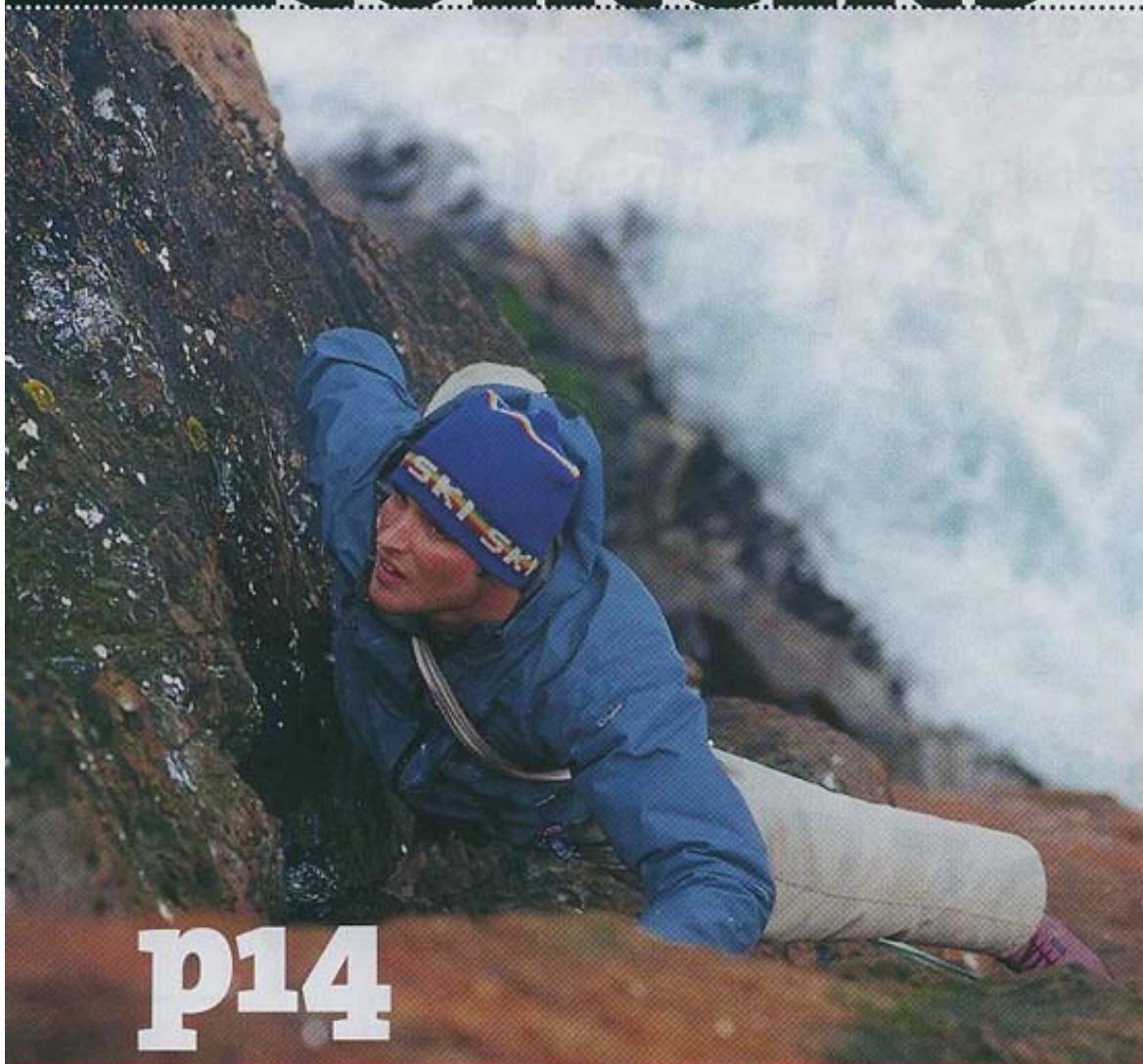




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ABOVE: Pete Robins making the first ascent of *Papa Don't Preach*, E5 5c/6a, Papa Stour, Shetland. ADAM LONG



