

was made in 1965 by Boyd Everett, Gordon Benner, Joseph Davidson, Dennis Eberl, Leon Story and William Van de Graaf of the Harvard Mountaineering Club. (See *AAJ*, 1966, pages 19-24.) Šmid then climbed Hunter by the west ridge, soloed McKinley by the West Rib and ascended Foraker in mid-July by its northeast ridge.

*Fairweather.* Patrick Flanagan, Dan Stevenson and I started from the beach near Sea Otter Creek on May 1. We were heading for the west ridge of Fairweather from the Grand Plateau Glacier. We ferried two loads each to the snow in three days and began sledding from there. Day 6 found us at 4000 feet at the base of the major icefall. We had turned left up the valley that meets the Grand Plateau Glacier at 3000 feet, for it has a ramp up the icefall to its head. We went up the icefall, camping at 6000 feet, and then to the top of it at 7800 feet by the end of Day 8. Another small icefall with nasty crevasses occupied us on Day 9. We camped at 9400 feet and moved to the base of the mountain at 11,000 feet the next day. We left camp at five A.M. on May 11. We gained the west ridge by going to the col rather than over the west peak. The west ridge had good footing for crampons. We reached the summit at 1:15 P.M. We were back on the beach for our Gulf Air pick-up on May 17. [For the first ascent of this route by Canadians, see *AAJ*, 1992, pages 126-7.]

PAUL HODGDON

*Fairweather Attempt.* Scots Dean James and Steve Deykin tried in May to climb the Carpe route, but could not complete the ascent.

RICK MOSSMAN, *Yakutat District Ranger, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park*

*Fairweather, Carpe Ridge.* On June 11, Mike Daniel and I reached the summit of Fairweather (4669 meters, 15,320 feet) via the Carpe Ridge, by which the first ascent was made in 1931 by Alan Carpe and Terris Moore. Although they described the route as a "moderate snow climb," the conditions now are very different. The south side of the mountain gets much sun, which makes it unstable and subject to constant change. Our party also included Adam Rosenthal and Czech Stan Drdla. From Base Camp, set up on May 26 at 4500 feet a half mile from the base of our route, we saw a constant barrage of avalanches. We encountered mostly bare, broken rock up to 10,000 feet mixed with heavy crevassing and unstable snow slopes. At 5500 feet, the icefall was blocked by ice canyons, which we bypassed on May 30 by three 5th-class rock pitches to reach the snowfield below the start of the ridge. On May 31, we rigged a load-hauling system up this 350-foot section. The next day, while climbing in the icefall, we survived a massive avalanche which fell from the second hanging glacier. Drdla was carried 100 feet in it but continued the climb. On June 2, we set up Camp I in a protected 5900-foot site at the foot of the

ridge. We then climbed 1100 feet of easy rock intermixed with steeper rock steps threatened by rockfall. Camp II and III were pitched at 7400 and 9300 feet on June 5 and 6. Above Camp III, the ridge rose steeply to the Ice Pyramid. It had been avalanched down to hard ice. The weather deteriorated at 11,300 feet and so we dug a snow cave, where we waited out a storm for 36 hours. On June 11, we climbed several steep snow arêtes and hard, steep ice slopes to just below the south shoulder at 13,800 feet. We climbed around two séracs on the shoulder and crossed the heavily crevassed ridge to the base of the Ice Nose. Rosenthal and Drdla descended since the former had developed symptoms of acute mountain sickness. From 14,300 feet, only Daniel and I continued, climbing four steep ice pitches up the Ice Nose. Twenty hours after leaving our bivouac cave, at eight P.M., we wove around wind-sculpted snow turrets onto the flat summit of Fairweather. We descended in four hours to the snow cave. It took several demanding days to descend, while we were threatened by rockfall from the lower hanging glacier and by potential avalanches from Camp III down to the icefall.

PAUL NETZBAND

*Mount Root.* On May 30, Silas Wild, Sam Grubenhoff, Jim Urvina and I made the first ascent of Mount Root (10,570 feet), which we believe had been the second highest named but still unclimbed peak in North America. We were flown from Yakutat to 6700 feet on the Grand Pacific Glacier. A side lobe of the glacier rose directly above our camp. Weaving around crevasses, we cramponed up 1500 feet to the crest of the lobe. We crossed the bergschrund on the *only* snow bridge that connected the glacier to a 40° couloir. We climbed 1500 feet in the couloir to where the snow ended. It appeared that it would be fairly easy rock from there to the summit, but we had still to cross a nasty ice-filled gully, the crux, since we had left crampons and ice axes behind at the beginning of the rock. We still had a little more scrambling on rock and a hundred feet of moderate snow to the summit.

WARREN GUNTHEROTH, *Mountaineers*

*P 7450 ("Ivers Peak") Ascent and Mount Orville Attempts, Fairweather Range.* In 1991, Patrick Simmons and I flew with bush pilot Mike Ivers of Yukutat when we made an unsuccessful attempt to climb Mount Orville. In 1992, we were saddened to hear that he had been killed while flying in bad weather in the Fairweather Range. In 1991, Simmons and I had spotted attractive P 7450 close to Mounts Orville and Wilbur. Because of the association of the names to aviation, we thought it would be appropriate to name P 7450 for an Alaskan pilot active in the range and began to call it "Ivers Peak." In 1993, we returned to the region with a third partner, Steve Carroll, and succeeded in climbing P 7450, although we again failed on Orville. We climbed the east face in a one-day round trip from Base Camp below the face. We