

side of the serrated ridge mentioned in Roper's guide. After some pitches, we actually climbed on both sides of the ridge, following the easiest way. We rejoined the Winter Route in the notch at the top of the 17th pitch. We then followed for six more pitches to the top. In July, Bindner and I climbed a right-facing dihedral with a large crack on the east face of The Duck. We then climbed the left-facing dihedrals left of the prow (III, 5.10c). In July, Bindner and I followed a double-crack system on the right side of the east face of The Turret to just above halfway and then went up dihedrals and cracks to the top (III, 5.9). Having encountered some bolts, we believe that the route had been previously climbed but not reported.

PAT BRENNAN

Patterson Bluffs, "The Sun Also Rises." In September, Scott Cosgrove, Jim Zellers and I completed a free ascent of the Sunset Buttress Route, originally rated IV, 5.10, A2 (AAJ, 1986, page 156) on Patterson Bluffs above Balch Camp. The route had not been repeated since its original ascent. This remote 10-pitch route involves 2 pitches of 5.12, 6 of 5.11 and 1 each of 5.10 and 5.8. We climbed three new variation pitches to avoid unfreeable thin aid sections. This beautiful classic route is composed of about half crack- and half face-climbing on a steep slab, often involving airy sections on fine crystal dikes. Most belays are on ledges or stances, but there are three hanging belays. It is well protected with $\frac{3}{8}$ " bolts and incorporates nine fixed rappel stations to reach the bottom of the route from the top. Car access is via dirt road, then a 10-minute hike to the top (start of rappels). An approach to the base would involve a major amount of bushwhacking.

RICHARD LEVERSEE

Utah

Fisher Towers. In recent years, there has been a trend towards very fast repeats in the Fisher Towers. The spring of 1994 was no different and saw second ascents of some of the routes and speed ascents of others. Duane and Lisa Raleigh concentrated on speed records and pulled off some very fast times. In February, they blasted up the standard (*Finger of Fate*) route on the Titan in 6 hours, 10 minutes, probably the fastest time yet on the classic tower. This prompted a speed-climbing binge. The same pair climbed *West Side Story*—the complicated 12-pitch Grade VI on the northwest side of Cottontail Tower—in 8 hours and Jim Beyer's *Phantom Spirit* (IV, A3) on Echo Tower in 4 hours. Both used simul-climbing techniques, where a 200-foot rope is used on a pitch by the leader and then tied off at a belay. While the second cleans the route, the first begins rope soloing the next pitch on the remaining rope. Also, both Beyer routes on the King Fisher have now been repeated. In 1993, Keith Reynolds and Matt Laggis made the second ascent of Jim Beyer's *Jagged Edge* (V, 5.9, A4)

