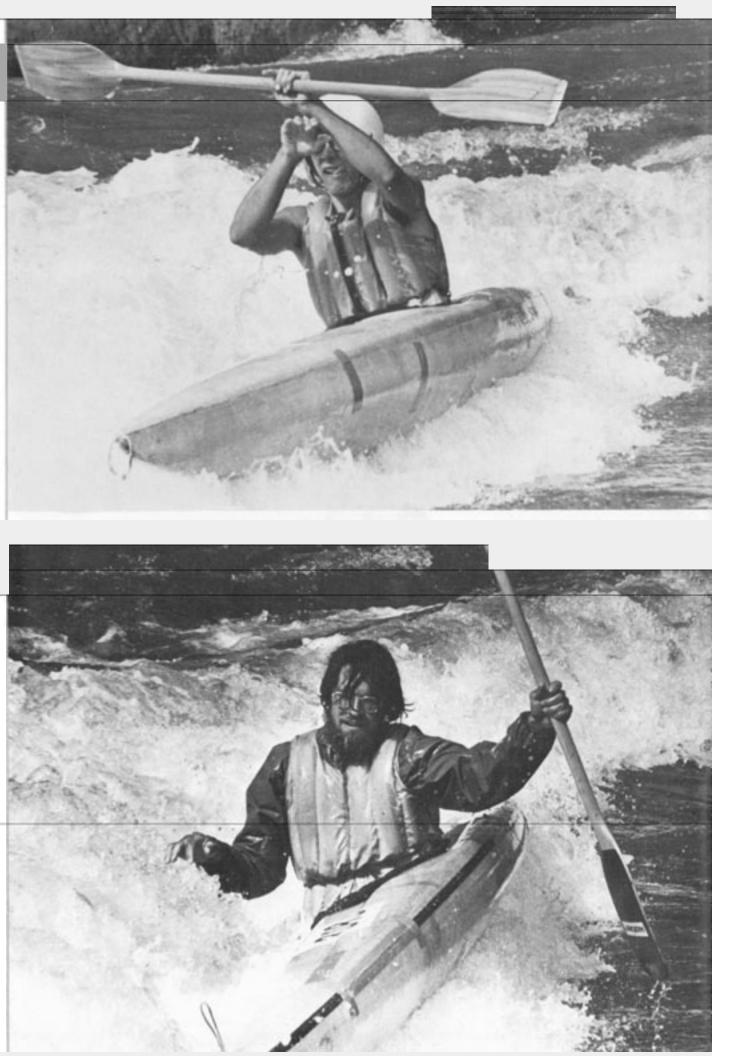


JAN/FEB 1978

Vol. XXIII, No. 1



WHITEWATER American

Sponsored by The American Whitewater

Affiliation

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10 Boulder Kd.	teer their time and efforts to bring affiliate/member subscribers this journal. Your contribution articles, letters, race results and schedules, photos and drawings are essential for their continuu

10 Boulder K Lexington. MA 02173

efforts and the timely publication of the American Whitewater Journal. Vol. **XXIII**, No. 1 © 1978 American Whitewater Affiliation. All rights **reserved**. =

COVER: Matt Held running the right side of Suddy Hole Rapid, Big Laurel Creek, North Carolina. See story p. 28

LEFT: Don Morin, top, and Jim Snyder playing in Swimmer's Rapid on the Youghioghency River, Pennsylvania.

MESSAGE FROM THE AWA DIRECTORS

A new spirit of commitment to the original goals of our organization has swept the staff and directors of AWA. We have systematically evaluated all complaints and weak points of AWA and devised methods to eliminate the difficulties. We have taken some of the weight of publishing the Journal from Iris Sindelar's long-burdened shoulders by breaking in a new associate editor, Bill Kirby, of **Fairfax**, Virginia. We have begun a multifaceted program to upgrade our journal, clear up circulation problems, and expand the public service efforts of the Affiliation.

These programs came about because of the vigorous efforts of a number of new people working closely with the Sindelars and our treasurer, Rosemary Gabler. The infusion of new personnel couldn't have come at a better time; *Downriver* magazine now lacks the guiding light of Eric Evans, *Oar and Paddle* no longer exists, and ACA's official publication, *Canoe*, is suffering from the inevitable conflict of flat-and whitewater paddlers.

What do we want to accomplish?

In short, we want our journal to become the foremost publication in the field, the magazine boaters everywhere, from novice to expert, *must read!* The staff and directors of AWA are committed to the challenge of meeting the unique needs of whitewater paddlers and to covering certain aspects of **white**water racing. We believe that we can accomplish these goals in the next year through an aggressive drive toward the following objectives:

- A. Elimination of circulation problems by streamlining membership renewal and subscription systems.
- B. Infusion of new volunteers to carry on work of AWA and write for the Journal.
- C. Development of a program to attract equipment suppliers to join the Affiliation and advertise discreetly in the Journal.
- D. Development of effective mechanisms to attract new members to the Affiliation.
- E. Implementation of a mechanism to meet the needs of affiliated clubs and help them increase their own membership.
- F. Development of an aggressive program with ARCC to protect and enhance our whitewater resources.
- G. Maintaining and enhancing the personal and friendly atmosphere of our Journal through emphasis on individuals.
- H. Development of special features in the journal such as river maps, photography contests, expedition reports, posters, equipment evaluations, and international reports.

Who can help us do all this? ANYONE!

We realize that even our revitalized staff cannot do this ambitious job alone. We need volunteers internationally to spread the word, do various tasks, and write short and long articles. Our journal provides the perfect source and outlet for information needed by boaters across the nation and overseas. If you have information paddlers need, submit *Continued on page 6*

Editor's Soapbox

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

Many of you may be wondering, "Who is this new guy, anyway?" Those who know who I am are wondering, "How did Kirby get himself into this one?" Still others are scratching their heads in bewilderment and wondering, "What new guy and what the devil is he talking about?"

Well, let's get everybody on an equal footing. My name is Bill Kirby and I'm new editor of American the Whitewater. I am a member of the Canoe Cruisers Association in Washington, D.C. and a rank amateur in the art of magazine editing. I have been kayaking for five years and paddling open canoe for nine years. I am primarily a river runner, though I race occasionally, and most of my paddling experience has been gained beneath the skies of Central and Southern Appalachia.

Many people (myself included) find it hard to imagine American Whitewater without Iris and Jim Sindelar. The service that they have rendered to the AWA throughout the last seven years is immeasurable, and the loss of such experience and expertise would be a massive blow to the journal. Fortunately this is not the case. Iris has pledged me her continuing support and advice as well as an occasional article or cartoon. Already the long distance phone lines between New Hampshire and Virginia have hummed with the sniffling and whimpering sounds of a novice editor seeking help from the "old pro." This unmanly but essential display will continue to take place over

the coming months (and, possibly, years). I would like to take this opportunity, as an AWA member, to thank the Sindelars for their efforts over the past several years.

