

mitted via the same Northwest Ridge route and were flown out four days later.

DAVID HART, *Mountaineering Club of Alaska*

*Mount Blackburn, North Ridge Attempt.* On May 15, Aspen climbers Jim Gile, Steve Marolt and Mike Marolt were flown to the 10,000-foot level of Mount Blackburn to attempt the North Ridge. On the same day, they climbed to 13,000 feet. During the night, a storm blew in and deposited four feet of snow. On the second night, a snow slide buried the team in their tent and miraculously only ripped the fly of their tent. They descended on May 17.

MIKE MAROLT, *unaffiliated*

#### St. Elias Range

*Mount Bona.* On April 18, Gavin Vaughn and I (George Pinney) were flown into the St. Elias by Paul Claus. We landed on a fork of the Russell Glacier directly below the north face of Mount Bona. We skied to 8,000 feet on the glacier and established basecamp where we sorted through three weeks of food and equipment. On the 19th we began our climb via a chute to the west that led to a bowl, and camped on the flanks of the prominent ridge coming off Bona to the northwest. On the 20th we nearly reached the ridge crest, but were held back by the deteriorating weather and a difficult set of bergschrunds that slowed our progress. We camped in a filled-in crevasse and spent the 21st waiting out the storm. On the 22nd we crested the ridge and camped on a saddle at 13,000 feet. At 15,000 feet we were hit by high winds but the sky remained clear. After four hours we had climbed 3,420 feet up moderate terrain using only one tool and reached the summit of Mount Bona at 16,421 feet.

GEORGE PINNEY, *unaffiliated*

*Mount Alverstone, West Buttress.* It was reported that Bill Pilling and Carl Diedrich climbed the 6000-foot west buttress of Mount Alverstone in seven days of climbing, five on the ascent and two on the descent. Their route was 80 percent ice split by snowed-up rockbands on pretty good granite. The pair was forced to wait out heavy snow on one day of the climb. They descended via the Beckey-Lowe Route on the north side of the mountain. (*Rock and Ice* 69)