American WHITEWATER

The Journal of the American Whitewater Affiliation \$1.95







The bottom and the top of it. Rich Walker displays a magnificent start (above) while partner John Wasson shows an all-too-likely finish of Falls #1 on the Trinity River's Burnt Ranch Gorge. For the full story see page 19. (Rob Lesser photo)

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN WHITEWATER AFFILIATION

JULY-AUGUST 1982

Vol. XXVII, No. 4

The American Whitewater Affiliation

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Contents

Page

- **4 Editor's Soapbox -** "By Our Own Bootstraps"; a new hope for conservation gains.
- 5 Letters from Readers
- **8** The Fluvial News Cheap Grand Canyon Trips, Poontok & Gauley Updates, NY-NJ Novice Training, The Drowning of the Stanislaus, You Be The Judge.
- **14 Wildman's Carry -** How a hair boater can turn spelunker in a split second. By David Gunther.
- **16 Club Profile: Colorado's FIBArk-** First in Boating in the Arkansas. By Bart Jackson
- 19 Burnt Ranch Gorge???- The Myth & the Beauty.
 Matt Kuckuk shows that local legend doesn't determine what's runnable.
- 23 Win a River Loose a River. Ken Horwitztells why the Ocoee and Yampa will probably be salvaged, but the North Fork of the Payette lost to the river ruiners.
- **28 Me An Addict?** Pam Blixt and Kris Frish offer a **quiz** and a cure for those happy souls hooked on the boat and blade.
- **30 Remembering Chuck.** Pete Skinner recalls the unique character that was Chuck Rollins.
- 32 Race Calendar U.S. races for the fall season.
- **34** The Boat Shop Hydra's new K-1 and the unique Therrna-Rest pad.
- 37 AWA Club Affiliates List

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To Submit Articles, photos, cartoons: Deadlines are the 1st of Jan. Mar. May. July. Sept. and Nov. for issues 1. 2. 3. 4. 5 and 6 respectively. This includes Advertising All photos will be returned. All manuscripts are subject to editing unless otherwise.

indicated AWA is published six times **yearly**. Single copies \$1.50 ea. Surplus back copies and other AWA Products are available from Peter Skinner.

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COVER: Perfect, if precarious, Mike Winfrey displays the essence of an ender at the Gallatin Hotdog Competition. (Rob Lesser photo)

Editor's Soapbox

By Our Own Bootstraps

The recent indunation of the Stanis-laus plus the virtual demise of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act fills all of us with a sadness and great frustration. In the ten years of its existence, only 61 rivers have been adopted for W & Sprotection, 25 of which are in Alaska. 1524 streams throughout the country were recommended for study by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service's national river inventory. But under the current administration, these protection proposals have been left to rot on the vine, without one stream receiving W&S protection since 1978.

Obviously, working from the top down is no longer an effective conservation process. All those federal protection dicta which we thought would be a panacea, have been too few and more often than not caused enormous dissention among paddlers and local landowners. Congressman Tom Leffler (R-TX) has recently proposed a bill to remove the Rio Grande from the Wild and Scenic Rivers list and is finding surprising support. (While it is almost certain this bill will fail, it is afrightening precedent.) State wild and scenic programs draw the same amount of local suspicion, and also lack funds to purchase the necessary easements.

The tragic irony here is that the riverside residents, who have given the main resistence to state and federal plans, actually want their local rivers to remain as they are — pure and free flowing. What they do not want, quite understandably, is a government official forcing an easement down their throats and telling them what to do with their land. In short, river management plans have been coming from the wrong sources: those planners and officials not

directly effected.

If we are to make any conservation headway in the future, it is time to take a whole new tack. We must ally ourselves with river-area residents and use them to build broad, effective, local support groups. It is easy to see that the federal Rivers Conservation Fund, under this administration, or any in the immediate future, will have very little money available for huge shoreline land purchases.

Such a grassroots -approach is becoming more and more popular in individual dam-fighting efforts with river festivals and media blitzes organized under local river-saving organizations. These have served well to unite residents, paddlers, hunters, fisherman, and the whole range of environmentalists. Such groups have made great inroads in protecting the Ocoee, Yampa, Poontok, Gauley and many others from immediate threats.

But if we just respond to individual hydropower proposals, we will forever be behind the eight ball. Protection programs must come before the threat and be built from the bottom up if they are to endure.

In Minnesota, along the upper Mississippi headwaters, local residents have banded together to protect the 432 miles of the Mississippi from its source at Lake Itasca down to Anoka. In 1975, this stretch was designated for Wild & Scenic study. In 1977, when presented with the plan, local residents thoroughly rejected it and when it was added to the Burton Bill in 1978, natives got together and blocked it.

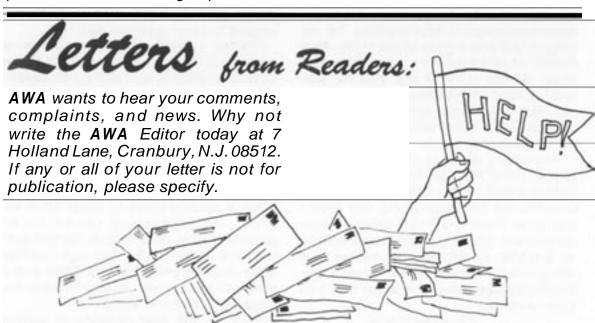
But the people did not just let it go there. Realizing this segment of river needed protection, they formed a joint powers board which empowered eight area counties to act as one. After much survey, the board developed a four part plan involving recreational use, conservation use, and intergovernmental cooperation for local, state, and national parks. In 1981, the Minnesota Legislature approved the entire package.

"This tactic", says ARCC Director Chuck Hoffman, "is really going to be the only way to go in the future. Not only does it give us our best odds for success, but it often leaves the river in a more pure state than outright purchase

would. Those 200 year houses along the Delaware River certainly add to the river trip and by remaining in private hands will be kept up."

So all in all, it is time paddlers prepared to ally themselves with some strange bedfellows who, nonetheless, seek the same thing we do. Remember, power starts and ends with the people.

—Bart Jackson



ALPINE OBJECTION

Dear Editor,

Having paddled extensively in France during several trips there, I was surprised to read Ron Watters' Tattered Tales of the French *Alps* and the poor review that French rivers received in the May-June issue. I hope that AWA members did not take this article to be an objective guide to the French Alps. I have found the French rivers to be both beautiful and clean. I pity those who visit an area as rich in beauty and culture as the French Alps and return complaining about a different type of bathroom fixture. There is a lot of good paddling in France and I highly recommend this area for a paddling vacation to those who can appreciate cultural differences.

> Sincerely, Ron Lugbill

GRADUATED WIDTH METHOD

Dear Editor,

American Whitewater certainly has undergone a transformation of sorts since I contributed extensively to the very first issue in May 1955. In glancing at the various articles and related contents I am quite impressed with the professional approach. Jim Sindelar's article The Graduated Width Method certainly deserves special consideration. Reference to wider boats is most timely. As a matter of fact, this was one of the key advantages of the now little seen foldboats. After all, the majority of the paddling public is not so much interested in racing as in nature appreciation and enjoyment.

There is, however, one little flaw in the Sindelar presentation. That European



the author calls "Pawlatta" is of course the Austrian (Viennese) Pawlata. As a university student in the early 1920's he and others of a select group, after stuyding data on the early Eskimos (on Lake Hikoligjuaq), designed a pure Eskimo kayak. I do not want to go into all the details but, essentially, on July 30, 1927, Edi Pawlata succeeded in demonstrating the Eskimo roll. He wrote about this in the book Kipp-Kipp-Hurra (Vienna 1928) - meaning Tip-Tip-Hurray. I visited Pawlata in Vienna in 1958 where he owned a large ceramic store on Karntnerstrasse. Unfortunately, he no longer had any copies of his book. As a matter of fact I do not know if he is still alive. At the time of the visit he was enthusiastic about about a suntan lotion he had developed which supposedly incorporated some special ingredients of Tibetian origin.

Anyway, I think it important to get names right. After all, the man is a highlight in a sport we all love. The Austrians, in addition to originating the International River Rating System, were pioneers in opening little known regions of Europe, apropos foldboating and designed some magnificent boats. Their thoroughness and devotion has not been excelled.

Sincerely yours, Walter F. Burmeister El Paso, Texas

Dear AWA,

6

This is in response to Jim Sindelar's article on the Graduated Width Method of teaching kayaking in the March-April 1982 issue. What a joy to be asked to respond! A long time ago I gave up on seeing such a sensible approach to teaching boating of kayakers. May I relate a few perinent experiences?

A lady in herthirties, who had paddled quite a few years with her husband in a Berrigan, was offered the chance to try a kayak on a lake. She got in, felt rather tippy, paddled around about five minutes, and couldn't wait to get out. When she did, she had given up kayaking forever.

A man friend, recently trying out his new double Klepper, told me it's the first time he's been comfortable in a kayak. He was in it for five hours.

