

Climbs and Expeditions, 1988

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METERS TO FEET

Unfortunately the American public seems still to be resisting the change from feet to meters. To assist readers from the more enlightened countries, where meters are universally used, we give the following conversion chart:

<i>meters</i>	<i>feet</i>	<i>meters</i>	<i>feet</i>	<i>meters</i>	<i>feet</i>	<i>meters</i>	<i>feet</i>
3300	10,827	4700	15,420	6100	20,013	7500	24,607
3400	11,155	4800	15,748	6200	20,342	7600	24,935
3500	11,483	4900	16,076	6300	20,670	7700	25,263
3600	11,811	5000	16,404	6400	20,998	7800	25,591
3700	12,139	5100	16,733	6500	21,326	7900	25,919
3800	12,467	5200	17,061	6600	21,654	8000	26,247
3900	12,795	5300	17,389	6700	21,982	8100	26,575
4000	13,124	5400	17,717	6800	22,310	8200	26,903
4100	13,452	5500	18,045	6900	22,638	8300	27,231
4200	13,780	5600	18,373	7000	22,966	8400	27,560
4300	14,108	5700	18,701	7100	23,294	8500	27,888
4400	14,436	5800	19,029	7200	23,622	8600	28,216
4500	14,764	5900	19,357	7300	23,951	8700	28,544
4600	15,092	6000	19,685	7400	24,279	8800	28,872

NOTE: All dates in this section refer to 1988 unless otherwise stated. Normally, accounts signed by a name alone (no club) indicate membership in the American Alpine Club.

UNITED STATES

Alaska

Denali National Park and Preserve Mountaineering Summary, 1988. For the third consecutive year, a new record was set for the number of mountaineers attempting to climb Mount McKinley. Mild weather and few major storms, combined with the increased number of attempts, allowed more successful climbers to stand on McKinley's summit than ever before. There were three solo winter attempts, of which one was successful. Vern Tejas, an Alaskan resident and McKinley guide, became the first person successfully to complete a winter ascent and return. Tejas climbed the West Buttress route, spending nearly a month on the project. He had very unsettled weather with day after day of low pressure systems bringing snow and poor visibility. This same low pressure also brought unusually mild temperatures. Tejas reported his lowest temperature about -20° F. The High Latitude Research Project received funding and was in full operation. The team continued research into the causes and treatments of high-altitude illness. This season, they concentrated on three major projects. 1. They tested a lightweight, portable pressure bag for the treatment of High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE). The flexible fabric bag needs no oxygen apparatus, can accommodate one person and can be pressurized with a foot pump to simulate a decrease of altitude. Researchers found the bag to be as effective in the treatment of HAPE as low-flow oxygen. 2. They examined the effect of vasodilation drugs on HAPE victims. Initial testing was quite promising and future study will likely result in an effective medication for HAPE. To date, no drug has proven effective for the emergency treatment of HAPE. 3. Researchers examined the neurological basis of Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS). Brain blood flow was measured to examine its role in AMS. Oxygen delivery to the brain appears to be a critical factor. Breathing of either oxygen or low concentrations of carbon dioxide are both effective in treating high-altitude headaches. New techniques allowed measurements of brain blood flow and pulmonary artery pressures using nonevasive instruments.

Despite the record number of climbers, there were only 12 search-and-rescue incidents. Two were helicopter hoist operations from 18,000 feet on the Cassin Ridge. The National Park service conducted three, three-week patrols on Mount McKinley, as well as numerous patrols into other areas of the Alaska Range. We continue to staff a ranger station in Talkeetna, where mountaineers register for McKinley and Foraker. A strong emphasis is placed upon the importance of environmentally sound expeditionary climbing and sanitation techniques. Additionally, climbers are encouraged to remain self-sufficient and to conduct their own evacuations whenever possible.

Interesting Statistics. In 1988, new records were set for the number of persons attempting to climb Mount McKinley: 1978=539; 1979=533; 1980=659; 1981=612; 1982=696; 1983=709; 1984=695; 1985=645; 1986=755; 1987=817; 1988=916. *Success rate:* 562 (61%) of those attempting the summit of McKinley, including 15 to the North Summit, were successful. This is the

second consecutive year when no one has reached the summit of Foraker. Only two out of 14 people attempting Mount Hunter reached the summit. *Record number of climbers on McKinley during a given week:* A new all-time high of 326 climbers were on the slopes of McKinley for the week ending June 4. *Acute Mountain Sickness:* 103 (11%) had symptoms. Of these 56 (6%) were mild, 33 (4%) were moderate and 14 (2%) were severe. The High Latitude Research Project reported 12 life-threatening cases of HAPE in 1988. *Frostbite:* 38 (4%) reported some degree of frostbite. Of these 7 (1%) required hospitalization. *West Buttress Route:* 782 (85%) of the climbers on Mount McKinley were on the popular West Buttress. This is the highest percentage we have recorded in recent years. *Soloists:* 17 persons registered for solo climbs this year. A number were able to team up with other groups once they got to the mountain. One soloist disappeared and is presumed to have died on Mount McKinley. *Mountain guiding:* 300 (29%) of the climbers on Mount McKinley traveled with one of the authorized guiding companies. The overall success rate of the guided groups was 63%. Most of these trips occurred on the West Buttress, but others attempted the Muldrow, West Rib, Cassin Ridge and South Buttress. *Foreign climbers:* 329 (36%) of the climbers on McKinley were from foreign countries. 21 nationalities were represented: Austria 14; Australia 2; Canada 31; Chile 4; France 26; Germany 48; Holland 5; Hong Kong 5; Hungary 8; Italy 5; Japan 50; Korea 27; Mexico 9; Norway 9; New Zealand 6; Poland 3; Russia 1; Spain 22; Sweden 3; Switzerland 34; United Kingdom 17. *Ascent rates:* Foreign climbers continue to ascend at a faster rate than is generally recommended to allow proper acclimatization. This year on the West Buttress route, foreigners averaged 11.25 days to reach the summit, whereas Americans averaged 15 days.

New Routes: Mount McKinley: complete Pioneer Ridge; variation on the Japanese Ramp on the South Buttress. Eye Tooth. East faces of Dickey and Barrill. East face of Royal Tower in Little Switzerland. All these are covered in articles or in the *Climbs and Expeditions* section.

Accidents: *Fall, broken leg, evacuated by own group:* On May 9, ten Koreans were descending from the West Buttress. They tried to traverse around Windy Corner in high winds. One rope team slipped and was able to arrest its fall, but one of the members broke his right ankle. This was splinted by a physician from another expedition and the injured man's team sledged him to Base Camp, where an air taxi operator flew him back to Talkeetna. *Frostbite, no rescue:* On May 9, three Frenchmen left High Camp for the summit on the West Buttress route. One left camp with cold feet and after an hour, felt nothing. Assuming his feet had warmed, he continued to the summit and returned to camp about nine hours later. There, he discovered he had frostbitten all his toes. Although they were thawed in warm water, they froze again during the descent to the Research Camp the following day. Air evacuation was attempted but aborted due to poor weather. The group finally skied back to Base Camp under its own power. *Note:* He was wearing Randonnée ski boots without overboots or gaiters. This is

inadequate foot protection for the arctic environment of Mount McKinley. The ski descent after the freeze, thaw and refreeze apparently did no additional damage. *Crevasse fall, frostbite, aircraft evacuation:* On May 10, a two-person team from Hong Kong reached the top of the fixed lines at 16,200 feet on the West Buttress. The weather was deteriorating and so they continued to descend the opposite side of the fixed lines to get out of the wind. While cutting a tent platform, one lost his pack towards the Peters Glacier. He began a solo descent to retrieve it but slipped and fell into a shallow crevasse. His partner descended to help. He carried a rope and axe but was not wearing crampons. He too slipped and fell into the same crevasse. Luckily, neither was seriously injured, but with limited gear, it took them 1½ hours to extricate themselves. Both had frostbitten hands and one also froze his feet and suffered a neck injury. They returned to their tent, could not set it up in the high wind and used it as a bivouac sack for the night. In the morning, one man could not walk due to swollen feet and neck injuries. The other descended to the 14,200-foot medical camp for help. The NPS patrol responded and with the assistance of others, lowered the injured and hypothermic climber to the Research Camp. He was later flown out from 14,200 feet by fixed-wing aircraft. *Fall with injuries, helicopter rescue:* A guide for Genet Expeditions was returning from 19,500 feet on the West Buttress with two clients. They clipped into a short piece of fixed line just above Denali Pass. As the guide, who was last on the rope, unclipped from the line, he either snagged his crampons on the hard snow or was pulled off balance by one of his clients. He fell and slid 80 feet head first into rocks. He received scalp lacerations and what was later determined to be a compression fracture of a cervical vertebra. With assistance from another guided group, the guide was able to walk back to their camp at 17,200 feet. He was later evacuated by helicopter from there along with another Genet Expeditions client who was frostbitten during the following incident. *Exhaustion, hypothermia, fatality; frostbite; evacuation by helicopter.* The chief guide and three clients of the same Genet Expeditions party continued on to the summit after the party in the previous incident turned back at 19,500 feet. At the summit, one of the clients collapsed from exhaustion and quickly developed hypothermia. It was very cold and all other groups had left the upper mountain. By the time the group had assisted the exhausted woman to the 19,500-foot plateau, she was immobile and incoherent. The temperature was -20° F and the wind 20 mph. Visibility was poor because of blowing snow and failing daylight. The guide decided to bivouac, instructing the two remaining clients to dig a snow trench while he descended to retrieve additional gear from 18,500 feet. Shortly thereafter, she became unresponsive. Upon the guide's return, he determined she had no signs of life. He decided that to save the others in the party they would have to descend without her. During this incident, one of the clients frostbit his feet. He was evacuated from the 17,200-foot camp. *Twisted knee, helicopter evacuation:* On May 23, a man was descending the West Buttress at 12,000 feet. His team members, a Genet Expeditions guided party, were returning from a load carry to 13,800 feet. The man placed his foot in deep snow at the same time a rope-mate moved forward. He fell and severely

