



Facilities Mixed New Champs

OPS #5 DETHRONED AFTER FOUR YEARS AS CANOE CHAMPIONS

In an incredible four-weeks of canoe races; old race times were smashed, traditional championship teams unseated, and over a thousand cast members showed up for work slightly bleary-eyed. And in the end, a jubilant **Facilities Mixed** team went all the way to take the **Canoe Challenge of the World!**

The action all began months ago as cast members from across Walt Disney World began forming teams to compete in our **1977 Canoe Races**. For the fifth year, this traditional event was held on a 1,000 meter course layed out around the Rivers of America in Frontierland.

Friends and co-workers began pooling together to create ten-member teams to compete in one of three categories . . . Men, Women, and Mixed. Official rosters were filed with Cast Activities and the practicing was on!

Sometimes with the sun not even over the horizon, and smoky clouds of thick fog drifting over the course; hoarse calls of "stroke . . . stroke" could be heard throughout Frontierland by midnight shift crews as canoe teams stormed the 1,000 meters as early as 6 am!

Then the races began in earnest. Crew members were finalized, tee-shirts emblazoned with team names and logos were

distributed, and stop watches clicked. And hundreds of cast members began showing up for work with sore muscles.

For many, the Canoe Races are a good time . . . putting a team together for some good natured competition before work, a great way to wake up and get your morning rolling. But for others, the Canoe Races are a serious athletic challenge. Teams are drawn not by friendship, but potential human-horsepower bent over a paddle. Strategy sessions are held, captains observe power and weak sides to align paddlers for optimum strength and endurance, near scientific calculations are made for turning the four-corners of the course. Their goal was four-weeks away at a victory breakfast to award a huge trophy to the fastest team.

The time trials were soon underway, with each division competing on different mornings before the Magic Kingdom opened to our guests. The ten-member teams were vying for a spot in the semi-finals, digging deep into the Rivers of America with their paddles to propel the 22-foot long, one-ton canoes around the course in a muscle-scorching burst of power.

In the **Men's Division**, 13 teams were entered; racing against the stop watch through

the time trials and semi-finals, with the top four surviving to go on to the finals.

For the past four years, a powerful **Ops #5** team of all men has won the race, posting a faster time every year. If any record was thought to be out of reach, it was an incredible four-minutes and 31-seconds even they reached last year. Many felt that after four years of "fine-tuning" a team, **Ops #5** had reached human limits. Not so, for in early time trials, team captain **Butch Watson** and his all-male **River Rats** came within 2/10th of a second . . . posting a 4:31.2 trip around the river! In the finals of the **Men's Division**, the **River Rats** came in at 4:33.6, "psyching" them up to come back a few days later in the divisional championships with a record-breaking 4:29.8, a little over a second under **Ops #5's** previous record! The impossible had been done!

And it wasn't just a boat ride for the **River Rats** either, their competition in the **Men's Division** was stiff. . . **Industrial Engineering** moved into the finals with a 4:40 flat, finishing at 4:45.0, **WED Design** took a solid third place with a 4:50.6 in the finals, and **Pinocchio** qualified fourth entering the finals with

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a 4:47.8, only to slip up to 5:01.0 on their last run.

The **Mixed Division** has traditionally been our largest, with this year's race proving to be no exception. Thirty-two teams began the time trials, vying for the top four places against the likes of last year's Mixed Champs, **Watercraft**.

Dave Gibson's 1977 Watercraft team gave fair notice by breaking their own record set last year, pulling across the finish line with a 4:43.7, less than a half-second under last year's 4:44.1. The **Facilities Mixed team**, a **Rob Mitchell** production, came on strong to qualify for second place. . . and all of this in only the semi-finals! It sooned turned into a real "canoe jam" with no less than four teams finishing within 1.1 seconds apart! These included **Empress Lilly** at 5:14.3, **Disney University** at 5:15.1, **Star Ship Vista** at 5:15.2, and **Polynesian Pirates** at 5:15.4.

Under a rule of the race, though seldom used, the top five teams going into the finals may be expanded to accommodate additional teams finishing within 1.5 seconds of each other. . . causing this year's Mixed Division finals to include seven teams!

In the Mixed Division finals, here is the order of finish. . . the **Facilities Mixed team** at 4:47.0, **Watercraft** at 4:48.7, **Disney University** at 5:07.2, **WED Design** at 5:13.7, **Polynesian Pirates** at 5:19.3, **Empress Lilly** at 5:27.6, and **Star Ship Vista** with a disappointing 6:42.5.

