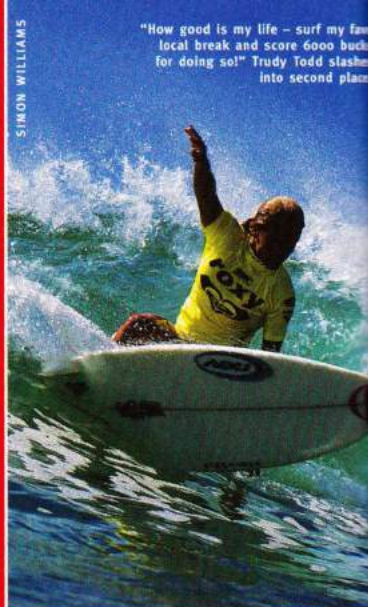
The pair went wave for wave with a couple of average-scoring rides, before Layne decided, now's the time to show the world why I'm the champ. BAM! She drove her board vertically through the wave's pocket, floated, got barrelled. You name it, she did it.

I mean, you couldn't argue with her surfing – it was fricken mind-blowing. Trudy also surfed fantastically in her fast and snappy fashion, but was perhaps not as relaxed as Layne – a result of her injury-induced two-year break from the tour.

Trudy, although left in second place needing a combination of 11 points, was still smiling and Layne added number 26 to her WCT victory tally.

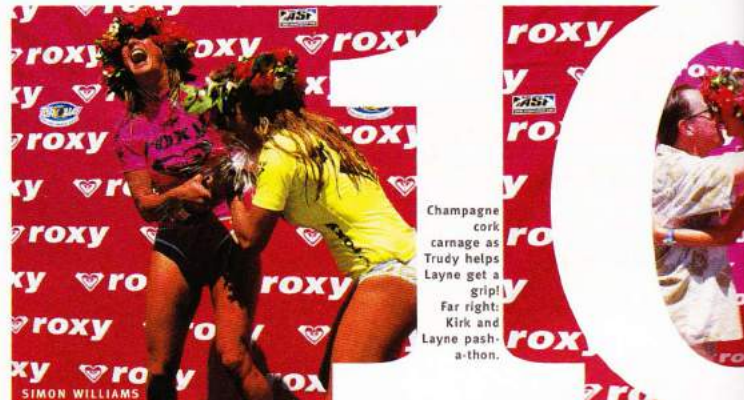
"I guess I've got to stick with this lazy preparation of having months off and enjoying myself," claimed Layne, speaking of the time out she treated herself to over the Christmas break. "I'm actually the most relaxed I've been in the water for the last five years. All the girls are surfing great, so I'm sure it's going to be a really rough year."

Ranked number one at the start of her sixth world title campaign, it'd be rad to be living in Layne's World.



010. [more moments to mention]

- ▶ Pauline Menczer's old-school fluoro orange board shorts.
- ▶ The fact Layne can win five world titles, but can't release the champagne cork on the final's podium. Trudy resorted to trying to pull it off between her teeth.
- ▶ Trudy received a phone call from Yugoslavia from a friend who'd seen the finals on TV over there!
- ▶ Jacqueline Silva's stylish and vertical turns and Sam Cornish's and Rochelle Ballard's sick and speedy surfing.
- ▶ Layne's main man (INXS dude) Kirk Pengilly eagerly absorbing his first contest experience gets 10 points for A: getting up at 5.30am with Layne when, as with all musos, he is used to going to bed at 5.30am. And B: in innocently thinking he was barracking for Pauline in a heat, when it was fact Lynette – until he put his glasses on!





Steph (left) and Zoe hard on the job.



Steph switches to night vision.



Steph at the best office in the world.



So you wanna be a... TV SHOW PRODUCER

HARDCORE CANDY – THE NEW GIRL'S ACTION SEGMENT ON THE SCREEN, STARTED WITH JUST TWO CHICKS, AN IDEA AND THE POWER OF PASSION.

Ahh, the Uni Bar: where pashes are plentiful and thesis deadlines are drowned away. **It's also the hang-out where Zoe Flower and Steph Drinnan formed a friendship at the University of British Columbia, Canada, which would later develop into a prosperous (and insanely fun) business partnership.**

Both burst into the big wide world, with Zoe boasting study experience in computer science, animation and graphic design before nabbing a job with a video game TV show. While Steph departed with a degree in international relations, and experience in broadcast journalism ahead of working on an action sports show *16mm*.

Now the two have fused their experience together to form GirlsRoom Productions and released *Hardcore Candy* – a “chicks only” action sports program created, produced and presented by the girls, aired in Canada, California, Europe, the UK and Australia. SurfGIRL rapped to Zoe about the entire production process from tape to telly.

How did you actually come up with the idea?

I got into mountain biking and I saw guys, guys, guys and I was like, where are the girls? So I called Steph, and she was like, this is so crazy, I've already written a one-page doc for the exact same idea. We were like, let's pitch this, and the network was all over it from day one.

Have you both got sporting backgrounds?

We are both really active people: Steph is an avid mountain biker and rockclimber and she snowboards. I snowboard, play ice hockey, mountain-bike, and I'm learning to surf. **So what are the steps to make a segment from start to finish?**

We had to do a lot of research to start with to see who was out there and if there was enough content to make a program solely about girls. It took a lot of time to define what [tone] the show would be. Steph [is] behind the camera asking the questions and shooting our own stuff so we can have our own style – what makes these very talented athletes tick? Then we want to encourage other girls, so we do stories about places to learn and participation stories – Steph trying to surf in freezing-cold waters of Canada, and we went to a motocross school and tried to ride motorbikes. **So then is it just you two taking it back to the editing desk?**

Steph's the main editor of the show and I do all the graphic design for the show. We have a little bit of outside help to provide some stories, but pretty much the whole first season was just a two-woman operation.

What steps did you have to go through to pitch your product?

Steph had contacts with the Outdoor Life network in Canada through the program she had been working on and it turned out the head of programming

was a woman. So we sent her our one-page write-up [on the show]. She said yes, but the problem was we had no pilot at that stage. We just slapped together a few rushed pieces and took it to the director and within a month we had a contract, it was really shocking! **What about getting it aired on the ABC in Australia?**

We decided to look at taking our programming worldwide. So we went with Extreme International and they put a package together. Australia picked it up right away, because it's such an action sports country.

So what would you say are the good bits about your job?

Every day I wake up and I want to go to work. We own it so it's our baby and you just feel like the more work you put into it, the more you are going to get out of it. I think one of the best things is the response we get from fans, oh and the travel is a real perk. **And what would you say is the bummer bit?**

Um the hours, lots of work, the lack of ability to actually practise the sports you love to document. We are still just a tiny little company that just gets by, it's very stressful like not knowing what is going to happen next. Are we going to have another season? Are we going to be able to keep going and put in the number of hours we work for the little money we make? **SG**

ADDED JOB ATTRIBUTES!

- ▶▶ if you're thinking of producing a reality show, steer clear from sticking a bunch of neurotic losers on a deserted island with hopes they'll be bitch-fighting before getting it on with each other – it's been done before.
- ▶▶ Your fave show on telly, will literally be yours.
- ▶▶ Your get to be your own boss and yell CUT! to yourself.

WHAT EQUIPMENT DO I NEED?

- ▶▶ A digital video camera – preferably a three-chip for TV quality.
- ▶▶ A good-quality microphone to attach to your video camera.
- ▶▶ A computer with a fire wire connection and editing software.

YOU CAN CATCH HARDCORE CANDY ON FLY TV WEDNESDAY 7 TO 7.30PM.

HOW TO CREATE YOUR OWN TV SHOW

*Gain experience through courses. Following are a selection recommended by the University of Technology, Sydney (your local university and TAFE may offer similar courses):

- Media Arts and Production Program
- BA in Communication (Media Arts and Production) <http://www.uts.edu.au/div/publications/hss/ug/c10097.html>
- Graduate Certificate in Film and Video, Graduate Diploma in Media Arts and Production, Master of Media Arts and Production <http://www.uts.edu.au/div/publications/hss/pg/media.html>

- BA in Communication (Journalism) <http://www.uts.edu.au/div/publications/hss/ug/c10096.html>
- Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Master of Arts in Journalism <http://www.uts.edu.au/div/publications/hss/pg/journalism.html>
- *Determine what subject you want to focus on. Hint: choose something you're passionate about. It's no good documenting the evolution of insects if you freak out at ladybirds.
- *Be prepared to be patient and to put a lot of time into pitching your product.

"Oh, I dunno if I'll make the final..." y
right, four trophies later! Rebecca Wood

ALL TIME ALL GIRLS

AT THIS YEAR'S ANTICIPATED **AZTEC ROSE ALL GIRLS SURF SHOWDOWN** 10TH ANNIVERSARY, WE LEARNT INSPIRATION DOESN'T ALWAYS NEED TO BE SOURCED FROM THOSE WHO ARE OLDER AND WISER...

Photos depicting magic memories as part of the Aztec Rose All Girls Surf Showdown's 10th anniversary celebration, flickered on a projection screen where all eyes could see. Previous world titleholder, Pauline Menczer, positioned herself centre-stage to share her appreciation and passion of this event. As she shuffled through her notes Pauline giggled and confessed, "Please don't change it to an ASP event, I like it just the way it is!" The entire room exploded with laughter and harmonious clapping, cos we all felt exactly the same way. "I've always loved the atmosphere at this event," Pauline

continued, "and when I joined the Tour I thought it would have much of the same vibe... but it doesn't. That's why I keep coming back here year after year." This was the first time in five years Pauline was banned from surfing the event, and it wasn't a result of her notorious cheeky antics, it was due to restrictions placed on WCT surfers, forbidding them to participate in non-ASP sanctioned events. The rules may stop our touring heroes from surfing in the event, but they certainly can't stop them from supporting it, and having Pauline Menczer and Neridah Falconer showing an interest, it was truly inspiring. After all, there's not many

other contests where our fave pros would spend a few days simply watching... they just don't have the time. But it seems for this event, they enjoy *making* the time.