twisted his knee. Three days later, the team reached 14,200 feet. The knee slowly became worse. On May 26, he was flown off the mountain. *Possible heart attack, fixed-wing aircraft evacuation:* On May 24, a 52-year-old member of a Genet Expeditions guided party experienced symptoms of a heart attack while descending from 16,000 to 14,200 feet on the West Buttress. At the medical camp, he was placed on oxygen and given IV fluids. On May 25 he was flown to a hospital in Anchorage. Tests later showed the man had suffered from angina. *Perforated ulcer, ground evacuation:* On May 24, a 34-year-old man suffered a perforated ulcer while his party was at 11,000 feet on the West Buttress. He was able to descend without assistance to 8700 feet. There, another expedition sledged him down to Base Camp. He was flown back to Talkeetna by an air taxi operator. *Reported AMS and frostbite, helicopter evacuation:* On May 26, the Talkeetna Ranger Station received "Mayday" calls on CB radio. The reports were in Korean. Then the Koreans tried unsuccessfully to speak English. Eventually it was determined that the reporting party was with another Korean soloist at 18,000 feet on the Cassin ridge and that the soloist was suffering from altitude illness and had frostbitten a "leg" and both hands. He could not walk or use his hands. The two Koreans reporting the incident said they could not lower the man down the route. The US Army's High Altitude Rescue Team responded and on May 27 hoisted the Korean from 18,000 feet. Once examined, the Korean's injuries were far less than reported. The necessity of this operation is questionable. The Chinook helicopter conducted the highest hoist operation the Army had ever completed. This was also probably the highest hoist operation ever completed in North America. *High-altitude cerebral edema, stroke, helicopter hoist evacuation:* On June 3, the same two Koreans that had reported the previous rescue began calling for a rescue themselves. Again, communications were a major obstacle, both in translations and because the Koreans' radio batteries failed early in the rescue. They reported their position to be 19,500 feet on the Cassin Ridge. They said one of them could not walk because of imbalance. Cerebral edema was suspected, but as the days passed, his condition did not change. The weather prohibited aerial reconnaissance. A ground team was organized from the 17,200-foot camp on the West Buttress. In very poor weather, a team of three pushed to the summit ridge and placed 600 feet of line. One member descended the full length of the line and another 200 feet. From there, the Korean team could be seen far below. They had misreported their position. Eventually the Koreans descended to 18,000 feet where the Army Chinook helicopters hoisted them off the route. The ill Korean was taken to a hospital in Anchorage, where a brain scan showed signs of cerebral edema and a small stroke. During the hoist, he had also suffered a superficial flash freezing of his hands when he removed his gloves to tie into the hoist. *High-altitude pulmonary edema, helicopter evacuation:* On May 28, medical personnel at the 14,200-foot camp on the West Buttress received a report that a Japanese woman also at 14,200 feet needed assistance. When they questioned the other members of the party, they were told she was all right. The next day, following additional reports that she needed help, the medical personnel discovered she had severe

HAPE. She was placed on oxygen for three days before she was strong enough to travel on her own. This group was not able to recognize the signs of HAPE. In fact, they had left this woman with two other ill members at 14,200 feet while the rest of the team continued to climb. Both of these people had HAPE! The woman was evacuated in a Chinook helicopter that was in the area for another rescue. *Avalanche, no serious injuries:* On June 4, four Italians were descending from Kahiltna Pass to the Peters Glacier when they triggered a slab avalanche. Three of the four were caught in the slide. Two were deposited along the edge, while the third was swept into a crevasse. Most of the debris passed over the fortunate climber who was partially buried and unhurt. The group lost most of its equipment and returned to Base Camp to fly back to Talkeetna. *Search, person not found and presumed dead:* On July 10, a solo Spaniard left Base Camp to climb the West Buttress. Only several days into the climb, returning expeditions reported the soloist was asking others for food and fuel and he appeared poorly equipped. He was seen periodically until July 25. On July 29, what were believed to be his tracks were seen departing from Windy Corner at 13,200 feet and ascending the West Buttress Direct. Later search efforts located wind-eroded tracks leading to his tent at the top of the fixed ropes on the West Buttress at 16,200 feet. Virtually all his equipment was still in his tent, including stove, fuel, pot and sleeping bag. His pack was found at 17,200 feet, sitting in the middle of High Camp. It is believed that he set off for the summit without his pack and never returned. There had been an avalanche above High Camp but to the east of the normal traverse to Denali Pass. Later investigation revealed that he had not planned, prior to his arrival, to climb Mount McKinley nor did he have the experience or equipment for such an undertaking.

Trends and Items of Special Concern: *Percentage of foreigners requiring rescues:* Foreigners accounted for 36% of climbers on McKinley. Twelve required some sort of rescue effort this year. Seven (58%) were from foreign countries. One of the two fatalities was foreign. *Solo ascents:* Each year we see more climbers register for solo ascents. This year, 17 persons registered solo. Some of these were able to team up with other expeditions at least to traverse the heavily crevassed portions of the lower glaciers. The following example serves to demonstrate the hazard of solo travel. A guide returning with an ill client to Base Camp elected to picket his pack within a previously used camp on the lower glacier, accompany the ill climber and return solo to catch up with his party. When he got back to his pack several hours later, it was dangling from the picket over a huge, extremely deep crevasse. The guide swore there was no evidence of the crevasse only hours before. *Increasing use:* In 1988, climbers spent a total of more than 18,000 user days on Mount McKinley alone! Over 15,000 of them were on the West Buttress. This is approximately the same use which occurs annually on Mount Rainier. For more information, please contact me: Robert Seibert, South District, Mountaineering Ranger, PO Box 588, Talkeetna, Alaska 99676. Telephone: 907-733-2231.

ROBERT SEIBERT, *Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska*

**DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE
1988 MOUNTAINEERING SUMMARY**

	Expeditions	Climbers	Successful Climbers
<i>Mount McKinley</i>			
West Buttress	146	524	319
West Buttress (Guided)	32	258	161
Muldrow	4	12	2
Muldrow (Guided)	1	15	14
West Rib	10	25	16
West Rib (Guided)	2	14	13
Cassin	7	27	17
Cassin (Guided)	1	4	0
South Buttress	4	15	5
South Buttress (Guided)	1	9	0
Pioneer Ridge	3	8	4 (N.Peak)
Wickersham Wall	1	5	0
	212	916	551
<i>Mount Foraker</i>	1	2	0
<i>Mount Hunter</i>	5	13	2
<i>Mount Huntington</i>	1	2	0
<i>Kahitna Dome</i>	1	5	0
<i>E. Kalhitna Peak</i>	1	2	2
<i>Mount Russell</i>	1	2	0
<i>Mount Brooks</i>	1	3	3
<i>Mount Brooks (Guided)</i>	2	24	10
<i>Mount Silverthrone</i>	1	6	0
<i>Mount Silverthrone (Guided)</i>	1	19	19
<i>Mount Ragged</i>	1	4	4
<i>Little Switzerland</i>	10	43	N/A
<i>Gorge Peaks</i>	3	5	0
<i>Mount Dickey</i>	1	2	2
<i>Mount Barrille</i>	3	8	6
<i>Mooses Tooth</i>	4	14	8
<i>Mooses Tooth (Guided)</i>	1	4	0
<i>Peak 11,300</i>	4	9	0
<i>Mount Dan Beard</i>	1	4	4

NOTE: Since registration is required only for Mount McKinley and Mount Foraker climbs, statistics for other climbs represent those climbers who voluntarily checked in with the Mountaineering Rangers. Other climbs, especially in the Ruth Glacier area, are likely to have occurred.

McKinley, Solo Winter Ascent. Overcoming the usual high winds, extreme temperatures and blustering storms, Vern Tejas became the first man to climb Mount McKinley solo in winter and live to tell about it. He had previously climbed the mountain 13 times in summer. Trapped under the snow in makeshift shelters for 16 of his 30 days on the mountain, he climbed the West Buttress route from February 16 to March 15. He turned 35 years old the day after completing the climb, partially inspired by Japanese Naomi Uemura's near miss in 1984. Uemura was credited with reaching the summit but disappeared on the descent. Tejas left a small Japanese flag on the top in honor of Uemura when he reached the summit on March 7. "Naomi did this for me," said Tejas. "He made it a possibility." Tejas, who trained for the ascent by leading a climb of Aconcagua in Argentina in January, then climbing it twice more and descending once by mountain bike and once by paraglider, used a 16-foot aluminum ladder for protection crossing crevasse fields on McKinley's slopes. Only once, near the end of the climb, did he come close to crevasse danger, barely jumping across. He pulled 150 pounds of gear on a plastic sled. A stocky, 5-foot-9, powerfully built climber with a bushy beard and a shaven head, but for a wisp of a pony tail, Tejas brought no tent and only enough food for 16 days. At times when storms pinned him in one spot, he put himself on half rations. He also found an abandoned cache of food at a high camp and had additional supplies dropped to him by bush-pilot Lowell Thomas, Jr. "I probably had five sunny days," said Tejas. "One of them was the day I flew in and another when I flew out." During the time spent in his snow caves, Tejas amused himself by playing the harmonica and listening to Alaska Public Radio by transistor radio. Denali National Park rangers estimated that Tejas faced weather comparable to the original winter summit party's stormy climb in 1967 — temperatures as low as -40° and winds that drove the windchill factor to colder than -100° . "I didn't realize my climbing would go beyond the climbing community and touch so many people in Alaska," said Tejas. "This has been the greatest reward from the climb."

LEWIS FREEDMAN, *Sports Editor, Anchorage Daily News, Alaska*

McKinley, South Buttress Alternate. Our route may be a valuable alternative for attaining the crest of the South Buttress from the Kahiltna east fork. Our choice was based upon a desire to avoid the objective avalanche hazards to be found on the Japanese Ramp. Bill Alexander, John Chaklos, Chuck Crago, Zach Etheridge and I were landed on the strip on the southeast fork of the Kahiltna on May 1. We established a camp below Kahiltna Notch on May 10 and from that vantage point we could observe the well-known Japanese Ramp as well as a broad rib farther southeast, which appeared less threatened by séracs. Its pronounced crest, as opposed to the almost bowl-like concavity of the Ramp route, might also give us protection from slab avalanches. A band of séracs at the start of our spur was the first obstacle. Steep ice, crevasses and some route-finding resolved the problem. A camp midway up the spur at 14,500 feet was

