

on the Amphu Labsta brought us back to the crowded Khumbu, through which we descended to Dingboche, Namche and Lukla. The Kyashar team would like to thank the Akademischer Alpen-Club Zurich for the club's generous support of the expedition.

BRUCE NORMAND, *Switzerland*

## MAHALANGUR HIMAL (BARUN)

*Tutse attempt.* A Danish expedition led by Claus Ostergaard made the first official attempt on Tutse (aka Peak 6, 6,758m) close to Makalu. The peak has only recently been opened by the Nepalese Government but is believed to have received at least one unauthorized ascent in the past by a party or parties with a permit for Makalu, acclimatizing on the smaller surrounding peaks. The team attempted the northeast ridge but failed at ca 5,000m. However, on October 23 Luise Hogedal Ortmann, Theje Ortmann, and the leader Ostergaard made an ascent of an unnamed 5,822m peak in the same area via its north ridge.

LINDSAY GRIFFIN, *High Mountain INFO*

## KANGCHENJUNGA HIMAL

*Jannu, north face attempt.* The all-star team of Erhard Loretan, Frédéric Roux, Ueli Steck, and Stefan Siegrist attempted the north face of 7,710m Jannu but were defeated at around 7,100m by the storms and heavy snow fall that plagued the Kangchenjunga region during the season. The team began early, reaching base camp at the end of March. Although the lower pillar leading to the large ramp/snow basin at the foot of the face was quite snowy, conditions higher looked good. In fairly settled weather at the start of April the four had soon established ropes up to Camp 1 and climbed the basin to the foot of the face at around 6,200m. Later, Camp 2 was placed at this point.

After discovering some of Loretan's ropes from the previous year, the climbers reached the big serac on the face around April 20. However, the weather then became increasingly unsettled with large dumps of snow. Much time was spent at base camp, and it wasn't until the second week in May that they could resume the climb. By this stage the team had opted to climb the face by the easiest line. On the night of May 16 more bad weather moved in and a retreat became inevitable. With the monsoon rapidly approaching, the team decided to throw in the towel and remove all their equipment and ropes on the descent.

LINDSAY GRIFFIN, *High Mountain INFO*

*Jannu, attempt on the direct north face.* Big Walls–Russian Routes is the name loosely given to a series of expeditions that since 1996 have been trying to climb 10 major new routes on some of the most famous big walls around the World. Last autumn's expedition to attempt the coveted direct route up the north face of Jannu (7,710m) was led, as usual, by Alexander Odintsov and included Alexey Bolotov, Mikhial Davy, and Mikhail Pershin from Yerkaterinberg; Alexander Ruchkin, Ivan Samoilenko, and Nickolay Totmjanin (Everest without oxygen), who like the leader hail from St Petersburg; and Mikkail Mikhailov from Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan. After acclimatizing