



Lee wears a P.R.O. sleeveless jersey, \$85, and P.R.O. Microsensor shorts, \$125, both by PEARL IZUMI. Kontakt helmet by RUDY PROJECT, \$120; Core watch by SUUNTO, \$250; socks by ADIDAS, \$10; BG S-Works Team Replica road shoes by SPECIALIZED, \$275. Bike: QUATTRO ASSI SSS.

Diehards like these five athletes require an outlet, no matter the weather. Willpower motivates them, but the latest water-resistant jackets keep them training, rain or squall.

TEXT BY Jonathan Lesser PHOTOGRAPHS BY Alan Mahon FASHION BY Patti O'Brien

RAIN

THE ATHLETE: *Brandon Lee* Lee, 27, was a self-proclaimed "professional party animal" until four years ago, when he decided to seek a healthier lifestyle and took up cycling. "In New York City most people don't have cars, and recreational sports are hard to do — sometimes you get to the basketball court and it's taken," he says. But on a bike, "I can go anywhere." Lee, part owner of a financial consulting firm on


Long Island, is now a Category 3 racer (just two below pro level), and a fixture on the city's robust road-racing scene. That means competitions in Brooklyn's Prospect Park and Manhattan's Central Park every weekend in March and April. "It's like playing chess while moving, especially because you're racing for a team." Lee's best finish was third, at the 2006 Tour de Lights in New Jersey. But his favorite ride is

the one he takes on nonrace weekends, over the George Washington Bridge and up wide-shouldered Route 9W to Nyack, for a bagel and coffee. **THE JACKET:** *Pearl Izumi Fly* It weighs just 3.2 ounces, and its form-fitting minimalist design includes a hidden full-length zipper. Packability and portability are its selling points; an internal mesh stuff sack makes it easy to take on the road (pearlizumi.com; \$70).

A full-page photograph of Michael Copeland, a triathlete, in a dynamic pose. He is wearing a red and black jacket and is splashing through water, with droplets frozen in the air around him. He has a determined expression, looking slightly off-camera. His hands are in black cycling gloves, and he appears to be holding a handlebar. The background is dark and textured with water droplets.

THE ATHLETE: *Michael Copeland* It was on a whim that Copeland entered his first triathlon in college, and it took him three years to do his second. But since then, "I've been doing them religiously — so far, four or five," says the 27-year-old Manhattan-based architect who is currently designing a resort in Costa Rica. He wakes up at 5 AM to train before work: "I enjoy it. It keeps me fit, obviously, but it helps my mind, body, and soul." Though he was a star swimmer and runner in high school, it's the biking he likes best. "You look back after a long ride and say, 'I went 70 miles today with my own legs.'" Recently those legs powered him to fourth in his age group in a half Ironman and to 27th in his group in the 3,000-contestant New York City Triathlon, his favorite race. "In less populated areas they only cheer you on at the finish line. But in New York there are so many fans all along the route. Plus you come out of the Hudson covered in grime, and they hose you down."

THE JACKET: *RLX Sawgrass vest* It's made of a superlight-weight, stretchy soft-shell material that blocks wind and sheds rain, and its knit back panel protects against the elements and perspiration (ralphlauren.com; \$198).



THE ATHLETE: Peter Hovling In 1986, Hovling moved to North Conway, New Hampshire, knowing nothing about climbing. But an ad in an alpinist magazine — for Boreal climbing shoes — left him intrigued. “There was a guy climbing, unroped, 500 feet up,” he recalls. “I wanted to be him.” Days later he bought the shoes. Flash forward 22 years and Hovling, a married father with three children, is now the manager of the EMS Climbing School in New Paltz, New York, near the Catskills. His notable ascents include Epinephrine in Red Rocks, Nevada, and Cotopaxi in Ecuador. He loves guiding climbers of all levels, even beginners. “I enjoy seeing what they get out of a day of climbing,” he says. “It makes me remember when I was starting out.” When all he had was a pair of shoes. **THE JACKET: North Face DIAD** The nylon ripstop HyVent DT fabric and welded seams keep moisture out of this 7.9-ounce jacket, but our favorite feature has to be the mini pit vents (\$199; thenorthface.com).


Hovling wears Double Wicked T by **MOUNTAIN HARDWEAR**, \$32; Ascent pants by **EASTERN MOUNTAIN SPORTS**, \$150. Meteor III helmet, \$100, Nomad rope, \$210, and Adjama harness, \$80, all by **PETZL**.

Copeland (left) wears a shirt, \$85, by **RLX**. Ironman Triathlon watch by **TIMEX**, \$70; Slice Gloves by **PEARL IZUMI**, \$30. Bike: **GIANT TCR AERO**.



THE ATHLETE: *Anthony “Fam” Famiglietti* If you’ve suspected that serious runners have a sadomasochistic streak, Famiglietti confirms it. As a freshman in high school, he remembers one grueling uphill workout: “I woke up with my legs totally shot, and I liked it.” But Fam is unique among world-class runners on other accounts, including his form (“My legs stick out”), his diet (“just junk food”), and most of all, his place of residence. “Everybody told me New York City would kill my racing.” But four years ago, that’s exactly where the Long Island native settled. And moving to the city hasn’t exactly dampened his drive: He’s set personal records in every event he competes in, including the fastest 5,000-meter ever by an American on U.S. soil. Next up: competing in steeplechase at the Beijing Olympics. **THE JACKET:** *Adidas Adistar Wind* This jacket’s Gore-Tex Windstopper fabric is made by laminating a patented membrane to breathable cloth. It also has an iPod pocket on the sleeve (\$140; shopadidas.com).

THE ATHLETE: *Gene Mitchell* Reading Mitchell’s resumé leaves one dumbfounded. He’s the director of international trade for Koch Carbon, owner of 12 Running Company stores and a construction firm, and — yes, *and* — owner of two restaurants in Pennsylvania. Oh, and Mitchell, 40, ran the 2006 Chicago Marathon in 2:20:48, qualifying for the Olympic trials. “Running is a way of life,” says Mitchell, who’s been at it for 27 years. “It enriches everything. I eat better, I get sick less, and it gives me the energy to work 90-hour weeks.” His jobs take him on the road at least 200 days a year, and the first thing he packs is his running gear. “You see so much when you run. I ran in Bulgaria just after the fall of communism; I’ve run in the streets of Bogota. You can see all of New York City in two hours.” **THE JACKET:** *Prada Lifestyle Collection Tela Tecnica* The Italian-made piece is crafted from windproof, single-layer fabric — perfect for fashionable leisure-lovers (\$995; 888-977-1900).

A full-page photograph of a man with short, wet hair and a beard, looking directly at the camera. He is wearing a white and grey technical jacket with a high collar and a zipper. His hands are on his hips. The background is dark, and the scene is filled with raindrops, creating a high-contrast, dramatic effect.

Mitchell wears shorts
by UNDER ARMOUR, \$50.

Famiglietti (left) wears an
Adistar sleeveless top, \$52, Adis-
tar Brushed Tight, \$75, and
Adistar Lite 4 racing flat, \$100,
all by ADIDAS.

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Where to Buy, page 141.