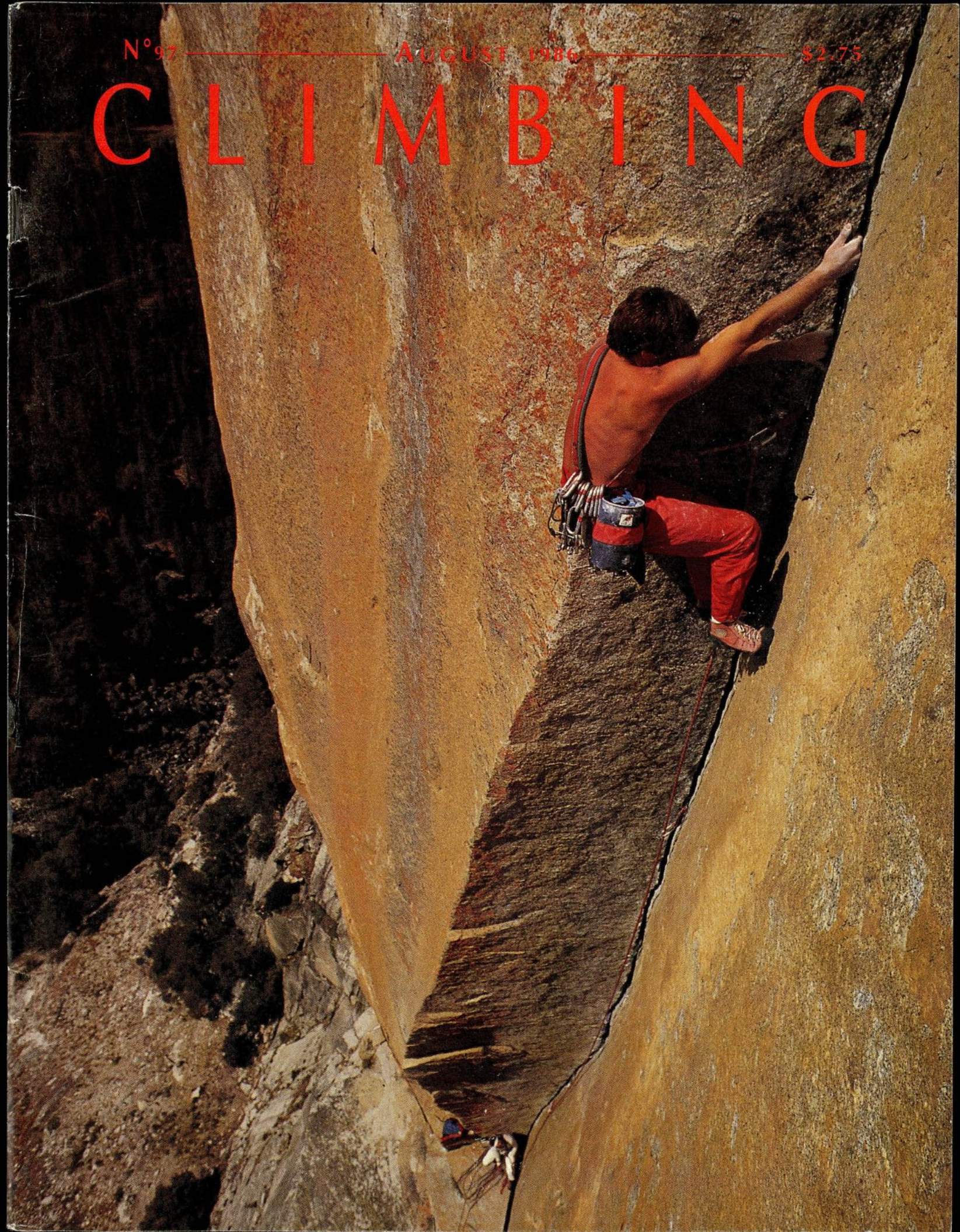


N° 97

AUGUST 1986

\$2.75

# CLIMBING





# Blue water

## SERIOUS ROPES FOR SERIOUS CLIMBS



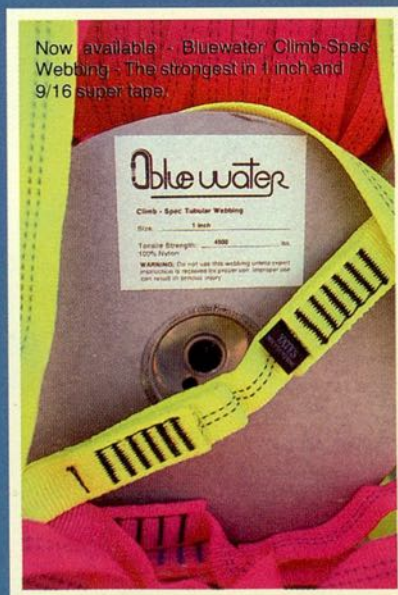
Made In U.S.A.



When you're over half a mile off the deck on an overhanging wall, things are serious. You want good equipment and the best rope money can buy. The best rope should have a high U.I.A.A. fall rating, low elongation, a good "feel", high abrasion resistance and low impact load for a "soft catch". With the help of Allied Corporation in a combined research and development project using the new Caprolan 2000 nylon together with tremendous advancements in coating processes, the new ropes from Bluewater exceed the highest standards in every category.

The people at Bluewater are very serious about making the finest climbing ropes on the market and will continue to put forth maximum effort to produce stronger, safer and more abrasion resistant ropes for the future. Make your next climbing rope a Bluewater and you will be climbing on the best.

Now available - Bluewater Climb-Spec Webbing - The strongest in 1 inch and 9/16 super tape.



209 Lovvorn Road  
Carrollton, GA 30117  
(404) 834-7515

 **ALLIED** Fibers



# CLIMBING

No 97 AUGUST 1986

## FEATURES

- 30 **Down to Earth with Ron Kauk**  
John Sherman interviews one of America's top free climbers.
- 38 **High Times & Long Walks**  
An overview of climbing in the northern Wind Rivers, by Peter Cole.
- 44 **Ophir Broke**  
Allen Pattie introduces some of Colorado's finest high country crags.
- 48 **Strangers in a Strange Land**  
A Southern crag tour, by Beth Wald.
- 52 **Ama Dablam**  
The story of a small team and a new route, by Randy Harrington.
- 58 **Yaniro Speaks**  
Dave Bingham interviews the creator of The Grand Illusion.

## DEPARTMENTS

- 3 **Editorial**
- 5 **Basecamp**
- 62 **Suppliers**
- 64 **Equipment**  
A look at thin crack protection.
- 66 **Expeditions**  
Menu planning for long trips.
- 71 **Medicine**  
Health tips for overseas travel.
- 74 **Reviews**
- 82 **Letters**
- 85 **Classified**

Cover: Ron Kauk on the 4th pitch (5.11c) of *Astronaut*, Washington's Column, Yosemite. Photo: Galen Rowell/Mountain Light.

Contents: Jeff Shrimpton on *Debutaries and Centipedes* (24), a classic Mt. Arapiles sandbag. Arapiles will be the site of an international climbing meet Oct. 26-Nov. 4, 1986; write the Victorian Climbing Club (P.O. Box 1725P, Melbourne 3001, Australia) for further information. Photo: John Sherman.



# WILD PLACES, WILD IDEAS

- Friends
- **New** .5 Friends
- Rocks
- **New** HB Nut
- **New** HB Hi-Strengths
- Microlite Karabiners
- **New** "Almost Oval" Karabiners
- **New** Moffatt Harnesses
- Littlejohn Harnesses
- **New** High Wire Chalk Bag
- And more for 1986

Available at your local mountain shop

## WILD COUNTRY USA

Box 666 ○ Seavey St. ○ North Conway NH 03860  
603-356-9316

Charlie Fowler — First Free Ascent  
Office Girls Walk The Plank (5.12+)  
Eldorado Canyon, Colorado  
Photo: Kyle Copeland



"*Climbing* will be more than a literary outlet for those who are inclined to write; it will be actively involved in the sport, seeking out the most important and interesting material and passing it on to the reader . . . we intend to cover the entire spectrum of technical climbing and hope to serve climbers in all parts of the country . . . *Climbing* intends to become the magazine of and for the rock climbers and mountaineers of this country."

(Editorial, *Climbing* #1.)

These words, penned over 16 years ago, still express our basic philosophy. Technical climbing — be it on rock or ice, on the crags or in the mountains — continues to be *Climbing's* *raison d'être*. Our first issue consisted of 24 pages of news and information, illustrated entirely in black and white; the cover price was \$.75, and a year's subscription would have set you back \$6.50.

Climbers then were often looked upon with a degree of skepticism, if not suspicion, by family and public alike, and the sport was regarded by many as an aberration, as something to be grown out of.

Although this renegade image has largely disappeared, climbing is still a very unique sport. It is a demanding, exhilarating, and ultimately satisfying game of mind and body. And whether you're working out a single move on a boulder, or stepping onto the summit of a remote Himalayan giant, the climbing experience remains as intensely personal one.

The past few years have seen an unprecedented increase in the number of active climbers. Equipment manufacturers and retailers report growth surges of up to 30%. More men and women are climbing at higher standards than ever before, and the leading edge — both in terms of mind control and pure gymnastic ability — is sharp as at any point in history. Climbing styles are incredibly diverse, and the ever-changing nature of the sport has stimulated passions both earnest and idiotic.

This excitement has also stimulated the growth of *Climbing*, and in turn, *Climbing* hopes to accurately portray the emotion, the logic, the successes, and the failures of climbing today. *Climbing* #97 is nearly four times the size of the first issue, and its 88 pages are literally packed with features, interviews, news, color photos, and information from all over the world. The price has also gone up, but it's still a remarkable bargain at \$2.75.

Our aim is simple: to entertain, enlighten, and inspire you with the best in news, commentary, features, and photography, covering all aspects of the sport in North America and the world over.

To this end, we have made a number of changes in recent months. You have undoubtedly noticed *Climbing's* new look, initiated in the June issue. We have also added pages, expanded our features, and increased the use of color. And this is just a beginning: in the coming months, *Climbing* will extend its coverage of the mountain world even further.

Over the last twelve years, Editor Michael Kennedy has been solely responsible for *Climbing's* content, and during that time the magazine has grown into a nationally recognized authority. Considering Michael's successful Himalayan record, this achievement is just short of astounding.

In June, our editorial staff doubled with the addition of John Steiger as Assistant Editor. A dozen years of cragging, authorship of a guidebook to the Tucson area, and a recent four-month climbing tour have given him a unique perspective on the evolution of climbing into the mainstream of American society. John's dedication to rock climbing and his community-oriented spirit promise to enliven future issues.

The growth of *Climbing* into one of the most respected outdoor magazines in the world could not have occurred without an excellent support staff. Joye Cole (Business Manager and Bulk Distribution) and Barbara Allen (Subscriptions) will continue to handle the less glamorous, but equally important details of cash flow, shop orders, and address changes. *Climbing's* graphic presentation, one of the best in the business, will remain in the hands of Biege Jones and Michael Kennedy.

The support of our readers, contributors, and advertisers has allowed *Climbing* to grow and improve, and thereby better serve the entire climbing community. But we need your help to truly become "the magazine of and for the rock climbers and mountaineers" of this continent. As we work to make *Climbing* a better magazine, we solicit your comments, suggestions, and criticisms, for it is only through your input that we can honestly represent climbing in all its variety.

— Bil Dunaway, Publisher

## RP Climbing Equipment

Handmade with precision and skill, all aspects of the nut have been carefully considered. Rust-resistant, durable materials are assembled in a solid and beautiful design. Since strength is an important feature of these classic wires, stainless steel wire is silver-soldered into brass, creating a solid brass wedge with no obstructive wire joints. An RP is as strong as the individual wire used, consistently breaking at the wire loop end during testing. Conventional wedges tend to break at the swage where the wires join or at the sharp bend where the wire is forced through the nut — hence before the full strength of the wire is reached.

The brass composition of the Pauligk nuts allows a more secure placement than its steel counterparts, while showing little distortion under stress. This same quality allows for the nut to absorb some of the energy of a fall when placed against small crystals and flakes, or when used in softer sandstones.



Sole Distributor for the USA  
PACIFIC CROSSING,  
P.O. Box 1076

Boulder, CO 80306

DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED

Mail Order: \$40 per set postpaid



# Our best wishes— and best equipment— go with the 1986 American K2 Expedition.

It's been called the world's most savage of mountains. And now the K2 summit is being attempted for the first time by an American team using a China approach.

The advance party left U.S.A. April 28. The schedule: base camp established by May 30 with main expedition arriving June 6, route advanced to Camp 6 (26,000 feet) by July 26, and summit attempt on August 10.

Peak 1®, as major financial and equipment sponsor, has provided tents, sleeping bags, packs, stoves, lanterns, day sacks, and outerwear for the camel caravan to base camp.

Some of this specialized gear then will go on to the foot of the great North Ridge, and perhaps even on the three-mile vertical climb over rock, snow, and ice. To the summit of K2, the second highest point on earth.

For full-color literature on Peak 1 products, write The Coleman Company, 250 North St. Francis, Wichita, KS 67202.

**Performance  
at its peak.**



## CLIMBING

Established 1970

**Publisher**  
Bil Dunaway

**Editor**  
Michael Kennedy

**Assistant Editor**  
John Steiger

**Business Manager**  
Joye Cole

**Subscriptions**  
Barbara Allen

**Bulk Distribution**  
Joye Cole

**Design Consultant**  
R. Given Jones

**Advertising**  
Michael Kennedy

CLIMBING is published six times each year, in February, April, June, August, October and December, by Mountain States Communications. Publications No. 919220, ISSN No. 0045-7159.

**Subscription rates** are \$15.00 for one year and \$28.00 for two years. Please allow up to eight weeks for the first issue. Changes of address should be sent six to eight weeks in advance to assure continuous service. Above rates are for subscriptions in the U.S., Canada and Mexico; add \$10 per year for surface postage outside North America (foreign airmail rates on request). Payable in U.S. funds only, via international money order or bank draft with U.S. routing numbers; for ease of foreign exchange, we also accept VISA and MasterCard (please include card number, expiration date and signature with order).

Manuscripts, photographs and correspondence are welcome; please contact the Editor for details. Unsolicited materials should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope for their return. CLIMBING assumes no responsibility for unsolicited materials.

Second class postage paid at Aspen, Colorado 81612 and an additional mailing office. Postmaster, please send forms 3579 and address corrections to P.O. Box E, Aspen, Colorado 81612.

Please direct correspondence to:  
CLIMBING  
P.O. Box E, 310 East Main St.  
Aspen, Colorado 81612 U.S.A.  
303-925-3414

All rights reserved. Material in this publication may not be reproduced in any form without prior permission.

Printed in the United States of America.



**National Meeting  
American Professional  
Mountain Guides Association**  
September 3 & 4, 1986

Topics include liability insurance, membership and certification, elections, future meetings and a European guides' exchange. Regional representatives from all over the country will be present, and all interested guides are urged to attend.

Accommodations are available at the Climber's Ranch for \$4 per person per night. (Contact Rick Liu, 303-733-7271).

**APMGA**, P.O. Box 59, Bishop CA 93514  
Allan Pietrasanta (619) 872-1946  
John Fischer (619) 873-5037



# BASE CAMP

Several abbreviations and terms are used to describe a route or the style of its ascent. "R" and "X" are seriousness ratings, the latter indicating virtually no protection. The use of seriousness ratings depends on the area and the correspondent; often, seriousness is not reported. "tr" indicates the route is climbed with a top-rope. "FA" and "FFA" are abbreviations for first ascent and first free ascent, respectively. "Redpoint" is used to describe an ascent where the rope is not weighted and all non-fixed protection is placed on lead. A "Flash" is an on-sight, redpoint ascent.

## ARIZONA

Spring brought a flood of new routes on **Mount Lemmon**, north of Tucson. The publication of the first guide to the area in fall 1985 brought many visitors. A number were intrigued by the Beaver Wall, an overhanging face with numerous 5.12 to 5.13 toprope problems, all established by the legendary Bob Murray. Two of these were bolted on rappel with Murray's consent, or rather, lack of objection.

The first, *Golden Beaver* (5.12c), received its initial lead by Hidetaka Suzuki and the second, *Right Tissue* (5.12c), has not yet been led without hangs. Meanwhile, Murray's most difficult line, *Zschieche's Problem* (5.13 tr), has firmly repulsed both name and local talent. Before Suzuki left to resume working on *The Gunfighter* in Hueco Tanks, he added another 5.13 toprope by climbing the left variation of the "Beaver," so far unrepeated, even by Murray!

At Chimney Rock, Bob D'Antonio freed a long standing problem, *Bashie Crack* (5.12c), after adding another bolt to the 35-foot seam, originally A-3. On the backside, Eric Fazio-Richard found *Tomorrow's Today* (5.12b). Five bolts and three fixed pins were placed on rappel and three days were required for a redpoint ascent. The rating and high quality of the line were confirmed soon after by Brad Smith.

Fazio-Rhicard dominated the first ascent scene during the spring, placing most of his fixed protection from rappel. Right of *It* in Molino Canyon, he and Steve Amter created the bolt-protected *Something Else* (5.11d). Further uproad, on the buttress right of Queso Tower, he climbed *Wish Sandwich* (5.9) with Leona Mukai. This follows a seam to the striking southwest arete.

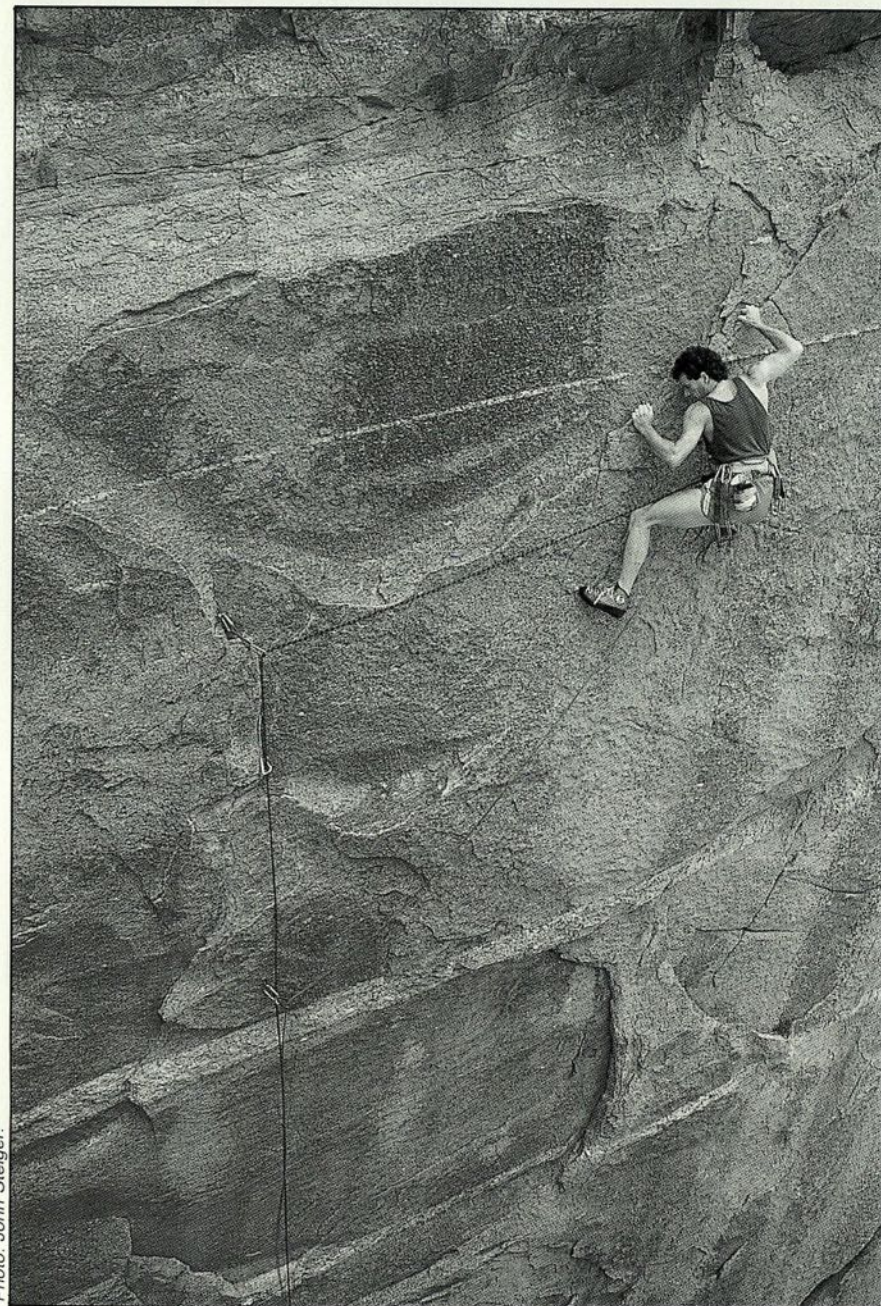


Photo: John Steiger.

Bob D'Antonio on *Tomorrow's Today* (5.12b/c).

On the Heartstone, Fazio-Rhicard and Amter found several lines, the best being *Anxious Edge* (5.10b), which starts on *Get Smart* then moves right to a crack left of the arete.

*Ghouls and Goblins* (5.11d) starts on a flake ten feet right of *Trick or Treat*, surmounts a horn then steps right, following bolts past a roof. Using the same horn and continuing up a seam, Fazio-Rhicard, this time joined by Paul Cornia and John Baker, added an alternate start to *Trick or Treat*,

christened *Tombstone* (5.10d R). Two miles uproad, on the right side of the Pharoah, *On Ramp* (5.8) was discovered by Bob Kerry.

At Lizard Rock, above Windy Point, Fazio-Rhicard added yet another desperate to the area, *Curve-Billed Thrasher* (5.11d). This climbs the first crack encountered on the approach and ends in an offwidth. At Wheeler's Wall, a newly discovered crag a mile downroad from San Pedro Vista, is the



### You're extended.

Ready to commit to the next move.

The last thing you need to think about is whether or not your pants are going to move with you.

## REACH HIGHER LIMITS



Durable climbing togs  
made functionally  
comfortable by  
construction.

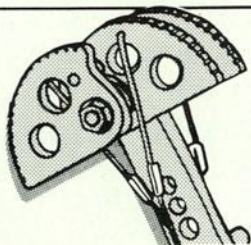
**THE SECRET:** A diamond shaped piece of fabric called a gusset is sewn into the crotch. Now an area which is key to your movement can give and move as your body does.

**CALL OR WRITE FOR FREE BROCHURE  
OR ASK YOUR LOCAL CLIMBING SHOP**

© 1986 (Patent Pending)

**KZahn Enterprises**

P.O. Box 31293, Department C  
Phoenix, AZ 85046, (602) 992-4052



## SAVE \$ AT CANADA'S LARGEST CLIMBING SHOP

Check out these prices!

	Co-op Price (Cdn.\$)	= Approx. U.S.\$*
RP's: Set of 6	28.80	21.00
Fires	76.00	56.00
Edelrid 11mm x 50m Classic	124.50	91.00
Jumars (pr)	64.50	47.00
Simond Chacal	75.00	55.00
Edelrid Ultralight Helmet	31.50	23.00

\* Based on exchange rate on March 31, 1986. (Rates may vary.)

This is just sample of our wide selection and incredibly low Co-op member prices. (Lifetime membership is \$5.) We offer prompt mail order service anywhere in (or out of) North America. We recommend using or for best exchange rate and greatest convenience.



**VANCOUVER STORE & MAIL ORDER**  
Phone (604) 872-7141 - 428 W. 8th Ave.  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5Y 1N9

**CALGARY STORE**  
112 - 11th Ave. S.E., Calgary, Alta., Canada

**TORONTO STORE**  
777 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M4W 2G6

Mail me the Co-op's 1986 catalogue plus information on joining the Co-op and our Mail Order Service.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

CODE \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: Mountain Equipment Co-op, Dept. CL, 428 W. 8th Ave., Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5Y 1N9

neoclassic *Quickdraw McGraw* (5.10b R). Eight bolts protect the pitch, located on an obvious southwest-facing wall west of the highway (FA: Fazio-Rhicard and Kerry).

Near the top of Mount Lemmon, Fazio-Rhicard led *Black Magic Woman* (5.10d), again joined by Amter. Starting at the belay for the crux pitch of *Voodoo Child*, the route climbs straight up past fixed protection, over a roof, and finishes on the *Black Quacker*.

With the season just warming up at the Reef of Rock, John Fowler and Michael Strassman evidently had *Fun* (5.8) on Poseidon, climbing flakes and corners left of *Penelope's Tapestry* for three pitches. The pair also discovered the "fourth" Sea God, Charlie the Tuna, a dome 200 feet south of the summit of Poseidon. *The Tuna* (5.9) follows an obvious crack to the Tunaing Fork (sic) and is said to be excellent.

In the northern part of the state, a significant new route was added to **Granite Mountain**. Jim Waugh, accompanied by Frank Valendo and Chris Raypole, established *Once Upon a Time* (5.12a), a four-pitch route between *Dream Weaver* and *Kingpin*. An easy approach pitch ends at the obvious ledge underneath a shallow corner system, which provides the crucial second pitch. Two more ropelengths (5.11a and 5.11b) complete the route, meeting the *Coatimundi Whiteout* at its end.

To the right, Waugh and Raypole, joined by Bill Hatcher, also freed the second pitch of *Good, Bad, & Ugly* (5.12b). After climbing the wide crack of *Karl's Korner* (5.9), they traversed left to the base of the pitch via a quartz seam (5.11b R). This enabled them to bypass the first pitch of the route, which has yet to go free.

## CALIFORNIA

New route activity in **Yosemite Valley** was especially intense this spring, due primarily to exceptional weather but also spurred on by several extremely active residents of the rescue site. Speed ascents on established routes are becoming commonplace, with several very impressive records being set. In addition to John Bachar and Peter Croft's one-day ascent of both *The Nose* and the *Northwest Face* of Half Dome (see inset), are John Middendorf and Dave Schultz's winter ascent (December 21) of the *The Nose* in 10:40 and Steve Schneider's attempt at a one-day solo ascent of the same route, making Camp 6 in just under 22 hours. All ascents without fixed ropes!

Perhaps the most challenging of the new routes is *Back to the Future* (5.12). Long-time Yosemite climber Mark Chapman introduced Ron Kauk



to this tips crack found on an obscure cliff 1000 feet below and west of Kat Pinnacle. Kauk took five tries to bag the pitch, encountering two crux sections, the second involving a serious one-finger crank. A couple hundred feet uphill and to the right of the toe of Loggerhead Buttress, Kauk also established *Lycra Virgin* (5.11d), a tips-layback problem ending at two rappel bolts 80 feet up.

Scott Cosgrove and Werner Braun claimed an all-free ascent of the *Pratt-Kelsey (N.E. Corner)* on Higher Cathedral Rock by a major variation. After attaining the halfway ledge via the *N.E. Buttress*, the pair continued up a 5.10d offwidth. The next pitch required a bolt for the crux face move (5.11d/5.12a) around a corner to the base of a spectacular wide-finger crack. A ropelength of 5.11d jamming led to the final pitch, which joins the *Crucifix* just before the 5.11d section on that route's 10th pitch.

In the quest for new routes, Walt Shipley has been one of the most active. In the Arch Rock area, Shipley and Braun discovered *Extra Credit* (5.11a), a two-pitch crack through steep orange rock up and left of *Juliette's flake*. Above *Happy Days*, Shipley, this time with Bill Russell, climbed a 5.11a wide-fist crack, subsequently dubbed the *Fist Puppet*.

Shipley also claimed *Eraser Flake* (5.11a), an obvious orange crack system just right of *My-toe-sis* in the Pat and Jack pinnacle area. Attempted several years ago by Ray Jardine, and others since, the route protects adequately with half-size camming devices, although the lead is still considered sporty. On the same crag, Dave Schultz and Kurt Smith established *Brain Bucket* (5.10d), which climbs *Tricky Fingers* for 20 feet, then strikes out right following bolts.

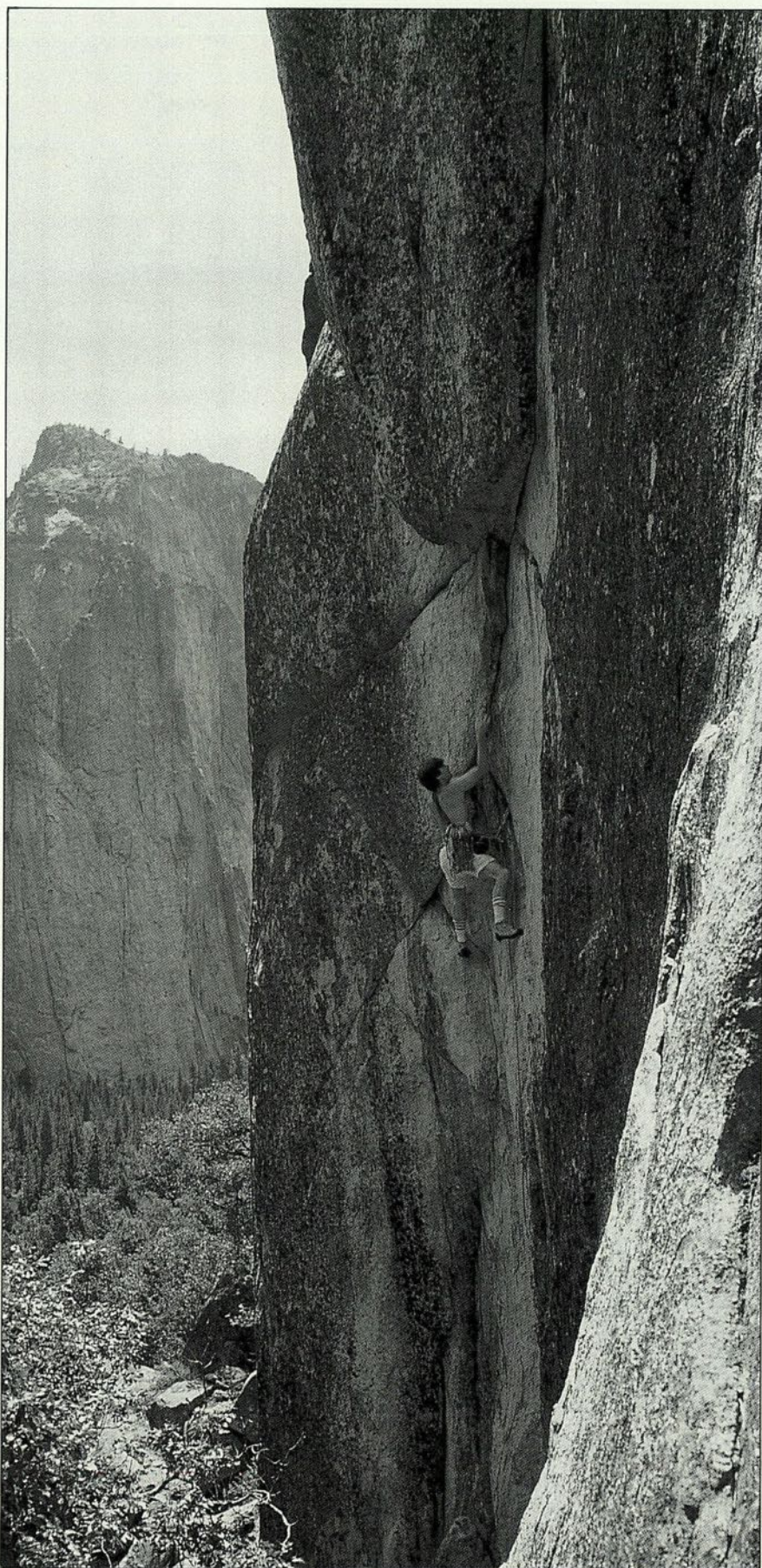
Previously unreported was Steve Schneider and Dimitri Bevi's ascent of *Miramonte* (5.10c), a two-pitch route ascending polished knobs left of *Uncertain Ending*, in the *Tales of Power* area.

Just upvalley, at the extreme upper-left margin of the Cookie Cliff, several new lines were established by Rick Cashner, Dimitri Barton, Grant Hiskes, and Dave Neilson. *Thru bein' cool* (5.10c) jams a striking thin-hands crack that starts on a knobby prow. Thirty five feet right is *Prime Time*, a 5.9 offwidth, and between the two is *Meatheads*, a 5.10c toprope up diorite knobs. The approach starts from Highway 120 and involves a rappel.

On the upper-left margin of This and That Cliff is a major right-facing corner bearing a 5.10a hand crack. *King Cobra* is also approached from Highway 120 (FA: Hiskes and Schultz).

Ron Kauk On *Lycra Virgin* (5.11d).

Photo: Kevin Worrall





## DOUBLE HEADER

### El Cap & Half Dome In a Day

It looked like any other day that morning. Sunlight was already trimming the rim and sprinkling orange highlights in the Merced, swollen with spring meltwater. *The Nose* was still in shade, its granite a cold steel blue. Bachar and Croft had just cleared the Great Roof and were flying up into the last third of the route. I watched them breeze the Pancake Flake in a manner of minutes, and was reminded of breakfast. In the hour it took me to eat, the two completed six pitches, passed two parties, and were within a few hundred feet of the summit. 9:00 am.

It wasn't exactly "just another day" in Yosemite Valley.

The trail to Half Dome was crowded with the usual spring contingent of hikers. Up over Mount Clark to the east, the day's first cumulus, a tiny fluff of white, appeared and then quickly vanished. I knew it was coming, there had been a build-up over the crest the afternoon before, and in the Sierra these patterns generally last 72 hours. When I arrived at Half Dome's shoulder, the crest was already socked in. I shuffled down to the base of the *Northwest Face*. John and Peter were already there. 1:30 p.m.

"How are you guys holding up?"

"Pretty good except for the approach. Bushwhacking, god . . ."

They went about the business of uncoiling ropes and changing shoes unhurriedly, without hint of the fact that they had just gotten off *The Nose* a few hours earlier. Seven parties were strewn across the route above.

"Nice timing, Bachar," I ventured. "Ten years to the day since the first one-day ascent of El Cap."

"What . . . today?"

"Yeah, I thought you planned it that way."

"No, I didn't know . . . Today? No kidding?" He and Peter just looked at each other and laughed. I asked them about El Cap.



*Croft and Bachar on top of Half Dome after their 20:40 marathon.*

They had begun at midnight by headlamp. No fixed ropes. By Boot Flake it became light enough to see. At one point high on the route, Croft had just left the stance, Bachar belaying. As he laybacked up a huge eight-foot flake, it started to cut away, with him still on it.

"John just jumps up and pushes it back into place, sort of like some comic-book superhero — it was funny in a way," Peter shook his head. "It could've been *real* bad though, we had just passed two parties a pitch below." He tied in, wandered up the snowpatch to the wall, and took off on the first pitch. They would climb most of the route simultaneously, John said, if passing allowed it.

I stuffed their shoes into my pack and returned to the shoulder to find a lightning storm knocking on Half Dome's summit. Air-to-air flashes cracked overhead and a light rain began to fall — I thought of John and Peter in their t-shirts.

5:30 pm. After racing across the giant summit of Half Dome, I crawl out the finger of rock that allows a full view of the face below. Bachar and Croft are sitting casually on Thank God Ledge sorting gear, the other parties huddled in rain gear on various ledges below. John starts across the 60-foot shelf and I realize there is no time to rap down for some photos. I glance forlornly at the ropes I've brought along. The sky is swarming with cumulus, but sun begins to appear as the two cruise the final pitches, landing on the summit a few minutes after 6 pm.

"Still have time for something else, you guys . . . Maybe Quarter Dome, huh?"

"Yeah John, it's early," chimes Peter. A bit of laughter, I can tell they feel pretty good. I snap some summit shots and offer bananas and shoes.

Peter to John: "You know, it really wasn't all that bad. I had thought, no way, it'll be horrendous and all . . . but it really wasn't that bad."

"Yeah man, just the slabs . . . I hate that approach, and now we have to go down 'em."

After a 15-minute rest, they begin coiling ropes and prepare to start down.

"Most everyone was pretty nice about letting us by," reflects John. "We're climbing simultaneously, and I get up to one guy at a belay who starts getting real nervous . . . 'You . . . you can't come up here!' he says. I say, 'Hey man, it'll just take a sec to climb around, besides I'm like a hundred feet out on my pro.' He looks down, goes 'Oh god!' and just jumps to the side. Most people were pretty cool about it though, it's tough when you do something like this — what're you going to do?"

We head to the cables. "Maybe we'll get a rainbow," hopes Bachar. No way, I think, the rain is quitting for sure. At the shoulder we part, they turn towards the slabs, and I take up the trail to Happy Isles. As I walk away, I overhear John murmur jokingly, "Guess I'll have to take a rest day tomorrow."

I have the trail to myself, the storm having chased everyone down. The firs are immersed in the red-orange afterglow of the storm. Although I haven't accomplished much today but a brisk day hike, I feel great — infected with the afternoon's enthusiasm. And besides, it's a beautiful evening. I round a bend, and find a double rainbow glowing brightly over Mount Clark.

**STATISTICS:** The first one-day ascent of both El Capitan and Half Dome. John Bachar and Peter Croft, May 30, 1986. 58 pitches, 16,000 feet of elevation change, 20 hours and 40 minutes.

El Capitan, *The Nose*: 10:05  
Half Dome, *Regular Northwest Face*: 4:03

— Phil Bard



In the Reed's Pinnacle area, Charles Cole and Lidija Painkiher found *Tooth or Consequences* (5.11b), an overhanging hand crack on the east-facing wall adjacent to and left of *Flatus*. The route starts on a brushy ledge 250 feet up *The Rorp*, and begins with an intimidating move around and onto the "tooth." Just left of *Lunatic Fringe*, starting atop of *Old 5.10*, is Middendorf and Tucker Tech's *Midnight Rampest* (5.10d). The route follows a ramp past two bolts to the crux lunge. Alfred Randell and Bryan Burdo added an 80-foot pitch just left of *Bongs Away*. *Survival Sampler* (5.11-) starts from the ledge below the third pitch of *Reed's Direct*. On the left side of the crag, Mike Hatchet and Ken Ariza bagged the two-pitch *Crazy Train* (5.10c). A 60-foot "jungle pitch" from the top of *Olga's Trick* is followed by 100 feet of 5.10a face, then the crux pitch up a thin-hands crack.

Downhill, on the Five and Dime Cliff, Doug McDonald succeeded on *Chump Change* (5.11d), a thin crack that eventually joins *Keystone Corner*. Two topropes were also added to the crag: *Penny Ante* (5.11d tr) takes face and a thin crack about 250 feet to the right of *Five and Dime*, and further right, *Sluglords* (5.10b tr) works up an obvious line of knobs starting from a ledge. (FA: Schultz and Barton, respectively).

Left of the *Moratorium*, Cosgrove and Shipley established a two-pitch free variation to an obscure Charlie Porter aid route, *Abazaba*. The crux is the second pitch, a 5.11c tips layback. Right of this, yet still left of the *Moratorium*, is the *End Game* (5.11b), consisting of 80 feet of improbable moves and laybacking that ends at two bolts (FA: Shipley, Tech, and Cosgrove).

A few days after *End Game* was bagged, a refrigerator-sized block crushed Cosgrove's finger when a piece pulled during an attempt on a new route nearby. One of the most talented of the younger locals, Cosgrove's absence from the Valley's first ascent scene will certainly be missed.

At the base of The Folly, Eric Kohl found *Frosted Flakes* (5.10d), just right of *Disconnected*. A couple hundred feet right of this, Shipley added *Folly-ing* (5.11c). A bolt protects moves onto a layback ramp, which leads to a desperate face section ending in solution holes and a two-bolt rap anchor.

Up on Camp 4 Wall, Shipley and Tracy Dorton's *Days of Our Lives* is a bolt-protected face leading to an undercling just right of *Chopper Flake*. High and right on the same wall is the four-pitch *Stay Free* (5.11b), a prominent right-facing, right-tending flake system (FA: Shipley and Schultz). The descent is a 150-foot rap followed by 15 minutes of downhill

## WHAT'S NEW FOR '86



## MOUNTAIN 1986 TOOLS

WE'RE IN STOCK WITH MANY EXCITING NEW PRODUCTS FOR 1986. OUR ONGOING COMMITMENT IS TO OFFER YOU THE MOST INNOVATIVE HARDWARE, CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES ON THE MARKET. AND THE HIGHEST SERVICE.

WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THINK OF US—WE'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO MEET THE EVER CHANGING NEEDS OF THE MODERN CLIMBER. WE ARE CONSTANTLY TESTING AND EVALUATING NEW TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT TO ASSURE YOUR COMPLETE SATISFACTION.

WE MAKE IT EASY...PHONE ORDERS, PERSONALIZED SERVICE, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT.

LOOK TO THE FUTURE...CLIMB WITH MOUNTAIN TOOLS.

WRITE FOR OUR SPRING 1986 CATALOG. YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT.

CALL 9-9 PST FOR ASAP ORDERS   & COD WELCOME!!!

**P.O. BOX 22788 CARMEL, CA 93922 408/625-6222**

scrambling, ending on the Yosemite Falls trail at Columbia Point. *Time to Get Wild and Loose* (5.9) is best identified as a chimney splitting white and dark rock on the far-right side of Camp 4 wall (FA: Hiskes and Middendorf).

On the Five Open Books, Jeff Hornerbrook, Mark Carpenter, and Ken Ariza produced *Beatin' Around the Bush* (5.10c), a three-pitch route starting ten feet left of *Munginella*. Two pitches of 5.10 face climbing is followed by a 5.9 crack. Another three-pitch route, *Deaf, Dumb, and Blind* (5.10a), was climbed to the right of *The Commitment*, also by Hornerbrook and Carpenter. Bolt belays and

protection bolts on the second pitch lead to the crux on the final rope length.

At the Devil's Bathtub area, the latest addition is Carpenter and Nick Arm's *Draw the Line* (5.11a), a thin crack said to be "ultra-polished." A couple hundred feet right, just left of *Face Card*, is *Poker Face* (5.10b), a Dan McDivit creation protected by bolts. Further right, between *Royal Arches Diect* and *Shakey Flakes*, Steve Gerberding established the superb *Ramblin* (5.10c), a 165-foot face pitch past eight bolts.

Below Sierra Point, Shipley and Braun grabbed the respected *Fisti-*



aspen expeditions  
rocky mountain climbing school



## Summer Is Here

We offer 2-5 day rock climbing courses at beautiful Independence Pass, as well as guided climbs on the Maroon Bells and other spectacular peaks in the Elk Mountains.

Write or call for complete information on these and our personalized guided skiing and climbing trips all over the world.

Aspen Expeditions  
Rocky Mountain Climbing School  
Director — Dick Jackson  
P.O. Box 2432, Aspen, CO 81612  
303-925-7625 — 303-925-7185



1833 PEARL ST. BOULDER CO. 303/444-2779

bule (5.11c), a sequential fist-jamming problem out a roof. The pitch, said to be Shipley's best so far this year, ends at the Sierra Point railing.

Several new routes were established on Glacier Point Apron. Ariza, Carpenter, and Mike Hatchett came up with the runout *Roller Coaster* (5.8), a three-pitch ride starting on the *Right Side of The Grack* and finishing on the third belay of *Ochre Fields*. Twenty feet right of *Letdown* is *Bark at the Moon* (5.11b) by Ariza, Carpenter, and Dave Walters. The 150-foot pitch is protected by two bolts and a fixed pin.

Up near the *Punch Bowl* area on the right side of the Apron, Eric Mayo and Brian Bennett connected *Thin White Duke* (5.10a, *Climbing* #94, #96) and *The Punchline* (5.10d, *Climbing* #94) by adding two pitches, the first up well-polished rock past three bolts (5.10d) and the second mostly 4th class with a short section of 5.9. By combining these lines, a nine-pitch route can be climbed. A variation to first pitch of *Thin White Duke* also was added. *Duke Direct* (5.10c) avoids the moderate open book of the regular start by face climbing past two bolts (FA: Bruce Morris and Bennett).

On the east side of the Widow's Tears amphitheater, McDonald and Braun teamed up to climb the four-pitch *Local Motion* (5.11d A-2). A brief section of aid is found on the second ropelength (a bolt ladder and a few hooks), which leads to the crux pitch, a horrendous fist crack requiring numerous #4 Friends.

On the wall climbing scene, a new route was established in December on Liberty Cap. The *West Buttress* (V 5.10a A-3) was climbed over a five-day period by Mike Corbett, Steve Bosque, and Fritz Fox.

Also this winter, a major rescue took place on the *South Face* of Half Dome, reminiscent of the infamous Harding-Rowell rescue in late fall of 1968. The very experienced team of Corbett, Middendorf, and Bosque were pinned down on the 13th pitch by torrential rains and high winds that eventually gave way to wet, freezing snow and occasional avalanches, which demolished two of their three portaledge. A scouting team from the Valley floor reported the condition of the climbers to be very serious, and a large rescue was immediately mobilized. At 9:00 pm, 30 members of Valley rescue left in blizzard conditions, reaching the base of the summit cables by 4:30 am, only to be kept from the top by extremely poor conditions. Several hours later a hole in the clouds appeared, just long enough to allow a naval helicopter to pull the team off! Only Corbett required hospitalization, which fortunately, was brief.

With the publication of Randy Vogel's new guide listing more than

1300 routes, **Joshua Tree** received an unprecedented amount of traffic this past season. Locals continue to eschew rappel-placed protection and hangdogging; most new routes were short, fierce topropes or bold leads.

North of Key's Corner, Mike Paul and Dick Cilley discovered an area christened The Mustang Ranch. Not much is known about this area at presstime, but several routes are reported to be JT classics; these include *Women in Cages* (5.11c), *Pretty in Pink* (5.11b), *Stable Girl* (5.11 tr), and *Mustang Ranch* (5.10+).

John Long appears to be climbing as well as ever. Joined by Dan Hersman, Long put up two routes on the Blarney Stone, located on the far-right side of the White Cliffs of Dover. *Moslems Don't Bathe* (5.10) jams a crack widening from fingers to offwidth and *Anything Goes* (5.10d) laybacks up a flake, void of protection. On the Lost Horse Wall, 50 feet right of *Are You Experienced*, he and Rob Raker found *Desperately Seeking Satchmo*, which boasts two 5.11 pitches, the latter being 5.11+.

In the Echo Rock area, a quick stroll from the ever-crowded Hidden Valley Campground, Jonny Woodward and Wally Raker established *Rule Britannia* (5.11c) to the right of *British Airways*. This crack and face climb bears three bolts, all hidden from the ground. Up and left, on the backside of the EBGB's block, is *Chow Mein De Fur* (5.11+ tr), by Mike Lechlinski. In the campground, Frank Avella and Jack Knox climbed *Spaghetti and Chili* (5.7), taking a ramp/dihedral 35 feet left of *Penelope's Walk*, on Cyclop's Rock.

In the Real Hidden Valley, Woodward managed to lead several of the top rope problems on Sports Challenge Rock. *Disco Decoy* and *Cool but Concerned*, both originally top roped by Bachar in 1980, have been renamed *Green Card* (5.11b) and *Illegal Alien* (5.11d), respectively. *Green Card* is unprotected for the first 20 feet, but *Illegal Alien* protects reasonably with RP's. On the nearby Thin Wall, Woodward, this time with Maria Cranor, also led the previously top roped *Congratulations*, renaming it the touching *Newlywed Game* (5.11b). Just outside of the real Hidden Valley, Woodward went for yet another top rope problem on lead, doing away with *Secret Agent Man* and replacing it with *Double Agent* (5.11d). One bolt, placed free, protects the start.

Another route was added to South Astro Dome, in the Wonderland of Rocks. *The Boogie Woogie Blues* (5.11c) starts from the top of *Piggie Pugg* and climbs past three bolts on the steeper rock left of *Breakfast of Champions* (FA: Woodward and Darryl Hensel).

On the overhanging pillar just west



of Saddle Rock, Scott Cosgrove free climbed *Money for Nothing* (5.12a tr), a former thin aid crack, and Skip Guerin claimed *Chicks for Free* (5.12b tr), the overhanging orange arete just to the left.

In the Split Rocks area, Lechlinski bagged *Orno Necro* (5.11+) and *Bendex Claws* (5.11a) on Future Games Rock. The former climbs difficult-to-protect grooves between *Therapeutic Tyranny* and *Exploding Brown Nodules* (Climbing #96), and the latter climbs a thin crack left of *Continuum*, by starting in a seam and climbing past a bolt.

At Indian Cove, Bob Gaines added *Face to Face* (5.11c), an edging problem between *Right V Crack* and *Linda's Crack* on the Short Wall.

One last note, Scott Franklin's "added prod to the California scene" by making the "first clean, on-sight lead of *Acid Crack* (5.13a)" (as reported in *Climbing* #95) has drawn considerable fire from the locals. Evidently the ascent was actually a multi-day siege, with protection being advanced during subsequent tries. Skip Guerin's flash (no-falls, on-sight) ascent of the route on top rope is considered to be the best ascent to date.

#### Stanford Bans Climbing

Citing aesthetic, safety, and liability concerns, officials at Stanford University, California recently banned climbing on the rough sandstone walls of campus buildings. Buildering has been popular there since the 1960's, by Bay Area residents as well as students.

Chalk marks and the visual impact of climbers clinging to the walls are objectionable to University officials. Liability may be a valid concern, but in the long history of campus buildering there are no recorded cases of injury, nor of suits being brought due to climbing accidents.

Local climber Tom Rogers has suggested a reasonable compromise: ban chalk ("Simply fine the ones who use it, and let pure pressure to the rest"). Interested parties are urged to express their opinions by writing to: Donald Kennedy, President, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305.

#### Corrections

A report was in error in *Climbing* #94 for the **Southern Sierra**. Patrick Paul was not on the complete ascent of *Silver Lining* on the fin at Castle Rock Spire as printed (p.6). Even though he did help establish the first seven pitches, credit for the complete line belongs to Ron Carson, Eve Laeger, and Herb Laeger. Also, Laeger and Paul's "traverse of Dome Rock (5.10)" (p.7) is named *Fatima and the Quivering Thigh*. This ten-pitch route has only a few moves of 5.10, but several 40-foot runouts.



ALPINE INTERNATIONAL

ADVENTURE TRAVEL & MOUNTAINEERING

Directors • Alan Burgess • Craig Ballenger

#### KHUMBU EVEREST TREK & MERA PEAK CLIMB

Discover the Nepal of your dreams from a 21,000 ft. summit.  
November 3rd to 30th, 1986

#### MOUNTAIN BIKE TREK THROUGH KASHMIR, ZANSKAR & LADAKH

Tune up your all-terrain bike for a Himalayan adventure.  
September 1st to 24th, 1986

#### MONASTERIES OF THE LOST VALLEY TREK

Step into a Himalayan culture centuries old.  
October 16th to 30th

#### BARUNTSE MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITION 23,688 FT.

Test yourself on a stunning Himalayan peak.  
April 15th to May 21st, 1987

#### ACONCAGUA MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITION 22,835 FT.

Climb the western hemisphere's highest.  
February 2nd to 26th, 1987.

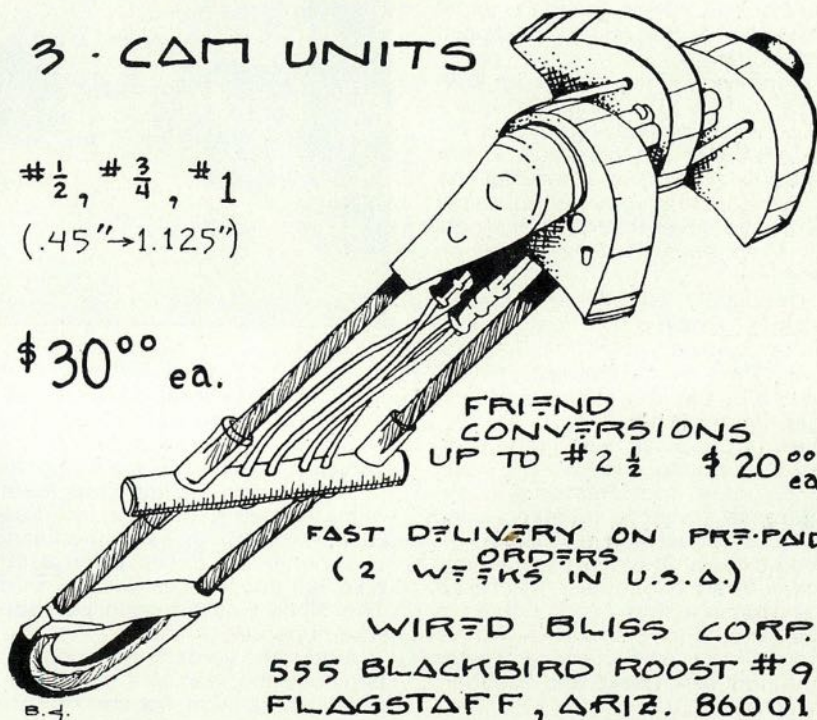
For more information, please phone or write:

Alpine International  
2630 Amy Court  
Mt. Shasta, CA 96067  
(916) 926-6208

## WIRED BLISS 3-CAM UNITS

# $\frac{1}{2}$ , # $\frac{3}{4}$ , #1  
(.45" → 1.125")

\$30<sup>00</sup> ea.



