



### STOCKING STUFFERS

It's about that time when Clif Bar's seasonal flavors hit the shelves again: Spiced Pumpkin Pie, Cranberry Orange Nut Bread and Iced Gingerbread. This year, **CLIF Bar will donate 1% of Seasonals net sales to Winter Wildlands Alliance**, a non profit that works on behalf of skiers, snowboarders and other cold-weather adventurers to address national issues that impact our landscapes.



### THAT'S RANK

Aigon Active is so convinced its antimicrobial fabric is unstinkable, that the brand is giving free tech tee shirts to volunteer testers. After putting the shirt through your most brutal workout, **post your testing method at [stinkatnothing.com](http://stinkatnothing.com)**, and become eligible to win an adventure vacation for two. Bonus points if you include a YouTube video of yourself *not* stinking in the shirt.



### GOTTA HAVE IT

Boulder-based Alchemist's earth-friendly tee's and tanks have set a new standard in cheeky post-cycling apparel. EO's managing editor has the "I Like Boys Who Like Bikes" tee in every color (guys, take note). [alchemistthreadworks.com](http://alchemistthreadworks.com)



Keep your eye on [risanproject.com](http://risanproject.com) for dates and locations.

### COOL TUNES FOR A WARMING PLANET

Climate-conscious band plays the soundtrack for today's snow culture

When Boulder based funk-groove band Salem's Todd Anders Johnson saw the Protect Our Winters/TGR movie *Generations*, which shows the impact of climate change on snow culture, he knew he had to promote the film through concerts. The result? The Risan Project, combing live music, ski and snowboard film premiers, and presentations from environmental organizations like Protect Our Winters and SunCore Solar.

"We've traveled to so many glaciated environments like Alaska and British Columbia playing ski and snowboard events, that it just felt right to introduce climate change awareness," Johnson told EO a few hours before the band took the stage in Seattle for the tour's premier performance.

The tour will stop in the U.S. in Paonia, Telluride, Crested Butte, Park City, Grand Targhee, Durango, Fernie, Golden, Banff, Canmore, Invermere and Whistler. Johnson is most excited about returning to Boulder, where Salem will put on its first fully solar-powered show in Colorado.

—Jayme Otto

### SKI FOREVER

Or how dudes in tights rule.



After 30 years in international business, Kim Gustafson decided to semi-retire in Vail. But his powder dreams were put on hold when he tore his ACL. Soon he was under the knife with Vail's Richard Steadman, a man inducted into the Colorado Ski Hall of fame in 2001 for extending the careers of various skiers. It was then that Gustafson decided to create apparel that would support the knees while skiing.

In 2003, he partnered with the Steadman Philippon Research Institute to create a knee support system to be worn during skiing, with a real anatomical benefit.

"The key was developing a product that could be proven in a laboratory," Gustafson says. He worked with top doctors and scientists at the Institute to architect a pair of ski tights would unload the knee, reducing injury and discomfort. Made from a wicking compression fabric, the design features a non-stretch band that goes from the hip down both sides of the thigh, crossing in front and below the knee, then down to the ankle. Research has shown the tights reduce quadricep fatigue by 32 percent and unload 7 tons of pressure on the knee over the course of running one mile.

"That's huge," says Gustafson. "That's maybe two more runs in the late afternoon, or what allows skiers to get out there for one more day, or the difference between an enjoyable and a painful experience on the mountain."

Gustafson's resulting company, Opedix, launched the tights during the 2008/2009 season, with promising results that included endorsements from Vail Resorts and the National Ski Patrol. This season, Opedix is testing a hypothesis that all ski patrollers and instructors should wear the tights every time they are on the mountain for optimal health and safety. Both Vail and Aspen are participating in the new study.

For more information: [opedix.com](http://opedix.com)

—J.O.

quickhits

## COMFORT DESIGNED FOR WOMEN

Women have wider hips and a lower center of gravity, so the Q-Angle between your hips and knees is more pronounced. Merrell's women's-specific QForm® Comfort technology compensates for this, reducing foot roll with every step.



- 1 Merrell® air cushion absorbs shock and centers your heel
- 2 A specially designed midsole guides your foot for a smoother stride
- 3 The neutral-density zone moves pressure to the outer part of your foot for comfort
- 4 A firmer section in the midsole keeps your foot from rolling too far
- 5 Additional cushioning targets peak pressure zones



QForm® Comfort is found throughout Merrell's women's collection.



# \$325,000

The amount raised at the benefit concert to help victims of the Fourmile Fire in Boulder. The show featured Big Head Todd and The Monsters, String Cheese Incident, Yonder Mountain String Band, Leftover Salmon and Phish's Trey Anastasio.