Fielding teams in the **Women's Division**, it was no surprise when last year's championship **Trammies** team again won in the semi-finals. However, the surprise was when they beat their old record of 5:30.3 by pulling down a fast 5:11.4 for a new divisional record! A solid **Pinocchios** team of gals placed second in the semi-finals with a 5:21.0, the **Travel Company** gang came in at 5:29.6, and **CRO's Crew** at 5:56.7 for the top four places.

But, oh those finals. . . **Pinocchios** pulled ahead with a surprise 5:12.5 to win the Women's Division (although **Watercraft** set the record time), with the **Trammies** only managing second place with a 5:14.4, **CRO's Crew** took third with 5:31.6, and the **Travel Company** gals fourth at 5:34.2.

With the semi-finals and finals behind them, the **Canoe Challenge of the World** was set for center stage.

The day was Thursday, August 11th. The time was 6:30 am. . . still pitch dark on the Rivers of America. Standing nervously about the dock, bailing every last drop of water out of the canoes while waiting for dawn's first light so the cameras could record the race, 30 racers and their supporters milled about. They were **Men's Division** champions **River Rats**, **Mixed Division** champions **Facilities Mixed**, and **Women's Division** champs **Pinocchios**. A handicap system had been calculated by Chief Race Official **Thom Murphy** of Cast Activities, and the three teams were waiting to race each other against the clock for the title of **Canoe Champions of the World!**



Men's Division team River Rats



Women's Division team Pinocchios

CANOE RACE STATISTICS

1976 Divisional Winners:

Men's Division-Ops #5-4:31.0
 Mixed Division-Watercraft-4:44.1
 Women's Division-Trammies-5:21.5

1977 Divisional Winners:

Men's Division-River Rats-4:29.8
 Mixed Division-Facilities Mixed-4:47.0
 Women's Division-Pinocchios-5:12.5

1976 Canoe Challenge of the World:

Men's Division-Ops #5-4:36.0 (real time)
 Mixed Division-Watercraft-4:52.3 (real time) 4:39.0 (handicapped)
 Women's Division-Trammies-5:30.3 (real time) 4:48.6 (handicapped)

1977 Canoe Challenge of the World:

Men's Division-River Rats-4:34.3 (real time)
 Mixed Division-Facilities Mixed-4:43.5 (real time) 4:26.5 (handicapped)
 Women's Division-Pinocchios-5:14.1 (real time) 4:30.4 (handicapped)

Mere minutes before seven, the sun broke through and the signal was given by Thom for the first team to line up for the start. The **Pinocchios** gals moments later were off and running, finishing with a 5:14.1 real time, down to 4:30.4 with the handicap.

Next to paddle was **Facilities Mixed**, who crossed the finish with a fine 4:43.5, down to 4:26.5 with the handicap.

Then it was time for the **River Rats**, so far the fastest team to travel the Rivers of America, as proven in the finals with a 4:29.8. The odds were on their winning.

But expect the unexpected with "sure things" . . . because as the **River Rats** powered into the first right-hand curve, a point that strategy sessions had called for paddlers to switch sides of the canoe, one man slid across the seat too hard in an effort not to miss a stroke. . . and slid completely out of the canoe! As he headed for shore with his paddle tucked under one arm, the now nine-man canoe continued on, crossing the finish line with an excellent 4:34.3. . . good, but not good enough to win.

The following morning, at a victory breakfast at the Contemporary Resort, **Facilities Mixed** with their handicapped final time of 4:26.5 became our official **Canoe Champions of the World** for 1977.



This year's winning team-Facilities Mixed

Continuing Education Classes for Fall

15th DISNEY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The **Disney Foundation** is pleased to announce its **15th Annual College Scholarship Program** this week.

The program is open to all high school seniors who are children of qualified employees of Walt Disney Productions and associated companies, and who will be graduating from high school in either the Spring or Summer of 1978. This includes a stepchild or adopted child if claimed as a dependent on the parent employee's Federal Income Tax Return.

To qualify a child, the parent must be a full-time regular employee (permanent, 20 hours or more per week) of Walt Disney Productions or its domestic subsidiaries or associated companies, working in the United States. Also, the parent must have completed at least one-year of continuous service with the company since his or her most recent hire date by October 1, 1977, and be on the payroll the date the scholarship is awarded.

