

Kimara Jebb

This Massachusetts native spends winters doing hazardous avalanche control work as a ski patroller and summers navigating extreme river rapids in her kayak. After learning to kayak at Bowdoin College, she spent six years patrolling at Sunday River, Maine, and teaching kayaking and guiding rafting trips on Maine rivers. She now throws her bombs at Bridger Bowl, Mont. (where only the toughest need apply), and in summer works her water craft for the Leadville-based Colorado Outward Bound School. As an associate explained, "You don't hang out with her for R&R."

Born September 27, 1972 (age 25)

In The Flow "A lot of ski patrollers work as raft guides. It's the natural flow of things. You ski on the snow all winter, then paddle on the runoff."

Gravity Research

"In both skiing and kayaking you're carving, looking ahead to read the terrain, and dealing with the powerful forces of gravity."

Father Knows Best "My dad was a Navy Seal. When I was a little girl he taught me how to swim, scuba dive, windsurf and ski. He's always assured me I'd be able to do whatever I wanted to do."

Chilling Experience "I almost drowned last fall while kayaking in Costa Rica, when my helmet and paddle got sucked away. I thought, 'My God, I'm going to die in this jungle river.' But I was finally able to ball my body up, and the rapids flushed me out of the hole."

Getting Started "I tell novice kayakers to start on easy water and work their way up. Enroll in a school or program. Some people think life is a big Mountain Dew commercial where everyone is doing gnarly things. But to lose your fear you have to progress gradually." —Reade Bailey

