

# BOLFA

## Special points of interest:

- **Cutting edge routes 1990-2000**
- **Joke of the month**
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## Further cutting-edge routes (Part II) 1990-2000

So by the end of 1990, the world had its first route graded 8c+ (34), courtesy of a 25 foot offering in the UK. It was big news, for it was an unprecedented grade – and a route that would stand the test of time and see only 4 repeats in the next 14 years. Nevertheless, it wasn't long before another climb came to challenge it in the difficulty stakes – and this time it was Germany's turn.

### 1991

Aktion Direkt (originally UIAA XI) (or 34/35 for us Aussies) was the product of Wolfgang Gullich in 1991. The line had been a project of local Milan Sykora – though his vision was of a slightly different path up the same radically overhanging bulge. Gullich set to work on the project but chose instead to take a direct finish straight through the business. To do this, he specifically trained 1-finger pockets, but more importantly started a campus boarding regime that up until then, was unheard of.

To train for the route, Gullich (amongst other exercises) trained plyometrics – specifically on one-finger first joint edges. This involved dropping down and catching his weight using one-finger of each hand – then springing back up to the next rung.

Clearly this type of training helped him, because he went on to climb the route over a period of 8 days (spread over a significantly longer period). Being only 15 moves long – this was easily comparable to Moon's power route 'Hubble'. Moon himself concurred with the grade after attempting a repeat, coming off the 13<sup>th</sup> move on linkage before retiring with an injured finger.

Nowadays 'Action' is regarded as being the first 9a (35), with Hubble coming in at hard 34 (though it must be noted that the latter has had significantly less repeats).

On the onsight front, Didier Raboutou walked up Space Camp (30), bringing the onsight grade ever closer to 8b (31).

Over in Oz, big news was that of Steve Bullen, making the first Australian repeat of Lord of the Rings (31).

### 1992

The well known Frenchman Jibe Tribout – well accustomed to raising the bar in terms of grades outside his homeland, returned to Smith Rocks (US) and got to work on an old Alan Watts project – the extension of the 5.13c (30) route 'Just Do It'.

By linking this lower section into the hitherto unclimbed upper purple band of rock on

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## JOKE OF THE MONTH

A guy is driving around and he sees a sign in front of a house: Talking Dog For Sale. He rings the bell and the owner tells him the dog is in the backyard. The guy goes into the backyard and sees a Labrador retriever sitting there.

"You talk?" he asks.  
"Yep," the Lab replies.  
"So, what's your story?"

The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I discovered that I could talk when I Was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I told the CIA about my gift, and in no time at all they had

me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running. But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger so I decided to settle down.

I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security wandering near Suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals. I got married, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired."

The guy is amazed.

He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog. "Ten dollars," the guy says.

"Ten dollars? This dog is amazing. Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?"

"Because he's a liar. He never did any of that shit."



Spankin' the Monkey Bars (V8) Kindergarten—photo by Craig Ingram

"You talk?" he asks. "Yep," the Lab replies. "So, what's your story?"

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the Monkey Face – he created America's first route of 5.14c (34) standard – and arguably the hardest endurance route in the world at 45m long. Not surprisingly, he got shot down by many of Europe's top climbers who thought that Jibe wasn't capable of such a grade at the time – but given the route was like climbing a grade 30 to a 32 with a good rest in-between (off a slopy jug with no feet) – it remained the US's first 5.14c.

Over in the UK, virtual 'unknown' Scottish climber upped his personal best redpoint level from 31 (Malham's Magnetic Fields) to 34 when he stunned the climbing scene by making the much sought after second ascent of Moon's route 'Hubble'. Rumour had it that success came after his brother had done two moves of one of Malcolm's home board problems back in Dumbarton. Malcolm returned home, sent the entire problem with a sit-start – then went back to Hubble and quick success. The problem was later recognised as being probably the first V14 in UK history (albeit on wood!) Not content with this though, and being a training addict, Smith changed his regime and returned to Hubble yet again 6 months later – this time repeating the route 3 times and doing the crux statically. Clearly here was a man that knew how to get strong!

Over on the continent, Slovenian Tadj Slabe made big news by claiming one of the world's first 8c+'s (34's) with Za Starlo Kolo in Majhnega Pas (34). A couple of years later the route gained notoriety for two reasons. 1). It repelled the likes of bouldering maestro Fred Nicole, and 2). the second ascensionist found an easier sequence, prompting Slabe to chip the newly discovered holds off and force his original line.

