

mountain was in fact first climbed on August 2, 1963 by Bill Lentsch and me via the north ridge. (See *A.A.J.*, 1968, page 168.) We proposed the name "Mount Agile" for the peak, but this was rejected by the Board on Geographic Names, and then Mount Murie, which Olaus Murie's widow objected to since he preferred peaks with descriptive or native names. Finally the name Tugak Peak was adopted, being both descriptive and native, meaning "Walrus Tusk" in Eskimo. Gus Benner and a companion repeated the climb in the mid 1970s.

GEORGE BARNES

Washington—Cascade Mountains

Mount Triumph, North Face. In early August Pete Doorish and I climbed the Central North Buttress, of Mount Triumph. From the toe of the buttress (5000 feet), ascend steep rock to where buttress becomes a sharp arête. Continue on the solid rock of the crest to a depression just below the summit. Climb this directly, the difficulties ending 100 feet below the top. Y.D.S. IV 5.10. Take a selection of Arrows and five knifeblade pitons.

BOB CRAWFORD

Early Morning Spire, Southwest Face variation. On July 4, Lowell Skoog, Gary Brill and I climbed the southwest face of Early Morning Spire. Where the face steepens two-thirds of the way up, we varied from the original line. Instead of climbing the chimney, we traversed a snowpatch right toward the south corner. From here, the corner was gained in one lead via a steep dihedral and an airy rightward finger traverse (F7 or F8) at the top of a large slab. The summit ridge was gained after four more pitches of moderate 5th class climbing on the steep ridgeline. The exposed climbing, consistently good rock, and majestic setting made this one of the most enjoyable alpine climbs any of us has done.

MARK BEBIE, *unaffiliated*

Elephant Head, Northwest Ridge. On August 6 James Martin and I climbed this route from our camp on the Dome Glacier. We traversed the upper Dana Glacier and started climbing left of Elephant Head's steep west face. After several hundred feet of scrambling, we attained the ridge proper. The route finding was straight-forward and the climbing enjoyable. We passed a steep step near the top via cracks on the left (F8). A week later Greg Markov and Skip Edmonds repeated the route, climbing a different crack system on the right side of the step (also F8). NCCS III, F8.

JIM NELSON

White Chuck Mountain, West Face. On September 20, Jerry Sommerman, Jamie Wild and I completed a new route on the west face of White Chuck Mountain. From the bottom of the rock toe on the west face, directly beneath the summit, we climbed up grassy ledges to the right, then left on an exposed traverse to meet a major slabby ramp. We followed this ramp to the right for one-and-a-half pitches, then scrambled up to a clump of cedar bushes beneath a short wall. One pitch led up the wall and a dihedral above (F7). More scrambling put us at the base of another wall. Moving up and left, we entered the bottom of the deep major couloir that splits the west face. The steep couloir was followed for five pitches and involved several chockstone/roof problems (up to F7). NCCS II F7.

MARK S. DALE, *Boeing Alpine Society*

East McMillan Spire, South Face/East Ridge. On August 22, Jerry Baillie, Doug Sanders, and I climbed this route on East McMillan Spire. We began at the bottom of a rotten gully about 100 yards east of the standard gully route. This right-slanting gully system was followed on the south face for about 700 feet to a prominent notch in the east ridge. One lead left from the notch put us on a minor rib which we followed on the south face back to the east ridge (F6). Here a difficult move out of a chockstone notch put us on the upper knife-edged portion of the ridge which was followed to the summit (F6). NCCS II F6.

MARK S. DALE, *Boeing Alpine Society*

Mount Formidable, Winter Ascent. On January 3 and 4, my brother Gordy and I climbed Mount Formidable by its north ridge. Except for some washouts on the road and trail, the approach up the Middle Cascade River differed little from summer. From an igloo on the Middle Cascade Glacier, we reached the summit by climbing just right of the corniced north ridge. The summit was obscured by clouds. We relied on previous experience on the mountain to descend the south side in a whiteout and to contour through Spider Col back to our camp.

LOWELL SKOOG

Mount Formidable, West Face. On September 6, Stim Bullitt and I made the first ascent of the west face of this picturesque but remote mountain in the North Cascades. We found the rock sounder and the climbing more enjoyable here than on the north ridge (which we descended). In approaching this mountain we tried to follow the instructions described under "Approach Variation" to the North Ridge (*Cascade Alpine Guide*) but were unable to recognize the point where the Middle Fork of the Cascade River should be crossed. Consequently, we travelled too far up stream and reached the sheltered alpine basin at 6200 feet

via a spur further east than the one pioneered in 1958. Though feasible, this spur is a Cascade "horrorshow" and should be avoided. The descent via the 1958 spur was comfortable, as we stayed almost exclusively on animal trails. Since the proper crossing point onto the spur is obscured by heavy forest, we attached a six-inch aluminum disc to a small fir tree where the departure from the trail should begin and the river can be crossed (about 100 feet beyond this marker is a five-foot cut through a fallen cedar tree and a 90° bend in the trail). About 150 feet upstream is an animal trail leading uphill. Normally, this climb involves three days. Proper route-finding will make this trip a pleasant two. Class 3 and 4. Grade II.

ALEX BERTULIS

Mount Formidable, Northwest Face. On June 28, Gordon Adams and I climbed the northwest face of Mount Formidable. We approached via the primitive Cleve Creek Valley. The route went up the center of the 45° face mostly on névé just left of a rock fin. A couple of exposed traverses of cornice flutings were encountered near the top.