Over the past 10 years there's been a suspicious trace of "good karma" associated with the event, resulting in yearly appearance of wicked waves. Although this year was no exception, we did experience a sketchy start...

A record-number of 189 girls made the pilgrimage from all corners of Australia to be greeted by a tiny, onshore, uninviting Lennox line-up. But this contest buzzes with camaraderie and not even small surf can dampen

DEDICATION TO A DECADE

We asked some long-time Surf Showdown goers a couple of questions:

- 👉 Their most memorable Showdown moment
- 👉 Their funniest showdown moment



MEL MOTT - CONTEST DIRECTOR

👉 In 1999 seeing Laurina McGrath's face (who was our current club champion at the time) when she realised she'd won the open pro division.
👉 Rescuing Melissa Cook's pet budgie Charley from the surf zone when coming in from my longboard heat!



MELISSA COOK - LONG-TIME ALL GIRLS BOARDRIDERS MEMBER

👉 My first Showdown in 1992, Julie Morris, Crystal Vail and myself were eight years old in the under 16's and sat about two inches off the shore.
👉 In 1999 at the presentation, Pauline Menczer had her chihuahua puppies under her jumper and she pretended she was giving birth to them in front of everyone.

RESULTS

OPEN PRO

1st Rebecca Woods
2nd Prue Jefferies
3rd Jenny Boggis
4th Laurina McGrath

14 AND UNDER

1st Stephanie Gilmore
2nd Ashleigh Smith
3rd Jessica Hickson
4th Caitlyn Hayles

16 AND UNDER

1st Stephanie Gilmore
2nd Jessi Miley-Dyer
3rd Nicola Atherton
4th Renee Hyman

21 AND UNDER

1st Rebecca Woods
2nd Sheridan Shields
3rd Jessi Miley-Dyer
4th Chani Deane

OPEN B GRADE

1st Heidi Magee
2nd Kristie Drough
3rd Kerene White
4th Jade Kolkka

28 AND OVER

1st Kylie Webb
2nd Bree Bagshaw
3rd Kaye Llewelyn
4th Priscilla Hensler



LONGBOARD

1st Chelsea Williams
2nd Selby Riddle
3rd Emma Wilson
4th Melanie Mott

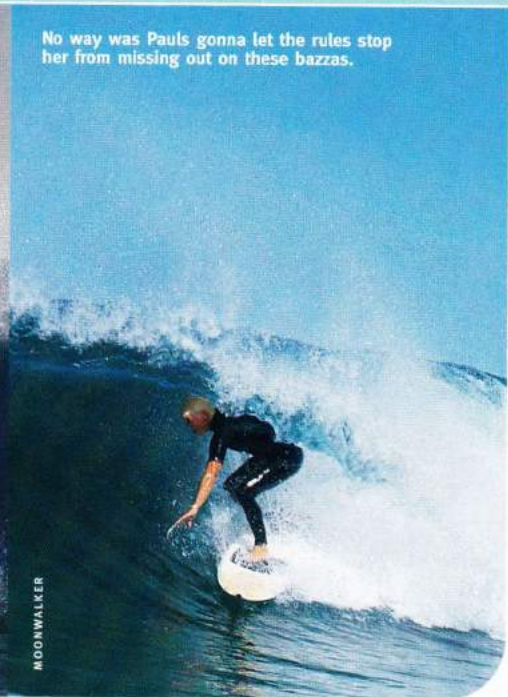
SPECIALTY AWARDS

BEST MANOEUVRE:
Rebecca Woods
BEST TUBE:
Rebecca Woods
BEST WIPEOUT:
Kaye Llewelyn
14 AND UNDER INCENTIVE:
Emma Parsons

16 AND UNDER INCENTIVE:
Sophie Hamblin
21 AND UNDER INCENTIVE:
Renee Hyman
HIGHEST PLACED ALL GIRLS CLUB MEMBER:
Bree Bagshaw
BEST HANG 5:
Jodie Barsby
BEST HANG 10:
Chelsea Williams



Like a true grommie, Steph's always up for the early.



No way was Pauls gonna let the rules stop her from missing out on these bazzas.

SHOWDOWN LOWDOWN

The Showdown is an event developed in 1992 by the All Girls Boardriders of Lennox Head, where girls of all age and ability unite and inspire each other in a no-blokes-no-pressure kind of environment. With a selection of seven divisions ranging from super-grommets to professionals, no-one feels segregated and girls can surf alongside some of their all-time heroes.

SO WHEN AND WHERE'S IT AT?

Where: Lennox Head, Northern New South Wales, 100km south of the Queensland border. A truly serene country seaside town that's only a 20-minute drive from the fun and festivities of Byron Bay.

When: Annually on the long weekend of June.

WHAT ARE THE WAVES LIKE?

Lennox Point – Infamous long right-hander, and ample uncrowded beach-breaks.

WHERE CAN I STAY?

Headland Beach Resort offers great discounts for anyone involved in the competition, so hook up with your family or a bunch of mates and spoil yourself with their unreal rooms, pool, spa and sauna.

Visit www.headlandbeachresort.com.au
e-mail info@headlandbeachresort.com.au
or phone (02) 6618 0000

A MASSIVE HIGH-FIVE TO TWEED MOTORS HOLDEN FOR HOOKING ME UP A BEAUTIFUL CAR TO CRUISE AROUND LENNOX: 75-79 Wharf Street, Tweed Heads NSW. PH: (07) 5536 3411.

our day, plus thankfully situated a mere 15 minutes away lies a renowned wave-magnet – beautiful Ballina beach. But as hard as Huey tried to deliver decent waves, all round one results were determined in one-foot surf.

Now, the waves may not have been pumping, but the talent sure was. Not only did we witness sensational surfing by Prue Jefferies, Kylie Webb, Trudy Todd, Jenny Boggis and Laurina McGrath, but 17-year-old Rebecca Woods, 16-year-old Jessi Miley-Dyer and 14-year-old Stephanie Gilmore proved their power as surfers to be taken seriously.

An increase in swell was warmly

welcomed and Ballina offered us two-to-four-foot waves to play with for the remaining two days of the event. Under a clear winter sky, north-bound whales and dolphins were frequently spotted punching through the ocean's glassy surface. But marine life was not the only sensation catching our eye...

Spectators were eagerly parking their butts to grab a glimpse of our juniors' proverbial performance, and no-one left disappointed. Contrary to the awesome threesome's speculation of not making the finals, Jessi, with strength an eternity beyond her years, secured a slot in the 16-and-under and 21-and-under finals and the Open Pro semi-

final; Stephanie, branded our next Layne Beachley, won the 14-and-under and 16-and-under finals with two freakish names springing to mind when speaking of her style – Mick Fanning and Joel Parkinson; and with an armful of trophies, super-stylish Rebecca Woods went home a happy-chappy after blitzing an elite field and winning the prestigious 21-and-under and Open Pro divisions.

It's reassuring to know that come the event's 20th anniversary, these three triumphers with perhaps one or more world titles to their name will be there encouraging and watching a new breed of talent storm our shores. **SG**



RAE COOK – LONG-TIME ALL GIRLS BOARDRIDERS MEMBER

Erin Webber used to ride to the contest on her horse with her surfboard tucked under her arm.

The "All Girls Salute" – a ritual where we all stand in a line and pull up our shirts – is performed by organisers at the end of every contest, and is now nicknamed the "Full Minty!"



KELLIE O'BRIEN – ALL GIRLS CO-FOUNDER

Trudy Todd and Kylie Webb swallowed their pride and apologised to the head judge after a heated interference dispute. Seeing otherwise "in control" characters who tirelessly work on the contest let loose when it's all over.



MAX PERROW – ALL GIRLS CO-FOUNDER

This year we've scored fantastic waves with a

great 10th anniversary vibe.

Julie Morris made both the under 14 and under 16 finals, and was so exhausted from the pressure, she came in crying half-way through one of the finals, saying she didn't want to surf anymore.



KERRYN NOCHE – ALL GIRLS CO-FOUNDER

Me having a black eye for two years running. Once from surfing, once from partying!

Wanna learn how to surf?

READ ON AS SURFGIRL FILLS YOU IN ON ALL-THINGS-SURFING TO TRANSFORM YOU FROM THE WANNABE INTO THE REAL DEAL... JUST IN TIME FOR SUMMER!

Words by Kate McMahon



STARTERS

TIPS TO AVOID KOOKISM!

- GIVE WAY:** The surfer with the "inside" position on the wave (closest to the breaking white water) has priority to take off.
- LEGROPE:** to be worn around the ankle of the back foot.
- PADDLING IN A CROWD:** If you're paddling out towards an experienced surfer, head towards the white water to avoid collision.
- CHANGING (WITHOUT FLASHING!):** Adopt the "slingshot method" of unleashing your bra: reach under the back of your T-shirt and unhook; slide hand up through your arm hole; grab the shoulder strap and pull down over your hand. Repeat with other strap, then whip entire garment through arm hole in one quick motion.

specialty events!

BIGGER and BETTER!
SURFGIRL'S SURF DAY '03
e: surfgirlssurfdays@emap.com
CHECK OUT THE NEXT ISSUE OF SURFGIRL FOR DETAILS.