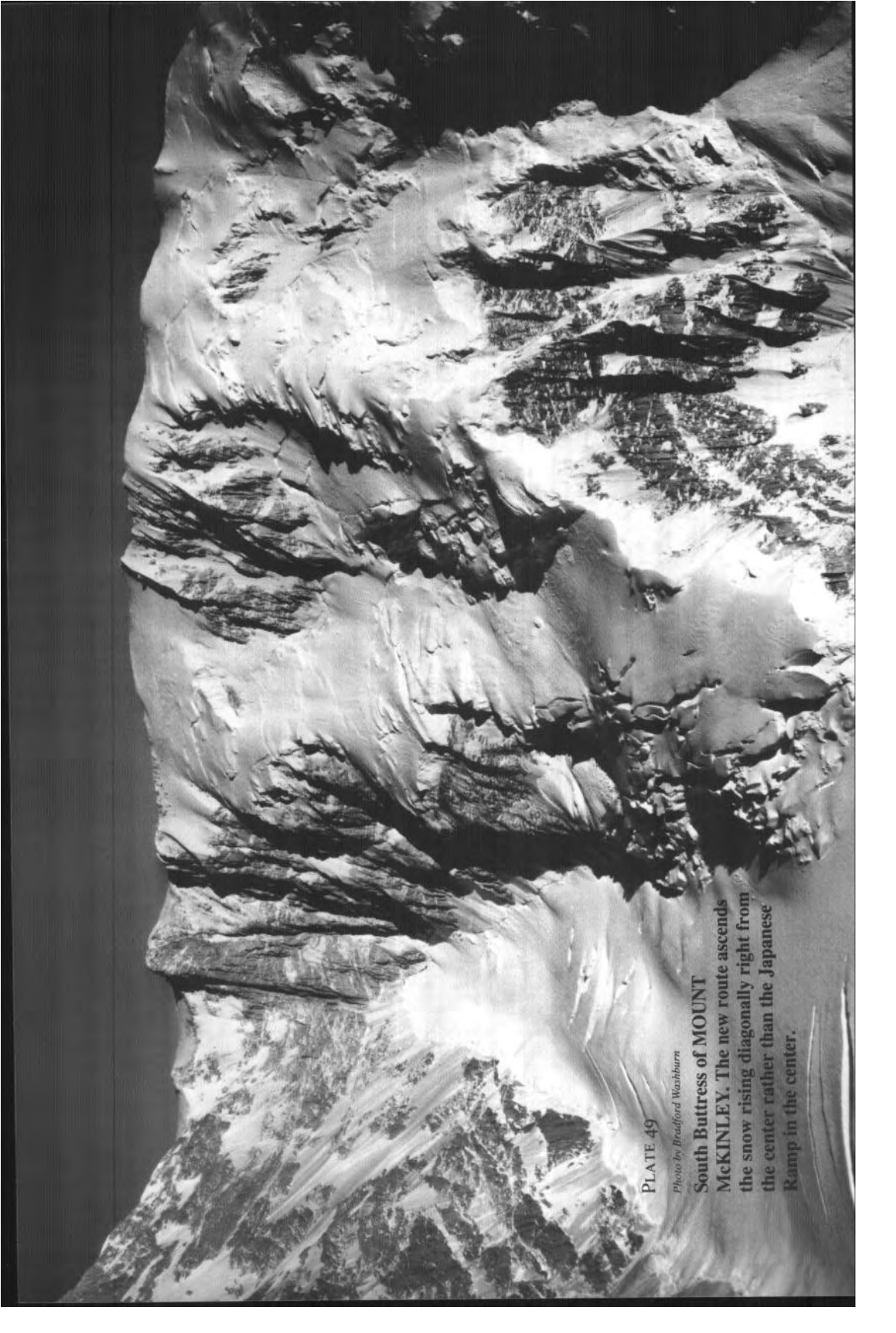


PLATE 49

Photo by Bradford Washburn

**South Buttress of MOUNT
McKINLEY.** The new route ascends
the snow rising diagonally right from
the center rather than the Japanese
Ramp in the center.

made beneath an enormous ice block adrift on the snow slope. From there, the final sérac band at 15,000 feet was the major question before attaining the crest of the South Buttress. We carried through this obstacle on May 18 and continued along the buttress to an exposed campsite at the top of the Japanese Ramp. We then followed the regular route directly from Thayer Col to the summit ridge, reaching the summit on May 24. We believe our route was safer, though perhaps more difficult, than the Japanese Ramp.

ANDREW CARSON

Scott Peak, Northwest Face. On August 24, Mark Stasic and I climbed a new route on the northwest face of Scott Peak (2691 meters, 8828 feet). This route runs from 6500 to 8500 feet and tops out on the ridge between Scott Peak and its subsidiary summit to the east-northeast. It was mostly grey ice between 40° and 50°; the last two pitches were 60° and required intermediate protection with a two-foot cornice at the top of the route. We climbed from Base Camp at 5400 feet on the Toklat Glacier, 12 miles from the Toklat Road Camp on the Park Road.

CLIFF BEAVER, *National Park Service*

Royal Tower, North Face, and Other Climbs, Little Switzerland. Bill McKenna and I spent nine days at the end of May in Little Switzerland on the Pica Glacier. We established a new route on the north face of the Royal Tower and did a few other hard new rock climbs. On the Royal Tower, we climbed the central couloir which splits the two rock faces. Starting at nine P.M., we climbed through the night with the midnight sun. The 50° to 60° 1800-foot-high couloir dead-ended in a rock headwall. Hugging the right side of the headwall, we found six pitches of beautiful mixed climbing. There were two cruxes, a tricky verglas-coated chimney just above where we left the couloir and a section below the summit ridge with loose snow over rotten rock. We rappelled to the couloir, which we down-climbed. The whole climb took 16 hours. Another good route was *Maneater* (5.10b) on the right corner of the Throne, which had a 130-foot, 3-inch arching crack. We found short approaches and high-quality rock on two small crags south of the Throne. We repeated many routes and established a few other new ones.

JAMES SWEENEY, *Homer, Alaska*

Mount Hayes, East Face. In April, Tom Walter and I flew to the Alaska Range to try a new route on the unclimbed 6400-foot east face of Mount Hayes (4216 meters, 13,832 feet). The face consisted of 50% snow and 50% blue ice, much more of the latter than we expected. The angle varied from 45° to 65° with occasional steeper rock bands. We climbed roped but opted to ascend without placing protection for the sake of speed. Initially, we planned on climbing about 3500 feet to the major rock band that cuts across the face at 10,900 feet and

bivouac on the rocks before finishing the remaining 2900 feet on the following day. Upon reaching the rock band, we were forced to continue due to the lack of a bivouac site. The blue ice ran directly into the steep rock band, eliminating any chance of carving a platform. By this time, the wind had picked up and the weather began to move in and so we pushed on hoping to find a more suitable bivouac site. The steepness and blankness of the face ultimately forced us to continue climbing into the dusk and finally to traverse off the face at 13,000 feet. We holed up in a snow cave that night and the following day while the storm raged outside. On the third day we climbed the 800 feet to the summit on the east ridge and then scurried back to the safety of our cave for the remainder of the day. The fourth day, we chose to descend the east ridge, battling 40- to 50-mph winds, in order to reach Base Camp below. Another three days of this continuous storm kept us buried in the snow cave there. When the weather finally broke, the Trident Glacier, moraine and surrounding tundra had been blown clear of snow, which made our three-day ski to the Black Rapids Roadhouse a true epic.

JOHN BAUMAN

Ragged Peak, Central Alaska Range. On August 17, Robin Bayer, Logan Colby, Scott Benson and I made the first ascent of Ragged Peak (9160 feet), via the north ridge in eight hours round-trip from the Brooks Glacier.

GREG COLLINS, *National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)*

Mount Torbert and Other Peaks, Tordrillo Mountains. Alaskans Tom Choate, Gary Lawton, Jerry Minick and I climbed in this range, which is visible from Anchorage. Lowell Thomas, Jr., one of the 1964 first-ascent party of Mount Torbert, flew us to the icecap feeding the Triumvirate Glacier on May 20. On May 21, we climbed the north peak of Torbert (11,100 feet) via the north ridge and then reached the main peak (11,413 feet) via the connecting ridge and plateau. We had to dig a snow cave for shelter on the descent and returned after 39 hours en route. After stormy weather, we made a ski ascent and descent of P 11,100 at the north end of our icecap on May 26. The next day, Choate and I climbed P 9644 via its southeast ridge, ten pitches of snow and ice. Excepting Torbert, we believe all our climbs were first ascents.

KEN ZAFREN

P 6039, P 6744, P 6855, P 6151, Chugach Mountains. On June 3, Bob Jacobs, Jeanie Nelson, Will Martin and I were dropped off by wheel-skied aircraft in an unnamed glacial valley five miles southeast of the junction of the Bremner and Tana Lobe Glaciers. Because of snow conditions we did all our climbing at night with beautiful sunsets and sunrises. On July 4, we climbed P 6039 from the south, an easy warm-up from our 3500-foot Base Camp. On June 5, we moved camp to 5200 feet across the valley to the southwest. After a

wind- and rainstorm, Jacobs, Martin and I on June 7 crossed the glacier south of us to the base of P 6744 and climbed this beautiful shark-toothed peak by its east ridge. On June 8, all four crossed the glacier again to climb P 6855 by its serpentine southwest ridge. On June 9, we returned to Base Camp and Nelson and Martin were flown out. Jacobs and I stayed to attempt P 6842 at the east end of the valley. We moved camp seven miles southeast to near a two-mile-long frozen lake. On June 11, we climbed to 4500 feet on P 6151's south ridge. Heavy fog forced us to give up P 6842, but we continued along the south ridge of P 6151 to its summit and descended the west face. On June 12, we returned to our rendezvous and were flown out. I believe these were all first ascents.

DANNY KOST, *St. Elias Alpine Guides*

P 7317 and P 6188, Thompson Ridge Area, Chugach Mountains. A joint trip by Bob Jacobs of the St. Elias Alpine Guides and Matt Culberson of the American Alpine Institute made two first ascents in June. The group of ten made Base Camp on the south side of Granite Creek and spent eight days in the region. They climbed P 7317 and P 6188, which lie on the north side of the Bagley Icefield. This is just east of the mountains climbed in 1986 by the joint Polish-St. Elias Alpine Guides expedition.

Central Brooks Range, 1985-1988. During the summers of 1985 through 1988, I and others have made several easy to moderate routes in the central Brooks Range. All routes were done in free time from work on a biological research project. The routes reported here are all one-day excursions from the only road presently traversing the Brooks Range, the pipeline haul road. Originating in Fairbanks, the relatively well maintained gravel road covers about 300 miles of classic Alaskan taiga to cross the Brooks Range at Atigun Pass. From Atigun Pass the often rutted road descends through the Atigun River gorge. Routes mentioned here, listed from south to north from the pass on both sides of the Atigun River, are reached by side canyons. The USGS *Philip Smith Mountains* quadrangle (1:250,000) covers the entire region. Approaches are straightforward, involving the normal arctic Alaska factors such as mosquitoes, tussock tundra and occasional grizzlies. Rock ranges from solid quartzite and conglomerate to terrible limestone and very foul shale. The snow and ice are most solid at "night," and the glaciers appear to be in active recession. May and June are the best summer months, while in the winter it is normally very clear. The haul road also provides a starting point for the day- or-so journey to Mount Doonerak (south of the pass at Trembley Creek) in the Gates of the Arctic National Park. Currently, a pass obtainable from the Bureau of Land Management is required to pass north of Atigun Pass. From Atigun Pass, the routes done so far include the following: *Left Leg Gully*: the best looking snow-and-ice gully above the glacier on the north side of P 7087 (three or four rope-lengths from the glacier); *Dan Peak* (7050 feet) is essentially a glacier slog but the upper part of

the glacier is steep enough to make a good glisade; *Castle Mountain* (7410 feet) is ascended up the crumbly southwest ridge to the extremely crumbly limestone of the turreted summit area; *Wellsung Mountain* (7610 feet) is climbed up the north-northeast ridge from the obvious notch on the ridge. It is pleasant mixed climbing on rock and ice with short rock steps to the notch. From there it is class-4 rock to the top; *Kiev* (7600+ feet) on the border of the Gates of the Arctic Park, is a long haul from Galbraith Lake to the glacier under the north face. From the glacier, I ascended the ice headwall to a point on the snowy north ridge just below the summit rocks. There was 50° ice with class-3 rock at the top. The north ridge can also be reached from the glacier to the west; *Bunny Ears* (6200+ feet, 3.2 miles northwest of Castle Mountain) were both climbed from the notch between them. There is good rock on the west side of the north ear.

