CENTRAL ANDES

Peaks in the Cepo and Quempo chains. I accompanied Fernando Montenegro (Santiago) in several forays into these two rocky chains located in the Santiago hinterland, east of the ski resort of Farellones. The peaks we chose were small by Chilean standards but were hitherto unclimbed. On January 24 we started from the Arenales valley and traversed Alto de la Jarilla (4050m) and Salazar (4020m). The latter peak demanded rope work under its summit. Both are in the Cepo chain. In December we went to the Quempo chain and climbed Sargento del Quempo (4156m). A week later we re-entered the Arenales valley and on December 28 traversed Lagruca (4109m) and La Laguna (4182m), five first ascents in all. In January 2002 I went, now alone, to the ski resort of Portillo and from the international border pass of Lomas Coloradas made the second ascent, and first by the unstable east flank, of Charqueado (4515m). An attempt on unclimbed, unnamed, and quite difficult Peak 4587m failed.

EVELIO ECHEVARRÍA

Northern Patagonia

LAKE DISTRICT

Cochamo, Cerro Trinidad. I climbed in Cochamo in 1999 and 2000, staying two months each time. The first year four Brazilians and I put up a new line on Cerro Trinidad (800m, 5.11 A4), calling it Mucho Granito Arriba. The follow year we visited the area again, but climbed in two teams. Two of the strongest climbers in Brazil, Sergio Tartari and José Luis Hartman, opened Tabanos na Cara (700m, 5.10c A3+) on the central pillar of Trinidad and Além da Laca (400m, 5.12c) on the lower Trinidad tower. They also opened another four routes: Mister M (500m, 5.10a), Velho Alerce (300m, 5.11, A3), and two two-pitch crag climbs. Stanley Costa and I opened Vozes da Grota (330m, 5.11c A2+) and made the first repeat of the just-opened Basque route Euskal Perestroica (900m, 5.10b A3) on Trinidad's main tower, freeing five of its eight aid pitches, upgrading it to 5.12 A2+. After that we did the first repeats of Além da Laca and Mister M and made an unsuccessful attempt on another tower.

Marius Bagnati, Brazil

Cochamo, Cerro Trinidad and neighboring peaks. (Editor's note: In the 2001 AAJ, p. 300, Ian Parnell gives a summary of a traverse of many ridges in the Cochamo area by Lucy Regan, Brian Bigger, and James Marshall. More information on the traverse is presented here.) In January, after attempting to complete the right side of the central pillar of the north face of Trinidad (we tried in April 2000 but retreated from pitch 9), we decided to concentrate on an alpine traverse of the Trinidad horseshoe. Skirting the base of Cerro Trinidad, we scrambled up the loose descent gully on the mountain's north side. With much cursing James led the HVS pitch of Stirling Moss in very cold conditions to breach the difficulties on the east face of Trinidad. Meanwhile I climbed the northern subsidiary peak (unnamed, 1479m, almost certainly climbed) and returned to second Stirling Moss. With inquisitive attention from a condor, we scrambled to the summit of Cerro Trinidad (1720m). The summit domes of Trinidad and its neighboring