

# jimbo morgan



## last run

**Born under the sign of L.B.J.:** December 11, 1964.

**Son of the Sierra:** Raised in and currently lives in Tahoe City, Calif.

**Lord of all boards:** World-class speed skier (7th in 1992 Winter Olympics, where his speed of 139 mph makes him 10th fastest skier ever); extreme skier (featured in Greg Stump's 1992 film *Groove Requiem*); telemark skier; snowboarder (featured in Stump's new *P-tex, Lies & Duct Tape*).

**Don't call me a categorical guy:** "I don't want to be labeled a speed skier or an extreme skier or a snowboarder. I'm an alpinist, a crossover athlete, I guess. I don't really think there's a name for this sort of sliding...yet."

**Spice of life:** "I ride to the conditions. If it's a powder day, I'm on my snowboard. If it's firmer, I'm on my alpine or telemark skis."

**Endless sliding:** "I was on snow 230 days last season—my most ever."

**The seed of his speed:** "In 1984 I went to a speed-skiing race at Mammoth and finished 9th out of 250 guys. After that, I was stuck on it. I'm a speed junkie—I love the adrenaline and endorphin rush."

**Target:** "I know I can break the world speed-skiing record [of 145 mph]. And I think I can do it this year."

**Board birth:** "I started snowboarding in 1983. The whole California scene really started in Tahoe City in a natural halfpipe. I dabbled until 1990, then got into it."

**Free the heels, free the mind:** "I started telemark skiing in 1980 so I could do more backcountry skiing."

**New Age skidmeisters:** "I'm coproducing and competing in an event called 'Lord of the Boards' in late January at Squaw Valley. It will combine snowboarding, alpine skiing and telemark skiing. The guy who wins this event will be an awesome alpine athlete."

**Mentors and idols:** "The late speed skier Steve McKinney was my inspiration, coach and mentor. He lived on the edge and was comfortable there. Dick Dorworth is an idol, because he was the first to break the 100 mph mark on skis and seems like such a wild man. And Ingemar Stenmark—whatever Stenmark skied on, I had to have."

**How bittersweet it is:** "The first time I skied was at Soda Springs (Calif.) when I was 5. I skied with my buddy David Arndt, who already knew how to ski. Nothing was more important than staying right on his tails. More than 20 years later, on the day I was named to the Olympic team, the pinnacle of my career, David was killed in a welding accident."

**In a nutshell:** "I was born to ski and snowboard and live in the mountains. I was meant to do this." —Reade Bailey