

*Middle Cathedral Rock, North East-Buttress Route.* Late in July Frank Sacherer and I climbed the east buttress of Middle Cathedral Rock by a new route. This route starts to the west of the east buttress route established by Harding in 1954, and ascends just east of a huge gully at the left side of the northeast face. Beginning east of this huge gully is a slightly broken face with two ceilings about 400 feet up blocking one's view. The route ascends a dihedral until it is possible to traverse around a corner onto the face below these overhangs. Difficult climbing below the overhangs leads one up beneath the lower of the ceilings. A layback crack is followed over the first one; face climbing over the second. Above the second ceiling lies a severe face, broken only by a diagonal angle crack. This desperate pitch brought us to a ledge, from which we traversed 50 feet left, then joined a crack system leading upward for several hundred feet. This crack system went nicely, except for a rather difficult overhanging chimney. A traverse down and right brought us to a 4th class crack system which took us the remaining 600 feet to the top of the east buttress. The climb took 8 hours, and contained 6 pitches of difficult climbing plus 4 pitches of 4th class climbing. The pitch going over the ceilings and ascending the face above may be class F10, but a true rating will have to wait until others have climbed the route. No artificial climbing was used on the 1000-foot route. (NCCS IV, F10)

CHRIS FREDERICKS

*Goodrich Pinnacle.* Don Goodrich was killed while attempting the first ascent of the west face of Mount Conness, a peak in the high Sierra. As a tribute to him, an 800-foot exfoliation slab on Glacier Point Apron in Yosemite Valley was named "Goodrich Pinnacle." An excellent but very difficult free-climbing route goes up the east side of this formation. On May 30 T. M. Herbert, my wife Liz, and I made a new route up the west side. This is perhaps the most beautiful of the many fine routes on Glacier Point Apron. The problems are challenging, but never harrowing. And, although one must risk a long fall in two places, it's not a death-defying matter. The result of a slip in these places would be 30 to 50 feet of rolling and bouncing down smooth granite slabs. The climber with good technique, good judgment, and experience can manage the climb with a quite reasonable degree of safety. Despite some of the severest friction climbing in the country, and some poorly protected leads, the west side of Goodrich was repeated five times in the summer of 1964. This fact testifies to the quick growth of this route's reputation as an exciting climb on excellent rock, Tahquitz-like in places. It also indicates the large number of extremely competent climbers frequenting the Valley