JOSEPH E. CATELLANI, *Wallingford Alpine Club*

Mount Shuksan, Price Glacier Winter Ascent. On January 16, Lowell Skoog and I climbed Mount Shuksan via the Price Glacier. Our approach from the Mount Baker Highway was via White Salmon Creek. From the end of the valley we cramponed hard snow to the base of the north face, then angled up toward a rock tower at 6500 feet. Here we descended a hidden chute before continuing east to the Price Glacier. Snow conditions continued to be good and we quickly reached the col and the Crystal Glacier. After front-pointing the summit pyramid we reached the summit just after sunset, 10 hours out from our car. Regaining our packs below we built an igloo for our bivouac under a full moon. Our descent the following day was via the White Salmon Glacier, in developing storm.

MARK BEBIE, *Unaffiliated*

California—Sierra Nevada

Mount Prater, Hidden Couloir. In late September 1980, Del Johns and I approached the unclimbed east face of Mount Prater (13,329 feet) by way of Tinemaha Creek. At first it appeared the route would be all rock; however, part way up the face a deep north-facing, ice-filled couloir appeared. The rock of the east face above quickly was forgotten, and about 800 feet of typical 45° Palisade ice climbing led to the summit ridge, south of the peak. We descended by an easy gully north of the summit. F4 to F5.

WAYNE N. SAWKA, *U.S.G.S.*

North Palisade, West face. The Palisade Range offers California's most alpine climbing on 14,000-foot peaks fluted with ice gullies that rise above cirque glaciers. Almost all the technical climbs have been in this picturesque setting on the eastern side of the range, and the longer arêtes and buttresses facing west have long been neglected. To reach them entails the crossing of at least one high pass. David Wilson and I found out how simple this dreaded walk really is after the Fourth of July weekend. It took us exactly two hours with packs loaded for a wall climb to crest 12,000-foot Bishop Pass, formidably graded for grandmothers by the Forest Service, and another two of stumbling in the talus while looking in awe at the several miles of two-to-three-thousand-foot granite buttresses that came before our goal, the west face of North Palisade. In the evening light, these snow-free cliffs rose in a deep red wall above the blue lakes of Palisade and Dusy Basins. I had thought that the west side of North Palisade would offer only discontinuous slabs until I saw and photographed the range from the air some years ago. One image showed a dead vertical thousand-foot wall rising from the talus until it merged into a steep arête that ended on the summit ridge between North Palisade and Starlight Peak. At dawn we were on this wall, climbing easy fifth-class rock for three pitches until a smooth, slightly overhanging headwall faced us into four pitches of F9 and F10 climbing. Protection was adequate, but in shallow, discontinuous cracks characteristic of the fine-grained diorite in this part of the Sierra. From shivering in the shadows and numbing fingers in cracks, we exited onto a fine, sunny arête. One particularly serrated section of crackless towers forced us into a gully for a few hundred feet, but otherwise we continued roped climbing to the summit, which we reached at three P.M. on a perfect day. That evening we ate dinner at a lake in Palisade Basin and walked out to the roadhead in the moonlight. NCCS IV, F10.)