KEVIN J. MURRAY

P 9875, University Range. Bob Jacobs first saw P 9875 in 1975 during an exploratory hike up the Chitstone River. The view of this peak up Toby Creek is breathtaking. The 4500-foot north face is Eiger-like in appearance but rises to a sharp, corniced summit. On September 6, I flew to Glacier Creek and hiked up to 4500 feet along the Twaharpies Glacier. The next day Jacobs flew over to check my location before he landed and began to hike up to meet me. I moved camp to 5800 feet at the foot of the icefall which flows off the east face of the peak. I then climbed through the icefall and to 7200 feet to reconnoiter. Bob arrived at camp moments after my descent. On September 8, we climbed through the icefall to my high point and then up the glacier to 8000 feet. From there we went up 45° to 50° snow and rock to join the south ridge at 9300 feet. We worked along the narrow ridge, having to cross the ridge when the cornice changed directions. The last 350 feet were up 45° snow and ice on the summit pyramid.

DANNY KOST, *St. Elias Alpine Guides*

Mount Chitina, St. Elias Mountains. On September 20, Donnie Hunton and I were dropped off at Hubert's landing strip at 2000 feet and hiked along the Chitina Glacier. September 21 and 22 were spent crossing the Chitina Glacier and moving camp to 4400 feet on the west ridge of Mount Chitina. The National Center for Earthquake Research has a solar-powered transmitter at 4800 feet on the ridge. On September 24, we climbed the low-angled snow slopes above 5700 feet to the corniced summit (2568 meters, 8424 feet). The mountain lies at the confluence of the Logan and Chitina Glaciers, 30 miles west of Mount Logan. I believe this was the first ascent of the mountain.

DANNY KOST, *St. Elias Alpine Guides*

Chilkat and Takhinsha Mountains. In June and July, Chuck Warren, Gil Dewart, Walt Price, Marty Mushkin, Ed Kerwin, Linda Bolte, George Barnett

and I visited these mountains southwest of Haines. Following a helicopter ride up the Kicking Horse River and Garrison Glacier, we landed at 5500 feet at the head of the north branch of the Davidson Glacier, near the great wall at the southeast end of the Takhinsha Mountains and just west of P 6841 in the Chilkat Range. On the occasional days of good weather, we climbed several of the nearby peaks. Mushkin, Bolte and Barnett ascended the small peak north of camp on June 24 and the rest climbed it a few days later. The next day, at the southeast end of the Takhinsha Mountains we all made the ascent of P 6300, which has a 20-foot needle for a summit. On July 2, Bolte and Barnett climbed P 6243 by the west ridge. Two attempts were made on P 6841. On June 27, the entire party was on the west end of the north face where the snow meets the cliffs of the west ridge. The snow was unstable and the badly shattered rock too dangerous for a large party and so we abandoned the climb high on the face. A second attempt was made by Bolte and Barnett on June 30. Using ropes left from the previous try, they gained the summit ridge and went a short distance toward the lower summit. Deteriorating weather late in the day forced their retreat and retrieval of the fixed ropes. We moved camp to 2900 feet on the Garrison Glacier on July 3. Kerwin and Barnett climbed P 6710 northwest of camp on July 6. Except for the last few hundred feet, their route on the south side was a long snow climb.

LAWRENCE E. NIELSEN

Washington—Cascade Mountains

Mount Stuart, Northeast Face of False Summit, Blue Moon in June. This route, climbed by James Ruch and me on June 5, ascended an obvious ice gully originating high on the Cliff Glacier, 100 meters below the start of the Ice Cliff Glacier Couloir. Three moderate rope-lengths of gully ice led to a steep dihedral where the gully narrows (AI-4) and to a pin belay below the second steep section. The next section was steep, thin and hollow for 30 meters. We belayed at the base of a snow slab. We trended left on rock holds to a steep runnel with a crack in the left wall. We belayed at a jammed ice block and climbed out left on vertical ice and up to a low-angle groove that led to the snowfield at the finish of the Ice Cliff Glacier Couloir. A seasonal route, it depends on conditions for its existence.

BOB COTTER

Big Four Mountain, Central Summit Direct. A long, though moderate, route on snow and ice. The route follows the narrow couloir that splits a buttress originating directly from the center peak of the five summits evident on the mountain. An icfall is apparent at the top of the couloir immediately below the summit. I turned the evil-looking cliff bands at the end of the Ice Caves Trail on their far right and traversed to a headwall sporting three ice runnels. I climbed the central runnel to gain the couloir proper (AI-3), which continued on at a

moderate angle, except for a short section of 80° ice. Immediately below the summit, an obligatory 20-meter vertical section had to be negotiated. I turned a second 5-meter step on the left to a spectacular snow arête leading very soon to the main summit. I soloed the route on December 19.

BOB COTTER

Prusik Peak, South Face of West Ridge. On August 3, after being stopped the previous day, Rich Romano led through the large overhangs 50 feet to the right of our 1987 route. A pitch higher in a big alcove, we crossed left of the other route, then climbed a beautiful white dihedral by a thin finger crack, gaining the west ridge (II, 5.11+). The following day, we climbed a diagonal crack system up and to the right to a belay on the southwest arête and ultimately to the west ridge (II, 5.11). On August 11, David Goland and I did a route that starts further left, in a striking right-angle dihedral. After two pitches, we were forced out of the dihedral by the lack of protection. We entered a curving slot up and right, which placed us at the base of the now familiar finger crack (II, 5.10+). The climbs are named *Double Bein*, *Keep on Belton*, and *Notley's Direct*.

FRED YACKULIC

Mount Rainier, South Tahoma Headwall, Left. On June 26, Bruce Anderson and I did this route, following an obvious gully and ramp system on the left side of the face. At about 12,600 feet, we followed a narrower gully back right, directly toward the top of the headwall. Two short rock bands in this section required piton protection. The route finishes at a corner just below Point Success. It is essential to do the route under cold conditions as most of it is subject to significant rockfall.

STEVEN C. RISSE

Liberty Bell, Southeast Corner, Freedom Rider. Bryan Burdo and I climbed this route on August 13 and 14. It follows the corner system beginning 150 feet left of Liberty Crack. After the first few moderate pitches, increasingly difficult climbing on the fourth pitch leads to exit cracks on the right, which are followed to a ledge next to Liberty Crack. After 30 feet of an open-book directly above, a spectacular traverse and step across to the left leads to crack systems. These are followed for 150 feet to a large sandy ledge, which makes a wonderfully comfortable bivouac. Next, the route ascends the Liberty Crack second-ascent party's route through Medusa's Roof. This involves some very exposed chimneying past the roof and then takes crack systems directly to the summit (IV, 5.10d).

STEVEN C. RISSE

Mount Blum. Distance and steep forest approaches have severely limited the ascents of this peak. On July 31, my brother Gordie, Steve Ollila, Eric Thorson

and I climbed the north glacier and couloir. From a camp near the 5900-foot lake northwest of the summit, we traversed below the base of the north ridge to gain the glacier. The route steepened as we climbed to the west of the icefall and again in the summit couloir, which in places reached 50°. Our reward for a good climb in a remote setting was the untimely arrival of a summit cloud, giving us views only of each other, instead of the Picket Range to the east.

CARL SKOOG

Pernod Spire. On July 10, Dave Turner and I climbed the regular route on Chablis Spire and traversed into the notch between Chablis and Pernod. Dave led one long pitch up lichen-caked rock to within 12 feet of the summit. I joined him and clipped the two aid bolts to the summit (III, 5.9 or 5.10).

ALAN KEARNEY

Mount Torment, Southwest Face. On July 24, Sue Harrington and I completed a route on the right side of the face just left of a prominent gully that drops from the south ridge. The best and hardest pitch was along a solid right-facing corner on clean rock. The day was perfect but the rock was not.

ALAN KEARNEY

P 7046, Bomber Buttress. Just south of Cutthroat Lake and due east of Cutthroat Peak is an innocuous peak with an attractive north buttress. On September 5, John Culberson, Sue Harrington and I led six mountaineering students up a ten-pitch route on the buttress. They were Don Fawcett, Ed Lizewski, Joe Reidy, Shaun Kelley, DeWayne Algott and Troy Hayes. We mainly followed the crest of the buttress to a big ledge and then traversed right and climbed a large shallow corner with a hand crack on the left side (III, 5.8.)

ALAN KEARNEY

Chianti Spire, East Face. On September 8, John Culberson, Shaun Kelley and I climbed a route on Chianti Spire that begins directly below the summit. The climb follows a long left-leaning ramp up into a left-facing corner and an off-width crack. Three more pitches led up, crossing Rebel Yell, and finally gained the notch between Burgundy Spire and Chianti. A short pitch led to the summit up the normal route (III, 5.9).

ALAN KEARNEY

Dragontail Peak, Northwest Face Variant. On June 19, after a cold storm, Robert Cotter and I climbed Dragontail Peak in icy conditions. We ascended ice runnels and snowfields and a long rock pitch onto the northwest-face route to

Ball Bearing Amphitheater. The rock pitch was hard, sometimes wet and run out. Instead of heading right onto Serpentine Arête, we finished in the long, ice-filled corner to the right of the spectacular slab known as the Fin. Throughout the route, the ice runnels were very narrow but always thick enough for good tool placements (AI-3).