I was forced into kayaking by a partner who became unavailable for a year or two. We had already done some Class III water, and I was eager for more. The only locally acceptable way of doing this was in a slalom kayak, but my boat had a seat bottom about one-and-a-half inches off the bottom of the boat, which was unstable. So I had to get out the saw, and drop the seat down. Once this was done, I used an inflatable pillow to provide lower back support, and even then I longed to be in a canoe again.

On the subject of slalom canoes—a woman friend of mine called them torture chambers, and some men kayakers wouldn't dare get into them for fear of getting trapped. So when we got one, the first thing we did was get out the saw again, and take out seat, coaming and throw them in the trash heap. We made the cut one-to-three inches from the coaming inside, and remade a coaming using a surplus piece of hose. Then we put in ethafoam block carved out to provide a seat nine inches off the bottom, six inches wide, and eight inches deep, front to back. I also did this with a Hahn C-1, to make it comfortable for cruising in Class II water.

Face it, the seat designs in slalom boats are for young men rather small in the seat. Some people are IN PAIN in these boats. It's dumb. Just as Jim says in the article, most paddlers are never going to get to the Nationals. So why not design at least some boats (and their seats) for the majority of paddlers?

Gratefully, Martha Parker Renton, Washington

PERMIT PLAGUES

Mr. Editor,

Bruce Manson's Guest Editorial, in the May-June issue echos my frustration and my experience as well. I was also turned down, or perhaps not selected is a better phrase, for the Selway, Middle Fork of the Salmon, Main Salmon, Snake and the Rogue. One of the dates given me on the Selway put me at number 250



on the waiting list. Only 249 other parties had to cancel for me to get one. Absurd. I also called a couple of outfitters and found space readily available, for the price of a ticket. River running is not just a casual vacation trip for me and my family but the focus of many months planning, so when Bruce states that a river trip is not just a minor diversion, his point is well taken.

I did get into the Grand Canyon this year but it was a last minute telephone offering and although it turned out to be a beautiful trip I did not have adequate time to plan, find partners, etc., etc. By the way, if you want to short circuit the impossible permit system for the Grand (I am now back on the bottom of the list at #2318) you can ask for a list of the people granted permits for the following season. This is public information and should be available before the first of the year. Then start contacting these people to see if someone has space for your boat or boats. Its not quite like your own trip but it will get you into the Canyon before you are old and gray.

I, also, have long been an advocate of playing the game by the rules but so many repeated frustrations are, at least, prompting me to consider other options. I wonder how many others our there are doing the same.

Frustrated but (so far) still game, Peter A. Raventos Porterville. CA

This letter typifies the overwhelming reader response of frustrated permit seekers who have spent their boating years "playing by the rules" to virtually no advantage. Now is there anyone out there with some practical solutions?-Ed.

RIVER RATING

Dear Editor,

I am continually surprised at the seemingly haphazard way you are promoting boating "hair" water. But more specifically, I would like to make a special reply to Dr. Andy [Embrick] for his River Rating article in the May-June issue:

Dr. Andy, thanks for all the help! We cannot give people lists of names and numbers (with sub-numbers to accomodate the different flow levels) assigned by some group who have reached some type of agreement (with appropriate compromise?) about an acceptable number. Thank goodness all the confusion is now eliminated. But what is your Class I, II, III, etc? I haven't been to Alaska yet.

Sarcasm aside, I disagree, disagree, disagree with your approach. I think your system is more subjective, more questionable, less useful than almost any of the ones you have criticized. At least the other systems can describe what they mean in a few paragraphs. Yours takes a few pages just to describe the procedure to be used by some group with varying qualifications based on the water in their particular area. You have unfortunately only added to the problem you seek to solve.

In my experience it seems its only the intermediate kayaker who really wants to change the grading because "Hey, we made it through no problem...That was easy...its not a II+".

As for the "dangerous, very dangerous...etc" classifications, they serve a very useful purpose, particularly in guidebooks. Anyone who doesn't know anything about rapids or rivers and who hasn't developed the judgement to know what is dangerous and what is not, is probably better warned away from water Class III and up. Similarly, anyone who has truly developed skills to safely handle Class III and up water will have generally developed the judgement to decide if the river is safe to run, and more importantly, they know when not to run something. I believe the same comments apply to the skills, technique, and gradient based systems you dislike. The American Whitewater Affiliation has selected and endorsed their International Scale of River Difficulty and have done a very good job. It was developed by people who have paddled both big water and technical water, and it applies widely and is concise.

Oh yes, when I come to Alaska, how (continued on page 27)

7

The FLUVIAL



AWA AFFILIATE NOTES



Affiliates, send your newsletters to our Editor to help AWA stay current with your club's activities and concerns.

ARCC ADOPTS CHRIS BROWN

The American Rivers Conservation Council has been fortunate in gaining a very knowledgeable Chris Brown this July as its new Director of Conservation. Chris comes to ARCC having just finished three years as Chief Planner for the Appalachian Trail System of the National Park Service, a job that involved making environmental studies and relocating 300 miles of the A.T.

Born in New Hampshire, Chris has spent most of his 35 years in New England along with several stints in Ohio and Illinois, plus a good deal of traveling. He received his Masters in Forestry at Yale and also worked as a professional environmental lobbyist.

With his energy and experience, Chris certainly seems like an excellent man for the challenges of national river saving and everyone at AWA wishes him the best of luck.

NY-NJ NOVICE TRAINING

The American Canoe Association's Atlantic Division has for 1982 mounted a massive basic training campaign throughout the New York-New Jersey area. These courses are sponsored by several clubs throughout the area, conducted by experienced club members and are free for the general public. Courses include everything from canoe sailing, poling, basic whitewater training to flatwater paddling for seniors. A full list of the schedule with specifics can be gotten from Mel Silverman, Training Committee Chairman, 760 Bronx River Road, Bronxville, NY 10708.

60 FLOCK TO MDCC

While membership in most clubs is leveling off or actively dwindling, the Mason-Dixon Canoe Cruisers of Hagerstown, Maryland recruited 60 new members this spring season alone. Poor economic conditions and more individual, unaffiliated paddling are usually seen as the reasons why, though still growing, clubs are not experiencing the big new-member boom of a few years back. MDCC President Dave Collins bases the club's success on "the dedication and energies of the club nucleus". These energies are responsible for basic instruction courses involving 35 new people each week, a well-organized newsletter, and a publicity campaign which blankets the tri-state area with radio and newspaper coverage. Our congratulations to your success.

MONOCACY SEES TWO DECADES

"By damn it's been short but lively." states Monocacy Canoe Club charter member Don Schley. This year the 228-member MCC based in the Baltimore, MD area celebrates its 20th birthday. An active club that paddles just about everything on the east coast it isadmired particularly for its beginner-training and public service programs. They have also published their own handbook which is given to every new member, including the 32 who just joined this year. Congrats MCC.

CHEAP, CHARITY GRAND CANYON TRIP

Friends of the River in a fund raising effort to protect the Grand Canyon from the disasterous effects of peaking power are offering both charter and non-charter space on several Grand Canyon river trips at reduced rates. This includes

NEWS

What's Flowing in The Boating Communit

boaters who want to bring their own kayak, ride the raft, or row.

OCTOBER 3-17: 15 days for the 13-day price: \$798 for kayaks, \$1040 for rafters. Run by Arizona Raft Adventures. This same trip is also being offered from October 20 to November 3.

NON-CHARTER dates available for full

or partial trips at up to 25% discount. **OTHER WESTERN RIVERS** are also available at special discounts including runs on the Green, Salmon, Dolores, San Juan, and Snake. For further information, contact Friends of the River, 20% East Cherry Ave., Box 7175, Flagstaff, AZ 86002; (602) 774-0730.

YOU BE THE JUDGE

Herb Smith, an experienced and capable paddler loaded his open boat on his car and, as he did more free Saturday's than not, drove the two miles to the local lake for a short paddle. Lakeside residents saw him shove off from shore and paddle away alone. Herb had told his wife that he would be heading up "to play at Lake's End"—a point where a narrow, steep creek fed into the lake creating a short surfable Class I-II drop with handy side eddies. These Saturday morning practice sessions had become virtually a ritual for Herb and he told his wife he would return for lunch.

5 pm Herb had not returned, and his two sons went to the Lake's End to search for him. The boys, also experienced boaters, found their fathers' body floating in an eddy with the boat, paddle, and other gear floating in the pool below. Also nearby they found Herb's lifejacket. It was a Type III with sleeves and a collar, made by a major, respected firm. When the boys pulled the PFD from the water it was zipped up, inside-out, with traces of what appeared to be blood on it.

The coroners report was vague, determining only that Herb had drowned with no sign of major injuries. Herb's entire family swore he had always been a very cautious paddler and never paddled Lake's End without wearing a PFD. None of the lakeside residents questioned could recall what Herb was

wearing at the put-in.

It was obvious, Herb's wife felt, that this jacket-type PFD through poor design had slipped off her husband when he needed it most and was responsible for his death. (The jacket had no leg straps). Feeling that the public should be protected from such a poor product, Herb's wife took her case to a lawyer and asked him to sue the PFD manufacturer for the wrongful death of her husband.

