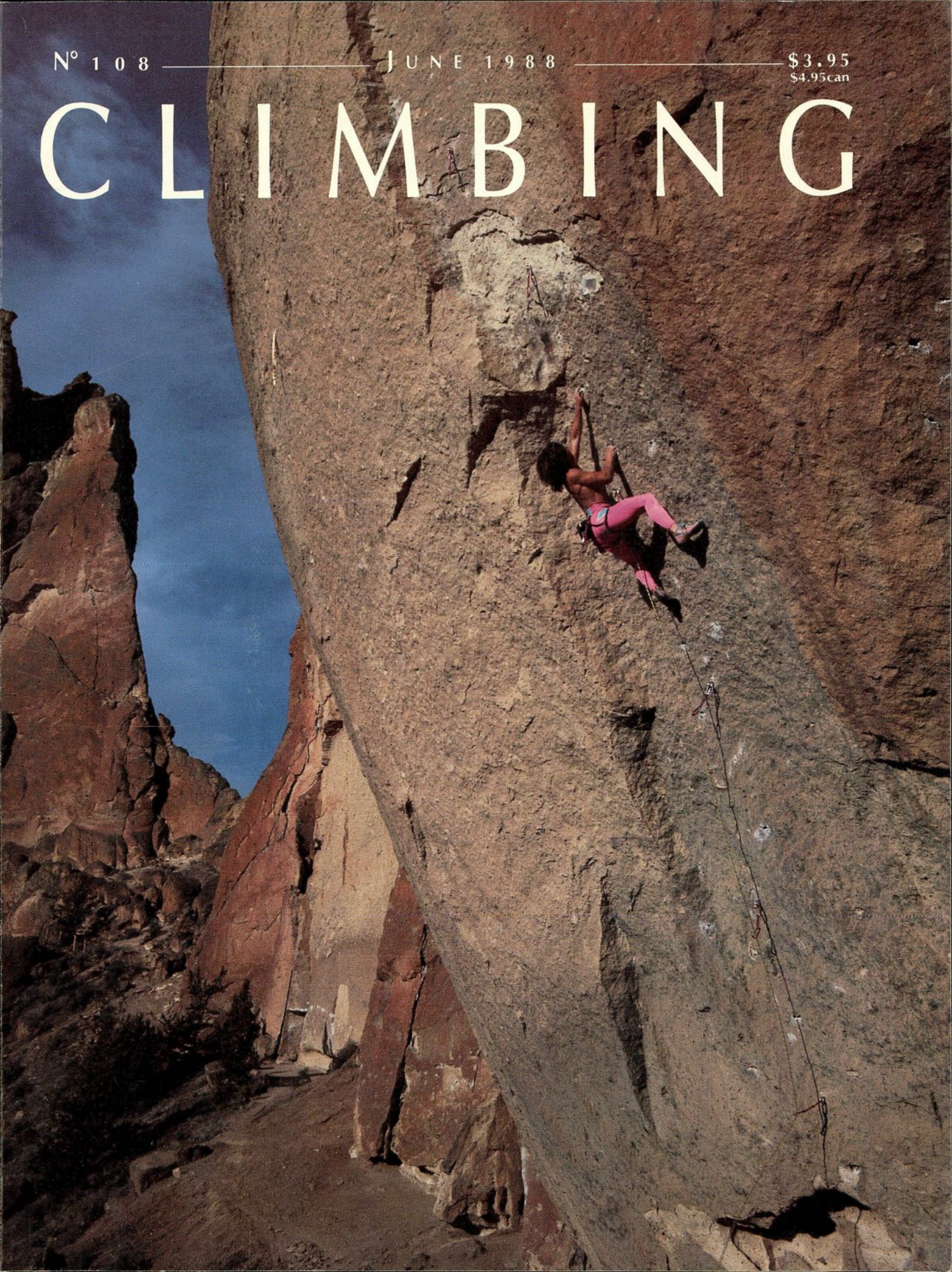


N° 108

JUNE 1988

\$3.95
\$4.95can

CLIMBING





blue water

ropes & equipment

Carrollton GA

Hidetaka Suzuki on PUMA (5.13) - Donner Summit

Blue Water 9 mm Ropes Photo by Earl Redfe

As climbers like Hidetaka Suzuki train harder and harder for more difficult climbs, Blue Water Ropes and Equipment strives to provide the latest and finest equipment available.

Blue Water listens to climbers and is constantly expanding the product line to meet their needs.

Fiber by:

 **Allied
Signal**
Technologies

"We take pride in our products."

CLIMBING

N° 108 JUNE 1988

FEATURES

- 50 **The Book of Kor**
Ed Webster's impassioned story of his return to the Black Canyon.
- 62 **Eurostone**
Part II in a series of articles on European rock climbing hotspots.
- 72 **The Forgotten Classic**
One that Steck and Roper left out — Mt. Asgard, by Mark Hesse.
- 78 **Eleven Mile Canyon**
Darryl Roth surveys yet another Colorado cragging area.
- 86 **Bivouac**
Chilling fiction, by John Thackray.

DEPARTMENTS

- 4 **Editorial**
- 6 **Basecamp**
- 90 **Expeditions**
- 93 **Profile**
- 96 **Starting Out**
- 98 **Equipment**
- 112 **Technique**
- 116 **Medicine**
- 118 **Access**
- 122 **Reviews**
- 128 **Letters**
- 130 **Perspective**

Cover: Scott Franklin on *Scarface* (5.14b). Photo: Cathy Beloeil

Table of contents: photo by Brian Bailey



Camille on slate. Photo: Becky Luigart-Stayner.

WILD COUNTRY

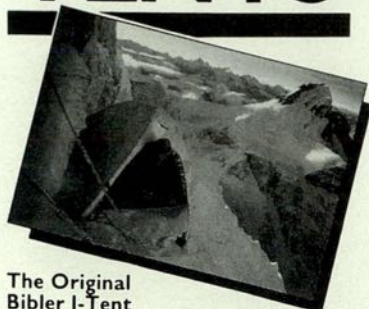


WILD COUNTRY USA
P.O. Box 589, Seavey Street
North Conway, NH 03860
(603) 356-9316

Be sure to pick up our
complete 1988 catalog at
your local mountain shop,
or direct from us.

100% BREATHABLE LAMINATE

BIBLER TENTS



The Original
Bibler I-Tent

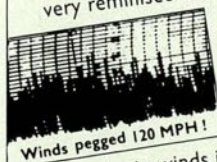
- 100% waterproof breathable laminate ToddTex™ construction
- Superior double-sewn construction throughout
- Only 3 lb. 6 oz.
- Interior aluminum pole setup
- Two-person free standing design

A TRUE STORY.

"A Sound I Hadn't Heard Since Everest And Makalu in '83."

Dear Todd (Bibler) —

Jim and I left for the Lower Saddle of the Grand Teton on Sunday the 21st of February ... We got to the Meadows and I could hear the sound of 120 MPH winds that I hadn't heard since Everest and Makalu in '83 — very reminiscent of jet stream winds



... set up a new Bibler I-Tent and crawled in ... became convinced that the tent couldn't possibly survive in winds in excess of 120 MPH. But the damn thing just held together! Thank you for the superb Bibler I-Tent.

Renny Jackson
Teton Climbing Ranger
Grand Teton National Park

Call or write today for a free catalog showing the full line of Bibler Tents — the only 100% waterproof breathable laminate tents made in America.

BIBLER TENTS

954A Pearl Street — Dept. A
Boulder, Colorado USA 80302

For Fastest Service Please Call

303-449-7351

EDITORIAL

Winning The Climbing Lottery

This winter, the *Denver Post* headline read: "Climber sues firms over frostbitten feet." The story detailed the case of Pauline Green versus Koflach Boots and R.E.I. She is asking for more than \$50,000 in damages because she frostbit her toes on Denali. Apparently, her doctor left nine little piggies alone, sliced off some tissue, and made one little piglet run all the way home.

Last week, I telephoned Pauline's attorney. "Mike," I asked, "if she wins this suit, don't you think it would set a bad precedent and allow just about anyone to sue climbing manufacturers?"

"I don't believe this is the focus," he replied, quite reasonably.

"Well, why is your client suing?"

"Because we've talked to an Alaskan orthopedist who says that the boot liners (aveolite inners) expand at altitude and cut off the circulation," Mike patiently explained. "We believe that the liners need further testing."

I felt dim-witted and slow not to have hired such good counsel when I frostbit my feet in the same inners on the same mountain. He practically convinced me that this case was a good deed for humanity.

I immediately called R.E.I. They confirmed it: the inners expand perhaps four or five paper widths. Just like everything at altitude, including the feet, the lungs, even the brain.

As for the orthopedist, he had examined my blackened toes in 1982. He presented the expanding inner boot theory — he also suggested ferrying packs with helium balloons up the mountain.

Now I had a plan. Me and all of my frostbitten friends could stop being paupers and sue. Never mind that we chose to go climbing when it was cold outside, or that we screwed up by not drinking enough water, or fit our boots too tightly, or wore wet socks, or forgot to wear hats, or bivouacked when we should've gone home. Of course, Pauline is probably an expert climber and didn't make the same mistakes we had, or she wouldn't be suing.

But I needed to do more research. So I talked to the equipment manufacturers — they're all running scared, because climbers have recently learned that lawsuits are the American way. And the manufacturers beseeched me not to use their names, even though they all said nice things about the climbers who sued.

The short, famous man who owns a huge, famous equipment company is being sued by a window washer; he wanted to talk, but "the wife" muffled him. The wild and crazy guy who sells wild things for falling and flying is being sued because someone fell, but as soon as he answered the phone he took the fifth amendment. And on and on it goes. Some woman got paralyzed because "Company X" didn't give her instructions on how to use Jumars; even though the jury didn't believe her defense, they felt bad for her, so they gave her \$50,000.

Then I talked to Jim McCarthy, a prominent attorney and the president of the American Alpine Club, who gave me the final instructions on how to win the lottery. "We call 'em leg-off cases," Jim said.

"What offs?"

"Legs," Jim replied. "See, if you lose a leg, or an arm, the case can't fail in court. The jury won't know squat about climbing, but they'll feel awful when they see limbs missing."

"What about toe-offs?"

"Yeah," he replied, "those'll work too."

Jim explained that tissue-offs wouldn't play on the sympathy of a jury quite as well. So, to be safe, Pauline and me and all of my frostbitten friends would have to hire a local, respected engineer to testify that the inner boots do expand; flying the orthopedist down from Alaska would cost too much. Next, we would testify that our tissue-off caused us a lifetime of misery, and not only prevented us from climbing ever again (we couldn't mention the toe-less Tyrolian who succeeded on 14 Himalayan peaks), but that we couldn't go out dancing anymore either.

Perhaps Pauline and I don't have a leg to stand on. We'll see.

But even if we can't win the lottery, I found another way to make a fast buck. According to Jim's counsel, many of our respected climbers are called upon as expert witnesses in these cases. The hourly wage is quite lucrative, not to mention the travel and lodging expenses, plus the fun of getting to watch all that courtroom drama. Maybe we won't get rich, but it'll sure beat working.

—Jonathan Waterman

THE NORTH FACE

2nd Annual Climbing Sale

Sale

Starts

June 3rd



Seattle Downtown

1023 First Avenue
Seattle
Washington
98104
206.622.4111

South Coast Plaza

3333 Bear Street #332
Costa Mesa
California
92626
714.556.0540

Denver

2490 South Colorado Blvd.
Denver
Colorado
80222
303.758.6366

Lakewood

11355 West Sixth Avenue
Lakewood
Colorado
80215
303.238.7511

Boulder

629-K South Broadway
Boulder
Colorado
80303
303.499.1731

Colorado Springs

1776 West Uintah Avenue
Colorado Springs
Colorado
80904
303.634.5279

Berkeley

2804 Telegraph Avenue
Berkeley
California
94705
415.548.1371

Palo Alto

383 University Avenue
Palo Alto
California
94301
415.327.1563

Walnut Creek

1500 Sunnyvale Avenue
Walnut Creek
California
94596
415.945.6256

Gunfighter Tie Swami

Reg. \$26.50 Now **\$20.99**

Moffatt Swami w/o Buckle

Reg. \$28.50 Now **\$22.99**

Merrell Flashdance Shoes

Reg. \$90.00 Now **\$69.99**

Fire Cats

Reg. \$105.00 Now **\$79.99**

Mammut Flashdance Rope Std.

10.5 mm x 165 ft.

Reg. \$130.00 Now **\$89.99**

Wild Country Packs

30% Off

Also chalk bags, gear
slings, leg loops, cara-
biners, figure 8's,
sewn slings, chalk,
and much, much more.

Specials!

Ken Hunt on "Wash of the Titans"
Tirolene Meadows
Photograph by Mark Chapman

BASE CAMP

ALASKA

DENALI, CHUGACH MOUNTAINS, VALDEZ

Tejas solos Denali in full winter conditions

A storm-ridden winter quelled most mountaineering activity in Alaska. Nonetheless, there were three separate solo attempts on Denali (20,320').

In December, Chuck Comstock, renowned for his ice climbing plunges (see *Climbing* no. 106), started the 30-mile walk from the Parks Highway to the Muldrow Glacier. Comstock had no maps, became disoriented, and abandoned his attempt a week later.

Another soloist, Geoff Lyon, flew into 7200' to climb the West Buttress; Vern Tejas simultaneously arrived for an attempt on the same route. Lyon had no Alaskan mountaineering background, but while Tejas guided him on Aconcagua several weeks earlier, he was inspired by Tejas' plans to solo Denali. On February 16, they started up the mountain as separate teams. Fortunately, before Lyon got into serious trouble, he turned around at 10,000' with frostbite. Tejas kept going.

The storms kept Tejas confined to his snowcaves for several days at a time. He groveled upward, unable to see anything in the constant murk. On March 7, he reached the summit in a relatively mild (-25°) whiteout. Tejas descended uneventfully and was picked up a week later at basecamp. This was the first successful completion of a winter solo on Denali. (Tejas is profiled in this issue.)

In the Chugach Mountains, in early January, Karl Swanson made the first winter ascent of Mt. Sergeant Robinson. He called his climb on the North Ridge "a wildly corniced, knife-edge."

A few days later on Marcus Baker (13,176'), Frank Jenkins and John Cafmeyer climbed the Northeast Ridge. They descended to their snowcave and were holed up for 30 hours in a tremendous storm. When they finally descended to their camp on the Matanuska Glacier, they found their tent buried in the snow, with only broken poles protruding. Before they could begin digging, they discovered their companion, Sylvia Lane, lying dead in the snow, 30' away. Presumably, the storm had been too severe to withstand in a tent.

Meanwhile, in the Wrangell Mountains, Comstock gathered himself together for another epic and flew in with Dan McCoy to the base of the unclimbed Ulu Ridge on Mt. Sanford. Before they could make their bid, three feet of snow fell, their tent was destroyed, and their stove stopped

working; they were also caught in two avalanches. Miraculously unscathed, they retreated toward the distant highway.

Eventually, McCoy collapsed, and Comstock plodded out to get help. When the rescuers arrived, they revived the hypothermic McCoy, lying face down in the snow.

Outside of Anchorage, many new ice climbs were put up at Eklutna Lake (see *Climbing* no 106). Will Hersman and Mike Miller made the first ascent of *Blue None* (II), between Bashful



Photo: Jonathan Waterman

and Bold Peaks. At the base of Mitre Peak, on the left side of the west-facing wall, *Miller Mite* (III) was climbed by Bob Crawford and Martin Martinez. Crawford and Vince Patterson then established the 400' *Hats off to Herman* (V-), comparable to *Bridalveil* in Valdez.

Across the valley, below the Thunderbird-Benign Col, *Freer's Tears* (IV+, in memory of Catherine Freer) was established by Crawford and Patterson. Later, Crawford and Martinez added a variation (V) on the left pillars.

In Valdez, the most notable events involved Guy LaCelle, driven north by Canada's dried-up waterfalls. LaCelle climbed every day for two weeks, without placing protection. In addition to soloing *Bridalveil* and *Green Steps*, he made the first solo of *Flying Cloud*. After LaCelle's climb of *Love's Way*, the huge, freestanding pillar collapsed while Bob Shelton was following, but

because LaCelle hadn't placed any protection, Shelton was unhurt.

In Mineral Creek, LaCelle and John Weiland climbed *Prix de Concellation* (IV+), 50' left of *Wowie Zowie*. Then, with two other companions, LaCelle established the 350' *Compagnon du Risque* (IV), directly across from *Wowie Zowie*. In Keystone Canyon, LaCelle and Weiland climbed a 40' detached pillar, *Plancher d'Anvil*; LaCelle reached the first moves by building a giant pile of snow.

During early February, the Annual Valdez Ice Climbing Festival was attended by 45 climbers. In the avalanche-threatened Sheep Creek Canyon, Crawford and Martinez climbed the 300' *Stem City* (IV). The *piece du resistance* of the festival was *My Three Rats* (V), established by Steve Garvey and Jim Sweeney. The climb — one route past *Crystal Vision*, in Hole in the Wall Canyon — finishes with a 150' pillar.

—Jonathan Waterman

HARDING ICEFIELD

Nunataks climbed

On the Harding Icefield, Rick Dare, Dallas Virchow, Joe Sears and Steve Gardiner climbed five peaks, four of which are believed to be first ascents. The unnamed peaks or *nunataks*, located in the northwest corner of Kenai Fjords National Park, were climbed during a 13-day expedition in June 1987.

The icefield was accessed from the Exit Glacier, and three days of skiing and sled hauling were needed to establish a base camp.

The first peak (4600'), was climbed via a 500' rock buttress leading to the summit. The second (4900'), first climbed several years earlier by the northeast ridge, was climbed by a 45-50° snow couloir to the west. From this peak, a sharp arete was traversed to another 5000', previously unclimbed *nunatak*. A fourth peak (5200'), was reached by a 1000' loose rock wall on the north face.

Following this ascent, a blizzard kept the four climbers tentbound for three days. When the storm broke, they skied east for several miles and climbed a 4815' peak via a classic mixed snow and rock ridge. After two days of rain, they navigated by compass in zero-visibility fog to descend the Exit Glacier.

The Harding Icefield has tremendous potential for untouched mountaineering and exploratory glacial trips. One sought-after, yet seldom-completed trip is the complete traverse of the icefield.

—Steve Gardiner

PEAK PERFORMANCE

HIGH TECHNOLOGY.

With our new Vario Hinge design, Koflach brings state-of-the-art technology to climbing boots. We've realized the vital importance of maximum sole-to-ground contact during steep traverse, ice and rock climbing. That's why we developed the Vario Hinge which automatically adjusts for greater lateral flexibility.

Koflach's Vario Hinge provides greater safety and effectiveness during extreme climbing conditions. Our entire new line features innovative design that makes Koflach the standard by which other plastic boots are measured.

EXTREME COMFORT.

Our ultra-light Polyamid shells minimize fatigue and provide maximum weight-to-strength ratios. High-tech Sympatex inner boot linings are breathable and waterproof. Loden Wool linings and Thermium 2000 insulation ensure maximum warmth and comfort under the most extreme conditions. Built-in heel dampeners minimize shock to help prevent injuries.

If you're serious about climbing, look into our new line of mountaineering boots. Koflach has a boot specifically designed for every climbing need and style. Ask for Koflach at your nearest quality mountaineering shop.

For information on dealers nearest you write: Koflach, 2325 South 2300 West, Salt Lake City, Utah 84119; or call: (801) 975-9011.



koflach

YOUR NEW BOOT ALTERNATIVE.

Qualified by Quality



**TOP
TEAM
AUSTRIA**

CHOUINARD ♦ EQUIPMENT

Quicksilver

The Missing Link

- A Carabiner designed for quick clips, with a large gate opening, wide bottom radius, and a streamlined nose that easily negotiates any fixed pins or bolt hangers.
- Full-strength $\frac{3}{8}$ " rod stock for an impressive minimum strength rating of 2100kg.
- Easy to handle.
- Smooth gate action.
- Individually tested.

The Quicksilver biner-design refinements make the difference.

Chouinard Equipment, Ltd.
P.O. Box 90, Dept. 752
Ventura, CA 93002

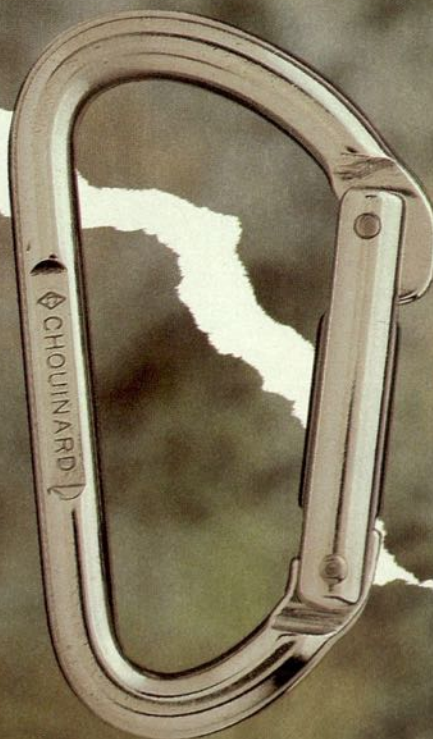


Photo: Uli Weissmeier

CLIMBING

Established 1970

Publisher
Bil Dunaway

Editor
Michael Kennedy

Assistant Editors
Michael Benge
Jonathan Waterman

Contributing Editors
John Steiger
Lou Dawson

Business Manager
Joye Cole

Office Manager
Lynn Ganz

Subscriptions
Barbara Allen

Design Consultant
R. Given Jones

Advertising
Julie Kennedy

Contributors (no. 108)

Bob Gaines, Steve Gardiner, Chris Grover, Jessie Guthrie, Chris Hall, Dan Hare, Bill Hatcher, Mark Hesse, Rick Hlava, Greg Horne, Charles Houston, Robin Ingraham, Jr., Michael Jimmerson, Tom Jungst, Larry Kemp, Layne Kopischka, Armando Menocal, John Middendorf, Andy Petefish, Stuart Pregnall, Mark Pretty, Duane Raleigh, Dar-ryl Roth, Mark Shipman, Craig Smith, Clyde Soles, Jeff Splittgerber, Marlin Stum, John Thackray, Rick Thompson, Marc Twight, Beth Wald, Ed Webster.

Subscription rates are \$18.00 for one year and \$32.00 for two years for postal delivery in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. Add \$10.00 per year for surface postage outside North America (foreign airmail rates on request). Payable in U.S. funds only. Please allow up to eight weeks for the first issue or change of address.

Manuscripts, photographs, and correspondence are welcome; please contact the editorial department for details. Unsolicited material should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. **CLIMBING** assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material.

Second class postage paid at Aspen, Colorado 81612 and an additional mailing office. Postmaster, please send forms 3579 and address corrections to the address below.

CLIMBING
P.O. Box E, 310 E. Main St.
Aspen, Colorado 81612 U.S.A.
(303) 920-3802

CLIMBING is published six times each year by Mountain States Communications. Publications No. 919220, ISSN No. 0045-7159

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

Printed in the United States of America.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX, TUCSON

Peaceful co-existence in Zonerland

Unprecedented warm weather replaced winter in Arizona this year. Many first ascents were reported from around the state as climbers took advantage of the good weather.

In the Superstitions, there is a new area, Zonerland, centered around a large group of pinnacles off Peralta Trail. Rick Percival, Scott Heinz, Doug Smith, Andy Dannerbeck, and Barry Ward have been active developing Zonerland exclusively in traditional style, including the many 5.12's on Bovine Wall. The regulars are fiercely proud of their ethic, stating "this is our side of the canyon," referring to the new wave routes in the nearby Labyrinth. With so much rock gracing "the Supes," presumably the two groups can coexist peacefully by respecting the tradition of each area.

Tone of the Bell (5.9+), one of the many classics in Zonerland, climbs the largest pinnacle, and is very exposed. The Scarface formation has been popular, largely due to fine routes such as *Your Turn* (5.10a) and *Highlander* (5.10b). On Carney Springs Wall, Jim Waugh, Damon Williams, and John Ficker added *The Honeymooners* (5.11d). Jim Waugh had attempted the first pitch, but backed off after determining a bolt was necessary. Later, the present first pitch was done by Todd Swain unaware of the previous efforts of Waugh and company.

In the Pinyon Camp area, the World Leader Wall is being developed. Waugh added *Kubla Khan* (5.12a), saying it's the best route he has done in the Supes. Then, Swain teamed up with Jay Anderson and added *Gore-Bosch-Ev* (5.9), and *Andropoff* (5.9) around the corner. Another fine route is *Alf* (5.10a), on a north-facing wall 100 yards to the northeast.

Other areas in Phoenix have not been overlooked. On a rockpile east and slightly north of Pinnacle Peak restaurant is *Burly Turtle* (5.12d/13a), in the center of the south face. Paul Wollam pulled off the first ascent with hangs, assisted by Matt Allen, Brian Dutton, and Rand Black. All but the last bolt were placed on lead. At Little Granite Mountain, Steve Smelser and Larry Braten spent some time on the Roost, a crag between Sleeping Cactus Wall and Mogul Wall. The routes here include *Indecent Exposure* (5.9 R), *Deviant Behavior* (5.10a), and *Riff Roof* (5.9). In the easier grades, Bill Golightly and Glen Broughton added *Grand Illusion* (5.7) and *Matterhorn* (5.6).

In Tucson, the most startling new activity took place on the excellent

rock at Golder Dome. This 400' dome lies at the north edge of Catalina State Park. The left face is green while the right, visible from Hwy. 89, is pyramid-shaped and white.

The first route climbed on the dome, *The Grunt* (5.9) ascends the left buttress of the white face. *The Grunt* was first attempted in the early to mid seventies, but no one succeeded at the crux. On other attempts, a surprise snowstorm caught some climbers on the wall; another time, climbers perched high on the wall watched a motorcyclist loot their truck. It was aided in 1977 by Smitty and Russ Husted. Then, in 1978, Charlie Rollins returned with Smitty for the first free ascent.

The dome lied dormant for a decade before Rollins and Bob Kerry did some investigating. They climbed *Ten Years After* (5.10), *Jungle Cruiser* (5.9), and the recommended *Dam Bureaucrats* (5.8+).

On Mount Lemmon, Kerry and Eric Fazio Rhicard teamed up for *Cartouche* (5.11c) and *Capital Punishment* (5.11c). Rhicard later struck out on his own up an overhanging arete and established *Cowpunks* (5.12b), destined to be a classic, despite its scant two bolts. Rhicard also teamed up with visitor Jacob Valdez to polish off *Lobo Direct* (5.9R) and *Valdez Is*

Coming (5.10b). On the Cornerstone, Rollins and Josh Tofield climbed *Raising Arizona* (5.10b).

At the Beaver Wall, local Brad Smith redpointed *Wrong Tissue*, renaming it *Lessons In Yorkshire* (5.13b). Originally top roped by Chris Hill of Boulder, this route is sure to become a classic. With Todd Skinner hot on his heels, Martin Atkinson wasted no time getting the second ascent of *Lessons*, after flashing *Right Tissue*.

At the latest Beanfest, held on Mt. Lemmon, approximately 25 people were lolling around at the base of *Right Tissue* (5.12c), one of the easiest routes on the wall. All chopped routes have been replaced and are popular again. Summer seems to have settled in early this year and eager eyes are already being cast upon the *Reef of Rock* at the top of Mount Lemmon. But who ever comes to Tucson in the summer?

—Michael Jimmerson

BOULDERING COMPETITION

New area created

April 2 was a perfect day for the Sixth Annual Phoenix Bouldering Competition, the longest continually running bouldering event in the country. At a brand-new bouldering area, a record-setting 250-plus competitors pitted themselves against each other and 100 problems.

Previous competitions had jumped back and forth between two established areas, the Bolus at Camelback

Climbing is looking for regional correspondents with extensive knowledge of local climbing areas. Journalistic background is helpful; payment is dependent on length and quality of reports submitted. Climbing also encourages reader input to Basecamp. Information about new routes, of all grades and from all areas, is welcomed.

Area reports generally consist of an introductory section, which briefly discusses local trends, significant ascents, new cliffs being developed, and local activists, followed by a listing of new routes. Photographs to supplement such reports are also welcomed; original color slides are preferred, and will be returned after review and/or use.

Descriptions of new routes submitted to Basecamp should be typewritten and in the format presented in this issue. Route name should be followed by rating, crag, brief description (to enable a visitor to find the line), names of first ascent party, month and year of first ascent. Routes should be referenced to routes listed in guidebooks or other published records (such as Basecamp). Information not submitted in the format outlined above may be rejected.

Style of first ascents, quality of line, and equipment lists are generally not reported in the new route listings; this information should be recorded in guidebooks and judged by the local community. However, style and quality are often referred to in the introduction of each area.

First-hand information and corrections are necessary to the validity of this column, and correspondence is heartily encouraged. Minor corrections to previous Basecamp reports are generally found at the end of the relevant section of route notes; other corrections are noted below. When submitting a correction, please reference the issue and specific report in dispute.

Deadline is eight weeks before the month of issue. Information and queries can be sent to: Basecamp Editor, Climbing, P.O. Box E, Aspen, CO 81612.

Corrections

Basecamp — In no. 106, the "Tunnel Section" and "Placer Valley" were incorrectly shown to the north of Portage on the map on page 7. These areas are both south of Portage, along the railroad tracks to Seward.

In no. 107, John (not Jim) Duran is the climber in the photo of Shadowdancer (p. 27).

Features — In no. 107, the photo of Dhaulagiri that opened the story on Kitty Calhoun (pp. 76-77) was taken by Andy Selters.

Climbing apologizes for these errors.

Hot Feet!



5.10 Verticals	\$119.00
5.10 Friction Loafers	\$ 78.00
Dolomite Magica	\$115.00
Resin Roses	\$115.00

- Plus -

A5 Hammers	\$ 75.00
Traditional Climbing Pants	\$ 15.00
and way more . . .	

Call in your order today!
(405) 360-6647

Free Shipping • Free Catalogs/topos



448 Elm
Norman, OK 73069

OK residents add 7% tax

THE ASCENT OF DENALI

The 1913 Expedition that
First Conquered Mt. McKinley



"A Classic Of Climbing Literature"

Now you can enjoy the gripping account of the first successful climb of Denali (Mt. McKinley). Hudson Stuck's THE ASCENT OF DENALI was originally published in 1914, and first edition copies are rare and collectible, but you can own the complete book, printed exactly as the original was, with the original photos, graphs and maps.

Stuck's vivid recollection of the ascent of North America's highest peak is must reading for those who follow the spirit of these great adventurers. To add this modern softbound edition of a classic expedition tale to your library, send \$14.95 (plus \$2.00 shipping and handling) to:

Wolfe Publishing Co., Inc.

6471 Airpark Dr., Prescott, AZ 86301
For immediate shipment, phone (602) 445-7810.
VISA and MasterCard accepted.

Mountain and Beardsley Rock Pile in Deer Valley, creating an unfair advantage for locals familiar with the areas. In an attempt to even things up, new problems had been contrived by taping off holds. However, the last-minute announcement of this year's event, at a previously undeveloped area beneath the South Mountains virtually eliminated a locals' advantage.

Jim Waugh, the contest founder and organizer, rented private property and purchased insurance for the competition. The large area had ample parking, facilities with running water, and shaded picnic tables for the whopping, Easter-weekend crowd. Waugh, along with a few other non-competitors, had generated problems for the contest during February and March, getting into fine spring shape themselves in the process.

Competitors were divided into Expert, Intermediate, and Novice categories, vying for maximum points in one of the three, two-hour heats. Although there was no limit on the number of problems a climber could complete, only the 15 (ten for the women) most-valuable problems were tallied for a total score. There were no fall limits on the hardest problems for a given category, but only three falls were allowed on easier problems. The number of falls were recorded in the event of a tie. Competitors were not allowed to touch holds until climbing, and no coaching was permitted while on the rock.

The novice class competed first, trying to crack sequences on problems involving friction, overhanging faces, lunges, and crack climbing. At the same time, observant expert competitors ticked off possibilities on their maps; such strategy was essential to accumulating the most points.

The "Experts" climbed next, throwing themselves on several undone problems which had been given a whopping 125 points (5.12+ problems rated 65 points). However, if more than one competitor completed an undone problem, points were divided between successful competitors. Scott Cosgrove, Christian Griffith, Mark Wilford, Todd Skinner, and local Chris Raypole were favorites in the expert class.

Women were allowed to compete in any class, but were judged separately. Winner Jessica Gladstone chose to compete with the experts to take advantage of the higher point values. Andrea Azoff, who finished second last year, was favored to win this year's contest.

Heat became a factor when the "Intermediates" hit the boulders. Locals comprised the majority of this class, the largest of the three. Outscoring all others by a wide margin, visiting climber Wally Stasick voluntarily disqualified himself; the top three Intermedi-

RESULTS

Expert

1. Christian Griffith	665
2. Mark Wilford	575
3. Peter Gschwendtner	460

Intermediate

1. Jay Schmit	142
2. Jeff Batten	140
3. Manuel Wrangel	138

Novice

1. Mike Hawkes	72 (one fall)
2. Mike Leary	72 (five falls)
3. Terry Lyons	63

Women

1. Jessica Gladstone	165
2. Andrea Azoff	113
3. Kelly Bell	52 (one fall)
4. Liz Vinceti	52 (three falls)

ate finishers were then separated by only four points.

According to Waugh, the event took place in "a spirit of friendly competition, which is important for keeping things in a healthy perspective... and also results in better performances. European competitions are more cutthroat and all show." At the end of a fine day, spectators and competitors gathered for the awards ceremony, where the top three finishers in each category were awarded prizes; the expert-class winner received \$500. Prizes were also given to the competitor with the highest "ape index," and to both the oldest and the youngest climber.

Following the awards ceremony was a party at the Hideaway in South Mountain Park, featuring music by "Pontiacs and Politics" and Mexican food.

The Phoenix Bouldering Contest is a non-profit event; all time was donated, and monies left over after expenses go into next year's competition. A secret location has already been selected — see you there.

—Rick Hlava

LITTLE GRANITE MOUNTAIN

The Roost, identified by a large dihedral, is found on the north side of Little Granite Mountain, between Sleeping Cactus Wall and Moul Wall.

Riff Roof (5.9), The Roost. 50yds L of *Indecent Exposure*. Crack through 4' roof to face. 70'. (FA: Steve Smelser, Larry Braten, 12/87.)

Indecent Exposure (5.9R), The Roost. L arete.

1) Face past horizontal crack and bolt to ledge. 2) Easy face and wide crack. Scramble S to walkoff in either direction. 3 bolts. (FA: Smelser, Braten, 12/87.)

Blind Faith (5.10c), The Roost. 25' R of *Indecent Exposure*, at center of face forming L wall of the dihedral. 1) Hand and finger crack to face w/ bolt. 2) Joins 1st pitch of *Indecent* at its last bolt. (FA: Braten, Smelser, 12/87.)

Deviant Behavior (5.10a), The Roost. R arete. Face past bolt to horizontal crack to arete w/ 2

bolts and horizontal crack. Belayer must climb 15' for leader to finish. 185'. (FA: Smelser, Braten, 12/87.)

Grand Illusion (5.7), The Roost. 70' up and R of *Deviant Behavior*. Obvious corner system with thin crack. (FA: Bill Golightly, Glen Broughton, 12/87.)

Matterhorn (5.6), The Roost. 150yds up and R from *Grand Illusion*. Shallow chimney with double cracks to large horn and ledge. (FA: Broughton, Golightly, 12/87.)

PINNACLE PEAK

The following route is approximately 100yds east and slightly north of Pinnacle Peak restaurant. Drive north past the restaurant, then east, then north again toward Reata Pass. On the left is a gravel road to a water tank. Park here and walk west around the rockpile to the south face.

Burly Turtle (5.12d/5.13a A0), Pinnacle Peak. Center of the S face. 5 bolts. (FA: Paul Wollam, 3/88.)

SUPERSTITIONS

Unnamed (5.11c), Carney Springs Wall. R of *Winter Solstice*. 1) Easy crack to face w/ 3 bolts. 2) Face past bolts. (FA: Todd Swain, 2/88.)

The Honeymooners (5.11d), Carney Springs Wall. R of *Unnamed*. 1) Face w/ 4 bolts to 3-bolt belay. 2) Face w/ 2 bolts. (FA: Waugh, Damon Williams, John Ficker, 3/88.)

Approach Zonerland area via Peralta Trail. About 3/4 of the way to Fremont Saddle, past the slickrock, take a faint trail up and left. Diagonal up and left on a good trail which ends at a large group of towers. An alcove is on the left with a permanent hammock slung between two trees. The Scarface formation is a large block southwest of the hammock. Approximately one hour from the Peralta trailhead.

Tone of the Bell (5.9+), largest pinnacle located just after the death slabs on the approach. 8 bolts. (FA: Rick Percival, Kelly Bell.)

Highlander (5.10b). Finger crack L of *Scarface*. (FA: Scotty Heinz, Percival, 11/86.)

Scarface (5.11c). 2 bolts. (FA: unknown.)

Your Turn (5.10a). R of *Scarface*. Face w/ 4 bolts. (FA: Doug Smith, Bob Paul, 3/88.)

Scimitar (5.10c/d). R of *Your Turn*. (FA: Heinz, Andy Dannerbeck.)

Tag Team (5.12a). 50' W and around corner from *Scarface*. Thin seam to overhanging face. (FA: Jay Anderson, Smelser, 3/88.)

Placebo (5.10a). 75' SE of *Scarface* on connected block. 2 bolts. (FA: Smelser, Braten, Perry and Jay Anderson, 3/88.)

PINYON CAMP

Pinyon Camp is a popular camping area on Peralta Trail, just past Fremont Saddle and before Weaver's Needle, west of the trail. World Leader Wall is northwest of Pinyon Camp and fairly obvious, a 200' by 200' wall with a prominent roof on the right side.

Unnamed (5.8+), World Leader Wall. L-most route. Hand/finger crack and face. 90'. (FA: Jason Sands, Scherry Duncan, Tim Onofryton, 87.)

Grunt, Fart and a Whistle (5.10), World Leader Wall. Face and incipient crack to obvious flared crack. 165'. (FA: Sands, Hodson 87.)

Kubla Khan (5.12a), World Leader Wall. R side. Hand and fist crack out 6' roof. Overhanging finger crack ends on pocketed face. Excellent. (FA: Waugh, Swain, 2/88.)

Gore-Bosch-Ev (5.9), World Leader Wall. Around corner from *Kubla Khan*, L of 2 pocketed face routes. 3 bolts. (FA: Anderson, Swain, 2/88.)

Andropoff (5.9), World Leader Wall. R of *Gore-Bosch-Ev*. Bolt. (FA: Swain, Anderson, 2/88.)

Alf (5.10a), Pinyon Camp area. N-facing wall 100yds NE of World Leader Wall. Crack and face route. 165'. (FA: Swain, Waugh, 2/88.)

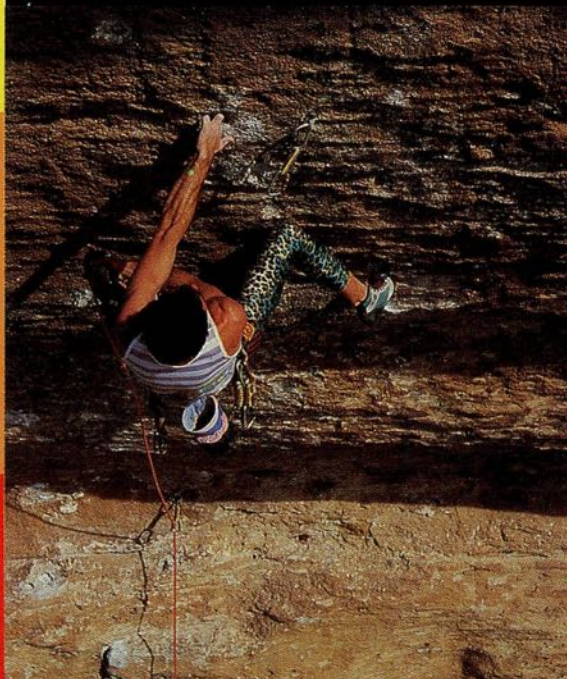
MOUNT LEMMON

Cartouche (5.11c), Pharaoh. 15' R of *On Ramp*, arete on NE face. 5 bolts. (FA: Eric-Fazio Rhicard, Kerry, 4/88.)

QUALITY is like buying oats

If you want nice, clean, fresh oats, you must pay a fair price.

However, if you can be satisfied with oats that have already been through the horse . . . that comes a little cheaper.



When choosing your next climbing rope, remember what good value our fresh oats represent.

*The special qualities of **MAMMUT** ropes begin with the core, which is made of an extra-high energy absorbent Nylon yarn, exclusive to **MAMMUT**. Abrasion resistant twines in Z-and S-twists are tightly braided to give a compact and tough, state-of-the-art sheath.*

*All **MAMMUT** ropes exhibit an extraordinary strength to weight ratio. High security with less weight means greater freedom in the mountains and on the rock. The firm yet supple texture of a **MAMMUT** rope ensures ease of coiling and handling, without resort to softness and its inherent failings.*

*The **MAMMUT** Logo stands for Swiss quality products manufactured using the latest technology, strict standards and constant inspection by qualified experts. It is your guarantee of the best climbing ropes, webbings, harnesses and slings on the market.*

Don't be satisfied with oats that have already been through the horse . . .

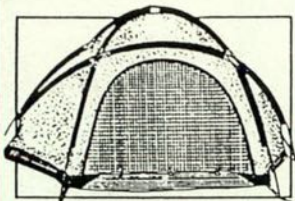
FOR PEAK SECURITY AND BEST VALUE . . .

MAMMUT.

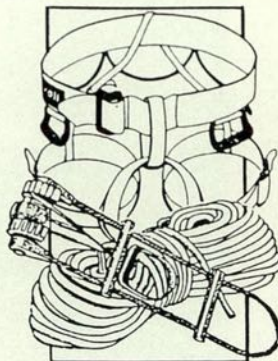
ALLOUTDOORS

"MOUNTAIN GEAR... FOR THE MOUNTAINEER"

Featuring Equipment From:



- ▲ CHOUINARD
- ▲ JRAT
- ▲ SMC
- ▲ WILD COUNTRY
- ▲ LATOKILOWE
- ▲ FIRE
- ▲ ONE SPORT
- ▲ MARMOT
- ▲ MOONSTONE
- ▲ KINNALOA
- ▲ RAD DESIGNS
- ▲ CLIMB HIGH
- ▲ WALRUS
- ▲ WILDTHINGS
- ▲ MOUNTAINSMITH



For more information write or call

ALLOUTDOORS

195 Elm Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03101
(603) 624-1468

Lost In the Alps (5.10), Pharaoh. Arete L of Weanie Muffs. L-facing dihedral to arete. 2 bolts. 140'. (FA: Kerry, Charlie Rollins, 4/88.)

Feminine Hygiene (5.10), Rollinestone. E end. Groove in center w/ 2 bolts, over white roof. Boulder moves (5.10) to easier climbing, past two bolts to the roof at large triangular block. Easy stemming up offwidth. (FA: Kerry, Tofield, 3/88.)

Vestal Virgin (5.11a), White cliff 200yds above Chimney Rock. Approach from Chimney Rock via talus on E end of Rollinestone. At the top of cliff is 2-bolt rappel. Black stain and seam. 2 bolts at crux. (FA: Rollins, Kerry, 4/88.)

Raising Arizona (5.10b), Cornerstone. 150yds NW of Chimney rock. Crack in middle of face. Bolt. (FA: Rollins, Tofield, 3/88.)

Capital Punishment (5.11c), Rupley Towers. 10' L of *Litigation*. Face w/ 3 bolts. (FA: Rhicard, Kerry, 3/88.)

On Legend of Lobo, Direct Finish (5.9 + R), E Windy Point/Lobo Wall. Straight up, instead of R into chimney. (FA: Rhicard, Jacob Valdez, 4/88.)

Valdez is Coming (5.10b), Lobo Wall. Arete L of *Lobo Direct*. 3 bolts. (FA: Rhicard, Valdez, 4/88.)

Go To Second (5.11b), Nurd Wall. Var to 2nd pitch *If At First*. After crux on *If At First*, traverse R onto face with overhanging finger crack to face above. (FA: Rhicard, Cyrena Goodrich, 3/88.)

Lessons In Yorkshire (5.13b), Windy Point/Beaver Wall. Dynamic moves follow this bolt line L of *Right Tissue*. (FA: Brad Smith, 3/88.)

Cowpunks (5.12b), Eagle Rock. On same rock as *The Bandit*. Arete 40' L of *Bandit*. 7 bolts. (FA: Rhicard, Henze, 3/88.)

GOLDER DOME

Drive north from Tucson on Hwy 89 about ten miles. Just before Catalina, turn right on Golder Ranch Road. Continue on dirt and take a right onto Forest Service Road 643. At an open sandy area with mesquite trees, either walk, or drive the jeep road across the Sutherland Wash and continue 1.4 miles until the trail (watch for the sign) from Catalina State Park joins the road. Bushwhack up to the ridge with the big granite slabs, which ends at the left side of the dome. Approach requires approximately 30 minutes if you drive in the jeep road. Bring double ropes for rappel; the walkoff is not recommended.

The Grunt (5.9), Golder Ranch. L buttress of white face. 1) Gully/crack to R traverse to dihedral system, belay or continue 50' to better belay. 2) Up ramp w/ bolt, then L around corner. 3) Up R at "Y," then up crack in L side of huge block. 4) Wander to top. (FA: Smitty and Russ Husted, 77; FFA: Rollins, Husted, 78.)

Jungle Cruiser (5.9), Golder Ranch. On L-most face of dome. 1) Zigzag to big ramp/gully to tree. 2) Up to a ledge with several trees. 3) Traverse ledge system R to bolt and belay. 4) Cracks to oak tree on small ledge. 5) Up crack system, L to top, 150'. Double-rope rappels: 1) Double bolt anchors 10' down from top; 2) Oak tree belay; 3) Bolt anchors for belay below 3rd pitch of *Ten Years After*. (FA: John Hayes, Bob Kerry, 2/88.)

Ten Years After (5.10), Golder Ranch. Just R of *Jungle Cruiser*. 1) Up and R past bolt (5.10), R onto 5.9 face w/ 2 bolts to 2-bolt belay. 80'. 2) L, then R past 3 bolts (5.10), and up to an orange flake. Finger crack on L to 2-bolt belay. 80'. 3) R and up small dihedral past 2 bolts, big piece of white quartz, and pin in a corner to ledge below big roof. 150'. 4) Over the roof at handcrack on L, up until crack ends, R to ledge with tree. 120'. 5) Wander to top. Rappel from top of *Jungle Cruiser*, or from sling on pointed flake on top of 4th pitch. Highly recommended. (FA: Rollins, Kerry.)

Dam Bureaucrats (5.8 +), Golder Dome. 100' uphill from *Jungle Cruiser*. 1) Low angle hand crack, L at top to oak-tree belay on ledge. 120'. Some belay as 3rd pitch of *Jungle Cruiser*. 2) 10' L and up quartz crystals and face w/ 3 bolts. Over bulge and belay at 2 bolts. 3) Up and R past a bolt to horn, then over another bulge and chickenheads. R to belay at a flat spot in gully between 2 oak trees. 4) R-hand face of gully, R to horizontal seam. Straight up slab past bolt. Ends on top of *Jungle Cruiser*. (FA: Kerry, Tofield, Bill Scheffer, 3/88.)

NEW!
Feel the difference!



RIDGE REST™

The softest, warmest, closed-cell foam
SLEEPING PADS

R Value = 2.8
UV Resistant
Cold crack -65°F

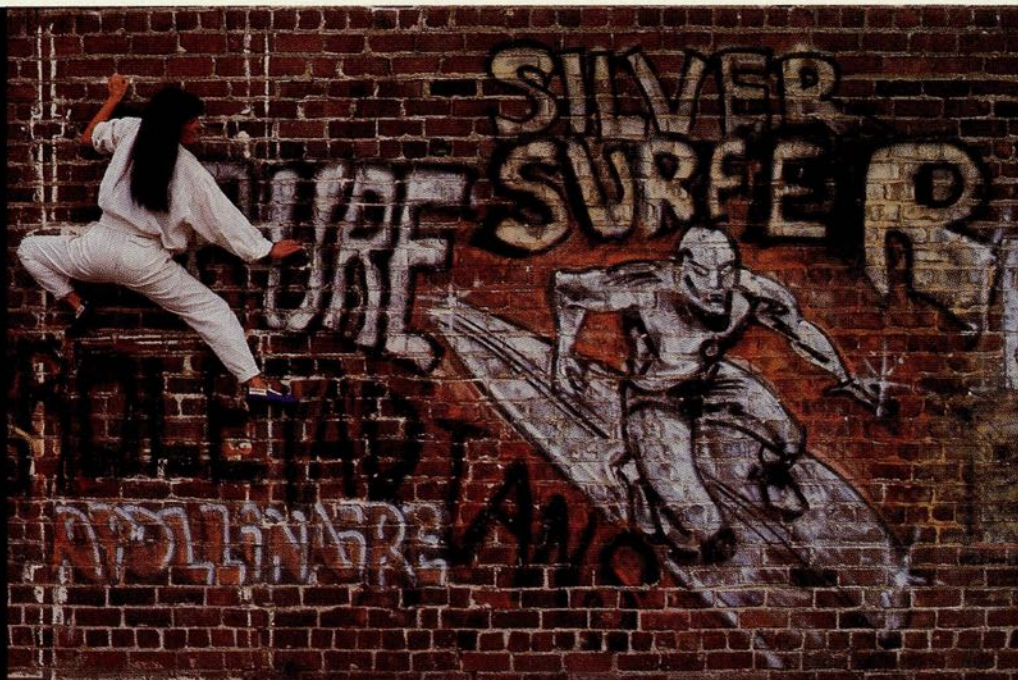
- RIDGE REST offers more than twice the sleeping comfort of ordinary 1/2" closed cell foam pads.
- To maximize comfort, thermally-formed ridges increase RIDGE REST's softness.
- In addition to the natural insulation of the EVA foam, the valleys of RIDGE REST trap warm air.
- 2 sizes available: 48"x20"x5/8" and 72"x20"x5/8"
- Made in the U.S.A. Another quality product from the makers of **Therm-a-Rest**®

©1987 Cascade Designs Inc.

Write for details and dealers.

Cascade Designs Inc., Dept. CI, 4000 1st Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98134

The Ceramic line



Stonewear made for Freedom of Movement

For a free brochure see your Fire Dealer
or contact Sole Survivor Corp.
4183 N. Southbank • Oxnard, CA 93030
Call Toll Free 1-800-448-FIRE
or 805-983-6245 in CA

oElbrusVinsonWilhelmMcKinleyAcon
nWilhelmMcKinleyAconcaguaEverest
oElbrusVinson**CLIMB**McKinleyAcon
erestKilimanjaro**THE**IsVinsonWilhelm
AconcaguaEver**SEVEN**anjaroElbrusV
lmMcKinleyA**SUMMITS**verestKiliman
IsVinsonWilhelmAconcagua
manjaroElbMcKin
KinleyAconcaguaEverestKilimanjaroE
nWilhelmMcKinleyAconcaguaEverest
oElbrusVinsonWilhelmMcKinleyAcon
erestKilimanjaroElbrusVinsonWilhelm
AconcaguaEverestKilimanjaroElbrusV
lmMcKinleyAconcaguaEverestKiliman
IsVinsonWilhelmMcKinleyAconcagua
man**GENET**in
agu:**EXPEDITIONS**sonV
cKi
insr
inj
aEverestKilimanjaroElbrusVinsonWill

SUMMER: TALKEETNA, ALASKA 99676
(800) 33-GENET
WINTER: P.O. BOX 230861
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99523 (800) 33-GENET

MOUNTAINEERING EQUIPMENT

— BEAL &
— EDLID ROPES
— BERGHUIS &
— HARRIMON PACKS
— STUBAL, SIMOND &
— CHOUINARD AXES
— CASSIN, PETZL,
— WILD COUNTRY
— HANWAG &
— ASOLO BOOTS

JUST A FEW
REASONS WHY
WE'RE ON TOP

FOR MORE INFO, WRITE:

Monod Sports

BOX 310
BANFF, ALBERTA
CANADA, TOL—OCO
(403) 762-4571



Scott Cosgrove on Sun Bowl (5.13a/b).

CALIFORNIA

JOSHUA TREE

First-ascent fever borders on epidemic

During the 1987/88 season, activists put up an unprecedented number of new routes, and firmly established 5.13. John Bachar commented, "More bolts were put in this season than in the last five."

Both Joshua Tree's vastness and power drills were responsible for the route explosion, allowing certain motivated climbers to fire in ten or more new routes in a day. Many of the new climbs sport 3/8" bolts, a welcome change from the manky 1/4" spinners of the past. In keeping with local tradition, all new routes were done from the ground up, although hangdogging insidiously slipped into vogue, with new 5.13's usually requiring many days and many hangs.

On one route, Charles Cole and Troy Mayr added a new twist to the ground-up game, preplacing the *drill* on a toprope and lowering it to the leader when he arrived at a drilling stance. Despite chopping threats, their now-popular route, *Cactus Flower* (5.11d), still stands.

Kurt Smith got the season rolling by leading a couple of former topropes: *Bikini Whale* (5.12b) (now with 3 bolts) and *Chicks For Free* (5.12b/c). Smith's finest creations were *Duncecap* (5.13b), a steep edging climb on Cap Rock, and *Hold Your Fire* (5.13a), requiring a very awkward mantle over a bulge.

Ron Kauk made a brief visit, guiding rock star David Lee Roth who cruised the Monument in a sleek, black 450SL with a huge skull and crossbones embossed on the hood. Kauk made the second ascent of *Hold Your Fire* in an impressive one-day effort, confirming the 5.13 rating. He then succeeded on the often-tried toprope, *Brown Out*, rating it 5.12d.

During his inspired stay, Scott Cosgrove established two steep leads on the Baby Apes Wall: *Apartheid* (5.12c) and *Buffalo Soldier* (5.12d). He also bagged a couple of even more difficult routes, *Sun Bowl* (5.13a/b) and *Father Figure* (5.13a), both desperate, bolt-protected, overhanging faces.

After multi-day efforts, Tom Herbert led *Money For Nothing* (5.12b/c), a former toprope first climbed by Cosgrove. And true to his trademark, Dick Cilley topoped *Persian Room* (5.13a), an interesting, overhanging flake to groove to pockets on the Blob.

Randy Leavitt ferreted out some classic testpieces in the Wonderland of Rocks. *Slaves of Fashion* (5.12c) is an overhanging thin crack on Punk

Photo: Phil Bard

IN 1988 **RON KAUK** ENDORSED
THE BEST ROCK BOOT EVER MADE



A BOOT WITH STEALTH RUBBER BY CHARLES COLE

5.10
Vertical

FIVE TEN PRESENTS A CHARLES COLE PRODUCTION

BOOT ARCHITECTURE
AND DESIGN STEPHAN BOSCH

CAST OF
CHARACTERS RON KAUK JOHN LONG ED BARRY MARK CHAPMAN TROY MAYR DAVE SHULTZ SCOTT COSGROVE RUSS WALLING

STEALTH RUBBER MADE ENTIRELY
ON LOCATION IN L.A. CALIFORNIA

BOOT CONSTRUCTED ENTIRELY ON
LOCATION IN MONTEBELLUNA ITALY

DIRECTOR OF
PRODUCTION DINO MARCOLIN

DIRECTED
BY MARY COLE

ITALIAN
EXPEDITER PAOLA LACEDELLI

DIRECTOR OF
PHOTOGRAPHY MARK CHAPMAN

R RESTRICTED: STEALTH RUBBER IS AVAILABLE
ONLY ON FIVE TEN CLIMBING BOOTS

STEALTH, VERTICAL, AND 5.10 ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF THE FIVE TEN COMPANY, P.O. BOX 1890 GLENDALE CA 91209

NOW IN THE HIP CLIMBING SHOPS

TOP CLIMBERS
AWARD
THE VERTICAL

- * HIGHEST FRICTION RUBBER
- * LONGEST LASTING RUBBER
- * BEST FIT
- * BEST ALL AROUND BOOT
- * MOST INNOVATIVE

SPORT CLIMBING SYSTEMS

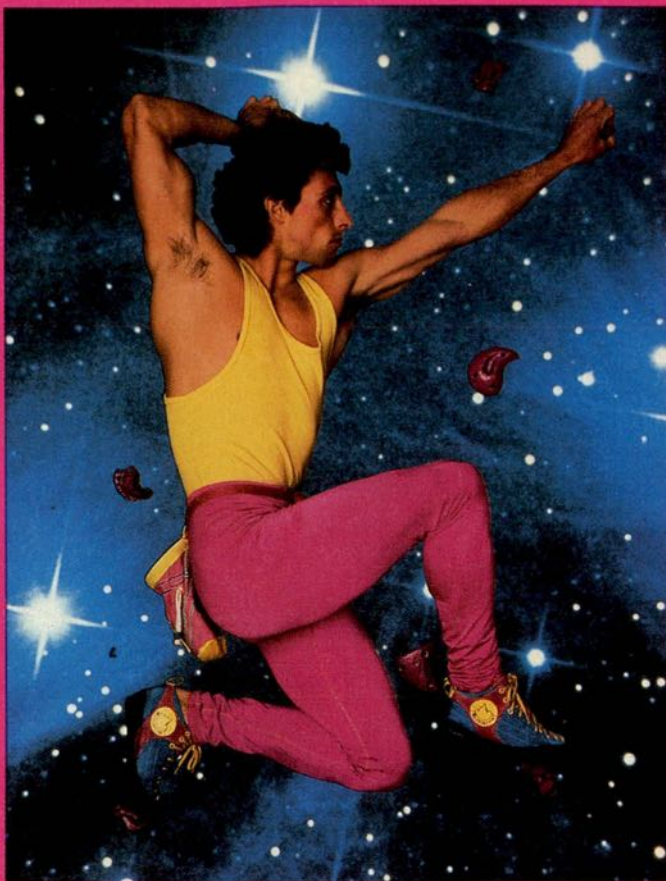


Photo: Anne Marie Weber/T. K. O. Images

SPECIALISTS In ARTIFICIAL CLIMBING WALLS

- Roks™ High Tech Molded Holds
- Sculptured Tiles
- Training Boards
- Large Textured Panels
- Crack Machines
- Climbing Structures

Competitions, Colleges, Gyms, Military, Climbing Schools, Summer Camps

SPORTS CLIMBING SYSTEMS

P.O. Box 1206 • Bend, Oregon 97709 • (503) 382-0037

Rock, and *Existential Decay* (5.12d) is an overhanging, stemming corner to the right of *Nihilistic Pillar*.

In the Homestead area (due south of The Fortress), he found two more very difficult corners. *The Thrill of Desire* (5.12c) offers a wild lead and requires stemming, laybacking, and arete moves. Leavitt broke the 5.13 barrier with *Dihedralman* (5.13b), a radically overhung corner, capped by a roof, followed by an exciting face above. He also climbed several classic 5.10's here. And for the offwidth connoisseur, *Leavittation* (5.12a) near the Willow Hole parking area, climbs a 15-foot roof via hand/fist stacks and knee locks.

Also in the Wonderland of Rocks, the energetic Troy Mayr added a difficult line to the forbidding main wall of South Astro Dome. *Mamunia* (5.12b) follows a vertical, orange streak to the right of *Strike It Rich*.

Jumping on the bolting bandwagon, the ever-present Mike Paul added *Glory Road* (5.12a), to the left of *Course and Buggy*, and cracked the baffling *Riddler* (5.12a) on Echo Rock.

Johnny Woodward, as usual, put up some bold leads. *Quickstone* (5.12b) is a face left of *29 Palms*, and *Every Which Way But Up* (5.12b) is a pumping dike traverse at Split Rocks. Woodward also topoped the north face of *Headstone Rock* (5.12b), then threw himself into the hotbed of ethics by chopping the ancient beginner's bolt ladder, a move which disgruntled many locals.

Mike Lechinski led the Bosch contingent, seeking the precious overhanging desert patina, then producing some of the season's best classics. *Elephant Walk* (5.11+) is the stunning arete left of *Equinox*, and *Bombs Over Libya* (5.12), originally topoped by Tom Giljek, is a superb face on the Punk Rock block.

After Joshua Tree's busiest season ever, Randy Vogel's upcoming guidebook supplement will be welcomed by honemasters and weekenders alike. It's due out this fall.

—Bob Gaines

SERIOUS DOWN BAGS FOR SERIOUS CLIMBERS.

Find out why these expeditions chose Feathered Friends
Everest Northface American K-2 China Everest '87 US China Everest

Model	Type	Down Fill	Total Weight	700 Fill Down Loft	Temp.	Nylon Price	Gore-Tex
Swallow	Slim Mummy	14 oz.	1 lb. 14 oz.	5½"	20°	\$190	\$255
Snow Bunting	Slim Mummy	18 oz.	2 lb. 2 oz.	6½"	10°	\$220	\$285
Puffin I	Full Zip	25 oz.	3 lb. 3 oz.	6½"	10°	\$269	\$329
Widgeon w/collar	Slim Mummy	27 oz.	3 lb. 6 oz.	8"	-15°	—	\$395
Tern II w/collar	Slim Mummy	33 oz.	3 lb. 12 oz.	9"	-25°	—	\$459
Snow Goose w/collar	Wide Mummy	41 oz.	4 lb. 4 oz.	10"	-40°	—	\$509

FREE CATALOG: 11 models, nylon or Gore-Tex,® 3 lengths, down collar and other options.

Feathered Friends Dept CM 1424 11th Ave., Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 324-4551
(206) 324-4166

SIERRA NEVADA

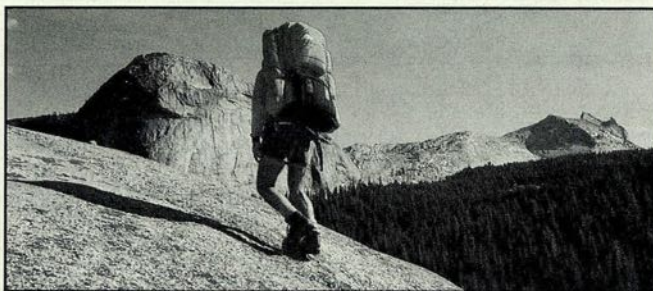
Registers stolen

Historic summit registers, dating back to 1912, have been stolen from several peaks in the Sierra, including Midway Mountain and Mt. Dade. The thefts evidently took place in the late 1970's, and a group calling themselves the "Purple Mountain Gang" claimed responsibility. While their name may be humorous, their deeds are not.

The registers gave a historical aura to these mountains, a feeling now missed by many. Although the thefts

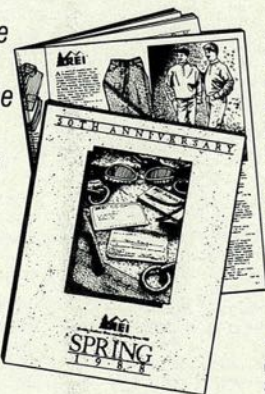


**AT
TIMES
LIKE
THESE,
BE GLAD
YOU'VE
GOT THE BEST.**



REI gear and clothing is 100% guaranteed.

When you push yourself to the limit, you need to know your gear and clothing are up to the challenge, too. For 50 years, REI has provided the products and service that support outdoor adventurers on the trails, slopes, rocks and water. Our gear and clothing are proven to take on all you can get into and all your environment can dish out. We guarantee it.



Call or send today for your free, full-color REI catalog packed with hiking gear, climbing gear, tents, backpacks, clothing and accessories, plus REI membership information. Membership is not required to shop REI, but for a one-time \$10 fee, members receive a yearly patronage dividend.

**FREE CATALOG
1-800-426-4840**

Or write to: REI, DEPT. 3080, P.O. Box 88127, Seattle, WA 98138-0127 for your free REI catalog.



**Quality Outdoor Gear and Clothing
Since 1938**

Shop REI stores in: Alaska: Anchorage ■ Arizona: Tempe
■ California: Berkeley, Carson, Citrus Heights, Cupertino, Orange, San Dimas ■ Colorado: Denver ■ Massachusetts: Reading
■ Minnesota: Bloomington ■ Oregon: Portland ■ Utah: Salt Lake City ■ Washington: Bellevue, Federal Way, Seattle, Spokane
■ Washington, D.C.-area: College Park, Maryland

appear to have stopped, the community must be aware of the loss in hopes that future climbers will think twice before removing a piece of history.

In July 1912, William Colby, Francis Farquhar, and Robert Price made the first ascent of Midway Mountain, the highest point on the Great Western Divide. The party built a summit cairn, where they placed a Sierra Club register, a legacy that would outlive all three ascensionists. Fifty-five years later, in 1967, Sierra Club member Bob Miller climbed Midway to see if the old register was still there. It was right where the first ascensionists had left it; before descending, he placed another register on the summit and stashed the original record in a watertight container 15 feet to the west.

In July 1987, I climbed Midway and found the 1967 register, but couldn't locate the 1912 record despite hours of searching. No clue emerged until, in an entry for August 1979, "The Purple Mountain Gang" claimed responsibility for stealing the 1912 register, signing their names as Mark Farkel and Otis Jasper Russell.

In their 1979 entry, the "Gang" mentioned a "register exchange program." In the summer of 1982, the register on Mt. Dade was from Mt. Daly in Colorado; the "Gang" was listed last, stating that their "program" was in full progress. But in the case of Midway, no exchange register was left nor was there mention of where the original might be.

These historical documents belong to everyone. Although some disagree with keeping such records, we have no right to judge past climbers who did, or future climbers who will. As summit registers become overstuffed, it should be the responsibility of land management organizations to preserve them.

—Robin Ingraham, Jr.

Due to space restrictions, many Joshua Tree and California route notes were omitted, and will be printed in the next issue (no. 109).

JOSHUA TREE — WILLOW HOLE

Pear-Grape Route (5.10a), The Fortress. Crack just R of *Natural Selection*. (FA: Todd Gordon, Tom Michael.)

The Hooterville Trolley (5.10d), The Fortress. R-leaning crack to face. R of trail 1/8 mile SW of Atom Smashers boulders. 2 bolts. (FA: Evans, Brian Sillasen, Dave Stahl, 2/87.)

Chest Wig (5.10a), The Fortress. Thin crack on last formation R of and behind *Mel's Crack* area. (FA: Evans, Marge Floyd, Jim Angione, Scott Gordon, T. Gordon, Eric Charlton, 9/86.)

Kate Bush (5.8), The Fortress. Crack R of *Chest Wig*. (FA: T. Gordon, Evans, Floyd, Deanne Gray, Angione, Charlton, S. Gordon, 9/86.)

I Love Brian Piccolo (5.8 + /5.9), The Fortress. Steep crack above *Mel's Crack* area. (FA: T. Gordon, Quinn McLeod, Sillasen, 9/86.)

The Houdini Arete (5.11c tr), Ellsmere Island. Face to arete between *Foreign Legion* and *Great Escape*. (FA: Troy Mayr, John Mallory, Bob Gaines, 1/88.)

Geometry (5.11a), Ellsmere Island. Finger crack in corner to roof, L of *Aftermath*. (FA:

Robert Alexander, Eric Fogel, Nick Beer, Ruth Galler, 11/86.)

Math (5.10a), Ellsmere Island. Corner R of *Aftermath*. (FA: Alexander, Mike Bascou, 10/86.)

Gale Winds (5.9), Ellsmere Island. Face R of *Baby Roof*. 3 bolts. (FA: Don Wilson, Karen Wilson, 1/87.)

Lovey (5.9), Ellsmere Island. Crack on boulder 100yds L of Ellsmere Island area on Gilligan's Island boulder. (FA: Dave Tapes, Jack Tripper, Jennifer Wonderly, 1/88.)

North Of Baffin, Ellsmere Island. Crack over roof, L of *Aftermath*. (FA: Michael, Evans.)

Arms Are For Hugging (5.11a), Ellsmere Island area. Steep face on small pillar on approach to Ellsmere Island area. 4 bolts. (FA: Battey, D. Stahl, Tom Burke, Rob Stahl, 2/87.)

Badfinger (5.11d), Ellsmere Island area. Finger crack in largest boulder in hidden corridor 1/4mi before Ellsmere Island. (FA: Michael Paul, 11/86.)

Teddy (5.9), Ellsmere Island. Face R of *Lovey*. 2 bolts. (FA: Tapes, Tripper, Wonderly, 1/88.)

The Screaming Woman (5.10a), Hidden Dome. Buttress L of *Too Secret To Find*. Bolt. (FA: Evans, Angione, Herb Laeger, Bruckman.)

Too Stupid To Find (5.10d), Hidden Dome. Face R of *Too Secret To Find*. 2 bolts. (FA: Bruckman, Laeger, Evans.)

Hands Of Fire (5.11c tr). N of The Castle. Wave-like cracks on giant overhang. (FA: D. Stahl, 2/87.)

Let There Be Light (5.10b). Dihedral L of *Hands Of Fire*. (FA: D. Stahl, R. Stahl, Craig Fry, Battey, Burke, 2/87.)

Crystal Dove (5.10c tr). Steep face, cracks R of *Hands Of Fire*. (FA: Fry, Battey, D. Stahl, 2/87.)

Dr. Scholls Wild Ride (5.10a), Atom Smashers boulders. OW on giant foot-shaped formation S of Atom Smashers area. 2 pitches. (FA: Evans, Floyd, 5/87.)

The Crow's Nest (5.11 +), Atom Smashers boulders. Overhanging face/crack to crack through roof on formation 1/4 mi W of Atom Smashers area. (FA: Lechliński, 2/88.)

New Shoe Review (5.9 + or 5.10d), Atom Smashers boulders. L buttress of foot-shaped formation. 2 pitches. 6 bolts. (FA: Evans, Battey, Fry, Floyd, 10/87.)

Turtle Days (5.8). Face on buttress across from Grey Giant. 3 bolts. (FA: Evans, Kelly Carignan, Tom Smith, Crista Smith.)

The Fugitive (5.10c/d), The Tombstone. Face down, L from *Heaven Can Wait*. (FA: Evans, Spencer Lennard, Gordon.)

Tige (5.8), Brownie Girl Dome. Dike R of *Buster Brown*. Bolt. (FA: Bartlett, Roberts, 1/88.)

Cat Walk (5.10b), Patch Rock (triangular formation W of Brownie Girl Dome). Large dike on N face. 7 bolts. (FA: Mayr, Sharpless, 1/88.)

Through Being Cool (5.10d), Cool Dome (obvious formation on W side of canyon halfway to Hidden Dome). Crack to ledge, face to steep R-slanting crack. 2 bolts, 2 pins. Excellent. (FA: Mayr, Sharpless, Steve Axthelm, 2/88.)

Stardust Memories (5.8 +), Cool Dome. Steep face on N side. 5 bolts. (FA: Mayr, Anderson, Hunsaker, Axthelm, 2/88.)

Rickets and Scurvy (5.10b), Cool Dome. Finger to twin hand cracks R of *Stardust Memories*. (FA: Axthelm, Mayr, Anderson, 2/88.)

Leavittation (5.12a tr). 5min walk NE of Willow Hole parking area. Amazing OW 15' roof crack in large boulder. 25'. (FA: Randy Leavitt.)

The Iron Curtain (5.11a), The Soviet Block (largest boulder on hillside 1/2mi NE of Willow Hole parking area). N face, face w/4 bolts. (FA: Gaines, Mark Bowling, 1/88.)

JOSHUA TREE — WONDERLAND OF ROCK

Bombs Over Libya (5.11 +), Punk Rock. Prominent face above *Scar Wars*. 3 bolts.

(FA: John Yablonski, Mike Lechliński, Tom Gilje, Mari Gingery, 2/88.)

The Roundup (5.11). E of Disneyland Dome. Thin crack to face on brown patina plates. Faces *Pea Brain*. Bolt. (FA: Lechliński, Gingery, Walt Shipley, John Yablonski, 2/88.)

Crack of Dark (5.10). R of *The Roundup*. Boulder start to prominent OW. (FA: Shipley, Lechliński, Gingery, 2/88.)

Automatic Tiger (5.10d), Big Horn Dome. Face to thin crack to face on NW end of dome (faces

N). Bolt. (FA: Shipley, Roy McClenahan, 2/88.)

Get The Boot (5.10b), Big Horn Dome. Face on prominent block N of *Poaching Big Horn*. 3 bolts. (FA: Shipley, McClenahan, 2/88.)

Hard Rock Cafe (5.10d), Big Horn Dome. Double overhanging brown corner L of *Automatic Tiger*. (FA: McClenahan, Shipley, 2/88.)

Fantasia (5.10b), Disneyland Dome. Chimney L of *Jungle Cruise* to arete to dike, traverse L to bolt belay. L to overhanging crack. 3 pitches. Bolt. (FA: Shipley, McClenahan, 2/88.)

Autopia (5.9), Disneyland Dome. L of *Jungle Cruise*. Chimney, then traverse L to face. 3 pitches. Bolt. (FA: Bartlett, Pelton, 2/88.)

Walt's Frozen Head (5.10b), Disneyland Dome. 2-pitch arete R of *Tragic Kingdom*. (FA: Gaines, Alf Randell, 2/88.)

Avenger (5.11b), Disneyland Dome. E face of *Fat Freddie's Cat*. FFA of unnamed 5.10d Al Swain route. (FA: Al Swain; FFA: Gaines, 2/88.)

Existential Decay (5.12d), Old A Hotie Rock. N of *Nihilistic Pillar*. (FA: Leavitt.)

Bridge-It-Bardot (5.10d), small formation W of Disneyland Dome. Groove w/4 bolts. (FA: Charles Cole, Evans, Michael.)

All My Children (5.9), The Cornerstone. R-arching crack R of *One Move Leads To Another*. (FA: T. Gordon, Laird, 12/86.)

Rope Opera (5.11a/b), The Cornerstone. Face w/2 bolts to *General Hospital* to 2-bolt rappel. (FA: Todd Swain, Peggy Buckley, 3/88.)

Unnamed (5.11a), The Cornerstone. R of *General Hospital*. 2 bolts. (FA: Swain, Buckley, 3/88.)

Chute to Kill (5.10d), North Astro Dome. Face 20' L of *Lead Us Not Into Temptation*. 6 bolts. (FA: Mayr, Anderson, Hunsaker, 3/88.)

Life's A Pitch (5.11d), North Astro Dome. Steep face 15' L of *Chute to Kill*. 8 bolts. (FA: Mayr.)

Mamunia (5.13a), South Astro Dome. Orange streak in middle of E face. 6 bolts. (FA: Mayr, 4/88.)

Dominatrix (5.10d), Bighorn Terrace (above and NE of Bighorn Mating Grotto). L of 3 W-facing cracks behind boulder. (FA: Nelson, solo, 11/87.)

Whips and Grains (5.9), Bighorn Terrace. Hand/fist crack on corner R of *Dominatrix*. (FA: Nelson, solo, 11/87.)

The Thrill of Desire (5.12c), Homestead Wall. N face. Classic stemming corner. 65'. (FA: Leavitt.)

Dihedralman (5.13b), Homestead Area. Guardhouse formation (due SE of the Fortress, NE of Homestead Wall). Radically overhanging dihedral to roof to face. 55'. (FA: Leavitt.)

Mercy Road (5.11a), Lower Homestead Wall. Steep face w/thin edges. Bolts. 50'. (FA: Leavitt, Glenn Svenson.)

Looking for Mercy (5.11a), Lower Homestead Wall. Face R of *Mercy Road* to last 15' of *Mercy Road*. 50'. (FA: Leavitt, Svenson.)

Empty Street (5.10c), Lower Homestead Wall. Face R of *Looking for Mercy*. 45'. (FA: Leavitt, Svenson.)

Moonstruck (5.10b), Homestead Area. Face w/hairline fracture. 40'. (FA: Leavitt, Svenson.)

Bailey's Foster (5.10b), Homestead Area. E of Homestead Wall. OW to hand crack in corner. 45'. (FA: Brian Bailey, Leavitt.)

Blonde Eyebrow Fetish (5.10c), Homestead Area. 1 1/4" crack on a E-facing formation, S of *Dihedralman*. 50'. (FA: Leavitt, Rob Slater.)

Lusting CLH (5.8), Homestead Area. Flake/crack L of *Blonde Eyebrow Fetish*. 45'. (FA: Slater, solo.)

Pale Rider (5.11b), The Mill Area, West World Dome (1/4mi N of Worth Bagly Memorial Dome). Layback w/fixed gear at summit. (FA: Paul, Randell, Paul Borne, Todd Burleson, 11/87.)

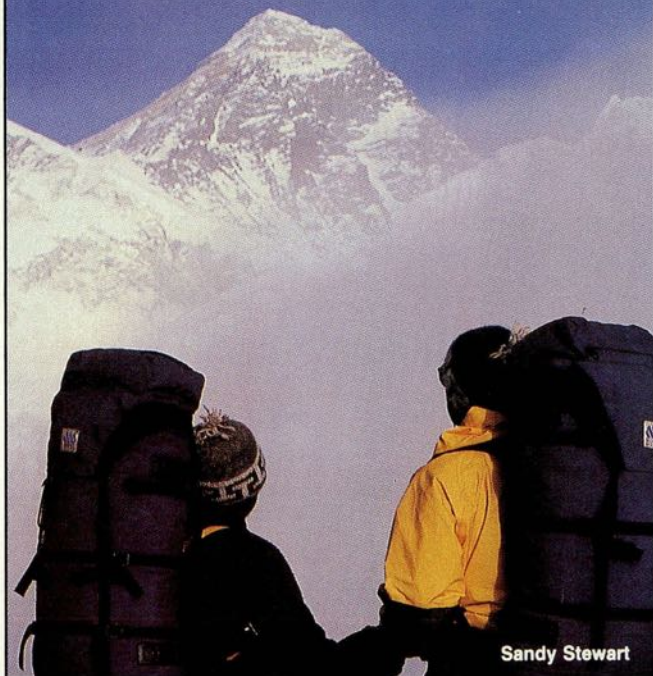
Boot Hill (5.10b), West World Dome. Short face L of *Pale Rider*. 2 bolts. (FA: Paul, Tracy Dorton, Dave LeWinter, 11/87.)

Soul Kitchen (5.11a), West World Dome. Short face below *Boot Hill*. (FA: Tom Thompson, LeWinter, Dorton, Paul, 11/87.)

JOSHUA TREE — PINTO BASIN

Software Sluts aka *Not The Beaver* (5.10c), Desert Queen Dome. 1/4mi NE. Face w/2 bolts, pin. (FA: Bruckman, D. Wilson, K. Wilson, Evans, Angione, 12/87.)

SPECIALIST IN ADVENTURE GEAR



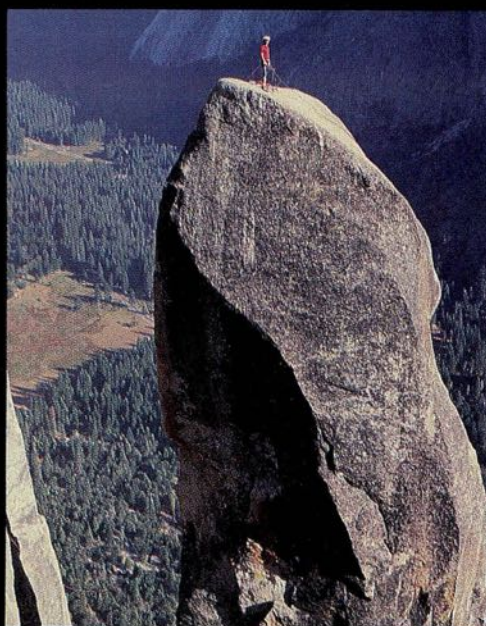
Sandy Stewart

MADDEN

2400 Central, Dept. 1, Boulder, CO 80301 (303) 442-5828

Filmed on location in Yosemite

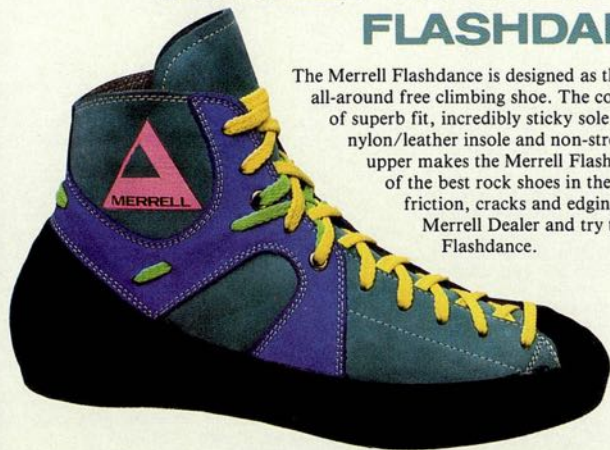
BASIC ROCKCLIMBING VIDEO



Send check or money order for \$39 plus \$2.50 S & H to:
VERTICAL ADVENTURES PRODUCTIONS
 5000 N. Parkway Calabasas
 Suite 105
 Calabasas, CA 91302
 Dealer Inquiries Invited. CA residents add 6.5% tax.
 Call (818) 883-4921 or (213) 540-6517

MERRELL

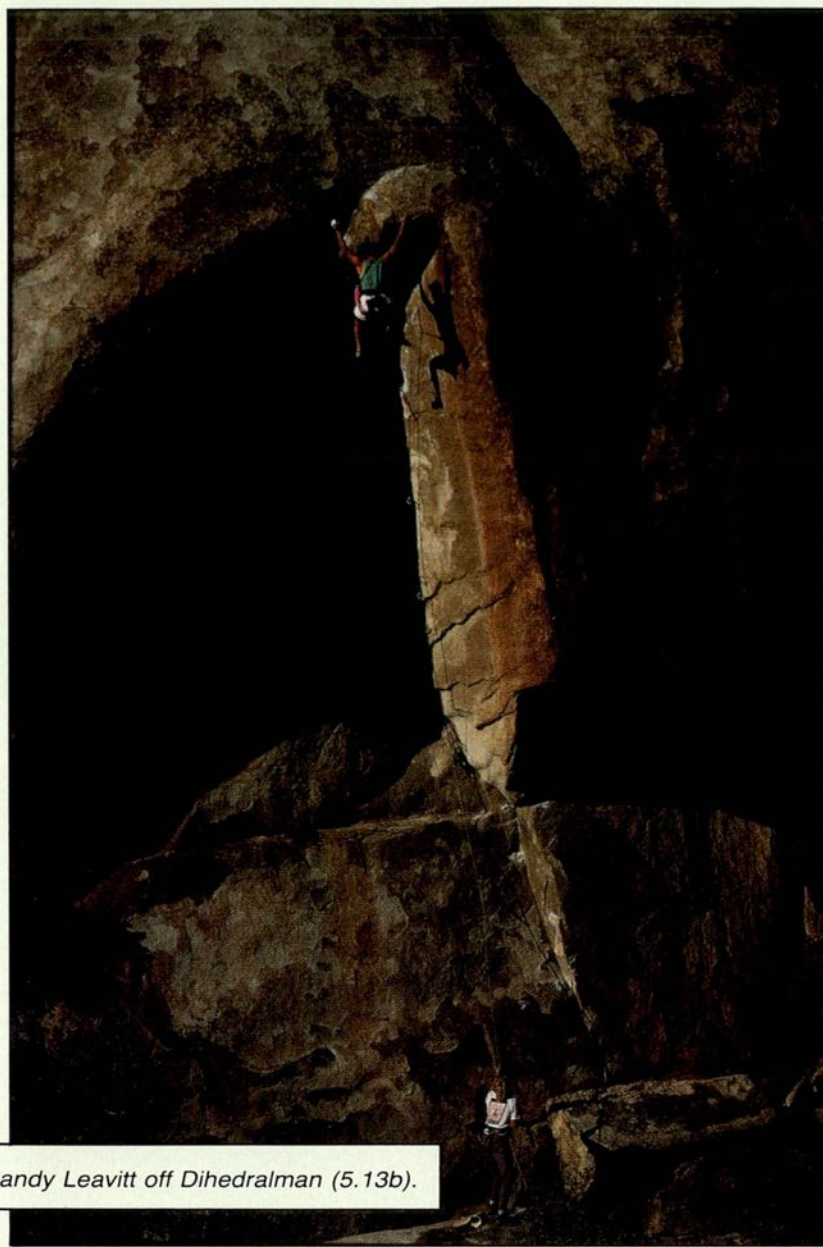
FLASHDANCE



The Merrell Flashdance is designed as the perfect all-around free climbing shoe. The combination of superb fit, incredibly sticky sole and rand, nylon/leather insole and non-stretch leather upper makes the Merrell Flashdance one of the best rock shoes in the world for friction, cracks and edging. Visit your Merrell Dealer and try the Merrell Flashdance.

