



AAC Publications

Fall on Rock

California, Idyllwild, Tahquitz Rock, The Bat Crack

On May 17, Lucas Dunn (21) fell 300 feet to his death while rappelling from the top of the Bat Crack (5.11a), the first of four pitches on the Vampire (5.11a). According to Dunn's partner, Greg Davis, the fatal accident likely occurred due to rockfall encountered during the rappel. "I heard a crash and turned to see Lucas coming down the slab with a few giant rocks, possibly the loose one I [had] noted, and the rope," wrote Davis on Supertopo.com. "Once he passed the slab and rolled off the ledge system, I knew he was unconscious."

Davis was given a rope by two nearby climbers and was able to rappel the remaining 175 feet to reach Dunn while the other climbers called in the accident. Upon arrival, Davis noted that Dunn was still alive but unconscious. Despite being administered CPR, Dunn never regained consciousness. He was airlifted from Tahquitz in a helicopter. Davis wrote on Supertopo.com, "For those that didn't know him, he was 21 years old, 6 feet tall, bright, and one hell of a climber." To read Davis' very moving full account of the accident, search at Supertopo. (Source: Edited from reports on Supertopo.com and Mountainproject.com.)

Images

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