

of the Río Baker, south to the peaks of the Southern Icecap. We didn't know how to get off the mountain quickly and without rappels, aware only that De Agostini's first-ascent route was somewhere on the west side, and so we staggered through the wind for a while before finding an icefall that looked good. We raced down it under lowering clouds. We spent that night in rain and snow perched on rocks somewhere on the west side and returned to Base Camp the following day, March 5. Since the weather stayed unstable after this, we hiked in the neighboring valleys. The adjacent Cadena Cochrane has some very nice climbing and one can be active there even when upper San Lorenzo is engulfed in storm. Rock quality is disappointing on the north and west sides of San Lorenzo. Clearly, the big routes are on the east or northeast of the peak.

TIMOTHY RAWSON, *National Outdoor Leadership School*

*San Lorenzo, East Ridge.* Casimiro Ferrari, Danilo Valsecchi, Annibale Borghetti and Maurizio Villa made the sixth ascent of San Lorenzo and the second ascent of the east ridge in January. Their route was somewhat more directly on the ridge than that of the South Africans.

SILVIA METZELTIN BUSCAINI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Cerro Torre, First Female Ascent.* Italians Maurizio Giordani and Rosanna Manfrini arrived in the early southern spring below Cerro Torre. Only ten days after their arrival the two completed the Maestri route on the peak, reaching the summit on October 29. The descent was difficult because of very stormy weather. This is the first time that this peak has been ascended by a woman.

*Cerro Torre.* Carlos Buhler and I set up Base Camp in the forest below Cerro Torre at the beginning of December. The weather in October and early November had been phenomenal and already over 20 persons had summited in 1987. With only a month in Patagonia, we decided on the Maestri bolt route. After an unsuccessful attempt, Carlos and I set out on December 16. We broke trail through deep, fresh snow up the southwest glacier to the five or six pitches below the col. We reached the col by late afternoon and bivouacked in an ice cave. The next morning we began to climb at three A.M. by headlamp. The climb is mostly ice and rock of only moderate difficulty with abundant fixed protection. The snow of the previous days still plastered the ridge and at times made route-finding difficult. The bolt ladders dominate the middle of the route. To save time, we moved together on those sections. By one A.M. we were one pitch below the summit on Maestri's compressor. Carlos' headlamp had died and we were forced to stop until daylight. At six A.M. we stood on the very summit. Later that day, three more teams also made it. Descent to the ice cave took ten hours as high winds on the first rappels played havoc with our ropes.

MARK RICHEY