A. If you were the lawyer, would you take this case? If so, how would you present your argument?

B. If you were the judge, what would your verdict be? Why?

Unfortunately, the facts of this story are not entirely fantasy. A similar event has recently occured and a major law firm is currently deciding whether to take on the suit presented by the victim's wife against the PFD manufacturer. American Whitewater along with several individuals has been asked to help the lawyers in reaching a decision by offering some PFD information. Of course, AWA cannot publish specifics of the actual case at this time, but we feel our readers should know the types of legal problems the boating world is now facing. We would also like to hear your response to our "Herb Smith's." case; just send them to the AWA Editor.

∼CONSERVATION NOTES **∼**

STANISLAUS DROWNS TRAGICALLY

Ever since the ancient Sierras thrust up high from the earth's surface, the Stanislaus river had flowed freely through the tall walls of its pristine canyon. Boating these waters afforded people from all over a recreation of spirit and a contact with beauty unsurpassed anywhere in California. But all that is gone now. After nearly a decade of struggle, the remaining free-flowing length of the Stanislaus drowned in its owned waters in late June and early July.

This renown 14-mile run of excellent whitewater between Camp Nine and Parrot's Ferry for years had been threatened with extinction at the hand of the Bureau of Reclamation which wanted to raise the reservoir level behind the downstream New Melones dam. Such a raise would have totally inundated the Camp Nine — Parrot's Ferry run, washing away the beauty and challenge thousands of visitors had experienced.

The death knell actually first sounded this winter high in the Sierras where, after two years of drought, huge <code>Snow-packs</code> built up on the peaks which were washed down with record rains this spring. Rain gorged valleys thundered with the thousands of additional cfs. The bureau, quick to seize the day, claimed its emergency flood control authority and reduced levels at New Melones to as low as 200 cfs. The reservoir rose from the legally-set 884 feet to the thousand foot mark by the end of June.

At that time several OARS rafters ran the remaining six rapids from Cadillac Charlie to Devil's Staircase at 7000 cfs. By early July even these were gone and a dull flat lake sat placidly over what used to be. Later in July the water level is slated to come down to 844 feet. This would return perhaps two miles of whitewater to the river and maybe even all of it might return briefly in October before the winter rains. However 14 miles of

slime and rotting trees will fill the canyon with an aura of death and even if the level is kept low indefinitely, the canyon will never fully recover for centuries.

AWA WASHINGTON WATCH

WATT-ANOTHER FUND SLASHER

 No funds equals no protection studies which equals no land protected. Thus runs the simple formula that Secretary Against the Interior James Watt and Congressional cronies have tried to forge into law. As a result a bill now stands before the Department of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee to provide "zero or minimal funding for the River and Trail Section of the National Park Service". The River and Trails Section has the job, formerly performed by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, of conducting the environmental compliance studies for all existent and potential parklands. Dismissing this section would mean a government assumption of no new parklands or protection of old ones.

Fortunately, this destructive funding slash is finding little favor in the Subcommittee headed by Rep. Sid Yates (IL-D) and ranking minority member Joe McDade. Recently, the Subcommittee received a letter signed by 30 Congressional colleagues recommending that the committee not cut River and Trails Section funding. So there is still an excellent chance of defeating this bill before it gets out of committee. To do your part write your representative and also Sid Yatesand ask for full funding for the River and Trail Section, Department of Insular Affairs. National Park Service.

WILD & SCENIC REVIVAL

• Currently, there is a spreading move, both among environmental groups and Congress, to bring the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act back to life. A bill has just been initiated into committee to bring a long list of rivers under W & S study and to bring many more now under study

Fluvial News

into permanent protection. Florida's Myakka River, among others, has been suggested for study, while some of those recommended for federal protection under the act include Oregon's Illinois River, the Los Pinos and Piedra in Colorado, and the much-run Obed in Tennessee. The passage of 'such a bill would recharge the stalled Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and rearm river conservation with a much-needed combative edge.

GAULEY RIVER UPDATE

The Long Tunnel plan which would divert almost all of the Gauley's flow from Summersville dam downstream to a point near Pillow Rock continues to lumber slowly, yet effectly through the system despite valiant opposition. The Huntington region of the Army Corps of Engineers are currently working on the final feasibility report which will be presented to the Corps' Ohio River Division for review at the end of the summer. Such divisional approval of the plan is a virtual certainty, and if all goes according to Corp's plan, construction should begin in 1990.

While 1990 seems like a long way away, the only possible way to stop this huge and well-planned project is early before it gathers bureaucratic momentum. For this reason the fight is now. Currently, "Citizens for the Gauley" under the leadership of Ed Rhett and Don Weidemann have done a magnificent job of gathering local and national support for this much-loved and muchused river. Their publicity efforts have involved appearing on local TV, radio and all the media. Recently, a group of outfitters and concerned citizens traveled to Washington, D.C. and personally confered with all of West Virginia's federal Representatives and Senators, explaining the economic benefits which come to the state through Gauley tourism.

Meanwhile, along with the Army Corps, the Wild & Scenic Committee is also conducting a study which should be completed at the end of this summer, which in all probability will recommend

the Gauley for Wild & Scenic protection. Fortunately, by being under W & S study, the river is protected from any daming or destruction for three more years. The bad news is that regardless of the recommendation, the Gauley's chance of actually seeing federal protection is slim — no river has since 1978.

So at this point, the river's best hope falls on the Citizens for the Gauley, Box 7165, Cross Lanes, W. VA 25213. They are working to prove the Gauley's value as a recreational and financial resource. If you have any statistics about how often your club's members paddle the Gauley, how much they spend in the state, etc. write them now, or call Ed Rhett (304) 747-1321.

POONTOK UPDATE

Jim Sindelar, head of the Poontok Defense Fund, reports that hopes for saving this scenic section of New Hampshire's Androscoggin River are still possible and strong despite some recent setbacks. The Poontok Rapids and the surrounding Thirteen Mile Woods are part of a chunk of land donated to the state specifically for recreational purposes. Since 1978 a local developer, Robert Shaw, has sought to rebuild the crumbling Poontok logging dam built in 1887. Shaw's hydroelectric project would involve diverting water from behind the current dam reservoir, funneling it through a mile-long canal, then depositing the water back in the river channel two-and-a-half miles downstream. This power project would be placed right in the middle of this protected land and cut river flow to less than one third, thus destroying some of the best rapids and fishing the Androscoggin has to offer.

This past spring the Poontok Defense fund took the issue to New Hampshire Supreme Court which ruled that the Water Resources Board which had okayed the project had not "listened to critics" thoroughly enough and must hold further hearings. Shaw, seeking to circumvent such annoyances as law, justice, and public opinion, got state congressional buddies to tack onto the

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Kathy **Blau**, **Whitewater** Rodeo. Stanley. Idaho. June **15**, 1980.

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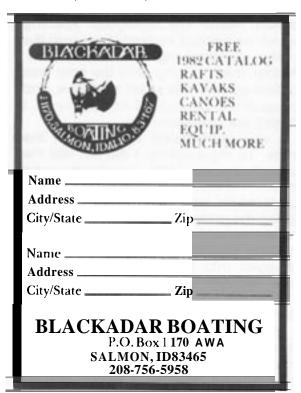
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Fluvial News

state budget an amendment allowing the Poontok project to begin construction regardless of any decision by any court in the state. Fortunately, this tactic raised such a stink that it was eventually dropped from the budget. However, since then Poontok legislation entered as a separate bill, has passed state congress and now goes to the Governor.

Area press has been supporting the alternate Hamlin plan which would involve just rebuilding the old dam and letting it flow onto turbines there. "This sort of stuff makes good copy", Sindelar remarks, "but is not really practical since the dam has only about 12 feet of head."

On June 2nd, in accordance with the legislation, the Water Resources Board held one final hearing in Berlin, NH at which Jim Sindelar and other environmentalists testified. "Generally", Jim States, "the hearing went well for us and the testimony seemed well received. We now await the results". But even if this hearing's results prove negative, the Defense Fund can still resort to legal action, where Shaw will face the very court system he tried to ignore. So the need for funds goes on. To get in the act write Poontok Defense Fund, 264 East Side Dr., Concord, NH 03301.







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Even The Best Can Get Caught Twixt A ROCK AND A WET PLACE

by Dave Gunther

"No way," you say to yourself. "Can't be run." 30 minutes scouting this rockchoked S-turn littered with huge keepers have made you sensibly opt for the portage route. Just as you shoulder your boat, you notice two churning blades sweep some crazy kayaker right down into the screaming center of this unrunnable mess. He disappears. 10 seconds later he pops up out and without missing a stroke, paddles on downstream. "That", your buddy shrugs, "is Wildman Gunther.'

Dave Gunther's nickname is a welljustified mark of respect given him by some of the best hair boaters in the country. Based on his river record, you would expect to find some crazed-face kid, young, yard-wide shoulders, with a voice that booms above the rapids. Instead you find a lanky, very modest gentleman with short grey hair who quietly asks about your exploits, rather than boast of his own. (Dave is also, Philadelphia Canoe Club gals tell us, an excellent dancer.)