MERRELL • P.O. BOX 4249 • SOUTH BURLINGTON, VERMONT 05401

PHOTO BY: ACE KVALE • CLIMBER: ANTOINE SAVELLI



Randy Leavitt off Dihedralman (5.13b).

Photo: Brian Bailey

Fat Is Where It's At (5.8), Desert Queen Dome. Groove/crack 15' R of *Thin Is In*. Chimney between 2 routes may be used for descent. 40'. (FA: Swain, Buckey, Kip Knapp, 11/87.)

Piledriver (5.11d), Desert Queen Dome area. Finger crack on rock in wash below Desert Queen Dome. (FA: Paul, 11/86.)

Manwich Queen (5.8), Face R of *Software Sluts*. 3 bolts. (FA: D. Wilson, K. Wilson, 12/87.)

Gigantor (5.11b), Gigantor Dome (1/4mi NE of Desert Queen Dome). NE face. Finger crack in overhanging dihedral. Classic. 60'. (FA: Michael Paul, Dave Tucker, 12/86.)

Silverado (5.11b), Desert Queen Mine area. On formation halfway between Desert Queen Mine and Gigantor Dome. Layback. (FA: Paul, 11/86.)

Golddigger (5.10c), Hand crack 50' L of *Silverado*. (FA: Paul, Tucker, Chuck Tucker, Derek Durbin, 11/86.)

Afterthought (5.8), Corridor Face. Water-polished chute 100' L of *Spider Man*. (FA: Roberts, Eric Gonper, 11/87.)

Total Genetic Package (5.11c tr), Split Rocks. Face L of *Rubicon* (direct start). (FA: Roger Whitehead, Chris French.)

Beak Of The Week (5.7X), Beak Boulder area. Formation W of boulder. (FA: T. Gordon, Evans, Angione, Burke, 5/87.)

Sleek Beak (5.10c/d), Face in middle of formation. 4 bolts. (FA: Evans, Stahl, Gordon, 5/87.)

Super Beak of the Desert (5.8+), R arete, uses top bolt of *Sleek Beak*. (FA: Gordon,

Evans, Angione, Stahl, 5/87.)

The Wings of Steel (Right, 5.11c; Left, 5.10c), Isles in the Sky. R and L of *Bird of Fire*. (FFA: Morgan, Chris Schnider, 3/88.)

Desert Sky (5.11b), Desert Sky Formation. W-facing. 3 bolts. (FA: Ledesma, Martin, 3/88.)

Too Obvious (5.9), Desert Sky Formation. R-leaning hand crack. (FA: Ledesma, Martin, 3/88.)

Blinded by the Light (5.11b tr), Desert Sky Formation. Crack to flakes in NW facing chasm. (FA: Ledesma, Martin, 3/88.)

C.C. Takes San Jose (5.7), Desert Sky Formation. 1st crack L of *Blinded by the Light*. (FA: Ledesma, Martin, 3/88.)

Pope and Circumstance (5.9), Pope's Hat. S face of Pope's Hat past 3 bolts. 60'. (FA: Buckey, Swain, 11/87.)

Oh God! (5.2), Pope's Hat area. S face of huge boulder 20' S of Pope's Hat. 50'. (FA: Swain, Buckey, 11/87.)

Rye Not? (5.9), Jumbo Rocks. On formation W of above routes. Thin L-leaning dike w/bolt 10' up. Descend gully to L. (FA: Buckey, Swain, 12/87.)

Ganjame (5.10b), Jumbo Rocks. S of campground, N side of largest formation at end of jeep trail. Finger crack in corner w/bulge. (FA: John Gangemi, Robert Alexander, Lance Gunnerson, 10/86.)

Overpowered by Funk (5.12a), Stirrup rock. Bolt. (FFA: Vaino Kodas, 82; 1st lead, Kurt Smith, Alan Nelson, 88.)

Rollerskating with Aliens (5.8+), Stirrup Tank. Face just L of *Beam Me Up Scotty*. 2 bolts.

(FA: Swain, Buckey, Dave & Marie Saball, Dana Bartlett, 3/88.)

The Enterprise (5.9 tr), Arete and face R of *Beam Me Up Scotty*. (FA: Buckey, Swain, 3/88.)

JOSHUA TREE —

GEOLOGY TOUR ROAD

Cross Fire (5.12a), Skyscraper Rock (formation 100yds N of *Jerry's Quarry*). L-leaning thin crack on S end. 3 bolts to 2-bolt rappel. (FA: Mayr, Cole, 2/88.)

Message in a Bottle (5.10c), Island in the Stream (formation 1/2mi W of Rocky Marciano). L side. Face to thin crack to ramp, join *Adrift*. (FA: Mayr, Hunsaker, Anderson, 2/88.)

Adrift (5.11b), Island in the Stream. Seam to crack 15' R of *Message in a Bottle*. 4 bolts. (FA: Mayr, Anderson, Sharpless, 2/88.)

Sharks in the Water (5.10c), Island in the Stream. Ramp/face to hand crack 25' R of *Adrift*. 2 bolts. (FA: Mayr, Hunsaker, Anderson, 2/88.)

Whisper When You Scream (5.9+), Island in the Stream. Ramp around arete to face R of *Sharks in the Water*. 3 bolts. (FA: Mayr, 2/88.) The Tropics is the first group of formations on the W side of Geology Tour Road. Lava Dome is the block-like formation in the SW corner of The Tropics.

Nothing to Fear (5.6), Lava Dome. 1st steep crack on L side of S face. (FA: Mayr, Anderson, Hunsaker, Sharpless, 2/88.)

But Fear Itself (5.8), Lava Dome. Steep hand crack 10' R of *Nothing to Fear*. (FA: Mayr, 2/88.)

Hot Flashes (5.11c), Lava Dome. Vertical face 15' R of *But Fear Itself*. 2 bolts. (FA: Mayr, 2/88.)

Standing Ovation (5.10a), Lava Dome. Face to thin crack on W face. (FA: Mayr, 2/88.)

Trench Connection (5.6), Crow's Nest (NE corner of The Tropics). Wide crack in trough on N face. (FA: Hunsaker, Mayr, Anderson, Posey, Duque, Sharpless, 4/88.)

No Strings Attached (5.6), Crow's Nest. R-diagonal crack 10' R of *Trench Connection*. (FA: Mayr, 4/88.)

Trail of Tiers (5.10a), Reef Rock (1st formation W of Crow's Nest). N face. Tiered crack to face. (FA: Mayr, Anderson, Hunsaker, Sharpless, 4/88.)

Elephant Walk (5.11+), Jerry's Quarry. Face arete 40' L of *Equinox*. 5 bolts. (FA: Mari Gingery, Tom Gilje, Lechlinski, John Yablonski, 1/88.)

Huevos Rancheros (5.10), Jerry's Quarry. Hand traversing face up, R on 1st small group of rocks SE of *Equinox*. (FA: Yablonski on-sight, free solo, 2/88.)

To Hold and To Have (5.12+), Jerry's Quarry. Thin crack and face on buttress W of *Ali Shuffle*. (FA: Kevin Thaw, John Reyher, 3/88.)

Zen and the Art of Placement (5.11c), Jerry's Quarry. Obvious crack in small cove between *Ali Shuffle* and *Equinox*. (FA: Thaw, Reyher, 3/88.)

Spank the Monkey (5.10b), Jerry's Quarry. Slab to overhang to arete in cove between *Ali Shuffle* and *Equinox*. (FA: Thaw, Reyher, 3/88.)

Igor's Failed Road Trip (5.11a), Jerry's Quarry. Blunt arete and slab R of *Spank the Monkey*. (FA: Thaw, Reyher, 3/88.)

Toffleol Ear Wax (5.9), Jerry's Quarry. Center of slab L of *Equinox*. (FA: Reyher, Thaw, 3/88.)

The Rustler (5.11+), Jerry's Quarry. Undercling to face 100' R of *Jerry's Quarry*. (FA: Lechlinski, Yablonski, Gilje, Gingery, 1/88.)

Two Blind Mice (5.10), Star Wars Rock. Flared Bombay chimney to hand crack, opposite side from *Light Sabre*. (FA: Roberts, Marc Dube.)

Ice Cream Crack (5.10d), Virgin Islands Area. Zig-zag thin cracks on formation up, L from Lechlinski Cracks formation. (FA: Bob Harrington, Roberts.)

Just For The Thrill Of It (5.11a), Diamond Clump. Face L of *Clearasil*. (FA: Louie Anderson, David Larson, 12/87.)

Teenage Enema (5.9 tr), Diamond Clump. Possible 1st lead: Swain, Buckey, 11/87. (FA: Beck, Nelson.)

Ring of Fire (5.11b), Ring Rock. Dike on forma-

tion E of *Centurion*. Thin R diagonaling dike, 3 bolts. (FA: Troy Mayr.)
Kleptomania (5.10a tr), Hone Dome. Arete R of No Holds Barred. (FA: Gordon, 2/87.)
Ride a Wild Ophrah (5.9), Hone Dome. Arete L of Same as it Ever Was. 3 bolts. (FA: Ledesma, Booth, 3/88.)

NORTH MT. WOODSON

Retropulsion (5.12b/c tr). Overhanging arete R of Seminar Wall. Classic. (FA: Bill Ramsey.)
Fallen Gypsy (5.12b tr). New version of *American Gypsy* since big flake pulled off. (FA: "Spray" Dave Robinson.)
Kurtains for Certain (5.12a tr). Face L of *Uncertainty Principle*. (FA: Kurt Smith.)
Cool Jerk (5.12c). Face across road from *Poison Oak Crack*. (FA: Randy Leavitt.)
Hairdo (5.12c tr). L of *Cool Jerk*. Dihedral to overhanging, thin face. (FA: Leavitt.)
Obsession (5.12b tr). L of *Cave Route*. (FA: Robinson.)
Grain Storm (5.12b/c tr). L of *Arch Crack*. (FA: Ramsey.)
Undertow (5.12 tr). First climbed as undercling (5.10d), then as OW. (FA: Bob VanBelle (?); FA: OW, Tom Lindner.)

SOUTH MT. WOODSON

Sin Eater (5.12b tr). Pin-scarred crack on prominent formation at bottom of "Mount Everest." (FA: Brooke Sandahl; 1st lead: Paul Parker.)
America's Finest City (5.12a). Undercling on large boulder below "K2." (FA: Leavitt.)
Big Man Restless (5.10b tr). OW. One formation E of *America's Finest City*. (FA: Leavitt.)
Magic Line (5.10d). Classic steep face L of aid seam on N face of K2 formation. 120'. (FA: Leavitt, Svenson.)
Rainbow's End (5.12b). Blank corner and steep face w/bolts on E side of K2. One of the best routes in the area. (FA: Leavitt.)

SUICIDE

Orange Roughy (5.10b). Steep, thin orange crack R of *Minor*. (FA: Troy Mayr, Steve Axthelm, 10/87.)
Reckless Driving (5.12b). Direct finish to *Playing in the Freeway*. 4 bolts. (FA: Mayr, Charles Cole, 11/87.)
Narcolepsy (5.9). Crack starting from large trees out of 2nd pitch of *East Buttress Gully*. (FA: Mayr, Axthelm, 10/87.)

TAHQUITZ

Bitchin Lichen (5.11a/b). 2nd pitch of *Liken to Lichen*. R, then up thin crack. Bolt, pin. (FA: Cole, Mayr, Gib Lewis, 8/87.)
South Face Route (5.10+). 1) Face between *Right Ski Track* and *Chingadera*. 5 bolts to 3-bolt belay. 2) Face w/bolt, to *Right Ski Track*. (FA: Don Bedford, Dan Haugheistine, Jonathan Spurgin, 11/87.)

YOSEMITE VALLEY

The Bellyshooter (5.9), Royal Arches Area. 100' L of *Lynnea's Birthday Surprise*. 4 bolts to 2-bolt belay. 160'. (FA: Bob Ost, Brian Young, 8/87.)
Poodle with a Mohawk (5.9), Royal Arches Area. 35' L of *The Bellyshooter*. 4 bolts. 140'. (FA: Rick Molinar, Ost, Karl Sonnberger, 7/87.)
Lethal Weapon (5.11d), Royal Arches Area. Just L of *Adrenaline*. Thin layback to 2-bolt belay. (FA: Tom Herbert, Jason Campbell, summer/87.)
New Generation (5.12a tr), Royal Arches Area. Just below *Serenity Crack* and *Maxine's Wall*. Tricky face w/extremely thin seam. (FA: Herbert, Campbell, summer/87.)
Road to Ruin (5.12a), Middle Cathedral Rock. Between *Black Primo* and *Ticket to Nowhere*. 5 bolts, 2 pins. 150'. Excellent. (FA: Bob Gaines, Jay Smith, 10/87.)
La Arista (5.10d), El Capitan. Arete just L of *La Cosita*. Start R-angling crack. (FA: Chris Craig, Mike Creel, 2/88.)
A Momentary Lapse of Reason (W5/5+), Lower Sentinel Falls area. 4 pitches of brittle, thin ice 300yds R of Lower Sentinel Falls. Serious. (FA: Paul Crawford, Bill Crouse, Richard Leversee, 12/87.)

THE CHAMPIONS' CHOICE

SUUNTO

A-SERIES



An orienteer needs an excellent compass. It must be easy to use and give quick and accurate reading. This is just as important for backpackers, hunters and other outdoor people. Suunto has over fifty years experience manufacturing compasses. Owning a Suunto compass means that you too...can join the World Champion Orienteers, and rely upon Suunto to lead you right.

Distributed by
OPTIMUS INCORPORATED
 P.O. Box 1950
 1100 Boston Avenue
 Bridgeport, CT 06601
 (203) 333-0499

COLD FEET?

YOU NEED NEOPRENE OVERBOOTS FROM FORTY BELOW LTD.



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)

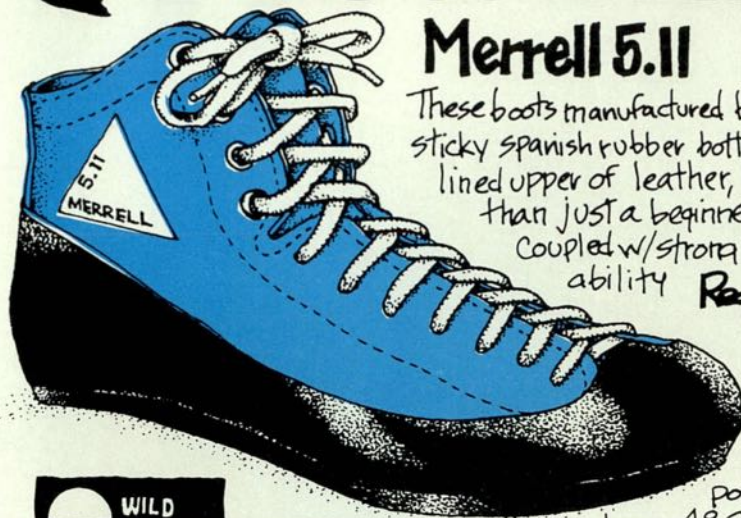
These overboots have been worn on expeditions to Everest, McKinley, the Antarctic, and numerous other major peaks and hostile environments. Price \$92.00 plus shipping. Boots sent U.P.S.—C.O.D.

Mail Order Only - Not a Store

Send boot outline and size to:

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

Headlines.



Merrell 5.11

These boots manufactured by an industry leader have sticky spanish rubber bottoms combined w/a durable canvas lined upper of leather. Comfortable, supportive, more than just a beginner boot, excellent edging power coupled w/strong face climbing ability



Reg ~~96.50~~ to ~~105.00~~
Now - \$59.95

add 3.00
postage
lower 48 States.

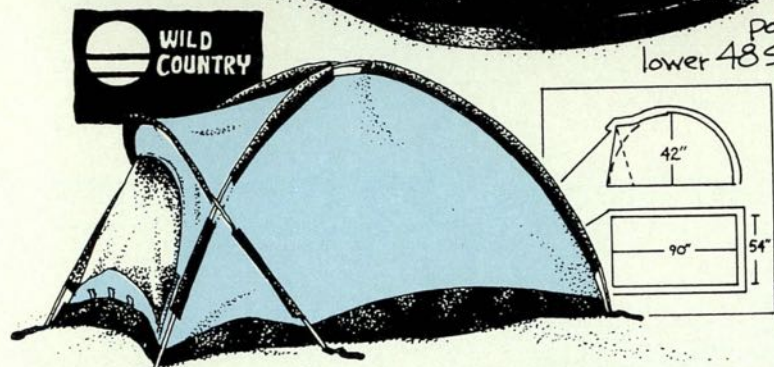


Chalk Holster

New in 1987, the chalk Holster features, center draw string, wire stiffened brim, pile lined sides and bottom, Quick dipping design 2 tone Cordura® exterior and 1 1/2" flat web hang loop offers 2 attachment points.

Reg ~~10.95~~ to ~~12.95~~
Now \$6.95

1.50 shipping unless accompanied w/other product, Then Freight FREE.



Giant Trisar

These are the last of Wild Country's Giant Trisars to be made in England. They have a freestanding main tent body, supported w/3 anodized 7075 aluminum poles, tent fly which extends out for a vestibule front. All floor and fly seams are factory sealed to insure a lifetime of waterproofing. Tent floor material is coated w/ super durable neoprene

Reg ~~269.00~~ to ~~300.00~~
Now \$169.00 2 man w/ Gear @ 7 lbs total weight

New Tissack

Climbers, skiers, hikers and bikers can all enjoy the sure fitting features of this 1400 cubic in., all Cordura® nylon summit pack #10 YKK main compartment zippers, sternum strap, removable waist belt, outside pocket, and padded back make this lifetime Warranty Pack one you can rely on for Years.

Reg ~~49.00~~ to ~~59.00~~
Now \$29.95



Latok Rope Specials

Classic Dry 11x165 \$120.50 Standard 11x165 \$103.50

BLACK DOME

MOUNTAIN SHOP

2 BILTMORE PLAZA • ASHEVILLE, NC 28803 • 704-274-4280 • 704-274-1317
FULL WARRANTY • SAME DAY SHIPPING • MASTERCARD & VISA • GUARANTEED SATISFACTION

COLORADO

BOULDER

Lakmé sees three repeats this spring

As winter loosened its iron grip in March, it appeared locals had used their gym time wisely, judging by several early-season repeats of Eldorado testpieces.

On Redgarden Wall, the first to fall was *Lakmé*, the arete right of *Genesis* first climbed by Christian Griffith (*Climbing* nos. 106, 107) and touted as the first 5.14 to be established by an American. After a couple of days' of effort, both Dale Goddard and Jim Karn redpointed *Lakmé* in the same afternoon, downgrading it to 5.13b and 5.13a respectively. On his first day, Karn had come very close to doing it, only to fail on a lunge move at the top. Goddard commented that Griffith's neighboring route *Desdichado* (5.13c) is definitely harder, and said, "Christian generally rates very conservatively, but second opinions are critical to sequences, grades, and reporting." Soon after, *Lakmé* received its fourth ascent by Skip Guerin.

Just around the corner, Karn turned his attention to the arete left of *Kloeberdanz*, *Candalegro* (5.13), put up by Bob Candelaria (*Climbing* no. 105). Thinking he was doing the second free ascent, Karn redpointed the route. However, he later discovered, in talking with Candelaria's belayer, that Candelaria's best effort had been a yoyo ascent with a rest point, thereby justifying Karn's claim of a first free ascent.

On the new route scene, Dan Michael, Paul Piana, and Mark Sonnenfeld climbed a spectacular roof on Redgarden Wall, using some Stone Age drilling tactics to get the bolts in when they forgot a hammer. *Wasabe* (5.12b) climbs a shallow corner just left of *Psycho* and breaches the large roof above via upsidedown lunges; its well-protected nature has encouraged a number of ascents.

Over on the West Ridge, the sunny, south face of the tower above *Washington Irving* fell to Erik Johnson and Shawn Ennis. Christened *The Atom Smasher*, this all-too-obvious face and arete offers excellent climbing with nut and bolt protection.

A couple of other new routes also deserve mention. On Blob Rock in Boulder Canyon, the British team of Strappo and Simon Peck climbed the "thuggish but suave" flake just left of *Lichen to Like*, dubbing it *The Reamer* (5.11c). In Bear Canyon, Mike Downing and Dan Hare found more excellent pebble climbing right of *Megasaurus*, adding *Liquid Crystal* (5.11b) to this short wall.

—Dan Hare

BOULDER AREA

Wasabe (5.12b), Eldorado Canyon, Redgarden Wall. Start on *Psycho*, L to shallow corner, over roof L of *Psycho*. (FA: Dan Michael, Paul Piana, Mark Sonnenfeld, 2/88.)

The Atom Smasher (5.12), Eldorado Canyon, West Ridge. Face, arete of tower above *Washington Irving*. (FA: Erik Johnson, Shawn Ennis, 1987.)

Liquid Crystal (5.11b), The Flatirons, Bear Canyon. On 4th ridge on N side of canyon (approaching from E). Just R of *Megasaurus*, steep wall w/many pebbles. 5 bolts. (FA: Mike Downing, Dan Hare, 4/88.)

The Reamer (5.11c), Boulder Canyon, Blob Rock. L of *Lichen to Like*. Prominent flake on L edge of scooped wall, L onto easier ground. (FA: Strappo, Simon Peck, 3/88.)

UNAWEEP CANYON

New area revealed

Is the Black Canyon too committing, not accessible enough? Then try Unaweep Canyon, the Black's cousin, southwest of Grand Junction. Although practically unheard of outside a minute climbing community, Unaweep Canyon offers a variety of climbing, from straight-in jamming to steep face.

Rising 300' to 500' high, steep walls

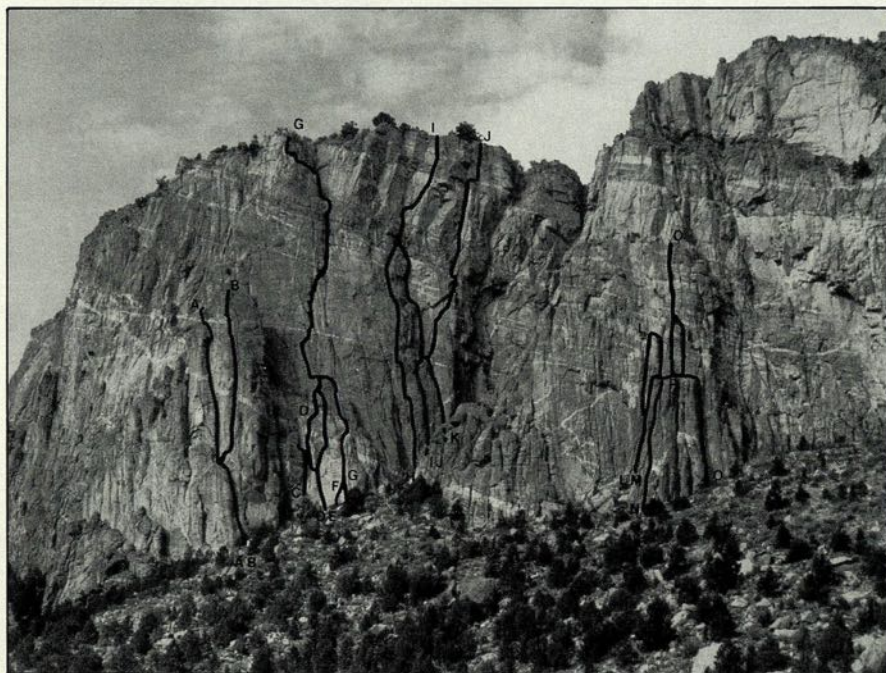
composed of a Precambrian, metamorphic, granite/gneiss complex line both sides of the canyon, thought to have been carved by the joint action of the diverted Colorado and Gunnison Rivers.

Driving up Unaweep Canyon from White Water, the first eye-catching feature is a bouldering haven in the Dakota Sandstone, which is exceptionally good near mile marker 150. Upon reaching the granite/gneiss complex, a first-time visitor will likely be craning from side-to-side to take it all in; expansive cliffs pop up for over 20 miles, most requiring only a 15-minute approach.

Although people have climbed in Unaweep Canyon for years, very little is known of early ascents. In the past few years, a small group of Grand Junction locals has begun to scratch the surface, developing the obvious, accessible cliffs. With the majority of the rock untouched, it is a new frontier for West Slope climbers, not to mention those traveling through Colorado on Interstate 70. And since cliffs are both north- and south-facing, Unaweep offers potential for year-round climbing, depending on the severity of winter weather.

Covering four of the most-developed cliffs, the accompanying photos and topos are a good sampling of what Unaweep has to offer.

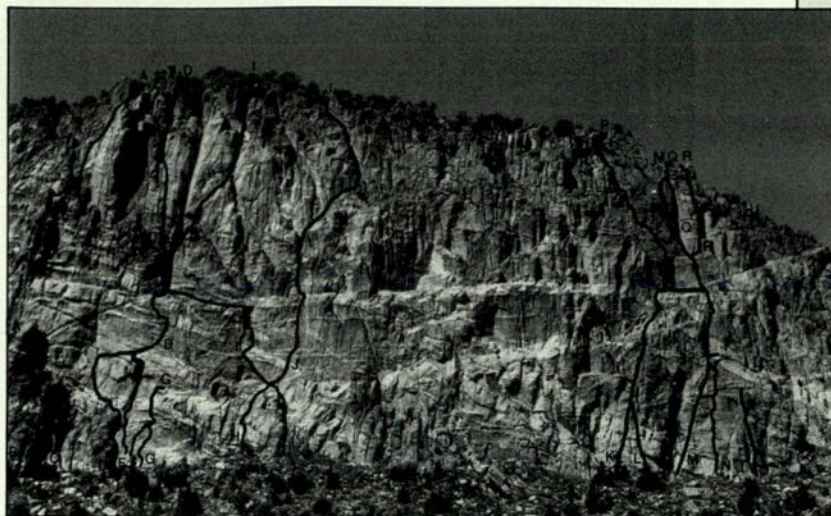
—Andy Petefish



MOTHERS BUTTRESS

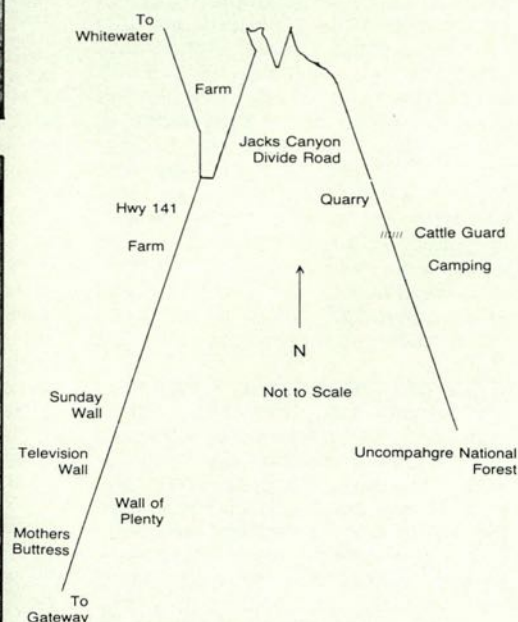
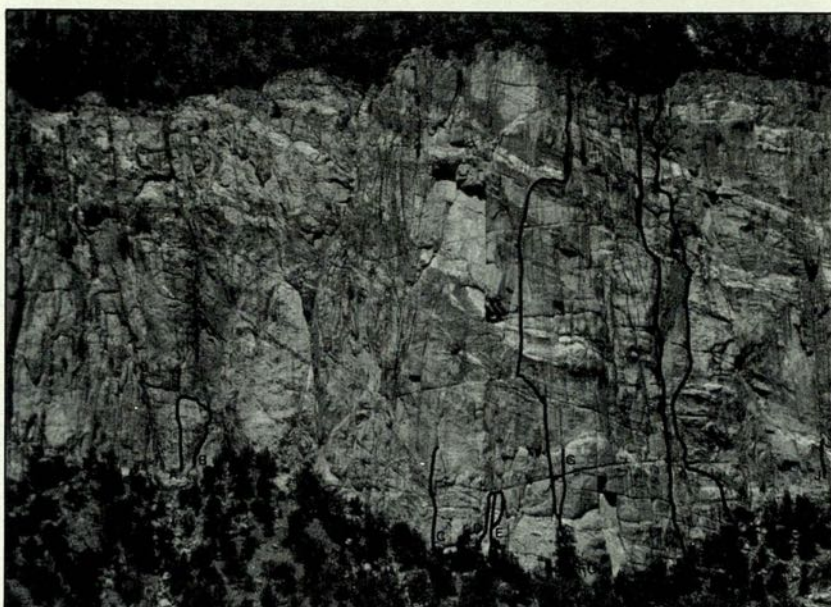
- A. Levitation (5.9).
- B. Just Right (5.10).
- C. Rat Trap (5.9).
- D. Cling Till Ya Fling (5.12a/b).
- E. Flight Without Wings (5.11d/5.12a).
- F. 3-D (5.11a).
- G. Titus Groan (5.10 III).
- H. Roll Away (5.10 III).

- I. Slip Sliding Away (5.10 III).
- J. Questions and Answers (5.10 III).
- K. Unnamed (5.9/5.10).
- L. White Lightning (5.11+).
- M. Jagged Edge (5.10+).
- N. Rise of the Phoenix (5.10-).
- O. First Impressions (5.8+).
- P. Variation (5.10).



SUNDAY WALL

- A. Napa Valley (5.11 III).
- B. Bandito (5.9 A1 III).
- C. Three's Company (5.7+).
- D. Bombs Away (5.9+ A1 III).
- E. Bridge of Air (5.12-).
- F. Simple Mind (5.10+/5.11-).
- G. Optical Illusion (5.11- A0).
- H. Antlers on Sunday (5.10).
- J. Unnamed (5.10 A? III).
- K. Standard Route (5.7).
- L. Black Dynamite (5.10).
- M. Sweet Sunday Serenade (5.9).
- N. Catch a Wave (5.10+/5.11-).
- O. Motion Fascination (5.11).
- P. High Exposure (5.8+/5.9-).
- Q. Sundancer (5.8+).
- R. The Gargoyle (5.10).

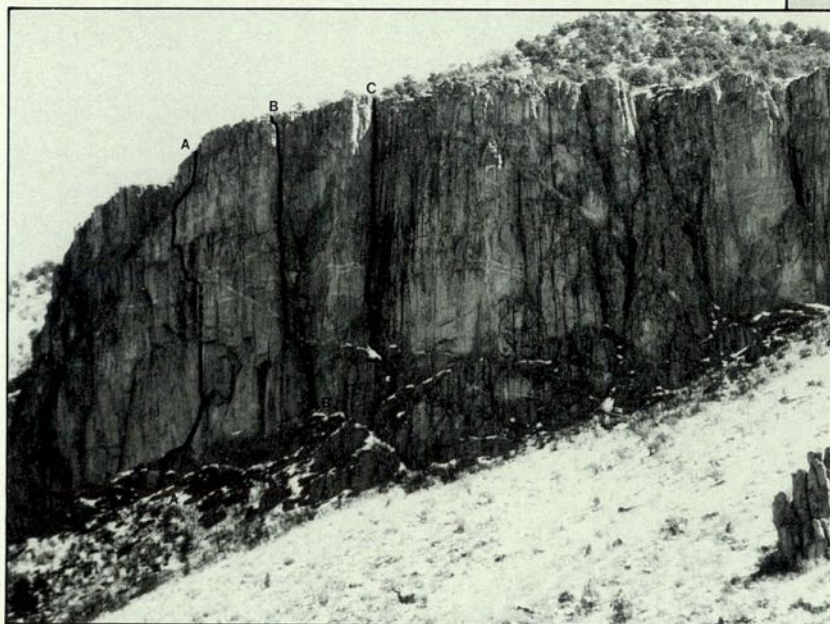


TELEVISION WALL

- A. Big Mo (5.11).
- B. Skank (5.8).
- C. Unnamed (?).
- D. Good One (5.6).
- E. Crystal Vision (5.10-).
- F. Coralee (?).
- G. Television Man (5.11+).
- H. Red to Black (5.10 A1 III).
- I. Unnamed (?).
- J. HBO (5.11).

WALL OF PLENTY

- A. Scimitan (5.9+ A1 III).
- B. Frederic the Giant (5.9 III).
- C. Black Dihedral (5.10- III).



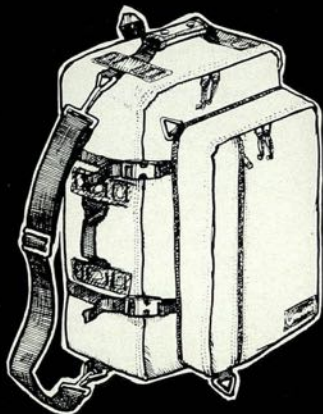
Access and camping

To reach Unaweep Canyon from Grand Junction, take Highway 50 south for 24 miles to the small town of White Water. Then, Highway 141 west winds through the Dakota Sandstone, and after 15 miles, the granite/gneiss complex is gained.

Good camping can be found along Jacks Canyon Divide Road (near mile marker 140) off Highway 141 in the Uncompahgre National Forest, which begins past a cattle guard approximately a quarter mile past the old quarry. More camping is available at the bouldering area lower down near mile marker 150, and there are some nice swimming holes nearby.

OUTBOUND

...Spirit of the Outdoors



OUTBOUND LIFETIME
GUARANTEE

**FOR DEALER INFORMATION
AND BROCHURE:**

U.S.A. - San Francisco 800-338-8143
Canada - Vancouver 800-663-9262
- Toronto 800-387-7064

ai

ALPINE INTERNATIONAL
ADVENTURE TRAVEL & MOUNTAINEERING

Director - Craig Ballenger

Step into Adventure!

Unique itineraries, competitive rates and personalized service throughout each step of Alpine International trips combine to create the experience of a lifetime. We invite you to join us on the adventures below:

HUASCARAN SUR - 22,205 FT.

The highest in the Cordillera Blanca.
July 1-16, 1988

PUB WALK - NORTHERN ENGLAND

There's more than just pudding to Yorkshire...explore it off the beaten path.
July 18th to 31st, 1988.

ANNAPURNA SANCTUARY CLIMBING SEMINAR

Practice technique and experience the Himalayas.
Oct. 1st to 26th, 1988.

VALLEY TO THE SKY TREK

The classic trek across Nepal to Khumbu.
Nov. 1st to 27th, 1988

BARUNTSE EXPEDITION

Test yourself on a stunning Himalayan Peak.
April 15th to May 21st, 1989

For more information, please phone or write:

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



COMPETITOR™

Trim and lightweight, the Competitor provides the basics — easy access to the 20-ounce water bottle and a comfortable fit. With the load positioned squarely in your center of gravity, it rides with you, not up and down you. The foam insulated bottle holster prevents wintertime freeze-up or summertime boil-over. Strap one on today and thirst no more. \$18.00 (Pouch optional)

The original
hydro pack —
used by the U.S.
and Canadian
Olympic Biathlon
Teams.

Fluid Moves...

On any route, seemingly minor details can make a substantial contribution to your success — like water. Ever been halfway up a three-pitch climb with cotton-mouth as dry as a chalk bag? Reach for water? Right. The Competitor™ from Ultimate Direction™ stems this gap between drinking fluids and carrying them with a sleek, foam-insulated hoister and snug-fitting water bottle. The waist belt lets you carry your chalk bag while bouldering, and is removeable so you can slide the hoister on a harness for day climbs. Available with accessory pouches to boost your comfort ratio and in eight hot colors to enhance your style. Wear one next time you climb and watch a small detail make a big difference.

ULTIMATE™
DIRECTION

Toll-Free (USA)
1-800-426-7229
(Massachusetts)
1-617-251-9713

High Performance Equipment for Endurance Sports.



photo by Bradford Washburn

K₂ aviation

- Expedition air support
- Early booking discount
- Climber bunk house
- We take your climb seriously

Mt. McKinley • Alaska

(907) 733-2291

Box 290C, Talkeetna, AK 99676

The Most Advanced Rope Management Equipment for Vertical Operations

Tools For:

- Industry
- Climbers



Forrest
Wonder Bar

- Rescue Teams
- Ski Lift Evacuations

Forrest
SAFETY PRODUCTS INC.

4550 Jackson Street, Denver, CO 80216
303/399-4623 Dept. CL

CALL OR WRITE FOR A FREE CATALOG

MONTANA

BOZEMAN

Crags of Sky: granite, limestone

Climbing activity in the canyons surrounding Bozeman has seen new enthusiasm since *Bozeman Rock* (see review this issue) was released last summer. Some of the more obscure routes remain hidden beneath moss and lichen but many are being resurrected and rediscovered by the small climbing community.

In Gallatin Canyon, 25 miles southwest of town, there was some new-route activity and exciting repeats. Meg Hall teamed with Kristen Drumheller and cruised many of the area's hardest lines. Fred Jones' on sight gardening resulted in the pleasant *Hooked In and Hanked Out*

(5.9). The guidebook author, Bill Dockins, established a dozen new routes, but refused to report them.

The Cube, a small formation south of Gallatin Tower, now sports several new routes, though details are sketchy. In the late fall, Drumheller and Dockins were busy bolting *The Third Power* (5.11d) and *Evergreen Arete* (5.11) on the north side.

South of the Towers, miles of limestone walls, previously climbed by Craig Zaspel and Jack Tackle, are now getting top roped and promise to be an exciting alternative to the canyons granite.

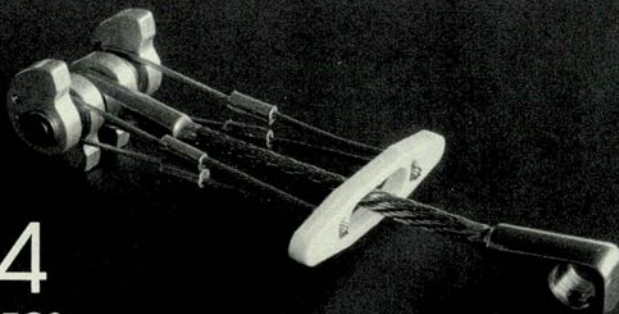
In Hyalite Canyon on Practice Rock,

EXTREME

and to think your name
might not be on the mailing
list of North America's
leading equipment supplier...

\$34
five sizes

toll
free 1-800-663-8170



EXTREME MOUNTAINGEAR

2-750 West 6th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. Canada V5Z 1A5, (604) 876-6720

Drumheller danced up the last moves on the improbable arete *Last of the Wild Ones* (5.12), left of *Tough Trip Through Paradise* (5.11). The unrepeated crux is reputed to be a size problem.

The Bozeman Pass limestone is visible from town and has beckoned climbers for years, repulsing all but the hardiest "Everest yellow band" aficionados. The area has seen a burst of interest this spring as curious locals test the rock. Tom Kalakay topoped a dozen interesting routes on the steep pocketed walls. Jungst borrowed Kalakay's drill and put up *Ethos Burned* (5.10), on the east end of the black band. Kalakay's *Fright Train* (5.11b) — named for the hobo who rode the runaway locomotive over the pass and into a 90mph derailment last fall — fires up the overhangs 40' left of *Ethos Burned*. Just to the left, Kalakay redpointed the short, but interesting *Moments Away From Manhood* (5.11d).

Homestake Pass, 80 miles west of Bozeman on I-90, just east of Butte, draws climbers from a 100-mile radius. The area has two small, loose-leaf climbing guides. Dragon's Back, a granite mountain split by the Interstate, is covered by 30 pages of topos and descriptions. In the Spire Rock formations, Dwight Bishop has produced many short, hard routes up to two pitches.

— Tom Jungst

GALLATIN CANYON

Spare Rib (5.8). 25 miles SW of Bozeman. Face of giant fin. (FA: Pat Callis, Jim Kanzler, 10/68.)

Gallatin Tower Standard (5.8). (FA: Kanzler, Barry Frost, and others, Fall/67.)

Ashes of Stone (5.9). (FA: Terry Kennedy, Donny Black, Scott Wade, Mindy Shulak, 6/80.)

Black Line (5.10). Classic. (FA: Kennedy, Kanzler, 77.)

The Fugitive (5.12). Thin crack. (FA: Bill Dockins, Kristen Drumheller, Tom Kalakay, 5/86.)

Triple Crown (5.10b). Dihedral L of *Dark Horse*, jam 5' roof. (FA: Dockins, 8/87.)

Hooked In and Hanked Out (5.9). Faces large hole, S of *Waltz*, above *Dense Pack*. (FA: Fred Jones, Jungst, 6/87.)

Scraping Bottom (5.9). Arete on Dregs formation, above bridge. Parallel cracks. (FA: Dockins, Jungst, Spring/87.)

HYALITE CANYON

Cardiac Arete (5.12). Practice Rock. Arete. (FA: Alex Lowe.)

Tough Trip Through Paradise (5.11). (FA: Kanzler; FFA: Lowe.)

The Last of the Wild Ones (5.12). (FA: Drumheller, Dockins, Fall/1987.)

BOZEMAN PASS

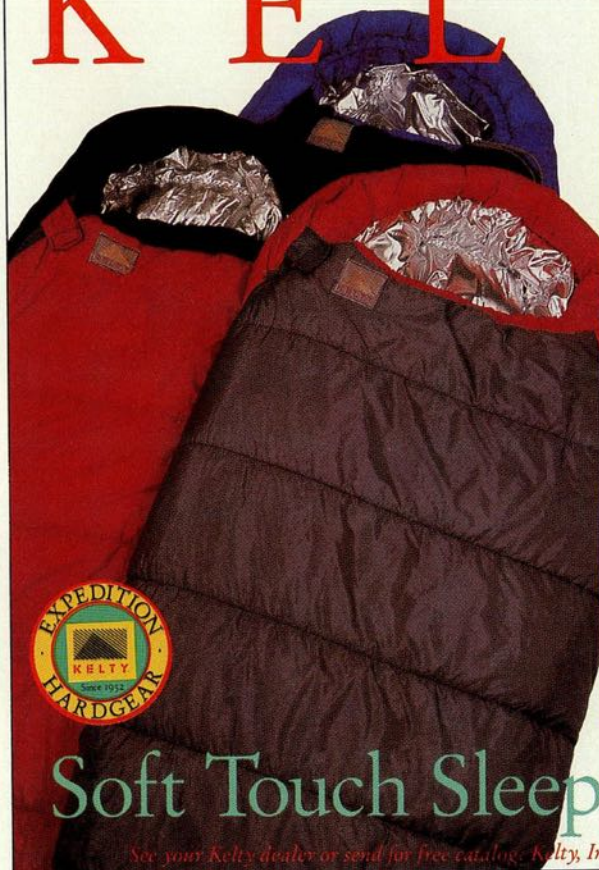
Dark cliff 500' above "Bozeman 6 miles" sign on Interstate 90 east of town.

Ethos Burned (5.10). Black Band. E end. Pockets. 6 bolts. (FA: Jungst, Kalakay, Paul Melgeorge, Steve Mock, Callis, 9/87.)

Fright Train (5.11b). Face R of dihedral, 30' L of *Ethos Burned*. 5 bolts. (FA: Kalakay, Dave Jones, Jungst, 9/87.)

Moments Away From Manhood (5.11d). Overhang L of *Fright Train*. 3 bolts (FA: Kalakay, Jungst, 9/87.)

KELTY®



A Totally New Concept In Sleeping Bag Construction

► Unique internal stretch construction gives the bag a life of its own — it moves as you move to trap body heat and give a soft, cozy feel.

► The Soft Touch eliminates convective air cells.

Inner foot section is constructed so you can't poke cold spots with your toes.

► Made of extremely high count nylon fabric, for super soft feel and stuffability.

► 3 exceptionally lightweight models: 20° F, 0° F, -15° F.

► Kelty Lifetime Warranty



Soft Touch Sleeping Bags

See your Kelty dealer or send for free catalog: Kelty, Inc., St. George, Utah 84770

the "33"

The "33" by Lowe is the lightest, easiest-to-use free climbing carabiner in the world. The ridges on the spine provide a positive grip during long reaches and the bent gate assures a quick clip. Its highly sculptured body saves weight while maintaining a safe profile for minimal rope damage.

Weight: 33gm.
Breaking Strength: 2250 kg.
Gate Open Strength: 750kg.
Cross Loaded Strength: 550kg.



the difference between evolution & revolution

P.O. Box 1449 • Broomfield • CO • 80020

PERFORMANCE.

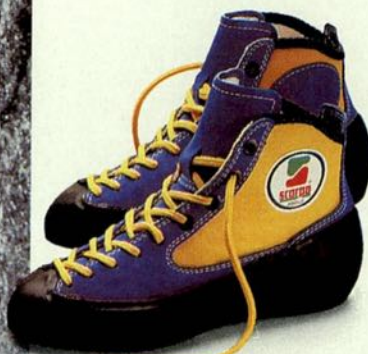
Scarpa Rockstars combine impeccable hand-made construction with a proven, technique-enhancing design, developed with the input of Scarpa's British technical advisors Chris Gore and Martin Atkinson. Softer and more sensitive than Scarpa Superatz, these comfortable, close-fitting shoes were designed for smearing and front-pointing on the fingery, high-angle limestone routes of Britain and France.

- Low-profile toes slot easily into solution pockets, and give the Rockstars a natural advantage in thin cracks.
- Anatomically correct lasts ensure comfort and enhance performance.
- Meticulous Scarpa construction allows repeated resoles.

In the year and a half since their introduction, the versatile Rockstars have proved their worth on rock of all types and angles, throughout the world. They are available now at fine climbing shops or directly from Great Pacific/Chouinard® at P.O. Box 90, Ventura.

Chouinard Equipment, Ltd.

245 W. Santa Clara
Ventura, CA 93001



© Chouinard Equipment, Ltd. 1988

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS

SIA show: climbers converge on Sin City

We teetered for a moment on the brink, the black hole of Utah night behind us, a glittering amoeba consuming the desert ahead. As we drove into the neon ghetto, the last of Jim "No one sleeps while I drive" Karn's *Dead Milkmen* tapes pounded to a close, ending 18 hours of vacant scenery and dense noise. Flashing casino lights berated us from all sides as we drove through the strip and back into the desert, crashing under the stars after a dinner of Tooth Sheaf Stout and chocolate chip cookies.

Dawn came far too early, followed quickly by hordes of enthusiastic boulderers intent on pumping out before 8:30. It doesn't sound normal, but this was no normal day. It was the first day of the Ski Industries of America (SIA) trade show. So, instead of setting out for the boulders ourselves, we clawed through piles of gear for semi-respectable, only slightly wrinkled clothes, and dusted off portfolios. Presto — migrant climbers turned working professionals.

Vegas looms gray in morning, but the show was hopping with its usual color and energy. Arriving at opening time, I noticed a lot of climbers already trolling the booths; in past years, most have typically spent SIA days climbing at Red Rocks, showing up in time for the nightly parties.

Especially apparent were the young cragmasters, honing in on potential sponsors. Rock climbing's steady growth bolstered by European influences appears to have loosened the purse strings of manufacturers and importers, although the stakes at Vegas were still low by European standards. Backroom bargaining was intense; top rock athletes are realizing the advantages of sponsorship over selling gear to stay another month in Smith Rock or Buoux. Judging by the significant number of contracts signed, their success gives new meaning to the term "Young, Upwardly Mobile Professionals."

Selling their "wares" alongside professional climbers, photographers, writers, the professional scam artists were ever present once again. Perhaps the best scam at the show was the press booth, where free sandwiches were available daily. Among other well knowns, the Burgess twins could be seen rubbing shoulders with

For 25 years, the only way to get a tent like this was to climb Everest...



...or Dhaulagiri ... or K-2
... or go on another Eureka!
equipped expedition.

Since 1963, when Eureka! went on the first successful American Everest Expedition, we have sheltered over 150 more. And learned from every one.

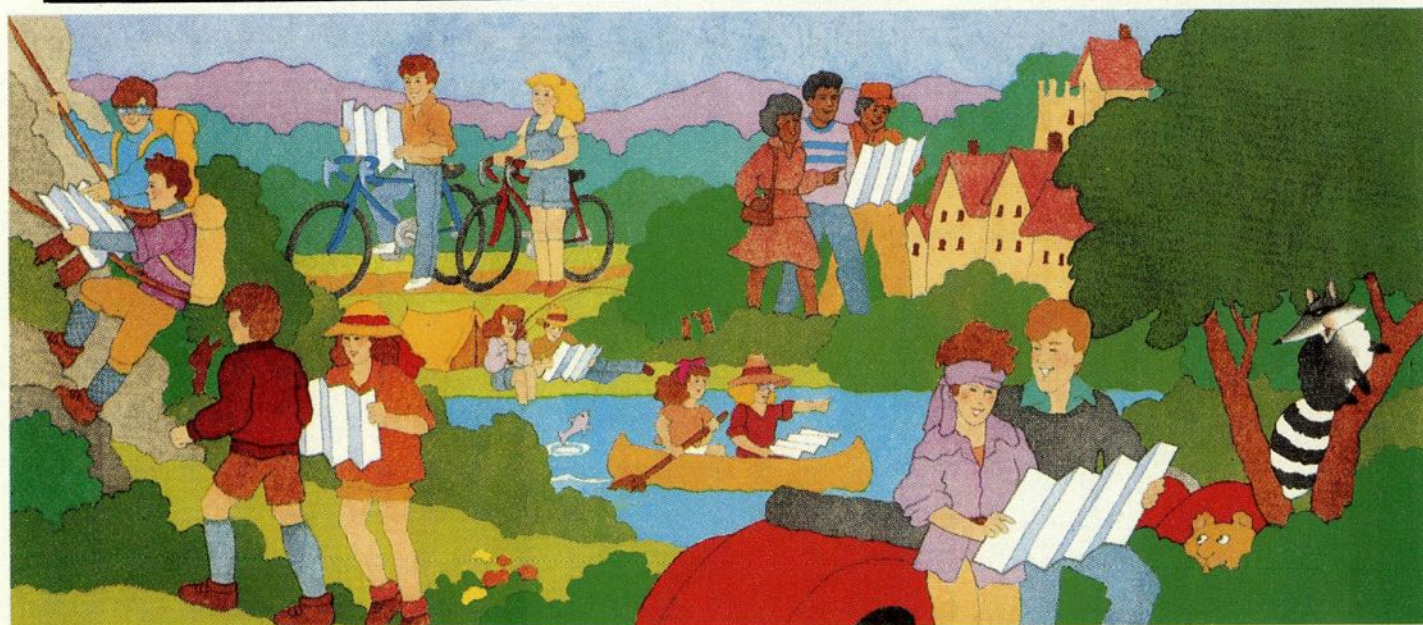
After 25 years of improvement, these Eureka! Expedition Tents are the finest tents money can buy. And now they're available (in limited quantity) through our dealers.

For a free brochure and dealer names, call Toll Free, **1-800-848-3673** (8-5, M-F, EST). In New York, call 1-800-441-4420. Box 966 • Binghamton, NY 13902

The StormShield™/EXP



Eureka!
Expedition



GO PLACES WITH USGS MAPS!

As a Map Dealer for the U.S. Geological Survey, you can sell the USA.

Fascinating details of topo maps reveal peaks and valleys, creeks and streams, backroads and trails. Just the ticket for weekend hiking, biking and camping trips. Or for locating certain university buildings in a college town. Even some student dorms or homes.

Sell USGS maps for decoration and education, too. A dramatic world map can fit the back of a door or cover an entire wall! Colorful and dramatic maps of Indian tribes, of

the historical territories of the U.S., routes of explorers and more—offer students new worlds to explore.

Lead the way as a USGS Map Dealer and expand your sales horizons.

For more information write or call:
U.S. Geological Survey, Map Dealer Program
MS 508 National Center Dept. CL
Reston, VA 22092
(703) 648-6883

USGS Maps. Stock a lot.

Photo by S. Peter Lewis

The heat is on.

International Mountain Equipment is ready for summer with all the latest hot climbing gear and cool clothing.

Write or call for new catalog
INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT
Box 494C - North Conway
NH 03860

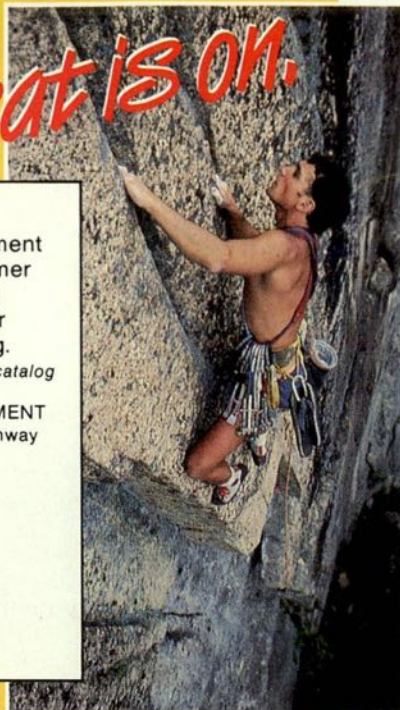
603-356-7013



RETAIL STORES:

IME
3064 Highland Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84118

IME
Main Street
North Conway, NH 03860



NEW GUIDE BOOKS SIERRA EAST SIDE

ALAN BARTLETT & ERRETT ALLEN

175 pages; 60 photos; topos; \$14.95

SOUTH PLATTE

GARDEN OF THE GODS - 11 MILE CANYON

PETE HUBBEL - MARK ROLOFSON - BOB D'ANTONIO

300 pages; 70 photos; topos; \$19.95

BOULDER

RICHARD ROSSITER

Volume I: 275 pages; 60 photos; topos; \$15.95

Available Soon!

from better mountaineering stores or



CHOCKSTONE PRESS

526 Franklin Street, Denver, CO 80218
(303) 377-1970

PETZL-EDLINGER : PERFECT MATCH

HARNESS
FINE TUNED!

Distributed in the USA by:
PMI, P.O. Box 803
Lafayette, GA 30728
404-764-1437 or 800-282-7673

PETZL

Photo : G. Kosicki / Conception : H. Armand

the editors of *G.Q.* and *Playboy*.

Another striking trend at the show was the decentralization of the camming device industry, evident in the wide variety of new gadgets. It seems that an even more difficult task than actually designing a unique piece of pro is naming it. If Rock & Rollers weren't bad enough, we now have Cads, Aliens, Jokers, Camelots, Micromates, Rokjox, Big Bros, Big Dudes, and even Balls.

Shoe companies wax a bit more poetic with names like Emotion, Passion, Fantasy, and Flashdance. Rock shoes transform yearly like chameleons, reflecting the ever-changing climate and color of the climbing scene. Boreal has expanded its line of shoes, with the introduction of the lowcut Jazz and the Ballet Point. Chouinard is now importing Scarpas, including the lowcut Prostar in fashionable purple and green. One Sport continues with the Resin Rose and the innovative edging shoe, the Frenzy. The new kid in town is Dolomite, imported by Metolius, offering three shoes and a slipper. With the myriad of specialized footwear now available, selecting a pair to suit you is no easy chore.

Winner of the "most fluorescent booth" award is Petzl, the French company known for their brightly colored harnesses, not to mention wild names. Their newest harness, the Guru, is an adjustable version of the popular Mutant. But the most dramatic display at the show was at the Wild Things booth, where harlequin-colored parapentes billowed above more mundane climbing equipment designed to keep one firmly attached to the rock or ice. During the past three years, the parapente craze has swept through Europe, and is making inroads in the States, leaving a swath of both confirmed addicts and injured victims in its wake. However, it may take a lot more refinement before parapentes become a truly viable alternative to rappelling.

Compared to the mania of previous shows, the after-hours social scene was more subdued this year. Notably absent at the parties were the young rockstars, who must have been taking their careers and bodies too seriously to bring in the dawn. Notably present after last year's absence was The Vermin, who could be found every night at six at the Norwegian Aquavit party, unmistakably clad in chic fake fur and Hawaiian-print smoking jacket. Sierra West, Hawaiian Tropic, and North Face all threw bashes at The Shark Club. Highlights of these rather ubiquitous evenings were dancing to bloody clips from *Jaws*, and watching the feeding of goldfish to aquarium sharks in the lobby. The unimpressed Metolius gang, after amping up on pots of espresso brewed over an artificial fire, held private skateboarding parties in their hotel room.

The biggest social event of the show took place early one morning at Red Rocks. In fantastic weather, hundreds flocked to the Second Annual *Climbing Magazine* Rocks n' Rolls Breakfast, obviously preferring sunburn to the frostbite prevalent at the 1987 event. After loading up on pastries, yogurt, and gallons of coffee, the throng gathered for the drawing, which included a variety of prizes from high-tech protection devices, to shoes, to ropes. The most ironic draw went to Heinz Mariacher of Sportiva, who won a pair of Fires. After the drawing, bouldering was the attraction, with Boreal, Scarpa, One Sport, Merrell, and Dolomite offering demo shoes. The boulders were as jammed as those at Fountainsbleau on a Sunday afternoon, making the Europeans feel right at home.

With more and more Europeans attending the show, I cringed at how a first-time visitor's impression of the United States may be warped by Las Vegas. The Italian contingent, Heinz Mariacher, Luisa Jovane, and Mr. Sportiva himself, Lorenzo Delladio, seemed unfazed, enjoying Vegas' dining fare, gorging daily at one of the all-you-can-eat buffets. Others, like Frenchman Paul Petzl, romped through the casinos, absorbed like a youngster in Disneyland. Another Frenchman, a designer/builder of walls for sport climbing competitions, got a bit too much into the American spirit, threatening to sue Metolius, saying they had a patent on hexagonal, climbing-wall tiles — until someone informed him that a Greek named Pythagoras actually holds the patent on the hexagon.

European influence on American climbing has generally been positive, and was evident in the major trends emerging at Vegas. Climbing walls and workout boards are all the rage, along with climbing competitions, clean living, power drills, climbing slippers, and rock climbing videos. Fading trends included ethical debates, Lycra, and substance abuse — except for caffeine and Motrin.

After six frantic days, I fled the convention center with a portfolio overstuffed with catalogs and notes, and headed for some rest and relaxation at Red Rocks. A day of sleep later, I stumbled into the monolithic sandstone embrace of Black Velvet Canyon. The walls were crawling with climbers fresh from the show, who'd shed their suits and ties, skirts and heels for a few days on the rock, forgetting fashion or anti-fashion, trend or non-trend, high-tech or low-tech. The primeval urge to climb and grovel around on rocks triumphs. Reassured, I buried my portfolio and nice clothes under ropes and hardware, and drove back across the desert.

—Beth Wald

**The VersaClimber
is one mountain
that you cannot climb
But with VersaClimber
conditioning you can
climb any mountain.**

**8 MODELS TO
CHOOSE FROM**

**Train
With
A Pack
On Your
Back**

**30-Inch
Push & Pull
Arms, Chest
Shoulders, Back
ABS, Hips & Legs**

AS SEEN IN ROCKY IV

**HEART RATE CONTROLLED
CONDITIONING USES
NASA TECHNOLOGY**

—HEART—RATE—INC—

**3186-G Airway Avenue
Costa Mesa, CA 92626-6601
(714) 850-9716**

OREGON

SMITH ROCK

Franklin puts up first American 5.14; Watts comeback leaves trail of hard routes

Activity at Smith Rock reached new highs in early 1988. A series of outstanding ascents solidified Smith's position as America's center of difficult free climbing. The area boasts the only two 5.14's and four of the five hardest routes in the country.

The most brilliant ascent came once again at the hands of Scott Franklin, who set his sights on the very steep wall left of *Rude Boys*. After several weeks of intense efforts and many redpoint attempts, he created *Scar Face* (5.14b). The route begins with a series of extremely powerful cranks between one- and two-finger pockets, and is followed by a technical layback/side pulls section topped off by a desperate move onto the finishing slab.

Franklin feels that *Scar Face* is even more difficult than *To Bolt or Not To Be*, making it the hardest route in this country. Rated by Franklin at French 8c, *Scar Face* equals the highest standard in the world today. In establishing *Scar Face*, Franklin not only claims the coveted prize of being the first American to pioneer a 5.14, but he also establishes himself as a world power in climbing.

Somewhat overshadowed by Franklin's successes were the accomplishments of Alan Watts. After years of finger problems, Watts regained top form during the winter, and established an impressive series of routes.

The hardest, *Vicious Fish* (5.13d), follows a shallow arete line immediately right of *Churning in the Wake*. Watts feels that this route is the most difficult he has ever done — harder than his 1985 effort on the *East*

Face of Monkey Face.

Watts managed first ascents of several other desperates, including *White Heat* (5.13b/c), *Waste Case* (5.13a/b), *Snack Crack* (5.13b), and *Dandy Line* (5.12d). He also repeated his old nemesis *Rude Boys* (5.13b/c).

Several other significant ascents fell to locals. *Choke on This* (5.13a) was climbed by rising star Kent Benesch. This highly technical line has seen many attempts at repeats, with only Watts succeeding. Brooke Sandahl established the popular *Dreamin'* (5.12a/b), and *Rawhide* (5.11d). Dan Goodwin made his mark by climbing the locally dubbed Mud Wall, giving *Sign of the Times* (5.12d).

Most of the hardest routes saw several repeats. Darius Azin's *Oxygen* (5.13a/b), saw quick repeats by Watts, Franklin, and Benesch. Other hard routes, such as *Churning in the Wake* (5.13a), and *Darkness at Noon* (5.13a), have now seen countless repeats.

Californian Kurt Smith made a visit to Smith and established *Sole Survivor* (5.11b) on Red Wall. This route was done in traditional style, with bolts placed on lead by hanging from hooks, much to the chagrin of outraged locals.

An unfortunate series of routes were established by visiting German climber Martin Grulich. Bolting with inadequate 3/8" screw eyes, better suited for hanging ferns than for climbing, Grulich established several crumbly new routes on some of the least appealing walls at Smith. After much pressure, both from locals and

the state parks, Grulich replaced some of his bolts, but many still remain.

In early spring, Martin Atkinson (U.K.) made the first flash ascent of *Kings of Rap* (5.12d) and the second flash of *Powder in the Eyes* (5.12c/d). Heinz Mariacher (Italy) also flashed *Kings of Rap*. Dale Goddard climbed impressively, flashing *Chain Reaction* (5.12c) and making a very fast (two day) ascent of *Rude Boys*. Jennifer Cole came away with the most outstanding female ascents. She flashed *Latin Lover* (5.12a) and *Rawhide* (5.11d), and made quick ascents of *Watts Tots* (5.12b) and *Latest Rage* (5.12b).

Remarkably, Smith's potential only seems to grow with each hard route done, and the possibilities seem endless.

—Chris Grover

SMITH ROCK

Note: Quickdraws are the only gear needed on the following routes.

Scar Face (5.14b), Christian Brothers. Overhanging wall 15' L of *Rude Boys* to steep slab/arete. America's hardest route. (FA: Scott Franklin, 3/88.)

Choke on This (5.13a), Christian Brothers. Line of bolts 25' R of *Boy Prophet*. (FA: Kent Benesch, 2/88.)

Dreamin' (5.12a/b), Christian Brothers. Face directly above start of *Boy Prophet*. Superb. (FA: Brooke Sandahl, 2/88.)

Rawhide (5.11d), Christian Brothers. Traverse route uphill from *Choke on This*. Immensely popular. (FA: Sandahl, 2/88.)

Barbecue the Pope (5.10b), Christian Brothers. Bolted face R of *New Testament*. Exceedingly popular. (FA: Sandahl, 1/88.)

Vicious Fish (5.13d), Morning Glory Wall. Shallow arete R of *Churning in the Wake*. 11 bolts. (FA: Alan Watts, 3/88.)

White Heat (5.13b/c), Morning Glory Wall. Seam L of *Da Kine Corner*. (FA: Watts, 3/88.)

Waste Case (5.13a/b), Morning Glory Wall. Face L of *Kings of Rap* to *Kings* to roof, exit L to *Vicious Fish*. (FA: Watts, 4/88.)

Dandy Line (5.12d), Morning Glory Wall. Seam 20' L of *Lion's Chair*. (FA: Watts, 1/88.)

Sign of the Times (5.12d), Morning Glory Wall. Crumbly wall between *Churning in the Wake*, and *Taco Chips*. (FA: Dan Goodwin, 12/87.)

Light on the Path (5.10a), Morning Glory Wall. Bolt line above the *Zebra* potholes. Loose. (FA: Alan Quine, 3/88.)

Tammy Baker's Face (5.9), Morning Glory Wall. 2-pitch face L of *Lion's Jaw*. Ugly. (FA: Michael Mahoney, 3/88.)

Snack Crack (5.13b), Picnic Lunch Wall. L arch of *Midnight Snack*. Very thin pin scars. (FA: Watts, 4/88.)

Highway to Hell (5.12a), Wooden Ships. Overhanging wall of mud w/bad bolts. (FA: Martin Grulich, 12/87.)

Ghost Rider (5.12b), Wooden Ships. Crumbly wall R of *Highway to Hell*. Bad bolts. (FA: Grulich, 12/88.)

Toxic (5.11b), Wooden Ships. Jugs R of start to *Solar*. (FA: Collin Lantz, Greg Robinson, 10/87.)

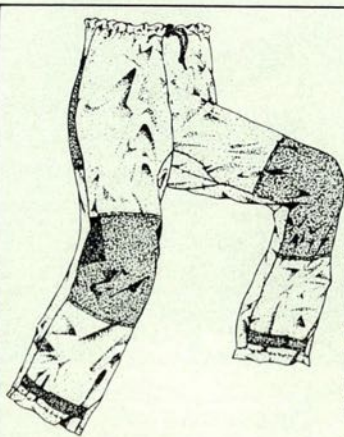
Flex Your Head (5.11c), Monkey Face. Direct face start to *Potential Energy*. (FA: Jim Davis, 3/88.)

Sole Survivor (5.11b), Red Wall. Edges L of *Gone with the Flake*. (FA: Kurt Smith, 4/88.)

Chop My Route and I'll Break Your Jaw (5.9), Hospital Buttress. Wall L of *Knockout Punch*. (FA: Mark Hookman, 4/88.)

Corrections

Spartacus on *Picnic Lunch Wall*, is the left route, and *Appian Way* is to the right. Tom Herbert followed both routes on the first ascent. Mick Puddy, not Mark, did *Drill Em* and *Fill Em*.



STORM PANTS FROM THE RAINY NORTHWEST!

STORM PANTS are made from Biotex Industries Bion II, an extremely waterproof, breathable fabric. They feature double knees and seat, with a diamond crotch gusset, elastic drawstring waist, and velcro cuffs. Colors: navy or red with contrasting seat & knees. \$48.00 + \$3.00 shipping (specify waist size)

Lipke Extreme Use Equipment, LTD.
1055 N. State St. SPC
Bellingham, WA 98225
(206) 733-0766

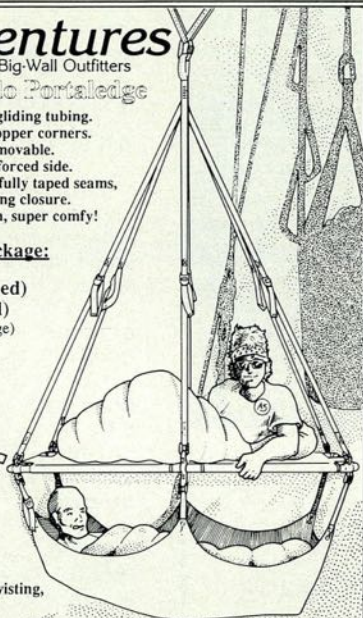
(Remember our Famous Bivy Sac, still \$97.00!)



A5 Adventures
Big-Wall Outfitters
Wall Condo Portaledge

- Frame: 6061-T6 Aluminum hang-gliding tubing.
- Corners: High-alloy replaceable copper corners.
- Suspension: Easy to adjust and removable.
- Bed: Packcloth with ballistics reinforced side.
- Fly: Heavy-duty oxford storm fly, fully taped seams, reinforced on the wall-side, drawstring closure.
- Condo: Fully adjustable, packcloth, super comfy!

Complete 2 man system package:
(ledge, fly, and condo)
Regular: \$275 (24" x 72" bed)
Large: \$285 (27" x 81" bed)
(Order direct: please add \$5.00 postage)
Weight: 12 pounds for the complete 2-man system.



Easy to set up, and way bomber.
Outside corner system eliminates twisting, parallelograming, hourglassing.

send for free 1988 Big-Wall catalog
A5 Adventures 1109 S. Plaza Way #286
Big-Wall Outfitters Flagstaff, Az. 86001
or order by phone (602) 779-2088

American Alpine Institute Ltd.

CLIMBING IN NORTH AMERICA

Alpine Mountaineering - 6, 12, & 18-day courses including alpine ascents and 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 - Comprehensive coverage of advanced skills & state-of-the-art techniques for all snow & ice types. Previous experience required. Cascades & Bolivia.

Expedition Training - Himalayan & Alpine styles of ascent; avalanche hazard evaluation; snow & ice climbing skills; glacier skiing; rescue techniques; in the Cascades & Alaska.

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.

MEXICO

Baja Rock Climbing - Basic, intermediate, & masters' levels; climbing & instruction on granite walls & sea cliffs above warm Pacific waves & the sandy beaches of Cabo San Lucas.

Volcano Ascents - Intro. to high altitude climbing & review of basic snow & ice technique; 1 & 2 wks. on N. America's 7th, 5th & 3rd highest summits, 17,343' to 18,850'.

PERU, BOLIVIA & ECUADOR

Mountaineering in Peru & Bolivia - Instruction at basic & adv. levels & ascents on 17,000'-21,201' peaks. Acclimatization at 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' peaks.

Ecuador - 2-week trips on peaks 18,997' to 20,561'; optional instructional itinerary. Acclimatization visiting highland markets & day hiking on the Equator; hot springs; Galapagos.

Natural History Treks - 1 & 2 wks.; Peru, Bolivia & Patagonia.

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 - Including Marsyandi Valley, Thorong La, Tibetan frontier; trek only or ascend Chulu West (21,602'), Thorong (20,096'), & Muktinath (21,021').

PATAGONIA

Fitzroy National Park - Parkland & glacier backpacking; alpine ascents of two peaks near Fitzroy & Cerro Torre.

Torres del Paine National Park - Alpine lakes; Patagonian Ice Cap; ascent near the Towers; trek or climb.

PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

Snow Physics & Avalanche Hazard Evaluation - 2, 5, & 7-day courses throughout North America, November thru May.

Medicine for Mountaineering - CME & lay programs.

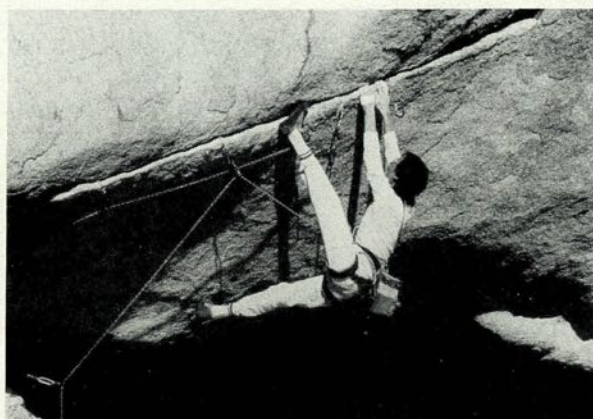
Rescue & Evacuation - 3 & 6-day programs throughout N. Am.

EXPEDITIONS OPEN TO APPLICATION

Aconcagua (22,835'), Argentine Andes, February
Langtang Lirung (23,735'), Nepal, March
Foraker (17,400'), Alaska Range, April
McKinley (20,320'), Alaska Range, May & June
Satopanth (23,213'), Western Garhwal, June
Alpamayo (19,511'), Cordillera Blanca, June
Huascaran (22,205'), Cordillera Blanca, June & July
Salcantay (20,574'), Cordillera Vilcabamba, July
Ancohuma (21,905'), Cordillera Real, August
Illampu (20,873'), Cordillera Real, August
Nun (23,410'), Zaskar, India, September
Chulu West (21,060'), Annapurna Himal, October
Lobuche (20,076'), Khumbu Himal, November

For free brochures call or write:

AAI, 1212 24th C-12, Bellingham, WA 98225
Call (206) 671-1505



HIDETAKA SUZUKI ON "WHEN YOU'RE A JET" 5.11 D
JOSHUA TREE, CA. PHOTO MICHIKO SUZUKI

ALIENS^{BY}

COLORADO CUSTOM HARDWARE

RADICAL 4 CAM UNITS IN 7 SIZES, 3/8" TO 2 1/2"

WRITE P.O. Box 5353
Durango, CO 81301
CALL 303-247-9385



VISA/MC ACCEPTED SATISFACTION GUARANTEED



Outdoor Research

innovative designs for outdoor recreation

- Modular Mitts™
- Expedition Modular Mitts™
- Modular Mukluks™
- Crocodiles™
- X-Gaiters™
- AT-Gaiters™
- A Hat For All Seasons™
- Seattle Sombrero™
- Water-Bottle Parka™
- First Aid Kits
- Crampon Pouch
- Rope Bag

Ask for our free full-color catalog describing these and many more of the most advanced accessories around.

Outdoor Research

1000 1st Ave. So. • Seattle, WA 98134 • 800-421-2421

... Introducing The New Integral Unishelter

Fully machine taped seams,
self standing,
at only 1 lb. 13 oz.



Write or call for information on our full range of Lightweight Shelters



INTEGRAL DESIGNS

P.O. Box 7531, Station E, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3C 3M3
Telephone: (403) 281-1535

WASHINGTON

WENATCHEE, LEAVENWORTH

Paragliding takes off in the Northwest

Paragliding is slowly becoming an integral part of the climbing scene. In these interests, we have summarized some of the more interesting flights done in the Northwest.

Around Wenatchee, two hours east of Seattle, there are a number of hills from which to fly, most of which offer excellent and relatively safe practice for bigger terrain. The Leavenworth area offers all of this and more.

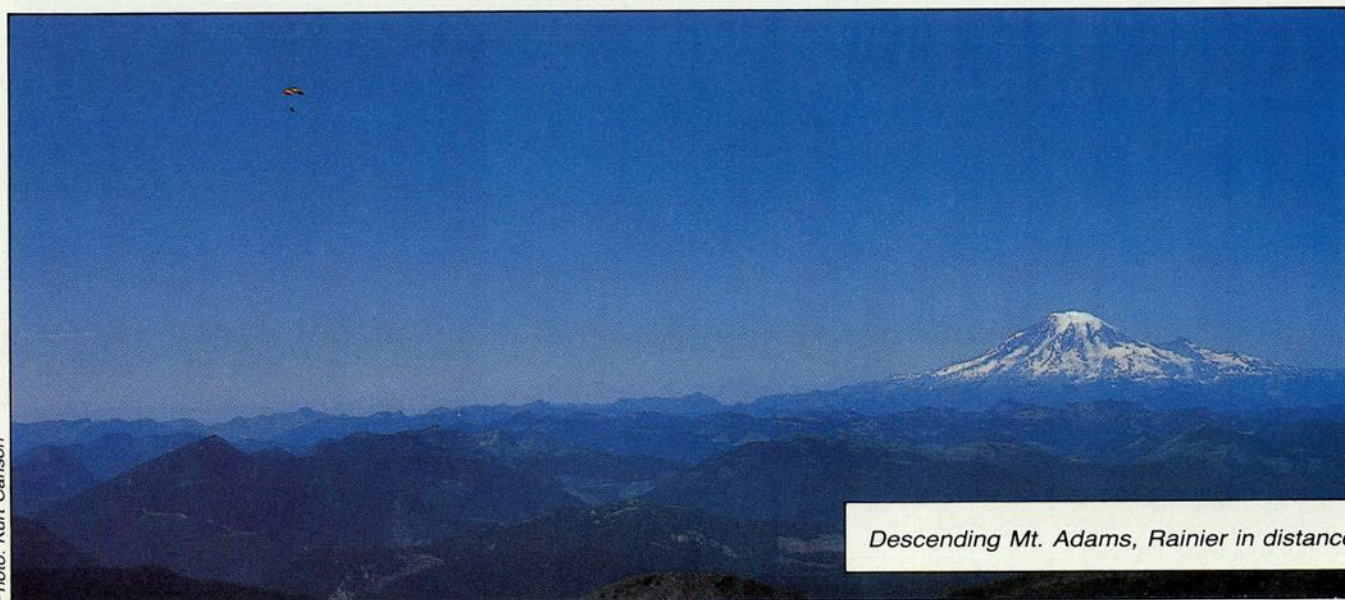
The Icicle Valley (in Leavenworth) offers some spectacular and more advanced flights. Depending on winds, one can fly either direction from near the summit of Mt. Cashmere (8500'). An excellent flight with a shorter approach can be made from the 7200' east shoulder of Mt. Cashmere. From either, a landing zone 0.8 miles down the road from the Johnny Creek Campground can be reached; or one can land at the turnoff to Eight Mile Rock.

A somewhat more dangerous flight can be made from Cannon Mountain above Coney Lake, landing at the Stuart Lake trailhead — a nice way to complete a trip into the Enchantments. One can take off in either direction above Coney Lake; if the take off is to the south, one must fly over the ridge which runs northeast. The approach to landing at the Stuart Lake trailhead is tricky, so you should plant flags up and down the roadway. This is not recommended for beginners.

Probably the most enjoyable flight into the Icicle Valley is from the 7763' summit above Big Slide Creek. One can third class from the Icicle River Road up Big Slide Creek in three-to-four hours. The scenery is spectacular and the flight very pleasant. The takeoff is easy and can be done in a variety of winds. Pick a landing zone at the Icicle River Road.

Mt. Stuart offers a variety of flight opportunities. On July 4th, 1987, we climbed the Cascadian Couloir and flew back to our car in about ten hours round-trip. About 200' below the false summit we found a safe take-off zone — there was an impending storm — but with perfect winds, one could take off from the true summit. When we took off, some climbers told us we were crazy. I landed at Stuart Meadows, while Jeff flew straight toward Long's Pass, landing in a small meadow below the pass.

Then, we walked to Long's Pass, and took off from the ridge above the Teanaway Valley. From there we had a pleasant flight, except for the panic



Descending Mt. Adams, Rainier in distance.

upon discovering that the parking lot landing zone was completely full of cars. As we were driving along the Blewett Pass Highway back toward home, the storm we had seen from the summit hit us — rain, hail, and raging winds. Jeff said, "Yeah, we're crazy, and those other guys are still up on the mountain trying to survive this storm."

The only reasonable takeoff for flying from the summit of Mt. Stuart north toward Stuart Lake is above the Sherpa Glacier, or perhaps the Ice Cliff Glacier. There is almost always a light wind from the west or southwest. One could probably wait for weeks for the right conditions to take off to the north.

South Ingalls Peak offers a pleasant flight to Ingalls Lake. The take off can be quite safe and one can land at either end of the lake.

A sensational descent can be made from Mt. St. Helens. On June 26th we flew off the summit to 1/4 mile from the parking lot — in eight minutes.

On August 2nd, Jeff, Kurt Carlson and I climbed the Adams Icefall on Mt. Adams, taking eight and a half hours to reach the summit; the flight back to camp took only nine minutes! The whole north side is dotted with perfect little meadows and snowfields which make for perfect landing zones.

Mt. Baker has also been done. If one climbs any of the Coleman Glacier routes, there is a good landing zone about 1/4 mile down the road from the Heliotrope Ridge parking lot.

Ski areas also offer a variety of flights. A lovely winter or summer flight is from Big Chief Mountain to the gravel pit in the Mill Creek Valley. In the winter, of course, it's a short ski up the ridge to the summit from the top of the new double diamond chair lift at Stevens Pass.

An important precaution is to fly away from the chairlifts. Besides

being dangerous to paraglider pilot, it would also be inconvenient for skiers on the lift, and a new hassle for the ski patrollers.

As for flying in National Parks, the Park Service enforces a "no flying except in designated areas" rule. Eventually, we may be able to get special permission to do specific descents within National Parks. Hopefully, rulings against paragliding in National Parks will become more reasonable and slowly disappear.

Meanwhile, on Forest Service land, the Leavenworth District Ranger said, "It is illegal to use parasails in wilderness..." If this cannot be changed, most of the flights listed above and

most all the great flights to be had are illegal.

In any case, we have obtained the support of the American Alpine Club, and others; with their help we hope to change some of the rules prohibiting paragliding.

Granted, now that we've become hooked to paragliding, we've done less technical climbing, but we've done a lot more exploring and experienced a lot more beautiful alpine scenery. We have each logged over 150 flights, over 200,000' of descent, and have barely scratched the surface of paragliding possibilities in the Northwest.

—Mark Shipman, Jeff Splittgerber

Area	Take off Difficulty	Landing Difficulty	Vertical Descent	Horizontal to Vertical Ratio
Icicle Valley Mt. Cashmere	Intermed.	Easy	6000'	2.6
Big Slide (Icicle ridge)	Easy	Easy	5200'	2.1
Cannon Mt.	Intermed.	Tricky	4-5000'	3.1
Mt. Stuart	Intermed. (just below false summit)	Intermed. (Ingalls Cr. Valley)	2000'	2.0
Teanaway Ridge	Easy (¾ mile S. Long's Pass)	Tricky	6000'	3.0
Mt. Adams	Easy (take off to N)	Easy ("high camp")	4400'	3.0
Mt. St. Helens	Easy (South)	Easy (E of parking lot)	2000'	3.0
Stevens Pass Big Chief Mt.	Intermed.	Easy (Mill Cr.)	1200'	2.9
Norse Peak	Easy (W. near summit)	Easy (old ski area)		2.1

INDEX

Underrated hotspot

Just about everyone's heard of Index Town Wall, but it's not acknowledged as a significant rock climbing area, even by many Seattle climbers. Indeed, Index is underrated.

Although a small area, Index is concentrated — climbs are often less than 25 feet apart — making it easy to pack a lot of climbing into a day. The climbing at Index is best described as airy; the convex-shaped lower wall is 350' high and vertical for the first 200'. It is renowned for high-quality cracks, but, during January and February, 1988, seven bolted face routes were added, and there's room for plenty more.

Until just a few years ago, the area had mostly filthy aid routes. Concerted efforts of a handful of activists, including Greg Olsen, Darryl Cramer, John Nelson, Greg Collum, and Greg Child, transformed many of these into sparkling free climbs. One of the most famous aid cracks to be freed was the spectacular *City Park* (5.13c), climbed by Todd Skinner in 1986.

On the lower wall, five climbs (a total of twelve pitches), receive nearly all of the traffic at Index. Most notable and most popular is *Godzilla* (5.10d), a fine three-pitch crack climb. The first pitch is dead vertical for 120', and qualifies as one of the best 5.9 pitches anywhere. Another classic combines *Heart of the Country* and *GM* for three pitches of 5.10a crack climbing with an optional 5.11a thin crack finish. My favorite is the lower cracks of *Japanese Gardens* topped off with the upper face of *Ten Percent*, giving five spectacular pitches, three of which are 5.11+. The start is particularly exhilarating: 90' of arm-burning hand cracks lead to a delicate 40' thin crack crux.

The remaining 80 pitches in the area receive little if any traffic. Part of the reason is difficulty — over 60 percent of the established pitches at Index are 5.11 or harder. And 5.11 at Index can be stiff, if not 5.12. It seems surprising that nearly all of the less popular pitches are good climbs.

There are around 20 more routes on the 600' upper wall; however, most are unwilling to hike 45 minutes to get to them. (The approach to the lower wall takes about a minute.) They tend to be dirtier, with one exception: *Davis Holland* (5.11c or 5.10b A1). This six-pitch route is very popular and clean.

Photo: Larry Kemp



Greg Collum on Kite Flying Blind, (5.11c).

As for weather, it is the Northwest, and when it rains, it pours. The area gets about 100 inches of rain a year. But the wall faces south, and dries quickly. In the spring when it's 40° at admittedly drier Leavenworth, it can be in the mid-60's at Index. And when the weather is bad, there's always the indoor Vertical Club in Seattle.

—Larry Kemp

INDEX TOWN WALL RECOMMENDED ROUTES

Godzilla (5.10d), Main Area. 1) 5.9, vertical hand crack. 2) 5.10a, vertical hand crack. 3) 5.10d, lower-angle thin crack.

Princely Ambitions (5.8), Main Area. 2 vertical pitches. Var to 2nd pitch: *Dr. Sniff* (5.10c), thin crack. A 3rd pitch can be added: *Newest Industry* (5.10d), well-protected slab.

Japanese Gardens to Ten Percent (5.11d), Main Area. 1) 5.11d, thin crack crux. 2) 5.11d, thin crack crux. 3) 5.10a, face. 4) 5.11c, face. 5) 5.10d, face.