Having found myself in my present position, I would also like to take this opportunity to make an appeal to all AWA members. It is easy to forget that the journal contains only products of AWA members. Since we do not pay for the articles that we publish, we cannot depend on professional writers to provide the stories that we would like to read. In other words, the journal can only be what the members make it. If you would like to see an article on your favorite river, for example, don't write the editor saying I'd like to see an article on my favorite river; take a camera on your next outing, dust off the old typewriter and WRITE IT! Likewise the photographers; if you have some really dynamite photographs send them out. We don't necessarily have to have a story to go with them although information on where it was taken and who's in it would be a good idea. Likewise all you latent or non-latent cartoonists out there. Also, keep in mind that you don't need to limit yourself to trip reports, race results or technical reports. We also need things like profiles of interesting or prominent individuals in whitewater sport, songs relating to whitewater, poetry, new developments (such as new river runs, high water record river runs, new equip-Continued on page 6

Directors from page 4

it to our editor. If you have any time to help us develop and implement our plans, please contact:

Peter N. Skinner **212-488-3475** work Rm. **4772**, **#2** W.T.C.

NYC, NY **10047 201-864-8738** home

AWA belongs to all of us. You deserve the best and we need you to make it the best. Together let us make our Affiliation the most responsive and effective representative for whitewater paddlers!



BOOK REVIEW

Supermarket Backbacker, by Harriett Barker. Greatlakes Living Press, 1977. Paperback, 194 pp. \$5.95 from Greatlakes Living Press, 21750 Main St., Matteson, IL 60443.

"A do-it-yourself guide to brandname foods revitalized for the trail with double the flavor at half the cost." Whether the latter is true depends on the value you put on your time: there is considerable labor required to turn ordinary foodstuffs into convenient, lightweight, non-perishable camping food. Either you pay for having someone else do it by buying the relatively expensive trailready food, or you expend your own time and effort. This book is for those who are more willing to spend time than money.

I won't quibble about the flavor part, though. Reading the book was a **mouth**watering experience. The recipes provide a selection of trail food that you couldn't come close to in the freezedried food section of an outdoors store. There are even directions for preparing

Greetings from page 5

ment, even new strokes), anything that might be of interest to whitewater paddlers. Aspiring contributors have an advantage right now in that the new editor is inexperienced and scrambling about to build up a file of material for future issues and would probably publish excerpts from The Journal of Concrete Construction if he thought anybody would read it.

In conclusion, let me say that I look forward with a great deal of excitement to my career as the editor of *American Whitewater*. There is a lot happening these days in the AWA and in American whitewater sport in general and I am delighted to be a part of it. I invite all members of the AWA to become a part of these happenings and together we can insure that the sport we love remains a positive force in all our lives.

casseroles at home and drying them, so that (as with freeze-dried instant trail meals) essentially all you have to do in camp is add boiling water.

Home-dryingof food turns out to be the core of the book. Most of the recipes require dried ingredients (some of them surprising: did you ever consider drying cottage cheese, tuna, tomato slices or shrimp?). One intriguing recipe provides a new twist on the idea of instant breakfasts: "Breakfast Leather." It's made by processing an egg, fresh fruit, dry milk and molasses or honey in a blender, then drying the mixture to a sheet on plastic wrap, as for fruit leather.

All this drying can present a problem. For those in the Southwest, sundrying is the obvious choice, not available to those where summers are short and humid unless you can get hold of a (Turn to page 26)

Fluvial News



New Paddler's Calendar

For three years Kathryn Mills of Berkeley has been producing calendars for paddlers featuring artwork like that seen above. If the above drawing is representative of the rest of the work in the calendar 1978 would not be complete without one of these items. They are available now at a reduced rate of \$2.50 each. (California residents add **25c** tax). Order from:

> Kathryn Mills 1429 Grove St. **#B** Berkeley, CA 94709

INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE WHEN WRITING FOR INFORMATION.

COAST GUARD FORMS CANOE SUBCOMMITTEE

The U.S. Coast Guard is expanding its research and development work in the area of canoeing: specifically, canoe flotation, canoe education and **PFD** carriage requirements.

In line with this, the National Boating Safety Advisory Council has formed a canoe subcommittee whose responsibility is to review the Coast Guard's canoe research and development program. The Coast Guard has obtained approval to establish a group of persons from the private sector experienced in canoeing safety to assist the subcommittee in reviewing the research program and providing the subcommittee with input from canoe safety organizations.

AWA's representative to this group will be our Safety Chairman, **O**. K. **Goodwin**. If you would like to air your views on these subjects, please write to him at 1240 Moyer Rd., **Newport** News, VA 23602.

WHITEWATER CANOEING INSTRUCTORS COURSE

BUCK RIDGE SKI CLUB will conduct its Bi-Annual Red Ridge Whitewater Canoeing instruction program on May 4, 5, and 6, 1978.

This course is designed to train instructors, and is sanctioned by The American Red Cross.

Classes for open and decked boats will be conducted on the Big Nescopek Creek near Hazelton, Pennsylvania.

Due to a limited enrollment, only experienced paddlers who are interested in training others will be accepted.

For further information and an application, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

ALBERT J. CUNNINGHAM 822 JACKSON AVENUE ARDSLEY, PENNA. 19038 (APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN APRIL 7,1978)

Keep Your Eye on Your Ear

Although we know some paddlers who have always seemed to have bone between their ears it was never really meant literally. The Stanford School of Medicine, however, has confirmed our worst fears.

Research conducted by Dr. Daniel Seftel on a group of California surfers suffering from impaired hearing discovered that each of them had developed a bony growth in the ear. Cold water crashing into the ear canal caused the development of the growths over a period of several years. Some of the growths had become so large that they completely occluded the canal.

Fortunately the growths can be removed fairly easily and safely through surgery and hearing can be completely restored. In addition, Dr. Seftel reports that the problem may be avoided by wearing a set of custom-fitted ear plugs.

So if you have trouble hearing and your paddling partner claims you have a short rib sticking out of your ear, it's time to see your orthopedic surgeon for a trim.

MISSOURI WHITEWATER CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Arnold Whitewater Association and the Sierra Club are co-sponsoring the 11th annual Missouri Whitewater Championshipson March 18&19,1978.

The only true whitewater paddling event in Missouri, held on the scenic St. Francis River at Silvermines Campground in the Mark Twain National Forest, was a great success last year. (See photo coverage of last year's race in AW, Vol. XXII, #4, 1977.) All Mid-Western paddlers (and anyone else who can make it) are invited to get a good start on the 1978 racing season at the St. Francis. Trophies and medals will be given in eight classes for slalom and downriver events.

For further information, write: Dave Smallwood, Box 1261, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE WHEN WRITING FOR INFORMATION.

