

Difficulties in the rotten Couloir and the irrational behavior of the patient hampered the operation. Wahlund kept tearing off dressing and bandages and attempting to exit the litter under hazardous technical lowering situations. Some 600 feet of technical lowering were accomplished with 450 feet being done on a single upper anchor utilizing 300 foot ropes with attached 150 foot ropes via a knot transfer. Technical lowering was completed at 3:40 a.m. and the support team then made belayed non-technical lowerings down the talus slope to the trail from where Wahlund was wheeled to the west shore boat dock arriving at 5:39 a.m. (Source: Mark Harvey, Grand Teton National Park)

*Analysis:* Although Wahlund was off the technical portion of the climb, Baxter's Couloir is steep and rotten with loose footing. A hard hat would possibly have minimized the injuries. (Source: Pete Hart, Grand Teton National Park.)

**LIGHTNING—Wyoming, Grand Teton.** Jane Constantino (28) and Ralph Hill were climbing the Petzoldt Ridge on the Grand when a large thunderstorm, including hail and snow, hit them from the west. The party reached the notch at the top of the lower ridge and stopped there to wait out the storm. About 12:30 p.m. they felt strong ground currents and suffered burns everywhere that their bodies were in contact with the rock. The current was strong enough to render them helpless for about an hour, although they remained conscious. They bandaged each other's burns and climbed over to the Exum ridge, then rappelled into the gully below Wallstreet. They arrived at the Lower Saddle at 8:30 p.m. where they spent the night. The following day Ms. Constantino came into the Jenny Lake Ranger Station where her condition was examined by Dave Carman and Jan Boyle. Her right arm was burned from the top of the shoulder to the elbow, the burns were third degree in places. This was redressed with dry sterile bandage. There were also burns across her back and left shoulder which were not redressed. Her shirt had burn holes in other places, and her socks were burned inside her boots. (Source: Dave Carman, Grand Teton National Park)

*Analysis:* When lightning is about and retreat is impossible minimum contact with the rock will reduce burned areas. In this case all body surfaces touching the rock were burned. (Source: Pete Hart, Grand Teton National Park)

**FALL/SLIP ON ROCK AND ICE AND NO BELAY—Wyoming, Grand Teton.** Thomas Raymer (27), Jackson Hole Mountain Guide, was guiding Robert Slater down from the Upper Saddle of the Grand Teton. Weather was inclement with up to 4 inches of fresh snow and some ice on the rocks. Raymer and Slater were roped together, but both were climbing down with the rope coiled. Raymer was in the lead while descending. Slater stated his pack caught on

a rock, knocked him off balance, then he fell about 200 feet pulling Raymer off also. Both fell about 200 feet. Slater sustained a superficial scalp wound but Raymer was more seriously injured. It was later determined that Raymer had a broken femur and talus, plus severe scalp lacerations with part of the skull exposed. The fall occurred about 10:30 a.m. The rescue team elected to carry the victim all the way out that night rather than risk poor weather for flying the next morning. (Source: Robert Slater, Grand Teton National Park.)

*Analysis:* Under the icing conditions present at the time, Slater should have preceded the guide and been belayed by him during the descent. (Source: Pete Hart, Grand Teton National Park)

**FAILURE TO FOLLOW ROUTE AND INADEQUATE PROTECTION**—*Wyoming, The Tetons, Disappointment Peak.* David Sheridan (28) and Chancey Bittner attempted a roped technical climb of Irene's Arete on the South Side of Disappointment Peak on August 25. Sheridan slipped from a foothold and fell about 80 feet while leading the first roped pitch. Sheridan was off route and had only one nut anchor in at a point too low to absorb shock before he hit a sloping area at the base of the climb. Sheridan's partner, Bittner, summoned help from nearby climbers. Rescue was effected by Grand Teton National Park Rescue Team. Evacuation was completed by helicopter, to Lupine Meadows and St. John's Hospital arriving at 6:30 p.m. His injuries were diagnosed as multiple abrasions and contusions for which he was treated and released. (Source: Tom Kimbrough, Grand Teton National Park)

*Analysis:* Sheridan was off route and had not placed adequate protection. His runout was nearly equal to his height above the belay ledge. Had he landed in any area other than where he did, he would have been seriously injured. (Source: Pete Hart, Grand Teton National Park)

**FALL/SLIP ON ROCK AND PLACED NO PROTECTION**—*Wyoming, Grand Teton, Exum Ridge.* Joseph Sherrill (25) and Lyle Dean were attempting a roped technical climb of the West Face of the Exum Ridge of the Grand Teton. Sherrill was following with an upper belay when his feet slipped, causing him to fall about 50 feet in a sideways pendulum fashion. The fall occurred at 3:00 p.m. and caused extensive injuries. Rescue was complete by the next day, August 5, via carry and helicopter. (Source: Bob Ellery, Grand Teton National Park)

**RAPPEL FAILURE AND FALL/SLIP ON ROCK**—*Wyoming, The Tetons, Mt. Moran.* Gerald Huntley (32) and Susan Huntley (29) were descending by rappel the East Ridge of the West Horn of Mt. Moran on the afternoon of