

*Pirámide Garcilaso, Southwest Face, New Route.* On August 26, Brett Wolf of Gardiner, NY, and Andy Clarke of Glasgow, Scotland, climbed a new route on the southwest face of Pirámide Garcilaso (5885 m). Previously the only route on the southwest face was one climbed in 1979 by Dick Renshaw (U.K.).

The month had seen a pattern of predominantly heavy clouds (snow) pouring in from the Amazon Basin every morning, usually accompanied by high winds. We looked up our couloir and thought we saw good ice over rock. It turned out to be a sugary veneer over mostly sloping rock. Clarke compared the pitches to those of Scottish routes: 85 degrees mixed, one to two centimeters of ice, and atmospheric snow. Crux pitches barely supported the leader; they crumbled away when followed. Ice screws were useless; we employed some occasional pegs, and a snow stake for the illusion of a belay. The last pitch was slashing and tunneling through chimney gargoyles of snow to gain the upper quarter of the west ridge. On the descent, after the first rappel, a storm opened up. Conditions got real bad. The pair spent a long (14 hours) night in bivy sacks, then waited for the sun to thaw them out the next day. The route was named *Change of the Moon Couloir* (400m TD+) after a local kept telling the duo, "I think the weather will change with the moon."

BRETT WOLF, *unaffiliated*

*Cerro Pyramid, Southwest Face.* It was reported that Slovenian Dusan Debelek and Spanish climber Aritza Monastero climbed an 800-meter route on the south west face of Cerro Pyramid (5885 m) on July 13. The route, called *Facig Uno*, follows the an ice couloir on the right hand side of the face. (*Vertical*)

*Pukuraju, South Face.* It was reported that the French team of Jean Noel Roux, Jean Emanuel Sicart and Christophe Vigne climbed the Central Couloir on the south face of Pukuraju (5346 m) on August 11, 1995. The 350-meter route, which featured 60- to 70-degree ice with two near-vertical sections of mixed ground, was named *Hot Line* and rated Alpine TD. It is uncertain how this couloir relates to the couloir climbed on the first ascent of the face in 1967 by Bernays and Henostroza. (*High Mountain Sports* 166)

*Chopicaliqui, West Face; Yerupaja Sur, West Face; Yerupaja Grande, Ascent and Tragedy.* It was reported that Germans Mario Witte and Falk Liebsstein climbed two difficult routes in the Andes. First the team summited Chopicaliqui (6345 m). It took Liebsstein/Witte five days to reach the summit in alpine style from the highest point of the Langabuco Valley. They followed a difficult line on the west face and descended the south face. Except for two short rock sections the entire route was a demanding ice climb in variable and extreme conditions. The team also climbed the west face of Yerupaja Sur (6515 m) in alpine style. There is no moderate trade route on this peak. The route took the party three days negotiating icefields up to 85 degrees. Their success, however, was overshadowed by the deaths of two Austrian climbers on neighboring Yerupaja Grande (6634 m). Stephan Hradil and Nikolaus Wallner, both mountaineers with 8000-meter peak experience, were killed by an avalanche while descending from the summit. (*Klettern* 96)

*Chacaraju, West Face, Alpos-Facig Slovenija.* In June, a team of climbers from Slovenia pioneered a route up the west face of Chacaraju (6112 m). The expedition of four climbers (Dusan Debelak, Viktor Mlinar, Igor Oblak and Tomaz Zerovnik) came to Peru in the middle of May. In