

route was eleven pitches of mixed free and aid. At the base of the west face a left-leaning crack (the right side of a 200-foot triangle) took us to the "left-leaning, overhanging slot" of the Donaldson route. We continued up this chimney to a good bivvy ledge. The second half of the route goes straight up the middle of the face above. A pitch of excellent free climbing ends at a hanging belay at the base of difficult aid cracks. Five pitches in these cracks lead to the "summit." On the third day it took five hours in abominable weather to descend the seven rappels of the east face. NCCS V, F9, A4.

RICK WHEELER

*The Incredible Hulk, West Face, Polish Route.* In August Bob Harrington and I climbed this excellent eight-pitch route. When viewing the west face from Little Slide Canyon, our route follows the continuous "stoveleg-like" cracks that split the narrow face near the left-hand (north) shoulder. We began 100 feet left of the Donaldson route, in a very difficult crack in a left-facing corner. Several pitches higher the crack opened considerably and there were three pitches of fist and off-width climbing with hanging belays. The "summit" was a large flat ledge on the north ridge. We traversed along this ledge onto the east face until reaching the Macedonian descent route. NCCS IV, F10.

RICK WHEELER

*Mount Conness, Morning Thunder Route.* In early September Bob Locke, Bob Harrington and I hiked in from Saddlebag Lakes to a lovely plateau south of Conness's summit where we spent the night. Leaving camp we descended a sandy gully to the base of a 1000-foot buttress just right of the "west" (south) face of Conness, and separated from it by an ugly-looking gully or chimney. After an improbable face-climbing start, we climbed five more pitches, and a final 200 feet of 4th class led to the summit. NCCS III, F9.

RICK WHEELER

*The Needles, Southwest Face of Witch, The Witch Doctor.* In June Mike Gabor, Rick Ridgeway and I climbed this improbable-looking route. The southwest face is distinguished by a prominent bomb-bay chimney on the upper-half. Our route, however, stayed well to the left of this chimney. Begin by climbing the right side of a 200-foot slab at the base of the face. From the top of the slab climb left and then up a flake system to a sloping belay ledge. Traverse left, then up over roofs, climbing on knobs and small cracks. A final difficult and unprotected pitch leads directly to the top. NCCS III, F9.

DAVE BLACK, *Buff Alpine club*