



**A YEAR IN DOPING** Floyd Landis, Rodney Harrison, and Marion Jones: All disgraced.

## Dopers, Beware

Terry Madden, former CEO of the USADA, doesn't joke around.



**IN SEPTEMBER**, Terry Madden, the CEO of the Colorado Springs-based U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, resigned. Madden, who's helmed the USADA since its creation in 2000, was charged with reining in the rampant American

doping; this past year, he helped net some of the highest-profile drug cheats (see: Floyd Landis, Marion Jones) in the history of the anti-doping movement. Here, he speaks out.

### How intense is the doping war right now?

Very. Thank God that federal and state law enforcement agents have become involved. It's creeping down into our high schools, into our grade schools. One, they're using them for sport, but now teenagers are also taking these things to look buff. What I'm afraid is going to happen is, five and 10 years down the road from now, we're going to have some form of a health crisis from all this crap seeping down to our children. We could have athletes dying for no apparent reason.

### Why is there so much controversy over test results?

It's real easy. The athletes can attack USADA, but if you talk to federal law enforcement authorities you'll know we have the credibility. So what do they have left to attack? The doping control officers that work for us, that collect the specimens, are honest, good people. They can't attack the chain of custody. So what it comes down to is the lab. That's their only point of attack.

### How are fans supposed to trust athletes?

I guess the fans need to check out USADA's record and see the steps we've taken to protect the clean athlete. That's our only job. And again, these cases all seem to follow the same pattern of the high-profile athlete: "Deny, deny, deny." And [yet] in each and every case, they're found guilty of doping. They are drug cheats.

### What case most disappointed you?

The BALCO case, which proved for the first time in the world—except for the East German governmental program—that there were actually groups of people participating in doping together. [BALCO was a high-profile Bay Area doping lab busted in 2003.] I can tell you that the first time I saw some of the information in black and white, I went home and puked in my toilet.

### The Tour de France seems to be the lightning rod for doping criticism these days. Is the Tour really that dirty—or is it simply under a much greater microscope?

It is under no greater microscope than any other sport. One of the participants in the Tour this summer was quoted as saying that 97 percent of the Tour has doped in prior years. I will stand by his statement. I don't think it's a lightning rod at all—cycling has the most serious doping problem of any sport in any country. I think they're taking aggressive steps to cure their problem, but they have a long way to go.

### Do you ever get thanked by clean athletes?

We'd get phone calls and e-mails all the time. People saying, "Thank God you're there. The playing field has become much more level for me." One guy called and said, "You know, I was going to do drugs, but you guys have gotten too good at what you do." That was a funny one. —Interview by Devon O'Neil

## GEAR

### Slope Style

A Boulder ski-maker's pricey planks

**IN 2007**, Boulderite John Mansell formed Sterling Skis to produce high-end, gorgeous planks that could rip. This winter, he rolled out the Matterhorn, the company's first model. Stainless-steel edges, nano-carbon bases, and a proprietary wood core are fit for a pro, while the exotic wood topsheets lend a singular style. "We used the best materials, regardless of cost, and incorporated true craftsmanship," Mansell says. But the secretive ski-maker won't divulge who those craftsmen are—only that the skis are handmade in Europe. A secret enclave of ski-builders hiding away in the Alps? "Not far off," he concedes.

*Matterhorn, \$3,499, [www.sterlingskis.com](http://www.sterlingskis.com)*

