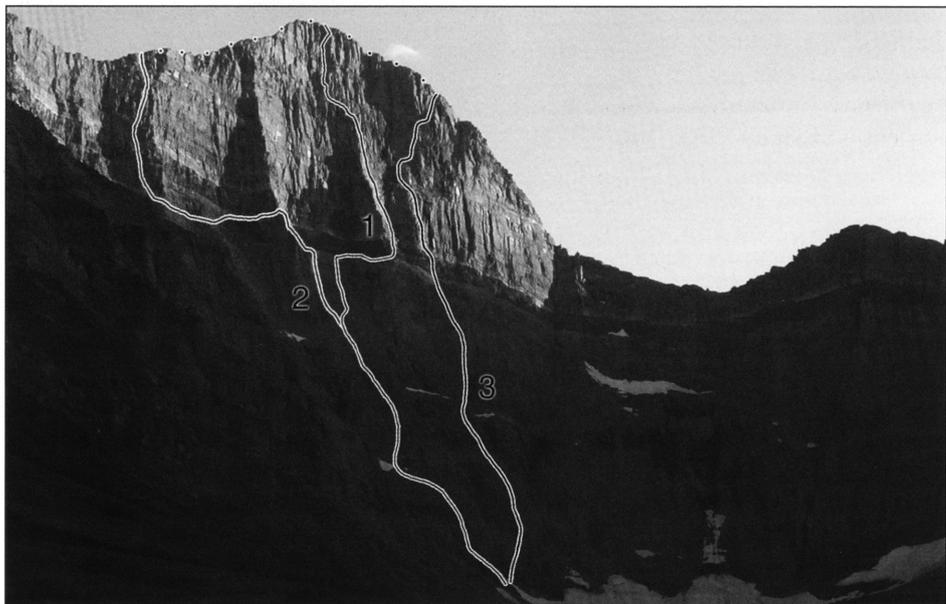


Montana

Glacier National Park, Mt. Siyeh, north face, new route. After being deemed “inadmissible to Canada” by a guy with a badge who surely fantasizes about playing bad cop in a cheap movie, Justin Woods and I turned around and drove south. Maybe they were mad that their extensive vehicle search revealed nothing, and that Mr. Bad Cop’s manhood did not, despite his compensatory efforts, get any bigger. *I’ve been kicked out of better places than this*, I thought. Five hundred feet later, in a model of U.S.-Canada synergy, we were searched again. A disappointing day for our caped crusaders. Anyway, we had a dilemma. What to climb?

The north face of Mt. Siyeh is a 3,500-vertical-foot scree field. Justin was on one of only three teams to have climbed it, he and fellow Montana boy Ben Smith having repeated the original Kanzler-Kennedy route in 2005. Once, okay. Maybe. But twice?

On August 7, after the ranger at Glacier wrote “not recommended” on our overnight permit and made certain that we knew about safety stuff and bivy gear, we hiked six miles to Cracker Lake and slept. In early morning darkness on August 8 we left our bivy gear and approached the face. We started right of the central rib, near the lowest part of the face, and wandered up through a maze of vague features, dead-ends, and stacked blocks. The face is much steeper than it looks from afar, but at least the rock is terrible. Every pitch (many with lots of simul-ing, sometimes requisite to get anchors) deserved an R or R/X rating. The forecast offered a 50-50 chance of showers, so we tried to hurry. Most of the climbing was easy, 5.7/8 with occasional 5.10, and after 3,000 vertical feet of free climbing in 11 hours, we hit the northwest ridge and scrambled to the summit. The real-man way would be to climb the steep shield above the black band to the right, and/or continue straight up where we deked out to the ridge.



The north face of Mt. Siyeh: (1) Kanzler-Kennedy, 1979. (2) Gibisch-Hokanson, 2006. (3) Cordes-Woods, 2008. Kelly Cordes

Regardless, it was a great day with a great partner, and given the moderate grade our route should clean up to be a classic.

From the summit we scrambled to the northeast, over another peak or two and down a nasty gully. We returned to Cracker Lake 14½ hours after leaving, packed-up and headed for the beer cooler.

KELLY CORDES, AAC

Beartooths, Granite Peak, Directissima. In late July Bob Goodwin and I made what may be a new route on the north face of Granite Peak. We reached the north ridge of Temple Peak at noon and stared over at the north face, determining the most direct line to the summit. We then descended 1,500' in a half hour to the base of the north face. After 1,000' of steep snow in one hour, we gained wet, ridiculously loose rock that I found appalling and Goodwin, being a Teton climber, found perfectly solid. Simul-climbing, we completed another thousand feet of shattered rock in two hours, topping out directly on the summit block. Our line, *Directissima* (III 5.8), goes directly up the summit arête, 100 yards left of Chadwick-Bowman.

MARK JENKINS, AAC

Beartooths, Mt. Inabnit, Winter Pants and Moonburn. After hearing of spectacular unclimbed mixed lines on the north-facing wall of Mt. Inabnit in East Rosebud Canyon, I made two trips to the area. On November 25 Tyler Nygaard, Justin Griffin, and I made the long walk to the face and tackled a rock wall to gain an aesthetic ice smear halfway up the face. We topped out on the plateau at dark. We named the route *Winter Pants* (300m, IV M6 WI3+).

On December 12, with brothers Whit and Sam Magro, we repeated the long walk under clear skies and a full moon. We climbed a mixed corner 100m right of the start of *Winter Pants* to gain thin ice steps high on the face, pushing through the cornice and topping out to a brilliant sunset and moonrise. We called the route *Moonburn* (300m, IV M5 WI4). This wall is an early-season dazzler with plenty of splitter granite and long ribbons of ice. These qualities and the potential for more routes should entice even the most approachaphobic climber for a bit of *Beartooths* adventure.

AARON THRASHER



Mt. Inabnit's north face: (1) *Moonburn*. (2) *Winter Pants*. (3) *Ice Dragons* (existing route). Aaron Thrasher