

Roofs, a band of overhangs which guards the upper portion of the climb, before a snowstorm stalled efforts for a day and a half. At this point roughly two weeks had been spent on the wall. The climb was being covered daily by radio, TV and newspapers. With only one of the climbers moving at any one time and with the luxury of the portable ledge, hours of contemplation slipped by—with the transistor radio turned on to catch the latest progress report on us! The pitches through the Fear and Loathing Roofs, while not the hardest, were easily the most spectacular. The rock overhung all the way to the river below. On the second pitch a fleck of metal lodged in my right eye. After a lot of aggravation, this was removed by a specialist in Montrose two-and-a-half days later. On the final day Newberry led the last hard pitch of aid and Lella and I completed the 14th and 15th pitches, topping out at 7:50 on May 15. We were met by patient friends. Food and four bottles of champagne were graciously sent by the Montrose Daily Press and Channel 9 News in Denver. Less than a month later, Bill Forrest and Bill March completed yet another Grade VI, *Wild Bills' Wall* on the south rim on Cross Fissures. Rumor had it that Forrest was up to something "big" down in the canyon. Several attempts, including a winter one, were made on the climb, which trends right on the edge of several overhangs to a niche, over another big roof and finally up an obvious chimney system to the rim and the Cross Fissures Overlook. In the early 1970s, Forrest made the first ascent of the *Forrest-Walker* route, a grade VI on the Painted Wall. Bill Forrest is anything but a newcomer to adventurous climbing in the canyon. When it comes to climbing in the Black Canyon, you have to be a glutton for punishment!

ED WEBSTER

*Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Wild Bills' Wall.* Bill Forrest and I made a new route in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison (NCCS VI, F9, A5). We descended a steep gully south of Cross Fissures Overlook for 1500 feet and scrambled up a gully on the left to gain a tree-covered ledge system which led up and right to a point overlooking the canyon. We fixed orange tape slings at a boulder problem on the ledge. From the high point we continued around the corner and descended the steep treed ramp 800 feet to a giant cave with huge roofs above. The route started on the left wall sixty feet from the cave up a vertical crack which arched up and right after the first pitch. After four short aid pitches, we gained the main crack at a niche. From there we climbed the main crack over a roof and then up less steeply to gain a hidden chimney, which we followed to the summit, exiting on the left. To return we bushwhacked along the crest of the mesa to a position directly across from the Cross Fissures Overlook. We scrambled down 40 feet to a point directly above the col connecting the rock tower with the canyon rim

and rappelled a full rope-length to the col. We climbed an F7 pitch and scrambled left across ledges to gain the Overlook.

WILLIAM MARCH, *University of Calgary Outdoor Pursuits*

*Colorado Climbs.* Carl Harrison and Scott Kimball climbed several new routes on Lumpy Ridge early in 1980. On Sundance they climbed a four-pitch route that follows the left-edge of the Dalke-Covington Flake; they named it *Jetstream* (F9) after its completion in a horrendous wind-storm. Also on Sundance is *Under the Big Top* (F9), which joins *Turn-korner* at its crux after four pitches; with eight pitches in all, it is the longest route on the cliff. John Long and Lynn Hill, working for Royal Robbins' new rock school in Telluride, were active in that area over the summer, putting up some 20 new routes, primarily in the Cracked Canyon and the Ophir Wall. Several were real classics; most are F10 or harder. The pair was also active in the Aspen area. With Greg Davis, they climbed *Carpet Bagger* (F10+), an old aid route on Wall Walls, with hard, overhanging face moves past three bolts. On Turkey Rock they climbed *Comes a Time* (F11), a 130° roof crack. On Nude But-tress they climbed *T.K.O.* (F11); Davis had made the first ascent with one point of aid earlier in the summer. In early August Bob Fargo and Jesse Colbert climbed a route (NCCS III, F8) on the north-facing wall between Middle and West Trinity Peaks in the Grenadier Range in southwest Colorado. The climb started near the center of the wall and went slightly right in wide, grassy cracks and grooves toward a slot on the ridge crest formed by opposite-facing dihedrals. They climbed six pitches, the last three being the steepest and most difficult, sometimes with little protection. Chiefshead finally received a second route when Charlie Fowler and John Harlin put up *Seven Arrows* (NCCS IV, F10) left of the original northwest face route. (See *Climbing*, Number 64, January-February 1981 for details and for other climbs.) Unreported was the ascent in the fall of 1979 of the north face of McHenry's Peak by Bill Feiges and Pete Metcalf, a fine mixed climb in a remote setting. Also unreported in 1979 was a new route on Mount Alice (NCCS V, F10, A5). Joe Hladock and Keith Lober took a line to the right of the Culp-Turner route on the 1200-foot east face of Mount Alice. On Longs Peak Jean Ruwitch and Louise Shepard made the first free ascent of the Diamond by an all-woman team, climbing the Grand Traverse. The Diamond saw one more route go free in 1980. Chris Reveley reports that the bottom leads of *Curving Vine* went free at a "reasonable F10" standard. He and his partner finished up the *Pervertical Sanctuary* crack, avoiding the standard, somewhat obvious finish freed by Roger Briggs at F11 or F12.

MICHAEL KENNEDY