

Providence on account of a lucky escape with a stuck rope while rappelling.

After the ascent of Peak 11,200', we decided that the Central Couloir to the left of the Lightning Spur on Thunder's south face might fall to another light-and-fast approach. With only a liter of drink and a handful of energy bars each, we left camp at 10 p.m. on May 24 and moved together up the initial snow slopes, turning the first serac in the huge gully on the left. Above, two large icicles hung for 50 feet from an overhang, forming a half pipe between them with the right-hand icicle ending six feet above the base of the couloir. The half pipe finally was surmounted by chimneying between the two icicles and finally swinging out onto the right-hand icicle and climbing it directly up above the overhang. We continued up in magnificent surroundings with huge blank granite walls towering on both sides of the narrow gully, belaying only for several steep Scottish-style sections. At 10 a.m. on the 25th, the sun began to touch the couloir and it was time to find somewhere to sit out the hottest part of the day. We cut a small ledge under a rock band and drank and dozed uncomfortably while the sun slowly traversed the sky. At 4 p.m., we continued up the crux top section of the couloir, which involved three steep and sustained ice and mixed pitches. The summit ridge was reached at 6 a.m. on May 26. The highest point was a section of cornice situated between two pinnacles on the summit ridge. Because none of us was keen to tread that particular point, we chose the west summit pinnacle which was nearest us. We descended the west ridge and rappelled a couloir on the side of the south face, finding good belays for the majority of the descent. The skis were reached 42 hours after leaving them. It had been a long "day" out. The route was christened *Dream Sacrifice* (Alaskan Grade 5, ED2, Scottish 6).

On June 4, Lewis and Ramsden attempted to repeat the new Donini-Crouch route of the previous week on the south face of the Moose's Tooth. At 2 a.m., halfway up the icefall and with clear skies above, the temperature was still 7°C and running water poured down the granite walls all around. We turned back to camp to wait for it to get colder. It never did, and on June 5, feeling a bit jaded after 32 days on the ice, we called Paul Roderick and flew back to Talkeetna to start the trip home.

NICK LEWIS, *unaffiliated*

*Mt. Barille, East Face, Attempt.* Silvo Karo (Slovenia) and Jerry Gore (U.K.) attempted a new line on Mt. Barille's east face. They landed below the face on June 2, but bad weather prevented them from climbing until June 11. They fixed some ropes on the lower part of the route. The lower pitches provided hard aid climbing with hooks, bird beaks and copperheads. They graded it A4; Karo reported it as the most demanding aid climbing he had ever done in the real mountains. On June 18, while fixing the last two ropes, a rock/ice/snow avalanche swept down the face, injuring Gore. He was unable to climb farther and the pair retreated. During the descent, another avalanche damaged their ropes. They left the mountains by plane on June 19.

MIHA PETERNEL, *Planinska zveza Slovenije*

*The Wisdom Tooth, South Face, New Route.* It was reported that Graham Fontella, Bill Gambel, Mark Davis and Kevin Daniels put up a new route, *Novocain* (VI 5.10 A2), on the south face of the Wisdom Tooth in the Ruth Gorge over a five-day spell of good weather in May. The route follows a prominent red dihedral for 16 pitches with what was described as mostly moderate free and aid climbing on good rock. (*Climbing* 172)

*The Moose's Tooth, The Toose's Mooth, New Route.* In May, Seth Shaw and Scott Simper