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# Mountain Bike

BRITAIN'S BEST-SELLING BIKE MAG

## HARDCORE HEROES

Amazing riders  
defying disability

### BIKETEST

CAN £1500  
STILL BUY  
A GREAT FULL  
SUSPENSION  
BIKE?

### WRECKED & RATED

14 saddle solutions

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Plus Mavic Alpine XL shoes,  
Urge Down-o-matic helmet,  
Stan's No Tubes Crest rims

50  
SEXIEST  
MOUNTAIN BIKES  
OF ALL TIME

# RIDE WILD!

GEAR UP, GET OFF THE  
BEATEN TRACK & DISCOVER  
YOUR BEST RIDE EVER!

GIVE DOWNHILL A COL





I t's the sort of thing every mountain biker dreads – losing an arm, a leg, your sight or the use of your lower body are all terrifying prospects. Would any of the above stop you getting out on your bike though? For some riders, fate has stepped in and dealt a horrendous hand. But they simply refuse to let that stop them hitting the trails and enjoying their bikes.

MBUK set about tracking down some of the world's most amazing riders in a quest to find out just how they've beaten the odds... »

NO MATTER WHAT HORRENDOUS INJURIES  
THEY ENDURE, SOME RIDERS ARE JUST

# UNSTOPPABLE!





## A second pair of eyes

BOBBY MCMULLEN

From California  
Age 47

It's fair to say that life has thrown pretty much everything at Bobby McMullen. He was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at 12, lost his sight and has had two kidney and pancreas transplants. But he still refuses to quit riding. "There's never been a time when I've considered giving up riding!" he says. "The bike is a soul searcher and soul saver for me. As long as I can throw a leg over a bike, I will always do it."

He's not hanging around either. With fellow WTB rider Mark Weir riding out front as an audio guide, Bobby tackles some of the US and Europe's most gnarly downhill courses – including the terrifying Megavalanche at Alpe d'Huez.

The award-winning feature film *The Way Bobby Sees It* followed him as he prepared to race in the daunting 17-mile Downieville Classic DH in 2008.

Bobby's riding achievements are staggering before you even take his vision into account. He was the first blind rider to race at CrankWorx in Whistler, has tackled the 3,000-plus miles of Race Across America, taken part in the Sea Otter Classic and competed at the US National Championships. Oh, and come the winter he's a competitive ski racer. Puts it into perspective, doesn't it?

# BOBBY TACKLES SOME OF THE MOST GNARLY DOWNHILL COURSES



## MORE hardcore HEROES



Tara Llanes

A former US National Champion in both DH and 4X, Tara is one of the most high-profile riders to have suffered a paralysing injury. She crashed at a race in Colorado and fractured her C7 and L1 vertebrae. She currently rides a four-wheeled trike.



Stephen Murray

Originally from Newcastle, Stephen Murray is a Gravity and X Games winner who's famed for his backflip variations. Tragically though, he suffered severe spinal injuries during a competitive double flip attempt. He was initially



Stacy Kohut

Canadian Stacy won a gold medal in skiing at the Paralympic Games in Lillehammer, Norway, in 1994. As if that isn't enough he's also the co-owner of R-ONE, one of the world's leading producers of four-wheeled bikes for

Ride with the



If you've beaten the odds like the riders in this feature and fancy riding with the Wrecking Crew at your local spot, drop us an email at [mbuk@futurenet.com](mailto:mbuk@futurenet.com) including a bit about yourself and some pics and we could be Vito-ing our way to you in the very near future!