



AAC Publications

Baby Helen's Dome, Ends of a Dream, and Various Huge Link-Ups

Colorado, South Platte Region

With various partners, Tal Wanish developed the first route up the north face of Baby Helen's Dome in the Sheeprock massif, starting in April and concluding in late October with a team-free ascent, on which both Steve DeWitt (leading) and Wanish freed the crux third pitch. Ends of a Dream (8 pitches, 5.12) traverses right to left across a prominent rising break into a long chimney leading to a shoulder and a final pitch to the summit. The route is protected with a mix of bolts and trad gear.

In the process, Wanish may have established the first route to the top of Baby Helen's, which, along with other new routes, allowed the completion of several enormous link-ups (15 to 18 pitches) of all five domes in the massif, spearheaded by Rich Aschert. The original Tour de Platte dates to 1984 and linked the west sides of Helen's Dome, Acid Rock, and Sheep Rock; the new versions add Baby Helen's and Polyphemus Dome, which also might not have been climbed before 2025. Details of all routes are at Mountain Project.

—**Dougald MacDonald, AAJ, with information from Tal Wanish and Mountain Project**

Images



The line of Ends of a Dream, moving right to left across the north face of Baby Helen's Dome.

Article Details

Author	Dougald MacDonald
Publication	AAJ
Volume	67
Issue	100
Page	146
Copyright Date	2026
Article Type	Climbs and expeditions