

*Prospectors Mountain, Northeast Face, Tetons.* Eager to test the dimensions of a weekend trip to the Tetons from Moab, Utah, Bob Degles and I commenced the journey late one Friday and arrived at the White Grass Ranger Station early the following morning. We hiked to Phelps Lake—over rolling country beneath Engelmann spruce, aspen and cottonwoods, past plush undergrowth laden with penstemon, paintbrush and lupine. Still early in the afternoon we crossed the Death Canyon Creek on a sinking, slippery log, breathed a sigh of relief and selected a bivouac beneath the imposing walls at the canyon entrance. Above lay an improbable route to Prospectors Mountain (11,241 feet). Not sure of the problems on this unknown wall, but feeling that a 3000-foot climb of this sort should be only a day's effort, we were on our way by the faint light of five A.M. We singled out a line of weakness between the two prominent couloirs on the northeast of Prospectors Mountain, south and east of the Apocalypse Arête just within the entrance to Death Canyon. The ascent on the lower wall was characterized by F9 brush, devils club, overhanging trees and mossy chimneys. Higher we climbed out of the vertical jungle onto clean but often rotten gneisses and crystalline rock, badly fractured and loose. The angle sustained at 80° to 85° for much of the rock. Blank and overhanging areas were all passed free by traversing a few feet left or right. On the upper portion of our citadel guarding the gateway to Death Canyon, we climbed left of the large triangular-shaped wall clearly discerned from the canyon floor. Ascent was primarily chimneys and jams, breaking away to the rounded ridge circling Prospectors. Descent via Open Canyon, down steep talus and scree, a startled moose and an endless trail back to our car terminated a memorable twelve hours. NCCS III, F8; an assortment of chocks, 3 to 4½ inch wood blocks and several long runners and bollards for the lower wall are needed.

ERIC BJØRNSTAD

*Mount Mitchell, North Face, Wind River Range.* Dick Dorworth and I stumbled into this fine free new route, trying to find Chouinard's north-face route. In our first attempt we were driven off by hail three pitches up. The difficulty and the lack of pin scars made it apparent that we were on a new route. We started up again on an auspiciously blue and sunny morning a few days later. The route starts at the right end of a very large prominent arch to the right of the normal route. About 50 feet left of the right edge of the arch, go up a crack and step over the top of the arch onto the main face. From here continue up and left on cracks to the top of a large block (two pitches). Step down and left; go up a corner; traverse left and back right to the base of the book system. Follow this for four long pitches (165 feet) to a large bowl where it joins the regular route. Three more easy pitches lead to the top.