

spectacular spire had been climbed since its first ascent in 1949 by Fred Beckey and Harry King (*A.A.J.*, 1950, pages 441-450). On July 7, we attempted Devil's Paw. After climbing through a very complex 2500-foot icefall on the northeast side of the peak we turned back less than 500 feet below the top due to extremely loose rock on the summit pyramid. After waiting out yet another three-day storm we skied and hiked across the icefield to Juneau via Hades Highway, the southwest branch of the Taku Glacier, Ptarmigan Valley and Lemon Creek trail in four days. The portion of this route between the east ridge of Nugget Mountain and the lower Lemon Creek Glacier would be both difficult and dangerous in poor weather.

WALTER VENNUM

### Washington—Cascade Mountains

*Nooksack Tower, Winter Ascent.* Well, "the Devil had fallen," but not the Demon. Nooksack Tower awaited a winter ascent. Dan Cauthorn and Bob Crawford had attempted it the previous winter. Seven stormy days inside their tent was the reward. However, their ordeal was not over when they got down. A rather large bill awaited them for services rendered, or not rendered. It depends on your point of view. Personally, we feel that winter climbing in the Cascades is justified, and we resent persons in the Bellingham Mountain Rescue Unit who advised the sheriff's department that it is not. In early February 1983 Kit Lewis, Tim Wilson and we two set out to give it a try. The approach went well, and in two days we reached 6500 feet across from the Tower. From our camp, Nooksack Tower plastered in winter snow looked very impressive indeed. What was it that Fred Beckey said? "Mammoth rock tower, one of the most difficult summits." We retired to the tent to talk about which route to try, deciding on the easiest one possible, up the gully. At five A.M. we set off across the glacier with the weather looking good for at least one more day. We reached the base of the tower shortly after daybreak. The gully was straightforward and by eleven A.M. we were standing in the sun eating lunch at the base of the tower's east ridge. Two pitches of steep rock climbing (difficult to protect) were the crux of the climb. Above, another snow gully led to the summit with one final rock pitch. On top, in the sun once again, there was just enough room for the four of us. A spectacular place to spend the night, complete with views of the northern lights. In the morning we watched little wisps of clouds forming around the higher peaks. The high-pressure system was breaking down, but it had lasted long enough to give us some memorable experiences.

GREG COLLUM and JIM NELSON

*Grey Beard, North Face.* On a one-day excursion on May 9, my brother Carl and I climbed this face. The route begins up the obvious central couloir to gain Grey Beard's lower snowfield. Climbing up and left, we found a hidden gully which allowed access to the central face and bypassed the first rock band. Then

by traversing right, we encountered the crux while ascending the second rock band (loose snow over rock). Above that, a couloir was followed to the summit. Conditions varied from excellent water-ice to unconsolidated snow on rock, at a constant 60° to 70°. Grade III or IV.

GORDY SKOOG

*Dragontail, Northwest Face.* In early April John Wasson and I climbed a route on Dragontail to the right of Serpentine Arête. We started the climb on a thin ice smear, and the next four pitches were on good ice leading up to a big snowfield. At the top of the snowfield we climbed a hard mixed pitch, then up and left to meet Serpentine two mixed pitches from the top. We spent the night on the summit. Grade IV.

TIM WILSON

*Stuart Range.* Several new routes were climbed in the Stuart Range. The west face of Colchuck Balanced Rock (Grade IV, 5.10, A2) was climbed in early August by Mark Twight and Mark Johnston. This steep wall is seen from the Colchuck Lake area. The line follows a vaguely direct line in the center of the face. Mark Twight reports 12 pitches of mostly superb crack climbing. The route turns the huge roof, at half height, to the left (A2 hooks and Friends). Above the roof, a 5.9 hand crack leads to another roof, a hideously loose squeeze chimney and another roof before two easier pitches end on the summit. In early July the prominent pillar to the left of the Beckey-Niccoli route on the northeast face of the false summit on Mount Stuart was climbed by Kit Lewis and me. We spent two days on the climb, climbing a spectacular crack system on the right (north) wall of the pillar. Grade V, 5.10, A1.

JIM NELSON

*Fernow, North Face Ice Apron Variation.* The north face of Fernow was climbed rather indirectly in 1961 by the Prater-Wickwire party, the last 500 feet of the headwall being avoided by a westward traverse. On a cold September 30 Dave Beckstead, Mark Hutson, and I found the ice apron (finger) in good condition as we cramponed to its head. A snow-and-ice gully bore leftward, from where we climbed steep, loose and cold rock to just beneath the summit. By taking the boat up Lake Chelan, the church bus to Holden Village, and a route along the east side of Big Creek, we made the round trip in a comfortable three days.

FRED BECKEY

*Static Slab, Mount Stickney Area.* On May 18 Dave Johnson, Dave Pickard and I made the first ascent of the Static Slab on Static Peak, some two miles north of Mount Stickney. It is an excellent 800- to 1000-foot quartz diorite

buttress with many possible friction routes. Ours ascends from a prominent evergreen tree at the buttress base 800 feet to the "Curious Cube," a gigantic tilted slab. We reached the Static Slab by driving the Kromona Mine branch of the Sultan Basin road 3½ miles to the large clearcut across from it. We crossed the river and got to the base of the buttress. Five of the seven leads are of 5.8 or 5.9 friction. The route ascends almost directly toward the Cube, the last lead being the crux. A class-4 lead ascends from the top of the Cube to the buttress top. Grade III, 5.9.

ROBERT BUCKLEY

*Climbs in Snow Creek Area, 1982.* Jim Yoder did several new routes in the Leavenworth area. Perhaps the most notable was *Hyperspace* on Snow Creek Wall. It is a sustained free climb with four of the eight pitches being 5.10. The crux is a 5.10d slot. Also in early September 1982 Doug Klewin and the late David Stutzman made the first ascent of *Bong Buttress*, a prominent rock tower between Snow Creek and Rat Creek on the north edge of the Enchantment Lakes plateau.

DANIEL W. CAUTHORN

### California—Sierra Nevada

*Bunnell Point—Northwest Face.* This wide, smooth face rises above the Merced River at the east end of Little Yosemite Valley. It was first attempted in 1975 by Mead Hargis and J.P. de St. Croix. Robb Dellinger and I returned and completed their route in June, 1983. Right of the center of the face are two prominent dikes which slant up and left and meet about halfway up the face. The route follows the right dike and, in general, slants to the left for its entire fourteen pitches. There are about 15 bolts on the climb (beware off-route bolts to the right at about mid-height), about half of which are at belay points. Three or four of the pitches involved F9 climbing on this route, which was very reminiscent of climbing on Glacier Point Apron. IV, F9.

ALAN BARTLETT, *Buff Alpine Club*

*Whitney Portal Buttress, Clouds.* Seen from below, Whitney Portal Buttress is a large slab divided into two halves by a deep chimney descending from the top. Three routes already ascended the left half, the first done by Fred Beckey in 1967. In November, Bob Harrington and I climbed the first route on the right half. It starts from a ledge several hundred feet up and right from Wonderwall (A.A.J., 1980). Climb left into a dirty flake system. Two unenjoyable pitches lead to a huge ledge with a tall tree. From near the right side of the ledge, climb a block, then tension to a left-facing flake system. From a sling belay near its top, climb past three bolts (5.10+) to an aid bolt on a headwall, then up to a sloping belay. Climb past two bolts to a 5.10 flake. From its top, a long pen-

dulum left takes one to a sling belay. The next pitch has three bolts, with a tension move at the second one. Another bolted pitch, back up and right, leads to the base of a prominent crack, easily visible from the parking area. Three easier pitches follow. Four points of aid were used on the route, one aid bolt and three tension maneuvers, all on different pitches. Sixteen bolts were placed, none at belays. The bolt on the first pitch (no hanger) indicated that the route had previously been attempted. Several pitons, from a knifeblade or two to a thick horizontal, might be useful. IV, F10 + A1.

ALAN BARTLETT, *Buff Alpine Club*

*Chiquito Ridge, Eagle Beaks Area.* This indistinct cliff band is located on the west side of Chiquito Ridge northwest of Eagle Beaks. On the U.S.G.S. topo *Shuteye Peak*, the wall is the formation under the red location number 12. In May 1982 Mark Blanchard, Conrad Van Bruggen and I established two routes on this wall. "Soft Shoe Shuffle" starts atop a third-class shoulder. Moderate face-climbing leads past a bolt to an obvious right-leaning flake. From the top, face moves lead to a belay ledge. A wide right slanting flake/crack—obvious from the ground—leads to an easy roof. Above, climb a knobby face to a low-angle area. The second belay is 40 feet to the right. The final pitch ascends the obvious left-facing dihedral. II, 5.8. "Walk We Crawl" climbs the face 30 feet left of Soft Shoe Shuffle. Climb face holds up, then left, then up again past a bolt to a large ledge. Friction moves off the right end lead to a shallow dihedral. Climb the face to a belay in a low-angled area. Climb up via a thin crack to an obvious left-arching crack. Another easy pitch leads to the unroping spot. Descend by rappelling the cliff band near the right side. II, 5.7.

