

discontinuous series of dihedrals linked by face climbing and ledges. The climb ends on the summit of a detached pillar.

In the northern San Rafael Swell, in May, Layne Potter and Paul Ross put up The Worse the Heat, the Better the Beer (300', III 5.10 C2) on The Pinnacle. In the Eagle Canyon area they climbed a previously virgin 600' tower, which they called Toviah Tower (III 5.8+R). Ross and others established many shorter routes in the region, as well. Ross reports: "There are now over sixty routes on the San Rafael Swell Eastern Reef, ranging in difficulty from 5.5 to 5.12 and in length from 300' to 2,000', bringing the total footage of the routes to over 50,000'."

For information on many of the routes in this region, see www.mountainproject.com

Arch Canyon, Dreamcatcher Tower, Broken Dreams. In beautiful Arch Canyon south of Blanding, after two previous attempts with my son Andy and Cameron Burns, I climbed the final pitch of the previously unclimbed Dreamcatcher Tower, by a route named Broken Dreams (IV 5.9 C2). This tower is close to the well-known Dreamspeaker Tower. Andy led the first pitch in November 2004, but we retreated due to cold (north face). We returned in September, and I led the second pitch, Andy the third. We ran out of time, water, and bolts, needing more for the descent. Finally, one year after the first attempt, I finished the final pitch to the top.

PAUL ROSS

San Rafael Swell, various routes. On January 30 Lance Bateman and I climbed a new route on the Eastern Reef of the San Rafael Swell. Dreamy Clouds (7 pitches, III 5.11d R A0) climbs the center of the "Great White Wall," left of Three Finger Canyon. In Three Finger Canyon, on November 20, we established Reptilian Curiosity III 5.11R. The route is ca. 300' left of 1,000 Feet of Fun and finishes at the summit anchors of that route after six pitches. Both routes have lots of tricky run-out face climbing.

Previously unreported in Buckhorn Wash: In 2001 John Coulter, Mark Owen, and I established Echoes (III 5.9 A2), located about a mile up the road (toward Castle Dale) from the Buckhorn Wash pictograph panel. It starts in a right-facing dihedral above a closed campsite, with boulders on the east side of the road. In October 2002 Owen and I climbed a new route on the wall to the right of Echoes. This wall has a large pillar running all the way up the prow of the wall. There is a route of unknown origin left of the prow up good cracks in a corner system. Our route, Life During Wartime (V A3+), climbs a thin crack to left-leaning chocolate corners on the left side of the wall. The route is three pitches long, overhanging the entire way. Pitch two is the crux, with many beak placements in a steep, left-leaning corner. This pitch is 70m long.

BEN FOLSOM

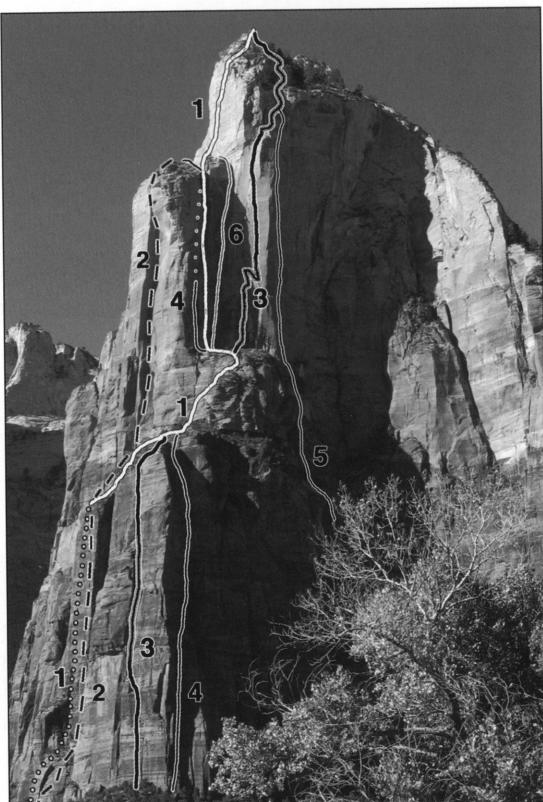
ZION NATIONAL PARK

Perfect Day for Bananafish and Occam's Razor. In Kolob Canyons, on the south side of the finger canyon immediately south of Nagunt Mesa, Simon Ahlgren and I climbed two new routes. We approached from the Lee Pass trailhead, leaving the trail at the appropriate creek crossing (a map is useful) and hiking about a mile into the finger canyon, at which point the routes are uphill on the right.

Perfect Day for Bananafish (V A3, September 2002) climbs a series of left-leaning, left-facing dihedrals, with a small tree on a ledge at mid-height (60 or 70m to the left is a striking pillar that harbors Occam's Razor, described below). The easiest path to the start of the climb involves locating the gully immediately below Occam's Razor, climbing it to the base of the wall, and then moving right to the start of Perfect Day. The route is eight pitches long and consists almost entirely of aid climbing, with much thin nailing. Bolt anchors mark the end of every pitch, and we placed an occasional rivet, so scoping with binoculars or spotting scope will reveal the line of ascent. We descended (60m ropes necessary) by rappelling the blank face to the right of the exit pitches to a two-bolt anchor, then to the belay at the end of pitch five, and then down the rest of the route.

In April 2003, immediately left of Perfect Day, we established Occam's Razor, on the right side of the eye-catching pillar. In October 2004 I returned and made the FFA (IV-5.11+). Approach as for Perfect Day, but instead of turning right at the base of the wall, scramble uphill to the left 30m to the start of the first pitch. This route is seven pitches long (though pitches 2 and 3 are both very short) and ends atop the pillar. The first three pitches are face and friction climbing. We placed protection bolts, ground-up, only where gear placements were not possible. The crux of the route, a 12-foot section of stemming or laybacking, is two-thirds of the way up the fourth pitch. Pitches five through seven all involve hand cracks and are brilliant fun. We equipped the entire route for descent.

JOEL NOLTE



Routes on the right side of the broad south face of Isaac (other routes exist on the left side of the face, out-of-view): (1) Lowe Route (lower portion hidden; Beavers-Lowe-Weiland-Weis, 1972). (2) Sands of Time (dashed line; Gagner-Lovelace, 1994). (3) Tricks of the Trade (Hatcher-Hebert-Middendorf-Quinn, 1993). (4) Iron Like a Lion in Zion (Bloom-Cosentino, 1999). (5) Middle Earth (Miller-Rasmussen, 1997). (6) Freeloader (Anderson-Pizem, 2005). Rob Pizem

Various free ascents. I will look back on 2005 as the year I became obsessed with Zion free climbing. It started a few weeks before 2005, when I nabbed the first free ascent of Angel's Landing, via the 15-pitch Lowe Route. After that climb, I was addicted to Zion.

I returned in June with my brother Mark. Battling scorching heat, we got the first free ascent of the classic and oft-tried Spaceshot (9 pitches, 5.13a) in a one-day push on June 16. We climbed variations on three pitches, adding three bolts, in addition to the eight installed during