MARK BEBIE

Hozomeen, Southeast Buttress of South Peak. Dave Adams, Don Goodman, John Petroske and I climbed this new route on June 25 and 26. We approached from the Lightning Creek trailhead at Ross Lake, hiking east to just beyond Willow Lake, where we left the trail. We bashed our way through a tangle of timber and avalanche debris east to a deep ravine. Steep dirt and brush on the far side brought us to open timber on the broad shoulder which sweeps to the south from the south peak. We ascended this to meadows at 5000 feet. We bypassed cliff bands to the west and gained the 6200-foot saddle on the ridge directly below the southeast buttress after six hours of travel. We bivouacked there. The next morning, we headed up the divided buttress. The eastern portion is an extension of the ridge. Bench systems cut diagonally across this buttress. We climbed the most prominent of these. This 700-foot-high lower east buttress leads to a vertical headwall which is bounded on the right by the sheer east face. From there, we crossed left into the gully that splits the lower buttress and traversed to the left on detrius-covered slabs and steep heather to gain the obvious flat shoulder, the crest of the western half of the lower buttress. We roped there and climbed straight up until we had to traverse to the right to gain a ramp system that rises diagonally to the left. This ramp ends at a steep, loose chimney (5.6), which we climbed to a belay at its top. The route then led us up a 50° dihedral for 80 feet and up to the right on gravelly slabs to a poorly protected belay stance. We then climbed to an overhang and traversed to the right under it to gain a 4th-class chimney, which took us to a small notch. The fourth pitch went to the right to the entrance of a broad, loose gully which splits the vertical upper buttress. We continued up the right side of this to a belay among large blocks. From there it was 80 feet of 4th class to the top of the gully. We scrambled the remaining 200 feet to the summit. The cruxes were the first and third pitches with the rest of the roped pitches 4th class (III, 5.6). The rock was often loose and friable. Hard hats were a must. Protection was scarce.

KENNETH JOHNSON

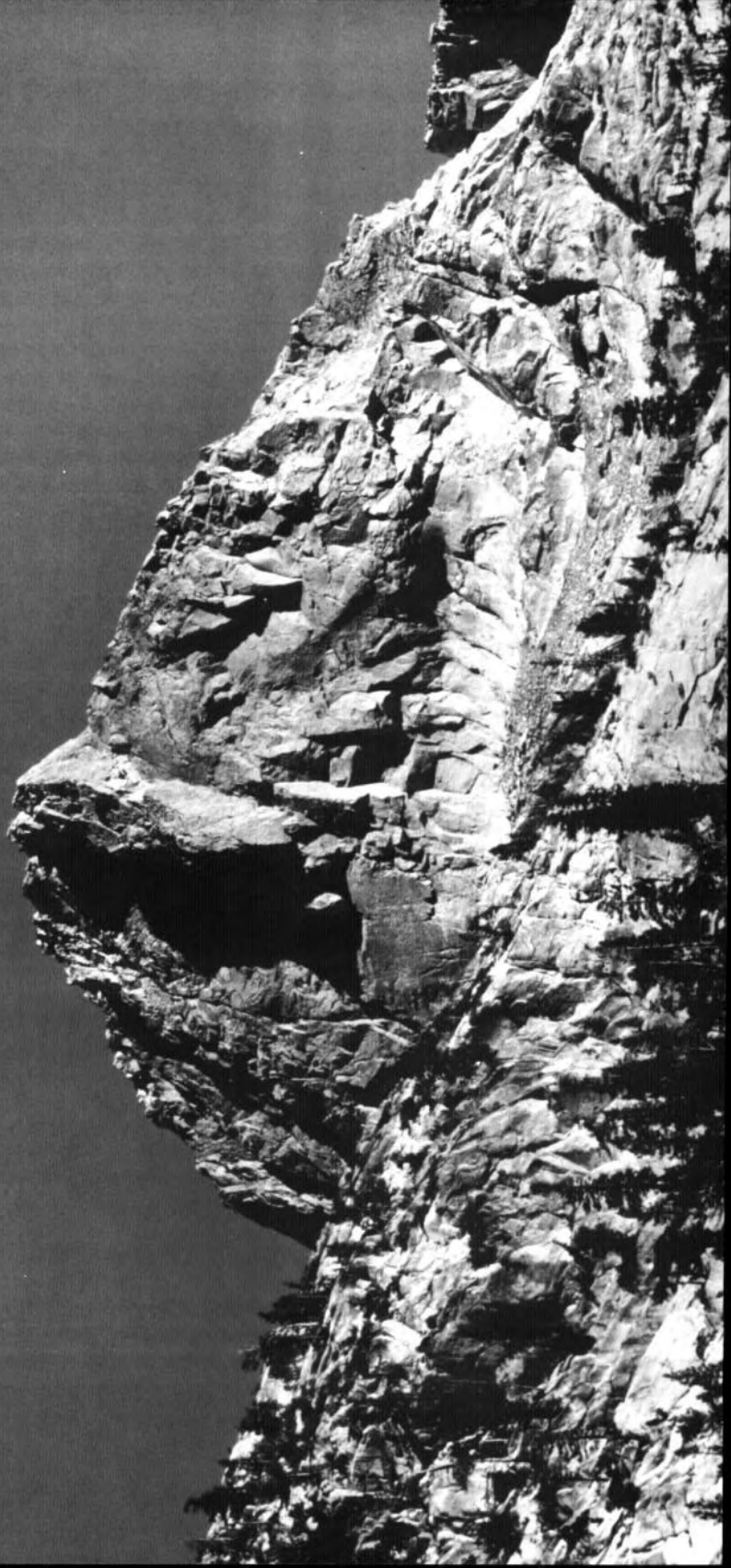
California

Rock climbs along the John Muir Trail. While working on a story for the *National Geographic*, I skied the length of the John Muir Trail in February with David Wilson and Rob Mckinlay. We saw no one for the first 160 miles and made ascents of Mount Whitney and Cathedral Peak by the easiest routes. I also noted dozens of apparently unclimbed rock walls to return to in the summer when I

PLATE 50

Photo by Gailen Rowell

“Piscator Peak,” unclimbed until 1988. Both routes ascended the prominent buttress.



planned to repeat the 211-mile trail in five segments with different companions to complete my coverage. The climbs were generally on firm Sierra granite, but one was especially unusual because the peak was virgin. Back in 1919, Francis Farquhar noted "a particularly beautiful peak that towers above the head of the canyon like another Matterhorn" in the upper Fish Creek region, a mile above what is now the Muir Trail. In an article he proposed the name *Piscator Peak*, meaning "Fisherman's Peak," because of its position above Fish Creek. Although several other of his names are in current use, current maps show the Matterhorn-like peak as unnamed. On August 15, Kevin Worrall and I began directly beneath the prominent buttress that splits the face of *Piscator Peak*, while Dick Duane and Sebastian Letemendia chose a route 200 feet to the right that gained a huge dihedral, then climbed out of it to join our route near the west summit. The rock on both routes was covered with firm knobs and plates very similar to Charlotte Dome, which is often considered to have the finest rock in the High Sierra. Both climbs are rated 5.8. The surprise came when we traversed to the main summit and found it to be previously unclimbed by any route, a great rarity these days in the Sierra. On the map *Piscator Peak* is P 11,280 +, a mile east of the Muir Trail just north of Silver Pass. Other routes on the same trail segment included the following: *Virginia Pass Crag*, Left Crack (5.10a), a 200-foot overhanging hand-crack on a prominent triangular cliff between Virginia Lake and Purple Lake, climbed by Duane, Letemendia, Worrall and me on August 14; P 11,428, above Silver Pass, "Double Barrell Right" (5.9), 600 feet, right center of east face, by Duane and me; "Double Barrell Left" (5.8), 600 feet, left side of the same face by Letemendia and Worrall, both on August 16; *Seven Gables*, 13,075 feet, Second Gable, Chimney Route. Letemendia and I ascended this 1400-foot 5.9 route on the longest face up the northeast wall, while Duane and Worrall did the Right Wall Route (5.9), both on August 18. The variety of virgin rock climbs beside this well-traveled trail was hard to believe. Even *Mount Whitney*, which I thought had been ascended from every possible direction, had a virgin northeast arête between easy chutes on the north and west sides that had no cairns on prominent gendarmes or loose rock moved away from critical handholds. On July 27, I climbed this 1200-foot, 5.7 pinnacled ridge, finding some of the finest rock anywhere in the Sierra Nevada. Near the northern end of the trail, in September, Bob Palais and I climbed a four-pitch crack route on the northeast face of *Columbia Finger*, a prominent spire near Cathedral Pass. This equaled the best in Tuolumne Meadows with pitches rated 5.10a, 5.11b, 5.10a and 5.8. The crux was a long, rounded, first-joint layback with tiny faceholds on the opposing wall. We named the route "Digital Manipulation." Opposite Mount Whitney on the western side is a peaklet between Mounts Hale and Young designated at P 12,880 + on the map. Its dead vertical southeast face of white granite is split by straight cracks that run from base to summit. The face is seen from the Muir Trail on the way from Crabtree Meadows to the summit of Mount Whitney, rising on the left side of Arctic Lake. On July 27, Pat O'Donnell and I ascended what appeared to be the easiest route, slightly left of center (IV, 5.10b). *Langille Peak*, 11,991 feet, has the largest face anywhere

PLATE 51

Photo by Galen Rowell

**Dick Duane on SEVEN GABLES,
High Sierra.**



along the Muir Trail. The left side of this 3000-foot northeast wall was climbed by Beckey and Jones in 1970. On July 14, David Wilson and I ascended a more direct, very prominent arête that leads to the south summit (IV, 5.10b). On parts of the trail, I found myself without a partner but eager to climb. In Evolution Valley, there is a conspicuous rock peak, *The Hermit*, which was first ascended by a party in July 1924 that included my mother. The final 20-foot summit block is so rarely climbed even today that the Sierra Club register is placed below it. My Mom's party threw a hemp packer's rope over the pinnacle to get to the top. In July 1988, I thought I spotted a reasonable route up the steepest part of the east face, but when I began soloing in running shoes, I found myself on 5.8 and tried to traverse left to easier climbing. Unable to find a way, I did a second 5.8 pitch and then a third. The rock was very solid with each crux a quite similar short but steep hand-crack. The summit block itself is at least 5.7. While camping on the upper basin of the King's River, I was struck by the beautiful north arête of *Vennacher Needle*, a 12,996-foot peak just south of Mather Pass. On July 12, I soloed an 800-foot 5.8 route that ascends the skyline as seen from the trail, directly above a dark, hole-like overhang near the base of the wall. Vern Clevenger and I ascended the north buttress of the west summit of *Acrodictes Peak*, a 13,183-foot peak near Baxter Pass. The 1000-foot 5.10a route was up very shattered diorite that makes it hard to recommend when so much fine rock remains unclimbed in the rest of the High Sierra. Just south of Donohue Pass is a prominent ridge at the head of Rush Creek that forces the Muir Trail to detour east before continuing into the Minaret region. On July 1, Jim Jackson and I ascended a conspicuous crack on the steepest section of this 350-foot face (5.9). Many harder routes remain to be done on either side of this one. We certainly didn't exhaust possibilities along the trail. Few, if any, technical climbers with ropes and hardware have visited areas that are several days' walk from the road. I doubt that I'll ever again have the chance to travel the whole trail with a pack train for food, climbing equipment and photo gear.

