

ca.1,100 feet, only the first pitch and last 35 feet went free; the remainder of the route yielded to moderate and difficult aid. We gave the “+” rating for the potential ledge fall on pitch 5. In typical Zion fashion, the climbing was quality and fairly sustained. It was possibly the last wall to be done before the initiation of the park’s backcountry permit fee. For the descent, we rappelled the *Monkeyfinger* route. Two anchors were added at the second and fourth (counting from top to bottom) *Monkeyfinger* stations on the way down.

PAUL TURECKI

*Streaked Wall, Latitudes, Second Ascent.* It was reported that in early November, John Varco and Bryan Gilmore made the second ascent of *Latitudes* (VI 5.9 A4+) on the Streaked Wall. Varco first teamed up with Greg Grasso to climb, fix and haul to Rubicon ledge. He then spent nine days with Gilmore on the upper eight pitches finishing the route. (*Climbing* 176)

*Twin Brothers, Levels of Doom, and Isaac, Middle Earth.* It was reported that Amanda Tarr and Eric Rasmussen put up a new 14-pitch line, *Levels of Doom* (VI 5.9 A3+), to the right of *Peyote Dreams* on the Twin Brothers, in late September. In late November, Rasmussen and Luke Miller climbed *Middle Earth* (VI 5.11c A4), a 19-pitch bottom-to-top crack climb to the right of *Tricks of the Tramp* on Isaac. (*Climbing* 174)

*Zion, Road Kill.* It was reported that, while filming a video about big wall climbing, Jeff Lowe and his “student,” Scott Thompson, put up the route *Road Kill* (V 5.11 A4), a nine-pitch route on an 1,100-foot wall near the park’s west entrance. (*Rock and Ice* 83)

#### SAN RAFAEL SWELL

*San Rafael Swell, La Piñata.* On November 9, Franziska Garrett and I were surprised to find the big hulk of a desert tower adjacent (west-northwest) to Mexican Mountain still unclimbed. After driving the Mexican Mountain Road and parking at its terminus, we waded across a shallow section of the San Rafael River. We then weaved our way up the northern flank of Mexican Mountain before traversing westward to the tower. Unsettled weather steered us toward the eastern side, where we climbed a short pitch (5.10 A0) to a prominent ledge on the south ridge. Then, a 60-meter pitch led over 5.8 slabs to a short, steep A1 bolt-hole-bolt section and some nailing and free climbing to the top (5.9 A1). We rappelled the route, *La Piñata* (II 5.10 A2), after savoring wide-angle views of the Swell.

JAMES GARRETT

#### FISHER TOWERS

*Fisher Towers, Various Ascents.* It was reported that Crusher Bartlett and Dave Levine climbed *Beaking in Tongues*, a seven-pitch route on the west face of the Oracle that was rated “somewhere between A2+ and A4” and used no bolts. On the south face of the Oracle, Kevin Chase and an Englishman known as Heavy Duty climbed *Nightmare on Onion Creek* (5.3 A4). Heavy Duty and Keith Reynolds put up a new route on the north side of the Citadel that used very few bolts. Tim Wagner made the second ascent of the Jim Beyer route *Deadman’s Party* and soloed Beyer’s *Intifada*. (*Rock and Ice* 80)

*King Fisher, The Hazing.* It was reported that Eric Kohl, Bryan Law (joined by Pete Takeda