

Now followed two days of technical climbing in 100-degree heat and 250 feet of gain in three pitches. We had 350 feet to go, but Jeff and Teri had to return home for a Fourth of July family reunion. On July 11, the team returned. Jeff and I ascended the fixed ropes and after three more days and one bivouac 95 feet below the summit, we emerged to the cheers of our base camp team of Teri and Deborah. We had climbed *Bats in the Belfry* (V 5.10 A3), but all we could think of was that cool swimming hole 650 feet below!

This region is Hopi Indian land. Ruins from the mid-1800s line the high valley walls. Visiting and exploring the sites is allowed. Signs of graffiti and vandalism were non-existent—a truly wonderful feeling. What an adventure!

FREDDIE SNALAM, *unaffiliated*

## Zion

*Kolob Canyon, Paria Point, Experimental Earth, Previously Unreported.* In September, 1998, Jim Bridwell, Ron Olevsky and I climbed *Experimental Earth* (V 5.10 A3, ten pitches) on the south side of Paria Point. The route follows the continuous crack systems about 100 feet left of *Wind, Sand and Stars*. Most of the route was aid climbing and all belay stations were fixed, enabling us to rappel the route after summiting.

MARK BOWLING

*The Temptress, Ascent, Previously Unreported.* In April, 1998, while exploring one of Zion's many backcountry canyons, Andrew Nichols and I stumbled onto a gem of a wall. "The Temptress" is 800 feet tall, sleek, sheer, and straight as a rail. From the ground, the most distinguishing feature is a massive, double-tiered roof, each tier totally horizontal, 40 feet across and ten feet deep. The roofs are inset between opposing corner systems, the left coming up from below and the right ascending out to the sheer headwall above.

The approach starts with 1,000 feet of gain, first in a wash and then up fourth-class slabs. The slabs lead to a saddle. This is the head of a few different canyons, the largest splitting the East Temple and the Twin Brother formation. From the saddle, we scrambled down into the wash bottom for about a quarter of a mile until we came to the first rappel. We fixed a rope to the single-bolt rap station for our later return. The rappel left us in a beautiful, rarely traveled hanging canyon less than 200 feet wide with a proud stand of giant ponderosa pines. An open meadow right below the wall made an excellent base camp.

The first two pitches cross rightward up a series of right-facing dihedrals. With nightfall coming, but still not high enough for our belay, Andrew drilled one 3/8-inch bolt and lowered off. By morning it was pouring, and we hastily exited the canyon, ascended up our rope and went back to the car. Between weather and schedules, it took us three weeks to return.

Before long, Andrew was back at his high point, 50 feet below the roofs. After four reachy bathook moves, he was back into cams and soon drilling our second anchor. The next pitch was the roof. All of the edges of the roof had cracks up the sides, making its only true bond that from directly above. Scary. About 40 feet above a traverse, I drilled a hanging two-bolt belay under a nicely protective roof. With the next pitch, Andrew broke through three or four more roofs out onto the headwall above, then lashed a large and very loose boulder that we dubbed "the Protozoa" (and which we trundled the next morning) to the wall. We rappled back down to the ground at dusk.

Early the next morning, we ascended our 520 feet of fixed ropes. Our high point was in a transition of the rock's layers. The softer, lighter-colored rock ahead deteriorated in quality. One more steep section, then the angle began to kick back. Barely able to see and wearing only hiking boots, I freed up pancake-stacked ledges and gritty corners for 110 feet to a large tree. The slabs got easier above. With a large tree-covered ledge in sight, we quickly fifth-classed up 300 feet of slab to the top of the buttress. With only half a liter of water and an ocean of slabs between us and the summit of the East Temple, we called it good and rappelled the route in five raps, adding one rappel station on a ledge 120 feet above the ground to facilitate the descent. In the morning we thanked the Temptress for her gracious hospitality and began hauling loads up out of the canyon the way we had come in, leaving only one set of anchor slings and footprints as visible evidence of our adventure.

DAVID LITTMAN, *unaffiliated*

*Kolob Canyon, Nugget Mesa, Sheehe Buttress.* In October, Kathy Dicker and I made the first ascent of Kolob Canyon's Nugget Mesa (the buttress left of the waterfall). Our climb, *Sheehe Buttress* (V 5.10 A3), takes the obvious, most central line up the 1,200-foot southwest face. The climb is moderate, enjoyable and on quality rock. On the summit, we placed a small cairn and a summit register. The descent is made down the route and is quick, easy and safe. However, the final pitches are runout on moderate rock with questionable anchors. These pitches can be avoided if one wishes to forego the summit. The climb took a total of nine days over two attempts, the first attempt in frequent snowstorms and the final push in searing 100° temperatures. We named the route in honor of our friend, Sean Sheehe, who died earlier in the year. The route is easy to locate and requires a standard wall rack. It is a probable two- or three-day climb for most parties, although it could certainly be done in a day by a strong team. An all-free ascent might be possible at mid-5.13.

SCOTT COSGROVE

*Paria Point, South Face, The Futura Wall.* Troy Anderson, Todd Stephens and Nathan Brown put up *The Futura Wall* (V 5.10 A3) on the south face of Paria Point from March 25-27. The climb begins 100 feet to the right of *Wind, Sand and Stars*. Descent was made by rappelling the West Face route.

CLIMBERS' TOPO BINDERS, *Zion National Park Backcountry Permits desk*

*Mt. Kinesava, The Jolly Green Jam Crack.* In early November, I climbed a new ten-pitch route, *The Jolly Green Jam Crack* (IV 5.10 C1), on the southeast face of Mount Kinesava. The route ascends the face of a fairly distinct buttress about 200 feet to the right of *Arakis* and 300 yards to the left of *King Korner*. It follows a continuous and rather wide crack system until it joins *Arakis* for the last pitch. Rope soloing, I free climbed up to about 5.10. That took care of 75 percent of the climbing; the rest was easy and clean aid. This route would best be done as a free climb. To descend, *Arakis* has bolted rappel anchors, some of which are still only one bolt.

KIRBY SPANGLER, *unaffiliated*