SIMON KING, *Unaffiliated*

*The Incinerator, Rock Creek Area, Stun Them With Science.* This formation—resembling a sawdust incinerator in lumber mills—lies above and slightly east of Rock Creek Wall. The easiest approach is to climb a route on Rock Creek Wall then walk up to the notch behind the Incinerator and descend the east side. This approach may take more time but avoids brush. In September 1982 Jeff Panetta, Mark Blanchard, Fremont Bainbridge and I climbed a route starting on the right side below a steep but very knobby face. Climb up and left below a large, loose flake to the top of a flaky ledge. Continue up the steep, knobby face for 100 feet to a belay at two bolts. Ascend a strenuous crack 25 feet to a ledge below the summit cap. Step left and climb the easy slab to the top. A 60-foot rappel off two bolts on the west side leads to the notch separating the Incinerator from the mountain. II, 5.8.

SIMON KING, *Unaffiliated*

*The Incinerator, Ruta de Fruta.* In October 1982 Simon King and I climbed this route following the obvious crack in the center of the face. We began at the top of a detached slab with aid moves around a roof to a flared slot that went free. A knobby face and crack led to a belay alongside a chockstone. We followed cracks and knobs to the summit. II, 5.8, A1.

MARK BLANCHARD, *Unaffiliated*

*Castle Rocks, The Gargoyle Route.* When you approach Castle Rocks via Buckeye Campground, the sweeping 900-foot west face of a tower located high amidst the Castle Rock massif is visible. Unlike the "Fin" and its counterpart "Castle Rock Spire," this pinnacle has escaped a deserving name so we have called it "Sleeping Beauty's Tower." The Gargoyle starts low in a gully on the northwest side and traverses right out a ramp system onto the vertical west face and then follows a crack and corner system for six long pitches of beautiful climbing directly to the summit. A ten-foot tension traverse left on the second pitch to gain a new crack system is the only aid. Rick Smith, Eve Laeger and I climbed this route in July. The descent route involves a few rappels to the southwest to gain the gully south of the tower. III, 5.9, A1.

HERB LAEGER, *Unaffiliated*

*Stonehouse Buttress, Milky Way Chimney.* In May, 1980 Eve Laeger and I climbed this A3 Beckey route free. IV, 5.10+.

HERB LAEGER, *Unaffiliated*

*The Obelisk, Dihedral Route.* On the steep north face, right of the "Hands of Fate" route (A.A.J., 1977) is a prominent vertical left-facing corner system that starts about one-half pitch above the ground and leads to the summit. Rick Smith, Eve Laeger and I climbed this route on good rock in September. II, 5.9.

HERB LAEGER, *Unaffiliated*

*The Watchtower, Timex and Nightwatch.* On August 15 Dick Saum, Steve Tucker and I climbed "Timex," a fine free route on the imposing main face of this formation near the head of Tokopah Valley. High-quality climbing characterized the route with some 5.9 moves on almost every lead of this steep eight-pitch route. A topo of the climb is available at the nearby visitor's center. IV, 5.9. About one-quarter mile west of the Watchtower, along the same ridge, is a major buttress distinguished by two large cracks forming a "V". The upper portion of the right crack lies in an immense left-facing dihedral. This 700-foot route, "Nightwatch," follows the right crack which is actually a chimney for the last four pitches. A jog left on the third pitch involves difficult 5.9+ face-climbing and avoids the mossy chimney directly above. The climbing is continuous and evidence of an earlier attempt (nuts with initials P.J. were found at

the first two belays) was noted. Some caution should be exercised because of loose rock lodged in the chimney. Rick Smith and I climbed this route in September. IV, 5.9.

HERB LAEGER. *Unaffiliated*

*Tranquility Dome, Sierra National Forest.* In August Mark Blanchard, Fremont Bainbridge and I climbed a six-pitch route on the central face of Tranquility Dome between Visions (*A.A.J.*, 1977) and Blind Ambition (*A.A.J.*, 1979). We named the route "Suicide Claim" after a tattered mining claim found on top. The route begins at the second belay of Blind Ambition and climbs to the first lead bolt on the third pitch. Here traverse left past a flake to a double-bolt belay. Then climb past a bolt to a belay from nuts and a bolt. Follow a crack left and up to face-climbing to a double-bolt belay in an alcove. Climb right and then up to the large tree on "Steerburger Ledge", the fifth belay of Visions. A short pitch reaches a ledge below a great white spot. A very long pitch follows a thin crack to the right of this spot and face-climbs to a belay from a horizontal crack at the top of the dome. II, 5.9.

CONRAD VAN BRUGGEN. *Unaffiliated*

*Bubbs Creek Wall, Aquaman, Kings Canyon National Park.* Viewing the massive south-facing Bubbs Creek Wall, one will see two obvious continuous crack systems on the right (east) side of the face. The left crack was climbed by Fred Beckey and party in 1974. In July 1983, Bill McConachie and I climbed the classic right line, finding the first eight pitches moderate but sustained (5.7-5.8). The last pitch (5.10+) ends at an extremely dirty off-width corner 200 feet below the top. We did not climb to the very top but rappelled the route.

DICK LEVERSEE. *Stonemashers Alpine Club*

*Donnell Reservoir, Moonshadow, Stanislaus National Forest.* A 1500-foot wall lies on the north side of Donnell Reservoir just off Highway 108. The unique approach to the wall requires a canoe and is about as close to sea-cliff climbing as one can get in California. In October Dave Yerian and I climbed a fairly continuous crack system straight up the center of the longest and cleanest part of the wall, starting about fifty feet left (west) of the talus beach. V, 5.11, 10 pitches.

DICK LEVERSEE. *Stonemashers Alpine Club*

*Wheeler Crest, Stormy Petrel Route.* Quite prominent among the line of granitic walls and towers between the desert floor and the top of Wheeler Crest is a pink-toned cliff on the left flank, above Wells Peak. Mike Warburton and I had tried a line near the center of the cliff one winter, but fresh snow in the cracks became unduly frustrating. On a cold May weekend in 1982, Bryce

Simon, John Feder and I hiked the scarp to the base of the dihedral that begins the route and reascended the first pitches. Our several old bolts on the second pitch made a blank leftward traverse possible. Thin face-climbing led to a crack system, the logical route on the wall. We retired to our sleeping bags for the night, then did the climb the following day. A tiring squeeze chimney, a pitch of layback cracks and an airy traverse led to the top of a pedestal. The final headwall was marvellous face-climbing up various thin cracks. Two cold pitches during snow flurries brought us to the top. The climb would be a classic in Yosemite. III or IV, 5.8.

FRED BECKEY

*Lover's Leap Access Report.* Significant changes have taken place at the Lover's Leap climbing area. Local property owners, the U.S. Forest Service, and climbers working together have presently resolved their conflicts and provided solutions to the problems of access, sanitation, and parking at the Leap. Following meetings with members of the Sierra Nevada Section of the American Alpine Club to discuss climbing issues at the Leap in January 1983, the Forest Service began acquiring needed right-of-way easements. In June, after the easements had been obtained and the ground dried out from the late snows, the Forest Service sent in their equipment. The existing road was upgraded and pushed through to Forest Service land. A large one-way circle with parking spaces was built around the old walk-in campsite. A vault for a two-holer outhouse was installed and drinking water was piped to the site. The Forest Service made a determined effort preceding and during the construction to consult with climbers concerning their plans. On the weekend of August 11, 1983, members of the A.A.C.'s Sierra Nevada Section held a work party at the Leap. With Forest Service direction we constructed new walk-in campsites, moved a Forest Service outhouse from an old campground to the new vault and built a trail down to the American River which avoids private property. The Lover's Leap campground now has parking, water, and toilets with enough capacity to handle most weekend use. This may seem overly civilized, and it is certainly a difficult change to accept for those of us who have been climbing at the Leap for many years; however, it seemed to be the best alternative. Now, all we need to do is haul out our own garbage. The private landowners did deed over permanent public access across their land to the Leap. They ask in return that we be considerate and respect their right to privacy. The Forest Service, at some considerable expense, has conscientiously worked with the climbing community to help alleviate problems at the Leap. I feel they deserve a thank you. Many of you in the past have sent letters to the Forest Service voicing your concerns and wishes concerning the Leap. Please take the time to write a thank you. These should be addressed to: Mr. Zane G. Smith, Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service, 630 Sansome St., San Francisco, CA 94111, and Mr. Brian Morris, U.S.F.S., 3491 Carson Ct., Placerville, CA 95667. I want to thank the many people who have

helped on this project. The copies of letters to the Forest Service which I received were a continual inspiration.

