

June. Later in June, they became the third team ever to climb El Capitan (*The Nose*) and Half Dome (Regular Northwest Face) in under 24 hours, making the linkup in 23:27. Mike Carville and Florine climbed *The Shield* (VI 5.9 A3+) last August in 18:25, just missing the existing record by five minutes.

On the new route scene, the North Face of Lower Cathedral Rock has seen a flurry of activity. A dozen steep, and slab, sport routes have gone up. Scott Burk's *Counterparts* (5.13c), a five-pitch climb, hails as the most difficult route in this area known as "Mecca." Other classics such as *Peasants* (5.11a), *The King and I* (5.11d), and *Empire* (5.13a) have also been established by first ascent parties such as Al Swanson, Steve Gerberding, and Cade Lloyd

On Sentinel Rock, Scott Cosgrove and Bob Gaines established *How the West Was Won* (V 5.12b), an all-free route that climbs the old Robbins solo classic *In Cold Blood* (V 5.8 A4). The climbing varies from side pull/underclimbing sequences to "a smooth ass-kicking off-width," and was climbed in June. On the Middle Cathedral Perry Beckham and Steve Sutton put up *The Grand Wazoo*, a five-pitch 5.11+ route that begins after the second pitch of the *Birchhoff-Williams*.

In Tuolumne Meadows, a stagnation of difficult new routes was broken by Ron Kauk, who added three new 5.13s to the area's new total of 17. *Broken Arrow* (5.13b) is a thin crack near Olmstead Point. On Medlicott, Kauk rap-bolted a long-standing ground-up project of John Bachar's, producing *Peace* (5.13c). When asked about taking over the route from rival Bachar, Kauk responded that he merely wanted to climb the route. Bachar had been projecting on the route for over seven years.

STEVE SCHNEIDER

*El Capitan, New Route.* It was reported that Steve Gerberding, Scott Stowe and Lori Reddle put up a new A5 route on El Capitan in November. The route climbs 14 pitches from Lay Lady Lay Ledge to the rim. The route took 10 days and features a crux pitch involving extensive hooking, Bird Beaks, and two copperheads. (*Rock and Ice* 72)

*El Capitan, Cleanup of the Nose.* The Conservation Committee of the AAC provided a generous grant to a group of climbers from Prescott College in Arizona to clean the Nose Route of El Capitan and to educate climbers about conservation ethics on the big walls. The team was coordinated by AAC member Eve Tallman and included six Prescott students (Eric Adolphi, AAC member Matt Menard, Amos Whiting, Mike Ho, Steve Crillo, and Josh Cross), Yosemite climbers Christopher Trudeau and Constantine Severls, and climbing photographer Bill Hatcher, who provided photos and a press release to several international climbing magazines. Some of the team mem-