

*Wyoming, Casper Mountain (Laramie Range), Garden Creek Canyon*—On March 2 Karen Stubbs (19) wearing galoshes, slipped on the ice-covered trail just above the canyon wall, slid, fell, and rolled 160 feet. The fifteen foot slide on ice and packed snow gave her sufficient momentum to clear the canyon rim for a 40 foot freefall. She hit a 60° rock slope, bounded 15 feet further, then rolled and bounced 90 feet down a couloir, stopped by the narrowing gulley walls which wedged together and acted as a brake. Karen was with a party of 10 hikers, 7 of whom were members of the Wyoming Mountaineers of Casper College; the other three (including Karen) were along for the Sunday afternoon walk on the horse trails. Three climbers on the walls saw the fall, one rendered first aid, one alerted the hospital and went after the club's Stokes litter, the third ran on up the trails and called back the other climbers. The litter was lowered by four carriers and belayed by four anchored belayers as it was brought down the remaining 100 vertical feet of the wall. A short carry across the creek and 200 yards on the icy trail brought the party to the waiting ambulance. The total time from fall to ambulance was less than one hour. Karen suffered multiple lacerations, a broken pelvis, and compression fractures of two lumbar vertebrae.

*Source:* Walt Bailey, Sponsor, Wyoming Mountaineers of Casper College.

*Analysis:* This can hardly be called a climbing accident, since the victim slipped on an icy trail where no one would think of using climbing gear for protection. The speed and efficiency of rescue was due to the presence of climbers trained for this type operation (and the fact they had not removed climbing equipment from their cars after a previous day's ascent of Devils Tower). The value of the Stokes litter in transporting the injured down vertical walls cannot be over-emphasized. Although this was much like slipping on the ice on a city street, it is a reminder that care and caution are needed even on a well-developed summer trail under winter conditions.

*Wyoming, Grand Teton National Park, Mount Teewinot*—On July 27, Thomas Mayer (20) and Warren Wolff (20) were descending the east face of Teewinot. Weather and climbing conditions were good. The party was below the Black Chimney, to the right of the central gulley and above the center snowfield. Mayer was climbing down belayed by Wolff. The belay rope caught behind a loose rock and pulled it down. The rock fell and hit Mayer on the left hand, dislocating and separating the first joint of the fourth finger. A nerve was severed.

*Source:* Frank R. Oberhansley, Superintendent, Grand Teton National Park.

*Analysis:* This accident could have been avoided through better rope management on the part of all concerned. It is the responsibility of both men on the rope to keep it free from loose boulders, and to advise each other if a rock pulls loose.

*Wyoming, Grant Teton National Park, Mount Teewinot*—On August 13, F. M. Andrews (47) accompanied by Douglas Andrews (11), Parshall

Terry (43), Bruce Terry (17), and Gregg Terry (10) were descending the east face of Teewinot. The weather and climbing conditions were good. The party, descending by the regular route, had split into two groups. Highest on the mountain were the Andrews, who had a rope. The Terry group had descended to the slabby area above and north of the Worshipper pinnacle when Parshall Terry found himself unable to climb up or down a short slabby pitch. He jumped-down about 3 feet to a grassy ledge, lost his footing and fell and rolled approximately 80 feet to the moat of the central snowfield. F. Andrews was summoned by the shouts of Bruce Terry and climbed down and into the moat where he found Parshall Terry dead from a skull fracture and a possibly broken neck. The party descended to Jenny Lake and notified the Jenny Lake Ranger Station. The Grand Teton National Park Rescue Team evacuated the body of Parshall Terry on the following day.

*Source:* Frank R. Oberhansley, Superintendent, Grand Teton National Park.

*Analysis:* The regular east face route on Teewinot has long been recognized as one of the less technically difficult routes for those who would climb a major peak in the Teton Range. This is particularly true in August when the climbing is generally 3rd with occasional 4th class rock—depending upon the route finding ability of the party. The exposure on the route however, is deceptive due to slabs which are separated by a succession of horizontally traversing ledges. With these relatively broad ledges stepping down below a descending party there is a temptation to relax caution. This is apparently what happened in this case. The party separated leaving Terry without a rope when he needed one. Jumping down, of course, is always a dangerous practice.

*Wyoming, Grand Teton National Park*—On September 8, Jim Bjorken (24), Dick Blankenbeckler (25), and Tom Creese (24) were climbing the Grand Teton. At about 10 a.m., when the party was above the notch behind the Molar Tooth, showers appeared to be moving in the regions to the S.W. of the mountains. As the ascent continued storm clouds formed over and around Grand Teton with increasing frequency. At about 3 p.m. on the descent from the summit, the party took cover in a small cave above the Owen Rappel to await an improvement in the weather. After several close lightning strikes, a strike occurred just above the cave. All three men received burns but only Blankenbeckler was knocked out. The other two men gave Blankenbeckler artificial respiration for half an hour before he fully regained consciousness. By 5:30 p.m. the weather had cleared and the party had regained sufficient strength to continue the descent unaided.

*Source:* William Siri.

*Analysis:* Short of retreating from the mountain at the first sign of bad weather, the climbers appeared to use sound judgement when the electrical storm approached.

*Washington, Mt. Rainier*—On August 31, Marcel Schuster (40), former European guide, and Naydine Nutley (20), both from Yakima, Washington,