ROBERT SCHNEIDER

*Voyager Rock, Space Probe.* This is the first dome east of the southern portion of Courtright Reservoir. A multi-crowned pine below the south face is near the start of the route Alan Swanson and I climbed. After a short third-class section, we climbed a clean, right-facing dihedral, which curved to the right near its end. We face-climbed left from near the dihedral's top to a belay ledge/flake. Two face-climbing pitches later we viewed a spectacular sunset from the summit. (Grade II, 5.10+.) On Humdinger Dome (east of Voyager Rock), we established a variation of *Crooked Neck* by face climbing *Cool as a Cuke*. The new line is to the right of the original route. (Grade I, 5.10.)

STEPHEN MCCABE. *Manx Mountaineers*

*Locke Rock, Oktoberfest.* This will probably be the prettiest face you see upstream from Leopold Dome. Viewed from Dusy Creek, the route Nicholas Boyd and I climbed is on the far left side of a formation one half-mile south of P 9963. (Grade II, 5.8.)

STEPHEN MCCABE. *Manx Mountaineers*

*Mount Tyndall, Direct East Face.* In September Steve Brewer, David Wilson and I made the first ascent of this 1500-foot granite wall. Two earlier routes follow gully systems on either side of the sheer wall that begins in overhangs above a permanent snowfield in the basin between Tyndall and Williamson. Like earlier parties, we were surprised by the extreme difficulty of the lower face, but since the two "escape routes" had been done, we opted for the main wall. We fixed the first 300 feet one afternoon, and returned at dawn to complete the climb. Even with considerable 5.10 climbing, we couldn't avoid several points of aid on the first two pitches. The haul line sometimes hung out 35 feet from the face. Easier climbing in the middle of the route soon brought us onto a vertical headwall with 5.8 to 5.10 cracks that put us directly on the 14,018-foot summit. V, F10, A2.

GALEN A. ROWELL

### California—Yosemite Valley

*El Capitan, Aurora.* In August 1981 Peter Mayfield and I climbed a new route left of Tangerine Trip. We used the bruised and beaten start of the Trip to reach the huge arch where that route traverses right. At this point we went left 180 feet, getting swallowed into a great bomb-bay chimney that we nailed horizontally on the opposite wall so we were encased by walls with sky below—



a very odd position in relation to the valley. We then broke out onto a very overhanging wall, finding thin seams that connected readily. A pitch of sustained copperheading behind little scallops gave an A5 pitch. (The attempted second ascent leader took a long fall here, popping a hook and ripping the aforementioned copperheads back to the belay, so it was with hindsight we rated this lead A5.) Above this we bivouacked on a good ledge we named "The American Zone" after a line from a Stones song that recurred frequently on our tape deck. Surprisingly the next section—a dark streak with few visible features—fell not to a rivet ladder but entirely to hooks and natural placements. A seam like the Shield Headwall cracks led to some flapping, expanding flakes, then at the headwall the drill came out in earnest, getting us over to the end of the Tangerine Trip. The ascent took nine days and the climbing was mostly A4 and A3, with 70 holes, 20 for belays. During our climb we enjoyed red sunsets with silhouetted skydivers hurling themselves from the top to the meadows; we saw the spectacle of a giant rope snaking down the Dawn Wall on a winch for some spelunkers to jümar and rappel on; we watched the same rope get dropped and whip down into a truck-sized heap at the base; we witnessed an injured party on the Dawn link up with a team on Mescalito to self-rescue themselves; we marvelled at the acrobatics of the ever curious Peregrine. In short, the belaying was never dull. VI, A5.

GREG CHILD, *Unaffiliated*

*El Capitan, Heart of Darkness.* In August 1982 Peter Mayfield, Auggie Klein and I attempted a new route taking the thin seams to the right of the North America Wall, planning to continue up the black diorite right of the Sea of Dreams. Though we gave up after nine-and-a-half pitches, the section leading to Calavaros Ledge, on the North America Wall, stands as a fine, and difficult, seven-pitch alternative to the latter route. In the midst of the usual nailing were two-and-a-half pitches of 5.10, somewhat of a departure from the norm. While the route to Calavaros was on sound rock, we found that the black "heart" of the southeast face of El Cap was not merely loose, but decayed and hollow underneath. Drilled holes were of dubious strength due to the nature of these overlapping sheets of rock, but skyhooks were regrettably most useful. A nerve-racking lead, mostly hooks on unsound edges, which we named "The Psycho Killer" pitch, followed by a dihedral of shattered blocks, took the wind out of our sails, so after four days we retreated.

GREG CHILD, *Unaffiliated*

*Basket Dome.* In September 1982 Doug Scott and I did a largely new route on this dome, which sits on the rim facing Half Dome. We began in the jumble of divedrals at the spur of the southeast side, followed the giant corner known as Straight Jacket for two pitches, then took off diagonally right on new ground,

finding interesting climbing on slabs and cracks. Two bolts were placed on the lead to protect the crux, a 5.10 face.

GREG CHILD, *Unaffiliated*

*Yosemite Valley, 1983.* Here is a list of some of the new routes climbed in Yosemite last year. Due to the large number of excellent climbers who visit Yosemite from so many different areas, the list is by no means complete. *Arch Rock Area.* Up and left from the main Arch Rock is a white wall with three prominent cracks. The left crack (5.10-) was climbed by Werner Braun, Don Reid and Rick Cashner, the center (5.11) by John Bachar, and the right (5.10+) by Braun and Doug McDonald. *Headhunter* (5.10-) ascends the face of Devil's Dance Floor, above Highway 120, past three bolts in two pitches. It was climbed by Bachar and Cashner. *Isotope* (5.11-) is the thin crack left of Chingando, climbed by Bachar, Braun, Dimitri Barton and Ron Kauk. *Spring Fever* (5.11) is a crack on the face of an orange open-book right of Cro-Magnon Capers, done by Cashner and Reid. *The Promise* (5.11-) is a previously attempted line up the center of the Footstool formation, done by Bachar and Barton. Another slab route at the base of El Capitan is *Champagne On Ice* (5.11), next to the start of the Waterfall Route, and climbed by Steve Snyder. *Fool's Gold* (III, 5.10-) starts by climbing a pillar to the right of the Gold Wall, then works around into the amphitheater, eventually joining the West Portal Route. It is about ten pitches and was done by Reid and Cashner. *The Token* (5.11+) is a one-pitch bolted route on Glacier Point Apron to the right of Sailing Shoes, climbed by Scott Burk. At least three new face routes were done on Middle Cathedral Rock last year: *Pieces of Eight* (5.10+) lies between Powell-Reed and Paradise Lost, eventually joining the latter after eight pitches. It was climbed by Burk and Snyder. *Ticket to Nowhere* (5.10) was climbed by Bob Gaines, John Mallory and Tom Callahan, and lies between Black Primo and Quicksilver. *Exodus* (5.10) was done by Jay Smith and Gary Anderson and climbs the face right of Orange Peel. *Nightmare* (5.11) is a continuation above Pink Dream, climbed by Bachar and Cashner.

Several new big wall routes were done too, the most difficult of which is *The Arctic Sea* (VI, 5.10, A5), a 15-pitch route between Zenith and Bushido on Half Dome, climbed in ten days by Duane Raleigh and Tom Cosgrove. Other long routes include *Star Drive* (5.10, A1), to the right of Vain Hope, climbed by Mike Corbett and Steve Bosque. The same pair climbed *Mideast Crisis* (VI, 5.8, A4) on Washington Column between East Face and Great Slab. Finally, Chris Friel and Fig climbed *Rainbows* (VI, 5.10, A4), a route between the Lost Arrow and Yosemite Point Buttress.