Thin Fingers/Narrow Arrow Direct (5.11a), Main Area. Hand and finger crack. 2 pitches.

Var to 2nd pitch: *Death to Zeke* (5.11c), strenuous layback to face.

Heart of the Country/GM (5.11a), Heart of the Country area. 1) 5.9. 2) 5.9. 3) 5.11a. Var to 2nd pitch: *Phone Calls from the Dead* (5.11b), well-protected face.

Racer-X (5.10d), Lower Lump. 1) 5.10d, face. 2) 5.10a, face. Var to 2nd pitch: *Metal* (5.11d) and *Beetle Bailey Arch* (5.11a).

References

Index Town Walls, by Jeff Smoot and Darryl Cramer. Currently out of print, but may be available at local shops. Several other guidebooks are available, but are hopelessly out of date. A new guidebook is expected by late fall, 1988.

Getting There and Camping

From Seattle, take Highway 2 (Stevens Pass highway) to Index. Turn left at the Bush House restaurant and follow this road along the river for about a mile to the parking lot on the right. From downtown Seattle, travel time is approximately 1 1/4 hrs.

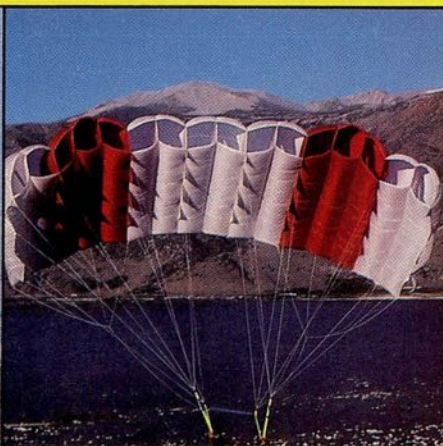
There are camping spots along the river. The best is directly across the street from the crag. For a bit of the "real Northwest" try the Index Tavern. The Index Cafe serves a good breakfast at a reasonable price.

SUMMIT MAGIC

THE MOST STABLE PARAGLIDER



LIVE TO CLIMB
CLIMB TO FLY



SUMMIT MAGIC

PARAGLIDER Manufactured by
QUANTUM PARACHUTES INC.

CLIMBING/PARAPENTE HARNESS
Manufactured by YATES GEAR INC.

Distributed by SUMMIT MAGIC INC.

% HIGH ADVENTURE SPORTS

2765 Bechelli Lane

Redding, CA 96002

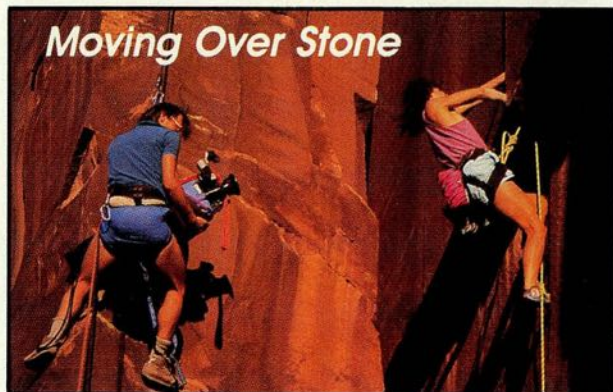
(916) 222-4606 or 221-1192

WHERE PERFORMANCE
AND QUALITY COUNTS!



SUMMIT MAGIC is the only Paraglider using
Patented Multiple Pressure Centers and Span Wise Tension
2.75:1 Aspect Ratio, 4:1 Measured Glide Ratio.
Available in 220, 240, 260, and 280 sq. ft.

Moving Over Stone



A Climber's video...

learn movement and balance on rock
from the best with:

Todd Skinner	Smith Rock
Lynn Hill	Yosemite
Dale Bard	Tuolumne
Peter Croft	at Canyonlands
Jerry Moffatt	Buttermilk
Bobbi Bensman	High Country
Stefan Glowacz	

Narrated by Doug Robinson

Dealer Inquiries Welcomed

Send check or money order for \$39.00 plus \$2.50 S&H
(California residents add 6.5% tax) to:

Range of Light Productions

P.O. Box 2906, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

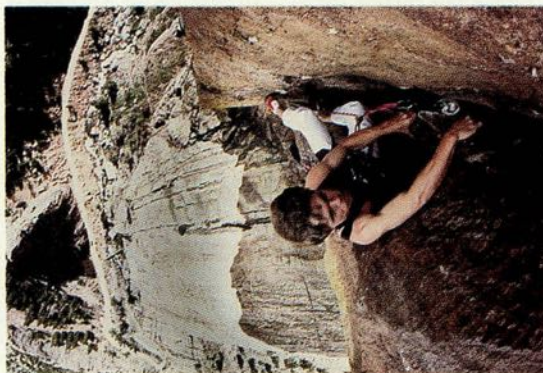
(619) 934-4653 for info.

CARP



Mountaineering, Inc.

*The Art of Climbing
as a Discipline of Awareness*



SCHOOL OF CLIMBING ARTS
INSTRUCTION & GUIDED ASCENTS

Call or write for information
1404 Hawthorn Ave.
Boulder, Colorado 80302
(303) 443-3910

K A M E T

Joshua Tree



Flash



Fantasy



Kamet has the stickiest rubber.

Tony Yaniro on The Titanic (5.12+), The Needles, Southern Sierra.

Distributed by Liberty Mountain Sports, P.O. Box 306, Montrose, CA 91020

1-800-366-2666 Ext. K

Photo: Randy Leavitt

WEST VIRGINIA

NEW RIVER GORGE

Bubba City wrapup; 1988 in with a bang

After a banner year in 1987, activists at the New took advantage of some unusually warm weekends last January, starting off the 1988 season with a bang. The area's very compact sandstone already holds over 700 routes, some reputed to be among the finest in the East. Now that the word is out, locals are seeing more and more visitors, and expect this year to be the busiest ever.

At the Ambassador Buttress, Eddie Begoon and Mike Artz struck first, unlocking a delicate sequence that had eluded them last season. *Reefer Derby* (5.12c) was added to the growing list of Ambassador classics.

The second strike took place two weeks later at Bubba City, where Begoon put up the Ames Wall's first 5.12. *Bubba Black Sheep* (5.12a/b) climbs a steep, continuous black face, dominated by thin edges and long reaches.

Late March brought the addition of three 5.12's at the Bridge Buttress, which previously offered only one 5.12 toprope. Interestingly, each of the new routes is characterized by a different type of climbing. The first to drop was *Mega Magic* (5.12b), as Eric Horst continued his impressive string of first ascents. Breaching the face just right of *Angels Arete*, it involves a series of thin, sequential cranks between horizontal seams — simply a must for the thin face connoisseur.

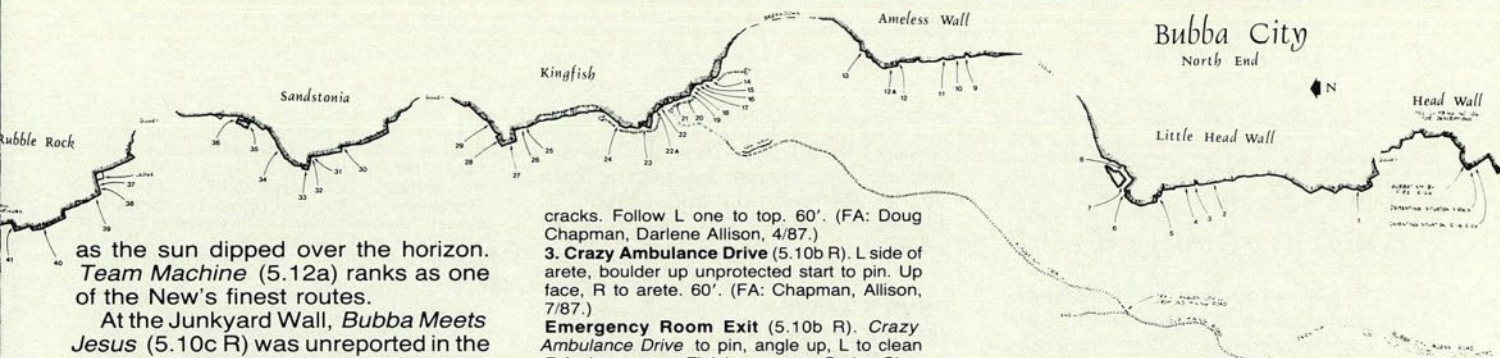
Thirty feet to the right, Stuart Pagnall powered up a steep, pumpy face to produce *Frenzyed* (5.12a), pulling off the crux lunge near the top. And the final route, perhaps the best of the three, lay hidden under a thick layer of lichen until Rick Thompson cleaned it on rappel, uncovering an impeccable blunt white arete. Horst took the honors, and fired off the lead

KINNALOA

softwear

CHALK BAGS T-SHIRTS
QUALITY SEWN GEAR

AVAILABLE AT FINER MOUNTAIN SHOPS
Box 60115, San Diego, Ca. 92106 619-429-7753



as the sun dipped over the horizon. **Team Machine** (5.12a) ranks as one of the New's finest routes.

At the Junkyard Wall, **Bubba Meets Jesus** (5.10c R) was unreported in the 1987 wrap-up (Basecamp, *Climbing* no. 106). Located just left of the popular **Team Jesus**, the route was apparently topoped a number of times before being led on minimal protection, leaving the "onsight leader" with a horror-show runout near the top.

The following route listing is the last in a three-part series chronicling the development of Bubba City, where over 150 routes were established last year (Basecamp, *Climbing* nos. 105, 106). The accompanying maps can be referenced to the overview map in *Climbing* no. 105.

The National Park Service, which has been very receptive to climbing in the New River Gorge, plans to install a "Climber's Bulletin Board" at the Bridge Buttress. As well as informing climbers of cliff closures for peregrine falcon nesting, locations of perilous wasp nests, and other helpful information, it will also serve as a voluntary registration point for a Park Service survey on the number of climbing user days at the New. Climbers are urged to sign in to insure the accuracy of the survey.

—Rick Thompson

BRIDGE BUTTRESS

Frenzyed (5.12a). 1st 10' of *The Layback*, up and L to stance on face just R of *Blunder and Frightening*, then R and up to bolt. Up to horizontal, step L (pin), straight up. 45'. (FA: Stuart Pregnell, Eric Horst, Rick Thompson, 3/88.)

Mega Magic (5.12b). Start at *Angels Arete*, up and R to bolt, up past 2 pins. 60'. (FA: Horst, S. Pregnell, Thompson, Karen Pregnell, 3/88.)

Team Machine (5.12a). 20' R of *Raptured* on R side of face. Up to good, slanting slot, up to bolt, R to short ramp, then past 2 bolts and pin. 85'. (FA: Horst, Thompson, 3/88.)

AMES WALL

Bubba Black Sheep (5.12b). 25' R of *Gone With The Bubba* just L of arete. Face w/pin to stance below bolt. Straight up face w/another pin. 50'. (FA: Eddie, 1/88.)

AMBASSADOR BUTTRESS

Reef Derby (5.12c). On L-hand wall of dihedral downstream from *Chasing Rainbows*. Face past bolt at 20' to horizontal, up, R. 60'. (FA: Begoon, Artz, 1/88.)

JUNKYARD WALL

Bubba Meets Jesus (5.10c R). 10' L of *Team Jesus*. Face to pin, up, slightly R past horizontal. 55'. (FA: Dave Merrit, et al, 6/87.)

LITTLE HEAD WALL

1. **An Affair With The Heart** (5.7). Just L of arete. R-facing, L-curving flake to top. 50'. (FA: Mike Artz, Amy Boyer, 5/87.)

2. **The Hunger Artist** (5.10b). Low-angle face to cracks, angle up, R to pair of diverging

cracks. Follow L one to top. 60'. (FA: Doug Chapman, Darlene Allison, 4/87.)

3. **Crazy Ambulance Drive** (5.10b R). L side of arete, boulder up unprotected start to pin. Up face, R to arete. 60'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 7/87.)

Emergency Room Exit (5.10b R). **Crazy Ambulance Drive** to pin, angle up, L to clean R-facing corner. Finish same as *Cruise Slut*. 70'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 7/87.)

4. **Cruise Slut** (5.10a). 25' R of the large corner at small R-facing corner. Up, traverse L to seam w/small pine to clean R-facing corner to 2nd roof, traverse 25' R to top. 75'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 5/87.)

5. **Apostrophe** (5.10a). Start at obvious low roof, short hand crack to face and cracks. 65'. (FA: Dan Caldwell, Kevin Parker, 5/87.)

6. **Comic Relief** (5.7). L-facing corner. Hand crack past small roofs, up R to small L-facing corner. 60'. (FA: Allison, Gene Thompson, Chapman, 4/87.)

7. **Helmeted Warrior of Love** (5.7+). Center of pinnacle, then up, L to arete for a few feet, step R under roof to short jam crack. 50'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 5/87.)

8. **Stalking the Wild Toad** (5.7). Dirty L-facing ramp, corners. 50'. (FA: Thompson, Chapman, 4/87.)

AMELESS WALL

9. **Men Who Love Sheep** (5.10). Begin on R side of obvious arete, stem off R wall to get initial pro. Follow arete to top. Pin. 60'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 7/87.)

10. **Blood Test** (5.9). Obvious hand, finger crack 20' L of *Men Who Love Sheep*. 60'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 4/87.)

11. **Women Who Won't Wear Wool** (5.10). Broken face, small ramps 15' into small R-curving corner. Continue straight past small overlap to top. 55'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 5/87.)

12. **Face Life** (5.10). Short R-facing corner at L end of roofs. Up low-angle rock below L-leaning corner, L at end of corner. Pin. 60'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, C.E. Blair, 8/87.)

12a. **Face Life, Direct Start** (5.8 R/X). Straight up face below pin.

13. **Plastic Sturgeons** (5.10). Face just R of arete to pin, to arete, up to thin horizontal. Step R of arete near top. 50'. (FA: Chapman, Blair, 8/87.)

KINGFISH

14. **Iron Cross** (5.12a). L end of large, low roof. Small R-facing corner to end, reach R, pull into small R-facing corner above roof. 40'. (FA: Horst, 7/87.)

15. **Silly Little Corner** (5.6). 10' L of *Iron Cross*. Small R-facing, low-angle corner. 40'. (FA: Bill Burgess, Kevin Parker, 4/87.)

16. **The Trial** (5.8). Obvious, broken hand/finger crack between *Silly Little Corner* and *Goodbye Mr. Lizard*. 40'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 4/87.)

17. **Goodbye Mr. Lizard** (5.5). Wide crack in R-facing corner to roof, traverse L 15', through break in roof. 45'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 4/87.)

18. **Fortitude** (5.12c R). 10' L of *Goodbye Mr. Lizard*. Face to mantle at 1st horizontal. 40'. (FA: Horst, 7/87.)

19. **Solitude Standing** (5.10b). Face R of prominent arete. 50'. (FA: Horst, Tammy Backenstose, 7/87.)

20. **Not Til Verdon** (5.12b). 5' L of arete. Thin crack and overhanging face (pin), R to arete (pin) at mid-height, slightly L to top. 50'. (FA: Horst, Bob Rentka, 7/87.)

21. **King of Swing** (5.11a). Striking finger/hand crack in center of wall to stance below final roofband. Rappel. 55'. (FA: Kenny Parker, Chapman, 3/87.)

King of Swing, Direct Finish (5.11b). Hand/finger crack through roof. (FA: Jon Regelbrugge, Parker, 6/87.)

22. **Bubba's Big Adventure** (5.10a). R of *King of Swing*. Short L-facing dihedral just R of large, R-facing dihedral. Up, L to corner to its top, traverse L. 50'. (FA: Kenny Parker, Kevin Parker, Mark Pell, 4/87.)

22a. **Bubba's Big Adventure, Direct Start** (5.11b). 7' L of regular start, boulder directly to main corner. (FA: Kevin Parker, Kenny Parker, 4/87.)

23. **Ratz Holm** (5.7). Just L of arete. Small R-facing corner, then L to larger, R-facing corner. 60'. (FA: Thompson, Wayne Sayre, 4/87.)

24. **The Metamorphosis** (5.9). Atop block at crumbly L-facing corner, R to snaking crack system. 70'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 4/87.)

25. **Just Another Crack** (5.9). 15' R of large R-facing dihedral. Obvious crack to ledge. Rappel. 40'. (FA: Sayre, Thompson, 4/87.)

26. **Mid-Height Crisis** (5.10a). 8' R of corner at center of face to pin, up angle L to large protruding block to good horizontal, traverse R to ledges, trees. Rappel. 50'. (FA: Chapman, Allison, 5/87.)

27. **Daily Waste** (5.10b). Through low overhang, up, L to obvious crack. 60'. (FA: Regelbrugge, John Trautwein, 4/87.)

28. **Face Value** (5.11a R). Just L of nose, R on flakes/edges into shallow, seamed scoop. Steep face to top. 60'. (FA: Kris Kline, Begoon, 5/87.)

29. **C.T. Crack** (5.8). Obvious overhanging hand crack to ledge. Rappel from large tree. 35'. (FA: Dennis Cole, Thompson, 4/87.)

SANDSTONIA

30. **Double Twouble** (5.10c). Obvious R-facing corner to ledge (possible belay). Step L to finger crack. 80'. (FA: Kenny Parker, Pell, Kevin Parker, 4/87.)

Risky Business (5.11a). Variation finish. Step R at ledge to roof w/crack. (FA: Kline, 5/87.)

31. **Beef Boy Field Day** (5.9). At chimney in large, R-facing dihedral. Climb crack on R-wall to end, traverse R 15' to ledge w/trees. Crack up center of face above to end, angle up, L. 85'. (FA: Jon Eichenberger, David Eichenberger, 4/87.)

32. **Mixed Emotions** (5.8+). Start on *Beef Boy Field Day*. Crack on R wall to end, angle up, L to R-facing corner. 80'. (FA: Trautwein, Blaze Davies, 4/87.)

33. **To Bubba Or Not To Be** (5.11a). Small L-facing corner just L of arete to ledge, L to obvious crack through roof. 80'. (FA: Kenny Parker, Regelbrugge, 4/87.)

34. **Cool Crack** (5.10a). Obvious overhanging hand crack to ledge. Rappel. 40'. (FA: Kenny Parker, Trautwein, 5/87.)

35. **Slip Sliding Away** (5.4). Up center of low-angle, upstream face of large, detached block. 25'. (FA: Kenny Parker, Bill Wilson, 5/87.)

36. **Lord Of The Jungle** (5.12a). Short, severely overhanging finger/hand crack in downstream face of detached block. 35'. (FA: Kenny Parker, Kevin Parker, Regelbrugge, 6/87.)

RUBBLE ROCK

37. **Waka Jahwaka** (5.11a). Center of steep face. Obvious crack/ flake system to ledge. Rappel. 50'. (FA: Trautwein, Kenny Parker, 6/87.)

38. **Thing Foot** (5.10b). 20' R of arete at small seam. Up, L to arete, L around corner to easy face. 65'. (FA: Danny Caldwell, Kevin Parker, 6/87.)

39. **Gift From The Mayor** (5.10b). 8' L of arete. Bouldering start to easier face above. 60'. (FA: Tom Kees, Kenny Parker, Kevin Parker, 10/87.)

40. **The Hideousity** (5.10a). Obvious, short L-facing corner to small roof to either of a pair of cracks. 60'. (FA: Trautwein, Kenny Parker, 6/87.)

41. **Fried Dog Winkle** (5.11a). Finger crack/ flake system in center of face. 60'. (FA: Doug Reed, Vernon Scarborough, 5/87.)

WYOMING

DEVILS TOWER

1987 in review

There is a very serious environmental problem on the summit of the Tower: it is beginning to show wear and tear. Climbers are encouraged to carry their trash down and walk on the solid rock, rather than on the vegetation.

Otherwise, new route activity started in 1987 when Scott Flesner and Jim Swenson climbed *The Maiden* (5.10a) and *A Piece Of The Action* (5.10d) during late May. Then Andy Petefish established a thin crack and face route *Captain Video* (5.12a/b), after placing bolts on rappel and rehearsing by top rope.

With only two weeks of unbearably hot temperatures, the weather at the Tower was mild last summer. On the cool northeast side, David Thomas, Seth Pierce, and Mike Robinson put up *Skinny Puppy* (5.10c) and *Suicidal Tendencies* (5.10c A3+). Another classic and sustained pitch was added to the already outrageous *El Matador* when Carl Coy and Mal Ham established *La Vaca Solitaria* (5.11a).

After a month of cleaning, the first two pitches of the old aid route *Zephyr* were freed by Petefish and Kris Hjellev and renamed *Tunnel Vision* (5.12b). Although this route probably has no 5.12 moves, it is very continuous and has tedious thin protection. *Good Holds For Godzilla* (5.12d), originally the first pitch to *Verrouiller Letoit Pendang La Marche* (A3), was also free climbed by Petefish and Hjellev. This route still awaits a redpoint ascent and has everything from full body stemming to delicate arete climbing.

In late September, Jack Roberts and Pam Ranger established *Space Ranger* (5.12a), demanding small gear and desperate stemming. In another effort to open up the south face to free climbing, Petefish and Hjellev established *Blue Stem Skyway*. The first 110' is protected by rappel-placed bolts, and involves stemming similar to that on *El Matador*, but with flaring sidewalls and no finger jams or rests. In late October, Scott Robertson and Lysle Carter completed the last route of the year, *Soon To Be Free* (A2).

Dick Guilmette will be updating the guidebook by the end of 1988. Until then, information on new routes can be found in the black book at the visitor's center.

Parking is often a problem at the Tower during summer months. Climbers have been asked to park in a special parking lot, which will free up the main parking area for visitors who

are staying for short periods of time during the day. Some conflicts occurred between climbers and the Park Service last year, but cooperation on this issue is essential when one considers the resource at stake.

—Andy Petefish

DEVILS TOWER

Soon To Be Free (A2), South Face. 1 crack L of *Tunnel Vision*. (FA: Scott Robertson, Lysle Carter, 10/87.)

Blue Stem Skyway (5.12b), South Face. 2 cracks L of *Tunnel Vision*, or 2 cracks R of *Blade City*. (FA: Petefish, Kris Hjellev, 10/87.)

Space Ranger (5.12a), South Face. 1 crack R of *Rangers Are People Too* and *Direct Southwest*. (FA: Jack Roberts, Pam Ranger, 9/87.)

Good Holds For Godzilla (5.12d), West Face. 1 crack L of *Risque*. Free version of 1st pitch of *Verrouiller Letoit Pendang La Marche*. (FFA: Petefish, Hjellev, 9/87.)

Tunnel Vision (5.12b), South Face. 3 cracks L of *Graeme's Line*. Free ascent of 1st 2 pitches of *Zephyr*. (FA: Petefish, Hjellev, 9/87.)

La Vaca Solitaria (5.11a), West Face. Crack R, above 2nd pitch of *El Matador*. (FFA: Carl Coy, Mal Ham, 8/87.)

Suicidal Tendencies (5.10c A3+), Northeast Face. 2 cracks L of *Old Guys In Lycra*. (FA: David Thomas, Seth Pierce, 7/87.)

Skinny Puppy (5.10c), Northeast Face. Between *Dump Watt* and *The Chute*. (FA: Thomas, Pierce, Mike Robinson, 7/87.)

Captain Video (5.12a/b), West Face. 1 crack R of *Jerry's Kids*. (FA: Petefish, Robinson, 7/87.)

CANADA

ROCKIES

First ascent of Howse's north face in winter

Several new routes were climbed along the Banff-Jasper Highway last year. On July 14, Tom Thomas soloed *Cool N' Breezy* (IV 5.9 A1) on Mt. Andromeda, left of the West Shoulder Direct. He used three points of aid on 50' of steep rock, but otherwise, climbed mixed rock and snow.

On September 4, above the Saskatchewan River crossing, Thomas and Gil McCormick climbed Mt. Outram's North Face (IV), a probable new route, via a direct line through the central snow patch. Moderate-angled ice led them to the final five pitches of steep mixed climbing.

Mt. Temple's North Face saw another new line. During October, Ward Robinson and Rob Orvig put up a route on the left side of the face, V 5.9 A2.

An unusually dry winter prevented many of the waterfalls from forming. Consequently, most of the notable climbs were done in the mountains. Thomas, McCormick, and Ken Walator warmed up on Andromeda's *Asteroid Alley*, then made the first winter ascent of the Northeast Face of Mt. Hooker. This classic ice climb was completed in January, under moonlight, at 40° below zero.

The trio then turned their attention to Mt. Clemenceau. Over 16 days in February, they skied an arduous 80 miles round-trip into this remote area and made the probable first ascent of the peak's 800m North Face. This

A Piece Of The Action (5.10d), Southeast Face. W crack between the broken column at base of *Hollywood And Vine* and the wall. (FA: Jim Swenson, Scott Flesner, 5/87.)

The Maiden (5.10a), North Face. 1 crack R of *Broken Tree*. (FA: Flesner, Swenson, 5/87.)

Nitro Express (5.10a), North Face. 1 crack R of *Broken Tree*. (FA: Steve Petro, Paul Piana, 9/86.)

The Chipmunk (5.10a A2), The Window Area. (FA: Janko Humar, Edo Kozokog, 9/86.)

The Skunk (5.6 A3), The Window Area. (FA: Igor Jamnikar, Matjaz Mvhekar, 9/86.)

Space Challenger (5.12-), Southwest Corner. 2 cracks R of *Rangers Are People Too* and *Direct Southwest*. (FFA: Tim Toula, Paul Chamberlain, 8/86.)

Pee Pee's Plunge (5.12a), West Face. 2 cracks R of *Jerry's Kids*, 1 crack L of *Vulture*. (FA: Coy, Mateo Pee Pee, Stu Ritchie, Rob Adair, Dan Hutchens, 8/86.)

No Kiss For Dog Lips (5.9). (FA: Pee Pee, David Ek, Barney Fisher, 7/86.)

Fractal (5.10a), West Face. 3 cracks R of *One Way Sunset*. (FA: Thomas, Rainer Malzbender, 7/86.)

Liken Lichen (5.9), West Face. 2 or 3 cracks R of *Billy Bear Cranks The Rad*. (FA: Pee Pee, Fisher, 6/86.)

Old Guys In Lycra (5.10), Northeast Face. 2 cracks R of *Suicidal Tendencies*. (FA: Coy, Pelander, 5/87.)

Life During Wartime (5.10d). (FA: Mike Friedrichs, Dennis Horning, 3/86.)

References

Devils Tower: A Climber's Guide, Steve Gardiner, Dick Guilmette, 1986.

long, moderate ice face is similar to the North Face of Mt. Robson.

Closer to the road, a dramatic new route was climbed on the Northeast Face of White Pyramid by Marc Twight and Randy Rackcliff. *Reality Bath* (VII, 600m) is overhung by seracs, which avalanched twice during their first attempt. "It's the sickest route I've ever been on," says Twight. The pair mostly soloed and ran out full ropelengths, finishing the climb in nine hours.

On March 9-10, Barry Blanchard and Ward Robinson made the first winter foray onto the elegant North Face of Edith Cavell. They started third-classing at noon, bivouacked at mid-height in a snow cave, then reached the summit by 10am. They descended by the East Ridge, which had just been soloed by Walator.

The most significant new route in the Rockies also fell to Robinson and Blanchard. On March 14-17, they climbed the North Face of Howse Peak (VI 5.10 A3). This mostly mixed, 5000-foot face had been sought after for years by local climbers. Blanchard called it "the hardest winter route done up here."

Blanchard and Robinson bivouacked three times on the face. Temperatures dropped below zero, and although their first day was a whiteout, the remaining two days improved. They climbed 15 difficult 5th-class pitches.

—Jonathan Waterman

THE INTERNATIONAL SPORT CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP™ AT snowbird

is the first major international climbing competition ever held in America. This official UIAA World Cup agreed event, held at Snowbird Resort in Utah, will bring together the world's best free climbers.

ARCHITECTURE, ART, AND THE AESTHETICS OF FREE ASCENT

DATES: June 6, 1988: Competitors arrive in Snowbird, Utah; June 7-10: Competitors free to climb; June 10, 5:30pm: Opening Ceremonies; June 11: Elimination round; June 12: Finals and Speed Demonstration.

SITE: Snowbird Resort, Little Cottonwood Canyon, Utah.

COMPETITION: Professional men's and women's invitational. Men and women will compete on the same courses but will be awarded separate prizes.

A. ON-SIGHT SPORT CLIMBING

1. **OPEN QUALIFYING ROUNDS** - 60 climbers, on a first-come-first-served basis, will compete in elimination rounds on June 8 & 9. The top 4 male and top 2 female finishers will qualify for weekend world-cup competition. Write or call Jeff Lowe for application. \$50 entry fee.
2. **ELIMINATION ROUND 5.12d**
3. **FINAL ROUND 5.13b**

B. SPEED CLIMBING DEMONSTRATION: held on identical parallel courses. 5.11A- No prize money; product awards for all participants.

ON-SIGHT PRIZE MONEY: \$17,400, including \$4,000 first place award in both men's and women's categories.

COMPETITORS: Approximately 36 of the best sport climbers from around the world.

THE WALL: An external artificial wall is being constructed on the outside of the Cliff Lodge at a value of \$100,000. The Wall was designed by FFKR Architects in collaboration with Jeff Lowe. The detail of the 115'-high wall is below.

SPECIAL EVENTS: 1) Opening Ceremonies: Introduction of climbing and the competitors to the media; 2) Ascent Expo™ and demonstrations by the outdoor industry; 3) Awards banquet.

MEET DIRECTOR: Jeff Lowe

ADMISSION: \$10.00 Saturday (elimination round)
\$12.00 Sunday (speed climbing and finals)
or \$20.00 for both.
includes access to the Ascent Expo

Advance price for both days - \$15

■ Call with Mastercard, Visa, or American Express orders.

■ Send Money Order or Personal Check.

J & J Lowe, Inc.
PO Box 1157
Lyons, CO 80540
(303) 823-5373

\$75 room rates available at Cliff Lodge- 4 people per room O.K.

INTERNATIONAL
SPORT CLIMBING
CHAMPIONSHIP

AT
snowbird

INVITATIONAL LIST

USA
Rosie Andrews
John Bachar
Bobbi Bensman
Jennifer Cole
Robyn Erbesfield
Scott Franklin
Mari Gingery
Dale Goddard
Christian Griffith
Lynn Hill
Jim Karn
Ron Kauk
Allison Oslus
Jason Stern
Mark Wilford
Tony Yaniro

ENGLAND
Martin Atkinson
John Dunne
Ben Masterson
Jerry Moffatt
Ben Moon

ITALY
Louisa Jovani
Heinz Mariacher

AUSTRIA
Gerhard Horhager

GERMANY
Andrea Eisenhut
Stefan Glowacz
Wolfgang Gullich

AUSTRALIA
Nyrie Dodd
Geoff Weigand

FRANCE
Robert Cortijo
Catherine Destivelle
Alexander Duboc
Patrick Edlinger
Jacky Godoffe
Marc leMenestrel
Isabelle Patissier
Didier Raboutou
Jean-Baptiste Tribout

SPAIN
Carlos Garcia
Pascuale Montse

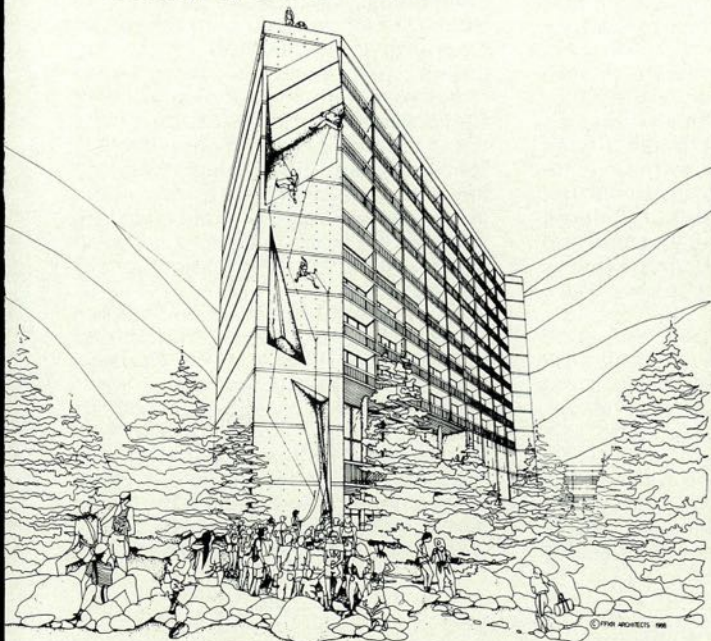
USSR
To be announced

BELGIUM
Arnould T'Kint

CANADA
Peter Croft

JUDGES
Neil Cannon
Kim Carrigan
Jean Claude Droyer
Antoine leMenestrel
(Course Setter)
Alan Watts

Above list is subject to change.



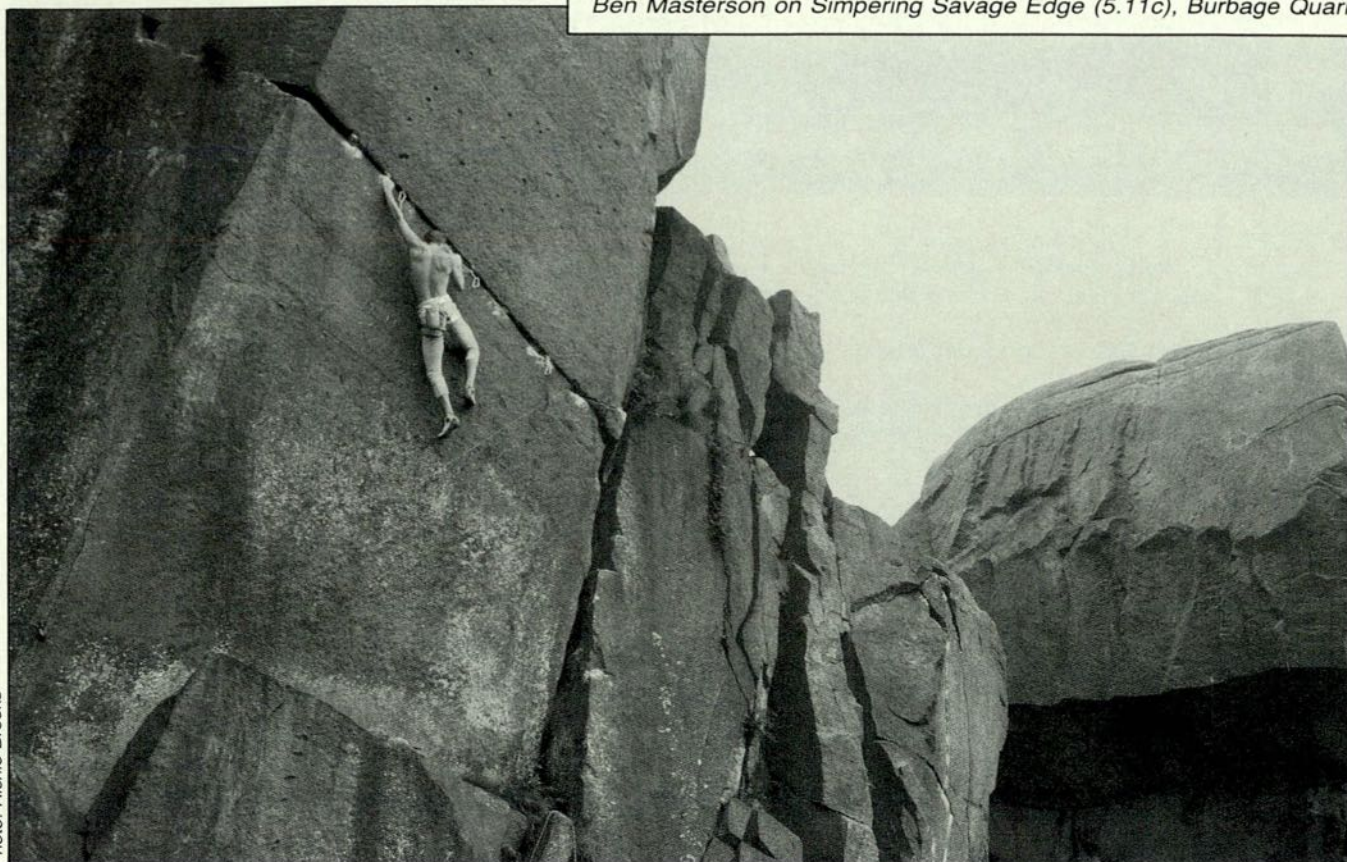
ENGLAND

GRITSTONE

A short history

Ben Masterson on *Simpering Savage Edge* (5.11c), Burbage Quarry.

Photo: Richie Brooks



"Serious grit is like cornering a car right on the limit — commit yourself, keep the power down and it will see you through; hesitate or lift off and you're in for a big accident."

—Anonymous

Gritstone means different things to different people — from the wavelike edges of Stanage and Burbage through to the old quarries. The variety of climbing offered by these essentially different rock types is one of its main attractions. The rounded breaks and "barn-door" aretes of natural grit give way to small finger edges and cracks with a limestone feel to them. Like limestone, however, grit is going through a period of change with a whole new world opening for the fortunate few with sufficient cerebral deficiency to be climbing at the top."

The following is a history of these developments starting from the "golden age" of the early and mid-1970's to today, highlighting the rapid escalation in standards.

In the early 1970's, gritstone development was at a low ebb — little had been done that was harder than the Brown/Whillans routes of the 1950's; Wales still seemed ahead. However, things were on the change.

After a year of training on the University climbing wall, young John Syrett exploded onto the climbing scene. He produced several hard routes, the most important being *Big Greenie* (E3) at Almscliff. Although not particularly hard, it was an important psychological breakthrough.

Another local climber, Al Manson, followed Syrett and produced an outrageous collection of routes. At Caley he added *High Noon* (E5), *Psycho* (E5), and *Adrenalin Rush* (E5/6). While over at the rarely visited Earl Crag he dived with death to produce *Early Riser* (E5). All these routes were leagues ahead in terms of difficulty and boldness to anything that had been seen before, but suffered from the insular scene at that time and the incredibly hard grading system, i.e., a *Yorkshire E1/2 equals a Peak District E5!*

Other fine routes from this period include Mike Mammel's *Quark* (E4/5), at Caley, and, perhaps most famous of all, Pete Livesey's *Wellington Crack* (E4) at Ilkley Quarry. This sports one of the first old quarry aid routes to go free, giving forty feet of sustained finger jamming in total contrast to the pebble pulling of natural grit routes. Another new face at this

time was Ron Fawcett, who devoted himself to climbing every square inch of rock at Cookrise Rocks. The best of his finds was *Slip N'Slide* (E6) which suffered anonymity until a few recent ascensionists were stunned by the difficulty and seriousness of the route for its "pre-sticky boot" time.

In the mid-1970's, down in that other bastion of gritstone climbing, the Peak District, rumors were spreading of young lads climbing all the top routes plus many of their own. These fifteen-year-olds included John Allen, Steve Bancroft, Gabriel Regan, and many others who would all, in the next few years, set the climbing world on fire with a host of brilliant routes. Allen, in particular, was the main man. He scoured the Peak from north to south along with the other main pioneer Bancroft.

A list would be almost endless but some routes must be mentioned: *Old Friends* (E4), *Nectar* (E4), *Goosey*, *Goosey Gander* (E4), *White Want* (E5), *Pebble Mill* (E5), *Strapadictomy* (E4), *Narcissus* (E6), *Hairless Heart* (E5), *Profit of Doom* (E4), and *Caricature* (E5). Each route is worth at least three stars, and left the "traditional" climbing world reeling.

Besides these natural grit routes,

Allen and Bancroft picked off many of the plum aid routes in the various quarries. The best of these included the stunning *London Wall* (E5), and the gorgeous traverse of *Silent Spring* (E4). For all of these routes a degree of boldness and fitness was required which had never been dreamed of and dissuaded all but a few suitors for years to come.

With the migration of John Allen to New Zealand, grit development lulled. Later, new faces appeared. In particular, young Jonny Woodward was quick to make his mark. He produced a crop of routes of stunning quality and frightening seriousness. His best routes during this period include the terminal *Piece of Mind* (E6), *Track of the Cat* (E5), and *Wings of Unreason* (E4), all at the Roaches on the western side of the Peak District.

A not-so-new face, Ron Fawcett, really got things going again with a string of brilliant new routes. At Curbar, in the Peak District, he succeeded on the deathly serious *One Step Beyond* (E6), and the bizarre *Rigid Digit* (E5). In Yorkshire he pulled out the stops at Ilkley adding the "chop route" *Desperate Dan* (E6) and the superb crackline of *Milky Way* (E6).

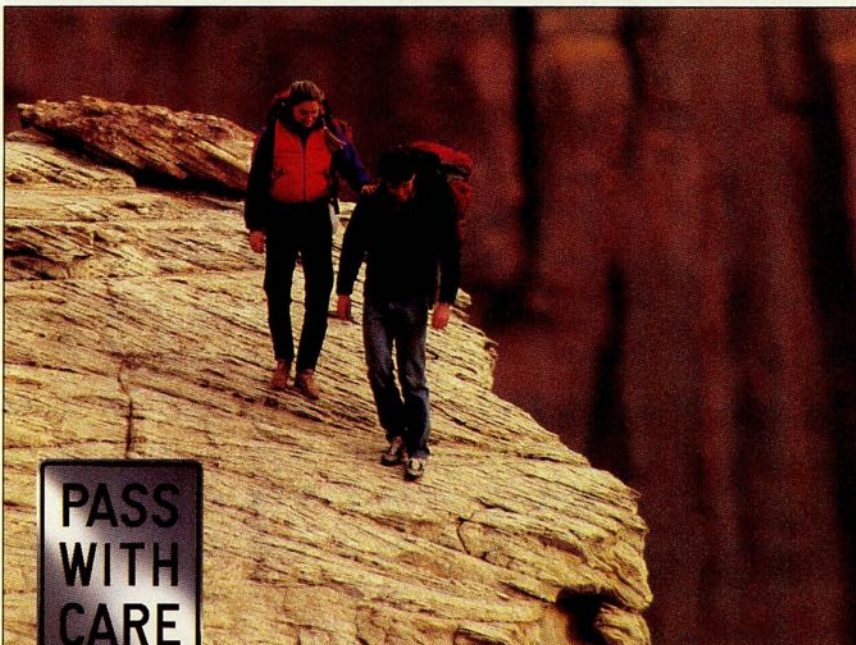
All other routes paled in significance when, in 1982, Jonny Woodward pulled off the biggest coup ever with his ascent of the heart-stopping arete, *Beau Geste* (E6), jokingly given the grade E7/E7b. The climbing world reeled — talk of how Jonny failed to top rope the route and then led it were rife. The near deck-out fall ensured its unpopularity for a long time to come; it took four years before another grit hero, Johnny Dawes, repeated it.

Shortly after *Beau Geste*, Woodward set sail for the United States never to be seen again. It must be something about the rock, but after a big success climbers seem to emigrate!

The next major breakthroughs came from two climbers. By 1982, Jerry Moffatt was rapidly establishing himself as Ron Fawcett's successor as the King of British limestone climbing. Although a relative beginner on grit, Moffatt soon silenced his critics when he soloed (after top rope practice) Stanage's last great problem, *Ulysses* (E6), wearing the new Fire "sticky" boots — one of the main reasons for the upcoming dramatic increase in grades.

Moffatt next turned his attention to one of the most blatant lines on grit. This was not, however, on natural grit but at that excellent quarry, Millstone Edge. It had been looked at for years, but the lack of any obvious holds or protection had put all comers off. Not to be dissuaded, Moffatt eventually managed to top rope the route which he intended to solo. With the onset of winter, however, he left the route only to have it snatched from him.


During Christmas, when Moffatt



PASS WITH CARE

A little help from Peak 1 gives new meaning to follow the leader.

Peak 1 lightweight stoves, lanterns, bags, tents, packs, & cookware.
Write for free catalog & newsletter.
Peak 1 • 219 N. St. Francis • Wichita, KS 67202



C U S T O M C L I M B I N G B O O T S

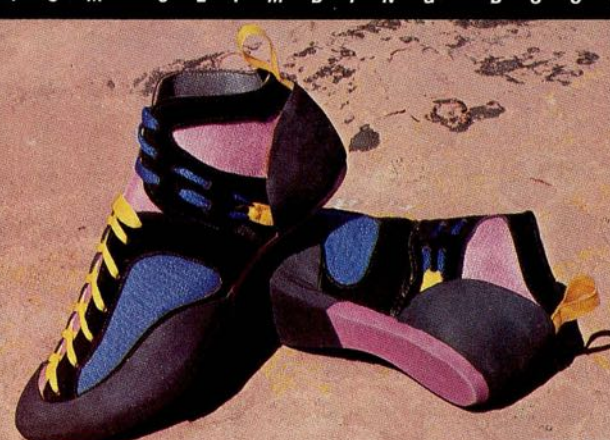



Photo: John Barstow

We build custom climbing boots and we guarantee your fit!

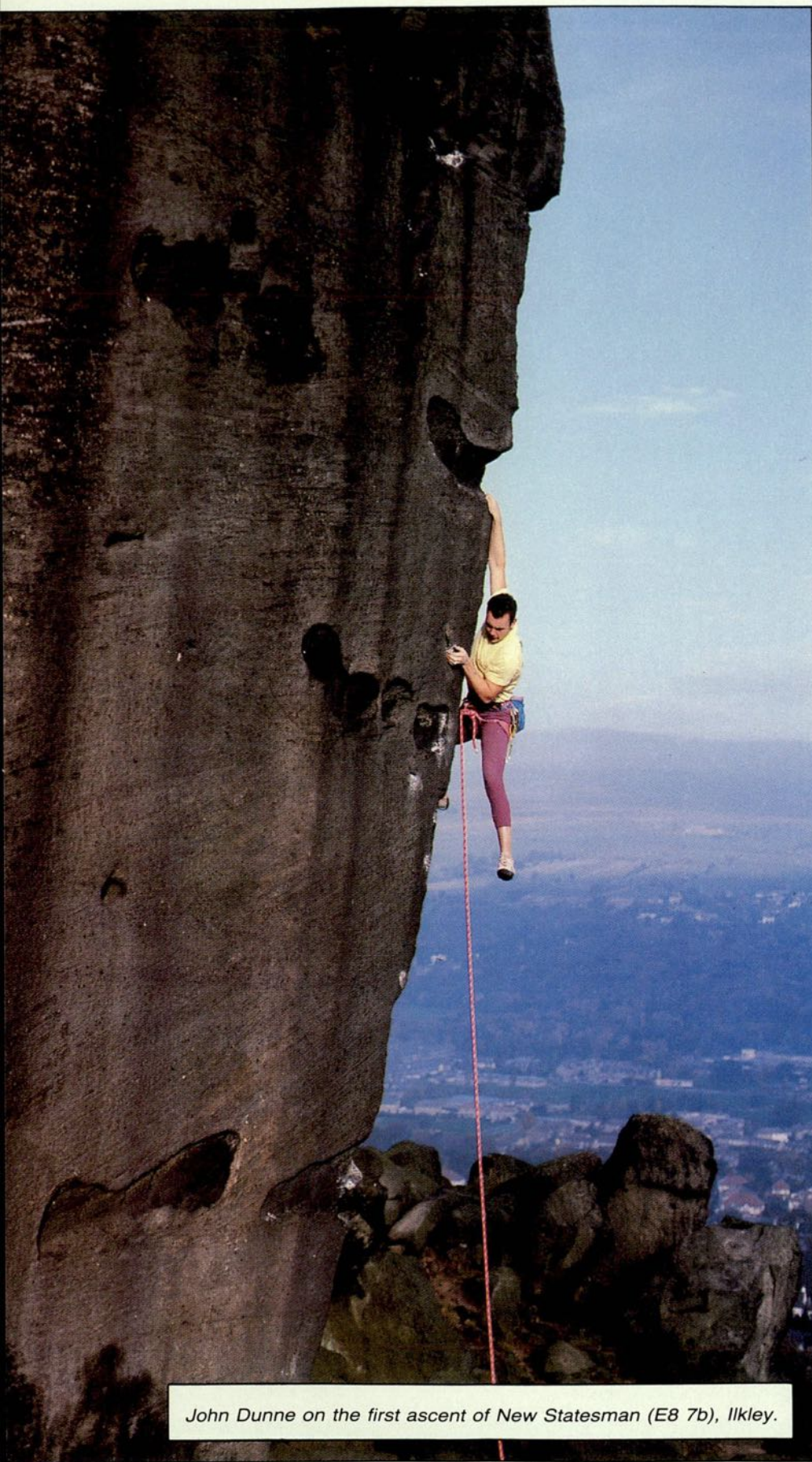
- Cordura/leather/cambrelle construction
- 2 piece uppers
- Double lacing systems
- 5.10 Stealth soles & rands
- Low toe profile, elevated heel
- \$140/pair plus \$35 one-time last adjustment charge
- Allow 2 weeks shop time
- Dealer inquiries welcome

Try our expert repair service



Call or write

1430 Foothill Drive #230 • Salt Lake City, Utah • (801) 582-7784



John Dunne on the first ascent of *New Statesman* (E8 7b), Ilkley.

and everyone else were picking over turkey bones, Fawcett crept out, and with the aid of some unusual protection devices, led the route, naming it *The Master's Edge* (E7). This was a big number to be throwing around at the time, but no subsequent ascensionist (two to date) has seen fit to downgrade it.

Fawcett's other route of this period was also at Millstone but in total contrast to *The Master's Edge*. *Scritto's Republic* (E6) gives a desperate (6c), but safe crux, followed by an easier though runout upper section, and has received several repeats.

One other major ascent from this time was at Caley, where Craig Smith pulled out all the stops to climb the long-standing "last great problem," *The Great Flake* (E6). Wire-snapping falls taken by Smith have put off all attempts at a repeat.

"What next?" was the question on the climbing scene's lips at this time — the reply eventually, was to be in the shape of the two J.D.'s — Dunne and Dawes — who were to take grit, and particularly its aretes, into another ballgame.

A slight lull followed, but this was shattered when Johnny Dawes moved onto the scene. After a clutch of minor routes, he began to tick some of the Peak's last big lines. His haul included: *Benign Lives* (E6/7), *Adam Smith's Invisible Hand* (E6), *Perplexity* (E6), *Offspring* (E6), *Kaluza-Klein* (E7/8), *Dharma* (E7), the terrifying *Gaia* (E7/8), *Braille Trail* (E6), *Janus* (E6), *Slab and Crack* (E7), and perhaps his finest achievement *End of the Affair* (E8).

He showed a boldness and audacity which had never been known before. Even allowing for previous top-rope practice, his achievements are outstanding — the inability of virtually anyone to top-rope the routes is a testimony to his skill.

Up in Yorkshire there is another J.D. — John Dunne. After a probationary period on limestone, Dunne laid siege, successfully, to some of the most stunning routes grit has to offer, and produced a bag of routes to equal Dawes. First to fall was *Snap Decision* (E7), followed by *Countdown to Disaster* (E8), *Deathwish* (E7) — a notable on-sight solo — and most importantly, the left arete of Milky Way, *The New Statesman* (E8). This is one of the most serious and technically difficult routes on grit. Now the question is, will John emigrate?

Also at Ilkley, from Tob Gawthorpe, was the desperate "problem" route *Bernie the Bolt* (E5 7A). Not to be left out, Dunne added *Three More Reps*, again 7A! At Caley, the ever-green Al Manson popped up to add the frightening *Marrowbone Jelly* (E7).

Back in the Peak District, Mark Leach was having a long running battle at Froggatt. The result of twenty-six

Photo: Jan Horrocks

days of effort, *The Crack* (renamed *The Screaming Dream*) weighs in at E8 7B. The message in the new routes book aptly describes this incredibly powerful route: "If you've got what it takes, it'll take all that you've got!" Mark was active also at Millstone at this period, finding time before and after his second ascent of *Master's Edge* to climb *Adios Amigo* (E6) (named after the protection used), and the scary *The Bad and the Beautiful* (E6).

On the west side of the Peak District things were heating up. Simon Nadin produced the horrific dyno problem *Thing on a Spring* (E6 7A) and the terminal arete of *B4XS* (E7). Further north in the Chew Valley, a strong team of local climbers led by Nick Plishko and Dougie Mall were at last getting to grips with the challenges offered by perhaps the best grit crag in the world — Wimberry. Going from virtual obscurity to near maturity in the space of a year, it now offers some superb routes with a little more than usual in the way of protection. The best routes are *The Berlin Wall* (E6), *Neptune's Tool* (E6) by Plishko, and the "best arete on gritstone" *Appointment with Fear* (E7) by Mall.

At Froggatt, Ron Fawcett re-emerged to climb the blank-looking *Toy Boy* (E7A). There are only three holds in 20' so you either have to be very tall or very good at jumping. His other contribution at this time was yet another route to make the jaw sag. This was a very long boulder-problem arete at Stanage. Stories abound from this ascent; apparently Fawcett would pre-practice the route by climbing up an adjacent route, doing a move, then falling off! His training for the route involved pinching a piece of scaffolding attached to a lat pulldown machine. The resulting *Careless Torque* (X5 7A) looks set to regain all the lichen Fawcett removed.

As to the future, there is less and less in the way of big lines, but some incredible walls, slabs, and in particular, long boulder problems should keep people busy for one or two years to come.

Gritstone grading

Most of the newer routes have been climbed after extensive toprope practice. Effectively, this is a redpoint ascent (without the option of another go) and, as with limestone, there has been much debate about the value of the ascent. However, as the people actually doing the routes point out, it's either topropping or bolts, for with the technical difficulty on grit starting to match some of the harder limestone routes, no one is going to solo onsite. Toproping is seen as the lesser of the two evils — gritstone is perhaps the one rock type in the world where new bolts are not being placed. It is this purity that provides its attraction. On

Tough Traveler® Luggage

Good-Looking Travel Gear
for People Who Are Hard
on Equipment

LUGGAGE THAT SHOWS ITS
MOUNTAINEERING
HERITAGE

ORGANIZE AND GO!

A SELECTION OF
GARMENT BAGS •
PULLMANS • FLIGHT
BAGS • PORTFOLIOS •
TOTES • PHOTO BAGS

catalogue:

Tough Traveler

1012 STATE ST., SCHENECTADY,
NY 12307



TALKEETNA AIR TAXI, INC.

Est. 1947

LOWELL THOMAS
owner/chief pilot
DICK STONE
pilot

"Climbers serving Climbers on McKinley and
Throughout the Alaska Range"

- Complete Expedition Support •
- AAC and other discounts available •

Talkeetna Air Taxi Inc., Box 73C, Talkeetna, AK 99676 • (907) 733-2218

THE CARABINER PEOPLE



ALSO ANODIZED IN BLUE, RED, BLACK & CAMOUFLAGE

Omega Pacific Inc.

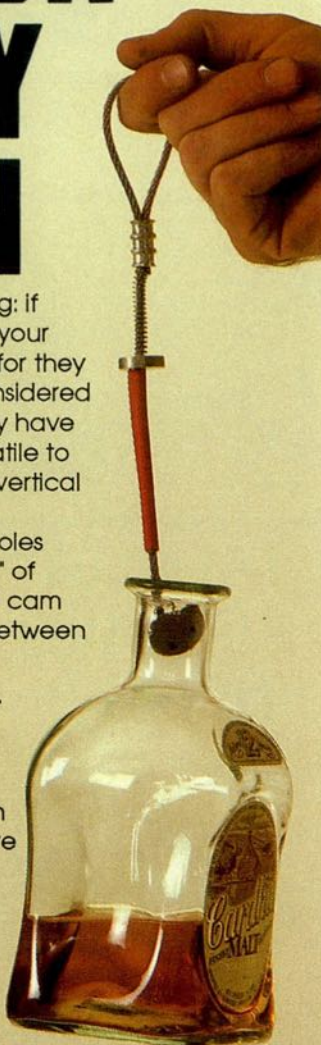
Blue Water Ltd.
209 Lovvorn Road
Carrollton, Georgia 30117
1-800-533-7673 • 404-834-7515

217 10th Street South C
Kirkland, WA 98033
(206) 822-9020

Adventure 16
4620 Alvarado Canyon Road
San Diego, CA 92120
1-800-854-2672 • 619-283-6314

A SOLUTION FOR EVERY OCCASION

Actually, that statement is a little misleading: if you're considering CMI RoKJoX to stopper your favorite brew you'll be sadly disappointed for they don't function very well as corks. When considered as cammable climbing chocks though, they have some very worthy attributes. They are versatile to place, easy to clean and work well in both vertical and horizontal planes. They work well in conventional chock placements, solution holes and shallow slots since they require only 3/4" of depth and because we used an optimized cam profile they provide the perfect balance between wedgeability and cleanability. In five sizes they provide a size coverage of 17-64 mm. at a weight of only 350 grams, about a 30% weight savings over others. Finally, by simplifying the design and drastically reducing the number of critical parts we can bring these to you at a price that won't leave you bankrupt. All things considered, CMI RoKJoX really are "a solution for every occasion."



Cmi

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



- Fully Pile Lined - 7½" Depth
- Stiff Stay-Open 5" dia. Rim
- Tooth Brush & Car Key Holder
- Tough Cordura Bottom
- ONLY \$14⁹⁵ shipping incl.
(\$17.95 w/optional zipper pocket bottom)
CA residents add 6.5%

SUNRISE
MOUNTAINEERING
(619) 724-0533

2636 Vista Pacific Dr. • Oceanside, CA 92056 USA

gritstone you get to the very essence of climbing, pushing yourself when the chips are down and knowing there's no going back.

The following compares gritstone "E" grades with American grades. All American grades are presumed to have an "X" rating:

- E1 — 5.10a
- E2 — 5.10b/c
- E3 — 5.10c/d
- E4 — 5.11a-c
- E5 — 5.11d/5.12a
- E6 — 5.12a/b
- E7 — 5.12c/d
- E8 — 5.13a/b

Exceptions do occur, i.e., *The Crack* at Frogatt is a safe E8 — just very hard.

Limestone

The big news here was the success of Ben Moon on *Zeke the Freak* (E8 6C). A frighteningly strong Jerry Moffatt whipped a second ascent in a fraction of Ben's time; however, he didn't dispute the grade.

Not to be outdone, John Dunne produced an E8 7A at Malham; *Magnetic Fields* received an ascent from Mark Leach who confirmed the grade. Paul Ingham at last succeeded on his project *Overnight Sensation* (E7 6C), just right of *Magnetic Fields*. The only repeat was from John Dunne, aka the Malham Gargoyle. Dave Mumberstone appeared to climb the very fine *Connect Four* (E6 7 6C) which has so far baffled all but a couple of takers.

The *Whore of Babylon* received a rush of repeats and the grade has settled down to E7 6C. The variety of sequences used on the crux by various teams is bewildering.

Down in a quiet and ever-wetter Derbyshire, Andy Pollitt sneaked out of winter retirement, climbing one of the best new routes of the year in obscure Dovedale. *Arch Enemies* (E6 6B) climbs a totally detached natural rock arch.

After this, the monsoon began. One has to feel sorry for Mark Leach and John Dunne, who both had major lines — rumored to be E9 — close to completion. Still, when the weather clears up (July perhaps?) they'll still be there.

—Mark Pretty

G. BRITAIN

Fancy the whole, soggy picture?

To an American, Britain must seem like a place where the monsoon spans the entire year. Even when I meet climbers in the U.S. and tell them about the great climbing in Britain, they are not convinced. When I ask if they would like to visit, their usual reply is, "What, and get rained on?"

The driest time to climb in Britain is summer and early fall. Toward winter, the limestone and mountain crags tend to become wet. However, there are many exceptions. Some of the more overhanging limestone stays dry late. Other crags, such as the limestone sea cliffs of Pembroke, and the sea cliffs of Gogarth and Cornwall, are climbable most of the year.

The gritstone becomes popular in fall, continuing into spring, because it dries quickly and the friction improves during the colder weather. Thus, most new route activity occurs on gritstone and the warmer, southern crags through fall and winter. Spring in Britain tends to be windy, rainy, or snowy; climbing is possible, although France and Spain are becoming ever popular for British climbers in the spring.

What follows is a selection of some of the significant first ascents done from the end of 1987 and into early 1988.

In the north of the British Isles, Chris Bonnington and Pete Willance ventured onto the Isle of Kilda and spent three weeks exploring the immaculate granite. Notably, Willance put up *The Edge of the World* (5b,5c,6b,5b,6a,5c,5b,5c), a 1090' route on the NE face of Coriachair. No adjectival grading was given, but the route is extreme.

On the mainland of Scotland, widespread development has been taking place. Gary Latter and Kevin Howett conceived *Centrepiece* (E5 6b), a significant addition on Black's Butress in Glen Nevis; they used sky-hooks for protection. Latter and friends also added numerous E5's in Glen Nevis and Glen Coe.

Crossing Hadrian's Wall (built by the Romans to keep the Scots at bay), a lot has been happening on the limestone (see "God's Own Rock"). John Dunne, stuck for things to work out on at Malham, liked an unclimbed route being prepared by Steve Rhodes. So, in true British tradition, he stole it; the *Preditor* (E7/8 6c) fell nicely into John's swag sac.

South by 60 miles is the Peak District. Once the heart of activity, the limestone has entered into virtual hibernation for the winter. Despite the rain, Gary Gibson produced *Nice is Nice* (E5 6b) at Stony Middleton, and *Light and Shade* (E5 6b) at High Tor.

In Wales, the slate quarries in Llanberis have seen some recent developments, all due to their quick-drying properties and proximity to the cafe. At Bus Stop Quarry, ex-patriot Paul Pritchard produced *Scare City* (E6 6b). A *Ringin' In Urea's* (E6 6b/c) has been squeezed onto the Rainbow Slab, between *Raped By Affection* and *Cystitis By Proxy*. Repeat ascents confirmed grade HS and quality.

Across the Menai Straits on the Isle of Anglesy, Gogarth has had a few

additions, but nowhere near as many as the previous year's new-route madness. Martin Crook et al have been satisfying their fear fetishes by leading routes on sight, such as *Hard Animals* (XS); this grade is reserved for routes where the E number may vary due to the possibility that the route may fall down!

On the limestone sea cliffs of Pembroke in South Wales, Gibson has been filling in the gaps. According to Gibson, his *Always The Sun* (E6 6b), "is one of the most striking lines in the area." Meanwhile, Martin Crocker added *Oranges and Lemons* (E5 6c,6b) and *Utter Anarchy* (E5 6b,6b). Many easier and classic routes were also added to the prolific number already established.

At Gower, Crocker established the fearsome *Devine Guiding Light* (E7 6b) to Giants Cave blow-hole. On completion, he said that it makes most of the Peak's routes seem pathetic. In the Wye Valley, he did the impressive *On Bondi Beach* (E6 6b). At Cheddar, on the crags which do not have seasonal restrictions, Crocker added *One for the Northern Brats* (E6 6b) to the quarry opposite the restricted High Rocks. After the restrictions had been lifted, Rob Kingston dug out *Osiris* (E3 6a,5a,5c, 5c,5c,4c).

Down south in Devon at Chudleigh, the most significant addition in terms of literary contribution is *Stuff the E5's* which weighs in at about 5.2. At Long Quarry Point, despite a substantial rockfall, Nick White added two quality lines, *Shadow Beast* (E6 6c) and *Hart of Darkness* (E6 6c).

A short helicopter ride from the mainland is the Island of Lundy, a granite gem in the midst of the Atlantic. Gibson has done much development here over the past few years, climbing *Mexico Speaks* (E7 6c,6b) and *Intensive Care* (E6 6c) on Black Crag. On the marvelous roofed crack of *Parthenos Too Precious* (E6 5a,6b), Gibson teamed up with the up-and-coming Matt Ward.

Finally, but by no means conclusively, at the very tip of England are the Cornwall granite sea cliffs. They are the preserve of Rowland and Mark Edwards. Developing the area in the past few years, they have utilized stainless steel bolts to keep the corrosive powers of salt water at bay. At Dutchman's Zawn, Edwards, Jr. added *Eat 'Em And Smile* (E6 6c). At Chair Ladder he added *Rats In A Rage* (E6 7a). Continuing his bout with big numbers he climbed *29 Palms* (E6 6c) at Sennen, not to be confused with a similarly-named route at Joshua Tree.

1988 promises to be a good year since rather too many people are looking mighty strong in the gym. We'll have to wait and see whether this is also true on the crag.

—Craig Smith

EVENTS

July 9-10, Leavenworth, Washington.

North American Paragliding Championship. Events include: course, target, touch and go, estimated time, accuracy, and soaring. Contact: Jeff Splittgerber, American Paragliding Association, P.O. Box 25, Leavenworth, WA 98826. (509) 548-4566.

July 24-31, North Wales, Great Britain.

British Mountaineering Council Youth Meet. Climbers 14-18 years old who lead at least 5.6 are invited. \$25 fee covers transportation from Manchester and camping fees. Participants provide tents, food, transport to England. Contact: American Alpine Club, 113 East 90th St., New York, NY 10128. (212) 722-1628.

July 27-31, Tahoe, California.

Wilderness Medicine 1987. Medical seminar for mountaineering and backcountry travel. Contact: Jackie Silva, Mountain Medical Seminars, P.O. Box 321, Yreka, CA 96097. (916) 842-4667.

August 13-20, Wrangell Mountains, Alaska.

Nebesna-McCarthy Wilderness Race. All non-motorized entries (except mountain bikes) are encouraged to cross nearly 100 miles of rugged tundra, rivers, mountains, and glaciers. Contact: Roman Dial, P.O. Box 89136, Fairbanks, AK 99708.

September 3-4, Pocatello, Idaho.

The Pocatello Pump. Competition for all categories of climbers; Saturday night barbecue, Sunday night awards ceremony. Contact: Scott Tyson, Idaho State University Outdoor Program, P.O. Box 8118, Pocatello, Idaho 83209. (208) 236-3912.

September 14-17, Davos, Switzerland.

Mountain Medicine and Safety in Alpinism Symposium. An overview of medical problems at high altitude, with an emphasis on safety for climbers, skiers, guides, trekkers, and trainers. Contact: Forum Davos, c/o Tourist Office Davos, Promenade 67, 7270 Davos Platz, Switzerland. (tel.) 083-3 84 10.

September 23-25, Mussoorie, India.

Fifth International Himalayan Mountaineering and Tourism Meet. Workshops and lectures on environmental preservation, adventure tourism, and sports in the Himalaya. Contact: Jogindar Singh, Indian Mountaineering Foundation, Benito Juarez Rd., Anand Niketan, New Delhi 110021.

Events is presented as a public service to encourage the exchange of ideas and promote camaraderie within the mountain community. Information about any service-oriented or non-profit event is requested at least three months in advance of issue month. Climbing Events, P.O. Box E, Aspen, CO 81612.

AUSTRIA

VIENNA

UIAA sanctions competitions

In March, the Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme (UIAA) held its fourth meeting in Vienna, Austria on the subject of climbing competitions. Once deadset against competitions, the UIAA is now the official sanctioning body for the 1988 World Cup circuit.

In previous meetings, the UIAA (*Climbing* nos. 105, 106, 107) laid the foundation for sanctioned competitions, appointing the Commission de l'Escalade (CEC or Rock Commission) and the Comité International des Compétitions d'Escalade (CICE or Technical Committee) to develop official rules and guidelines.

The CEC is a general council composed of delegates from participating countries, established to discuss the overall direction of climbing competitions. The CICE, in turn, is a subcommittee of the CEC, charged with generating the actual guidelines and rules generally agreed upon by the CEC.

The highlight of the Vienna meeting, attended by American Alpine Club president Jim McCarthy as the U.S. delegate, was the creation of a World Cup for 1988. At the Paris meeting in January, however, it was decided that this year would only be a trial for the tentative guidelines and rules already hashed out, and that 1989 would be the first year of UIAA-sanctioned World Cup events. But now, in an apparent reversal of the Paris meetings' conclusions, six UIAA-sanctioned contests are slated, culminating with the finals in Russia this October.

On June 11-12, the International Sport Climbing Championship at Snowbird will kick off the World Cup tour, and will offer Americans a first-hand glimpse of what many have considered to be a strictly European phenomenon. Vying for over \$17,000 in prize money, contestants will compete on a 115'-high artificial wall, with routes crafted by well-known designer Antoine LeMénestrel of France. Competitors will include Catherine Destivelle, Lynn Hill, Scott Franklin, Patrick Edlinger, and many other of the world's best

1988 WORLD CUP SCHEDULE

June 11-12, Snowbird, Utah. Contact: Jeff Lowe, c/o J & J Lowe, Inc., P.O. Box 1157, Lyons, CO 80540. (303) 823-5373, Telefax: (303) 823-5333.

July 13-21, Chamonix, France. Youth Competition (boys and girls). Age categories: 13-14, 15-16, 17-18. Contact: Jeff Lemoine, CEC President, Mont Sur Monnet, 39300 Champ Agnole, France. Tel: 84.51.21.26.

July 15-18, Bardonechia, Italy.

September 3-4, Nimes, France.

September 15-18, Arriba Mont Blanc, Spain.
Difficulty; men only.

September 28 — October 2, Brava, Bulgaria.

October 5-13, Crimea, Russia.

rock climbers. In addition, a two-day open qualifying round will be held June 8-9. It will be limited to 75 climbers on a first come basis; out of these, four men and two women will advance to the elimination round. Registration cost is \$50.

Although climbing competitions are rooted in speed climbing, the World Cup will include speed climbing as a demonstration event. However, speed climber's spectator appeal will likely lead to its addition as an official event in the future. The 1988 champion will be determined based on points accumulated during the season in on-sight, difficulty climbing only. It was generally agreed that a competitor must enter three competitions to be eligible for the World Cup championship.

One of the UIAA's chief goals in sanctioning climbing competitions is standardization. Problems with private, unsanctioned events have included inconsistent application of rules, biased judges, and inequitable manipulation by contest organizers.

In Vienna, it was decided that a minimum of 40 men and 20 women must compete in any UIAA-sanctioned event, eliminating a stars-only cast of competitors. The number of competitors allowed per country was set at four men and two women, to be chosen by each national federation in the order of their priority. The AAC is the sanctioning body for U.S. competitors; anyone interested should apply to the AAC Climbing Competition Committee.

For judges, training was the central issue. The French have already begun a training program and will be conducting an international training exercise in conjunction with the Chamonix youth competition, to which the AAC will likely sponsor three candidates (see World Cup schedule). The Russians will run a training session in Crimea prior to the finals.

The question of climbing becoming a demonstration event for the 1992 Olympics was also addressed. In the 1972 Olympics in Munich, the International Olympic Committee sanctioned a demonstration climbing event which was held in Bergteschergarten. After the event, an informal poll of committee members was encouraging.

The 1992 Winter Olympics, to be held in Albertville, France, offer a very good chance for another demonstration event, not only because climbing competitions can take place indoors but also because fewer new events are nominated for the winter than the summer. Additionally, as the host country, France is allowed to choose one demonstration event, and the French CEC delegation is very intent on picking climbing. According to McCarthy, it appears "highly likely."

The next meeting of the CEC and CICE will take place in Banff, Canada on September 10-11, and will focus on finalizing rules.

— Michael Bengé

GERMANY

FRANKENJURA

Gullich cashes in with *Wall Street*

The weather in the Frankenjura was unusually bad last summer, but the end was blown off the German rating scale nevertheless.

Once again, Wolfgang Gullich was the one to break the barrier, with his first ascent of *Wall Street* (10+/11-, 5.14b/c) on the Krottenseer Turm. The route takes *Ira Technokratie* (9+, 5.13a/b) to the traverse, then adds a direct finish out an overhanging bulge to the top. Like many of Gullich's testpieces, *Wall Street* requires very difficult overhanging pocket climbing: the crux involves cranking on a one-fingertip pocket, then dynoing to a two-finger pocket. Undoubtedly, *Wall Street* is one of the world's hardest climbs.

Gullich was on a roll, adding several other 5.14's to the region's limestone. *Killer* (10+), on the Schüttersmühler Wand, takes *Thriller* (10) for its first half, then traverses right and through the overhang on small finger pockets. On the Klagemauer Wall, Gullich combined several difficult routes into one, climbing the patchwork without a rope. *Level 52* (10/10+) starts on the right side of the wall with *Jump* (9-), traverses left on *Fall Out* (9+) and *Dead Line* (10-), then downclimbs *Elektrischer Sturm in der Holle* (9+), and finishes with *Windstarke* (9). Another new route, *Centercourt* (10) on the Barendschluchtwand, is extremely overhanging with small finger pockets and, like *Wall Street*, *Killer*, and *Level 52*, hasn't been repeated.

On the Student Wall, Manfred Eichhorn put up *Simone* (10-), a long, sustained three-star route.

Jerry Moffatt visited this past season and walked away with the third ascent of *Ghettoblaster* (10/10+) despite the cold weather. He was primed after having a good summer in France, where he did third ascents of *La Rage de Vivre* and *Le Minimum*, both 8b+. Without a doubt, Jerry is back better than ever.

With the weather in Germany so bad, leading climber Kurt Albert headed to the Dolomites in Italy. The prize of his visit was an amazing first free ascent of the *Swiss Route* on the Cima Ovest. At 9 (5.12b/c), this long route pushes the Alpine free climbing grade up significantly.

The weather is still bad, but locals are hoping for a sunny spring.

—Jesse Guthrie

FIVETENNIES

The Climbing Shoe That Also Walks & Runs

- 5.10 Rubber Soles ■ Leather upper
- Faded Blue Color ■ Men's sizes 3-12½

Ask for ½ size smaller than your street shoe size.

\$54

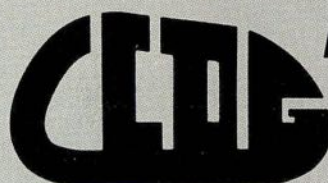
At climbing specialty shops or call . . .
(818) 768-3068
or write . . .

5.10™



P.O. Box 1390 • Glendale, California 91209

CLIMB HIGH INC.



MICROMATES

They're here!

- **Narrow crack protection:** Size range 10.5 mm to 35 mm (.4" to 1.38")
- **Narrow profile** for placement in shallow cracks
- **Flexible frame** for safer horizontal placements
- **Secure deep placement:** Won't walk into cracks
- **One finger pull rings** for easy deep placement retrieval
- **High strength:** Minimum distortion load 1100 kg. (2400 lbs.)
- **Super lightweight**



Ask at your local mountain shop or contact: CLIMB HIGH INC.,
P.O. Box 9210C, S. Burlington, Vt. 05403.

The
Book
of

Kor

"I could quit climbing after this one."

His tone of voice was half serious, yet firm.

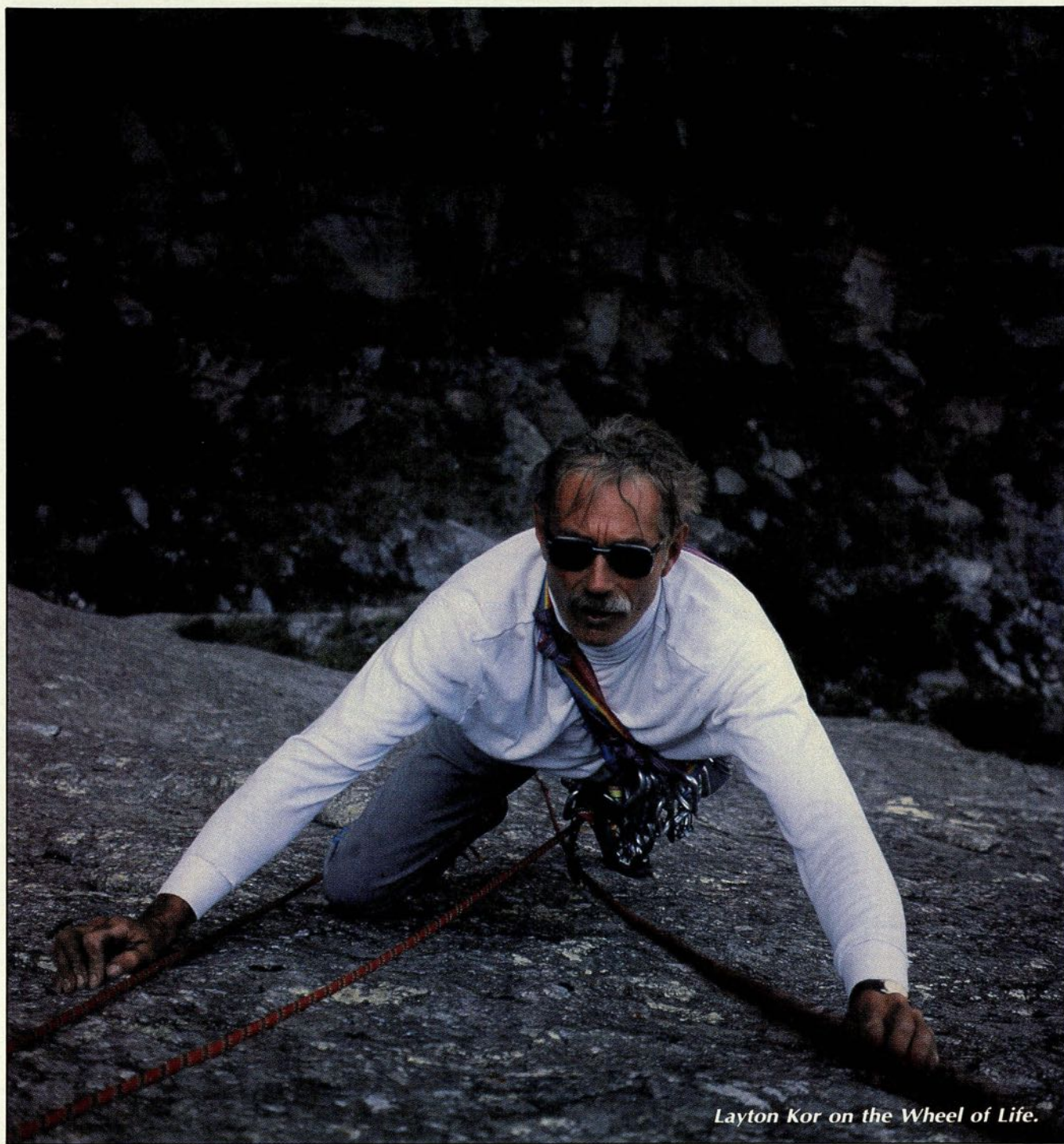
"This might be my last climb

ever in the Black Canyon," he continued,

"It's too frightening a place to climb

for a man of my age!"

by
Ed Webster



Layton Kor on the Wheel of Life.

At 49, Layton Kor is a phenomenon. Strong as an ox, quick on the trail, and fast on rock, Kor still bursts with an impatient vertical restlessness. With little difficulty I can picture him 20 years ago — truly he must have been an unstoppable force. Backing off a climb just wasn't an option. Human failure (never his own), or failure because of the weather — those terms of defeat he could occasionally accept.

The Gothic Pillar, the 2000-foot left skyline of the Hooker Buttress in Colorado's Black Canyon, had been in Kor's mind ("on my list") for nearly 20 years. "I first saw this climb when you were still a

baby!" he would rave. "I can't believe it hasn't been done yet."

"Ed!" The same strong handshake that nearly lifted you off the ground, the friendly chuckle, the distinctive grin. It was great to see Kor again. I hadn't even noticed him standing there — all six foot, four inches behind the counter in the back of the shop. He always seemed to re-enter my life at periods of personal transition. During the past month or two I'd been feeling like I was shedding my old skin for a new one; of what direction I was heading in, I wasn't yet sure.

Photo: Ed Webster

Then, out came the secret. "You've got to promise you won't go off and steal this climb if I show you a picture of it," Kor said sternly, glaring down at me.

Everyone in the room laughed. "Don't show it to him, Kor! You can't trust him!" protested one. "He's the worst possible person you could show it to!" yelled another.

"Sure, okay. I promise," I agreed, pausing long enough in uncertainty just for the effect. Kor produced a color print of the Black Canyon.

A reverent hush gripped the room. The moment of creation, the unveiling. Everyone crowded around the photo. Silently, Kor's index finger traced the elegant profile of the pillar from bottom to top. In eleven years of Black Canyon climbing I had never noticed any possibility of a route there before; I doubted if others had seen the weakness either. It was an improbable line, right up the edge of a 2000-foot pillar. Bands of roofs, wide, snaking dikes of white pegmatite, all were dwarfed by a predominant verticality.

"Well, what do you think?" Kor stammered, impatient.

"You always have had a good eye for a line."

"I'm trying to convince Justin we should leave this afternoon to do it," he said with a telling glance at his prospective partner. Justin looked a bit sheepish at his prospects, like a lamb being led into the lion's den by the master gladiator himself.

As they prepared to leave, I wrote down my new phone number and gave it to Kor, just in case. They sped off in a cloud of dust, destination unknown.

A couple of evenings later, the phone rang.

"Ed? Kor. How ya been?" I could tell by the semi-hushed tone of his voice that I was in for trouble.

"Fine, and you?"

"Well, do you want to do that new route in the Black Canyon this weekend?"

That customary Kor directness. In my subconscious, I knew that Kor would ask me to do the route with him. I already had plans, but thought my other partner would let me out of them.

"Sure, I can go."

"Great, great," said Kor. More hushed words, but firmly spoken. I could picture him rubbing his hands together in glee. He had successfully snared another lamb. We agreed to make firmer plans in a couple of days.

...it hadn't hit me. But after I'd said yes, it did, like a bullet between the eyes. My stomach tightened.

In the excitement of the moment it hadn't hit me. But after I'd said yes, it did, like a bullet between the eyes. My stomach tightened. I leaned against the wall, eyes closed. I had been postponing this day for over three years.

In approaching Kor's climb we would hike down SOB Gully, past the scene of my girlfriend's death — where Lauren had died, cradled in my lap, after a terrible fall. Rarely a day elapsed when I didn't think of her, when the memories didn't come flooding back, of how I held her in my arms

that one last time, how the sun mercilessly baked us during its slow passage across the azure sky. Of her eyes clearing to translucent, reaching a fathomless depth, of her breath slowing to an eternal stillness. Of passing into a new life, without her. I nearly called Kor back, but didn't.

I swallowed hard. Maybe this was meant to be.

Kor wanted to do the climb over three days. Friday through Sunday. Unfortunately, I couldn't leave Boulder until ten pm Thursday night. The drive took six hours.

Next morning, amid rustlings of wakefulness, the outside world intruded. "Morning, partner. You look awful." It was Kor's stubbly face, peering into the back of my truck camper.

"Thanks. That's a hell of a drive," I croaked, feeling amorphous from lack of sleep, flowing outside the normal boundaries of self.

My mind reeled, convulsing, as the sobs and spirit-wrenching agony of loss began to replay in my mind and body.

An hour later, we had packed enough gear for El Cap: three gallons of water, hammocks, pins, bolt kit, spare clothing, sleeping bags. In a soporific state, overburdened by baggage, we began the descent into the raging inferno. Peeling off excess layers of clothing, I suddenly wondered why I hadn't mentioned to Kor earlier that most sensible people postpone Black Canyon climbs until October; it can be a blast furnace in September.

Ten minutes down the gully, various formations — a ridge, the final traverse ledge — took shape in my mind. My breath quickened; I paused to recall the sad events of June 17th, 1984. Kor went on ahead. He knew full well the story, of what was happening. He had helped me then. He would help me today.

Tears came. How could they not? I tried to locate the spot where Lauren had died. Here? Maybe there. The slope had changed, the trail eroding into the embankment. My mind reeled, convulsing, as the sobs and spirit-wrenching agony of loss began to replay in my mind and body. Three long years. That afternoon I had become a new person, born from Lauren's loss to see the world with new eyes, yet burdened by a hurt that felt like it would never diminish.

