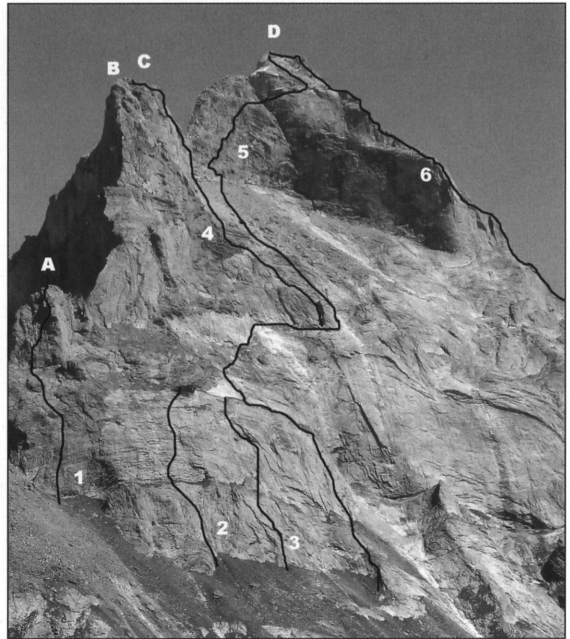


We fixed the first 400m of Lost on a Dream Track and left ropes for an attempt on the highest summit of Castle Peak. Returning on the 11th, we juggled the ropes and continued up right to bivouac at 4,900m. The next day we climbed to the high point, arriving at 2 p.m. and recording an altimeter reading of 5,470m. We would like to name this highest point Tivoli Peak (Tivoli being the section of the Italian Alpine Club of which Giuliani is a member). The route, Miguel's Race, has 2,200m of climbing, 1,200m of which we simul-climbed (UIAA III and IV) and the rest of which we belayed (UIAA VI and VI+, with a pitch of VII and another of VII+). Some of the hard pitches involved wide cracks, which were difficult to protect. Due to the complexity of the descent, we didn't get off the mountain until the 13th.

We then added two shorter routes to the southwest face, on the slabby terrain below Iris Peak and David 62's Nose, ending on the large grassy terraces. On the 16th we put up Placebo Effect (450m of climbing; UIAA VIII-) and on the following day Clandestine Route (450m; UIAA VI+). We tried a fifth route, but snowfall pinned us down for several days, and an avalanche destroyed our advanced base. The loss of equipment forced us to forego further climbing.



Castle Peak from the west with (A) David 62's Nose (ca 4,850m), (B) Iris Peak (ca 5,200m), (C) Stefano Zvaka Peak (ca 5,300m) and (D) Tivoli Peak (ca 5,470m: the highest point of Castle Peak). There are now 11 routes on this face, but only the 2007 and 2008 routes are marked: (1) Lufoo Lam (350m, UIAA VII+, Grmovsek-Grmovsek, 2007). (2) Clandestine Route (450m of climbing, UIAA VI+, Cacioppo-Giuliani-Iannilli, 2008). (3) Placebo Effect (450m of climbing, UIAA VIII-, Cacioppo-Giuliani-Iannilli, 2008). (4) Lost on a Dream Track (1,600m of climbing, UIAA VI+, Cacioppo-Giuliani-Iannilli, 2008). (5) Miguel's Race (2,200m of climbing, UIAA VII+, Cacioppo-Giuliani-Iannilli, 2008). (6) South Ridge-Who Fart? (1,100m, 5.10b, Kozlov-Savelyev, 2008). *Roberto Iannilli*

ROBERTO IANNILLI, *Italy*

*Toro Peak, southeast face; Castle Peak, south ridge.* It wasn't until the second half of September that Elena Dmitrenko, George Kozlov, and I arrived in India, too late in the year. We came with no set plans. At first we didn't even know where to go, but on reaching Manali, a beautiful village from which many expeditions start, we consulted a local guide and decided to go to the Miyar. We were looking for peaks below 6,000m with good rock, preferably unclimbed. At base camp we found several teams still in residence. However, the weather was poor, and half a meter of snow at base camp prevented us from climbing.

When the weather improved, George injured his leg. I couldn't sit in base camp, so I climbed Pt. JAMES, following the route first climbed by Australian women and repeated by



Seen from the south, Toro Peak and, to the right, JAMES Peak in the lower Chhudong Valley. Both are a little under 5,000m, with JAMES slightly higher than Toro. (1) Direttissima (ca 300m but 840m of climbing, 5.9, Lopez-Pfaff, 2008). (2) American route (ca 300m, 5.9, Fredell-Lampley, 2008). (3) Southeast face–Russian Route (300m, 5.9, Kozlov-Savelyev, 2008). (4) East ridge (300m, UIAA V+, Grmovsek-Grmovsek, 2007). There is a straightforward walk-off/scramble down the left skyline (west flank). *Andrej Grmovsek*

Americans [see below]. I didn't use a rope, and the 250m of climbing with a crux of 5.8 took only a few hours.

George's leg improved, but we had no time left to try something special. On September 30 we climbed a new line on the southeast face of Toro. The 350m route, which lies toward the right side of the face, had difficulties up to 5.9 and took four hours. It finishes on the easy upper section of the east ridge.

On October 2 we climbed the long south ridge of Castle Peak, taking 20 hours to make a vertical ascent of 1,100m (5.10b). This is a logical line on good rock; we climbed many pitches unroped. We found a club flag and shiny new bolt on the summit belonging to the Italians [see above]. This was the second ascent of Tivoli Peak and we named the route *Who Fart?*

DENIS SAVELYEV, *Russia*

*Toro Peak, south face; Point JAMES, Australian route, second ascent.* Elizabeth Fredell and I climbed two routes in the Miyar. On Toro we repeated the first few pitches of the 2008 López-Pfaff Direttissima, as far as the diagonal trough, rating the crux section 5.8+. We then moved slightly right and climbed directly up the slabs above and through a prominent roof that is visible from the valley. In the main this new ground was fun 5.5, but there was a fine, thin-hands crack through the roof at 5.9. We then climbed Pt. JAMES, more or less following the same line on the slabs below the northeast ridge climbed earlier by Australians Natasha Sebire and Gemma Woldendorp [see above]. The obvious way, up a couloir/depression, was snow-covered, so we climbed 200m of broken slabs to the right, at around 5.6, except for a section of 5.8 60m below the summit. The summit block has to be down-climbed. About 15m below the block we discovered an old rappel anchor and started a series of rappels down the route. [Editor's note: on the first ascent, in 2002, Vlado Linek and Igor Koller scrambled just below the crest of the