The **deadline** date for returning your Application is October 1, 1977.

Applications and information booklets concerning our College Scholarship Program are available through the **Disney University**, located in The Center.

STAINED GLASS COURSE OFFERED

This fall, the **Facilities Division Learning Center** will be offering a course in **Stained Glass** through **Orange County Adult Education**.

The course will begin with the Tiffany method of staining glass and stresses a minimum of investment in the beginning for small projects such as Suncatchers and boxes, mirrors, picture frames, and small windows. The class will progress into larger projects, with students working with traditional lead channel came creations. No previous experience is required to participate in this class.

The class will begin **Wednesday, September 7**, at the **Facilities Training Center Trailer**. Three classes are planned, beginning at 8 am, 12 noon and 4 pm, each meeting for three hours. The fee is \$5.

On the first day, students should bring several square feet of single strength window glass and a new #2 Fletcher Cutter (available at most hardware stores for under \$1.50).

If you are interested in taking the Stained Glass course or have any questions, please contact the **Facilities Learning Center** at extension 4148.

BACK TO SCHOOL DAYS

"Learning, growing, exploring something new. . . it's your Disney University." Beginning this September, many new courses will be offered in the Disney University's Fall Session, including: **Valencia Community College** (fee - \$42, application fee - \$5).

- **Business Communications** - Mondays, 6 to 9 pm - Development of written and oral business communications skills to create successful human relations. Emphasis placed on written business correspondence.

- **Introduction to Business** - Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm - The fundamentals of business organization and procedures. Introduction to business terms, organization, etc.

- **Principles of Accounting I** - Wednesdays, 6 to 9 pm - The concepts, principles, and techniques applicable to the accounting cycle, notes, accruals, deferrals, receivables, inventory evaluation, depreciation, asset valuation and payrolls.

Rollins College (fee - \$105, application fee - \$15).

- **Principles of Marketing** - Mondays, 6 to 9 pm - Analysis of the market structure movement of goods from producer to consumer, including market functions and institutions. It gets into studies of market forecasting and market researching.

- **Orange County Adult Education** (fee - \$5).

- **Assertiveness in Your Personal and Business Worlds** - Mondays, 6 to 9 pm - Asser-

tiveness training enables people to act in their own best interests, to stand up for themselves without undue anxiety, to exercise their own rights without denying the rights of others, and to express their honest feelings comfortably.

• **French** - Tuesdays, 6 to 9 pm - Directed towards developing conversational abilities in French. The class is designed for the beginning student, as well as someone who has been exposed to the language previously.

• **Russian** - Wednesdays, 6 to 9 pm - Conversational Russian. Taught with the use of slides. Designed to help Walt Disney World cast members utilize Russian on the job.

• **Shorthand I** - Wednesdays, 6 to 9 pm - Beginning Gregg Shorthand, Diamond Jubilee Series.

• **Shorthand II** - Wednesdays, 6 to 9 pm - Gregg Diamond Jubilee Series. This class is designed to increase speed. Students should have completed all theory prior to this level.

• **Spanish** - Wednesdays, 6 to 9 pm - Conversational Spanish. It will educate the students in vocabulary, phrases, etc. Can be especially useful on your job at Walt Disney World.

• **Speed Reading** - Thursdays, 6 to 9 pm - Through a variety of techniques, this class will increase the student's rate of reading as well as comprehension.

• **Beginning Speech** - Thursdays, 6 to 9 pm - Basic speech class designed to improve the student's speaking skills. Students will give speeches on a variety of topics. It's a good way to gain confidence in speaking before groups.

Independent (no fee).

• **Red Cross First Aid** - Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30 to 9:30 pm - This course deals with all phases of first aid. Students will be able to recognize symptoms and administer first aid to a victim. Students will also receive a certification card upon completion of the course, in both basic first aid and CPR (closed heart massage).

All of these classes will be offered at the **Disney University**, which is located in The Center.

For additional information and registration, call the University at extension 4744 or drop by their offices located on the 1st floor just off the main lobby.

SPEECH CLASS OFFERED

The Disney University will again this quarter be offering its **Basic Speech Course**, in cooperation with Orange County Adult Education.

Last Spring, 13 cast members graduated from an Advanced Speech Class offered at the University.