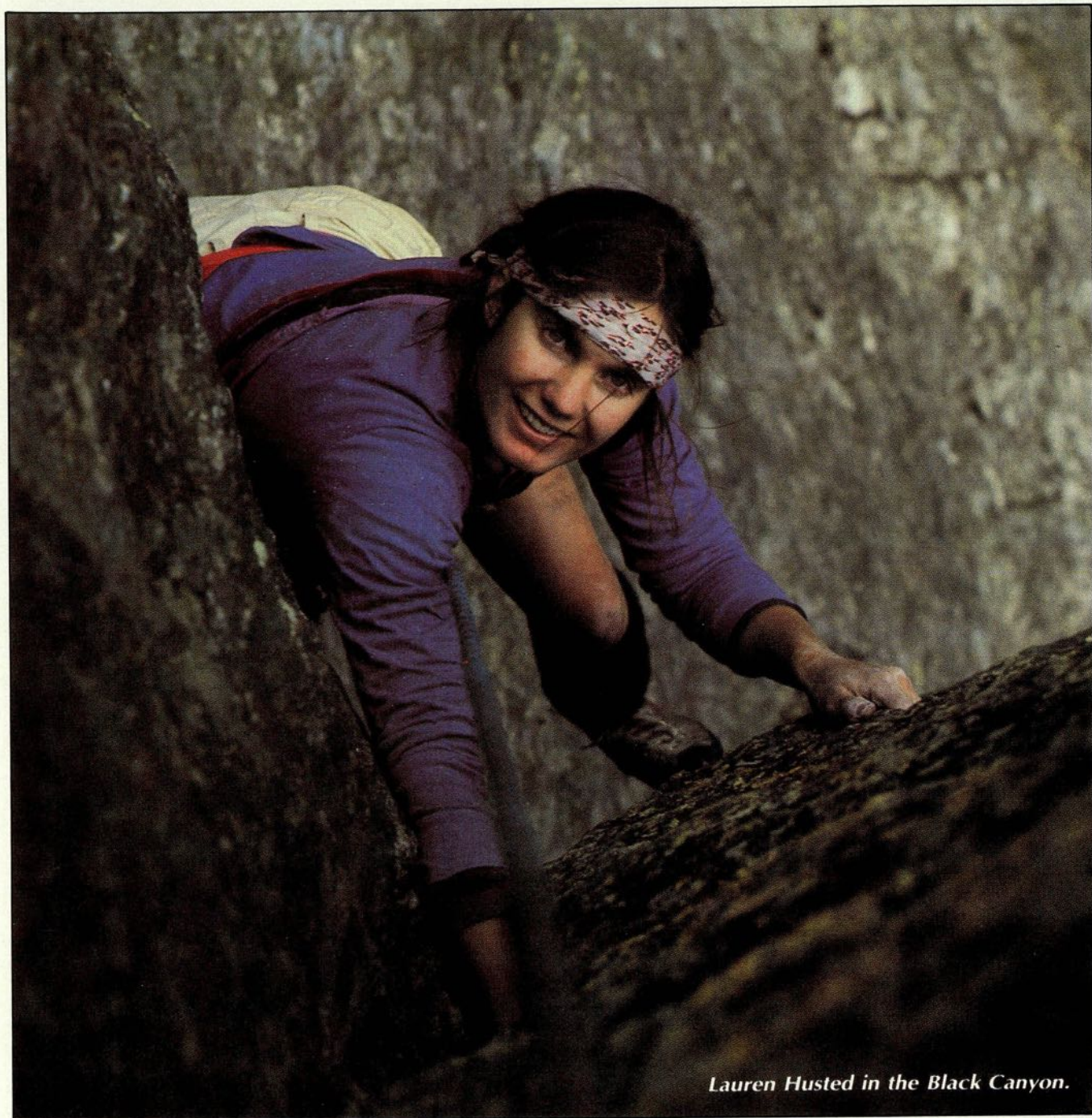
"Ed! Ed! Are you okay?"

It was Kor, down below, waiting.

"Yes, I'm fine," I lied. "I'm coming."

I wiped back the tears with my shirtsleeve. The dark memories slid back deep within me, shielded from everyday living. Beneath the mind-numbing weight of my load, I followed Kor's well-spaced footprints down the dusty, loose trail.

After water and a snack, and a rest by the river, we scrambled up broken ledges at the base of the Hooker Buttress, trending left, towards the start of Kor's proposed Gothic Pillar; the name had just the right touch of foreboding to it. To our dismay, the gallon milk jugs I'd brought were both leaking



Lauren Husted in the Black Canyon.

water at a constant drip. Like sand from an hourglass, it was only a matter of time before our attempt became futile. Stubbornly, we persisted.

Keeping up was like trying to run a race with a locomotive.

The heat was deathly, silent, pervasive, and finally, overpowering. I tried my best to stay with Kor, who was always looking up at the route, expectantly, but too little sleep and the heat combined to humiliate me. Keeping up was like trying to run a race with a locomotive.

The ledge system we had been tracing finally

ended. Without roping up, we could go no higher. We sat on a ridge below the main pillar, immediately to the right of a huge drainage gully that separated us from the next buttress to the west.

"You really don't look so good, partner," said Kor.

The heat had consumed me. Removing the pack, my arms and fingers tingled from loss of circulation. I cradled my head in my hands before I passed out from nausea, and tried to pull myself together. Already, in half a day, we had drunk over a gallon of water. Once on the wall, such consumption wasn't thinkable.

"We'll never make it, partner," Kor said, "but we might as well go have a look."

Photo: Ed Webster

We rappelled into the drainage gully and hiked up unburdened towards the base. The route was there: steep, thin cracks, some tough-looking direct aid on the second pitch, then roofs and pegmatite above, with the hint of enough cracks to link the whole fantasy together. Higher still, the incredibly steep final pillar loomed up to touch the sky.

Kor nodded appreciatively. "Just as I thought it would be."

After a short jumarc back out of the gully, we left a gallon of water, re-packed the gear, and started to retrace our steps up. Retreat became a penitence, a foot-by-foot suffering. The heat was our crown of thorns, our packs, the crosses. Even Kor began to slow down, and I relished his humanness. Refreshed by our short rest and reconnaissance, I actually began to enjoy the suffering of our flight back to the rim. If anything, the grueling trial prepared me to walk by the scene of Lauren's death again.

My pace quickened as I approached the location; even with my pack I nearly jogged uphill, charged by adrenaline. This time, I would find the spot.

But I couldn't find it. Some of the tragic events of that June afternoon were buried so deeply, they would never resurface.

I cried. I had to let the tears loose, and yearned for Lauren to smile, to be alive again. I was unashamed of my sobbing. This time Kor stepped slowly up the trail to join me. We crouched like hunchbacks beneath our monstrous packs.

"It's okay, partner, really," Kor said, "I know how you feel."

"... 'Do you want to rope up?' I asked. 'No, I'll be fine,' she said."

"It was years before I could even think about climbing, with a smile, after Harlin died," he continued. "I used to sob like a baby, too, just like you are now. So don't feel bad."

"It was so senseless — up there," I pointed, "across those ledges; see where they narrow? The rock was loose, but my mind never registered the danger. 'Do you want to rope up?' I asked her. 'No, I'll be fine,' she said. She was even carrying the rope... Don't you see I had to let her make her own decision about roping up? I had to give her that simple courtesy, of respect for her growing abilities as a climber."

"I was twenty feet away when she fell, when the handhold broke; she hadn't tested it."

After a silence, Kor spoke quietly. "The death of a close friend is impossible to relate to, unless you've experienced the same loss yourself," he said. "When I'm climbing with another man, if something were to happen, well, that's just part of the game. Everyone knows the risks; if you don't, you're just deceiving yourself. But climbing with your girlfriend, or wife..."

He stopped, shaking his head. "I don't know about that. If anything ever..." Kor contemplated the words, but couldn't finish. His calm tone and the deep look of sympathy in his eyes revealed the

hurt Kor had known. He took a measured breath and continued.

"Harlin and I, well, we had a lot of plans. Lots of people criticized John for his publicity seeking, his way of selling his own climbs. Finally it caused him and Royal to part; after their climb on the Dru, they couldn't even speak to one another, which I always thought was really too bad."

"...Harlin was a man of action," Kor said firmly, "and when he was killed, life just wasn't the same."

"John was a mover, though, a man who loved to get things done and head on to the next project. The more I got to know him, the more I found we had things in common. Harlin was a man of action," Kor said firmly, "and when he was killed, life just wasn't the same. For me, and for several others, his spirit was irreplaceable."

He glanced up at the fading light on the upper rim.

"Come on, partner," he said, his voice returning to normal. "We'd better get going."

Exhausted by our quasi-military maneuver, we stumbled back into the campground at six pm. Over dinner, I convinced Kor to accompany me on a new free climb on the canyon's cooler, shady side the following day. It was a climb I had begun with Lauren the day before she died; we'd been rained off the first pitch. To climb it now with Kor seemed very fitting. During the dark days of summer 1984, our conversations had helped me more than he knew.

After registering for the climb, we descended Old Headquarters Draw the following morning. Kor had been the first to descend this gully in the 1960's. "And here I am still doing the same darn, stupid thing — climbing."

"I just want you to know you're the only person I would do this for, Ed," Kor moaned as we crashed down the loose gully through wet dirt, leaves, and prickly bushes. "But why did you have to pick me to come along? Is this some kind of special torture for elderly people?"

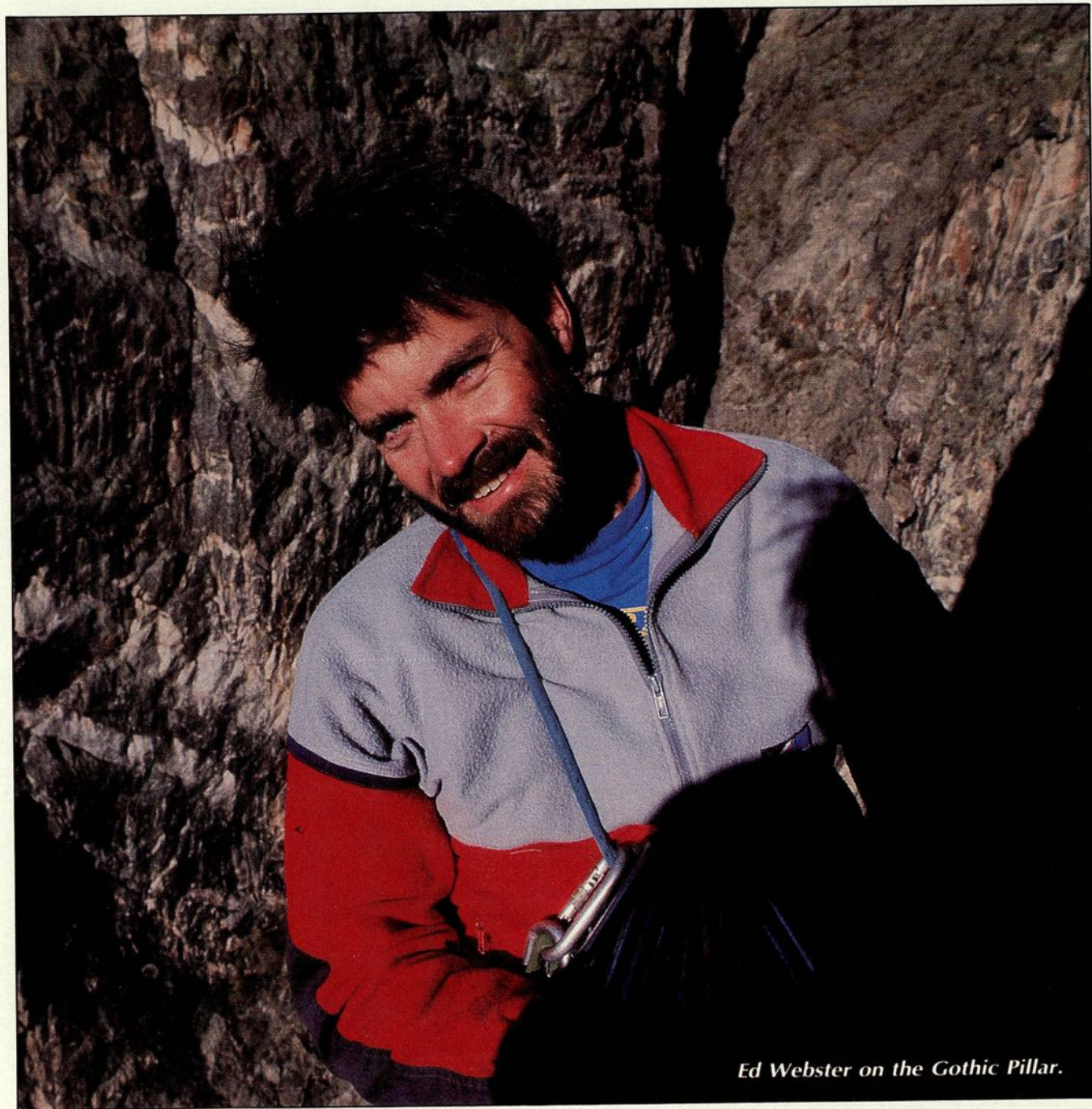
And so it went. Kor the Oppressed, Kor the Elder, Kor the Magnificent.

My rusted carabiner and wired nut were still in place near the top of the first pitch. The climbing was sustained and spectacular, up the center of a steep slab. Kor was able to follow a short 5.11 section first try, his second 5.11 ever. At the belay he asked, "So what is 5.12 like?" I told him I would arrange something with Christian Griffith.

We savored the unique view of North Chasm View Wall, perfectly framed on each side by the gully we were slowly but surely escaping from.

"I want a photograph of that for my living room. You can see all three of my routes perfectly!" Kor chortled. Hours of scrambling and two island-tops later, the *Wheel of Life* had been climbed. The Gothic Pillar remained.

"You'd think with all these hot young climbers about," Kor continued, "someone would have done that route by now."



Ed Webster on the Gothic Pillar.

The next weekend was still hot as blazes. Colorado was in the grip of some of the best Indian summer weather I could remember, saturated by several weeks of brilliant, uninterrupted sunshine. The next weekend maybe? Putting up a new route in Eldorado, I strained a finger; Kor hurt his back at a new job, then weathered the twenty-four-hour flu.

"At least we'll have plenty of excuses," chirped Kor on the phone. The promised weekend drew closer. "Let's do it, partner," he commanded. "We won't get better weather than this."

"You know, neither of us, particularly me, are getting any younger," he added to seal the bid. "Boy, I'm really looking forward to this one. That

upper part of the pillar is going to be wild!"

We re-convened at the Silver Dollar Friday evening for another home-cooked dinner with the cowboys of Crawford. "You'd better enjoy that last beer," advised Kor.

By midnight, neither of us had slept, and Kor said his stomach felt bad. Minutes later, he was outside, crouching over some nearby bushes.

"At least these bushes will be well fed," he quipped.

What a start to the climb, I thought.

At six am, two alarms sounded in the stilled darkness. There was a tapestry of stars, no wind. We switched on the headlamps, and the packs, for a change, were reasonable.

Photo: Layton Kor

"My back, I have to protect it," Kor said. "You get the big load." He continued, "Anyway, I know you need to train for that next expedition of yours."

SOB Gully looked entirely different in the dark, illuminated by the bobbing halos from our headlamps. We made our steps carefully, in no hurry to injure an ankle, or worse. When I hiked by Lauren's resting place, I made a silent cross over my chest and thought of the good times we had shared during our one year together. A faint, brief smile broke to the surface.

**Here, at last, was the legendary
Kor, effortlessly finding passage up
impregnable rock.**

The reality of the 1500-foot vertical and overhanging pillar rose before us. Kor had, by now, fully woken up and he seemed to harbor no ill effects from his early morning purge. We rappelled into the gully with our loads and soloed some frightening 5.4 to a ledge below the first pitch.

Kor gave me the lead, a thin crack system in the back of a slight groove. It began vertical, and didn't let up. Kor wanted the steep aid on the second pitch, which appeared to be one of the cruxes. My modern rack was soon put to work.

"What are these little guys?" Kor marveled, examining a TCU. "I can't believe all these little goodies you have on your rack! If we'd only had these things when I was younger."

Near the groove's top, I branched right up a parallel corner; Kor moved the belay up thirty feet, and a bolt, the only one on the climb, anchored us to the questionable, fractured rock.

Kor had been baking in the midday heat, and was eager to come to grips with the next lead. At my belay, he didn't bother to sort any of the hardware, or re-stack the ropes. "Okay, you can put me on belay," he said, grabbing the gear.

"We've got to get going, partner. That was a two hour pitch. It's noon already," he barked. Although at first Kor's speed-is-the-essence style bothered me, I soon realized that moving quickly was his kind of climbing.

Kor traversed left, placed a knifeblade, stepped in his aider, and the pin immediately popped. Another sling was gone from our already short supply. Almost instantly, he was in a frenzy.

"These cracks are all blind," Kor raged. With his massive forearms, he solved that problem, obliterating several more knifeblades into the rock, crack or not! Later he told me a story of how Chouinard had once presented him with a brand new pin he'd forged, a Lost Arrow supposedly stronger than any of his others.

"Come on, have a go at it," urged Yvon. Kor later returned the piton, curved in a half moon, ruined.

Several more of Chouinard's pitons appeared to suffer a similar fate as Kor continued lacing a string of chrome moly up the thin cracks. Here, at last, was the legendary Kor, effortlessly finding passage up impregnable rock. I took pictures as Kor progressed upward and disappeared around the corner.

After lowering the bag, I jugged up, cleaning. I

prayed I'd be able to extract all of his pitons, remembering how Pat Ament, his hands badly rope-burned from catching Kor in a previous fall, hadn't been able to remove several of Kor's aid pins. Fortunately, I was able to extract all but one, a recalcitrant angle.

Reaching the belay, I said casually, "I only had to leave one pin."

"You what?" Kor bellowed.

"I couldn't get out one pin, the angle," I repeated, a bit louder.

"Oh," said Kor, relieved, "I thought you said you couldn't get out any of the pins."

The next pitch brooded above, overhanging, a light brown wall plastered with random flakes, pierced by occasional thin cracks, and crowned by a horizontal band of roofs. Above that, the nether-world.

"I figure we have a 300 to 1 chance of getting to a bivy ledge," said Kor. "I want you to climb like you've never climbed before in your life, partner."

The route finding was complex. I freed a huge detached block; Kor cringed, anchored directly in the line of fire. Aiding on TCU's, I climbed a bottoming crack to better placements, which brought me to the ominous roof band.

"You know," mused Kor, "maybe we shouldn't name this route the Gothic Pillar. Or else no one will ever repeat it."

Hanging in aiders amidst brittle flakes, it seemed unlikely that the line would ever attain trade-route status.

Gingerly, I swung out the roof above 600 feet of exposure, and pulled over. The rock was black and hard and surprisingly free climbable. After a left-hand dead end, I headed up right, then above a sloping stance, a hand crack led up the right side of a huge flake to a ledge. Heaven!

"We've got it!"

The bag swung free and Kor started up. "I hate prussiking!" he shouted. "Please toss me the haul line and put me on belay!"

After Kor reached the stance, we shook hands. "I'm impressed," he said, "that was really fast work." As I sorted the gear, Kor continued, "You don't know how much I hate to prussik. Ever since Harlin, I just can't stomach it. I knew there was a good reason why I didn't go on climbs like this anymore."

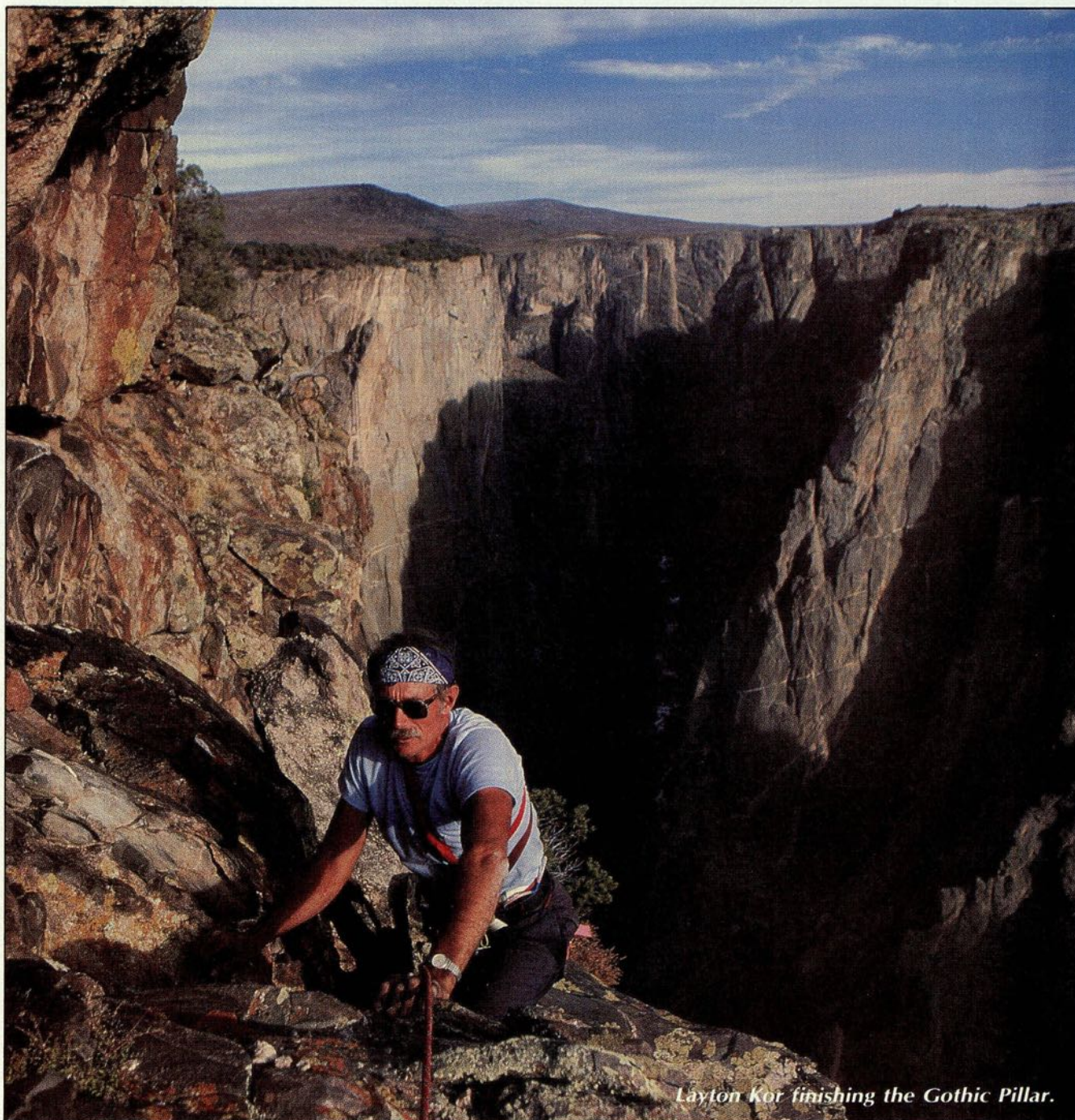
"Okay, Big Daddy. Go for it," he commanded. "It's six pm. You've got one hour of light."

I laybacked up an immense flake that split a 40-foot pegmatite band, then cut left, laybacked a hard flake to jugs, and reached an obvious depression where we thought a ledge might be hiding. Kor demanded a forecast; "Nothing!" I shouted. I hauled up some extra gear, and my headlamp, just in case. Above, a vertical crack beckoned.

Aiding like a fiend, I leap-frogged TCUs up the crack, rapidly gaining height. A thin wired nut ripped through the parallel crack and suddenly I was airborne for fifteen feet.

I hammered in a pin. I'm sure the sound of it ringing was music to Kor's ears. I imagined him thinking, "Now Ed's doing some real climbing!"

Up higher, the angle relented. I could see another indentation and two bushes — a small



Layton Kor finishing the Gothic Pillar.

harbor, a ray of hope on an otherwise smooth wall. The ledge was big enough for one person to sit on.

We made ourselves as comfortable as possible. Kor's bad back reserved him the best spot, plus, he was bigger than me. I slung myself in etrier loops beside him, and we draped the sleeping bag over us. The night was perfectly calm, silent, and relatively warm. A three-quarter moon hung above the velvet ramparts of the far rim. Earlier panicked moments were replaced by a slow acceptance of our night-long vigil as Kor contentedly crunched away on his favorite food, a carrot.

"The best food comes straight from the ground." Kor would probably have brought his famed diet of lettuce, too, except it didn't pack

well. He told about fasting for a month down in Texas, which cured him of pleurisy and saved his life. He lost nearly fifty pounds, but was healthy upon returning home. Friends warned him otherwise, but Kor had not listened.

Not once did we talk of retreat. There was only up and tomorrow's fair morning light. Kor's stories entertained us for the next couple of hours. His pantheon of mythological partners from the Golden Era — Robbins, Chouinard, Pratt, Roper, Beckey — became real people in Kor's all-too-human anecdotes. He spoke of Robbin's ego and his drive to be the world's best rock climber; of Chouinard's well-rounded attitudes towards all types of climbing; of Pratt's free climbing excell-

Photo: Ed Webster

ence, which none of them could match; of Roper's speed as an aid climber and ability to go the distance; of Beckey's never-ending quest for new climbs, and his unmistakable wardrobe.

Dr. Kor now dispensed sleeping pills. "The secret to my bivouac success," he said, and we feigned sleep. The moon arced across the sky. As bivouacs go, it wasn't too bad.

At breakfast, we sampled some water from the two single gallon water jugs I had brought. Each had originally been filled with picante sauce; I'd washed them each several times in soap and boiling water, trying to get rid of the aftertaste.

Kor took a big swig — and promptly spat it out. "Taco juice!" he ranted. I was in the doghouse for the rest of the climb. "Everyone in the world is going to know you brought taco juice!" In the brisk air, we sorted the rag-tag chaos from the night before. "I can do this one," Kor announced. "You save your strength."

He scampered left across a face up under the left end of a horizontal ceiling, then underclung back right nearly 50 feet. "I've never done a pitch like that before!" He led another pitch up rounded, bottoming cracks, across a devastatingly exposed 5.9 traverse, then back left to a ledge.

"I'm just going to hand over hand the haulbag," he shouted, "This technique with the jumars is just too slow sometimes." And up went the 75-pound bag: zip, zip, zip.

The next pitch went up a nice crack to a terrace where we could fully relax. I lost patience getting the bag up lower-angled rock; swearing made me feel awkward in Kor's presence. He patiently helped me with the sac.

Only the upper pillar remained. A thin crack system traced the line of the arete to our left, an exceptionally airy proposition. Access to the arete was barred by a short, overhanging headwall.

"You're going up that?" asked Kor. "This is definitely your lead."

**As he reached the stance, he said,
"Like any good Dolomite climb
worth its salt, right on the edge."**

I launched up on good holds and rigged two wired nuts before the wall bulged out even more. The edges were square, but separated by big reaches; I felt out the moves. Just when I was giving up hope, a perfect Friend placement materialized in a shallow slot, and with its security, I was up.

As he reached the stance, he said, "Like any good Dolomite climb worth its salt, right on the edge."

The temperature rose. Three short chimney cracks in good rock brought us to another terrace, 100 feet below the rim. To our dismay, we discovered we were on an island, a typically unpleasant, time-consuming, Black Canyon phenomenon. I led up the final arete, then Kor hiked to the summit.

We searched for a likely rappel anchor to get us the 70 feet back down into the notch which

separated us from the final rim. The midday heat conspired against us, breaking our concentration. Sitting beside each other on two boulders, we were more tired than we realized.

"What about this rock?" asked Kor.

**In the next instant I was tumbling
toward the edge, and a 2000-foot
drop to the river.**

We both reached for it at once. It was a sizable block; still, it looked doubtful. I grabbed the top and reefed on it, my right hand across my body. Although appearing to be solid, when I tested the top, it snapped and catapulted me backward. In the next instant I was tumbling toward the edge, and a 2000-foot drop to the river.

"Ed!" screamed Kor. I went head-over-heels and crashed to a halt on a flat section ten feet from the void. I shook my head, waking from a bad dream, and meekly crawled back, rubbing my bruised right hand.

"I thought you were a goner," said Kor, obviously distraught. "I really thought you were going over the edge."

Shocked, and trying to relax, I sat back down next to Kor. I had been a split second from oblivion. It had been way too close. With an awful insight, I suddenly knew the same hopeless thoughts Lauren must have had in her last moments. The coincidence was too great that I would have a nearly identical experience here.

"And you're going to Everest next year," said Kor laconically. "With all this loose rock, this place is like the Eiger."

"You can never let down your guard, can you?" I whispered.

"No one's perfect," said Kor. "Death is a possibility every time you rope up. The point is, you've got to keep on learning. You can't dwell on the danger."

We completed the climb subdued, dog tired, and with the utmost care. I snapped a few shots of Kor coming over the rim, grinning his grin. I wondered what he was thinking. He scrambled up to the top, to the trees, and safety.

"My luck, I'll probably be gored by a deer," he joked.

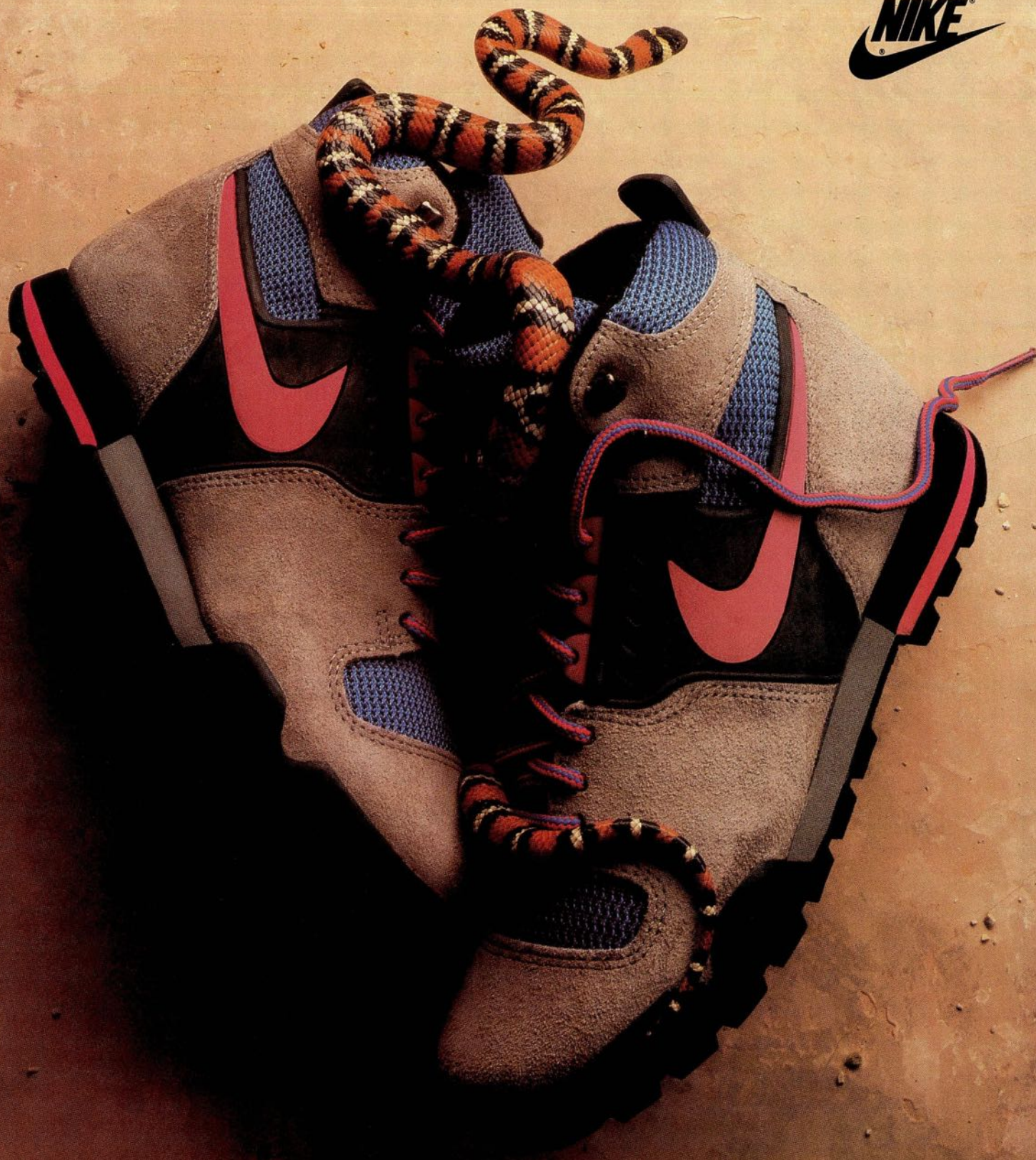
It was nearly dusk when we stumbled back into the campground from the clutches of the scrub oak jungle. Rejuvenated, Kor sped off for his long-awaited T-bone at the Silver Dollar.

He said he was "tickled pink" that he had finally completed his twenty-year dream, a new Grade V in the Black Canyon. He could go home and be content for the rest of the winter — but next spring? Well, he'd have to see.

The next morning, in Kor's home, his family had gone, either to work or to school. Kor was out laying stone.

On a bookshelf, I spotted some of his climbing books, in particular *Diretissima*, the story of the 1966 Eiger Direct in winter. The dust jacket was tattered and torn, the book well thumbed over the years. I opened it carefully.

"To Layton," read the dedication, "a small token, Big Daddy, of the Great Days. Dougal."



WORN TO BE WILD.

You want a hiking boot that isn't afraid of the wild life? Take on the Son of Lava Dome, offspring of the first lightweight boot ever made. It's tough, it's durable, it's as lightweight as it gets. If you wanted tame, then stay out of the woods.



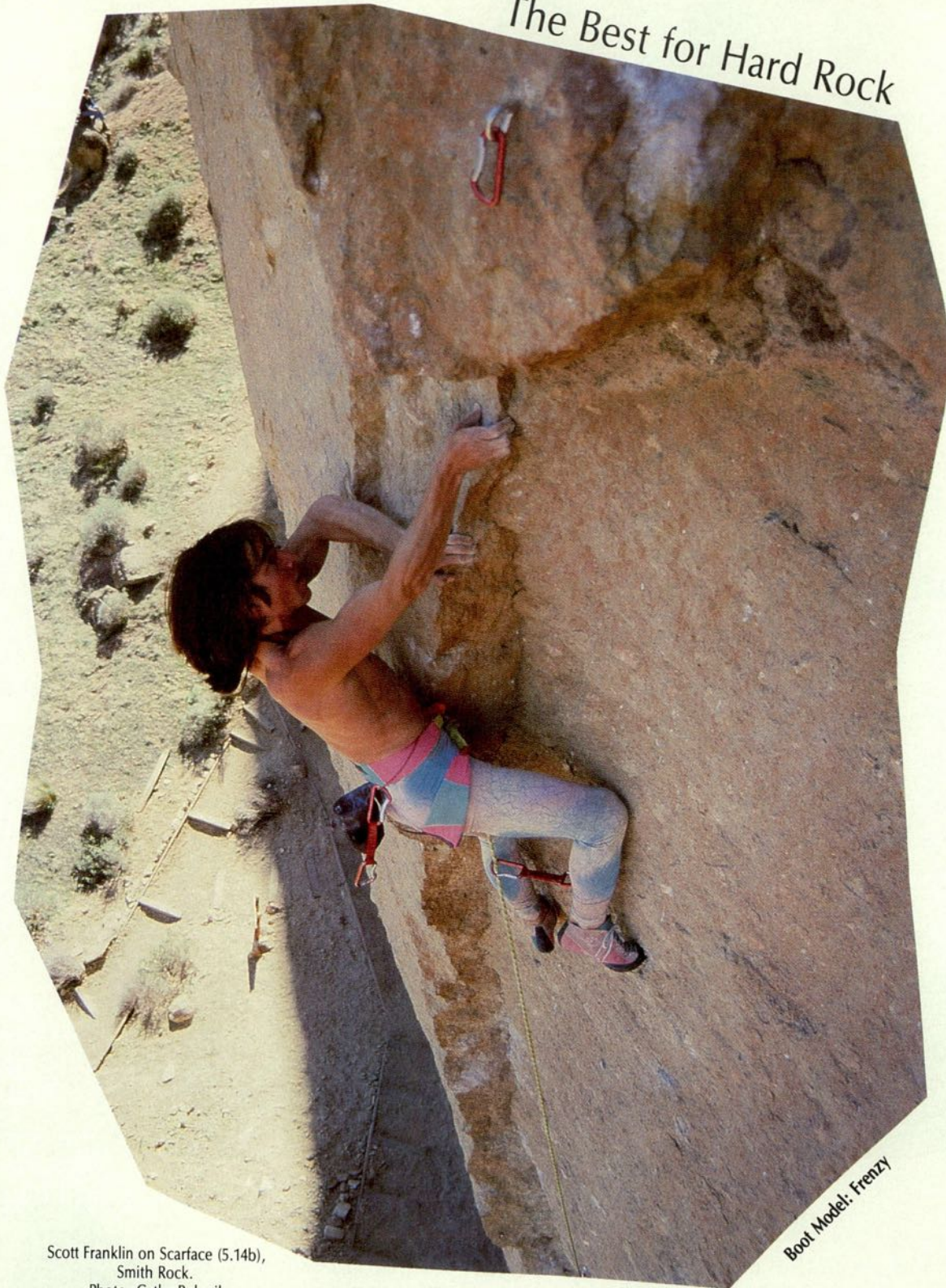
Women's
Lava High
(above)

Men's Lava
High

Son of Lava
Dome

CLIMB WITH THE BEST

The Best for Hard Rock

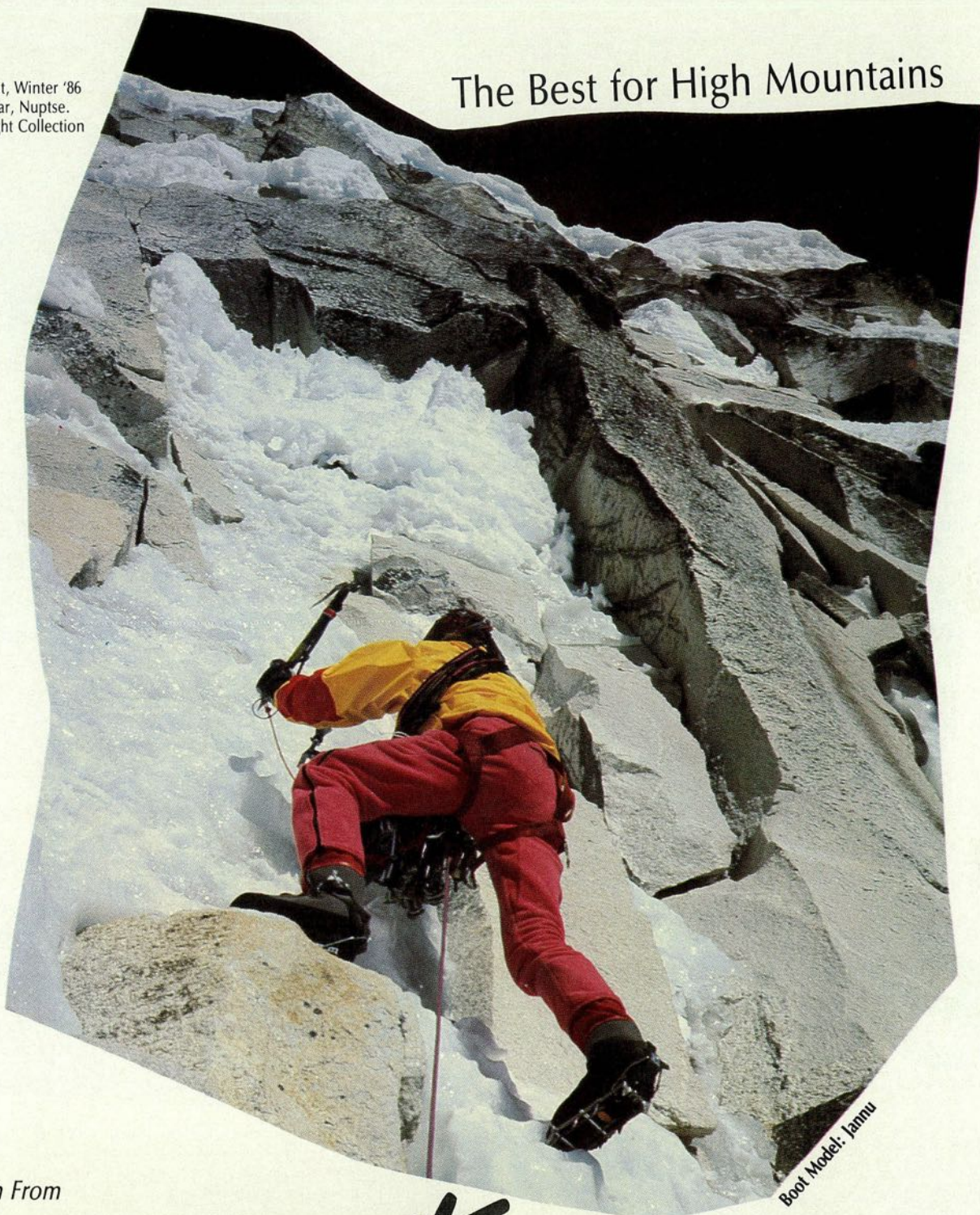


Scott Franklin on Scarface (5.14b),
Smith Rock.
Photo: Cathy Beloeil

Boot Model: Frenzy

Marc Twight, Winter '86
South Pillar, Nuptse.
Photo: Twight Collection

The Best for High Mountains



Both From

ONE Sport

7877 S. 180th Street, Kent, WA 98032
(206) 251-5020

Boot Model: Jannu



euroSTONE

by Beth Wald

ITALY

To most climbers, Italy means two things: pasta and the Dolomites. On my first trip to Europe, I was also guilty of this tunnel vision. I spent all my days among the Dolomite's towering massifs, struggling with the long approaches, endless chimneys, loose rock, bad protection, horrendous descents, sheer terror, and unexpected bivouacs. And in the evenings I always recovered with spaghetti surfeits. My alpine aspirations have since been corrupted by luxurious years of cragging; but luckily, I found on my last visit that Italy, like France, has excellent limestone crags as well as big walls and snowy peaks.

Italian climbers who cut their teeth on the desperate big walls of the Dolomites have applied the same intensity to Euro-style free climbing on smaller cliffs. Talented climbers like Manolo, Luisa Jovane, Bruno Pedirova, Robert Bassi, and Heinz Mariacher (Austrian) have been pushing grades and developing new crags ever since the free climbing craze spilled over the Alps from France in the early 1980's. In 1985, Italy dropped a bomb on the climbing world with the introduction of climbing competitions, setting off an explosion of popular interest and media attention that is still rocking Europe. Despite the rapidly increasing numbers of Italian climbers and their armchair fans, Italian crags are still relatively uncrowded, and hundreds of kilometers of unclimbed limestone await the new generation.

Setting at Arco with an ancient castle on the hilltop in the background.

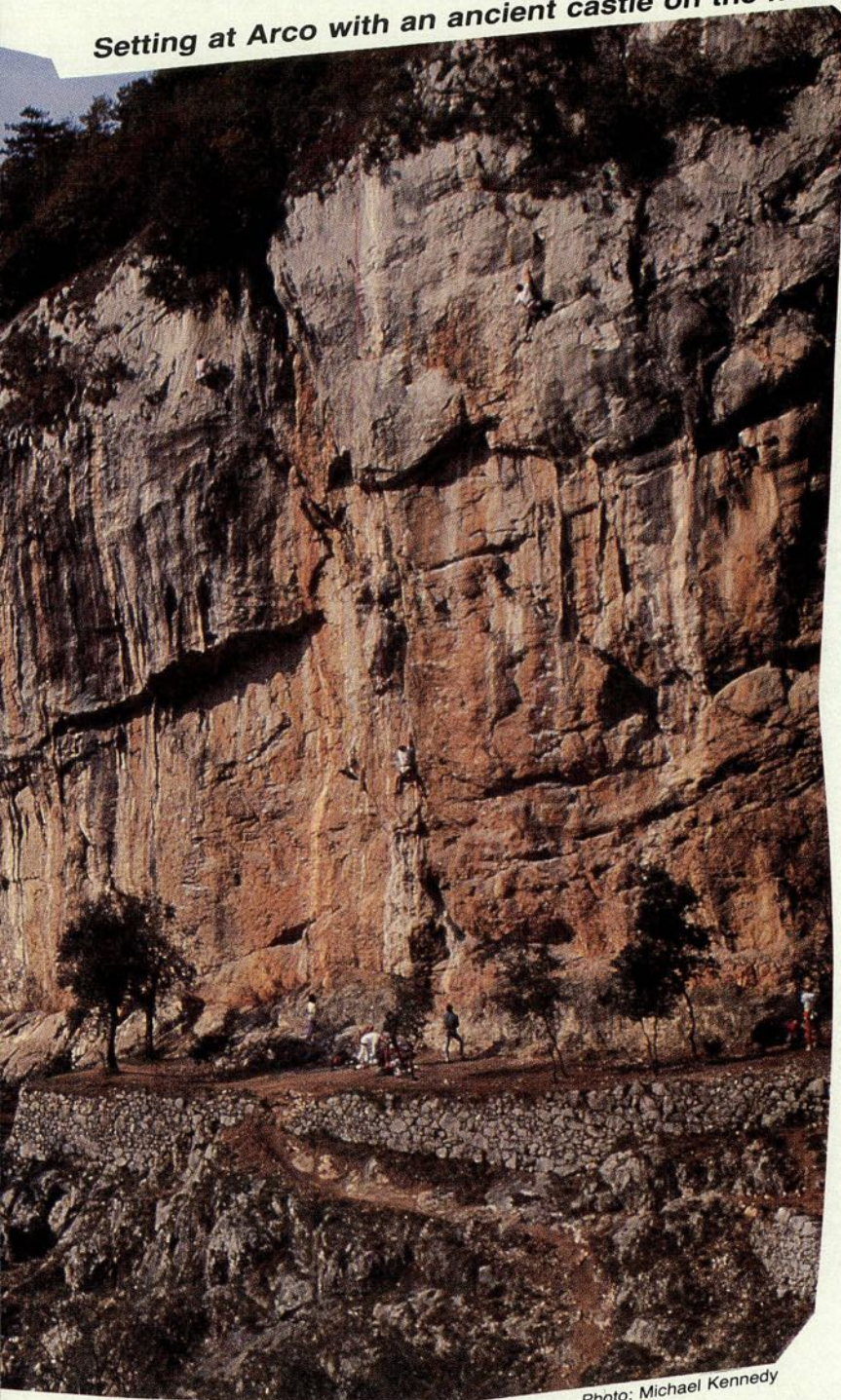


Photo: Michael Kennedy

More than almost any country in Europe, Italy is a seductive place to travel and climb. The landscapes are classically picturesque, the ancient towns and villages have a disheveled, timeless aura, and the nonstop barrage of sensuous food and drink is enough to disrupt even the strictest rice cake and mineral water diet. Even the language is unique: mellifluous but staccato and extremely verbose. Picking up phrases is quite easy, especially if you speak Spanish or French, but a native response to stuttering attempts at communicating can be a daunting flood of enthusiastic Italian. In northern Italy, German is a common second language.

Trains in Italy are comfortable, relatively efficient, and less expensive than in France or Germany. Buses travel most roads between smaller towns.

Hitching is safe in northern Italy and is a good way to travel the short distances although it can be frustratingly slow for long hauls. Another hazard of thumbing is that Italians seem to love to show off their driving prowess and powerful cars to unsuspecting riders. Even the most carefully acquired Riviera tan can pale after a few minutes of screeching past other speeding cars on blind corners. One consolation is that your death grip on the door handle and seat back is a great workout — hopefully not your last.

The same warning can apply to those traveling by car. The Italian Autostrada is an anarchist version of the smooth-running German Autobahn. Speed limits are universally ignored; most cars tick along at 90+ mph, and snarls of traffic periodically appear out of nowhere. A common response is to swerve onto the median and around the jam without hitting the brakes. Although convenient, traveling by car in Italy is not only scary but incredibly expensive. Gas often tops \$4/gallon, and a quart of oil goes for \$6.

Arco

The limestone walls of Arco have had many roles in the rich history of the Sacra Valley. Castle ruins from the 14th century still brood from the tops of buttresses overlooking Arco. For centuries, these buttresses have protected the valley from the cold winds of Central Europe, creating a small island of Mediterranean climate and vegetation. The walls that now inspire climbers to crank radical moves once inspired Renaissance artists to set brush to canvas and writers to wax eloquent.

"The transparency and purity of the air, the wealth of color and the countless novel impressions offered by the landscape at the south foot of the Alps have an invigorating effect on those seeking to escape the long cold winter and damp spring of the North," wrote a 19th century botanist. The "wealth of color and novel impressions" have significantly increased

in Arco with the influx of climbers from all over Europe. Alpinists have climbed the large cliffs in the valley for decades, using it as a winter training ground for the longer Dolomite routes. In 1983, a new breed of craggers started exploring the shorter, steeper, and blander walls. Climbers such as Roberto Bassi, Manolo, and Heinz Mariacher chose the most extreme lines, establishing many 7's, while other Italian, Austrian, and German climbers filled in the gaps with more moderate 5's and 6's.

In the last decade, the area has grown quickly in the amount, quality, and diversity of climbing, while retaining all of Italy's expected pleasures: friendly people, strong espresso, immortal gelati, cheap but good red wine, pizzerias, and, according to Jerry Moffatt, unsurpassed roads for riding motorcycles really fast.

Todd Skinner on La Signora Degli Appigli (7b+), Lago di Garda.

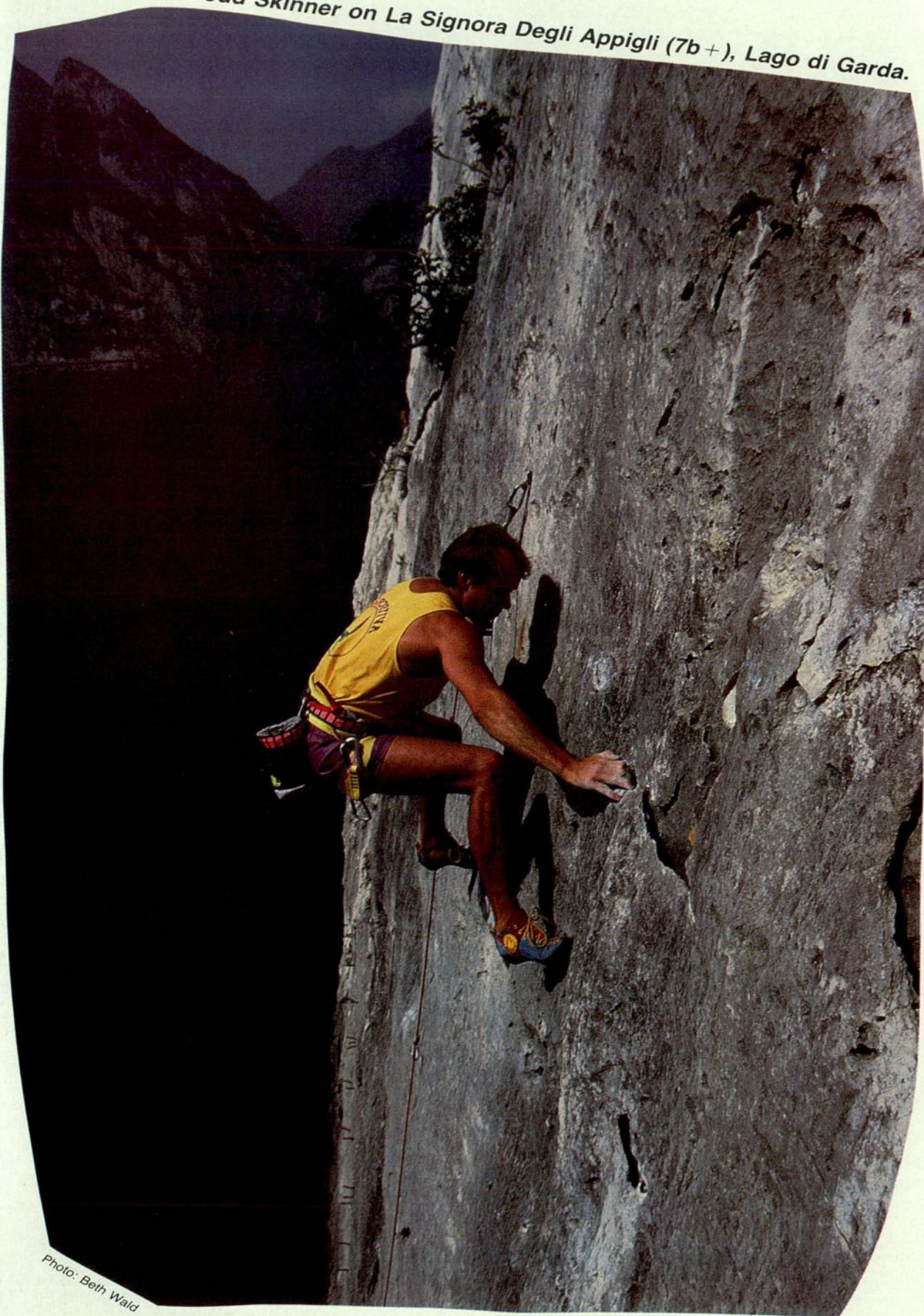


Photo: Beth Wald

Climbers who manage to tear themselves away from these diversions have a choice of about a dozen cliffs, and at least that many are waiting to be developed in the limestone-rich valley. Arco limestone is amazingly varied: there are large broken walls with easy routes, slabs, extremely thin vertical faces, and severely overhanging pocketed walls. All are available in a range of exposures so that you can always find a crag in the sun or shade. The cliffs extend from a mere five-minute walk from the most popular cafe in Arco to a ten-mile drive north or south of town. Without a car, the best methods of reaching the farthest crags are hitching or renting a bicycle.

American climbers are used to being misunderstood by non-climbing locals at U.S. crags; situations such as being jeered at in cowboy bars or arrested for taking a third trip to the salad bar are common for us. Consequently, the gracious attitude of the Arco townspeople may throw the visiting Yankee off-guard. The friendliness may seem suspicious at first ("Hey! Why do you want my autograph? I suppose fingerprints are next!"), but it's truly genuine, so don't panic; you'll get used to it. Because of the annual rock climbing competitions held in Arco, anyone in Lycra is seen as a potential celebrity and a major contributor to the tourist industry. The entire town is trying to make Arco a climber's mecca by building a bouldering garden, creating a "Free Climbing Center" with campground and climbing school, plastering the walls of cafes with autographed posters of rock stars, and offering *prezzi speciali per climbers* (special prices for climbers) in restaurants and bars.

Despite the benevolence, staying in Arco can be an expensive proposition for climbing nomads. Camping fees at the two campgrounds near town are about \$4-\$6 per night. The Free Climbing Center, the first campground a kilometer or so north of town on the side road to Ceniga, has tennis courts, a pool, cafe, grocery, free and clean showers, bungalows for rent, a climbing school, and the bouldering garden across the street. Another 1.5 kilometers down the road is the "Camping Zoo," a smaller, less elaborate campground named for its miserable collection of caged, semi-feral barnyard creatures and local wildlife.

There are other overnight accommodations. At one extreme, it is possible to crash in the woods along the road, somewhere north of the Camping Zoo. Be careful; it is a small valley and quite populated. And don't camp in the orchards! For those with fatter wallets, there are several inexpensive hotels and pensiones (often called *albergos*), some of which cost only slightly more than the campgrounds. Check at the tourist office in town (on via G. Marconi, east of the main square) for the best deals and help with any other questions.

Arco itself is a classic Italian town of skinny cobble streets winding in a maze of one-ways between ancient, peeling buildings capped with crazy quilts of red-tiled roofs. For centuries, Arco was a popular resort for European aristocracy, so there are numerous mansions surrounded by rambling gardens of exotic plants scattered through the town. Like most Italian towns, the church square is the social and commercial center, and climbers seem to have adopted this tradition. The Cafe Trentino, facing the

Mauro Corona on the steep rock of Erto.

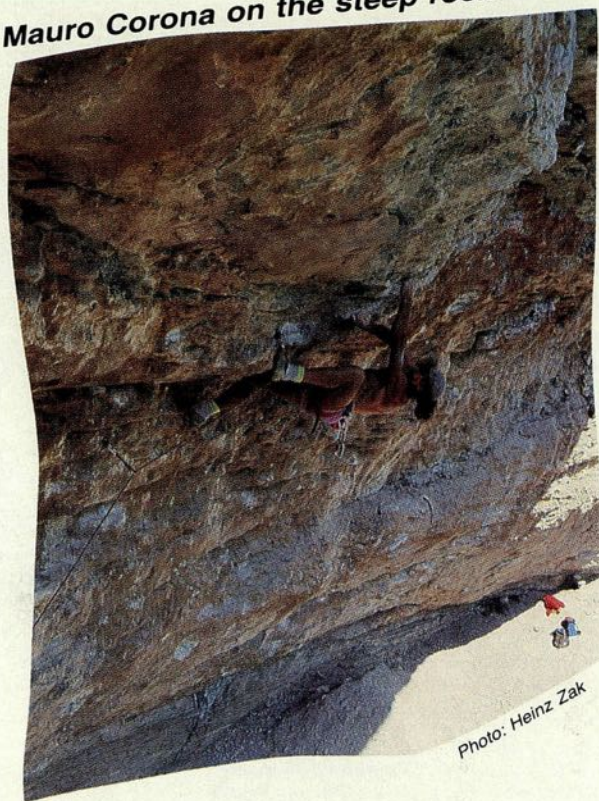


Photo: Heinz Zak

church, is the climber's cafe of choice; many hours and cappuccinos can be wiled away here with no hassles from the establishment. Conveniently, the best gelati (ice cream) in town is just across the square on via Segantini along with a climbing shop that has a good selection of climbing mags to peruse on rainy or rest days. Restaurants are numerous, varying wildly in fare and price; the best pizzeria is on via Vergolano several blocks down from the square.

Arco offers plenty of other amenities for the good life, including two supermarkets south of the main square, post office, bank, Thursday open markets (featuring tons of shoes, miniskirts, and leather jackets), and the Disco Spleen. This questionable club is located under a machine shop in the industrial district on the road to Riva. The warehouse environment has been barely softened with pulsing lights, tacky art nouveau copies of Greek statuary, overstuffed couches, torn pool table, and slippery dance floor — all in all, highly recommended 5.12 entertainment that should definitely be ticked. Arco also has a laundry, but the price of cleanliness is high at \$1 per item, be it sock or sleeping bag.

With only a short drive, hitch, or bike to Lago de Garda, rest days can be comfortably spent in the sun or surf. Catch the afternoon wind on the lake (sailboards can be rented in Torbole) or the high noon rays at one of the not-so-secluded topless beaches. For those needing their daily adrenalin fix, Spiaggio del Lucertole provides excellent, multi-level cliff jumping. Parking and entry to the popular beaches near town can cut into a budget, but you can find a variety of fine and free spots farther down the shore. There are also smaller, less crowded lakes in the region.



ARCO

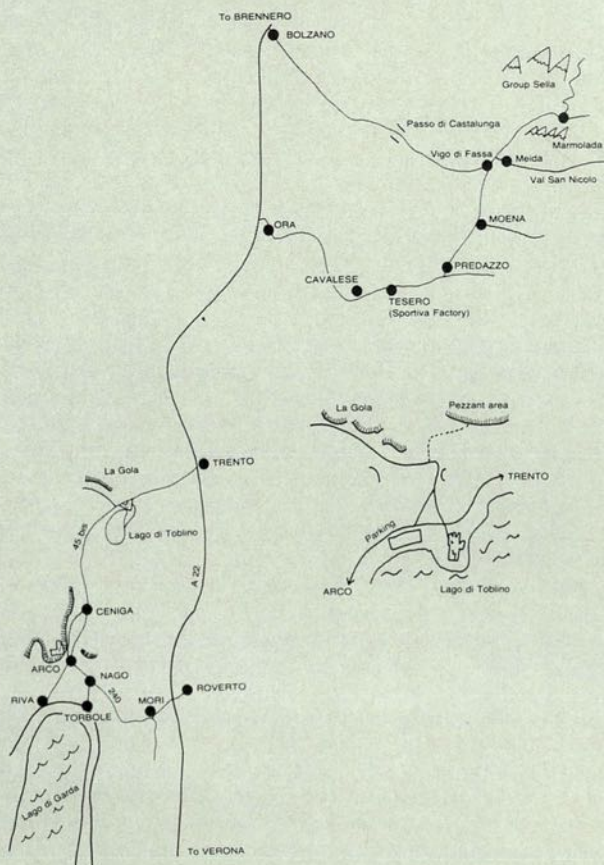
Season. Despite its rather northern position, Arco is located in an extremely mild, almost subtropical climate where olive, citrus, and palm trees flourish hundreds of miles from their native environments. Although some consider Arco a year round climbing area, summer is hot, and the heat and humidity can prevail through September and into October, as do crowds of sail-boarders and vacationers from northern Italy, Austria, and Germany. Although crowded crags are rare in any season, the best months for weather are late October through April, winter being dry and sunny with day temperatures often in the 60's.

Getting There. To reach Arco by car from the north, drive down the A22 Autostrada to Trento, then take the road 45 bis to Toblino, through Dro, Cengia, to Arco. From the south, take the South Roverto exit off A22, follow road 240 through Mori, then at Nago head north to Arco. Trains run from the north and south to Roverto, where you get off and catch the bus to Arco right outside the station.



Photo: Beth Wald

At the cafe in Arco's town square.



Recommended Routes (see map).

RUPE SECCA AND COLODRI

Sommadosi (6a), 10 pitches, 300 meters; bring nuts, Friends.

Renata Rossi (6a), 9 pitches, 290 meters; bring nuts, Friends.

Stenico (6b), 5 pitches, 150 meters; bring nuts, Friends.

Zanzar (7a+ or 6b depending on start), 8-10 pitches, 250 meters.

PROMONTORIO DI KROZ

Primo Specchio (5+ / 6a).

Grandi Praterie per Manitu (6b).

La Padelle (6b).

SWING AREA

Sirac en'Rut (6b+), 2 pitches, 70 meters.

Pipestrello (7b+), 20 meters.

Superswing (7b+), 2 pitches, 60 meters, sustained, very technical.

Nisida (7c), 25 meters, difficult foot-work.

Indiana Jones (7c+), 2 pitches, 50 meters.

MASSONE (Most routes here are excellent, but there are a few standouts.)

Pegasus (6a+).

Action Direct (6c).

Killer Event (7a+).

Soviet Supremo (7b).

NUOVI ORIZZONTI

Nuovi Orizzonti (6b, 6a, 5+), 3 pitches.

Luci nel Buio de Una Notte d'Estate (6b), 30 meters.

Buon Pane (6b, 6c), 2 pitches.

Mago Volante (6b, 7a+), 2 pitches.

SPIAGGIO DELLE LUCERTOLE

Daffy Daffy (6a), 25 meters.

Honky Tonky (6b), 35 meters.

Bepi Nero (7a+), 30 meters.

Luisa Violente (7a+), 3 pitches.

Non Sequitemi Mi Sono Perso (7b).

La Signora Degli Appligli (7c).

Tom and Jerry (7c), 30 meters.

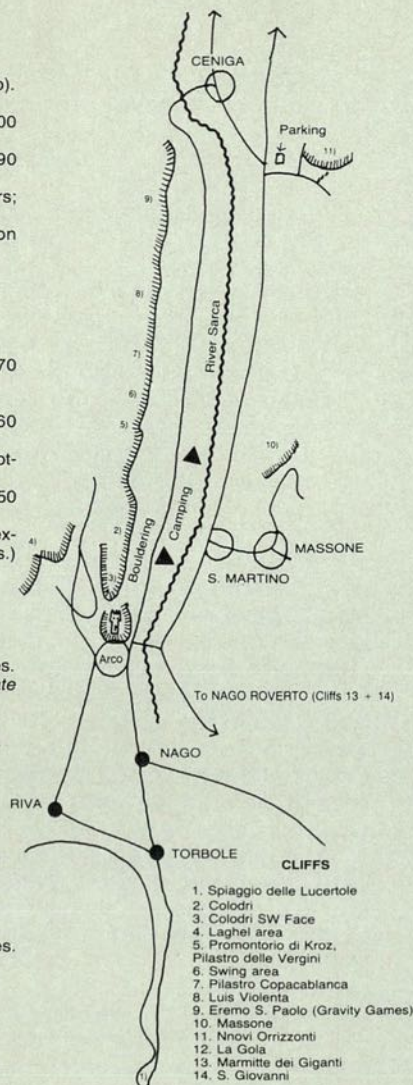
LA GOLA

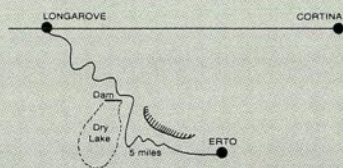
Roulette Russa (6c).

Dollari e Papari (6a+, 7a+), 2 pitches.

Tursen (7c).

007 (7c).



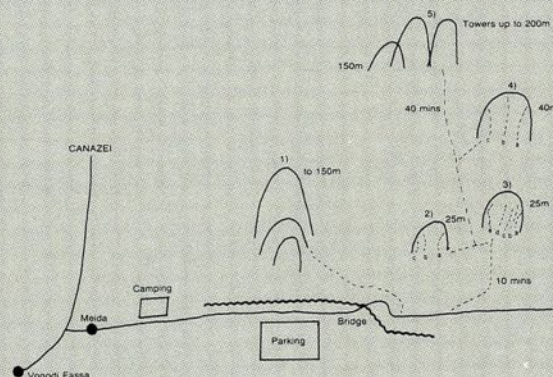


VAL SAN NICOLO AND ERTO

Season. The best months at San Nicolo are late May through September. It's an ideal place to retreat to if you're stormed off the big routes in the Dolomites; the weather is better and many routes stay dry in the rain. Since the elevation is over 5000 feet, the area closes down during the winter.

Getting There. The route to San Nicolo Valley is easiest to navigate by car, by train and bus it is somewhat complicated, and very slow by thumb. By car from the south, take Autostrada A22 north to Ora, exit west and drive an exciting road (48) through Cavalese and Vigo di Fassa. A few kilometers north of di Fassa, head west into the village of Meida and continue up the valley, past the campground until you see white rocks on the left and a parking place on the right just before the bridge. Park and hike about 10 minutes to the rocks. From the north, exit west off A22 at Bolzano on road 241, go through Passo di Costalunga to Vigo di Fassa and follow the above directions. Trains will take you to Ora or Bolzano, buses to Bigo di Fassa and hitching and walking should get you the rest of the way.

To reach Erto from Val San Nicolo, continue NE on 48 through Canazei, then head south at Abarra or Cortina towards Longaronne and Belluno. Just north of Longaronne, take the road towards Erto. The wall is on the left just past a dam, about 5 miles from the junction. From the south, go through Belluno from Venezia (Venice) to Longaronne, and continue as above.



Recommended routes in Val San Nicolo (right to left for each crag; see map).

CLIFF 1

- Caterpillar (6c).
- Total Fertig (7b+).
- Torore Prima de Sera (7b+), 3 pitches.
- Come Back (8a).
- Autostrada (6b).

CLIFF 2

- a. Luna Piena (7c+).
- b. Via Col Vento (7b+).

CLIFF 3

- a. Negativo (7a+).
- b. Top Schlatterer (7a+).
- c. Orso Bruno (7a+).
- d. Flashdance (8a).
- e. Kendo (8b).

CLIFF 4

- a. Fra Martino (6c).
- b. Antibiotika (7b).
- c. Kinderspiel (7b).

CLIFF 5

- Tuoni e Fulmini (7b+), 6 pitches.

One Warning: It can be risky, especially during tourist season, to leave valuables lying about in your car while you're off climbing all day. Throughout Europe, it is safer to leave things in your tent in a campground or in the hotel than locked in a parked car. Enough of that, let's go on to Arco's climbing.

The nearest cliffs are Mount Colodri and Rupe Secca, just outside of town on the east side of the river along the back road to Ceniga. Both are large cliffs, with long, moderate routes and a handful of one-pitch testpieces "created" for the 1986 and 1987 Sportroccia competitions. The Italian guidebook emphatically warns that the long routes on these cliffs are "not equipped for sport climbing," meaning that they have few or no bolts and extreme tactics, like placing gear, must be used to safely ascend the crag. The absolute classics that shouldn't be missed are *Renata Rossi* (6a, 290m) and *Sommadosi* (6a, 300m).

Farther north on the same road is a section of buttresses called Promontorio di Kroz and Pilastro delle Vergini. These cliffs have a large selection of routes ranging from slabby to steep, 5.7 to 5.13, all on good rock with established rappels. The Swing Area is the next stop on the road, a very blank-looking wall with extreme routes of steep face climbing and one or two roof problems. One of these, *Gravity Games* (7c+), climbs the longest section of the roof on completely fabricated holds. Ethics aside, it is a good pump and perfect training for power pocket pulling in France. Two others, *Pipestrello* (7b+) and *Indiana Jones* (7c+), are considered to be some of the best extreme routes in Arco.

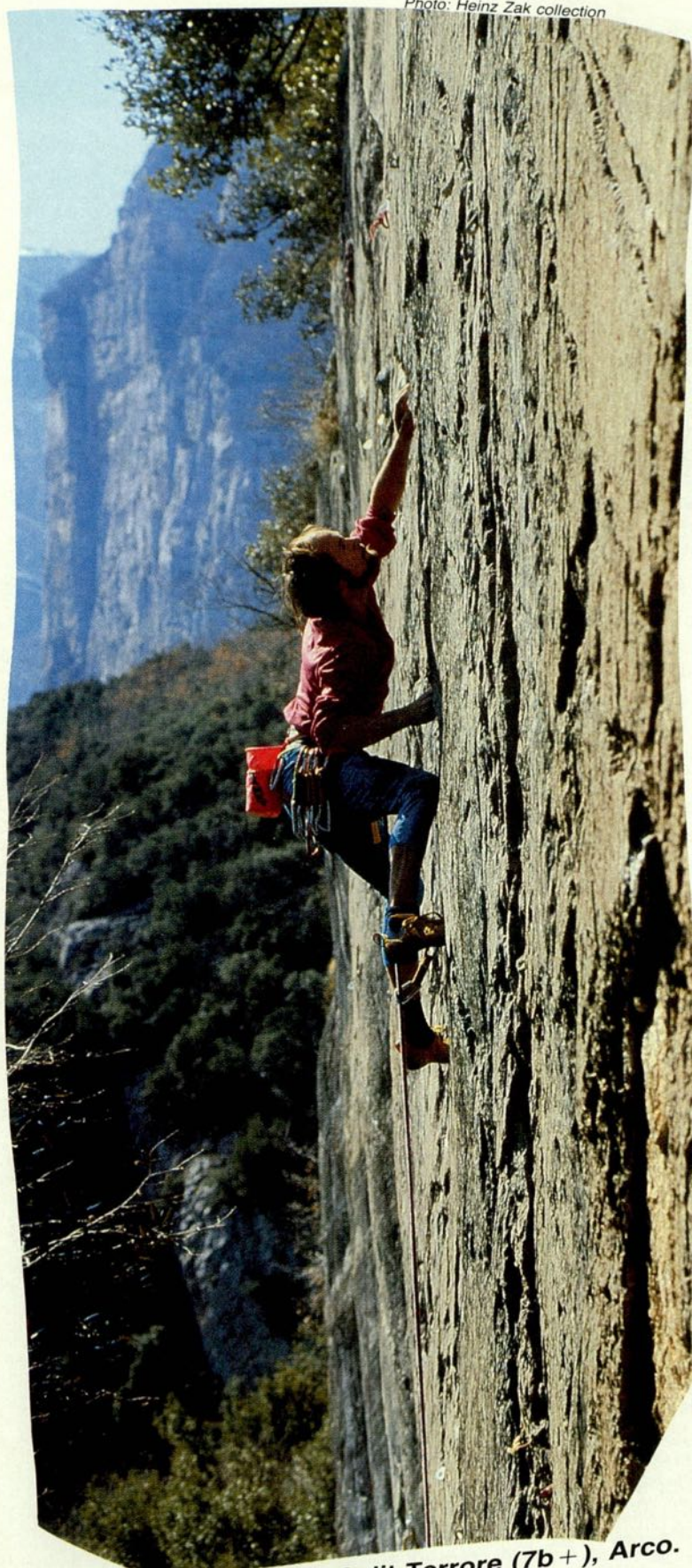
Across the river from Arco, through a maze of alleyways in the village of Massone and up a dirt road, is one of the best crags in the valley. Massone is a deceptively small cliff system packed with more lines than an Italian patriarch's face. The routes ascend orange-hued limestone through bulges and roofs in one pumping, Buoux-style pitch, complete with convenient anchors for quick rappels back to earth. Although most of the routes here are excellent, *Soviet Supremo* (7b) and *Killer Event* (7a+) are two of the most outstanding.

Further along the east side of the river, along the main road (45 bis) to Ceniga, is Nuovi Orizzonti, an excellent large cliff of slab and technical face climbing up to three pitches high. The best of these is *Nuovi Orizzonti* (6b, 3 pitches). If driving to this cliff, be sure to park in the area on the left before the final road to the cliff (see map). On the backside of Mt. Colodri is a circle of small cliffs including the Colodri's southwest face and the Laghel/Lomego area, reached from the northeast end of town by following signs to Laghel. This area is cool and shady on hot afternoons and has routes of all difficulties, from *Marcella*, a classic grade 5 dihedral, to *Modesty Blaise* with its 7c+ crux lunge.

Farther afield are the cliffs outside of the immediate Arco area. The most unique is Spiaggia Delle Lucertole, outside of Torbole about 7km south of Arco. This cliff juts out into the vast waters of Lago de Garda, so to reach the base of the routes climbers must hand traverse out a row of iron spikes driven into the rock above the waterline. Once below the chosen route, one must hang a belay on the questionable pegs. A fall before clipping the first bolt means a sudden soaking, or a painful collision with a curious sailboarder. The routes here are mostly less than vertical face climbs, with a few bulges on the harder routes. On the backside is a slab that can be reached from the road. There are several routes here, although the super low-angle slope of the rock makes it look more appropriate for skateboarding than climbing.

On the north side of the valley is La Gola, a collection of cliffs that are quickly becoming the hotbed of the activity since most of the plums at Massone have been picked. The power players in the Italian scene, Manolo, Bassi, Mariacher, Stefan Finocchi,

Photo: Heinz Zak collection



Heinz Zak on Split Terrore (7b+), Arco.

and Austrian Beat Kammerlander, have all left their marks on these steep gray cliffs. The rock at La Gola is highly featured and laced with edges, flakes, shallow pockets, even cracks, and the routes are highly technical, ranging from 6a to 7c with several harder routes in progress. To reach La Gola, take the road through Ceniga towards Trento until you see a large lake and castle on the right. Take a left opposite the road leading to the castle. The cliffs will emerge on the left, then the right. Another fine cliff, the Pezzant area, is a short walk north of the road.

A scattering of other cliffs, like Place Zebratta (long routes), and Marmitte dei Giganti and Passo San Giovanni (short routes), are also worth exploring, and further up the valley there are many good long routes put up by the old guard that are not mentioned in the newer guidebooks. Ask Gino Seneci at the climbing school or inquire at the climbing shop for information about these classics.

San Nicolo

As heat and humidity begin to engulf the valleys and lowlands of Italy in May, climbers migrate to higher altitudes for the summer. The massive towers of the Dolomites are the traditional destination. New wave crag climbers, however, horrified at the idea of long approaches with heavy packs, multi-pitch routes, and marginal rock, have created a more accessible klettergarden of routes in San Nicolo Valley at the base of the peaks. Scattered throughout this beautiful, subalpine valley are a number of brilliant white and gray limestone "boulders," ranging from 70-600 feet. The area has only recently been developed; the first routes were done in 1984 by Bruno Pederiva and Fabrizio DeFrancesco, and locals Heinz Mariacher and Luisa Jovane joined in soon afterwards. In 1986, Jovane put up *Come Back*, one of the first 8a's to be established by a woman.

Since it hasn't seen much traffic, the area offers mostly difficult routes, although there is plenty of room on the larger cliffs for first ascents of easier routes by those traveling with bolting gear. On the smaller cliffs, many routes follow gymnastic sequences through impossibly steep terrain on rock that appears to be a cross between Buoux and Smith Rock. *Kendo* (8b), put up by Heinz Mariacher, is a little bit like climbing out from under a globe, starting at the South Pole and trying to reach Siberia. On another boulder, *Luna Piena* (7c+) is a desperate but classic face climb. The large cliffs farthest to the left have two excellent moderate routes, *Caterpillar* (6c) and *Autostrada* (6b), as does one of the smaller crags, *Fra Martino* (6b+).

The rocks of San Nicolo are located a few kilometers up-valley from the village of Meida. Villages in this part of Italy resemble Tyrolean hamlets; you may think you're in Germany but you can still get cappuccino and pizza at the cafes. There is camping just outside of Meida, but it's expensive. It is easy to camp in the woods or in your car near the rocks. Nearby Vigo di Fassa has a grocery store, bakery, and cafes.

Another good summer crag in the Dolomite area is Erto, near Longaronne. Described by Mariacher as having "the best overhang climbing in Italy," the cliff

here sports mostly very strenuous, often difficult, but well-protected routes, ranging from 6a to 8b. A welcome break from pockets, the routes at Erto are mostly edge problems, but the biggest advantages is that the climbing is only a 30 second walk from your car. There is free camping all over the area. Both Erto and Longaronne have grocery stores, bars, cafes.

So try Italy on your next visit — Arco and Finale in the cooler months or San Nicolo and Erco in the heat of summer. Some think these areas have the best atmosphere for visiting American climbers in Europe. There are other cragging areas in Italy, of course; but I'll leave those to the more adventurous.

Finale

by Bill Hatcher

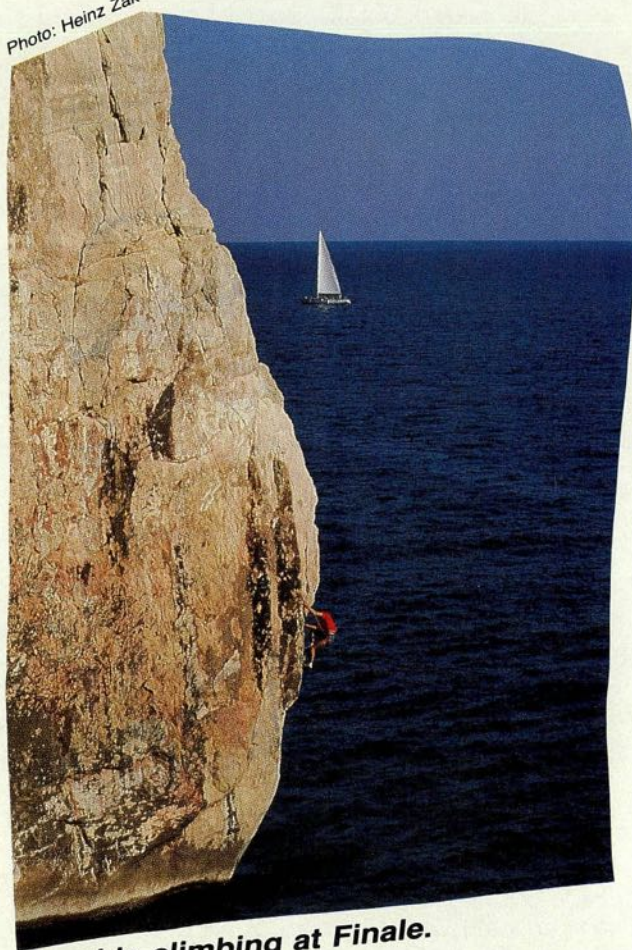
For months I had been trying to get to Europe. To commit myself, I bought a non-refundable plane ticket in June, figuring I would head over in the fall. Some experienced friends suggested I skip the famous limestone areas of northern and central Europe unless I wanted to spend my time in cafes waiting for the rock to dry. Go south, they said, to the smaller but warmer and drier areas along the French and Italian Riviera. I didn't want to miss the hotspots, so I shrugged off their advice. But I packed a swimsuit.

I landed in Brussels, on the coast of Belgium, and the weather was anything but friendly. You wouldn't have known it was mid-afternoon. Gray skies, a low, dim sun, and pale natives gave this town the ambience of a Siberian labor camp. I was told it had been raining here — and in most of Europe — for two solid weeks. Climbers in the Frankenjura and at Verdon and Buoux were probably sponging out their tents.

Getting a train ticket was no problem, but the woman at the ticket counter gave me a nasty look when she learned Finale was on the Italian coast. The rain and fog was constant until the next day when the train cleared the Appenine hills and rolled into view of the Med. The air cleared, I pulled off my sleeping bag, and swore off espresso, at least for the next few days; one too many cups were starting to have a toxic reaction. Along the coast, as the train approached Finale from the east, the view was a continuous blur of olive groves, pines, ancient villages, and an occasional white flash of limestone. Finally, the train arrived at Finale, surrounded by cliffs. The only view not blocked by the crags was the open sea past restaurants and beaches.

Finale is actually two towns, Finale Liguria and Finale Borgo. Finale Borgo is an ancient fortified village, surrounded by walls built centuries ago when Saracen pirates terrorized the coast. These days the job of pillaging has been taken over by the masses of tourists from the north who head to the coast to rip off their clothes and pay homage to the sun. The town is a wealth of bakeries, cafes, and bars. As opposed to their American counterparts, Italian bars have a cafe atmosphere; coffee is the drink of choice and no beer or hard liquor is sold — you'll have to go to a club for that. In Borgo, I found

Photo: Heinz Zak



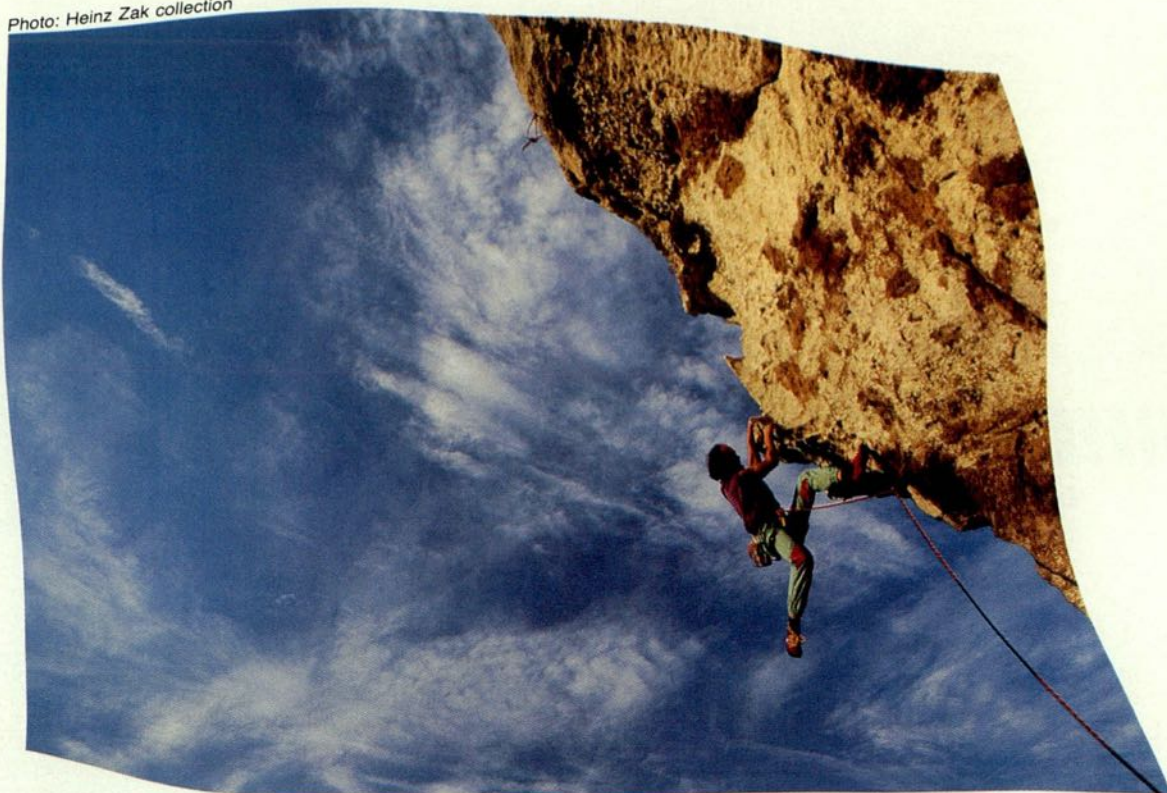
Seaside climbing at Finale.

two sources for climbing information: Bar Centrale, which has a book on new routes, and the nearby Sportalp mountain shop, which carries guides, topos, and climbing gear.

In Finale Liguria, a more modern town than Borgo, there is only a maze of hotels and restaurants. Since locals in these towns gave up fishing for tourism as a means of support years ago, you can find just about any kind of fun imaginable. Tourist season is in full swing from April until October; during off season most hotels are closed. I found the best bars and cafes are along the beach front and boardwalk, which is also a great place to find amazing Italian ice cream.