FRIEND  
CONVERSIONS  
UP TO #2 $\frac{1}{2}$  \$20<sup>00</sup> ea.

FAST DELIVERY ON PREPAID  
ORDERS  
(2 WEEKS IN U.S.A.)

WIRED BLISS CORP.  
555 BLACKBIRD ROOST #9  
FLAGSTAFF, ARIZ. 86001  
(602) 774-1798



## COLORADO

The Greyrock area, 25 miles northwest of **Fort Collins**, saw considerable action this spring. Most routes that ascend the 500-foot south face of Greyrock are moderate. Recently many difficult lines have been established on the lower sections of the face and on surrounding outcrops, primarily the work of Craig Luebben, Jim Brink, and Chuck Grossman.

On Brother Crag, a half-mile south of Greyrock and adjacent to the trail, is *Stop Smoking Sense* (5.10+). Three pitches were required for the 120-foot route, which features a thin crack, a traverse under an overhang, and an awkward wide crack through a roof (FA: Luebben and Grossman).

The north face of Greyrock bears an outstanding 160-foot finger and hand crack, christened *Sky Crack* (5.8) by Kent Wheeler and Luebben. It is suspected that the pitch may have been climbed before. Around the corner on the west face is *Fatman in a Bathtub* (5.11), named for its squirmish 15-foot roof. Luebben and Wheeler recommend wearing a pile coat!

The southwest slabs of Greyrock are divided into two tiers. On the first tier, Luebben and Brink managed the desperate *Bad Boys Bolt* (5.11+), just left of *Black Market*. The first two of several bolts were placed by hooks. Luebben, accompanied by Sari Schmetterer, also claimed *Good Girls Don't* (5.7 X), a line to the left of *Bad Boys*, starting at the lowest point of the slab.

On the second tier is the bold *Wild Streak* (5.10+ R), a Brink and Luebben concoction involving runouts before and after the only bolt. *Black Streak* (5.11 tr) takes a beautiful line just to the left and *Grey Rat Rocksicle* (5.8 R) lies several yards to the right (FA: Luebben, with Schmetterer on the latter).

Immediately left of the southwest slabs is *Roofus Dickus* (5.11), another Luebben and Grossman discovery. Easy climbing up a dihedral is followed by the crux, a roof split by a finger crack.

East of Greyrock, next to the summit trail, is a striking left-leaning finger crack. The 40-foot *Rastajam* (5.11) requires a traverse to reach good jams, but a direct start is possible (FA: Luebben and Steve Drake). Above *Rastajam* are two routes: *Treebeard* (5.11-) jams a thin crack behind a large pine, and *Grunt and Groove* (5.10+) labors up a line several yards to the right (FA: Drake and Luebben, respectively).

Below and east of Greyrock, on the Granite Breakers, Brink finally bagged *Any Which Way You Can* (5.11+) by

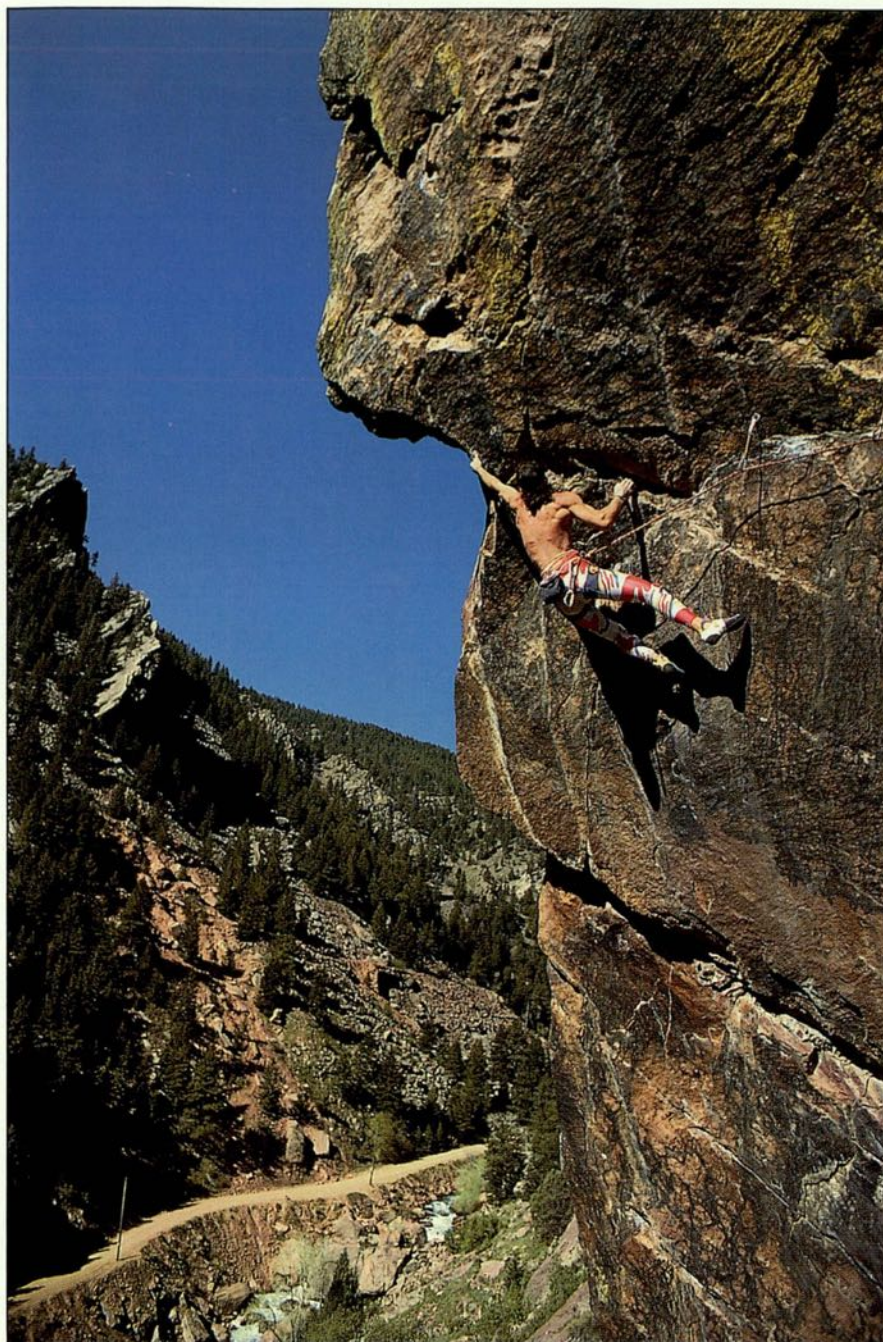


Photo: Charlie Fowler.

Christian Griffith on *Desdichado* (5.13b).

eliminating several hangs used to ascend the line earlier. Brink and Drake also added a new 5.11 finishing variation to Pat McGrane's *Frightline* (5.10-). Just to the left, Brink teamed with Luebben to bag *Parsnip Pete's Last Dance* (5.10), which was almost Luebben's last dance when a movable 300-pound block forced a retreat. The block was removed via rappel, whereupon Brink finished the lead.

A hundred yards to the right, Luebben took the lead and the pair succeeded on a short, fist-size roof crack to produce *Fisticuffs* (5.10+). Further downhill, Drake flashed *A Roof* (5.11+), this one eight feet long.

Probably the most challenging of the newer Greyrock routes is Brink and Luebben's *Jaminy Crackit* (5.11+), on the north side of Last Lost Crag, the furthest east outcrop atop the Greyrock ridge. Thirty feet of 120° overhanging finger and hand jamming is followed by 40 feet of 100° overhanging hand and fist, then finishes as an offwidth!

As usual, the action was furious in **Eldorado Canyon**. Christian Griffith, the young protagonist of European-style first ascents, writes:

"The fervor of last year's controversy was used as a springboard to



attain new heights of energy and enthusiasm. Naturally the main effect was felt in the upper end of the difficulty spectrum where the revelation of new freedom with protection allowed one to experience what walking into Eldorado must have been like 50 years ago. Nothing seemed to be touched! Let us hope that where the rock offers the smallest shred of possibility, climbers will have the motivation to exploit this wondrous new potential."

A majority of the leading locals, with the exception of a very notable few, have seemingly embraced the European neotradition of rappel-placed bolts and hanging on protection in order to solve a problem's sequence. First ascents are claimed when the sequence is led without falling, usually clipping every piece from the belay up (redpoint). On the more extreme routes, however, falls are often taken on the successful day and the rope is left through the highest piece.

Exemplary of this trend is Griffith's *Desdichado* (5.13b) on Redgarden Wall, currently hailed as the most difficult route in Boulder and perhaps Colorado. The diagonal line starts at the belay on the arete variation of *C'est La Vie*, skirts left into the *C'est La Vie* dihedral, then launches out the overhanging left wall past four bolts, ending at the belay atop the third pitch of *Genesis*. Less intimidating is the nearby *Je T'aime* (5.12b/c), another Griffith product up the diamond-shaped face between *C'est La Vie* and *Whistle Stop*. Four bolts protect an intricate series of face moves, opening with a small but awkward roof.

Left on Redgarden, John Arran placed two fixed pins in the overhang to the right of the *Direct Start to Vertigo*, en route to bagging *Over'ed Powerline* (5.12a). Further left, Griffith charted *The Colour of Pomegranates* (5.12c), a "mildly runout" route up the middle section of the overhanging right wall of the *Darkness till Dawn* dihedral. One bolt supplements "natural protection."

On the west side of the Whale's Tale, Paul Sibley and Mike O'Donnell spotted a 25-foot overhanging thin crack, now *Video Feedback* (5.11d). Two pitches were climbed to take in the feature, done traditionally but requiring "artistry to protect".

Just upstream from the toe of Redgarden, immediately right of *Breakfast of Champions*, Charlie Fowler and Joe Huggins discovered the strenuous *Captain Crunch* (5.13a). Two bolts and a pin were added to protect this substantial overhang, said to be harder than *Rainbow Wall*.

In a gully behind the finish of the *Redguard Route*, *Venus de Milo* (5.12d/5.13a) was uncovered by the resolute Griffith, accompanied by

# Rollers

- Superior wedge design
- The lightest, most versatile of all the spring-loaded camming nuts
- Works in parallel, horizontal, vertical and flaring cracks
- Pivotal capabilities
- Four overlapping sizes ranging from 1/4 to 5/8 in.

U.S. & International Patents Pending

**GO-PRO INC.**  
P.O. Box 1357  
Healdsburg, CA 95448  
(707) 431-2351

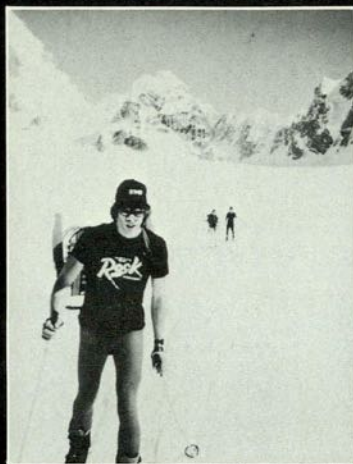
Dealer Inquiries Invited



## Expeditioning This Year?



Anything Serious . . .



Something Fun . . .

See us for gear,  
before you go . . .

**BUZZARD**  
MOUNTAIN GEAR

- Gore-Tex Shells
- Polarfleece Suits
- Alpine Rucksacks
- Diamond Waterproofs

Our Catalog Is Free

**BUZZARD MOUNTAIN GEAR**  
250 Moraine • Box 2163  
Estes Park, CO 80517  
303-586-4638

Neal Kaptain. The rating was confirmed by Chris Hill and Dale Goddard on the second ascent soon after; two bolts mark the route.

Upcanyon, on the West Ridge, Fowler freed the overhanging dihedral of an aid route originally done by Mike Brooks, yielding *Hyperspace Round-up* (5.12c/d), just left of *Mail Ridge*. Sixty meters up and left of Rincon Wall, Richard and Joyce Rossiter forged the enjoyable *Scenic Route* (5.10d) up a thin clean crack splitting an obvious face.

Across the canyon, on the ridge above the Upper Peanuts Wall, the Rossiters also succeeded on *Primal Scream* (5.12a), with the lead credited to Joyce. The line climbs a slot/crack on the northwest face of the distinct right-most buttress.

Another route was added to Mickey Mouse Wall, again by the Rossiters. *Don't Panic It's Organic* (5.11a) ascends a crack system immediately left of *Parallel Journey*, starting with a 75-foot left-facing corner.

In the Poligap area, Scott Reynolds and John Payne climbed *Non-dairy Creamer* (5.11c), taking a line on the giant south-facing boulder at the back of the gully. The pitch was top-roped and three bolts placed on rappel prior to the lead.

Many other new routes, mostly moderate or easier, were climbed in the Eldorado area. Descriptions of most new routes can be found in a notebook at the International Alpine School in Eldorado Springs.

Outside of the first ascent scene, Alan Lester and Pat Adams had a particularly notable day. Starting at 9:00 am, the pair ticked off seven 5.12's: *N.E.D.* and *Johnny Belinda* on top-ropes; *Fire and Ice*, *Sequential*, *Blues Power*, *The Formula*, and finally, *Wendigo* on lead. All routes were climbed without falls, and with "plenty of time for a shower before work at 5:00 pm."

On a sadder note, Ken Black, or Psycho Ken as he liked to be introduced, was killed when he pulled a loose block off a new route on the Peanuts Wall. Griffith comments, "It is sad to see a light put out when climbing itself gleams with so much promise."

"One Shoe Makes it Murder" Crag is a prominent 90-foot wall cut by a roof at two-thirds height, located on the north side of **Boulder Canyon**, just before Cob Rock. *Rockin' Horse* (5.12-) was freed by Fowler, Rolofson, and Kyle Copeland after placing four pegs and a bolt on rappel. Climbed by Copeland in 1983 at 5.9 A-4, the route now boasts five sections of moderate to hard 5.11 with no rests via 70 feet of vertical face capped by a five-foot roof and layback crack above.

Higher up Boulder Canyon, on Nip and Tuck Crag, Mark Hurt and Tim Hugel, with help from Bob D'Antonio,

created *Antagonism* (5.12b/c) by climbing the sheer face left of the *Finger Crack*. After top-roping the line, Hurt and Hugel added a pin and two bolts on lead with aid, but were unable to climb it without a tension rest, which was eliminated by D'Antonio several weeks later.

Another variation has been added to Castle Rock. Rolofson and Arthur Stokes Baker's *Rebellion* (5.12c) climbs a 25-foot corner leading to a traverse left onto *The Campaigner*, below its second bulge. A fixed peg protects the crucial traverse, across a polished sloping shelf.

The collection of crags in the **South Platte** is becoming more popular as the area gains national recognition and continues to draw top-name talent.

On Turkey Rock, Jonny Woodward struck again by flashing a direct finish to *Dogs of Furniture* (5.12b). The new variation continues straight up the crack rather than exiting to easier face on the right, thereby nearly doubling the difficulties. On the headwall left of Woodward's finish, Dale Goddard established *History Lesson* (5.12c), which follows a dwindling crack; one bolt, placed on lead, protects the crucial face moves. *The Go Between* (5.11-), again by Goddard, connects *Shear Shark Attack* (5.12b) to the headwall via a thin crack in a slab and a roof, opening up the possibility for a worthy link-up of pitches.

Goddard, joined by Will Gadd, also produced *The Infraction* (5.12b) to the right of *Back to the Zodiac* on the Rightovers. The route starts by traversing out horizontal cracks, then works past four rappel-placed bolts on an arete. Several locals have considered chopping the route, which as of this report is still in existence.

Over on Bucksnot Slabs, Jonny Woodward led *Hurricane Gloria* (5.12a/b) as one pitch, renaming it *Bucksnot Botch Job*. Some of the hardest moves were found climbing past the original hanging stance, which in Woodward's words, "is nothing less than rest point."

On the Sunshine Wall, behind Cathedral Spire (Cynical Pinnacle), Olaf Mitchell and Maurice Reed put up the acclaimed *Mr Mantle* (5.12). Eleven bolts, all placed on lead, protect the clean face on the far left edge of Block Tower.

On Wigwam Dome, Rolofson and Tom Englebock established *Violent Energy* (5.12-), a direct start to *El Supremo*, ascending a vertical water-streak on tiny knobs and sloping holds. The 60-foot pitch starts with the first 5.10 bulge on *Ramblin' Rose* then continues straight up. Two bolts were drilled from stances and two were drilled on rappel.

**Garden of the Gods** has provided a couple of short new routes, said to



californian free thinking

# THINK PINK

Great way of climbing  
Think Pink was born in  
Yosemite National Park to  
relax your mind and under-  
stand nature.

## THINK PINK

Exclusive climbing and leisure sportswear  
is available at:

BASE CAMP SUPPLY - Tacoma WA  
OLYMPIC OUTFITTERS - Eugene ORE  
SKINNY 'S SKIS - Jackson WY  
NEPTUNE MOUNT'NG. - Boulder COLO  
IDAHO MOUNTAIN TOURING - Boise ID  
THE TRAILHEAD - Missoula MON  
and most locations of  
THE NORTH FACE  
and  
REI Recreational Equip. Inc.

U.S.A. and Canada sole distributor

THINK PINK  
149627 Canada Inc.  
PO. BOX 630  
Ste-Adele, Quebec  
Canada J0R 1L0  
Tel.: (514) 229-2629

## FANTASY RIDGE MOUNTAIN GUIDES

Since 1972

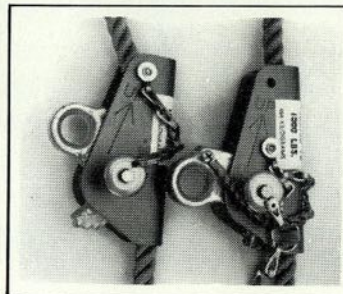
Take the final steps to the summit of North America with Denali, Mt. McKinley's most experienced guides. We also lead expeditions and treks to the Karakoram and Himalaya as well as privately arranged trips for individuals and groups.

To prepare for these exciting adventures, we invite you to join us at our year-round school and guide service in the San Juan Mountains of S.W. Colorado at Telluride.

Directed by Michael Covington.

**P.O. Box 1679,  
Telluride, Colorado 81435  
303-728-3546**

### GIBBS ASCENDERS



Free  
Running

Spring  
Loaded



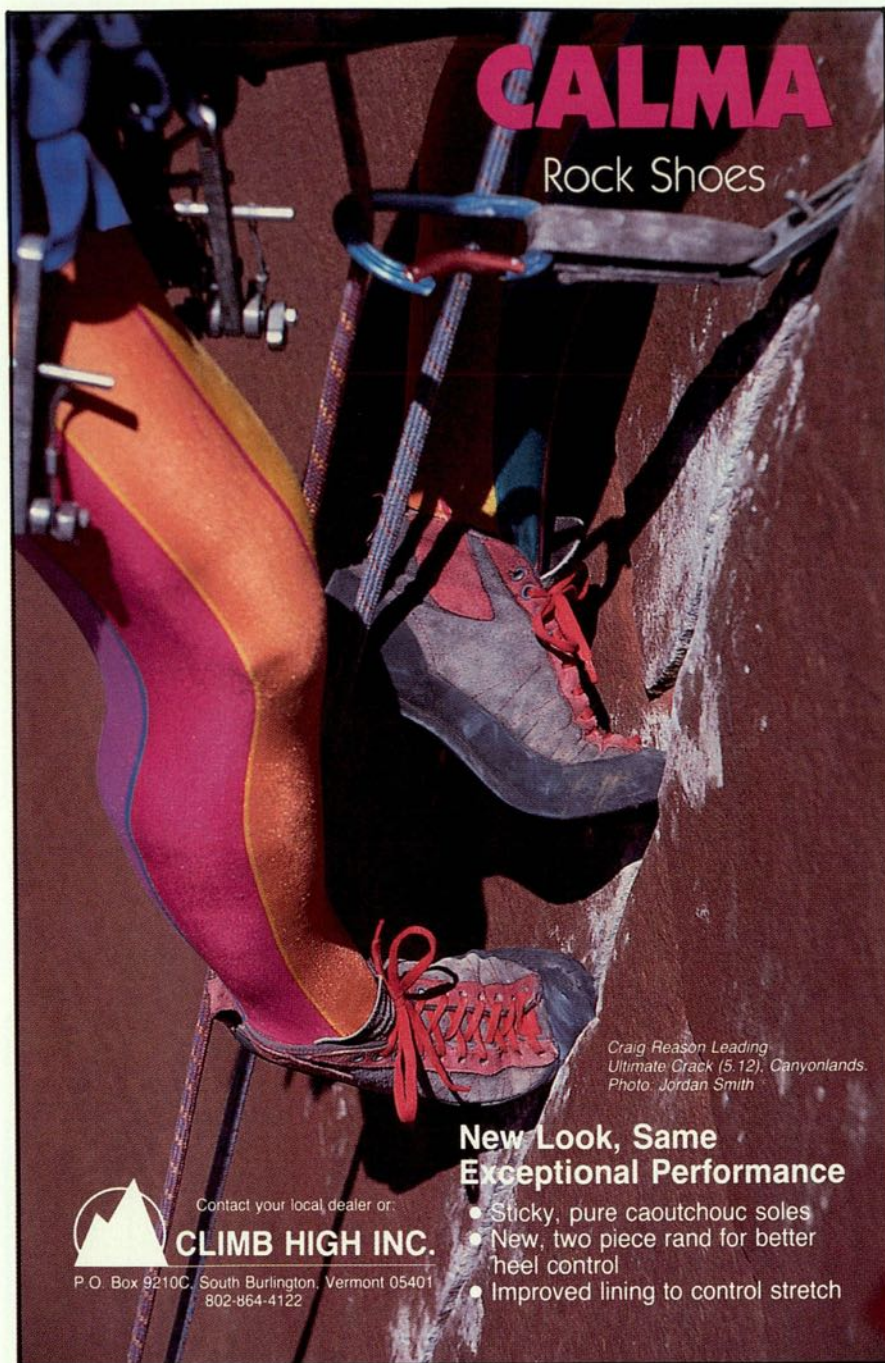
Gibbs Products  
T-Shirts

Each Ascender is tested to 1000 pounds. Its smooth rounded teeth produce little or no rope damage. Especially applicable to equipment haulage, group ascents, fixed rope and rescue operations. Operates on icy or muddy ropes.

**GIBBS PRODUCTS**  
202 HAMPTON AVENUE  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

Write for  
Free Brochure





# CALMA

## Rock Shoes

Craig Reason Leading  
Ultimate Crack (5.12), Canyonlands.  
Photo: Jordan Smith

**New Look, Same  
Exceptional Performance**

- Sticky, pure caoutchouc soles
- New, two piece rand for better heel control
- Improved lining to control stretch

Contact your local dealer or:

**CLIMB HIGH INC.**

P.O. Box 9210C, South Burlington, Vermont 05401  
802-864-4122

be of very good quality. Visiting Alabama climber Gene Smith found *Shock it to the Top* (5.12b/c) to the left of *Water Shute*. Bob D'Antonio, who followed the pitch, reports the line as one of the most technical in the Garden. To the left, the pair also added a new 5.11a, currently unnamed.

Mark Milligan and Brent Kertzman added *Etho Babble Rap* (5.11d) to the steep wall right of *Radio Andronome*, with the help of four rappel-placed pins. D'Antonio grabbed the second ascent before the dust settled, resulting in a consensus of 5.11d rather than the 5.12 rating originally given.

**Eleven Mile Canyon** continues to receive activity. At Idlewild Campground, 8.1 miles upcanyon, D'Antonio and Brent Kertzman climbed a shallow overhanging crack leading to a ledge, naming it *Wired Bliss* (5.11 + R). To the left, D'Antonio, Smith, and Goddard put up *Escape to Alabama* (5.11c), a crack leading to a bolt and subsequent face moves. Milligan and Westbay also contributed several 5.10's to the area. *Black Wind* climbs an obvious crack, and *Jet and Jet Lag* ascend parallel cracks. D'Antonio and Milligan also added a short overhanging corner at 5.10.

Slightly downcanyon, at the 5.3-

mile mark, Milligan and Westbay teamed up again for *The Intimidator* (5.12). This appropriately-named problem jams a prominent roof crack.

Above nearby Woodland Park, on the Rampart Range Road, D'Antonio finally succeeded on *Doctor Dream* (5.12c/d), a 1¼-inch crack over a roof. Although short and deceptively easy-looking, D'Antonio reports the route as, "One of the hardest crack climbs I've done in the area."

Several new routes have been reported from **Watch Crystal Crag**, primarily spurred on by David Kozak's guide to the Durango area, *Southwest Rock* (1985). None of the routes on the center section of the 200-foot-tall sandstone crag are under 5.10, and it appears that none will be.

*Crimes and Punishment* (III 5.10 + R), by Tim Kuss and John Duran, ascends the steep and very blank wall left of *Durangatang*. The pair initially topoped the line and placed bolts on rappel.

To the right of the first pitch of *Watch Crystal Crack*, Kozak and Steve Kolarik discovered *Teen Town* (II 5.10-X), perhaps the most serious lead in the area. Toproped prior to the ascent, the route requires a 30-foot runout to reach the hanging stance of *Simians to the Sun*.

Left of *Loads of Fun*, Kuss and Duran climbed an overhanging hand crack, subsequently dubbed *Slaves* (5.11c). The same pair also bagged a new line right of *Apple Cider*, taking a large dihedral in three pitches. Unnamed at presstime, the route is tentatively rated 5.12b, with the lead credited to Duran.

A year ago Clay Patton aided a thin crack left of *Freebase*, and has since returned with a host of others to attempt it free. *Star Gazer* (5.11c) is now considered the finest finger crack in the area (with Patton: Kolarik, Kozak, Scott Draper, and Joel Schiavone).

More parties are venturing into the **Black Canyon** than ever before, and as a result, the area's reputation is becoming somewhat more benign. Randy Leavitt and Leonard Coyne's *Stratosfear* (VI 5.11 +) was finally repeated by Bob Horan and Mike O'Donnell in the surprising time of 10 hours. The 30-pitch route, which links the first 22 pitches of the *Forrest-Walker* with the last three pitches of the *Dragon Route*, was found to be exhilarating, very worthwhile, and dangerous on "only one pitch." The quality was reconfirmed during the fourth ascent several weeks later by Bill Myers and visiting Brit Leigh McLeigh.

*The Nose of Chasm View* (VI 5.10+ A-5) was also repeated, nine years after its first ascent by Earl Wiggins and Bryan Becker. Art Wiggins and O'Donnell report the route as serious, rotten, and harder than the *Hal-*



*lucinogen Wall*. The *Hallucinogen*, interestingly, just received its fourth ascent. At least three rivets and one bolt appear to have been added by later ascents, contributing to its present grade of VI 5.11 A-4.

In Cracked Canyon, near **Telluride**, Mike Cody and Chuck Berry climbed *Repo Man* (5.10c), between *Chewbacca* and *Beginners Luck*; the route required three pegs and a bolt. On the left side of the main Ophir Wall, left of the large pine tree near *Jug Handle*, Gary Wright and Jose Bouza bagged *The Broken Drum* (5.10c), a one-pitch face route with a single bolt.

In the smooth central section of the Ophir Wall, left of *Y-Crack*, Antoine Savelli and Teri Kane produced what may be the most difficult line in western Colorado, *Morning Glory* (5.13a). Savelli soloed the route twice on aid, in 1981 establishing it as A-3+ and more recently adding fixed pins and bolts (unknown to Savelli, Henry Barber had made an aided ascent of this line in 1971).

Early this summer he managed to free the 145-foot line in a single day, logging about 10 falls and leaving the rope in place. Later he redpointed the route, convincing him of its grade. Savelli comments, "This is the first of its kind over here, it marries the best of crack and face climbing and the protection is excellent, but still demanding!"

## CONNECTICUT

The relatively unknown **St. John's Ledges**, in Kent, is reminiscent of the granite found in New Hampshire; the crags are generally low angle and occasionally split by cracks. Three major cliffs, the Lower Cliff, the Main Slab, and the EMC Wall, are found directly adjacent to the Appalachian Trail, just west of the Housatonic River. The following are just a sample of the area's worthwhile routes.

The appropriately-named *Little Jewel* (5.10), first climbed by Ken Nichols in 1985, ascends a challenging face/crack line up the center of the Lower Cliff. On the Main Slab, *Falling Bodies* (5.9+) is perhaps the most characteristic of the thin slab climbs found at St. John's. This friction climb starts at a small left-facing corner 50 feet right of the center of the crag, ascends the corner into a seam, then heads straight up. First led by Bob Clark, followed by Chad Hussey and Nichols, the route is unprotected for the first 20 feet. Ten feet right is *Heavenly Bodies* (5.7), a good but poorly-protected direct line also climbed by Nichols and followed by several others.

The EMC (Eccentric Mountaineering Club) Wall is the upper cliff at St. John's, about a quarter-mile south of the Main Slab. A handful of easy to moderate crack climbs have been established here. The obvious, most-

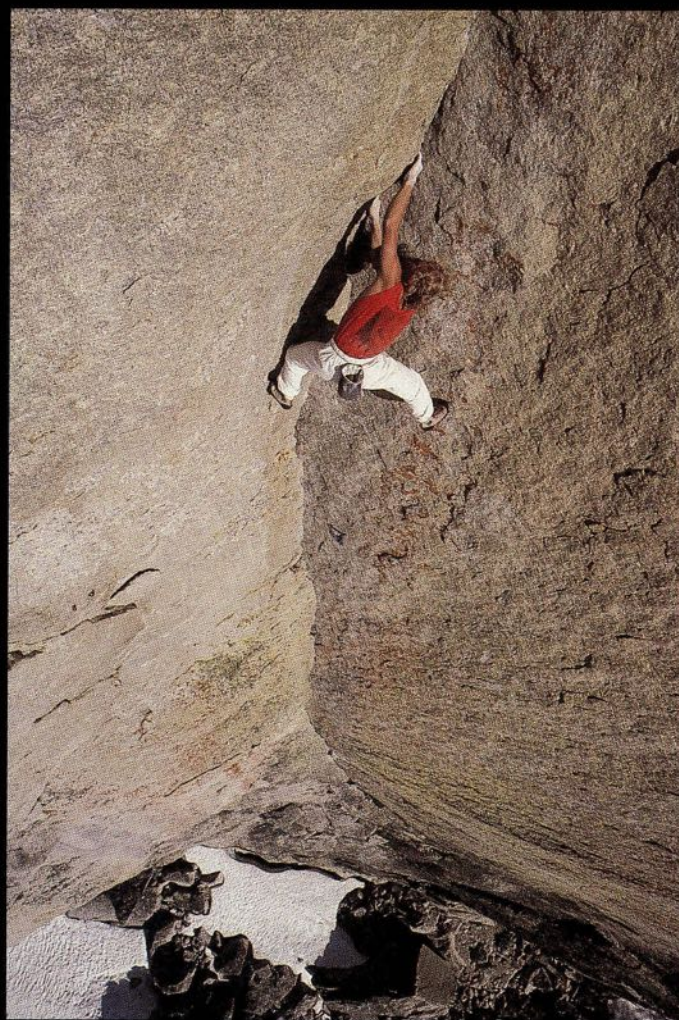
appealing crack is *The 13th Dwarf* (5.5), by Peter Wallace and Steve Chase. To the left is the thin face of *Dwarf Nebula* (5.9-), a Phil Knight, Chase, and Tim Glover creation. The prominent arete marking the right side of the crag is *On Edge* (5.6), by Bill Ferrucci and Dean Levesque, and the dike/crack just left is *Cheatah Wheelies* (5.6), by Stew Sayah and Chase.

The atmosphere of this area is primarily non-competitive, and the local climbers would like it to remain that way. Visitors wanting more information are referred to the notebook found at Clapp & Treat.

New route activity in **Sleeping Giant State Park**, near Hamdin, has increased steadily ever since the Park was reopened to climbing in the 1970's. With plans for a published guide, the area will undoubtedly become another destination for the growing number of east coast climbers.

Sleeping Giant is easily visible from Highway 15 or Interstate 91 just north of West Rock in New Haven. The Park has five areas of interest, the Chin being the best known and earliest climbed feature, receiving ascents since the 1930's. Fritz Wiessner, among others, put up several high quality routes, such as *Wiessner's*

# The Gramicci line



Stonewear Made for Freedom of Movement  
Available from **Sole Survivor** CORP.  
4183 N. Southbank • Oxnard, CA 93030  
Call Toll Free 1-800-262-SOLE in CA  
1-800-448-FIRE Nationwide





### 1.5mm Neoprene Sox



For a 1985/86 catalogue, write:

**ROOSTER**  
P.O. Box 157,  
Aspen, CO 81612

**HARD ROCKERS!**  
BUY OUR SHIRTS - WE WANT A  
HOUSE IN THE COUNTRY!

WHITE PUNKS ON ROPE

TWO COLOR PRINT ON A 100% COTTON  
SHIRT. SIZES S-XL. 8<sup>95</sup> + 1<sup>00</sup> POST.

SLAM GRAPHICS  
P.O. BOX 2208  
BOULDER, CO, 80306

WRITE FOR FREE CATALOGUE!!!

*Rib* (5.6), the main arete of the Chin. The park was later closed to climbing because of loose rock found in certain areas.

Jim Adair was one of the first to visit the area after it was reopened, producing several classic lines up to 5.10, such as *Rhadamanthus*, the smooth face just left of *Wiessner's Rib*. During this period Bruce Dickes claimed the Park's first 5.11 by freeing *Defender*.

A few other routes were done but the size of the Park and the 15-minute approach prevented any systematic exploration until this spring. Since then, Alex Catlin, Bill Ivanoff, Bob Schrader, and others have established over 100 routes, and according to guidebook coauthor Catlin, "at least 100 more will go." New routes include: *The Tempest* (5.11-), a roof at the Right Knee; *Way Rad* (5.10) and *Waylaid* (5.11), lines up the east and north faces of the free-standing pinnacle near the Tower; and *Jolly Green Giant* (5.10), the obvious right-leaning crack also at the Tower.

Presently, the Park has only two bolts, both considered unnecessary, and although littered with old pins, few new ones have been added. Catlin, among others, feels this ethic is worth pursuing: "Even 'blank' faces have been known to eat two full racks of RP's in 100 feet."

New route descriptions for *Sleeping Giant State Park* can be sent to Alex Catlin, 16 DeerPark Dr., Greenwich, CT 06830.

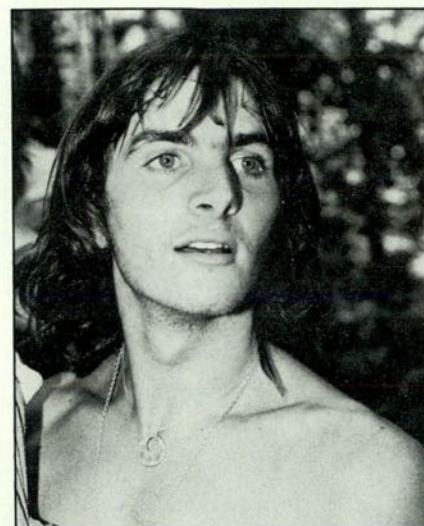
## GEORGIA

June 28th will be remembered as the day the Spanish conquered Boat Rock. Nearly 500 boulderers and spectators watched Finuco Martinez and Francisco Blanco capture the top awards by mastering the granite boulders at the warm and humid **South-eastern Bouldering Championship** held near Atlanta, Georgia.

Martinez, Blanco, and Ron Kauk, serving as the Spaniard's guide for their southeastern campaign, formed an impressive team bouldering together for the two-hour, 45-minute contest, en route to sweeping the top three places of the advanced men's category.

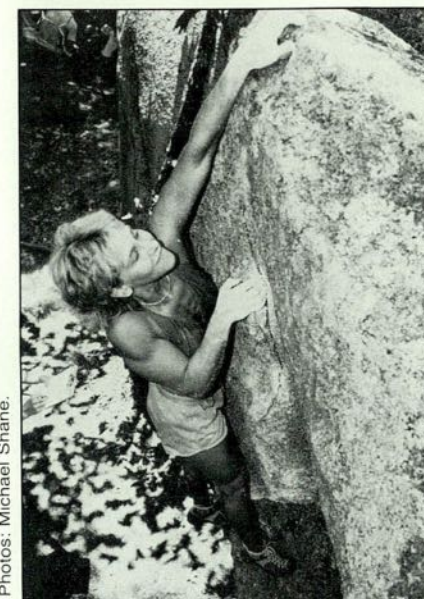
Robyn Erbesfield's sure footwork and upper body strength enabled her to dominate the advanced women's category, her second win in the two-year-old contest. Ruthellen Saul and Cellia Bull, both from out of state, wrapped up the remaining places in what was unfortunately the lightest turnout of any category.

Other winners taking home the first-place prize of a Blue Water rope include Bruce Burgin, master's (35 years and over); Eric Easton, novice



▲ Finuco Martinez

Robin Erbesfield ▼



Photos: Michael Shane.

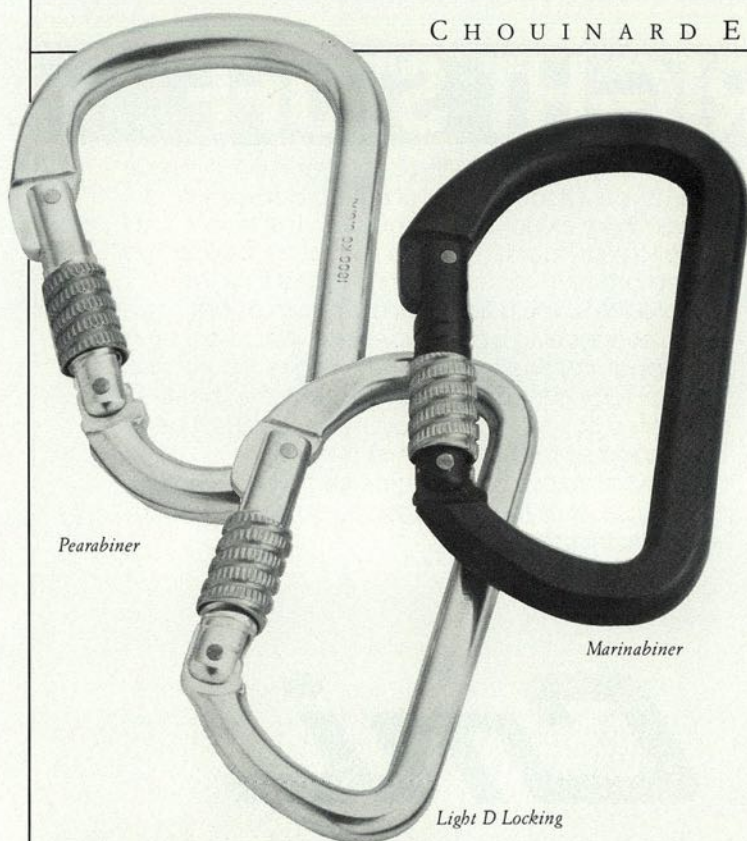
men's; and Mare Nemeth, novice women's.

Martinez and Blanco are in the U.S. for a year's worth of climbing. For the last several months they have been in Yosemite Valley, where they plan to return following the competition. Despite the superb bouldering of his guests, Kauk's reputation and his graceful bouldering made him the crowd favorite.

Of the other 244 registered contestants, 13 states and two foreign countries were represented. Tight planning and organization guaranteed what may be the best-run American contest this year, with help from 115 volunteers and numerous sponsors including High Country Outfitters, Tennessee Climbing Association, Chouinard, Blue Water, Sole Survivor, Wild Country, Xanadu Mountaineering, Asolo Sport, North Face, and *Climbing Magazine*.

Several reporters and camera





Pearabiner

Marinabiner

Light D Locking

## A shape for every situation.

### *Chouinard Locking Carabiners*

Our four locking carabiners embody our "less is more" philosophy. By designing simple, functional shapes that maximize the strength of the metal, in conjunction with a compact, stainless steel reverse-locking sleeve, we have been able to produce locking carabiners that are not only strong, but incredibly light. They are also completely dependable: Chouinard Locking Carabiners are individually tested to half their rated strength before they leave our shop.

Light D Locking Carabiner: 1.9 oz/2300kg

Pearabiner: 2.6 oz/1800kg

Big D Locking Carabiner: 2.6 oz/2800kg

Marinabiner: 2.6 oz/2800kg

**Chouinard Equipment, Ltd.**

P.O. Box 90/245 West Santa Clara Ventura, CA 93002



## Quickies

The Lightest, Strongest  
and Most Versatile  
Thin Crack Protection

Size	Strength	Range	Dimensions	Weight	Price
#0	800 lb.	13/64-5/16	3/16x29/64	0.5 oz.	\$21.00
#1	1600 lb.	19/64-25/64	1/4x31/64	1.0 oz.	\$21.50
#2	1600 lb.	21/64-29/64	5/16x17/32	1.0 oz.	\$21.50
#3	3400 lb.	7/16-19/32	3/8x39/64	1.82 oz.	\$23.50
#4	3500 lb.	17/32-3/4	1/2x3/4	2.18 oz.	\$24.50
#5	3600 lb.	43/64-61/64	5/8x1	2.98 oz.	\$25.50

Dealer  
Inquiries  
Invited

**D. Best Mountaineering**

P.O. Box 177  
Long Barn, CA 95335  
209-586-1721



# THE RIGHT STUFF

Few persons would attempt surgery on themselves. Few persons drill their own teeth. Frankly, some things are best left to specialists.

At CMI that's the approach we take to production of our figure 8 ring. In order to save a few bucks some 8 rings are produced on old, out-moded, "we rebuilt it ourselves" machinery; in order to assure optimum mechanical integrity the CMI 8 ring is forged by specialists on the most modern equipment available. Others cut corners by attempting to apply their own hard-coat finish or worse yet fore go it for a simple color anodizing; the CMI 8 ring receives the best hard-coat available anywhere by a firm that specializes in the process. And why? Because hard-coating is a specialized process that requires very technical controls to attain optimum hardness, controls not possible by the average guy in the average shop. If the process is so expensive and technical then why bother? Because a simple

color anodize is worn through after the first rappel and you will soon find your rope black with aluminum oxide. Don't recognize the term? Just go to your nearest hardware store and ask for their best grade of sandpaper. You'll find that the abrasive is, you guessed it, aluminum oxide! Color anodizing is an inexpensive way to add eye appeal, nothing more. If the 8 ring you purchased is not forged in a specialized factory and hard-coated by technical specialists it would not begin to stand up to CMI standards.

CMI employees are climbers who believe in and use what they sell. Would you hang your life on anything less?

## Cmi

P.O. Box 535, Franklin, WVA 26807 (304)358-7041

### Antoine Savelli Guides

"The Confidence Builder"

#### 5 Day Courses:

- Rock
- Snow & Ice
- Ski Mountaineering
- Alpinism

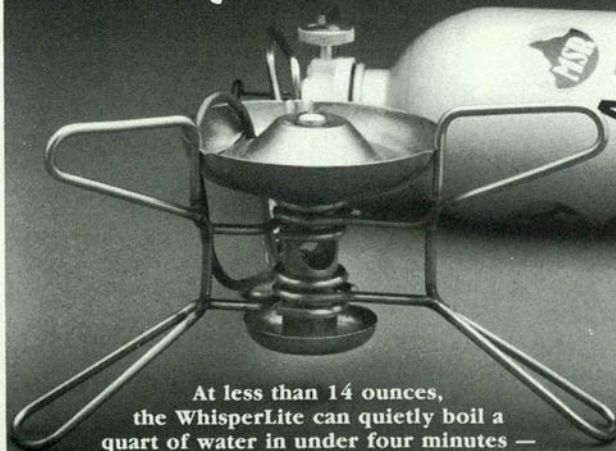
#### 21 Day Expeditions:

- Famous Classics in the Alps
- Big Wall Experience
- Corsica "Sea, Climb, Explore"



P.O. Box 952,  
Telluride, Colorado 81435  
(303) 728-3705

### Whisper Lite



At less than 14 ounces,  
the WhisperLite can quietly boil a  
quart of water in under four minutes —  
without interrupting the conversation.

Quality constructed from brass and stainless steel  
for years of dependable service,  
all at a suggested price of under \$40.

Contact MSR customer service for the dealer nearest you.  
For more information, contact MSR, CODE 116,  
P.O. Box 3978, Terminal Station, Seattle, WA 98124;  
1222 First Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98134.  
(206) 624-7048





crews from the local media covered the event. CNN Cable news shot over four hours of video which they hope to turn into a documentary. Media recognition and place-awards weren't the only tangible rewards, however. Over 100 raffle prizes were distributed among contest participants!

After the contest, the mob moved out of the 94°, 90% humidity to the nearby Holiday Inn, quickly downed two kegs, and settled into slide shows by Richard Leverage of Chouinard, and Ron Kauk.

#### Novice Men

Eric Easton	NC	161
Mark Stroud	NC	116
Ron Dawson	NC	112
Steve Murray	GA	111
Andy Dowda	GA	104
James Browning	GA	94

#### Novice Women

Mare Nemeth	NC	97
Penny Scott	GA	95
Bonnie Chislet	GA	88
April Johnson	GA	86
Rene Cline	NC	82
Katherine Schumacher	GA	76

#### Advanced Men

Finuco Martinez	Spain	178
Francisco Blanco	Spain	174
Ron Kauk	CA	173
Tripp Halbkatt	GA	160
Shannon Stegg	GA	158
Rob Robinson	TN	157

#### Advanced Female

Robyn Erbesfield	GA	151
Ruthellen Saul	NC	126
Celia Bull	NY	75

#### Master (combined men and women)

Bruce Burgin	WV	124
Clarence Hickman	NC	105
Mark Goldman	GA	101
Bubba Sloan	GA	88
Paul Sloan	TN	86
Charles Ivey	NC	75

#### Structure

Boulderers had 77 problems, rated 1-10, scattered over 50 acres to try within 2:45, with a 1:15 preview period (hands-off). One-fall limit advanced, two-fall limit others Fall occurs if either foot touches after lift-off.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

Winter conditions extended into spring this year, delaying activity on rock but prolonging an excellent season of ice. Ice conditions were the best they've been in recent years, with many of the classics forming up well and seeing many ascents. In particular, *Remission* on Cathedral Ledge was climbed perhaps more this last season than all other seasons combined. Several outstanding new ice routes were climbed, all under the ambitious axe of John Tremblay. At *Pitcher Falls*, Tremblay and Joe Lentini found *Veneer*, a very thin grade IV+. The pair also climbed two 40-foot lines that involved difficult mixed climbing and icicle overhangs; both were rated grade IV.

On *Iron Mountain*, Tremblay and Lentini discovered *The Laminate*, a very thin and poorly-protected ice runnel. Just to the right, Tremblay and

Dave Rose climbed a route that may point to the future of New Hampshire ice climbing. *N.E.I. Overload* (V+) gave a hundred feet of extremely technical climbing on very thin ice, and according to Rose, "following it was at least a grade harder than leading the crux pitch of *Remission*." The second ascent is eagerly awaited.

New route activity on the rock was slow, with only three new routes being reported in early June. On the cliff below the Wonder Wall on *Whitehorse Ledge*, Peter Lataille and Ward Smith added *Wooden Nichols* (5.11-) to the face left of *A Horse of a Different Color*. The route was cleaned on rappel and bolted on lead. Just right of the second pitch of the *South Buttress Direct*, Jim Surette climbed *London Calling* (5.12), after cleaning the line and placing bolts on rappel.

At *Sundown Ledge*, Surette bagged the direct start to *Flight of the Falcon. Police and Thieves* (5.12) follows the obvious arete and roof.

Of a more serious nature is the clearing of trees from the base of the South Buttress of Whitehorse Ledge, from *Children's Crusade* on down. Many of the trees there and just about all on the Wonder Wall access ledge have been cut down and left strewn across the trail, apparently to increase the crag's rate of drying in the spring and fall. Correspondent S. Peter Lewis comments, "Instead, this irresponsible act has simply degraded the climbers themselves. Unfortunately, the ethics of pushing the standards in New Hampshire seem to follow the old saying, 'one step forward, two steps back.'"

As a final note, Peregrine Falcons have returned to some of the area's cliffs. Both Frankenstein Cliff and Mount Willard have been closed to all climbing. Falcons have also been found on Cathedral Ledge, but the cliff remains open. Consideration of this endangered species is warranted, particularly in the vicinity of *Intimidation*.

## UTAH

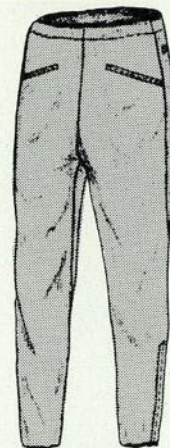
Several new lines have been reported from *Little Cottonwood Canyon*, just east of Salt Lake City. Thomas Koch and Bill Robins discovered *X-Orcist* (5.11, A-1) on Eagle Buttress; the route ascends flakes to a "crossed" crack system. On the Wheeler-Newsome Wall, the pair added *Evening Fun* (5.6), which climbs the arete south of *Tick Fever*.

The Egg received another route; *Both Sides Now* (5.10-), by Robins, Koch, and Bill Foster, is an enjoyable face/crack line to the right of *Dragon Arch*. On Contact Buttress, west of *Super Slab*, Robins and Koch also found *Estamos Perdidos* (5.10+ R). This works up face and cracks, 50 to

## Rock-SWEATS

— GUARANTEED NOT TO BIND —

- DRAWSTRING/ELASTIC WAIST
- 3 ZIP PKTS.
- BARTACKED STRESS PTS.
- DOUBLE KNIT: NYLON OUTER COTTON INNER
- TAPERED CALVES
- 10" ANKLE ZIPS



— MADE IN USA —

\$39 frt. ppd.

SIZES: S-M-L-XL

NAVY W/RED ZIPS • GRAY W/NAVY ZIPS

ORDER DIRECT—CALL (518) 370-2065

USE MC/VISA OR SEND CHECK/M.O. TO:

## Summit Research

771 STATE ST. DEPT. C-11  
SCHENECTADY, NY 12307-1210  
(NY residents add sales tax)  
FREE CATALOG AVAILABLE



## QUALITY SOFTWARE T-SHIRTS • CHALK BAGS SEWN GEAR

Available at finer mountain shops,  
or send for our catalog.