Roxy Surf Jam AND Rip Curl Girls Go Surf
throughout November and December '03. visit surfingaustralia.com

girls-only BOARDRIDERS CLUBS

There are currently 13 chicks surfing clubs scattered around Oz where you can learn how to surf or surf better at all levels; make some mates; gain experience in competitions and judging. Check 'em out...

- Sunshine Coast Girls Surfing Club:** Ph: (07) 5491 1922; e: sunnygirlsclub@yahoo.com.au
- Gold Coast Girls Boardriders:** Ph: 0411 860 673; e: julie@goldcoastgirlsboardriders.com
- All Girls Surfriders, Lennox Head:** Ph: (02) 6687 5005; e: allgirlssurf@bigpond.com
- Trimmen Women, Newcastle:** Ph: 0407 919 296; e: trimmenwomen@hotmail.com
- Women in the Waves (north), North Central Coast:** Ph: (02) 4399 3388; e: sandy@surfcoaching.com.au
- Women in the Waves (south), South Central Coast:** Ph: (02) 4385 7263.

- Northern Beaches Womens Boardriders, Northern Beaches, Sydney:** Ph: 0409 773 658; e: nbwbr@hotmail.com
- Bondi Girls Surfriders, Eastern Suburbs Beaches, Sydney:** Ph: (02) 9365 1800; e: brenda@letsgosurfing.com.au
- Cronulla Girls Boardriders, Cronulla, Sydney:** Ph: (02) 9527 3071; e: kim@fish-i.com.au
- South Coast Surf Sisters, NSW:** Ph: (02) 4473 8553; e: michelle.kingdom@bigpond.com
- Booner Bami, Adelaide:** Ph: (08) 8327 3641; e: tescox@hotmail.com
- The Boardettes, Adelaide:** Ph: (08) 8386 3689; e: lisdry80@hotmail.com
- The Saltwater Sistas, Perth:** Ph: (08) 9245 3844; e: saltwatersistas@hotmail.com
- Join the Australian Women's Surfing Network for any information on girls in surfing.** E: allgirlssurf@bigpond.com

SURFING SURVIVAL KIT

LEARN TO SURF SCHOOLS

A must for any beginner: for lessons on the correct technique and surf safety, in a friendly environment.

QUEENSLAND

Affiliated with Surfing Queensland

Coolum Surfing School – (07) 5446 5279, coolumsurfingschool@hotmail.com, www.coolum.com.au/coolumsurfingschool

Exscreeme Day Tours, Gold Coast – 1800 678 263, reaganr@ozemail.com.au

Gold Coast Surfing School, Surfers Paradise – 1800 787 337, www.australiansurfer.com, surfer@australiansurfer.com

North Caloundra Surfschool – 0411 221 730, russellhoffman@yahoo.com.au

Walkin on Water, Greenmount, Gold Coast – (07) 5534 1886, surfing@walkinonwater.com, www.walkinonwater.com

Wavesense Surfschool Noosa – (07) 5474 9076, wavesense@surfbetter.com, www.wavesense.com.au

Cheyne Horan Surf School, Surfers Paradise – 1800 227 873, www.cheynehoran.com.au/schoolofsurf.html

NEW SOUTH WALES

Affiliated with Surfing NSW

At Surfing Byron Bay – (02) 6685 7099, surfingbyronbay@byrononline.net, www.gosurfingbyronbay.com

Dawn Light Surfschool, Port Macquarie, (02) 6584 1477, dawnlightsurf@optusnet.com.au

Let's Go Surfing, Bondi – (02) 9365 1800, info@letsgosurfing.com.au, www.letsgosurfing.com.au

Manly Surfschool – (02) 9977 6977, matt@manlysurfschool.com, www.manlysurfschool.com

Saltwater Surf School, Taree – 0404 936 072, saltwatersurfschool@hotmail.com

Summerland Surf School, Evans Head – (02) 6682 4393, surf@summerlandsurfschool.com.au, www.summerlandsurfschool.com.au

Surfing Cronulla Surfschool – (02) 9544 0895, cronsurf@ozemail.com.au, www.cronullasurfschool.com

Lands Edge Surf School, Kiama – (02) 4234 3278, info@landsedge.com.au, www.landsedge.com.au

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Affiliated with Surfing WA

Big Wave Surf School, Rockingham Beach – (08) 9524 7671, PATXMORAN@bigpond.com, www.bigwavesurfingschool.com

Josh Palmateer Surf Academy, Margaret River – 0418 952 264

Surfing Western Australia Surf School, North Beach – (08) 9448 0004, info@surfingwa.com.au

Yallingup Surfschool – (08) 9755 2755, yallingupsurfschool@westnet.com.au

Girls Rule Surf School, Scarborough Beach – 0438 125 423, www.h2osurfadventure.com

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Affiliated with Surfing SA)
Surf Culture, Seaford – (08) 8327 2802, surfculture@bigpond.com

TASMANIA (Affiliated with Surfing Tas)

42 South Surfschool – (03) 6372 5744, gegana@tasmail.com

VICTORIA

Affiliated with Surfing Victoria

Easy Rider Surfschool, Warnambool, Port Fairy and Bridgewater Bay – www.easyridersurfschool.com.au, info@easyridersurfschool.com.au, (03) 5560 5646

Gally's Surf Coaching, Torquay – (03) 5261 3542, gallysmail@bigpond.com, www.gallysurfcoaching.com.au

Go Ride a Wave, Torquay, Anglesea and Lorne – (03) 5263 2111, info@graw.com.au, www.graw.com.au

Island Surfboards Surfschool, Phillip Island – (03) 5952 3443, smithsbeach@islandsurfboards.com.au, www.islandsurfboards.com.au

The Offshore Surfschool, Inverloch – (03) 5674 3374, slhogan@bigpond.com

Girls Surf Adventure, Eco-adventure Sports, Lorne – (03) 5261 2170

For an extensive list of surf schools in every region in Oz head to www.surfingaustralia.com

SURFER TECHNICAL TALK

LEFT-HANDER: is a wave breaking from left to right (Pipeline, Hawaii).

RIGHT-HANDER: is a wave breaking from right to left (Snapper Rocks, Australia).

GOOFOOTER: surfing with your right foot at the front.

NATURALFOOTER: surfing with your left foot at the front.

OFFSHORE: is when the ocean looks smooth (good).

ONSHORE: is when the sea's choppy (bad) – ask your local surf shop what beach is best in what wind direction.

LEARN TO SURF GETAWAYS

Make learning to surf, a holiday!

AUSSIE SURF ADVENTURES

The Gig: Girls and guys embark on a surfing safari from Sydney to Byron Bay or Byron to Hervey Bay, stopping at the east coast's best beaches along the way.

Cost: *\$350 (three-day), *\$590 (five-day) and *\$470 (Byron to Hervey Bay).

For info: Ph: 1800 113 044, e: surfadventures@hotmail.com, www.mojosurf.com.au

Why we rate it: These stretches of Australia are a beach-lover's dream, and these crew know how to show you a good time so make sure you pack your party shoes!

CHICKS ON TOP

The Gig: An all-girl three-day weekend adventure with female instructors based at Shelly Beach, Central Coast, with the option to leave from Sydney.

Cost: *\$320.

For info: Ph: 0416 122 536, e: surfdivachicks@hotmail.com, www.surfdiva.com.au

Why we rate it: if you're intimidated to learn in Guysville, then this is a chick-friendly option.

SYDNEY SURF EXPERIENCE

The Gig: Head down NSW's gorgeous south coast with a fun mix of girls and guys.

Cost: two days: *\$165; four days: *\$330; weekend: *\$225.

For info: Ph: 1800 888 732, e: surf@sydneysurf.com.au, www.sydneysurf.com.au

5 FUN REASONS TO BE A SURFER

KEEPING FIT – Can you imagine doing an aerobics class for three hours a day, and still craving for more?

PERVE FEST – While the other girls are attempting to get the gorgeous guy's attention from the shoreline, you'll have primo tuning position in the line-up.

BOREDOM BUSTER – Once you're hooked, there never seems to be enough hours in the day, let alone time to be bored.

MAKE MATES – Whether you've moved to a new area or wanna meet new crew, now you've got over a million people in Oz with the same interest as you.

CHILL OUT – It's easy to slip into your own zone while sitting in the sea, without having to justify yourself to anyone.

Why we rate it: Miles of perfect beginner beaches, plus the accomm's pretty slick too!

H2O OVERLAND

The Gig: A unisex round-trip from-Perth-to-Albany-to-Denmark-to-Margaret River, to experience WA's spectacular south coast surf spots in four days.

Cost: *\$479.

For info: 0438 125 423, e: h2ooverland@iinet.net.au, www.h2osurfadventure.com

Why we rate it: Make the trek south in a luxury party-bus plus you'll stop into a surfboard factory to check out how they're made from start to finish.

SERENA BROOKE CAMP

The Gig: A live-in five-day camp south of Coolum on the Sunshine Coast, for girls only, held annually.

Cost: *\$898. Also includes surf improvement manual, learn to surf video, discount coupons and more.

For info: www.surfbetter.com/html/serenacamp.html

Why we rate it: You get to meet, and be coached by, Serena Brooke!

*Includes transport, meals, lessons, equipment hire and accommodation.

CARLY

UNDERAGE RAVE

RAVE
RAVE
RAVE

FOLLOWING ON FROM LAST ISSUE'S GROMMET FEATURE, WE TAKE A STEP UP THE LADDER TO REACH THE UNDER 18S.

WORDS BY KATE McMAHON



Chelsea Georgeson demonstrates the style and power of today's under age ravers...