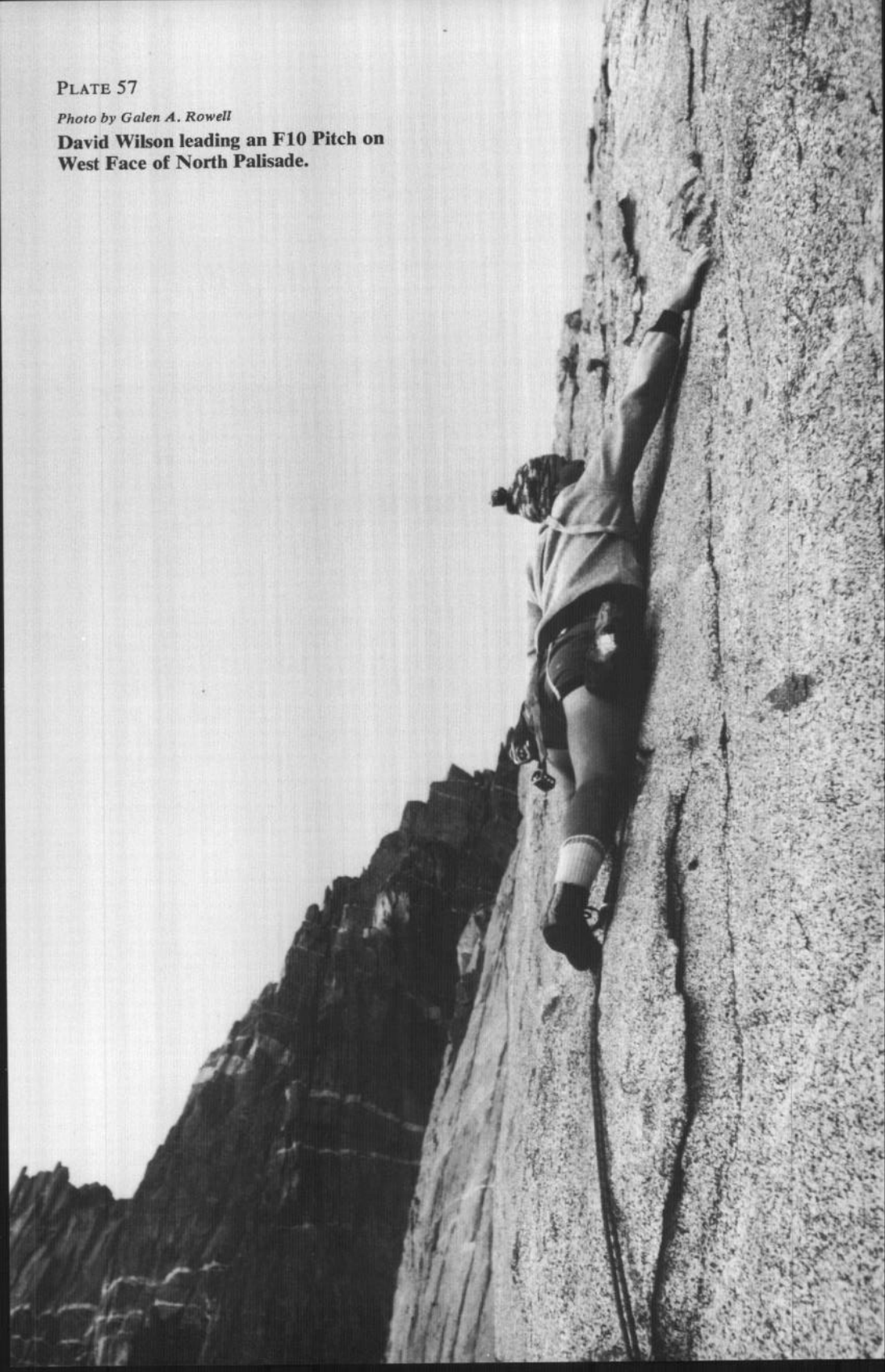
GALEN ROWELL

Wheeler Crest, 1980. A number of fine routes were done in this area near Bishop in 1980. In general, climbers were seeking out shorter, harder routes than in years past. The routes are listed south to north. 1. *Soaring Eagle Tower, John Birch Society.* Climbed by Bill St. Jean and Rick Wheeler, March 1980. To the right of Chicken Delight (A.A.J., 1979) is a series of roofs. This route starts to the right of them and climbs up and right (hence the name) for several pitches, passing some bolts. NCCS II, F9. 2. *The Bastard.* Climbed in April 1980 by Allen Pietrasanta and Bill St. Jean. Down and to the right of Soaring Eagle Tower is a large formation known as Bedrock Tower. It is the lowest formation in the orange band. This route lies on the tower behind and slightly to the left of Bedrock Tower. Near the left side of the face is a smooth, rounded buttress. Start in cracks on the right side of the

PLATE 57

Photo by Galen A. Rowell

**David Wilson leading an F10 Pitch on
West Face of North Palisade.**



buttress, and, when possible, traverse left to reach cracks on the buttress itself. A more direct line seems desirable. NCCS III, F8. 3. *Bedrock Tower, Fred Flintstone*. Climbed in April 1980 by Tony Puppo and James Wilson. Near the left side of the face is a right-facing book. Right of it are three left-slanting cracks/grooves. This route ascends the left groove and the face above it past two bolts. An easy chimney leads to the top. NCCS II, F10. 4. *Bedrock Tower, Barney Rubble*. Climbed in April 1980 by Alan Bartlett and Bill St. Jean. This route follows the right of the three grooves to two bolts near its top, then up and left into knobs, then back right across a steep face and up to a stance. Climb up and right past two bolts, then up cracks, finally moving left into the easy chimney of Fred Flintstone. NCCS II, F10. 5. *Bedrock Tower, Hanna-Barbara*. Climbed in April 1980, by Alan Bartlett and Will Crljenko. To the right of the preceding routes, climb a right-slanting book/trough. From its end, climb up past several bushes to the base of a thin crack. Ascend the crack to a fixed pin, then move left to a knobby area. Easy but unprotected face climbing leads to the top. NCCS II, F9. 6. *Bedrock Tower, Yabba-Dabba-Doo*. Climbed in April 1980 by Alan Bartlett, Ron Overholtz and Tony Puppo. Near the right side of Bedrock Tower, a large left-facing book starts a pitch off the ground. An easy pitch leads to the book, which is ascended to a roof. Surmount the roof, then follow the smaller left-leaning book above to easier climbing and the top. NCCS II, F10. 7. *Little Grey Pinnacle, East Face*. Climbed in April 1980 by Alan Bartlett and Bill St. Jean. This is the small tower down and right from Cobblers' Bench (A.A.J., 1979). It is the last formation in that section of the grey band. Ascend cracks on the prow of the pinnacle, then move up and left past two bolts. A long pitch leads to the base of a chimney, which is followed to the top. NCCS II, F9.

ALAN BARTLETT, *Buff Alpine Club*

Mount Silliman, Sequoia National Park. In June 1981, Guy McClure and I did two new routes on the west ridge of Mount Silliman. From 10,000 feet, a short way below Silliman Lake, the southern face of this ridge rises in a long series of steep granite slabs. One route was five pitches, F7; the other was seven pitches, F8. Many other routes are possible on this cliff, a three-hour walk from the Lodgepole campground. The rock is excellent with good crack systems. A Class 3 walk-off can be found by proceeding west once on the ridge. F7, F8.

PETER CUMMINGS

Northpeak, Deliverance. In August 1980, Jack Roberts and I climbed this route that ascends the narrow face between the 30° snow couloir and the F8 chimney. Nine pitches led to an unroping spot, a long way

from the summit. Loose rock, dubious anchors and tricky route-finding combine to make this route a fairly serious venture. NCCS IV, F9. *Thor Peak, Loki*. This route ascends the first major crack system right of Rainbow Bridge (A.A.J., 1980). Five pitches of mostly free-climbing lead to a huge ledge. From here, the route climbs a prominent left-leaning, straight-in crack. Three easier pitches lead to the summit ridge. Alan Roberts, Kim Walker and I climbed it in October 1980. NCCS IV, F10, A2. *Tuolumne Peak, Giardiasis*. Kim Walker and I climbed this route on the southwest face of Tuolumne Peak in June. Rope up just left of the Ashworth-Kinnison route and climb up and left through a dirty black-stained area. Above this, cleaner cracks lead up, then up and right for three more pitches. NCCS II, F10. *Echo Peak #9, Northeast Corner*. Gary Colliver, Alan Roberts and I climbed this enjoyable route in June. It starts just out of the east side of the notch separating Peaks 8 and 9, following a slightly discontinuous corner system up and right for two pitches, the second being the crux. NCCS I, F8.