Most of the cliffs surrounding Finale aren't as good as those higher up in the valleys. There are good boulders (some marked with name, grade, and directional arrows) right in town and along the beaches, but most of the area's climbing is up three narrow valleys radiating from Finale. These valleys are better known to locals by the names of the small villages in each (Perti, Figlino, and Boragani) rather than their actual names as given in the guidebooks. Of the dozens of crags in these three valleys, only eight are recorded in the latest guides. These eight cliffs, however, boast over 600 routes! One look driving up any of them, and you know the locals have at least a couple hundred more routes on the smaller limestone cliffs dotting the hillsides.

Photo: Heinz Zak collection



Heinz Zak on Quasimodo (6c), Monte Cucco.

My introduction to Finale climbing was at Monte Cucco in the central valley, ten kilometers from Finale and above the village of Feglino. This 300-foot-high, 800-foot-long limestone cliff, I soon discovered, isn't a playground for the weak. Most of Finale's hardest routes are found here, including several highly regarded 5.13's. Most of its 200 routes are 5.10 or harder. Although I saw a few cracks, I never clipped anything but bolts.

The limestone is great, gray in color with shallow pockets. Most walls are vertical and a few are overhanging, but none are as radically tilted as the steepest in the Frankenjura or at Buoux. Because of the cliff's easy access from the road and the number of excellent routes, it's Finale's most popular and crowded crag. There's even a climbing shop in Feglino just below.

During the weekends, Monte Cucco is usually lined with ropes and crowds. Finale's other crags, however, offer a wide variety of climbing in more isolated settings, often above quiet vineyards or occasionally near a castle. My favorite was Rocca di Perti. This cliff is bigger than Monte Cucco but has about the same number of routes. The walls aren't as clean and unbroken as Cucco, but the ratio of hard to easy routes is more reasonable. The hike to Rocca di Perti is also more involved, but you'll never have to queue for a route. And the character of the climbing is like Cucco, balancy moves up good rock with millions of shallow pockets and edges. When climbing on these cliffs, rarely will you have to weigh yourself down with any more than the barest limestone accouterments: chalk bag, rope, a dozen quickdraws, and the most pointy shoes you can find.

Monte Cucco and Rocca di Perti might be the best cliffs, but Finale's other cliffs also offer a slew of good routes. Of note are the sea cliffs at Cappel Noli. To get to the routes it is necessary to rappel off a guardrail and traverse along the base, dodging the spray of breakers. There's a popular 800-meter girdle traverse called *The Mixing*, which is especially exciting when high waves have soaked the cliff. Most routes follow lines of rusted pitons for 100 feet up to the road.

Now about logistics: The best guidebook to Finale I found was the small German edition entitled *Finale Auswahlfuhrer*, by Martin Lochner. The guide has a map to the major crags around Finale plus route topos. There's a pay campground in Finale and a free campsite at the base of Monte Cucco (there's water nearby but no facilities). I suspect Finale is too hot for climbing during the summer, but the locals say you can climb year round by staying in the shade or sun as needed.

To reach Finale is simple. By car, take the A-10 Autostrada. If coming from France, get off at the Finale exit; if coming from the direction of Genoa, turn off at the Feglino exit. The Italian Autostradas are toll roads and aren't cheap. If you really want an exciting ride without paying a toll, try the coast road; but remember that you may never reach Finale alive. Trains pull through regularly.

After my stay in Finale, I couldn't believe I had actually considered spending the money to climb at the weather-besieged areas to the north. Finale offers a variety of climbing that even after two weeks I had barely touched. With the area's superb climate, rock, beaches, and hundreds of bars, cafes, and clubs, it's a climbing destination not to be missed.

Vital attraction



All of these models have been created by Dolomite with the assistance of Patrick Edlinger's technical expertise, unquestionably the leader in free-climbing worldwide. Years of climbing experience together with the ability of a 90 year old company make these models the most advanced in the field.



Patrick Edlinger



PE Magica

The Magica excels on steep edges and pockets. The technical characteristics of the Magica are excellent, and offer precise edging control in the toe area. The cut away upper allows good freedom of movement, and the thin toe works brilliantly in cracks. This anatomically shaped boot fits an average width foot, and will not stretch. The sole utilizes the latest generation of sticky rubber on the front half, and a special lightweight rubber on the heel portion.



PE Emotion

Friction shoe designed for multi-purpose use, the Emotion performs equally well on faces, cracks, or slabs. This boot comes with a medium height upper, and a sticky rubber sole and rand. The asymmetrical last fits medium to wide feet, and will not stretch. The Emotion makes an excellent choice for the beginner or expert.



PE Ballet

The Ballet represents a new concept in free climbing footwear. A lightweight boot/slipper combination, the Ballet works extremely well for bouldering, indoor walls, and certain modern desperates. The laceable front gives an excellent fit and offers great precision and sensitivity. A unique heel construction locks the foot solidly in place.

olomite

Sole U.S. Distributor:
Metolius Mountain Products
63255 Lyman Place
Bend, Oregon 97701
(503) 382-7585

the FORGOTTEN CLASSIC

by Mark Hesse

Judging the relative worth of climbs is an esoteric exercise. Our sense of appreciation is influenced by our particular area of specialization and our preference for certain types of routes. This is to say nothing of the quality of the overall experience. Such ancillary things as locale, weather conditions, relationships with partners, and the degree of personal challenge also affect our perceptions of a route's quality.

Yet there are climbs that clearly stand out as exceptional, and Allen Steck and Steve Roper's *Fifty Classic Climbs of North America* is the best compendium of them around. While there may be some debate as to whether the 900-foot mud-draped Titan in Fisher Towers is a classic, there's no arguing when it comes to the majority of climbs presented in the book. After all, how can you take issue with the likes of the Nose on El Cap, the Cassin Ridge on Denali, or the Lotus Flower Tower in the Cirque of the Unclimbables?

There is one peak worthy of Steck and Roper's book, however, that you will find no mention of. It is one of the finest and most spectacular mountains in the western hemisphere, and its glacial-carved walls offer some of the best alpine rock climbing to be found anywhere. The peak lies within the Arctic Circle on Baffin Island in northern Canada. It is known as Asgard, named after the Norse god's celestial home built by the sons of Odin and Bor high above Midgard, or as we know it, earth. It is truly North America's forgotten classic.

Asgard may have been overlooked by Steck and Roper because of its location. Baffin Island is one of numerous polar islands at the fragmented northeastern edge of the continent in an area referred to as the American Archipelago. Despite the fact that it occupies 338,000 square miles — an area twice the size of California and a third larger than Texas — it is a

land few Americans know exists, let alone can identify as part of our continent.

In the early 1970's, my own perception of the eastern Arctic was of ice and tundra, where the temperature fluctuates between near freezing and frigid, and the most abundant life form is the mosquito. It was a land low on my personal interest scale and high on my perceived misery scale. On the whole, I didn't see much difference between the Arctic and the Antarctic, except that one had bears and the other had penguins.

However, this would change. My discovery of walls comparable to those of Yosemite Valley in a wild and untouched place heralded a sort of personal passage. I had long been captivated by the Valley. For several years, the routes there were the focus of my dreams and aspirations, but after my share of big walls, I found myself searching for something different. It wasn't that I had outgrown the Valley's challenges; to the contrary, there were enough hard routes there to last a lifetime.

The magic of the Valley had simply begun to fade. I was no longer awe-struck by El Capitan and Half Dome. With each visit I grew more sensitive to the crowds, the confusion, and the Camp IV scene. I could no longer shut out the early morning sounds of garbage trucks making their rounds, the thick pall of blue smoke from too many campfires, or the forever accumulating feces and trash on the bivy ledges. As

Bilfrost Buttreß, Mt. Asgard.

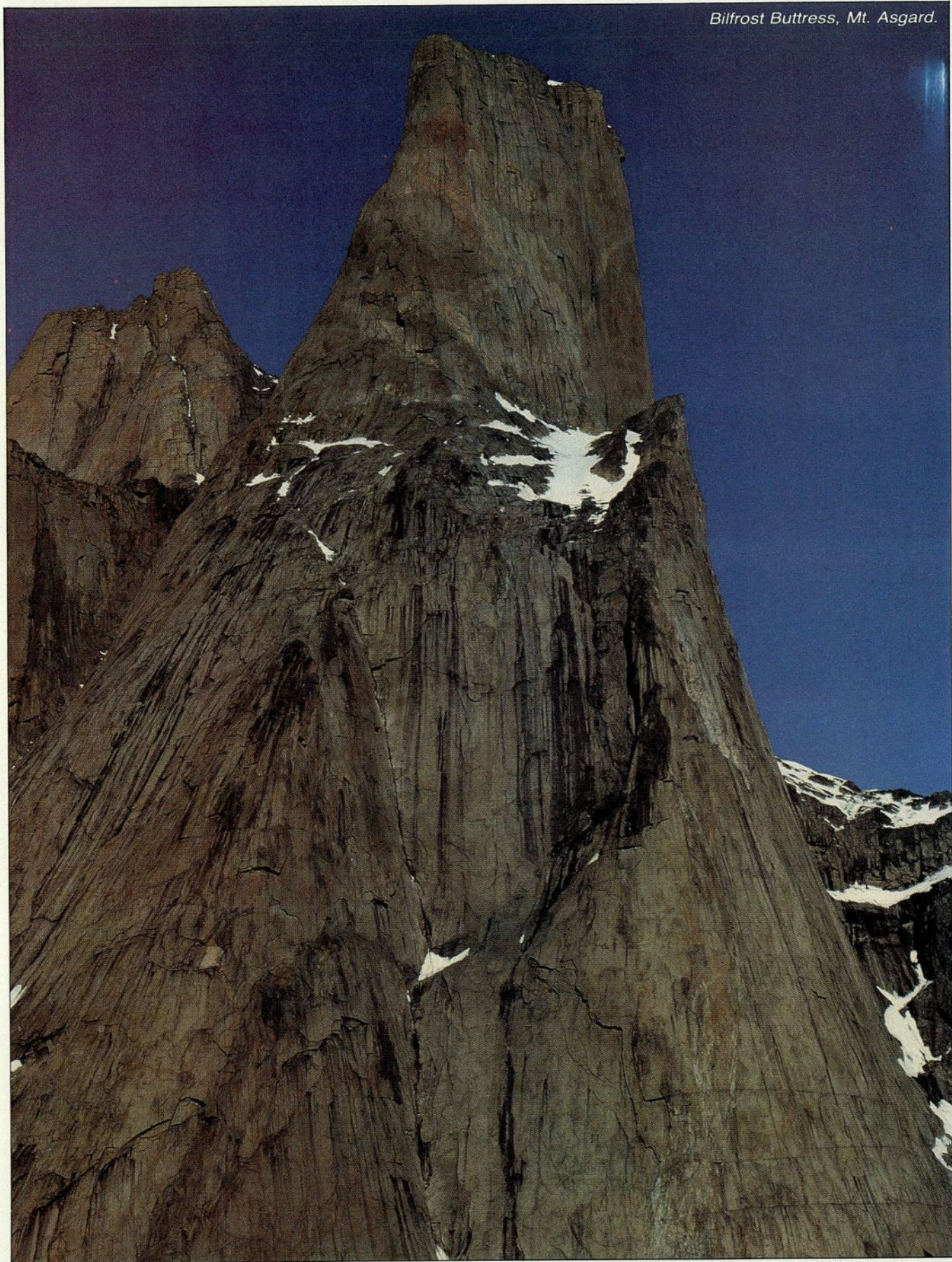


Photo: Mark Hesse

marvelous as it was, the Valley was tainted. Baffin Island offered everything that Yosemite did in terms of climbing, and most importantly, it still possessed what Yosemite had lost.

In July 1977, Cito Kirkpatrick, Dan McClure, Harry Kent, and I boarded a plane in Montreal and flew 1500 miles to Frobisher Bay, the principal settlement on Baffin Island. The town is named after Sir Martin Frobisher, who made three voyages to the island between 1576 and 1578. He was responsible for a great part of the intrigue surrounding the unexplored northern seas at the time. Frobisher returned from his first voyage with an Inuit, the "Man from Cathay" as he came to be known. The Eskimo's features served as living proof to the expedition's sponsors that the Far East, with all of its potential for lucrative trade, was close at hand. The island's namesake, William Baffin, was to follow in Frobisher's wake, making several forays into the Arctic Sea. In 1616, he reached a latitude of 78 degrees, a feat that went unsurpassed for 200 years.

The Arctic has changed radically since those early years of discovery. During our short layover in Frobisher Bay, we walked the streets, trying our best to imagine the place as it used to be. But there was no way to ignore reality. The settlement was crowded and squalid. The tiny tract houses where the Inuit live were all in various states of disrepair. Raw sewage ran down small open ditches toward the bay. Litter was strewn everywhere. We passed an Eskimo dog chained to a snowmobile, a fitting metaphor of the times. The principal building was a multi-story hotel, complete with an indoor pool and a video arcade, the latter of which was filled with teen-agers in Levis and baseball caps.

Apart from the shops of native jewelers and carvers, I found little that was redeeming about the place. I was left with a sense of loss far more disturbing than what I had experienced in Yosemite. The changes that were taking place here were not only impacting the environment, but a whole culture and lifestyle as well. The Eskimo I had learned about when I was young, the people who lived in harmony with the Arctic, were in many respects a figment of the past.

From Frobisher Bay, we boarded a small charter plane and continued east to Pangnirtung. After arriving, we completed our last-minute shopping and toured the town. The settlement was much smaller than Frobisher Bay and far more pleasant. It was a marvelous day, sunny and warm with a gentle offshore breeze. In stark contrast, we were reminded of the harshness of the place by wire cables that lashed homes to the ground. The village is at the southern end of a narrow 100-mile trough that extends from Broughton Island, across the Cumberland Peninsula at the southeast edge of the Penny Ice Cap, to the Cumberland Sound. The winds which funnel down through the system of fjords and glacial valleys often reach an excess of 100 mph.

We had arrived at the height of summer, when the temperature rises to a blistering 52°F and the days are endless. During the months of December through May, however, the maximum temperature ranges from -2° to -10°F, and it is perpetually dark.

Pangnirtung is the headquarters of Auyuittuq National Park, which encompasses the icecap and many of the surrounding peaks, Asgard among them.

We paid the superintendent a visit, both to register and to learn as much as we could about the approach and Asgard's previous ascents. The 25-mile hike up the Weasel River to Summit Lake at the head of Pangnirtung Pass would be straightforward. From the lake it would be a short carry up the Turner Glacier to the base of the peak.

As far as we could determine, there were three routes to Asgard's north summit. The 1953 first ascent, by a Swiss team on the eastern side of the peak, followed snowfields to the col between the north and south towers. On his second trip to Baffin Island, Doug Scott climbed the peak from the east as well, taking a line up the southeast buttress. The imposing west face reportedly had been soloed by Charlie Porter a few years before, but we could find nothing to verify that he had reached the summit. We were familiar enough with Charlie's exploits to give him the benefit of the doubt. The north face, which was our primary objective, was untouched.

With the help of the superintendent, we arranged passage with a local guide up the fjord to the base of Mt. Overlord. The following morning we departed Pangnirtung in brilliant weather and calm waters.

Ours was the "ideal" self-sufficient trip. However, we still had well over 500 pounds of equipment and food. We tried a number of ways to carry it all. Ropes, hardware, and cooking gear hung from the outside of our packs. Haul bags of food were lashed on top. Dan and Cito went so far as to carry rucksacks across their chests. The carry up the valley was backbreaking work.

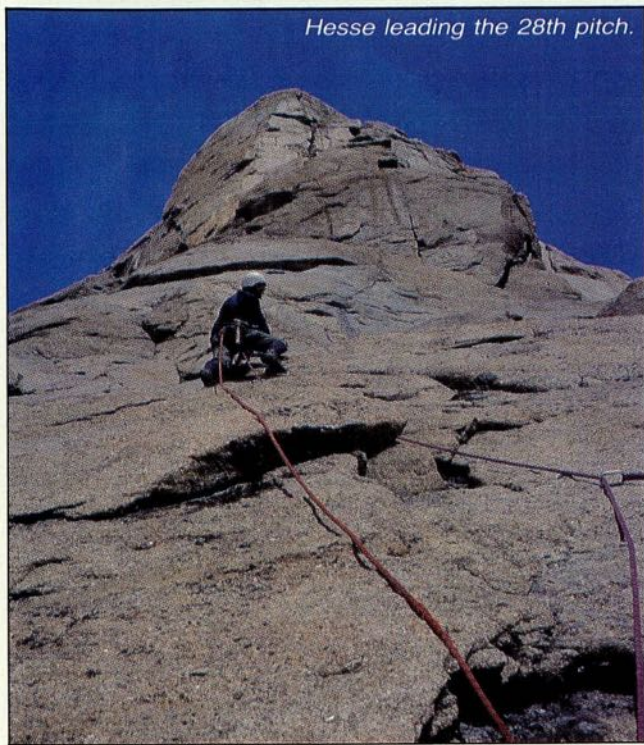
Despite our preoccupation with shuttling loads of gear, I was immediately taken by the place. My disheartening experience in Frobisher Bay was laid to rest. Any despondency that I carried was displaced by a sense of exuberance and excitement that grew with each turn in the trail. The scenery was incomparable. Rock walls rose on either side of the Weasel Valley, separated by large glaciers that hung down from the ice fields above like huge, lapping tongues. Between the moraines and boulder fields, we hiked across meadows of lush tundra.

Unlike Antarctica, which has but two species of wild flowers on the whole continent, the Arctic during the summer is a virtual garden of blossoms. Arctic poppies, saxifrage, and a host of colorful plants adorned the hillsides and valley floor. Here was an environment yet to be exploited, still possessing its natural integrity. Here was the land of rugged, untouched beauty that had existed for so long in my imagination.

After three very long days, we reached Summit Lake. Throughout the approach, we forded streams ranging from ankle- to waist-deep. The frigid waters instantly numbed feet and legs, making it difficult to keep our footing. Rather than the danger of falling in, we feared the intense pain that accompanies the return of blood to frozen limbs, so we preferred to get our loads across in one heavy carry.

About a mile below Summit Lake we encountered a fairly deep side stream. Instead of ferrying loads or finding another crossing, we decided to jump across a series of boulders near where the stream fed into the Weasel River. Harry and I crossed without packs to rehearse the steps. Despite precaution, my pack threw me dangerously off balance and I almost fell in. Dan, who was walking with Cito a short distance

Hesse leading the 28th pitch.



behind, was not as lucky. He fell where I had slipped and was quickly swept head-over-heels downstream by the current. He managed to free himself from his pack and struggle to shore just short of the river. Had he been carried any further, he most certainly would have drowned. He was extremely shaken, but fortunately suffered only a bruised knee, and his pack had lodged against a large rock at the edge of the stream where it could be retrieved.

The following day was splendid. The overcast sky that prevailed for much of our approach cleared and the temperatures soared into the 70's. We retrieved the gear we had left at the stream crossing wearing only shorts and T-shirts. The vegetation appeared even more radiant in the sunlight, and the ground was afire with rich hues of red and orange moss. It made the months of planning and all the hard work of the past several days seem incidental. Dan's close call and the possible ramifications were quickly forgotten.

After we collected our equipment at Summit Lake, we began to ferry loads up Turner Glacier to the base of Asgard — my first glimpse of the tower was unforgettable. Cloaked in clouds during most of the approach up the glacier, it finally revealed itself as we dropped our packs beneath a large boulder. A gigantic column of grey granite rose majestically above the ice.

My first impression of the north face, however, was not good. Rick Sylvester chose it for his harrowing stunt in the movie *The Spy Who Loves Me* for good reason: it is dead vertical. It wasn't the relief as much as the character of the wall that disturbed me. It reminded me of the East Face of El Cap: the crack systems appeared discontinuous, and there were few ledges to bivy on. While we had brought a liberal assortment of hardware and were fully prepared for difficult aid climbing, we had neglected to bring ham-mocks.

Several years before, Dan and I had spent three interminable days and nights hanging in slings off the Diamond on Long's Peak waiting for a severe snow-

storm to pass. We didn't care to repeat the experience in the Arctic. As my eyes began to wander in search of friendlier terrain, I was struck by the three sweeping buttresses which fall off the southeast side of the north tower. I mentioned to Dan and Harry that perhaps we should look at them for an alternative line. The cloud cover returned, however, and prevented a more thorough look.

A few days later, as we were packing for our final carry, Cito informed us that he was backing out of the climb. We were surprised by his decision, but could do little to change his mind. After a short discussion, Dan, Harry, and I set out, leaving him to watch over basecamp. While Cito's withdrawal did not jeopardize our chances of climbing Asgard, it was a great disappointment. The camaraderie that we shared over the course of the previous months dissipated. It also brought my own self-doubt and anxieties to the forefront. My thoughts turned inward to the realities of the climb and our chances of success, and I lost contact with the surrounding landscape.

We returned to the glacier, picked up our cache, and moved around the northwest side of the peak. The snow conditions had been horrible during our previous carries, and we had consistently broken through into runnels of icy water. As we moved further out onto the glacier, the surface snow grew deeper and even more difficult to plod through. Late in the evening, we finally reached a point from which the complete north face was visible.

We had yet to decide on a line of ascent. From the time we first saw it in photos, the face had largely remained a mystery. We had no idea if it was even feasible. Our hopes and aspirations rested on somewhat naive assumptions about the face and our ability to find a route up it. It was the moment of truth, and what we discovered was not altogether promising. The wall had few, if any, weaknesses.

We had ten days of food and could afford but one serious attempt. My suggestion that we consider the southeast side of the peak fell on deaf ears. I was the only one who had given that side of the peak more than a passing glance. For Dan and Harry, considering such an alternative was akin to admitting defeat. I reluctantly agreed to attempt the bold line that Dan proposed up the center of the face. Try as I could, I was unable to erase my anxiety over what I considered was a hasty decision. I woke the next morning with a sickening feeling in the pit of my stomach as the odds of failure began to mount.

We climbed several hundred feet up a moderate snow gully and through a system of rockbands to a small col below the face. It got us nowhere. We were still a full day from the start of the difficult climbing, and from our new vantage point the rock above looked even more foreboding than it had from below. The following morning, with no discussion whatsoever, we rappelled off.

After we regained the glacier, Dan announced that he would be joining Cito at the lake. He complained about the inadequacy of his bivy gear and the likelihood that the weather would take a turn for the worse. He also wasn't interested in anything but the north face. It was a difficult decision, but an integral part of our friendship involved respect for each other's opinions and intuitions.

Fortunately, Harry and I were determined to climb as long as the weather and our food held out. Our

Photo: Harry Kent

rappel route had taken us around to the east side of the peak, within sight of the very alternative I had initially argued for. After Dan left, we walked to where we could see the southeast side of the north tower in full. What we discovered was a magnificent buttress topped by a slender headwall. Our spirits soared as it appeared to have excellent possibilities. We determined that the upper section of the buttress was climbed by Doug Scott and Dennis Hennek in 1973. With binoculars, we worked out a line directly up the buttress from the glacier.

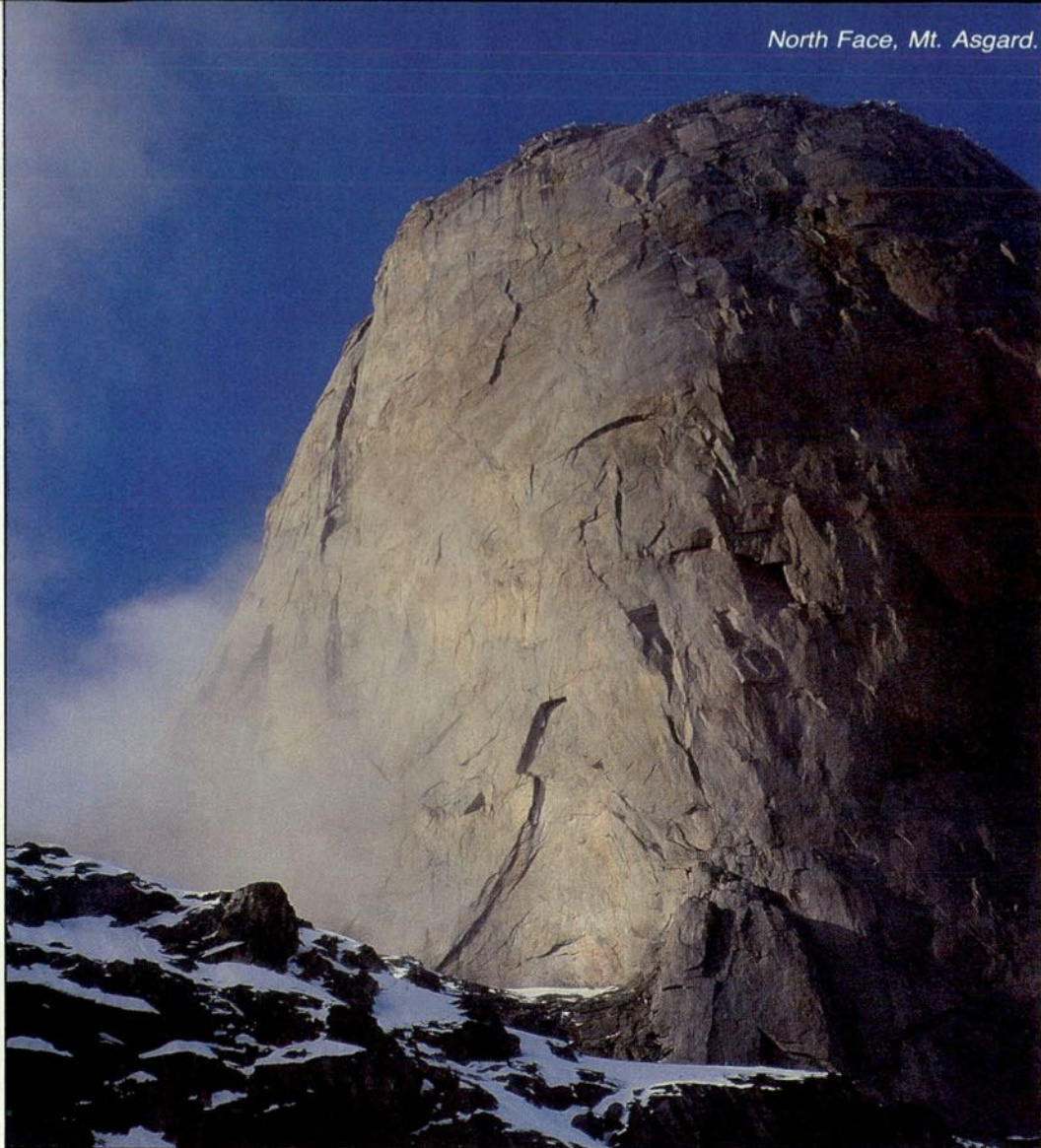
We set out the next day. The first 200 feet appeared extremely difficult, so we elected to climb up a gully to the right and then traverse onto the buttress. We had just begun to climb when the sun

struck the top of the buttress, sending down a shower of ice and rock. It was a miracle we weren't hit. I placed an anchor and we quickly rappelled off. I was shaking so badly that I could hardly unclip from the rope, and I was extremely upset that we had made such an obvious error in judgment. We retreated to our tent and contemplated our next move. I went down to a small stream in the glacier and took a bath, attempting to wash away my frustration. We were stumbling around far too much, courting disaster. Asgard was the home of the gods, but it was also the resting place of slain heroes.

On July 20th, we gave it another shot. From the initial move off snow onto rock, the route was excellent. The first pitch went free at 5.8. The second pitch, across a blank slab, required tedious work on rurs, tied-off knifeblades, and hooks. After three hours, I reached a small stance at the base of a continuous crack system. From here, the nature of the climb began to unravel as ropelength after ropelength of the buttress went free at 5.8 and 5.9.

After seven pitches, we cleared a ledge and bivied. As I watched the sun hang over the southern peaks, I began to relax. What a turbulent sea of emotions I had been cast into! I felt my confidence return, and with it, a renewed determination.

The following morning, I climbed a short chimney to the top of a large flake where I was confronted by a



blank section of about 20 feet. I attempted to tension traverse off of a tied-off baby angle but ended up swinging back across. I solved the problem by stacking two rurs a bit higher to correct my angle. Great climbing, and exciting as well!

With temperatures in the mid-60's, and no threat of darkness, we continued slowly but surely. We talked about how magnificent the rock and the climbing was, how each pitch, if it were located in Yosemite or Eldorado, would be a classic. The surrounding panorama was equally spectacular. On the approach up the pass, we saw little but the valley itself. The view from the glacier had been a bit more revealing. As we gained height on the climb, however, the true majesty of the place unfolded in every direction. To the immediate west lay the Penny Icecap. To the southeast, an array of summits began to appear. To the north, the Owl River flowed in a tortuous course toward the North Pangnirtung Fjord.

We gained the bow of the buttress in the middle of the afternoon. After approximately 1000 feet of 4th- and easy 5th-class climbing up low-angle rock, we reached the base of the final headwall and located our second bivy ledge. From this point, our route joined with Scott and Hennek's line. While the section above looked imposing, we slept with the assurance that it had been climbed and, barring a change in the weather, success was close at hand.

Photo: Mark Hesse

BAFFIN ISLAND Access and Information

Location and Setting. Baffin Island is situated 1500 miles from Montreal, roughly between Labrador and Greenland; it is part of the Northwest Territories of Canada. While most of the island is vast expanses of tundra and broad rolling hills, the Cumberland Peninsula at the eastern tip is characterized by numerous jagged peaks that rise to an elevation of 2000 meters. Most of these mountains lay within Auyuittuq National Park.

"Auyuittuq" refers to the Penny Icecap, the dominant geological feature of the peninsula and the force behind the creation of the peaks. Several hundred feet thick and covering some 2200 square miles, the icecap is one of the largest in the northern hemisphere. Roger Wilson's *The Land That Never Melts* is an excellent guide to the area.

Climbing Possibilities. Our three-day ascent of the complete Southeast Buttress of Mt. Asgard (6596 feet) involved 39 pitches, 10 of which were lower 5th class. We rated the route VI 5.10 A4. There is much more similar climbing to be done.

While the West Face of Mt. Thor has received a lot of attention, the best objectives are the Grade V and VI free and mixed aid climbs. The peaks to look at in the Pangnirtung Pass area are Overlord, Breidablik, Tet Blanche, Loki, and Asgard. All offer 20- to 40-pitch routes. The *Canadian Alpine Journal* and *Mountain* are the best resources for established routes.

There are numerous unclimbed peaks and walls to the east of the pass, but access is a problem. Air transport is prohibitively expensive and the Inuit do not hire out as porters. One possible option is to arrive in the spring when skis and sleds can be used to extend your range.

Culture. Baffin Island has a rich historical and cultural heritage. A bit of background reading about the Eskimo and the early explorers will greatly enhance your trip.

Today, the Inuit live in three settlements on the island: Frobisher Bay, Broughton Island, and Pangnirtung. Their lifestyle has changed drastically in the last century and it's difficult to decipher much about their culture without some research. Two excellent books have been written on the Inuit and their struggle to adapt to a changing world: *The People's Land: Eskimos and Whites in the Eastern Arctic*, by Hugh Brody (Penguin Books, 1977) and *The Fourth World: The Heritage of the Arctic and Its Destruction*, by Sam Hall (Alfred Knopf, 1987).

Season. The most favorable months for climbing are June through August, with July being the best for rock routes. Harsh temper-

atures can be expected in the off-season; however, better snow conditions exist during the early spring. If you are traveling to the Pangnirtung Pass area, it is necessary to plan your itinerary around the ice pack of the South Pangnirtung fjord. As a general rule, the later part of June is the transitional period when the ice breaks up and moves out to sea. Snowmobiles are commonly used to negotiate the fjord when it is frozen over.

As with climbing anywhere in the North, you pay your money and take your chances. Extended periods of good weather are rare, but you do have 24 hours of daylight to work with during July; the rule of thumb is to go while the getting is good. You should plan for the worst: high winds, rain, and prolonged periods of drizzle.

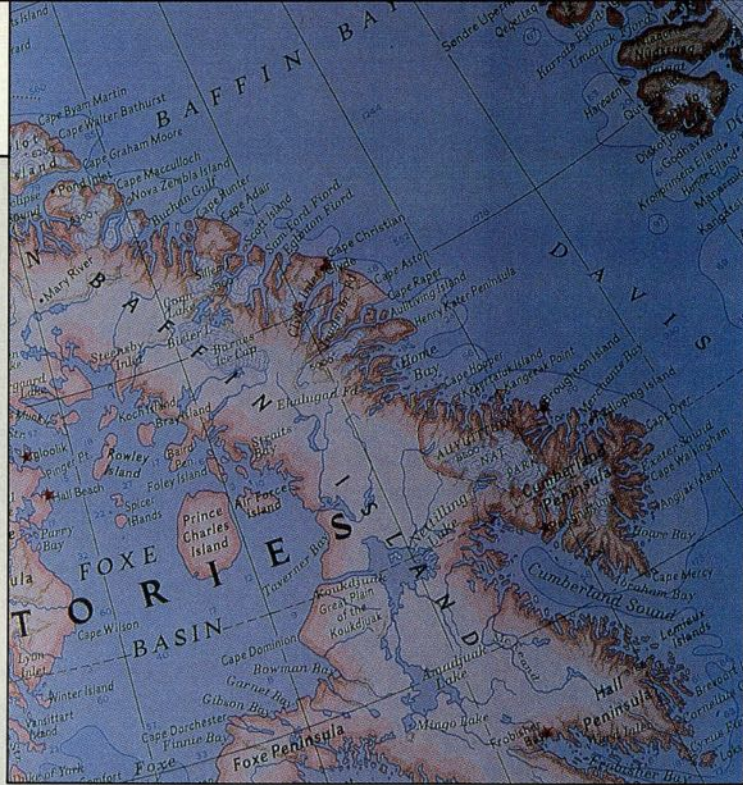
Approach Tips. During the summer, particularly in July, the run-off can be intense and many of the streams turn into ragging torrents. In the Pangnirtung Pass area, many of the crossings now have bridges or cables across them. However, this doesn't mean you won't get wet. It is advisable to bring ski poles, tennies, and neoprene socks. While the low valleys are free of snow during the

summer, the glaciers are a mess. Plastic boots and, if you are traveling any distance on the ice, snowshoes or skis, are recommended.

Supplies. Fuel, other than butane cartridges, can be obtained on the island. Food is extremely expensive and it is advisable to bring as much with you as you possibly can.

Air and Land Travel. Nordair offers regular flights to the island from Montreal. Pangnirtung and Broughton Island can be reached from Frobisher Bay by connecting flights with First Air. Round-trip fare from Montreal will cost around \$850. Arrangements can be made for snowmobiles or boats in Pangnirtung. There are numerous outfitters there to assist you. Passage to the Pangnirtung Pass trailhead will be \$150 (1985 rate for a party of four).

Additional Information. National Park material can be obtained by writing the Superintendent's Office, Auyuittuq National Park, Pangnirtung, Northwest Territories, XOA ORO. Maps can be obtained by writing to the Survey and Mapping Branch, Dept. of Energy, Mines, and Resources, 615 Booth St., Ottawa, Ontario, KIA OE9.



The next day, we ascended several pitches to the base of a large tower. We called it Heimdall Tower, after the sentinel who guards the gates of Asgard. On its right side, I jammed a spectacular 5.10 hand and finger crack. Harry then traversed out right into large cracks that led toward the summit plateau. One pitch of aid was required to avoid a chimney that was running water. Late in the afternoon, we reached a flat ledge from which Thor could not have budged me. After resting a few hours, we climbed the final 100 feet of rock onto the edge of the snow-capped summit. I was overcome with relief and pride. Harry and I had stuck it out, and we were rewarded by an outstanding climb.

We descended the peak by way of the original 1953 route which involved a few rappels and utterly disgusting postholing down steep snowfields and gullies. It was nearly midnight when we reached our tent.

Dan and Cito met us on the glacier the next day. They had come up from Summit Lake to check on us. While we were all happy to see one another, it was a somewhat uncomfortable reunion. Harry and I were ecstatic over our success; Dan and Cito, while they had climbed Mt. Killibuck, appeared dejected and anxious to leave for home. Three days later, we were back in Pangnirtung, and we quickly left the Arctic behind.

On my return home, I learned that in Norse mythology earth and heaven are connected by a rainbow named Bifrost. I could not find a more appropriate name for the buttress we had climbed.

Mountains mean many things to many people. Our dreams are inspired by the great rocks and peaks. They fire our imagination and draw us to them despite hardships and inherent risk. And most importantly, as Mt. Asgard did for Harry and me, they provide the gift of unforgettable memories.

Photo: Mark Hesse

Eleven Mile Canyon

Photo: Lou Hoffman



by Darryl Roth

Eleven Mile Canyon's appearance as a climber's bastion is eclipsed by the omnipresence of rod and reel. Even on frozen winter days, fishermen stand on the river with lines through breaks in the ice. Although this may seem like a warped idea of fun, it's a safe bet that everyone in the canyon is there for recreation. They have to be: Eleven Mile's road deadends.

Once in the canyon, it is easy to forget about the immense surrounding area, dominated by Pikes Peak and containing the great domes of the South Platte, Turkey Rock, and Garden of the Gods. Until a few years ago, these crags monopolized the attention of local and visiting climbers alike. The long cracks of Turkey Rock and sweeping slabs of "The Platte" gained well-deserved notoriety, while Eleven Mile Canyon remained a sleeper.

Climbers have been climbing in Eleven Mile since the late 1950's. For many years the Colorado Mountain Club and Outward Bound had the area to themselves. A reputation for easy climbing and limited possibilities was perpetuated by many who failed to look past the most obvious low-angle walls. When Dave Bamberger and Bob Glase published their *Climber's Guide to Eleven Mile Canyon* in 1979, the omission of climbs rated over 5.9 helped to portray

the area as pristine, yet laggard. But soon, the winds of change began to stir.

By late 1979, attention started to shift away from two-pitch slabs and easy cracks to steeper and shorter climbs. Peter Gallagher and Pete Williams climbed *Teale Tower Route* (5.11a), a beautiful crack that could double for a route on Arch Rock in Yosemite. Soon after, Gallagher put up a thin-seam route called *Fly or Fry* (5.11b) on Baboon Rock. The hard route evolution had begun.

Realizing that the vertical and frequently overhanging crags presented a new realm of possibilities in Eleven Mile Canyon, locals began testing their skills on progressively harder climbs. *Peisker Crack*, also called *Albatross*, proved to be a landmark leap. Chris Peisker climbed this overhanging finger crack on Sports Crag in 1982, shaking up the area's standards by rating it 5.12.

The next blow came when Dale Goddard and Bob D'Antonio managed to climb *King For A Day* (5.12c) on Hard Rock, breaking yet another psychological barrier. Confronted with a severely overhanging crack and face, the pair took two days of concerted effort to put the envisioned line together. But the biggest breakthrough came in 1983, when D'Antonio

Above: Bob D'Antonio on Skid Marks (5.11b).

Right: Richard Aschert leading Bits and Pieces (5.11c).

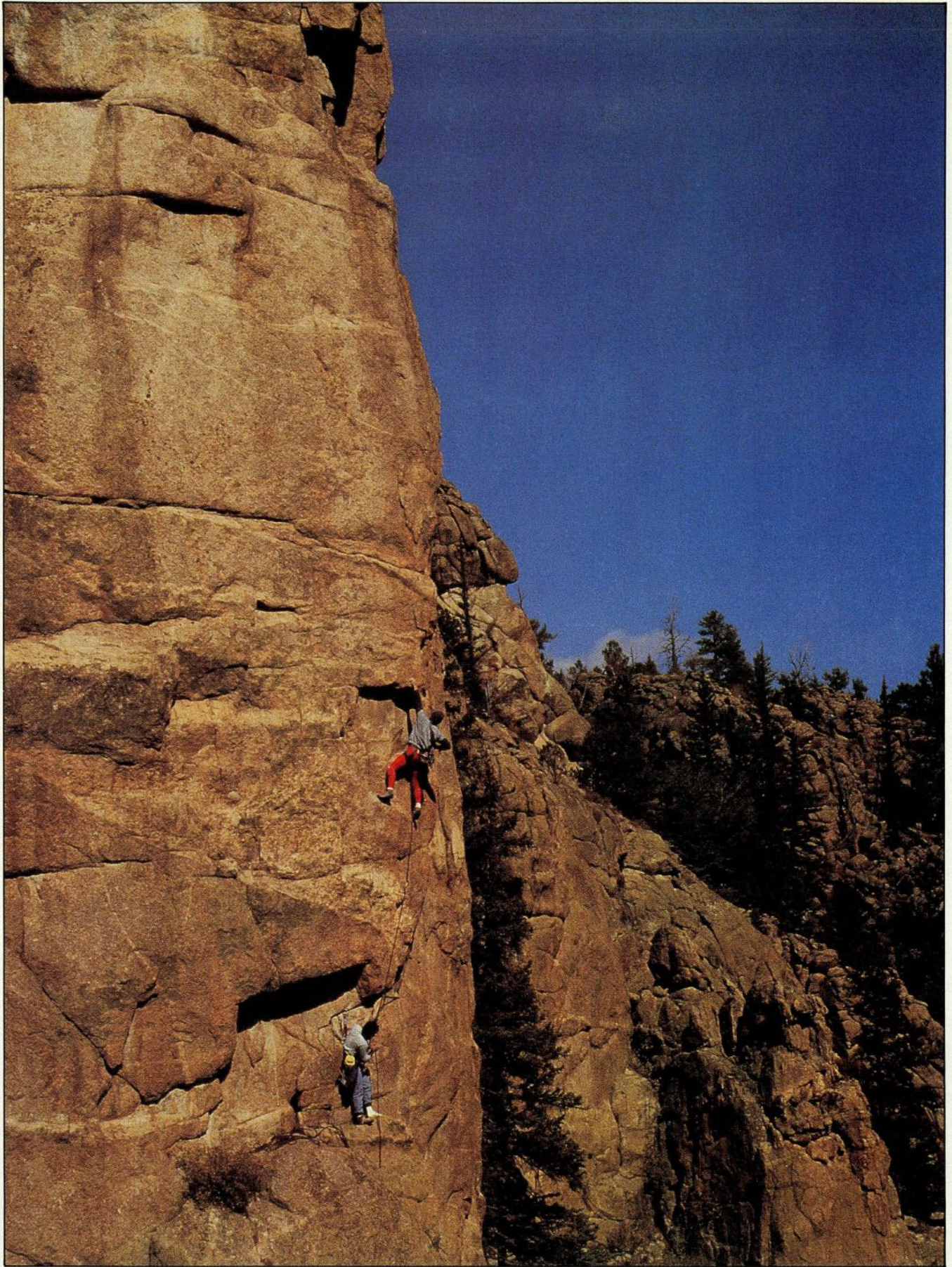


Photo: Bob D'Antonio

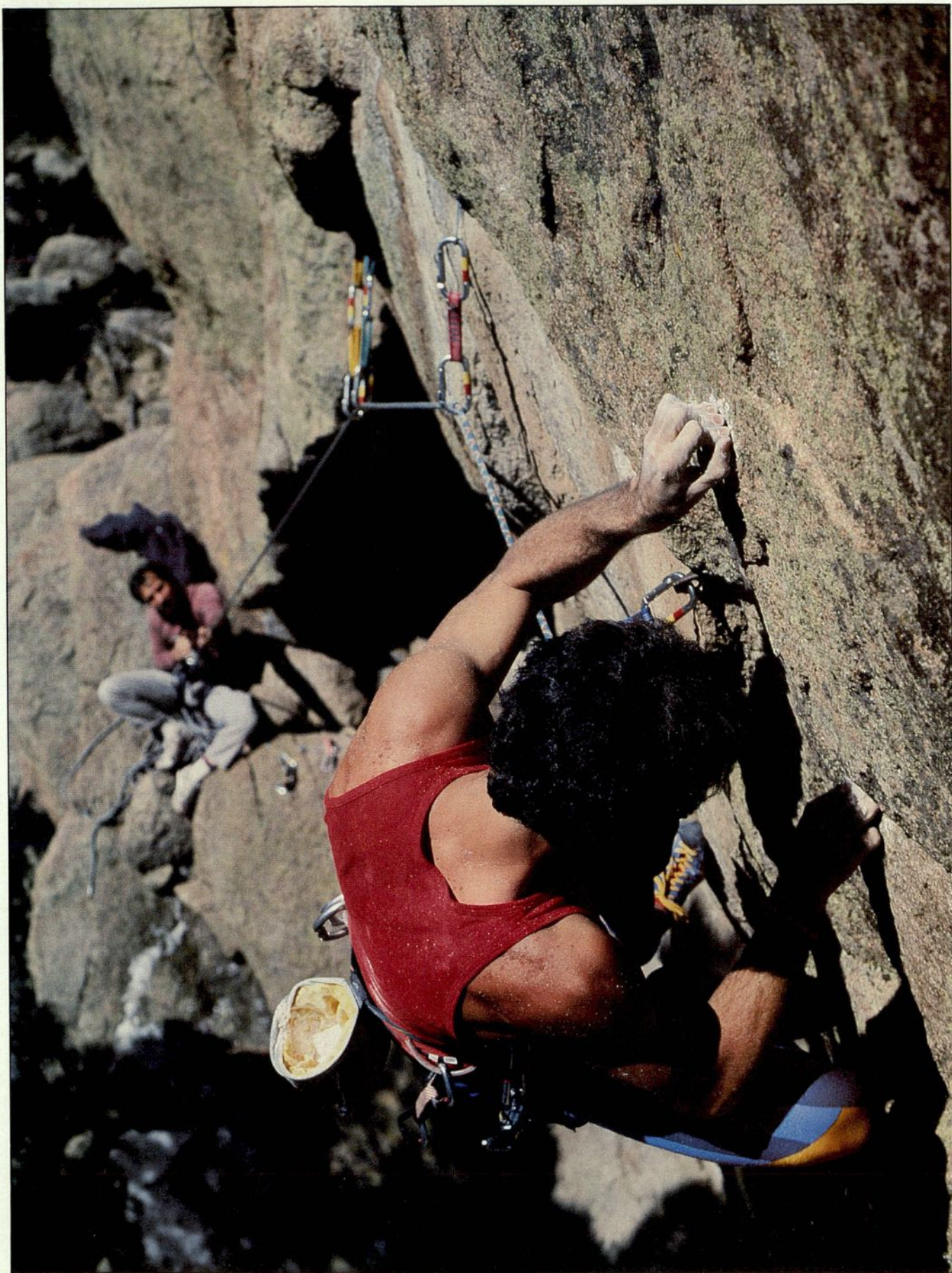


Photo: Dan Heidenreich

and Mark Rolofson established two 5.12's — *Moonage Daydreamin'* and *Shock the Monkey* — in an afternoon.

The latest big jump came in the autumn of 1986, with D'Antonio's efforts on a gently overhanging 40-foot wall. After the first few 5.11 moves, he found the climbing sustained 5.12 for the remaining 30 feet. Side pulls, sloping holds, and a one-fingertip move consolidated into Eleven Mile's first 5.13, *Little Kingdom*.

Many climbers find Eleven Mile reminiscent of Boulder Canyon. Certainly both canyons are narrow and wind along rivers littered with granite boulders. In both, the beauty is unmistakable, the granite is gorgeous, and the climbing is high quality. Yet there is one major difference. Boulder Canyon's atmosphere, due to its proximity to a city and a highway to the Rockies' interior, is the opposite of that found in Eleven Mile. Here, the dirt road is not as smooth as the pavement between Boulder and Nederland, but the crowds are absent and you will never queue for a route or a parking spot.

Most of Eleven Miles' 200+ established climbs are easily viewed from the road, including a few with 30-second approaches. New route possibilities are visible on almost every crag, even those that are already heavily developed. For climbers willing to walk more than ten minutes, entirely untouched walls await.

The canyon's steeper crags are particularly suited to hard free climbing. In other granite areas, when the angle is greater than vertical, climbing becomes impossible in the absence of cracks. Fortunately, Eleven Mile granite bears numerous face holds in the form of buckets, edges, knobs, and protruding quartz crystals. These features and the occasional crack allow impossible-looking lines to go free. Although the steeper crags are relatively short, from 40-foot Bigot Rock to the 180-foot Fortress, an exceptionally large amount of difficult climbing can be found.

Most of the climbing is excellent, but new routes often harbor a distracting shortcoming. Thin, brittle flakes are commonly encountered during first ascents on overhanging rock. This phenomenon is manifest when smearing, unleashing a rain of potato-chip-like flakes. Within a few ascents, however, the route is usually clean. Vertical and low-angle rock is more solid because of weathering.

From 1979 to the present, over 30 routes rated 5.12 or harder have been established. During the summer of 1986, a new 5.12 went up almost weekly. Concomitant with rising standards, ethics were viewed with an open mind. Locals agreed that bolting and cleaning on rappel is an acceptable alternative where the rock exceeds vertical or if it appears that bolts placed on lead would be detrimental to the line. Bolting on lead is still preferred in many situations, and quite a few high-standard climbs have been established this way. Extensive efforts have been made to insure excellent placement of 3/8" bolts whether on rappel or lead; it is hoped that this tradition will continue.

Other than creating new holds and bolt chopping, which will undoubtedly get a rise out of someone, ethics here are a moot subject. The extent of rock available is so vast and the number of climbers so few

that anyone can do what they desire and it won't really matter. Purists will receive no praise; hangdoggers will receive no condemnation.

There is no typical Eleven Mile route. With the exception of pocketed face climbing, any variety of moves or techniques may be called into play. From the overhanging gymnastics of *Statement for Youth* at Springer Gulch, to the small edge climbing of *White Stress* on Turret Dome, tremendous variety is encountered. Certain crags may have a higher concentration of either crack or face climbs, but there are few homogeneous routes.

Take *Will Power*, for example. It is truly amazing that with the shortest approach in Eleven Mile, this line did not receive a first ascent until 1986. *Will Power* (5.12a) follows a corner with a shallow crack for 30 feet before it breaks out right onto an overhanging face. The route is 20 feet from the road and impossible to miss as you're driving out of the canyon.

Now that I've started talking about routes themselves, let me give you a brief tour of the canyon and some of its more representative climbs. I'll be describing crags as one drives in.

One of the first crags with substantial climbing is Bigot Rock on the right side of the canyon, which bears the previously mentioned *Will Power*. About 100 feet uphill from Bigot Rock, the mammoth 30-foot roof of *Arms Race* provides an aptly named 5.12a journey out the area's largest ceiling.

Next, Arch Rock is a favorite for beginners and intermediates and is the only wall on the left side of the road which receives much attention. The classic *Staircase* (5.5) follows the prominent crack and dihedral system on the left side of the wall for three pitches. While the route is relatively easy, the climber who enjoys this level of difficulty will find it continuously interesting and well protected. *Arch Rock Direct*, with the 5.9 finish, is a necky lead as it diagonals up through thinly protected 5.7 face and friction climbing toward the overhanging offwidth finish.

Just a quarter-mile up-canyon from Arch Rock, Turret Dome's east face is one of the first in the canyon to receive early morning sun. Here, *Aerial Boundaries* (5.12a) provides the thinnest of possible finger cracks right off the ground. After the crux opening moves, laybacks, face holds, and stemming to a roof finish make a great early morning excursion. Moving to the south side of Turret, several moderate slab and crack climbs up to 400 feet are available for the granite hedonist. Amazingly, as accessible as this face is, climbers are rarely found edging and smearing up the long slab.

Those more inclined to honing skills than hedonism can move to Turret's west side to try one of the newest bolt-protected faces. *White Stress* (5.12a) is a very steep slab that won't bore you with redundant smears and edges. Sequential moves and proper body-english are requisite for success. Fortunately, *White Stress* demands a light rack of only quick draws and wired nuts to quiet your internal dialogue. Three unmistakable routes from 5.9 to 5.11 are within 100 feet of *White Stress*. Perhaps the most popular is the excellent *Practice Aid Crack*. As the name implies this is a crack, but you will be hard pressed to avoid using all the face holds that make it a cruise at 5.10-.

Mark Van Horn on Here's to Future Ways (5.12b/c).

About a mile further up-canyon, Sports Crag was the first cliff to receive extensive development of high-standard routes. With six climbs rated 5.12 and several 5.11's and 5.10's compacted into 150 feet, Sports Crag should become one of the prime stops for the visiting rock jock. Vertical is as low angle as climbs get at Sports Crag, where "overhanging" is by far the most used adjective in describing virtually every route. Since most of the lines here were described in *Climbing* no. 82 by Mark Rolofson, check that reference for further details.

On the walk to Sports Crag from the Springer Gulch Campground, Teale Tower might cause a detour. The lines on Teale are so striking that passing them is unimaginable. Outstanding are the *Teale Tower Route* (5.11a), a stunning left-facing dihedral, and *Reality Check* (5.10d), a crack and corner system on the far right side of the wall. On *Reality Check*, overhanging hand jams and a thin finger crack lead to a blast of instant exposure as the route moves left under a roof to a platform on the edge of nowhere. Only a handful of routes on the Teale Tower exist so far; roofs and discontinuous crack systems promise some extreme and even futuristic climbing.

Because the approach is considered long for Eleven Mile Canyon, only a few climbers are willing to walk 15 minutes to the Springer Gulch Wall. A walk along the base reveals an incredibly untapped resource of 5.6 to 5.10 lines. At the tallest part of the wall, where the vertical relief reaches 250 feet, horizontal holds, roofs, cracks, and corners are everywhere. Practically nothing has been climbed on most of the wall.

The most conspicuous feature at Spring Gulch, the roof of *The Intimidator* (5.12), may not be as huge as *Arms Race*, but if you overlook a bit of lichen, it certainly is more aesthetic than any other similar feature climbed in the canyon. After an easy gully, jamming leads out the roof to a 100° headwall and the crux: thin jams and laybacks followed by a B1 lunge. With forearms on the brink of failure, most find the exposure and position worthy of the name.

Uphill from *The Intimidator*, a few plums are concentrated in a cul-de-sac, the most notable of which is *Here's to Future Ways* (5.12). The only easy move is getting off the ground; battling up layback moves, finger locks, and mega-reaches is almost too much fun on a route this sustained. Since the crux is saved for last, where a bolt, placed after the first ascent, can prevent an 18-footer, the top is indeed a hard earned prize.

Around the corner, to the left of *Here's to Future Ways*, a thin, bolted face is the home of Eleven Mile Canyon's only 5.13, *Little Kingdom*. Immediately left of *Little Kingdom*, *Statement for Youth* is really a statement for gymnastics. After a 5.11 layback, a 5.12a move exits the dihedral to a sloping layback over a bulge to incut holds. The incredible kinesthetic qualities found on *Statement for Youth* and *Here's to Future Ways* should be considered a must for anyone climbing at this level.

What makes a crag popular? A large concentration of climbs? Brief approach? Excellent stone? The answers are at Indulgence Crag, about a mile further up-canyon. It bears the highest concentration of extreme crack climbing found in Eleven Mile Canyon and possibly in the region. At least seven 5.12's and a similar number of 5.11's can be found along a 300-

foot stretch of granite. The approach takes only minutes. Jam cracks firing straight from the ground to the top, as well as several dihedrals and roofs, comprise the bulk of this crag's features. The hard prize is *The Sanctuary*, a 5.12b/c roof and overhanging thin cracks on the left side. Other standouts include *The Vatican* (5.12b/c) and *Crimes of Fashion* (5.12c). Protection on these and most other routes is excellent, and exceptions are easy to spot from the ground. As with Sports Crag, Indulgence Crag is not to be missed by those climbing at the high end. And yes, the stone is excellent.

Narrow canyons behind Idlewild Campground, a mile or so past Indulgence Crag, provide a respectable number of established climbs up to 5.12. *Golden Dreams* (5.12b) is the definitive classic here. Variety, easy access, and a high concentration of routes are the area's strong points. The 5.6 climber can set up a fun top rope problem while frenzied attempts at a new 5.13 are in progress on the next buttress. Several lines, including at least one estimated 5.13, are still unclimbed.

At the end of Eleven Mile Canyon, Spillway Campground is the only camping area that boasts a large number of boulder problems scattered among the sites. Baboon Rock and the Fortress provide a spectacular backdrop. Baboon Rock, a short uphill walk from the campground, is cleaved with several beautiful cracks. Although the potential is limited, most routes are excellent — just pick the most appealing one.

The imposing barrier at the end of Eleven Mile Canyon is appropriately known as the Fortress. Views from the top of any route on this multi-tiered crag are the most spectacular in the canyon. To the east are Baboon Rock and Eleven Miles' convolution of pine and granite. To the west, above the foreground of Eleven Mile Reservoir and high elevation plains, are the sprawling 13,000- and 14,000-foot peaks of the Collegiate Range.

Climbing traffic at the Fortress is probably the sparsest in the canyon, despite a quarter-mile of granite walls up to 180 feet high. Since the lower canyon crags easily grab attention, many climbers just never seem to make it. This is unfortunate because the Fortress is unique among Eleven Mile crags; the base angles continuously uphill, so the higher one walks, the more exposed the routes become.

At the uppermost south-facing wall of The Fortress complex, *Vapor Drawings* (5.11a) and *Bits and Pieces* (5.11c) offer exquisite position 1000 feet above the canyon. *Bits and Pieces*, considered one of the most aesthetic lines in the area, follows an exciting arete for one pitch to an overhanging finger crack. The obvious, overhanging double hand cracks to the left, *Vapor Drawings*, are blessed with similar exposure and less difficulty, which entices a broader audience. Several unclimbed crack systems on the wall to the right undoubtedly will be the scene of runout terrors of the future. These thin flaring cracks resembling shallow columns are primarily seams with few nut placements.

Lower on The Fortress, several other routes have been established. Two of these stand out. *Rockbusters* (5.12a) snakes its way up the low cliffband,

Darryl Roth on Will Power (5.12a).

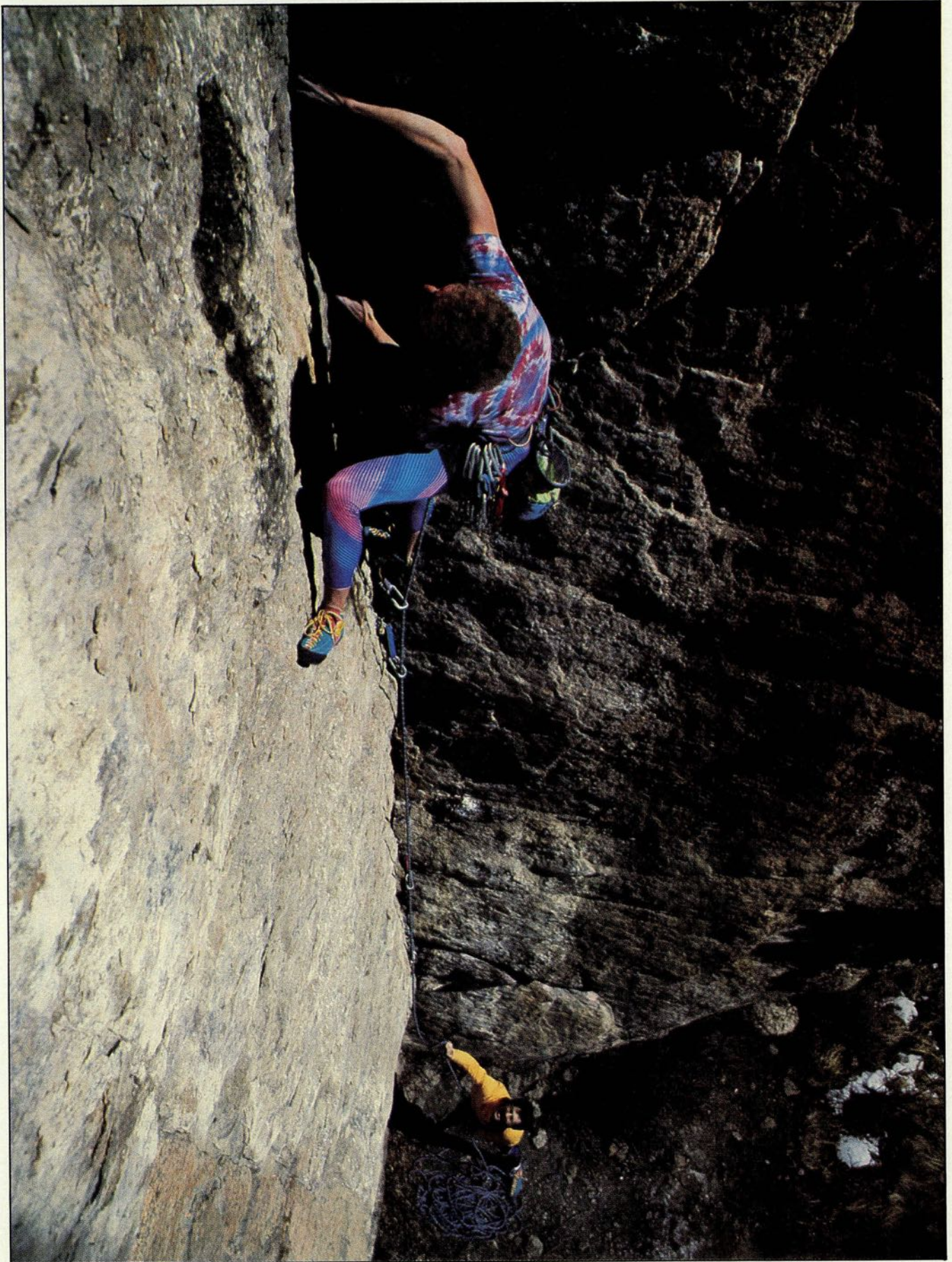
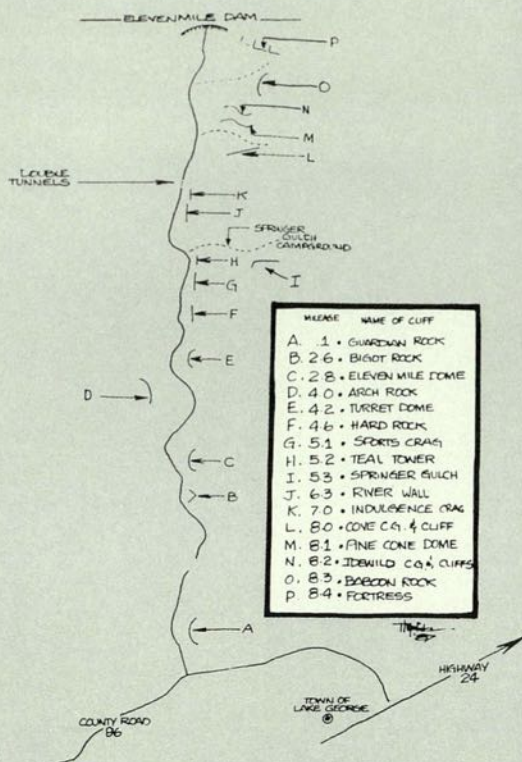


Photo: Dan Heidenreich

ELEVEN MILE CANYON Access and Information.



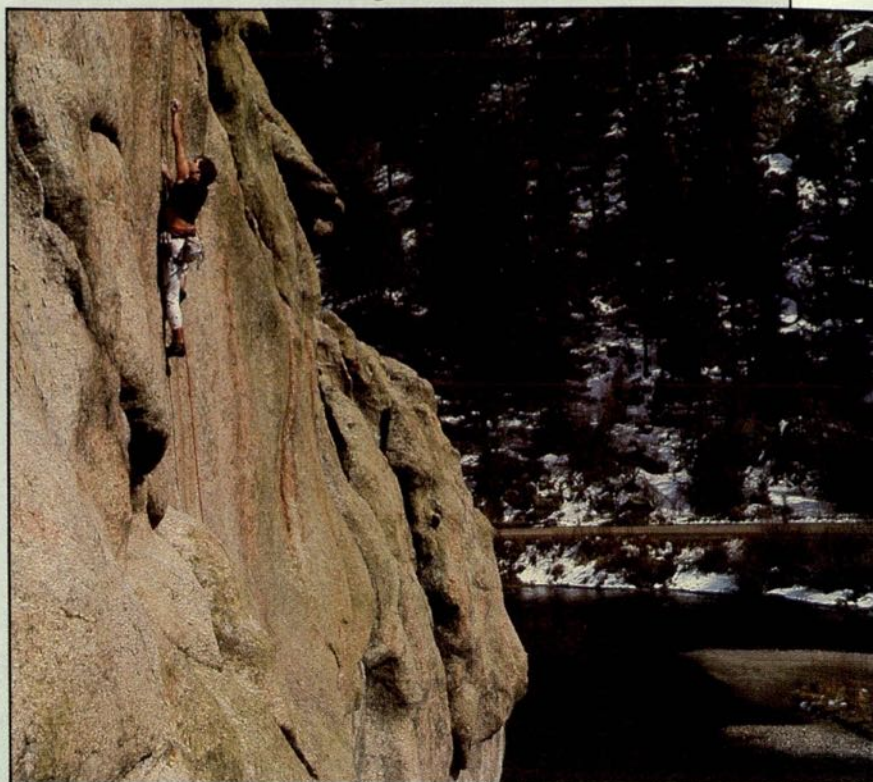
Getting There. The simplest way to find Eleven Mile Canyon is to drive west on Highway 24 out of Colorado Springs. After 45 miles, turn left at the only service station in the town of Lake George. A dirt road leads to a large Eleven Mile Canyon entrance sign; turn right. From the mouth of the canyon (not from the turn), keep track of the mileage to identify each of the cliffs shown on the map.

Camping. Of the six campgrounds in Eleven Mile Canyon, Springer Gulch and Spillway Campgrounds are the best suited to climbers. They are both near a high concentration of rock and have running water during the warmer months. A \$6 fee is charged at all campgrounds from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The remainder of the year is free; however, several campgrounds are closed during the off-

season. For year-round free camping, drive one mile west of Lake George to Tarryall Road and follow this for 6.4 miles to Matukat Road. Turn right and continue for 2.5-3 miles. Side roads to the right lead to free National Forest campsites (no facilities).

Necessities. Essential groceries and two restaurants are available in Lake George. A 20-minute drive east on Highway 24 to Woodland Park will bring you to all the amenities of civilization: groceries, mountain bike rentals, the Donut Mill, and enough shops to attract a summer tourist crowd. While you're in town, check out the bouldering area along Rampart Range Road; don't turn right to check out the first boulders you see, continue for another 1/2 mile to boulders above an obvious parking spot.

Dave Dangle on Breakfast of America (5.11b).



Guidebooks. An up-to-date guide to Eleven Mile Canyon, by Bob D'Antonio, has been incorporated into a larger guide covering most of the southern Front Range, including Garden of the Gods and the South Platte. It should be available August 1988 from Chockstone Press, 526 Franklin Street, Denver, CO, 80218. In the meantime, refer to Basecamp, *Climbing* nos. 82, 99, and 101. *Climber's Guide to Eleven Mile Canyon*, by Dave Bamberger and Bob Glaze (1979), is out-of-print and very hard to find.

Climbing Season. Spring, summer, and fall are usually good. Most cliffs face east, south, or west, allowing for sun or shade as needed. Even in the winter, the sun can be intense (the canyon is over 8000 feet in elevation), so be sure to bring sun screen.

dogleg style, past two bolts for an enjoyable, varied pitch. A few steps right of *Rockbusters*, *Canyon Classic* (5.11c) is probably the most awesome hand crack in the area. It shoots up through a 90-foot overhanging wall reminiscent of *Tales of Power*, but at a grade accessible to those who would do no more than just look at the revered Yosemite testpiece.

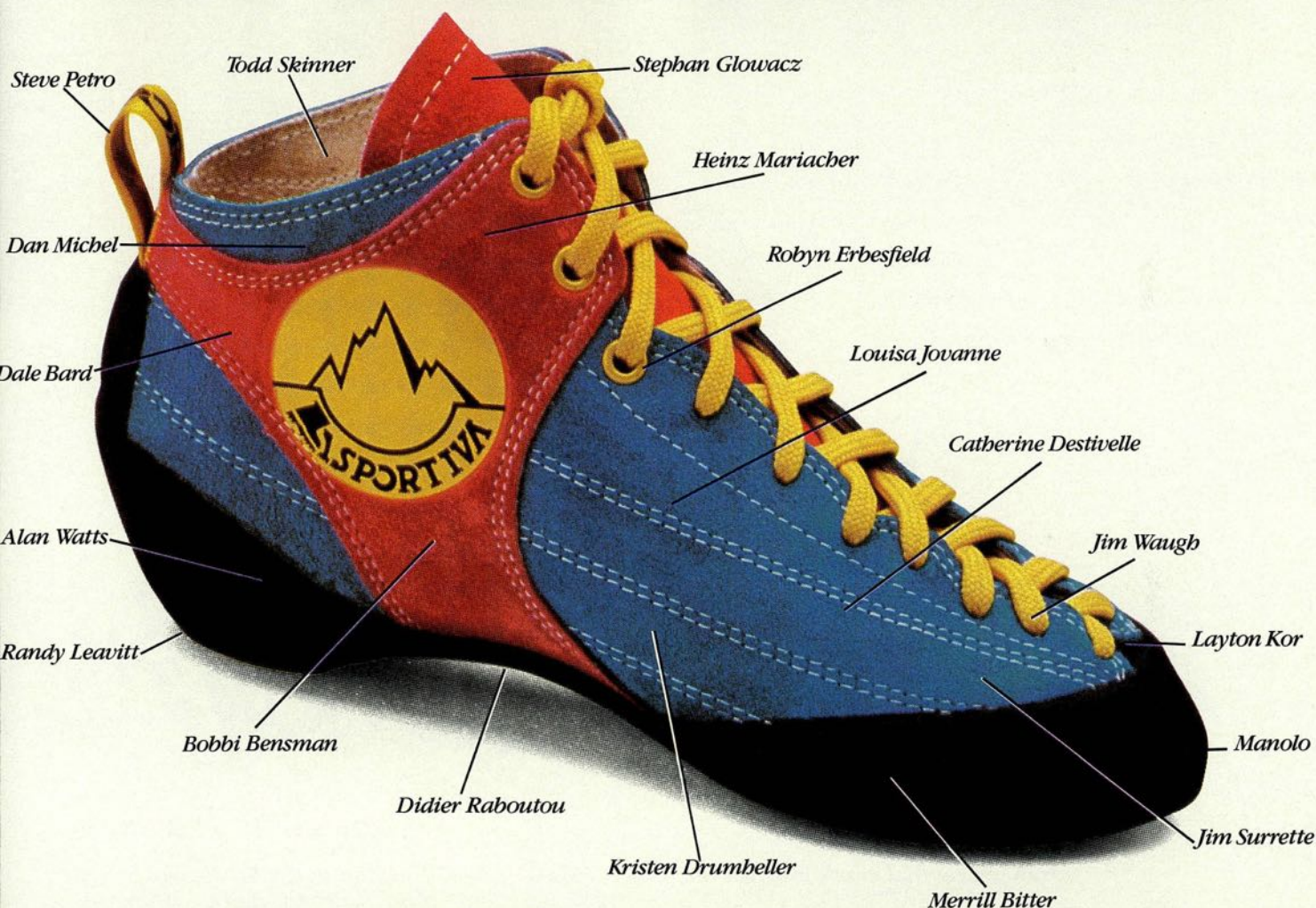
The fever pitch of route development, brought to a full head of steam in 1982 by D'Antonio, shows no hint of decline. Most Eleven Mile regulars have a mental list of first ascents to be done. The "game" is so plentiful that several locals rarely climb anything other than new routes. New route development has been fervid enough to postpone publication of a new Eleven Mile guide several times. Recently, the push for extreme difficulty has dominated the scene. The future points toward consolidation of this trend, and the number of high-standard routes bolted on rappel will increase as surely as they have proliferated internationally.

For some, this trend is admittedly a numbers push, bent on puffing up the ego — but consider the glory available when fishermen will most likely be the only people ever to see you climbing. Because the number of climbers at Eleven Mile who climb easier than 5.10 equals or exceeds the number that climb harder than 5.10, there is no sense of elitism. In fact, the potential for mid-standard climbs is phenomenal. Only lack of motivation or failure to report ascents will prevent an explosion of new, less difficult routes. Such development is necessary to bring about a sense of balance to an area that is becoming increasingly top heavy with desperate climbs.

Those who prefer a balance between easy and extreme, edges and cracks, laybacks and lunges, and smears and stems will find themselves returning to Eleven Mile again and again. If the climbs don't catch your attention, the hook of a casting fisherman probably will.

Photo: Dan Heidenreich

The Guts Of Our Boots.



The most impressive features found in La Sportiva climbing boots are the men and women who wear them. World-class climbers choose La Sportiva because they know what it takes to get to the top: things like great fit and anatomical design...elevated heels and raised arches to keep toes forward for maximum control and sensitivity...and a new,

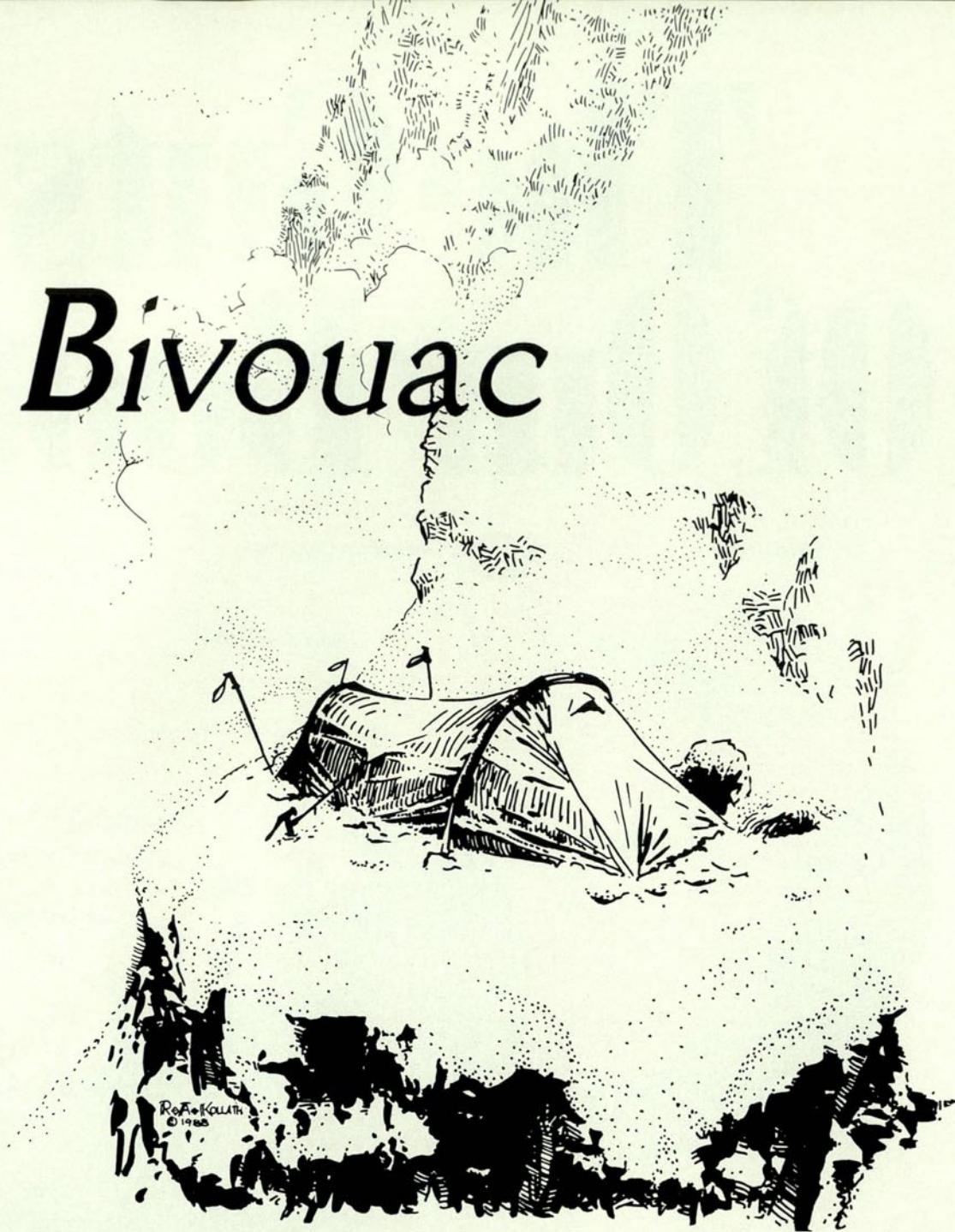
durable, high-friction rubber sole for unexcelled edging and smearing.

They're certain before ever lacing them up that La Sportivas will outperform anything on the rock. And to us, that's the single most important feature we can build into our boots...confidence.

LA SPORTIVA

Exclusive U.S. Distributor: Transalp Inc. 1335 Broadway Boulder, CO 80302 (303) 443-8710 Dealer inquiries welcome.

Bivouac



by John Thackray

"Moving up that crack through the roof, it didn't push me too hard."

"Your reach made the difference. I had to give it everything. one of those movements you gotta get inside of it. That is the hardest part."

"You were great."

"Thanks. There's all this resistance, chains holding you back to getting inside of it. And that's only the beginning."

"And like an orgasm, it is hard to remember. To even imagine we've been there."

"So many times. Climbing has made all the difference. Maybe it's only the best climbers who understand about the real ultimate inside."

"They've earned the right."

"You weren't there when we climbed *Chariots of Fire*."

"An off day: no more."

"That's when it's toughest. When you're off. When you don't want to, but gotta get inside because you know it is the only way to stand tall and feel powerful. Because this inside is also like a maze. Either you find the way, the right path, or you don't. It can trick you too. So you think you're there when you're not."

"That day on the first pitch of

"The endless season."
 "Day after day there was this unfolding inside. We were in top form. On the edge, every day."
 "We climbed well."
 "Nothing bothered us: women, jobs, newspapers, college..."
 "Wore out a new pair of stick-ons in two months."
 "We were hot shit."
 "That rock trashed my shoes."
 "How many 5.11's did we do?"
 "A couple of hundred."
 "Imagine."
 "Maybe three hundred. Plus two dozen 5.12's. See this bulge against the tent wall?"
 "Alright, alright! Don't be a nag. I'm going, I'm going. See me grab that shovel and do a demolition on that snow bank."
 "Watch your step. It's icy. You tied in? You'd better. It's a long way to fall."
 "Shit, I'm tied in. I'm no crazy person."
 "Zipper that goddamn door. Snow's coming in like a tornado. Do it. Do it now."
 "I'm trying. My fingers are cold, can't grasp the zipper. There, that's better. Sorry. Much get in?"
 "My bag's covered."
 "And mine?"
 "Your's less."
 "That shovel — where is it?"
 "It's there."
 "The hell it is."
 "The hell it isn't."
 "For God's sake, where?"
 "There. Look."
 "I'm looking. The wind is terrible. It stings."
 "Sure it stings."
 "Got it."
 "Wonderful."
 "Snow's too wet. It's heavy. Can't see more than four feet. What a mess. Goddam tent is swamped."
 "Check the anchors."
 "Asshole."
 "Watch your goddam feet. You're stepping on the tent."
 "Ooops. Sorry. A few more shovels and I'm done. My arms feel like molasses. The altitude. Must catch my breath. Headache. Chest ache. I've moved a ton already."
 "My hero."
 "I'm doing the work, aren't I? I'm stopping this snow from pushing the tent off the mountain. Isn't that enough? And if it isn't, to hell with you and the tent and the mountain and everything. I'm doing my best."
 "Don't forget to brush off the snow from your clothing before you come back in."
 "I hear you."
 "Please."
 "I can't even see the outline of the serac overhang that's next door to us."
 "We've got unfriendly neighbors."

"If only this could be filmed."
 "We'd be millionaires."
 "I've done a hell of a job. I'm coming back."
 "But you're covered, you're covered with the shit."
 "I brushed, I promise I brushed everything I could."
 "Zipper the goddam door. You're like a snowman, a scarecrow."
 "Don't knock it off me. Don't touch me. I'm soaked already."
 "There. Close the zipper the last inch. Tight."
 "The snow sticks. It won't brush off. I can't get into my bag like this: it'll kill the loft, the heat. It's like glue and feathers. Help me."
 "Christ. Here's an aluminum lid, I'll try scraping it off your parka and legs. You work on the gaitors and feet with this spoon, OK?"
 "This is ridiculous."
 "You had to come all this way to fight hypothermia with a spoon — scooping a thimbleful each time. What guts and determination."
 "Most of it has turned liquid. It's pointless. I'm going to crawl back in. Don't hit me!"
 "I'm not punching, just dusting. Got to dust you off."
 "It hurts. I'm cold and brittle."
 "Another whack or two..."
 "I'm too raw."
 "What's the use? So slip into the bag."
 "Hear my teeth chattering?"
 "So? It's a healthy reaction."
 "Oh boy."
 "You bet."
 "Can we brew some soup?"
 "Let's wait."
 "What for? You expecting company?"
 "For the wind to die down. It's too much work."
 "But I want it."
 "I want it too."
 "Not as much."
 "You don't know that. I want it bad enough."
 "Shit you do."
 "I do too."
 "Then when? What if this storm lasts all night and all of tomorrow and the next day too?"
 "We shall see."
 "Is there any pea left?"
 "Nope. Just chicken noodle."
 "Oh."
 "Now I heard it."
 "You did?"
 "The rumble. The crack. The trains."
 "The avalanche — closing us down."
 "Yup. That."
 "Holy Shit..."
 "This is it."

This story is in memoriam to Peter Sajovic, who died while climbing with John Thackray in the Shawangunks, Oct. 31, 1987.

METOLIUS

TCU's



METOLIUS
BOLTS



MACROTILES



Aolomite

SIMULATOR



PURE FORCE



BOSCH
BULLDOG



Metolius Mountain Products
63255 Lyman Place
Bend, Oregon 97701
(503) 382-7585

CENTRAL ANDES

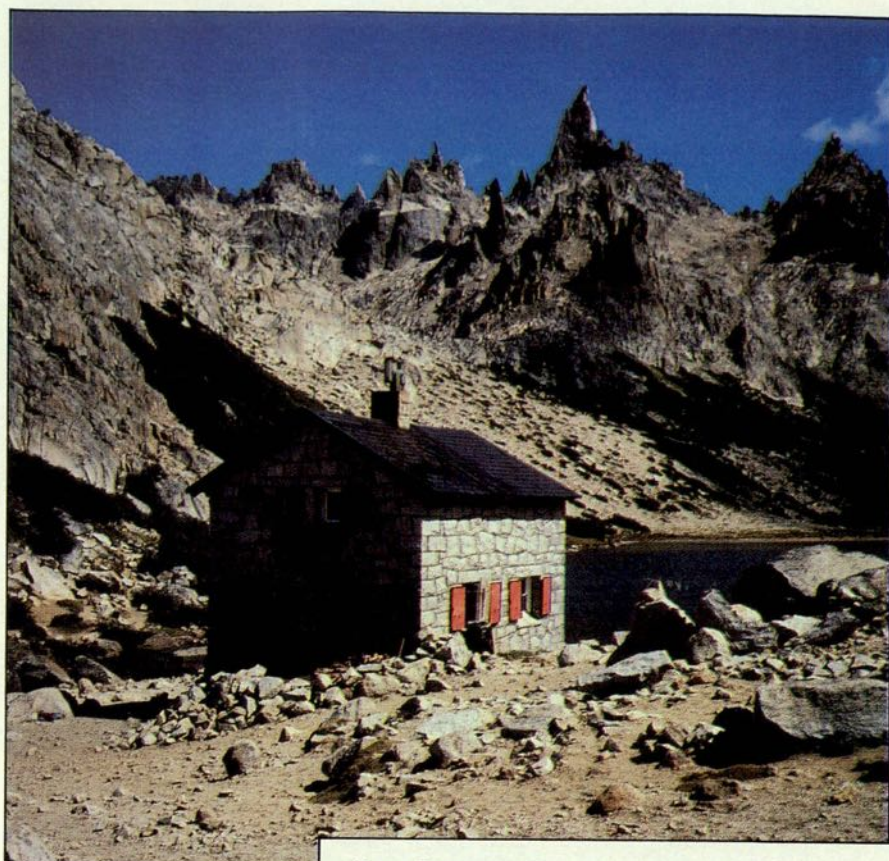
Argentina and Chile's lake region

The superb lake region of Argentina and Chile is often overlooked in favor of more famous mountain areas like Patagonia and the high Andes. The majority of the big mountains in the lake region can be compared with the glaciated volcanoes of our Pacific Northwest. Surrounding these peaks are glacier-carved lakes, created during the last ice age. These *lagos*, along with the mountains, give the district its unique character.

