



ENTERTAINMENT

Force of nature

Take the greatest surfer on the planet to the heaviest wave and you have a thrilling combination.

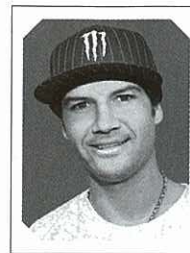
→ So, just how good is Kelly Slater?

"Kelly Slater is unquestionably the greatest surfer we've ever seen. There's not even a comparison," says Australian surfing legend Peter Townend. Nine-time world champion Slater will be in Australia this month to launch the IMAX movie *Ultimate Wave Tahiti*. The movie

is the first 3-D IMAX film to focus on surfing. Most of the action occurs at the famed break of Teahupo'o, where Slater is joined by local big-wave surfer Raimana Van Bastolaer. The film is directed by Stephen Low, who says the film is a guide to how a wave works. "Where waves come from and what causes their

occurrence – the ocean science of waves – is the foundation for our film," says Low. "The information is dramatically captured through the surfers' interaction with this force of nature." *Ultimate Wave Tahiti is showing at IMAX Darling Harbour from February 25 and at IMAX Melbourne from February 18.*

THE EX-MEN



NAME
CHAD REED
PROFESSION
MOTORCYCLIST
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE
USA

Flying over humps of dirt is this rider's secret to success.

Words BEN COADY

Chad Reed is one of our most successful sportsmen – but he usually only makes headlines in Australia when rich lists are published. Reed, who rides both supercross and motocross, believes mainstream sport fans do not appreciate his profession.

"A lot of people don't relate to it. Car racing and rugby league get more respect because the average person can relate to them. Not everyone can understand how tough my sport is and the skill level involved," says the 27-year-old.

Reed, who grew up in Kurri Kurri near Newcastle, now lives in Tampa, Florida. "It takes a while to adapt to living life in the fast lane, but now I'm used to it. I love the weather. It's hot and humid all year round and there are a lot of lakes and beaches." The only drawback is the 20-hour flight it takes him to return to Australia. "I really couldn't get further away from home."

Reed has won supercross (indoor racing) and motocross (outdoor) world titles. "In the past I enjoyed supercross more, but [in 2009] I really enjoyed the motocross series and won the [AMA] championship, so I'm looking forward to riding both [this year]." Reed is proud of his world titles but says, "I grew up in a normal family in a small country town. My greatest achievement is coming from that background and doing what I set out to do. Now I am living my dream."

And what of the estimation in *BRW* magazine that he earned \$10 million in 2009? "I've been extremely fortunate and have worked hard to have a successful career. I devote every second of my life to my riding, so it's a great reward that I think I deserve."

HOW TO ... Crash

Words
GOD SWORE IT
Illustration
SIMON LETCH



1. **Have a cool name.** Be the best golfer in the world, and thanks to winnings and sponsorships, become the first billionaire athlete. Marry a blonde beauty, have a couple of kids and live in a mansion.



2. **Go to Australia and win a funny yellow jacket.** While on the fairways Down Under, stories about you nailing birdies (sorry, couldn't resist) away from home appear in the US media.



3. **Get chased out of the family home** by the "cheese and kisses" while she's swinging a three-iron. Play smash up derby with a hedge, tree and a fire hydrant while trying to escape. Go on hiatus.