

Yamagata reported on the history of the climbing-knapsack section, which began seven years ago after conflicts with section leaders over scheduling of trips. He based his appeal on the service performed for the chapter over the seven-year period in taking people to important, difficult places, in building a cadre of skilled outdoorspeople to aim for greater distances and higher elevations, and in offering alternatives to the trips being offered by other similar sections. He alleged that personality differences, differences in wilderness philosophy, and arbitrary, unfair actions had marred his relationship with other section leaders. He further suggested that his criticisms of outing leadership conduct, expressed in letters which had some circulation in chapter in the winter of 1986-87, may have led to the punitive action of eliminating his section.

Conclusions:

- 1) The OGC's action in terminating the section seemed to be within the scope of the committee's charge of administering the chapter's outing program.
- 2) The committee's action seemed to be undertaken in an orderly fashion, with the review of sections announced beforehand, with debate and discussion, with input from the affected section chairs, and with a duly-recorded, nearly unanimous vote. Yamagata's absence was regrettable.
- 3) The premises for this decision seem appropriately to be inferred from the data available to the committee.
- 4) The committee's goals (to run an effective, efficient outings program, to carry out outings safely and enjoyably, to develop leaders who are well-trained, display good judgment, and grow through collegiality and shared learning experience) is to be commended and supported by the chapter.

Recommendations:

- 1) that the excomm reject the appeal and support the decision of the OGC to eliminate the climbing-knapsack section;
- 2) that the appellant be advised that he may propose and lead trips under the sponsorship of the various outings sections and that he shall have the same opportunities and be subject to the same constraints as outings leaders generally.