GALEN A. ROWELL

Ruby Wall. In September, Malcolm Ives and I added a third new route to this fine wall, "Wide Sargasso Sea." Our climb takes a direct line to the summit, staying right of Galen Rowell's 1982 route until the summit dihedral. Eight pitches with a delicate (5.10b) crux constitute this highly enjoyable route. Descent was made to the north into the large gully bounding the face, with four rappels.

ROBERT J. PARKER

Bear Creek Spire. In February, Bill Kerwin and I made the first winter ascent of this peak via a new route on the south face. Starting on slabby rock uphill of Rowell's routes, we took a direct line to the summit through the upper steep headwall and finished just ten feet left of the summit block (9 pitches, 5.9). The

PLATE 52

Photo by Galen Rowell

Arctic Dreams ascends Southeast Face
of P 12,880+ near Mount Whitney.



climb was done in a day from Peppermint Pass; we returned to Rock Creek that night.

ROBERT J. PARKER

Tower Peak, Northeast Face. In September, John Nye and I climbed this face via a long, shallow corner system (5 pitches, III, 5.9).

AL SWANSON

Hawk's Beak, West Face. This peak is 11,120 feet high, a quarter mile south of Kirkwood Lake. It is a crest peak, helping form the northern boundary of Yosemite National Park. It is listed in the old Smatko guide, but does not appear in the Roper edition. John Nye and I climbed the nine-pitch west face in September (III or IV, 5.9+).

AL SWANSON

Three Teeth, Southeast Tooth, Northeast Face, 1987. In September 1987, Bruce Runnals and I climbed this five-pitch route left of the original Rowell-Jones-Beckey route. All five pitches were 5.10 (III).

AL SWANSON

Moro Rock, East Face, Sequoia National Park. In June, James Cook, David Hickey and I climbed this outstanding eight-pitch route on the lower east face of this grand monolith. The line follows a two-foot-wide quartz dike for the entire route. It is interesting face climbing on steep knobs protected by an occasional bolt and tied-off knobs. On the fifth pitch after some 30 feet of free-climbing, we were faced with an ominous blank headwall, well over 90°. The next 200 feet of this headwall was overcome with some strenuous aid-climbing consisting of many rivets, a few bolts, rurps and an occasional hook or tied-off knob. Higher, free-climbing resumed after a difficult step left at the end of the last bolt ladder. The climbing remained challenging and quality the whole distance (IV, 5.10, A3). In July, David Hickey, Christy Atases and I decided to make an ascent of this wild-looking route on Moro's east side right of the other route. The first pitch and one-half had seen some attempts. We passed the old high point on our first try, finding the climbing to be quite exciting (5.10) and were left at the mercy of a huge left-facing double overhanging corner. This feature was the most prominent landmark on the route and actually was our main attraction to do the climb. Seven hours and many nuts later, I succeeded in surmounting this formidable barrier, climbing clean, except for a string of rivets past a deadly loose section. We decided to return to earth and resume the next day. Only David and I returned the following morning, Christy bowing out to enable the two of us to move faster. We continued up more steep corners (A3) and exited via a

PLATE 53

Photo by Galen Rowell

**David Wilson on the 3000-foot
Northeast Face of Langille Peak.**



diagonal crack and face-climbed to another crack higher. Only three knife-blades, one lost arrow, one copperhead, many nuts and camming devices were used. Topos can be found for most routes like these at the Lodgepole Visitor Center.

E.C. JOE

Sierra Register Committee. To carry on the work started in 1987 (see *AAJ*, 1988, pages 137-8), Mark Hoffman and I between February and April met with Dave Brower, Dick Leonard, Jules Eichorn and Hervey Voge to discuss problems which threatened the preservation and well-being of historic registers on summits. In April, Mark and I established the Sierra Register Committee. A short overview of our program follows: 1. Bolt down all Sierra Club register boxes to summits to prevent thefts; 2. Place instructional cards in all historic summit registers. The cards give the location and address of the archives: "PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE REGISTER UNTIL FULL. When it is full or clearly in peril of loss caused by the weather and elements, please mail it to Manuscripts Dept., University of California at Berkeley, Bancroft Library, Berkeley, CA 94720 so that it can be preserved in the Sierra Club Archives Mountain Summit Registers." (These files may be viewed at the Bancroft Library.); 3. Replace all deteriorated register containers with new PVC containers. Outdated register containers are tobacco cans, sardine cans, glass jars, etc. Registers which are not weather damaged or full will be left on the summit; 4. Place photocopies of original registers on the summits from which they came; 5. Have manufactured three aluminum "Sierra Club" type boxes a year to place on summits deserving such; 6. Place new registers when and wherever needed. Upgraded containers will also be left if necessary.

In our first summer at work, we were quite successful. We placed our first register box on the Eichorn Pinnacle, Cathedral Peak's western summit. There had been no register there. We placed several photocopied registers on summits, removed two 1934 registers and a 1955 register for preservation, placed two 1934s in new containers, placed five registers on summits where none were present and upgraded six more. Before taking the registers to the archives at Bancroft, we obtained three registers dating from 1897, 1910 and 1940 from climbers who had removed them as long ago as 1975 but did not know where to send them. The summer was not without tragedy. On August 11, Mark Hoffman and I were descending from Crag #8 in the Devil's Crags. Mark stepped on a refrigerator-sized talus block, which started a massive rock slide. He was carried for 150 feet down the chute before disappearing over a 50-foot cliff. Despite my summoning help, he did not survive the night. Anyone with questions, comments or offers to aid in our project should contact Sierra Register Committee, c/o Robin Ingraham, Jr., PO Box 3141, Merced, CA 95344-1141.

ROBIN INGRAHAM, JR., *Sierra Register Committee*

Utah

Indian Creek. New routes continue to be established at a fast pace on the miles of Wingate Sandstone walls of Indian Creek. Details of approach may be researched in the *Desert Rock* climbing guide or information gained by writing to Eric Bjørnstad, 137 North Main Street, Moab, Utah 84532. *Cowboys in Control* (I, 5.11a) by Tom Addison, Nathan Faulkner, Ted Lange, located in the Hart's Draw area. *Manifest Destiny* (I, 5.10c) by Addison, Brian Bailey, Faulkner, Lange, 400 yards right of Cowboys in Control. *Nomadic Alternative* (I, 5.10a) by Faulkner, Lange, Bailey, Addison, 30 feet right of Manifest Destiny. *It's a Long Way From Suburbia* (I, 5.10c), 300 yards right of Nomadic Alternative. *Crack Robot* (I, 5.10c) by Urmis Franosch, George Watson, on the west side of the creek opposite Fringe of Death Canyon. On Battle of the Bulge Buttress: *Migid Digid* (I, 5.10-) by Andy Petefish, Tom R. Chamberlain. *Fun Factory* (I, 5.10) by Jay Anderson, Will Gilmer, Keith Royester, Dave Anderson, Jingus Joe. *Stemming Ache* (I, 5.12c) by Antoine Savelli, Ace Kvale. On Supercrack Buttress: *Twilight Falcon* (I, 5.12a) by Savelli, Kvale. *Nature of the Game* (I, 5.11-) Mike Carville, Jeremy Werlin. *Chasing the Dragon* (I, 5.12-) by Carville, Werlin. Above the Dug Out Ranch: *December Winds* (I, 5.10b) by Carville, Steve Glotfelty. *Stress Puppet* (I, 5.12a) by Paul Turecki, Nancy Pfeiffer, directly right of Xmas Tree. *Stone Age* (I, 5.10a) by Turecki, 250 yards right of Cactus Flower. *Bad Ass Mama of the Desert* (I, 5.11) by Turecki, 1½ miles up the canyon directly across from the Battle of the Bulge Buttress, behind the campground. *Elephant Head* (I, 5.10) by Andrew Marquardt, in Donnelly Canyon. On Meat Wall: *Sinistra* (I, 5.11), *Meat Hooks* (I, 5.10+), *Right Arm* (I, 5.10+) all by Robert Warren, Steve Johnson, across the valley (east) from the Six Shooter Peaks.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

River Road and the Moab Area. Second in new-route activity only to the Potash Road and Long Canyon area, the River Road and Moab area experienced an unprecedented number of ascents this season. Mark Whiton, solo, climbed a variation on *Dolomite Spire* when he aided the Off Route section designated on the topo on page 148 of the *Desert Rock* climbing guide (III, 5.8, A2). The Anasazi Wall *Artist's Tears* was soloed (3rd overall ascent) by Jason Keith (IV, A4). This ascends 400 feet of overhanging Navajo Sandstone. Brad Nauman climbed *Radon Man* (I, 5.7-), a variation of Radon Daughters. This short pitch is one of the easier climbs in the desert, since most of the free climbs are in the 5.10 plus league. On the road to Canyonlands Island-in-the Sky and Dead Horse Point (State Highway 313) Rob Slater and Jim Bodenhamer climbed *Elvis Memorial Corner* (I, 5.12a). In the same area Earl Wiggins, Charlie Fowler and Katy Cassidy made the first ascent of *Class Act* (5.11-). In Little Canyon, *Bender Over Crack* (5.11a) was climbed by Steve Mesdough, Chris Haaland and Doug Frost. The route ascends a prominent overlapping two-crack system

on the second buttress system on the left as you enter Little Canyon. On the Tombstone, a second route, *Tres Gatos* (II, 5.11, A0), was put up by Cassidy and Wiggins. It is on the far right side of the west face in a shallow left-facing corner leading to a large roof. Just north of Moab, on Monitor Butte, Cassidy and Wiggins climbed the right side of *The Plank* (II, 5.9, A0). On the same landform, the team was joined by Peter Gallagher for the first free ascent of the original route. Cassidy, Wiggins and George Hurley climbed *Stand and Deliver* (II, 5.11, A0) on Merrimac Butte a few miles north of Moab. The route ascends a right-facing flake/crack in the middle of the face. On the same landform, Cassidy, Gallagher and Wiggins teamed up for the first ascent of *Keel Hauling* (II, 5.9). The route ascends an obvious left-leaning system on the south face, directly below the summit. It is the left of the two diagonal lines seen from below. *Lawnchair Lizard* (III, 5.8, A3) was put up on Aeolian Tower by Katy Cassidy, Art Wiggins and Earl Wiggins. The route starts on the north ridge of the tower. It diagonals up and right to a belay below a straight-in crack that splits the Entrada Sandstone cap-rock. In the remote Harrah Pass region south of Moab, Robert Warren and Max Kendall climbed *Attila's Thumb* (II, 5.11) on the prominent Mitten and Thumb formation visible from much of northern Canyonlands National Park. In Hatch Wash, Warren and Steve Johnson climbed two new routes on the Crows Foot formation. *The Bovine* (I, 5.10+) is just right of the Raven route ascending to the notch of the prominent Wingate tower. *Raven* (II, 5.11) is the first crack system right of Bovine on the Crows Foot. Nine new routes were established in the La Sal Mountains, southeast of Moab. They were climbed by Ken Trout, Andrea Stoughton, Paul and Linda Siebert and Sonja Paspal. They are below the first bridge reached when you drive the La Sal Mountain road south from Moab. The climbs are all in the solid 5.10 range.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

