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NEWS OF THE P.A.T.C. MOUNTAINEERING SECTION

1718 N Street, N.W. Washington DC 20036

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BASE CAMP

The 14 May Mountaineering Section meeting was brought to order by Stuart Pregnall who began with PATC council meeting notes: the guidebook to Great Falls will be reprinted; PATC is looking for someone who can make trail signs for the many unmarked paths as well as someone to work at headquarters during the day. A work trip to Bull Run will be scheduled to make a trail to the cliffs and those interested in climbing may obtain a key to the gate from Stuart Pregnall or Charlie Dorian. An upcoming worktrip to the Nelson House (May 31, June 1) promises an exciting weekend, including the famous chimney belay for roof Call Nori Gessler painting. for details.

A short summary of the special April meeting reaffirmed the club's desire to continue all its activities. The liability committee suggested we have a release form to lessen our exposure in the event an accident occurs during a club activity. Copies of such forms used by other organizations are being reviewed to help draft a form suitable for the Section. A suggestion was made to increase publicity. A pamphlet stating our function could be written in an eyecatching way and distributed at local climbing goods stores. After several newcomers introduced themselves, Bob Well's slides on ice in Canada were shown. From chopping through ice caves

to vertical approach climbs to rappelling off of pieces of electrical cable conduit, a variety of techniques were pictured and even those who had never been on frozen waterfalls could feel the ice chips falling onto the face as the tools were adeptly placed.

HANGING AROUND

Annapolis Rocks, May 4. Claire and Nori abrogated their responsibility as trip coordinators, one funhogging at the Gunks, the other getting lost for hours in the backcountry of Maryland.

A l l the usual intimidatingly overhung climbs were rigged when Annie and I finally showed up--Pine Tree Crack and the difficult face to

PATC. MOUNTAINEERING SECTION Chairman: Stuart Pregnall 202/338-6140 Vice Chairman: Pete Grant 703/960-6033 Secretary: Selma Hanel Treasurer: Karen Roussell 202/338-6140 Training & Safety: John Teasdale Climbing: Stuart Pregnall Expeditions: Ed Cummings Prog. & Entertain.: Paul Torelli Memb. & Hospitality: Joe Wagner Conservation: Charlie Dorian Publicity: RICh Canangham Nelson House: Nori Gessler 301/262-9128 202/338-6140 301/933-1457 301/299-8039 202/966-6379 301-946-2373 703/524-2068 Nelson House: Nori Gessler Carderock Conserv .: Janet Young 202/966-9091 UP ROPE Nori Gessler, Editor 703/524-2068 Up Rope is published monthly, except during August, by and for members of the Mountaineering Section of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club of Washington, D.C. Editorial contributions are welcome and Should be sent to: Editor, Up Rope, Mountaineering Section, PATC, 1718 N Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 before the 20th of each month.

the right of it; an easier climb on the arete to the left; and a tricky climb to the right of the chimney, requiring lots of Eakin-style heelhooks and fancy little hand jams. At the end of the day,

At the end of the day, when gorilla quotient was waning, we set up Faint's Roof. Those who had been rigorously doing their pullups managed the roof quite well. Others of us winged off in the most extravagant fashion. (Faint's Roof prompted me to rush out and buy a pullup bar for my bedroom door.)

Participants included: Anne Baron, Rich Cunningham, James Eakin, Howard Felber, Tom Isaacson, Marcy Logan, Art Karp, Tom Russell, Joe and Michael Nye, Stuart Pregnall, Annie and Nori Gessler.

