

was a great success. More than 60 participants came from Fairbanks, Anchorage, Cordova, Talkeetna, Girdwood, California, Colorado, Washington and Oregon. Vast numbers of routes were climbed, both of moderate and extreme difficulty. Climbers heading for the Himalaya came to train on steep waterfall ice. Climbing conditions were good, with temperatures a little below freezing, light winds through Keystone Canyon and several days of sunshine. Luckily, the Lowe River was frozen, permitting hiking across the ice to climbs on the other side of the river from the Richardson Highway. Some of the difficult ice routes were these: the fourth ascent of *Wowie Zowie* (Grade VI) by Steve Garvey and Jim Sweeney; the first ascent of *Sans Amis*, an extremely difficult (Grade VI) route on the slabby, nearly vertical east wall of Keystone Canyon upstream from Bridal Veil Falls by Garney and Sweeney; the second ascent of *Love's Way* (Grade VI-) by Roman Dial, Kate Bull, Jon Krakauer and Brian Teale; and the first ascent of *Synapse* (Grade IV + ) by Teale, Chuck Comstock and Joe Loffredo in Keystone Canyon to the right of Mud Slide.

ANDREW EMBICK, M.D.

*Peaks Above Harding Icefield, Kenai Fjords National Park.* Rick Dare, Dallas Virchow, Joe Sears and I spent 13 days on the Harding Icefield in June. We reached the icefield via the Exit Glacier and spent three days hauling loads to Base Camp at a group of peaks near the northwest corner of the icefield. We climbed four peaks there by mixed snow and rock routes: P 5178 (60°08' N, 149°57' W), P 4900 and P 5000 (just east of P 5178) and P 4800 (north of P 5000). We also climbed P 4815, which lies southwest of the Exit Glacier.

STEVE GARDINER, *Unaffiliated*

*Needle Mountain Correction.* On Page 159 of *A.A.J., 1987*, it states that *Needle Peak* was a *second* ascent. It should have been *Needle Mountain* and it was in fact a *first* ascent.

*Blackburn and P 10,565.* On May 3, Paul Claus flew a party from Anchorage Community College's Alaska Wilderness Program to 7300 feet on the Nabesna Glacier below P 9111, north of Mount Blackburn (4995 meters, 16,390 feet). Led by Todd Miner and me, the party consisted of Karen Cafmeyer, Larry Hartig, Jim Sayler and Blaine Smith. We established camps at 9800, 11,500 and 13,000 feet. Above 12,300 feet, where our route joined the north ridge, the tedious job of breaking trail in deep snow ended; in fact, we were forced to camp at 13,000 feet in a crevasse because there was not enough snow for a snow cave. The broad summit was reached on May 12 by all. On the way down, Miner, Cafmeyer and I climbed P 10,565 from a pass at 9800 feet on May 14.

WILLY HERSMAN

*P 9110 and P 9105, Hole-in-the-Wall Glacier, Wrangell Mountains.* The Hole-in-the-Wall Glacier and the mountains surrounding it are unique. The upper glacier is a large semi-circular basin which flows off a ten-mile-long ridge, the south side of which is a vertical wall that drops 2000 to 3000 feet. It contains numerous snow-and-ice gullies and waterfalls. Several high peaks lie along this ridge: P 8880, P 9008, P 9105, P 9110 and P 9124. The north side of the ridge first gently slopes into the upper glacier at 8500 to 8000 feet and then becomes a vertical wall over which the ice tumbles in spectacular 2500-foot icefalls; five tongue-like icefalls cut through the wall. On September 23, Bob Jacobs and I were dropped off by airplane at 5900 feet in a large basin a mile from the south wall. We climbed up a snow ramp to 7000 feet to camp. The next day we watched five inches of snow fall. On the 25th, we climbed further up the ramp and then through a couple of snow gullies in the rock bands in the wall. This brought us to the upper ridge above the glacier. We followed the ridge east over hoarfrost-covered rock to the summit of P 9110. We went along the ridge down to 8600 feet at the base of the west ridge of P 9105. I led 100 feet up the 45° ice before we were enveloped in a severe white-out. It was a race to get down before wind and snow covered our tracks. On the 26th, we traversed around P 9110 to reach the base of P 9105 again. Bob led the 500 feet up the west face to the top. The rime-covered summit was impressive. We moved camp down to the landing area later that evening and down to the Glacier Creek airstrip, some ten miles down the Chitistone River the next day. We believe that these were the first ascents of the two peaks.

DANNY W. KOST, *Unaffiliated*

*P 9400, Chitina Glacier, Saint Elias Mountains.* Dan Doak and I were dropped at Huberts Landing at 2000 feet on the Chitina River to complete a climb I had tried with another climber in July. On September 16, we hiked along the north side of the Chitina Glacier to the base of P 9400 at 2400 feet. We climbed scree and through spruces to establish camp at 5200 feet on the south face of the mountain at the same site we had used in July. On our trip in July, we had enjoyed great views of Logan, King Peak and Saint Elias, but on this later one, we were constantly threatened by snow clouds. On the 17th, we hiked through fresh snow to 6900 feet, the base of the actual climb, at the foot of the south face below P 9000. We climbed a 45° snow-and-ice gully which lies just east of P 8645, up over a couple of steep ice steps onto the west ridge at 8700 feet. (This was our high point in July, when we climbed a rock buttress up the south face to reach P 8645.) Dan and I then followed the heavily corniced ridge over P 9000 and P 9300 and on to the main summit of P 9400. We had no distant vistas, but the view 7000 feet down onto the Chitina Glacier was breathtaking. P 9400 lies three miles northwest of the junction of the Ram and Chitina Glaciers. I believe this was the first ascent of the peak.

DANNY W. KOST, *Unaffiliated*