

*Makalu, Southeast Face.* In October, Dan Mazur, Jonathon Pratt, Alex Nikifarov and Andy Collins completed the first alpine-style ascent of the southeast ridge of Makalu (8481 meters). An account of their ascent appears earlier in this journal.

*Makalu, Ascents and Tragedy.* Four teams followed the Standard Route, and success came to all of them, but was accompanied by tragedy to an Australian team. On May 8, David Hume and Mark Auricht became the first Australians to reach the summit of Makalu. Hume did not survive the descent, and his partner does not know what happened to him after he slid by him in an uncontrolled glissade about 250 meters below the summit. Benoit Chamoux and Pierre Royer from France were the first to reach the summit this season, and for Chamoux it was his twelfth 8000-meter success. All members of a party of four Spanish Basques and a South Korean summited on the day after the French. For the group's leader, Juanito Oiarzabal, this marked his sixth 8000-meter success, and for the Korean, Um Hong Gil, his third. On May 18, an international trio consisting of Ed Viesters (US), Rob Hall (NZ) and Veikka Gustafsson (FIN) made the fastest ascent yet achieved on Makalu, and did so without Sherpa support or bottled oxygen.

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*Makalu, Normal Route.* It was reported that a seven-member Dutch team led by Reinier Zuidhoff reached 6850 meters in the post-monsoon season. They were forced to turn back because of avalanche danger. (*High Mountain Sports* 161)

*Manaslu, Ascent and Tragedy.* Michael Zunk went to the 8163-meter summit of Manaslu on May 7 with teammates Joerg Bartock and Steffen Thomas as part of an 11-member German expedition led by Holger Kloss. On the descent, Zunk fell for unknown reasons. The day before, in spite of the effort of his colleagues, Joerg Starke had become very fatigued and died.

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*Nuptse, Southeast Pillar Attempt.* It was reported that Wolfgang Pohl led an eight-member German Alpine Club expedition that reached 7050 meters on October 25 before turning back in the face of strong winds and low temperatures. Climbing up to the high point had involved some 70 pitches with difficulties up to VII+ A3 and 90° ice. (*High Mountain Sports* 161)