

west basin to gain the ridge above an obviously time-consuming wooded lower buttress. Once on the ridge we found a straight line to the summit (II, 5.5).

GORDY SKOOG

*"Mother Lode" (P 7905), Northeast Ridge.* Located  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile west of Crescent Mountain, "Mother Lode" presents good climbing possibilities. My brother Carl and I climbed its northeast ridge on June 16. Late-season snow made travel easy. We gained the ridge via a ramp at 6600 feet. The climbing was alpine in nature along the crest on solid rock (II or III, 5.5).

GORDY SKOOG

*Mount Elijah, North Ridge.* On July 6, we followed bear trails toward Elijah's north ridge. The route ascended a pocket glacier to a notch at 6400 feet. From there the ridge made a direct line to the summit on solid rock. Descent was via the west peak (II, 5.4).

GORDY SKOOG

*Moab.* On a 25-meter varnished slab in Sevenmile Canyon 100 meters northeast of the 18-mile marker on US 13 Richard Pietro and I put up two very enjoyable face climbs. *Petticoat Gumption* (5.9) used one drilled angle placed from stances. Five weeks later we returned and added *Pigskin Parade* (5.10+) to the left. Three drilled angles were placed for protection, but the second was completed on aid after several short falls while trying to place it purely. Both routes have become very popular with the rapidly growing Moab resident climbing population; among them is Tony Valdez who added a direct variant to Petticoat Gumption above the drilled angle on a top rope.

RON OLEVSKY

*Canyonlands.* Jeff Achey and I did several noteworthy new routes in Canyonlands in October. On The Lighthouse we climbed *Lonely Vigil* (II, 5.9) the central crack system on the secluded, back side of the spire. An unknown party had also recently climbed the spire by a different route; our ascent may or may not have been the first free ascent. On the same spire, to the right of The Posidon Adventure, Jeff and I climbed a painfully beautiful new route, *Iron Maiden* (5.11, A1). An impelling line, almost like a miniature of The Primrose Dihedrals, two strenuous hand-traverses and a blank corner—all on the second pitch—are the cruxes. The Wingate was perfect, black, and iron hard. Three points of aid up a blank headwall (left fixed) led to the tiny summit. On the same trip, Jeff and I made the first free ascent of Hummingbird Spire via a new route up the North Face: *Hoop Dancer* (II, 5.11). Jeff made a great lead of this severely overhanging crack—one of the best hand-cracks around. Nearby, Jeff Achey and Karen Newman made the first ascent of *Easter Island* (I, 5.9), the last spire in the group, and ironically, the easiest one. A delicate 5.9 face pitch leads to the summit; a 130-foot free rappel gets you to the ground.

ED WEBSTER