ALAN BARTLETT, *Buff Alpine Club*

The Bowmaiden, Lucky Sailor's Route. This formation rises above the headwaters of the south fork of Cathedral Creek, and is the most impressive of several north faces on the ridge between Mount Hoffman and Tuolumne Peak. Its summit is 10,560+ feet. The route starts in cracks leading to the right-hand of two obvious left-facing books on the prow of the buttress. Midway up the book, exit right and climb to a huge, tree-covered ledge that runs across the entire formation. Walk right and climb towards a large left-facing book, but then move left and ascend a smaller book. From its top move left and climb an F10 overhang, then work up and left to a crack splitting the summit overhang. The final (crux) pitch could easily be avoided. Evelyn Lees, Louise Sheperd and I climbed it in July. NCCS III, F10. *Vogelsang Peak, Nightingale Arête*. This route ascends the buttress-arête combination leading to the west summit of Vogelsang Peak. Climb slanting cracks on the left side of the lower buttress; the first half is easy Class 5. Higher, several F7 sections lead to Class 2 and 3 scrambling along the horizontal ridge leading to the upper arête. Midway up the arête, an F9 pitch leads up into an obvious corner. Gary Colliver and I climbed it in July. NCCS II, F9. *Vogelsang Peak, West Face*. This steep route was climbed by Evelyn Lees and me in August. On the left margin of the face are two ominous, right-slanting chimney systems. Our route starts in the most obvious crack to the right of these. Traverses right to gain new cracks were made on the fourth and fifth pitches. The sixth pitch started with a long traverse left, then about 30 feet of aid led up to an overhanging corner to easier climbing. One point of aid was also used on each of the second and fifth pitches. The rock on this difficult route was

much looser than we anticipated, and several sections seemed dangerous. NCCS IV, F10, A2. *Simmons Peak, East Arête*. Five pitches lead up this striking arête to a long, horizontal Class 3 and 4 section. Above this, one more pitch leads up the final prow, involving F8 face moves left of the actual prow. This route, climbed by Evelyn Lees and me in August, reminded us of the climbing on Temple Crag in the Palisades. NCCS III, F8.

ALAN BARTLETT, *Buff Alpine Club*

The Incredible Hulk, Positive Vibrations. Bob Harrington and I climbed this route in August. The first three pitches coincide with a previous route that starts with several hundred feet of Class 4 climbing a short distance to the right of the original route on the Hulk. After three pitches, a large ledge is reached where this route crosses the original route and the Macedonian Route. From the left end of the ledge, six pitches lead up crack systems that are just right of a huge outside corner. This leads to the summit ridge, several hundred feet below the top. Sixteen points of aid were used: 11 on the fifth pitch, five on the sixth pitch. NCCS V, F10, A2.

ALAN BARTLETT, *Buff Alpine Club*

South Eagle Beak, Beagle Creeks. Fred Beckey had climbed this dome via the south face, and Fremont Bainbridge, Conrad Van Bruggen and I had done two routes on the northern beak; this was the first route on the wide southwest face. It follows an obvious dihedral that splits the face. Three pitches in the dihedral lead to a belay at a large ledge below a very knobby face. Another pitch up the face ends at a short summit crack. NCCS II, F8.

SIMON KING, *Unaffiliated*

South Eagle Beak, Opening Farewell and Five Years. In June, Fremont Bainbridge and I returned to the South Eagle Beak to climb these two easy face routes a few hundred feet right of Beagle Creeks (above). Opening Farewell (F5) follows the obvious large water groove and Five Years (F7) begins atop a pillar farther to the right. Both two-pitch routes are up a knobby face protected with runners.

CONRAD VAN BRUGGEN, *Unaffiliated*

Utah

Golden Throne, Capitol Reef National Park. The Golden Throne, a well known sandstone landmark in south central Utah, was climbed by George Hurley, his wife Jean Hurley and Dave Rearick in April, 1974. The ascent was previously unreported. From the trail leading to

a viewing point of the Throne, commence rough hiking to the base of the tower. The ascent route begins in a chimney at the southwest corner of the rock. The chimney widens into a broad gully. At the end of the second lead a traverse south takes one to an easier line for the summit lead. II 5.8.

Jacob's Chair, Fry Canyon Area. Jacob's Chair, a 270-foot Wingate sandstone tower in south-central Utah, north of Highway 95, was first ascended by George Hurley and Bill Forrest in November, 1976. It is a previously unreported climb. The monolith is reached via five miles of old mining road which begins from the highway between Gravel and Long Canyons. At a division in the road the left fork is pursued to the talus slope beneath the tower. The first-ascent route ascends the north side of the monument beginning with a 5.7 crack located 100 feet east of the west end of the formation. At the level seat of the Chair, walk east to where the second and third leads follow cracks and chimneys on the north side of the back of the Chair—perhaps 50 feet left of the edge. The crux of the 150-foot third lead is a "peaked ceiling" where aid was used on the first ascent. On a subsequent ascent by the party the route was begun directly below the final two leads and the "peaked ceiling" climbed free (5.10). II, 5.10, A1.

White Knight. The White Knight is a 310-foot sandstone pillar first climbed in November, 1977, by George Hurley and Bill Forrest. The ascent is previously unreported. The tower, (located a mile north of Interstate 70 in central Utah) is approached from a parking place approximately 31 miles west of Highway 24 and 100 yards east of an I-70 bridge spanning a deep canyon. The formation is not visible from the parking spot; follow a 310° compass reading (northwest from the road) to the steep west end of the mesa. The White Knight becomes visible at the point in which one is able to see beyond the mesa. Total walking time from I-70 to the tower is 20 minutes. The first ascent was made in two leads up the east ridge, 5.9 and 5.7 respectively.

