

STYLE

THE HANG GANG

Acad by JOSH PULAMER, photography by MICHAEL PROBENK, fashion by PATTO BERENI

The Northeast may get overlooked as a climbing destination, but it has produced some world-class rock jocks. We asked five of them — guys who have scaled walls from New York to Nepal — to put the latest climbing duds and activewear to the test, and reveal their choicest routes.



THE TEACHER: MICHAEL FENBERG
 Fenberg didn't get his lack of matter of rock in the "Pleasantville" neighborhood where he grew up; he encouraged his vertical passion by leading his friends to the climbing gyms in every town and by getting climbing partners in every town. Fenberg, 34, is a teacher at the University of Colorado, where he has a master's degree in education. He is also a climber, where he has a master's degree in education. He is also a climber, where he has a master's degree in education.

FAVORITE ROUTE: The Fall Mount, in the Adirondack Park, New York. It's a very difficult and very dramatic sequence of hard, horizontal, climbing over trees in a dense forest.

Opposite: Fenberg wears a pullover by CLOUTIER, \$80; tank by DREW JEAN, \$25; pants by PATAKONIA, \$60; watch by VICTORINOX SWISS ARMY, \$32; his own shoes, LA SPORTIVA RANTAN.



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THE VETERAN: IAN OSTEYEE
 Osteeyee owes a lot to the high school English teacher who, beyond the requisite 19th-century British prose, introduced him to climbing in New York's Adirondacks. "I was attracted to the thrill of climbing," says Osteeyee. "I had the idea of scaling a high wilderness cliff that seemed so unobtainable." The Lake Placid, New York, nearby soon began bagging first ascents and making guiding trips of his own in the Adirondacks. After a stint in a marine reconnaissance unit that took him to Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, he returned to New York and eventually founded Adirondack Mountain Guides. Besides his 25 years of experience in those mountains, Osteeyee, 41, has guided and climbed extensively in the Himalayas, including last year's ascent of Nepal's 23,000-foot Lhotse VII by moon with blind climber Erik Weihenmaier.

FAVORITE ROUTE: Wallon Jony, in Kerne Valley's Chapel Pond Canyon. It's a mixed, partly protected route with thin ice, basically, it's something that a climber about climbing all wrapped one-one climb.

This page: Osteeyee wears a pullover by CLOUTIER, \$80; tank by DREW JEAN, \$25; pants by PATAKONIA, \$60; watch by VICTORINOX SWISS ARMY, \$32; his own shoes, LA SPORTIVA RANTAN.



THE PROBLEM SOLVER: PETER DOUCETTE
 Doucette spent his childhood hiking the White Mountains of New Hampshire, so climbing was a natural next step. He parlayed his skills into gigs with Evans Mountain Guides and Alpine Explorers before founding his own guiding service, New Hampshire-based Mountain Sense, in 2006. Doucette, who has claimed first ascents in New Hampshire and Asia and done recent climbs in the Canadian Rockies and Italy's Dolomites, is nearing completion of IFMGA certification — guiding's most respected international credential, bestowed on only 51 Americans to date. For Doucette, 26, the appeal of guiding is the responsibility that it demands. "To set off for a climb with only a small pack, knowing that the rest is up to me, that my team's success will be determined by my problem-solving skills, is something I find exceptionally rewarding," he says.

FAVORITE ROUTE: Moonflower Buttress — which he and a partner completed in 41 hours — on the Alaska Range's Mount Hunter. "It's 4,000 feet of ice and mixed climbing, and you're dealing with high winds and drizzle of snow falling from above. It forced me to become a better climber in the middle of the climb."

This page: Karim wears a jacket by FURU, \$115; \$80; pants by PATAKONIA, \$60; watch by TAG HEUER, \$2,000.

