

ZION NATIONAL PARK

West Temple, Full Steam Ahead. Between Gettin' More Western and Back Where It All Begins, this route climbs 13 new 60-meter pitches to join Back Where It All Begins for a final three pitches to the summit. It was soloed on January 10, 1999, by Ammon McNeely and graded VI 5.10 A4. The first and fifth pitches are the cruxes, with ledge- and ground-fall potential. McNeely writes, "Placements are fragile and the route should only be attempted by an experienced sandstone wall climber." A topo was left at the visitors' center.

FROM WWW.ROCKANDICE.COM (NEW ROUTES PAGE)

Colorado

Seven Castles Area, Under A Winter Sky. On January 5 I soloed a four-pitch route in the Seven Castles area north of Basalt. Under A Winter Sky (III 5.9X) climbs the main chimney system on the left side of the wall. It then breaks left to gain the prominent stepped corner system. It continues up the corner system for two more interesting pitches. I descended by rappelling the route. The Seven Castles area consists of many 180-meter walls beckoning to be climbed.

JOSH GROSS, AAC

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

Otis Peak, various new routes. On the south face of Otis Peak, just west of the Otis Flower Tower, we climbed what we think are a number of new routes. If you see the area, you will understand why it is hard to identify specific formations—there are so many! With Joe Vallone, Bill McKnight, Vladimir Broz, and Mark Hammond, I put up five routes of grades II and III ranging from 5.8 to 5.11R.

KEITH GARVEY

Long's Peak, The Diamond, Bright Star. Bright Star was first climbed by Ed Webster and named in honor of Lauren Husted. A variation was free climbed by Charlie Fowler and Scott Cosgrove, but they avoided the meat of the route. Cameron Tague and I followed the original Bright Star a pitch farther in 2000, eventually joining The Yellow Wall. Last August I recruited Roger Briggs, the Diamond master who was celebrating his 50th birthday and 89th ascent of the wall that summer. All nine pitches of Bright Star are sustained and somewhat runout 5.11+. Cameron had fallen to his death crossing Broadway, below the wall, a few weeks after our climb in 2000, but his confident image was with me every move of what even Roger feels is one of the finest climbs on the wall. We left the Bright Star name, but added Cameron's name to the list of Bright Stars.

TOPHER DONAHUE

Long's Peak, The Diamond, The Honeymoon is Over. For the past two years fellow Diamond

lover Eric Doub had been calling and sending topos of a possible 5.13 on the Diamond of Long's Peak. He'd put considerable work into the project, which he'd named The Honeymoon is Over. He told me of clean, steep rock, devious cracks, thin faces, and just about everything else that a climber dreams about. It sounded like this route had it all. Since my first experience on the Diamond at the age of 12, I had gained great respect for this wall. Sudden thunderstorms and high altitude make any route an adventure. With these elements added in, a route such as Eric's seemed quite intimidating. But with the Diamond staring at me through my back door, I had to give it a try. In early June my dad and I hiked up to the route. Being a former guide on the Diamond and a long-time climbing partner, my dad had as much enthusiasm for the route as I did. Starting at 2 a.m. we got to the base just before first light. After climbing the fourth-class North Chimney, we arrived on Broadway with plenty of daylight ahead of us. However, early season conditions turned the route into a waterfall. After five pitches we headed back to the comfort of home.

For a month and a half I thought about the climb. I had not seen the entire route, but what I had climbed was everything Eric had said it would be. In late July I headed up again. After wearing my dad out the first time, I chose as my partner the next obvious choice, my girlfriend Beth Rodden. Although never having been at 14,000 feet or climbing in an alpine environment, she was excited about going up there. Getting on Broadway at first light again, we had a full day ahead of us. The wall was much drier than before, and it looked like a great day for free climbing. The plan was for me to lead each pitch and for Beth to jumar with the pack. The first four pitches (shared with Eroica, followed by five independent pitches) were straightforward and went quickly. The next two pitches were the crux and took everything I had. Little did I know that climbing 5.13 near 14,000 feet would be so taxing. Luckily, it was a weekend, and we were not alone. Shouts from nearby climbers, hikers, and especially Beth gave me the motivation to send. The next two pitches took the rest of my energy. I nearly fell countless times, and the only thing holding me to the rock were shouts of encouragement from below. With only a 5.12 pitch left I was completely exhausted.

After a rest and more encouragement from Beth, I couldn't turn back. As I started climbing, my arm cramped every time I bent it. Each crack looked like a dead end, and I could not find a line that seemed to make sense. I wandered over the face for a long time until I spied a camouflaged bolt and a fixed nut, both from Eric's attempts. They tipped me off as to where I should go. I hit the highest point of the Diamond just as my gas tank hit empty. My screams of success were carried off by the wind.

TOMMY CALDWELL, AAC

BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON

North Chasm View Wall, Roasted Pork. In September Nick Meyer and I made the first ascent of Roasted Pork (IV 5.11 A1) on the far left side of the North Chasm View Wall. We approached the climb by descending the Cruise Gully. We then skirted the entire North Chasm View Wall and climbed the gully used to approach A Moveable Feast. A detailed description of this approach can be found in *Black Canyon Rock Climbs*. We climbed the gully for 100 feet on fourth-class rock. On the left is a large slab, which we continued up with some 5.9 climbing. At the top of this slab we noted a stuck rope and several cams that had apparently been left as rap-