

# Alpha magazine to reveal the 100 greatest sports stars ever

It's supposed to be the argument you dare not even start, let alone try to win. But next week, in an Australian first, the top 100 sports people of all time will be revealed.

The question is, who will be number one?

The full list, to be published in Alpha magazine, is sure to create no shortage of arguments, with the number one selection a closely guarded secret.

But this week, a group of elite Australian athletes offered their view on the greatest ever athlete from any sport.

For former Sydney Swans forward Barry Hall, the choice was clear cut, if a touch surprising: "Roger Federer is the best I've seen in any sport," Hall said.

Champion jockey Damien Oliver is a well-known recreational surfer and golfer, so it's no shock to learn his picks were Kelly Slater and Tiger Woods.

V8 champ Jamie Whincup said he couldn't go past F1 ace Michael Schumacher, who's attempt at an incredible comeback was recently ended by injury.

"To still train so hard and



have the will to win at the age of 40 is pretty incredible, especially when you're worth

a couple of hundred million."

Alpha magazine's 50th edition, on sale August 19.

Triple Olympic rowing gold medallist James Tomkins nominated Muhammad Ali as the greatest. "He was a massive figure through that human rights era."

Legendary Boxing trainer Johnny Lewis preferred Sugar Ray Robinson over Ali, while sports bookie Gerard Daffy is a Rod Laver man.

Perhaps the most surprising selection came from Australia's greatest marathon runner Robert De Castella.

"I'd go for Pheidippides, the Athenian soldier who ran 26 miles marathon from the battlefield of Marathon to Athens to announce the Greek victory over the invading Persians," Deek said.

"His feat inspired millions or runners not just at the elite level but at the recreational level too."

The list is dominated by men with 13 women making the top 100 cut and 19 Australians.

The full list will be published in Alpha's special 50th issue, on sale August 19.

## Calombaris roasts Rowe

MASTERCHEF judge George Calombaris has inflamed a simmering row between the show's judges and Gold Coast etiquette queen Patsy Rowe by saying 'she should get a life'.

Calombaris, on the Gold Coast this month to cook at the Waterfront Food and Wine Festival at the

Carrara Entertainment Complex, has slammed Rowe over comments she made in early June about the three judges' table manners.

Rowe tagged their behaviour disgusting, saying their 'large bites, chewing with their mouths open and talking with their mouths full' on Channel 10's top rating amateur cooking show broke all the rules of etiquette.

MasterChef judge Matt Preston rejected the claims as 'absolute nonsense', saying he and fellow judges -- Gary Mehigan and Calombaris -- took small bites and never ate with their mouths open or spoke while eating.

But Calombaris has declared Rowe 'a loser, hence why she's not on the highest-rating show in Australia'.

"She should be more concerned about (AFL star) Ben Cousins sticking his finger up at all those kids," he says.

"Our table manners is how we eat. It's not about me, it's about the contestants. If I see her on the Gold Coast I'll serve it to (Rowe)."

Rowe said only: "It would seem Mr Calombaris's threats and disparaging personal remarks merely reflect his lack of manners in general."



## Multicultural Business Award to Pantelis Cotis owner of "Zorbas Hair Fashion"

*Pantelis Kotis was born in Kalymnos. In 1963 with very little money in his pocket and without knowledge of English but with a strong will for work, dreams and hopes for a better life he came to Australia. At first he was working in a barber shop in the West End. Unfortunately after 16 months of work the barbershop closed. But soon his luck started to change as he was called to take over a small barbershop in the city. He managed to buy the shop for 500 pounds. In 1970, a friend of his, prompted him to open his own shop in a new shopping centre in Carindale. And he did. As soon as the shopping centre opened in 1979, Mr Pantelis was ready to serve the busy area. He is the type of person willing to try out new and innovative ideas. This helped him create a 'good name' for himself and the "Zorbas" hair salons.*

## Diving tourism: The mysterious allure of the deep

The mysterious allure of the deep and life in the depths of the sea have kindled the imagination of many, but only few have the ability to experience them. Underwater photography, however, has brought the wondrous world of the deep closer to the 'landlubbers'.

The Greek seas are rich in such photographic material, and underwater photography in Greece was permitted, through legislation, just a few years ago, according to the president of the Kavala-based Panhellenic Center for Underwater Photography Research and Technology, Ioannis Stamatiadis.

Taking advantage of the 2005 legislation allowing recreational diving throughout the country, with the exception of designated archaeological areas, the local government administrations in Northern Greece have launched a campaign to attract "diving tourists".

The local government of Kavala, northern Greece's second largest city and the principle seaport of eastern Macedonia, is organising the 1st International Underwater Photography Competition, with the top four entrants overall winning a week-long, all expenses paid diving holiday in the town of Limenaria on

the nearby island of Thassos.

The competition is open to divers over the age of 18, who must submit three entries to the Center by August 26.

The photographs are separated into three categories: Man and the Sea, Microphotography, and Landscapes in the Sea.

The entries will be judged by a committee of experts, and the winning entries will be announced on September 8.

The winners will enjoy a series of diving events in various areas of the island for underwater photography, as well as excursions for photography on land.