

HOOK YOUR FRIENDS! 32-PAGE BEGINNERS GUIDE

# WIND SURFING

**WIN**  
THIS NEIL  
PRYDE  
WETSUIT  
P.20



## CALL OF THE WIND

5 WINDSURFERS  
5 LIFESTYLES  
+500 DAYS SAILING  
= ONE PASSION  
P.54

## BACKYARD PARADISE

EXPLORING THE  
ACADIANS WITH  
ERIC GIRARD P.40

• **TOW-IN WINDSURFING** P.20

JULY/AUGUST 2008 US \$4.99





# Buy it

TESTED

## BALL SLAPPERS

No, we're not kidding — that really is the name of these snug-fit Lycra shorts from accessory company Ion Essentials. But all joking aside, the first undergarment designed specifically for windsurfing (that we know of) actually does serve a purpose. It's got a removable "crotch protection panel" — their words, not ours — to protect you from impact while jumping. The elastic fit helps prevent chafing in, uh, sensitive areas, and a drawstring waistband makes sure they're secured when you go for a body drag. [www.ion-essentials.com](http://www.ion-essentials.com)



## Eco-friendly Rash Guard

Bamboo? It sounds like something you'd make boards out of, not rash guards — but that's precisely what the Camaro wetsuit company is doing. Natural bamboo fiber is blended with recycled polyester and spandex to create an environmentally friendly rash guard that's comfortable and breathable. The best part? The new material supposedly cuts pungent wetsuit odor by 50 percent — which is good for any windsurfer's environment. [www.camaro.at](http://www.camaro.at)

WATCH FOR

## JELLYFISH SQUISH

The jellyfish shuffle — that's what happens when a windsurfer sees a jellyfish and shuffles to the center of the board. Shuffle no more with Jellyfish Squish — developed with a team of marine biologists and doctors, it relieves the intense pain of a sting with a topical anesthetic that counteracts the toxins released when a jellyfish tentacle touches your skin. We'd like to be able to tell you we tested this one out — but we're way to wussy to let ourselves get stung by a jellyfish. [jellyfishsquish.com](http://jellyfishsquish.com)



## SHOP TALK

with Russ Faurot

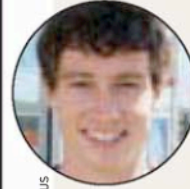


PHOTO: COURTESY ISTHMUS

While the passion of windsurfing flows through the blood of many, few can claim nearly 300 sailing days a year. But shop manager Russ Faurot can. With half the year in the Gorge at Isthmus West and the other half on Maui working at Second Wind, the flow of this 25-year-old's life never strays from windsurfing.

### What drives you to windsurf?

Russ: The sheer joy that windsurfing gives is enough. To me, it is the most fun thing to do in the world. There is no feeling like riding down a monster wave or jumping toward the sky. Having the ability to harness such a powerful force like wind and waves is very cool. Windsurfing never gets old either, because there is always a new move to learn.

### Where do you think the sport is headed?

I think windsurfing is on an upward trend. I feel that the sport tapered a bit over the past few years, but has been resurging recently. There seems to be more interest in Maui than in years past, and some of the dealers I have spoken with say the same thing.

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### What would you like to see change in the sport?

I would like to see windsurfing reach a broader audience. I think advertizing in nonwindsurfing publications would be a good place to start. Also, it would be nice if windsurfing were featured on television more. Anything to help windsurfing grow as a sport would be good.

### Parting thoughts?

Drop by the shop for some good local knowledge, both in Hood River and on Maui's North Shore. Windsurfing is a way of life for me, and I encourage everyone else to follow their dreams. Also check out [ezzyblog.com/russ](http://ezzyblog.com/russ) for the latest on where I've been and what I'm sailing.



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