

climbing. The mixed terrain was fantastic—some of the best I’ve climbed in the mountains—and led us on a circuitous path up the northwest face. At two-thirds height we intersected the North Ridge route proper, and followed it to the summit in deteriorating weather. After a few summit photos, we backtracked across the North Ridge and descended our route of ascent. We named the climb *The Message or the Money*, after a song by our favorite MC, Immortal Technique, and also as a good-natured jab at “new” routes that end far away from the summit, or even at the proverbial “end of the difficulties.” We climbed the route all-free with passages up to M6, and in 8½ hours ‘schrund to summit.

JOSH WHARTON, AAC

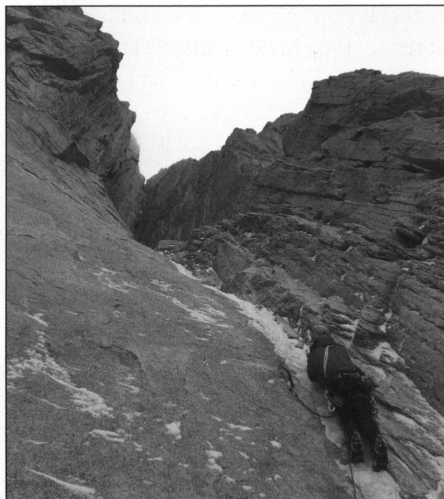
*Citadel, variation, and various activity.* For two weeks in late April and early May, Chris Nance, Dave Ahrens, and I visited the Shadows Glacier. We think we did a new variation to the 1972 route on the 3,400' north face of the Citadel. The route was mostly 40-60° snow and ice, starting with the obvious couloir to a hanging snowfield, then climbing several mixed pitches through rock bands (probably left of the original route), and eventually gaining the summit ridge.

We also made an ascent of the previously climbed Northwest Couloir on Gurney Peak, which starts from the top of the pass separating the Shadows Glacier and the Sunshine Glacier. On one of last days Dave and I went for one more route, the unclimbed west face gash on Vertex Peak. After a bit of climbing we bailed due to rope damage and lack of protection in the thin ice and polished rock. This route, however, would be a good, hard mixed route in a more favorable ice year.

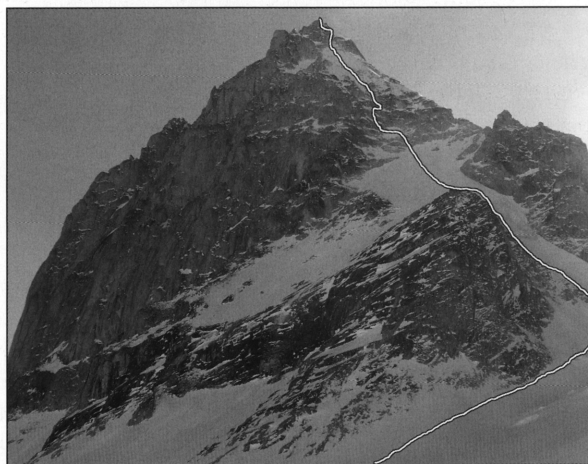
Dave thanks Mountain Trip for funding his share of the trip expenses.

JARED VILHAUER

REVELATION MOUNTAINS  
*Exodus, first ascent, Lefternliet Couloir; Ice Pyramid, attempt.* On April 29 Rob Jones of R&R Guide Services flew Seth Holden, Steve Sinor, and me to the Big River



Zack Smith attempting an unclimbed mixed line on the Citadel a few days after *The Message or the Money*.  
Josh Wharton



The Ahrens-Nance-Vilhauer variation on the north face of the Citadel.  
Jared Vilhauer