

FALL ON ROCK, FAILURE OF "FRIEND"**New York, Shawangunks**

A man (24) was seconding on Never Never Land (5.10) when he fell and fractured his fibula. The ten-meter fall resulted from the fact that a Friend placed directionally pulled out. (Source: Brad Snyder)

Analysis

There have been several reports of Friends pulling out and also breaking. (See *Accidents in North American Mountaineering 1982*, pp. 44-45.) The former is usually because of improper placement (not necessarily the case here), exacerbated in the latter case by as much as a 90-degree strain on the stem when a fall occurs. (Source: J. Williamson)

SNAKE BITE**New York, Shawangunks**

A man (24) was bitten on the hand by a copperhead while climbing Dirty Gerdie (5.8). He did not fall as a result. (Source: Brad Snyder)

FALL ON ROCK, FALLING ROCK**New York, Shawangunks**

Hugh Herr (18) was trying a new 5.11 route on Sky Top Route when a hold broke. He fell three meters to the ground and had to be taken to the factory, as both his artificial legs were in need of repair. (Source: Brad Snyder)

Analysis

This is the same young man who was lost on Mount Washington in January. His legs were amputated 15 centimeters below the knees as a result of frostbite but this has not deterred him from climbing. (Source: J. Williamson)

FALL ON ROCK, FALLING ROCK, FAILURE OF PITON**New York, Shawangunks**

A man (23) fell 12 meters to the ground from Wasp Stop (5.12) when a hold broke and a piton failed. He fractured his pelvis and some vertebrae. (Source: Brad Snyder)

Analysis

While it isn't known if the piton was checked, a general note of caution is that most pitons found on routes now have been in place for many years. (Source: J. Williamson)

FALL ON ROCK, PLACED NO PROTECTION**New York, Shawangunks**

A man (50) fell three meters and broke his tibia while climbing Simple Ceilings (5.5) with no protection placed. (Source: Brad Snyder)