RESULTS OF THE POGIE MARATHON Sponsored by Hampshire Paddling and **Bonnies** Hot **Pogies**

HELD NOVEMBER 13,1977 On the Connecticut River 8 Miles Windy and Snowy

FASTEST BOAT ON THE COURSE:
Steve Kelly K-1 Olympic Style

TIME 65.20

WOMENS KAYAKS AND SMGLE CANOES			K-1 WILDWATER CLASS	
PLACE		TIME	PLACE	TIME
1	Ann Turner K-1 Olympic Style	72.46	1 Doug Bushnell	68.43
2	Bud Meyers C-1 Olympic Doreen Walsh K-1 Wildwater	96.22	2 William Daunt	78_34
3		101.39	3 Willard Bartlett	89.40
4	Janice Procum K-1 Slalom	126.24	3 Willard Bartlett 4 Bill Johnson 5 Frank Procum	97.50
			5 Frank Procum	100.09
	C-2 COMPETITION			
PLACE		TIME	WAR CANOE CLASS	
1	Kevin Diffy	75.06	WACODA AUGA	1st PLACE 68.42
	Alan Hunter		Bill Nutt	Mig Oppenheimer
2	John Provost	80.06	Bobby Alexander	Angus Morrison
	Jan Wallis		Hans Hoefnagel	Steve Fulton
3	Barry O'Neil	82.23	Don Marin	Billy Goodman
	Peter Sheehan		Cathy Hearn	Kurt Feick
4	T. Diec	90.50	Louise Bourne	Hank Thorburn
	B. Thompson		Bonnie Losick	
5	Kelly Rowe	92.59		
	Paul Gove			
6	David Dargie	102.59	RATPACK	2nd PLACE 70.47
	Jeane Canavan		Porky Baker	Phil Steavens
	Jeane Canavan		Jeff Ďaker	Tom Pavne
			Jeff Éaker Don Bacheler	Tom Payne Kenny Goodwin
	Jeane Canavan C2 STANDARD		Jeff Ďaker Don Bacheler Jim Carey	Tom Payne Kenny Goodwin Jeff Johnstone
PLACE	C2 STANDARD	TIME	Jeff Éaker Don Bacheler	Tom Payne Kenny Goodwin
PLACE 1	C2 STANDARD Lu Willard	TIME 79.18	Jeff Ďaker Don Bacheler Jim Carey	Tom Payne Kenny Goodwin Jeff Johnstone
1	C2 STANDARD Lu Willard Don Patneau	79.18	Jeff Baker Don Bacheler Jim Carey Nick Lyesiuk	Tom Payne Doug Roubino
PLACE 1 2	C2 STANDARD Lu Willard Don Patneau Scott Procum		Jeff Baker Don Bacheler Jim Carey Nick Lyesiuk GREENS WAR CANOE	Tom Payne Doug Roubino 3rd PLACE 71.24
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1 2 3	C2 STANDARD Lu Willard Don Patneau Scott Procum David Fitzpatrick Steve Schroecher Dan Moon Harry Ingram Danny Ingram Dany Ingram Doug Nagle	79.18 91.44 97.29	Jeff Baker Don Bacheler Jim Carey Nick Lyesiuk GREENS WAR CANOE Frank Lynch Pat Lynch Mike Cumming Carl Ronke	Tom Payne Doug Roubino 3rd PLACE 71.24 Bob Paul Mel Rose Joe Green Peter Tingley
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1 2 3 4 5	C2 STANDARD Lu Willard Don Patneau Scott Procum David Fitzpatrick Steve Schroecher Dan Moon Harry Ingram Danny Ingram Doug Nagle Bob Nuilson Steve Thompson	79.18 91.44 97.29 106.58 109.07	Jeff Baker Don Bacheler Jim Carey Nick Lyesiuk GREENS WAR CANOE Frank Lynch Pat Lynch Mike Cumming Carl Ronke Cole GREENS—HAMPSHIRE	Tom Payne Doug Roubino 3rd PLACE 71.24 Bob Paul Mel Rose Joe Green Peter Tingley Nancy Cole 4th PLACE 88.51





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WAR CANOE UPDATE

Since the article, "Building the 'State of Maine''' (AW, Vol. XXII, #6, 1977) was written, the State of Maine II has been tried and tested; Neil Phillips and his crew entered seven war canoe races and won them all. Turned out that the boat traveled best with twelve paddlers, rather than with ten as originally anticipated.

The crew was a ,little apprehensive about its chances at the first race. The men had practiced, of course, and knew how fast their own canoe would go, but they didn't know how fast the other canoes could go. Their uneasiness increased when their opponents — paddlers boning up for the **1980** Olympics — started to kid them about the State of Maine.

Neil recalls, "One fellow, a Hungarian, came over and took a look at it and gave us a hard time: "What kind of canoe is that? You can't go fast in that — it's too BIG! How much does it weigh?"

Neil told him.

The put down continued. "That's too heavy. And what are the seats for? Are you actually going to SIT while you race??!!"

The Hungarian, as do other Olympic

paddlers, kneels on one knee while paddling. That was the only way to go — any racer who sat was out of it, he thought, quite loudly. And as far as he was concerned, the bent paddles the Maine men were using were something else, too, and should be put back into the tree where they'd come from. Along with the canoe . . .

For a few awful miles after the race started, the Maine men thought he might be right. "They blew the sneakers right off us at first," says Neil. "It was terrible."

Seven of the nine canoes in the race were Old Towns, and one was a **Peter**borough Olympic C-2 boat made in the 1930's and later extended to serve as a war canoe. The crew members were serious paddlers, out to win.

A mile out... two... Maine was still behind. Maybe their competitors were right, and the Maine canoe really was too heavy, too wide — a 52" beam *is* a bit much ... Maybe...

But then the State of Maine II started to gain. Another mile and a half or so and they had actually come abreast of the leader, and by the time they made the turn to head upstream for the second half of the race, their closest competitor was 50 yards behind.

The Maine men finished the race 17 minutes ahead of the second place finishers, 20 minutes ahead of third.

Did the victors quietly refrain **from** reminding their pre-race taunters about their put-downs?

Hardly.

Neil says, "I walked over to the **high**kneeling Olympic paddlers as they were moaning and groaning about their loss, and let them know — ever so politely how comfortable our crew had been *sitting down* while winning the race!" Victory was sweet.

> Fern C. **Stearns** Stillwater, ME



Jim Stuart plays in Rocky Island Rapids, part of the race course for the S-turn slalom.

Important New Race on the Potomac

On March 25-26 the Slalom Division of the CCA will sponsor a slalom at S-turn on the Potomac, just below Great Falls. This will be an expert race, with the river rated as a Class IV. C and D paddlers are invited to enter as well. The Potomac in this area is characterized by high rock walls and a narrow channel, from 40 to 75 feet wide in the race course. The flow during this season ranges from 12,000 to 20,000 cfs. These conditions produce extreme turbulence which promises to make this one of the most exciting slaloms in the country.