The episode Dave so calmly relates here shows that survival in heavy water is not a matter of skill alone and that mental discipline is oft your best possible lifesaver.

Spring of '76 found me running the Top-Yough and Upper Yough. The putin at Sang run was "protected" by Sam and his shotgun which made it mandatory to run both river sections and proceeded through a series of pushy drops. Carl Lungran, Al Lowande, Jim Mulhan and myself made up the trip.

Soon we came upon a drop known as Suck Hole. Thorough scouting revealed considerable hazard. This took the form of a boulder with a triangular opening, yawning at river level with water rushing under it. The undercut passage was gulping approximately half of the river. The clear passage on the left was possible to reach by back paddling into an eddy - a route | had taken successfully before. However, my decision to bypass this eddy proved slightly dangerous.

I powered my boat to a safe route on the left, but the river had its way. I found my kayak pushed broadside against an unfriendly rock with great quantities of water running beneath it. I was being drawn nearer the triangular opening which resembled an open drain with the vortex disappearing beneath the rock. Rather than waiting until the boat was pulled against this point sideways, and possibly a clamshell entrapment, bailed out upstream.

I was immediately swept under the rock. To my surprise, I did not feel the expected power of the river dragging me down. Instead, I was carried very slowly underwater with my helmet dragging along the underside of the rock. In order to conserve breath, I did not move a muscle, expecting at any moment to be dragged into the underwater current. The thought went through my head: "conserve your air, you have about a 50/50 chance if you don't panic."

After a time that seemed like years (probably 30 seconds), popped up in a hidden air chamber under the rock. A look around revealed a wedge-shaped

chamber with a slice of sunshine through an overhead slot in the rock. Suddenly, I felt some unwelcome company press hard against me: the bow of my boat emerged from the depths, into the chamber, and proceeded to force me underwater. Struggling, I pushed the boat down as far as possible and it disappeared from sight. A minute later I watched my boat go downstream through a small crack in the rock.

Then, spying around, I discerned an underwater escape route! Alone again in my cave, I began to calculate other possible exits from my trap. An upstream trip with help, might be possible through the vortex on a rescue rope. I might squeeze through the crack overhead—though at first examination it seemed much to small.

Having been out of sight for five minutes, my companions feared the

worst. I found a foothold in the underwater rocks that enabled me to thrust my hand through the slot. Then, I waved frantically until I heard Jim Mulhan's voice shout, "He's alright".

Shortly, Carl crawled out on top of the rock and peered into my small prison. We speculated on the possibility of pulling me through the slot. First I took off my helmet and lifejacket and worked them through the crack. I was still too fat. Then, with a heavy pull from Carl and a lot of wriggling, I at last emerged into the sunshine.

The shock of the preceding events was easily read on the faces of my companions. For me, the full impression took acouple of hours to catch up. At the takeout, after marveling at my good fortune, I offered a new name to that drop: Wildman's Carry.

Wildman Gunther at Play



WHITEWATER

Club Profile

FIBARK

First In Boating on the Arkansas

by Bart Jackson



U.S. Nat'l. Team Member Scott Randolph, defending K-1 champion of the FIBArk 26-miler is seen above blasting his way into Cottonwood Rapids at mile 23.

About an hour out of Colorado Springs, we started dipping down into the Arkansas River valley. Before us rose the jagged white pyramid of Pike's Peak and the endless Sawatch Range, forming a cool contrast to the dry valley floor below. We were off to the little town of Salida, Colorado to join the FIBArk Boat Club's 34th annual Wildwater Race and Extravaganza.

The flat road followed the narrow, non-stop Arkansas river for over 70 miles, making easy access for the 60 outfitters who run tours on sections of this river. Adrenalin pumped as we rode on riverside, reminding me of former trips on the Pine Creek and One-through-Six sections.

Arriving in Salida, we found the river festival cum crazy carnival well underway. Slalom competitors were getting last minute briefings, crowds surged along the banks, the ferris wheel in the specially-imported amusement center went round and round, swing music drifted from the park, craft tables hawked everything from smurf dolls to rotomolded K-l's, and a steady roar rose

from all Salida's 25 bars.

The main event came on Sunday — the 26 mile wildwater race running from the FIBArk boathouse in Salida to Cotopaxi, with the roughest Class III-!V rapids facing the racers in the final three miles. It is this final stretch where goulish fans and local TV cameras await to view the dumps and disasters of the contestants.

The race originated as a bar bet in 1949 when a couple of local paddlers challenged each other to a 52-mile run which four boats tried and only one completed. The race quickly caught on and although being later shortened to 26 miles, attracted wide attention. It soon became a standard Colorado outting to board the riverside train and follow the racers downstream. Unfortunately, the railroad route no longer runs, but fans still follow the race along the roadside in cars.

From these rather muted beginnings, FIBArk boat club has developed the race into a four-day annual festival with every kind of entertainment and competition. The incredibly steep Tenderfoot Moun-

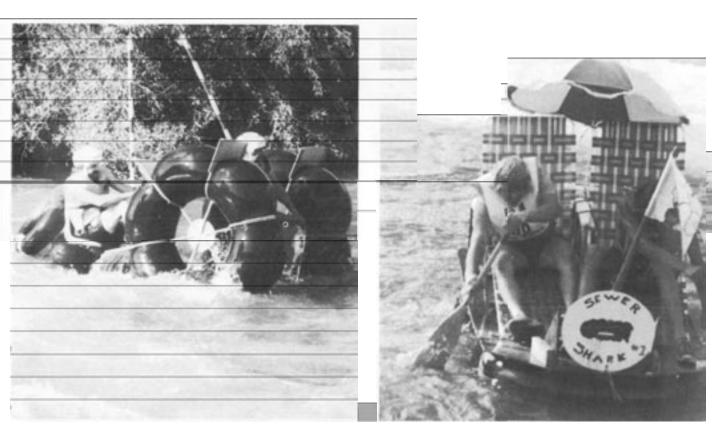
tain race, a cash-prize raft race, an eight-mile downriver swim, a 30 km bicycle race and of course the slalom and wildwater competitions are all part of the endless string of events which crammed the four days from June 17-20th.

For a local 40-man club to galvanize an entire town into such a huge affair shows remarkable energy. But even more impressive is the new 23,000 square foot boathousecompleted just in time for the race with kitchen, showers, boat storage and repair centers, and a beautiful picture window which leans right over the endless flow of the Arkansas. "This should really unite our club programs," stated John Pyson, club publicity director, "We are planning to build a permanent slalom course just upstream from the boathouse and this would make us a real center for the area. Not only will it be used for club meetings but it also offers visiting paddlers a place to throw down a sleeping bag and crash for the night."

Saturday evening, after the slalom

(won by Dave Orlicky who edged out K-1W Sue Norman by a mere five seconds), we attended an open house at the new club facility. Fletcher Anderson (second in K-1 that day) told us of his solo run of Grand Canyon - 238 miles covered in two days, plus his dramatic failure to complete the 265-mile flatwater race in southern Texas. Other paddlers recited tales of the Yampa, Green, and Animas rivers—all six hour drives which they make every weekend to find high water. The excitement swelled, the wine flowed, and the club became even more cohesive as the evening rolled on.

A few years ago, FIBark surfaced just once a year to run this extravagant festival and then lapsed from a club into a list of phone numbers for pick-up boating weekends. Now it is well on the way to major training center, both for wildwater and slalom, for all of central Colorado. Don't miss it if you are in the area.



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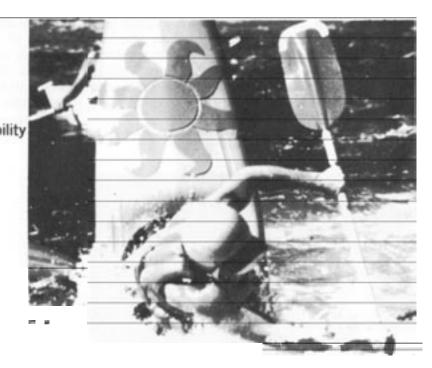
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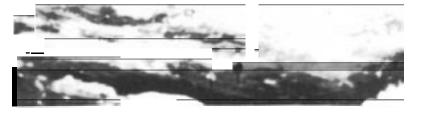


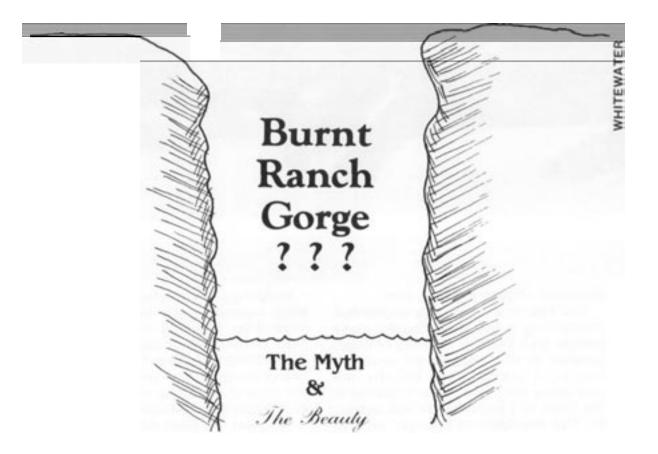
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by Matt Kuckuk

"Not Recommended For Boating". So reads Dick Schwind's West Coast River Touring in describing the Burnt Ranch Gorge section of California's Trinity River. An opinion backed up much more by local legend than by fact. Now I'm normally no enemy of colorful myths, but in this case an excellent piece on whitewater is being avoided by qualified boaters because of an overblown reputation. For this reason, I'd like to shed some light on the dark recesses of this wonderful gorge, based on my experiences there last fall.