Canyonlands National Park. This preserve of 527 square miles is in the heart of the Colorado Plateau. Most of the region is remote and inaccessible to all but the most diligent wilderness explorer. Although climbing continues to gain in popularity over much of the Southwest desert, ascents in Canyonlands National Park are increasing in number at a much slower rate. Nevertheless, when *Desert Rock*, the first climbing guide to the sandstone climbs of the Colorado Plateau, was published by Chockstone Press in late February 1988, there were barely 50 routes established in the park. Now, less than a year later, the number totals better than six dozen. The following new climbs may be referenced to access information in *Desert Rock* or detailed topos, equipment lists and approach data may be obtained by writing to Eric Bjørnstad, 137 North Main Street, Moab, Utah 84532. In the Chesler Park area of the Needles district of the park, Robert A. Kookan and Al Hymer established *Crack of Many Colors* (I, 5.9). Several new routes were put up by Tom Thomas and Gil McCormick in the remote Maze district of Canyonlands. On the Pinnacle landform, the team made the first ascent of *East Tower* (5.11-) and *West Tower* (5.11-) as well as *The Little Toe*

(5.11-). These towers are designated as the Pinnacles on the Fiddler Butte USGS topographic quadrangle of the Maze. Thomas climbed *Bagpipe Butte* (II, 5.10, A3) solo. Katy Cassidy and Earl Wiggins climbed *The Grand Blast* (5.11) on the west prow of Grand View Point in the Island-in-the-Sky district of Canyonlands. Four routes were pioneered on Another World Wall, on the right before the first switchback of the Shafer Trail. The ascents made by Paul Turecki were *Poetry in Motion* (5.10c), *Objective Factor* (5.10d) and *Sweet and Sour* (5.11a). In the same region Pete Gallagher and Max Kendall climbed *Super Glob of the Desert* (5.10+). This is just east (uphill) from the park boundary fence as one approaches the park on the Potash Road (State Highway 279). The Taylor Canyon area remains popular with Moses now having been climbed over a hundred times. Charlie Fowler and Sue Wint climbed the fourth route to the impressive 600-foot summit of the tower when they did *The Promised Land* (IV, 5.10, A3+). The route ascends the formidable overhang and continues in a direct line to the summit. Between Moses and Zeus, the *Ark* was climbed via its north face by James Garrett, Dave Anderson and Will Gilmore (5.10), establishing the first ascent of the long-overlooked diminutive tower. Four routes were put up by Bret Ruckman and Gary Olsen at Point Bottom and Saddle Horse Bottom on the road from Horse Thief Trail to Taylor Canyon. *Smokin' Deal* (5.10), *Marlboro Cig* (5.10+), just right of *Smokin' Deal*, and *Seoul Games* (5.10+), a prominent west-facing dihedral above the road just right of *Marlboro Cig*. *BFE* (5.11) was also climbed by the team and is at the park boundary at Saddle Horse Bottom.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

Castle Valley. Layton Kor, with his wife Joy, teamed up with Calvin Lee and Jerry Tomasso for the 1147th ascent of *Castleton Tower*. The stout 400-foot Wingate Sandstone monolith has the distinction of being the most popular tower climb of the desert. Kor's ascent in the fall of 1988 was his first return to Castleton since his first ascent of the spire in 1961 with Huntley Ingalls. Kor has since returned a number of times to continue reviewing his visionary pioneer ascents of the formidable sandstone walls of the Southwest desert. Paul Turecki and Nancy Pfeiffer made a two-pitch variation to the north-face route (5.11c). This climbs free the original Dunn-Snively aid-route with free-climbing variations around the old aid placements. Charlie Fowler made the first free solo of Castleton Tower. A new route was put up on the *Sister Superior* group by James Garrett and Anderson (III, 5.10). It ascends the west face of the widest tower north (left) of *Sister Superior's* main summit, well left of the *Jah-man* route. Perhaps one of the most important climbs in recent years in the northern canyon country is *Ascended Yoga Masters* by George Hurley, Earl Wiggins and Katy Cassidy (III, 5.10, A0). The route ascends the southwest corner of Parriott Mesa in Castle Valley, about 20 miles east of Moab.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

Isolated Areas. In Bridges National Monument, *Bears Ears Left* and *Bears Ears Right* were climbed by Tobin Kelley (I, 5.8). The prominent landform is located south of the Abajo Mountains. The road to the Kigalia Guard Station makes for an easy approach to the north-northeast face.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

Arches National Park. The park, four miles north of Moab, has been the object of many a climber's attention since the lifting of the ban on climbing named features in 1987. On the Zippy Zebra Wall, good new routes have been added in 1988, including *Off the Couch* (I, 5.11a) that follows a left-trending crack above and to the left of Portable Trash Unit (Katy Cassidy, Earl Wiggins; February). In March, Wiggins climbed a new aid line, *Blind Assumption* (I, A1), a thin crack right of Off the Couch. To the right of this, Cassidy, Wiggins and Pete Gallagher made a new direct finish to the Dumpster, *The Whole Thing* (I, 5.11+). Several hundred feet right and around the corner, three new routes have been added. *Wind and Tire* (I, 5.10) goes up a short chimney to a hand crack (Bret Ruckman, Gary Olsen; May). A few feet to the right, *Wind, Sand and Gears* (I, 5.11+) climbs 65 feet to rappel bolts (Ruckman). *Blood, Sweat and Cars* (I, 5.11+) is an obvious crack a few feet further right (Olsen, Ruckman; May). In the Park Avenue area, several new routes have been done. On the Windmill, left of the Park Avenue south parking area, *Tilting* (III, 5.10, A2), a new 3-pitch route left of the Cinnamon Rose, was climbed by Tom Bepler and me in December. It starts in a thin crack on a big pillar and follows a hand-and-fist crack in a large dihedral. Gary Seideman and Mike Barnet climbed *I Need Friends* (I, 5.9), ¼ mile north of Park Avenue, an open-book that starts with a fist-crack and ends with a finger-crack. *Skin Deep* (I, 5.11c), one crack left of Many Miles Away, ascends a thin crack with poor protection (Ruckman, Olsen; May). Tim Coats and Ruckman made the first free ascent of the northeast arête of *Argon Tower* in the fall of 1987 (III, 5.11-; 4 pitches). Paul Turecki made the second ascent of the north face of Argon Tower (III, 5.11, A2). The first ascent was done by Layton Kor and party in 1964! *Be There or Be Talked About* (III, 5.11-, A1) on the west face of the south tower of the Three Gossips was completed by Gallagher and Bego Gerhard in April. The four pitches were mostly free climbing with a short bolt ladder to gain the summit. Turecki made a solo ascent of the ever popular *Zenyatta Entrada* on the Tower of Babel. On the same tower Jim Beyer soloed *Wanker Chop* (V, 5.8, A5), the second route right of *Zenyatta Entrada*. Bill Schmausser soloed a line between these last two, *The Secret Way* (V, 5.10, A4+). In February, Beyer soloed in 18 hours *Pele Nubian Sacrifice* (IV, 5.9, A4) on the Organ Tower, just left of the northeast-buttress route. Turecki climbed *Crosswind* (V, 5.9, A4+), which shares some pitches with the northeast-buttress route (October). On the Great Wall, to the left of Chinese Eyes, Mark Lemons, Jim Bodenhamer and Rob Slater climbed a left-facing dihedral, *Mr. Sombrero* (I, 5.11c; January). In the Windows section of the park, George Hurley, Cassidy, Wiggins, Schmausser and Chris Begue

climbed *Tonka Tower* (I, 5.8, A0; 2 pitches) via cracks in the left of the west face, south of Turret Arch. Along the Colorado River, on the Arches side, at the 1.5-mile mark of the River Road, in November Layton Kor and I climbed *The Fun Ramp* (III, 5.9, A2; 6 pitches), up an obvious left-trending ramp system.

KYLE COPELAND, *Downward Bound*

Wall Street. One air mile west of Moab is a rapidly developing new crag area known as Wall Street. It is located approximately five miles from the intersection of U.S. 191 along State 279 (the Potash Road). Easy access and magnificent scenery along the Colorado River add to the high-quality face-and-crack climbing experience. At least 20 new climbs of 5.10 or harder were made in 1988.

KYLE COPELAND, *Downward Bound*

Long Canyon Area. In Short Canyon, the first side canyon on the right in Long Canyon, on the east face of Deadman's Buttress, in May Stuart and Bret Ruckman climbed *Stewing Over Art* (I, 5.12-), a right-facing corner. In March, Katy Cassidy, Carol Petrelli and Earl Wiggins climbed *Chopper* (I, 5.10), 150 yards left of Dawn of an Error. It climbs a crack to an obvious right-facing corner. In February, Cassidy, Wiggins and Pete Gallagher climbed *Program Director* (I, 5.10), 500 feet left of Dawn of an Error, up a straight-in hand crack on the right wall of an open-book. In April, Stuart and Bret Ruckman ascended *Gin and Tectonics* (III, 5.11+), 1.2 miles up the canyon on the right side. This three-pitch climb starts in an overhanging corner and ends with a hand crack. The same pair in October climbed *Peccadillo* (I, 5.11-), on the same wall, 200 yards west. This two-pitch route boasts a 150-foot hand crack on the second pitch. *No More Tears* (I, 5.11-), north and above the first switchback in the canyon, is a perfect hand crack (Bret and Judy Ruckman; May). *Texas Two Step* (I, 5.10) was climbed by Chris and Tim Begue. It is 50 yards left of Tequila Sunrise on Maverick Buttress and ascends a hand-and-fist crack. In January, Charlie Fowler and party ascended *OK Corral* (I, 5.10b), several hundred yards left of Maverick Buttress, up a left-facing corner. *Doc Holliday*, (I, 5.11a), was top-roped by Charlie Fowler in January. It is a variant of the above route up a thin crack. Stuart and Bret Ruckman climbed a good hand crack, *Hand Delivery* (I, 5.11+), .8 of a mile up the south side of the canyon in May.

KYLE COPELAND, *Downward Bound*

Rainbow Wall, Red Rocks. Layton Kor and I spent two days putting up five pitches on the Rainbow Wall, three of them free. The third has one bolt and later we freed this. Pitch 5 had some tricky nailing. We retreated to get more pins and bolts because of a blank section ahead. We returned with Alison Sheets and took three more days to reach the top of this new route. Layton finished nailing an awkward arch and traversed left to a ledge on Pitch 5. Alison did a great job of

leading Pitch 6, a long thin free face. Pitch 7 involved more nailing and from there we could climb free (V to VI-, 5.10, A3). There were excellent bivvy ledges at the top of Pitches 4 and 8.

