

found for a belay stance after climbing on loose rock with poor protection. Three pitches of scrambling took the party to the top of the route, from which one can look down to the west to the top of the Staircase Arête. Descent was made down to the southeast, using three rappels to reach the final talus leading to the valley floor. *Grand Teton, West Face, Variation*. On July 22, 1982, Renny Jackson and Peter Hollis made an important new variation on the Durrance-Coulter west-face route. This climb ascends the regular Black Ice Couloir for some 600 feet, until it veers to the left (east) just below the narrow crux of the Black Ice, into the chimney system to the right (south) of the standard west-face route. The first lead in this very steep chimney contains some vertical ice to reach a chockstone which is passed by climbing behind it. The next section also ascends extremely steep ice to a belay just below a giant jammed chockstone, which is passed on the left with difficulty. From this point the west face could be rejoined by traversing to the left (north). This party, however, joined a previously climbed variation which leads for some 300 feet back to the right and up to the Upper Saddle.

LEIGH N. ORTENBURGER

Faler Tower, Southwest Side, Wind River Range. On July 15, my father Jim and I climbed what we believe to have been a new route up P 12,607 (213w in Bonney guide, noted as Faler Tower). From our camp at the small lake on the southwest side of Island Lake we hiked to the col behind Elephant Head (Cairn Peak in Bonney guide) and then continued over to the higher col between Harrower and P 11,940. We descended to the large snow-covered shelf on the southwest side of the tower which led past a wet, slabby face to a convenient left-leaning ramp that ends at a tiny waterfall. A rotten scramble then brought us to an amphitheater walled with secure, fractured granite. We ascended this directly in two nice pitches noting later that a less solid route to the west looked as if it could probably go unroped. Above the rock, steep snow led up to the summit-ridge crest. We followed the crest leading to the northwest summit until forced by difficult gendarmes onto steep, rotten snow of the southwest face. Staying on the snow, we reached the final pinnacle which turned out to be an easy scramble which put us on top at five P.M. (II, 5.4; 14 hours round-trip.)

WILLIAM PETROSKE

West Twin Peak, Southeast Face, Titcomb Basin, Wind River Range. Jay Goodwin and I climbed what we believe is a new route on West Twin Peak. It is best seen in the early morning hours, when the sunlight isolates the prominent arête extending from the southeast face. The first pitch is distinguished by an excellent fingertip layback seen about 50 feet up the wall. After the first full 150-foot pitch, we traversed to the farthest left crack-and-dihedral system on the arête. The climb went up this difficult system and then up two more pitches of

easy climbing to the summit. The rock is of the same quality as that in the Cirque of the Towers. (5 pitches, II, 5.10)

WILLIAM ALEXANDER, *Unaffiliated*

Mount Mitchell, Northwest Face, Cirque of the Towers, Wind River Range. Molly Higgins and I made this climb, starting on the far right side of the north-west face. It is easily identified by a slab that leads to a straight one-inch crack in a right-facing corner for the first part and left-facing for the upper part. This was followed by "Flora Corner," which led to the top. Four pitches; II, 5.10.

LARRY BRUCE

Lankin Dome, Granite Mountains. Some rather nice granite domes lie in the Wyoming desert. Eric Boelke, Andy Archer and I climbed a route on the north-west buttress of Lankin Dome in August. The first pitch, the crux, is up a friction slab (one bolt for protection), heading toward a prominent crack and dihedral system. We followed these for four more pitches to where we could scramble to the top. (III, 5.9)

DAVID KOZAK

Colorado

Black Canyon of the Gunnison. Many new free climbs have been made in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison. Most are on a slightly smaller scale than other recent free climbs, but these newer climbs are just as or more desirable since they can easily be done in one day from the canyon rim without the usual fear of a forced bivouac. On North Chasm View wall, both crack systems just to the left of the popular *Leisure Climb* have now been done. *Musical Partners* (III, 5.9), the left-hand of these three cracks, was first climbed by Paul Scannell and me and features a poorly protected bomb-bay chimney on the crux. *All's Well That Ends Well* (III, 5.11 -) is a completely different story and is highly recommended. Lauren Husted and I made the first ascent of the central crack system when it was slightly damp and used several points of aid. These were eliminated a month later by Chester Dreiman and me, and the route was soon repeated by Peter Gallagher and Robert Warren, who confirmed its quality. Down in SOB Gully, *Escape Artist* (III, 5.9 + or 5.11) has received a multitude of repeats, with most of the parties wisely avoiding the original crux, a strenuous lightning bolt crack up a 95° wall. Next to the right, Dreiman and I made an excellent companion route, *Comic Relief* (III, 5.10 -), which sports one of the best 5.9 finger-and-hand cracks and merges with its neighbor after six leads. Just right of *Russian Arête*, Bob Robertson and Art Wiggins established a new eight-pitch route, well protected and on good rock, *Ghost Arête* (III, 5.10). Just upstream