

the glacier is steep enough to make a good glisade; *Castle Mountain* (7410 feet) is ascended up the crumbly southwest ridge to the extremely crumbly limestone of the turreted summit area; *Wellsung Mountain* (7610 feet) is climbed up the north-northeast ridge from the obvious notch on the ridge. It is pleasant mixed climbing on rock and ice with short rock steps to the notch. From there it is class-4 rock to the top; *Kiev* (7600 + feet) on the border of the Gates of the Arctic Park, is a long haul from Galbraith Lake to the glacier under the north face. From the glacier, I ascended the ice headwall to a point on the snowy north ridge just below the summit rocks. There was 50° ice with class-3 rock at the top. The north ridge can also be reached from the glacier to the west; *Bunny Ears* (6200 + feet, 3.2 miles northwest of Castle Mountain) were both climbed from the notch between them. There is good rock on the west side of the north ear.

KEVIN J. MURRAY

*P 9875, University Range.* Bob Jacobs first saw P 9875 in 1975 during an exploratory hike up the Chitistone River. The view of this peak up Toby Creek is breathtaking. The 4500-foot north face is Eiger-like in appearance but rises to a sharp, corniced summit. On September 6, I flew to Glacier Creek and hiked up to 4500 feet along the Twaharpies Glacier. The next day Jacobs flew over to check my location before he landed and began to hike up to meet me. I moved camp to 5800 feet at the foot of the icefall which flows off the east face of the peak. I then climbed through the icefall and to 7200 feet to reconnoiter. Bob arrived at camp moments after my descent. On September 8, we climbed through the icefall to my high point and then up the glacier to 8000 feet. From there we went up 45° to 50° snow and rock to join the south ridge at 9300 feet. We worked along the narrow ridge, having to cross the ridge when the cornice changed directions. The last 350 feet were up 45° snow and ice on the summit pyramid.

DANNY KOST, *St. Elias Alpine Guides*

*Mount Chitina, St. Elias Mountains.* On September 20, Donnie Hunton and I were dropped off at Hubert's landing strip at 2000 feet and hiked along the Chitina Glacier. September 21 and 22 were spent crossing the Chitina Glacier and moving camp to 4400 feet on the west ridge of Mount Chitina. The National Center for Earthquake Research has a solar-powered transmitter at 4800 feet on the ridge. On September 24, we climbed the low-angled snow slopes above 5700 feet to the corniced summit (2568 meters, 8424 feet). The mountain lies at the confluence of the Logan and Chitina Glaciers, 30 miles west of Mount Logan. I believe this was the first ascent of the mountain.

DANNY KOST, *St. Elias Alpine Guides*

*Chilkat and Takhinsha Mountains.* In June and July, Chuck Warren, Gil Dewart, Walt Price, Marty Mushkin, Ed Kerwin, Linda Bolte, George Barnett

and I visited these mountains southwest of Haines. Following a helicopter ride up the Kicking Horse River and Garrison Glacier, we landed at 5500 feet at the head of the north branch of the Davidson Glacier, near the great wall at the southeast end of the Takhinsha Mountains and just west of P 6841 in the Chilkat Range. On the occasional days of good weather, we climbed several of the nearby peaks. Mushkin, Bolte and Barnett ascended the small peak north of camp on June 24 and the rest climbed it a few days later. The next day, at the southeast end of the Takhinsha Mountains we all made the ascent of P 6300, which has a 20-foot needle for a summit. On July 2, Bolte and Barnett climbed P 6243 by the west ridge. Two attempts were made on P 6841. On June 27, the entire party was on the west end of the north face where the snow meets the cliffs of the west ridge. The snow was unstable and the badly shattered rock too dangerous for a large party and so we abandoned the climb high on the face. A second attempt was made by Bolte and Barnett on June 30. Using ropes left from the previous try, they gained the summit ridge and went a short distance toward the lower summit. Deteriorating weather late in the day forced their retreat and retrieval of the fixed ropes. We moved camp to 2900 feet on the Garrison Glacier on July 3. Kerwin and Barnett climbed P 6710 northwest of camp on July 6. Except for the last few hundred feet, their route on the south side was a long snow climb.

LAWRENCE E. NIELSEN

### Washington—Cascade Mountains

*Mount Stuart, Northeast Face of False Summit, Blue Moon in June.* This route, climbed by James Ruch and me on June 5, ascended an obvious ice gully originating high on the Cliff Glacier, 100 meters below the start of the Ice Cliff Glacier Couloir. Three moderate rope-lengths of gully ice led to a steep dihedral where the gully narrows (AI-4) and to a pin belay below the second steep section. The next section was steep, thin and hollow for 30 meters. We belayed at the base of a snow slab. We trended left on rock holds to a steep runnel with a crack in the left wall. We belayed at a jammed ice block and climbed out left on vertical ice and up to a low-angle groove that led to the snowfield at the finish of the Ice Cliff Glacier Couloir. A seasonal route, it depends on conditions for its existence.

BOB COTTER

*Big Four Mountain, Central Summit Direct.* A long, though moderate, route on snow and ice. The route follows the narrow couloir that splits a buttress originating directly from the center peak of the five summits evident on the mountain. An icefall is apparent at the top of the couloir immediately below the summit. I turned the evil-looking cliff bands at the end of the Ice Caves Trail on their far right and traversed to a headwall sporting three ice runnels. I climbed the central runnel to gain the couloir proper (AI-3), which continued on at a