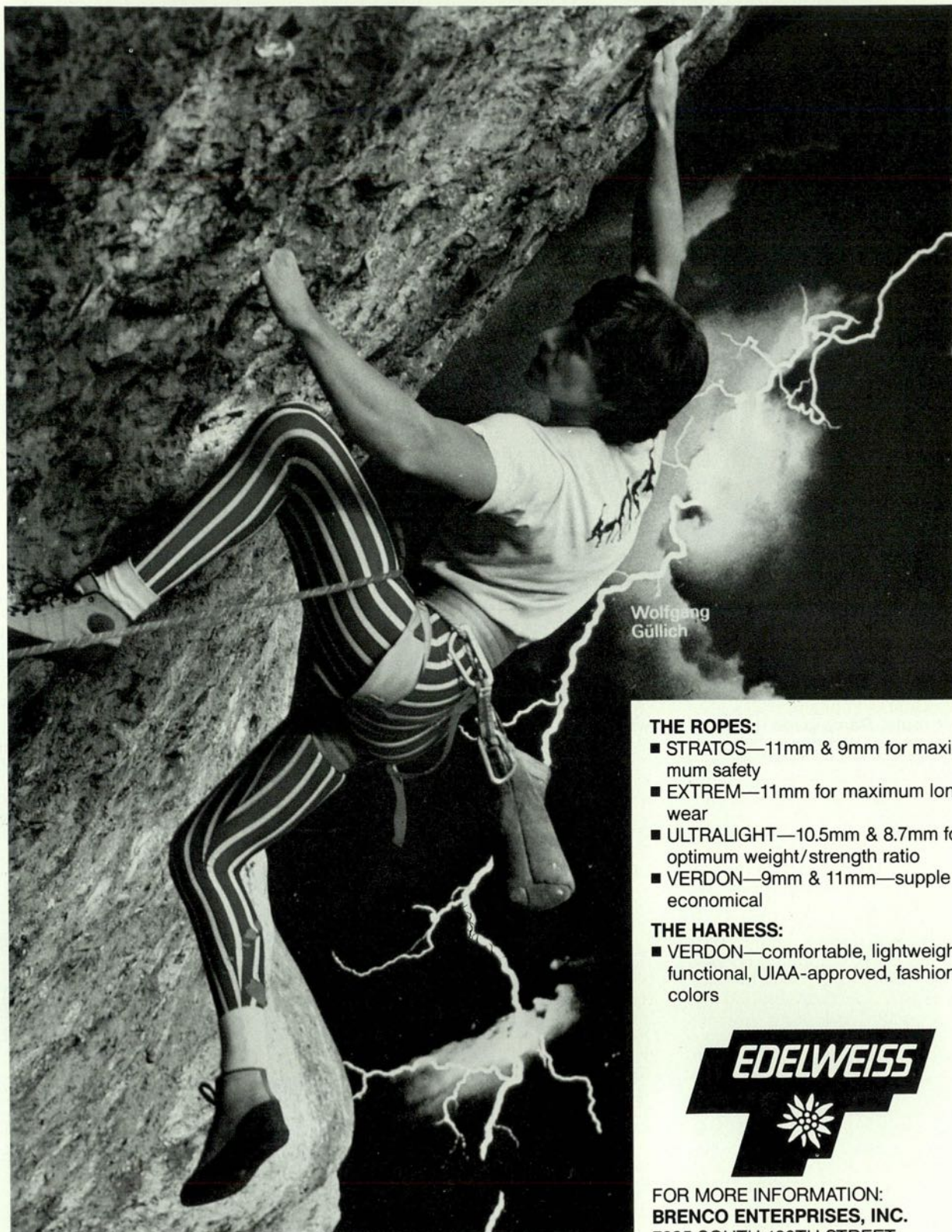


KINNALOE  
box 60115 San Diego, CA 92106



# EDELWEISS

SUPERIOR ROPE TECHNOLOGY



#### THE ROPES:

- STRATOS—11mm & 9mm for maximum safety
- EXTREM—11mm for maximum long wear
- ULTRALIGHT—10.5mm & 8.7mm for optimum weight/strength ratio
- VERDON—9mm & 11mm—supple & economical

#### THE HARNESS:

- VERDON—comfortable, lightweight, functional, UIAA-approved, fashion colors



FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
**BRENCO ENTERPRISES, INC.**  
7835 SOUTH 180TH STREET  
KENT, WASHINGTON 98032  
(206) 251-5020 TELEX: 152857



100 feet left of the granite-quartzite contact.

Near the town of **Garrison**, in the Lost Berm Canyon, two new lines were established on Poodle Dick But-  
tress. *Getting Hard* (5.10+) works up the main dihedral system on the east side of the buttress (FA: Robins, Koch, and Kirsten Davis), and *The Master's Leg* (5.11) climbs the main crack system on the west side of the buttress (FA: Koch and Robins). Of particular note is Davis, Robins, and Mark Bennett's ascent of Skull Buttress via *Windwalker* (5.11 X), a beautiful four-pitch face route with long runouts on good rock.

## WASHINGTON

Despite long semi-technical bush-whacks, less-than-glorious weather, and a regional anathema to corresponding to *Basecamp*, some outstanding routes have been reported in the **Cascades**. On the south face of Gunn Peak, west of the Cascade crest, an obvious 500-foot corner system was climbed by John Medosch and Bryan Burdo, subsequently named *Gunslinger* (II 5.9). On nearby Mount Persis, several miles southwest of the town of Index, Bill Enger and Burdo teamed up on the 800-foot north face, establishing a six-pitch route dubbed *The Hexorcist* (III+ 5.10, two points of aid).

In the Early Winters area of the Northeast Cascades several new lines were uncovered. Greg White and Burdo followed a continuous system of beautiful dihedrals on the west face of Paisano Pinnacle, calling the 500-foot route *Ramp-page* (III 5.10, one point of aid). On the east face of Vasiliki Ridge, Yann Merrand and Burdo climbed the 1300-foot arete leading to the summit of Juno Tower. *Clean Break* (IV+ 5.10) is said to feature "orgiastic" jamming. The striking Cutthroat Peak provided *Fire-Fighter* (IV- 5.11), by Andy Cairns and Burdo. This demanding route ascends the 800-foot southeast corner. Cairns and Burdo also freed the A-1 on the *Southwest Arete* of South Early Winter Spire, rating the climb III- 5.10+.

In the northwestern Cascades, Merrand and Burdo repeated the *Direct North Buttress* (V 5.10-) of Bear Mountain, originally established by Kearney and Knight. Burdo reports the line as, "one of the most serious climbs in the Cascades, owing to its position, size, and objective problems." This on a peak Fred Beckey refers to as "one of the most rugged under 8000-foot peaks in the North Cascades!"

Closer to civilization, Cairns and Burdo eliminated the aid on *Fast Lane* on the Green Giant Buttress near Darrington. The eight-pitch

route, originally rated IV 5.10 A-3, now goes at 5.11, but the final, crux pitch on the otherwise aesthetic line was found to be poorly protected and "in need of some wire brush work."

## WYOMING

### Climber's Ranch Fire

On August 30, 1985, a forest fire burned a portion of the Grand Teton Climber's Ranch. Started by a lightning strike, dry and windy conditions caused the fire to spread rapidly. Five of the guest cabins, the shower house, a tool shed, lumber, building supplies, a pump house, and water storage tanks were completely destroyed. The main office building, cook shelter, and six cabins survived. Fortunately there were no injuries and the losses to climbers staying at the Ranch were minimal.

Last fall, a small cabin was moved onto the property to replace one of the guest buildings; this summer, a new shower house is being built, and replacements for the other four cabins are being sought.

Insurance covered only the replacement value of the cabins; moving costs, tools and lumber lost in the fire, new bunks, and other costs were not covered. Donations are needed for the Climber's Ranch to provide the same services as in the past.

Located in Grand Teton National Park and run by the American Alpine Club, the Climber's Ranch has been in operation since 1970. Its purpose is to provide low-cost accommodation for climbers and their families. (In 1985, the cost for bunk space and a shower was \$4 per person, per night). But the Ranch is more than just a place to sleep—it serves as a gathering place, and enables climbers to find partners, obtain route information, and socialize with others from all over the world. A comfortable library/lounge provides a place to spend rainy days and to watch slide shows, and the Ranch allows easy access to the rock in Garnett Canyon.

The Climber's Ranch is open June 15 to September 10. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to GTCR, P.O. Box 547, Moose, WY 83012, or to the American Alpine Club, 113 East 90th St., New York, NY 10128.

## WESTERN CANADA

A mild winter with extreme temperature fluctuations resulted in a disappointing season for ice climbers this last winter. Many waterfalls formed early, notably the *Bourgeau* routes which were done as early as October. Then a warm spell in December destroyed the ice and it never seemed to form completely again.

What activity there was seemed to be concentrated on routes at higher elevations, such as the Columbia Icefield Group, where the temperatures are more consistent. *Polar Circus* and the *Weeping Wall* saw many ascents, but testpieces such as *Gimme Shelter* and *The Terminator* were not even climbed once.

The outstanding achievement of the season was Jeff Marshall's one-day solo of both *Polar Circus* and *Weeping Wall*—the latter route incorporating some of the hardest ice in the area. Leading activist Dave Cheesmond comments, "It shows what is possible with fitness and an intimate appreciation for the frozen medium," and adds, "It will stand for a long while as a landmark in the development of Canadian waterfall climbing." Earlier Marshall had trained by climbing *Takkakaw Falls* and *Twin Falls* in a day, both hard ice climbs involving 40 kilometers of skiing, with temperatures of -20°!

The dangers of solo ascents were underlined a few weeks later when Alan Deane fell to his death from the final slope of *Slipstream*, narrowly missing two parties below. He was competent on ice, and it is assumed he lost his footing on easy ground near the cornice and was unable to stop before going over.

Due to the warm weather, rock climbing flourished throughout the winter, the most notable ascent being that of Peter Croft and Joe Buszowski on *Yellow Edge* (5.11) during January. February and March also saw a number of 5.10 classics done at a time of year when crampons and axes are usually in order.

The variety of conditions found during this season are not totally unusual. The weather in this part of Canada is due to the combined influence of the Pacific and Arctic air masses. Depending which predominates, it is possible to have days in which the temperature varies from -20° to +20° Celsius, allowing one to rock climb one day, ice climb the next, and ski the following!



**THE CLASSIC.** One color print on the front of a premium quality, 100% cotton short sleeve shirt. White, tan, lavender, or silver gray. S-XL \$8.50 ea. plus \$1.00 for shipping. Cal. res. add 6%. Catalog available.

KINNALOA box 60115 San Diego, Ca. 92106



## NEPAL



▲ The South Pillar of Nuptse; the route follows the prominent mixed ridge to the high point indicated. Kangtega, with the Anglo/American route marked. The main summit is 100 meters higher than the Northwest Peak and hidden from view in this photo. ▼



A small Anglo/American team was active in the Khumbu region around Mt. Everest during the pre-monsoon season, climbing two new routes and attempting a third, all in alpine style.

Starting low to fully acclimatize, Jeff Lowe and Henry Kendall climbed a new route on **Lobuche** (6119m), following a steep snow and ice gully on the left side of the east face (left of the Bibler/Freer route). Alison Hargreaves and Marc Twight repeated it shortly afterwards.

Lowe, Hargreaves, Twight, and Tom Frost then moved on to **Kangtega** (6779m). In a ten-day round trip from basecamp, they climbed a difficult new route to the right of the Northwest Ridge, encountering very technical ice and mixed climbing on the ice tongue right of the ridge proper (see photo). On May 1, Frost and Lowe reached the slightly lower northwest peak, while Hargreaves and Twight continued on to the main peak via steep ice. The descent was made via the Northeast Couloir (first climbed by the Japanese in 1979).

After moving basecamp to 5200m on the west side of the Lhotse Nup Glacier, Lowe and Twight attempted an even more formidable objective, the South Pillar of **Nuptse** (7855m). This route follows the prominent buttress between the original British route and the Cassin/Messner ramp. After about 1300m of very technical climbing on the pillar itself, the angle of the route recedes to more moderate snow and ice until the final 400m, where it reverts to rock for a difficult finish at altitude. The total vertical rise involved is in the neighborhood of 2500m.

Bad weather delayed the pair's start until May 19, a time when most pre-monsoon expeditions are headed home. Encountering very difficult climbing (5.10, A-4) during a single continuous push, Lowe and Twight reached a high point of 6700m on May 26. However, bad weather had moved in, and with the possibility of an extended wait with little food, the pair elected to retreat, reaching basecamp on May 27.

Lowe comments: "This route is one of the finest I've ever been on, and has just the combination of features I've been looking for: steep, technical mixed ground, altitude, and above all, it's a safe line. There's nothing hanging over you, so you can just relax and enjoy the outrageous climbing." He plans to return with Twight in late November this year to complete the climb.

Photos: Jeff Lowe.





#### **Tenzing Norgay 1914-1986**

The Sherpa who made the first ascent of Mount Everest with Sir Edmund Hillary died on May 9, 1986 at his home in Darjeeling, India. He was believed to be 72 years old.

Born at the foot of Makalu, Tenzing was the 11th of 13 children. He left his native village in 1932 and migrated to Darjeeling, which was then the starting point for most Himalayan expeditions. He went to Everest in 1935, 1936, 1938, 1947, and 1952; all of these attempts were unsuccessful, although he came within 800 feet of the summit with Raymond Lambert during the 1952 Swiss Expedition. The following year, Tenzing and Hillary were successful in making the first ascent of the world's highest peak.

Tenzing was active on many other mountains during his long career. In 1950, he went to Nanga Parbat, and the following year, Kanchenjunga. During another expedition in 1951, he made the second ascent of Nanda Devi East (7434 m) with a French party, repeating the difficult 1939 Polish route. In 1954, Tenzing completed an instructor's course in Switzerland, and began work at the new Himalayan Mountaineering Institute in Darjeeling. He served as director of field training there through 1976, a period during which 4600 people were taught climbing without a single fatality or serious accident.

He worked many years as the president of the Association of Sherpa Mountaineers, both to improve working conditions and to help preserve Sherpa culture. Tenzing was widely regarded as the doyen of mountaineering in India and Nepal, and as Ranjiv Ghandi wrote on learning of his death, "His spirit, adventure and courage will always inspire all of us."

## **TALKEETNA AIR TAXI, INC.**

**LOWELL THOMAS  
and  
DON LEE  
owners operators**

*"Serving Climbers on McKinley and  
Throughout the Alaska Range"*

*A fleet of ski/wheel and float aircraft  
from Anchorage and Talkeetna*

**For Information Contact:**

**Talkeetna Air Taxi Inc.**

**Box 73,**

**Talkeetna, AK 99676**


**(907) 733-2218**

**or**

**Lowell Thomas, Jr.**

**7022 Tanaina Dr.**

**Anchorage, AK 99502**



## **The FORREST ULTIMATE HARNESS**



Original manufacturers of Leading Edge Harnesses since 1968.

Relied on for many years by experts on the world's most difficult climbs.

Your Forrest harness — the Ultimate — is here at the factory. Just call us and we'll send it today!



**Colorado Shoe  
Company**  
OUTDOOR FOOTWEAR SPECIALISTS



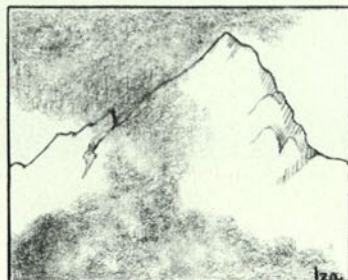
**Forrest**  
**MOUNTAINEERING, LTD.**

Call (303) 355-1991 for Colorado Shoe Company • Call (303) 433-3372 for Forrest Mountaineering  
Both located 1150 Speer Blvd. Denver, Colorado 80204



# Grand Teton Climbers Ranch

We care. Do you?



Last Fall, a forest fire swept through the Climbers Ranch in the Tetons.

Through the extraordinary efforts of the staff and our friends, half the structures were saved. Insurance funds, however, will only cover the cost of rebuilding a portion of the destroyed facilities.

The AAC has maintained the Grand Teton Climbers Ranch as a service to the mountaineering community for more than fifteen years. Although the Ranch operates at a loss, the AAC always felt it important to underwrite these costs. Now we are faced with a major capital expenditure. We need the help of all climbers.

Your tax-deductible contribution of five dollars or more will help rebuild the Ranch. Mail your check, payable to The American Alpine Club, to AAC Climbers Ranch Fund, 113 East 90th Street, New York, NY 10128-1589.



Jim McCarthy  
President, AAC

THE AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB

Your concerns are our concerns

## COLD FEET? YOU NEED NEOPRENE OVERBOOTS FROM FORTY BELOW LTD.



Complete lightweight foot protection for expeditions, ice climbing, or snowshoeing.

1/4 inch Neoprene around foot, traction sole, nylon upper. Weight 31 oz. (L)

These overboots have been worn on expeditions to Everest, McKinley, the Antarctic, and numerous other major peaks and hostile environments.

Price \$88.00 plus shipping. Boots sent U.P.S. C.O.D.

**Mail Order Only - Not a Store**

Send boot outline and size to:

Forty Below Ltd.

• 4419 - 64th Ave. W. • Tacoma, WA 98466

## CHINA

### Canadians Successful on Everest West Ridge

In May, a strong Canadian team made an ascent of the West Ridge of **Mt. Everest** (8848m) from the Tibetan side of the mountain. The ridge has a long history, starting with its first ascent by an American team in 1963 from the Western Cwm; on that occasion, Tom Hornbein and Willi Unsoeld made a bold traverse of the mountain, climbing the upper section of the West Ridge and descending the South Col with a bivouac at well over 8000m.

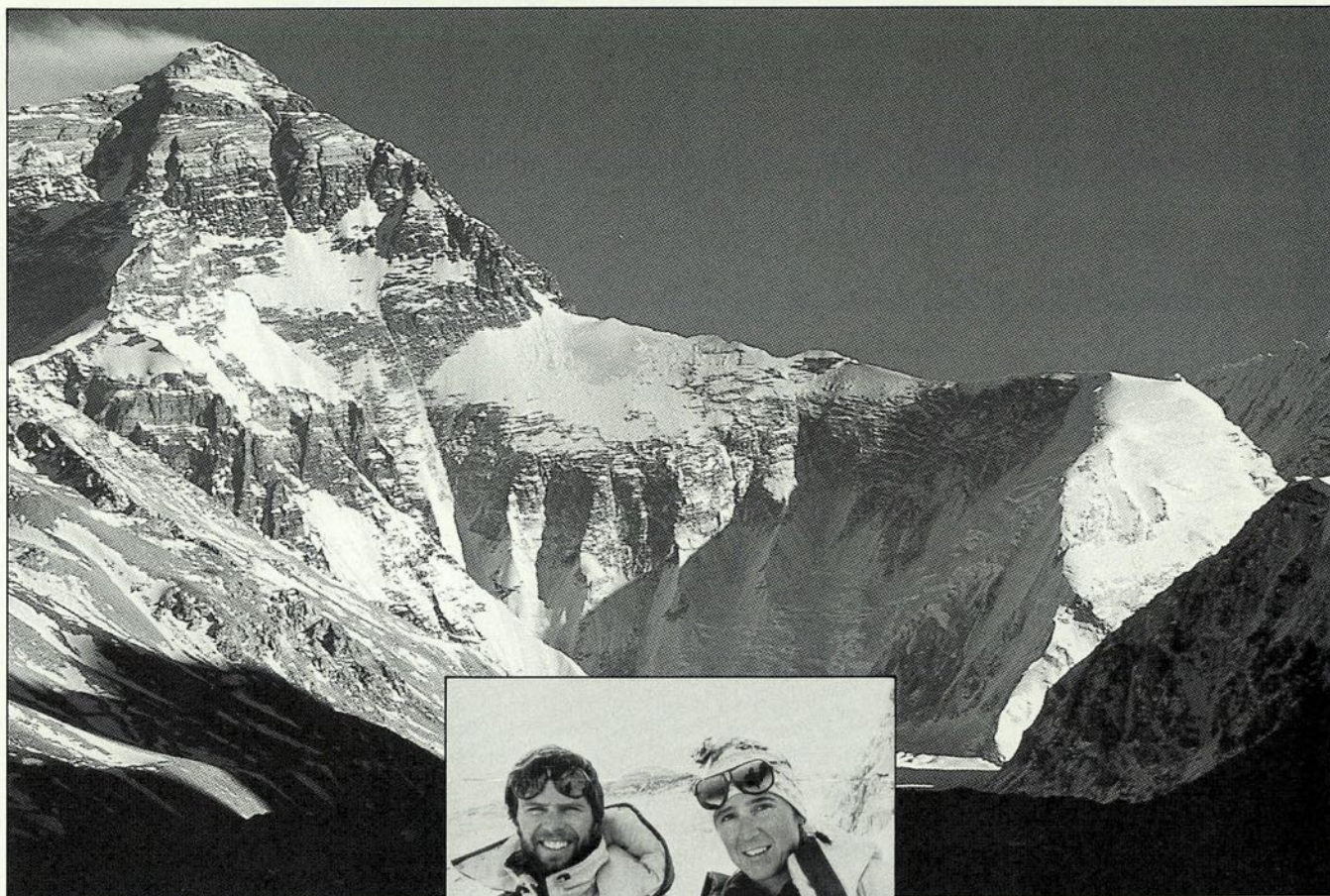
In 1979, a Yugoslav team made the first ascent of the West Ridge Direct, placing five members on the summit in two separate groups; however, tragedy struck when the very experienced Sherpa Ang Phu fell to his death while descending to the high camp. The Yugoslavs started from the Khumbu Glacier, climbed difficult ground to the Lho La, and continued on the upper part of the mountain following the very crest of the ridge. (In 1963, Hornbein and Unsoeld had traversed left and followed easier ground between 7500 and 8500m). A strong Bulgarian team repeated the Yugoslav route in 1984, but not without incident; one member died in a bivouac after his successful summit bid, and two others suffered varying degrees of frostbite.

The West Ridge has seen a number of concerted attempts over the past several years. Perhaps the most ambitious was that of a British team which reached 7400m during the winter of 1980-81. In 1983, strong American teams were active on the Nepalese and Tibetan sides of the peak; both were turned back high on the mountain by violent winds. Another American team tried the Direct from Nepal in fall 1985, again without success.

The Canadian Everest Light Expedition consisted of Jim Elzinga (leader), Barry Blanchard, James Blench, Dwayne Congdon, Kevin Doyle, Dan Griffith, Dave McNab, Chris Shank, Laurie Skreslet, Albi Sole, and Sharon Wood. Jane Fearling and Dr. Bob Lee acted as support members; no Sherpa support was taken.

The team followed a spur on the Tibetan side of the West Shoulder to the crest of the ridge at 7300m, continued along the ridge to 7600m at its junction with the Direct, and then followed the 1963 American Route to the summit. A total of six camps were





▲ Everest from the Rongbuk Glacier. Dwayne Congdon and Sharon Wood prior to the summit bid. ►

## American Team To Search For Mallory & Irvine

placed, the last one at 8200m in the Hornbein Couloir. Although oxygen was used on the upper part of the mountain, supplies were limited, and most of the work above Camp V (7600m) was done without supplemental oxygen.

By mid-May the expedition was in a position to mount a summit bid. Using oxygen, Congdon and Wood, supported by Blanchard and Doyle, established Camp VI at 10 pm on May 19. A late start the next morning resulted, with Congdon leaving at 9 am and Wood following a half hour later. Fairly firm snow allowed good progress, but high winds and lenticular clouds over the summit made success seem an unlikely possibility. Indeed, the weather had been poor throughout the entire summit push, often delaying starts until after noon.

Nevertheless, the pair pushed on, feeling that this was the expedition's only chance of reaching the summit. By 5 pm, they were halfway to the top, the winds died, and at 9 pm they stepped onto the summit. Sharon Wood thus became the first Canadian woman to stand on the highest point on earth.

The winds came back up later, making for a dramatic descent, almost an

epic when Congdon ran out of oxygen part way down. The pair had become separated at that point, and Wood continued on, reaching Camp VI at 2 am; Congdon arrived at 3:30 am.

With the weather worsening, and too few healthy climbers to support a second summit bid, the expedition evacuated the mountain without further incident. Congdon suffered some superficial frostbite, but no permanent damage.

Operating in traditional style, with fixed ropes, fixed camps, and a relatively large team, this expedition admittedly broke no new ground in Himalayan climbing. Nevertheless, it is a good example of what can be accomplished by a tightly-knit group with a common goal. Most of the expedition's members came from the Calgary/Banff area; all had a broad alpine background in the Rockies and South America, and most had prior Himalayan experience. Perhaps most important, they had all climbed together extensively before, and this appears to have contributed greatly to the cohesiveness and energy which were crucial for success.

High on Everest, Noel Odell was straining for a glimpse of two friends when the white, opaque mists parted briefly. It was June 8, 1924, and Odell was at 26,000 feet. Just then, he saw George Mallory and Andrew Irvine heading up the mountain's Northeast Ridge, seemingly within 800 feet of the summit.

Whatever happened next, and whether it happened on the way up or down, no one knows. The two disappeared, but the question of whether they actually were the first to reach Everest's summit, almost 30 years before Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, lingers as one of mountaineering's great mysteries.

This month, an American expedition will head to the world's highest mountain to explore the puzzle. Organizer Tom Holzel speculates that the 1924 pair could have separated as they were climbing to the summit, Irvine giving Mallory his oxygen and descending back to high camp, and Mallory continuing the climb, reaching the summit at about 3 pm. Both carried a Kodak vest-pocket camera.

Holzel will use metal detectors gauged to the frequency of the camer-



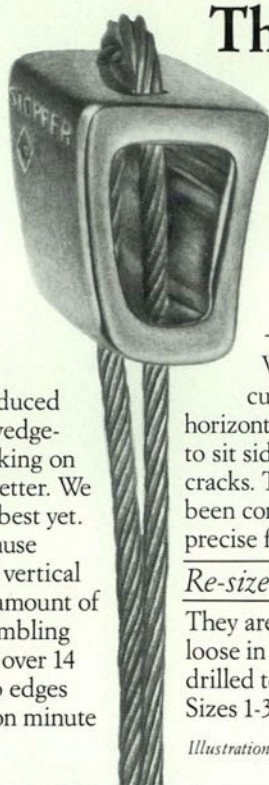
## Chouinard Stoppers®



The subtle trapezoidal shape allows good placements in flares and shallow cracks.

### *Introducing the fifth generation of Chouinard Stoppers*

Since 1972, the year we introduced the first progressively sized wedge-shaped nuts, we've been working on ways to make our Stoppers better. We think these new nuts are our best yet. They are easier to clean, because we've reduced the amount of vertical curvature and increased the amount of time the nuts spend in the tumbling machine. Tumbling them for over 14 hours rounds off all the sharp edges that could hang the nuts up on minute crystals.



## The Shape of Things to Come

A new design expands the range of this basic nut

### *New fit possibilities in flaring cracks*

We've eliminated the side curves, replacing them with a horizontal taper which allows the nuts to sit sideways in flares and bottoming cracks. The new Stoppers have also been completely resized to provide a precise fit progression.

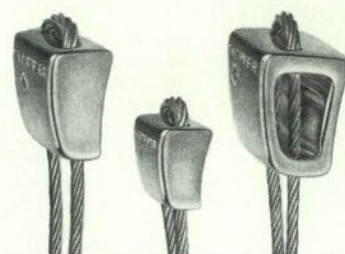
### *Re-sized and re-numbered*

They are available wired in all sizes or loose in sizes 8-13. Loose Stoppers are drilled to accept 5.5mm Kevlar only. Sizes 1-3 remain straight-sided.

*Illustration: Robert Fassl*

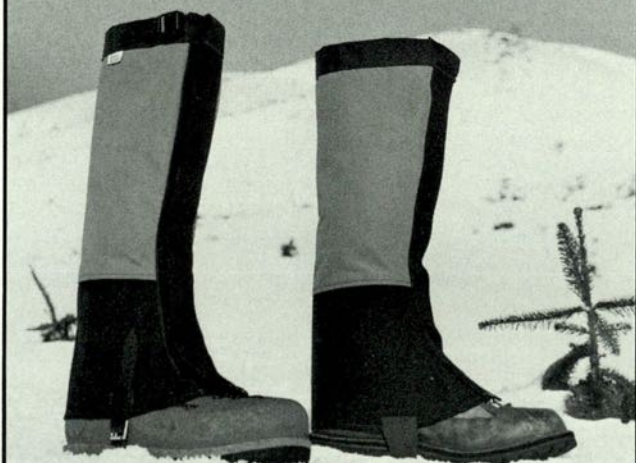
Available in mid April at your Chouinard Dealer, or from us at the address below.

**Chouinard Equipment, Ltd.**  
PO Box 90/245 West Santa Clara  
Ventura, California 93002 USA



## **CROCODILES™**

**FAR SUPERIOR TO ORDINARY GAITERS**



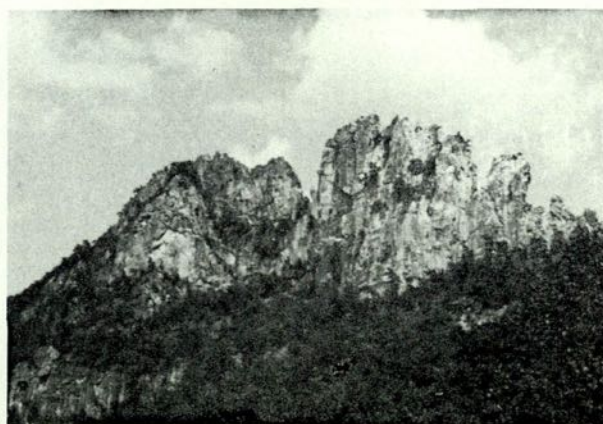
**CROCODILES™ ARE THE ONLY FITTED GAITERS WITH SIZE ADJUSTMENT**

**Outdoor Research**

1000 1st Ave. So. • Seattle, WA 98134 • 206-467-8197

**ASK FOR OUR FREE COLOR CATALOG**

## **FREE '86 CATALOG**



## **FINEST CRAFTSMANSHIP**

Designs and Fabrics  
for the Most Demanding Conditions.

A Full Line of Packs and Shells, Bivy Sacks,  
Haul Bags, Gaiters and More.

Custom Options to Suit Your Needs.

## **NORTH COAST CLIMBING EQUIPMENT**

P.O. Box 234 Montville, Ohio 44064 (216) 968-3806



a's steel and brass combination, in the hope of finding one or both cameras. Kodak has provided special chemicals to develop the film while on the mountain, to avoid possible damage caused by temperature change.

Holzel, who has spent hundreds of hours researching the early expedition, predicted in 1971 that the body of Mallory or Irvine would be found below the mountain's First Step. Then in 1979, a Chinese climber reported seeing the body of "an English dead" in old clothes in the area Holzel predicted, but the climber had difficulty explaining himself to his Japanese leader, and he died in an avalanche before elaborating. In 1933, an ice axe was found on sloping terraces below the First Step.

David Breashears, a filmmaker and winner of two Emmy awards, hopes to explore, rather than solve, the mystery. "We want to make a film that is not about the search, but the early Everest climbers. It's going to be about what might have happened on the mountain, from the view of the contemporary climber with space-age gear versus climbers with stuff from the Wright brothers era."

Breashears, who has been on Everest four times and to its summit twice, is fascinated that Everest, its dangers better understood now, is held in more awe today than before; many athletic achievements are respected less as time moves on. The 1920's climbers, he believes, "were not intimidated. They were a bit naive." In Britain, some call the expedition an invasion of privacy. But Breashears promises he wouldn't disturb the bodies or move them. Should Andrew Mallory be found, his son has asked Breashears to build a cairn over the body.

A summit bid is planned after filming. Even without a summit try, the project will be a tremendous test of endurance. Most expeditions come down quickly once their objectives are met; this one, however, will hang around at 8000 meters. The expedition will consist of ten climbers, (including Andy Harvard, veteran of 12 Himalayan expeditions, Mary Kay Brewster, Sue Galler, Annie Whitehouse, and Mike Weiss), ten Sherpas, and five cameramen. There will be as many as four people up high at a time.

Breashears speculates the lost men were capable of making the top, and that they would neither have separated nor survived a night out.

But whether or not they made the top, he suggests, "isn't so important. What's important is that they didn't have the right gear, but they had the ability." Mallory and Irvine probably wore nailed boots, pith helmets, wrap-around leggings, heavy knickers, and layers of sweaters, topped with tweed jackets.

In March, Odell and Captain John Noel, 96, also of the 1924 expedition, agreed to be interviewed by Breashears. On film, Noel recalls the climbers as within 600 feet of the top: "Two little figures slowly moving forward, but forward, a step at a time, and . . . four hours too late." Odell suspects the pair had problems with their oxygen apparatus.

Odell is gracious and gentlemanly, typical of early British mountaineers. He doesn't mind that Mallory didn't take him, the more experienced climber, for the summit try rather than Irvine, who "wasn't an expert mountaineer, but a very expert skier." Others have criticized the choice, but Odell loyally calls it "justified."

"As I'd assured Mallory, I wasn't so badly disappointed at all . . . I was going to be very happy doing some geology on the face of the mountain." Odell lectures on the importance of taking an interest in an entire mountain and its natural history; he disapproves of those who go to a peak just to climb it and then "possibly, if they can get together enough words, to write a book or something."

He describes Mallory: "A good-looking chap, athletic-looking, some would say. He was a moderate scholar. He did a bit of rowing. He played games. He was not an outstanding athlete at all. But so many good mountaineers are not athletes."

Mallory was "very keen" that the mountain should be climbed, but "I never got any sense that he was completely obsessed any more than the rest of us," says Odell.

And Odell says Mallory would not have left Irvine. Of the outcome: "I hope they climbed it." He thinks the two died descending, roped, one possibly pulling the other off the ridge several thousand feet down the East Face. He believes the ice axe, found much lower on the ridge than where he last saw the men, was deliberately set down, during either the ascent or descent.

Eventually, Odell's real feelings emerge. If Mallory had invited him on the summit team, Odell says, "I would have been willing to forego my interest in the scientific side of examining the mountain . . . and have gone with him."

Might that team of two have made it? "Well, . . . we might, yes, we might have."

"I shouldn't have minded reaching the top of Everest . . . I shouldn't have minded at all. Why should I?"

Though his agreement to talk with Breashears indicates his acceptance of the upcoming search, Odell would rather his teammates not be found. "I would prefer that Mallory and Irvine remain there," he says, "as a memorial to their great effort."

— Alison Osius

# GO ANYWHERE!

WITH FIVETENNIES™



## WHO WEARS FIVETENNIES™?

- extreme climbers
- beginning climbers
- peak baggers
- broke climbers
- wall climbers
- hikers
- fell runners
- mountain bikers
- and even
- some normal people

5.10™

P.O. Box 1390  
Glendale, California 91209  
(818) 768-3068





Photo: Phil Bard.



Down to Earth with

# Ron Kauk

Interview by John Sherman

Ron Kauk has been one of America's leading rock climbers for the last decade. He attended the Yosemite Mountaineering School at age 14, and subsequently brought himself up in Camp 4, making Yosemite Valley his home since age 16. Throughout his career, Kauk has excelled at all facets of rock climbing, from bouldering to big walls.

*Midnight Lightning*, perhaps America's most famous boulder problem, still remains a formidable testpiece. Seven years after Kauk first mastered it, the number of ascents can still be counted on your fingers and toes (even if you're Maurice Herzog). Fewer climbers yet have managed *Thriller*, the current Camp 4 boulder testpiece, another Kauk first.

Kauk and John Bachar were the first to break the 5.12 barrier in Yosemite with their first free ascent of *Hotline* in 1975. Some climbers have since downrated *Hotline* to 5.11, but there is no such doubt about *Tales of Power*. Overhanging 20 feet in 60, the straight-in crack of *Tales* doesn't exceed 1½ inches in width until the last few moves, and allows only one rest. Kauk's first ascent of *Tales* marked an incredible jump in crack climbing standards. Even in this era of sticky shoes and spring-loaded camming devices, this jump has yet to be matched.

Visiting the Shawangunks in 1977, Kauk made the long-awaited second ascent of Steve Wunsch's *Super Crack*, widely regarded as one of the most difficult routes in the country at that time.

Kauk also pushed the standards on long free routes. He was the first to free climb *The Rostrum* and the *East Face* of Washington's Column (renamed *Astroman*), both Grade V's. Of *Astroman's* 12 pitches, five are 5.11 and four are 5.10. A decade later, this route remains one of the most demanding climbs of its length in the Valley.

Not content to rest on his laurels, Kauk freed the Lost Arrow from its base (V, 5.12) last summer for a live television broadcast on Wide World of Sports.

Kauk is also adept at aid climbing. He has several Grade VI first ascents on El Capitan to his credit, not to mention what could well be the first Grade VII wall in the world — Uli Biaho in Pakistan.

Accomplishments like these haven't come without hard work. Hundreds of hours of fingertip hangs, rope climbing, free weights, and balance training have made Kauk one of America's fittest athletes. He has placed high in his three appearances on TV's *Survival of the Fittest*. Through luck and not over-training, Kauk has avoided any serious injuries.

Kauk's overwhelming victory at the recent Stone Master's Competition proved that he is still at the top of the American free climbing scene. The following interview was conducted over several days in May 1986 at Yosemite Valley.

*You've been at the forefront of American free climbing for more than a decade without consenting to be interviewed. Why are you speaking up now?*

I should have been more involved in communicating with other climbers years ago, because obviously not enough people did. At the time I was surprised that people were writing articles about themselves. I

◀Ron Kauk on *Midnight Lightning*.

didn't concern myself with it because it was secondary. It's just a magazine. It isn't what climbing is really about. I didn't see the impact it would have. Now I can see this number chasing game has really gone wild. With so many climbers around, there are many directions the sport could go without any guidance.

There's been a loss of the definition of free climbing. This is where I feel that I may have lacked some

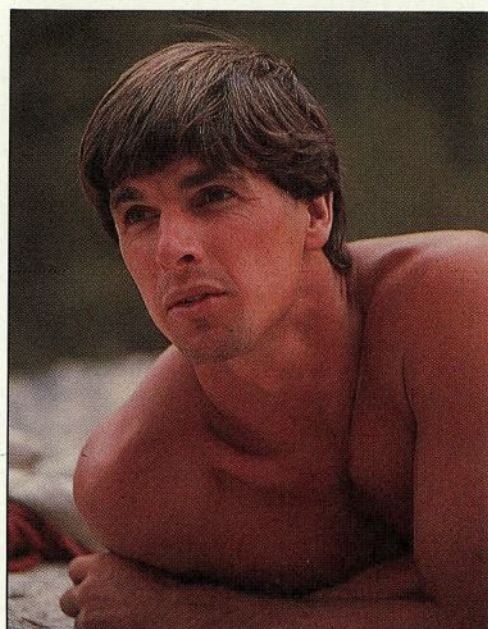


Photo: Galen Rowell/Mountain Light.



*When I started climbing, there was a complete and total understanding of what free climbing is. The rope is only there to catch you if you fall. If you go up on a climb and hang off the rope — that's your aid climber right there. How hard is it for someone to understand that?*

responsibility to the sport because I didn't see it coming. I should have helped steer what I believe to be good free climbing onto a younger generation of climbers. I'd feel good if I could help them set some goals and develop an understanding for what they might be seeking through climbing.

*Had someone influenced you in that way at the start of your career?*

Chouinard's catalogues were a big influence. I could relate to what was written about relaxing your mind, and not damaging the rock. Robbins' ideas about bolting also influenced me. How if everyone overbolted, it would ruin the whole idea behind adventure and why you climb.

You could feel the concern, the love, and the dedication Chouinard and Robbins had for the sport. They weren't writing these things for themselves to hear.

*When did climbing become your major passion?*

When I first started climbing I didn't get out much. I was satisfied if I could make it out once or twice a month. But by the time I was 16, I was totally dedicated. I was in Yosemite every spare moment I had and was just breaking into 5.10. I never wanted to be the best climber. I thought if I could get as good as guys like Barber and Wunsch that would be just great. I wasn't overly gung ho about it and I didn't try to rush into things before I felt I was ready. I had a list of climbs of increasing difficulty that I would try to knock off, working my way up. By the end of the summer, I flashed *Butterballs* and felt good about it.

What gets me nowadays is that people are rushing into it so much. They want to achieve this status overnight, but it's so much more satisfying to work up to it and savor it.

*Have you put off trying routes until you think you can flash them? For example, The Phoenix?*

Moffat had a good thought about how, in your own area, you keep putting off a route until you think you're in good enough shape to flash it. Then it gets so easy to put off that you just keep doing it. Moffat created a mental block in *The Phoenix* for those of us here that love to flash climbs. It's a real mental thing, this flashing game. You have to free your mind of what others think of you. If I don't flash it, they'll say "Kauk's lost his touch" or "Moffat's way better." Fortunately, my ego doesn't bruise too much if I fall off things. What really counts is that I tried my best.

What's great about flashing is the total dedication put into that day. Flashing is great when it happens, but the most important thing is doing every move from the ground up on each try.

*Do you wish you had tried The Phoenix before Jerry flashed it?*

Maybe. *The Phoenix* isn't anything I lose any sleep over. I'm used to it being just down the road.

*Back to your early career. What was your next goal after Butterballs?*

That autumn I left school to do Geek Towers (*Freestone*, 1974), which was my first big new route. Then we freed the *Right Side of The Folly*. New free routes were really getting me motivated. There wasn't a set goal. They just kept popping up.

*Like the East Face of Washington's Column? (Astroman, 1975).*

Bachar and I had heard that Donini wanted to do it, and believed it would go if someone could free the long corner on the third pitch. So we went up there and I freed that pitch. When we got down, we went up to John Long and told him about it. He had been climbing a few years longer than us. So he says, "All right, we're going!"

We're thinking, "Where are we going? That's a big wall! We're just Cookie and Arch Rock climbers."

So we went up there and one of us freed every pitch, but the others followed on jumars. What I'm getting at is that none of us had actually freed all of it. I think Bachar and I would agree that we were just trying to do a big wall. It was the first bivouac for either of us.

Long was ecstatic. He realized it was a big thing that we had proven it would go free. But I wanted to go back and free all of it in one go. So I returned the next spring with Werner Braun and led all the pitches, without falls. That took a while to sink into me — just what an achievement it actually was.

*You went back to the East Face of the Column because you felt it hadn't seen a proper free ascent. Just what is your definition of free climbing?*

When I started climbing there was a complete and total understanding of what free climbing is. The rope is only there to catch you if you fall. If you go up on a climb and hang off the rope — that's your aid climber right there. How hard is it for somebody to understand that?

*There were a lot of other good climbers active at that time. Who impressed you the most?*

Guys like Steve Wunsch, Henry Barber, and Dave Breashears. Purist types, totally dedicated to the sport. These guys were pushing as hard as they could to increase standards in the best style. That, of course, rubbed off on me. I felt like a protege of these guys. I felt, "This is the way to do it."

*Tales of Power (1977) and Separate Reality (1978), the roof crack just above Tales, are two of your best known testpieces. Tell us something about these climbs.*

I spotted *Tales of Power* from Elephant Rock while climbing with Nic Taylor. The lighting was just right so I could see what looked like a crack across the canyon. We spotted a descent down a creek and across some slabs, so we could check it out from below. It never crossed our minds to rappel down the cliff. Rapping down and checking it out would have just



taken away from the whole idea of the adventure.

So we thrashed down and traversed over to the wall. Nic got there first and said, "Oh, there's no crack here."

I thought, "Really. We walked all the way down here and there's no crack." But I walked over to where Nic was and looked up the thing and thought, "Oh my god, look at *this*."

We couldn't wait to try it, but at the same time we thought, "This thing's horrendous."

*I heard you put a couple of pins in above the alcove to protect it.*

It was a real parallel crack. The first time I tried it I only had hexes and it seemed too hairball with just nuts. I went back with some pins and would go up, hang off of jams, and whack whack whack, drop the hammer, reset my jams, then whack whack whack — and leave them fixed. It was way hard placing those pins.

*How many tries did it take to do that climb?*

I walked down there on five or six occasions and gave it as many tries as I had in me each time. On the last day I was really close to doing it, but I had gotten some gobis and wanted to tape up for another try. Well, I dropped the only roll of tape and it bounced over the ledge and out of sight. I thought, "Oh man, I'm going to have to walk all the way down under this big cliff and look for the tape." But first I walked to the drop off and there it was, caught by a little twig on the very edge.

Next try I jam up the thing and pull over the top and it's like, "Check this out." You see, *Tales of Power* was so overhanging that we couldn't see *Separate Reality* while we were working on it. It was a great reward, because just when I finished *Tales of Power* there was another incredible overhanging crack above it we didn't even know about. I was so excited about it that I tried it that day.

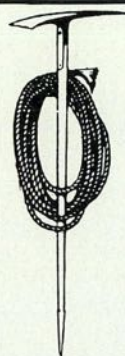
Later I went back with Dale Bard and we thought it would be spooky trying to place hexes in this roof crack. So we lowered some slings through the roof to protect the first few moves. We thought this was pretty tricky. I caught some shit for pre-protecting like that, but we had to use such long slings we would swing back into the wall when we fell. We eventually abandoned those and led it with hexes from beneath.

*Ray Jardine was introducing hangdogging techniques to the Valley around that time. What did you think of him?*

My first experience seeing a hangdogger in action was watching Jardine near the lip of *Separate Reality*. He was hanging one hand down shaking out. The next thing I saw were both hands shaking out. I thought, "He's going to lower any second," but he pulled back up after a little rest and started working out the moves again. I couldn't believe it. I was thinking, "He's just ruining the climb for himself. What's he doing monkeying around out there?" But I just shrugged my shoulders and thought, "Well, that's just Jardine. He's an oddball, a loner. That's his problem."

*Jardine faded from the scene pretty quickly. I think that happens to a lot of hangdoggers.*

Exactly. I think that when they go to sleep at night,



## BOOKS FOR MOUNTAINEERS

If you like to read this magazine, chances are you would like some of the books we sell. The breadth of our offerings may astonish and please you very much.

Our catalog features hundreds of rare, hard-to-find and essential books on climbing, exploration, travel, skiing and much else: guidebooks, maps, videos, calendars, paperbacks and "remaindered" bargains are all offered.

Please write or call for a free catalog.

Michael Chessler Books

90 Hudson Street, New York NY 10013

Toll Free (800) 654-8502

NY & AK (212) 219-1696

Rock Climbing in Eldorado  
Ice Climbing &  
Avalanche Courses in Ouray  
International Expeditions  
Mountaineering Courses in the Rockies

## INTERNATIONAL ALPINE SCHOOL



## BOULDER MOUNTAIN GUIDES

P.O. Box 3062, Eldorado Springs, Colorado 80025 U.S.A.  
(303) 494-4904

Visit our new shop in Eldorado Springs  
Write or call for a free brochure

Professional Guides and Instruction  
Leaders since 1968



## Outdoor Experience

Personal and Knowledgeable Instruction in

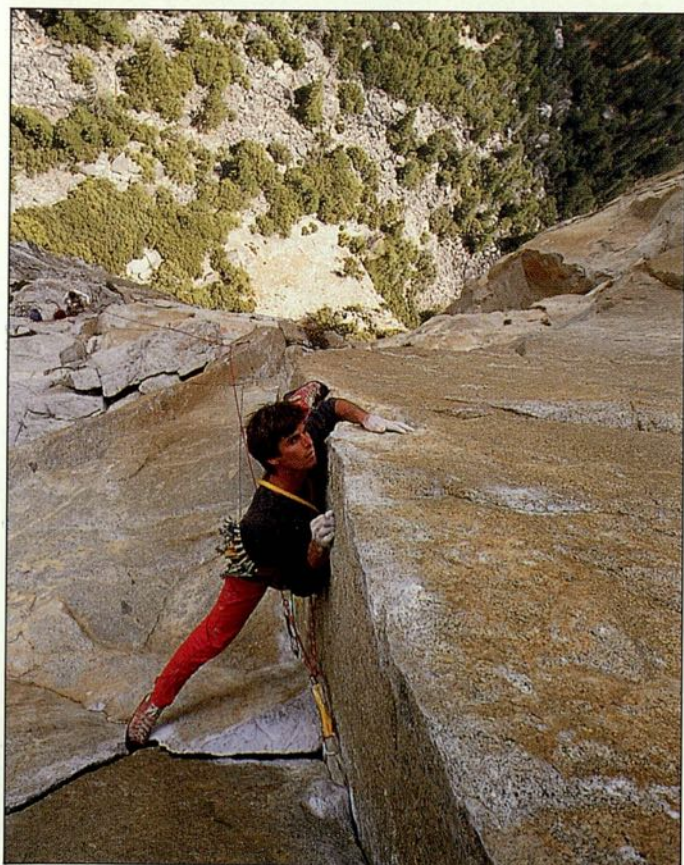
- Nordic Skiing
- Rock Climbing
- Ice Climbing

For Further Information Write or Call

## Outdoor Experience

2207 Ayrshire Drive • Fort Collins, CO 80526  
(303) 493-6770





Photos: Galen Rowell/Mountain Light.

With Werner Braun after climbing Astroman.▲  
 ▲Kauk on the 10th pitch of Astroman.  
*Tales of Power* ►

to use a figure of speech, they don't have a perfectly clear conscience. I just can't believe that they feel they've done the best they can. They're not getting this deep-rooted experience from climbing, the kind that will carry over year after year, so they burn out.

*A lot of hangdoggers claim that they're trying harder.*

They say they're trying harder, but they're not. They just don't have it. The routes they hang on are too hard for them, but they're going to ascend them anyway. If they're willing to try that hard on routes in that style, why not put the effort into doing all the moves from the ground up? I guess it's the speed thing, but what's the big deal about bagging as many numbers as possible? Is it a big ego trip for them or what?

I think this is where we have to go back to the question, "What are we really climbing for?" To be able to hold a list in front of your face when your joints are all arthritic and you can't yard up 5.13 anymore, and say, "I did this one, and this one, and this one."

Personally, I don't look at it that way. I think about the times like when I finally did *Tales of Power* and pulled over the top to discover *Separate Reality* — experiences that will last a lifetime.

*What about the claim that hangdogging makes you get better faster?*

How can hangdogging make you any better? It's



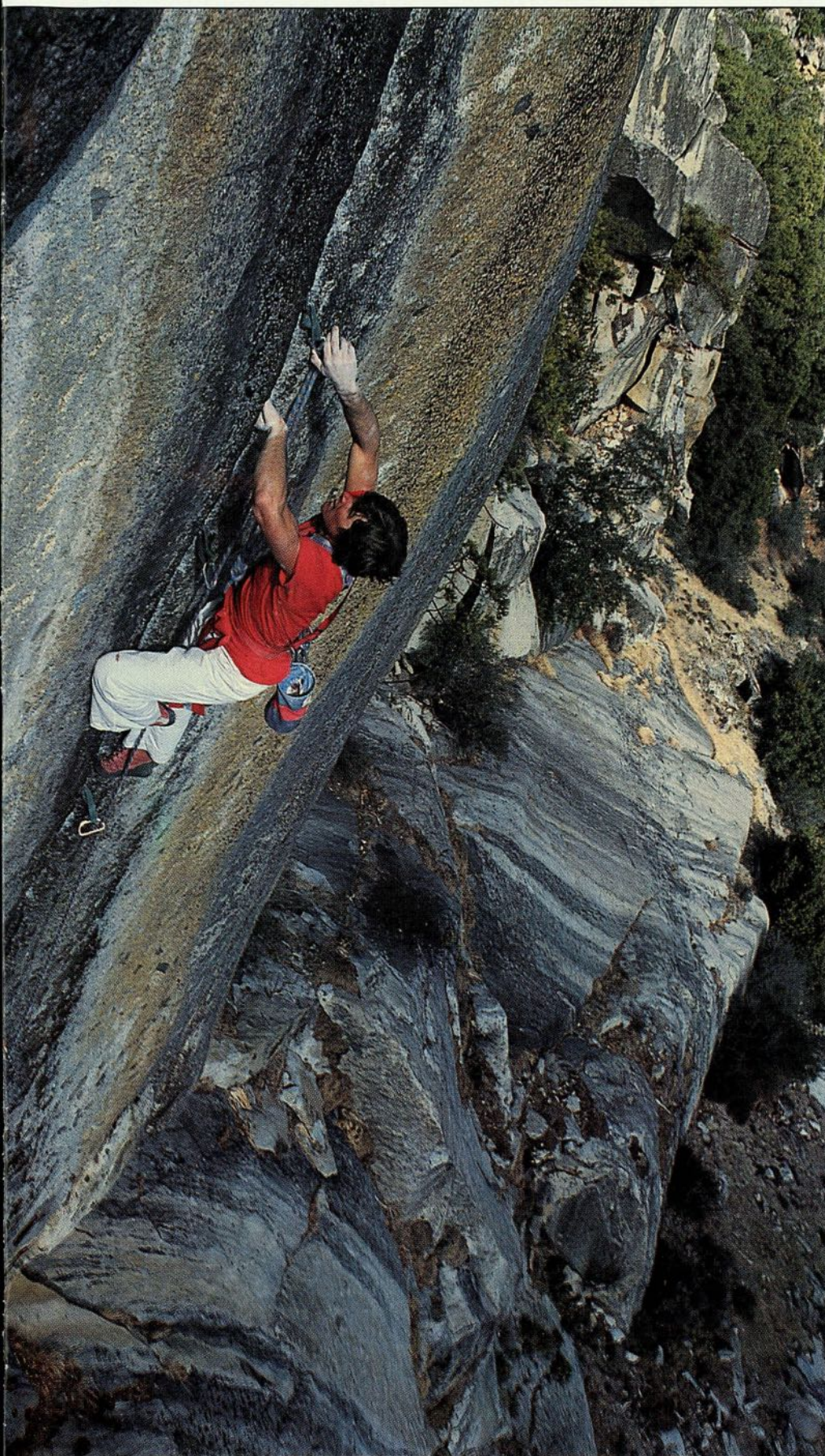


Photo: Phil Bard.

just getting the answers handed to you by hanging off the rope. To me that lowers the standard of the problem much further than it actually is. You're not getting better yourself. Psychologically you may feel that you're better because you've learned to do a problem faster, and it's another notch in your belt.