The Basic Speech Class will focus attention on all speaking situations inside Walt Disney World and out. If you wish to spiel with more enthusiasm, want to make a better presentation, have more confidence in speaking before others or groups; then now is the time to enroll in this program.

You'll learn hundreds of professional speaking tips and the latest methodology in speaking techniques from instructor **Joe La**

Hart. Joe brings his knowledge of speaking to Walt Disney World from 25 years in broadcasting and conducting hundreds of seminars for some of the largest corporations in the United States.

If you've ever met Joe . . . a Disney Trainer at Fort Wilderness in addition to his teaching . . . you'll know that this is one class you'll never get bored in! Joe's philosophy is to have **FUN** while you learn!

Be one of the best speakers in the "World" . . . enroll today at the Disney University. Call them at extension 4744 for more information.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Fall Semester **Continuing Education classes** will begin at the Disney University on September 6 (with all Monday evening classes beginning September 12). The following classes are being offered this year:

This class is designed to aid individuals in increasing their reading ability. Students in this class progress at their own rate and are continually monitored for their progress.

All the necessary equipment for learning Speed Reading will be furnished to the students. The following three techniques are used:

• **Tachistoscope** - This machine flashes words, phrases and sentences on a screen to gradually increase the rate of reading.

• **Controlled Readers** - This machine flashes stories on a screen to gradually increase the student's reading rate and comprehension.

• **Skimming & Scanning** - These devices are placed over the page of a book and aid in developing a faster pace of reading.

The class will meet at the Disney University Wednesday evenings from 6 pm to 9 pm, beginning September 7. For more information, please call the University at extension 4744.

OOPS . . . WRONG COMPANY!

In the August Family Edition of **EYES & EARS**, we incorrectly labeled Hertz as the official rental car of Walt Disney World. **American International Rent-A-Car** is the official rental car. Sorry 'bout that!

CALIFORNIA TRIP

Cast Activities still has seats available on their chartered flight to California this Fall. The trip departs October 13, returning October 22, for 9 nights and 10 days!

You can visit Disneyland, the Studio, travel to WED and MAPO in Glendale, discover Los Angeles, Anaheim, Newport Beach and Hollywood!

Two packages are available:

- Air Fare Only - \$220 per person
 - Land & Air Package - \$335 per person
- Hurry and make your reservation at Cast Activities. Call them at extension 4254 for more information.

HALLMARK HOLDING SALE

The **Hallmark Shop** on Main Street will be holding another **1/2 price sale** for cast members on **August 24, 25 and 26** in the tunnel underneath their shop. Lasting from 11 am to 4 pm each day, the sale will include stationery, puzzles, gift wrap, plaques, party and other items.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER!

Central Florida's rainy season is here . . . and here to stay for awhile! And with the heavy rains has come a sharp increase in the number of accidents involving our cast members on roads in and around Walt Disney World.

The old saying of "better late than never" has a special meaning during the rainy season. . . better late getting to work or late getting home than to never arrive! So slow down, plan on leaving for work earlier, and drive with caution. . . because in Central Florida: **When it rains, it pours!**

It's said that a picture is worth a thousand words. This accident involved one of our cast members recently on a road many of us drive daily. . . need we say any more?



AIRSTREAMS UP FOR BID

Property Control announced earlier this week that nine of our **Airstream** travel trailers from Fort Wilderness are up for bid to cast members and the general public.

The units are 31-foot Sovereign models, outfitted with many extras including range and oven, canopy, air conditioner and heater, refrigerator, full bath, television antenna, AM/FM Stereo Tape Deck built in, and much more. The trailers will sleep from four to six people.

The minimum bid is \$5,000 per individual unit. Property Control will be accepting bids **now** through **August 31, 1977**. For more information and an inspection, please contact Property Control at extension 4878.



SPORTS

MURPH'S SPORTS LINE

By: Thom Murphy, EYES & EARS Area Reporter

In the top **Basketball League** confrontation of the evening last week, the last two undefeated teams met and at this writing, Contemporary Housekeeping now reigns alone on top of the league, as they held on for a 71-67 win over the "hustlin'" Hustlers.

Elsewhere, Liberty Square slid by the World Showcase team with a 62-60 win and Employee Transportation finally defeated a surprisingly tough Finance team 65-57. Other scores had Central Foods going up against the Super Subs with a victory of 74-33, Fantasyland Operations beat Town Square 80-59, and the Custodial Rangers just got by Borden's 71-69.

