

on the south side were too poor. We moved to a new base on the north side and climbed the normal route. On September 12, from a camp at 5800 meters, Tič and Predložnik reached the top (7075 meters, 23,212 feet) without bivouac equipment. That day Gradišnik and I climbed to the snow plateau at 6300 meters and bivouacked in a snow hole. On the 13th, we climbed to the summit in five hours and returned to Base Camp.

ANTON GOLNAR, *Planinska Zveza Slovenije, Yugoslavia*

Kedarnath South Face. Domenico Chindamo, Romano Corti, Mauro Farina, Lorenzo Sala, Felice Vassena, GianBattista Villa and I attacked a climb which had been unsuccessfully attempted by Japanese in 1981 and 1987. The route rises 2400 meters on the south side of Kedarnath. The bottom part from Advance Base at 4500 meters to Camp I at 5200 meters ascended a steep glacier to the plateau at the foot of the upper wall. We spent from August 14 to 29 to climb this section, hindered by bad weather. The wall is divided into three sections: Triangular Rock, Middle Rock Wall and Upper Rock Wall. There were major problems on the Triangular Rock, where we had rock of up to UIAA V in difficulty with one section of artificial aid. Fixing rope to 6000 meters, we climbed this section from August 30 to September 3, placing a camp at 5700 meters. There was ice up to 75° and mixed climbing on the Middle Wall. Six of us had a frigid bivouac at 6600 meters. The next morning, September 6, only Villa, Sala and Chindamo continued on to the summit (6940 meters, 22,770 feet). Because we had already spent so much time, rather than climbing straight up the Upper Rock Wall they traversed left to reach the snow ridge at the left of the face, where they had ice of 40° to 70° and rock of IV. Vassena had had to give up at 5200 meters because of respiratory troubles. We were at Base Camp or above for 25 days.

GIAN MARIA MANDELLI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

Kedar Dome. Our 16-person international expedition established Base Camp at Tapovan on September 2. Our plans were to climb the northwest ridge of Kedar Dome and Shivling's south buttress. Advance Base was established below the south face of Shivling at 15,700 feet. Americans Mike Goff and I set off for an attempt on Kedar Dome, leaving Advance Base on September 6. At 20,500 feet, during the third night's bivouac, five inches of snow fell and forced us to retreat the following morning to Camp I at 16,075 feet. A team set out from Camp I under clear skies and followed our route. Australians Dave Gardner and Warwick Baird, American John Porter who lives in England, Tasmanians Sue Duff, Ann Wessing and Russell Taylor arrived on the summit on September 12. Nick Dekka soloed the same route the next day. Tasmanian leader Jim Duff, Australian Andy Henderson, Englishman Trevor Jones, Goff and I set out from Camp I on the 15th. In two days we pushed our camp to 21,500 feet. Snow continued to fall all night, which made progress the next day slow and precarious.

We set off a small avalanche when we were within 200 feet of the summit and decided to retreat. We arrived back at Base Camp on September 19 after five days of continuous snowfall to find our tents collapsed under wet snow. Hopes for an attempt on Shivling were abandoned.

ANGELA HAWSE*

P 6038, Gangotri Area. A 19-member Bulgarian party was led by Vasil Gurev. Three camps were made on unclimbed P 6038 (19,810 feet). On October 13, three women: Petia Kolcheva, Svetla Anachkova and Svetlana Toshevskia and five men: Kamen Kolchev, Valentin Bondarenko, Petko Totev, Bogdan Todorov and leader Gurev got to the summit.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*

Shivling Attempt. Micael Sundberg had climbed before in Tibet and I, in India and Nepal. Mikael Eriksson, Bogi Palfay and Mats Almlöf had had no earlier Himalayan experience. We did not try the intended steep rocky northeast face because of much snow and difficulties. We turned to the first-ascent route instead. After establishing Base Camp at Topovan at 4300 meters on April 17, we carried equipment to the start of the south ridge, where on April 24 we placed a high camp at 5600 meters. From that point, the route looked straight-forward and not too hard technically. It looked more dangerous than hard with a huge sérac halfway up. A few days later Sundberg and I were lucky to survive a big ice avalanche when parts of the sérac broke off. The tiny tent was covered with snow, but the masses of ice passed the camp by a few meters. On April 27, Sundberg and I climbed to 5900 meters, fixing rope before we descended to bring up more gear. However, at this stage some of the members were losing interest in the climb. I set out on my own and spent two lonely nights in the high camp. None of the others arrived and so I descended and the climb was abandoned.

KENNETH WESTMAN, *Östersund Klätter Klub, Sweden*

Bhagirathi II Tragedy. Dariusz Kubik, Marek Raganowicz, Jan Nowak, Mirosław Dasal and I as leader hoped to ascend alpine-style the still unclimbed 1200-high west face of Bhagirathi II (6512 meters, 21,364 feet) in ten or twelve days. The lower part of the face was not difficult, but beginning with the third day we made each day no more than 80 to 100 meters (UIAA V+, A2). On August 31, the fifth day of the climb, we were about halfway and some 600 meters above the foot of the face when rockfall struck the team. Jan Nowak was killed, while I was seriously injured. The next day, we managed to complete the descent after abseiling for 24 hours.

KRZYSZTOF WIELICKI, *Klub Wysokogórski Katowice, Poland*

*Recipient of a Vera Watson-Alison Chadwick Onyszkiewicz Fellowship grant.