*So you'll actually get physically better if you climb each move from the ground up.*

Right. You'll get stronger if you hang on your arms to work out the moves, plus it increases your mental discipline.

Obviously it could get really frustrating to keep getting up to a point and not be able to do the move. I think that's what's happening with these guys, they don't have the mental discipline. They're so greedy they can't wait. I think they need to ask themselves, "Am I really getting better or am I just making people think I'm better?" These people are short-changing themselves. All they're concerned about is putting up a route, not *how* they put up a route. I feel the foundation of free climbing has really gotten weak with people resorting to hangdogging. The bottom line is that hangdogging is *aid* climbing, it's *not* free climbing.

*You claim your first ascent of Uli Biaho (1979) with John Roskelley, Kim Schmitz, and Bill Forrest, should be considered a grade VII, which would make it the first wall of that grade in the world. How do you justify this grading?*

Uli Biaho was a series of steps. First we organized in the States, then flew over, hired porters, hiked in seven days, and ice climbed 2500 feet just to get to the base. Then it took us ten days to climb it and two days to rap down. It wasn't over until we hiked out another seven days and were back in the village. All this time we were totally dependent on ourselves. Nobody was there to rescue us.

*That sounds far more serious than any walls you had done before. Did you ever consider backing out?*

The first day Roskelley and I started up the approach gully. After a couple hundred feet it started



*There's a different attitude in the Valley now. There isn't the burning energy of the Wunsch and Barber era. We know that the Valley is undoubtedly one of the greatest places in the world to climb. People feel good just about living here, making this a way of life and a home.*

to warm up, and all these rocks began to cut loose. It was getting hairy, so we jammed back down to base-camp. The next day the other guys went up, but I stayed on the glacier thinking, "I don't know about this, even the approach is horrendous." They stashed some gear at the base of the wall and were climbing back down when one of them dislodged a block the size of a VW. It looked like it hit one of them.

Luckily, it didn't, and I met them at the base of the gully. I said, "Look guys, I don't think I'm going to do this. It's too dangerous. I think I'm going to hike up to K2 and see Reinhold Messner." Roskelley said, "Let's talk it over, I see your point." So we hashed it over for a few hours. I was pretty depressed because I'd made up my mind, and was feeling bad that I'd be abandoning my partners. Roskelley was so understanding. He didn't try to deny my ability by saying, "Maybe you're not ready for this." Other people have done that to me and it really turns me off. He was the kind of partner you need, because he was open to your opinion. We worked out a new plan and went up the next morning with headlamps while it was still frozen.

*What was climbing Uli Biaho like?*

It took everything I had learned from the Valley and put it into use on one climb. Before you even get to the base you've seen and experienced things you would never find in the U.S. When you finally get there, you wake up to this tower and it forces you to focus on who you are and where you're coming from. Then you're up on the wall in a world of total commitment. It's an awakened state where every move is important. Even passing a water bottle. It's a matter of survival.

It's hard to get these experiences in modern life. That's why climbing is so great. I can use these experiences as a tool to better understand myself.

*Last March you won the Stonemaster's competition at Mt. Woodson. Why did you enter? What was your strategy and how did it work?*

When I heard about the contest I set a goal for myself to go there and do the best I could. Of course, I thought I'd like to win.

I wanted to get there about two weeks before the contest to hone up, but I ended up having only five days. A couple of days before the contest I ran into Rick Pigget, who showed me around some. A few other contestants were there and I got these bad vibes off of them, like they thought Rick was showing me which problems would be in the contest. The truth is, we never discussed the contest other than the rules.

My strategy was to get going early because there was a set time in which you had to complete each problem. I was hoping to build up rest time in case I needed it later for the harder problems. As it turned out, it helped to psyche out the competition; they knew I was already several problems ahead, and that put the pressure on.

*You were the only person to make it through the first three problems that day. Had you done any of them before?*

No. It was a totally fair contest. I'm confident enough in myself as a boulderer that I wouldn't like to feel that I had an unfair advantage.

*What do you think about the introduction of organized competition to climbing?*

I think it's something that will be happening more often. Bouldering contests are neat get-togethers for climbers, and that's something I like about the sport, the camaraderie. Woodson would have been a great trip for me even without the competition.

*If the prizes get bigger, don't you think the competition will become fiercer and less friendly?*

It could create a lot of monsters. The problem with competition is that there has to be a loser, and that's unfortunate.

*What about money? Have you made enough from climbing to survive on?*

Money has been a bit of a problem. Many people believe that I have a lot of money because of the Bronco commercial and the Lost Arrow climb, but those didn't add up to all that much: two grand for the climb and five grand total for the commercial. That doesn't go very far when you have three kids and car payments.

*There's been a lot of hero-worshipping going on lately with regard to solo climbing. Do you think the glory is worth the risks?*

If you get hurt solo climbing, I think you'd have to ask yourself that. If you're doing your best to protect yourself, you might not question it, but if you were doing something hare-brained, I'm sure you would. Sometimes it's just not worth it.

*You've mentioned a number of climbers that have influenced you over the years. Which climbers have recently impressed you?*

Jerry Moffat totally inspired my climbing. I think bouldering goes along with climbing, so good boulderers like Skip Guerin and Jerry Moffat impress me.

*But isn't Jerry a hangdogger?*

I don't think he's that big of a hangdogger. What's good about Jerry is that he respects people's style in their own area. He wouldn't come here and hangdog.

I have a lot of respect for Jerry as a person, because he doesn't try to take any energy from you. With some climbers you can feel their vibes when they're watching you. Like they want you to fail. Jerry's positive motivation has helped my climbing a lot. It's more important to be a good person than a good climber.





Climb High & Mammut  
are proud to announce  
their development of the new:

**FLASH!**

## **MAMMUT ARO-GALAXY 10mm**

**UIAA APPROVED SINGLE ROPE**

UIAA Falls: 6  
Impact Force: 870 kg  
Weight: 63 g/m  
Standard or Superdry

Contact your dealer or:



**CLIMB HIGH INC.**

P.O. Box 9210C, South Burlington,  
Vermont 05401. Call 802-864-4122.

*What about Bachar? I've read in the press that there's some rift between you two, but it appears to me that you are on good terms.*

We've been friends for a long time, and of course we've had some ups and downs. I've been mad at him before and I'm sure he's been mad at me, but that's something those magazine people like to play on. I think John and I share a real close understanding of what free climbing is.

*Speaking of bad reporting, what do you think of all the bad press that has been generated about the Valley recently?*

I have to admit that when I read that stuff it sort of gets my hackles up. It's insulting. Where do these guys get their facts? I don't remember anyone saying that we had the hardest routes, or that we were the best climbers.

There's a different attitude in the Valley now. There isn't the burning energy of the Wunsch and Barber era. We know that the Valley is undoubtedly one of the greatest places in the world to climb. People feel good just about living here, making this a way of life and a home.

The people saying this stuff are just putting others down to make themselves feel better. It's too bad for them and it's too bad for the climbing community to have to read such negative thoughts. Maybe it's just a trick, an attempt to put an iron under the locals to spark some energy, but I don't think that's necessary.

*What do you see in the future for Valley climbing?*

I think that once El Cap and Half Dome are climbed in a day, you'll see less emphasis on speed climbing. (See *Basecamp*) Steve Schneider's attempt to solo *The Nose* in a day is one of the most impressive things I've heard of lately. Of course it would have been great if he had made it, but the fact that he just tried impressed me.

I think you'll see more short free climbs at higher standards. The easy pickings are gone and it will take a lot more effort to find and put up new routes. I was fortunate to come here when I did, when there was so much to do.

*What do you see in your own future?*

Right now I just want to free climb. I'd like to make enough money through climbing to support myself without working other jobs. I'd like to enter more bouldering contests and travel more. Speed climbing meets, like those in Russia, are something I'd like to try. I'd especially like to climb in Australia and France, as well as throughout the U.S. I'll always value the camaraderie of climbers. You feel at home wherever you climb.

*Why do you feel climbing has been so good to you?*

Climbing can be a self-improvement tool. Climbing's an individual thing, it's a reflection of yourself. When you put up a route you're looking at yourself. If you chisel holds, it's your responsibility, nobody else's. I feel good about myself because I know. I've tried one hundred percent, every move from the ground up. I believe in the old saying, "You only get out of something, what you put into it."





## THE HIGH TIMES & LONG WALKS ♦ Peter Cole

One of the finest expressions of mountain sculpture can be found in western Wyoming. The continental divide, having virtually disappeared north of Rocky Mountain National Park, rises once again in a bold, dramatic crest of glaciated peaks known as the Wind Rivers.

Albert Ellingwood, perhaps the foremost American mountaineer before the second World War, wrote in 1930 that the northern Winds provide the best climbing in the range. Despite the post-war development of the Cirque of the Towers and other now-popular southern Wind River destinations, Ellingwood's opinion still holds, especially for alpine climbing. Ellingwood and other leading American mountaineers of his day, such as Ken Henderson, Miriam O'Brien, Robert Underhill, and Henry Hall, climbed before the advent of modern rockcraft, and American climbing then was heavily influenced by the alpine climbing occurring in Europe.

Generally speaking, the northern Wind River Range includes the Upper Green River drainage, culminating in the remoteness of the Peak Lake region; the deep valley of Dinwoody Creek, gathering its meltwaters from the glaciers that drape the summits along the divide north of Dinwoody Pass; and the peaks running south from Dinwoody Pass to Indian

Pass, containing two superb mountain basins to the west and almost entirely covered by a vast glacial icefield to the east. This superb alpine terrain comes to an abrupt end shortly thereafter, and doesn't rise to significance again until Middle Fork Lake.

Driving from Rock Springs to Jackson, one can't help but admire the seemingly endless line of jagged points along the continental divide, increasing in elevation toward the north by almost a thousand feet. This extra height is just enough to attract a lion's share of the short, intense storms typical of Wind River summers. Next time you get caught in a thunderstorm on some northern Wind River peak, look quickly to the south; chances are you'll see Temple, Wind River, and Lizard Head Peaks still basking in the warm summer sun.

Besides the distinguishing characteristics of live glaciers and a greater share of adverse weather, it seems that time in the northern peaks has somehow not caught up with the rest of the range. The streams run cold and fast with glacial flour, and the moraines give way to beds of silt and gravel just beginning to show the potential softness of an alpine meadow. The rock appears freshly broken, and for the climber, varies in quality as if time hasn't had a chance to smooth it out.

*Photo: Kendall Williams.*



Chris Landry on the northwest couloir of Arrowhead. ►

◄ The Peak Lake valley from the north, with the north faces of Arrowhead Peak, Sulphur Peak and Cutthroat Spire.

Migmatite is the term used to describe the northern peaks' appealing mixture of igneous and metamorphic rocks, particularly common in the Titcomb Basin. Just north, the Dinwoody Peaks bear numerous ice and mixed routes, but it doesn't take long to realize that among the shattered blocks of gneiss there are no great rock climbs. Yet it is solid enough to offer excellent third-class routes like the "Triple Traverse" of Warren, Doublet, and Dinwoody.

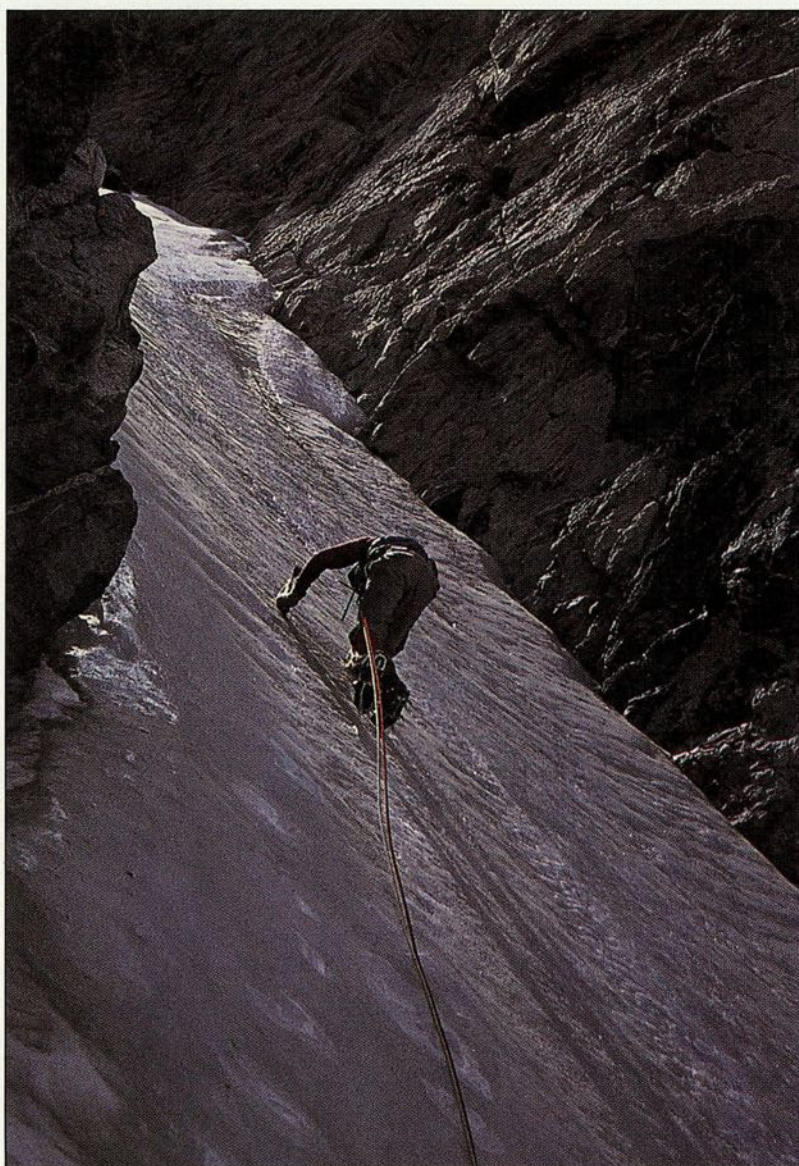
After turning off U.S. 191, State Highway 352 winds up the Green River. Water use from this smooth, fast-flowing current will begin before it reaches Pine-dale, and ultimately will take more than the Green and its tributaries can provide, leaving a saline trickle into the Gulf of California. But at the end of the road just above Green River Lakes, the current is a formidable barrier to the climbing upcanyon. The few bridges in the area are usually found somewhere downstream in the stiller waters of the upper lake, washed away once again by the amazing power of spring runoff.

The popular Highline Trail begins at Green River Lakes, leads past the often-photographed Squaretop, and eventually ends near the southern end of the range. If you plan to hike this scenic *tour de force*, get some local input on detours. Side trips to the high country avoided by the Highline will expand your vision of the great beauty found closer to the divide.

An ascent of Squaretop, eight miles from the trailhead, returns a large vertical investment in effort with a sweeping view of the entire area. The contrasting geology of sedimentation, igneous activity, and glacial sculpture capture the interested eye at once. The *West Face Dihedral* (V 5.10) is an excellent 15-pitch route on superb rock. Nearby, another highly recommendable route is found on the Bottle, a prominent tower above the cirque west of Squaretop. The *East Face* (III 5.8) is a Beckey route up a 1000-foot wall.

Peak Lake is a secluded, but increasingly popular destination. The easiest approach is via Elkhart Park, Jean Lakes, and Shannon Pass rather than the hike in from Green River Lakes, but the better part of two days is still necessary. The word for this area is *alpine*. Great rock routes are found all over the range, but mixed alpine routes at high standard are rare, and the Peak Lake region has some of the best. The lake and the valley above, which eventually ends at Knapsack Col (access to Titcomb Basin) are encircled by a variety of fascinating peaks.

A good introduction to this cirque is a moderately-



inclined couloir slightly west of the north buttress of Bow Mountain. More attractive, though, are the mixed routes on Sulphur Peak to the northwest, especially the classic *North Face* (IV 5.9), a six-pitch couloir of 55-60° ice followed by six pitches of climbing in a prominent dihedral. Slightly west, the *North Face* of Cutthroat Spire (IV 5.9 A-4) is a similar undertaking except for liberal amounts of difficult aid to climb the summit proper.

One of the finest sights from almost any angle is the compact, finally sculptured mass of Arrowhead Peak. The lack of talus attests to the rock's quality; even the descent down the east ridge is solid 3rd and 4th class climbing the entire way. The very attractive south face, reached via Upper Jean Lakes, has several moderate routes on solid rock, most of which are undocumented. The only recorded route, the *South Face* (IV 5.8), ascends a long dihedral ending near the summit, with the crux being found on the first two pitches. The north face is steep, impressive, and blank. Afternoon sun reveals several corner systems on the left side of the face, supposedly climbed but unconfirmed.

Photo: Michael Kennedy.



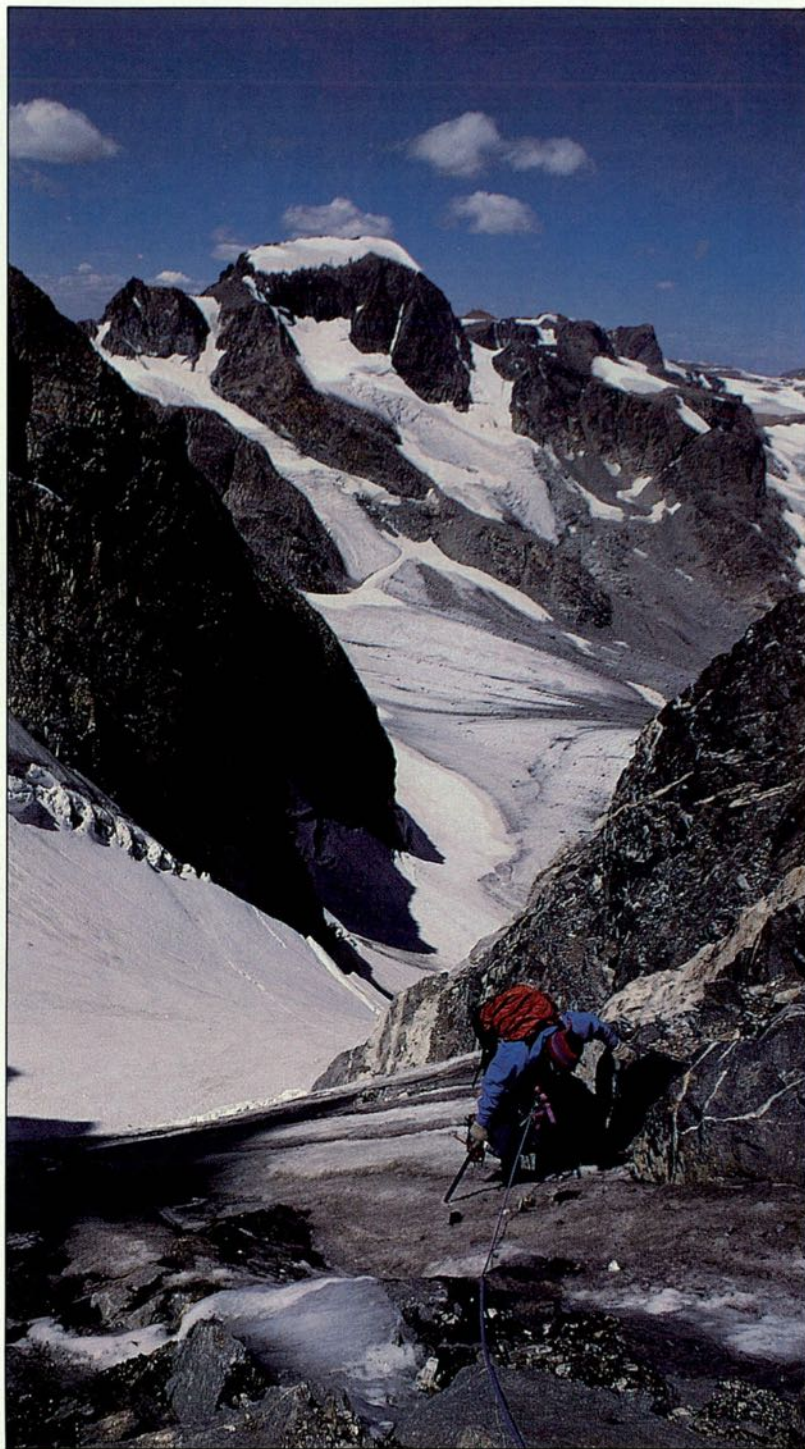
Chances are good that anyone you meet humping their killer load up the long grade from Trail Lake Ranch to the height of land between Goat Flat and Arrow Mountain will be heading for the same place you are. Gannett Peak is the highest point in Wyoming at 13,804 feet, a crown that would probably wear better on the Grand Teton (34 feet lower) with its notoriety and immense popularity. But as your weary body comes at last to Floyd Wilson Meadows, it suddenly catches up with your excited spirit, for watching over the ever-deepening Dinwoody Canyon stands the glacier-draped north face of Gannett Peak. Although still miles away, the feeling gradually dawns that here is a mountain truly worthy of its stature. The *North Face* of Gannett, first climbed by Henderson, Hill, and Underhill in 1929, is short by alpine standards, but its 900 feet of 45-50° ice is preceded by more than a mile of glacier travel.

The most popular route for Gannett aspirants is the *Gooseneck Ridge* the peak's standard route, via Titcomb Basin and Dinwoody Pass. The hike in from the west side of the divide saves 2000 feet of extra elevation one must gain when coming in from Trail Lake Ranch. Either way, there's one long pass to cross and better than 20 miles to be covered to reach the mountain.

One advantage of coming in from the east is the opportunity to climb on the excellent north faces east of Dinwoody Pass. The three peaks of Dinwoody, Doublet, and Warren drop steeply to the large flat expanse of the Dinwoody Glacier, and feature four couloirs of varying steepness and width, all less than 55°.

The *Northwest Couloir* on Mount Warren is short and narrow, giving way to moderate open ground halfway up the face. The *Les Dames Anglaises Couloir* rising to the Warren/Doublet Col is wide, but makes up for its lack of intimidation by offering a fine setting. The upper section of this couloir has two forks. The right alternative may be the steepest in the cirque and the left ends at the three pinnacles in the Warren/Doublet Col, which give rise to the couloir's name. The fourth gully, a narrow couloir on the north side of Dinwoody Peak, is usually used as a quick descent during normal snow years. The great bulk of Gannett Peak and the large, undulating blanket of the Dinwoody Glacier dominate the view from these gullies, tempting one to question whether the locale is indeed Wyoming.

These couloirs offer access to one of the finest alpine traverses in the Wind Rivers, bagging all three peaks and ending with an easy descent down either side of the divide from Dinwoody Pass. The *Triple Traverse* is primarily third and easy fourth class with some intriguing route-finding over and around knife-edged aretes and pinnacles. The only fifth class is the



*Climbing in Les Dames Anglaises Couloir, Gannett Peak behind.*

*East Chimney* on Dinwoody Peak, which once ascended, marks your return to the world of scree walking.

West of Dinwoody Pass are two more peaks worth considering. Woodrow Wilson and the Sphinx stand high above their surrounding valleys, and have long been popular with mountaineers. Standard ascents from either Dinwoody Glacier or Titcomb Basin involve long glacier approaches and short stretches of moderate rock climbing. The longer, more sustained *Southeast Ridge* (II 5.7) of the Sphinx is the alternative for those seeking a little more excitement.

Photos: Peter Cole





**T**here is no argument about which valley in the Wind River Range receives the most backcountry use. Perhaps this is a product of the paved road to the trailhead (the only one in the range) or the large number of horsepackers working the area. It certainly doesn't have anything to do with the fact that this area is a paradise of spectacular scenery and virtually unlimited climbing possibilities.

Titcomb Basin has a great appeal due to its variety of terrain. Literally every type of climbing can be had on the peaks that ring the basin. The long line of pinnacles and needles that make up the west side would merit significant attention were it not for the overpowering dominance of the great trio of peaks on the other side of the valley. The best of these pinnacles is Garnick's Needle (also known as the Great Needle). The short *East Ridge* (II 5.8) defines the left edge of the appealing *Northeast Face* (IV 5.8), which stands above seldom-visited Summer Ice Lake. The large permanent neve below the face gives a chilly alpine flavor when the morning sun has turned to the south.

Few peaks match Mt. Helen for design, appeal, and variety. The classic view, as seen from the lower end of the basin, is the tall, sheer bulk of Tower 1 with its giant west face and a series of towers along the ridge running east to the true summit. Early ascents of Mt. Helen were achieved via high glacial slopes east of the divide, but it is the complex group of towers to the west that puts this peak in a class of its own.

Most of the routes are concentrated on or near Tower 1. Coming from the north, you'll first find the

*The north side of Mount Helen; Tower 1 Couloir is the obvious ice line left of the sunlit Northwest Arete.*

*Northwest Couloir*, a rapid means of reaching the upper east ridge, where easy scrambling leads to the summit. Branching off right a third of the way up the *Northwest Couloir* is the *Tower 1 Couloir*. Rising for 1000 feet to the col between Tower 1 and Tower 2, this 60° couloir has a reputation for excellence that attracts climbers from all over the country.

Parties who move fast or who start early should consider completing the elegant *Tower Ridge* (III 5.6) once the top of the gully is reached. This classic ridge is mostly fourth class to the notch east of Tower 3, followed by three moderate pitches up solid, exposed rock. Some parties miss the last part of the upper ridge by staying in the gully that begins during the traverse on the north side of Tower 3. This escape hatch is a worthy one if the elements make for nasty conditions on the exposed final pitches. Right is the 11-pitch *Northwest Arete* (III 5.8 A-1) a fine narrow ridge that defines the right side of *Tower 1 Couloir* and the left side of the 1500-foot west face.

The right side of this wall contains the only documented route on the west face. There are some great pitches on the *Beckey/Lahr/Martinson* (V 5.10 A-2), but its major weakness is the blocky start and numerous ledges found four pitches from the top. This break in the wall facilitates a rapid escape to the much easier *South Ridge* should conditions warrant a retreat. The apparently unclimbed left side of the wall has no such weakness, and appears to be promising. The *South Ridge* of Tower 1 is a slabby, compact affair that eventually steepens as it nears the



top. It is most often climbed as a first leg of the complete *Tower Ridge Route* or as a safer descent from Tower 1 when other parties are in the usual descent gully to the right.

Complicated terrain forces descents that are often accomplished in the dark. First-time visitors are liable to be surprised by ground that seemed straightforward during the ascent. A good example is the descent off Mt. Helen: it can be a quick glissade down the *Northwest Couloir* or a prolonged maze through the labyrinths of scree slopes and cliffbands in the apparently benign terrain below the saddle south of the peak. If you choose to descend south of the peak, either circle back towards the *South Couloir* on Tower 1 after you cross the divide, or stay on the Helen Glacier until you reach the small North Peak of Sacagawea; then cross the divide and descend continuous scree slopes below its west face.

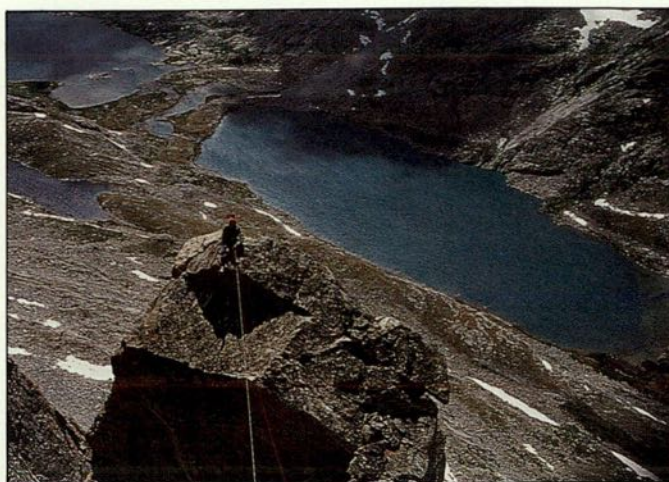
Mount Sacagawea is the least complex of the great trio of mountains dominating the basin. The excellent *West Face, Right* (III 5.9) divides its time between a large four-pitch dihedral below the steep main peak and four pitches up sunnier slopes on the southwest face. Curiously enough, the pair of fine routes that ascend the two forks of the *Wishbone Arete* (South Summit, West Face, III 5.5-5.7) on the southern peak of Sacagawea, also tend to be some of the longest grade III's in the range. Climbers can count on twelve or more pitches while picking their way up any number of interesting possibilities on either wing of the arete.

One of the quickest descents in the basin is available from either of the summits, but particularly so from the South Summit, where climbers need only to wander over to the low saddle south of the peak, then carefully pick their way down the south gully. When the gully ends on steep slabs several hundred feet above the talus, several careful third-class zig-zags or a few rappels will see you to the ground below.

The last of the great trio, with wind-swept summits 3000 feet above the valley floor, is Fremont Peak. The second highest peak in the range (13,745 feet) was first climbed in 1842 by John Fremont and company via the gentle southwest slopes, which has since become the route of choice for climbers eager to reach a high, easily accessible summit. Over the years other routes were added to the south and southwest faces of this massive mountain. Only in the last ten years has the great potential of the west face above Lower Titcomb Lake been explored.

There are a number of false summits along the ridge south of Mt. Sacagawea to the true summit of Fremont. Several major buttresses stand out in this very complex section of the mountain separated by deep, dark chimneys. The most notable of these has a slender spire near its apex. *West Face Spire* (IV 5.10+) is a striking route ascending this buttress in 11 pitches to the tip of the spire, rappelling into the notch formed by the spire and the main ridge, then climbing to the summit ridge via the crux pitch!

To the right of this buttress, the chimneys disappear and the face becomes more monolithic, reaching its full expression in the striking dihedral that splits the length of the face. The *West Face Dihedral* (IV 5.9 A-1) was first climbed in an impressive solo effort by Chris Landry in 1977.



Chris Landry nearing the summit of Mount Sacagawea, with Titcomb Lakes far below

On a cold, clear, and windy day in early August, Mary Erdei and I did this wild *directissima*. Several moderate pitches and some continuous movement led to the beginning of the dihedral and a steepening of the face. We would have preferred to wait for the sun, but felt pressured to keep moving by the great relief stretching over our heads. Cold fingers and thin climbing warranted a few moves of alpine aid before the route let up and the warm sun finally arrived.

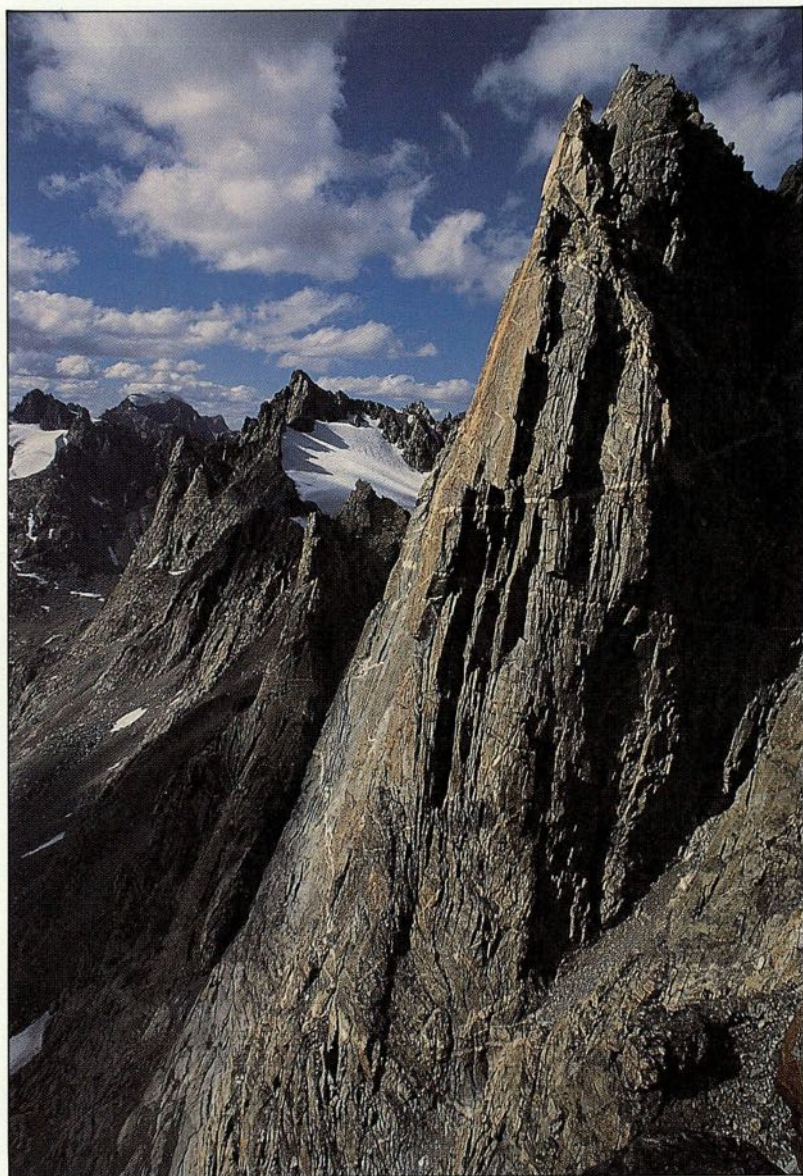
A blur of pitches followed. There were five or six roofs along the way, one with some awkward aid, and later, a touch of offwidth. One memorable pitch began with an undercling out an intimidating roof, holds appearing as if by magic, then one delightful move after another on the wall above. As the sun began to sink, we forced the pace even though we expected a casual descent. The amber sky backlit a multitude of peaks to the north and west, and the Teton Range seemed but a valley away.

As our eyes adjusted to the fading light, we moved across several gullies and began descending the long scree slope to Mistake Lake. We rested frequently on flat boulders, gazed at the starlit sky, and stayed until the chill forced us to leave. We arrived at camp somewhere around eleven o'clock, surprised to be greeted only by our dog. An hour later, as we slowly faded into a dreamlike trance, four bobbing headlamps waltzed into camp, tired from a great day on the *Wishbone Arete*. Shortly thereafter peaceful sighs gave way to absolute silence, and a dark, calm night passed into morning.

The final alcove of alpine expression in the northern Wind Rivers lies slightly south of Titcomb Basin and east of Island Lake, in the quiet emptiness of Indian Basin. Even with the increased ice climbing activity on the north side of Jackson Peak, Indian Basin remains a place to get away from the crowds. Summits at the north end of Titcomb Basin and in the Dinwoody/Warren group afford a fine view of the two wide couloirs on Jackson's north face. Both are moderately inclined and seven pitches long, and a narrower, more demanding ice climb splits the rocky buttress between the two.

Photo: Michael Kennedy.





*The west side of Mount Sacagawea and Mount Helen.*

A moderately steep rib at the junction of the north and west faces, the 1500-foot *North Ridge* (III 5.6) of Ellingwood Peak offers another example of a compact face where climbers may adjust the level of difficulty to suit their wishes. Since protection is more than adequate and ledges abundant, parties often move together to save time. The descent involves scrambling down the southwest ridge and either negotiating one of several talus chutes that drop back into the basin or continuing down to the low saddle between Ellingwood and Cairn Peak.

Although not exactly a stunning mountain, Cairn Peak continues to attract attention by virtue of its abundant selection of moderate medium-length routes. In a land where grade III's and IV's are the rule, many welcome the opportunity to climb shorter routes before proceeding on to longer, more demanding lines. Cairn Peak's proximity to camps near Island Lake also eliminates the need for a long approach.

*Photo: Peter Cole.*

Having highlighted the variety of climbing possibilities in the alpine regions of the northern Winds, it seems appropriate to make a final statement on behalf of the range. Being a long way from any large metropolitan area, the Winds are relatively uncrowded. However, recent years have seen an increase in backcountry use, and it won't be long before some of the rules that govern the use of mountains elsewhere will find their way into Forest Service logic. We can forestall and perhaps eliminate the need for such regulations by planning our trips wisely and taking steps to minimize our impact. Notably:

Avoid camping in high visibility areas. By spending a little extra time looking for a more secluded camp, we can lessen the impact on over-used sites and improve the quality of the experience as well.

Treat the water supply with an almost holy reverence. Use water supplies only for cooking and drinking; all other uses (bathing, cleaning fish, washing dishes) should be done away from streams and lakes, and dumped in an area where it will percolate back to the water supply slowly.

Walk the extra five minutes to do your thing up in a pile of talus, and burn the paper when you're done. It's hard enough to accept the effect that grazing stock is having on water resources; we can certainly do better. Giardia is a real concern. The problem has always existed to some extent, but human fecal contamination has made it what it is today.

Horsepackers can ease the pain of getting climbing and camping gear into the mountains. With it comes the responsibility to carry out everything when you leave. It's easy to go wild packing gear and food, only to realize that a 100-pound load is staring you in the face when the party's over.

We all go to the mountains for our own reasons. There is enough room to be sensitive to other people's space. If you feel crowded, check out some of the other valleys — you'll be lucky to see another party, and the climbing will not disappoint you.

There are many great routes in the northern Wind Rivers, and experiences weaved around attempts to climb here can make life richer. Large icefields, sheer walls, sinewy couloirs, unbelievable lightning storms, cold clear lakes, and carpets of wildflowers all contribute to an attraction hard to resist. I know I'll be going back again.

*Route names and ratings are from Joe Kelsey's Climbing and Hiking in the Wind Rivers, published in 1980 by the Sierra Club.*



# Ophir Broke

## Colorado High Country Crag

by Allen Pattie

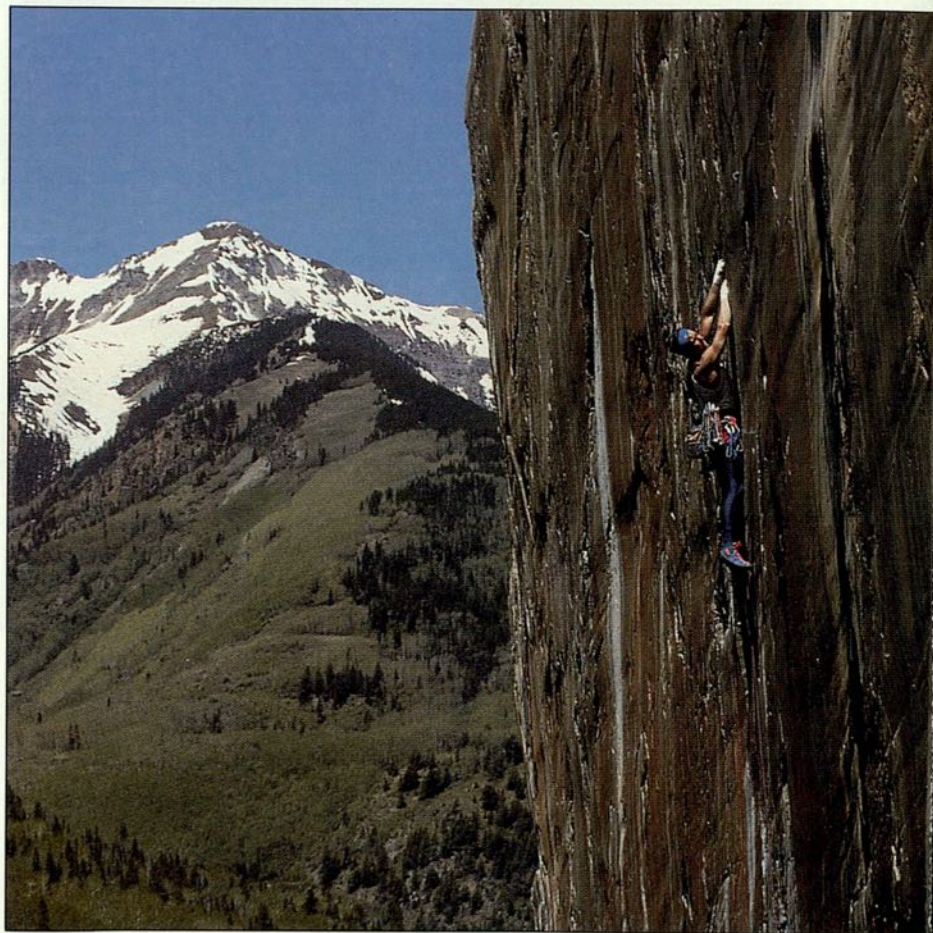
To the tourist, it's just another of the many non-descript cliffs in the San Juans of southwestern Colorado, but to the climber, the thousand-foot-high mass of rock between Rico and Telluride offers the best high country cragging between Estes Park and Tuolumne.

The Ophir Wall itself comes into view just a few hundred yards off Highway 145, near the turn-off to Ophir, and once there, few climbers have failed to be impressed by the view from the base of the wall. Fewer still can resist the temptation to explore one flank or another, laced with long cracks, strange ledge systems, and steep faces.

With a short climbing season due to its alpine location at 9500 feet, the area has taken a long time to be developed, and remains uncrowded to this day. Uncrowded is an understatement — empty is a more apt description, and the visiting climber will be hard-pressed to find a partner without combing the bars in nearby Telluride. The short summer isn't the only reason for the lack of crowds; most of the local cragsmen are terminally lazy, and, quite simply, have found much more pleasant activities to occupy their free time.

This has not always been the case, as the Ophir Wall and adjoining Cracked Canyon offer more than 120 routes. There have been many blasts of enthusiasm from the locals over the years, sometimes ingenious, sometimes ludicrous, and occasionally inspired by a bit of competition with a visitor who has an eye on a route and the skill to pull it off.

Until 1978, the only climbers who had really made major contributions were local builder Bill Kees (author of Ophir's first guidebook, and founder of *MountainFilm*), and Henry Barber, who spent several summers teaching at a nearby mountaineering school. Routes such as *Orange Peel* (5.10), a beautiful overhanging crack and face climb in Cracked Canyon, and *Honey Pot* (5.10), a hand and fist crack on the Ophir Wall, attest to the difficulties found early in the history of Ophir climbing. Kees is really the only year-



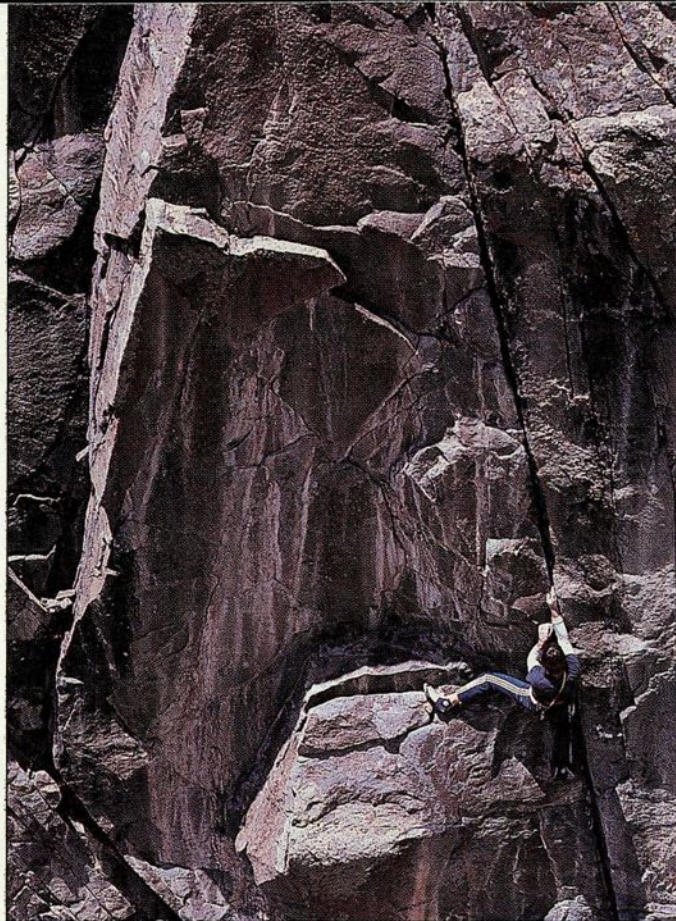
Antoine Savelli on *Morning Glory* (5.13a), on the main Ophir Wall.

round climber in Telluride whose zeal for the area hasn't diminished over the years; his numerous first ascents are usually quite demanding, and if there is a father of the Ophir Wall, it's Bill Kees.

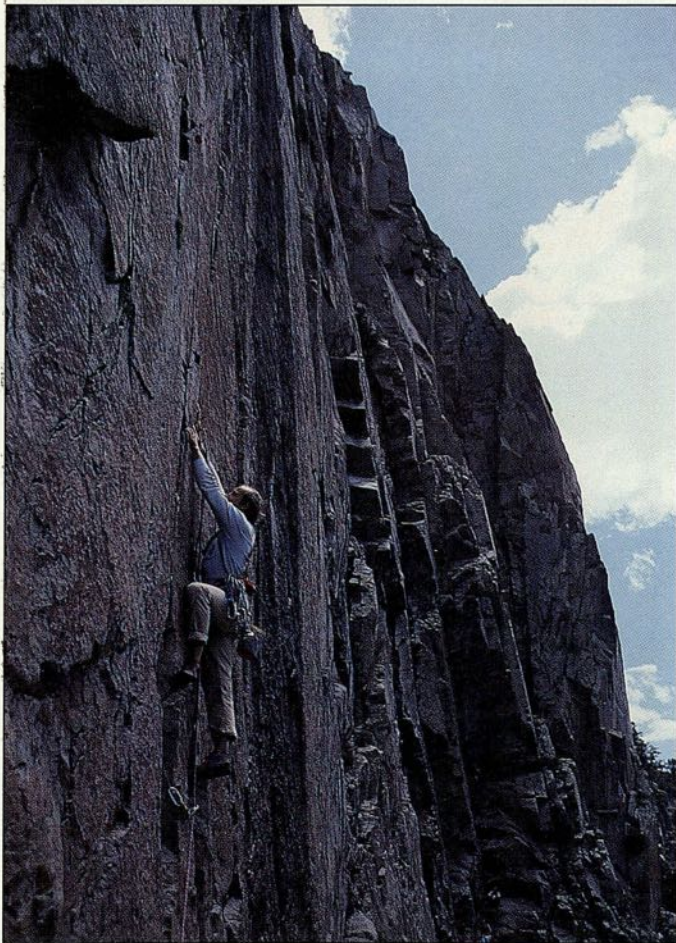
In 1978, Royal Robbins and Chris Vandiver started the Rockcraft School in Telluride, and the duo put up new routes at an unprecedented pace. Naturally, the handful of local climbers took up the gauntlet, not wanting the Californians to nab every plum in the area. That summer saw the first ascents of many

Photo: Scott Kennett.





▲ Ric Hatch on Orange Peel (5.10a) in Cracked Canyon. Henry Barber on the first pitch of Dr. Gizmo (5.10d).▼



classic routes, such as *Javelin* (5.11), *Blood On The Cracks* (5.10), *Adagio* (5.9) and *Tee Hee Crack* (5.9). Locals active that season besides Kees included Dan Langmade, Tim Kudo, Kevin Cooney, Doug Jones, and Allen Pattie. The number of routes in the area more than doubled.

Two years later, another crop of new routes were done, mostly thin face climbs or discontinuous crack systems; most obvious lines had already fallen. Among these was Dave Bell and Kees' *Point Blank* (5.9 R), a wild face climb that lives up to its name. Bell and Pattie were also starting to explore the aid possibilities above the east buttress of the Ophir Wall, where the crackless nature of the rock had repulsed free climbing efforts. With the help of many Crack n' Ups, two fine routes were climbed: *Queezy Street* (5.8, A-4) and the *Magic Mirror* (5.9, A-4), the latter by Bell in an impressive solo effort.

During this same summer, John Long and Lynn Hill were in the area, teaching for Robbins' school. Their eye for new routes was remarkable, and the standard at which they climbed unparalleled, quickly causing quite a stir. The pair climbed the overhanging hand crack of a previously aided route, re-naming it *Ophir Broke* (5.12), and producing the first climb at this level within a hundred miles. They also went on to add such beautiful routes as *Dr. Gizmo*, *Reptilicus*, and *Black Magic*, all 5.10 or harder, as well as many others.

In the meantime, residents continued their explorations on the main wall and the buttresses surrounding it, producing classic face climbs such as *Hidden Secrets* (5.9), *Raindance* (5.9), and *Emotional Rescue* (5.10).

Many new routes have been established recently. Among the more noteworthy ones are *I'm Gone* (5.11), *Steppin' Out* (5.10), and *Powder In The Sky* (5.10), all by Antoine Savelli and Teri Kane. *Powder* takes a bold line up the polished Mirror Wall, above the east buttress next to *Point Blank*, and provides an exciting lead.

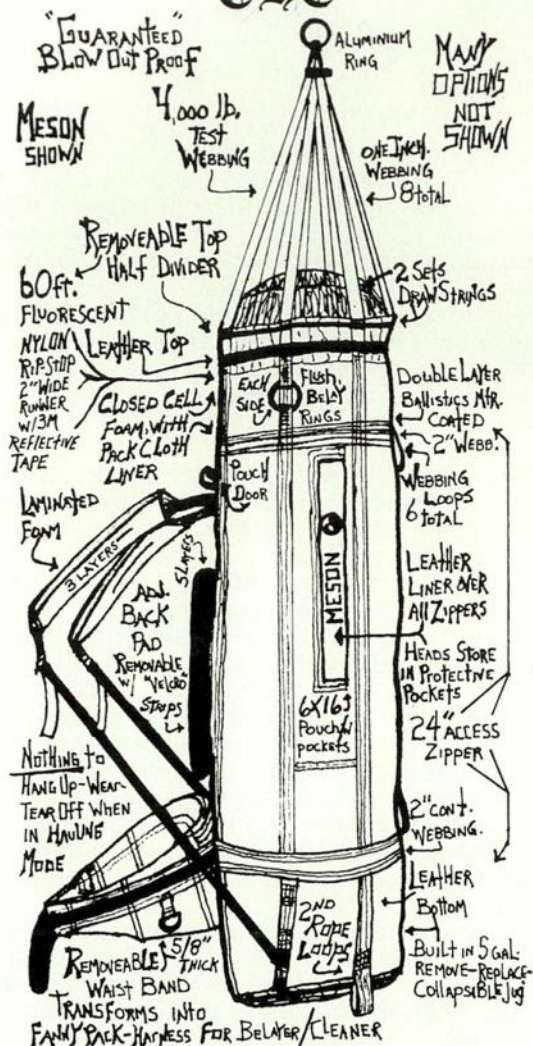
Chip Lee and Bill Kees added *Slot Right Step Left* (5.10) on the east buttress and *The Zone* (5.10) on the main wall. Climbing some of the cleanest rock in the area, Gary Wright, Doug Jones, and Alex Hamilton found four new 5.10's on the west flank of the Ophir Wall, the finest being *The Broken Drum* (5.10+).

These new routes have provided incentive among the local climbers as well as a new perspective. Many new lines appear when fresh and energetic eyes behold this unusual crag. Even with this potential, two parties climbing on the Ophir Wall at the same time is rare, except during *MountainFilm* at the beginning of each summer.