Upon arriving in California, I soon learned that Dick Schwind's description is that of an explatory run, on which every major rapid was portaged. The trip ended in tragedy when a much-loved older member of the party suffered a fatal heart attack at the takeout. Although run many timessince this first illfated descent, the Burnt Ranch Gorge has remained enshrouded in myths of great danger and difficulty.

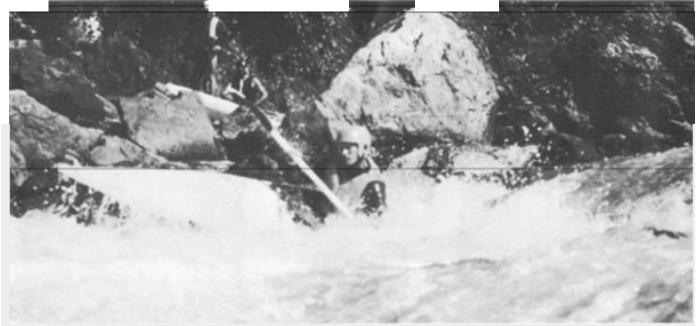
After barely three weeks in the sun-

shine state, I got my chance and was given the opportunity to boat this mysterious gorge. Before the trip I asked several Bay Area paddlers for information. Not one had run it but all had heard stories.

"It has super-technical drops you don't want to run, but end up running away because the portage is even worse."

I was intrigued and a little apprehensive. Yet in the end, as it must with all boaters, curiosity overruled fear and we loaded up the car.

Our first day out, we decided to make a warm up day, paddling the Hell's Corner section of the Klamath (another nice run with a nasty reputation). Then, after the long drive from the upper Klamath to Redding, a good night's sleep, and another long drive to the putin, we finally slid our boats into the clear green waters of the Trinity. The river was running at it's normal fall dam-release level—about 500 cfs. Reliable sources had assured us that this would be an



adequate, though minimal, flow.

The first mile or so was uneventful, containing a few easy rapids, none greater than Class II. A family of otters greeted us and showed off while the camers clicked. Then shortly, we rounded a bend and found ourselves at the head of a steep rapids that headed for the entrance of a huge, vertical gorge. Judicious eddy-hopping took us down the rapids far enough to get a good look into the throat of the gorge, and we all breathed a sigh of relief when we saw that the rock-encased rapids were fairly easy. This introduction was a strong Class III and might aptly be named "Welcome!".

Paddling a few hundred yards into the deep, rugged canyon we came upon a large drop. Scouting revealed a nasty main channel but an easy sneak route. We dubbed this drop Tim's Falls after one of our party who unfortunately had the nose of his kayak reshaped during an unexpected crash-landing and swim.

The next few miles below Tim's Falls contained a number of very enjoyable rapids, none exceeding easy Class IV. One required scouting, as large boulders blocked the view. Several long pools also broke up this stretch, allowing us to drift and admire the towering cliffs above and the smooth green formations at river level.





As we played our way downstream, the gorge opened up noticeably and we stopped for lunch on the bank of a wide pool. Returning to the water, feeling ohso-self-satisfied, we remarked on how unexpectedly reasonable the run had been so far. Thus, immediately the pace picked up. We had lunched at the very last pool before the Burnt Ranch Falls sequence cuts loose. Scouting Falls #1. we found a wide, shallow drop with one or two very marginal routes. While the rest of us chose discretion and an easy. portage, two intrepid boaters (armed with plastic boats) successfully ran the rightside route.

Just below Falls #1, the familiar tall, dark walls of the gorge closed back in and we enjoyed a long, interesting Class rapids which turned out to be Falls #2. A pool allowed us to get out and scout Falls #3, a steep, complex, contorted ledge. Withy luck and scouting, several good routes were found down this fun Class IV drop.

Immediately below #3, Falls #4 lurked in wait — a long violent cascade which looked like an invitation to a bruising experience. Wincing, we all made the tough, slippery portage.

Someone had heard that the Falls sequence was the most difficult on the run, so we all relaxed. Well, the rest of the run proved to beanything but a piece of cake. Shortly after Falls #4 loomed a bouldery maze apparently caused by an avalanche from the left wall. This strong Class IV rapids made me feel for a minute as if I were back home on the Watauga in North Carolina or the Upper Yough in Maryland.

Challenging rapids kept coming at us below the avalanche, in a very tight riverbed squeezed between green rock walls. One memorable drop in this stretch required a quick scout and some quicker maneuvering, in order to avoid some nasty sieve-outs and pinning rocks. In another, the river blasted down along the right wall and around a blind bend, banking off a huge midstream boulder as it went. Adventurous eddyhopping got us down this one without incident; I'd recommend scouting, however.

Throughout this stretch the gorge scenery remained haunting and spectacular. Almost mystically beautiful was the confluence with the New River, a major tributary that tumbles down its

Opposite top: Ken Whaley pushes through a rocky chute in **Drop #2**, while theauthor (below left) tips his stern in salute at the same spot. When flow is low as below right Kevin Lewis runsa bouldery drop both pushy and technical. But on an earlier, higher trip, John **Wasson** faces a whole different challenge. (Kuckuk & Lesser photos)





own canyon into a scene that left a very strong impression on all of us. (I wished for a moment that our Secretary of the Interior could be there with us, that he might begin to understand why we "extremists" feel the way we do. But the fantasy passed. If he found the Grand Canyon boring, he probably wouldn't like this any better.)

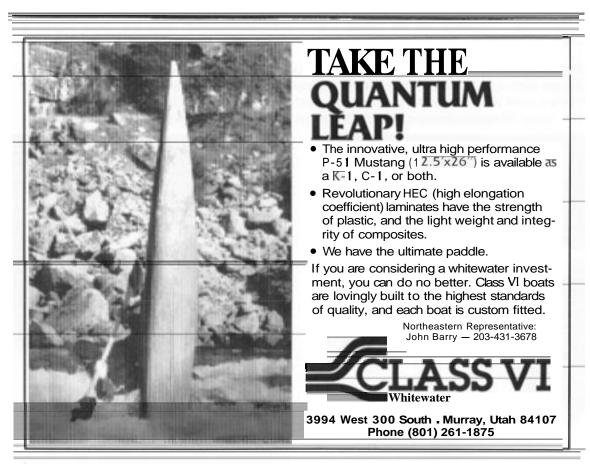
Below the New, the difficulty eased up and it was agin easy to think that all the dragons had been slain. We were wrong again. An opening of the tight canyon and a wide barrage of boulders signaled Grey's Falls. A long look from the left shore convinced us that a narrow, twisting chute left of center provided the best passage down this ten-foot drop. After scouting, Grey's Falls was run successfully by all, and the many fishermen cheered our exit from their favorite spot. Then two miles of easy water brought us to the takeout and the end of a long, very full day.

Epilogue A few weeks after the run

just described, I returned to the Burnt Ranch Gorge at a higher water level—700 to 800 cfs. This was a decidedly better run. The rapids above the Falls section were cleaner and easier. Falls #1 and #4 were much more runnable (Class IV and V, respectively), and the rapids between the Falls and the New River were significantly more powerful and difficult, yet still in the Class IV range. This section has been run as high as 2000 cfs which was reported to be extremely difficult at that level.

In case you haven't guessed, beautiful Class IV rivers are exactly my cup of tea, and the Trinity's Burnt Ranch Gorge falls neatly under the heading. Challenging? Definitely. Horrendous? I don't think so. If the scouting and water level guidelines above are heeded, careful and competent paddlers (who don't feel compelled to run everything) should have a great time with this run.

In sum: Go for It! And take your camera.



WHITEWATER

Win a river Lose a river

Why the Yampa will be Saved and the North-Fork Lost by Ken Horwitz

At the risk of offending some very dear friends who selflessly devoted hundreds of hours at public utility hearings trying to flaunt the political machinery of Idaho Power, I hope to present some different perspectives on realistic processes to preserve our rivers.