REVIEWS HARDWARE/SOFTWARE

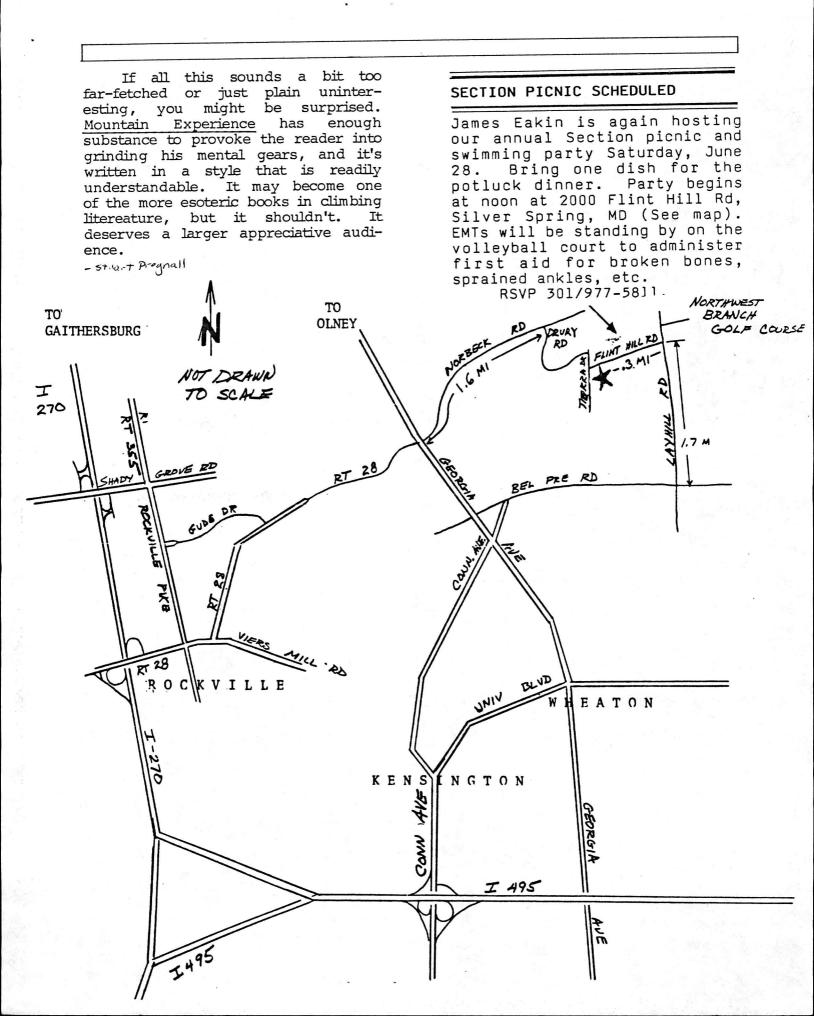
Mountain Experience: The Psychology and Sociology of Adventure. Richard G. Mitchell, Jr. The University of Chicago, 1983 (hardcover), 1985 (paperback). 272 pp, \$10.95. If you're interested in gripping tales of unprotected 5.13's or blizzardblown 8,000 meter peaks, skip this book. On the other hand, if "climbing" as a human phenomenon interests you, then <u>Mountain Experience</u> is a book you'll want to read thoroughly.

Richard Mitchell is a sociologist/climber with an observing eye. He has broken down climbing into several distinct yet related social and psychological stages, and has attempted to explain how each fits into climbing as a whole. Finally, and throughout the book, Mitchell seeks to fit "climbing" as an activity into the greater whole of social-psychological interactions known as "society".

Without quibbling over little matters, Mitchell makes some rather provocative arguments concerning who climbers are and why we climb. In fact, this is a useful companion to Tejada-Flores' <u>Games Climbers Play</u>, which describes what we do.

Central to Mitchell's reasoning behind why we climb is a phenomenon defined as the "flow experience." Briefly stated, "flow" is achieved when the action and awareness of a specifically created task chosen from a range of uncertain results become merged. In one syllable words, achieve "flow" when climbers WP challenge ourselves to an uncertain outcome (can I do this crux?) and devote our full capacity, skill and technique to climb, so much so that our awareness of what we are doing and the actual climbing are merged. Think back to the last really satisfying route you did and see if you can find "flow" in the experience. Another "flow", reviewer panned saying that all it really means is having fun. This is plausible, albeit rather simplistic. Flow is clearly available to every climber at every level, since the challenges and abilities are matched to achieve it.

Up Rope • Page 2



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	anet Young & Harold Goldstein 421 31st Street, NW	Washington 202-966-9091	DC	20015

CLIMBER'S CALENDAR

For program information, call PATC tape (202/638-5306 during daytime; for trips call the leader or Tom Russell (301/869-8058). Day trips to toprope or short multipitch climbs require no partner. Weekend trips (identified with an asterisk*) are to lead climbing areas. Please arrange for your own climbing

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June June		Caudey's Castle, Basic Climbing Co		Grant	703/960-6033
June June		Gordon Swenson Harper's Ferry, W Bull Run, VA		*	703/430-2869
June	11	Monthly Section M David Atkinson:	leeting, Climbing	PATC HQ, 8 in South	:00 America
June June June June	15 22	Vaso/Herzog Is, M Annapolis Rocks, Great Falls, MD Section Picnic, 2 James Eakin 301/	MD 2000 Flin		12:00 - ?

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED