

Alpine Scrambles Trip Report

Everett Mountaineers

Destination: Rommel Mtn.
 Map(s): GT Coleman Mtn
 Guidebook: Vol 1, p. 219
 Trailhead: Andrews Creek, 3050'
 Carpool at: Julie's (Snohomish)

Date of Trip: May 23-25, '0
 (Sat, Sun, M)
 Scramble Rating: S-5-2
 Summit Height: 8685'
 Elevation Gain: 5600'
 Miles Round Trip: about 24

Ascent Route: Andrews Creek Trail for about 9 miles. Left trail there and ascended toward the ridge which leads SSE from Rommel. Attained ridge, and followed it to within 1/2 m of the peak. Dropped off the ridge at a narrow section, and traversed to the final S of the summit. Scrambled up easy rock & snow from there.
 Descent Route: Descended to the saddle, then dropped E down the easy basin to about 7200'. Traversed S and eventually regained our ascent route.

Party Members	Phone			
1) <u>Andy Boos</u>		(Leader)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

From:	To:	Elapsed Times	Student	Potential Leader	Reached Destination	Adequately Prepared	Noted Below
<u>Carpool 5:30 Julie's</u>	<u>Trailhead 7:50</u>	<u>4 hrs+</u>					
<u>Trailhead</u>	<u>Camp</u>	<u>6 hrs</u>					
<u>Camp</u>	<u>Summit</u>	<u>6 1/2 hrs</u>					
<u>Summit</u>	<u>Camp</u>	<u>3 hrs+</u>					
<u>Camp</u>	<u>Trailhead</u>	<u>4 1/2 hrs</u>					

Overall Pace of Party: Leisurely Moderate Intense
 Steepness/Difficulty: Can't fall Could fall Don't fall

Terrain Encountered: Rock Snow Brush
 Equipment Recommended: Hardhat Crampons Rope

Weather Conditions: Sat: Increasing clouds, scattered showers & drizzle toward evening. Sun: Dense occasional showers, steady rain in evening and overnight into Monday. Monday: Rain

Was a handline used? Yes No (If Yes, describe circumstances)

Accident Involved? Yes No (If Yes, submit an accident report)

Trip Narrative/Comments (about skills and conditioning of students):
We were able to go deep into the Pogarty Wilderness and successfully scramble a rem peak despite very, very poor weather. We did it the hard way, going in early season and having to contend with trail in fairly poor condition, rotten snow, and wet rock. It was very strong party, however including two students on their first official scramble.
We met the group in Blinthrop on Saturday morning, and hiked in on the Andrews Creek Trail to our camp, 9 miles in. The trail is probably nice in August but for us it was wet, very muddy in places, with several blowdowns, difficult stream crossings, and patchy snow from the 4 mile-mark on. The snow was very soft, and postholing with heavy packs was very strenuous.
We camped along the trail at about 5700'. Rain began just as we were arriving - a sign of things to come. It was misty and foggy overnight, and continued that way into Sunday. All day long on our summit day, we never could see more than a couple hundred feet. Fortunately we stayed on route, although we did discover that the ridge route wouldn't go, so we had to drop.
 (Continue on back)

off the side on some very steep snow. After that, we were able to traverse back to the final saddle and then scramble the remaining distance to the peak. On the way back we took a longer but easier route to avoid the difficulties of the ridge.

It rained all night Sunday after we returned to camp, and rained every step of the way on the 9 miles out on Monday. The parking lot was a very welcome sight.