For a year, I watched a handful of well meaning souls organize around a hastily thrown together whitewater association. using the potential loss of the North Fork of the Payette as an impetus for community concern. The local paddlers responded to the call but placed all their faith in a small pocket of leaders who used the auspicies of the new organization to lend more credence to their verbalizations in the local media. A governing board was elected from a high-visibility minority of the group. A mailing list was assembled and immediately caused the perpetual question of "Where do we get the money for postage and mass mailings?" The general excitement level of the larger group began to wane with time as only the activists with the "energy level A profiles" continued to maintain what appeared to be a personal battle against Idaho Power and its attempts to confiscate the water in the river channel for an underground diversion.

After many months of hearings, the energy level of the elected board fizzled. One member (the one working on mailing lists) took a job opportunity in another country. One member (the great debater in the public utility hearings) had to return to his seasonal job with the BLM and the most visible person in front of the media became interested in a girl out of town. Between these periods, the public utility commission, headed by some amazingly

liberal commissioners, listened to the arguments.

Let's look at the public utility hearing itself and the factors involved. First they have a professional full-time and high paid legal staff. Their sole purpose is to achieve the power company's objectives through the legal process.

Second, is a very qualified group speaking for the power company in the areas of hydrology and engineering. They may be representatives of the construction firm to build the project or privately hired consultants. Once again, these are the best in their field referring to thousands of man hours of data that are professionally prepared.

Enter into the ring, the third group. This consists of the half dozen or so concerned kayakers who wish to see their favorite stretch of river preserved. They seriously think they have a good grasp of the so called "facts" about power generation and waterflows and make every attempt to respond to the company's paid experts. They drop a lot of phrases on the television interviews about peak flow capacities and dollars of return to the power company for their investment. They even run around town with a few sympathetic lawyers arguing bits and piecesof the total picture. Later, they rely upon these pieces of information heavily in the public hearings. Many times they are out of context.

In the community, the paddlers are becoming highly visible egocentrics. Television and newspaper journalists quickly zero in on them because they are colorful, outspoken and energetic. They make good copy! However, this doesn't amount to much in a public utility hearing nor does it affect the established procedures for the step by step applica-



Rick Fernald on the North Fork (Rob Lesser photo)

tions of the power company. Television commentary is excellent when a public referendum is at hand, but aids little in this type of hearing.

In the public utility hearing, the questions are always asked of the testifying paddler:

"What do you do for a living?"

"Uh, well, I'm unemployed right now. Normally I work as a seasonal employee for BLM (used for an example only), etc., etc., etc."

"Oh, so you are drawing unemployment right now?"

"Yes, but just until my job starts again....."

The paddler's upcoming testimony has been strongly tainted by the lawyer's trick of pointing out indirectly that these people are nothing more than "good ol' boys" showing the local color but not providing anything to the community tax base.

While more than 50% of the paddlers in the community are probably professionals (doctors, lawyers, architects, etc.), they are working at their normal jobs oblivious to the public utility meeting. They either do not associate with the more radical element of the sport, favoring of recreational and more mundane paddling. Or, they see that the hastily formed organization against the power company is non-professional and lacks proper planning. They feel that they would endanger their professional business by becoming involved with the nearly humorous connotation evoked by the outspoken wild-eyed paddler on the evening news.

Frankly, the paddlers in this type of battle don't have a chance in a million. They are part time, unorganized, and don't understand the first thing about objective planning, business organization or how to "use the system" from within. A planning session consists of meeting at one of their houses for an evening and planning strategy verbally—in sharp contrast to the professional strategems of the power company experts.

Each time these well meaning souls pour their emotional whole into this type of scenario, the river will ultimately be lost. The Payette's gain of a mere 12 days a year at 2200 cfs proves this. However, the public can choose its own long term power solutions. We can win back our rivers—not with an emotionally based opposition, but with a professionally organized challenge to the power company's self-professed omnipotence.

How Hydropower Wins

The power company's obstacle-consuming march wins through a war of attrition. They initiate a battle that part time conservationists cannot endure because of other committments including full time jobs. As a result, conservationist energy bursts are short and intense—the direct opposite of the slow, ponderous, steady energy that works effectively in our political system. And this is working within the system.

This fall, the North Fork of the Payette will probably see its first bulldozer or crane. The persistent campaign waged by the utility will most certainly have

won out. It seems to have done so already. The paddler's interest will be relegated to a mere consideration of how many days and how much water may be released.

This illustrates another power company tactic: company negotiators asked paddlers how many days they would want releases. (This offer made questionable the entire necessity of the project, but it also presupposed that it would come to pass.) The paddlers innocently accepted this offer and huddled to come up with a number. The boaters thought they had gained ground, but actually had hastened their own defeat. The assumption that the project was necessary had slipped by them.

In the game of political checkers, the power company had just reached the other side of the board and crowned a king. The paddlers were fighting a numbers-and-days issue they had been sidetracked into, rather than the stronger issue of whether a power generator at all—an argument that could have involved all the community, not just kayakers.

It is like the story Henry Kissinger tells of the 1972Arab-Israeli war when he was negotiating for both sides. Egyptian President Sadat told him to make sure the treaty allowed him aforce of 30 tanks on the east side of the Suez. Upon discussing this with Dimitz, another negotiator, amazement was articulated at the small number desired. "That's what he wants in the final solution." Kissinger advised. "Why then," Dimitz asked, "didn't he ask for 300 tanks in the first place." Such are the tactics that prey upon non-professionals with little or no fulltime legal help.

How Conservation Wins

Now let's look across the country at another river problem that has also received national attention. Tennessee's Ocoee River has been the focus of a battle between paddlers wishing to use the natural stream channel and the TVA, perhaps the strongest single utility concern in the world. The TVA is trying to transfer the entire river flow to a flume being rebuilt to divert the water for a

massive vertical drop to generate power, (a project similar to the North Fork).

Originally, the Ocoee situation generated a strong emotional response. Once again, it was picked up temporarily by the media. The omnipotent TVA showed little concern. They view this type of reaction as commonplace and expected. It is worked through with the constant meticulous war of attrition. Outfitters and concerned paddlers realized their chances were slim against the TVA giant, but they got smart. They formed a council which hired a full time, professionally paid person to work towards one objective: saving the recreational resources of the Ocoee. Fortunately, they found a very sharp individual named Dave Brown. He undertook the task by forming a comprehensive plan. This professional approach is the basis by which all local river issues can be addressed with a competitive challenge against a utility.

Money is the first problem. The professional must devise a means to generate funds that will pay for his own salary. More money is needed to spread informative material to generate involvement and more contributions. Finally, the funds brought in by this growing circle of increased cash flow are needed

Lone C-1 on The Ocoee.



to hire a top rate attorney to defend the paddler's interests. The professional must be able to make enough money in his own capacity to sustain a personal motivational drive that will be immense. He should be able to receive as much as any counterpart in the business world.

David Brown followed this plan and it worked well. While working in a fairly depressed region where constant fund raisers are still a major concern, he reached a point a year ago where he hired a lawyer who has made it his personal case to represent the Ocoee River Council and attack the TVA on various fallacies about the Ocoee Project. To date, the chances of a success are good. Various fund raisers, press release packages and publicity - all conscientiously generated with nothing left to chance, have helped sway several major political figures onto the side of the recreationists.

Now, the Yampa River in Northwest Colorado is also threatened. Ben Harding, with initial support from the American Wilderness Society, is working with the Friends of the Yampa River group to prepare for the fight. Ben has a realistic picture of what it will take in the years ahead. He understands the necessity of constant generation of funds plus the need to retain full time legal counsel. In sharp contrast to the North Fork, with its resistance which has fizzled down to some cursory input when most of the volunteer help was exhauted, the Yampa will probably be saved. The professional campaign planned in a businesslike strategy by Harding and his group will be able to match the opposition one for one, battle for battle, year after year.

"It will probably take about \$60,000.00 dollars a year," Ben stated in a recent telephone conservation. He has a realistic understanding of the problem of raising money and has already designed several ways to promote the funds through outfitters, memberships in the FOYR, and the June river festival. His attack is aware, professional, and competitive—not Quixotic.

Again, it is hard to writeabout some of

the helplessness witnessed in the North Fork efforts, especially when some of my finest outdoor companions have been right in the middle of the fracus. I can only hope that they will see the efforts of this article are aimed at getting the ball rolling stronger than ever. My whole goal is to make readers aware that the odds are no longer "insurmountable" and that a well organized battle against any company of any size can win and save that favorite, isolated stretch of whitewater. Face it, friends, the utility companies want exactly what we want: strong perpetual stream flows with a high gradient. It is a vanishing natural resource which our children are entitled to enjoy.





(Continued from page 7)

high are the waves going to be in the Gulkana Canyon? We boat in prem canoes and are quite comfortable with (AWA) Class III water in Orego

Washington. And the Noatak, being Class I+, I assume that's OK for a beginner...?

