

Everest climbers race down to beat weather

FRI 18 OCT 1996

The South African climbers whose hopes to conquer Mount Everest were foiled by foul weather are now virtually running down the slopes before mountain passes are snowed in.

Howling winds, driving snow and the interminable wait for a window in the weather gradually decreased the chances of a victorious assault on the north ridge of Everest for expedition leader Alex Harris and Anton Erasmus.

The other team members - Sean Disney, Mark Campbell and Robin Walshaw - also had high hopes when they left for Kathmandu in August, but spent most of the time at the advanced base camp at 7 200m.

The team is making its way down to base camp, at the 5 000m mark. - Staff Reporter.
