

# WIGWAM



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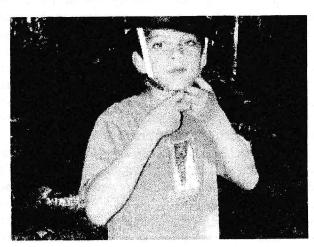
#### THE MAGIC OF KAWANHEE

by Graham Marvin, age 11 (Hawk Lodge)

You know, I can't believe that I'm here, here at Camp Kawanhee. I think I love this place more than anyone here. Except of course for B.A. Altmaier. This place, Kawanhee, is magic. There is something so special about it. It's the best place on earth! Here you can be free, independent, and happy. Our activities are unique. Half the things you could do here, you could never do at home. You set goals here by the levels in our activities. If there were no goals in life, how would you know if you're overdoing something, or not trying something hard enough. What would that something be in the first place? To give you an example, here this true story - almost every year, I run the mile race with my classmates. The first year I did the race, I started out in second, then I planted a goal in my mind - I must pass the person in first. That goal I never gave up on, and eventually, I won the race. Another year when I did the same race, I started out at first, but I got stuck! "What's my goal?" I thought. Who do I have to catch up to? I don't know! How fast should I go? I don't know! If I go too fast, I'll get too tired! Should I go slowly? I don't know! But I better not go too slowly or the people behind me will catch up. I have no goal! No one to try to catch up to! But that person behind me did and eventually he won! I'll never have that experience at Kawanhee, because at Kawanhee I'll always have goals even when I'm in first place in soccer at level S2, after all, there's always S3.

To move on, Kawanhee also makes you more responsible, and a better, more helpful, person. At home, I don't clean up my room everyday, which Kawanhee has gotten me in the habit of doing here. So eventually, I'll do it at home. Not thinking, "Oh, this is irregular and special, I'd never do this," but thinking it's normal since I did it every single day at Kawanhee. And lord no, have I ever gotten up at 7:30 a.m. at home. I could go on and on about the things that I would carry on at home. Kawanhee has literally filled my mind, having me concentrate about nothing else. Really! On Christmas Eve, instead of saying "I can't wait for

Christmas", I said, "I can't wait until Camp Kawanhee starts!" Right before, Halloween instead of saying, I can't wait to eat all that candy, I said, "I can't wait until Camp Kawnhee starts!" I'm a Camp Kawanhee-holic! I can't get over it! Why do people come here anyway? Why do people take the trouble to fly from Puerto Rico, Spain, or wherever, just to get to a silly boy's camp in Weld, Maine that only lasts four or seven weeks? They do that because this is Kawanhee, and like I said, Kawanhee is magic.



Getting ready for the Ropes course!

# MR. KAWANHEE PAGEANT ROCKS CAMP by Simon Doolittle

It simply doesn't get any better than Mr. Kawanhee Night. All lodges put forth their most charismatic, most spunky, most talented member, and they battle it out to see who gets the honor of wearing the Mr. Kawanhee crown for the next 12 moons. Robbie Connelly, the reigning king from last year's pageant, was reluctant to give up the title. However, with the talent, fashion, and spirit displayed in this year's competition, he gracefully conceded the crown.

Nominees put their goods on display in the eveningwear, swimwear and talent portions of the annual (CONTINUE ON PAGE 2)

competition. They were given the formidable challenge of impressing our lovely judges: Amy Buckingham of Boating, Joanna Sewall of Skiing, Rachel Roberts from the Bakery, Angela Belskis, and Ryanne Brown. In the end, four finalists had to answer a question showing their gentlemenly prowess.

Third runner-up Jeff Cavanagh showed that, with a little makeup, and a few backup dancers, he may very well be part of the next boy band sensation. Teenage girls of America look out!

Second runner-up J.P. Rullan was the latest in a long line of very suave Puerto Rican nominees (Jorge Marcial and Rodrigo Valderrabano have both worn the crown). J.P. showed a grace and comfort on stage very uncommon for his age, making every move in perfect step with the blaring music accompanying his impressive displays of style, attitude, and panache. His remarkable talent of smashing fruit with his "sledge-omatic" (which looked remarkably similar to a baseball bat) drew possibly the most enthusiastic crowd response of the evening. It just goes to reinforce the age-old wisdom that an audience loves nothing more than being showered with little bits of smashed fruit.