Alex McNeily Portland, Oregon

We agree that hairboating should not be "haphazardly promoted" should it be censored. What should and should not be run is a complex thoice which Chuck Hines' Tale of the Velico carefully discusses in next is the Ed.

it's here

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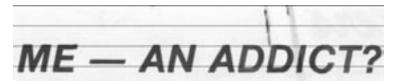
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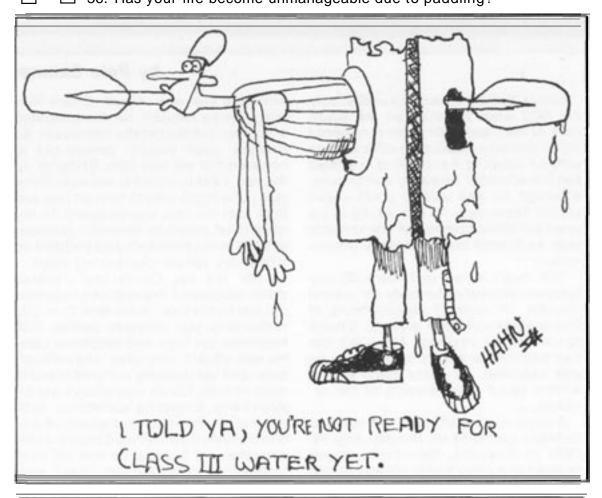


Surely not me, you say. It's "those other boaters" who are always the paddling addicts. Well, Pam *Blixt* and Kris *Frish*, co-founders of PADLERS* ANONYMOUS, ask you to take a second look at your own paddling habit. Even if you are positive your paddling is under control, take this simple test and prove it to yourself. Answer "yes" or "no" to each question as honestly as possible, then check yourscore below.

YES	NO		
		1.	Do you look forward to times when you can paddle?
		2.	Do you ever paddle before noon?
		3.	Do you ever paddle alone?
		4.	Do you sometimes paddle to feel better?
		5.	Do you sometimes paddle because it helps you forget your worries?
		6.	Have you ever felt guilty or bummed out after paddling?
ō		7.	Do you ever have times when you cannot remember some of what happened while paddling?
		8.	Do you ever do things when paddling that you are ashamed of?
		9.	Have you ever skipped meals while paddling?
		10.	Have you ever missed work or school because of your paddling?
		11.	Do you ever paddle the morning after paddling the night before?
		12.	If someone told you to quit paddling tomorrow, would you ignore
_			them?
	Ш		Have you ever tried to change your paddling patterns?
		14.	Have you ever gotten in trouble with the police because of your
			paddling?
님	H		Have your family activities changed because of your paddling?
H	\vdash		Does anyone in your family have a problem with paddling?
H	H		Has your sexual life changed because of paddling?
H	H		Do you believe that paddling makes people more popular?
日	H		Have you ever lost friends dut to paddling?
	H		Are all your friends paddlers?
Η	H		Do you avoid people who do not paddle?
H	H		Does paddling ever hurt your reputation?
000			Do you ever borrow money or "do without" otherthings to be able to buy paddling gear or go on paddling trips?
	Ш	24.	When you have company over, do you hide your paddle and/or paddling paraphernalia?
		25.	Do you get peevish (vexed) when your spouse or friends tell you that you are paddling too much?
		26.	Do you try to encourage (manipulate) your non-paddling friends to paddle?
		27.	Do you tell yourself that others paddle more than you?
		28.	Do you ever paddle more than planned?

'Persons Addicted and Dependent upon Dipping, Leaning, and Endering in Roaring Spray

29.	Do you ever paddle when you don't want to?
□ 30.	Is abstinence from paddling totally out of the question?
□ 31.	Does it take more paddling to get relief than a year ago?
☐ 32.	Have you ever been on a paddling binge or bender (or ender)?
□ 33.	Have you ever had withdrawal symptoms from not paddling?
☐ 34.	Have you ever been "on the (shuttle) wagon"?
☐ 35.	Do you refuse to admit your powerlessness over paddling?
□ 36	Has your life become unmanageable due to paddling?



Score 1 point for each "yes" answer. A score of:

- **0-5** = severely hydrophobic or you suffered a paddling injury last season
- **6-15** = a novice paddler or you have a great denial system
- **16-26** = an intermediate paddler or you are good at concealing your dependency
- **26-31** = an expert paddler and a full-fledged paddling addict out-patient treatment recommended at this point
- **32-36** = a "hair" paddler or a racer an in-patient treatment progam is your only hope in this terminal phase

Determine your score and ponder your plight. Addiction to paddling is a progressive disease. It cannot be cured — onlyarrested. Yet many people with this disease are able to control it and return to normally dull lives. PADDLERS ANONYMOUS support groups are now forming in your community. Call (IM4) C2M-K1C1 for more information.



REMEMBERING CHUCK

CHARLES ROLLINS - 1934 - 1982

by Pete Skinner

Chuck Rollins drowned Sunday, July 11, 1982 while paddling on the South Fork of the Clearwater River in northern Idaho. He ran a particularly difficult drop without scouting it and failing in at least two roll attempts, he was forced to swim. Although he was able to grasp a well placed throw rope, he was swung into a small but tenacious hole. A few seconds later he floated out, apparently unconscious.

The rough terrain and river difficulty delayed retrieval of his body for several minutes. In spite of several hours of intense resucitation efforts, Chuck could not be revived. Although the riverside rescue efforts appeared to be well executed, no doubt much will be written about other aspects of the accident.

A large number of family, friends, and paddlers gathered on Sunday July 18, 1982 in Oneonta, New York, to bid farewell to a close friend. He was buried in Hobart, New York overlooking a placid river. Peter Skinner delivered the following eulogy at the funeral memorializing a fine man and great friend.

Chuck Rollins was a very special friend to me and all of you here today. I would like to say a few words which I hope will echo and amplify your feelings.

Chuck entered my life in 1976 in a most characteristic way. In kayaks surging up and down in an eddy above the Funnel Falls on the flooded Housatonic River, I asked whether everyone in the group could execute an eskimo roll.

Although this new recruit, Chuck Rollins, seemed hesitant, he demonstrated a unque, but successful maneuver. So fortified, each paddler peeled out to confront the six foot falls. Bringing up the rear, I was horrified to witness Chuck peel out all right, only to tip right over and float over the falls upside down! To my great relief, however, he rolled up below, smiling, and unscathed, and paddled on into a very special place in my heart.

After this day Chuck and I shared many wonderful experiences together, not just on the river, but in New York City restaurants, jazz concerts, parties, club meetings, car trips, and telephone calls. He was vibrant, very alive, and enthusiastic, and yet uniquely vulnerable and in need of help. Chuck was always late for everything, forgetting something, getting lost on the road, and taking improbable routes down difficult rapids. In his strengths and frailities, he was the most intensely human person I have ever known.

Chuck was one of my best friends, and Steve Kahn's best friends, and Beth Thorrington's best friends, and Joe Maskasky's best friends, and Maria Scott's best friends, and Chris and Dave Rollins' best friends, and Paula Litt's best friends, and Charles Peterson's best friends, and Charlie Walbridge's best friends and everyone here today's best friend. It seemed as if he had love and time enough for us all somehow and thereby made our lives inestimably richer.

My wife Mindy and I have spent time this week talking about our wild and

Chuck's unique blend of generosity, enthusiasm, and good humor made him the centerpiece of any trip.

crazv friend...his trials and traits and our many happy days together. He just loved rivers and rapids and music and food and VW campers, and the outdoors and indoors, and most of all, people. He agonized over his son's education, and Aunt Phoebe's home and my health. He would throw all reason to the wind just to get to the river or meet you for some fun, driving hundreds of miles on his BMW cycle in any kind of weather to join in.

Around the campfire and in the car, his stories and hearty laugh brightened every trip. No matter how rainy the weather, low the stream, broken the paddle, terrible the food, or thick the bugs, Chuck's unflappable good humor never failed to lift our spirits.

His favorite sport, paddling, is in many ways unique. Unlike skiing or tennis or going to the beach, danger lurks behind every snag and in every drop and thereby requires intimate interpersonal reliance and relations among boaters. In this way we get to know the other paddlers' strengths, weaknesses, and foibles. We must be there when they need help both on the river and off. We know their love lives and professional lives as well as the successes and failures life inevitably dishes out. In many ways our beloved rivers create a special kind and depth of friendship which transcends pettiness and personal differences in style, values and politics. We really are an extended family. It is fitting then that when one of us is lost, the whole family is bereaved.

So we have all gathered here to pay respects for and share our common sorrow about Chuck's passing. Like Chuck's concern for us, we too feel responsible for him. In some ways, it is ironic that the place where Chuck felt most at home, was where he died. But, I think we must all admit if it was his time to go, Chuck would have wanted to go this way. He would have felt it ignominious to die in a car, mugged on thestreet, or killed in war. Instead, he died with his best friends in a beautiful state, doing a sport he loved.

And when we wonder what he would like us to do in his absence, I think he would want us to make sure we introduce others to and share fully with them the avocations we cherish. Not to inflate our egos, but rather to extract the extra enjoyment these experiences provide... the exhilaration, the self-improvement and the involvement of others.

Chuck's unique blend of generosity, enthusiasm, and good humor made him a centerpiece of a great trip. He never had a bad word to say about anyone... ever! Not because he masked his feelings, but because he honestly loved us all...pure and simple. Thisattribute more than all the others made us feel special and important to him and to each other. I think that is really why we are all here today and feel so badly about losing Chuck.