Valley of the Gods, Southeast Utah. This long-neglected area, first visited by Ron Wiggle and me in 1974, is reached via Highway 163 a few miles north of the town of Mexican Hat. The rock is composed of Chinle sandstone which is similar in density to the Wingate strata that forms Castleton, Moses and many of the other desert towers of the Moab area. Petard Tower is the first 150-foot pillar one comes to after swinging onto the valley's dirt road from Highway 163. It is located about 200 yards from the road and can be climbed quickly and serve as a good introduction to the Valley of the Gods rock. The unreported first ascent of Petard Tower was in May, 1977, by George Hurley and Dave Rearick. The first two leads are up a chimney and crack system.

The final pitch requires three bolts for aid on a blank face. I, 5.9, A1. The south face of North Tower, (the northernmost pinnacle in the Valley of the Gods area) was climbed by George Hurley and Bill Forrest in 1978 and is previously unreported. To approach the three-lead climb, walk up the slope behind the tower as viewed from the valley's single dirt road, then traverse onto the south face of North Tower via a large ledge. The first two leads follow 5.9 cracks. The final lead ascends a thin-edged fin on the summit ridge. Two bolts for aid were placed on the fin, however, George Hurley reports that future ascents will probably free this section using the bolts for protection. Descent was made by the original Bjørnstad-Wiggle first ascent line on the north face of the tower. The summit rappel is 70 feet to a two-bolt anchor—second rappel takes one 100 feet to terra firma. South Face route: II, 5.9. North Face route: II, 5.7, A3. Tom-Tom Tower in Valley of the Gods was climbed via its north face by George Hurley and Bill Forrest in November, 1976. The ascent is previously unreported. The tower can be seen from the farthest north point of the dirt road which serpentine through the valley. The first lead is up dangerous, very loose, rotten rock. The balance of the climb is up relatively solid cracks and chimneys. Lead two, the most difficult, requires left arm locks and jams to ascend an off-sized 5.9 crack with one nut being the only protection in the 75-foot lead. The 75-foot third pitch continues up the same line for 125 feet. The final summit block is accomplished third class. (360 feet.) III, 5.9. Directly across the dirt road from Tom-Tom Tower is Eagle Plume Tower. It was first climbed in 1976 by Bill Forrest and Frank Luptom. This previously unreported ascent is up the center of the south side of the rock. 350 feet. III, 5.9. Angel's Fear is a small butte with a balanced column on its southern end. When it is viewed from the road in Valley of the Gods, it resembles the Totem Pole in Monument Valley. Angel's Fear is located beyond Tom-Tom and Eagle Plume Towers and a little beyond the take-off point for Hidden Pinnacle. The previously unreported first ascent of this 190-foot formation was in September, 1978, by George Hurley and Bill Forrest. The first lead of 120 feet is 5.9 and A3 climbing on the west face in a broken crack system which reaches the top of the butte just north of a large block. The second pitch is 70 feet of 5.8 and A2 climbing up the balanced summit block via obvious cracks in the north face. 190 feet. II, 5.9, A3. Hidden Pinnacle in Valley of the Gods was first climbed and unreported via its north face November, 1977, by George Hurley and Bill Forrest. It is located north of Angel's Fear, about two miles from the dirt road. The pinnacle is hidden from sight by another tower when looked for from the road. The first lead is a 5.9 crack which widens to a chimney with large chockstones. At the end of this 140-foot lead there is a hand traverse to the left. The two final leads follow the same line of ascent and are of sounder rock. Descent is accomplished by two long rappels,

the first of which is from a drilled-in angle piton and the second from a two-nut anchor at the top of the first lead. 300 feet. II, 5.9.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

Priest, Beckey Route free, Castleton Area. In April, Chip Chace and I made an all-free ascent of the Priest by the original Beckey route. The lower two-thirds of the climb involves excellent chimney climbing of various widths, leading to a six-bolt ladder (the first four bolts are easily clipped into from a chimney position) which can be face-climbed at 5.10. The summit aid crack was bypassed to the left via a remarkable 5.7 variation.

JEFF ACHEY, *Unaffiliated*

Sorcerer's Apprentice, Right Side, Castleton Area. Chip Chace and I climbed the right side of the Sorcerer's Apprentice, a striking Yosemite-style pinnacle a mile and a half downstream from Nigger Bill Canyon. The rock was somewhat softer than Castleton, but the three 5.10 pitches were compact enough to be quite enjoyable. No signs of previous ascent were found on top, but escape upward seemed possible.

JEFF ACHEY, *Unaffiliated*

Moses, Pale Fire, Canyonlands. In May, Chip Chace and Charlie Fowler made an all-free ascent of the original route on the north face of Moses in Taylor Canyon. The 600-foot route, when done completely free, requires two 5.11 pitches and one, the first, of 5.12. Together with the sustained nature of the rest of the route this makes for perhaps the most demanding free climb done to date on desert sandstone. The pair christened the free route "Pale Fire."

JEFF ACHEY, *Unaffiliated*

Canyonlands, Zeus, Sisyphus. In late October, Chip Chace and I free-climbed Zeus, the 300-foot sister spire of Moses. The route follows an old aid line on the southeast side, involving mostly thin cracks. Three 5.11 sections are encountered, well protected except for the first. The continuity of the cracks makes one wonder why Fred Beckey, on the first ascent of the spire, ignored this line and opted for a 200-foot-plus bolt ladder on the once beautiful and featureless north ridge. In keeping with the spire's name, the free route was dubbed "Sisyphus."

