

a microscopic hold that gave access to the crack. After entering the crack, we found our large angle and bong bong selection adequate. Climbing mainly on aid, but sometimes free, we followed the crack for 250 feet to its completion. Near the top, it flared badly and our 6-inch bong bongs barely gained purchase. We had to tie off the corners so that the leverage would not pull them out. I finally stepped onto a good belay stance. From the top of the crack, we climbed the south chimney and slabs to the summit. No bolts and 45 pitons were used. (NCCS IV, F7, A4.)

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Wyoming — Tetons

Almost all of the new route activity in the Tetons was concentrated in the Death Canyon area. Both the south walls leading to Prospectors Mountain, and the north walls leading to Peak 10552, as well as Buck Mountain itself, were attacked with spectacular results.

Prospectors Mountain, Apocalypse Arête. In the left (east) portion of the north face of Prospectors Mountain is a deep couloir running in a southwest direction; this couloir separates a long and sharp ridge which was climbed on July 14 by Ted Vaill and William Buckingham. This ridge forms the top edge of much of the main north face of the mountain, and it ends at a 10,000-foot tower before turning abruptly southwest to the summit of the mountain. After leaving the Death Canyon trail at about the 7500-foot level, this party found no particular difficulties in the first third of the arête. The 200-foot step in the ridge yielded after a slight traverse to the left and an upward zig-zag. The next section of the ridge went easily until a 70-foot wall was met. Slightly to the right of the crest an F6 pitch past a loose flake put this obstacle behind them. After another easy section of ridge the third step was reached and passed via an F5 jamcrack on small holds. Two towers later the apex of the ridge was reached. The four pinnacles named the "Four Horsemen," of which this apex is the first, extend southwest from this point toward the summit of the mountain. The fourth of these appropriately enough possesses a narrow summit flake which was climbed *à cheval*. The first ascent party then descended to Death Canyon via a couloir to the northwest.

Prospectors Mountain, Raven Crack. This fine Grade IV route, climbed on August 3 by Yvon Chouinard and Mort Hemple, goes directly up the long black crack, or open-book chimney, on the south side of Death Canyon; it starts near the base of Apocalypse Arête. Some exposed scrambling is required to reach and cross the waterfall couloir to the grass slope which marks the beginning of the chimney. Four pitches of F3 to F6 climbing lead up to a ledge at the base of a gigantic overhang. The crux

pitch (F9) passes this overhang, first going left and then back to the right, ultimately making use of a very unstable, detached flake via downward holds. The "Funnel," a squeeze chimney, leads from the flake to a ledge. After two more pitches involving F7 overhangs and face climbing diagonally up and right, the "Waldorf-Raven," an enormous grassy ledge, is reached. From the left end of this ledge the two final pitches lead first up a slanting chimney to the right, then a jam crack, and finally a second chimney which narrows to a layback crack before reaching the tree-covered ledge which marks the end of the climb. The first ascent party walked left (east) along this ledge before selecting a large couloir for descent to the talus slopes below.

Peak 10552, Cathedral Rock, Pillar of Death. On July 19 Rick Medrick and David Dornan climbed the prominent buttress on the right (east) side of Cathedral Rock, which is the last formation encountered on the right (north) as one proceeds up the Death Canyon trail prior to reaching the Ranger Station. A long scramble from the trail led to the base of the pillar, where they began the climb on the left of the crest in an F6 chimney system. The first two leads go up this system and then out on a traverse to the right on a rotten ledge beneath a blank wall. The third pitch, F8 and exposed, is a diagonal traverse upward with poor protection, finishing with a series of delicate steps to reach the belay ledge above. Aid is used to pass a small overhang above the right end of the ledge in order to gain a large, open-book chimney. After a pitch which ascends this chimney to a broad, sloping ledge, the route goes left around a corner and starts up at the west end of the ledge. An easy pitch then led to a large overhanging chockstone. This was passed by squeezing upward on the right, and then crossing back to the left to reach the base of a gully in which the final two leads took the party to the top of the pillar. Descent was made via a high traverse around to the left until access to the Death Canyon trail was reached. This route, a III, is, except for the third pitch, on generally good rock with good protection, but nearly every pitch has a difficult section.

Peak 10552, Cathedral Rock, The Snaz. This route ascends the west face of Cathedral Rock in the large dihedral cutting up the center of the face. Yvon Chouinard and Mort Hemple on August 4 pioneered this excellent IV, F9 route. After a steep step and a moderate pitch, the base of a jam crack was reached. This very difficult crack was climbed free to a chockstone where a belay was made. The next lead involved the direct passage of an F8 overhang. A detached flake then allowed the party to reach a second jam crack which was climbed to the base of an overhang;