

seven pitches back-to-back of solid new-wave A4 or harder. What's really scary, though, is that we actually had to relead some of these pitches for the camera. The problem was that we couldn't shoot video and stills at the same time (due to conflicts with motor drives and flashes), so some pitches actually got led three times. All of this ate up lot of time, especially because the weather was quite often lousy.

After fixing for another week above the hanging camp, our three-ring, six-person circus finally topped out on June 25, 17 days since leaving the ground, having completed the route *Rum, Sodomy, and the Lash* (VI 5.10 A4+). We managed to summit on the most beautiful day of the expedition, allowing us ample time to enjoy the magnificent panorama. To our east and west, we could clearly make out the tops of the tallest peaks in Sam Ford and Gibbs Fjord. To the south and north, we could see out onto the Barnes Ice Cap and also across the vertiginous Arctic Ocean. On the way down, we spent three days at our hanging camp waiting out bad weather in hopes of doing more filming. The weather proved entirely uncooperative, so we eventually bailed, sending down some of the cargo by express mail.

In Base Camp, all of the snow had completely melted and we realized once and for all that the Inuit would never make it in to pick us up. It also wasn't realistic for us to ferry all our gear ten miles to the mouth of Sam Ford Fjord. Luckily, a helicopter was in the area doing land claim surveys, and the pilot agreed to pick us up for roughly the same fee we would have paid the outfitter. Checking out "Great Sail Peak" and the other still-virgin formations of Stewart Valley from the chopper window was a fitting end to my third expedition to Baffin Island.

MARK SYNNOTT

*Baffin Island, A Glimpse into the Future.* Prolific big waller Mark Synnott has made three trips to Baffin Island, including last year's (see above) on which he made an aerial reconnaissance of potential objectives. An overview of some of what the future might hold for the island appears as an article earlier in this journal.

## ELLESMERE ISLAND

*Ellesmere Island, Barbeau Peak and Various Ascents.* In June, an expedition to Ellesmere Island made a rare ascent of Barbeau Peak, highest point in the Canadian Arctic, and cleared up some confusion concerning its location. The eight-man party was composed of Dan Bennett, Jack Bennett, Tom Budlong, Tony Daffern, Pete Ford, Dave Rotheroe, Bill Salter, and Greg Slayden.

The best topographic maps do not clearly indicate the location of the peak. Hattersley-Smith, a member of the first ascent party in 1967, gives its location as 81° 55' N, 75° 1' W. However, Errington, leader of the second ascent party, locates Barbeau Peak as the one at 81° 53' N, 75° 17' W, over three miles to the southwest (see *AAJ* 1982, p. 176, sketch map).

Our party flew by chartered Twin Otter from Resolute to the North Ellesmere Icecap and established their first camp at 81° 57' 44" N, 75° 30' 40" W on June 14. Conditions during the week on the icecap were ideal: temperatures of about 30 to 40°F, perfectly clear, soft snow, and no major crevasses. From camp, Daffern, Ford and Slayden set off for what appeared to