JEFF ACHEY, *Unaffiliated*

Cheetah, Little Cottonwood Canyon. In July, my brother Robert and I established an excellent route left of *Tarzan* in the Gate Buttress area.

Beginning on Tarzan Ledge, the first two pitches climb the challenging face above with bolt protection. The third and fourth pitches take on in sequence a double series of roofs and faces. Bolts protect exposed climbing on the third pitch. The fourth ascends a steep headwall just right of the large overhang to easier face-climbing above. The route is difficult and continuous with the crux moves on the first pitch. NCCS II, F11.

DAVID BLACK, *Buff Alpine Club*

Tombstone and Seraph. In September, my brother Jonathan and I climbed a 350-foot spire known by the locals as "The Tombstone." This wide spire can be seen, looking south off Highway 70, about 15 miles east of Green River. After a 30-minute drive on dirt roads, we were standing below the narrow north face, admiring an unbroken hand-crack up a steep corner. After bouldering out the first overhanging moves, Jonathan began jamming and belayed me midway up the crack. I grunted up the second pitch as the crack widened (F10). The final pitch (F6) led us to the Tombstone's virgin summit. NCCS III, F10+. Unreported from several years ago was the ascent of an unclimbed pinnacle just south of Moab on Highway 163. The pinnacle lies just off the road at a rest stop called "Hole in the Rock." NCCS I, F7, A2.

BRIAN SMOOT, *Unaffiliated*

Tucapit, West Face, Kolob Canyon, Zion National Park. Bill Forrest and I made this climb in early June. The west face route on Tucapit follows the prominent crack splitting the face of the buttress left of center. A more indefinite crack lies to its right. We approached via the north fork of Taylor Canyon and walked an hour and a half from the trailhead to the foot of the climb. There are eight sustained pitches of mostly free climbing, except for pitches 2 and 3, which are more aid than free. At the fourth pitch the climb eases and provides a variety of climbing through chimneys and over several interesting roofs. Friends are useful for protection and aid throughout the climb. A highly recommended route. NCCS V, F8, A2.

WILLIAM MARCH

Montana

North Trapper Peak, Northwest Face, Bitterroot Range. Persistent tales of bad rock, an unappealing approach and a horrendous descent seem to have kept crowds off this peak's 4000-foot northwest face, the largest in the range. In late July Jim LaRue and I were pleasantly surprised to find a route well worth the trouble with fairly good rock in all the places that counted. Ten 165-foot pitches up the left of two prominent ribs on the lower face and seven more on ledges beneath

the crest of the northeast ridge brought us to a boulder-strewn platform north and directly below the summit. Another pitch straight up took us to the summit knife-edge. The right rib on the lower face would ascend to the bottom of an immense rockfall scar in the center of the upper face just below the platform, providing a route of some 15 pitches with the same finish as ours. We descended a broken ridge east from the northeast summit to the head of a narrow chute and thence south to easy ground. It was a spectacular climb without obvious escape variations, rising 4000 feet from camp on Trapper Creek. NCCS IV, F7.

VINCENT R. LEE

Wyoming—Tetons

Crooked Thumb, West Ridge, Tetons. Robert Irvine and Tom Kimbrough climbed this distinct ridge on July 28 in nine pitches plus considerable scrambling. From the drainage separating this ridge from the prominent northwest ridge of Teewinot, a considerable distance of exposed but unroped climbing brought them to the beginning of the route, just above the base of the ridge. The first full rope-length lead was very steep and unprotected, up loose rock and beset with rockfall. The remainder of the ridge varied from moderate to difficult. The next to last pitch was a full rope-length of F6 on steep, enjoyable rock. (III, F7.)

Grand Teton, Loki's Tower, Tetons. The northwest corner of the Grand Teton, rising between the north ridge route of 1931 and the northwest chimney route of 1960, provided a new and difficult route with spectacular exposure for Michael Stern and Mark Whiton on August 2. The route is approached from Valhalla Canyon, and starts on the face just to the right of the large, dirty chimney at the right edge of the Grandstand, as it is approached from the west. The route works up toward a fairly prominent shallow dihedral via two moderate pitches followed by a difficult lead involving an F8 hand crack and a shallow inside corner and face (F9). The fourth lead was the crux, consisting of steep and delicate face climbing on very good rock (F9) but with poor protection. From the top of this lead yet another difficult pitch with two F9 overhangs was followed by an easier lead to reach an excellent ledge right on the prow of the northwest corner. From there the route follows a rather obvious line on the prow, or its right side, finally entering the last icy chimney of the northwest chimney route to reach the north face exit ledge system which crosses over to the top of the double chimney of the Owen route. A total of ten pitches were climbed on this fine direct route. The rock is excellent but the lack of good protection on the crux pitch is a substantial hindrance. (IV, F9.)

Grand Teton, Enclosure Visionquest Couloir, Tetons. A new route on the Enclosure, branching out to the west from the standard Black Ice Couloir, was pioneered on August 10 by Michael Stern and Stephen Quinlan. The initial 600 feet of the Black Ice was followed to a point near the top of the main icefield below the narrow crux, where they cut off to the right into a smaller couloir almost directly opposite the start of the Great West Chimney. Thirty feet of mixed climbing at the beginning of this couloir provided access to the ice. The first 300 feet consist of a narrow, sinuous 60° ice ribbon leading to a broad ice slope. The next 300 feet, at perhaps 50° to 55°, ascend the left margin of this ice slope, continuing up the couloir to a large chockstone. A final 100 feet of ice at a lower angle took the climbers to the top of the route only 100 feet or so below the Enclosure summit, which was reached by winding around the west and south sides. Once a climber has entered the initial couloir the route is difficult to lose. The improbable nature of the ice ribbon provided an exciting climb, which is slightly more difficult than the now standard Black Ice route to the Upper Saddle. (IV, F8.)