In Austria a young Alex Huber finally clipped the chain on his 45m project dubbed 'Om' – giving it 8c+ (34). 3 years later this rating was up-graded to 9a (35) based on his own experiences with more than four more routes of 8c+ over the intervening years. To date it remains unrepeated. Interestingly, in retrospect this was the 2<sup>nd</sup> route of 9a (35) standard in the world.

Carles Brasco, one of Spain's best climbers, established L'Odi Social (33) at Suirana. Later it was to see a broken hold at the crux – and remain un-ascended until the Swiss climber Elie Cheveaux re-climbed the route some years later (taking only 5 tries) and upping the grade to 34 in the process.

Jerry Moffatt meanwhile made the trip down to Mt Arapiles and after falling off Anxiety Neurosis (26) for his first route, made the fastest ascent (first redpoint) of Punks In the Gym (32) in a super-fast two days, confirming the grade at French 8b+. He also added Zorlac the Destroyer (31) (the long thought of direct finish to Slinkin' Leopard) and made onsights of Straight Outta Compton (28) and You're Terminated (29) (then both given 31). But the big news was his onsight of Serpentine (29) in 35 degree conditions.

## **1993**

Making headlines in 1993 was Lynn Hill, who freed The Nose in Yosemite Valley over four days. She labels it 5.13b (29) (VI) and launches the amusing Ad campaign 'It Goes Boys!' for Boreal.

Swiss climber Fred Nicole – already more famous for his bouldering exploits – makes the first ascent of Bain De Sang – giving it 9a (35). The route is unique amongst top-graded routes, as it is described as merely 'vertical'. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> route proposed as 9a at the time.

In Italy Severino Scassa sends Noia (34); making this the hardest Italian route to date. He then backs this up by on-sighting Sarre 2000 (30/31) – probably the hardest onsight made to date. Competition climber Suzi Good steps off the plastic and ventures outside, with the result that she sends No Sika, No Crime (32) at Lehn (back in her homeland of Switzerland). This equals the top female grade (made by Lynn Hill some 2 years previously).

Robyn Erbesfield however – the best female competition climber of all time to date (and World Champion), also steps out from the confines of the gym and ups the ante with redpoints of Silence (32) and Attention Vous Regard (32) – both in France.

But '93 was to be an even bigger year still. Swiss climber Elie Chevieux breaks through the onsight barrier by making the first onsight ascent of a route confirmed at 31 with Les Liasons Dangereuses in France. Alex Huber added another 8c+ (34) to his tally by climbing the first ascent of Gambit – later repeated and confirmed by Austrian climber Stefan Furst.

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Also in Austria unknown strongman at the time Klem Loskot finds his way up Another Mans Woman (33). This being just the first of many top-end ascent made by the Austrian over the next decade.

Britain meanwhile keeps up to date with The Sea of Tranquility (given 8c/33 by Ben Moon). The route is now accepted as being solid 8c+ (34), having only had one repeat in 13 years. Over in Yorkshire, Dr Tony Mitchell solves the open project of True North (33).

Fred Rohling climbs a new route dubbed 'Hugh' at Les Eaux Claires – a very pocketed, short crag on the western side of France. The route is heavily manufactured and reportedly involves only 15 moves in the space of 25 metres – with a 2.4m dyno at the crux. Rohling declines to grade it – but then controversially grades it some 3 years later – calling it 9a (35). The ascent goes unreported in the European press.

The impressive Italian climber Severino Scassa meanwhile comes up with the goods on Ben Moon's famous route Maginot Line (32/33), making the first one-day repeat of the route (and of the grade). Over in sunny old Spain, Stefan Glowacz pulled his finger out of the mono's of Public Enemy (31) to onsight it.

## **1994**

1994 comes along and the future of hard onsighting is given a preview when Elie Chevieux repeats I Am A Bad Man (32) second go at Smith Rock.

Alex Huber show's he's really the man to beat by putting up Weisse Rose (34) and Black Power (34) at Schelierwasserfall. Both climbs remain unrepeated to date – and the grades are currently rumored to be more like 9a (35). Obviously on a roll, he then later goes onto ascend La Rambla (34) in Spain.

