

discoloration. Climbing was called to a halt so Larry could catch his breath. Swelling then began so a pulley brakebar arrangement was set up for lowering. This was backed by an anchored belay. They eased his boot back on for further support, unlaced to give a boot braced ankle support from slings. He was tied in by both seat and chest slings. An extra rappel was established to assist him. On descent, the rappel line dropped off his shoulder, the carabiner slacked open and the rappel line came loose, but did not effect the control of the descent from above. At the base, three carried him a short distance and Aleith rappelled down to him. By then the swelling had increased and pain was considerable. Four carried him to the car while the others cleared the rock. He was placed in a station wagon and driven to the hospital. X-rays there revealed a fracture of the right ankle.

*Source:* Dick Aleith (leader) and Larry Fisher

*Analysis:* (Aleith) In my mind, there was no apparent negligence of either belayer or climber. The climber's actions showed no signs of tension, and the pitch was not beyond his ability. The injury was caused by either striking the 3 inch ledge midway or the bottom wide ledge. Because of the location of the bolt, the belay was ineffective. Another location of the bolt would change the climb from a Class 5.

(Fisher) I fell off; no excuses. I just didn't do it right. In my opinion, I fell well clear of the small ledge, and hit only the bottom (starting) ledge. This is important since it means that the bolt was so low that the rope stretched and let me hit the bottom. Bad luck, a locked knee, and a low bolt caused me damage. We learned the belayer did as good a job as possible, but there was no room. Unfortunately, the bolt is already as high as possible. My back-to-the-rock semi-rappel was not a success and it came off. After that the rope made a useful hand line for control and traversing. Aside from that, the rescue was well managed.

*Wyoming, Grand Teton National Park, Middle Teton.* On 26 June, William Pierce (21), Mike Mikell (30), Beverly Pierce (21), and Sandra Hendricks were descending the Ellingwood Couloir on the Middle Teton. Pierce was glissading and lost control. As he attempted a self-arrest he dislocated his shoulder.

*Source:* Rick Reese, Park Ranger, Grand Teton National Park.

*Analysis:* In the first place the party was off route and the climbing was more difficult than they had anticipated. Pierce had dislocated his shoulder about 6 months before and had been told to be careful when using it. With the amount of experience the party had on snow climbing it was quite evident they should have been roped for descending steep snowfields.

*Wyoming, Grand Teton National Park.* On 18 July, Lendol Leach (19) and six companions had gone on an overnight trip to Waterfall Canyon. They had left the marked trail and got into what was described as off-trail rock scrambling. While they were attempting to ascend a steep rock and brush covered slope Leach slipped and fell to his death.

*Source:* John M. Morehead and F. Douglas McLaren, District Rangers, Grand Teton National Park.

*Analysis:* Complete lack of experience and disregard of any safety practices that might have been necessary for this type of travel.