Photos: Michael Kennedy.



there are haul bags  
and there is,  
**THE**



**:TRANSHAULER:**

**in a Class by itself**

**C and S TRANSHAULERS**

COME IN THREE DIFFERENT MODELS/SIZES/PRICES

**LEPTON** base price \$150

**MESON** base price \$215

**BARON** \$300

HAUL TUBES STARTING AT \$85.00 intro. price



C and S Engineering Corp.  
P.O. Box 710  
Marysville WA 98270  
Call 24 Hours 206-659-6413

## SMALL MIRACLES

New  
1/2 size Friends  
and H.B. Nuts



Available at your local mountain shop

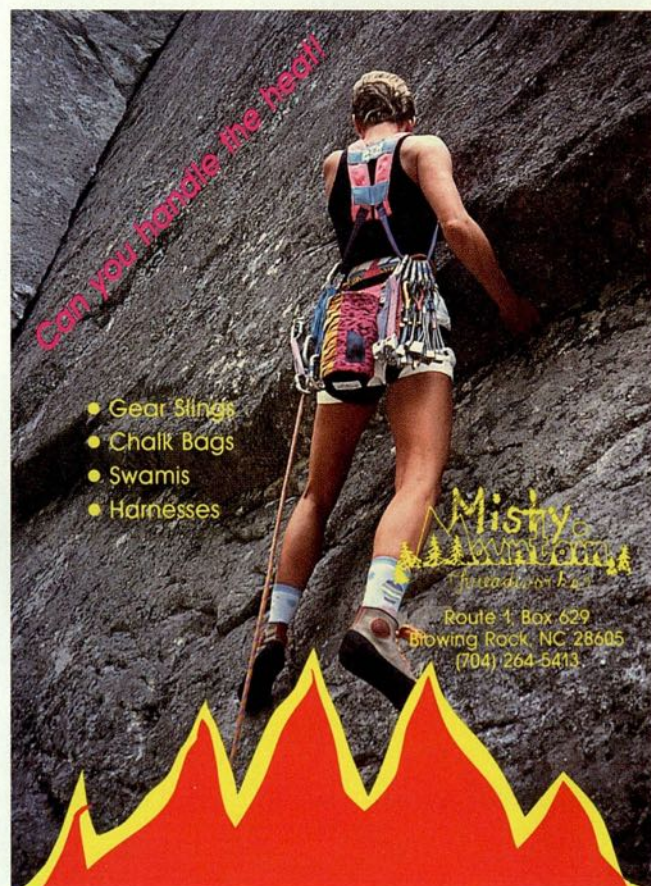
**WILD COUNTRY USA**

P.O. Box 666

N. Conway, NH 03860

Seavey St.

(603) 356-9316



- Gear Slings
- Chalk Bags
- Swamis
- Harnesses

**Misty**  
Mountain  
Products

Route 1, Box 629  
Blowing Rock, NC 28605  
(704) 264-5413





### Selected Routes — Ophir Wall

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) Dr. Gizmo (5.10d).        | 5) Honey Pot/Y-Crack (5.10b). |
| 2) Emotional Rescue (5.10b). | 6) Powder In The Sky (5.10d). |
| 3) Hidden Secrets (5.9).     | 7) Point Blank (5.9 R).       |
| 4) Morning Glory (5.13a).    | 8) Ophir Broke (5.12c).       |

*MountainFilm* provided the first national exposure for the Ophir Wall and the Telluride climbing scene, and has allowed a yearly gathering with some of the top names in mountaineering. Once a year, local climbers find themselves rubbing shoulders on Memorial Day weekend with such notables as Glenn Exum, Yvon Chouinard, Warren Harding, and Layton Kor. The best thing about *MountainFilm* is the lack of pretense among its participants and its relaxed atmosphere. It's so relaxed that it took Warren Harding almost two weeks to decide to leave after the festival in 1982!

Visitors to the area should exercise caution while climbing on the Ophir Wall. There are several loose sections, and ledges often are covered with small rocks, easily dislodged. The descents can be tricky at certain spots, and are absolutely treacherous when done in the dark or rain. Also, some of the belays are not yet beefed up, so take a full range of nuts just to stay on the safe side. The homestead at the base of the wall belongs to Randy and Vera Belisle, and is private property, so please be as thoughtful of them as they have been of us.

Climbing here in the winter and spring is unlikely. Missiles come down the wall every few minutes on warm days as the snowpack at the top of the cliff melts; one's time would be better spent on one of the

nearby Ames' ice climbs or skiing the bumps at Telluride. Ophir is definitely a summer and fall climbing area, when the warm sun reflects off the glassy rock and nearby Sunshine Peak basks above alpine meadows. If a climbing day is cut short by the typical afternoon thundershower, there are a dozen bars ten miles north in Telluride that offer shelter from the rain and plenty of strange concoctions to help adjust the attitude. The Last Dollar Saloon has been a favorite among climbers in the past, and I'm sure the tradition will continue.

The Ophir Wall, much like the neighboring town of Telluride, is a destination resort. Unless you're lost, it's really not on the way to anywhere; Moab is three hours west, Grand Junction is three hours north, and Denver is a long day's drive east.

But, if you're a climber for whom sheer difficulty takes a back seat to aesthetics and privacy, and if you enjoy roping up at close to 10,000 feet, or if you're just curious about where Ophir is — drop by and do a few routes. You'll be in for a pleasant surprise, and you might find it's just as hard to leave as it was to get here.

*For the past few years, Bill Kees' guidebook Telluride Rock has been out of print. Allen Pattie and Kees are presently working on a new guide, and hope to publish it in late fall 1986. In the meantime, Antoine Savelli has produced a four-page pamphlet with topos of 25 selected climbs on the Ophir Wall and in Cracked Canyon; this is available in Telluride at Between The Covers Bookstore for \$4.00. New route information should be sent to Allen Pattie, P.O. Box 470, Telluride, CO 81435.*

Photo: Michael Kennedy.



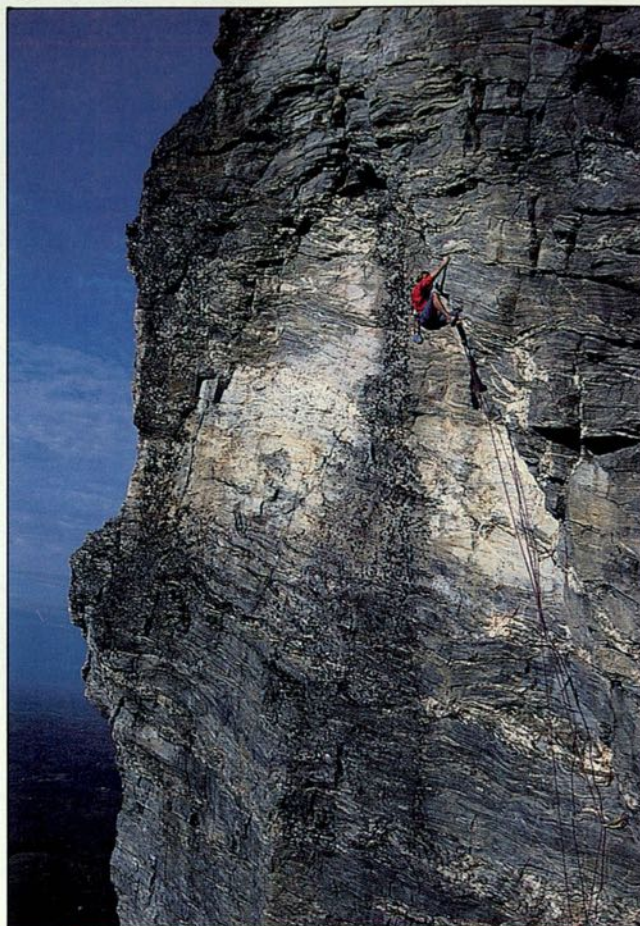
# Strangers in a Strange Land

A Southern  
Crag Tour

It couldn't possibly continue to rain. Outraged, we sat pretzeled up in the van, joints stiffening from the all-night drive from New York and the residual cold of November in the Gunks. The dashboard was strewn with cryptic notes, xeroxes of old *Climbing* articles, topos, hand-drawn maps, addresses, and phone numbers — they were to guide us through the backwoods maze of Southern crag hopping.

Originally, our plans were to start at West Virginia's Seneca Rocks, which was now being quickly submerged by a hurricane with the placid name of Juan. So fate's wet hand pointed us instead down the last unflooded corridor remaining: over the swollen Shenandoah and deeper into the unknown perils and wonders of the South.

Our Yankee onslaught, consisting of traveling renegade Todd Skinner, Russel "The Malcontent" Erickson, Wild Bill Hatcher, and myself, crossed into North Carolina as the clouds thinned over rolling green tobacco fields dotted with disheveled old sharecroppers' cabins. We were approaching the cancer capital of the U.S., Winston-Salem. Skirting huge, lung-ravaging tobacco-drying sheds, we followed precise directions to Moore's Wall, one of three quartzite cliffs in the area. Near sunset, we scrambled up the faint trail through a wet maze of bramble and mountain laurel, the South's answer to manzanita. The rock first emerges as grey-green boulders, rising like elephant's backs out of the jungle. Higher up the hill, the boulders coalesce into a confused wall of buttresses and gullies capped with roofs and steep faces, and laced with incipient cracks and writhing bands of quartz crystals. At sundown, it is a dark,



Todd Skinner — Wild Kingdom (5.11)

Story & Photos  
by Beth Wald

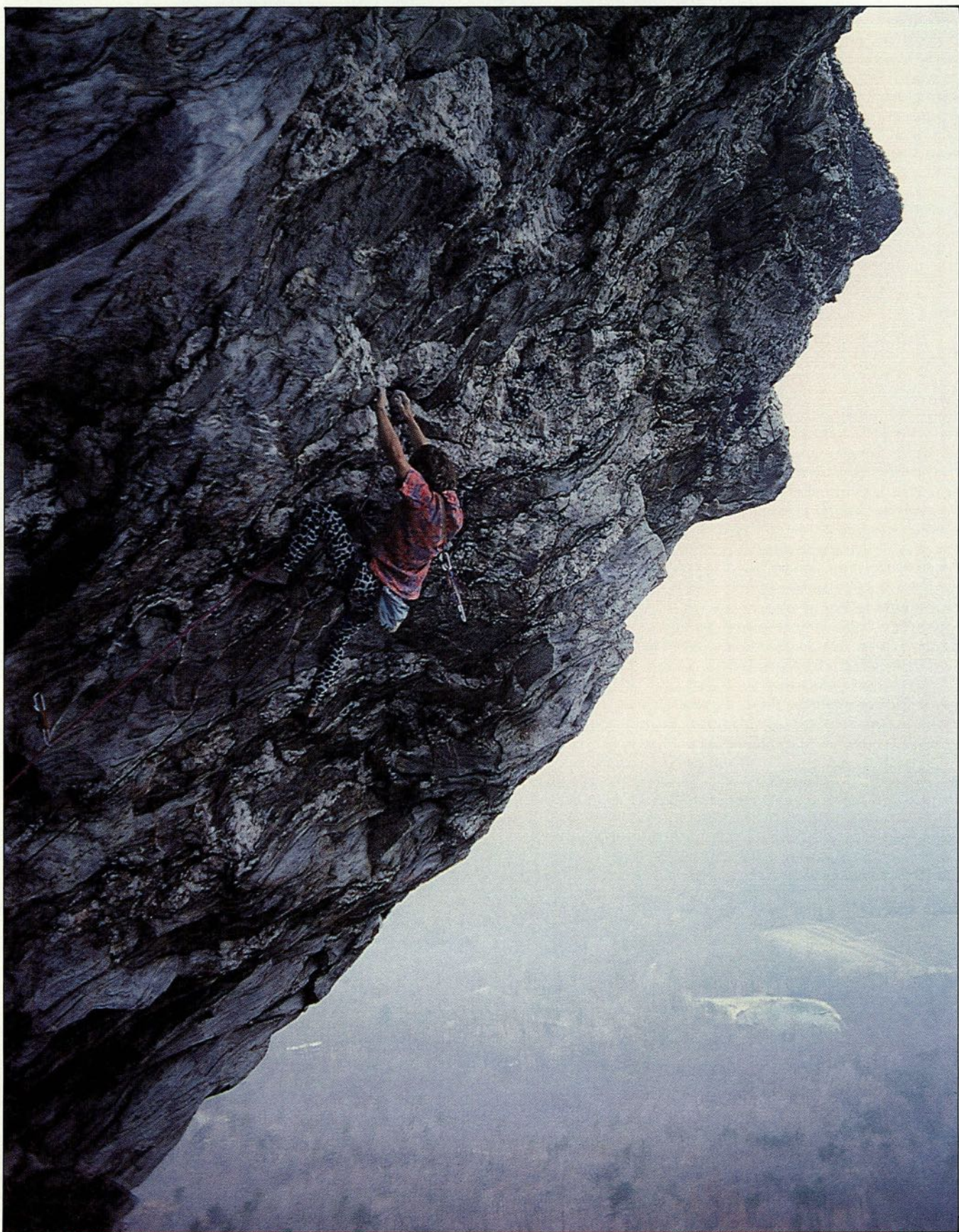
brooding wall, and our initial reactions were ambivalent. Under the bright sun of the following day, however, we discovered that North Carolina quartzite is as addicting as the tobacco that grows at its base.

We spent about a week in the area, first experimenting with Moore's classics like the wondrous *Wild Kingdom* (5.11+) and *Quaker State* (5.11-). There is good, hard, and often high bouldering in Zschiesche's Corridor. After such a fine initiation, we approached the virgin, overhanging walls and roofs right of *Wild Kingdom* with new route fever. The steepest sections had been ignored and drawled warnings that we were wasting our time fell on stubborn northern ears. Out of the many potential lines, two were chosen for serious flight time.

Meanwhile, the need for bolting gear and the suffocating boredom of eternal jungle bivying drove us into nearby Rural Hall. Our first impression of this hamlet was the overwhelming presence of Baptist churches and graveyards in the oddest places. During the ensuing morbid discussion, Russel told us of his secret desire: a Viking burial, sent out to sea in Puget Sound on a flaming sailboard. To lighten the mood we began a Southern junk food search, following Russel's Diet for Longevity: "Eat like a kid, look like a kid," and "Never eat anything with a shelflife of under two years." The night was capped off with hearty slugs of genuine Carolina moonshine, offered by a backwoods boy to keep out the evening chill. After such an enchanted evening of Dixie culture, we drove away quite warmed to an early bivy in yet another tobacco field.

This field, however, belonged to Alvis Smith of





*Russel Erickson — First In Flight (5.12)*

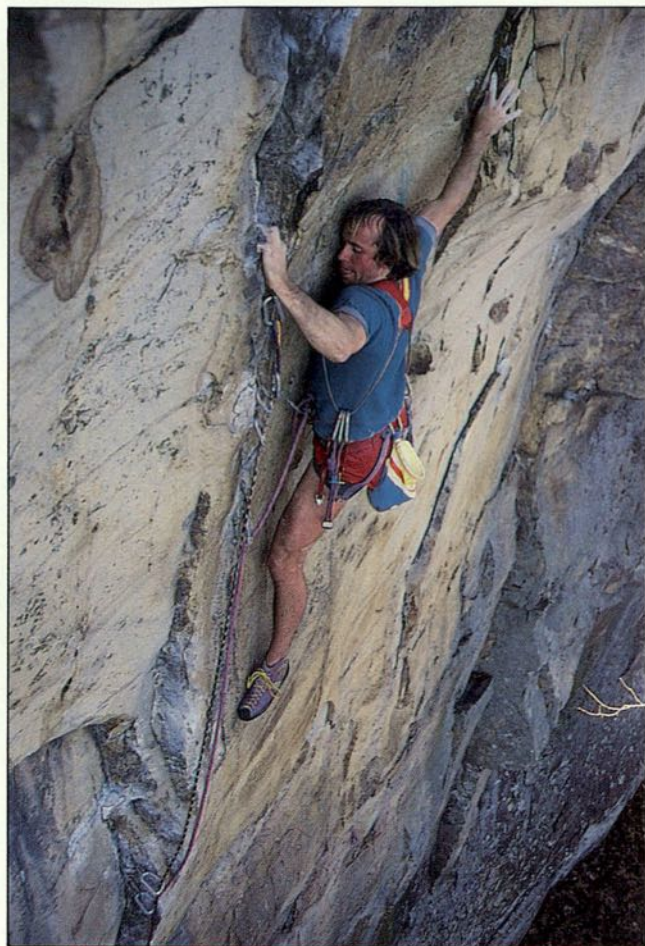


Westfield, which we discovered as we were eating the next morning. An ancient figure, thin and dry as a walking stick, with a face creased like a tobacco leaf, appeared out of the morning fog to inquire into our business in his field. Determining we were harmless Yankees, he launched into a clipped monologue of tales spanning three generations of women, money, brawls, car chases, and Hell's Angels.

The war between the states continues in some Southern opinions, we were told. It is supposedly waged in insidious ways from the "enemy" capital, and is now called "The War of Northern Aggression." In honor of our Yankee excursions into foreign territory on Moore's overhanging quartzite, one of the new routes Todd did, a bulging face with whirling bands of quartz, was christened *Stars and Bars* (5.12c), on the Wall of Northern Aggression. Another project, conceived by Russel, was a wild roof studded with huge crystals and hidden flakes. *First in Flight* (5.12b) is a spectacular, exposed testpiece traversing across an immense roof.

Another worthy crag in the area is Sauratown, sharing a peak above Rural Hall with a radio station. Despite a heinous thrash through walls of brambles and scree slopes of beer cans thrown from the "Lover's Leap" above, Sauratown is a gem, and our approach is avoided by a well-placed rap down the main cliff. Although not as extensive as Moore's, Sauratown makes up for it with a superb buttress of bulbous, overhanging orange quartzite, reminiscent of Arapiles. One route on this wall, the outstanding *Sourballs*, is in the running for "best route ever done anywhere" category. At 5.11, it takes the most obvious overhanging dihedral, and cranks through three small roofs with consistently steep and technical climbing. Sauratown offers many more starred routes, plus intriguing potential in an undeveloped section crossed by numerous roofs.

The lure of sunny sandstone drew our caravan back on the road. We had a brief encounter with North Carolina granite at Looking Glass near Brevard. One of the better known Carolina crags, Looking Glass is a massive dome peppered with strange elongated solution pockets, which the locals call eyebrows. Other anatomical features of Looking Glass are strange bulges resembling the sagging beer bellies of the local highway patrol, locally known as "jelly rolls."



Todd Skinner — White Seam (5.12)

After a van-punishing haul over the Smokies, Chattanooga, Tennessee greeted us with a persistent, penetrating rain. We had several objectives in this city, so we faithfully followed Robinson's directions in an article from *Climbing* #75. Blaring, fluorescent tourist signs funneled us towards "RUBY FALLS!" and Sunset Park on "LOOKOUT MT!" Sunset is the best of urban crags. Steep, high-quality sandstone offers plenty of strenuous crack and face climbs up to 85 feet, plus excellent rainy-day bouldering along the base.

Nursing our battle scars, we plowed through the rain to Suck Creek. Another cliff of hard white sandstone, it is graced with several major roofs and steep crack, face, and dihedral lines. The routes were high quality classics, if a bit tangled with massive spider webs, and there are few plums left to pick. A rash decision was made to avoid another

sodden bivy and we were Alabama bound, searching crags rumored to be totally dry in the most drenching downpour.

Little did we know that we were driving into one big sandbag, perpetrated by our bibles, the copies of Robinson's and Holtkamp's articles. We hit the first sandtrap as we tried to follow Robinson's exacting directions to Jamestown's Wonder Wall. I'll spare the sordid details, but we finally bivied, lost and wet in a muddy ditch somewhere in Little River Canyon.

Robinson was right that Jamestown is worth visiting. The Wonder Wall is obvious; the excellent red and white sandstone rears vertical to overhanging with incipient crack lines, capped with an upper tier of roofs. Complicated, sustained, and strenuous, *White Seam* (5.12) is the local desperate, involving creative networks of protection and imaginative body positions. *Rainbow Bridge* (5.11) is a beautiful, overhanging dihedral with a tricky entrance move. Several other fine routes lace this small crag, and there is potential for new lines.

After a great day at the Wonder Wall, we looked forward to a big night in Centre, Alabama, the nearest stronghold of culture and entertainment as described in Holtkamp's article. In disbelief, it took only a few minutes to drive through a stark town of a few stores, a Hardees, one gas station, and dozens of churches, before realizing that were in the *Centre* of a second sandbag, and a dry county to boot. Without the promised pick of restaurants and movies, our choice was fast food or fast religion. Since our souls were quite





Write for catalog

**WILD THINGS**, P.O. Box 700, North Conway, NH 03860. 603-356-6907.

healthy, our starved minds and bodies gloomily retraced their way back to the grim neon and muzak of Hardees.

After the previous night's experience with town-to-topo errors, it was with some anxiety that we threw ourselves to the mercy of Holtkamp's route descriptions of Yellow Creek Falls. At least you can't miss the crag if you look for the "Yellow Creek Falls Fish Camp" along Route #273 South. You can get directions to the cliff, gas, assorted canned goods, fishing lures, and Spanish lessons from a Mexican parrot, all courtesy of the gracious ladies of the Fish Camp, then toddle over the trestle to the sandstone. The rock is so overhanging that the area has a dark, cavernous feeling. Compared with Yellow Creek, the Gunks is a slab! The local boys all have an unnatural tendency to take whoopers off of any sufficiently horizontal stretch of rock. *Grand Dragon* is such a stretch; a ludicrous route that starts as a 20-foot roof of jugs, then arches into a hand-to-squeeze crack, and finally kicks back to a mellow 110° finger crack.

If one has the imagination to envision routes through an unrelenting series of *Foops*, Yellow Creek Falls has significant potential. The cliff is relatively large, with up to two pitches of variable-quality sandstone. One route was like climbing a vertical litterbox of rotten overlaps, but other routes are excellent, like *Locomotive Breath*, (5.11a), with rock reminiscent of the best of Red Rocks.

The sleeper of the tour was an area given little mention in our reference pages, Sandrock, an area known mostly for its unique bouldering. And rightly so, for Sandrock is a Buttermilks done in Alabama sandstone and touched up with fluorescent graffiti. Overhanging, buckety problems, walls blessed with "huecos," roofs, and traverses are scattered throughout the acres of rock. This Fountainbleu of the South also has some impressive leads. *Champagne Jam* is a 5.12 crack that slices a 25-foot visor. We bouldered on strenuous, interesting problems until

our muscles refused to contract, then crammed our pumped limbs back into the van. Sandrock is not to be missed on any Dixie tour.

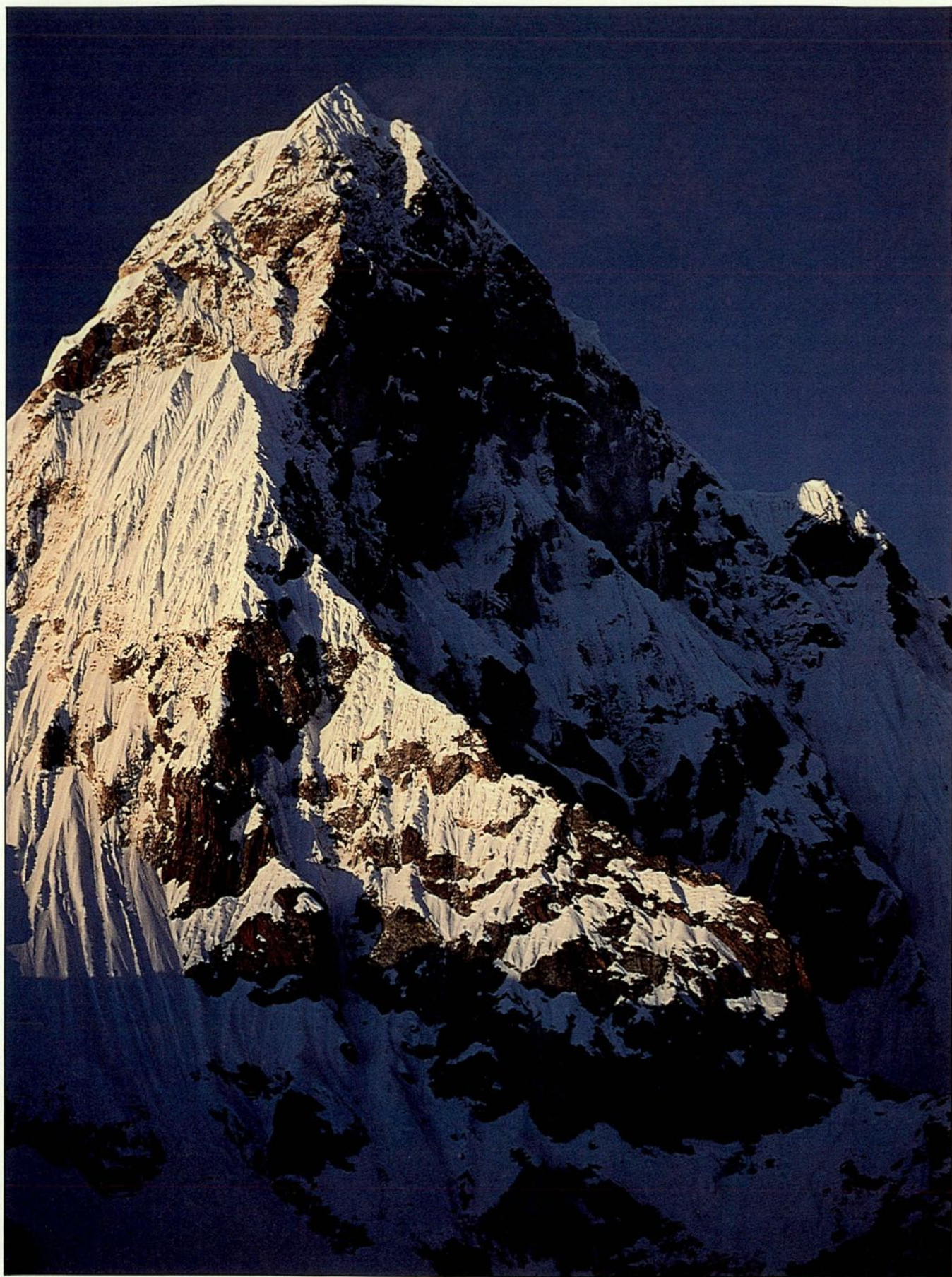
Before our last stop at a crag between Gadsen and Anniston, we had a brief encounter with the Alabama Inquisition, and were escorted out of town by a squad car for overstaying our welcome at a local salad bar. After this last skirmish with Southern hospitality, we drove to the crag at Steele, which stretches above the town like a row of white teeth. There has been plenty of recent development on Steele's excellent sandstone, resulting in varied and often difficult routes ranging from cracks and slabs to steep faces and roofs. The cliffs are short and the cliffband broken, but the rock is extensive, and cleaner and of a higher quality than either Jamestown or Yellow Creek Falls.

After our explorations, Bill was ambushed by a wandering preacher, who dug his spiritual claws in, dragging poor Bill towards Salvation. The rest of us coldheartedly left him as a decoy so that we could talk to two newly-arrived climbers. They described several other sandstone crags like Steele in the general area. This region of Alabama seems to be full of gleaming sandstone grails, waiting to be found. They also told of a radical cliff called the Tennessee Wall in Chattanooga, which may be comparable to the Gunks for quality and quantity of rock.

In the twilight of our trip, another entire tour was forming: vertical miles of quartzite and sandstone, armfuls of untouched roofs, soft Southern evenings, more struggles with local law, and the feeling once again of being strangers in a strange land. The road now led out of the Alabama hills, across the bayous to Texas, but we knew it would lead us back soon to Dixie's overhanging hospitality.

We rescued Bill from the preacher, his eyes glazed and his soul somewhere between Limbo and Purgatory, stuffed him in the van, and drove down to the Interstate.







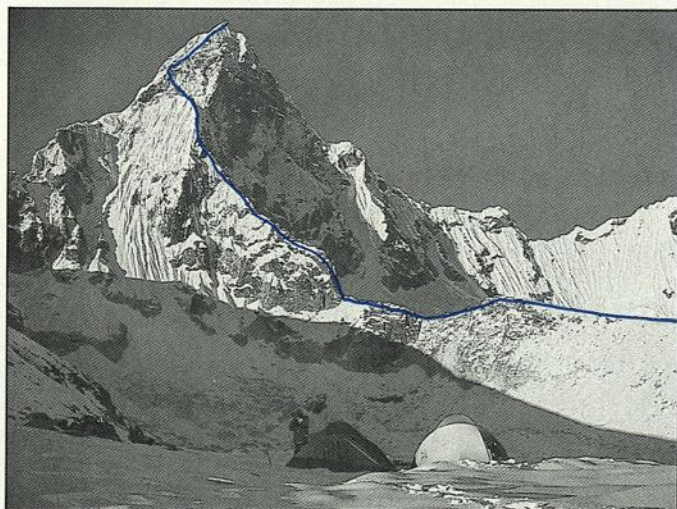
# AMA DABLAM

The Lagunak Ridge ▲ Randy Harrington

I do not consider myself a great alpinist. My formative climbing years were not spent fingering thin edges 80 feet out with no protection, but in trying to be a good husband, a good teacher, and a poor risk taker. I did not want to unhinge and scatter prematurely. My job in Grand Teton National Park as a climbing ranger allowed me to improve my skills, learn from others' mistakes, and enjoy the mountains without stretching my limits too far.

I was surprised when I was asked to participate in an expedition to climb a new route in the Himalaya. If my wife had not passed on last spring, my answer would have been a firm but flattered "no." I have better things to do than freezing my toes off in an oxygen-starved environment with people who, through adversity, I might grow to despise. I had heard ugly stories, and read worse, about Himalayan expeditions that were turned back by an overhanging ego on the first pitch, and I envisioned the throne room of the mountain gods as a place that makes for entertaining reading only. But, while fingering the black and white photograph that my friend Hooman Aprin showed me of the proposed route, I felt a distinct shifting of my insides — a nearly audible 'chink' that signifies to people that they have just made a decision regardless of *how* they feel about it. A tangi-

*The south side of Ama Dablam, with the new route marked (below).*



*Photos: Randy Harrington.*

ble goal had arisen to fill a visible gap in my life.

The proposed route was on Ama Dablam. I had been impressed by this mountain the previous year while trekking with my wife Jan. A very moderate, even low, peak by Himalayan standards, it stands just shy of 7000 meters, a mere eight eagle-miles south of Mt. Everest. "Mother's Pendant," the English translation of Ama Dablam, seemed a good title for a peak worthy of my undertaking; had it been "The Fang" or "Death and Destruction Spire," I may have had second thoughts during those months of preparation, when one conjures up ghostly images of a climb unseen. As it was, those images remained fixed: a large white promontory with two outstretched arms, wearing a Sherpani necklace . . . a deceptively anthropomorphic, but comforting, view of a mountain.

The leader of this expedition was Hooman Aprin — a soft-spoken, muscular, iron-willed man with an obsession for trusting people and climbing mountains. He is the kind of guy who converses with beggars and con men for fear of offending anyone by turning them away. Walking through downtown Kathmandu, our group was always waiting as he politely explained to the vendors that he had already changed enough money and that he didn't smoke hash, so consequently wasn't interested in purchasing any at this time. People like Hooman Aprin. A veteran of expeditions too numerous to name, had been to Nepal no less than eight times.

Andy Kurz was from Colorado, a wealthy (by most climbers' standards) geologist rock climber who had been a client of Hooman's on a Nepali trek several years ago. A strong rock climber with limited alpine experience, he dislocated two fingers while bouldering on the side of a Kathmandu hotel. After helping us to carry loads to Camp II, he descended back to basecamp where he awaited our return.

Martin Zabaleta climbed Mt. Everest in 1980, was on expeditions to Makalu and Lhotse, and was the most experienced high altitude climber among us. "Ugh," he would say in his heavy Basque accent, "I cannot climb noothin'," as we bouldered around Indian Rock in downtown Berkeley. This barrel-chested baritone had the grin of a happy child on Christmas morning. He would climb meticulously across overhanging faces, cursing in his own language and telling stories about other climbers he had seen who could climb where he was with one hand. "I climb to



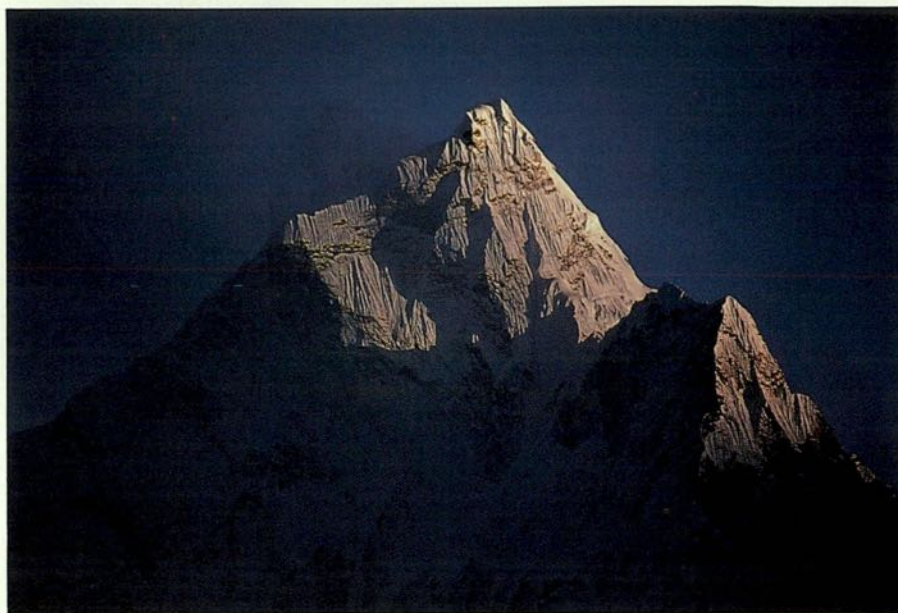
be alive," he said, "If I no climb then I am no happy," a fact that his wife assured me was true.

We arrived in Kathmandu on September 25th, which was too early considering we didn't plan to start our approach until October 5th. The reason was cheaper air tickets. We ate local foods at cheap teahouses along the way, also to keep our costs low. This violated the two most important axioms concerning staying healthy in Nepal: avoid Kathmandu as much as possible and don't eat at the tea houses. Instead, we substituted good sense with the time-honored Hindu rituals of good luck and protection: a couple of light-with-one-match oil lamps, a seasoned hardboiled egg bit once to reveal the yolk, some flower petals, a dusting of red good luck powder, and a smudge of red clay pressed wet and dripping into the center of our foreheads — all to save us the time and money necessary for conventional precautions. Although I don't recommend this for most people, it did work for us.

Our approach hike took only ten days, including several rest and acclimatization days. However, a late monsoon snowstorm left us wading in knee-deep snow on October 16th, five days before our planned arrival at basecamp.

The snow fell like wet wads of tissue paper while Martin and I sat drinking tea in the village of Dingboche. We had heard the previous evening that the Polish expedition on the South Face of Lhotse was established at Camp VI and ready for a summit attempt. We tried to imagine their thoughts as the storm pressed on through the night without stopping. We later learned that 85 percent of the expeditions had failed this climbing season, most failure resulting from trouble with heavy snows. For three and a half days the snow fell and the storms grew worse, leaving chest-deep snow that even yaks refused to go out in, and half-frozen porters spending the night buried in a snowdrift wearing too-small, one-layered cotton clothing. The tea houses were overflowing with snow-soaked, nose-dripping tourists holding hot cups of milk tea and huddled around small cooking fires like frozen moths. Talk quickly turned to the warm beaches of Thailand, every tired traveler's fantasy.

On October 19th the sky finally cleared, and we went to the village of Pangboche to meet our loads and hire yaks to get them to basecamp. The Italian South Ridge expedition had already established a basecamp of 15,500 feet; our plan was to use their trail through the heavy snow the first day, and then



▲ Ama Dablam from Duglha, with the North Ridge on the left skyline, and the upper South Ridge right. Randy Harrington approaching the final bivouac. ►

break trail alongside the yaks the second day to establish our camp.

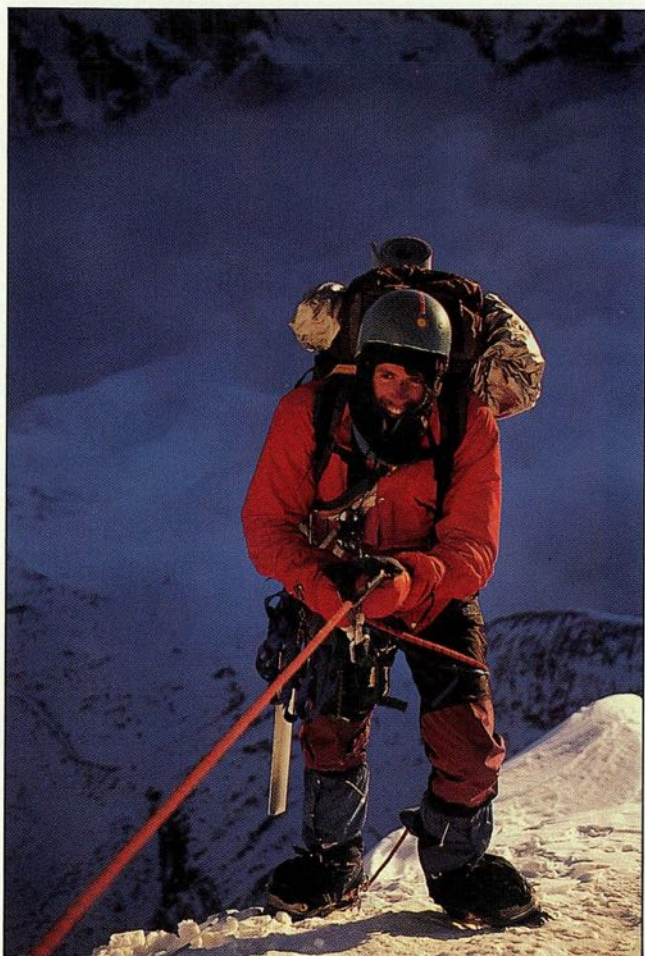
Just reaching the Italian basecamp turned out to be a grueling day, as the yaks stumbled their way through the deep snow, periodically dumping our loads down the hill and charging off the trail in search of a yak's idea of greener pastures. Arriving late that evening, the yak herder decided that he would not be able to go any farther the next day because of the deep snow. I sat down on our 1500 pounds of equipment and watched the yaks ramble off down the hillside, wondering how we were ever going to establish a basecamp 2000 feet and a full day's walk higher.

Surrounded by used toilet paper, we set up camp just out of view and watched as many as 30 climber-clients as they prepared to be guided up the standard South Ridge route. A trail established by the Italians led up to their route and provided us with an easy approach to our advance basecamp site. Our three Sherpas, Ang Temba, Surcha, and Tensing, along with a friend from home, Bob Morris, helped carry loads, and on the third day we were able to establish ourselves with all our gear at 17,600 feet.

This was my first view of our ridge since Hooman's black and white photographs. Using a telescope, we tried to pick out bivouac ledges and debated methods of surmounting some of the difficult sections. A long, low-angle ridge would lead to the base of a rock buttress where the difficult climbing would start. Above the buttress, a long snow ridge connected with an upper rock face, from which it would be possible to reach the standard South Ridge route. The ridge looked extremely steep. The upper rock face was described by another climber visiting basecamp as

Photo: Michael Kennedy





"bloody awful looking," and I found myself refusing to look up at the ridge for fear of losing my nerve.

After the luxury of following in the footsteps of the Italians, our route beyond advanced basecamp dealt me a serious psychological blow. Our original path had to be altered when we found ourselves falling between snow-covered rocks on every other step. I struggled on at a rate of about 50 yards per hour, while Hooman and Martin chose an alternate longer route which proved much better and faster than my "shortcut." For me, one step would be firm standing atop a snow covered boulder and the next would send me plummeting into seven or eight feet of fresh powder. It would then take me 20 minutes to extricate myself, only to repeat the ritual on the next step, all serenaded by the sounds of an occasional avalanche releasing from the upper slopes. By day's end I was as near total exhaustion as I have ever been. The following day I took a rest and sat in the tent, wondering what it was I was trying to prove by climbing this mountain. Hooman, Martin, and Andy finished breaking trail to within reach of the buttress. From our position at advanced basecamp, it was obvious that we would have to establish Camp I at the base of the buttress before the actual climbing even started.

On October 30th, we established Camp I. By the following day, Martin and Hooman had fixed about five pitches, traversing steep snow to the left side of the ridge to avoid what looked to be difficult rock sections on the ridge proper. Andy and I joined them, and on the third day of climbing we topped out on the

ridge crest. We all felt a sense of accomplishment at surmounting the first set of difficulties, and that evening the air buzzed with optimism. Huddled together like a football team leading at the half, we planned our conspiracy for the next few days over boiled noodles and packets of instant soup mix. Our decision was for the four of us to carry loads to the top of the fixed ropes, where Hooman and I would establish Camp II. Then, while Andy and Martin carried up a second load the following morning, Hooman and I would continue fixing ropes up the ridge.

The next day we returned to the top of the ridge, where Martin pointed vaguely up the slope to a site he thought would make a good camp. Tying their loads off to a couple of snow stakes, Andy and Martin descended back to Camp I while Hooman and I prepared to dig out a sleeping platform. After a meager attempt at chopping the hard ice, we decided to head up in search of a better site. A spot at the base of a rock outcropping 200 feet up looked level and inviting. We set up a few anchors and Hooman headed up the deceptively easy slope. Eventually, as darkness set in, "easy" turned into difficult, and "level and inviting" turned into steep and hostile. Returning to our original site, we curled up on an icy ledge half the size of a living room couch and spent the night wishing we were somewhere else. The next day was spent enlarging our couch to accommodate Andy and Martin, who arrived about noon.

Throughout the climb Hooman, Martin, and myself took turns leading, and the next day my number came up. Andy returned to basecamp, having injured his arm the previous day. The three of us headed up to fix the remaining 900 feet of rope. The climbing was gorgeous: some steep snow, a couple of rock pitches that had an uncanny resemblance to the Teton rock back home, and then some more steep snow and ice. Climbing up the ridge, I traversed back and forth in search of firmer snow and finally adopted Martin's matador technique, trading in my specialized ice climbing tools for a couple of cheap aluminum snow stakes. Using the longer snow stakes, I stabbed at the 65° slope and hoped for the best. An occasional ice rib and rock outcropping afforded adequate anchors, and by day's end we had reached our goal and finished off our last coil of fixed rope.

Our remaining climbing ropes, two 150-foot lengths, were a signal that our climbing style was about to change. Although we could have removed the ropes below us in order to continue fixing up the ridge, capsule-style, we decided to climb continuously, alpine style. We knew we had 3000 feet of mountain ahead of us, but our progress to this point encouraged us to pack five days worth of food, divide the gear between us and leave the security of the fixed ropes behind.

The increased weight of our packs made the climb-

*Photo: Martin Zabaleta.*



## ATTENTION ALL MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS

**WIRED HEX NUT Sizes 1 through 6  
RECALL for INSPECTION  
LIBERTY US HEXNUTS  
EIGER US HEXNUTS**

The Manufacturer of the LIBERTY and the EIGER US Hexnuts, sizes 1 through 6 using 1/8 and 5/32 cable MUST inspect all of these units and correct copper crimping where required.

These Hexnuts, sold through climbing sporting goods shops in the United States and elsewhere, have been found in some instances to require adjustment of the copper crimping before the product is used.

The manufacturer's representatives will inspect and repair all LIBERTY and EIGER Hex Nuts at no cost to the customer.

These items MUST be returned to the Manufacturer's representative by mail AT ONCE, do not delay. Each item will be thoroughly inspected and where found necessary will be adjusted to comply with manufacturer's strict safety requirements for climbing use.

Send the Wired Hex Nut and cables to:

**LIBERTY/EIGER INSPECTION**

**P.O. Box 50337**

**Pasadena, California 91105-0337**

**For information telephone (818) 799-0803.**

**There will be no cost or expense to the customer.**

**IMMEDIATE return of all of these**

**Wired Hex Nuts is IMPORTANT.**

## August Getaway!

It's our vacation month...YEA! A trip to the Sierras, plus supervising our long awaited facilities expansion...YEA!

But we'll be back to ship gear, right away in early September. Sorry if we missed you. We hope you are having a great summer!

Well, anyway, let's list some gear. It's in stock, and at our normal "Plain Jane" low prices.

MAMMUT FLEX DUODESS Bicolor Dry 11 x 165 \$110  
MAMMUT ARO TWIN Super-Dry 8.5 x 165 Pair \$155  
New OMEGALITE 'Biners 4400 lb, 42 gm 5/\$20  
SMC Bright Ovals 5/\$18. Bright Ds 5/\$19  
STUBAI Alu Locking Pear 'Biner, Red + Blu \$7  
LOWE SPECIALIST II Pack, 8875 cu-in \$290  
LOWE CONTOUR IV Pack, New 6018 cu-in \$190  
LOWE UINTAH Pack, Torso Trac 3960 cu-in \$135  
WILD THINGS ANDINISTA Pack \$190. FRENEY \$115  
CHOUINARD CLIMBING PACK \$60. CREAG DUBH \$50  
CARIBOU POLARIS -5 deg Quallofil \$130/\$140  
METOLIUS 3-CAMS #0-4 ea. \$28. All 5 \$130  
CASSIN SUPER VEGA, Balance Wt. 60, 65 cm \$85  
EDELRIID Helmet DURACE \$33. ULTRALITE \$27

We're "The Mountaingear People".

You'll like our prices better! UPS delivery is free, nominal charge for air. Add 6% tax in Calif. Request current "Plain Jane".

**MOUNTAIN HIGH**  
of SIERRA DESERT GUIDES

*"Campy"*  
**LTD. "Skis"**  
*Climb.*

824 WEST GRAAF • RIDGECREST, CA 93555 • (619) 446-5643

ing infinitely more difficult. Climbing only three pitches above our fixed ropes, I wondered if we had made a mistake. Two days earlier, we had looked up and seen the upper rock face with its two ramps leading to the regular route. We had guessed that it would only take another day, possibly two, to reach the end of the snow ridge at the base of those ramps. We guessed wrong. Sure that we would finish the ridge that day, I looked up to find the view unchanged.

Every climb seems to have its crux day, the day in which your emotional and physical strength seems to stretch to the point of tearing. November 5th was my crux day. I wasn't even leading, but rather following with a heavy load and definite scowl. Avoiding the overhanging snow mushrooms directly on the ridge, we began to traverse, searching for better snow conditions and an easier way to the base of the ramps. Removing the anchors as I followed left me exposed to 50-foot swinging pendulums. Traversing delicately in my not-so-delicate mood, I twice broke through and careened across the face. Snow impacted my goggles and hood, left there to slowly melt and drip icy water down my back where it later froze. My respect for Martin soared as he continued to push on, looking more refreshed after every pitch. While I felt weaker, Martin seemed to grow stronger.

Following what seemed to me to be miraculous leads, we reached the end of the snow ridge at the base of the rock face, and slowly carved out a bivouac ledge. Hanging from some ice screws and a couple of marginal snow stakes, we spent a miserable night stacked together.

November 6th we left Camp IV (can we really call these marginal bivouacs camps?) and headed to the base of the ramps. They turned out to be not really ramps at all, but steep snow and ice chutes bordered by ugly-looking rock bands. Hooman led up a couple of these chutes and traversed left and back down to a rock outcrop in search of some decent anchors. Leaving a snow stake in at his high point, Martin followed, lowering himself to the belay ledge. I came after Martin; the snowstake pulled out as I was lowering, and I found myself hurling down what looked like a vertical bobsled run. Thanks to Hooman's rock anchor, I came to an abrupt halt after 50 feet with the rope tangled into an awful mess around my pack, ice hammer, snow stakes, and legs. After extricating myself, I jumared up to the belay stance, glanced up to see how Hooman was doing, and was met by a large ice chunk that caught me right between the eyes. Not my day. Hooman finished two more pitches and called down the good news: he had found the fixed ropes left by the Italians. We had finished the route, and had finally connected with the regular South Ridge.

Locating a large crevasse with a suitable sleeping ledge, we bedded down for the night. The crevasse turned out to be the large crack across the upper snowfield that can be seen from the valley, the top of the "dablam." The luxury of not having to dig into an exposed ledge, along with the icy chandeliers that adorned our sleeping quarters, caused Martin to name the camp the Maria Christina Hotel, after a large fancy hotel located in his homeland. While slurping at our hot chocolate and pea soup, we discussed our next day's plans. Should we rest a day, or should we go for the summit? Our exhaustion was



nearly complete that evening, but the exhilaration of being so close seemed to counteract its effects.

Our first camp on the west side of the mountain brought us light winds and no morning sun on November 7. Contemplating our position on the mountain, the climbing that had brought us this far, and our limited food supplies, there was no question that we would attempt the summit today. Leaving the Maria Christina at 9 am, I headed up the fixed ropes in search of the Italian Camp III snow cave. The ropes ended two pitches up at the base of an exposed snow ridge with no snow cave in sight. Continuing my search, I followed large steps in the snow which led up and out of view. Finding my rhythm, step, plant my ice ax, step, breathe, step, plant, step, breathe, I felt a tremendous sense of joy as I plodded unencumbered by a rope or heavy pack. Each step was a new altitude record for me, and I stopped every 20 steps, partly to breathe and partly to take in the magnificent views of the greatest peaks in the world. Suddenly, gazing up, I realized that I was very near the summit. Either I had passed Camp III unwittingly or Camp III didn't exist! Waiting for Martin and Hooman, I sat and took photographs. After a few minutes they arrived, grinning from ear to ear, and we all walked together to the broad summit plateau. I glanced at my watch: it was 10 am.

The exhilaration of standing atop a Himalayan peak is difficult to describe. To the east we could see beyond the huge rock walls of Makalu to the faraway mountains of Sikkim. To the west was Taweche, Cholatse, the small village of Pangboche, and the Tengboche Monastery; to the north Lhotse, Lhotse Shar, Everest, and the mountains of Tibet. Mountains in every direction as far as the eye could see! Taking off the African bracelet that belonged to my wife, which I had worn since her death last April, I placed it in the summit snows and recited the words of her favorite song: "Pilgrim on earth, home and heaven are within you." We took numerous photographs and stood enjoying the rare pleasure of a windless day at 22,500 feet.

Remembering that the top of a mountain is the half-way point, our eyes eventually turned from the summit views to the descent. Fixed ropes brought us down quickly to the base of Yellow Tower, where we spent our first night in a tent since leaving Camp I. Below the Yellow Tower, the fixed ropes from the Italian expedition had been removed, and our descent became tedious and demanding. Unwilling to abandon gear, we carried 70-pound packs. I felt like I was trying to walk with a tree tied to my waist. Eventually we set up our final rappel and stumbled down the well-worn track to basecamp.

Every negative aspect I had ever heard about Himalayan climbing did not hold true for our climb. Although a small expedition, we stayed healthy, reached the summit, established a new route and, most importantly, we left as friends. Although I had subconsciously had been willing to risk failing in search of my self confidence, I had instead learned that I have a desire to live, the kind of living that can only come from letting go of the fear of death. When questioned about the climb, and asked if it was worthwhile, Hooman replied, "11 days of climbing to enrich a lifetime is not a bad investment." Hooman, I agree with you.

## American Alpine Institute <sup>Ltd.</sup>

### EXPEDITIONS OPEN TO APPLICATION

**Aconcagua** (22,835'), Argentine Andes, February  
**McKinley** (20,320'), Alaska Range, May & June  
**Foraker** (17,400'), Alaska Range, April  
**Kedarnath** (22,410'), Western Garhwal, May  
**Satopanth** (23,213'), Western Garhwal, June  
**Alpamayo** (19,511'), Cordillera Blanca, June  
**Huascarán** (22,205'), Cordillera Blanca, June & July  
**Salcantay** (20,574'), Cordillera Vilcabamba, July  
**Ausangate** (20,945'), Cordillera Vilcanota, Aug & Sept  
**Ancocuma** (21,905'), Cordillera Real, August  
**Illampu** (20,873'), Cordillera Real, August  
**Lobuche** (20,076'), Khumbu Himal, November  
**Chulu West** (21,060'), Annapurna Himal, October

### CLIMBING IN NORTH AMERICA

**Alpine Mountaineering** - 6, 12, & 18-day courses including alpine ascents & comprehensive instruction in the skills of rock, snow, & ice climbing. No previous climbing experience is required. North Cascades, Alaska, & (with an introduction to high altitude) in Bolivia & Ecuador.  
**Summer Ice Climbing** - including a review of fundamental skills & comprehensive coverage of advanced skills & state-of-the-art techniques for all snow & ice types. Previous climbing experience is required. North Cascades & (with an introduction to high altitude climbing) in Bolivia.  
**Expedition Training** - in the Cascades & Alaska: snow & ice climbing skills; rescue techniques; Himalayan & Alpine styles of ascent; glacier skiing; avalanche hazard evaluation.  
**Rock Climbing** - basic, intermediate, & masters' levels.  
**Guided Climbs** - 2 to 10-day trips on the classic routes of North America; all technical levels; beautiful alpine traverses.

