

tober 23 got to 23,125 feet, but abandoned the attempt because of increasing snowfall and high winds.

MICHAEL CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

*Manaslu Women's Expedition.* The Japanese Women's Manaslu Expedition was made up of Kyoko Sato, commander, Tsune Kuroishi, leader, Masko Uchida, Michiko Sekida, Mieko Mori, Masako Itakura, Mutsumi Natashima, Teiko Suzuki, Tomako Itoh, Shizu Harata, Naoko Kuribayashi and me, acting leader. The caravan started from Trisuri on February 14 and arrived on the 24th at Sama. We established Base Camp at 14,500 feet on March 3, Camp I at 17,000 feet on March 10 and Camp II at 19,700 feet on the east ridge on March 26. We decided to change the route to the east face on March 31. This was up the Manaslu Glacier, the route of the Japanese in 1956. We established the new Base Camp at 14,275 feet on April 5, Camp I at 17,400 feet on April 8, Camp II at 19,350 feet on April 11, Camp III at 21,325 feet on April 18 and Camp IV at 23,450 feet on April 28. On May 3 Uchida, Mori, the Sherpa Jangbu and I established Camp V at 25,100 feet; they had been supported by five Sherpas. On the 5th they attacked the summit and succeeded at 5:30 P.M. The next day the four came back down to Camp III. That same day Suzuki, who had been climbing up to Camp V, was lost at about six P.M. A search was made for her on May 6 and her ice-axe, rucksack and wind jacket were found between Camps IV and V but there was no sign of her. We guess she must have slipped from near Camp IV. All returned to Base Camp on May 8 and left there on the 13th.

NAOKO NAKASEKO, *Japanese Alpine Club*

*Urkinmang, Langtang Himal.* On November 8 Bill Roos, Judy Rearick, Larry Derby and I made the second ascent of Urkinmang (20,100 feet) by its west ridge. The day before the summit was reached, ropes were fixed on 600 feet of rock band which began at 18,000 feet. These aided a very early start and assisted the descent in darkness. The ridge was corniced and composed on the southern exposure of hard snow and ice and on the northern side of loose, granular snow. This was almost the exact opposite of conditions encountered by the South African first-ascent team in 1972. Two days later, Bobby Campbell, Chuck Beyrensmeyer and Frances Butt were forced by high winds from their summit camp at 19,000 feet and were unable to gain the top.

MATTHEW WELLS, *High Altitude Observatory, Climax, Colorado*

*Annapurna East.* (Señor Anglada explains that this is a distinct summit (26,333 feet) just east of Annapurna I. The Spaniards climbed a new route, east of that climbed by the French.) Emilio Cavis and Manuel Martín crossed India with two trucks and reached Pokhara at

the end of February. Jorge Pons, Dr. Mariano Anglada, Eduardo Blanchard, Antonio Villena, Javier Pérez, Enrique Benavente and I as leader reached Pokhara on March 9. We had to wait a week to find 200 porters and 57 mules. It took seven days to get to Chhoya, where problems began because the Thulobugin Pass (14,100 feet) to the Miristi Khola was full of snow and most porters refused to go on. After relaying loads, we reached Base Camp on April 4. On April 12 we established Camp I at 17,060 feet on the main glacier of Annapurna I. On the 16th we placed Camp II (19,350 feet) a mile from the north face. From there we followed the north ridge of Annapurna East; several days' work of cutting steps and fixing ropes took us on the 22nd to Camp III (21,325 feet) on the ridge. The Sherpas refused to go beyond Camp II but we finally convinced three of them to make three carries of 25 pounds to Camp II (for additional pay). From there on expedition members packed 45-pound loads ourselves. On April 24 we reconnoitered and packed to 22,650 feet. On the 26th Martín, Villena and Pérez as support and Cavis, Pons and I as the attack team left Camp III and reached 23,500 feet, where the latter three established Camp IV. On the 28th we three set up Camp V at 24,575 feet, still on the ridge. On April 29 we left Camp V at seven A.M. and followed the ridge leading directly to Annapurna East. At midday a snow and lightning storm made it difficult to advance; later it cleared but stayed cold. We reached the summit at nine P.M. in the moonlight. The temperature was  $-36^{\circ}$  F. We descended until four A.M. when the moon set but soon continued again, reaching Camp V at six A.M.

JOSÉ MANUEL ANGLADA, *Club Montañés Barcelonés*

*Annapurna IV.* To celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Oberland Section of the German Alpine Club, Ulrich Kamm, Dr. Peter Weidenthaler, Ulrich Eberhardt, Heinrich Gentner, Georg Gruber, Heinz Hüttl, Franz Leutgäb and I as leader undertook to climb 26,041-foot Annapurna II. We met in early March in Kathmandu. We started the 10-day, 100-mile march up the Marsyandi from Dumbre. On the ninth day the party arrived at Pisang under the north face of Annapurna II. The left side of the two-mile-wide wall has hanging glaciers, icefalls and avalanche danger. In the middle and right of the wall are buttresses, which offered a steep and difficult but objectively less dangerous route (the route previously climbed by Japanese in 1971 and 1973). From Base Camp at 11,825 feet we quickly set up Camps I and II at 13,800 and 16,600 feet. To climb the  $45^{\circ}$  to  $55^{\circ}$  buttress took two weeks; we fixed 4600 feet of rope. Five Sherpas, equipped and fed like us, worked with us in three-day stints, carrying loads of from 35 to 55 pounds. We established Camp III at 20,000 feet on April 14 and Camp IV at 22,800 feet a week later. Stormy, windy weather followed. Finally on April 26, Gruber, Hüttl and Leutgäb made use of good weather and in several