

An incident occurred the next morning which would have had most serious consequences had I not been wearing a hard hat. With Eric in the lead, a large rock quite unnoticeably wedged under a bush came loose and fell about 70 feet landing squarely on my head. Both straps of the hard hat broke, and the hat itself was cracked. It is fortunate that the rock landed squarely on my head, for a rescue in this inaccessible spot forced by a broken arm or shoulder would have been on a scale of no other ever undertaken in Washington.

Some 500 feet above our bivouac we came to giant steps and towers in the rib. We passed the first 300-foot tower on the right, and while regaining the notch on the other side encountered an extremely rotten artificial pitch. The next tower was also bypassed on the right by an indistinct ledge system that we had studied from below. Regaining the ridge we ascended the remaining 500 feet, arriving at the summit early in the afternoon. This was the fourth ascent, each being by a new route. We descended to the notch between the Middle and Main Peaks, where we rested and replenished our water supply. Following a bivouac on the north face of the Main Peak, we arrived on the summit the next morning, bringing our adventure to an end.

EDWARD COOPER

*Mount Adams, North Wilson Glacier.* As Dee Molenaar recently pointed out, the broad expanse of the great east face of Mount Adams is so extensive that several new route opportunities still exist. As soon as the road was opened, Herb Staley and I drove to Killen Creek, hiked to timberline, and camped. In the morning we crossed the north ridge and began a long southward traverse of the flanks of the Lava, Lyman, and Wilson Glaciers. It was so hot as we gained the crest of an 8800-foot ridge late in the morning that we feared both avalanches and rockfall danger on a spiked ridge we had first considered as a route possibility above the South Wilson Glacier. From photographs, and from this excellent vantage point, it was evident that there was still one major unclimbed glacier and icefall on this face of the mountain—the North Wilson, which was wedged tightly between lava cliffs on the south and a cleaver between it and the Lyman Glacier on the north. From below we had serious misgivings about our chances of getting through the major ice cascade of the glacier as it plunged steeply between two parallel rock walls at about 10,500 feet. There appeared to be further crevasse problems up to 11,000 feet, then the glacier widened to allow more mobility. Once on the main cascade, however, every ice wall encountered seemed to offer a good route solution. Our crampons bit well as we zigzagged a tedious but steep course

up serac walls, ice bridges, and fragile crests. We did some step chopping, but did not need our ice pitons. Once above the cascade, route finding was the only problem, and several times immense crevasses forced us into long detours. We reached the summit two hours before sunset and immediately set off for a quick descent of the north ridge.

FRED BECKEY

*Mount Adams, East Face.* On the July 4 weekend Mike Swayne and I left to explore this least known face of Mount Adams, stimulated by Dee Molenaar's recent article in *Summit* magazine. Approaching via the Killen Creek trail, we crossed the North Cleaver at 8000 feet and contoured the Lava Glacier to the east side. We were completely taken by surprise by a spectacle of savage ice cliffs and crumbling volcanic walls. To find a route up the face, if there was one, would be quite simple: any route that ascended on the rock amphitheater and reached the summit without being subject to the artillery barrage of the immense overhanging ice cap. The right of the face appeared to have a break in the ice cliffs. We ascended to the ice-capped rock wall and entered the third ice-filled gully to the right. The névé below the rock wall was pitted with rockfall, and we noticed large ice blocks scattered about. Passing the bergschrund to the left, we traversed its very steep upper slope back to the right to the ice-filled gully. Here pitches of -IV (covered with ice) were encountered. I had a close call when a very large rock broke loose and came within a foot of my head after falling some 100 feet. We had a sudden moment of panic when a strong gust of wind brought a shower of ice particles from above, often a warning of impending ice fall. At the top of this rock gully we encountered a long steep névé slope. Approaching the ice cliffs, we saw that, though smaller than elsewhere, they had been above us all the time. We located a fairly wide passage through them to the left. The weather, marginal throughout the climb, created difficulty in locating the route down the North Cleaver, and we arrived at the car fifteen hours after starting. We feel that without the cloud cap which created very cold conditions high on the mountain and shielded the east face from the sun the climb would have been unduly dangerous.

EDWARD COOPER

*Mount Adams, Lava Ridge.* On September 21 John Holland and I ascended the Lava Ridge, which is the cleaver separating the Lava Glacier headwall and the north lobe of the Lyman Glacier. The climb was straight-forward, and conditions were excellent for cramponing. The snow was so hard that even though the slope was only 30-35° where the 2500-foot