ALAN BARTLETT, *Yosemite Mountaineering School*

*Tuolumne Meadows, 1983.* This area received its first official guidebook in 1983, written by local climbing guides Don Reid and Chris Falkenstein. Here

are some routes done since the publication of the guide. *Bastard from the Bush* (5.11) climbs three pitches above a large pine tree to the right of American Wet Dream, done by Ed Barry and Alan Bartlett. *Get Sick* (5.11 -) lies on Low Profile Dome between Black Widow and Steep Thrills, climbed by Phil Bard. Also done by Bard is *Old Folks' Boogie* (5.10+) to the right of Comfortably Numb on East Cottage Dome. *Countdown* (5.11) is a sparsely-protected two-pitch route left of Rivendell Crack, climbed by John Bachar. *Brainwave* (5.9) ascends the face between Voice of the Crags and Shot in the Dark, climbed by Bachar, Mike Waugh and Darryl Nakamura. *Sole on Ice* (5.10+) lies left of Aztec Two-Step and was done by Bartlett, Dimitri Barton and Robb Dellinger. *Roseanne* (5.9) ascends Fairview Dome between Uh-Huh and Great Pumpkin, joining Uh-Huh at the base of its large roof. It was climbed by Bartlett and James Wilson. *Black Rider* (5.10-) climbs the streak right of Nazgul, joining that route near the top, and was done by Bartlett and Dellinger. *Swinger* (5.11) is a continuation of the route formerly known as Lechliński Flake, and was done by Bachar and Ron Kauk. *West Farthing Wall*: Four routes were done on this wall last year between Maniac's Maneuver and S.O.S. From left to right they are *Kryptonite* (5.9), *Master Samwise* (5.9), *The Three Stooges* (5.8), and *Rock 'n Rope* (5.8). They were climbed by Alan Bartlett with various partners including Ann Maas, Virginia Morency, Mike Dobbins and Robb and Beth Dellinger.

ALAN BARTLETT, *Yosemite Mountaineering School*

*Kolana Dome, West Face, Hetch Hetchy Reservoir*. John Liebeskind and I climbed the huge right-facing dihedral splitting the center of the west face. We entered low in the crack system by traversing left on scree ledges. After we passed two large ledges, we left the dihedral and ascended a finger crack to the left of the main gash. Easy slabs led to the summit. III, 5.8, seven pitches.

ROBERT KAYEN, *Tufts Mountain Club*

*El Capitan, Mediterraneo Route, 1982*. Four Spanish brothers, José Luis, Miguel Angel, Carlos and Javier Gallego, made a new route on El Capitan in October 1982. In the lower part it was between the Magic Mushroom and Salathé routes and in the upper between the Muir Wall and the Nose. They took 27 days to make the climb which was two-thirds free up to 5.10 and one third aid with five A5 pitches and seven pendulums. A photo appears on page 80 of *Der Bergsteiger*, August 1983.

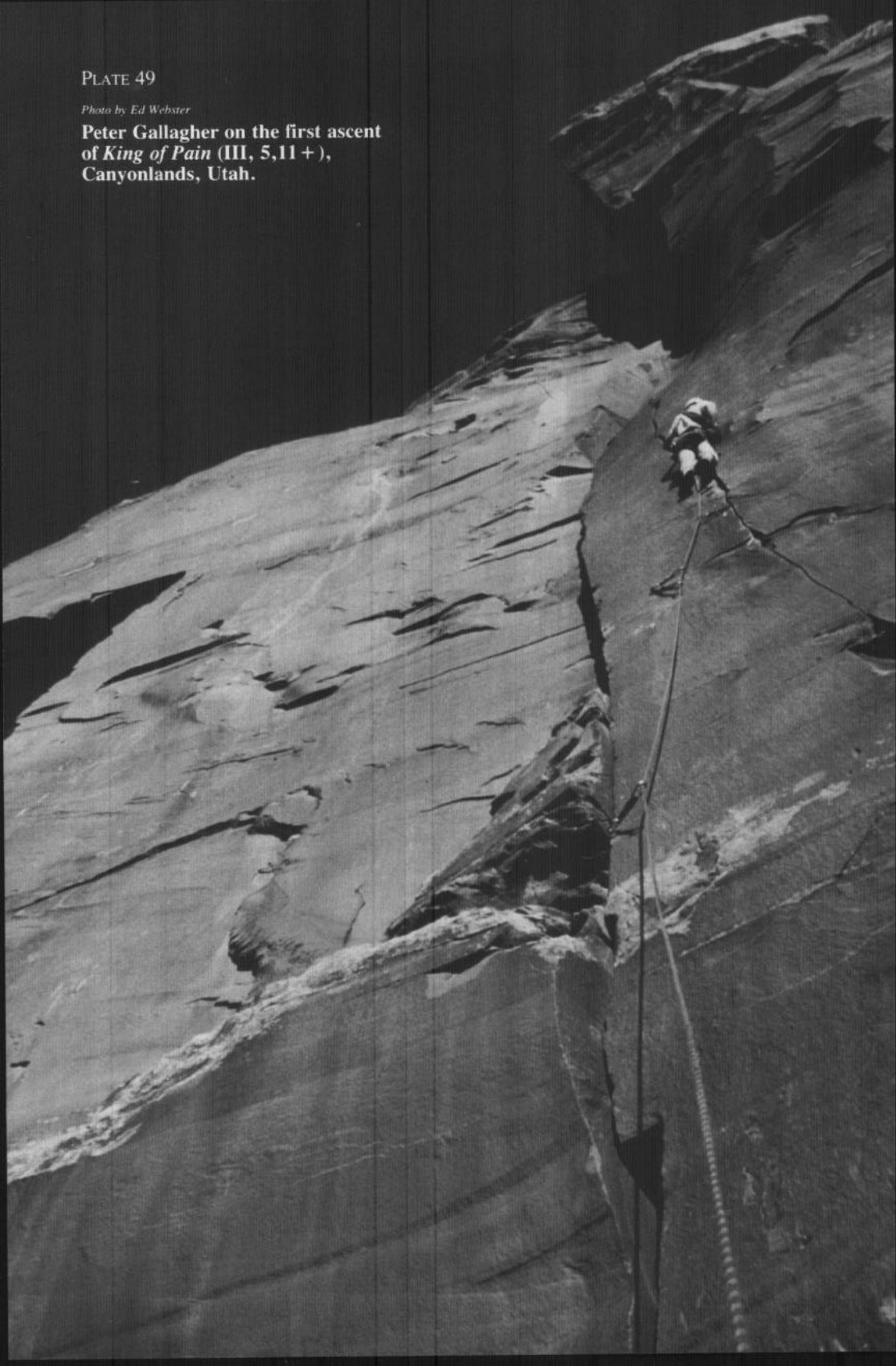
## Utah

*Canyonlands*. Several new Wingate Spires have been scaled recently in Canyonlands. Leonard Coyne, Ellen Figi and I made the first ascent of Bridger Jack, a 500-foot butte, this summer. Our route, *Wild Flower* (III, 5.10), ascends

PLATE 49

*Photo by Ed Webster*

**Peter Gallagher on the first ascent  
of *King of Pain* (III, 5,11+),  
Canyonlands, Utah.**



prominent 5.9 cracks and corners up the east face but unfortunately ends with a notorious 5.10 off-width squeezer. Two more ascents of Bridger Jack also resulted in new routes. Peter Gallagher and Brad Schilling made the second ascent of the tower via the north buttress, *Hydrophobic Coyote* (III, 5.10). The crux was a 5.10 hand-and-fist crack on the first pitch. Above, Gallagher was injured when loose blocks crushed his hand. On the third ascent of the spire, Patrick Griffin and I found a slightly easier variation to the north buttress, climbing a crack system to the left and a separate chimney higher. A 40-foot rappel was also necessary halfway up. The climb was named the *Roundup* (III, 5.9+, A0) after the roundup of cattle occurring at Dugout Ranch below. At times the mooing was so loud that we could hardly communicate. Gallagher and I also teamed up to make the first ascent of another major spire, the King of Pain, next to Bridger Jack. *Rights of Passage* (III, 5.11+) ascends a five-pitch crack system on the east face and is one of the hardest spire climbs in the Southwest. It took us two full days, mostly for the second and fourth pitches, both 5.11+. The summit was unusual: a short Tyrolean done between the two summit blocks. In Lathrop Canyon, Monster Tower was climbed all free by Richard Harrison and Jay Smith at 5.11-, by way of a short variation on the summit block. Dreiman and I made the second free ascent a mere three days later by the same route, the north ridge, which originally had been climbed nearly all free by Ken Trout and Kirk Miller in 1981. Although we were disappointed not to have done the first free ascent of the tower, we were more upset by the various doodlings, graffiti and initials that Harrison and Smith had scratched into the soft sandstone. Monster Tower has seen five repeats this year, including a new and spectacular aid line on the northeast side, *Los Bandidos* (III, 5.9, A3) by Stan Mish and Mimi de Gravelle. In Taylor Canyon, next to Moses and Zeus, Dreiman and I made the first ascent of the last unclimbed spire, a 500-foot, wafer-like tower which we named "Aphrodite." Ironically, it proved to be the easiest free climb in Taylor Canyon, an aesthetic, four-pitch 5.9 climb up the east ridge. The usual epic ensued when we were benighted on the summit and broke our only drill bit.

