

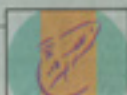
## GO!

Outdoors  
& Recreation

## FISHING LINE:

Tournaments set for Eagle Nest,  
Sandia Pueblo and Malaya.

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## Shovel races

Snow shovels aren't just for clearing a driveway. Up at Angel Fire Resort, east of Taos, greatly rugged shovels are used to roar down ski slopes at speeds up to 70 miles per hour. This year marks the 30th running of the World Shovel Races, and a range of events are scheduled for the weekends of Feb. 18-20. For more information, call (505) 377-4424.

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Travel socks that are snug and can lug.

# Socking your cash away can be simple

BY STEPHEN REGENOLD

For the Journal

First there was the decoy wallet. Then the money belt came along. Now Zip It Gear claims to have a better way to keep your cash, keys and credit cards safe while traveling abroad.

Evan Papel, founder and CEO of Zip It Gear, was the unfortunate victim of a Prague pickpocket while visiting Europe on a post-college trip. A second bout of bad luck came



soon after while traveling from Prague to Munich when Papel's surreptitiously stashed sock money simply fell out of his boots.

"Of course I was upset," says Papel, "but after a beer and some deep thought, the sock with a zipper-secured pocket popped into my head."

Thus Zip It Gear was born. The company now offers a line of socks equipped with tiny zippered pockets. Beyond travel security, the company has recently introduced products for athletes who need a convenient place to stash a key, an identification card or cash while on a jog or bike ride.

The original Travel Socks are calf-high and have a large pocket on one sock to store irreplaceable items like your passport, pesos and hotel key.

They are made of nylon, spandex and a proprietary polyester-based fabric called Comfortrel XP. They wick and breathe better than average cotton tube socks and have extra padding on the toe and heel for durability.

Zip It Gear charges a cool \$27 per pair for the Travel Socks. But this is cheap insurance if your journeys often take you through questionable territory.

The company's Sport Sox line, which come in men's and women's sizes, are ankle-high and have a smaller pocket on one sock made to hold house keys or other small items. The pocket has a locking zipper pull to keep it shut under heavy action. Like the Travel Socks, the Sport model wicks sweat and has reinforced toe and heel areas. They cost \$15 a pair.

Contact: Zip It Gear, (888) 494-7769, [www.zipitgear.com](http://www.zipitgear.com).