

1979, indicate Jim Beyer and Bob Sullivan (unaffiliated) have done several new routes, including *Butter* (F10), *Digger* (F10), and *Hook and Drill* (F9). Jim Collins (unaffiliated) has free climbed an old aid route on the Monolith, according to *Mountain 68*. Another multi-pitch aid route has also been done free, the 1961 Bradley-Roper-Sacherer route on The Balconies by Chris Vandiver and me in May (F10+). The first pitch is very substained F9 and F10, with one long stem near the top being the crux. Some of the old aid bolts should be used with caution, or replaced.

THOMAS J. HIGGINS

*The Balls.* There are four main domes at the Balls, an area just north of Bass Lake and Oakhurst. All are immediately north of a dirt road leading to the area. From west to east, the domes have tentatively been named Ski Track Dome, Little Dome, Tempest Dome and Big Red. Since many climbers, including Royal Robbins and his rockcraft group, have visited the Balls but not recorded ascents, it is difficult to know what are new routes. Nevertheless, on July 14 and 15 several members of the Sierra Nevada section of the AAC did a few routes in the area that are most likely new. The most significant routes are on Tempest Dome. On the north side of the rock are *Little Froggy*, Jerry Koch and Jerry Boch, NCCS I, F7, and *Shady Lane*, Bruce and Kathy McCubbrey, NCCS I, F7. The first follows a green, lichen speckled wall; the second takes the main dihedral. On the south face, toward the left side, is *Odyssey*, Tom Higgins, Shary McVoy, Alan Nelson, NCCS II, F9. The route follows a large indenture and arch for two pitches, then a 30-foot flake to a fantastic, steep, knobby wall, F9. *Havana Ball*, Higgins, McVoy and Nelson, takes the blank face left of the black waterstreak toward the right end of the south face. It begins on a flake, continues past two bolts to a two-bolt belay above a short roof. It then passes the large roof above (F10) about 15 feet right of a break marked by two fixed pitons set for another route.

THOMAS J. HIGGINS

*Mount Chamberlin, West Pillar.* The 1400-foot vertical granite face of this peak is not fully visible from any road or major trail, and thus it escaped the recent heavy pressure of Sierra rock climbing until July when Mike Farrell and I made the round-trip in two days. The first day was, for me, almost more difficult than the Grade V route itself. With only a weekend to spare, I started from Berkeley, drove 360 miles to Whitney Portal, began hiking with Mike at four P.M. at 8600 feet, crossed 13,700-foot Trail Crest on the shoulder of Whitney at eight P.M. and angled to the base of the wall down a long canyon to Crabtree Lakes, camping at dusk. The next morning, neither of us had the patience to