



Name: Paige Heller

Age: 23

Occupation: Waitress and part-time surveyor for a civil engineering company

Why Jackson: "The terrain is hardcore," says Heller, who was a ski racer in college. Though she's considering grad school for the future, Heller doesn't feel the pressure to rush into anything. "I might as well be here having fun while I'm figuring things out." For now, Heller waitresses at the Mangy Moose, a popular restaurant at the foot of the mountain, and surveys (i.e., uses tripods, lasers, and prisms to transfer an engineer's specs to land) during the warmer months.

The Jackson experience: Heller calls the social life in Jackson "a scene," and says that though she came out to Jackson for the winter, she's ended up loving the summer—and the endless opportunities to mountain bike—just as much.

Favorite piece of gear: "When you live in a town like this, you never feel like you have enough gear," says Heller, who's hooked on her Da Kine backpack. "I didn't use a pack in the East, but now I never go without it. It holds my Camelback bladder, a shovel, and all the layers I have to peel off while I'm backcountry skiing."

THE GEAR: DRIFT SNOWBOARD JACKET. SWIX HAT. DA KINE BACKPACK. GAP CORDS.