Wyoming—Wind River Range

Warbonnet Peak. In July Dave Jenkins and I accidentally did a new route on the east face of Warbonnet Peak. Thinking we were following the Lowe-Fowler line, *Black Elk*, we inadvertently traversed right with a pendulum where we should have headed left. We were forced to aid with our small, free-climbing rack on some steep lichen-crusted cracks. Our route follows the obvious crack system in the center of the face to below the giant chockstone, then leads up and right to the summit. NCCS V, F10, A2, 11 pitches.

JAMES DOCKERY, *Great Basin Bozos*

Pingora, East Face. On July 21 Louis Vannatta and I climbed what we believe is a new start to the east-face, left-side-cracks route on Pingora. We started in a left-facing corner, just to the left of a huge corner and roof several hundred feet to the right of the snow patch marking the beginning of the east-face route. Our route continued up and slightly left to intersect the east-face route at the low-angled area. Thereafter we followed that route on the upper wall to the summit. Thus, combining this new start with the upper part of the east-face route makes for a more committing and less contrived route. (NCCS III, F7-F8.)

THOMAS S. KICHURA

Bollinger Peak, Southwest Face. In August, Matt Parramore and I made a new route on the southwest side of Bollinger Peak, facing Shadow

Lake. It is a couple of hundred feet to the left of the West Face Route (which is on the most prominent feature on this face, a left-arching dihedral described in Joe Kelsey's *Climbing and Hiking in the Wind River Range*.) Our route was up a left-leaning, left-facing dihedral system which extends from near the base to the summit ridge. Though less obvious than the West-Face Route, ours is still easily recognizable from Shadow Lake and the second most dominant dihedral on the face. It was of eight pitches, most of which were about F9. The most difficult (F10) was the fourth, the center of three possible lines, a vertical and sustained hand-jam crack in abrasive rock.

STEVEN A. FRENCH

Colorado

Colorado Climbs, 1981. A very warm winter led to a virtual explosion of rock-climbing activity in many of the more popular areas of Colorado, but the lack of snow and sufficient cold weather also greatly reduced that on ice. Nevertheless, a few winter climbs of note were made. Steve Mestdagh and Charlie King made the second winter ascent of *Hallet's Chimney*, taking two days in January. John Myers and Tom Luman probably made the first winter ascent of the *Arnold-Michael Route* on Crestone Peak, taking a direct variation over the huge chockstone at two-thirds height; this involved aid out a 10-foot roof and climbing an unprotected, 50-foot 5.9 corner. They were forced to bivouac just below the summit. Peter Hutter and Peter Lev climbed a moderate but pleasant ice route, *Avocado Gully*, near Redstone. Despite its proximity to the road, the climb is only visible after a short walk, hence its late discovery. Eldorado Canyon saw an extraordinary amount of activity, with 200 or more new routes being added over the past year. An energetic and aggressive group of locals, including Carl Harrison, Skip Guerin, Bob Horan, John Baldwin, Jim Stuberg, Mike Brooks, Dave Hague, Sandy East, Chip Ruckgaber, Mark Lane, Dave Kozak and Mark Rolofson, were mainly responsible, along with many others; details of specific routes are far too numerous to mention here, but can be found in the news section of *Climbing* #67, 69 and 70. Also of note are the first free ascents of two older Eldorado Routes: *Rock and Ice* (5.12) by Pat Adams, and *Wendego* (5.11+) by Jeff Achey and Leonard Coyne. A newly discovered area on the south side of Big Thompson Canyon was developed by various combinations of Mark Wilford, Randy Joseph, Bill Wylie and Skip Guerin; the routes are in the 5.9 to 5.11 range and, although short, are mostly of good quality. Jeff Lowe and Tim Kudo climbed a very hard new route on the Ames Wall near Ophir, *Seamstress Corner* (5.11+ or 5.12-). With three pitches of 5.10, two of hard 5.11 (or 5.12), and a finish through a rotten band, Lowe called the route "One of the hardest long free climbs in Col-

orado." This climb was done placing whatever fixed pins and bolts were needed (on the lead), and nuts only are necessary to repeat the route. Estes Park and environs also saw a big increase in activity, although heavy rains in the summer slowed the pace a bit. Lumpy Ridge predictably saw the majority of traffic, with Billy Westbay, Aaron Walters, Malcolm Daly, Bill Wylie, Randy Joseph, Tim Hansen, Scott Kimball, Karen Johnson, Doug Snively, Jeff Lowe, Sandy East, Mark Rolofson, Eric Doub, John Allen, Dan McClure, Mark Wilford and Skip Guerin all being active. Most of the routes were in the 5.10 to 5.11 range. (See the news section of *Climbing* #67, 69 and 70 for details.) An old area near the Twin Sisters, The Craggs, has seen a renewal of interest, with Scott Kimball being the driving force behind development; the area should be noted for its large number of easy and moderate climbs on generally solid, knobby rock, although many harder climbs also exist. In the Garden of the Gods, a number of new routes were added by Bob d'Antonio, Pete Gallagher and Mark Rolofson, with various partners. Rolofson solved one long-standing problem with the first ascent of *Ninety-Nine Percent Pure* (5.11+). The climb is a direct start to *Cocaine*, and involves intricate slab climbing; due to the excellent rock and the puzzling sequence of crux moves, the route is destined to become a true Garden classic in years to come. Of note in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison was the second ascent of the *Hallucination Wall* by Lou Dawson and Rich Jack. The pair did the route with three bivouacs in early September; Jack broke a finger in a fall midway through the third day, and described the route as "Difficult, but with no real death leads."