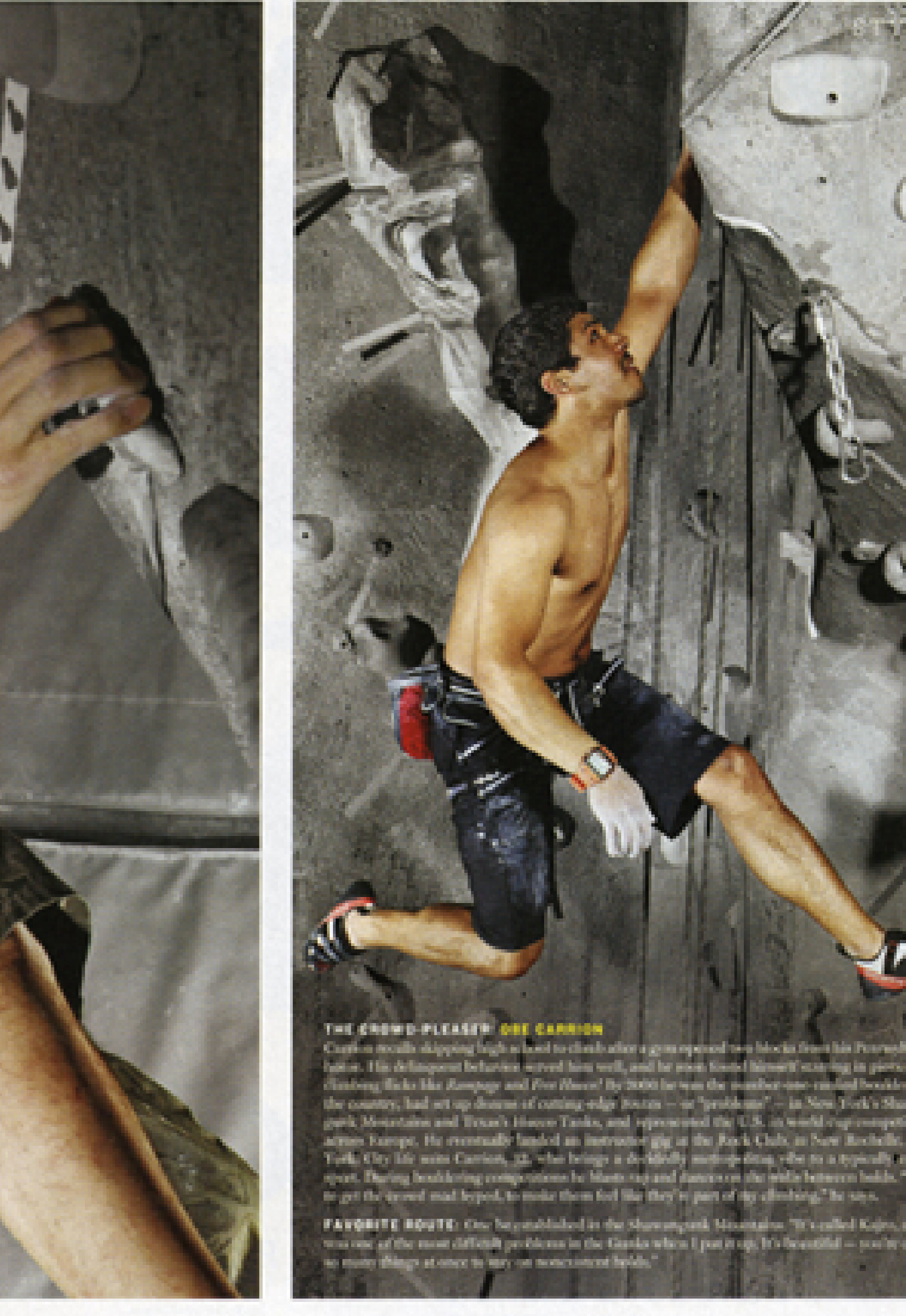
Opposite: Carion wears shoes by SAL, \$99; watch by CITIZEN, \$199; his own shoes, SAL ROCK JUMPER.

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THE PRODIGY: BRIAN KIM
 What's like to be 21 and already have a decade's worth of climbing experience? Brian Kim, who walked into a local park gym in 2004 and has climbed at least five times a week ever since. By 11, he earned a spot on the U.S. junior team, followed by a national qualifying title in 2004. A climber with an impressive résumé in traditional and sport climbing (which is also an impressive résumé placed in the U.K., France, Switzerland, and Austria last year) that he considers a particular fondness for his old climbing grounds. "I grew up climbing in the Adirondacks," he says, referring to New York's famed Adirondack Mountains. "I love to climb anything up here because the area has so much history, and it's got a lot of great routes that you can do without tearing yourself out."

FAVORITE ROUTE: The bouldering spot Maple Wood, in Westerlo. "The name is appropriate. There's surrounded by perfect route boulders scattered among trees in a Swiss forest."



THE SNOW-PLASER: OBE CARRION
 Carrion recalls slipping high school to climb after a year spent in the mountains of his home country. He climbed before he went to school, and he even found himself climbing in the mountains of his home country. He climbed before he went to school, and he even found himself climbing in the mountains of his home country. He climbed before he went to school, and he even found himself climbing in the mountains of his home country.

FAVORITE ROUTE: One he established in the Adirondack Mountains. "It's called Kaper, and it was one of the most difficult problems in the Adirondack when I put it up. It's beautiful — you're doing so many things at once to stay on horizontal holds."