

## Schlitz Application

### Basic Information

#### **Applicants**

- Andrew Zabel '09
- Benjamin Chapman '09
- James Caballero '09

#### **Intended Destinations**

- Horse Pens 40 Steele, AL
- Red River Gorge, KY

#### **Trip Dates**

- March 16<sup>th</sup>-March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2006

### Expedition Details

We intend to explore the bouldering options of an area often neglected by Dartmouth climbers, and American climbers in general. The American Southeast, in particular Horse Pens 40 and Red River Gorge, are premier bouldering locations during a time of year when Rumney is not available to the Dartmouth climbing populace. These areas, which many among Dartmouth's climbing community are currently unaware of, offer an excellent array of world-class problems including such gems as Millipede (v6), Mortal Kombat (v3) and Bum Boy (v5). Additionally, because they reside in Kentucky and Alabama these areas are more accessible to students at Dartmouth than the higher profile climbing meccas in the western United States, such as Red Rocks and Joshua Tree.

This trip is important to us in a number of diverse ways. First and foremost it is a way to explore a less well known, though thoroughly remarkable and scenic climbing area. Many Dartmouth climbers are unaware of the truly world-class opportunities available on our side of the Mississippi River (outside of the Shawanagunks and of course Rumney). In addition to the importance of experiencing a relatively unknown area, this adventure will be an excellent way to improve our individual skills as climbers.

This trip will absolutely represent a challenge to our skills, as most activities in the outdoors are intended to do. However, given the nature of bouldering we intend to challenge ourselves physically in a safe and secure manner. Ben and Andrew both climbed occasionally before coming to Dartmouth. Since arriving in Hanover all three of us have made extensive use of the climbing gym, and when possible have climbed at Rumney. As preparation for the trip we intend to climb five to six days a week in the gym and build strength with regular workouts on the finger-board.

**Round Trip Mileage:** 2,590 mi. (Hanover, NH to Steele, AL)

#### **Schedule:**

- March 16<sup>th</sup>: Travel Day
- March 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>: Climbing at Horse Pens 40
- March 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>: Climbing at Red River Gorge
- March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Travel Day

### **Risk Management and Safety**

We do not anticipate any risks or safety concerns, however with bouldering there is always a risk of falling. We plan to alleviate this risk with the use of bouldering pads and spotters at all times. All three of our trip members have been CPR certified within the last 5 years, and one member remains currently certified. In the case of an emergency, each member of our group has a cell phone with which to call for emergency services. Each area we plan to visit is well developed and has access to emergency medical care in the event that it should be necessary. We will also have access to a car in the event of dangerous weather, such as thunderstorms.

### **Giving Back to the DOC**

Upon our return we intend to work to publicize the availability of premier climbing areas in the American Southeast to the Dartmouth community, both climbers and those who are interested in becoming climbers. We would accomplish this goal through a number of publicity generating mechanisms.

1. Submissions to Woodsmoke of either a series of poems or a short essay about the climbing at Red River Gorge and Horse Pens 40.
2. Pictures submitted to Woodsmoke (we intend to focus upon climbing photography as another important element of our trip).
3. A slideshow presentation focused upon climbing in the Southeast, as well as a technical workshop in climbing photography. This would be held during spring term, followed by a question and answer session.
4. Leading a learn to climb seminar at the climbing gym.

**Expense Estimate and Gear Request:**

**Money:**

Gas

Hanover to Steele, AL	1189miles/20milespergallon*\$2.5pergallon		\$149
Kentucky to Horse Pens 40, Alabama	378miles/20milespergallon*\$2.5per gallon		\$47
Lexington, KY to Hanover	917miles/20milespergallon*\$2.5per gallon		\$115.00
Miscellaneous Driving	200miles*\$2.5gallon/20milespergallon		\$25
Highway Tolls		\$20 (note: this is an estimate)	
Total Gas Expenses			\$356

Park Fee

6days\*\$8perday\*3people \$144

Stove Fuel

\$20 \$20

Food

\$15per day\*8days\*3people \$360

**Total Expenses**

\$880

**Gear:**

- 2 crash/bouldering pads
- 4 person car camping tent
- 1 large camping pot
- 1 cooler