### SPRING & FALL IN NEPAL

**Everest Area Climbing & Trekking** - including Gokyo Valley, Kala Patar, Everest Base, & Lhotse Valley; trek only or ascend Lobuche (20,076') & Island Peak (20,306')  
**Annapurna Area Climbing & Trekking** - including Marsyangdi Valley, Thorong La, Tibetan Frontier, trek only or ascend Chulu West (21,060'), Thorong (20,096'), & Muktinath (21,021')

### LATIN AMERICA

**Mountaineering in Peru & Bolivia** - alpine climbing skills instruction followed by a series of ascents on 17,000 to 20,000-foot peaks; optional five-day expedition on 21,201-foot Nevado Illimani. Acclimatization programs visiting Cuzco, Machu Picchu, Lake Titicaca, & Bolivia's Altiplano.  
**Ice Climbing in Peru & Bolivia** - for experienced climbers, a review of technical skills followed by a series of challenging ascents on 18,000 to 21,000-foot peaks. Acclimatization visiting Inca sites & Lake Titicaca.  
**Trekking in Peru and Bolivia** - highland treks & range traverses to Inca archeological sites, remote Quechua & Aymara villages, & some of the Andes's most spectacular peaks.  
**Mexico** - intro. to high altitude climbing & review of basic snow & ice technique on 1 & 2 week trips to climb North America's 7th, 5th, & 3rd highest summits, 17,343' to 18,850'.  
**Ecuador** - two-week trips to ascend three peaks 18,997 to 20,561 feet; optional instructional itinerary covering glacier travel & snow & ice climbing. Acclimatization visiting highland Indian markets & day hiking on the Equator to 16,000 feet; haciendas; hot springs; Galapagos Islands option.  
**Hiking Equatorial Parklands** - an opportunity to explore one of the world's most varied countries including Indian markets; subalpine, highland paramo, upper Amazon, & island hiking; 8 days or, with Galapagos Islands option, two weeks.

### PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

**Snow Physics & Avalanche Hazard Evaluation** - 2, 5, & 7-day courses throughout North America, November through May  
**Medicine for Mountaineering** - CME & lay programs  
**Rescue & Evacuation** - 3 & 6-day programs throughout N. Am.

For free brochures call or write:

AAI, 1212 24th, C-55, Bellingham, WA 98225  
 Call (206) 671-1505



# Yaniro Speaks

Interview by Dave Bingham

Tony Yaniro was one of the most talented and influential free climbers of his generation, yet, at the age of 24 he has all but forgotten the sport that made him a legend. His departure from serious climbing has left many wondering why such a promising young climber would abandon his success; Yaniro explains that his interest in climbing declined for a number of reasons, including competing interests and a disenchantment with the climbing scene. He has moved on to what he sees as the greater challenge of cross-country ski racing, a wife, and a family. In 1985, Yaniro moved from his home state of California to Ketchum, Idaho, where he works as a laboratory technologist at the local hospital and takes advantage of the miles of ski trails in the area.

Tony Yaniro is more than just another has-been rock jock, and his impact on the techniques and styles of modern climbing is far greater than commonly perceived. Even today, repeats of routes that Yaniro climbed six years ago are major events for top international climbers. It would be hard to prove that American climbing standards have risen since Yaniro quit. Looking back, it seems clear that it was his individualistic approach, creativity, and vision that distinguished Yaniro from the more traditional (and often more famous) leading climbers of his day.

*Sphinx Crack, 1981.*

Yaniro's remarkable natural ability and strength is well known, and is exemplified by an impressive history of more than 60 first ascents, mainly in the 5.11 and harder grades. He first left his mark at Suicide Rock in California with his ascent of *Gates of Delirium* (5.11d), at the not-so-tender age of 14. Several years later, Yaniro made a giant leap in technical difficulty with the ascent of his most

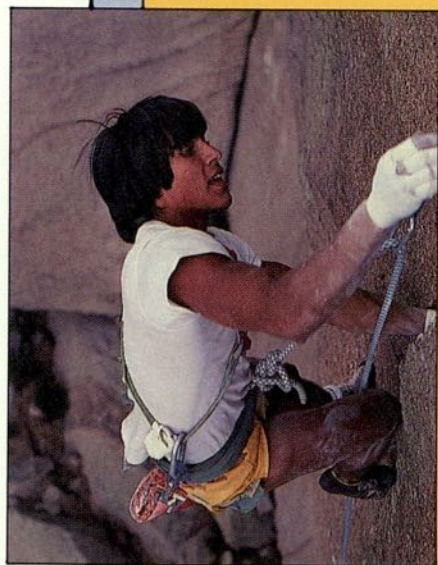


Photo: Alec Sharp.

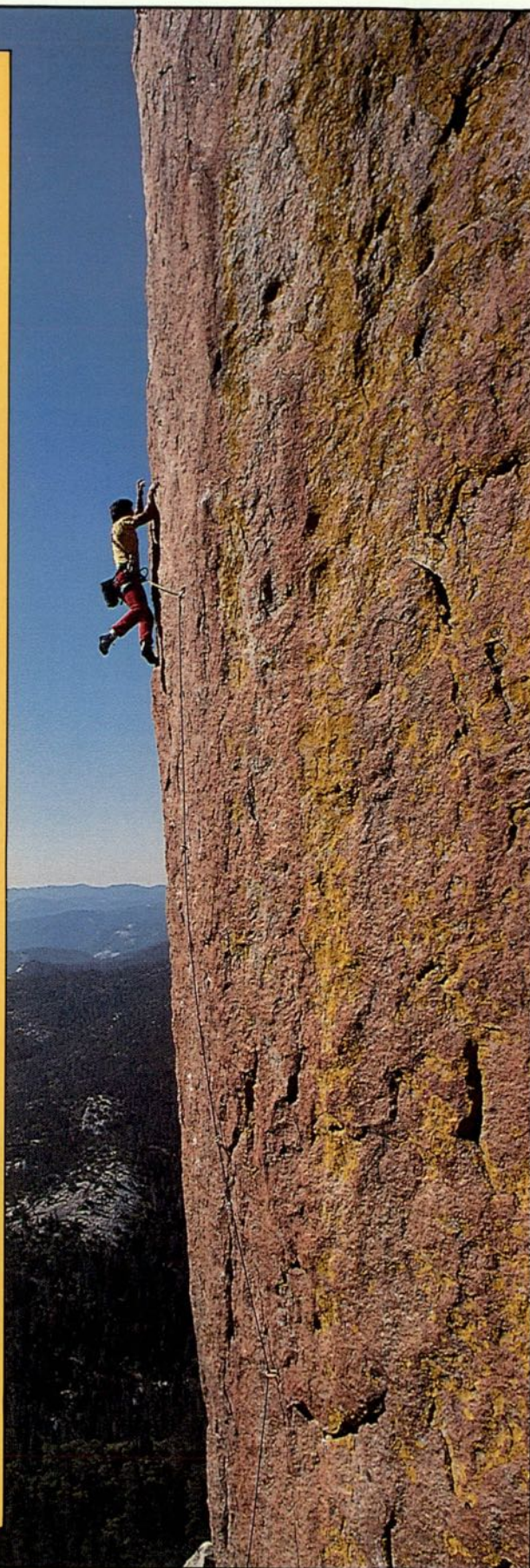


Photo: Frank Forench.



*Sirocco, in the Needles, 1983.*  
 ◀Yaniro on the overhanging face  
 climbing of the first pitch.  
 The spectacular arete of the  
 second pitch.▶

famous climb, *The Grand Illusion* (5.13c) at Sugarloaf, near Lake Tahoe. Although this route generated a lot of attention, many of Yaniro's most outstanding and difficult routes were done in the seclusion of the spectacular Needles in the southern Sierra. Here, away from the watchful eyes of the climbing world, Yaniro and various partners climbed what may be the most difficult multi-pitch routes in the country.

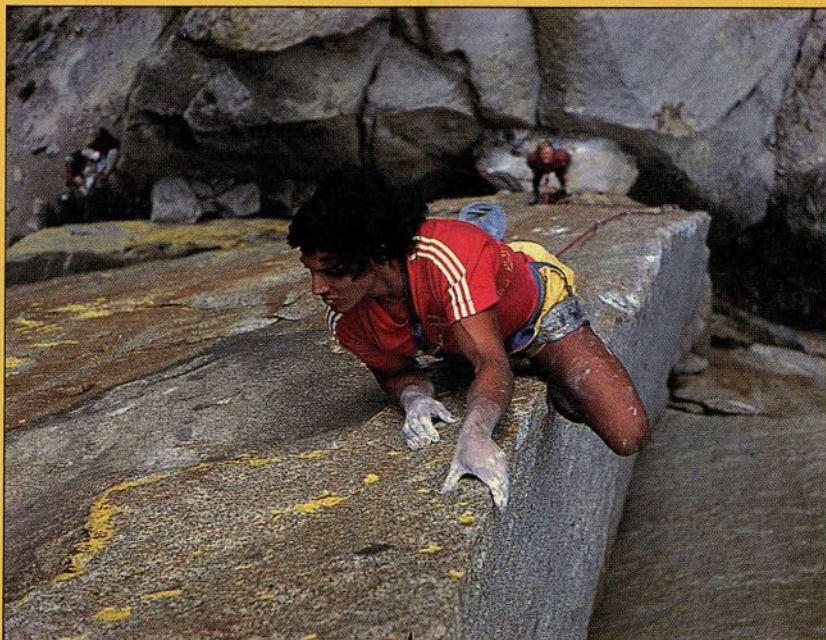
Yaniro was one of the first climbers to employ a highly structured, scientifically-based training program designed to develop specific muscle and tendon groups without causing injury. He would often aim his training at a specific route, an idea almost unheard of at the time. Throughout his active climbing years, Yaniro was primarily a weekend climber; it was his well-orchestrated training techniques that helped him to surpass the standards of many full-time climbers while busy attending school.

His perseverance on extreme routes frequently sparked contempt among Yaniro's rivals; his hyperactive energy and appetite for new routes was unusual, and often unwelcome in California's laid-back climbing scene. Perhaps more significant are the differences between Yaniro and the stereotypical climber: he neither smokes nor drinks (even coffee), and takes a serious and analytical approach to almost everything he does. While many "hard men" were back in camp working on their fourth cup of coffee, Yaniro could be found working out the moves on yet another 5.11 or 5.12.

There were always plenty of rumors of ethical infractions spread about Yaniro. The atrocities included taking too much time to do routes, over-protecting, cleaning routes on rappel (previewing), over-taping, yo-yoing (falling, lowering off, and trying again), and generally trying too hard.

How does Yaniro react to all this? An accomplished classical pianist, mountain bike racer, laboratory technologist, and cross-country ski racer as well as climber, he laughingly describes top climbers today as being in great shape, "from the shoulders down," but perhaps too narrow-minded and focused in on climbing to explore other equally important aspects of a well-rounded life.

The following interview took place at Jan Sterrett's trailer in Ketchum, where Yaniro spoke candidly about his climbing experiences, his reactions to his critics, and his opinions about the future of our sport.



*Tell us a little about your introduction to climbing.*

I started when I was 11, climbing in southern California near the area I grew up. I was doing stuff with other beginners, the usual things like rappelling and climbing with clothesline. We'd go out to Stoney Point, and someone would usually point to me and say, "Hey, you lead this." When I was about 13 I started going up to Tahquitz and Joshua Tree. I liked to do things like get up at five in the morning, run up the trail to Tahquitz and climb all the 5.9's. Then we got a little better and we'd go do the same thing on the 5.10's and so on.

*Who strongly influenced you at that time?*

That was when John Bachar, John Long, and Tobin Sorenson were doing a lot of first ascents and harder free ascents at Tahquitz. I remember watching Tobin trying *Paisano Overhang* once, that was really impressive.

*Were you competitive with those guys? Did your standard catch up over the years?*

I don't know if I ever really caught up, but I did pretty well. When I was 14 I could lead most of the 5.11's at Tahquitz without too much trouble. But I wasn't really too competitive; I always had fun doing new routes, but didn't really care what other people were doing.

*How about Yosemite, when did you start going there?*

When I was about 15, I got into aid climbing, so of course I went to the Valley and did many of the Yosemite classics. I climbed a lot with Randy Leavitt, but also did some routes with the Valley regulars when I could find someone willing to get out and go climbing. I did *The Nose* in a day with Dale Bard — that was a real epic. I also did *Astroman* with Bill Price.

Photo: Randy Leavitt.



*The climbers who watch from the sidelines will always criticize those who are accomplishing things ... It's obviously better to do a route without falls, but I don't think that a route is invalid if you fall on it and lower off ... I don't think there is anything wrong with yo-yoing, as long as you don't claim otherwise.*

*It sounds as if you had trouble finding partners as motivated as you were.*

I really did. A lot of climbers are basically lazy — most people want to sleep in until one in the afternoon, or hang out smoking weed all morning, then figure it's too late to go climbing. By then I like to be finished climbing. I've always had the idea that hard climbs are easier when it's cold out, so I like to do my climbing early.

*Why is that?*

Mainly, the temperature of the rock keeps the sweat down, and EB's grip better when the rubber is cold.

*Of the climbers you have known, who has impressed you the most?*

That's hard to say — there would always be an active group doing really hard routes for a while, then people would get tired of it and do something else. I think that many people got tired of being chastised for trying too hard. Guys like Max Jones and Mark Hudon were much more motivated than anyone else, and they did a ton of really impressive routes, but all they got was a lot of ridicule.

Of course, Ron Kauk was very good, but of all the climbers I've known, Bill Price impressed me the most. He was very low profile, but the guy was the most amazing climber I've ever seen.

*You developed quite a reputation for your serious training program. How did that start?*

I was climbing at Tahquitz then, and wanted to do a route called *The Drainpipe*, which had a hard finger crack at the start. One day I was talking with Eric Erickson about it, and he suggested, in jest really, that I do ten sets of doorjam pullups a day for two weeks to get in shape. He probably never thought I'd do it, but I did, and managed the route on my first try the next weekend. So I figured, "Wow, this really works."

Then I got into a quasi-systematic training program, mainly pullups, and that made me get strong really quickly. After six months, I could do nine one-arm pullups. Later I started making all sorts of devices to develop specific finger and arm power. I did a lot of work with thick ropes, which are a lot better than normal-sized ropes for hand strength. I was never into working out with weights, and I still think they're pretty useless for climbing.

*What is your philosophy about training for climbing?*

Many people like to train by just climbing, which is fine if you live by the rocks. But for strength, I think it's better to train in a controlled environment where you can precisely regulate how much training and recovery your muscles get — that way, you can get stronger much faster. You can train by climbing alone, but I think you're much more prone to muscle and tendon injury that way.

*So what do you recommend for people who want to train for hard routes?*

A well thought-out and regular training program, definitely. If you have a choppy training program you'll probably end up hurt. Mainly, you've got to be consistent, but don't overdo it. It depends on the type of climbing you're going to be doing. Crack climbing takes a different type of strength than face climbing, at least when you get into cracks larger than finger size; then it takes more strength, especially for wide cracks and offwidths.

*Speaking of offwidth, tell us about the development of Leavittation.*

That started at school on some building crack problems. Randy Leavitt and I were working on ways of doing wide cracks like *Paisano Overhang*, and played around with different kinds of hand stacks and knee locks until we found something that worked. As it turned out, we were able to climb things that were pretty much impossible otherwise. The funny thing was that many people didn't want to try it for some reason; they still wanted to thrash up things in the old way.

*Your ascents of routes such as Equinox, Sphinx Crack, and The Grand Illusion were landmarks in American climbing history, yet at the time they seemed tainted by controversy. How do you feel about the style in which you climbed these routes and the criticism you received?*

For starters, the climbers who watch from the sidelines will always criticize those who are accomplishing things. In free climbing, it's obviously better to do a route without falls, but I don't think that a route is invalid if you fall on it and lower off. That's ludicrous! Some people get all bent out of shape over little things, but really, the idea of climbing is to have fun. I don't think there is anything wrong with yo-yoing, as long as you don't claim otherwise.

When I did *Equinox*, some people claimed that I had "extensively previewed" it, which simply wasn't true. The previewing amounted to going out there one time in the winter and trying to toprope it in my bare feet. I froze my toes off! I did yo-yo on early unsuccessful attempts, but when I made it, I led it straight through from the bottom. Of course, that was with EB's; *Equinox* isn't nearly as hard with Fires. If some people say that's not free climbing, then I aid climbed with yo-yos, whatever. I did toprope *Equinox* as a workout after I led it. My record was five laps without ever getting off the route.

I've been accused of previewing by cleaning routes on rappel. When I went to do *Sphinx Crack*, it was full of fixed pins and other garbage. I couldn't see the route being uglified by all that, so I went and pulled it all out, including a dead bird. I find that you just can't do hard routes that are full of dirt. It's hard to find "employees" to go and clean routes for you. Most people are content to wait for someone else to clean a route, but if I waited for that it would never get done.



*What about hangdogging?*

As long as people don't damage the rock and are honest about the tactics they use, I don't see how it can hurt. Again, it might be better to be able to fire a route, but if you can't and have to fall off or hang, it really doesn't affect anyone else's experience or opportunity to do the route the way they like.

*Tell us about The Grand Illusion.*

Max Jones and Mark Hudon had been working on it, so I went out one day to give it a try. At the time we thought it was a joke because it seemed so impossible. But I thought about it and decided that it might actually go. I found a stairway at school that had a crack just like it, so I worked out on that. *The Grand Illusion* is definitely a strength problem — you could only work on it two or three times before you were hammered. I worked on the route over five non-consecutive weekends, but each time I tried it I would put out the maximum effort, really going for the blood. Then I'd go home and train in between. I think it was the second day of the fourth weekend when I made it. It's the kind of thing that really makes you want to puke when you've finished it.

*What did you rate it?*

At the time, I was going to Yosemite frequently and I'd been doing all the 5.12's, some of which I could do on my first try. It was obviously a lot harder than things like *Tales of Power*, so I guessed it was 5.13, and if the ratings went evenly like they are supposed to, I figured it would be a 5.13c. Of course that was also in EB's.

*Were there any other 5.13's at the time?*

I don't think so. Jardine had already done *The Phoenix*, and that's probably 5.13 now, but then they called it 5.12.

*Was The Phoenix as hard as The Grand Illusion?*

Definitely not — *The Phoenix* took me a lot of tries to do, but it's a lot more climbable than *The Grand Illusion*.

*Some of today's leading free climbers specialize in doing repeats of hard routes in better style than their predecessors. How do you view their accomplishments?*

I think it's almost impossible to do a hard first ascent in as good a style as a repeat. Once a route has been cleaned off and people know it can be done, it's much easier to climb it. The problem with first ascents is convincing yourself that it will go free, and then physically and mentally working out the sequence. For example, when I made the second ascent of *Baby Apes* in Joshua Tree, it took me about four tries. Bachar had spent a long time working out the moves, so just knowing that it had gone made it psychologically much easier for me. Also, to do new routes, you have to run all over the place just to find them; very few climbers I've met are willing to put out that much energy.

*What do you think about placing bolts on the lead versus pre-protecting on rappel?*

It's definitely better to place bolts on the lead, but sometimes it's not possible to drill from a stance or a hook. So the bolts get put in on rappel, or the route doesn't get done. It's a tough question, but if someone gets down and does it, I'm usually pretty happy — some good routes have been done that way which would not be there otherwise. But it takes someone who is a little envious.

For example, when we did *Sea of Tranquility* in the Needles (a nine-pitch route), near the end we came to a section that was impossible to protect on the lead. There was an 80-foot 5.12 runoff to a hanging belay, and you just can't do that. I swung over and grabbed a cleaning line, and hung from that to drill. I knew that I'd probably be chastised, but the route was worth it.

*How do you feel about the routes in Joshua Tree, where bolts that were placed on rappel have been chopped by the "rock police"?*

I think that's totally ridiculous. The people involved think they are so sly, but they're really just jerks. The whole theory was that the bolts were damaging the rock, but ripping them out has caused far more damage. One point I would like to add, however — I think that placing a bolt on rappel in an area with many people and a highly crowded route situation is not appropriate by any means.

*How about the future — where do you think climbing is going?*

Climbing is going to become a lot more controlled. People want to know the exact details of how a climb was done so that they can make comparisons. Climbers are getting so competitive and critical of styles that the only way to reduce the bickering is to do something ridiculous like having witnesses, or to have real climbing competitions. Nowadays, it's all rumor and speculation, and if it doesn't become more controlled it's going to turn into a big gossip session. Climbers might split into two groups, those who climb purely for fun and those who climb to compete.

*Do you think that technical standards will rise appreciably?*

Unquestionably. But do you mean climbable or fireable? There is a big difference. I believe there's room for both. If people are forced to fire everything on-sight, then nobody's going to get much better. If you always climb within your limits you never push the standards up. People will have to start recognizing various levels of style. The group that wants to do things in perfect style will end up doing less and less climbing, or they'll end up doing the same routes over and over again until they're bored sick. Personally, I can't handle that. When I go climbing, I like to do new things, even if I can't always fire everything. If some people don't like my style, they can go do it any way they want. At least I've cleaned it off for them!



# SUPPLIERS

## Alabama

Outdoor Omnibus  
2806 S. Memorial Parkway  
Huntsville, Al. 35801  
205-533-4131

Southern Outfitters  
#27 Quintard Mall  
Oxford, Al. 36203  
205-835-0201

## Arkansas

Take A Hike  
11220 Rodney Parham  
Little Rock, Ar.  
72212  
501-227-8096

## Arizona

Bob's Bargain Barn  
2230 N. Country Club  
Tucson, Az. 85716  
602-325-3409

South Rim Outfitters  
7401 N. LaCholla #168  
Tucson, Az. 85741  
602-297-9364

Summit Hut  
3655 N. Oracle  
Tucson, Az. 85705  
602-888-6007

Summit Hut  
4044 E Speedway  
Tucson, Az. 85712  
02-325-1554

## California

Adventure 16  
11161 W. Pico Blvd.  
West Los Angeles, Ca. 90064  
213-473-4574

Adventure 16  
4620 Alvarado Canyon Rd.  
San Diego, Ca. 92120  
619-283-2374

Granite Stairway Mountaineering  
871 Santa Rosa Street  
San Luis Obispo, Calif 93401  
805-541-1533

Great Pacific Iron Works  
235 W. Santa Clara  
Ventura, Ca. 93001  
805-643-6074

High Adventure Sports  
2643 Bechelli Lane  
Redding, Ca. 96002  
916-222-4606

Marmot Mountain Works  
3049 Adeline St.  
Berkeley, Ca. 94703  
415-849-0735

Mountain Affair Mountaineering  
226-Ocean Ave.  
Laguna Beach, Ca. 92651  
714-494-3844

Mountain High Recreation  
9155 Archibald Ave.  
Rancho Cucamonga, Ca. 91730  
714-987-6869

Mountain Tools  
P.O. Box 22788  
Carmel, Ca. 93922  
408-625-6222

Nomad Ventures  
54415 N. Circle Dr.  
Idyllwild, Ca. 92349  
714-659-4853

Patagonia Distribution Center  
4880 Colt Street  
Ventura, Ca. 93003

Recreational Equipment Inc.  
9 City Blvd. West  
City Shopping Center  
Orange, Ca. 92668  
714-634-2391

Robbins Mountain Sports  
7257 N. Abby  
Fresno, Ca. 93650  
209-431-7152

Sports Country, Ltd.  
3659 Riverside Plaza  
Riverside, Ca. 92506

Sports Country, Ltd.  
222 N. G. Street  
San Bernardino, Ca. 92401

Upper Limits  
1114 State St. #23  
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93101  
805-966-1666

West Ridge Mountaineering  
11930 W. Olympic  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90064  
213-820-5686

## Colorado

Boulder Mountaineer  
1335 Broadway  
Boulder, Co. 80302  
303-442-8355

EMS the Outdoors Specialists  
1428 — 15th St.  
Denver, Co. 80202  
303-571-1161

Forrest Mountain Shop &  
Colorado Shoe Company  
1150 Speer Boulevard  
Denver, Colo. 80204  
303-433-3372

Mountain Chalet  
226 N. Tejon  
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80903  
303-633-0732

Neptune Mountaineering  
627 So. Broadway  
Boulder, Colo. 80303  
303-494-8866

Pine Needle Mountaineering  
835 Main Avenue #112  
Durango, Colo. 81301  
303-247-8728

Summit Canyon Mountaineering  
1001 Grand Ave.  
Glenwood Springs, Colo. 81601  
303-945-6994

The Mountain Shop  
126 W. Laurel St.  
Fort Collins, Colo. 80521  
303-493-5720

Ute Mountaineer  
308 So. Mill St.  
Aspen, Colo. 81611  
303-925-2849

## Connecticut

Clapp & Treat  
674 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, Conn. 06119  
203-236-0878

## Georgia

Appalachian Adventures  
1101 Washington St.  
Washington Square  
Gainesville, Ga 30501  
404-535-0590

Blue Ridge Mountain Sports  
Lenox Square Mall  
Atlanta, Georgia 30326

Mountain Ventures  
918 Church Street  
Decatur, Georgia 30030  
378-5789

## Massachusetts

Wildwater Outfitters  
93 Bolwood Walk  
Amherst, Ma. 01002  
413-253-7779

## Minnesota

Midwest Mountaineering  
309 Cedar Ave. So.  
Minneapolis, Minn. 55454  
612-339-3433

Sportsman's Headquarters  
17 W. Superior St.  
Duluth, Minn. 55802  
218-722-6858

## Missouri

Taum Sauk  
911 East Broadway  
Columbia, Mo. 65201

Taum Sauk Wilderness Outfitter  
606 West 48th Street  
Country Club Plaza  
Kansas City, Mo. 64112

## Montana

Northern Lights Trading Co.  
1627 W. Main  
Bozeman, Mont. 59715  
406-586-2225

The Village Cobbler  
P.O. Box 68  
29 E. Main  
Belgrade, Mont. 59714  
406-388-7653

## Nebraska

The Moose's Tooth Outdoor Sports  
4007 "O" Street  
Lincoln, Neb. 68510  
402-489-4849

## Nevada

Highland Outfitting Co.  
1509 W. Oakley  
Las Vegas, Nv. 89102

## New Hampshire

International Mountain Equipment  
Main Street, Box 494  
North Conway, N.H. 03860  
603-356-6316

## New Jersey

Campmor, Inc.  
810 Route 17 North  
Paramus, N.J. 07652  
800-526-4784  
and 201-445-5000

The Nickel  
830 State Rd.,  
Princeton, N.J. 08540

## New York

Nippenose Equipment  
4502 E. Genessee St.  
DeWitt, N.Y. 133214  
315-446-3838

Tent and Trails  
21 Park Place  
NYC, N.Y. 10007  
212-227-1760

## North Carolina

Black Dome Mountain Shop  
2 Biltmore Plaza  
Asheville, N.C. 28803  
704-274-4280

Diamond Brand Canvas Products  
Hwy. 25  
Naples, N.C. 28760  
704-684-6262

Footsloggers  
835 Faculty Street  
Boone, N.C. 28607

Mountaineering South  
791 Merrimon Ave.  
Asheville, N.C. 28804  
704-254-0216

Paddling Unlimited  
6208 Yadkinville Road  
(Northwest Winston-Salem)  
Pilotown, N.C. 27040  
919-945-3744/945-3745

## Ohio

The Trailhead  
1740 South Union  
Alliance, Ohio 44601  
216-823-1849

## Oregon

Juniper Junction  
Smith Rock State Park  
9297 N.E. Crooked River Dr  
Terrebonne, Ore. 97760  
503-48-4786

McKenzie Outfitters  
771 Willamette St.  
Eugene, Ore. 97401  
503-485-5946

Oregon Mountain Community Inc.  
60 N.W. Davis St.  
Portland, Ore. 97209

## Pennsylvania

Appalachian Outdoors  
324 W. College Ave.  
State College, Pa 16801  
814-234-4284

Base Camp  
1730 Chestnut St.  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103  
215-563-9626

Exkursion  
4123 William Penn Hwy  
Monroeville, Pa. 15146  
412-372-7030

## Tennessee

Blue Ridge Mountain Sports  
East Towne Mall  
Knoxville, Tenn. 37924

Canoeist Headquarters  
4825 Hixson Pike  
Chattanooga, Tenn. 37443  
615-877-6256

## Texas

Backpacker's World  
13935 N. Central Exp.  
Suite 104  
Dallas, Tx. 75243  
214-783-0311

Southwest Mountain  
5719 W. Lovers Lane  
Dallas, Texas 75209  
214-352-9645

## Utah

The North Face  
3975 South Wasatch Blvd.  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84124  
801-272-9403

Rim Cyclery  
94 West 1st North  
Moab, Ut 84532  
801-259-5333

## Vermont

Dakin's VT Mountain Shop  
227 Main St.  
South Burlington, Vt. 05401

## Virginia

Blue Ridge Mountain Sports  
Barracks Road Shopping Center  
Charlottesville, Vir. 22903

C.S.A. Outdoors  
Rt 2, Box 68-A  
Leetown Curve  
Grundy, Va. 24614  
703-935-4808

Mountain Sports, Ltd.  
1010 Commonwealth Ave.  
Bristol, Vir. 24201  
703-466-8988

Wild River Outfitters, Inc.  
111 S. Witchduck Rd.  
Virginia Beach, Vir. 23462  
804-497-4890

## Washington

Base Camp Supply  
3730 So. Pine  
Tacoma, Wash. 98409  
206-472-4402

Der Sportsman, Inc.  
837 Front St.  
Leavenworth, Wash. 98826

Leisure Time Outfitters  
628-B1 NE 81st St.  
Vancouver, Wash. 98665  
509-548-5623

Marmot Mountain Works  
827 Bellevue Way NE  
Bellevue, Wash. 98004  
206-453-1515

Mount Constance Mountain Shoppe  
1550 NE Riddell Rd.  
Bremerton, Wash. 98310  
206-377-0668



Mountain Gear  
W 12 Sprague  
Spokane, Wash. 99204  
509-838-8040

**Wisconsin**  
Life Sport  
4917 — 7th Ave.  
Kenosha, Wisc. 53140  
414-654-3351

**Wyoming**  
Great Outdoor Shop  
332 West Pine Street  
Pinedale, Wyo. 82941  
307-367-2440

Sunlight Sports  
1323 Sheridan  
Cody, Wyo. 82414  
3:8'598-0518

Teton Mountaineering  
86 E. Broadway  
Jackson, Wyo. 83001  
307-733-3595

The Alpine Style  
1008 13th Street  
#H In the Nichol Mall  
Cody, Wyo. 82414  
307-527-6805

**Australia**  
Mountain Designs  
862 Hay St.  
Perth  
Western Australia 6000  
09-3224774

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
40 Waymouth Street  
Adelaide. 5000  
Australia  
(08) 212787

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
46 Northbourne Avenue  
Canberra. 2600  
Australia  
(062) 478949

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
32 Criterion Street  
Hobart. 7000  
Australia  
(002) 310777

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
Kosciusko Road  
Jindabyne. 2627  
Australia  
(0648) 62458

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
195 Katoomba Street  
Katoomba. 2780  
Australia  
(047) 822014

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
124 St. John Street  
Launceston. 7250  
Australia  
(003) 314240

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
527 Kingsway  
Miranda. 2228  
Australia  
(02) 5256829

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
55 Hardware Street  
Melbourne. 3000  
Australia  
(03) 679486

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
7A/59 East Parade  
Perth. 6000  
Australia  
(09) 3255984

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
69 Liverpool Street  
Sydney. 2000  
Australia  
(02) 2642685

Paddy Pallin Adventure Equipment  
252 Oxford Street  
Woolahra. 2025  
Australia  
(02) 3874082

**Canada**  
Adventure Guide Inc.  
258 King St. North  
Waterloo, Ontario  
Canada N2J 2Y9  
519-886-3121

Canadian Mountain Supplies  
109 Thomas St.  
Oakville, Carleton Recreational Equipment  
3201 Kingsway  
Vancouver, Canada V5R 5K3  
438-6371

Ontario  
Canada L6J 5V6  
416-845-4900

Island Alpine Equipment Ltd.  
1231 Broad Street  
Victoria, B.C.  
Canada V8W 2A4  
382-5222

La Cordee  
2159 East, Ste-Catherine  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada H2K 2H9

Mountain Equipment Co-op  
112 — 11th Ave. S.E.  
Calgary, Alta  
Canada M4Y 2B2  
403-269-2420

Mountain Equipment Co-op  
777 Yonge Street (2nd FL)  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada M4W 266  
416-964-7909

Mountain Equipment Co-op  
428 West 8th Ave.  
Vancouver, B.C.  
Canada V5Y 1N9  
604-872-8247

Mountain Magic Equipment  
224 Bear St.  
Box 1901  
Banff, Alberta  
Canada T0L 0C0  
403-762-2591

The Hostel Shop  
1414 Kensington Rd. NW  
Calgary, Alta  
Canada T2N 3P9

Turtle Mountaineering  
Box 5115  
Squamish, B.C.  
Canada V0N 3G0  
604-892-5577/892-3056

**Norway**  
Skandinavisk Høyfjellsutstyr A/S  
Scandinavian Mountaineering Equipment  
Bogstadveien 3  
N-0355, Oslo 3, Norway  
(02) 46 90 75

**United Kingdom**  
Field & Trek (Equipment) Ltd. 23/5 Kings  
Road  
Brentwood, CM14 4ER, U.K.  
011 44 277 222230

Field & Trek (Equipment) Ltd.  
3 Palace Street  
Canterbury  
Kent, CT1 2DY, U.K.  
011 44 227 470023

**West Germany**  
Tourenzentrum Berghuser  
Mountaineering Shop  
Trekking ★ Climbing • Skiing  
Allestr. 89, D-4630 Bochum, West Germany  
0234/64729

**For information about  
having your shop listed in  
our Supplier Section,  
please contact Joye Cole.  
CLIMBING, Box E, Aspen,  
Co. 81612. 303-925-3414.**



## DOUG GEETING AVIATION

If you want the best in air support, whether an air check or transporting climbers and gear, give Doug a call. In over 10 successful years as a professional mountain pilot, Doug has mastered the art of high altitude glacier landings. He specializes in mountain climbing expeditions, and that is why over 70% of recent expeditions have chosen **Doug Geeting** to be their pilot.

Call collect or write for more information, and see what Doug can do for your next expedition.

**Doug Geeting Aviation**  
P.O. Box 42c,  
Talkeetna, Alaska 99676  
907-733-2366

**THE  
GUNKS  
GUIDE**  
ROCK CLIMBS IN THE  
SHAWANGUNKS OF NEW YORK

The new pocket size guide to the Gunks, containing over 850 climbs to the largest climbing area in the east, is a must for climbers of all levels. Look for it in your local climbing shop. Dealer inquiries invited: Alpine Diversions / PO Box 42 / New Paltz, NY 12561 / 914-255-8615.



# EQUIPMENT

## A Look at What's New in Thin Crack Protection

It would be safe to say to say that equipment has played a large part in the progression of climbs and climbers over the past several years. With the help of Friends and RP's, and later, advanced shoe technology, climbers have been able to free climb routes that were once considered impossible.

### Three Cam Units

One of the most important recent breakthroughs in protection gear has been the Three Cam Unit (TCU). These creative little devices started showing up in various climbing areas about a year ago, but have just recently become available to the general climbing public.

Using tiny spring-loaded cams similar to those in Friends, TCU's allow protection in shallow, thin, flaring cracks, as well as a host of other places where normal nuts and Friends will not work. TCU's also work in conventional placements, but are often quicker and easier to use, eliminating any wasted effort in trying to get something in.

One of the first things you notice about a TCU is the shaft, or rather the lack thereof. The shaft has been replaced by wire cables, which being flexible are much better in horizontal placements. As the name suggests, TCU's have three cams rather than four. By eliminating one cam, the width is reduced, allowing easier use in shallow placements.

The three cam design makes TCU's less likely to walk into cracks, and after hundreds of placements, I've never had one over-cam. And I can vividly recall a number of routes that were far less frightening due to the availability of TCU's.

Many people question the strength of these admittedly flimsy-looking devices. However, having used them extensively over a period of several months, and having personally tested the smallest size of each manufacturer up to 1800 pounds, I have few doubts. Considering that a #5 RP tests at 1200 pounds, the strength of a TCU seems more than adequate.

A lack of stability is one of the few drawbacks to these units. They seem to rotate more than Friends, and for this reason, it's important to sling them with 9/16 supertape or use a quick draw if you want to clip them directly. And above the size of #1 Friend, I think their advantages diminish.

Nevertheless, TCU's are a welcome addition to any modern climber's rack.

Three manufacturers produce TCU's, all designed along similar lines. **Wired Bliss TCU's** (\$30) are available in five sizes, for cracks ranging from 0.4 to 1.25 inch. Their slick design and solid construction instill confidence. Fairly soft, 6061 aluminum is used in the cams, allowing them to "bite" into the rock in marginal placements. A minor complaint is the length of the trigger bar, which I found too short to allow quick placement.

**Metolius Mountain Products TCU's** (\$34) have much the same design as Wired Bliss, but feature a longer trigger bar which allows easier placement and removal. Five color-coded sizes cover 0.4 to 1.4 inch cracks. They use stronger (but harder) 7075 aluminum for the cams. Recently, the three smallest sizes were redesigned, narrowing them by a quarter inch and increasing their strength by a few hundred pounds.

**Canadian Alpine Manufacturing Cable Cams** (\$31) are constructed differently than the others, using 6061 aluminum cams and brass (rather than steel) fittings. The wires connecting the cams to the triggers are heavier, making them more durable. They also cam at a slightly different angle, but still offer the same holding power. These units also have a long trigger bar, and come in three sizes for 0.47 to 1.38 inch cracks. A larger size is in the works and should be available late this summer.

*Canadian Alpine Manufacturing recently recalled all Cable Cams purchased before June 1, 1986, due to incorrect heat treatment of the aluminum stock used for the cams; defective units are best identified by the red color-coded ends on the axles. Anyone with these products is urged to return them to the manufacturer at Box 6331, Postal Station C, Victoria, British Columbia V8P 5M3, Canada. Telephone: (604) 382-2505. Defective parts will be replaced and units shipped back at no cost to the consumer. — MK*

**Colorado Custom Hardware Trigger Cams** (\$35) are actually compact four-cam units, using a flat strip of stainless steel rather than cables as a framework. This design results in more holding power than the other TCU's without compromising size;

these were the strongest of all the units tested. Available in three sizes to fit 0.50 to 1.25 inch cracks, they have a unique one-finger trigger for easy placement and removal. The major disadvantage of this unit is that the stem has a tendency to bend in awkward or horizontal placements.

Newly available from **Wild Country** is the **#0.5 Friend** (\$37.50), which as the name suggests is a scaled-down version of the classic Friend design. Bootleg versions have been available for several years, but the official model has the advantage of a very strong titanium shaft and traditionally reliable Wild Country workmanship. While fitting neither the smaller cracks (below 0.5 inch) nor the shallower placements of TCU's, it is still a valuable addition to the complete rack.

—Bob D'Antonio

### High Tech Pro

Since Friends introduced a new era in protection several years ago, few have applied a similar ingenuity to the problem of protecting thin, bottoming cracks. TCU's are one solution (see review above), but by devising variations on the stacking theme, a number of companies have attacked this problem with notable success. One established company chose to employ subtle, intelligent modifications to rejuvenate an old design.

**Metolius Mountain Products Sliders** (\$24) endeared themselves to me on our first encounter, when a #3 held two jarring falls and still came out easily.

Sliders consist of two metal wedges attached to wires. A heavy cable secures one, while a lighter wire affixes the other (inverted and silver-coated where it touches rock) to the trigger, a spring-loaded metal disk. When you pull the trigger, the silver-coated piece slides down the T-track of the other piece, making the assembly smaller. If you imagine the silver-coated wedge to be part of the rock as you place it (the malleable silver "sticks" to the stone), you can see that the piece attached to the main cable sets in a tapered slot defined by the rock and the silver piece. Increased force sets it more firmly. Sliders work on the same principle as Stopper stacking, as described in the old Great Pacific Iron Works catalogues.

Designed for thin, parallel-sided cracks, Sliders excel in their narrow field, but you need a good eye to choose the best placement in the crack at hand. The new #0 Slider differs from the #4 by only half an inch! Available in five color-coded sizes, a



rack of Sliders will handle cracks from 0.25 to 0.65 inch wide; each accommodates a 0.125 inch range.

You can't use a Slider as an ordinary nut — there is no taper on the sides. Flared cracks spit them out, but if you confine their use to parallel or gently tapering cracks, or to thin expanding flakes, they work well. Remove a stuck Slider by tapping the wedge without the silver coating.

Superficially, **D. Best Mountaineering Quickies** (\$21.50-\$25.50) resemble Sliders. A well-crafted trigger pulls an inverted Stopper-shaped slug of metal down one facet of a larger wired nut, thus reducing the assembly's profile and allowing its placement in cracks of various sizes. Like Sliders, they hold firmly in parallel-sided cracks, but tend to pop out of flared ones.

The similarities end there. The Quickies' sliding nut doesn't follow a track, which provokes a sense of foreboding until you learn how well they cling to a placement. As your confidence grows, you'll realize the possibilities this feature affords. You can slip the sliding nut aside and use the larger piece as an ordinary narrow Stopper, or place it sideways. You can take advantage of irregularities in a crack, or get more camming action in a bottoming crack, by moving the sliding wedge to one side, a one-handed operation. The sliding wedge can be moved from side to side by applying pressure on either side of the trigger.

Quickies are available in six sizes covering cracks from 0.21 to 0.95 inch. The larger sizes have a greater range of motion than Sliders, and they're strong; the designer, Don Best, claims that the carabiners broke in strength tests before the Quickies gave way.

Best has a new design on the drawing board, the Super Quickie, which employs two wedges sliding on either

side of the main wired nut. While tests on the prototypes have been encouraging, Best is not yet satisfied, so the Super Quickie is still far from production.

Responding to the challenge of Rocks and other competitors, **Chouinard Equipment** recently released the fifth edition of the venerable **Stopper**. The new design removes the parallel curve from the sides (substituting a horizontal taper), and reduces the curve on the front and back. Numbers 1-3 remain straight-sided. The front side (with the logo and number) is now a bit smaller than the back — a top view reveals a trapezoidal shape.

Once again, Chouinard elected to reduce the Stoppers' size, trimming a bit of thickness and a lot of width. All 13 sizes are available with steel cables, while the unwired larger sizes (#8 and up) are drilled to accept 5.5mm Kevlar.

I prefer the new Stopper in every way. Curved Stoppers tended to stick, reassuring the leader but maddening the cleaner; new Stoppers don't. The trapezoidal shape slots sideways more securely in mild flares. Camming devices had already supplanted the larger Stoppers from my rack, so their absence doesn't rankle. But I'm sure the new numbering system arose in part from marketing considerations — you need to buy a whole set to get on the program. Still, the sum of improvements is nearly irresistible. The trapezoidal shape one-ups Rocks, and the finishing is flawless. Chouinard has regained the Stopper title.

—Jim Martin

*Prototypes of Rollers (Go-Pro, P.O. Box 1357, Healdsburg, CA 95448) were not available in time for this article, and will be reviewed in a future issue.*

## Manufacturers

**Metolius Mountain Products**  
H.C.R. Box 2193  
Camp Sherman, OR 97730  
(503) 595-6458

**Wired Bliss Corp.**  
555 Blackbird Roost #9  
Flagstaff AZ 86001  
(602) 774-1798

**Colorado Custom Hardware**  
P.O. Box 5353  
Durango, CO 81301  
(303) 385-4308

**Canadian Alpine Manufacturing**  
U. S. Distributor:  
Liberty Organization

P.O. Box 306  
Montrose, CA 91020  
(818) 248-0618

**Wild Country USA**  
P.O. Box 666  
North Conway, NH 03860  
(603) 356-9316

**D. Best Mountaineering**  
P.O. Box 177  
Long Barn, CA 95355  
(209) 586-1721

**Chouinard Equipment**  
P.O. Box 90  
Ventura, CA 93002  
(805) 643-8616

# IMPROVE YOUR CLIMBING

Resole any boots  
with the new  
**FiveTennies™ rubber.**  
This rubber smears  
better — edges better  
— and lasts longer  
than any other rubber  
on the market.  
You can resole:

**Fires  
Sportivas  
E.B.s  
FiveTennies  
Skywalkers  
Calmas  
Canyons  
Robbins  
Shoenards  
Old Sneakers  
Hiking Boots  
Etc.**

For prices and information  
write or call:

**Wheeler & Wilson Boots**  
206 North Main  
Bishop, CA 93514  
(619) 873-7520

**Komito Boots**  
Davis Hill — Box 2106  
Estes Pk., CO 80517  
(303) 586-5391

For do-it-yourselfers,  
pairs of soles with instructions  
are available for \$9 plus \$2  
for tax and shipping from:

**5.10**  
Box 1390  
Glendale, CA 91209  
(818) 768-3068



## Expedition Nutrition: Tips for Menu Planning

by Nancy Clark, M.S., R.D.

The average mountaineer climbing in the Himalaya loses a debilitating amount of body weight. During the 1979 American Himalchuli Expedition, Dr. Richard St. Onge dropped from 190 to 170 pounds. The five other team members had similar losses . . . and no one made it to the top. In 1982, Dr. Edward Hixson lost 17% of his body weight, dropping from 175 to 145 pounds during his attempt on Mount Everest. On the average, his teammates lost 16% of their body weight, of which muscle loss comprised half. No one made the summit and one person died.

Almost all expedition groups that go above 17,000 feet for more than three weeks report similar weight changes. This devastating high-altitude loss of both fat and muscle weight significantly decreases a climber's strength, endurance, and morale, as well as increases the chance of accident or death.

Most mountaineers believe that high-altitude weight loss is inevitable; that a climber can't possibly consume the calories needed to carry heavy packs, withstand freezing cold conditions, and function energetically. Altitude alone increases basal metabolic rate (BMR) about 10% for every 3000 feet of elevation. Hence the BMR of climbers who reach the summit of Mt. Everest (29,028 ft.) nearly doubles. Add the effects of shivering, poor appetite due to high altitude anorexia, and the challenge of wilderness cooking — it's no wonder that the traditional weight loss seems inevitable.

Could a carefully planned expedition diet provide adequate nutrition to support high-altitude mountaineers and thereby enhance a team's chances for success? For his second Himalchuli attempt in 1984, St. Onge recognized the invaluable help that a registered dietitian/sports nutritionist could offer with meal planning. Based on the St. Onge's experiences with the 1979 American Himalchuli team and Hixson's experiences with the 1982, 1983, and 1984 Mount Everest teams, I planned an expedition menu that would tastefully meet the climber's nutritional demands and logistical constraints.

To help other mountaineers, I have summarized the considerations that go into designing a 5000-6000 calorie, 60-70% carbohydrate, palatable, and easy-to-fix expedition diet that is pri-

marily based on supermarket foods. Hopefully, this article will help contribute to the strength, stamina, and success of future expeditions.

### Dietary Goals

Due to the nature of an expedition, the menu must conform to specific requirements. It should:

**Provide adequate calories.** Eating enough food is the single most important factor for a mountaineer, who may use as much as 800 calories per hour of intense activity. The Himalchuli menus offered 6000 calories per person per day. Although people rarely ate this much, the over-generous allotment insured against weight loss due to inadequate food, spoilage, or additional time spent on the mountain.

The menu was divided into three 1500-2000 calorie sample meals: breakfast, trail foods, and dinner. I advised the members to become familiar with the portion sizes and approximate caloric value of the different foods. This gave them a better perspective regarding the amounts that they should eat both at mealtime and throughout the day.

The menus provided not only a meal plan but also some creative meal suggestions, to change flavors and textures and break up the monotony of eating "the same ol' food." For example, "mix-in" suggestions for oatmeal included nuts, raisins, peanut butter, granola, wheat germ, honey, jelly, brown sugar, butter, powdered milk, and cinnamon.

**Provide adequate carbohydrates.** The menu provided 60-70% of the calories from carbohydrates — an amount that would contribute to adequate glycogen repletion during days of repeated hard exercise. Carbohydrates also require 8-10% less oxygen for metabolism than do fats or protein. Hence, carbohydrates are the most practical and efficient energy source in an hypoxic situation. The fact that the Sherpas eat a very high carbohydrate diet (rice and lentils), and lose very little weight, lends additional anecdotal credence to this theory.

High carbohydrate menu items include hot and cold breakfast cereals, juices, dried, fresh and canned fruits, granola bars, fig bars, logan bread, instant potatoes, rice, couscous, Ra-

men noodles and other starches, and vegetables.

**Provide adequate protein.** Adequate protein is necessary to promote muscular development and protect against muscle wasting. Based on a minimal allowance of 1.5 grams protein per kilogram body weight — almost double the 0.8 gm/kg RDA — and in keeping with the current research findings regarding the protein needs of an active person, the menu provided approximately 10-15% of the calories from protein. This offers adequate, but not excessive, protein. Too much protein has an undesirable dehydrating effect, since protein waste-products (urea) are excreted via the urine — a loss of valuable body water.

Some popular high protein foods include cheese, peanut butter, nuts, beef jerky, canned ham, tuna, sardines, Yurika dinners (chicken, beef, and fish based meals), and powdered milk and egg nog.

**Provide a moderate fat intake.** Fat is traditionally a popular ingredient of expedition menus at lower altitudes. Large amounts of energy can be consumed in a relatively compact amount of high-fat foods. Fatty foods seem to be particularly popular in cold environments. For example, the Eskimo diet consists primarily of high-fat blubber and oily fish.

Although *some* fat may be desirable at lower altitudes with adequate oxygen to support fat metabolism, *too much* fat has drawbacks. For example, filling up on fatty foods leaves less room for carbohydrates. Since depleted muscles rely on carbohydrates to replace their glycogen stores, chronic muscular fatigue may result with days of repeated exercise. This commonly happens when nuts, cheese, jerky, and other fatty foods are primarily eaten rather than higher carbohydrate choices. At higher altitudes, a high fat diet has the second disadvantage of requiring more oxygen during metabolism.

Some mountaineers avoid fatty foods, finding them hard to digest. These common anecdotal reports conflict with research which suggests that moderate altitude (11,500 feet) does *not* interfere with fat absorption. However, during the 1981 Mount Everest Medical Research Expedition, three members absorbed only half the fat in their diets at 20,500 feet than they absorbed at sea level. Dr. Charles Houston reports that in "Operation Everest II" anorexia — not malabsorption — was the cause of weight loss. Each climber seems to



have individual food preferences, depending largely on ability to adapt to altitude.

To accommodate food preferences, a high altitude menu should allow for "optional" fats, so that each person can select the appropriate amount that appeals to him. High fat foods include: canned butter, bacon bars, salami, beef jerky, sardines packed in oil, peanut butter, mixed nuts, bacon bits, and cheese.

**Provide nourishing, healthful foods.** Eating a well-balanced diet is an unlikely dietary priority for mountaineers. However, an expedition menu can include a variety of whole grains (Wheatena, Roman Meal, granola), dairy products (powdered milk, canned cheese, hot cocoa mix), fruits (banana chips, raisins, dates, figs), juices (dehydrated juice crystals, Tang, powdered cider), vegetables (tomato powder, instant potato, vegetables in the Yurika dinner packets; and fresh cabbage, potatoes, and other local vegetables in basecamp), and other vitamin-rich foods to balance out the abundant intake of less wholesome chocolates, cookies, and sweets.

Analysis of several days' intake reveals that the 1984 Himalchuli climbers got more than 100% of the RDA for the majority of nutrients. Nevertheless, to help insure adequate nutrition, standard multi-vitamin and mineral supplements were also supplied.

**Provide adequate iron.** One nutrient of particular concern for mountaineers is iron, an important part of red blood cells. At altitude, the body increases red blood cell production, in order to compensate for the lack of oxygen and facilitate oxygen transport to the exercising muscles. An iron deficiency might needlessly interfere with optimal blood cell formation and thereby hinder performance.

If strenuous running is used as a conditioning exercise prior to the expedition, a team member may join the expedition with low iron stores — particularly if little red meat is eaten. Runners commonly have depleted iron stores. To rule out this possibility, I recommend that the blood be tested for serum ferritin and total iron-binding capacity three months prior to a major expedition.

To meet iron requirements, the menu for the Himalchuli Expedition included not only iron supplements (in the vitamin-mineral pill) but also iron-rich foods, such as iron-enriched instant oatmeal, Cream of Wheat, rice, noodles, and other grain products, as well as iron-rich meat products, such as beef jerky, beef based dinners, and canned meats.