SIBYLLE HECHTEL

Arizona

Navajolands. Although climbing in the Navajo Indian Reservation is still discouraged, it is hoped that selective areas not sacred or near a native dwelling may soon be designated acceptable to ascents with an ecologically sound approach. In 1987 Kyle Copeland and Alison Sheets climbed to within 100 feet of the summit of *The Rabbit* in Monument Valley. In February 1988, Copeland returned with Marc Hirt to be the first team to stand on the summit of this desert giant (IV, 5.10, A3). In the spring, John Middendorf and Alan Humphreys made the first ascent of *Rooster Rock* via the northwest face (II, 5.9, A1). This is located ten miles southeast of the Monument Valley Tribal Visitors Center and is clearly visible east of the Totem Pole. Twenty years previously Fred Beckey and I were stormed off an attempt. It seems incredible that such a prominent landform should not have had an ascent until this year. The higher summit of *Indian Chief* was reached for the first time by the Arizona climbers known as the Bandidos. The seemingly impossible rift at the top of the lower summit was breached with an innovative pitch involving the use of a long pole. The Bandidos are well known not only for their prolific desert ascents but also for their approaches on motor cycles and their habit of leaving a copy of *Easy Rider Magazine* (always with a topless buxom female atop a Harley Davidson) on each summit they reach.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

Colorado

Rocky Mountain National Park, New Routes. Notchtop, Southeast Face. A variation of White Room, which was first climbed by Briggs and Hamilton in 1974, *Black Curtains* goes directly over the roof avoiding the poorly protected traverse to the left. Our line is of comparable difficulty but makes a more direct, safer ascent (III, 5.11). Jack Roberts, Tim Coats and I climbed it in September. *Topnotch* is a seven-pitch climb right of White Room which starts midway between that route and the broken gully that borders that face on the right. The routes share the third belay ledge. Above that, a short pitch leads to the crux, a finger-crack in an orange headwall (III, 5.11+). It was climbed by Bret Ruckman, Tim Coats and me in September. *Cathedral Wall:* The most obvious line between the Kor Route and the Garden Wall, *Pew* in its third pitch crosses an obvious white roof, which is the crux. To climb left of a large detached flake off the fourth belay requires some caution. Tim Coats and I climbed this III, 5.9 route in September. *Spearhead, East Face:* The rest of the climbs given here

were all done in 1987. Bret Ruckman, Tim Coats and I freed *Strato Spear* (III, 5.11), a former aid route. Many tiny nuts were essential in the crux sections. *Burning Spear* (III, 5.10+) starts midway between *Strato Spear* and *The Barb* and climbs over a roof and past an obvious bolt. It crosses *The Barb* at the end of that route's 5.9 thin crack and climbs to a large belay ledge known as *Broadway*. Scary face-climbing leads off the right edge of the ledge into a prominent left-facing corner. Steve Grossman and I climbed this five-pitch route. *Barb Gnarly* starts a short distance left of *The Barb* and goes through roofs via a right-slanting crack. Above the ledge known as *Middle Earth*, it joins *The Barb* for a short distance and then goes straight up into an obvious left-facing corner (III, 5.11). It was ascended by Tim Coats and Bret Ruchman. *Barbarella* starts on the right side of *The Barb* flake. Above *Middle Earth*, it wanders up and left through some tiered overhangs, crosses *Barb Gnarly* and meets *Burning Spear* at *Broadway Ledge*. It goes off the left side of the ledge, thus crossing *Burning Spear*, and follows a thin crack above an arch, works its way up and left to meet *The Barb*, where we followed the direct 5.11 finish of that route, the logical extension of our route (III, 5.10+). Steve Grossman and I climbed it.

LARRY COATS

Mount Evans, Black Wall. From the Chicago Lakes Overlook, near Summit Lake, on the Mount Evans Highway, it is possible to see a sheer 700-foot white-granite wall, the rim of which is just over 13,000 feet. Until mid-summer, the wall is often wet, blackened by tundra melt-water dripping through cracks or off the lips of the summit roofs. Steeper than the Longs Peak Diamond, the Black Wall is so overhung that climbers are usually protected from bad weather. Being only forty miles from Denver and its huge competent climbing community, my partners and I conspired to wait until we had painstakingly rounded up all the good lines. This was probably unnecessary since hard crack-climbing and nail-ups have fallen out of vogue and no one in Colorado is interested in new routes unless they can be rappel-bolted. *Good Evans* (III, 5.10+, 5 pitches) was the first route completed through the summit roofs and was climbed by Eric Winkleman and me in 1983. This is the most pleasant route and follows a fingertips- to hand-sized crack system just left of the obvious off-width on the left side of the wall. The next summer, Dan Hare and Jeff Lowe climbed the sustained and classic 300-foot off-width, *Road Warrior* (III, 5.10+ to 5.11, 5 pitches), which merges with the summit-roof pitch on *Good Evans*. Aid routes have been done more recently and share the special quality of commitment, since it is almost impossible to back off from their hardest pitches, always found high up. *The Undertow* (IV, 5.10, A4, 5 pitches) climbs a clean roof-and-corner system just left of the Rusty Dagger dihedral. The crux involves making a string of upside-down rurps stick into the summit roof while looking at a potential zipper into the wall of a dihedral. Kirk Miller and I climbed this route in one day in 1985, assuming that Bob Culp, Layton Kor or Bill Forrest must have done the great central lines during Colorado's Golden Age. After a year, we realized that

the direct lines up the highest and most overhanging part of the Black Wall were still unclimbed. As soon as the wall dried in 1987, we began fixing ropes up the best line on the wall. Following the method of "climb high, sleep low," we spent our bivouacs at home and worked on the route during the day. *Parallel Universe* (V, 5.10r, A4, 6 pitches) was the first time Noel Childs, Kirk Miller and I had ever bagged the best line on a major cliff. Later that same summer, Peter Prandoni and I ascended the longest free line, *Coffee Achievers* (IV, 5.10+), climbing the left-leaning cracks on the buttress right of *Parallel Universe*. In September 1987, Kirk Miller and Gerry Rock climbed the last and most overhanging route to be done on the wall to date, *Rusty Dagger* (V, 5.9, A3, 6 pitches), named after the color of the dihedral that makes up the route.

KEN TROUT, *Unaffiliated*

Colorado National Monument. K.C. Baum and Tom Archibeque established three new routes on the relatively solid Wingate Sandstone of Colorado National Monument: *The Rainbow Bridge* (I, 5.11d), 35 feet right of Higher Mind Dynamics on the Lower Monument Canyon Slabs; *Circle, Square and Triangle* (I, 5.9), 150 feet right of Higher Mind Dynamics, just left of a left-facing dihedral; and *Higher Mind Dynamics* (I, 5.11b), 30 feet right of Friends Can't Be Trusted. *Friends Can't Be Trusted* (I, 5.12a) was climbed by Andy Petefish and is located 50 feet right of Dihedral Route 1. *Dewar Dihedral* (I, 5.10) was climbed by Stephen Angelini and Mack Johnson on the hike to Independence Monument.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

Escalante Canyon. Chuck Grossman and Craig Luebben climbed *Texas Finger Crack* (5.11). The route is 400 feet right of the Interiors route and ascends a prominent overhanging left-facing dihedral with an off-width crack.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

Correction. The credit for Color Plate 8 on page 89 of *AAJ, 1988* was unfortunately wrong. It should have been credited to Mark Rolofsen.

Wyoming

Winter Ascents in the Tetons. In January of 1988 Alex Lowe and I made the first winter ascent of the South Buttress Direct of Mount Moran, which took us four days. Our first day was doing the ski approach. The next two days we climbed the buttress proper in very high winds and storm. The snow conditions at the top of the buttress and continuing bad weather prevented our going to the summit via the south ridge. In January 1985, Alex Lowe and I made the second winter ascent of the north ridge of the Grand Teton. In February of that year,

Alex Lowe and Andy Carson made the first winter ascent of Laughing Lion Falls on Mount Moran. Alex Lowe and I made three other first winter ascents: Staircase Arête in February 1986, South Buttress Right of Mount Moran in December 1986 and the first complete winter ascent of the North Face of the Grand Teton in January 1987.

JACK TACKLE

CANADA

Canadian Rockies

Yamnuska, South Face and Mount Temple, North Face. Bojan Pograjc, Nejc Škov and I climbed in the Canadian Rockies from June 25 to August 4. We made two possibly new routes. The first was on the south face of Yamnuska, a 400-meter high rock face near Calgary. We climbed it on June 28 and rate it as 5.10b. The second climb, on July 1, was on the right side of the 1350-meter-high north face of Mount Temple. The route had 700 meters of ice and 370 meters of very steep rock (UIAA VII-, A2 on rock and up to 75° on ice). Having no bivouac equipment with us, we climbed it in 16 hours.

BOJAN POČKAR, *Planinska Zveza Slovenije, Yugoslavia*

Canadian Arctic

Auyuittuq National Park Report for 1988. Auyuittuq National Park Reserve experienced another busy season this year. Eleven mountaineering groups totalling 30 people from five countries visited the park for climbing and skiing activities. Some mountaineers are creating a bad reputation by leaving behind a lot of garbage and discarded climbing equipment in violation of park regulations. Though there was considerable interest in base jumping, parachuting and paragliding, these activities are prohibited in the park. A summary of the 1988 climbing season follows, the leader's name, size and nationality of the party and the objective being given: Fabrizio Defrancesco, 4 Italians, new route, the southwest ridge of Asgard South Tower; Ermanno Salvaterra, 3 Italians, Menhir's southwest ridge; Erolani Miri, 1 Italian, solo ascents of Tête Blanche's northwest ridge, Freya, Tyr, unnamed peak between Freya and Tinfoil Ridge, Sigmund traverse from southeast to northwest; Yasushi Yamanoi, 1 Japanese, solo climb of Thor's west face; Tadashi Naito, 2 Japanese, unsuccessful attempt on the Scott-Hennek route on Asgard North Tower; Steve Munsell, 4 Americans, ski traverse of Penny Icecap; Auyuittuq Warden Service, ski traverse of Nertuseq-Rundle Glacier circle and ascent of Nana via west face; Curphey, 2 Scots, route onto Penny Icecap via Highway Glacier; Earl Redfern, 4 Americans, first ascent of Asgard South Tower's west face; Will Ox, 1 American, solo climb of Thor's north face; Gallagher, 4 Americans, incomplete ascents of north



COLOR PLATE 7

Photo by Kyle Copeland

**Nancy Prichard on the Second Ascent
of *Nervous in Suburbia*, Potash Road,
Moab, Utah.**