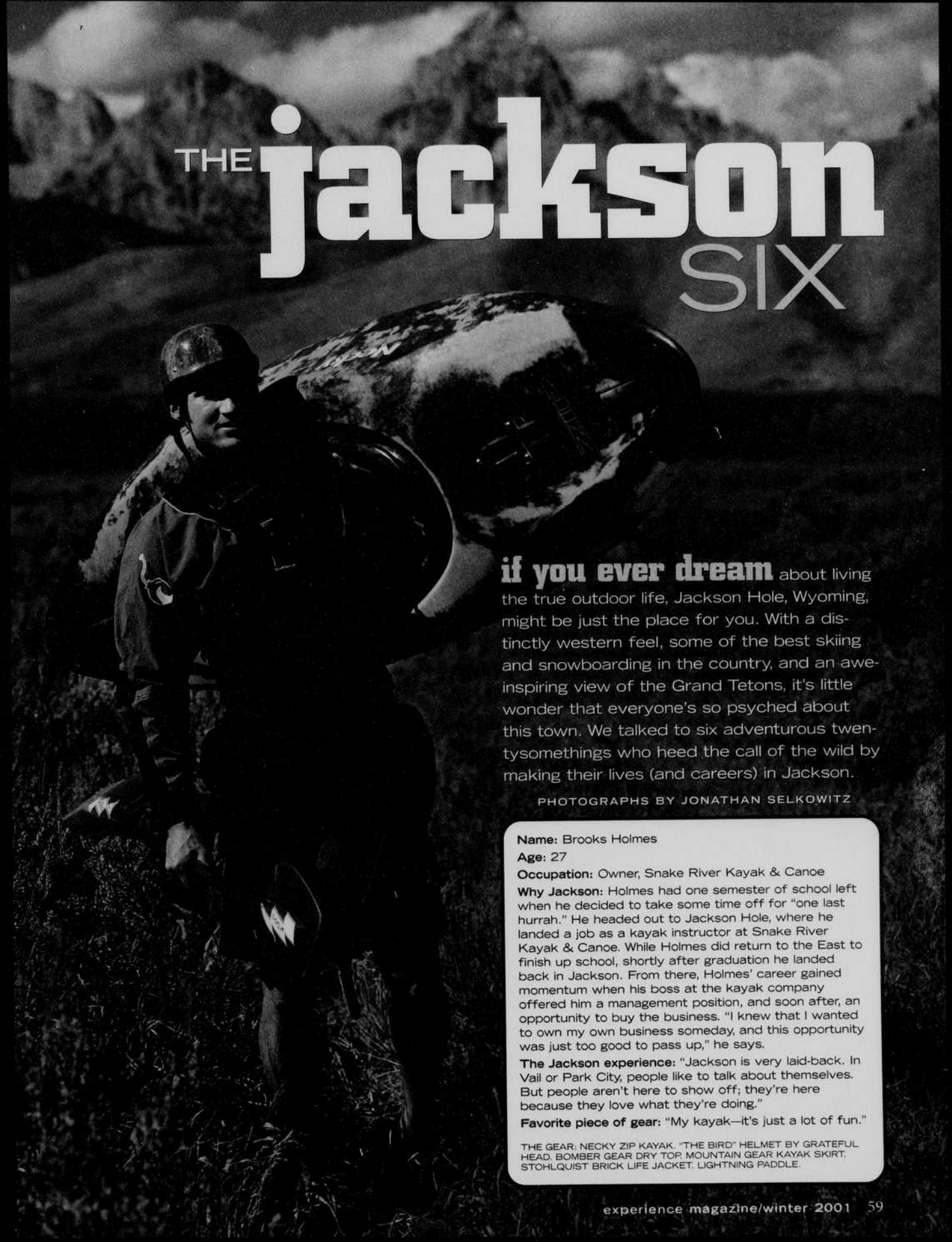


THE **jackson** SIX



if you ever dream about living the true outdoor life, Jackson Hole, Wyoming, might be just the place for you. With a distinctly western feel, some of the best skiing and snowboarding in the country, and an awe-inspiring view of the Grand Tetons, it's little wonder that everyone's so psyched about this town. We talked to six adventurous twentysomethings who heed the call of the wild by making their lives (and careers) in Jackson.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JONATHAN SELKOWITZ

Name: Brooks Holmes

Age: 27

Occupation: Owner, Snake River Kayak & Canoe

Why Jackson: Holmes had one semester of school left when he decided to take some time off for "one last hurrah." He headed out to Jackson Hole, where he landed a job as a kayak instructor at Snake River Kayak & Canoe. While Holmes did return to the East to finish up school, shortly after graduation he landed back in Jackson. From there, Holmes' career gained momentum when his boss at the kayak company offered him a management position, and soon after, an opportunity to buy the business. "I knew that I wanted to own my own business someday, and this opportunity was just too good to pass up," he says.

The Jackson experience: "Jackson is very laid-back. In Vail or Park City, people like to talk about themselves. But people aren't here to show off; they're here because they love what they're doing."

Favorite piece of gear: "My kayak—it's just a lot of fun."

THE GEAR: NECKY ZIP KAYAK. "THE BIRD" HELMET BY GRATEFUL HEAD. BOMBER GEAR DRY TOP. MOUNTAIN GEAR KAYAK SKIRT. STOHLQUIST BRICK LIFE JACKET. LIGHTNING PADDLE.