

This past summer saw considerable activity in the Adamant–Gothics area of the northern Selkirks. G. Foweraker and T. McAllister forged a new line, *Virgin Sacrifice* (IV 5.10c A2), up the south face of Montezuma's Finger, while T. Craig and P. Oxtoby persevered for four days on a new route (VI 5.10 A2) up the south face of Adamant. The elusive summit of the Stickle was gained by T. Pochay and D. Scott, who climbed a fine line on the south face and east ridge (IV 5.10 A2).

Gibraltar saw G. Foweraker and T. McAllister climb the Southeast Buttress (IV 5.10+ A2). These and many other new routes will be more fully documented in revised guidebooks to the north and south Selkirks, the first of which should appear by late spring 2001.

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## PURCELL MOUNTAINS

### The Bugaboos

*The Bugaboos, Various New Routes and First Free Ascent.* Between July 24 and August 16, Patience Donahue and I lucked onto a weather window and scored three new routes and one first free ascent. The most significant route is *Cameron's Pillar* (5.11+, 1,500'), a fantastic line on the south face of the South Howser Tower named after our friend Cameron Tague, who was with us in spirit during every perfect jam. The first ascent list should read, "FA: Patience and Topher Donahue and the Spirit of Cameron Tague." We did not go to the summit, but rappelled after reaching the end of the steep climbing and the top of the pillar, where we scattered Cameron's ashes.

On the southwest corner of the East Pigeon Feather, we found *Finger Berry Jam* (5.12-, 900'), a route so fine we had to return and climb it twice more after the first ascent.

At the end of our stay we free climbed the *Tower Arête* (5.12-, 1,000') on Snowpatch Spire. We fixed one pin and followed the aid line almost exactly.

TOPHER DONAHUE

## CANADIAN ROCKIES

*Mt. Chephren, Leftover Rib, New Route.* The east face of Mt. Chephren, a graceful pyramid with a multitude of rock ribs sweeping down from the summit, towers nearly a vertical mile above the Icefields Parkway. It received its first ascent in the summer of 1965, when a crew of Vulgarians led by Art Gran climbed the central rib. Then, in the winter of 1987, Barry Blanchard, Ward Robinson, and Peter Arbic pioneered *The Wild Thing* up a steep mixed gully to the right of the Gran Route. But that left a lot of unexplored ground.

I got my first taste of the east face in 1998 when Jim Seigny and I climbed the Gran Route. A few years earlier, Jim and Ken Wylie had attempted a new line on the east face, but Jim and I were going alpine climbing together for the first time and thought it better to stick to an established route. Last August found us once again glassing the face from across Waterfowl Lake. Our objective was the line Jim and Ken had attempted earlier: an obvious rib left of the Gran Route.

A pitch or two of scruffy corners got us to the base of a large ramp. We unroped and