

the Sundar Glacier at 5400 meters on July 7, and Camp II on the north col at 6000 meters. We followed the northeast ridge for our ascent. There was little snow on the mountain and the temperatures were pleasant. We fixed rope on two sections: between 5450 meters and 5600 meters over a bergschrund and from 6100 to 6400 meters, where we encountered the greatest difficulties of the route. On July 15 we made our first summit attempt, climbing from Camp II. J. Guridi (leader), A.J. Urones, A. Urones, F. Osa, J.R. Madariaga, J. Maerrea, J.L. Eguillor, M. Hernandez and Mikel Reparaz achieved the summit. Two days later, Jaume Gibernau and Raju (porter) summited as well.

JAUME GIBERNAU, *Spain*

Bhrigupanth, Southeast Face. It was reported that Karel Stkora led an eight-man expedition from the Czech Republic that successfully climbed Bhrigupanth (6772 m) on September 27 via the southeast face. (*High Mountain Sports* 174)

Gangotri I, Ascent. A Japanese team led by Yutaka Morizane climbed Gangotri I (6672 m) in the Gangotri area twice via the northeast ridge: On September 30, Daisuke Naromi summited with Rie Nishimoto, and on October 1, Yutaka Morizane reached the summit with Akiko Katagiri.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, The Himalayan Journal*

Chaukhamba II, Northwest Ridge. A nine-member Korean expedition, led by Nam Ki Chang, climbed Chaukhamba II (7068 m), which is situated at the head of the Gangotri Glacier, on May 14 via a new route on the northwest ridge. Summitters were Cho Chul Hee and Lee Byeonju. Chaukhamba II peak received its first ascent in 1995 when it was climbed by the northeast ridge by an Indian team of instructors from the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, The Himalayan Journal*

Chaturangi III ("Toledo Peak"), First Ascent. Chaturangi III (6393 m) lies in the Khalipet Bamak in the Gangotri area. A 10-member Spanish team from the city of Toledo led by Jose Maria Jayare approached the peak via Vasuki Tal during the month of May and made the first ascent on May 18 by the south and the southwest ridge. The ascent consisted primarily of snow up to 70 degrees and was mostly moderate with unstable cornices. The lone summitter was Vidal Miguel Angel. Members of the expedition were Javier Jayme, Jose Maria Janme, Perla Banagan, Jose Romera, Francisco Balaguer, Luis Cowacho, Miguel Angle Vidal, Jose Ramon Bacelan and Maximo MruCIA.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, The Himalayan Journal*

Thalay Sagar, North Face, Attempt. Jay Smith and I arrived at Base Camp on August 28 to climb a new route on the north face, which Andy Selters and I had attempted in 1986. Every day until September 17, we endured fog with spells of drizzling rain at Base Camp and snow at ABC. During this period, we managed to get acclimatized and carry loads to our Advanced Base. When the monsoon ended, it still snowed part of every day and was windy with temperatures ranging from 20 to 30°F.

Conditions on the route were quite different from my experience 10 years ago. On my first attempt, we encountered thick ice above the bergschrund and cracks in the granite above. The weather had been cold but reasonable until an eight-day storm hit. This year there was a huge



The north face of Thalay Sagar.
Jay Smith

snow slope above the 'schrund, and above that was six inches of snow over thin ice over rock slabs. We did not find the cracks I remembered from ten years ago, either. Besides difficulty with finding anchors and extreme cold, we also had problems with continuous waves of spindrift.

Jay and I climbed to 21,900 feet (as measured on our Avocet watches, in a storm) in early October, at which point a severe storm hit. We were battered in our portaledge for three days. On the fourth day I decided the margin for error was too slim because of the difficulty of climbing that we had to do in extreme cold and wind and we rappelled down the route. As I waited above Jay, who was on the last rappel on the snow slope, a slab broke 50 feet above me. Although the slab was quite large and we were pummeled by a lot of weight, the anchors held and we were OK.

Scott Backes and Steve Gerberding also came to climb a route on the north face of Thalay Sagar but were thwarted by the same weather and conditions as us and by diverse Third World bugs as well. Chris Nobles accompanied us on the first half of the expedition to take pictures.

KITTY CALHOUN

Thalay Sagar, Various Attempts. It was reported that Andrew Linblade (Australia) and Athol Wimp (New Zealand) attempted the north face of this peak in September, reaching 6350 meters before being turned back by continuing snow, extreme cold and incipient frostbite. A three-man Spanish team attempted the mountain by an unspecified route but illness on the part of the leader stopped their attempt. In May and June, a nine-member Korean team led by Hong Jae-Ahn attempted the northwest face but were turned around by avalanche danger at 6400 meters. (*High Mountain Sports* 174)

Mana Parbat II, Ascent. A ten-member team Korean expedition led by Min Kyu-Chung operated in the area during the months of August and September. The high camp was established at 6200 meters, from which point the attempt was made. B.R. Cho and J.K. Lee reached the summit of Mana Parbat II (6771 m) on September 12 at 3 p.m. by the west ridge. The team came across avalanche conditions on Mana Parbat I and thus it was not attempted.

HARISH KAPADIA, Editor, *The Himalayan Journal*