**Provide adequate fluids.** Dehydration is a major problem for

## Sample Menu

	Amount	Calories	Protein (gm)	Carbos (gm)	Fat (gm)
<b>Breakfast</b>					
Instant oatmeal	2 packs	260	8	52	4
Raisins	1/2 c	205	2	50	0
Toaster pastry	1	205	3	35	6
Mixed nuts	1 oz	160	4	7	13
Dry milk powder	1/4 c	90	7	13	1
Instant cocoa	2 packs	220	6	42	2
Powdered orange drink	1/3 c in 2 c water	240	0	60	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,380</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Trail snacks</b>					
Beef jerky	2 oz	210	26	0	10
Granola bar	4 bars	420	11	40	24
Chocolate bar	2, 1.45 oz each	460	8	44	28
Apricots, dried	15	280	5	65	0
Lemonade	1 qt	480	0	120	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,850</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Dinner</b>					
Instant soup	2 packs	100	4		3
Ramen noodles	1 pack	395	10	53	16
Wheat crackers	12	108	3	15	4
Yurika dinners	2 packs	570	35	60	21
Fig-filled cookies	8	400	4	84	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,573</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Drinks</b>					
Decaffeinated tea or coffee	2 c with 1 c milk and 2 tbsps sugar	278	14	50	2
Hot cider mix	2 c	196	0	49	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>474</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Day's total</b>		<b>5,277</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>139</b>

mountaineers. Besides abnormally high sweat losses, the air becomes increasingly dry with altitude, thereby contributing to greater water vapor loss via the respiratory tract. This leads to not only dehydration, but also dry lips, mouth, and throat — factors that can interfere with food intake. Sucking on hard candies may mask the dryness, but adequate fluid intake is more important.

Mountaineers generally need at least 4-6 liters of fluid per day, but they typically carry only one or two liters to save on weight. They may also lack energy to melt adequate snow — a time and fuel consuming task. Chronic dehydration results in chronic fatigue, increases the risk of hypothermia, and reduces the chances of a successful summit bid. Every team member should routinely monitor his hydration level via urine checks and the "snow test." The urine should be "gin-clear"

and leave no dark stain on the snow. Drinking at least two liters both morning and evening can help compensate for limited fluid intake during the day.

St. Onge cautions that a cold-induced diuresis often occurs. This means that cold weather can significantly increase urination and cause the climber to become dehydrated more easily. Fluid needs commonly exceed the senses, and a minimum of 5 liters/day is recommended despite a lack of thirst.

To enhance fluid intake, the expedition menu should include a variety of beverages. Those that offer significant nutritional value (hot cocoa, soups, egg nog, juices) can complement those that offer primarily sugar-calories (Jello, Kool-Aid, fruit-flavored drinks). A wide variety of beverage flavors can help prevent "taste-bud burn-out."

The beverage selection for the





# International Mountainfilmfestival Graz 1986

2.- 4. October 86  
Grazer Congress

- \* BEST MOUNTAINFILM  
documentations about expeditions,  
alpine mountaineering, ski-extrem.
- \* BEST CLIMBINGFILM  
climbing on rock and ice.

Leatest films in 16 mm and video will  
be awarded by international judgement.

For information contact:  
International Mountainfilmfestival 86  
Griesplatz 10, A-8020-GRAZ / AUSTRIA

## Convention in Graz



### GRAZER CONGRESS

Congress-Center Graz, Austria

#### SEVERAL STEPS ABOVE THE AVERAGE

When looking for an effective  
setting for conventions and confer-  
ences you will seldom find anywhere as  
unusual as the GRAZER CONGRESS.  
This congress and convention centre right  
in the middle of the largest maintained old  
historic city in Europe is a harmonious combina-  
tion of historical spirit, conference accommodation  
and the most modern congress technology.

Just give us a call! 0043 / 316 / 75543  
Congress Centre Graz, Austria, Schmiedgasse 2, A-8010 Graz

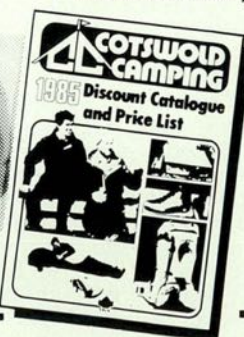
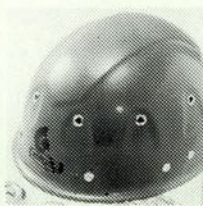
## Invest \$1 in the UK NOW!

Thousands already have — they received our 50 page 1984 Catalog.  
Mr. D.V.B. from New Hampshire was one — he writes "...I want to express much appreciation for the  
excellent service and personal caring... I will certainly do more business with you in future." — There are many  
more testimonials.



### OUR 1985 U.S. CATALOG IS NOW PRINTED

— 88 pages packed full of  
details and illustrations on all the latest  
gear — Lots of top names are there from  
Clog to Karrimor and from Camp and  
Koflach to Mountain Technology and Wild  
Country. It's all priced in U.S. Dollars to  
reflect your strong economy.  
Save up to \$55 on Boots, \$60 on Backpacks,  
20% on Climbing Gear.



On orders over \$75 **WE PAY THE AIRMAIL!**  
CHECKS, VISA, MASTERCARD ACCEPTED.  
Usual delivery time for goods 10-20 days.  
Full money-back warranty.

## COTSWOLD CAMPING

DEPT. C.C., SOUTH CERNEY, GLOS. ENGLAND  
(DIAL 01144285 860612 7am to Noon E.S.T.)

SEND \$1BILL NOW TO:-

Cotswold Camping,  
Dept. C.C., South Cerney, Glos. England.

I enclose \$1 Bill — please rush me your new catalog.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_



Himalchuli Expedition included a variety of both tastes and textures, such as salty soups (broth-based, tomato), creamy foods (egg nogs, cocoa, cream soups), sour drinks (lemonade, sweet and sour beverage mix), and sweet drinks (Jello, fruit punch, cocoa). Since sugar-sweetened beverages may at times become unpalatable, sugar-free drinks sweetened with Nutra-Sweet can nicely flavor bad-tasting water and thereby enhance fluid intake. At the higher elevations only calorie-containing beverages should be consumed, to optimize calorie intake.

**Provide non-caFFEinated beverages.** Warm fluids are popular in a cold environment — especially coffee and tea. "Sherpa Tea," a tasty mix of tea, powdered milk, sugar, and spices, is a standard basecamp beverage. However, tea and coffee have a diuretic effect and promote fluid loss. Hixson strongly advises against drinking caffeinated beverages at very high altitudes, feeling that optimal fluid retention is more important than a caffeine boost. Caffeine-free beverages, include a herbal teas, hot Jello, hot cider, juices, nogs, boullion, and de-caffeinated coffee and tea.

**Provide liquid meals for the higher altitudes.** The menu for the Himalchuli Expedition provided not only generous amounts of fluids with each meal, but also suggested several 1500-2000 calorie liquid meals, in order to ensure adequate nutrition if solid foods become unpalatable (as may happen at very high altitude). A helpful part of the liquid menu was Exceed, a high carbohydrate, glucose-polymer beverage that provides 920 calories per liter. This beverage comes in easy-to-open pre-measured packets, dissolves readily, and provides an easy-to-digest supplement. Exceed is designed for endurance athletes with high calorie/carbohydrate/fluid requirements.

The Himalchuli climbers drank Exceed not only in the higher camps for a meal (hot for breakfast and dinner) but also added it to their water bottles during the day. Although the flavor could be improved, this high calorie fluid offered energy advantages and contributed to greater endurance.

**Be simple to prepare.** Since cooking time doubles for each 5000-foot gain in altitude, a simple ten-minute meal at sea-level becomes a 40-minute production at 10,000 feet. The Himalchuli Expedition menu used primarily Yurika dinners, which are fully-hydrated food packaged in a foil pouch. They can be heated in boiling water for a few minutes, or even eaten cold.

Although the meals are relatively heavy — ten ounces per dinner — they seem well worth the weight. The meals taste good (beef stroganoff, chicken a la king, fish newburg, etc.) and contribute a comforting "home touch" to an expedition menu. Since the dinners require relatively little cooking time, they save on fuel, which helps to balance out the weight factor.

On the 1979 expedition, St. Onge's group relied heavily on freeze-dried foods. They found that, at altitude, these foods rehydrated poorly and took too much time and effort to prepare in comparison to the Yurika products. Plus, the taste and texture of partially rehydrated meals was unpalatable. The climbers tended to eat less and thereby lost weight.

The 1984 Himalchuli menu focused primarily on simple-to-prepare supermarket foods, such as instant oatmeal, Cup-of-Soups, Ramen noodles, macaroni and cheese dinners, stove top pizza (at basecamp), and desserts such as pudding and instant cheesecake. These items needed minimal cooking or preparation, and could be easily made by either the basecamp cook or the fatigued mountaineer who has little interest in elaborate cooking.

To simplify meal preparation and insure adequate food intake, both Hixson and St. Onge advocate hiring a cook for basecamp who will help the team "fatten up" during rest days. The cook's job is to keep the table well supplied, so there is always easy access to tasty foods. Members appreciate this special treatment, and are better able to enjoyably restore themselves on rest days.

**Be easy to digest.** Bouts with mountain sickness can interfere with the desire to eat. The Himalchuli menu provided a variety of bland, easy-to-tolerate foods that might appeal to the sick climber, such as Cream of Wheat,

# MOUNTAIN MAGIC EQUIPMENT

*Equipment to get you  
to the top . . .*



**Take Advantage  
of the strong US dollar!**

**We have rock gear:**

- La Sportiva
- Fire Cat
- Rocks
- Friends
- Mammut Ropes:  
11mm x 50m, \$105
- TriCams
- Bivo Cams
- Cable Cams
- Charlet Moser  
Alpine Axes

New FREE Summer Catalogue  
Available

VISA, American Express  
and MasterCard welcome  
Call or write:

**MOUNTAIN MAGIC EQUIPMENT**  
224 Bear Street  
P.O. Box 1901  
Banff, Alberta, T0L 0C0 Canada  
(403) 762-2591

## COLLECTOR'S ITEMS

We have limited quantities of rare, older issues of **Climbing** available for those wishing to complete their collections.

No. 3-5, 8, 14, 19, 21, 28, 31-33, 36, 39, 43,  
52-55, 58, 65, 67 are \$1.50 each.

No. 72, 76, 78-81, 83-85 are \$2.50 each.

No. 86-90, 94 are \$2.75 each.

All orders postpaid.

Please indicate issues wanted and direct payment to:  
**Climbing/Back Issues, P.O. Box E, Aspen CO 81612.**



instant mashed potatoes, rice, noodles, crackers, vanilla pudding, and other simple foods. Extra amounts of these "sick day foods" were brought for a reserve supply.

**Provide adequate fiber.** Bowel function during an expedition tends to alternate between diarrhea and constipation. Generally, diarrhea is the more common problem, due to giardia, glacial water (the high magnesium content tends to have a laxative effect), and rigorous exercise, which also increases bowel movements. However, constipation can become the alternate problem, especially if the diet lacks fiber. Some fiber-rich foods include Wheatena, Roman Meal, wheat germ, dried figs, dates, raisins, peanut butter, and lentils.

**Be relatively light weight.** Food weight is obviously a concern, since food has to be shipped from the U.S. as well as hauled up the mountain. The 1984 Himalchuli food weighed approximately 2500 pounds, and required 40-50 porters to carry it to basecamp. This came to two pounds per person per day. The instant meals, dried fruits, and powdered beverages helped offset and weight of the Yurika dinners. Expedition planners have a tough job balancing weight with palatability, but in the long run, a palatable diet will better contribute to a successful expedition.

**Be stable in both heat and cold, and have a long shelf-life.** Since expeditions typically start in a subtropical climate, certain foods that easily melt or go rancid should be packaged adequately. For a Himalayan expedition, food should also have a long shelf-life. Expedition food

was shipped to Nepal approximately three months prior to the Himalchuli Expedition. Food should be well-packed in sturdy, waterproof, trauma-proof, and pilfer-proof containers and weigh no more than 60 pounds each (a porter load) when packed.

Containers should also be well-labeled and numbered to correspond with inventory lists. This will facilitate inventory control at basecamp. Ideally, food should be separated into low- and high-altitude containers. The high-altitude meals should be pre-packaged into two-person bundles with simple preparation instructions.

#### **Most importantly, be acceptable.**

In other words taste good, and satisfy the appetite. Uneaten food offers no benefit. Each team member might want to have his own special "goodie bag" filled with personal favorites. Prior to the Himalchuli expedition, I gave the climbers a questionnaire to determine likes, dislikes, and preferences, as well as food allergies.

An important key for long-term palatability is variety. Any food — no matter how "favorite" it may be — becomes tiring with repeated consumption. Hence, the menu should include a variety of textures (cooked cereals vs crunchy granola, cocoa vs cocoa with marshmallows), flavors (sweet egg nog vs plain milk, spicy spaghetti sauce vs straight noodles), and seasonings (cinnamon, vanilla, nutmeg vs garlic, chile, curry). The monotony of eating the same cereal, soups, or cookies for 45 days can over-satiate one's palate and reduce interest in eating.

The menus should also include familiar foods, similar to the types eaten at home. For example, if sardines are disliked at home, they'll un-

doubtedly be disliked on the mountain. If possible, all foods should be equally desirable, so that the "good stuff" isn't all eaten in the beginning, leaving less desirable foods for the more intense end.

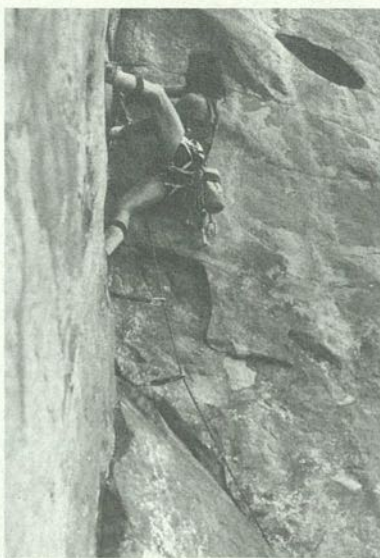
The importance of including a wide variety of items should not be overlooked, nor placed secondary to food donations. Too often a menu is dictated by what is convenient, readily available, and less expensive. Food should be bought in both bulk packages and individual servings. The bulk is handy for basecamp and the individual packets better for the higher altitudes.

Mountain food is more than simply fuel. It should be one of the enjoyable aspects of a rigorous expedition. In addition to eating well, team members also need to allow time to rest well. With repeated days of strenuous exercise, muscles become glycogen-depleted and simply cannot perform as well. A constant high carbohydrate intake can help to alleviate this, but rest days are also important. The replenishment process may take up to 48 hours with a carbohydrate-rich diet. Hixson recommends planning one rest day for every three climbing days. He also recommends that climbers routinely return to basecamp for two or three days, particularly if the weather is bad. The rejuvenation that occurs with lower altitude and hearty meals more than compensates for the energy needed to descend and return to the high point.

*In addition to being a member of the successful 1984 Himalchuli Expedition, Nancy Clark is a nutritionist at Sports Medicine Brookline in the Boston area and author of The Athletes Kitchen (Simon & Schuster; Bantam Paperback). She gives special thanks for their help in preparation of this article to Drs. Ed Hixson and Dick St. Onge, Julie Ann Lickteig, R.D., and the members of the 1984 Himalchuli Expedition: Mike Yager, Dick Jackson, Joe Frank, Stacey Stanely, and Dan Langmade. References for the scientific data used in this article can be obtained from the author at the address given below.*

Yurika dinners are available from Yurika Foods Co., 30,800 Telegraph Road, Birmingham, MI 48010 (phone: 313-540-6300) and Exceed is available through Ross Laboratories, 625 Cleveland Ave., Columbus, OH 43216 (phone: 1-800-543-0281).

A sample six-day, 6000 calorie/day, high-carbohydrate expedition menu (primarily supermarket food), shopping list, and pre-expedition food-preference questionnaire can be obtained from the author by sending \$10.00 to her at Sports Medicine Brookline, 830 Boylston Street, Brookline, MA 02167.



### **CHECK US OUT!**

- ✓ **LATEST CLIMBING GEAR**
- ✓ **AFFORDABLE PRICES**
- ✓ **FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE**
- ✓ **FREE SHIPPING**
- ✓ **BI-MONTHLY SALE FLYERS**

Send For Our Free 1986 Spring/Summer Catalog

**P.O. BOX 87 WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085 (614)889-7740**



## Off the Beaten Path: Health Concerns for Exotic Travel

by William F. Eckhardt, M.D.

Mountaineers are fortunate. Their avocation leads them to exotic lands all over the globe. However, such travel often means exposure to illnesses not readily found in the Shawangunks, Tetons, Camp 4, or Talkeetna. When planning an international expedition, it is important to consider both the vaccinations to receive prior to departure, and the prophylactic medicines to use during the trip. Such medical research can be a bewildering blend of the worst aspects of Latin and college chemistry — this article will hopefully put your fears to rest.

One can go a long way toward avoiding disease when traveling abroad by minimizing the risks of infection. The following suggestions may be helpful: 1) Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants and use insect repellent in areas at risk from malaria, yellow fever, or dengue fever (carried by mosquitos), or typhus (carried by lice, fleas, and ticks). 2) Boil water prior to drinking to avoid giardiasis or amebiasis. 3) Don't wade or swim in water at risk for a snail-associated infection known as Schistosomiasis. 4) Peel all fruits and vegetables to minimize exposure to cholera or intestinal parasites. 5) Pass up the offers of Nairobi prostitutes, who may harbor the AIDS virus.

The United States has a well-conceived immunization program in which vaccinations against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella, and poliomyelitis are routinely administered in childhood. It is important to clarify your immunization status against these diseases, as they are still common in underdeveloped countries. (Some people born after 1957 may not have been vaccinated against measles, and those immunized prior to 1968 may have received a poorly-effective vaccine). In addition, everyone should receive combined tetanus and diphtheria toxoid immunization every ten years throughout life.

More specific immunizations to consider when planning a wilderness trip in underdeveloped countries include:

- 1) *Immune Globulin* to minimize the risk of type A viral hepatitis.
- 2) *Meningococcal vaccine* to reduce the risk of one kind of bacterial meningitis and its complications.
- 3) *Typhoid Vaccine* to prevent the

complications of Salmonella infection due to contaminated food and water. 4) *Poliomyelitis vaccine*, either a complete series if previously unvaccinated, or an oral booster, if you have already received the series.

5) *Yellow Fever Vaccine*.

For most vaccines to be effective, timing is critical. Some must be administered well before traveling. Others are good for at least 4-6 weeks, some for a lifetime. Most vaccines are available from your local physician, but the local Public Health Service office can also provide the necessary information. Some of the more common vaccinations, the timing required for effectiveness, and their approximate cost are detailed in Figure 1.

Malaria chemoprophylaxis is one of the most confusing areas for wilderness travelers. Malaria is a protozoal infection caused by the bite of a female *Anopheles* mosquito, and unfortunately it is prevalent throughout areas of the world frequented by trekkers and climbers. There are four types of malaria: *Plasmodium falciparum*, *P. vivax*, *P. ovale*, *P. malariae*. They all lead to a flu-like illness characterized by fatigue, headache, fever, chills, sweating, and occasionally anemia, jaundice, kidney failure, swelling of the brain, coma, and death.

There are several types of antimalarial medications in use throughout the world. Despite taking these medications, one can still become infected. There are four disease-causing types of malaria, and some have developed a resistance to the medications used to treat such infections. The standard antimalarial is chloroquine phosphate, but the worst type of malaria (that caused by *P. falciparum*) is often

resistant to this therapy. One other confusing point is that both *P. vivax* and *P. ovale* have forms which can lead to a persistent infection by taking up residence in the liver — from which they can cause a relapse as long as four years after travel abroad.

A medication known as Primaquine prevents this relapsing phase when taken prophylactically, yet it is only recommended for people with prolonged residence in an area at risk (ie Peace Corps volunteers). The final point to make about chemoprophylaxis for malaria is that one begins taking medication one week *prior* to travel, *during* the period of travel, and for six weeks *after* leaving the country at risk.

There are several different antimalarial regimens:

1) *Chloroquine phosphate* — This is the standard therapy used in areas with no reported Chloroquine resistance or as a supplement for areas with Chloroquine resistance.

Dose: 500mg (300mg base) orally with meals each week.

Possible side effects: minor nausea, headache, blurred vision, itching, or nightmares. May worsen existing cases of psoriasis.

2) If traveling less than three weeks in area with Chloroquine-resistant *P. falciparum*, two antimalarials exist:

i) *Chloroquine phosphate* weekly as above regimen. You should also carry a single treatment dose (three tablets) of *Fansidar* (25mg Pyrimethamine, 500 mg Sulfadoxine) to be taken in the event of a sudden feverish illness. Those with a fever may be infected with Chloroquine-resistant *P. falciparum* malaria. Taking a single dose of Fansidar is a temporary remedy but the patient *must* be taken to a medical facility for further evaluation. Caution: Fansidar *cannot* be used by patients with a Sulfa allergy. Also, it has caused severe skin and mucous membrane reactions, occasionally

Vaccine	Timing	Cost
Cholera	6 days prior to departure	\$11.00
Immune globulin	Can be obtained anytime, good for 4-6 weeks	\$9.00
Meningococcus	10 days prior to departure	NA
Yellow Fever	10 days prior to departure; be sure to obtain a Certificate of Vaccination	\$16.00
Typhoid Fever	Two shots, one month apart prior to departure	\$11.00
Tetanus	Can be obtained anytime; should be obtained on a routine basis every 10 years	\$12.00

Figure 1. Common vaccinations, timing, and approximate cost.



fatal (Stevens-Johnson syndrome). For this latter reason the drug is not routinely administered.

ii) *Doxycycline* is available for patients with a Sulfa allergy.

Dose: 100mg orally each day.

Possible side effects: Increased sensitivity of the skin to the sun. May stain the developing teeth of children under eight years old.

3) If traveling longer than three weeks in areas with Chloroquine-resistant *P. falciparum*, one can take both Chloroquine and Fandisar.

i) The risk of such resistant infections may warrant weekly Fandisar therapy, but only with extreme vigilance for signs of skin or mucous membrane reaction, such as: redness, itching, rash, sore throat, mouth or genital lesions. If any of these reactions occur, stop administering Fandisar and seek medical attention.

Dose: Chloroquine Phosphate 500mg orally each week. Fandisar one tablet orally each week.

Specific recommendations regarding immunizations and malaria prophylaxis are organized by region and country in Figure 2. It is important to emphasize that these recommendations are for travel from the United States to the specified country and back. You should map out your entire route *by country*, as immunization requirements vary from country to country. All travelers should be familiar with the pamphlet *Health Information for International Travel*, available from your local library or the Superintendent of Documents (see references).

Many of the health risks for travelers in the third world nations stem from exposure to tainted water supplies. Contaminated water has been associated with a variety of infections such as diarrheal diseases, bacillary dysentery, giardiasis, amoebic dysentery, hepatitis A, typhoid fever, salmonellosis, protozoan and helminth parasites (worms), cholera, and viral infections. The following suggestions will help ensure a safe water supply:

- 1) Only drink beverages made with boiling water (i.e. tea, coffee).
- 2) Drink carbonated, canned, or bottled water and beverages.
- 3) Drink beer or wine!
- 4) Avoid ordering drinks with ice (may be made from contaminated water).
- 5) Filter all cloudy water.
- 6) Disinfect suspicious water:

i) Boil water vigorously for ten minutes or more. To improve taste add a touch of salt or aerate the water by pouring between containers. At high altitude it is necessary to boil water for a longer period of time, but it is unknown how much.

ii) Iodinate water. Add five drops of

Country	Vaccination	Malaria Risk
<b>AFRICA</b>		
Kenya	Yellow Fever Typhoid Fever	All areas have Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> , except Nairobi and areas higher than 2500m.
Tanzania	Yellow Fever Typhoid Fever	All areas have Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i>
Ethiopia	Yellow Fever Typhoid Fever	All areas at risk, no Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded
<b>SOUTH/CENTRAL AMERICA</b>		
Mexico	None	Rural areas at risk, no Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded
Peru	Yellow Fever Typhoid Fever	Rural areas at risk, except Lima, Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded on northern border
Ecuador	Yellow Fever Typhoid Fever	Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded in rural areas
Columbia	Yellow Fever Typhoid Fever	Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded in rural areas
Chile	None	None
Bolivia	Yellow Fever Typhoid Fever	Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded in rural areas
Argentina	Yellow Fever Typhoid Fever	Rural areas at risk near Bolivian border, no Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded in rural areas
Brazil	Yellow Fever Typhoid Fever	Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded in rural areas
<b>ASIA</b>		
Thailand	Typhoid Fever	Both Chloroquine-resistant and Fandisar-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded in rural areas
Pakistan	Typhoid Fever	All areas at risk, isolated reports of Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> .
Nepal	Meningococcus Typhoid Fever	Rural areas at risk, especially lower than 1200m, no Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded
Japan	None	None
India	Typhoid Fever	All areas at risk, Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded in isolated areas
China	None	Certain rural areas at risk, Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded in the south only.
Afghanistan	Typhoid Fever Yellow Fever	All areas at risk, no Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded
<b>EUROPE</b>		
	None	Malaria found only along the rural border of the USSR with Iran and Afghanistan; no recommended chemoprophylaxis
<b>OCEANIA</b>		
Australia	None	None
New Zealand	None	None
Papua New Guinea	Typhoid Fever Yellow Fever	Chloroquine-resistant <i>P. falciparum</i> recorded in all areas

Figure 2. Recommendations regarding immunizations and malaria prophylaxis. See *Health Information for International Travel* for complete information.

2% tincture of iodine to each quart of water and let stand for 30 minutes.

Finally, traveler's diarrhea (the dreaded Montezuma's revenge) is the one illness to which all travelers will be exposed. It is acquired through the ingestion of fecally-contaminated food and water and is best characterized by abdominal cramps, nausea, bloating, fever, malaise, and diarrhea lasting three to ten days. It has a 20% to 50% attack rate depending on the country and method of travel (i.e. first class or slumming it), and is most prevalent in the developing nations of Africa, South America, and Asia. The

offending organism is usually bacterial (i.e. enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, or *Campylobacter jejuni*), but may also be viral (i.e. Rotavirus or Norwalk-like virus) or parasitic (i.e. *Giardia*, *Entamoeba histolytica*, or *Strongyloides stercoralis*).

Unfortunately, there are no useful vaccines to prevent such unpleasant afflictions. As with many of the diseases I've described previously, careful food and beverage preparation may be the best prevention. Many studies have indicated that prophylactic antibodies such as Doxycycline (a tetracycline) and Bactrim (Trimethoprim-



Sulfamethoxazole) can prevent traveler's diarrhea, yet the risk of serious allergic reactions probably outweigh the benefits.

If you are stricken with Montezuma's revenge on the trek to Pheriche, or storm-bound in the Lago Torre Hut in Patagonia, there are a few things you can do to lessen your misery:

1) Peptobismol 60cc orally four times a day will decrease the frequency of diarrhea, but it should be used with caution. It contains salicylate and may lead to salicylate intoxication if taken with aspirin or aspirin-containing products.

2) Antimotility agents such as Lomotil (Diphenoxylate) or opiates (i.e. codeine or paregoric) may provide symptomatic relief. However, they should *not* be taken by patients with high fever or bloody stools.

3) Antibiotics may shorten the length of such diarrheal illnesses. Two possibilities include:

i) Doxycycline

Dose: 100mg orally twice daily for three days.

Possible side effects: Photosensitivity.

ii) Trimethoprim

Dose: One tablet orally twice daily for three days.

Possible side effects: Skin rash, in rare cases severe skin reactions (such as the Stevens-Johnson syndrome; same as that for Fandisar), in very rare cases hemolytic and aplastic anemias.

4) Finally, fluid replacement (to prevent dehydration) and tincture of time will pull nearly everyone through. See *Climbing* #91 for Dr. Bruce Paton's suggestions for a fluid replacement solution.

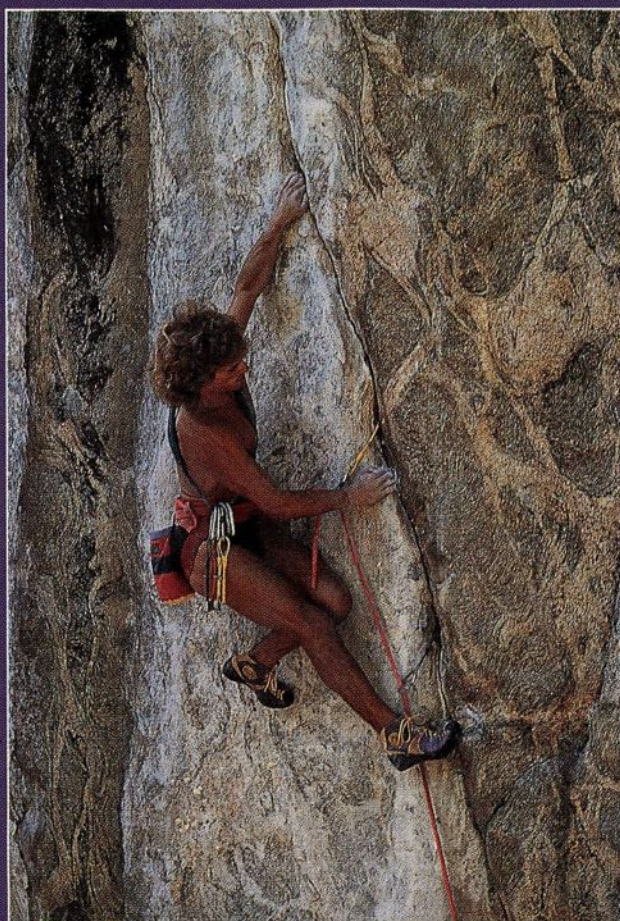
The recommendations included in this article pertain to healthy adults. Pregnancy and chronic medication use, such as steroid therapy, are conditions warranting an appointment with a physician prior to travel. In addition, it is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with any medications which your physician prescribes, including their side effects.

#### Suggested Reading:

*Health Information for International Travel*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, published yearly. \$4.95. Available from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402. (202)783-3238.

*The Medical Letter on Drugs and Therapeutics*, published weekly. Especially see the April 12, 1985 issue.

*Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, 10th edition, McGraw-Hill.



Dan Goodwin on White Line Fever. Photo: Anne Marie Weber/TKO Images.

## LA SPORTIVA ROCK SHOES

**"Still the Best"**

Exclusive U.S. Distributor:

**TRANSALP**

1335 Broadway  
Boulder, CO 80302  
(303) 449-6023 (303) 442-8355

## EL CAPITAN VIDEOCASSETTES

*Among climbing films, EL CAPITAN is without peer in poetic beauty.*

Royal Robbins

*Brilliant! Captures the essence of the "Big Wall."  
... The best climbing film I've ever seen!*

Yvon Chouinard

60 minutes, color and sound.

Video cassette, purchase only .....\$53

Californians also add \$2.94 Calif. sales tax.

16mm film, rental .....\$100

**EL CAPITAN**

47 Shell Road  
Mill Valley, CA 94941  
(415) 388-3649



# REVIEWS

## MountainFilm 1986

May 23-26, 1986

Telluride, Colorado

At the end of the awards ceremony, juror Rick Sylvester gave an impromptu speech, exclaiming his delight with the high quality of every one of the 15 films screened at *MountainFilm 1986*. In private Sylvester — who has attended seven of eight *MountainFilm* festivals — later confessed that past events featured many films that were less than exciting.

While the loudest applause for this year's superb crop of films should naturally go to the film-makers, some acclaim must be reserved for Jim Bedford, *MountainFilm*'s general manager. Not long ago, the festival had nearly lost its momentum on the long uphill climb of organizing an event with an all-volunteer crew. Bedford joined the team, and had the same effect as a fresh cylinder of oxygen. This year's success clearly shows that this is an event we can look forward to for many years to come.

A film festival is far more than the sum of its films, however good they may be. For most, the gathering of buddies, the founding of friendships, the early morning skiing on fabulous corn snow, the intricate route finding on the Ophir Wall, the bouldering, eating and drinking, are as much a part of *MountainFilm* as the marathon sessions of vicarious celluloid adventure found in the dark confines of the Opera House.

But films are the foundation for this event, and they were all worth seeing. Ironically, the jury (of which I was a member) decided against giving an award for "Best of Festival." Almost any of the special award winners might have taken this title in past years, but none were head-and-shoulders above the competition among this year's films. Also, however good the films might have been overall, not one could be considered a masterpiece.

The award for "Best Spirit of Mountaineering Film" was given to *Lake-land Rock: Eagle Front*, a British television documentary that shows the late Bill Peascod leading one of his finest climbs, 44 years after he made its first ascent. Chris Bonington, the film's host, seconds Peascod and engages him in warm conversation throughout the ascent. The jury's statement reads: "This film reveals the essence of love for the mountains and the humor of the human predicament. A story straight from the heart and a 'bloody good film' That it is."

The award for "Best Rock Climbing Film" was given — with vocal audi-

ence approval — to a French film with an Italian title: *E Pericoloso Sporger-si*. According to the judges, it "epitomizes the grace of the vertical ballet. It was a reflection of the strong, yet sensual imagery of climbing." While women in the audience might have found the exquisite ocean of silky-smooth Verdon limestone and the superb climbing to be sensuous, men found watching climbers Catherine Destivelle and Monique Dalmasso distinctly sensual. The panting heard in the audience was only partly induced by the massive overhang that Destivelle cruised. And the climbers' final rappel through a waterfall simply must be seen.

The jury had license to choose their own award titles. Much discussion produced "Best Free-Spirited Film," which barely captures the zaniness of a film that kept the audience rolling in the aisles for 24 minutes: *Life is a Beach in the Alps*. A ski film with not a hint of climbing, it captures "the adventure of mountain play, and is a brilliant comment that life in the mountains can be just plain fun!" So much fun was in evidence that the film's three sponsors tried (unsuccessfully) to have their names excised from the final product. It must have been all the crashing and burning, squashed Mr. Bill dolls, and general debauchery.

Expedition films are so predictable, so similar, and so frequently seen that *MountainFilm* regulars groan at the thought of screening yet another batch of them. This year, there were mercifully few, and those that were shown were exceptionally good. Unfortunately, most of the audience comes only to the evening program, and few saw the winner of the "Best Expedition Film" award, which was aired during the day. *On Angel's Wings* covered two Britishers who made the first hang-glider descent of Angel's Falls in Venezuela, and a German who parachuted just after them. Documentary mountain films are notorious for their awful, faked dialogue, but the protagonists here are remarkably genuine in their discussions of the current state of affairs. The film is more believable and absorbing than most expedition documentaries, and seems to draw you right into the steaming jungle.

"Best Mountain Sport Film" was a category created for nonclimbing action, which usually means kayaking or hang-gliding. The French film *Corsicakayak* received this award for being "a daring, thrilling film of the adventure of kayaking at outrageous extremes. Submerged in the impossible, the film flowed from one scene to the next with a notable lack of interference from the

camera crew." Or the kayaker's brains, for that matter. Plunging off dozens of 10- to 30-foot waterfalls was the gist of this movie. At the top of one fall, the kayakers noted, "The last person to try this one broke both his femurs." Then they dropped over, one after the other.

"Special Jury Awards" were given to two films. *Little Karim* documented an expedition to Gasherbrum I, almost entirely from the perspective of the head Balti porter. The judges considered this a "rare, sensitive, non-exploitive portrait of the people who make foreign expeditions possible, and its effect on their lives. Their anonymity is revealed in a porter's perspective of his goals and life." This is a tale worth telling — and watching.

The other "Special Jury Award" went to *Qaf*, which documented a volcanic eruption with stunning photography. "This magical, hypnotic film gave a surreal view of the underworld exposed. It was a spellbinding study of creation and an arresting image of the world in birth." Many a desired summit was formed by such flowing lava, and although a good deal more editing could have been done on this film, its glimpse into mountain formation was fascinating.

Almost all the other films could have received awards as well. *Christophe* chronicled the amazing Christophe Profit soloing the *West Face of the Dru*; the audience should have been issued chalk bags to dry their anxiously-sweating palms. Another French film was the wonderful *Paps et Zebulon*, the story of a 12-year-old boy and his mountain-guide father who come to the United States to climb in the Canyonlands and the Black Canyon; the kid is phenomenal both at climbing and at charming the audience.

For each of the many French films, *MountainFilm* Master of Ceremonies Lito Tejada-Flores did a masterful job of simultaneous translation. Poor Lito earned his knowledge of the language the hard way: season after season of skiing and climbing in the Alps.

Foreign-produced films dominated the festival, in part because television sponsors made the overseas films financially possible. The British produced *Cloudwalker*, a film profiling Jeff Lowe and, to a lesser extent, Mark Wilford. Scenes from rock climbing in Colorado and waiting out an interminable storm at the base of the Moose's Tooth in Alaska were very effectively sandwiched. The faked dialogue was sometimes unbearable, although Jim Bridwell — along as a second cameraman — occasionally provided needed comic relief.

*Antarctica*, which apparently had





the largest box-office draw in Japanese film history, recreated the true story of a dog team left to winter on its own in Antarctica. The photography was superb, and the movie's emotional impact through the first half of its 112 minutes devastating — but then the film degenerated into excessive anthropomorphism and manipulative tear-jerking.

If there had been an award for "Most Traditional Expedition Film," it would have gone to *Winds of Everest*, which chronicled the 1984 American climb of the *North Face of Everest*, with John Denver narrating. Despite the traditional fare, this film was well done and enjoyable.

Less polished, but even more enjoyable was *Paucartambo — Inca River*, which followed a team of Californians as they kayaked from the river's 14,000-foot source. Especially notable was the coverage and involvement with the Indians along the way; the local inhabitants were more than just colorful scenery. This film proves that adventuring can be a cross-cultural link that goes beyond the narrow adventure-quest itself.

The one disappointment of *MountainFilm 1986* was its Guest of Honor program. The film-making team of Beverly Johnson and Mike Hoover were scheduled to appear, but Hoover couldn't make it due to a flare-up of

fighting in Afghanistan, where he was filming the Mujahedin-Russian war. Johnson, who has lived through more adventures than most of us can even imagine, steadfastly refused to share her experiences with the audience — prompting someone to yell from the balcony: "Why not?" Tim Huntley, who has edited much of Hoover's work — including *Solo* and *UP* — filled in admirably during the awkward and embarrassing silences.

But such silences are rare during *MountainFilm's* holiday weekends. This annual festival of films, socializing, and mountain activities is an event like no other. If you've been there, you know what I mean. If you haven't, these words will only hint at what you're missing

— John Harlin III

### Body Machine

Director: Chris Johnston  
RF Video, Cheshire, England, 1985  
44 minutes, VHS or Beta, \$39.95

At age 30, Ron Fawcett has been in the top rank of British free climbers for over a decade, and this 44-minute video gives us a good idea why. He literally flows up such difficult grit and limestone routes as *Rubicon* (E3 5c), *Technical Master* (6b), *Bastille* (E6 6c), and *Coventry Street* (E4 6b), hesitating barely long enough to chalk

up and clip in. The English grading doesn't make much sense to this uninformed viewer, and Fawcett's smooth, controlled style confuses the issue still further — he makes these desperates look almost too easy, outside of his plea, near the top of *Body Machine* (E6 6b): "Come on arms, just one more move!"

One particularly memorable sequence shows Fawcett soloing at Millstone Edge, up *Edge Lane* (E5 5c) and down *Great West Road* (E1 5b). Set simply against Bill Connors' excellent background music, Fawcett exhibits a light, fluid, almost ballet-like touch on the rock. He is both a pleasure and an inspiration to watch.

Fawcett is accompanied on most of the routes by his wife Gill, and their commentary on each other's motivations, methods, and moods adds something of a personal touch. Gill, an accomplished rock climber herself, could have been featured far more prominently; her relegation to a secondary role smacks a bit of chauvinism. It would be nice to know more about their relationship, both on and off the crags — for example, how might children fit into the lifestyle they've chosen, and how do they work together as partners both in marriage and in climbing? *Body Machine's* greatest flaw is in not fully developing the human side of the Fawcett's story,



# tights

## Troll Second Skin tights from England.

- Comfortable poly-cotton with lycra.
- Flashy colors in three sizes.
- Double knees for extra wear.

Contact your local dealer or:



**CLIMB HIGH**

P.O. Box 9210C,  
South Burlington, Vermont 05401  
802-864-4122

**troll**  
MADE IN ENGLAND

Mark Leach in Second Skins  
on the first ascent of Adios Amigos (E5. 6C).  
Millstone Edge, England.  
Photo: Neil Foster.

although an effort is made in this direction.

Two supporting characters come very close to stealing the show, and at the very least give the average viewer someone to identify with. Geraldine Taylor, if not mildly gripped on *Valkyrie* (HVS 5a), is concerned enough to jam a foot so tightly into a crack that she almost can't get it out. Who hasn't done the same? And Geoff Birtles' convincing demonstration of the beached whale technique on the final moves of *Right Unconquerable* (HVS 5a) had me rolling on the rug. Their competent, yet only-too-human, almost fumbling performances — at

least when contrasted with Fawcett's controlled elegance — add a welcome and refreshingly human touch to the entire production.

*Body Machine* is available in VHS and Beta for \$39.95 plus \$2.00 postage, from Specialized Equipment, P.O. Box 239, Conway, NH 03818.

— Michael Kennedy

### Medicine For The Outdoors:

by Paul S. Auerbach  
Little & Brown Co.,  
Boston, Mass. 1986

346 pp, paperback; \$12.95

Hordes of people go into the woods, mountains, oceans, or deserts these

days, and a substantial number are unfit, unwise, unwary, and unprepared. This latest addition to the library of outdoor first aid is just what they need: very complete, simply but accurately written and illustrated, conservative, and easy to study in a rush.

Almost all likely hazards are included, from dislocations, heart attacks, hemorrhoids, and blisters, to poisonous insects, snakes, plants, and fish. It's written more for the camper than the hard-core climber, so the coverage of climbing accidents is skimpy.

Easy to add to your pack, its one weakness is that many of the treatments assume that you have a llama-load of medical supplies along. But that's all right — everyone has their own idea of what medical kit to take. Get this book if you're going more than a few days from doctor and hospital.

— Charlie Houston

### Lumpy Ridge: Estes Park Rock Climbs

by Scott Kimball

Chockstone Press, Denver, CO 1986.  
175 pp, photos, softbound; \$15.00

Scott Kimball's long-awaited *Lumpy Ridge: Estes Park Rock Climbs* is finally available. Always eager to give their opinions, climbers of both the domestic and imported variety happily contributed to this review. I needed to organize the feedback, so I made up a report card evaluating 12 aspects of the guide, grading each on a scale of A to F. After spending a couple days running around Estes Park and standing in the Twin Owls parking lot collecting data, I averaged the grades based on input from 40 climbers. The comments are mine, based on gossip, hearsay, and innuendo.

Organization and Clarity: A. well-deserved high mark. This guide is very easy to use, even by climbers not familiar with the area.

Accuracy: B. Everyone had an error to point out. My favorite is on the topo map at the front of the book on which MacGregor Slab is on the south side of Fall River Road. Attribute this one to the U.S.G.S.

Completeness: B. A controversial grade. The book covers all the territory of *Thath-aa-ai-atah* and *Solitary Summits*, two of Kimball's previous works. It also covers the Diamond, Hallett Peak, and Spearhead. Many new routes are included, but with a lengthy press time and a lack of communication among the local climbing community, as many as 50 routes, most 5.10 or harder, aren't in the book. (I am compiling a topo notebook of these climbs). Some climbers also wanted more information on gear selection.

Artistry: B. The late Chip Salaun's naturalistic influences are not felt in Lumpy like they were in *Thath*. This



makes the current guide clearer and more concise, but less artistic. Personally, I like *Thath's* Euell Gibbons approach.

**Photography:** C+. Some of the photos are dark and grainy. Marked routes help visitors orient quickly to the area. I had the feeling that some evaluators didn't want to appear too positive (not suave), so they picked this area to rip on.

**Drawings:** B. Drawings add immensely to the guide's clarity. While the use of photographs to show some rocks and drawings to show others is unusual, it adds variety to the guide, and is probably a plus overall.

**Enthusiasm:** B. Several mentioned the way that Jim Erickson, by the use of creative verbiage, makes his readers want to climb every route in *Rocky Heights*. *Lumpy Ridge* does not effervesce to any such extent.

**Ratings:** B. Can anyone ever agree on ratings? Probably not. Rating changes in the new book are almost all improvements.

**Graded List:** A-. The "Climbs Compared" list orders routes by difficulty, which is a good way of helping climbers improve their standards. Most people either loved this feature or had no opinion. Several very significant pitches are not included.

**Star System:** A. Unanimous approval. The star system rates climbs on their quality, and although subjective, is very useful, especially to those who can only spend a short time in the area. I agree with Kimball's estimations on quality in virtually every case.

**Value for Money:** A. Despite some critical remarks, most seem quite content to pay \$15.00 to finally find out what they should climb and where it is.

**Overall Grade:** B+ (solid). *Lumpy Ridge* is a tremendously useful tool. It

describes a very large area, covering ground from three previous books. I like the star system and "Climbs Compared." Organization and clarity, probably the most important characteristics of a good guidebook, are excellent. The format is pleasing and concise, and the book well represents the flavor of the area. Rock climbing in the Estes Park area is richer thanks to Scott Kimball's best work yet.

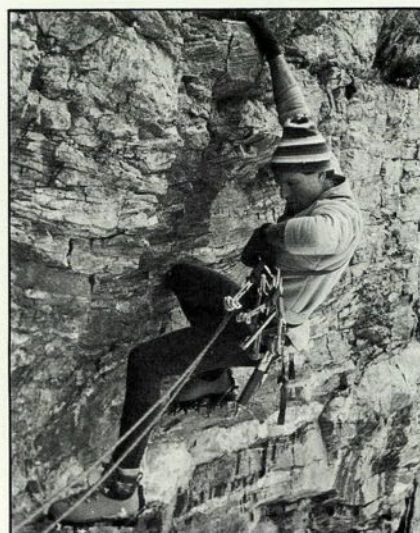
— Mike Caldwell

### Rock Climbs of Tuolumne Meadows

by Don Reid & Chris Falkenstein  
Chockstone Press, Denver, CO 1986  
144 pp., 30 photos, topos, \$13.95

The first published guide to Yosemite's Tuolumne Meadows appeared in 1984, providing widespread accessibility to information on his pristine high country climbing area. A revised edition is now on the bookshelf, satisfying what has become a large demand (the first sold out quickly), and updating topos in the wake of a recent storm of first ascents.

Changes from the first edition are minor, outside of improvements in design: climbs are now titled in boldface for easy location on the page, and photographs of the domes are printed adjacent to route listings instead of in one large group near the center of the guide. These alterations make use more enjoyable and efficient, a primary concern for such a book. By far the best feature is the topos themselves. These show clearly where routes, approaches, and descents are located, and give lucid information on the features of each, as well as their proximity to adjacent climbs and any existing crossover points. In an area like Tuolumne, it is easy to become confused or lost on the huge open faces, especially when protection is



## Climbing Skins

Performance garments for the mountains. Heavy polypropylene. Brushed inside.

- Very wind resistant
- Warm
- Stretchy
- Fast drying
- Ultimately comfortable
- Lightweight

Pants, Bibs, Knickers, Sweaters, Vests, Zip-Front Jackets, and more.

Free Brochure

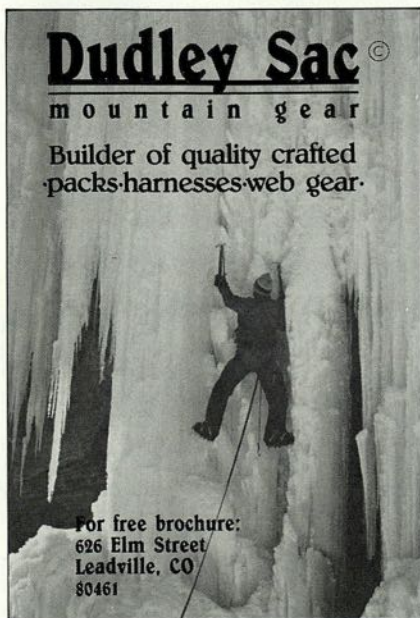
### THE BOULDER MOUNTAINEER

1335 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80302  
(303) 442-8355

## Dudley Sac®

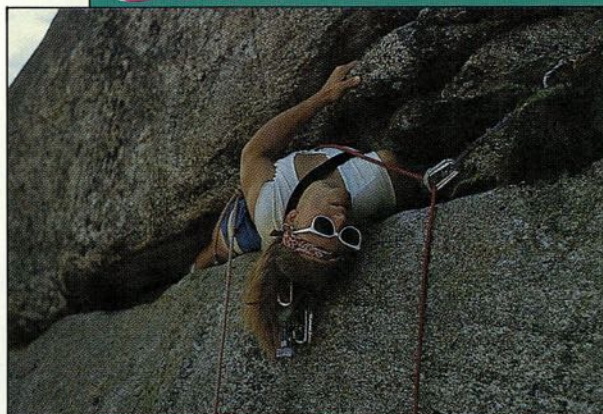
mountain gear

Builder of quality crafted packs-harnesses-web gear.



For free brochure:  
626 Elm Street  
Leadville, CO  
80461

## SURF'S UP!



Jim Ewing "Body Surfing" 5.10+, Whitehorse Ledge, NH  
Photo by Rich Baker



NEW CATALOG  
NOW AVAILABLE

Call or write:  
INTERNATIONAL  
MOUNTAIN  
EQUIPMENT  
BOX 494C, MAIN ST.  
NORTH CONWAY  
NH 03860  
603-356-6316



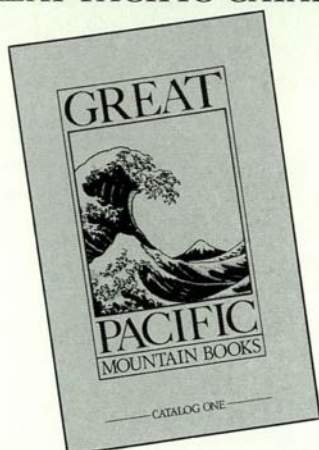
## Southern Hospitality

Rock Climbing in N. Carolina  
Alpine Climbing Expeditions  
to Alaska, Peru, Mexico,  
Colorado, the Himalaya  
Adventure Travel  
704/258-9659



P.O. Box  
5292  
Asheville,  
N.C.  
28813

## GREAT PACIFIC CATALOG



The complete source for  
books-in-print about mountains:

- Hiking & Trekking
- Climbing Guides
- Mountaineering & Wilderness Travel
- Skiing
- Whitewater
- Wilderness Medical & Emergency

Write or call for our free catalog

Great Pacific Catalog  
P.O. Box 90  
Ventura, CA 93002  
(805) 653-5781

## Canadian Government Topographic & Park Maps

Complete selection on  
Canadian Rockies and  
S.E. British Columbia.

In stock, latest edition,  
prompt service.

For our map index and  
McNally road map of  
B.C. and Alberta,  
send \$2.00 to:

Northwest Map Service  
E. 11724 — 33rd. Ave.  
Spokane, WA 99206

sparse, and therefore reliable topos  
are quite valuable.

The introduction deals with protection possibilities and common racks and further notes on gear are found in the descriptions. Valuable to the experienced climber and Meadows' newcomer alike is the section "Selected Climbs Compared." Here Reid and Falkenstein have satisfied the demand for elucidation on first ascent styles by listing the most notable climbs and supplying such information without excessively belaboring ethics, either good or bad. In addition, there are warnings attached to those routes with "runout" or "serious runout" nature. Ethics and local tradition, important considerations at any climbing area, are more appropriately left to the introductory reading at the front of the book, so that those unfamiliar with the customs of Tuolumne might participate in first ascents without risking the wrath of those who call the Meadows their home.

The overall feeling of *Rock Climbs of Tuolumne Meadows* is one of good will, welcoming visitors to one of the finest climbing experiences to be had anywhere in the world. It is handled well, with the exception of numerous typographical errors (mostly in names, hopefully not in the ratings), and the inclusion of some recent solo first ascents which smack more of fame-stalking than serious climbing sensibilities. Hopefully the guide will serve to enrich the Tuolumne experience for many without sacrificing either the idyllic nature of the Meadows itself or the virtues of the native climbing philosophy.

