

GLORIOUS FAILURES AND COURAGEOUS MISFORTUNE, with forewords by John Harlin III and Mark Synnott respectively (Seattle: The Mountaineers Books, 2001; paperback, \$16.95), launch a new anthology series “distinguished by a specific adventuring theme.”

THE ALPS, EUROPE'S MOUNTAIN HEART (Ann Harbor: University of Michigan Press; \$39.50), by longtime AAC members Nicholas and Nina Shoumatoff, is an “unusual synthesis” of wide ranging scholarship about all aspects of the Alps, unified by the authors' deep understanding of the interdependence between and within the natural and cultural realms.

TOUCH THE TOP OF THE WORLD: A BLIND MAN'S JOURNEY TO CLIMB FARTHER THAN THE EYE CAN SEE (New York: Penguin Putnam; softcover, \$14) is Erik Weihenmayer's memoir describing his remarkable climbs, culminating with his successful ascent of Everest.