The race will be preceded by a training camp on March 20-24. Further information and entry forms are available from:

> Chris **McCormick** 8049 Tuckerman Lane Potomac, MD 20854

HOPE FOR THE DAMMED

by Joshua Cohn

Are there forbidden waters in your neighborhood? Good boating streams, either leading into or out of power generating reservoirs are often placed off-limits to boaters by power companies fearful of the imagined bother and potential liabilities of public use of "their" waterways. As they often own the land above and below their reservoirs, power companies (in cahoots with other private landowners) can easily limit river traffic merely by denying right of access to the river. Obviously, your local utility is not acting in the public interest when hiding the beauties of its reservoirs from its friends, neighbors, and ratepayers. Surprisingly enough, that is just the way the Federal government feels.

The Federal Power Commission, licensor of hydro-electric generating projects, states that its policy is "... to evaluate the recreational resources of all projects under federal license . . . and seek . . . the ultimate development of these resources." To implement this policy, the Commission demands a recreational plan, a so-called "Exhibit R," of all its licensees applicants. Further, the Commission spells out stiff responsibilities for licenses, including the acquisition of additional land in order to maximize the recreational opportunities to be provided by the power project. Provision of access routes and public announcement of recreational opportunities are other salient licensee duties.

Several different situations may present themselves to the whitewater

boater trying to get a stream adjoining a reservoir opened. First, the reservoir may be licensed by the FPC, but its recreational plan may not include whitewater boating. To correct this situation, negotiate gently with the power company and your state's conservation or recreation department, whichever was involved in the drafting of the recreational plan. Company and state might volunteer to approach the FPC to amend the recreational plan. Explain to the numerous officials that you will meet that you only need a putin and take-out, or permission to use existing access points, and that there are numerous whitewater boaters who will gratefully use the river at little cost to the utility or the state. Stress the environmental sensitivity of (most) whitewater boaters. If nothing seems to come of this, contact the FPC, which conducts regular reviews of the efficacy of recreational plans.

Second situation: the reservoir may be a new project with FPC license proceedings underway. Participate in the letter-writing and hearing stages of the licensing process. Focus your formal remarks on specific changes that you would like to see in the project's recreational plan. Bring as much pressure as you can muster to bear on state, utility, and FPC officials. Don't be shy.

If in either the first or the second situation you do not get what you feel is a reasonable response, then, after exhausting all administrative appeals, you might want to try the sport of the court. If you are of a litigious nature, see your lawyer.

A third situation might be that your local dam is not an FPC licensed project. The FPC only licenses hydroelectric projects on "navigable waters" or affecting interstate commerce either in terms of river use or ultimate destination of the electricity produced. The limits of **FPC** authority are poorly defined. You may find that the project you are interested in is one of a number of small projects awaiting the outcome of a test case that the **FPC** has not yet brought to court. If you find that FPC authority is in doubt, and that no action has been taken on a pending application, try negotiating an agreement with the power company. If that doesn't work, contact the **FPC** counsels' office in Washington, **D.C.** Ask them if they can't put a little pressure on the power company to extend recreational opportunities. Most likely the company will be so terrified that the FPC might be choosing its license for the big test case, that it will gladly cooperate with boaters to avoid **FPC** attention.

If your project is not now, nor ever will be an **FPC** licensed project, try sitting down as a friend with the utility company. If the conversation falters, dicker with your state conservation department. Again, half the battle is in convincing the authorities that whitewater boaters are numerous (but not too numerous), responsible, and can enjoy the rivers at no cost to government or landlord.

GET THE WHOLE PICTURE

Of American river conservation developments in the monthly ARCC newsletter and support national conservation efforts at the same time. Send \$10 or more to:

American Rivers Conservation Council 317 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E. Washington, DC 20003



ALASKAN RIVERS: ONE LAST CHANCE

by Steve LaPrade

The time to try to preserve Alaskan wilderness **waterways** in the national Wild and Scenic River System is now. In fact, it may be fair to say that any Alaskan rivers saved in that system by 1979 will be the only ones ever set aside in that state to join the St. Croix, Middle Fork of the Salmon, and the other federally protected rivers.

For the fact is that any rivers not set aside on federal land by the federal government won't be set aside at all in Alaska.

The Christian Science Monitor, in its Oct. 5, 1977 issue, noted that "Less than half of one percent of Alaska is privately owned." The state and federal governments own the rest.

And this means that organizations like the Audubon Society and the Nature Conservancy would not be able to buy large sections of private land, as they have done in the continental 48 states, to save wild areas.

In 1972, the Secretary of Interior withdrew 83.5 million acres in Alaska from all commercial exploitation, so they could be considered for inclusion in the National Park, wildlife refuge and wild river system. The end of 1978 is the deadline for Congressional action before these lands would become available again for exploitation.

A group of conservation organizations, combining as The Alaska Coalition, has proposed 22 Alaskan rivers for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

And Sepp Weber, in his new book, "Wild Rivers of Alaska," (published by Alaska Northwest Publishing Co. of Anchorage) said 69 of Alaska's **10,000** rivers should be preserved.

But the odds are substantial against saving much. Oil companies, mining firms and similar businesses know of the riches in Alaska waiting for them. And they can pay huge campaign contributions to have Congressmen preserve the status quo. If that sounds too pessimistic, consider the following question: In what year was the last national park or monument established in Alaska?

The last one was Glacier Bay National Monument in 1925.

Since then, Congress has fought conservation in Alaska. One year, after Alaska became a state, one Alaska senator proposed abolishing Katmai National Monument, which was established in 1918.

And once, in the **1960s**, the Army Corps of Engineers wanted to dam the beautiful and historic Yukon River, an act that would have created a lake larger than all New Jersey and wiped out the Yukon Flats, an area known for fur-bearing animals and wildfowl.

And the State of Alaska has no interest in conserving rivers on state-owned land. The Christian Science Monitor article referred to earlier noted Alaska's state division of lands has put out a brochure stating available state land will all be sold at auction.

The pamphlet warns bidding will be competitive, with probable high land prices resulting.

So all land to be saved has to be federal. But that land is coveted for development, exploitation and pipelines.

PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO THE NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVER SYSTEM



1. Alagnak
2. Alatna
3. Andreafsky
4. Aniakchak
5. Beaver Creek
Birch Creek
7. Bremner
8. Charley
9. Chilikadrotna
10. Chitina
11. Colville

12.Copper 13. Delta 14. **Fortymile** 15. Gulkana

- 16. **Ivishak**
- 17. John
- 18. Kanektok
- 19. Killik
- 20. Kisaralik
- 21. Kobuk
- 22. Mulchatna
- 23. Noatak
 24. North Fork Koyukuk
 25. Nowitna
 26. Porcupine
 27. Salmon
 28. Sheenjek
 29. Tinayguk
 30. Tlikakila
 31. Unalakleet
 32. Utukok
 33. Wind

This system would consist of 4,162 miles of river.