EDWARD WEBSTER

*Towers in Canyonlands National Park.* On a Wingate formation at the head of Taylor Canyon, 250 feet from Moses, Ron Olevsky made the first ascent of *Traracian Mare* solo (III, 5.6, A3). He also made the first ascent (5.7) of the largest dome north of Elephant Hill in the Canyonlands Needles area. The dome was dubbed *Conehead*. Unreported from the fall of 1982 was Olevsky's first hammerless solo ascent of the Beckey-Bjørnstad original route on the north face of Moses.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

*"Islet in the Sky," Canyonlands National Park, 1976.* This slender needle can be located on the large park topo map in the Island in the Sky area next to

a peninsula of rock near Muffin Butte. This fine route follows thin lost-arrow cracks on the north face. It was first climbed by Ken Trout and others in 1976. The second ascent was made by Bill Ellwood, Bruce Lella and others (IV, 5.10, A3+).

DAVID KOZAK

*Northeast Utah.* A series of first ascents and new routes were made in Dry Fork Canyon (north of Vernal) and Dinosaur National Monument in 1983. Dry Fork Canyon features a variety of spires as well as cracks on the desert-varnished canyon walls. The red sandstone is gritty, brittle and of fair quality. Vulture's Roost, a 100-foot spire located directly across Dry Fork Road from Remember the Maine County Park was climbed November 8 by Don Lum and me (5.6). The following towers are also located on the west side of Dry Fork Road and are north of Remember the Maine County Park. The 150-foot Tyrolean Towers are connected by a lower wall. The eastern tower was first ascended by the north crack (Rawhide, 5.9, by Tony Reed, Eric Winicov, and me on August 29), and later by the prominent off-width south crack (Teflon Crack, 5.10, by Eric Werenskjold and me on October 18). The western tower (Jeep Patrol Tower) was first ascended via tyrolean traverse on September 8 as an exercise by Uinta County Sheriff's Search and Rescue (Jeep) Patrol by Terry Shiner, Kevin Olson, Roy Wilkins, Eric Winicov, and me. Winicov claimed the first ascent of Jeep Patrol Tower by an actual climbing route (Open Air Chimney, 5.7) also on September 8. The partial crack on the south side of this tower was climbed on November 19 by me (Blood and Snow, 5.8). Further north along Dry Fork Road is a prominent twisted and thin 150-foot spire. I soloed a two-pitch route (5.8, A4) following an old line of some fixed hardware on the north side on September 20. However, there was no hardware within 10 feet of the top, where the sandstone changed its consistency to that of wet sugar. There was no sign of a previous summit visit and no place for slings; a rappel bolt was placed. Hence, this may be a first ascent via an old route! For lack of name, the route is called "Who Dun It" and the tower is named the Red Twister. At Dinosaur National Monument, Winicov, Richard Bennett, and I made the first ascent of 200-foot Elephant Toes Tower (Lichen Run, 5.7), a unique desert friction climb on Navajo sandstone. Penis Point, a prominent 100-foot tower of Weber sandstone atop the Split Mountain rim, was ascended on October 25 by Don Lum and me (Semen Chute, 5.5, A2). The four-hour approach involved a crossing of the Green River and third-classing of much steep terrain in the deep canyon leading to the west side of the rim. Unreported from 1982 are my ascents of Bullwinkle's Wrinkle (5.11) near the Quarry housing area and Doc's Crack (5.10) at Prophecy in Stone. Doug Roberts and I also added a first-pitch variation in August 1982 to Emily's Crack (5.7), the 300-foot outstanding chimney crack at Prophecy in Stone which was first ascended in the late 1970s by Mike Friedman and Pete Mills. Dinosaur National Monument, the Peregrine Falcon

Fund, and Utah Department of Wildlife Resources sent Ed Byers, Dan Chure, and me on the first ascent of Where Peregrines Dare (5.6), a three-pitch climb on Split Mountain on October 22. The route was used to place a hackbox on a cliff ledge for the purpose of rearing young falcons. Because of the sensitive projects conducted by the Peregrine Falcon Fund on Dinosaur's canyon country walls (including Steamboat Rock), climbers should check with Dinosaur's chief ranger before attempting any climbs. The rare peregrine falcon needs the cooperation of climbers to respect its rights to its ancestral cliffs and to insure the survival of this species.

JAMES DETTERLINE

### Arizona

*Spider Rock, Canyon de Chelly.* A solo ascent of Spider Rock was made by Dave Jones. An unreported free ascent was accomplished in 1981 (5.10) by Tom Kosgriff and Todd Skinner. The crux of their climb was an off-width crack near the summit of the 800-foot tower.

### Wyoming

*Tetons, 1980-1982.* In the past few years, climbers have been very active in the Tetons. *Hanging Canyon Arêtes, Mount St. John.* Within the past five years, several routes on the short arêtes leading up toward Mount St. John near the eastern end of Hanging Canyon have been worked out, providing easily accessible and enjoyable rock climbing. *Hawkeye* (II, F9), located somewhat below and to the east of the main arêtes, contains three pitches and was climbed on September 5, 1980, by Chuck Harris, Leo Larson, and Mike Beiser. Of the three arêtes, *Peregrine* (II, F9) is the most easterly and its four pitches were climbed by Exum guides early in the summer of 1981. The central arête of white rock, *Ostrich* (II, F8), was climbed in four pitches on June 5, 1981, by Chuck Harris. *Avocet Arête* (II, F8), the western arête, is somewhat longer, providing six leads, mostly of moderate difficulty. *Mount Moran, Irvine Arête.* This ridge, which lies east of Staircase Arête and west of No Escape Buttress on the lower southeast side of Mount Moran, was first climbed on August 13, 1982, by Leo Larson and E. Thompson. Beginning at the base of Laughing Lions Falls, the route starts east up a couloir until it becomes blocked by a chockstone. From a large tree out to the right, a difficult jam-crack led to a narrow chimney capped by a bulge requiring F9 friction to pass. Moderate leads brought the party to a short vertical wall containing a splendid jam-crack which was climbed to another tree. The sixth pitch ascended the steep wall above, and was followed by two more leads angling up and slightly right. An overhang in this last lead was passed by a ten-foot pendulum to the right on a hex chock. A large tree was

found for a belay stance after climbing on loose rock with poor protection. Three pitches of scrambling took the party to the top of the route, from which one can look down to the west to the top of the Staircase Arête. Descent was made down to the southeast, using three rappels to reach the final talus leading to the valley floor. *Grand Teton, West Face, Variation*. On July 22, 1982, Renny Jackson and Peter Hollis made an important new variation on the Durrance-Coulter west-face route. This climb ascends the regular Black Ice Couloir for some 600 feet, until it veers to the left (east) just below the narrow crux of the Black Ice, into the chimney system to the right (south) of the standard west-face route. The first lead in this very steep chimney contains some vertical ice to reach a chockstone which is passed by climbing behind it. The next section also ascends extremely steep ice to a belay just below a giant jammed chockstone, which is passed on the left with difficulty. From this point the west face could be rejoined by traversing to the left (north). This party, however, joined a previously climbed variation which leads for some 300 feet back to the right and up to the Upper Saddle.

LEIGH N. ORTENBURGER

*Faler Tower, Southwest Side, Wind River Range*. On July 15, my father Jim and I climbed what we believe to have been a new route up P 12,607 (213w in Bonney guide, noted as Faler Tower). From our camp at the small lake on the southwest side of Island Lake we hiked to the col behind Elephant Head (Cairn Peak in Bonney guide) and then continued over to the higher col between Harrower and P 11,940. We descended to the large snow-covered shelf on the southwest side of the tower which led past a wet, slabby face to a convenient left-leaning ramp that ends at a tiny waterfall. A rotten scramble then brought us to an amphitheater walled with secure, fractured granite. We ascended this directly in two nice pitches noting later that a less solid route to the west looked as if it could probably go unroped. Above the rock, steep snow led up to the summit-ridge crest. We followed the crest leading to the northwest summit until forced by difficult gendarmes onto steep, rotten snow of the southwest face. Staying on the snow, we reached the final pinnacle which turned out to be an easy scramble which put us on top at five P.M. (II, 5.4; 14 hours round-trip.)

