sandstone climbing. They traversed 50 feet west and climbed a large dihedral which splits the upper face for three pitches. The last pitch on this good sandstone wanders up to the capping forest. (IV, 5.10+, varied climbing on loose, dangerous limestone and good sandstone, 12 pitches.)

BRIAN SMOOT

Notch Peak, North Face. Notch Peak is 60 miles west of Delta, Utah at the south end of the House Range. The 2500-foot-high limestone north face was first climbed by Thomas Koch and Peter Deinen in June. The route ascended right of center to a prominent chimney, mostly on poor rock. The third pitch of a white, chalky limestone was so poor that two pins were used for aid and major blocks were broken in the climbing. The bivouac was two pitches from the top. They descended the northwest ridge, using eight rappels. (V, 5.10+, A3, 18 pitches.)

BRIAN SMOOT

Zion National Park. The classic route, *Space Shot,* had its first solo ascent in October by Rich Strang, an inspired performance especially in light of its being his first desert wall! Some climbers fail to note the critical importance of hammerless ascents. For example, *Space Shot* suffered considerable damage at the hands of two Colorado climbers despite its being a hammerless route. A new generation of Zion locals have made their presence felt with the establishment of Zion's first significant face-climbing route. In May 19-year-old Leif Bjarnson and Bob Quinn completed *Facetastic,* a high-quality 5.11 route up the apparently blank slab below the south face of Observation Point. Among the other shorter routes established in the past year is *Master Blaster* (5.8, A1), a perfect Friend crack that ascends 45 meters through two body-length roofs similar to inverted steps; it is 100 meters to the left of *Headache.* It was put up in June by Bob McLaughlin and me and repeated shortly afterward by Todd Gordon. Equipment should include at least five 1½ Friends! In September Earl Redfern and I made the first ascent of the main north face of Timbertop Mesa via *Thunderbird Wall* (VI, 5.9, A3). This had originally been attempted fifteen years earlier by Jeff Lowe and Cactus Bryan before the mesa had been climbed by any route; the wall had seen at least three even less successful attempts subsequently. The climb required 7½ days for the sixteen 165-foot leads. We discovered the Lowe-Bryan highpoint on the 12th pitch. We found absolutely no bolts despite having used eleven for aid ourselves up to that point (the lines differed by at least four pitches) and several more to reach the top, including one right above their final piton. A hundred meters from the top, Earl performed the crux, a 5.9 layback up a series of bushes. Rather than descending the 1975 Mormon route, we made six rappels down the buttress 350 meters east of the finish of our ascent to intercept the final section of the Mormon route. This may have been only the third true ascent of this enormous mesa.

RON OLEVSKY