FALL ON ROCK, FALLING ROCK Washington, Nooksack Tower

On August 26, 1984, Joe Catellani (30) and Mark Bebie (31) ascended Nooksack Tower by noon. They made the first 50 meter rappel at 1230 and began down climbing Class 3 rock to the next rappel station. Bebie skidded down into the lower side of a refrigerator sized boulder, which dislodged and carried him ten meters before he was able to get out of the way and stop himself. The rock continued some 500 meters vertically to the Price Glacier. He sustained a broken right toe and severely cut right thumb. The team continued down seven more rappels, with Catellani belaying Bebie on the Class 3-4 scrambling. They reached their camp late that night and camped, hiking out the next morning. (Source: George Sainsbury and Bergtrage, Seattle Mountain Rescue Council, 84-13, September 1984)

FALL ON ICE—INTO CREVASSE, CLIMBING ALONE AND UNROPED Washington, Mount Shuksan

On August 30, 1984, Hans Sebald (43) was descending Hell's Highway on Mount Shuksan when he slipped and fell 16-18 meters before landing in a crevasse at the 2300 meter level. He was lying there for half an hour when two climbers who happened to be in the area heard him calling for help. An air evacuation ensued. Sebald had fractured his jaw, ribs, left ankle and wrist, and had a minor collapsed lung. (Source: Les Gitts, Deputy, Whatcom County Search and Rescue)

FALL ON ROCK, CLIMBING ALONE, DARKNESS Washington, Nooksack Tower

On the weekend of September 1-2, 1984, a party consisting of Alex Bertulis, his daughter, Stimson Bullett, and Rimas Gylys (26) climbed Nooksack Tower. Bertulis is the acknowledged expert on the peak, with some 15 ascents and at least one new route to his credit. All members of the party were very experienced. After a long series of rappels, they arrived at their high camp at 0300 on Monday, the 3rd. Gylys, who was employed in Vancouver, British Columbia, felt that he had to get to work or he would lose his job, so he continued on to his car alone. The remaining party members descended leisurely, since it was Labor Day and they had no time pressures. On arriving at the road end at 1800, they found Gylys's car still in place. They reported to the Whatcom County Sheriff, and the search was started the next morning. The weather deteriorated badly, and air search was spasmodic at best. However, three days of intensive ground search was conducted by Bellingham MRC, Skagit MRU, Chillwack, BC Rescue Group, Seattle MRC, and Tacoma MRU taking part at one time or another.

The ground portion of the search was closed on Thursday night, but a long day of helicopter search was conducted on Friday. The ground search was reopened on the weekend, with participation by Chilliwack, Bellingham and Skagit. Gylys was found late on Sunday by a member of Skagit MRU as the teams were returning from the field. The verbal report that has reached us is that the Skagit searcher almost walked off the end of a switchback low on the trail and saw a portion of a headlamp below him on a little ledge. Searchers quickly rappelled down and found Gylys at the base of