WILLIAM PETROSKE

*West Twin Peak, Southeast Face, Titcomb Basin, Wind River Range*. Jay Goodwin and I climbed what we believe is a new route on West Twin Peak. It is best seen in the early morning hours, when the sunlight isolates the prominent arête extending from the southeast face. The first pitch is distinguished by an excellent fingertip layback seen about 50 feet up the wall. After the first full 150-foot pitch, we traversed to the farthest left crack-and-dihedral system on the arête. The climb went up this difficult system and then up two more pitches of



easy climbing to the summit. The rock is of the same quality as that in the Cirque of the Towers. (5 pitches, II, 5.10)

WILLIAM ALEXANDER, *Unaffiliated*

*Mount Mitchell, Northwest Face, Cirque of the Towers, Wind River Range.* Molly Higgins and I made this climb, starting on the far right side of the northwest face. It is easily identified by a slab that leads to a straight one-inch crack in a right-facing corner for the first part and left-facing for the upper part. This was followed by "Flora Corner," which led to the top. Four pitches; II, 5.10.

LARRY BRUCE

*Lankin Dome, Granite Mountains.* Some rather nice granite domes lie in the Wyoming desert. Eric Boelke, Andy Archer and I climbed a route on the northwest buttress of Lankin Dome in August. The first pitch, the crux, is up a friction slab (one bolt for protection), heading toward a prominent crack and dihedral system. We followed these for four more pitches to where we could scramble to the top. (III, 5.9)

DAVID KOZAK

## Colorado

*Black Canyon of the Gunnison.* Many new free climbs have been made in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison. Most are on a slightly smaller scale than other recent free climbs, but these newer climbs are just as or more desirable since they can easily be done in one day from the canyon rim without the usual fear of a forced bivouac. On North Chasm View wall, both crack systems just to the left of the popular *Leisure Climb* have now been done. *Musical Partners* (III, 5.9), the left-hand of these three cracks, was first climbed by Paul Scannell and me and features a poorly protected bomb-bay chimney on the crux. *All's Well That Ends Well* (III, 5.11 - ) is a completely different story and is highly recommended. Lauren Husted and I made the first ascent of the central crack system when it was slightly damp and used several points of aid. These were eliminated a month later by Chester Dreiman and me, and the route was soon repeated by Peter Gallagher and Robert Warren, who confirmed its quality. Down in SOB Gully, *Escape Artist* (III, 5.9+ or 5.11) has received a multitude of repeats, with most of the parties wisely avoiding the original crux, a strenuous lightning bolt crack up a 95° wall. Next to the right, Dreiman and I made an excellent companion route, *Comic Relief* (III, 5.10 - ), which sports one of the best 5.9 finger-and-hand cracks and merges with its neighbor after six leads. Just right of *Russian Arête*, Bob Robertson and Art Wiggins established a new eight-pitch route, well protected and on good rock, *Ghost Arête* (III, 5.10). Just upstream

PLATE 50

*Photo by Chester Dreiman*

**Ed Webster on *Sunday Comics* (5.9)  
on the Matron, Boulder Canyon,  
Colorado.**



from Newberry's Slabs, Greg Grant and I discovered a new 13-pitch route up a previously unclimbed buttress. We named it *Quest for Fire* (IV, 5.11 -) in light of our miserably cold bivouac atop the tenth pitch and our futile, stone-age efforts to start a fire to stay warm. Besides underestimating the length of the route, we forgot to pack any matches! Several noteworthy repeats were also done. Randy Leavitt and Rob Slater did the second free ascent of *Stratosfear* (VI, 5.11), the free ascent of the Forrest-Walker route on the Painted Wall. Earl Wiggins and Bob Rotert bagged the second ascent of the *Checkerboard Wall*, which they termed a "route of the future," and later on Wiggins and Mike O'Donald made their own futuristic contribution, the 2-in-1 combination, racing up two Grade V routes on North Chasm Wall, the *Goss-Logan* (V, 5.11) and the *Scenic Cruise* (V, 5.10+) in one extremely long and tiring day! Encountering over 3500 feet of arduous free climbing, the pair completed the two climbs by leading on a single 300-foot 9mm rope to save as much time as possible.

EDWARD WEBSTER

"*Remnant Tower*," *Colorado National Monument*. This small spire guards the entrance to Lizard Canyon and the north entrance. It is just south of P 4715. In May Walt Kuentzel and I made the first free ascent and the second overall ascent. It was first done by Layton Kor, Harvey Carter and John Auld in 1963. The initial A3 overhang goes free at 5.9 and the remainder is well protected chimneying on good rock (II, 5.9).

DAVID KOZAK

*Sheep Rock, Main Dome, South Platte Area*. The obvious thin crack on this beautiful dome previously had been an aid route (III, 5.8, A2). Steve Spaar, Don Cardinale and I, in May of 1982, freed the sustained second pitch at 5.11. We named it *Charley Don't Surf*. While doing the climb, I noticed a possible line of water grooves and thin cracks to the right. In August, 1983 Eric Boelke and I took three days to establish another very fine route we called *The Divine Ms. M* (III, 5.10a). It is well protected. It starts with *Charley Don't Surf* and then heads right.

DAVID KOZAK

*Flatirons*. In the Flatirons above Boulder, Chester Dreiman and I made the first ascent of a tremendous overhang on the west face of Like Heaven Rock, which we named *For Your Arms Only*. We two also completed a new direct finish to Jeff Lowe's route, *Sunday Comics*, on the west face of the Matron (5.9). Previously unprotected, with groundfall potential, bolts were placed by two subsequent ascents, making the climb an enjoyable and much safer venture.

EDWARD WEBSTER

PLATE 51

Photo by Kim Hansen

**Rolofson on Horribly Heinous (5.12)  
on North Gateway Rock, Garden of  
the Gods, Colorado.**



*Garden of the Gods*. 1983 inspired the development of hard new lines and freeing old aid lines by Bob D'Antonio and me. I was responsible for 99% of the drilling, most of which was done on lead, and some on rappel. The reason for rappel-placed drilled angles is because in many cases it is the cleanest alternative on the soft rock. Many free routes ascend walls too steep to let go with both hands and drill. Hooks have occasionally been employed, but never to take ones full weight which would break the rock. Another technique used was to drill one handed. However, a complete hole has never been the result. A shallow hole is achieved after much work. Then a shaky pin is placed, tied off and used for aid to drill a good pin. What is left is an extra hole, creating a finger-hold and defacing the rock. Rappel-placed angles eliminate this and allows the climber to create longer run-outs. Between 1977 and 1979 many free climbs went in after the climbers drilled bolt ladders consisting of as many as 6 drilled angles. This was the poor result of lead ethic. The future should insure harder and bolder lines and it has already begun thanks to some rappel-placed drilled angles. On the west face of North Gateway, *Men At Work* (130 feet, 5.11+) ascends the vertical potholed wall right of *Borgoff's Blunder*, with four 5.11 sections (F.A.: D'Antonio and Rolofson). *Men At Work* has become fairly popular being a steep, clean, direct line. Right of *Pete and Bob's Face*, D'Antonio and I freed the first pitch of an old aid line, producing *Horribly Heinous* (80 feet, 5.12-). In spite of many ascents by the first-ascent party, other climbers have not repeated the lead. Perhaps this is due to the horrifying-looking bulging wall on the upper 40 feet. Thankfully it is more solid than it looks. Robert Warren and Mike Johnson climbed a *Direct Start to Fall From Grace* (120 feet, 5.9), involving a long run out on loose rock with groundfall potential. On the north buttress, *The Refugee* (150 feet, 5.11+) ascends an unfinished aid line via face climbing and a pocketed crack on solid rock (F.A.: Rolofson and D'Antonio). On South Gateway, *Rocket Fuel* (130 feet, 5.12-) ascends a steep slab between *Mighty Thor* and *The Fixer*. The Fire Rock Boot played an important role on this friction/face route. Other climbers were stopped cold with many short falls, until Fires were purchased (F.A.: Rolofson and D'Antonio). On the west face of the Three Graces, *The Weenis Route* (50 feet, 5.11-) ascends a direct variation to a Harvey Carter aid line. The climbing is 5.10, but a desperate move (5.11-) to clip an old aid pin is the crux (F.A.: Rolofson and D'Antonio).

