

for handholds. A short section of face climbing brought me to a belay ledge at 150 feet. The final 50 feet was easy scrambling.

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*Mount Adams, East Face of the North Ridge.* Brian Buck and I made this Grade III ice climb on May 23 on spectacular Mount Adams (12,276 feet), second highest in Washington. This new route climbs the 1300-foot face which rises from Lava Glacier below the upper third of the north ridge to the left of the normal route. After crossing the bergschrund, we traversed up and slightly left towards a large cornice between the outcrops on the upper ridge. From the final cornice, it's a walk-up to the top.

FLETCH TAYLOR, *Unaffiliated*

*Vasiliki Tower, South Face Direct, Wine Spires.* This is a two- or three-pitch, well protected climb (5.9). We started at the col between Vasiliki and Burgundy Spires with scrambling to a rightward-trending dihedral system below the south face. Instead of following the dihedrals on the normal route, we stepped left onto fifth-class cracks and up a single hand crack (5.7). This narrowed to a finger crack (5.8+) and to a belay where the crack narrowed to a seam. The second pitch began with a 15-foot traverse left (5.9) and up to a widening finger crack. We followed this 5.7 crack system for 50 feet rightward, aiming towards a large dihedral, which we followed to the top. Chris Dolejska and I did this on the same 18-hour day, August 8, as the Silver Star northwest ridge climb.

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*Molar Tooth, North Ridge and two East Face Routes, 1991-2.* The Molar Tooth lies a mile north of Cutthroat Peak. Only when viewed from Cutthroat Lake does one see the nearly vertical 1000-foot east face. The first ascent of the Molar Tooth was made up the middle of this face by Alex Bertulis and party in the 1970s. On October 11, 1991 Eric Moeller and I made a new route, the north ridge. We began in a little notch below the north ridge and followed a full pitch of airy skyline to a broad shoulder (5.8). The second pitch followed the shoulder at fourth class for 130 feet to where the ridge steepens again. The third and final pitch climbed the ridge for 50 feet and traversed left onto the edge of the east face, where a rising traverse found the summit (II, 5.8). On October 28, 1991, Dave Suslo and I started up a chimney 100 feet to the right side of the huge cleft on the east face. Two pitches of 5.6 chimney brought us to a ledge. Pitch three was a rising fourth-class traverse towards a huge, light-colored water streak to the right. The last three pitches are easy, exposed face climbing up the broad water streak to the summit (III, 5.7+). On July 31, 1992, Keith Henson and I climbed a steep, deep, 600-foot ice couloir splitting the left side of the east face. We followed the couloir into the bowels of the peak and out

the back onto the south face. Pitch five ascended a 5.7 crack and dihedral system for 100 feet toward a lone pine tree. The next pitch was up a discontinuous crack system to a wide chimney (5.9). The 5.6 chimney brought us to the summit (II, 5.9, rock and ice).

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*Traverse of Molar Tooth, North Peak, Cutthroat Peak and Whistler.* This is a grand traverse showcasing the best routes on these four consecutive peaks from north to south. The granite is coarse, often steep, with vertical jointing providing ample handholds and protection. The rock is sound on the technical sections, though often of poorer quality on the ridges between the peaks. In July, Todd Myers, Brian Buck and I hiked a ridge south to the north ridge of the Molar Tooth. We climbed the two or three pitches (5.7 and 5.8) to the summit and worked southwest to an 80-foot rappel, where we met a ridge running south to North Peak's north face. We ascended a talus-filled couloir to a left-slanting ramp, which we climbed and up the east face to the east summit. We traversed along a knife-edge to the steep north face and continued on up to the summit (5.8). (See the report on the Molar Tooth for the first ascent of this route.) We rappelled the same face and traversed west to a ridge with a platform above an easy chimney, which we descended to gain the north ridge of Cutthroat. This ridge, described in Beckey's guide, begins in a deep notch and after a 50-foot 5.7 crux continues on easy, clean rock to the summit in six pitches. From Cutthroat's top we descended the west ridge to Whistler. An easy ½ mile traverse took us to a notch below its north ridge and in four pitches of third and fourth class, we were on the summit. Descent was a walk off the west flank to Rainy Pass.

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*Silver Star, West Peak, Northeast Ridge.* The 1200-foot northeast ridge is a rock climber's dream with solid, vertical granite spires and fins. Chris Delejska and I made its first ascent on May 9. We approached via the classic Silver Star Glacier route. From the toe of the ridge, we climbed two easy pitches. We then followed a hand crack for 30 feet (5.6) to a tiny ledge and a finger crack for another 30 feet (5.7). We climbed a large flake on the right up a 15-foot hand crack and a 30-foot awkward chimney (5.8). Next came a discontinuous crack system up 130 feet to a large sandy saddle. The sixth pitch began with a 40-foot, 5.7 double hand crack leading to an overhanging bomb-bay chimney (5.8). Next, an exposed 50-foot, fourth-class traverse led to a short 5.6 hand crack and an even shorter 5.8+ chimney and a comfortable 100-foot ledge. The ninth pitch began where the ledge ended with an airy hand traverse on an otherwise blank wall. After 45 feet, it petered down to another 30-foot finger traverse with the crux at the very end (5.8). The spacious ridge summit angled gently to the north peak less than ¼ mile away on easy ground.

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