

Beckey, 1962) and is separated from it by a prominent black ridge which leads directly to the summit. The first two pitches out of the moat lean to the north and become steep immediately. These are followed by a series of ledges (easy class five), then the wall steepens again. After a mid-day start, we bivouacked after eight pitches. Sunday morning found us continuing up the final five pitches. The crux was in this section: a long pillar with a jam-crack in a corner, laybacking off jams to friction up to a mediocre belay. Beyond this, the climbing improved steadily until we stepped through the notch just southwest of the summit. July 26 and 27. NCCS IV, F8, 13 pitches.

C. M. HOLT

*Mount Adams, Lava Glacier Headwall.* On June 21, Craig Eihlers, Clint Crocker, Matt Kerns, and I hiked the Killen Creek Trail #113 to Mountaineers Camp for our base. On June 22, we climbed to approximately 8500 feet by crossing over the lower portion of the north ridge. The ascent began by crossing the lowest and first of three schrunds of the extreme right or west side of the Lava Glacier beneath the north ridge. We ascended diagonally across the headwall using rock outcroppings for protection from continual rockfall. So far this route had been just right of the west portion route shown on page 63 of Fred Beckey's *Cascade Alpine Guide*. We then crossed the west portion route just beneath rock cliffs and entered an obvious chute slightly above mid-center of the headwall itself and between the east and west portion routes. Referring to page 63, this chute is located immediately above "ea" in "Headwall." We then ascended directly upward joining the east and west portion junction on the upper portion of the north ridge route. From here, follow the route to the summit. We descended by way of the north ridge.

DAVID E. ROWLAND

*Cathedral Rock.* Randy Johnson, Terri Van Hollebeke and I did a new route on this peak on July 1, 1973. It begins in an obvious chimney on the southeast face; the first lead ascends a mossy dihedral out of a cave and ends at a tree. Two leads of class three and one of class four bring one to the summit ridge, from which it is a scramble to the summit. NCCS I, F6.

C. M. HOLT

*Mount Maude, Central Couloir,* On July 19, Tim Boyer, his brother Keith, and I climbed the couloir in one day from the car. Apart from a short rock pitch to gain the snow above the bergschrund, the climb was uneventful 45°-50° snow (at the steepest places). I'm not sure if

this would hold enough snow to form a good ice climb by September. This is, at any rate, the easiest of the north face routes. NCCS II, F6.

C. M. HOLT

### California—Sierra Nevada

*Peak 12,160+, Peaklet Wall.* This peak appears to be a smaller image of Mount Humphreys when viewed from the east. In August, Jay Jensen, Gordon Wiltsie, Helmut Kiene, and I climbed the 1800-foot northeast face, locally referred to as "Peaklet Wall." It proved to be much easier than it looked, with long sections of broken cliff that could be climbed unroped (F3 to F5). Overall, the climb was slightly longer and more difficult than the east face of Mount Whitney. The crux was a 200-foot vertical dihedral with a bulge at the top. NCCS III, F7.

GALEN A. ROWELL

*Wheeler Crest, Big Gray Pinnacle.* In November, I joined a visiting French climber, David Belden, in making the first ascent of this 1000-foot tower by a prominent dihedral on the east face. The climbing was mostly in cracks and chimneys with a F10 crux past a 20-foot ceiling via face moves on the righthand wall after the only crack ends. The tower is the most obvious free-standing pinnacle about two miles north of the Smokestack. NCCS IV, F10.

GALEN A. ROWELL

*Mount Humphreys, South Pillar of Southeast Face.* On December 30, Jay Jensen and I made a one-day new route up this 1500-foot pillar. At five A.M. we left the valley floor in unusually mild winter conditions, using four-wheel drive to reach a roadhead at 9000 feet. By the time we began technical climbing at over 12,000 feet, a cold front had moved in rapidly, causing a 25° mid-day temperature drop in nearby cities. In the valley, 70 mph winds blew down trees and power lines. At nearly 14,000 feet on Mount Humphreys, even stronger winds threatened to blow us off our stances. On difficult climbing we could only remove our hands from gloves for a few moves before wind chill dictated thrusting them under our belts. We climbed unroped up to F7 and belayed only three pitches. Although ledges and low angle areas were snowbound, we found the steeper rock surprisingly free of snow. Urged on by the cold and the fine high-country granite, we reached the 13,986-foot summit at two P.M., traversing the mountain via a descent of the F4 northeast ridge. We reached our vehicle just at dark as snowflakes began to fall. The round trip took eleven hours and the pillar itself is rated NCCS III, F8.

GALEN A. ROWELL