

Kerckhoff Dome. Near Shaver Lake, a year-round road passes within a mile of little-known Kerckhoff Dome. Huge penstocks bring energy to the Big Creek power station and the tramway used in their construction provides a quick and brush-free access. A year ago Jim Stuart photographed the rock and persuaded Fred Beckey to take a closer look. Fred, Joe Kiskis and I reconnoitered the first few pitches of clean solid granite. A feeling of guilt because Jim was not with us prompted an early descent. However, our next rendezvous in January 1973 lacked Fred, but this time we three completed the 500-foot route. The face is split by a long continuous fissure and capped at the top by a radically leaning arch. At the base of the wall, a squeeze chimney and an improbable traverse left around a bulge leads to a pedestal. Above, the route goes behind a blade-like flake to a belay beneath a chockstone in the chimney system. Two leads of jamming and stemming attain the beginning of the curving arch. Unfortunately the arch required aid; many thin wired nuts proved useful in the remaining two leads. No bongs were needed and a selection of 20 pitons is ample, augmented with many chocks. NCCS III, F8, A1.

GREG DONALDSON

Utah

Moses, Canyonlands National Park. One of the last great desert towers, this one discreetly hidden in remote Taylor Canyon east of the Green River, was climbed October 26. Lin Ottinger, Moab tour guide, had long known of it under the name "Moses," its curious shape resembling the image of the desert leader of history. Eric Bjørnstad and I had examined the 500-plus-foot tower in 1970 during the climb of "Zeus," then climbed the overhanging first pitch a year later, only to become stalled by a heat wave. With a solid base camp resembling a safari, with the jeep, VW bus, tents, assorted friends and a kennel of three hungry dogs the climb had to be a success this time. Our timing was perfect, for downpours preceded and followed the climb. Our party was Jim Galvin, Thom Nephew, Greg Markov, Eric Bjørnstad, and I. The climbing was largely careful aid on the wingate sandstone, with three "super-solid" hanging belays featured. NCCS V, F6, A3. Total 102 pitons, 4 nuts and 48 bolts used. The climb eats large numbers of 1¼", 1½", and 2" pitons. Next party bring 10 nuts and hangers for ¼" studs, 5 nuts and hangers for ⅜" studs.

FRED BECKEY

P 7700, North Face. On Memorial Day weekend George Lowe and I made the first ascent of P 7700 in Kolob Canyon in Zion National Park. From Lee's Pass we hiked down Timber Creek to the side canyon below Nagunt Mesa. After scrambling up this canyon, we reached the base of P 7700's impressive north face. (P 7700 is on the ridge running