And with energy shortages, don't expect Congress to be very concerned about saving wild rivers in Alaska.

After all, they may wonder if we care.

For example, I received a 1977 gift subscription to CANOE, the magazine of the American Canoe **Association**. This group, in at least one ad I've seen, claims to date back to 1880.

But in the five 1977 issues I've received so far, I have yet to see an editorial on Alaska wild rivers or any articles on rivers in Alaska. Congressmen may be wondering if, since a 98-yearold organization like the ACA has ignored-the issue in its magazine, it doesn't care about the rivers in the 49th state.

I only recently obtained a subscription to American Whitewater so cannot comment as fully on its coverage of the rivers in Alaska. But the three issues I've seen, while they included articles on rivers in Canada, made no mention of the wild gems of Alaska.

At the end of this article, I will suggest some things ACA and AWA might do.

But remember there are true wilderness rivers in Alaska that deserve to be saved.

Some choice examples can be found in "Wild Rivers of Alaska" mentioned earlier.

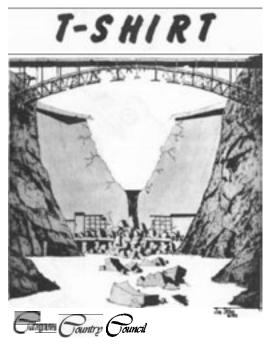
One gem, which has received more publicity than most, is the Noatak, lo-

cated in Northwest Alaska. Along its 425 miles, all north of the Artic Circle, the Noatak only has one settlement, Noatak, along its banks. The river flows

through forest and tundra with a stretch passing through the De Long Mountains.

And then there is the Porcupine. All though reported as suitable for traveling by families, the river runs for hundreds of miles through caribou country. Since the river floats through Canada and Alaska, perhaps conservationists should push for an International Wild River, much the same way that America's Glacier National Park and Canada's **Waterton** Lakes National Park became Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park.

And let's not overlook the Copper River. While the **Porcupine** is north of the Arctic Circle, The Copper is in southern Alaska, closer to civilization. But the river flows through the Chugach Mountains, passing such gems as the



GLEN CANYON DAMN

Buying a Glen Canyon Damn T-shirt can't hring Glen Canyon hack. It will, however, help support the Canyon Country Council, a non-profit public interest organization, in its efforts to preserve the remaining wilderness and wild rivers of the Southwest.

We can't afford to lose anymore special places. Time is running short.

Support Canyon Country Council. Buy a Damn T-shirt

Canyon Country Council Box 613, Dept M Moab, Utah 84532 Glen Canyon Damn T-shirts at send me \$555 each, plus 565 postage and handling) per order. Enclose check or money order. Size: x-1q. *lg.* med. sm. (circle yellow shirr, hbck design Street State Zip

City ______ State ______ (Utah residents please add \$.30 tor sales taxi Childs Glacier.

The Nenana River flows through moose and bear country with Mount McKinley looming to the south.

The Ambler River flows through the Brooks Range while the John River begins at the Eskimo village of **Anak**tuvuk Pass in northern Alaska and flows through the Endicott Mountains.

There are other rivers, but the message is clear: efforts must be made to protect them.

With the 1979 deadline approaching, there is much organizations like AWA and ACA can do.

(1) Any members financially able to do so should schedule vacation canoe trips in Alaska. They should shoot movies and photographs of what they find and take notes.

(2) Persons should encourage or pay hunters and servicemen who will be in Alaska to take all pictures and movies possible.

(3) These films and movies should be compiled into books and movies to spread the word of Alaskan river beauty to others. All pictures and movies could also be offered to aid the Sierra Club and Wilderness Society who have pushed most strongly to save Alaskan wilderness.

(4) All available history should be gathered on Alaskan rivers worth saving. History buffs may be willing to join your fight. I doubt it is mere chance that many of the federally protected rivers had rich historical background. The Rogue in Oregon was the site of Indian battles. The Middle Fork of the Salmon was tested by Lewis and Clark. Indian artifacts have been found along **Arkan**sa's Buffalo River, also the site of a Civil War skirmish.

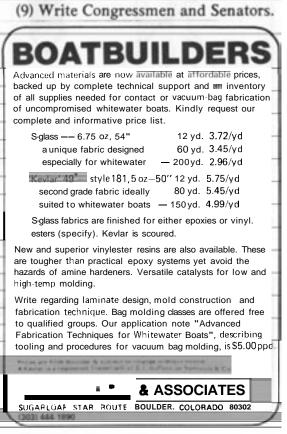
Part of the shallow Eno River near Durham, N. C. was saved because, the September 1977 issue of Southern Living reported, history buffs wanted to preserve an 18th-century water-powered grist mill.

(5)Donations should be increased to conservation groups fighting for these rivers.

(6) The AWA and ACA, along with other interested groups should consider forming a coalition to save the rivers, much as conservation groups did in fighting the Florida jetport (near the Everglades) and the Alaskan pipeline.

(7) Hold at least one major racing competition on an Alaskan river. Fewer people would be able to attend than usual, but such action could attract national attention to rivers needing protection.

(8)Efforts should be started in America and Canada to push for a Porcupine River International Peace Waterway. Similar efforts could be started for the Fortymile, Alsek and Stikine rivers which also flow partially through Canada.





It's so damn cold this tree is frozen in the air. We'll have to build a fire to melt it loose.

Now Available! **AWA SAFETY CODES (1977 Revision)** A guide to safe river boating in canoe, kayak or raft. Prepared and published by the American Whitewater Affiliation. A must for your club, school or business. 100 for \$10.00, 50 for \$5.50' Send self-addressed, stamped envelope for single copy. AWA SAFETY CODE, Box 1261, Jefferson City, MO 65101. *Covers cost of printing and mailing

GALLERY



A test of nerve on the Kettle River in Minnesota. Photo by Andy Westerhaus.





Rafters on the Thula Beri of northwest Nepal. The rapid is The Ladies Run, named for the first two women to run it, Celia Killeen and Robbie Moller. The run on the Thula Beri took 19 days. Photo courtesy of Peter Byme Expeditions, Inc., P.O. Box 777, Hood River OR 97031



Charlie Walbridge on the Narrows of the Cheat River, West Virginia. Photo by Bill Kirby

GALLERY



Angus Morrison powers his way to a 2nd place finish in C-1 in the 1977 National Open Canoe Whitewater Championships on the Nantahala. Photo by Jim Henry



The Great Falls of the Potomac. Photo by Kirby

WHITEWATER TRESPASS

by Judd Smith

Here we continue and conclude Judd Smith's summary of the river runner land owner trespass situation. This article gives the paddler a good generalidea where he stands with regard to the trespassing situation nationwide, but all must bear in mind that the situation varies greatly from county to county. The paddler who uses the information in this article to justify a confrontation with a landowner or a class action suit without consulting a lawyer deserves the Jinancial ruin or buckshot-Jilled hind quarters that these actions can cause. — Ed.

