lier in this journal).

Along with the customary climbs of Sanford, Blackburn, Bona, Saint Elias and Logan, Paul Claus and Ultima Thule Outfitters helped a number of people with their adventures. The most notable achievements included (besides other climbs listed in these pages) the first one-day ski ascent of Mt. Wrangell, by Auden Endestad and Andy Embick in early May, and the first guided ascent of Mt. Saint Elias via the south ridge (by guide Bill McKenna with clients Paul Sharwell and Larry Krutko) in mid-June.

CHARLIE SASSARA

University Peak, North Ridge. University Peak (14,470') is a relatively unknown pyramid-shaped mountain lying within the University Range of the St. Elias mountains; its south, west and east faces rise more than 8,000 feet above the glaciers. If University were in a more popular or accessible region, it would be highly prized and often attempted. The mountain was first climbed in 1955 after a failed attempt the year before. The first ascent party scaled the peak via the Hawkins glacier and intimidating upper icefall to reach a basin northwest of the peak at 10,000 feet. The party then ascended the north ridge. This group also made the second ascent of Mt. Bona (16,421') by a new route on the south ridge, and the first ascent of P.12,980'. University Peak and Range were named for the University of Alaska Fairbanks by Terris Moore.

Having grown up with the mountain at his back door, Paul Claus had wanted to climb University Peak for most of his life. He had always dreamed of climbing the awesome south face, but this year finally decided it was more realistic to climb the north ridge. We made tentative plans revolving around Paul's schedule for early April. On April 6, Paul picked me up in Chitina and we flew in to his lodge near Bear Island. Later that day Dave Staeheli, Ruedi Homberger, Paul and I flew to "Beaver Basin" at 10,500 feet just northwest of the peak. On April 7, we all skied up to the col between University and P.12,980' at around 11,500 feet. We traversed the col and ascended about 500 feet of the north ridge to reconnoiter before stashing some gear and returning to camp. On April 8 we got an early start in clear weather with some hanging clouds and light winds. The temperature was around -10°F. We retraced our route of the previous day, then ascended the north ridge proper. The ridge is not technical, but requires a lot of route-finding to surpass the many crevasses and seracs. We climbed most of the route unroped (at times traversing either face, climbing the ridge crest, or descending and ascending inside crevasses or through seracs) until Dave fell some 20 feet into a crevasse while leading at around 13,000 feet. We had light snow and some wind, but the cold temperatures allowed for steady progress. The snow was deep powder or sugar. At around 14,000 feet we left some gear to lighten our packs, and proceeded to the summit. By mid-afternoon we had all reached a summit that for each of us had significant meaning.

Our ascent of the mountain was the second, and would be followed by the third, by Charlie Sassara and Carlos Buhler, a few weeks later.

DANNY W. KOST

P.10,000+' and P.8580', Centennial Range, St. Elias Mountains. On April 25, Paul Claus flew Mimi McDougall and myself into the Centennial Range of the St. Elias mountains, landing at 7,200 feet on an unnamed glacier only two miles from the Canadian border. We were between the Walsh and Chitina glaciers just south of Mt. George. On April 26, we ascended the boundary peak to our immediate northeast which I believe is 10,000+ feet. We ascended the steep glacier flowing to the south from the western end of the peak, beginning at around 7,500 feet

to reach a small basin at about 9000 feet. From here we went up a 40 to 45° slope above the bergschrund to reach the ridge, which we followed to the north. The main summit ridge runs west to east, and at around 9,800 feet we meandered to the east toward the main summit. The summit ridge is corniced to the north, and we finally sneaked up to the main summit in the thickening clouds and light snow late in the afternoon. The snow conditions were varied, with some sections having deep sugar snow.

April 27 was spent in the tent due to snow, wind and whiteout conditions. On April 28 we ascended the glacier and icefall leading up to P.8580' to our south, staying on our skis up to the ridge crest to avoid the deep sugar snow. We were hoping to follow the ridge to the west and climb P.9874', but the deep sugar snow was too frustrating and we decided to enjoy the day and not push it. Our high point was P.8984' between P.8580' and P.9874'.

We spent April 29 skiing in bright sunshine up the glacier to check out the higher peaks of the Centennial Range to our east, stopping at around 8,500 feet or so. Later that day Paul flew in just as a snow storm was descending on the glacier, and we got off just as the weather closed in behind us. I believe both climbs were first ascents of the peaks.

DANNY W. KOST

Peak 3596, East Face. It was reported that in June, Eddie Fay, Dan Krueger and Jay Rowe made the first ascent of the 3,000-foot east face of Peak 3596 in Prince William Sound. The trio climbed 14 rock pitches up to 5.10+ C2, followed by 1,000 feet of 30° snow during a period of good weather. Further details are lacking. (*Rock and Ice* 83)

Mt. Fairweather From the Sea. Last April our team of five left Port Townsend, Washington on an odyssey to sail to and climb Mt. Fairweather (15,320') without any assistance. We all worked for the Pacific Crest Outward Bound School (which helped us with an expedition grant) and all had experience on boats and in the mountains. Our challenge was to put all our skills and resources together to get ourselves to the summit and back home.

We sailed out the strait of Juan de Fuca on April 21 aboard my 40-foot racing sloop *Highland Fling* with enough gear and supplies for almost two months. After a relatively uneventful sail up the outside of Vancouver Island, through Hecate Strait and up the coast of Southeast Alaska, we managed (barely) to land our gear through the surf just north of Cape Fairweather on May 2. The Fairweather Slough is much larger than past accounts had reported and the snout of the Fairweather Glacier is now approximately three miles inland. It took us nearly a week to re-anchor the boat safely at Lituya Bay, consolidate our gear and penetrate the coastal vegetation. We then had to cross a swift stream and climb 50° ice seracs to gain the moraine rubble on the surface of the glacier. We made good progress weaving up the dry glacier and skirting ice falls by climbing snow and lateral moraines first north, then south of the Glacier. We saw no evidence of prior expeditions at the usual 5,000-foot base camp at the foot of the south (Carpe) ridge. We chose the southeast ridge because the access looked more feasible and it proved to only require a couple of belays on 50° ice to gain easy snow fields to about 7,800 feet where we camped. The next section required exposed climbing on a beautiful knife-edged ridge and steep snow and loose rock. As food was short and the route was looking difficult, two of us descended to the 5,000-foot base camp. Scott Dinham and Dan Evans summited the next day after negotiating continued steep slopes, cornices and the infamous "ice nose" in perfect weather on May 19. We had the only sustained clear weather right when we needed it.

The 30-mile descent/retreat had its interesting moments with snow bridges melting out, a