Ahh, being under age. As if there wasn't enough to think about: juggling school books, your first serious boyfriend, striving for your learner's licence, an avalanche of exams, homework, homework and more homework, not to mention lingering on that frustrating line between being a girl and a woman. Well, these eight girls are not

only dealing with this mouthful, they're going the extra mile and sealing their reputations as surfers to be reckoned with. And as harsh as it may seem, it appears that by the time you've reached 17 you'll know if you've got what it takes to make it in the pro surfing world. So come inside their world for a moment. It's a rave...



**RAVER
LINDA FISHER**

AGE: 17

STOMPING GROUND: Caloundra, QLD

LOW DOWN: Linda is full of fun. Her current comical spiel is to mimic the voice of Mini Me; she confesses that despite the desire to, she can't stop. But her surfing's no joke. Speed-driven turns were just the trick to thread a 2001 U18 Aussie Title and a 3rd in the World Grommet Titles along Linda's string of already impressive results. With plans to hit the WQS full-time next year, it's inspiring to see a classic chick laughing her way to the top.

» I would have to say I'm grateful about being a surfer, 'cause it's the funnest thing in the world. Sure I wanna be pro, but the next best thing would be being in a pop group and singing and dancing and just touring the world. If I could name one legend, it would be my parents because they're the best, without them I wouldn't be surfing...they do everything for me. And my mates are so cool, they are so funny, they all make me laugh, they reckon I'm a sweet little angel ha ha ha, I don't know what they think actually. Oh man, I felt like the biggest gummy when I was in a surfing contest and I couldn't even make it out the back. Summing myself up, I'm a pretty friendly girl who loves laughing and having a good time and just being myself. And my last wise words are don't stress about the little things in life, just have fun.

**RAVER
AMANDA CLEGG**

AGE: 16

STOMPING GROUND: Burleigh Heads, QLD

LOW DOWN: Ten months ago you may have asked 'Amanda who?' And rightly so. Amanda may be a late starter, but she's rapidly making up for lost time – 2nd U18 State Title, 1st U16 & 1st B

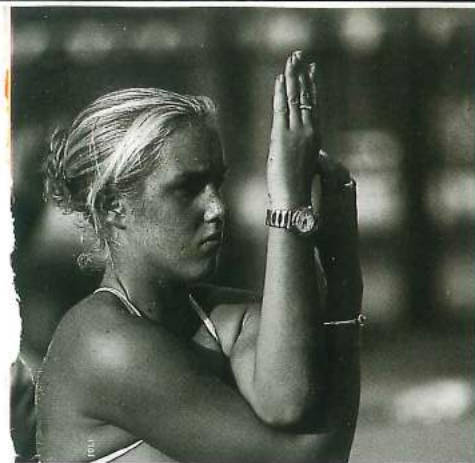


Grade All Girls Surf Showdown – and is keen to keep on progressing. Amanda was rumoured to be 'charging' some chunkers and was "stoked to be surfing something over two foot!" during her first overseas trip to New Caledonia recently (check her out in Surf Travel on page 107).

» I would have to say I'm stoked about being a surfer, 'cause it keeps you fit and healthy and it's always interesting 'cause every wave is different. Sure I wanna be pro, but the next best thing

would be travelling around surfing with your friends and having fun along the way. If I could name one legend, it would be Kalani Robb because he rips. And my mates are party animals, they reckon I'm always sleeping. Oh man, I felt like the biggest gummy when I was working at a bakery and water started running out of my nose from getting pounded in the surf, and no one knew what it was! Summing myself up, I'm happy, energetic and love bakery food. And my last wise words are surf all day, sleep all night.





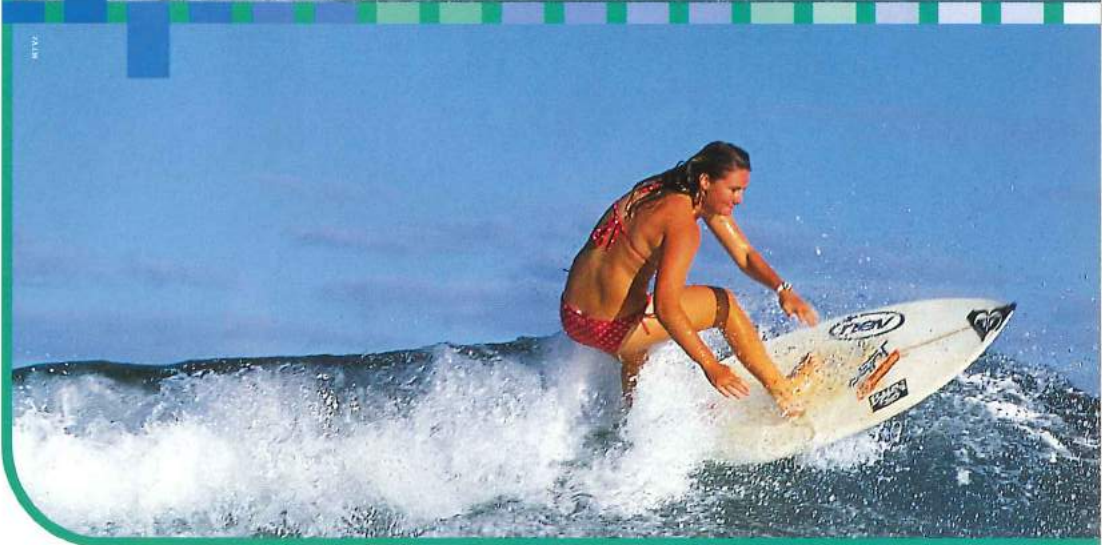
RAVER CHELSEA GEORGESON

AGE: 17 (about to turn 18)

STOMPING GROUND: Avalon, Sydney NSW

LOW DOWN: If you've heard the term 'top to bottom surfing' and you're not sure what it means, check out Chelsea's style. She drives hard off the bottom then cracks it off the top, and throws in a splash of new school moves for fun. Winning the Billabong Pro Junior Series and reaching the quarter finals in the Bells Beach Sunsmart Easter Classic and Rip Curl Pro in Hossegor earlier this year was only a warm-up for Chelsea. Despite the challenging conditions and saying she "almost've drowned nearly five times" during the final, she was crowned World Grommet Champion for 2001, and is tipped by many of the top pros to be the 'next big thing' in women's surfing. Who's gonna argue with that?

» I would have to say I'm excited about being a surfer 'cause surfing is the best feeling in the world and I hope to inspire people the same way surfers inspire me. Sure I wanna be pro, but the next best thing would be owning an airplane so I could fly all over the world with my friends, surfing places like the Mentawais. If I could name one legend, it would be Mum because she's in a class of her own. And my mates are so funny I want to hang out with them for the rest of my life, they reckon I'm me. Oh man, I felt like the biggest gummy when I sat on a chair that someone had already broken and I fell straight on my butt in front of all my friends. Summing myself up, I'm a fun lovin', outgoing, fuzzy blonde head. And my last wise words are live life to the fullest!



RAVER LAUREN RINGER

AGE: 17

STOMPING GROUND: Noosa, QLD

LOW DOWN: Lauren spent the beginning of her grommethood in Wales, UK, before relocating with her family to Noosa, so shows no sympathy when we whinge about the water dropping below 17 degrees. Lauren may be deemed a dark horse in the competitive community, but her smooth and fluent style did all the talkin' when she knocked out some of the world's best surfers to reach the 6th round of the Roxy Pro on the Gold Coast this year. And after scoring a 4th in the 2001 World Grommet Titles, it appears this underdog is beginning to mark her territory.

» I would have to say that I'm thankful about being a surfer, 'cause it's given me the opportunity to travel, and hopefully in the future I'll travel to unique places in this world. Sure I want to be pro, but the

next best thing would be to travel over to Nemaquay (UK) and hit it hard with my friends. If I could name one legend it would be my parents because of their love and support that they have shown me over the years plus their kindness and generosity towards other people. And my mates are curious little people and they reckon I'm an animal. Oh man, I felt like the biggest gummy when I had just finished a maths lesson at school and one of my friends felt an uncontrollable desire to lift up my school skirt, so that six blokes in my Year 12 class had a 360 degree view of my undies. Summing myself up, I'm a person who has had the privilege of so many global experiences during my upbringing, so it's given me a different outlook on life, making me an independent, outgoing and open minded person. And my last wise words are you only live once, so whatever it is you want to pursue in life, make sure you do it. Also treat everyone the same no matter where they come from or what they believe.





RAVER REBECCA WOODS

AGE: 17

STOMPING GROUND: Copacabana, Central Coast, NSW

LOW DOWN: Nothing, not even drowning at nine months of age before being revived by her dad, was going to hinder Rebecca's affection for the ocean. Now we have the pleasure of seeing her stylishly smack the lip as she racks up results on the junior tour, where she is currently ranked 5th. With plans to hit the WQS in 2003, Rebecca has her sights set on qualifying for the WCT before she turns 21. How's that for your 21st!