In **Softball's "A" League**, they are well into their end of the season tournament at this writing, with the Fubars holding the favored position by virtue of two very close victories over the Reapers, 5-3, and Salmonella, 6-5. Salmonella had defeated Pinocchios 16-7, who in turn bounced back to eliminate the Reapers in a 23-11 final.

In the **"AA" League**, final pre-tournament action got underway last week with Employee Relations earning a tournament berth by defeating Custodial 18-7, and Theme Park Maintenance also made it in with an impressive 19-4 victory over Fort Wilderness.

Final standings of the league, with the top four teams now starting tournament play are: Contemporary 6-1, Borden's 5-2, Employee Relations 5-2, Theme Park Maintenance 5-2, Superballers 4-3, Custodial 2-5, LBV Communities 1-6, and Fort Wilderness 1-6. In a game that could have forced a play-off if one of the teams had dropped down to 4-3 for the season, the Superballers beat LBV Communities.

LEAGUE BOWLING ROLLING

Sign ups for our **Winter Bowling Leagues** are increasing as the play dates near. Held on a first come, first to play basis, Cast Activities is still accepting players. Call them at extension 4254 and leave your name, work extension, and home telephone number. Please indicate your preferred time and location so

that the league secretary may contact you.

The Winter League will bowl through May of 1978 at:

• **Kissimmee Lanes** (Highway 192 north of Kissimmee at city limits)
Wednesdays-9:30 am

6:30 pm

9:00 pm

Thursdays-1:30 am

• **Parkwood Lanes** (West Colonial Drive in Orlando)

Wednesdays-6:30 pm

There will be an **organizational meeting** for all leagues at the league time and location on Wednesday, August 31. The Thursday morning league will meet September 1.

All of these leagues are open to Walt Disney World cast members and their adult family members and guests.

BILLIARDS TOURNAMENT

Cast Activities will be holding a **Singles Billiards Tournament** for all interested cast members beginning **September 12**. You may sign up now through Saturday, September 10, by calling Cast Activities at extension 4254. The divisions will include Advanced, Intermediate and Beginner. Trophies will be awarded for First Place and Runner Up.

OLDIE-GOLDIE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Attention all cast members who are **35-years old and up**, Cast Activities will be sponsoring a **Singles Tennis Tournament** just for you! There will be a Men's and Women's Division in Advanced, Intermediate and Beginner brackets. The tournament is open to all cast members, with sign ups in Cast Activities now through September 10. Call extension 4254 for more information.

FALL VOLLEYBALL LEAGUES

Now is the time to begin getting together your team for the **Fall Volleyball Leagues** at Little Lake Bryan. The seven-week season will follow a Volleyball Clinic, with show up week beginning September 12. The players will get an opportunity to meet the referees and practice their volleyball skills, with regular season play beginning September 19.

Team captains should note that they must contact Cast Activities on **Tuesday, September 6**, at 5:30 pm for all interested players. Team captains may check out volleyballs and rule books at this meeting.



CAST ACTIVITIES

FISHING TRIP SET

The last Cast Activities fishing trip aboard the *Happy Dolphin* was so successful, that they just have to hold another one! So here we go.

Their deep sea fishing trip will be out of Daytona Beach on **Saturday, August 27**. All participants will meet and leave out of the Sea Harvest Marina, located at the Port Orange Bridge, at 8:30 am, for a full day of great bottom fishing.

It is suggested that you arrive dockside at 8 am, and plan on being back by 5:30 pm.

The total price for the trip is \$20 per person, which includes your bait and fishing tackle. The *Happy Dolphin* is owned by the Gulf Oceanographic Development Foundation, a non-profit institution to do oceanographic research. They carry commercial fishing groups to help defray the cost of operating a research vessel, which benefits out groups because the *Happy Dolphin* has all of these extras:

- Air conditioned throughout
- Sleeping accommodations for 50
- Stereo and intercom systems
- Commercial galley serving breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Refrigerated fish box
- Cushioned fishing seats
- Four restrooms and showers
- Carpeted decks
- Soft drinks, coffee and beer available

On this trip, the entire boat has been chartered just for Walt Disney World, with 50 seats available! Drop by Cast Activities right away with your full payment, because the seats will be going fast! The trip cost is non-refundable.