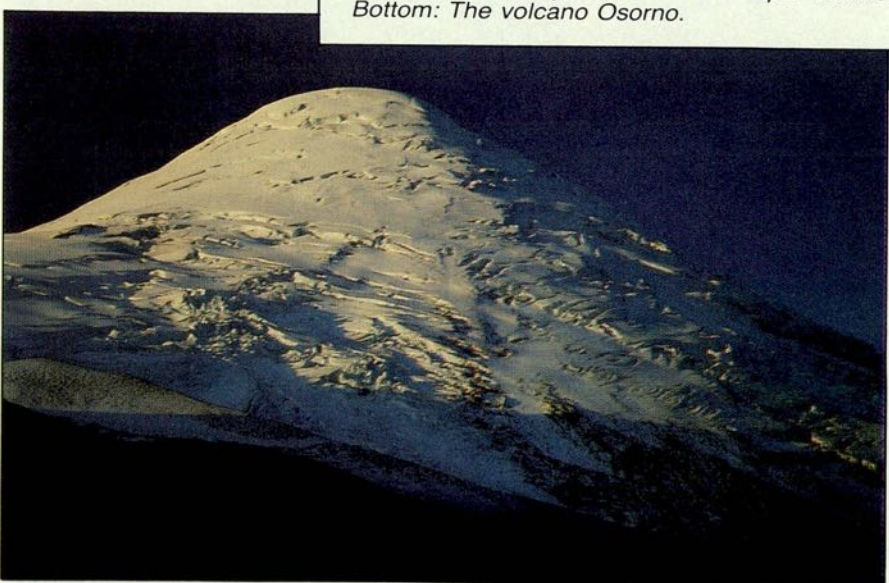
In this region, between latitudes 38° to 42° south, the Andes dip lower than anywhere to the north. No peaks exceed 4000m, while the principal summits are 2200m to 3700m. The international boundary of Chile and Argentina is generally defined by the watershed of the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. Much of this dividing crest consists of forested ridges and 1000-2000m mountains. Only two major peaks, Lanin and Tronador, are on the border. Most of the glaciated peaks and hot springs are in Chile, and all of the best rock climbing areas are in Argentina.

Getting There. Santiago or Buenos Aires are the normal flight arrival points. From either capitol, there is domestic transport by bus, train, or jet to major cities near the lake district. Once near the mountains, car rental, buses, taxis, or hitching will bring you to the trailheads. Most approaches are possible by vehicle or one day's walking.

Travel between Chile and Argentina is via three passes. There is daily bus service from Osorno to San Carlos de Bariloche over the pass, Portezuelo de Puyehue. From Temuco to San Martin de los Andes through Paso Tromen (Mamuil Malal) there is alternating east and west direction bus service every other day (best access to the normal route of Lanin). The third border crossing is a two day, bus and boat trip over Paso de Perez Rosales. This trip between Puerto Montt and Bariloche has excellent scenery and views of the peaks. With these three easy routes for traveling between countries, it's possible to sample climbs in both nations on a three or four week holiday.



Top: Refugio Frey with Torre Principal behind.
Bottom: The volcano Osorno.



Photos: Greg Horne

Weather and Season. The majority of the rain or snow comes from the Pacific Ocean. Therefore, Chile receives much more precipitation than Argentina. The rain shadow on the lee side of the Andes becomes drier to the east.

The isolated volcanoes are also subject to lenticular cloud caps, or

sombreros, on their upper slopes. These clouds often precede foul weather. Volcanoes Osorno and Tronador are more prone to *sombreros* than other peaks of the region because of their proximity to the ocean. Osorno is known as a killer mountain. In February 1987, five climbers and two rescuers died there after the

speedy onset of lenticular clouds and a storm. The use of bamboo wands to mark the return route in case of white-outs is unfamiliar to local climbers, which is ironic since bamboo grows on the lower slopes of the mountains.

The normal climbing season is from December to April. During this Andean summer, drought or monsoon conditions can sometimes last for months. Generally, good or bad weather systems alternate and last about a week. Fresh snow is possible above 1200m.

The month of April is a great time to catch the autumn colors of the southern beech forest. The range and intensity of colors can easily rival New England. But April and May are prone to long spells of rain.

For the best skiing, try July through October; on the higher peaks, try January. The snow is wet like the Pacific Northwest, and falls in huge quantities. The coastal towns normally only have rain in winter.

Accommodations. In the holiday months of January and February, the tourist towns — like Pucon, San Martin de los Andes, and Bariloche — will often have their hotels filled to capacity. A better choice for budget climbers are *pensiones*, bed and breakfast places, at \$3-\$7 per person. Extra gear can be stored there when you go climbing.

Some towns may have guarded or supervised campgrounds. Usually the camping prices equal that of a *pensione*, are far from the center of town, and offer less security for your equipment. To find *pensiones* or campgrounds, ask the tourist information centers in these towns, or U.S. travel agents.

The lake district has one of the highest concentrations of mountain huts on the continent. Some are very well maintained, either privately or by clubs, and offer services similar to European huts. Outside the prime summer season, make sure to check whether your chosen hut is open and what services are available before leaving town. The cost of staying in the guarded huts is similar to the price of *pensiones*, but does not include meals (when available).

At huts without custodians, be careful about leaving your gear unattended, particularly on weekends. It's worth the time to pack up, then cache stuff away from the hut while you're climbing. Although thievery in Chile and Argentina is insignificant compared to Peru, unattended gear may be just too tempting to pass up.

Supplies. All food needed for outings can be obtained locally. For the best selection, shop at *supermercados* in the large towns or cities. Multi-fuel stoves are recommended. Shop at hardware stores for *bencina blan-*

ca in Chile, and *solvente industrial* in Argentina; both are equivalent to white gas or naphtha.

Literature and Contacts. There is no guidebook of the entire area. The best source in English covering the region is *Climbers and Hikers Guide to the World's Mountains* (2nd ed.), by Michael Kelsey. *Backpacking in Chile and Argentina*, by Hilary Bradt and John Pilkington, gives details for access to Osorno and Bariloche huts. *Excursiones, Andinismo y Refugios de Montana en Bariloche*, by Toncek Arko, has good guidebook coverage of the Bariloche area.

The Club Andino de Bariloche has an information desk in their San Carlos de Bariloche club house, at the corner of Paseo de Gutierrez and E.B. Morales streets. The person at the information desk can tell you about hut access, hiking trails and climbing routes. If you require specifics about a particular mountain or route, the information desk can direct you to the most knowledgeable person in Bariloche. The club librarian, Vojko Arko, is very familiar with the region.

Maps. In Chile, the non-border zones are covered by excellent 1:50,000 topographic maps, but the newly revised 1:250,000 series are adequate. One of these smaller scale maps might include two or three mountains, compared with a 1:50,000 that barely covers a single peak. To avoid disappointment, buy topographic maps in Santiago from the Instituto Geografico Militar (Av. O'Higgins 240, or Dieciocho 407). If coming from Argentina you may be able to view topo maps at the tourist office in Puertos Varas or Montt.

Detailed maps in Argentina are scarce, and topographic maps are presently not available to the public. Arko's guidebook has sketch maps for hut approaches, routes on Tronador, and route sketches for rock climbs. Kelsey's and Bradt's books also have sketch maps.

Both countries have good highway maps. These are available in the Chilean national gas station company, Copec, or in Santiago bookstores. In Argentina, the Automovil Club produces the best map of the provinces Rio Negro and Neuquen.

Climbs in Chile. Starting in the north are the volcanoes Lonquimay (2726m) and Tolhuaca (2606m). Both feature southern glaciers and blown-out crater rims to the north side. Lonquimay is easily climbed or skied from the ski area on its east. Local climbers prefer Tolhuaca in the spring, when the rockfall from the crumbling summit ridge crest is reduced. The normal route is from Laguana Caracoles up the SW ridge.

Slightly to the south of these two

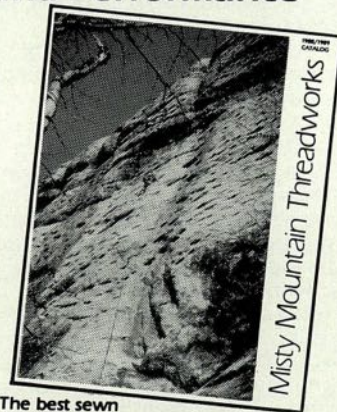
mountains is Volcan Llaima (3125m), the third highest of the region. Llaima is still active, and its last major eruption was in 1984. It has a small ski area on the west, which is the most practical access in winter of early spring. During summer, the normal ascent route is from Laguana Captren, on the north. Llaima is glaciated on all sides, but its slopes are covered with rock and ash debris, which makes rockfall a serious threat during the summer.

Further south is Volcan Villarrica (2582m), near the resort town of Pucon. Villarrica worried the local residents in 1984 when lava poured onto its glaciers. A previous eruption permanently destroyed the chairlift of this mountain's ski area, and the abandoned ski lodge at its base is now a climbers' hut. There is running water and some furniture, but little else.

In 1987, I camped inside the upper terminal of the chairlift, a huge cement bunker dug into the slope of the mountain. It's a much more spectacular spot, removed from most of the tourists at the old lodge below. The summit crater is definitely worth visiting at night. From the crater rim, lava activity can be observed about 100 meters below. Magma boils and burps away in a fiery lake, and every few minutes a minor explosion sends molten lava shooting up 50 meters into the air. A moonlight descent down the glacier at midnight culminated my unforgettable experience on Villarrica.

Forty-five kilometers SE of Villarrica on the international border is Volcan Lanin (3717m), the highest peak of the lake district. It is a steep-sided, symmetrical cone with glaciers on all sides except the north. A basic hut is located on the NE side at about 2500m. From the hut, it's a straight forward climb to the summit. The south face glaciers

Comfort, Innovation and Performance



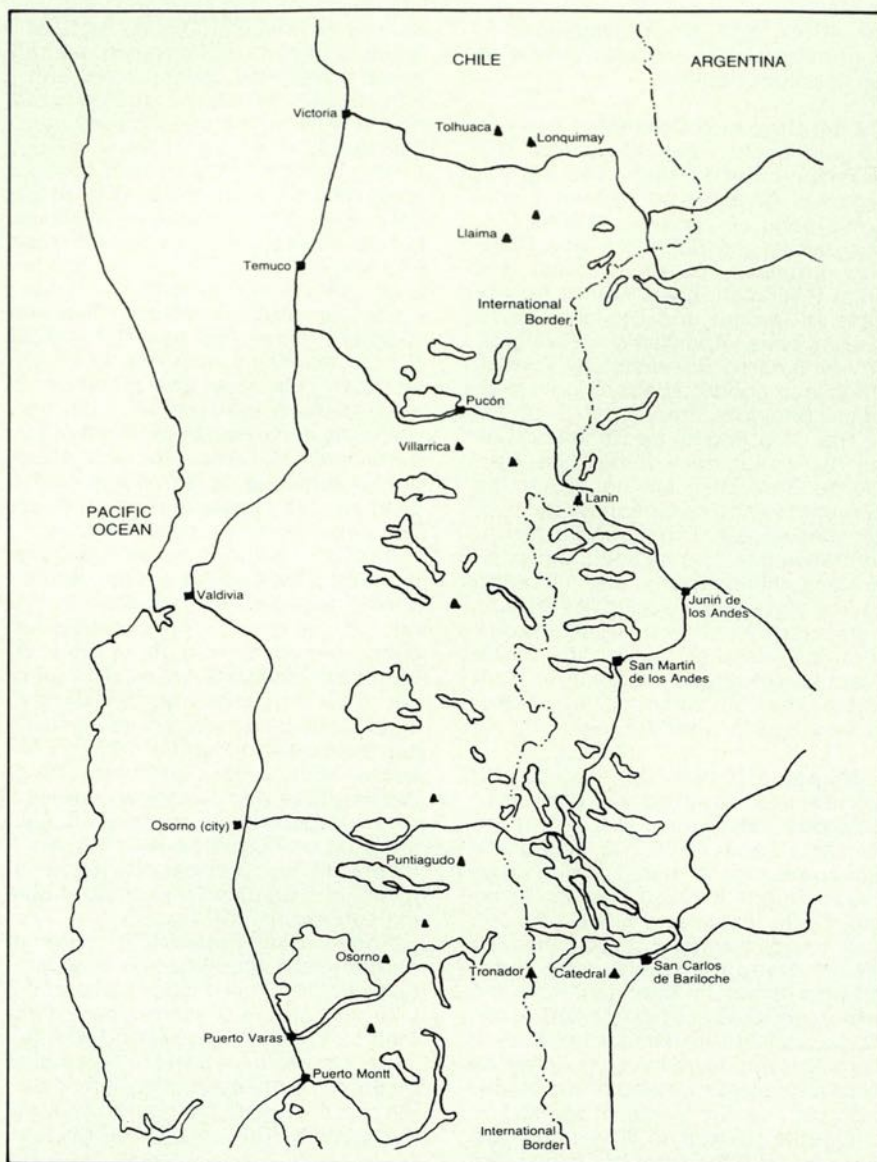
The best sewn climbing gear available.

Harnesses ☐ Chalkbags ☐ Sewn Slings
Gear Slings ☐ Aid Gear ☐ And More

Write or call for your free catalog
and a list of dealers in your area.

Misty Mountain Threadworks
Phone 704/264-5413

Rt. 1, Box 629, Blowing Rock, NC 28605



have a couple of good steep snow and ice climbs. Access to the south face is by a nasty bushwhack from Lago Huechulafquen.

Osorno (2661m) is probably the most beautiful mountain of the region. It is a heavily glaciated, Fuji-like volcano. There are three huts on this peak. The most popular with climbers and skiers is the Teski Ski Club hut, on the west side below the ski lifts. The hut is fully equipped and has a resident custodian. The west face route is moderately crevassed, but easy in good weather. Longer and more difficult routes can be found on the south and east faces.

About 15 kilometers NE of Osorno is Puntagudo (2492m), the most difficult and dangerous major peak in the district. It is a highly eroded volcano forming a sharp, steep, and rotten summit block; locals claim it has been climbed only three times. In the preferred spring season, the rime ice freezes the rotten rock into place.

Climbs in Argentina. The majority of the climbing in this country is centered around San Carlos de Bariloche, a busy mountain resort town in summer and winter. The city has a South American — European ambience, with great cuisine. Nearby is a large ski area, on Cerro Catedral, and the two principal climbing areas of Cerro Tronador and Torre Catedral.

Tronador (3554m), a glaciated volcano, is the second highest mountain of the region. Picos Chileno and Argentino are on opposite sides of the border, while the highest peak, Internacional, lies smack on the border. Bad weather is frequent. Over two seasons and three visits totaling 12 days, I've managed to climb only one of the three summits.

The Refugio Otto Meiling is the most popular hut. A summer caretaker collects fees and serves meals, and downhill ski gear can be rented to use on the glacier above the hut. Argentino and Internacional can be climbed

from here. Argentino has several snow and ice routes, while Internacional is the most difficult summit, preferred in spring or early summer when the rotten rock is frozen. The third summit, Chileno, can be reached by a long traverse over Internacional. The other route is from the second hut, Refugio Tronador, an empty cement shell. From the hut, cross the heavily crevassed Glaciar Rio Blanco Grande to the Reichert Col, then climb the steep south ridge to the summit.

The Torre Principal de Cerro Catedral and its neighboring spires are a dreamlike playground of alpine granite. Plan on a minimum of one week to scratch the surface of the climbing potential here. It is a 3-4 hour approach to the Emilio Frey hut, directly under the climbs, and the summer custodians are often a good source of route information.

The Aguja (needle) Frey has one-to-four-pitch climbs, while the south face of Torre Principal has routes that take two days. The normal route on the north face of Torre Principal is a classic, and a recommended warm-up for harder climbs. The final pitch finishes up a bolt ladder to the small summit. Many of the *aguja*s have short aid sections with fixed pins, even on the easiest routes. Campanile Esloveno has a two hour approach, but is worth the hike. This sharp spire has ten routes (5.6 to 5.9), all several pitches long.

Other huts in the Bariloche area offer access to alpine rock, but not in the quantity or quality of those around Frey. Still, if you have the time, check out climbs near Refugios Lopez, Jakob, and Manfredo Segre. At those areas only the most obvious face and ridge lines have been ascended. An enjoyable way to make a reconnaissance of the popular hut areas is a five day high traverse, from Lopez, to Segre, to Jakob, to Frey. The day between Segre and Jakob requires some glacier travel and class 4 rock scrambling.

The lake district of Chile and Argentina has something worthwhile for almost everyone interested in the mountains. With a traveler's command of Spanish, the area offers a relaxed foreign climbing destination. It has good trails, huts, guidebooks, and maps, yet is much less crowded and more economical than Europe.

— Greg Horne

Corrections

In Climbing no. 105, pp. 90-95, Mercedario is 6670m high, La Mesa is 6230m, and Cerro de la Plata is 5850m.

Pabellon is located east, not south, of Tupungato; while Peunta Alto is a city south of Santiago. And Marmolejo is not a volcano. The three highest peaks on the continent are not in the Central Andes.

In the photo on pp. 91, the caption should read "the south face of Cerro Mesa." On pp. 95, Polaco, Tupungato, and Bangos were misspelled on the map. We apologize for these oversights.

MR. "FRIENDLY"

Alaskan climber chills out

In June 1986, two sick Koreans keeled over at 19,500 feet on Denali. They radioed for a rescue and when the rangers finally translated their garbled plea, a helicopter was fueled. Five strong, acclimated rescuers were selected from the riff-raff of climbers in Talkeetna, then airlifted to 14,300 feet.

The rescuers started toward the summit. One Coloradan fizzled out on the way to 17,000, an Australian (who had recently climbed the mountain from bottom to top in 18 hours) turned around with altitude sickness, and one of the two Austrians ran out of steam because he'd been partying. The remaining pair continued to Denali Pass; the second Austrian was forced to stop and sleep off the previous night's excesses. The Alaskan continued alone.

At midnight, he stopped on the summit ridge and uncoiled 600 feet of rope. It was 20° below zero and the wind was blowing. Emotionally, he was wrecked. "I had taken the ashes of my girlfriend to the summit the year before," he said. "I knew if I found bodies it was going to be really hard."

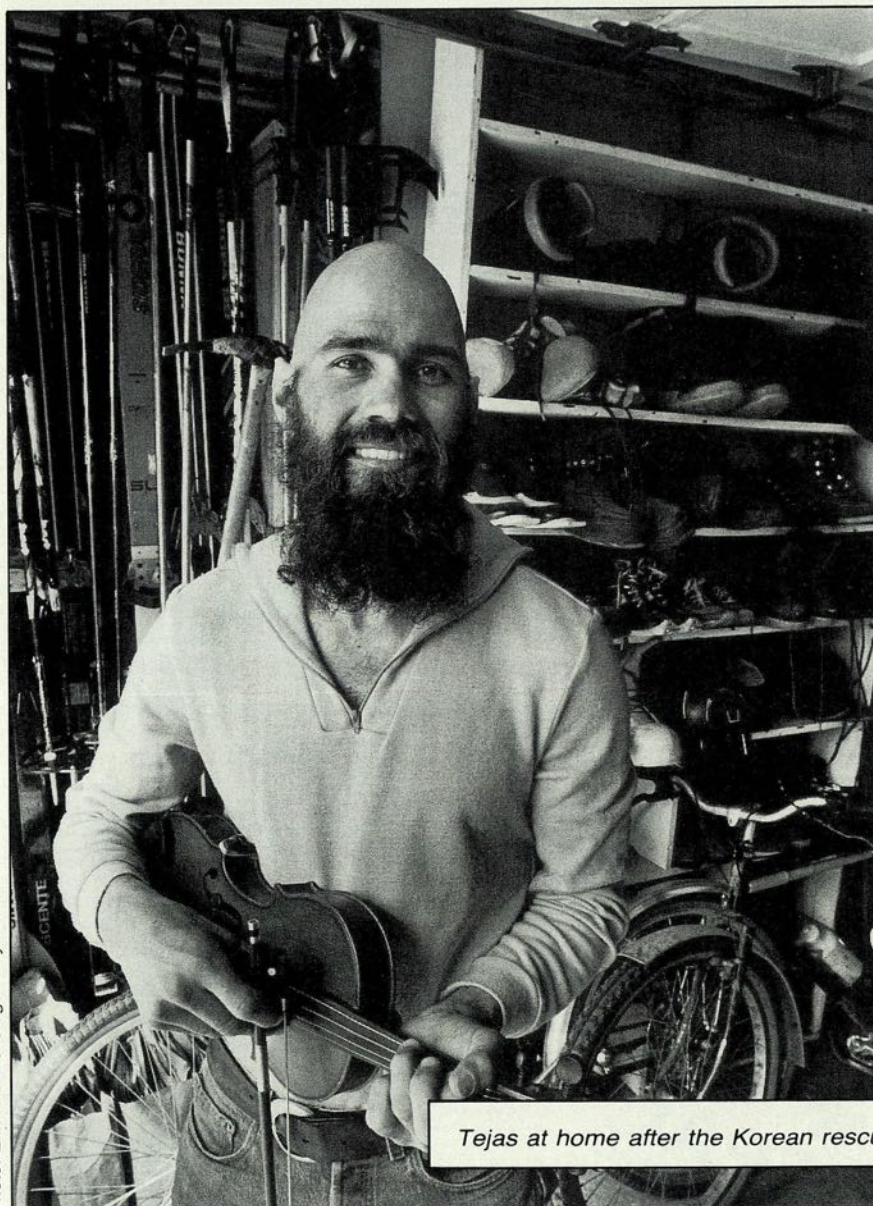
The Alaskan yodeled down the Cassin Ridge, and the Koreans yelled back, so he anchored the rope and rappelled down. The Koreans perked up when this grinning, full-bearded, bald-shaven angel of mercy squeezed into their tent. He gave them some Decadron for their cerebral edema, then shared his lunch.

He took the sickest climber to the end of the rope, but instead of attaching the Jumars, the victim tied in, expecting to be winched up by the rescue team above. "I didn't have the heart to tell 'em there wasn't anyone else," the rescuer said. "When I showed him how to jumar, he realized this was a low-cost outfit."

He helped both victims to the summit ridge. The sickest Korean passed out just as the second Austrian arrived with a bottle of oxygen and a sled; the rescue was over in hours.

The Anchorage papers reported the story, but aside from the respect which this climber had already earned from the local climbing community, he faded back into the relative obscurity of the Alaskan wilderness.

Photo: Erik Hill/Anchorage Daily News



Tejas at home after the Korean rescue.

That winter, Vernon Tejas' name popped into the papers again when he and five other Alaskans made the first winter ascent of Mt. Logan (19,524 ft). It was a cold, dark slog up the King Trench, more an act of willpower and Arctic survival than climbing, but Tejas' exuberance lightened everyone's spirits. Most Alaskan climbers refuse to tempt fate more than a couple of times during the dark months, but Tejas, 35, was only getting warmed up for an unmatched passage in Alaskan winter climbing.

In the winter of 1980, he had climbed the Kennedy-Lowe Route on Mt. Hunter with Gary Bocarde and Paul Denkwalter. This desperately cold ice climb would stand as a turning point in Alaskan mountaineering, for it

was the first technical route done on a big peak in winter. It was also the first of a series of climbs which Tejas would initiate by writing a will. Although he has no intention of losing his life, Tejas believes that it would be irresponsible to let his family and friends "clean up business" if he were accidentally killed.

In the tongue of the indigenous peoples of Texas, "tejas" means friendly; it is also the namesake of Texas, where Vern grew up. But Vern did not get along with his father, and 11 years ago, he changed his surname to Tejas.

His deeds are too many to list, but even the highlights read like those of a renaissance mountain man: the first traverse of the 350-mile-wide Bagley

Icefields, a new route on the elegant West Face of Mount Deborah, back-to-back ascents of the Cassin Ridge and the Northwest Buttress of Denali, and a mountain bike descent from Aconcagua, followed by his 100th parasail jump from just below the summit.

Yet to try and read Vernon Edward Tejas solely by his cold adventuring would be a mistake. He is a gentle, sensitive, warm-hearted soul, interested in everyone he meets. His profession as a mountain guide is apropos, for he is energized by sharing the high places with the uninitiated.

Once, while stranded on the Ruth Glacier, I ran into Vern. Blizzard conditions had reduced most groups in the area to a dismal torpor — except for Vern's. By day, he took his clients out into the whiteout and taught them compass navigation and crevasse rescue. By night, he told stories, and played his violin, squeeze box, or harmonica. During the height of the storm, as his clients were falling asleep after a big meal in the Sheldon Mountain House, he pulled them out into the gale, and let everyone take turns flying his kite.

It is easy for a guide to be put on a pedestal, to become the grand *bergführer*, held in awe by their charges. Nor is it rare for an overworked guide to lose higher climbing ambitions and close partnerships. But Tejas is the genuine article. In fact, his presence is sought after by other climbers. On the arduous traverse of the Bagley Icefields, Tejas mounted his harmonica on a brace and paced his companions for days on end with the blues, his notes rising and falling to the tune of their stride, bounding off serac walls, and filling the vast spaces of the St. Elias Range.

Or, there is the case of Nancy Pfieffer's burial in an avalanche in the Chugach Mountains. Tejas dug her out and saved her life. Today, Pfieffer swears she would follow him anywhere.

Vern and I skied together on the Ruth and he taught me how, through a series of contortionist's moves, to put my skins on without removing my skis. This was my first glimmer into the repertoire of one who does not accept any dogma, any routine, or any piece of gear at face level. Later, Vern showed me how he had fit his Footfangs to floppy bunny boots, a hot innovation which has helped him stretch his limits on cold Alaskan climbs such as the Cassin, and the seldom-climbed Northwest Buttress — he and his partner became the first to reach Denali's South Summit from this route.

This winter, Tejas realized yet another *tour de force* by soloing Denali; more importantly for him, it was a long-standing dream. Those who are close to Tejas understand that his climb was incredibly calculated, for he has climbed Denali 12 times and knows its intricacies well. Moreover, Tejas has a healthy respect and fear of "The Mountain." He fortified a 16 foot aluminum extension ladder with a crossbar, and protected himself from crevasses by traveling in its middle.

But Denali is a harsh mistress in winter. There have been at least 20 winter attempts, all of which were turned back by high winds, bitter cold, and frostbite injuries.

Art Davidson, Ray Genet, and Dave Johnston made the first winter ascent of the West Buttress in 1967. All three were frostbitten, while a fourth companion was killed in a crevasse fall.

Indeed, all of Denali's "successful" winter suitors have paid a steep toll. In March 1982, the Cassin Ridge was climbed, but one member was badly injured in a crevasse fall, while the others sustained frostbite. In 1983, the West Rib was climbed in winter, but one of the climbers fell to his death while descending. Finally, in 1984, the West Buttress was soloed in winter by Naomi Uemura, who disappeared in a storm during the descent. His Japanese flag was found flying on the summit.

Tejas was traveling in Japan when Uemura disappeared; the Japanese openly mourned their revered adventurer. Tejas' respect for Uemura grew as he learned of the man's humbleness, his love of the mountains, and his dedication to pitting himself alone against such overwhelming adversaries. Tejas decided that he would finish the solo and dedicate the climb to Uemura.

This winter, Tejas revised his will. Then, as a gauge of the seriousness of this endeavor, he took out a life insurance policy.

In February, after consecutively guiding, mountain biking, and parasailing off Aconcagua, Tejas took advantage of his acclimatization and flew directly back to Alaska. He picked up a month's groceries and started up the West Buttress on the 16th. He hoped to fly off the summit with his parasail, for most winter accidents have occurred to weary climbers on the descent. Tejas figured that descending quickly would improve his chances.

An Alaskan weather forecaster called the winter of 1988 the worst in years because of the continuous low pressure systems. Tejas says, "I've never seen as many windy storm days, ever," but rather than griping, he was happy to experience temperatures no colder than 25° below zero, instead of 50° below. To gain depth perception in the continuous whiteout, he threw a wand out onto the snow hundreds of times en route to 14,300 feet. He carried no tent and was confined to his trench caves for three and four days at a time.

The loneliness and sensory deprivation in the hushed and blank-walled snowcaves made Tejas hallucinate. He would exercise or clean his nails hundreds of times, until he could no longer fend off the visions. "It was TV and I usually only turned it on at night, when I got bored," Tejas says. "I saw geometric, cartoon figures, man, it was like Disney on parade."

On March 7 he started for the summit in a complete whiteout, caching his parasail at the cave. Every half-hour, he stopped and swung his feet for five minutes to rewarm them. "I thought about Naomi a lot," Tejas said. "Anytime I came to an exposed position, I wondered, 'Is this where Naomi is?'"

"On top it was anticlimactic and completely fogged in," he said. "I felt relieved and said to myself, 'Let's see if you can get down, Naomi didn't.'" As a final respect, he pulled a Japanese flag out of his pack, and planted it on the summit. He descended to his snowcave in two hours.

Tejas flew out from the 7200-foot basecamp a week later. His accomplishment is partly the first successful winter solo of Denali, but mostly, he has broken barriers by completing the climb without frostbite, and with a balanced safety margin which no other team of climbers has found on Denali in winter.

But Tejas doesn't rest on his laurels. A scant two weeks after his climb, he flew into the Wrangells to try a first ascent with a client. The 1988 season will see him guide three different groups up Denali. And waiting there, both in the lofty reaches of Tejas' fantasies, and cached at 17,200 feet, is a parasail beckoning to be flown from the summit.

—Jonathan Waterman

*** NEPAL**
Climb Island Peak
\$3100 including roundtrip
 airfare from Seattle

- 26 day trip • Trek to Everest Base Camp & Kala Patar 18,200 ft. • Witness the Mani Rimdu Festival at the Tengboche Monastery • Full camp & porter staff • 4 nights lodging in Katmandu with tour of city and surrounding valley.

Also
Expedition Services
and Low Airfares to
PERU



**PEAKS &
PLACES**
 P.O. Box 622-C Avon, CO 81620
 (303) 949-5479

Let us be your guide to an
elevating adventure
of grandeur.

Mountaineering Classes

- Small Specialized Groups
- Hands-on Experience
- Designed to your interests

Alpine, Rock, & Ice Climbs

All in the No. Cascades of beautiful Washington

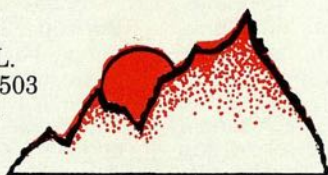
— or —

International Travel

Climbing Expeditions to Asia,
So. America, USSR and Britain

Call or write:

P.O. Box 503, Dept CL.
Graham, WA 98338-0503
(206) 847-8375 U.S.A.



Alpine Experience

We'll help you achieve the thrill
of truly "reaching the top!"

The All-Purpose Towel For Outdoor Adventures

Backpacking • Boating • Camping • Sports • Travel

PACKTOWL



Makes Terrycloth Obsolete!
Absorbs Ten Times Its Weight
Lightweight • Compact • Fast Drying

The Most Useful Item You Can Pack



See your dealer or send \$6.00 check/money order to:

HUDCO

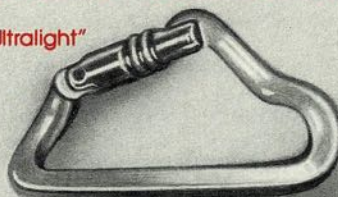
P.O. Box 4222-C • Hayward, CA 94540

The New 'RAD' 3-D Carabiners an international original!

The "3-D Ultralight" and the "3-D HMS" carabiners are not just carabiners that have been bent, but are a patented triaxial shaped carabiner. The "3-D" carabiner is manufactured by an entirely new process that took two years to develop...

Every STUBAI carabiner has been tested to 1/2 of minimum breaking strength. The "3-D Ultralight" has amazing strength wt. ratio...

"3-D Ultralight"



"3-D HMS"



Advantages:

- Triaxial design prevents rope catching with the shorter side of the carabiner and allows the rope to run free.
- Snaplock gate with 22mm opening allows for easy rope placement.
- Because of the carabiners lightness it reduces the overall weight of the rack, while taking up the same amount of space.
- Eliminates the need of a runner and second carabiner.
- The "3-D Ultralight" and "3-D HMS" are U.I.A.A. approved...

STUBAI

PERFORMANCE ALPINE TOOLS

Available at leading climbing shops
beginning June 1, 1988

For complete catalog contact



OMNI International Distributors, Inc.
P.O. Box 110, Route 203
Spencertown, New York 12165 U.S.A.
(800)445-0884 NY only:(518)392-3363

STARTING OUT

CLIMBING INSTRUCTION

Advice for taking the sharp end of the rope

After the basics of climbing instruction are over, leading is the aspiring climber's next great step into the vertical unknown. In the long run, leading climbs on your own is perhaps the most satisfying of all climbing experiences.

Once you have tied into the rope's sharp end, success or failure is entirely up to you, and the resultant feeling of accomplishment will reflect your dedication and skill. After the first few leads, you may never be entirely satisfied seconding again.

The leader is usually the most experienced member of a team. Who will lead depends upon the difficulty of the climb, the relative experience levels of the two climbers, and personal inclination.

The leader's job is to navigate up the route you have selected. Generally, the easiest and safest line to the next belay stance is chosen. Route finding is very much an art form, something of a "sixth sense" that can take years to develop. It involves intuition, betting on your hunches, picking up clues from the rock, and spotting hidden weaknesses. Signs of another climber's passage — chalk marks, a nut, or a fixed pin — might mean that the preceding climber was as lost as you are! Learn to think independently and wisely about your route.

Another important key to good route finding is a knack for deciphering guidebook descriptions, written or topographic. Topos are simple and easy to understand, but don't always give route information as detailed as the written word can provide. Become familiar with both formats. If you can't carry the entire guidebook (a physical impossibility with many modern guidebooks), try xeroxing the description.

The most important rule is: "The leader must not fall." In the past, this dictum was explicitly true for all climbers, but today it pertains more to aspiring leaders. Because of stronger ropes, harnesses, and improved climbing hardware, falling on the lead has become an integral part of gymnastic free climbing in the 1980's; some climbers even go so far as to "practice" falling to eliminate this fear. However, most difficult climbs are on steep, often very smooth rock, and falls usually just result in bruised egos. For the inexperienced leader on lower-angled rock, the importance of not falling is still paramount; remember, if you don't fall, you won't get hurt.

Leading a pitch may be divided into two separate spheres, the physical

and the psychological. The accomplished leader has the ability to harmoniously integrate these spheres. Prerequisites for success are being physically prepared for the rigors of the route, maintaining self-control, and remaining calm and relaxed at all times. Control your destiny on the lead through intelligence, forethought, and rationing your strength.

Another important skill which must be fully developed is the placement and removal of climbing protection. Have an experienced friend or climbing instructor critique your nut placements and belay anchors on the ground, then aid climb a short vertical crack on nuts only, top roping to see how body weight "sets" each placement. Finally, you should follow and clean as many pitches as possible, getting the knack for removing gear while hanging off a hard move.

Become as confident as possible of your ability to place secure protection and belay anchors. Before venturing out on the sharp end of the rope, leave any nagging doubts about the security of your protection systems far behind you. Don't be frustrated, though, if this knowledge takes some time to acquire; be patient.

Don't harbor any illusions about the potential for danger in climbing. Leading is among the most challenging and serious of objectives; statistically, only rappelling is more dangerous. The leader should meet the challenge of personal safety through a slow, methodical introduction, and rarely a trial by fire.

Several preparations are helpful for your first lead. Most important, don't be negligent of your own safety: wear a harness and a helmet. Choose a lead which is well within your ability range — two or three grades below the difficulty of what you can competently top rope or follow. Make the all-important first lead easy on yourself. On your first few leads, go with an experienced partner, or a climbing instructor who can critique your performance, help you learn from your mistakes, and lend moral encouragement when it's needed.

Carry the best quality rack you can afford, with a combination of wedging and camming protection. Bring a broad range of pieces, from a #3 RP up to hand size in width. The emphasis should be on wedging (Stoppers) and passive camming (Hexentrics and Tri-cams) protection. Learn to use basic nuts first and don't overload your rack with all the latest SLCD's (spring loaded camming devices) — unless

you are already proficient with them. And make sure there is a good overlap in sizes, otherwise you may run out by the end of the pitch.

Climbing with a competent belayer will ease the worried mind of the first-time leader. Any climbing partner worth their salt should know at least four ways to belay. After mastering the standard hip belay, you will probably feel more at ease and confident if you use a belaying device; Sticht plates and figure eights are most popular. Other choices include the Chouinard Bachli, the Latok Tuber, the Forrest Triton, or the Munter Hitch used with an HMS locking carabiner.

As the person on the sharp end of the rope, you must have full confidence that your belayer will catch you if you fall. If you do have doubts, take some extra time to practice belaying in a top rope situation. Before embarking on your first lead, both leader and belayer should have a practical knowledge of the substantial impact forces which are involved in a leader fall. Most climbers who haven't caught a leader fall drastically underestimate the severity of the forces generated. The easiest way to duplicate the impact created by a falling climber is to raise a 150 lb. "bucket" above the ground, release it, and have a well-anchored belayer catch it with a top rope.

Another often overlooked hint for successful leading is a mutually agreed upon set of belay signals between both climbers. There is nothing more frustrating than getting part way up a pitch on a windy day — and realizing that you and your belayer are speaking two different languages.

Another nagging problem is a belayer who keeps the rope too tight and doesn't pay out enough slack. This can be extremely aggravating for a leader in the midst of a hard move. If the belayer keeps between one and two feet of slack in the system, and if the leader has done a good job at rigging his protection with long-enough slings, there should be very little rope drag on the leader. Using double rope technique will reduce rope drag even further.

Probably the safest way of setting out on your first lead is to set a top rope on a climb, tie in, and have your partner belay you up on the top rope. Drag along a spare "lead" rope, set your protection, and clip the lead rope into it as you climb. Do everything you would normally do as if you were actually leading the route. Then belay your partner up the pitch, having him remove your placements and critique your protection.

Direction of pull — the directional forces exerted upon the protection

system, the belayer, and the anchor during a leader fall — is perhaps the most important concept to be learned before becoming a safe and proficient leader. Within any one pitch climb, all potential directions of pull may feasibly be exerted on the protection system: upward, downward, sideways, and even outward. To minimize the climbing rope pulling out your protection, use "keyhole" nut placements, which are wider above, and narrow below, as frequently as possible. Also learn to oppose nut placements; particularly oppose nuts placed at the start of the pitch, or when the leader moves horizontally away from a vertical path of ascent. Finally, place your belayer as near to the start of the pitch as possible, unless the rope is first run through an opposed or upward pull anchor at the pitch's start.

After mastering the technical proficiencies of knots, belay signals, rope work, belaying, chockcraft, and anchoring, there are still many ways to improve your skills as a leader.

Climbing down is one of the best ways of learning to climb up. I first saw the value of this art while belaying Henry Barber on a new route in Massachusetts in 1974. He was determined to work out the moves on a difficult headwall, 20 feet of sustained 5.10 face climbing, without using a bolt. In fact, above a single nut placement at a ledge, he had virtually no protection at all. Any miscalculation would have resulted in a dangerous fall: bouncing off the ledge, and down the face below.

For nearly three hours he patiently climbed up to his high point, tentatively trying the next move, then retreating down each move for a rest on the ledge. Twenty minutes later, it was time for the next try: back up, feel it out, then gracefully reverse the dance back down for a rest.

Finally, he climbed back to his high point, reached the next handholds in a new sequence, and committed himself. He yelled that he was going for it, then gracefully pulled up the steep face, gaining the lower-angled slab above. To this day it remains one of the most masterful and inspired pieces of free climbing I have ever seen — a difficult, unprotected 5.10 face made possible by the positive use of downclimbing.

If you feel confident of your ability to reverse any section of climbing you have just come up, then you will never find yourself in danger — unless your protection falls out, or your belayer falls asleep. Practicing downclimbing, especially when bouldering, is one of the surest ways to improve one's leading ability and get a better "head" for leading hard pitches.

Protection, hopefully, won't always be that hard to obtain. As a general rule, protection is placed every ten to fifteen feet during the course of a



CHUMS SPOTLIGHT: EMMA RAE HYDROTURF

HOME: La Verkin, Utah

AGE: 26

OCCUPATION: Principle acrobat, International Aerial Performers.

HOBBY: Watching T.V.

LAST BOOK READ: "Big Ideas," by Lynda Barry

LATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT: The Annual Celebration of World Peace Invitational Performance by Professional Aerial Artists. Moscow, U.S.S.R.

WHY DO I DO WHAT I DO? "For the thrills, and for the money, I guess."

QUOTE: "It's not what you wear, it's what you do."

PROFILE: Impulsive, dynamic, adventurous. Knows what she likes and goes for it.

HER EYEGLASS RETAINER: CHUMS. "When I'm in the air, I can't afford to lose my eyeglasses, and besides, I have a different color to match all my outfits."

DEALERS AND 7TH GRADE CLIMBERS WRITE FOR A FREE SAMPLE!

Chums

P.O. Box 950 Hurricane, Utah 84737 801-635-2486 800-222-2486

pitch, or whenever the leader feels insecure or in peril, which could be every few inches. Place enough protection to prevent getting blown out, and know the difference inside yourself between going for it in relative control, and safely retreating, without injury.

Remember, there is honor in retreat and the rock will be there next weekend. It's always better to descend without hurting yourself — or jeopardizing your partner's safety, either. Don't become a statistic by foolishly exceeding your limitations.

Anyway, if you've failed on a lead, just think of it as a vendetta to work on.

—Ed Webster

Climber's Guide to Sabino Canyon and Mount Lemmon Highway is still available.

For a copy of this guide to the Tucson, Arizona area, send \$17.95 to Lemmon Guide, 757 Santa Maria, Tucson, AZ 85706 Postpaid; allow 4 weeks for delivery.

1988 ROCK BOOTS

Ushering in the era of specialization

Purchasing a new pair of climbing shoes is a lot like buying a car — the more you shop around, the more confused you become. And to make things tougher, new models are springing up like rap bolts at Eurocrags.

Amazingly, they're all good, and no single shoe has proven itself as the new king-of-the-hill. Although some boots are geared toward versatility, many born of the 1980's rock-shoe revolution are specialized, expanding horizons in all types of climbing, from tenuous friction to thin cracks to overhanging pockets. But remember, no matter which pair you decide to fork over your hard-earned cash for, the key is knowing how to use them.

As the reverberations of the sticky rubber invasion begin to die down, boot manufacturers seem to have settled on a similar Spanish-style recipe. The performance and longevity of a particular rubber are influenced by many factors, including sole thickness, edge bevel, shoe construction, and ambient temperature.

While climbing in cool temperatures (50° or lower), I was unable to distinguish one brand of rubber from the next. On warmer days different rubber mixtures became more noticeable.

Rubber longevity relates largely to sole thickness and shoe construction. Flexible, friction-style shoes wear longer than stiffer models since wear is spread over a larger area of rubber. Obviously, thick soles last longer than thin ones, but too thick a sole tends to deform and roll off of edges.

Contrary to popular belief, a square, sharp-cornered sole is less effective on edges than one that's rounded off. Because rubber stretches under load, a round edge offers more support (or "buttressing") than a square-cut edge, thereby permitting a more stable foot placement on thin edges or pockets.

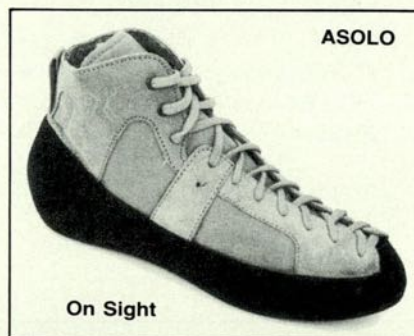
A sole tapered back underfoot places weight more directly over the hold and reduces leverage which can force the boot off of a foothold. Radically beveled soles require cocking the foot slightly uphill.

Shoe selection is a personal decision that should be based on the type of climbing you do most. If you climb predominantly on less-than-vertical faces, a soft, flexible shoe works best, giving maximum rubber contour. If you like steep edging and pocket routes, you should look for a close-

fitting boot with stiff lateral control and good ankle mobility. And for crack climbing, the thickness of a shoe's toe profile prescribes its ability to fit various cracks. The slimmer the toe, the thinner the crack the shoe will penetrate; wide cracks require a stiff, supportive boot for good heel-toe jams.

After selecting a particular boot style, you are faced with the most important decision: size. A common malady that befalls new boot buyers is buying too large. Climbers are willing to spend \$125 on a pair of boots, but high-tech performance is often wasted with a sloppy fit. You can't size a boot too small as long as you can get it on your foot, because all climbing boots stretch. Try wearing new boots around the house to break them in.

Unbeknown to most, keeping climbing boots clean is very important. Dirt and hand oils adversely affect rubber's frictional properties. Rubber also oxidizes and hardens rapidly. Fortunately, this is only a surface condition, and an occasional vigorous wire brushing will remove the hardened outer rubber, leaving you with a fresh sticky surface.



Asolo. The On Sight was the first climbing shoe to stray from the traditional design mold, quickly winning over skeptics with its lightweight Cordura uppers, Cambrelle lining, and anatomical fit. Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, and this year virtually every boot manufacturer has incorporated at least one of the On Sight's original design features.

Complaints about last year's fast-wearing soles sent Asolo rubber shopping. Their new rubber is a major improvement, wearing on a competitive level with others; it is harder, holds on edges well, and actually frictions better than the 1987 rubber because it creeps less, especially in hot weather.

After four years in the field, On Sight's have proven their popularity and versatility. These shoes have a good flex and lateral stability that endears them to every climbing demand. Their sensitive and featherweight construction is still setting a trend.

Boreal/Fire. Fire's sticky rubber and shoe design have been the industry standard for over five years, making Fires the shoes all others are compared against.

Boreal's original climbing shoe was the Classic, a barebone friction shoe with a simple fit and revolutionary new "sticky" rubber soles. Over the years, subtle but constant changes in the shoe's fit and performance have been made. Sticky rands were added to improve security in jam cracks, and the heel design was improved for a better fit and increased control. This year the Classic sports a wider, contoured, and padded tongue. The Achilles tendon area has been cut lower for maneuverability and extensions.

The Classic is Fire's best full-service boot. They have the most sensitive feel of any shoe manufactured; their flexibility makes them a friction boot more than an edging boot. However, in many edging circumstances you can get by using a combination smear/edging technique.

Classics are made of unlined split leather, so should be sized about 1/2 size smaller than lined boots to allow for stretch.

In 1985, Boreal added the Cat and the Ballet to the Fire line-up. These stiffer, more specialized boots were designed for steeper, edging routes. Holding no punches this year, Fire introduces three new boots and a renovated Ballet; even the traditional Fire gray with red trim has been supplanted with electrifying blues and greens.

Fire's most dramatic change is in fit. All Fire boots (with the exception of the Classic) are made on an orthopedically corrected last that allows the toes to lie in their natural position inside the boot, increasing not only comfort but performance and control with a closer fit.

Although each shoe is unique, Boreal uses the same rubber sole and rands on all boots. Additionally, they are all made on the same last for consistent fitting. Fires have split leather uppers and a sticky one-piece toe design and rand, giving good performance in cracks.

The redesigned Ballet is Fire's all-purpose, steep-rock boot. Last year I

Wiggy's Bag Simply The Best



Ultra Light 2.75 lbs + 20° \$100.00

"As for the Ultra Light you gave me for the Garwhal last year, I have been extremely pleased and impressed. It's one reason I'm looking forward to trying out the heavier bags in colder situations.

You say in your catalog that the Ultra Light is for the serious camper. Well, it's also for the serious climber who's looking for a very light bag that still gives the needed warmth for a comfortable bivouac. Down bags are not practical for multi-day extreme routes and with the synthetics and the application of Lamilite to your sleeping bags it's senseless to use anything but the synthetic. And your claims about the Lamilite seem accurate in my experience.

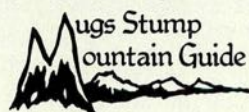
I've used the Ultra Light in many different situations, around the house, summer camping, and in the Himalaya. It's a versatile bag, but from my side of the mountain (or bed) I see it as a valuable piece of equipment for the serious climber. You're right. Down is obsolete in this situation. Ultra Light is the only way to go."

FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR FOR YOUR FREE CATALOG,
WRITE TO:

LAMINAL LTD., INC.

P.O. BOX 12106 • COLUMBIA, SC 29211 • (803) 779-0462

LAMILITETM AND WIGGY'S BAGS ARE PRODUCTS OF LAMINAL LTD., INC.



Sandy, Utah



DOUG GEETING AVIATION

Expedition Air Service-McKinley & Alaska Range

- Air checks on the mountain
- Safe storage of personal gear
- Discount for early reservations
- Indoor sleeping
- Free sleds

Mike Covington, Galen Rowell, Rick Ridgeway, Gary Bocarde, Jim Wickwire, Jeff Lowe, Phil Erschler, Jim Bridwell, Peter Habeler, Dick Bass, Frank Wells, and Yvon Chouinard can't be all wrong!

Doug Geeting

P.O. Box 42
Talkeetna, AK 99676
907-733-2366

Kitty Banner-Seeman

1865 Gore Creek
Vail, CO 81657
303-476-3929

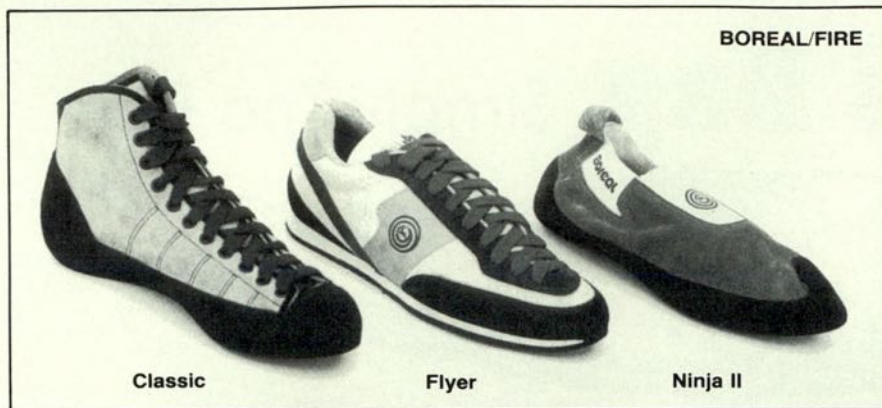
Hut Skiing in the beautiful San Juan Mountains of Colorado. High Basin skiing at 13,000 feet from November until June. **Ice Climbing** and **Avalanche Awareness** programs in Ouray, Colorado. **Rock Climbing** instruction and guiding in world renown Eldorado Springs and Colorado's Front Range. **Winter and Summer Mountaineering** in the Colorado Rockies. **International Expeditions** in Peru, Argentina, Alaska, Europe, and the Himalaya. **Ski Mountaineering** in Europe and Chile. Call or write for a free catalog of tours and classes.

INTERNATIONAL ALPINE SCHOOL

BOULDER MOUNTAIN GUIDES

P.O. Box 3037C, Eldorado Springs, Colorado 80025 USA
(303) 494-4904

Visit our new shop in Eldorado Springs
Professional Guides and Instruction
Leaders Since 1968



graded the Ballets high for edge and pocket climbing but was critical of their less-than-comfortable fit. Fire's new last has taken care of the fitting problem, so today's Ballet scores high in all categories.

The Ballet's unique heel design is the heart of its performance. Two pieces of heel-shaped rubber mold the fit, while a third tensioned rubber strap draws the heel counter tightly against the foot. The locked-in fit secures and aligns your foot in the boot, allowing a high degree of precision on difficult face moves. Although laterally stiff, they still have enough longitudinal flex for smearing. Other features include a full canvas lining that decreases stretch and adds support, and closer-spaced, all-leather eyelets.

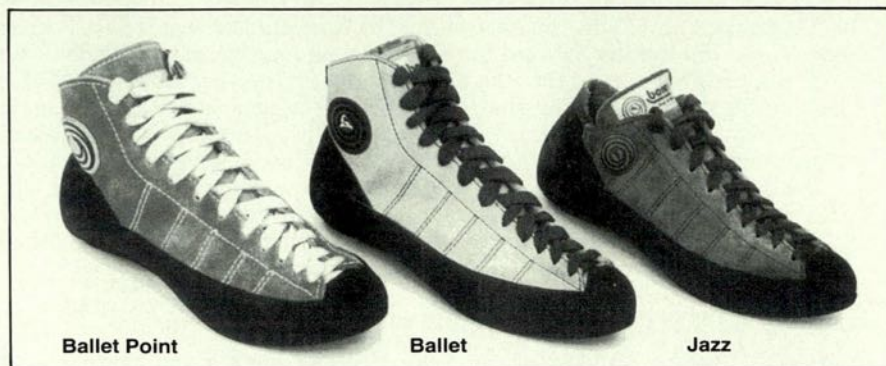
Replacing the wayward Cats, the Ballet Points are Fire's top-end edging boot. They have the Ballet's general design but are much stiffer due to a midsole sandwich of Bontex and plastic. The plastic midsole does sacrifice sensitivity, although not as much as most other "artificially" stiffened boots.

The sole is cut and beveled underfoot, shifting weight directly over the holds and eliminating the leverage problem. To give the shoe the flex necessary for ankle up-moves, the rand is separated at the instep, and the heel area is cut low.

The Jazz, another new shoe from Boreal, is essentially a low-top version of the Ballet. I tried out my first pair of low-top climbing shoes last year and was surprised by their range of motion and light weight.

I had always assumed that ankle-high uppers were needed for protection and support, but, unless you're doing desperately hard edging problems or wide cracks, a low-top shoe is the way to go. Low-top shoes allow greater extension and afford a wider range of foot positions, letting you get the most out of sloped, angled, or awkward footholds. The weight savings is noticeable and contributes to the shoe's great sensitivity.

The Jazz is tailor-made for less-than-vertical face routes where maximum rubber-to-rock contact is essen-

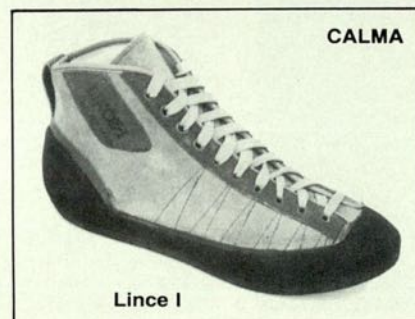


tial. For everything except the most severe edging climbs, it was my favorite shoe from Fire.

Designed for running, scrambling, and easy climbing, Boreal's Fire Flyer is a low-top shoe with Fire rubber soles and rands. The recent addition of deep treads in the heel gives them better security on non-rock surfaces.

Calma. The Calma was one of the first rock shoes to use Spanish-type rubber. The original Calma, the Adherencia, was the choice for edging routes in the early 1980's. It was replaced a few years ago with the Lince 1, Calma's mainstay today.

The Lince 1's are a simple, neatly designed shoe with high-friction rubber and a sticky rand. And with a cost of under \$100, they are one of the least expensive boots in the U.S. Only about half of the climbing shoes made today have sticky rands, which increase security in the many instances where the rand comes in contact with the rock. Other standard equipment



on the Lince 1 include a canvas lining and seamless toe design. These boots are not anatomically shaped, but their all-leather uppers conform naturally around your foot with use.

The addition of a leather heel reinforcement and a nylon midsole gives the shoe more stability for edging and helps retain its shape. The new Lince 1's edge better and wear longer than last year's model but are not as flexible or sensitive. Even so, they are an improved product and a good value.

Dolomite. Dolomite of Italy has been making climbing footwear for over 90 years; they've learned that performance comes from a proper fit.

In studying how feet compress within a boot, Dolomite decided that the point of the boot should correspond with the natural point of the foot, slightly inside of center. Most boot manufacturers place the toe point in the center of the boot, perpendicular to the heel; this design, or symmetrical compression, creates a gap in front of the toes and is the most common cause of foot pain. Using asymmetric compression, Dolomite boots are made on an extremely close-fitting, yet comfortable last.

Dolomite's most revolutionary shoe is the P.E. Vedette. French superstar Patrick Edlinger worked closely with the manufacturer in designing this very technical shoe, which is made especially for use on difficult routes with a minimum of footholds.

The Vedette is featherlight and form fitting, and was the first climbing shoe to have a bi-density sole. They have pink porous rubber from the instep to the heel and black friction rubber under the forefoot where it's needed, reducing the shoe's weight and giving it good longitudinal flex. The rand consists of smooth grey rubber with separate pieces for the heel and toe; a stickier rubber for the rand would increase its security in cracks. The Vedette has the perfect toe shape for fitting into small solution holes. It is a seamless, one-piece design with a high rand extension and tapered point.

Dolomite makes two other shoes similar to but less specialized than the Vedette. Both the Magica and Emo-



HENRY'S SPORT CENTER
1901 State Street
Schenectady, N.Y. 12304

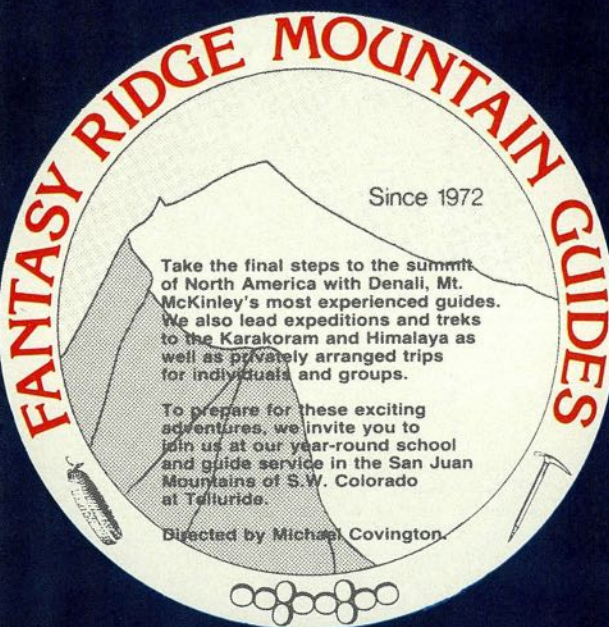
"The Outdoor Specialist"

(518) 346-7273



HENRY'S SPORT CENTER
Loudontown Centre
Latham, N.Y. 12110

CHOUINARD • LOWE • LATOK • BLUE WATER • STUBAI • CLIMB HIGH • BOREAL • FIRE • MSR



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

SENECA ROCKS HAS CHANGED THE GENDARME HASN'T!

No Pretenses. We remain THE CLIMBING SHOP, a vestige of the past. No racks of clothing or fancy fixtures. Just the largest selection of climbing gear to be found most anywhere. Stop by and shop in the casual atmosphere of our store or request our current catalog/newsletter and order via our TOLL FREE NUMBER.

1-800-548-0108

THE GENDARME

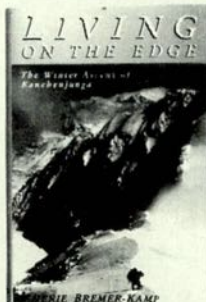
Box 53
Seneca Rocks, WV 26884
(304) 567-2600 for weather

ROCK SHOES

Model	Price	Weight (oz./pr. size 6 1/2)	Uppers	Lining	Cracks		Pockets	Edging	Smearing	Fit	Sensitivity	Recommended Use
					1/2"-1 1/2"	1 1/2"-4"						
ASOLO On Sight	\$129	19	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	B	B-	B	B+	A	A	A	general
BOREAL/FIRE Classic	\$105	24	leather	none	B+	A+	B	C	A	B-	A	friction/cracks
Ballet	\$125	24	leather	canvas	B+	A	B+	B+	B	A	A	general
Ballet Point	\$135	22	leather	canvas	B+	A	B+	A+	C	A	B-	edging/pockets
Jazz	\$115	21	leather	canvas	B+	B	B+	B	A	A	A	general
Ninja I	\$69.95	9	leather	none	A+	C	A	C-	A+	A	A+	friction, thin cracks
Ninja II	\$72.50	9	leather	none	A+	C	A	C	A+	A	A+	friction, thin cracks
CALMA Lince I	\$94.75	28	leather	canvas	B	A-	B-	B	B-	B	B-	general
DOLOMITE Vedette	\$120	15	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	C	B-	A+	A	B-	A	A-	pockets/edging
Magica	\$115	15	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	A	B	A	A	B	B	A-	pockets/edging
Emotion	\$99.95	15	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	A	B	A+	A	B	A	A-	general
Ballet	\$79.95	12	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	A-	C-	B+	C	A	A+	A+	friction
HANWAG Magic Light	\$130	20	leather	Cambrelle	B+	C	A	B	B+	A+	A	general/pockets
KAMET Fantasy	\$102	26	leather	Cambrelle	B-	A-	B-	A-	C	B+	B	edging/cracks
Joshua Tree	\$110	24	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	B-	A-	B-	B+	B	B+	B	cracks/general
Flash	\$110	21	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	B-	B	B+	B	A	A	A	friction/pockets
LA SPORTIVA Mariacher	\$130	25	leather	canvas	B-	A	B	A	B-	B-	B	general
Mega	\$130	17	leather	canvas	B+	B	B+	A	A	B+	A	friction/edging
Ballerina III	\$48	9	leather	nylon	D	D	D	D	A	B	A	friction
Ballerina Flash	\$68	11	leather	nylon	A-	C	A	C	A	A	A	friction/pockets
MEKAN Custom	\$140-240*	26	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	B+	A	A	B	A	A+	A+	general/friction
MERRELL Smear	\$130	25	leather	canvas	B-	A	B	A	B-	B-	B	general
5.11	\$98	25	leather	canvas	B-	B	C	C	B	C	B	friction
Flashdance	\$90	28	leather	Cambrelle	B	B	B-	A-	B-	B-	B-	general
ONE SPORT Frenzy	\$169	17	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	B	B-	A+	A+	C	A	B	edging/pockets
Resin Rose	\$125	24	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	B	A	B	B	B-	A	B	general
SCARPA Rockstar	\$138.50	24	Cordura/leather	canvas	B+	A-	B+	B+	B	B	B	pockets/cracks
Superatz	\$138.50	27	Cordura/leather	canvas	B+	A-	B	A	B-	B	B	edging/cracks
Stiletto	\$90	13	leather	canvas	A-	C	A	C	A	A	A	friction
VERTICAL/5.10 Micro	\$127	24	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	B	A	B+	A	B+	B+	B-	edging
Vertical	\$125	26	Cordura/leather	Cambrelle	B	A	B	B+	B-	B+	B-	general
Friction Loafer	\$78	14	leather	Cambrelle	A	C	A	A	A+	A	A+	friction

*see text
for options

Cherie Bremer-Kamp — **LIVING ON THE EDGE** — The Winter Ascent of Kanchenjunga.



In January 1985 Cherie Bremer-Kamp and Chris Chandler together attempted the first winter climb of Kanchenjunga's North Face. The third highest mountain in the world.

Kanche was to be their final challenge together....and their final defeat with the loss of Chris Chandler.

Living on the Edge is the moving and poignant story of Cherie and Chris life together - of their meeting among the mountains that they both loved, of their mutual need to be challenged to the limits, to be living on the edge - and an attempt to understand the forces that lured them back always to the mountains, and that drove them so far and finally at such a great cost. ISBN:0-87905-271-6 Hardbound **\$19.95**

Distributed by:

MOUNTAIN N' AIR BOOKS

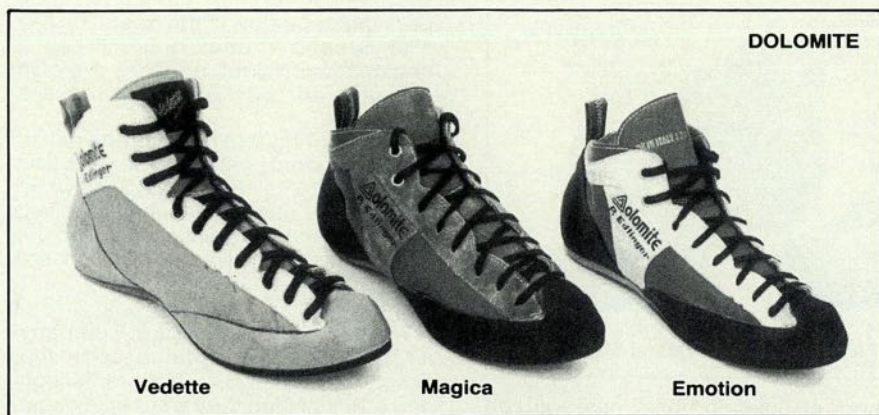
P.O. Box 12540, La Crescenta, CA 91214

(818) 957-5338

Available at store displaying the Mountain N'Air Sign.

Dealer inquiries are welcome.





tion share Dolomite's characteristic close fit, bi-density sole, and light weight.

The Magica is trimmed lower in the ankle than the Vedette, adding mobility. An extra leather support sewn into the instep takes the place of a high upper by reinforcing the shoe laterally. While the Vedette is designed for an extremely narrow foot, the Magica has a wider fit and less of a point in the toe.

They are a versatile shoe, but are at their very best while toeing into holes and edging. Additionally, a sticky toe and heel rand makes them secure in pockets and gives them extra bite in cracks. The Magica's fit and secure feel won me over. They are one of the most controllable and sensitive shoes around.

Dolomite designed the Emotion for the average climber who occasionally ventures onto a testpiece or two. It is virtually identical to the Magica, but is lasted wider and has a rounder toe. The wider fit makes the Emotion less specialized than either the Vedette or Magica, and allows them to be worn comfortably all day. Possessing all of Dolomite's high-tech features, most climbers will find that the Emotion is more than enough boot to meet their demands. Priced at a low \$99.95, these are an ideal entry-level shoe for beginners or an inexpensive back-up pair for seasoned veterans.

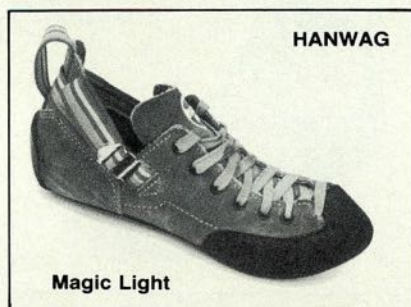
Hanwag. Hanwag of West Germany makes an unusual-looking, low-top climbing shoe, the Magic Light. Cut below the ankle, very flexible, and lightweight, the Magic looks like a specialized friction shoe. But in this instance, appearances are misleading.

Two design features allow the Magic Light to make the transition from friction routes to steep edge and pocket pulling faces. First and most important is fit. Hanwag gives these shoes a highly contoured shape which places the toe point in proper position to alleviate any bagging or empty pockets around the foot. With its narrow, one-piece construction, the toe works well for thin cracks.

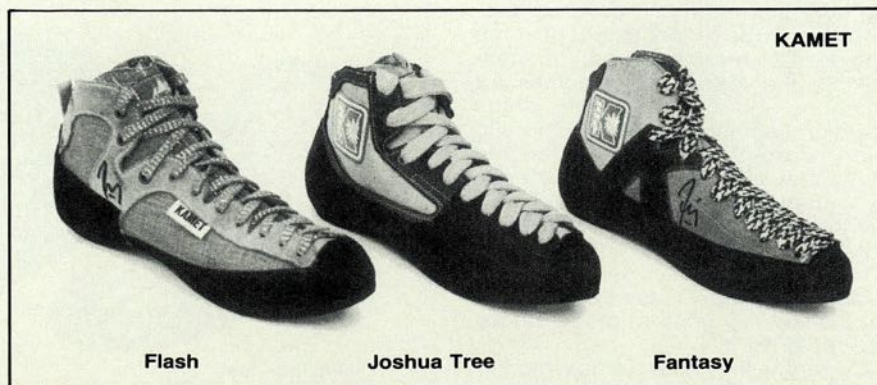
Second, the edge is beveled far underfoot to prevent the shoe from

turning or rolling while climbing on small edges. Although the Magics are a sensitive and flexible smearing shoe, their close fit and beveled edge earns them a place beside most of the stiffer, high-top edging boots.

These shoes feel comfortable and secure on your foot. They have a full Cambrelle lining and an unusual strap and buckle system to hold the heel down and push your toes into the end of the shoe. The buckle idea is innovative, but I found that it was unnecessary and tended to slip in use anyway.



As an all-around shoe, the Magic Lights are excellent. My only complaint was their construction quality. After moderate use, the foam lining pads worked loose and the heel buckles broke. These problems are minor and are easily repaired; left alone, they do not alter the shoe's performance or value in any way. Monod Sports, Ltd. of Banff, Canada is the sole distributor of Hanwag boots in North America.



Kamet. Spain, the land of sticky rubber and Fire, is also home to Kamet, which makes three distinctly different models of climbing boots. The Fantasy and all-new Flash are specialized boots, while the Joshua Tree is a multi-purpose boot.

The multi-colored Fantasy is the wildest looking, with nine-piece, all-leather uppers. Their stiff leather is what make them Kamet's premier edging boot. The uppers are cut above the ankle and are Cambrelle lined. This year's Fantasy has the same one-piece, seamless toe rand of the Joshua Tree and Flash, allowing them to crack climb as well as they edge.

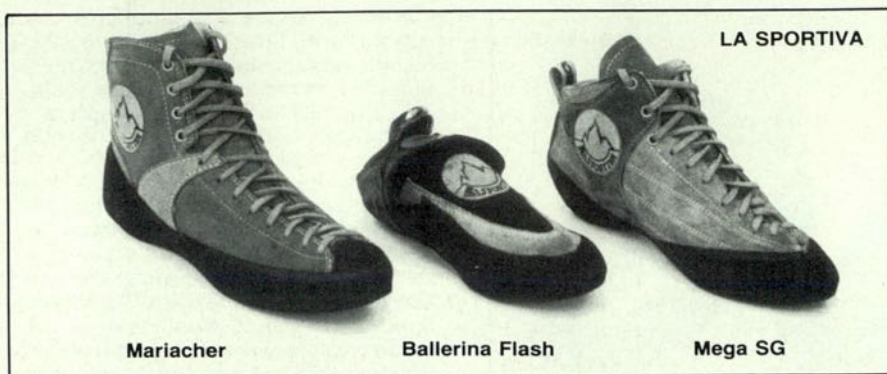
Since the Fantasy's edging ability comes from its stiff uppers, as opposed to a plastic or steel midsole, the boot's sensitivity is preserved. As with all of its boots, Kamet gives the Fantasy a thick sole of long-lasting Spanish rubber.

One of my favorite boots in last year's review was the Joshua Tree. Owing to large swatches of Cordura nylon and a lower-cut upper, these boots are lighter and more flexible than the Fantasy. But this is not a soft friction shoe, nor is it an edging specialist — it performs well under a variety of conditions. This boot, like all Kamets, is also good for climbing cracks of any size.

Kamet's new Flash is their lightest, most sensitive boot. Its flexible design fills the hard-friction gap left by the stiffer Joshua Tree and Fantasy.

The Flash's fit is similar to the Joshua Tree's, but it has a lower profile and trimmer fit for the rigors of hard face moves. Uppers are predominantly Cordura nylon and have a full Cambrelle lining. A notched instep and cut-away heel allow the ankle to flex easily. Like Kamet's other boots, the Flash has a smooth toe design and is expertly crafted from durable materials.

I tested the Flash on a variety of climbing, from overhanging pockets to greasy slabs to sharp edges. Their versatile performance and light feel supplant the Joshua Trees as one of my all-time favorite climbing boots. It's easy to understand why Kamet is one of Spain's most popular boots.



La Sportiva. Introduced in 1984, the purple and yellow Mariachers were La Sportiva's first claim to climbing boot fame, quickly gaining notoriety for their glove-like fit, superb craftsmanship, and edging performance.

Last year, La Sportiva introduced the Mega SG, made for precise face maneuvering. Designed and worn by Stephan Glowacz, the Mega SG has become one of America's predominant rock shoes.

What makes the Mega so special? In a nutshell, control. These shoes feel and respond like an extension of your foot. Their radical design includes a high arch and an elevated heel. Sportiva figured that since the heels are usually held high, why not make a shoe with the heel-up position built in, thus eliminating the typical bagging around the instep and forcing the toes into the tip of the shoe. This gives the Mega their Ferrari-like handling.

The Mega is lighter and more flexible than the Mariacher, but I thought that it smeared, edged, and toed into holes better. Its only drawback is in wide cracks, where I preferred the heft and support the Mariacher offers. The Mega fits narrower through the heel and instep than the Mariacher, but has a wider forefoot pattern.

The 1988 Mariacher is unchanged from the original, with the exception of La Sportiva's new rubber on the soles. Tested on last year's Mega, this has proven to be just as sticky but more durable than the old rubber. I also felt that it rolled less and held better on small holds.

The Mariacher is a versatile climbing boot. Its natural fit, beveled sole, and firm upper promote precise edging. The more it's used, the more flexible the Mariacher becomes for smearing and friction; it is one of the premium jamming boots in hand and wider cracks. If you liked the old Mariacher fit but were disheartened by their quick-wearing soles, the new Mariacher is definitely worth a second chance.

Mekan. Mekan Custom Footwear specializes in custom-made boots and repair work.

Currently, they offer a single model, the Custom, with three fitting options.

Years of building boots has enabled Mekan to design a last which fits most feet very well; for a nominal charge, this standard last can be modified to accommodate unusual feet. And for a true custom fit, Mekan can also build an individual last, which allows the boot to be built to your exact specifications. This is a simple process which can be done at home using Mekan's casting kit and instructional videotape. (I did the entire job in about an hour.)



A combination of Cordura and leather is used for the uppers, and 5.10's sticky Stealth rubber for the sole and rand. The pair I received had a quality, full-leather lining, but future plans call for a switch to lighter weight Cambrelle.

Mekan boots fit and perform like a dream, eliminating the toe pinching and heel squeezing associated with commercially produced boots. They are semi-flexible, with ankle-high up-

pers that taper low in the heel. The flex and Stealth rubber make these a choice friction boot, and they are also optimum for pocket and thin crack climbing.

Considering that the average pair of climbing boots costs around \$135, the Mekan Custom is a steal at \$140 when built on the standard last. A modified standard last runs \$30 extra, and the custom last carries a one-time charge of \$100.

Merrell. The Merrell Boot Company already had their edging boot, the Smear, and their 5.11 boot for friction and cracks when they went on a quest for an all-around climbing boot. Their efforts were rewarded with the Flashdance, exemplified by quality materials and craftsmanship, and a well-thought-out design.

Uppers are high-topped leather with the smooth side out to retard stretch. A full Cambrelle lining, padded tongue, and dual lacing system are just a few of the details you would expect to find only on a more expensive climbing boot.

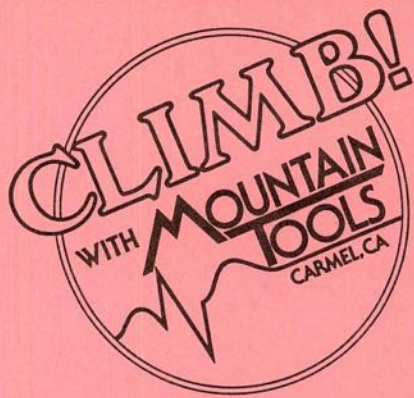
Merrell uses the new Spanish Ilga rubber that frictions like the super-sticky rubber of the 5.11 but lasts far longer. A sticky rand, firm uppers, and a compressible toe make the Flashdance an excellent crack-climbing boot.

Billed as a jack-of-all-trades, I thought the Flashdance outperformed both the Smear for edging and the 5.11 in cracks, in addition to being more comfortable.

The Smear is a carbon copy of the La Sportiva Mariacher except for its flashier colors. Merrell's other boot, the 5.11, does not have the fit or detailing of the Flashdance or Smear, but is a good friction and crack boot in its own right. This boot is very flexible with fly-paper-like rubber for the soles and rands.

The 5.11 was patterned after the Smear for fit, with a few design changes to lower cost. This simplification gives the 5.11 flexibility for friction and clean design for jamming, but the rubber is too soft to stand up to edging in hot weather.





THE LEADER IN...
SERVICE & SELECTION
*for all your Hardware and
Software needs !!!*
(phone orders welcome)
Call 408/625-6222

☐ **RUSH** me a *FREE* Catalog!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

☐ **RUSH** my partner a *FREE* Catalog!

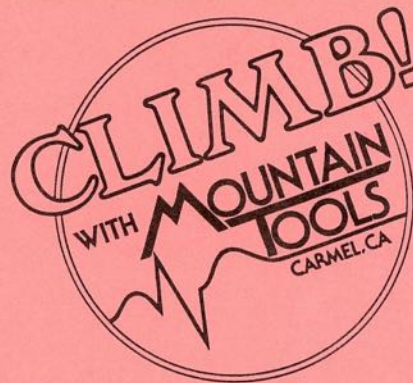
Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

* If you have REQUESTED OUR CATALOG, are a VALUED CUSTOMER or a SUBSCRIBER to CLIMBING, you will automatically receive the '88 Catalog. (Foreign catalog delivery, please include US \$3.00.)



THE LEADER IN...
SERVICE & SELECTION
*for all your Hardware and
Software needs!!!*
(phone orders welcome)
Call 408/625-6222

☐ **RUSH** me a *FREE* Catalog!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

☐ **RUSH** my partner a *FREE* Catalog!

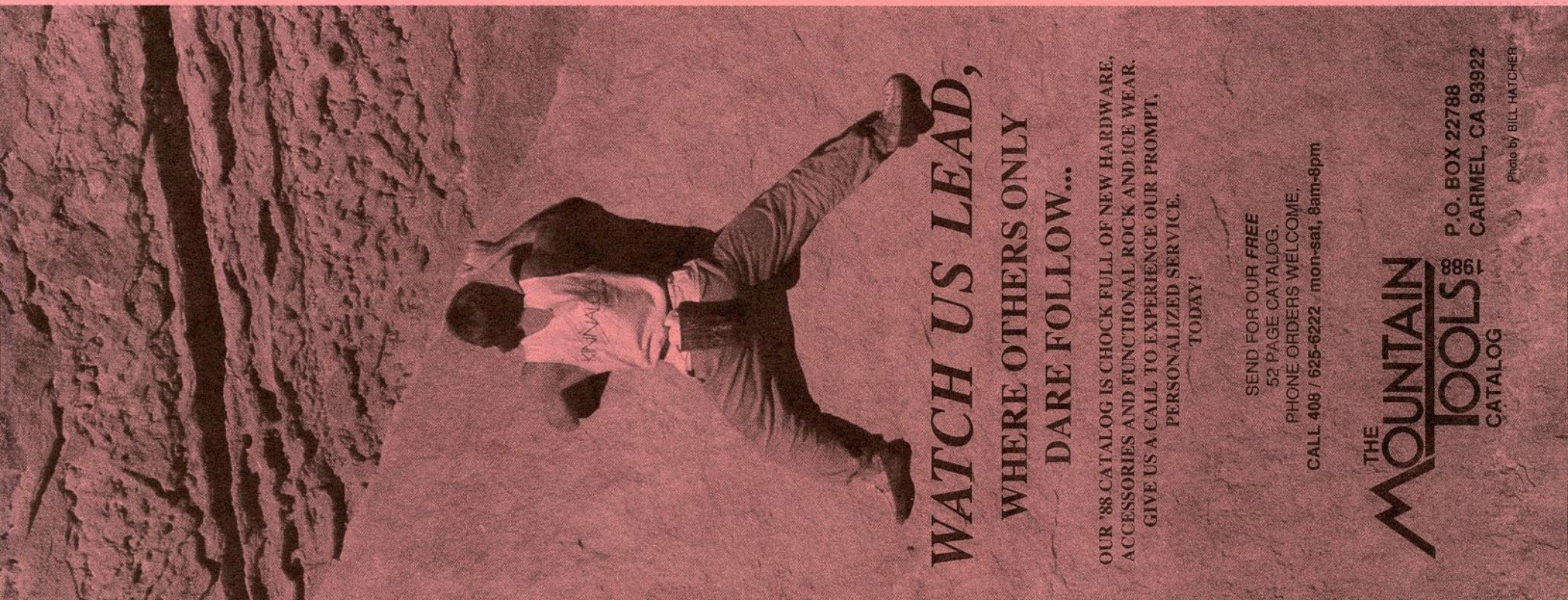
Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

* If you have REQUESTED OUR CATALOG, are a VALUED CUSTOMER or a SUBSCRIBER to CLIMBING, you will automatically receive the '88 Catalog. (Foreign catalog delivery, please include US \$3.00.)



**WATCH US LEAD,
WHERE OTHERS ONLY
DARE FOLLOW...**

OUR '88 CATALOG IS CHOCK FULL OF NEW HARDWARE,
ACCESSORIES AND FUNCTIONAL ROCK AND ICE WEAR.
GIVE US A CALL TO EXPERIENCE OUR PROMPT,
PERSONALIZED SERVICE.
TODAY!

SEND FOR OUR *FREE*
52 PAGE CATALOG.

PHONE ORDERS WELCOME.

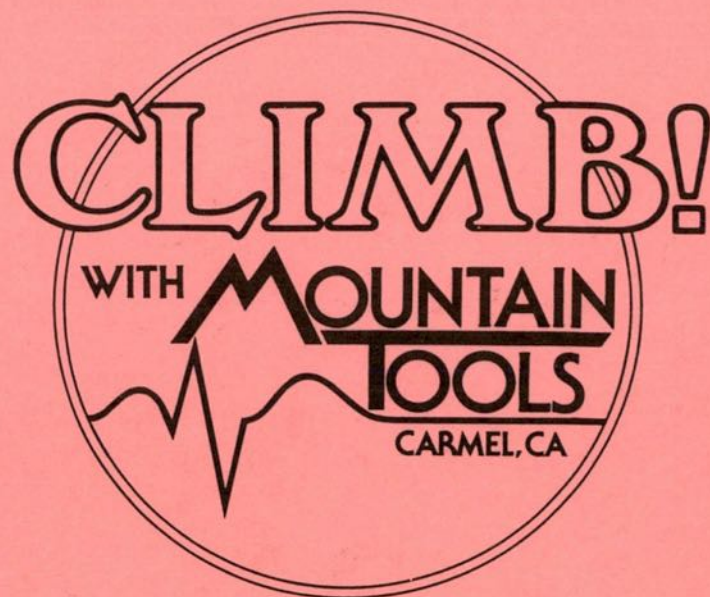
CALL 408 / 625-6222 mon-sat, 8am-8pm

**THE MOUNTAIN
TOOLS
CATALOG**

P.O. BOX 22788
CARMEL, CA 93922

Photo by BILL HATCHER

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



***CHOOSING
A MAIL ORDER
OUTFIT
IS ALOT LIKE
CHOOSING
A CLIMBING
PARTNER...
YOU WANT SOMEONE
YOU CAN RELY ON,
SOMEONE
WHO KNOWS WHAT
THEY ARE DOING.***

**SEND FOR YOUR
FREE CATALOG,
TODAY!**

**THE MOUNTAIN TOOLS CATALOG
P.O.BOX 22788
CARMEL, CA 93922
408 / 625-6222**

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



soloist

solo belay system



The one tool for roped solo climbing, it will do what nothing else will. A directional cam allows rope to feed through it automatically as the climber advances yet it locks solidly in a fall, without rope damage.

- Built-in way to rappel for extra efficiency-lead, rappel and second the pitch all with the same tool.
- Great for top roping, too.
- Machined for incredible impact strength and lightness (weighs only 10 oz)-no cast or stamped parts.

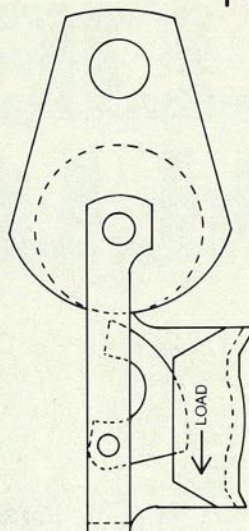
Write or call for free brochure:

rock exotica, inc.
530 South 4th East
Centerville, UT 84014

801 295-9241

Note: Solo climbing is for experts only.

hauling pulley



Our hauling pulley has a built-in camming device that allows you to pull in one direction, but will hold the load when you let go.

Lighter and more compact than the traditional pulley/ascender combination, the Camming Hauling Pulley is quick to rig and makes a simpler, more reliable hauling system.

Features:

Quality pulley with 2" aluminum wheel and bronze bushing.

Compact and lightweight (9 oz.) - only 2 oz. more than an equivalent plain pulley!

Rope cannot come out while in camming mode.

Cam can be locked open for lowering or for use as a regular pulley.

Rope sizes: 7-12mm

Approximate strength: Pulley, 5000 lbs; Camming unit, 700 lbs.

Available at better climbing shops or directly from us if there are no dealers in your area.

\$39.95 (add \$3.00 shipping if ordered direct.)

rock exotica, inc.

530 South 4th East
Centerville, UT 84014

801 295-9241

CLIMB,



OR DYE!