Prior to this however, top Spanish climber Bernabe Fernandez puts up Mojabe (34) – but not before drilling two of its pockets to fit his fingers. Nevertheless, this makes it the first 34 in the country, with the 2nd one coming shortly afterward at the hands of 19 year old Dani Andrada with Onda Vital (34) (an old Fernandez project).

In the UK, Ruth Jenkins climbs harder than any other English woman by sending the hardest 8a+ (30) in the Peak District – with Caviar (30) at Rubicon, taking 10 days.

Over the pond in France, JB Tribout puts up the hardest route there with Super Plafond – giving it 9a, but then immediately downgrading it to 8c+ (34). The route climbs the first half of Moon's Maginot Line (considered 8c/33) – then finishes as for Terminator (31) via a series of glued on holds.

Australian news is the first ascent of Pretty In Punk (32) by Stuart Wyithe. The route has now been downgraded to 31.

Undoubtedly however the biggest news in the world of climbing is the re-ascent of The Nose in Yosemite Valley by Lynn Hill – only this time in a single day (23 hours). The ascent is applauded – but the real significance of the achievement remains somewhat clouded for another 12 years – until it receives its second ascent. The grade is now considered as being 5.14a (32) – with the Great Roof pitch being 5.13c (30).

## **1995**

1995 dawns and with it so does the 'comeback trail' of Jerry Moffatt. Moffatt fresh out of injury makes quick work of the long term open project 'Progress' (8c+/34). He then dispenses with Seans Roof (giving it 33 – later downgraded to 32) – but his big contribution is his 4 years project Evolution (given 8c+/34 – now regarded as 33/34).

Mark Leach – better known as the mutantly strong man responsible for putting up Britain's first 32 in 1988 – repeats Sean's Roof (32) – then does so again – only this time without a rope – making it the hardest free-solo ever made. Ruth Jenkins also gets in on the act – upping her best to 31 with Zeke The Freak.

Bigger than any news worldwide however is the appearance of French climber Fred Rohling (for the first time in print) – who causes considerable controversy by claiming the world's hardest route with Akira – at the unprecedented grade of F9b (37). This is 2 grades harder than anything else that had been climbed to date. The ascent is condemned by top climbers around the world and regarded as a hoax – particularly given Rohling's track record (no repeats at the top level).

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The route is also an obscurity – starting as it does via an unroped and unbolting boulder problem never more than 4m off the ground – then eventually finishing up a bolted headwall worth F8a (29).

Elie Chevieux makes headlines by making the first onsight ascent of a route given 8b+ (32) with the heavily chipped French line of Massey Fergusson.

Over in Germany – big news comes in the 1st repeat of Gullich's Action Direct (35) by relative unknown German climber Alex Adler. Also in Germany a new name springs up with Toni Lamprecht, who makes first ascents of Das Ramayana (34), Chaos in Pulumbia (34).

Klem Loskot again impresses with Hunta Yo (34) and Mandala (34) in Austria (though he remains a virtual unknown until he makes the 2<sup>nd</sup> ascent of Radja – Nicole's V14, whilst Fred Nicole himself stops bouldering for a while to tie into a rope and send Non a la Bombe (34) in Switzerland.

## **1996**

1996 will be remembered for the year that a 15 year old American climber sent 7 routes of grade 32 or harder in a 3 week period. The person responsible was Chris Sharma, who first attacked Tony Yaniro's Mt Charleston route Closing Down (32), before walking into Logan Canyon and polishing off Super Tweek (33) in a super fast 2 days (fastest ascent to date). He goes on to put up The Sharma Link Up (33), as well as Full Slugfest (32), Throwin the Hoolihan (32), Lungfish (32), Zulu (32 – first ascent) and The Seven PM TV Show (32).

Also in the States Mia Axon becomes one of the few women to redpoint a 32 with Planet Earth (32) in the Virgin River Gorge.

Austria again is home to yet another Alex Huber creation – this time Open Air (9a/35) – a route he calls his hardest to date. It is still unrepeated. Klem Loskot meanwhile claims Hantillio (35) (again - unrepeated at the time).

On a visit to Spain, Swiss climber Elie Chevieux onsights Maldita Maria (32) (originally given 8c), then goes on to send the first re-ascent of L'Odi Social, giving it (34) and taking only 5 tries.