BELOW: Action from the Mello Blocco bouldering festival. ANDY EARL RIGHT: Sue Nott on ice. IAN PARNELL BOTTOM RIGHT: The Bruntwood Aerial Assault hits Manchester. DAVID SIMMONITE

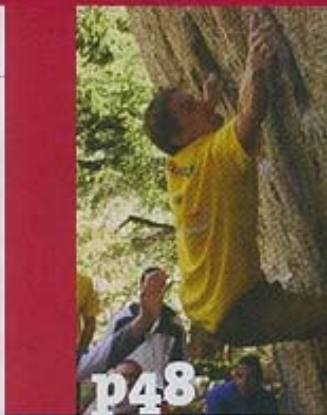
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She's short and feisty and she's one of North America's top Alpinists.

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Percy Bishton rounds up all the news from home and abroad.



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Cover: Steve McClure on the finishing moves of *All Baba* E2 5c, Wainstones, North York Moors. TIM GLASBY



Chris Sharma on Witness the Fitness
 Problem Font 8c (V15) in the Ozark
 Mountains of Arkansas. COREY
 COREYGRAPHY
 Chris Sharma on his new problem Eclipse
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 Chris Sharma on High Fidelity Font 8b (V13)
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 Chris Sharma, Gaz Parry and Andy Earl at the
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 Chris Sharma at a time please! Competitor
 Chris Sharma at the Mello Blocco. ANDY EARL
 Chris Sharma warming up with a spot of dog
 sitting. ANDY EARL

g roof line in the Ozark Mountains. Inspired, Sharma postponed a
 Japan in order to complete the 40ft-long roof project. The line was
Witness the Fitness, after a track by Roots Manuva and is the
 t line I've ever seen that has been done," according to Sharma.
 ally non-committal when it comes to grading, Chris offered the
 g insight into how hard this problem could be. "It has *Esperanza* (a
 stem of Fred Nicole's in Hueco Tanks) style roof climbing, but it's
 nes as long, and it has a harder crux that comes near the end." So
 it least V15 or Font 8c then. Check out the pictures and video
 on www.bigupproductions.com for a brief taster of the action and
 for the *Dosage 3* DVD in the near future, which features film of
 scent.

CONTINUE BOULDERING WORLD CUP FORM

ark Croxal's stunning victory at the Birmingham round of the 2005
 up, the British bouldering team seem to be going from strength to
 with Andy Earl snatching third place at the third round
 tion in Fiera di Primiero, Italy. The final round of the World Cup
 place in France at the end of September (where yours truly has
 e problems...) and the winner is still to be decided. Potentially any
 e top seven ranked climbers can take the title and with Britain's
 axall still lying in fourth position overall, it's all to play for. Is it too
 hope for a British World Cup Champion at last? Going on current
 might not have to wait for too much longer. More details on the
 ouldering team can be found at www.britishbouldering.com

MELLO BLOCCO

A small, but strong band of British boulderers took part in the
 Mello Blocco outdoor bouldering competition/festival in May out in Val
 di Mello in northern Italy. Whilst an informal event, large cash prizes
 were on offer to those climbers who climbed one or more of the Big
 Boulders, a selection of 10 projects cleaned and prepared especially for
 the event on the pristine granite blocks. Five big boulders for the
 ladies, and five for the gents. Over 1000 people filled the boulder field
 each day throughout the event, and much fun was had by all (as well as
 much beer drunk). Although my initial fears were how on earth could
 the area cope with so many climbers converging into one place, the
 aftermath of the event was miraculous to say the least. The area and
 the boulders were left cleaner than at the start, thus restoring my faith
 in climbers as folk who care about their environment rather than their
 own selfish needs. The atmosphere throughout the weekend was
 amazing and the support of the vast crowds of climbers for anybody
 struggling on a problem saw many personal-best performances put in.
 The top men managed three out of the five big boulders and won cash.
 Even I won a bit of cash for my measly two big boulder ascents, but as I
 was absent from the awards ceremony my cash was collected by other
 members of the British contingent, who promptly rushed to the bar and
 drank my winnings. Bloody typical! The first time I ever win anything...
 Details, pictures and results are on www.planetmountain.com and a
 nice video of the last two year's Mello Blocco events can be found on
www.petzl.com