UNDEAD WITH HANDPAINTED DYE
SCALES THE FACE OF A HANES' BEEFY-T

...REALTIEDYES...
...SILKSCREEN ART...
FREE ADVICE.

...SOFTWARE FOR MOVEMENT...

WHYDYES.

SEND FOR THE DYERAK.

380 SW 53rd, CORVALLIS, OR 97333

THE NATIONAL CLIMBING ENQUIRE

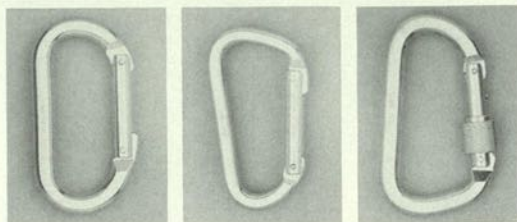
89 year old mother of Bozon Alien quadruplets free solos new route on Uli Biahio in 14 hours, only to be thrown off the summit by a 33 foot pink Yeti, who claims to have been married to Elizabeth Taylor, and falls 8000 feet to the valley floor. And lives!

Climbing minds want to know! Hear it first from The Wildboys.

Parapentes	Canadian \$	U.S. \$
9 cell	2160	1600
8 cell	1960	1450
7 cell	1755	1300
Integral Designs		
Gore-tex Jacket	225	147
Gore-tex Pants	180	117
Gore-tex Tent	465	303
Petzl Choucas Harness	94.00	61.25
Mammut All Free Sit Harness	69.00	44.85
Camp Rock Harness	49.00	31.85
Petzl Ascenders pr.	102.50	67
Petzl Headlamp	34.50	22.50
Wildboys Ski hat	30	19.50

VISA and Mastercard welcome.
THE WILDBOYS SPORTS
2020 4th Street S.W.
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
T2S 1W5
(403) 244-1969

ALLIES IN ALLOY



	OVAL	LIGHT D	LOCKING D
Strength:	5060 lbs (2300 Kg)	4620 lbs (2100 Kg)	5500 lbs (2500 Kg)
Weight:	2.18 oz (62 gms)	1.70 oz (48 gms)	2.70 oz (76 gms)
Gate Opening:	.710"	.740"	.750"
Price:	\$4.95	\$4.95	\$7.50

THE NEW GENERATION OF CARABINERS

FROM SMC. The latest designs, precision craftsmanship and careful attention to detail make SMC aluminum alloy carabiners the finest in the world. All of our new carabiners have increased in strength yet retain our famous, smooth gate action. This gate action, a result of unique design and precision-machined tolerances, has been a feature of SMC carabiners for 20 years.

SMC carabiners are manufactured in our plant from US made raw materials. See our new carabiners at your nearest climbing shop and send for a free copy of our 1987 catalog.



TOOLS FOR THE ASCENT OF MAN

12880 Northrup Way, Bellevue, WA 98005, U.S.A.

ONE SPORT



Frenzy



Resin Rose

One Sport. When Scott Franklin bagged the second ascent of *To Bolt or Not to Be* last fall, his footwear was One Sport's ultra shoe, the Frenzy.

Designed for precision on desperate face climbs, the Frenzy is very lightweight with Cordura/leather uppers and a bi-density sole. It is divided into two modules. The toe and forefoot area is cut low and has a slipper-like fit; a carbon fiber plate gives it stiffness for micro-edging. From the instep back, the Frenzy is a different shoe. It has an ankle-high leather cuff with a separate lacing system, and the sole is porous rubber.

Separating the shoe into two distinct portions gives the Frenzy the uncompromising fit and dexterity of a training slipper with the support and control of a rigid edging boot. The toe has a tapered point akin to that of the Dolomites. It has a one-piece toe rand with enough coverage for deep insertions into cracks and holes.

One Sport's all-purpose boot, the Resin Rose, remains basically the same as last year's model, although Cordura nylon has replaced the pink leather patches. Aside from shaving several ounces of weight, the Cordura improves fit, reduces stretch, and gives the shoe a better feel. Their steel edging insert is not glued down due to complaints about it popping loose in last year's model, even though it was designed to be removable for friction climbing.

Comfort and anatomical fit are the Resin Rose's best traits. These boots have a smooth, one-piece toe rand with a slight point. The high-topped uppers are cut low in the heel and have a full Cambrelle lining. The Resin Rose works well in cracks from thin hands to offwidth; they do an adequate job of edging and pocket climb

SINGER BOOT & RESOLE

Resoles: \$30.00

Guaranteed Work • Absolutely No Delamination
Rand Repair: \$5.00 per shoe • 5.10™ **STEALTH** Rubber
Also Feature 5.10™ Verticals, Micros and
KAMET Joshua Trees, Fantasys

777 Bernard Way • San Bernardino, CA 92404
Add \$2.00 Shipping & Handling (714) 883-0808

quite well. The initial batch from Italy was plagued by delamination of the soles. Both One Sport and the U.S. distributor, Brenco Enterprises, have cheerfully replaced every problem pair returned to them.

Scarpa. Popular for years in Europe, Scarpa boots have been sought after in the United States, but distribution and stock problems have stymied their availability — until now. Chouinard Equipment is the new U.S. Scarpa distributor, ensuring a plentiful supply with their massive dealer network and marketing resources.

Scarpa is following the trend towards boot specialization, providing the Rockstar for smearing, the Superatz for edging, and a friction slipper, the Stiletto.

The Rockstar and Superatz have a heavy-duty construction that allows several resoles, an important feature to consider with the high price of today's boots. Canvas and leather uppers add longevity and breathability. A canvas lining and padded tongue help retain the boot's fit and comfort. Both models have a one-piece rand and compressible toe design that slots well in thin cracks and pockets.

Made primarily for smearing, the Rockstar is the softest of the two boots. Anatomically shaped with a curved last, pointed toe, and narrow cut, they give a close fit that is important for friction climbing where foot movement within the boot spells disaster. The Rockstar also has enough foot support for high-angle pocket and edge climbing. Although not as flexible or sophisticated as some friction shoes, the Rockstar is more versatile and longer lasting.

The Superatz is Scarpa's beefed up edging boot. Structural integrity rather than fit account for its ability to hold on dime edges. The uppers reach higher over the ankle than the Rockstar's and a thicker midsole gives more lateral support. Since it is a stiffer boot, Superatz does not require the perfect fit

of the Rockstar. Therefore, they are made on a wider last with less curve and rounder toe. The sticky rubber Scarpa uses is an important asset for the Superatz — it smears well and grips small edge holds without deforming or creeping, for a positive, locked-on feeling.

5.10/Vertical. Without question, the stickiest rubber comes from the 5.10 Company, broadening climbing's horizons just as Fire rubber did in 1982.

5.10 rubber debuted on the first combination climbing/running shoe, the Five Tennie. This hybrid shoe turned a lot of heads in the climbing community. Public demand for the Five-Tennie's viscous and durable soles was met with 5.10 home resole kits. Subsequently, everything from flip-flops to wall boots to blown-out rock shoes received sticky 5.10 retreads.

Inevitably, 5.10 rubber was scooped up by a technical boot manufacturer. The Italian-based Vertical boot company had success with Spanish rubber soles on their boot sold in Europe; the addition of 5.10 rubber made them even better.

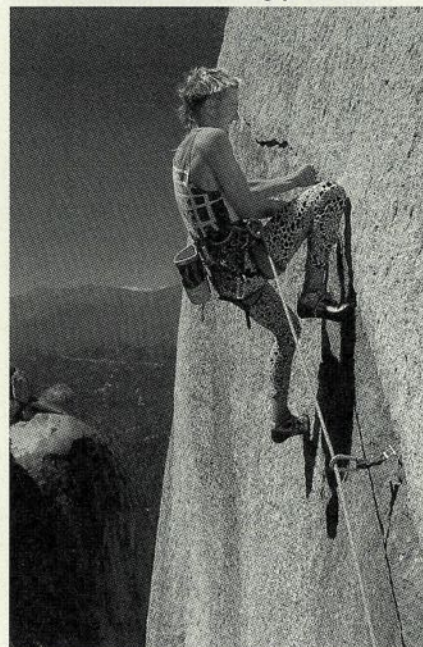
5.10 Verticals became available in the United States last spring. Everyone I talked with who tried the Verticals (myself included) was surprised by this boot's ability to latch onto almost anything. And this year's model uses 5.10's latest top-secret Stealth rubber.

The Vertical fits comfortably, much like the Asolo On Sight. Their leather and Cordura uppers have a separate ankle cuff to give the boot some flex, but these are still some of the stiffest boots around. The Vertical's unbending nature works to its advantage for crack and edging routes. The thick, sticky rand and smooth toe also help in cracks of all sizes. These boots feel insecure on friction routes, but I never had one slip off of a smear.

A lighter, more sensitive style of the

Great Pacific/Chouinard®

Your complete source for all Chouinard® climbing products.

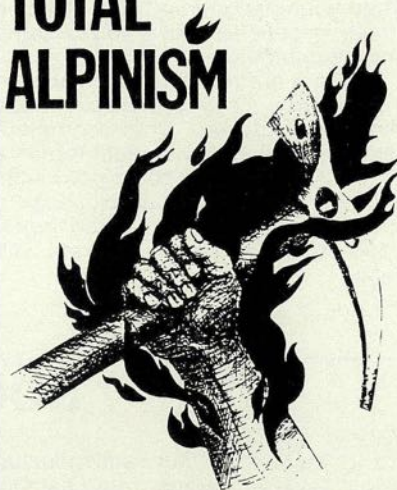


Call or send for our free color catalog.
Dept 750/P.O. Box 90 Ventura, CA 93002
(805) 653-5781

Craig Smith on Pyromania... same as it ever was.
Photo: Greg Epperson

Marc Francis Twilight
Equipe Solitaire

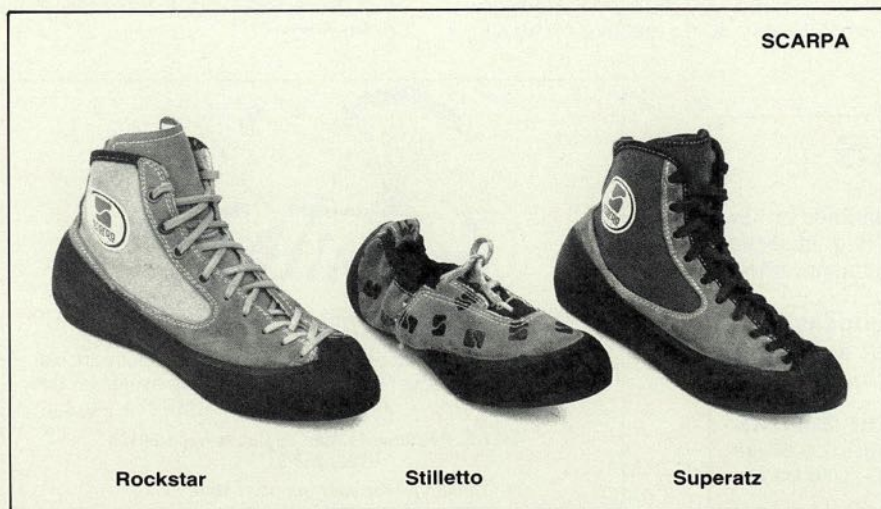
TOTAL ALPINISM



Guided Climbs and Tandem
Paraglider Flights in the
Swiss and French Alps

Hard routes for qualified clients
North Faces available in Winter

I.M.E. PO BOX 4940
NORTH CONWAY, NH 03860

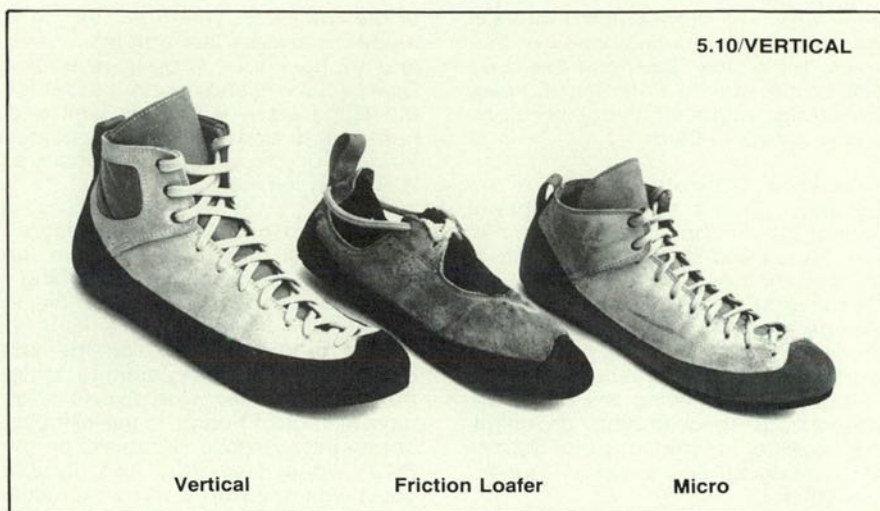


Rockstar

Stiletto

Superatz

Vertical is the Micro. Just as their name implies, the Micro is made for small-hold face climbs. The Micro is cut lower than the Vertical and has a bi-density sole. The lowered ankle and heel area frees the foot for a wider range of motion. By using half Stealth rubber and half EVA foam rubber in the sole, longitudinal flex is improved. The Micro's flex and freedom of movement gives more rubber contact with the rock while smearing and front pointing in holes. The Micro, like the Vertical, has a moccasin-like Cambrelle lining and a polypropylene midsole; the midsole makes these boots easy to resole and gives them torsional support for microscopic edging.



SLIPPERS

Unmatched sensitivity

The simplest way to increase your climbing ability is to improve your footwork. Using your feet well reduces the amount of strain on your fingers, which translates into being able to hang on longer. It also means that you will be able to use smaller handholds. European climbers know the importance of good footwork — that is why they spend a lot of time training in climbing slippers.

Slippers are highly sensitive and allow you to feel the rock through thin soles, increasing your awareness of foot positioning on the rock. Climbing in slippers also strengthens your feet since they have virtually no support. This increase in foot strength pays off when you change into "real" climbing shoes, because it allows you to clamp onto edges better.

Slippers are not only an invaluable training tool, they are also serious climbing footwear. Their complete flexibility frictions up smooth routes a stiffer climbing shoe could not touch. Slippers fit your feet as close as a sock, enabling them to slip into finger-sized cracks and small pockets with ease.

However, slippers have their disadvantages. They slip around on your feet, especially on hot, sweaty days. Stretch is a major problem, especially in the unlined models. (Fit them 1/2 size smaller than your regular boots.) Finally, if you do a lot of bouldering, be aware of landing on glass, small rocks, and sticks that can easily puncture the skimpy bottoms.

Climbing in slippers is an acquired taste but once you get used to their peculiarities, you'll be hooked.

Boreal/Fire. The Fire Ninja wins hands down for thin crack and pocket climbing. Its slim profile and rand extension over the big toe is by far the best design of all the slippers, allowing a deep fit into finger and thin hand cracks. The Ninja is made on Fire's new last, so it fits like a vacuum-tight sock.

The Ninja is made of unlined split leather with two wide elastic bands to hold it in place. The elastic is the Ninja's weakest point, because it stretches out of shape. It does appear, however, that the elastic could be easily replaced.

The Ninja is the lightest-weight, most flexible, and sensitive of the slip-

per designs. Fire makes it in two styles: Ninja I's are red and very flexible; Ninja II's are green and have a slight stiffener in the middle for better edging.

Dolomite. I could not decide if the Dolomite Ballet was a slipper or a shoe, so I tossed a coin, and it ended up here.

The Ballet combines the fitting security of a rock shoe with the flex and sensitivity of a slipper. In the front, the Ballet is designed like a regular shoe, with a full set of laces and a padded tongue. The rear is made of Cordura, cut below the ankle, and is drawn tightly against the foot via tensioned elastic. This unique design makes the Ballet more versatile than other slippers. The addition of the lacing system takes up the slack caused by the inevitable stretch, giving it an extra degree of edging power.

The Ballet has Dolomite's extreme fit and tapered toe. Coupled with the shoe's unrestricted movement, these features make the Ballet suitable for negotiating steep pocket routes. Sensitive and flexible, it is a good training supplement for improving your balance and footwork while bouldering.

BOOKS

Our catalog features hundreds of new and rare, hard-to-find and essential books on climbing, exploration, travel, skiing and much more.

- Maps • Guidebooks
- Himalayas • Tibet & Nepal

Please write or call for free catalog

Michael Chessler Books

PO Box 2436 #30 Evergreen, CO 80439
(800) 654-8502 • (303) 670-0093



Next to the great Red Rocks of Las Vegas. Boulders to big walls, ridge lifts to desert thermals. Serving the cragger and para-sailor. Gear that represents the highest performance at the best value. Local instruction and guiding available. Before your next trip or gear purchase you MUST check us out!

101 S. Rainbow 11, Las Vegas, Nevada 89128
(702) 258-8414

Thank-you for your support! Marc Fink

La Sportiva. Fresh from the La Sportiva factory in Italy are two new slippers, the Ballerina Flash and the Ballerina III. Their similar designs have the shape and fit of the Mega with an oval, blunted toe. Additionally, a uni-foot design lets you wear each one on either foot, giving you more miles per sole. But the most striking concept in these slippers is the way they grasp your heel. La Sportiva uses a dense, high-tensioned band of elastic to draw the heel compartment tight against your foot.

The Ballerina Flash further tightens the fit with a new, innovative heel strap. The rand is detached from the instep to the heel, forming a strap similar to that found on swimming fins. The heel strap can be left down in the unhooked position for casual bouldering, or it can be snapped in place around the heel, driving the foot forward into the very tip of the shoe. The strap looks odd but it works. It gives the Flash the security needed for edging and extending out of solution pockets. As an added bonus, the rand makes this slipper a versatile crack climber.

The Ballerina III is exactly the same as the Flash sans rand, a supple slipper designed for bouldering and friction climbs.

Scarpa. The Stiletto is a snazzy magenta and green slipper that climbs more like a shoe. It edges and smears without flopping around on your foot. With a thicker midsole than most slippers, the Stiletto has some substance underfoot. A combination of elastic and a short lacing system draws it tightly against your foot and improves lateral stability.

Uppers are made from suede, with a partial canvas lining to control stretch. The two-piece rand is separated at the instep and extends high up the back of the slipper for heel hooking. Stilettoes are shaped like a foot and have a low-profile toe for thin cracks and pockets.

The Stiletto is a well-made friction slipper that can adapt to almost any

type of rock. They are sensitive and flexible for crux slab moves and have enough rigidity in them to "fake it" for occasional edging.

5.10 Vertical. 5.10 Vertical Friction Loafers are a combination climbing slipper/shoe. They have a shoe's midsole construction with a slipper-style upper. The midsole gives them some support and stability; the uppers maintain the fit, comfort, and flexibility of a slipper.

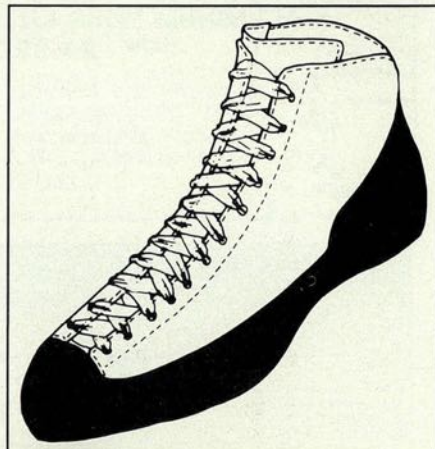
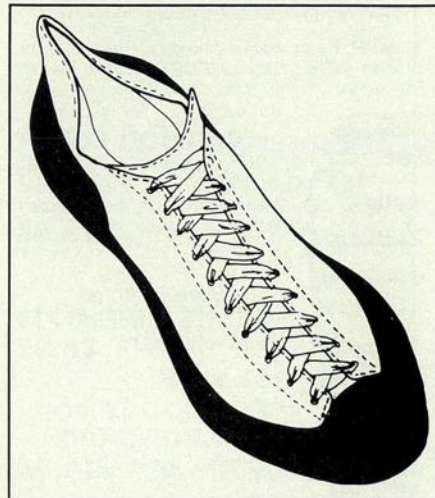
Friction Loafers have more beef to them than other slippers and will edge to some extent. 5.10 rubber is used for the sole and rand, making these slippers the best smearing footwear available. Friction Loafers pull on like a slipper but lace up like a shoe. A combination of elastic bands and laces keeps the fit tight and prevents your foot from sliding around inside. Sticky rubber rands and a smooth toe design make these one of the better crack climbing slippers as well.

The Friction Loafer's real forté is on smooth, holdless climbs, where they are without peer. I liked their ability to hold onto anything so well that they became my number one choice of wear for bouldering, training, and even actual climbing.

The rock shoe industry is still in its infancy. If the current rate of refinement continues, the shoes you are climbing in today will be antiquated within two or three years. In the future, shoe rubber may be graded on a hardness scale much like pencil lead: hard, medium, and soft. On hot, balmy days you will use the hard #3 rubber for greatest cohesion. When the temperature drops, a quick switch to the #2 medium or #1 soft will insure that you have every advantage. Perhaps shoes will be molded around your foot by some kind of metamorphic process, or glued on directly like bicycle racing tires. All this may sound far-fetched, but hold on, we will see what transpires in next year's "Shoe Review III."

—Duane Raleigh

THE GRIP



PROGRESSIVE

Craftsmanship Experience Service

We are progressive. Two generations of shoe repair and an entirely unique process create the finest resole work available — period.

Progressive alone provides one-piece toe rands crafted from 5.10 rubber.

The harmony of superb quality, experience and proven service will allow your boots to perform their finest.

Mail **BOOTS** To: PROGRESSIVE, Dept. A
8235 La Mesa Blvd., La Mesa, CA 92041
(619) 469-0567

Send or call for information. Add \$4.00 for shipping and handling
SEND AD IN FOR 10% OFF RE-SOLE



LOOKING FOR THE VERY BEST DOWN?

Shown: Baffled Gore-tex® Body Parka, powder skirt, drawstring, cargo pockets. Made individually to your measurements. \$325. 8000m Parka also available.



Expedition quality down gear, using 700-950 cu. in. fill white Polish goose down, sewn to withstand extreme abuse. We are a small family business with an extremely good reputation. In business since 1973.

Send \$1 for color fabric samples and brochure:

Crescent Down Works

1015 East Pike
Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 328-3696

Monongahela

MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT

OUTDOOR SUPPLIES SPECIALISTS

MSR, Kelty, Sierra Designs, Dana Design,
and more...Call for FREE MME Catalog!



CARIBOU COMET
2.3 lb Polarguard Mummy Bag
Rated to 20° 6' & 6" Sizes
Assorted Colors, Lifetime Warranty
REG. \$140. Sale **\$79.95**

Save \$8.00 on
ENSOLITE SLEEPING PAD
20"x56"x1/2" NOW **\$8.95**

REG. \$20.00

**SCORPION TRIPOD
BUTANE STOVE**
7 oz. light Now **\$14.95**

**5 pc. ONE PERSON
ALUMINUM MESS KIT**
Now **\$4.99**

Free Shipping and Handling
Please Call 301-927-6833
for more great specials!
Box 1007 Hyattsville, Md. 20783
Dept C

**McHale &
Company**

Success on Gasherbrum II

"As a NOLS instructor for
7 years, I've seen a lot of
gear come and go —
McHale packs are
made to last, I
also attribute a
measure of my
success at 8,000
meters to the
comfort factor
this pack
afforded."
Mal Miller
expedition leader

McHale & Company

3401 17th Avenue West • Seattle, WA 98119 • (206) 281-7861
Write for our free brochure

SOLO DEVICE

Introducing a safer way to climb alone

Ping went the pin, and suddenly the ground accelerated towards me at 32 feet per second squared. What should have been an 8' fall (I was only one piece off the belay) turned into an 80-footer.

I had time to consider the possibility of cratering into the base of the Zodiac, for unquestioning faith in my untested solo system — a Stitch plate with an ineffectual prussik brake — had precluded any sort of back up. Abruptly, the rope wrapped around my chest, resulting in a very sudden body belay and deep rope burns. Someday, I mused in pain, a better solo system would have to be developed.

Besides being dangerous, solo self-belay systems have been either too cumbersome (like the clove-hitch on a locking biner) or too bulky (such as any system utilizing a traditional camming device, i.e. Jumar, Gibbs). In Royal Robbins' classic treatise *Advanced Rockcraft*, two solo methods, the Scatatto and the Barnett, are discussed, and despite flaws, these are still widely used today for lack of anything better.

Recently, Rock Exotica introduced the Soloist, a safe and reliable device for self belay. Basically a mechanical version of the Barnett method (with one important exception), the ten-ounce Soloist attaches to the chest and relies on a novel rope camming principle.

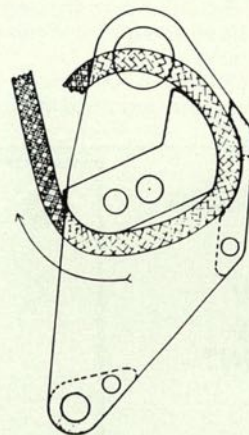
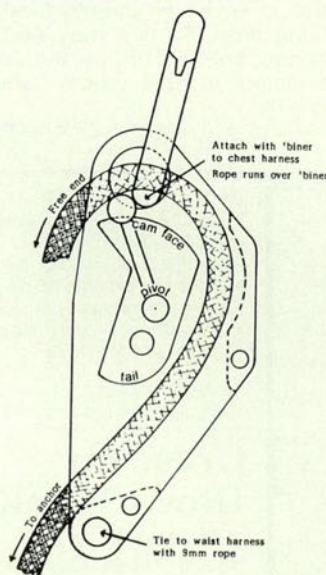
The Soloist utilizes a curved cam interface, where both the cam and the plate that the rope is cammed against are curved, giving incredible rope-holding capabilities by spreading out

the load on the rope. Jumars, Gibbs, and all other rope cams cam the rope against a flat surface; all the holding is done in a concentrated area. Jumars and Gibbs have been static-pulled with disappointingly low results: generally between 800 and 1200lbs, at which point the rope is first crushed, then cut by the cam. But it can typically require over 2000lbf (pounds-force) to hold a fall.

Rock Thompson, inventor of the Soloist, has fully tested the curved cam interface, simulating a multitude of rock climbing situations. Using old rope of varying diameters, static pull tests consistently gave values of over 2800lbs holding force. UIAA-type drop tests confirmed the Soloist's fall-holding capabilities: in one test, with a half-worn 11mm rope rated at 9-11 falls, the system failed at its tie-in point (not at the cam/rope junction) after 9 UIAA falls (1.78 fall-factor falls with an 80kg weight). The Soloist is completely milled (no cast parts) and tests to over 5000lbs.

With a downward pull of the anchored end of the rope in a lead situation, it is designed to allow the rope to feed freely through the unit for unhindered climbing. A fall causes the anchored end to pull from above, activating the locking cam (see diagram).

One disadvantage to this system is that the unit won't lock if the climber falls completely upside down; however, this could be prevented by adding a carabiner to the system, creating more drag (see owner's manual). Also, the unit seems a bit bulky where it rides on the chest, and it's a bit tricky to load and unload the rope. Nonethe-



The proper way to rig the Soloist (left) and what happens in a fall (right).

less, it's certainly a great improvement over other systems in use.

The Soloist is also very useful for solo top roping; with its built-in rappel device, it allows for speedy ascents and descents on fixed top ropes. The unit retails for \$100 and is well worth it, considering its meticulous design and construction.

Rock Exotica, Inc. has recently developed two more innovative camming devices: the big-wall Soloist (absolutely foolproof, yet requires a one-handed feeding of the rope), and the 'world's ultimate hauling pulley' (details available soon).

—John Middendorf IV

BOLT GEAR

No. 106 update

The bolting review in *Climbing* no. 106 covered drilling systems, drills, hangers, bolts, and technique. Since then, new information has become available and is covered in this addendum.

Petzl has set a new standard for bolt hangers with its new product, the Coeur hanger. Other hangers on the market are well-designed to minimize leverage for a shear pull, but exert leverage on the bolt in a straight outward pull. The well-designed Petzl hanger minimizes leverage for any angle of pull.

The Coeur hanger is available in two sizes: 10mm (model #P34) for 3/8" bolts, and 8mm (model #P36) for 1/4" bolts. Metolius is coming out with a look-alike version, with similar non-leveraging characteristics (No further information was available at press time.)

Further research on the Rawlbolt has proven that it's not as foolproof as originally thought. Rock dust sometimes gets into the threads where the cone attaches, which may cause the cone to seize on the bolt, voiding further expansion. Continuing to tighten the bolt will cause it to spin in its hole, rendering it useless. For best results, make sure the hole is very clean before placing a Rawlbolt. Also, Rawlbolts generally require three to four half turns for full strength, rather than the previously stated three to four full turns (stop torquing when the blue plastic sleeve starts to compress).

Taperbolts aren't recommended due to the difficulty of placing them correctly. Botched taperbolt placements may be minimized with the use of an accurate torque wrench, and a spacer to determine initial clearance. Proper placement requires exact concordance with the manufacturer's (USE Diamond) recommendations on torque.

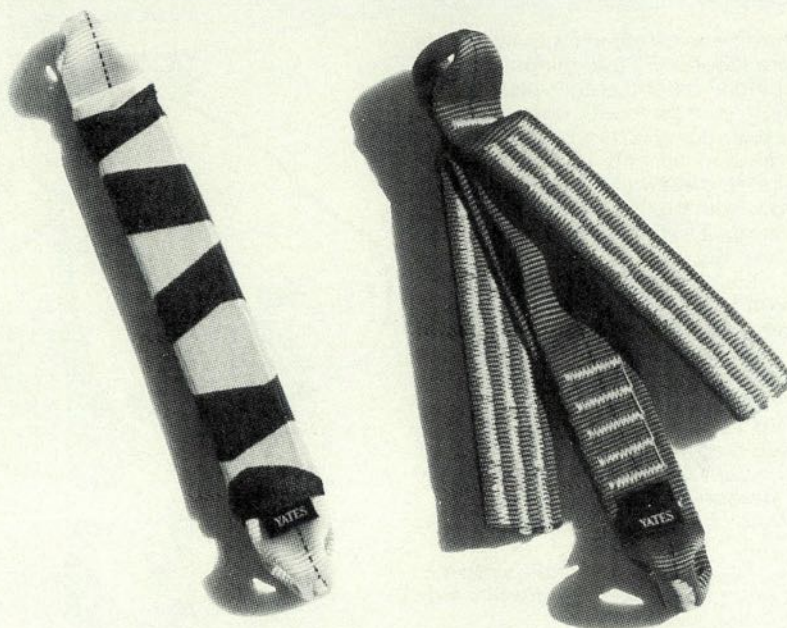
Bob Harn, an engineer from Seattle, has clarified epoxy use with bolts. The corrosion that occurs with epoxied-in



YATES GEAR LOAD LIMITER



The Next Generation!



"NEW" SCREAMER

Designed with long run outs in mind. New linear bar tack pattern eliminates carabiner gate vibration. 40 tacks sewn into 1" Tubular webbing loop. 550 lb. Load Initiation, 500 lb. Energy Absorption, 6500 lb. Breaking Strength.

RAD DESIGNS Lycra Sheath.

Distributed by HIGH ADVENTURE SPORTS, 2643 Bechelli Lane, Redding, CA 96002 (916) 222-4606

bolts is due to crevice corrosion, and not a chemical reaction between the epoxy and the bolt. Crevice corrosion occurs when the epoxy cracks due to thermal and/or shock loads, allowing water and other contaminants to collect in the cracks and initiate crevice corrosion. Epoxy has little resilience; a more resilient glue (like polyester resin) is required for rock climbing applications.

The pull-out strength of a bolt (as opposed to its shear strength) is a very important factor in a bolt's overall strength, especially in 1/4" and 5/16" sizes (hanger failure usually occurs first for 3/8" bolts). When tested in

shear, a bolt crushes the rock around its hole in the direction of pull, and the bolt bends. Further pulling on the bent bolt results in both a shear force and a pull-out force. Most 1/4" bolts pull out of their hole rather than break when tested in shear. Complete test data on 31 1/4" Rawl buttonheads, 9 1/4" taperbolts, 17 other 1/4" bolts, and 16 larger bolts is available from the author at 1109 S. Plaza Way, #286, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 (send \$1 to cover costs).

Funkness devices are generally 3' to 4' long, not 3" to 4" as printed in *Climbing* no. 106.

—John Middendorf IV

TECHNIQUE

OFFWIDTHS

Wide-crack technique for the intermediate

I had been climbing for quite awhile before I found out that things like face climbing and hand cracks existed. My favorite climbs were ones that required dragging up double sets of tube chocks and 10 and 11 Hexes. What fun those days were!

Now, with the advent of sticky soles and lycra, it seems everyone is a 5.10 climber, but in Vedauwoo, my home area, I am frequently confronted by shaken visitors:

"Hey buddy! Know anything about the ratings around here?"

"Well, a little. What can I help you with?"

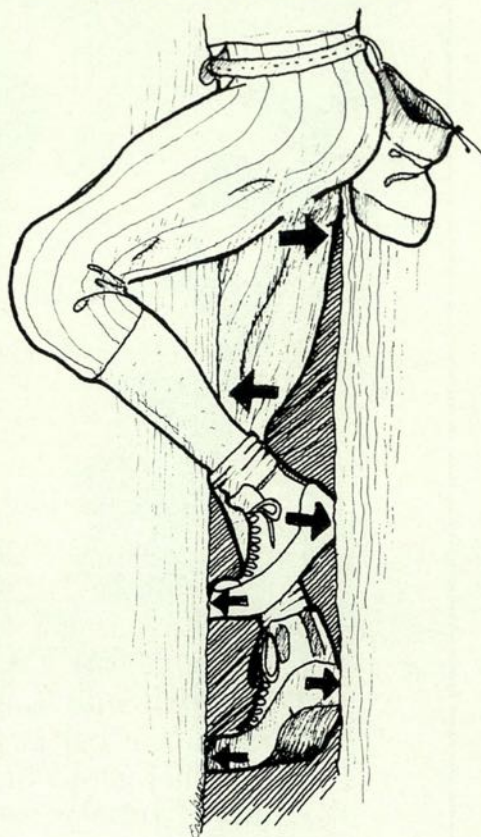
"We're 5.10 climbers, and we couldn't climb that 5.6 over there!" they moan, pointing across the valley to a notoriously easy offwidth.

"Well, have you ever climbed any offwidth?"

"No, but we should be able to do 5.6. The ratings around here are just way off!"

So comes the motivation for this article on technique for climbing moderate offwidths — 5.9 or easier, and less than vertical.

The first and most important part of offwidth climbing is "The Ceremony" — the decision on whether to climb left-side or right-side in. It can be a confusing process. First, you arrange the rack for right-side in,



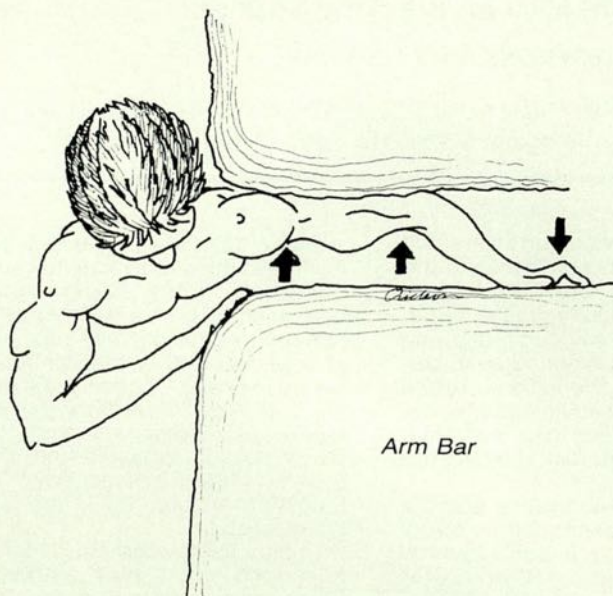
make the first move, then back down as it just doesn't feel right. After re-racking for left-side in, you go for it again. But after scraping past the first couple of moves, you realize you had it right the first time. By now, maybe it has started to rain, and you have a good excuse to go home.

Once "The Ceremony" is over, there are several tricks to make offwidth climbing a little less painful.

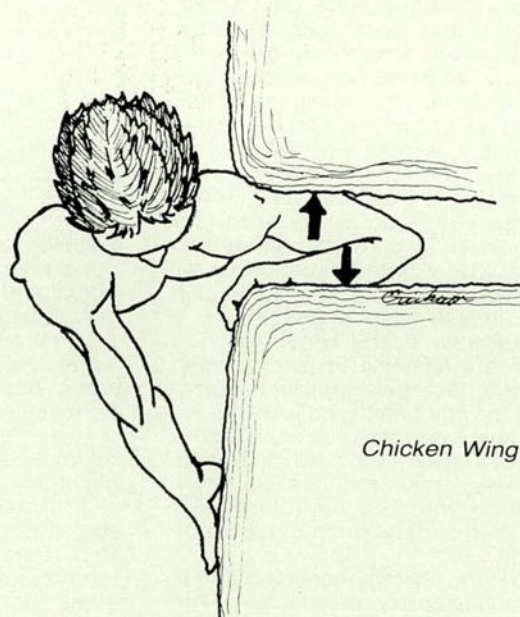
First, don't try to jam your whole body into the crack. This is a natural tendency, because it feels secure, but generally makes upward progress nearly impossible. Try to put only the inside shoulder, arm, hip, and leg into the crack. The more you can keep out of the crack the more mobile you will be, but the closer the crack is to vertical, the harder this becomes.

The inside leg should be in a leg-lock, with the hip, knee, toe, and heel all torqued for maximum adhesion. The outside foot should be in a heel-toe jam. The key to a good heel-toe jam is keeping the toes below and slightly to the outside of the heel. This allows the ball of the big toe to be smeared as in face climbing. The knee should be pointed up and out of the crack.

The inside arm can either be used in an arm-bar or in a "chicken-wing." In the arm-bar, the shoulder and elbow are held in place by pressing the palm against the crack. Arm-bars work better if the arm and hand are placed



Arm Bar



Chicken Wing

diagonally down and away from the shoulder; this allows the shoulder to rotate in and over the elbow as needed.

In a "chicken-wing," the shoulder and elbow are much the same as in the arm-bar, but the forearm and hand are bent back toward the body, forming an acute angle with the biceps. The palm is turned away from the body, thumb down, and pressed against the opposite side of the crack from the shoulder. Some climbers can move up using "chicken-wing," but I find it works better as a rest.

The outside arm can be used for downpressure to help hold the body in the crack. If this is not possible, palm the edge of the crack with the elbow pointed away from your body. The nature of the rock on the side of the crack will determine which method works better.

Vertical movement can be achieved from this basic position by doing the following:

1. With your body held in place by the arms and the inside leg-lock, move the outside heel-toe jam up as high as possible.

2. Release the inside leg-lock and stand up on the new heel-toe jam, pushing the hips up and out away from the crack; for best results, do not dislodge the outside foot with the inside foot in passing. The outward motion of the hips creates a better angle for the heel-toe jam and rotates the upper body over the arm-bar for better support. Re-establish the inside leg-lock.

3. Release the arms, slide the upper body up, and re-establish the arm-bar.

4. Repeat the above process until you puke.

Protection in offwidths can present a challenge, too. If the crack pinches down in the back, conventional protection will work just fine. In some cases, wide cracks are protected by fixed pieces or bolts, but in most cases you must place your own. The old standbys are Chouinard tube chocks. Although no longer in production, there are quite a few still in circulation. Modern technology has provided giant, spring-loaded camming devices; I have 5.5" and 7.0" sizes. My preference are Big Bros, which are light, compact, and work well. The larger sizes of Tri-cams are also useful.

Keep in mind that cracks are not uniform and techniques sometimes must be modified to meet specific difficulties encountered. As most good offwidth climbers will tell you, the best way to do offwidth is to figure out how to climb it some other way! But when all else fails, the above techniques should get you up. With a little practice, you can become a real hardperson and amaze your climbing friends by doing offwidths without snagging your lycra!

—Layne Kopischka

JIM NELSON GUIDE





Photo: Lowell Skoog

**Guided climbs,
traverses & first ascents
in the North Cascades & B.C.
Coast Range (Waddington),
Climbing instruction.**

Alpine Ascents Unlimited
1712 NE Ravenna Bd., Seattle, WA 98105

(206) 522-2167



CLIMBING VIDEOS

VHS ONLY

FAIRWEATHER ASCENT • WINDS OF EVEREST
EL CAPITAN • CHALLENGE: CANADIAN ROCKIES
EVEREST: NORTHWALL • KARAKORAM

\$50.00 each, post paid

WINTERHAWK

206 Fields Cliff, Whitesburg, Kentucky 41858

COLLECTOR'S ITEMS

We have limited quantities of rare, older issues of **Climbing** available for those wishing to complete their collections.

Nos. 3-5, 21, 28, 39, 43, 53, 54 are \$1.50 each.

Nos. 78-81, 83, 84 are \$2.50 each.

Nos. 86-88, 90, 94 are \$2.75 each.

Nos. 97, 100, 101 are \$2.95 each.

Nos. 102, 104, 105, 106, 107 are \$3.95 each.

All orders are shipped postage paid.

Please indicate issues wanted and direct payment to:
Climbing / Back Issues, P.O. Box E, Aspen CO 81612.

The AVITA® Heavy Duty Dipstand

Train to Peak Performance with this mass and strength building apparatus. Your arms and chest will quickly respond to this exercise. Perfect for abdominal leg raises and your heaviest weighted dips.

The Ultimate Upper Body Workout

Built to last a lifetime, engineered for perfect balance and stability. Constructed of heavy gauge chromed steel, with cushioned grips and a non-slip base. 48 inches tall 36 inches wide at base. 22 inches wide at grips. 28 lbs.

Only \$99.95

plus \$15 S&H
Limited Quantity.

Order now

1-800-346-6134

24 Hours

MC/VIA/AMEX/C.O.D.

or send check/M.O.

to the:

FITNESS GROUP

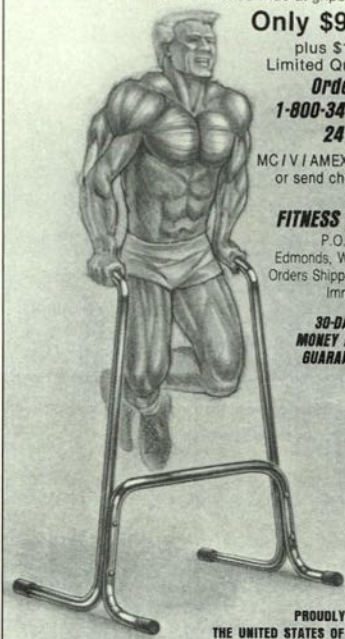
P.O. Box 251

Edmonds, WA 98020

Orders Shipped U.P.S.

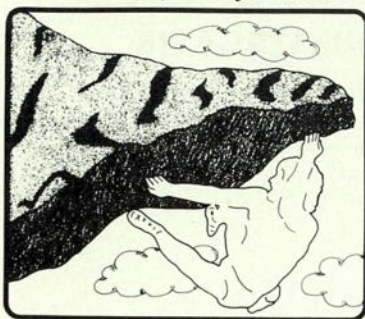
Immediately.

**30-DAY
MONEY BACK
GUARANTEE**



PROUDLY MADE IN
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

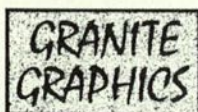
I CLIMB, therefore I am!



CLIMBERS!

Your shirt is here.
Printed in full-color
on white cotton
tank tops.

Send \$10.00 Plus
\$2.00 P. & H. To:



555 Ashbury, no. 2
San Francisco, CA 94117

BIG WALLS

What you need: the bare essentials

Big wall climbs are technological achievements, requiring the management of enough gear to stock a small mountain shop. By comparison, the actual climbing is simple. The key to big-wall success is having the right gear and an organized gear management system.

Although big walls are gear intensive, it's possible for the aspiring wall climber to get started with a moderate amount of new gear. Two persons, each owning a standard free-climbing rack and decent camping/bivy gear, collectively have about 2/3 of the paraphernalia needed for a moderate nail-up, such as *Mescalito*, *Zodiac*, or *The Shield*.

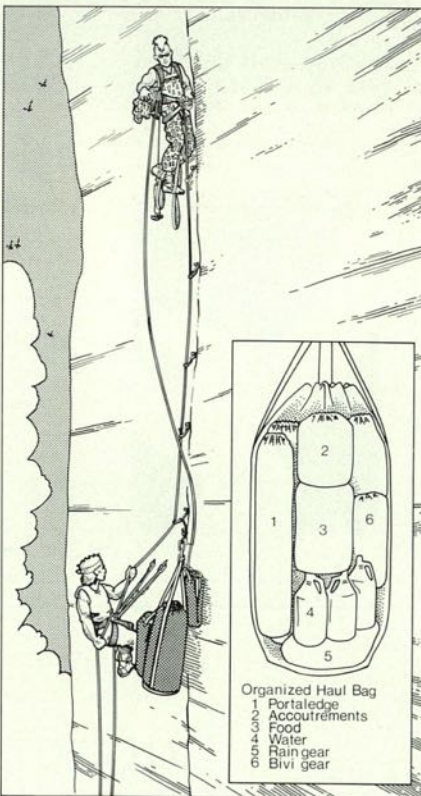


Illustration: John McMullen

Organized Haul Bag
1 Portaledge
2 Accountments
3 Food
4 Water
5 Rain gear
6 Bivy gear

The cost of acquiring the remaining essentials can be minimized with some clever improvisation. For example, a portaledge can be anything from a plywood sheet rigged with perlon to a suspended K-Mart lawn chair to an expensive, manufactured one. Aiders can be knotted from one-inch webbing or home-sewn rather than store-bought. A sturdy pair of trail shoes such as Nike Lava Domes will suffice for wall boots (free climbing shoes may also be necessary). Although a well-made haulbag is a worthy investment, backpacks or even a duct-taped duffel bag will do. A double gear sling can be fashioned by sewing two single ones together with a speedy stitcher, and two-liter Pepsi bottles work well for carrying water. Be creative.

The following is a basic checklist of gear needed for a moderate nail-up.

Hardware

- ☐ 2-3 sets Friends
- ☐ 2-3 sets wired nuts
- ☐ 2-3 sets small brass nuts
- ☐ 80 carabiners
- ☐ Hooks (2-5 standard type)
- ☐ Copperheads (10-25)
- ☐ Pitons (5-10 knifeblades, 10-20 horizontals, 15-25 angles)
- ☐ Small bolt kit (optional)

Personal Gear (per climber)

- ☐ Harness
- ☐ Aiders
- ☐ Jumars
- ☐ Hammer and holster
- ☐ Headlamp
- ☐ Rain gear
- ☐ Wall boots
- ☐ Kneepads and fingerless gloves
- ☐ Wall spoon and Swiss army knife
- ☐ Sleeping bag and ensolite pad

Other Stuff

- ☐ Haul bag
- ☐ Portaledge
- ☐ Double gear sling
- ☐ Ropes (2-3)
- ☐ Tie-offs and runners
- ☐ Pulley
- ☐ Stuff sacks for gear/food
- ☐ Water bottles wrapped in duct tape
- ☐ Personal items, including speedy stitcher and duct tape
- ☐ Food

It's a good idea to sew clip-in loops on all stuff sacks, sleeping bags, and water bottles. It may be helpful to saw off some 3/4" (and larger) angles for shorty pitons. Check the knots on all gear, and shorten Friend slings. Get psyched, and remember that the first day or two are the hardest.

Go for it.

— John Middendorf IV

PLAN AHEAD



GET YOUR ROCK SHOES RESOLED BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

20 years of continuous service devoted to the repair of rock shoes, mountain boots and cross country ski boots.



for prices, information,
and appointment dates
contact:

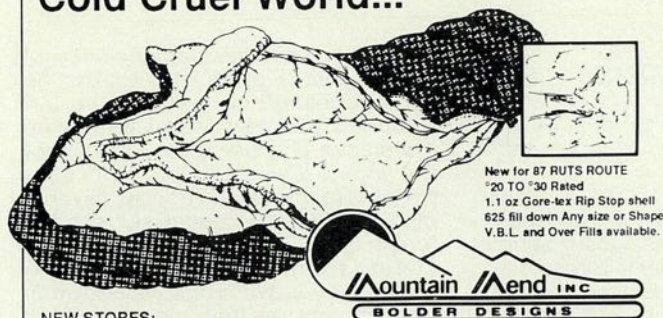
KOMITO BOOTS
235 W RIVERSIDE
PO BOX 2106
ESTES PARK, CO
80517

phone: (303) 586-5391

"GET ON YOUR FEET"

in Boulder/Denver metro area
phone TOLL FREE 449-9389

One Warm Place In A
Cold Cruel World...



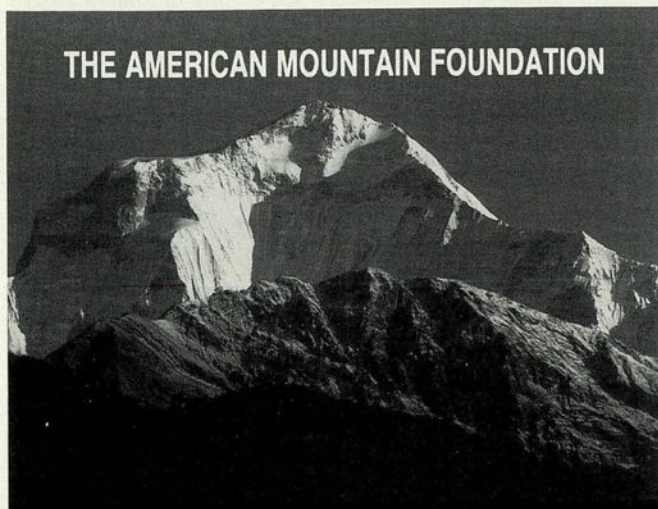
New for 87 RUTS ROUTE
20 TO 30 Rated
1.1 oz Gore-tex Rip Stop shell
625 fill down Any size or Shape
V.B.L. and Over Fills available.

NEW STORES:

• 1580 Canyon, Boulder 80302 Ask about our expedition or professional Discounts
• 840 Bannock, Denver 80204 Call or write for free brochure Dept. CL (303) 443-1925

Mountain End INC
BOLDER DESIGNS

THE AMERICAN MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION



The directors and officers of the AMF are pleased to announce the creation of a special endowment to recognize and support the efforts of American men and women in the areas of alpinism and adventure travel. The awards for 1987 have been presented to:

The 7th Grade Award

Phil Powers

for his ascents of Gasherbrum II and Lukpilla Brakk
by way of a difficult new route

Catherine Freer Memorial Award

Kitty Calhoun

for her ascent of Dhaulagiri
as an equally contributing partner
in a small self-sufficient team climbing without
oxygen or high altitude support

Contributions to support the endowment will be gratefully accepted. The AMF is a non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible. For further information contact:

THE AMERICAN MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION

121 E. Espanola, Colo. Springs., CO 80907

Introducing 5.10 STEALTH Rubber

After one year of rigorous testing Five Ten is proud to introduce the most advanced climbing boot rubber ever developed. It out performs all others, including Five Ten original rubber.

Stick to the rock with Five Ten and get stuck on **STEALTH!**

You can resole (and rerand):

FIRES
SPORTIVAS
COWBOY BOOTS
AND JUST ABOUT
ANYTHING ELSE

Contact any of the official 5.10 resolvers listed below:

Progressive Outdoor Footwear Repair

8235 La Mesa Blvd.
La Mesa, CA 92041
(619) 469-0567

Highland Shoe Repair

816½ W. Market St.
Akron, OH 44303
(216) 376-9670

The Village Cobbler

29 E. Main St.
Belgrade, MT 59714
(406) 388-7653

Quality Shoe Repair

11427 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90025
(213) 479-3012

Komito Boots

W. Riverside - Box 2106
Estes Pk., CO 80517
(303) 586-5391

Colorado Outdoor Sports

840 Bannock St.
Denver, CO 80204
(303) 825-0300

Mekan Custom Footwear

5106 Obsidian Way
Kearns, UT 84118
(801) 966-3226

Wheeler & Wilson Boots

206 North Main
Bishop, CA 93514
(619) 873-7520

Dave Page Cobbler

2101 North 34th St.
Seattle, WA 98103
(206) 632-8686

Mountain Soles

P.O. Box 28
Trout Lake, WA 98650
(509) 395-2844

Gritstone Cobblers

838 S. State College Blvd.
Anaheim, CA 92806
(714) 772-0437

Singer Boot and Resole

777 Bernard Way
San Bernardino, CA 92404
(714) 883-0808

Kenko

8141 W. I-70 Frontage Rd. N.
Arvada, CO 80003
(303) 425-1201

IN CANADA:

Extreme Mountain Gear

201-6811 Sellar Ave.
Burnaby, B.C. V5J 4R2
(604) 435-6599

Black's Camping International

901 Bank St.
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1S 3W5
(613) 234-2964

5.10™ P.O. Box 1390
Glendale, CA 91209
(818) 768-3068

YOSEMITE VALLEY

Study challenges common assumptions

"You're crazy! You could get killed!"

We've all combated such presumptions from non-climbing friends, and it seems everyone has some superstition about the dangers of rock climbing. Ironically, climbers themselves help perpetuate erroneous myths about their sport. In 1984, we decided to put these beliefs to a statistical test.

We studied all 220 climbers injured in Yosemite Valley or Tuolumne Meadows between 1984 and spring of 1987. All had either been rescued or seen in the Yosemite Medical Clinic. We also interviewed 152 uninjured climbers to understand what the baseline level of expertise was, and how uninjured climbers differed from those who got hurt.

These uninjured climbers had several consistent beliefs about climbing safety and Yosemite climbing. Many of those beliefs hold some truth, others are dangerous superstition. They are outlined below and addressed in light of three years of injury data.

"Only inexperienced climbers get hurt." It's true that the Valley attracts some of the world's best, but even those climbers are crashing and burning. The average age of injured climbers was 27 years, with 6 years of rock climbing experience, and 11 days of climbing in the 30 days prior to their accident; 71% could lead 5.10 or higher. Almost all (91%) climbers were leading at their best level.

Furthermore, El Capitan and the Cookie Cliffs, hardly beginner crags, were the two most frequent sites for injuries. And while 43% of injuries occurred on weekends, and the majority in springtime, the injured climbers were still not the green, weekend warriors we usually conjure up when thinking about accidents.

Uninjured climbers were slightly more capable, statistically, although not more experienced. 81% of uninjured climbers led 5.10 or better, but they'd climbed about the same amount of time.

In other climbing areas studies show the opposite: inexperienced climbers get hurt the most. Perhaps in Yosemite it's simply that you have to be good just to get off the ground. Still, if they're so good, why are these hot-shots getting hurt?

"Poor judgment" was suggested in interviews as a prominent cause of injury. 32% of injured and 44% of uninjured climbers had suffered a previous climbing injury. Perhaps it's true that

good judgment is the product of experience, and experience is the product of bad judgment.

"Climbers get hurt when they push their limits." This doesn't seem to be true. Among leader falls resulting in injury, the rating of the pitch showed that most leaders were not in over their heads, nor were they slacking off. There was, however, a small subgroup of 5.6 to 5.9 climbers who were hurt while extending themselves at 5.8 to 5.10. Fatigue may be a factor, because even though most injuries occurred within four pitches of the ground, a disproportionate number of them happened after five pm.

"Most injuries are the result of a leader fall." This is overwhelmingly true. Leader falls accounted for 65%, followed distantly by bouldering falls and rockfall at 6% each. Hypothermia accounted for 5%, seconding falls for 2%, while anchor failure and rappel failure combined contributed only 2.5%. The exceptions were a bat bite and an assault with a piton hammer at the base of El Cap.

"Poor protection contributes significantly to injuries." This is true. Pro pulled in 29% of the injury-producing leader falls. The median injury fall was 25 feet (36 feet when pro pulled, but only 20 feet when it held). In comparison, falls among uninjured climbers averaged only 12 feet and pro pulled in only 4.5%! Friends did not pull disproportionately and broken bolts were a problem twice.

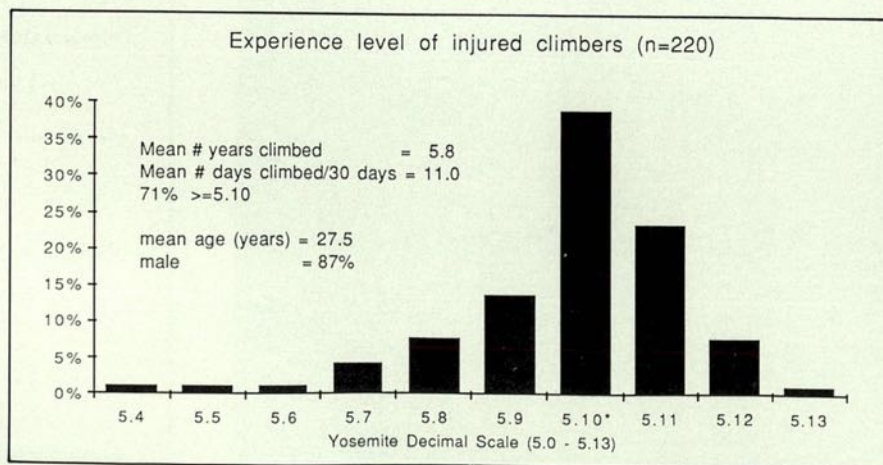
"Climbing injuries are severe." This is not entirely true. We used a conventional injury severity score to

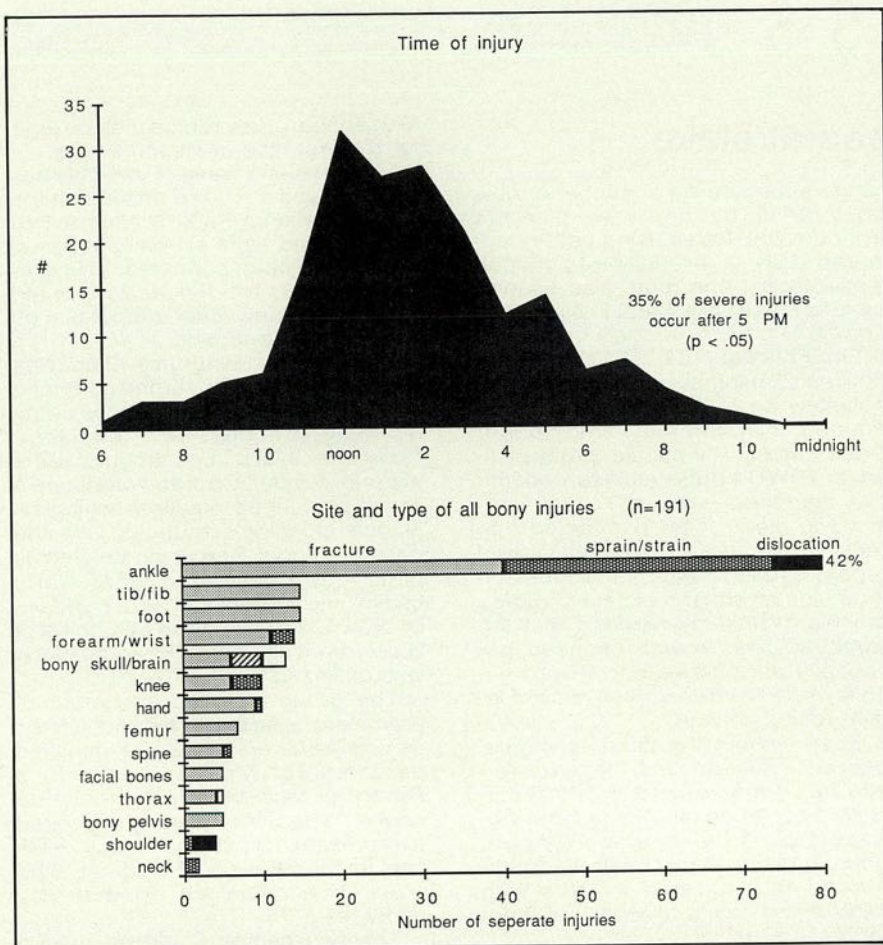
grade each climber's combination of injuries. On a scale of 0 to 75, the average injured climber suffered a 4 (rescued climbers were somewhat more severely hurt). Thus, only 5% of the injuries were severe and 95% minor to moderate. Curiously, severity of injury did not correlate well with the length of the fall, nor were ground falls statistically more severe, suggesting that what you hit on the way down is what counts. In fact, when climbing falls are compared to falls from city buildings, which average about the same distance, climbing falls are considerably less severe, owing to the fact that 63% of falling climbers were stopped by their belay system. Severe injuries were more probable after five pm, among older climbers, in bad weather, higher off the ground, in the Cathedral Rocks area, and with longer falls.

We saw mostly fractured or sprained ankles, fractured tibias, and multiple abrasions (over 50%). We saw few overuse injuries, possibly because those patients go to private doctors at their convenience. Sixteen unfortunate climbers suffered head injuries; nine of them died, a bad ratio.

The fatalities can't be ignored. Thirteen climbers died in three and a half years; three died of hypothermia incurred during autumn storms, five died of head trauma from leader falls, and one died of head injury after rappelling off the end of his rope. Another climber died from abdominal hemorrhage incurred from rockfall while sleeping, two others fell together 800 feet when their belay anchor failed, and one climber died from head injuries caused by rockfall.

"Yosemite rock is solid." Maybe, relative to the Eiger. Thirteen climbers were hurt by rockfall, two of them fatally. Interestingly, in 64% of those





cases, the rockfall was generated by a member of the party. So it's not just a matter of getting on the East Buttress of Middle Cathedral at five am before the bozos, but worrying instead about your leader dropping a rock on your head.

"It never rains in Yosemite."

Adverse weather contributed to 23 injuries, three of which (on big walls) were fatal.

"Rappelling and descents are the most dangerous activities." Rappel failure is a rare event. Yosemite saw only two cases but one of those was fatal. Only a small handful of cases occurred on descent.

"Those free soloers, or those Japanese, are crazies." Only six of 220 climbers were hurt free soloing, one of them fatally. Nor were the Japanese represented disproportionately among the injured. In fact, foreigners comprised only 19% of the injuries, but 26% of the general climbing population.

"It's all the drugs they take." Only 2% of injured climbers admitted to using drugs or alcohol on the day of their injury. A whopping 25% of uninjured climbers said they occasionally im-

bibed when climbing! Obviously, this difference must be interpreted with caution, since most recently injured climbers probably wouldn't admit to their vices while waiting in a medical clinic.

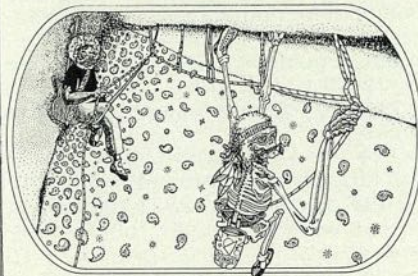
"Yosemite climbers are blights on the Park." The Curry Company presumption that all Camp Four climbers are dirtballs doesn't seem to hold true when it comes to paying hospital bills. 89% of injured climbers paid their bills to the clinic in full. Average bill: \$233.

A word about rescue: SAR park medics arrived on the scene a median 1.5 hours after the accident, then stabilized and transported the victim to the clinic in another 1.6 hours. From a medical point of view this was a generous margin except in the fatalities, in which 11 of 13 died before rescuers could even be notified. So SAR does an outstanding job in the Park, but if you really flail there's little they can do to help.

— Tom Hunt

The author is an active Yosemite climber, who is completing medical school at the University of California in San Francisco. His research was supported in part by a grant from the Mazamas Research Fund.

JRAT. IT WORKS!



A Little Plump, or Almost Anorexic Jrat makes a harness that works for you. One of our 42 possible size combinations will fit your bod plus great gear loops and fully comfortable padding. Jrat harnesses are engineered for today's climbing.
JRAT - IT WORKS!

Available from your local Mountain Shop, or send for free Ratalog #5:

948 PEARL ST BOULDER CO 80302
303-444-2779

HUDSON AIR SERVICE, INC.

Serving Alaska since 1948



CLIMBERS!

- \$200 ROUND TRIP
SE FORK KAHILTNA
GLACIER
- 10% OFF FOR
DEPOSITS RECEIVED
BY APRIL 15th
- CONTACT:

HUDSON AIR SERVICE, INC.
P.O. BOX 82, DEPT. C
TALKEETNA, AK 99676
(907) 733-2321

HUECO TANKS, PINNACLES

Bolting puts climbing areas at stake

Hueco Tanks and Pinnacles National Monument erupted this season with climbing bans and government regulations. Both are popular winter climbing sites, featuring bolt-protected routes up steep, crackless faces.

For three weeks in March, Hueco Tanks prohibited all roped climbing after the discovery of 23 illegal rappel-placed bolts on five new routes. Visiting climbers were restricted to bouldering while the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) decided whether to retain the moratorium through the entire season. Believing that they had made the point that climbers had gone too far, TPWD rangers lifted the ban and invited climbers to come "discuss the future of rock climbing" at Hueco Tanks.

Pinnacles National Monument rang out in February and March with environmental attacks and counterattacks. Before the dust had settled, the Park Service stepped in to protect the "integrity of the rock." Allegedly, nesting birds were also disturbed by climbing and drilling. The Park Service closed a major cliff to all climbing and many other sections to *all* first ascents, even if done without bolts; this was backed by climbers who believed that the problem was a lack of bolting ethics and environmental concern among "Eurodogs."

Hueco Tanks is an 860-acre Texas State Historical Park located 30 miles from El Paso. Bolts and pitons have never been officially allowed, but were tolerated until Superintendent Bob Miles came in 1982. Then, climbing activity mushroomed, and climbers started putting up more new routes — and bolts. Excesses by climbers — a route over Indian pictographs, slings and biners left in place, and bolted boulder problems — were followed by crackdowns by TPWD rangers, with intermittent periods of cooperation and tolerance.

In 1986, climbers agreed to use brown chalk, and spent a day cleaning white chalk off routes. Some areas were closed because of nesting prairie falcons. Many rangers accepted climbers as a legitimate "user group," and generally concluded that locals had either abided by the strict no-bolts rule, or kept within acceptable bounds.

But by then Hueco Tanks had become, as TPWD officials recognized, "one of the premier climbing attractions in North America."

The 1988 winter season started peacefully enough, but in February,

rangers discovered a number of new bolts put up by "new wave climbers from outside Texas using battery powered drills..." In addition to rappel-placed bolts, one route also sported several small flakes kept in place with epoxy.

On February 29, TPWD posted notices banning all roped climbing indefinitely as of the next day. "We're making a statement," said ranger Dave Parker. The popular press picked up TPWD's press release, and articles appeared across the country describing steel bolts "hammered into rock to aid tricky maneuvers," and "epoxy used to create handholds and footholds on sheer rock faces." Some articles mistakenly reported that the climbing closure was imposed because "Park officials had feared the bolts might have destroyed ancient Indian rock paintings."

Even without the press, climbers' phone lines burned with the news. Austin area climbers met with TPWD officials, and American Alpine Club Access Committee members spent hours urging rangers to lift the moratorium. Both offered to work with TPWD and locals to work out long-term solutions.

Climbers and TPWD officials were invited to a meeting of the AAC Access Committee, scheduled for March 19th in Las Vegas, to discuss the situation. However, on March 18th, TPWD lifted the ban and agreed to sponsor a later meeting at Hueco Tanks. The Access Committee and Hueco regulars met in Las Vegas to discuss the implications of what had happened at Hueco Tanks, as well as similar events at Pinnacles.

Regardless of whether official restrictions had come about because of the "excesses" of "Eurodogs," or at the urging of "traditionalists," all present agreed that there should be no public regulation of climbing. Land managers should not regulate climbing equipment or techniques except where legitimate, demonstrable ecological or archaeological concerns exist.

As to Hueco itself, it was agreed that the no-bolting rule has to be modified, and that reasonable procedures, addressed to individuals, not to climbers as a group, are also needed for handling violations. At an April 23 meeting between TPWD officials, members of the AAC Access Committee, and 30 local and visiting climbers, the commitment was made to permit bolting by working through the newly-formed El Paso Climber's Club. If this agreement can be hammered out by

next season, new routes may be legal for the first time at Hueco Tanks.

Unlike Hueco Tanks, Pinnacles has long enjoyed a relaxed attitude on the part of National Park Service (NPS) rangers, and as in all national parks, bolting has been permitted. This winter, however, the Pinnacles erupted with controversy over rappel-placed and power-drilled bolts.

In February, long-time Pinnacles activist Tom Higgins started gathering signatures on a petition "to stop unfair climbing practices at Pinnacles." Soon after this, a large group of climbers met in Santa Cruz and produced a list of proscribed practices which included chipping handholds, placing bolts on rappel, and using an electric drill. Also challenged were white chalk, bolt hangers that were not black or brown, and extensive scrubbing of lichen from the rock. Even smoking was criticized.

The group included a number of prominent Pinnacles "traditionalists," as well as others who were identified as climbers who had "led with a Bosch" or who had placed "bolts on hooks." Thus, the meeting appeared to represent a broad consensus — except for the banished "Eurodogs," who were the ones being directly addressed.

The two camps polarized over a route in Citadel Canyon, and it wasn't just rappel-placed and power-drilled bolts that raised the ire of the "traditionalists." The authors of the route in question built a trail to their climb by cutting banks and bushes, terracing, and even lining the way with stones. The "traditionalists" took this as a declaration that the new age had arrived at Pinnacles.

Seventeen of them responded with a letter, stating that the route had been removed "in an environmentally sensitive manner," and that "no one should profit from this sad chapter in the history of climbing at the Pinnacles, and your hangers, bolts, slings, and rappel rings have all been thrown in a garbage can." One of the route's creators is reported to have said that the gear was worth \$128 and that he would remove first ascents done by the others at the rate of one per week until he had recouped his losses.

The letter from the seventeen concluded that the new route had "provoked a storm of controversy within the climbing community and shocked and angered the National Park Service."

The accuracy of the latter observation soon became apparent. The NPS revealed a proposal to ban all new routes on many small formations in the park, and to prohibit climbing entirely in one major section, the Balco-

nies Cliffs. The NPS said that it had been studying the impact of climbing on "the carrying capacity of the rock" and on nesting raptors for three years, although climbers had been unaware of this study.

Higgins and the AAC Access Committee immediately asked park officials to meet to talk problems over first. Although golden eagles and prairie falcons have nested in the park, some of the proposed closures are based on nests that have been inactive since 1984. It also appeared that the NPS had no criteria on which species were being protected — endangered, rare, or all species in the park? And how did the NPS conclude that hikers, but not climbers, could approach some nests?

The "traditionalists," however, supported these closures, arguing that "unless the rangers literally study the birds to death, they will never now be able to say exactly how close climbers can get."

Buttressed with this support, the NPS chose to ban first and study later. On March 19, 1988 — the day Hueco Tanks re-opened — notices closing The Balconies and ten other formations were posted at Pinnacles.

The NPS then dropped another bombshell. Interpreting a regulation which makes it illegal, in all national parks, to deface "a mineral resource," Superintendent James Sleznick told the AAC Access Committee that "the consensus of my staff is that bolting is inconsistent with park regulations." Sleznick added, "We are not, however, at this time, banning the practice of placing bolts for protection, but are concerned with the impacts this practice has on the park's geological formations."

Thus, these federal officials have made a decision which if followed means that *all bolts are illegal in all national parks*. Higgins and the AAC Access Committee were stunned. The "traditionalists," even those who had backed the closures and publicly aligned themselves with the NPS by explaining the bans at meetings of climbers, had never been told of this

new "consensus" reached by the Pinnacles rangers.

Nevertheless, the "traditionalists" have not been deterred. The NPS, they believe, will not enforce the law that is being violated, and bolting outside of the closed areas will continue to be permitted. The final answer, it appears, will be revealed in "a climbing management plan" being prepared by the NPS for Pinnacles National Monument.

—Armando Menocal,
Chairman, AAC Access Committee

THE SOUTHEAST

Good news, bad news

Climbing activity, especially the development of sandstone, is continuing to expand at an almost alarming rate in the South. The different states involved have varied attitudes and responses to the resulting increase in usage.

North Carolina is the most progressive. Climbing is actively encouraged in state parks, with the only restrictions being either traffic related or in areas with specific historical or archaeological significance. North Carolina leads the South in responsiveness to the climbing community; there is even a state-sponsored mountain rescue school for rescue squads and fire departments twice each year.

However, North Carolina also has many privately owned areas of tremendous potential which are not currently open. A few are accessible with permission of the landowner, but the majority have opted for "No Trespassing with No Exceptions." Liability concerns, litter, and destruction of environment are often-stated reasons, but desire for privacy, combined with "I own it" attitudes, explain the balance of the closings.

The only publicly held area in North Carolina with potential access problems is Ship Rock, along the Blue Ridge Parkway. Here, environmentally fragile terrain on the trails to and from the rock itself may cause Parkway authorities to restrict the area.

South Carolina and Georgia are the least enlightened with regard to climbing. Table Rock State Park in South Carolina continues to be closed to all climbing. Although several routes have been established, the park and the base of the rock are part of Greenville County's watershed, and are completely restricted from any use, be it hiking, hunting, or climbing; watershed status may only be changed by act of the state congress. Rumor conveys that the area is a private game reserve for "up-country politicians."

Georgia's state parks have some excellent crags, but climbing is not currently allowed. Park superintendents are required to follow state guidelines which specify no rappelling

EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER! Get your experience with the NATIONAL OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

*Learn to be a mountaineer
on an extended expedition to:*

The Wind Rivers

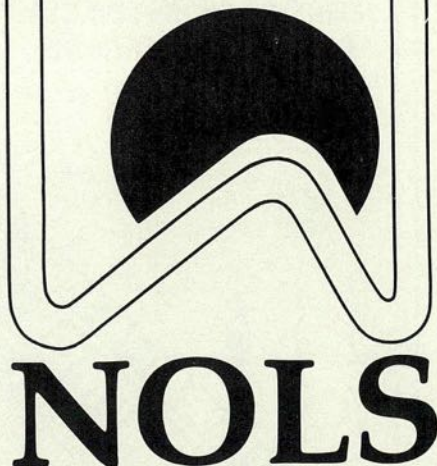
Cascades

Waddington Range

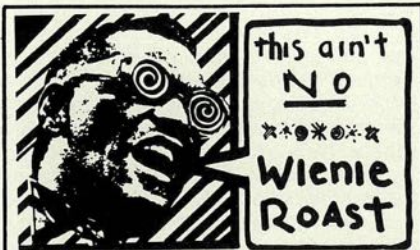
Aconcagua

*plus a wide variety of
other courses that teach
wilderness skills that
protect the environment.*

*Call or write for our
free catalog.*



Box AA, Dept. MA2, Lander, Wy. 82520
(307) 332-6973



THE FAMOUS WIENIE ROAST DESIGN is now a two-color print on the front of a premium quality short sleeve t-shirt. White, aqua or lavender. S-XL 10.50 ea. plus 1.50 for shipping. Cal. res. add 6%. Catalog available.

KINNALOA

box 60115 San Diego, Ca. 92106

"COFFEY BAG" for quick Chalk Ups



* ERGONOMIC DESIGN * PILE LINE
* 11oz CORDURA FRONT/BACK PANEL
* 8oz. PACKCLOTH SIDE PANELS
* DOUBLE & TRIPLE LAYER 1" WEBBING MOUTH
BLACK CENTER PANEL WITH YELLOW, TEAL,
ORANGE, ELECTRIC BLUE, ROYAL, PURPLE, BLACK
OR FUSCHIA *** SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
EOR 14.95 DOLLARS (POSTAGE INCLUDED) TO
ADREANAL SPORT WARES • 7829 MATSON CT.
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45236 • PLEASE INCLUDE
PHONE NUMBER

**FREE
CAMP MOR
CAMPING CATALOG**



**WRITE OR PHONE FOR OUR
FREE DISCOUNT CATALOG**

Eureka, Jansport, Sierra Designs,
Slumberjack, Cannondale, Peak 1,
Chouinard, Lifa, Optimus, Lowe,
Woolrich, Columbia,
Camp Trails, MSR,
The North Face,
Gregory,
Kelty.



**PHONE 201-445-5000
CAMP MOR
P.O. BOX 998-6CM
PARAMUS, N.J.
07653**

or climbing. Perhaps this will change as climbing becomes more mainstream.

A major area of contention is Stone Mountain State Park, just outside of Atlanta. Stone Mountain is billed as the largest single piece of exfoliated granite in the world, and features a 600' main face with a total length of about 2/3 of a mile. The granite is incredibly smooth (akin to Glacier Point Apron), but contains no cracks and few irregularities or pockets.

Historically, the main face has been aided using bolt ladders. The only free routes were toward either end and on the back side of the mountain, which offers about 300' of rock. This half-mile long, mostly less-than-vertical wall offers the best potential for moderate climbing and would not disturb tourists. However, gaining even limited access seems unlikely. All inquiries about climbing or rappelling are referred to Mr. W.C. Studdard, Chief of Police. Chief Studdard did not approve of the climbing that was legally done in the past, and was instrumental in the closing of the area. The only currently authorized usage of the mountain is for local fire and police departments' training classes.

Tennessee and Alabama contain the major concentrations of climbable sandstone in the deep South. Each has had an explosion of activity with the development of several significant areas in recent years.

Access questions at the Sunset Rocks of Chattanooga-Chickamauga National Battlefield Park are still being addressed. Climbing is allowed, except in areas which have been officially closed for nine years such as Point Park and East Brow, which see most of the tourist traffic. Continued access to the rest of the area depends on the conclusion of an environmental impact study, as well as the success of reclamation efforts for the most-used areas. The only other access questions in Tennessee are related to private property and arrogant or abusive trespass.

Alabama has a tremendous number of short, high-quality sandstone walls. It is also the first Southern state to lose access to an area through the abuse of "Eurodog" tactics. Yellow Bluff, near Huntsville, is one of the best, tallest, and steepest crags in the South. It contains several of the state's hardest climbs, most of which were established on rappel; bolt lines and retreat slings decorated much of the cliff. The landowner, not a climber, recently decided that all bolts and slings must go; only top roping or soloing are allowed.

On a positive note Sandrock (aka Cherokee Rock Village) is now accessible for recreational use because of its inclusion in the J.F. Kennedy Memorial Trail corridor.

—Chris Hall

AAC ACCESS COMMITTEE

Who's ya gonna call?

In the last few years, the Access Committee has covered a lot of ground. It successfully reversed the decisions of the U.S. Forest Service to limit the number of climbers on Mt. St. Helens and to ban the crater walls to climbing. The committee worked with the National Park Service to push legislation authorizing additions to the New River Gorge in West Virginia and acquire more land on which climbing areas exist. It persuaded the National Park Service to drop bans on climbing in most of Capitol Reef National Park. It stopped the Park Service from closing climbing at Sunset Rocks, Tennessee. It reversed bans on climbing on Mt. Tamalpais and Stanford University Campus in the San Francisco Bay Area, and at Devil's Punchbowl in Southern California. These successes were hardly accomplished by the American Alpine Club alone, since it is usually local climbers who are the first to react and carry the brunt of action.

The activities of the Access Committee have varied from regular meetings with superintendents at major climbing centers; to building trails and camping or parking sites; to organizing climbers to petition in writing or by attending public hearings; to quiet diplomacy and lobbying; to drafting less restrictive climbing policies and regulations, releases of liability, and criteria for legitimate closures to protect nesting falcons or endangered species.

The committee presently counts 35 areas facing threatened climbing restrictions or closures. The major hot spots are the Shawangunks, where a ban on part of Skytop is in effect; Peshastin Pinnacles and Valley of Fire State Park, Nevada which are completely closed to climbing; Pinnacles National Monument, where an "ethical" dispute among climbers over rappel-placed and Bosch-drilled bolts has brought in the Park Service and led to the immediate imposition of a limit on new routes and a ban on power drills. The most recent concern was the several week closure of Heuco Tanks in early March. Texas officials imposed this "moratorium" because of the recent discovery of surreptitiously placed bolts and epoxied handholds.

Committee members preside over the following areas:

In the Northwest, the members are Jim Angell and Jim Frush. Angell led the long battle to reopen Mt. St. Helens. Frush is a lawyer, author, and leader of the 1988 Northwest American Everest Expedition.

The East Coast is patrolled by a team from New Hampshire to Washington, D.C. Stuart Pregnall

works in the office of the D.C. Capitol architect and has lately been focusing his attention on the expansion of New River Gorge and on the problems at the Shawangunks.

Al Rubin is a state defender in Boston. He will be moving to western Massachusetts, where he will focus on major climbing problems at Rattlesnake Gutter and Farley's Ledge.

Alison Osius is the Access Committee's journalist. Although she's based in Boston, Alison writes about access issues in many nationwide periodicals.

Rick Wilcox is the president of Inter-

national Mountain Equipment, a long-time access activist, and the committee's expert on parasailing concerns.

California also has multiple committee representation. Armando Menocal is the access committee chairman. He lives in San Francisco and works as a public interest lawyer. John Hart, another Californian, has authored *Hiking the Bigfoot Country*, *Hiking the Great Basin*, and *The Climbers* (a book of poems). John has reviewed and filed comments on behalf of the AAC on National Forest environmental impact plans in California and Utah.

Californian Randy Vogel monitors legal questions on landowner liability and waivers. Randy is best known as the author of guides to Joshua Tree, Tahquitz, and Suicide Rocks.

Access problems which arise in the vast country between the two coasts are the responsibilities of Chris Hall, Ron Olevsky, Mike Clifford, and Bruce Cox.

Bruce has just returned from Ama Dablam — one of only two successful American expeditions in 1987. He lives in the Midwest, a region where problems are still largely unknown.

Chris Hall is an equipment rep and guidebook writer. He covers the South, probably the fastest growing climbing area in America. Last year, he demonstrated that growth by rousting 137 climbers to protest the N.P.S.'s attempt to ban climbing at Sunset Rock in southern Tennessee.

Ron Olevsky is the committee's renegade, who patrols the American Southwest desert while putting up new routes, usually solo.

Mike Clifford, M.D. lives in Pueblo and is the AAC's representative for the Rockies. Mike was involved in the access struggle at the Garden of the Gods.

This small group of part-time activists may not seem like much, but they work with local climbing clubs, various organizations, and the many climbers who provide the initial, essential contacts. If you are aware of a climbing access problem, please contact the closest committee member.

—Armando Menocal

Addresses:

James K. Angell
3450 SW Talbot Rd.
Portland, OR 97201
(503) 228-0036

Stuart Pregnall
214 13th Street SE
Washington, D.C. 20003
(202) 225-1225
(202) 543-3988 (H)

Michael Clifford
88 Ironweed Drive
Pueblo, CO 81001
(303) 545-5683
(303) 561-8801 (w)

Ron Olevsky
Box 3
Toquerville, UT 84774
(801) 635-9900

Bruce Robert Louis Cox
MR 1, Butler Rd.
Springdale, PA 15144
(412) 274-4870

Alison Keith Osius
287 Beacon Street, 4R
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 262-5554

James C. Frush
4320 NE 56th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 523-6111

Alan Marcus Rubin
21 Conant Street
West Concord, MA 01742
(617) 369-7562

Chris Hall
3739 Robinson Drive
Oakwood, GA 30566
(404) 534-8192
(404) 536-9092(H)

Randy Vogel
Frydrych & Webster
9777 Wilshire Blvd.,
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
(213) 274-0643

John Hart
P.O. Box 556
San Anselmo, CA 94960
(415) 485-0267

Richard French Wilcox
P.O. Box 494
North Conway, NH 03860
(603) 356-6316

Armando Menocal, Chairman
Public Advocates, Inc.
1535 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 431-7430

ALPINE FOOTWEAR REPAIR

Now's the time to resole/repair your rock shoes before the climbing season begins.

Kenko International, the exclusive distributor for Asolo footwear, has original factory components and equipment to repair or rebuild any telemark, climbing or hiking boot.

- * All brands repaired.
- * Factory original components.
- * Custom repairs welcome.
- * 18 years service experience.
- * Featuring 5.10, Sportiva, Scarpa, On Sight rubbers.

Kenko Service Center
8141 W. I-70
Frontage Road N
Arvada, Colorado 8002
(303) 425-1201

GIVE UP THE HUNT.

FISH Wall Gear and Free-Climbing Softwear is now available at finer climbing shops, or from any of the official mail-order dealers listed below.

