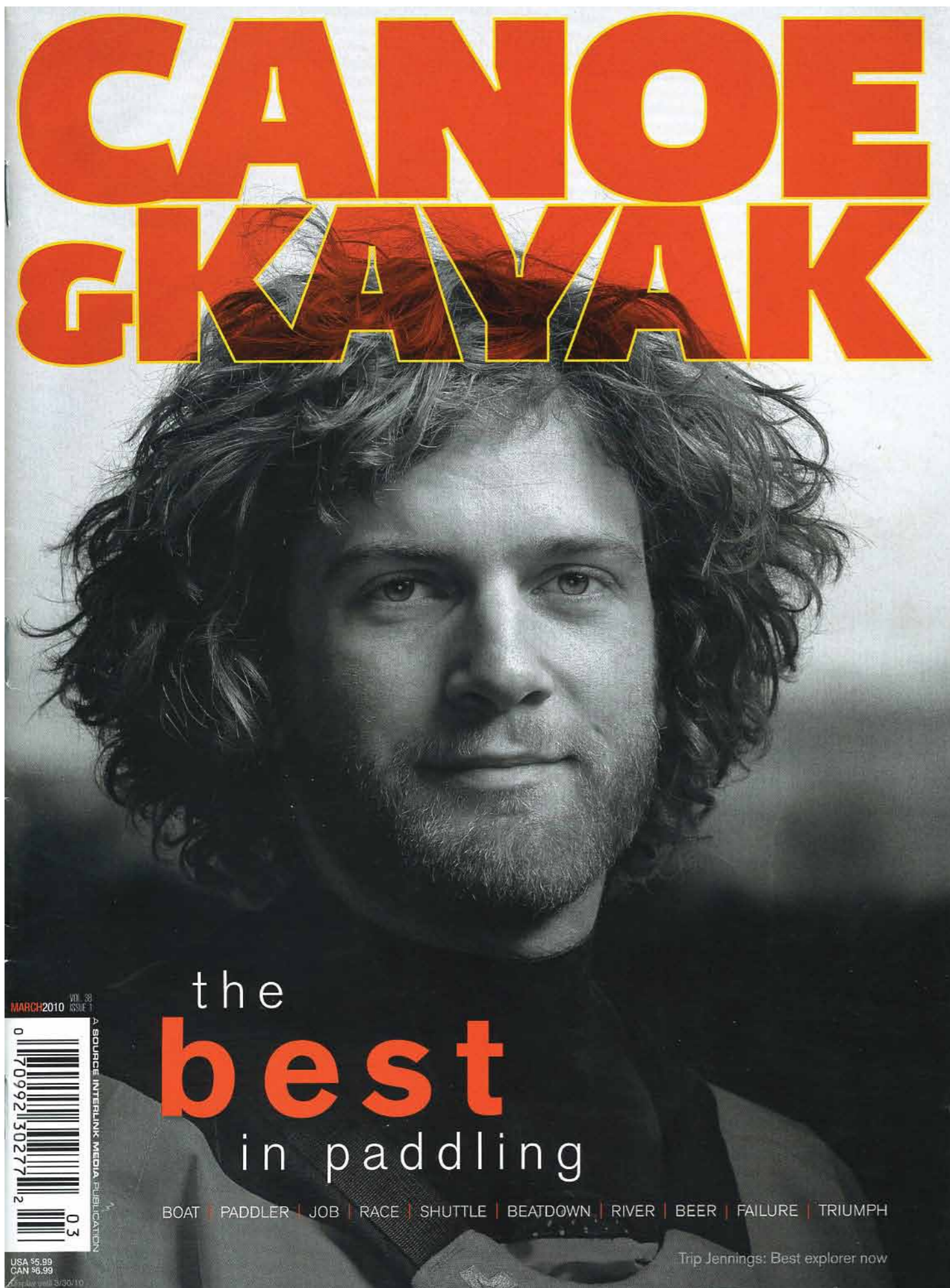


March 2010 Canoe & Kayak Magazine Featuring NRS Sasquatch Water Shoe.



3. NRS Sasquatch: Need a snug shoe to sass-squash into your playboat, and still take seasons of shore-scrambling abuse? NRS' new Sasquatch takes a 3-mm titanium-bolstered neoprene base and wraps your Bigfoot from the heel to the tops of your toes in a rugged, textured rubber sole still flexible enough to be crammed in tight spaces. (nrsweb.com, \$40).

GEAR | Water shoes

photograph by Chris Bishow

Five stacked amphibians

BY DAVE SHIVELY

1. Five Ten Canyoneer SAR: Lugging a loaded boat down a steep granite gorge, you can't doubt your footing. It's easy to trust the high friction/shock absorption Hydro Stealth rubber that crosses over from Five Ten's Stealth-covered climbing shoes and provides the firm foundation of Five Ten's Canyoneers. Built for professional search and rescue teams, the new SAR adds a composite toe, heel cage, neoprene lining and buckle/strap closures to satisfy the most serious boaters' rugged demands (\$129, fiveten.com).

2. New Balance 921: Can't get on the water fast enough? Trail-running junkies turned paddlers will revel in New Balance's new ultra-light 921s, launching in April with an H2flow "water evacuation system" and HydroHesion outsole with razor siping. Translation: futuristic drainage through mid-sole ports and tiny lateral slices underfoot to increase grip and ground contact (\$90, newbalance.com).

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4. Chaco Paradox: Solving the mystery of Chaco's Paradox starts with the removable BioCentric contoured footbed, uncommon in the typical water shoe. Its aggressive arch, designed to control pronation, boasts the American Podiatric Medical Association Seal of Acceptance. Add the easy-adjusting instep strap and polyester webbing to surround your foot in quick-drying comfort, and you've got your solution (\$110, chacousa.com).

5. KEEN Hood River Boot: KEEN has always been keen on covering toes, and while the patented toe protection isn't missing on the improved Hood River Boot, they've also got your upper foot protected in a neoprene upper, with a light EVA mid-sole that keeps you supported and dry, with ingenious drain ports out of the Aqua Stop sole, complete with ready-gripping, water-siping slits (\$95, keenfootwear.com).