MARK ROLOFSON

*Boulder Canyon, 1982*. On the right side of Security Risk, Eric Eriksson and I climbed *Comfortably Numb* (120 feet, 5.12a), featuring 55 feet of overhanging face moves along a thin crack. The climb had previously been cleaned and one bolt placed on rappel by Randy Levitt. On Coney Island Crag, Eriksson and I climbed *Coney Island Baby* (60 feet, 5.12a) a severely right-leaning arch (right of *Quintet*) involving thin reachy lieback moves with a potential 20-foot fall (that was taken) off crux moves. This route was also the product of massive

lichen removal on rappel with a wire brush. Many of the last generation of Boulder Canyon routes have involved substantial cleaning. In the future undoubtedly new lines will have to be unearthed and few clean lines will be found. Elsewhere in Colorado, many granite crags can be found where massive cleaning won't be needed.

MARK ROLOFSON

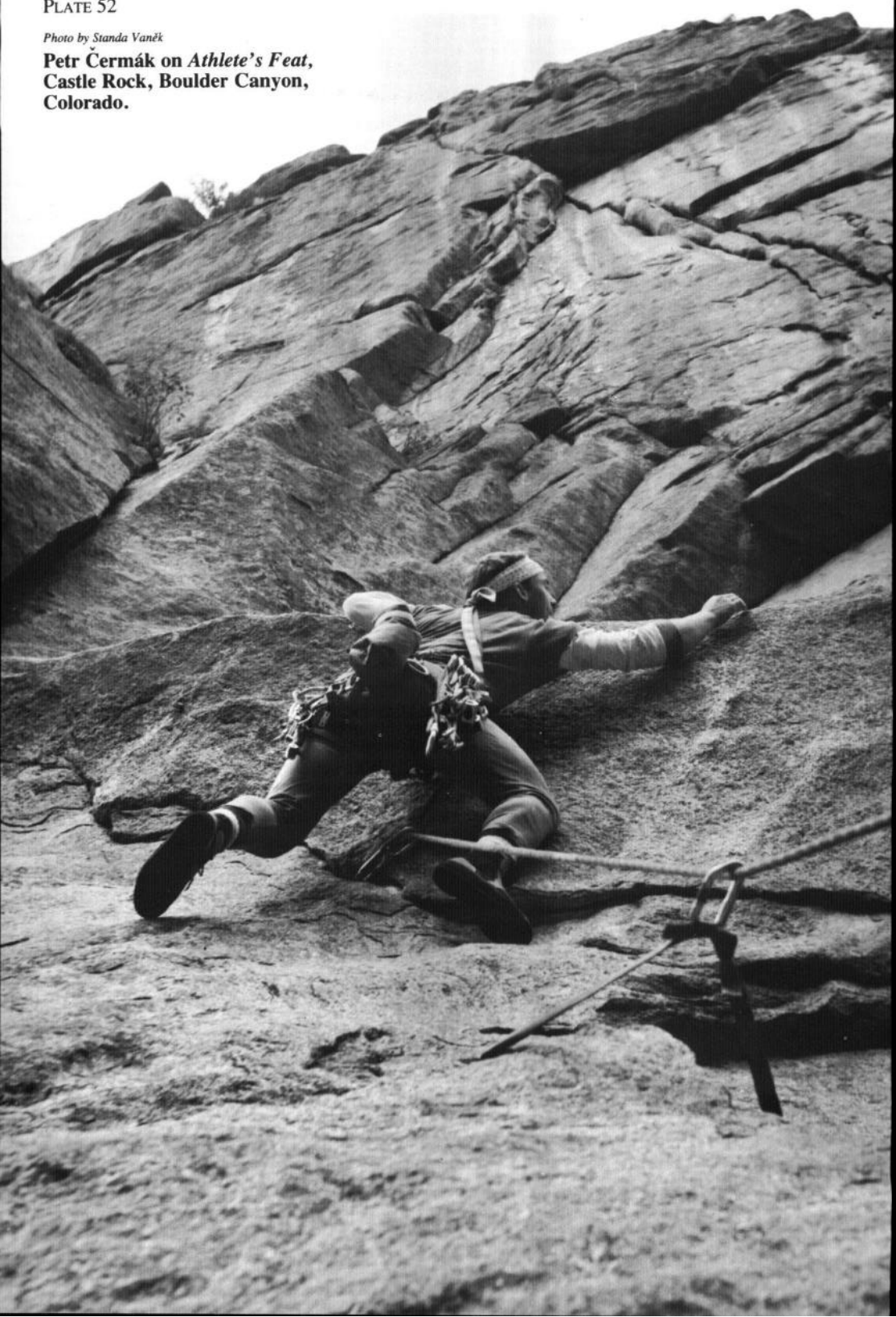
*Colorado, 1983.* About 10 miles west of Colorado Springs at Green Mountain Falls, Harrison Dekker climbed *Sex Axe* (50 feet, 5.12a), an overhanging crack starting as thin fingers and gradually widening to fists. On the main cliff below *Sex Axe*, Bob D'Antonio and I climbed *Golden Shower* (150 feet, 5.11c) with three short leads. The crux (50-foot) pitch is a strenuous diagonal finger crack. On Turkey Tail, Harrison Dekker after several attempts, free climbed *Jello Party* (50 feet, 5.12c), formerly an aid pitch leading to *Spider Lady*. The pitch now involves very thin vertical face climbing, protected by two pegs. On Sheep's Nose, Bob D'Antonio and I led, with joint effort to place protection, *Psycho Babble* (40 feet, 5.12a), a shallow, thin diagonal crack. I have published a topo guide called *The Hard Stuff—A Climber's Guide to the Turkey Rock Area & Other South Platte Crags*. Also in the South Platte Region is 11-Mile Canyon which has a small guidebook by Dave Bamberger and Robert Glaze. The guide is mainly designed for beginning climbers and will not be much use for climbers looking for 5.9 to 5.12 routes. All the same, several excellent 5.10 to 5.12 climbs have been done during the past few years and the approaches are the most convenient of anywhere in the South Platte. On the Sports Crag, (about 5 miles up the canyon), a good selection of climbs was done in 1982 and 1983. In 1982 Russ Johnson & John Delong climbed *Fiddler On The Roof* (50 feet, 5.10d) which follows a strenuous hand/finger traverse under a roof (with 3 pegs). Immediately left of this, in the fall of 1983 D'Antonio and I climbed *Shock The Monkey* (50 feet, 5.11d), with sequential jamming over a 15-foot roof. Left of this, after several attempts, Chris Peisker climbed in 1982 *Albatross* (50 feet, 5.12c), involving finger locks and a dynamic face move along a thin overhanging crack. On the left side of the crag, D'Antonio and I climbed *Moonage Daydream* (50 feet, 5.12a/b) with a crux boulder problem start (past a bolt) involving B-1 stemming up a near blank dihedral. On the Indulgence Crag, Shawn Wilson and I climbed *Way Stoned And Snarling* (70 feet, 5.11b) a lie-back corner followed by a 5-foot roof. Steve Cheyney, Kevin Murray and Robert Warren climbed *Tree Beard* (90 feet, 5.10a), a hand crack, finishing with crux face moves out right. Right of this and leading directly to the same last moves, I climbed *Crimes Of Fashion* (80 feet, 5.12b/c), starting with a strenuous 40-foot tips lieback, followed by easier vertical face climbing (5.11a). A fixed peg, fixed wire, and bolt were placed on lead, on aid. Then after several attempts I freed the pitch.

