

one to a hand-crack that is followed to the summit ridge. (III-IV, 5.10). *Mount Russell, Direct South Face*. This route follows the major crack system in the center of the south face. Third class leads into the amphitheater between the Curved Arête and the south buttress. We started in a hand-crack below a large right-facing dihedral. Higher, a left-facing dihedral is entered (crux). Both of these routes were done by Rich Romano and me in July. (III, 5.10.)

FRED YACKULIC

Mount Russell, Sbruno-Sbruski Route. In August, Scott Ayers and I climbed a six-pitch crack system on the south face, to the right of the south buttress. (III, 5.10.) (*Editor's note*—This route and the preceding one are undoubtedly very close to one another. It is not known which route is further right on the south face. Indeed, the routes may share pitches, or even be the same route.)

PAUL LINAWEAVER

Mount Whitney, Peewee's Big Adventure. Joel Richnak and I climbed this fun route which closely follows the northeast buttress of the peak. We roped up about 100 feet right of the east-face route and climbed up and right on flakes to a large detached flake, then back left to a block. After a short distance in a gully, we exited left and went up a beautiful, exposed face. Several more pitches, generally tending left, led to the Peewee, a giant block (also on the east-buttress route). We climbed through the spectacular roof crack of the Peewee, and several easier pitches took us to the top. (III, 5.8 + .)

MIKE CARVILLE

Mount Sill, East Face, Dead Larry's Pillar, Left Side. In August, Kent Davenport, David Wilson and I climbed a new route on the 1400-foot high east face of this spectacular mountain. Our route ascended the left side of a prominent pillar on the southern half of this massive face. The center of this pillar was climbed by Mike Farrell and me in 1978. At that time it was traditional among Palisade Guides not to report new routes in their alpine *Klettergarten*. I hope a departure from this policy will clear up some of the confusion. Both routes ascend a left-leaning crack through an overhanging section before they split. The new route is very steep and the rock is excellent (III, 5.9, 10 pitches.)

MICHAEL GRABER

Twilight Pillar, Clyde Peak, Winter Ascent. In February, David Wilson and I made the first winter ascent of this classic Grade III summer route. A 5.7 pitch directly off the snowfield provided us with the hardest climbing, since it was diagonal and quite icy. Only after we were into the steep rock of the upper arête did we shed our Koflach outer boots and use the Firé Hivernale alpine rock-climbing shoes we were wearing as inner boots. We rappelled to camp with



PLATE 54

Photo by David Wilson

**Michael Graber leading the first pitch
on Mount Sill, Sierra Nevada,
California.**

several hours of daylight left, but decided to save our ski run until morning. A storm moved in, dumped eight inches of fresh powder overnight, and gave us the best of all worlds: clear, dry weather for climbing and fresh powder for the 5000-foot ski descent.

GALEN ROWELL

Disappointment Peak, West Face. In September, Dan Frankl and I lugged hardware over Southfork Pass and around the “back side” of the Palisades to a camp on a terrace below Middle Palisade. Our goal was to find a large rock climb on one of these unclimbed west faces, and Disappointment Peak had more to offer than the loftier Middle Palisade that had first drawn our attention. Our route began on the southwest arête, then traversed left into a crack on the main face where fear and cold fingers forced me into about 20 feet of aid after completing a 5.10 section below. Dan and I alternated easier leads for another thousand feet until reaching a knife-edge ridge leading to the summit. In the morning, a snowstorm prevented us from returning over Southfork Pass, and we were forced to walk all day through the blizzard to the easier Bishop Pass trail, completing yet another summer climb in the “Gentle Wilderness” that seems to catch me unprepared far more often than the Himalaya or Alaska. (IV, 5.10, A2.)

GALEN ROWELL

Consummate Corner, Patricia Bowl. While ski touring in Patricia Bowl, above the 10,000-foot road in Rock Creek Canyon, I spotted a wall of granite crags that were hidden from the road. In July, David Wilson and I hiked into the cirque in just half an hour and found one dihedral that was by far the most appealing line. It lies in a cleft about midway along the southern wall of the cirque, and begins out of a snow couloir. After negotiating the snow, two continuous 5.10 pitches led to easier climbing and the summit plateau of a minor unnamed peak. (III, 5.10+.) (*Editor's note*—At least two other routes have been done here, both 5.10.)

GALEN ROWELL

Mount Stewart, Dawn Pillar. On June 17, David Wilson and I ascended a new route on Mount Stewart's north face. We began climbing on the steepest section of this face, following jam-cracks up the left side of a small pillar directly underneath the west summit. Nine pitches later we stood on the west summit exhilarated over the fine quality of rock that we encountered. This route is about 100 meters west of that climbed by Hooman Aprin, Jack Roberts and me in 1973. (III, 5.10.)

MICHAEL GRABER