I try to keep up on the climbing history in the Wrangell–St. Elias region, and this may have been the first ascent of the peak. But a lot of climbs and adventures in Alaska go unreported.

DANNY KOST, *AAC*

ALASKA ST. ELIAS MOUNTAINS

Goat Glacier, various ascents. U.K. climbers Glenn Wilks, Geoff Hornby, Alistair Duff, and Susie Sammut flew into the upper part of the southwest fork of the Goat Glacier in the Granite Range. This fork had not been explored by climbers from Ultima Thule or A.A.I., who have cleaned up the other forks of the Goat Glacier. We Brits made ascents of the following peaks: Peak 8,110', east face, new route (FA of the peak made previously from the west, by an A.A.I. group), by Wilks, Hornby, and Sammut, June 12; Peak 8,882', first ascent via its southwest ridge, by Hornby and Wilks, June 14; Peak 8,172', first ascent via its west face, by Wilks solo, June 16; Peak 7,791', first ascent via its west face, by Hornby, Sammut, Wilks, and Duff, June 17; Peak 8,351', new route (FA of the peak made previously from the east, by an A.A.I. group) via southwest ridge, Wilks and Sammut, June 19. The only notable occurrence was a visit to base camp by a grizzly, crossing the glacial divide. I guess we smelled too bad, so he kept on going.

GEOFF HORNBY, *Alpine Climbing Group*

St. Elias Mountains, ski traverse. A ski traverse through the St. Elias Mountains that culminated in an ascent of Mt. Logan is reported in Climbs and Expeditions under Canada.

Mt. Miller, Double Exposure—Lady With a Fan. In April Mike Lynch and I headed to Alaska for two months of climbing, skiing, and work at the Claus Ultima Thule Lodge. The northwest face of Mt. Miller in the St. Elias Range was our first objective. The mountain had only been climbed once, in 1996, by Paul Claus, Carlos Buhler, Charlie Sassara, Ruedi Homberger, and Reto Reusch, from the south. I had seen one of Ruedi's photos, which showed only the beautiful top half of the central couloir on the northwest face.

After five days of scouting and observing the face, we headed out from our base on the Bering Glacier at 2:00 a.m. on April 26. Our primary goal was to climb and ski the central couloir, but two large cliff bands in the lower 3,000' made that unattractive. The line we finally decided on started to the left of the central couloir, heading up another, smaller couloir, then widening to a fan-shaped face. From the top of that fan we would traverse right on Grade 3 ice and mixed rock to the central couloir, then on to the summit. The 30' 'schrund wall took some time, but by 6:00 a.m. we were at 8,000'. Topping out on the fan, we agreed on a high traverse. A near-vertical ice ribbon in the back of a tight gully led to a fairly easy traverse on mixed ground. The central couloir was a beautiful sight: smooth, steep snow led to rime-coated ice blobs on the left, and the couloir continued to the summit on clean ice to the right. By the time we reached the clouds it was around 3:00 p.m. We stashed our packs to the left under rime-crusted ice bulges guarding the summit ridge. Moving on with three screws and two pickets, we ran the rope out, making good time, though the ice was brittle and shattered off in plates. Alternating leads, we took five long pitches to reach the summit ridge. The wind had gone from mild to intense; 60–80 m.p.h. gusts tried to lift us from the ridge, and rime-crusted snow pellets