because of the wind. On October 11, Tomazin also reached the central summit and he too, because of the wind, could ski only from 7500 meters.

FRANCI SAVENC, Planinska zveza Slovenije

Cho Oyu from the North in the Pre-Monsoon Season. All ascents of Cho Oyu (8201 meters, 26,906 feet) were made by the first ascent route, first climbed by the Austrian Tichy in 1954. They were 7 Taiwanese led by Liang Ming-Pen, Summit reached on May 2 by Chiang Yung-Ta, Tsai Shang-Chih, Tenzing Sherpa, Ang Kami Lama and on May 4 by Miss Liang Chin-Mei, Liu Chi-Man, Pasang Lama; 3 Britons, 2 Argentines, 1 Norwegian, 1 Israeli led by Roger Meir, Summit reached on May 4 by Norwegian Eirik Tryti, Argentines Daniel Alessio, Mauricio Fernández, Briton Roger Meir; 6 Italians and 1 Spaniard led by Claudio Giorgis, Summit reached on May 4 by Italians Signorina Valentina Lauthier, Claudio Giorgis, Giorgio Sacco; 12 Swiss, 8 Austrians, 1 Swede led by Peter Stadler, Summit reached on May 5 by Swiss Peter Stadler, Arnold Würsch, on May 15 by Austrian Alois Neuhuber and on May 16 by Swiss Pierre-Yvan Guichard; 2 Swiss led by André Georges, Summit reached on May 7 by André Georges; 8 Germans and 2 Austrians led by Ernst Schwarzenlander, Summit reached on May 16 by Germans Michael Breuer, Franz Kühnhauser, Rodja Ratiteit, Austrian Christian Gabl; 2 Swiss led by Aldo Verzaroli, Summit reached on May 16 by Aldo Verzaroli, Moreno Moreni.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

Cho Oyu and Shisha Pangma, New Routes. Our expedition was composed of Italian Marco Bianchi, Portuguese João Garcia, Poles Piotr Pustelnik, Mariusz Sprutta, Zbigniew Terlikowski and me as leader. In September, the weather in the Himalaya remained unsettled; it snowed every day. It cleared on September 28 and a longer period of fine conditions began. On September 4, we established Base Camp below Cho Oyu. We decided to climb the mountain via the prominent southwest buttress, climbed half way by the Zakopane expedition of 1986. We pitched a tent, and later another, at 6500 meters and fixed 200 meters of rope. Difficulties on rock were of UIAA IV. Despite unstable weather, two pairs made it to the summit from a 7000-meter bivouac. We followed a new direct route. (Our Polish colleagues from Zakopane had turned left toward the normal route.) Bianchi and I made the ascent from September 17 and 18, followed by Pustelnik and Garcia from September 21 to 24. The summit plateau was covered with knee-deep snow and very tiresome. We then moved to the south face of Shisha Pangma. The Base Camp—the cleanest I have ever seen—was quite far (four hours) from the face. We climbed alpine-style. From October 3 to 6, Bianchi and Pustelnik climbed the right side of the face, following more or less the 1989 Slovene ascent route and the 1982 British descent route. I pioneered a fully independent solo route via the couloir to the right of the 1982 Doug Scott route. On October 7, I climbed the couloir
(up to 50°) in a few hours. The upper part was enclosed by a 300-meter-high rock and mixed wall, which was more difficult than I had expected. After a hard struggle, I reached the ridge at 1:30 P.M. and the distant highest summit of Shisha Pangma (8027 meters, 26,336 feet). We climbed in each case to the highest points, which nowadays is proving a problem on both mountains. On Shisha Pangma, many parties arriving from the north finish their climbs on the central summit (8008 meters, 26,274 feet), about 45 minutes short of the true top. On Cho Oyu, teams often content themselves with reaching the edge of the summit plateau. What is more, they claim these as completed successful ascents! [Wielicki has now ascended ten 8000ers, four of them by new routes, one (Broad Peak) in a one-day push up and down, and three first winter ascents (Everest, 1980; Kangchenjunga, 1986; and Lhotse, 1988.—Editor.]

Krzysztof Wielicki, Klub Wysokogórski Katowice, Poland

Cho Oyu from the North in the Post-Monsoon. Although all the climbers of Cho Oyu, with the exception of Krzysztof Wielicki’s expedition (see above), used the standard route on Cho Oyu on its western side, there were seven expeditions that approached from Nepal without permission from the Tibetan authorities. Those who came from the north with Tibetan permission are given with the summits and the date of ascent: 10 Koreans led by Kang Tae-Sun: Um Hong-Gil, Choi Byung-So, Min Kyoung-Tae on September 10; 9 French led by Jean-Pierre Frachon: Jean-Christophe Lafaille, Dominique Caillat, Frédéric Faure on September 30; 14 Japanese led by Kunikazu Yagihiara: Yoshio Ogata, Hideji Nakura, Mitsuyoshi Sato, Fumiaki Goto, Ryushi Hoshino, Tsuyoshi Akiyama on October 8; Osamu Tanabe, Shinsuke Ezuka, Pasang Tshering Sherpa, Lobsang Sangbu Sherpa on October 11; Kunikazu Yagihiara, Tsutomu Miyazaki, Mrs. Fumie Yoshida, Tsutomu Terada and Sherpas Nawang Sakya, Dawa Tashi and Nima Dorje on October 12. Other expeditions were not successful. Led by Arturo Squinobal, 7 Italians reached 7700 meters on September 24, and led by Marino Giacometti, 6 Italians and a German got to 7900 meters on October 18. Three Japanese, led by Masami Abe, probably got no higher than a foresummit on September 23. Seven Spaniards under the leadership of Josep Maria Maixe claimed an ascent on September 20, when Iñaki Ochoa joined Americans led by Keith Brown, but all four stopped on a foresummit just below the top on the eastern edge of the plateau (see below).

Elizabeth Hawley

Cho Oyu, Foresummit, and Shisha Pangma, Central Summit. On August 30, Jan Harris, Jim Jennings, Dan Langmade and I arrived at the 5400-meter roadhead Base Camp for Cho Oyu. We established Advance Base at the junction of the Gyabrack and Nangpala Glaciers, Camp I and II at 5700, 6400 and 7050 meters on September 5, 8 and 13. Because heavy monsoon and post-monsoon snowfall created avalanche potential, we decided against the