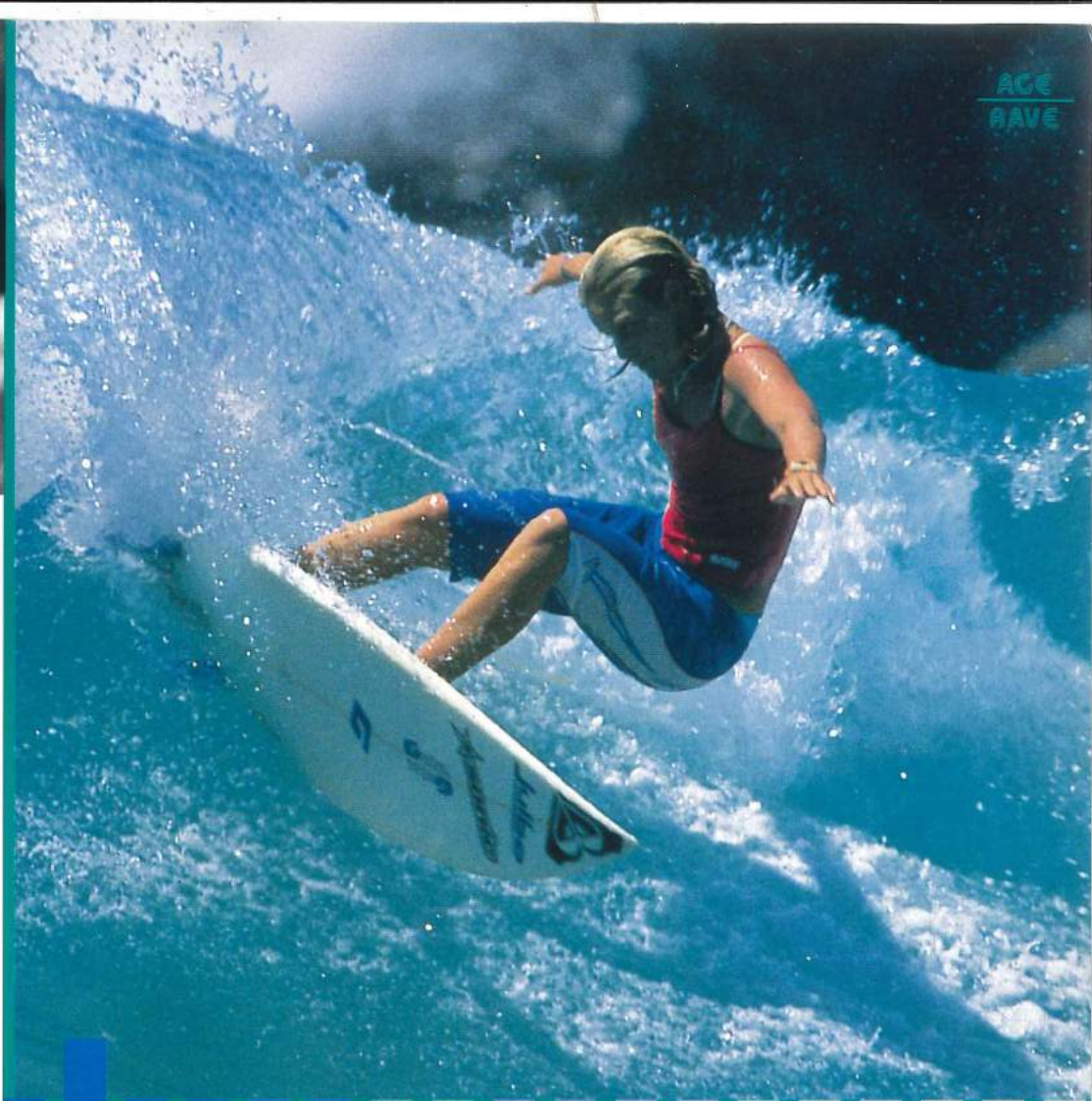
»» I would have to say I'm stoked about being a surfer, 'cause it's the best lifestyle, really fun and healthy. Sure I wanna be pro, but the next best thing would be to travel to all the most exotic surf places in the world and simply love life. If I could name one legend, it would be Kelly Slater because he's so good no one compares, except for maybe Rob Machado. And my mates are cool and fun to hang with, they reckon I'm very tall and scary. Oh man, I felt like the biggest gummy when I got home from the Quiksilver training camp, I was that tired I could hardly walk. Summing myself up, I'm aiming for the top and having fun along the way. And my last wise words are have fun, keep ripping and always aim up.

RAVER SHERIDAN SHIELDS

AGE: 17

STOMPING GROUND: Bilinga, Gold Coast, QLD

LOW DOWN: Perving at cute boys seemed to Sheridan like a pretty good reason to take up the art of surfing. Now, on a more serious note, Sheridan's been shredding her way around the competitive traps this year sealing a 4th in the U18 Qld Titles, winning the U21 Voodoo Dolls Surf Smash and taking out the



AGE
RAVE



Schools MR Shield. Other than that, Sheridan reckons she generally just likes "spending time on the toilet!" We think she's kidding, what do you think?
»» I would have to say I'm stoked about being a surfer, 'cause I get to travel, meet new people, and have a perv. Sure I wanna be pro, but the next best thing would be being manager of Cold Rock [ice cream shop]. If I could name one

legend, it would be my black poodle Licorice because he is my dream man/dog. And my mates are out of control they reckon I'm a really bad cook...what would they know? Oh man, I felt like the biggest gummy when I ate mouldy lamingtons at the Aussie Titles! Summing myself up, I'm a weirdo who likes to party! And my last wise words are never eat mouldy lamingtons!





RAVER LAUREN MCGREGOR

AGE: 16

STOMPING GROUND: Palm Beach, Gold Coast QLD

LOW DOWN: Being one of three surfing siblings meant that if Lauren copped any sister abuse on land, a simple drop in would get her own back! Actually, Lauren's big sisters Kate and Sally would be the first to boast about their sis' seeing out 2001 as the U18 Qld champ and reaching two Pro Junior finals. With plans to splash her powerful style throughout the junior series for a couple of years before gaining experience on the WQS, Lauren just banks on conquering the WCT before turning grey!

» I would have to say I'm excited about being a surfer, 'cause it's the best sport in the world and it challenges you in every aspect. Sure I wanna be pro, but the next best thing would be being Marion Jones or a park ranger in the Amazon. If I could name one legend, it would be Andrew [Lauren's trainer] because he's a champ! And my mates are Kate, Sal and Minx, they reckon I'm a bit of a larrikin. Oh man, I felt like the biggest gumby when I dance and play haka sac. Summing myself up, I'm shy at first but have been known to be quite outrageous at times. And my last wise words are don't take your mum's cooking for granted!

RAVER JENNA HUNTER

AGE: 17

STOMPING GROUND: Lennox Head, NSW

LOW DOWN: Growing up on the home turf of the infamous All Girls Boardriders Club (the longest standing girls surfing club in Australia) meant that Jenna was inevitably lured into the clutches of surfing. She's always had a following of fans in her local area, but it's only in the past year that Jenna has stamped her mark on surfing's package. Winning the U18 NSW State Titles and the U25 Overall Rip Curl Search Sessions are just a

couple of results that made 2001 a huge year for Jenna. Known as a bit of a prankster, she confesses her inner voice squeals that she wants to be a pop star. We reckon she should stick to surfing as her day job!

» I would have to say I'm crazily addicted about being a surfer, 'cause it's too much fun and there's nothin' I'd rather do. Sure I wanna be pro, but the next best thing would be the next best Aussie singer. If I could name one legend, it would be Keira Kennelly because she's fearless. And my mates are Kerene and Nat, they reckon I'm a real blonde, ha ha. Oh man, I felt like the biggest gumby when I slipped down a set of stairs at Sandon Point in front of heaps of guys. Summing myself up, I'm out to charge, to have fun and reach my goals. And my last wise words are go the maximum! **SG**



CONFUSED ABOUT COMPS?

Once you graduate from the local and boardriders comps there's a whole world of surf contests out there...

The REGIONAL TITLES have Cadet (Under 16s) and Junior (Under 18s) divisions. They're usually held in states such as Queensland and NSW because there are more competitive surfers there than in other states. The highest placed surfers in each region qualify to represent that region in the STATE TITLES. The highest seeds from each state then go on to compete at the QUIKSILVER AUSTRALIAN GROMMET TITLES (aka AUSSIE TITLES) which also has Cadet and Junior divisions. Each state enters a team, and takes turns hosting the Titles each year; the 2001 Australian Grommet Titles were held in Yorke Peninsula, SA in early December. The four finalists qualify to represent Australia at the WORLD GROMMET TITLES the following year (this is for Under 19s although Australia only enters its Under 18s). Chelsea Georgeson won the World Grommet Titles this year. The PRO JUNIOR SERIES is a series of contests for Under 20s. Events with varying prize money are hosted by surf companies and held all over Australia, with the aim being to prepare our future Aussie stars for the world of pro surfing.





Jemma Lenton showing what groms are made of at Duranbah, Qld.

the **power** of **grom**

A SNEAK PREVIEW OF OUR HOTTEST YOUNG THINGS.
WORDS BY KATE MCMAHON

Here's something to think about: of the top female surfers around today – people like Layne, Serena Brooke, Neridah Falconer, just to name a few – most of them weren't even surfing when they were in their early teens. It's a sign of the times that there are now 14 year

old girls who are not just surfing but ripping, winning contests and signing sponsorship deals with the big guns like Roxy and Rip Curl.

Following is a brief glimpse into the future, a few of the hottest young juniors to grace our shores. It's not an exhaustive list by any means, and

there'll be lots of talented girls we haven't mentioned.

Just think of it as a taste of things to come, which is appropriate when you read the profiles of the girls – we look at their unique qualities in terms of various kinds of mixed lollies. We'll let you decide which is your favourite...