Wales sees the first 9a (35) established in Britain, this time at the hands of 'the walking muscle' Neil Carson. It is a line that was previously dismissed by Jerry Moffatt as being 'impossible'. Carson labels it 9a – then suggests 'it's there to be downgraded'. 10 years later – this route still hasn't received a second ascent, and the grade remains.

Travelling Aussie Garth Miller makes a splash by onsighting the linkup of Zovirax en La Empire des Sens (31) (Volx – France), as well as Move Your Body (31) (Burs – Austria), Dungeon Master (31) (Nowra) and Better Than Life (31) (Blue Mountains) (now considered 32). He also redpoints harder than any other Australian to date with ascents of Ou Tuera Tous les Altreux (33) in just two days.

JB Tribout gets in on the act with an onsight ascent of Skyline (31) – also at Burs in Austria.

The so far unknown female climber Josune Bereziartu redpoints her first route of 32 with Fettuchini (32), whilst fellow countryman (and world bouldering champion) Pedro Pons onsights Karnuz (31).

Switzerland again is home to a Fred Nicole creation – this time L'enfant du Boheme (34).

And finally, in France Arnaud Petit at last sends the first half of the big project line at Ceuse with the first section of Biographie – giving it 8c (33) (now considered 34). The route ends at an arbitrary lower off point halfway up the wall, and has another piece of reportedly F8c (33) above it – making it a futuristic project for anyone willing (or able) enough.

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## GALLERY



Steve Pollard—You're Terminated (29) Arapiles—photo by Craig Ingram



Wheel of Fortune (V12) Kindergarten—photo by Craig Ingram



JT—Slinkin' Leopard (28) Arapiles—photo by Craig Ingram



Steve Pollard—Kachoong (21) Arapiles—photo by Craig Ingram

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## **1997**

Chris Sharma puts up Necessary Evil at the Virgin River Gorge in March. The line was a long term project - previously worked on by Boone Speed who managed to climb both of the sections but failed to redpoint the entire route. Speed's estimation that it was like climbing a 32 into another 32 was confirmed by Sharma – who sent the V11 start fairly quickly, but took 8 days to link the whole route together. Prior to this the longest he had taken to do any route was 3 days.

For a comparison, he visited Smith Rock – home to America's hardest route up until then, and sent Just Do It (first American repeat) in 3 days – famously taking his beanie and then top off during the actual redpoint. He commented that Just Do It was like climbing a 30 to a good rest – followed by a 32 – whereas his own Necessary Evil was like climbing a 32 to a bad rest (a four finger edge a pad in depth) – to another 32. Clearly his route was harder!

Fourth of July (29/30) is the hardest onsight by a woman (Katie Brown). In Spain she ticks Eau de Colonne (30) second try. Vogue (33) is a new route by up and coming Tommy Caldwell in the US.

Australian Garth Miller visits the States and onsights Cannibals Direct (32) at American Fork – a V9 direct start to Tributou's route Cannibals (31). Whilst in the Salt Lake area he also has time for an onsight of Sideshow Bob (30/31), and redpoints of Higer Water (32), Dead Souls (31/32) and Body Count (31). He puts up The Miller Link Up (33) and makes the second ascent of Sharma's Link Up (33) at Logon Canyon. He also onsights the powerful Timmy Farfield line of Child of the Light (31) in New Mexico (originally 32).

Still with the States and Sharma returns to Charleston to finish off some old Yaniro projects – this time ticking off Facile (33) - a V6 extension to Closing Down (32), Legend of the Overfiend (33), and the harder Hasta La Vista (33/34). He also finds time to flash Read My Lips (31).

Back in Australia, Miller makes the first ascents of Nicotine (32) and Mr Carpet Burn (32) – both now downgraded to 31.

Spanish press publish a 4 page spread on Bernabe Fernandez new route Orujo (35) – calling it perhaps the hardest line in the country. The route has 4 bolt-on-holds – yet this fact is glossed over in favour of the difficulty. Fernandez's friend Dani Andrada makes the first repeat of Huber's La Rambla (34).

Germany's Marietta Uhden repeats Happy Biceps to You (32) in Austria, adding to the tally of women that have climbed this grade. Over in nearby Austria, Klem Loskot establishes Intermezzo (35) and Victims of Illusion (34). Intermezzo is slightly controversial as the 3<sup>rd</sup> bolt is pre-clipped for the ascent. Spanish climber Josune Bereziartu repeats Ultime Atome (32) in the Verdon Gorge.

