

Wojsznis climbed it on February 10, 1937. Salinas and I then climbed the northeast peak of the Nacimiento massif, or Cerro Nacimiento II (6460 meters, 21,195 feet), while Fons and Madozzo reached the summit of Nacimiento V (c. 6320 meters, 10,735 feet), north of Nacimiento I. The Poles climbed Nacimiento II. Nacimiento V is a first ascent.

CLAUDIO BRAVO, *Club Andino Tucumán, Argentina*

*Alma Negra District.* In mid April, near the Alma Negra pass over to Chile, east of the city of San Juan, Argentines Antonio Beorchia, Antonio Mastellaro, Mario Muñoz and Edgardo Yacante made the first ascent of Cerro Mirador del Olivares (c. 4800 meters, 15,748 feet.) After southern winter had started, Humberto Campodónico, Roberto Pereyra, Juan Sanz and I set out to do the first ascent of the big unnamed peak at the source of the Pismanta River. We approached the unknown mountain from the Quebrada de las Trancas and then followed the long, winding east ridge. We placed two camps, the higher at 14,000 feet. On June 1, we set out for the summit, but Sanz, aged 14, had to descend before reaching it. We have named it Nevado de Pismanta. Contour lines in the official maps indicate it is somewhat higher than 5400 meters (17,717 feet). On September 21, the first day of Argentine spring, we set out for the mountain settlements of Las Flores and Peñasquitos, south of the Agua Negra road and north of the Olivares massif. After transportation difficulties, we reached our destination. We marched up the Pismanta valley and camped at 13,000 feet. On September 23, we set out for P 5036 (16,622 feet), which we reached in the afternoon. We continued along the southeast ridge to the main summit (5100 meters, 16,733 feet). We named the massif Nevado de Bauchaceta. On the main summit were Miguel Beorchia, Maricio Manzi and I.

MARCELO SCANU, *Centro de Investigaciones Arqueológicas de Alta Montaña, San Juan, Argentina*

*Cerro Negro Aspero.* In the winter of 1989, in August, we attempted this massive mountain but a blizzard drove us back. At the beginning of the southern summer Humberto Campodónico, Roberto Pereyra and I made a successful second try. On November 18, we walked up the valley from the post of Guardia Vieja to camp at 4325 meters. The next day unstable weather and mountain sickness stopped our attempt. Therefore, we placed a camp at 5400 meters, only 100 meters below the top. After a trying night due to *siroche*, wind and cold, we set out for the summit (5500 meters, 18,045 feet), which we reached at a very early hour. Cerro Negro Aspero was one of the more important yet unclimbed peaks in the Agua Negra district.

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*New Altitude Measurements for Aconcagua and the Ojos del Salado.* In February, a team of Italian scientists from the University of Padua and Italian

climbers, supported by the Argentine Institute of Glaciology and Nivology and Argentine climbers, made new measurements of the two highest peaks in the Americas, Aconcagua, which lies entirely in Argentina, and the Ojos del Salado, which is farther north on the Chilean-Argentine frontier. The project was under the direction of Francesco Santon. The surveyors employed GPS (Global Positioning System). This uses a constellation of earth-orbiting satellites and portable receivers. The receivers track and record the positions of many of the satellites simultaneously. In addition to a receiver being placed in an “unknown” location, such as a mountain summit, other receivers are placed at “known” positions, such as benchmarks. When all receivers are switched on, they record the positions of the overhead satellites, forming mathematical triangles. Using a form of triangulation, the position of the “unknown” receiver can be determined based on the “known” positions of the other receivers and the satellites. For the measurements of Aconcagua, the surveyors set up stations at Mendoza, Potrerillos, Punta de Vacas, Cristo Redentor, Puente del Inca and Plaza de Mulas. For the Ojos del Salado, the stations were all in Argentina, at Cuesta de Reyes, Fiambalá, Cuesta de Loro Huasi, Chaschuli, Cazaderos Grandes, Aguas Calientes and Laguna Negro Pass. The height obtained for Aconcagua was 6962 meters (22,841 feet), which is 2.3 meters higher than the previous official altitude. They determined the altitude of the Ojos del Salado to be 6900 meters (22,628 feet), with a possible error of 5 meters. This is 15 meters higher than the previous official altitude of 6885 meters. It is not known by us if the respective governments have accepted the new altitudes as being official. As we go to press, Francesco Santon has been kind enough to inform us that he left Italy for the Andes on January 15, 1990 in order to refine the measurements of the Ojos del Salado.

*Aconcagua, the 1988-1989 Season.* Although Aconcagua is ascended all year round, most mountaineering, particularly for foreigners, takes place in December and January. In this summer season of 1988-1989, 211 expeditions were registered: 52 from the United States, 33 from Argentina, 21 from Germany, 20 from Spain, 16 from France, 11 from Japan and other parts of Europe and Latin America. The most common route was from the northwest, taken by 159 expeditions. The Polish route on the east was chosen by 41 groups and the south face by 9. Of the 792 climbers, 72 were women. In contrast, only five groups visited Aconcagua in the peak of winter. The speed record—Plaza de Mulas to the summit—that had been established by German Michael Dacher in 1988 was broken on January 12, 1989 by American Marty Schmidt, who accomplished the ascent in 6 hours, 13 minutes; that is two minutes shorter than Dacher.

LUIS ALBERTO PARRA, *Club Andinista Mendoza*

*Aconcagua, South Face, Ascent by First Argentine Woman and Twins.* Probably the youngest two climbers to ascend the south face of Aconcagua were