JESSI MILEY-DYER

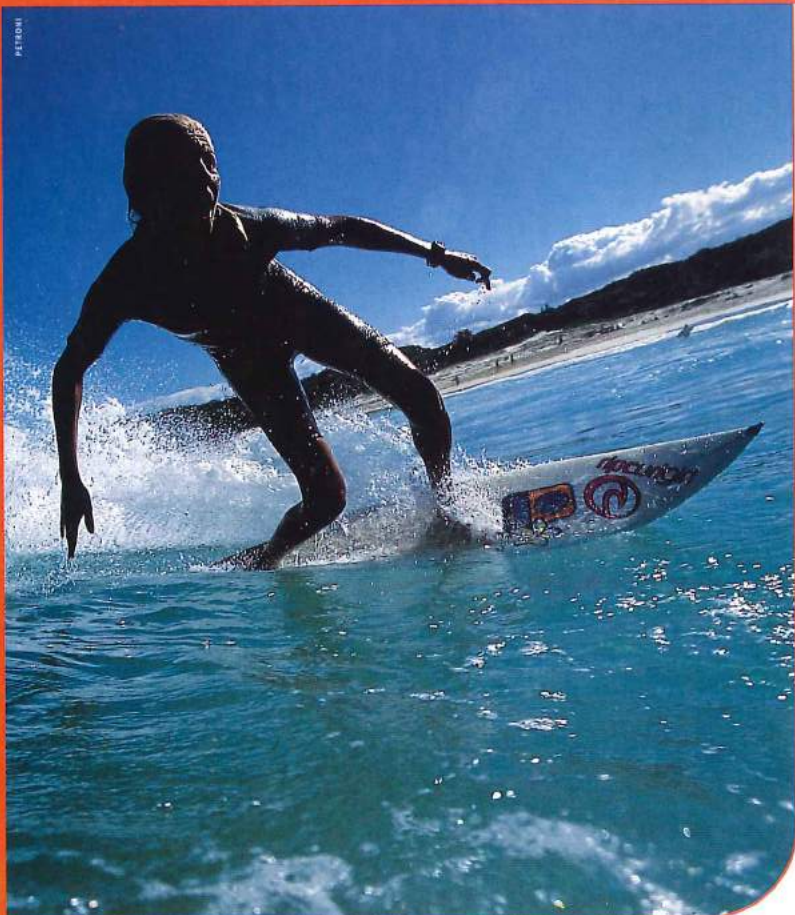
AGE: 14, nearly 15!
HOME: Bronte, Sydney

LOLLY ALIAS: Mint Leaf. Why? Sure it's in your standard mixed lolly bag, but its eminence, like Jessi's surfing, is high above the rest. Strength, precision, determination, competitiveness, style and sportsmanship have moulded together to form a sculpture of not just an incredible surfer, but an incredible sportswoman. Jesse is Australia's National under 16 surfing champ and a National swimming and lifesaving contender. She blitzed the competition in the National school teams snowboarding titles recently and found herself taking out some of the world's best female surfers at this year's Roxy Pro on the Gold Coast by reaching Round 5 (the round before the quarter finals). She also just won the Under 16s at the Rusty Gromfest. With all this on her sporting agenda, it's a wonder Jessi has



time to eat, but of course she does, because that's one of her other favourite pastimes!
 » THE BEST THING ABOUT SURFING IS... the fact that no wave, no day, no break

is the same, it's always different and interesting.
 » IN FIVE YEARS I SEE MYSELF... World Grommet Champ and qualifying for the WCT.



STEPHANIE GILMORE

AGE: 13
HOME: Kingscliff, NSW Australia

LOLLY ALIAS: Jelly Bean. Why? The cheekiest grin you've ever seen flashes past as Steph clocks up five waves to your every one! This chick naturally rips, and is the most humble achiever you'll ever meet. Her technique, style and manoeuvres are all insane and once Steph acquires the confidence to match, there'll be no stopping this bean! A tomboy at heart, she can't wait to get out there and grab the surfing world by the horns. She hasn't even been on a plane yet, so imagine how she'll feel when she's trotting off to exotic locations for waves!
 Newsflash: Steph recently beat Trudy Todd at a local Snapper Rocks comp.
 » THE PLACE I LOOK FORWARD TO VISITING OVERSEAS FIRST IS... the Mentawais, because I've heard so many times that it's a beautiful place with nice fun waves.
 » MY SECRET TO CLOCKING UP SO MANY WAVES IS... While you're all talking in the line-up, I slowly but surely drift around to your inside!





RENEE HYMAN

AGE: 13

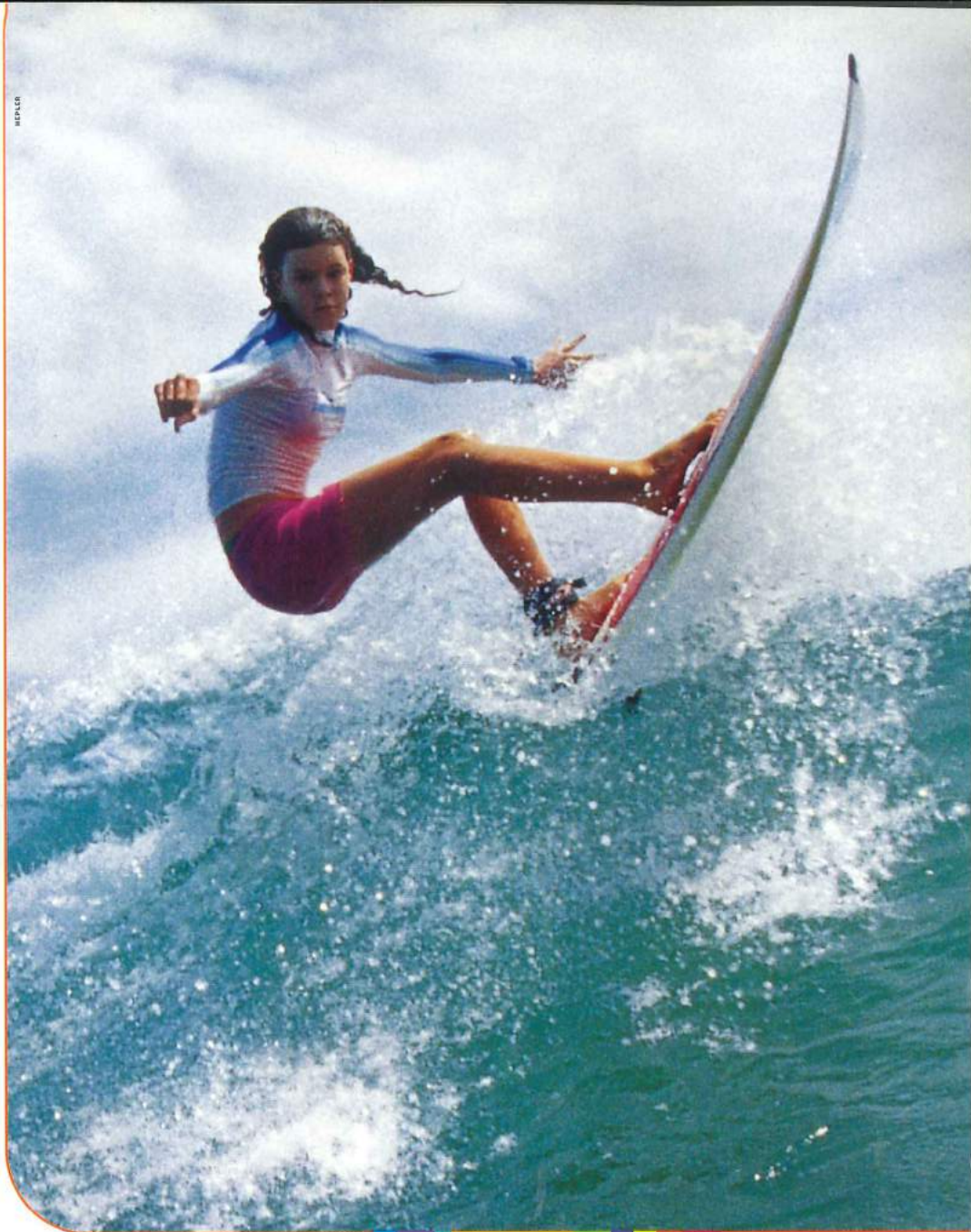
HOME: Palm Beach,

Queensland Australia

LOLLY ALIAS: Liquorice Allsort. Why? Renee possesses the superhuman qualities of a true allrounder. She charges in solid surf, milks small waves for all they're worth and is a very consistent competitor who rarely looks as though she's 'having a shocker' (although she assures me she does!). She cuts clean smooth turns and was the youngest girl to qualify for the Nationals over the past two years so is confident of taking on the older chicks on the competitive front. This lucky duck has travelled to amazing surfing destinations that most of us can only dream about, including Fiji, Indonesia, Hawaii's North Shore and the Maldives. She may be a quiet achiever, but Renee's talent shines through wherever she is – like at the Rusty Gromfest at Lennox Head where she won the Under 14s.

» **THE FIRST TIME I WENT SURFING...** was with my dad [shaper Nev Hyman]. I was three, on the front of his board and having the best time until I got smashed by a wave and went over the falls. My dad pulled me from the water upside down by the legs and threw me back on the board telling me to get another one! I got smashed again and realised it was pretty cool to get thrown around like in a washing machine!

» **MY SCARIEST WAVE WAS...** Well, there have been a few! But when I was 10, I was sucked backwards over the falls on a six foot wave at Cloudbreak.



KARINA PETRONI

AGE: 13

HOME: Panama Canal and

the Gold Coast

LOLLY ALIAS: Chico. Why? Firstly Karina has a natural tan to die for, and a kind nature to match! Don't let this fool you in the line-up though, our little Chico friend has clocked up plenty of surfing time all over the globe, and has an insane cutback to prove it. Born and raised in the Panama Canal Zone in Central America, Karina opted for

school by correspondence to accommodate her lifestyle of surfing and travel. Now based on the Gold Coast, Karina loves the buffet of fun point breaks on offer, and surfs them with good technique and a mini-Taj Burrow style. No stranger to the winner's dias, Karina's most recent win was in the under 14s at the Aztec Rose All Girls

Surf Showdown in June this year, and has plans to embrace surfing as a career. In fact, she already has!