MICHAEL KENNEDY

Bookmark Pinnacle, Skid You Not, Lumpy Ridge. In late June Doug Snively, Aaron Walters and I made the first ascent of *Skid You Not* (II, 5.11c). It ascends the slab immediately right of *Melvin's Wheel*. Two bolts were used for protection on the crux of the slab. It continues over the roof to the summit of the Bookmark.

BILLY WESTBAY, *Unaffiliated*

Bookmark Pinnacle, Between The Sheets, Lumpy Ridge. In June Bill Wylie and I made the first ascent of *Between The Sheets* (II, 5.11d). The route follows the thin crack on the wall just left of *Fantasy Ridge* but right of *Sidewinder Cracks*. Two bolts were placed for the belay after the first and crux pitch, which is protected mostly by small R.P.'s. The second pitch is only moderate 5.10 face climbing but would require a bolt to be safe. We would have placed it except for having left the bolt kit on the ground. The route took us two days (the first hundred feet took seven hours). It has only had one repeat, by Hidetaka Suzuki.

He said in his wonderful accent, " 'bery 'bery haad. On Astloman I fall 10 times, on Betleen the Sheets I fall twenty."

MALCOLM DALY, *Unaffiliated*

Cathedral Wall, Altar Boy. In mid-July Doug Snively and I made the first ascent of *Altar Boy* (III, 5.8) on the Cathedral Wall. It generally ascends the obvious open-book to the right of the Dalke Route. The climb yielded seven pitches of separately protected 5.6-5.8 climbing on superb rock.

BILLY WESTBAY, *Unaffiliated*

Wisteria Tower, Autumn Sonata, Palisades. In August, Chip Salaun and I climbed *Autumn Sonata* (III, 5.10). The route ascends the central crack system of the Wisteria Tower, the next prominent buttress 100 feet downhill from the Great Chimney Buttress. The route is identified by a large left-facing dihedral ending in an overhang. Scramble behind the huge boulder located at the base of the dihedral to begin the route. The following five pitches contain much jamming in cracks of up to five inches.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER, *Unaffiliated*

Blob Rock, Limits of Power, Boulder Canyon. One of the more prominent routes that Rick Accomazzo and I put up in the Boulder area was *Limits of Power*. This is a strenuous 5.12 line right of *Decade Dance* and *Ageing Time* on Blob Rock. The first pitch on the 100° headwall is very continuous and protected mostly by small "RP" nuts. This pitch involves wild face climbing to a 5.11 mantle, then up a 5.11 thin crack to a 5.11 roof. The second pitch takes an easy ramp to the top. *Limits of Power* is among the finest quality routes in Boulder Canyon.

RANDY LEAVITT, *Unaffiliated*

Redgarden Wall, Le Void, Eldorado Canyon. *Le Void*, a spectacular and long-standing aid climb, was done all-free late this August. The ascent involved substantial difficulties, most notably the previously freed 5.11 section and a leaning hand crack containing a chimney swift which flew out of the crack as the leader passed. Higher, subtle nutcraft is employed to protect a new 5.11 section which leads to an eight-foot roof of moderate difficulty. Despite its severity, the route seems destined to become a classic.

JEFF ACHEY and ROGER BRIGGS, *Unaffiliated*

Sunset Slabs. In January and February, Steve Spaar, Mark Lane, and I made the first ascents of some fine routes on this remote rock.

The rock is located on the south side of Bear Peak just northwest of the Devil's Thumb. The extremely long and difficult approach (over 3 miles and 3000-foot elevation gain) has kept climbers away. Approach via the Shadow Canyon trail. Beginning on the left side of the crag is a three-pitch left-facing dihedral (II, F7) called the *Wind Song Dihedral*. The next crack system to the right, *Three's a Crowd* (III, F9) is a fine four-pitch route. The next series of routes are downhill and right about 300 feet. Many short routes are located here. This area is similar in quality to the *West Ridge* in Eldorado. Of the routes done I have listed the finer ones. *AC-DC* (I, F9); *Home Run* (I, F9); *Fine Line* (I, F9); *Insane* (I, F8); *Sane* (I, F7); *Fingers* (I, F10); *Danas Mosaid* (I, F7); *Valentine* (I, F8); and the extremely classic *Lathe of Heaven* (II, F8). An obvious dihedral called *D1* was done by Dennis Smith and partner (I, F9 or F10).

DAVID KOZAK, *Unaffiliated*

North Chasm View Wall, 8th Voyage, Black Canyon of the Gunnison. The *8th Voyage* is a VI, 5.11d route located on North Chasm View Wall. It was put up by Jim Dunn and me in September. The route is located between the *Stoned Oven* and the *Air Voyage*. The rock is of good quality. There are two crux pitches—a 5.11d overhanging finger crack and a 5.11d overhanging offwidth. Protection is good on the entire route. There are many other 5.11 and 5.10 pitches on the route.

LEONARD COYNE, *Unaffiliated*

Ice Climbing in Colorado, Correction. On page 194 in *A.A.J.*, 1981 Parachute Creek Canyon unfortunately was called Paradise Creek Canyon.

CANADA

Yukon Territory

Mount Steele, East Ridge in Winter, 1982. On December 28 a helicopter of Trans North Turbo Air dropped us at Base Camp on the Steele Glacier. We were Jiří Kohout, leader, his brother Ivan, Ivan Boháček, Josef Rubín and me. We spent that night in our tents in good weather at -30°C and no wind. The weather stayed the same for the next two days as we established Camp I at 10,000 feet and Camp II at 12,000 feet. From Camp II Ivan Kohout, Boháček and I went on toward the top. We reached a suitable place for a tent at 14,000 feet at four P.M. The wind picked up and so we had problems in making a tent platform and in pitching the tent. The way we spent New Years