snow had fallen at the time of the avalanche, but we estimate about four inches. The avalanche was triggered in new snow sitting on top of a rain crust and was classified as D2R3. (Source: mountwashingtonavalanchecenter.org)

FALL ON SNOW – UNABLE TO SELF-ARREST, FAULTY USE OF CRAMPONS

New Hampshire, Mount Washington, Lion Head

On April 4, one member of a group was descending the Lion Head Winter Route control of his glissade. He slid an unknown length, impacted trees along the way, and came to rest wedged between two trees just above the first steep pitch on the route. The party was able to reach 911 via cell phone. Local caretakers from the AMC also heard their voices while skiing and went over to assist.

Due to the unfortunate location where he came to rest, stabilization and extrication was difficult and took longer than usual for accidents in this area. The patient was eventually packaged on a backboard in a rescue litter, which was lowered by rope through the steep sections of trail. He was loaded into the USFS snowcat and transferred to an ambulance at Pinkham Notch Visitor Center. The approximate time from injury to when he was transferred to the ambulance was four to five hours.

Analysis

We would like to remind everyone that glissading while wearing crampons is a dangerous activity. Every year people are injured doing this. If you do want to glissade, we recommend removing your crampons first. The Lion Head Winter Route is steep. It requires the ability to self-arrest. (Source: mountwashingtonavalanchecenter.org)

FALL ON ROCK

New Hampshire, Cathedral Ledge, Recompense

On June 18, Mark Gallagher (48) was climbing Recompense when he fell, hit a ledge, and suffered a compound fracture of his lower left leg. Gallagher said he had climbed Recompense several times before and he knew that he was heading into the most difficult moves on the climb. Following the fall, he was hanging from a rope 120 feet below the top of the cliff and 250 feet above the ground, just a couple feet away from his partner. "He lowered me down to him, pulled me over, and anchored me back into the belay."

Gallagher's partner pulled their cell phone. The call came into the Conway police dispatch center at 1:46 p.m., but rescuers were already on their way. Members of Mountain Rescue Service were nearby when Gallagher fell. They knew something was wrong even before they heard Gallagher yell.

Bayard Russell and Sam Bendroth, who have been on expeditions from Alaska to Patagonia, hopped into a car with two other climbers,