» **MY FAVOURITE PLACE IN THE WORLD TO VISIT IS...** Australia! It's so beautiful, the waves are incredible and it's fun to be here.

» **THE NEXT BEST THING TO SURFING WOULD BE...** to be Indiana Jones!





JEMMA LENTON

AGE: 14, 15 soon!

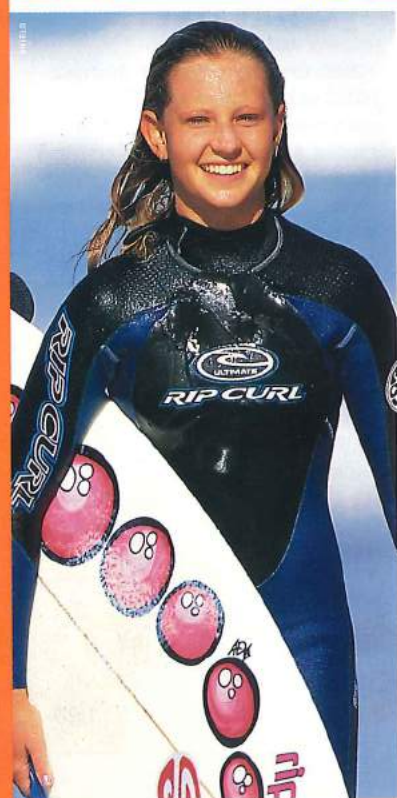
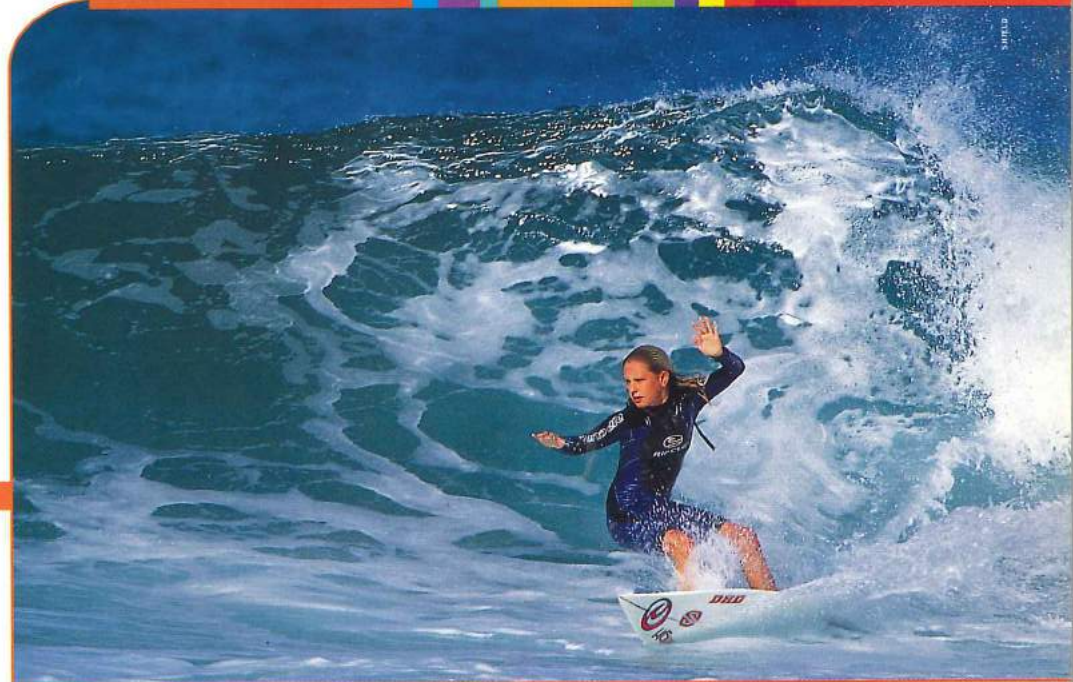
HOME: Sunshine Coast

Queensland.

LOLLY ALIAS: Gummy Bear. Why? She's such an adorable girl, with her gorgeous metal braced grin! Cute though she is, Jemma is no Gummy when it comes to surfing. She's a truly fierce competitor who can turn on a solid performance in most conditions and knows what's required to score big points. Recently taking out the under 16 Billabong Junior event then qualifying for the Under 16 and 18 2001 Nationals, Jemma's surfing – her fluent and smooth style coupled with her ability to read a wave's intentions – says it all.

» **MY FUTURE PLANS FOR SURFING ARE...** to take it all the way and be World Champion, but at the same time always enjoy surfing and do it for the right reasons.

» **MY ADVICE TO ANY GIRL WHO WANTS TO START SURFING IS...** don't let anyone stand in the way of what you want to achieve and never be intimidated.



ENA CLARKE

AGE: 13

HOME: Coolangatta,

Queensland.

LOLLY ALIAS: Banana. Why? Well, she comes from banana country for a start. It all started when Ena trotted along to a Surfing Queensland beginners coaching program at age 10, and now the lucky thing even has surfing as her school Sporting Excellence subject. Like every other Gold Coast goofyfooter, Ena loves and surfs well on her backhand, and has been spotted amongst the Kirra mayhem when it's up to eight foot! A 1st place State School MR Shield hangs proudly in her room, and within five minutes of coming second in the Under 14s at the 2001 Rusty Gromfest, Ena scored Rip Curl as

her major sponsor. A humble grin from ear to ear accompanied her home that day! Ena's surfing is smooth and complete and she looks quite beautiful on a wave, reflecting her cruisey attitude; she's content on "taking things as they come" and by the looks of things, they're coming quicker than she thought! Newsflash: Ena's heading to Yorke's Peninsula in SA in December with the Qld State surfing team.

» **IF I COULD PICK THREE MOVES FROM THREE SURFERS, THEY WOULD BE...** Belinda Godfrey's backhand snap, it's sick. Rob Machado's style because he's smooth and epic. The guts from all of our local groms, they charge!

» **THE BEST THING ABOUT SURFING IS...** it keeps you fit and healthy, and it's a good way to meet great people.



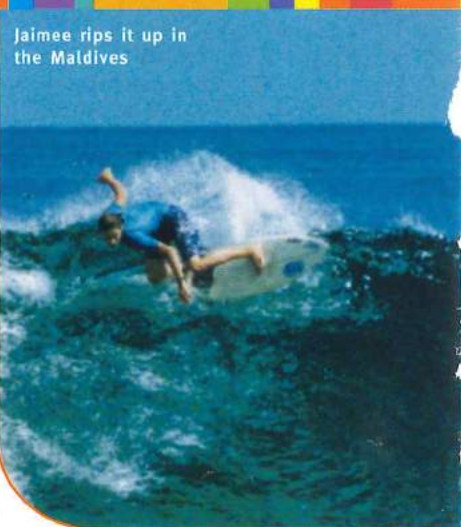
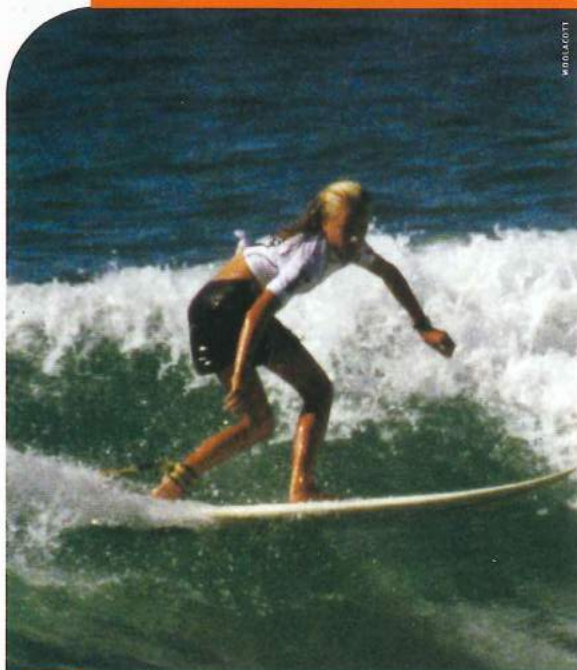
TERRI REDMOND

AGE: 14
HOME: Burleigh Heads, Queensland.

LOLLY ALIAS: Strawberries and Cream. Why? Terri's surfing is a perfect blend of good moves and the drive and determination to improve on them every time she hits the water. And it's working! At her local Boardriders events Terri gives girls twice her age a run for their money. But that's not all folks... it was Terri and her mum Julie who founded the Gold Coast Girls Boardriders Club, and Terri kicks serious butt in her role as Contest Director. Being a top level pro surfer is definitely Terri's primo ambition, and she's already scored Rusty as a sponsor, but she's also passionate about the development of women's surfing at all levels and plans to continue contributing to it throughout her own progressive journey. You go, girl!

» **THE BEST WAVE OF MY LIFE WAS...** when I was 12 at Burleigh Point, and my dad pushed me onto a five foot wave. I was so scared, but I stayed on it and rode the face of the wave for what seemed like forever!

» **I COULD HAVE CRAWLED INTO A HOLE FROM EMBARRASSMENT WHEN...** I was surfing Greenmount, and I tried to stay on the wave but ended up doing the splits on my board in front of everyone.



Jaimee rips it up in the Maldives

REBECCA OAKLEY

AGE: 14
HOME: Sunshine Coast, Queensland.

