California-Sierra Nevada

Mount Langley, East Face of Southeast Peak. In April Will Crjenko and I climbed this route by first traversing over the ridge from Cottonwood Lakes. The climb involved a snow descent to the face, then eight leads of moderate to serious rock climbing. The face is quite prominent from the highway in Owens Valley just north of Lone Pine.

FRED BECKEY

Maxson Dome, South Face. In October Burt Miller, Mark Meng, and I made the first ascent of the south face. This dome is quite spectacular when viewed from the roadhead at Courtwright Reservoir, and it was surprising that this 9547-foot dome had no previous technical ascents. Our route followed a three-pitch open-book near mid-face that had challenging crack climbing and jamming problems. A ledge then bore west to where a layback problem led to a higher ledge. Bathooks and a bolt for aid permitted frictioning onward. Higher the dome rounded to the summit ridge. The route will be known as the Burt Miller Route because, about a week later, Burt met his fate in a rappelling accident on the Apron in Yosemite. NCCS III, F10, A1.

FRED BECKEY

Domeland, North Portion of White Dome. In October Mark Meng and I climbed this route. Bubbly, chicken-head rock provided surprising climbing for three pitches that turned out easier than anticipated.

FRED BECKEY

Premiere Buttress, The Phoenix. In March Don Reid and I climbed this route that starts in an obvious left-slanting crack system several hundred feet right of the Beckey-Goechoel route. Difficult climbing over decomposing rock leads to a belay ledge with a bush. A short section of aid is necessary on the second pitch to reach a right-slanting crack leading to a hidden ledge. We worked up, then right, then ascended a chimney to easier climbing. NCCS III, F9, A2.

ALAN BARTLETT, Buff Alpine Club

Quarry Peak, East Face. In August Vern Clevenger and I established the first route on this massive face in Matterhorn Canyon. Our line lies on the left-most (smoothest) section of the face and follows a right-leaning, left-facing chimney and open-book system. Five of the nine pitches involved chimneys, including the eighth (crux) pitch, a shallow,