

Russell, Foraker's Infinite Spur, the northwest face of Mount Hunter, the Eroica route on Hunter and the west rib of the south face of Mount McKinley in winter. Foraker, Sultana Ridge. Todd Miner, Gordy Vernon and I were the first to visit the summit of Foraker in three years when we reached there on June 16 after a 6000-foot summit day up the northeast ridge. We spent a total of 18 days on the Sultana Ridge, much of it in wind. Only one of our five camps was exposed enough to require triple-thick walls. The most useful gear turned out to be wands, not the ice-and-snow gear we carried since the route was not difficult technically. The length of the ridge has probably kept people away, but it is safer than the more popular, avalanche-prone southeast ridge.

WILLY HERSMAN

*Hunter, Southwest Ridge to South Summit.* After encountering chest-deep snow on the Lowe-Kennedy route, Andy Jenson, Cory Brettmann, Dave Karl and I had Jim Okonek fly us to the south side of Mount Hunter. We had our eyes set on the southwest ridge first climbed by Alan Kearney and company in 1979 and apparently not yet seconded. The first 2500 vertical feet were in a couloir with perfect conditions; we raced up unroped in two hours. We then placed our first camp on a bench 3/4 of a mile from the top of the couloir and fixed two lines through some moderate mixed terrain. The next day was a long one with 11 pitches of hard 65° to 70° ice that ended at 11,600 feet for our high camp. Two days of storm and an avalanche that nearly did Jenson and Brettmann in came close to turning us around, but never-the-less, on May 27 we headed for the summit, only to be stopped 100 feet shy by an overhanging bergschrund which seemed to encircle the summit cone. Off with the crampons, and 6-foot-8 Cory and 6-foot-4 Andy boosted me up over the final obstacle. Two days more of storm passed without food in wet bags before we descended. After rappelling the steep ice, we glissaded the 2500-foot initial couloir in 15 minutes, although it nearly ended in tragedy when I sailed over the schrund.

CHRIS HAALAND

*Mount Brooks, South Summit, East Ridge.* Scott Gill and I climbed the east ridge of Mount Brooks to the south summit on June 29. This is a new route. The climb consisted of endless hours of post-holing in soft, unconsolidated snow. The final 75 meters, however, were a knife-edged ridge with spectacular exposure on both sides. It took 9½ hours to reach the summit from our camp at 6300 feet on the Brooks Glacier.

DOUGLAS CHABOT

*Crown Jewell, Throne and "Plunger", Little Switzerland.* In August, Rob Heineman and I spent four days on the Pika Glacier between bouts of heavy rain.