LOLLY ALIAS: Sherbet. Why? A love of going fast, a love of attempting new-school moves and a love of having a dig at bigger waves, makes Rebecca's surfing full of fizz! She wears the cap of a typically stoked grommet, clearly shows commitment and thrives on the rush of adrenalin. A 1st in the 2000 Brothers Neilsen Jnr Series, 3rd in the State Titles and 3rd in the Voodoo Dolls Surf Smash under16s are Rebecca's most memorable results to date. Her sights are set on becoming Queensland State Champion next year and competing at National level. Skating, listening to music and reading magazines are the other activities that fill Rebecca's agenda, but she reckons surfing's the bomb!

» **THE FUNNIEST THING HAPPENED WHEN I...** was 12 years old. I was surfing a point at Noosa, a big paddle boat dropped in on me and instead of going down the line, it started heading towards me. I ended up falling inside the boat with my board trapped underneath and rode it all the way to shore!

» **I ADMIRE...** Lisa Andersen because of her commitment and drive in remaining World Champion for so long, I feel she's a good role model, plus she has an awesome style.



Rebecca turning sweet 14

JAIIMEE WHEATLEY

AGE: 14
HOME: Geraldton, Western Australia
LOLLY ALIAS: Toffee. Why? This toughnut knows how it feels to surf in chunky, sharky, deserted waters...and loves it! Jaimee is a powerful, stylish on-rail surfer who possesses a mean forehand and backhand snap. Most impressively, she is the reigning regional champion for both Under 16 and 18 divisions and is deemed to speed down the line in the footsteps of Melanie Redman and Holly Monkman to become one of WA's next surfing ambassadors.
» **THE FIRST TIME I WENT SURFING...** I was hooked!
» **I STARTED SURFING BECAUSE...** my family does it, and it beats sitting on the beach! **SG**

next issue:
THE TOP UNDER 18S.

Four chickadees and a fourbee (left to right): Ena, Terri, Renee and Stephanie



YOUNG GUNS HAVING FUN

KATE MCMAHON TOOK FOUR GROMMETTES ON A SURF TRIP SOUTH OF THE GOLD COAST, AND LEARNED THE ART OF GETTING STOKED

Terri making waves



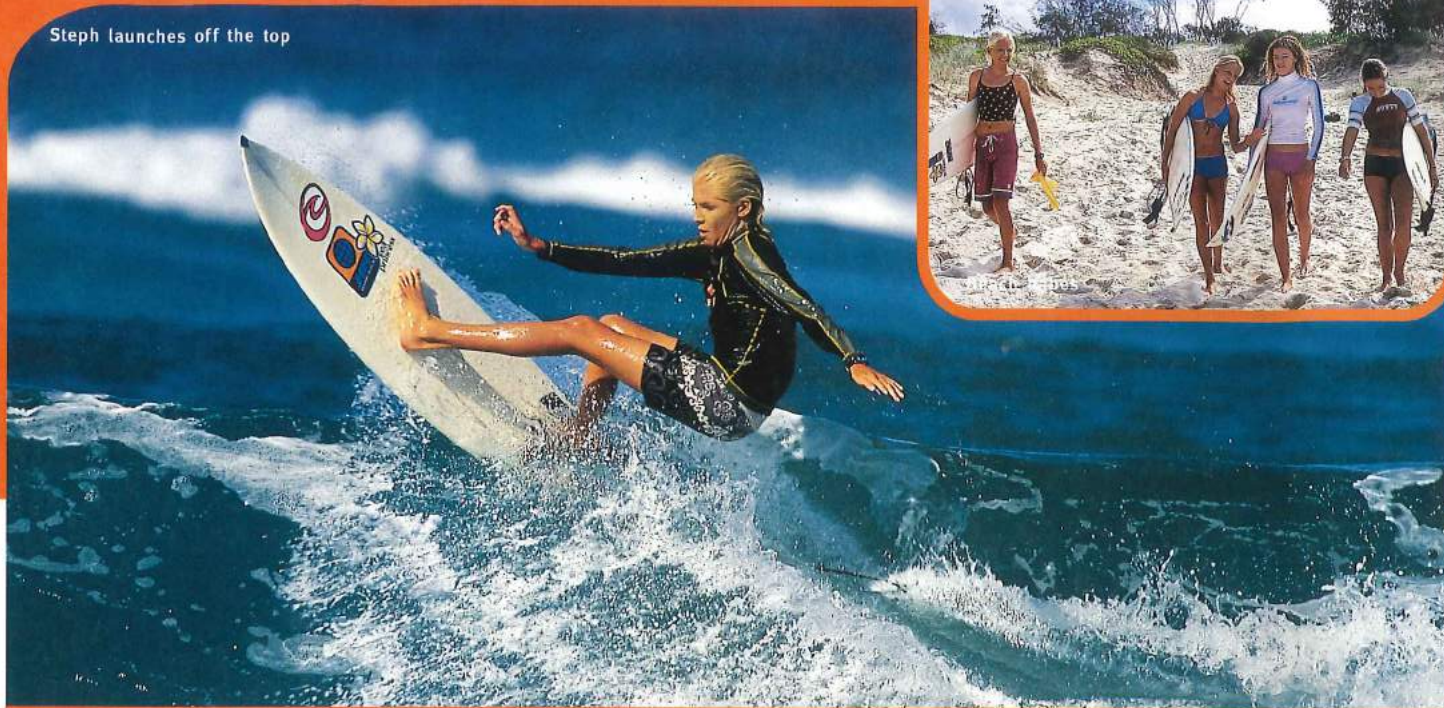
TEN YEARS AGO if you happened to see a girls Under 14 surf contest you'd be applauding them for getting to their feet and going straight. Now the talented bunch are smacking lips, doing floaters and generally impressing people all over the place.

Amongst them are Renee Hyman, Stephanie Gilmore, Ena Clarke and Terri Redman, four Goldie girls who are ebulliently weaving their quilts of surfing experience. You've gotta be a tad envious. Collectively they have a huge surfing future ahead of them. But what's so cool is that they're having a barrel load of fun along the way!

I'd only surfed with these girls individually, so one Sunday morning we all piled into our mate's fourbee (with boat in tow) and headed to Byron Bay.

Thus began the journey of 'shotguns' – as in shotgun the front seat, shotgun the chocolate, shotgun the next song on the car stereo. This strange 'shotgun ritual' was incredibly

Steph launches off the top



contagious and before I knew it I was shotgunning all over the show!

We satisfied the fourbee's need for juice at a petrol station just south of Cabarita. The girls grabbed some mandatory munchies and as we drove away the vehicle was buzzing to the tune of Starburst, Picnics and Cadbury family blocks.

In-between swapping shark stories, the girls all discussed when the next Underage Rave was on, traded hairstyle tips, shared lip glosses and sniggered about boys. All, that is, except Steph the tomboy of the group, who found all of the above pretty much a waste of time (we'll give her another two years!).

Cracking up in bouts of giggle fits, Terri pulled out her asthma puffer declaring, "I have to use this when I laugh too hard. Once I was in a surf comp and we were laughing so hard I had to paddle in, grab a puff, then paddle back out again!"

I slyly changed the radio to Triple J and Nick Cave came on, and the girls didn't hold back. "This sounds so bad, what is this crap?" they cried in unison, before changing it back to Doof FM and jiving out in the back.

When we finally got to the beach, the first spot we checked looked like it needed a higher tide, so we cruised further down the coast til the girls

caught a glimpse of The Pass. As it beckoned them with sparkling offshore conditions, reeling right handers and the occasional sly left, they turned to us, beaming with energetic grins.

"Can we?"

Who were we to say no? Plus I was pretty keen to get wet myself!

Unfortunately it seemed that the entire population of Byron paddled out the same time we did, but that didn't stop the girls from clocking up a few good rides, turning some heads and most importantly having a ball. I however had more chance of catching a fly with chopsticks than getting a wave to myself!

Finally we decided to bail and after indulging in a bakery feeding frenzy we decided to hit the punchy beach break we'd checked earlier. A set of filthy waves came through just as we pulled up and we sent the girls out into what we thought were shreddable A frame peaks. The reality was a little different.

As they paddled out, the girls were grabbed by a sweeping current that escorted them about 200 metres down the beach, but they persevered and eventually made it out the back. In between combatting the countless closeouts and copping a couple of four footers on the head, they managed to snag a couple of good waves. Then,

one by one, they each secured a reasonable wave, thought "Stuff this!" and came in.

Driving home we realised we still had the boat behind us and it hadn't been used yet! The girls' puppy-eyed pleas to go skurfing were too much to bear. Renee and Steph had tried skurfing before so we threw the boat in the Kingscliff River and went for a burn.

Renee was the most experienced and got up first time to put on a stylish display for the others. Steph, after numerous attempts, struggled to her feet and carved the wake with a big cheesy grin. My deepest sympathy went to Terri and Ena. We were pushed for time and they couldn't quite make it to their feet, but you had to give 'em full marks for milking their last ride by holding on to the rope for dear life in fear of losing their turn!

The fading light and a rain squall gave us the excuse to head in. The future surfing champs were dropped off to be greeted by home cooked meals and warm beds. The next day they'd continue the daily grind of school and homework just like every other 14 year old, but with one major difference: they'd have waves in their heads and dreams of their next surf to look forward to. **SG**



IN BETWEEN SHARK STORIES, THE GIRLS TRADED HAIRSTYLE TIPS, SHARED LIP GLOSSES AND SNIGGERED ABOUT BOYS

Renee slashing with confidence



Ena carving it up

