

was evident. Hours later, after a complex glacier route down around buttresses to reach the segment of the glacier leading onto the face, we could see that we might still cross the delicate key bridges. They were melting fast. A rotten snow traverse onto the 50° ice face confirmed our suspicions; sufficient snow cover, but belays were a fantasy. As a token of technique, we did them anyway, and promised ourselves not to slip. About 700 feet higher, we were able to edge onto rock for sideline piton protection. After traversing under a drooping cornice, the route elegantly shot up a narrow ice crest to the upper rock wall. Numerous pitches of surprisingly sound rock took us beyond the worst of an evil-looking ice couloir. Protected by solid pitons, we then traversed out to it for two final, very steep leads. A few axe pull-ups brought us out of trouble just as the sun was setting. Grade IV.

FRED BECKEY

Big Snow Mountain, East Buttress. Big Snow Mountain (6680 feet) lies north of the Snoqualmie Pass group. The east buttress is characterized by a prominent dihedral and overhangs along its crest. On May 11 Jeff Dial and I traversed the left side of lower Hardscrabble Lake and scrambled over two rock bands to reach the southern side of the buttress at 5400 feet. We stayed close to the crest while traversing under overhangs and moving generally from a southern to a northern exposure. The rock was very sound. There were 10 pitches, 4 of class four and the rest class five with occasional pins for aid. NCCS III, F7, A1.

DON WILLIAMSON

Burnt Boot Peak, North Ridge. Across the middle fork of the Snoqualmie River, two miles southeast of Big Snow Mountain lies P 6480, now officially Burnt Boot Peak. Bill Bucher, Tom Oas and I climbed a new route, the north ridge. From the base of the steepest part of the ridge, three leads of class five on granite, the last being a very sharp crest, led to easier ground. Three leads of class three and four put us on the summit. Only one previous ascent of Burnt Boot Peak was listed in the tin-can register, that of the survey party of 1963.

DON WILLIAMSON

Washington — Olympic Mountains

North Brother, East Ridge. After failing to climb North Brother in various attempts, from a logging road up Murhut Creek, in June, 1970 Robert Yekel, Roger Beckett, Max Triboulet and I climbed to a notch on the east ridge, where we came face-to-face with serious rock climbing. The final 800 feet to the summit were on steep snow.

HAROLD L. PINSCH