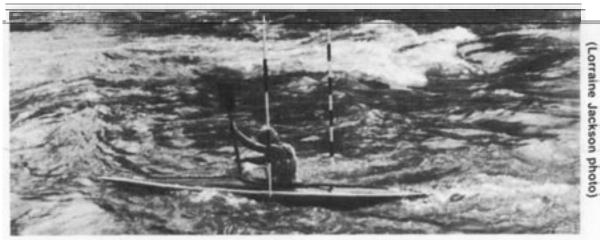
Chuck left us last Sunday, deep in the hills of Idaho, 2500 miles from here. That afternoon in West Sand Lake where Mindy and I live, we were preparing to entertain some friends for dinner. Although we live in a sheltered valley, a rare breeze began to move the trees. It called and reminded me that the present Chuck had given us last year, Solari bells, were not hung so that the wind would ring them. I took them out to the wind where they chimed for us all to enjoy. I thought fondly of Chuck challenging the rivers he loved so much and where I knew he was very happy.

Our dearest friends call to us daily, both those living and those who have died. For all of us lucky enough to have known Chuck, he will continue to ring his peculiar kind of goodness into our lives. The wonderful memories of this fine person should spur each of us to make every day we are here special for ourselves and our family and friends.

We will all rejoin Chuck sometime, sooner or later. Let's hope when we get there, he has found the ultimate play wave, with the ultimate hot spring, near the ultimate restaurant with ultimate jazz happenings and best of all, with all of his friends and family around him.

RACE CALENDAR

If you would like your race or training clinic to receive national publicity, send the race date, type, location, and specifics to AWA Race Calendar, 7 Holland Lane. Cranbury, NJ 08512. Be sure to include name and address of your registration contact.



SEPT.	RACE TYPE*, NAME, LOCATION	CONTACT
4-5	SL, WW - Gull River Slalom Lower Madawaska Wildwater Pan American Cup Race #3 Minden, Ontario, Canada	Your ACA Divisional Chairman
4-5	SL, WW - Gull River Slalom	
4-5	SL, WW - Truckee River Races	Lin Feil 1153 Marian Way Sacramento , CA 95818
11-12	SL, WW - Colorado Cool Down Races Glenwood Springs, CO	Koji/Orlicky/Steitz 7078 S. Bryant Littleton, CO 80120
11-12	SL, CL - Feeder Canal Slalom and Clinic	Bill Carr 9308 Kinglsey Avenue Bethesda, MD 20814
11-12	Youngstown Society for the Blind Canoe Races	C. Doug Crush C. 1620 Shammo Rd. Girard, OH 44420
11-12	CL - Kernville Slalom Clinic	Marv Cornett 5432 Janisann Ave. Culver City, CA 90230
11-12	SL - St. Croix Slalom	Bob Schuetzler 404 Edmund Minneapolis, MN 55406
18-19	SL, CL - Fall City Slalom and Clinic Ohiopyle, PA PA Cup Race	Dennis Kriek River Sport Box 100 Ohiopyle, PA 15470

'Key: PS - pool slalom TC - training clinic SL - slalom WW - wildwater (Class III and up) DR - downriver (less than Class III) OC - open canoe

19	WW - Esopus Wildwater Atlantic Div. WW Championships Phoenicia, NY	Sandy Johns P.O. Box 284 Denville, NJ 07834 Esther Underhill RD #1 65 Valley Hill Road Malvern, PA 19355
25-26	SL - Lenape Slalom West Chester, PA PA Cup Race #2	Esther Underhill RD #1 65 Valley Hill Road Malvern, PA 19355
25-26	Triathlon - Nantahala Triathlon Swim, Run, Paddle Bryson City, NC	Nantahala Outdoor Center Star Route, Box 68 Bryson City, NC 28713
25-26	CL - Stanislaus Slalom Clinic	Loma Prieta RTS 14262 Saratoga Avenue Saratoga, CA 95070
OCTOBER		
2	SL, WW - 11th Annual Southeastern Intercollegiate Canoe Races Catawba River Morganton, NC	Bob Benner Western Piedmont Community College Morganton, NC 28655
2-3	SL - Fiddler's Elbow Slalom SL - Hummelstown, PA PA Cup Race #3	John Gephart 600 Kalla Drive Harrisburg, PA 17109
2-3	WW, OC - Grizzly Creek Races 17 mile open class Glenwood Springs, CO	Koji/Orlicky/Steitz 7078 S. Bryant Littleton, CO 80120
2-3	SL - Last Ditch Slalom Wolf River Langlade, WI	Bob Obst 549 W oodward Madison, WI 53704
2-3	SL, WW - Stanislaus River Races	Loma Prieta RTS 14262 Saratoga Avenue Saratoga, CA 95020
9-10	SL, WW - Ocoee Doubleheader Ocoee River Near Cleveland, TN	John Dolbere NOC, Star Route, Box 68 Bryson City, NC 28713
10	SL - Bellefonte Slalom Bellefonte, PA PA Cup Race #4	Bellefonte Registrar 4 IM Bldg. University Park, PA 16802
16-17	SL, OC - A.M.C. Farmington Slalom New Boston. MA	Farmington Registrar 14 Acker Avenue Ossining, NY 10562
16-17	SL - Easton Slalom Easton, PA PA Cup Race #5	Easton Registrar/LVCC P.O. Box 877 Easton, PA 18042
16-17	SL - Old Scary Slalom American River	Ultra Sports Kayak School P.O. box 581 Lotus, CA 95651
NOVEMBE	R	
26-27	SL, WW - N.O.C. Turkey Classic Wildwater Match Race Jiffy Slalom Bryson City, NC	Nantahala Outdoor Center Star Route, Box 68 Bryson City, NC 28713
27-28	SL - Turkey Trot Slalom	Lorien Canoe Club 4774 Coronado Ave. San Diego, CA 92107

THE BOAT SHOP



Above floats Hydra's new Taurus Kayak, described in this department last issue, which is now available from *Plastic Industries, Inc.*, Box 669, Athens, TN 37303 for \$479. Available in powder blue or orange, this 34-pound roto-molded cruising boat wasdesigned by California's Tom Johnson and offers some fascinating innovations. Interchangeable hip braces adjust to provide a tight fit and the ABS knee bracealso forms a solid anchor for the bow pillar, preventing lateral slippage. Good ideas. In addition, Ken Horwitz announces that dealerships are available nationwide.

34



THERMA-REST MATTRESS

The salesman took a claw hammer and a handful of pitons, scattered them on the cement floor than laid down this three-quarter-inch mattress and bade me lie on top of it. I couldn't even tell the sharp objects were underneath me. This sleeping mat was that good. Amazed, I bought it on the spot.

The comfort is as great as a clumsy old air mattress, without the half hour's delay to blow it up and the chance of freezing your buns with the air inside the mattress gets cold. The warmth and comfort is double that of the closed-cell ensolite pads, and the bulk is half of those huge winter-camping pads. In short, it's the best around.

Basically, the Therma-Rest mattress consists of three-quarters-inch of open cell foam inside an air tight plastic envelope. By opening a small valve at one corner of the mat, air rushes in and fills all the air spaces in the open cells giving you a filled mattress in about 60 seconds. If you want things a little firmer, just puff a couple of breaths into the valve and close it. In the morning, just open the valve and roll the Therma-Rest into a five-inch diameter roll and load it on your pack. (It weighs about one-and-a-quarter pounds.)

In the unlikely event of a puncture, you are still sleeping on an open cell mat. Repairs can be made with the accompanying repair kit and Shoe Goo. The 20-inch wide mat comes in four and six foot lenghts. The longer model is ideal for winter camping and provides total insulation even on top of frozen snow. The longer pad costs \$44. The shorter about \$36. Both are available from Cascade Designs, Inc., 4000 First Ave., S., Seattle, WA 98134.

—B.J.

VERY SPECIAL MAILING LIST OFFER

Does your club want more members? Are you raising funds for a good river cause? If so, your non-profit group may want to use AWA's regionalized computer listing of names and addresses for a bulk mail campaign. You send us the brochures, flyers, etc. (minimum of 200), some directions about what you want done, and AWA will do the rest! We will bill you at cost for this service. (about 20 cents apiece, max.) No mess, no hassle. AWA's members are among the most responsive to river issues. Reach them with ease through this new AWA service. For details, write Peter Skinner, Box 272, West Sand Lake, NY 12196.

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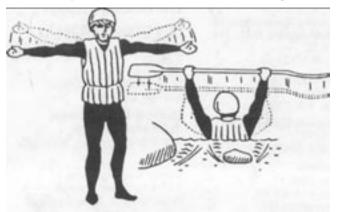
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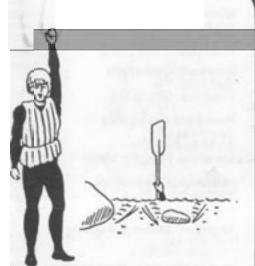
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