

northwest shoulder of Triumph, then climbed a steep snow ramp to the south ridge, placing an occasional snow fluke or picket to combat the exposure. Brian and I admired our corniced and fluted surroundings as Mark struggled up the crux of the route, a glazed chimney of loose rock. One easier pitch of mixed ground brought us to the summit. We stomped out platforms and spent a long lunch gazing at the winter spectacle of the Picket Range. Later that afternoon we moved our camp to an avalanche-choked lake below Mount Despair. On the morning of March 3, Mark and I climbed perfect frozen snow up the southeast face of the peak. The clouds and wind were increasing, so we began a careful descent after just a few minutes on the summit. We rejoined Brian back at camp and started the long trip back to the car. The skiing was terrible, but the pleasure of having visited such wild and remote country made up for it.

LOWELL SKOOG

*The Pyramid, North Rib.* This rib begins in MacMillan Cirque 2500 feet below the summit of the Pyramid. It starts as a rock buttress, then changes to an elegant snow crest as it merges with the east shoulder of Degenhardt Glacier. On June 27, my brother Carl and I crossed from Terror Basin into the cirque by downclimbing and rappelling the steep glaciers just east of MacMillan Spire. We crossed the glacier below Inspiration Peak and gained the rib about 200 vertical feet above its toe, where a horizontal vein of dark rock cuts across toward some trees. We belayed a rightward traverse for a short lead, then started up. The rock was exceptional, and features that looked imposing from below were easily passed by turning corners or following hidden ramps. Six pitches along the rib, a steep snowfield, then four more leads in a fault just right of the crest brought us to the crux of the route. From here a grassy ramp left of the crest appeared to lead into space. A vertical corner above and a wide crack to its right were running with water. I traversed the wall to the right of the crack with minimal protection, then reached an edge beyond it and climbed carefully up and back left. One more pitch on wet, grassy hummocks led us to the snow crest. We climbed for several hundred feet along a knife-edged ridge that the evening sun lit up like a flame. We bivouacked on a shelf next to the snow. The next morning brought threatening clouds. As we hurried up the glacier, the rain began. It stayed with us to the summit horn, down the rappels to Terror Glacier, and through the soaking brush as we hiked down Goodell Creek the following day. (III or IV, mid class 5.)

LOWELL SKOOG

*Mount Shuksan, Lower Curtis Glacier and Southwest Face.* On August 24, John Stull and I completed a route up steep ice in a broad gully on the upper right side of the Lower Curtis Glacier. Easier but dangerous séracs on the right side forced us left up two pitches of ice adjoining the rock. From above the second icefall we traversed left and ascended class three-and-four rock for 1500 feet up

the right side of the southwest face. Higher on the face we followed a rib of better rock that produced several fifth-class pitches. From the top of the face we followed the Sulphide Glacier to the summit.

ALAN KEARNEY

*Half Moon, Lunar Rubble.* On July 12 Sue Harrington and I completed a six-pitch route on the northwest face. The climb begins to the right of the two prominent dihedrals below the summit. Flakes, cracks and ledges diagonal from right to left and lead into a right-facing corner higher up. At the top of the corner a large roof is traversed on the right ending on the west ridge below the summit. Most of the rock was good but loose rock and poor protection on the fourth pitch elevated the fear factor. (III, 5.10.)

ALAN KEARNEY

*Table Mountain, Death Picnic.* Due west of Austin Pass and the Mount Baker Ski Area is a mesa-like peak called Table Mountain. When it is cold, the east and northwest faces offer good one- and two-pitch ice climbs. In December of 1985 I attempted a 250-foot climb on the northwest face with Andy Selters. It began 200 yards southwest of Herman Saddle and involved hollow and vertical ice on the first pitch. The second pitch had a half-inch layer of ice separated from the rock by 8 inches of air. A bold mouse with some skill could have succeeded. We retreated. On December 11, 1986, Mark Houston and I did the climb in two pitches and found the ice better than the last year but still weird. The climb is comparable to a Canadian grade V.

ALAN KEARNEY

*Amphitheater Mountain, Sunday Morning Buttress.* On July 27 Don Monk and I did a short climb on this buttress located one mile northeast of the summit. It is prominent from Cathedral Pass. The route begins on the left of a 50-foot pillar and continues straight up for three pitches. The middle pitch was the crux. The rock was not as good as it appeared (II, 5.10). We also did the Middle Finger Buttress free. The first pitches are some of the most spectacular in the area (5.10).

GEORGE BELL, JR.

*Mount Slesse, Northeast Buttress, First Winter Ascent.* During the first eight days of March, Jim Nelson and Kit Lewis made the first winter ascent of the northeast buttress of Mount Slesse. After helicoptering to the base, the pair spent the next seven days on the route. Two days were spent waiting out a storm 250 feet below the summit. It was their fifth attempt of the climb.

*Mount Stuart, Northeast Face.* On October 18, Charlie Hampson and I climbed a new line to the left of Girth Pillar. From our bivouac atop the Ice Cliff