First runner-up Ben Connelly wowed the judges with his humor and charm. For eveningwear, he went out as his well-known alter ego, Cub Scout Connelly. His swimwear was definitely hot, and while on stage, he took the opportunity to do some improv comedy. For talent, he played the role of a sassy woman, demonstrating to the audience how to keep aggressive suitors at bay. Ben's versatility and humor on stage almost gave the Connelly brothers back to back reigns.

But, not even Ben's wit could overcome the powerful charm of Austria's own Max Semler. He needed little more than his sweet smile to melt the judge's hearts. He was helped in his quest with a bikini constructed of paper bowls and shaving cream, as well as a stunning rendition of the classic ballad "I'm a Little Teapot". Upon reaching the finals, Max answered the question in a way that demonstrated an uncommon awareness of romantic and gentlemenly matters for a boy only twelve years old. Go Austria!

All and all, the event was a tremendous success. Beyond the finalists, many nominees displayed impressive style, talent, and humor. Congrats to Max and the finalists, and thanks to all for a terrific night of pageantry power.

#### Note from the editor:

In the next issue, there will be many more articles, including the team sport activities (baseball, basketball, soccer, and volleyball). The issue will wrap up many different activities, tournaments, championships, Grey-Maroon dual-competition results, awards, and other special events that have occurred at camp this summer.



Grey Team competitor with Grey War Paint

### ARCHERY 2001 by Chris Proctor & Frank Cook

At 6:00 a.m., July 7<sup>th</sup>, the camp van was packed with archery equipment, and we wondered if there would be enough room for our eight archers: Spencer Branch, Gavin Cadwallader, Frank Cook, Spencer Davis, Chris Engel, Francisco Garcia, Gregor Hoffman, and Max Smith-Marder, as well as the three instructors: Chuck Compher, Nancy van den Honert, and Chris Proctor. Somehow, we all squeezed into the van and left for the Maine State JOAD Championship tournament. The campers kept themselves busy on the ride with important things such as sleeping and talking. Shortly before arriving at the tournament, the van made a stop at McDonalds and our intrepid archery team filled up on breakfast hash browns, Egg McMuffins, and hotcakes.

The day turned out nearly perfect for archery as the sun was shining and there was minimal wind. At 8:30, archers were given three practice rounds of six arrows each to adjust their sights before beginning the tournament. It was a grueling day as each of our boys shot 144 arrows in competition with Camp Fernwood and a number of independent archers. After a short lunch break at noon, the skill and endurance test continued until nearly 4:00 in the afternoon. Finally, we submitted our score sheets and waited for the results to be totaled. The hard day's work was rewarded with five medals being awarded to Kawanhee campers. In the Cadet age group, ages 10 - 12, third place went to Gavin Cadwallader, second place went to Max Smith-Marder, and first place went to Chris Engel. In the Junior age division, ages 13 - 15, Francisco Garcia won second place. Frank Cook took first place in the Intermediate age division, ages 16 - 18.

Although, exhausted and a bit sunburned, our archers still managed to enjoy another meal at McDonalds and make it back to camp in time to proudly announce their accomplishments at campfire.

## KUDOS TO THE KAWANHEE BOYS ON MONHEGAN ISLAND

The Wigwam would like to share a beautiful letter received from Mr. & Mrs. John Harris of West Hartford, CT, following their own Monhegan trip which coincided with our Kawanhee campers. We quote as follows:

"Dear Director,

This morning on Fish Beach, my husband and I chanced upon seven or eight boys painting. It was low tide and I began to look for sea glass, which I had seen someone make into earrings. As some of the boys finished their artwork, we all began to talk about the sea glass and they pitched in to help me find some. We came up with all kinds of things and soon had a regular archeological treasure trove of items, discussing each as it was found. It was obvious that the boys enjoyed the experience of being at Camp Kawanhee and of discussing some of their favorite aspects of Though each of their summer. their backgrounds was very different, there seemed to be a wonderful eagerness, wholesomeness, and ease with adults as well as with each other that pervaded the group. There was a respect both of nature and other people which came out in subtle ways. Each boy was a credit to himself as well as to the camp which provided him with the Monhegan experience. Please let them know how special they are. The time spent with them made my day! As one who undoubtedly gets any negative comments people may have about the youth in his charge, we felt you should also receive the Kudos!"