Part II. *Navigability and Public Ownership.

On many rivers the landowner may have every right to prevent you from even floating down the river without so much as touching a rock. On the next stream over, beyond the next ridge, you may be entitled to use the river and its banks, even a path out to a public road. Why this discrepancy? The question now is whether the stream is legally "navigable" or "non-navigable."

Has the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers declared the stream to be a "navigable waterway?" If so, then it is legally navigable and the PUBLIC, not the landowner, is the actual owner of the stream bed and its banks to the mean high water mark.

A landowner has no right to fence across or obstruct a "navigable waterway" and if a boater encounters such fencing he may legally cut it away.

*Part I appeared in Vol. XXII, #5, SEP/OCT, 1977 of AW.

In cases where there has been no public declaration regarding navigability, the legal status is determined by present and past usage of the stream. Most critical is the question whether the stream has been used for a commercial purpose—as by farmers to raft cows, hay and sheep down-river. If the stream has NOT been used for a commercial purpose it probably is NOT NAVI-GABLE and therefore the adjacent landowners own the land and streambed to the center of the stream and *do* have the right to erect fencing across the stream, and any cutting of same is a crime.

But again not necessarily!

The key question is "commercial usage" of the stream, and the courts are more and more tending to recognize that recreational usages are in fact a commercial usage.

Therefore if a stream is used *extensively* for recreational purposes, and if one were arrested for trespass on its immediate banks, or better yet, a gravel bar, he could definitely go into court and found his defense on the premise that **recreational** use of the stream is now so pervasive and extensive that it is a commercial use, and that therefore the stream is legally a "navigable waterway" and the bed of same is public property.

In order for "recreational use" to even approach the proofs necessary for its recognition as a "commercial use," it would require a documented showing of the existence of rafting companies making a profit from the river, and boat rentals and fishing guide services, and a long standing and voluminous public recreational use. Documented statements of a State highway department, or department of tourism, or fish and game authority, promoting the waterway as a recreational asset and as "heavily used" would be valuable evidence.

One who undertakes such a lawsuit must have real economic staying power. The road ahead would be long and costly, and very likely would lead through multiple appeals.

The case might well become a landmark in an area of law where there are few landmarks regarding recreation as a "commercial use," and where both sides are wary of creating one.

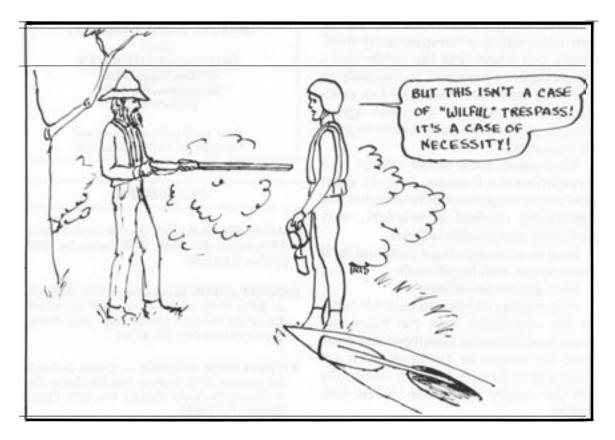
A successful result would pave the way for many similar suits across the country and for many similar successes.

A failure – an appelate court declaration in clear language that "mere 'recreational use' can never rise to the eminence of 'commercial use' and lead to escheat of the streambed and banks to the Public'' could be a landmark failure—a case to be cited by landowners against recreationists for decades ahead.

One more doctrine which can come into play on rivers comes from international maritime law which declares that from a storm at sea a ship may seek shelter in any harbor.

A boater wrecked on a rock and in danger of his life is in the same plight and comes into the same rights. This is not to say that he *cannot* be arrested for trespass, but the fact of it not being a "wilful" trespass, but rather one forced by necessity, becomes a complete defense to the charge.

Such a boater's rights include use of the bank to right his craft and get set to re-embark on the stream, or, if he is fearful of continuing, includes a right for him to make a ''way of necessity'' from the river bank to the nearest public land.



The **July/August** 1974 issue of *American Whitewater* describes a situation on the Lehigh River in Pennsylvania where the only feasible take-out is at the midpoint of a 26 mile stretch and had traditionally been up a railroad embankment. This egress was closed off, however, by a local gun club, the members of which were patroling the area and making arrests.

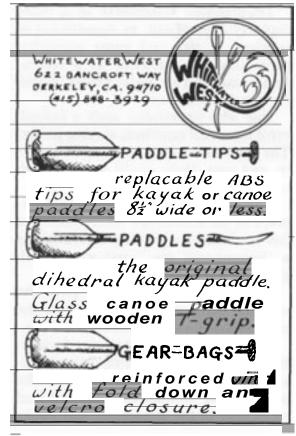
I mention this example to say two things. First, a boater could not cynically claim just at that point in the river that he was "shipwrecked" or suffering an emergency of some sort, and claim a "way of necessity" across the closed railroad embankment. The courts would see through that in a trice. And second, *if* the boaters and fishermen who have used the Lehigh river prior to the closure of this particular egress trail can show that they have in fact made a trail across the embankment for the previous 21 years (the required period varies from state to state and in Nevada is only 5 years) then they can go into court and in a "trespass to try title" action can assert that the public has a "prescriptive easement" to the path or trail that forms the needed 80-foot easement to the river. If the court agrees with them, then the path reverts to public ownership.

Once again back to the subject of a straightforward trespass, keep in mind that any infringement of land rights has historically resulted in murders, wars and every conceivable violence.

Step in a strange dog's yard and he'll come at you with bared teeth.

Men are not so different.

Any reading of trespass case law leads to the conclusion that the trespasser must be deferential, courteous and must keep his tongue in his head, must retreat and must save his acid comments for the county prosecutor or his own lawyer.

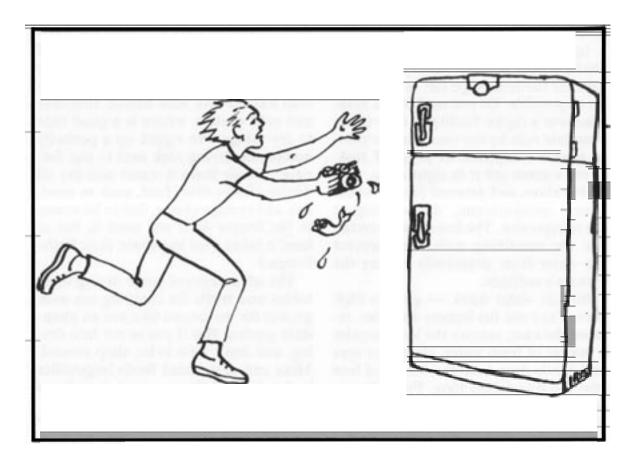


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- CLASSIFIED AD RATES: 30c per word. Send to AWA Editor, Bill Kirby, 9910 Fairfax Sq. #83 Fairfax, VA 22031.
- GRAND CANYON kayak support trip. Sept. 19-30. \$490. Write for details to David Dauphin;, Nantahala Outdoor Center, Inc., Star Route, Box 68, Bryson City, NC 28713.
- INSTRUCTORS NEEDED Canoe & kayak for summer 1978. Contact Ned McSherry, Saco Bound/Northern Waters, Box 113, Center Conway, NH 03813.