— Phil Bard

## Devil's Tower National Monument: A Climber's Guide

by Steve Gardner & Dick Guilmette  
The Mountaineers  
Seattle, Wash. 1986

136 pp, 5½x8½ in., paperbound  
line drawings, maps, photos; \$8.95

In the last several years, Devil's Tower has emerged as one of America's finest crags. Until now, visitors to the Tower have had to depend on a spartan, self-published guidebook. Dissatisfied with this collection of line drawings and desiring a more complete catalog of the ever-increasing number of routes, Head Ranger Dick Guilmette teamed with climber/journalist Steve Gardiner to produce this well-researched text.

First-time Tower climbers and veteran stemmers alike should welcome the well-written route descriptions and photo topos, which include every route, free or aid, popular or obscure, ever done at the Tower up to September 1985. Fourteen photos of the Tower from various angles with numbered, overlaid route lines help immensely in locating specific routes

out of the plethora of dihedrals. Numbers correspond to route descriptions detailed enough to make your calves ache; they include ratings, first ascent data, approaches, pitch-by-pitch descriptions and lengths, rappels, suggested equipment and important notes from first ascensionists. The inclusion of all the aid routes may be a trifle cluttering for the free climber, but makes for a more complete record.

Although the guide has no encompassing star system for recommending routes, it has one to three ratings in the notes for many outstanding routes, and describes less worthy lines as "dirty" or "seldom climbed." There is also a list of recommended routes at every level of difficulty.

An invaluable map pinpoints approaches and established rappel routes, and along with the written descriptions of each, offers warnings about famous rope-eating cracks. This should significantly decrease the number of epic headlamp descents each year.

A chart compares the Yosemite Decimal System with other American systems and the British grades up to 5.7. It sadly omits, however, the French, German, and Australian grades, as well as the more difficult grades of the British system.

The "Historical" chapter contains well-documented and entertaining stories and photos of the first cowboy ladder ascent, first parachutist descent, and the first real climbing ascent. Excellent descriptions of the geology, wildlife, camping, and the surrounding area can be found in the "General Information" chapter.

A lot of work has gone into this book and it certainly shows. Its convenient size, sturdy construction, light weight, and price make it an excellent field copy as well as a readable and well-indexed library edition. The photos and exciting descriptions will doubtless entice more and more climbers to stretch their limbs and imagination on the Tower's endless, classic cracks.

— Beth Wald

## Banff Rock Climbs

by Murray Toft  
Druid Mountain Enterprises  
Calgary, 1985  
100 pages, paperback  
approx. \$7.00 (Canadian)

If writing a guidebook is as difficult as reviewing one, then I have a hard time feeling a right to criticize. The difficulty of guidebook writing must be even more exaggerated for the Banff area, because it would seem hard, if not impossible to write about the Rockies without apologies for the possible consequences of stimulating interest. To be generous, the rock can sometimes be unforgiving. While at times a beautiful alpine approach can lead to a pile of rubble, so too can a



wonderful wall be found at the top of a half mile of scree. In writing a guide to the Banff area, Murray Toft has had to deal with these idiosyncracies, and perhaps will have to face the wrath of climbers as a result.

When I began this review, I asked around to see if the locals had any outstanding complaints or recommendations. What I got in return seemed more a reflection of the character of the Rockies than of the guidebook itself. For example, a description of the descent from *Lion's Layback* may be vague and hard to follow, but isn't that partly because the descent is vague and hard to follow? And while everyone may lament the repeated inclusion of a garbage heap like *Gooseberry*, the quality of the rock isn't really the fault of the guidebook author, is it? (Granted though, he could stop calling the bloody thing a "classic"!).

Given then that we are not talking about Valley route descriptions ("Follow 2000-foot crack to top. Rappel.") or Eldorado descents ("Follow everyone else to bottom"), how can we fairly evaluate such a guidebook? I asked myself what a guidebook should do. Two fundamental things came to mind. First, a guide should help the climber find the route's approach and its descent (getting up it may be a different matter entirely), and second, a guide should help the reader understand the character of the area and its local climbers, as shown through historical and ethical reports.

Murray's guide does an adequate job of meeting the need for route information. As he points out in his introduction, this is meant to be a guide to selected climbs. Given that his chosen climbs are scattered over a 30-mile range, he has been forced to describe a number of complicated approaches. Although generally successful, a couple of first-time visitors reported that some of his approach descriptions were inadequate. This problem could have been easily rectified by supplementing the two meager maps found at the back of the text with more detail.

Murray's choice of using black and white photos superimposed with route lines is a wise way of overcoming some of the vagaries of climbing in the Rockies. Limestone routes generally do not lend themselves to either topos or verbal descriptions, and most of the photos in this guide are a clear help. The only exceptions are found in a few poor-quality crag shots, but these are all of thankfully-obscure routes. Many climbers will no doubt find the route descriptions lacking in detail, resurrecting that age-old guidebook argument about robbing the reader of a sense of challenge. Murray attempts to avoid this criticism by suggesting in the introduction that the descriptions are intentionally vague to promote

adventure. Remember that next time you're lost.

As for the choice of routes, the author has done a good job of being both broad-minded and current. If anything, the guide may be somewhat over-inclusive. (A photo of Rundle Rock?)

Despite the author's praiseworthy efforts to be comprehensive, a number of people continue to complain about the descent descriptions (particularly from the Cascade Mountain area); but again, I wonder how much of this problem can be simply attributed to the nature of the area. The best

description of an awkward descent might still see people scared and lost.

The second responsibility of a guidebook, that of helping the reader understand the character of an area and its local climbers, is left untouched by this book, and I feel this is a serious drawback. This area has had personalities and struggles which have been interesting and of course have defined what was climbed and when. A history of the area is sorely missed.

Equally missed, but on a more serious level, is a better description of the objective hazards and local ethical concerns. Local rock is both poor and

# THE CLIMBER'S GUIDE to NORTH AMERICA

John Harlin III

## West Coast Rock Climbs

Squamish Chief - Liberty Bell - Index Town Walls - Leavenworth - Beacon Rock - Smith Rock - Lover's Leap - Donner Summit - Calaveras Dome - Tuolumne Meadows - Yosemite Valley - Pinnacles - Needles - Red Rocks - Joshua Tree - Tahquitz/Suicide

## Rocky Mountain Rock Climbs

Blodgett Canyon - Devils Tower - Needles - City of Rocks - Fremont Canyon - Vedauwoo - Little Cottonwood Canyon - Rocky Mountain National Park - Boulder - Turkey Rocks - Garden of the Gods - Aspen - Pike's Peak - Black Canyon - Telluride - Canyonlands - Zion - Granite Mountain - Sandias

## NOW AVAILABLE!

## East Coast Rock Climbs

Charlevoix - Les Laurentides - Mt. Desert Island - Cannon/North Conway - Adirondacks - Shawangunks - Connecticut Traprock - Carderock/Great Falls - Seneca Rocks - New River Gorge - Stone Mountain - Moore's Wall - Linville Gorge - Looking Glass/Whitesides - Chattanooga

"... of immense help to foreign visitors like me."

CHRIS BONINGTON

"It should spread us all out a bit more ... will benefit climbing ..."

YVON CHOUINARD

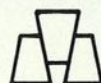
"... a worthy project, filling a genuine need."

ROYAL ROBBINS

"A practical and informative addition to any climber's library."

MICHAEL KENNEDY

EACH VOLUME AVAILABLE FOR \$22.00 FROM YOUR LOCAL DEALER, OR FROM



CHOCKSTONE PRESS

526 Franklin Street  
Denver, Colorado 80218  
(303) 377-1970



poorly protected in many cases (and at times, too easily given to bolting), and it seems that a guide which encourages exploration should provide a better service to both residents and visitors by clarifying common standards. Also missing is some kind of warning that the visitor should expect some problem in adjusting to the local ratings.

A final note to recognize a common complaint. Several people said they were upset with the quality of the binding of the book, and to echo that issue, my copy fell apart the first time I opened it out of the store. It is very unfortunate to see this kind of thing in a book which is otherwise handsomely set and printed.

— Geoff Powder

### **A Cheap Way to Fly**

Free Climbs of Northern Arizona  
by Tim Toulas, 1986  
44 pages, topo format  
\$8.95 pamphlet

The quality of the climbing in the area covered by a guidebook seems to be a key factor in the guide's sales. Since *A Cheap Way to Fly* describes the excellent basalt and sandstone climbing that exists in Northern Arizona, the pamphlet's sales have nearly exhausted its first printing. Unfortunately, good climbing isn't a guarantee that a guide will be well written. *A Cheap Way to Fly* seems to lie somewhere between well written and poorly done.

Tim Toulas makes it quite clear, at the beginning, his intention for the guide: "a quick and painless effort . . . to direct you, the gnarly rock dude and dudess, to the rock and its secrets —

in the time it takes you to execute a forty-foot whipper," and, "I'm trying to make pizza and beer \$money\$ fast." Tim's light-hearted approach is perhaps the guide's strongest asset.

Other examples of his humor are, "Weather — To be Announced . . ." and, "Recommended Routes — All! — boy that was easy," and several quotations such as, "A curved line is the loveliest distance between two points" — Mae West." In a time when climbers seem to be getting progressively more serious about the sport, it's refreshing to see a guide that repeatedly brings a smile to your face.

Another positive attribute is his symbolic approach to presenting the different areas, spread over a hundred square miles: a cheap plane ride. Throughout the guide, Toulas maintains this atmosphere until the reader finally lands at the back of the book.

The most notable weakness is the failure of the guide to get the climber "painlessly" to the base of the individual routes. This is the result of vague and poorly drawn topos. Granted, most locals and visitors who know about the Thursday night, Alpine Pizza beer bashes will find the routes; but unknowing visitors or inexperienced locals most likely won't. Scale indications are lacking, around-the-corner arrows are haphazardly used, and the detail of line drawings is poor.

Other weaknesses are the inconsistent ratings and the omission of several classic sandstone routes in the Sedona area. Anyone that does *Cakewalk*, rated 5.12-, and *Watusi*, rated 5.11+, will wonder which direction indicates increasing difficulty.

Toulas also leaves out such classics as *The Mace*, *Earth Angel*, and *The Streaker*, to name a few. These routes are as close as the included Winslow Wall and definitely much more sought out by locals and visitors alike.

*A Cheap Way to Fly* will eventually get most climbers to the routes, and certainly has opened up some of the best basalt crack climbing in the Southwest. For this, Tim Toulas is to be commended.

— Jim Waugh

*Convincing Jim to review this guide was difficult. Flagstaff was virtually the last bastion of the state's secrecy ethic, partially owing to what used to be a rabid anti-chalk sentiment among the leading locals (several continue to abstain). A lingering cloud of secrecy still exists, and I suspect this has something to do with the guide's vagueness, as well as Jim's reluctance to review it. The guide is available from: Tim Toulas, 1213 S. Alamo Circle, Mesa, AZ 85024 — JS*

### **The Gunks Guide**

by Todd Swain  
Alpine Diversions, New Paltz, NY  
1986  
300 pages, photos, softbound, \$20.00

"Welcome to the gunks, one of the major rock climbing areas in the world." Few would argue with Todd's dramatic introduction. The Gunks have been a significant vertical playground since their discovery by Fritz Wiessner in the mid-1930's. With overhangs looming high over a meandering carriage road, the area often takes on mythical proportions. A guide, therefore, should provide clues for a safe and rewarding trip through this magnificent wonderland.

Superficially, *The Gunks Guide* looks quite impressive. The size is right, the front and rear cover photos are excellent, and the printing is good. Protection and quality (star) ratings are included, and the Yosemite Decimal System is used for the gradings. All this is great, but several problems soon become apparent.

One is the photography. Our introduction to the Trapps is a murky photo on page 10, and the size and quality of the other cliff photos makes them virtually useless for reference. The action shots have little historical significance and are generally uninspiring.

Unlike climbs in other areas, routes in the Gunks often do not follow obvious features. Therefore, detailed route descriptions are generally appreciated. Unfortunately, the descriptions in this guide are vague and do not help explain the photos, which are insufficient by themselves.

The star system for rating quality is obviously subjective, and many could quibble about Todd's selections. The

# FISH

PRODUCTS

## BIG WALL ACCOUTREMENTS



Send for free catalog

Dealer Inquiries Invited

174 SO. SUNNYSIDE AVE.  
SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024  
(818) 355-9164



gradings, however, *should not* be subjective, and are sometimes inconsistent with local consensus. Although I haven't examined every detail, I did notice a couple of points worth mentioning. For example, *The Winter and The Fall* should not be given identical grades (5.11- PG), *Lotus Flower* is much more difficult than 5.9+ "to the ledge," and the first pitch of *Fallen on Account of Strain* is 5.9-, not 5.10-.

Overall, it appears that *The Gunks Guide* was hastily put together. Besides the more serious problems cited above, there are many minor errors, such as numerous spelling mistakes. And while Todd claims to "have talked extensively with the local climbing community," a consensus of leading climbers during the past few years indicates otherwise. To me, this shows a lack of the responsibility inherent in authoring a guidebook.

On the positive side, Todd has provided Gunks climbers with one book that covers nearly all of the routes in a handy, 4x6-inch format. If this is important to you, buy it... but... *caveat emptor*.

— Russ Raffa

#### The Polar Circus.

No. 1, 1986

Summit Publishing, Bay #3,  
3516-26th Ave. N.E.,

Calgary, Alberta, T1Y 4T7, Canada  
62 pp., photos, paperbound; \$13  
(U.S.), \$15 (Can.)

A large-format, well-produced journal reminiscent of the early issues of *Ascent*, *The Polar Circus* chronicles the travels and occasional misadventures of a small but active group of Calgary and Banff area climbers. A wide variety of material is presented, ranging from Chic Scott's dry account of *High Level Ski Tours* to *Descent From Latcarf*, Randolph McDonald's comical tale of a fictional attempt on a remote Rockies peak. New Zealand is the setting for Sylvia Forrest's epic *Cooked on Mt. Cook*; after losing a boot during an unplanned bivouac, she spends another four days without bivy gear or food, using a piece of slate tied on her bootless foot!

In *Eckhardt*, Murray Toft writes a warm and funny appreciation of Eckhardt Grassman, who was killed on Mount Edith Cavell in 1979. And on a less serious note is a hilarious collection of *Letters Home*; I especially liked that of a crag rat in Squamish ("All I could do was crank, one-arm, one-tip, and go dyno. I missed.").

By far, the most intriguing articles deal with what this group knows best: hard climbing in the Canadian Rockies. In *With Gregg on Alberta*, Barry Blanchard tells of the third ascent of the North Face of Mt. Alberta, one of the best big alpine routes in the Rockies. Alain Chassie and Kevin Doyle expound on the joys and terrors of

modern waterfall climbing in *The Terminator* and *Gimme Shelter*, while Jeff Marshall travels farther afield (to "Canada's 11th province") for some stormy alpine action on the West Face of Mt. Deborah, in *Baked Alaska*. David Cheesmond's interview with George Lowe is excellent, but far too short for my taste. On the other hand, Cheesmond's *Canadian Six Pack* almost justifies the high price of the journal; this article describes selected climbs on Mt. Assiniboine, Mt. Temple, Mt. Kitchener, North Twin, Mt. Alberta, and Mt. Robson. Much of the information presented, especially on the more recent routes, is unavailable

elsewhere, and Cheesmond's personal experience on many of the climbs lends an accuracy that is appreciated.

The photos are generally very good, as is the overall production quality. However, unlike the early *Ascents*, the writing in *The Polar Circus* varies incredibly, from uninspired to merely decent. There are no gems hidden within its 62 pages, but there is enough here to keep you entertained for an evening. All in all, it's a good, if not great first effort. I'll look forward to the second edition sometime this winter.

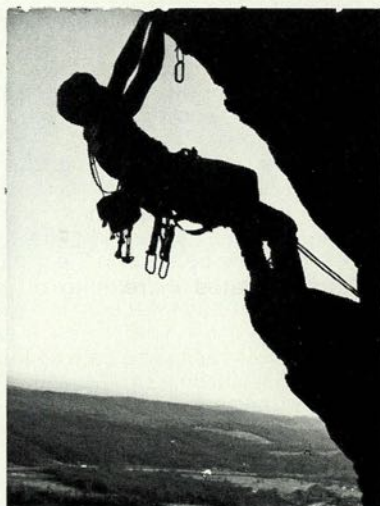
— Michael Kennedy

Announcing one of the Southeast's best kept secrets:

## SOUTHERN SANDSTONE

### A Climber's Guide to Chattanooga, Tennessee

by Rob Robinson



- ♦ Over 250 previously unpublished routes
- ♦ Diagrams, topos and route descriptions
- ♦ Photographs with routes indicated in red
- ♦ Routes indexed by difficulty
- ♦ Appendix of first ascents
- ♦ Three star rating system
- ♦ Convenient pocket size (4 $\frac{7}{8}$ " x 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ " )

*Limited number of books signed by author  
will be sent while they last!*

.....  
Please send check or money order for \$14.60 per book (includes all postage and handling) to:  
Concord Investments Inc., 3401 West End Building, Nashville, TN 37203.

Enclosed is \_\_\_\_\_ dollars. Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of SOUTHERN SANDSTONE to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



## Lycraphobia

Dear Editor,

We are writing to express our dismay at the current homosexual trend prevalent amongst the new generation of "hot" climbers. In the good old days, climbers looked like climbers. Men and women wore baggy pants and had hair all over their bodies. Climbing was macho. It gave females an excuse for not bathing.

Today, every major climbing area is infested with young faggots running around in purple shoes and pink lycra homo tights. These new "hardmen" refuse to wear a rope, but all wear earrings.

They see traditionalists, such as ourselves, resting on protection while on their routes, and call us aid climbers. Maybe we are, but at least we are not climbers who will die of a similarly-named disease.

— Dick Meinig and Geoff Tabin (Denver)

## Vandals

Dear Editor,

I was taken back by Lynn Hill's comment regarding the style in which the first ascent of Vandals was completed ("Altered States," *Climbing* #95), and would like to relate the complete history of the route to set the record straight.

Mike Freeman, Jack Mileski, and I first scouted the route on a cold, misty day in spring 1983, spotting the obvious flaw running through the roof. The initial face was devoid of protection, but we considered the possibilities of bouldering the opening moves. However, the boulders and loose scree at the base increased the possibilities of a broken ankle, so we proceeded to toss the scree into the pit, calling ourselves the Skytop Vandals. Thus, we referred to the route as *Vandals* before it had even been attempted.

That fall, Russ Clune and I returned to the scene of the crime for a serious attempt at the roof. The first day, we tried taping skyhooks and using small RP's to protect the initial face. We were having some difficulty cracking the opening moves when Lynn came out of the woods, so we asked her to tie in. With four spotters, she walked through the moves to a no-hands ledge, laced in a life-support system, and made an attempt at getting to the roof. She had to depart early, leaving Russ and me a toprope. We spent the rest of the day cracking the initial face — very difficult for us due to genetic defects.

On the second day, we found an easier start slightly right, and worked

on the upper face leading to the roof. On one attempt, Russ committed to the runout, opening the sequence to the roof, but failed to find any protection. He made a rapid descent, spraining his ankle. Using his sequence, I obtained the high point and placed some questionable gear, which I hung from in order to clean the crack so it would accept another RP, making the playground safe.

We spent the next five days attempting the roof. At no time did I see Russ, Hugh, or myself hanging and continuing — after every fall we would lower to the no-hands rest for another attempt.

I am proud of the team effort and the style involved in the completion of *Vandals*, and hope that this letter clarifies this.

— "Bones" (not Jersey)

Jeff Gruenberg (Lebanon NJ)

## Free or Aid?

Dear Editor,

The ethical debates have been hot and heavy this year, and much has been said in an attempt to rationalize the use of aid to produce "free" climbs. Those who climb in good style need to become more vocal.

Last year, I watched a few of France's best climbers trying to free climb *Asteroid Crack*, a short aid route in Joshua Tree. They had a toprope set up in a very intriguing manner, from the belayer on the ground to the anchor on top, then down through two wired nuts at the crux to the climber at the base. The climber's preparations were as curious as the toprope set up. He sat on a small towel and in a very ritualized manner scrubbed his shoes and hands with a rosin bag and then chalk. He then stood up and poofed every foothold he could reach with rosin. Next, he carefully stepped off the towel and climbed fluidly up to the crux, where he promptly fell off.

Instead of lowering to the ground, he hung on tension, scrubbed the tiny finger jams, applied more chalk and rosin, and fingered the holds for many minutes. Apparently, this sequence was repeated for many days until the climb was "free." I don't understand how this heavily-tainted, compound aid ascent could result in a free climb. Most outrageous, however, was the liberal use of rosin on American granite — it will take more than rain to wash away this gooey mess.

I saw a different sort of aid in use on a recent trip to Indian Creek in the Canyonlands. A climber was leading one of the many beautiful, thin-hand cracks found there; he kept a Friend at waist level, and every two or three

moves, sagged onto tension. Now I understand Alan Lester's statement that anyone with chalk, taped hands and a stack of #1½ Friends can be a 5.11c hand crack climber.

There is nothing wrong with these artificial techniques, as long as they are reported and rated for what they are; aid, pure and simple.

On his return from Hueco Tanks, a friend stated; "Anyone with a top rope, full body harness, lycra, and 30 days could climb *The Gunfighter*." He was joking, but my curiosity was aroused, and I decided to see what I could do in similar style. I am a 5.10/5.11 climber, and on my first attempt at blatant hangdogging (a toprope and two rests on tension), I was able to crank all the moves on a 5.11d route. My ego soared, but on the lead I'm still a 5.10/5.11 climber; although with more practice, I'm sure that I too could do 5.12.

One of the reasons that I love climbing is the freedom of expression that the more organized sports lack; however, there should be some guidelines to protect our climbing environment. It takes more than just a line of holds to make a face route — stances and features, for example. A climb with bolts placed on rappel, and/or modified holds, is a non-route. There may be a place for this at Arapiles or in the Verdon, but not in California. Routes done in bad style in California in the future will, no doubt, be chopped by the more reactionary locals.

We, as a climbing community, should come to some kind of consensus to stop the spread of the disgusting things that go on in places like Arapiles. If recent reports are true, they have completely eliminated the need for the crags themselves. Here, we love our crags and wish to preserve them.

— David E. Evans (Joshua Tree)

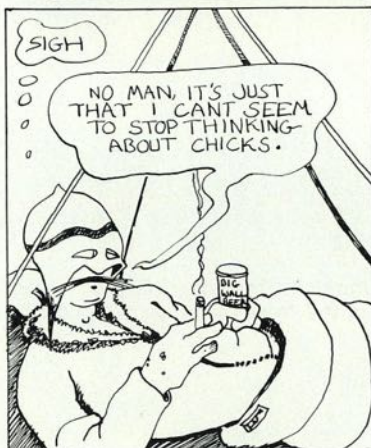
## Style Hangdog

Dear Editor,

As a former Boulder/Yosemite resident now living in Chicago, I have followed the recent debate on free climbing tactics with a certain detached amusement. While the so-called guardians of good style pontificate atop their VW vans in the parking lots of Eldorado, Joshua Tree, and Yosemite, the rest of the climbing world has passed Americans by in the push to raise free-climbing standards.

I always thought that the purpose of climbing was to get good pictures (and have fun), but it seems to me that this preoccupation with "style" has become a ball and chain for the climbing





communities in America's finest areas, Yosemite in particular.

In the Valley, more so-called "local hardmen" spend their summers playing hacky-sack in the lodge parking lot than doing any climbing. These gifts from God to the climbing social register do nothing more than belittle others who would dare to venture out of the cesspool of the Curry Co. domain and actually set foot on a climb.

Over the past several years, there seems to have been a degeneration of the climbing community's resolve to do anything other than make up excuses to remain complacent. Hiding behind a veil of "acceptable style" precludes the need to go out and climb anything harder than 5.11b.

This type of attitude makes me almost glad that I live a thousand miles from the nearest place that even remotely resembles a climbing area.

— Rob Slater (Chicago)

## Speaking of Slander

Dear Editor,

I must say that the April issue of *Climbing* was one of the most entertaining to date — not since Robinson's "Pox In Vulgaria" article has there been so much mud-slinging. It even rivals that of the political arena.

This only goes to show that the same petty, egotistical pecking-order games are played out everywhere, be it at the podunk midwestern crag or in the big league of Yosemite. What does that say about climbers?

— Jim McGuire (Forest City, IA)

Editor:

It's heartwarming that traditionalists are intent upon leaving so much untouched rock for their posterity, yet a pity that the legacy doesn't also include  $\frac{3}{8}$ " bolts. I'm certain that 20 years down the line, those future hot-shots, upon clipping an antique  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, will offer up their thanks, for nothing. I do now.

— Ray Ringle (Tucson)

Dear Editor,

The various letters to the editor in recent issues of *Climbing* have been somewhat amusing, with their innuendo, accusations, sarcastic barbs, and other descriptive salvos of rhetorical diarrhea. I realize that some of this is serious, and some is done simply in jest; but these exchanges are becoming boring and pedantic — like two old ladies at a tea party arguing over cookie recipes.

I suggest that you remedy this problem by making it more interesting: sponsor an event where the protagonists could settle their differences on the rock instead of by the pen. Tie them in on both ends of a rope, put them on some hard Grade VI, and let them go at it.

Next, film the event and market the

results by selling VCR tapes to the public. Take out full page glossy ads in the chic outdoor magazines, depicting honed bodies, wild colors, lycra (something like a Calvin Klein ad), all with heavyweight titles like "Bachar vs Kauk," "Fowler vs Ament," and "Carigan vs The Valley Boys."

Finally, have someone like Jeff Smoot — the National Enquirer reporter for the avant-garde climber — put together the marketing campaign. You could kill two birds with one stone: the protagonists could get the fame and glory they've longed for, and at the same time, *Climbing* could cash in on it by selling more magazines and tapes!

— Ray D. York (Sacramento)

## Alaskan AC

Dear Editor,

In *Climbing* #95, the American Alpine Club discussed their concern over limited access to mountain areas. This is not a new topic, but it is a vitally important one. Here in Alaska as well as in the lower 48, access has been a major concern of the Alaskan Alpine Club. We have been more actively involved in protecting mountaineering freedom than any other organization, including the American Alpine Club. If the climbing community is having problems with access, the AAC is a poor vehicle for seeking solutions — they have repeatedly chosen to support the very entities that they now say they are trying to combat.

During the debate surrounding the Alaska Lands Act, the AAC did nothing concerning the deletion of mountaineering as an allowed use of the new parks in Alaska. This doesn't say much for their "concern" for mountaineering freedom.

When the National Park Service proposed extending its mandatory registration policy to all mountaineering on peaks above 5000 feet, the AAC again showed its concern by remaining silent. If this is an example of their concern, I shudder to think of the outcome of any suggested closure of Camp 4 in Yosemite.

The Alaska Division of Parks proposed the closure of three climbing areas near Anchorage. The Alaskan Alpine Club organized opposition to these closures, appealing for support from the international mountaineering community; as a result, the closures were rescinded. While claiming to represent the climbing community, the AAC remained silent throughout.

Now that the NPS and other federal agencies are putting limits on access to climbing areas, people are taking another look at who truly represents the mountaineer in these matters. Clearly, the AAC is not fulfilling its responsibilities.

The Alaskan Alpine Club is now a



member of the UIAA, and is actively representing the genuine concerns of the American mountaineering community — namely, protecting mountaineering freedom and meeting mountaineering responsibilities. We are not an extreme environmental organization, nor a social club like the AAC. We are a mountaineering organization. (Alaskan Alpine Club, 3641 Sandvik, Fairbanks, AK 99704).

— Mark A. Wumkes (Fairbanks)

## Contributors Sought

Dear Editor,

I am compiling a photo documentary of the 40 or 50 hardest free climbs in America, from small crags in New England to alpine walls in Colorado. Any and all high quality photos of 5.11 to 5.14 climbs are welcome; pictures of advance-grade or controversial climbs are especially requested.

This is an independent venture at present, and any form (print, negative, or slide) is acceptable for the rough draft. Please indicate if the materials sent are originals so I can copy and return them ASAP. (Edward Keller, Glenmere Ave., Florida, NY 10921).

— Edward Keller (Florida, NY)

Dear Editor,

Don Reid and I are putting together a new edition of the guide to Yosemite Valley. We are actively soliciting new route information, corrections to the previous guide, and any suggestions as to how to make the guide better. Please send any information c/o Chockstone Press, 526 Franklin Street, Denver, CO 80218.

— George Meyers (Denver)

Dear Editor,

Armado Press is a newly-founded book company that is interested in fiction and non-fiction about climbing and climbers. We will consider book-length submissions as well as shorter works for possible inclusion in an anthology.

All submissions should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope and sent to: T. Forker, Armado Press, 648 Broadway, Suite 700, New York, NY 10012.

— Timothy Forker (New York)

## Lost & Found

Dear Editor,

While climbing in Joshua Tree recently, we came across a rack of climbing gear.

It was found at Headstone Rock near Ryan Campground. Anyone missing this equipment should identify the markings and indicate when the equipment was lost. (Ben Chapman, 5535 Ackerfield Ave. #44, Long Beach, CA 90805).

— Ben Chapman (Long Beach)



## A TOUGH AXE TO FOLLOW

If you like to spend your spare time in your local climbing shop agonizing over the perfect ice axe you probably haven't bought one and here are a few reasons why.

Positive clearance, negative clearance, reverse droop, interchangeable picks, variable shaft length, stamped heads, welded heads, cast heads, aluminum shafts, composite shafts ... you just can't have it all and if you do ... you have a big closet, a bigger wallet and you leave all but one at home anyway.



We would like to suggest an alternative: Buy our Himalayan ice axe, at only \$75.00, and spend your spare time climbing.

If you would like to know more about our axes drop us a line and we'll send you a catalog.



**TOOLS FOR THE ASCENT OF MAN**

12880 Northrup Way, Bellevue, WA 98005, U.S.A.

Award-winning film:

## On The Rocks

*5.13's in Colorado and California*

**BEST CLIMBING FILM** and **MOST POPULAR FILM**, Gravity Sports Film Festival  
**GRAND PRIZE**, Telluride Festival of Mountain Film, Colorado, and nine other major awards

'BY FAR AND AWAY THE FINEST NEW AMERICAN CLIMBING FILM OF THE 80's ...'  
CLIMBING, April 1985

'... VERY POLISHED AND PROFESSIONAL, ON THE ROCKS  
IS THE BEST FILM ABOUT CLIMBING I'VE EVER SEEN.'  
ROCK & ICE, JAN. 1985

a film by KATHRYN JOHNSTON and  
IAIN STOBIE

AVAILABLE for RENT or PURCHASE  
29 min. 16mm prints & videos

ON THE ROCKS, P.O. Box 93974,  
Los Angeles, Cal. 90093 (213) 466-4921



# CLASSIFIED

**CLASSIFIED RATES:** \$.50 per word, \$5.00 minimum, prepaid. Mail all classifieds to: CLIMBING, P.O. Box E, Aspen, CO 81612.

**EXPEDITIONS TO RUSSIA, SOUTH AMERICA & ALASKA.** Climb Peak Communism, Aconcagua, Mt. McKinley and others with experienced mountain guides. Write for information: MOUNTAIN TRIP, Gary Bocarde, Box 41161, Dept. C, Anchorage, Alaska 99509. (907)345-6499.

**"GRAND CANYON,"** two-hour spectacular helicopter exploration VIDEO. Breathtaking music. Critically acclaimed. Details FREE. Beerger Productions, 3217-V4. Arville, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102. (701)876-2328.

**ANTOINE SAVELLI GUIDES:** "The Confidence Builder." Meet the abyss beyond your best through Alpinism: art mastering of all climbing forms on one mountain. From Telluride, Ouray, Canyonlands on our snow, ice, rock and skiing programs, to the majestic Alps on our "famous classics" or our "big wall experience" trip. P.O. Box 952, Telluride, Colorado 81435. (303)728-3705.

**NEOPRENE OVERBOOTS** — used on Everest, K-2, etc. Mail order, \$88.00. Send boot size and sole outline to: FORTY BELOW, Ltd., 4419 64th Ave. West, Tacoma, WA 98466.

**ARIZONA ORIGINALS** — Climbing pants constructed of durable canvas. Comfortable design with double seat and front, and large pockets. A true value for less than \$30.00. Other items available. FICKER DESIGNS, 2526 E. Villa Rita, Phoenix, AZ 85032. (602)867-1487.

**CITY OF ROCKS, IDAHO** — A climber's Guide. Limited supply, \$8.00 to: Dave Bingham, P.O. Box 1932, Ketchum, ID 83340.

**INDIA. INDIA. INDIA.** We organize expeditions in the Indian Himalaya. Form a group and leave the rest to us. IBEX EXPEDITIONS (P) LTD., G-55 East of Kailash, New Delhi — 110/065, India. Telephone: 63-4738. Telex: 31-4179 WAND IN.

**SOUTHERN GUIDEBOOKS:** Climbers Guide to the Mid-South \$8.50, Dixie Crystals (Stone Mountain, NC) \$5.50, add .50¢ per copy shipping. Dealer inquiries welcome. Earthbound, P.O. Box 3445, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

**K2 AVIATION, TALKEETNA, ALASKA.** Glacier air support for McKinley expeditions large and small. K2 provides three-wheel ski-equipped aircraft and complete Talkeetna services/facilities. Relax and enjoy Alaska, fly with glacier specialist Jim Okonek. Call collect or write for information, K2 AVIATION. Box 290c, Talkeetna, Alaska 99676. (907) 733-2291. Jim or Julie Okonek.

**ASPEN AREA CLIMBING GUIDE** now available. 40 pages, \$6.95 (includes postage). Larry Bruce, 7 Ajax Avenue, Aspen, Colorado 81611.

**VERTICAL ADVENTURES** offers year-round climbing instruction from California's top professional guides. Seminars held November through April at Joshua Tree, May through October at Idyllwild. Spring/Summer 1986: Classic Rock Climbing tours of England and France. Two-week Mountaineering Seminar in the European Alps, featuring ascents of Mt. Blanc and the Matterhorn. Guides include: Bob Gaines, John Long, Mike Paul, Roy McClenahan. Free brochure: 511 South Catalina Ave., Unit Three, Redondo Beach, CA 90277. (213)540-6517.

**NORTH AMERICAN ALPINE GUIDES.** Alpinist-Guides presenting a complete spectrum of climbing adventures. Basic to advanced rock, ice, alpinism. Year-round log cabin basecamp at Classic Crack in Icicle Canyon. Guiding classic Cascade and North American Climb climbs. 1986 Denali with Genet Expeditions, Mt. Hunter, Huntington, Aconcagua. ROB NEWSOM, Director, Eight Mile Creek, Leavenworth, WA 98826. (509)548-4140.

**1001+ DIFFERENT BOOKS:** Guides, narratives, techniques. Mountaineering, backpacking, skiing, whitewater. Discounts! Free Catalog. Backcountry Bookstore, Box 191c, Snohomish, WA 98290.

**CHRIS VANDIVER** — Private guiding and instruction in rock climbing. Group rates available. For the best, send inquiries to: P.O. Box 734, Truckee, CA 95734.

**FREE WEST FAMOUS GUIDES** — Rock Climbing instruction and guided ascents on Colorado's fabulous Front Range. \$70/day private lesson five-day course. Director: Mark Rolofson. For free information, write: P.O. Box 732, Boulder, CO 80306. (303)499-7713.

**FRIEND REPAIR AND DISCOUNT GEAR** from CLIMBING UNLIMITED. Complete overhaul, quality work for \$8.50, shipping and handling included. Also, send for our new Equipment Catalogues and Mountaineering Programs. Many interesting guided trips, and numerous hard-to-find specialty items are offered at rock-bottom prices. Contact: CLIMBING UNLIMITED, P.O. Box 11905, Tahoe Paradise, CA 95708. (916)577-7750.

**REACH THE SUMMIT!** Official Everest Expedition video, "Winds of Everest", seen on TV. Send \$55 to Outdoor Adventure Video, 511 Second West, Seattle, WA 98119.

**BOOTMAKING:** Technical, hiking, ski and walking boots carefully handmade and fitted by John W. Calden, P.O. Box 389B, Frisco, CO 80443, (303)668-3402.

**NUN (23,410 ft.).** June 1987, Join this expedition and climb the highest peak in Kashmir Himalaya. Details: CALIFORNIA NUN EXPEDITION, 595 Mountain View Ave., Mountain View, CA 94041.

**MAKALU EXPEDITION** — Non-guided ascent of Northwest Route of Makalu I (27,765 ft.), September-October 1987. You bring only your personal gear, we provide complete organization, equipment and supplies. LES ADVENTURIERS, 1115 Augusta Drive #31, Houston, Texas 77057, (713)974-0946.

**CHINA/ASIA** climbing partners wanted for the five months of April through August each year. I live in China, have permission to climb Siguliang and Gongga Shan peaks in Szechuan for spring 1987. Will consider other climbs. Write: Keith Brown, c/o 1534 Rugby Ave., Charlottesville, VA 22901 USA.

**GRAVITY SPORTS FILMS, INC.,** distributor of the best climbing and mountaineering videos and films. For a catalog, write: 1592 South-1100 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84105, or call (801)485-3702.

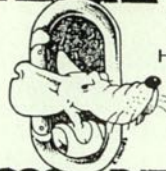
**HUECO TANKS GUIDE BOOKS** available by sending \$9.75 to David Head, 26 Seagull, El Paso, Texas 79936.

**ROCK CLIMBING** with a pack doesn't have to be a pain. Our 1300 cu. in. teardrop has a unique suspension with bunting straps and back. ALPENTECH, P.O. Box 494873, Redding, CA 96049.



## LIFE IS A PITCH!

**RICKY**



Ricky's philosophy, with Ricky shown climbing a pitch, is on the back of our Hanes Beefy-T shirt. He's also on the front with our logo. S,M,L,XL \$10 + \$2 shipping (60c tax in Calif.)

**ROCK RAT**

**MOUNTAIN HIGH LTD.**

of SIERRA DESERT GUIDES

824 WEST GRAAF • RIDGECREST, CA 93555



## Climber's Guide to Sabino Canyon and Mount Lemmon Highway

Tucson, Arizona

- Over 650 routes
- 232 pages
- Detailed topos
- Over 30 photos
- Three star quality rating system
- Bouldering Guide by Bob Murray
- Over 70 topo & line diagrams

**\$18.95**

postpaid  
(allow 2-3 weeks for delivery)

John Steiger  
P.O. Box 10764  
Aspen CO 81612

Dealer Inquiries Invited

## UIAA MOUNTAIN MEDICINE DATA CENTER

Offers free advice and literature on high altitudes, mountain and expedition medicine. For information and a publication list, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

UIAA Mountain Medicine Data Center  
Dept. of Neurological Sciences  
St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
38 Little Britain  
London EC1  
England

## CLASSIFIED

**FRIENDS REPAIRED.** \$6.50 postage paid on prepaid orders. ROADRUNNER, P.O. Box 47747, Phoenix, AZ 85020.

**SENECA SCHOOL of SURVIVAL ARTS.** Rock Climbing: beginner, intermediate and advanced. Guided climbs to Seneca Rocks and remote areas. Classes in aid climbing and big wall technique. Contact: Don Womack, P.O. Box 2, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884. (304)567-2624.

**WILDERNESS WORKSHOP** offers expert sewing repairs for your gear. Modifications and custom designs too! Call or write for our free brochure. 1506 Louella Avenue, Venice, CA 90291. (213)399-5288.

**ALASKA 1986** — Contact K2 Aviation for "Expedition Guide" and information on special rates being offered. Jim Okonek, (907) 733-2291

**STICK WITH THE ORIGINAL.** Technical rock resoles with Fire & Sportiva rubber on original shoes only. Resole any boots with the new FiveTennies rubber. Full soles, \$37.50 with return shipping. WHEELER & WILSON BOOTS, 206 N. Main, Bishop, CA 93514. (619)873-7520.

**ROCK SHOE REPAIR.** 6 years experience. Plastic boot resoling. Nordic to telemark conversions. All hiking boots. Quality guaranteed. THE VILLAGE COBBLER, P.O. Box 68, 29 E. Main, Belgrade, MT 59714, (406)388-7653. Send for free "climbing gear list".

**1986 EXPEDITIONS:** India's Garwhal Himalaya, Peru's Andes, Mexico's volcanoes and Baja. Write or call LOOKING GLASS GUIDES, P.O. Box 5292, Asheville, NC 28813; (704)258-9659.

**CLIMB FOR PLEDGES FOR THE KILIMANJARO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN TANZANIA.** Individuals solicit contributions to the hospital based upon their success in a five-day, 50-mile attempt of Mount Kilimanjaro. Basic pledges are for \$250.00 (tax deductible) for each level of the climb. If the sponsored climber attains all four levels, a basic contribution would be \$1,000.00. Level 1: Mandara Hut 9000 ft.; Level 2: Horombo Hut 12,000 ft.; level 3: Kibo Hut 15,500 ft.; Level 4: Gillman's Point 18,640 ft. For more information or to make a pledge, please contact: Kilimanjaro Children's Hospital, James W. Buchanan, 12499 West Colfax Ave., Suite A, Lakewood, CO 80215. (303)232-2404.

**MOUNTAIN HIGH LTD.** for Caribou sleeping bags — Quallofill with exclusive Louverloft (tm) design which stabilizes the Quallofill yet gives the fluid feel of goosedown. Models and prices for regular/long: Zeus, -25 deg., \$155/\$165; Polaris, -5 deg., \$130/\$140; Solstice, +10 deg., \$115/\$125. Free shipping, of course. 824 West Graaf, Ridgecrest, CA 93555.

**ACONCAGUA EXPEDITION:** Join Michael Covington and Michael Weiss on Aconcagua in January, 1987. For details, please write: FANTASY RIDGE, P.O. Box 1679, Telluride, CO 81435.

**MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS** in the Himalayas, Andes, Africa: Gasherbrum, Makalu, Aconcagua, Illampu, Kilimanjaro and other expeditions for beginners to advanced mountaineers. MOUNTAINEERING INSTRUCTION in the Alps, rock climbing, winter mountaineering, snow, ice & icefall climbing, paragliding, ski mountaineering. LES ADVENTURIERS, 1115 Augusta Drive #31, Houston, Texas 77057. (713)974-0946.

**FREE 1 oz. powdered gymnastic chalk** with order. Supplies limited. Chalk Prices: 1/2 lb. - \$2.50, 1/2 lb. — \$4.70 BIOTECH, P.O. Box 8981, Greensboro, NC 27419. (919) 855-1484.

**MOUNTAINEERING BOOKS & Climbing Guides**, new & out-of-print. Free catalog. DAVID BELKNAP BOOKS, P.O. Box 1382, GMF, Boston, MA 02205.

**THE KARAKORAM EXPERIENCE.** The number one trekking company for the Karakoram mountains of Pakistan. K2 basecamp via the Baltoro Glacier; Join an expedition to climb Gondoro Peak (5850m); Safari trek 15 days; Kashmir trek. Prices inclusive of air fare from London from US \$1500. THE KARAKORAM EXPERIENCE, 16 Parvian Road, Leicester, LE2 6TS, U.K. Telephone: 0533-541656-833903.

**IDAHO ROUTE DESCRIPTIONS WANTED** for upcoming guide. All grades appreciated including rock, ice, mountaineering and peak scrambles. Comments or information, please write: Curtis Olson, c/o COPA, Box 699, Boise, ID 83701-0699.

**SALES REPS and DEALERS WANTED** for growing software company. Send inquiries to: KINNALOA, Box 60115, San Diego CA 92106.



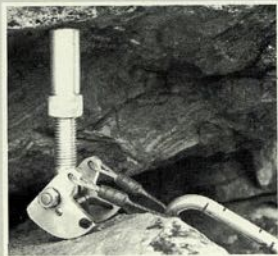
# CCH

## Colorado Custom Hardware



**CABLE PRO\*** Great for in use in places that will bend a Trigger Cam. Three sizes (12-20-32 mm)

..... \$35.00 each



**SEISMO\*** Small profile in a big tool. Great stability. One tool quickly adapts to any size from 4" to 10" with optional adaptors.

4-6" Standard ..... \$35.00 each

Any size adaptors ... \$10.00 each

### TRIGGER CAMS ALSO AVAILABLE!

\*PATENT PENDING

TELEPHONE OR  
MAIL ORDER:

*Colorado Custom Hardware*  
**303/385-4308**

POST OFFICE BOX 5353 • DURANGO, COLORADO 81301

Add \$3.00 if prepaid/\$5.00 if C.O.D. for shipping & handling. Visa/MasterCard Accepted.

*Tired of not finding what you want?*

Try us. We don't sell Lycra, but we've got most everything else.

We are one of the most complete technical shops in the country. Chouinard Equipment, Blue Water Ropes, Wired Blue, the best three cam unit on the market, Sliders, Friends, Rogers, Rocks, RPs, HRS, etc... All in stock. Oh, how about tinted chalk?

Can't find Sportys — we've got them! Ascent on Sight too. Also, the largest selection of cord and webbing anywhere.

If you're down our way, stop in. If not, call us for any of your climbing needs (except lycra).

### The Gendarme

Innovators of the "Simplex", the standard of the industry.

Box 53, Silver Lake, WY 82401  
(307) 567-2500

Photo: Peter Abraham on Crack of Dawn at Silver Lake

## The Eastern High Sierra's complete mountaineering shop...

### Climbing Specialists

Extensive selection in top-of-the-line climbing and mountaineering gear. Our unique rental program allows you to try before you buy—from ice axes to demo climbing boots.

### Closest to Yosemite

We're the closest complete climbing shop to Tuolumne Meadows and Yosemite. Come see us for all your mountaineering needs.

### WE HAVE MOUNTAIN BIKES!

CHOUINARD EQUIPMENT

WILD THINGS

BLISS

LAYOK

COME SEE US FOR  
**FREE**  
CLIMBING CHALK

**Mammoth**  
**SPORTING**  
**GOODS**

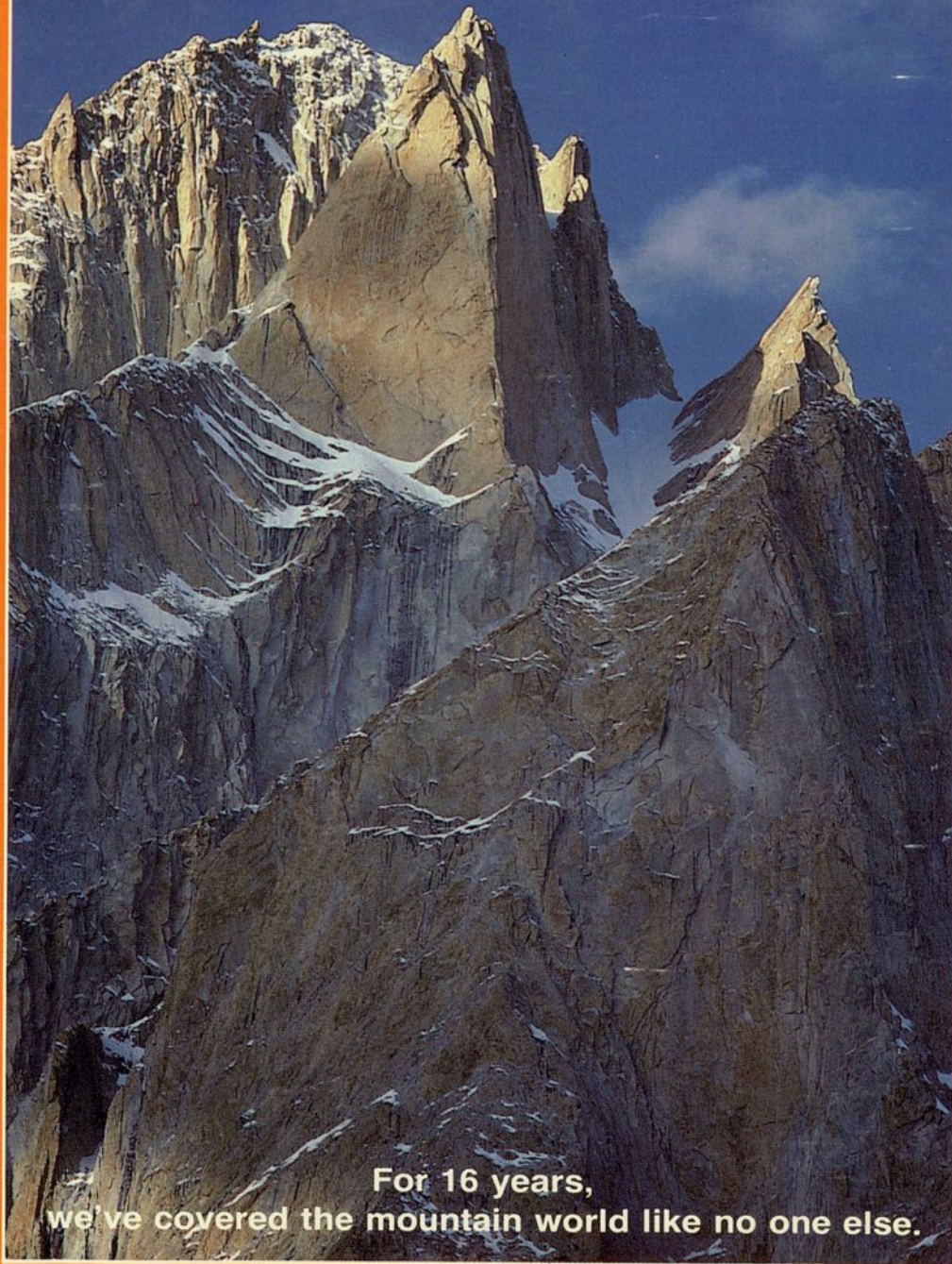
CALL OR WRITE FOR OUR  
SPRING/SUMMER CATALOG:

P.O. Box 1689, Mammoth Lakes, California 93546  
Sierra Centre Mall on Old Mammoth Road  
(619) 934-3239



SUBSCRIBE

# CLIMBING



For 16 years,  
we've covered the mountain world like no one else.

*The Grand Cathedral, Baltoro Glacier, Pakistan. Photo: Michael Kennedy.*

**Climbing** is like no other magazine — colorful, informative and as unique as the sport it covers. Our full-color features take you to the center of the action, on the boulders, crags, walls and peaks of the world.

And our regular columns keep you abreast of the latest routes, techniques, equipment, books and much more.

**Climbing** — the #1 climber's magazine in the world.

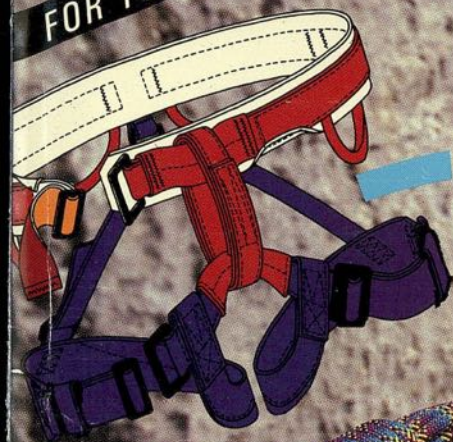
One Year — \$15 • Two Years — \$28

P.O. Box E • Aspen • Colorado 81612



# THE BEST CLIMBERS RELY ON MAMMUT

FOR PEAK SECURITY



**MAMMUT-GUARANTEE:** means Swiss quality tested to meet the highest standards. For mountaineers that demand everything of themselves and their equipment. Because mountaineering is a peak experience.



## AROVA-MAMMUT

CH-5600 Lenzburg/Switzerland

Distributors: Australia: Verglas/UK: Northern Feather/  
USA: Climb High, SMC A-16

Kim Carrigan in the fourth rope-pitch of the new top-route (No water, no moon) (9+) Wildhaus Schatberg, west face. Photo: Ruedi Homberger





Jerry Moffatt flashes the "Phoenix" (5.13a) wearing prototype "sticky" rand Fire Cats.

# Stick to it!

- "Sticky" rand provides incredible advantage for jamming techniques and heel-hooking.
- New anatomical shape increases support and comfort.
- Improved lacing system secures foot for more control.
- Unique "Garcia" double piece heel rand prevents heel-lift.

## **FIRE**



New Fire Cat

New Fire

For more information contact

**Sole Survivor** CORP.

2159 Palma Dr., Ventura, California 93003 or Call Toll Free In CA 1-800-262-SOLE Outside CA 1-800-448-FIRE