Chris Sharma travels to France and makes the second ascent of Biographie (34) at Ceuse, and then starts work on the extension to that route. He also repeats Chronique de la Haine Ordinaire (33) second try and falls off the final hold of Le Spectre (32) on an onsight attempt. Amazingly one morning he also does Le Cadre (33) as a warm up.

La Coutte de Obscur (34) and Mortal Kombat (33/34) are put up by a new name in French climbing - Axel Franco. Mortal Kombat is later to see a severe downgrading to 8b+ (32) after being onsighted. Also in France Fred Rohling re-appears and puts up L'autre Cote de la Ciel – giving it 9a (35). Again, the route is at his local crag and heavily manufactured.

In the UK, Jerry Moffatt's route Evolution (8c+/34) gets a 2<sup>nd</sup> ascent at the hands of Steve McClure – who calls it 8c. Japan's Dai Koyamada repeats Frances' Bronx (34) in six tries over two days (fastest ascent to date).

## **1998**

1998 sees Josune Bereziartu climb her third route of 32 with No Name in Mallorca. Four months later she becomes the first woman to redpoint 8c with Honky Tonky (33). Fellow Spanish climber Bernabe Fernandez re-ascends his route Orujo (9a) this time without 3 of the 4 bolt on holds used on the first ascent. He claims the modified route as being 9a+ (36).

Klem Loskot flashes Short Circuit (32) in South Africa – describing it as one of the most amazing limestone tufa routes in the world – with 20m of stalactite climbing through a roof. Back home he makes the first ascent of Vakuumegeist, de-

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scribing it as two V12 boulder problems stacked together and giving it 9a (35). Necessary Evil (34) in the US receives its second ascent by Tommy Caldwell – who doesn't argue with the grade.

In Australia Punks Addiction (32) is the hardest route at Arapiles courtesy of Dave Jones – and was a long thought of open project that links the crux of Pretty In Punk into Punks In the Gym. The route still remains unrepeated. Theda Bara (33) meanwhile is the first 8c in Australia – put up by Garth Miller (now downgraded to 31/32).

Steve McClure redpoints Evolution (33/34) five times in one day whilst working his extension project. He also adds Funky Whore (34) and Bingo (33) – the long awaited extension to Mecca (32). Later in the year, he redpoints his project (a 35ft extension to Evolution) and dubs it Mutation (35).

Smalto Direct (34) is a new addition to the hard routes of Italy by Alberto Gnerro, but not quite as hard as Manfred Stuffer's new route Underground (9a/35), also in Italy.

## 1999

Vitamania (35) is put up by Andreas Bindhammer, which quickly receives a 2nd ascent by Axel 'the Monster' Franco and downgraded to 33/34. In Spain Josune Bereziartu redpoints the power-endurance routes White Zombie (33) and Ras (33).

In the US, Katie Brown onsights Omaha Beach (5.13d/31) making this the hardest female onsight ascent to date. 17 year old Dave Graham visits Charleston and sends Hasta La Vista (33/34) in 3 days, then Legend of the Overfiend and Facile (both 33). Kryptonite (35) is the new offering by Tommy Caldwell in the States – the first route of its grade in America.

Fred Nicole's Swiss route Elfe (35) receives a second ascent by Klem Loskot in two days, suggesting a 9a grade (since downgraded to 8c/33).

## 2000

Biggest news coming out of the UK is the eventual first ascent of 'Ben's Project' aka Northern Lights (9a/35). The man responsible is Steve McClure, who takes a slightly different approach between 2 of the bolts and makes the first ascent after 15 days of work. The route had repelled the likes of not only Ben Moon (who managed to climb it from the 2<sup>nd</sup> bolt to the top – but also Scottish strongman Malcolm Smith (who could only manage it from the 3<sup>rd</sup>). The line has now been described as being a power-endurance affair involving climbing a 34 into a 31, then finishing on easy (relatively speaking) grade 26 terrain with no rests. It remains unrepeated.