Water Damage and Your Camera

by Pete Cleland

Editor's note: The following article on water damage to cameras was printed courtesy of Pete Cleland of Nobi's Camera Repair and also courtesy of White Water Sports, both of Seattle, Washington.

Water damage . . . The general rule of thumb for water soaked cameras is this: Fresh water damage not taken to a repair facility within a couple of days throw it away. Salt water damage throw it away.

First let's talk about prevention. Salt air alone, over an extended period of

time, can ruin a camera. If you are around saltwater keep it in a case and plastic bags when not in use... and for good measure throw in a couple silica gel bags. Rain, contrary to much **popu**lar opinion, can get in and destroy a camera. It may be slower, but it is just as effective. True, a camera may have some aluminum parts, but most of the ones that count are made of steel.

Now let's get into the **nitty** gritty repair of water damaged cameras will usually cost at least \$100.00. The cost will probably be about half of the replacement cost or a total loss if you

don't follow these guidelines.

(a) Fresh water dunk — open it up, shake it out, remove battery and film, take off the lens, wipe out as much water as possible. Do not send it to a manufacturer's repair facility; it can rust to complete ruin by the time our fine postal service completes its assigned task. If you cannot get it in right away, then do the above and proceed directly to the freezer compartment, do not stop at the refrigerator. The freezer will crystallize the remaining water and prevent the water from potentially rusting the camera's surfaces.

(b) Salt water dunk — go into high gear. Take out the battery and film, remove the case, remove the lens, acquire a bucket of fresh water, close your eyes and gently drop both the body and lens into the non-salted blue. Five minutes later, drain the water out of each, change the water and reapply the treatment a second time. Now after two five minute treatments, remove both components, shake out as much water as possible, wipe dry and then wipe a little vaseline or light grease on the shiny metal film rails that the film rides on inside the camera. Get the camera in right away to a repair facility or use the freezer technique.

One last trick to try after the above has been performed, but in the absence of a freezer, is to generously apply light oil, WD-40, etc., to the camera and lens. Cracks and crevices included. The entire camera will have to be taken apart and cleaned. Alas oil, although normally used in very tiny amounts, is needed in greater amounts in certain situations!

BOOK REVIEW (Cont.from page 6)

specially-designed solar dryer (used by many people here in New Hampshire). Electric food-driers are not cheap, and many would object to tying up the oven for a couple of days at a time for **food**drying. Then there is the question of expending electricity or gas solely for the purpose of drying food. For those who have to live with humid summers and cold winters, winter is a good time to dry things. We rigged up a perfectly acceptable drying rack next to our furnace; the air there is warm and dry all winter. (Some dried food, such as meat, fish and cottage cheese, has to be stored in the freezer until you need it, but at least it takes a lot less space than **fresh**frozen.)

The advantages of home-drying vegetables and fruits for camping are even greater for the person who has an abundant garden. But if you're not into drying, and don't want to be, shop around. More and more dried foods (vegetables in jars labeled "soup greens," etc.) are appearing on supermarket shelves.

I was unfamiliar with "chia seeds," which kept popping up on Ms. Barker's recipes. Finally the explanation: "In the days of the Conquistadores, a teaspoonful of chia seeds was regarded as sufficient to sustain an Indian for a day on a forced march." Even if the seeds had been all fat (the highest possible concentration of energy at 9 calories per gram) — which no seed is — and generously allowing about 5.5 grams for a teaspoon of seeds, this would still amount to scarcely 50 calories. I'll bet it wasn't the Indian who considered the ration sufficient!

Food is necessarily a major concern in planning camping trips. If you are concerned about providing a large variety of nutritious foods for backpacking and **canoe/kayak** camping for moderate expenditure of dollars, you'll certainly get your money's worth from this book. And any camper will benefit from the myriad of tips on making chow time a truly pleasurable time.

-Iris Sindelar

NAME 3 THINGS This Canoeist is Doing Right!





Steve Starling reaches for a **skyhook** in Stairsteps, Big Laurel Creek.

A BIG DAY ON BIG LAUREL CREEK

by Tom McCloud

It had been a long and restless night on top of Rich Mountain in North Carolina, lying sleepless in the inky darkness of the tent, a strong wind whipping constantly against the walls. Fifteen hours ago we had departed the relative warmth of Raleigh to drive west for seven hours, past Asheville to a canoeing rendezvous at Big Laurel Creek in the Smoky Mountains. Even in good weather this river is rated advanced, Class **III-IV**, but the water would be ice cold in the mountains on March 5th. Rain had fallen during the previous week and we had driven through drizzle on Friday night. By flashlight we had searched out the canoeist's river gauge

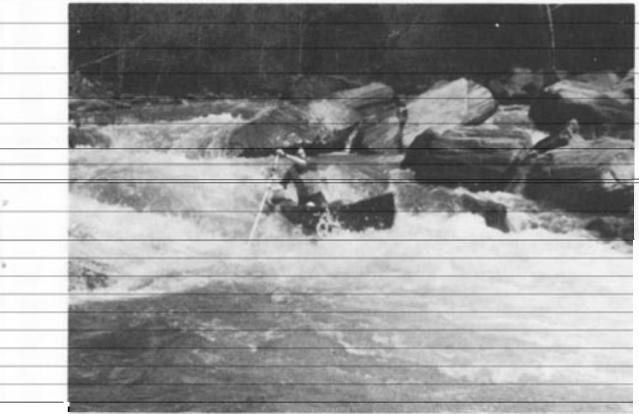
and determined the water level to be high. Now, lying in the darkness, my mind repeatedly added these difficulties to an already challenging whitewater trip and questioned the advisability of putting a boat in the water. Would this willawa of a wind continue tomorrowor, worse yet, bring rain or freezing temperstures to the mountains?

At dawn's first light we crawled outside the tent and were relieved to find blue sky. Though the wind continued, there would be no rain and the temperature was still near 50° so only one possible glinch remained to stop our river trip: had the water risen to a prohibitive level overnight? There was still apprehension as we boiled oatmeal, ate poptarts and visited with old friends who had arrived during the night. Lunches were packed, wetsuits put on and extra clothing stashed in dry bags before making the short drive to the bridge, but lucky we were ... the gauge registered right at the recommended maximum, 3 inches. We jubilantly unloaded boats and gear in anticipation of an exciting day's paddling.