Sincerely,

Mary Ann & John Harris



Ben Standen pitching in a baseball game

#### **NATURE 2001**

Campers have been busy throughout the summer completing nature levels and creating beautiful projects to bring home to their families and friends. The Nature Department revamped the entire level system this year, as well as adding a few new projects. The older campers have been busy developing individual planetariums and topography maps of the Webb Lake watershed. Our younger levels have created their own unique species of insects which are really awesome. Pottery and lapidary are still popular. The pottery and grinding wheels have been working non-stop daily. Many campers have opted to try an acrylic painting. Some campers are trying one of our new projects, creating their own sweatshirts. We look forward to seeing all of you at the Awards Ceremony, and the smiles on your faces when your receive your special surprises.

### KAWANHEE TRIATHLON HIGHLIGHTS SUNDAY AFTERNOON by Scott Zurcher

What is usually a day of rest and reflection at Kawanhee became an intense day of competition for a large group of the staff. The annual Kawanhee Triathlon was held this past Sunday here at camp. Under the blazing hot Maine sun, 26 members of the staff embarked on a grueling course, including a ¾ mile swim from Bass Rock, a 15 mile bike ride around Webb Lake, and a 2 mile run from The Weld General Store.

As in past years, some of the participants trained for months and others only for days, but when they all lined upon the starting line, they were equal. Tim Johnston and Al Spencer, both past participants, put on a stunning performance once again this year. George Moore, also a seasoned veteran, was ready to go once again and took an impressive 2<sup>nd</sup> place. He was only beaten by a first year competitor, Hadrian Engel. This is his 7<sup>th</sup> season here at Kawanhee and only his first as a senior counselor. I can guarantee that he will be the man to beat next year with a time of 1:27:29.

There were also several other highlights throughout the day. Andy Kuss, a first year Kawanheeian, passed eight people on the bike trip and came in an impressive 5<sup>th</sup> place. Chris Huntington, a Kawanhee alumnus, Conor Branch, Luis Alverez-Sala, and Chris Colahan all came within 6 minutes of each other. Right on their heels were Kris Simanek, Andy Burbine, Sean Duncan, and David Smith rounding out the group.

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Some participants in the triathlon didn't feel up to the complete task of the rigorous competition, so they split it up into a team effort. This year there were four teams in the field: Team 1 (Frank Cook, Robbie Connelly, Richard Kubanik), Team 2 (John Casto, Rudy Coursen, Joey Clarke), Team 3 (Jorge Marcial, Jaime Lastra, Carlos Morales), and Team 4 (Joanna, Lennox, Pete Gilbert, Dotty), finishing in that order. It was a heated group with a fresh pair of legs for each event.

I think that we can all rest assured that next year will be just as exciting as this. Until then keep training, and we'll see you next year for another thrilling Sunday.

### THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS!!

Since our last listing of contributors in the May issue of the Wigwam, the following Kawanhee friends have made tax-deductible gifts to The George and Raymond Frank Foundation or to The Kawanhee Foundation. Many thanks to all of these donors:

John, Ann, Jeff, & Kelly Abbott (in memory of Jack Abbott) Chris Cochran Mr. & Mrs. Hartley Coursen

The following persons donated in memory of Barb Compher's father, Richard W. Galey:

Peter & Nan Belskis Mary Birch Kate Branch Debi Brown Skip Erickson Jim & Dotty Estabrook Walter & Jane Estabrook Scott & Allyn Irving Mark Nelson The Simanek Family Al & Amy Spencer Sandy Winkles

If you have seen the value of a Kawanhee experience in your life or in your son's or grandson's life, these two foundations provide great opportunities to share the benefits of a Kawanhee experience with others!



Head Chef, Sean Minear serving supper to campers

The Frank Foundation was created by Kawanhee's shareholders to own and/or operate Camp Kawanhee. Gifts to the Frank Foundation are used to enhance the camp facilities and program, making sure that Camp Kawanhee endures forever as a character building force in the lives of boys and young men. Contributions to the Frank Foundation are tax-deductible. Checks should be made payable to and mailed to:

George and Raymond Frank Foundation Box 12 Weld, Maine 04285

Gifts to **The Kawanhee Foundation** are used solely to provide camp tuition scholarships to worthy, needy boys regardless of race, color, or creed. Donations to the Kawanhee Foundation are also tax-deductible and should be made payable to and mailed to:

The Camp Kawanhee Foundation R.R. #1, Box 40 Weld, Maine 04285

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The Kawanhee WIGWAM

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