In Switzerland Eric Talmadge puts up Im Reich Des Shogun, also giving it 9a. Long time World Cup champion Francois Legrand dispenses with his project at Les Goudes (France) to give 'Robi In the Sky' (9a/35) named after his late grandfather. The route is a massive endurance affair taking the most prized line up the guts of the cliff, and involves only a 'desperate rest' on a rounded undercling at the halfway mark. The route is also unrepeated to date.

Dave Graham puts up The Fly – a 2 bolt line (25 feet) worth 9a (35). The route is now considered by many to be a hard V13 boulder problem. Tomasz Oleksy meanwhile over in Poland ascends Tysiac Kotletow, also giving it 9a – making this the hardest route in that country.

## Summary

So another 10 years goes by in the climbing world, and not surprisingly standards were raised yet again – though more to do with consolidation by a number of climbers, rather than just grade breakthroughs. At the start of the '90's Action Direct (35) and Hubble (34) were the two top routes in the world, with not a lot else challenging them. This changed dramatically through the decade with first ascent of numerous routes given 8c+ or 9a, and even one climb claimed as being 9b!

By 2000 it was thus clear that 9a was well and truly on the table (having been around for nearly ten years by that stage), and it wasn't going to be long before something even harder was established. As it was, the major climbing countries of the US, France, the UK, Italy, Switzerland, Spain and Austria harboured routes of grade 35 – with the 2 exceptions being Fred Rohling's route Akira (given 9b/37) and Spain's Bernabe Fernandez line Orujo (given 9a+/36).

Australia meanwhile remained dormant with the top standard set by Garth Miller and his Theda Bara (then given 33).

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## HOT FUN CLOSING

### Overseas news...

UK climber Ben Moon has paid his first ever visit to the bouldering mecca of Hueco Tanks, Texas. Clearly still as strong as ever, he was shown the moves of Diaphaneous Sea (V12) - and promptly flashed it. The problem is a 7 move power affair up a 55 degree overhanging wall with massive lock offs on small crimps—totally his style. He has since gone on to repeat Martini Right (V12), Chlablanca (V12), Free Willy (V10-flash), A Woman With a Hueco in Her Head (V10-flash), Loaded Direct (V12) and The Full Monty (V12/13).

Fred Nicole had previously established Terremer (V16) which is a link up from Diaphaneuos (V12) into the roof of Terre de Sienne (V15). Dave Graham, fresh from a one-day ascent of Nicole's Esperanza (V14) repeated Terre de Sienne (V15) after 3 days, calling it V13/14, a line of thinking shared with Matt Wilder and Ben Moon. Graham then repeated Fred's other V15, downgrading it to 14.

Daniel Woods (16) also (prior to Graham's trip) visited Hueco and dispatched nine V12's or harder including Slashface (V14) and Esperanza.

David Lama—all of 15 years old—finished up 2005 by onsighting three 32's at Montsant and Siurana (both in Spain) and flashing El Koala (33).

Still with the young crew—and the youngest of them all—Adam Ondra—has made an ascent of Alien Carnage (34) in France, making this the youngest ascent of a route of its grade. Adam is still only 12 years old.

### Australian news...

Victorian Madeleine Melder (13 years old) has sent her first 26 with De La Soul (26) at Van Diemen's Land (Grampians).

Ex-Adelaide homeboy Lawry has made the move to Natimuk and thus made Arapiles his local crag. Lats In the Belfry (28) went down 3rd shot, followed in the same day by Power, Corruption & Lies (27). The following day he took a rest by sending You're Terminated (29) in just 2 shots.

Big news though is Limmo's redpoint of Eddie Misses The Point (25) up at the Summit. Rumour has it that he's on a roll, and was last seen projecting Tim In the Gym (26).

Stevie Pollard briefly paid his home town a visit over a few months—before returning to his beloved Switzerland (or should that just be 'his beloved?') Whilst here he sent Demon Flower (31) at Muline, Yesterday Direct (27) (nearly flashed), and Mind Arthritis (27) amongst other things.

During the same spell Lawry ticked Pa Pa Poppy (30), whilst JT dispatched Desert Rose (27). Craig Ingram (photographer for this issue) also sent Power, Corruption & Lies (27).

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## THE LAST WORD

**“If I can get off the ground at the Summit—then I can get off the ground at Muline”**  
*- a somewhat naïve female climber, commenting about her chances of getting to the first bolt on an up-coming visit to Muline Crag—Grampians, Victoria.*