MARK ROLOFSON

PLATE 52

*Photo by Standa Vaněk*

**Petr Čermák on *Athlete's Feat*,  
Castle Rock, Boulder Canyon,  
Colorado.**



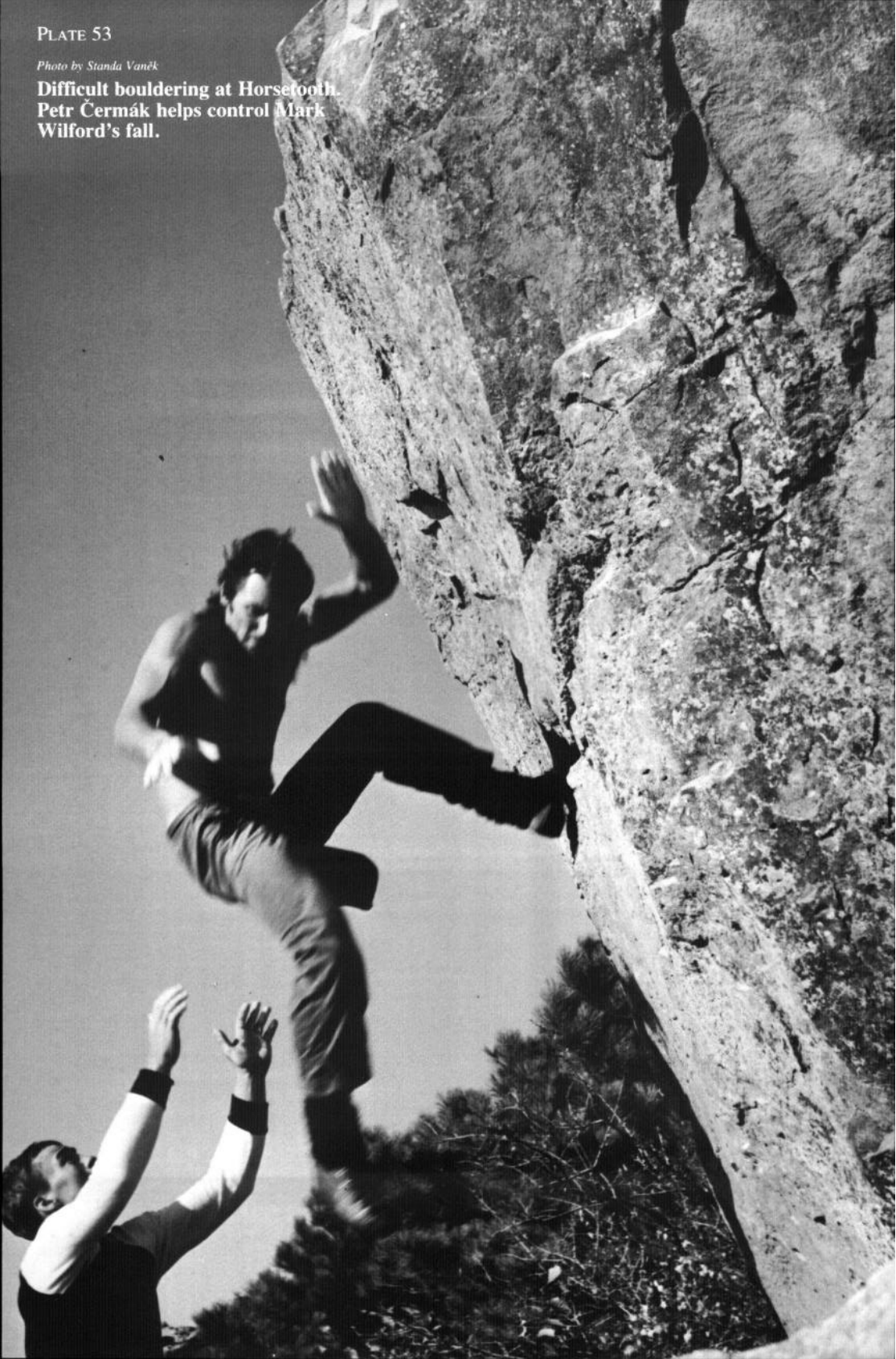
*Czechoslovakian-American Exchange.* In September 1982 Mark Wilford, Rick Powell and Matt Kerns visited Czechoslovakia and concentrated on sandstone areas which had been a cradle of free-climbing. In return the American Alpine Club invited us to America. We heartily thank the A.A.C. and all who helped us during September and October of 1983. In 33 days we drove 10,000 miles across the United States from New York to San Francisco and back again. We visited 20 national parks and monuments. We climbed more than 20 routes in rock-climbing areas, which included the Needles in the Black Hills, Devils Tower, Boulder and Eldorado Canyons, Estes Park, the boulders at Horsetooth Reservoir, the Yosemite, Joshua Tree and the Shawangunks. We were enchanted and surprised by American rock climbing. We were enthusiastic about our American friends, disappointed by American beer, amazed, and sometimes even a little sad, about the condition of America's nature as well as towns and cities. Our impressions of our brief and confusing visit are powerful. Country music and hundreds of miles through prairies led us to the Black Hills Needles. Here we followed our eyes and not the guide book to find our routes. The popular Czech climbing "slippers," described by Mark Wilford, were lying peacefully in our bags and our ropes were regular climbing ropes, not ones for "agricultural purposes" which he said were used by some Czechs. The Devils Tower was a stone's throw from the Needles. Because fingers were incorrectly inserted in a crevice, Carol's Crack spat Petr Čermák out. "Coming," he reported. He was moving in a cloud of chalk, though in quite the opposite direction from what he had hoped. He exchanged his boots for "slippers" and his climbing problems were over and done with. Then came Boulder. Our experiences in Boulder and Eldorado Canyons, Estes Park and meeting Mark Wilford and Mark's friends Nick Donally and Jeff Lowe impressed us deeply. (Most of the climbs done here and elsewhere were of 5.9 to 5.11 difficulty.—*Editor.*) We moved to the Yosemite. On El Capitan we chose the West Buttress because the topo in the new Yosemite guide promised free climbing, but we found this far from being true. Petr Brzák climbed the crux on a borrowed rupp. Pendulums, flake lassoing, bag hauling, falls from pitons, stoppers or Friends—that is the music all climbers know from El Cap. Some of the tunes were new to our ears. Most surprising to us was the lack of fixed protection between the belays. This is not the case in the Alps or in the other areas we had visited before. But we became familiar with the breath of the Wall of Walls. By noon of the fourth day we were giving our thanks on the Thanksgiving Ledge. Coming down, we met Vilda Vilím, who was waiting for us with bottles of Pilsner beer from Rick Powell. At last our photographer Standa Vaněk cheered up a little after El Cap, where he had not been able to photograph anything but his fellows' faces and backsides. Arid Joshua Tree sent a storm on the climbers' heads, just as the Shawangunks did some time later. The weather put an end to climbing. We drove from Tucson to Washington, D.C. in 36 hours. The trip was rather hard work. We slept three to five hours a day, traveled mostly at night, ate a lot of noodles and macaroni, drank a little beer and exposed about 150 rolls of film.

PETR BRZÁK, PETR ČERMÁK, STANISLAV VANĚK, VLADIMÍR VILÍM,  
*Czechoslovakia*



*Photo by Standa Vaněk*

**Difficult bouldering at Horsefooth.  
Petr Čermák helps control Mark  
Wilford's fall.**



*Correction of footnote to "The World's Worst Weather."* On page 103 of A.A.J., 1983 the correct footnote was inadvertently dropped. It should have read: "\*Alan A. Smith was President of the Mount Washington Observatory from 1969 to 1981."

## CANADA

### Yukon Territory

*Climbing in Kluane National Park.* During 1983 there were 18 groups in the Kluane National Park portion of the St. Elias Mountains. These 89 people spent a total of 1686 man-days. Aside from those recounted separately, the following climbs are worthy of note. Ted Hendwork, Grant Morrison, Peter Judkins and Jon Iltis climbed Logan's north peak via the King Trench in May and Bob Holmes, Bernie Smith, Steven Wondell, Joseph Borshaniau, Daniel Vigel and Terry Moloney ascended the east ridge in June. There were unsuccessful attempts on the King Trench, Independence Ridge and Hummingbird Ridge on Mount Logan. Avalanches turned back William and John Weiland. Glen Larson and Scott and Julie Etherington on the Abruzzi route on Mount St. Elias in May. Jim Rawding, Greg Leger, Jim Hennessey, Joseph Brostmeyer, Jeff Stim, Bob Galeys, Matt Harris and Doug Sevon climbed Mount Steele in June, while another party was unsuccessful. An expedition to Mount Newton in late June and early July was unsuccessful. Mark Lydell and Matt Haggard climbed Hubbard on May 13 and were joined on May 14 on Mount Kennedy by Paul and Janet Dornisch. That same day Kennedy was ascended by Chris Cooper, Danny Varrel, Ryan Schellhorn, Dave Timewell, Stephen Grant, Helen Sovdat and Stephen Ludwig.

LLOYD FREESE, *Kluane National Park*

*Mount Logan Traverse and Ski Descent, 1982.* Greg Grange, Andy Lapkas, Steve Monfredo and I flew on May 26, 1982 to 6500 feet on the Hubbard Glacier, six miles from Logan's east ridge. Of the total 52-mile traverse, the three-mile east ridge consumed over half our time and most of our energy. Twenty-five miles of skiing across the summit plateau led us over AINA Pass and down the King Trench route. Ultimately the Quintino Sella Glacier delivered us to the Bagley Icefield in Alaska, where a bush pilot picked us up after we had been out for 30 days. We were storm-bound on the summit plateau for eight days. The incredible 13,000-vertical-foot descent on skis from below King Col, which took two days, made the psychologically draining days in snow caves and the physical hardship of triple and double carries up the east ridge seem far removed.

PETER DEA, *Green Duck Expeditions*