Reconnaissance showed that, as in 2006, we would have to cross the watershed at Prospect Pass, which we did just before a big storm arrived. We never did climb the mini-Matterhorns to the east, instead skiing down to the Petrov Glacier. Crossing it to the site of our 2007 moraine camp was hard work, but I had a score to settle with one of the nearby peaks we had turned back from that year. Despite dubious weather, next morning we re-crossed the glacier to the southeast and climbed it, skinning to a high saddle between the main summit and a shapely granite subsidiary peak rising from the col to the north. Derek, Jerry, and I struggled up steepening ice, right of the rocky spine of the ridge, to gain the windswept 4,834m summit (christened Pik Petrov), only to find another cairn. Despite subsequent research, we found no written claims to ascents of the two peaks with cairns, and the fact that they'd been climbed before also surprised our Kyrgyz hosts. Perhaps a Dutch team from 2007 was responsible and did not log ascents nor publicize names for the peaks. Two days later, on a golden morning, we packed camp for a long gentle schuss to Lake Petrov, where we camped for the last time. It was strange to find ourselves on a gravel beach after so many days with the uncertainty of snow beneath our feet and nights of solid cold under our backs. We had traveled over 60km and climbed seven peaks (five new) in 24 days during April and early May. It was clear from observations over the five years we have visited the range that glacier recession is accelerating. Next day we skated over the frozen lake to the roadhead. Our heads were down but we had a feeling of success salvaged from what had so nearly been a complete disaster.

Dave Wynne-Jones, Eagles Ski Club, U.K.

TENGRITAG

Pik Parashutny, north face, not to summit. On July 27, Tadej Kriselj, Matej Smrkolj, and I made the first ascent of the north face of Pik Parashutny (5,360m). The 1,000m face is mainly snow and ice. We took a direct line toward the summit, climbing through poor weather. Due to bad

Looking up the Zvezdochka Glacier. (A) Pik Parashutny (5,360m), showing the line of Slovenian Birthday Party (1,000m), which did not reach the summit. The Slovenian team descended a couloir (hidden) on the west face. (B) Pik Pobeda (7,439m). (C) Pobeda West (6,918m). Andrej Magajne
conditions in the upper section, we slanted right to the crest of the northeast ridge 150m below the summit. Before we reached the upper section of the face, the climbing was mostly on good snow and ice up to 70°. However, the upper part was steeper and objectively dangerous, and by the time we reached the crest of the ridge after 10 hours climbing, there was 30cm of fresh snow. We decided to forego the summit and immediately descend the west couloir (40–60°) before the avalanche risk became even higher. At nightfall we reached the Zvezdochka Glacier, from where we only had to walk one hour back to our tent. We named our new line Slovenian Birthday Party (TD+) and felt it was harder than the Shroud on the Grandes Jorasses. Ten days later we reached the summit of Khan Tengri (6,995m) with other Slovenian climbers from our expedition.

Ales Hole, Kamnik Alpine Club, Slovenia

Pik Troglav, north summit, north face, second ascent; Khan Tengri, one day ascent. On July 26 Tine Marence and I arrived at South Inylchek Base Camp (4,000m), hoping to climb the south face of Pik Chapaev (6,371m). For our warm up and acclimatization we chose the 1,000m north face of Pik Troglav (5,200m). This mountain has probably seen only two successful ascents from this side: Russians climbed the rocky northeast ridge over five days in 1980, while in 1995 Tomaz Jakofíc, Peter Meznar, and Blaz Stres climbed the Slovenian Route (ED1) on the north face to upper northeast ridge in 15½ hours. Over the 29th–30th we likely made the second ascent of the Slovenian Route. There is a considerable gap between the north and main summits, and we didn’t continue to the latter. To consolidate our acclimatization before attempting Chapaev, we made a one-day ascent of the Standard Route (from the south) on Khan Tengri (6,995m). Bad weather arrived the next day and over the following week deposited 2m of snow. This caused a drama on Pobeda, where 16 climbers were trapped above 6,800m. One died on the descent, and the last climbers only returned to base camp 10 days later. Conditions made an attempt on Chapaev out of the question, and we flew back to civilization.

Andrej Magajne, Slovenia

Pik Eight Women Climbers, west face; Pik Bayancol, southeast ridge; Pik Kazakhstan, southeast ridge. Boris Dedeshko, Gennady Durov, and Denis Urubko made the second ascent of Pik Eight Women Climbers (Pik Vosni Alpinistok or Mramornaya Stena Yuzhnaya, 6,110m) via the west face. The only previous ascent of the mountain, indeed the only previous attempt, took place