Matt Held, a Raleigh high school senior and excellent C-1 paddler, would lead and our sweep for the ten boat trip was Paul Ferguson, carrying lots of rope, first aid kit and extra gear in his ABS open canoe fitted with additional flotation. Only Paul had paddled Big Laurel before, and not at such a high water level. It was only a few moments to the first sizable ledge. The white cottage on its left was the last house we

would see until the take-out, and once into the gorge there is no exit, except downriver. For awhile there was fun Class II-III whitewater through boulders and over small ledges, and we knocked off a big piece of river mileage in a hurry. In 45 minutes we reached Stairsteps, the first out-of-the-boat scouting job. Here the creek has necked down to 8 feet in width and falls over 3 closely spaced **3** foot ledges. At this high water level the individual drops were smoothed out, but the turbulence was extraordinary. After safety lines were set, each boater took his turn coming through. The aerated hole below the second ledge allowed the kayakers to drop in up to the armpits, and despite frantic braces two of them upset.

Below Stairsteps progress was slower. Seldom was there 100 feet of calm water before the lead had to ease slowly to the



Paul Ferguson finishes up Stairsteps on Big Laurel Creek

brink of a ledge and peek over to locate a negotiable chute. A couple of miles of Class III with an occasional Class IV took two hours. Suddy Hole, an 8 foot ledge, claimed some upsets with only Matt attempting the suicide route on the right, and successfully. The remainder of Big Laurel including the Narrows, where the gradient increases to 80 feet per mile, was nearly continuous Class IV. Restricted visibility, as the river turned behind boulders, made pinpoint maneuvering and split-second eddy turn decisions necessities. It was not until near the end that we paused for a rest and lunch stop.

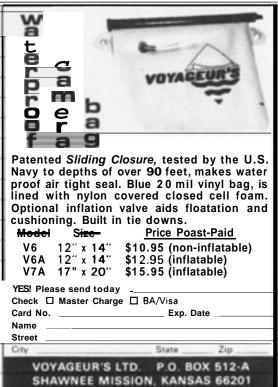
Did 1 say the end? Well that was a mistake, for even though Big Laurel Creek ends, the final mile of paddling to the take-out is on the huge French Broad River. The French Broad was flowing at over 4200 cfs... more than

the recommended upper limit. We eased out of our protected side canyon onto the roaring, muddy "Broad" and immediately discovered we had an additional adversary to contend with: the wind. Two major rapids had to be traversed. The first of these. Needle Rock, provided an exciting ride through 200 yards of 4 foot standing waves. A boat swamped here would float to Tennessee before it could be stopped, but we were fortunate to have no trouble. The final challenge was a Class V rapid, the legendary Frank Bell's Rapid, a series of three ledges which funnel the water into a giant whirlpool. Our three open boaters realized they didn't stand a chance here, so they turned left at the head of an island to run the Girl Scout route, a challenging Class III, while the closed boaters scouted from the right side of this same island. After waiting a



Richie Hughes becomes a snack for Frank Bell's Rapid on the French Broad River.

few moments to allow the canoes to find good rescue positions, over the top ledge came Matt, with a good low brace in the foam, then toward the left to ride out a curving tongue past holes and hydraulics to the bottom. He made it look easy. Next came Danny Pvatt. Off balance after the top ledge, he was eaten by the foam and missed his roll, so a rough hundred yards of swimming followed to the rocks at the bottom. His new Hollowform was retrieved hundreds of yards downstream. Third in line to give it a try was N.C. State University senior Richie Hughes. He made the top ledge O.K. but underestimated a very large and strong hydraulic halfway through and dropped into it sideways. Only the top of his orange helmet was visible from downstream as he tried desperately to surf out. After being flipped end-for-end in the reversal two or three times he came out of the boat and swam



PHONE 1-913-262-6611



Robyn Stanfield low braces through an unnamed rapid on Big Laurel



Paul Ferguson on Big Laurel Creek

free to rescue at the bottom. His kayak was not so lucky. After a minute or more in the hole it flushed loose, only to drift into the whirlpool at the bottom. In and out it bounced, end-for-end, upside down, under water then popping up like a cork only to be sucked upstream by the reversal. Eventually the river released it, but several old repairs had been undone, new holes opened and seams cracked. Richie paddled it out riding low in the water, undoubtedly thankful that comparable damage had not been done to his body. The rough reperience to these two good paddlers convinced the others still waiting above to paddle upstream and bypass left of the island.

We were all very glad to see the bridge at Hot Springs, to get to our cars and warm, dry clothes. It had been a trip that would be remembered and discussed for many months. That night it rained hard. Big Laurel Creek rose another foot, the French Broad even more. It would be foolhardy to try a Sunday re-run, so we headed for home satisfied that we had at least enjoyed our one big day on Big Laurel.

Big Laurel Creek is in Madison County, North Carolina near the Tennessee border. The run described is from the U.S. route 25-70 bridge over the Big Laurel to the town of Hot Springs on the French Broad River. Those who would like more information about this or other river runs in the western North Carolina area should refer to the excellent guidebook for that area, Carolina Whitewater by Bob Benner. This book is available from most **outfitters** in the Southeastern and Middle Atlantic States orfrom:

> Pisgah Providers P.O. Box 101 Morganton, N.C. 28655

> > American WHITEWATER

A TIME FOR A PADDLER'S RYME

To Idair* I dare Lest she tear her hair

To send this verse though it be terse it could be worse

I once knew a man who paddled many a river in the middle of the winter though he did shiver

He thought that some heat would be a treat that could not be beat

So to the river in winter though he shiver

His kayak he did tote and while afloat within his boat

He built a fire as was his desire and his kayak did expire

To the bottom he went and there time he spent but first this moral sent

Especially for you this is true you can't have your kayak and heat it too

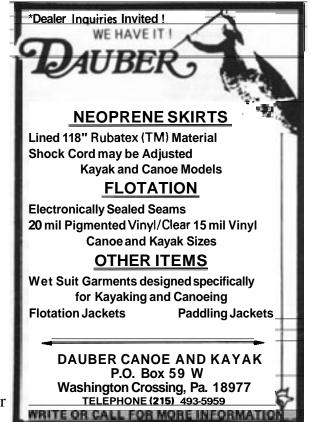
As none with pun I have had fun But in this game disregarding fame I give not my name

For should I slip and flip on my next river trip

Those who would hate this **ryme** at the proper time would give me a sign

That a slip of the lip could sink my ship —''The Mysterious Paddler''

From the West Virginia Wildwater Association's newsletter, SPLASHES, Vol. XIII, #1, January, 1978.



^{*}Idair Smookler, Secretary-Treasurer of West Virginia Wildwater Assoc.

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