

of a huge flake, a difficult step left leads to steep mantels and cracks heading to the top (III, 5.11.)

E. C. JOE, *Stonemasher Alpine Club*

*Bear Creek Spire, P 13,600 and Ruby Lake Wall.* In December of 1985, Kevin Ball and I made the first winter ascent of the east ridge of Bear Creek Spire, finding it much as Galen Rowell had described it: long and enjoyable. In February of 1987, I returned with Greg Orton to make probably the first ascent of the north buttress. P 13,600 rises on Wheeler Ridge, east of Rock Creek Canyon just below Tamarack Lakes. In December of 1982, I climbed the snow-and-ice gully right of the summit (5.4 rock, 50° ice) and in May of 1984 returned with Susan Williams to climb the arête left of the gully which rises directly to the summit (5.8). Both are probably new routes. To the north of the main Ruby Wall ascended by Galen Rowell in 1982 and 1983 lies a steep wall hidden from the lake. In October Bill Kerwin and I made the first ascent of "The Wall of Flying Reptiles" via the *Pteradon* (5.10, A1.) We followed the prominent corner system with an ever-widening crack on the left wall for five pitches.

ROBERT J. PARKER, *Unaffiliated*

*Crystal Crag, North Arête.* On a blustery day in late June Rick Taylor and I climbed this beautiful arête. We reached the base after a short hike from Crystal Lake. The route begins in a prominent dihedral on the prow of the arête. The first pitch was reached by dropping into the moat between the remnant of a giant cornice and the clean rock. A few 5.7 moves in a layback-offwidth crack led to a comfortable belay stance on a large sloping ledge. An easier pitch was climbed to an area of broken rock. A third-class pitch led up from here to a shallow gully on the west side of the arête. The fourth pitch ascended the easy fifth-class flakes in the gully to an area directly below a huge deposit of white quartz. A final short pitch of fourth class went up the "crystal dihedral" directly above and led to a short scramble to the summit. The higher south summit was reached along the classic knife-edged ridge after dropping into the notch between the two summits. (II, 5.7.)

WILLIAM L. KRAUSE

## Utah

*Gates of Hell, South Side of Provo Canyon, 1985.* This climb, done on November 27, 1985 by Thomas Koch and Bill Robins, ascends the major face west of the ice climb, *Stairway to Heaven*. Bush whacking and scree climbing from a parking lot a half mile west of the Bridal Veil parking lot got them to a large alcove below the center of the face. Unprotected climbing over the alcove roof (5.10) led them up two pitches of 5.7 limestone to a longer headwall. The headwall went at 5.10, the crux being a 30-foot layback on a broken, unstable flake. Two more pitches of 5.7 to 5.9 limestone led to a large ledge and the