

## Martin Carr

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**From:** "Martin Carr" <martin.carr@carrs-  
**To:** <martin.carr@carrs-of-sheffield.com>  
**Sent:** 16 January, 2002 12:02  
**Attach:** Andy David.jpg; Martin Nankoo.jpg  
**Subject:** Across the Pond

> "British English and Scottish Freestyle team members have scattered across  
 > the globe on their individual missions of preparing/qualifying for the  
 > Olympics or just climbing the International Ladder. On a shoe string, they  
 > move from country to country, continent to continent working their way up  
 > the International rankings. Andy David and Martin Nankoo, both British  
 > Development and England Squad members tell their own stories of what it's  
 > like to train and compete on either side of the pond.  
 >  
 > Letter From Switzerland  
 >  
 > Since arriving out in Verbier in early November things have been very  
 > frustrating due to the snow drought that seems to be following us around  
 > the world at present . Things have all started in much the same way as the  
 > Australian winter with us turning up in a ski resort where green and brown  
 > seem to be the dominant shades that one sees out of your window , rather  
 > than the crystalline white beauty of fresh powder fields that Verbier is  
 > known for.  
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 >  
 > We have seen only a couple of days snow fall now in the two months that we  
 > have been here and they really did not amount to much . We continue to  
 > survive at present on the efforts of the snow making machines which have  
 > been working over time of late . There is only a tiny amount of the area  
 > open currently which has meant that all the public have been squeezed into  
 > the few small areas that are still skiable . As a result everywhere has  
 > been over crowded and tempers all around the resort have been tested .  
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 >  
 > As a result the opportunity to train constructively has been almost  
 > impossible . Even flat work has been difficult because of over crowding  
 and  
 > congestion on the piste . It is like trying to train on the M25 in rush  
 > hour . In addition to bits of flat work the only other thing I have been  
 > able to do was the occasional jump session . However, even those rare  
 > moments did not go entirely without incident . Due to sheer boredom and  
 > frustration I was attempting to do a few new tricks to entertain myself .  
 > When attempting to perfect my Misty Fives I managed to put my knees into  
 my  
 > face with great velocity , which resulted in a black eye. That was exactly  
 > what I wanted for Christmas , NOT !  
 >  
 >  
 > The rest of the time around work I have spent my time trying to stay  
 strong  
 > and fit by any means possible . This was normally consisted of cross  
 > country running , weights and long night out with energetic chalet girls.  
 > Well I figure all those activities will build the staying power that will  
 > hopefully hold me in good stead when or should I say if the snow ever

does

> arrive so that we can start to train and compete .

>

>

> Having not been able to train I decided to save some funds and not bother

> with the first Europa Cup of the season in Livigno . However as there has

> still been no change in conditions I now feel that I have to take a

chance

> and attend the Andermatt comp as we do not know how many more comps will

> get called off this year . This event should mark the start of a very busy

> period for me as only a couple of days later I will make my debut on the

> European Freeride scene in The Verbier Ride . Then shortly after that I

> will have another Mogul event which will be a good training opportunity as

> it is only a Swiss cup . This will I hope give me a chance to try out a

> couple of new trick combinations that I have been developing over the last

> few weeks . So fingers crossed it will all go according to plan unlike the

> rest of the season so far .

>

>

> I will be in touch again soon to keep you up to date with all proceedings

> as they unfold . Peace and elbow grease , respect !

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>

> Andy David, British Freestyle Ski Team.

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> Letter from America

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> Howdy partners, from four British guys in Steamboat Springs, CO. The

> season started off pretty bad but its getting back to what it's supposed

> to be.

> There are a few bare patches but that doesn't bother us as we only ski

one

> run all day, the World Cup course on Voo Doo.

>

> Training is tough as we ski five days a week, with Monday and Thursday

> off. Tuesday and Friday evenings we pump some iron in the gym and on

> Wednesday evening we do some jump training on the trampoline.

>

> Three of the Brits Stuart Greenshields, Andy Bennett and Euan Stobie have

> been out here training since November to train hard for the

> competitions coming up. On the 14th December there was a Sprint Big Air

> competition in Steamboat with Andy and Stuart competing. Andy Bennett

> pulled a massive Misty 540 for his first jump, then a Tail grab 900 for

> his second finishing in a fantastic 2nd place winning \$1500 US dollars,

> which he was pretty pleased with. Stuart Greenshields was winding himself

> up for 1080 and almost landed it. His second jump was a 720 mute grab

> which this time he landed and finished in 3rd place winning \$1000 US

> dollars.

>

> On the same day was the Suzuki Freestyle World Cup, where we cheered on

> three other British Athletes. Sam Temple, Joanne Bromfield and Simon

> Bates. Sam and Jo both did well and have also already qualified for the

> Olympics. Simon Bates pushed too hard and missed out on qualification,  
> luckily he jhas a few more events to meet the tight qualifying standard.  
>  
> I was training in France with the Australian Team and finally arrived  
> in Steamboat on New Years Eve after a frustrating trip to Sauze d'Oulx. I  
> had travelled there for a Europa Cup but it was cancelled due to lack of  
> snow - the nightmare season for snow continues in Europe.  
>  
> At the beginning of January Stuart and Andy headed down to Vail to  
compete  
> in Moguls, Dual Moguls and Slopestyle. Both Andy and Stuart got some solid  
> results in the bummps comps but the pick of the day was Andy's repeat 2nd  
> place in Slopestyle (Big Air), whopping the Yanks at their own game and  
in  
> their own back yard!!  
>  
> With a lot of training under our belts we were ready for the next  
> competition at home in Steamboat springs over the weekend of 11-13  
> January. Training  
> was great for everyone who was competing as the course was as soft as  
> feather bead. Over night it was clear sky, so when we turned up at the  
> course the next day it was as solid as bonfire toffee. All of a sudden  
> where everyone had been flying down the course, caution was the name of  
the  
> game, though it did get a little softer(More like Mcowans Highland Toffee)  
> later on. I managed to keep Andy's challenge at bay as top Brit at 24th,  
> Andy came in at 25th closely followed by Stuart and Euan Stobie, Stuart  
had  
> absolutely steamed it with even the crowd shouting slow down. One day that  
> boy will put in a full on run and win an event by miles!!  
>  
> The next competition is in Monarch, Colorado where we aim to show our  
> American cousins that they have a little bit of competition.  
>  
> So until then.  
>  
> Martin Nankoo, British Freestyle Ski Team"  
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