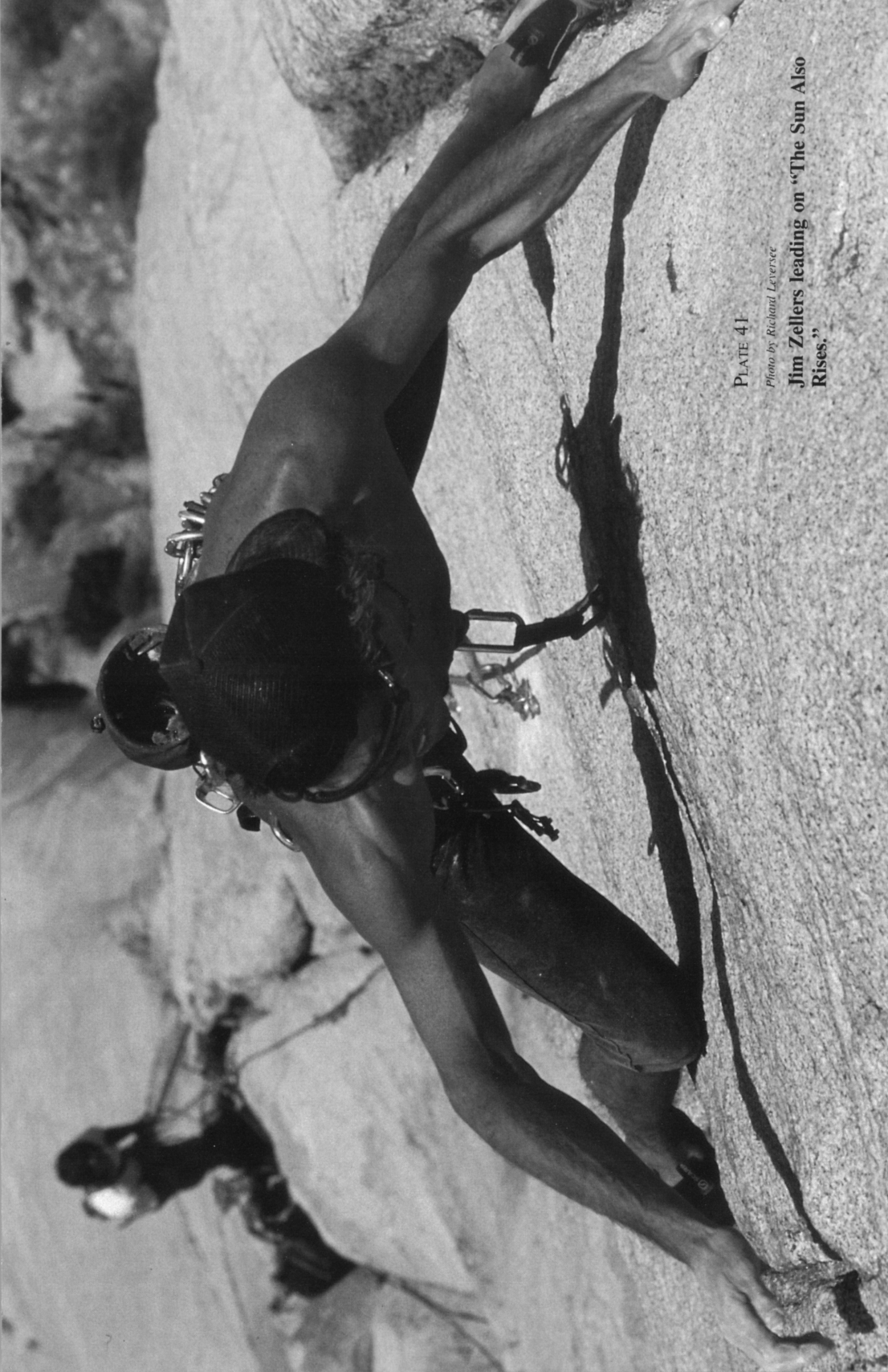


PLATE 41

Photo by Richard Leverage

Jim Zellers leading on "The Sun Also Rises."

on the King Fisher. Also in the spring of 1993, Chris Kalous and Rob Van Aernem made the second ascent of *Death of American Democracy*. They took 6 hours on the first pitch and 2½ days for the whole ascent. "We both thought it was an incredible route," said Kalous, "with so few bolts for the ground covered." Mike Baker, Leslie Henderson and Zach Merritt climbed a major new route on Echo Tower, *Emotional Grafitti*, (V, 5.10, A4). They approached as for the north-chimney route, traversed on a ledge to the west and a two-bolt anchor, ascended a pillar that moves onto the south-face arête and finished on the southwest face via an obvious crack system that took them to the summit.

CAMERON M. BURNS

Fisher Towers. Betsi McKittrick, Jimmy Dunn and Peter Banfield climbed with a top rope *Little Hoodoo* (5.9+), near the Cobra Hoodoo. *The Tapeworm* on the south face of Echo Tower was climbed by Brian Warshaw and Brad Jarrett (5.8, A3, 6 pitches).

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

Moab Area. A relatively new climbing area is known as *Culvert Canyon*. It is located ten miles down the Potash Road (State Highway 313) just beyond the trailhead for Corona Arch. At the right corner of the canyon, up Wingate sandstone walls, are *Finger Food* (5.9) and *El Nacho* (5.9), both climbed by Todd Marder and Millie Birdwell; *Corner* (5.11), *Power Cosmic* (5.11c) and *Round Head Ruckus* (5.9), all three climbed by Tom Gilje and Bob Novellino. Numerous other routes have been established on both the east and west walls. In *Long Canyon*, 14 miles down the Potash Road, Craig Luebben and Lisa Grenard climbed a prominent three-tiered crack corner (5.11) on the south side of the canyon. On the right side of a pillar on the prow of rock on the left side of the entrance to Long Canyon, *Done Loubin* (5.11, 4 pitches) was climbed by Jimmy Dunn and Luebben. This is perhaps the first route in Long Canyon that reaches the rim. *Off* (5.12b) was put up by Luebben and Topfer Donahue. It is on the left side of the pillar on the left wall just inside the canyon. The route climbs Off Fists, then Off Width and finally Off Fingers. On the opposite (north) side of the entrance, 150 yards beyond Jug Handle Arch, *Porcupine Flake* (5.10) was climbed via its left side by Dunn, Luebben, Donahue and Doug McQueen. Further up the canyon on its north wall, Lisa Hathaway and Luebben put up *Blood on the Tracks* (5.12). *The Dragon's Lair* (5.11), up Long Canyon between Nacro Dancer and Nacro Line, was climbed by Luebben and Greg Murphy. Galen Rowell and John Lurtig ascended *Mustang Man* (5.11d-5.12a), a finger crack. This route is 100 yards left of Hot Toddy and Tequila Sunrise. In the Cirque of the Climblables, down *Kain Creek*, Luebben, Dunn and Novellino climbed *Leave Your Purse At Home* (II, 5.11a, OW, 3 Pitches). *Surface Tension* (5.11+, 1 pitch) was climbed by Linus Platt. *Moonlight Spire* (II, 5.9, A2, 3 pitches) was climbed by Steve Anderson and Bill Duncan. This