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Artistic Hands
Carpentry*



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Zack Giffin | Carpenter | Pro Ski Bum | Glacier, WA & Boulder, CO

At OR we know it takes hard work to have serious fun. So does Zack Giffin, a Colorado carpenter who stacks summer paychecks so he can spend winter charging burly backcountry lines. Based at Washington's Mt. Baker, Zack's big-line pursuit has also taken him on dream trips from Japan to Argentina, launched him on heli epics in BC, and landed him in the pages of every major ski publication, including the cover of Powder. But it's not all glory and face-shots, and without his off-season work ethic, he might still be living in his van. Check out Zack's footage, including a film of his super-deep Japan trip, at outdoorresearch.com.

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Nik Berry | Aspiring RN | Big Wall Free Climber | Salt Lake City, UT

At OR we know finding perfect balance takes hard work. So does Nik Berry, an aspiring RN who traded the seasonal migrations of a climber's lifestyle to burn through pre-requisites on his path to nursing school. For a guy who redpointed Yosemite's "ledge-to-ledge" version of the Salathé Wall as a first "team-free" ascent (VI 5.13d), camping out in a library chair to study for Anatomy and Physiology midterms was a bit of a mindshift. But the Utah-only limit forced Nik to climb locally, leading to the first free ascent of Wonderboy (5.13c) on Lone Peak and Lunar X (5.13) in Zion. The dichotomy of an inside/outside lifestyle has taught him a new appreciation for free time on the rock, but a flexible profession he can take from town to town will make hitting the books worth it in the end. Learn more at outdoorresearch.com/verticulture.



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Molly Baker | Freelance Writer | Backcountry Freeskier | Glacier, WA

At OR we know it takes hard work to have serious fun. So does Molly Baker, a freelance writer and competitive freeskier who picked a powder gypsy lifestyle rather than stable post-baccalaureate employment. Her alternative path led to an emerging career as an online journalist for Skiing, Ski Journal and ESPN.com — a natural fit for a girl with the steep-skiing skills to tick off the first female descent of Mt. Shuksan's Hanging Glacier last winter. Read Molly's stories about Shuksan, Patagonia and New Zealand at outdoorresearch.com.



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Madaleine Sorkin | Grad Student | Big Wall Free Climber | Lyons, CO

At OR we know finding perfect balance takes hard work. So does Madaleine Sorkin, a Lyons, Colorado grad student with an impressive free climbing tick list to her credit, including a free ascent of Freerider (5.12d) on El Cap, the third female free of the West Face of Yosemite's Leaning Tower and an all-female first free charge up Women-At-Work (5.12 R) in the Cirque of the Unclimbables. For Madaleine, an even bigger objective has been navigating night classes, group projects and finals stress, all while staying on her three-year track for a master's degree in Environmental Land Use Planning. Integration is the post-graduation goal, but for now, carving out big windows of time for big walls is what provides her with an escape from serious scholarship. Learn more at outdoorresearch.com.



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| Expedition Kayaker | Squamish, BC

work. So does Bryan Smith, a kayaker and National Geographic expeditions and web series "The Season". But the work isn't sitting bay, lugging heavy gear into the field of a lifetime, such as a helicopter insertion on the Lyichik and Karimsky rivers. A dream job? Wilderness that keeps his creative inspiration

outdoorresearch.com/verticulture.