

Brew and Sue Miller first attempted the east ridge, where they were stopped on September 26 at 5800 meters, and then the southeast ridge, where their highpoint of 6800 meters was reached on October 3. Powers was a recipient of an American Alpine Club Climbing Fellowship (Vera Watson-Alison Chadwick Onyszkiewicz Fund) Grant. Also unsuccessful were 9 *French climbers* led by Daniel Zanarol, who got to 6800 meters on October 6 and 3 *Greeks* led by Nikolaos Nagitsis, who reached 6400 meters on October 3. Kami Tenzi Sherpa died of a heart attack on the trek to Base Camp on October 10, but he will not be included in statistics since he did no climbing.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Lhotse.* An international expedition was highly successful on the west face of Lhotse. Leader Oskar Kihlborg and Mikael Reuterswärd of Sweden were the first Scandinavians on the summit, arriving on May 9. Mexican Carlos Carsolio was back in Kathmandu after his rapid ascent of Cho Oyu and flew by helicopter to the Everest-Lhotse area, getting to Base Camp on May 6. On May 13, he made a fast ascent of Lhotse in just under 24 hours, including rests totaling three hours in two camps on the way up. The Swedes and Carsolio contributed a footnote to the Tomo Česen-Lhotse South Face saga of 1990. They noted that despite Russian claims to the contrary, it is possible to see part of the Western Cwm from Lhotse's summit, and they have photographs to show it. Russian climbers have cited what they said was an erroneous claim by Česen to have looked down into the Cwm as one of the reasons to doubt his having made the solo ascent. Carsolio has succeeded by the age of 31 in scaling eight of the fourteen 8000ers and is only the fourth person to have climbed the five highest. The first three climbers were Reinhold Messner, Pole Jerzy Kukuczka and Slovene Viktor Grošelj. After their ascent of Everest, New Zealander Rob Hall and American Ed Viesturs joined this expedition on Lhotse. Well acclimatized, they made a rapid three-day ascent, getting to the top on May 16. [See Viestur's report below.] They are the fourth and fifth persons to climb both Everest and Lhotse in the same season.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Lhotse.* After guiding on Everest, Rob Hall and I made a three-day ascent of Lhotse via the normal west-face route. We rested for two days at Base Camp and then on May 14 climbed to Camp II at 21,000 feet in the Western Cwm. On May 15, we ascended to a high bivouac at 26,000 feet on the Lhotse Face, below the prominent couloir that leads directly to Lhotse's summit. We left our camp at 3:30 A.M. on the 16th, Rob climbing with bottled oxygen and I without. We chose not to belay in the 45° to 50° couloir and so climbed unroped. The snow had a perfect styrofoam consistency and we gained altitude rapidly. On the smooth 50-foot step halfway up the gully we climbed carefully, not relying on the old frayed fixed rope. We front-pointed up the steep summit snow cone, which stood atop a short terraced rock band, to reach the top at 9:30 A.M. The

view of Everest was amazing and we could easily see the Western Cwm. We were back at our bivouac at 11:30 and Camp II by three P.M.

ED VIESTURS

*Attempt of Lhotse-Lhotse Shar Traverse.* Jean Troillet and I established ourselves in Everest Base Camp on August 26. It was not until September 20 that our third member, Ruedi Homberger could join us at Base Camp and that kept him from doing more than getting to Camp II twice. On September 17, we made a first carry to Camp II. On the 24th, we climbed at night and spent the day there. At six P.M., we continued on up to the "Turtle" at 8000 meters to leave technical gear there. We passed over the South Col and returned to Base Camp. On September 29, Troillet and I set out to try to traverse from Lhotse's summit to Lhotse Shar by the east ridge. We left Base Camp at 5:15 P.M. and were at Camp II at 8:30. We slept for a few hours and started at four A.M. on the 30th to get above the "Turtle" at noon. We picked up our gear and were joined by Canadian Jeff Lakes and Scot Alec McNab of the international expedition led by Ryszard Pawłowski, who were trying for Lhotse. We spent several hours in a snow hole at 8000 meters. The snow was rather bad and we estimated it would take us 15 hours to get to the top of Lhotse. We four set out at ten P.M. The wind had picked up during the day. Climbing was arduous, but we climbed faster than we had foreseen and stopped in another snow hole to prevent our getting to the summit during the night. Troillet and I started again at six A.M., but Jeff and Alex quit. In the couloir the wind was turbulent and the visibility poor. We got to the summit at 9:10 A.M. in clear, frigid weather with violent wind. The ridge looked impracticable because of powder snow and cold. We decided to give up the traverse and to descend the normal route. During the descent, we gave a hand to Alex and Jeff, who were seriously exhausted. We got back to Camp II that day and to Base Camp on the next.

ERHARD LORETAN, *Club Alpin Suisse*

*Lhotse in the Post-Monsoon.* All ascents of Lhotse in the autumn were by the normal west-face route from the Western Cwm. The first to reach the summit were Loretan and Troillet, reported above. Three other expeditions were successful, placing climbers on the summit on the same day, October 11. These were *3 Frenchmen and 3 Italians* led by Frenchman Benoît Chamoux, *8 Italians* led by Agostino Da Polenza and *2 Britons, 2 Canadians, 1 Pole and 1 German* led by Pole Ryszard Pawłowski. The climbers who reached the summit were Chamoux and Italian Simone Moro; Silvio Mondinelli; and Pawłowski. Chamoux completed his ascent in only 30 hours from the Base Camp to the summit. He has now climbed twelve of the 8000ers.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY

*Lhotse.* Our international group of six was led by Pole Ryszard Pawłowski. We established Base Camp on September 5. From September 7 to 22, we