RALEIGH MT. SPORTS	MT. HIGH LTD.
618 Jenkins	436 N. Warner
Norman, OK 73069	Ridgecrest, CA 93555
(405)360-6647	(619)375-2612
MT. TOOLS	THE SOCIAL CLIMBER
box 22788	305 N. Kendrick
Carmel, CA 93922	Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(408)625-6222	(602)774-3931

FISH

174 SO. SUNNYSIDE AVE.
SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024
(818)355-8296

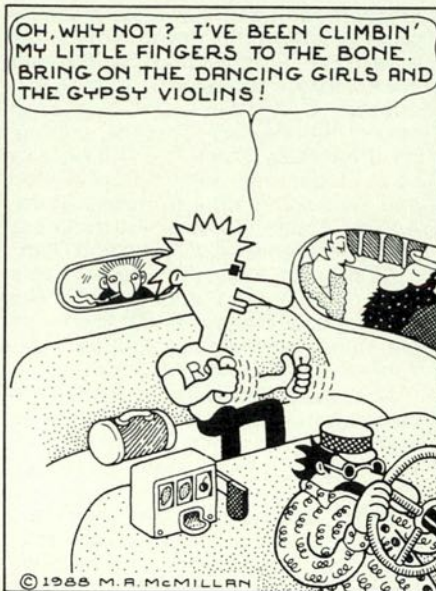
TEL. 404-299-5254

**Mountain
ventures**
ATLANTA
AREA

THE SOUTH'S MOST COMPLETE
CLIMBING SHOP-IN STOCK

ALL MAJOR BRANDS, MOST MINOR

REVIEWS



Painted Mountains: Two Expeditions to Kashmir

Stephen Venables
The Mountaineers
Seattle, Washington, 1987
Hardcover, \$18.95, 242 pp.

Stephen Venables' *Painted Mountains* covers two very different sorts of expeditions to the Indian Himalaya. The first half is the story of the 1983 first ascent of the north Face of Kishwar-Shivling (6800m) by Venables and Dick Renshaw, a low-budget trip in the exploratory vein of Shipton and Tilman's wanderings. The humor and climbing exuberance of the two men shines through in the easy-to-read text. Rimo I, the Painted Mountain, comprises the centerpiece for the second part of Venables' book, which describes a larger, joint British-Indian expedition to the remote East Karakorum. Also exploratory in nature, this trip is complicated by the presence of Indian troops locked in a border war with their Pakistani neighbors.

Lately I've been reading adventure narratives, looking for choice hints to adapt to planning my own small expedition next year. In another book published by The Mountaineers, R.J. Secor warned against wearing surplus military clothing while in the Mexican hills. On the other side of the globe, an incident from Stephen Venables' *Painted Mountains* helps bring his warning into focus.

Venables was ferrying loads to the snout of the Terong Glacier, when Ladakhi porters "suddenly noticed a lone figure in military trousers... following them back up the valley." They scrambled undercover among some boulders, mistaking the author for a

Pakistani spy. When their quizzical faces began popping up from behind the rocks, Venables, with typical good humor, burst out laughing. But some of the men, even upon seeing who he was, still thought he was a spy, perhaps sent by the Indians to see if the expedition loads were being pilaged.

Fluctuating international borders and military maneuvers are serious enough, but in *Painted Mountains*, they are just another interesting part of the approach.

It is not the roar of avalanches keeping these climbers awake at night, but the pounding of Indian army artillery, presumably blasting the Pakistanis camped high on their own side of the mountains. But the Indian officers do everything they can to accommodate the expedition, providing trucks and men to move loads. Things are never guaranteed in a war zone, however, and it could be serious stuff just standing around nonchalantly in surplus woolies.

"In the evening an army truck drove us and the remaining loads to a different campsite right under the Siachen snout," writes Venables. Expedition members are forced to move past the army encampment after dark, so as to avoid observing any military secrets. This they do at the behest of the Indian army. "We bounced through the darkness, past a small town of tents and Nissen huts... Apparently another group of sentries had not been warned of our shift of camp, and we heard the next day that while we were pitching our tents they had trained their guns on our suspicious torch lights. They were officially supposed to shoot suspicious strangers on sight, but

luckily they consulted a senior officer, who told them not to pull the trigger."

The expedition members do eventually find summit success high above the guns and glaciers of the East Karakorum. Rimo III (7233m) is climbed, as are seven other high peaks. Making an awesome alpine attempt, Venables and Tony Saunders very nearly summit Rimo I (7385m) before the gods of gravity shout a defiant "No!" Fortunately, it is not an injury that turns them back, and they are free to rest and climb again.

Accounts of both climbs are sprinkled with maps and photographs. There is plenty of history too, worked into the stories in order to flesh out the bare bones of these remote landscapes. A school teacher and joiner by trade, Venables also provides scientific data, timetables, and summaries of climbing in these regions among his seven appendices.

Safety and fun appear to be the main objectives in these twin tales of "silvan paradise" heaving up into spectacular, remote peaks where sometimes "the snow's appalling and the rock's really shitty," but the weather often is fine enough for climbing — at least for a couple hundred pages.

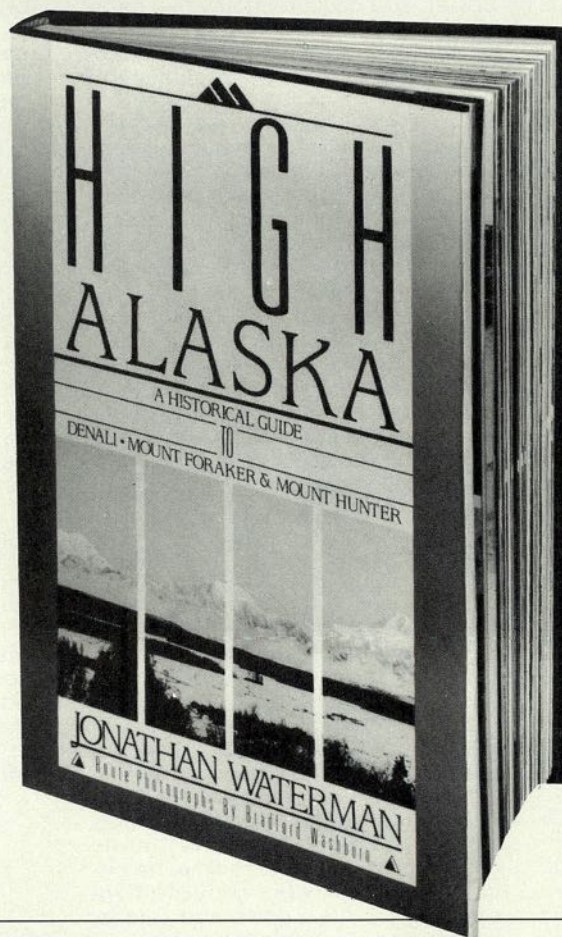
— Marlin Stum

Degrees of Difficulty

Vladimir Shatayev
The Mountaineers Books
Seattle, Washington, 1987
Softcover, \$10.95, 196 pp.

Strap on the headphones, slot some Tchaikovsky or Korsakov in the tape deck, ice down the vodka, and enjoy the benefits of glasnost. De-

FROM AAC BOOKS...



The depth of the information and the extent of the material provided in *High Alaska* presents the three great peaks of the Alaska Range in a manner that perhaps only Jonathan Waterman could achieve. He tells the stories of the Pioneer mountaineers and those who followed them through anecdotes and first-hand accounts which offer both inspiration and example.

Whether or not they are veterans of the Alaska Range, mountaineers will find *High Alaska* an invaluable guidebook. The descriptions of forty-three routes on Denali, Mount Foraker and Mount Hunter, coupled with handsome route-delineated photographs by Bradford Washburn, are essential for anyone planning an expedition to these peaks. The superbly researched text is amply illustrated with magnificent color photographs and over one hundred duotones.

▲ ▲ ▲
High Alaska: A Historical Guide to Denali, Mount Foraker and Mount Hunter, by Jonathan Waterman. Published by The American Alpine Club, New York, June 1988. 7" x 10", 300 pp. Four-color and duotone photographs, maps, appendices. ISBN 930410-32-7. Cloth \$30 est.

degrees of Difficulty is a truly remarkable literary work, and a major publishing coup for The Mountaineers Books.

Let's talk about the coup first. VAAP, the Soviet agency responsible for copyrighting official writing in the USSR (meaning everything that won't get you sent to Siberia), recently signed a few cooperative publishing agreements with American publishers. For the first time in years, mainstream Americans can read the works of current Soviet authors in translation.

One of the first publication agreements was signed with The Mountaineers Books. Based on contacts made through Soviet/American climbers exchanges, in 1977 The Mountaineers were given an option on works published in the Soviet Union by its climbers. Now, ten years later, glasnost has permitted the publication of *Degrees of Difficulty*.

The book was originally published in the Soviet Union in 1977, and appears to be a frank appraisal of the climbing system as it operates in that country. According to the system, beginning alpinists are given rankings, and are permitted to climb only those routes that are commensurate with their ranking. As they gain experience and skill, their rankings and therefore the routes they can climb progress in "degrees of difficulty."

Shatayev, clearly a naturally gifted climber from the beginning, at times struggled to restrain his enthusiasm and ambition to remain within the confines of this disciplined sport structure. Discipline, in fact, is one of the major underlying themes of this book, and one to which we will return.

Degrees of Difficulty was also written, one suspects, as a kind of cathartic exercise, both for Shatayev and for Soviet mountaineering in general. Climbers will recall the 1974 International Soviet Climber's Meet in the Pamirs that was wrought with so much tragedy (see Bob Craig's *Storm and Sorrow*.) Among the many victims claimed by the atrocious weather that year was a team of eight Soviet women on Peak Lenin. The team leader was Shatayev's wife, Elvira.

Shatayev was devoted to Soviet mountaineering and its goals, which included developing women's climbing teams, but he was also a caring, loving, and supportive husband. He writes of the events on Peak Lenin with such detached emotion, contrary to the evident openness of feeling throughout the rest of the book, that the reader senses his absolute grief. Shatayev's need to put to rest his story on the tragedy has hopefully been fulfilled, and as a self-acknowledged representative of the Soviet mountaineering community, the sport's catharsis may have been accomplished at the same time.

One of the greatest problems in

reading translated books is that of language. Frequently, there are insurmountable difficulties in translating into another language precisely what the writer originally conveys. *Degrees of Difficulty* is unequivocally Soviet. You could read any five paragraphs and know the country of its origin. The language is strong and vibrant, direct, and yet with subtlety of feeling.

Shatayev, it seems, has also imparted a significant amount of personality and viewpoint into the language. Some sentences chop their points home, bluntly beating the reader with their message. Others tease the reader through a more seductive reasoning, strolling through a lyrical sentence structure to the final image, sealed with a period's kiss. This facility with words was a pleasant surprise, and one worth enjoying.

The book has an element of Pushkin's majestic life view, a hint of the younger Dostoevsky's strength, and a sense of Chekhov's irony, all amalgamated into Shatayev's style. Yet this was written in 1977, and as such it reflects "modern" Soviet thought and language. Though the setting be a mountain tent, the conversation is pure student cafe discussion; everything is picked apart, analyzed, reassembled as a collective, reasoned effort.

Throughout, there is an unmistakably "male" message, one that will raise the ire of independent women, whether they are climbers or not. Shatayev expresses a view towards women's climbing that is baldly chauvinistic. At the same time, he encouraged his wife to pursue increasingly difficult goals and routes. He devotes much discussion towards the subject, and quotes his wife's views supportingly. It would be interesting to know his views on the matter now, after so many achievements in the mountains by women.

Discipline is a way of life in the Soviet Union, and to Shatayev, that discipline moves into the mountain world when he goes climbing. He cites several different instances where mountaineering discipline has contributed toward life or death, and even tells an elaborate anecdote to reinforce the point. In many ways, the discussion previews some of the causes of the Peak Lenin tragedy. On the one hand, obedience to a preplanned route and schedule was one of the contributing factors that led to the accident's results, and on the other, struggling to free the women's team from out of the watchful eye and preplanned movements of several men's teams may have placed the women out of safety's reach. How maddening to one who holds discipline so dearly, to have that discipline take away a loved one.

Yet Shatayev is not devoid of inde-

pendent thought. He often promotes what seem to be startling (or at least, to our Western minds, radically un-Soviet) ideas, invokes the authority of God at times, and generally proves to be a quite likable and trustworthy kind of person. Free will, humanity's place in world order, climbing ethics, personal motivation, and the need for a person's belief in a set of ideals, are all topics covered in this "climbing book." In other words, there is more than just climbing in *Degrees of Difficulty*.

Climbers who have traveled to the Pamirs will be pleased to recognize the names of Shatayev's comrades, and those intending to go some day would do well to read *Degrees of Difficulty* to see what they are in for. As for the rest of us, Shatayev's words might say it best:

"We are mountaineers. We are testers. In the air, pilots test the reliability of plane construction. In the mountains, we test the construction of a person, his power, his physical and psychological limits.

"And testers, it sometimes happens, perish.

"Then why does the number of mountaineers grow so quickly? I answer: We have life to envy — even though it may be torn away prematurely. We live many lives. We span the whole history of humanity. In our ascent we return to the basics, to the very beginning of human society, to the same difficult fate that awaited mankind from the first."

—Stuart Pregnall

Bozeman Rock Climbs

Bill Dockins

(Self Published)

P.O. Box 6401, Bozeman, MT, 1987
Softbound, \$8.95, 90 pp.

The small college town of Bozeman, Montana sports several convenient rock climbing locations. Over the past 20 years, development of the area's climbing potential has come sporadically. Though efforts to write a guidebook had been made, there was local resistance to the project. Climbers usually ferreted route information, though as one would expect, it varied wildly.

Then, two years ago, Bill Dockins produced the first guide to the area, after putting up many of the hardest routes himself. The book is filled with useful information.

Dockins has covered the small cliffs in Hyalite Canyon, ten miles south of Bozeman; the cliffs on the Madison River, 33 miles west of town; and the larger and more complicated Gallatin Towers, 25 miles southwest of Bozeman. Detailed line sketches depict over 100 routes scattered throughout the Gallatin Towers.

There are no photos, but Kristen Drumheller — who has added many

of the most difficult routes — has graced these pages with drawings of the local flora and fauna.

Each route is numbered, named, rated, briefly described, and often embellished with Bill's tongue-in-cheek humor. Rack recommendations and safety tips are included; unfortunately, some sandbagging goes on here, so one should keep their sights a grade lower when eyeing a route.

Dockins gives the reader a small taste of the controversy over some of the first ascents, but otherwise, only local gossip will tell the rest of the story. Also included is a graded index of the routes, with starred recommendations. *Bozeman Rock Climbs* is a fine effort on the part of its author and the many people involved.

The next time you're on your way from Devil's Tower to Smith Rocks, or from the Tetons to the Bugaboos, pick up this guide, and try the climbing in Bozeman.

— Tom Jungst

Moving Over Stone

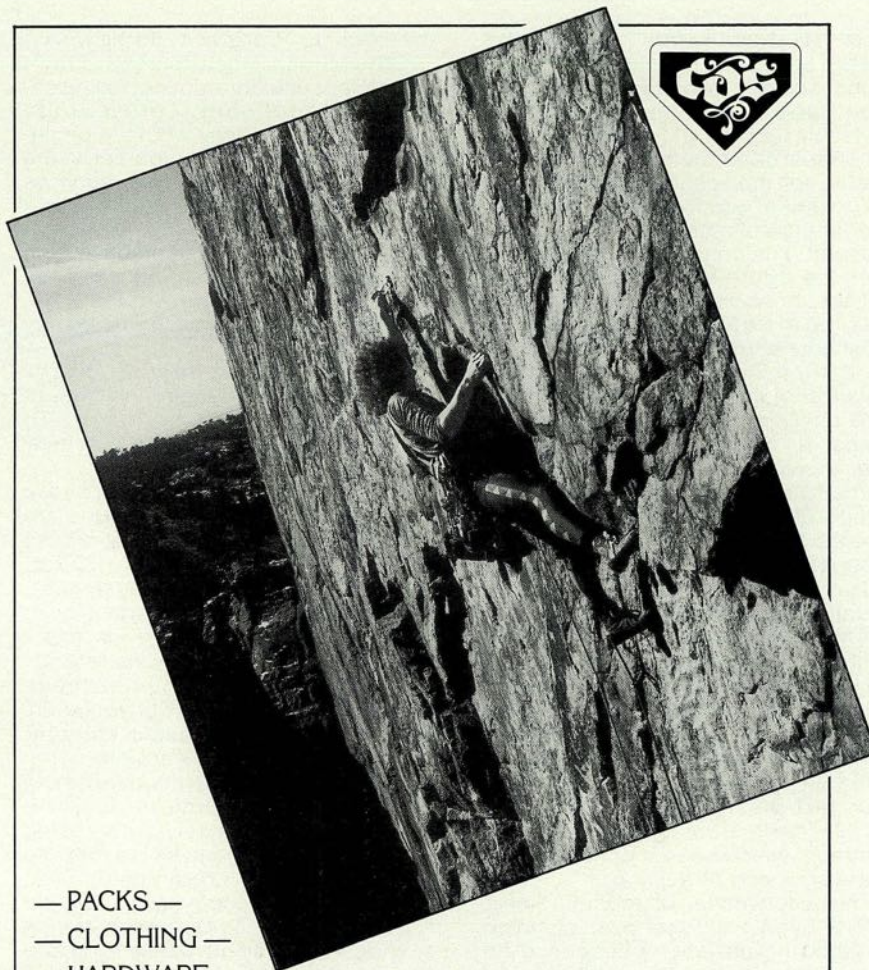
Narrated by Doug Robinson
Range of Light Productions
Mammoth Lakes, California, 1988
VHS (video), \$39, 60 minutes

The first instructional climbing video was *Basic Rockclimbing* (Climbing no. 104); narrator John Long (who also wrote the script) taught the fundamentals in a humorous, straightforward manner. Now, Range of Light Productions brings us *Moving Over Stone*, which uses an entirely different approach.

Apparently intended for the beginning climber, *Moving Over Stone* is narrated and hosted by Doug Robinson, who tries to convey something less tangible than the basics of belaying, rappelling, and protection. Robinson emphasizes a spiritual or Zen approach, urging the viewer, "Relate your body to the rock; let the rock teach you how to climb."

The video starts with a striking sequence of dynamic clips showing Lynn Hill on *Rude Boys*, Bobbi Benson on *Supercrack*, Jerry Moffatt bouldering, and Stefan Glowacz on *To Bolt Or Not To Be* — an omen of things to come.

During the bouldering sequences that follow, Robinson introduces the importance of grace, concentration, and visualization — valuable attributes but difficult to convey in a video. Next, while rappelling a large boulder, he speaks of the necessity of hardware, but says it's better learned through hands-on experience with a guide. He further states that ropes and technology can get in the way of real climbing, and pushes a pile of hardware off the cliff to emphasize the point. "Climbing," Robinson says, "is the feel of muscle on stone."



— PACKS —
— CLOTHING —
— HARDWARE —
— CLIMBING SHOES —

•SALES
•REPAIR
•RESOLE

The Finest Equipment for Climbing
Hiking & Mountaineering

COLORADO OUTDOOR SPORTS

840 Bannock St.
Denver, CO 80204
(303) 825-0300

Denver's Premier Mountain Shop

The next segment is neatly divided into sections subtitled "climbing balance, footwork, holding on, friendly opposition, overhangs, and bouldering." As the main boulderer, Robinson underscores relaxation and delicate movement. Some good fundamentals are covered — keeping the center of balance over the feet, standing on and gripping different holds, laybacking, stemming, underclinging, and mantling — but the demonstrations of heel hooking and deadpointing may ring

clearer to a more experienced climber.

Robinson stresses safety, advocating the constant use of a spotter and reiterating the value of learning ropework from a professional mountain guide. "Don't climb up anything you can't climb back down," he warns — good advice to be taken by all climbers.

A few nice scenics accompanied by good music lead into a climbing road-trip with "some of the world's best clim-

bers." Unfortunately, seeing the world's best is not necessary for quality instruction. *Moving Over Stone* soon takes the plunge; it would be advisable for the watching beginner to be chaperoned by an experienced climber for the rest of the video.

Tuolumne Meadows is the first stop. The footage of a climber on a glacier-polished Tuolumne face is subtitled with the route's name and grade (5.10b); however, no explanation is ever given of 5th class climbing. Robinson hammers in the need for good footwork and balance, then moves straight into a chat with "British rock ace" Jerry Moffatt, who's firing dynos on classic Tuolumne knobs. The ensuing discussion of "intricate stems," how to hold knobs, and the complexity of dynos is bound to confuse the beginning climber. The same dynamic move is shown again and again, flogging the viewer into visualization, the video's cornerstone.

Next, the video flashes to John Bachar, "America's first famous climber," soloing an intimidating face. But as Robinson relates after meeting Bachar, he's no daredevil; Bachar "climbs with respect for the void." In fact, "He's enthused about putting in stronger bolts," says Robinson (wielding Bachar's Bosch power drill), a comment which seems out of context in a discussion of soloing.

The action moves on to Smith Rock, where Lynn Hill is shown climbing through an outrageous sequence on *Rude Boys* (5.13), then falling off at the crux; the same sequence is subsequently repeated many times.

During the Smith Rock segment, a total of 13 leader falls are shown; all are portrayed in a very casual and misleading light. Combined with Robinson's descriptions of *Rude Boys'* lunge moves, unrelenting angle, and strenuous nature, it's no wonder a novice friend of mind commented, "Climbing looks too scary and intimidating for me."

Moving Over Stone attempts cohesiveness with Hill confirming the benefits of visualization and conservation of energy. But the lengthy discussions on how to best set up for lunges are beyond what appears to be the intended scope of the video. With leader fall after leader fall, movement on the rock seems to be going in the wrong direction — down. Of course, Robinson has already encouraged

the viewer to, "Let gravity do the work."

Other Smith Rock footage shows Bobbi Bensman attempting, falling off, then hangdogging *Latest Rage* (5.12a) — not exactly what the beginner is interested in. Interspersed in the dialogue is climbing jargon, such as "redpoint," "on sight," "flash," and "counterbalancing the leg." Although the narrative seems elementary and directed to the beginner, much of the technical lingo used requires the beginner to infer definitions from skimpy explanations.

After showing Stefan Glowacz working and hangdogging on "one of the hardest routes in the world," *To Bolt Or Not To Be*, the roadtrip abruptly ends.

The following segment covers crack climbing; basic techniques are demonstrated on buldering cracks and a backyard climbing gym. Although there's a loss of aesthetics, crack technique — from laybacks, to hand cracks, to offwidths — is effectively explained and demonstrated.

Moving Over Stone then goes crack climbing in the Canyonlands. Great music and classic canyon-country photography lead into some dynamic *Supercrack* sequences. In keeping with the theme of visualization, a hand is repeatedly shown being thrown into a hand jam, as is a foot into a foot jam. Then, "crackmaster" Dale Bard is filmed smoothing his way up *Coyne Crack* (5.11c), demonstrating a variety of difficult jams, from off-finger to off-hand.

All of a sudden, Robinson is under El Capitan, gushing, "The Captain, welcome home." After reminiscing a bit about the route evolution of El Cap, the tape homes in on Peter Croft soloing a selection of difficult routes — all in an easy afternoon. Then, Robinson interviews Croft on his recent solo of *Astroman*, which the viewer is assumed to be familiar with. Undoubtedly, Croft's accomplishments are amazing, but the significance is lost on the beginner.

To wrap it up, *Moving Over Stone* returns to its original theme. Robinson explains that rock climbing is not only an athletic pursuit, but a form of physical meditation — which requires intense concentration. To illustrate the point, a Tai Chi master, clad in Fires somewhere high in Yosemite, performs his art to a beautiful backdrop.

Ending on a philosophical note, *Moving Over Stone* emphasizes the heightened awareness rock climbing in the mountains can bring, finishing with, "The prophets knew it."

Although *Moving Over Stone* contains valuable information for the beginner, it might have been more powerful if it had stuck to fundamental visual images, cut the amount of dialogue, and beefed up the soundtrack.

— Michael Benge

Abode of Snow

Kenneth Mason

The Mountaineers

Seattle, Washington, 1987

Hardcover, \$22.95, 384 pp.

At last, the foremost Himalayan reference book is back in print. The original version, published in 1955, is hard to find, and costs a mint. Although no new text has been added, *Abode of Snow* "remains the definitive work on the subject," as Doug Scott notes in the foreword.

Kenneth Mason was primarily a surveyor, not a climber, and his initial task in the Himalaya was to accurately map this vast region. But after learning alpinism, his interest in mountain exploration picked up, and extended from the time of his survey work back to the origin of trade routes through mountain passes. Thus, his chronology is complete and accurate up until the time of his writing *Abode of Snow*. Although much exploration and many new routes have been accomplished since then, anybody planning a Himalayan trip should read this text for its insights into travel, logistics, and general background knowledge.

One of the striking aspects of Mason's text is the extent to which he credits other climbers, especially non-Britons. He gives up nationalistic pride in favor of accuracy, and was one of the first Westerners to give local climbers their due. Porters and native surveyors assisting the British were sitting atop some impressive peaks long before they were "climbed" properly.

Given the breadth of Mason's subject, one may wonder how he manages to convey information without losing sight of the broader picture. His ability to do so lies mainly in his remarkably succinct and precise text; his prose is lean and spare, yet capable of capturing the essence of each different expedition. As an example, consider Mason's summation of the Shipton/Tilman exploration of the Rishi Gorge and the Nanda Devi Sanctuary:

"The whole of this brilliant and successful reconnaissance had been well planned. The party traveled light and shared the loads with their porters; comforts were cut to a minimum. The expedition re-set the fashion in Himalayan mountaineering of the small compact party."

Likewise, Mason is capable of insight beyond the factual text. Remark- ing on the results of the first ascent of Nanga Parbat, Mason writes:

"Another point of interest is the fact that Buhl had been a slow acclimatizer. On the first attempt he suffered from altitude before reaching Camp IV and on 28 June during the traverse of the Rakhiot Peak carried no load and

IUIA 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.

IUIA Mountain Medicine Data Center
Dept. of Neurological Sciences
St. Bartholomew's Hospital
38 Little Britain
London EC1, England

did little stepcutting. Yet on the all-important two days, 3 and 4 July, he showed the greatest endurance... His reaction to altitude seems to have been very similar to that of Odell on Everest in 1924."

Although the range of its history is limited to events prior to 1955, *Abode of Snow* should nonetheless be on every Himalayan aspirant's bookshelf. Both Diadem in Britain and The Mountaineers in Seattle are to be thanked for collaborating on the book's reprinting. Now, perhaps somebody can get around to updating it, as Scott suggests in his forward. Any takers?

—Stuart Pregnall

Handbook of the Canadian Rockies

Ben Gadd
Corax Press

Box 1557, Jasper, Alberta, 1986
Softbound, \$25 (Canadian), 875 pp.

For many people the Canadian Rockies presents a multitude of questions. Traditionally, the only way to resolve these mysteries was to consult a library or, for the intrepid explorer, carry a plethora of heavy field books in the pack. Now there is one book, *Handbook of the Canadian Rockies*, that attempts to answer all these questions and more.

In a single, 875 page softbound volume, 20% smaller and lighter than *Freedom of the Hills*, there is the equivalent information of 20 pounds of textbooks. The first quarter of the book is devoted to the geology of the area. This is clear, readable text that concisely describes how these mountains were formed, supplemented by numerous photographs, drawings, and a chapter which relates theories to the realities of field observations. Also included are chapters on glaciology, speleology, climatology, hydrology, and a comprehensive listing of hot springs (relaxology).

The bulk of *Handbook of the Canadian Rockies* is devoted to ecology. Beginning with a discussion of the ecological communities, it then gives detailed listings of the common inhabitants. Although not all-inclusive, this is far more complete than might be imagined. There are chapters, descriptions, and illustrations of nearly 700 species of plants, insects, and fish, almost 200 species of birds, and 69 mammals; all gleaned from the author's 20 years as a resident naturalist.

The remainder of the book is particularly valuable for visitors. It includes a 20 page historical outline, topographic maps for the entire region, and a chapter on mountain safety. The list of recommendations for places to go and things to do is worth the price of the book alone. Included are hiking trails, backpacking trips, hut tours, bike tours, ski tours, and rock, ice, and

alpine climbs. There are also some good suggestions on how to pass the time in a small tent on a rainy day.

Handbook of the Canadian Rockies is clearly a labor of love for Ben Gadd, who will probably never be justly compensated for the countless hours he spent writing. While maintaining a factual tone throughout, he also reveals his affection for this land and obviously desires for this to rub off on the reader. At the end, he makes one of the most logical pleas for protecting the wilderness of any yet put forward. A former draft-resister now calling Jasper his home, Ben Gadd seems the type of person that would drive an hour in the opposite direction to drop off a weary ski-mountaineer hitching back to a trailhead.

This book is a remarkable achievement that will hopefully inspire others to produce similar guides in different regions. While perhaps not suitable for a specialist in a particular field, *Handbook of the Canadian Rockies* is an invaluable resource for any curious adventurer visiting the area, or desiring to. Although it is not a climbing guide, I would no sooner leave this book at home on my next trip than my Alpine Club guides or my camera.

—Clyde Soles

Hypothermia and Cold Stress

Evan L. Lloyd
Aspen Systems

Rockville, Maryland, 1987
Hardcover, \$20.00, 400 pp.

Written primarily for medical professionals, this book is good reading for the average outdoor person who is curious about how cold affects every system in the body. It is by far the most comprehensive and up-to-date book on hypothermia. The author covers the causes, diagnosis, pathology, and management, both in the field and in the hospital, of the degrees of hypothermia that are often fatal. He also discusses the marginal hypothermia that has contributed to many mountain accidents by slowing mind and muscle.

Estimates of the incidence of hypothermia in the general population (mostly the poor and elderly) range up to 20,000 cases per year, and many are fatal. The bibliography contains over 1200 references and makes the book invaluable to physicians, rescue teams, and other health workers. Frostbite is mentioned only briefly, but there are already many excellent papers on that cold injury. *Hypothermia and Cold Stress* is highly recommended for anyone looking for more information about cold.

—Charles Houston, M.D.

Available from Aspen Systems,
1600 Research Blvd., Rockville, MD
20850.

New River Rock

by Rick Thompson

A climber's guide to
the East Coast's
hottest crags
featuring 460
routes.

Diamond Life 5.13a
photo by Carl Samples

Available at your local
climbing shop or send
\$19.95 (postpaid) to:
Etched in Stone Guidebooks
Box 387, Sewickley, PA. 15143
412-741-1060

URBAN BIVVY

Submitting to peer pressure,
we are now making these
shirts available to the
not-so-general public.

- ☐ SumoReality
- ☐ You're Soaking In It, Dude/Graphic On Front
- ☐ Please Mom, No Organ Meats!/ Every Child's Nightmare On Front
- ☐ Tell Me I'm Not Scared/Gripped On Front
- ☐ Jump Back Kiss Myself Graphic On Front
- ☐ Party's Over Babe/Graphic On Front

Color Art Work. free catalog
10.50 Plus 1.50 for Shipping.
S — XL

Laurie Siqueido
c/o Dale Frost Design Center
336 Hollywood Blvd.
Oxnard, CA 93035
(805) 984-9194



A Modest Proposal

Dear Editor,

A few years ago, as a norm, people attempted routes from the ground up. Hangdogging was considered cheating. Climbers at that time used the Yosemite Decimal System (YDS) to grade their routes.

Today, as a norm, people place protection on rappel and top rope routes prior to leading them. Hangdogging is an accepted style. These new age climbers also use the YDS. Is this fair or logical?

To me, the YDS has at least one stipulation for grading a climb — that it is done from the ground up. Is it a fair extrapolation of the YDS when someone bolts on rappel, top ropes, hangdogs, and then leads a climb before grading it 5.13c?

Today, most French climbers employ such tactics as a norm, and they grade their climbs with trisymbol designation such as 8a+. Since many of America's climbers are now directly competing with French and other European climbers, what would be wrong with grading American Eurodog routes with the French system? Traditionally-led climbs could retain the YDS, thus allowing the YDS to fairly evolve, and American Eurodogs could more precisely compare their feats with their competition.

There are obviously two radically different styles of rock climbing today, so why not have two grading systems?

—Mark Wilford,
Telluride, Colorado

Original Honemasters

Dear Editor,

I thought that the readers of *Climbing* would be interested in the exploits of Alexander the Great, who employed rock climbers in the assault on the Rock of Sogdiana in 327 B.C., a Persian fortress which was protected on several sides by sheer rock faces. The Persians refused Alexander's advice to surrender peacefully and instead told him to find "soldiers with wings to capture the Rock for him, as no other sort of person could cause them the least anxiety."

Alexander responded by creating the first rock climbing competition:

"Alexander proclaimed that he would give a prize of twelve talents to the first man up, and of eleven to the second, and ten to the third, and so on to the twelfth, who would receive 300 gold darics... There were some 300 men who in previous sieges had experience in rock climbing. They had provided themselves with small iron

tent pegs, which they proposed to drive into the snow... or into any bit of bare earth they might come across, and they had attached to the pegs strong flaxen lines. The party set off under the cover of darkness to the steepest part of the rock face, which they knew was the least likely to be guarded; then, they hauled themselves up, wherever each could find a way. About thirty lost their lives during the ascent... but the rest reached the top as dawn was breaking, and the summit of the rock was theirs. The unexpectedness of the sight was a severe shock to the natives; they were so much alarmed by the handful of Macedonian troops... they surrendered."

The accomplishments of these Macedonian rock climbers were formally documented by Arrian (90-180 A.D.), a Roman citizen, several hundred years after the death of Alexander the Great. (A. de Selincourt, J.R. Hamilton, *Arrian: The Campaigns of Alexander*, Penguin Books, New York, 1983.)

—John Krystal, M.D.,
New Haven, Connecticut

Starting Out Right

Dear Editor,

In "Back to Tradition" (*Climbing* no. 106), Ed Webster offers a welcome relief from the typical denigrating view of tradition as a mindless devotion to the authoritarian past. Centering on the figure of the artist-climber who achieves self expression through personal devotion to the whole of climbing, Webster's essay suggests a rich alternative to the current fetish of technical virtuosity.

Webster's point of view, which suggests that the past may have something worthwhile to say to the present, deserves an even wider hearing. I hereby subscribe to your magazine with the hope that *Climbing* will take that lead.

—Everett H. Akam,
Wooster, Ohio

Dear Editor,

From a person of Ed Webster's status and reputation, I expect more sensitivity to the guide certification issue than a blanket endorsement of the American Mountain Guides Association. I realize his essay on climbing instruction (*Climbing* no. 107) is not limited to this issue, but the points about learning to climb from friends and clubs notwithstanding, Webster could do better than to make automatically suspect the ability of non-AMGA-affiliated schools.

When has certification equated



quality or competence? Consider all the certified secondary school teachers throughout the U.S., or the college professors whose PH.D. degrees give them self-acknowledged certification. Are climbing guides and instructors any different?

There may be valid reasons for the existence of the AMGA, but to create a self-serving distinction between members' and non-members' competence is pure baloney. Let's keep things clear: certification is simply a recognition of compliance by one group or individual to one given set of standards. It suggests nothing about those who are uncertified.

—Larry Soroka,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Moro Rock Renegades

Dear Editor,

Calling in from the Dark Ages! Sorry we missed the Moro Rock Renaissance — at the time we were too busy putting up new routes on the west, east, and south sides to hear the cries of the reawakening.

For years now, a small group of local climbers has shared information on climbs at Moro Rock, and a few errors in the reporting of first ascents are to be expected. However, this does not excuse the arrogance of some who choose to disregard the accomplishments of other climbers.

For example, *Pennies on the Patio* (5.8+) was reported as a new route (*Climbing* no. 106). This is an established top rope problem, first free climbed in the early 1980's by Jack Huntamer and known as *Headwall Direct*. Then there is *Waterstreak at the End of the World* (5.8). This route, the *Fall Wall*, was originally done by Mike Daily and James Cook in May 1986. Finally, there is some doubt surrounding the first ascent of *Suck Eggs Mule* (5.11); this may be an old aid climb, first done in 1958 and known as the *East Face*, and rumored to have been free climbed by Tony Yaniro in the late 1970's or early 1980's.

Thus, any aspiring new route baggers would do well to talk to local climbers for existing information before claiming first ascents.

If you do come to Moro Rock, recommended routes include *Pressure Sensitive* (IV, 5.11), *Levity's End* (III, 5.10), and *Offramp* (II, 5.4), all on the west side; *Ladies on Top* (II, 5.8+), on the east side; and *South Face* (III, 5.7+), *South Cracks* (III, 5.8+), and *One Thin Line* (III, 5.10), on the south side.

More information and topos on the above routes can be obtained at Lodgepole Visitor Center, Sequoia National Park.

—David Hickey,
Exeter, California

Universal 'Pro'
Three double overlapping
Velcro® closures, 5.10™ soling



Bare Essentials For Active Feats!

Teva Sport Sandals are engineered to withstand the rigors of the outdoors offering comfort and support without compromising safety or durability. All Teva sandals feature athletic arch supports, cushioned neoprene insoles and soft nylon strap assemblies that adjust for a precise fit.

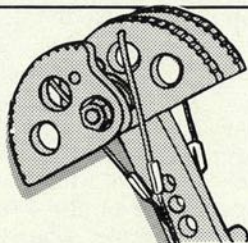
Two models, 'Universal' and 'Original' are offered in a range of solings and colors: Black, Blue, Red and Steel Gray. Solings range from All-Terrain to specialized Running and Deck versions. Teva also offers the new 'Pro' versions; featuring the added durability of high friction 5.10™ climbing rubber and double overlapping

Velcro® closures . . . the ultimate solution in durable footwear for extreme conditions.

Welcome to warm weather comfort and safety. Teva Sport Sandals are the bare essentials. Sandals that stay fast; walking, running or swimming. Full ninety-day guarantee.

For More Information Write or Call: Dept. CL
P.O. Box 968, Flagstaff, AZ 86002 • 602-525-9158

TEVA SPORT SANDALS
Teva Sport Sandals are manufactured under license by Deckers Corp.



SAVE \$ AT CANADA'S LARGEST CLIMBING SHOP

Check out these prices!

	Co-op Price (Cdn.\$)	= Approx. U.S.\$*
Metolius TCU's	41.50	32.95
Go-Pro Rollers	25.50 to 27.50	20.25 to 21.50
Mammut Galaxy Dry		
10mm by 50m	141.00	111.90
Jumars	71.50	56.75
RP's (set of 6)	30.00	23.60

Friends, rocks and the latest hot rock shoes.

*Based on exchange rate on April 8, 1988 (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 STORES

35 Front Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1B3



Mail me the Co-op's new, full color '88 catalogue plus information of joining the Co-op.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

CODE _____

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

The rise and fall of the American alpinist

The bell is announcing the third round, and there is blood everywhere. Each and every tendon is blown, crying eyes are swollen shut, and once-proud American faces are aimed at the floor. We went down to LeMénestrel, Raboutou, and Tribout in Round One. We begged for mercy during Round Two, as Beghin, Boivin, Chamoux, and Profit cramponed our Alpine and Himalayan "successes" to death. I think it's time to start kicking ass.

Although Dale Goddard and Scott Franklin are resuscitating the American rock scene, we still fail miserably in the mountains. Our "significant achievements" pale in comparison to European efforts. Christophe Profit soloed the three great North Faces of the Alps in 24 hours, and later repeated this apocalyptic trilogy in winter. Jean-Marc Boivin combined extreme skiing, paragliding, and hang gliding with alpinism to *enchain* the North Faces of the Aiguille Verte, Les Droites, Les Courtes, and the Grands Jorasses into one marathon day; he flew his hang glider 15 km down the Vallee Blanche at 1:00 in the morning!

Further afield, Eric Escoffier has climbed three 8000-meter peaks in a single month. Benoit Chamoux practically surfed up K2 and Broad Peak in 23 and 17 hours respectively, round trip from basecamp. Jean Troillet and Erhard Loretan demeaned Everest by climbing up and sliding down its 10,000-foot North Face in 43 hours. No oxygen, no ten essentials, and no drugs. Voytek Kurtyka and Robert Schauer walked away with the West Face of Gasherbrum IV shortly after Nil Bohigas and Enric Lucas flashed a new route on the South Face of Annapurna.

Meanwhile, American teams are groveling in the Himalaya despite technological, financial, and manpower advantages. They suck down thousands of dollars of oxygen, hire Sherpas to carry their loads, then fix ropes, camps, and gear to within easy reach of the summit. Occasionally someone stands on top.

Until 1987, the closest Americans had come to doing an 8000-meter peak in alpine style was the Unsoeld-Hornbein traverse of Everest in 1963. Last September, Steve Untch (USA) partnered Alan Hinkes (GB) on a new alpine style route on Shishapangma. Score one for Old Glory!

European climbers are not superhuman. But their Himalayan successes directly reflect their immense skill and dedication to training, easily available sponsorship, and a sort of social Darwinism in choice of team members. Europeans are fairly nationalistic about Himalayan summits; they want the flag on top, and send the country's finest to place it there. Neither are they averse to heroes or leaders, for they understand that all climbers are not created equal. Not all deserve the chance, and the heartless, dedicated athletes are the ones that succeed.

Rarely is an American expedition comprised of the nation's best climbers. American expeditions get nowhere because democracy is useless in the harsh environment of the Himalaya. Besides that, Americans are used to being "given a chance" even when they're a liability. What is needed for success is a leader and a few crack troops, not a group of inexperienced friends arguing and voting over

how much gas to cache at Camp 3 or whether the line is too dangerous.

These petty conflagrations erupt from the fact that the *climbing* is not the most important thing to team players. Trivial social conflicts prevent successful expeditions all too often. The French do well because they are willing to give up everything for the *climbing*. But in American camps, leaders fear the tread of assistant leaders, and both worry over whether their thunder will be usurped by the louder clap of the climber who stands on the summit with a video camera.

Let's face it, Americans have an inferiority complex when it comes to Himalayan mountaineering. We content ourselves with lower summits (justifying them by saying that they are more technically difficult), and with the known qualities of expedition style climbing on known routes to well-trodden summits. Standards have not been pushed by an American team since the Lowes, Kennedy, and Donini attempted Latok in 1978. Although Jeff Lowe's unfinished route on the South Face of Nuptse offers a glimpse into the future, for the most part we are wasting money, effort, and time.

Closer to home, the only significant advances in North American alpine climbing are being made by the Canadians. In the last three years new routes have been put up the North Faces of North Twin and Temple. Both the East Face of Mt. Chephren and the Northeast Face of Howse Peak were climbed by new routes in the winter. Either Barry Blanchard or Ward Robinson has been a player on every one of these climbs.

The Canadian Rockies are the only arena on this continent where we can train to compete on an international level. But I rarely see fellow countrymen there. Even in winter, when the stones are frozen silent and the waterfalls are thick, few American climbers come north. When they do, most just make bigger craters in the trade routes. This is sad, because waterfalls are one area where we are ahead of the Europeans. The hardest waterfalls on the planet are in North America, and we have a twenty year history of curved picks, front points, and vertical ice. Each winter the envelope is stretched. A few are pushing the extreme while the Europeans are flying paragliders, riding monoskis, or enchainning routes of moderate difficulty.

The deficiencies of European waterfall climbers are glaring. For example, at the Cirque de Gavarnie — France's premier waterfall site — only two of the area's fifteen routes would merit a Canadian Grade VI: *Thanatos* and *Overdose*. The latter qualifies only because of its length. *Fluid Glaciale* and *Adrenaline* are given ED and ED+ grades, the top of the French system. I soloed both and would apply grades IV and V- if they were in Canada. *Adrenaline* is similar in length and ambience to *Bourgeau-Lefthand*.

During the Premieres Journees de Glace meet at Gavarnie in February 1987, fewer than ten of the 70 competitors could competently lead Grade VI ice. At the same time in Canada, however, Jeff Marshall was creating *Riptide*

(VI+, 200m), a five pitch, bolt-protected horror. Kevin Doyle and Tim Friesen's *Gimme Shelter* (VI+, 350m) went unformed and unrepeatable. *The Terminator* was heralded as the world's first Grade VII (after four ascents the consensus is VI+), and the classic VI's were being gang-soloed into submission. Guy LaCelle did *Polar Circus* (VI, 600m) in 2 1/2 hours. Jeff Marshall soloed *Polar Circus* and *Weeping Pillar* (VI, 280m) in one day. I brought the Euro-flavor home by soloing *Slipstream* (VI, 950m) in two hours and four minutes.

February 1988 saw another advance in standards when Randy Rackliff and I established *The Reality Bath* (VII, 600m). It is certainly the most sustained and dangerous waterfall route in the Rockies. Time marches on.

When I speak of competing with others in the mountains, I'm sure it disgusts some of you. Many will say it is contrary to the mountaineering spirit. I can't agree, nor will I argue. Whether it's right or wrong, it happens, and competition is the only way to force the standards even higher.

Another concept being elaborated on by the traditionalists is that of risk. This in the wake of K2 in 1986 and the numerous tragedies of 1987. The safety margins of today can't be compared with those of twenty years ago, or even ten. To succeed on modern desperates, food and fuel must be pared to a minimum; carrying insufficient gear is normal practice. The climbs of the new age are yesterday's death routes.

Alpine climbers die — it's part of the game. However, we are certainly not shooting with the same dice our predecessors were. The equation is simple; as technological and psychological advances increase, the danger and difficulty of the routes must be raised as well to maintain a certain level of human experience. We cannot be satisfied by repeating what others have done. The risks young alpine climbers take today are justifiable if we're ever to make the artistic statements of the age.

In conclusion, American standards on both rock and ice are rising, but young climbers are not being given a chance to perform in the Himalaya. The alpine climbers of the 1960's and 1970's have failed in their duty to help perpetuate this group. By not growing out of traditional practices, and by opposing new methods and styles, they've made Himalayan climbing a gross endeavor, singularly unappealing to what few aspiring alpinists there are in this country. It looks like a dead end in terms of sponsorship and modern artistic expression. Rock climbing and windsurfing are more attractive to young climbers today.

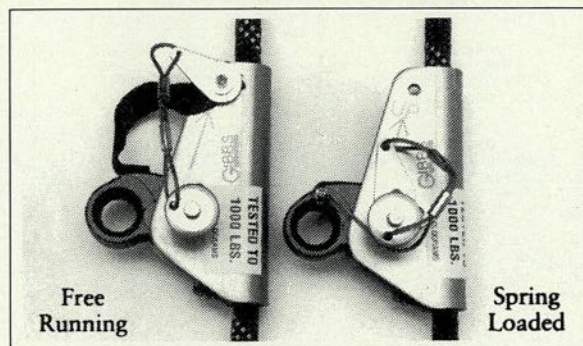
Although I have been most fortunate to have the support of the American Alpine Club, Brenco Enterprises, John Bouchard and Wild Things, and Jeff Lowe, this is an isolated case. Until sponsorship becomes more common in this country, and young alpinists are given a chance, our success rate on modern Himalayan routes will remain at zero, and America's alpinists will remain the laughing stock of world mountaineering.

—Marc Twight

Twight (26), who started climbing in 1980, has concentrated mainly on hard mountain routes. Besides several seasons of difficult Alpine climbing, he has visited Nepal twice to attempt the Southeast Spur of Nuptse (Climbing no. 98, 105).

Currently, Twight is attempting the 4000-meter Rupal Face of Nanga Parbat ("...in alpine style, with no fixed ropes, camps, or attitudes") with Canadians Barry Blanchard, Kevin Doyle, and Ward Robinson.

When Your Life is on the Line Gibbs Ascenders



Gibbs Ascenders work even if your rope is icy or muddy. The smooth toothed cam won't damage your rope. Ascenders are available with ultimate breaking strengths from 2550 to 7000 lbs. Available with no cast parts. Ascenders with cast parts are individually pull tested. Sizes for ropes up to 1/2" (11mm) and 3/4" (19mm).

Write for Free Brochure

GIBBS PRODUCTS

202 Hampton Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

AD-AD-ADJUST YOUR VERTICAL HOLD!



**RICKY ROCK RAT
ALIAS**

RIC HEADWALL

MOUNTAIN HIGH LTD. climbs

PRESENTS ITS STATE OF THE ART, HIGH TECH GEAR FOR ALL YOU "\$ PEOPLE":

ONE SPORT FRENZY... \$170⁰⁰

EDELRID DYNALOK (11 MM. X 165 FT. DRY)..... \$135⁰⁰

WILD COUNTRY HIGH WIRE CHALK BAG..... \$12⁰⁰

KAMET FLASH..... \$90⁰⁰

1-800-255-3187

MON. - THURS., 6:00-10:00 PM

MOUNTAIN HIGH LTD

436 NORTH WARNER

RIDGECREST, CALIFORNIA 93555

SUPPLIERS

Arkansas

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

Arizona

Alpine Ski & Sports
3320 East Roser Rd.
Phoenix, Az. 83040
602-268-2942

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

Desert Mountain Sports
4506 16th St.
Phoenix, Az. 85016
602-265-4401

Peak One Ski & Sport, Ltd.
10300 N. Scottsdale
Scottsdale, Az. 85253
602-991-1662

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

Summit Hut
4044 E. Speedway
Tucson, Az. 85712
602-325-1554

The Edge
106 N. San Francisco St.
Flagstaff, Az. 86001
602-774-1296

California

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

Adventure 16
1870 Harbor Blvd.
Costa Mesa, Ca. 92627
714-650-3301

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

Adventure 16
143 South Cedros
Solana Beach, Ca. 92075
619-755-7662

Adventure 16
5425 Reseda Blvd.
Tarzana, Ca. 91356
818-345-4266

Adventure 16
Sports Deck/Horton Plaza
San Diego, Ca. 92101
619-234-1751

Alpenglow Sports
415 North Lake Blvd.
Tahoe City, Ca. 95730
916-583-6917

Far West Mountaineering Co.
357 N. Newport Blvd.
Newport Beach, Ca. 92663
714-631-1660

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

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

Great Pacific Patagonia
770 North Point
San Francisco, Ca. 94109
415-771-2050

Gregory Mountain Sports
110 S. El Camino Real
Encinitas, Ca. 92024
619-436-1630

Gregory Mountain Sports
1074 W. Valley Pkwy.
Escondido, Ca. 92025
619-746-5589

High Adventure Sports
Yates Gear Inc.
1600 E. Cypress
Suite 8
Redding, Ca. 96002
916-222-4606

Huebner Sports
1021 E. Herndon Avenue
Fresno, Ca. 93710
209-432-0555

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

Merced Bike & Mountain
237 W. Main St.
Merced, Ca. 95340
209-722-7301

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

Mountain High Recreation
2801-B East Guasti Rd.
Ontario, Ca. 91743
714-986-7999

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

Nomad Ventures
2636 Vista Pacific Drive
Oceanside, Ca. 92056
619-724-0533

Nomad Ventures
54415 North Circle Drive
Idyllwild, Ca. 92349
714-659-4853

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

Sonoma Outfitters
1702 - 4th St.
Santa Rosa, Ca. 95404
707-528-1920

Sports Country, Ltd.
6422 Magnolia Ave.
Riverside, Ca. 92506
714-683-2200

Sports Country, Ltd.
222 N. G. Street
San Bernardino, Ca. 92401
714-884-1273

Sullivan's Sport Shop
5323 Geary Blvd.
San Francisco, Ca. 94121
415-751-2738

Western Mountaineering
550 S. First Street
San Jose, Ca. 95113
408-298-6300

Western Mountaineering
931 Pacific Avenue
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060
408-429-6300

Colorado

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

Basecamp Mountain Sports
821 Pearl Street
Boulder, Co. 80302
303-443-6770

Chessler Mountaineering Books
26030 Hwy 74
Kittredge, Co. 80457
303-670-0093
800-654-8502

Colorado Wilderness Sports
358 E. Elkhorn
Estes Park, Co. 80517
303-586-6548

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

Madden Factory Store
2400 Central Ave.
Boulder, Co. 80301
303-442-5828

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

Neptune Mountaineering
627 So. Broadway
Boulder, Co. 80303
303-499-8866

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

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

Tattered Cover Book Store
2955 East First Avenue
Denver, Co. 80206
303-322-7727
(In Colorado 1-800-821-2896)

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

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

Vail Mountaineering
500 Lionshead Mall
Vail, Co. 81657
303-476-4223

Connecticut

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

Eastern Mountain Sports
1939 Blackrock Turnpike
Fairfield, Ct. 06430
203-334-7006

Georgia

Blue Ridge Mountain Sports
Lenox Square Mall
Atlanta, Ga. 30326

Charbon's Specialty Sports
850 Hawthorne Avenue
Athens, Ga. 30606
404-548-7225

Charbon's Specialty Sports
1101 Washington St.
Gainesville, Ga. 30501
404-535-0590

Mountain Ventures
3040 North Decatur Rd
Scottsdale, Ga. 30079
299-5254

Rugged Edge
4015 Washington Road
Martinez, Ga. 30907
404-868-8478

Idaho

Elephant's Perch
280 East Ave.
Ketchum, Id. 83340
208-726-3497

Illinois

Erehwon Mountain Outfitters
2585 Waukegan Rd.
Bannockburn, Ill. 60015
312-948-7250

Erehwon Mountain Outfitters
414 N. Orleans
Chicago, Ill. 60610
312-644-4411

Erehwon Mountain Outfitters
9060 Golf Road
Des Plaines, Ill. 60016
312-298-1840

Erehwon Mountain Outfitters
D-119 Woodfield Mall
Schaumburg, Ill. 60194
312-884-6300

Shawnee Trails
222 West Freeman
Carbondale, Ill. 62901
618-529-2313

Massachusetts

Moor & Mountain
One Dundee Park
Andover, Ma. 01810
617-475-3665

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

Michigan

Ann Arbor Bivouac Inc.
330 S. State St.
Ann Arbor, Mi. 48104
313-761-6207

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

The Summit
780 N. New Ballas Rd.
St. Louis, Mo. 63141
314-432-3077

Mississippi

The Outdoor Place
4085 Northview Dr.
Jackson, Ms. 39206
601-982-1025

Montana

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

Rocky Mountain Outfitter
135 Main Street
Kalispell, Mont. 59901
406-752-2446

Nevada

Ken's Mountaineering
155 N. Edison Way #1
Reno, Nv. 89502
702-786-4824

Summit Arts
101 S. Rainbow #11
Las Vegas, Nv. 89128
702-258-8414

New Hampshire

All Outdoors
195 Elm St.
Manchester, N.H. 03101
603-624-1468

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

Ragged Mountain Equipment
Rt. 16-302 P.O. Box 206
Intervale, N.H. 03845
603-356-3042

New Jersey

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

Eastern Mountain Sports
117 Riverside Sq. Mall
Hackensack, N.J. 07601
201-488-3315

Eastern Mountain Sports
2401 Rte. 22 West
Union, N.J. 07083
201-688-0404

Ramsey Outdoor
226 Route 17
Paramus, N.J. 07652
201-261-5000

The Nickel

830 State Rd.
Princeton, N.J. 08540

New Mexico

Sandia Mountain Outfitters
1406 Eubank NE
Albuquerque, N.M. 87112
505-293-9725

New York

ABC Sport Shop
185 Norris Dr.
Rochester, N.Y. 14610
716-271-4550

Henry's Sport Center
1901 State St.
Schenectady, N.Y. 12304
518-346-7273

Nippenose
4505 E. Genesee St.
DeWitt, N.Y. 12314

Rock and Snow, Inc.
44 Main Street
New Paltz, N.Y. 12561
914-255-1311

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

North Carolina

Alanby — Outfitting for the Outdoors
South Park Mall & Eastland Mall
Charlotte, NC
704-364-7311 & 704-568-8048

Appalachian Mountain Sports
Hwy. 105 So.
Boone, N.C. 28607
704-264-3170

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

Diamond Brand
Camping Center
Hwy. 25
Naples, N.C. 28760
704-684-6262

Great Outdoor Provision Co.
4271 B Park Rd. Shopping Center
Charlotte, N.C. 28209
919-834-2916

Great Outdoor Provision Co.
2023 Cameron St.
Cameron Village Shopping Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27605
919-833-1741

Looking Glass Outfitters
33 New Hendersonville Hwy.
At the entrance to
Pisgah Nat'l Forest
Pisgah Forest, N.C. 28768
704-884-5854

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

Outpost
4933 Bragg Boulevard
Fayetteville, N.C. 28303
919-868-1041

Southern Outdoor Sports, Ltd.
3114 Hillsborough Street
Raleigh, N.C. 27607
919-821-1120

Wild Bill's
1210 Ridge Rd.
Ridgewood Shopping Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27607
919-828-3022

Ohio
Midwest Mountain Sports
P.O. Box 87
Worthington, Ohio 43085
614-889-7740

Midwest Mountain Sports
235 Xenia Ave.
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387
513-767-1859

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

Oregon
Independence Mountaineering
215 S. Main
Independence, Or. 97351
503-838-6575

Juniper Junction
Smith Rock State Park
9297 N.E. Crooked River Dr.
Terrebonne, Or. 97760
503-548-4786

McKenzie Outfitters
771 Williamette St.
Eugene, Or. 97401
503-485-5946

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

The Outer Limits
100 S.W. Lewis Ave.
Grants Pass, Or. 97527
503-474-2278

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

Appalachian Trail Outfitters
Main St. & Oakland Ave.
Doylestown, Pa. 18901
215-348-8069

Base Camp
723 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106
215-592-7956

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

J.E. Weinel, Inc.
P.O. Box 213
Valencia, Pa. 16069
800-346-7673 (out of state)
412-898-2335 (PA)

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

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

Texas
Mountain Hideout
14010 Coit Rd.
Dallas, Tx. 75240
214-234-8651

Mountain Sports
2025 W. Pioneer Parkway
Arlington, Tx. 76013
817-461-4503

Utah
Cheap Sports
3276 Highland Dr.
Salt Lake City, Ut. 84106
801-466-2226

Hansen Mountaineering, Inc.
757 North State Street
Orem, Ut. 84057
801-226-7498

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

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

Virginia
Alpine Outfitters
11010 Midlothian Tpk
Richmond, Va. 23235
804-794-4172

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

Blue Ridge Outdoors
211 Draper Road
Blacksburg, Va. 24060
703-552-9012

Class V Outfitters Ltd.
593 Frost Ave.
Warrenton, Va. 22186
703-347-5402

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

Wilderness Voyagers
188 S. Mason
Harrisonburg, Va. 22801
804-434-7234

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

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

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

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

McHale and Co.
Backpacks
3401 — 17th Avenue West
Seattle, Wa. 98119
206-281-7861

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

Olympic Outfitters, Ltd.
117 N. Washington
Olympic, Wa. 98501
206-943-1114

West Virginia
The Gendarme
Behind Buck Harper's Store
Seneca Rocks, W.V. 26884
304-567-2600

Wisconsin
Adventures Unlimited, Inc.
14165 West Capitol Dr.
Brookfield, Wi. 53005
414-781-8892

Erehwon Mountain Supply
341 State St.
Madison, Wi. 53703
608-251-9059

Life Sport
4917 — 7th Ave.
Kenosha, Wi. 53140
414-654-3351

Wyoming
Bighorn Mountain Sports
334 N. Main
Sheridan, WY. 82801
307-672-6866

Bradley Mountain Wear
213 S. 1st
Laramie, WY. 82070
307-742-9490

Crack & Crevice
500 Or St.
#7 Southview Plaza
Gillette, WY. 82716
307-682-5573

Great Outdoor Shop
332 West Pine Street
Pinedale, WY. 82941
307-367-2440

Hunt's Mountain Sports
163 Main Street
Lander, WY. 82520
307-332-6616

Nitro's Mountain Sports
543 S. Center
Casper, WY. 82606
307-266-1136

Sunlight Sports
1323 Sheridan
Cody, WY. 82414
307-598-0518

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

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

Australia
Eastern Mountain Centre
401 Riversdale Rd.
Camberwell Junction, 3123
Victoria, Australia
(03) 8827229

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

Mountain Equipment
Pty. Ltd.
291 Sussex St. Sydney,
N.S.W. 2000
Australia
02-264-3146

Paddy Pallin
507 Kent St.
Sydney, New South Wales 2000
Australia
(02) 264-2685

Paddy Pallin
11 Lonsdale St., Braddon
Canberra, ACT 2600
Australia
(062) 573-883

Paddy Pallin
360 Little Bourke St.
Melbourne, Victoria 3000
Australia
(03) 670-4845

Canada
Adventure Guide Inc.
258 King St. North
Waterloo, Ontario
Canada N2J 2Y9
519-886-3121

Blacks Camping International
901 Bank St.
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1S 3W5
613-234-2964

Blacks Camping International
16 Carlton St.
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5B 1J2
416-597-0488

Blacks Camping International
3525 Queen Mary Rd.
Montreal, Quebec
Canada H3V 1H9
514-739-4451

Canadian Mountain Supplies
109 Thomas St.
Oakville, Ontario
Canada L6J 5V6
416-845-4900

Carleton Recreational Equipment
3201 Kingsway
Vancouver, Canada V5R 5K3
438-6371

Hiker's Haven Ltd.
268 Kerr Street
Oakville, Ontario
Canada L6K 3B2
416-842-3091

Island Alpine Equipment Ltd.
1231 Broad Street
Victoria, B.C.
Canada V8W 2A4
382-5222

Island Alpine Equipment (P.G.) Ltd.
316 Victoria St.
Prince George, B.C.
Canada V2L 4X4
604-562-8445

La Cordee
2159 East, Ste-Catherine
Montreal, Quebec
Canada H2K 2H9
514-524-1106

Mountain Equipment Co-op
112 — 11th Ave. S.E.
Calgary, Alta
Canada M4Y 2B2
403-269-2420

Mountain Equipment Co-op
35 Front Street East
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5E 1B3
416-363-0122

Mountain Equipment Co-op
428 West 8th Ave.
Vancouver, B.C.
Canada V5Y 1N9
604-872-8247

Adventure Center
10460 — 82 Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T6E 2A2
403-439-6019

Spirit West Corporation
822-11th Ave. S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2R 0E5
403-262-0040

The Hostel Shop
1414 Kensington Rd. NW
Calgary, Alta
Canada T2N 3P9

The Wildboys Sports
2020 — 4 St. SW
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2S 1W5
403-244-1969

Norway
Skandinavisk Høyfjellsutstyr A/S
Scandinavian
Mountaineering Equipment
N-3560 Hemsedal, Norway
067/78177

Skandinavisk Høyfjellsutstyr A/S
Scandinavian
Mountaineering Equipment
Bogstadveien 3
N-0355, Oslo 3, Norway
(02) 46 90 75

Hong Kong
Grade VI Alpine Equipment
and Services
172 Tung Lo Wan Road
Mezz Floor, Causeway Bay
Hong Kong Tel: 5-669313,
5-669331 Telex: 71947
Fax: 852-5-8068287

Hong Kong Mountaineering
Training Centre
1-F, Flat B, On Yip Bldg.
395-7 Shanghai Street
Monkok Kowloon Hong Kong
Tel: 3-848190
Telex: 33552 MTCTTR HX

South America
Montana Adventure Tours
Climbing Guides
Apartado 645
Merida, Venezuela
(074) 63.17.40

Check This Listing For A Shop Near You

For information
about having
your shop listed
in our
Supplier Section,
please contact:

Joye Cole
CLIMBING,
Box E,
Aspen, Co. 81612.
303-920-3802.



MOUNTAINEERING OUTFITTERS

62 North Main, P.O. Box F,
Driggs, Idaho 83422

(Cultural Hub of the Rockies)

Featuring:

- Chouinard® Climbing Gear
- A Huge Supply of Patagonia seconds (everything at least 30% off retail)

(208) 354-2222

"On the West Slope of the
Tetons, just 45 minutes west of
Jackson"

MOVING?

Please allow
ten weeks for your
change of address
to take effect.

For best service,
please send your
new address, along
with the mailing label
from your most
recent issue, to:

CLIMBING
P.O. Box E
Aspen, CO 81812

CLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIED RATES: \$.50 per word, \$5.00 minimum, prepaid.
CLIMBING, Post Office Box E, Aspen, Colorado 81612.

FIRE RESOLES with original Fire/Boreal rubber. Full sole, \$35, including return shipping; add \$7.50 for rand repair. Quality service! **SOLE SURVIVOR CORP.**, 4183 Southbank Rd., Oxnard, CA 93030. (805) 983-6245.

IN SEARCH OF PEAK PERFORMANCE? How about a personalized training program, training manual, and phone consultation with a professional trainer of climbers. For information send SASE to: **Peak Performance USA**, 1568 Linden Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601.

MOUNT ARARAT: Climb one of the most impressive volcanoes in the world; look for Noah's Ark. **TREK TRAVEL** specializes in treks and expeditions to Mt. Ararat and other mountain regions of Turkey. Recommended by guidebooks and mountaineering magazines. For brochure and Ararat poster write to: **Aydede Caddesi 10, Taksim 80090 Istanbul, Turkey.** Phone: 90-1-1551624. Telex: 25205.

COLORADO SKI TOURING GUIDE. Colorado High Routes by Lou Dawson covers the best ski touring routes in the central Colorado Rockies. Available from your local mountain shop or **The Mountaineers Books**, 306 2nd Ave. W., Seattle, WA 98119.

UNIQUE mountain experience — all seasons mountaineering guides specializing in the Great Pacific Northwest. Brief or extended adventures tailored to individual requirements. Licensed, insured. **Compass North, Jim Siler & Ken Cornia**, 3518 Rocky Point Road, Bremerton, WA 98312. (206) 479-9504.

ALASKA SUMMER EMPLOYMENT — Fisheries. Earn \$600+/week in cannery, \$8,000-\$12,000+ for two months on fishing vessel. Over 8000 openings. No experience necessary. **MALE or FEMALE.** For 52-page employment booklet, send \$6.95 to **M&L Research**, Box 84008-CC, Seattle, WA 98124. 30 day, unconditional, 100% money back guarantee.

ANTOINE SAVELLI (UIAGM certified high mountain guide) is offering this spring/summer/fall in the San Juans of Telluride; **ASPIRING GUIDES COURSE** towards UIAGM, **CANYONLANDS HIGHLIGHTS**, **EXTREME SKIING**, our popular **ROCK and ALPINE** courses. In Canada: **THE BUGABOO SPIRES** and the magical **LOTUS FLOWER TOWER**. Expeditions to South America: **HUASCARAN, ALPAMAYO, ACONCAGUA '89, FITZROY.** Our special: "VERTIGO ADVENTURE TOURS" this fall. For free brochures write to **Antoine Savelli**, P.O. Box 952, Telluride, CO 81435. (303) 728-3705.

ROCK SHOE RESOLE: 5.10 Regular or **STEALTH** \$25. Mega or Spanish sole \$31. Rands extra. Sole only, 3-4 days shop time, \$2.50 return shipping. Tele boots or hiking boots \$45-\$55, \$3.50 return shipping. Quality guaranteed. Free 4 oz. **Terre Nugget** chalk sample w/repair. **THE VILLAGE COBBLER**, 29 East Main, P.O. Box 68, Belgrade, MT 59714. (406) 388-7653.

CLIMBING & TREKKING IN VENEZUELA. Let us show you the Venezuelan Andes and Amazon Territory. Rock & ice climbing, trekking, jungle expeditions. Personalized, friendly American service. For details, write **MONTANA ADVENTURE TOURS**, Apartado 645, Merida, Venezuela. (074) 63.17.40.

VERTICAL ADVENTURES offers year-round climbing instruction and guided tours from California's top professional guides. Rock climbing courses held November through April at Joshua Tree, May through October at Idyllwild. Summer 1988: Rock climbing tours of Great Britain and France, plus our fabulous mountaineering trips to Chamonix/Zermatt, featuring ascents of Mt. Blanc and the Matterhorn. Guides include: Peter Croft, Bob Gaines, John Long, Mike Paul, Scott Cosgrove, Dave Cuthbertson (European Director). Free brochure: 511 S. Catalina Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277, 213-540-6517.

LET'S GO CLIMBING. Michael Covington and Fantasy Ridge are now taking reservations for rock climbing instruction and guiding in the San Juan Mountains of SW Colorado. Hourly, daily, and seminar rates are available for the novice to expert May-October. Please write **Fantasy Ridge**, P.O. Box 1679, Telluride, CO 81435 or call (303) 728-3546.

TENNESSEE SANDSTONE! Heart of Stone: A Guide to Climbing on the Cumberland Plateau — \$7.50 postpaid. **Eddie Whittemore**, 370-B Sam Donald Rd., Nolensville, TN 37135.

WILDERNESS OUTFITTERS offering custom expeditions in the mountains. Day hikes, overnight backpacking adventures, mountain treks, technical rock climbing instruction. Providing all gear and fine foods to have an exciting outdoor experience. **MOUNTAIN GUIDE SERVICE**, RR1, Box 1090, Farmington, ME 04938. (207) 778-6746.

FOR SALE: USED TWICE — Boulder Design Gore-Tex sleeping bag w/VBL liner, \$275; Phoenix Photon Extreme Gore-Tex tent, \$275; **BRAND NEW** — Summit Research parka w/hood, size med., \$175; Buzzard bibs, size med., \$130 & lots more. Call (203) 372-5009 and ask for Geno.

KILIMANJARO, MT. KENYA, RUWENZORI. Climb & Explore with East Africa's leading experts. **Andrew Wielochowski**, Executive Wilderness Programmes, 32 Seamill Park Circle, Worthing, BN11 2PN, England.

CLIMBING GUIDEBOOKS. Are you looking for hard-to-find guidebooks? Send for free list of guidebooks to major, minor and the obscure areas of the U.S. Out-of-print guides also listed. **BUYING ALL** out-of-print guides, **NO ONE PAYS MORE!** **Randy Vogel**, P.O. Box 4554, Laguna Beach, CA 92652.

DYNAMIC AND STATIC ROPES. Harnesses by Petzl, Forrest and Weinell. SMC hardware. Climbing, caving and rescue equipment. We have it all. Write today for a free 112 page catalog. **J.E. Weinell, Inc.**, P.O. Box 213CM, Valencia, PA 16059.

SMITH ROCK CLIMBING SCHOOL. Climb at America's Euro-crag. Smith Rock has become known as the best climbing area in the United States, sporting America's only 5.14. You don't have to be a hard man to climb here, though. There are many easier moderate routes. Come climb with us in this world-class area. Courses and climbs, from beginning through advanced, are offered daily, March through June and mid-September through mid-November. Send for free brochure. Smith Rock Climbing School, P.O. Box 464, Terrebonne, OR 97760, 503-548-1888.

ADIRONDACK ALPINE ADVENTURES. Instruction and guiding for rock climbing, ice climbing, and backcountry skiing. Send for a free Catalog of Courses describing our extensive offerings. Dept. 211, P.O. Box 179, Keene, NY 12942. (518) 576-9881.

BRITISH ROCK CLIMBING TOUR: 5.4 to 5.12 we show you the best routes at your standard on Britain's outstanding sea cliffs, gritstone, and mountain crags. Also Mt. Blanc, Mt. Rosa, Matterhorn. **ALPINE ADVENTURES** c/o AEI, 22622 39th Ave. E., Spanaway, WA 98387. (206) 847-8375.

STOP LOOKING! 1000+ current books, maps, videos: climbing, backpacking, skiing, caving, trekking, kayaking, canoeing, rafting, bicycling, third-world travel. How-to's, where-to's, first person accounts, biographies. Free catalogue. Backcountry Bookstore, Box 191-3, Snohomish, WA 98290.

MEXICO VOLCANOES: Shatter your altitude record! 3rd, 5th, 7th highest in North America (17,400ft., 17,700ft., 18,800ft.). Moderate difficulty, foreign culture, and fun. Economically, this is the year... join us! **COLORADO MOUNTAIN SCHOOL**, Box 206C, Estes Park, CO 80517. (303) 586-5758.

GUIDES WANTED: Experienced mountain guides with expedition, rock and youth development experience. Colorado Mountain School, Box 2062C, Estes Park, CO 80517. (303) 586-5758

COLORADO MOUNTAIN SCHOOL: Seven day Rock Camps. Expedition Training Camp. Beginning-advanced rock, snow classes daily. Leading course, technical climbs. Plus: expeditions — Mexico, South America, Alaska, Africa, China's Shishapangma (8061 meters). Box 2062C, Estes Park, CO 80517. (303) 586-5758.

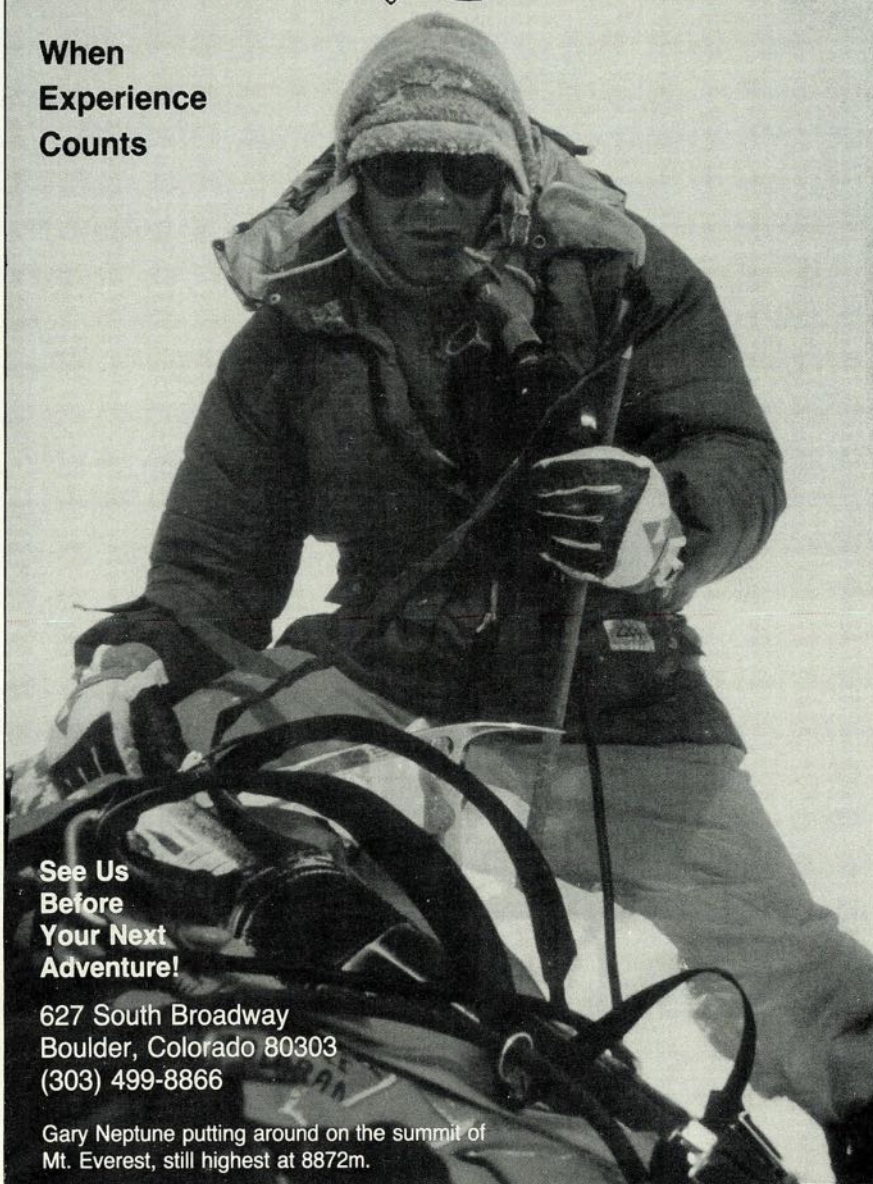
I (HEART) EXPOSURE light-weight cotton T-shirts. Only \$10 each, ship free to USA. CA residents add \$.65 tax. Send check to **SAVAGE DESIGNS**, P.O. Box 1092, Arleta, CA 91331.

ANTARCTICA: Climbs on Mt. Vinson, Skiing Expeditions to the South Pole, and other expeditions to the "Last Frontier." **ADVENTURE NETWORK INTERNATIONAL.** 200 — 1676 Duranleau Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6H 3S5. (604) 683-8033.

AQUARIUS ADVENTURES offers year round climbing instruction in sunny Southern California and surrounding areas. The High Adventure Ropes Course, Outdoor Based Management Trainings for Executives and Intact groups, and private guided rock and alpine guiding. For brochures and info contact: Bart Berry, **AQUARIUS ADVENTURES**, P.O. Box 1189, Del Mar, CA 92014. (619) 755-6918.

Neptune Mountaineering

**When
Experience
Counts**



**See Us
Before
Your Next
Adventure!**

627 South Broadway
Boulder, Colorado 80303
(303) 499-8866

Gary Neptune putting around on the summit of Mt. Everest, still highest at 8872m.

PROFESSIONAL BOOT RESOLING: Guaranteed no delamination, any technical climbing shoes, use the new Five-Tennie rubber, \$30 plus \$2 return shipping. **SINGER BOOT & RESOLE**, 777 Bernard Way, San Bernardino, CA 92404. (714) 883-0808.

CLIMBING GUIDE to the Delaware Water Gap. \$10 from Michael Steele, Box 425, Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327.

EL CAPITAN VIDEOCASSETTES. "...The best climbing film I've ever seen" - Yvon Chouinard. "...EL CAPITAN is without peer in poetic beauty" - Royal Robbins. VHS, Beta, or 16mm film. Film rental includes FREE video cassette. To order, or for more information, phone: (415) 388-3649 or write: **EL CAPITAN**, 47 Shell Road, Mill Valley, CA 94941.

EXPEDITIONS. Michael Covington and Fantasy Ridge are now accepting reservations to Peru in July, 1988 and Aconcagua in January, 1989. For details, please write Fantasy Ridge, P.O. Box 1679, Telluride, CO 81435 or call (303) 728-3546.

FINEST HANDCRAFTED PACKS available. Light, form-fitting and functional. Moves with you like no other. **EDKO**, P.O. Box 13743, Boulder, CO 80308. (303) 440-0446.

ETHO MANIA. Japanese Powdered Chalk + Individually Selected pigments. Gray — lt., med., dk., brown, red, gold, tan, orange, black, taupe. 2 oz. bags \$1.65, 1 lb. resealable bags \$9.00 postage paid. **North American Mountaineering**, P.O. Box 7404, Boulder, CO 80306. (303) 443-5546.

Expedition Intrigue

We care. Do you?

Every climber who has even dreamed of an expedition to China, Nepal or Pakistan knows that permission is necessary. And most of you know that individual climbers approach these governments directly. No permission, no trip. But what most of you *don't know* is that in Western Europe there is a large and growing commercial guide business that takes clients even on the eight-thousanders. Therefore, if some of these services could control the permission process, they would stand to benefit greatly.

Now for the intrigue. The American Alpine Club noted with interest the formation of an Expeditions Commission by the Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme (UIAA). Since the AAC participates as a voting member at the highest UIAA levels, it is entitled to representation on the various commissions. The AAC's suspicions were aroused when it was learned that the Expeditions Commission was to meet on the issue of permissions. Wasting no time, the AAC arranged for Dr. James Morrissey, one of its most experienced expedition leaders and longtime member of the Board of Directors, to attend the meeting in Chamonix.

Dr. Morrissey was not surprised that the meeting was heavily attended by major European guide services. It was proposed, of course, that the UIAA take control of the "permission process." As this might not exactly benefit the interests of American climbers, Dr. Morrissey very vigorously opposed the move and was instrumental in defeating it—for now.

This is just another example of what The American Alpine Club has done for you lately.

Jim McCarthy
President

THE AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB

Your concerns are our concerns

AMAZING STUNTS, DRAMA, ACTION! See the New Release from the makers of *ON THE ROCKS* - a Big Wall adventure on El Capitan. Also available — *"ON THE ROCKS,"* winner of 16 international awards. Routes include: Grand Illusion, Sphinx Crack, Phoenix, Genesis, Equinox, with: John Gill, Tony Yairo, Warren Harding, Jerry Moffatt, and more. "Best film about climbing I've ever seen," — Michael Kennedy, *CLIMBING*. Contact: OTR, Box 93974, Los Angeles, CA 90093. (213) 466-4921.

Guided ascents and instruction in the Front Range and Canyonlands. Carp Mountaineering Inc., School of Climbing Arts, 1404 Hawthorn, Boulder, CO 80302. (303) 443-3910.

TELLURIDE HOT ROCK & BEST ICE: by Antoine Savelli. \$6 including postage. P.O. Box 952, Telluride, CO 81435. (303) 728-3705.

SOUTHERN GUIDEBOOKS: Climbers Guide to North Carolina, \$19.95, Seneca Rocks, \$8.50, Mid-South Guide, \$8. Add \$1 shipping, NC residents add 5%. Earthbound, P.O. Box 3445, Chapel Hill, NC 27515.

MOUNT KENYA MAP. Topographical 1:50,000 (A1). Peak area and road layout insets. Mountaineers guide and general information on reverse. Available from A. Wielochowski, 32 Seamil Park Circle, Worthing, BN11 2PN, England. 1 copy \$11 inc. p&p.

BASIC ROCKCLIMBING VIDEO. Learn the fundamentals with one of America's best-known rock climbers, JOHN LONG. The **FIRST INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO** based on the **YOSEMITE METHOD**, emphasizing simplicity and safety. Filmed on location in Yosemite. "Basic Rockclimbing has set a standard that will be hard to beat" - *CLIMBING*. "By far the best demonstration of the fundamentals ... all presented in a logical, well-organized manner and at a good pace" - *ROCK & ICE*. Finalist for **BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY** at the International Film and Television Festival of New York. Send check for \$39.00 plus \$2.50 S&H to: **VERTICAL ADVENTURES PRODUCTIONS**, 5000 N. Parkway Calabasas, Suite #105, Calabasas, CA 91302, 818-883-4921, 213-540-6517.

IF YOU WANT TO BOLT: Dakota Bolt Works for your total bolting needs. **NEW:** Dakota holder now comes with swivel attachment point. **DAKOTA BOLTING BAG** — completely organizes your bolting equipment into one bag and has a holster built into the bag for your drill. 1801 Centre St., Rapid City, S.D., 57701, or call before 2:00pm (605) 348-9109.

INTERNATIONAL SPORT ADVENTURES: 8000+ m Ascents (Gasherbrum II, Broad Peak), Classic Ascents, Mountain Bike Expeditions, Volcano Ascents, Parapente, Ski Mountaineering Expeditions, Canyoneering, Mountaineering Instruction in the Alps, etc. **THE ADVENTURERS' CO.**, 1115 Augusta Dr., 31, Houston, TX 77057. (713) 974-0946.

CLIMBING WALLS: Build a self-standing, 8'x12', variable tilt wall. Excellent for beginners and experts. Package includes detailed instructions, total listings of materials needed, and complete illustrations. All you need to know is here. Send \$8.95 by check or money order to: **WALLS BY DESIGN**, P.O. Box 2181, Provo, UT 84603-2181.

STEP UP TO THE FUTURE WITH STEALTH. Rock shoe resoles with 5.10's **NEW STEALTH RUBBER.** Full soles \$35, full soles with rands \$53 plus \$4.50 return shipping and handling. Fire, Sportiva, and Onsite soles also available. **WHEELER & WILSON SPORTS**, 206 N. Main St., Bishop, CA 93514. (619) 873-7520.

WESTERN ALPS — ski mountaineering (April/May), summer mountaineering (July/August). James Finley (UIAGM certified), Poste Restante, 74400 Chamonix, France.

SKI THE FOURTEENERS. New guidebook nearing completion. If you have information on ski descents of Colorado's 14,000' peaks, I'd like to hear from you. Lou Dawson, Box 105, Woody Creek, CO 81656, 303-923-4605.

The art of climbing as a discipline of awareness **EXTREME ROCK COURSE** is open to anyone with a desire to climb 5.10 and beyond. Call or write for information. Carp Mountaineering, Inc., School of Climbing Arts, 1404 Hawthorn, Boulder, CO 80302. (303) 443-3910.

DON'T BE HELD BACK! Improve your climbing with the latest state-of-the-art soles. High quality professional resoles with imported **CHANGO** or 5.10 rubber. Every resole unconditionally guaranteed. Send shoes with check or money order for \$30.00 (return shipping included) to: Tucker Brothers, P.O. Box 170, Yucca Valley, CA 92286.

CLIMB HIGH^{INC.}



The Climb High label guarantees that you are getting quality gear that will do the job. Our equipment is carefully stitched with the best materials and thoroughly tested for safety and durability. Use it with confidence. Get it from your local mountain shop.

Ask at your local mountain shop or contact: CLIMB HIGH INC., P.O. Box 9210C, S. Burlington, Vt. 05403.



boreal

The Sole of Climbing

